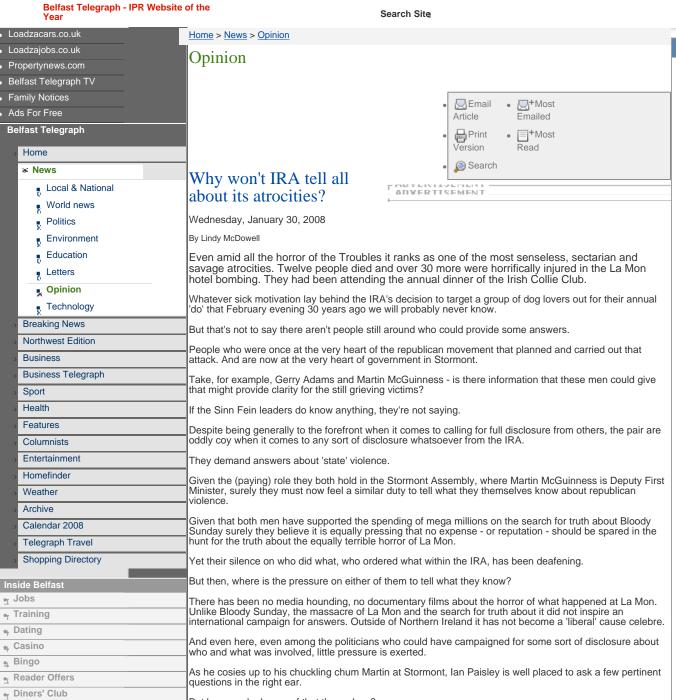
Why won't IRA tell all about its atrocities? - Opinion - News - Belfast Telegraph Wednesday, January 30, 2008 Weather: BELFAST TELEGRAPH ADVERTISEMENT Belfast Telegraph - IPR Website of the Search Site **Advanced Search** Home > News > Opinion Don't Miss . . . Opinion Brain breakthrough Scientists discover way to reverse memory **Email** F+Most Article Emailed Print +Most Sleep disorders





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Annual event celebrating the best of Ulster commerce

Video: Miss NI



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Belfast Fashion Week



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Video: Healy's hat-trick



Telegraph Sports

Net success



designers honoured at ceremony

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RSS Media Kit But how much chance of that these days?

But maybe they should be.

The DUP may not be especially perturbed that some relatives and victims of the La Mon bombing are now demanding that the DUP leader stay away from an official commemoration to mark the anniversary.

Other Titles	
0	Sunday Life
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For more than any recent development, that outpouring of anger speaks volumes about the unresolved grief and bitterness that haunts this place.

These victims of La Mon are not some bunch of mad extremists. They are what they were that night when murderous evil descended upon them. Decent honourable people targeted for no good reason other than the fact that they were an easy 'hit' for cowards.

They deserve answers in the same way that other victims deserve answers.

By appointing four victims commissioners, the Chuckle regime wants to be seen to be signalling that the search for truth will be all-encompassing, the treatment of victims fair and transparent.

In which case clarity begins at home. Up at Stormont.

There's a man sitting right at the heart of government who could surely supply some answers about atrocities like La Mon. But he isn't telling.

And there's a man sitting right beside him. Who isn't asking

What's the point, Hillary?

There are many reasons why I can't warm to Hillary Clinton. But one of her traits that annoys me most is the pointing thing. It's a trick she's lifted from her husband Bill.

She's waving to an adoring crowd when suddenly she appears to home in on a familiar face. She makes an 'Oh' with her mouth and points directly and excitedly into the crowd. You might even believe it was a genuine reaction if it happened, say, a couple of times per ovation.

Hillary does it every time a camera is pointed her direction.

In the great scheme of American politics it's possibly not the worst attribute. But come on Obama, I say.

Showbiz gossip? I'm at loss

It's not just because of the absence of Oscars and other high-profile awards ceremonies, but overall we appear to be suffering a serious shortage of glamour these days.

Cheryl Cole's lost her man, J Lo's lost her waistline and Britney and Amy have lost the plot. Meanwhile, we've all lost interest in Posh and Jordan and Madonna and Kate et al.

How all those glossy gossip mags keep going these dull days, I can't imagine.

Don't drink to this one

The car bomb is back in Belfast. Not the paramilitary version that killed hundreds of innocent people and maimed thousands more.

No. This new 'car bomb' is an alcoholic drink - a half of Guinness with a shot of whiskey topped with Baileys quite literally dropped into it.

It comes from America and it's being ordered in Belfast bars by gormless, insensitive visiting Yanks who think it's a fun thing to do in Belfast. Apt even.

Tasteless doesn't begin to come into it.

It's on a par with ordering a 9/11 in Manhattan.

What sort of moron doesn't realise that ordering such a drink in a bar in Northern Ireland might not go down terribly well with local people who have dark memories of the horror and barbarity that the real thing involved?

Maybe they should check with some of those families in America who have lost relatives to car bombs in Iraq where the deadly technology is still in regular use.

It should be stressed that the vast majority of US visitors to Northern Ireland would understand how appallingly offensive a car bomb cocktail would seem to so very many people here.

As for the others, like that concoction they order, the best word for their behaviour is sickening.

McDonalds makes sense

McDonalds is one of a number of firms which will be allowed to offer qualifications equal to GCSEs, A-levels and even degrees. And why not?

Given the junk nature of many of the courses on offer out there, would the options being offered by Professor Ronald McDonald be any worse?

In fact, qualifications related to the job make a whole lot of sense. A degree in Big Macology could turn out to be as popular as a Happy Meal. Certainly with employers who will like the notion of students who've had some hands on experience.

McBScHons?

I'm Iovin' it.

A space oddity ...

A spy satellite the size of a bus is currently hurtling towards earth. Let's hope size is the only factor in common. You know that old line about buses? About how you wait around ages for one of them - and then half a dozen come along at once?

Last word ...

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Ah well. you can't win 'em all. and last week sadly none of us scooped any of the three big jackpots on offer. the £56m from the euro lottery. the £18.9m from the roll-over lotto. or the £3.7bn from the societe general bank.

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