

THE NEWTOWNARDS Chronicle

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PROJECT IS GIVING PEOPLE A HAND UP

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SARAH IS INSPIRED BY MUM IN HER MARATHON CHALLENGE

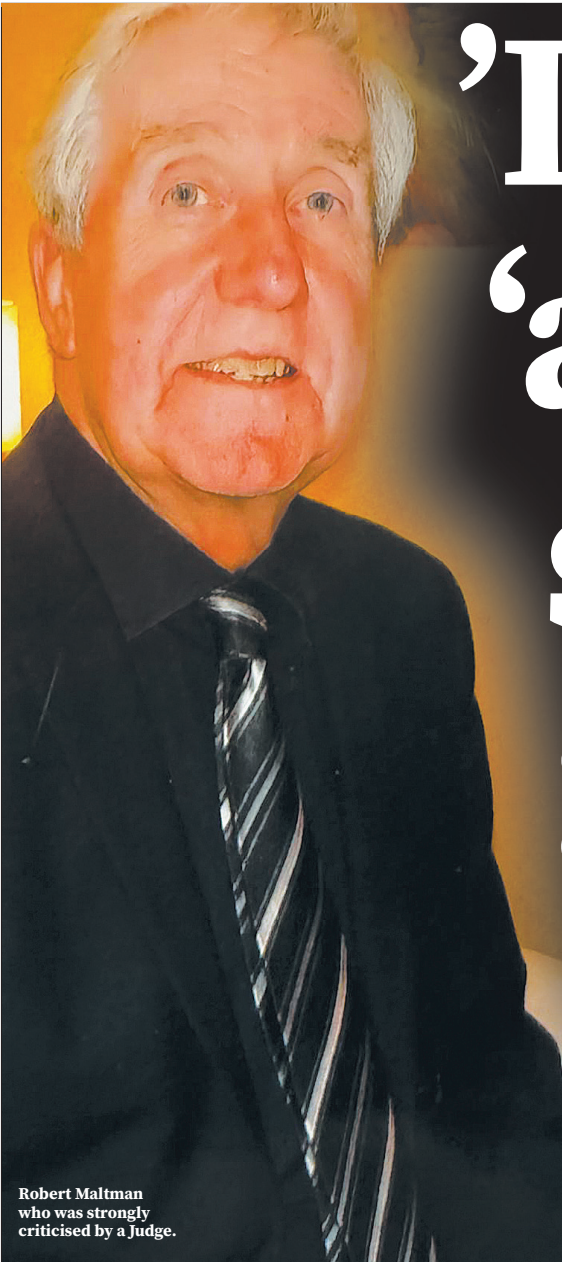


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THE JOY OF BEING A FIREFIGHTER

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Robert Maltman who was strongly criticised by a Judge.

'Dee man is 'a parasite', says judge

Care homes are warned about dangers of pensioner grooming

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A WARNING has been issued over the welfare of elderly women in local care homes after an injunction was issued against a Donaghadee man for harassing an 89 year-old woman with dementia.

The family of the octogenarian took action against Robert Stephenson Maltman (77), of The Parade, who was

described by a judge as a 'parasite' and warned he faced prison if he tried to contact her again.

The defendant's legal team agreed to the granting of the Injunction Order, which is for an unlimited duration. The behaviour of the man is said to be part of a trend of men 'grooming' elderly and vulnerable women at care homes, according to an official from a local residential home for the elderly. The caring professional said she had been made aware of a number of 'similar scenarios' of men approaching elderly women in an effort to dupe them with false romances to inveigle

their way into their lives and their finances.

The Chronicle has been told that as a result of the Maltman case, the PSNI is to contact care homes and banks to raise awareness of the dangers around the grooming of elderly, vulnerable women.

In the case against Maltman, heard on Monday, January 26, District Judge Ruth Collins said he had 'deeply concerning parasitic tendencies' and cited a social worker's report which described Maltman as a 'dangerous

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TRAFFIC GRIDLOCK P7

PAINT IT FORWARD P14

CONNECT EVENT P21

OBITUARY: JIMMY BOAL P29

COLLEGE'S ECO-BID P34-35