

**Irish-Language Courses**  
**10-Week Courses** For Adults  
 Starting **23 - 26 September**  
 9 levels • City centre location • Great discounts • Book today!  
**www.cnag.ie/courses**  
 Connaught na Gaeilge | 6 Sraibín Fheochair | 6 Harcourt Street | Dublin 2  
 Plus Preparatory Courses for Primary Teaching Applicants  
 Leaving Cert Irish Oral Preparation Places still available!

Full list of courses for 2013 - 2014 available in our brochure!



## EARN YOUR STRYPES

Your chance to win gig tickets with Vodafone »p12

# Mystery swatted by Irish scientist

THE mystery of how flies seem impossible to swat may have been solved – to them, your rolled-up newspaper or fly-swat is moving as slowly as the bullets in *The Matrix*.

That's the conclusion of an Irish scientist, who says the smaller an animal is, the slower it perceives time to be moving, giving the pesky housefly ample dodging time.

'Animals smaller than us see the world in slo-mo,' said Dr Andrew Jackson, of Trinity College Dublin. 'It seems to be almost a fact of life.'

Objects appear to move slowest to animals with the fastest metabolic rates, according to the research, which was based on the results of previous studies on more than 30 species.

The authors compared animals' 'flicker fusion frequency' – the point at which they begin to see separate flashes of light as a blur.

Dr Jackson was inspired to lead the project

by **HAYDEN SMITH**

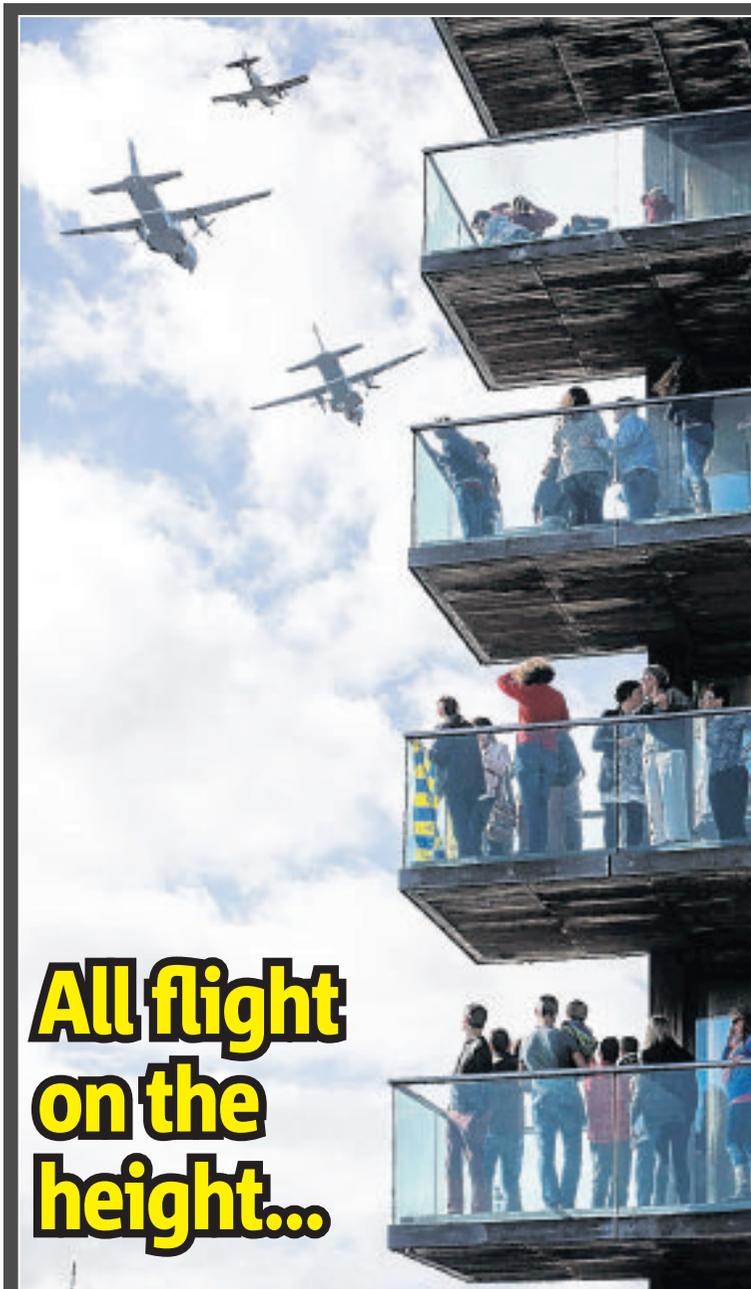
on small animals including rodents, eels, chickens, pigeons and turtles, after noticing that small children often seem in a hurry.

'It's tempting to think that for children time moves more slowly than it does for grown-ups and there is some evidence that it might,' he said.

'Flicker fusion frequency is related to a person's subjective perception of time, and it changes with age.'

While flies use their slo-mo sight to dodge us, other animals lack the speed to ram home the advantage – but you might want to show pity next time an earwig crawls on your picnic table.

By flicking him onto the ground, you'll be cancelling out a journey that probably felt like it lasted for years.



## All flight on the height...

People watch Air Corps Casa and two PC9 aircraft roar past the balconies of an apartment block near North Wall Quay as Flightfest took over Dublin's skies yesterday.

Up to 130,000 people lined the quays as almost 30 planes, including the British Airways A380 and military, vintage and commercial carriers flew as low as 800ft over the River Liffey.

Eamonn Brennan, CEO of the Irish Aviation Authority (IAA), said the event was a tremendous success.

As the sun broke through the clouds above, spectators got a glimpse of the first plane in the distance.

Aer Lingus, Aer Lingus Regional, Cityjet, Ryanair, British Airways, Etihad, Air Contractors, FlyBe and Transaero all took part in the festival of flight, alongside the Irish Air Corps, Irish Coast Guard and Royal Air Force.

Aircraft representing almost every decade since 1930 took to the skies, including the Grace Spitfire ML407, Flying Fortress, C-130 Hercules, F-86A Sabre and Hawker Hunter. But blustery conditions forced some, including de Havilland Chipmunks and Iolar, to pull out. The Vulcan did not fly because of a technical problem.

PICTURE: CONOR MCCABE