



9.3%*
Price decrease in
natural gas from 1st
October 2009

Bord Gáis Energy
think beyond

BGE/NG/AH/1009

At home

October / November 2009

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Welcome to At home

Our wonderfully wet summer has been and gone. The children are back in school, the leaves are falling from the trees, the days are getting shorter and there's more of a chill in the air. So turn on the heat, curl up on the sofa and relax with our latest edition of At home.

Save, save save... in this edition we bring you information on how you can make lots of savings. From 1st October 2009 we are decreasing the price of natural gas by an average of **9.3%*** leaving you with more money in your pocket. Find out how to get expert advice on how to make more savings on your bill by **insulating** your house properly. Sign up to our new **paperless billing** and reduce the paper in your post box while also doing your bit for the environment.

As if that wasn't enough, we also have a fantastic opportunity for you to win tickets to this year's most hotly anticipated show, **Top Gear Live**. There's an exclusive interview with two of Ireland's newest **sporting heroes**. And we've a delicious recipe from cooking sensation **Trevor Thornton**, winner of RTE's HEAT, for you to try.

So put the kettle on, take the phone off the hook and enjoy the latest issue of At home. And if you've any questions at all, just drop us an email at athome@bordgais.ie. Remember, we're here to help.


TRACY KENNEDY Head of Customer Operations
 BORD GÁIS ENERGY

VITAL STATS

Over 200,000 people have now made the Big Switch to electricity from Bord Gáis Energy.

9.3%* Decrease We're delighted to announce an average 9.3%* decrease in the cost of natural gas.

U21 Hurling A thrilling match in the Bord Gáis Energy U21 Hurling Final saw Clare just pip Kilkenny to the title. Final score Clare 0-15 0-14 Kilkenny

PRICE DECREASE



We're looking for ways to save you money. We know that now, more than ever, you want to be able to enjoy gas for less. So we've got good news for you.

From 1st October 2009 our customers will benefit from an average price decrease of 9.3%*. The impact of this change, combined with the price reduction announced in May of this year, represents an average decrease of 19.5% in natural gas prices for residential customers.

Take a look at the table below to see how much you will be saving depending on which tariff you're on.

* average saving based on 13,800kWh per annum.

More great savings with Bord Gáis Energy

STANDARD RESIDENTIAL TARIFF

	PREVIOUS (INC VAT)	PREVIOUS (EX VAT)	NEW (INC VAT)	NEW (EX VAT)
Standing charge	€59.02	€52.00	€68.10	€60.00
Unit price	5.464	4.814	4.851	4.274

NO STANDING CHARGE TARIFF

	PREVIOUS (INC VAT)	PREVIOUS (EX VAT)	NEW (INC VAT)	NEW (EX VAT)
Tier 1 - Units	3550	3550	3550	3550
Tier 2 - Rate	7.254	6.391	6.836	6.023
Tier 2 - Rate	5.464	4.814	4.851	4.274

WINTERSAVER TARIFF

	PREVIOUS (INC VAT)	PREVIOUS (EX VAT)	NEW (INC VAT)	NEW (EX VAT)
Standing charge	€241.80	€213.04	€223.03	€196.50
Bundled units	3420	3420	3420	3420
Unit price	5.464	4.814	4.851	4.274

LARGE RESIDENTIAL USER TARIFF

	PREVIOUS (INC VAT)	PREVIOUS (EX VAT)	NEW (INC VAT)	NEW (EX VAT)
Standing charge	€59.02	€52.00	€68.10	€60.00
Commodity rate	3.652	3.218	2.844	2.506
Capacity rate	1.925	1.696	2.096	1.847

€/Peak day kWh

If you have any questions about these savings please visit our website at www.bordgaisenergy.ie or call us on **1850 632 632**

This tariff consists of two elements, the standing charge and the charge for the natural gas you use.

This tariff is designed for customers who prefer not to pay a standing charge. Instead there are two tiers of charges: the first 3,550 units are charged at the Tier 1 rate, with further units charged at the Tier 2 rate.

Winter saver tariff; there's a standing charge of €223.03 (€196.50 excluding VAT) per year. This equates to 61.1 cent per day and entitles you to 3,420 bundled units allocated over the winter period at no extra charge. Winter saver helps to even out the costs of your gas usage during the year, helping with the larger bills during the winter months.

Win top prizes with Direct Debit



TOP GEAR LIVE
RDS from Thurs 3rd
to Sun 6th
December 2009.

For ticket alerts and more
information visit
www.topgearlive.ie

For full terms and conditions please visit
www.bordgaisenergy.ie/tandc's or write to us
at Bord Gáis Energy, PO Box 10943, Dublin 1.

Get up close to the antics of Clarkson, Hammond, May and The Stig as they rock Dublin again this December, in the most eagerly anticipated show of the year; Top Gear Live. If you like cars... if you like amazing stunts... if you like special effects... then this action packed event is the show for you!

We're giving away a pair of tickets to Top Gear Live every day until 30th November. You and a friend can savour the high-octane atmosphere that makes Top Gear Live the most popular motor show yet! We also have eight pairs of gold seating tickets that must be won - Plus you'll get overnight accommodation for two in the Burlington Hotel, Dublin.

All you have to do is choose the convenience of paying your bills by Direct Debit. Choosing Direct Debit is like setting cruise control – your bill is paid automatically. No queues, no cheques and no chance you might forget. Simply sign up for Direct Debit with Bord Gáis Energy by calling 1850 632 632 or visit www.bordgaisenergy.ie/dd and you'll be in with a chance to win. On your marks, get set, go!

Say goodbye to clutter and hello to paperless billing

We're all trying to do our bit for the environment and a little less clutter is always a good thing. That's why we've introduced paperless billing. It not only cuts down on the paper you receive, it reduces the paper we use. So it's better for you and for the environment.

Here's how it works. Instead of sending you a bill on paper, you'll receive an email notification when it's ready to be viewed online. It couldn't be easier.

As well as reducing the paper in your post box, paperless billing also allows you to easily view all your historical bills online. This makes it easier to file and retrieve old bills. You can still use the same payment options of Direct Debit or Online Payment, giving you greater control of your costs.

To set up paperless billing, just log onto www.bordgaisenergy.ie/paperless and register for an account by following the simple instructions on screen. If you ever decide to, you can easily switch back again with just a few clicks of your mouse.



Once you've registered for an online account:

1. Just click on the paperless billing option on the left hand side of the screen.
2. Turn on paperless billing in the 'make me paperless' section that appears and you won't receive another bill through the post.
3. Once you've opted to use paperless billing we will send you a confirmation email.

Wrap up warm this Winter

SAVE UP TO 40%
on your energy bill by properly insulating your home

Just like people, houses need to be properly wrapped up to brave the elements. Home insulation is that warm scarf and wooly hat that keeps the warmth in and the cold out! Without proper insulation, your home

loses valuable heat through window frames, walls and up through the attic to the roof. Experts from Sustainable Energy Ireland (SEI) say that you could save up to 40% a year on your energy bills just by having your house properly insulated. That's a saving you can't afford to miss.

Insulating your home is easier than you might think. You can find out everything you need to know from the experts in Sustainable Energy Ireland at www.sei.ie. You can also apply for a government grant to help you cover the costs of the insulation. Full details are available on www.sei.ie/hes or you can simply Lo-Call 1850 927 000.



Beef and Guinness Casserole

by HEAT winner 2009 Trevor Thornton

Ireland's newest cooking sensation, Trevor Thornton, winner of RTE's HEAT gives us his very own special recipe for a delicious Beef & Guinness casserole.

INGREDIENTS

- 20g/1oz butter
- 2 tbsp olive oil
- 1000g/2.2 lbs diced beef/stewing steak
- Salt and pepper
- 500ml Guinness
- 1 tbsp tomato puree
- 500ml vegetable/chicken stock
- 1 tbsp Worcestershire sauce
- 2-3 bay leaves
- 2 sprigs of thyme
- 1 sprig of rosemary
- 2-3 carrots, peeled and sliced into 1cm pieces
- 450g/1 lbs button mushrooms, 2 small packets
- 3-4 medium onions, peeled and quartered
- 2 tbsp parsley, roughly chopped

Preheat the oven to 180°C/Gas 4

Heat the butter and oil in a casserole dish over a medium to high heat. Add one third of the meat and brown on all sides for 3-4 minutes. Don't add all the meat at once otherwise it will stew. Brown it in stages, seasoning with salt and pepper as you do and transferring to a separate dish once complete.

Don't worry if some of the meat sticks to the base. This just gives the finished dish extra flavour. Place one third of the Guinness into the empty pot. Use a wooden spoon to scrape up all the residue from the bottom of the pot, this is called deglazing. Stir in the tomato puree and cook for 1-2 minutes to cook out the puree.



Return the meat to the pot along with the rest of the Guinness, the stock, add Worcestershire sauce, bay leaf, thyme and rosemary. Bring the mixture up to the boil, place the lid on and transfer to the middle shelf of the oven for 1 hour and 15 minutes. Take the pot out every 30 minutes and stir, in case anything catches on the bottom.

After 1 hour and 15 minutes add the carrots and onions. Put the lid back on and cook for a further 30 minutes. Then add the mushrooms and stir well to coat. Place back in the oven with the lid off. The mushrooms release a lot of moisture at this point and some of it will need to escape. Cook for a further 20-30 minutes.

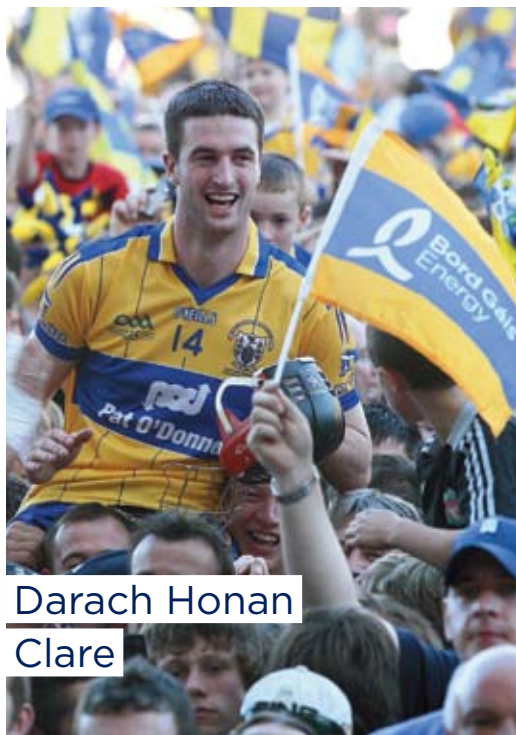
When ready, remove from the oven and stir in the chopped parsley. Then season again to your taste. Serve into warm bowls with some creamy mash or tasty colcannon. Comfort food at its best. YUM!

TOP TIP

If you want the sauce to become a little thicker, pour the sauce out of the pot and reduce until it is thick and glossy. Alternatively you can add cornflower.

The Bord Gáis Energy Under 21 Hurling Championship Final

After a season full of thrills and spills, the Bord Gáis Energy Under 21 Hurling Championship reached its climax on 13th September with a cracking game between Clare and Kilkenny. Whether you're a die-hard fan or someone who can't tell their hurleys from their hurlers, you have to marvel at the recent skill shown by the young players from both teams. We spoke with two of the star players about life as a hurler.



Darach Honan
Clare

Well done on winning the final this year but how did you get into hurling in the first place?

I started as soon as I was able to pick up a hurley. My father played a big part in getting me interested - he used to play for Clare himself.

So what's the best thing about playing for your county?

Probably getting a chance to play at the highest level and testing myself against the best in the country!

I'm sure it was a long hard journey to the final but what was the best game you played in along the way?

The semi final against Galway! It was one of the best games I have ever been involved in. The standard was so high and it was played at such a high pace that it was difficult to think about what was going on around you.

You must train very hard, do you ever feel like packing it all in?

I train almost every day. If it's not with the county it's with the club. Occasionally there are times when you feel dejected about the game and want to get a break from it but I find when I'm annoyed with something my first reaction is to go out and have a puck-around so it doesn't last too long.



Richie Hogan
Kilkenny

What tips would you give to anybody interested in getting involved in hurling?

Hurling is a fast, skilful game which can be very exciting to play. My main tip would be to practice as much as you can on all the skills of the game.

Who have your toughest opponents been?

All opponents are tough. At inter-county level every player is very fit and skilful.

As I'm sure you are - any secrets?

We have a training schedule laid out for us for a few weeks in advance. This includes a dietary plan for training days and match days, which really helps.

What's your number one training tip?

Listen to your coach's advice, and then try to practice this at speed.

Who do you think is going to be the next big hurling star?

There are loads of great young players at present, Joe Canning is a star already, and Noel McGrath from Tipperary is still only 19. Also there's a great young player in Kilkenny called Eoin McGrath that's showing great promise.



MAKE THE BIG SWITCH AND MAKE BIG SAVINGS



**OVER
200,000**
people have
already switched

Over 200,000 people are already enjoying big savings after switching to electricity from Bord Gáis Energy. Join them today and you can make great savings too. You'll save between 12%* and 14%* on ESB unit rates by switching right now. What's even better is that whenever ESB lower their prices, ours will fall too. Put simply, you'll be better off with us.

It's easy to switch. Just grab your current electricity bill and call us now on 1850 46 56 66 or visit www.thebigswitch.ie and we'll do the rest.

When you make the big switch to Bord Gáis Energy your electricity is supplied in exactly the same way as before, same meter, same wires. The only change is the money you'll save.

**The discount stated is off the applicable ESB domestic tariff unit rate and applies to the first year's consumption. Thereafter the Bord Gáis Energy standard discount tariff will apply which is guaranteed to be at least 5% below ESB unit rates for years two and three of this offer. Terms and conditions apply.*

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TEL: 1850 46 56 66
thebigswitch.ie
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