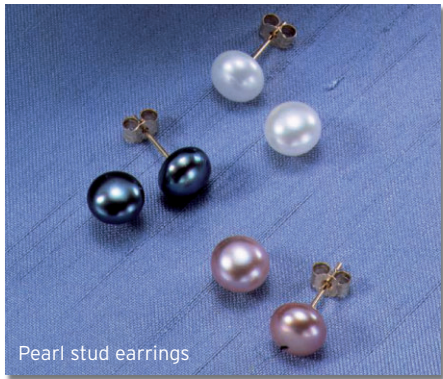


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# WE CAN'T GIV

**THEIR children think they're mad and their husbands are scared of them, but these four clairvoyants believe it's their duty to bring us messages from the dead. GEORGINA HEFFERNAN investigates...**



**CAROL STAMPS** is in her early 40s. She is married and lives in Tallaght. She has been a medium for

11 years. She says:

**SPIRITS** can be really funny and when they pass over, their personality doesn't really change all that much.

I remember one spirit came to me and he said 'What have they done with my bleedin' bike?'

It turned out that his family had mounted his bike on the garage wall with a plaque under it that read: 'This was John's bike'. I thought that was really funny — and so did he apparently.

Although I've always been tuned into the spirit world, it took me years to accept that I was a clairvoyant.

When I was a child I went to the nuns and told them that I thought I had a calling. I just knew I was different from my friends but couldn't really explain how. They told me to come back when I was 18 if I still felt the same way. I never did, as I had just wanted them to explain what I was experiencing when I could feel people in the room when nobody was there.

For twenty years I worked as a hairdresser and didn't act on my ability to communicate with the dead. I used to be very sceptical about people who said they were clairvoyants. To be honest I thought it was all a load of rubbish. Then it got to the stage where I could not ignore what I was experiencing.

At first I'd sense spirits as a strong presence in the room, but then the feeling became stronger and later I began to actually see spirits.

The best way I can describe how I see spirits is like seeing someone from across the road for just a split second. At first I get a quick glance of what they look like but in the course of one sitting I can get as many as ten flashes, each giving me more information.

Three years ago I fully accepted the fact that I was clairvoyant. It has been, at times, a difficult journey but my spirit guide, John, has been a constant throughout.

I call on him during readings for information. He is my contact in the spirit world.

Occasionally I'll have spirits trying to come to me unprompted with information about how they died. During the Soham murder hunt, the spirits of Holly Wells and Jessica Chapman came to me, via one of my angels, with information that I passed on to the police at the time.

I could hear their voices and saw their flashing images before my eyes.

They told me that the police should be looking for a 24-year-old woman in connection with the case. The girls also communicated to me that their t-shirts had been kept as trophies and that the murder happened in a cottage.

I was confused when they revealed that the police should be looking for the white cliffs of Dover. I thought that they meant the place but when they arrested Ian Huntley, it turned out that was his nickname when he was in school because of his large white forehead.

When I contacted the police, they seemed alarmed by how much I knew. They took down everything I told them and as I watched the news unfold, all my information was correct.

At the moment people seem to be very interested in the paranormal with shows like the X-Files and Most Haunted being popular. I think that's because people are searching for something more spiritual in their lives.

I know there are sharks out there exploiting the vulnerable, but there are also people who can help.

I didn't ask for this gift, but I have finally accepted that I have a responsibility to use it to help others.

■ [www mediums.ie](http://www mediums.ie)



**DHARMA SILVER** is in her 40s. She lives in Dublin with her husband and children. She says:

A **WOMAN** came to me wanting to get in touch with her dead mother. I started to get pictures of her mother in her kitchen wearing an apron and my client agreed that when she was alive she was always in the kitchen, so that's how she'd be in the after life.

The woman wanted to hear reassurances from her mother that all was OK. Instead, the message that she passed to her daughter was that she didn't like her new hairstyle and she should change it because it didn't suit her.

When people pass over to spirit their personalities really don't change much.

Even when I was a child I could hear voices telling me things about people I came into contact with. People would always say: 'How did you know that? I never told you...'

But as I grew up I learned to keep my mouth shut because people thought I was weird. Instead I set about being an average person. My husband and I built up a restaurant business and I went about

## These women claim to have foreseen 9/11, helped solve murders and communicated with spirits. But is it all a load of crystal balls? Read their stories and decide for yourself...

getting all of the material things we think make us happy and acceptable: a nice car, clothes, a beautiful home.

Following a serious illness I was forced to make some changes in my life. I made a promise that if I could be around long enough to see my young children grow up then I would use my gift to help others.

Although my husband was — and still is — supportive, he is scared of the work that I do. It freaks him out a little.

Now our house is always full with all sorts of people — mostly ones who are grieving.

We have a big problem in Ireland with suicide and many families will come to me when a loved one has taken their own life because they want answers.

I literally begin to experience the sensations that they went through and it can be

a very unpleasant feeling.

I once had a client come to me who asked me to connect with a loved one who had passed over. They didn't tell me that it had been a suicide but when I connected with the spirit I started to experience really bad choking sensations and my neck was tight and sore.

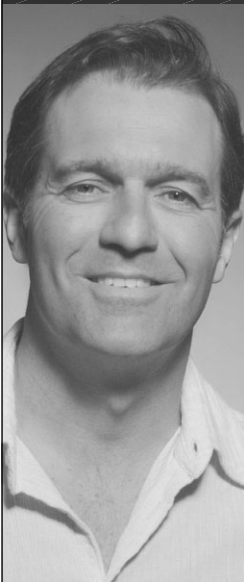
I was told by the spirit that they'd committed suicide by hanging themselves — then it all made sense. Some readings like that take so much out of me that I have to rest for two days afterwards.

I was born and raised a Catholic but the Church discourages its members from delving into spiritualism. Now I lean towards Buddhist philosophies of life such as reincarnation.

I don't earn a fortune doing this work but this is not a money making thing. I only ask people to give me a

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