PROUST QUESTIONNAIRE

Marie-Hélène Poudevigne

French Consular Councillor for Ireland

What is your idea of perfect happiness?
That my loved ones are in good health, happy and doing well.

Which historical figure do you most identify with? Léon Blum, founder of the 'Front Populaire', who passed a lot of important social rights legislation for the French citizens in the 1930s.

Which living person do you most admire? Those who speak for themselves tactfully and with honesty.

Which is the trait you most deplore in yourself? Maybe being too demanding.

What is your greatest extravagance? Driving a Triumph Spitfire before the Celtic Tiger years.

What is your favourite journey?
Paris-Berlin, when Berlin was part of East Germany.

On what occasion do you lie?
I never lie, but occasionally, I don't tell.

Which living person do you most despise? Those who are spineless, those who spread stories, and those who don't keep to their word.

What or who is the greatest love of your life? That answer is private.

When and where were you happiest? Motherhood is the best thing that's ever happened to me.

Which talent would you most like to have? A concert pianist and aircraft pilot.

What is your current state of mind? Contentment.

What do you consider your greatest achievement? Twenty happy years in Ireland.

If you were to die and come back as a person or a thing, what do you think it would be? My mother, the most courageous, devoted, and kind person.

What is your most treasured possession? My photo albums.

What do you regard as the lowest depth of misery? Loneliness and homelessness.

What is your favourite occupation? Holidaying.

What is the quality you most like in a man? Being attentive.

What is the quality you most like in a woman? Being friendly.

Who are your favourite writers?
Boris Pasternak, Franz Kafka, Antoine de Saint-Exupéry, Milan Kundera, Michel Déon, Patrick Kavanagh.

What is your motto?
You can't fail if you don't try.

Marie-Helene Poudevigne, who live in County Galway, was elected by French citizens in Ireland to represent them as a consular councillor. Her function is to defend their interests and protect their rights and to echo their voices and concerns to the French Embassy and to members of the French parliament.

Kernan Andrews