

## What a night... this is a swap shop with a difference



### Holiday snaps BY JIM MURTY

**NIGHTSWAPPING** deserves a quiet night... no, wait a minute, I'm thinking of the R.E.M. song *Nightswimming*. Nor is it something risqué. Nightswapping is the new online community where we get to form friendships and pool our homes with people from other countries. Holiday Snaps has formed a new friendship with [nightswapping.com](http://nightswapping.com). So, how does it work in practice? Well, you host fellow travellers and in return you gain nights: host for seven nights, earn seven or buy nights on the site if you can't host (between £7 (€10)-£49 (€66) per night). Travel with your nights: for every night you've bought or earned, you can stay at

another member's place anywhere in 160+ countries. And, if you've built up ten nights, then you can keep some, spend some - it's up to you.

**LIMBERING** up for a crack at the Camino, I took to the hills and a jaunt to the Hellfire Club. Then up by Glencree I saw a fir tree adorned with tinsel. Well, it is only 83 days to Santa. A couple of things then. If you fancy getting

away this Christmas, then why not try a skiing/snowboarding trip. Irish company Highlife run trips to the French resorts of Morzine, Méribel or Val d'Isère. The season runs from November 29, 2015, to April 17, 2016, and the holidays are available from €840 for an adult and €686 for a child under 12. Short breaks in Morzine are also available for three or four nights from €529 for an adult or €479 for a child under 12. Prices include; minibus transfers to and from your chalet. There are saunas, hot tubs and log fires, good food, wines and a complimentary bar. Check out [www.highlife.ie](http://www.highlife.ie) or contact (01) 677 1100, [info@highlife.ie](mailto:info@highlife.ie). Your diarist's early attempts at skiing saw him snow plough into his then-girlfriend's thigh on the nursery slope,

leaving her black and blue and me dumped. I've stuck to walkways mostly since. Our friends at [CaminoWays.com](http://CaminoWays.com) are offering a 10 per cent discount for 2016. Of course, there are various stunning routes, but, as a sample, for the Classic or Camino Francés, prices start from only €517pps for six nights from Sarria to Santiago (includes discount). Call (01)525 2886. Visit [caminoways.com](http://caminoways.com).

**KNOCKRANNY** House Hotel and Castleknock Hotel & Country Club, Westport who won the Best Package prize at the Irish Tatler Spa Awards this summer are ten years in business. But they won't relax, they're too busy pampering us. Contact (098) 28600. Visit [www.knockrannyhousehotel.ie](http://www.knockrannyhousehotel.ie).

