



TOP OF THE CLASS
Tomas O hUallachain at the Convention Centre, Dublin, yesterday



FAMOUS FIVE Top pupils in news, opinion, photojournalism, features and sport categories

Tomas has write stuff

THERE was no doubting Tomas as the winners were crowned in an initiative encouraging young people to engage in society.

NewsBrands Ireland's Press Pass 2016 attracted entries from 8,000 transition year students.

And at yesterday's awards ceremony in the Convention Centre, Dublin, 16 were awarded for their original journalism.

The overall winner was Tomas O hUallachain from Pobalscoil Chorca Dhuibhne, Dingle, Co Kerry.



PAPER GREATS
Press Pass winners Tomas, Jack Farrell, Emma McGoey & Caitriona Ni Chonail



PRIZE GUY
Tomas with his award

FORGOTTEN

We've lost everything twice... all for wars that are nothing to do with us



REFUGEE CAMP
Disease-ridden site near Garowe

EXCLUSIVE

BY **TOM PARRY** in Garowe, Somalia
Pictures: **ANDREW STENNING**



AFTER surviving the machine gun street battles of Mogadishu's brutal clan war, Mohamed Darman Hassan hoped his luck would change.

Bombed out of his home in Somalia's capital, the engineer – who studied in Britain in the early 1980s – fled with his family for the sanctuary of Yemen in 1991.

Thousands of other Somalis made the same treacherous journey by boat across the Gulf of Aden.

A quarter of a century later, Mohamed, 56, embarked on the return crossing after being caught in the crossfire of civil war for a

second time. The life he had built in Yemen came to an end when helicopter gunships blasted adjoining homes.

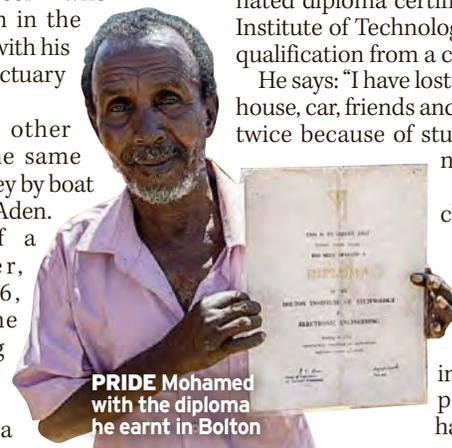
Now struggling to survive in an unsanitary camp in the barren desert near the northern city of Garowe, the dad-of-four is destitute as Somalia teeters on the brink of famine.

Mohamed clutches his prized laminated diploma certificate from Bolton Institute of Technology and a teaching qualification from a college in Bedford.

He says: "I have lost my livelihood, my house, car, friends and everything I own twice because of stupid wars I've got nothing to do with."

"One of my children died."

"Those Apache helicopters were just swooping down over where we lived in Aden and dropping bombs. We had to go... When I



PRIDE Mohamed with the diploma he earned in Bolton