

# LET'S GET READY TO PARTY!



**Riverfest 2019 - Limerick lays claim to the May bank holiday weekend. See p10**

**Jennifer de Brun and Sara Granda from Fidget Feet helps launch Riverfest 2019 at Limerick's Big Wheel in Arthur's Quay Park**  
PICTURE: SEAN CURTIN/TRUE MEDIA

# The Leader

Wednesday, April 10, 2019

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**REMEMBERING ROY** Collins haunted by son's death **P8**

**CITY'S GAELIC GROUNDS LIT UP** College takes naming rights on home of Limerick GAA **Sport**



**RIVERSIDE CAMPUS** UL unveils stunning design for Sarsfield Street site **P14**



**Strand shows off its swish new look with party P31**



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# Leading Off

Setting the agenda in Limerick



**▲ GOOD WEEK**  
**Limerick city centre**  
 Great news emerged that UL is to place a city campus at the site of the old Dunnes on Sarsfield St.



**▼ BAD WEEK**  
**Car sales**  
 Despite the huge increase in electric car sales, overall sales are down on figures from March of last year



**☀️ QUOTE OF THE WEEK**  
 "The thousands of people that turned up to support us. Without that, we would still be here trying to get justice."  
**Steve Collins, father of murdered Roy on the march in Limerick in 2009**

**INSIDE THIS WEEK**



**LIVING IN BACK YARD**  
 Dad and son wait for housing  
 Page 16



**CITY AN FDI DESTINATION**  
 Jobs continue to flow with IDA backing  
 Page 4

## UL's purchase of site a great boost for city



**A different view: Photographer Adrian Butlers shot of the Dunnes Stores site take from Clancy Strand**



**WHAT WE THINK**  
**EUGENE PHELAN**  
 LEADER EDITOR

It is definitely the best news in years; the University of Limerick is to open a campus in the heart of the city. The 2,000 students and 100 or so staff will help bring life back into the city centre at the old 5,535 sq metres Dunnes Stores site. It is a prime location looking onto the Shanonn and the fact that the university has purchased it,

has taken many by surprise after promises in the past by former presidents, to open a student campus in the city centre, never came to pass. Now out of the blue we got the surprise announcement from Mayor James Collins, a member of the governing body, that an €8 million purchase of the site was going ahead. He even beat UL to the

official announcement. The new campus will bring together law, business and entrepreneurship-in-technology departments to the city centre. The plans have yet to be lodged and let's hope there are no objections to this development which will be another major game changer in Limerick city's very bright future.

**WEBTOPTEN**

- 1 BREAKING:** Limerick GAA confirm Gaelic Grounds to be renamed
- 2** Orange weather alert for Limerick as Met Éireann warns of dense fog
- 3 BREAKING:** Johnson & Johnson announces 100 jobs as part of €100m investment in Limerick plant
- 4** Uninsured driver in Limerick crash jailed for three years
- 5 REVEALED:** University of Limerick's design concept for vacant Dunnes Stores site
- 6** Limerick driver with armchair strapped to car roof is in the hot seat



- 7** Rescue helicopter forced to stand down after lasers 'pointed at' crew in Limerick city
- 8** Mystery over green diesel in County Limerick farmer's van
- 9** Supermac's boss has another nibble in County Limerick property market

- 10** Uninsured Limerick woman drove due to 'emergency situation'



**The driver of this crashed car was jailed for three years**

## Death

Clabby, (Joseph) Whitehall Park, Highgate, London and late of Gort, Co. Galway. Peacefully at Whittington Hospital, London. Sadly missed by his loving wife Rita (nee Houlihan, late of Kilmurry, Castletroy), brother Thomas (Mossy)(Gort), nephew Niall (Br. Colman, Glenstal Abbey), nieces and nephews, cousins, extended family and friends. May he rest in peace. Reposing at Griffin's Funeral Home, John's Gate on Thursday April 11th from 5pm. Removal at 6pm to Our Lady Help of Christians Church, Milford. Funeral on Friday after 12 noon Mass to Kilmurry Cemetery, Castletroy.

**WEATHER FOR THE WEEK**



**WEDNESDAY**  
 Sunny spells today with temperatures climbing to 14°C



**THURSDAY**  
 A passing afternoon shower with highs of 14°C again



**FRIDAY**  
 Dull and dreary throughout with temperatures hitting 13°C



**SATURDAY**  
 Sunny periods but not as warm as last few days with 11°C peak



**SUNDAY**  
 Sunny and dry again but temperatures peaking at 10°C



**MONDAY**  
 Low clouds throughout the day with a high of 13°C



# MyLimerick

## Una Burns

Novas head of policy and communications

### What's your idea of a perfect day, or a perfect weekend, in Limerick?

There's so much to choose from! Saturday morning at the market followed by a browse around the shops. If I'm feeling active, a Saturday would definitely involve a run down the Shannon Fields. If I get the opportunity, I love going out on a Saturday night and there are so many nice places to choose from - The Copper Rooms, 13/14, The Market Quarter....

### What's your first Limerick memory?

Having grown up in Limerick, I have lots of early memories of the city. One of the earliest would be Saturday mornings in the market with my parents and going to hurling matches with my dad. I also have fond memories of The Band Parade on St. Patrick's Weekend, which are unique to the city.

### What's your favourite part of the county/city and why?

I think UL would have to be one of my favourite parts of the city. Having completed my undergraduate studies there, I have very fond memories of it. It's an amazing campus, with exceptional facilities. The university was recently recognised as one of the top universities in the world for International Students, which highlights what an open and welcoming city we have.

### What about a favourite local walk or view?

The Shannon Fields. I live in Corbally so it's on my doorstep and a great amenity to have so close by.

### What do you think gives Limerick its unique identity?

The people of Limerick define the city, their sense of pride and community and their love of sport!

### Do you have a favourite local restaurant?

Hook & Ladder in Corbally for a casual lunch, Freddy's Bistro for some something more formal.

### How would you describe the people of Limerick?

Authentic, fun and down-to-earth. The people of Limerick take great pride in their city and all its achievements.

### How important do you think sport is to Limerick?

Hugely important. For a relatively small city, we enjoy success in many sports, most recently the All-Ireland Hurling Final and the National League Final. The sporting facilities in UL are second to none and are used by many sporting disciplines.

### If you could add one amenity to Limerick what would it be?

More inner-city housing, to create a truly livable Limerick.

### What's the biggest challenge facing the city/county today?

Lack of housing, to rent and buy. We need to utilize our existing built environment as well as accelerate the pace of new developments. Lack of housing will stifle our ability to attract new business to the Mid-West and prevent us making meaningful inroads into the homeless crisis in the region.



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## FRONT PAGES OF THE PAST

26 YEARS AGO  
JUNE 12, 1993

Mugged Mary Warns Women, was the headline on the front page of the Limerick Leader city edition.

It concerned a story regarding former Senator Mary Jackman, who had her car window smashed as she was driving into Dublin city

along the canal, and a number of items including a handbag were stolen.

The main photograph was of Julie Stokes, winner of the Miss Limerick title with the previous year's winner Marie Woulfe. Another story confirmed Wilson/Cook Medical were to set up in Plassey with 140 jobs.



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## LEADER NEWS BULLETIN

## EMPLOYMENT

## Workers at restaurants did not have valid work permit

A COMPANY which employed a number of non-EU nationals without valid work permits has been fined €1,000.

Bella Italia Limited, which operates two restaurants, was prosecuted by the Minister for Business, Enterprise and Innovation relating to offences which were detected in May 2018.

Antoinette Cahill, an inspector with the Workplace Relations Commission, told Limerick District Court that having called to the company's registered address on May 8, 2018 it was established one employee had no work



permit while three others were working in excess of their permitted hours.

She said contravention letters were sent to the company and that legal proceedings were initiated as matters were not addressed for several months.

Solicitor Joseph Griffin said the company, which rectified matters last September, is a "very good employer" and was tardy and "naive in not acting faster" in response to the WRC letters.

Judge Marian O'Leary, pictured, imposed separate fines totalling €1,000.

## LITTER

## Parents of schoolgirl in court over street rubbish

THE parents of a schoolgirl were prosecuted under the Waste Management Act after they were connected to three bags of rubbish which were dumped at Todds Bow in the city centre.

Litter warden Paul McAnespie told Limerick District Court documentation from the girl's school was discovered in the bags which were found on November 16, last.

The defendants' details were later obtained from the school after it was contacted by the local authority.

A notice requiring the parents to supply details of their waste collection service was subsequently issued but not complied with. A fine was also not paid.

Judge Marian O'Leary fined each parent €200 and she directed they each pay €293 towards the council's costs.

## DRUGS

## Man had cocaine worth €98,000 for sale or supply

A MAN who had a significant quantity of drugs at his home on the outskirts of the city will be sentenced in July, writes David Hurley.

When arraigned at Limerick Circuit Court (pictured), Dermot Calvert, 48, who has an address at Mossgrove Avenue, Caherdavin, pleaded guilty to having 13.98grams of cocaine for the purpose of sale or supply.

The drugs, which had a street value of almost €98,000, were located in the front room of the defendant's home when it was searched by gardai as



part of an intelligence-led operation on February 22, 2018.

After being informed by John O'Sullivan BL, prosecuting, that the guilty plea was acceptable to the State, Judge Tom O'Donnell agreed to adjourn the matter to July for sentencing.

Because of the value of the drugs seized, a mandatory sentence of ten years' imprisonment applies unless the sentencing judge rules there are specific and exceptional reasons not to impose such a sentence.

Mr Calvert was remanded on continuing bail.



Minister of State for Trade, Employment and Business Pat Breen TD, welcomed by John Lynch, plant lead, Johnson & Johnson Vision Care (Ireland) to the Limerick facility PICTURE: DIARMUID GREENE

## Limerick is now a destination for FDI

**Investment:** 700 new jobs for city as companies expand

DAVID HURLEY

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THE mayor of Limerick city and county says three recent jobs announcements has confirmed Limerick's status as a major destination for inward investment.

In just over 72 hours, three multinational companies – Edward Lifesciences, FundRock and Johnson & Johnson Vision Care – confirmed they were to invest hundreds of millions of euro in Limerick over the coming years – creating around 700 jobs in the Castletroy area of the city.

"Limerick does have a lot going for it, it's a very positive time in Limerick, it's a very special time in Limerick and I feel very privileged to be mayor in the year that we have. There are a lot of building blocks and steps that have been taken and many people have been involved in turning around the economy of Limerick," said Cllr James Collins at the announcement of Johnson & Johnson's €100m expansions plans.

Pat Daly, director of service at Limerick City and County Council with responsibility for economic development and planning also welcomed the three announcements.

"The growth our city and county is achieving, growth that is essential in the context of balanced regional development, didn't just happen overnight. It is as a result

**Limerick today is very very different to ten years ago**

MAYOR JAMES COLLINS, BELOW



of strategic planning that goes back to the launch of our Limerick 2030 Economic and Spatial Plan," he said.

"As a region we have much to offer in terms of foreign direct investment, not least an exceptionally skilled, educated, high-calibre workforce, competitive cost of living and doing business, access through an international airport at Shannon and the supply of high-quality office space coming on-stream," he added.

John Lynch, plant lead for Johnson & Johnson Vision Care, says the decision to expand the company's manufacturing operations in Limerick is a key milestone – 26 years after began its operations here.

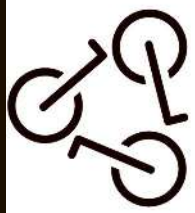
"We believe that the new manufacturing roles being introduced in Limerick in 2019 will be foundational in helping us bring new, innovative contact lens products to our patients and customers around the world at an industry-leading pace," he said.

Martin Shanahan, ceo of IDA Ireland, says the three jobs announcements show how well Limerick and the wider region is able to compete with other major cities – particularly in Europe – for foreign direct investment.

"Limerick has proven to be competitive, these investors do not make these investment decisions lightly and the fact that they continue to reinvest in Limerick shows that they see that the offering is there," he said adding that there needs to be continued investment in infrastructure, housing and education to keep the momentum going.

In addition to the jobs being created by the three companies, hundreds of people will be employed during the construction phase.





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**Date:** Saturday April 13th @ 10am

**Registration:** 8.30am - 9.30am in Mungret College

**Register Online in Advance at:**

<https://register.primoevents.com/ps/event/AnalogDevicesCycle>

*All participants must be over 18 years of age*

**Registration:** €25 (€20 for CI members on producing a valid CI Licence)

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# Financial services to create 45 jobs at new city office

**FINTAN WALSH**

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AN INTERNATIONAL financial services company has announced that it will be creating 45 jobs at the launch of its new Limerick offices.

FundRock, which has a network of offices in Luxembourg, London and Dublin, officially launched its new office at the Castletroy Park Commercial Complex, Castletroy, on Friday.

Supported by IDA Ireland,

FundRock currently employs 20 people and envisages growing that number to more than 45 over the next year and a half.

The majority of the work undertaken in Limerick is aimed to support the core activities performed by FundRock, including risk, oversight and investment compliance.

Conor O'Brien, who is managing director of the Irish branch, said he is "absolutely delighted" to announce FundRock's expansion.



**IDA Ireland CEO Martin Shanahan welcomed the development**

"We have had a longstanding connection to the city by offering internships to students studying at the University of Limerick and I truly believe we have made an excellent choice to build our new

centre of excellence here."

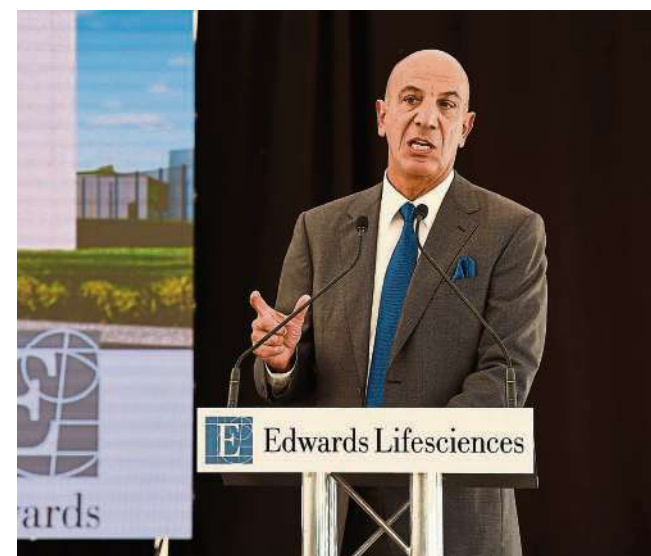
Group CEO, Xavier Parain also welcomed the launch of the Limerick offices.

Commenting on the announcement Minister for Business, Enterprise and Innovation Heather Humphreys said: "I am delighted to see FundRock expanding their presence in Ireland with the opening of this Limerick office and 45 new jobs over the next 18 months. Ireland is a hub for

International Financial Services companies and I warmly welcome this new investment, particularly as it is bringing high quality jobs to the Mid-West."

Martin Shanahan, CEO, IDA Ireland said "Fundrock's choice of Limerick as its regional second site in Ireland is testament to the company's positive experience of the business environment here.

Mayor of Limerick City and County, Cllr James Collins also welcomed the news.



**Taoiseach Leo Varadkar and Edwards Lifesciences chairperson Mike Mussallem with a model heart at the breaking of ground at the site of the new Edwards Lifesciences manufacturing plant in Castletroy.**

**Above Mr Mussallem addresses the gathering**

PICTURE: DIARMUID GREENE

# Global medtech company outlines local charity plans

**Investment:** Edwards Lifesciences announce €160m to be pumped into city plant

**FINTAN WALSH**

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THE MEDICAL technology giant that is set to bring 600 jobs to Limerick by 2021 has made a commitment to invest in local GAA clubs, its CEO has announced.

Edwards Lifesciences announced on Friday that it was to increase its investment into a new manufacturing plant at the National Technology Park in Castletroy by €80m to €160m.

Edwards Lifesciences Corporation, which produces patient-focused technology for structural heart disease and critical care monitoring, is headquartered in California and is projecting the creation of around 600 jobs once the facility is opened in 2021.

Its chairperson Michael Mussallem said that, through its foundation, Edwards will be able to carry out some charitable work in Ireland.

The chief said that it will support Croí, the heart and stroke charity, by providing free screenings to patients.

Mr Mussallem said that Edwards will always invest in scholarships for students "in need" at Limerick Institute of Technology and invest in local GAA clubs.

"It is kind of fun for us, and it is even more important that we have an aspiration that each of our employees actually gets involved. And each of those activities allows them to get involved in the community."

Taoiseach Leo Varadkar was present at the launch last Friday, saying the development of the Limerick city region is a major part of the Government's Project Ireland 2040 plan.

"We are planning for the city to grow by 50 per cent over the next two decades through enhanced regional accessibility, improved international connectivity and a competitive, educated workforce. The fact that

Edwards Lifesciences has chosen Limerick for this new permanent facility is a very positive endorsement of the region as a great place in which to live, work and invest.

"Lifesaving, cutting-edge technologies will be produced here, resulting in the creation of 600 highly skilled jobs. I wish the company and their new workforce the very best as they embark on this exciting new project," Taoiseach Varadkar said.

Edwards established operations in Ireland in 2018, and employs 50 people at a facility in the Shannon Freezone. The additional investment around its new facility includes the purchase of additional land, the construction of a larger facility to allow for possible future expansion and the integration of upgraded technology.

Michael Mussallem, Edwards' chairman and CEO said: "We are proud to break ground today on a modern, state-of-the-art facility in



**"We are planning for the city to grow by 50%"**

**TAOISEACH LEO VARADKAR AT LAUNCH OF EDWARDS LIFESCIENCES JOBS**

Ireland that will serve as an important addition to our global supply chain to enable global delivery of our high-quality, life-saving heart valve therapies.

"We are confident that the addition of our talented and experienced team in Ireland to our growing workforce in the U.S. and around the world will provide valuable support to our shared goal of serving more patients in need."

Mayor of Limerick City and County Council, Cllr James Collins said, while welcoming the news, Limerick has "to ensure that our public services – particularly in health and transport – are upgraded to meet the demands being placed on them by a population which is set to grow by 50% in the next 20 years".

He said he hopes Edwards' investment "stirs the government" to back Limerick City & County Council with State funding for a "complete overhaul of our transport network".



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# Former mayor in fresh bid for seat on Council

**NICK RABBITTS**

nick@limerickleader.ie

FORMER mayor of Limerick Kevin Kiely has announced he is to run as an Independent candidate in City North.

The Farranshone man, who represented Fine Gael on the old City Council between 1985 and 1991, plus 2004 and 2014, has pledged to try to speed up the progress around Project Opera if returned next month.

“Limerick still has a cancer in the middle of it in terms of the Opera Centre and all we are doing is listening every three or four weeks that this is happening and that is happening. But nothing has happened. I was over in Boston on numerous occasions, and an announcement would be made, and seven to eight months from that, you’d see a new 30-storey building,” he told The Leader. “The Opera Centre people know it’s a disaster, and we are suffering from

a huge parking crisis in the city. If elected, I would close Arthur’s Quay car park and build on it, put 2,000 car spaces underneath it, and give them to the people free of charge to come in and shop.”

Mr Kiely decided against contesting the 2014 election on health grounds – but he vowed to be back. Now he is running in a seven-seater ward, which is seeing two high-profile retirees in the form of Cllrs Michael Hourigan and John Gilligan, plus the stepping

down of Fianna Fail member Cllr Vivienne Crowley.

Asked how he rated his chances of a fifth council term, Mr Kiely said: “I have a proven track record. Anything I said I would do, I did it on the northside. I got people new roads, I resurfaced roads, new footpaths, houses all over the northside. I looked after families from the area. As mayor I was outspoken and never let the grass grow under my feet.” Limerick goes to the polls May 24.



Election bid: Kevin Kiely



Steve Collins Snr at his son Roy Collins’ grave in 2012. Roy was murdered in 2009 PICTURE: PADRAIG O’REILLY

## Family recalls tragic Roy Collins murder

**Ten years on:** ‘People were so afraid of these gangs’

**FINTAN WALSH**

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THE FATHER of murdered Limerick man Roy Collins has recalled the moment he found his son fighting for his life after he was shot this day 10 years ago.

The 35-year-old father-of-two was shot while he was working at Coin Castle Amusements arcade, in Roxboro on April 9, 2009.

The brutal murder occurred after Wayne Dundon, who is serving life for Roy’s murder, sought revenge after he was jailed for threatening to kill another member of the Collins family in 2004.

Nathan Killeen and James Dillon are also serving lengthy prison sentences for the murder.

“A lady came running in saying that a fight was after happening in the casino. I ran in, looked in the door, looked over and seen Roy on his

knees over in the corner. He was after being shot in the back. All I could do was go over and cradle him and get an ambulance,” Roy’s father said. “He was conscious. I looked down and seen a small pool of blood on the ground with a bullet in. I couldn’t believe it. So I called the ambulance and the police and I held him and I cradled him. I tried to comfort him. I thought he was going to make it.”

He said that after Roy was placed on a gurney when the ambulance arrived “he was worried and he could barely breathe at this stage, looking for his mother, telling everyone he loved them”.

Roy’s brother said that when he was with him on the way to the hospital, he was holding his hand.

He said that when they got into the hospital, Roy gave his brother a “thumbs up”.

Speaking about their campaign to

seek justice for Roy, his brother said: “We couldn’t sit back and see these people get away with it. There was a major campaign and it was tough.

“The only way to do this is heavy-handed, go in and be in their faces. And in fairness, they came down the following week, they sat outside their houses, they kicked in doors and that’s when everything changed. That’s when Limerick started to become what it is today. Limerick is a different place today compared to back then,” Roy’s brother told Live95 on Tuesday morning.

His father said: “It was a terrible cancer in Limerick at the time. People were so afraid of these gangs. I was amazed at the amount of people that turned up that day. The thousands of people that turned up to support us. Without that, we would still be here trying to get justice.”

## Garda patrol car rammed during pursuit

**DAVID HURLEY**

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A MAN who is accused of deliberately ramming a garda patrol car during a high-speed pursuit is facing trial before the circuit court.

A book of evidence has been served on Jimmy Harty, 43, of Sycamore Drive, Newbridge, County Kildare, who faces a number of charges relating to an incident in the early hours of November 16, 2018.

In addition to charges of endangerment and criminal damage, he is also accused of dangerous driving at a number of different locations.

Opposing bail, Detective Garda Dean Landers said it will be alleged that while on patrol at Childers Road at around 2.30am, he and a number of colleagues encountered a high-powered Audi A3 car which was being driven by Mr Harty.

He said it will be alleged the defendant increased his speed and attempted to avoid gardai resulting in a high speed pursuit taking place.

He told Sergeant Donal Cronin it will be alleged the Audi A3 entered the car park of Our Lady of Lourdes church where he reversed at the patrol car having first come to a complete stop.

The witness said two of his colleagues, who were armed, were approaching the car on foot when he reversed.

“He reversed at speed narrowly avoiding my

colleagues. He hit the (patrol) car,” he said adding it will be further alleged Mr Harty then fled from the car park by driving over a grassed area.

Judge Marian O’Leary was told the pursuit continued along Rosbrien Road, through Punch’s Cross and onto Courtbrack Avenue where the Audi struck a roundabout and collided with an electricity pole.

The detective said a number of other people were in the car and that during the pursuit a plastic bag was thrown from the vehicle.

He said it will be alleged the bag, which was later recovered by gardai, contained a quantity of cocaine.

Detective Garda Landers

expressed

concerns

the

defendant

would not

appear in

court if

released

and would

continue to

engage in

criminality.

Being

cross-examined by Mr

Harty’s barrister he accepted

the defendant is not a flight

risk but reiterated his

belief he would appear in

court. Having considered the

objection, the judge said she

was refusing bail.

She noted the book of

evidence had been

completed and a copy served

on the defendant and that the

DPP was consenting to the

matter being sent forward to

the present sittings of

Limerick Circuit Court.

Given the current lists, the

earliest date of any trial will

be towards the end of this

year.







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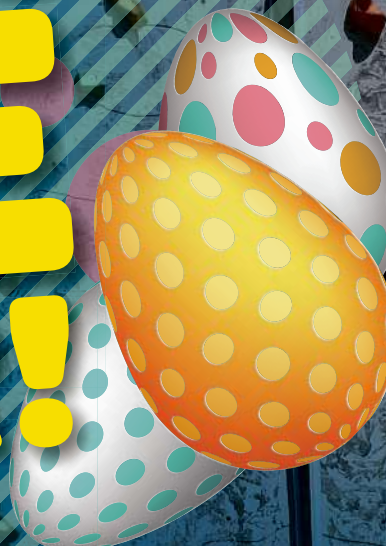
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- Butlers Easter Egg Hunt
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## Comments from online readers

What you're saying about stories on [limerickleader.ie](http://limerickleader.ie) and our social media platforms



### REVEALED: UNIVERSITY OF LIMERICK'S DESIGN CONCEPT FOR SARSFIELD STREET SITE

#### Anne Marie Stacke

A fantastic plan for the site and I welcome it but I find it bizzare that there are no plans within this site to facilitate car parking for staff/students. Currently there is not enough on street parking within the City Centre to facilitate shoppers. Private car parks are ridiculously expensive so where will the excess parking be found?



#### JP Ness

Students will ruin the gritty, working class character of Sarsfield Street. A methadone clinic or a wet hostel would be better.

### FAMILY OF ROY COLLINS RECALLS DAY HE WAS MURDERED

#### Gearldine Madden Gardiner

Ye have to b the strongest family I know it's just so sad the reason why but the whole of limerick owe ye a massive debth



#### Gary Kirwan

The people of limerick owe the Collins family allot they have been incredibly brave

#### Bernadette Ryan

I only passed by Roy Collins' memorial plaque yesterday and I thought of him and all that his family went through.

### BREAKING: LIMERICK GAA CONFIRM GAELIC GROUNDS TO BE RENAMED

#### Liza Roche

Well maybe they might invest some of that money in providing proper toilet facilities especially for females and particularly in the Mackey Stand. And also provide match day parking in the vicinity of LIT Gaelic Grounds to make it more family friendly to attend matches. A lot of investment needed to make it an attractive modern venue. Anyway what's so wrong with a local Limerick 3rd Level Institution giving back to its own community? Far better than a commercial entity.



#### Maxwell O Rian

Gees why change the name that more like money now like rugby the GAA is starting to go GAA getting greedy now what a shame...

#### Tilly Cregan O'Sullivan

Hope it's better than the new Jersey

### LIMERICK PHOTOGRAPHER THRILLED AS CAMERA RETURNED AFTER LEADER APPEAL

#### Pat Murphy

Absolutely overwhelmed at people's concern a big thank you goes out to you all. Thanks to Nick Rabbits at the Limerick Leader.



#### Ted Murray

The Vatican will have to be contacted about this miracle

#### Grace O'Connor O'Brien

Delighted his camera was returned, there are some good people out there thank God.



Pictured at the launch of Riverfest to be held on the bank holiday weekend from May 3 to the 6 were The Leader columnist and Spin South West's, Louise Cantillon with Mayor James Collins

# May Bank Holiday belongs to Limerick

**Riverfest:** Thousands set to attend annual event

#### RORY O'CONNOR

[rory.oconnor@limerickleader.ie](mailto:rory.oconnor@limerickleader.ie)

"LIMERICK owns the May Bank Holiday" declared Laura Ryan, Head of Marketing and Communications, Limerick City and County Council as the exciting plans for Riverfest 2019 were laid out at its official launch this Tuesday.

Speaking at the launch at House Limerick, Mayor of Limerick City and County Cllr James Collins outlined the broad range of festivities in store. "We're looking forward to a bit of entertainment, in our 15th year. The range of activities has blown me away, the river is at the centre of it all: We have zorbing, ziplining, kayaking, fishing" he revealed.

This years Riverfest plans to be

bigger than ever, with Culture and Arts Officer Sheila Deegan hoping "100,000" people come and join in on the fun, which has been further spread along the river than ever before. It now occupies the rear of the Hunt Museum, Arthurs Quay Park and the Potato Market, with James Collins describing it as a "a wonderful opportunity for us all to celebrate all that is great and unique about Limerick."

There is also the welcome addition of local group Fidget Feet who will showcase their aerial acrobatics prowess and it's the first time that fishing will be a feature of the festival, with many people of all skill levels coarse fishing along the canal.

As well as the many river based

activities, there's much more in store. With "artisan Limerick food producers in the Riverfest village, there's lots going on with comedy, theatre and opera. It's all going on here in Limerick on the bank holiday weekend" James Collins told The Leader. The weekend's 'Big Gigs' will include The Stunning and the Frank And Walters Live at the Big Top on Sunday and Qween at Dolan's on Saturday night. Comedy heroes Dermot & Dave will take to the stage in UCH on Friday night. Also, this year, the Abbey Theatre Production of The Country Girls will be performed at the Lime Tree Theatre from Thursday, April 30.

For a full list of events and information on where to find tickets visit [www.riverfest.ie](http://www.riverfest.ie)

## Plans to upgrade public bike schemes

CHANGES have been proposed for the public bike scheme at this Tuesday's meeting of the Travel and Transportation Strategic Policy Committee.

These changes come off the back of calls from Limerick North Sinn Féin candidate Sharon Benson's

pleas: "I am calling for the National Transport Authority to provide additional bicycles and bike stations for the north side of Limerick to allow workers, students and visitors access the whole of our city," she said, with only two of the cities 29 bike stations located on the North

side of the city. The new changes proposed involve 'dockless' bikes which can be used all over the city. The move is overwhelmingly positive, says local Fine Gale candidate Eleanor Hogan, adding that "Dooradoyle and Raheen" will benefit greatly from the new plans.



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[www.limerickgreyhoundstadium.ie](http://www.limerickgreyhoundstadium.ie)



## LEADER CRIME BRIEFS

BY DAVID HURLEY



## Daylight robbery as thief jumps counter at bookies

GARDAI are appealing for information following a robbery at a bookmakers premises in the city centre earlier this week.

According to gardai, the incident happened at Bar One Racing, William Street on Monday evening.

“At around 6.45 a male entered the premises on William Street. He had an item with him and he threatened the member of staff there,” said a garda spokesperson.

The culprit then jumped over the counter and took what cash was in the till.

Nobody was injured during the robbery and the



The incident happened at Bar One Racing

culprit ran off in the direction of Wickham Street after leaving the premises.

“Gardai at Henry Street are investigating and are keen to speak to anybody who was in the William Street/Wickham Street area last Monday evening between 6.45 and 7pm to please contact them if they saw anything suspicious,” said a spokesperson.

## Car stolen from outside house after keys were taken

A CAR was stolen from outside a house in the city centre after the keys were taken from inside the property.

According to gardai, the house was entered by the back door which was closed but not locked.

“The lady of the house had just gone upstairs to get something. In that short space of time somebody had walked in the back door and taken the keys of the car off the kitchen table and then of course took the car,” said divisional crime prevention officer Sergeant Ber Leetch.

“We must get into the habit of locking our doors when we step into our houses,” she added.

## Purse was stolen from trolley at supermarket

GARDAI are investigating the theft of a woman’s handbag from her shopping trolley.

The incident happened at a large supermarket at lunchtime last Saturday.

“Her purse was in her shopping bag on her shopping trolley. After a time the lady discovered that her purse was missing,” said Sergeant Ber Leetch.

“Her purse contained cash but also her debit and credit card and her driver’s licence. All of these must now be cancelled and in the case of her driver’s licence it must be reapplied for.”



Advice: Sergeant Ber Leetch

Sgt Leetch says shoppers need to be vigilant.

“It’s not safe to leave your purse out of your sight and when you’re shopping you are inclined to walk over to get a certain product and leave your trolley and purse behind you. Criminals only need a second, they are very quick and they look like you and I,” she said.

## Bag stolen from coffee shop

A WOMAN has been charged and brought before the courts following the theft of a handbag from a coffee shop.

The victim entered the shop at around 8.30am last Friday and placed her bag on the floor beside her chair.

She quickly realised her purse was missing and was able to give garda a description of a woman who she had noticed.

A woman was later arrested and the purse recovered.



Jeffrey Kelly was remanded in custody after he appeared before Limerick District Court

# Hammer ‘wielded’ during row at pub

**Court:** Suspect refused bail after garda objection

DAVID HURLEY

david.hurley@limerickleader.ie

DOZENS of people were forced to flee from a pub in the city centre after a man wielding a hammer entered the premises, a court has heard.

Jeffrey Kelly, 27, of no fixed abode, was refused bail after he was brought before Limerick District Court having been charged in connection with an incident on April 3, last.

Opposing bail, Garda Mark O’Sullivan said it will be alleged the defendant and three other men entered the Old Quarter bar at Little Ellen Street at around 6.30pm.

He said Mr Kelly brandished a weapon – namely a hammer – during the incident and allegedly “tried to strike one of the other three men”.

It is the garda case that the incident followed on from a dispute between the men which broke out on William Street a short time earlier.

“It’s not known what that altercation was about,” said Garda O’Sullivan.

Judge Marian O’Leary was told around 25 people were in the Old Quarter at the time and that many of them were having food.

The incident, Garda O’Sullivan said, lasted for “a good number of minutes” during which time customers “ran out in fear”.

He told Sergeant Donal Cronin that CCTV from the premises has been obtained as part of the garda investigation and that a hammer was recovered from the pub.

Mr Kelly, he alleged, was

“brandishing a sweeping brush” at another man when he was arrested at Cecil Street a short time after the alarm was raised.

The court was told gardai were concerned the defendant would not attend court if released and that he would “commit further serious violent offences”.

Solicitor Sarah Ryan said her client gave an explanation and “put a context” on the incident when questioned following his arrest.

She said Mr Kelly is engaging with the homeless services in Cork and would live in Cork if required to as a condition of bail.

Having considered the garda objection, Judge O’Leary refused bail. Investigations are ongoing and a file is to be prepared for the DPP.

## Pupil, 14, has missed 91% of school days

A JUDGE has warned the parents of a teenage boy who refuses to go to school there will be consequences if significant progress is not made, writes David Hurley.

In addition to missing more than 90% of all school days since last September, the 14-year-old has attended, on occasions, without a uniform, school bag or lunch.

“The position is not good, it’s an appalling picture overall, it’s severe educational neglect,” solicitor Kevin Sherry, representing Tulsa, told

Limerick District Court.

Mr Sherry confirmed there are significant supports in place and that the child and family agency is extremely concerned that progress is not being made.

Solicitor Ted McCarthy, representing the boy’s father, said his client “does not want the young fella at home every day”, but that he “just won’t go to school”.

Solicitor Sarah Ryan said the boy’s mother is “making every effort” to ensure he attends school

but that he refuses to co-operate.

She added that the couple have two other children who are attending school without any difficulty.

Noting the Tusla report, Judge Marian O’Leary said the current situation “just can’t continue”.

She commented the boy’s father is not leading by example and she warned she will not tolerate the current level of absenteeism.

The matter was adjourned to June for review.



# The benefits to changing school for the Senior Cycle

The end of the Junior Cycle gives young people an opportunity to assess their academic path and possible career choices. To ensure they have the widest range of options available to them, students may decide to change school. This decision can be daunting, but sometimes necessary. Achieving academic potential, within a structured day, with positive peer and adult support, may require a change of surroundings. Recent reports indicate the Leaving Certificate is leading to stress, burnout and mental health problems among students. If students want to achieve their potential, they are best served by being in a structured, supportive environment which blends high standards with a balanced lifestyle. The interaction between students and teachers and amongst students themselves also plays a very important role in shaping a young person's self-image. Research has demonstrated that students who have experienced positive interaction with teachers in terms of praise and feedback tend to become more informed, resilient and autonomous learners.

Rockwell College in the heart of Co. Tipperary offers this opportunity for students to harness and maximise their capability in the Senior Cycle. Over the past ten years an average of 30% of Leaving Certificate candidates achieved 500 points or higher. In 2018 this figure reached 32.2% and the vast majority of these pupils progress to top Universities in order to pursue their chosen careers.

Abraham Lincoln said: "The best way to predict your future is to create it". The Rockwell College Senior Cycle programme offers a choice of 23 subject options, thus allowing pupils the opportunity of selecting subjects from a broad base rather than being restricted by limited subject provision. The Careers Department at Rockwell provides excellent advice in terms of student options, study planning, Third Level entry requirements in Ireland and the UK, employment opportunities and much more. As a co-educational boarding school and day-boarding school, Rockwell College provides a study-life balance where everything is provided under one roof. Classes, meals, extra-curricular activities and supervised study run within a structured day that supports the development of the whole person in a secure and supportive setting. Our support services include the availability of Guidance Counselling, Chaplaincy and Nursing care to guide and support all our pupils through the challenges that come their way.

Rockwell College can offer this to boys and girls considering their senior cycle options. The Senior Cycle Open Evening on April 30th will give prospective pupils and parents an opportunity to learn more about the College and the option of boarding, to view the facilities and meet our staff and pupils. Presentations will be made by the Principal, Guidance Counsellor and TY Coordinator and teachers of different subject areas will be available to discuss subject choice.

To learn more about Rockwell College and the Senior Cycle Open Evening on April 30th, check out [www.rockwellcollege.ie/newsandevents](http://www.rockwellcollege.ie/newsandevents)



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## Clean-up in Clare villages

As Westbury and Shannon Banks participate in the JP McManus-sponsored Team Limerick Clean-up 5 on Good Friday, there will be corresponding clean-ups in neighbouring Clare villages.

Cllr Cathal Crowe is leading the initiative and those wishing to partake are encouraged to bring their own gloves and assemble at the following locations:

Meelick: either Community Hall or Meelick Tavern (whichever is nearest



**Cllr Cathal Crowe**

to your home) at 10:30am.

Parteen: school gate at 10:45am

Ardnacrusha: in front of Post Office at 11am.

Cllr Crowe said, "This is my 13th consecutive year organising 'Spring Clean Days' in my local area. Each year the number of participants has grown steadily. Spring Clean Days are supported by An Taisce and Clare County Council transports the rubbish collected."

## Limerick link to US Civil War

THOUSANDS of men from the Limerick region lost their lives in the American War.

And the next lecture to be given to the Thomond Archaeological and Historical Society titled 'Last Letters Home: Recovering Thomond Voices from the American Civil War' will look at their involvement.

It will be given by Mr Damian Shiels, who is a historian and archaeologist on Monday next April 15 at Room T.1.17 Tara Building, Mary Immaculate College at 8pm. All are welcome.

It was estimated that 180,000 Irish born men served in the Union Military during the American Civil War and at least 70,000 Irish Americans. This war saw more men from Thomond fight and die than in any other conflict in modern history, including the First World War.

# UL's plans for Dunnes site a 'game changer'

**Ambitious:** City business people welcome multi-storey complex

**FINTAN WALSH & NICK RABBITS**  
news@limerickleader.ie

PLANS by the University of Limerick to build a massive, multi-storey complex following the announcement that it is to purchase the vacant Dunnes Stores site for €8m has been described as a "game changer" for the city.

The plans, so far, will see a significant development constructed on the block Honan's Quay, Sarsfield Street and Liddy Street, next to Arthur's Quay Park.

The news of the purchase has received a warm reception from the people of Limerick, including politicians and pressure groups who had been campaigning for the site's revival for years, which had intensified in recent weeks.

City businesswoman Helen O'Donnell said: "I think it's singularly the best thing that ever happened. It's hugely significant. It's a double whammy. It's a huge bonus to get that off the market, and then the university actually coming into it. It's going to be enormous."

Ms O'Donnell, whose Tidy Towns group has constantly raised their hopes for action on the site, believes UL will deliver a "spectacular site".

The college is to turn the site into a riverside campus.

"It will be a game changer, as we have so many other things happening. We have the Gardens International ready, Opera coming in, and now this big eyesore is being taken out. I think given their buildings on campus, they will do something spectacular," Ms O'Donnell added.

Dr Desmond Fitzgerald, UL president, said its city campus will aim to bring together law, business and entrepreneurship in technology and "create a hub for developing and supporting enterprises in the city".

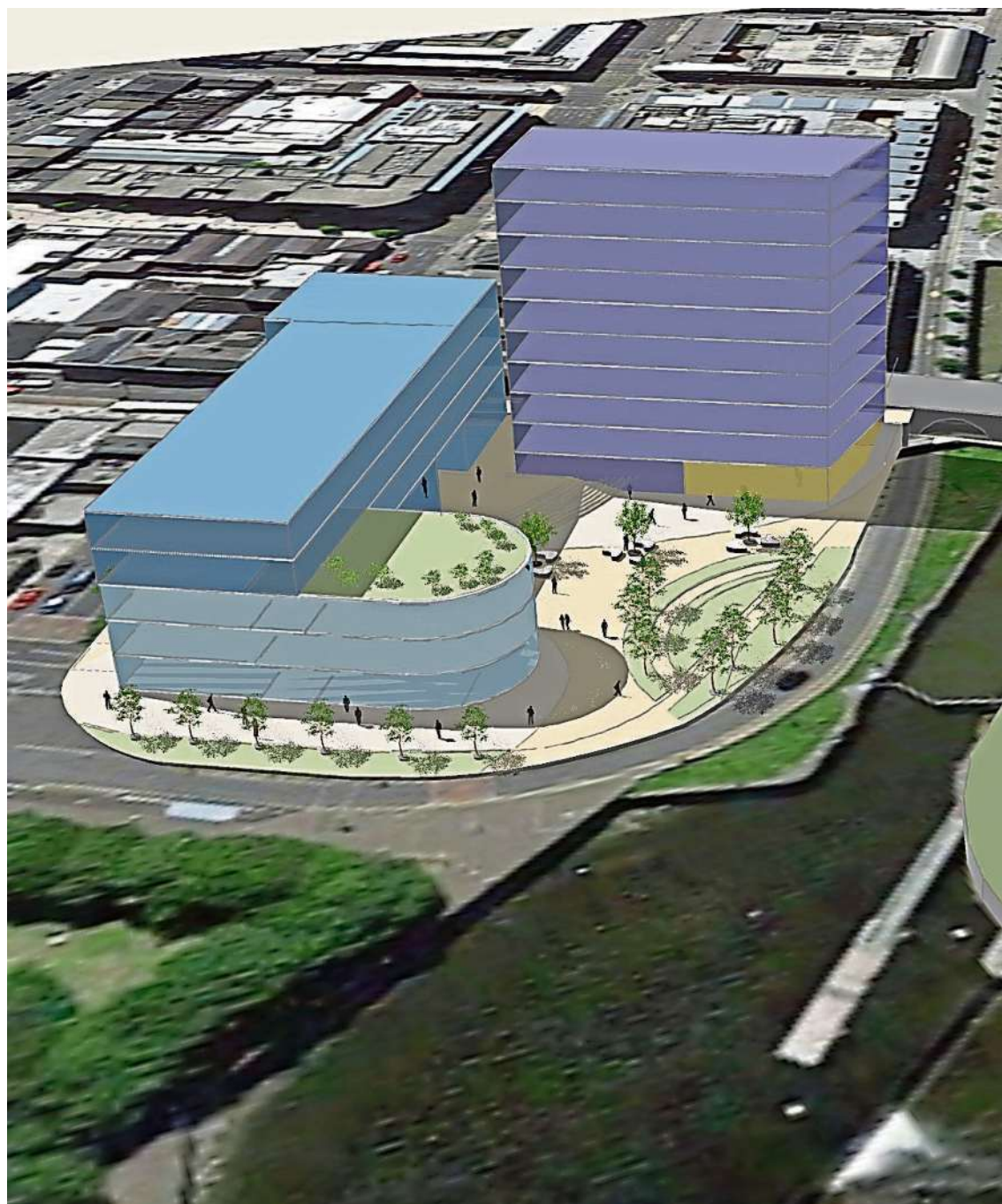
Dr Fitzgerald announced last Friday evening that its governing authority came to an agreement to purchase the site for €8m in order to incorporate it into its city campus.

"It is fitting that UL's presence in the city will be on the waterfront mirroring our magnificent riverside campus just four kilometres away," Dr Des Fitzgerald said.

He said its city campus will aim to bring together law, business, and entrepreneurship in technology and "create a hub for developing and supporting enterprises in the city".

It is hoped that the development will be completed by 2022.

City trader James Ryan, of Centra O'Connell Street, said: "I hope this is



now the catalyst to drive further sites into action. These plans are great, but as a city centre stakeholder, I would be disappointed at the speed at which the plan is being implemented - let's hope 2019 is a year of action".

Fellow businessman Tony Connolly said the presence of students "will give a great buzz to the city".

"You see very often in the evening if I'm going home at 7pm or 8pm, you'd drive through the city and it looks deserted. Students can create atmosphere," he said.



**I hope this is now the catalyst to drive further sites into action**

**CITY TRADER JAMES RYAN**



**Top: an architect's impression of the new UL development and above, the Dunnes Stores site as it is today**



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# Chance for journalism students to win trip to Brussels

## LEADER REPORTER

news@limerickleader.ie

Journalism students in Limerick are being invited to shine a light on EU-funded projects in their area and possibly win a trip to Brussels.

The competition is part of the EU's Youth4Regions programme and to enter applicants are asked to send their best words or images on an EU-funded project.

The winner will travel to Brussels and cover the 2019

European Week of Cities and Regions in October, Europe's main event on Cohesion policy, gathering many EU, national and local political figures and journalists from all over Europe.

Ireland South MEP Deirdre Clune said: "This is such a great opportunity for young, budding journalists to get experience in this field and learn more about EU policies. It is a great way for young people to see first-hand how this event operates."



**Deirdre Clune  
MEP: 'fantastic  
opportunity'**

"We are very lucky in Ireland in that we have some top-class journalists and programmes such as this will ensure that the field of journalism is promoted to our young people."

The winners will be able to attend training sessions with journalists, visit the EU institutions and will see their reports published on the Commission's department for Regional and urban policy (DG REGIO)'s magazine, Panorama.

The programme is opened to participants from EU Member States as well as neighbouring and candidate countries. 33 young people will be selected. Applications are open until July 15. The programme offers training

on journalism and EU regional policy, the chance to receive mentorship from established journalists from Ireland and other EU countries, working side by side with renowned journalists during the EU Regions' Week, visits of EU affairs media headquarters and EU institutions. All expenses will be covered by the European commission. Full details available at [https://ec.europa.eu/regional\\_policy/en/policy/communication/youth4regions](https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/policy/communication/youth4regions)



**Shane Reddan with his son Lee-Jay, 7. Shane is living in a caravan while his son stays with his sister**

PICTURES: MICHAEL COWHEY

# Northside man 'forced to live in friend's back yard'

**Housing crisis:** Shane Reddan, 28, evicted from property as landlord was selling

## NICK RABBITS

nick@limerickleader.ie

A NORTHSIDE father-of-one has spoken of his hurt and pain after being reduced to living in a caravan in his friend's back yard.

Shane Reddan, 28, was evicted from his home in the Old Cork Road back in 2016 after his landlord decided to sell the property.

Since then, during spiralling rental prices, he has been unable to find accommodation for himself and his eight-year-old son Lee-Jay.

The Corpus Christi school student stays at Shane's sisters home, while the Kileely man remains in the caravan often without heat and electricity.

"I wasn't brought up in life to live in a trailer, or to be separated from my boy, to have a little child crying,

wondering where I am and why I am not at home," he said.

At Christmas time, he said, he felt "lost".

"I felt I didn't have a family. There was nobody in the house as my mate had gone on holidays. In the winter-time on the dark nights, you don't have anyone to talk to.

No neighbour to call into. You just feel cordoned off from everyone."

He claims despite regular calls to Limerick City and County Council - where has been supported by Cllr Frankie Daly - the local authority has not been able to offer him a place to stay.

Shane said he would be willing to move into accommodation in the private market, so long as he has room for his little boy.

"I was looking at that option, and here's the situation I am left with: I

have my own account on daft.ie, myhome.ie, and rent.ie. On those three sites, I have an email alert for any property worth up to €1,200. Within two years, I have received one email for a home in Ballygarry which is miles out," he said.

Shane has claimed the council have suggested he check into a homeless hostel.

But he said: "Every hostel in town is drug ridden. I don't want to be left in that situation".

"All I want is a house for me and my young fella so I can put him through school and give him the life I never had," he added.

Initially, Shane was living with no heat in the caravan in a hotel car park on the edge of the city, but it was only after his friend's intervention to allow him to move into his back garden that he was able to access an



**I wasn't brought up in life to live in a trailer or to be separated from my boy**

electricity supply.

Limerick City and County Council says it does not comment on individual cases.

But in a statement, they said they "work with all current and potential tenants to access accommodation."

"People can also access the Rental Accommodation Scheme and the Housing Assistance Payment scheme. Limerick Council would encourage anyone who is homeless or with a threat of becoming homeless to contact our dedicated Limerick homeless action team for assistance".

They added: "A wide range of accommodation solutions are used for those who are experiencing homelessness including bed-and-breakfasts, hotels and hubs."





# Anne Cronin



## LABOUR

**My name is Anne Cronin and I'm a local election candidate for Labour in Limerick City North. The issues that are important to me are housing, our city development, health, education and cycling infrastructure.**

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### Our City

### Health

### Education

### Cycling

Limerick needs a public housing programme – that includes social and affordable housing for all our citizens. We need security of tenure for those who rent and we need rent controls and rent pressure zones as minimum protections. We need our publically owned lands to serve the public good and they cannot be sold to private developers for private gain. I will ensure that my 16 years' experience in the housing sector will enable me to portray an accurate picture to local government of the vulnerabilities some of our citizen's experience through insecure and absent housing.

**T: 086 8536925 | E: anne.cronin6@gmail.com**



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## Countdown on to Bread not Profits play

THE final rehearsals are taking place for the Bread not Profits play, which provides a modern-day retelling of the Limerick Soviet.

Next Wednesday April 17, it will be curtains up at the old Cleeves factory in O'Callaghan Strand for the play, which has been written by top local playwright Mike Finn.

A century ago next week, Limerick people took on the might the British Empire to run their city for themselves.

And a bit of history will also be made next week, with the first public open-air play at the old Cleeves factory – and it's appropriate it takes place there, for it was workers in the former toffee factory who were first out on strike in 1919. "I have wanted to write this play for the longest time, and obviously the centenary was the time to do it," said Mike, who spent his year as artist-in-residence at the

Belltable theatre penning this play.

"It's exciting to see it get this far. I can't wait for it to open. It's a big monster of a play, because of where it is," he added, "To be doing it in this location, 100 years almost to the day is a privilege for sure."

A major production, Bread not Profits features 10 permanent cast members, a community cast numbering 15, and three musicians.

Due to the size of Cleeves factory, and the fact the play will take place in different parts of the facility, attendance is limited to 120 people a night.

Tickets are selling well, Mike said, with the first performance on Wednesday, April 17 (a preview will take place the previous night).

It will then run every day until Saturday, April 27, save for Easter Sunday and Easter Monday (April 21 and 22).



Rehearsals for Bread Not Profits at the old Cleeves factory are in full swing. Photographed are some of the cast: Ann Blake, Martha Breen, Lucia Smyth, Gene Rooney, Kit Thompson and Aidan Crowe PICTURE: ADRIAN BUTLER

## Plans to replace prefabs at city garda station

**Upgrade:** Existing prefabs are used for shower, locker and toilets

DAVID HURLEY  
david.hurley@limerickleader.ie

PLANNING permission is being sought for construction works at a compound at the rear of Henry Street garda station.

The Commissioners of Public Works (OPW) is proposing to demolish and replace two existing prefabs which are currently used to house locker, toilet and showering facilities at the garda station which is one of the busiest in the country.

Access to the secure compound which houses the existing prefabs is via a gate on Bishop's Quay at the rear of the

garda station.

According to a public notice which was erected in recent days, it is proposed to demolish the existing detached prefabs and replace them with new single-storey prefabs of the exact same size and height.

The new prefabs, which will be used for the same purpose as the current prefabs, will be "clad in external timber sheeting and will incorporate a grass sedum roof and roof lighting".

The detailed plans can be viewed at Henry Street garda station or at the OPW regional offices in Mungret and any relevant observations or submissions must be submitted to OPW



The prefabs are located to rear of Henry Street garda station

head office in Dublin by early next month.

The timescale for the proposed works has not been disclosed publicly and there is no indication as to how much the demolition and construction works will cost.

If approved, the works will be the latest to be undertaken at Henry Street garda station which is the headquarters for the Limerick garda division.

Last year, a state-of-the-art custody suite, which cost in excess of €1m to build, was opened following several months of construction.

The public office has also been refurbished in recent years.

## Charity Ball set to raise vital funds

THE third annual 'Every Child Is Your Child' (ECIYC) ball will take place at Thomond Park on Saturday.

The 2019 Gala is a Masquerade Ball, which will include an impressive line-up of musical performances, a live art auction, and a range of sponsored raffle prizes. All funds raised will be used to support parents and children living in Direct Provision.

ECIYC founder Donnah Vuma, spoke on the importance of the work of the charity, "In 2018, 30% of the people awaiting a decision on their international protection application were children," she said, adding "With a weekly allowance of €21.60 per person, and restrictions on the right to work for adults, parents of school-going children are severely limited in their ability to cover essentials like school uniforms, hygiene products, and public transport fees".

ECIYC's fundraising ball raised €3,500 in 2018. This money helped purchase stationary, uniforms, and books for 60 school students in Direct Provision. Tickets are on sale on Eventbrite or from Doras Luimni for €30.

## INTO condemns exclusion from expert working group

THE IRISH National Teachers' Organisation has condemned its exclusion from a Government working group set up to examine the prevention of crisis situations like assaults and violence in schools.

An expert working group has been announced by the Department of Education to develop guidelines for schools on the use of physical intervention

for the prevention and management of crisis situations.

However, the teaching union believes it has been excluded from this group as it omits the voices of primary school teachers.

"This is a sensitive and challenging area in primary schools all over the country," INTO general secretary designate John Boyle said.

"Our members work at the

coalface and offer unparalleled insights on this topic. As the chief representative of this body of teachers, it is outrageous that once again we should find ourselves excluded from such pertinent discussions."

According to the INTO, teachers and pupils in primary schools have been the subject of assaults and violence carried out by pupils and others in the school

community.

The union has been to the "forefront" in standing up for members and bringing this issue firmly onto the public agenda, Mr Boyle added.

"Thorough, comprehensive and representative consultation must be a key ingredient in any substantive policy proposal that stands to impact our members. INTO are demanding our immediate inclusion."





Over 140 have already registered their interest in the new homes in Manor Brook, Adare

## Launch of luxury homes in Adare

**DONAL O'REGAN**

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ONE of the "most exclusive developments in County Limerick" will be launched in Adare this Sunday, April 14.

The showhouse in Manor Brook will be open to the public from 2pm to 4pm. There are 40 homes in total divided into 16 four bedroom semi-detached, 14 three bed semis and 10 detached homes of two different types. There are also five service sites.

Selling agent for the

houses located beside the pitch and putt course are REA O'Connor Murphy. Michael O'Connor, director, said there has been very strong interest in Manor Brook over the last number of months.

"We have around 140 that have registered their interest. There has been a lot of enquiries," said Mr O'Connor, who is looking forward to Sunday and giving people the opportunity to see the showhouse.

"It is one of the most exclusive developments to come to the market in County

Limerick in recent years," said Mr O'Connor.

It is expected that around 18 homes – a mix of the three, four bedroom and detached will be available to purchase on Sunday. It will be on a first come, first served basis. The three bedroom semi-detached abodes are available from €348,000, four bedroom semi-detached from €420,000 and the four bedroom detached priced at €650,000. Manor Brook, Graigue, Adare is being built by Torca Homes.

See manorbrookadare.ie for more.

## UL receives 17 nominations in student media awards

**AINE FITZGERALD**

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JOURNALISM students at the University of Limerick have secured a record number of nominations in the National Student Media Awards.

Limerick Voice, which was named newspaper of the year in 2018, has been nominated for the third year running in a number of different categories including: Newspaper of the Year; Layout and Design; and Website of the Year. Frances Watkins, the 2018 editor of the 40-page local newspaper, produced by masters and fourth year Journalism and New Media students, has also been nominated for Editor of the Year.

UL's student newspaper An Focal overseen by second year Journalism and New Media student Christine Costello, has also been nominated in the Layout and Design and Website of the Year categories.

The National Student Media Awards or the Smedias as they are known, is the largest competition of its kind in Ireland dedicated to recognising and celebrating the next generation of media talent. Open to students from every college across Ireland the awards are judged by key media industry leaders including Mark Hennessey, news editor of The Irish Times, and Fionnan Sheahan, editor of The Irish Independent.

Two UL journalism students have been nominated for Journalist of the Year including Muireann Duffy whose interview with cervical cancer campaigner Vicky Phelan, revealed how the brave mother-of-two has been using money raised for her own cancer treatment to help others gain access to the wonder drug Pembrolizumab responsible for keeping

her alive.

Journalism MA student Minyang Pang, a scholarship student from Beijing Sports University, has been nominated in the News and Sports Photographer of the Year categories.

Second year journalism student Ronan Coughlan has also been nominated in two categories: Sports Writer of the Year and in the Radio Production category for the radio show Beyond the Game, which he co-presents with fellow second year student Ivan Smyth.

"From second year right up to Masters level our students' work is being recognised by national media industry figures, which is a wonderful validation as they prepare to enter the world of work," said Kathryn Hayes, course director, BA Journalism and New Media UL.

The awards take place this Thursday, April 11.



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## Art group's charity endeavour

Participants in the Hatters Castle Art Class and Studio Exhibition at Central Buildings, O'Connell Street, in support of the Irish Motor Neurone Disease Association. The exhibition is running from April 5 to 13. Pictured are Frank Bouchier, art tutor, Hatters Castle art studio; Roy Stewart, artist; Lorraine Cronin O'Donnell, artist; Lilian Carroll, and MJ Caffery, Raheen

PICTURE: ADRIAN BUTLER





**Party time:** Ed Burke, Sinead Walsh, Valerie Wheeler and Clodhna Mulvihill pictured at the launch of Riverfest which will be held on the May Bank holiday weekend

# Riverfest is ready to roll

Limerick expect up to 100,000 people to descend on the city for Riverfest, from the May 3-6

**Pictures:** Michael Cowhey and Sean Curtin **Words:** Rory O'Connor



**Debbie Hassett, Classic Hits, with Meghann Scully, Monica Byrnes and Caragh O'Shea**

**Sean Lynch, Louise Donlon, Gill Fenton, Lime Tree Three Theatre at the Riverfest launch**



**Louise Cantillon, Spin South West and columnist with The Leader**

**Louise** The best thing about Riverfest is the buzz around the city. It draws people in for all the right reasons, if the weather's good it's going to be incredible.





**Aoife Potter-Cogan, James Collins, Mayor of the City and County of Limerick and Sheila Deegan. Picture: Sean Curtin.**

**James:** As Mayor, I've tried to promote more festivals as possible, to start new ones and to develop the ones we already have.

# Candid Comment

By SPARTACUS

● The political jostling ahead of next month's local elections has intensified as more and more candidates officially launch their campaigns

However, the prospect of having to fight two elections this year appears to be overwhelming Limerick's first citizen. At a jobs announcement in Castletroy on Monday, Cllr James Collins began his speech by complaining his thunder had been stolen by the other speakers as he was "not used to speaking last".

In fairness in the days gone by protocol was that the Mayor, the number one citizen, always spoke first at functions he was invited to attend.

Later, at the same function, he noted that he had been informed the J & J investment was €89 million – €11 million less than what Minister of State Pat Breen had proclaimed: "I hope he's correct and my numbers are out," quipped Mayor Collins.

If only he could get a vote for every additional million. Following on from the announcements that UL is to buy the former Dunnes Stores site at Sarsfield Street and LIT is to sponsor the Gaelic Grounds, Spartacus has some sympathy for those in power at Mary Immaculate College who must be feeling left out. Although MIC Thomond Park does have a nice ring to it!

● WHAT a difference a week can make.

Along with the extra hours sun light every day, the city has received one boost after another, with everybody and anybody looking for credit.

The empty Dunnes Stores site on Sarsfield Street is to be taken over by UL; lots of new jobs have been announced at Johnson & Johnson; the GAA have a new sponsor for the Gaelic Grounds and workers have been spotted starting the demolition process to start work on the new rugby museum.

● IT is probably not well known but it is against the law to engage in general searches for archaeological objects in Ireland using a metal detecting device unless you have received written consent from the Minister for Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht. To do so without such consent places you at risk of prosecution.

With so many ancient sites in Limerick city and county, one would be tempted to buy a metal detector and try and salvage something like the Ardagh Chalice.

But the onus is on the operator to ensure that a metal detector is used in accordance with the law. While it is illegal to use a metal detector anywhere to search for archaeological objects without the formal consent of the Minister for Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, it is an offence to even be in possession of a metal detecting device without the Minister's consent on the site of any monument or archaeological area protected under the National Monuments Acts. This also applies to areas which are subject to underwater heritage orders made under the National Monuments Acts. So think twice before you buy a metal detector for land, lakes or sea.

● Funny story overheard while getting a pint of milk in a Centra shop in Limerick city.

A Customer was having a chat with the shopkeeper about the Local Elections.

"I am getting lots of people calling to the house who are running in the elections. I met a fellow with Willie (O'Dea) last week, but I am just giving my vote to Willie, never saw that other fellow before. At least Willie calls three or four times a year."

"Your right I am doing the same," said the shopkeeper. Sad news for both and Fianna Fail, Willie is not running in the Local or European elections and is just out helping new candidates find their way.



**Meghann Scully, Riverfest ambassador**

**Meghann:** I think the idea of using the river and utilising it and having loads of events is absolutely incredible. It's great to see Limerick using the water like this, I think Limerick are showing other cities what they can do! I say to all my friends and family to come to Limerick for the May Bank Holiday.



**Ray Collins, Tracey O'Donnell and Gerry Battles**



**Louise Donlan, Shelia Deegan, Mayor James Collins, Sylwia Baltaza, Jill Fenton.**

**Sheila:** I'm so excited about the coarse fishing competition. Hopefully people discover the canal walk for the first time.



# Sales of electric cars soar by 400% locally

DAVID HURLEY

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SALES of electric cars have grown by more than 400% so far this year, new figures have revealed.

Official statistics released by the Society of the Irish Motor Industry (SIMI) show 40 electric vehicles were registered in Limerick during the first three months of the year compared to 7 during 2018.

There were 188 recorded sales

of petrol electric cars while 12 hybrid cars were registered.

The figures from SIMI show 536 new cars were registered in Limerick during March – down from 567 during March 2018 and representing a year-on-year decrease of 5.47%.

Cars manufactured by Ford (334), Toyota (242), Hyundai (239), Volkswagen (220) and Nissan (200) are the five most popular brand of vehicle sold in Limerick so far in 2019.

A total of 2,322 new cars were registered by the end of March compared to 2,642 during the same period last year – representing a decline of 12.11%.

The five most popular model of new car in the first quarter of 2019 were: Nissan Qashqai (117), Ford Focus (103), Hyundai Tuscon (88), Ford Kuga (86) and Toyota Corolla (70).

The latest statistics show sales of electric cars in Limerick have risen by more than 400% so

far in 2019.

Brian Cooke, director general designate of SIMI says the prospect of Brexit is having a significant impact on the sale of new cars in Limerick and across the country. “While current low volumes in the new car market have largely resulted from lower used car values for consumers’ trade-ins due to the huge volume of used car imports from the UK due to the Brexit-driven Sterling exchange rate,” he said.



Brian Cooke of SIMI



Chantal Mutesi, Mayor James Collins and Egwyge Roussard plant a tree in O'Brien Park, at the solemn gathering in Limerick for the 25th anniversary of the 1994 genocide in Rwanda PICTURE: TRUE MEDIA

## Tributes paid 25 years from Rwandan horror

**Tragedy** “Not even time can heal” genocide survivor

RORY O'CONNOR

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A survivor of the Rwandan genocide has praised the support given to her in Limerick on the 25th anniversary of her tragic loss.

Chantal Mutesi came to live in Ireland following the horrific attacks which took the life of her husband, four brothers, a sister and her mother, among other members of her family and friends. Recalling her devastating experience of the genocide, she spoke of the pain which is still with her today. “Memories don't fade despite people saying time is a healer,” she says.

Mayor of Limerick City and County Cllr James Collins attended a commemoration and planted a tree at O'Brien Park, Dublin road in honour of the victims of the atrocity.

“We are here to mark the darkest period in your country's history, one

that your nation is thankfully putting behind it, in no small part thanks to the response and intervention from the likes of Bóthar, whom we are very proud of in Limerick,” he said at the event, hosted by aid agency Bóthar, whose work is ongoing in Rwanda.

Chantal's compatriot Egwyge Roussard was also present at the time of the genocides, which saw one million people killed in an area the size of Munster in only 100 days.

“I left Rwanda when I was five but it's my home country,” said Egwyge, “and I have family there and I also lost some members of my family. I'm really glad to see how the Irish and Limerick people are dedicated to remember what happened in Rwanda.”

Chantal had a special

word of thanks for Bóthar, its supporters and the wider Irish public. “Really thank you for everything you have done for us for the families who are now able to send kids to school,” she said.

Niamh Mulqueen, Bóthar's chief operating officer, said that despite the agency's 20-plus years of work in Rwanda, the stories of survivors still shock to the core.

“When we hear the stories we've heard today it can actually stop in your tracks. It really makes you think how cruel life can be. However, I think an important message to take away from today is to show the positivity that is in Rwanda now 25 years later, the hope that they have. I think the whole world could learn from them” she said.

**1m**  
Number of people killed in Rwanda in 100 days in war

## Marina plan gets the green light as local's appeal rejected

LEADER REPORTER

news@limerickleader.ie

THE SON of Limerick Euro Millions winner Dolores McNamara has been given the go-ahead for a multi-million euro revamp of the marina in Tipperary despite a local resident's concerns over the project.

Gary McNamara, who's mother won €115m in 2005, had sought planning permission to restore the old harbour at the Lough Derg Marina, Ballina, Tipperary.

The plan, estimated to cost up to €2.5 million, will see the demolition of existing toilets, a shop and an office, as well as the construction of a replacement structure at the marina.

However, Mr McNamara's plans were delayed following one local resident's concerns over the work, which she claimed were “unauthorised.” She also claimed that the project could cause excessive light pollution.

She previously sought leave to appeal to An Bord Pleanala, claiming the plan to transform the development at Derg Marina was causing her “particular concern.”

In her request to apply for leave to appeal, the local resident said her family had been living at the Derg Marina Village for almost 18 years.

According to the resident, her first objection was submitted after she tried to engage positively with the applicant and Tipperary County Council over a five month period.

After the site was purchased in 2015, she alleged that substantial development work had been carried out, and had continued to be carried out on the site since 2016, according to the Irish Daily Mail.

The work she objected to involves truck loads of materials coming to and leaving the site, tree felling and dredging and piling in the River Shannon, among other works.

She had also claimed granting the project planning permission was also likely to result in light pollution as a result of 120 individual lights.

An Bord Pleanala has now refused the resident permission to appeal the decision of Tipperary County Council to grant retention planning permission to Lough Derg Marina Limited for the development of Ballina.

Derg Marina was bought by Mr McNamara, 40 and his wife, who have a variety of property interests across the region. The marina features more than 500 metres of water frontage.





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# PET RESCUE



**Limerick Animal Welfare** based in Kilfinane, rescues animals in distress and helps to find pets a new home. Below are some dogs and cats available. LAW is open seven days a week from 12pm to 3pm. An adoption fee ensures that all pets come vaccinated, wormed, microchipped and neutered, and home checks apply. For more information, phone 087 6371044.

## Looking for a new home



**Casper** - A beautiful white cat who is about six months old. Casper loves attention and relishes his comfort. He would make a wonderful pet. For more information please phone the cattery on 087 2295669 or visit the sanctuary any day between 12 - 3pm.

Next we have **Oscar**. Oscar is a three-year-old ginger cat. He is very loving and affectionate. He would make the perfect pet in any home. Visit the sanctuary any day between 12 and 3 to meet Oscar or to see all of our cats looking for homes. Adoption fee is €100, each cat is neutered, wormed and vaccinated.



Next is **Sandy**. Sandy is a 2-year-old Pointer. She is very gentle and affectionate. She knows tricks such as "sit" and "give paw". She is house trained and gets on well with other dogs. If you would like more information on Sandy you are welcome to visit the sanctuary any day between 12 - 3 or phone us on 0876371044 for more information. Adoption fee is €150.

## Bella loves her walks

Lastly, we have **Bella**. Bella is a one-year-old terrier mix. She is a little shy at first but is very friendly and loves going for walks. She is also house trained. If you would like more information on Bella please phone us on 0876371044 or visit her at the sanctuary.



Melanie Lennon and Michelle Normoyle of the Absolute Hotel in the Milk Market with their guests PICTURE: DAVE GAYNOR

## Absolute hosts top business bookers

Absolute Hotel Limerick hosted 11 agents from Europe and US that book on behalf of Dell and Johnson & Johnson.

The agents were treated to a fun packed weekend, with visits to some of Limerick and the Mid-West's best attractions, such as King John's Castle, Saint Mary's Cathedral, the Cliffs of Moher, the Milk Market, the Hunt Museum and the Medieval Banquet at

Bunratty Castle.

"It was a great opportunity for the agents to see the area that they are requested to book their colleagues into," said Melanie Lennon, sales and marketing manager with the city centre hotel.

The agents travelled from LA, New York, New Jersey, Texas, Washington, Ottawa, Boston and Antwerp.

# Limerick's 'fittest schools' awarded

**Health:** Students competed in tyre sprints and crawls

**JESS CASEY**

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LIMERICK Institute of Technology students have found Limerick's fittest schools, as part of a county-wide challenge between transition year students.

Coláiste Mhuire Askeaton and Laurel Hill have been crowned Limerick's fittest schools after a competition run by LIT Business with Sports Management students.

"Our aim was to create a fun, team environment whereby students got the chance to get active and develop their team skills," event coordinator, Shauna Costello said.

Each week, the LIT students travelled to each participating school to work on strength, fitness and team-building, Ms Costello added.

Teams of five boys and five girls were selected from each school taking part and brought forward to the final, which took place at LIT Moylish campus.

All finalists took part in a core circuit, a strenuous event including sprints with tyres and finally an obstacle course containing army crawls through nets, jumping over hay bales and stacking tyres.

After a hugely competitive competition, Coláiste Mhuire in Askeaton took home the first place trophy for the boys.

"This team of students were outstanding to



Peter Duggan and David Dempsey with the Laurel Hill winners of Limerick's Fittest School



**Our aim was to create a fun, team environment**

**SHAUNA COSTELLO, LIT**

work together as a team and proved they were the fittest and strongest on the day," Ms Costello said.

"For the girls it was Laurel Hill that received the trophy. These girls were constantly on top of the leader board and constantly pushed themselves to the limit."

"On behalf of the Limericks Fittest School team, we would like to thank our lecturer Caroline Shanley for all her efforts and support she gives to her students, having only last week helped our course break a Guinness world record for the most nationalities to take part in a hurling match."

Ms Costello also thanked all the schools and teachers who took part in the event.





Members of the Limerick Trade Union March lead the march to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Limerick Soviet. From bus tours to book launches, and even a panel discussion chaired by respected Broadford journalist Vincent Browne, Limerick will be a hive of activity for Soviet festival an episode in history which saw local workers take control of the city which at the time was facing martial law from the British military back in 1919

# UNIONS MARK LIMERICK SOVIET 100TH ANNIVERSARY

Pictures: BREDAN GLEESON



Aisling and Charlotte Byrne, holding their flags for the Limerick Trade Union March



Ken McCarthy, Mary McElligott and Peter O'Hara, getting the Limerick Soviet Flag ready



Richie and Grace McGrath/Kiely



Peter, Harris, Jared and Peter McNamara Junior with Tony and Hughie Ryan



Alan Douglas, Connect, laying the wreath, in remembrance of the 1919 Lockdown at City Hall



The Boherbouy Band, leading the Limerick Trade Union March



Mike McNamara, president of Limerick Council of Trade Unions



Peter McNamara, John Cantillon and Garrett Ryan





Jack Ryan and Carmel Mulcahy-Ryan, Hilltop



Alex Buckley, Westbury, and Pa Buckley, Emmet Place



# Out & About

## SATURDAY BARGAINS AT THE MILK MARKET

Pictures: DAVE GAYNOR



Joe Mulcahy, Corbally, with his purchase of fresh flowers



Isabel Woods, Parteen



Martin Toomey, Garryowen, with some freshly cut flowers





**LEFT: Lucy and Conor Murphy, Sixmilebridge enjoying some fresh buns**

**ABOVE: Mana Ishii and Nanako Koondo, Galway**

**RIGHT: Jim Quigley, Castletroy, and Gerry Burke, North Circular Road**



**Anne-Marie Geraghty and David, Sarah and Anna Hurley, Croom, enjoying a morning at the market**



**Des and Liz Leddin, O'Callaghan Strand with their dog Jack**



**Conor Lawlor, Ballyclough, and John Cassidy, Caherdavin**





# Making Cents

**LIAM CROKE**

The Must-Read Guide To Saving Money

Email: [Liam@harmonics.ie](mailto:Liam@harmonics.ie) Twitter: [@liam\\_croke](https://twitter.com/liam_croke) LinkedIn: [liamcroke](https://www.linkedin.com/in/liamcroke) Facebook: [liam.croke.96](https://www.facebook.com/liam.croke.96)

## Figure out your financial holy grail and go for it

I was asked recently what I considered the holy grail of personal finance to be. And I thought it was a great way to ask a question that everyone would like the answer to.

There are many different answers, all of which depend on your personal circumstances and philosophy.

For some, money has no meaning, it doesn't impact how they live their lives, how happy they are and for others it's all consuming.

It really depends on your point of view, and mine and your financial holy grail (FHG) will be different to everyone else's, as it should be.

Some people have told me their FHG would be reaching a stage where they could leave their day job, because they have enough savings to cover them for a year or two. They haven't quite figured out what the long term grail is, but in the short to medium term, having enough to tell their current employer, thanks for the memories.

And others have said, if their income just covers their outgoings, that's fine with them. Doing work that's rewarding and impactful, which also allows them to live the lifestyle they want to, is their ultimate goal.

They don't want a 9 to 5 job, they don't want to be involved in mind numbing meetings every other day. Being able to have a particular lifestyle is their holy grail. And for some, that has meant making serious changes to where they live.

I have encountered more than one person who were able to work remotely and because of that, moved to another country, work 20 hours a week, but

their standard of living increased despite them earning and working less.

My holy grail would be having the ability to do whatever you want with your time, free of money worries.

A life where you can spend time with people you like, doing things that make you happy.

When you get in a position where you have saved enough and/or have enough passive income streams that cover your living expenses, then you have reached that stage, and whether you get up out of bed in the morning is your choice.

And, of course, that's a big ask. Something you could only dream about perhaps, or is it?

I meet and read about people who have reached this state all the time, all starting from a zero base. What they all had in common was that they took personal responsibility for their lives and their finances. They didn't leave it to chance, they made it happen. They were goal orientated, very hard working and consistent in what they did.

In the States there is a great programme called Shark Tank. And, one of the sharks is a guy called, Chris Sacca. In 2000, at the age of 25 he was already a millionaire, but then when the market crashed, he lost everything and ended up \$4 million in debt. But he turned things around and at the age of 42 reached his financial holy grail and retired from working altogether.

He said he reached it two years later than he'd planned to.

Mr. Sacca had a plan, he knew what his number was, and he knew when he reached it, he would have time to explore the world, become a mentor, a philanthropist, appear on TV shows, do



**What's clear to me is that you have to become a different person you are today, starting with a different mindset**

### DID YOU KNOW?

The largest gold nugget ever found is the "Welcome Stranger" discovered by John Deason and Richard Oates in Australia in February 1869. The nugget is 10 by 25 inches and yielded 2,248 ounces of pure gold. It was found just two inches below the ground surface.

whatever he wanted to. He'd have the freedom to create the life he wanted to, free of stress, just full of options.

And yes, he took risks, and yes, he probably got lucky along the way, but it doesn't matter, he made it happen. He wasn't financially free by accident at 42, he was very deliberate and focused which is why he worked 24/7.

It seems to me, that entrepreneurs like them are actively thinking about their holy grail number all the time. They think about it more than the everyday person who's going to work.

So, like them, I would give some thought as to what your financial holy grail is.

It may be cutting back or changing jobs, earning an annual income of €250,000, giving up work altogether.

The sooner you figure out what that is, the easier and quicker it will be to put a plan in place. And if you want to achieve something in 10 years, don't wait nine years to make it happen, start now.

What's clear to me is that you have to become a different person you are today, starting with a different mindset.

You need to know what you want and how much that's going to cost, and what you are willing to do, to make that a reality. And unfortunately, I don't think whatever your FHG is, is going to come from saving a small part of your income, it's going to be nearly impossible.

So, you need to pivot and seek out opportunities that will make your FHG become a reality, but before you do anything, work backwards and think about what it is you want, and then put a number on that and a timeline in which you want to achieve it.

### ASK LIAM

Our personal finance expert answers your questions ...

**Q: I have €20,000 to invest and am wondering is there any account that's different to the norm. Most seem more or less the same. I'm willing to take a risk with this money. Have you come across anything that's a little different?**

A: I've come across an account only very recently which is very different, because it invests in four companies who are involved in the rapidly expanding cannabis market.

The companies all have multi-billion dollar market capitalisations, are publicly listed on stock exchanges and are considered the prime movers in this emerging industry.

Changing legislation and applications for cannabis based therapies and products are the major growth drivers behind this sector and global medicinal cannabis sales are expected to hit \$17 billion this year, with compounded annual growth of 25% forecasted between 2019 and 2022.

This new account has a form or capital protection, a 3 year term, and has potential for returns of 30% pa. And you can still see a positive return even if the underlying shares fall by up to 15%. I'm happy to send you or anyone else on details/brochure of the account if they want to email me.

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great value family deals for the Easter breaks. The Rose is the perfect place for you and your family to spend the holidays. Visit [www.therosehotel.com](http://www.therosehotel.com) or call 066 719 9100 for more details.



Spring into summer with the 20% off sale at Trinity City Hotel. Located in the heart of Dublin city the trinity is the sister hotel to Limerick Strand Hotel. Book by April 30 for stays before May 31.

T&C's apply. Subject to Availability. Book now on 01 648 1000 or email: [reservations@trinitycityhotel.com](mailto:reservations@trinitycityhotel.com)





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# Warm welcome from local business to UL's city move

## Education:

Huge welcome from businesses in city at site takeover

**NICK RABBITTS**  
 nick@limerickleader.ie

THERE has been a warm welcome throughout Limerick's business community at news that one of the city's longest vacant sites has been bought.

It emerged on Friday that the University of Limerick (UL) has agreed to buy the vacant Dunnes Stores site on Sarsfield Street.

City businesswomen Helen O'Donnell said: "I think it's singularly the best thing which ever happened. It's hugely significant. It's a double whammy. It's a huge bonus to get that off the market, and then the university actually coming into it. It's going to be enormous."

Ms O'Donnell, whose Tidy Towns group has constantly raised their hopes for action on the site, believes UL will deliver a "spectacular site".

The college – which bought the building for €8m – is turning the site into a riverside campus.

"It will be a game changer, as we have so many other things happening. We have the Gardens International ready, Opera coming in, and now this big eyesore is being taken out. I think given their buildings on campus, they will do



something spectacular," Ms O'Donnell added.

City trader James Ryan, of Centra O'Connell Street, said: "I hope this is now the catalyst to drive further sites into action. These plans are great, but as a city centre stakeholder, I would be disappointed at the speed at which the plan is being implemented – let's hope 2019 is a year of action".

Fellow businessman Tony Connolly said the presence of students "will give a great buzz to the city".

**The former Dunnes Stores site has lain idle since 2008 when the retail giant cut its retail offering in the city centre from three stores to just one**

"You see very often in the evening if I'm going home at 7pm or 8pm, you'd drive through the city and it looks deserted. Students can create atmosphere," he said.

The governing authority of UL sanctioned the purchase on Friday.

Dr Desmond Fitzgerald, the college president said its city campus will aim to bring together law, business and entrepreneurship in technology and "create a hub for developing and supporting enterprises in the city."

## Regional award for Metis Life

HENRY Street brokerage firm Metis Ireland has taken a prestigious provincial title.

The company has secured the title of Munster Broker of the Year at the Brokers Ireland Life, Pensions and Investment awards.

These recognise financial brokers who have proven their excellence, professionalism and dedication to maintaining high standards in the Irish marketplace.

The awards ceremony took place at the Mansion



**Karl Daly,**  
Metis Life

House in Dublin before a crowd of more than 500 financial services professionals.

The other companies nominated for the title included last year's winners, First Choice, at the Riverpoint. They were joined by SYS wealth and financial planners, based at the East Link business park.

## Virtual reality event

THE Bank of Ireland workbench facility will this Wednesday host an event looking at virtual and augmented reality.

Taking place between 10.30am and 12.30pm at the facility in 125 O'Connell Street, the event is aimed at individuals and companies involved in or delivering in areas such as manufacturing, retail, tourism, wellness or training.

It's hosted by the Limerick Chamber skilnet – and for more information, you can telephone Anne Morris at 061-217608.

Meanwhile, last week, the National IP Protocol Workshop took place in Limerick. Taking place in the University of Limerick, it represented a user-friendly guide to getting research at UL and other colleges into the hands of businesses around Ireland.

# High-profile role for software director

THE director of a software research centre at the University of Limerick has been elected president of a major global technology body.

Prof Brian Fitzgerald is now president of the International Association for Information Systems (AIS).

The first Irish person to take on the role, he will serve a three-year term.

Headquartered in Atlanta, AIS is a global professional association for individuals and organisations who lead the research, teaching, practice and study of information systems worldwide. It comprises almost 5,000 members globally and runs four international conferences annually.

Prof Fitzgerald maintains his role as head of University of Limerick headquartered, Lero, a research centre which harnesses software researchers from nine third level institutions including all of the Republic of Ireland's



**Prestigious role: Prof Brian Fitzgerald**

PICTURE: SEAN CURTIN/TRUEMEDIA

universities. Its work incorporates a wide range of software development from driverless cars and automation to artificial intelligence and cybersecurity. Current AIS president, Professor

Ting-Peng Liang, director of the e-commerce centre at the National Sun Yat-Sen University in Taiwan said: "Lero has a well-earned reputation as one of the primary software research centres in the world and Brian's record and experience in the sector will be an invaluable asset to the association."

Prof Fitzgerald said: "It is an honour to be elected to this prestigious role and reflects Ireland's growing reputation as a global technology centre."

Born in Roscommon, Prof Fitzgerald has been involved with Lero since its inception in 2005, apart from a spell as vice-president research at UL from 2008-2011.

Prior to taking up an academic position, he worked in the software industry for over a decade in a variety of sectors including finance, telecommunications, manufacturing and bespoke software development in Ireland, Belgium and Germany.





# KEEP IT LOCAL!

Limerick businesses in the spotlight



## First look at the superb Strand revamp

LIMERICK Strand hotel has been transformed, and this week unveiled the first elements of a major refurbishment programme by hosting a lavish party to celebrate. The hotel has completed a €1.6 million refurbishment programme upgrading 184 contemporary bedrooms, 13 suites and bedroom corridors making it Limerick's only fully refurbished hotel. In addition they've announced a €3.3 million development plan that will see a further increase the current bedroom count, with an additional 20 bedrooms in early 2020, bringing the total bedroom count to 204.

The Limerick Strand team enjoyed a huge turnout of clients, friends and well-known faces from the world of sport, fashion, beauty, music and media for the launch of their new-look bedrooms and upgrades.

Over sparkling glasses of Lillet Blanc & Rosé Spritz, refreshing Garnish Island Gin & Poachers Tonic, cool Rockshore Lager and the all new Rockshore Apple Cider plus a selection of new Pierre Zero non-alcoholic wine range for the designated drivers, an eclectic mix of fashionistas, local businesses, politicians, dignitaries, musicians, stylists and patrons packed the cool new contemporary surroundings. General Manager, Stephen O'Connor and Director of Sales & Marketing, Marie O'Gorman Skelly,



**Jacqui Meskell, Huggnote and Perry Meskell, Mary I at the launch**

who showed delighted guests the new-look rooms and upgrades, warmly welcomed guests at the launch.

World-Champion Gymnastic Pole Dancer, Lisette Krol but on a stunning performance to mesmerised guests, whilst crooner The Loungeman was on form, filling the room with popular grooves and party classics.

Enjoying the event were Rory Cashin, www.joe.ie, PJ Gibbons, Social & Personal, Melissa Carton, www.herfamily.ie, Lauragh Quinn, Galway Now, Ruth Fitzsimmons, Zahara Publishing, Jen Ronan, Louise Cantillon Spin Southwest, Live 95's Catriona Tierney



**The Big Reveal Bedroom Launch Party, Limerick Strand Hotel. The hotel has completed a €1.6 million refurbishment programme upgrading 184 contemporary bedrooms, 13 suites and bedroom corridors. In addition the Strand announced a €3.3 million development plan that will see a further increase the current bedroom count, with an additional 20 bedrooms in early 2020, bringing the total number count to 204**



**Members of the Wu-Tang Clan, Nyy Brim, Chuck Lite and Kay CEO**



**Nicole Finnuccane and Roisin Quiligan, Jaguar Land Rover**



**Zara Brownless and Emma Walsh, Wilson Hartnell PR**



**Catriona Tierney, Live 95FM, Frances Brennan impersonator and April Drew, Drew Media**



**Richard Lynch, Maria O'Gorman Skelly, Limerick Strand Hotel and Stephen O'Connor, Limerick Strand Hotel**

## Una Healy steps out Saturday to celebrate Greenes Shoes' 80 years

GREENES Shoes are celebrating 80 years in business this year. Established in 1939 in Falcarragh, Greenes now have seven shops across the country including Galway and Limerick and a successful online store greenesshoes.com

The store at the Crescent Shopping Centre offer an extensive selection of mens, ladies and kids shoes with a wide range of Irish and international brands such as Amy Huberman, Kate Appleby, Una Healy, Glamour, Marco Tozzi,

Tamaris, Heavenly Feet, Ecco, Ara, Pitillos, Gabor, Fit Flops, Tommy Bowe, Wrangler, Justin Reece, Brent Pope, Converse, Vans, New Balance and many more.

To celebrate their 80th anniversary, Greenes Shoes are currently running an online competition on their social media channels to shoe lovers nationwide. All you have to do is take a picture of your favourite Greenes Shoes footwear or a short video of your best shoe moment and upload it to Facebook, Twitter or Instagram

with the #80shoes to be in with a chance to win a luxury hotel break to the value of €250 courtesy of the MHL Hotel Collection.

One lucky winner will be selected every month while the competition runs. In addition to this, singer/songwriter and Shoe designer Una Healy will make a guest appearance at their Limerick store on Saturday, April 13. For more information, visit greenesshoes.com or follow Greenes Shoes on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.



**The event to celebrate Greenes Shoes 80th anniversary this year takes place from 1pm - 3pm at the Greenes Shoes store in the Crescent Shopping Centre on Saturday with a meet and greet with Una Healy**



## Parkway SC gets Green Jersey

CONGRATULATIONS to the Parkway Shopping Centre on receipt of their recent Green Jersey Award as part of the Harcourt Shopping Centre group. The centres received the award from Rayal Energy for replacing their existing lighting with LED lighting and the results have been immediate and extremely cost effective. Parkway Shopping Centre is committed to being as energy efficient as possible and the conversion to LED has vastly reduced the centres energy consumption.

Ed McCulloch, the property

manager who received the award at the recent FM show in Dublin's RDS on behalf of Parkway SC and the other Harcourt Centres said:

"Harcourt Developments are proud to receive the Green Jersey award from Rayal Energy for saving 642,401 kg of CO<sub>2</sub> by making the big switch to LED. All six shopping centres in the Harcourt Group have now completed LED lighting upgrades which use significantly less energy than fluorescent fixtures, while increasing lumen output to make our Centre's brighter."



**Tom Hefferon, CEO, Rayal Energy; Ed McCulloch, senior property management surveyor, and Michelle Shirley, sales & operations director, Rayal Energy**

## Sunday Social at BT

SIAN Horn and Brown Thomas are delighted to announce that their much loved Sunday Social event is coming to Brown Thomas Limerick on Sunday, April 14. Sunday Social has been running with Brown Thomas Cork since early 2019 and following its huge success is now touring to Brown Thomas Limerick.

Sunday Social with Sian Horn is a morning of movement and mindfulness followed by a delicious brunch in Brown's restaurant. This is a beautiful pilates style movement class that's perfect for beginners-mixed level. Bring along your friends for a healthy, wholesome morning of fun in a stunning setting!

Sian is the founder of Elite Pilates, Munster's largest chain of pilates studios, as well as BeBelle.ie. Sian's message is all about making the health & wellness industry a more inclusive and welcoming space for people who are looking to get moving. Sian recently appeared on RTE's strictly business with her most recent venture, BeBelle. BeBelle is founded on the BeBelle tribe, a community of women who encourage, empower and support each other and this is very much carried through in her Sunday Social event.

Get your tickets today on <https://www.eventbrite.ie>

Tickets are €30. Event starts at 9.30am-12 noon.

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Meave McGrath, Syliva Conway, Sandra McDonald, Aisling Ryan, Hether Reidy, Margert Hickey and Catriona Bourke at the big greyhound event. In the past six years of the Con and Annie Kirby Memorial Stakes Limerick GAA clubs have shared in the event fund, with each of the 72 greyhounds in the event assigned to a GAA club. The winning greyhound's assigned GAA club win a nominator prize of €10,000 and a free benefit night at the Limerick Stadium

# CON AND ANNIE KIRBY MEMORIAL STAKES

Pictures: BRENDAN GLEESON



Arthur and Caoimhe O'Regan, Camogue Rovers, looking at the prize for the Con and Annie Kirby Memorial Con and Annie Kirby Memorial Stakes at Limerick Greyhound Stadium at Limerick Greyhound Stadium PICTURE BRENDAN GLEESON



Tom, Theresa and Carmel White



Hugh O'Neill, at his betting stall



Francis Kennedy, Patsy Coffey, Timmy O'Connor and Hammy Dawson



Emma Rohan, Louise Hogan and Kayla Wilson, enjoying 'Joyce's Hen' at the Con and Annie Kirby Memorial Stakes at Limerick Greyhound Stadium



Caoimhe O'Regan, Richie Ryan, Helen Donnellan, Anthony Punch, Arthur Riordan, Mike Lynch, raising funds for Camogue Rovers



Denise Dunne, Sarah Tracey and Erica McMahon



Racegoers recording the event at Con and Annie Kirby Memorial Stakes





Aoife McGloughlin, Mike Mangan at Limerick Fringe at The Commercial/Record Room. Fringe now in it's third year, is a vibrant, multi-genre performance based festival hosted in Limerick City that looks to support artists and producers to promote new, vibrant and daring arts to a wider audience utilising non-traditional spaces

## LIMERICK FRINGE AT THE COMMERCIAL RECORD ROOM

Pictures: CALEBPURCELLPHOTOGRAPHY



Aisling Fitzgerald and Fionna Collins enjoying Limerick Fringe at The Commercial Bar



Chris Byrne, Hugh Kelleher, Hugo Byrne, Stefan Judge enjoying Limerick Fringe in The Commercial Bar



Densie Ingle, Marie Roache, Sinead Roache



Ali Daly and Gerogie Daly



Hazel Mallon, Marion Kenny, Louise Sheridan



Holy Show - Limerick Fringe 2019



Kevin: King Of Egypt performing during the festival





Ewa Mazur, Sinead Earls, sponsored by Alex Findlaters, Altaf Khan, General Manager of the George Hotel, Chelsea Cahill, representing The George Hotel, Theresa O'Keeffe sponsored by The Savoy and Damien Harnett meeting some of the Limerick Rose of Tralee finalists when they visited the George Hotel. The Limerick Rose will be selected on April 22

## ROSE OF TRALEE CONTESTANTS HAVE A BALL IN THE GEORGE

Pictures: BRENDAN GLEESON



More of local contestants who have made it to the local area Rose of Tralee final with Altaf Khan, General Manager of the George Hotel,



Some of the contestants who are hoping to represent Limerick in the Rose of Tralee final enjoying the entertainment provided by the singing chef, John Frawley, right



John Frawley, known as the singing Chef serenades some of the Roses in the George Hotel



Sinead Earls representing Alex Findlater; Chelsea Cahill, The George, Hazel Ni Cathasaigh Rose of Tralee and Theresa O'Keeffe sponsored by The Savoy Hotel





Cian Carmody sent in this wonderful picture of a sunset



Jaroslaw and Iwona Jaroslaw Musialik on their honeymoon in Zanzibar

# Readers**Pictures**

**WE LOVE TO RECEIVE PHOTOGRAPHS FROM OUR READERS, SO IF YOU'D LIKE TO FEATURE ON THIS PAGE, EMAIL YOUR SNAPS TO [NEWS@LIMERICKLEADER.IE](mailto:NEWS@LIMERICKLEADER.IE) WITH READERS' PICTURES IN THE SUBJECT LINE**



Noel Kelly sent in this picture from the amusements at Grove Island



Jaroslaw Musialik also sent this picture on the big wheel in Arthurs Quay Park



# ENTERTAINMENT

YOUR **WEEKLY GUIDE** TO WHAT'S GOING ON IN LIMERICK

## Return of James at Big Top

ONE OF Ireland's most loved contemporary singer-songwriters Gavin James will return to Limerick for a performance Live at the Big Top in the Milk Market this Wednesday night. The sold-out gig, delivered by Dolans Presents, will kick off at 7pm.

Two million singles sold, 800 million streams and a platinum-selling debut album. It's been just under three years since Dublin singer songwriter, Gavin James, released his debut album Bitter Pill. These past years have been non-stop for James with tours across the globe, including his own sold-out headline arena tour, as well as supporting Ed Sheeran and Sam Smith along the way.



## Ride to perform at Dolan's

DOLAN'S Presents has announced that seminal UK shoegazers Ride will perform at Dolan's Warehouse this June.

Formed in Oxford in 1988, the four-piece band were one of the leading acts of the UK shoegazing era.



Member Andy Bell became Oasis' bassist after the break-up in 1996, and formed a second reunion in 2014.

Tickets are on sale this Thursday at 10am and can be purchased via [www.dolans.ie](http://www.dolans.ie), from Ticketmaster or by calling the Dolans on 061 314483.

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# BIG NIGHT OUT @

FLANNERY'S, THE GEORGE AND THE COMMERCIAL BAR  
PICTURES:  
DAVE GAYNOR



Sarah Dillon, Aine Ahern and Elayne Ahern at Da Vincenzo Food and Wine Hall in the George Hotel PICTURE BY DAVE GAYNOR



Donna Kitchin, Jean Allen and June Jaquish at Flannery's Bar, Shannon Street



Robert and Siobhan Moran at Flannery's Bar, Shannon Street



Matthew Brown, Sheila Killian and John Lannon at The Commercial Bar

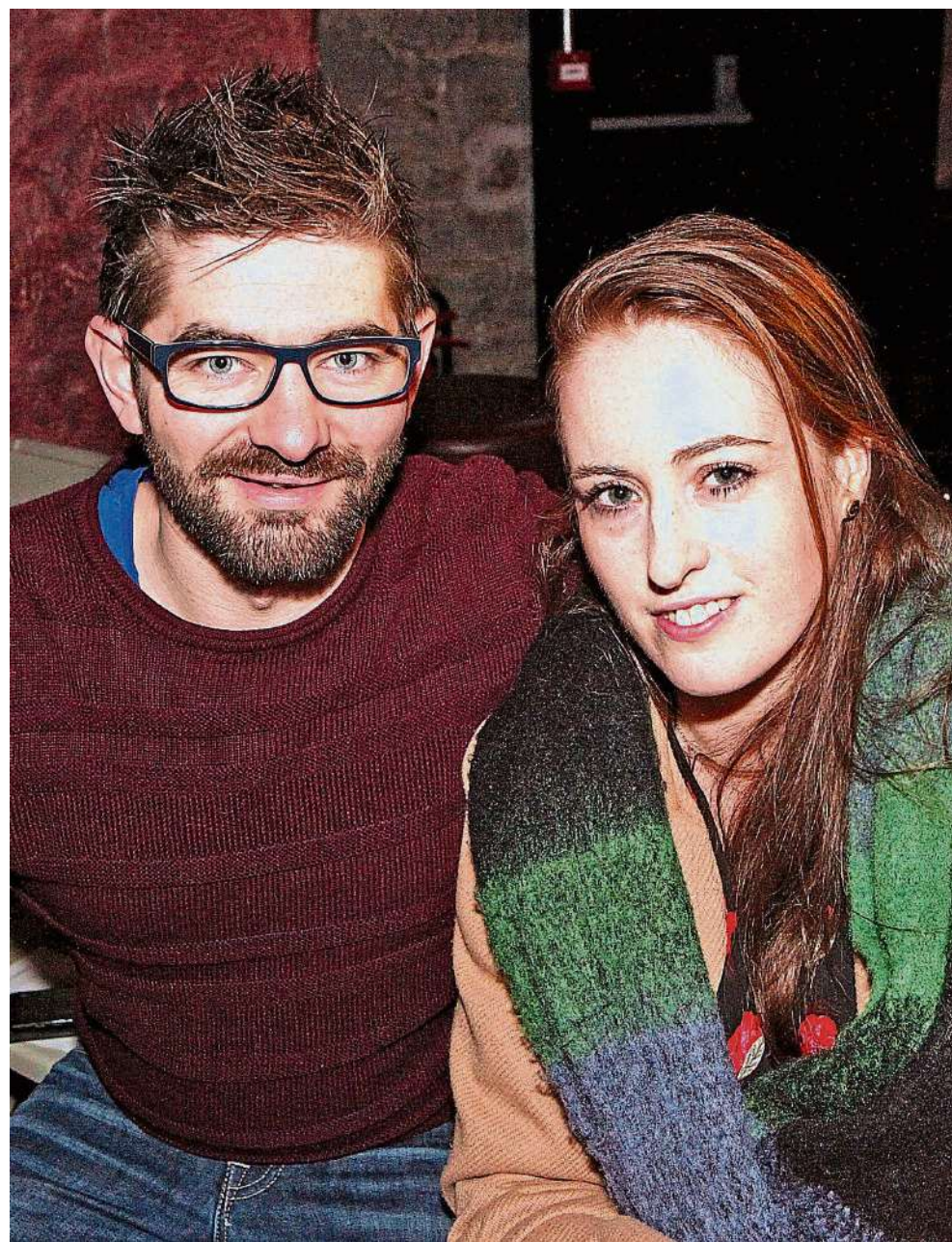


Ann-Marie and Jimmy Ryan at Flannery's Bar





Jenny McGrath and Annette Nihill at Da Vincenzo Food and Wine Hall in the George Hotel



James Fraher and Emma Crowe at The Commercial Bar



Graham Hendy, Carrie Shaw and Liam Monagher at The Commercial Bar



Sean Curtin and Ned Daly at Da Vincenzo Food and Wine Hall in the George Hotel





ELECTRIC is at Friars' Gate on Friday

# THINGS WHAT ARE ON IN LIMERICK



The War Of The Buttons on Saturday PICTURE: MARK ADAMS



Hudson Taylor play the Lime Tree on Sunday



Romanian Rhapsodies with the ConTempo Quartet at St Mary's

**L**IMERICK has a great music buzz about it this weekend, with at least one good gig every night. Add a few theatre nights to the mix, a decent comedy night and a great children's show on Saturday and you're weighed down with entertainment options this weekend!

## Thursday (April 11)

The **Lime Tree Theatre** hosts the world premiere of Maeve Binchy's **Light A Penny Candle** this week. Fair City's Clelia Murphy and Kate Gilmore star as two girls who become friends during World War II, learning to cope with institutional misogyny and a repressed society as they grow older. At its heart, it's a story of two women just trying to get by in the world and, even though it's set 70 years ago, there are plenty of themes that still ring true. Bring a tissue. Actually, bring a box of tissues as the person next to you will probably forget theirs. It runs from Tuesday to Thursday at 8pm each night. Tickets are €20 / €18 concession.

There's a free night of Romanian music at **St Mary's Cathedral** this Thursday evening to celebrate Romania's presidency of the Council of the European Union - not to be confused with the Council of Europe or the European Council, which are two different things. **Romanian Rhapsody** is the perfect chance to get some experience of music by Grigoras Dinicu and George Enescu, as well as traditional folk music. The main attraction of the night is the talented ConTempo Quartet, formed in Bucharest in 1995 and currently RTE's Quartet in Residence. The concert begins at 7pm but I suggest that you get there just before 6:30pm to avail of the free wine and canapé reception. There's no reason why you should sit through the concert unfed. We're not animals, after all.

**St Saviours Community Drama Group** are at the **Belltable**

It's another #WeekendInLimerick – and what a weekend! **Seamus Ryan** has the lowdown

on Thursday and Friday night with De Craic Factor, their twelfth original production. This year's cheekily comic play from the community group is set in the nefarious world of music industry, with acts competing for the holy grail of a recording contract but encountering greed along the way. Its at 8pm both nights and tickets are a mere €7 (and are selling quite briskly, so get on that).

## Friday (April 12)

**ELECTRIC**, at **Friars' Gate** in Kilmallock this Friday, is a play about class prejudices, friendship and disco biscuits. Set at Electric Picnic, it features two women from very different backgrounds who meet in a muddy field in Laos, finding out over the course of a weekend that they're not really that unlike. Ali Hardiman's play is warm and funny and manages to portray all the highs and lows of searching for yourself at a giant music festival. It's worth seeing. 8pm, tickets are €12 / €10 concession.

Cork trio **True Tides** bring their shamelessly-catchy jangle pop to the **Kasbah** stage this Friday night. Unusually for an Irish indie pop outfit, they write music that makes you want to dance, so leave the clunky boots at home. They were rightly included on the 2FM Rising list of twelve Irish acts to watch this year. See them while tickets are still cheap. Doors at 8pm, tickets are a tenner.

## Saturday (April 13)

French children's theatre company **Compagnie Animation** are at the **Belltable** this Saturday with their production of **The War Of The Buttons**. Aimed at children between three and 11, the show is a wonderful mix of clowning, puppetry and music. It's a non-verbal performance but contains enough music to keep your kids' ears engaged, as well as their eyes. And they'll probably come home with a few bits of French sign language. Who doesn't want to be able to shout for birthday cake in every European

sign language? It starts at 2:30pm and tickets are €8.

This year is the 100th anniversary of the **Limerick Soviet**, the two weeks at the beginning of the Irish War of Independence when workers declared a general strike and ran the city for two weeks. Nothing went on fire. There's a live storytelling event at **Narrative 4** this Saturday night to mark the centenary. You'll hear everyone from artists to factory workers, talking about their experiences of what it has been like to work in Limerick during their lifetime. Narrative 4 storytelling events are always very entertaining, so I very much recommend this. It kicks off at 7pm and it's a free event.

Hardy Bucks star **Owen Colgan** is in **Dolan's Warehouse** this Saturday night with his solo comedy show. It's part of his **The Woke Tour**, which will presumably tell us why jambons are very important in gender identity politics. There are very few tickets left for this show so if you're

thinking of going, you'll want to get your skates on. Doors at 7:30pm, tickets are €18.

**Fox Jaw**, stalwarts of the Limerick music scene for the past decade, are headlining at the **Kasbah** this Saturday night. They've just released their new single **Madeline**, taking their sound in a more introspectively dark direction, so presumably a third album is just around the corner. Support is from grunge-driven noisemakers **Vulpynes**. It's worth the tenner ticket price just to see them play. Doors at 9pm.

## Sunday (April 14)

There's a great little evening of rap and skratz for your listening pleasure at the **Wickham Tap** this Sunday. **The Unscene Bazaar** showcases the best artists from Unscene Music and you can expect some great sounds from **Citrus**, **Jimmy Penguin** and **Olivia Furey**. RTE 2XM DJ **Peter Curtin** will provide his usual great mix of tunes from artists you've heard of and upcoming acts. It's a free event, starting around 5pm and running till midnight.

Folk-rock duo **Hudson Taylor** are returning to their street-busking roots this Sunday night with an acoustic gig at the **Lime Tree Theatre**. After spending most of 2018 as touring support to artists like **George Ezra** and **Hozier**, this gig is part of their own headlining Irish tour. Sure, the new music from the two brothers sounds exactly the same as the material they were releasing seven years ago, but that's what people like. 8pm, tickets are €27.

## All weekend

The Limerick Printmakers exhibition at the Hunt Museum runs until April 22. **Against The Grain** is in the LSAD church gallery until April 25. The **Poets & Painters** exhibition is at CB1 until April 30. All free to visit.

That's your lot for this weekend and, as always, if you go to things, there will be more things!



Fox Jaw play the Kasbah this Saturday night



# LEADER LIFE

\* Fashion, Beauty, Health, Fitness and more from Limerick's Best Columnists

## A Day In My Shoes

**Anne Fitzgerald**

Owner The Soupermarket

# Serving up a warm bowl of soup and a bit of a chat

### What time do you get up?

I get up at 4am on market days otherwise around 7.30am.

### What is your normal breakfast?

Tea, tea and more tea.

### Do you go for a walk or to the gym before/after the office?

I try to take Ziggy for a walk on Knockfierna every day, weather permitting.

### You arrive at the office at what time?

St Mary's Aid Kitchen, the Milk Market and other people's kitchens are my places of work and there is no fixed time. It depends on how busy I am. However I spend the early hours at home answering e-mails and preparing bespoke menus for clients.

### What are your first duties?

Putting the kettle on and checking emails.

### How many cups of coffee/tea would you drink a day?

I daren't count but I should buy shares in Barry's tea.

### What is normal lunch - do you have a favourite place?

We change the menu every week at The Soupermarket in the Milk Market, so I like to use my daily lunch to try out different soup recipes - everything from carrot, coriander and ginger to potato and thyme or fragrant Thai broths.

### Do you have many meetings during the day?

Not really. I used to have a lot more face-to-face meetings when I began working in the food industry aged 17, cooking for the Duke of Devonshire on the Blackwater River. I then had my own restaurant, Lloyd's of Adare. Now, I run Anne Lloyd Catering, so, while I prefer to meet clients face to face to discuss their requirements, in reality I do a lot of it on the computer.

### What time do you finish up at?

Whenever I've got everything done. As well as The



Soupermarket at the Milk Market, I do bespoke catering for dinner parties, weddings, funerals, and other family events through Anne Lloyd Catering, so sometimes it's lunch time, and sometimes it's midnight before I finish.

### Do you watch much TV?

No. I like a few programmes but don't follow soaps as I'd miss half of them and I'm not too good at recording things.

### Do you read the newspapers?

Yes I read the paper everyday.

### What do you do to relax?

I play 'Words' on my I-pad and have the odd glass of wine. I spend time with my family and when time allows take a drive to Cashel or Dingle or wherever my

nose leads me to eat decent food at reasonable prices. I like watching the rugby and hurling in the pub with friends.

### Are you able to leave the office behind?

Absolutely not. There is always something going on in my mind like what soups I'm going to do for the Soupermarket or creating new recipes. We want everything to be as natural as possible. We only use local suppliers. So I'm always on the go - getting our potatoes from Cecil Gallagher in Ballysteen, our carrots, leeks, beetroot, parsnips and whatever is in season from my mate Colm Battles and his son Josh in Kildimo, and our herbs from the Quinns in the Milk Market. It would be cheaper to

**Anne Fitzgerald's soup stall at the Milk Market, the Soupermarket, only uses Limerick suppliers for its soups**

PICTURE MICHAEL COWHEY

get some stuff from wholesalers but people know we are selling a different, quality product. We are selling Limerick really."

### What is a perfect work day?

Hard to say but it would involve contented customers trying out some of our new soup recipes. I get a strange kick out of knowing we're in touch with nature - our soup containers and spoons are biodegradable, and we don't use colourings or preservatives.

### Do you ever 'lose the cool' and if so what would make you annoyed?

I think one of my strengths is staying cool under pressure. I don't generally lose my cool but lack of empathy to one's fellow human beings would tempt me.

## INSIDE THIS WEEK



### NOTHING TO SNEEZE AT

Eva's advice on battling hay fever  
PAGE 45



### THE PERFECT SERVING

Cocktails, Cuisine and Style event  
PAGE 48



### ROSES ARE IN FULL BLOOM

Who will represent Limerick next?  
PAGE 51



### ARE YOU BRAVE ENOUGH?

Firewalk for Lola in aid of ACT  
PAGE 53



# How sex abuse victims can become survivors, thrivers



## MENTAL HEALTH MATTERS PROF EDDIE MURPHY

CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST  
ADJUNCT ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR  
UCD SCHOOL OF PSYCHOLOGY

**T**HIS week I will answer a letter from a reader in his sixties who is just now coming to terms with the trauma of childhood sexual abuse.

DEAR DR EDDIE,

I am a 63-year-old man and I only started to come to terms with the trauma of my childhood in the past 14 months. I was sexually assaulted when I was 12 or 13 years old.

I am on my journey of recovery, having lost everything — property, money and two marriages, and a vulture fund is about to repossess my house... but I am turning the corner.

As part of my recovery I have written a book on my life. I needed to do it but it was tough.

Why am I writing to you.

I have just read your book, *Becoming Your Real Self*, and it has helped me big time. Thank you for writing it.

I have only found out in the past week that one of the people in authority who molested me was convicted recently.

It was a tough day for me coming face-to-face with him after all the years. But I also met four others who were abused, and the support and kindness and understanding they showed me overwhelmed me.

I fell apart and cried like never before. I am no longer alone.

I am writing to you and reaching out as part of my healing, to help me on the road to recovery and to help and encourage other victims and give them hope."

DEAR SEAN

Dr Eddie responds: Sean, this is such a powerful letter, and I very much appreciate and am humbled that you have sent this to me.

I rang you as well just to ensure that you were on the right track.

I am sorry you have been so scarred by adults in your life that should have cared for you.

Just so we are very clear — when it comes to childhood sexual abuse, no fault is ever on the part of you, the child.

Too often, the outcome of abuse is negative emotions such as guilt and shame, as the abuser used tactics of manipulation, threat and power.



**As part of my recovery I have written a book on my life. I needed to do it but it was tough**

In your letter, you say the word 'victim'. I encourage you to see yourself as a 'survivor'. With some good therapeutic input, I believe you can become a 'thrivers'.

### VICTIM

The victim sees themselves as damaged, hopeless and afraid to tell their story. The victim see the world through a lens that shows them they don't deserve nice things, that they are alone in a crowd.

They have feelings of low self-esteem and being unworthy; they are often confused and overwhelmed. Throughout their lives, they have hidden their stories.

Indeed, too often alcohol became the friend of those who were abused. It temporarily eases the pain, but has devastating lifelong consequences and impacts on individuals and families.

### SURVIVOR

Sean, you have written to me and you are beginning to own your own story.

You are moving to the 'survivor' state.

The HSE's National Counselling Service (NCS) is an excellent professional, confidential counselling and psychotherapy service, available free of charge in all regions of the country.

People can refer themselves directly by calling a freephone number — 1800 234 110. The mission of the NCS is "to listen to, value and understand those who have been abused in childhood and to assist clients to live more satisfying lives".

Just as you have done, journaling and writing is a powerful healing process.



**Victims can become survivors and thrivers, where healing, health and hope exist** PICTURE: FILE PHOTO VIA PIXABAY

Do what works for you. The survivor seeks help, deserves help, names what happened and grieves, sees themselves as wounded (not damaged) and commences the healing process.

The survivor in you, Sean, becomes hopeful, comes out of hiding. The survivor learns compassion for themselves and is not afraid to tell their story to safe people.

### THRIVER

The potentiality of the thrivers is

another level that I know you will move towards.

I know it won't feel like this now, but this is where I would see you in time — in a place where hope is in your heart, where you are whole, living in the present, proud of your healing, where you have faith in yourself, your decisions and life, where you are able to protect yourself from unsafe others, know your tripwires and go-to healing tools, where you can see and use humour, have healthy boundaries and create inner peace in your life.

Sean, now that you are in an open headspace, get the support that you deserve and commence the work of healing through therapy.

May healing, health and hope follow.

**\* Dr Eddie Murphy is a clinical psychologist, author and mental health expert. ONLINE CBT - STOP DEPRESSION - STOP ANXIETY - available at <https://stratushealth-care.ie/mental-wellbeing/>**







# POSITIVE PARENTING

LOVE PARENTING 

## Top Tips

For general Communication for Tips with Teenagers.

### Listen more than you speak

Remember that we are all given two ears and one mouth. This is to remind us that we should spend twice as much time listening as talking! This is especially important when talking to teenagers, who may tell us more if we are silent long enough to give them the opportunity.

### Make time to spend together

Teenagers are often busy with school, friends and other interests, but you can have a conversation with them over breakfast and dinner. Offer to take them to or pick them up from places; this will provide other opportunities for conversations.

### Give them privacy

Teenagers need their own space. For example, knock before you go into their room.

### Keep up with their interests

Listen to their music, watch their television shows with them and turn up to their sports practice sessions. Continue to take an active interest in their life.

### Be a loving parent

adolescence is a time when young people often struggle with their changing sense of identity and need to feel loved. Tell them often. Demonstrate your love using whatever physical contact they are comfortable with. Celebrate their achievements, forgive their mistakes, listen to them when they have a problem and show interest in how they plan to solve it.

### Have fun

Make time for leisure and laughter as good feelings help to build good positive relationships.



# How to keep in close contact with teens as they get older and prioritise time with their friends

OUR relationships with our children as they move into their teenage years can sometimes be challenging. The positive active communication we enjoyed with them when they were younger changes, and we can find ourselves not chatting with them freely and informally as often as we did when they were little. We may start to find ourselves falling into the habit of having brief yes and no conversations that can start to feel like an interrogation! This may happen as other commitments and activities such as work, afterschool study, external activities, time with friends and the inevitable screen time make it more difficult to set aside time within the home to just sit and chat as a family.

As our children get older and they start to prioritise time with their friends and activities outside the home over home life, we can find ourselves firing questions at

them just to get a sense of how they are and what they are doing. For example, 'How was school today?' 'Where are you going?', 'Who's going with you?' or 'What are you going to be doing?'. This can give rise to the possibility that your teenager will not tell you things that their friends are doing or, more importantly, what they may be worried about. You may not know, if you lose the casual chats, what they care about, what they dislike or what they're thinking. You may not be that familiar with their friends and any issues arising within their peer groups.

When we chat informally at home we create opportunities to really share what is happening within the home and school on a weekly basis. Creating this space within your home needs to be prioritised and planned. Try making time to have meals together (device free for everyone

in the family) so that there are better opportunities to communicate fully. If you don't make time to talk about the everyday normal activities your teenager is involved in, it will be much more difficult to start a conversation when issues arise such as experimenting with drugs/alcohol, peer pressure, worries about school, bullying etc.

When communication remains open it is natural to ask if something is wrong without your teenager fearing that you are judging them or wish to limit their movements and choices.

Making the most of your time together at meal times, limiting your phone use in their company, driving them to activities, having their friends over, planning family trips and holidays is very important in keeping the relationship connected. Try to keep special family traditions such

as birthday or holiday celebrations going even when they are teenagers and even when they seem bored with your efforts. These are the things that keep you all together, working out issues and stresses in a supportive way by making time together as positive as possible. When issues arise it is important to reflect on possible misunderstandings and mistakes made, acknowledge them and move on to ensure that your parent/teenager relationship continues to grow and develop positively into adulthood.

The above article was written Martha Potter is a Community Development Worker with Hospital Family Resource Centre.

For more information on this and other parenting topics, see [www.loveparenting.ie](http://www.loveparenting.ie)





# HEALTHY LIVING

**EVA HILL HAMILTON**

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## Hay fever is nothing to sneeze at

**T**HE weather is fairly changeable at the moment, but it is never too early to think about hay fever if you have to suffer every year. Start early, and you can reduce or even prevent symptoms “springing up”.

There are plenty of over the counter drugs available to reduce the symptoms of hay fever, but their side effects can be numerous also and they only mask the underlying problem. Our

body use these signs to tell us there is something wrong. Simply suppressing them can lead to further complications down the line.

But why is it that some people are affected while others aren't? Well, genetics might play a part – but believe it or not, it is mainly down to what is in your gut. Over 70% of our immune cells reside in our digestive system and the gut microbes are responsible for the fine balance of the immune



**According to the Irish Pharmacy Union, one in five people in Ireland suffer from hayfever**

response. Hay fever, like any allergy, is an over-reaction of the body to a harmless substance. Suffering from any allergies means that it's time to get your gut-bugs in shape – the goal is diversity! Your gut flora in the first

year of life determines your immune system sensitivity for life. C-section birth and bottle-feeding result in differing set-up than natural alternatives. Antibiotics and other medications further interfere with the natural

flora; a single week of broad-spectrum antibiotics can reduce your diversity and set your balance out for over a year! Stress, bad dietary choices and alcohol are all play a part in interfering with the bowel flora and our immunity. Lack of Vitamin D3 so common in Ireland has been also linked to immune problems – so make sure you get your GP to test your levels and supplement with a good quality cod liver oil.

The best way to tackle hay fever therefore is to balance the immune system; supply the body with beneficial bacteria and create an environment for them in which they can colonise and work for our benefit. Several clinical trials have been conducted in the last decade using probiotics as treatment with mostly positive outcomes. Most of these studies supplemented

different strains for between 4 weeks to 6 months during hay fever season and found reduction in clinical signs as well as the need for medications. One study also looked at supplementing all year round, which reduced the overall episodes.

To build a great diversity of your gut flora you need to eat a good diversity of plants – mostly vegetables of all colours. Try to eat the rainbow – at least one vegetable from each colour every day and challenge yourself to eat a new type of vegetable or two every week. Onions, garlic, Jerusalem artichokes, raw chocolate and stewed apples are especially packed full of bacteria-boosting fibre, but it is the variety that matters. These supply nutrients for those beneficial bugs and within four weeks you can greatly improve their communities.

## REWRITING THE RULES IN WARDROBE DESIGN



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# FIT4LIFE

## LEANNE MOORE

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# Three healthy breakfast ideas

## EGG MUFFINS

(2 portions)

### Why You Need

4 whole eggs  
 Cubed chorizo 30g or Smoked salmon or Turkey Rashers  
 1 Red onion  
 Feta cheese (optional) 15g  
 Handful of sliced mushrooms  
 Handful of spinach leaves  
 Cherry tomatoes / sun dried tomatoes  
 Ground pepper  
 Pink salt  
 Coconut aminos or Tamari 1-2 tsp.

### WHAT TO DO

1. Preheat oven to 180C. Mix all your ingredients together in a bowl.
2. Grease your muffin tin or use muffin cups and add your mixture evenly into the muffin tin or cups.
3. Bake in the oven for approx 15-20 minutes until golden on top. Serve with some mashed up avocado with tomato.

## PRO-OATS

### WHAT YOU NEED

30g-35g Oats  
 1 egg white (lightly whisked in a cup).  
 Half a Scoop of Protein powder (optional).  
 Half a cup of Water and Almond Milk.  
 My Protein Banana Stevia Drops(optional)  
 1tsp of Raw Cacao

### WHAT TO DO

1. In a saucepan add your oats



What a trio of tasty treats to get the morning started off right with some French toast, egg muffins or pro-oats

with water or unsweetened almond milk, simmer and stir on a medium heat.

2. Stir in your egg white, this will thicken and fluff out your oats add some more milk or water as needed throughout cooking your oats.

3. Add in your half scoop of protein powder, cocoa powder and drops. Keep stirring till you are

happy with the Pro-oats.

4. Top with some almond Nush Carmel yogurt or yogurt of your choice and some peanut butter.

## HEALTHY FRENCH TOAST

### WHAT YOU NEED

1 whole Egg  
 1 Thin or bread of choice  
 1 tsp of maple syrup (My protein

maple flavour drops for lower kcal opt)

Little drop of vanilla essence  
 Pinch of cinnamon  
 Pinch of sea salt.

### WHAT TO DO

1. Bring your pan to a medium heat and rub some oil/butter around the pan with some kitchen paper.



2. Whisk your eggs in a bowl with your maple syrup, cinnamon and salt.

3. Dip your Bread slices into the egg and then place on your heated pan, make sure to fry on each side evenly until crispy and golden.

Serve Savoury with some turkey rashers or Sweet with some strawberries and yogurt.

## Moore2Life

What I'm loving this week

### Midwestern Empowerment and Equality Conference

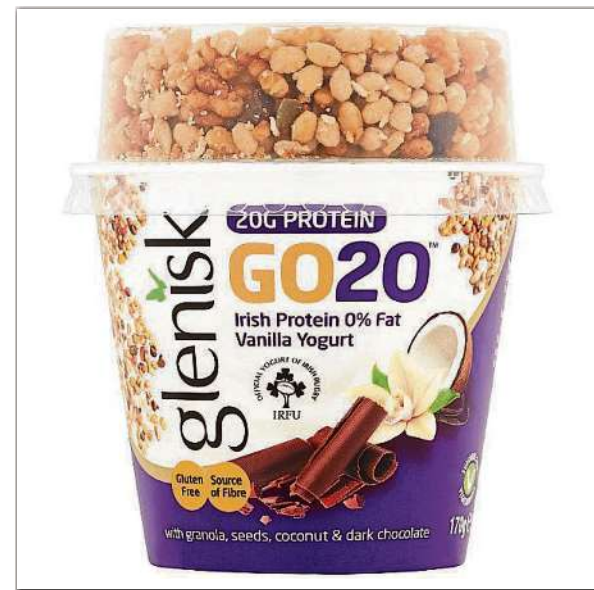
I am thrilled to be one of the panelists at the Midwestern Empowerment and Equality Conference taking place at UCH on May 1. Headed by Dr. Mary Ryan the day promises to be one full of guest speakers and panelists, including style queen and agency boss Celia Holman Lee and founder of Ilovelimerick.com Richard Lynch.

Tickets for the event are available to buy from the UCH box office.



### Glenisk GO 20 Yoghurts

I was sent a sample of these last week and I have to admit they get a huge thumbs up from me! Natural yoghurt with a delicious natural toppings - with seeds, nuts and dried fruit - and a whopping 20g of protein per tub and not to mention all that calcium. The perfect snack to complement any gym plan.







# MANABOUTTOWN

**PATRICK McLOUGHNEY**

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## Everything you need to know about hair transplants

I'VE covered hair loss and hair restoration in this column many times over the years and I continue to do so because it's still the topic that I get the most questions and feedback about. Just a few weeks ago I looked at an alternative hair restoration treatment called Scalp Micro Pigmentation as it's available here in Limerick at Purebeau AO Aesthetic Clinic. However this time instead of looking at alternatives, I'm going to focus on the proverbial endgame of male pattern baldness – the hair transplant. In this guide, I'll look at how hair transplants work, the cost involved and the possible side effects.

Let me start by saying that I have not had a hair transplant nor am I currently considering one. But I will admit that if I did start to lose my hair then it's certainly the option I would go for. If you are currently losing your hair then you're not alone. Male pattern baldness affects around a third of Irish men under 30, rising to nearly 80% of men over 70. Nowadays, more and more guys are turning to hair transplants to combat male pattern baldness with the numbers undergoing this procedure rising by 60% since 2014. This is thanks in large part to the growing number of celebrities and sports stars that



**Wayne Rooney has become somewhat of a poster boy for hair transplants since his surgery in 2011**

have had hair transplants to cover their receding hairlines in recent years. Wayne Rooney is probably the most well known in these parts as he publicly admitted to having had a hair transplant on Twitter in 2011, but the likes of David Beckham, Gary Barlow, Robbie Williams, Matthew McConaughey and most recently Manchester City star David Silva have all visibly defied the ageing process and grown more hair as they've gotten older. If you're considering joining this impressive crew then the bad

news is that a hair transplant is both costly and painful and they really aren't for everyone. If it's something you've thought about then read on for everything you'll need to know before you book that appointment and or flight.

**TYPES OF HAIR TRANSPLANT**

A hair transplant involves transferring hair from an area unaffected by hair loss (the back of the head usually) to an area where the hair is thinning or gone. For some, you might, unfortunately, be

too far gone but for those who are eligible, there are two different types of hair transplant: FUT and FUE. FUT (follicular unit transplantation) involves removing strips of tissue from the donor area and cutting these strips into individual follicular units. Small cuts are then made to the scalp in the host area for the follicular unit grafts to be placed into. Sounds pretty nasty and it kind of is, as you'll be left with large scars in the donor area. FUE (follicular unit extraction) is a more modern and humane approach to hair transplantation. For FUE, individual hair follicles are extracted directly from the donor area and then moved to the host area using a specialist surgical microneedle. FUE is the more commonly favoured methods as it leaves less obvious scarring. Whatever method you go for, the transplanted hair will usually fall out after 2 to 3 weeks. You should start to notice new growth in the host area after a few months and most people will see around 60% of new hair growth after 6 to 9 months. If you want a quick fix then buy a hat. Or a wig.

**AT WHAT AGE SHOULD YOU HAVE A HAIR TRANSPLANT?**

As mentioned, Wayne Rooney has become somewhat of a poster boy for hair transplants since his surgery in 2011. However, Wayne has famously needed multiple "top-ups" as his hair has continued to recede. This is due to the fact that Rooney had his first procedure at the age of 25, while he was still going bald. Now that he's in his mid-thirties, hopefully, Rooney has gone bald for the last time but on his wages, he can afford to make this mistake. Most people will only be able to afford one shot at this so if you're considering getting a hair transplant, then it's best to wait until your thirties when your hairline has settled.

**WHAT ARE THE SIDE EFFECTS?**

For a few days after having the surgery, it's common to experience tight, achy and swollen scalp, some scabbing and you may find it hard to sleep for a while. Your head has to be upright because the hairs have to link up with your bloodstream, and as soon as the blood gets to the new hair it, in essence, glues it in. This can take up

to 36 hours which means you essentially need to sleep in an upright position for three days after the procedure. As with any form of surgery, there's a small risk of excessive bleeding, infection or an allergic reaction, but your surgeon should be able to deal with these issues should they arise. There's also a risk that the transplant won't take but this is extremely rare.

**HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?**

A hair transplant could cost as little as €1,000 or as much as €35,000 depending on the extent of the hair loss, the procedure you choose and the quality and location of the clinic. To have a hair transplant done in Ireland or the UK you're probably starting at around €6,000 to fill in a hairline and going up in price the more you need done. If you're Wayne Rooney then that's a half days pay but if you're not, then that probably sounds like way too much. So many guys are not going abroad to have the procedure done at a fraction of the cost that the phrase "booking my flight to Turkey" has become a euphemism for having a hair transplant.

**HOME OR AWAY?**

If you're not put off by the cost of having your hair transplant done in Ireland then it probably the easiest and safest option. You are after all having a major surgical procedure that will alter your appearance for the rest of your life so do your due diligence and choose a surgeon that's right for you. Don't forget to consider things like aftercare and what options you have in the event something goes wrong. If cost is a major factor then you can do like many and head elsewhere for your hair transplant. As mentioned, Turkey is one of the most popular destinations. Be warned, it's common for patients to meet with a doctor for their consultation thinking he'll be performing the surgery, only for a nurse or technician to end up carrying out the procedure. Again, doing your research is even more vital if you are travelling overseas. With some of the upscale Turkish clinics, you can have your consultation and aftercare done in Dublin so if this is your chosen path then consider this option as even though it might cost you a little more, it's worth it for the peace of mind you'd have if something went wrong.

### Look of the Week

#### Jack and Jones

MY look of the week is from Jack and Jones in The Crescent Shopping Centre and on Cruises Street. I love this casual look from the Jack and Jones Spring Summer range. My Lightweight Burgundy Premium Bomber Jacket costs €49.99, the Premium Print Shirt costs just €39.99, the Liam Skinny Jeans cost €79.99 and my Sneakers cost €49.99. The Jack and Jones store in the Crescent and Cruises Street are the ONLY official Jack and Jones stores in Limerick so call in and check out their amazing range. Photo by Paudie Bourke.



### Watch This Space

#### Raymond Weil Tango 300

**THIS week's watch of the week is the Raymond Weil Tango 300 watch from Keanes Jewellers.**

**This steel diver watch features a 42mm diameter case, a blue anodized aluminium unidirectional rotating bezel, and scratch-resistant sapphire crystal to complement the bracelet style which is secured with a double-push safety folding clasp. The black dial includes a date window at 3 o'clock and luminous indexes**

**and hands.**

**The Tango 300 watch is equipped with a Swiss quartz movement and is the perfect timepiece to explore the ocean's depths, courtesy of its impressive 1000 feet water resistance. Combining elegance with functionality, the unidirectional bezel upholds the tradition of diving watches. The tango collection**



**embodies the passion that Raymond Weil puts into achieving timepieces of both aesthetic sensuality of design and rhythmic perfection.**

**With its refined and modern design, this contemporary collection appeals to both men and women.**

**You'll find this amazing watch at Keanes for €1,090.**





# STYLE & FASHION

**CELIA HOLMAN LEE**

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## The perfect combo: Cocktails, Cuisine & Style

**I**T was one of those fashion evenings in Limerick when everything came together and worked perfectly. From the clothes to the hair, makeup and venue, it worked a treat.

This wonderful event, Cocktails Cuisine and Style for Limerick mental health awareness, was held in the very popular Cornstore restaurant in Limerick

Some of the best fashion houses in the region showcased their spring/summer collections with a variety of looks specially designed to have you looking and feeling fabulous! The designs featured a range of flattering details including some of the strongest colour palettes I have seen in years.

On show were some perfect outfits to make you comfortable and yet stylish. For weddings, whether it is the full day or the afters there were some great outfit options. Evening and cocktail wear was off the Richter Scale with some of the most amazing looks I've seen this season.

The hair styles were created by the Hugh Campbell hair group in Cruises Street and makeup looks were by The Beauty Atelier on Thomas Street Limerick.



**This striking pink dress from Dani's Closet with red striped detail would look stunning at a wedding while the black dress from Sinead's Boutique, Annacotty will have you turning heads at the races!**



**This beautiful pattern dress from Be Fabulous, Limerick would be a show-stopper at any dressy event this summer**



**This bold striped suit from Gretta Gibbs, Limerick is a great office look!**



**This dress from Ela Maria, Newcastle West is a real ray of sunshine and is teamed with accessories also from Ela Maria**



## CELIA SPOTTED

Looking good out and about in Limerick

**Name:** Shiela O'Driscoll  
**Occupation:** Accountant with Limerick GAA  
**From:** Corbally

I love to browse in the shops in the Crescent Shopping Centre including Zara, Penneys and Parfois and take a trip into town to have a look in Be Fabulous and BTs and of course Vamp Lingerie on Thomas Street. I also like to browse online on sites including Littlewoods and Shoeaholics.com

### SHIELA SAYS

**Dress:** I picked up this coat dress in Be Fabulous. Black is the dominant colour and it has a great print that has a lot of different colours. I can wear it as a coat dress, as in the picture, or as a coat with a plain dress underneath or a top and trousers. It is a very versatile piece altogether.

**Jewellery:** I have kept the jewellery to a minimum - just a pair of earrings and my wedding and engagement rings.

**Bag:** My tote bag is by Kurt Geiger. I treated myself to it when I was on the way down from Dublin and called into the Kildare Village. It's a great place for discount designer brands.

**Shoes:** I picked up these shoes in Zara and I love them because of the strappy detail. They give a great shape to your legs.



**Look out for Celia's 'My Week' column in the Limerick Leader every Thursday**

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*by Monika*

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# BEAUTY & MAKE-UP

## JESSICA HOCKEDY

CONTACT JESSICA

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# Celebrity-inspired wedding make-up looks to say 'I do' to

Finding the perfect bridal make-up look for each person isn't easy, let me tell you, but don't worry I have rounded up all the inspiration you could ever need. From glowing complexions to subtle smoky eyes, these are the looks that'll see you right through wedding season



**Subtle sparkle**

**Blake Lively:** A hint of glitter works a treat for brightening and enhancing the eyes. Add a peach/pink blush and a swipe of lipstick to complete the look. You will look like yourself just enhanced and ready to say "I do!"



**Goddess-like glow**

**Zendaya:** It's official, Zendaya is the new queen of glowing skin. To cheat her look, before the powder and shimmering highlighters, go for an illuminating base like MAC strobe cream or BECCA backlight priming filter.



**Audrey Hepburn-approved eyeliner**

**Lauren Conrad:** An eyeliner flick is a simple yet classic style for brides. You can even swap the out liquid liner and use a charcoal shadow to carve out your flick instead, this will give a softer finish.



**The frosty glow**

**Gigi Hadid:** Add a frosty glow to the high-points of your face, including the bridge of your nose, inner corners, and cupid's bow. Use a matte brown shadow to emphasise the socket line and add depth to your eyes. Perfect for a winter wonderland wedding!



**Feathery lashes, liner**

**Rosie Huntington-Whiteley:** Rosie keeps her statement lashes looking chic, by pairing with glowing skin and a barely-there lip colour. With a neutral lippie, you won't need to worry too much while, talking/eating/ drinking/dancing/ marrying and all that good stuff that happens on the big day!





# LOUISE LOVES

## LOUISE CANTILLON

CONTACT LOUISE

Facebook: @LaoisDeCantalun Email: louise.cantillon@spinsouthwest Instagram: louise\_cantillon



## Rogha na Seachtaine



### TO DO:

#### Hurling camp

Easter Holidays are just around the corner! Limerick hurler Darragh O'Donovan is offering 6-13 year olds in Limerick a unique opportunity to take part in an Easter Hurling Camp run and coached by members of the Limerick senior Hurling and Camogie teams.



### TO LISTEN:

#### Track of the week

Whenyoung- New single -'Future': London based Limerick bred indie rock band When-young have teased us with their new single 'Future' from their highly anticipated debut album, 'Reasons to Dream', will be released through Virgin EMI on May 24.

### TOO SEE:

#### The Kube fundraiser

The Kube will take place at the Longcourt House Hotel, Newcastle West on Saturday, April 13. A family favourite on our TV screens why not watch some of Limerick's celebs take on the Kube all while supporting a great cause! Limerick's Community Crisis Response Team is hosting the event and tickets are available on the door! More details at info@crrtireland.ie



In bloom: The Limerick Rose 2019 hopefuls outside House Limerick

# Everything is coming up Roses!

**S**UMMER is just around the corner and festival hype is in full swing! Although I love nothing more than a good music and arts festival I have always had a soft spot for The Rose of Tralee. (Must be the Kerry parents!)

The search for Limerick's 2019 Rose is currently underway! I caught up with some Rose hopefuls as well as members of the Limerick Rose Centre, Kayleigh Maher 2017 Limerick Rose and the current Limerick Rose Hazel Ni Chatsaigh. I met the group on Saturday evening in House Limerick where they had concluded their jam packed Limerick Rose Tour Day!

Hazel spoke to me about the "incredible support" the Limerick Rose Centre receives annually from local businesses! "Today is always a fantastic day the girls have an opportunity to get to know one another and experience what it's

like to be a Rose. The 26 Rose hopefuls accompanied by members of Limerick's Rose Centre kicked off their tour of Limerick in Thomond Park, followed by a visit and tour of King John's Castle. They then made their way to the Woodlands Hotel Adare, who is official sponsor and host of the selection night on Monday April 22. They were treated to lunch at the George Boutique Hotel and entertained by the in house singing chef! After lunch the group visited Pieta House and wrapped up their day in style at House Limerick on Howleys Quay.

"There are twenty six Rose hopefuls this year, and the Limerick Rose is guaranteed to be interviewed on the television by Daithí O Shea. I think that has given more girls the incentive to get involved!" says Kayleigh Maher-Limerick Rose 2017.

Both Hazel and Kayleigh agreed that the experience of representing

your county is very special. The girls reflected on some of the highlights for them;

#### Hazel Ni Chatsaigh 2018

"The most special moment last year for me was during the Rose tour in August, we passed through Limerick City, meeting my family, and seeing how much they enjoyed being involved in the festival was just a great experience".

#### Kayleigh Maher 2017

"Being the Limerick Rose gives you a great platform to meet people, organisations and businesses in Limerick. It's an incredible experience from start to finish, my honest advice for hopefuls is just to be yourself, you can't prep or plan you have to just be yourself!"

This year's Limerick Rose Selection takes place on Monday April 22 in The Woodlands House Hotel, Adare. Best of luck to all the lovely ladies involved!



Hazel Ni Chatsaigh current Limerick Rose and Kayleigh Maher the 2017 Limerick Rose

## Out-STRANDing

**N**OTHING makes me happier than seeing Limerick City develop for the better! This week has been a good news week for the city with the huge announcement that the University of Limerick have purchased and pledged to develop the old Dunnes Stores site on the banks of the Shannon.

Across the river on Clancy Strand the multi award winning four star Strand Hotel have just

launched their 184 stunningly refurbished bedrooms!

Last September I was lucky enough to stay in one of the refurbished rooms and I can honestly say I have never seen Limerick from as good an angle, cleverly appointed balconies perfectly frame the river Shannon and almost every bedroom has an impressive water view.

The hotel is part of the MHL Collection who has

just invested €1.6 million in Limerick's Strand Hotel. The Hotel launched their new bedrooms last Thursday throwing a very glam party.

Hotel General manager Stephen O'Connor and Maria O'Gorman Skelly spoke of their pride in the refurbishment and the top of the range contemporary glam the new rooms add to the already beautiful hotel. Here's to more of the same growth throughout the city!



Pictured at the Big Reveal bedroom launch party were, PJ Gibbons, Social and Personal Magazine; Declan Hannon, Louise Cantillon, Maria O'Gorman Skelly, Limerick Strand Hotel and Stephen O'Connor, GM Limerick Strand Hotel

PICTURE: ALAN PLACE





# I ♥ LIMERICK

## RICHARD LYNCH

### FOLLOW RICHARD

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Twitter: @richanthon

Web: www.richardknows.com

Email: Richard@ILoveLimerick.com



# Conference to address social issues affecting both women and men

Mid-west Empowerment and Equality Conference announced for UL

**T**HE Midwest Empowerment and Equality Conference is designed to empower, educate and encourage men and women both young and old to take better care of themselves.

The conference is organised and presented by Dr Mary Ryan, Consultant Endocrinologist at Bon Secours.

Dr Ryan explained: "The conference has been organised as a means of giving back to society and to empower people to take better care of themselves. The event is also not for profit so any profit will be donated to our two chosen charities, Novas Initiatives and Children's Grief Centre."

Mary Harney, Chancellor of UL will open the conference with guest speakers including Dr Mary Ryan, Endocrinologist and Lecturer, Mairead Mc Guinness MEP, Vice President of the European Parliament, political journalist and author Martina Fitzgerald,

Professor James Gleeson, Department of Mathematics UL, actress and entrepreneur Danielle Ryan, Dr Deirdre Fanning, Consultant Urologist Bon Secours Hospital and Professor Desmond Fitzgerald, president of the University of Limerick.

There will also be discussion panels featuring guests from the fields of business, sports, entertainment, health, and academia discussing social issues affecting the empowerment of both women and men such as male suicide, sexual consent, equality in sport and media coverage, drug addiction and pay equality across genders. Panel guests include children's author Fiona Dillon, Minister Patrick O'Donovan, actress Aoibhin Garrihy, fitness expert Leanne Moore, style queen Celia Holman Lee, politician Willie O'Dea and Winifred Ryan, Head of Communications in the HSE.

There will be five-minute presentations on the topics of empowerment and



Pictured at the launch of the MidWest Empowerment and Equality Conference 2019 is Richard with Sr Helen Culhane, founder of Children's Grief Centre, hockey player Sinead Loughran, Margaret O'Connor, Managing Director of Quigleys, style queen Celia Holman Lee, Dr Mary Ryan, Consultant Endocrinologist Bon Secours, nutritional therapist Olivia Beck, Dr Deirdre Fanning, Consultant Urologist Bon Secours, fitness expert Leanne Moore, Tracey Lynch, CEO of Tait House and Anne Cronin, NOVAS

PICTURE: CONOR OWENS/ILOVELIMERICK

equality by eight Transition and fifth-year students from schools across the Midwest. These eight students have been chosen from a competition run earlier this year to see who would represent each school. An esteemed panel of judges will

judge each presentation. The 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners will receive a prize, with all participants receiving a plaque to commemorate their achievement.

Professor Desmond Fitzgerald added: "This

conference is for both young and old but to make it accessible to young people, 400 free tickets are being given to Transition Year students from schools across the Midwest region. These students are an investment into our future."

The conference will run on Wednesday, May 1 at the University Concert Hall, from 9.30 am (registration) to 3.30 pm and light entertainment and refreshments are included. Tickets at [www.UCH.ie](http://www.UCH.ie). #MEEC2019

## Every Child is Your Child masquerade ball at Thomond

EVERY Child is Your Child (ECIYC) is a Limerick initiative founded three years ago by Donnah Sibanda Vuma and co-founded by Finn Lannon.

ECIYC is about bringing people together for a common purpose, which is to empower, motivate, and encourage harmony and interdependence among parents from different nationalities residing in Ireland, focusing on those living in direct provision. Direct provision is in place in Ireland to provide welfare for asylum seekers.

These vulnerable people are living on €21.60 per week Donnah told me: "It is very difficult for parents living in direct provision to provide back-to-school necessities for their children on a very low weekly income, so we figured if there is a way we could help is through raising funds and assisting with the purchasing of stationery, uniforms and helping to pay for contribution fees in school."

ECIYC is holding a Masquerade Ball fundraiser this Saturday, April 13, in

Thomond Park Stadium at 6.30pm. They will raise funds on the night through raffle tickets sales and through a live art auction of pieces donated by established artists.

Tickets are €30 which includes a two course dinner. There will be a live art auction and live music performances and a DJ will play from 10pm to 2 am.

Support ECIYC by sponsoring the event or donating. For any inquiries contact Donnah on 083 458 9069 or email [info@everychildireland.org](mailto:info@everychildireland.org)



Pictured at the launch of the 'Every Child is Your Child Masquerade Ball are Dr John Lannon, Donnah Sibanda Vuma, founder of ECIYC, Ruth Sikhulekile Ndlovu and Busani Moyo

PICTURE: CONOR OWENS/ILOVELIMERICK



# THINGS I ♥ THIS WEEK

## CARERS NETWORK IRELAND

### Caring for carers

RONAH Corcoran, Founder & Director of Carers Network Ireland spent many years caring for the most vulnerable. Ronah has worked in youth and homelessness services for the past 20 years, she is also a qualified holistic therapist.

Recently she decided to shift her focus to providing care to her peers. Carers Network Ireland (CNI) addresses increasing mental health issues in the care sector, by providing workshops, events, individual supports and by creating a supportive community.

Ronah explains why she set up CNI: "I noticed in the last few years an increase in mental health issues in the care sector and I thought that something should be done about it. I did some research and interviewed 170 care workers online and in person to see what supports they wanted and needed. From that then developed a programme and offered a six week pilot programme in Galway and we offer things like art therapy, yoga and online support forums and discussion boards, also links to mental health organisations and other wellness activities that were being held in



**Pictured are Eamon Ryan, BNest, Ronah Corcoran, Carers Network Ireland and Kasiz Zabinska, BNest** PICTURE: CONOR OWENS/ILOVELIMERICK

the area, to offer as many supports as we could to care workers."

Carers Network Ireland recently took part in the BNest Incubator Programme, the first dedicated Social Enterprise Incubator Programme in Ireland, which caters to all types of organisations from non-profits to community enterprises to businesses with a social conscience. BNest offers a six-month peer programme at no cost to participating organisations and is dedicated to helping businesses that want to make a social impact. Ronah says of BNest, "I would highly recommend it to anyone in Ireland looking for practical social enterprise supports." See [www.BNest.ie](http://www.BNest.ie).

## JOYFUL JENNY'S NEW SONG

### New single 'Roses'

LIMERICK singer-songwriter Jenni has released her debut single 'Roses'. The indie folk-tinged song comes with a video made by Shane Serrano shot on location at Cleeve's factory. The song has a rich, warm and mesmerising tone and is dedicated to reconnecting with lost friendships. Better known as vocalist and writer Jenny McMahon with electronica outfit DeLorean Suite. Now Jenni makes a return to her folk roots with a distinctly pared back sound.

Jenni tells me that, "Roses marks a turning point for me musically. I spent time reflecting and



**Jenni has just released her new single 'Roses'.**

PICTURE: DOLF PATIJN/ILOVELIMERICK

really drilling down into events, people and places from throughout my life. As a result, I've written songs that expose a very different side to me that people won't have seen before." Jenni and full band play Dolan's on Friday, May 24 and solo at Steamboat Records this Saturday, April 13.



**Pictured at the Greenhills hotel for the launch of Firewalk for Lola are Sarah Buckley, Leah Melling, and Grainne Fitzgibbon** PICTURE: CONOR OWENS/ILOVELIMERICK

## Firewalk for Lola in aid of ACT for Meningitis

**ON April 15, 2015, the Melling family tragically lost baby girl Lola Jane Nagle to meningitis. Ever since then, Lola's family have organised many fundraising events to bring more awareness to meningitis and to raise funds for an amazing charity, ACT for Meningitis. Leah told me: "After Lola's passing and how much it affected myself and my family, I did not want another family to go through what we went through.**

**The guys from ACT for**

**Meningitis were so good to us that I wanted to give back to them, while also raising awareness for meningitis and keeping Lola's memory alive."**

**On the day of Firewalk for Lola, there will be a two-hour audience interactive seminar with event partner and motivational speaker Brian Moore. Following the firewalk, all participants and their friends and family are invited back inside for an after party with a DJ, finger food and a well-earned drink!**

**Firewalk for Lola will take place on Friday, April 26 at 7pm at the Greenhills Hotel. All participants are asked to commit to a minimum fundraising target of €150. Registration is now open at [actformeningitis.ie/firewalk-for-lola](http://actformeningitis.ie/firewalk-for-lola). To guarantee your place now text your name to 086 3052395 or email [dawn@actformeningitis.ie](mailto:dawn@actformeningitis.ie). If you cannot make the event everyone is encouraged to donate by texting "ACT" to 50300 to donate €4.**



*Love to all,  
Richard x*

## HEROES OF THE WEEK

### Three inspiring women

LAST week, Daniel Butler, Mayor of the Metropolitan District of Limerick held a Mayoral Reception at City Hall to honour three inspiring Limerick women – singer-songwriter Emma Langford, musician and mental health advocate Dr Jennifer McMahon and Sr Helen Culhane of Children's Grief Centre, specifically for the work they do regarding mental health.

Mayor Daniel Butler said: "What they are doing just beyond mental health is they are making Limerick society that bit better through volunteerism, through work, through their music, through their art form, so I am hugely grateful for them and the opportunity to honour them is a great honour for me." Congrats ladies! Well deserved!



**Pictured are Dr Jennifer McMahon, Mayor Daniel Butler, Emma Langford and her friend Valerie Dolan and Sr Helen Culhane** PICTURE: KEITH WISEMAN



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## PROPERTY

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## ACCOMMODATION

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## ACCOMMODATION

**ROOM FOR RENT** Two single rooms in Castletroy, €400 pcm, Contact 083 3825962

## ST. MARY'S R.F.C.

Lotto Draw held Monday 8th April 2019  
Winning Numbers: 1-5-22-24  
No Jackpot Winner

4 Winners €40 each: Josephine Ryan c/o D Frawley, Mat Lyons c/o Martin Lyons, Marian Peters c/o Mike Ryan, Richard Keane c/o Mike Ryan

Next Weeks Jackpot €7,450 Draw will take place in Rashers Bar

## GERALDINES A.F.C.

WEEKLY LOTTO DRAW HELD ON 08/4/19

This Week's Jackpot: €400 No's: 4-7-10-13

NO WINNER  
Lucky Dips Martina O'Callaghan c/o Kevin O'Callaghan, Elaine Murrhy c/o Laura Mulqueen, Aidran Tobin c/o Kevin O'Callaghan Promoters Prize Rose Nugent and Laura Mulqueen

NEXT Draw held 15TH April 2019  
Next Week's Jackpot: €500

## BREAKING NEWS

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## NEWSPAPER NOTICE

Limerick City and County Council intends to seek the approval of An Bord Pleanála, in accordance with Section 175 of the Planning and Development Act 2000, for the redevelopment of the c. 2.35 Hectare 'Opera Site' in Limerick City Centre. The development site is bound by Patrick Street, Rutland Street, Bank Place, Michael Street and Ellen Street, comprising: 1-8 Patrick Street, 3-9 Ellen Street (including 9a), Watch House Lane, Michael Street Car Park, The Granary, Oscail House, 4-9 Rutland Street and the Town Hall, Patrick Street.

A 10 year permission is being sought.

The site includes 3 No. Protected Structures; the former Town Hall (Record of Protected Structures (RPS) Ref. No. 014), the Granary on Michael Street (RPS Ref. No. 272), and, a protected doorway at Bruce House on Rutland Street (RPS Ref. No. 317), and, other structures of heritage value.

The development provides, the demolition of all Twentieth Century buildings and later additions to include; No. 6 and No. 7 Rutland Street, the rear returns of the retained heritage buildings, the library extension to the Granary Building on Michael Street, and, the side and rear extensions to the Town Hall on Rutland Street totalling c.13,960 m<sup>2</sup>. The development also provides the redevelopment of the surface level car park on Michael Street.

The development comprises the construction of c.53,532 m<sup>2</sup> Gross Floor Area (GFA) mixed-use scheme comprising: The erection of a landmark office building which is principally 14-storeys, with a 15-storey element providing for an enclosed plant room (and solar panels on roof) at Bank Place comprising c. 13,264 sq m office floorspace;

The erection of a 6-storey over basement building, replacing the existing car park at the corner of Michael Street and Ellen Street, providing c.12,654 m<sup>2</sup> office use, with c.960 m<sup>2</sup> retail, and, c.430 m<sup>2</sup> restaurant/café use at ground level;

The erection of a 5-storey building at the corner of Patrick St. and Ellen St. comprising; a 57 No. room apart-hotel (c.5,151 m<sup>2</sup>), including balconies to the rear, at 4-5 Ellen Street.

The provision of 9 no. apartments at 1st to 3rd floor levels (6 No. 1 bed apartments; 1 No. 3 bed; and, 2 No. 4 bed apartments) with balconies to the rear and c.655 m<sup>2</sup> of retail use at ground and basement levels of 1-5 Patrick Street.

The provision of 3 No. 2 Bed apartments and 1 No. 2 Bed townhouse at 1st to 3rd floor levels with balconies to the rear and c.360 m<sup>2</sup> of retail use at ground and basement levels of 7-8 Ellen Street.

The provision of 3 No. residential dwellings at 1st to 3rd floor levels (3 No. 2 Bed apartments), with balconies to the rear and c.445 m<sup>2</sup> of retail use at ground and basement levels at the existing buildings 4-5 Rutland Street;

The refurbishment of the 3-storey over basement building at No. 9-9a Ellen Street (the former Quinn's pub) to provide a c.1,261 m<sup>2</sup> licenced bar and restaurant.

The renovation and adaptation of the 4-storey former Town Hall (a Protected Structure RPS Ref. No. 014), including the demolition of the existing single storey, building adjoining to the rear and the two-bay four-storey end of terrace building adjoining to the south side. Retention of and conservation works to the Town Hall building to include the roof, façade, windows, principal rooms and open well staircase. Integration at ground and top floor level of the Town Hall with Nos. 8 & 9 Rutland Street which will form part of the proposed Library development. The Bruce House Doorway (a Protected Structure, RPS Ref. No. 317) will be relocated at the internal gable of number 8 Rutland Street, within the new library building atrium. The new building will provide a public library of c.4,515 m<sup>2</sup>, c.2,981 m<sup>2</sup> of office floorspace, and, c.197 m<sup>2</sup> of retail and c.446 m<sup>2</sup> of café/restaurant floorspace in the basement.

The refurbishment and adaptive re-use of the 4-storey over basement Granary Building on Michael Street (a Protected Structure, RPS Ref. No. 272), including; the change of use of the former Library space within the Protected Structure to office use, the demolition of the existing modern library extension to the west and provision of a new glazed vertical circulation block to the west elevation. The building will provide c.2,303 m<sup>2</sup> office floorspace. No change is proposed to the existing basement restaurant and separate licenced premises (c. 579 m<sup>2</sup>).

The construction of a basement car park beneath the proposed central plaza, accessed from Michael Street, comprising 155 no. car parking spaces.

The provision of a total of 495 cycle parking spaces. These include 311 no. secure cycle parking spaces, together with shower and changing facilities at basement level; 40 no. secure cycle parking spaces and 120 no. public cycle spaces at ground level throughout the proposed development and the provision for a 24-space cycle hire scheme at Bank Place.

The development will also include improvement works to the adjacent public streets, hard and soft landscaping changes, public realm seating, roof gardens/terraces, signage, lighting, change in levels, 4 No. ESB substations, attenuation and site wide piped services, set-down areas and all related site development and excavation works above and below ground. In addition, 3 no. new public squares/plazas will be created to comprise; The Central Plaza c.3,700 m<sup>2</sup> with a mirror pool water feature; the Granary Courtyard c.778 m<sup>2</sup>; and, Bank Place c.1,775 m<sup>2</sup>.

An Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) and a Natura Impact Statement (NIS) has been prepared in respect of the Proposed Development.

This application for permission, EIAR and NIS will be available for inspection free of charge, or may be purchased on payment of a specified fee (which fee shall not exceed the reasonable cost of making such a copy) during public opening hours excluding Bank Holidays, at the following locations.

The Offices of An Bord Pleanála, 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1, Limerick City and County Council, Dooradoyle Road, Dooradoyle, Limerick, V94 WV78.

The application plans and particulars and the EIAR and NIS may also be viewed at or downloaded from the following website: <https://www.limerick.ie/council/services/planning-and-property/opera-site-planning-application/opera-site-planning>.

Submissions or observations may be made in writing only to An Bord Pleanála ("the Board"), 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1 in respect of:

- The likely effects on the environment of the Proposed Development.
- The implications of the Proposed Development for proper planning and sustainable development of the area concerned, if carried out.
- the likely significant effects or adverse effects (if any) of the proposed development on the integrity of a European Site, if carried out.

Any submissions /observations must be accompanied by a fee of €50 (except for certain prescribed bodies) and must be received by the Board not later than 5.30 p.m. on 30th May 2019 and must include the following information:

- The name of the person making the submission or observation, the name of the person acting on his or her behalf, if any, and the address to which any correspondence relating to the application should be sent,
- The subject matter of the submission or observation, and
- The reasons, considerations and arguments on which the submission or observation is based in full.

Any submissions or observations which do not comply with the above requirements cannot be considered by the Board.

The Board may at its absolute discretion hold an Oral Hearing on the application. (For further details see 'A Guide to Public Participation in Strategic Infrastructure Development' on the Board's website [www.pleanala.ie](http://www.pleanala.ie)).

The Board may in respect of an application for permission decide to:

- (i) grant the permission, or (ii) make such modifications to the Proposed Development as it specifies in its decision and grant permission in respect of the Proposed Development as so modified, or (iii) grant permission in respect of part of the Proposed Development with or without specified modifications of it of the forgoing kind and any of the above decisions may be subject to or without conditions, or
- Refuse to grant the permission.

Any enquiries relating to the application process should be directed to the Strategic Infrastructure Section of the Board (Telephone No. 01-8588100).

Any person may question the validity of any such decision of the Board by way of an application for judicial review, under Order 84 of the Rules of the Superior Courts (S.I. No. 15 of 1986, as amended by S.I. No. 691 of 2011), in accordance with Section 50 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 as amended. Practical information on the review mechanism can be accessed under the heading 'information on cases/weekly lists – Judicial Review of Planning Decisions' on the Board's website, [www.pleanala.ie](http://www.pleanala.ie) or on the Citizens Information Service website [www.citizensinformation.ie](http://www.citizensinformation.ie).



# FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

## IN MEMORIAM



### † MANNING

(Fourth Anniversary  
& 26th Birthday  
Remembrance)

**In loving memory of Claire-Ann Manning late of Black Road, Newport, who was called to Heaven on the 13th of April 2015 and whose birthday occurs on April 12th.**

Mass will be offered in Newport Church on Sunday April 14th at 11:30am. "Your life was full of kindly deeds

A helping hand to others needs Sincere and true in heart and mind

Beautiful memories you left behind.

You always had a smile to share A laugh, a joke and time to care With a loving nature and a heart of gold

Truly the best this world could hold.

Your name is often spoken We talk about you still We miss you each and every day As I know we always will. Happy Birthday Claire-Ann

**Sadly missed by your heartbroken mother Breda and your loving brother Thomas. Also thinking of my husband Tom, friend Ann Collins and Eugene Shanahan at this time.**

Just the average family, We don't ask for more, Then life changed completely, With that knock upon the door. This awful thing had happened, And none of us knew why - You were never coming back, Claire-Ann,

And we did not say goodbye. Our world just fell to pieces,

We cried in disbelief; We had to stick together, To overcome our grief. We will never understand it, It all seems so unfair;

We wish we could hear your voice again, And see you standing there.

**From your heartbroken sister Christina and partner Gary. Happy 25th Birthday xxx**

Life goes on without you, Claire-ann

But things are not the same It's hard to hide the heartache, When someone speaks your name.

Your name is so precious, It will never grow old It's engraved in our hearts, With letters of gold.

**Wishing you also a happy 26th Birthday, love from your heartbroken sister Phyllis husband Darragh xx**

A kiss blown to the sky so blue Catch it aunty Claireann it's just for you.

**Sadly missed by your nephews Darragh and Baby Brian xx**



## IN MEMORIAM

Is there a party up in heaven,  
To celebrate today  
Did angels frost a cake for you?  
Or sing to start your day?  
We're celebrating you down here  
As they must be above  
I truly hope your special day  
Is filled with peace and love  
This day was always special  
As we gathered round you here  
We'd sing and laugh and celebrate  
Your day with so much cheer  
I miss those special moments  
That we shared throughout the years

It's hard to find that on this day  
My eyes now fill with tears  
I'm trying hard to smile for you  
But ohhhh.....it's still not fair  
I turn around and find myself  
Still shocked that you're not here  
Please know I'm thinking of you  
As I go throughout each day  
This day is very special though,  
Because it's your birthday  
Happy Birthday Claire Ann,  
I love and miss you so much,  
**Lots of love Lyndsey x**

The pain we feel within our hearts is the same as the day you died,

But living each day without you  
Makes the pain even harder to hide,

We think about you always  
Your memories we hold tight in our hearts,

But printed in our minds forever  
is the day we had to part.

**Sadly missed by your brother Michael, girlfriend Sarah xxx**

Another month, another year,  
Another smile, another tear;  
Another winter, a summer too,  
But there'll never be another you.  
**Happy 26th Birthday my Angel love your sister Catherina and partner Jamie xxxxxx**

We would like to put on paper  
The feelings in our hearts  
But the sorrow is so deep today  
We don't know where to start  
Although we cannot see you  
You are with us night and day  
For we have a special love  
Death cannot take away  
We never fail to think of you  
We never cease to care  
If only we could pay a visit  
And find you sitting there  
As long as our hearts keep beating

As long as our eyes shed tears  
We will always love and miss you

Through all the coming years.  
**Happy Birthday Claire-Ann, loved and missed by your cousin, Jessica and Beuga**

We think of you in silence  
We often speak your name  
But all we have are memories  
And your picture in a frame  
Your resting place we visit  
And put flowers there with care  
But no one knows the heartache  
As we turn and leave you there.  
Happy birthday baby girl.

**Sadly missed by the Coffey family.**

To hear your voice and see your smile  
to sit and talk with you awhile  
to be together in the same old way  
would be my greatest wish today  
of all the gifts in life  
however great or small  
To have you as my cousin  
was the greatest gift of all  
Happy birthday Claire-Ann  
loved and missed by Rachael and Seanie.

**Love from Rachael and Seanie xx**

I think of you in silence,  
I often speak your name  
But all that's left are memories  
And a photo in a frame.  
We cannot bring the old days back

When we were all together  
The family chain is broken now  
But memories live forever.  
**Love from your aunt Geraldine and Noel xx**

Look around your garden, Lord  
For a girl with a lovely smile  
That will be our Claire Ann  
She must stand out a mile.  
Find the softest pillow, Lord  
To lay her head upon  
Kiss her twice upon the cheek  
And tell her who it's from.  
**Love from Leanne, Michael and Khloe xx**

## IN MEMORIAM

In a beautiful home called Heaven,  
In that valley so precious and fair,  
Someday, sometime, Claire Ann  
I hope to meet you there.  
**Happy Birthday from friends Miriam, Jack and Emma**

**3 kisses blown up to the sky so blue  
Catch them Claire-Ann they are just for you**

Happy Birthday from your nephews Darragh, Thomas, Kevin, baby Darragh, Brian, Paddy, baby Gary, CJay, nieces Holly, Abbie, Charley and Chereece and Jamie-Lynn xxx

No last farewell was spoken,  
No time to say goodbye;  
You were gone before we knew -  
And only God knows why.  
**From Martina, Eves, Billy, Tyler, Cody and Tianna xxx**

There is a star in heaven,  
So bright for all to see,  
The star is my best friend  
Who is watching over me,  
Time slips by and life goes on,  
But from our hearts you are never gone,  
Little angels up above,  
Give our Claireanne a great big hug.  
**Lots of love from your bestie Chantelle, partner Mark and kids Mark, Mollie and Marilyn xxx**

Beautiful memories are treasured forever,  
Of the happy days when we were together.  
**Love from Sonia, Michael and Bobs xx**

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## IN MEMORIAM



### † MCNAMARA

(11th Anniversary  
& Birthday Remembrance)

**In loving memory of Gerard McNamara, late of 45 Wellfield, Garryowen, Limerick who died on 9th April, 2008 and his wife Esther McNamara whose birthday occurs on 15th April. Masses Offered**  
I think of you in silence  
I often speak your name  
But all I have are memories  
And your picture in a frame  
Your resting place I visit  
And put flowers there with care.  
But no one knows the heartache  
As I turn and leave you there.  
**Loved and remembered by your loving son Gerard, daughter-in-law Majella, your grandsons Keith, Darren and Craig and great granddaughters xxx**



### † POWER

(16th & 17th Anniversaries)

**Precious memories of our wonderful parents Joan & Oliver Power late of Colbert Ave, Janesboro. Mam whose 16th Anniversary occurs on the 16th April and Dad's whose 17th Anniversary occurs on the 15th September. Mass Offered. MAM & DAD**  
A beautiful nature a heart of gold, your loss to us can never be told  
We hold our tears when we speak your name  
But the ache in our hearts will always remain  
No words we write will ever say  
How much we miss you day by day  
Simple words but very true  
We will always miss love and remember you.  
**Forever sadly missed by your daughter's Mary, Teresa, Dolores, Anne, Carolyn and Breda, sons Michael, James, Patrick, Oliver and Anthony, sons-in-law, daughters-in-law, grandchildren and great-grandchildren**

Beautiful memories are treasured forever,  
Of the happy days when we were together.  
**Love from Sonia, Michael and Bobs xx**

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**Love from Sonia, Michael and Bobs xx**

## IN MEMORIAM



### † HAYES

(nee Williams) (17th Anniversary)

**In loving memory of our dear mother, grandmother and great-grandmother, Mary Hayes (nee Williams) late of Sean Heuston Place, Limerick who died on April 10, 2002. Mass will be held on Wednesday 10th at 5.45pm in St. John's Cathedral.**

There never comes a moment  
That we don't think of you,  
Or a day passes  
That your face is not in view,  
And when we're feeling lonely,  
And tears come to our eyes,  
We think of you at peace,  
And know we shouldn't cry.  
Like falling leaves the years go by

With sad and deep regret,  
But those who loved you dearly  
Are the ones who won't forget.  
May the winds of love blow softly  
And whisper for you to hear,  
That we still love and miss you  
As it dawns another year.  
We would like to say so many things,

We don't know where to start  
We only know we miss you  
From the bottom of our hearts.  
And when we're sad and lonely  
And everything goes wrong,  
We seem to hear you whisper,  
"Cheer up and carry on!"

**From your loving daughters Mary, Lily, Dolores, Teresa, Majella; sons Stephen and Gus; sons-in-law and daughter-in-law.**

We will always have memories  
To cherish and hold,  
Of a wonderful nans  
More precious than gold.  
A golden chain called family  
Linked us all together  
Although that chain is broken now,  
You're in our thoughts forever.  
We shared so much together,  
Laughter, joy and tears;  
For us who thought so much of you,

They were our happiest years.  
So on this your anniversary,  
As we walk down Memory Lane,  
We are wishing with all our hearts  
We could have those times again.

**From your loving grandchildren and great-grandchildren.**

To Nana Mary, Love Molly

Beautiful memories are treasured forever,  
Of the happy days when we were together.  
**Love from Sonia, Michael and Bobs xx**

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## IN MEMORIAM

In loving memory of a special niece  
The day you left and gained your wings

My heart just broke in two  
I wish you could have stayed with me  
but heaven needed you  
You left me the memories and I love you dearly still

No matter how much time goes by  
You know I always will  
You were a very special person  
with kindness in your heart  
And the love we had together  
grows stronger now we're apart  
I know I cannot bring you back  
Although I wish it everyday  
But a piece of me went with you  
the day you went away

**Love and miss you always your loving aunty Teresa and Pa xxx**

Deep within my heart there's a special place  
Where nothing at all has changed  
Its filled with precious memories of you  
That can never fade away  
I cherish them dearly and always will

For your unforgettable to me  
**Missing you always Donna, Conor, Ariel and Melody xxx**

Loving and kind in all her ways  
Upright and just to the end of her days  
Sincere and true in her heart and mind  
Beautiful memories our kathleen left behind

**Love and miss you always Jen, Tuddy and Kids xx**

When I think of you I cry  
But I don't mind because each tear drop is for you



### † HAYES

(17th Anniversary)

**In loving memory of my dear mother, grandmother and great-grandmother Mary Hayes (nee Williams) late of Sean Heuston Place who died on April 10, 2002.**  
So many people knew you Mam,

And that's what makes us proud,  
You were that special person,  
Who stood out in the crowd.  
And for those who loved and lost you,  
And whose parting brought such pain,

We will cherish your memory,  
In a world that is never the same,  
Memory lane is a beautiful place,  
Where thoughts and love are true,  
Again and again I travel that lane,  
To sit and talk with you.  
So many things have happened Mam,

I wanted you to share,  
But ah sure they'll keep until,  
I meet you again up there.  
**Deeply missed by your loving son Stephen and daughter-in-law Liz, granddaughters Audrey, Olivia, great-grandchildren Jamie, Katie, Calum, Cian, Alex and Jordan x x x**

Beautiful memories are treasured forever,  
Of the happy days when we were together.  
**Love from Sonia, Michael and Bobs xx**

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## THANKSGIVINGS

**GRATEFUL THANKS** to The Sacred Heart and Our Blessed Lady for all favours received and also thanks to St. Padre Pio. M.J.M; A.A.A.S.

When someone you love becomes a memory, the memory becomes a treasure.

AUTHOR UNKNOWN



**IN MEMORIAM**



**† MASSEY**

(12th Anniversary)

**In loving memory of a wonderful daughter, sister, mother, niece and friend to all who knew her, Kathleen "Kiki" Massey whose 12th Anniversary occurs on the 16th April. Mass will be offered in Christ the King Church Caherdavin on Tuesday 16th April at 10am.**

We once had someone special  
That money could not buy  
We had a beautiful daughter  
But had to say goodbye  
With broken hearts we watched you

And saw you pass away  
Although we love you dearly  
We knew you could not stay  
Our lives go on without you  
But nothing is the same  
We have to hide the heartache  
When someone speaks your name

Sad are the hearts that love you  
Silent are the tears that fall,  
Living without you Kathleen  
Is the hardest part of all  
Your not just a memory  
Kathleen or just part of the past  
Your ours to remember  
As long as life lasts  
You can't come back we know  
That's true

But someday Kathleen we will  
Come to you  
Forever on our minds  
Forever in our hearts  
Forever 26  
**Sadly missed and never forgotten by your heartbroken parents Patrick and Ethel, we love you so very much Kathleen xxxxx**

Little angels up above  
Give Kiki all my love  
**Love you always from Natalie xxx**

My beautiful sister Kathleen on your 12th anniversary  
It's that time of year babes, sadly  
But it doesn't have to be a certain day for those who loved you to think of you and miss you  
You brought so much love and sunshine  
To everyone's lives you touched  
Having you as my sister and friend making special memories  
That will never ever end  
I miss that smile that lit up every room  
Your laugh, your style, but mostly your big heart  
There's nothing I wouldn't do to spend one more day with you  
I looked up to you my big sis everyday you were here  
But now I look up to the stars and feel you near  
I know heaven gained the most beautiful angel  
But you're memory, life and love live on aswell  
**Love you always Ka, your little sister Shell and partner Brian**

My aunty Kiki  
Although we never met  
Your memory lives on  
I'll never forget  
**Love your nephew Ruben xxx**

**IN MEMORIAM**

There is a star in Heaven,  
So bright for all to see,  
The star is my niece,  
Who is watching over me,  
Time slips by and life goes on,  
But from our hearts you are never gone,  
Little angels up above,  
Give our Kiki a great big hug.  
Another month another year  
Another smile another tear  
Another summer & winter too  
But I'll never have another niece like you.

**Always remembered, a special niece Kiki from Annette and Jim**

No matter how life changes,  
No matter what we do,  
A special place within our hearts,  
Is always kept for you.  
**From your cousins Maria, Kevin, Denise and families**

And each teardrop brings a memory  
and each memory a smile  
**Love and miss you you always Val, Matt and kids xxx**

If tears could build a stairway  
And heartbreak a lane  
I'd walk right up to heaven and  
bring you back again  
Since you'll never be forgotten  
I pledge to you today  
A hallowed place with my heart is  
where you will always stay  
**Love and miss you Pa, Nicola and girls xx**



**† MASSEY**

(12th Anniversary)

**In loving memory of a wonderful mother, daughter, sister, partner and friend, Kathleen Massey, late of Camira Court and Creavel Park, Moyross, whose twelfth anniversary occurs April 16. Mass will be offered on Tuesday 16th April at 10am in Christ the King Church, Caherdavin.**

We hold you close within our hearts,  
And there you shall remain,  
To walk with us throughout our lives,  
Until we meet again  
A bouquet of beautiful memories,  
Sprayed with a million tears  
Wishing God could have spared you,  
If just for a few more years.  
**Loved and missed everyday, your son Joshua.**

Until we meet again  
A bouquet of beautiful memories,  
Sprayed with a million tears  
Wishing God could have spared you,  
If just for a few more years.  
**Loved and missed everyday, your son Joshua.**

I lost my life's companion,  
A life linked with my own;  
Day by day I yearn for you,  
As I walk through life alone.  
The house you left is lonely,  
And I am lonely too;  
Those left behind are good and kind,

But my heart aches for you  
You were someone I could talk to,  
On whom I could depend;  
You were more than just a partner,  
You were also my best friend.  
If tears were a stairway to Heaven,  
And memories were a lane,  
I'd climb each stair to Heaven,  
And take you home again.  
**Loved and missed more today than yesterday, but always less than tomorrow. Love ya more than chips Kate and always will. Bryan.**

**IN MEMORIAM**



**† POWER**

(Ninth Anniversary)

**In loving memory of a dear son, brother, grandson, nephew, uncle and friend Jeffrey Power, late of 41 Roundwood Estate, Limerick whose anniversary occurs on 13th April. Mass offered on Saturday 13th April in Our Lady of Lourdes Church at 6pm.**

An Eternal Memory of a Much Loved Son  
This is for someone wonderful  
as loved as one could be  
For you were everything in life  
You meant the world, you see  
And sometimes life can be unkind  
When hearts are torn in two  
But nothing ever could compare  
to the pain of losing you  
But all the love you left behind,  
forever will live on  
And so until we meet again, rest peacefully, dear Son  
**From Your Loving Mam & Dad, miss you so much xxx**

Brother  
Today is full of memories  
Of a brother laid to rest  
And every single one of them  
Is filled with happiness.  
For you were someone special,  
always a joy to know  
And there was so much pain  
When it was time to let you go.  
That's why this special message  
Is sent to Heaven above  
For the Angels to take care of you  
And give you all my love.  
**Miss you Jeffrey, your brother Gary, Carmel and nephew Chad xxx**

Today your memory is quietly kept  
No need for words, we will never forget  
Each one of us, in our own way  
Have special thoughts, of you today.  
Deep in our hearts you will always stay  
Loved & remembered, everyday.  
**Miss you from Uncle Dermot, Ursula, Nikka, Seoirse and Ben xx**

He was so very very special  
And was so from the start  
You held him in your arms  
But mainly in your heart.  
**Love Auntie Judy xx**

A silent thought, a secret tear,  
Keeps your memory ever dear  
God took you home, it was his will  
But in our hearts, you live still  
**Love Uncle Pat xx**

Every day in some small way  
Memories of you come our way  
Though absent, you are always near  
Still missed, loved, and always dear.  
We miss you now, our hearts are sore  
As time goes by we miss you more  
You're loving smile, you're gentle face  
No one can fill your vacant place.  
**Love auntie Majella, Mike, Ciara, Frankie, Layla, Ian, Lisa and Reece.**

**IN MEMORIAM**

Gone are the days we used to share  
But in our hearts you will always be there  
The gates of memory will never close  
We will miss you more than anyone knows  
With tender love and deep regret  
We who love you will never forget  
**Love aunt Linda, Mike, Shelly and Darren**

We still miss you so much, Jeff,  
And however hard we try,  
There is always that part of us,  
That cannot say goodbye,  
Because we hope that you still know,  
We miss you more and more than any words can show.  
We can't believe nine years have passed

Since we saw your smiling face;  
You were so very special, cousin,  
No one can take your place.  
With broken hearts we whisper low,  
God bless you, Jeff, we love you so.  
**Love Mark, Sarah-Jane, Scott and Jamie xxx**

Memories are special, they don't fade away,  
We think of you always, not just today.  
Of all the gifts in life, however big or small,  
To have you as our friend, was the greatest gift of all.  
**Love Verner, Theresa, Verner Jnr, Laura, Maxine and Michael Lisburn**

As Angels keep their watch up there,  
Please God just let him know,  
That we down here will not forget,  
We love and miss him so.  
**Sadly missed by Ann and family**

Everyday we say a prayer  
That God will keep you in his care,  
Jeff you're never more than a thought away,  
You're loved and remembered every day  
Just as you were, you will always be,  
Happy, laughing and singing in our memories.  
**Sorely missed by Tony, Ann and all the family, Jonathan, Lynsey and family.**

**AFTER GLOW**

*I'd Like The Memory Of Me To Be A Happy One.*

*I'd Like To Leave An After Glow Of Smiles When Life Is Done.*

*I'd Like To Leave An Echo Whispering Softly Down The Ways.*

*Of Happy Times And Laughing Times And Bright And Sunny Days.*

*I'd Like The Tears Of Those Who Grieve, To Dry Before The Sun*

*Of Happy Memories That I Leave When Life Is Done.*



**† O'HALLORAN**

(19th Anniversary)  
**In loving memory of a dear husband, father, grandfather and great grandfather Paddy (Pat) O'Halloran late of 4 Donoughmore Crescent, Kincora Park, Limerick who died on April 12, 2000. R.I.P.**

**Also remembering his brother Sean R.I.P and his sister Trisha R.I.P**  
May the winds of love blow gently Pat  
And whisper for you to hear  
How much I love and miss you Pat  
As it dawns another year.  
**Sadly missed and always loved, your loving wife Claire x**

Your life was full of kindly deeds  
A helping hand for others needs  
Sincere and true in heart and mind  
Beautiful memories you left behind.  
You always had a smile to share  
A laugh, a joke and time to share  
I wish I could see you one more time  
To hear your voice and see your smile.  
**Miss you always Dad, love Liz, Tara, Emma, Stewart, Shannen, Craig, Dion, Brooke and Bobby xxx**

Thinking of you always Dad  
Memories never cease  
Resting in God's garden  
Beneath a rose called Peace.  
**Sadly missed, always loved from your loving son Kenneth xx and Lillian and kids.**

To Granda  
A little tribute, small and tender,  
To a granda we will always remember.  
**Loved always from your grandson Gerard and granddaughter Courtney**

There never comes a moment  
That I don't think of you  
Or a single day that passes  
That you're face is not in view  
You have never been forgotten  
And you know you never will.  
**Love you always Dad, Debs and family xxx**

I would like to say so many things  
But I don't know where to start  
I only know I love and miss you Dad  
From the bottom of my heart.  
You were always there for me  
Good times and bad  
Just another reason to miss you Dad  
I miss your hugs, I miss your smile  
If only I could have you back for a while  
I'll always miss you and love you forever xxx  
**Your heartbroken daughter Trish and son-in-law Alan xxx**

Although you have gone  
We will always be together  
And your spirit will live on  
In each one of us forever  
We know you would be with us today  
If Heaven wasn't so far away  
Forever our quiet man  
Love and miss you always  
**Your loving grandchildren Edal, Ian, Kaitlyn and great grandson Shay xxx**

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## Fifty years flying it in Glin

**Milestone:** Adams of Glin celebrate a half-century as a Peugeot dealership

**TRISH WHELAN**  
[www.CarAndTravel.ie](http://www.CarAndTravel.ie)

ADAMS of Glin, Main Peugeot Dealer in Glin is celebrating 50 years with the Peugeot brand in 2019, enjoying status as the oldest continuous Peugeot dealership in the country.

The facility is located at the Coast Road in Glin.

Sean Adams, born to a blacksmith family, served his time as a mechanic in his youth, before starting the Adams of Glin business in the 1940s, as a motor service operation. It soon developed into a second hand car sales outlet and following a period of rapid success, Sean was aptly appointed to the Peugeot Dealer Network in 1969. The dealership has carried the blue flag for the lion-brand in County Limerick ever since. Retired now for 10 years, Sean still spends time every day at the Glin showrooms.

Speaking of his success of half a century with Peugeot, Sean said: "Over the 50 years, Peugeot has served my family well, and we have served Peugeot well. From the time I started, my customers depended on me and my judgement. Businesses in small towns are very dependent on locals' business. But a local business will only be supported, if it earns customers' trust. You worked when it was needed. You worked Monday to Saturday, and on a Sunday if it was needed. I've been very lucky - I don't think I ever had a poor day, a day that I'd regret having. Looking back, I couldn't be happier."

Des Cannon, Managing Director at Gowan Distributors, Peugeot Importer in Ireland said: "The Peugeot brand is steeped in a rich history, made richer still, thanks to our strong bonds with our Dealer partners, who weave their own stories into ours. We congratulate Sean, Shane, Des and the entire Adams of Glin family on reaching this phenomenal milestone and we wish them continued success for generations ahead."



**Pictured are Shane Adams, Dealer Principal; Des Cannon, Managing Director Peugeot Ireland; Sean Adams; Colin Sheridan, Sales and Marketing Director at Peugeot Ireland**

Significantly, in 2003, a state-of-the-art Peugeot showroom was unveiled, sporting an 8-bay workshop, fully stocked Parts Department and displaying the full range of Peugeot passenger cars and light commercial vehicles.

Today Adams of Glin is a brand in its own right, representing the essential trust that underpins all successful businesses in rural Ireland. It is run by Sean's son Shane, with the help of a very professional cohort of management and staff, many of whom have been with the enterprise for decades: Henry Moran, Service Manager, joined the Adams team over 40 years ago; Eamon Leahy, Parts Manager started his career with the family over 38 years ago; Eddie Kirby, head mechanic, joined more than 40 years ago; John Murphy has been in sales in Adams of Glin for 40 years. Indeed, the average service years

across the 27-strong staff at Adams of Glin is over 20 years, such is the loyalty of the team at the dealership.

Shane Adams, Dealer Principal said: "Adams of Glin is a brand name recognised across the mid-west of Ireland. Absolutely customer focused, everybody coming through our doors is treated equally as a potential customer and testament to that, we have a strong customer retention rate, despite operating from a small village location. That's what the Adams name stands for. I'm as hungry for business as my father ever was, and we work every day to get it and to add value for the customer. Do we get it right all the time? No, no one can. But we get it right most of the time, and have a good solid name and reputation. That's what people are buying."

Adams of Glin is a former Peugeot Dealer of the Year winner.



**Shane and Sean Adams at the dealership**



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KIA

## Ex-showroom event arrives at Hinchy's

Customers can save thousands on zero mileage 2019 Kia Ex-Showroom vehicles including the 7-seater Kia Sorento, Sportage SUV, the recently launched all new Ceed and the stunning Stonic. All Kia Models come with Kia's "bumper to bumper" 7-year warranty, 3 Years AA Roadside Assistance and are available for immediate delivery.

### Save Thousands on 2019 Opel Models

Customers can save thousands on zero mileage 2019 Opel cars and commercials. Included in the offer are Opels unrivalled SUV Range: Opel Grandland X, Opel Mokka X and Opel Crossland X. These SUV models offer space, practicality, style and best in class connectivity including Apple Car Play.

Limited stocks of Opel Insignia, the economical Opel Corsa and the award-winning Opel Astra are also available. Hinchys

are also extending this offer to the Opel range of Commercial vehicles including the all new Opel Combo, the Opel Vivaro and Opel Movano.

### 0% APR Finance

Exclusively at Hinchys, you can purchase an ex-showroom model and avail of 0% APR Finance. 0% APR finance makes it even easier to own a 2019 Opel or Kia model. Lending terms and conditions apply.

Dealer principal Jim Hinchy explains that "purchasing one of their ex-demonstrator vehicles offers fantastic savings for customers. These vehicles have zero mileage and customers can avail of 0% APR Finance making it a fantastic combination."

This exclusive offer ends on April 18 and stocks are limited. For the full range visit [www.hinchys.ie](http://www.hinchys.ie). Call the Garryspillane sales team on 062 58900 and the Ennis Road sales team on 061 321500.

RENAULT



## Dennehy's electric evening

**DENNEHY Motors are hosting an Electric Vehicle information on this Thursday, April 11 at 6pm. They will present the benefits of a car with Zero Emissions for you personally and for a business. This will followed by a Q & A session handled by an expert panel, and test drives offered by the excellent team at Renault Retail Group. We will also be discussing the Renault Zoe. We look at how EV's benefit business both fundamentally & financially. This is an excellent opportunity to learn more about why electric vehicles have taken over 2019 and you can of course get an expert answer to your questions. To find out more call Olivia 061442444 email [info@dennehymotors.ie](mailto:info@dennehymotors.ie)**

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# SPORT

Leader



**MIDWEEK  
ACTION**

Busy schedule for local soccer sides

See Page 61 for more

## Ground breaking deal for Limerick GAA and LIT



**A ground by any other name: The Gaelic Grounds will be named LIT Gaelic Grounds for the next 10 years**

### Soccer News

High-flying Limerick eye fifth straight league win

**COLM KINSELLA**  
sport@limerickleader.ie

IN-FORM Limerick FC will look to make it five wins on the bounce in the SSE Airtricity League First Division when hosting basement side Wexford FC at the Markets Field on Friday, 7.45pm.

Successive wins over Cobh Ramblers, Cabinteely, Athlone and Galway United have propelled Tommy Barrett's Limerick side up to a lofty second place in the First Division table.

Indeed, Longford Town edge the Blues for top spot only by virtue of their superior goal difference.

Sean McSweeney netted the only goal of the game last Friday night as Limerick extended their fine excellent run with a 1-0 victory over Galway Utd at Eamonn Deacy Park.

This was the 'Blues' second successive clean sheet in the First Division. Indeed, while Barrett's charges have scored eight goals in their last four league fixtures – averaging two goals per game in that period – the Shannonsiders have conceded just two goals in that period.

Friday night's visitors to the Markets Field, Wexford FC, have made a disappointing start to the First Division season. The Division's bottom side Wexford have lost six of their opening seven league games.

Wexford have scored seven goals and conceded 21 to date in the league.



**Limerick FC manager Tommy Barrett has his side on a winning run**

## GAA: Naming rights deal for Limerick GAA and Third Level Institute

**JEROME O'CONNELL**  
joconnell@limerickleader.ie

LIMERICK'S opening game in their All-Ireland SHC title defence against Cork in the Munster SHC on May 19 looks set to be the first game in the newly named LIT Gaelic Grounds.

This week Limerick GAA revealed details of a new 10-year naming rights deal, which commences on May 1.

The Limerick GAA Headquarters on the Ennis Road is to be renamed the LIT Gaelic Grounds as part of a new 10-year partnership between the County Board and the Third Level Institute.

Limerick GAA will receive €300,000 - €30,000 per annum, as well as a host of partnership deals.

"This is a far deeper

relationship than a typical commercial one, and brings with it huge benefits that a conventional commercial relationship simply could not deliver. It is a win for all concerned and we look forward to working together for the benefit of all," stressed Limerick GAA chairman John Cregan.

Among the partnership deals will be a dedicated scholarship scheme for Limerick GAA club members to attend LIT; Limerick GAA internships and work experience for LIT students in sports coaching, event management, marketing and other areas; Use of LIT campus facilities by Limerick GAA teams and administration and use of the inter-county grounds as a 'Living Lab' for LIT students

for educational and other purposes.

According to Limerick GAA secretary Mike O'Riordan, the 10 year partnership will cover a period which sees plans for the ground to be redeveloped and opened up to the community, including a new plaza-type area and new stadium facilities.

Limerick GAA Chairman John Cregan said they were "very excited" about the partnership.

"This partnership helps bring Limerick GAA to another level. We are on an exciting trajectory and this partnership reflects that new energy and vibrancy. LIT and ourselves are close neighbours on the Northside of the city, and we are very much building on the shared

history of our two bodies here. By partnering like this, we are reaching into each other's communities, unlocking a range of benefits for Limerick, for our clubs and for students," said Cregan.

LIT President Dr Vincent Cunnane stressed that the €30,000 per annum would not be drawn from state funding but from LIT commercial activities.

"We have both been in the business of supporting our communities for a long time, and coming together to do this in a defined way now makes huge sense. This partnership is a win-win-win for Limerick, for LIT students and for Limerick GAA. It's a symbiotic relationship where, for example, our students with be able to get

invaluable and relevant work experience around for their chosen career area, with the benefit of their energy and education also being very much felt in the GAA

"At the same time we will also be offering scholarships every year for Limerick GAA club members to come to college in LIT, and we will also be putting in place programmes drawn from specific LIT expertise to support smaller clubs" said the LIT President.

"It's a symbiotic relationship where, for example, our students with be able to get invaluable and relevant work experience around for their chosen career area, with the benefit of their energy and education also being very much felt in the GAA."



SPORT  
SNIPPETSLimerick claim  
Darts All-Ireland

Limerick won the All-Ireland 'B' Darts Championship for the first time in Ennis last weekend.

The event is officially known as the INDO Men's Inter County Championship saw Limerick Dart stars Sean Poucher, Dylan Higgins, Paddy Sheedy, Lorcan Mullane, Alan Leahy, Anthony McMahon, Dave Murphy, Tadgh Carroll, John Hourigan (Captain), John Sheehan, Tom Sheehan, John Flaherty (County Chairman), Stephen Liston, Donal Balfe, Davy Orr, Christy Costello (County Secretary) and Kevin O'Connor take home the title

## Podcast

The Limerick Leader Sports Podcast is now live on our website [www.limerickleader.ie](http://www.limerickleader.ie). The eleventh episode is jam packed with sports opinion from the Limerick Leader Sports team.

## Basketball

UL retained their men's Division B Intervarsities title in style last weekend with a 69-87 point win over Maynooth University in the final. A stunning 37-point display from Maynooth's Paddy Sullivan just wasn't enough in the face of a deep and well-drilled UL team, with Dylan Corkery, Keelan Crowe, Finn Hughes and Diarmuid O'Shea some of the standouts in an all round solid team performance.

Limerick's Lynch  
wins Wrestlemania

LIMERICK-BORN BECKY Lynch was crowned the unified WWE Raw Women's Champion and WWE Smackdown Women's Champion last night at Wrestlemania 35 in New Jersey.

She won the gold after pinning former UFC star Ronda Rousey after the 32-year-old California native attempted her signature Piper's Pit finishing move, only to be countered by Lynch.



# Na Piarsaigh the team to beat as the Limerick SHC commences

JEROME O'CONNELL  
@JeromeSport

NA PIARSAIGH set out on their Bon Secours Hospital Limerick SHC title defence this weekend in the knowledge that just seven clubs have won three-a-row of titles.

Back-to-back champions last October with a final win over Doon, Na Piarsaigh are now five time Limerick SHC winners since their break through in 2011.

As the 2019 campaign throws-in, the Caherdavin men bid to join Patrickswell, Ahane, Adare, Treaty Sarsfields, South Liberties, Cloughaun and Kilmallock as clubs to win a successive hat-trick of Daly Cup titles.

A sixth title would also see Na Piarsaigh move into joint fifth in the roll of honour, alongside Croom.

The champions are backboned by seven recent Allianz Hurling League winners in Shane Dowling, David Dempsey, Mike Casey, Peter Casey, William O'Donoghue, Kevin Downes and Conor Boylan.

Na Piarsaigh are the hottest of 4/6 favourites to again be crowned champions.

Four championship have now passed since Kilmallock won honours but the south Limerick men are second favourites at 11/4. They again continue with John Brudair and Jamie Wall in their management and will be backboned by six league

winners from John Kiely's panel - Barry Hennessy, Graeme Mulcahy, Paddy O'Loughlin, Oisín O'Reilly, Robbie Hanley and Aaron Costello.

Last year beaten finalists Doon (6/1) and 2016 champions Patrickswell (13/2) are the other two sides seen with realistic championship aspirations. Interestingly 21 of the 41 man winning John Kiely's Allianz Hurling League panel come from these four clubs and main title contenders - Na Piarsaigh, Doon, Patrickswell and Kilmallock.

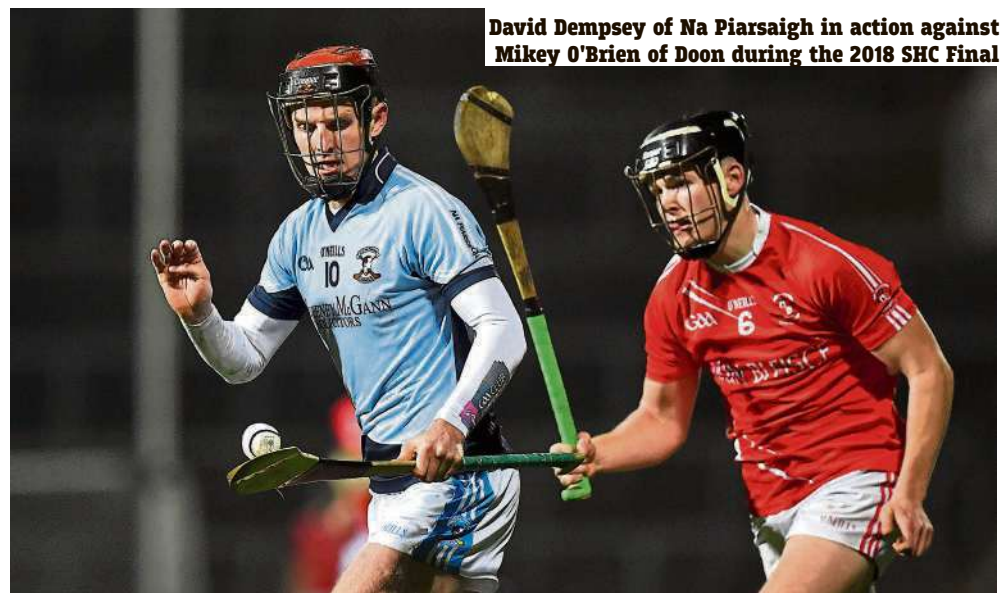
Group One also contains Adare and South Liberties and four from this six will reach the knockout stages.

In Group Two are Monaleen, Murroe-Boher, Ahane Knockainey, the relegated Ballybrown and promoted Garryspillane.

There are six games this weekend and another six across Easter Bank Holiday weekend ahead of a break, until July for round three of the five group games.

The highlight this weekend is Sunday's repeat of last year's semi final between Doon and Patrickswell - a game that will be televised live on TG4.

**FIXTURES:** Ballybrown v Knockainey in Bruff and Monaleen v Ahane in Cloughaun (both Friday at 6.30); Adare v Kilmallock in Bruff on Saturday at 6pm; Doon v Patrickswell in Kilmallock on Sunday at 2.30pm; South Liberties v Na Piarsaigh in Mungret and Murroe-Boher v Garryspillane in Caherconlish (both Sunday at 2pm).



David Dempsey of Na Piarsaigh in action against Mikey O'Brien of Doon during the 2018 SHC Final

## Quartet lead the way in the race for county SFC ahead of mid-season break



Struggles: Evan O'Neill, Monaleen challenged by Jason Daly, Ballysteen during their meeting in the SFC Round two tie

**FOUR** sides remain unbeaten after two rounds of the Limerick SFC.

The Irish Wire Products sponsored county senior football championship enters a

mid-season break with Adare, Newcastle West, Ballysteen and Oola all with 100% records.

At the basement, Monaleen, Dromcollogher-Broadford, St Senans and Galbally

all face into the three month break without a win.

In the Limerick IFC, Rathkeale, St Patricks, Cloughaun and Gerald Griffins hold unbeaten records.

## It's D-Day for local AIL clubs

THREE Limerick city clubs face crucial make-or-break All-Ireland League fixtures this Saturday in the final series of regular season games.

In Division 1A, relegation-threatened Shannon and Young Munster battle for their top flight survival.

Shannon remain rooted to the foot of the table on 27 points, four behind both Terenure and UCC following their heavy derby defeat to Young Munster at Clifford Park on Friday night.

Munsters' sit in sixth place on 34 points, so the Greenfields' are guaranteed at least a relegation play-off spot.

Shannon host Cork Constitution at Thomond Park's back pitch this Saturday, 2.30pm, while intriguingly, Munsters' final regular season game is away to another relegation-threatened side Terenure College.

In Division 2C, Thomond will have their very AIL status on the line when the division's bottom side travel to Seapoint

for a must-win fixture.

Meanwhile, Munster face a crucial trip to Italy to take Benetton Rugby at the Stadio di Monigo in the Guinness PRO14 on Friday night, 7pm.

Munster sit in second place in Conference A of the PRO14, three points behind table toppers Glasgow with just two games to go.

Friday night's game is Munster's final outing before their big Heineken Champions Cup semi-final clash with Saracens at the Ricoh Arena on Saturday, April 20, 3pm.



Action from Shannon and Young Munster last weekend



# Junior Soccer Preview

**PAT SHEEHAN**  
sport@limerickleader.ie

THERE are a couple of games tomorrow (Thursday) evening of note in the PJ Matthews Premier League.

Pike Rvs can cut Janesboro's lead to a solitary point if they beat Prospect in Cals Park while Ballynanty Rvs will also close in on the leading two if they beat relegated Charleville in LIT.

Star Rvs will seal their promotion from Division 2A if they hold off nearest challengers Patrickswell.

The top game of the day is the outstanding Lawson Cup quarter final between heavyweights Ballynanty Rvs and Pike Rvs at LIT.

Record holders for most Lawson Cup wins, Ballynanty Rvs have been quietly going about their business and are unbeaten in 2019 (bar a penalty shoot out to Geraldines). They have signed a couple of good players before the deadline and they are bedding in well.

The return to scoring form of Arron Nunan last week is another welcome boost to Donal McGee and Co.

They take on a Pike Rvs side on the back of ten straight wins (albeit one was a penalty shoot out with Fairview in the Tuohy Cup).

The Hoops have been in tremendous form but the loss through injury of Steven McGann, and Eoin Hanrahan reduces their

potency somewhat, despite having the Leagues top scorer in Jonathan Grant.

The sides already met this season in the Pike Club when Pike took the honours on a 2-0 scoreline.

Expect a similarly tight affair with the winners down to face Hill Celtic for a place in the final.

In the Premier League Janesboro will have the chance to re-open a four point gap at the top of the table if they can beat Regional Utd.

'Boro' have not enjoyed their games with Regional this season as the Dooradoyle side beat them 6-2 in the League and 3-1 in the FAI Junior Cup, both games played in Dooradoyle.

The champions will be determined not to slip up again and no doubt Shane O'Hanlon and co. will have worked out some of the issues that bedeviled them in previous games.

Regional went down disappointingly 3-0 to Aisling last weekend and will be looking to recover quickly as they await news of their appeal in the National competition.

In Division 1A there is no doubting the top game. Leaders Coonagh Utd travel to take on second placed Mungret Regional with just a point separating the sides.

Coonagh are back to winning ways, four on the trot after a mini glitch saw them lose two in a row earlier in the year.



Jack Lynch, Regional United, in action against Colm O'Reilly, Aisling Annacotty when the sides met in the Premier League last weekend PICTURE: GARETH WILLIAMS

United are an excellent side and would be a welcome addition to the top flight.

Likewise Mungret Reg, an exciting young side who have full intentions of going up as champions. Promises to be an exciting tie.

Lurking just behind the top two are Fairview Rgs B who welcome Corbally Utd to the Fairview Club. However a

five point gap might be just too much to make up at this stage of the season. The exciting battle for promotion from Division 1B takes another twist on Sunday when leaders Kilfrush travel to Ballylanders while in Division 2A Hyde Rgs can secure promotion if they take the spoils at home to Caledonians

It's semi final time in Division 2B Cup when Pallasgreen host Aisling and Newport welcome Athlunkard Villa.

Tonight (Wednesday) the semi final of the Div 1A O'Halloran Cup takes place in Jackman Park when Coonagh Utd take on Moyross with a 7pm kick off.

## JUNIOR SOCCER

| PREMIER DIVISION  | P  | W  | D | L  | Pts |
|-------------------|----|----|---|----|-----|
| Janesboro         | 18 | 16 | 1 | 1  | 49  |
| Pike Rovers       | 17 | 14 | 3 | 0  | 45  |
| Ballynanty Rovers | 17 | 14 | 1 | 2  | 43  |
| Regional Utd      | 17 | 10 | 3 | 4  | 33  |
| Fairview Rgs      | 18 | 9  | 6 | 3  | 33  |
| Aisling Annacotty | 16 | 8  | 2 | 6  | 26  |
| Geraldines        | 19 | 8  | 2 | 9  | 26  |
| Kilmallock        | 17 | 6  | 0 | 11 | 18  |
| Nenagh AFC        | 19 | 5  | 0 | 14 | 15  |
| Prospect Priory   | 17 | 3  | 5 | 9  | 14  |
| Charleville       | 20 | 3  | 1 | 16 | 7   |
| Carew Park        | 21 | 0  | 0 | 21 | 0*  |

| DIVISION 1A      | P  | W  | D | L  | Pts |
|------------------|----|----|---|----|-----|
| Coonagh Utd      | 19 | 12 | 5 | 2  | 41  |
| Mungret Reg      | 19 | 12 | 4 | 3  | 40  |
| Fairview Rgs B   | 19 | 10 | 5 | 4  | 35  |
| Moyross          | 19 | 10 | 3 | 6  | 33  |
| Athlunkard Villa | 19 | 9  | 5 | 5  | 32  |
| Murroe           | 19 | 9  | 3 | 7  | 30  |
| Holycross        | 19 | 8  | 4 | 7  | 28  |
| Cappamore        | 19 | 6  | 4 | 9  | 22  |
| Corbally Utd     | 19 | 6  | 2 | 11 | 20  |
| Aisling Ann B    | 19 | 3  | 6 | 10 | 15  |
| Castle Rvs       | 19 | 3  | 3 | 13 | 12  |
| Summerville Rvs  | 19 | 4  | 0 | 15 | 12  |

| DIVISION 1B       | P  | W  | D | L  | Pts |
|-------------------|----|----|---|----|-----|
| Kilfrush          | 18 | 15 | 1 | 2  | 46  |
| Hill Celtic       | 17 | 14 | 1 | 2  | 43  |
| Newport           | 16 | 12 | 1 | 3  | 37  |
| Knockainey        | 19 | 9  | 5 | 5  | 32  |
| Geraldines B      | 19 | 10 | 2 | 7  | 32  |
| Shelbourne        | 18 | 8  | 5 | 5  | 29  |
| Southend          | 19 | 6  | 4 | 9  | 22  |
| Caherdavin Celtic | 17 | 6  | 1 | 10 | 19  |
| Ballylanders      | 17 | 5  | 0 | 12 | 15  |
| Granville Rgs     | 19 | 3  | 2 | 14 | 11  |
| Regional Utd B    | 17 | 3  | 1 | 13 | 10  |

| DIVISION 2A    | P  | W  | D | L | Pts |
|----------------|----|----|---|---|-----|
| Hyde Rgs       | 11 | 10 | 0 | 1 | 30  |
| Star Rvs       | 11 | 9  | 1 | 1 | 28  |
| Patrickswell   | 11 | 7  | 1 | 3 | 22  |
| Caledonians    | 11 | 5  | 0 | 6 | 15  |
| Kennedy Park   | 12 | 4  | 0 | 8 | 12  |
| Glenview Rvs   | 11 | 3  | 1 | 7 | 10  |
| Charleville    | 11 | 2  | 1 | 8 | 7   |
| Corbally Utd B | 12 | 2  | 2 | 8 | 5*  |

| DIVISION 3B    | P  | W  | D | L  | Pts |
|----------------|----|----|---|----|-----|
| Herbertstown   | 15 | 12 | 3 | 0  | 39  |
| Hyde Rgs B     | 13 | 7  | 2 | 4  | 23  |
| Northside      | 14 | 7  | 2 | 5  | 23  |
| Brazuca United | 14 | 6  | 3 | 5  | 21  |
| Weston Villa   | 12 | 7  | 0 | 5  | 21  |
| Cappamore B    | 12 | 5  | 3 | 4  | 18  |
| Kilfrush B     | 15 | 5  | 3 | 7  | 18  |
| Coonagh Utd B  | 14 | 6  | 0 | 8  | 18  |
| Dromore Celtic | 12 | 3  | 1 | 8  | 10  |
| Mungret Reg C  | 13 | 0  | 1 | 12 | 1   |

| DIVISION 2B         | P  | W  | D | L  | Pts |
|---------------------|----|----|---|----|-----|
| Pallagreen          | 14 | 10 | 4 | 0  | 34  |
| Mungret Reg         | 14 | 9  | 1 | 4  | 28  |
| Newport             | 16 | 7  | 3 | 6  | 24  |
| Athlunkard Villa B  | 15 | 7  | 2 | 6  | 23  |
| Parkville           | 14 | 6  | 4 | 4  | 22  |
| Holycross B         | 13 | 6  | 0 | 7  | 18  |
| Aisling Annacotty C | 13 | 4  | 4 | 5  | 16  |
| Caherdavin Cel B    | 13 | 3  | 2 | 8  | 11  |
| Ballynanty Rvs B    | 16 | 1  | 2 | 13 | 5   |

| DIVISION 4         | P  | W  | D | L  | Pts |
|--------------------|----|----|---|----|-----|
| Lisnagry           | 14 | 12 | 1 | 1  | 37  |
| Fairview Rgs C     | 14 | 10 | 2 | 2  | 32  |
| Coonagh Utd C      | 13 | 7  | 2 | 4  | 23  |
| Shelbourne B       | 14 | 7  | 1 | 6  | 22  |
| Parkville B        | 13 | 5  | 3 | 5  | 18  |
| Aisling E          | 14 | 3  | 3 | 8  | 12  |
| Murroe C           | 13 | 3  | 2 | 8  | 11  |
| Athlunkard Villa C | 12 | 2  | 4 | 6  | 10  |
| Newport            | 13 | 1  | 2 | 10 | 5   |

| DIVISION 3A         | P  | W  | D | L  | Pts |
|---------------------|----|----|---|----|-----|
| Kilmallock B        | 15 | 12 | 2 | 1  | 38  |
| Castle Utd          | 15 | 8  | 4 | 3  | 28  |
| Wembley Rvs         | 15 | 8  | 4 | 3  | 28  |
| Meanus              | 15 | 7  | 5 | 3  | 26  |
| Murroe B            | 15 | 8  | 2 | 5  | 26  |
| Janesboro B         | 15 | 8  | 1 | 6  | 25  |
| Prospect Priory B   | 15 | 5  | 1 | 9  | 16  |
| Knockainey B        | 15 | 3  | 3 | 9  | 12  |
| Aisling Annacotty D | 15 | 2  | 1 | 12 | 7   |
| Abbey Rvs           | 15 | 1  | 3 | 11 | 6   |

# JUNIOR SOCCER FIXTURES

## WEDNESDAY APR 10

**DIV 1A O'HALLORAN CUP**  
Coonagh Utd v Moyross, 7.00

## THURSDAY APRIL 11

**PJ MATTHEWS PREMIER LEAGUE**  
Regional Utd v Kilmallock, 6.30  
Prospect v Pike Rvs, 6.30  
Ballynanty Rvs v Charleville, 6.30  
Aisling v Nenagh, 6.30

## GALTEE FUELS DIV 1B

Hill Celtic v Ballylanders, 6.30  
Newport v Caherdavin, 6.30

## MCGETTIGANS DIV 2A

Star Rvs v Patrickswell, 6.30

## NICK GREEN YOUTH DIV TWO

Shelbourne v Caledonians, 6.30

## SATURDAY APRIL 13

## GALTEE FUELS DIV 1A

Moyross v Cappamore, 6.30  
Mungret Reg v Coonagh, 6.30

## GALTEE FUELS DIV 1B

Regional Utd v Caherdavin Celtic, 6.30,

## MCGETTIGANS DIV 2A

Charleville v Star Rvs, 6.30, M Kiely

## ALL TAN SUNBED DIV 3B

Brazuca v Weston Villa, 6.30, E Kenny,  
Kilfrush v Coonagh Utd, 6.30, A Walsh,  
Northside v Herbertstown, 6.30  
Dromore Celtic v Mungret Reg, 6.30  
Cappamore v Hyde Rgs, 6.30

## YOUTH DIV ONE

Regional Utd v Kilfrush, Astro, 6.30  
Charleville v Aisling, 6.30

## UNDER 17 DIV ONE

Nenagh v Newport, 6.30, G Clancy

## SUNDAY APRIL 14

## LAWSON CUP

Ballynanty Rvs v Pike Rvs, 2.00

## PJ MATTHEWS PREMIER LEAGUE

Prospect v Nenagh, 11.00  
Janesboro v Regional Utd, 11.00  
Fairview Rgs v Kilmallock, 11.00  
Geraldines v Aisling, 11.00

## GALTEE FUELS DIV 1A

Summerville v Aisling, 11.00  
Murroe v Castle Rvs, 11.00  
Athlunkard Villa v Holycross, 11.00  
Fairview Rgs B v Corbally Utd, 2.00

## GALTEE FUELS DIV 1B

Granville v Southend, 2.00, A Keogh,

Ballylanders v Kilfrush, 2.00, K Gorman

## MCGETTIGANS DIV 2A

Hyde Rgs v Caledonians, 11.00  
Patrickswell v Glenview Rvs, 11.00

## DIV 2B CUP SEMI-FINAL

Pallasgreen v Aisling, 2.00  
Newport v Athlunkard Villa, 2.00

## STA FURNITURE DIV 3A

Wembley Rvs v Abbey Rvs, 11.00  
Meanus v Kilmallock, 2.00  
Prospect v Castle Utd, 2.00  
Knockainey v Murroe, 2.00  
Janesboro v Aisling, 2.00, T O'Sullivan

## EDEN HAIR SALON DIV 4

Shelbourne v Aisling, 2.00  
Parkville v Fairview Rgs, 2.00  
Murroe v Athlunkard Villa, 2.00  
Coonagh Utd v Newport, 2.00

## NICK GREEN YOUTH DIV ONE

Mungret Reg v Fairview Rgs, 2.00

## NICK GREEN YOUTH DIV TWO

Aisling v Newport, 2.00  
Caledonians v Corbally Utd, 2.00  
Regional Utd v Caherdavin Celtic 2.00,

## YOUTH DIV THREE

Regional Utd v Lisnagry, 2.00, Astro

## TUESDAY APRIL 16

## DIV 1A O'HALLORAN CUP SEMI FINAL

Mungret Reg v Cappamore, 7.00,  
Jackman Park, R Broe

## GALTEE FUELS DIV 1B

Shelbourne v Newport, 6.30, A Keogh

## MCGETTIGANS DIV 2B

Parkville v Holycross, 6.30, M Kiely,  
Aisling v Caherdavin, 6.30, M Monaghan

## UNDER 17 DIV ONE

Fairview Rgs v Newport, 6.30, B Higgins

## THURSDAY APRIL 18

## GER RYAN YOUTH CUP SEMI FINAL

Aisling Annacotty v Regional Utd, 7.00,  
Jackman Park

## PJ MATTHEWS PREMIER LEAGUE

Prospect Priory v Aisling Annacotty,  
6.30, D Power, Fairview Rgs v Ballynanty  
Rvs, 6.30, K Gorman

## ALL TAN SUNBED DIV 3B

Dromore v Cappamore, 6.30, P O'Brien,  
Weston Villa v Hyde Rgs, 6.30, F O'Neill



# ON THE BALL

“Limerick to the core...”

**DONN O'SULLIVAN**



Traditional rivals: Young Munster's Evan O'Gorman is caught by Shannon's Jordan

**COLM KINSELLA**

Georgia on the minds of nation's club golfers

NOTHING signals the start of the golf season for club players in Ireland quite like the US Masters on the manicured fairways of Augusta National.

Scores and scores of club players all over the country will dust down the clubs after the winter hibernation this weekend, enthused by the magnificent weather and stunning lay-out at Augusta.

Long forgotten for club players will be the horrific slice and the dreaded putting yips that plagued their game since mid-way through last summer!

Watching the World's top players showcase their skills at the year's first Major will energise and enthuse even the most fair weather of players.

To borrow a phrase from the TV advert, it will be a case of 'I am Tiger Woods' for those armchair fans, I too can drive it over 300 yards off the tee, split the fairway, hit beautifully crisp approach shots and hole outrageous putts on the slickest of greens. Of course you can!

TV tournaments like the US Masters do help rekindle the appetite for the game among a sizeable percentage of golfers. That's very important too with membership numbers falling in golf clubs.

Worryingly, the sport has become less popular among young adults. Statistics show that the GUI's membership spiked at 177,000 in 2007, but has not fallen to 135,000 adults and a further 20,000 juniors.



The US Masters, golf fans' favourite Major

## New ideas needed for AIL

How do you solve a problem like the All-Ireland league? That is the question facing the IRFU in the coming months.

Last Friday night, over two thousand people attended a first Division game between Young Munsters and Shannon.

A phenomenal crowd for a game you will agree, but were it not for the relegation threatened pair meeting in the penultimate round of games, would the crowd have been anywhere near that?

The All-Ireland league has suffered at the hands of the professional game and one wonders what type of future it has within the IRFU structure.

Last weekend several of Munster's 'A' players were flown to the USA for a friendly with the New England Free Jacks.

Not ideal, but people sometimes forget that those players are employees of Munster Rugby. They are not going to have the same loyalty to their club, when their bosses are telling them where to be and when.

The club game has been squeezed out of the limelight by the calendar of rugby which is filled with Lions, Ireland, Pro14, Champions Cup and B&I Cup fixtures.

Is there room for the AIL anymore? Is there a need for a 50,

yes 50, strong senior league across 5 divisions?

With seconds and U20 leagues failing to field teams on a consistent basis in Munster, coupled with underage teams amalgamating at the rate of knots, what can save the domestic game?

For me, there is one answer and it may not be too popular.

The answer lies in the past. The Munster clubs, if they wanted to, that is, should form their own league. A Munster Senior league for want of a better name.

The league would be made up of 10 sides from the province. They would play 18 games, as they do now.

There would be no contracted players allowed play. Once a player signs

with Munster or anyone else, they are immediately released from the club. They can of course return, should things not work out for them.

There could be a cup competition peppered throughout the season, as well as the existing Limerick and Cork Charity Cups.

The gates would not (should not) be lower than they already are and with more games against your traditional rivals, the players and supporters would surely regain that bond with their 'original' club.

Getting the IRFU to 'allow' same might be an issue, as would getting referees, but if this would be the only show in town, governed by those who care, what is there to lose?

**JEROME O'CONNELL**

LIT Gaelic Grounds to be as familiar as Aviva Stadium or 3Arena

So after 91-years, there comes a name change - LIT Gaelic Grounds it is...

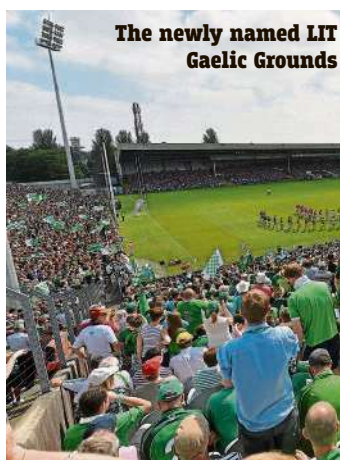
There was a time when Limerick GAA selling the naming rights to the Gaelic Grounds would have drawn outcry but this week's confirmation that the Ennis Road stadium is to be renamed, appears to have received a warm reception.

There are suggestions, that all will continue to use 'Gaelic Grounds' but fast-forward two or three years down the road and 'LIT Gaelic Grounds' will roll off the tongue just like the Aviva Stadium

and 3Arena.

In today's commercial World, Limerick GAA are right to explore all revenue avenues but I do hope the other aspects of the partnership deal are nurtured correctly over the next decade.

Limerick GAA will earn €300,000 across the 10-year deal but it's the



The newly named LIT Gaelic Grounds

partnership aspect of the deal that has softened the impact with a new scholarship scheme for Limerick GAA club members to attend LIT and Limerick GAA internships and work experience for LIT students in sports coaching, event management, marketing and other areas, two of the

main elements aside from the monetary deal.

It's four years since naming rights were first mentioned in Limerick GAA circles and a figure of €1-million was mentioned.

All stepped up a level in the last 16-months culminating in this week's confirmation that the Limerick GAA Headquarters would be renamed LIT Gaelic Grounds from May 1 and while the figure is no where near €1-million, there is a wide-ranging social aspect to the partnership that if managed correctly can benefit all.



## COLM KINSELLA

## Rose can bloom among the azaleas at Augusta National

GOLF'S first Major of the year, the US Masters, tees off at magnificent Augusta National Golf Club in Georgia this Thursday.

The smallest field in major championship golf competes for a chance to capture the Green Jacket and a place in Masters history over 72 holes.

Rory McIlroy, who has finished in the top 10 in seven consecutive starts is the favourite at 6-1 with the bookies' according to the latest 2019 Masters odds.

Tiger Woods, a four-time champion at Augusta, enters the Masters 2019 playing extremely well, having cracked the top 10 in two of his last three starts on the

US PGA Tour. Woods is a 12/1 shot with the layers to regain the Green Jacket.

Popular Englishman Tommy Fleetwood is sure to have his share of backers this week at odds of 22/1.

World number 13-ranked player Fleetwood comes to Augusta playing extremely well after

recording top-five finishes at the Arnold Palmer Invitational and Players Championship in the past month.

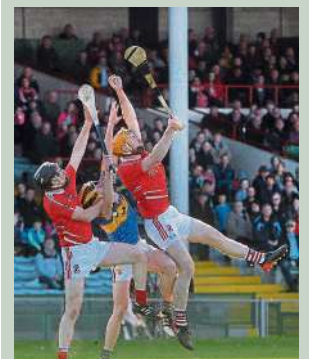
Fleetwood can go well this week. However, preference is for ultra-consistent 2013 US Open winner Justin Rose, (11/1), who lost out to Sergio Garcia in a play-off at the Masters two years ago.



Our tip for Augusta, Justin Rose

# IS THAT ON THE BOX?

## Sunday



Doon and Patrickswell meet on TG4

### FORMULA 1

CHINESE GRAND PRIX  
SKY SPORT 7AM

### SOCCER

WIGAN V NORWICH  
SKY SPORTS 12NOON

### GYMNASTICS

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS  
BBC 2 12.30PM

### SOCCER

ABERDEEN V CELTIC  
EIR SPORT 2PM

### SOCCER

CRYSTAL PALACE V MAN C  
SKY SPORTS 2PM

### GOLF

THE MASTERS  
SKY SPORTS/BBCI 2.30PM

### HURLING

DOON V PATRICKSWELL  
TG4 2.30PM

### RUGBY UNION

EXETER V WASPS  
BT SPORT 3PM

### SOCCER

LIVERPOOL V CHELSEA  
SKY SPORTS 4.30PM

### SOCCER

LEVANTE V VALENCIA  
ELEVEN SPORTS 7.45PM

### SOCCER

LILLE V PSG  
BT SPORT 1 8PM

### TENNIS

US CLAY COURT  
AMAZON PRIME 9PM

### BASEBALL

ST LOUIS @ REDS  
BT ESPN 9PM

## Wednesday

### GOLF

THE MASTERS PAR 3  
SKY SPORTS GOLF 7PM

### TENNIS

US CLAY COURT  
AMAZON PRIME 7PM

### SOCCER

BIRMINGHAM V SHEFF UTD  
SKY SPORTS 7.45PM

### SOCCER

MAN UTD V BARCELONA  
SKY SPORTS 7.45PM

### SOCCER

AJAX V JUVENTUS  
BT SPORT 8PM

## Thursday

### GOLF

THE MASTERS  
SKY SPORTS 8PM

### SOCCER

ARSENAL V NAPOLI  
BT SPORT 8PM

### SOCCER

BENFICA V EINTRACHT  
BT SPORT 8PM

### SOCCER

VILLAREAL V VALENCIA  
BT SPORT 8PM

### SOCCER

SLAVIA PRAGUE V CHELSEA  
BT SPORT 8PM

## Friday

### RUGBY UNION

CRUSADER V H'LANDERS  
SKY SPORTS 8.35AM

### TENNIS

LUGANO OPEN  
BT SPORT 10AM

### RUGBY UNION

REBELS V STORMERS  
SKY SPORTS 10.45AM

### GYMNASTICS

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP  
BBC1 1PM

### TENNIS

BOGOTA OPEN  
BT SPORT 5PM

### RUGBY UNION

BENETTON V MUNSTER  
EIR SPORT 7PM

### TENNIS

US CLAY COURT  
AMAZON PRIME 7PM

### RUGBY UNION

EDINBURGH V ULSTER  
EIR SPORT 7.35PM

### RUGBY LEAGUE

ST HELENS V WARRINGTON  
SKY SPORTS 7.45PM

### RUGBY UNION

NEWCASTLE V LEICESTER  
BT SPORT 7.45PM

### SOCCER

LEICESTER V NEWCASTLE  
SKY SPORTS 8PM

### GOLF

THE MASTERS  
SKY SPORTS 8PM

## Saturday

### RUGBY UNION

CHIEFS V BLUES  
SKY SPORTS 8.35AM

### RUGBY UNION

BRUMBIES V LIONS  
SKY SPORTS 10.45AM

### SOCCER

SPURS V HUDDERSFIELD  
SKY SPORTS 12.30PM

### RUGBY UNION

SHARKS V JAGUARES  
SKY SPORTS 2PM

### RUGBY UNION

GLOUCESTER V BATH  
BT SPORT 3PM

### RUGBY UNION

CONNACHT V CARDIFF  
EIR SPORT 3PM

### RUGBY UNION

LEINSTER V GLASGOW  
EIR SPORT 3PM

Tommaso Allan of Benetton kicks his side to a draw with Leinster last weekend. This Saturday they face Munster on EirSport



The US Masters tees off this weekend. The official start of the new golf season



**SHOWHOUSE LAUNCHING**  
SUNDAY 14TH APRIL, 2-4PM



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