



Our new TDs for Limerick city: Maurice Quinlivan, SF, Willie O'Dea, FF, Kieran O'Donnell, FG, and Brian Leddin, GP, celebrate being elected to the 33rd Dáil after the count at Limerick Racecourse

IT'S A MAN'S WORLD!

Five women fail to get elected to Dáil **FULL ELECTION COVERAGE INSIDE**

The Leader

Wednesday, February 12, 2020

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DEISE DATE Limerick welcome Waterford in league action **SPORT**

MURDER CONVICTIONS

Corbett family hope US court upholds guilty verdicts **P4**



MY LIMERICK

Bishop reveals what he loves about city and the challenges it faces **P3**



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LeadingOff

Setting the agenda in Limerick



▲ GOOD WEEK
Maurice Quinlivan
 The Sinn Féin man tops the poll in Limerick city exceeding the quota of 9,226 with 11,006 votes.



▼ BAD WEEK
Jan O'Sullivan
 The Labour candidate lost her Dáil seat on Sunday leaving Limerick with no female TD



☀ QUOTE OF THE WEEK
 "We're going to be here all night, this is very inefficient. I don't care if I'm quoted on that."
Fianna Fáil's Willie O'Dea before he left the count centre to head to South's. He later took the second seat

INSIDE THIS WEEK



WINTER'S LAST BLAST
 More snow in the forecast?
 Page 18



REPORT IS GOOD NEWS
 Over 2,000 jobs created
 Page 20



YOUR PERFECT DAY
 See our fab wedding guide
 PULL INSIDE



VALENTINE'S SHOWS
 'Lovely' gigs this weekend
 Page 26

Why did no one see SF storm brewing?



Maurice Quinlivan celebrating his poll-topping performance with his wife, Sue and mother, Marie PICTURE: ADRIAN BUTLER



WHAT WE THINK
EUGENE PHELAN
 LEADER EDITOR

AFTER all the drama of the general election, we now have to see what kind of government we are going to get in the coming days. It is amazing that despite all the technology and opinion polls and politicians knocking on doors, that in virtually every election there is a huge surprise. Why did no one see this one coming? Yes, there were indications that Sinn Féin

would do well, but not this well. The party's performance was remarkable across the country including in Limerick where poll-topper Maurice Quinlivan even seemed surprised that he overtook the perennial poll-topper Willie O'Dea. Willy Willie did sense problems in the final week, with journalists like myself predicting he would top the

poll, not helping his cause. He had a team sending texts to ignore the underhand talk that he did not need votes. He was right, he did, but in the end it was Maurice's Day. Kieran O'Donnell who missed out the last time had a day to savour, while the Green's Brian Leddin who at one stage was 33/1 in the betting took the final seat from the gallant Frankie Daly.

WEBTOPTEN



1. Sadness as Limerick hockey star passes away aged 43
2. Status Yellow snow and ice warning issued for Limerick
3. LIVE: Limerick Leader election blog
4. WATCH: Heavy snowfall in Limerick as snow/ice warning comes into effect
5. BREAKING: O'Donoghue makes history as he becomes County Limerick's first independent TD
6. As It Stands: The results of the Limerick general elections
7. Blow for Limerick football as Lee confirms departure from the inter-county set-up
8. Interactive map: How Limerick voted in the general election
9. WATCH: Traffic diverted as Storm Ciara knocks large tree in Limerick city centre
10. The Last Count: The final results of the general election in Limerick



WEATHER FOR THE WEEK



WEDNESDAY
 Intervals of clouds and sunshine with a couple of showers



THURSDAY
 A couple of showers in the morning; otherwise, cloudy



FRIDAY
 Showery St Valentine's Day with a high of 10°C



SATURDAY
 Rain; windy start to the weekend, with some clearing later



SUNDAY
 Cloudy and breezy with a couple of showers - High 8°C



MONDAY
 The unsettled weather continues - with a touch of rain

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MyLimerick

Brendan Leahy

Bishop of Limerick



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

A perfect day would include an early walk along the walkway by the Shannon, from the University of Limerick to the city, followed by some prayer and reflection

What's your first Limerick memory?

I have two, not sure which is first. One is with my family driving through Limerick on my way from Dublin to West Kerry, stopping for a meal in a café on O'Connell Street. After passing through a lot of towns, Limerick had a city feel to it. The other would be visiting Ballyhahill with my family to meet with the Cahillane family there.

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

I often think that Limerick is completely undervalued from a tourism perspective as there are so many lovely areas, from the Ballyhoura region, to Adare, the estuary, the Shannon itself of course, right out to Castleconnell and beyond. There's the stunning Clare Glens as well. But one of my favourite places would, for sure be, Killeedy, which is associated with St Ita, the patron saint of the area. The Mass Rock there is a special place and it is a lovely part of Limerick, certainly very special to me.

What about a favourite local walk or view?

There's a great view of Limerick city and the distant Clare hills from the brow of Southhill. It gives a sweeping view of Limerick that is under-appreciated, I think.

What do you think gives Limerick its unique identity?

It's a Treaty City. It has the potential to bring the past, present and future into a dialogue. And to do that in so many areas – from sports to culture, from education to business, etc.

Do you have a favourite local restaurant??

I don't eat out much, but I'm often brought to a restaurant or hotel for a meal after Confirmation ceremonies right across Limerick city and county. It would be hard and unfair to indicate a favourite.

How would you describe the people of Limerick?

Realists with a sense of humour.

How important do you think sport is to Limerick?

Major. So many people in Limerick have been formed in all kinds of ways through sport – from building up team skills to keeping hope alive even when there are setbacks, from discipline and focus to camaraderie among supporters.

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

I don't know if it's an amenity, but I think it would be great if Limerick could develop its own Camino trail. We have got an incredible collection of religious sites, from Kilmallock to Askeaton, Killeedy, Adare, Limerick city itself and much more. You could put all of them into a necklace and create something very special for Limerick for people to come and get some peace and calm along the way. I think another amenity that would be needed is an open house for drug addicts during the day. There's a place for addicts at night but nowhere during the day and we have to face up to this reality. Finally, something else that I feel we could do with are more public amenities for families to enjoy together.

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

Housing is the big issue everywhere. But I think Limerick is at a great turning point that will involve many important choices. The biggest challenge for us all is to really work together to let Limerick realise its potential.

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Man headbutted after knocking drink in bar

DAVID HURLEY

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A MAN who headbutted another man at a pub in the city centre after his drink was accidentally knocked has avoided a prison sentence.

Ciaran O'Brien, 39, of Ardglass, O'Connell Avenue had pleaded guilty to a single charge of assault causing harm relating to an incident which occurred on May 6, 2016.

During a sentencing hearing,

Limerick Circuit Court was told the premises was very busy and that the defendant had been socialising on the night.

John O'Sullivan BL, prosecuting, said the accused placed a drink on a table and that when it was knocked he "suddenly and violently" headbutted the injured party - hitting him twice in the face.

Judge Tom O'Donnell was told there had been a misunderstanding and that CCTV

footage from the pub shows the assault was unprovoked.

The victim, he added, sustained a nasal fracture and the court heard his sense of taste and smell were affected as a result of the assault.

Imposing sentence, the judge noted Mr O'Brien was remorseful and apologetic and had accepted full culpability for what happened.

He said his good work ethic and his previous good record were mitigating factors as was his

guilty plea.

Judge O'Donnell said assaults such as what happened are "all too prevalent" and that they are not acceptable in a modern society.

"It was a vicious unprovoked and gratuitous assault - he (the victim) didn't see it coming," he commented.

He imposed a two and-a-half year prison sentence which he suspended in its entirety.

Separate civil proceedings in relation to the assault are ongoing.



Limerick Courthouse, Mulgrave St



University Hospital Limerick is reportedly dealing with a number of suspected cases of the Wuhan coronavirus, with the Department of Health due to publish updated national figures soon

No confirmed case of 'Wuhan' coronavirus

Health: Individuals 'in isolation' as cases are tested

REBECCA LAFFAN

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THERE ARE no confirmed cases of the Wuhan coronavirus in Limerick, after UHL launched an investigation into three suspected cases at the weekend.

The individuals with the suspected cases are understood to have visited China in recent weeks or were in contact with another individual with the virus, and are presenting with flu-like symptoms.

When a facility comes into contact with a suspected case, an activation plan is implemented by staff under national guidelines.

Individuals are kept in isolation as part of activation plans in cases of suspected coronavirus.

Also as part of activation plans, a specimen sample is taken from the patient which is then sent to a lab for

examination. The results take approximately 24 hours.

The Limerick Leader has contacted UL Hospitals Group regarding the matter, and was told to re-direct the query to the HSE, who in turn informed the Limerick Leader that the Department of Health was dealing with the issue. A Department of Health spokesperson said: "There have been 15 suspected cases of Coronavirus tested in the National Virus Reference Laboratory (as of Monday 3 February. To date, there are no confirmed cases of Coronavirus in Ireland.

"No information will be provided about individual activations of these plans or about individual cases of novel Coronavirus other than confirmed cases.

"The Health Protection Surveillance Centre website is updated daily at 13.00 with the latest information about the novel Coronavirus. Visit HPSC.ie."

So far, deaths associated with the virus have surpassed 1,000, and there are currently over 40 confirmed cases in Europe - including eight in the UK.

The risk of infection for the European and UK population is currently low, according to the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control. So far, just one of the 260 cases identified outside China has resulted in death. If a case is confirmed, the Department of Health issue a public statement, confirming the location of the detection.

15
Number of suspected cases of coronavirus in Ireland

Corbett family did not expect retrial

RYAN O'ROURKE

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THE family of murdered Jason Corbett have said that they are confident that the North Carolina Supreme Court will uphold the convictions for second-degree murder for Molly Martens and Tom Martens.

"We all know what happened. Jason was beaten around his head with a brick and baseball bat. Molly, pictured, and Thomas Martens continued to beat Jason after he died. His two children were left orphaned as a result. Jason's children, Jack and Sarah, had to be sheltered by police from seeing what the Martens inflicted on their father," the family have claimed.

"The autopsy has not changed nor have the horrific details of Jason's death. The Martens total lack of injuries at the scene have not changed. The fact that Jason was drugged has not changed," they said.

The family say they had not expected the decision to order a retrial for the father and daughter who are accused of murdering the Limerick man in 2015.

"We had not expected this decision. We fully respect the Court of Appeals process and the law in North Carolina though we are obviously disappointed. We are now confident the North Carolina

Supreme Court will uphold the convictions for second-degree murder on appeal. We will continue to support the Davidson County and North Carolina prosecutors who helped us get justice for Jason in 2017."

Tom Martens, a retired FBI agent, claimed he acted in self-defence and alleged Mr Corbett had been attacking Molly. However, Jason's family claim that not once during the five-week trial did Tom or Molly Martens offer any evidence of abusive

behaviour by Jason prior to August 2, 2015.

"Tom Martens, who offered evidence in his own defence, is on record as saying he never witnessed

or heard any abusive behaviour by Jason towards Molly in the previous four years of their marriage. The children recanted their statements," the family said.

"Molly Martens did not offer evidence in her own defence at her trial - but was perfectly willing to use US television to cast malicious slurs which she did not relate or substantiate from the witness box. She refused to give evidence," the family claim. The actions of Tom and Molly Martens orphaned Jason's children by his beloved late first wife, Margaret 'Mags' Fitzpatrick. All of these facts remain the same. Jason is dead. We hope, trust and pray that the North Carolina Supreme Court will now see that justice is upheld," they added.



“

Thank you to everyone who voted for me.

This is just the beginning.

”

Strength in Community

Jenny Blake



Jenny **BLAKE**

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Marathon 30-hour count brings change and history in the city

Limerick City

ELECTED: Maurice Quinlivan SF (first count); Willie O'Dea FF (second count); Kieran O'Donnell FG (eighth count) and Brian Leddin Green Party (ninth and final count)

NICK RABBITS

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A NEW POLLTOPPER, an underdog Independent, a vanishing TD, a big beast losing her seat, and a bit of Green Party history.

All hallmarks of a marathon 30-hour count, which has seen four TDs returned to serve Limerick City.

It all kicked off bright and early at nine o'clock on Sunday morning, but it wasn't until after lunch on Monday when it wound up. Admittedly (and perhaps mercifully) the count staff did adjourn for the night at 1:30am, with a re-start at around 10am.

By mid-way through day one, we began to see the makings of an early political earthquake, with a dedicated cross-party team of tallymen and women reporting that Maurice Quinlivan was heading the poll in boxes where previously Fianna Fail's Willie O'Dea would have hoovered up the votes.

Areas like Our Lady of Lourdes, Presentation NS, and Our Lady Queen of Peace turned from one shade of green to another, as Sinn Fein's nationwide surge was reflected in Limerick.

Mr Quinlivan's team, while no doubt feeling satisfied, were



Best of friends: City poll toper Maurice Quinlivan, Sinn Féin with Niall Collins, Fianna Fáil, who was first elected in the county. The question now is will they both end up in government together

playing down the significance of the tallies, preferring to celebrate once the first count proper was announced. They'd have a long wait.

For although counting commenced at around 2pm, it was not until 6:45pm when the returning officer Sean Coughlan confirmed Mr Quinlivan's advance.

He'd smashed through the quota of 9,226 with 11,006 first preference

votes.

It was a chastening election for Willie O'Dea, who had initially hoped to be elected on the first count, becoming one of the few Fianna Fail TDs to achieve this feat.

In the end, he was just 28 off the quota with 9,198 first preference votes – and it was Sinn Feil poll toppers votes which saw him over the line.

For Kieran O'Donnell, Fine Gael,

it was a case of being in suspended animation. He was comfortably ahead of Cllr Brian Leddin in third position, but had to play a long waiting game until he was hoisted shoulder high by his supporters.

While Mr O'Dea secured his Dail return at 9.30pm on Sunday night, it was not until midday on Monday when the Fine Gael man was elected. Even if you're confident, that's still an agonising

wait – especially given the way he lost his seat in 2016.

Following the elimination of Labour's Jan O'Sullivan after 21 years in the Dail, it became a two-way battle for the final seat between Independent councillor Frankie Daly, who was thriving on his underdog status, and Green member Leddin. Cllr Leddin was eventually elected with a total vote of 5,856 at 1:30pm on Monday.

O'Donoghue makes history in big county upset

Limerick County

ELECTED: Niall Collins FF (fourth count); Patrick O'Donovan FG (fifth count) and Independent Richard O'Donoghue (final count)

NORMA PRENDIVILLE

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AS Storm Ciara battered and blustered its way across county Limerick at the weekend, the winds of change were also blowing hard across the political landscape of the county.

In an election which saw seismic changes right across the country, Limerick County had its own mini-quake. The anti-government mood saw outgoing TD Tom Neville's vote slump and lose the second Fine Gael seat opening the way for the big upset of the election: the battle for the third seat between Sinn Fein's Séighin O'Ceallaigh and Independent

Richard O'Donoghue.

The strength of the Sinn Fein surge in the constituency took many by surprise as Séighin O'Ceallaigh powered his way into contention with 6,916 first preference votes. He held strong right down to the last count where his bid for election was scuppered by the distribution of the Fine Gael surplus.

In the end, in what has proved to be a history-making election, Limerick County made its own bit of history, by electing an Independent to the Dáil for the first time ever.

It was a title that Richard O'Donoghue was more than happy to accept. Expected to poll well, his climb to victory began with 6,021 first preference votes, more than doubling his vote from 2016. But he had to endure a long count in which he and Seighin O'Ceallaigh were neck and neck, with just eight votes separating them at one one point.



Independent Richard O'Donoghue saw off the Sinn Féin surge to taste victory as the first Independent for the county to be elected to the Dáil

Sitting TD Patrick O'Donovan, whose party colleagues around the country were being trounced, clutched at a personal victory. He topped the poll, and against the odds increased his first preference vote to 9,228 votes, one of only two Fine Gael TDs in the country to do so. He was elected on the fifth count.

On the first count also, Fianna

Fail's Niall Collins, with 8,436 votes, was safely on track to retain his seat. Following the elimination of his running mate, Cllr Michael Collins, he was the first TD to be declared elected on the fourth count.

Fianna Fail, by running a second candidate, increased its vote share to 30%, quite a bit ahead of the party's national figure of 22%. Cllr Collins, who was a late addition to

the ticket, polled a very creditable 5,150 first preference votes, given his late start.

The slump of over 2,000 in Tom Neville's first preference vote left him vulnerable from the start and he was eliminated on the fourth count.

This brought to an abrupt end a family history stretching back to 1997 when his father Dan, broke the mould of 50 years of Fianna Fail dominance in the constituency, to take a second seat for Fine Gael.

The Green Party's Claire Keating polled a very respectable 2,503 votes on her first hustings but was not in contention for a breakthrough. Five other candidates were eliminated after the first count: Aontú's Conor O'Donoghue; Renua's John Dalton; Independents Con Cremin and Robert O'Donnell and Cristín Ní Mhaoldhomhnaigh, National Party. Conor O'Donoghue polled best with 712 votes.

LIMERICK GIVES ITS VERDICT AS VOTES ARE COUNTED FOR THE NEW DÁIL

Pictures: ADRIAN BUTLER & MICHAEL COWHEY



Scrum down: All eyes for spoiled votes



Cathy Halloran, RTE and Eric Clarke, Virgin Media, delivering on the spot news to television audiences across the country

KIERAN O'DONNELL T.D.



THANK YOU

Sincere thanks to those who voted for me, to my hard-working campaign team, Fine Gael organisation and to everybody that helped in any way in securing for me the privilege of election as a member of Dáil Éireann for the Limerick City Constituency. I look forward to representing you in the 33rd Dáil and you can be assured that I will continue to work on your behalf for a Better Limerick & North Tipperary.

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Cllr Frankie Daly with his wife Kate



Sorting the votes at the count in Patrickswell



Eileen O' Donovan, wife of Patrick O'Donovan with Mary Danagher, Fine Gael west Limerick



Kieran O' Donnell is congratulated by Tom Crosse



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LEADER BRIEFS

Deadline looms to remove posters

Now that the general election is done and dusted, Limerick City and County Council is reminding candidates and their supporters that posters and plastic cable ties must be removed by this Saturday, February 15.

On the spot fines of €150 can be imposed by the council in relation to any posters or cable ties which are not removed.

New Limerick brand tops poll

The communications and marketing department at Limerick City and County Council ensured the new Limerick Brand was to the fore during the election count at Limerick Racecourse.

New 'pop-up' banners emblazoned with the "Limerick Atlantic Edge European Embrace" logo were strategically placed behind the podiums ensuring maximum coverage on TV and online.

Willie thanks supporters

FIANNA Fail's Willie O'Dea has thanked his family, friends and election workers for helping secure his return to Dail Eireann.

In a statement, he also commiserated his running mate, Cllr James Collins, who missed out on a Dail berth, as well as outgoing Labour TD Jan O'Sullivan, whose elimination brings to an end 21 years in the Oireachtas.

He also congratulated Maurice Quinlivan, Kieran O'Donnell and Brian Leddin on their election.

Rose heading to Belarus

Rose of Tralee, Limerick's Sinead Flanagan will this weekend travel to Belarus to work as medical and teaching volunteer for children with special needs through Adi Roche's Chernobyl Children International charity. The junior doctor graduated in medicine in May of 2018.

It was Maurice's Day at the Racecourse

Politics: Role reversal from 2016 as Quinlivan's surplus helps Willie

NICK RABBITTS
nick@limerickleader.ie

AMID all the rebel songs and the flying of the tricolour flag, Sinn Fein TD Maurice Quinlivan was thinking of his late father as he topped the poll in the city.

"This is something that would have been a dream for me. I think of my father Paddy, who did hard work. He raised five of us in a council flat. He paved the way for this," Mr Quinlivan told The Leader ahead of his election.

The rise of Sinn Fein, and Mr Quinlivan in the city has been incredible.

It took him three elections to make his breakthrough into representational politics, securing a berth on the old City Council back in 2009.

He failed to secure election to Dail Eireann in 2011, but topped the poll in City North at the local election in 2014, as part of a Sinn Fein surge.

A former travel agent, Mr Quinlivan followed this up in 2016 with an historic first election to Dail Eireann, taking the second seat and outpolling Finance Minister Michael Noonan.

While there was never any major doubt that Mr Quinlivan would retain his seat, it was felt he would be in contention for the second or third place, following his party's disappointing local election result last summer.

Not so; the party's surge helped Mr Quinlivan into a polltopping performance, and he says it was the Mary Lou McDonald factor which played a key role.

"We had a fantastic leader in Mary Lou McDonald. She excelled herself in the debates and we felt that on the doors," Mr Quinlivan told



Maurice Quinlivan is held shoulder high by supporters after his election PICTURE: ADRIAN BUTLER

The Leader.

"The national media attack on our party was awful. It came up on the door but not in the way they expected. There are lessons there for them. I think the [Irish] Independent was an absolute disgrace. RTE need to look at themselves too, they are a publicly funded organisation and they need to realise they need to look after all the people. But the campaign was very good and very positive. People were talking to me about their stories we had to

deliver change to give workers and families a break. That resonated with people," he added.

Mr Quinlivan also thanked his party's supporters who braved Storm Ciara to come out and back him, a move which saw him win 11,006 votes.

With a quota of 9,226, it meant he had 1,780 votes left to share.

The chief beneficiaries were Frankie Daly (525 votes), Mary Cahillane (307) and Willie O'Dea (262).

Pints, interactive maps and history makers: Leader's golden digital day

THE THREE days of the dramatic election in Limerick, from polling to the final count, proved to be one of the biggest hits in the history of the Limerick Leader website since it was launched in the early 2000s.

The three days of intense digital coverage followed two weeks of pre-election reporting, through the newly-launched podcasts and the traditional On The Canvass feature with a modern online twist.

The presence of a 12-strong team throughout the first count day influenced the website's second best performing day in the history of the website, with 339,000 views.

This is a 636% increase on the outreach of the general election in 2016, and a 41% increase on the traffic during the local elections in 2019.

The extensive online coverage included a live blog, which ran from Sunday 9am until 1.30am, and Monday 10am to 3pm; a summary of all the action in the As It Stands feature; a plethora of breaking news stories as the drama unfolded; and an exclusive interactive map, which revealed which candidate topped each polling station in both Limerick



Willie O'Dea and his wife Geraldine at the count

constituencies. The latter revealed that Fianna Fail, Fine Gael, Sinn Fein and Independents were the only politicians to top polls in each station, according to the tallied votes.

In fact, history-maker Brian Leddin was the only successful candidate in all of Limerick to

not be any polling station favourite, according to the registered tallies.

The most popular breaking news story of the election was the sensational, historic victory of Richard O'Donoghue, who claimed to be Limerick's first Independent TD. However, it was in fact Gilbert Hewson who became Limerick's first Independent TD in the June 1927 elections. He subsequently lost this seat three months later.

One of the highlights of the election coverage was the strong rolling content on social media, predominantly through Facebook, Twitter and YouTube, which now contains an archive of video with the elected and eliminated candidates.

Between Facebook and Twitter, there were a total of 991,000 impressions over the three election days. The most popular social post, unsurprisingly, was Deputy Willie O'Dea's celebratory pint pic in South's Pub on Quinlan Street. Our social media scoop raised a few eyebrows as the Fianna Fail stalwart failed to hang around the count centre for his own election.

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Limerick city

NUMBER OF SEATS 4
TOTAL ELECTORATE: 77,643
TOTAL POLL: 46,484 (59.9% turnout)
SPOILED POLL: 355
VALID POLL: 46,129
QUOTA: 9,226

Maurice Quinlivan elected after first count

Maurice Quinlivan

SINN FEIN

11,006 VOTES (ELECTED)



Willie O'Dea

FIANNA FAIL

9,198 VOTES



Kieran O'Donnell

FINE GAEL

6,589 VOTES



Brian Leddin

FGREEN PARTY

3,252 VOTES



Frankie Daly

INDEPENDENT

3,200 VOTES



Maria Byrne

FINE GAEL

2,998 VOTES



James Collins

FIANNA FAIL

2,759 VOTES



Jan O'Sullivan

LABOUR

2,729 VOTES



Jenny Blake

SOCIAL DEMOCRATS

1,799 VOTES



Michael Ryan

AONTU

1,553 VOTES



Mary Cahillane

SOLIDARITY

701 VOTES



Rebecca Barrett

NATIONAL PARTY

345 VOTES



That's just one box! One of the boxes at the General Election Count for Limerick City is emptied before sort at the Limerick Racecourse

PICTURE: MICHAEL COWHEY

SECOND COUNT (Distribution of Maurice Quinlivan's surplus of 1,780 votes)

Willie O'Dea +262 9,460
Kieran O'Donnell +39 6,628
Frankie Daly +525 3,725
Brian Leddin +133 3,385
Maria Byrne +23 3,021
Jan O'Sullivan +109 2,838
James Collins +29 2,788
Jenny Blake +188 1,987
Michael Ryan +130 1,683
Mary Cahillane +307 1,008
Rebecca Barrett +35 380

Willie O'Dea elected; Mary Cahillane and Rebecca Barrett eliminated

THIRD COUNT (Distribution of Mary Cahillane and Rebecca Barrett's 1,388 votes)

Kieran O'Donnell +33 6,661
Frankie Daly +297 4,022
Brian Leddin +153 3,538

Maria Byrne +21 3,042
Jan O'Sullivan +78 2,916
James Collins +20 2,808
Jenny Blake +480 2,467
Michael Ryan +177 1,860

No candidate elected, Michael Ryan eliminated

FOURTH COUNT (Distribution of Michael Ryan's 1,860 votes)

Kieran O'Donnell +206 6,867
Frankie Daly +391 4,413
Brian Leddin +232 3,770
Maria Byrne +93 3,135
Jan O'Sullivan +160 3,076
James Collins +227 3,035
Jenny Blake +183 2,650

No candidate elected, Jenny Blake eliminated

FIFTH COUNT (Distribution of Jenny Blake's 2,650 votes)

Kieran O'Donnell +84 6,951

Frankie Daly +527 4,940
Brian Leddin +1,040 4,810
Jan O'Sullivan +525 3,601
Maria Byrne +118 3,253
James Collins +72 3,107

No candidate elected or eliminated

SIXTH COUNT (Distribution of Willie O'Dea's surplus of 234 votes)

Kieran O'Donnell +15 6,966
Frankie Daly +77 5,017
Brian Leddin +23 4,833
Jan O'Sullivan +25 3,626
Maria Byrne +13 3,266
James Collins +43 3,150

No candidate elected, James Collins eliminated

SEVENTH COUNT (Distribution of James Collins' 3,150 votes)

Kieran O'Donnell +683 7,649

Frankie Daly +387 5,404
Brian Leddin +567 5,400
Jan O'Sullivan +501 4,127
Maria Byrne +405 3,671

No candidate elected, Maria Byrne eliminated

EIGHTH COUNT (Distribution of James Byrne's 3,671 votes)

Kieran O'Donnell +2,105 9,754
Brian Leddin +456 5,856
Frankie Daly +281 5,685
Jan O'Sullivan +540 4,667
Kieran O'Donnell elected, Jan O'Sullivan eliminated

NINTH COUNT

(Distribution of Jan O'Sullivan's 4,667 votes)

Brian Leddin +2,351 8,207
Frankie Daly +1,035 6,720
Frankie Daly eliminated, Brian Leddin elected without reaching the quota

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Willie exits count centre to toast his election in South's Bar

Rueful: FF man says policies did not 'percolate' to electorate

NICK RABBITTS
nick@limerickleader.ie

ONE of the stories of the day from the Limerick Count Centre was the surrendering of the polltopper crown in the city from Willie O'Dea to Maurice Quinlivan.

Before the election, Willie was considered an unbackable favourite to secure election to Dail Eireann, most people not questioning whether he would top the poll, but by just how many votes.

There was a real confidence that he would come close to matching his record-breaking first preference of 2007, when he secured more than 19,000 votes.

It didn't quite work out like that, with Mr O'Dea's vote down almost 4,000 from the 12,999 first preferences he received in 2016, recording a first preference total of 9,198.

This meant he had to wait for the second count to secure his return to the Dail, and his old adversary Mr Quinlivan topping the poll would not have gone down

well at all.

It's 10 years since Mr O'Dea was forced to resign his job as Minister for Defence after false claims he made over Mr Quinlivan, and it will no doubt rankle with him and his supporters that the Sinn Fein man passed him out.

And in another role reversal from 2016, it was Mr Quinlivan's huge surplus of over 1,700 which put Mr O'Dea over the line.

Four years ago, it was Mr Quinlivan jokingly thanking his old rival for the transfer.

In the count centre, Mr O'Dea cut a frustrated looking figure, sitting behind a counter, away from his supporters. He'd normally be enjoying every minute of his re-election.

By the time the returning officer Sean Coughlan announced the Fianna Fail man's election, he was nowhere to be seen. He'd gone off to South's Pub to have a quiet pint with supporters.

It was a far cry from the celebrations Fianna Fail enjoyed in 2016 in Collins's Bar in Dooradoyle, when the questions



"We're going to be here all night, this is very inefficient. I don't care if I'm quoted on that," said Willie O'Dea as he left the count centre before being officially elected, to head to Souths Bar in Limerick city to celebrate

arose as to why Mr O'Dea did not have a running mate given his surplus.

He did this time, in the shape of the proprietor of that pub, James Collins.

This, and the loss of Bilboa, Westbury, and Shannon Banks from the constituency, will no doubt be cited as reasons that Mr O'Dea's vote was down.

Speaking to the Limerick

Leader, Mr O'Dea put a brave face on matters during the short time he spent at the count centre in Patrickswell.

He said: "We all live to fight another day. I will be a member of the next Dail and I will disperse my duties accordingly."

Asked why he felt Fianna Fail did not perform as many people had expected, the former frontbencher added: "We could have done better.

What basically happened is that people wanted change and we didn't persuade them sufficiently that we were the party to bring about the change they wanted, even though a lot of the changes, some of the good things done during confidence and supply were forced on the government by us."

"But it doesn't seem to have percolated through to the people," he sighed ruefully.

Disappointed Collins vows to continue in politics

RYAN O'ROURKE
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COUNCILLOR James Collins may have missed out on a seat in the 33rd Dail Eireann, but he says he will continue to promote the best interests of Limerick, a task he looks forward to with relish.

The former Mayor was eliminated on the sixth count with 3,150 votes. Fine Gael's Maria Byrne, Labour's Jan O'Sullivan, and Independent candidate Frankie Daly followed him, leaving the four successful candidates as Maurice Quinlivan Sinn Fein, Willie O'Dea Fianna Fail, Kieran O'Donnell Fine Gael, and Brian Leddin Green Party.

Rebecca Barrett National Party, Mary Cahillane Solidarity, Michael Ryan Aontu, and Jenny Blake Social



Former Mayor Cllr James Collins was eliminated on the sixth count with 3,150 votes

PICTURE: MICHAEL COWHEY

Democrats were also eliminated.

"I'd like to thank all those who voted for me and all those who

supported me on my campaign. I had a great mix of young and old, male and female, and people of

several different nationalities all working together on my campaign," said Cllr Collins, after the count on

Monday.

"Unfortunately we didn't get enough votes on this occasion. I'd like to congratulate all the candidates who put themselves forward, and wish my very best to the four TDs chosen to represent Limerick in the next Dail," he added.

The owner of Collins Bar, Dooradoyle, ran alongside fellow Fianna Fail candidate, Willie O'Dea. Cllr Collins ran with a number of key points in his campaign, including better housing and transport services and a Limerick-wide ban on incineration.

"Limerick needs a strong voice in the next Government. I look forward to continuing my work as a local representative promoting the best interests of Limerick."

Properties to go under the hammer

Munster Property Auction to offer largest selection of properties

THE Munster Property Auction are holding their first public auction of the year in just two weeks, on February 27th. After a very successful year in 2019 which saw over 90% of properties offered successfully sold, the auction team are happy to report significant levels of enquiries throughout January and into February.

Patrick Convey, director of The Munster Property Auction commented: "After a busy end to 2019 and an even busier start to 2020, we are expecting strong interest in the majority of the properties on offer. Our auctions will offer over 20 assets across Munster and we have some fantastic properties on offer. Furthermore, with clarity around Brexit now, buyers have been back in force in 2020 and we are expecting strong interest in the majority of the lots."

The company are the only auction provider in Ireland who do not charge admission or marketing fees to enter the auction, making it very appealing to property owners. Furthermore, the

auction team will agree a fair Reserve with each property owner, which is the minimum amount the property owner will receive for their property. In addition, the IAM Sold group which sells properties all over Ireland, Northern Ireland & UK was confirmed as the largest auction provider in Ireland & the UK with over 3000 sales last year.

1 Mount Park New Street, Limerick City

Offered at bids in excess of €205,000 in partnership with Rooney Auctioneers

This fine 3 bed, end of terrace house is in a superb residential area, conveniently located, with a host of amenities nearby. The property is well maintained and is within easy walking distance of Limerick City and the Crescent Shopping Centre.

Woodpark, Castleconnell, Limerick

Offered at bids in excess of €68,000 in partnership with Rooney Auctioneers

This 2 bed detached cottage in need of complete renovation and modernisation and sits on c. 3.5 acres. The property offers huge opportunity as a starter home or family home and is ideally located adjacent to Castleconnell village centre.

11 Sexton Street, Limerick City

Offered at bids in excess of €135,000 in partnership with Rowan Fitzgerald Auctioneers A spacious 6 bed, three story, mid terraced property, currently set out as a large house but could be



converted into 3 x 1 bedroom flats.

Contact The Munster Property Auction on 021 234 9696 to arrange for a free property valuation, viewing or for more information visit www.munsterpropertyauction.ie.

Next Public Auction: February 27, The Rochestown Park Hotel, in Cork at 7pm. Registration starts at 6.30pm

Next Online Auction: April 2nd, registration on www.munsterpropertyauction.ie

Up for auction:
Above is 1 Mount Park, New Street, Limerick City and right is 11 Sexton Street, Limerick City



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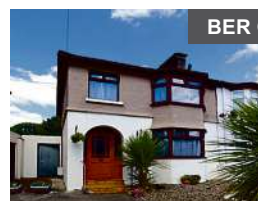
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BER G

Start Bid
€205,000

- 3 Bed End of Terrace
- Convenient Location

Call 061 41 3511

11 Sexton Street, Limerick City



BER E2

Start Bid
€135,000

- 6 Bed Three Story Terrace
- Excellent Potential

Call 071 964 5555

Woodpark, Castleconnell



BER G

Start Bid
€68,000

- 2 Bed Detached Cottage
- Needs Total Renovation

Call 061 41 3511

Development Sites, Foynes



BER n/a

Start Bid
€110,000

- FPP - 28 Bedroom Hotel
- FPP - 38 Dwellings

Call 069 77 055

Carrowmanagh South, Kilshanny



BER B3

Start Bid
€229,000

- 6 Bed Detached
- Exceptional Condition

Call 065 707 2687

2 x Hse in The Lane, Milltown



BER D2

Start Bid
€157,000

- 4 Bed End of Terrace
- 3 Bed Mid Terraced Mews

Call 061 36 4111

Carnanes, Kilrush



BER E1

Start Bid
€72,000

- 3 Bed Bungalow
- Excellent Potential

Call 065 905 1102

Kilshanny House, Kilshanny



BER C2

Start Bid
€255,000

- Public House / Restaurant
- Overhead Accommodation

Call 065 707 2687

O' Looneys Pub, John St. Kilrush



BER D2

Start Bid
€135,000

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- Over Two Stories

Call 065 905 1102

Kilmore, Ballyduff, Tralee



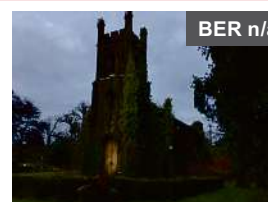
BER G

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- 3 Bed Coastal Cottage
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BER n/a

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€79,000

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37 Mitchell Street, Clonmel



BER G

Start Bid
€40,000

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- Great Trading Location

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Maria Byrne to 'reassess' situation after loss

'Proud': First-time runner misses out on Dáil seat

REBECCA LAFFAN

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FINE Gael Senator Maria Byrne has failed to secure a seat in the 33rd Dáil, bringing more than 50 years of her family's political representation to an end.

Maria, who polled 2,998 first-preference votes from the Limerick city constituency, was eliminated on the seventh count which took place on this Monday morning.

However, approximately 60 percent of her 3,671 votes by her final count were transferred to fellow Fine Gael candidate Kieran O'Donnell, who was elected on the eighth count with 9,754 votes.

Maria has said she is "proud" of her performance as a first-time candidate in a landmark general election which saw Sinn Féin support grow tenfold nationwide.

"Obviously there's been a swing to Sinn Féin all over the country, so it's not just here in Limerick. This was my first time running for the general election so I'm very proud. I've had great support from my team. There has been a national swing against not just Fine Gael but Fianna Fáil too for that matter," she stated. On Sunday night, Maria told the Limerick Leader that she thought she would be "in the shout" for the last city seat.

Maria received just 23 of Maurice Quinlivan's second preference votes during the second count, and her votes increased by just 21 on the third count.

During the fourth count,

Maria's votes increased by 93 with Aontú's Michael Ryan's transfers, while things began to look promising on the fifth with the supply of 118 extra votes.

Following the transfer of Willie O'Dea's surplus of 234 during the sixth count, Maria received the least amount of votes with just 13, while Kieran O'Donnell's figure increased by 15.

The elimination of James Collins during that count saw Maria's votes bump up by 405 thanks to his vote transfer in count seven.

However, 5,555 votes away from the quota - Maria was eliminated in the seventh count.

The majority of her votes transferred to Kieran

O'Donnell, securing his election while Jan O'Sullivan received 540 of her votes, with Frankie Daly and Brian Leddin receiving 540 and 456 respectively.

After having spent 21 years in politics, Maria said she would have to "reassess" her situation, but is hopeful and determined to continue on her political path.

"I just want to express my sincere thanks to everyone who voted for me and to my team for the help and support I have received over the past few weeks," she said.

Maria Byrne first entered politics as a Young Fine Gael member, age 14, and her father Bobby served as Mayor between 1978 and 1980.

Maria served a Councillor on Limerick City and County Council from 1999 up until her election to Seanad Éireann in 2016, and was also Mayor of Limerick from 2010 to 2011.



Kieran O'Donnell celebrates after his election to the Dáil taking the third seat in Limerick city

Kieran O'Donnell is 'thrilled and delighted' to be back in the Dáil

NICK RABBITTS

nick@limerickleader.ie

THERE was an outpouring of emotion as Fine Gael Senator Kieran O'Donnell claimed the third seat in Limerick City on Monday morning.

Back in 2016, Mr O'Donnell had looked nailed on for the last seat in the constituency, until a Lazarus-like comeback from Labour's Jan O'Sullivan denied him.

This time, it was something of a role reversal, as Mr O'Donnell secured election, at the same time as Ms O'Sullivan exited the race for the 33rd Dáil.

Following the 2016 election, Mr O'Donnell won a seat in the Upper House.

But his goal was always return to Dail Éireann.

"The party asked me to run for the Seanad, but with one express purpose - to get back into Dáil Éireann," he said, "I enjoy representing the people of Limerick and North Tipperary. To have an endorsement to do it in Dail Éireann at the highest possible representational



Kieran O'Donnell pictured with his number one fan, wife Philomena

level is what I'm really pleased about today."

He added: "We had a fantastic campaign. The public we met on our journey, it's a fitting tribute to them to get their endorsements to go back into Dail Éireann and represent them. We have a lot to do."

Mr O'Donnell pledged to push for the new 60-bed unit at University Hospital Limerick and the M20, as well as extra gardai in Limerick.

We need our fair share in Limerick and North Tipperary. I intend to

continue that work to ensure we get that Limerick and North Tipperary gets its fair share," he added.

Prior to his election, Mr O'Donnell also declined to speak to the media, one of his campaigners telling this reporter that "we've been here before" when their man looked on course for a Dáil berth.

Speaking to the media after being raised shoulder high by his supporters, he admitted it had been a tough election for Fine Gael, but declined to comment on calls for An Taoiseach Leo Varadkar's resignation.

"We as a party and as a group need to reflect collectively as to what message the public have given us as a party," was what he said.

Mr O'Donnell's election looked on the cards from early on, with his first preference tally 6,589 giving him a commanding lead of 3,337 over his nearest challenger.

But it was not until the penultimate count he reached the quota, with a massive transfer of 2,105 from his running mate Maria Byrne taking him across the line.

'There is life after politics', says eliminated Jan O'Sullivan

NICK RABBITS

nick@limerickleader.ie

"IT'S the reality of politics, we have to accept the decision of the electorate."

The words of former Education Minister Jan O'Sullivan who lost her seat in Limerick City after 21 years in the Dáil.

The long-serving Labour TD was eliminated on the eighth count in Limerick City, and she is now considering her future in politics.

She was first elected in a by-election in 1998 following the death of her political mentor Jim Kemmy.

Speaking to reporters at the Limerick Count Centre, Ms O'Sullivan did not rule out running again if there was an election in short order.

But, she added: "If we get a stable government that lasts, I think it's more likely I won't run again. We have three very good city councillors, all of whom are well



Jan O'Sullivan lost her seat at the weekend

capable of running for the Dáil."

And she insisted there is "life after politics".

"I spent today with my five grandchildren," Ms O'Sullivan said. She blamed her defeat - which

saw the Labour party sink to just six Dail seats - as the voters still associating the party with its last time in coalition.

"We are still being seen as part of the pain that people suffered and that's the reality of going into government, particularly when the country was on its knees. We have to accept that," she said, "People are angry and want change. I thought we were offering change. We have very good housing policies, very good

health policies, particularly in relation to Limerick where we launched our health campaign. But the reality is we were just not in the running this time around."

She says she is sad to be ending her two decades in the Dail, adding: "You have to be tough enough to accept that. And to accept also that we live in a democracy, and it's the people who decide who wins the seats and not the public representatives."



Left: Green Party Parliamentary members met in Dublin after they were elected including Limerick's Brian Leddin, back row second from right, and above with his delighted mother Kathleen, a former Mayor of Limerick, at the count

'I couldn't have seen this coming' says Brian Leddin

Historic: History is made as Leddin becomes Limerick's first-ever Green Party TD

RYAN O'ROURKE

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DECLINING the offer of being hoisted shoulder high by his colleagues, Brian Leddin rejoiced in a more humble manner despite making history by becoming Limerick's first-ever Green Party TD. He instead smiled, shared a kiss with his girlfriend Ester, and embraced his mother, the former Mayor of Limerick city, Kathleen.

Speaking after his victory, Brian told the Limerick Leader: "I am really really humbled to be elected. The first Green Party TD in Limerick.

"I was elected to the council last May. I couldn't have seen this coming. It is a fantastic achievement for me, but also the team behind me."

Leddin, who became Limerick's first elected Green Party Councillor in 2019, was in a head-to-head clash with fellow north sider Cllr Frankie Daly from the very beginning of the race.

"We would like to see a change in how the city is managed. We would like to see it become a city that is easy to get around, that has an excellent public service. A city that is easy to walk and cycle around. Limerick's best future is really a competitive, compact ambitious European city and I think we can get there," said Mr Leddin.

However, it was not a simple win for the Green candidate. With the race going on until the eighth count when Leddin overlapped Cllr Daly, thanks to transfers from the eliminated Senator Maria Byrne this Monday morning.

Before the official announcement, Cllr Frankie Daly approached Leddin with a handshake and a hug, as the day came to a close. Despite the close-fought nature of his success, Leddin reassured Limerick Leader reporters that he was unaffected by nerves.

"No, I haven't been nervous at all. I thought coming into this that we

were going to achieve something big even if we didn't get elected. We knew we were in the hunt, so I said there is no point being nervous because we have already achieved something fantastic and as it happens we crossed the line, so it is really fantastic."

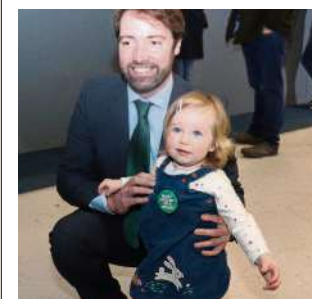
It was Labour's Jan O'Sullivan elimination from the race, and subsequent transfers, that gave Leddin an additional 2,351 votes to see him beat his rival with a total of 8,207.

The independent councillor finished the race, ending his campaign in a tight fifth place, with 6,720 votes.

"It's been a very strange year," said Leddin, noting his dramatic rise in politics.

"My career is an engineer, that is what I have been working at. But now I guess I am a full-time public representative. I would like to think that my background as an engineer will help my future job, the one that I

“We knew we were in the hunt, so I said there is no point being nervous”



have just stepped into."

Leddin said that he believes that it is important that the Greens aspire to be in government.

"I haven't seen the national figures. I don't know where we lie. We said at the outset we are a party that's serious about what we are about. In order to drive the change we think is important, then we should aspire to be in government."

One topic of contention for the Green Party in the election was the proposed Cork-Limerick motorway (M20).

"The M20, that came up during the election. Our position is on the M20 is that there is a process underway at the moment that is looking at a number of different routes. It is also looking at bypass options, dual carriageway options, enhancing the rail connectivity between the two cities and also it's looking, I believe, at connecting through to Waterford."



Independent northside councillor Frankie Daly had his wife Kate by his side at the count centre PICTURE: MICHAEL COWHEY

Frankie vows to keep trying for Dáil

Politics: Cllr Daly just loses out to Green candidate

NICK RABBITS
nick@limerickleader.ie

HAVING not spoken to the media all the way through the count, Cllr Frankie Daly broke his silence after conceding the last seat to Cllr Brian Leddin of the Green Party.

After nine counts in Limerick City, the Corbally man, a youth worker by profession, was the last man who failed to be elected.

As it became clear he would not bridge the gap to Cllr Leddin which had grown to over 800 by the end, Cllr Daly, accompanied by wife Kate, magnanimously approached Cllr Leddin to congratulate him.

"I'm just so proud and so thankful to all the people who supported me, the public who believed in me, to give

me this opportunity. I'm humbled, I'm really appreciative," he said.

He paid tribute to two people who have passed away - Paddy Quilligan, who recently died, as well as Marcus Costelloe.

"Marcus, this one's for you. We'll come again. I want to pay a huge homage to Eddie Wade, Brigid Teefy, John Gilligan, the public at large. My wife's parents, Eddie Wallace, Anne Wallace, Catherine Daly-Wade, my father Frankie. And on this occasion my director of elections, the great and humble Sean O'Donovan," he said.

Cllr Daly vowed: "I'm coming back. I'm ready. I'm here to stay."

A short time after that speech, he was joined by his son Josh, who was celebrating his tenth birthday.

At one stage in long long count, Cllr Daly had an advantage of 600 votes over Cllr Leddin, leading to many worried faces in the Green Party camp.

He made hay from the surplus afforded by both Maurice Quinlivan and Willie O'Dea, as well as the transfer of Aontu man Michael Ryan.

By the penultimate count, his lead over Cllr Leddin had shrunk to just four votes as the later vote transfers from Maria Byrne, James Collins and Jan O'Sullivan favoured Cllr Leddin.

And it was Jan O'Sullivan's vote transfer of 4,667 which saw Cllr Leddin over the line. Some 1,035 votes went to Cllr Daly, but 2,351 to the Green Party man. There were suggestions Ms O'Sullivan would transfer to Cllr Daly given their shared Labour heritage.

Those who didn't make the final cut

WHILE for some, there was plenty to celebrate as the results of the general election 2020 came to light, for others it was time to regroup, lick their wounds or simply be satisfied that they put up a good fight.

Social Democrats candidate Jenny Blake, was eliminated in the fourth count, with 2,650 votes.

"Thank you so much to everyone who voted for me yesterday and my incredible team. I am hugely proud and excited to build on what we've started," said Ms Blake after the results.

Rebecca Barrett of the National Party was eliminated following the second count, with only 380 votes. She was joined on the day by her husband, and National Party Leader, Justin Barrett. Speaking during the count, Mr Barrett admitted that he was disappointed that the National Party failed to secure the "protest vote."

Taking to Twitter after the result, Ms Barrett said: "Thank you so much to everyone who supported me over these last three weeks. Especially those who were out leafleting,

canvassing and postering. It has been beyond humbling to realise just how much people are willing to give their time and energy to the cause we all truly believe in."

Solidarity's Mary Cahillane was also eliminated after the second count. She received 1,008 votes. Taking to Facebook after, Ms Cahillane said: "Thanks to everyone for their support. We will be back. Change is clearly in the air."

Aontu's Michael Ryan was eliminated following the third count with 1,860 votes.

Comments from online readers

What you're saying about stories on limerickleader.ie and our social media platforms



MEET THE SEVEN TDs WHO WILL REPRESENT LIMERICK IN THE 33RD DAIL

Mary Ellen O'Keefe

It's a real pity that we don't have a single female representative between the city and the county now.



Vera Finn

I hope they will all make the Trolley Crisis in UHL a priority.

Frank O'Regan

It is a real shame no woman got elected in both limerick constituencies, it will be interesting to know the overall percentage of women elected throughout the country

WATCH: TRAFFIC DIVERTED AS STORM CIARA KNOCKS LARGE IN LIMERICK CITY CENTRE

Margaret Hallinan

A tree uprooted by the storm and only a status yellow warning for Limerick. I think Met Eireann should have given an orange warning at least by the sounds of it. I wasn't in Limerick during the storm but I heard it was bad



Ger Naughton

Tree fell same area last year

BREAKING: BRIAN LEDDIN MAKES HISTORY BECOMING LIMERICK'S FIRST EVER GREEN PARTY TD

Donal O'Byrne

Great news, great national and global outlook. Tackling climate change is critical for our children and grandchildren. Parish politics doesn't belong in Dail Eireann.



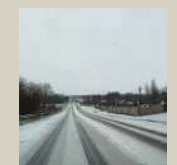
Andrew Keogh

Congratulations to the people who voted for greens ye must have a memory of a gold fish this is the party along with FF and banks that brought us taxes and bankruptcy to this country, carbon taxes, usc, etc

STATUS YELLOW SNOW AND ICE WARNING ISSUED FOR LIMERICK

Claire Fennessy

Great, storms, thunder and lightning, snow and ice, anything else?



Jean Webster

Who says Spring started on 1Feb?

Annette Colbert

Ah feck there be no bingo

Marian O'Rourke

Looks like The Heavens are displeased with The Guests of the Earth!

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LEADER CRIME BRIEFS

BY DAVID HURLEY



Warning for homeowners after spate of burglaries

GARDAI are urging homeowners to ensure they have proper security measures in place to deter potential burglars.

There have been a number of break-ins over the past week at homes in the city and in rural parts of the county.

"The advice is really the same no matter where you live - make sure that you have good quality windows and doors and that all of them are locked before you go to bed or leave the house," said crime prevention officer Sergeant Ber Leetch.

"Set your alarm and if you don't have one fitted



Security advice:
Sergeant Ber Leetch

seriously consider getting one. Be a good neighbour and look out for one another and if you see something say something by that I mean report any unusual activity to gardai," she added.

According to gardai, burglars gain entry to the majority of homes via a rear door or a side door. Once inside, they seek cash and jewellery.

Young man attacked by youths while cycling home

GARDAI attached to Mayorstone station are looking for witnesses after a young man was assaulted on Nicholas Street a week ago.

The 25-year-old was cycling home at around 10pm on February 5 when a group of youths started shouting at him.

As the man was being assaulted by one of the youths, another male approached him and took his bag before fleeing.

"Gardai are looking for any witnesses to this assault and theft to please contact them at Mayorstone on (061) 456980," said divisional crime prevention officer Sergeant Ber Leetch

Gardai seize €29,000 worth of fake notes in city search

INVESTIGATIONS are continuing following the seizure of €29,000 in suspected counterfeit currency at a house on the southside of the city.

According to gardai, 58 fake €500 notes were seized when gardai from Henry Street carried out a search of a residence in the Childers Road area at around 3pm on Monday.

"During the course of the search, gardai seized 58 suspected counterfeit €500 notes and a suspected imitation firearm. The firearm will now be sent for



A man was questioned at Henry Street garda station

analysis," said a garda spokesperson.

The notes will also be examined further and investigations are continuing.

A man in his 30s was arrested at the scene. He was taken to Henry Street gardai station where he was detained and questioned about the seizure.

Security key for gun owners

GARDAI are reminding the owners of licenced firearms that they are responsible for the safekeeping of their weapons.

"As well as taking ordinary security measures you must also have a proper firearms safe which is bolted to the floor or a solid wall. The firearm must be stored separate from the ammunition," said Sergeant Ber Leetch. Additional security measures are required when there are multiple firearms.

Rose Hanrahan accused remanded further

A ROMANIAN national who is accused of murdering pensioner Rose Hanrahan more than two years ago has been remanded in continuing custody until early next month, writes David Hurley.

Alexandru Lordache, 45, who has an address of Dreptatii Street,

Bucharest, Romania appeared before Limerick District Court for a procedural hearing having initially been charged, at a special court sitting, in January following his extradition from the UK.

The Director of Public Prosecutions has directed trial on

indictment before the Central Criminal Court and the case was adjourned to March 3, next to facilitate the preparation of a book of evidence.

The defendant appeared before the court via video link from Limerick Prison.



Ross Cantillon broke into the Red Hen at Patrick Street three times on the same night

City criminal jailed over pub burglaries

Addict: Judge describes accused man as a 'scourge'

DAVID HURLEY

david.hurley@limerickleader.ie

A CRIMINAL figure who broke into a pub in the city centre on three separate occasions on the same night has been sentenced to five years' imprisonment.

Ross Cantillon, 38, who has an address at Denmark Street had pleaded guilty to burglary charges relating to a number of incidents on July 29, 2017.

During a sentencing hearing late last year, Detective Garda Dermot Cummins told Limerick Circuit Court gardai responded to a number of alarm activations at the Red Hen, Patrick Street in the early hours of the morning.

He said a window was smashed

with a rock at around 3.30am and that Mr Cantillon can be identified in the area on CCTV.

He said he returned to the premises at 4.12am and can be seen helping a woman to gain access to the pub. At 5.20am he was captured on CCTV "crawling around behind the bar using a mobile phone for light".

A garda investigation was launched and it was subsequently established that nothing had been stolen from the pub. However, considerable damage was caused at the premises.

Detective Garda Cummins said when gardai called to Mr Cantillon's home sometime later, he refused to allow them in and that members of the armed regional support unit were deployed to assist in his arrest.

Mr Cantillon, who has a large number of previous convictions, also admitted a number of shoplifting offences leading Judge Tom O'Donnell to describe him as a "scourge" to retailers. "He is well known to security personnel at businesses in the city centre," he commented.

The judge noted that Mr Cantillon has chronic addiction problems and has been assessed as being at high risk of reoffending.

"He has an appalling record," he said noting he is making efforts to rehabilitate himself in prison.

He imposed prison sentences totalling five years.

The sentences were back-dated to reflect the time he has spent in custody.

Man charged over seizure of €196k in cash

A MAN has been charged with money laundering offences following the seizure of almost €200,000 in cash at a house in Limerick city, writes David Hurley.

Alan Murphy, 40, of Windsor Court, Castletroy View who appeared before Limerick District

court is facing trial on indictment before Limerick Circuit Court.

He is charged under Section 7 of Criminal Justice (Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing) Act 2010 in relation to the seizure of €198,870 in cash at a house at Reidy Court, Garryowen on March 15, 2019.

It is the State case that the money which was seized was the proceeds of criminal activity.

Following a brief procedural hearing, Mr Murphy was remanded on bail until April 8, next to facilitate the preparation of a book of evidence.

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



Mr Biscuits is looking for a loving place to call home. He is almost two years old. Mr Biscuits is very friendly and loves having people around him to cuddle up to. He is the perfect pet. For more information on Mr Biscuits, please visit our cattery any day from 12 noon until 3pm. Adoption fee is €100 as each cat is neutered, wormed and vaccinated.

Maxine is a very sweet and affectionate girl. She is about a year and a half old. She loves her comforts and attention. She will be a fantastic addition any home. Adoption fee is €100 as each cat is neutered, wormed and vaccinated.



Ryan is looking for a secure and loving place to call home. Ryan is 7 months old. He takes time to get to know new people and would need someone patient to give him the time he needs to adjust and trust you. He is a very loving and calm boy who would be happy to sit with you after a nice walk. Our adoption fee is €150 as each dog is neutered wormed vaccinated and microchipped.

Missy need a special home

Missy is a 4 year old terrier who is deaf. She came from a home so is house trained and lead trained. She is very good with other dogs and people and will fit no problem into a new home. For more information on Missy please phone us on 0876371044 or visit the sanctuary between 12 noon and 3pm.



WEATHER WARNING IS 'SNOW JOKE'

This Monday morning Limerick was blanketed in an unexpected snowfall. This photo sent in by reader Lorraine O'Connor shows the city looking like a winter wonderland - just before the rain washed it all away. The rest of the week will continue to be showery but a significant snowfall is unlikely with the daytime temperatures reaching up to 10°C by Friday

Limerick hockey star passes away

Tributes: Mother of three, 43, passes away after illness

REBECCA LAFFAN
rebecca.laffan@limerickleader.ie

OUSTANDING Limerick sportswoman Nicola (Nikki) Dignam, 43, passed away over the weekend after bravely fighting a long illness.

The mother-of-three, who played hockey for Ireland in the past, was originally from Castletroy and is the daughter of Ken Lyons who owns the well-known Lyons of Limerick car dealership on the Ballysimon Road.

The sportswoman, who was set to celebrate her 44th birthday next weekend, captained Dublin hockey side, Loreto, for two seasons in Europe and also represented Munster in the sport.

Ireland Masters Hockey paid tribute to the former player saying: "There are friends, there is family and then there are friends that become family.

"With heavy hearts we say goodbye to our



With heavy hearts we say goodbye to our good friend

IRELAND MASTERS HOCKEY

good friend and one of the great women of our Masters family. RIP Nikki. Deepest condolences to all her family."

Nikki also served as a PE teacher in the Teresian School in Donnybrook, and ran the popular Woodpecker Bar and Restaurant in her home of Ashford in Wicklow with husband Alan in recent years.

Nikki attended Crescent Comprehensive College in her youth, while her father Ken played for Munster between 1978 and 1984 before becoming president of the Munster Branch in 2005.

Nikki peacefully passed away on Sunday surrounded by her family.

She will be buried this Wednesday in her home of Ashford.

Nikki's funeral notice read: "Sadly missed by her loving husband Alan, children Anna, Kian and Nial, mother Renza, father Ken, sisters Jennifer and Karen, brother Keith, mother-in-law Tussie, father-in-law Bobby, brothers-in-law Tom, Owen, Robert, Richard, Peter and Charles, sisters-in-law Alex, Jane, Joanne, Amanda and Emma, nieces, nephews, extended family, relatives and friends."



Making Cents

LIAM CROKE

The Must-Read Guide To Saving Money

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It's not the default, it's your fault

I met with a gentleman recently who was coming close to retirement (58) and had accumulated a significant amount of money in his pension fund.

Someone was now going to have to manage it for him, and not wanting to do it himself, or knowing who else to ask, he was thinking of just using the company who had previously administered his companies fund.

The pension administrators were offering him a choice of default funds to choose from. That was the extent of their help. They had created three of four funds and he was to pick one of them himself. And their advice to him was, pick a fund based on his age. The older he was, the lower risk fund he should choose.

I thought, if that was their approach, God he has a lot to worry about. It was pretty shocking that they didn't ask what his income requirements in retirement were. They didn't even try to find out what additional non-pension funds he had access to which would supplement his income, and nothing about his partner, and her pension.

He was trusting them with his money, for the rest of his life, but they were very light on what he should do. Their advice was, to invest into a default fund they had created, and he'd be fine. Their sales pitch was that he would have nothing to do, the fund managers would do everything, and his portfolio would automatically be re-balanced every year, and he had nothing to worry about.

Make no mistake and be in no doubt, he wasn't outsourcing the management of his fund, to investment managers, he was outsourcing the management of the fund to himself.

The biggest problems with default funds in my opinion, is their one size fits all approach, and their inflexibility.

They don't take into account each investors unique situation. He was being lumped into a fund with other 50 something year olds. Which means you would have people invested in the same fund where they only have one thing in common i.e. their age.

But, they could, and they will have completely different income needs at retirement, different sources of other income or debt, different health and life expectancies, and different risk tolerances.

One 58-year-old of them might still have a mortgage and need to put



The biggest problems with default funds is their one size fits all approach and their inflexibility

kids through college and can only afford to retire at 64 and need an income of €3,500 and the other might have no mortgage, no kids, and might want to never work again, retire at 59 and only needs €1,500 to live off.

Two completely different people, with different circumstances, but both are in the same fund just because they were born in the same year.

They are also fixed and rigid and don't respond to external conditions. And they don't know what age you want to retire at. They assume you're going to work until you're 65 but very few people can predict their retirement date with certainty. It could be forced on them unexpectedly because of ill health, it could be delayed because of income expectations.

There is also a common mis-understanding that default schemes de-risk your portfolio when you're coming close to retirement, but that's simply not true either. Whether you know it or not, and most people don't, their default fund can still have a high % of equity holdings which are high risk, close to or even when they hit retirement age.

And, if you want to retire at 58 for example, default schemes won't recognise this and if there's a crash, the equity content in your fund could still be high, higher than it needs to be, and as a result your fund size could be significantly impacted. Let what happen in 2008 and 2009 be your constant reminder of this, when people retiring discovered to their horror that they lost 30% of the value of their fund, when they thought their fund was low risk, and safe from large market moves, but it turned out they weren't.

If you're being advised to pick a

fund based on your age, and what your basing your income in retirement on, then the very best of luck to you. My advice would be, to start dousing your policy documents and annual benefit statements with holy water and keep a candle lit over them.

A better alternative, to default funds, in my opinion is to, have your

fund actively managed by firms other than your previous pension administrator. Firms who don't take the lazy approach, offering only a limited number of off the shelf type funds.

You need a firm who can choose from 300 different funds, not just three or four, and who take a holistic approach to financial planning, where they'll pay the greatest attention to detail in the specific areas that concern you most.

The firm you need, are those who will create what's called an investment policy statement (IPS) and for people who don't know what this is (that probably includes 99% of financial advisers as well by the way) is an investment plan for your pension and is devised in conjunction with you.

It provides clear guidance which help to make informed decisions. It serves as a roadmap to make sure an individuals' targets are met, and ensures mistakes are avoided along the way.

The IPS sets out how often their fund is reviewed, how much is invested, what other sources of income are available at retirement,

how much is invested in different asset classes, what their risk profile is, at what age the person continuing to work becomes optional, what are the minimum and maximum returns acceptable each year which would trigger a rebalancing of the portfolio, it specifies the benchmarks other funds are compared against, what changes are required if lifestyle, financial or health changes occur etc.

A well, constructed IPS keeps the individual focused on their long term objectives when markets gyrate wildly in the short term, but most importantly in my view, it gives them peace of mind, that there is logic behind their plan.

An IPS does not exist with default funds.

The stakes are high, and you don't want to get this wrong. Not knowing what your future cash flow requirements are, and choosing a default fund, or only what a tied agent can offer is ignoring critical differences in every client's individual needs and is putting their funds and their income in retirement in jeopardy.

Don't let this happen to you.

ASK LIAM

Our personal finance expert answers your questions ...

Q. Liam, I'm wondering if in the future, I ever have to go into a nursing home, how will I be able to finance the cost? I have pension income of c. €24,000 per year, my house is worth c. €250,000 and I have €65,000 in savings. If I applied to use the fair deal scheme, what impact would it have on my savings, income and house?

A. Under the scheme, you have to make a contribution towards the cost of your care, with the HSE paying the balance. Your care needs are first assessed and then your finances are reviewed to see how much you can pay. And if you are deemed to have enough resources to pay the cost yourself, you'll receive no support, but if your ability to repay are less than the cost of the nursing home, the HSE will pay the rest.

You will always have to pay 80% of your assessable income, less some allowable deductions, along with 7.5% (3.75% if you are part of a couple) of the value of your assets i.e. home, farm, investment or rental income and cash.

If you had a partner and they continued to live in the family home, they will be left with 50% of your income, or the maximum rate of state contributory pension, whichever is the greater.

In relation to savings, the first €36,000 of them are discounted for a single person or €72,000 for a married couple.

The 7.5% taken from the value of your property is only used for the first 3 years', of your time in care, which means the maximum amount used against your home is 22.5% regardless of how long you spend in a nursing home, and this amount reduces to 11.25% if a spouse or partner remains in the family home while you're in care.

So, after 3 years, if you're still in long-term nursing care, you will not pay any further contribution based on the value of your primary residence.

If the cost of nursing home care was for example €1,200 per week, the amount you'd contribute is €771.63 with the HSE paying the balance.

How I arrive at your contribution is as follows:

80% of your pension is taken which amounts to €369.23

(€24,000 x 80% / 52 = €369.23)

7.5% of your house is taken which amounts to €360.58 per week (€250,000 x 7.5% / 52)

And 7.5% of your savings is taken which amounts to €41.82 (€65,000 - €36,000 x 7.5% / 52)

You could defer payment of the amount associated with your home i.e. €360.58 per week if you apply for what's called ancillary state support (Fair Deal Loan Scheme). And this means the state will pay their portion and the amount linked to your property. They are effectively giving you a loan which must be repaid to them within a year of the person dying. However, it doesn't have to be paid if a partner or adult dependent or child continue to live in the property.

If you're looking at reducing your assessable assets, your timing needs to be right, because when your financial means are being reviewed, any gifts or transfers made in the 5 years before you make an application will still be factored in.

LEADER BUSINESS

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Over 2,000 jobs created in Limerick, says report

Economy: Major new report claims city is set on an upward trajectory

NICK RABBITTS
 nick@limerickleader.ie

A MAJOR new survey has revealed that 2,450 jobs were created in Limerick in 2019, with the live register down by 18%.

The Limerick Economic Monitor, being published for the second year in a row, has seen the EY-DKM consultancy analyse Limerick's economic status across a number of indicators, including employment, enterprise, investment, customer sentiment and commercial property.

The monitor suggests that there has been a 68% drop in the numbers of people out of work from a low recorded in January 2010.

And data for 2019 indicated that foreign direct investment had already matched the level for the whole of 2018 in the first nine months of the year.

Investment announcements came from a number of companies including Johnson and Johnson, Regeneron, Edwards Life Sciences, Cook Medical,

Northern Trust and Nautilus.

The indigenous labour market also thrived in 2019, according to the report, with 561 new start-ups.

In all, there were approximately 4,500 new company registrations between 2013 and Q3 2019, the LEM finds.

Other key figures validating Limerick's status as one of Ireland's leading locations to live and work in was that disposable income was €21,979 – the highest outside the capital. Some other notable milestones achieved in 2019 included securing the Ryder Cup for Adare Manor, the LEM states.

Speaking about the monitor, Mayor Michael Sheahan said the report is both positive and timely.

"We had a fantastic launch of our new brand position, a brand that will promote Limerick both domestically and internationally for inward investment across tourism, business and education. To have the economic monitor come out with such positive findings a week or so later reaffirms why



A new international brand was introduced in Limerick last week PICTURE: ALAN PLACE

Limerick has such reason for confidence," he said.

The report suggests affordability remains a major competitive advantage for Limerick when it comes to attracting and retaining talent and investment. In addition to high disposable income, another key aspect is the relatively lower housing costs in Limerick, with median growing by almost 18% in the year to September 2019 yet they remain 18% lower than the national median. Likewise, rent levels were up 6% but remain 15% below the national average. Rents in Limerick county, while also rising, are almost 35% below the national average.

Vincent Murray, the council's director of economic development added: "This latest report reflects the continued progress of our city and county. 2019 has seen many significant milestones occur for Limerick as we continue our ambitious plans to develop into the future. The statistics speak for themselves. Limerick is very much on an upward curve."

Law firm secures accolade

A LIMERICK city law firm has become the first in the city to secure a prestigious authorisation, writes Nick Rabbitts.

Clohesy Minihane Solicitors in Shannon Street have become the first law firm in the city to operate as a limited liability partnership.

The Legal Services Regulatory Authority granted the firm authorisation from earlier this year.

It means that the firm can operate with the benefits of



Cathal Minihane and Hugh Clohesy

limited liability similar to that of a limited liability company.

The partners, Cathal Minihane and Hugh Clohesy say they feel many more law firms will follow them and convert to LLP status over the coming years but nonetheless they are delighted to be the first LLP law firm in the city.

Social Enterprise workshop

A MAJOR workshop on social enterprises is taking place at the Nexus Innovation Centre starting this Wednesday. The Irish Social Business Campus (ISBC) is taking place in the University of Limerick facility.

The month-long workshop is designed to create an environment providing the tools to build a business which will bring meaningful success. Eamon Ryan, the chief executive of ISBC said: "Our aim for these workshops is to help foster a growing community of viable, robust and socially impactful businesses and individuals. These workshops are the first steps and building blocks to great success stories."

Its aim is to deliver a step-by-step approach that provides a deeper understanding of your business and you as a person.

Prestigious award for technical firm

A HIGH-TECH software company has won a prestigious technology award.

Trackplan Software, based in the Hartnett Enterprise Acceleration Centre, won the category of Innovation in Technology and Systems – Providers at the annual facilities management awards.

Headed by Mark Cochrane, Trackplan provides facilities management software and has contracts with companies across the world.

His entry impressed a judging panel made of of eight experienced professionals from organisations like Arup, Dalata, JLL and LinkedIn.

Mr Corhrane said: "We are very proud to receive this award and the recognition from our peers for our innovative and hard work over the last number of years as we grow our company. Combining our strengths in facilities management and leading



Les Sheridan, Mitie Facilities Management with Mark Cochrane, Trackplan PICTURE: JOSEPH CARR PHOTOGRAPHY

cutting edge technology with a very clear customer centric focus enables us to add significant value to growing customers' businesses. We are grateful for all the support over the years and thank our

customers for their engagement and trust as we grow an exciting global company"

The panel of judges commended Trackplan for its progress to date.

The company has already won a number of awards previously, including the Start-up of the Year in 2017 and 2018.

Among Trackplan's clients are the Australian Open, Talleys, the largest food producer in New Zealand, Cumberland Farms in the USA with over 500 food retail store, and around 50 restaurants in Britain.

Trackplan's software helps organisations manage reactive and planned maintenances, their engineers, contractors, buildings and assets.

Differentiating features include their range of mobile apps for managers, contractors and clients and electronic forms enabling users to design their own forms for inspections, meter readings, surveys and more.

Recruitment

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- Registration with Nursing & Midwifery Board of Ireland
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- Ability to work on own initiative
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The ideal candidate will meet the following requirements:

- FETAC Level 5 - Care of the Older Person
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- Previous experience in care of the elderly would be an advantage but not essential
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- Have good communication and interpersonal skills

Apply to Director of Care, St. Catherine's Nursing Home, Bothar Bui, Newcastle West, Co. Limerick

Tel: **069 61411**

Email: annmcmahon@scncw.com

Closing date for applications:
Friday 14th February 2020 at 5pm

LIMERICK LEADER

**The
Leader**

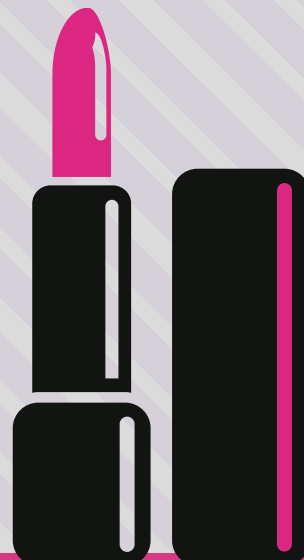
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Location: Co. Clare based from Ennis.

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Banner Housing Association is a not-for-profit organisation with a vision of an Ireland where people with an Intellectual Disability have a right to choose the type of home they wish to live in. Banner Housing Association achieves this through its mission of providing quality housing and services which enable its tenants to create homes living independently or with support in their communities.

We are currently recruiting a Housing Officer on a permanent full-time basis.

Applicants must have:

- A relevant third level qualification in housing or related area.
- Experience in housing management and development.
- Effective organisational and communication skills including decision making.
- Full clean driving licence.

Closing Date: 5.00p.m. 13th February 2020

Interview Dates: 26th and 27th of February 2020

Shortlisting may apply

* Panels may be formed from this recruitment drive
* Canvassing will disqualify * Equal opportunities employer.



KEEP IT LOCAL!

Limerick businesses in the spotlight



Card Factory opens second shop in Limerick, creating new jobs!

CARD Factory, one of the leading specialist retailers of cards, gifts and party products, has opened its second shop in Limerick, in the Parkway Shopping Centre. This follows soon after their first shop opened in Cruises Street just before Christmas.

The two shops have created 16 jobs for the local community.

Liz Wynn, area manager of the new store, commented: "We are thrilled to have opened a Card Factory shop in the Parkway Shopping Centre! We've got something for everyone and we're really looking forward to sharing our fantastic range of cards, gifts, balloons, gift bags and wrap with the shoppers of Limerick."

Card Factory is a one-stop shop for all occasions helping customers celebrate all life's moments."

Roger Beck, centre manager of Parkway, commented: "I'm sure Card



The newly opened Card Factory at the Parkway Shopping Centre

Factory will be popular with shoppers and a great addition to the centre".

About Card Factory

From opening its first

shop in 1997, Card Factory now trades over 1,000 shops, including 41 in Northern Ireland and 14 in the Republic of Ireland.

Card Factory also proudly supports the charity, Make A Wish Ireland and in 2019 raised €6720 for the charity.



Concentrating on fresh: BIA at the Milk Market

Milk Market's little gem is worth a visit

After 10 years running the successful French Table restaurant on Steamboat Quay as well as the busy La Patisserie pastry kiosk in Castletroy Town Centre, proprietors Thomas and Deirdre Fialon were ready for a new challenge. And so BIA at the Milk Market was born in August 2018.

Set in the heart of the beautiful Milk Market, they continue their dedication to sourcing high quality local produce from Ireland's finest fishermen and farmers.

Concentrating on fresh, tasty Irish food, BIA offers a variety of breakfast and lunch options catering for all

tastes. After hosting some very successful evenings throughout the year, BIA is now open every Friday and Saturday evening where they serve delicious small plates and sharing plates to enjoy with a glass of wine or beer in a warm and cozy environment: the perfect way to relax after a busy week.

This little gem is definitely worth a visit.

All menus are available to view on the website.

Open from Wednesday to Sunday: www.bialimerick.ie

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LIMERICK LEADER

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2020

YOUR COMPLETE GUIDE TO WEDDING PLANNING IN 2020!

WIN A €30,000 WEDDING



Castle Oaks House Hotel now part of the Só Hotel Group is giving away a wedding worth €30,000 at the Munster Wedding Extravaganza on March 1. See page 6 for more details on this prize. Pictured is model Aishling wearing a dress from The Bridal Emporium, Milltown Malbay

PICTURE: ADRIAN BUTLER

YOUR PERFECT WEDDING



Our guide to help you make that special day memorable

Hello and welcome to the Limerick Leader spring 2020 guide to your perfect wedding. This one is especially well timed with Valentine's Day falling on Friday and of course this being a leap year (see below). Whether it was he or she

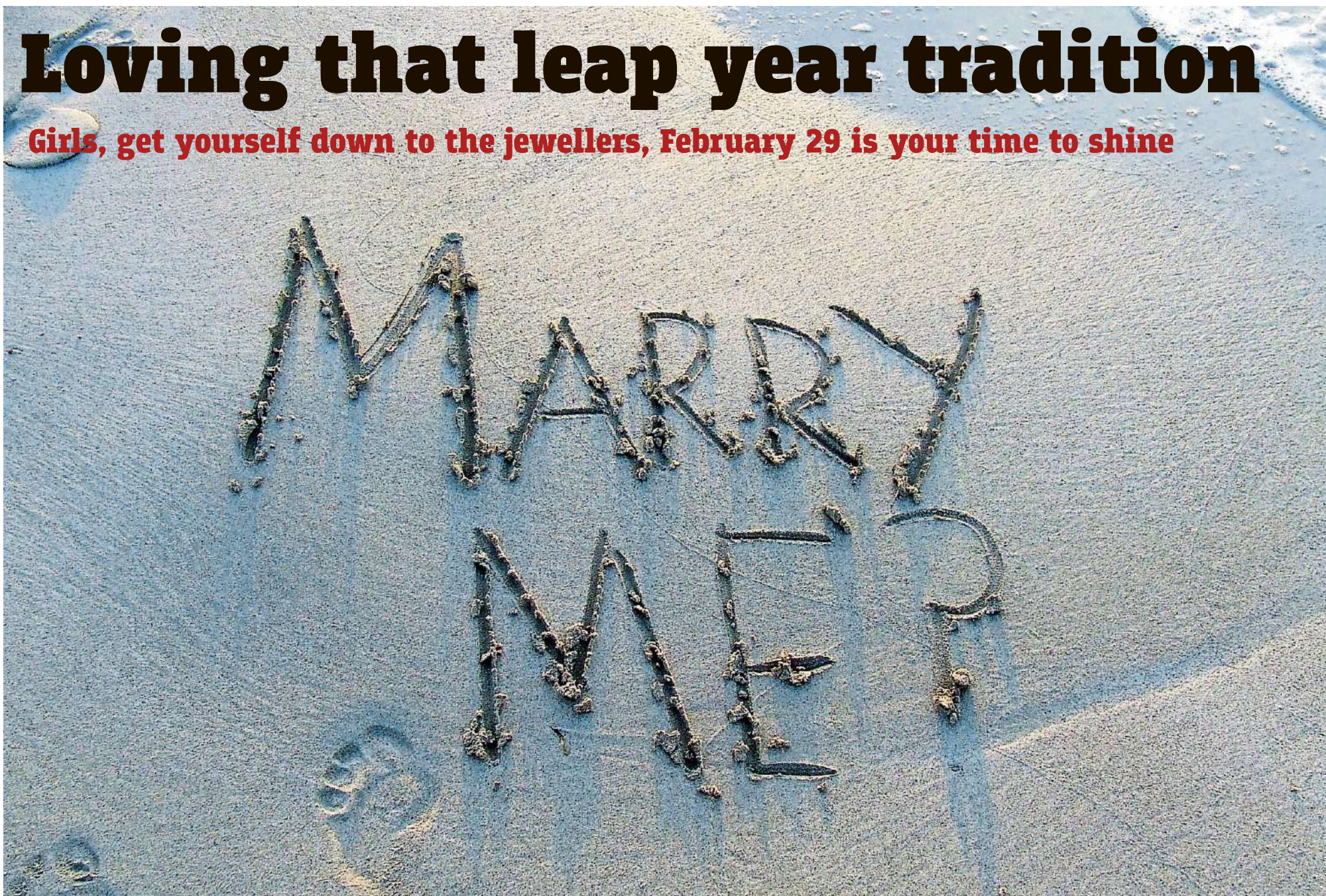
that did the proposing, you've landed in the right place to discover the best that Limerick and our neighbouring counties have to offer for wedding venues, bridal shops and service providers. There are some fantastic

venues in the region with some of the best and most dedicated specialist staff to help make your big day extra special. So have a read through what our guide had to offer, hopefully it will help make your day memorable.



Loving that leap year tradition

Girls, get yourself down to the jewellers, February 29 is your time to shine



Boysfriends, partners, long-term relationship loungers, hear me now! The year is 2020, and it's a big one. No, I'm not talking about the European Championships, or the Olympics. I'm talking about the fact that it is a leap year...and you know what that means?

Don't pretend you are unaware that on leap years, it is traditional for women to propose marriage to men. Now you may say, this is the 21st century and there is nothing holding a woman back at any given moment from proposing marriage to her beau, whensoever she chooses. And yet...

The knees on the ground gazing up in hope, if not expectation of the affirmative, still belong almost totally to men.

We may be all woke and enlightened in our equality, but somehow, when it comes to

popping the question, we revert to traditional type and let the man do the talking, or asking.

The leap year proposal is actually something Ireland has given to the world.

According to folklore the tradition began in 5th century Ireland when St Brigid of Kildare complained to St Patrick that women had to wait far too long for men to propose.

Plus ca change, Brigid baby, plus ca change.

Legend has it that St Patrick decreed the women could propose on one day in February during the leap year, the 29th.

Listening to a woman's complaint and taking it seriously makes St Patrick almost unique in the world of Irish Catholicism. So ahead of his time, no wonder he is our national patron saint.

Anyway, he didn't want to give them too

much encouragement, so he said they could only make proposals on February 29, which occurs every four years.

A sigh of relief was breathed by all the commitment-phobe men in the dark ages. What's changed, says you.

Anyway, the tradition supposedly filtered through to Scotland who took it a step further by actually passing a law.

So in 1288, Scots law (not Sod's) deemed a woman could propose marriage to a man in a leap year, with the law also stating that any man who declined the proposal on this day would have to pay a fine.

The Scotch take it up a notch

The law was allegedly passed by an unmarried Queen Margaret. Records show she may only have been five years old at the time, but then 'rulers' often inherited the

throne early.

Apparently she also put in place a rule that all those women proposing must wear a red petticoat while doing so.

This was handy so any unwilling men, not yet done playing the field, could spot their suitors skipping o'er the heather with a glint in their eye.

The fine to be paid if a man declined could range from a kiss to payment for a silk dress or a pair of gloves.

Nowadays, the only price to be paid from refusal is the end of your relationship presumably and a bad name around town.

So, lads, if the love of your life should come a calling in a red petticoat this February 29, and she has a ring for you just say yes and try not to feel too ashamed that you didn't get it together to propose to her first.

BUY ONE WEDDING RING

GET THE SECOND HALF PRICE



MATTHEW STEPHENS
The Diamond Specialists

8 O'Connell Street, Limerick. T: 061 415583

Buy one Wedding Ring, get the second Half Price

Matthew Stephens, one of Ireland's largest Diamond and Wedding Ring Destination stores have just received their beautiful new 2020 Wedding Band Range to make it the most extensive it has ever been.

"To celebrate the launch of the new range Matthew Stephens have gotten together with their top Wedding Band suppliers to bring you our customers an incredible offer not to be missed for all couples getting married in 2020 and 2021!"
"Buy One Wedding Ring - Get the other Half Price" for a limited time only! This amazing offer is available on all orders, deposits and sales of Ladies and Gents Wedding Bands. A small deposit on orders will secure this offer and gradual deposits can be paid off throughout the length of the engagement", mentions Mary Frost, a senior Diamond and Wedding Band Specialist with Matthew Stephens.

"When buying your Wedding Bands, you are buying your future Heirlooms to pass on to your next generation"

"This offer is an initiative of one of our biggest wedding band suppliers in order to avoid a major bottle neck of orders coming to them over the summer when the factory will already be at maximum capacity. Last year there was huge pressure on production with last minute orders in June, July and August which led to a lot of stress with some last minute deliveries. This year, we want to reward those couples who are organised and place their orders early & in advance, so that we can spread out production to include Feb- May. We are planning ahead as we foresee record Wedding Band sales again in 2020 and into 2021."

"The offer will end as soon as the factory notify us that they have reached their order quota for February, March & April production. Going by the orders seen already this week the offer wont last very long. It could end within a week or so."

"As part of our Best Price Guarantee, Matthew



Mary Frost offers expert advice to couples choosing their wedding bands.

Stephens Diamond Specialists can guarantee to beat any price that you may be quoted in any country, city or local seller for Comparable Quality Diamonds, Setting or Band! Sound too good to be true? Just visit their luxury 3 level Limerick store for a quote. You won't be disappointed!"

"At Matthew Stephens, we only want to sell the best and we see the selling of a wedding band as a lifelong commitment to our customers- it must have a timeless appeal, have beautiful sparkle and most importantly be durable."

The average Wedding Band will be worn every day for 40 years - that's over 14,000 days. There is nothing else in life that we wear 14,000 times, so when choosing - we really recommend that you choose the best possible option



and don't skimp on cheap manufacturing.

"Your Wedding band is the one thing that you will have and will wear for the rest of your life. It will hopefully last you for 50 -60 years before you pass it on as "Your own Family Heirloom" to your children or even grandchildren. It will have your Wedding date and your names engraved on it forever and could be the most cherished possession for the next generation. Couples should consider this and only settle on the best as they'll have and wear their Wedding Bands

for life."

"When buying your Wedding Bands, you are buying your future Heirlooms to pass on to your next generation"

"We'd always advise to buy the best quality that they will have forever. Once explained, customers can actually "Feel the difference & Feel the quality" and more importantly will have a lot less maintenance issues down the line. As they say "Quality is remembered long after price is forgotten."

Visit the luxury Wedding Ring World on the store's first floor bridal and diamond suite to view their unrivalled selection and to avail of some fantastic offers. Their highly professional sales team are at hand to provide a private bridal consultation and to assist you in choosing the perfect rings. Planning a wedding is a big undertaking, allow the expert advisers at Matthew Stephens Jewellers to make this part of the process a fun, exciting and stress-free one!

In addition Matthew Stephens Jewellers offers all of its wedding couples a beautiful coin

to commemorate their special day. All wedding rings purchased at Matthew Stephens Jewellers are engraved free of charge by the store's in-house Master Goldsmith and polishing up your engagement ring to ensure that it is sparkling for your special day is all part of their award-winning service.

The "Buy One Wedding Ring - Get the other Half Price" offer strictly ends when our manufacturing quota is fully reached, so don't miss out, get your order in before 17.30. This is the ideal opportunity for you and your loved one to pick up your perfect wedding bands at "never seen before" prices.

The finest Wedding Bands available from €150 upwards.



Experience matters at Connolly's

CONNOLLY Formal in Limerick has always been synonymous with quality dress hire because we appreciate that special occasions are exactly that - special.

Our guarantee is and always has been to source and carry only the finest quality garments. We have been in business for 50 years and in that time we believe we have justly earned a reputation for providing our customers with excellent value, unrivalled variety and expert service.

Experience counts!

We stock all the leading labels and we can promise you the friendliest and most professional of services.

The choice at Connolly Formal is extensive, ranging from the traditional wedding suit hire to the modern, Pageboy Collection, waistcoat selections,

all the extras and groomsman gifts.

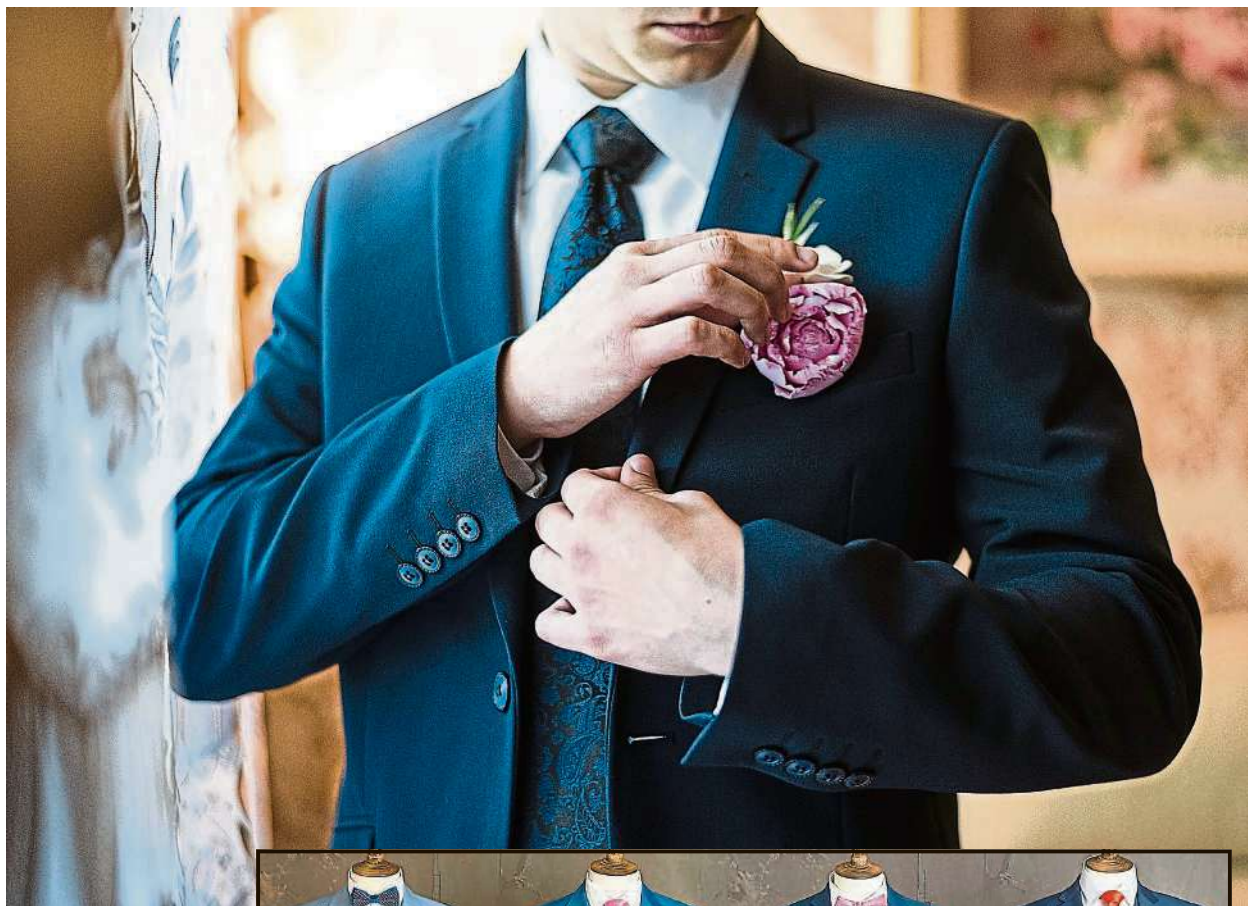
Our range of tuxedos is available to hire or purchase. Out of town guests can liaise with us online. Check out our extensive range at the region's top dress hire outlet.

Visit our website on www.connollyman.com and browse our wedding selection for ideas and information.

Also check out our facebook page for current wedding styles www.facebook.com/ConnollyManLimerick

Robert Tierney and his team are on hand to assist you and will be delighted to be of service. Feel free to call in for a viewing or consultation any time. No appointment is necessary. All Connolly Group gift vouchers are of course valid on wedding hire.

Please visit the Patrick Street, Limerick (061 410324) or O'Connell Street.



With 50 years' experience, Connolly Formal has the range and expertise to ensure that your wedding day is a truly special - and stylish - occasion"



Greenhills - 'Ballroom of the year'

THE 4 star Family Run Greenhills Hotel were delighted to be awarded the Coveted Brides of Limerick "Ballroom of the year" Title for 2019 at the Annual Awards Dinner in November. After a Huge Refurbishment of the Ballroom & Pre drinks space costing close to €500,000, the accolade was much appreciated by the Team at the Greenhills Hotel.

"We have been looking after weddings in Limerick for over 50 years, and we are delighted to have the work we have done in the hotel over the last 12 months recognised" says Daphne Greene. "We pride ourselves in giving every couple a unique day for their families & friends, offering great food, friendly service and that personal touch that can only be experienced in a family run property."

The Greenhills have just launched our new Wedding Brochure, log on to www.greenhillsgroup.com to download the Brochure.

If planning a wedding in the future, please contact Daphne at the Greenhills to organise a show around you won't be disappointed. (061) 453033.





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BEST MEANS
KNOWING
WHAT'S
IMPORTANT

At Connolly Man, create your own individualised look for your wedding day. Whether you want to wear this season's latest suiting style, or prefer a more traditional look, we've got you covered. With a large wedding hire section and an extensive suiting department, we'll help you style yourself your way.

Patrick Street, **Limerick** (061) 410324
& O'Connell St, **Clonmel** (052) 6124432

www.connollyman.com

Connolly
formal



Visit the Munster Wedding Extravaganza on March 1 to be in for a chance to win the big wedding giveaway which will include everything you need create a magical day

Win your wedding

Castle Oaks House Hotel: Be in to win a €30,000 wedding

Castle Oaks House Hotel, now part of the SÓ Hotel Group is giving away a wedding worth €30,000 at the Munster Wedding Extravaganza on March 1.

Located in the picturesque village of Castleconnell, the Castle Oaks House Hotel & Estate is a unique and charming Georgian Country Manor House set in 26 acres of manicured gardens and a romantic woodland, with walks that sweep down to the banks of the Majestic River Shannon making an ideal setting for your photographs or even a stunning outdoor ceremony in our gardens.

The hotel combines the highest possible standards of locally produced food and superb service with traditional charm and true Irish hospitality.

With over 34 years' experience co-ordinating weddings and providing the most memorable days, The Castle Oaks ensure that every wedding is sheer perfection. Each wedding is tailor made to suit the individual requirements of all couples that walk through the doors.

The Castle Oaks are working with the best wedding suppliers in Munster to deliver one lucky couple the prize of a lifetime... A wedding worth €30,000! The wedding giveaway will include everything to create a magic day – dresses and suits, décor, flowers, wedding stationary, photographer and videographer, hair, makeup nails and tan, celebrant, all entertainment – arrivals music, wedding band and DJ, of course your full hotel package to include The Castle Oaks Manor House arrivals, a 5 course meal, evening fast foot themed buffet as well as plentiful wine throughout the meal.

But the real pièce de résistance is that the lucky couple will get a once in a lifetime experience of a full fireworks display on the evening of their wedding.

To enter, all couples have to do is fill in a short questionnaire and be sure to be in attendance at the Munster Wedding Extravaganza in the South Court Hotel on March 1.

For more information please call Rachel on 061 377666 or email weddings@castleoaks.ie





The team at Castletroy Park Hotel would be delighted to meet brides and grooms to-be at their next Wedding Showcase on February 28 from 6pm.

First impressions count at the Castletroy Park

Experience timeless perfection at the Castletroy Park Hotel on your wedding day. A wedding is a very important day in the lives of a couple and is the first day of a long and happy life together, which makes choosing the venue all the more important. First impressions last a life time; hence the beautifully ornate new front gardens. Once inside you will find a bespoke design entailing luscious carpets, striking colours and intricate wood panelling, combing to create distinct elements of sophistication and modern chic, all superbly complemented by the essential warm welcome and excellent cuisine and service received by all our valued guests.

The Castletroy Park Hotel and Suites offer the perfect venue and location for your special day. Proud winners of Hotel Wedding Venue of the Year Limerick & Most Luxurious Venue with Brides of Limerick in 2019 as well as Best Limerick Wedding Venue at the WeddingDates.ie Awards in 2019 & 2018, it's easy to see why. The dedicated wedding team work closely with the bride and groom through



The Castletroy Park Hotel are proud winners of Hotel Wedding Venue of the Year Limerick & Most Luxurious venue with Brides of Limerick in 2019

every step of the way to ensure their day is exactly as they imagined and more.

The hotel has undergone a major transformation with the Grand Ballroom, Lobby, Garden Room, Brasserie and hotel suites and bedrooms receiving a full refurbishment, particularly the Bridal suite that ranks amongst the most elegant and chic suites in Europe. With the addition of the luxurious Suites adjacent to the hotel, your guests are

guaranteed a comfortable stay with that added touch of luxury during your wedding celebrations.

The team at Castletroy Park Hotel would be delighted to meet with you at their next Wedding Showcase on February 28 from 6pm. Explore the venue and take a tour of the ballroom, courtyard and Bridal Suite. To book an appointment before then, call 061 335566 or email sales@castletroypark.ie.

SÓ
HOTELS
IRISH FOR LUXURY




CASTLETROY PARK
HOTEL & LEISURE CLUB
★★★★

Weddings

at Castletroy Park Hotel





Standout from the rest with ESQUIRE style

At ESQUIRE Formal Menswear our mission is to provide high quality formal wear at affordable prices.

We guarantee our prices are the most competitive in the Munster region. We specialise in men's and boys formal wear for hire and sale. We now have all our 2020 Wedding and Communion suits in stock.

We offer a personal and professional service. We provide a broad range of styles in wedding wear, tuxedos, business and fashion suits.

You will find us conveniently located in the heart of Limerick City's Fashion Quarter at 8 Roches Street. We understand and recognize your needs regarding your special day. Whether you are getting married, guest at a wedding, attending a funeral, going to a black tie event, graduation or debs, ESQUIRE aims to cater for all your requirements.

We provide a full tailoring service and provide high quality alteration services to our customers. If required we can do

alterations on the same day.

You will find a wide selection of quality yet affordable suits in both modern and traditional styles. We stock suits in Classic (loose fit), contemporary (tailored fit) and premier contemporary (slim fit) and our tailors can adjust any garment to your liking. We also stock an extensive range of accessories to complement and complete your look.

Our new selection of waistcoats are the latest in design and colour. In addition our business shirts, ties, bow ties and cravats come in a large range of colours.

You will find a wide selection of colours and styles in both contemporary and traditional styles. Any jacket, trousers, waistcoat or shirt we stock is available in a comprehensive range of sizes. Using our experiences we assure you that the garment you hire or buy will fit in a bespoke manner.

Open Monday to Saturday 9am to 5:30pm. Now open Sundays 12 to 5pm.



ESQUIRE Formal Menswear was named Brides of Limerick Wedding Store of the Year 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018 & 2019

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Sunday open 12am-5am by appointment only

SALE NOW ON



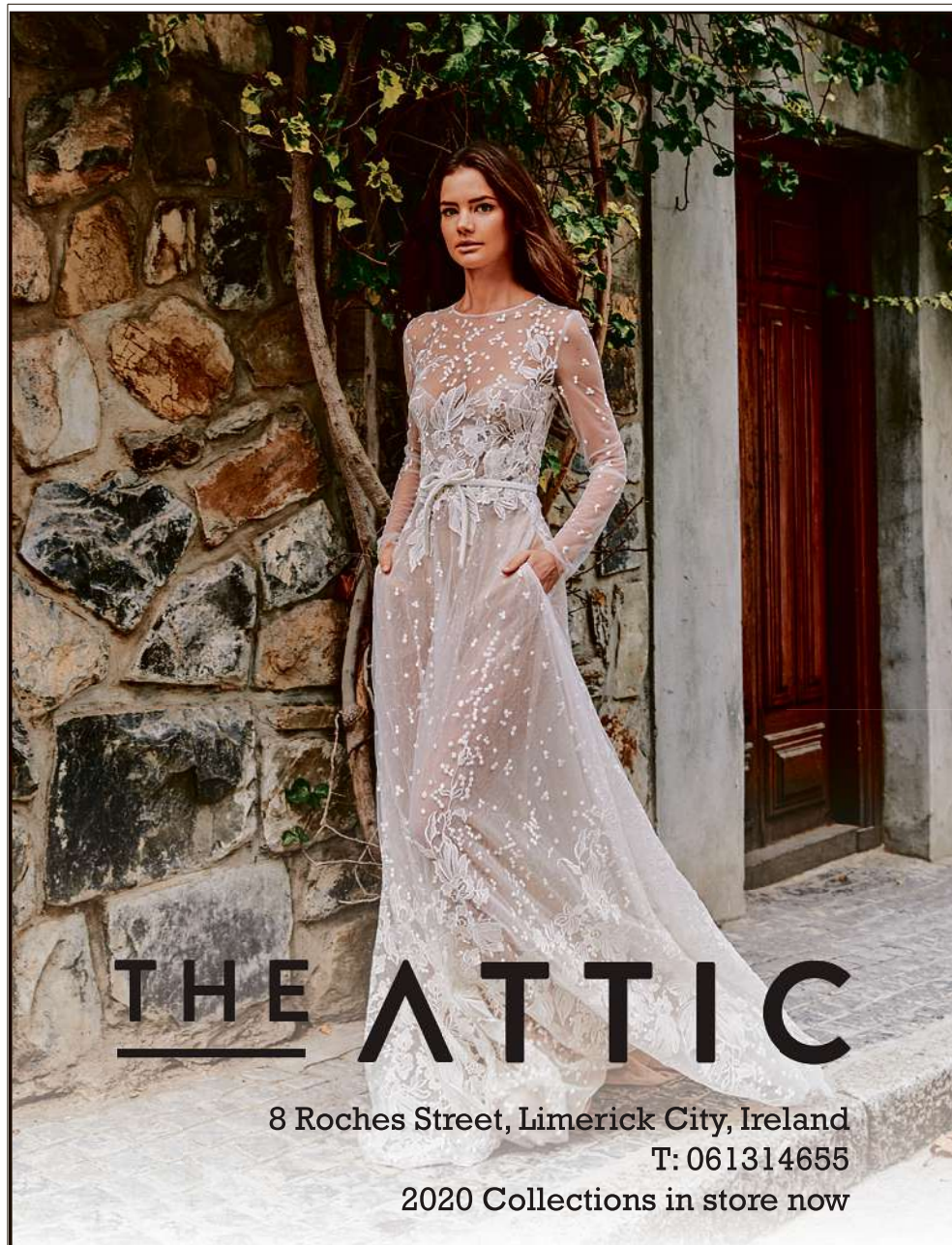
2020 Communion & Wedding Suits Now In Stock
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THE ATTIC

8 Roches Street, Limerick City, Ireland

T: 061314655

2020 Collections in store now



Contact Aishling, Wedding & Events Manager on 061 421800 to make an appointment to view the magnificent Shannon Suite B or view the rooftop swish City View Suite

Dreaming of a white wedding?

Limerick Strand: Launch a truly stylish winter 2020 wedding package

Dreaming of a chic, cosmopolitan city winter wedding? The 4* Limerick Strand Hotel (voted "Best Wedding Venue Limerick" by Brides of Limerick) is a truly stylish setting, overlooking the River Shannon with stunning cityscape views, catering for both intimate and large wedding parties and have just launched their very special Winter Wedding Package for 2020.

Limerick Strand Hotel strives to exceed expectations and deliver a lifelong memory of a beautiful wedding day from start to finish. For couples looking to create the 'WOW factor' from the outset, the arrival drinks reception hosted on the rooftop City View Suite boasting stunning panoramic views of Limerick city, outdoor terrace with stunning views of the River Shannon & twinkling lights will certainly create a romantic winter setting.

Sophisticated Complete Room Décor is now included in all wedding packages featuring top table magical detail, impressive ceiling mood lighting along with a beautiful choice of table centrepieces. Christmas time in particular at the Limerick Strand Hotel is a truly magical experience. Floor to ceiling glass windows adorn the entire building allowing the twinkling lights of the city to filter through. The 45 Christmas Trees throughout the hotel including the 20ft tree in the

Shannon Suite add a special romantic glow, with that in mind it's no wonder that Christmas is one of the most popular times to celebrate your winter wedding at the 4* Limerick Strand Hotel.

The Secret Garden is a magical enhancement to The Shannon Suite. The clever private space brings the outdoors indoors in a fully heated chic, urban, covered entertainment space adding a special setting for a daring drinks reception with a difference. The Secret Garden with its resident reindeer offers a dramatic backdrop for your wedding photos.

Couples booking for Winter 2020 can avail of an this exclusive package from €59 per person during selected dates. The package includes:

ARRIVAL RECEPTION

Treaty City Brewery Craft Beer and Warming Spiced Mulled Wine on arrival in the stunning roof top City View Suite

Baked Limerick carved Ham & crusty rolls, tea & coffee, warm homemade cookies

FIVE COURSE WEDDING BANQUET

Wedding Menu prepared by Award winning Executive Chef, Tom Flavin paired with a ½ bottle of House Wine per person chosen by their expert sommelier

EVENING RECEPTION

Evening Reception Buffet

including homemade pizza served in takeaway boxes with chicken goujons and a selection of dips with a Late Night Residents Bar with Tayto Sandwiches.

SPECIAL TOUCHES

Brand New 'instagramable' Flower Wall
Chiavari chairs
Vintage Sweet Cart

The Limerick Strand has everything you and your guests' desire - from superb reception rooms to fabulous bedroom suites; from fine food and wines to a top-class leisure centre. But it's the special extras that will stand out - like chivari chairs, unique Ice Bar - and above all, the special efforts of the Limerick Strand Wedding Team. Nothing is too much trouble. The expert on-site wedding coordinators will be at hand to guide you through the Limerick Strand wedding experience as well as award winning Chef, Tom Flavin, to answer all culinary questions. With many years of experience in helping couples realise their perfect day, and providing unrivalled level of expertise and attention to detail, The Limerick Strand is a smart choice for discerning couples.

Contact Aishling Wedding & Events Manager on 061 421800 to make an appointment to view the magnificent Shannon Suite B or view the rooftop swish City View Suite. For more see www.strandlimerick.ie



Limerick
Strand
Hotel



Winter Wedding PACKAGE

JUST €59 P.P. EXCLUSIVE FOR WINTER 2020

ARRIVAL RECEPTION

Treaty City Brewery Craft Beer and Warming Spiced Mulled Wine on arrival in the stunning roof top City View Suite
Baked Limerick Carved Ham & crusty rolls, tea & coffee, homemade cookies

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Late Night Residents Bar Tayto Sandwiches

SPECIAL TOUCHES

Our New 'instagramable' Flower Wall
Chiavari chairs
Vintage Sweet Cart

Call 061 421800 or email events@strandlimerick.ie
www.strandhotellimerick.ie

Let's celebrate at the Longcourt

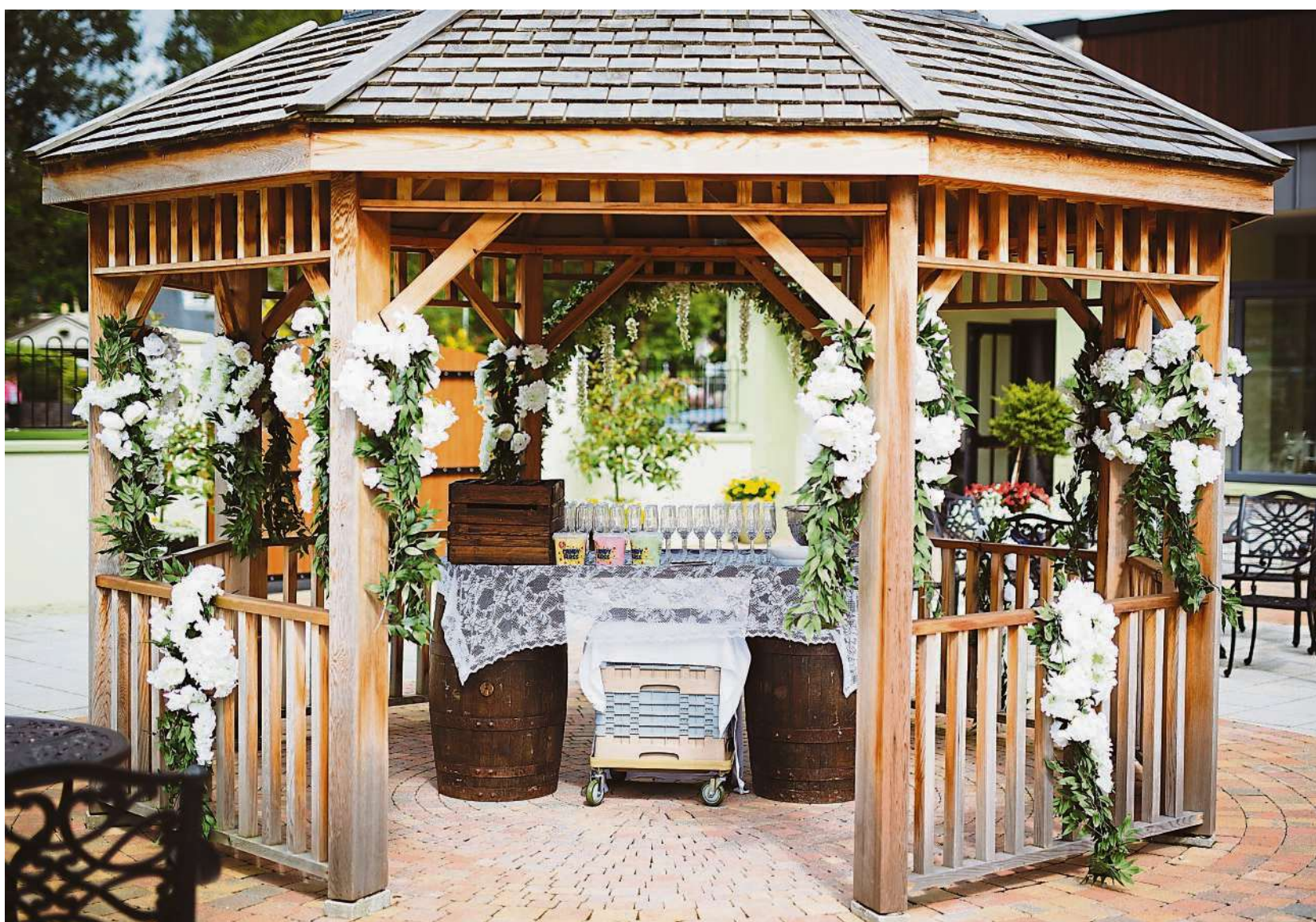
Longcourt House Hotel is proud to offer a new destination for wedding celebrations in the Mid-West. Couples can choose to hold their ceremony within the hotel or simply arrive after saying their I do's to our spacious and beautiful ballroom for a day of sumptuous food, delightful drinks and love and laughter all round.

Our experienced team have come together to offer couples the ultimate wedding experience, from the moment they visit the hotel we are intent on providing them with a wow experience, which also extends to each and every one of their guests on their very special day.

We can cater for weddings from 100 to over 300 guests and our Head Chef Robert White and his team provide an array of mouth-watering menus that are sure to have your guests talking for weeks after the day itself.

If you are interested in holding your wedding celebration at Longcourt House Hotel, we invite you to visit us here at the hotel and talk to us about your vision for your wedding day. We look forward to helping to make it a reality for you.

Get in touch on 069 25300 or email sayido@longcourthousehotel.ie



Meet the Manager

Shirley Johnston

Restaurant and Banqueting Manager, Longcourt House Hotel, Newcastle West

Putting the 'can do' in 'I do'

How many weddings have you been a part of at the hotel?

Since we opened two years ago we have had approximately 30 Weddings with both indoor and outdoor ceremonies. Our courtyard is absolutely fabulous for an outdoor ceremony and of course we always have a plan B should the weather not cooperate

What is the most important part of the role?

I think every part of the role is important in order not to miss any of the finer details.

What's not important to you is perhaps vitally important to the Bride and you have to think with your head on your shoulders to ensure that you are getting the day right for your couple. Every couple is different but equally as important as the last.

Describe your duties 'on the day'

On the day I need to ensure the Bridal room is ready and that all the couples requests have been met. It is essential that I highlight to my team the importance of the day and that the attention to all of the finer details are followed through as the day goes on.

Who do you mainly co-ordinate with?

Traditionally it has been the bride and perhaps the brides mother but in recent years this trend has changed and I now find that I deal with Bride, Groom, Wedding Coordinator of close family members as a lot of couples are now returning from abroad to get married.

What is the most challenging thing to get right on a wedding day?

Watching out for the weather when you have an outdoor Ceremony and ensuring that the transition from



Shirley Johnston
of the Longcourt
House Hotel

outdoor to indoor is smooth which of course of course it always a challenge in itself!!

What is the most unusual request you have ever had from a couple?

It was when I was asked by a bride to marry them. They had got married legally abroad but because they wanted to have their ceremony at the venue

they asked me would I marry them as the person they had nominated was unable to make it at the last minute. This scenario was very much light hearted and well humoured during the rehearsal and I was there being really serious as this was a first experience for me.

What is the funniest thing you have seen on the job?

Gosh, I don't think there is anything as every wedding is unique!

What is your favourite part of the job?

I think the speeches, yes we all want the wedding to go according to plan but it is nice after working with the couple for so long to hear a little bit about how they grew up, how they met and the funny anecdotes in the words of their family and friends.



LONGCOURT
HOUSE HOTEL



Say I Do



Speak to a member of our team about our
impressive Wedding Packages

Newcastle West, Co. Limerick
069 25300 | sayido@longcourthousehotel.ie

Make your day at the wonderful Woodstock

SEAN and Elaine Lally joined Hotel Woodstock, in Ennis, in November 2016 as Co-owners with Choice Hotels Ireland.

When they joined the Hotel they soon realised the uniqueness of the venue to host a wedding. The Lallys developed a package to suit all couples, the most popular package is the All-Inclusive package the Happy Ever After, with no hidden extras.

The Happy Ever After Package at €47 per person including a 4 course meal, a drinks reception on arrival, a half bottle of wine and an evening buffet as well as a host of extras the package is very competitive and the post popular of the Hotel Woodstock Wedding Packages.

The couple then wanted to get the message across of what they and the Hotel had to offer couples wanting to get married and proceeded to make a wedding video with a difference which truly shows you what Sean and



Elaine are all about, which has since gone viral with over 300,000 views across all social media platforms.

Your first step across the threshold of Hotel Woodstock is like stepping into a fairy-tale and we just know how to make your day truly special. Lovingly crafted by team Lally make planning your day all the easier.

From the time you meet with Elaine & Sean until the time you leave the Hotel to begin your life as a married couple you only deal with Elaine and in her absence Sean. Continuity is the

secret to a non-stressful wedding.

Our stunning Liscannor Suite is the perfect venue for a truly magical wedding for you that will promise you and your guests a day of elegant tradition, sophistication and superb food. The Liscannor Suite is perfectly located at the heart of the Hotel providing the perfect entrance with the charm and glamour of your own private venue.

Should you wish to make an enquiry for a wedding please contact Elaine on elally@hotelwoodstock.ie or call 065 6899800.

Top work is a piece of cake to Celina

CELINA'S Cakes was established in 2012 by Celina O'Sullivan. Living in West Limerick, Celina began to show a love for baking at an early age. She learned her skill from her mother and decided to turn her love of baking into a business when family and friends encouraged her to "go for it".

Since then the business has gone from strength to strength and Celina has created award winning Wedding and Occasion cakes for many people both here and abroad.

Celinas Cakes will create a Bride and Grooms Dream Wedding Cake Design while having that "home baked" taste which is important to her.

The most popular cakes she creates are traditional fruit cake, chocolate biscuit cake and lemon drizzle cake. However she can cater for all flavours a customer may desire.

With regard to the design of the Wedding Cake, the sky



Celina's creation are perfect to top off a perfect day

is the limit for decoration! While a lot of Celina's skills are self-thought, having a natural flair and talent handed down to her from her mom, Celina has also attended many professional workshops to learn the latest skills in sugarcraft!

Most of all, Celina loves her job and hopes that this shows in her work always. Celina's motto for her

wedding cakes is "Wedding Cakes with that home-baked taste and finished with a beautiful eye-catching design"

To see some of Celina's wonderful creation check out her Facebook page [celinashomemadecakes](https://www.facebook.com/celinashomemadecakes). If you would like more information call Celina on Call 087 904 9780 or email celinascakes@gmail.com.



HOTEL
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wedding video

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A waiting welcome

Brides of Limerick

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Best Family Run Wedding Venue 2017

Wedding Personalities 2017

"Best Hospitality Provider 2018" Clare Chamber Awards



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BEST OF THE MID-WEST

FAB FASHION AND STYLE FOR BRIDES TO-BE IN 2020



Model from Celia Holman Lee Agency Ellie wearing a wedding dress from The Attic Bridalwear, Roches Street at a photo shoot at the Castle Oaks Hotel in Castleconnell
PICTURE: ADRIAN BUTLER



Ellie Wearing a dress from The Bridal Emporium, Milltown Malbay, Eve wearing a mother of the bride dress from Sinéads's Boutique, Annacotty and Aishling wearing a dress from The Bridal Emporium, Milltown Malbay at a photo shoot at the Castle Oaks Hotel, Castleconnell



Eve wearing a dress from Ela Maria, Newcastle West and Ellie wearing a dress from Sinéads's Boutique, Annacotty at the Castle Oaks, Castleconnell



Eve wearing a wedding dress from The Attic Bridalwear, Roches at a photo shoot at the Castle Oaks



Ellie wearing a bridesmaids dress from the Bridal Emporium, Milltown Malbay, Aishling wearing a wedding dress from The Attic Bridalwear, Roches Street and Eve wearing a mother of the bride dress from Ela Maria, Newcastle West at a photo shoot at the Castle Oaks Hotel, Castleconnell



Eve wearing a mother of the bride dress from Sinéads's Boutique, Annacotty



Aishling wearing a mother of the bride dress from Ela Maria

Sexton for Men's 2020 wedding collection

Wedding season 2020 brings new concepts and new collections to Sexton for Men, Thomas Street. This season introduces mix and match suit jackets and waistcoats ensuring the groom and his groomsmen stand out from the crowd

Brands such as Benetti, Herbie Frogg, 6th Sense, Lambretta head up the collections with 3 piece being the staple for all weddings. Waistcoats coordinate with box check and tweed patterns. At Sexton for Men each groom and wedding party is professionally fitted and suits tailored to fit. Wedding suits come in three different fittings to suit all styles an needs.

A wide range of accessories and footwear is also available in-store. Ties, pocket squares, cuff-links, pocket watches etc.

Call in and talk to the lads about putting together a wedding party package to suit your needs and budget.



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18

YOUR PERFECT WEDDING

Beautiful bright coloured new stock arriving daily

Bit of a Do: Clare's premier fashion boutique for children fashions

Bit of a Do opened its doors in 1990 and since then have built a loyal and fantastic customer base. It has become Clare's premier fashion boutique for children fashions from babies all the way to those all grown up 14-year-old boys and girls. Based in the beautiful Ballycasey Craft Centre for the last fifteen years Bit of Do is well worth a visit, where there is Free Parking and a welcome awaits you.

For the last 30 years Bit of a Do have supplied children's clothes that are different and classic and have something at all prices ranges. Supplying everything from the small well priced present, everyday wear to designer clothes for those so very special occasions you will find what you are looking for at Bit of a Do. They also have gift vouchers available at all price ranges. Bit of a Do stock many international brands which are all unique in their own way and have something to suit all tastes and budgets. There is new Spring/Summer stock arriving daily from the likes of Mayrol, Tuc Tuc, Rosalita Seniorita to mention but a few.

Bit of a Do also stock a fantastic range of confirmation and communion wear for both boys and girls with lots of stock in store now.

If you are a fan of bright colours, unique and cute design then you will love Tuc Tuc. This brand was born in Spain and is a synonym to creativity and design. Since its beginning in 1994 Tuc Tuc has won the hearts of moms around the world, offering newborn, baby and kids collections as well as Tuc Tuc accessories.

Then there is Mayrol which prides itself on designing high quality, versatile pieces bursting with personality and fun for both boys and girls, offering affordable style. Another



Bit of a Do is located at the Ballycasey Craft and Design Centre, Shannon

great label for the boys is the infamous Timberland which was established in 1955.

This well-known American brand started its life as a family run shoe company using revolutionary waterproof technology, now it is a worldwide label but they are still committed to "Doing Well & Doing Good", with their high quality children's range providing functional clothing suitable for adventure in the great outdoors.

What little girl and her mum does not love pretty pastels, sequins and sparkle, this is exactly what Billie Blush offers. A beautiful collection that is filled with fun and femininity. If you are looking for kids fashion that is bound to turn heads, look no further than Spanish brand Desigual. Packed with

Kaleidoscopic patterns and vibrant colours each piece is designed with freedom, creativity and fun in mind

The Loff range is for girls that dance, play and explore but especially for those girls that are having fun and enjoying life.

Loff is for parents that adore their daughters. Loff is love for the girls that love to wear it-it is soft, easy to wear and comfortable; love for the parents who buy it and who wash it.

This is just a taste of some of the fantastic clothing brands that await you at Bit of a Do, Ballycasey, Craft & Design Centre, Shannon, so why not call today and see for yourself.

For further information call us on 061 366985 or follow us on Facebook for the latest news and offers.

Style with no compromise at Sinead's



Sinead's Boutique offers an excellent variety of occasional and casual wear from top designers in the Annacotty area of Limerick.

Specialising in supplying Mother Of The Bride dresses and Mother Of The Groom outfits, they have built their reputation through word of mouth and recommendations which they have continued to maintain through providing a service that is second to none.

It is their goal to ensure that you receive expert advice at all times, as well as assistance in achieving that definitive look.

Although renowned for special occasion dresses, they also carry a wide range of informal wear – evening dresses, casual wear and evening gowns by leading international fashion designers. Hosting collections from Kate Cooper, Veni Infantino, John Charles, Coco Doll and Emily Jean, to name just a few, you are guaranteed to find something that suits you in whatever occasion you may be shopping for. When you visit



the shop, you'll find they have a very down to earth approach and take great pride in how their customers look. It is not about how much you spend, it's about the image, that they take pride in helping create for you. The aim is for you to enjoy a unique and personalised experience each time you visit the store.

If you would like further information about any of their dresses or accessories, please see contact information below:

Contact Us
 Sinead's Boutique,
 Annacotty
 Tel: 061 339 696
 Email: sinead.devane@live.ie
 Website: www.sineadsboutique.com



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Castletroy Orthodontics: Take the pain out of dentistry

HAVE you ever dreamt of having straighter teeth or a brighter smile?

This may have been on the 'to-do-list' for many years, but now that the time has come to plan your big day, you might also consider perfecting your sparkling smile.

Come and see us at

Castletroy Orthodontics where our specialist orthodontist Dr. Richard Stokes will sit down with you and create an expert plan to achieve your goal, whether it be some minor tooth movements or extensive changes to obtain the perfect smile for your wedding day.

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treatments ranging from clear ceramic braces to Invisalign aligners. These are the perfect option for adult patients who wish to discreetly straighten their teeth.

We understand that this is a very expensive time for engaged couples so we offer competitive prices on all our

treatments, and flexible payment plans to suit your individual needs.

Visit our website www.castletroyortho.ie for more information or alternatively you can call us today on 061574147, as time is of the essence when it comes to straightening your teeth.



Before and after photos of the work Castletroy Orthodontics have performed

Pat puts the can do in 'I do'

CELEBRANT Pat Clarke-Browne lives in Shannon.

As he was married in a Humanist ceremony himself some years back, Pat recognises the importance and value of personal input to such a major milestone in your life. Pat looks forward to working with you to design a uniquely personal ceremony for whatever important life event you are celebrating, Baby Naming, Legal Wedding or Funeral.

Pat is happy to travel to any part of the country to help you to create a truly memorable ceremony that reflects your values and beliefs. With over twenty years experience as a lecturer you can be assured your ceremony will be professionally delivered with warmth and sincerity. As all Humanist Association of Ireland celebrant's are HSE registered Solemnisers, Pat can sign your legal paperwork on the day of your wedding

Pat is thoroughly enjoying his experience as a Humanist Celebrant and can provide help to couples getting married who want a ceremony that is designed around them. Pat worked as a



Celebrant Pat Clarke-Browne

wedding Photographer for many years and has some unique insights to make sure your Wedding day is special and can draw on his extensive knowledge to reduce the stress on the day and ensure the smooth running of your Ceremony.

Pat arrives on site on the day at least an hour in advance to check that everything is as planned and to deal with any little hiccups as necessary. He can provide a PA system and Microphones and Ceremony Music playlists as required.

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Pat is accepting bookings
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The Absolute Hotel specialises in unique weddings set in an intimate venue

Intimate wedding days at the Absolute Hotel

Overlooking the meandering Abbey River, the Absolute is just minutes' walk from iconic Limerick landmarks like King John's Castle.

Over the last couple of years, there has been a trend emerging. One reflecting a couple's style, the need for a more intimate setting and unforgettable food. The restaurant wedding is becoming an ideal setting for a lot of couples and the award-winning Absolute Hotel Limerick offers all of this in an abundance in Harry's on the River Restaurant.

The floor to ceiling windows overlooking the Abbey River is the perfect backdrop for your wedding day. Wall art, industrial style lighting with splashes of colour compliment the modern couple.

By choosing Harry's on the River Restaurant you can expect a superb level of creative food, as well as



service to match with a team who are personable yet professional. Your wedding menu in Harry's on the River Restaurant offers a bespoke experience so you can put your mark on your day.

From cocktails on the outside terrace to a couple's favourite dish a wedding in

Harry's on the River is intimate yet relaxed.

For now, relish the planning, enjoy the engagement and remember the reason you are here is for love after all.

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- City Wedding Venue of the Year 2019 - Brides of Limerick
- Indulge in canapés & cocktails
- Onsite wedding co-ordinator
- FREE admission

This is an exclusive event, to register your interest please call 061 463610 or email events@absolutehotel.com Please note this event is by appointment only

Absolute Hotel
LIMERICK

Absolute Hotel, Sir Harry's Mall, Limerick
+353 61 463610 events@absolutehotel.com www.absolutehotel.com

Turn back time with amazing knife-free facelift

LIMERICK'S leading aesthetic cosmetic centre, The Otto Clinic was the first clinic in Ireland performing the 'Vampire Facelift' Platelet Rich Plasma Rejuvenation treatment.

PRP Therapy has been hailed as the 'holy grail' of anti-ageing treatments because, like a facelift, it can turn back the clock and achieve amazing results but without the pain and inconvenience of surgery.

The discovery of PRP is a massive breakthrough in the field of dermal fillers because, for the first time, we have a treatment that simply uses the patient's own cells to create an all-natural solution to the problem of ageing skin.

Benefits of PRP

* Goodbye synthetics, hello PRP!

* No surgery/ no anaesthetic

* Completely safe and natural - no synthetic substances/ no danger of allergic reactions or infections



- * Walk-in Walk-out procedure - minimal disruption to your day
- * Virtually painless plus fast results and fast recovery

"We are delighted by the success rate of this treatment" says Ita Murphy, MD of the Otto Clinic.

"We introduced it in 2006 and all our patients are extremely happy with the results. Here at The Otto Clinic, we are dedicated to the discovery of ever safer, more natural techniques and one of the things we love about PRP therapy is that it is

harnessing the body's natural healing power, not synthetic products, to turn back the effects of time - it's safe and reliable, what more can you ask of a treatment?" says Ita.

The Otto Clinic is a pioneer of non-invasive beauty treatments which include skin rejuvenation, laser hair removal, body reshaping and body contouring - check out the extensive range of treatments at www.theottoclinic.ie or visit them at 3 Pery Square, Limerick.

Remember the day with flower power

PRESSED flowers by Nell is based on the first floor, 54 Roches Street, Limerick. I work closely with brides to help them preserve their special memories by pressing bridal bouquets to last forever, all my bouquets are framed professionally and are arranged on a sheet of mount board which is available in a large range of colours they can also be arranged beside your favourite photo of your special day.

Your wedding invitations or alongside a nice poem or quote. My background as a florist helps me to press each flower petal by petal and make a bespoke piece for each customer.

I work in the studio by appointment only and usually recommend that I receive your special bouquet within 5 - 7 days after your wedding. If you are looking for a special gift for your bride's maids it is a gorgeous gift to get those bouquets pressed too as a surprise. I



Nell Stritch of Pressed Flowers By Nell with one her wonderful creations PICTURE: ADRIAN BUTLER

also make bespoke floral crowns for hen party's and a range of funky bouquets using dried flowers.

If you would like to get in touch to discuss your bridal bouquet and prices to get it

pressed I would love to hear from you on 0858101331 , info@pressedflowersbynell.com or on social media - Instagram and Facebook [@pressedflowersbynell](https://www.facebook.com/pressedflowersbynell)

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Marie's top tips for planning your big day

Wedding coordinator, **Marie Healy** at the Radisson Blu Hotel & Spa shares a bit of her insider knowledge

Every journey begins with a single step

You don't have to have it all figured out today, take it one step at a time! Make a list, tick things off one by one and you will get there. Don't try to do everything all at once, there's lots of time.

It's important to ask questions

You have never planned an event this big before and all of your suppliers know this! We expect lots and lots of questions. (Honestly!) We do sometimes forget ourselves,



getting caught up in the excitement, and take for granted you know exactly what we're talking about so if this happens just pull us up on it, we're well used to it. Moral of the story, the only silly question is the one you don't ask.

Don't count the days, make the

day's count

Planning your big day is super exciting, but don't let it take over. Don't forget to make plans as a couple along the way - go on cheesy dates, plan a mini getaway (home or abroad). It's important to have things to look forward to, aside from the wedding.



Somewhere over the rainbow: It's your day so wedding coordinator Marie Healy says the only silly question is the one you don't ask

Weddings

RADISSON BLU HOTEL
LIMERICK



Wedding Fair at the award winning Clonmel Park Hotel

Are you recently engaged and looking for a contemporary wedding venue to host your romantic wedding?

Then why not 'Save the Date', and come and view the splendour of the stylish 'Clonmel Park Hotel Co. Tipperary' for your upcoming nuptials at their Annual Spring Wedding Fair on February 23rd from 2pm-5pm.

The stylish Clonmel Park Hotel pride themselves on their outstanding accolades over the last number of years namely Gold Award Winners in the 2020 & 2019 I.A.S.I Awards, Shortlisted Nominee in the 'Most Stylish Hotel' in Hotel of the Year Munster for 2019 & 2018, Overall Winner 'Most Stylish Hotel' for Tipperary in 2017, shortlisted nominee in 2016, Voted top of their class and overall winners again in 2015 & 2014 for 'Best Wedding Venue in Tipperary', and 'Tipperary's Stylish Business' in the



'Hardy's Hi Wedding Awards' & 'Hi Magazine Annual Awards' respectively.

The hotel credits their wins as a result of the hard work, attention to detail, and commitment to delivering excellent customer service to all the Wedding Couples that come through the hotel, from each and every member of the team at the Clonmel Park Hotel. And now they look forward to welcoming you as one of these couples!

This year's wedding fair gives you

the opportunity not only to view the hotels award winning wedding facilities fully set up in all its splendour, you can view the bridal suite, sample the chef's delights, sample the fantastic gin bar and great cocktail selections on the day. Also come and meet some of the South East's best wedding suppliers, whom will all be offering great discounts on the day.

Book your special day at the Clonmel Park Hotel within a month of the hotels wedding fair and the first 5 couples will receive €500 off of their wedding bill.

Come and experience for yourself what all the fuss is about so just don't take our word for it!

For more information on the Hotels Wedding Fair on February 23rd from 2pm-5pm call the Clonmel Park Hotel on 052-6188700 or email weddings@clonmelparkhotel.com



Wedding Fair at Clonmel Park Hotel



Come & view the hotel's 'Award Winning' Wedding facilities.

Chat with the many specialised wedding exhibitors, view the hotel at your leisure, meet the team & discuss your requirements for your dream wedding.

First 5 weddings booked on the day will receive €500 off of their wedding booking

(Terms & Conditions Apply)

Sunday, February 23rd
2pm - 5pm

Contact
Us...

Clonmel Park Hotel, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary

T: 052 6188700

E: weddings@clonmelparkhotel.com

W: www.clonmelparkhotel.com



Clonmel Park Hotel



John Charles offers sophisticated glamour at its finest at Ela Maria in Newcastle West

The west is the best for wedding wear

Ela Maria: Newcastle West boutique has a long established loyal following

Ela Maria is one of the longest established luxury boutiques in Ireland. Based in The Square House in Newcastle West, Ela Maria stocks a beautiful range of international designer labels from casual and contemporary to red carpet glamour. The Top Floor is a haven for occasion dressing and includes leading international labels Escada, Teresa Ripoll, Fely Campo, Carmen Melero, Linea Raffaelli, Luis Civit, Condici and John Charles to name but a few.

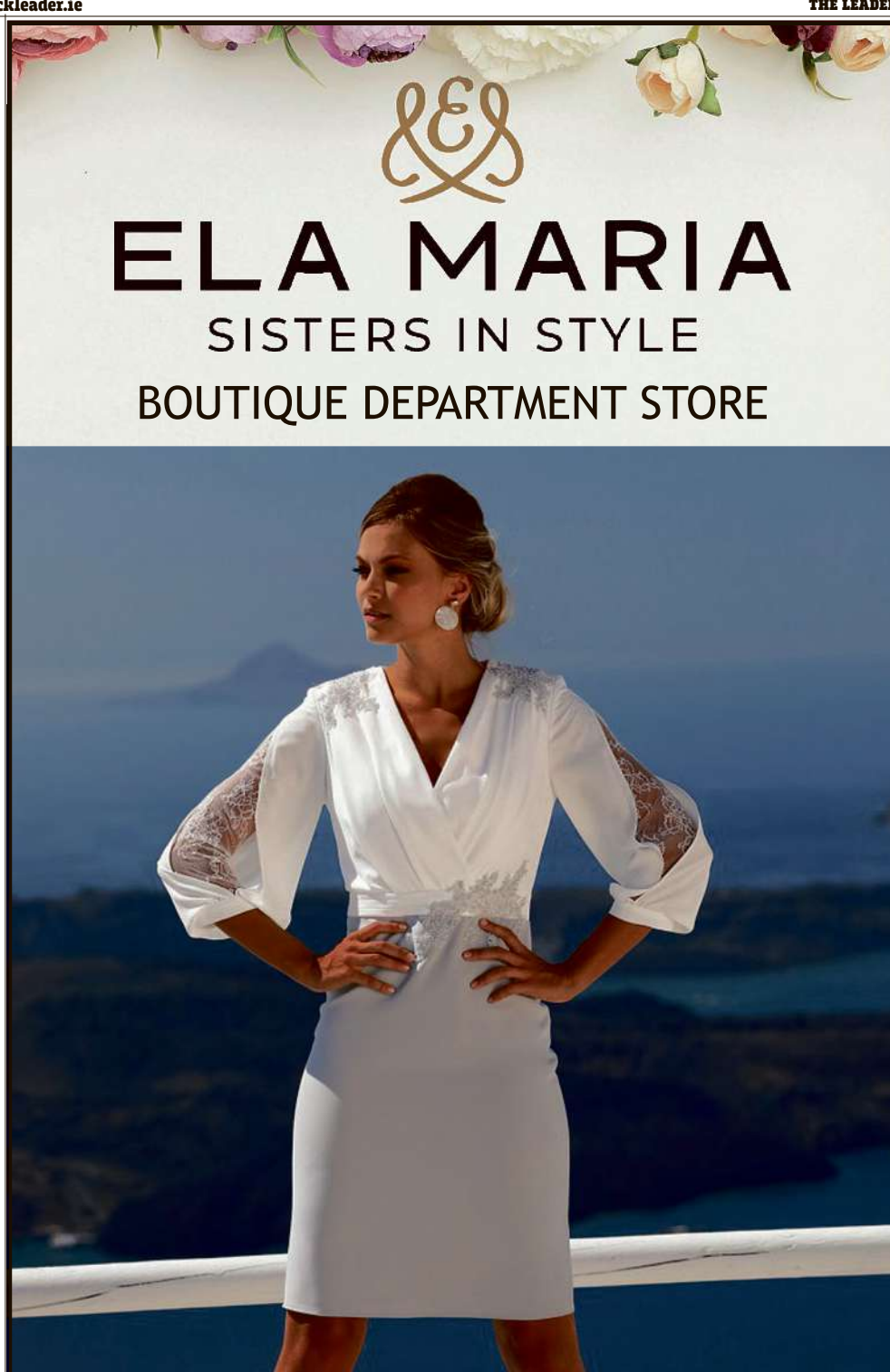
Trends for Spring/Summer 2020 at Ela Maria tend to have favoured pared back glamour with a huge choice of simple sophisticated dresses. Team these with one of our headpieces which have been individually designed to compliment the collections. Add a fabulous pair of heels and a simple clutch bag to create a unique wedding look.

Wedding wear shopping can be a daunting task but with the help of experienced sales assistants, a huge selection of stock and a price tag to suit every pocket, shopping at Ela Maria is an experience not to be missed!

Tel:069-62855 visit www.elamaria.ie or find us on facebook & instagram @elamaria.ie to view the collections.



The Linea Raffaelli spring/summer collection has us dreaming of Santorini



ELA MARIA
SISTERS IN STYLE
BOUTIQUE DEPARTMENT STORE

**New
Spring/Summer
Wedding Wear
NOW IN**

PLUS OUR

WEDDING WEAR CLEARANCE SALE
CONTINUES IN STORE with
300+ OUTFITS from €99

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Fall in love at the Falls Hotel

In the heart of Clare: Fab location for your fab day

Over the centuries, The Falls Hotel has been a home to Lords & Ladies, a Mayor, a Lieutenant, Landlords, Poets and Entrepreneurs...they certainly know how to treat their wedding couples and their guests like royalty!

Unforgettable occasions are made unique at this unforgettable location. The picturesque and historic Falls Hotel & Spa is located in the heart of scenic County Clare, at the gateway to the Cliffs of Moher & Burren Geopark in Ennistymon. The hotel is surrounded by fifty acres of gardens & woodland. The river Inagh and Cascades waterfall run along the perimeter of the grounds, which provide both a unique and memorable photographic backdrop and idyllic arrival reception setting for your wedding day.

As passionate supporters of sustainable tourism, they will help you have a green eco-friendly wedding! The Falls Hotel gets its electricity from a hydro turbine on the beautiful river alongside them. This clean energy source from the river powers the hotel – yes, they are running on hydro power from the



powerful cascades that give the hotel its name! By having your wedding at the Falls, you will have significantly reduced your, and your guests, carbon footprints and your impact on the wonderful environment around us. As well as eco-label and biodegradable amenities in the bedrooms, biodegradable straws, a wildflower garden, beehives and a newly planted orchard, feel proud that your wedding will be a very eco sustainable day!

Their wedding co-ordinators, Michael and Patrick, together with their experienced team will listen to how you would like your day to be and ensure that your wedding day is all you hoped it would be. There are a variety of rooms available to cater for small weddings and civil ceremonies right up to larger celebrations with 380 guests, with some wonderful outdoor options, weather permitting! The Falls Hotel & Spa can be contacted on 065 7071004 or at weddings@fallshotel.ie.

The Falls Hotel, Ennistymon, can cater for larger celebrations up to 380 guests



Newmarket on Fergus, Co. Clare.
061-368161- info@theinnatdromoland.ie



Spring Wedding Showcase

At The Inn at Dromoland

Sunday 23rd February (1-5 pm)

- ~ Over 30 Wedding Suppliers Exhibiting
- ~ Fashion Show with Catwalk Model Agency
- ~ Expert Panel led by The Irish Wedding Blog
- ~ Discounted Wedding Dates on the day!

MEET WITH OUR TEAM OF WEDDING EXPERTS TO DISCUSS YOUR DREAM DAY AT THE INN!

Exclusive Wedding Showcase Competition:

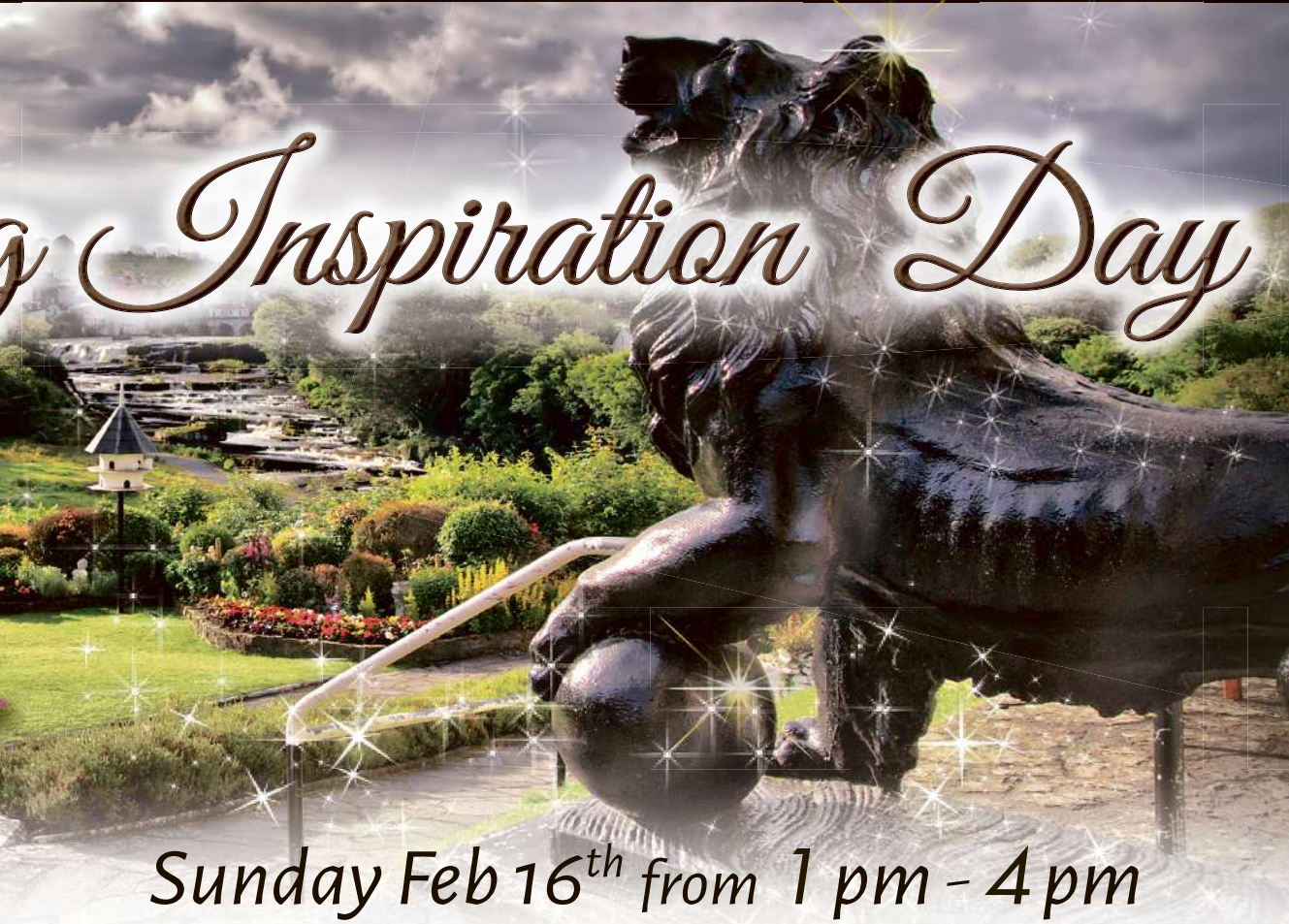
For all Recently Engaged Couples - Win an Overnight Stay for Two at the Inn at Dromoland on Saturday 22nd February the night before our wedding showcase. To enter email theinnatdromoland@gmail.com requesting a copy of our Wedding Brochure with your name, contact details and proposed wedding dates. T&C apply.



FALLS HOTEL & SPA
ENNISTYMON



Wedding Inspiration Day



Sunday Feb 16th from 1 pm - 4 pm

Launching our freshly renovated reception area!

Meet with Michael, John, Patrick and our wedding team, see our wedding suites all dressed up, engage with some wonderful local wedding suppliers and imagine yourself here on your wedding day!

Bridal Fashion Show with Catwalk Model Agency

We look forward to meeting you!

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ENTERTAINMENT

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

Mystery drama in Belltable

FINTAN WALSH

fintan.walsh@limerickleader.ie

A DRAMATIC mystery play is to take place at the Belltable this Saturday.

Heather is about a reclusive children's writer who becomes wildly successful. Her books are treasured across the country. But when a troubling narrative starts to unfold, we find ourselves asking: what matters more, the storyteller or the story?

The play, taking place at

the O'Connell Street theatre on February 15 at 8pm, is a short, sharp play about language, prejudice and the power of stories. Heather is written by Thomas Eccleshare.

Also involved the acclaimed play is composer Denis Clohessy, set and costume Design Kieran McBride, and lighting design Colm Maher. Tickets can be purchased via www.limetreetheatre.ie. Tickets on sale for €18/€15.



Tickets are on sale for Heather at €18/€15

Costume exhibit at the Hunt launched by Irish filmmaker

RENOWNED Irish filmmaker and writer Neil Jordan opened a new and exciting exhibition at the Hunt Museum over the weekend which is set to draw huge crowds over the next month.

Best Costume Goes to... is an exhibition which explores the relationship between actors, costumes and the growth of the Irish film industry, and open to the public until April 14.

In all, 33 costumes representing 19 films and TV series will be on display, some of which have been Oscar-nominated.

This exhibition gives the opportunity to view costumes from films and TV such as *The Favourite*, *The Quiet Man*, *Braveheart*, *Vikings*, and more.

Eimer Ní Mhaoldomhnaigh, costume designer and co-founder of the Irish Costume Archive Project, commented: "A character does not exist without a script, and a character does not take physical form without a costume. The finest costume design is grounded in detailed research and the collaborative process



Neil Jordan with Eimer Ní Mhaoldomhnaigh and Dr Jill Cousins PICTURE: ALAN PLACE

between designer, director and actor."

According to Jill Cousins, Director of the Hunt Museum: "We are staging this innovative new exhibition in conjunction with The Irish Costume Archive Project, as we think it will appeal to new audiences. It has some wonderful education opportunities and connects us more strongly with more of Limerick's culture organisations such as the Belltable and Troy Studios." All costumes on display

are from Irish films or major television productions filmed in Ireland or abroad but with Irish talent involved. The exhibition is open Monday to Saturday, 10am to 5pm, with admission priced at €7.50 per adult, €12.50 with a combo ticket (with museum), and kids are free.

The exhibit is supported by Leader funding in addition to the Department of Culture, Heritage & the Gaeltacht and Limerick City & County Council.

DRESSING ROOM 1 PRESENTS

THE HILARIOUS COMEDY!

"A LAUGH OUT LOUD COMEDY!"

STARRING X FACTOR'S MARY BYRNE

DIRTY DUSTING

BY ED WAUGH & TREVOR WOOD

DIRECTED BY RICHARD MANSWORTH

University Concert Hall Limerick
 Thursday 20th February, 8pm
 Tickets €25 / Conc. €22.50
 Booking: www.uch.ie / Box Office 061 331549

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OVER 16'S ONLY

BIG NIGHT OUT @

IN COBBLESTONE JOE'S, GLEN TAVERN & DOLANS



Emily Childs, Laura Wyles and Keeva Rea at Cobblestone Joe's PICTURES: DAVE GAYNOR



Sarah Millar and Alice Meaney at the Glen Tavern



Vanessa Carolina and Anna Benn were also photographed at Cobblestone Joe's



Caitlen Rakovec and Tess Manning at Dolan's



Ashling McGrory, Joan Evans and Yvonne Lawlor at Cobblestone Joe's



Helena Downes and Lea Meerholz at the Tavern



Lucy and Owen Meikle-Williams at Dolan's



Niamh Larkin, Darina Delahunty, Michelle O'Connell and Alison Keyes at Cobblestone Joe's



Gerard Moohan and Martha Egan at Dolans



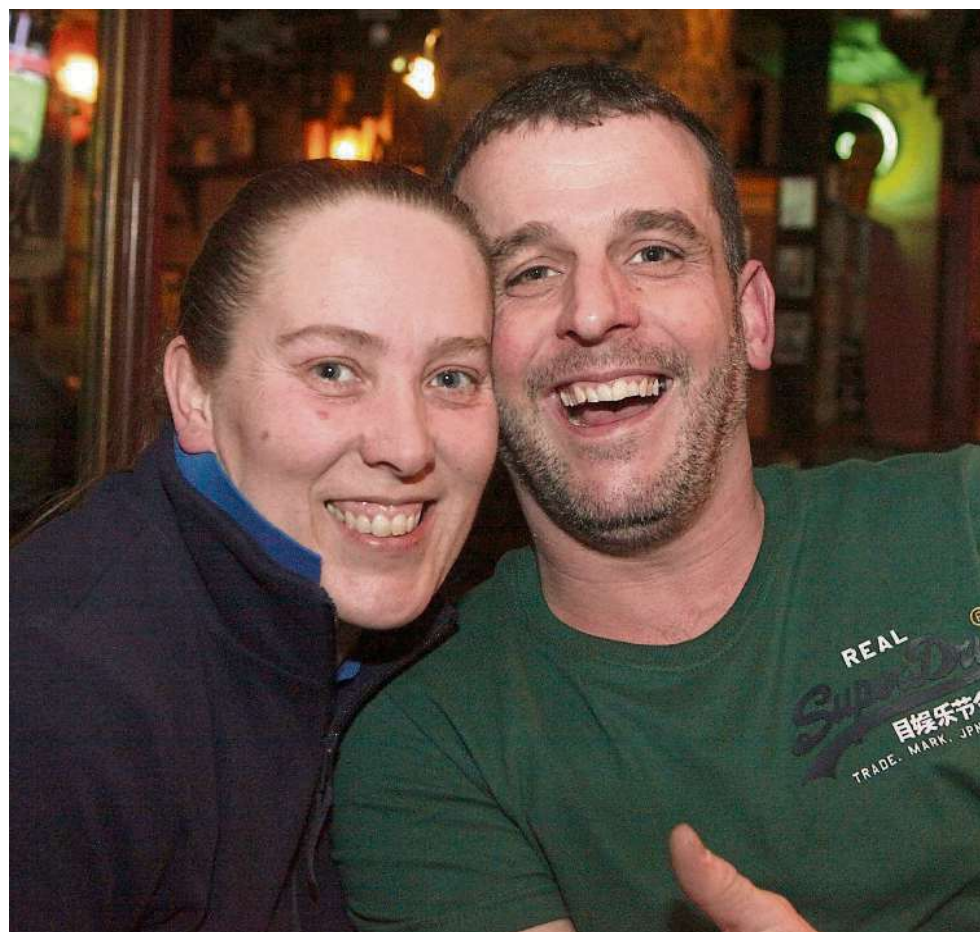
Zita McHale and Jonathan Nevin at Dolans



Richard Hill and Grainne Molloy at Dolans



Noelle Lane, Sorcha Hughes and Melissa Dillon at Cobblestone Joe's



Eileen and Ger Phayer at the Glen Tavern



Shut Your Cake Hole with Joe Rooney at the Lime Tree

THINGS WHAT ARE ON IN LIMERICK



ABOVE: Finbar Wright is at the UCH this Saturday



RIGHT: Eddi Reader plays the Lime Tree on Thursday



See Heather at the Belltable this Saturday

THIS weekend in Limerick offers some great comedy, classical music, hip hop and punk. If that isn't enough for you, you can also fill your Valentine's weekend with a trip to the theatre or the circus!

Thursday (Feb 13)

The **Irish Chamber Orchestra** are in the **University Concert Hall** this Thursday to perform Beethoven's deliciously-nuts Seventh Symphony. The Seventh doesn't get a lot of attention, mainly because orchestras tend to go for the safe harbour of the Fifth, Sixth or Ninth. That's rather a pity, as the second movement (the allegretto) is one of Beethoven's finest creations, and the tail-end of the symphony romps home like a horse on steroids, dropping sweat, salt and anger as it romps through you. You need to experience it at least once. They'll also be playing some Strauss, Widmann and Mozart. 8pm, tickets are €28, though if you're a student you can get in for a tenner.

Eddi Reader is one of Scotland's finest singers, as comfortable belting out catchy pop as diving deep into jazz, folk and Robert Burns ballads. She's back in the **Lime Tree Theatre** this Thursday night and I promise that if you go to this gig you won't regret it. Older readers will possibly remember her best from Fairground Attraction, the band that took the music world by storm in 1988 and then disappeared into the ether when she left the group. Some of us are still holding out for a second proper Fairground Attraction album - as long as all the band's members are alive there's a chance - but in the meantime, Ms Reader will happily take you on a wonderful journey through multiple genres of music this week. 8pm, tickets are €22 / €20 concession.

Friday (February 14)

Pretty much every Irish comedian over the age of 30 managed to get a guest spot on

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

Father Ted, and this Friday night you can pick from two standup acts beloved from their Craggy Island appearances. **Pat Shortt**, known as much from his part in D'Unbelievables and Killanaskully as his turn playing trigger-happy Tom in Father Ted, is at the **University Concert Hall** with his show Hey. Meanwhile, **Joe Rooney** (Father Ted's Father Damo) is at the **Lime Tree Theatre** with his Shut Your Cake Hole show. Both shows start at 8pm so you have to choose between them. Pat Shortt's show is €30 and Joe Rooney's is €22.

Limerick's **Opera Workshop** are offering two sessions of arias this weekend in Limerick. The Trouble With Virtue will include music from Mozart, Saint-Saens and Bizet. You can catch it in the county at Kilmallock's **Friars' Gate Theatre** on Friday at 8pm or in the city at the **Hunt Museum** at 3pm on Saturday. Tickets for either show are €20.

The **Limerick City Big Band** are in **Dolan's Warehouse** this Friday night, trying their best to sway the foundations of the building with their trademark sax and trumpet sound. They'll be joined by the Nova String ensemble and guest vocalists to send you home sweating. Doors at 8pm, tickets are €20.

Dublin rapper Mango and producer MathMan are

in the **Kasbah** this Friday night with their **Mango x MathMan** project. Their debut album Casual Work, released last November, was easily one of the finest hip hop releases of 2019, packed with tuneful tracks and cries of

disillusionment from a generation left behind by a resurgent economy. This is the gig you shouldn't miss this weekend, whether or not you're a fan of grime. Doors at 9pm, tickets are a tenner.

Saturday (Feb 15)

Nothing says Valentine's weekend like 12 hours of solid punk and that's what you can avail of at **Costello's Milk Market** Bar throughout this Saturday. Kicking off at midday, the **Overdose 2.0** festival will include performances from The Turn, Paranoid Visions, No Collusion and Audible Joe's. Tickets are just a fiver.

Irish tenor **Finbar Wright** is in the **University Concert Hall** this Saturday night with his Songs You Love tour. No chance of him performing Regina Spektor's Fidelity, I suppose, but it's songs you love, not songs I love. He's performed in most of the world's largest concert halls, though his biggest live audience is still singing the mass responses in front of over a million people when the pope visited the Phoenix Park in 1979. You can expect him to perform classical favourites and reliably close out the night with Whatever You Believe, which, to be fair, is a banging tune. 8pm, tickets are €38 / €35 concession.

Heather, at the **Belltable** this Saturday, is a play about secrets, public perception and whether the character and history of a writer can be separated from what

they send out into the world. In a world where Harry Potter seems not to exist, a reclusive writer is celebrated for a wizarding fantasy book series about a girl called Greta with a magical pen. Unknown to everyone, the writer has a dark secret. Of course, most writers have dark secrets, but this one's very dark. The play had a good run at Bewley's Theatre last year and, having seen it, it's worth seeing. 8pm, tickets are €18 / €16 concession.

The **Haven Hub** are holding a Valentine's weekend fundraiser this Saturday night, with proceeds going to help Limerick's only late-night drop-in centre for people in mental distress. It's at **The Unicorn** in Dooradoyle at 8pm and for 25 quid a head you can have a nice romantic meal followed by a disco. As Thomas Aquinas said, to love is to will the good of the other, which is the entire purpose of the Haven Hub. It's a great cause and deserves support.

Sunday (February 16)

Tom Duffy's Circus is in town for a week of shows, giving disaffected teens a chance to run away from their parents and become a killer clown. They're on the **Groody Road**, with shows every day (except Monday) until February 23. Weekend shows are at 2pm and 5pm, while weekday shows are at 4:30pm and 7:30pm. Tickets range from €14 to €28.

All weekend

Elliptical Affinities is at Limerick City Gallery until March, joined by extended exhibitions of State Of Print and the Hollander Workshop until the same date. All free to see. Best Costume Goes To is at the Hunt Museum until April 14 and will cost you €7.50.

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

Pat Shortt is at the UCH on Friday





Attending the Neil Jordan Costume Exhibition at the Hunt Museum were Maura Twomey and Linda Keane, Raheen



Academy award winning Irish film maker Neil Jordan opened a new and exciting exhibition at the Hunt Museum, Limerick, a joint Hunt Museum and ICAP Exhibition . Best Costume Goes to... is an exhibition which explores the relationship between actors, costumes and the growth of the Irish film industry

NEIL JORDAN COSTUME EXHIBITION AT THE HUNT

Pictures: GARETH WILLIAMS



Therese Brady, North Circular Road and Marie Sherin, Corbally



Bernie Hurley and Nuala Reddan, South Circular Road



A general view of the Michael Collins costume at the Neil Jordan Costume Exhibition at the Hunt Museum



Attending the Neil Jordan Costume Exhibition at the Hunt Museum were Margaret Walsh and artist Ann McBride



Alice and Ken Edge, city centre, enjoying the exhibition



Attending the Neil Jordan Costume Exhibition were Brendan O' Sullivan and Deirdre Henchy, St Joseph Street



Attending the Neil Jordan Costume Exhibition at the Hunt Museum were Nina O'Islanders and Marianne Schloesser, Corbally

Behind the scenes of Operation Transformation -week 5



MENTAL HEALTH MATTERS
DR EDDIE MURPHY
 CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST
 ADJUNCT ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR
 UCD SCHOOL OF PSYCHOLOGY

I always find this time — around week five of the eight-week programme — interesting with the Operation Transformation leaders.

There is a bit of a slump as they naturally get fed up with the cameras in their lives.

Also, this is the time when their 'stickability' has been questioned. In previous attempts to lose weight they have given up around now.

Perseverance is key in achieving any goal. I try to instil that with my two boys, but it's a struggle.

This slump will be short-lived as thy excitement of the finishing post is in view — namely the 5k and the grand finale where our leaders will show off all their hard work.

There was strong disagreement between Karl and Aoife, and myself, around Tanya's night out. They held a righteous view that Tanya let loose too much and came off the plan.

For me, her 'date night' when she drank three glasses of prosecco was her first night out in two years and, given the pressures and that she hit her target, a night out, a break, some fun is OK.

Here's how the leaders got on lastweek.

Shane, 29. Target: 3lbs. Lost: 3lbs

Shane opened up to the nation and they took him into their hearts. Shane has created a warm and nurturing home for his young family and increasingly is more integrated into family life.

I can tell you for the first time on OT I have seen natural smiles and genuine laughs from Shane, and I want to see more.

The sofa in Shane's house is the barometer of his relationship with his wife Clodagh. At first we saw Shane and Clodagh sitting poles apart — but not any more.

Clodagh (down 12lbs) is a wonderful warm person who has Shane's back.

OK, I can't ignore 'constipation gate'. Shane was constipated, according to Aoife and the Bristol Stool Chart, which says our stools need to be the consistency of toothpaste.

So I think Shane may need some gunpowder to get him going!

Lorraine, 46. Target: 2lbs, lost: 2 lbs

Your heart would have gone out to Lorraine last week. Despite



The sofa in Shane's house is the barometer of their relationship at first we see Shane and Clodagh sitting poles apart, not any more

making her weight loss goal — with some relief — she was dejected and deflated. She is a businesswoman, mum to the beautiful Mia and energetic Jodi, and she is also to being burned out by trying to be all things to all people.

Our fitness expert Karl has adapted her couch to 5k back to walking with the buggy as this integrates her young daughter Jodi into her fitness plan.

This is an excellent call by Karl as it makes the OT plan more integrated and not an extra chore.

I prescribed a week of self-care as I am worried about Lorraine's low energy levels, which are not assisted by Jodi sleeping in the bed! One thing I know and admire about Lorraine is that she is a fighter and has faced and overcome adversity in the past. Little steps will pull her through. Sleep, rest, exercise, self-care, and healthy food will rejuvenate Lorraine.

Barry, 39. Target: 4lbs. Lost: 3lbs

I was down in Cork to see leader Barry and we looked at his previous depression, which he described as a Battle of the Somme that went on for two years.

Upon exploration it turned out that two years prior to this his mood had been dropping.

My intervention was around looking at Barry's unique relapse signature. If you have had battles with depression or anxiety in the past, then I think it's critical that your understand your 'amber' zone — that space you enter before the red zone. With greater awareness of the amber zone, your visits to



It already looks as if Shane is back on track

the red zone may not happen or can be for shorter periods.

For Barry, recognising that sleep disturbance, communication difficulties (ie, suppressing his anger for long periods of time rather than assertively expressing his wishes), negative thinking and, in particular, ruminating are his amber zone signs is critical to banish bad mood days.

He was annoyed for not hitting his weight loss target, but Barry will bounce back.

Andrea, 31. Target: 3lbs. Lost: 5lbs

"Epic" was what fitness expert Karl henry said. Week five of the programme and losing 5lbs — that's amazing.

It turns out that Andrea has Polycystic Ovarian Syndrome. Wrongly, people think that you can't lose weight with PCOS, Andrea is proving that you can.

Aoife, Operation Transformation's incredible

Registered Dietician, indicated that a good food plan for someone with PCOS is that of the OT plan, which is also suitable for a Type II diabetic.

What I liked and complimented is how Andrea and her husband and fellow leader Barry's blended family are a bonded family. Too often, in my clinical practice I have seen children used a pawns in adults conflicts. In this circumstance, I commend the boys' mother, Barry and Andrea for the happiness of all.

Tanya, 33. Target: 2lbs. Lost: 3lbs

It erupted into a row. Tanya lost 3lbs this week but she was given a bit of a telling off by Karl and Aoife because they believed that she could have taken it easier on booze on her date night.

Tanya rarely drinks. In fact, for the first year in many all our OT leaders of 2020 are mostly non to minimal drinkers.

Each week I have asked the

leaders, particularly Lorraine and Shane, if there is fun in their lives. I want to see them having a lot of fun. When Andrea has some fun she is chastised!

Come on, it's OK surely to have a night off, a break and then recharged you can hit the high spots. So from my point of view I am with Tanya.

Like all good disagreements, its important to talk them out and move on even if you agree to disagree.

For you the reader I ask, is there fun in your life? If not, why not? Here my prescription — go have fun!

*** 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



Top Tips

Keeping your child safe online

Negotiate a clear agreement with your child about how, when and where the internet can be accessed and used, and then stick to the agreement. Respect your child's privacy, but make it clear that this is a two way street. They also need to respect the rules.

Try to keep internet use in shared, family areas so that your child is not using the internet in isolation.

Communicate clearly and regularly with your child about the benefits and the dangers of being on-line. Spend time together navigating the web—help them see what sites are safe and ones they should avoid.

Make sure that your child doesn't provide personal information (name, school, address, phone number) to anyone on-line and that they only interact with people they know. Stress to them that they should never meet up in real life with someone they met online.

Keep the channels of communication open—make sure your child knows that they can come to you if they find themselves in a risky situation and that you will support them.



The anonymous and instant nature of the internet can also leave young people exposed to greater risks such as cyber bullying and harm from potential sexual predators

Importance of cyber safety

TUESDAY, February 11 was Safer Internet Day (SID). SID is an EU wide initiative to promote a safer internet for all users, especially young people.

Technology has improved the quality of our lives in many ways. It can be a valuable source of education, entertainment and connection. We can easily find ourselves, however, spending too much time online and responding too readily to the ping of the phone rather than our immediate surroundings.

Young people, the digital natives, have never known a time when technology was not fully embedded in their lives—the telephone attached to the wall is more like science fiction than reality. When young people spend too much time online,

unsupervised and without any limits, it can have a negative impact on them in many ways—including their physical and mental health, their education, their ability to concentrate and their ability to connect and engage with other people.

Online activity can become addictive—the young person might find it more difficult to engage in other areas of life such as school, regular meal times, after school activities, outdoor activities and spending time with family and friends.

We know that all of these areas are important for positive mental health and well-being in young people, so neglecting them can lead a young person to feel depressed, anxious or isolated.

There are also issues around

safety—by posting online your child is creating what we call a 'digital footprint. This is a trail that one leaves online when posting and sharing content.

The anonymous and instant nature of the internet can also leave young people exposed to greater risks such as cyber bullying and harm from potential sexual predators.

Many parents are struggling to keep up with the rapidly changing nature of technology and to fully understand what their children are doing online. There are a few things that you can do to help keep your child safe online:

- Talk to your child about their online activity, including what they like doing online, the apps and games they enjoy and what bloggers and vloggers they follow.

- Explore whether they have any concerns about their online safety and what they could do if they ever felt unsafe or frightened

- Review your child's privacy settings with them—this can be a good conversation starter about privacy, what is deemed appropriate when sharing and the reasons why one might choose to keep some information offline.

- Have clear rules and boundaries around the use of the internet and model this behaviour yourself.

This article was contributed by a member of Parenting Limerick. Parenting Limerick is a network of parenting and family support organisations. For more information on this and other topics go to www.loveparenting.ie.





STYLE & FASHION

CELIA HOLMAN LEE

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Highlights of Hollywood's biggest night

It was a night of glitz, glamour and gongs as many of Hollywood's finest turned out for one of the most glittering ceremonies of the awards season.

On Sunday night in Los Angeles there was only one show in town - the 92nd Academy Awards.

Saoirse Ronan who was nominated for her role in Little Women looked sensational wearing Gucci. Her dress looked so regal with its plunging neckline and its full peplum and sweeping train.

Scarlett Johansson who was nominated for her role in Marriage Story wore Oscar de La Renta. With its beaded embossed bodice and its satin flowing train, it was a head turner! Charlize Theron who was nominated for Bombshell looked divine in Dior which was one of my favourites, with its black sculptured neckline, high slit, train in heavy satin taffeta and a Harry Winston necklace. Other very stylish stars that I admired on the night were Laura Dern in Armani Prive, and Regina King in Versace.



Singer Billie Eilish wore a white Chanel tracksuit. She accessorized with long black nails, lace fingerless gloves, and multiple necklaces



Of the modern day movie stars Penélope Cruz and Scarlett Johansson are by far my favourites. I have to say Scarlett left everyone in the shade this year in this glorious dress by Oscar de la Renta



Saoirse Ronan wearing a plunging gown with a black-and-white top and a periwinkle-colored skirt. The dress, a Gucci design, featured a peplum detail at the waist



One of my favs was Charlize Theron in classic black Dior

CELIA SPOTTED

Looking good out
and about in Limerick

Name: Dautare Pauliukaite
Occupation: Nail technician;
model at Holman Lee
Agency
From: Limerick

Dautare, who is originally from Lithuania, but has been living in Limerick for the last three years, is working as a nail technician, but also models part-time with the Holman Lee Agency. Dautare says she gets her style inspiration from attending fashion events with the agency and from a few of her favourite celebrities such as Rihanna, Rita Ora and social influencers such as Sophie Dorena, Laura Milaa and others. She agrees that her personal style is also influenced by the different cultures she was exposed to growing up. By following style icons in Ireland and Lithuania she gets inspiration for her own personal style. Dautare's favourite high street stores include Zara, Mango, Bershka, Stradivarius and, of course, Penneys, but she also loves to invest in a few timeless pieces like the blazer she is wearing in the picture!

DAUTARE SAYS

Blouse, blazer and jeans: My blush coloured blouse is from MarcCain in Adare and my jeans and blazer are by Mos Mosh from Isobel Boutique. A blazer or coat is my favourite wardrobe staple, it really completes an outfit whether it casual or for going out.

Accessories: I like wearing stud earrings but watches are my preferred accessory.

Shoes: I picked up these nude stiletto shoes in Penneys. They are really versatile and I use them for both modelling and going out.



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



MANABOUTTOWN

PATRICK McLOUGHNEY

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Things to do on Valentine's day when you're single

So you're single on Valentine's Day. It happens to the best of us. I know it's easy to get jealous and frustrated at all the happy couples you know sharing lovey-dovey photos and social media stories all day but don't worry dear reader; being single on Valentine's Day can actually be a blessing in disguise. Rather than being tied down for the night or worrying about arranging the perfect date, you're free to do whatever you want. With a positive frame of mind and a little creativity, you can have just as much fun as all those nauseating couples on your timeline.

Have A Lads Night

Who needs a date when you can have a laugh with your friends? Maybe hit the pubs and clubs together and don't worry about trying to pull. Or maybe organise a poker night at home? You could also go to the cinema and see a popcorn action movie that no couple would ever dream of seeing on Valentine's Day. The point is that you probably have some other friends who are single so why not meet up and be single together? Especially if you're stressing about being alone or a recent breakup, a fun night out with the lads (or ladies) can really help to take your mind off it.

Find a Tinderella

If you're not feeling the singleton team-up idea then you can always spend the night trying to turn things around. It's not very often that I will advocate for downloading a dating app but if you'd rather not be alone, or in the company of other single friends on Valentine's Day then Tinder and Bumble may hold the solution. A dating app will help you to sort through thousands of potential partners in a fraction of the time it would take in a pub or a club and they by-pass a lot of the awkwardness (you both know why you're there). But remember, just because it's not face to face contact that doesn't mean you should be a dick. Or send one.

Go On The Pull

It might sound like a contradiction in terms, but Valentine's Day – the day for couples – is actually one of the best nights of the year to meet single people. I'm not implying that they're "easy pickings" as that's a little bit vulgar and creepy. It's just that the people who are out that night tend to be single, as the ones in marriages and relationships should be at home or on dates. So hit the local or the club and chat someone up – the odds are in your favour.

Have A Laugh

Some would rather spend Valentine's Day in their own company than frantically swiping through an app, getting drunk with their friends or facing a crowded nightclub. If this describes you and you don't care what day of the year it is then go about your business as normal. But if you're someone who's stressing about being single that can't face the hustle and bustle of the night scene or the hassle of the online dating world then do something nice for yourself to take your mind off it. They say laughter is the best medicine. They say it because laughter boosts your mood, reduces stress and makes you feel better. So pick out your three favourite comedy movies and spend the night on the couch having a good laugh. Treat yourself to something unhealthy like ice cream or pizza while you're at it, you can run it off in the gym tomorrow.

Treat Yourself

Take the money you'd have spent on a Valentine's Day date – including flowers, jewellery, dinner and whatever else – and spend it on yourself. There are few ways to make yourself feel like a million dollars than to make yourself look like a million dollars. Think of something you've wanted for ages



Love is in the air... for some that is... Limerick can be a lonely place on St Valentine's Day

and go get it. It doesn't necessarily need to be a new outfit either, it could be a new watch, a new pair of football boots or a new set of golf clubs.

You could also hit your local barber and get the full deluxe treatment. It's OK to treat yourself and the joy that you'll have when you do something nice for you will come back every time you wear it/use it.

Reconnect With Someone

If you're single on Valentine's Day then why not take this opportunity to catch-up with a close friend you haven't seen or talked to in ages. Location is irrelevant thanks to the magic of smartphones and wifi so you can chat to someone in Canada or Australia as easily as someone in Carlow or Armagh. You could also hang out with family. Offer to

babysit the nieces and nephews while mum and dad have date night. Be cool uncle and let them eat pizza, watch Disney and stay up later than bedtime.

Do Whatever You Want

I don't want anyone to read this and think that they have to do something if they're single on Valentine's day. These suggestions are just that, suggestions but no one knows what makes you happy better than you do. Do whatever makes you feel good or do what you do on a normal Friday and forget all about Valentine's Day.

Remember, being single gives you the freedom and independence to do whatever you want with your time and resources, and you can choose who to do it with. The world is your oyster and remember – you can be happy, with or without a partner.

Look of the Week

Connolly Man

My look of the week is a casual look from Connolly Man on Patrick St and Chapps in the Crescent Shopping Centre. Here, I'm wearing a Tommy Hilfiger half-zip hoody, Tommy Jeans and Tommy Hilfiger trainers. Tommy Hilfiger and Tommy Jeans are just two of the amazing casual brands you'll find in Connolly Man along with Calvin Klein, Superdry and Levis, just to name a few. Pop into Dave and check out the amazing range for yourself. Photo by Paudie Bourke.



Watch This Space

Emporio Armani AR11228 watch

MY watch of the week is the Emporio Armani Kappa watch (product code AR11228) from Keanes Jewellers. A harmonious fusion of Italian excellence in watchmaking and an innovative style with a classical undertone, The AR11228 is a fresh take on the brand's Kappa collection of wrist wear. Lovingly crafted from highly polished stainless steel with golden steel touches, the round 41 mm case has a smart black dial,

adorned with a mixed, golden baton and Roman numeral indexes for a classic, traditional finish for every modern gentleman. Featuring gold-toned hour, minute and second hands and the iconic Armani Eagle positioned at 12 o'clock. A seconds counter surrounds the outer rim and it's all protected by a mineral glass cover. An interwoven link



bracelet matches in two-tone stainless steel, it's filled with character and fastens with a deployment clasp, for a secure and comfortable fit when wearing. Thanks to its exquisite 3-hand quartz movement and two-year brand warranty, it's as reliable as it is stylish. The perfect work to weekend accessory. You'll find it at Keanes for €239.



LOUISE LOVES

LOUISE CANTILLON

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Rogha na Seachtaine



TO DO:

Valentines
Roller Jam

RollerJam will be creating an oasis of love and roller skating in Limerick on Friday, February 14 from 7.30pm to 9.30pm.



TO LISTEN:

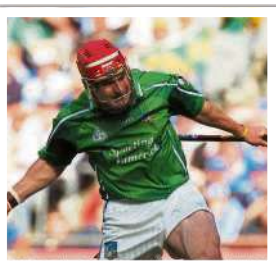
Track of the week

Curtis Walsh "Until I Fall": Irish singer songwriter Curtis Walsh at only 19 years old has already amassed over ten million streams across all streaming platforms on his debut EP Breathe. He's back with this reflective piano-led ballad and it is the beautiful heartfelt ode. Give it a Valentines stream!

TO SEE:

Limerick v
Waterford

Limerick will play Waterford in Round 3 of the Allianz Hurling League Division 1 on Saturday, February 15 at 7pm in the LIT Gaelic Grounds.



Great cause: Look good feel better this Valentine's Day

IF you are looking for a way to share the love this Valentine's Day, what's nicer than reaching out and supporting those who need love the most?

Finding out you have cancer can be daunting and life-changing. The added stress of the appearance related side effects of treatment can be demoralising and very hard to cope with. This can have a serious effect on self-esteem and confidence, at a time when a positive attitude is very important. Cancer can rob a woman of her energy and strength, but with the support of Look Good Feel Better it

need not take away her self-confidence.

LGFB is an Irish charity that is using the power of make-up to help rebuild self-confidence and self-esteem for women who have gone through cancer treatment. These amazing women attend workshops all over Ireland, run by a dedicated team of volunteer make-up artists.

If I volunteer, what is involved?

It can be as little as four hours a month, and is totally flexible, you choose. Ideally, you would commit to a minimum of three workshops, alongside two other volunteers,

during the year.

How do I become a volunteer? Will I get training?

You can read more about volunteering and fill in an application form on www.lookgoodfeelbetter.ie or email Margaret today - info@lookgoodfeelbetter.ie

You will be fully briefed and attend a two hour orientation meeting and be given a Volunteer Manual. You will then attend the make-over sessions as an assistant to more experienced volunteers at the beginning.

When and where are the workshops held?

Workshops are run from 2pm until 4pm in hospitals across the country. Here are the Limerick dates Mar 4, Apr 8, May 6, Jun 3, Aug 5, Sept 2, Oct 7, and Nov 4.

Even if I can't volunteer, what can I do to help immediately?

Spread the word on social media platforms.

Share it in your makeup artist friend WhatsApp groups, share it with people you work with (any other trained makeup artists) or if you work in a Beauty School or Salon, share with your colleagues!

Niall Horan's "Heartbreak Weather"

ON March 13 Capitol Records will release Niall Horan's new album, Heartbreak Weather – the follow-up to his 2017 No. 1 album, Flicker. Horan shared his new single, "No Judgement," along with the official video last week.

Ed and Valerie caught up with the pop star for an exclusive chat which will be aired on Spin

South West the day his album drops!

Reflecting on the new track, Niall Horan said, "When you're with me, there's no judgment. "There are enough people judging, so you don't need to be judged by me."

"When I listen to albums, I like to listen to them start to finish. With Heartbreak Weather, I wanted to tell the story

that was in my head, hopefully lead people down the storytelling lane of an album track listing versus just 'I'm gonna skip to the next one,'" explains Horan. "I was trying to think how I could write a different album than the usual...I wanted to write songs from different sides or from someone else looking in."



Spin's Ed Roche and Valerie Wheeler with Niall Horan



I ♥ LIMERICK

RICHARD LYNCH

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Facebook: Richard Lynch

Twitter: @richanthon

Web: www.richardknows.com

Email: Richard@ILoveLimerick.com



Medieval area is reborn with Nicholas St Painting Project

THE Nicholas Street painting project is one of the biggest most exciting community events to take place in Limerick City in recent times.

Nicholas Street is the main thoroughfare of the medieval city of Limerick. It is the principal street in the walled city and dates back to Limerick's foundations. At one end lies the beautiful Saint Mary's Cathedral and at the other the prominent fortress of King John's Castle built-in 1210. Over the last three decades, the street became associated with vacant buildings.

As the winner of Best Tourism Building Project 2019 and a Finalist in the Community and Council Awards for Best Community Based Initiative in February 2020, the Nicholas Street painting project brings the most important Medieval Street in Limerick back to life. The power and determination of this community painted the street to new glory.

Under the leadership of Dean Niall J Sloane from Saint Mary's Cathedral, the project is supported by Saint Mary's Cathedral, King John's Castle, The Hunt



Dean Niall J Sloane, Dean of St Mary's Cathedral, Brendan Foley, Member of the 1978 Munster Team that beat the All Blacks and holder of 11 Irish Caps, Micheal Sheahan, Mayor of Limerick City and County, and Niall O'Callaghan, Managing Director of Shannon Heritage cutting the ribbon on the new Nicholas Street.

PICTURE: KEITH WISEMAN

Museum, St Mary's Aid, Limerick Tidy Towns, the JP McManus Benevolent Fund and of course the local residents and traders.

The people of Limerick believe the resurgence of this street is worth celebrating.

This community-led approach supported by traders and residents can now be seen on the street, painted over the last twelve months.

At the official launch of the initiative at King John's

Castle, Minister Patrick O Donovan, Mr. Brendan Foley and representatives from Limerick City and County Council, Fáilte Ireland, Residents and Traders celebrated the completion of the Nicholas Street painting

project with performances from piper Captain Michael Egan and the Men's Shed Bodhran Players & Ballad Singers.

The Mayor of Limerick City and County Council spoke at the launch about the

street's history and how its revived beauty will last saying, "The people rolled up their sleeves, came together and have now reinvented and recreated this wonderful street." Well done to all involved!

Limerick uniting to create a dream home for Amy

DIY SOS: The Big Build Ireland is seeking out recruits to help revamp Amy Mulcahy's house over nine days, starting on Monday, February 10. Amy Mulcahy, a 13-year-old girl from Annacotty was thrown overboard in a rowing accident in February 2019.

In the accident, Amy's hair was caught, and she was fully submerged in water for over 10 minutes. She experienced a cardiac arrest but luckily

survived. Unfortunately, Amy suffered brain damage, destroying her sight, speech, and use of her body in the process. Throughout the year, she has regained her ability to see and speak but still cannot move properly. She currently uses a wheelchair for mobility.

A GoFundMe campaign was previously established to support Amy and her family, raising over €30,000. While this was a major

achievement, friends, relatives, and strangers wanted to do more.

'DIY SOS Ireland - The Big Build' is an inspirational and feel-good show airing on RTÉ One, which will see a deserving family facing hugely difficult personal circumstances get a significant home makeover to help improve their quality of life. They are recruiting volunteers to make Amy's dream home a reality.

To help Amy and the rest of the Mulcahy family, the people of Limerick and Ireland as a whole have bound together in hopes of creating a practical home for her. Their initiative will lead to a total transformation of Amy's home. Everyone in the Limerick area is encouraged to support the efforts or even contribute in some way. They hope carpenters, painters, decorators, fencers, and any labourers unite together for this great enterprise.

The revamp of Amy's home is happening as we speak so anyone would like to take part as a volunteer or supplier, contact dysoslimerick@motive.ie.



Amy Mulcahy pictured with her parents

THINGS I ♥ THIS WEEK

MUSIC VIDEO

Rapper Owen Alfred and filmmaker Luke Culhane team up

Luke Culhane, the 17-year-old Limerick filmmaker, and vlogger is reaching new heights in his endeavours and now has made his first-ever music video with rapper Owen Alfred for the song 'Blue Lights'.

Luke said: "I initially approached Owen after I found him on Instagram. I love music and especially love rap and hip-hop and wanted my first music video to be shot as part of the hip-hop scene in Limerick."

Before the music video, Luke gained popularity on YouTube, especially with his 2016 project 'Cyber Bullying: Create No Hate'. It was viewed over one million times worldwide. The video's launch boosted Luke's name in media, having done interviews with Sky News, Fox News, RTE, TV3, and Ray Darcy. He was eventually named Limerick's Person of The Year in 2016.

Owen is a Dutch and Nigerian rapper who grew up in Limerick and currently attends Limerick Institute of Technology. His first love is music and rap.

Owen spoke about working with Luke saying, "In terms of the video, Luke



Luke Culhane and Owen Alfred at the video shoot for 'Blue Lights'

took full charge of creating the image I wanted. I gave him my general idea of what I needed within the video in terms of the concept, but it was mainly him that grasp the vision of the track and showcased it excellently when needed. It took over 3 days of shooting and long nights to get the shots we wanted but overall, I think we both knew we had something special. The fact that everything was shot in Limerick in six locations makes the video 100 times better." Luke added, "I hope this video helps promote the hip-hop scene in Limerick and encourages more hip-hop artists in Limerick to release their own music and be proud of where they come from." Check out the video on YouTube now!



Neil Jordan, Film Director, Jill Cousins, Director of the Hunt Museum and Eimer Ní Mhaoldomhnaigh, costume designer and co-founder of the Irish Costume Archive Project at the 'Best costume goes to' exhibition launch at the Hunt Museum

PICTURE: BETH PYM/ILOVELIMERICK

Neil Jordan opens joint Hunt and ICAP exhibition

Last Friday, Neil Jordan opened the ICAP Exhibition 'Best Costume Goes to...', at the Hunt Museum. It explores the relationship between actors and costumes, and analyses the growth of the Irish film industry.

Thirty-three costumes representing 19 films and TV series are on display, including costumes from film and TV such as *The Favourite*, *The Quiet Man*, *Braveheart*, *Vikings*, and more.

The exhibition, curated by the Irish Costume Archive Project and the Hunt

Museum's Naomi O'Nolan, looks at how costume co-creates the character.

The Irish Costume Archive Project was founded by Eimer Ní Mhaoldomhnaigh and Veerle Dehaene. It collects and exhibits Ireland's film and television design heritage and highlights their importance as part of our national film culture.

Jill Cousins, Director of the Hunt Museum said, "The exhibition has some wonderful educational opportunities and connects us more strongly with more of Limerick's

culture organisations such as the Belltable and Troy Studios."

All costumes on display are from Irish films or major television productions filmed in Ireland or abroad but with Irish talent involved.

A full programme of events will coincide with the exhibition, including a lecture by costume designer Joan Bergin, quizzes, workshops and film screenings.

The exhibition runs until April 14. For full info visit www.huntmuseum.com.

MUNSTER HEART FOUNDATION

Ladies Lunch on Valentine's Day

THE Munster Heart Foundation 2nd annual Munster Heart Foundation Ladies Lunch and Fashion Show is taking place at The Savoy Hotel on Valentine's Day February 14 at 12:30 pm.

The Munster Heart Foundation continues to raise valuable funds to go towards the cost of an Intra-Cardiac Echo (ICE) machine for University Hospital Limerick. This lifesaving equipment will continue to help many people in the Munster

With a four-course meal and a fantastic fashion show with models from the Hilary Thompson Agency model agency, tickets are €100 each and can be purchased through the Munster Heart Foundation. Call 086 8216762 or email Munsterheart@gmail.com.



Models from the Hilary Thompson Agency model agency promoting the Munster Heart Foundation lunch taking place at the Savoy Hotel on Valentine's Day PICTURE: KEITH WISEMAN

HERO OF THE WEEK

Regeneron

LAST week, Limerick-based company Regeneron donated €20,000 worth of food and household goods to four Limerick-based non-profit organisations - Novas, Peter McVerry Trust, Mid-West Simon Community and Focus Ireland.

Peter McVerry Trust and Mid-West Simon Community both received food and supplies of cleaning goods and hygiene products. The goods will support their recently housed service users. Novas received a month's supply of meat for its kitchen staff to prepare meals for clients living in Novas' McGarry House and their night shelter. Regeneron also provided non-perishable and frozen food.

Regeneron also donated over 40 different household items to Focus Ireland's family emergency hub, including washing-up liquid and baby formula. Well done to all involved!



Much needed supplies were purchased by Regeneron and delivered by employee volunteers to help the charities at a time of year when donations are traditionally at their lowest PICTURE: TRUE MEDIA

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PUBLIC NOTICES

AN CHUIRT CHUARDA
(The Circuit Court)
SOUTH WESTERN CIRCUIT
COUNTY OF LIMERICK

IN THE MATTER OF THE LICENSING ACTS 1833 TO 2010
AND IN PARTICULAR, IN THE MATTER OF SECTION 8 OF THE INTOXICATING LIQUOR ACT, 1988, (as substituted by Section 23 of the Intoxicating Liquor Act 2000)
AND IN THE MATTER OF AN APPLICATION BY
WINESTORE RESTAURANTS LIMITED
Applicant

TAKE NOTICE that I, Linda Frawley, Director of Winestore Restaurants Limited, the said Winestore Restaurants Limited being the occupier of the premises known as The Cornstore Restaurant situate at 19 Thomas Street, Limerick, having obtained leave of her Honour Judge Martina Baxter, Judge of the Circuit Court at the Circuit Court sittings at the Courthouse, Mulgrave Street, Limerick on Tuesday the 28th day of January 2020 intends to apply to the Circuit Court at the Courts Complex, Mulgrave Street, Limerick at the Sittings thereof on the 25th day of March 2020 or on such day thereafter as this application may be taken in its order in the Court List for such a Certificate as is mentioned in Section 8 of the Intoxicating Liquor Act 1988 entitling Winestore Restaurants Limited to receive on payment of the fees specified in Section 9 of the Act a Special Restaurant Licence in respect of the said premises as more particularly described and delineated on the maps and plans accompanying this Application. Dated this day of 2020.

SIGNED: _____
Linda Frawley, Director Winestore Restaurants Limited, 49-50 Thomas Street, Limerick

SIGNED: _____
Sweeney McGann Solicitors
Solicitors for the Applicant
67 O'Connell Street, Limerick

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

ST. MARY'S R.F.C.

Lotto Draw held
Monday 10th February 2020

Winning Numbers: 1-4-13-25
No Jackpot Winner

Lucky Dips: James O'Brien c/o B O'Brien;
Keith Roche c/o Rashers; Brendan Murphy c/o
C Mullins; Eddie Sheehan c/o club

Jackpot €13,900
Next draw held in Katie Daly's Bar

GERALDINES A.F.C.

WEEKLY LOTTO DRAW HELD ON 10/02/2020

This Week's Jackpot: €4,700
Numbers: 3-5-8-10

Lucky Dips: Dom Lipper c/o club; The grandkids
c/o Paddy Mullins; Jodi c/o Joe O'Sullivan

Promoters Prizes: Dave Connolly
& Paddy Mullins

Next Week's Jackpot: €4,900

Next Draw: 17/02/2020

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FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

IN MEMORIAM



† COADY

(Tenth Anniversary)
In loving memory of our dear dad and great grandad Edward (Ned) Coady, whose Tenth anniversary occurs on 12th February. Masses offered.
 There is an ache in our hearts,
 That years won't take away,
 A place in our hearts no-one can fill,
 We miss you Dad and always will.
 You hold a spot deep in our hearts,
 Where the sun will always shine,
 For there will never be another to us,
 Like that wonderful Dad of ours.
Deeply missed and never forgotten by your daughter Margaret, daughter Geraldine, son-in-law Anthony, grandson James and partner Stacey, granddaughter Stacey and partner Ronan, and great granddaughters Brooke and Zoe and great grand son James xxx

DAD

It does not need this special day
 To bring you to our minds
 For days without the thought of you
 Are very hard to find
 Our hearts still ache with sadness
 And many tears still flow
 What is meant to lose you
 No one will ever know
 To hold you close within our hearts
 And there you shall remain
 To walk with us throughout our lives
 Until we meet again
 Love you so much
 Mind Mam
 Kisses to both of ye
Always in my heart your loving daughter Eileen, husband Billy and son Shane xxx

Dad
 Today your memory is quietly kept
 No words are needed we will never forget
 Each of us in our own way
 Have a special thought for you today
Loving son Johnny



Light a Candle...

A candle to remember, may it burn ever so bright

As we look to the heavens on this very night.

Beyond the stars, our dear loved ones soars

Embraced by their Savior on heaven's shores.

As the angels protect them and sing their sweet name

We honor their life with the glow of this flame.

So we light this candle for our loved ones tonight

As a symbol of our love and their eternal life.

IN MEMORIAM



† FITZGERALD

(Eighth Anniversary)
In loving memory of a dear wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother Phila Fitzgerald (nee Ryan) late of 24, St. Munchin's Street, St. Mary's Park, Limerick who died on 13 February. Rest in Peace. Mass will be offered on Thursday 13th February at 5:45pm in St. John's Cathedral
 The heartache and the sadness
 Might not always show,
 People say it lessens,
 How little do they know?
 They say I have my memories
 But they just don't understand,
 I cannot kiss a memories face
 Or hold a memories hand.
 On the outside it seems I'm healing
 But God if they could see inside,
 The pain and the sadness of losing you
 Hasn't changed since the day you died,
 But when I'm sad and lonely
 And everything goes wrong,
 I seem to hear you whisper,
 Cheer up and carry on.
 Mam you were so special
 What more can I say except
 I wish with all my heart
 That you were here today.
Love and miss you everyday from your daughter Maria and Jonathan. Give Dad, Joanne and baby Martin a kiss from us x

A special smile, a special face,
 And in our hearts a special place,
 Our memories we keep one by one,
 Things you've said and songs you've sung,
 They bring a smile sometimes a tear,
 But always a wish that you were here,
 Your not just a memory,
 Or part of the past,
 Your ours to remember,
 As long as life lasts.
Always loved and never forgotten by your son Mike, Mary and family xxx

Eight years without you Mam
 And still I wonder why
 I do not have you with me
 Oh Mam how I still cry
 To me you were not just my Mam
 You were my hero, my bestfriend
 Someone I loved, adored, relied
 on right to the very end
 Sometimes I get lonely and often
 I feel sad
 But on days like this it helps to
 think of all the good days that we
 had
 Like days you'd run a community
 Bus
 With more kids than you could
 count
 We'd head to the beach for a
 swim and a feed
 With not a penny between ye to
 count
 Or days I'd call to see you and
 you'd be sitting in your chair
 Wrapping you dinner in tissue,
 laughing at Dad when he'd see
 your plate was bare
 The memories keep me going
 Mam
 And I know with all my heart
 My love for you will never
 change
 Even though we are apart
Loved always from your Daughter Judy Son In Law Eamonn xxxx

IN MEMORIAM

I'll tell you about a woman
 That meant the world to me
 A woman I admired and loved
 And always speak about to Lee
 This woman taught me many things
 Like how to love, care and be strong
 But she never did prepare me
 For life after she was gone
 This woman was my Nana and I
 speak her name with pride
 She guided me through all my life
 And was always by my side.
 Like when I made my Holy Communion
 And she sat with me and Mam
 Curling my hair with her fingers,
 a comb and a glass filled with water
 Or when I got much older and
 upset about a boy
 She'd listen to me giving out,
 then give me some advice
 I wish that you could see me now
 Nana
 To see the woman that I became
 I try to make you proud each day
 To be the best Mam I can
Love and miss you so much, your granddaughter Amy, Dean and great grandson Lee xxx

Sweet is the sleep that heals all
 pain,
 I would not wake you to suffer
 again,
 God took your hand, we had to
 part,
 He eased your pain, but broke
 our hearts,
 No matter how life changes Mam
 No matter what we do,
 We will always feel blessed and
 honoured,
 To have had a Mam like you.
Love Desmond, Lorraine, grandchildren and great grandchildren

Thank you Mam for the years we
 shared
 The love you gave, the way you
 cared
 You left a place no one can fill
 We love you Mam and always
 will.
 You had a smile to share, time to
 give and time to care
 Someone to talk to, kind and true
 One in a million Mam that was
 you.
Sadly missed and never forgotten, your daughter Chris, son-in-law Christy and lads. Also thinking of my brother-in-law Trevor Williams at this time.

Nana
 Your life was a blessing
 Your memory a treasure
 You are loved beyond words
 And missed beyond measure
Loved and missed every day, granddaughter Stephanie and great grandson Evan. Also thinking of my granda Johnny at this time.

No matter how we spend our
 days,
 No matter what we do,
 No morning dawns no evening
 falls,
 Without a thought of you -
 The light of your love will
 always be there.
Love from your daughter Margaret, Brian, Dean and Niamh. P.S. Give Joanne a kiss from us.

The most beautiful diamond,
 A heart of gold,
 The brightest star,
 Words can't describe Mam,
 How precious you are,
 You lived your life,
 Helping and giving,
 Yet the sickness you got,
 Was so unbecoming,
 You are one in a million Mam,
 There will be no other and we
 were blessed
 To have you as our mother.
Love and miss you forever your son John and Grandchildren

IN MEMORIAM



Day you went away

Today's the anniversary Mam
 Of the day that I lost you
 And for a time it felt as though
 My life had ended too.
 But loss has taught me many things
 And now I face each day
 With hope and happy memories
 To help me on my way.
 And though I'm full of sadness
 That you're no longer here
 Your influence still guides me
 And I still feel you near.
 What we shared will never die
 It lives within my heart
 Bringing strength and comfort
 While we are apart.
Sadly missed and never forgotten by your daughter Deirdre, Andrew, Laura, Ryan and LeeAnne. Give Dad and Joanne a kiss from us

We always will remember you
 And the great times that we had
 We've so many wonderful memo-
 ries of you
 And for this we are truly glad
 When we think of our Nana Phila
 We think of you with love
 We hope that you watch over us
 From Heaven up above
Love always Nana from your Grandsons Mark, Jason, Patrick, Eamonn, Dylan and Great Grandsons Lee and Freddie xxxx

How do I write on paper the feel-
 ings I have inside
 From a brokenhearted daughter
 who has missed you since you
 died
 My heart still aches with sadness
 My secret tears still flow
 For what it meant to lose you
 Mam
 No one will ever know
 Call her name out softly Lord
 And when she looks your way
 Tell her that I love and miss her,
 every single day
Sadly missed, loved always your daughter Geraldine and Grandson Kieran xxxx

IN MEMORIAM



† HEALY

(41st Anniversary)
In loving memory of a dear father, grandfather and great-grandfather Patrick (Podger) Healy late of 10 Hyde Road, Prospect who died on 16th February 1979. R.I.P. Mass offered. Sweet Jesus have mercy on his soul.
 Distance takes us far apart and
 darkens my today
 I have to keep remembering
 you're just a thought away
 When the world is too
 confusing, times are hard to bare
 I pull your precious meaning,
 your bright from the air
 If I sometimes drift into a lonely
 state of mind
 I gather up the memories of
 days we left behind
 And though you're not beside
 me I can tap into my heart
 And draw upon the warmth and
 love that lives when we're apart
 And with these fond reflections
 on the times when you were
 near
 I sense a little bit of what it's
 like to have you near
 I really don't know where to
 start, the day you left broke our
 hearts
 Not just a crack, it broke in two
 filled with love just for you,
 We miss you so much and more
 every day
 And love you more than words
 can say
 Gentle Jesus up above, give my
 Grandad all my love.
You are sadly missed and will never be forgotten by your loving daughter Ann, son-in-law Christy, grandson Jeffrey & partner Edel. Sleep softly Dad Love you always xxx R.I.P

IN MEMORIAM



† IRELAND

(First Anniversary)
In Memory of Hannah Mary Ireland, a loving wife, mother and grandmother, who went suddenly to Heaven on the 14th February 2019.
 Joan touched so many lives in
 her 86 years, and helped so
 many people in her service in
 Gideon Bible distribution in the
 Mid West to hotels, hospitals,
 nursing homes and schools,
 Childrens Christmas Shoebox
 with Team Hope, and food
 distribution with Heart to Hand
 Charity, and thirteen Limerick
 charities, also directly to some
 families in need, and all this
 over twenty-one years of giving
 her time.
 A very bright light has left this
 earth, but a brilliant star is
 shining in Heaven
 O God, we live in a world of
 partings, but help us to see
 beyond the sorrow of separation,
 and in the Grace of your
 Forgiveness, to glimpse the joy
 of being reunited in God's
 Heaven.
Deeply missed, always by her husband Ron, son Ronald and wife Yvonne, grandsons Jamie and Calum, nieces, nephews, cousins and a wide circle of wonderful friends.
There will be a Memorial Night for Joan in The Unicorn, St. Nessian's Road, on the 14th February 2020 from 7:30pm. Music by Donal Ring Sound and family from Cork. All Welcome.



IN MEMORIAM

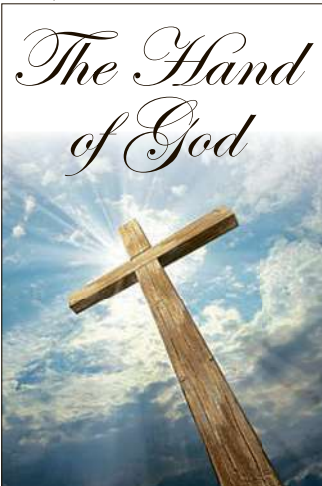


† **JOHNSON**
 (Sixth Anniversary)
In loving memory of our dear mother, grandmother and great-grandmother, Mary Johnson of 99 Lenihan Ave, Prospect, who died on the 20th February 2014. Mass will be offered on Saturday 15th February at 1pm in St. Saviour's Church.

Today we light a candle
 And say a special prayer
 We take a trip down memory lane
 And know that you are there
 This is your anniversary
 You would not want a fuss
 Just to be remembered
 And a prayer from all of us
 Time passes, memories stay
 Never forgotten, especially today
 We sat beside your bedside
 Our hearts were crushed and sore
 We did our duty to the end
 Till we could not do no more
 In tears we watched you fade away
 And though our hearts were breaking
 We knew you could not stay
 You left behind some aching hearts
 That loved you most sincere
 We never shall and never will
 Forget you mother dear
Loving memories, your son, daughters, sons in law, grandchildren and great grandchildren.
Also thinking of our dear Dad Frankie at this time.

THANKSGIVINGS

GRATEFUL THANKS to The Sacred Heart and Our Blessed Lady for all favours received and also thanks to St. Padre Pio, A. A. A. Saints. M.J.M.



*Though today, you walk in sorrow
 You will not be alone.
 There is One whose loving wisdom
 Is far greater than our own.*

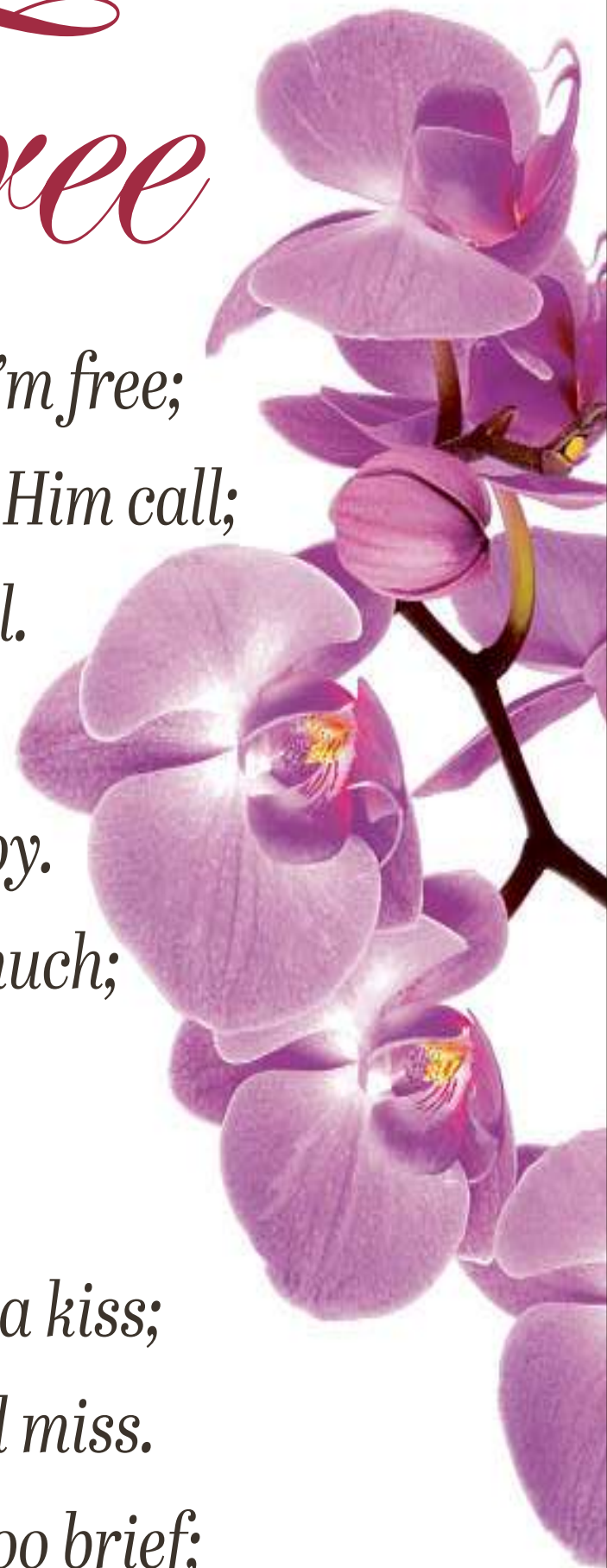
*Put your trusting hand in His,
 As a little child would do
 And He like a loving father
 Will guide and comfort you!*

*Day by day, there will come to you
 New faith, new hope, new light.
 You'll find that stars unseen by day,
 Shine through the darkest night*

*And though your heart is longing,
 For the dear one who's at rest,
 You'll know before the journey's end,
 That God's dear ways are best!*

I'm Free

*Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free;
 I took His hand when I heard Him call;
 I turned my back and left it all.
 If my parting has left a void;
 then fill it with remembered joy.
 My life's been full, I savored much;
 good friends, good times,
 a loved one's touch.
 A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss;
 ah yes, these things, I too, will miss.
 Perhaps my time seemed all too brief;
 don't lengthen it now with undue grief.
 Lift up your hearts and share with me;
 God wanted me now, He set me free.*



SPORT

Leader



DOUBLE AWARD FOR UPTON

Limerick Sports Star Awards 2019

See Page 42



Cian Lynch of Limerick in action against Jamie Barron of Waterford when the sides met in last season's championship. The two sides meet on Saturday night at the Gaelic Grounds

PICTURE: RAMSEY CARBY/SPORTFILE

Limerick and Waterford in league final rematch

Hurling: John Kiely's hurlers in top of the table clash with Deise

JEROME O'CONNELL
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LIMERICK and Waterford meet in a rematch of their Allianz Hurling League final this Saturday.

The round three league tie has a 7pm start in the LIT Gaelic Grounds – a game that is live on eir Sport.

Saturday's league game comes exactly three months before the sides meet back in the same venue in the Munster SHC.

Defending Allianz League champions, Limerick beat Waterford twice last year (1-24 to 0-19 in the league final and 2-24 to 0-10 in the Munster championship).

Ahead of Saturday evening, Limerick will be hoping for a number of key players to be ready for

selection after injuries – both captain Declan Hannon and fellow defender Richie English going off injured in the win over Galway two weeks ago, while Mike Casey picked up a knock in the Tipperary win.

On top of that trio, injury means that Kyle Hayes, Peter Casey, Shane Dowling, Pat Ryan and Adrian Breen are yet to feature in the Allianz Hurling League.

Limerick have used 24 players in the league wins over Tipperary and Galway and John Kiely's management look set to shuffle their pack again for the game with Waterford with Patrickswell trio Cian Lynch, Aaron Gillane and Diarmaid Byrnes among those that could be set for returns to the starting team

to play a Waterford side now managed by former Tipperary All-Ireland U21 winning manager Liam Cahill.

This weekend's Limerick-Waterford tie is the first meeting of the counties in a Division One group tie since on Shannonside since 2009 when a Justin McCarthy managed side scored a 2-14 to 1-13 win over the Davy Fitzgerald managed visitors. Current Limerick selector Donal O'Grady was in that Limerick team, of which there aren't any survivors in tonight's panel.

There was a league meeting in the group stages in 2015 but both teams were in the second tier. That game finished level 2-16 to 0-22 in a flood-lit tie when 3,502 attended and David Reidy



Will John Kiely shuffle his deck this weekend

scored two goals from two penalties.

After a break last weekend, Saturday's clash with Waterford is the first of

three weeks of hurling action - Sunday February 23 against Cork in Pairc Ui Chaoimh and Sunday March 1 against Westmeath in LIT Gaelic Grounds.

Elsewhere, this Wednesday evening, 7.30, three members of the Limerick panel go in search of Fitzgibbon Cup success. In total there are five Limerick men in the UCC panel that plays IT Carlow in the final of the Higher Educational Senior Hurling Championship – Paddy O'Loughlin (Kilmallock), Conor Boylan and William Henn (Na Piarasigh), Ronan Connolly (Adare) and Daithi Heffernan (Blackrock).

The DJ Carey managed IT Carlow defeated Limerick's Mary Immaculate College in the semi final last Saturday.

Soccer

'United' drop out of soccer scene in Limerick

LEADER REPORTER
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THE interim Chairman of Treaty United, Conn Murray, has outlined the reason behind the club's dramatic withdrawal from the SSE Airtricity Under-Age Leagues for 2020.

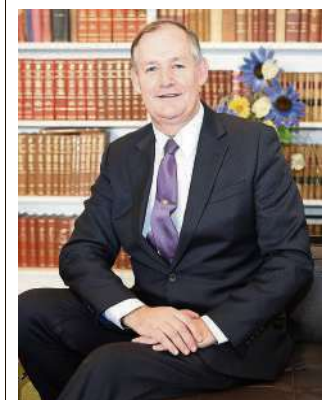
In an exclusive interview with the Leader Sport, Conn Murray admitted that those involved in Treaty United were extremely disappointed by the turn of events which has seen pulling out of the SSE Airtricity U13, U15, U17 and U19 leagues before the start of the new season.

The FAI indicated last month that the then 'Limerick United', which later had a name change to 'Treaty United', had been accepted into the SSE Airtricity under-age leagues for 2020.

However, Murray confirmed that Treaty United would not now have teams competing in the four under-age national leagues.

"Persistent threats of legal action have been placed upon us for a number of weeks now and we therefore stepped out of the application process, Treaty United stepped back, advised the FAI earlier this week that we were stepping back until such time as decisions were made around the Limerick FC application for a licence for senior football and also for permission to operate an Academy"

At the time of going to print Limerick FC were unavailable for comment.



Treaty United football club's Conn Murray

SPORT
SNIPPETSLimerick's
McInerney wins in
Thurles

Donie McInerney was in the saddle as Mitchouka came from off the pace to land the beginners' chase at Thurles on Thursday.

Trained in Dunshaughlin, County Meath by Gearoid O'Loughlin, the 8/1 shot arrived late on the scene to get the better of the front-running 3/1 chance Arvico Bleu close to the line.

"We have a lot of schooling done with him. Gordon Elliott had him and felt he'd lost his confidence and in fairness to Donie McInerney, he has done a hell of a lot of schooling with him.

We bought him in October, gave him seven weeks off and had him ready for the Christmas meeting Leopardstown but he gave himself a bad enough overreach and I couldn't run him.

I don't know where we go with him but I'm sure there'll be something coming up in the next few weeks." Eric McNamara won the 2m6f handicap hurdle with the Sean Curran-owned Cahirdown Boy.

The longest-priced winner of the day at 14/1, he was well on top after the final flight and went clear to win by five and a half lengths under Jonathan Moore.

McNamara said, "He just wanted better ground. I made a mistake when I ran him at Limerick and it's a mistake I won't make again with him. Today was the best he has jumped, and he has been improving. He could keep going for the summer."

Wins for Celtics
and Eagles

Limerick Celtics produced a 94-103 away win over LYIT Donegal in a closely fought game on Saturday.

An outstanding display from Kevin Oberweiser, who finished with an astonishing 43 points, played a pivotal role in the Celtics' win, while Limerick Sports Eagles were good value for their 88-72 scoreline against Portlaoise Panthers.

Team Tom McCarthys St Marys were also in action this weekend, as they saw off the challenge of UL Huskies with an 68-42 win in Castleisland.

Nash looks
to build on
Champions
Cup debut

COLM KINSSELLA
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LIMERICK winger Calvin Nash will look to continue a milestone season in style when Munster host the Southern Kings at Musgrave Park this Friday night, 7.35pm.

Nash made his Heineken Champions Cup debut for Munster in the province's final round pool fixture against the Ospreys at Thomond Park last month.

With Munster's Champions Cup involvement over for another season, the focus switches back to the resumption of the Guinness Pro 14 and Friday night's crucial fixture with struggling South African side, the Southern Kings.

Twenty two-year-old winger Nash is in line to add to his tally of caps for Munster in the coming weeks as the province faces into the first of four Guinness Pro 14 fixtures minus their Ireland internationals who are on Six Nations duty.

Winger Calvin Nash admits Ireland wingers Keith Earls and Andrew Conway have had a big influence on him to date.

Nash said: "I really need to take my opportunities when they do come. I will be learning from them when they are here. But when they are gone that is when I really need to put my hand up.

"And like Earlsy (Keith Earls) picking up that knock. I need to be able to stand up

and give the same performance Earlsy would do if not better. I am really enjoying rugby this year and just hopefully keep kicking on.

"I grew up watching Earlsy as well, it is nice to play with him and learn off him. He would be the model player.

"He has been Ireland's No1 winger for, I'm not sure how long, but he has been there and thereabouts. He has even played for the Lions.

"I have my own style of play, but at the same time there is no point not admiring what he has done and the way he does play the game.

"He is constantly learning as well and probably has one of the best work-rates along with Conway to really adapt their game and improve as players, week in week out.

"I would model myself off both of them, but at the same time I wouldn't want to lose something that is the way I play as well.

Ireland head coach Andy Farrell has released back centre Chris Farrell and back-row Jack O'Donoghue to the Munster squad ahead of Friday's meeting with the Kings.

Munster have slipped to third place in Conference B of the Pro14, their only win in the last four rounds of the league was the 19-14 win over Connacht in Galway in December.

Munster sit third in Conference B of the Pro 14, four points behind leaders Edinburgh.

Quarter-finals centre stage

THREE Limerick sides are in Clayton Hotels Munster Schools Senior Cup quarter-final action at Thomond Park this Wednesday.

In a hugely attractive double header at Thomond Park, the action kicks-off with the meeting of local rivals Castletroy College and St Munchin's College at 12.30pm.

The action continues then with the meeting of Crescent College and

Rockwell College at 3pm.

Castletroy College lost out to an impressive PBC, of Cork, side 32-21 in their previous outing in the Senior Cup at the end of last month.

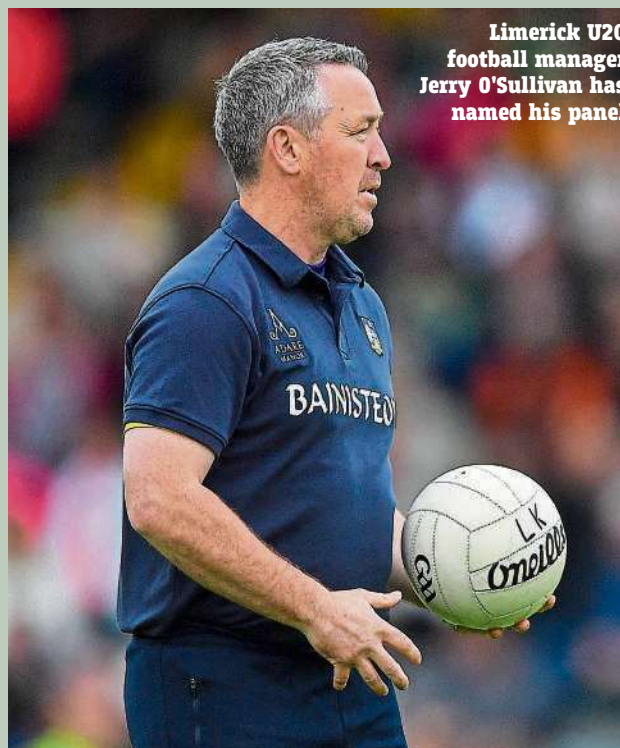
Castletroy did have a 'safety net' going into that game as their top two finish in the group stages of the new-look Senior Cup format ensured that the 2008 winners would be involved in a quarter-final irrespective of how they fared against Pres'.

St Munchin's had no such luxury when they faced into a



Calvin Nash pictured during training ahead of Munster and the Southern Kings

Limerick confirmed U20 football panel



Limerick U20 football manager Jerry O'Sullivan has named his panel

LIMERICK have confirmed a 32-man panel for the Munster U20 Football Championship.

The Jerry O'Sullivan managed Limerick play Tipperary in the LIT Gaelic Grounds on Wednesday February 19 at 7pm in a provincial quarter final tie.

There are 11 survivors from last year's panel.

Limerick beat Tipperary by one point in Thurles last year before losing a Munster semi final to Kerry in Tralee.

Eight players that saw championship action last year are still involved - Adam Shanagher, Barry Coleman, John Hayes, James Molyneaux, James Cummins, Brian Foley,

Shane Barry and DJ Stack.

Limerick prepared for the 2020 championship by taking part in the Liam Connor Cup, where they suffered defeats to Offaly, Wicklow and Clare.

Across the 32-man panel, there are 19 clubs represented with Galbally and Mungret leading the way with four players each, while Newcastle West and Fr Caseys have three each.

Victory over Tipperary would book a February 26 semi final at home to Kerry.

PANEL: Ciaran Sheehan, Dylan O'Sullivan, Eoin O'Mahony, James Cummins (all Galbally); Conor Galvin, James Garvey, Ronan McElligott, Shane Barry (all Mungret St Pauls); Brian Foley, Bryan Nix, Ruadhan O'Connor (all Newcastle West); DJ Stack, Rory O'Brien, Sean Kilbridge (all Fr Caseys); Adam Shanagher and Barry Coleman (both Rathkeale), Cormac Woulfe and Rory O'Connor (both St Senans); John Hayes and Liam Kennedy (St Kierans); Cathal McCarthy (Monaleen), Colm Ryan (Feenagh-Kilmeedy), Craig Carew (Cloughaun), Darragh O'Keefe (Fedamore), Eoghan McNamara (Galtee Gaels), James Molyneaux (Dromcollogher-Broadford), James Pomeroy (Kildimo-Pallaskerry), Jamie Baynham (Monagea), Jeffrey Alfred (Adare), Shane Bradshaw (Pallasgreen), Shane O'Donoghue (Ballylanders), Tim Lyons (Croom).



Ardscail Ris' Scott Gleeson attacks the Rockwell defence during last week's Junior Cup clash at Thomond Park

Munster Junior Cup time

PAT SHEEHAN
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THE MUNSTER Junior Cup takes centre stage this weekend with all remaining Limerick District League sides in action.

On Saturday, Regional A and Regional B are on the road in Cork and Tipperary while Fairview head for Waterford.

On Sunday Aisling Annacotty welcome Drinagh Rgs while Pike Rvs and Geraldines clash in the only all-Limerick affair.

Pike Rvs will field for the first time since their FAI Junior Cup defeat to Fairview so all eyes will be on their demeanour.

Geraldines seem to have the ability to lift their game for the big occasion and they will be well up for the this one.

Steve McGann's return and a possible start for Colm Walsh-O'Loughlin could give the Hoops the bite they were lacking in their last outing.

Barry Harnett and Cian Byrnes were sprung from the bench in the 'dines win over Killavilla in the last round and they may have done enough to get a start for this weekend.

If Fairview progress in their game, they will take on the winners of this one so there is plenty to play for.

Cork side Coachford are lying second in the Cork Premier League but have a whopping five games in hand on leaders Knocknaheeney. They welcome Regional Utd A to their grass pitch on Saturday afternoon.

If Regional play to their best they are good enough to progress. Their B team might not be in the same boat as they face a daunting



Pike Rovers will be back in action this weekend following their FAI Cup defeat to Fairview Rangers

task away to holders St Michaels. With nothing to lose the Bees will give it a go and hope for the best.

Waterford Division 1B side Stradbally welcome Fairview Rgs and while the Limerick side will be strong favourites they need to guard against complacency.

Aisling Annacotty also face Cork opposition in the guise of Drinagh Rgs. The firepower of the Limerick side should be enough to see them progress.

Two Limerick sides are in action in the FAI Youth Cup.

Aisling Annacotty take on Cork side Park Utd with the unusual kick off time of 6pm while four hours earlier Fairview travel to Freebooters in Waterford.

Four outstanding games in the Lawson Cup are scheduled for Sunday morning.

Nenagh meet Coonagh Utd in an all-Premier league tie. With both sides too close to the drop zone for comfort, they will treat this as a bonus.

Nenagh have hit a good run of form and they meet a Coonagh side still recovering

from their FAI exit.

Another all-Premier affair pits Kilmallock against Prospect. Kilmallock have been showing signs of a return to form of late and in contrast Prospect have not been playing as well as earlier in the campaign.

Newport will be fancied to advance at home to Northside while Knockainey host Caherdavin in the final tie.

Murroe can take over top spot in the McGettigans Premier A League if they can win at Athlunkard Villa, never an easy task. Defeat for

either Fairview Rgs B or Hill Celtic in their tie will end their hopes of promotion.

In Division 1A leaders Castle Rvs take on Patrickswell in LIT while Hyde Rgs will be looking to keep pace at Shelbourne. Star Rvs can keep tabs also but they face a sterner test away to Ball landers.

Tomorrow (Thursday) the Premier A O'Halloran Cup quarter final is scheduled when Hill Celtic take on Athlunkard Villa at 7pm.

For more see #LLSport

JUNIOR SOCCER

PREMIER DIVISION	P	W	D	L	Pts
Fairview Rgs	11	8	2	1	26
Ballynanty Rovers	11	8	1	2	25
Pike Rovers	10	7	3	0	24
Geraldines	11	6	2	3	20
Regional Utd	10	6	0	4	18
Aisling Annacotty	11	5	1	5	16
Mungret Reg	11	5	1	5	16
Janesboro	11	5	1	5	16
Nenagh AFC	11	3	0	8	9
Kilmallock	11	2	1	8	7
Coonagh Utd	11	1	3	7	6
Prospect Priory	11	1	1	9	4

PREMIER A LEAGUE	P	W	D	L	Pts
Charleville	14	9	1	4	28
Murroe	13	9	0	4	27
Moyross	12	8	3	1	27
Newport	12	7	3	2	24
Fairview Rgs B	13	6	3	4	21
Hill Celtic	13	5	3	5	18
Athlunkard Villa	11	5	1	5	16
Cappamore	12	5	0	7	15
Carew Park	13	4	3	6	15
Aisling Ann B	13	4	2	7	14
Holycross	12	2	0	10	6
Corbally Utd	12	0	3	9	3

DIVISION 1A	P	W	D	L	Pts
Castle Rvs	12	9	2	1	29
Kilfrush	12	9	1	2	28
Star Rvs	11	6	4	1	22
Hyde Rgs	11	7	0	4	21
Southend	11	7	0	4	21
Knockainey	12	6	0	6	18
Patrickswell	12	5	3	4	18
Ballylanders	12	5	2	5	17
Summerville Rvs	11	4	2	5	14
Geraldines B	12	3	1	8	10
Shelbourne	12	0	2	10	6
Granville Rgs	12	0	1	11	1

DIVISION 1B	P	W	D	L	Pts
Regional Utd B	13	10	3	0	33
Aisling Annacotty C	12	5	5	2	20
Parkville	11	6	2	3	20
Pallagreen	12	5	5	2	20
Glenview Rvs	13	5	3	5	18
Athlunkard Villa B	13	5	3	5	18
Mungret Reg	12	4	3	5	15
Caherdavin Celtic	13	3	5	5	14
Newport	13	3	2	8	11
Caledonians	13	3	2	8	11
Charleville	13	2	3	8	9

DIVISION 2A	P	W	D	L	Pts
Caherconlish	11	10	1	0	31
Kilmallock B	12	9	3	0	30
Wembley Rvs	11	8	2	1	26
Janesboro B	11	8	0	3	24
Castle Utd	11	6	1	4	19
Meanus	10	5	1	4	16
Hyde Rgs B	11	4	2	5	14
Murroe B	11	4	0	7	12
Prospect Priory B	10	3	2	5	11
Corbally Utd B	11	3	2	6	11
Knockainey B	11	2	1	8	7
Herbertstown	22	1	1	20	4

DIVISION 2B	P	W	D	L	Pts
Northside	11	9	0	2	27
Aisling Annacotty D	11	8	1	2	25
Parkville B	11	6	2	3	20
Fairview Rgs C	10	5	3	2	18
Brazuca United	11	4	3	4	15
Lisnagry	11	4	3	4	15
Kilfrush B	11	4	1	6	13
Coonagh Utd B	11	3	1	7	10
Coonagh Utd C	10	1	4	5	7
Abbey Rvs	11	0	2	9	2

JUNIOR SOCCER FIXTURES

FIXTURES

THURSDAY FEB 13

PREMIER A O'HALLORAN CUP

Q-FINAL
Hill Celtic v Athlunkard Villa, 7.00, Jackman Park, R Broe

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 15

MUNSTER JUNIOR CUP

Coachford v Regional Utd A, 2.00
St Michael's v Regional Utd B, 3.00
Stradbally v Fairview Rgs, 2.00,

FAI YOUTH CUP

Aisling Annacotty v Park Utd, R McCann, D Power, S Rooney
Freebooters v Fairview Rgs, 2.00

STA FURNITURE DIVISION 1B

Charleville v Parkville, 7.00, S Rooney

SUNDAY FEB 16

MUNSTER JUNIOR CUP

Ashling Annacotty v Drinagh Rgs, 2.00, N Casey, B Higgins, A Hall
Pike Rvs v Geraldines, 2.00, R Broe, G Clancy, A Galvin

LAWSON CUP

Nenagh v Coonagh Utd, 11.00, J McNamara
Newport v Northside, 11.00, G Clancy
Kilmallock v Prospect, 11.00, K Gorman
Knockainey v Caherdavin, 11.00, G Collopy

OPEN CUP

Castle Utd v Parkville, 2.00, T O'Sullivan

MCGETTIGANS PREMIER A LEAGUE

Athlunkard Villa v Murroe, 11.00, Corbally Utd v Cappamore, 11.00, Fairview Rgs B v Hill Celtic, 2.00,

MCGETTIGANS DIV 1A

Shelbourne v Hyde Rgs, 11.00, Summerville Rvs v Granville Rgs, 11.00, Patrickswell v Castle Rvs, LIT, 11.00, Ballylanders v Star Rvs, 11.00,

STA FURNITURE DIVISION 1B

Pallagreen v Aisling, Mike Monahan
Caledonians v Athlunkard Villa, J Rooney

ALL TAN SUNBEDS DIV 2A

Wembley Rvs v Meanus, 11.00, M Murphy
Janesboro v Caherconlish, 11.00, M Kavanagh

Hyde Rgs v Knockainey, 2.00, M Kavanagh
Kilmallock v Prospect, 2.00, M Murphy

DIVISION 2B LEAGUE

Lisnagry v Abbey Rvs, 11.00, K McCormack
Fairview Rgs C v Aisling Annacotty D, M Bourke
Fairview Rgs C v Aisling Annacotty, 2.00, J Clancy

EDEN HAIR SALON DIVISION 2B

Kilfrush v Coonagh Utd C, 2.00, S Scully
Abbey Rvs v Aisling D, 11.00, L Somers

NICK GREEN DIV 3

Murroe v Shelbourne, 11.00, M Bourke

YOUTH DIV TWO

Shelbourne v Mungret Reg, 2.00
Aisling v Corbally Utd, 2.00, Kilonan, M

Kennedy

THURSDAY FEB 20

TUOHY CUP SEMI FINAL

Pike Rvs v Fairview Rgs, 7.00, Jackman Park, A Hall, N Casey, B Higgins

DIVISION 3	P	W	D	L	Pts
Moyross B	12	10	0	2	30
Caledonians B	12	8	0	4	24
Nenagh B	12	7	2	3	23
Mungret Reg C	11	6	2	3	20
Lisnagry B	11	6	2	3	20
Dromore Celtic	12	5	1	6	16
Newport	11	4	1	6	13
Shelbourne B	10	3	2	5	11
Athlunkard Villa C	12	2	0	10	6
Murroe C	11	1	0	10	3

LIMERICK SPORTS AWARDS 2019



Roisin Upton received the Annual Senior Sports Star Award 2019 in the presence of Dave Mahedy (awards adjudicator), Brian Harrington, general manager, The Radisson Blu Hotel, Aidan Lyddy, Keanes Jewellers, Colm Kinsella, deputy sports editor with the Limerick Leader and Jean Murphy-Wright The Radisson Blu Hotel at the Annual Limerick Sports Star Awards in the Radisson Blu Hotel ALL PICTURES: BY DAVE GAYNOR



Brian Harrington, general manager of The Radisson Blu Hotel (second left) presented the September Senior Limerick Sports Star Award to Limerick Golf Club



James McCarthy, Ellie Sheehy and Steven Casey received the October Senior Sports Star 2019 in the presence of Dave Mahedy (awards adjudicator), Aidan Lyddy, Keanes Jewellers, Gerry McNamara (organiser), David Fitzgerald (coach), Brian Harrington, general manager of The Radisson Blu Hotel and Dr Stephen Lucey



Eoin Corby received the Annual Young Sports Star Award 2019 in the presence of Jean Murphy Wright, Radisson Blu Hotel, Donn O'Sullivan, sports editor, Limerick Leader, Dr Stephen Lucey, Brian Harrington, general manager, Radisson Blu Hotel and Aidan Lyddy, Keanes



Left to right: Ian McGill received the December Senior Sports Star Award 2019, Oisín O'Callaghan received the December Young Sports Star Award 2019 and Roisin Upton received the November Senior Sports Star Award 2019



Brian Harrington, general manager of the Radisson Blu Hotel presented the Annual Team Sports Star Award 2019 to John O'Donoghue, captain of Limerick Golf Club in the presence of, from left, Eugene Phelan, editor of the Limerick Leader, Jean Murphy-Wright, The Radisson Blu Hotel, Audrey Fitzgerald, lady captain of Limerick Golf Club 2019, Aidan Lyddy, Keanes Jewellers and Dr Stephen Lucey



Arthur Pierce, Tipperary, Chloe Ryan, South Circular Road and Joan and Harry Eakins, North Circular Road



Morgan O'Sullivan (third left) received the October 2019 Young Sports Star Award and Paddy Harnett received the September Young Sports Star Award 2019 in the presence of, from left, Brian Harrington, general manager, The Radisson Blu Hotel, Aidan Lyddy, Keanes Jewellers, Dr Stephen Lucey and Donn O'Sullivan, sports editor of The Limerick Leader



Turlough McNamama, Woodlawn Park and Christy O'Dwyer, Hyde Road



Pat and Deirdre Kiely, South Circular Road at the Annual Limerick Sports Star Awards



Donn O'Sullivan, sports editor of the Limerick Leader and Dr Stephen Lucey (awards judge) with Dave Mahedy who received an award for his services to sport

COLM KINSELLA

Chiefs have the quality to claim Super Rugby crown

THE 2020 Super Rugby season is underway with rugby's heavyweights from the Southern Hemisphere battling it out for the title for the 25th time.

The competition involves teams from Argentina, Australia, Japan, New Zealand and South Africa.

It is the third tournament in its current 15 team format, the last

before Japanese side, the Sunwolves, withdraw from the tournament ahead of a new format in 2021.

The current champions are New Zealand side, the Crusaders, who won their 10th title in 2019.

The Crusaders head the betting for the 2020 title at odds of 2/1. Next best in the market is another New

Zealand side, the Chiefs, on offer at 9/4.

The Chiefs scored back to back wins in Super Rugby in 2012 and 2013.

They have begun the 2020 season without the services of one of world's best second-rows in Brodie Retallick, but the return of Aaron Cruden is a major boost.

The Warren Gatland coached side also features Damian McKenzie, Anton Lienert Brown and Brad Weber. The Chiefs' opening two wins included an eye-catching success over the Crusaders. Boosted by their encouraging start to the campaign, the Chiefs are well-placed to go all the way in 2020!



Our tip to win the Super Rugby title this season are the Chiefs

IS THAT ON THE BOX?

Wednesday

SNOOKER

WELSH OPEN
EUROSPORT 10AM

TENNIS

HUA HIN 2020
AMAZON PRIME 10AM

RUGBY UNION

KILKENNY V NEWBRIDGE
PREMIER SPORT 3PM

SOCCER

BRISTOL CITY V DERBY
SKY SPORTS 7.45PM

SOCCER

MILLWALL V FULHAM
SKY SPORTS 7.45PM

Rory Scannell of Munster in action against the Southern Kings back in 2019. They meet again on Friday



Thursday

CYCLING

TOUR OF LANGKAWI
EUROSPORT 7AM

RUGBY UNION

CLONGOWES V ST GERARDS
PREMIER SPORT 3PM

GOLF

GENESIS OPEN
SKY SPORTS 7PM

SOCCER

AC MILAN V JUVENTUS
BT SPORT 7.45PM

RUGBY LEAGUE

WIGAN V TORONTO
SKY SPORTS 7.45PM

Friday

RUGBY UNION

BLUES V CRUSADERS
SKY SPORTS 6AM

GOLF

GENESIS OPEN
SKY SPORTS 7PM

RUGBY UNION

MUNSTER V S KINGS
EIR SPORT 7.35PM

SOCCER

HULL V SWANSEA
SKY SPORTS 7.45PM

SOCCER

WOLVES V LEICESTER
BT SPORT 8PM

Saturday



Limerick and Waterford tops Saturday's bill

RUGBY UNION

HURRICANES V SHARKS
SKY SPORTS 6AM

RUGBY UNION

BRUMBIES V HIGHLANDERS
SKY SPORTS 8.15AM

TENNIS

ROTTERDAM 2020
AMAZON PRIME 10AM

SOCCER

SOUTHAMPTON V BURNLEY
BT SPORT 12.30PM

RUGBY UNION

LIONS V STORMERS
SKY SPORTS 1PM

RUGBY UNION

LEINSTER V CHEETAHS
EIR SPORT 2.30PM

RUGBY UNION

LEICESTER V WASPS
BT SPORT 3PM

GAELIC GAMES

CARLOW V DUBLIN
EIR SPORT 5PM

RUGBY UNION

OSPREYS V ULSTER
PREMIER SPORT 5.15PM

SOCCER

NORWICH V LIVERPOOL
SKY SPORTS 5.30PM

GOLF

GENESIS OPEN
SKY SPORTS 6PM

HURLING

LIMERICK V WATERFORD
EIR SPORT 7PM

RUGBY UNION

CONNACHT V CARDIFF
TG4 7.35PM

RUGBY UNION

JAGUARES V REDS
SKY SPORTS 9.40PM

Sunday

SOCCER

ABERDEEN V CELTIC
SKY SPORTS 12NOON

SOCCER

ASTON VILLA V SPURS
SKY SPORTS 2PM

HURLING

GALWAY V TIPPERARY
TG4 2PM

HURLING

CLARE V LAOIS
TG4 2PM DEFERRED

HURLING

WEXFORD V KILKENNY
TG4 2PM DEFERRED

SOCCER

ARSENAL V NEWCASTLE
BT SPORT 4.30PM

GOLF

GENESIS OPEN
SKY SPORTS 6PM



'Spurs' go to the 'Villa' on Sunday, on Sky Sports



Cliona's
For families with a
seriously sick child

We want you on

CLIONA'S CREW

at the Regeneron Great Limerick Run
SUNDAY MAY 3RD 2020

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

LIMITED NUMBER OF DISCOUNTS STILL AVAILABLE

CONTACT US 061 331 333 or info@clionas.ie

Sign up and get your Cliona's t shirt and avail of our pre and post event hospitality at basecamp on O'Connell Street.



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