

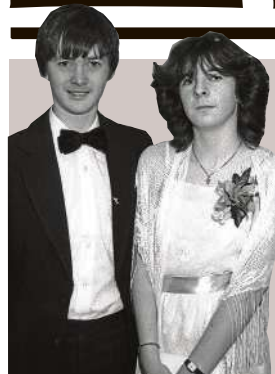


LIMERICK LEADER



REVENUE TOLD TO RETURN MONEY

Judge orders seized cash be given back **Page 4**



ALL OUR YESTERDAYS

INSIDE TAKING A LOOK BACK AT LIMERICK THROUGH THE DECADES



MAN LOSES €2.8K ON MOTHER'S DEBIT CARD IN CASINO

Bills racked up on stolen card

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A MAN who stole his elderly mother's debit card and lost close to €3,000 gambling at a casino in the city will have

to complete community service to avoid prison.

Eugene Nevin, aged 36, who has an address at Oliver Plunkett Street, St Mary's Park has pleaded guilty to more than a dozen theft charges relating to offences

which occurred on dates in June 2016.

Limerick District Court was told the defendant, who has more than 60 previous

► **TURN TO PAGE 2**



Christmas dream for Limerick family

Bernard McCann from 1Plus Events with the Belina family from William Street, Limerick, who won a family trip to Lapland this Christmas with Sunway Holidays and Parkway Retail Park

PICTURE: DAVE GAYNOR



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YOUR CITY YOUR PAPER

WEATHER

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TODAY
RAINY AT TIMES
WITH A
TEMPERATURE
PEAK OF 7°C



TOMORROW
OVERCAST WITH
SHOWERS AND A
HIGH OF 7°C



FRIDAY
PARTLY SUNNY
TODAY WITH A
HIGH OF 7°C

The policy of the Limerick Leader is to provide our readers with a news and information service that is fair, accurate and balanced. This newspaper adheres to the Code of Practice set out by the Press Council of Ireland and is committed to the highest standards of reporting. If we make a mistake, we will endeavour to correct it at the earliest opportunity. In such instances, please write to the editor at 54 O'Connell Street, Limerick, or email editor@limerickleader.ie. Alternatively you may contact the Press Council of Ireland at 1-3 Westmoreland Street, Dublin 2. Tel: (01) 648 9130. Email: info@presscouncil.ie

BUDGET 2018: 'DEADLY CONSEQUENCES' FOR TASK FORCE STAFF

Delay in funding for drug teams 'farcical'

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THERE could be "deadly consequences" due to a lack of agreement over next year's budget for a key task force that tackles drugs misuse in the Mid-West.

That is according to Sinn Féin TD Maurice Quinlivan who described the lack of budgeting measures for task forces nationwide as "farcical".

Deputy Quinlivan said that the Midwest Regional Drug and Alcohol Forum has suffered "massive cuts" over the past 10 years, and that the funds lost "have not been restored".

"The crisis facing communities across Ireland from the illicit drug trade unfortunately manifests itself in many parts of Limerick. There is open drug dealing, the use of children as drug mules and couriers, an increase in intimidation due to alleged drug debts, increases in certain crime, increased personal debts, and enormous pressure is being put on our health services which is creaking," he stated this week.

"Alcohol is another challenge that has been grafted onto its workload, yet no extra resources or funding has been granted in recent



Deputy Quinlivan says that there has been no agreement on the provision of funding for drug task forces nationwide, ahead of the New Year. He has described the situation as 'farcical'

years. The Government is clearly out of touch with the crisis that is happening in our communities."

He added: "We are now in the middle of December and Drugs Task Forces like the forum in the Mid-West Region are still waiting on Government approval for next year's budget. It is a farcical approach and could have deadly consequences."

He said that the "financial logjam" is directly impacting on staff at the task

force and other local services that deal with drug and alcohol addiction.

"They don't know whether or what level of funding will be available for 2018 to keep them open and ensure they can deliver their vital services. It also makes it nearly impossible to plan a coherent response to the drug epidemic and the various new challenges it places on communities when they have no real idea what their funding will be."

He said that Minister of State for Health Promotion, Catherine Byrne should be "championing" additional funding for such projects.

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Stolen debit card was used in city casino

FROM PAGE 1

convictions, surreptitiously obtained his mother's pin which enabled him to use the stolen card to obtain cash.

Sergeant Donal Cronin, prosecuting, said the card was used to obtain a total of €2,700 at Roma Casino on June 29, 2016 while it was also used at a Paddy Power William Street.

He said no compensation has been paid to date and that the injured party remains at a loss of more than €2,800.

Solicitor Michael O'Donnell said his client, who fell out with his mother as a result of the incident, intends repaying the money and was willing to put aside €100 per month.

Mr O'Donnell said his client accepts his actions were "very lousy" but added that Mrs Nevin is a "forgiving mother up to a point".

Judge Mary Larkin was told the defendant, who no longer lives with his mother, did not make any personal

gain as a result of his actions.

He has had addiction difficulties in the past and is currently on a methadone programme.

Having canvassed the views of the injured party, Sgt Cronin said she was "not anxious" for the matter to be finalised in a way that would result in her son being imprisoned.

Judge Mary Larkin described the actions of Mr Nevin as "particularly despicable" and she ques-

tioned why he cannot get a job and "put yourself to work".

She commented that his guilty plea had been entered "at the 99th hour" after he had forced his mother to attend court.

Adjourning the matter to the new year, she indicated she is considering a penalty of 220 hours of community service in lieu of an 11 month prison sentence. She fined Mr Nevin €200 in relation to a separate theft matter at Aldi, Childers Road.

Death

BRADSHAW Fr Brendan, Marist, Mount St Mary's Milltown, Dublin - late of Limerick, Dublin and Cambridge passed away on December 10, 2017 at Cherryfield Lodge Nursing Home in Dublin. Dearly beloved and sadly missed brother of the late Ann Power, John, Maire Bradshaw Tierney and Claire Scott-Lennon, brothers-in-law John, Pat and Frank and his several nieces and nephews, grand nieces and grand nephews. Deeply regretted by the Marist Fathers (Society of Mary) in Ireland and overseas and by the Jesuit Community in Cherryfield Lodge. Also deeply regretted by his many friends and colleagues within academia, particularly those associated with Queens' College, Cambridge. Memorial Mass was celebrated in the Chapel of the Marist Fathers, Mount St Mary's Milltown, Dublin 14 on Tuesday, December 12.

NEWS

ROAD: PEDESTRIAN CROSSING AT THOMOND BRIDGE DESCRIBED AS A 'DEATHTRAP'

Call for a new traffic plan as teen cyclist hit

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COUNCILLOR John Costelloe wants a review of traffic management across Thomondgate after a youngster was knocked off his bike at a crossing in the area this week.

The male cyclist, believed to be aged 14 or 15, was taken to hospital following the collision on Monday evening, although his injuries are believed to be minor.

It's understood he was cycling from Clancy Strand across the High Road and into Thomondgate when a people carrier coming over the Thomond Bridge ploughed into him.

Sinn Féin northside councillor John Costelloe is to call for a traffic survey of the whole area at the next local district meeting.

He said the crossing is "very dangerous".

"I think we need to reassess the whole area. We need to see a review of the whole traffic plan in Thomondgate. It's a very dangerous junction. I had an incident there myself. I was



The junction between Clancy's Strand, Thomondgate and the High Road, was the scene of an accident this Monday night

PICTURE: MICHAEL COWHEY

coming up from Thomondgate turning right, and a car sped on me and hit me straight on. It's a blind corner coming from one end of the city, and motorists do not slow down," he told the

Limerick Leader.

A witness to the incident, who was out jogging, said: "That junction is a death-trap. Every morning when I go to work, out of the five mornings, I have to stop to

wait for cars to stop. They fly straight past. There is no warning on either side to say there is a pedestrian crossing. How someone hasn't been killed yet, I don't know."

The AA reported heavy traffic around the area following the incident.

Gardai at Mayorstone Park are investigating the incident, and can be contacted at 061-456980.

CHRISTMAS 2017

Search for most festive business

THE Limerick Leader is running a competition to find the best Christmas shop front display. The winner will receive a premium advertising package. Email news@limerickleader.ie before next Monday at 10am.

CATHEDRAL

Ancór and guest for St Mary's

A SPECIAL concert featuring choral music for the festive season will be held at St Mary's Cathedral on December 21 at 8pm featuring Ancór and special guests. Tickets are €18, €15 concession.

MUSIC

Best of Christmas with the ICO

THE Irish Chamber Orchestra will be joined by soprano Ailish Tynan for the Best of Christmas this Thursday night at St Mary's Cathedral. The show starts at 8pm.

MUSIC

Mescall's festive tune at Christmas

RENOWNED Limerick songwriter Don Mescall has penned a festive tune to round off a successful year. The acclaimed musician has released The Hour Before Christmas.

HEALTH

61 patients treated on trolleys at UHL

ACCORDING to figures published by the INMO, there were 61 patients being treated on emergency department trolleys and on additional beds or trolleys in the wards at UHL on Tuesday morning.

INTERVIEW

Eimear profiled in Business Leader

THIS weekend, Business Leader will feature an interview with Eimear O'Donnell, of medical firm Alliance, in Raheen. Business Leader is included as part of the weekend Leader, out Thursday.

Rape Crisis service falls back on students' viral idea

A GROUP of UL students have joined forces with Rape Crisis Mid-West to devise a plan to help the organisation with its ongoing need for fundraising to keep the service running.

MBA students at the Kemmy Business School, Katie Clair, Stephen Ruschitzko and Owen Bagnell had 24 hours to come up with a solution to the organisation's everyday challenge.

Their solution was a proposed viral video initiative, called the "Fallback challenge", which consists of two people taking part in and recording a trust fall.

As part of the challenge, the three students suggested

that people should create their own Fallback video and nominate two people to do the challenge; share the video on social media using the hashtag #Fallback; and text "Fallback" to 50300 to donate €4, €3.60 of which will be donated to Rape Crisis Mid-West).

"Rather than being content with making recommendations about what Rape Crisis Midwest could do, they are running with their idea #FallBack, getting the support they need and making it happen. This is an exciting and innovative campaign which has the capacity to go viral and the Kemmy Business School is thrilled to sup-

port it in every way we can," she said.

Rape Crisis Mid-West's executive director Miriam Duffy said: "We are delighted to welcome this initiative which blends the corporate and charitable sector together. We are very excited about this campaign, which has been the brainchild of a group of students from the MBA programme."

The challenge was officially launched last Wednesday by UL Students' Union and the Kemmy Business School at UL. The students say that they are "confident" that they will get the support the SU and the large student population.



Owen Bagnell, UL, Lisa O'Malley, UL, Mark Ryan, Rape Crisis Midwest, and Stephen Ruschitzko, UL PICTURE: SEAN CURTIN/TRUE MEDIA

SEIZED: ALMOST €7,000 FOUND ALONG WITH ILLICIT CIGARETTES

Revenue is told to return seized cash

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THE Revenue Commissioners has been ordered to return almost €7,000 in cash which was seized from a Southill man who was caught transporting 10,000 illicit cigarettes.

The cash was located in a car which was stopped following a surveillance operation in Raheen on October 27, 2015.

Making an application for the forfeiture of the €6,750, John O'Sullivan BL said it was the State contention that the money was the proceeds of crime and that it would be used for criminal activity.

Judge Tom O'Donnell was told the driver of the car – Patrick McNamara, aged 69, of 169 O'Malley Park – was subsequently convicted in the district court of charges relating to the cigarettes which had a street value of almost €6,000.

At the time, the Revenue Commissions stated the potential loss to the exchequer was around €4,100.

Giving evidence customs and excise officer Christopher Mulqueen said the cash was contained in a purse which was found in a locked glove compartment of Mr McNamara's car.

He agreed with Marc Thompson BL that the re-



A total of 10,000 'unmarked' cigarettes were found in the boot of a car which was being driven by Patrick McNamara

spondent had claimed during interview that the money belonged to his wife who was a passenger in the car. He also agreed that documents in the name of Mr McNamara's wife were found in the purse.

A number of sworn affidavits were submitted and Mr Thompson said it was his client's contention that the cash seized included monies which had been

paid to his wife by the Department of Social Protection.

It was accepted by Mr O'Sullivan that Mrs McNamara had received "significant" payments from the department as two of their children, one of whom has since died, were suffering from disabilities.

Opposing the application to have the money forfeited, Mr Thompson

indicated it was his client's intention to use the money "entirely for the benefit" of his daughter.

Having considered the evidence and legal submissions, Judge O'Donnell said he was not satisfied the State had reached the necessary standard to prove its case.

He directed that the cash be returned to Mr McNamara.

CRIME FILE

By DAVID HURLEY



Staff were threatened during armed robbery

INFORMATION is being sought after members of staff at an off-licence were threatened by two men during a robbery at the weekend.

Gardai say two men, one of whom was armed with a wheelbrace, entered Fine Fines, Corbally at around 6pm

on Saturday.

They then forced the staff member to open the till and they made off with a quantity of cash.

"This Fine Wines is situated in a busy area, there's a chemist, a hairdressers, a butchers and a garage next to it. Gardai are hoping that somebody was walking or driving by and noticed something unusual," said a garda spokesperson.

Gardai at Mayorstone are investigating and can be contacted on 061 456980.

Concern over student houses

GARDAI are appealing to landlords and students to ensure their properties are properly secured over Christmas.

According to Sgt Ber Leetch, students' houses are often targeted around this time of the year.

"With a number of people in the house or flat not everybody will have the same sense of responsibility towards crime prevention and home security. Do not as-



Appeal: Sgt Ber Leetch

sume that the accommodation is secure, check all of the windows and doors," she said.

Secure your car this Christmas season

MOTORISTS are being urged to properly secure their cars if parking in the city between now and Christmas.

Gardai say cars should be parked in a safe area which is well lit and with plenty of passers-by.

"When you do lock your car look for the

flashing light, listen for the click and physically check your car that it is locked, do not just point your keys at your car as you walk away assuming that it is locked," said divisional crime prevention officer, Sgt Ber Leetch.

"Also don't leave any bags on view in the car or anything of value on display," she added noting that one car owner whose car was broken into recently later admitted that they had left a €20 note on the dashboard of the vehicle.

Teenager awarded €31k in damages

A YOUNG man who suffers from a number of intellectual disabilities has been awarded more than €30,000 in damages arising from an incident while he was in temporary respite care.

Limerick Circuit Court heard the now 19-year-old sustained a contact burn to the back of one of his hands when he was left unsupervised at a facility operated by the Daughters of Charity.

While the incident

happened in December 2007, legal proceedings were not initiated until last year.

Through his mother, the teenager, who was aged nine when the incident happened, lodged a claim with the Injuries Board which recommended an award of €30,000.

Making an ex-parte application, Elaine Power BL, representing the plaintiff, said she was recommending the offer to the court.

She told Judge Tom O'Donnell her client sustained a painful burn and that he still has a small scar on the back of his hand.

The barrister said while he did suffer a "minor cosmetic deformity" it doesn't interfere with his day-to-day living.

After the judge indicated he was willing to approve the offer, Ms Power asked that the monies be paid out to the young man's mother.

She said her client is medically unfit to manage his own affairs as he suffers from Down Syndrome and autism. He also suffers from epilepsy and developmental delays.

In her evidence to the court, the teenager's mother gave a sworn undertaking to only use the monies for the benefit of her son.

Noting her undertaking, Judge O'Donnell formally approved the settlement offer which totalled €31,158.

Alert over fake €50 notes

GARDAI are warning shoppers and retailers to be vigilant between now and Christmas following the detection of a number of counterfeit €50 notes over the past week.

"The advice from gardai is to pay attention to all of the security features on the new €50 note and don't just rely on the marking pen," said crime prevention officer, Sgt Ber Leetch.



A number of fake €50 notes were seized

Anyone who is alerted to a suspicious note is asked to contact their local garda station.



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NEWS

RECIDIVIST: CULPRIT HAS A LARGE NUMBER OF PREVIOUS CONVICTIONS FOR THEFT OFFENCES

Jail term for robbing two stores

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A CHRONIC drug user has been jailed for his role in two robberies at stores in the city on consecutive days last year.

Michael Gammell, aged 31, whose most recent address is at Clare Road, Ennis pleaded guilty to charges relating to an incidents at Topaz, Dooradoyle on September 28, 2016 and at Centra, Upper William Street the following day.

During a sentencing hearing, Garda Dean Landers said on each occasion, Gammell approached the counter on the pretence of buying something.

He said he tried to grab cash from the tills when they were opened and that during the incident at Topaz an 18-year-old employee was warned he would be killed if he reported the crime to gardai.

The defendant escaped with around €150 in cash from Topaz while he did not get any cash from the Centra store.

Garda Landers agreed with Brian McInerney BL, defending, that the accused man presented himself at the public office of Henry Street garda station around two hours after the incident at Centra saying he was out of control and needed to be taken off the streets.

Mr McInerney told the court his client, who had attended at University Hospital Limerick a short time earlier, told gardai he had a "bad few days" and needed to go into jail.

John O'Sullivan BL, prosecuting, said while nobody

was physically injured both incidents were "terribly unpleasant" for the workers.

Judge Tom O'Donnell was told both of the offences were captured on CCTV and that the defendant made full admissions following his arrest.

He has a number of previous convictions and is currently the subject of a suspended prison sentence.

Imposing sentence, Judge O'Donnell said the threat of violence was an aggravating factor as was his previous record.

"He has a bad record, he is

clearly a recidivist," he said commenting that Gammell's drug addiction is "clearly at the bottom of his difficulties".

He noted the defendant's admissions and said his early guilty plea was a mitigating factor in the case.

The judge said the offences had be treated seriously and that a custodial sentence was warranted in the circumstances.

He imposed concurrent three and-a-half year sentences – backdating them to the date of Gammell's arrest.



Limerick Circuit Court

Arrest after rubbish dumped on Dock Road



Gardai at Henry Street attended the incident at around 7.45pm on Monday, when a man was reportedly causing a disturbance in the Dock Road-St Alphonsus Street area

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GARDAI at Henry Street have arrested a man who reportedly caused traffic disruptions after emptying the contents of a wheelie bin on the street in Limerick city centre this week. The incident took place on

Monday night, between 7pm and 7.45pm, at St Alphonsus Street and the Dock Road.

It is understood that the man, who was believed to be under the influence of an intoxicant, was causing a disturbance in the area after he emptied the contents of a bin at St Alphonsus Street.

He then proceeded to run

down the Dock Road outbound, moving from the footpath to the roadway, resulting in a number of drivers to exercise extra caution.

A number of passersby made attempts to assist the man, and immediately contacted An Garda Síochána at around 7.45pm.

According to a source, gardai received the call, at-

tended the scene and arrested the individual. The ambulance service was called to scene.

It is understood that the man failed to cooperate with gardai, and was then brought to Henry Street garda station.

This was a number of hours after gardai at Henry Street responded to a re-

ported three-vehicle collision at the O'Curry Street-Dock Road junction shortly after 4.30pm, in a separate incident.

It is understood that the incident was minor, but there were delays along the route as a result of the incident.

There were no reported injuries.

UL study lifts the lid on child involvement in crime gangs

A NEW UL study has revealed that child involvement in organised crime extends throughout Ireland.

The report has established evidence of the deliberate involvement of children in criminal networks nationally and beyond just the single area it examined in previous research in 2015.

The National Prevalence Study, launched by Minister of State David Stanton, has established that findings from the Lifting a Lid on Greentown research, based on an original single case study design, can be applied nationally. It was undertaken by Dr Catherine Naughton and Dr Sean Redmond, from the UL School of Law.

The original research focused on the activities of children involved in burglary, and drugs for sale and supply offences in Greentown, a real but anonymised locality.

"This follow up study involving a survey of Garda Juvenile Liaison Officers across the country, has now given us clear evidence that the profiles of children involved in serious crime, identified in Greentown, are present far more widely," said Dr Redmond. "Importantly the problems highlighted in the Greentown report are not just confined to large urban areas. Children are being groomed into crime by predatory adults and, while relatively small in number, a pattern can be seen across the country."

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6 Chicken Wings **€3.60**

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CHARITY: NA PIARSAIGH MAN TO RAISE HOMELESSNESS ISSUE

GAA stars set for charity 'sleep-out'

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LIMERICK hurler William O'Donoghue will be one of over 400 current and former county GAA players taking part in a solidarity 'sleep out' this weekend.

With the temperatures set to remain close to freezing, the Na Piarasaigh clubman will be joined by a number of other GAA stars from across the region in sleeping on the street under the umbrella of 'Gaelic Voices for Change'.

William, alongside former Limerick captain Gavin O'Mahony, Ahane camogie star Niamh Mulcahy and others, will set up camp outside Brown Thomas from 6pm on Saturday evening.

There they will remain until 6am on Sunday morning to raise awareness of the homelessness crisis,



Limerick and Na Piarasaigh hurler William O'Donoghue, who will be taking part in the charity sleep-out this Saturday evening **SPORTSFILE**

and money for Novas, Focus Ireland and Thomond House.

A national initiative, 'Gaelic Voices for Change' is a player-led social movement, which has identified the scourge of homelessness as an area to focus on.

Similar 'sleep-out' events are taking place in other cities across Ireland including Dublin, Cork, Galway, Belfast as well as in Boston and New York.

"It is an honour to be involved in such a cause where local charities will benefit

directly. The reaction of the people of Limerick has been fantastic in terms of fund raising," said All-Ireland club winner William.

"The whole experience has conveyed the good will and generosity of the people of Limerick city and county which has been astounding to date and that support has been a huge motivating factor in terms of generating as much publicity about the cause as possible before next Saturday night," he added.

William said he hopes the people of Limerick continue to tackle the scourge of homelessness.

He said: "The homeless crisis is much deeper than those we see sleeping in our streets, it plunges much deeper with over 8,500 homeless families living in emergency accommodation."

Limerick's GAA stars – joined by colleagues from across the region – will be doing a bucket collection on Saturday night.



Dell EMC staff Denis Kelly and Murali Krishnan with their award

Dell-light for firm's care team

DELL EMC's consumer services team has won a major international award.

The team, some of whom are based in the Raheen Industrial Estate, took the Technology Services Industry Association Star (TSIA) award for innovation at its annual conference in Las Vegas.

Now in its 27th year, the Star award is one of the most sought-after accolades in the technology and services industry.

It acknowledges the contribution of companies to the continual improvement of technology services delivery worldwide.

The announcement comes amidst a positive year for the global consumer customer team at Dell EMC, having won a total of 14 international services awards.

Its global customer support network is lead out of the company's site in Limerick by Mr Denis Kelly with the support of Murali Krishnan who drives the strategy, design and the deployment for the Social Media Support out of India.

"The intellectual property of our team members in Limerick and across Ireland is a key contribution to shaping our strategy, leading not just to the awards, but to meaningful, tangible customer improvements, with a 26% reduction in Customer Effort, a 25% improvement in Customer experience and a 98% reduction in the cycle time of getting issues resolved through the medium of Social Support" Mr Kelly added.

Dell EMC employs over 1,000 people in Raheen.



Singing Christmas Gospel for Milford Care Centre

LIMERICK Gospel Choir have announced their annual Christmas Charity Concert 'A Feast of Christmas Songs & Carols', with all proceeds going to Milford Care Centre. There will be free entry, and volunteers will be urging people to donate whatever they can for the worthy cause.

"Milford Hospice has touched so many lives in our community and offered a wealth of support to loved ones over the years that we want to do our best in raising as much funds as possible, not only through our upcoming concert but also through our recent CD for Milford:

A Soulful Christmas with the Limerick Gospel Choir," said PRO Joanne Forde. The concert will take place this Sunday December 17 at 5.30pm in St Michael's Church, Denmark Street. All ages are welcome, and there will be plenty of Christmas tunes to clap your hands to.

Festive boost for Castleconnell SVP

THE St Vincent de Paul (SVP) branch in Castleconnell has received a boost after getting a €500 donation to support its Christmas activities.

The charity, which helps those less fortunate in society, has been nominated by FoodCloud to receive a €500 donation from Aldi in recognition of the services it provides during the festive season.

SVP in Castleconnell is one of several charities and community organisations which gets regular surplus consumable food donations from their local Aldi stores through FoodCloud, the not-for-profit social enterprise founded by Iseult Ward and Aibheann O'Brien.

Aldi has donated over

1,000,000 meals to charities through FoodCloud since the partnership began in 2014, providing over 510 tonnes of consumable food to some 260 local charities. This equates to a saving of over €1.5 million for the charity partners.

Martin Healy, of SVP Castleconnell, said: "We can't thank Aldi and FoodCloud enough. The regular donations of surplus food we receive allow us to use our budget for other essentials. This additional €500 donation helps us further and will enable us reach out to and assist more and more people this Christmas."

FoodCloud co-founder Iseult Ward added: "FoodCloud has connected 130 Aldi stores across the country with over 260 charities."



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LIMERICK ALMANAC | 2017

COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF THE YEAR FROM THE PAGES OF THE LIMERICK LEADER



Limerick Leader Almanac



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INSIDE:

HEADLINE MAKERS, PICTURES OF THE YEAR,
VOICE OF THE VILLAGE, CAMERA CLUB, WEDDINGS,
ALL OUR YESTERDAYS, LOVED ONES REMEMBERED, & SPORT

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ALL OUR YESTERDAYS, LOVED ONES REMEMBERED, & SPORT

'DISGUSTING': RUBBISH GATHERING ALONG WALKWAY ON BANK OF RIVER ON THE CONDELL ROAD

Resident highlights littering issues near river Shannon

DANIEL KEATING
e-mail: daniel.keating@limerickleader.ie
Twitter: @danielk1991

A NEW walkway along the river Shannon in the city is being 'destroyed' by groups drinking in the area, it has been claimed.

However, the Council has promised residents it will clean up the mess.

One local resident who contacted the Limerick Leader said he was passing through the walkway under the Shannon Bridge, off Condell Road, when he noticed the rubbish.

"We all need to stand up to the mark and the buck stops with us here in Limerick. It is disgusting.

"The bottles are not landing there by themselves, it's about people not giving due care to their surroundings," he explained.

According to the resident, the location where the rubbish was found is part of a new walkway that was recently developed after being flood damaged and is now opened, which has exposed



The unsightly view off the Condell Road, an area which Limerick City and County Council has said it will clean up

the rubbish as a result.
"There are some issues that need to be highlighted along the way, so that we stay on track in regard to nature, which serves us really," said the resident.
Cllr Michael Hourigan,

It's a beautiful walk in the city and people littering there is totally unacceptable
Cllr Michael Hourigan

who lives in the area, believes that the "ongoing" littering problem at the walkway is "terrible."
"It's an area I walk in everyday and its one of the most beautiful walks in the city and people littering there

is totally unacceptable." explained the northside councillor.
He added that people should take responsibility themselves and that the local authority can't solve the issue on their own.

A spokesperson for Limerick City and County Council said: "Limerick City and County Council has received a complaint in relation to rubbish behind the fence on the far side of Shannon Bridge.

"In order for this area to be cleaned, the fence needs to be removed and a contractor has been appointed to undertake this work.

"The Cleaning team in the city cleans this area on a continuous basis but mostly the near side of the bridge."

The council "understands that drinking goes on in the area and cans would be left after such gatherings. It is more a continuous littering problem than illegal dumping.

"Reports of anti social behaviour would be made to An Garda Siochana. All complaints on illegal dumping can be made through customerservices@limerick.ie or limerick.ie. They can also phone 061 556000 and the complaint will be logged and referred to the appropriate section for investigation." added the spokesperson.

New diploma at UL will help satisfy industry needs

A NEW Specialist Diploma has been launched at the University of Limerick aimed at graduates with a background in the pharmaceutical or quality and manufacturing sectors.

The new course, in Regulatory Affairs in (Bio) Pharmaceuticals, is a joint endeavour between the Synthesis and Solid State Pharmaceutical Research Centre (SSPC), Science Foundation Ireland (SFI) Research Centre and UL.
The programme, intended for Irish-based regulatory professionals, emerged from a strong industry demand in recent years for regulatory affairs (RA) professionals in Ireland for the pharmaceutical industry.



Sarah Hayes, SSPC, John Halligan TD, Dr Ann Ledwith, UL, and Jon O'Halloran, General Manager SSPC PICTURE: OISIN MCHUGH/TRUE MEDIA

"Regulatory Affairs is critical to the future success of such a highly regulated industry and building academic links with industry ensures graduates can tailor

their education to meet the demands of the emerging market," said Minister of State for Training, Skills, Innovation and Research, John Halligan TD.

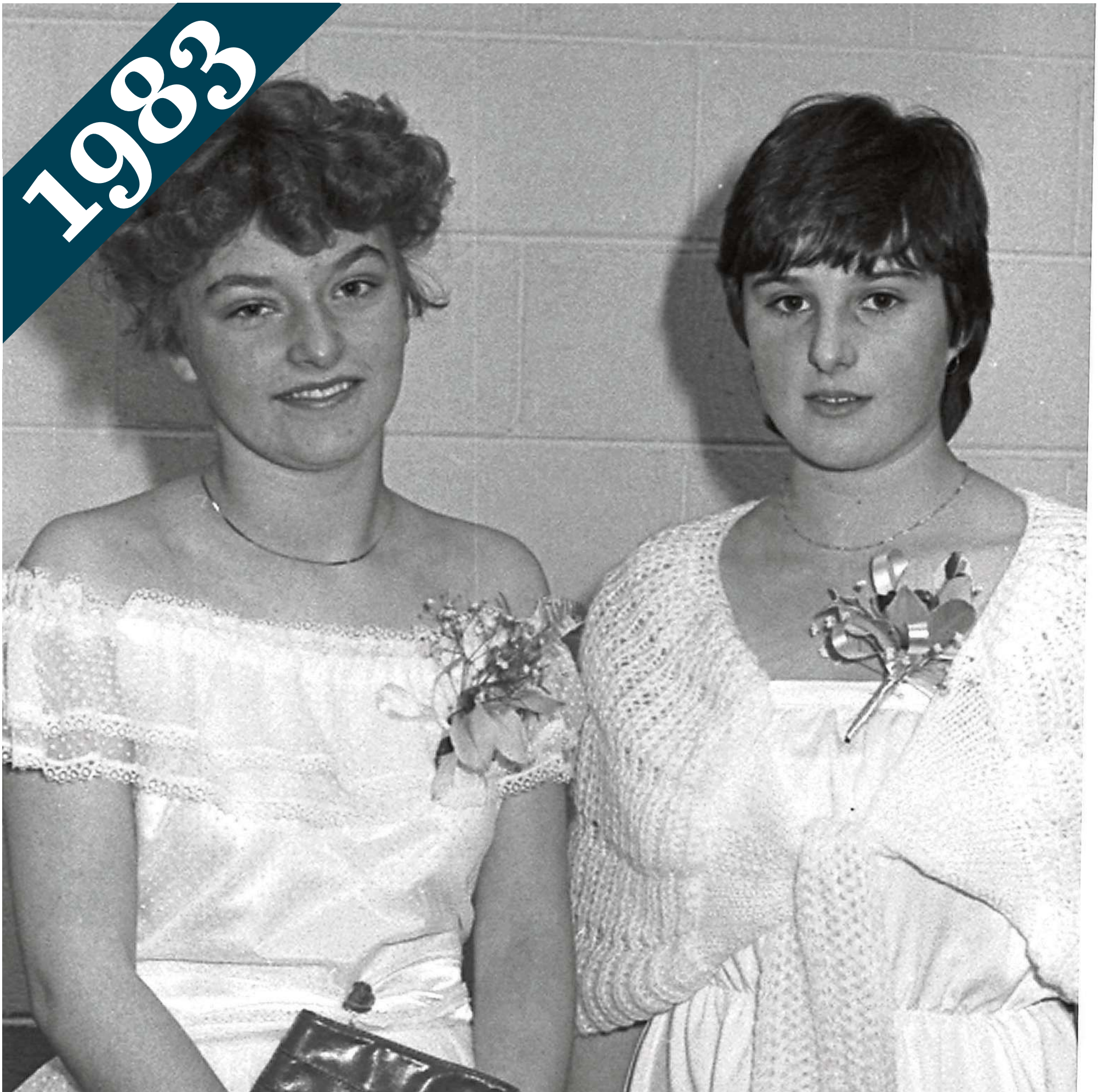
Spin Breakfast show to stay in Focus for 28 hours

SPIN South West is to broadcast a breakfast special for 28 hours straight this week in aid of Focus Ireland. The Fully Charged show, featuring presenters Ed Roche and Meghann Scully, will stay live for 28 hours at Bank of Ireland's Workbench on O'Connell Street to raise awareness and much needed funds for the homeless charity. Spin will have a pop-up studio in the Workbench facility from 6.45am on Thursday to Friday at 10.45am, with loads of live guests and guest contributors. Speaking about the campaign Rebecca Reynolds said it would "raise much-needed funds for all the families, children and young people that we help in the Mid-West". To donate, see www.spinsouthwest.com.



Great pictures from the Limerick Leader archive

All our Yesterdays



Belles of the ball: Jean McNamara, Garryowen and Jackie Foley, Annacotty at the CBS Debs in the school hall in 1983

ALL OUR YESTERDAYS



PICTURES CAN BE PURCHASED FROM THE LIMERICK LEADER AT 54 O'CONNELL STREET OR FROM PICTUREORDERSS@LIMERICKLEADER.IE

PICTURES FROM THE LIMERICK LEADER ARCHIVES - CBS Debs 1983



Darius Whelan, Monaleen, Helen Bamber, Castletroy, Mary O'Brien, Patrickswell and Maurice Fitzgerald, Patrickswell at the 1983 CBS Debs in the school hall



Shane Gleeson, Ballyclough and Suzanne O'Connor, Ballyneety



Ger Ahern, Southill and Deirdre Barry, Southill



Kevin Martin, Mayorstone and Ruth Duffy, North Circular Road



James Cullen, Moyross and Margaret Flannery, Carey's Road

ALL OUR YESTERDAYS



Don Buckley, Corbally, Katherine O'Shea, Parteen, Janette Clohessy, Shannon Banks and Aidan Buckley, Corbally at the CBS Debs



John Penny, Farranshone and Lisa Clancy, Janesboro at the debs

ON SALE NOW

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By Seán Curtin

VOL. SEVENTEEN

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OUR LADY OF LOURDES: ANNUAL PARISH CHRISTMAS PARTY



Eoin, Eoghin, Barry, and Jeffery, from the Crescent College attending Our Lady Of Lourdes Christmas Party all Pictures: Michael Cowhey



Paula Doyle with the school choir performing at the Christmas Party



Principal Peter Jennins leads the music



Caoimhe in the choir singing at the party



Leanna and Jodie at the raffle stall

PICTURE SPECIAL



Ali, Tori and Leah with Santa



Teachers Tracy Fitzgerald, Mary Jones, and Mairead Normoyle



Singing out loud: Members of the choir perform at the Christmas party



Siobhan Mc Kenna, and Roisin Rehilan with some Christmas treats



Sr Delia O'Connor with Danial and Moses



Gerald and Noel with Santa

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GERALDINES A.F.C.

WEEKLY LOTTO DRAW HELD ON 11/12/17
This Week's Jackpot: 800

No's: 1-4-5-14

Lucky Dips: Christy Hannon c/o Square Bar, Mary O'Brien c/o Jean McNamara, Chris Massey c/o Moose

Promoters Prize: Dave Connolly, Conor Keane
Next Weeks Jackpot: 900
Next Week's Draw held 18/12/2017

CLAUGHAUN LOTTO

Lotto draw for Monday 11th Dec 2017.

Jackpot 4,600 not won.
Numbers drawn 6- 16- 25- 28
The following won 30
Michael Frain, Vinny O'Driscoll, Trish Kiely, Angela Howlin, Ally Rose Deegan
Vouchers; James Naughton, Jake Kavanagh, Anthony Purcell

Next week's jackpot 4,700

FAIRVIEW RANGERS

WEEKLY LOTTO DATE: 11/12/2017
JACKPOT: 6000

NUMBERS DRAWN: 8-14-21-24
No Winner:

5 x Lucky Dip; Olivia Staunton c/o Greaney, Ann Moore c/o Club, Andrew O'Brien c/o Brosy, Simon Ward c/o 13A Team, Karen Ryan McNamara c/o Pa Ryan

Promoters Prize: Pa Ryan
Next Weeks Jackpot: 6100

ST. MARY'S R.F.C.

Lotto Draw held Monday 11th December 2017
Winning Numbers 1-20-22-27

NO WINNER

4 Winners 40 each: Annmarie Walsh c/o C C Mullins, Gordon Walsh c/o E O'Byrne, Donal Mulcahy c/o Rashers, Prince c/o C Cosgrave
Next weeks Jackpot 19,000

Draw will take place in Cowheys Bar
Voucher Winners; Mary Hayes c/o Club, Anthony Connolly c/o Kinsellas, Geraldine Costelloe c/o J Hurley

PLANNING NOTICES

APPLICATION TO PLANNING AUTHORITY

Limerick City and County Council: Permission sought by Bernie Elligott to retain extension to rear of house at 45 O'Dwyer Villas, Thomondgate, Limerick.
The planning application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy, at the offices of the Planning Authority, Limerick City & County Council Offices, Dooradoyle Road, Limerick, V94 WV78 during its public opening hours and a submission or observation in relation to the application may be made to the Authority in writing on payment of the prescribed fee within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the Authority of the application.

Take notice it could affect YOU!

You should always take note of a public notice. It is a legal notice to inform the public of a change that could affect them short term or on a permanent basis. It could be anything from a change to a building to the erection of a building. It could be notice of insolvency of a company you have dealings with or the closure of a footpath that you regularly use.

TAKE NOTE OF PUBLIC NOTICES

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9am to 5pm



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IN MEMORIAM



LISTON (30th Anniversary)



In loving memory of a dear wife, mother and grandmother, Anita Liston, late of O'Malley Park, whose anniversary occurs on December 14. Also remembering a dear daughter and sister, Laura Liston, whose anniversary occurred November 29. Rest in Peace. Also remembering Katelyn at this time

It's only small but it means a lot
To tell you Mam we have not forgot
Someone still loves you
Someone still cares
Someone still whispers
Your name in their prayers
A place in our hearts is yours alone
A piece of love no one can own
You live in our hearts & walk by our sides
From heaven above you are always our guide
Sadly missed by your loving husband John, daughters Shirley, Lindsey, Anita and Valerie, sons John and Damien and grandchildren.

We never forget you,
We won't even try -
We just miss you more,
As time goes by.
Thinking of you this Christmas Katelyn love
from all your family xx



LISTON (30th Anniversary)



In loving memory of a dear daughter and sister, Anita Liston (nee Hartigan) late of 342 O'Malley Park, Limerick, who died 14th December 1987. Aged 31 years. Also our granddaughter Laura Liston, who died 29th November 1987. Rest in Peace.

Also remembering my husband Pat and son Pa Jnr, my two sisters and three brothers at this time.

Life is not measured
By the years that you lived
But the love that you gave
And the things that you did.
Your life was a blessing
Your memory a treasure
You are loved beyond words
And missed beyond measure
Sadly missed by your loving Mam, brothers, sisters, nieces and nephews
Time comes with sad regret
It brings back days we shall never forget
You fell asleep without goodbye
But memories of you will never die.
Sadly missed by your loving brother Greg, Catherine and family.

I lost a sister with a heart of gold,
How much I miss you can never be told,
You shared my troubles Anita,
And helped me along,
If I follow in your footsteps,
I will never go wrong.
Always remembered by your sister Linda,
brother-in-law Thomas, niece and nephews.



IN MEMORIAM



MCNAMARA (19th Anniversary)



In loving memory of Thomas (Nommie) McNamara, late of 21 Lee Estate, Island Road, whose 19th Anniversary occurs on December 15. Masses offered.

We hold our tears when we speak your name
But the ache in our hearts will always remain
No words we write will ever say
How much we miss you day by day.
Simple words but very true
We will always love and remember you.
Gentle Jesus up above
Give our father all our love.
Happy Christmas.
Sadly missed by your wife Mary, sons, daughters, grandchildren, great grandchildren, brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law. Also thinking of my Mam, Dad, brother, sister and granddaughter Niamh at this time. Happy Christmas xxx

Dad go and run free with the angels
Dance around the golden Clouds
For the Lord has chosen you to be with him
And I feel nothing but proud
Although he has taken you from us
And our pain a lifetime will last
Your memory will never escape us
But make us glad for the time we had
Your face will always be hidden
Deep inside our hearts
Each precious moment you gave us shall never depart
So go run free with the angels
As they sing so tenderly
And please be sure to tell them
To take care of you for me

From your heartbroken daughter Lorraine, son in law Christy, grandsons Thomas and Niall and great grandchildren

A page in the book of memory,
Silently turns today,
We remember you in silence,
And make no outward show,
But what it meant to lose you,
No-one will ever know.
Happy Christmas to my niece Niamh and all The McNamara family love from your son Thomas, wife Geraldine, grandchildren Niamh, Cyra xxx



MAHER (12th Anniversary)



In loving memory of a dear wife, mother and grandmother, Colette Maher, late of 73 Ash Avenue, Carew Park, Limerick.

We let memories surround me
A word someone may say
Will suddenly recapture
A time, an hour, a day
That brings them back as clearly
As though they were still here
And fills us with the feeling
That they are always near.
For if we keep those moments with us
We will never be apart
And you will live forever
Locked safe within our hearts
Sadly missed by your loving family xx

IN MEMORIAM



O'CONNELL



(18th Anniversary
& 40th Birthday Remembrance)

Eighteenth Anniversary and Birthday Remembrance of a loving son, Brendan, late of 63 Park Gardens, Corbally, Limerick, who died on December 16, 1999 and whose birthday occurs December 15, 2017. Rest in Peace. Mass offered

A whisper one December
You heard a gentle call
You took the hand of Jesus
And quietly left us all.
You left us peaceful memories
Your love is still our guide
And even though we cannot see you
You are always at our side.
Deep in our heart you will always stay
Loved and remembered every day.

Happy Birthday Son from your loving Dad Michael, Ann and Mark.

It broke my heart to lose you
But you did not go alone
A part of me went with you
The day God called you home.
A million times I've thought of you
A million times I've cried
If loving could have save you
You never would have died.
Forgive me Lord I'll always weep
For my son I loved so much
But yet I could not keep.
Happy 40th Birthday Bren, your forever heartbroken Mam xxxx

Happy 40th Birthday Bren
18 years without you
There's a pain beyond imagining
That's burning in our hearts
When suddenly our whole world
Was cruelly ripped apart
Your heartbroken sister Sylvia, partner Mike, nieces Tiffany and Alisha and nephew Brendan xxxx

Today is full of memories
Of a brother laid to rest
And every single one of them
Is filled with happiness.
For you were someone special
Always such a joy to know
And there was so much pain
When it was time to let you go.
That's why this special message
Is sent to Heaven above
For the Angels to take care of you
And give you all my love xxx
Happy 40th Birthday Bren, we could never forget you bro. Love your sister Jessica and nephews Logan and Ethan xxx
18 lonely years without you
That's what it is today
We're always thinking of you
You are never far away.
We can't get over losing you
No matter how we try
Happy 40th Birthday Bren
Never forgotten, your brother John, Mary, nieces Amy and Chloe and nephew Jack xxxx

Remembering you is easy,
We do it everyday,
Missing you is a heartache,
That never goes away.
Sadly missed by your heartbroken brother Eoin "Happy 40th Birthday Bren" x x.



IN MEMORIAM

I will always love you
My only regret is
That if I had known
That the last time I saw you
Would be the last.
I would have hugged you a little tighter.
Told you I loved you a little louder.
My mind knows you are gone
But my heart will never accept it...
I miss and love you so much Bren. Happy birthday I love you forever your Sister Sinead

Sadly missed along the way
Quietly remembered every day
No longer in our lives to share
But in our hearts you are always there
Sadly missed auntie Catherine, cousins Seamus and Catriona
Happy memories keep forever
Of days when we were all together
Each of us in our own way
Have special thoughts of you today
Always remembered by uncle Liam, cousins Marina and Michael
Little Angels robed in white
Kiss our cousin Brendan good night
From his cousins Dean, Leah, Seanie and Megan xxxx

We hold you close within our hearts,
And there you shall remain,
To walk with us throughout our lives,
Until we meet again
A bouquet of beautiful memories,
Sprayed with a million tears
Wishing God could have spared you Dad
If just for a few more years.
Happy 40th Birthday Dad, from Tara and Olivia.
Love you to the moon and back xx
If I could have one visit Brendan,
On this my saddest day,
Maybe for a moment,
My pain would go away;
I would put my arms around you,
And whisper words so true,
That living life without you,
Is very hard to do.
Love you forever Brendan from Sharon xx
Happy 40th Birthday



GRAHAM (41st Anniversary)



Loving memories of a dear Dad Gus Graham who passed away December 19th 1976. R.I.P.
If memories bring us closer,
We will never be far apart,
For you are always with us,
In thoughts and in our hearts,
Always remembered your daughter Ena, Bart, grandchildren and great grandchildren

THANKSGIVINGS

NOVENA TO THE
SACRED HEART

Dear Heart of Jesus, in the past I have asked for many favours. This time I ask you this very special one (mention favour). Take it dear Jesus and place it within your broken heart where your holy Father sees it. Then in His merciful eyes it will become your favour, not mine. Amen. Say prayer for 3 days. Promise publication and favour will be granted. P.N.

GRATEFUL thanks to The Sacred Heart and Our Blessed Lady for all favours received and also thanks to St. Padre Pio. M.J.M; A.A.A.A.S.



Those we
love,

We never
lose,

For always
they will be,

Loved,
remembered,
treasured

Always in
our memory.



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IN MEMORIAM



REDDAN (Second Anniversary)



In loving memory of a wonderful mother and grandmother Mary Reddan (nee Mason), late of Cregan Ave, Kileely, who died 16th December 2015. Mass offered in St Munchins Church on Saturday 16th December at 6pm.

I once had something special that money could not buy
I had a special mother but I had to say good-bye
If I were asked one question
Why I thought the world of you
I could give a million answers
And they all would be true
The heartache and the sadness
May not always show
People say it lessens, how little do they know?
Meet me in my dreams and talk to me once more
And ease the everlasting pain that makes my heart so sore
The road without you is so long
A tear for every mile
But I know when I reach the end
You will be waiting for me with a smile
Your needs in life were simple
Your love for your family true
As long as we were happy you were be happy too
You taught us many things in life, always good and true
But you never told us how to cope
With the pain of losing you
Deep in our hearts your memory is kept
We love you to dearly to ever forget
You gave us many things in life
Gifts both great and small
But most of all you gave us your love
The greatest gift of all

Dearly loved, sadly missed your loving daughter Rosie and granddaughter Natalie xxx

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 has-n'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.

Sadly missed by your daughter Deirdre, Alan and grandson Alan xx
Happy Christmas xx

Mam, it's hard to believe
Two years have passed
Since that sad day I saw you last.
Your happy face went out that door,
Your loving smile I saw no more.
I didn't get to say goodbye
Just thinking of that makes me cry.
I miss our talks, your morning cheer;
If I had one wish,
It would be to have you here.
Just one more kiss, just one more smile,
Just one last hug, would make it all worth-while.
I miss you, Mam and love you so
It breaks my heart, knowing I have to let you go.
Sadly missed by your heartbroken daughter Majella xx

IN MEMORIAM

Time may dim the face we loved
The memory of your smile
The countless things you did for us
To make our lives worthwhile
Now your task is over
We long to let you know
How proud we are that you are ours
Because we loved you so
You always had a smile to share
Love to give and time to care
Always willing, helpful and kind
What beautiful memories you left behind
Dearly loved, sadly missed by your son Anthony (Harry) and partner Marion

Life is not measured by the years that you lived
But the love that you gave and the things that you did
Your life was a blessing, your memory a treasure
You are loved beyond words
And missed beyond measure
You left us quietly, your thoughts unknown
But left us a memory we are proud to own
So treasure her Lord in your garden of rest
For when on earth, she was one of the best
Dearly loved, sadly missed your grandson Wayne, partner Tara and baby Faye.

I love you, I miss you
I wish that you were here
I cannot believe it's already a two years
I think of you lots
In my mind and in my heart
I know that you are with me
So we're never apart
Your kindness and love
You gave to us all
Was acknowledged by God
When you answered his call
There's no doubt in my mind
We will see you again
You were not just my grand mam
You were also my friend
Love you so much from Jason xxx

I lost a mother with a heart of gold
How much I miss her can never be told
She shared my troubles and helped me along
If I follow her footsteps I'll never go wrong
She was mother so very rare
Content in her home and always there
On earth she (the boss) toiled
In heaven she rests
God bless you Mam you were the best.
Loved and missed and never forgotten by your loving son Mark, Hayley, grandchildren Kiera, Alannah, Marky, Zara and Kalynn xxx

It doesn't really matter if we're together or apart
You're never really far from me
You're always in my heart
I loved the way we both could laugh
Until we almost cried
But then we'd hug each other tenderly
When real tears filled our eyes
In some ways we were so different
Yet our values were alike
I knew you'd always have my back
Whenever trouble struck
You knew my darkest secrets
You never judged my pain
You validated my dreams
And let me know they were never in vain
The face I often show the world
Is who "they" need to see
But you accepted me for myself
As God intended me to be
If I could turn one wish to prayer
It would be that you could have seen
How precious you always were in my eyes
And how precious you always will be
For no matter where life leads us
From now until the end
I know I'll see you again some day
My sister, my best friend
Sadly missed by your loving sister Brigid, nephews Barry and Ross and nieces Fiona and Deborah xxx

No matter how we spend our days,
No matter what we do,
No morning dawns no evening falls,
Without a thought of you
Always remembered by your friend Foncie and Bella xx

Christmas Deadlines for Family Notices

Monday Leader 18th December

DEADLINE - Friday 15th at 12pm

Tuesday Chronicle 19th December

DEADLINE - Monday 18th at 12pm

Wednesday Leader 20th December

DEADLINE - Tuesday 19th at 12pm

Weekend Broadsheet 23rd December

DEADLINE - Tuesday 19th at 12pm

Monday Leader 25th December

- No Publication -

Tuesday Chronicle 26th December

- No Publication -

Wednesday Leader 27th December

DEADLINE - Thursday 21st at 12pm

Weekend Broadsheet 30th December

DEADLINE - Thursday 21st at 12pm

Monday Leader 1st January

- No Publication -

Tuesday Chronicle 2nd January

DEADLINE - Thursday 28th December at 12pm

Normal Deadlines resume after this



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PICTURE SPECIAL

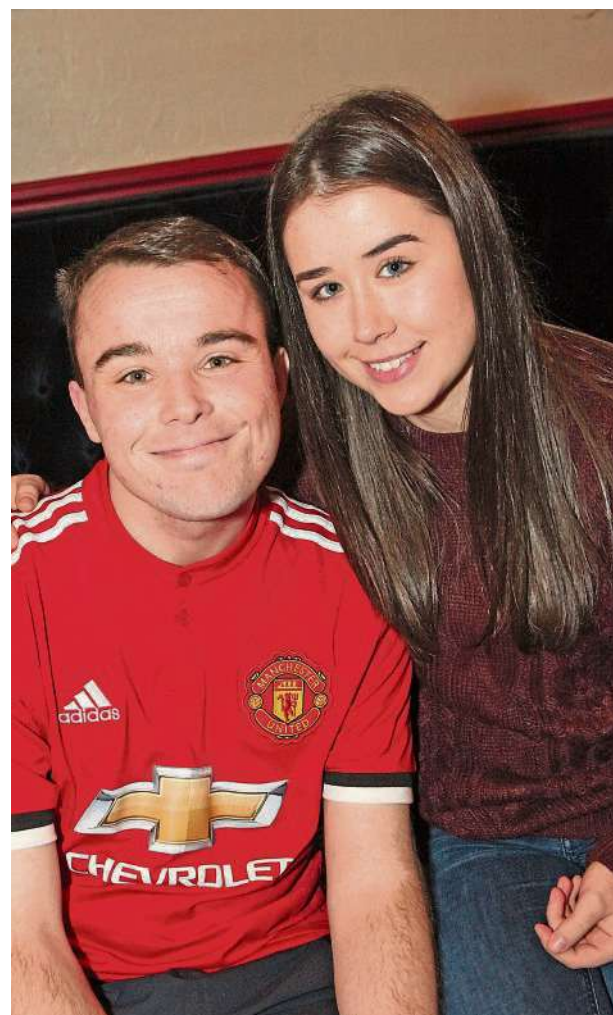


PICTURES CAN BE PURCHASED FROM THE LIMERICK LEADER AT 54 O'CONNELL STREET OR FROM PHOTOSALES@LIMERICKLEADER.IE

JANESBORO: BINGO FUNDRAISER IN SPOTTED DOG BAR



Anthony Pickford, Carew Park, and Pauline Storan, Weston, at the bingo fundraiser in aid of Our Lady Queen of Peace Youth Club and Limerick City Community Radio in the Spotted Dog Bar, Janesboro ALL PICTURES BY DAVE GAYNOR



Michael Ryan, Castletroy and Shauna Pickford, Carew Park



Veronica Long, Janesboro and Lorraine Ryan, Castletroy, were at the bingo fundraiser in the Spotted Dog



Natalie Pickford, Carew Park, Ian Devereux, Pennywell and Sophie Pickford, Carew Park



Emily and Damien O'Shaughnessy, Janesboro, enjoying the bingo fundraiser at the Spotted Dog



Mary Duhig, Killaloe and Fran Campbell, Kilmore, County Clare, at the bingo fundraiser in the Spotted Dog



Sharon Keogh, Raheen, Helen Burke, Janesboro and Mary Kiely, Lee Estate, enjoying the fundraiser in the Spotted Dog



Sheila Lynch and Mary Sheehan, Janesboro, were at the bingo fundraiser in the Spotted Dog

SPORT

PICTURE SPECIAL - AISLING ANNACOTTY V MOYROSS PREMIER DIVISION



Chimka Manjor, of Aisling Annacotty, eases past Barry Quinn and James Cleary, of Moyross, in their Premier Division fixture in Annacotty on Sunday morning which ended in a 2-0 win for the home side



Aisling Annacotty's Shane Donegan on the attack in the Premier League tie with Moyross on Sunday



Moyross' Pat McCallig breaks through the Aisling Annacotty defence in their Premier League fixture in Annacotty on Sunday morning



Aisling Annacotty's Sosuke Kimura heads clear under pressure in their 2-0 Premier League win over Moyross in Annacotty on Sunday last



Damien Collins, of Aisling Annacotty heads clear during their Premier Division fixture with Moyross in Annacotty on Sunday morning



Colm Murphy, of Aisling Annacotty, is quick to pick up possession in their Premier League clash with Moyross in Annacotty on Sunday



Moyross' Pat McCallig steps inside Byron Fitzgerald of Aisling Annacotty in their Premier League game on Sunday morning

PICTURE SPECIAL - LIMERICK HOCKEY MUNSTER DIVISION 5 WINNERS



Rachel O'Dell and Aoife Sherlock, with Aamir Khan, coach, and team manager, Damien Sherlock at the presentation to Limerick Hockey Club players who were Munster Division 5 Ladies League winners. The presentation took place at the Woodfield House Hotel



Anna McGoey, pictured with her parents, Brian and Lyn McGoey and team coach, Aamir Khan at the presentation of the Limerick Hockey Club players who won the Munster Ladies League Division 5 winners at the Woodfield House Hotel PICTURE: BRENDAN GLEESON



Aoife Sherlock, Jill Doherty and Ava Clein, celebrating Limerick Hockey Club's success in winning the Munster Division 5 Ladies League at the Woodfield House Hotel PICTURE: BRENDAN GLEESON



Clodagh McNamara, Iseult O'Conail and Maeve Rea, of Limerick Hockey Club, showing their medals from winning the Munster Division 5 Ladies League at the Woodfield House Hotel PICTURE: BRENDAN GLEESON



Iseult O'Conail with her proud parents, Neil O'Conaill and Aedin O'Leary at the presentation to the Limerick Hockey Club players who won the Munster Division 5 Ladies League



The Limerick Hockey Club, Munster Division 5 Ladies League winning squad, pictured with their coach Aamir Khan and Damien Hannon, manager, at the presentation of medals at the Woodfield House Hotel PICTURE: BRENDAN GLEESON



Rachel O'Dell, Eimear Flanagan and Anna MacGoey, showing the medals they won with Limerick Hockey Club, Munster Division 5 winners

SOCCKER CLUB NOTES

AISLING ANNACOTTY

DIVISION 4: Edan Hair Salon Division 4. Aisling Annacotty v Mungret Regional 2-0 (1-0), Saturday 9th December, Annacotty (All-weather Pitch). Aisling Annacotty fought out a hard-earned victory against a strong Mungret Regional outfit in a robust encounter in Annacotty on Saturday evening. Goals from Alan Nicholas on the stroke of half-time and a cracker from Sam Costelloe ten minutes from the end proved the difference between evenly matched sides in an entertaining match. A lively opening saw Peter O'Flynn and Nicholas each hit the visitor's post in the first ten minutes. Mark Larkin had a purple patch in the second period where he saw two efforts cleared off the line – one a stooping header from a corner whipped in by Emmet McGinty that rebounded off a teammate challenging at the near post. The Annacotty side didn't have it all their own way. They had a desperate goal-line clearance of their own – Ed Doyle con-torting himself to somehow prevent a cer-tain goal – and Eoin Fahey had to pull off three excellent saves himself to keep the visitors scoreless. Aisling Annacotty: Eoin Fahey, Sean Riordan, Michael Griffin, Shane Doyle, Sam Costelloe, Mark Larkin, Adam Deegan, Ed Doyle, John Nicholas, Conor Delaney, Alan Nicholas, Emmet McGinty, Pat O'Kane, Aidan Leonard, Peter O'Flynn.

U16 DIVISION ONE: Corbally United v Aisling Annacotty, Saturday 9th December, Athlunkard. On a cold, dry afternoon, in a match played in perfect conditions, Aisling Annacotty had a comfortable win against Corbally United in Athlunkard. Despite been severely depleted by illness, Corbally raced into an early lead. Seconds after Eoin O'Sullivan had skimmed the post with an excellent effort, the home team counter-punched, their number ten latched onto a great through ball and finished clinically. The Annacotty boys composed themselves and calmly retrieved the situation. Notable for the visitors, was a Peter Donohoe hat-trick and a fine goal by Cian Grace who ran from his own half to slot home like an experienced premiership finisher. Aisling Annacotty:- Paul O'Shea, Stephen Maloney, Perry Tabot-Ndip, Ryan Power, Harry Doyle, Cian Grace, Billy McMahon, Colm Mohally, Danny Lipper, Eoghan O'Driscoll, Alan Conway, James Lane, Jeffrey Hogan, Eoin O'Sullivan, Peter Donohoe.

U14 A TEAM: Aisling Annacotty 5 - Moneypoint 2 AET. The Under 14 A team travelled to Kilrush on Saturday to play Moneypoint AFC in the SFAI Sketchers National Cup in a match that saw the Limerick league champions take on the Clare league champions and the winners of the tie would progress into the SFAI last 32 of the National Cup and also into the quarter finals of the SFAI Regional Cup. On a very cold but dry day the match was to finish 2-2 after normal time with the Aisling's goals in normal time coming from Alex Carragher and Ciaran Coulter. In extra time Conal O'Duinn scored a goal and Darragh Murray scored two goals to give Aisling a memorable 5-2 win. On a very cold day when our players had to play in excess of 90 minutes of Cup football all played really well and fought to the end for this memorable win. In his first Cup match of the season for the under 14's Leon Kirrane played very well and was involved in assists for 4 of our goals. His midfield partner Mark Murphy gave a fantastic display of football in midfield and Ciaran Coulter had a great game in defence and scored a fine goal. The team owes a big thank you to our goal keeper Eugene Hurley who made a huge contribution to this win making some crucial saves towards the end of normal time that kept us in the match. Well done lads and we now look forward to welcoming Ferrybank AFC of Waterford to Annacotty in the next round of the National Cup.

'A' TEAM RESULT: The 'A' team scored a 2-0 victory over Moyross United. Scorers Lipper and Kimura.

U-12 B TEAM: Hard luck to the Under 12B team who lost out to Killorglin in the 4th round of the SFAI National Cup.

COFFEE SHOP: Our coffee shop is open every Saturday from 10am to 1pm. We would ask that you frequent the coffee shop as all funds generated support the club. Thanks, as always, to the volunteers. **GOALKEEPER COACHING:** Goalkeeper training with Eamonn Doyle every Monday. 5 – 6 pm for U14 age groups and 6 – 7 pm for U15 and older.



Janesboro, one of two Limerick sides to win the Munster Champions Cup when lifting the trophy in the 2015-2016 season. Janesboro take on St Michael's in the Munster Champions Cup final at Jackman Park this Saturday evening

FAIRVIEW RANGERS

SCHOOLBOY FOOTBALL: While the junior fixtures involving the club were all called off on Sunday because of the near Artic weather, our schoolboy matches progressed as planned the previous day. Our 16's had a massive win over table toppers Aisling Annacotty, putting them right back into contention in the race for the title. A fantastic game between to fine sides saw us win this one by a 2-1 margin. Goals from Joey McCarthy and Shay Herbert saw us victorious on the day, giving all involved the best result they had hoped for going into the festive break. This side are still in the national cup also, so they are in the hunt for three trophies as we speak.

U-14S: Our 14's also tasted success against a gallant Corbally side on Saturday. We took an early lead in this one. Jamie Hogan showed great battling qualities to dispossess a defender before finding Scott Quaid in space who finished expertly. We made it 2-0 soon after when Rishkoff Boedi set off on a mazy run, skipping past three defenders before setting up Josh McCarthy to finish. We made it 3-0 just on the stroke of half time when Anthony Byrnes powered home a headed effort from a cross by Sean Rice. Corbally to their credit created some chances of their own in the second period, but found Josh McCarthy (one of two players of the same name) in goals in outstanding form. Anthony Byrnes scored his second of the game finishing off a fantastic move involving five players. Sean Rice made it five with a clinical strike and towards the end Evan Barry rounded off the scoring with an excellent effort, leaving the final score 6-0 in our favour. All involved can feel pleased with their performance. Well done lads.

U-12 TEAM: Our under 12B team went down fighting against a fine Mungret side on Saturday morning. Trailing the county side 4-0 at the short whistle, we fought our way back in the second half, reducing the arrears to a minimum, through an outstanding hat trick from the inform Max Cyran. We took some chances at the back as the second half wore on, and Mungret took advantage, scoring two more on the break. Showing great heart all through we managed to pull one more goal back when a goal bound effort was deflected into the net. However time was not on our side and the game ended 6-4 in our opponents favour.

FESTIVE BREAK: As these are the last notes before the Festive break, so all that is left for me to do is to wish all our players, managers (both schoolboy and Junior), committee, parents and supporters a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Season's greetings also to the wider

soccer community in Limerick and we will see you all in the New Year. Enjoy the break!

GERALDINES

BAG PACKING: At the outset of this week's club notes I would like to remind all that on this coming weekend it will be indeed a busy two days for all in the club as firstly on Saturday we will be bag packing in Dunnes Stores in the Parkway Shopping centre from 10am to 5.30pm. This is a big fundraising day for the club and at present we are still looking for people to lend a helping hand and for anybody that can help out could they please contact Joe, Dave or Turlough. 24 hours later and Jerry O'Deas will be the venue for our Christmas Children's Party that will commence at 3pm when the man himself (Santa) will arrive this is sure to be a fun filled day, tickets for same are only €5 and can be got from Laura Mulqueen so all in all two busy days for all involved in the Dines.

FOUR SIDES IN ACTION: On the playing front last Saturday we had four sides in action as the (even) age-groups held centre stage and these were the last games of 2017 as we can now all take a three week break and enjoy the festive spirit.

U-10S TEAM: In the U10s it was Regional who were the visitors to the green in Garryowen and in this non-competitive outing both sides really enjoyed their game of football and each outfit displayed some very enjoyable passages of ball.

U12 DIVISION 2 LEAGUE: Geraldines 2 – Carew Park 1. On what was a bitterly cold morning in Garryowen but that did not deter a fair sized crowd gracing the green for this top of the table clash in this U12 Div 2 league fixture. It was our visitors Carew Park who lead this tale having maximum points from their five outings to-date as we trailed them by five points but we had a game less played. From our point of view we needed to get something out of this clash if we wanted to be in the title

race run in. This turned out to be a classic game of ball as two well-matched outfits gave supporters on either side plenty to enjoy and the football that they served up added to the day in and end to end of 60 minutes of an exciting game of ball. In the opening five minutes of this game each outfit carved out good opening each as firstly it was Carew Park who went close as their centre forward hit a crisp 20 yarder that our net-minder Evan Neville did well to save. A couple of minutes later at the opposite end we went close as a free flowing move involving Craig Whelan, Joe Mullins, Josh O'Neill and Kelsey Reeves culminated as the lathers through ball found Ryan O'Callaghan and his first time shot from the edge of the area just skimmed the angle of the wood-work. Then in the ninth minute we went close as Shane Ryan found Kelsey Reeves in space but her effort was well-saved by the out coming net-minder. At this early stage of the game we had slight edge and with that we broke the

deadlock in the 12th minute as Aaron Kelly with a good ball out wide to Joe Mullins saw the young lad do well on the right flank getting by a couple of Carew players as he then with a well-weighted pass that saw the inrunning Paul Reddan do well as he conjured up a brilliant lob that saw the ball go by the out-coming net-minder for a well taken goal.

With that goal going our way it did spur our visitors to raise their tempo and they pressed us back and in doing so went close a couple of occasions.

It was just prior to the break that this game was level when our visitors right winger came in at pace from his flank and once in the area drilled a beauty by Evan Neville.

On the turnover this game really flowed with chances aplenty being created by both teams. It was our lads who almost got in when a slide rule pass from Josh O'Neill who picked out Ryan O'Callaghan but his snap shot just flashed wide as 90 seconds later Kelsey Reeves with a close range shot that was well-saved by the net-minder.

The next two attacks of note went Carew Park's way as both their wingers had efforts saved by Evan Neville. With eleven minutes remaining we regained the lead with a top notch goal when a Craig Whelan ball up field was flicked on by Paul Reddan to Kelsey Reeves who then with a slide rule pass into the area saw the inrunning Ryan O'Callaghan conjuring up a brilliant finish as he volleyed a beauty to the bottom corner. As you would expect Carew once again attacked us in waves but in fairness to our defenders they stood firm as we emerged winners by the odd goal in three and with this victory it brings us back into this title race but there will be still a lot of twists and turns before this league title is decided.

It would be unfair of me to pick any (MOTM) as this was a real team effort but full credit to both sides as the football that was served up really took that chill out of the air.

U-14S AND U-16S: It was away trips for both our U14s and U16s but it was defeats on the double. The U14s were away to Aisling but lost out 4-0 to a much stronger home outfit, in fairness to our side they were minus a few regulars for this game but in fairness to all they battled right until the final whistle.

For the U16s it was a trip to Tipp to face Newpoint and just like the U14s it was also a four nil defeat in this game. We trailed by a single goal at the break but the home side controlled the second half as we could not pierce their stern rear-guard.

CLUB NEWS: Club lotto is on-going and tickets are just €2 each and can be got from many sources.



The Pike Rovers side which became the first Limerick outfit to win the Munster Champions Cup in 2012-2013. The Cup began in 2011-2012

Calendar season is the best way to go

By JASON O'CONNOR
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LAST week's article on the calendar season raised quite a few questions locally so with this in mind I'd like to deliver some more facts around the upcoming change in season to help the local football family understand completely the transition that is forthcoming.

The calendar season is part of a player focused philosophy, meaning, it has been constructed with the players best interests in mind.

While everyone will have questions around volunteers, logistics, holidays and pitches, the primary concern for everyone involved in the game of football in Ireland must be the player.

After the calendar season change over, our local player will play in better weather conditions, on better pitches that will not be destroyed after games as in the current season, will play more frequently and have the option for a structured FAI Winter Futsal programme.

WHAT IS FAI FUTSAL?

FUTSAL is a variant of association football played on a hard court, smaller than a football pitch, and mainly indoors.

It can be considered a version of five-a-side football. Futsal is played between two teams of five players each, one of whom is the goalkeeper. Unlimited substitutions are permitted.

Unlike some other forms of indoor football, the game is played on a hard court surface delimited by lines.

Futsal is also played with a smaller, harder ball which creates an emphasis on improvisation, creativity, and technique as well as ball control and passing in small spaces.

Futsal is recognised by the world's greatest players and coaches as a proven development tool for players of all ages.

Indoor halls across the city and can be utilised to provide Futsal for our players come the end of any calendar season.

The Factory Youth space in Southill has two indoor

courts that can easily house eight teams for games to be played off weekly.

The bays facility in Moyross has only recently undergone a complete overhaul and along with a fantastic hall in St Nesses school or the indoor facility in LIT, the Northside of the city could also host futsal on a weekly basis.

The University of Limerick, Mary I, the list goes on of suitable venues that can house our players development during inclement weather.

All that is required is a stepping out of "what we have always done" as if the player is at the centre of what we do, we must all offer the player a little bit more... football.

The DDSL, the biggest league in the country, in conjunction with the FAI in Dublin ran Winter Futsal last year and will again this year once their calendar season finishes.

This can be facilitated by the FAI locally if our volunteer coaches feel they need a break and players could register for Futsal without a club if required as it will technically be the off season.

Issues around fixtures and administration can easily be dealt with by the FAI to allow players continue with their development during poor weather conditions and not be waiting weeks for games as is currently the situation.

Once our local league is in line with the calendar season it will also provide a clearer pathway for all our players. Currently across the country National league clubs are holding trials for their u15, u17 and u19 national league teams.

In a player focused philosophy we all want our players to play the highest standard of football he or she can, which in this country is national league and international football.

All the players in the recent u15 international squad for the friendlies against Poland came from national league clubs, but if a local player wants to attend a trial for a national league club during this month and next, he is not permitted to by the local league as he is mid season and signed for the local league club.



Wet and heavy pitches do nothing to help soccer players develop

Last season, a player left his local club mid season to play U19 league of Ireland football, obviously weakening his local team, but progressing himself as a player.

The clash with calendar season inhibited the local club and made a footballing decision more difficult for the player.

If the local league was in calendar season, all players could attend trials for League of Ireland clubs and also not be leaving the local club mid-season as both would be running at the same time and in pre season at the same time.

The underage League of Ireland structure is widely accepted as being a huge success and provides our elite players with the opportunity to play against elite players in a competition structure regularly.

Prior to the national league under age structure being introduced local players played with and against players of equal standard intermittently and often only in national cup competitions and it was questioned why we were not producing international players

The introduction of the national league moves our local elite players into the correct structure for them

quicker which speeds up their development to international football where possible.

Players who do not make the move to national league clubs and continue at local level find, I am sure, that they also now play in a more competitive structure and with and against players of more equal ability.

In calendar season regional leagues where the league winners and runners up at every age group in the North Munster Region play each other, could also be designed for our local player.

A competition incorporating teams from the Limerick District, County and Desmond Leagues in a competition with their Clare and North Tipperary counterparts in a champions league type competition would be beneficial to the players I am sure and again provide more football for our local club players.

It is this player, the local club player, who cannot be forgotten and left to play in terrible weather, on poor pitches and without football for between four and seven weeks at a time. It is this player that we must focus on by introducing calendar football.

The 'Boro face big Champions Cup final showdown

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JANESBORO take on St Michaels in the Munster Champions Cup final at Jackman Park on Saturday evening with both sides looking to be the first team to win the fledgling tournament for a second time.

Only in existence since the 2011/12 season the Trophy has only rested in Limerick on two occasions.

Pike Rvs were the first Limerick side to win the competition when they defeated St Brendan's Park in the decider in it's second season.

Three seasons later Janesboro put their name on the trophy when they defeated Newmarket Celtic in Ennis. Ironically Janesboro's success saw them take possession of the trophy from St Michaels who won the tournament the previous season.

Janesboro are recovering from the upset of exiting the FAI Junior Cup in their last outing, going down 3-2 to North End United from Wexford. They had no game last weekend to wash it from their system so it remains to be seen how they react.

While the Munster Champions Cup might not have the same standing of the FAI, a victory in the final would be a huge boost to Janesboro as they chase their first back to back League title.

Managers Aidan Ryan and Shane O'Hanlon will instil in the side the importance of getting back in the winning groove with so much still to play for.

Janesboro know plenty about their opponents. One of the best teams in the

country over the last decade, Saints are stuffed packed with Internationals including Captain Chris Higgins.

They are five points behind leaders Clonmel Celtic in the Tipperary Premier League but have five games in hand on their rivals. Their last outing was a 6-0 rout of New Ross in the FAI Junior Cup so they come into the tie in fine form.

Their path to the final saw them beat Thurles Town in the first round winning 2-0. Hibernian of Waterford were next to fall when Saints won 4-1. In the semi final they beat Shannon Town 2-0.

Janesboro were favoured with a bye in the first round. In the second round they beat Rathkeale 2-1 with a goal from Keith Mawdsley and an own goal.

In the semi final goals from Shane Clarke, John Tierney and Aaron Nunan saw 'Boro to a 3-2 win over Killarney to book their final spot.

Much is made of the goal threat of the Janesboro side. Keith Mawdsley, Shane Clarke and Aaron Nunan have amassed nearly 50 goals in 20 games, but the form of the midfielders Mike Ryan, John Boyle, John Tierney and Niall Hanley often goes unheralded.

The battle between the Boro frontrunners and what is basically an International back four will play a crucial role. Likewise how the 'Boro rearguard led by the battling Thomas Clarke will have their hands full against a Saints attack buoyed by former Regional United striker Ollie O'Driscoll.

One other game is scheduled for the weekend when Aisling take on Claremorris in a game that fell to the weather last weekend.

Social Status



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SPORT

PICTURE SPECIAL AS LIMERICK HOCKEY CLUB CELEBRATES BIG MUNSTER LEAGUE WIN: PAGE 21



JANESBORO CHASE MUNSTER CHAMPIONS CUP SUCCESS: PAGE 23



Election time for Limerick GAA clubs at convention

By **JEROME O'CONNELL**

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THERE is a changing of the guard for Limerick GAA this Sunday at Annual Convention.

Delegates from almost 70 GAA clubs across Limerick will converge on Cappamore Community Centre to elect a new chairman after the five year term of Oliver Mann comes to an end.

Bidding to succeed the Patrickswell man are Claughton's Liam O'Sullivan and John Cregan of Dromcollogher-Broadford.

Both Cregan and O'Sullivan are out-going officers as Football Committee Chairman and County Board Vice-Chairman respectively but the duo have decided that they are departing those roles regardless of the chairman election result on Sunday.

Another election on the agenda is for assistant-secretary with Eamonn Phelan of St Patricks and Alan Kehoe of Ballysteen nominated for the vacant role.

In total, there are four new officers unopposed and two contested positions at Annual Convention – elections for the position of chairman and assistant secretary.

The two roles are among four that are being vacated under the five year rule stipulation.

Out-going PRO Eamonn Phelan is one of the four 2017 officers that have to depart their current role.

Chairman Oliver Mann and treasurer Donal Morrissey are departing the top table of the County Board. Another of the quartet is Seamus McNamara, who will be the new vice-chairman as he is unopposed for the role.



Simon Zebo, who is leaving Munster at the end of this season, pictured at the province's press briefing at UL prior to Sunday's Champions Cup clash with Leicester at Welford Road, 5.30pm. Munster scored a resounding 33-10 bonus point win over the Tigers at Thomond Park on Saturday. Next weekend's Pool 4 fixture will be live on BT Sports 2

Zebo keeps open mind over Munster return

By **COLM KINSELLA**

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SIMON Zebo has revealed that he wants to play in the French Top 14 while still in his prime, but is keeping his options open about a return to Munster in the future.

Twenty seven-year-old Zebo will leave Munster at the end of this season to start playing in France next season. Zebo has been linked with a move to a number of French clubs, including Pau and Racing 92 next summer.

However, speaking at a press briefing at UL yesterday, he said he could not reveal which club he was moving to nor how long that contract was for.

Zebo said he was adamant that he wanted to play in the Top 14 before he hits his 30s.

Zebo said: "I knew the decision (on my contract) was coming up and I just had to make a decision for me and what I consider is best for me and my family."

"It's something I always wanted to do and the right opportunity at the right time came up. I'm still young enough, I could always hopefully one day - the door isn't fully closed on me - I'd still love to be a part of Munster Rugby in the future."

"But trying out the Top 14 is always something I wanted to do. I could have waited until I was 31 or 32 and be a sheep like 90% of all the players who decide to go then, but I wanted to try it when I'm in my prime and give it my best shot."

"I'm true to myself and I know who I am, so I do things my way and I'm not shy about doing them."

Asked if he could envisage returning to play in Munster at some stage in the future, Zebo said: "Munster is my home. In my eyes, it's one of the best places in the world to play rugby. I've been blessed and very grateful to be given the opportunity to represent Munster for the past few years."

"This is a step I've wanted to take in my life, but definitely not closing the door and

hopefully, Munster wouldn't close the door on me either because it's my home."

Zebo's decision to play rugby abroad next season saw him omitted from the Ireland squad for the recent autumn internationals.

Zebo and his Munster colleagues are preparing for Saturday's return Champions Cup fixture with Leicester Tigers at Welford Road, 5.30pm, live on BT Sport 2. Munster scored a 33-10 bonus point win over the Tigers at Thomond Park on Saturday.

