

Cappamore Show shines again

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'Pride of the Parish' campaign launch

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All roads led to The Street Bar for big anniversary party

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Inside Gearóid's and Niamh's Algarve wedding

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Saturday, August 22, 2026

LIMERICK LEADER

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'We're Screaming'

Urgent plea to Government: Open the purse strings for UHL

Nick Rabbitts

The MID-WEST is "screaming" for Department of Health funding to tackle overcrowding at University Hospital Limerick (UHL), with an action plan for the region needing to be devised as a matter of "extreme urgency" to protect patient safety.

That's according to John Wall, chairman of the region's Patient and Service User Council, who has warned that UHL cannot afford to wait for another patient to lose their life before further action is taken, as he called for hundreds of additional staff to be recruited, including up to 100 consultants across the Mid-West.

"On behalf of the people of the region, we're screaming, we're screaming here. We are issuing an instruction to the Department [of Health]: you need to release the funding necessary to the HSE, in particular to the Mid-West, to recruit the resources we need," he told the Limerick Leader.

In December 2024, health watchdog HIQA estimated that UHL needs between 155 and 221 additional inpatient beds and Mr Wall's comments come after more than 1,350 people

EDITOR'S COMMENT

TIME FOR ACTION

"WE'RE screaming. We're screaming here."

It is difficult to think of a more powerful description of where University Hospital Limerick finds itself.

And John Wall is not saying it as an outsider looking in. He is chairperson of the HSE Mid West Patient and Service User Council, a representative on the new Mid West Health Planning Board - and a cancer patient receiving treatment at UHL.

He sees the hospital from every angle. Earlier this month, more than 1,350 people attended UHL in just four days. The HSE surge protocol had to be activated because the pressure had become too much. Critical in fact.

We have become almost immune to talk of surges during the winter months when old and young are coughing in their beds. But this happened in August.

A massive red flag. The concern is that it will happen again. And the next

You expect it during the winter. We've almost normalised it at that time of the year, as it's expected. Then it happens during the summer, and despite every ability to forecast, it just happens.

"When something like this happens in August, we cannot stand idly by and wait for it to happen again, and wait for another headline that someone else has sadly lost their life. We have a responsibility to lobby and target those who can help us in the here and now," Mr Wall added.

Mr Wall said the situation at UHL is now worse than when HIQA examined the hospital on January 30, 2025, as part of its review of urgent and emergency healthcare in the Mid-West, following years of concerns over overcrowding and patient safety, including those highlighted after the death of 16-year-old Aoife Johnston in December 2022.

With UHL now operating at "beyond saturation point", the time has come for the Mid-West health region to be made a special case, he believes.

"The occupancy across the hospital is running at 120-odd percent. The recommended maximum is 85% and we are running consistently at 120%," he said.

attended UHL's emergency department over four days earlier this month.

It meant what is known as a 'surge protocol' was activated.

This is a set of emergency measures activated when demand exceeds normal capacity, including opening addi-

tional beds, reallocating staff from elsewhere in the hospital and accelerating patient discharges and transfers to ease pressure on the ED.

The fact the surge happened outside the winter peak, when the ED is at its busiest, has caused shock, with Mr Wall saying: "It was a real eye-opener.



The former Sean Collins & Sons pub in Adare which was bought by the McManus family and is currently being refurbished PICTURE: ADRIAN BUTLER

McManus family buy historic pub

Donal O'Regan

for the 46th Ryder Cup, which takes place in Adare Manor from September 13-19, 2027.

If Team Europe retain the prestigious cup perhaps Rory McIlroy or Shane Lowry will be in the pub sinking a pint of the black stuff after sinking the winning putt!

If you would like to work in the pub they are hiring an experienced pub manager / landlord-style operator to take stewardship of "a charming, quintessentially Irish village pub, celebrated for its character, warmth, and strong connection to the local community".

The advert says it will be a seven-day-a-week, beverage-focused operation. The ideal candidate will be "passionate about Irish hospitality and the traditions of the village pub" and "respect for the pub's role as both a social hub and a shared neighbourhood space".

Incidentally, the neighbouring property - a three-bedroom terraced residence - is currently for sale. GVM Auctioneers have brought it to the market with an asking price of €450,000.

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Limerick Showstopper

Donal O'Regan

LIMERICK Show boasts the very best features of traditional agricultural shows married with numerous new attractions, even including a wedding market.

It is always one of the last big days out of the summer for all the family before schools return and the nights and temperatures fall. It takes place

this Sunday, August 23.

Up to 15,000 visitors, 1,000 competitors and 150 trade exhibitors will descend on Limerick Racecourse to experience the 94th running unique event which is a fixture in the Limerick social calendar.

Leo Walsh, president, said their aim is to bring the people of the city and county together.

He is looking forward to welcoming returning and new visitors to experience the new



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Ex-principal of teen killed 'thinking of all families'

● The five teenage boys who died in the collision on the M9 have been named locally

Abigail Hayden

THE LIMERICK teenager killed in Sunday's collision on the M9 has been named locally as Investigations continue into the incident.

Kamil Pustowski, aged 17, from Limerick, has been named locally as one of the five teenage boys killed in a head-on collision in Kildare when their car was driven the wrong way down the M9 motorway.

Mr Pustowski was previously a student at Mungret Community College, though it is understood that he was no longer a student there at the time of his death.

Mr Liam O'Mahoney, principal of the school, said that their 'thoughts and prayers are with all of the families involved at this terribly sad time'.

The other teens who were killed in the incident have been named locally as Jack Kennedy from Athy, Co Kildare (17), Jeremy O'Brien from Carlow (18), Joe 'Joey' Carthy from Athy (15) and Alex McCarthy (17) from Carlow.

The group is understood to have included some members of the so-called 'Lucky Dip gang'.

Mr Pustowski's family is believed to have originally lived from Poland.

Several videos shared on his social media pages showed his keen interest in cars. The caption of several videos included the hashtag #luckydipgang.

Friends left messages on old videos posted to his accounts, sharing their grief, with one person saying 'only spoke the other day and was planning to meet my hearts broke bro missing ye already we will all do ye proud brother'.

The collision occurred in the early hours of Sunday, August 16.

The vehicle that the teenage boys were driving was travelling southbound on the northbound carriageway when it hit a second car, carrying three women



Kamil Pustowski has been named locally as one of the young men who died in Sunday's collision

PICTURE: AISLING HYLAND, EMBED: TIKTOK

and a seven-year-old boy.

All four passengers of the other car have been taken to hospital with serious and critical injuries.

Taoiseach Micheál Martin has said that there can be no tolerance for 'reckless behaviour' on Irish roads.

He continued: 'This is the second appalling crash we've seen on our roads in a matter of days as a result of the reckless driving of a car on the wrong side of the motorway, endangering the lives of innocent road users.'

He described it as 'an irresponsible and dangerous act,' adding that it is 'shocking that in some cases it is being done for likes on social media.'

'My thoughts and prayers are with the family who have been injured. I wish them a full recovery.'

'There can be no tolerance for this reckless behaviour that we have seen on our roads recently. It must stop,' he concluded.

Family Liaison Officers have been appointed to relatives of the occupants

of both vehicles.

The bodies of the deceased were removed from the scene on Sunday. Later in the day the two vehicles were also transported from the collision site.

Forensic Collision Investigators have completed their examination of the scene and gardai are continuing to investigate the circumstances surrounding the fatal collision.

Post-mortem examinations are due to be carried out on the bodies of the five teenage boys.

Police ombudsman Fiosrú is conducting its own investigation into the incident.

Gardaí say that there was no pursuit taking place when the collision occurred.

Gardaí are appealing to anyone who was driving on the M9 motorway in the early hours of Sunday morning, and who may have video footage (including dashcam), to contact Athy Garda Station on 059 8634210 or the Garda confidential line on 1800 666 111.

Shots fired as simmering Traveller feud erupts

Elle McCarthy

GARDAI in Limerick are said to be on high alert after a Limerick Traveller feud erupted over the weekend.

On Monday afternoon, gardai received a report of a firearm being discharged on Childers Road at approximately 3pm and are seeking witnesses. No injuries were reported and no arrests have been made as of yet.

In a video widely shared on social media, two masked men were seen exiting a vehicle, with a driver then recording the pair firing at least five shots towards properties in the Childers Road area.

It is understood that this is a long-running simmering feud between two rival Traveller factions in Limerick. It appears that an incident in a graveyard may have sparked the reignition.

On Sunday evening, around 50 masked men armed with handguns, shotguns, slash hooks and iron bars were seen walking on the Childers Road towards the Tipperary Roundabout.

Four arrests were then made following reports of an alleged public order incident on Childers Road in the early hours of Monday morning.

Authorities responded to this and two males, aged in their 20s, and one male, aged in his 30s, were later arrested by gardai in relation to this matter. They have been charged and are due to

appear before Limerick District Court at a later date.

A male teenager was also arrested at the scene and has been released pending a referral to the Youth Diversion Programme.

A major garda operation also occurred at locations on the Childers Road on Monday afternoon, the Limerick Leader learned.

Searches commenced at about 3:45pm and the Armed Support Unit and gardai attended the scene. It is believed that the road and field close to the areas were also searched.

Anyone with information on these incidents has been asked to contact Henry Street garda station on 061 212 400.



A still from a video, widely shared on social media, of a gun attack on Monday

Sunday is showtime in the Racecourse

Continued from front page

and improved show for 2026. 'Limerick Show has always been about showcasing the very best of Limerick and the surrounding areas and we hope that this year, more than ever, people will come out and support the local farmers, producers and exhibitors that will be on display,' said Mr Walsh. He also expressed his thanks to local company AMCS who have once again been named as lead sponsor.

'We're thrilled to have AMCS on board as our lead sponsors for 2026. Having a connection with a strong Limerick-based company was important for us and AMCS is a great example of a Limerick success story. Limerick Show has been a huge part of the Limerick social calendar since the first show took place in 1929. This tradition lives on today and we're delighted that AMCS is supporting us and helping keep the tradition alive.'

Part of that tradition is the prestigious Limerick Leader Cup which dates back to 1946. It is presented to a winning rider in the show jumping arena every year. Mr Walsh said it is a great honour to win it and everybody who does has their name engraved on it. The Liam McCarthy, Mick Mackey and Irish Press Cups will also be there if you want to get a photo to mark Limerick senior and minor hurlers outstanding year.

Back again this year is the Carers Village and a wedding marquee for

those making a bigger decision. There will also be the LEO marquee showcasing local crafts and food produce.

Some of the finest livestock in the country of all breeds will be on show while Limerick Show is renowned for showcasing the best of Irish horse breeding and show jumping.

The Kids Zone is bigger and better with free entertainment including amusements, magic show, pony rides, animal farm and a train to ferry them around the grounds. Children under 16 get free entry so with live music, retail village, artisan food, crafts, horticulture, hugely popular dog show and lots more, there is something for all the family.

Enjoy live music and dancing from 12:30pm to 2:30pm with Tex Deegan followed by Trudy Lawlor and her band from 2:30 to 4:30pm.

Celia Holman Lee is hosting a must-see fashion show at 3pm where attendees can enjoy the latest fashion trends and styles from local boutiques. As part of their mission to bring the city and county together the Limerick Show is providing a complimentary bus ride from the city to and from the showgrounds, departing from the Gaelic Grounds at 11am; Parkway Shopping Centre at 11:30am and Crescent Shopping Centre at 4:30pm. The going at the Racecourse will be firm after the drought with Met Eireann forecasting a dry day for the 94th show.

Chairman of patient council urges direct action from Government to address UHL's overcrowding crisis

Continued from front page

'In nearly every aspect of staffing, we are below par. We need to be staffed adequately in the region to provide the service. Unless we are, this problem will exist for the next several years,' Mr Wall added.

Asked how many new staff are required for UHL, he said: 'All I know is from the conversations I have had and the council has had with the senior management team, you're certainly talking in the hundreds. They need to lift the ban on agency staff: the management team are not allowed to hire agency staff. Yes, they cost more, but what cost do you put on a human life?'

'We are short in the region of 20 consultants per 100,000 of population. If you consider the population of the region is 420,000 expanding to 450,000 up to half-a-million, you're looking at 60 to 100 consultants,' he said.

These measures, he warned, would only bring the Mid-West - with its sole Model Four hospital at UHL - up to the same level of provision as other regions across Ireland in terms of healthcare.

'The pay-and-numbers strategy that has been adopted is out-of-date. The resources necessary in terms of staffing to alleviate the problems in the here



John Wall, the chairperson of the region's Patient and Service User Council

and now - the budgets do not exist to allow the management team to hire the staff they need. We are robbing Peter to pay Paul in every instance. You're trying to shift resources across the region, but ultimately you are using the same resources for the vast majority of time,' Mr Wall stated.

There's another factor at play, the chairman of the patients' council argues.

That is that Limerick is suffering from a 'funnel effect', with people heading to UHL from across the region due to a lack of front-line medical services in their own areas.

'There's no denying we do not have

enough step-down and respite beds. There's no denying we have an ageing population. There is a huge problem in rural parts of the region, because the rural GP numbers are nowhere near what they should be. It leads to that funnel effect,' he explained.

As for the around 4,000 staff who are working in UHL, he said: 'The burnout is extraordinary.'

'The sustained levels and intensity of the workload staff are having to deal with. When I say staff, I'm going from the top to the bottom, it's unsustainable. Do I have a concern for the welfare of staff and patients? Yes. Am I saying it's unsafe? No. But I can quote the HIQA report which stated it was necessary to mitigate the ongoing risk to public safety. That's still there - it's worse.'

The Department of Health did not return a request for comment.

Earlier this year, the Government moved to develop additional hospital capacity in Raheen, after the HSE secured a 44-acre site around 2km from UHL.

While welcoming the move, Mr Wall said it would not address the immediate crisis and would only alleviate pressure once the new facilities are operational.

When that happens is unclear with some forecasts pointing up to 15 years.

EDITOR'S COMMENT

'We're screaming. We're screaming here'

Continued from front page

time, the outcome could be more serious. There have been well-documented cases where patients have tragically lost their lives when they shouldn't have. This is not about pointing fingers. It is about learning lessons and asking a very simple question: can we categorically say the same set of circumstances will not arise again?

Mr Wall says the Mid-West has been under-invested in for years, decades, in fact, and that we are now seeing the consequences.

The figures tell the story. We have one Model 4 hospital in the Mid-West. One emergency department. And a region whose population has grown, exploded. The population is ageing and the hospital is operating beyond saturation point.

Hospital occupancy is consistently around 120%. The recommended maximum is 85%.

Staff are under 'extraordinary' pressure. Burnout is described as 'unsustainable'.

And yet the people running the service are being asked to keep going. Keep moving the staff around. Keep finding solutions. Keep making do.

'We are robbing Peter to pay Paul,' Mr Wall says. That cannot be the long-term answer.

The management team needs to be able to recruit the staff it has identified as necessary. But the budgets, Mr Wall says, do not currently allow it to do that.

This is where the Department of Health comes in. Those invisible people that we don't have faces for who hold a lot of power.

The immediate urgency is staffing levels - more consultants and nurses are needed. More buildings need to be repurposed for step-down facilities.

True, there is a lot of good work happening. The new surgical hub at the former Scoll Smeil site O'Connell Avenue will help, somewhat. The 96-bed block has already helped, somewhat. The future UHL development at Raheen will be crucial. But how long away is that? Fifteen years before a solid is turned some special. 'More say that's being optimistic.'

There is a problem here and now. A massive problem. As Mr Wall puts it, 'we are only running to stand still'.

This is not about asking for an open-ended pot of money. It is about parity.

It is about giving the people running the service the resources to do the job they are being asked to do. And it is about patient safety.

Everyone appears to be coming together to try to solve this - everyone except, in Mr Wall's words, 'the final link in the chain'.

The Department of Health controls the purse strings.

To those people in that office who do hold that power, this is a plea from Limerick, let's not wait for the next surge. Let's not wait for the next headline telling us somebody has died unnecessarily. You have the power to make things better for everyone who lies on a trolley in those corridors of pain and fear.

The decisions that need to be taken which would allow for more recruitment of staff can be taken in weeks. The impact could be felt on the ground. In weeks.

What are you waiting for? How much is a human life worth?

'We're screaming'.
-Aine Fitzgerald
Managing Editor



Burnout of staff at UHL is a huge concern

Whopping 26 All-Ireland wins at the annual Fleadh

● Celia Holman Lee's grandson was among the winners

Kayley Hardiman

THERE was huge success for Limerick at this year's Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann 2026 with a whopping 26 wins for the county at the event in Belfast.

Tommy Lee of CCÉ, Castleconnell Ahane Herbertstown came first in the Donlán Memorial Cup for Uilleann Pipes Slow Aírs (under 12 years) category. Tommy is the grandson of Celia Holman Lee of the Holman Lee modelling agency.

More than 5,000 competitors from 25 countries competed for coveted All-Ireland titles across music, dancing and sean nós singing, bringing together some of the finest emerging and established traditional performers from Ireland and around the world.

Well done to all the Limerick winners – Piano, 12-15, 3rd, Clara Ní Chioleáin, CCÉ, Castleconnell Ahane Herbertstown (CAH).

Fiddle Slow Aírs, 15-18, 2nd, Marcus Ó Murchú, CCÉ, CAH. Uilleann Pipes Slow Aírs, 12-15, 1st, Páidí De Blacúil, CCÉ, CAH.

Uilleann Pipes Slow Aírs, 15-18, 3rd, Séamus Ó Púirséil, CCÉ, CAH. Fiddle Slow Aírs, 15-18, 2nd, Emma Sinéad Ní Chioleáin, CCÉ, CAH.

Duets, Faoi 12, 1st, Eadbhard Coistealbha & Tomás Ó Laoighigh, CCÉ, CAH. Trios, Faoi 12, 2nd, Christian Ó Dunaigh, Eadbhard Coistealbha & Tomás Ó Laoighigh, CCÉ, CAH.

Grúpaí Ceoil, Faoi 12, 1st, Ceoltóirí Realt na Maidine, CCÉ, CAH. Button Accordion, Faoi 12, 2nd, Eadbhard Coistealbha, CCÉ, CAH.

English Singing (Ladies), Faoi 12, 1st, Áine Ní Chioleáin, CCÉ, CAH. Storytelling, 12-15, 3rd, Jamie Ó Hehir, CCÉ, CAH.

Piano Accordion, 12-15, 1st, Jamie Ó Hehir, CCÉ, CAH. Uilleann Pipes, Faoi 12, 3rd, Tomás Ó Laoighigh, CCÉ, CAH.

Uilleann Pipes, 12-15, 1st, Páidí De Blacúil, CCÉ, CAH. Uilleann Pipes, 018, 2nd, Liam Mac



Tommy Lee of CCÉ, Castleconnell Ahane Herbertstown with parents Ivan and Asta Lee at the All-Ireland Fleadh Cheoil

PICTURE: ANNA ALLEN PHOTOGRAPHY MULLINGAR

Giobún, CCÉ, CAH.

Mouth Organ, 12-15, 1st, Rebecca Ní hÓráin, CCÉ, CAH. Mouth Organ, 15-18, 1st, Lía Ní Shúirtáin, CCÉ, Garraíóin, Limerick (Clare Fleadh).

Uilleann Pipes Slow Aírs, 018, 1st, Liam Mac Giobún, CCÉ, CAH. Duets, 018, 1st, Liam Mac Giobún & Riona Ní Éilí, CCÉ, CAH & Tulla.

Ceol Tríir / Trios, 018, 3rd, Darragh Mac Aodháin, Liam Mac Giobún & Riona Ní Éilí, CCÉ, CAH & Powerstown/Lisronagh & Tulla.

Banjo, 018, 3rd, Micheál Ó Brúdaire, CCÉ, Teampall an Ghleantáin.

Mandolin, 018, 1st, Micheál Ó Brúdaire, CCÉ, Teampall an Ghleantáin. Miscellaneous, 12-15, 1st, Rhys Ó Scanláin, CCÉ, Pheig Uí Riain.

Uilleann Pipes Slow Aírs, Faoi 12, 3rd, Senán Ó hAinnaidh, CCÉ, Pheig Uí Riain. Uilleann Pipes, Faoi 12, 1st, Senán Ó hAinnaidh, CCÉ, Pheig Uí Riain.

Comhghairdeas to one and all.



It is not the first venture into entrepreneurship for hurling star Kyle Hayes PICTURE: HAYES FARM SUPPLIES

Sliothar to sprayer: Kyle showcases new business

Abigail Hayden

ALL-STAR Limerick hurler Kyle Hayes is bringing his new farming company to the world of social media.

Hayes shared a how-to video on social media explaining one of the products for sale at Hayes Farming Supplies, his new business venture.

The two-minute video, he showed every aspect of the 35 litre Pulmic industrial sprayer, which he described as 'quick and easy to use'.

The Kildimo-Pallaskenny clubman, who played a starring role as Limerick secured this year's All-Ireland senior hurling title, previously worked at the engineering firm Kirby Group and is a graduate of the University of Limerick.

"The first thing here is the durable wheels and they're suitable for any terrain, especially in and around the farm or any farmyard," he explained.

"Next, we have the four different types of nozzles that come with the sprayer," he continued, giving a demonstration of how to fill up the sprayer and how to turn it on.

He finished by showing how the six-metre long hose is reeled up and "tidily put away" behind the back of the sprayer.

The video was shared to the company's TikTok page, showing that Hayes is targeting younger farmers in his promotion of the new business.

This is not the Kildimo man's first venture into entrepreneurship, with him co-founding a fast food business in 2024.

Bunda Brothers is a popular Limerick takeaway outlet, founded by Hayes and fellow Limerick hurling star Darragh Ó'Donovan, of Oola.

'Dreams' come true: Gearóid and Niamh celebrate in the sun

Leader Reporter

IT MAY have taken place under the Portuguese sunshine, but the wedding of Gearóid Hegarty and Niamh McCarthy couldn't have been more 'Limerick', with the newlyweds dancing to Dreams by The Cranberries surrounded by the All-Ireland senior hurling champions of 2026.

Just a month after lifting the Liam MacCarthy Cup at Croke Park, St Patrick's clubman, Gearóid, had another huge reason to smile last Friday as he toasted his marriage to former Limerick footballer Niamh McCarthy.

The bride, who hails from Dromcollogher-Broadford and works as a science, chemistry and biology teacher, looked resplendent in a fit-and-flare wedding gown featuring a soft cowl neckline and short train.

She wore her hair in a polished slick-back style beneath her flowing veil as she travelled through the sun-drenched streets of the Algarve in a cream vintage car on her way to the wedding.

Her husband - who is hotly tipped to claim the Hurler of the Year award later this year - looked dashing in dark trousers, a waistcoat, crisp white shirt and dickie bow.



Niamh McCarthy, in white, on the day after her wedding with the hurlers' partners; and Gearóid Hegarty, left, with groomsmen David Reidy and Sean Finn

While the couple were already legally married, having signed the papers several months ago, they celebrated their marriage in the sun on Friday, surrounded by their family, friends and a large contingent from the Limerick senior hurling set-up, including players, members of the management team and county board officials.

Among those in attendance were Gearóid's groomsmen and Limerick teammates Seán Finn of Bruff and David Reidy of Dromin-Athlaca, who travelled to Portugal with their fiancées, Karen Kinnerk and Aoife Ní Cheallaigh.

Kyle Hayes attended with his girlfriend, Limerick footballer Meadhbh MacNamara, while former captain Declan Hannon and his wife Louise Cantillon were also there to celebrate the happy couple.

Current Limerick hurling captain Cian Lynch of Patrickswell showed that his eye for style is every bit as sharp as his eye for hurling, opting for one of the standout colours of the season in a lemon-yellow shirt, while his partner, Dayna Slattery, looked stunning in a mint-green dress.

It has been an extra-special - and busy - few days for Gearóid, affectionately known to fans as 'Hego', as he also celebrated his 32nd birthday last week.



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Michael remembered as 'someone you could trust'

● Long-serving county councillor – who was chair at the millennium – sadly dies

Nick Rabbitts

SOMEBODY you could trust, a "thorough gentleman" and "a safe pair of hands" are just some of the ways Abbeyfeale's Michael O'Kelly, a former county councillor has been remembered.

Mr O'Kelly, who was Cathaoirleach of the old Limerick County Council when 1999 ticked into 2000, has sadly gone to his God after a short illness.

His life was celebrated at a Mass in The Church of the Assumption this Tuesday, while councillors held a special meeting to remember the long-time public servant.

A respected teacher and community representative from Killarney Road in the town, he was first elected in 1979.

He held his seat in 1985, 1991 and 1999, before retiring from public life in 2004.

A Fianna Fail man, it was Cllr Francis Foley who flew the party's flag in Abbeyfeale, securing his former local authority seat at that year's election.

He said: "I've been working with Michael for more than 40 years through various campaigns both for myself and my own campaigns. He was a thorough gentleman. Very diligent, a very honest person, and a person you could trust basically. He was a family man. For all the years, he was someone you could rely on for a good piece of advice."

Cllr Foley remembered him as "a good mentor" and "a safe pair of hands".

One of the pieces of advice Mr O'Kelly gave to his successor in 2004 has remained with the sitting councillor.

"Treat everyone with respect: that was his motto. He thought it was very important that when working with the public and officials and management staff inside the council, it was key to treat them with respect," Cllr Foley added.

Despite coming from different sides of the political divide, fellow Abbeyfeale councillor Liam Galvin of Fine Gael said they were good friends.

"Not only was he a pleasure to work with, he was also a very professional man at his job. Well capable, a great politician. He was a staunch Fianna Fail man – there is no point in saying any different. But Michael never let politics get between myself and himself. He was an honest, decent man, and one who I admired," said Cllr Galvin, who leads the district which Abbeyfeale falls under.

Council priomh-chomhairleoir Cllr Tom Ruddle, Newcastle West, added: "His commitment to public service, his deep understanding of the community and his dedication to improving the lives of others earned him the respect of colleagues and constituents alike."

He served as chairman of the old County Limerick VEC and also on various school boards of management.

Mr O'Kelly was part of a family with a very proud tradition of public service.

He is first cousin of former councillors, Gerard Collins and Michael J Collins as well as a nephew of the late James J Collins, who served as a councillor from 1950 to 1967.

He's very sadly missed by his loving family: sons John and Michael, daughters Cliona and Una, son-in-law Damien, daughter-in-law Siobhán, grandchildren Séan, Emily, Ethan, Oisín and Michael, brother-in-law Séan, sister-in-law Delia, nephews, nieces, neighbours and friends.

He is predeceased by his loving wife Phyl, brother Mossie, sister Patsy and son-in-law Terry.

Mr O'Kelly's family have requested donations be made in his memory to a charity of one's choice.

He was laid to rest after his requiem Mass in Reilig Íde Naofa this Tuesday. May he rest in heavenly peace.



The late Michael O'Kelly (inset) served the town of Abbeyfeale and its surrounds with distinction for more than 25 years on the old Limerick County Council

Savage sheepdog attack leaves two injured

Ellie McCarthy

INVESTIGATIONS are underway after a woman and a child were attacked by an "absolutely savage" dog. The incident occurred on the Limerick-Clare border.

Gardaí and emergency services responded to the incident, involving a sheepdog, at O'Brien's Bridge, Co Clare, on Saturday, August 8. It occurred at approximately 10.55am.

A woman, aged in her 50s, received injuries believed to be non-life-threatening during the attack.

County Clare dog warden Frankie Coote also confirmed that the dog attacked a boy, who was hospitalised and discharged some hours later.

The services of the county's dog warden were requested by gardai on the morning of August 8. Mr Coote attended the scene after being made aware that a sheepdog had "gone loose" and attacked the woman.

Speaking to the Limerick Leader on the terrifying incident, Mr Coote said, "It was a serious attack and the guards said they couldn't get anywhere near the dog. He was just too vicious."

"When I was traveling there, he attacked the young fella. The young fella was let out of the hospital a couple of hours later. The woman wasn't."

"The dog was just absolutely savage. If any dog was capable of killing someone, he was. He was that dangerous."

"He was one of the worst I've ever seen and it just proves again that it doesn't have to be an XL bully or a Rottweiler or a bulldog to do damage," said Mr Coote.

The Clare dog warden said he had "no choice" but to put the sheepdog down.

Limerick Tunnel announces maintenance work closures

Ellie McCarthy

OPERATORS of the Limerick Tunnel have announced that closures are planned for the coming weeks to manage maintenance works.

The planned road closures, which are to facilitate essential asset life cycle works, will be overnight from 9pm to 6am.

On Monday, August 24 and Tuesday, August 25, the N18 southbound at Junction 4 will close and southbound diversions will be in place at the N18 Junction 4 to N18 Junction 2 via the R445, R527 and R510.

The following day, the N18 southbound at Junction 1 and the M20 to M7 slip road will also be closed to traffic, with a diversion to the M7 via Rosbrien roundabout.

Thursday, August 27, will see slip road closures at the N18 Junction 1. While individual slip roads will be closed, there will be diversions via the M20 Junction 2 and/or N18 Junction 2.

From Monday, August 31 to Thursday, September 3, the Limerick Tunnel will be closed in both directions, with the road closed between N18 Junction 2 and N18 Junction 4. Diversions will be in place via R445, R527 and R510.

Coming into the final week of road closures, taking place between Monday, Sep-

tember 7 and Thursday, September 10, the tunnel will again be closed in both directions. The road will be closed between the N18 Junction 2 and N18 Junction 4. There will be diversions via the R445, R527 and R510.

While the works will be carried out overnight at non-peak times, motorists travelling during these hours are advised to allow additional time when planning their journey as the diversions could add additional time to their route.

The operator of the Limerick Tunnel says all of the planned works and closures are weather dependent so motorists are advised to check for the latest information nearer to their planned journeys.



The closure will facilitate essential works on the Limerick Tunnel



The Curraghchase Forest Park will take place throughout Limerick as National Heritage Week 2026 gets underway. PICTURE: KIERAN RYAN-BENSON

Explore Heritage Week with free events

A PROGRAMME of free events will take place throughout Limerick as National Heritage Week 2026 gets underway.

Running from August 15-23, people are invited to discover traditions, landscapes, historic places and shared stories.

This year's theme, 'Heritage at Risk' highlights the importance of identifying, protecting and conserving the heritage that shapes local communities.

The Limerick events will explore a wide range of topics including traditional crafts, conservation skills, storytelling and more.

The programme offers opportunities for people of all ages to learn about Limerick's natural, built and cultural legacy.

National Heritage Week 2026 invites those to learn more about the ecology of the lower river Shannon, step out for Limerick's one-day festival, take a trip back in time with the archaeology of the Adare bypass, take a guided bat walk at Curraghchase Forest Park or explore the architectural conservation of Newcastle West and Desmond Castle.

Co-ordinated by The Heritage Council, the week of events brings together communities, organisations and enthusiasts to celebrate the value of heritage.

National Heritage Week 2026 offers an opportunity to celebrate what has been handed down through generations and to consider how it can be protected for the future.

Programme details for Limerick are available at limerick.ie/heritage-week

Teenager to face a further charge over fatal collision

A TEENAGER who is charged with dangerous driving causing the death of Limerick nurse Aine O'Reilly is expected to face one further charge in relation to the incident.

Keelan O'Connell, aged 19, of Scanlon Park, Castleconnell, appeared before Judge Catherine Ryan via video-link at a vacation sitting of Limerick District Court last week. The teenager has been in the custody of Limerick Prison since March.

Prosecuting Sergeant Jimmy Dilane told Judge Catherine Ryan that the book of evidence is ready and will be served on the next hearing date. The court was also informed that a new charge is expected to be brought against Mr O'Connell.

At a previous hearing, Garda Tony Burke of Henry Street garda station, alleged that on Friday, February 13, Keelan O'Connell was driving a black 2007 VW Golf with "excess speed" and he attempted a "dangerous manoeuvre" to undertake a Peugeot car.

Garda Burke alleged Mr O'Connell's VW Golf collided with the Peugeot, forcing the Peugeot into a collision with a Nissan Micra car, which was being driven by Aine O'Reilly, a nurse who was on her way to work at the time. She was pronounced deceased at the scene.



The late Aine O'Reilly, aged 33, from Pallasgreen, died on February 13

The young man's solicitor, Sarah Ryan, confirmed that an application for bail has not been made.

Mr O'Connell was remanded in

custody and will next appear before Limerick District Court again on Wednesday, August 19, where he will be served with the book of evidence.

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Flan's ire over student housing development

THE owner of a well-known city nightclub, set to re-open after six years, has objected to plans for a student accommodation development on its doorstep.

As revealed by the Limerick Leader, Costello's Tavern on Dominic Street – owned by Flan Costello – is due to re-open later this year for the first time since March 2020.

Just yards away, planning permission is being sought for a student accommodation complex, which is proposed to range from six to eight storeys in height and provide accommodation for 350 people.

Now, Mr Costello, who owns the nightclub, has contacted the council to request that it refuses planning permission for the student development, citing concerns about its height.

In a detailed objection, he raised concerns that, if it goes ahead, the development would cast an extensive shadow over Costello's Tavern for most of the day, create a 'darker, colder interior environment' and reduce natural daylight.

Mr Costello said this was particularly important as he intends to install solar panels on the roof of Costello's Tavern.

Mr Costello also said he feels the building earmarked for between Lady's Lane and Hunt's Lane, off Dominic Street, would be "visually overbearing and entirely inappropriate". He said it would diminish the architectural character of the neighbourhood and set a precedent for more high-rise schemes.

The developers Lanehunt did not return a request for comment, but



Objection: Flan Costello
PICTURE: @EVERYPUBLIMERICK (INSTAGRAM: PAUL O'BRIEN)

in planning documents, stated that there is an established pattern of six-to-eight-storey development in the immediate area, pointing to plans in Parnell Street and another student complex of up to seven storeys permitted at the former Railway Hotel.

Mr Costello also claimed that the Tavern is an older structure – dating back to the mid-1800s – and that any works would pose a risk to its 'foundations and structural integrity'. He fears the "cracking of walls, plaster, brickwork and historic features", alongside the disturbance of underground pipes and services.

Lanehunt pledged 'good neighbour' relationships, and "good communication at all times".

The ground floor of the student housing development is to have a cafe, gym, study rooms and laundry. A decision is due next month.

Accommodation ends for Ukrainians

● Close to 400 people who have fled the war to Limerick affected

Donal O'Regan

HUNDREDS of Ukrainians living in Limerick for years after fleeing the war in their native land have to look for new accommodation.

Correspondence from the Department of Justice, Home Affairs and Migration, which was sent to politicians, has been seen by the Leader.

The letter from the Community Engagement Team states that they "would like to share some information with you about changes to how people affected by the war in Ukraine are accommodated in your area".

"The Government agreed to phase out accommodation that has been provided to people from Ukraine since 2022. This means that the State will no longer be offering accommodation to all people who are beneficiaries of temporary protection who arrived into Ireland before March 2024.

"On July 21, residents in some State-supported Ukraine accommodation in your area were informed that they may no longer be accommodated at these centres from October 2026," it



Tara House in Clarina currently accommodates 104 Ukrainians who have fled the war in their native land
PICTURE: GOOGLE MAPS

reads. There are four centres in County Limerick listed - Ard Scoil Mhuire in Bruff which has 160 residents; Tara House in Clarina which accommodates 104 Ukrainians; the Radisson Blu Hotel on the Ennis Road has 84 people staying there while Clifton House, also on Ennis Road, has 31 residents. The "last date of accommodation" is October 18. The Community Engagement Team says residents at the centres affected are

being provided with information and supports to help them to make decisions about future accommodation options.

"People currently living in the accommodation centres listed can either apply for continued accommodation at a State Supported Accommodation Centre if they have specific needs, or they can source accommodation independently.

"People who feel that they cannot manage in independent accommodation, can apply to the department for continued State-supported accommodation. People will need to provide details of their circumstances as well as supporting evidence." If people are accepted for ongoing accommodation, they will be accommodated in a Designated Accommodation Centre.

The letter to politicians says that people who are Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection, who live in a Designated Accommodation Centre where meals and utilities are provided, no longer qualify for certain social assistance payments.

They will be moved to the weekly Beneficiary of Temporary Protection weekly payment, which is €38.80 in respect of each adult and €29.80 for each child.

The correspondence states that some existing centres will close and be returned to private use.

"Accommodation will end during October for people notified during this phase who do not apply for or qualify for continued accommodation.

"They will need to leave that centre at that time," it reads.

Turning ambition into achievement at College of FET Mulgrave Street

LEARNER success stories at Limerick and Clare Education and Training Boards' College of Further Education and Training (FET), Mulgrave Street Campus highlight the many opportunities available to learners as they take the next step in their education and career journey.

The college's Arts and Creative Media Department based at Mulgrave Street Campus continues to earn national recognition, with photography learners regularly achieving success at the National Student Media Awards. This year, photography student Gidion Obaze was crowned Sports Photographer of the Year 2026, impressing judges with his striking and creative images that blended sport and high-fashion influences. His success formed part of a strong showing for the campus, with students receiving nominations in News Photographer of the Year, Sports Photographer of the Year and Photographer of the Year categories. The department has built an impressive reputation over the years, producing 25 nominations and 17 award winners at the National Student Media Awards to date, reflecting the creativity and talent being nurtured at the campus.

The campus is also helping students achieve success through innovative pathways to Higher Education. Kevin Donaghy from Shannon, Co. Clare, found the right route through the Bachelor of Science in Computing Tertiary Degree programme, delivered in partnership with TUS. After realising his original university course wasn't the best fit, Kevin began his studies at Mulgrave Street Campus, where the supportive learning environment and practical, continuous assessment approach helped him thrive. He has since progressed to the next stage of his degree at TUS Moylish Campus and is working towards a Level 8 qualification, opening doors to a range of careers in the technology sector.

From Photography and Computing to Digital Media, Business and Engineering, and so much more, Limerick and Clare ETB's College of FET, Mulgrave Street Campus offers flexible pathways designed to help learners discover their strengths, gain valuable qualifications and progress to further study or employment.

To find out more about courses starting this September, visit collegeoffet.ie/mulgrave

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Kevin Donaghy, pictured at the recent LCETB graduation in the Radisson Blu Hotel
PICTURE: KEITH WISEMAN



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Shock at Alison Chawke's early release from prison

● Daughter of publican Charlie Chawke freed four weeks into a 12-month sentence

Donal O'Regan

ALISON Chawke, who bit a man during an assault in Adare, is enjoying her first full week with loved ones as a free woman after her early release from prison.

She walked out of Limerick Female Prison last Tuesday, August 11 - exactly four weeks into a 12-month prison sentence. It is understood Ms Chawke, of The Beeches, Holywell, Goatstown, Dublin 14 was released as part of the Community Return Scheme.

Ms Chawke, aged 41, and her brother Bill Chawke pleaded guilty to assault causing harm to two men at the Dunraven Arms Hotel, Adare, on November 9, 2023. Limerick Circuit Criminal Court heard that Ms Chawke bit one of the victims on the left cheek with such force that she "locked on".

On July 14 last, Ms Chawke was sentenced to two years and two months with the final 14 months suspended for two years and two months.

Professor Tom O'Malley, senior counsel and retired Professor of Law at University of Galway, was asked on RTE's Morning Ireland if it is unusual for a person who's sentenced to a year in prison for a "violent" assault to be released after just one month?

"Yes, I would think it is. I would not have any kind of firm statistics on that, but as you rightly said there a moment ago, her initial sentence was two years and two months, with the last fourteen months suspended. So she had got quite a significant concession before she was set foot in prison," said Prof O'Malley.

He continued: "There is this system that they have called the Community Return Scheme - when a person is serving a short sentence like a year, they can be released at any time."

"But in light of the circumstances



Mother-of-three Alison Chawke, aged 41, pictured outside Limerick Courthouse

PICTURE: BRENDAN GLEESON

of the case, and again I don't know why exactly this happened, but it does seem strange that somebody would be released after just serving one month of a sentence that was a year, or two years and two months, depending on how you like look at it."

Matt Carthy, Sinn Féin justice spokesman, said Ms Chawke's release "does raise serious questions".

Deputy Carthy asked: "Why has a woman from a well-to-do background, who has been convicted of a serious vio-

lent crime that involved kicking somebody in the head, been released under the Community Return Scheme after serving so little time?"

He added: "We have to be clear that those who commit violent crimes, be they male or female, should, in the interest of justice, serve the custodial sentence that they were given."

Following a media query from the Leader to the Irish Prison Service, a spokesperson said they "do not comment on individual prisoner cases".

The Leader also contacted the Department of Justice who said: "Your query would be best directed to the Irish Prison Service."

A Department of Justice spokesperson did tell the Irish Times: "While the Department cannot comment on individual cases, Minister (Jim) O'Callaghan is acutely aware of the capacity constraints in our prisons and the resulting challenges faced by those who work and live in our prisons."

A local who contacted the Leader

regarding Ms Chawke's early release said it was "disgusting".

"This woman bit a man in the face. A Judge gave her 12 months in jail and she is out and about four weeks later. It is disgusting," they said.

Ms Chawke has kept a low profile since her release. Her brother, Bill Chawke, aged 31, of Merrion Street Upper, Dublin, received a two year and six month prison sentence with the final 12 months suspended. He remains in prison.

'Na, bro, I don't sell it': Moyross father is jailed for 40 months over cocaine swoop in east Clare

Gordon Deegan

A JUDGE has jailed a 45-year-old father-of-two for three years and four months after Gardaí swooped on a property in east Clare to find over €200,000 worth of cocaine in the boot of a 20-year-old BMW car.

At Ennis Circuit Court, Judge Francis Comerford has imposed a 48-month prison term with the final eight months suspended on Alan King of San Giovanni, Callaly, Tuamgraney, Co Clare.

Judge Comerford said that he will also give credit for four months served in prison on remand by Mr King before he was able to take up High Court bail.

In the case, Mr King pleaded guilty to having in his possession cocaine with a market value in excess of €10,000 for the purpose of selling or supplying at his address on June 28, 2025 at his Tuamgraney address.

Judge Comerford said that the high value of the €208,222 worth of cocaine wrapped in three covered bricks of cocaine was an aggravating factor in the case.

Det Garda David Laing said that at interview, Mr King said that he didn't own the cocaine discovered in the boot of the BMW and was minding it for someone



A 48-month prison term with the final eight months suspended was imposed on Alan King at Ennis Circuit Court

else to cover a drugs debt.

Judge Comerford said that he accepted that Mr King was storing the drugs for someone as opposed to someone who is part and parcel of a criminal operation.

Judge Comerford said that it is very difficult for Alan King to say he was just an innocent dupe who was under pressure because of drug debt in cir-

cumstances where there were weighing scales in close proximity.

He said that there are objective signs that Mr King "was a low level cannabis dealer".

Judge Comerford said that text messages showed that Mr King was not dealing cocaine to sell and was a middle man.

Judge Comerford said that he ac-

cepted Mr King had no trappings of wealth and was not making a lot of money out of drug dealing.

The judge said that Mr King had involved himself in serious criminal activity and "the greater value of the drugs and the more harm that they will do."

Judge Comerford said that Mr King had a drug debt that put him in a vulnerable position.

In sentencing, Judge Comerford said that he took into account Mr King's guilty plea.

Mr King's previous convictions date back to 15 years ago and are mainly road traffic offences including three for drink driving.

Det Garda David Laing said that Mr King is a native of Moyross.

Counsel for Mr King, Brian McInerney SC (instructed by solicitor, Tara Godfrey) said that Mr King is the father of young children and resides at the Tuamgraney address with his partner who inherited the house.

Mr McInerney said that Mr King had the 2005 BMW left to him by a friend who died.

Mr McInerney pointed to a WhatsApp message to Mr King from a person who asked if he had any 'white' and Mr King replied 'Na, bro, I don't sell it'.

Mr McInerney said that at the time of arrest Mr King was in receipt of social welfare and is currently not in receipt of social welfare.

He pointed out that his case was not referred to the Criminal Assets Bureau where there are no grounds to suspect that there were ill gotten gains.

Mr McInerney said that a significant mitigation in the case was the absence of serious criminal convictions for Mr King.



John Haggerty was sentenced in Derry Magistrates' Court

Man defecated in his cell and wrote slogan

Emamon MacDermott

A MAN with an address in Limerick defecated in a police cell and wrote 'tíocfaidh ar la' on the cell wall, Derry Magistrates' Court heard on Thursday.

John Haggerty (32) of Glenmar, Limerick admitted criminal damage to a cell on December 25, 2024.

He also admitted possessing Class B drugs on December 23, valued at €675.

The court heard that police received information that a passenger on the Aircorach travelling to Derry had drugs in his possession. Police were waiting at the bus depot.

They searched Haggerty and found 15 grammes of Class B drug. Then, on December 25, it was noted that the defendant had defecated in his cell and written 'tíocfaidh ar la' on the wall.

The cost of a deep clean was put at €53. A defence solicitor said that the cell incident was 'unpleasant' for staff but grew out of 'frustration' at being in custody over Christmas.

The defendant was sentenced to three months in custody suspended for 18 months and ordered to pay €93 in compensation.

IN BRIEF

Community Bingo is coming to Limerick

COMMUNITY Bingo is coming to The Crescent, O'Connell Street in Limerick city on Wednesday, August 19 and Wednesday, August 26 from 7pm to 9pm.

The family-friendly bingo evenings will feature great prizes and free admission, making them an opportunity for families, friends and neighbours to come together for a fun night out in the city.

The free events, which are part of Summer in the City, will combine traditional bingo with a wider community initiative focused on sharing, reusing and keeping items in circulation.

Organisers are encouraging people to bring along books and games they no longer use and swap them for something new to them.

If ice cream or coffee vendors would like to come along and offer refreshments, they are invited to contact the organisers to register their interest.

LSAD launches Master's exhibition

THE Fine Art Master's group at Limerick School of Art and Design (LSAD) presents Meascán, the final exhibition of their Master's programme, opening to the public on August 31.

Taking its title from the Irish word for mixture, Meascán brings together a diverse group of artists working across drawing, painting, photography, print, sculpture, installation and moving image.

The exhibition features new work created specifically for the show, marking the culmination of each artist's individual research and studio practice.

Created in response to individual lines of enquiry, the works range from intimate and observational to experimental, sculptural and immersive. Their proximity within the exhibition - open to the public until September 8 - creates unexpected connections and tensions.

Appeals to fast-track footpath extension to protect people's lives

Kayley Hardiman

A RENEWED appeal has been issued on behalf of the residents in the Newport Road area for the footpath extension on the R503 between Grangewood and Rich Hill estates.

Independent councillor for Limerick City East, Elena Secas is spearheading this appeal and said: "For more than 40 years, residents along the R503 have been campaigning for a 150-metre footpath to protect families from fast-moving cars, buses and heavy goods vehicles."

"There are about 290 residents in this area, including children, older peo-

ple and families, and people are forced every day to walk this dangerous stretch of road without a safe pedestrian route. No community should have to accept such a risk."

Cllr Secas explained that Limerick Council has submitted a Preliminary Appraisal Form to the Department of Transport. "The proposed project will deliver a new 150-metre footpath, the relocation of existing stone and boundary walls where necessary, seven new public lighting columns, and a new drainage system to improve safety for everyone using this road."

Cllr Secas said: "While this Preliminary Appraisal Form is currently under

consideration... the residents and I urge the Minister to approve the Council's application without further delay so this long-overdue project can finally proceed."

"This is not simply about building a footpath, concluded Cllr Secas. "It is about protecting lives, and there have been already serious incidents during the years on this stretch of the road, with very serious consequences for the people involved, so we need to ensure this long-overdue life-saving project on Newport Road is finally delivered."

Local resident James Ryan said this project has been obstructed for way too long. "It should therefore be fast-tracked now, to make up for the decades of neglect."



Cllr Elena Secas on Newport Road where she has renewed an appeal

Life of beloved teacher celebrated

Family, friends and colleagues honour devoted educator

Ellie McCarthy

THE FUNERAL of Limerick teacher Noreen Quealy (née Allis) heard that the beloved mother "achieved a long life, not in terms of number of years but in genuine-ness and goodness".

Mrs Quealy worked in Catherine McAuley School, located on the South Circular Road, for approximately 13 years and taught the Leaving Certificate Applied class prior to her passing.

The beloved teacher, of Bank Place, Doon and late of Kilmoylan, passed away peacefully on Monday, August 10 following a terminal illness. She was only 44-years-old at the time.

Mrs Quealy reposed at Whites Funeral Home in Doon on Wednesday evening, August 12, and sources said that her removal was still ongoing at 2am due to large crowds that gathered to pay their respects.

At her funeral Mass on Thursday morning, at St Patrick's Church, Doon, mourners heard about the much-loved Limerick woman.

Chief Celebrant Fr James Purcell said: "I think it is fair to say, anybody who knew Noreen well will know that she had a great sense of fun about her and as the saying goes, she didn't lick it off the ground. She inherited her mother Mary's happy and cheerful personality.

"At the heart of all this was her great capacity to give and receive friendship. Noreen brought a very dynamic, fun-loving and infectious spirit into any and every company. Naturally beautiful in looks, she radiated too an inner joy."

Fr Purcell continued: "As a teacher, Noreen saw and recognised her students as lamps to be lit, rather than vessels to be filled."

The beloved teacher cheered on her sons, Dan and Joe, in their sporting endeavours and daughter Kate in her love of music.

In a reading by her sister Marie, Noreen was described as "coming to perfection in so short a while, you achieved a long life, not in terms of number of years but in genuineness and goodness."

Noreen met her husband, Michael Quealy, when she first started working in Catherine McAuley School. Soon after, the pair became inseparable.



The funeral Mass of Noreen Quealy took place on August 13 in St Patrick's Church, Doon

The Allis family wished to acknowledge his unwavering love and care of Noreen, particularly following her diagnosis.

"The two of you were in it together, sharing almost the very same pulse. Your love endured health and the bitter potion of sickness. Noreen, in life, you were trusted to look after something precious, namely your family. Your parents George and Mary raised you well and in due course, you became a mother yourself. We might say, this was your finest hour," said Fr James Purcell.

Noreen's daughter Kate said in a prayer: "We pray for Mammy, whose beautiful, lightful presence as a wife, mother, daughter, sister and teacher, brought us so much happiness, laughter and love into our lives. Lord, hear us."

Delivering the eulogy of his beloved wife, Michael Quealy said: "Noreen, as you know, was just such a tonic. She was loved by so many people. Her beautiful personality really is a reflection of her brothers and sisters, Brid, Marie and George, and her parents, George and Mary.

"She was a type of teacher that embraced every aspect of school life.

"When I first met Noreen, it was actually in Catherine McAuley School and, as luck would have

Naturally beautiful in looks, she radiated too an inner joy
- Fr James Purcell

it, Noreen was teaching in a pre-fab across the yard from the class I taught in. She often had to take shortcuts through my classroom after break time or lunchtime because she was probably talking too much.

"What struck me about Noreen was that she had an immediate effect on everybody in the room, including myself."

"As time passed, we became very close and it was obvious to us that we had something very special. We shared a house in Ennis for a few years and I had notions in my head that we might move to West Clare. Noreen had similar notions but they were at the other side of the Shannon. I gladly followed her across the Shannon and we moved to Bank Place, where we made our forever home. We have made so many fantastic memories."

Speaking directly to their three children, he continued: "Kate, Joe and Dan, you know that Mammy loved you so much and she was

proud of the three of you every day. I know that you're going to continue to make Mammy proud. When Noreen was diagnosed a year ago, she was so determined to get better and sadly, this was not to be. Then after that, she set herself the target of being with us for as long as possible. I'm so thankful for all the time we had to spend with Noreen and I was amazed and so proud of Noreen and her positive mindset, her determination and just pure grace when dealing with the many challenges she had to face."

He went on to thank the medical staff in the oncology unit in University Hospital Limerick and Milford Hospice as well as their families, friends and colleagues.

"Finally, to my beautiful Noreen, you were just something else and we will all love you forever."

Noreen Quealy is sadly missed by her loving husband Mike, daughter Kate, sons Joe and Dan, parents George and Mary, sisters Brid and Marie, brother George, parents-in-law Marty and Vinnie, brothers-in-law Seamus, Colm, Tom, Martin and Peadar, sisters-in-law Joanie, Mary, Jane, Anne and Helen, aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, relatives, neighbours, colleagues in Catherine McAuley School and many friends. May she rest in peace.

Teddy bear crafted by inmates honours beloved prison officer

Ellie McCarthy

A TEDDY bear crafted by female inmates in Limerick Prison was placed on the coffin of local prison officer Joanne Houlihan at her funeral Mass on Friday.

The congregation gathered in the Church of The Assumption, Abbeyfeale, heard that she "was such an outgoing person, full of energy and passion, that she would keep trying until her dreams came true."

Joanne, of Ballaugh, Abbeyfeale, Co Limerick, passed away on Tuesday, August 11, after a terminal illness. She reposed at her home on Thursday, August 13.

During her funeral Mass, mourners heard of the incredible life she lived that was "full of love."

A large number of prison service officers were in attendance and a guard of honour was formed for the county Limerick woman, who worked in the canine department.

Delivering the eulogy of her beloved sister, Angela Ryan said it was difficult to find the words to describe Joanne, who "never did anything by halves."

Mrs Ryan said, "Jo was tough, but her toughness made other people feel safe."

"Jo needed the outdoors in the way most of us need air. Even teachers used to let her escape the classroom when they thought her head might explode if she didn't get outside. Being confined was not for Jo, which is ironic considering she became a prison officer."

"Once she set her mind to something, the rest of us could safely assume it was already halfway accomplished. Jo had many jobs but in the Irish Prison Service, she really did find a second family. It was a place where her compassion, toughness and empathy all mattered. She became a deeply respected officer and colleague and formed friendships that lasted her whole life."

"The role of dog handler brought together two of the things she loved: her work and animals. Cruelly, the day after she got the job, she learned that her cancer had returned but even that didn't stop her of course. She completed her six weeks of training in Roscommon and it brought her enormous joy."

"When the news worsened in March, Jo did not take it sitting down, as no surprise to anyone. A second opinion brought her under the care of Professor Conleth Murphy in Cork. The outcome was not one any of us prayed for but we will always be grateful for the gift of those five months that she got, which allowed her to fulfill her dream of becoming a dog handler."

Speaking directly to Joanne's "lovely wife, her best friend and the person who she shared this full and remarkable life with," Ms Ryan said she



Joanne Houlihan passed away on August 11

and the family were "so grateful" that Carol was at her side when she first became ill 18 years ago.

"Over the years, that gratitude only deepened, as did our love for Carol. In the last year, especially, she cared for Jo with extraordinary strength, tenderness and devotion. Together, they squeezed every possible little drop out of life. Jo was Jo, in part, because Carol is Carol. Today, our hearts are broken because Jo should still be here. There were more roads to travel, more animals to bring home, more schemes to hatch and more jobs to get done. And yet, in the time she had, Jo loved more fully than most of us could manage in twice as long."

Mrs Ryan said Joanne would not want people to remain sad but "would tell us to get on with it, take the trip, begin the project, help the person beside us, love our people fiercely and grab life with both hands."

"Jo, we love you so much. We're so proud of you. We'll miss you more than words can say," she concluded.

Chief Celebrant Fr Willie Russell described Joanne as being an "outgoing person, full of energy and passion, that she would keep trying until all her dreams came true."

She is very sadly missed by her devoted wife Carol, mom Margaret, sister Angela, and brothers Richard and David. Joanne will always be in the hearts of her adoring nephews and nieces, Michael, Ciarán, Liam, Ailise, Lorcan, Saoirse and Cian, sisters-in-law Marie and Sandra, brother-in-law Seán, her extended family, dear friends, colleagues and neighbours.

May she rest in peace.

Limerick Area Post-Primary Schools Common Application System 2027/2028 Schedule of School Open Nights/Days

Parents/Guardians of prospective first year students for the academic year 2027/2028 are kindly invited to attend the Open Night/Day of the following schools:-

School	Date	Day of Week	Time
Ardscoil Mhuirle (girls), Sir Henry's Mill, Limerick.	29/09/2028	Tuesday	7pm
Ardscoil Rís (boys), North Circular Road, Limerick.	14/09/2028	Monday	7pm
Castletroy College (co-ed), Westtown, Castletroy, Co. Limerick	15/09/2028	Tuesday	7pm
Coláiste Chiaráin (co-ed) Croon, Co. Limerick, V35XN29	08/10/2028	Thursday	7pm
Coláiste Mícháil (boys), Sexton Street, Limerick.	23/09/2028	Wednesday	7pm
Coláiste Nano Nagle (girls), Sexton Street, Limerick.	01/10/2028	Thursday	7pm
Crescent College Comprehensive S.J. (co-ed), Doonahilly, Limerick.	21/09/2028	Monday	6.45pm
Gaelcholáiste Luimnigh (co-ed, All Irish), Clare St., Limerick.	28/09/2028	Monday	7pm
Laurel Hill Coláiste F.C.J. (girls, All Irish), South Circular Road, Limerick.	19/09/2028	Saturday	10am- 12.30pm
Laurel Hill Secondary School F.C.J. (girls), South Circular Road, Limerick.	24/09/2028	Thursday	7pm
Limerick Educate Together Secondary School (co-ed), Towlerton, Groody Road, Castletroy, Co. Limerick.	13/10/2028	Tuesday	7pm
Mungret Community College (co-ed), Caheranash, Mungret, Co. Limerick.	06/10/2028	Tuesday	7pm
St. Clement's College (boys), South Circular Road, Limerick.	29/09/2028	Tuesday	6pm
St. Munchin's College (boys), Corbally, Limerick.	16/09/2028	Wednesday	7pm
Salisbury Secondary College (co-ed), Palsakerry, Co. Limerick.	30/09/2028	Wednesday	7pm
Thomond Community College (co-ed), Moylish Park, Limerick.	10/09/2028	Thursday	7pm
Villiers Secondary School (co-ed, Fee Charging), North Circular Road, Limerick.	26/09/2028	Saturday	11am - 1.30pm

All dates have been agreed by the Limerick Principals' & Deputy Principals' Association



Valerie Wheeler shared the news on her popular Instagram account

'It's a boy!' Broadcaster shares news

BROADCASTER Valerie Wheeler and her husband have welcomed the birth of their first child.

The Spin South West presenter announced her pregnancy in April, just seven months after her spectacular wedding in Portugal.

Valerie married her long-term partner Gavin Young, an advanced coach at Ballyneety Trackman Range, about a year-and-a-half after he proposed in New York.

Taking to Instagram, the famed presenter announced the couple's very exciting news, saying, "Our little boy. Our hearts have never been so full.

"Leaving together as a family of three was a moment we will never, ever forget."

She went on to thank staff at University Maternity Hospital Limerick who looked after her along the way.

"We genuinely could not have asked for a better team to have beside us at such an important time in our lives. You welcomed our little boy into the world, cared for him so wonderfully, and looked after us when we needed it most. We will forever be grateful for every one of you.

"A very special thank you to Dr Naro and the entire team for everything.

"It's time for our greatest adventure yet. Welcome home, our beautiful boy. Our family is finally complete," she concluded.

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LIMERICK'S LARGEST FAMILY & AGRICULTURAL SHOW

Sunday 23rd August 2026 | Limerick Racecourse

Fashion show

Trudi Lawlor

Central free kids zone

Dog show

Competitions

Stow jumping

Live Music, Food Village, Wedding Fair, Markets, Horse and Pony Classes, Horticulture, Careers Village, Bake Off & Much More!

www.limerickshow.ie

The dust settles on 70th agri show

● ‘Best Cappamore Show yet’ as massive crowds attend

Donal O'Regan

THE WELLIES are generally thrown in the boot “just in case” when heading off to any agri show but you could have safely worn stilettoes at Cappamore Show on Saturday because the ground was like a rock.

The showjumping area had to be watered for a number of mornings and nights to make it safe. The main pathways even needed some H₂O to keep the dust down. Show chairman John McCarthy remembered his first year in the hot seat when the rain “nearly moved the field”. The committee were very close to cancelling it due to the wet conditions.

“Different years bring different challenges. It has been a very dry year and it is hard on farmers with the grass situation,” said John.

The Limerick minor and senior hurlers certainly rose to all challenges in 2026 and the Liam MacCarthy, Mick Mackey and Irish Press Cups were all at the show.

There was no prouder man to get his hands on “Liam” and “Mick” than Seamus McAndrew. He managed to hold both of them as well as granddaughter Ailbhe Doherty, aged 2. Seamus said it will be a “treasured photo”. He left Eyon, Murroe when

he was even younger than Ailbhe for Brighton but Limerick remains home. Clad in a Limerick jersey, Seamus was at all the recent All-Irelands bar this year.

As he and wife Lorraine are marking their 40th wedding anniversary they decided to bring all their family home to Limerick to celebrate and Cappamore Show was firmly on the itinerary. Home is where the heart is.

Show secretary John Hassett, who also owns the land where the show takes place, continued the theme.

“It’s such a great social gathering that people come home for Cappamore Show and to meet up with family and friends. Someone said to me this morning they came in early because they wanted to see a lot of the stands because they wouldn’t have time to see the stands later on because they’d be doing so much talking to all the people they didn’t meet for a year.”

“There’s a great buzz here – the crowd filled up earlier this year than other years. It really makes all the hard work pay off and all those winter nights that we met in the hall and made plans for one day in August, it all paid off, and everybody’s delighted,” said John Hassett, who thanked the committee.

“It’s our 70th year. It’s a big achievement. Five members and former members that gave a huge amount to the show died this year, and not just for



ABOVE: John, Ollie and Grace McNamaras, from Knockadea, in front of the same tractor they have at home

RIGHT: Proud Seamus McAndrew, Brighton but born in Eyon, Murroe, with his granddaughter Ailbhe and the Liam MacCarthy and Mick Mackey Cups at Cappamore Show. SEE PAGE 24 OF L2 FOR MORE PHOTOS

them but for all past members – that’s why we do it. We do it in their memory,” he continued.

John McCarthy concurred: “We’re carrying on the legacy of people like Paddy Ryan ‘Luke’ and all those that kept this show going. It’s a privilege.”

The late, great Paddy’s son Sean is chair of the cattle section where the Leader met Ellis Hannon, aged 9, from Croagh, who had just been named winner of the u-10 stockperson class with her Commercial calf. It was a one-two for the Hannon household as brother Michael, 6, finished second. The family is completed by Aoife, 11, and Tadhg, 13 who were also showing cattle while mum and dad, Mike and Jenny, tried to keep track of them all!

Ellis gave some top advice for

showing cattle which doubles as very good life advice.

“Take your time, keep calm, keep smiling and congratulate all the other people taking part,” she smiled.

The local class for children from Cappamore was won by Conor Ryan, 14, showing for Eamon O’Donovan. This dream duo are a bit like the Limerick hurlers as they have lifted the cup numerous times.

There was a superb display of machinery both modern and vintage. The McNamaras – John, 9, Ollie 6, and Grace, 4 – from Knockadea posed for the Leader with a tractor which John said they also have at home. Nearby, master blacksmith Eric O’Neill put on his typical vintage display.

The tents featuring cookery exhib-

its, cookery demo, craft and small business pavilion and Green Village were side by side allowing the crowds to visit each one in turn.

Away from the cattle and horse showing and showjumping sections was a mobile farm with more animals than Noah had on the ark. Harry McKevitt, aged 2, from Limerick city, embraced his parents Laura and Kevin’s rural roots by petting a miniature pony. The dog show was thronged. Mary Walsh, aged 5, from Kildimo, headed down with two huge Irish Wolfhounds who were like lambs in her hands.

John Hassett surveyed all this activity on his normal tranquil pastures that were being turned to dust but he didn’t mind in the slightest!

“It’s our best show yet,” he smiled.



ABOVE: Judge, Luke Barnett presenting first prize in the under 10 young stockperson competition to Ellis Hannon, Croagh



LEFT: Harry McKevitt, aged 2, from Limerick city, pets a miniature pony



Elanor Reilly, Cavan, accepting the GVM cup for the Golden Vale Marts in association with Cappamore Show All Ireland Beef €2,000 Championship. Also pictured Gene McCann, judge, John McCarthy, Aisling Burke, Tom Crosse, GVM, Maria McCarthy, Sinead McCarthy and Abigail Brogan



Ronan McCloskey, Nenagh on a fire engine



Pat Hayes, Jim Blackwell and Denis Keating beside the mobile sensory room



Vroom, vroom: Michael Galvin, Murroe



John Fennessy, Castleconnell, preparing his cattle for showing



Mary Walsh, aged 5, from Kildimo, with her Irish Wolfhounds Moose and Brigid



Ingred Ferris and Olive Olszewsky, Toor, Knockfune with their Irish Wolfhounds

Captivating day with friendships forged, top advice and new careers

Donal O'Regan

THOUSANDS came to Cappamore Show to enjoy everything from music to Montbeliardes to machinery but some went home with a new career.

Bruff-based Garda Inspector Gearóid Thompson, Sergeant Michelle O'Halloran, Crime Prevention Officer, and a number of gardai had a stand near the cattle section.

Insp Thompson said attendees asked them about the job they do as part of the ongoing garda recruitment campaign - It's a Job Worth Doing.

"We gave advice to anyone intending on joining An Garda Síochána. Indeed, we have had some people come up to us this morning and ask about joining. We have also had some people who have told us that they're in the process of joining and they're awaiting interviews, which is great for us because we are down on numbers - there's no two ways about it."

"We would certainly encourage An Garda Síochána as a very worthwhile job to do," said Insp Thompson.

The inspector said they had two property marking machines on display - a hammer action property marking machine for items like trailers and a laser property marking machine for more delicate items like mobile phones. They are courtesy of Limerick City and County Council and Diarmuid Cronin, of Muinistir na Tíre, respectively.

Sgt O'Halloran said they really encourage property marking because they often recover



Freda Kinnarney, National President of the Irish Shows Association and John O'Connor, St Albans Credit Union

stolen goods during the course of searches and, unfortunately, items may not be marked or have no distinguishing marks.

"Therefore we cannot locate or identify an owner so we really encourage that if you have property, valuables, machinery, farming equipment to mark it. As time goes on there'll be different events advertised to come along to and have your property marked. Ensure then to take pictures of the property, record the serial numbers and the marking that the property has. Then if that ever was to be stolen, we will be able to reunite it with the owner," said Sgt O'Halloran, who gave an example of stolen tools being returned to their owner because they were marked.

Insp Thompson said they were delighted to be joined by National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) staff who they work closely with.

"We're coming into the coursing season where we have a big problem with illegal lurching and

people entering lands. Farmers and landowners are very much upset and discommoded by this kind of activity. We work very closely with NPWS to highlight breaches of the Wildlife Act and to help in the detection of wildlife offences," said Insp Thompson.

Sgt O'Halloran said if you do observe trespassers on your land, please notify An Garda Síochána immediately by dialling 999.

"Do not approach them, never put yourself in any danger and just record as much detail as you possibly can," advised Sgt O'Halloran.

Road safety advice was also a feature of their stand with a high-performance Golf R on display. People who called to the stand could also have a chat with their local gardai and ask for advice on home and personal security.

Insp Thompson, Sgt O'Halloran and all the gardai thanked the Cappamore Show committee and everyone who came up to chat.



Andrew McMahon, National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS), Sergeant Ide Murphy, Inspector Gearóid Thompson, Mike Hynan, Hynan Travel, Garda Stephen Noonan, Garda John Clifford and John Ryan, NPWS



Under one Bonny Baby winners from left: Tonika Ryan with Reigh and Ronan Deedigan, Pallasgreen, Christine Shanahan with Leon Bobby Wade, Newport and Orlagh Eichholz, Dromkeen



Under 2 Bonny Baby winners; Anna Morrison, with Darraagh, Thurlies (first), Emma Smith with Ruby Smith, Gort (second) and Alison O'Connor, with Rian O'Connor, Broadford, Co Clare (third)



Pat Hoare, judge, presents James Ryan with the Irish Draught Mare Class Cup at Cappamore Show



Sponsor, Sam Milburn presenting the Benny Buster Barney Shield to Darren Doyle, Cappamore for his winning dog in the Cappamore confined class at the Dog Show, with judge, Jacinta



Patrick O'Sullivan presents PJ Meara with the cup for the Best Yearling Filly

'As lovely as any venue you'd play': Jimmy Buckley kept it country in Ballyvoren

Donal O'Regan

COUNTRY music star Jimmy Buckley has over 26,000 monthly listeners on Spotify and it felt like that number watched him perform at Cappamore Show on Saturday.

The crowd was nine or 10 deep around the dancefloor as the Doon man and his band took to the stage in Ballyvoren. The floor was quickly filled when he took the mic.

Jimmy spoke with the Leader prior to the show saying he was 'delighted to be here'.

"Cappamore Show is such a prestigious show. I'm only from over the road in Doon and there are loads of neighbors and friends here today."

"Thank you so much to the committee and for everybody involved for having the faith to bring us here today, and for the honour of doing it. We're delighted to be here."

"I'm so looking forward to it, getting people dancing and enjoying themselves, and meeting everyone from home before we head off for Tyrone this evening," said Jimmy. He had to be at the Ryndale Inn in Moy for 5pm that night.

Jimmy has played in venues all over Ireland and all over the world so what's it like to perform in a field in sunny Cappamore?

"It's as lovely as any venue you'd play."



Country music star Jimmy Buckley, Doon, on stage at the Cappamore Show

PICTURE: DAVE GAYNOR

I always say no matter where you are, a venue, mainly halls, is all about four walls and a stage. Here, today, it's about the vastness of the field and the stage, and it's the people that come into it that make the show.

"It's especially nice today because of the local element to it. I'm only from over the road. Limerick have the Liam MacCarthy Cup back this year. We'll be giving a version of Limerick You're a Lady in a little while - it's very special. I'm delighted and honoured to be here today," said Jimmy, who has fond memories of attending the show when he was a child

"I used to go to Cappamore Show when I was a young fella. I always loved the show jumping and, of course, there's always the chip vans and all that type of thing. You would spend the day going around like youngsters do and enjoying it. So I'm delighted to be here all these years later," said Jimmy before taking to the stage to warm applause.

Cappamore Show chairman John McCarthy welcomed Jimmy, saying it was an honour and a privilege to have Jimmy join them.

"Jimmy made himself available for the 70th show and we are delighted. We

want to thank him very much for that, and may you have a great show," said John.

Jimmy wasn't the only one to have the audience clapping as talented young girls and boys from the Hynan School of Irish Dancing put on a terrific display. Girls wearing Limerick jerseys doing a version of a brush dance with hurleys instead of brooms was a particular hit.

While Jimmy and his band were playing, there was a magic show going around the corner. Show organisers certainly pulled a rabbit out of a hat with Jimmy Buckley.



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NOTICE OF A COMPULSORY PURCHASE ORDER UNDER

The Water Services Acts, 2007 to 2013 (and, in particular, Section 7 of the Water Services (No. 2) Act, 2013 and Part 2 and Sections 31 and 32 and Part 7 and Section 93 of the Water Services Act, 2007, as amended). The Planning and Development Acts, 2000 to 2022 (and, in particular Part XIV and Sections 213 and 217 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000). Section 184(2) of the Local Government Act, 2001 (as amended), Section 10 of the Local Government (No. 2) Act, 1960 (as substituted by Section 86 of the Housing Act, 1966 and as amended by Section 6 and the Second Schedule of the Roads Act, 1993 and by Section 222 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended)). The Housing Act, 1966 (as amended) (and in particular Part V, Sections 76 and 78 and the Third Schedule thereto). The Lands Clauses Acts (as amended). The Acquisition of Land (Assessment of Compensation) Act, 1919 (as amended) AND ALL OTHER ACTS THEREBY ENABLING THE COMPULSORY ACQUISITION OF LAND AS RESPECTS ALL OR PART OF THE LAND TO WHICH THIS COMPULSORY PURCHASE ORDER RELATES TO BE PUBLISHED IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARAGRAPH 4(a) OF THE THIRD SCHEDULE TO THE HOUSING ACT, 1966, AS AMENDED BY THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT ACTS, 2000 – 2022.



COMPULSORY ACQUISITION OF LAND
UISCE ÉIREANN COMPULSORY PURCHASE (ASKEATON WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT UPGRADE) ORDER, 2026

1. **WHEREAS UISCE ÉIREANN** (hereinafter referred to as “the Company”) a Water Services Authority for the purposes of the Water Services Act, 2007, proposes for the purposes of the Water Services Acts, 2007 to 2013 and in exercise of its powers under Sections 32 and 93 of the Water Services Act, 2007 to acquire compulsorily the lands and rights over land hereinafter described and has made an order entitled as above which is about to be submitted to An Coimisiún Pleanála (hereinafter referred to as “the Coimisiún”) for confirmation. If confirmed, the order will authorise the Company to acquire compulsorily:-
- (a) **Permanently, the lands** described in Part 1 of the Schedule hereto - which lands are shown **shaded grey** on the drawings marked “Uisce Éireann Compulsory Purchase Askeaton Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade Order, 2026”, and numbered UE/10053157/CPO/0001, UE/10053157/CPO/0002.
- (b) **Permanently, the wayleaves** described in Sub-Part A of Part 2 of the Schedule hereto, over the lands described in Sub-Part B, of Part 2 of the Schedule hereto - which wayleaves are shown **coloured yellow** on the drawings marked “Uisce Éireann Compulsory Purchase Askeaton Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade Order, 2026,” and numbered UE/10053157/CPO/0001; UE/10053157/CPO/0002.
- (c) **Permanently, the rights of way** described in Sub-Part A of Part 3 of the Schedule hereto, over the lands described in Sub-Part B, of Part 3 of the Schedule hereto to pass and re-pass over the said ways for the purposes of ingress and egress to and from the public road at all times and for all purposes and by all means in connection with the use and occupation by the Company, its successors in title, assigns, tenants, licensees, servants or agents, contractors and workmen in common with all others who have the like right of the lands and rights over land acquired by it in connection with the Askeaton Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade - which lands are shown **hatched in red** on the drawing marked “Uisce Éireann Compulsory Purchase Askeaton Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade Order, 2026,” and numbered UE/10053157/CPO/0002.
- (d) **Temporarily, the rights** described in Sub-Part A of Part 4 of the Schedule hereto, over the lands described in Sub-Part B, of Part 4 of the Schedule hereto - which said lands are shown **coloured green** on the drawings marked “Uisce Éireann Compulsory Purchase Askeaton Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade Order, 2026,” and numbered UE/10053157/CPO/0001, UE/10053157/CPO/0002.
- All of the said lands described in the Schedule hereto are situated in the County of Limerick.
2. Owners, lessees and occupiers of the lands described in the Schedule hereto will receive individual written notice and any such person wishing to make objection to the confirmation of the Compulsory Purchase Order must state in writing the grounds of objection and send same to the Commission with an address at 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1, to reach the Commission before 5.30pm on 21 day of September 2026.
3. The Commission cannot confirm the Compulsory Purchase Order in respect of the acquisition of land or interests in land if a valid objection is made by an owner, lessee or occupier of the land, and not withdrawn until it has considered the said objection(s) made to it. The Commission may at its absolute discretion, hold an oral hearing into the matter and where it does so, it shall consider any report of the person who held the oral hearing before it makes its decision on whether to confirm the Compulsory Purchase Order.
4. A copy of the Order and the deposited drawings referred to in it may be seen at the following locations:-
- (a) Uisce Éireann, Colvill House, 24-26, Talbot Street, Dublin 1 Monday to Friday between 9:00-17:00hrs.
- (b) Limerick City & County Council Area Offices, Áras Seán Finn, New Line, English tenements, Rathkeale, Co. Limerick, V94 HK1V Opening times 09:00 – 17:00 Monday – Friday.
- All of which drawings are sealed with the seal of the Company.

SCHEDULE
PART 1 – LAND ACQUISITION

Land other than land consisting of a house or houses unfit for human habitation and not capable of being rendered fit for human habitation at reasonable expense

Plot Number shaded grey on the drawings deposited at Uisce Éireann, Colvill House, 24-26 Talbot Street, Dublin 1 and Limerick City & County Council Area Offices, Áras Seán Finn, New Line, English tenements, Rathkeale, Co. Limerick, V94 HK1V	Drawing No.	Quantity, Situation and Description of the Land			Owners or Reputed Owners	Lessees or Reputed Lessees	Occupiers
		Area in Hectares	Location	Description of Property			
Plot 001	UE/10053157/CPO/0001	2.8747	MOIG SOUTH Td	Agricultural Land	T & M Hanley Farms Limited, C/O Tim Hanley, Askeaton, County Limerick	Unknown	Unknown
Plot 005	UE/10053157/CPO/0002	0.1064	CLOONREASK Td	Open Space	Limerick City and County Council, C/O Brian Hickey, Merchants Quay, Limerick, V94 EH90	Unknown	Unknown

PART 2 – PERMANENT WAYLEAVE

Sub-Part A – Description of Wayleave

The right for the Company, its successors in title, assigns, tenants, servants or agents, contractors or other licensees:

- (i) to construct, lay, keep, operate, maintain, renew, repair and inspect waste water works as defined in the Water Services Act, 2007 and all associated pipelines and all other associated physical elements used for collection, storage or treatment of waste water and such other works, services, facilities and other things as are necessary or expedient in relation thereto or are ancillary thereto or form part of such waste water works, in, on or under the land specified in Sub-Part B below, together with the right,
- (ii) to enter with all necessary vehicles, plant and machinery upon the said land at all times for any of the said purposes.

Sub-Part B – Description of Land

Plot Number coloured yellow on the drawings deposited at Uisce Éireann, Colvill House, 24-26 Talbot Street, Dublin 1 and Limerick City & County Council Area Offices, Áras Seán Finn, New Line, English tenements, Rathkeale, Co. Limerick, V94 HK1V	Drawing No.	Quantity, Situation and Description of the Land			Owners or Reputed Owners	Lessees or Reputed Lessees	Occupiers
		Area in Hectares	Location	Description of Property			
Plot 003	UE/10053157/CPO/0001	0.1845	MOIG SOUTH Td	Agricultural Land	T & M Hanley Farms Limited, C/O Tim Hanley, Askeaton, County Limerick	Unknown	Unknown
Plot 007a	UE/10053157/CPO/0002	0.073	CLOONREASK Td	Roadway and Open space	Limerick City and County Council, C/O Brian Hickey, Merchants Quay, Limerick, V94 EH90	Unknown	Unknown
Plot 007b	UE/10053157/CPO/0002	0.0183	CLOONREASK Td	Roadway and Open space	Limerick City and County Council, C/O Brian Hickey, Merchants Quay, Limerick, V94 EH90	Unknown	Unknown
Plot 008	UE/10053157/CPO/0002	0.1194	ASKEATON Td	Open Space	Limerick City and County Council, C/O Brian Hickey, Merchants Quay, Limerick, V94 EH90	Unknown	Unknown
Plot 012	UE/10053157/CPO/0002	0.0236	CLOONREASK Td	Open Space	Thomas Kennedy, 127 Deel Manor, Askeaton, County Limerick, V94 FA3W	Unknown	Unknown
Plot 013	UE/10053157/CPO/0002	0.0276	CLOONREASK Td	Open Space	Limerick City and County Council, C/O Brian Hickey, Merchants Quay, Limerick, V94 EH90	Unknown	Unknown
Plot 015	UE/10053157/CPO/0002	0.0016	CLOONREASK Td	Open Space	Tommy Kelly, Ballycullen, Askeaton, V94 PT9K	Unknown	Unknown

COMPULSORY ACQUISITION OF LAND
UISCE ÉIREANN COMPULSORY PURCHASE
(ASKEATON WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT
UPGRADE) ORDER, 2026



PART 3 – PERMANENT RIGHT OF WAY

Sub-Part A – Description of Rights

The right for the Company, its successors in title, assigns, tenants, licensees, servants or agents, contractors and workmen, to enter upon and to pass and re-pass over the lands specified in Sub-Part B below with or without all and any vehicles, plant and machinery necessary or desirable for the purpose, for the purpose of ingress and egress to and from the public road at all times, for all purposes of and by all means in connection with the use and occupation by the Company, its successors in title, assigns, tenants, licensees, servants or agents, contractors and workmen, of any lands (including rights over land and the wayleaves described in Part 2 of this Schedule).

Such right shall include

- the right to lay and maintain a suitable roadway and works ancillary thereto over the lands specified in Sub-Part B below
- the right to do in, on, under or over the lands specified in Sub-Part B below anything reasonably necessary for or ancillary or incidental to the construction, repair, maintenance and alteration of the Scheme on any land (including rights over land and the wayleaves described in Part 2 of this Schedule).

Sub-Part B – Description of Lands

Plot Number hatched in red on the drawings deposited at Uisce Éireann, Colvill House, 24-26 Talbot Street, Dublin 1 and Limerick City & County Council Area Offices, Áras Seán Finn, New Line, English tenements, Rathkeale, Co. Limerick, V94 HK1V	Drawing No.	Quantity, Situation and Description of the Land			Owners or Reputed Owners	Lessees or Reputed Lessees	Occupiers
		Area in Hectares	Location	Description of Property			
Plot 006a	UE/10053157/ CPO/0002	0.0041	CLOONREASK Td	Open Space	Limerick City and County Council, C/O Brian Hickey, Merchants Quay, Limerick, V94 EH90	Unknown	Unknown
Plot 006b	UE/10053157/ CPO/0002	0.0174	CLOONREASK Td	Open Space	Limerick City and County Council, C/O Brian Hickey, Merchants Quay, Limerick, V94 EH90	Unknown	Unknown
Plot 007a	UE/10053157/ CPO/0002	0.073	CLOONREASK Td	Roadway and Open space	Limerick City and County Council, C/O Brian Hickey, Merchants Quay, Limerick, V94 EH90	Unknown	Unknown
Plot 008	UE/10053157/ CPO/0002	0.1194	ASKEATON Td	Open Space	Limerick City and County Council, C/O Brian Hickey, Merchants Quay, Limerick, V94 EH90	Unknown	Unknown

PART 4 – TEMPORARY WORKING AREA

Sub-Part A – Description of Rights

The temporary right for the Company , assigns, tenants, licensees, servants or agents, contractors and workmen in common with all others who have the like right to use the land specified in Sub-Part B below to enter with all necessary vehicles, plant and machinery upon the said lands and to use the land to pass and re-pass over same for the purpose of ingress and egress to and from the public road at all times, for all purposes of and by all means in connection with the use and occupation by the Company its successors in title, assigns, tenants, licensees, servants or agents, contractors and workmen in common with all others who have the like right of lands and rights over land acquired by it for the purposes of the Askeaton Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade. Such rights include the right to do anything reasonably necessary for or ancillary or incidental to the construction of the structures and the waste water works as defined in the Water Services Act, 2007 to be laid, erected, or constructed on the lands described in Part 1 of this Schedule and the wayleaves described in Part 2 of this Schedule in, on, under or over the lands specified in Sub-Part B below.

Sub-Part B – Description of Lands

Plot Number coloured green on the drawings deposited at Uisce Éireann, Colvill House, 24-26 Talbot Street, Dublin 1 and Limerick City & County Council Area Offices, Áras Seán Finn, New Line, English tenements, Rathkeale, Co. Limerick, V94 HK1V	Drawing No.	Quantity, Situation and Description of the Land			Owners or Reputed Owners	Lessees or Reputed Lessees	Occupiers
		Area in Hectares	Location	Description of Property			
Plot 002a	UE/10053157/ CPO/0001	1.1710	MOIG SOUTH Td	Agricultural Land	T & M Hanley Farms Limited, C/O Tim Hanley, Askeaton, County Limerick	Unknown	Unknown
Plot 002b	UE/10053157/ CPO/0001	0.2031	MOIG SOUTH Td	Agricultural Land	T & M Hanley Farms Limited, C/O Tim Hanley, Askeaton, County Limerick	Unknown	Unknown
Plot 002c	UE/10053157/ CPO/0001	0.6099	MOIG SOUTH Td	Agricultural Land	T & M Hanley Farms Limited, C/O Tim Hanley, Askeaton, County Limerick	Unknown	Unknown
Plot 004	UE/10053157/ CPO/0002	0.3293	CLOONREASK Td	Open Space	Limerick City and County Council, C/O Brian Hickey, Merchants Quay, Limerick, V94 EH90	Unknown	Unknown
Plot 006a	UE/10053157/ CPO/0002	0.0041	CLOONREASK Td	Open Space	Limerick City and County Council, C/O Brian Hickey, Merchants Quay, Limerick, V94 EH90	Unknown	Unknown
Plot 006b	UE/10053157/ CPO/0002	0.0174	CLOONREASK Td	Open Space	Limerick City and County Council, C/O Brian Hickey, Merchants Quay, Limerick, V94 EH90	Unknown	Unknown
Plot 009	UE/10053157/ CPO/0002	0.0446	ASKEATON Td	Open Space	Limerick City and County Council, C/O Brian Hickey, Merchants Quay, Limerick, V94 EH90	Unknown	Unknown
Plot 010	UE/10053157/ CPO/0002	0.0032	ASKEATON Td	Open Space	Limerick City and County Council, C/O Brian Hickey, Merchants Quay, Limerick, V94 EH90	Unknown	Unknown
Plot 011	UE/10053157/ CPO/0002	0.0529	ASKEATON Td	Open Space	Limerick City and County Council, C/O Brian Hickey, Merchants Quay, Limerick, V94 EH90	Unknown	Unknown
Plot 014	UE/10053157/ CPO/0002	0.0041	CLOONREASK Td	Open Space	Limerick City and County Council, C/O Brian Hickey, Merchants Quay, Limerick, V94 EH90	Unknown	Unknown
Plot 016	UE/10053157/ CPO/0002	0.0076	CLOONREASK Td	Open Space	Tommy Kelly, Ballycullen, Askeaton, V94 PT9K	Unknown	Unknown

Dated this 7 day of August 2026 Richard O'Sullivan, Company Secretary, Uisce Éireann, Colvill House, 24-26 Talbot Street, Dublin 1wv



Tom Holland in Spider-Man: Brand New Day. The movie has grossed over \$2 billion worldwide at the box office following its release in late July; and inset, Sr Christine Quigley with her popcorn at Vue Cinema as she heads in to watch her famous relative Tom Holland in action in the movie

Nun gets VIP cinema treatment to see A-list relative on screen

Sr Christine Quigley, a resident of Catherine McAuley House in Limerick, made a special visit to the Vue Cinema in Ennis Road to see her grandnephew Tom Holland star as Peter Parker, AKA Spider-Man, in the hit Marvel Studios production, Spider-Man: Brand New Day, **Azra Dervish** writes

CINEMA

ONE Limerick nursing home resident experienced the ultimate VIP treatment when she attended the latest Spider-Man movie. And why wouldn't she? She's related to the leading man, after all!

Limerick nursing home resident Sr Christine Quigley made a very special trip to the cinema to see her famous relative star in the largest movie currently hitting big screens across the globe. A resident of Catherine McAuley House in Limerick, Sr Christine is the grandaunt of none other than Tom Holland, the star of the four latest Spider-Man movies.

The nursing home activities co-ordinator, Audrey Hayes, said when the opportunity came to bring Sr Christine to see Spider-Man: Brand New Day, they knew it would be "a very special outing for her."

Along with the nursing home's senior care assistant, Tanya, Audrey accompanied Sr Christine on her very exciting visit to Vue Cinema, Ennis Road during the past week.

"When we arrived, we told the wonderful Vue staff about Sr Christine's connections to Tom Holland. They were absolutely fantastic."

"They couldn't have been more welcoming. We were treated so warmly,



Sr Christine Quigley, Audrey, Tanya and workers at Vue Cinema, Ennis Road

and the staff were delighted to meet her and have photographs taken with her," Audrey shared.

Chatting after the movie, the 90-year-old told Audrey that she "enjoyed herself immensely" and "admired (Tom's) good looks".

Originally from Nenagh in County Tipperary, Sr Christine is related to the actor behind Peter Parker through her sister, Tess Holland, who is Tom Holland's grandmother.

One of 12 siblings, Tess left Ireland in

the 1960s to pursue a nursing career in England, where she married John Holland, a teacher.

A Sister of Mercy, Sr Christine spent her working years as a nurse.

Having trained at Limerick Regional Hospital - now called UHL - the Tipperary nurse worked in hospitals in both Ennis and Nenagh - as well as spending a few years in Kenya - before becoming a resident of Catherine McAuley House.

Catherine McAuley House is a 33-bed nursing home located on Old Dominic

Street in Limerick.

The facility is operated by the Congregational Leadership Team acting as charity trustees for the Congregation of the Sisters of Mercy.

The home provides nursing care services to residents requiring residential care accommodation.

While Sr Christine hasn't had the opportunity to meet Tom yet, Audrey said the cinema trip was a "wonderful experience and a very special day" for the nursing home resident.

"Seeing the happiness and excitement made the outing even more memorable for all of us. We would especially like to thank the Vue cinema Ennis Road for their kindness, warmth and generosity. It is these little moments of joy and connection that can mean so much to our residents," Audrey said.

Making one billion dollars at the global box office in only six days, Spider-Man: Brand New Day is the second-fastest film of all time to hit the milestone, with Sr Christine's grandnephew, Tom Holland, at the centre of the action.

Starting his acting career at only 12-years-old, the actor made his debut in the role of Michael, Billy's best friend, in a 2008 West End production of Billy Elliot, before being promoted to the lead role of Billy in 2010.

Transitioning to film only a couple of years later, Tom made his feature debut

in the 2012 film, The Impossible, where his acting in the role of a teenage tourist saw him nominated at age 16 for Best New Actor at the Goya Awards.

The youngest actor to ever step into the role, Tom debuted as Peter Parker, AKA Spider-Man, at 20-years-of-age in the 2017 film, Spider-Man: Homecoming.

Widely known for his starring role in Marvel, the English actor has now starred as the lead character of four Spider-Man movies.

Behind only Avengers: Endgame - which Tom also appears in as Spider-Man - Spider-Man: Brand New Day officially became the second-fastest movie ever to reach the two billion dollar mark.

Surpassing the 2021 production, Spider-Man: No Way Home, the hit blockbuster is now Sony's biggest title ever.

As well as taking pride in her grand-

nephew, the family connections for Sr Christine don't stop with Spider-Man.

Dominic Holland, Tom's father - who Sr Christine describes as "funny" - is an English actor, broadcaster, author and comedian.

Known for his varied careers, Dominic's comedy work has found particular success, with Sr Christine among many who enjoy his comedic performances.

Acclaimed by The Sunday Times as a "master of observational comedy", the comedian won the Perrier Best Newcomer Award at the 1993 Edinburgh Festival Fringe.

Earning a Comic Heritage Award for the production, he also starred in the BBC Radio 4 series The Small World of Dominic Holland.

Dominic has also made numerous television appearances on panel and variety shows, including Have I Got News for You and the Royal Variety Performance.

Despite the major success of Spider-Man: Brand New Day, the film was not the only massive blockbuster to feature Tom Holland.

Playing the role of Telemachus, the son of Odysseus, Tom also made an appearance in Christopher Nolan's film adaptation of The Odyssey.

Featuring a star-studded cast, including Matt Damon, Anne Hathaway, and Zendaya, The Odyssey is Nolan's highest-grossing film ever.

LEADER FASHION

CELIA HOLMAN LEE



Welcoming the Roses to Limerick was such a pleasure!

I had the absolute pleasure of getting to attend the Rose Gala Dinner ahead of this week's TV finale!

We were delighted to welcome the Roses to Limerick as they paid a visit to the Treaty County as part of their tour of Ireland.

The Rose Festival is one of my favourite events on the calendar, and I always love getting to meet the beautiful ladies representing their counties - and countries!

The gorgeous Castletroy Park Hotel hosted the 32 fabulous women for the dinner, and I was delighted to receive an invitation from John Canny of the S6 Hotel Group to attend alongside some of the models from the Holman Lee Agency.

The evening was splendid fun, the

Castletroy Park Hotel never fails to wow as a venue.

Never one to miss an opportunity for a quick pic, I posed for a photo on the red carpet with Mayor of Limerick, John Moran, and his partner, Damien Duggan, John Canny, S6 Hotel Group, and models Celine O'Meara, Orla Sheil, Asta Lee, Sophia Nied and Eileen Collins.

We were all, of course, dressed to the nines. I wore a fabulous floral piece, which I paired with a gold bag and gold jewellery.

Our mayor represented Limerick well, donning a custom-made waistcoat, created by the wonderful Limerick designer Mary O'Sullivan.

The event was in aid of Milford Care Centre - such a worthy cause which I'm always overjoyed to support.

I personally adore watching the Rose of Tralee. Though we may not have a Limerick Rose this year, it's always wonderful to see the women of Ireland shining on stage, showing off their many talents, sharing their stories and stunning the crowd with their style.

I also love getting to see the men of Ireland serving them well as Rose Escorts - a wonderful tradition, I believe.

Dáithí Ó Sé and Kathryn Thomas always bring two nights of excitement and entertainment as they celebrated the beloved cultural event.

We won't let Tralee have all the fun, however! The annual Limerick Show will be taking place this Sunday, August 23, and it promises to be a fantastic day out for all the family.

Our fashion show will be taking place at 2.30pm on the 2nd floor of Limerick Racecourse. It's always a lovely evening celebrating local style and this year's show features a phenomenal preview of what's to come this Autumn/Winter.

Our models will be showcasing the very best of local design, and we will crown our Best Dressed Lady at 3.30pm. The Limerick Show truly is a very special day out, and I for one cannot wait. See you soon! XxCelia

Myself, Mayor of Limerick, John Moran, Damien Duggan, and John Canny, S6 Hotel Group, with models Celine O'Meara, Orla Sheil, Asta Lee, Sophia Nied and Eileen Collins



Donal O'Regan
donal.oregan@limerickleader.ie



Hats in the ring for Cappanafaraha land

● Auction of prime holding in Bruree to take place on September 4

Donal O'Regan

FARMERS and members of the business community have thrown their hats in the ring for land at Cappanafaraha, Bruree.

The circa 42.5 acres of land in one block on the main Limerick - Cork road has been brought to the market by Pat Dooley, group director of REA Dooley Group. It is located around 500 metres from O'Rourke's Cross.

"The land is of good quality and has a cattle crush and pen therein. Out of the 42.5 acres there is approx 5.5 acres of mature forestry," said Mr Dooley, who is guiding at €12,000 per acre.

The auctioneer reports good interest thus far from both the farming and business communities.

"The property offers a significant amount of road frontage (830M) which would be ideal for future one off hous-



Auctioneer Pat Dooley is guiding at €12,000 an acre for a farm of land in Cappanafaraha, Bruree

ing," said Mr Dooley.

The road will be a lot quieter once the new section of the Limerick to Cork motorway is completed.

The 42.5 acres at Cappanafaraha, Bruree, will go under the hammer on Friday, September 4 at 3pm in Charleville Park Hotel, unless previously sold.

Full details on request from Mr Dooley on 087 6948942 who advises that all bidders on the day must be pre-registered with bidding deposit.

CUP RUNNETH OVER AT LIMERICK SHOW



Donal O'Regan, Limerick Leader, Erika Benson, model and Leo Walsh, Limerick Show president, with the Leader Cup, dating back to 1948, which will be presented to a winning rider in the show jumping arena at Limerick Show in the Racecourse this Sunday, August 23. The very best of cattle, horses, sheep, goats, poultry and a host of attractions awaits attendees

PICTURE: ADRIAN BUTLER

Big lift in prices at Kilmallock Mart

A TOTAL of 550 cattle were sold at Kilmallock Mart this week. Cattle of all types were most improved this week.

Bullocks less than 500kgs sold for up to €1990 a head or €3.9 per kg. Heavy bullocks made up to €2880 each or €3.38 per kg. Dry cows sold for up to €2410 each or €3.41 per kg. Heifers less than 500kgs made up to €1740 a head or €4.50 per kg. Heavier heifers hit €2550 each or €4.05 per kg. Heavy bulls sold for up to €3000 each. Runners sold for up to €930 each. Young calves sold for up to €510 each.

On Tuesday last, weanling bulls sold for up to €2430 a head or €5.62 per kg at the show and sale. Weanling heifers made up to €2500 each or €6.10 per kg. Champion David Murphy's LMX weanling bull. Best pair LMX bulls David Murphy. AAX bull Tom Aherne. LMX bull David Murphy. AAX bull Mary Neville. LMX bull Thomas O'Flynn. CONT bull Tom Jackson. LMX bull Tom Jackson. CONT bull Tom Aherne. LMX heifer Tom Jackson. CONT heifer Tom Jackson. AAX heifer Mary Neville. LMX heifer Moss Kieley. CONT heifer Gavin Reidy. LMX heifer Moss Kieley.

KILMALLOCK BULLOCKS

LOT 18 5AAX 353 kgs €1,400
LOT 6 3BHX 398 kgs €1,330
LOT 51 6FR 330 kgs €1,200
LOT 53 4FR 353 kgs €1,050
LOT 28 2AAX 543 kgs €1,990
LOT 21 4AAX 540 kgs €1,930
LOT 30 3AAX 483 kgs €1,820
LOT 4 2AAX 538 kgs €1,810
LOT 3 2HEX 653 kgs €2,350
LOT 42 6AAX 663 kgs €2,350
LOT 29 3AAX 680 kgs €2,340
LOT 7 1AAX 680 kgs €2,290
LOT 50 2AAX 743 kgs €2,880
LOT 24 1AAX 735 kgs €2,540

DRY COWS

LOT 3053 1AAX 455 kgs €1,550
LOT 3054 1AAX 445 kgs €1,420
LOT 3006 1FR 410 kgs €750
LOT 3046 1FR 485 kgs €790
LOT 3026 1FR 635 kgs €1,900



LOT 3027 1FR 615 kgs €1,700
LOT 3005 1FRX 625 kgs €1,680
LOT 3009 1FR 640 kgs €1,680
LOT 3018 1LHX 735 kgs €2,410
LOT 3020 1LHX 730 kgs €2,340
LOT 3004 1SIX 755 kgs €2,260
LOT 3049 1FR 855 kgs €2,250

HEIFERS

LOT 424 5AAX 346 kgs €1,230
LOT 423 5AAX 337 kgs €1,210
LOT 412 1HEX 330 kgs €1,180
LOT 402 3HEX 318 kgs €1,180
LOT 410 1HEX 495 kgs €1,740
LOT 422 1AAX 475 kgs €1,620
LOT 415 4AAX 459 kgs €1,610
LOT 401 3HEX 430 kgs €1,600
LOT 442 1HEX 630 kgs €2,550
LOT 443 3HEX 593 kgs €2,030
LOT 408 1AUX 540 kgs €1,840
LOT 440 1AAX 530 kgs €1,840

CALVES AND RUNNERS

LOT 5007 1AAX 214 kgs €930
LOT 5029 1AAX 150 kgs €775
LOT 5011 3AAX 138 kgs €680
LOT 5046 2AAX 135 kgs €660
LOT 5010 2AAX 145 kgs €660
LOT 5018 1AAX 156 kgs €655
LOT 5043 1AAX 128 kgs €655
LOT 5009 2AUX 156 kgs €650
LOT 5047 2AAX 129 kgs €635
LOT 5042 1HEX 124 kgs €625

ABBEEFEALE

STRONG TRADE AT SATURDAY'S SPECIAL WEANLING SHOW & SALE: Our special weanling show and sale on Saturday saw a large entry of top-quality weanling bulls and heifers, along with a strong entry of runners and top-end in-calf suckler heifers.

There was excellent demand throughout the sale, with weanling heifers topping at an

impressive €5,350, while many more lots comfortably passed the €2,000 mark. Weanling bulls were also in strong demand, with prices reaching €7 per kg.

Runners met with a very strong trade, making up to €1,450, with leading buyers, farmers and exporters all active for quality lots. The suckler trade was equally strong, with in-calf suckler heifers making up to €3,600.

There was strong demand for all classes of stock both ringside and online, with purchasing customers travelling from Kerry right up to Donegal, highlighting the quality of stock on offer at the mart. The sale continues every Saturday. For further information, contact Michael on 087 690 3172.

WEANLING BULLS

LOT 500, BBX 485KG €3200; LOT 501, BBX 395KG €2480; LOT 502, BBX 370KG €2500; LOT 503, BBX 315KG €1990; LOT 508, BBX 350KG €1970; LOT 516, CHX 375KG €1900; LOT 522, LMX 255KG €1330; LOT 524, LMX 240KG €1410

WEANLING HEIFERS

LOT 600, BBX 370KG €3350; LOT 600A, BBX 370KG €2620; LOT 611, BBX 440KG €3050; LOT 623, BBX 415KG €2500; LOT 116, BAX 375KG €1840; LOT 607, BBX 370KG €1800; LOT 612, LMX 435KG €2300

RUNNERS

LOT 71, 4AAX MALES 238KG €980; LOT 76, LMX MALE 190KG €1090; LOT 79, LMX MALE 180KG €1020; LOT 90, LMX FEMALE 240KG €1260; LOT 95, LMX MALE 250KG €1350; LOT 100, LMX FEMALE 230KG €1190; LOT 101, LMX FEMALE 225KG €1090

SUCKLERS

LOT 900, BBX HEIFER SPRINGING TO PB LM €3600; LOT 901, BBX HEIFER SPRINGING TO PB LM €3600; LOT 902, BBX HEIFER SPRINGING TO PB LM €3350; LOT 903, LMX HEIFER TIME UP IN OCTOBER TO PB LM €3420



'Streets ahead!'

All roads led to The Street Bar for big anniversary party **PAGE 16**

GORTALEA
MART
Ballymac, Tralee, Co. Kerry
V92CY98
All Sales Online

Wednesday 19th August
Calf, Runner and Weanling Sale

In Conjunction with Weanling Bull Show and Sale
Intake 12 Noon, Sale 2pm
Prize Winners sold at 8pm
Note all show cattle must be entered by 5pm

Huge demand across all types of calves, with particular interest in strong calves and those ready to be come off milk

Massive demand for all types of runners and weanlings for home and export market

Friday 21st August
Cows and Factory Bulls, Heifers, Young Bulls, and Bullocks
Intake 9am, Sale 10am

High demand for calved and in calf cows, as well as breeding bulls.

Continued demand weekly for all types of Factory & Store Cows

Wanted year and a half AA and FR Bullocks and Heifers

Upcoming Sale

Wednesday 26th August
Weanling Heifer Show & Sale

Thursday 3rd September
Suckler Show & Sale

All cattle must have TWO matching tags!
This is a Department of Agriculture requirement for the sale of cattle.

Contact Maurice Brosnan 0872344433 Darren Brosnan 0879515866
Office 066 71 37244
email gortaleamart@gmail.com
Licence 002138 Ballymac, Tralee, Co. Kerry, V92 CY98

www.gvm.ie

Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, YouTube icons

FSA Licence No. 002030

KILMALLOCK MART

EVERY MONDAY

Calf Intake 8 am & Cattle Intake 8 am

Ring 1 – Sale of Weanling Bulls & Bullocks at 11 am

Ring 2 – Sale of Calves & Runners at 11 am

Ring 3 – Sale of Dry Cows, Bulls, Sucklers & Heifers at 11 am

Ring 4 – Dairy Stock 12.30 pm

Dairy Sale every Monday at Kilmallock Mart approx. 12.30 pm in Ring 4.

All types of Dairy stock required to meet buyer demand, booking available for Clearance or Reduction Sales. Contact Shane Egan (087) 4276772

NEXT WEANLING SALE

Tues. Evening 1st September at 6 pm

Intake from 2 pm

WANTED/FOR SALE

All types & weights of cattle – bullocks & heifers. Price per kg arranged prior to purchase.

Contact Eddie O'Dea (087) 6869070 or Shane Egan (087) 4276772

ABBEYFEALE MART

Ring 1 – Cattle Sale at 12.30 pm

Calf Collection now in operation in all areas. Tel. Michael Ward (087) 6903172

Also all types of weanlings required for Export & Farmer Demand

Any queries for buying or selling

Contact Michael Ward (087) 6903172 or Denis Lane (087) 9480484

"ARMDORE HOUSE", COOLYHENAN, DROMBANNAN, CO. LIMERICK

For Sale by Public Auction and Online Auction (In one or three lots)
on Wednesday 9th September @ 3pm in Kilmurry Lodge Hotel, Castletroy
(unless previously sold)

Announcing to the market a truly top class farm extending to Circa 112 St. Acres (45.46 hectares) enjoying extensive road frontage and located just 7 km south of Limerick City just off the road which links to Bruff and Kilmallock (R512).

Lot 1: Circa 47 acres contained in folios LK8981 & LK6539F together with a farmhouse and out offices thereon.

Lot 2: Circa 50 acres contained in folio LK13684.

Lot 3: Circa 15 st acres.

Lot 4: The Entire, Circa 112 st acres.

Solicitors: Michael Noonan, Maurice F. Noonan & Son, Rathkeale, Co. Limerick

THOMASTOWN, KILFINANE, CO. LIMERICK

For Sale by Public Auction and Online Auction (In one or two lots)
on Wednesday 23rd September @ 3pm in Deerbart Hotel, Kilmallock
(unless previously sold)

Announcing to the market a truly top class farm extending to Circa 100 St. Acres contained in folios LK4223, LK58431F & LK58984F enjoying extensive road frontage and located just 2 km south of Kilfinane. The land quality is generally excellent, laid out in easily managed divisions and well watered and fenced. Proximity to local amenities does create opportunity for sites (subject to planning). Central roadway through the farm. There is a two storey residence thereon together with ancillary sheds and out offices.

Solicitors: Michael O'Connor, DJ O'Malley & Co, 10 Glentworth Street, Limerick

Attending bidders must pre-register prior to the auction.

If you wish to bid via online auction on <http://www.islauctions.com>.

You will need to register with GVM Auctioneers at least 3 days before the sale and pay a bidding deposit.

Call Tom Crosse on 087 2547717 or John O'Connell on 087 6470746.

KILMALLOCK OFFICE: Tel: (063) 98050/98555 • Email: kilmallock@gvm.ie
LIMERICK OFFICE: Tel: (061) 413522 • Email: limerick@gvm.ie



A GAA-LAXY OF STARS

Partial eclipse, full potential at Kilmallock blitz

U12 hurlers and footballs from Kilmallock, Killacolla Gaels, Munget St. Paul's and New York whose sporting prowess wasn't eclipsed last Wednesday evening at a blitz held at Kilmallock GAA grounds. As well as the partial eclipse taking place overhead, there was some sparkling talent on display in the form of both the players and the silverware on the ground. On display were the three coveted cups won by the Limerick senior hurlers this year – the Dr Croke Cup for the National League, the Mick Mackey Cup for the Munster final, and the Liam MacCarthy Cup for the All-Ireland final – and the Irish Press Cup which was won by the Limerick minor hurlers after their epic All-Ireland win

SEE SPORT PAGE 6 FOR MORE

GET IN TOUCH



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Botanical journey through the Walls of Limerick city

● Wildlife expert **Albert Nolan** explores a lesser known part of the city centre

PART ONE

IT was the warmest day of the year so far as myself and Harry joined the Limerick Branch of the Irish Wildlife Trust for an exploration of the Walls of Limerick and their associated plants. The workshop was led by Mike Quirke and Tom Harrington who between them have a lifetime of dedication to teaching, ecology and nature.

The group met at Merchant's Quay and this has been a place of gathering for hundreds of years from the Viking "thing-mote" to worshippers attending Mass. Even though it was early in the morning we were already scrambling for the shade of the walls and they are still providing protection but this time from the sun.

Above our heads sand martins were foraging for insects and these are summer migrants all the way from Africa. They nest in holes in the walls along the river and there seems to be more of them each spring. A chaffinch started calling but was drowned out by the timely ringing of the loud bells of St Mary's.

Mike warmly welcomed the large group and introduced the branch. After a very successful winter lecture series this was their first summer outing.

Today we would be using the flora incognito app and while this gives a quick answer to what the plant is you are not involved in the process of identification. The importance and joy of pen and paper and close examination of the plant helps develop observation skills and this is then supported by technology.

Mike also mentioned some organisations that have a plant-based focus. The Botanical Society of the Britain and Ireland brings people together to promote greater awareness and understanding of plants and each county also has its own dedicated recorder and for Limerick it is Olly Lynch Milner and for any botanical questions

or records please contact olly-lynnch2504@gmail.com

As you become more confident in your species identification you can submit records to the National Biodiversity Data Centre based in Waterford.

This not only takes plant records but birds, insects, animals and all flora and fauna found in Ireland. Both organisations has lots of interesting online resources and tutorials and also run public workshops.

Plants just like animals and insects have been closely associated with people and trade and if we were standing in Merchant's Quay a few hundred years ago, we would have been surrounded by fields of blue flax that was grown for the linen industry at Cleaves

factory.

With the Flora incognito app downloaded we got a few minutes independent learning to test the technology. Around the base of trees, we found groundsel, shepherd's purse, dandelion, wavy bittercress, thale cress and sow thistle.

All these so-called weeds are excellent for bees butterflies and moths and most of them are edible but you must be careful where you forage as dogs and people can relieve themselves.

Growing in the walls we recorded pellitory of the wall and this is an edible plant often found growing on monastery walls and eaten by the monks. Ivy leaved toadflax whose tips grow towards a dark cavity in the wall where the next generation of seeds are safely deposited. Mexican fleabane has daisy like flowers and thrives in the cracks in old stone walls. A new one for me was segina and this is also known as pearlwort.

Next we explored the

grounds of the church. This has lots of mini habitats and these have their own multi communities of plants.

Growing here were several attractive ferns. Maidenhair spleenwort fern, rusty back and the dainty rue leaved saxifrage. This has reddish stems and small white flowers and I have often seen it growing high between the slates on the roofs of houses.

Our first insect flashed by and the Holly blue butterfly is a common species. The first brood of caterpillars feed on the leaves on holly while the second on the leaves of ivy.

Some plants have very unusual names and as we examined what looked like a carpet of moss we were told it was named "mind your own business". It is also known as baby tears or Irish moss and has the unique ability to quickly cover and area. Ivy leaved speedwell whose leaves are shaped like the climbing ivy was growing nearby. As we left, we passed a

“The group met at Merchant's Quay and this has been a place of gathering for hundreds of years

few tourists taking in the history but perhaps they are missing out on the opportunity of discovering the most interesting stories growing at their feet.

Trees are closely associated with churches, and we paused to examine a fine holly tree growing at the back of the church. Holly was traditionally used as a decoration and because of its evergreen nature was considered a symbol of immortality.

Comments/Questions to albert.nolan@rocketmail.com or 089 4230502. Albert is also available to do walks/talks with schools, tidy towns, youth and community groups.



The holly blue butterfly spotted on Albert Nolan's jaunt around the city walls



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Nick Rabbitts
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Traders want national taskforce to tackle retail downturn in city

● Government urged to put together high-powered group to advise on how to help retail in urban area

Nick Rabbitts

TRADERS are calling on the Government to set up a taskforce charged with "reinvigorating" retail in the city centre. Limerick City Traders Association want to see tens of millions of euro invested in a high-level working group to come up with solutions to give the urban area a boost.

And they believe consultancy firm Bannon should be involved.

At present, the commercial property consultant is already producing a report – due out this year – on the future of retail in the city centre, having been commissioned by Limerick City and County Council.

Committee member Shane Gleeson believes the firm – also involved in regeneration plans for Dublin's city centre – will be able to do more with central Government backing, however.

"Limerick city centre urgently needs a taskforce to reinvigorate it. We clearly need outside professional help to be part of it. Bannon has done a detailed review of Limerick already and they have met with all stakeholders – the Chamber, the council and the traders.

"We've seen some of their plans for Dublin and we regard them as being very knowledgeable and clearly understanding of retail," he told Business Leader.

Mr Gleeson described the rate of closedown in the city centre as "very worrying".

"You can even see it from the interview the Leader did with Diesel, the staff quoted one of the major reasons for them closing is a drop in footfall in the



Members of the protest committee – Mark Tiernan, Arthurs Quay Shopping centre; Caroline Long, Limerick & District Credit Union; Michael Craughan, O'Connell's Butchers; Shane Gleeson, Gleeson's Spar; Linda Frawley, Cornstore and Coqbull; Michael Tiernan, Arthurs Quay Shopping Centre and Steve Gleeson, Gleeson Sport scene

PICTURE: ADRIAN BUTLER

city and the lack of parking in the city being two key reasons. It's exactly what we hear from every shopper coming into us. It's car parking, and the footfall itself being low," said Mr Gleeson.

Asked why he feels the taskforce should be commissioned by the Government, as opposed to Limerick City

and County Council, he said he feels the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment would be able to put more money behind it.

"We want the Government to come in, as we'd be hoping they would put a serious budget behind it, and we would expect serious investment to fund it. I

think it would be beyond the financial capacity of the council. This doesn't need €4m to €5m. I think we are looking at figures 10 times that," the businessman, who runs a number of Spar branches across the city, said.

In terms of taskforce membership, Mr Gleeson believes it should contain

a number of big names.

He cited the former HSE chief executive Bernard Gloster, who hails from Limerick city centre.

"It should be somebody of that level and quality. I think Bernard would be ideal as he's clearly shown his capability in getting into his position.

"He is a Limerick person through and through. We are well aware of his intellect and we think he would get across the situation very quickly," the business owner predicted.

Traders have clashed with Mayor John Moran in the last month over his plans for Summer in the City.

Their main concern related to the closure of The Crescent for the entire month of August.

Mr Gleeson conceded some of the events – and other closures associated with them – have worked

"We have seen some fantastic events like the long-running frisbee event, and on previous weekends, the Limerick Sports Partnership has been bringing sport for all to Limerick. That brought a lot of people into Limerick. We would compliment activities in Nicholas Street and at Mother Mac's.

"We saw events going on in The Commercial and the Arthur's Quay fun park is fantastic. I would ask if the fun park could be brought earlier and run through July and August in future. We would ask if that is feasible. We got a spin off from that," he said.

However, Monday to Friday trade has been "seriously damaged" by The Crescent's closure, he claimed.

"The closure of Nicholas Street, Mother Mac's and Catherine Street have had no negative effect on trade. But closing the main thoroughfare into town clearly was always going to have a major affect. That's very foreseeable. If the street closure had been in Pery Square, it would have had a positive impact on the city. It's just the location of the closure of that particular one was a strategic error," concluded Mr Gleeson.



House Limerick on Howley's Quay in the city centre entered receivership last December. A total of 59 jobs have been lost

Closure a 'serious blow' to nightlife

Kayley Hardiman

THE closure of House Limerick and the loss of 59 jobs is a "serious blow to Limerick".

These were the words of Cllr Daniel Butler reacting to the closure of the popular Limerick bar and nightclub, resulting in the loss of around 60 jobs.

House Limerick, located at Howley's Quay in the city centre entered receivership last December.

The Limerick hurlers chose to celebrate their major All-Ireland success at the venue last month.

Cllr Butler added that the loss of a riverfront business, in particular, is a real

worry for the future of the city centre.

"We recognise the very real challenges facing hospitality, but the time for action has passed, we need to do better.

"We need to attract recognisable brands into the city while equally supporting the many independent sole traders who are the backbone of our city centre."

Cllr Butler, a former Mayor of Limerick, concluded: "The loss of two businesses during August, despite the August Activations programme, shows the scale of the challenge.

"We need action at every level to ensure Limerick's riverfront and city centre have a vibrant and sustainable future."

Seán Golden from Limerick Chamber commented: "The closure of House Limerick is disappointing news for the city centre and for the many staff and customers connected to the business.

"While this closure reflects the very real challenges facing businesses in the hospitality sector, there is hopeful news regarding the signing of a sales contract for the building so there is potential that a new operator will set up."

London-based Tribeca Holdings, owned by Limerick man Aidan Brooks, has purchased the building. Tribeca already owns the remainder of the building. It is understood that Tribeca Holdings is considering redevelopment options for the property.

Interpath was appointed as the

Joint Receivers on December 2, 2025 and have overseen the business while options were assessed and a transaction process was undertaken.

A total of 59 employees work at the venue in full and part-time roles.

Tributes were paid to the popular venue on social media with one local noting that it was the "absolute end of an era."

House Limerick opened in the city centre back in 2016 following a significant refurbishment.

Around €750,000 was invested and 40 jobs created when the bar opened.

Previously, the premises housed Clohesy's Bar and Sin Bin nightclub. That bar and nightclub had ceased trading two years earlier.

Limerick-based firm valued at €1.4bn

Nick Rabbitts

PLASSEY-BASED firm H&MV Engineering has been given a valuation of €1.4bn.

It comes after the company, a global provider of specialist high-voltage engineering and critical power infrastructure services announced a deal worth a total of €750m.

Its existing investor Exponent is leading this deal and has set up what is known as a 'continuation vehicle', which is a new investment fund set up so an existing investor can keep its investment in a business for longer as opposed to selling it.

The transaction extends Exponent's investment in H&MV and brings in Apollo S3, Pantheon and SQ Capital as investors to support the company's next phase of international growth.

The new investment structure provides long-term capital backing for H&MV's continued expansion in the USA, plus recruitment across its international operations, investment in new engineering capabilities and strategic acquisition opportunities.

Supported by a €2bn order book, a €16bn pipeline and long-standing customer relationships, the company is targeting revenues of €3bn within five years and a global workforce of 3,000 employees.

The company's global headquarters here in Limerick has capacity for around 350 employees.

Since 2020, H&MV has increased its



PJ Flanagan, the chief executive of H&MV Engineering, which is celebrating a fresh round of investment

revenue from €61m to an expected €1bn in the first half of this year.

During the same period, the company expanded its workforce from 300 to over 1,900 employees today.

As part of the next phase of its American growth strategy, H&MV will open its North American headquarters in Dallas later this year.

Company chief executive PJ Flanagan said: "This transaction gives H&MV

the long-term backing to scale at the pace of the markets we serve and to deliver on our five-year growth ambition. Exponent's continued support, together with new investment from international investors, will help us accelerate our global expansion, pursue strategic acquisitions, and invest in the capabilities, technologies and people our clients need."

Tim Easingwood, partner at investor

Exponent, added: "H&MV is exactly the kind of ambitious, entrepreneur-led business that Exponent is proud to partner with. This continuation vehicle is a significant milestone for both H&MV and Exponent, and reflects the quality of the business, its exceptional management team and the important role it plays in supporting critical infrastructure globally. We are delighted to welcome Apollo S3, Pantheon Ventures and SQ Capital alongside a high-quality group of institutional investors as we continue our partnership with PJ and his team. We remain a committed, long-term partner and are excited by the opportunity ahead."

John Moore, operating partner at Exponent and chair of H&MV Engineering, said: "H&MV has built a unique position at the centre of some of the world's fastest-growing infrastructure markets, where demand for specialist engineering expertise and reliable power infrastructure continues to increase. The business has built a strong platform from which to serve customers across multiple geographies, while retaining the technical excellence and customer focus that have underpinned its success. Our priority now is to build on those foundations by accelerating H&MV's U.S. expansion, deepening relationships with global customers and continuing to invest in the people and capabilities required for the next phase of growth."

The transaction is subject to regulatory approval and formal completion, which is expected to take place next month.



A closing down sale is underway in Diesel on Bedford Row in the city centre

Diesel closure adds to retail woes in the city

A FASHION retailer in Limerick city centre is set to close at the end of the month.

A member of staff from the Diesel store on Bedford Row confirmed the news to the Leader last Wednesday.

They cited a lack of footfall for the reason for the business' closure. A 70% off closing down sale is currently underway in the store. Diesel Ireland began in 1979 as a wholesale clothing supplier to independent shops.

The company expanded into high street retail in June 2009. The cloth-

ing brand offers ready-to-wear clothing and accessories for men, women, and children. The selection includes various denim styles.

This news follows the announcement that 59 jobs have been lost following the permanent closure of popular venue House Limerick.

House Limerick, located at Howley's Quay in the city centre entered receivership last December. The Limerick hurlers chose to celebrate their major All-Ireland success at the venue just last month.

Pub that refused to die turns one

● All roads led to The Street Bar for big anniversary party

Donal O'Regan

WHAT could have been a silent, empty building in a Limerick village was instead full of fun and merriment on Saturday night, thanks to 26 locals who came together to save the last pub in the community.

The owners of The Street Bar in Kiltelly celebrated the first year anniversary of them opening for business, with a big party. Noel O'Dea, one of the directors, said when they decided to purchase what was Ahern's pub, "little did any of us realise the journey that would unfold."

"It's been absolutely surreal, magical, frightening, crazy, amazing, daunting, almost life-changing. From the moment we reopened the doors 12 months ago the flood of support and goodwill from our entire community and beyond has been truly amazing."

"Nobody would have foreseen the level of media attention our story would have garnered, starting right here with the *Leader*," said Noel. Visits from all the national papers, even The Guardian in the UK, RTÉ and Virgin Media helped put Kiltelly firmly on the map, he said.

In January, a film crew even pitched up in the village for several weeks to make a short film about their story.

Commissioned by Heineken, The Pub That Refused to Die premiered at the Dublin Film Festival, with a bus load of locals arriving in the big smoke to grace the red carpet. The film subsequently won five awards at the Cannes Lions festival.

Noel said a RTÉ Nationwide programme focused on the entire community.

"It captured the resilience of the people perfectly, a real get up and go attitude that has served the community so well for generations. The old grocery shop was renovated and turned into a thriving butchers run by the amazing Tom McNeill and his wonderful staff. We are in the process of building a beer garden for people to enjoy. But it's the community's response that has taken us all by surprise, the pub is thriving just as much today as it was on opening day. People value friendship and a place to have a chat where they can be proud of their community, and long may it continue," said Noel.

Fellow director, Liam Carroll said it's been a whirlwind 12 months. The barrister said the pub has gone from strength to strength and "we couldn't appreciate the support of all our customers more."

"We're very lucky to find ourselves as part of such an active community who have wanted the project to succeed from the outset," said Liam.



John Quinlan, Niall O'Dowd, Noel O'Dea, Tom Jones and Liam Carroll, all shareholders, attending a party celebrating the first year in business of The Street Bar
PICTURES: BRENDAN GLEESON



Liam Carroll, Amy Nix and David Leamy



Dean Cullen, Holly and Emily Bullman, Catriona Ryan and Daragh Mac Giolla Chioille



ABOVE: Tracey and Deirdre McCarthy, Louise Casey and Caroline McCarthy



LEFT: Caroline O'Connell, Jennifer Greene and Mairéad Ryan



PJ Gleeson, Mike McCarthy, Tom Kenny and Barry Ryan attending the Street Bar's one year anniversary party



Helen Ryan, Annette Fitzgerald and Thomas Ryan



Mary McCarthy and Mary Ryan



Liam Carroll, Niall O'Dowd and Noel O'Dea

Patrickswell

SYMPATHY

THE death has occurred of Patrick Shanahan, Tavira, Portugal and formerly of Patrickswell, Co. Limerick, and Cahir, Co. Tipperary. Known to many as Paddy he passed away peacefully after a short illness at The Galway Clinic in the presence of his loving family on August 10.

He was predeceased by his parents Tom and Pat, and brother Tim and will be deeply missed by his loving family, wife Elif, sons Dean and Dara, daughters-in-law Olga and Kate, grandson Ruadhan, brothers Paul and Tom, sisters Ann and Lorraine, nephews, nieces, brother-in-law, sisters-in-law, relatives, extended family, his wide circle of friends both in Ireland and abroad, and most importantly his best friend, Benny.

His reposal was at Griffin's on Friday and a funeral service took place on Saturday at Shannon Crematorium. May Paddy rest in peace.

TIDY TOWNS

THE group is delighted to have been nominated for this year's Going for Gold competition by way of a vote on 95fm radio and many thanks to all who supported us. More groups will be entered as time goes on before judging takes place and results of the various categories are announced in October.

Your local correspondent
Sam Milburn
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Askeaton-Ballysteen

APOSTOLIC WORK

APOSTOLIC Workers will hold a fundraising day at Twohig's SuperValu Askeaton on Friday 28th August in aid of the Missions. Lines are €1 per line. Prizes include bottle of whiskey, bottle of wine, 10 lottery tickets and cash prizes. The raffle will be held on Mission Sunday the 18th October in the Community Hall commencing at 3pm.

Your support for the Missions will be very much appreciated.

May God bless you all, Breda Kelly, President, Apostolic Work.

Your local correspondent
Christina Braddish
Email: christinabraddish@mail.com

Pallaskenry

TOUR

BUS will leave Pallaskenry community centre on Saturday 12th September at 9am for Galway, cost €30. To reserve your seat book with Kay O'Dowd, Jackie Howard or Kay Leahy before 5th September. No names without money.

Leaving Cert



A day to remember for Glin man Michael Sweeney heading back home with the Rose of Tralee trophy

PICTURE: MOSS JOE BROWNE

BEST of luck to all those students receiving their results this week – there's something out there for everyone.

Your local correspondent
Kay O'Dowd
Email: odowdkay@hotmail.com

Tarbert

BIRTHDAY WISHES

CONGRATULATIONS and best wishes to Moss Heffernan, Tarmons East who recently celebrated his 90th birthday with family and friends. Moss was for many years the Bank porter with the Munster and Leinster Bank and later Allied Irish Banks covering Tarbert and Glin up until his retirement. We wish Moss and Bridie many years of continued good health and happiness. Go maire siad an Chead.

BINGO AT THE SWANKY

CONGRATULATIONS and best wishes to Maura Mulvihill who recently won €3,800 at the Swanky Bar Bingo which continues to draw big crowds every Friday night and little wonder with pay outs like that, our own Las Vegas.

KILNAUGHTIN MASS

ON Thursday last, 13 August, Fr. John Buckley celebrated the annual Graveyard Mass in Kilnaughtin Cemetery. Thankfully the rain held off as people gathered to pray for deceased relatives and friends. Cantor John Dowling and accordion player Pete Kiely led St. Mary's Choir in hymns of remembrance and prayer.

Fr. Buckley thanked the Graveyard Committee, stewards and all who had helped to make the night such a memorable occasion. He also thanked Sacristan James for his participation and help in all the Graveyard Masses. There were beautiful displays of flowers on individual graves and both new and old sections of the graveyard were very well looked after and a credit to all concerned.

DROWNING REMEMBRANCE

ON Saturday 15 August in the Holyday Mass in Tarbert, Fr. Buckley remembered the

Drowning Victims of the 15 August 1893. Later at the Memorial Plaza he recited a decade of the Rosary in their memory.

Local historian Patrick Lynch told the story of that fateful Tuesday morning when 17 young people, 10 men and 7 women, including four of the Scanlon family and two of the Lyndon family from Kilpadogue decided to travel in a rowing boat on that 3 mile excursion to Clare. Four of the excursionists were members of the Church of Ireland including the two fiddle playing Bovenizer brothers.

On the return journey after 7pm and in sight of the Kerry coast the boat overturned and 17 people were drowned with no survivors. Five bodies were never recovered, the River Shannon was their grave. The subsequent jury at an inquest in Clare returned a verdict in accordance with the evidence that 'the boat was overcrowded and not in a seaworthy condition'.

Beannacht Dé le hanamacha na marbh agus solas na síoraíochta dá h-anamacha.

Your local correspondent
Patrick Lynch
Email: tarbertnews@outlook.com

Rathkeale

RATHKEALE FAMILY FUN DAY

RATHKEALE Together is inviting families from across the local community to a Family Fun Day on Sunday, September 6th, from 2pm to 5pm in the grounds of the Augustinian Abbey, Rathkeale. The afternoon will feature entertainment for all ages, including bouncy castles, children's rides, a chip van, an ice cream van and a wheel of fortune with lots of prizes.

There will also be live music from Big Maggie, along with fun competitions and prizes for Bonny Baby, Glamorous Granny, Handsome Grandad and Best-Looking Dog.

Everyone is welcome to come along and enjoy an afternoon of family fun and community spirit.

WOMEN'S GROUP TRIP

RATHKEALE Women's Group are having a trip to Lisdoonvarna on Friday the 11th of September. The bus will be leaving Rathkeale House Hotel at 2pm; there will be a stopover in Ennis for shopping and lunch, and the bus will be leaving Lisdoonvarna at approx. 10pm.

10Euro per person for bus.
Contact: Valerie Foley: 086-3310349
or vfoley@wlr.ie or Adrienne O'Connell: 0872773294

RATHKEALE AND DISTRICT MEN'S SHED

THE Rathkeale and District Men's Shed is holding an open day on Saturday the 22nd of August from 2-4pm. All are welcome to come and have a look at the different activities they participate in, have a cup of tea and a chat, and as always, new members are always welcome. They are located at Rathkeale Soccer Club Grounds, Holycross (V94 H7K4).

BEREAVEMENT GROUP

THE Rathkeale Bereavement Group, supported by Rathkeale Together, has recommenced its monthly meetings. The group meets on the third Thursday of each month in Rathkeale Community Centre (V94 V6R6), offering free peer support to anyone in the community experiencing grief. Meetings are facilitated by professionals and volunteers, and the service is open to everyone. For more information, contact Catriona on 087 477 6505.

CITIZENS INFORMATION CLINIC

CITIZENS Information provides free and confidential information, advice and advocacy at Rathkeale Community Centre (V94 V6R6). Clinics run from 10am to 4pm, with upcoming dates on August 26th, September 16th, October 21st, November 18th and December 16th. No appointment is required. Advice covers areas including social welfare, housing, health, employment rights, family matters and income supports. For information, call 0818 075 780, email limerick@citinfo.ie, or contact the national phone line on 0818 074 000, open Monday to Friday, 9am to 8pm.

Your local correspondent
Ellen Madigan
Email: rathkealecommunitynews@outlook.com

Loughill-Ballyhahill

BALLYHAHILL DEVELOPMENT SPLIT THE BUCKET DRAW

TICKETS can be purchased from Paddy O'Rourke, Ballyhahill, Barr Ná Sráide, Ballyhahill, Knockdown Arms, and Mullane's Shop, Knockdown. Thank you for your support.

CHARITY APPEAL

THE parish sincerely thank you for your continued support of your Priests and your local Churches. They are currently updating their records for the Charitable Donation Refund Scheme. At this time forms are being sent only to those whose existing declaration is more than 5 years old or those who are eligible for the first time.

Please complete and return ASAP. Thank you so much for your support. If you have any questions or need assistance please do not hesitate to contact Ann in Foynes 069/6556.

GLIN CASTLE OPEN DAY

GLIN Castle open day takes place Sunday, August 23 at 12 noon.

Your local correspondent
Helen Ambrose



MINI MARATHON

4TH OCTOBER 2026

Run Together

Registration Now Open



COOK MEDICAL

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