



These well-dressed members of Limerick boat club were pictured enjoying their dinner dance in 1974

FORTY YEARS AGO



**CHRISTMAS DISASTER
City homes ruined
by sewerage**

IT was a miserable Christmas for the 12 families living in Lelia Place, off Limerick's Clare Street. Their homes have been flooded in 14 inches of sewage since noon on Monday when the pumphouse nearby went out of order for the second time in six months. Conditions were so bad that one householder, Mr Al Maher, had to sleep overnight in a truck. And others had to do without their Christmas dinners. Many more families in the Clare Street area were simi-

larly affected. A widow, Mrs Frances Cooney, had her basement completely covered in water and couldn't gain access to an outside toilet. And there was no change in the situation early this Friday as workers carried out repairs to the pumphouse which pumps waste from a wide area into the canal. It was a season of heartbreak for the 50 or so people living in Lelia Place. The majority had to confine themselves to living upstairs, and several senior citizens have not been outside their front doors since Monday. "It's unbelievable this could happen in 1973," said one resident.

**PETROL PANIC
City TD raps
Minister Barry**

LIMERICK'S Alderman Steve Coughlan, TD, has written a strong letter of protest to the Minister for Transport and Power, Mr Peter Barry, over what he terms "the petrol chaos" for which he states that the Department is largely to blame. Ald Coughlan suggests that statements made by the Minister some weeks ago led to the panic buying by motorists who did not know exactly what the situation was. Taxi men queued for hours for gas.

FIFTY YEARS AGO



1963

**FUTURE OF CRUISE'S
Lord Montagu on
future of hotel**

AN ASSURANCE that there would be no changes that affect Cruise's Hotel or the position it has held in Limerick for the past 172 years was given by Lord Montagu of Beaulieu, when he spoke to a Limerick reporter by telephone from his home at the Palace House, Beaulieu, Hampshire, last night. Lord Montagu is a member of the board of the Trinidad Sugar Estates Company, London, who on January 31 are due to take over the hotel on payment of the balance of €25,000

to Mr Colm Kenneally, the present managing director. The 38 year-old baron said: "I believe always in allowing local management to run affairs and that will be our policy for Cruise's." He said it was his first venture in Ireland and he was extremely happy about it. As a director he said he prided himself on having taken a big part in the decision to buy the hotel. "Last week I looked over Limerick and was impressed with the city, but I was particularly impressed by the hotel." Lord Montagu is noted for his interest in veteran cars and is due to visit next summer.

**HEALTH CARE
60-bed hospital
for seriously ill**

LIMERICK city and county is to have a new hospital containing 50 or 60 beds for the treatment of seriously ill patients and those who may be ill but have no one to care for them at home, and for people who are convalescing after treatment in the Regional. This is the result of the decision of the Limerick Health Authority to convert St Senan's (Children's) hospital, Foynes, into an auxiliary to the Regional in Dooradoyle.

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