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Micheal O'Siadhail at University of Limerick on Tuesday, May 5 will go to Focus Limerick, which provides good quality, low-cost housing, with on-going support for tenants.

Micheal O'Siadhail will read from his new collection of poems - *Our Double Time* - commencing 8.30pm and tickets which cost £6 (£3 OAPs and students) will include a glass of wine before the reading.

The Focus housing in Limerick is at Parnell Place and will be officially opened by President Mary McAleese in June. Sr Stanislaus, founder of Focus Ireland will be at the reading.

New director for Hunt museum

COMMENTING on the appointment of Ciaran MacConigal as director of the Hunt Museum, chairman of the board of the Museum, Dr Tony Ryan said he is particularly pleased to have effected the appointment as it represents a major development of bringing the Museum into the 21st century.

Son of the distinguished artist, the late Maurice MacConigal, the new director served on the Board of the National Gallery and is committed to advancing the cause of the Hunt Museum abroad.

Expressing himself delighted with the appointment, Mr MacConigal said he is looking forward to the challenge of the millennium and the development of the Hunt Museum. He also paid tribute to the dedication of all those who had made the museum possible and that he would enjoy the challenge of bringing the museum to national and international attention.

Preschool Course

APPLICATIONS are invited for places on an intensive course for Stiuirhoiri National/Playschool Leaders, organised by an Comhchoiste Rannseolacha. The

An amenity highly popular with Limerick people, Cratloe Woods has been enjoyed as a walking and picnic area for generations.

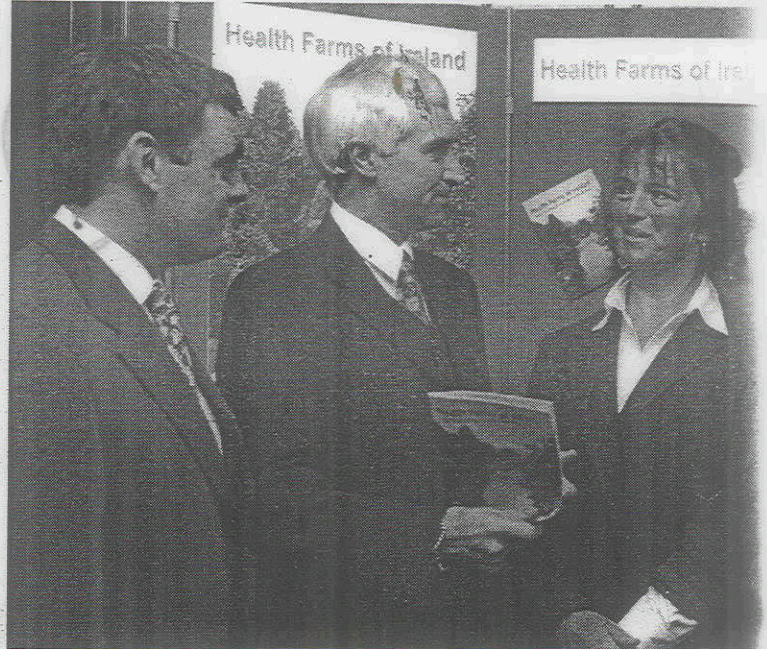
Commenting on Coillte's planning application for seven houses on a five-acre site on the periphery of the State forest, a spokesperson for the residents who have collected over 1,200 signatures of objection to the granting of planning permission to Coillte's application said:

According to the spokesperson, Coillte's primary function is to "look after the country's forests and should not be selling off portions for housing development."

Defending their position, Coillte point out that the area up for development is located on the periphery of the woods and will not impact in any way on the amenity or recreational value of the 900-acre wood.

Coillte further emphasises that it is not their intention to

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Pictured at the launch of the Health Farm Association of Ireland Hotel are (l-r): Andrew Griffith, Tinarana House, Killaloe; Minister for Health, James McDaid TD; Frieda Carmody, Tinarana Loretto Kennedy (artist), Limerick.

Credit union slam complete

A SUBMISSION to the European Commission by the Irish Bankers Federation regarding the status of credit unions in Ireland "attempts to undermine the operating principles of credit unions by applying banking regulations to a social, not-for-profit organisation," according to the new president of the Irish League of Credit Unions, Frank Lynch.

Speaking at the credit union league's annual general meeting at the University of Limerick at the weekend, Mr Lynch declared their movement's "horror to learn that a further complaint about the taxation status of Irish credit unions has been submitted to the Competition Directorate of the European Commission."

Referring to a letter received by the Department of Enterprise and Employment from the Competition Directorate of the European Commission, which detailed a

one would have thought they would be better employed dealing with their own current problems than attacking a movement built upon the self-help of the very people and communities that were traditionally ignored by this country's financial institutions."

Welcoming an assurance given by Minister for Science, Technology and Commerce, Noel Treacy, who attended the league's annual dinner on

Saturday Government best case credit union "We have people under unique movement an organisation best effort an individual their movement their co

