



My brain hasn't figured it all out yet, but the information is incredible. When I think back about where my great-grandfather was born I am amazed

TV SHOW PARTICIPANT,
MARSHA THOMAS

Marsha Thomas at the site of her ancestral home in Knockainey. While taking part in the 'Tar Abhaile' series for TG4, Marsha discovered how her ancestors were involved in a Land War dispute.

AWARD

Special homecoming for Ger McDonnell film

by John O'Shaughnessy
news@limerickpost.ie

IRISH director Nick Ryan's film 'The Summit', which features the heroic exploits of Limerick mountaineer Ger McDonnell, has been awarded the Best Feature Length Film prize at the prestigious Banff Mountain Film and Book Festival in Canada.

It will open in Irish cinemas on November 22 and Steve Routley, manager of the Odeon cinema, told the Limerick Post that there has been a constant stream of enquiries from patrons.

The gripping film chronicles one of the deadliest days in modern mountain history when 11 climbers lost their lives on K2, the most dangerous mountain on Earth.

It includes never-before-seen footage of the climb and interviews with Sherpa Pemba Gyalje, who was awarded the National Geographic Adventurer of the Year for his heroic deeds on K2, Norit team leader Wilco van Rooijen, who survived three days in the death zone, and Marco Confortola, the last man to speak to Ger McDonnell.

Ryan said: "It was a great honour to

receive this award from the Banff Festival and we would like to accept it on behalf of all the people who helped to bring this film to the screen, especially those who shared their memories of the traumatic events of 2008.

"Irish audiences will be able to experience the events of the shocking 2008 climb. This is a compelling story and one that we felt needed to be told, especially with the story of Limerick man Ger McDonnell, whose final heroic act is central to the film. It was an honour to also receive an award at this year's Sundance Film

Festival, and following our release across the US recently, the news of the award at Banff is great for all those who worked so hard to bring this film to the screen."

Coming down after conquering a mountain is considered the hardest and most deadly part of mountain climbing when climbers can often become careless due to exhaustion and elation from the conquest.

Twenty-four climbers from several international expeditions set out on this notorious quest to the top of K2 but, within a 48-hour period, 11 had been killed or had vanished.

water works network.

More at work

■ HOUSING Minister Jan O'Sullivan has welcomed the 9.5 per cent decrease in the live register figures for Limerick City in the past year. The Limerick Labour Party TD said it was one of the highest reductions in the country and Limerick was now one of the leading areas for job creation in Ireland. "The number of people out of work is still unacceptably high but we are now seeing real signs that things are moving in the right direction. The Government has introduced a range of measures to encourage employers to recruit people from the live register," she added.

Sporting Gardai

■ TWO Limerick Gardaí will be honoured for their outstanding achievements in the sporting arena at a special ceremony in Westport this week. The 20th annual Coiste Siamsa Garda Sportstar Awards take place this Friday 1st and will see Roxboro-stationed rugby star Niamh Briggs and Henry Street-stationed rower Sheila Clavin receiving awards for their accomplishments. Garda Niamh Briggs was a key member of the Irish ladies' rugby team that captured a historic first ever Grand Slam in 2013 while Garda Sheila Clavin represented Ireland at the London Metropolitan Regatta in June and took gold in the senior single sculls.

The disappeared

■ A DÁIL debate on the 'disappeared' is to be considered following a call from a Limerick TD for time to be devoted to the issue. Deputy Patrick O'Donovan (FG) asked Tánaiste Eamon Gilmore to allow time for a debate on the issue of people murdered by the IRA whose bodies have not been recovered. Deputy O'Donovan said: "There has been renewed public attention in this issue following the airing of a documentary about the victims and their families who are still searching for answers." Mr Gilmore told Deputy O'Donovan that a debate will be considered by the party whips.