American tour dates this September 11 to October 6.

The intense North Amercan tour was due to take in gigs in New York, Nashville, Atlanta, Boston, Washington, Philadelphia, Chicago, Denver, San Francisco, Los Angeles, among other cities.

"The outpouring of support The Cranberries have received from fans and followers during the past several months is greatly appreciated," read a statement released from the band.

"Unfortunately Dolores
O'Riordan's recovery from
her ongoing back problem
which forced the cancellation of most of the band's
European tour this summer
has not been going as well as
expected to such extent that
her doctors have now in-



One of the publicity shots for The Cranberries as they reformed and prepared to launch their new tour across Europe and North America

structed her to cancel her upcoming almost sold out tour of North America with the band."

The band said that all members are "very disappointed that it has come to this and send their sincere apologies to all fans and ticket holders." They added that they hope to see fans "again in the future when Dolores is well again.

Ticket holders should seek a refund at point of purchase, they advised.

While many fans have been left disappointed, other continue to offer their support to Ms O'Riordan.

Earlier, 26 shows were cancelled across the UK and Europe, which were due to promote their new album Something Else, featuring acoustic versions of their hits recorded with the Limerick-based Irish Chamber Orchestra's string quartet,

along with three new songs.

The band, whose fortunes had looked set to rise again after their reunion, managed to paly gigs in Dublin, Belfast and London, before the forced cancellations, but a Limerick date was not scheduled on the current tour. TRIBUTES are being paid to well-known driving instructor Pat Flynn who died at the weekend. Mr Flynn ran the O'Connell-Flynn School of Motoring, Hartstonge Street.

HEALTH

19 patients treated on trolleys at UHL

ACCORDING to figures published by the Irish Nurses and Midwives Organisation on Friday, there were 19 patients being treated on ED trolleys and extra trolleys or beds in the wards at UHL.

POLITICS

Full council meeting at 3pm

County Councillors will meet this afternoon for their bi-monthly meeting. It will be the first gathering fully chaired by new mayor, Cllr Stephen Keary.

TELEVISION

Search for tourist attraction

A NEW TG4 television series aims to showcase Ireland's undiscovered tourist attractions. The TV channel is giving communities a chance to showcase their potential tourist attractions.

Limerick affair: Negga in film based on McCourt book

IMERICK raised actress and Oscar nominee Ruth Vegga has been signed for a new animated film based on author Frank McCourt's final work, writes Anne Sheridan.

McCourt, the Pulitzer Prize winning author whose ashes were scattered in Limerick last week, published his only children's book, Angela and the Baby Jesus, in 2007, and a half-hour film is now in production in Ireland.

'Loving' star Negga, who grew up in Dooradoyle, has lent her voice as McCourt's grandmother.

McCourt's wife Ellen told the Limerick Leader that the film is due to be released this coming Christmas, under the title Angela's Christmas. She is serving as an executive producer, while his brother Malachy, the only surviving McCourt sibling, provides the narration.

"I am so thrilled to see this beloved story come to life as an animated film. Brown Bag Films' unparalleled artistry in animation, combined with their Irish roots make them the perfect partner to tell Frank's children's classic in a new way," she said.

It is being produced by CG production at two-time Oscar nominated Brown Bag Films' Dublin based studio, with 9 Story Distribution International handling its worldwide distribution.

Set in Ireland in the early 1900s, 'Angela's Christmas' is described as "a funny, heartwarming and poignant story about the power of family and the innocent desire of a child

to ensure everyone is safe, warm and loved at Christmas time."

Darragh O'Connell, creative director, said this is "such a special story.

"McCourt has a way of capturing the mind of young Angela that will have you laughing and crying. The story lends itself beautifully to animation and we are so excited to share this with audiences around the world."

It was developed with the support of the Irish Film Board.



Limerick actress Ruth Negga

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