A BOOK on the archaeological discoveries on the route of the Limerick Southern Ring Road is to be launched this Thursday night at King John’s Castle.

The public event begins at 6.30pm.

The book, entitled River Road: the archaeology of the Limerick Southern Ring Road, is published by the National Roads Authority and will be launched by former director of the National Museum of Ireland, Dr Patrick F Wallace.

The launch will be hosted by the NRA, Limerick City and County Council and Clare County Council on November 14.

According to NRA archaeologist, Paul O’Keeffe, the book describes 28 excavations that took place on-site, including the Limerick-Clare tunnel.

“During the excavations, we uncovered evidence of human activity from 8,000 years ago. We found settlement sites, burial sites and even industrial sites from the eighteenth and nineteenth century,” Mr O’Keeffe said on Clare FM’s Morning Focus.

He added that Bronze Age razors were also found in the burial sites and evidence of medieval settlements in Coonagh.

Authors of the book are Dr Nóra Bermingham, senior archaeologist; Frank Coyne, Aegis Archaeology Ltd; Graham Hull, company director of TVAS Ireland; Fiona Reilly, National Museum of Ireland; and Kate Taylor, TVAS Ireland.

The NRA has funded over 2000 archaeological excavations on national road projects since it was established in 1994.