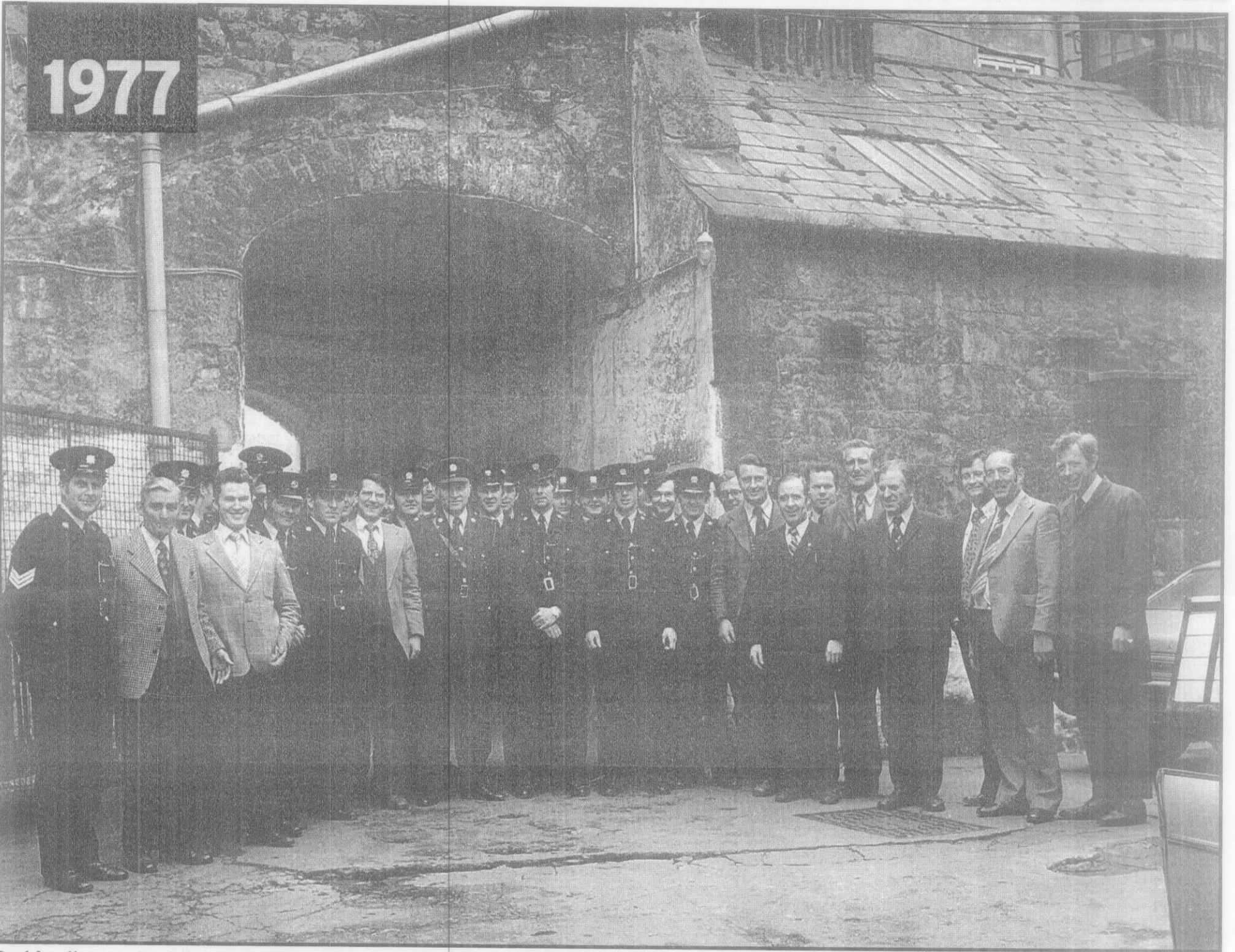




# LIMERICK LEADER archive

LOOKING BACK IN PICTURES



**Gardai on the move:** Here is the last shift at William Street barracks, prior to going on duty there for the last time - the gardai moved to Henry Street in May 1977

**inside** more great pictures from the **leader** archives



## City rowing club seeks improved facilities

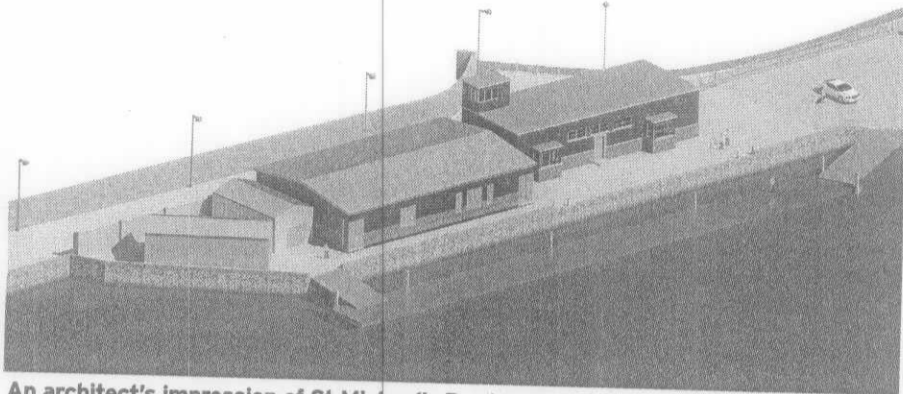
Nick Rabbitts

A CITY rowing club will find out later this month whether it has won permission to proceed with a €100,000 improvement scheme.

St Michael's Rowing Club have applied to Limerick City Council to replace the existing slipways at their club on O'Callaghan Strand with a permanent floating pontoon.

The project will see the installation of 14 pontoons, accessed from the quay wall via two steel ramps.

Former club president Pierce McGann says they are seeking support from the local business community to raise the €100,000, and "help support



An architect's impression of St Michael's Rowing Club's proposed improvements at its base in O'Callaghan Strand.

us in cementing our position as a major rowing club within Limerick City".

He said that it will help the young oarsmen coming through at the club to enjoy

first class facilities.

"We have so many young children training with us, and we are trying to be more efficient with our time, in terms of getting

them on and off the water. This will help us ensure they are off the water safer and faster," he told the Limerick Leader.

He said that the project

will help St Michael's Rowing Club.

"It will cement our presence in Limerick even more so. It will make us even more efficient as a rowing club in the city," he said.

Local Fine Gael councillor Michael Hourigan welcomed the plans, saying: "St Michael's Rowing Club serve a huge community around my area, especially at junior level. There are a huge number of children going down there. They have succeeded at national level. I believe St Michael's is almost the biggest rowing club in Ireland, and they have won awards at all levels." Planners are to make a decision on the project by January 26.

## Five-star treatment in Shanghai after e

Anne Sheridan

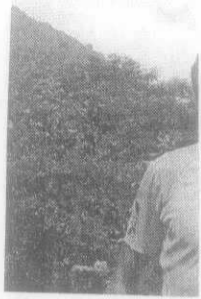
TWO TRAVEL weary Irishmen arrived in Shanghai this Wednesday morning, after travelling for nearly 300 days from Istanbul on foot, by bike and on a canoe up the Yangtze river.

Maghnus Collins, from Corbally and his college friend David, 27, from Coleraine, have now finished their latest adventure to raise funds for Self Help Africa, a charity founded by Limerickman Ray Jordan.

Their voyage has seen them travel through Turkey, Iran, Pakistan, India, Nepal over a course of 16,000km of gruelling terrain.

An expatriate group in Shanghai, Le Cheile, welcomed them on arrival, amid a frenzy of Chinese cameras and media crew.

After being treated to a shave, a haircut and a three-bedroom suite in a five-star hotel in Shanghai, which learned of their



Victory: Magnus Collins and David, the stages of their 16,000km to Shanghai.

they'd achieved, an tribute to their supporters who made possible.

"I can't quite believe we are done," said "After over nine months on the road the journey is a mixture of difficulty and relief." The intrepid explorers are due home this Saturday, they will receive a warm welcome in their counties.

At the end of a mammoth expedition they cycled 8,500km

## PJ is remembered after accident claims his life