



LIMERICK LEADER

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CHURCH WINDFALL FROM HOUSE SALE

By EUGENE PHELAN

THE prayers of the Catholic Church in Limerick will be answered next month with Bishop Donal Murray's former residence at Kilmoyle, North Circular Road, is expected to be sold for over €20 million, relieving a debt which runs into millions.

The 6.4-acre site and magnificent Georgian house went on sale today, with tenders to be opened early next month.

"What we are telling potential clients is that guide price is €20 million plus," said John De Courcy, of De Courcy auctioneers Limerick who are selling the property with CB Richard Ellis in Dublin.

With a debt of €2.4 million for the refurbishment of St John's Cathedral, the funds made from the sale will be a relief to Bishop Murray and the Church in Limerick.

While there is a price guide of €20 million plus, it is set to make more though some property experts are saying that the downturn in the market and uncertainty on the volume of residential planning

could temper the bidding.

The obvious favourite to purchase Kilmoyle is property developer Aidan Brooks, whose own family home adjoins the property.

"Given the level that Brooks operates on the international business scene, with people like JP McManus, it would be hard to see someone outbidding him if he decides to go for it," one leading property source told me.

A site on less than an acre adjacent to Kilmoyle was sold recently for €4.3 million. This has planning for 11 townhouses.

Kilmoyle is for sale in three lots. One is the house on one acre with a guide of €5 million plus; the second is the lands at over five acres which has a guide mark of over €15 million and the third is the house and lands earmarked at over €20million.

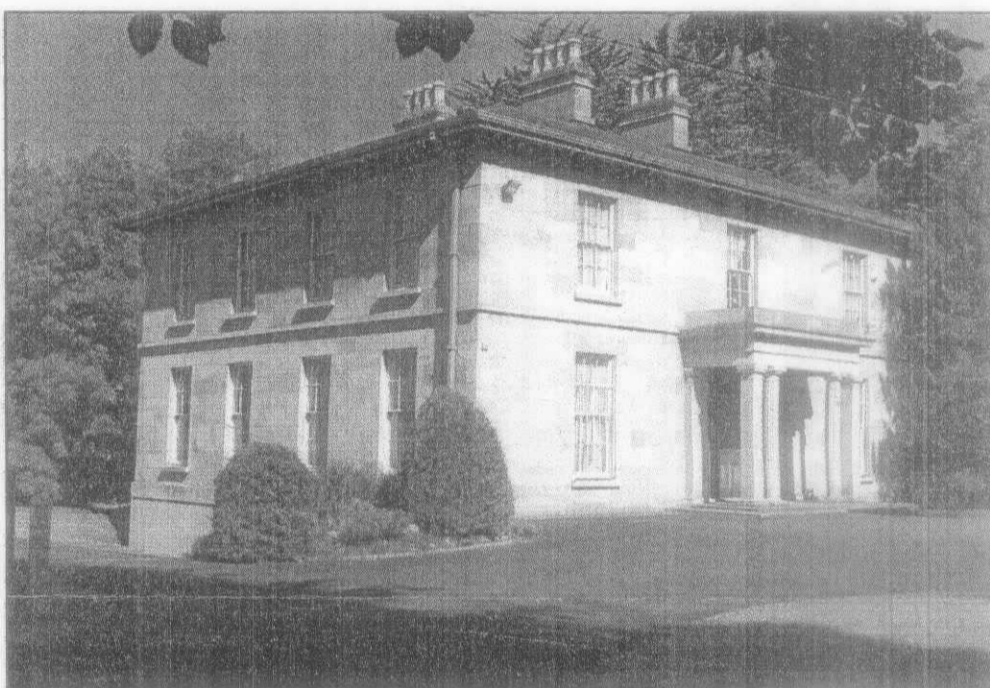
Bishop Murray relocated to a new residence at Hawthorns, Castletroy almost 18 months ago." After much consultation it was decided that Kilmoyle would be offered for sale to help address the essential pastoral responsibilities of the Diocese.

"The proceeds of sale will be used in the first instance to provide a capital injection to the fund which provides for

the needs of sick and retired priests," a spokesman for the Diocese told the Limerick Leader.

In addition provision has to be made for a purpose built diocesan archive at the Diocesan Offices in place of that at Kilmoyle. Consideration will also be given as to how the Diocese will meet its residual debt in relation to the St. John's Cathedral Conservation Project.

"The remaining funds will be invested to generate an annual income which will be used to support pastoral projects for the Diocese of Limerick. These needs were outlined in the leaflet "Support for your Parish" distributed throughout the Diocese in 2005. These projects include youth ministry; Diocesan Pastoral Centre; the employment of lay pastoral workers and catechists; ongoing formation for priests; increased support for sick and retired priests; services for those in need and in particular for disadvantaged youth; increased employment of lay people in administrative support for parishes; support for Catholic agencies; improved infrastructure for communication and technology," said the diocesan spokesman.



On the market: The sale of Bishop Donal Murray's former home on the North Circular Road is expected to realise over €20 million for the Diocese of Limerick

Other pastoral priorities may emerge and may also need support.

Bishop Murray has thanked the people of the Diocese for their ongoing generosity and said:

"In conjunction with the continuing support of the people of the Diocese the proceeds of the sale of Kilmoyle will help finance projects

which will assist the Diocese of Limerick in making a comprehensive, confident and creative response to the challenges that it will face in the coming years."

Students advised not to panic and stay calm

By JOHN HOGAN

THE day of reckoning has arrived for over 5,000 Limerick students who today began their Junior and Leaving Certificate exams.

Just as a nice spell of weather began, secondary schools all over the city and county will host 2458 Leaving Cert students while 2634 pupils will sit the Junior Cert. In addition, 173 students will undertake the Leaving Cert Applied exams.

In accordance with the national trend, more girls will sit the final state exams in Limerick. 1268 females will begin their Leaving Cert with English Paper 1 and 2 today,

compared to 1217 boys.

This year will also see more students than ever sitting exams in one of 15 non-curricular languages, a sign of the increased number of non-national secondary school pupils in Ireland. Non-curricular languages do not appear as part of the normal school curriculum but students may opt to be examined in them if they speak the language as a mother tongue.

This year alone sees a three-fold increase in the number of pupils taking exams in Polish.

As teenagers make the final preparations for what can be a most stressful time, school principals in Limerick are advising students not to

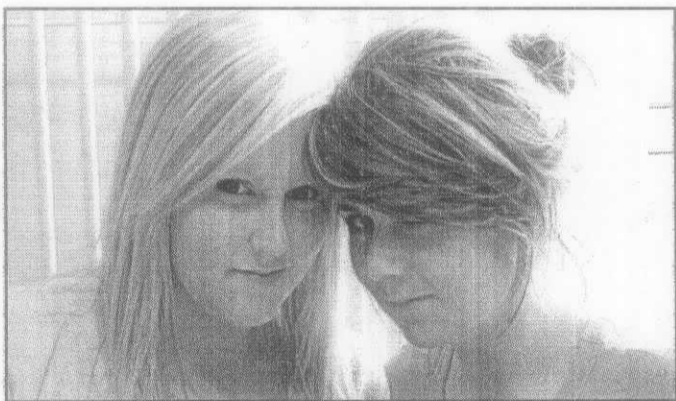
worry too much about the Leaving and Junior Cert. Crescent College Principal Dermot Cowhey had two pieces of advice for those doing exams.

"Students should be confident that they are ready for the exams," said principal Cowhey, "but we are also telling them to keep the whole thing in context, Junior and Leaving Cert students should be aware that there are much more important things in life than exams and they are not the end of the world."

Pat Byrnes, Vice-Principal in Laurel Hill Coláiste, said pupils should "keep calm". "Everybody has gone

through it," said Mr Byrnes of the state exams, "we are telling our pupils to just stick with the advice of their teachers and don't panic. Their work will come through in the end."

Students in St. Enda's College were also advised "not to panic" prior to their exams. Principal Pat O'Brien told the Limerick Leader that once students got into the first paper, their nerves would be eased. "Even after the first half an hour of the first exam, pupils tend to get into the groove of things," said Mr O'Brien, "they have the work done and we'll also be there to talk with those pupils who may be feeling nervous about the exams."

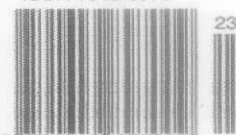


Levi Moriarty, Dooradoyle, and Louise Barry, Raheen, getting in some last minute study before they sit their Leaving Cert exams at Laurel Hill Coláiste

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Bidders for bishop's home get a warning

By DAVID HURLEY

POTENTIAL bidders for the former residence of the Bishop of Limerick are being warned they will "face a battle" if they plan to develop the site. Located on the North Circular Road, the 6.4-acre site and magnificent Georgian house went on sale this week, with tenders to be opened early next month. "What we are telling potential clients is that the guide price is €20 million plus," said John De Courcey, of De Courcey auctioneers, who are joint agents with CB Richard Ellis in Dublin.

Former Mayor Cllr John Ryan, who lives in the North Circular Road area, says he has serious concerns. "You are looking at somebody who will need to generate phenomenal numbers to be able to pay back €20 million and I think that is unsustainable. The figure being bandied about is 150 to 200 apartments and I would say to any developer who is putting in for that they will have a battle on their hands if they go for high density." Cllr Ryan added: "The sewage system in the area is fraught with problems, the road network in the area is fraught with problems and it will cause huge difficulties on the northside of the city," he said.

Concerns over the protection of the giant trees that are located within the property could also prove crucial as environmental experts say they are popular with many species of birds, which can be seen at the nearby wetlands. The sale will be a



For sale: Bishop Donal Murray's former home on the North Circular Road could fetch more than €20 million, according to local auctioneers



Aidan Brooks: thought to be the likely buyer

relief to Bishop Murray and the church in Limerick. The diocese has a debt of €2.4 million from the refurbishment of St John's Cathedral.

While the price guide may be €20 million, the sum fetched is likely to be higher, even though some property experts are saying that the downturn in the market and uncertainty on the volume of residential planning could temper the bidding.

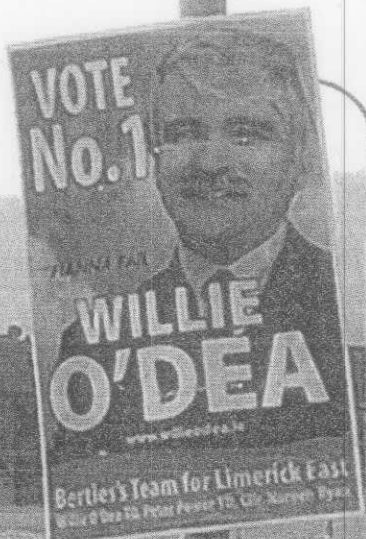
The obvious favourite to purchase Kilmoyle is property developer Aidan Brooks, whose own family home adjoins the property. He has already paid one former neighbour €2.5 million for his four-bedroom house, only to demolish it, and offered more than €3m for another adjoining property. "Given the

level that Brooks operates on the international business scene, with people like JP McManus, it would be hard to see someone outbidding him, if he decides to go for it," one leading property source told the Limerick Leader. A site on less than an acre adjacent to Kilmoyle was sold recently for €4.3 million. This has planning for 11 townhouses.

Kilmoyle is for sale in three lots. One is the house on one acre with a guide of €5 million plus; the second is the lands at over five acres, which has a guide mark of over €15 million, and the third is the house and lands, earmarked at more than €20 million.

Bishop Murray relocated to a new residence at Hawthorns, Castletroy almost 18 months ago. "After much consultation it was decided that Kilmoyle would be offered for sale to help address the essential pastoral responsibilities of the Diocese. The proceeds of sale will be used in the first instance to provide a capital injection to the fund which provides for the needs of sick and retired priests," a spokesman for the Diocese told the Limerick Leader.

BY: AMERICA LEADER
 9TH JUNE, 2001
 PAGE 1



Forgotten: one of the Willie O'Dea posters still up in Moyross after the removal deadline

delayed over leak fears

their respective bodies for con- the Limerick Leader, on May 1



Who will buy this prime site?

BUILT in 1845, Kilmoyle was formerly known as Westfield House and identified as such in the 1872 edition of the Ordnance Survey of Limerick City.

The house was acquired by the Diocese of Limerick in the early 1950s and the first bishop to reside there was Patrick O'Neill. Since then, it has been the home of three bishops, namely Henry Murphy, Jeremiah Newman and the present incumbent, Dr Donal Murray.

Bishop Murray now lives in Hawthorns, Castletroy where he moved about 18 months ago. "After much consultation, it was decided the Kilmoyle would be offered for sale to help address the essential pastoral responsibilities of the Diocese. The proceeds of the sale will be used in the first instance to provide a capital injection to the fund which provides for the needs of sick and retired priests," said a spokesman for the Diocese.

The €20m plus which it is expected that the sale will generate will certainly be a major boost to the finances of the church in Limerick, which has a debt of €2.4m from the refurbishment of St John's Cathedral.

The big question now is who will buy the 6.53 acre site. Several names have already been linked to the sale, most notably property developer Aidan Brooks. Mr Brooks, whose own family home adjoins the site, has already paid one former neighbour €2.5m for his four bedroom home, which he subsequently demolished, and has offered €3m for another neighbouring property. Through his Sloane Capital investment vehicle, which also involves JP McManus and John Magnier, he has acquired a number of other high profile properties, including Luttrellstown Castle in West Dublin and the Unilever Building in London.

Other local developers who may have the spending power to bid for the site include Mick Daly whose Fordmount Property Group has developed a number of sites in Limerick including the Marriott Hotel and Riverpoint, and Robert Butler who is currently developing a shopping centre at Coonagh Cross.

The site is zoned residential in the Limerick City Development Plan 2004 which means that it must be used primarily for residential purposes. However, other uses may include indoor and outdoor recreation; educational or cultural institutions; hotels, hostels guest-houses and motels; or restaurants, cafes, retail outlets, swimming pools or cinemas which may be provided in conjunction with residential development.

Property watchers will be paying close attention to the outcome of the tendering process on July 4 to see who emerges as the successful bidder and what plans emerge for this unique piece of Limerick's heritage.

cover story

Bishop's home is full of grace

Location: Kilmoyle, North Circular Road, Limerick
Price: €20m
Seller: deCourcy Estate Agents
Tel 061-415188

By COLM WARD

THIS is, quite simply, one of the most prized pieces of real estate in Limerick - and certainly the most valuable property to come on the market in the city in a long time.

The former residence of the Catholic Bishop of Limerick, Kilmoyle stands on a 6.53 acre site on the North Circular Road - Limerick's prime residential area. Tenders are now being invited for the sale, which is expected to generate major interest among developers and private buyers. According to the selling agent, John deCourcy, the guide price for the entire property is in the region of €20m, with an option of acquiring the house itself and 1.25

acres for €5m or the remaining 5.28 acres without the house for €15m.

Built in 1845, Kilmoyle was renovated extensively during the middle of the last century and is regarded as being one of the most important heritage buildings in Limerick. Unusually for this part of the world, the house itself was built using sandstone, giving it a very attractive appearance. The front of the house looks out on a long, beautifully maintained lawn and entrance which sweeps up to the front door.

The landscaped gardens are surrounded by mature trees and shrubs, with 90 metres of road frontage on the North Circular Road.

Internally, the house has 7,159 square feet of living space over three



An aerial view of Kilmoyle shows the site including the gardens and mature trees.

floors. In the basement, there is a kitchen, utility room, bathroom, pantry, storage room, electronics room, three bedrooms and a dining room. The ground floor comprises a lounge, two studies, a breakfast room, dining room, kitchenette, library, archive room and a con-

servatory, while there are five bedrooms and a bathroom on the first floor. The property also comes with a 650 square foot mews house attached to its north side which was built around 1960.

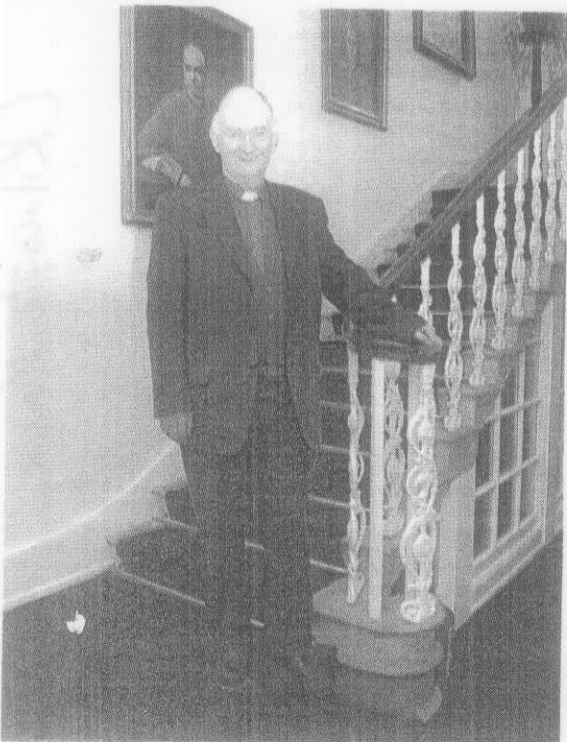
The site is zoned residential and, as such, could be used as develop-

ment land or for hotels, sports and recreation, education and cultural facilities or a variety of other purposes consistent with the character of the area.

Tender documents are available from the agents and the closing date for their return is July 4 at 12pm.



Kilmoyle: Built in 1845, the house has been in the possession of the Limerick Diocese since the 1950s. Picture: Liam Burke/ Press 22



Bishop Donal Murray in his former home in Kilmoyle

Residents back Brooks to buy Bishop's house

By EUGENE PHELAN

RESIDENTS beside Kilmoyle House, the Bishop of Limerick's former home on North Circular Road, are hoping that international property developer Aidan Brooks will buy the property.

Mr Brooks, who lives beside the site and who has bought up a number of properties in the area, is one of the favourites to purchase the house and lands for up to €20m.

"Many of the residents would favour Aidan Brooks purchasing, as he is unlikely to develop it with a tacky housing scheme. He lives here and likes his space. He might not even develop the site," said one resident. Tenders for the sale of the Georgian house will be opened next Wednesday, but it still remains to be seen if the new owners will be made public when tenders are revealed.

A source close to Mr Brooks confirmed that he would be bidding for the property. "Aidan is definitely interested but he's no fool and he'll only go to a certain price," he said. "It remains to be seen

what he would do with the site if he did buy it, but you can be sure that he wouldn't want to upset the neighbours."

Kilmoyle stands on a 6.53 acre site on North Circular Road-Limerick's prime residential area.

According to the selling agent John deCourcy, the guide price for the entire property was in the region of €20m, with an option of acquiring the house itself and 1.25 acres for €5m, or the remaining 5.28 acres, without the house, for €15m. There was the third option of buying both.

Potential bidders were put on alert earlier this month in a statement by nearby resident Cllr John Ryan, who warned that purchasers would "face a battle" if they planned to develop the site.

The former Mayor, who lives on North Circular Road, said he had serious concerns with the sale and potential development of the site.

"You are looking at somebody who will need to generate phenomenal numbers to be able to pay back €20m, and I think that is unsustainable. The figure being bandied about is 150 to 200 apartments, and I would say to any developer who is putting in for that they will have a battle on their

hands if they go for high density.

"The sewage system in the area is fraught with problems, the road network in the area is fraught with problems, and it will cause huge problems on the north side of the city," he said at the time.

But it seems that, despite his comments, there has been huge interest in the property.

There are also concerns over the protection of the giant trees within the grounds as environmental experts say they are used by many species of birds at the nearby wetlands.

With a debt of €2.4m for the refurbishment of St John's Cathedral, the funds made from the sale will be a relief to Bishop Murray and the Church in Limerick.

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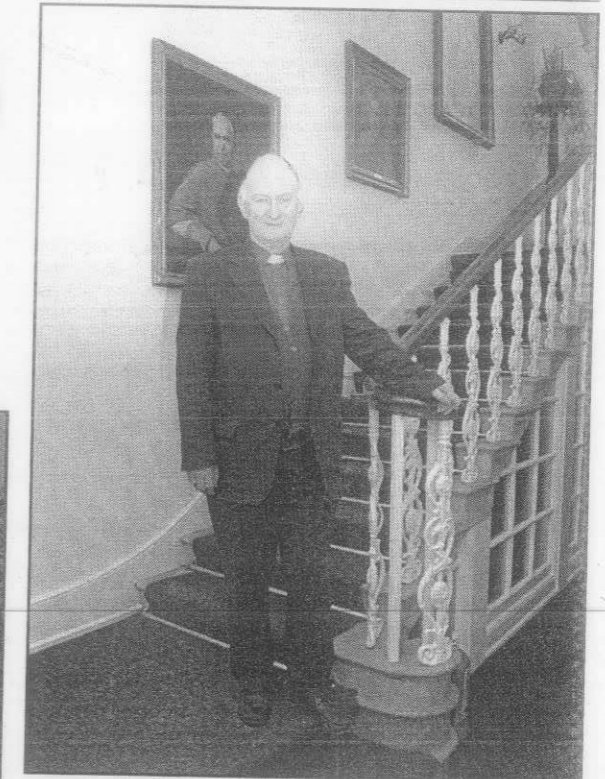
Up for grabs: the Bishop of Limerick's former residence, Kilmoyle House, on the North Circular Road, is expected to fetch at least €20m when tenders for its sale are opened next Wednesday

The landscaped gardens are surrounded by mature trees and shrubs, with 90 metres of road frontage on North Circular Road.

The house has 7,159

square feet of living space over three floors. In the basement, there is a kitchen, utility room, bathroom, pantry room, storage room, electronics room, three bedrooms and a dining room. The groundfloor comprises a lounge, two studies, a breakfast room, dining room, kitchenette, library, archive room and a conservatory, while

there are five bedrooms and a bathroom on the first floor. The property also comes with a 650 sq ft mews attached to its north side which was built around 1960.



Selling: Bishop of Limerick, Dr Donal Murray, in the house's hallway. Money from the sale of the residence will help clear church debts of €2.4m



Definitely interested: property developer and North Circular Road resident Aidan Brooks. Locals would prefer if he bought Kilmoyle House

ISSUE 1 • SUMMER 2007

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Speed dating craze returns to Limerick

By ANNE SHERIDAN

SUMMER may be over but love will still be in the air this July as the speed-dating craze returns to Limerick city for two nights next month. And this time it will cater for those aged 30 and above on Friday, July 20.

The previous Friday

their friends," said Mr Kearney, adding that people from all over Ireland have travelled to the event.

Their debut night at Aubar's three months ago was held on a Tuesday evening, but the organisers have decided to switch to a Friday so customers get a better deal for the €25 entry.

entrance and the restaurant discounts - it's pretty good value overall. It should be a great night out and a great way to meet other singles," he said.

On the night all participants get the chance to talk up to 20 people of the opposite sex for three minutes and if they both like each other, the organ-

TWO 17-year-old Limerick rockers have taken it upon themselves to cater for the appetite of underage music fans in the city, writes John Hogan.

Emmet Carmody and his next-door neighbour Mark Healy are often deprived of seeing some of their favourite local bands live as they are too young to attend the concerts, which are more often than not held in pubs and

clubs.

The Westbury natives decided to address this problem by organising a non-alcoholic rock concert aimed at youths with their predicament. The Belltable Bandslam will take place on July 12 at 8pm featuring several diverse bands with something to suit everybody's taste.

Emmet said this week that they felt it

was unfair for youngsters in the city to be deprived of the unique experience of a live concert in their home town just because they were under 18.

"There wasn't a lot of gigs that underage people could go to in Limerick," said Emmet. "There were no big venues or any place different that students like us could go to for a concert. We wanted to do something about it, and we were able

to know in the 1

Mark's mother Belltable and his father was eager involved in even realised that the involvement provided opportunity to music enthusiasts

Bids are in for Bishop's residence

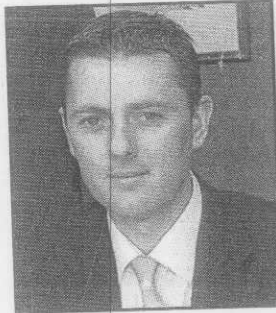
By COLM WARD

IT is likely to be the end of this month at the earliest before the new owner of Kilmoyle House, the former home of the Bishop of Limerick, is revealed.

The closing date for receipt of tender documents was this Wednesday at 12pm but so far both the church authorities and the estate agents dealing with the sale are remaining tight-lipped about the level of interest in this historic property.

According to Tony Sadlier, finance manager of the Limerick diocesan office, it is too early to say when an announcement will be made on the successful bidder. "There is a whole raft of committees to be consulted before any decision is made," he said.

Several high-profile local property developers are thought to be interested in the 6.53-acre site on the North Circular Road, among them Aidan



Bid: Aidan Brooks

Brooks, who has bought up a number of properties in the area in recent years. Mr Brooks has developed a number of residential and commercial sites in Limerick and has also been active in the international commercial market, acquiring high-profile properties in London, New York and Paris through Sloane Capital, the investment vehicle which he owns along with JP McManus and John Magnier.

Most recently, the trio bought a €650m property in Place Vendome, one of Paris' most exclusive addresses.

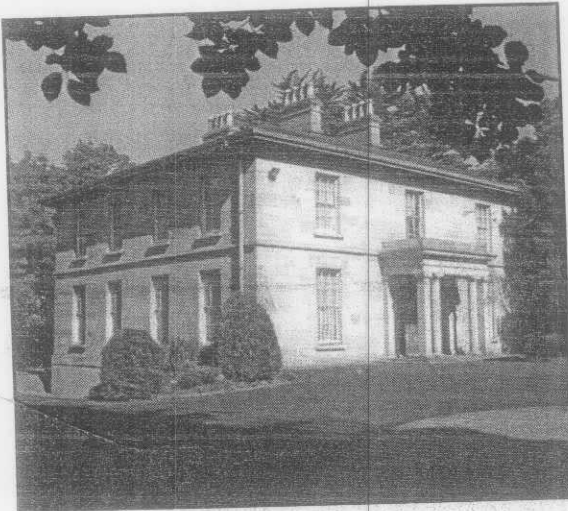
Speaking to the Limerick Leader last week, a source close to Mr Brooks confirmed that he would be bidding for the North Circular Road property.

"Aidan is definitely interested but he's no fool and he'll only go to a certain price," the source said, "it remains to be seen what he would do with the site if he did buy it but you can be sure the he wouldn't want to upset the neighbours."

The guide price on the historic property is €20m. However, it is also being offered in two separate lots, one comprising the house and 1.25 acres for €5m and the other consisting of the remaining 5.28 acres for €15m.

Whoever the successful bidder is, they will very likely have to be in a position to spend considerably more developing the site, which is zoned residential in the Limerick City Development Plan 2004. This means it must be used primarily for residential purposes but other uses may include indoor and outdoor recreation; educational or cultural institutions; hotels, hostels, guest-houses and motels; or restaurants, cafes, retail outlets, swimming pools or cinemas which may be provided in conjunction with residential development.

However, there are likely to be a number of difficulties associated with developing the site, particularly in relation to ongoing problems with the sewage system in the area, which has had a number of problems in the past. There are also concerns over the protection of the giant trees within the grounds as environmental experts say they are used as nesting grounds by many species of birds attracted to the nearby wetlands.



Deadline: Kilmoyle House



Young scientist: Emma Tarpey, a fifth year student during the Academy of Applied Physics fortnight

7th July, 2007 PAGE 19 Ex: Limerick Leader

Brooks in €27m deal for bishop residence

By EUGENE PHELAN

INTERNATIONAL property investor, Aidan Brooks has paid €27 million for the Bishop of Limerick's former residence, Kilmoyle on North Circular Road, Limerick.

Residents in North Circular Road were said to be delighted this Thursday as they understand that Brooks intends integrating Kilmoyle as part of his current home and won't be developing it.

"We are pretty delighted with the result, but we are not going to say who bought it," said finance manager with the Catholic Diocese in Limerick, Tony Sadlier.

However the Limerick Leader has learned that Brooks, who already lives in the adjacent Portland House, which was the former home of the Church of Ireland bishops of Limerick, beat off other big developers with his bid, which is a full €7 million ahead of the guide price.

When the Limerick Leader tried to contact Brooks Properties this Thursday, we were informed that Mr Brooks was away on business.

Built in 1845, Kilmoyle, formerly known as Westfield lies on 6.53 acres and was purchased by the Diocese of Limerick in the early 1950s.

The first bishop to reside there was Patrick O'Neill. Since then it has been the residence of three bishops, namely Henry Murphy, Jeremiah Newman and the current

Bishop, Dr Donal Murray. Portland House, the current home of Mr Brooks was built in the 1850s and was used by Aer Lingus, before the Church of Ireland purchased it for their Bishop. Three years ago, Brooks bought it and also purchased three other adjoining homes.

"He will have about 11 acres in total but the great news from our point of view is that we believe he is keeping all his property as a family home. The last thing we needed out here was more housing and traffic congestion," said a well known businessman, who is a neighbour of the new purchaser.

The sale is also great news for the Catholic Diocese in Limerick which has major financial problems.

Mr Sadlier said that the funds would financially secure the church in Limerick for the next 30 to 40 years.

It will be used, among other things, to pay off debts, help fund the renovation of St John's Cathedral, help out with youth ministry and the pastoral centre and also to support sick and retired priests.

Eighteen months ago, Bishop Murray moved out to live in Hawthorns, Castletroy, stating that Kilmoyle was too big for his needs.

"After much consultation, it was decided the Kilmoyle would be offered for sale to help address the essential pastoral responsibilities of the Diocese.

"The proceeds of the sale will be used in the first instance to provide a capital injection to the fund which provides for the needs of sick and

retired priests," a spokesman for the Diocese explained at that time.

John De Courcy, of De Courcy Auctioneers sold the property along with CB Richard Ellis in Dublin, who were joint agents.

The site is zoned residential in the Limerick City Development Plan 2004 which means that it must be used primarily for residential purposes.

However, other uses may include indoor and outdoor recreation; educational or cultural institutions; hotels, hostels, guest-houses and motels. It may also be used for restaurants, cafes, retail outlets, swimming pools or cinemas which may be provided in conjunction with residential development.

Potential bidders for the former residence of the Bishop of Limerick had been warned that they would "face a battle" if they planned to develop the site.

Former Mayor Cllr John Ryan, who lives on the North Circular Road had warned that residents had serious concerns.

"You are looking at somebody who will need to generate phenomenal numbers to be able to pay back €20 million and I think that is unsustainable.

"The figure being bandied about is 150 to 200 apartments and I would say to any developer who is putting in for that they will have a battle on their hands if they go for high density," said Cllr Ryan.

He added, "The sewage system in the area is fraught with problems, the road network in the



An aerial shot of Kilmoyle on the North Circular Road which is adjacent to Mr Brooks' own home

area is fraught with problems and it will cause huge problems on the Northside of the City," he said.

Concerns over the protection of the giant trees that are located within the property could also prove crucial as environmental experts say they are used by many species of bird, which can be seen at the nearby wetlands.

Now however, it looks as if the residents fears of a huge development are over as Mr Brooks, who is a close associate and business partner with JP McManus, does not intend developing the site.

"Fair play to Aidan Brooks he has done what few people have done in bringing both churches in Limerick together by buying both the Catholic and Protestant bishops' homes," said the local resident.



Developer Aidan Brooks, left, has shelled out €27million to secure the former residence of the Catholic Bishop of Limerick - Kilmoyle - pictured above on the North Circular Road

Man gets eight months' jail for trespass

By LEADER REPORTER

A LIMERICK man who has 42 previous convictions and whose family was evicted from their home in Moyross last year has been jailed for eight months for trespassing at a premises in the city.

Mark Foran, 20, formerly of Whitecross Gardens but now living in Nenagh, was arrested by gardai on April 1 after he was found hiding in "thick brush" behind a shop on Cecil Street.

Gardai had earlier been alerted after an alarm was activated at an adjacent premises.

At Limerick District Court the accused man pleaded guilty to a charge of entering the premises with intent to commit a burglary. The court heard that Mr Foran received two separate suspended sentences for similar offences earlier this year, but solicitor John Devane asked Judge Tom O'Donnell not to activate those sentences.

"My client is facing a very lengthy jail sentence in relation to serious charges which are due before the Circuit Court soon," he said.

Those charges relate to three robberies which Mr Foran allegedly committed in March and April of this year.

During this week's court sitting, Judge O'Donnell was told Mr Foran was "chronically addicted" to heroin and other substances.

Mr Devane said that Mr Foran and his family were evicted from their home in Moyross due to antisocial behaviour and his client was now living in Nenagh.

The judge imposed an eight-month jail sentence on Mr Foran in relation to the trespassing charge, backdating the sentence to April 11.

He ordered that one of the suspended sentences, which was imposed by him in January, should not be activated.

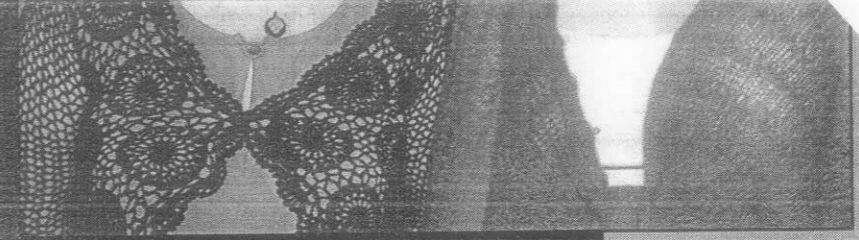
He made no order in relation to a separate suspended sentence, which was imposed at Nenagh District Court in March.

■ Irina Kazelnika and Rudete Skuja, Thomas Street, at Yalla: The Art of Belly Dance in the Belltable

advertises and so on. The time for a revolution, and, indeed, a chance to indulge our inner Dawn French, is now. Women who join her belly-dancing and burlesque classes may feel like two-tonne Tesse when entering the doors of the Daghdha dance studio in St John's Square, but they will be leaving feeling like Dita Von Tesse. And those body con-

double zero brigade. "When people see me in front of the class and see I'm not a stick thin size zero they will become comfortable with their own bodies too," she said. Instead of standing naked in front of a mirror grimacing in horror at multiplying folds of flesh, these classes offer a chance at self-diagnosis in the

dominantly aimed at women. Bellydancing classes will be held each Monday and Wednesday from 7pm to 8pm, while burlesque classes are on from 8pm to 9pm in Daghdha Dance Studio, St John's Square. The classes cost €10. To book a place in either class, call 087-7597861 or email loveyourbelly@hotmail.com.



€3,000 for man who lost teeth in attack

By PETULA MARTYN

A POLISH man who lost his two front teeth when he was punched in the face has received €3,000 in compensation from one of his attackers.

Two Polish men, who were known to the victim, arrived at his house at Elm Grove Close, Castletroy, on February 13. Limerick District Court was told that Dariusz Kulaczowski believed the injured party was involved in criminal activity and wanted to confront him about it. Mr Kulaczowski had just broken up with the man's sister and was angry that he had told him to stay away from her.

According to his solicitor, Sarah Ryan, Mr Kulaczowski was "fearful of going out alone" and brought Mariusz Rabenda with him. She said her client, "did not intend to cause harm. He just wanted to establish if the man was involved in crime".

However, matters became heated and Mr Rabenda punched the man in the face knocking his two front teeth out.

Inspector Pat Connolly told the court that the injured party received hospital treatment following the incident.

He said, "He was asked

to return to hospital the next day with his teeth, but the job was done, the teeth were broken." The man expects to pay €3,000 to repair the damage to his teeth.

Mr Rabenda and Mr Kulaczowski were both charged with assault causing harm contrary to section 3 of the Non-Fatal Offences against the Person Act. Inspector Connolly told the court that neither of the defendants have previous convictions in this country.

Ms Ryan said her clients had "attended the garda station voluntarily and made full admissions to the gardai". She said Mr Kulaczowski had paid €3,000 bail and was willing to have that money paid in compensation.

Judge David Anderson said, "It is hard to get over two teeth." Ms Ryan agreed and said, "I understand he is a big, tall man and it probably doesn't help his appearances."

Judge Anderson accepted the offer of compensation from Mr Kulaczowski and sentenced him to eight months in prison which he suspended for two years.

He remanded Mr Rabenda on continuing bail and adjourned the case until November 28 for "compensation proposals".



Left: Jack Quilligan, Grange, admires a mid-19th century French clock from the Bishop's Palace

Top: Cllr Maria Byrne with a 19th century brass figure of St Peter

Going, going, gone! Bishop's treasures boost diocese coffers

By ANNE SHERIDAN

DOZENS of items housed in the former residence of the Catholic Bishop of Limerick fetched more than double the guide price at an auction in Sixmilebridge on Tuesday.

The top 10 selling items have raised in excess of €40,000 for the Diocese of Limerick, however the total figure from the sale of 350 lots has not been disclosed.

Auctioneer John Dunphy said it was a very buoyant sale and about 10 items were sold to private estates in London.

A rare pair of Irish Regency library chairs, which were estimated to be worth between €3,000 and €5,000, sold for €13,000. An Irish Regency mahogany longcase clock with a white dial by John Miller, Dublin, which was estimated to be worth between €2,000 and €3,000, sold for €4,200. A baby grand

piano was sold for €3,100; a concert table also fetched €3,100 and a Regency sofa table was bought for €2,600.

Many members of the local clergy attended the auction, however Bishop Donal Murray, who formerly resided in Kilmoyle was absent from the sale due to a meeting in Maynooth.

Cllr Maria Byrne, who has an interest in antiques, attended the auction and purchased a revolving bookcase for an undisclosed sum.

"There were some great bargain items there and then there were other pieces that sold way above what was expected. It was a great day and really well run but I suppose it was sad in one way that the Bishop had to sell all his items," said Cllr Byrne.

The property of Kilmoyle was sold during the summer to property developer Aidan Brooks for a reported €27m.

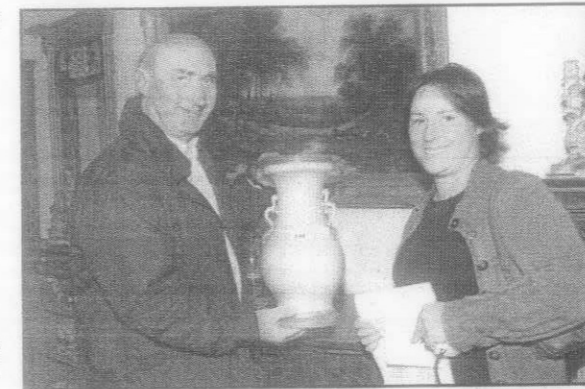
Proceeds from the sale of the property and the auction items will go

towards projects such as facilities for sick and retired priests and community projects throughout the diocese. A portion of this revenue may also be used to deal with the over €2m debt created by the restoration of St John's Cathedral.

An additional 500 items also went under the hammer at the auction rooms in Sixmilebridge on Tuesday, including a collection of Imari porcelain, a bone-mounted spinning wheel, muzzle-loading guns and woodworking tools.

Top, right, John Dillon, Castletroy, and Jane de Courcey, Clonlara, with one of a pair of 19th century Chinese vases

Right: Auctioneer John Dunphy with a rare pair of William IV library chairs at his Auction Rooms in Sixmilebridge



Gardai quiz man after 'significant' drugs find

By DAVID HURLEY

A MAN in his twenties was being questioned by gardai this Thursday, following the second significant drugs seizure in Limerick City in less than a week. The drugs were seized after members of the Limerick drugs squad stopped and searched a car in the Raheen area at around 4pm on Wednesday.

Over six kilogrammes of cannabis, worth around €50,000 were found concealed in the car and the driver was arrested following the seizure. He was taken to Henry Street Garda station where he was being questioned by detectives under anti-drugs legislation, this Thursday afternoon.

A Garda spokesman confirmed the drugs had been sent to Dublin for forensic analysis and that a number of follow up searches were carried out following the initial seizure.

Meanwhile, a file is being prepared for the Director of Public Prosecutions after alert gardai intercepted a drugs consignment at the weekend, which was destined for the streets of Limerick.

Around 2.5 kilogrammes of cannabis, worth up to €20,000, were

seized in the early hours of Monday morning when gardai attached to Roxboro station stopped and searched a car at Honan's Quay.

"The gardai had been attending Henry Street Garda station in relation to another matter.

"As they were leaving the stopped a car and spoke to the driver," said Supt Frank O'Brien, who described the seizure as significant.

"Whenever drugs of this quantity are recovered it is considered significant and I have to say it was a good detection and it was good follow-up given the fact that the drugs were concealed," he said.

Following the drugs seizure the driver of the car was arrested and taken to Roxboro Garda station, but he was later released without charge.

This week's drugs seizures were the biggest in Limerick since a large quantity of cannabis was seized in Rathkeale in July.

That seizure was made during a planned search of a field outside the town. The drugs seized were worth around €750,000. So far this year almost €2m worth of illegal drugs have been seized by gardai in Limerick.

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Off We Go to launch

ANNACOTTY resident Avril Webster is launching her series of books for children with learning difficulties on Monday, October 1 in O'Mahony's

bookshop on O'Connell Street. The series, which is titled Off We Go, serves as a useful aid for parents who have children with intellectual difficulties.

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Café Theology returns

THE autumn series of Café Theology returns on Tuesday, September 25 by a talk by Dublin native Damien Polly on Sex and Religion. On Tuesday, October 16, Dr

Catherine Kavanagh, philosophy department at Mary Immaculate College, will discuss The Existence of God. The talks start at 7pm in Bella Italia, Thomas Street.