

## Limerick Chronicle

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### top web stories

- 1 Property auction to take place in Limerick
- 2 Kerr among the names for Limerick FC job
- 3 Good Samaritan 'foolish to offer help'
- 4 School's fury at 'inaccurate' tables
- 5 County Limerick gardai investigate arson

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### weatheroutlook

WEDNESDAY	Clear but with a cold breeze
THURSDAY	Cloudier with light winds
FRIDAY	Rain showers and freshening wind

### top things to do

- 1 See Freud's Last Session in the Belltable this Wednesday and Thursday at 8pm
- 2 West Side Story opens in the Lime Tree Theatre this Wednesday
- 3 Lunchtime Theatre in the Savoy (Thu/Fri)
- 4 The Blind Pig celebrates its birthday (Sat)
- 5 Carols for All in the UCH this Sunday afternoon at 3pm

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# Concern over literacy levels in city

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have no hope of doing the Leaving Certificate. We got away with this in the Celtic Tiger era somewhat, because if you wanted a job, you got one," he told the meeting.

More schemes like the JCSP Library Initiative, pioneered for Junior Certificate students at St Nessel's Community College, Moylish, are to be tried to help

students at secondary level.

In the school library, students take part in literacy and numeracy classes in small groups of up to eight, using computer workstations.

The groups move from computer to computer at 30 minute intervals, where they focus on different traits of literacy and numeracy, including the building of vocabulary, punctuation and writing skills.

It is hoped this means students

who have left primary school with a low level of literacy can be brought up to speed in time for the Junior Certificate.

Labour's southside councillor Orla McLoughlin, a school completion co-ordinator by trade, said: "You need to try and make activities like reading more popular, and let it become the norm. An emphasis has to be put on parents to make time for their children

reading at home, whether they like it or not."

Martin Cournane, of the Youthreach programme, aimed at early school leavers in the city, added: "It is critical to have literacy and numeracy, particularly for Junior Certificate and Leaving Certificate levels. If you want a student to succeed in education at second level, there has to be appropriate reading levels."

# Limerick could be home to National Film Museum

Nick Rabbitts

LIMERICK could be home to a 'National Film Museum' under plans unveiled by the City VEC.

The Cecil Street-based educational organisation is already seeking to redevelop the old Athenaeum building to bring in a new cinema, digital lounge, cafe and exhibition space - a move which would see a permanent cinema in Limerick for the first time in more than 10 years.

And at Friday's meeting, it was revealed they also want to include a National Film Centre as part of the complex.

Although the concept is at an early stage, Declan McLaughlin, who founded the Limerick Film Club, has agreed to donate memorabilia, including posters and other pieces to the museum.

Mr McLaughlin owns the largest private collection of memorabilia in Ireland.

Chief executive of the City VEC Paul Patton said: "Declan McLaughlin, who is on the steering committee has a sizeable collection, the largest private collection of film memorabilia. A huge amount of that consists of memorabilia unique to Limerick. The collection would be put on public display."

"It is another idea to benefit the city. We have to aim high and see what happens."

The overall Theatre Royal project - which could create up to 40 jobs - has moved to the second stage, after full planning permission was granted by Limerick City Council.

Mr Patton said that Tim O'Connor, the former secretary to the Irish president, and the ambassador to the USA has agreed to give his services to the €5.3m project.



The former Theatre Royal building in Upper Cecil Street: earmarked for a €5.3m facelift which will bring in a cinema, cafe and teaching space - and now possibly a National Film Museum.

Picture: Adrian Butler

The chairman of the City VEC Denis McCarthy welcomed the museum plan.

"If you go back a generation, you would see queues around the city, in particular in Nicholas Street. I

remember on a Sunday evening, the queues went out beyond the castle. People of St Mary's Park and the surrounding area used to queue for miles around," he told the Limerick Leader

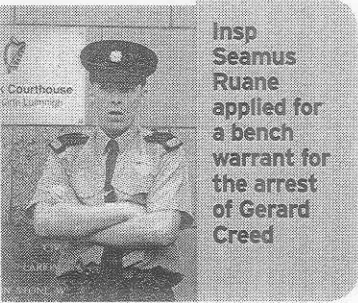
"For young teenagers in the city, there was a big social aspect of going to the films. Things obviously have changed, but it would be nice to bring a bit of it back," Cllr McCarthy concluded.

# Bench warrant issued after burglar's no-show

Mike Dwane

A BENCH warrant has been issued for the arrest of a Limerick burglar who failed to appear in court for sentencing.

Sentencing had been adjourned in the case of 21-year-old Gerard Creed, of Oakfield, Raheen, to allow him to pay €400 in compensation to the occupants of a neighbouring house he had burgled in the early hours of January 20, 2012.



Limerick District Court had previously heard that Creed had left his shoe behind in the driveway of the property after being tackled by its occupants. He had pleaded guilty to burglary and to possession of a stolen set of car keys on January 20.

Mr Creed had been confronted by the residents and chased away after a struggle. Gardai who arrived at the scene found a shoe and a phone on the driveway, which the accused later admitted were his.

"He claimed to have no memory

of the incident, such was his state of intoxication," Judge Eugene O'Kelly was told.

At the original hearing in July, Judge O'Kelly had paid tribute to the "brave young men" who had tackled the home intruder "at considerable risk".

The case was adjourned to allow Creed offer compensation but Insp Seamus Ruane asked for a bench warrant to be issued after the accused failed to appear in court on Thursday.