

immediate action to deal with these huge driving tests waiting lists," he said.

Mr O'Donoghue is

Minister can be held accountable. Aspirational promises are just not good enough at this stage," Mr O'Donoghue said.

bands on board," Chris said.

Some of Limerick's finest young talent forfeited appearance money for last Saturday's show including

the lads designed and circulated the posters themselves and did all the publicity."

Over 150 music fans came on the day and everybody was allowed one vote on

gig—music events at college often revolve around alcohol," Mr Landy said.

And while involvement in sports is often mentioned as a way of tackling boredom

drop-in music café in the city and that's what I'd like to see happening," he said.

For more information contact Massive Music on 061-412444.

Night of nostalgia for silver screen era

By MIKE DWANE

OVER 100 people have been reeling in the years on a night of cinematic nostalgia at the City Library.

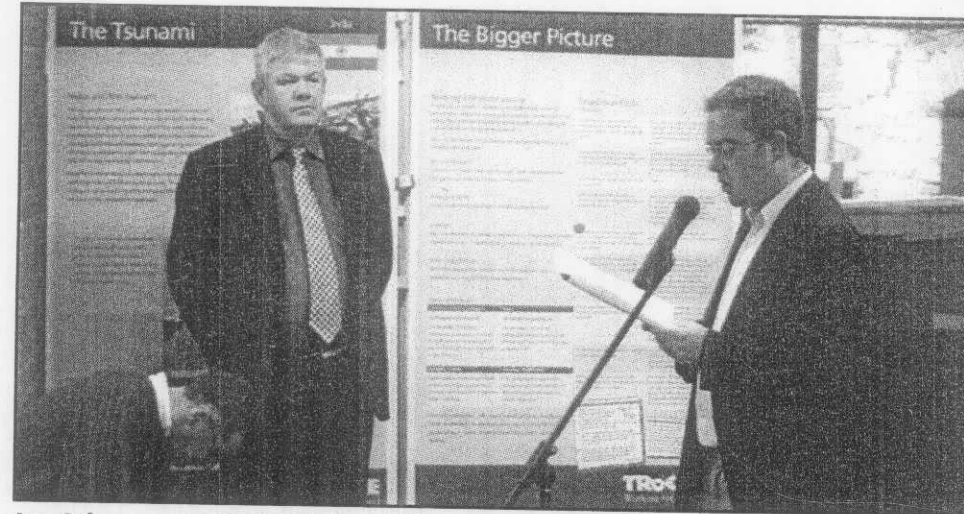
The latest in the series of free lectures, entitled Cinema in Limerick, was delivered by Keith Whelan, Ashbrook and Joe Coleman, Meelick and covered all the old picture houses around the city as well as movies that have in part or in their entirety been shot on Shannonside.

Mr Whelan said that with the rise in DVD and home cinema, European cinema audiences had slumped even further away from its golden age when family-run picture houses drew crowds all over the city.

"Cinema was the cheapest known form of entertainment around the world and in Limerick in the second quarter of the 20th century," Mr Whelan said, before going through the history of all the old cinemas which have since closed their doors.

These included The Coliseum and The Gaiety, O'Connell Street; The Tivoli, Charlotte Quay; The Abbey, George's Quay; The Thomond, Nicholas Street; The Astor, Thomondgate; The Royal, Cecil Street; The Lyric, Glentworth Street; The Movieland Twins, Thomond Shopping Centre; the City Theatre, Sexton Street; The Carlton, Shannon Street and, of course, the Savoy and Grand Central on Bedford Row.

It was recalled that at



Joe Coleman and Keith Whelan deliver their lecture on cinema in Limerick at the City Library

one point in the 1960s it was possible to sneak into the Carlton for free

through a side entrance on Henry Street.

Also at the Carlton in 1973 some reels got mixed up during a double bill rerun of Doctor No and Goldfinger, meaning 007 was in even more places than usual at the same time and causing total confusion for patrons and projection room staff alike.

Mr Whelan also recalled how at a screening of The Exorcist, inspired by demonic possession and the occult, there were strange goings-on at the Lyric Cinema.

"The film stopped suddenly and members of the gardai appeared in the cinema to announce that there was a fire around the corner in a warehouse at Davis Street and they

wanted patrons to move their cars, if they were parked there," said Mr Whelan of the film that already had a chequered history of mysterious mishaps during production.

The lecture was followed by a Q&A session with questions being fielded by Joe Coleman.

Next month's free lecture at the library will be delivered by Angus Mitchell, University of Limerick on "Alice Stopford Green—The Forgotten High Priestess of Irish Nationalism" on March 27 at 8pm.

The April lecture will be given by Dr Owen Devereux, also UL, on the building and early days of Mungret Cement Factory, with the date to be confirmed.

Arts groups are granted over €8,000 by City Hall

By MAIRÉAD NÍ CHAOIMH

A TOTAL of €8,350 worth in grants is to be given to Limerick arts groups this year.

Limerick Printmakers came out on top with a grant of €1,500, and the Fresh Film Festival, Féile Luimní and Tops of the Town Anniversary Event will all get €1,000 each.

The grants were announced at a City Council sports and culture committee meeting at City Hall this Monday, and are distributed by Limerick City Council under the Arts Act.

The Limerick Festival of Church Music, granted €800, will take place on the first weekend in March, and includes a televised Mass broadcast.

The Georgian House and Music programme was awarded €700.

Limerick Musical Society, the LSAD department of ceramics and the Kate O'Brien Weekend also got smaller amounts.

Musician Maighread Neligan got €350, artist Breda Lynch was given €300 and novelist and musician Martin Bennis got €300.

Limerick Printmakers, a printmaking studio and gallery providing facilities for artists to make prints using a variety of methods, was set up in July 1999 by three LSAD graduates, Claire Boland, Kari Fry and Melissa O'Brien.



The crowd who attended the lecture on Limerick's golden cinema era at the City Library last week

EX: LIMERICK DECADE

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