

# Two stabbings bring murder spiral to six in 13 days

Eugene Hogan  
and Charlie Mallon

TWO 20-year-old men stabbed in separate weekend incidents are the latest victims of the murder spiral which has claimed six lives in just 13 days.

Since Sunday August 12 six men have died violently, four from stab wounds, one blasted to death with a shotgun and one beaten to death. Four were aged

between 20 and 25 and two were in their mid 40s.

The latest victim was Brian Hanley from Beechcourt House, Meelick, Co Clare, who died in hospital early yesterday after a fracas which began in a pub. Mr Hanley, who was recently charged in connection with one of the largest ever drug seizures in the mid-west, has been stabbed to death in what gardai described as a "random row" in

Limerick city. As gardai yesterday opened their third murder investigation in the city in the space of just two weeks, Limerick East Labour TD Jan O'Sullivan said serious crime in Limerick must be acknowledged and tackled.

She urged the need for garda reinforcements in the city.

The victim was pronounced dead at 3am at Limerick Regional Hospital yesterday,

only an hour after being involved in a row involving several people on the north side of the city. The altercation is understood to have started in Hassett's Pub, at Hassett's Cross, at closing time and later died in hospital.

The dead man was arrested earlier this year following the seizure of 100,000 ecstasy tablets and later charged.

The Dublin murder victim has

been linked by garda sources to the drugs trade. Declan Gavin of Mourne Road, Drimnagh, was attacked while standing at a bus stop in Crumlin. On Saturday around 3.30am he was standing with a group of friends at a bus stop close to the Crumlin Shopping Centre when a silver Micra car pulled up.

The injured man was taken to James's Hospital but dies at 5.30 am.

He had been on bail from the Dublin District Court arising out of charges a £1.5m seizure of drugs.

Meanwhile a man being sought for questioning in connection with the shooting dead of Michael Rosney (25) of Belmont village, Co Offaly, last Thursday night, presented himself at Dundalk Garda Station on Saturday.

He was later transferred to

Tullamore Garda Station.

On the same day Albanian Isuf Kryzi (31) of Manor Street, Waterford, appeared in court charged with the murder of Thomas McAuley (44) at Manor Street, Waterford.

Gardai at Roxboro Road in Limerick are also continuing investigations into the murder of Anthony Casey (45) whose badly beaten body was found in a laneway off Parnell Street.