

# New personnel and new projects for Civic Trust

by Rose Rushe

THERE were three occasions to mark when Limerick Civic Trust, the oldest in the

board. Three new trustees appointed are Mark McMahon, president chair of the board,

O'Malley. And news of new projects such as the landscape amenity at Harvey's Quay was announced in the gracious environs of No. 2 Pery Square. A big

their new titles in his address, Trust chair Pat Daly spoke of "changing times indeed for the trust because along with new personnel on

work for the betterment of Limerick," he said. Director the trust, Denis Leonard presided over this changing of the guard and the presentation of two specially commissioned portraits of Mr Hoare and Mr Gubbins to them as honorary patrons. Limerick artist Billy Hayes had sketched the works from photographs for the surprise presentation.

Looking back over a quarter of a century on how Limerick Civic Trust, Mr Leonard told the Limerick Post that Paddy Hoare and he were the two real founders of the trust in the Limerick Image Committee in 1980.

"From that Limerick Civic Trust emanated, the first civic trust on the island of Ireland. Seamus was the second chairman and Paddy the third, and they are trustees since the foundation of the trust. The board decided it was appropriate they were recognised in this way [becoming patrons] and it's a nostalgic night for me".

"We'll still be friends and I will still be coming for money from them", warned the long-serving director.

Mayor Hourigan congratulated the Civic Trust on what is has done over the past 23

years, completing 118 projects on a budget of 12mn euro: "The trust

has had a key role in the enhanced heritage of our city which will be

a great legacy to the people of Limerick".

## Limerick housing estates to get new community wardens

LIMERICK'S housing estates, both private and publicly owned, will shortly be manned with community wardens.

With just the finer details still to be ironed out, the way is clear to launch the pilot scheme, approved by the Department of the Environment, in Limerick, in October.

Chairman of the Housing Strategic Policy Committee, Cllr Ger Fahy told the Limerick Post that in co-operation with the gardai, the Health Service Executive and Limerick City Council, he visited Manchester city some months ago to investigate the working of a similar community warden scheme there.

"It has been up and running for a few years now and is acknowledged as an all-out success in terms of having hugely reduced, almost eliminated anti-social activity on housing estates and of being a highly effective and positive mechanism that has improved the quality of life for residents," he said.

The pilot scheme in Limerick has received an initial allocation of one million euro but Cllr Fahy was emphatic that resources to continue and develop the scheme will not be a problem.

"The finer details are still being ironed out but while we will start off

with community wardens in one or two housing estates we will eventually have them in all of the city's housing estates. We hope they will be seen as a positive development for the areas they operate in. The objective is that the wardens will be regarded more as liaison officers who will interact between the communities, residents, the local authorities and the gardai. They will wear a low-key uniform just to identify who they are. They will receive training - again details of this have to be gone through - and they will work in co-operation with the City Council, Gardai and the Health Service Executive."

Cllr Fahy said that the initiative had come from the housing department of Limerick City Council and that there will be ongoing interaction with Manchester City Council in the initial rollout of the operation in Limerick.

The councillor, who is chairman of City Council's Housing Committee said that further details of the new scheme will be revealed once the finer details of the operation have been finalised.

"We are hugely optimistic for the benefits of this scheme for the city and look forward to seeing other local authorities in the country taking it on board when they see how successful it has become in Limerick," he said.



Newly appointed honorary patrons of Limerick Civic Trust, Paddy Hoare, left, and Seamus Gubbins were presented by chairman Pat Daly with their portraits drawn by Limerick artist Billy Hayes.

country, assembled in the Georgian House at the end of May. For the first time, two trustees, Paddy Hoare and former chairman Seamus Gubbins, retired from this position and were made honorary patrons by

Pat Daly, and Gerry Griffin.

Several new executive members took up office with the trust at the same time: Grainne Danaher, Jennifer Gabbett, Declan Lyons, Gerry O'Neill and Padraig

occasion, Bishop Michael Mayes attended the evening as did deputy mayor Michael Hourigan and trust stalwarts such as Billy Peacock and project manager Dorothy Meaney.

Congratulating all on

board, we have new projects such as the new entrance into the People's Park, a landscape amenity at Harvey's Quay and the Catherine Hayes project".

"This is just the start to a new programme of

