

Limerick's Richard battles cancer

Oct 19
2002
LL.

By ALAN JACQUES

LIMERICK-born actor Richard Harris who stars as Professor Albus Dumbledore in the Harry Potter films has been battling cancer in a London hospital for the last two months.

The 72-year-old actor has had a course of chemotherapy at a private clinic in Central London after he was diagnosed with Hodgkin's disease.

Hodgkin's disease is a cancer of the lymphatic system, which is a network of thin tubes that carry disease-fighting white blood cells throughout the body.

Harris fell ill in August



Richard Harris: recovering from Hodgkin's Disease (LL)

after filming the second Harry Potter film, The Chamber of Secrets, and was admitted to University College Hospital with a

severe chest infection.

The legendary Irish hellraiser is expected to be discharged in time to start work on the third Harry Potter film, The Prisoner of Azkaban.

According to Harris' London-based agent Sharon Thomas, he has responded very well to treatment and should be out of hospital very soon.

"He absolutely will be in Harry Potter. Filming is not due to start until March," his agent said.

Harris hit the big time as a movie star in his lead role in This Sporting Life. He got an Oscar nomination for his role as the Bull McCabe in John B Keane's epic, The Field, and has starred in such films as Gladiator, The Guns of Navarone, The Wild Geese and A Man Called Horse.