

# Sign of the times at old Ryan Hotel site

By **CLODAGH O'LEARY**

**CONFUSED** Ennis Road residents thought their eyes were deceiving them this week when the sign for the old Limerick Ryan Hotel reappeared at the Ardhu site.

A sign for the new Clarion Hotel Suites, due to open in the Spring had been put up two months ago, and locals were concerned when they saw it had been taken down.

"The Clarion sign had been put up over the old Ryan sign, but was taken down late last week, we were wondering what was going on, it was like we had stepped back in time," laughed one resident.

But there was a reasonable explanation for the change in signs—workers were just making way for a permanent sign for the new 61-suite hotel.

Managing Partner of the Clarion Hotel, Sean Lally, said everything is going according to plan.

"There has been great interest already in the new

hotel, in particular from a leisure perspective and for families. And the suites are appealing too from a corporate point of view, or for people who are going to a match in the Gaelic Grounds, or Thomond Park."

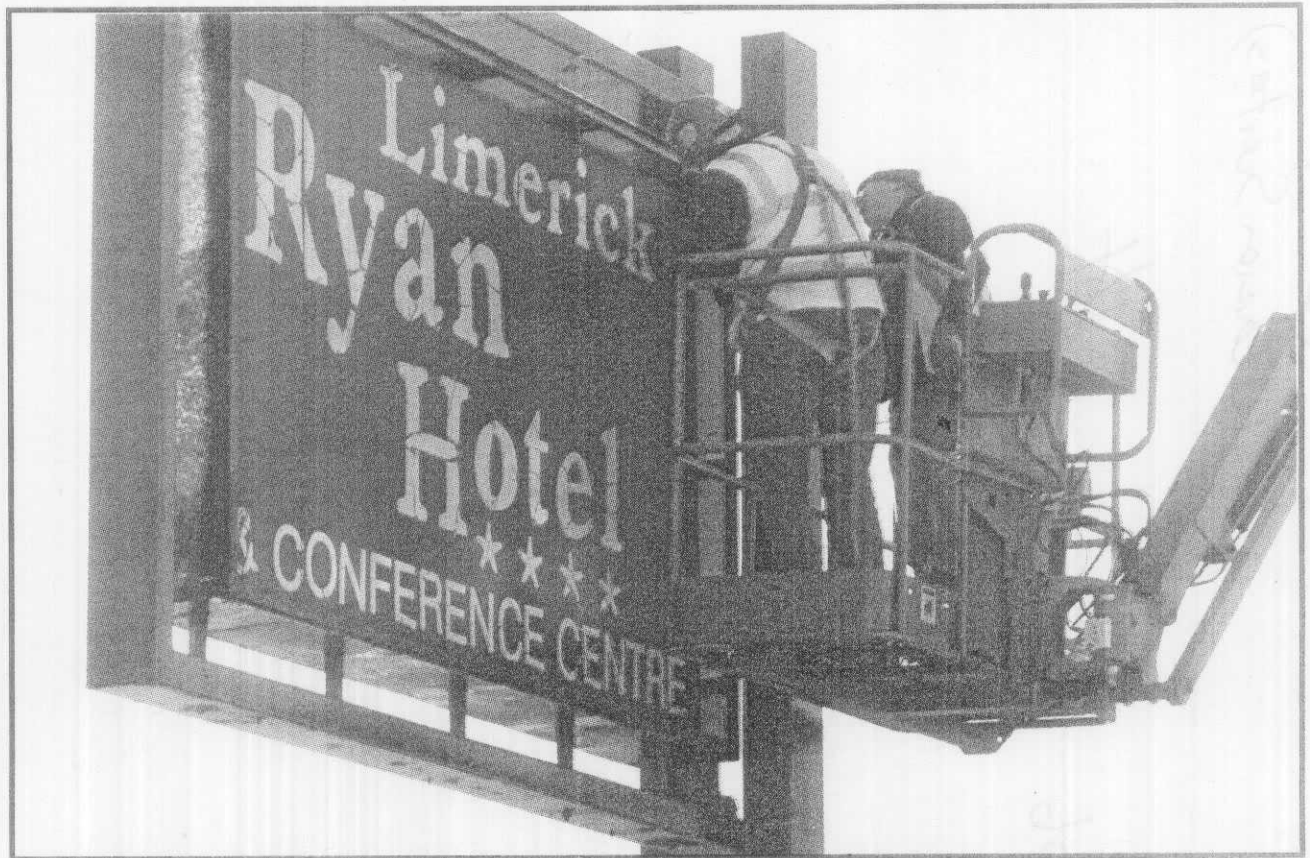
"And of course, we are walking distance to the city centre," he added.

The luxurious suites are the first of its kind in Limerick. "The suites are like a home from home and offer guests every comfort such as sitting room and dining area, TV in the bedroom and freedom to order takeaway food. Residents will have full use of the gymnasium complimentary and also have full access to the Clarion Hotels Facilities at Steamboat Quay," said Mr Lally.

Earlier this month, An Bord Pleanála granted permission for the second development on site—a mixed residential/commercial venture, subject to some 18 conditions.

And City Council granted permission to developers Budelli, in November 2005 to construct a glass corridor linking the old Ardhu House to the suites.

This has been appealed to An Bord Pleanála, and a decision is due in May.



Confusion over sign at Ardhu site

**THE GLEN**

Excellent food all day

**THE CORNER FLAG**

**SPORTS BAR**