

NEWS

HISTORY: FR BROWNE PICTURE COLLECTION TO BE DISPLAYED OVER THE SUMMER

Myers to launch WW1 photographs at the Hunt

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PHOTOGRAPHS taken by a Jesuit chaplain at the front of World War One are to go on display in the Hunt Museum.

Father Browne's First World War will consist of 40 photographs taken both at the front and in the trenches in Flanders and near the Somme, and will be opened by journalist Kevin Myers on July 9, running until September.

Mr Myers will also give a public lecture Father Browne, Limerick and Ireland's Great War the following day in the Belltable.

Frank Browne was born in Cork in 1880 and is perhaps more famous for his pictures of the Titanic, which he disembarked in Cobh, despite having passage to New York on the ill-fated voyage.

However, Fr Browne - who

appears in James Joyce's *Finnegan's Wake* as the character Mr Browne the Jesuit - would go on to become heavily decorated for his war efforts as chaplain, including the Military Cross. He served with the Irish Guards and Royal Dublin Fusiliers.

The collection forms part of the Hunt's contribution to the commemoration of the Great War and continue a series of photographic exhibitions appearing in the museum's exhibition gallery downstairs.

"We wanted to do something to commemorate WW1 and next year we will be doing something on 1916," explained Naomi O'Nolan, head of collections and exhibitions at the Hunt.

"Some of the images are harrowing, but they are wonderful photographs," added Ms Nolan, who said Mr Myers was "really excited" about coming to Limerick to open the exhibition and give the talk here.

Hugh Maguire, Hunt di-



A soldier goes 'over the top' at Flanders in 1917, part of Fr Browne's collection of First World War collection

rector, said that despite the horrors of trench warfare, Fr Browne had "managed to record much that is tellingly evocative and horrific".

The pictures were taken in Flanders in the region of

Ypres and also further south in the neighbourhood of the Somme.

The museum also hope to display some memorabilia of Father Browne's during the exhibition.

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Maxol seeks to redevelop at Chawke's

MAXOL, which has recently taken over Chawke's garage at the Dublin Road, is seeking to redevelop the petrol station.

According to proposals due to be lodged with Limerick City and County Council, two drive-thru wash bays will be demolished, and replaced with new car washes.

On top of this, the existing underground fuel tanks will be decommissioned, with new tanks replacing them.

Other changes to the forecourt will see a new petrol interceptor, while there will be a comprehensive road resurfacing programme.

New lighting and CCTV columns will also be installed. Maxol took over Chawke's after its original owner Tom Chawke announced that he and his family would step down from the business.

It was one of the few remaining independent petrol stations in Limerick city.

At the time, a spokesperson for Maxol said the firm "is delighted to see this long-established business join the expanding Maxol network and look forward to continuing the good work."

They said then plans were in place to invest in new facilities at the prominent site.

Monaleen NS seeking to add four new classrooms

AS the population of the Monaleen community continues to grow, the local national school is seeking to expand again.

The board of management at Monaleen National School is seeking planning permission for three new prefabricated classrooms, with all ancillary site development works.

It is not the first time the Castletroy school has sought to extend.

Only last year, the school also added three classrooms after securing planning permission from the former Limerick County Council.

The year before that, four new classrooms were built at the school.



Battle of Ireland's scone bakers

Janet McNamara, right, the Strand's hotel's pastry chef will bake off in Goodall's Best

Scone national title in the next week. With her is Claire Ann McKeown, of the Strand.

Labour councillor welcomes €4.1m fund for housing

THE Minister for Environment, Community and Local Government Alan Kelly has put more than €4m towards improving housing for the elderly and disabled people in Limerick, under his €91m housing investment package.

According to Labour councillor Elena Secas, the "much needed" sum of €4.167m will go towards improving quality of life for elderly in their homes, improving access to people with disabilities, making homes more energy efficient and reviving 33 vacant units.

"The grant allows extensions to be built for people with a disability, and also

housing adaptations to improve mobility, by funding items such as stair lifts and access ramps. This is hugely important for those affected as it can greatly improve their quality of life.

"Under the package, a further €564,018 is being provided towards local authority house adaptations and extensions to meet the needs of local tenants with a disability and to deal with overcrowding," she explained.

She added that €426,708 is being put towards restoring 33 vacant units and putting them back to use. Additionally, €315,000 will go towards making homes more



Cllr Elena Secas welcomes the Minister's new investment package

energy efficient.

"One of my huge frustrations is seeing boarded up special housing not being used so it's important to see the vacant units come back into the stream as quickly as possible."

She said that the new proves that Labour is working hard in addressing "more complex housing needs".