

# LEADER

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# Help me relive clothing factory stories



Suits you, sir! Mr. P Finucane, left, and Mr D Carroll checking the final fitting for local singing star Tommy Drennan at the Crescent Clothing Factory in 1961. We'll be publishing many more pictures taken at the now gone local clothing factories in the same era. See letter below from Gavin O'Gorman, who is seeking help from our readers



Danus was a byword for quality clothing in Limerick. In this picture, taken in 1961 by Donal MacMonagle, William Curran inspects the collar on a jacket

AS an avid fashion enthusiast, I'll soon be writing a series of articles based around the wonderful archive photographs in the Limerick Leader collection featuring the clothing companies that were such a huge part of local life for many years. These factories had such a major impact on the city, and beyond, throughout their lifetime and I would like to talk to some of the men and women who worked there about their experiences.

In this way, I hope to bring the archive photographs to life.

My inspiration came from reading a number of articles which appeared in the Leader's sister newspaper, the Limerick Chronicle, back in 1961. The pictures were taken by staff photographer Donal MacMonagle and they accompanied a series of articles under the catchy title Limerick Can Make It. For several months now I have been writing a

column in the Chronicle called Man About Town, offering advice to the men of Limerick about fashion, so I was very struck by these stories of how Limerick led the way in the clothing trade.

Having read through these articles and picked up a lot of fascinating information, the next step was to search the archive for the negatives of the many pictures which Donal took 54 years ago. Happily, I

was successful in tracking down many of them and I am really looking forward to bringing them to Limerick Leader readers in the coming weeks.

I am very much hoping to hear from former employees from the Danus, Crescent and Limerick Clothing Factories - or even people who were around Limerick in the heyday of these businesses who might have valuable knowledge for the upcoming series of articles.

If you would like to get in touch, I can be reached at the Leader office on 061-214503, through my mobile on 087 2151510, via email through gavin.ogorman@limerickleader.ie or alternatively please write to me at the Limerick Leader office, 54 O'Connell Street, Limerick.

Please help me to do justice to this proud Limerick story!

**GAVIN O'GORMAN**  
ASKEATON, CO LIMERICK