

Redundancy sum awarded

DEREK O'Dwyer, of Meelick Road, Ballynanty has been awarded a redundancy lump sum from his former employer M & Q Packing Limited, C/O Norman O'Leary & Company, River Front, Howleys Quay by the Employment Appeals Tribunal.

He took the case under the Redundancy Payments Act and was awarded around €4,000 based on his employment history.

Mr O'Dwyer had his claims under the Organisation of Working Time and Minimum Notice and Terms of Employment Acts dismissed by the tribunal.

Hairdressers win appeal

TWO LIMERICK city hairdressers have been awarded redundancy lump sums totalling over €7,000 between them by the Employment Appeals Tribunal.

Mary McNamara, of Clonard, Westbury and Lisa Cusack, of Cois Abhainn, Lower Park, Corbally took the case against the Michael John Hair Group, Corbally Centre under the Redundancy Payments Act.

The respondent confirmed their redundancies and stated he had an inability to pay them.

Calle Kate: Spanish honour for O'Brien

LIMERICK writer Kate O'Brien will this month have a second Spanish street named after her - this time in the city of Avila.

It is the second time in three years that O'Brien is to be so honoured in the heart of Old Castile. In 2007, a street was named in remembrance of the author in Gotarrendura, a small village in the Avila region.

On that occasion, Cllr Jim Long represented Limerick as deputy mayor and he will again travel to Spain as the city's first citizen on September 27.

"The last one took place in Gotarrendura but this time it's in Avila, which is much bigger and where Kate O'Brien actually lived for a period," said city arts officer Sheila Deegan.

"The invite has come from the Mayor of Avila to the Mayor of Limerick so I'm sure he plans heading out."

Politicians in the municipi-

MIKE DWANE
News Reporter

ality of Avila have decided to rename the street largely through the efforts of Jose Antonio Sierra, director of the Spanish Cultural Institute in Dublin until 1994. Kate O'Brien had strong links with Spain, Avila and its famous saint.

"The veneration of Teresa of Avila influenced Kate O'Brien's fictive representations of women. She wrote "Teresa of Avila" and give a series of radio talks on the saint for Radio Éireann in 1969," Mr Sierra said.

While Kate O'Brien was a product of Laurel Hill who regarded St Teresa as a heroine, themes of feminism and sexuality in her novels brought her into conflict with the Catholic Church and a number were banned by the censors in Ireland.

"Farewell Spain", a trav-

elogue published during the Spanish Civil War; also angered the authorities in that country to such an extent that Franco had her banned from re-entering for 20 years.

Ms Deegan said that "much of her work is infused with Spain, which is partly why she is held in such regard there". Apart from travelogues and hagiography, O'Brien novels such as "Mary Lavelle" and "That Lady" are also set there.

And while the author, who died in 1974, is being honoured in Spain, her native city continues to pay tribute as details are finalised for the annual Kate O'Brien literary weekend, set to take place from February 24 to 26 next year.

Among the writers confirmed are novelists John Boyne ("The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas") and Molly McCloskey, journalist Frank McNally and poet Katharine Towers.



Honour: A second street in Spain is to be named after late Limerick author Kate O'Brien

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