

HISTORY: NEW LOCAL AUTHORITY MEMBERS WILL NOT 'ROBE'

City's red robes a thing of the past

PICTURE: SEAN CURTIN

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THE sight of councillors wearing robes on ceremonial occasions is a thing of the past now the local authorities have merged.

Mayor Kathleen Leddin yesterday presented her historic red robes to the Limerick Museum and Archives which is moving to the former Franciscan's Church in Henry Street.

It will be preserved by Limerick Museum and Archives and displayed among other rare items in the city's history including a mace bearer's uniform and a civic sword-regarded as one of the oldest in the country having been bequeathed to Limerick by Queen Elizabeth I.

Mayor Leddin said: "I am deeply honoured to have been able to serve as the first citizen of my home city. The



Mayor Kathleen Leddin with museum curator Brian Hodkinson at the Franciscan's Church in Henry Street

Museum's collections are a mirror to Limerick's social and economic past and are a treasure for the people of Limerick and its visitors. I'm delighted that the Mayoral Robe will now take its place

among these wonderful heirlooms from our past."

From the 13th century onwards, the Mayor and council of Limerick were treated like a local parliament. Robes and regalia were in daily use

but later evolved into ceremonial items. However, with the merger with Limerick County Council now complete creating a brand new local authority, councillors will no longer wear robes.

SEODA SHOWS The Delines play Upstairs@Dolans

The Delines play Upstairs@Dolans this Friday at 8pm. Led by vocalist Amy Boone and joined by keyboard master Jenny Conlee, fellow Portlander Sean Oldham, songwriter/novelist Willy Vlautin and pedal steel guitar

HISTORY Alternative tour of city graveyard

THE Limerick Historical Society will conduct a tour of Mount St Lawrence Cemetery on Wednesday, June 11 at 7pm, led by Tony Browne, who will give an insightful and alternative walk through this historic

PICTURE: DAVE GAYNOR



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Jailed: Gordon Ryan, of Rosbrien



PICTURE: BRIAN GAVIN/PRESS22

Robe no more: ceremonial attire ditched

MAYOR Kathleen Leddin marked the end of an era yesterday when she donated her robe of office to the City Museum, which is setting up its new home in the Franciscan Church on Henry Street. The abolition of Limerick City Council and its replacement with the merged

authority now means its councillors will no longer don the ceremonial robes. Previously, with a couple of exceptions, councillors have always worn robes at ceremonial occasions such as the granting of the Freedom of the City and mayoral elections. See page 3

*Ex: LIMERICK LEADER
 4TH JUNE 2014
 PAGE 1 & 3*

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