

# Cllr Ryan favourite to be Mayor

By DEARBHLA LOOBY

LIMERICK'S new Mayor will be elected at the City Council's annual meeting on June 26.

And Labour's Cllr John Ryan is hot favourite for the job.

"It is not by any means a foregone conclusion that I'll be the next mayor. An election will be held on the day, and anything could happen. None of us will know until then," said Cllr Ryan.

He refuted claims that he will be elected Mayor as part of a pact with Fianna Fáil revolving around the privatisation of the refuse service.

The leader of the Fine Gael party in City Council, Alderman Pat Kennedy, confirmed that they too will be putting forward a candidate for the mayoral election.

"We have not yet made a decision on who our candidate will be, but we believe that this is our year to have a Fine Gael councillor elected as Mayor."

"As the second largest party in Council, it is right that the mayoralty comes to us this year," said Ald Kennedy.

"My understanding is that a pact was made between Labour and Fianna Fáil, guaranteeing that Limerick's next Mayor would come from the Labour councillors," he claimed.

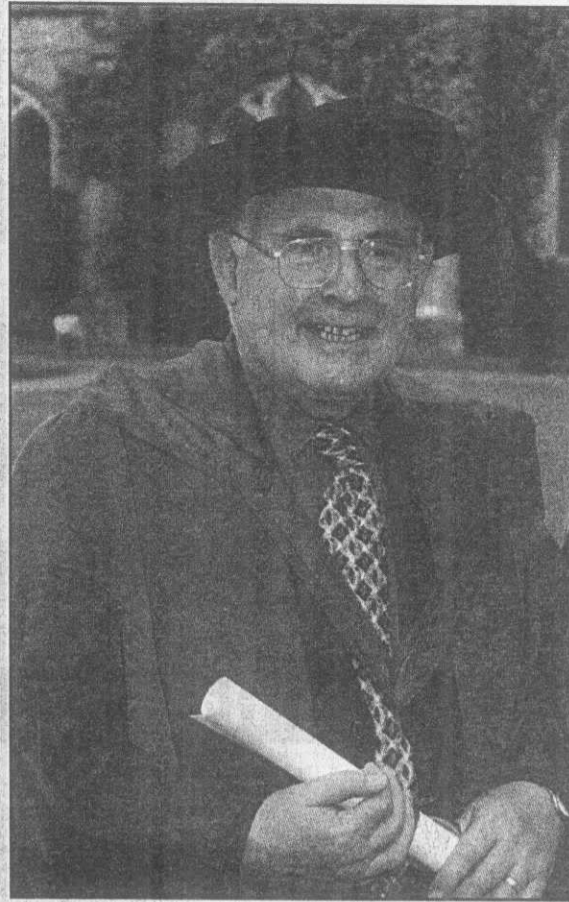
He said that already a lot of people saw Cllr John Ryan as "the privatisation Mayor".

"This pact will make Cllr Ryan the mayor who will oversee the privatisation of the refuse service in Limerick city at a cost of at least £125 to citizens annually," stated Ald Kennedy.

Ald Kennedy denied claims from other

councillors that Cllr Michael Hourigan would be the Fine Gael candidate for Mayor.

And he said that he had no reason to believe that his colleague would "automatically be elected as deputy Mayor".



Dr Patrick Kelleher, director, Cork Institute of Technology, who received a honorary doctorate from UCC for his work in education

## Pat receives honorary UCC award

LIMERICKMAN, Pat Kelleher, who is director of the Cork Institute of Technology, has received an honorary doctorate from University College, Cork.

Mr Kelleher, originally from O'Connell Avenue, was honoured for his role as a distinguished representative of an entire sector and for his vision and determination in education.

He received his doctorate at a ceremony in UCC along with Prof Enda McDonagh of UCC; Myrtle Allen of Ballymaloe House, and Professor Denis O'Sullivan, retired, of UCC.

Dr Kelleher was born in 1939 and received his schooling in the city. His father, a garda, died when he was young.

He went to UCC where he graduated with first class honours in chemistry in 1961, and subsequently undertook research at Imperial College London and the State University of New York at Buffalo.

He returned to Ireland to take up the teaching appointment at the Crawford Institute in 1963.

While there, he ensured that close collaboration with industry led to curriculum development as well as work placement that served the needs of students and enhanced their prospects for employment.

He was appointed principal of the Cork Regional Technical College in 1993 and director of Cork Institute of Technology in 1997.

## Alzheimer's group hosts fundraising tea parties

By JESSICA QUINN

THE Alzheimer Society of Ireland is calling on Limerick people to pack their bags... tea bags that is.

This year's annual Alzheimer National Tea Day will take place on Thursday, May 25.

Tea will be served throughout the city for the small donation of £1.

This year's target for National Tea Day 2000 is to raise £35,000. The money raised will help provide care and services for people with dementia and their carers.

The Limerick branch of the Alzheimer Society of Ireland is one of the most active branches in the country. It operates a day care centre at Kilmurry Court, Garryowen.

The centre provides advice and information, a support group for carers, home support and many other vital services.

National Tea Day will provide necessary funds for the branch's work.

Limerick's Tea Day celebrations were officially launched at the society's day-care centre this week

provide a support system for Alzheimer sufferers and their carers. The society's day-care centre is currently open four days a week. However they hope to increase this to five days a week. Extra funding from Tea Day will help to achieve this.

Deputy Mayor, Cllr Dick Sadlier, praised the society and the centre adding that, "Tea Day is absolutely of crucial importance. Without this event, funding is not available and this centre could not open. If everybody could give some money it would be a lot of help."

Alzheimer's Disease is now the fourth largest killer in the West. There are 33,000 people with Alzheimer's in Ireland.

This number is increasing all the time, said Ray Keane, Mid-West development officer for the society.

"The disease is more prevalent as people are living longer. As a result in the year 2020 we expect an increase in sufferers and services will have to increase. Funds are vitally needed at the moment if we are to help even half," he said.

For Tea Day, you can host your own tea party

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