

its decision to put tax relief for housing investors and should instead cut relief to the standard rate. Otherwise, he said, it would affect the house rental sector: thousands of people preferred to rent rather than buy a house.

Soccer and television stars honour Mick Crowe.

Strike hits city but concert at Heritage park and hotel suggested for Greenpark

Shut drug pub
Refugees to get

Search on for young actors hungry for film success

By EUGENE PHELAN

SHE discovered Kate Winslett, the star of the Titanic, and she will be in Limerick until next Wednesday to find stars for Angela's Ashes.

Ros Hubbard, casting director of the \$50m screenplay of Frank McCourt's Pulitzer winning book, says she will see over 2,000 children during her time here in Limerick.

"We want to give Limerick the best crack of the whip; it is important for the integrity of the film," she said.

Most of the auditions are taking place in the Glentworth Hotel, but they are visiting numerous schools from Sexton Street CBS to Southill Junior School and onto Limerick School of Acting and Spotlight Stage School.

Ms Hubbard is looking for "ordinary children" she hopes to turn into stars. In particular they are looking for children who look skinny, hungry or sick with "characterful faces, interesting personalities and some acting ability, though experience is not necessary."

She stresses that "natural" is very important. They hope to get three, four or more of the characters here.

"If we don't it is just that they are better elsewhere, no other reason," she said. Initially they are looking for 12 children, mainly boys. So what does she look for when they walk into the room?

"It is the look, their expressiveness, personality. I just ask them stupid questions and get them to talk to me," said Ros as she takes a break from her onerous job in the Glentworth Hotel.



Keith Murray, 14, and Philip Rennicks, six, from Spotlight Stage School, who are hoping for a part in Angela's Ashes.

"The response has been fantastic, especially since your article in the paper. Everybody has been so good to us since we came to Limerick," said Ms Hubbard, whose company, Hubbard Casting, is based in the Irish Film Centre in Dublin.

She has a bubbling personality and it is easy to see why she is so successful at her job.

Ros and her team know their job. They have worked in the past with director Alan Parker on The Commitments and Into the West in which Ruadhri Conroy, now starring on Broadway, was discovered.

She says that perhaps her greatest discovery was Kate Winslett who she found as a 15-year-old, and, of course, is now one of the most sought after movie stars

after her performance in the Titanic.

After the initial interviews they will call back a select few for second calling, though she stresses with delight that it will be Alan Parker who will have the final say.

"Along with personality and looks we need focus. It is important that children can concentrate and take direction," she said.

Two Limerick lads who have a head start are Daragh Naughton and Brendan McNamara who have already starred in the War of the Buttons where Ros was also casting director.

Filming by Paramount Pictures will begin on September 11 and those taking part would have to set aside eight weeks.

However Ros promised

that they would be well rewarded.

"We will also have tutors on set to ensure that they keep up with their school work," she added.

Ros Hubbard knows what she is looking for. She was involved in the casting for Into the West and The Commitments.

"We will need three different people to play Frank and will need three more for Malachy as well," she explained. They are also looking for a three to four-year-old to play Michael; a 13-year-old to play old Madigan. In particular they are looking for 10-year-olds as Frank's school pals.

If interested you can ring Hubbard Casting in Dublin at 01-6717101, 6717138 or 6717276, or call the Glentworth Hotel where Ros and her team are staying.

City motor fined £50

A 24-year-old Limerick man found guilty of careless driving in a fatal accident has been fined £50 by Limerick District Court.

The accident which led to the death of 57-year-old Mary Cooney Byrnes, 17 De Vere Court, took place on September 28 last at Collins Avenue.

Eamonn Griffin, 41 Lee Estate, was driving in the Roxboro area of the city when he hit the deceased who had failed to use the pedestrian crossing.

His solicitor Joseph Griffin told the court that the weather on the night was misty, and dull and quite dark, when Ms

Byrnes, who was wearing a grey shirt and dark trousers, was crossing the road.

Griffin said that the accident was caused by the driver's failure to use the pedestrian crossing.

Griffin said that the driver was not aware of the pedestrian crossing and that he was driving at a speed of 20 mph when he hit the deceased. The court found the driver guilty of careless driving and fined him £50.

ht), presenting a Compaq Presario 2240 to School, who recently won the Limerick Expo competition. Looking on are: Gerry Clancy, Ciaran Fitzpatrick, of the PC Centre, Henry Reilly and Teresa Griffin both of St Brigid's (LL)

HS

ASTERSON — Limerick, May 13, 1998, at the Regional Hospital, Michael, 18 Albert Park, Janesboro. Very deeply regretted by his loving wife, Agnes; sons, Aidan and Michael; brothers, sisters, daughter-in-law, grandchildren, nephews, nieces, relatives and friends. R.I.P. Removal from coffin's Funeral Home to Our Lady Queen of Peace Church, Janesboro, on Thursday evening at 7.30 o'clock. Requiem Mass on Friday at 12 noon. Funeral afterwards to Mount St Oliver Cemetery. (f16/c)

McMAHON — Limerick, on May 13, 1998, peacefully, at the Regional Hospital, Patrick Paddy, 11 Daly Avenue, Janesboro, late C.I.E. and Universal Studios. Sadly missed by his loving sisters, Nona, Kitty and Mary; brother, John; brother-in-law, sister-in-law, nephews, nieces, other relatives and a large circle of close friends. Rest in peace. Removal from Thompson's Funeral Home, Thomas Street, to Our Lady Queen of Peace Church, Janesboro, on Monday evening at 7.30 pm. Requiem Mass on Tuesday at 11 am. Funeral afterwards to Mount St Oliver Cemetery. (c)

O'GRADY — Brian de Courcy The O'Grady; born September 2, 1943; Kilballyowen, Bruff, Co. Limerick, and Sussex England; died May 7, 1998, after a long illness. Funeral, May 18, in Sussex. (f16/f16/195)

APPLICATION TO PLANNING AUTHORITY
Limerick County Council: Application is being made to Limerick County Council by the board of management for Ballylanders National School to erect a toilet block extension at Ballylanders, Co. Limerick. (chq.)

Treasure

● FROM P1

with full details available at the priory. Their present church, he recalled, was once the city's theatre.

The foundation stone was laid on September 18, 1941, and a silver trowel—which will also be on display at the exhibition—presented to Very Rev. J.B. O'Donoghue.

On May 25, 1948, the Augustinian community moved into the adjoining priory which, before that, was known as the Country Club. Earlier, they had resided across the street.

Fr. Ryan revealed that part of his brief was to plan for the future. "We have had plans drawn up and these will be made available for inspection by the public next week. Any changes will be related to church and religious matters."

□ SEE P14



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