

Alan Kelly elected to two EU committees

RECENTLY elected Munster MEP, Alan Kelly has been appointed to two key committees of the European Parliament.

Mr Kelly will be a full member of the Internal Market Committee and will also serve on member of the parliament's Agricultural Committee. "Given the devastating effect on this recession on many families across the country, it is my intention to provide the European element that will bring about a jobs recovery," the MEP said.



Alan Kelly MEP and Deputy Jan O'Sullivan

"That is why I am honoured to have been selected for the Internal Market and Consumer

Protection Committee." The Internal Market committee's role is to co-ordinate national legisla-

tion to allow the free movement of goods and services across Europe. Mr Kelly hopes to use this committee to remove legislation that inhibits Irish businesses but also to make sure that Irish consumers are protected under law.

"This is a committee that was established to remove obstacles to companies doing business abroad. It would be my intention to try to remove some of the unnecessary regulation that is strangling business in Ireland from sell-

ing their products across Europe.

"It also serves to protect consumers from rip-offs orchestrated by rogue companies," he added.

Over the course of the next parliament there will be changes to the single farm payment so the Agricultural committee is of key strategic importance to the Irish economy. "As someone who comes from a rural background it is my intention to work to protect the family farm," he said.

DISTRICT COURT BRIEFS

By ANNE SHERIDAN

Farranshone man is accused of assaults

A FARRANSHONE man has been charged with two counts of assault causing harm. Kevin McNamara, 21, with an address at Shelbourne Terrace, Farranshone, was charged by Garda James Muldoon with assault causing harm on the New Road, Upper Pennywell Road, and on a further person on the South Claughaun Road, on June 18, 2008.

Judge Aeneas McCarthy remanded Mr McNamara on continuing bail to appear before the court again on September 10 next, when a book of evidence is expected to be presented.

Bail for Corbally man accused of theft from a local pharmacy

A BOOK of evidence is due to be presented at Limerick District Court in September in relation to a Corbally man who stole prescription drugs from a pharmacy in the area.

Sean Moran, 19, with an address at the Hermitage, Mill Road, Corbally, was charged by Garda Kieran Crowley with stealing Gerax and Zanex tablets, valued at €54, from Sullivan's pharmacy in Corbally on May 11 last.

Judge Aeneas McCarthy remanded Mr Moran on continuing bail to appear before the court again on September 10 next, when a book of evidence is expected to be presented.

Direction of DPP is required on charges against Moyross man

THE DIRECTIONS of the Director of Public Prosecutions are required in the case of a young Moyross man who has been charged with a host of public order offences and two burglaries.

Jeffrey Kelly, 18, with an address at Pineview Gardens, Moyross, has been granted station bail by Judge Aeneas McCarthy at Limerick District Court.

The court heard Mr Kelly allegedly broke into a property at Emmett Place on June 7 last, but nothing was taken by the accused. He was also charged by Garda Brian Culbert with the burglary of two flat screen TV's between June 6 and 8 last. He was also charged by Garda Elaine McDonagh with four public order offences - resisting arrest, failing to provide his name and address, being threatening and abusive, and intoxication, all dated on July 8 last. Solicitor Sarah Ryan asked to be assigned to the case, and requested all statements. He is due before the court again on September 1.

Southill man accused of stealing groceries

A SOUTHILL man returned to Tesco's in the Roxboro shopping centre two days in a row to allegedly steal groceries worth over €300.

Charlie Casey, 19, with an address at Clonlong, Southill, was charged by Garda Aoife Farrelly with stealing €250 worth of groceries from the store on April 21 last, and stealing a further €63 worth of groceries on April 22.

Mr Casey appeared before Limerick District Court late last week after a bench warrant was issued for his arrest relating to another charge of theft - namely €35 worth of petrol from Amber Filling Station.

Mr Casey was arrested on Thursday morning last and was conveyed to Roxboro garda station, where he made no reply to the new charges brought before him. He is due before the court again this Thursday, July 23.

City is honoured to receive Frank McCourt's ashes

■ Mayor will represent Limerick at a memorial in New York

By ANNE SHERIDAN

THE Mayor of Limerick, Cllr Kevin Kiely, said it is a great honour for the people of Limerick that some of Frank McCourt's ashes will be brought back to the home of Angela's Ashes.

"I appreciate how difficult it is for the McCourt family at this time, and what they are going through. I really appreciate that they will be honouring Limerick by burying his ashes in Leamy's school.

"It's a great honour for the people of Limerick that the family have decided to remember us in this way," said Mayor Kiely.

The Fine Gael councillor intends to travel to New York in September for a public celebration of the writer's life, along with another senior official in Limerick City Council.

The ceremony will be held in Symphony Space, Broadway, while some of Frank McCourt's ashes will be brought back to Limerick later in the year, his brother Malachy has confirmed.

Mr McCourt said his eldest brother passed away peacefully at a hospice in New York on Sunday afternoon.

There has been a massive outpouring of tributes and grief on both sides of the



Mayor Kevin Kiely signing the Book of Condolences for the late Frank McCourt in City Hall this Tuesday afternoon

PICTURE: OWEN SOUTH

Atlantic since the author passed away from meningitis, following a battle with the skin cancer, melanoma.

One 51 year-old pupil of his from his time at Stuyvesant High School in New York said she hadn't seen him in 34 years, but still cried upon hearing of his death.

"I'm very proud to say he was my teacher," said Faith Reilly. "He brought the classics alive. I was not a big reader back then, until he taught us 'Moby Dick.' All of a sudden, I spent all my time in the library because of Frank McCourt."

His Pulitzer Prize-winning book, Angela's Ashes, made him famous in 1996, but in the eyes of his students, he was a star long before then.

Ironically, McCourt once said that his favourite writing exercise as a teacher was having students write their own obituaries.

In addition to telling the Limerick Leader he'd like his ashes scattered over the Shannon when he died, he also told a New York theatre critic that he'd like to die in his sleep.

"That's the best way to go, dreaming of the future. Then I'd be cremated and my ashes would be scattered in a castle just outside of Limerick...."

"Maybe," he added, with typical mischief.

Man is accused of banging his girlfriend's head off kerb

By PETULA MARTYN

A 20-year-old man who is accused of banging his girlfriend's head off a kerb appeared before Limerick District Court via video-link from

Limerick Prison.

Gary Mason, with an address at Edward Street, is charged with assault causing harm on the grounds of Laurel Hill Secondary School on June 5, 2009.

The court was told that

the injured party contacted Mr Mason, her boyfriend at the time, and they organised to meet each other on the grounds of the secondary school later that night.

Inspector Seamus Ruane told the court that

the pair started arguing when they met at 9.50pm. It is alleged that Mr Mason punched the

woman in the face and she tried to run away, "he caught her and banged her head off the kerb".

Gardai received a

report of the alleged incident and when they arrived at the scene they found the young woman with blood stains on her face. The court heard that her left cheek and right eye were swollen.

Judge Aeneas McCarthy

accepted jurisdiction in the case.

He remanded Mr Mason in custody to appear before the court again on July 22. "Mr Mason must be brought to court on that date," the judge said, not via video-link.