

# News

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Arts integration

■ KILMALLOCK'S Friars' Gate Theatre has been invited to deliver workshops to schools across the country following the success of its 'Integration through the Arts' seminar. The workshops will include topics such as anti-racism in the secondary classroom led by Friars' Gate Education and Outreach Director Fiona Quinn, 'One Island- Three Communities' with drama in education specialist Joanna Parkes and 'Integration in Youth Drama Settings' with Colin Thornton, social inclusion officer at the National Association for Youth Drama (NAYD). Schools and youth organisations wishing to avail of free workshops from the Friars' Gate Education and Outreach Department should contact the theatre on 063 98727.

### Dell contract

■ DELL in Limerick has landed an important contract to provide IT solutions for a major Irish company. Dublin-based Mainstream Renewable Power confirmed that it has signed a contract with Dell that will see it become the company's new hardware technology provider. Mainstream was looking for a solution that would transform and modernise its IT environment and Dell met its needs with precision, according to a spokesman. Mainstream and Dell worked together for some time to identify the best proposition for the renewable power company before the contract was agreed.

### Couch to 5k

■ STAFF and students at Coláiste Mhuire secondary school in Askeaton will launch its 'Couch to 5K' training programme this Friday January 16, consisting of a 12-week training schedule followed by a 5k run/walk in Curraghchase in April. The programme requires each participant to complete three physical activity sessions a week with a group session on Friday afternoons. Participants will use an app called 'C25K Free' which can be downloaded to any smartphone and will act as a guide for each physical activity session.

## HISTORY

# Stand up and fight for Limerick military history

by Alan Jacques  
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PRIVATE collectors and members of the public are being asked to contribute to a newly announced exhibition focusing on Limerick's military heritage from The Sieges of Limerick in 1690-91 to the end of the First World War in 1918.

According to Limerick Museum and Archives, 'Stand Up and Fight' will deal with Limerick's ties to international military campaigns and the social and economic effects of these at home.

The launch of the exhibition this April will coincide with the 100th anniversary of the Gallipoli campaign (April 1915 - January 1916) which claimed the lives of 800 members of the Royal Munster Fusiliers.

Supported by the Limerick Branch of the Royal British Legion, the Royal Munster Fusiliers Association and the Irish Naval Association, the exhibition will be preceded by a roadshow at Limerick City and County Council Civic Buildings, Merchant's Quay on Saturday January 24 from noon to 5pm.

Military experts will be in attendance on the day to speak with members of the public interested in donating images, letters, stories, medals, objects relating to the experience of Limerick people at times of combat.

"While much of the exhibition will be concerned with the participation of Limerick men and women in the First World War, it will also deal with Limerick's long military and naval tradition," Limerick archivist Jacqui Hayes explained.

"From the departure of the Wild Geese in 1691 with Sarsfield to the dressing of international armies by Tait's clothing factory, Limerick's history is intrinsically linked with military history," she said.

Among the exhibition themes will be the regiments that drew their recruits from Limerick, the campaigns in which Limerick soldiers fought such as the Napoleonic, Crimean and Boer Wars, barracks in Limerick, famous Limerick generals such as Lords Gough and Clarina and Sir de Lacy Evans, and Limerick's participation in the First World War.



One of the First World War recruitment posters that would have been a prominent feature in Limerick and (right) a Limerick member of the Royal Flying Corps.

Limerick recruitment in other countries such as the USA, France and Australia will also be covered, while the Limerick naval tradition, as exemplified by the connections between Coonagh and the British Navy, will also feature. "While primarily focusing on Limerick's lengthy military history, the exhibition will also examine the impact of the military on Limerick's social history in these centuries, such as the numbers who joined the armed forces, particular areas which had a tradition of recruitment, family military traditions and the role of women," said Ms Hayes.

The impact of the military in Limerick's social life such as the popularisation of rugby, the development of marching bands and service overseas by Limerick recruits will also feature.



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