

# LEGacy...

We're feeling distinctly old. LEG threw on its Vans and stepped out onto the city's beat-en paths in June of 2001. The idea was we'd ask a few people what they thought about having a piece of paper that would come out every couple of weeks letting people know about the nooks & crannies of the town, and what was happening in them. Who was playing guitar, turning on record decks, getting into costume, reading poetry, showing their paintings or photographs, running charity gigs, or any other number of activities that could slip neatly into the definition of 'event'. And when and where they were doing it. We promised we'd write as best we could, design it up nice and drop it into a host of places where people could find it. We also promised it'd be free to anyone who wanted to read it, the more the merrier etc. Lots of people didn't open the door. But we were young and scruffy, so we didn't mind. A few people did open the door though, more than enough to come to a decision that was no more concrete than "sure we'll do it for three months and see what happens". The first LEG put its foot down on October 01, 2001 in a flurry of giddy excitement that, in all honesty, was visible only within the four walls of our then flat-stroke-office.

Three months came & went & turned into six. All of a sudden we were one year old, then we were five, and this month, October 2010, the Limerick Event Guide prints its 120th issue on its 9th birthday. A different beast now, with an office that doesn't have a bedroom & a hotpress, 5 staff all running in different directions with their own specific boxes to tick before coming back to a table together twice a week to discuss, debate and ferment, a crew of writers, photographers, printers, distributors & well-wishers, and a wealth of experience behind us & new plans & ideas ahead of us. We're already looking forward to our tenth.

Back in the summer of 2001, the goal of the magazine was to try and cover all the activity that was going on in the city that wasn't being covered in a consistent way by the bigger, badder media. There was a large handful of people running a whole lot of gigs, but long before mybook & facespace,

we're not mad about the idea of writing about ourselves here at LEG towers, but it does feel like a bit of a mark to hit 9 years old, which we are, this month. so we're throwing a party and inviting our friends. that's you by the way...Jody ...



it was very, very hard to let you & I know about it. At the LEG office, we found ourselves in the same 'expensive flyers Vs expensive advertising' arm-wrestle, as we were fond of throwing the odd party ourselves. So about it came, 20 black & white pages with another 4 pages of a scrappy, colour cover that would do it cheaper, realer and in one handy pocket-sized piece. Since then, the LEG has worked hard to promote the acts coming through the city & talk to the people who want to see them. Either as audience of artist, we didn't mind whether you'd sold a million records or none, been to a thousand shows or none, we thought we might be able to help a little. After nine years, hopefully we were on to something.

**"sure we'll do it for three months and see what happens"**

It's been a hilly, windy, sunny journey since that bright-eyed start. The trip's been filled with conversations with some of the finest international artists who thought to visit us, but one of the biggest pleasures was watching, meeting, listening to & talking to the huge talent that comes from & lives within this little city's walls. A casual glance in any direction at any time of any day will show up talent that you can only sit back, smile & feel warm about. Great bands, great djs, great artist, actors and writers, great photographers, thinkers and talkers..... hundreds of them do their work and lay their head down between Raheen and Corbally, Castletroy & Dooradoyle, on a daily & nightly basis. If we're celebrating number 9, it's them and you we'd like to do it with, which is why on Friday, October 29 our favourite room in Limerick, will host some of our favourite bands from Limerick. That room would be Daghdha Space, St. John's Church, and those bands would be Brad Pitt Light Orchestra, We Should Be Dead and Walter Mitty & The Realists, with the guitar-slinging Nick Carswell & Damien Drea also stage-stepping. There's really no point in a party without an after-party, so it's round the corner to The Loft, where we turn off the guitars & turn on the decks, turn our attention from our favourite Limerick bands to our Limerick favourite djs, and a line up that includes Leon, A2DF, Broken Funk & more to be announced.

We'll be adding to the line up in the coming days and weeks, so stay tuned to eightball.ie or search & like one or both of 'Limerick Event Guide' and 'Eightball PM' on facebook for details direct to your head! We're tired but happy, enjoying where we are and who we're here with. Big thanks and bigger love for all the help and support till now, we hope we returned it. See you in a corner of the church on the 29th to swop some LEGends.

**The Limerick Event Guide 9th Birthday Party, featuring Brad Pitt Light Orchestra, We Should Be Dead, Walter Mitty & The Realists, Leon, A2DF, Tony Roche, Broken Funk & plenty more presents Atjazz in Bentley's Courtyard on Saturday, September 25 with support from Rob Kelly & Pa Mulqueen.**

## First On the Guestlist...

### Brad Pitt Light Orchestra



Brad Pitt Light Orchestra offer a style of music that's as classy as a Cuban cigar and as captivating as watching a full-scale orchestra. Founding members Ann and David Blake, who both provide vocals, started the band in 2006, and a recent Hot Press review described their debut album 'Lowering the Tone' as "Arresting musicality coupled with a dark, dry wit". 2008 saw BPLO crafting two EP's; 'Fireside Chat' and 'Small Contradictions', which caught the immediate attention of Today FM DJs and music gurus Alison Curtis and more recently Paul McLoone. The success of the (mostly) Limerick outfit has also caught the attention of other 2FM music moguls such as Dan Hegarty and Tom Dunne with BPLO's music finding a cosy home on the national airwaves of both 2FM and Today FM ..

### We Should be Dead



The tongue-in-cheek bubblegum-pop of the unusually named 'We Should Be Dead' demos a Limerick talent that's hard to ignore. Gaining critical acclaim from their infectious melody-laden debut album, followed by a successful year in the US, perseverance has paved the way to their recent stature as one of Munster's premier indie-pop acts. WSBD, from the day they formed, went from strength to strength and the end result was the critically acclaimed album 'Forget Romance, Let's Dance'. The beginning of 2010 saw the introduction of two new band members to WSBD, and a sound with bigger production and more adventure, all the while maintaining their pop principles. Of late, the band have recently been announced on the 2010 Hard Working Class Heroes line up and have set about on a tour that covers the whole country conclusively.

### Walter Mitty & The Realists



Perhaps one of Ireland's best kept secrets, the explosive Walter Mitty & The Realists deliver a mixture of funk, indie and outer space mayhem that's made the band's genre tough to pin down. The band originally began as a three piece in 2005 with Niall McTaidhg (Guitar, lead vocals), Paul O'Shaughnessy (Percussion) & Colin Bartley (Bass guitar, double bass) and they quickly gathered momentum by doing live sessions with 2FM, eventually making their way onto bills in prestigious competitions such as Murphy's Live and Hard Working Class Heroes. The winning of Indie Week Canada as well as the addition of Niall's brother Conor McTaidhg to the band saw the four piece harness their ability and put themselves in line for the acclaimed debut album, Green Light Go!

## Someone Else's LEG



This month's feature writer, the Limerick Leader's Alan Owens, runs his hand up & down 9 years of the LEG.

Tasked with writing a lovely tribute to this stupendous magazine, I was initially quite wary. "I'm not the man for the job" I wailed, before pausing and considering that, well, I have been reading this rag, sorry mag, for each and every one of the last nine years, and did spend a glorious twelve months as an editorial contributor under the stern gaze of the delightful Ms Zoe several years ago.

In fact, while still caged in the towering and elegant blocks of the University of Limerick, I was invited to begin writing for Le LEG on a regular basis with little (or no) experience in such a task, so you could say, as Jody constantly reminds me, that this magazine helped me start my career, which has led me to my present occupation. Thanks!

Seriously, I can remember being a miserable, whippet faced second year student in UL, discovering that the many and beguiling goings on in Limerick City were actually being regularly documented by the Limerick Event Guide, a memorable turning point in my burgeoning social life. All of a sudden I became aware that my home city actually had a music/arts/ents scene that was worth checking out, and in turn documenting, and I have been a regular and dedicated gig-goer ever since.

Started in late 2001 so Jody could tell the city about his regular Soul Clinic nights in Dolan's, the magazine has become a touchstone for both the mainstream and alternative in Limerick equally over the course of an impressive nine years in operation, providing news, reviews, interviews for both upcoming and established bands, artists, poets, actors and more, as well as providing the sometime editor with a space to launch his (quite regular) polemics.

Of course the magazine has changed size and shape over the years, but has retained a genius combination of wit, acceptance for all sectors and communities and an eye for the up-and-coming that few others provide. On my return to this city in late 2006 from a period abroad, I was delighted to find that the magazine was still in existence and indeed flourishing. There was a sense then, and now, that the magazine was capturing a zeitgeist, a weird feeling that there was something going on in our little city here, and to hell with the rest of them in Dublin, Galway, Cork, we were staying put, and happy to be here.

Ok, we have gone through some tough times in Limerick, with more to come, but a free magazine with a regular circulation in the 6,000-plus category is essential to the survival of any kind of scene we might have in our fair city. And it is a bustling, healthy, happy, active and eclectic scene at that, let me say that loud and proud.

Let's see Le LEG keep going for another nine years, and beyond. And keep the rants coming, we love 'em so. Happy Birthday.