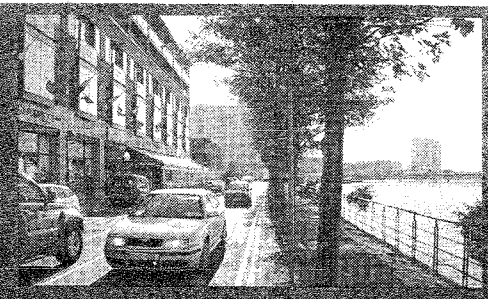


ment
remodelling
See page 4



FREE INSIDE
Special supplement for the
first local newspaper week

to

1
1

To Paris with love: Granny's Intentions send Daly abroad to avoid disruptions



John Hockedy, Johnny Duhan, Jack Costello, Cha Horan and Guido Divito giving tickets for a weekend away to Paris to Mick Daly (centre with ear plugs). The concerts are on this Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights in the Belltable Arts Centre on O'Connell Street

PICTURE: ADRIAN BUTLER

Alan Owens

SEMINAL Limerick band Granny's Intentions, who have reformed for three sold out gigs in the Belltable, have come up with a unique solution to ensure that theirs will be the only music coming out of the theatre this weekend.

The band have made a present of a trip to Paris to garage owner Mick Daly, located in the laneway behind the Belltable, whose ongoing row with the theatre has seen productions repeatedly disrupted since it was renovated over 12 months ago.

"We are sending Mike to Paris, we have to because he is in a 'grinding mood' at the moment," explained Cha Horan of the band, who is a school friend of Mr Daly's.

"If we are to play and have three successful gigs we will have to have a

bit of silence so our music will come out over Michael's. That is part of the deal."

Fellow Granny Jack Costelloe said: "It is to give peace a chance!"

Noise emanating from Daly's laneway garage has repeatedly disrupted productions in the theatre since it was renovated last year, the sounds of angle grinders and revving engines having been heard during productions, as well as delaying proceedings when Arts Minister Jimmy Deenihan officially opened the building recently.

Mr Daly claimed he is simply "going about his work".

"I am working here every day for 40 years. I work at eight or nine o'clock, I am doing that for the last 40 years," he said. The band have paid for Mr Daly to fly to Paris, covering all of his costs, flights and accommodation.

He said in response: "I have to go away

for the weekend. I am leaving tomorrow night. I have to. They (Granny's Intentions) are playing here, I won't be able to work because the noise is too bad. I won't be able to stick the noise, the music. I am a fan but I have to work as well. I have to go away, I won't be able to stick it".

Daly has been in dispute with the Belltable since renovations began at the theatre and has alleged that his business was adversely affected by the work. He claimed renovations failed to comply with conditions of planning attached by An Bord Pleanála. This was denied by the Belltable's management.

The Limerick Leader understands that legal proceedings are currently in train between the parties regarding the disruptions, and that Belltable

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

mooted

y. The City Council
essential to usage as

il meeting, but it has
red until next month
embers the chance to
s the plans.

im Long said it is the
t secret" the British
it Tesco is looking
new supermarket in

ermarket is in the
is site]. This is the

TINUED ON PAGE 2

N
V
A
K

Da

SC
Ke
an
ac
off
ev

an
th:
wi
gu
fo
he
Co

th
Mc
fr
fo

we
O'
po
au
wi
lif
28,

ca
ye
th
ou
aft

int
his
kn
th
inv
he
lif
ha
ho

C

9

year.

Pat Keating, the new chief executive of the company, stated in their latest annual accounts that they have "many exciting projects in the pipeline", and a key objective in their strategic plan is to complete a port masterplan.

need to have a plan that will marry the docks with the needs of the city," she said.

She said the development of the docklands areas would be "in tandem with a working port", adding: "In other places docklands

opportunities (up to €1 billion of private investment) in its strategic plan 2010-2015.

"However, the board has identified significant external threats, relating to primarily national policy and regulatory matters, they may prevent

€1.1m last year.

With Foynes being the main hub of the company's operations, last year cargo throughput of 9.4 million tonnes was recorded - up 23 per cent on the previous year.

Ms McGuinness also lists their "noteworthy

in 2010 amounting to €2.5m, excluding and social welfare. Its staff were reduced from 44. Direct also amounted to €1.1m for its 12 direct largest being Pat Keating (€21,696

Mick sent to Paris to avoid gig disruption

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

management are fearful that the theatre may have to close if an agreement cannot be reached.

Daly rejected any notion that he was trying to "sabotage" the Belltable. He said he was willing to "willing to negotiate" with management.

"All I am looking for is a bit of understanding. There was talks about compensation to me whilst the renovations were going on. I got nothing out of it and there has been no discussion since," he said.

Meanwhile, the jubilant members of Granny's Intentions were gearing up to play three sold out gigs in the theatre. Featuring the original 'Limerick lineup' of Cha Haran, Johnny Hockedy, Jack Costelloe, Guido DiVito and Johnny Duhan, the group said they were "delighted" with the response to the gigs.

"We are getting back together," laughed Haran. "Ah sure it is brilliant, it is great. Like ourselves, there will be grannies at the shows."

Known initially as 'The Intentions', the band made their debut in the Savoy in June 1966 on a bill that included old-fashioned, variety-style entertainment, but quickly stood out among the crowd.

While Joe O'Donnell and Joe Heelan were involved at the early stages, the classic line-up is the one that will take to the Belltable stage.

"This is the original

line-up. This is where we started out in 1966. We left Limerick and went on to Dublin and then we said we would have a go and moved to London. We were signed by one of the biggest record labels at the time, Deram, some very big bands were on that label at the time," remembered Cha.

Songs like Story of David, Sandy's on the Phone and Never an Everyday Thing saw the band grow in profile, while they also began to incorporate a soul element into their music.

Something of a fluid group, legendary guitarist Gary Moore, Heelan and Pat Nash played with the band when members drifted in and out, but "they were all Granny's". Cha said there will be a tribute to the three men during the show, who are now deceased.

Duhan has remained in the music business, and his 'To the Light' was inspired by the band's years on the road - and it is this series of songs that the band will play in the Belltable, along with some Granny's classics.

"We will definitely do some Granny's classics, but it is a surprise, it will be a show - a nice night, worth going to," Cha laughed.

To mark the unique gathering of the band, HMV Limerick are to celebrate their reunion this Saturday. From 2pm, local DJ Nicky Woulfe will dig out original Motown 45 records from his own collection and will play them live in store.



Granny's Intentions at the dockers monument

Vizes Court residents continue fight as

Nick Rabbitts

RESIDENTS protesting at the development of a multi-million euro elderly care home in Vizes Field have vowed to carry on their campaign - despite the fact contractors have begun to survey the project.

Councillors passed the project following a series of meetings last winter. But the issue sharply divided councillors, with many backing the local residents who want to keep a rare green space in the city.

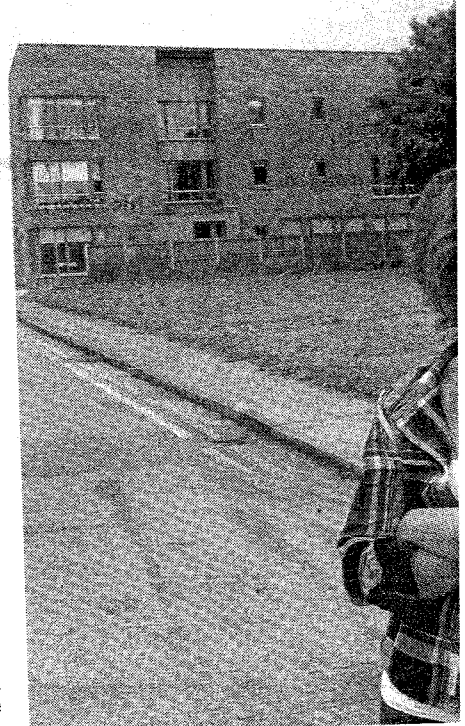
They have held a number of events to highlight the fact the area is well used, and have pointed out that there are other derelict buildings in the city which could be converted.

Now Bowman Street resident Valerie O'Connor, having seen the development plans is furious after it emerged all the trees in Vizes Field will be scrapped.

She has also reiterated her belief that the second phase of the Vizes Court project is "substandard."

"We showed the council that the design was done to below minimum standards for social housing, and were ignored. With the issues around Priory hall [in Dublin], is it wise to build a proven sub standard building?" she asked.

Ms O'Connor added: "A



Valerie O'Connor pictured beside Vizes for the elderly.

local applied for planning permission two years ago and was refused on the grounds that a small building facing onto the field would cause a loss of amenity and light to neighbouring properties and would devalue them. The council have admitted that this will reduce our properties' value, but go ahead anyway."

Independent councillor John Gilligan brought

several build Hall last winter set to take p to show the to help the ur situation construction the city.

One of t supporting t was form Minister Wil launched a s on Limerick

Southside rezoning p

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

concern councillors have because we have the city centre strategy.

is "defiantly opposed" to any plans for a large supermarket outside of the city.

"I have had umpteen people, including local business people coming

permitting way which the city cen no question the type o that would