TOM BROWNE files a special report from SHANNON AIRPORT

# **BOYD'S PAINT** DEPARTMENT

### WALLPAPER OFFER

FREE Tool Rack, size 24" x 6", which holds up to 96 tools, with purchases of £20 or more using

SPECIALS

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Uno, Valspar and Weathershield Paint - Free Draw in which all our Paint Customers are included this week-end.

#### SANDTEX PRODUCTS

Instore demonstration Friday and Saturday this week, 3rd and 4th May. Video and demonstration of the wonderful new Exterior

#### Gloss Acrylic Paint. SPECIAL OFFERS

Extra keen prices now available on a wide range of Paints, Roller Blinds, Floor Tiles and Wall

FOR EXPERT guidance on painting and decorating come in and discuss your requirements with our experienced and helpful

We invite you to avail of Free Parking while shopping on our premises — Entry at Rear, opposite St. Michael's.

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**VOCATIONAL EDUCATION ACT, 1930** 

### **NOTICE OF PUBLISHING** TIME AND PLACE OF AUDIT City of Limerick Vocational **Education Committee**

NOTICE IS hereby given that the Audit of the Accounts of the above named Committee for the periods 1st January, 1982, to 31st December, 1984, will be opened in the Administration Offices, Athenaeum Building, Upper Cecil Street, by Mr. L. Gavin, Local Government Auditor, on the 14th May, 1985, at the hour of 10 o'clock when and where objections to any matter contained in the said several Accounts will be heard. The Accounts will be open during office hours, for seven days before the Audit, to the inspection of all persons interested.

Dated this 2nd day of May, 1985.

MUIRIS O CEALLAIGH, Chief Executive Officer.

Administration Offices, Adhenaeum Building, Upper Cecil Street.

# LIMERICK CORPORATION **TIDY DISTRICTS** COMPETITION 1985

Limerick Corporation invites entries in its 1985 Tidy Districts Competition under the following

(1) Best District. (2) Best Housing Estate.

Application forms and details available from City Engineer's Department. Closing date for receipt of completed application forms is Friday, 7th June, 1985.

Consideration will also be given to the presentation of prizes under the following categories:

(3) Best Shop Front. (4) Best Commercial Shopping Street.

# **AUCTION SALE**

Clearance of new and unused surplus engineers tools, garage equipment and farm sundries.

Comprising of:- 12-speed pillar drills, bench grinders, angle grinders, vices, trolley and bottle jacks, electric welders, spray guns, large socket sets. 34", 1/2" drive; air regulators, air sanders, body repair kits, carpenters' power tools, lathes, power saws, planers and various hand drills, pipe wrenches, tow chains, ropes, ladders, shovel, etc., and many other useful items to suit all purchasers, which will be offered by auction at:-

THE RIVER ROOM MOTEL, NEWCASTLE WEST, on Sunday, May 5, at 2 p.m.

Viewing from 12 p.m. on morning of sale. Terms: Cash - Cheque (Bankers Card).

THINKING OF

TRAVELLING NORTH?



Shannon leader: Liam Skelly.

# Soaraway Shannon will fly even higher

Refuelling at Ireland's international crossroads.

# Dully lauds tip local team

THE AER Rianta team re-Following his return this sponsible for promoting Shan-non is led by Mr. Michael week after a "worthwhile" tour of the U.S. and Canada Guerin, deputy general mana-ger, and includes Mr. Charles McCarthy, aviation consulomoting Shannon, deputy neral manager Mr. Michael Guerin attributed the success of the airport during 1984 to Shannon Aviation Fuel and the During the year they made several coast-to-coast visits to the United States for talks with airline "availability of fuel to the charter airlines at a competitive price. This

development was

responsible for 61,000

passengers through the airport", said Mr. Guerin.

prospect for promoting additional traffic in future

years". He said that all at

Shannon were delighted with the turnaround in the

irport fortunes. "It is very

do not become complecent

as the only way success can be maintained is by ensuring

competitive pricing to all

Commenting on the 1984 achievement, operations manager, Mr. Barry O'Shea, said: "In addition to the

excellent results we also

saw a great improvement in the quality of services provided both for passenger and the airlines". He said

that this was achieved by the commitment of the staff and

by improvements in physical developments. Mr. O'Shea

dded: "The Government

decision to increase charter

traffic through the airport and to maintain a significant price differential between London and Shannon also

contributed". He pointed

out that another heartening

esture of the year's result:

was the continuing improvement in the ratio of

North American passengers

comparison to Dublin. This

ratio for embarking and

was now 71 per cent in Shannon's favour.

disembarking passengers

using Shannon in

ortant, however, that we

We now consider it our best

In a tribute to Mr. Guerin and his executives, chife executive, Mr. Martin Dully says: "In my experience I have seldom come across a group of executives who searched so continuously and so hard for new ideas, some of which are rejected almost immediately, some of which are re-shaped and pushed into the corporate system for detailed consideration".

#### Sensitive

Mr. Dully adds: "Even in a good here is sensitive to the fact that this airport's viability could be threatened overnight by - A recession, a rapidly falling dollar, a change in Aeroflot's operating policy, a new FAA regulation on noise level, a change n Government plicy relative to air fares and by unreasonable wage demands — even by a serious hike

in energy costs."
He says: "Yet the pattern of response from Shannon over the years suggest that practical solu-tions, no matter how hairbrained they might seem initially, will be found as required - now and in the

# Limerick Comhaltas

CONGRATULATIONS to the following County Limerick com-petitors on their successes in the All-Ireland finals of Ceol an Gheimhridh held recently in Belmullet, Co. Mayo: Daisy Kearney, Ballyhahill, 1st. in senior storytelling; John Larkin, Templeglantine, 1st in 14-18 stringed instruments: John and ihis brother, Willie Larkin, 1st in duet 14-18; John and Willie were joined by their sisters. Brid and Siobhan in the open quartette and obtained 2nd place; Ardagh got 3rd place in both the under 14 and 14-18 sets, and Templeglantine got 2nd in the 14-18 8 hand dance. Brenda Curtin, Tournafulla got 1st in both stringed instruments and English

☐ IN A fund-raising effort to help finance the Limerick Co. Fleadh Cheoil, the running cost which will be in excess of £2,000, the Ardagh Fleadh Committee are holding a ceili and concert at Morans, Carrickerry on this Friday night, May 3, with the famous Cheeves Strawboys topping the bill.

THIS IS a timely reminder for prospective competitors at the Limerick Co. Fleadh Cheoil, which will be held in Ardagh on Saturday and Sunday, June 15 and All entries accompanied by fees, must reach the Fleadh Secretary, Mrs. Joan O'Connor, Glenville, Ardagh, Co. Limerick, not later than Friday, May 31. This rule also applies to the under 15, under 18 and senior co. polka set, competitions, which will be held on Saturday night, June 15.

agautifus

# Teenagers took hub caps off Mercedes

By LEADER REPORTER TWO YOUNG men who took the

hub caps off a Mercedes told Askeaton Court that they had thought the car belonged to a John Gammell (19), of Pound Lane, Rathkeale, and Dan McCur-(19), of 3 Roche's Road. Rathkeale, pleaded guilty to tak-

Supt. John McCormack, pro-secuting, told Justice M. C. Maguire that at 10.45 p.m. Mrs. E. Sheehy parked her car in the car park near the Coach Inn, Kilcornan, and returned by 11 p.m. to find the hub caps gone. She reported the matter, and three days later the two defendants were

# Statements

Mr. Seamus Casey, solr., defending, pointed out that defendants made statements in which they had said that the reason they took the hub caps was that they thought the car - a green Mercedes — belonged to a cousin, a Michael Slattery. John Gammell, replying to Mr.

interviewed — they were hawkers

by occupation and had no previous

Casey, said in evidence that they meant no harm, they thought it was the car of a Michael Slattery, down from Belfast, and had intended giving the hub caps back the following morning.

Justice: "But you had them for

three days." Mr. Casey: "He immediately admitted it to the Gardai and made

Each defendant was fined £100.

SHANNON Airport turned over a phenomenal total of £49 million last year, it was relevaled this week. All but £9 million was

revenue earned by Aer Rianta the balance taken by airport authority's two subsidiaries, Shannon International Hotel and Shannon Aviation Fuels. The net profit alone on Aer Rianta's £40 million trading was £31/2 million. This spectacular performance merits national recognition. It was

#### achieved mainly by independent action: by the dedicated Shannon based Aer Rianta team, who explored every air-lane of the Atlantic in search of new business.

Revenue record

Although a new revenue record was established in 1984, and passenger numbers, at 1,090,752, began to climb again towards the 1977 record of 1,174,380, the arrow aimed at further achievement in 1985 would appear to be on direct line, with traffic and sales up 1 0 per cent for the first three months. The Aer Kianta team have plotted the course meticulously to ensure that 1984 was not a one and only perform-

And the plans are exciting. Hampered for many years by the multi-national oil companies, whose expensive fuels at Shannon 'frightened off' the airlines, Aer Rianta now plan to purchase fuel on the "spot market" to supply the charter companies. Competitively priced fuel - the airports chief executive. Mr. Liam Skelly, is convinced - will be a major incentive along with other enticements forming an irresistable Shannon package.

An indication of how the airlines

are responding can be guaged from the contract just signed by Acr Rianta with American Transair, the reputable Indianapolis based irline that will be operating over 300 flights through Shannon this summer. Using the short range Lockheed Ten-II, Transair alone will carry 100,000 passengers in and out of the airport from spread of cities in America to destinations all over Europe.

This deal alone will net £2 million in shop sales, landing fees, inflight meal supplies and fuel uplift – the latter being a prime factor in winning the business. Details of similar agreements with a number of other American charter airlines are to be announced shortly.

# Recovery

The launching of Shannon Avia-tion Fuels a few years ago played a significant role in the recovery programme and helped to obliter ate the doom year of 1980. Under a barter arrangement with Aeroflot, fuel has been shipped in from the Soviet Union

to pay for facilities and services. This activity gave Shannon access to the American charter airlines that had been operating through other European airports, where fuel was available at a more competitive price. Fuel supplies, however, have been limited under the barter agreements: the Soviets shipping

only the quantity necessary -about £4 million worth annually to Shannon - to pay for the services and facilities provided to Aeroflot. An increase in technical transit traffic movement in recent years has led to a demand for a greater fuel supply, encouraging Aer Rianta to explore the spot mar-

Says Mr. Skelly: "If we can supply fuel at an attractive price, and this can only be achieved by direct purchase, Shannon can become the major refuelling stop in Europe". He explains that the "charters" who have been using Gatwick and other overcrowed airports because of cheap fuel are not satisfied with the other facilities - sometimes passengers have to be kept on board during the

refuelling stops.
"Shannon is the alternative, if the price is right, and we aim to capture this market", he says convincingly.

Perhaps the most forward move in the Aer Rianta programme is the plan to launch their own campaign, particularly in the U.S., to promote Shannon as a "destination airport". In the past Aer Rianta concentrated solely on the promotion of transit traffic with the other state agencies involved in tourism promoting the terminal side of the business.

# Feedback

But the Shannon terminal market has not been "fully tapped", he claims. This is the feed-back from the Acr Rianta team who have visited the U.S. promoting the technical stopovers. "Our re-search has shown there is tremendous potential in further developing the terminal business. Our plan is to fully explore this market", the Shannon chief execuive revealed.

Brendan O'Regan oft repeated the proverb: "Nothing succeeds like success". This no doubt is his successor's motto. Having accomplished an astonishing task propelling Shannon back into profitability in the past two years - for the gloom at the turn of the decade when losses amounted to several million is etched indelibly in the airport's history - Liam Skelly's goal is to activate further progress. Conscious of the attractions of a colourful environment, his aim is to make Shannon the world's most distinctive airport - relaxing lounges, pleast no-rush shopping facilities and landscaped lawns. And some £1 million was ploughed into physical improvements out of the 1984 profits.



TRANS WORLD

Preparing meals in the famous kitchen.

### VITAL STATISTICS

☐ THE SHANNON shops turned over £11,877, 951.00 in 1984, an increase of 37% on the previous year. Catering activities, always a loss maker because of concessions to staff, broke even at £5,014,541. Tours and banquets, up. 23%, returned banquets up 23% returned £3,697,000 while Mail Order sales reached £9,819,847 an 18% increase on 1983. Revenue from landing and parking fees amounted to £4,276,639 a 25% improvement. Passenger load

fees reached £2,179,499, up 19%, while rents and conces-sions netted £2,490,322. ☐ THE AER RIANTA boom contributed significantly to the region's economy. The correany paid out some £11,690,280 in wages and related costs. There were further gains to the region in payment for material and services which totalled

£8,460,000.

MORE THAN one million

Shannon in 1984, with a 23.6% improvement in the North
America travel trade. European
and U.K. passenger traffic declined, however – with a drop of
4.7% on the London route and
Continental passenger numbers
were slightly down, 0.7%. Gross passenger movements reached 1,090,752, up 10.1% on 1983. Terminal passenger figures improved by 9.7% to 632,603, while transit passengers climbed to 458,149 from 415,318 in 1983.



Relaxing amid the bustle.

# **FURTHER FACTS**

☐ DURING THE year Shan-non Aviation Fuel sold 3.8 million gallons of aviation fuel to charter airlines. ☐ THERE WAS a 150% increase in training flights. Cargo traffic rose by 4.1%.

☐ AEROFLOT, the Soviet Airlines, was the biggest single

transit customer with 149,000 ☐ AMONG THE new projects building, a new airbridge, exten-sion of the hydrant refuelling system, renovated food shop in the Duty Free and the provision of a new 2 million gallon fuel □ THE CATERING Division

managed by Mr. Jimmy Kelly, established a new one-day record in September - serving ☐ THE DUTY FREE Shops.

ander the management of Mr. Bill Moloney, also established several records - exceeding £100,000 sales in one day in September. During July, Au-gust and September, sales of £1 million were recorded in each ☐ AER RIANTA has now

trimmed its Shannon workforce to 730 - but hundreds are

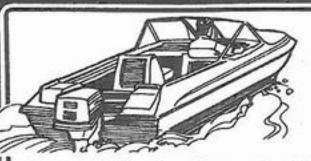


Terminal business.



In the Burlington Hotel, Dublin, at the opening of a conference, "Technical Certification of Building Products", were three members of Southern Chemicals Ltd., Askeaton (from left): Joe Condon, Fergus O'Brien, T.D., Minister for State at the Department of the Environment, who opened the event, organised by the IIRS; John Nash, and Ivan O'Riordan.

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In the month of May I will hold clinics as fol-

Thursday, May 2: Sha-nahan's, Mungret, 8 p.m. Greenhills, Caherdavin, 9

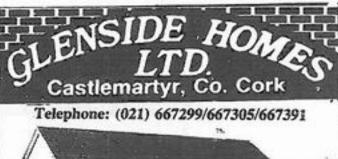
Friday, May 3: Ryan's, Fedamore, 9 p.m. Thursday, May 9: Black Battery, Garryowen, 7.30 p.m. Spotted Dog, Janesboro, 9 p.m.



Friday, May 10: John C. Ryan's, Oola, 9 p.m. 'Thursday, May 16: Village Fountain, Ballyneety, p.m. Community Centre, Bruff, 9 p.m. Friday, May 17: Noel Foley's, Murroe, 9 p.m.

Thursday, May 23: Community Centre, Knock-long, 8 p.m. Reardon's, Caherconlish, 9 p.m. Friday, May 24: Guerin's, Castleconnell, 9 p.m. Monday, May 27: Community Centre, Cappamore. 8 p.m. Buckleys, Doon, 9 p.m.
I will be available each Friday night at O'Carroll's, Kilteely, from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., and Saturday at 2 Glenview Gardens, Farranshone (2.30

p.m. to 6 p.m.1 Tel. 54522. Willie O'Dea, T.D.



SHOWHOUSE

THIS SUNDAY: 3 to 5 p.m.

TWOMEY'S CROSS, CRECORA

Write or phone for brochure.

The Limerick Branch of the National Council for the Blind of Ireland would like to thank the people of Limerick City and East County Limerick for their generous response to the recent church gate collections. They may be assured that the money so given will be spent in the service of the visually handicapped and blind of Limerick City and County.

ANNE O'KEEFFE,

Chairperson. (Sponsored by Barclays Bank, Limer-

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