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# Limerick



# Leader

CITY EDITION

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SATURDAY, JULY 30, 1993

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## Fr. Gerard flies solo

Fr. Gerard O'Meara, of Ballinacorney, Limerick, was the only passenger to board an Aerflot flight from Moscow when it landed to refuel in Shannon this Tuesday night. Fr. O'Meara was returning to Paris via Cuba where he has been a missionary for over 30 years. He had been home for a number of weeks.

## Limerick Leader

The Limerick Leader will not be published next Monday, a Bank Holiday, and the company's offices will remain closed all day. Other issues of the Limerick Leader and Limerick Chronicle will be published as usual next week.

## Weather

Cloudy weather with some outbreaks of rain is forecast by Shannon Met Office for the Limerick Region this Saturday. Sunday and Monday will be dry with sunny spells but broken weather is expected to follow on Tuesday and Wednesday.

## BRIEFING

### Support for boxing club

St. Francis Boxing Club, threatened with extinction because of a takeover of their premises by a property developer, are confident they can persuade the developer to include a premises for them in his new project.

At a public meeting at the Oleniworth Hotel on Thursday evening, several public representatives lent their support to the cause of the club which is situated across the road from the Town Hall.

### Holiday at Post Office

There will be no deliveries of letters or parcels in the Limerick postal area on Monday next, a bank holiday. A special night despatch of letters will be made up at 9.30 p.m. that night, and all city letter boxes will be cleared and included in this despatch. Attendances at telephone exchanges and call offices will be the same as on Sundays.

### Wang booms

Wang Ireland, the Castletroy-based computer company, recorded a 68 per cent growth rate last year, the annual report states. With a total investment of £27 million in Ireland, Wang now employs over 550 people with a target of 1,000 employees by the end of 1997.



Mr. Parkes and the Parkway.

# SHOPPING CENTRE PLAN AT PARKWAY

By CONOR KEANE

**AN APPLICATION FOR the development of a £4.5 million shopping centre on the Dublin Road has been lodged with Limerick Corporation.** And if the project gets the green light 150 people will be employed in the construction phase and up to 250 full-time jobs will follow, it was learned this Friday.

Planning permission is being sought by Parkway Motels Ireland Limited for an overall development of 3,774 sq. metres, approximately one quarter the size of the Crescent Shopping Centre, at their complex.

Mr. Michael Parkes, managing director, emphasised that existing bar and catering facilities at the Parkway would be incorporated into the new development, and would be remaining open. "Our existing facilities will be completely refurbished and the new development has been designed to marry both together", he said.

### Bedrooms

"The building will be completely double-glazed and soundproofed and the front of the building will be redeveloped."

However, the bedrooms of the motel and a portion of the existing building will be demolished to make way for car parking if the development gets the go-ahead.

The proposed shopping centre, which will be completely enclosed, will along with the catering and bar facilities be known as the Parkway Centre.

There will be a supermarket/drapery area of 2,500 sq. metres, 16 shopping units covering 1,500 sq. metres, a bank, multi and service areas covering 853 sq. metres.

Mr. Parkes added that additional land had been acquired by them adjacent to their existing six-acre site for extra car parking.

"We hope to have the centre completed within 18 months of the commencement of construction", he said.

Mr. Parkes added that they had been planning the development for the last 12 months. The exterior of the building would be all-brick, giving it a "upmarket" appearance.

He also pointed out that much thought had gone into the provision of carparks and

## Dogs Home to be closed down soon

By EUGENE PHELAN

A WARNING was issued this week that there could be "absolute chaos" in Limerick city and county from next month — as the Dogs Home is closing on July 31 and from then on there will be no collection of strays.

On average, the Limerick Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals collect over 80 dogs each week, the majority of which are put down.

The chairman of the society, Mr. Bill Cussen, this week firmly laid the blame of the closure at the hands of Limerick County Council and Limerick Corporation.

### Government

"Look what the local authorities have done in areas such as Waterford, Tipperary and now Kildare. We are asleep down here," said Mr. Cussen.

In other areas dogs' homes have been built with the help of 50 per cent grants from the Government.

All efforts by the local society to get the Corporation and County Council started on such a scheme have failed.

"The county council are willing to move alright once the corporation provide the site, but despite repeated requests the corporation won't meet us to talk to us," Mr. Cussen claimed.

It costs about £16,000 to run the Dogs Home at Timaru inside the city each year. Up to recent years the home was funded completely by the Society and over the last few years they have been getting a



Mr. Bill Cussen

small grant from the corporation and county council. Last year the corporation gave £3,500 and "only" £2,000 this year according to Mr. Cussen, while the county council gave £650 last year and £1,000 this year.

### Recession

"Due to the present recession the society has found it increasingly difficult to raise funds necessary to meet the ever-increasing costs, with the result that the animal shelter is in debt to the tune of £8,275 to date," Mr. Cussen added.

"It is regretted that the society have no option but to close the shelter."

In the last ten years the society has put 41,723 dogs and cats through its home, 90% of which had to be humanely put down.

The remainder were found homes.

"We have had enough of it," Mr. Cussen declared.

"We cannot continue any more. The county council, the

corporation and the Gardaí can now handle the problem of stray dogs.

"They already have the horses."

He warned that the stray dogs could cause chaos in the city, making the litter situation worse and also carrying disease such as ringworm.

Also there was danger to sheep and other livestock in the county.

Mr. Cussen said that they very often had to catch "hungry and dangerous" animals. It often took three and four men to do so.

"There was a case of rabies in England last week... if it got in here you could forget all about it," he added.

### Airport chaos looms

SHANNON Airport could be plunged into chaos at any time this busy holiday weekend if the 98 men employed in the fire-fighting and security services withdraw their services in protest over the failure of Aer Rianta to concede their claim on productivity.

Officers also employed in the services at Dublin and Cork have also threatened to take unofficial strike action.

Talks involving the men, their union (the I.T.G.W.U.) and senior Aer Rianta management ended in deadlock this Thursday night.

Representatives of the fire fighters and security officers have firmly told Aer Rianta that they have permission from the force "to pull the plug" at any time.

## Hurlers win pub soccer final

By LEADER REPORTER

AS THE Smithwick's Inter Pub Soccer Cup was handed to Mick Graham of the victorious Molyneux team, it was 30 seconds of darkness for first-finisher Punch's who were beaten 2-1 in the final at Priory Park this Wednesday.

Over 90 teams involving 1,800 players sought the two coveted final places over the last few weeks.

The tournament is one of the most popular in Limerick and since it was introduced to the city 13 years ago it has gone from strength to strength.

### All codes

It is a remarkable sporting occasion attracting athletes from all codes. Molyneux comprised mostly of Cloughan GAA men, and Sean O'Connor, referee of the '69 and '75 All-Ireland Hurling Finals, was on the Molyneux bench waiting to be called in if needed.

In the games for third place between Myles Breen's and Statter's of Edward Street, Ger Casey of Young Munster starred on the wing while Dr. Owen McCann, a selector with the Irish cricket team, also gave his all.

Indeed that great rugby stalwart, Tom Clifford, was on hand to cheer his fellow patrons from Myles Breen's.

Outside the sporting field, many professionals are represented and state solicitor Michael Murray made some judicious tackles for Myles Breen's.

Tim O'Brien, chairman of the I.M.L. in the Mid-West, logged out for Punch's... and sporting six stitches, he still captained his side in the final.

### Over 35s

Each team must play at least three over-35 players at all times and it is these older who add the spice to the games.

However, 61-year-old Tom Madigan, who back in 1945 played with Limerick A.F.C., took the field in the earlier rounds for Punch's when many of his peers would have considered even going to the match too strenuous.

"I will play again next year if someone is foolish enough to pick me," he said after the final, with a large grin.

However, Molyneux Bar of Mangret Street were the eventual winners and crowd favourites in the final. The GAA players showed some great soccer skill.

However, their captain, Mick Graham — who broke a leg in the 1973 National Hurling League Final against Wexford and was unlucky to miss Limerick's great All-Ireland win in '73 — left no doubt as to where their loyalties lay. As he lifted the trophy he said: "Ta an áthas orm an corn seo..."

### Man of match

Man of the match in the final was Matty Graham, brother of Mick, wearing the No. 2 jersey he scored the winner.

Punch's John Bernard, who has played Scottish Premier League soccer had the distinction of scoring the first goal in the final.

The O'Brien was named the best over-35 player.

However, in the end it was "Peggy's Angels" who won the day. Molyneux is run by Peggy Molyneux.



Renee Dooley of Limerick watches the Inter-P O'Brien captain's Punch's. A spectator



Molyneux player, Michael Naughton, with the Inter-Pub Cup and, on the right, his niece Niamh Naughton, and his daughter Ciara.

## Amendment backed by many Mid West medics

By LEADER REPORTER

FIFTY-SEVEN general practitioners and hospital consultants in the Mid West have signed a public declaration of support for the proposed constitutional Amendment on abortion.

The declaration follows a recent public statement by 35 local GPs and consultants rejecting the wording of the amendment, claiming that women's lives could be put at risk and recognised family planning methods might be outlawed.

### Statement

The new statement, signed by many well-known medical people in Clonsilla, Limerick and North Tipperary, states: "Let the media publicity afforded the recent declaration and recommendation by some of our colleagues give the impression to the public that all or a majority of the doctors in the Mid-West Health Board area are not in favour of the proposed constitutional Amendment, we the undersigned wish to declare publicly our support for this Amendment."

The statement is signed by the following:

- General Practitioners — J. S. O'Brien (Newcastle West); K. A. Barrett (Newcastle West); B. Barrett (Glan); N. McCarthy (Abbeylea); N. Fitzgibbon (Askeaton); Ann Trehan (Rathkeale); B. Timoney (Adare); N. Coll (Patrickswell); Mary Coll (Patrickswell); M. O'Donnell (Charleville); A. J. Courtt (Nenagh); T. Fleming (Nenagh); J. Wallace (Ennis); M. Cleary (Hospital); D. C. Telle (Droghda); A. Edus (Kilmallock); R. Bugler (G. rally); J. Bugler (Galbally); Eileen Cooke (Galbally); Gill (Dromkeen); Deirdre Anderson (Doon); J. O'Connell (Doon); M. Ahern (C. vermex); M. McNamee (Corofin); Maureen Lennell

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