



Enter a movie star: Zsa Zsa Gabor arrives at Shannon Airport in 1954. Now we might be wrong, but we're guessing that's one of her many husbands in tow ... the Hollywood legend, now 93, has been married eight times

40 YEARS AGO

SPACEMEN TO VISIT LIMERICK

"APOLLO 13" astronauts - Lovell, Haise and Swigert - the men plucked from outer space when their moonship got into difficulties - are to visit Limerick on Thursday morning next.

They will make a motorcade tour of the main streets of the city.

Details of the visit were outlined this week by Mr Virgil P Randolph III, First Secretary of the US Embassy.

And the Mayor of Limerick revealed that the spacemen are to be given a civic reception.

They are expected to fly to Shannon by Airforce 2 on Wednesday next.

That night they will stay at Dro-moland Castle Hotel.

The Mayor has appealed to school managers in the city to allow students take part in the welcome to the astronauts by lining the route to the Town Hall on Patrick Street from 11.15 to 11.30am. On Thursday - at about 11.30am, it is understood - they will travel in motorcade to Limerick, tour the centre of the city and attend the civic reception. They will then go to Bunratty Castle for an informal lunch after which they will return to Houston.

With the famous trio will be Mrs Lovell and Mrs Haise, Swigert is single - and Ambassador Emo Mosbacher, US Chief of Protocol, and Mrs Mosbacher.

The Limerick trip, which will be preceded by calls to Dublin and Cork and marks the end of a European tour, is described as "a Presidential goodwill visit representing Mr Nixon".

MERGER WILL HELP YOUTH CLUBS

THE Limerick Diocesan Councils of

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Boys Clubs and Girls Clubs have merged to form the Limerick Diocesan Council of Youth Clubs. The move will facilitate communication between boys' and girls' clubs and promote the foundation of youth clubs in the diocese.

It is hoped that the new body will provide an intensive training course for voluntary youth workers.

Patron of the Council is his Lordship, Most Rev Dr Murphy. The following are the officers - President, Thomas Sheahan; vice-president, J Kirby; chairman Lieut Co McGuirk; vice-chairman, Sister M Elizabeth; chaplain, Rev M Neville, CC; secretary, Sister M de Ricci; treasurer, Miss Joan Byrne; PRO Rev P J O'Donnell, CC.

Twenty clubs in the city are at present affiliated to the Council, which, in turn, is affiliated to the National Federation of Youth Clubs.

Each affiliated club maintains its autonomy in regard to all its own internal affairs. The programme and policy of the club for the physical, social, moral and spiritual development of its members is entirely decided by each club according to the needs and opportunities in the area where it operates.

Clubs affiliated to the Council of Youth Clubs include Adare Youth Clubs include Adare Youth Club, Stella Maris Boys Club, St Bernadette's Junior Girls' Club, Our Lady of Lourdes Boys' Club, Our Lady of Lourdes Recreation Centre, St Augustine's Boys' Club, Rathkeale Youth Club, St John Bosco Girls' Club, Rosary Hill Social Centre, St Munchin's Girls' Club.

The Council is fortunate in having recently acquired the Don Bosco Youth Holiday Camp at Ballyloughran, near Ballybunion, which provides holiday facilities for affiliated clubs. It was in operation already this summer and used by seven different groups, and was a great success.

50 YEARS AGO

REBUILDING OF TODDS AFTER THE GREAT FIRE

DESPITE unfavourable weather conditions, very good progress is being made on the rebuilding of Messrs. Todds and Co. and other property destroyed in the great fire of August 1959. A roof-top car park is provided for in the scheme.

Mr C J Quinn, MRIA, who prepared the plans and specifications, told a Limerick Leader reporter today that the contractors were keeping to schedule. So far, he said, only two days had been lost.

Mr Quinn added that he had no doubt that the building project would be completed within the time limit set - well in advance of Christmas 1961.

When Mr Quinn's attention was directed towards a newspaper report to the effect that space for fifty motor cars would be provided on the roof of Messrs. Todds, he smiled and added, "Yes, that is quite correct."

Asked how the cars would get on the roof, Mr Quinn gave not only a feasible reply, but an explanation as well.

To begin with, he said, the whole vacant ground space as it may be seen today will not be covered completely with a four storey building.

The frontage in O'Connell Street and William Street will be raised four storey, but the four storey will not sprawl over the whole site.

Mr Quinn explained that Messrs. Todd, in their new premises, would have as much, if not more floor space as they had in their old premises by reason of greater basement development and better planning generally.

"But what about the motor cars - how will they get onto the roof?" our reporter asked. "Oh, that offers no great problem," Mr Quinn replied. "You see, I have been telling you all along that the whole site will not be covered with a four storey building. A considerable area in the rear, hidden away, as it were, by the four storey in O'Connell Street and William Street will be a one storey building. The car park will be on the roof of this section, to which ingress and egress may be had via Little William Street."

Mr Quinn added that newly constructed stores in England were provided with roof car parks. There is no reason why, he remarked, that Limerick should not keep abreast of the times.

COUNCIL DISCUSSES DERELICT SITES AND ROAD REPAIRS ETC

QUESTIONS concerning housing,

derelict sites, road repairs, public lighting and a flats with shop proposal were put to the city manager and members of his staff at last Monday's meeting of the Limerick Corporation.

Mr F Leddin, touching on the housing problem, said that the housing Officer must be inundated with people going in and out of his office looking for houses. A corporation house was ready and idle for three months in Ballinacurra Weston and could have suited one of those families.

The idea of leaving houses vacant for three months was altogether wrong. In that instance they had a house locked up and people clamouring for houses. In future they might arrange to obtain they keys from tenants going away, but the intention as to whether they were returning should be given to the corporation.

Councillor Leddin also mentioned about the transferring of tenants. People who had kept their homes well and were anxious to transfer with another tenant in a corporation scheme should, if possible, be given preference. He would leave it at that until they dealt with the matter of housing generally at the November meeting.

Mr J Danaher wondered if it would be possible to cover derelict sites in Clare Street. One house was in a bad condition and would fall down. He thought that the place there was in a dangerous condition.

Children were playing around there, and he could see it coming down on them in a very short space of time. Was it possible to continue the boardings from Lock Quay to that house?

The City Manager said the difficulty was that they had been put up by a firm of specialists in advertising and the taking of space was one of the difficulties.

The point raised was noted for consideration.

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