

Limerick Soccer Club plan to 'go public'

LIMERICK Soccer Club is to go public and it is hoped to raise £50,000 within a few weeks. This would enable the club pay its eighteen months arrears of rent to the owners of the Markets Field and also its other debts, and would also leave sufficient to finance the buying of new players. The club have issued an appeal to the public and also to business firms to purchase shares, which will be sold for £1 in units of five.

Meanwhile it was still not clear this afternoon where the club will play Home Farm on Sunday next. Over the weekend Mr. Kevin G. Frost, a director of Limerick Greyhound Racing Company Ltd., announced that the club would not be allowed the use of the Markets Field following last Sunday's game against Bohemians unless the arrears were paid in full.

The soccer club are hoping that they will be allowed the use of the Markets Field for next Sunday and they are confident that their debt will be wiped out

before their home game against Dundalk on January 19th.

In the interim, the soccer board have appealed in the strongest possible manner for support. Already City Council member, Mr. Michael Crowe, has donated £100 to get the appeal off to a good start.

Mr. Billy Higgins, Vice-Chairman of the soccer club, said today that members of his Board will be at the Savoy each night this week to receive any money that might be forthcoming and to set out their plans to members of the public.

Mr. Higgins said to-day that it was hoped to issue £50,000 worth of shares which would wipe out all the club's debts, enable new players to be signed, and, possibly, allow for negotiations to begin with a view to purchasing a new ground, other than the Markets Field.

Last chance

"This is our last chance to stay in business and we hope that the public will be generous in their subscriptions," said Mr. Higgins.

On Monday the Minister for the Gaeltacht, Mr. Tom O'Donnell, met the Chairman and Chief Officer of Bord na gCon for talks about the future of Limerick greyhound track, which closed officially on Saturday night after 42 years.

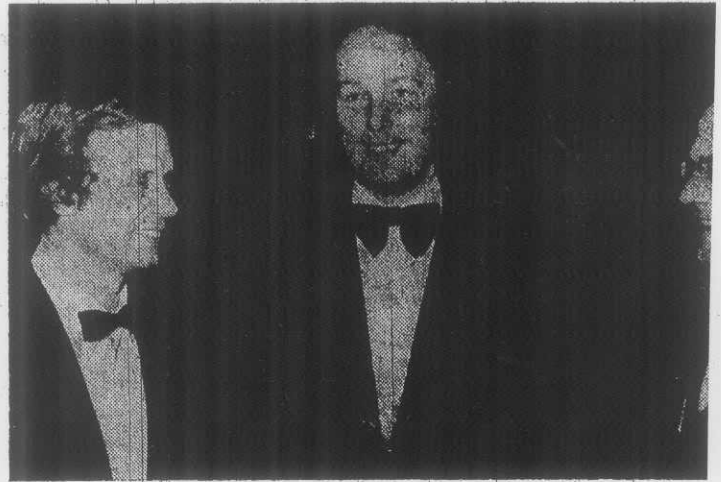
After the meeting Mr. O'Donnell said that he was "very confident that a formula will be found to enable racing to continue at the venue".

Mr. O'Donnell said that the meeting had been very satisfactory. The Board's representatives shared the Minister's concern about the importance of the Limerick Track to the greyhound industry of the region, and indeed the economy of the area generally. They assured him everything possible was being done to ensure the continuance of greyhound racing facilities in the area.

Discussions on the matter have been taking place between the Directors of the Limerick Greyhound Race Company Limited and the Board and a further Meeting is envisaged at an early date.



The soloists for the Christmas Oratorio, by Bach, in St. Mary's Cathedral were, from left: Mr. Peter McBrien, bass; Mary Sheridan, soprano; contralto, and Mr. Patrick Ring, tenor, in conjunction with Limerick Union.



At the Christmas Oratorio, by Bach, in St. Mary's Cathedral received Martin White, organist (left); Mr. Colman Pearce, conductor (center); and Clem Garvey, choir master.

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LIMERICK SALES: BIG BUSINESS

AS THE after-Christmas sales got into full swing this week, housewives crowded into the stores in search for bargains.

The shops and stores reported big increases in business, even allowing for the fall in the value of money since last year.

Although some stores began their sales last Saturday, such as Cannocks, others began yesterday, including Todds.

From the moment the doors opened, the bargain-hunters were milling around the stores, snapping up items on which prices had been cut by as much as 50 or 75 per cent.

Busier

"It's like a second Christmas Eve," was the comment of one housewife, "only that it is busier."

The crowds of shoppers became so big, at one stage yesterday, that traffic on O'Connell Street was affected.

Many motorists were in Limerick from outside for the sales, and this contributed, too, to the traffic jams experienced at road junctions.

The stores reported heavy increases in takings, compared to last year. This varied from 50 to 100 per cent above last year's figure.

Sold best

The goods which sold best were ladies' knitwear, household goods, men's suits and fashions. It appears that many people

held back before going on.

There was with some ret goods special of the sales.

Yesterday than Saturday also very busy.

When the doors this eve of the year, corded a pros to 1974.

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