

Limerick city has hosted Darkness into Light walk for the past four years, attracting huge numbers each year, while Newcastle West is a new venue for 2014. The Limerick city walk sets off again from Thomond Park, while the Newcastle West event begins at the Community Centre, The Demense.

"We're thrilled with the registration figures so far and we're

opening it out: a woman lights candles in the shape of the word 'Hope' at last year's Pieta House Darkness into Light walk

Picture: Kieran Clancy

expecting an even bigger bump in numbers as we enter our final week," said Joan Freeman, founder and chief executive of Pieta House.

"Registration figures nationally are more than three times higher than they were at this point last year which is a great testament to the commitment of the Irish public in tackling suicide in this country,"

she said. This year's Darkness into Light is set to be the biggest one yet, as it will take place in 39 locations including London and Sydney, with an expected turnout of up to 80,000 people.

In support of Pieta House's Mind Our Men campaign, which aims to reduce male suicide, participants are asked to bring a male friend or

family member with them on the walk.

Pieta House is also urging participants to register in advance online or at one of the various pre-registration events which are being held across the county.

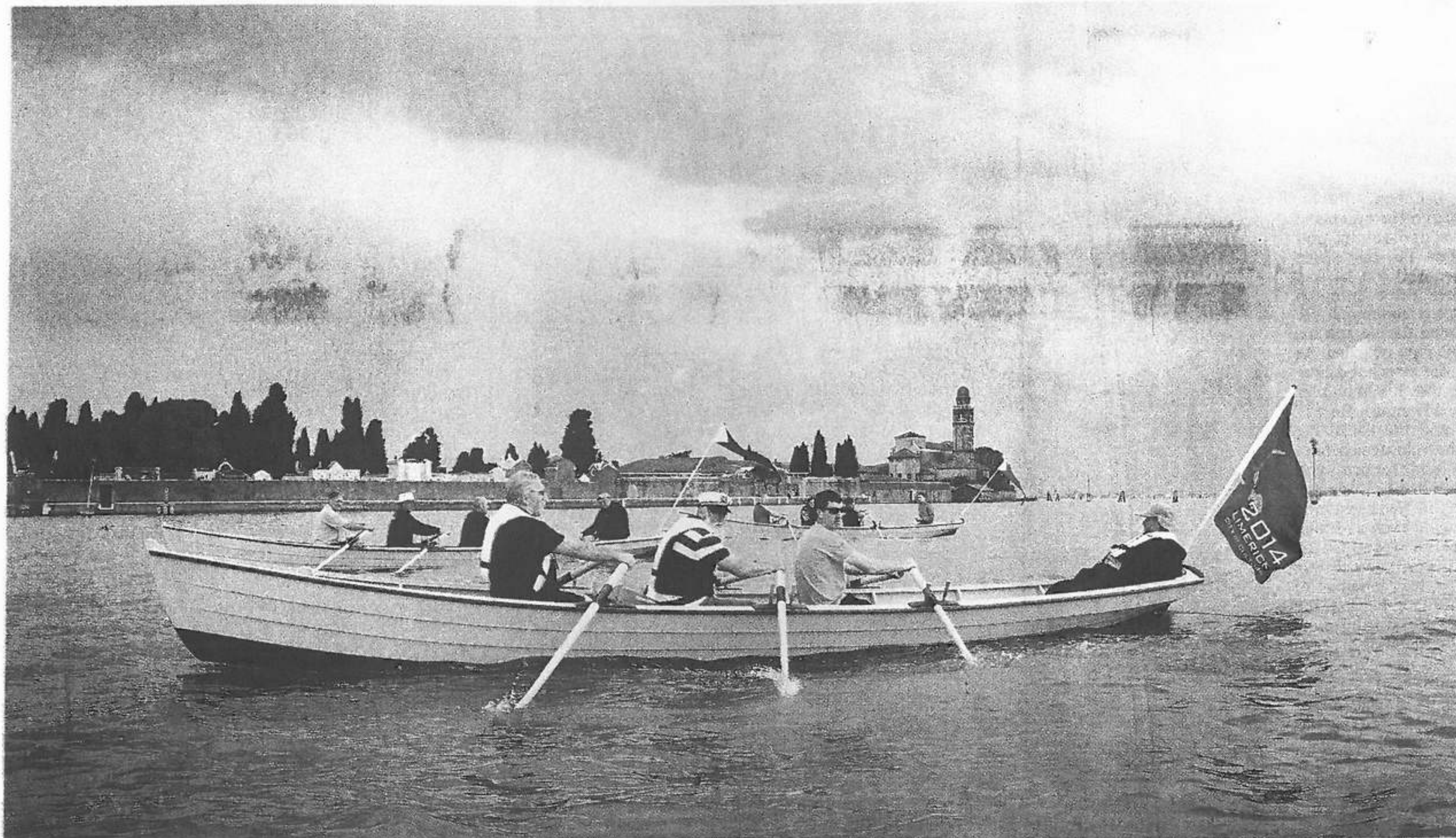
In Limerick city, pre-registration is available at Old Ferguson's Chemist from 12pm to 4pm on

For further information, visit [www.pieta.ie](http://www.pieta.ie).

Entry costs €25 for an adult, with concessions for pensioners, students and job-seekers, who will be charged €15. Children aged under 12 can enter for free but must be accompanied by an adult. All proceeds will go towards running their Mungret centre.

To register log on to [www.darknessintolight.ie](http://www.darknessintolight.ie) or contact Kieran O'Brien on 061 484444.

# Limerick gandelows take on Venice gondolas!



Four men in a boat: Pictured on board the boat in the foreground are Ger Ryan and Jonn O'Donoghue, from Limerick city, Pete McMahon, from Clarecastle, county Clare, and Br. Anthony Keane, of Glenstal Abbey, relaxing at the helm, as their gandelow glides through the Venetian waters. The winners of the Ilen School 8km gandelow Race from Burano to Venice were Tony Duhan, Thomondgate, Tommy Grimes, Coonagh, and James Quinn, Woodview

Picture: Gary MacMahon

## ANNE SHERIDAN

FROM humble beginnings in the backwaters of the Shannon, members of Limerick's first boat building school set sail in Venice last week - and took their distant relatives, the traditional Venetian gondolas by storm.

Based in Roxboro, the Ilen School saw their fleet - and the 29-member strong delegation of rowers, aged

from 16 to their mid-60s, - take to the waters in Venice to race their gandelows over the Bank Holiday weekend. Having trained their crews on Canal Grande and Bacino di San Marco in the Venetian lagoon, the main race was held on a six mile course out from the main island to Burano, on Thursday last, and back again.

Mayor of Limerick, councillor Kathleen Leddin and Helen Creed,

of the Limerick City of Culture office, were among those who watched the fleet set sail in the beautiful Italian city over four days.

Gary MacMahon, of the Ilen school, said "wherever the Limerick racing crews went they won great admiration for their seamanship and their fleet of four beautiful gandelows", which were built at the school in Roxboro over the last four months, with funding made

available from the City of Culture programme. Mr MacMahon said the traditional Limerick boat - modelled on the currach - was well received throughout their stay.

"People stopped on the canal sides to admire this fine expression of culture as if it were that missing element from their own fleet," he said.

He added that tourists stopped to take photos of their boats, complete

with their new handcarved gold-leaf Irish harps, and with Limerick City of Culture flags flying high.

The Venetian master of ceremonies is planning to arrange another visit by the Ilen School to Venice later in the year.

The school offers a number of different programmes who those wish to get involved in all levels and expertise of boat building. See [ilen.ie](http://ilen.ie) for more details

the documentary features contributions from politicians, young people and youth workers who campaign for LGBT rights.

"With all the controversy surrounding homophobia earlier this year and the vote upcoming I thought it would be a good time to see the lie of the land around the rest of the country," explained producer Jason Murphy.

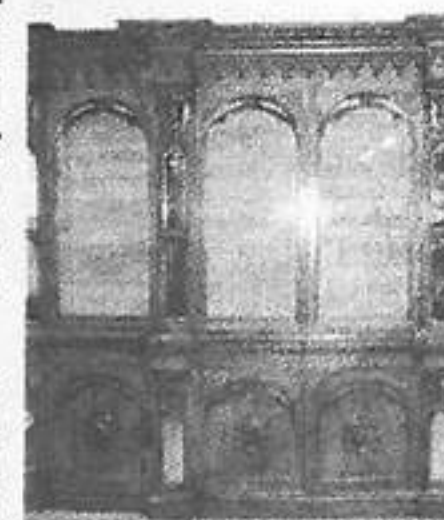
"It's interesting to see how social issues like this affect people everywhere and not just in urban areas," added Jason, who was nominated for a PPI award last year for his documentary on Regeneration.

## Valuable antiques up for auction on Tuesday

A COLLECTION of highly important Antique Furniture will form the centrepiece of the Sale in the Auction Rooms Sixmilebridge on Tuesday next May 13 at 10.30am.

The possible highlight being an Irish four door Victorian Oak Library Bookcase with Gothic style pediment of a four glazed door Breakfront Top over four panel doors.

The four lower panel doors being adorned with carved panels of Irish Harps and Wolfhounds. The piece was by repute made for Durrow Castle in the 1800s. More that a piece of Antique Furniture, it is more likely a piece of Irish Furniture History and carries an estimate of €10,000 - €15,000. Also of huge interest in this 1000+ lot Sale is a collection of furniture made by J.L. Coulhoun which has been consigned by The Colhoun Family. Local Collectors of Colhoun will have particular interest the pair of Bowfront Chests and the Side tables.



## Live 95FM stays ahead in the local radio charts

THE latest radio listenership figures show that Live 95FM continues to be the most listened to radio station in Limerick.

According to the latest JNLR/Ipsos MRBI report, 43% of adults listen to Live 95FM at some point every weekday giving the radio station a 37.5% share of the radio market in Limerick.

"We are delighted to maintain our position as the leading radio station in Limerick city and county. We are honoured to continue to serve the listeners of Limerick with a radio service that provides them with music, news, competitions, sport and chat that's local to the core," said Joe Nash, CEO of Live 95FM.

The listenership figures show that 45% of listeners aged between 15 and 34 listen to regional station Spin South West every day within its franchise area. 4% of adults across the county listen to Limerick-based RTÉ Lyric FM every day.

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