

Trainees (ABST) annual conference.

The bakery team collected an impressive 11 medals including five golds at the ABST conference in what has been described as an "historic and very successful weekend", by Paul O'Brien, baking instructor at the service.

"The trainees should be extremely proud as they represented their families, friends, country and themselves with pride.

"They went above and beyond in preparing for this tournament and deserve all



Members of the Limerick Youth Service bakery team with their award-winning produce at Alton Towers

the success they get," added a very proud Paul.

Winners on the day included trainee Albert Dowie who took first prize in the Wright's Trophy with Jordan Walsh winning the

**They went above and beyond in preparing for this tournament.**  
Paul O'Brien

Novices Cup, Conor Cantillon taking home the top prize for his bread loaf, Niamh McCarthy collecting gold in the best loaf category and Roxana Szabo winning first prize in the 3D dough

art display for the second successive year.

Meanwhile Stacey McCarthy travelled home with three medals finishing runner-up in the highly competitive British society

ABST host the conference which involves students trainees from across the UK and Ireland.

Supported by the Limerick Clare Education Training Board, the bakery project is located at community training centre and is a FDQ Level 2 accredited course.

The course targets young people between the ages of 16 and 21, who have for a number of reasons may have left school early. The project is designed to prepare a young person to start a career in the baking industry.

## Net cast for fishing documentary

Local filmmakers are being invited to pitch for a short documentary on a key part of Limerick city and county's riverside heritage.

As part of the Creative Ireland Programme 2017-2022, the Council's Limerick Archives are working on a Shannon Fisherman Archive project and are inviting expressions of interest from filmmakers to deliver a short documentary.

The long fishing tradition of Limerick with respect both to the city and the Shannon estuary from Doonass down to Scatterry Island will be covered.

Previous historical projects have focused on the Abbey fishermen, who traditionally fished between Doonass and the lax weir in Corbally.

They lived mainly in the Abbey area of Limerick City,



Abbey fishermen at work

Sheep Street, Gaol Lane and Meat Market Lane.

The Strand fishermen who lived near Clancy Strand (formerly North Strand) fished from the city to the Estuary before the development of the Ardnacrusha power station in the 1920s.

After that they joined the Coonagh and Newtown fishermen fishing from Barrington's pier (near the former Cleaves) to Scatterry Island.

The Strand Fishermen worked seasonally for the salmon season (mainly from

July to September) and worked other jobs in the off season while still fishing for pollock and eels.

The Newtown fishermen living in Newtown Clarina also fished seasonally but during the winter a large proportion of them were reed cutters. Coonagh fishermen on the Clare side of the Shannon did the same. They fished from Bunratty and went down river.

Askeaton fishermen didn't cut reeds but fished further into the estuary and often fished herring and cultivated seaweed.

The film duration should be approximately 10 minutes. Submit expressions of interest by 5pm Friday, July 21 to: archives@limerick.ie with 'Shannon Fisherman Archive Documentary' in the subject line.

## Insurance crippling hotels, says Byrne

The European Commission is being urged to expand its investigation into the Irish insurance market to examine the steep increases in insurance costs for retail and hospitality businesses across the country.

Senator Maria Byrne stated this week, "It is a worrying development that some businesses have begun operating without adequate cover as this puts both them and their customer in danger. This is not a healthy business environment for anyone and puts many of their staff at risk."

The Irish Hotel Federation conducted research that has shown insurance costs alone are costing the hotel industry up to €730 per room.

The rise in insurance costs has been linked to the con-

current price rises in of Irish hotel rooms in years.

Senator Maria added, "As we are all insurance costs for sector in Ireland have increasing steadily for two years, rising significantly above any of our EU neighbours.

"This is eating into the ability of some companies to operate and even in the case of one hotel I know, to open their doors.

Senator Byrne noted that while inflation in has been stagnant for a number of years, insurance costs for the hospitality industry have risen between 50% in the past two years alone, public pay-outs increased a 16.5% on the previous

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