

Property: House prices to rise again in 2019, says local agent **P4**



The Leader

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Wednesday, January 16, 2019

FREE YOUR NEW PAPER FROM LIMERICK'S LEADING TEAM



Sky's Wyse wows at her wedding in Adare Manor **P8**

'Piano for Dolores' strikes a chord on anniversary

Limerick people share memories of singer in city **P6**



Ruby and Sam McNamara, Woodlawn Park, Ballysimon Road, paid their own tribute at the special memorial event in Ormston House to mark the first anniversary of the death of the late Dolores O'Riordan PICTURE: ADRIAN BUTLER



FACE TIME Limit posters, don't ban them - candidate **P19**



CHIEF RIVALS Munster look to top group with Exeter win **Sport**

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INSIDE THIS WEEK



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NIGHTFLIERS ON NETFLIX Air date for Troy production PAGE 23



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Leading Off Setting the agenda in Limerick



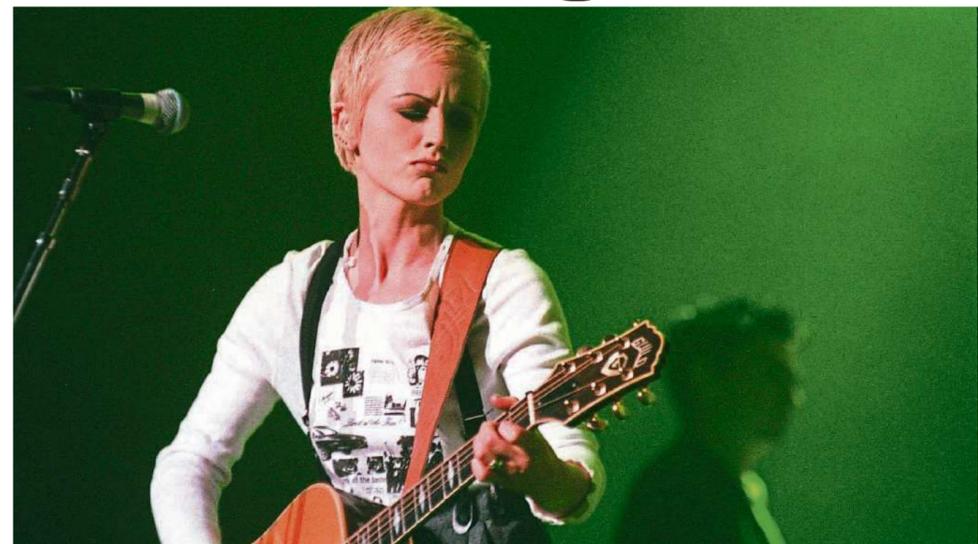
GOOD WEEK Johann van Graan Munster coach saw team trounce Gloucester away, setting up a big clash with Exeter at Thomond Park



BAD WEEK Geraldines AFC City club 'disgusted' by vandalism of their main pitch, causing considerable financial trouble

QUOTE OF THE WEEK "I remember the Rats playing here and the last f***in' shop we passed on the way out was a fish 'n' chipper with crubeens flashing in neon. I was like, Jesus, get me out of here. But that was 100 years ago, and it's fantastic now." Bob Geldof on his last visit to Limerick

Dolores statue needs to hit the right note



A year on from her death, it's time to make plans to erect a statue to honour the late Dolores O'Riordan in Limerick but the location and tone needs to be right



WHAT WE THINK AINE FITZGERALD THE LEADER

DARE we mention the words statue and Limerick in the same breath. Memorials erected to celebrate the lives of our most accomplished citizens haven't all exactly struck the right notes in the past. But we have a chance to redeem ourselves. On the first anniversary of the death of Dolores O'Riordan, the question must be asked again, how do we immortalise the one Limerick person who has had

the biggest impact around the globe? It needs to be a landmark statue, a permanent memorial to her sublime talent, a talent that was nurtured in the Model school and Laurel Hill Coláiste and went on to achieve massive international success, selling more than 40 million records worldwide with her band The Cranberries. A life-size bronze statue of the rock star with her guitar in hand — think of the Phil

Lynott statue off Dublin's Grafton Street, but with a bit more edge — should be erected in a prime location. How about the site of the new Opera Centre? The €180m development — which, at its heart, will have a student campus and multi-million euro library — is a bright new vision of Limerick, and the perfect space to honour and remember the local girl who dared to dream big and conquered the world.

WEBTOP TEN

- 1. Limerick Euromillions winner's son purchases recently closed hotel
2. Vision to create 'Restaurant Quarter' at Limerick shopping centre
3. Sky presenter Rachel Wyse throws lavish wedding celebration in Limerick's Adare Manor
4. 'Hard luck Taylor!' County Limerick GAA club embrace Swift visit with Lotto humour
5. Limerick soccer club 'disgusted' by vandalism of their pitch
6. 'Outstanding achievement': First Traveller in Ireland to graduate with PhD conferred at UL
7. Timely boost for Limerick as Bus Eireann to increase vehicles on busiest route
8. Prison term for 'emotional' man who bit garda's arm during Limerick assault
9. Staff at high-tech Limerick manufacturing plant told number of jobs are 'at risk'
10. Limerick Council has 'no idea' where illegal waste ended up as woman is fined



Top story: The Crescent Shopping Centre has ambitious plans to expand its food offering. See story online for more details

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MyLimerick

Louise Donlon, Director Lime Tree Theatre

What's your idea of a perfect day, or a perfect weekend, in Limerick? I climbed Knockfierna with family over the May Bank Holiday weekend last year, in weather that was just perfect. It was one of the most memorable days of the year and we plan to make it an annual pilgrimage. There's nothing quite like sharing a great day out exploring the beautiful countryside we have here in Limerick with those close to you.

What's your first Limerick memory? Arriving into St John's Church to take up the position of administrator with Island Theatre Company, my first full-time job in theatre! It was not the conventional office — a room fashioned out of the old altar area of a church, itself surrounded by a very evocative graveyard.

What's your favourite part of the city (or county) and why? I recently had the opportunity to march in the St Patrick's Day Parade and the vista of the Georgian city that is before you as you march from O'Connell Avenue onto the Crescent is a sight to behold. I think our Georgian architecture is a huge treasure that we don't value enough.

What about a favourite walk or view? The walk up Knockfierna was pretty fabulous, but I also have occasion to be in the offices of Limerick City and County Council at Merchant's Quay from time to time. I envy the employees there who get to look out on the Shannon as it winds its way through the city, across the Curragower Falls towards Sarsfield Bridge. It's a truly beautiful site, in any weather.

What do you think gives Limerick its unique identity? Limerick is so full of history — the Treaty Stone, the Georgian quarter, St Mary's Cathedral but particularly King John's Castle. That such a well preserved castle is right alongside you as

you drive over Thomond Bridge, there's nothing else quite like it here in Ireland.

Do you have a favourite local restaurant or pub? I don't frequent pubs as much as I used to, but both Bobby Byrne's and Fennessy's would be top of my list. I love the Green Yard which is also close by work, and if bringing a visitor to the city, my first port of call is The Curragower Bar, for that amazing view of the castle.

How would you describe the people of Limerick? Down to earth.

How important do you think sport is to Limerick? Those who know me well know that I find it just a little tiresome that we focus so much on our love of sport. It is a great thing that the city and county embraces sport in the way that it does — and I couldn't have been happier at the achievements of Limerick's hurling team last September. But there can sometimes be an over-emphasis on Limerick and how it is synonymous with sport, eclipsing our other great achievements in business, the arts and education.

If you could add one amenity to Limerick what would it be? The city could do with a public swimming pool — I have lived in several towns and cities around Ireland and always used a local authority-run public swimming pool. I've always been surprised at the lack of one here in the city. I'd also love to see the plans for the pedestrianisation of O'Connell Street come to fruition.

What's the biggest challenge facing the city (or county) today? The lack of an evening economy in the city centre. If we could fix that, we could unleash huge potential in the city.



Right: Louise Donlon, director of the Lime Tree Theatre: focus on sport can sometimes overshadow Limerick's achievements in other fields

FRONT PAGES OF THE PAST

20 YEARS AGO JANUARY 16, 1999 'Digital TV first for Limerick' was the headline in the Limerick Leader 20 years ago as Limerick city TV subscribers were set to become the first in the country to get digital television. The new links would also enable people to do their shopping and banking from home, it was reported. There was also a story 'Family to go starkers for city festival.' It centred on a play to be staged in the Belltable where a family were to go on stage totally nude. And the main photo on the page was of Kevin Murphy, 10, who got a call up to the Centre for Talented Youths based at the University of Limerick.



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'It would be a fitting memorial to an international star'

NICK RABBITS
nick@limerickleader.ie

BUSINESSWOMAN and councillor Elenora Hogan has called for a memorial to the late Dolores O'Riordan in the heart of the city centre.

On the first anniversary of the tragic death of the Cranberries frontwoman, Cllr Hogan has suggested the Urban Village outside Penney's or Cruises Street would be ideal places to remember one of Limerick's biggest stars.

"It would be a fitting memorial

to an international Limerick superstar," she said.

"Apparently, Dolores's grave in Ballybricken regularly receives visitors from America, Canada and many European countries. The University of Limerick will confer an honorary degree on the Cranberries and I believe now is the time for Limerick Council to erect a suitable memorial."

Cllr Hogan was speaking as she recalled the RTE 2FM Lark in the Park festivals of 1989, 1990 and 1991, which she helped facilitate as co-ordinator of the Limerick



Left: Cllr Elenora Hogan and right, the gig poster

Summer Festival.

Based in the Long Meadow of the People's Park, the event hosted the Cranberries in one of their first big gigs, just months after signing a major record deal.

"The event was always very popular and very successful. All age

groups came," she recalled. "I remember the one in 1991 drew around 6,000 people.

"They always attracted a good crowd. The purpose was to give Limerick bands an opportunity to perform in front of large crowds as part of the concert series. It was a good opportunity to make people familiar with their music and songs," said Cllr Hogan.

As for her memories of Dolores, she added: "Even then, the singularly unique beautiful voice of Dolores O'Riordan was a pleasure to listen to."



Left: A group at the Dolores O'Riordan memorial event at Ormston House
Above: Twins, Ciara and Kate O'Connor, Caherconlish
PICTURES: ADRIAN BUTLER

Poignant scenes as Dolores remembered in her home city

Music: Piano the focal point as crowds pay respects to iconic late Limerick singer

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THERE were poignant and emotional scenes at Ormston House this Tuesday as Dolores O'Riordan was remembered on the first anniversary of her death.

The Patrick Street venue was packed throughout the day as men and women, young and old, came to share their memories of the Cranberries frontwoman in her home city, with the event named 'A Piano for Dolores'.

Visitors came to Shannonside from across the world, while there were a large number of local people sharing their thoughts, and entering their tributes to the Ballybricken lady in a special book.

Organised by Mark O'Connor,

Ennis Road, Stefania Bardi and Limerick City and County Council, the piano was the focal point of the room, while it was also adorned with images of Dolores and the Cranberries, plus lyrics from some of their most famous songs.

On top of the piano sat a daffodil, with the famous picture of the Cranberries - captured by former Leader photographer Dermot Lynch - when they first signed to Island Records.

Throughout the day, videos of the Cranberries performing were projected on the bare walls of Ormston House, while there were several opportunities for people to take to the piano to perform some classics from the group.

City centre musician Rachel Prior said: "Dolores put Limerick on the

map musically. A lot of people tell you that because you're from Limerick, it's not going to happen for you. But she was a prime example that it can happen. She was a very real person, always herself. She never tried to be someone she wasn't."

Paul Russell, Rosbrien, came to the event armed with a song he wrote in memory of Dolores O'Riordan.

Titled simply 'I wish Dolores was still here', he took many lines from existing Cranberries songs.

"She is probably the most important artist we have ever had, or probably ever will have more than likely. She has been around the world, travelled everywhere. I remember being out in America and looking through the LPs in a record shop and there she was. You have no idea of her reach until you go

travelling," Paul added.

Probably the most important artist we have ever had, or ever will have

PAUL RUSSELL, WHO WROTE A TRIBUTE SONG FOR DOLORES

The fact Paul wrote, and performed the song in memory of the superstar, was something particularly pleasing for organiser Mark.

He said: "It's been nice to feel people's response whether it is the fondness for the tune that is on at the time, or looking back at her lyrics and portraits. There is a lot of warmth still there."

Mark added: "I'm glad we did something. We couldn't let the day go by without it. When someone passes, a year later the family gathers, friends may gather, but it dissipates with time. I don't think that's something which should happen with Dolores."

For more, see page 10, 22 and also the weekend newspaper.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 16, 2019 www.limerickleader.ie

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Comments from online readers

What you're saying about stories on limerickleader.ie and our social media platforms



VICKY PHELAN ACCUSES TAOISEACH OF BEING 'ALL TALK AND NO ACTION', AT LIMERICK CEREMONY



Geraldine Ryan

You are an inspiration to all women

Catherine Sims

This woman is one impressive human being!!!

Robert Noel Ahern

Very true, good woman Vicky for saying what we all are thinking

Jo McQuaid

That's why he has a Minister for health he had numerous other problems on his desk running the country give him a break

TIMELY BOOST AS BUS EIREANN TO INCREASE VEHICLES ON BUSIEST ROUTE



Marie Martin

It would be great if the forgotten taxpayers of the Mill Road Area of Corbally would get a bus service

Gerry Adams

Thomondgate, Ballynanty, Killeely and Moyross is what's needed improving. I'm fed up of the northside being treated like second class. In the eyes of our politicians Limerick ends at Thomond Bridge

COUNCILLORS BAN 'MUGSHOTS ON POLES' IN COUNTY LIMERICK TOWN



Christopher Tobin

Good decision hopefully the city might embrace it

John Holmes

I wish all towns in the county and limerick city would do the same

Maureen Bourke

Wish this would extend to all elections in Ireland. Well done Michael Collins and NCW Councillors

Sheila Heffernan Delaney

They're an absolute eyesore. Time to get rid of them

PRAYERS OFFERED UP FOR CHILDREN OF DOLORES O'RIORDAN AT ANNIVERSARY MASS IN LIMERICK



Anne Kiely

Rest in Peace Dolores a true lady of limerick thinking of her mother and family at this sad time xx

PJ Carroll

A limerick gem and made me cry on all Ireland day

Cindy Olson Gobeli

Love and peace to all of the O'Riordan family (and) Noel, Ferg, Mike, Oie

Liz Ryan

Rest in peace to an icon

Fan leaves bandana on Dolores grave to end emotional year



Eileen O'Riordan, mother of the late Dolores, arriving at Ballybricken Church for her daughter's anniversary Mass

PICTURE: DAVE GAYNOR

Tribute: Mass to mark death of Dolores O'Riordan

ÁINE FITZGERALD
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A DEVOTED fan of The Cranberries travelled from London to Limerick to lay his bandana at the graveside of the band's front woman on the first anniversary of her death.

Enrique Rivas, 32, originally from Spain grew up listening to the voice of Dolores O'Riordan and he wanted to mark her passing on January 15 of last year, in his own personal way.

"I was in St. Joseph's Cathedral last year and I decided to come again one year after to pay my respects," said Enrique standing outside St Ailbe's Church in Ballybricken on Sunday morning after attending an anniversary Mass for the late singer.

"Since I was 10 or 11 years old I grew up listening to her music, so yeah, it's really emotional for me to come here. It was kind of like to close the year to come back to this place. I arrived yesterday and stayed in Limerick and I go back this evening," said Enrique.

He hoped to visit Dolores' grave before he departed but wanted to give the family some space first.

"I was there last July. I left some flowers and today I will leave my bandana."

Family, friends and neighbours of Dolores O'Riordan joined Cranberries band members in the pews of St Ailbe's Church for 11am Mass

“I grew up listening to her music so it's emotional for me to come here

ENRIQUE RIVAS, CRANBERRIES FAN BELOW



on Sunday where the singer's three children, who are currently in Canada, were prayed for.

"We pray today for the repose of the soul of Dolores and we will keep in our prayers Taylor, Mollie and Dakota, Dolores' children, for whom this time is also a difficult one. May the risen Christ continue to support them in their grief and in their lives," said Fr James Walton, PP of Ballybricken and Bohermore who concelebrated the Mass with Fr Anthony Keane of Glenstal Abbey.

Also present were Dolores' sister Angela, brothers Terence, Brendan, Donal, Joseph and PJ, and Cranberries band members Fergal Lawler and Noel and Mike Hogan.

Dolores' mother Eileen arrived early at the rural County Limerick church to make sure everything was perfect for the anniversary Mass.

Fr Walton explained how Dolores' voice and her music was "a gift to her native county of Limerick and to the world" and spoke of how she played her own unique part in the Limerick hurlers' All-Ireland victory last August after 45 years of waiting.

"Dolores was a force of nature. Her rise to stardom gave a huge amount of belief to young people at that time. It was reflected in the belief of the Limerick hurling team to win the All-Ireland final last year after 45 years. That belief can also be epitomised in the song Dreams, the unofficial anthem of Limerick hurling, in the words, And they'll come true, Impossible not to do."

Fr Walton told the congregation to "hold onto your memories of Dolores, hold onto your beliefs and dreams as she did".



Mike wants to know about engineering.

His mam wants to know about employment opportunities for Mike.

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Visit cao.lit.ie/OpenDays



PET RESCUE



Limerick Animal Welfare based in Kilfinane, rescues animals in distress and helps to find pets a new home. Below are some dogs and cats available. LAW is open seven days a week from 12pm to 3pm. An adoption fee ensures that all pets come vaccinated, wormed, microchipped and neutered, and home checks apply. For more information, phone 087 6371044.

Looking for a new home



Seb is a two-year-old Jack Russell terrier. He is very good with other dogs and loves people. He is playful and curious and loves going out for walks, although he is still learning to walk properly on the lead. Seb would make a great companion pet. Please phone 0876371044 if you have any questions about Seb or visit us between 12-3pm at the Kilfinane sanctuary.

Up next is a shy boy we have Seamus. He is about three years old and is a bit of a couch potato. He would be happy to relax next to you rather than going for long walks. He is good with other dogs and is a bit shy until he gets to know you. Visit Seamus any day at the sanctuary from 12 noon until 3pm. Adoption fee is €150.



From the cattery, we have a beautiful pure white cat named Watson. He is roughly five years old. His ideal home would be where he is the only pet. Watson would make a great companion for cat lovers. For more information on Watson phone our cat unit on 0872295669 or visit the cattery any day from 12-3pm.

Tyler the couch potato

Lastly, we have Tyler. He is a year old black and white cat. Tyler is very friendly and affectionate. He is waiting for a spot next to you on your couch. Adoption fee for our cats is €100, all cats are neutered, wormed, vaccinated and litter trained. Please phone our cat unit on 0872295669 for more information on our cats.



Nicky Woulfe and photographer Dermot Lynch present a framed copy of the famous picture by Dermot of The Cranberries after they had signed their record deal to Mayor James Collins PICTURE: BRENDAN GLEESON

Special delivery for the mayor

To mark the first anniversary of the passing of Dolores O'Riordan, Mayor James Collins has received a special presentation from music collector Nicky Woulfe. Nicky presented a poster from one of the Cranberries and Dolores O'Riordan's early gigs in Limerick, and a black and white photograph from the time the band were signed to a major record label,

Island Records which was taken by former Limerick Leader staff photographer Dermot Lynch.

Both the poster and the photograph are from the Music Memories and Memorabilia collection, Nicky's personal cache of local and international rock and roll treasures.

The poster and the photograph will hang in the mayor's office.

Cllr Daly welcomes roadwork progress

Infrastructure: Four-year bid comes to fruition

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RESIDENTS living in a Corbally estate have received a boost after works commenced to install footpaths on roads popular with dog walkers.

Independent councillor Frankie Daly has confirmed that the local authority has spent over €50,000 working to upgrade a series of roads, including Lucas Drive, Cois Abhainn and Carabullawn.

There has been resurfacing and footpaths put in place, he said.

"This was a three-year campaign, done on an incremental basis. In year one, we got some of the road done, year two, we had a further piece. I'm glad to report after a four-year campaign, the final piece of the road has been completed," he told The Leader.

He said the impact of this project cannot be understated.

"The footpaths are due to be installed in the next weeks. There are significant improvements there for dog walkers. It's something I am most proud of in that area. It's been perseverance by residents. It's a great news story for Corbally," he said. "A lot of residents will benefit from this. It just makes it safe for kids walking about."

Meanwhile, Cllr Daly has also been working to secure the resurfacing of a section



Cllr Frankie Daly has helped secure some road resurfacing in Corbally

It just makes it safe for kids walking about

CLLR FRANKIE DALY

of the Ennis Road, between its junctions with Ashbrooke and Fort Mary Park.

At present, he said the road is in a very poor state.

"It's a moon-like structure at the moment, full of craters. It hasn't been resurfaced in 30 years, it's only been patched along. It's very bumpy," he said.

"I've been working on this the last three years, so we are just waiting for the contractors to come in," he added. "It's significant from a local roads budget, as you can only do a certain amount each year. This is something I've been championing, and it's a welcome story for the people of the Ennis Road. I was delighted to champion this."

Around 150 metres of road will be resurfaced on the northside.

Search is on to find Limerick's All Time Great

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SINCE its launch a few weeks ago, the search for Limerick's All Time Great has been generating great discussion with suggestions coming in from near and far.

Now the nominations are in and the shortlisting is underway as The Leader prepares to find out who readers believe is Limerick's All Time Great.

"We have certainly cast the net

very wide," Eugene Phelan, The Leader editor said. "There are generations of people who have contributed greatly to local life in this county and this recognises their work. We have also received a few controversial nominations so it

will be really interesting to see how people react to that!"

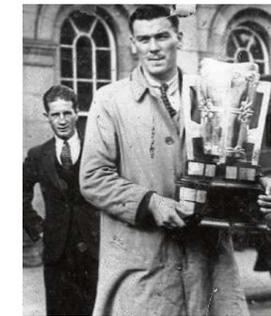
The search drew people from all sections of the community: business, charity, sport, entertainment, politics and historical and details of the final 16

LIMERICK LEADER
all time greats
HAVE YOUR SAY ON THE GREATEST IN LIMERICK

will appear on Limerickleader.ie and in print next week.

Once we have unveiled the final shortlist, we will launch our series of polls pitting our nominees head-to-head at quarter-final, semi-final and eventually, final stage over the coming weeks.

Who has made the shortlist and who will be the winner? Tune in to find out and it is up to you, the reader, to decide who is worthy of the prestigious accolade of Limerick's All Time Great.



Will it be Mick Mackey? It is up to you, the reader, to decide



Nightflyers, starring Eoin Macken and Maya Eshet was filmed at Troy Studios. It airs on Netflix on February 1

Show takes flight on Netflix in February

Nightflyers: Big budget series filmed in Troy Studios

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NIGHTFLYERS will finally lift off on Netflix on February 1, it has been confirmed.

While the big-budget sci-fi series, which was shot at Troy Studios, has aired on Syfy in the United States, it has not been shown on domestic screens.

Netflix confirmed this Tuesday afternoon that it is "launching in Ireland and everywhere outside of US on February 1".

The series, which is executive produced by George R. R. Martin who also wrote the novella on which it is based, was shot on location at the massive film facility in Castletroy, as well as using a number of outdoor locations around Limerick.

The Limerick facility has said the airing of the series would be a "proud moment for Troy Studios and

hundreds of people from Limerick and the Mid-West who played a role" on its production.

The series, which has been described as "Psycho in space" by Game of Thrones author Martin, follows eight maverick scientists and a powerful telepath who embark on an expedition to the edge of the solar system aboard The Nightflyer – a ship with a small tightknit crew and a reclusive captain – in the hope of making contact with alien life. The season consists of 10 episodes.

The €53m budget production had a 91% Irish crew with an average of 320 employees on site in Limerick each day.

A number of well-known names feature in the series, including Irish actors Eoin Macken and Brian F O'Byrne.

International stars include Gretchen Mol, who has previously starred in Boardwalk Empire,

playing Dr Agatha Matheson, while David Ajala, Fast & Furious 6, and Angus Sampson, star of the award-winning Fargo, also feature.

Nightflyers started production at Troy in February of last year, where huge sets were constructed, including a scale set of the ship itself. Large numbers of extras were required.

Troy has since announced a major expansion which could see up to 800 staff working at the facility in Plassey's National Technology Park.

The studio, based at the old Dell building, is adding a fourth sound stage to its offering.

Troy Studios chief executive Siún Ni Raghallaigh has said she hopes the first productions at the extended facility will roll in early 2020. It will see the facility become "the largest international standard film and tv studio on the island", according to Troy chairman Joe Devine.

Limerick College of Further Education to host open day

LIMERICK College of Further Education (LCFE) will hold its annual open day in Mulgrave Street on Thursday, January 24, from 10am to 4pm.

Staff at LCFE are looking forward to welcoming future learners to its main campus to showcase what the facility has to offer.

At LCFE opportunities include progressing to further or higher education, gaining employment,

checking out a study area before committing to a four-year course, upskilling or retraining. The college has numerous links to many colleges and universities around Ireland.

The open day attracts large numbers of people each year who are interested in learning more about the college's courses and facilities.

Teaching staff will be available to impart all information required to

prospective learners, parents and guidance counsellors.

Details are also available on maintenance grants as well as social welfare information.

The open day features exciting exhibitions in art, design, fashion, photography, IT and multimedia produced by LCFE learners and staged by academic staff.

LCFE principal Pat Maunsell, said: "This is an opportunity not to be missed by potential learners, guidance counsellors and the general public. The event not only gives a great insight into the wide variety of courses we offer, but also, the 'LCFE way' of approaching further education and training."

LCFE is now accepting applications for its more than 70 full-time day courses for the 2019/20 academic year. Apply online through the college website www.lcfe.ie.

Men's Sheds get funding boost

Men's Sheds based in Limerick are set to receive over €11,000 in funding.

Fine Gael Senator Maria Byrne announced the news, saying that eight groups would share the funding.

"My colleague Michael Ring, the Minister for Rural and Community Development, has informed me about the Government's allocation of €500,000 in funding to 310 Men's Sheds across the country," said Senator Byrne.

"I am delighted to confirm that eight Men's Sheds here in Limerick are going to receive €11,427 between them," she added.

The Men's Sheds in

Caherdavin, Dooradoyle, Le Cheile, Mulcair, and Southill have all received €1,450. The Northside Men's Shed received €1,360. The Irish Wheelchair Association received €1,432 and St Mary's Parish Men's Shed has received €1,385.

"Men's Sheds are a worldwide movement which encourages men to talk about their feelings in order to improve mental health and well-being," Senator Byrne said.

"Local Men's Sheds here in Limerick create a space where men can discuss health issues and emotions while engaging in purposeful activities," she concluded.