

**EDITORIAL**

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**Martyrs**

SHE was obviously a pretty woman once—perhaps even a beautiful one—but if this week the blinding sleet of downtown Limerick blurred her features, it could hardly mask life's wear and tear. As, oblivious to traffic, she hurriedly crossed busy O'Connell Street with children in tow, there was no mistaking the worry in her prematurely-ageing face, the weariness in her thirty-something frame.

And would it really be so surprising to hear that, down in the pub where he was enjoying the first of his many festive booze-ups, her still well-preserved if no longer handsome husband was telling his friends that she, too, was enjoying herself and spending all "his" money on "her" Christmas shopping.

In fact, of course, she was shopping for the whole family, and a pound to a penny she was doing so not only with whatever cash he might have allowed her after deducting his ample pocket-money but with whatever she might have managed to save from countless little sacrifices throughout the year.

She is not alone. She is one of arguably thousands of Limerickwomen who daily suffer domestic inequality. Many are housewives; some also work outside the home; all are victimised in the home.

Sometimes they are the victims of violence; sometimes the cruelty is mental; sometimes they are merely taken for granted as unpaid servants.

Always, however, in such cases man's inhumanity to woman stems from his failure to appreciate her as a person in her own right. Never is this more evident than in the hectic run-up to Christmas when men, including those who in principle claim to support women's liberation, in practice abdicate their household responsibilities and leave their wives or mothers or sisters to take all the strain.

Indeed, the Politically Correct modern male can be among woman's worst enemies. It is easy for him to talk as he so self-righteously does in terms of gender quotas or positive discrimination or other Californian phrases used ostensibly for the advancement of women in politics, in business or wherever. What is apparently impossible for far too many men—and more than a few already-liberated women—to grasp is the fundamental fact that, if it is ultimately to mean anything, equality begins at home.



Sweet taste of success: The Cranberries

**Heroes**

THE Cranberries' triumphant homecoming to Limerick has been reminiscent of the return of Limerick hurlers from Croke Park in 1973 or of Young Munster from Lansdowne Road last February. And Dolores, Fergal, Noel and Mike deservedly rank in such illustrious All-Ireland company as the Green and White and the Black and Amber.

Limerick has always been extraordinarily rich in musical talent, from pop to opera. Yet The Cranberries are the first Shannonside group to conquer America. Now they are well on their way to becoming world superstars.

Thus have they united Limerick people of all musical tastes in deep and justified community pride.

**Wonder**

AS theologians in their ivory towers continue their celestial debate this week about the Incarnation, here on earth the plain people of Limerick and elsewhere prepare to flock to cathedral, church and chapel, where true to the tradition of generations they will visit the crib. They will not argue about scriptural interpretation. They will only gaze in wonder at the mystery of God made man in the shape of a little baby.

A simple faith in this age of sophistication? Perhaps. But, just occasionally, mightn't even wise men have cause to envy shepherds?

**WORDLYWISE**

The pipeline of almost 1,500 approved jobs in total means that the people of the region can look forward in confidence to 1994... —IDA Mid-West manager Brendan O'Sullivan

By **PADDY MORONEY**

CHRISTMAS is the season of jollity and cheer—and dud cheques. So the Gardai in Limerick have already gone on the grand city tour, warning traders.

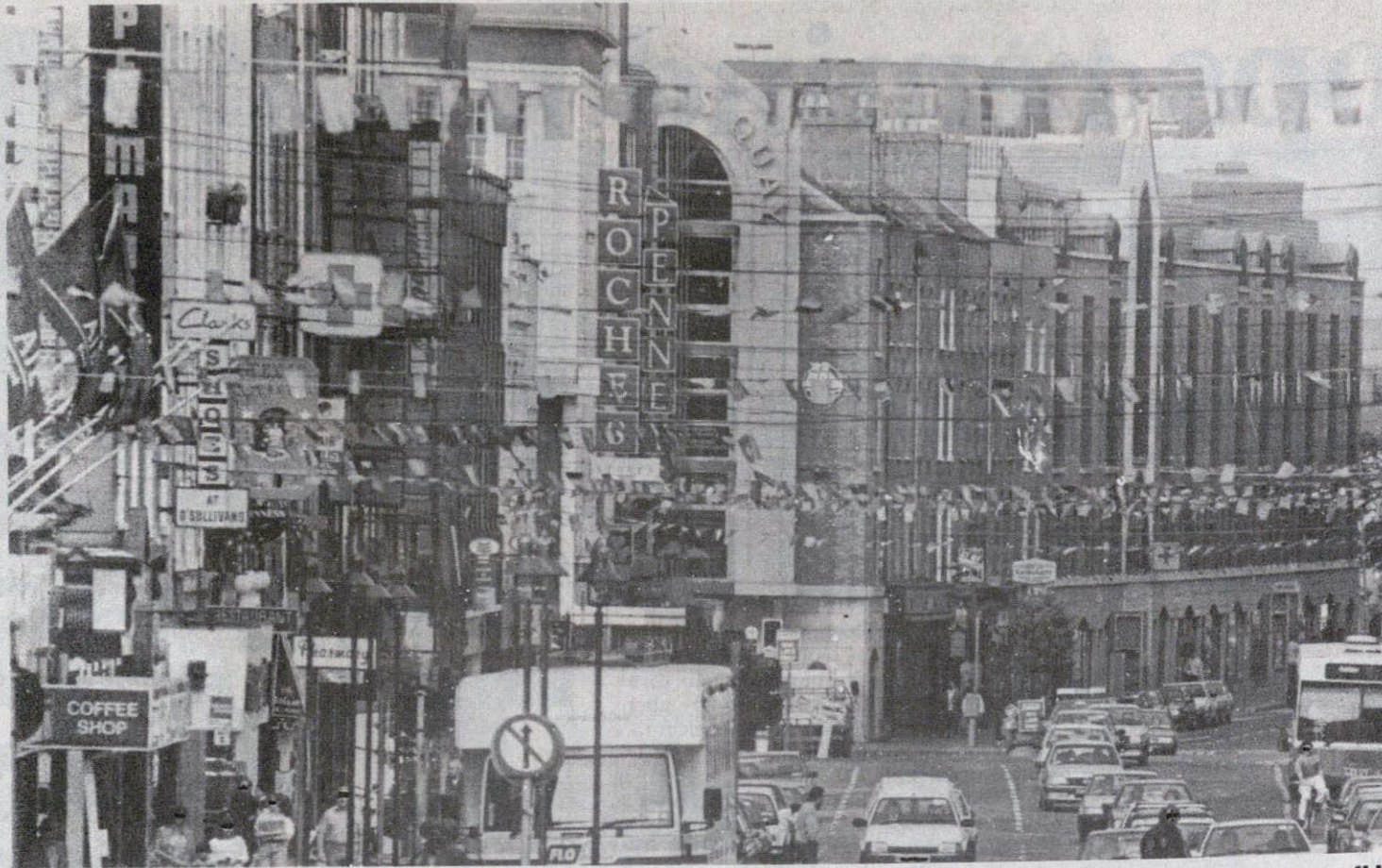
Generally, dud cheques tend to be passed when there is least chance of detection—when traders and shop assistants are too busy to notice. The euphoric days leading up to Christmas, and the sales immediately after, are the worst periods for this kind of offence.

Nevertheless, despite the personal visitations by Gardai on traders, the problem remains and every year sees its quota of returned cheques. The crime prevention officer at Henry Street Station in Limerick, Sgt John Kelly, has issued the following guidelines, to ensure not only all traders but members of the general public are on the alert.

Success by members of the public in preventing this kind of fraud not only saves the ordinary citizen from loss, but also helps the Gardai attend to even more serious crime.

It is therefore in the personal interests of everybody, and their finances, to take the following advice as issued by the Gardai:

- ☆ Beware of cheques presented before a bank holiday or weekend. With banks closed, it means extra days before you are notified if the cheque is bad and provides more time for the cheque passer to get away.
- ☆ Be cautious of strangers who are name-droppers.
- ☆ There is a danger in



Downtown Limerick this Christmas week

**City war on cheque fraud**

accepting a cheque drawn on a bank outside the country: should it turn out to be a dud, there is no easy remedy. - Be suspicious of customers who are indignant at requests for adequate identification. ☆ There is a double risk in accepting a second-party cheque. When the



person presenting it is the payee, he must endorse it for you. This means you are trusting two people instead of one. ☆ Be aware of the risk in cashing cheques for young persons: juveniles are not legally liable for their debts. ☆ Stop and think when

someone presents a cheque for an amount larger than required to cover the transaction, and requests the change in cash. ☆ Be wary of the new customer who tries to cash a second cheque before the first cheque has been cleared. ☆ Beware of cheques

endorsed with a company's name by rubber stamp rather than printing: this usually means a new or small company, or the passer of a bad cheque. ☆ Do not accept a cheque that shows signs of changes: have the issuer write a fresh

- cheque.
- ☆ Keep in mind that in accepting post-dated cheques, or cheques over a month old, you are taking a chance.
- ☆ Ask for at least two forms of identification—a driving licence is not conclusive. Be sure to copy numbers, names, and addresses, etc., shown on identity documents. The most reliable are photographic identity - employee identity, etc.
- ☆ Compare the client's signature (written while you watch) with the signature on the identity documents.
- ☆ If the client did not write the cheque in your presence, find a reason for him (or her) to sign something else while you watch and compare the signatures.
- ☆ When in doubt, note the description of the issuer on the back of the cheque - don't rely on memory. By the time you discover the cheque is bad, you will have forgotten the important details of the presenter's appearance.
- ☆ Don't let the client hurry you into accepting the cheque. Take all the time you need to examine identification papers and get satisfactory answers to all your questions.
- ☆ Look for other warning signs, even though the client has shown identity documents. Many criminals provide themselves with ample identification.
- ☆ Cross all cheques received and report suspicious incidents to the Gardai immediately.
- ☆ Limit the authority of accepting cheques to designated employees and have them initial every cheque received.
- ☆ Lodge all cheques promptly.

**Much ado about something, Batman**

RECENTLY in Limerick there was shown a film production of Shakespeare's "Much Ado About Nothing." I found it very enjoyable, apart from Shakespeare's irritating propensity for tying up all the loose ends in the last ten minutes of a lot of his plays.

But what really made me angry and I found most distasteful was Michael Keaton's (Batman) portrayal of the pompous strutting sycophantic ignoramus captain of the militia (whose name I don't recall) as an Irishman.

For those who may not be aware of it, the play is set in Italy. The character could have been played as an Italian, or indeed as any nationality.

But to play him as Irish, when the character is a fool, has a special meaning in British society (surely one of the large markets the film was aimed at) and probably among elements of the English-speaking world in general (hopefully excluding Ireland).

Any emigrant returned from Britain can confirm that the "Irish joke" is rampant in British society, and that the essence of the punchline is always the same — our alleged stupidity.

Such a line in "humour" is not harmless fun, in the context of a dominant nation vis-a-vis a subordinate one, or of a majority in relation to a weaker minority.

Indeed the idea has a long history, going back to Giralduus Cambrensis in the 12th century, and confirmed by Shakespeare himself in the character of Cpt. MacKerns in Henry.

Can anyone enlighten me as to Michael Keaton's possible motive. **DIARMUD BREATNACH,** Ollscoil, Luimnigh.

**Stop the suffering**

NOW that Christmas is almost upon us, it behoves all our readers to open their hearts and respond in a practical way to the appalling conditions prevailing on the African continent and the terrible plight of the inhabitants of most of the Central African countries.

To close our eyes to the inhuman, callous conditions under which our sisters and brothers in these countries are trying to survive, would be immoral and inhuman, and the neglect of our duty as Christians to those unfortunate would cry to the high heavens for vengeance and retribution.

It is quite easy to get emotional and sentimental, whilst sitting at our nice warm firesides, watching their plight, so vividly shown on our TV sets, and listening to the accompanying diatribe being directed at the warlords and the perpetrators of those heinous crimes.

They use famine and inhuman practices as a conduit to political domination and have no compunction whatever as they believe that the end will justify the means and they feel free to do their gruesome work with impunity.

Unfortunately, we have a number of those states such as Somalia, Sudan, Ethiopia and Angola, whose vast populations are dying like flies, from starvation and want of medical aid and where justice and the restoration of basic human rights is only a "pipe dream" or a mirage, as we in the western nations appear to be quite apathetic as well as impotent in playing any meaningful part in their extrication from the rule of their Western educated and trained warlords and dictators.

Those potential tyrants and oppressors come over to our Western universities and colleges, in the guise of princes and tribal chieftains' sons, get the best available education and military training and then return to their own countries, with a lust for power and a greed for wealth and are not too particular regarding reaching their goal.

Their most common method is to divide and conquer.

We have seen quite recently that the larger powers such as the U.N. and the E.U., are quite impotent to rein in those power-seeking strong men and make them answer for their horrendous reign of terror.

This writer offers no apology for appealing both to the Government and to the ordinary people of our country not to make our centuries of great Christian work in those countries, to be negated and made in



Keaton: Why did he play the fool with an Irish accent?

vain. As a country whose heritage in the field of humanitarianism is second to none it is our duty to step into the vanguard of christian ethics, which is based on love and charity towards our fellow men, and do everything possible to help those unfortunate populations, who are suffering intolerably at the hands of their unscrupulous despots and inhuman strong men.

There are many Irish N.G.O.s such as Trocaire, Concern, Goal and lesser-known ones who are doing tremendous work against terrible odds in those countries and who are only too ready and willing to help those starving, abused and neglected populations, but they can only help if we help them.

The easiest ways of helping are by donating money, food, medicine and clothing but manpower is also welcome to them in the professional as well as in the unskilled areas, so let us all put our shoulders to the wheel and prove to the

world that there are more sides to the Christmas season than the popular gastronomic and decorative ones, and its Christian side should illuminate and stand out and show to the world that our hearts are in the right place.

**TOM KELLY, P.C.,** ICTU Third World Committee, Inch St Laurence, Caherconlish, Co. Limerick.

**Bill out of order**

WE, the members of the Christian Church meeting at The Upper Room, Carroll's Quay, Cork, wish to make known our deep concern at the contents of the proposed Criminal Justice (Public Order) Bill 1993.

Having listened to legal opinion on this bill, we wish to record our extreme disquiet about its potential for abuse, and for use against law-abiding citizens instead of those actually guilty of crime: about its

apparent disregard for fair procedure (being assumed guilty until proved innocent); about its definition of offences such as riot (and others) and the extreme penalties attached to this and other offences (e.g. an "unlimited fine", "ten years imprisonment"); about the powers of interference in ordinary non-criminal activities of citizens to be given to the Garda (e.g. "move on" where no offence has been committed — two people could be merely standing and talking together); about powers of arrest by a Garda on hearsay evidence alone, when no injury has been suffered by anyone, the Garda has witnessed nothing, and the informant could be a crank, a neurotic, or a deliberately malicious person.

As pastor of this church, and someone who has for almost thirty years regularly preached the Gospel of Christ in the public streets of Cork and many other places in Ireland, I would like to mention some facts

of personal experience. One is that I have always enjoyed a very good relationship with the Gardai, and have received very fair treatment from them.

On the very infrequent occasions that a drunk or antagonistic person has caused us a problem, they have been a help to us, in line with the laws and Constitution of the state.

Another fact is, that the public preaching of Christ has been of definite benefit to society at large — people who once were alcoholic, drug abusers, violent or anti-social, have in fact experienced the life-changing power of Jesus through faith in Him, and have become a healthy and positive influence in society.

What could easily follow from this new bill, however, is that we and others like us could be accused of riotous behaviour, moved on at will, arrested or fined, or have our equipment confiscated for doing nothing other than what we have been doing all these years.

Garda could be forced into a position where they might be ordered to take action which would really have more to do with discrimination and persecution, than with maintaining law and order.

As Christians, we desire to keep the laws of the State, and to be a positive, healing influence in society. This new bill, however, is so open-ended in many of its definitions, so poorly drafted, and so liable to abuse that we believe it should never be passed (in its present form) by the Dail.

We believe, rather, that full consultations should be held between the government's legal advisers and

lawyers from all other concerned groups, until a truly just, democratic form of it, which is worthy of our State and Constitution, is arrived at. Until this has been done, we would urge all TD's to refuse its passage by voting against it.

Yours for a fair and humane, and we would also hope, a Christian society.

**TONY SIMPSON** (Pastor), And members of The Upper Room, Cork.

**Sensitive Santa Claus**

I WAS pleased to read in the Limerick Leader that Santa chose to go drag hunting rather than foxhunting.

**LETTERS**  
Please write to: The Editor, Limerick Leader, 54 O'Connell St., Limerick

What a refreshing change to see young people being shown that they can enjoy the countryside without having to terrorise or kill any of the animals that share it with us.

**LINDA HEHR,** Chairperson Limerick Support Group, Irish Council Against Blood Sports, PO Box 81, Limerick.

**Our cup of joy**

IN response to Michael J. Kirby (issue Sat., Dec. 4), I feel he has missed the point on why many Irish supporters are going to travel to the World Cup in the USA, or indeed, why many travelled to Italy.

The boys in green have given us tremendous enjoyment for the past seven years. They may not be good enough to win the World Cup but they deserve every bit of the support they receive.

Why not enjoy the party? I'd hate to sound pessimistic but another one might be a long time coming.

**SUSAN MADDEN,** "Mondello", Canal Bank, Limerick.

**Bloody day at Dromoland**

NEXT TO hate coursing and fox hunting, the driven pheasant shoot has to be the most brutal and indefensible of the blood sports permitted in this country. Two of our members observed an exhibition of this aristocratic country pastime a few weeks ago outside Dromoland Castle. It was stomach-churning.

This "sport" involves the mass-killing of pheasants by gunmen who stand almost shoulder to shoulder and just blast them away to their heart's content.

How can one derive pleasure from such an activity? What is so exciting or enjoyable about watching a blood-spattered pheasant fall to earth after being pumped full of lead?

One hears and reads so often about the "sporting chance" accorded to these birds by the hunters. The truth, however, is that the pheasants tend to be reared in captivity, which makes them easy targets. In many cases, the birds have become so tame that they make no effort to escape from the gunmen. A

child with a pea-shooter could hit the poor creatures.

The notion of a "sporting chance" is really for the birds, if you'll pardon the pun. It seems to me that the pheasants have about as much chance of surviving and eluding their pursuers as farmyard hens would have against an M-60 machine-gun!

**JOHN FITZGERALD,** Campaign for the Abolition of Cruel Sports, Lower Coyne Street, Callan, Co. Kilkenny.

Management and Staff of the Savoy would like to extend Christmas greetings to all their patrons and wish them a Happy New Year.



CINEMA CLOSED CHRISTMAS EVE & CHRISTMAS DAY CINEMA RE-OPENING ON ST. STEPHEN'S DAY SUN 26TH

SAVOY SUPERBOWL RE-OPENING SUNDAY 26TH DECEMBER NIGHTCLUB OPEN SUNDAY 26TH DECEMBER

SAVOY CINEMAS

2.00 4.25 7.15 9.35 DANIEL DAY-LEWIS EMMA THOMPSON IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER. 18s

2.00 4.25 7.00 9.30 KEVIN COSTNER CLINT EASTWOOD a Perfect World 15s

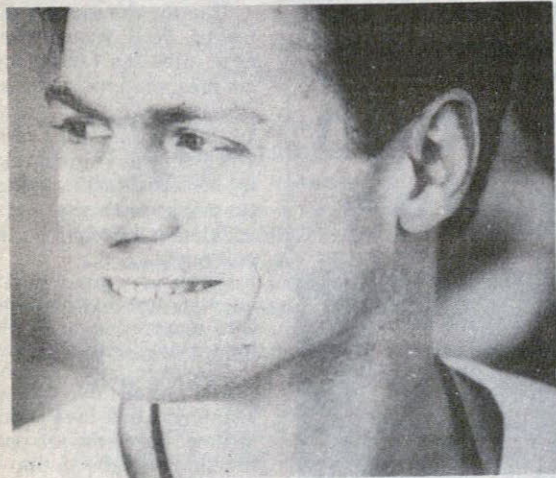
2.00 4.00 6.00 8.00 10.00 AN ADVENTURE BEYOND YOUR IMAGINATION Aladdin Gen

2.00 4.00 6.00 8.00 10.00 THE FAMILY IS ABOUT TO GET A LITTLE STRANGER. Anjelica Huston Raul Julia Addams Family Values (U 12s acc) CREEPIER, KOOKIER, SPOOKIER, OOKIER.

2.15 4.15 8.00 10.00 The Legend Had It Coming... (U 12s acc) ROBIN HOOD MEN IN TIGHTS

8.15 Daily (U 12s acc) THE LONG AWAITED SEQUEL TO 'STAKEOUT'... ONE OF THE MOST POPULAR ACTION COMEDIES OF THE LAST DECADE. RICHARD DREYFUSS EMILIO ESTEVEZ ANOTHER STAKEOUT

'So far so good'



On the day So Far So Good, Bryan Adams' latest album, was released, it went platinum in both Ireland and the UK. In the five or so weeks since then, it has gone platinum in five countries and gold in seven.

At the Belltable... 'Sinbad' and ballet for your enjoyment in '94

HITZ'N'BITZ by SHANE FOLEY

THE Adventures Of Sinbad - in all its glory - will capture the hearts and minds of adults and children alike when they witness this year's production, by the Limerick Panto Society, in the Belltable from January 1 to January 9, at 8 p.m., with matinees on January 1, 2, 3, 6, 8 and 9, at 3 p.m.

'Sinbad' promises to be a rip-roaring, action-packed, roller-coaster ride from start to finish and is guaranteed to enthral and delight every member of the audience, irrespective of age.

There's a wide array of characters to be enjoyed in this production - the Sinbad family, the Caliph family, Maid Marion, the crew of the Starship Enterprise, a genie in a bottle, Mike Murphy, dinosaurs, gangsters and the rulers of Baghdad, to name but a few.

When Mrs. Sinbad wins the Lotto, she believes all her troubles are over - however, they're only just beginning. She's kidnapped by awful Al and his gang. Mr. Sinbad - her henpecked husband - her youngest son, Sunbed, and the hapless Sinbad all set about her rescue.

Their escapades bring them in contact with many strange characters and into many situations, both believable and unbelievable... find out what happens to Mrs. Sinbad by booking your panto tickets now - they'll only cost you £4 and there's also a concession price of £3 (cheap at half the price!).

Everyone in the society are excited about this year's show, it will be produced by Tony Cusack and the script has been written by John Finn.

The cast is, once again, a combination of Limerick Panto stalwarts and a number of new talented faces, most of whom will be making their stage debut in The Adventures Of Sinbad.

The panto, as with other years, would not be such a spectacle without the help of the stage schools in the Limerick area - those schools appearing in this year's panto are, Spotlight Stage School, Limerick School Of Classical Ballet and Barrington Academy of Dance.

As you may be aware, every year the Panto Society, in their generosity, nominate a local children's charity which will benefit from their charity night - this year's charity is the Limerick branch of the Cystic Fibrosis Association and the chosen charity night, this year, will be on the evening of January 2.

A point which should definitely be noted by those wishing to attend any of the performances is that six of the shows have already been completely sold out, with many of the matinees also booked solid - immediate action should be taken if you require some seats! Booking can be made with the Belltable at 061-319866... the Panto Society are looking forward to yet another sell-out show.

Once again, the Limerick Panto Society are delighted to announce that this year's production will be in association with Estuary Fuel - the Irish Oil Company, and they would like, again this year, to express their sin-

cere thanks to Mr. Michael Daly for his continued and very generous support.

Finally, the society would like to thank all their patrons and sponsors as well as the local press and radio for their continued support over the years.

All concerned feel extremely confident that, with their hard work and with your continued support, panto is here to stay in Limerick.

A treat for the New Year is the return of the Vienna Festival Ballet to the Belltable. Founded in 1980, their aim is to provide young and talented dancers with the opportunity to perform the great classical ballets and to take dance to an audience that would not usually have the chance to enjoy it.

To this end, the company has a hectic touring schedule across Europe and will visit the Belltable from January 11 to 13, at 8 p.m., with the timeless classic Sleeping Beauty. This fairytale tells the story of the sleeping princess who is awakened by the kiss of a prince in a beautiful romantic castle.

Last year, to full houses that were totally enthralled by the show, the Vienna Festival Ballet performed The Nutcracker. Tickets cost £10.50 for stall seating, £9 for the balcony and a concession rate of £7.50 for students, unwaged and senior citizens.

Don't forget that Belltable membership for 1994 is available for the very reasonable sum of just £30. Prior booking for all Belltable events, including those mentioned in this article and the membership for '94, can be made by phoning 061-319866.



'God bless all here'... Davy Carton of The Saw Doctors professes his undying love for their many loyal fans. See Davy and the rest of the band at the Theatre Royal on Monday next, December 27 - doors open at 7.30 p.m.

The Saw Doctors are Royal bound

AFTER a summer of festivals in Sweden, Finland, Glastonbury and playing support to Neil Young at Slane Castle, The Saw Doctors headed off for a month long tour of Australia which saw them play Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane and Perth... over 2,500 people attended their Sydney show.

Following their Oz experience, they recently completed a tour of the UK which consisted of nearly 30 dates and now it's Ireland... they play the Theatre Royal on Monday next, December 27 (an early gig), and tickets for same are currently on sale in Savins. This should be a very interesting gig as the Docs haven't, to say the least, been frequent visitors to the Limerick area... this is a big chance for all their Limerick fans to go along and see what all the fuss is about!

It all started, of course, some years ago, when they burst on the scene with that most 'memorable' of songs, 'I Useta Lover', which stayed at No. 1 for something in the region of eight weeks and was literally played to death on every radio station the length and breadth of the country.

They've released many successful singles since that initial biggy and also have two albums under their collective belts. If This Is Rock 'n' Roll, I Want My Old Job Back and All The Way From Tuam, which is on sale in 17 countries.

The Saw Doctors current line-up includes Welsh keyboard player Tony Lambert who, earlier this year, won close on a million quid in the Lotto. Former Waterboy

Anthony Thistlethwaite replaced original member John Burke on mandolin and sax. Due to a chronic back problem, John Burke has not played with the band for the past few months. The well-spring of their success is that they play rock 'n' roll with a country air - not a breath of Nashville, but a rural mood of freshness and vitality. They also have an instinctive grasp of how to invoke teen spirit, despite the onward march of time, setting many of their songs as recollections of adolescence.

A substantial worldwide boost for the band came recently when one of their songs, 'Sing A Powerful Song', was included on the soundtrack of an American film, Floundering, which is set in the aftermath of the LA riots of '92. The film is directed by Pete McCarthy (producer of Sid & Nancy) and stars John Cusack and Ethan Hawke. The soundtrack also includes material from Cowboy Junkies, DC Basehead and Willie Nelson.

Their live show, close, I believe, on two hours of uplifting, lively, no-nonsense rock 'n' roll, could be just the thing to lift those post-Christmas blues...

'Have a good one'

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all the readers of HITZ'N'BITZ a very happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year... keep reading in '94.

Tropics goings-on

THE Christmas festivities are in full swing at the moment at Tropics Niteclub and this Thursday, December 23, the Tropics 'Crew' will off-load dozens of sprigs of man's best loved natural aid to grabbing that elusive kiss - mistletoe - on the Tropics dancefloor.

On St. Stephen's Night, DJs Mickey Mac and Willie Leahy will serve up the liveliest post-Christmas party for you to enjoy... after the excesses of Christmas, it's a sure fire way to burn off that added poundage from the day before.

On December 29, while everyone saves the coinage for New Year's Eve, Tropics opens its doors for 'One Pound', yes, 100 pennies - the same price, would you

believe, as one millionth of a night with Robert Redford!

New Year's Eve is traditionally one of the few nights each year when the Crew go a little 'mad!' They won't reveal just exactly how mad, but they will say that these much coveted tickets are now on sale at the George Hotel reception... get them while they're hot! Stevie P and Mickey Mac will be ringing in '94 with a guaranteed promise that you'll have a night to remember.

More details of the entire Tropics Christmas calendar of events can be had by dialling Santa's little red-haired helper, Aisling Murphy, on the Tropics Christmas Hotline, 088-583146.



Aslan... see them this Thursday (December 23) 'late night' at the Theatre Royal.

At the Royal...

The festive buzz continues

NO matter what bands visit the Theatre Royal during the rest of the venue's powerful 'festive line-up', none will match the emotionally charged appearance, last Friday night, of local heroes The Cranberries.

I won't go on about the gig - it's already been more than amply documented... however, one point worth mentioning is the new found maturity and professionalism which was so evident on the night - Dolores oozed the sort of confidence that had the audience reacting to her every move, and the music, from the three lads with occasional guitar from Dolores, was delivered in a manner which some more established bands could only dream about. It's amazing what a prolonged period on the road will do for the 'tightness and togetherness' of a group... it's done wonders for the 'Berries. All and all, it was a wonderful show and here's hopin' they have many more homecomings like this one.

Now, back to the matters in hand. This Thursday's gig sees Dublin popsters ASLAN playing a 'late night' gig at the venue. This should be one of the highlights of the Royal's festive line-up and, I suppose, it could be confidently predicted that the place will be stuffed to capacity. Sunday, December 26, sees the return to

the 'live' scene of THE O'MALLEYS - always good for a great night out, their fans of old will, no doubt, turn out in force for this all too rare appearance (doors open at 10 p.m.). Monday night, December 27 (an early gig, doors open at 7.30 p.m. with tickets available at Savins), sees THE SAW DOCTORS bringin' their quite unique style to Limerick. THE BIG GENERATOR take the stage for a 'late night' offering on Tuesday, December 28, and BRIAN O'CONNOR & BAND do the 'late night' honours on Wednesday, December 29. IAN RICHARDS & THE SOULMASTERS are Thursday's 'late night' (December 30) attractions, and LOVE BISCUIT take the stage on New Year's Eve to bring the curtain down on '93 - doors open for this gig at 9.30 p.m. and a great night is forecast.

THE STUNNING wrap proceedings up on Saturday, January 1, when they play an early gig - doors open at 7.30 p.m. and tickets are currently available at Savins.

During the year, those at the Royal have served up some superb 'live' music for Limerick's music lovers to enjoy... this festive line-up was the highlight, a perfect end to a fine year's 'live' entertainment - let's hope things keep improving in '94. Well done to all concerned!

LEE'S CINEMA, NEWCASTLEWEST 069-62447

Cinema closed this Friday, Dec. 24, & Saturday, Dec. 25, Sunday, Dec. 26, to Thursday, Dec. 30, at 8.30 p.m. MICHAEL J. FOX in

THE CONCIERGE

Season's greetings to all our patrons. (125c)

Concert time on 2FM

THE Wrangler Concert 1993 Christmas Extravaganza features some old, some quite recent and a New Year's Eve 'live' broadcast for you to enjoy over the coming week.

On Tuesday, December 28, at 8 p.m., Elton John and Queen are the featured artists. First up is Elton John... recorded live at the Hammersmith Odeon in London on Christmas Eve, 1974, the performance features some of his greatest hits, including 'Rocket Man', 'Daniel' and his first ever hit, 'Your Song'.

Elton is followed by Freddie Mercury and Queen, recorded a year later at the Hammersmith Odeon on Christmas Eve, 1975. The concert was recorded at a time when the legendary 'Bohemian Rhapsody' was at No. 1 for the first time,

and when their fourth album, A Night At The Opera, had already sold over a million copies. The performance includes all the early Queen hits.

Next up, on Thursday, December 30, at 8 p.m., is Sting. This spectacular concert was recorded this summer at Hildesheim in Germany. The performance features a medley of hits, ranging from his Police days to the most recent Ten Summoner's Tales album.

The 2FM Wrangler concerts enter 1994 in style with the New Year's Eve concert, broadcast live from the Point Theatre. Hothouse Flowers ring in the New Year, with help from special guests Aslan, The Dubliners and The Devlins... transmission begins at approximately 11 p.m.

The CENTRE COURT Club

LIMERICK INN HOTEL, ENNIS ROAD

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SUNDAY 26TH DECEMBER

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ROYAL GEORGE HOTEL

New Year's Eve 6 Course Dinner

(with extensive choice) for only £19.50.

Includes Live Music, Champagne at Midnight, Bar Extension.

ROYAL GEORGE HOTEL Phone 061-414566. Fax 061-317171. (125c)

GLENTWORTH HOTEL LIMERICK. - TEL. 061-413822

St. Stephen's Night - Old Tyme Dancing with IMPACT

Monday, Dec. 27 - A Country & Irish Special with MURIEL O'CONNOR

Wednesday, Dec. 29 - Old Tyme Dancing with SHOWCASE

New Year's Eve - Gala Dinner. Music by PAT McNAMARA

Tickets now available. Wishing all our patrons a very Happy Christmas. Car Parking Facilities For Patrons (125c)

TWO MILE INN

Great Entertainment Line-up This Christmas

Thursday, Dec. 23... THE NEWS in Kitty O'Brien's, followed by Poldarks 2.

St. Stephen's Night... CARIBBEAN PARTY NIGHT in Kitty O'Brien's, with CENTURY STEEL BAND, plus Poldarks 2.

Thursday, Dec. 30... THE NEWS in Kitty O'Brien's, followed by Poldarks 2.

New Year's Eve... Ring in the New Year with ECLIPSE in Kitty O'Brien's, and Champagne and Cold Buffet in Poldarks 2.

For further information, tel. 326255. (125c)

2 MILE INN TRUDI LALOR & THE LOUISE MORRISSEY BAND

Tuesday, December 28 -