



LIMERICK LEADER  
**archive**  
 LOOKING BACK IN PICTURES



**Slogadh winners:** A group from Laurel Hill who won the popular Slogadh talent competition back in 1987. Some nice Eighties hairstyles there, girls!



Pupils from St Nessian's college enjoying the Irish summer school in 1987



Teachers and staff at St Nessian's school, Moylish being presented with Red Cross first aid certs back in 1985

## archive LOOKING BACK IN REPORTS &amp; PICTURES

## 10 years ago

## Bella Nicholas Street looks set to emerge

NICHOLAS Street is slowly but surely emerging as Limerick's answer to New York's Greenwich Village.

However, it needs a publicity shot in the arm and a number of extra gardai on the beat to succeed, one businessman believes.

Nestled between St Mary's Cathedral and King John's Castle, one of the city's lesser known gyms is finally starting to attract the kind of business its deserves.

Bella Art and Craft centre is one such enterprise and next week will host the opening exhibition of works by Limerick-born artist, Mary O'Reilly.

Anne Larkin, the founder of Bella Art and Craft centre told the Limerick Leader that the centre has experienced great demand for exhibition and studio space in the city.

However, she feels that demand at the consumer level has been unsatisfactory and that this is partly due to a lack of favourable Nicholas Street publicity.

She feels that the street has been ignored for too long - in terms of both publicity and security.

"The whole area needs to be highlighted. But the responsible bodies won't get moving. We need more security and more of a garda presence on the beat," said Ms Larkin.

"The problem is that we are there but nobody knows," she added.

Mary O'Reilly's exhibition, Every

woman, opens at the Bella Art and Craft centre on April 24 and will continue for two weeks.

## Munster fans snap up tickets for French clash

THOUSANDS of red-shirted and banner-laden Munster rugby fans are heading off to Toulouse this weekend for what promises to be a more-than-memorable occasion.

Most, if not all, of the demand for tickets and packages has been met with travel agents across the city working overtime to meet the heavy demand.

According to Paul Buckley of Paul Buckley Travel, travel agents around the city have been under a lot of pressure to provide packages for the fanatical Munster fans in a short space of time.

"It's been very hectic because we've had so little time to organise flights and tickets with less than two weeks and a holiday weekend in between," he said referring to Munster's quarter-final victory over Leicester.

Nevertheless, he is confident that all of the Munster fans who wish to fly to Toulouse for the semi-final will be catered for.

"I'd be surprised if anyone is left in the lurch. There's enough capacity. We're getting through our waiting list," he said.

According to Munster PRO, Pat Geraghty, over 10,000 of the 12,000 tickets allocated to Munster for the match were sold by Friday.

"We imagine that all of our allocation will be sold this week," he said

had targeted a specific area, and he said it had been reported that 30 people were apprehended.

## Will Mother Teresa get the freedom of the city?

CONFUSION and rumour abounded this Friday on whether or not Limerick City Council would give the Freedom of the City to Mother Teresa when she visits Limerick next June.

"No decision has been made," was the firm reply of Mayor, Cllr John Quinn, when questioned this week on the matter.

The party leaders on the City Council met this week behind closed doors to discuss this and other matters, and a decision will eventually be made after soundings of councillors at a protocol meeting to be arranged.

It seems that a problem has already arisen in that Junior Justice Minister Willie O'Dea, who revealed that Mother Teresa is to come to Limerick, suggested that she get the Freedom.

This, according to some councillors, could disqualify the campaigning Mother Teresa of Calcutta.

"No name can be mentioned before it is agreed by the full City Council first, and then the person is written to see if they want it," was one councillor's version.

But it is hard to see how this could affect matters as Minister O'Dea is not a member of the City Council.

LEADER  
memories

News reports taken from the files of the Limerick Leader, founded in 1889



Model pupils: Students from the Model school, who were Feile Luimni winners in 1981, looking very summery and proud as they display their plaques and trophies

## 20 years ago

## Success squad dropped

THE special Garda unit established to tackle the stealing and burning of cars in the city has been disbanded.

The members of the unit, who are stationed at Roxboro, were put on other duties on Monday. Last week's city edition of the Limerick Leader reported that 30 of the top joyriders in Limerick were now in jail as a result of the unit's success.

The decision to break up the unit has caused widespread controversy within Garda ranks in Limerick this week.

Last October, a sergeant and a number of gardai at Roxboro were assigned to target joyriders when it was felt the problem was getting out of control. They worked irregular shifts and they were encouraged to use their own initiative in their new brief.

Within two months, the problem had been dramatically reduced.

Garda chief superintendent Michael Fitzgerald this Thursday, when contacted by the Limerick Leader, defended the decision to detail the Gardai in the unit to general duties.

He said: "It is a response to the changing police needs of the city. They did an excellent job, and now we would like their expertise on other duties."

Chief Supt Fitzgerald said that as the need arises, from time to time, they may put particular strengths in particular areas, and then re-divert these gardai to other duties. They

## 25 years ago

## Residents permit an alternative to discs

A "RESIDENTS ONLY" parking area for the O'Connell Avenue district is being investigated as an alternative to the Corporation's proposed disc parking system.

This follows a strongly attended weekend meeting of residents.

Cllr Bobby Byrne told the gathering that the Corporation was prepared to postpone the introduction of disc parking from Quinlan Street, next to the Crescent, as far up as Quin Street, opposite the Redemptorists Church.

But he was personally investigating the feasibility of suggesting to the Corporation of an alternative "residents only" parking system.

He believed that this system already operated in Cork and he was now going to examine the mechanics of it.

The "residents only" system ensures that, for a fee, the residents can park in their own areas and no outsiders can park there. The

system is facilitated by a special sticker disc which can be bought annually.

Cllr Byrnesaid that on completion of his enquiries, he would be making a recommendation to the city manager and the City Council on the matter.

At present, the residents had the problem of outsiders parking in their area, which was making things very difficult.

The residents are completely opposed to disc parking.

## Rescued kitten Boney finds a new home

A MYSTERY boy's quick thinking helped to save a four-month-old kitten who was trapped in a locked-up premises last weekend.

And now the kitten, christened Boney because of her condition when found, is settling in to her new home with the Clancy family of Ballinacuarra Gardens.

The Animal Welfare Circle would like to thank the anonymous boy who brought the plight of the small animal to their attention.

They were having a collection at the Crescent Shopping Centre on Saturday when the young lad told them that he had seen a kitten in the window of an unoccupied premises in Thomondgate.

Ms Anne Dynan, treasurer of the circle, said: "Nobody took a note of his name but we would really like to thank him for his prompt action".

When she went to the premises that evening, she found that it was locked.

"I then went to the gardai in Mary Street. And they were fantastic. They made a number of phone calls and we soon found the key holder."

The kitten was "just a frightened bundle of bones, only about four months old. She was starving but alive. The little black bundle was certainly fortunate that she was noticed by the young boy," said Anne.

Soon after her rescue, Anne brought the kitten out to her new home. "I had been asked earlier in the week for a kitten by Mrs Clancy and I'm happy to say that she is now settling in."