

FIVE THINGS to do this week...

SUPPORT your country as Ireland play Scotland in an RBS Six Nations clash worth watching in the Aviva Stadium this Saturday. Fun for all the family in what promises to be an action packed encounter.

SEE THE critically acclaimed Recruiting Officer at the Civic Theatre from the 13 of March. This hilarious drama follows the social exploits of two soldiers during a recruitment. One for the adults, tickets for the play costs €10 or €7 with concession. Call the box office on 4627477.

GET creative for Seactain na Gaeilge and take part in a creative writing workshop as Gaeilge in Clondalkin Library. Running on Monday, March 12, at 10am and 11.15am, booking for the free event is essential.

WATCH American epic Gone With the Wind at The Helix, DCU, this Saturday at 2pm. The film, which focuses on the infamous but turbulent love



affair between a manipulative woman and a roguish man, stars Vivien Leigh and Clark Gable. Tickets cost €6 or €4 with concession.

GO see the latest Hollywood blockbuster John Carter in which an American civil war veteran is faced with battling 12 foot aliens when he is sent to mars on an important mission. Disney-fun for all of the family, John Carter hits Irish cinema screens on March 9 - with a 12A certificate.

Carthaginians grief and dark comedy

By Mary Dennehy
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ONE of the few enduring plays to have emerged from Ireland's 'troubles', Carthaginians by Buncrana playwright Frank McGuinness is coming to the Civic Theatre this March.

A spin on Bloody Sunday, the play focuses on the intense grief of three women and three men who camp out in a graveyard awaiting the resurrection of the dead.

While grief is the focus of the play, its drama is delivered through dark comedy - resulting in the production being both touching and humorous.

Presented by the Millennium Forum, a theatre and conference centre in Derry, Carthaginians was written by McGuinness in 1988 and has since taken to national and international stages.



Orla Charlton (Maela), Lucia McAnespie (Greta) and Sara Dylan (Sarah).

This version of Carthaginians is directed by Northern Ireland actor Adrian Dunbar, who alongside being a familiar face on television and stage, has appeared in movies such as The Crying Game and The General. Dunbar brings the six, diverse characters to life alongside a

script that one of the characters is writing on the troubles called The Burning Balaclava - which brings a comic element to the wait in the cemetery.

Celebrating the 10th anniversary of the Millennium Forum, the production also commemorates the 40 anniversary of Bloody Sunday.

Described as "brilliantly effective and affective", Carthaginians is coming to the stage of the Civic Theatre, Tallaght, from Monday, March 12, to Saturday, March 17. Tickets cost €20 or €16 with concession, with a €10 super saver deal on Monday, March 12. For further information visit www.civictheatre.ie or call the box office on 4627477.

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Poet's corner

JOAN POWER lives in Rathcoole, Co. Dublin with her husband, Jim. She began writing five years ago and writes mostly fiction prose and some poetry. She has appeared in Dermot Bolger's *Night and Day*, Eileen Casey's *Flavours of Home* and *South of the County* and an Anthology, *Flower Gathering* with St. Muirín's Writer's Group, edited by Marie Gahan.

She has won prizes in several competitions with her prose including the Jonathon Swift Creative Writing Award (first, second and third prize), the Caomhnu Crannog Bookshop Competition (second prize) and the UK magazine, *The Cat* (first prize). She is currently working on pieces for publication with both St. Muirín's Writers Group and Platform One Writers.



Spinning Yarns

by Joan Power

*Embrace me
in the last throes nature
has granted.
Always, our choices slid together
in weft and warp,
silk for me, cotton for you.
You called me
a sensory ingénue,
I could never return the compliment
for your paisley pyjamas.
If clothes could speak
yours would crave a cuppa,
mine, a crisp, dry sancerre.
Time unravelled me
and I morphed into a flannelette tea lady
rasping against your winter lint for warmth.
It's not the same;
I'd love one more sashay
down the catwalk,
just one more silky swirl
to your cotton-pickin' dude.*