

Local man hopes to hit the right note with new music app

By Clare Minnock

EVER wanted to make a soundtrack to your life? Well, now you can – thanks to a brand new app created by a local man.

In your own time is an adaptive music app for android phones and is the brainchild of David Collier from Brownshill, Carlow town. The app takes a piece of music specially composed for the smart phone and uses the phone's sensors to allow the music to adapt on each listen.

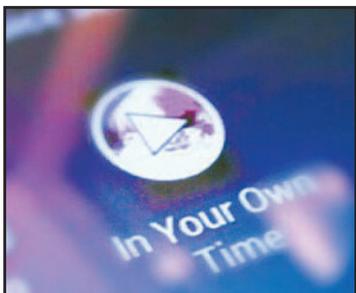
"It's a different way to experience music. It's not just a piece of music or live music and it's not an instrument. It's an experiment," explained David, who has a master's in music and media technology from Trinity College Dublin.

As part of his studies, David toyed with the idea of creating the app and enlisted the help of Bagenalstown native Mick Cody and visual artist Shane Finan. Together, the trio designed and produced the app, which reacts to your movements and the sound of your environment.

"If it's in your pocket, it takes



David Collier from Brownshill



a melody of your movements. All loud sounds, it takes it in and puts them into the app. I started it for my master's last year and we've been plugging away ever since," added David, who commutes to Dublin to work at the Contemporary Music Centre

in Temple Bar.

Whether you're ambling around the shops or rushing to catch the bus, *In your own time* uses the phone's sensors to allow the music to change on each listen. "We locked down some of the elements of the music; the melodies are pre-made but they change depending on the environment."

Over the past six months, the trio have worked on the app, which will be available for free download through the Play store on android smart phones.

"Mick did a lot of the programming and Shane did the graphic design. They did a great job. It's pretty much done and should be available by the end of March.

"It's just an experiment, but we're putting it out there to get feedback. People that we've spoken to have been really excited about the idea so we just want to see what people think," David told *The Nationalist*.

Log on to www.inyourowntime.net to find out more about the launch later this month and follow the guys on Facebook and Twitter.

Kildavin kids enjoyed a little taste of France

THE children of Kildavin NS were treated to a little taste of France last week when two teachers from a partner school visited them. The two ladies, Aurelie and Annie, visited Kildavin as part of the EU-funded *Comenius* learning exchange programme.

While in the school, they visited and taught all classes, bringing French culture, art, games and language alive for the children.

On Friday, the school was transformed into 'little Paris' in honour of the visitors. Everyone wore red, white and blue (even the staff) and each child was treated to a little 'taste of France'. Croissant, brioche, pain au chocolat, baguette, nutella, brie and goats' cheese were all on the tasting menu.

Aurelie and Annie said 'au revoir' on Friday evening and left for France with happy memories of the children and their time spent in Kildavin.



Bon appetit! Pupils at Kildavin NS trying out some French food and drink

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