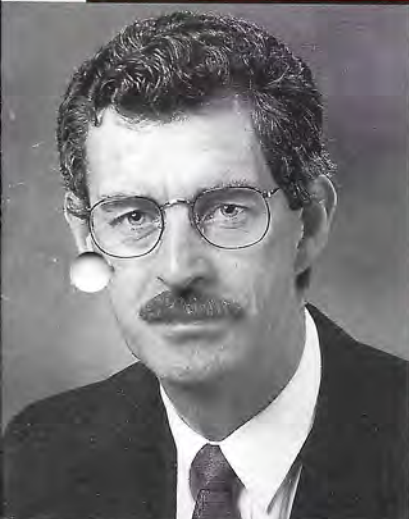


ROSCREA REVIEW

No. 70

Newsletter for the Cistercian College, Roscrea, Union.

Spring 1998



interview with Mr. Dick Spring

Did you enjoy your years in CCR?

To the best of my knowledge, I enjoyed 5 years in CCR. Of course, it was a sportsman's paradise. I was totally

immersed in all codes, Hurling, Gaelic Football, Athletics, Rugby and even competed in the Leinster Schools Juvenile Handball Competition - one round only!

Happiest Memory?

My first headline in the Irish Independent - "Spring kicks Roscrea to Victory" after defeating Newbridge 14-12 in the Junior Cup replay at Donnybrook. Despite Fr. Kevin's protestations from the sideline, I insisted on going for goal from the touch line and of course the ball went straight between the posts - I was being a little defiant even in those early days.

Most Challenging Time?

To get out to the local shop in "Ballyskenach" for an early morning newspaper - out thro' the top pitch, thro' the trees - over the wall and back as fast as possible - caught once or twice - then had to share the rugby reports with staff!!

Did Boarding School assist you in any way in handling life as a Politician?

Hard to say - as I can't compare with going to Day School. But in general terms I sense that it makes one more independent and self-reliant.

Talk about the challenges - Professional and Personal - that face a busy Politician.

Balancing conflicting interests and differing roles - there is a huge difference between the function of a T.D. in his constituency and partaking as a legislator in Dáil Eireann. A balance has to be struck between both roles and this is very difficult to achieve. It is also more difficult for Politicians from rural areas as a lot of Meetings, Conferences, Functions take place in Dublin at weekends - including Fridays and Mondays. Also, many Politicians feel that there is no electoral reward for their role as legislators.

What aspect of Political life holds least appeal for you?

The constant demands for T.D.'s to attend Meetings at night time leaves little time for any other involvement. Also, the fact that Dublin is 185 miles from Tralee which necessitates a round trip weekly of 370 miles and this uses up eight to ten hours also.

Does our media serve democracy well?

I believe the relationship between the Media and Politics is at an all time low. It requires urgent action by both sides, to ensure that there is balance and accountability from Politics and the Media. This may well require an independent high level Commission to define the relationship and the responsibility of both sides.



inside ROSCREA this issue



CCR has changed a lot - Board of Governors, Lay Principal, Lay President etc. As a Past Pupil, how do you react?

Change is inevitable but the pace of change in CCR in recent years has surprised me. Full credit to the Cistercian Monks for the changes they have made. The new structures prepare the College for the next century. Hopefully, CCR will go on to make an equally substantial contribution to Irish education in the future, as it has done since 1905.

Have you any involvement in the College's Development Programme?

Despite a busy schedule (understatement!) for the past few years, I am always available to the Authorities for any project and yes I did work closely with Fr. Kevin in recent years.

What hopes do you have for the College over the next 20+ years?

Apart from wishing the College every success in the major and primary role in educational matters, I want to see CCR win the Leinster Senior Cup - before the end of the 20th Century. Hopefully, the combination of the Rugby Development Fund and the excellent coaching of New Zealander, Kevin West, they will realise this dream which I'm sure I share with all CCR pastmen. What a great Patrick's Day it would be!

Where does Dick Spring go from here?

Having obtained a new lease of life after 15 years on the "High Wire" of leadership - I look forward to new projects. I will still be involved in North Kerry Politics - discussions are under way to do some teaching in 3rd level colleges; a number of Directorships are under consideration; I'm undertaking a computer course - I'm spending more time with my family and I still have time to improve my golf - just in case Bill Clinton does fulfil his promise to play Ballybunion with me. But if it's that game in Ballybunion or the Leinster Senior Cup, then let's have the Cup!

Irish Society has changed dramatically in the last 20 years - how did you and the Labour Party contribute to that change?

It is my firm belief that the Labour Party made a very solid and impressive contribution to the Economic and Social well-being of Ireland in the past 20 years, but particularly in the past 10 years. Any detailed analysis of Government programmes and Government achievements will readily show the strong influence of the Labour Party. This we were able to achieve because we became a Party with a much clearer definition and focus in the 1990's.



DICK SPRING MEETS BILL CLINTON

What Ministry did you derive greatest satisfaction from?

The Department of Foreign Affairs. Having served in Justice, Environment and Energy, I was ready for Foreign Affairs which is a very central and important Ministry. Dealing

with Northern Ireland on a day-to-day basis was demanding yet was satisfying. Also, I enjoyed European and World diplomacy, especially being President of the Council of Ministers for our Presidency of the E.U.

Can you see a solution to the so-called "Northern Problem" in this generation?

As we speak, a solution is being shaped - the design which flows from the Anglo-Irish Agreement, the Downing Street Declaration and the Joint Framework Document. Success will require courage on behalf of all participants. Unionists must accept that an internal settlement is not achievable and Republicans must settle for a solution that falls a long way short of their aspiration of a United Ireland. The jury is still out on whether that can square the circle or reconcile what appears to be irreconcilable - we can only wish them well from the sidelines.

When historians analyse your contribution to 20th Century Ireland, what 'mistakes' do you think they might focus us on?

I can only speculate on what historians will write in due course. I would hope that they will focus on the contribution of the Labour Party to Economic and Social progress. Most likely they will focus on the decision to go into coalition with Fianna Fail in 1993. Of course, the ending of that Government in very difficult circumstances will be examined also.

Your response to these so-called mistakes?

My response? Politicians make decisions all the time - hopefully you get most of them right.

Your proudest moment in Politics?

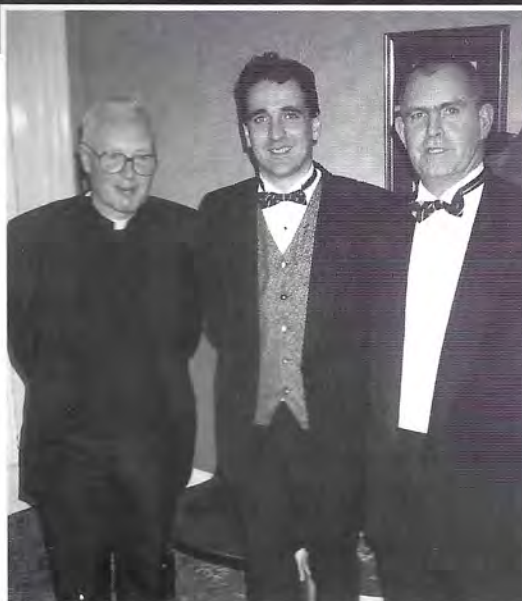
Leading the Labour Party to an all-time high in the 1992 General Election - a very sweet victory.

Your toughest decision ?

Taking Labour into Government with Fianna Fail or possibly leading Labour out of that Government.



DUBLIN BRANCH
Dinner



TOP : MATT HYLAND AND UNION PRESIDENT JOHN COMERFORD.

MIDDLE : NOEL WINDLE, FERGUS TAAFE, DONAL TAAFE AND JUDGE WILLIAM HARNETT

BOTTOM : DOM COLMCILLE O'TOOLE, ROBERT O'SHEA, FRANK SMYTH.

Editorial

As usual this issue of the "Roscrea Review" gives details of the wide array of Union Activities. Other schools are constantly envious of the range of functions organised by the various branches of the Union. Yet, there is a sense in which many of the Branches are not as active as they might appear to be. This leads to the underlying question - has the time come to restructure the Union? Are there branches of the Union that exist in name only? Are the geographical divisions that have historically characterised the Union valid as we face into the new Millennium? These are related issues and have been discussed by the Union's Central Committee and at present, a small sub-committee is looking at the Unions Constitution and formulating the suggested alterations, amendments etc. that might be required. We await with interest the outcome of their deliberations.


The College's commitment to its Development Programme continues unabated. The next few years will see the construction of a Sports Complex, the equipping of an Information Technology Centre and the revamping of the older dormitories. All these developments are testimony to an underlying confidence as regards the future role of the school. The developments must be properly funded so inevitably the generosity of parents and pastmen will continue to be called upon to create the type of modern institution that everyone wants C.C.R. to be.

All of you with children between the ages of 12 and 18 will be interested to know that "Eurolanguages" will use the college as a residential centre, starting in the summer of 1998.

Please note that the "Address Update" section has been included once more. It is proving invaluable in terms of assisting the updating of the PPU Data-base. If you haven't already done so, please return the enclosed form in the envelope provided so as to guarantee the safe delivery of the "Review" to your proper address.

Finally, I hope you enjoy this issue of the "Review" and keep the news and information coming in so that all pastmen can be kept updated on the activities of the almost 3,000 pastmen who now receive this publication.

roscrea review - phase II of our development programme



The "College of the Millennium Programme" - a £2.8m Capital Campaign to fund Phase II of our Development Programme - is a vital step in ensuring that the College's contribution to secondary education is guaranteed in the years ahead. To continue efficiently, we must provide academic, residential and recreational facilities of the highest standards. Phase II of our Development Programme outlines a number of areas which need to be expanded and renovated as well as the construction of new facilities to meet current needs.

Proposed Plans for Phase II include:-

- Provision of an Information Technology Centre
- Construction of a Fully Equipped Sports Hall
- Renovation of Existing Dormitories

Although this project is a very ambitious one, we at the College feel that we have the support of our various constituents in moving ahead and feel that these improvements will see CCR progress into the new Millennium with renewed strength

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY CENTRE

In this, the Information Technology Age, we cannot overstate the importance of Computer Literacy as it daily encroaches upon more and more areas of life and work. Internet access can vastly expand and enhance information dissemination and can provide comprehensive exposure to and understanding of practical computer use.

As we approach the dawn of the 21st Century, it is imperative that our students have access to the wealth of educational resources available in today's global community. The provision of a Multi-Media Learning Centre will place CCR students at the cutting edge of international innovation and develop-

ments in education and help them attain necessary skills whatever direction their future careers takes them.

RESTORATION & RENOVATION OF EXISTING DORMITORIES

There is a general consensus among all constituents of Roscrea that the Dormitory accommodation is no longer adequate by today's standards, and to this end we plan to make extensive improvements to them. Existing dorms require some structural restoration to roofs and floors as well as modernisation of the sleeping areas and shower facilities together with improved ventilation. Work in this area will be on a phased basis beginning this summer.

Innovative Developments at CCR

CONSTRUCTION OF A FULLY EQUIPPED SPORTS HALL

Throughout our history, we at Roscrea, have always believed that sport plays an integral role in the learning and maturation process. To benefit fully from a well rounded education, a boy must be encouraged to develop his physical interests in tandem with the academic, as this represents the best preparation for later life. Health, fitness, character-development and team-building can all be attributed to participation in games and these characteristics reflect well in adult life.

In a recent statement by the Minister of Education, Mr. Micheál Martin also underlined the importance of sport in personal development and has made innovative proposals to make Physical Education a formal Junior and Leaving Certificate subject. With ever-increasing opportunities for careers in the Leisure and Sports related sector, the provision of sporting resources at second level can no longer be overstated, but at present, our boys are without adequate indoor facilities to develop and implement a complete sports programme. The new

Sports Hall will be located adjacent to the Swimming Pool giving the College an integrated Sports Centre.

The proposed Sports Hall will provide facilities for :-

- numerous indoor sporting activities, such as Basketball, Volleyball and indoor Soccer
- have a Weights Room to provide improved training for Rugby, Hurling etc.
- permit evening sport and appropriate facilities for the boys on inclement days.
- additional Changing Rooms and Shower Areas.
- accommodation for 11 Table Tennis Tables & 5 Pool Tables.
- Meeting Room, Viewing Area - Referees' Changing Room, Sports Director's Room, Store Room.

FUNDING

To maintain the character and mission of the college since its founding in 1905, the Monks and the Board of Governors have endeavoured to keep fees as low as possible while still providing for the basic needs of the boys. As 100% of the College income comes from fees the College would not be capable of supporting the aforementioned improvements which have been identified as necessary and thus we are seeking the support of our many friends.

The decision to follow this course of action was not taken lightly as the monastic tradition has always been one of self-sufficiency, but with a strong belief that the needs of the College cannot be overstated, a desire to give recognition and continuation to the work of those who have devoted so much of their life to CCR in years past and an awareness of the general goodwill and support exhibited towards the Monastery and the College, we were spurred on.

Phase II of our development programme is now well established with commitments of £1.8m to date. However, in order for our proposed plans to become a reality for the youth of today we must forge ahead with vigour. By supporting Roscrea in its "College of the Millennium" campaign you will be endorsing Cistercian College Roscrea as it continues into the new Millennium, a relevant and enriching educational experience.



Ireland Today

If we were asked what was the most significant event of the 20th century which is now nearing its end, we might say World War 2 or The Holocaust. Both these were horrific in their scope, in their savagery and in their destruction of what was good. But I think a case can be made that in fact the most significant event was the collapse of Communism. Communism had been tried for about three quarters of a century - which is a fair period of time to try any system. And in the end it collapsed in on itself. It was not overthrown by a bloody revolution, as it had been instituted by one. At the end there was nothing corresponding to the boom of the Aurora's guns in 1917 - the whole thing just collapsed.

That surely proved two facts - that you cannot make people happy by controlling their lives and deciding from the top how they must live; and likewise you need more than a controlled economy for people to make something of their lives. The myth of Socialism must surely die with the collapse of Communism - whatever the evils of allowing the market too much scope there is no way in which a totally controlled economy will contribute to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness for those who live under it.

But where does that leave us in Ireland? At present we have a country which is rapidly going the way of all western democracies, into liberalism and secularism. The collapse of Communism surely demonstrates beyond doubt the superiority of Capitalism and the desirability of Free Enterprise. The present moment in Ireland is good in many ways. There is more money around; people are better off, and some are very well off indeed. The EU has brought us a prosperity that we did not know before. But the trouble about Capitalism is that its law is the law of the market place. This is simply "Maximise profits", or to put it more crudely "Make more money". And that is what is driving Ireland right now.

A society has to look to both the future and the past. It is arguable that we are looking to neither. Ireland's past is Christian, and mainly Catholic. We now seem to be somewhat embarrassed by if not ashamed of that. Irish culture, and Irish history have been made by Christianity. We are now more educated, and more questioning than we ever were before. That is good, but it seems to be leading to a situation where we are rejecting our heritage, and where the great religious past of the country is seen only as a tourist attraction to be illustrated in Interpretative Centres with video and tape recording.

The idea that faith in Jesus Christ should actually shape our actions and that these should shape our society does not seem to be in our awareness. Apart from the huge loss of faith in authority of all kinds during the past twenty five years, there seem to be two facts immediately underlying the situation here in Ireland. One is a general weakening of religious faith. Scandals among the clergy have undoubtedly helped to bring this about. The lack of entrants to the seminaries and novitiates not only speaks of this weakening, but also adds to the chorus of voices saying "Don't — there are better things to do with your life". So the influence of religion in society is further weakened.

A second reason is that we have had in Ireland a very strong practice-based religion. We judged strength of faith and commitment to the gospel by commitment to Church attendance. This has apparently dropped by up to 30% in some areas, and in some e.g. working class districts of Dublin by twice that figure. With the tradition we have had in Ireland it is difficult to believe that when religious practice declines, faith will not decline along with it. Anyone teaching Religion in secondary schools will tell you how difficult it is, and how it is no longer a fact that the school backs up the religious practice of the home and family. Will it be only a few years before we have a whole generation of young men and women in their twenties who have little knowledge of and less interest in religion?

It would probably be a mistake to think that Religion, and the Catholic Church in particular, is singled out for attack e.g. in the media. All the institutions of Irish life are under attack - the Government, politicians, the judiciary, the legal profession, the Army, the Gardai, as well as the Church. All authority figures and institutions have fallen into disrepute and disfavour.

If you ask the average Irish person what he/she thinks of the Philosophy of Determinism, they will probably not know what you are talking about. But more and more of us are ready to accept the idea that all our moral urges, all our desires for good or evil are either inherited characteristics, or are genetically determined, or are due to early conditioning. You are not really responsible for your own life and your own conduct. It was given to you and you are not answerable for what you do. The authority of the Church held the line against this for centuries and that authority has now been so eroded as to be largely non-existent for much of the population.

Give us another few years and that most popular figure, the Celtic Tiger, will have firmly created a new Ireland, in which the bottom line will be market forces. And these forces will determine not only our profits, and the amount of money we have, but how we treat people, how we view those who work for us, how we see such emotionally and morally loaded areas of human life as marriage, conception, abortion and death. Are we heading in that direction? We are already well down that road - the road that every western democracy has gone down and on which it becomes daily more difficult to turn back.

We need a new direction in religion if we are to create a new Ireland. A Church leadership which earns its authority; a liturgy on Sunday which lifts us out of the humdrum and the ordinary and opens a door in heaven for us to look through for half an hour; a care for the neighbour which goes beyond "Community Alert", a realisation that the need of the neighbour is the voice of Christ, calling to us in his need - "I was hungry and did you feed me?"; an awareness that peace and good neighbourliness is a gospel imperative; that the divisions between the Churches demand respect for each other and genuine love for all; and a conviction that there is an awful lot more to Christian faith than going to Church.

In other words, Capitalism and Market Forces are not the only alternative to Communism. But there is a long road ahead.



The rain pours down in big heavy drops as I stare out onto the bleak pitches. My elbows glued to the varnished sill, the hinged window ajar, I watch our Senior 1st XV as they are valiantly wallowed.

Surveying this typically dreary Saturday from my lofty vantage point in the "pav", my mind drifts into a state of nostalgia. The dawn of realisation slowly descends upon my fragile conscious and I realise that this is indeed the last Saturday in November that I will spend encased in this institution. An institution renowned for the calibre of youthful exuberance it consistently churns out, year after monotonous year. A centre of educational excellence, no dole moles or factory fodder graduate from the hallowed echelons of Cistercian College Roscrea. Indeed!

Inspired with this confidence and with my curiosity aroused, an obvious intellectual question begs to be asked so in typical CCR style I ignore it. Instead I dwell on the more humble niceties our beloved Colaiste Cisteirseach has to offer.

Food, glorious food. The mere mention of the word conjures vivid imagery of congealing gravy lashed over elastic beef served with chips doused in enough oil to fuel the average train. Far be it from anyone, to ever accuse this school of providing nourishing food for those who must navigate the treacherous, winding vale of education. Although each September hordes of "pastmen" return and they don't exactly seem to be malnourished.

Among the gothic arches, condensation and decorative (as opposed to operative) radiators, it is a step towards deification to be blessed with "a mighty poc" or "a wicked sidestep". Whether its application is in hurling, rugby or athletics, sporting talent is a valued asset, once employed for the benefit of the school.

For those massed unfortunates devoid of the guile or agility to be successful on the fields of attrition, compulsory rugby leagues provide ample opportunity to exhibit total ineptitude. Blatant bloopers ensure incessant ridicule; I suppose it was "character building".

Victorious teams do however assure their gifted members of hero status within our hallowed environs. Impressionable young first years openly drool over these mighty warriors, respected prefects. The balancing act

A SATURDAY in NOVEMBER

between books and boots is but a distant dream for these young guns. A fable to be filed away with Granda's tales of woe as he herded "wanlings" to market, plodding barefoot through snowdrifts in shorts and a potato sack!

Of course before the exploits on match day, training sessions hone enthusiasm, focus the determination. Each ritualistic day as classes cease, students flood from every classroom, dashing insanely towards the "pav".

Foul smelling sweat and damp socks serve as the starter. Controlled violence on the pitches follows as a succulent main course. Sand scrapes exposed blue limbs and the crimson drops well up from underneath the caked mud. Dessert is a sweet combination of shampoo and sponge, served in the communal showers. The tepid water and water pressure (or lack there of) are the main bones of contention before the band of merry athletes troop off for tea.

One of the main points of conjecture debated vociferously in the blue haze which descends mysteriously (and frequently) on the visitors to the back of the swimming pool is of course the tried, tested, and detested routine which pervades every aspect of life. It is without doubt that life would grind to a halt in "Boot Camp Cistercian" without rules, bells and rattling keys. Herded from bed to church to class by blasted bells echoing from every alcove and aperture. Only those privileged few who wake or have awoke to keys being savagely beaten on metal lockers can truly appreciate those golden moments spent fraudulently hidden under the covers. As one hovers between consciousness and dreamy visions, the illusion that "I am still at home" all too briefly convinces the clouded morning intellect before it is malevolently shattered as the duvet is ripped off by some machiavellian, imbecilic prefect on a power trip. This may seem to be an exaggerated account of life in this marvellous school, but we know better.

Anyway, exaggeration is the art honed while sitting on a radiator, frostbitten fingers arch stiffly, clinging to the elixir of life, a plastic cup of dodgy, but warm coffee. Imaginations are also expanded of

course, in study. Many a vivid daydream was conceived while sitting for four hours in the study hall, observing the ancient paint peel off in layers from the damp walls. Snatched morsels of conversation as the supervisor looks away provide the only other relief from the grinding monotony of study.

Then of course there's the guilt. The soul-crushing guilt which gnaws at your very soul as you monitor the freak beside you, who is always more diligent than you, always labouring, always awake!

A Roscrea education though is not all about points, pitches or omnipotent housemasters. When the dust settles and the rose-tinted spectacles are donned, happy times are remembered. Cup games, Operas, our unique Christmas Day and philosophical debates conducted 'neath the starry sky as another second study was bunked. Personal and private triumphs, never to be shared but always to be cherished. Memories that will endure the test of time to remain firmly inscribed on the heart of every CCR boy's heart.

An icy droplet splashes on my exposed forehead, scattering my thoughts and reminisces. The senior game has finally finished, unfortunately my dour prediction was vindicated. Blooied, but unbowed the team skulk back to the "pav". When the psychological self loathing and fatigue sink into the past, when the old adrenaline pump gets back into gear for the next round of abuse, to-day's debacle will be forgotten and the "black and white army" will march again.

As I stride, in solitude down the cement steps of the "pav", high pitched squeals from the "kids" pierce my eardrums. Avanté, my junior comrades, only another five years to go. Then the prophetic words of the Yoplait commercial come to me;

Well it won't kill ya

AND WHAT DOESN'T KILL YOU, CAN ONLY MAKE YOU STRONGER, SO I WAS THOUGHT IN CLASS, ANYWAY.

MICHAEL GRACE

Michael Grace, a native of Oola, Co. Limerick is a 6th Year student in the College. In the summer of 1997, he won the Senior Schools All-Ireland Hammer Competition and the All-Ireland Under 23 B.L.E.

He hopes to study Medicine or Law on the completion of his Leaving Certificate this summer.

The curtains of the college were being drawn and "limboland" lured. As options were being evaluated, I came across a notice titled "Carpe Diem". It was an opportunity to participate in a voluntary work programme in Honduras, Central America. The programme entails a three week intensive language learning course in Tegucigalpa (the capital of Honduras) followed by a 5½ month voluntary work programme organised by Interculture (Dublin) in association with AFS Honduras, while living with a Honduran family.

To help fund costs of £2,500 (excluding living expenses) I was advised on positive Fundraising projects. I rang up Allan Downey and Reamonn Canavan to test the water, to see if a fundraising cycle was a possible runner. The response was positive and indeed encouraging. With an over-night stay in Roscrea the East-West Challenge could be a reality.

Frank Smyth thought it was a great idea and came up with enthusiastic proposals. A few phone calls were made and as the event got closer, things were fitting into place nicely. With two days to go, Alan organised a photo-shoot with "cycling legend" Sean Kelly. Tracksuits were sponsored by Finches, thanks to Pauline O'Byrne and family, while jumpers and T-shirts were sponsored by Sealink and Red-Green.

Rosslare to Carrick-On-Suir proved to be our toughest stage. Having gone out the previous night probably didn't help, but we got a few encouraging "beeps" from passing cars. The Downey sitting room was temporarily transformed into our rehabilitation centre for a couple of hours. The following day, we were met by Reamonn on the outskirts of Roscrea, having cycled from Carrick via Kilkenny. We then entered the heartland of CCR crossing the bridge at Streamstown and through the golden eagled gates, past the trees with the bog-pitch on the right. We smiled, probably never having imagined cycling through the gates as a past student to be welcomed by staff and students.

The reception was most welcoming. We were introduced to Mr. Cronin and to some of the "new" students by Frank Smyth. The physical changes

were very apparent as indeed was the school ambience, however, so much remained the same. There was a feeling of excitement throughout the school and a sentiment that all present had a part to play in the development of the college.

The transition year students, guided by Tom Carroll, were extremely successful with their Fundraising activities and presented us with a cheque for £450, which was incredibly good. We met the Sixth Years to discuss various aspects of 3rd level "life", which was very interesting! We also had a

meeting with the Transition Year and gave them our advice, for all it was worth. During our guide of the newer surrounds we bumped into the familiar face of Father Peter, coming from the Chapel with a group of students. We ate in the priests' room and were invited for tea and sandwiches in the O'Rourke's home. We also sampled a brief experience of life in the teachers' room during the break. It was more hectic than envisaged. Father Gabriel and the kitchen staff gave us the "red carpet" treatment in the Guesthouse.

On Tuesday, we began the final stage of the challenge to Galway. We had a warm south easterly tail wind and were blessed by sunshine. We were welcomed to Galway by the local Amnesty International branch at Taylor's Pub. We were then hosted in the beautiful surrounds of Barna by Reamonn's mum, Moya.

The cycle proved to be a tremendous success with help from many friends and family. To date £430 has been donated to Amnesty International to help their campaign to implement the Refugee Act 1996. Donations came from staff and students in Roscrea, friends and family and those who became aware of the cycle through the *Wexford People* and the *Tipperary Nationalist*. Apart from the fund-raising we hope we have aroused awareness about Interculture and its programmes and also about AI and its objectives. The co-operation and enthusiasm shown by all related to CCR was fantastic. I really appreciate the kind support and hope the programme will be worthwhile.

CONOR FOX

Preparing for Honduras



SEAN KELLY OFFERS SOME PRACTICAL ADVICE TO C.C.R.'S CYCLISTS





THE KENMARE WEEKEND 1997

They began to gather in groups about the welcoming fire in the hall of the Park Hotel late on Friday afternoon. Greetings are exchanged, dinner plans are made, the enthusiastic sign up for golf or tennis while in the background the decibel level from the bar increases.

The 1997 weekend saw most of the faithful back for another two days of indulgence. The Foxes, Brannigans, O'Sheas, the ever faithful Noel Windle and Christine and the Union President John Comerford and his wife Helen. Noel McCarthy as is customary had made the journey from the U.S., accompanied by a colleague Richard Culliton, who despite the good name couldn't claim a Roscrea background. We had the honorary "CCRites" Joan and Tony Keoghan as well as Dara and Jimmy Lenehan guests of Anya and Conor Massey. Sadly Fr. Dermot was unable to make the journey this year and Fr. Peter represented the College.

Over thirty people struggled out on Saturday morning after breakfast to take part in the golf scramble. Mediterranean-like weather meant people playing golf in short sleeves. Pat O'Shea and Gerald McCarthy were responsible for the organization and for feeding the scores into the main frame computer afterwards.

The formal Gala dinner on Saturday was presided over by the Union President and was up to the Park's usual high standard. Golf Prizes were distributed after dinner and winners of the Fr. Diarmuid O'Colmáin Cup were Helen Comerford, Joan O'Gara and Jimmy Lenehan.

After dinner, entertainment was provided by the popular group "Neidins" with contributions from the audience. It is worth coming for the weekend to hear Conor Massy's "Cinderella" recitation alone! Following "Neidins" departure Cora Fox took over at the piano and there were rousing choruses sung from Gilbert & Sullivan operettas led by Pat O'Shea late into the night. The weekend concluded appropriately with Mass said by Fr. Peter on Sunday morning.

The 1998 weekend will be from Friday 30th October to Sunday November 1st. The weekend represents great value and is one of the Union's most enjoyable functions as witnessed by those who return year after year. Early booking is advisable, phone the Park Hotel Kenmare (064) 41200



UNION PRESIDENT, JOHN COMERFORD WITH NOEL MCCARTHY AND LARRY BRANNIGAN

NOEL WINDLE, CONOR MASSEY AND FR. PETER, O.CIST.



HELEN COMERFORD, DONAL AND SHEILA CANTWELL

GOLFERS PREPARING FOR THE FRAY AT KENMARE WEEKEND 1997
FERGAL O'GARA, LIAM KELLY, GERALD MCCARTHY, JIM O'SHEA, OWEN FOX,
CORA FOX AND MARGARET O'SHEA





**CISTERCIAN COLLEGE
ROSCREA**

CLASS OF 1942 - '47

GOLDEN JUBILEE REUNION

FRONT : FATHER LAURENCE WALSH O.CIST,
COLUM IRWIN, FR. DENIS FOLEY, DOM
COLMCILLE O'TOOLE O.CIST, DOM AMBROSE
FARRINGTON O.CIST, FRED SHARKEY, JOHN
STOKES, FR. PETER GARVEY O.CIST.

MIDDLE : PAT RYAN, FRANK SMYTH (PRINCIPAL),
JOHN RYAN, FR. RAYMOND PELLY
O.CIST., PETER O'REGAN, DESMOND
MURRAY, JIM O'FARRELL, JAMES BROWNE,
FRANK LYNCH, PATRICK CRONIN (PRESIDENT).

BACK : RICHARD JOHNSON, AIDAN BRITTON,
MARTIN LAVAN, JOHN F. WALSH, JOHN
O'ROURKE, JIM WHITE, PAT MCCARTHY,
PADDY QUINLAN, JUSTIN O'CONNELL, FR.
DENIS EGAN, JAMES FOGARTY



**CISTERCIAN COLLEGE
ROSCREA**

CLASS OF 1957

REUNION SEPT. 20, 1997

BACK : JIMMY MCGUINNESS,
MICHAEL HOEY, BRENDAN
O'DEA, PADDY BERGIN.

MIDDLE : FRANK SMYTH (DEAN
OF STUDIES), MICHAEL CURLEY,
MICHAEL ROONEY, JIM EGAN,
CYRIL HACKETT, MATT DUFFY,
PATRICK CRONIN (PRESIDENT OF
COLLEGE)

FRONT : FR. EANNA
HENDERSON (VICE-PRESIDENT),
CIARAN KELLY, DOM COLMCILLE
O'TOOLE (LORD ABBOT),
MICHAEL O'DWYER, FR. PETER
GARVEY (COLLEGE PASTOR).

**CISTERCIAN COLLEGE
ROSCREA**

CLASS OF 1967 - '72

25 YEAR REUNION HELD IN SEPT. 1997

FRONT : FR. PETER GARVEY O.CIST,
ANTHONY DUIGNAN, PETER COLLIER, SHAY
GARVEY, DOM COLMCILLE O'TOOLE O.CIST,
JOHNNY DOLAN, DERMOT O'LAUGHLIN, TOM
KELLY, FR. EANNA HENDERSON O.CIST,

SECOND : FRANK SMYTH (PRINCIPAL), MYLES
O'CONNOR, FRANK LYNHAM, JOHN O'MEARA,
JAMES KELLY, JAMES SHERRY, TOM
O'CONNELL, GERARD MAHER, DERMOT
DUNCAN, PATRICK CRONIN (PRESIDENT)

THIRD : BERNARD MOLLOY, MICHAEL O'BRIEN,
RICHARD RYAN, GERARD RYAN, JOHN
GARAHY, KIERAN FOLAN, MICHAEL KERINS,
MICHAEL SLATTERY, JOHN BOYAN, SIMON
COYLE,

BACK : VINCENT MOCKLER, DENIS MOLLOY,
FERGAL KEANE, MICHAEL GALVIN, PATRICK
LEONARD.





REPORT from the CHAIRMAN of the BOARD of GOVERNORS

In appointing the first Board of Governors in 1991 the Abbot brought together a group of people with wide experience in education, business and professional life. Then, as now, there was a strong presence of pastmen ensuring that the ethos and traditions of CCR would be represented on the Board. The first Chairman of the Board was my predecessor Larry Brannigan and I would like to pay tribute to Larry for the enormous amount of work he put in firstly in helping the Abbey to establish the Board and then as Chairman for six years. Under Larry's Chairmanship, the Board undertook a review of the College operations and facilities. It recognized that major investment would be required in new buildings and upgrading of existing facilities if CCR was to remain at the forefront of Irish boarding schools into the next century. The Board launched in 1994 a long-term development strategy known as the 'College of the Millennium' and appointed professional consultants to spearhead the fundraising campaign. To underscore its commitment to the College's future, the Abbey generously funded the new Link Building which has provided additional dormitory, locker and social accommodation. Perhaps the most significant step by the Board under Larry's Chairmanship was the appointment of the first lay President of the College. It was a challenging task for the selection panel appointed by the Board to find a suitable successor not only to Fr. Kevin but to the monks who preceded him as Presidents since the College's foundation in 1905. The Board is convinced that in Patrick Cronin we have a most capable successor to this distinguished line. The Board has been impressed with the energy and enthusiasm with which Patrick has approached his task and it is heartening to see the support he has received from staff and students alike since his appointment.

There is a depth of tremendous talent and dedication in the entire staff of CCR, academic, housemasters, administration, catering and housekeeping. The Board is determined to harness this strength in developing the future of the College. One of the principal tasks that the Board and the President are now undertaking is the formulation of a new Action Plan to cover the College's development over the next five years. This will examine, in consultation with all the parties involved, organization and management structures, budgeting policy, student needs and the facilities of the College in terms of study, recreation, social and living space. The Board has extended the membership of its sub-committees which deal with Finance, Building Development, Personnel and Sports to include members of the staff as well as pastmen and parents, thus widening the pool of expertise available to the College.

Elsewhere in this issue of the *Review* you will read about the planned new building developments. These are made possible due to the generosity of parents, pastmen and friends of the College who have to date pledged £1.8 million to the Development Fund. Plans are well advanced on providing a large Sports Centre targeted to cost £1.9 million, its links with the swimming pool and Pavilion will give the College a first class Sports Complex. The refurbishment of dormitories will start in the summer with work on upgrading the Infirmary wing while a new Information Technology Centre based in the existing library will hopefully be in place by September. The Abbey has made available the fine Victorian lodge at the back avenue and this is being upgraded and extended to provide living accommodation for the President.

These are exciting times for the College as it prepares to enter the next Century under new leadership but firmly rooted in the Cistercian tradition that has made CCR such a unique and distinctive centre of education excellence. The Board acknowledges the contribution made by the Union to the College and looks forward to forging closer ties with it in developing Roscrea, as the College of the Millennium.



Golf Addicts

The newly revamped South-East Branch will not hold a function as such this year but are staging a Golf outing at Ireland's premier parkland Golf Course, Mount Juliet. Recently elected Chairman Gearoid O'Brian's penchant for value and contacts in high places means you can play and have dinner in Mount Juliet for less than the usual full Green Fee. Could you ask for more ?

The unusual aspect is that it is being held on Easter Saturday, 11th April, the informal meal is scheduled for 5.30 and the committee guarantees you can be on the road home by 7p.m., or stay if you choose in the beautiful Thomastown area. The bad news is that Tee times are limited, so book today, see back page for details. Non-Golfers will be welcome at the meal (please inform us) and there is much to see and do in the area.

The officers of the South-East Branch for the coming year are:

Chairman :	Gearoid O'Brien,	Ardkreen Village, Waterford	051-843002.
Secretary :	Pat O'Shea,	Ashleigh Court, Kilkenny.	056-22390.
Treasurer :	John Comerford,	Thomastown, Co. Kilkenny.	056-24289.





We have met the Rev. Richard Heaton and visited his Ballyskenagh - our Mount St. Joseph townland - and met his wife, Grizell Medhop and visited her Lisnageeragh - the adjoining land north of the Little Brosna river, which contains most of the monastery farm. The Heaton's had returned to their native England as a result of the 1641 Rebellion and remained there in obscurity to avoid Puritan notice during the Cromwellian years.

But come the restoration of the monarchy, the Heaton's were back in Dublin, where the Rev. Richard married Thomas Crosse and Ann Grossan at St. Michan's on 23 July 1660. As a committed Royalist, Richard Heaton was on the crest of the wave. After a considerable struggle with Charles Candler, the Cromwellian incumbent of Birr, Richard eventually was to get himself restored to this parish as its rector. On 22 November 1660 he was appointed Dean of Clonfert by the King. The magnificent

Celtic Romanesque doorway of Clonfert Cathedral is one of the glories of Irish architecture, though we are told that at the time of Heaton's appointment, the Cathedral itself was almost totally destroyed, but that in 1664 some attempt was made at restoration - possibly under Heaton's inspiration. Honours were coming fast for Richard. On 26 January 1661 he was conferred with the Doctorate in Divinity at Trinity College. On the next day he was present for the most memorable event in the annals of the Protestant Church in Ireland. On that day John Bramhall, the Archbishop of Armagh, consecrated for Irish dioceses two new Archbishops and ten other Bishops in St. Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin.

Richard Heaton spent the next few years attempting to get his title to the lands of Ballyskenagh in order. With the Restoration, Charles II had a major problem in trying to appease the various claimants to Irish lands, "these jarring interests", as he put it himself. The Act of Settlement of 1662 was the first attempt to solve the problem. This Act was to worry Heaton. Attempts were made under its terms to seize Ballyskenagh for the crown, on the grounds that Heaton had leased the land to "one Carroll since a rebel". However Richard fought back vigorously and skilfully. He even wrote personally to King Charles II, and after giving the history of his entitlement to Ballyskenagh and reminding his Majesty of his own loyalty to the crown, and of all he had suffered in the "late horrid Rebellion in your Majesty's Kingdom of Ireland", he goes on to appeal for the royal protection:

"May it therefore please your most excellent Majesty, considering the legal and just title of your petitioner to the lands of Ballyskenagh aforesaid, to accept of a surrender of his estate and title in and to the said land and to regrant to him and his heirs by your Majesties most gracious Letters Patent to the said lands of Ballyskenagh with its appurtenances. And so much the rather

for that your petitioner suffered in his estate to the value of £2,000 sterling, and paid three times the value of the said lands by way of purchase for them."

On 23 August 1664 the King referred the question to Ormond, the Viceroy, who suggested passing it on to the Lord Deputy and Counsel of Ireland to "examine the truth of the allegation". Presumably this was normal procedure, what we would call transparency now-a-days, rather than something springing from a suspicion of Heaton's probity. Be that as it may, two months later all was clear for the King to write:

"Whereas Our trusty well beloved Richard Heaton, Doctor in Divinity, is rightfully possessed of the lands of Ballyskenagh in the Barony of Cionlisk in the King's County within that our realm of Ireland, sometime heretofore in the hands and possession of Myles Carroll alias Mulrany Carroll. And whereas the said

The Place We Love

RICHARD HEATON'S BALLYSKENAGH

Richard Heaton is in apprehension of being unjustly disturbed in such his possession by colour and pretence of certain rights accrued and arising to Us in and to the same. We graciously reflecting on the constant loyalty and many sufferings of the said Richard Heaton, and being inclined to protect, and confirm him in the just and rightful possession of the said lands; Have thought fit upon humble suite made to Us and upon the report and certificate of you Our Lieutenant of that Our Kingdom, Hereby to signify our pleasure unto you, that forthwith upon surrender made to Us by the said Dr. Richard Heaton of his estate and title in and to the said lands of Ballyskenagh, you cause Letters patent to be issued under Our great seal of that Our Kingdom for the granting and reconveying to him and his heirs, all and singular the said lands of Ballyskenagh with its members and appurtenances in good and sufficient form, and for so doing, these Our Letters shall be to you Our Lord Lieutenant and Lord Deputy of that Our Kingdom for the time being a sufficient warrant and discharge in that behalf Given at Our Court at Whitehall, the 23rd day of November 1664, in the sixteenth year of Our reign."

All seemed home and dry for Richard - but no such luck, the administration in Dublin had discovered an omission made by the scribe in Whitehall: the letter had not made mention of the "yearly rent of forty-three shillings and a penny", reservable to the King on the plantation of Ely O'Carroll, so Patents were never passed. Richard made two further attempts 29 April and 15 November 1665 to get his title to Ballyskenagh rectified, though still unsuccessfully. However in the meantime his title was not challenged.

Richard and Grizell Heaton had six in family; three boys and three girls, Edward, Richard Jnr, Francis, Elizabeth, Ann, Grizell Jnr. They were probably born during Richard's years back in England between the 1641 Rebellion and the Restoration, but all came to Ireland and seem to have lived at Ballyskenagh at some stage.





PAT CREAGH
A Tribute

Anybody driving through the College grounds on a Wednesday or a Sunday, from September to June could not help but notice the tall figure in the trenchcoat and cap, imparting his expertise to his willing students. It is Pat Creagh.

Many individuals have shown great commitment to the College since its foundation, laymen and monks have dedicated their lives to the education and welfare of the students, but Pat Creagh's contribution is quite unique.

It all began twenty-seven years ago when he first started to coach the hammer-throwers and the success he has achieved will probably never be emulated. I quote from the Irish Runner magazine of July 1997: "Pat Creagh has produced a string of excellent hammer-throwers in the famed nursery Cistercian College Roscrea. For the umpteenth time his proteges won all three titles. Note that in the last thirteen years Pat has prepared twelve different athletes to win the Junior Boys' event. Therein lies a tale of rare coaching dedication".

It is important to note also that no other school has the distinction of winning the three all Irelands, Junior, Inter and Senior hammer titles on six occasions. Pat derives great satisfaction from the fact that a number of these athletes have gone on to represent their country and have won international competitions.

In conclusion, Cistercian College Roscrea is indebted to Pat Creagh for his great commitment, his unselfishness, and his unequalled success.

BRENDAN O'ROURKE

Certainly Richard and his wife Grizell spent their later years here. In his will he describes himself as of Ballyskenagh. The Down Survey of 1656 mentions the "stumpe of a Castle" in Ballyskenagh. This is almost certainly the basement of our present Guest House. Richard, if he was able to inspire the partial renovation of Clonfert Cathedral would surely not have been remiss in providing suitable accommodation for himself?, and the Castle stump provided a good foundation.

Their marriage had been a happy one. In his will Richard mentions his wife's "tenderness to me while I lived". He had such regard for her capabilities as an administrator that he appointed her as his sole executrix. After his death she was to have Ballyskenagh for her lifetime, and only at her decease would it go to their eldest son Edward, who "upon my passing is to be very dutiful towards his mother, and careful to assist her in these several kinds of trouble which her unhappy condition must subject her to; the like charge I also leave to the rest of my children, who, I hope, will prove helps and not afflictions to their dear mother." With all his affairs in order - around Christmas 1666 the words of his will became a reality. "In the name of God Amen. *I, Richard Heaton of Ballyskenagh - commit my soul to the hands of Almighty God, my gracious Redeemer, in full hope and confidence of his mercy towards it ..*

FR. LAURENCE O. CIST.



C.C.R. SENIOR S.C.T. SQUAD 1997 - '98
WITH MEMBERS OF THE RUGBY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Rugby Development Committee

The Rugby Development Committee decided to raise funds for the 1997/98 Senior Cup Squad. A number of pastmen were requested to provide financial backing as were the parents of the squad members. The response was prompt and generous. The Committee sincerely thank all those who provided financial support, and will attempt to take on board many of the ideas that emerged during the course of the campaign. All members of the S.C.T. squad were presented with track-suits match jerseys and kit bags. (see photo)

At its most recent meeting the Rugby Development Committee agreed in principle to the establishment of a "C.C.R. Rugby Club". Its mission will be to foster positive relationships between people who are interested in and / or associated with Rugby at C.C.R.

Further details will be printed in the Autumn "Review".

FRONT L TO R : EODIN O'MALLEY, DERMOT O'LOUGHIN (CAPTAIN), SHANE GARVEY (V. CAPTAIN), HOWARD KENNY, L TO R : SEAN BURKE, BARRY SHERRY, DIARMUID FITZGERALD, PATRICK CROKIN, FRANK DINEEN, BILL O'BRIEN.



News of Pastmen

JOHN McMANUS (1988) has been living in America for the last four years and is based in Boston. He works as a Management Consultant. He was present at the recent PPU Reunion in New York.

DON HARRINGTON (1980-1985) is presently living in the UK and is a Senior Executive with Ernst & Young Corporate Finance. He is married to Siofra and has a baby daughter Cara. Don's grandfather also attended CCR (1913-1917) as did his two brothers Paul (79-83) and Frainc (83-88).

TIMOTHY P. McTIERNAN (circa 1970) is now living in Canada and is President of Canadore College of Applied Arts and Technology in Ontario.

TOM HARTY (86-90) having graduated from UCC in 1995 with a B.Sc. in the Food Business, he is now working as a Production Manager in Yeo Valley, Blagdon, Bristol which produces excellent Bio-Yougart. His brother Joe married Helen Carr in 1996 whom he met in Harper Adams. Joe is working the family farm and has a large turkey and ring cheese enterprise.

FATHER MICHAEL CAMPION (brother of Tadhg) is presently in the diocese of Newcastle upon Tyne. He recently won the National Clergy Golfer of the year of England, Scotland & Wales. He plays off a handicap of 6 and was a founder member of the Golf Course at CCR having spent many a summers day trying to convert a monastery meadow into a Pitch & Putt Course.

WALTER KEADY (1950) is living in America and has just published his first novel called "Celibates & Other Lovers" which is available in paperback.

DR. DECLAN MURPHY (83-88) recently announced his engagement to Ms. Sheila Finnuacane (Limerick) -after a courtship of seven years and has set the date for September 4th, 1998. Declan graduated with a Medical Degree from UCG in 1996 with first class honours in surgery. He is currently in his 1st year as a Senior House Officer in Dublin.

BRIAN MURPHY B. Sc. (UCG. 1994) is currently studying in Glasgow Calendonias University in his first year as a physiotherapy student.

RONAN "STAN" STEWART (86-91) (B.Sc. UCG 1996) is in Scotland working with B.P. (British Petroleum) as part of his Chemical Engineering Degree course and is based in Bath.

JOE O'LOUGHLIN Snr (44-48) is a retired farmer and now runs a Nursery with his wife Phil near Carnew in Co. Wicklow. His three sons are also CCR Pastmen.

JOE O'LOUGHLIN Jnr (73-76) is married to Miriam Kelly and lives in Bunclody, Co. Wexford. He has two sons and one daughter and now runs his own transport business.

BRIAN O'LOUGHLIN (77-82) studied Bakery Technology at Southbank University in London. He has worked in bakeries in both Dublin and Edinburgh, he is now living in Monaghan and is the Bakery Manager with John Woods Ltd. in Armagh.

EUGENE O'LOUGHLIN (72-77) studied Science in Trinity graduating with a PhD in Marine Biology. He is married to Roma Bourke and has three daughters. He works for CBT Systems and lives in Blackrock, Co. Dublin.

PATRICK MURRIHY (81-86) from Feenagh, Co. Limerick married Elaine Hayes on December 30th 1997 and is now living in Adare. He is working in his father's company, Shannon Transport.

Congratulations to **BRIAN BROSNAN** (82-87) who was the only Irish student accepted for the Masters in Inter-Economics and Management Course in S.T.A. Milan.

EOIN O'CARROLL (88-93) was named N.C.E.A. Student of the Year for 1997 at the Shannon College of Hotel Management graduation last October. He is now assistant Banqueting Manager at the Holiday inn at Heathrow Airport. He follows in the footsteps of another Kerryman, Daragh Mc Gillicuddy, who is now working in Washington D.C.

Congratulations to **MARK LEDWIDGE** (82-87) who recently received a PhD in Pharmaceutics from Trinity College and who has since been appointed Product Manager with Servier Laboratories.

Congratulations to **EDGAR BYRNE** (87-92) rode his first winner in England recently. He is attached to the powerful Kim Baily stable.

DAVID ANDREWS (1949-54) has recently been appointed as Minister for Foreign Affairs. It must be a unique occasion for this prestigious Ministry to be held successively by two past students of CCR. The Roscrea Review wish him well in facing the challenges and onerous tasks that lie ahead.

ALAN GRACE (64-69) is now a lecturer in Athlone RTC. He is a co-owner of "Graphic Equaliser" and is reasonably optimistic about its chances in Cheltenham.

MICHAEL BERGIN, who left in the early 70's is presently completing his M.A. in Philosophy in UCD.

GERALD GRACE (his brother Michael is a contributor to this issue) has spent the last year working in London with Cable, Telephone and Wireless as an internal auditor.

BRENDAN SMYTH has started a Veterinary Practise in Raharney.

SERRYTH COLBERT, who left the college in the mid 1980's is now a qualified Doctor and is working at present in Merlin Park.

ROBERT GREANY was recently appointed Construction Director at P.J. Walls Ltd.

BRENDAN BRACKEN has amalgamated his Public Relations Business with Park Communications.

Brendan started his career in the IDA before joining Irish Life in 1973. He established his own Public Relations firm in 1990.

JOHN CORCORAN was recently appointed by Nortel (Northern Telecom) as Plant Manager of their Galway operations.

SEAN QUINLIVAN continues to enjoy great success on the golfing front. He failed narrowly to get a tour card for the US Tour.

ROBBIE HERNAN has been based in Limerick for the past five years. He is working in Shannon with Forbairt as an environmental scientist in its Aquatic Toxicity Laboratory.

TONY RAHILLY (60-63) contacted us as a result of visiting the College Website. He has been based in Canada for the past 30 years and is now an Administrator at Durham College in Oshawa, Ontario, co-ordinating a collaborative partnership between the college and York and Trent Universities. He has just completed a doctorate in the University of Toronto.



Equestrian Club

This year an Equestrian Club was formed by Mr. Brendan O'Rourke and every Wednesday afternoon a group of students go to the Charlie Swan Equestrian Centre where they are tutored by instructor Tony Ennis. In a pre-Christmas competition, 1st place was awarded to Philip Byrne's team, with Peter Brady's team in 2nd place, and Chris Molloy in 3rd.

The Racing Club had their first outing of the year when they were guests of trainer, and former past student Willie Mullins. They were thrilled to be taken round the stables and later to the gallops where they watched horses like "Florida Pearl" canter. They were very grateful to Mrs. Jackie Mullins, who provided refreshments for the group. An enjoyable afternoon's racing followed in Tipperary. On December 14th, the venue was Thurles and a most exciting day's racing was savoured. Many more outings are planned for this term

BRENDAN O'ROURKE



CISTERCIAN COLLEGE ROSCREA GOES "ON-LINE"

In keeping with "up-to-the minute technology", Cistercian College Roscrea has recently published its Internet Webpage with Ireland-On-Line. This can provide people world-wide with an insight into all that C.C.R. has to offer. Log-on to access our comprehensive Prospectus

which outlines the Academic, Spiritual, Sporting, Cultural & Social Activities of the College.

Also, Past Students can "log-on" to obtain the calendar of Union Functions, guidelines to assist in the organisation of Class Reunions, and excerpts from the "Roscrea Review".

Our Web Site Address is: <http://www.iol.ie/mtjoseph>

ATTENTION PASTMEN

Please detach and return in the enclosed pre-paid envelope.

ATTENTION PASTMEN ! NEW DATABASE AT COLLEGE

CCR has established a permanent, computerised pastmen database. Please provide us with the following information AND RETURN TO COLLEGE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE :

Name : Year Entered: Year Left:

Permanent Home Address: Occupation & Address:

.....

.....

Home Tel.: Work Phone: Fax:

Spouse's Name: Children's Name(s) & Age(s):

.....

Activities / Sports played at Roscrea: Interests/Sports played today:

What generation Roscrea are you? 1st 2nd 3rd Other..... Family at CCR:

Have you attended or been informed of a PPU Function in the past year? Yes No

Do you know who are your regional PPU representatives? Yes No

Would you like information sent to you regarding the "Abbot's Cup"? Yes No

WRITE FOR THE "REVIEW"! SEND US A WRITING ON YOUR EXPERIENCES, TRAVEL, ETC. WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!
Reach us on E-mail at mtjoseph@iol.ie Web site coming later this year!

THANK YOU FOR A PROMPT RETURN.



Obituary Notices

BRIAN EMERSON died tragically in a car accident (Oct. 1977)

DR. NOEL BURKE, Eyrecourt, Galway died November 1997

PASCHAL NUGENT died September 1997

NED BULFIN, Birr died Nov. 1997

JOHN MADDEN PHILBIN, Ballsbridge, Dublin died July 1st 1997

EUGENE MCGEE (circa 1950) from Donegal died in a traffic accident in November 1997

JOHN G. GREENE (circa 1933) died on September 25th, 1997. He was a native of Kilkenny and his four sons (Fr. John (Dublin), Frank (Castlebar), Tom (Waterford) and Godfrey (Kilkenny) all went to CCR in the '60's.

VINCENT MOLLOY (circa 1930) Ballina Co. Mayo died October 16th 1997. He played on the Senior Rugby Cup Team while in CCR.

PATRICK GRACE (circa 1935) Foxrock, Dublin died October 20th 1997. His son Michael also attended CCR.

MICHAEL CORBETT MPSI (49-50) Pallasgreen, Limerick died recently. While in CCR he played on the Senior Hurling Team which lost to St. Kieran's College Kilkenny in the Leinster Final of 1950.

KEVIN JONES ALD. (34-39) Scariff, Co. Clare died recently. He was a member of the Senior Hurling Cup Team which won the Munster Cup in 1939.

V. REV. HENRY NASH P.P. Canon (30-34) Mullinahone, Co. Tipperary. He was a native of Templetoohy, Co. Tipperary.

JOHN O'LEARY (46-49) died on Christmas day 1997. He was a native of Drumcollogher, Co. Limerick.

JACK GARVEY, Glenamaddy, Co. Galway died January 1998, his two sons Michael (74-76) and Gearoid (74-78) are also CCR pastmen.

DENIS MCAULIFFE, Kildare also died January 1998

DECLAN MADDEN (70-75) Dunshaughlin, Co. Meath died in January 1998. He represented business interests on the National Economic and Social Forum, on the board of TEASTAS -the national authority responsible for certification of many education and training programmes and on the Commission for the Status of Women. Declan was also a member of the negotiating teams in the series of national programmes drawn up since 1988. At the time of his death he was director of social affairs and specialist services for IBEC.

FRED JOYCE, a member of the College teaching staff from 1931 to 1969 died on December 23rd 1997. A graduate of University College Galway, he took both B.A. and B.Comm. Degrees. A keen traveller, he went to France and Italy in the 1920's where he taught English, and in Rome had the son of the King of Italy as a pupil. In CCR he was an outstanding French teacher.

FATHER ALBERT SHANAHAN, (1930-'35). Father Albert joined the monastery in 1935 and was ordained in 1943. He went to Caldey twice and on both occasions was Novice Master. He worked closely with the late Father Eugene Boylan when the latter was superior in Caldey from 1955 to 1959. He returned to Roscrea and went to Bolton in 1965 where he was both Novice Master and Guest Master. In his latter years, he was confessor in the public church and much in demand.

FATHER MICHAEL KINIRONS (CCR 1941-'46). Father Kinirons was a native of Roscrea. He joined the Roscrea community but later went on to pastoral work. He was buried in the Abbey cemetery on September 25th, 1997.

BROTHER EMMANUEL HENNESSY was buried on September 21st, 1997. At the time of his death he was the oldest Cistercian Monk in Europe - 97 years old.

JONATHAN FLYNN, Turloughmore, Co. Galway died tragically on January 17th, 1998

JOE MELOTTE, Ballinrobe, Co. Mayo died November 2nd, 1997

PAUL CULLITON (66-71) was buried on Monday February 2nd 1998. Paul had been seriously ill for some considerable time but he was always determined to battle on. He remained an active sportsman and trained club teams in Portlaoise R.F.C. He attended the 25th reunion of his year in September 1996. He was a commandant in the Army at the time of his death.



Paschal Nugent

1964-1997

Father Peter would probably describe our class of 1982 as "energetic" but since leaving Roscrea, we have had more than our fair share of tragedy.

The tragic deaths of Paul Kelly and Michael O'Connell were followed on the 4th of October last by the death of Paschal Nugent. Paschal joined C C R in 1976 as one of the 1B class, an experiment in a six year cycle and in 1977 the rest of his year at C C R joined them. Some 3 years later Paschal's brother Stephen joined him at C C R.

Paschal never had far to travel and was possibly the boarder nearest to home, having only travelled from the outskirts of Roscrea town.

From his first days at C C R, Paschal's first love became obvious and this was sport. He immediately became a regular on the under-age rugby teams, he excelled at athletics, breaking the U 14 School javelin record, and also played hurling and tennis for the school and enjoyed swimming and golf. Any sport was mastered by him without effort. He was a member of the Senior Rugby team that lost to Blackrock in their Leinster Semi Final.

Paschal had a large circle of friends in Roscrea, many of whom attended his removal, which was extraordinary by any standard.

After leaving school Paschal worked for a while in the bar trade and then as a sales representative before joining Dunne's Stores as a trainee Manager. He subsequently managed a supermarket in County Wexford before purchasing his own shop in Templemore at the age of 23. He started small and a number of renovations and extensions were necessary and at the time of his death Paschal employed a total of 24 people.

After leaving school Paschal also continued playing rugby with Wanderers, Young Munster, Enniscorthy and Thurles Rugby Clubs. He also played hurling with Killea and J K Brackens and had taken to golf in the last few years.

Paschal married Marie Russell from Templemore in 1994 and Marie was always a tower of strength for Paschal, particularly through his final 12 months.

If I were to single out one thing I have learned from Paschal, it was that a smile and a welcome are two of the greatest personal traits a person can possess. Those of us fortunate to have known Paschal will greatly miss both.

A. C.



L. TO R. PATRICK CRONIN, JOHN COMERFORD, NOEL MCCARTHY, FR. KEVIN DALY,

NIALL RAFFERTY, NOEL MCCARTHY, AL MORONEY, EOIN RAFFERTY.



DR. PATRICK BOLAND PRESENTS A OPENING CONTRIBUTION TO THE DEVELOPMENT FUND FROM U.S. PASTMEN.

DONAL TAAFE TALKING TO HIMSELF IN NEW YORK !

UNION EVENTS

KENMARE WEEKEND

PARK HOTEL
 FRIDAY OCTOBER 30th TO SUNDAY NOVEMBER 1st
 2 Nights Bed & Breakfast and dinners including
 Gala dinner £165 p.p.
 1 Night Bed & Breakfast and Gala dinner £105 p.p.
 Extra night, dinner, bed & breakfast £92 p.p.
 Phone The Park Hotel (064) 41200 Fax: (064) 41402

SOUTH WEST BRANCH

An evening is planned for 15th May at Ballymaloe House. Union members in the S.W. will be circularized with the details. Dinner £30.00
 Chairman : Liam Kelly Phone: (021) 552025
 Secretary : Fergal O'Gara Phone: (021) 870628

FORTHCOMING LONDON EVENT

The London Branch of the PPU are holding their annual
RECEPTION / DINNER
 on Friday, April 3rd
 (day before the Ireland/England Rugby International)
 Venue : The Liberal Club, London Tickets £40 per person

Admission is by Pre-Paid Ticket Only
 A Good Night is Guaranteed!

2 International Tickets will be raffled on the night

For your Ticket, apply to:

Mr. Brian Flynn
 (Chairman of the London Branch)
 Littlebury Farmhouse
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 Saffron Walden
 Essex CB11 4TL, England

MATT HYLAND PERPETUAL TROPHY GOLF COMPETITION

Milltown Golf Club, Dublin
 Thursday, June 18th 1998
 Golf+Dinner £60

ANNUAL UNION RETREAT

Friday, April 10th
 11.00 am Commencement
 1.00 pm Lunch
 2.00 pm Lecture
 3.00 pm Good Friday Ceremonies followed by Lecture & Tea