

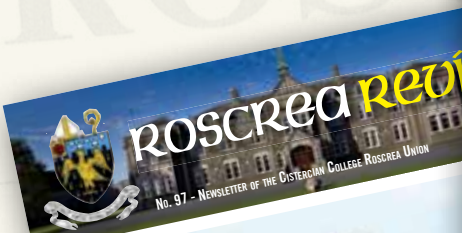


ROSCREA REVIEW

No. 100 - NEWSLETTER OF THE CISTERCIAN COLLEGE ROSCREA UNION

Summer 2018

Roscrea Review through the ages...



The scene as members of the victorious SCT celebrate College in the Leinster Cup Final on St. P.

In this issue...

- Historic Leinster Cup win
- Leinster Cup on tour
- Tributes to four monks we loved dearly



THE ROSCREA REVIEW

No. 1 QUARTERLY OF THE CISTERCIAN COLLEGE, ROSCREA, UNION Spring, 1962

A GREAT RECOVERY

Father Leo Close Organises Irish Paralegics



Father Leo Close (in wheelchair) being attended in private audience by Pope John XXIII, in 1960.

...and how he had with a cerebral aneurysm, how the glass was half full and how to handle it with a certain grace...

...the scene as members of the victorious SCT celebrate College in the Leinster Cup Final on St. P.

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PROFILE OF A PASTMAN

PETER ...



THE ROSCREA REVIEW

QUARTERLY OF THE CISTERCIAN COLLEGE, ROSCREA, UNION Summer 1964

THE NEW ABBOT



On Thursday, 21st February, 1964, O'Connell was elected as the new Abbot of Roscrea. He was a member of the Society of Our Lady and had been a member of the Society of Our Lady for many years.



future beckons. The onus is on us, hard work, honesty and integrity, to reach for the stars.

Nelson Mandela

Unbridled joy to Dom Richard's announcement on the March of CCR's future.

- Tributes to Frankie Bergin and Hugh McDonnell.
- Class Reunions.
- Round up of Union events.

In this issue...

- Messages from Union President and BOM Chairman
- Abbey Brown Bread gets a reprise!
- Galway Races and the CCR Ball
- Dinners in Dublin, London and New York
- Dublin Golf and Abbot's Cup
- Business Lunch
- Reunions
- Tributes to an tAth Éanna and other Obituaries

EDITORIAL

Welcome to this, the 100th edition of the Roscrea Review. Katherine Donovan recently unearthed a copy of the very first edition from Spring 1962, just a few months before the current editor saw CCR for the very first time. It was edited by the then Fr. Cathal Ryan the Union General Secretary who later went to study in Rome before leaving the Cistercians to work as a priest of the Dublin Archdiocese.

As well as news of Branch events, College News and News of Pastmen which have been staples of Reviews for decades, there is a very interesting article about Fr. Leo Close (CCR 1948-'52) who, though confined to a wheelchair from the age of 23, succeeded in continuing his studies for the priesthood AND his athletic pursuits, captaining Ireland at the very first Paralympics in Rome in 1960 during which time he had an audience with Pope John XXIII. According to his Wikipedia entry, he was one of the founders of the Irish Wheelchair Association and its first Chairman. He left Ireland for New Zealand in 1964, but participated in the Tokyo Paralympics on the way, and was similarly involved in those sports in New Zealand where he was awarded the OBE for his services to disabled (sic) sport in that country where he lived until his death from liver cancer in 1977.

Reading through that Review one also finds a piece on the poet Desmond O'Grady by Gus Martin, a profile of Gerry Culliton, then at the height of his Rugby career, and mention of the weddings of Gus, Gerry and of Noel Kinirons (to Christine who of course married Noel Windle after her first Noel died.)

One got a sense on reading the first Review that there was a lot of Union activity at the time, although

the original plan for the Review to appear quarterly was soon shelved. It is certainly worth quoting from the lengthy editorial of that first edition on its *raison d'être*:

.....for many people the image of the school union is that of a collection of old fogies who meet regularly to eat dinners and clap one another on the back, to reminisce tiresomely over the trivialities of their youth, to talk endlessly and accomplish nothing...
...A pastmen's union, if it is to survive, must present to its members an adequate motive for service and unite them in carrying it out. For this, the first essential is to arouse interest; this is a minimal requirement – people who are not even interested cannot be required to act.

For over 50 years, the Roscrea Review, under the Editorships of Fr. Cathal, Fr. Dermot, Gerry Maher, South West Branch stalwarts Gerald McCarthy and Cathal Bredin, Gearoid Ó Brian and latterly myself (aided on one occasion by Pat Somers) has attempted to give that sort of service to the Union. How relevant such a publication is and will be in an age when information is instantly passed around the world via new means of technology is uncertain. The Union's website ccrunion.org, the various Facebook and LinkedIn pages are able to connect pastmen like never before. But while it can be an uphill struggle to get a Review published there is always joy when a reaction comes by phone, letter or email from a CCR pastman in Ireland or in some distant corner of the world to his getting the Review by post or online.

Long may that continue! Here's to the next 100 issues!

Pat Hanratty – Editor, Issues 77-100
pathanratty@gmail.com

LIAM SPOONER

58TH PRESIDENT OF THE CCR UNION

MESSAGE FROM THE UNION PRESIDENT

At its AGM on 10th September 2017, Liam Spooner (CCR 1962-'68) was installed as the 58th President of the CCR Union.

A native of Roscrea, Liam started in CCR in 1962 and though he repeated 6th Year, Class of '62-'67, who recently celebrated their Golden Jubilee Reunion always considered him one of their own. His brothers Aidan (1959-'64) and Jody (1965-'70) and his son Darragh (1993-'99) are also CCR pastmen.

On leaving CCR, Liam studied in what was then Bolton St. College of Technology and later took over the family business, the well known Spooners' Garage in Roscrea, ever associated with the Volkswagen brand.

Liam was one of the most outstanding athletes ever to grace CCR. In his early years he concentrated on Hurling but when in 5th Year his talents as a hurdler were discovered and he won Leinster and All Ireland medals in the 110m Senior Hurdles in 1968. He played with the very successful Roscrea Hurling teams who won five county titles between 1968 and 1973 and was on the team which won the very first All Ireland Club Hurling Championship in 1971. After the ban on 'foreign games' was lifted in 1971, Liam turned to Rugby and played for Roscrea and captained Leinster's Junior team for two

years in the pre-professional era, and was on the Roscrea teams which won the Provincial Towns Cup in 1975 and 1980. He is presently part of the coaching team of the Roscrea Minor Hurlers, who include some very prominent recent CCR pastmen and present students in their ranks and who won the 2017 County Championship.

Liam has shown extraordinary commitment to the College and the Union over several decades, often in an unseen and quiet way. With the late Gerry Maher he organised the Annual Abbot's Cup Golf outing for 20 years. He is currently Secretary and a Past President of Roscrea Lions Club and is their representative on the Pieta House Committee.

As well as his son Darragh, Liam has three daughters Aoife, Sinéad and Orlaith.



*Liam Spooner
58th President of the CCR Union*

It is an honour and privilege to serve as President of Cistercian College Roscrea Union for 2017/2018. I would like to pay tribute to my predecessor Pádraic Ó Máille who steered the ship so well through a very difficult year. I would also like to acknowledge and thank everyone who helped in so many ways to keep the College open and are continuing to work tirelessly in helping to improve its facilities and increase the enrolment numbers.

There are various different groups of people within and outside the College giving a lot of time and expertise in continuing the task of supporting its the revival. To them all we say 'Thank You'.

In particular I would like to thank the CCR pastmen who so generously committed pledges to support the survival of the College. We really appreciate your generosity and to those of you who may yet have to deliver on your pledge. I would ask you to do so as these commitments are really needed now.

Since September I have attended a lot of Class Reunions and various other Union events. It's really very encouraging and satisfying to hear the great memories and stories from pastmen of all ages.

We can be very proud of the grounding we received in CCR and it is obvious that the College helped in no small way in shaping us well for life with a great education and a set of values which has stood to us all.

We owe a lot to our parents, College Staff and in particular to the monks of Mount St. Joseph for the great start we all got in life.

I would like to thank the parents of the present students in the College for sending their boys to the school and trusting in CCR. I must compliment the parents also on your interaction with all the activities both inside and outside the school.

Great thanks is due to the Board of Management under the chairmanship of Ronnie Culliton for the great work they are doing. We as a group in the Union are there to assist them in whatever way necessary.

A special word of gratitude to the College Staff who continuously turn out students who achieve excellent results in the academic area and in sport, music and other fields.

As a local Roscrea man I regularly visit the Monastery and the College and always as I pass through those "Eagle" protected gates I feel a sense of serenity and gratitude that I was fortunate to have spent some time there as a student and for the many friends I have gained since my association with CCR.

We as Past Students need to keep the "Awareness" out there constantly of our school by supporting the College and Union functions and continue to help in any way. We need to encourage our relations, friends, colleagues to consider sending their boys to CCR so we can increase the enrolment numbers thus continuing the great education in Roscrea.

Abbey Bread wins top Award for Cistercian College Roscrea Student.

Manus Heenan, a Transition Year student at Cistercian College, scooped the top prize at the recent National Student Enterprise Awards. Over 23,000 students from 480 schools all around Ireland participated in what is now one of the country's most prestigious competitions for students.

Manus's journey began in September 2017 when he made the decision to enter a Transition Year Mini Companies' competition in Cistercian College. He approached the monastic community in Mt St Joseph Abbey with the intention of building his project on the famous fresh bread that they baked for almost 100 years in the Monastery Bakery. The monks involved were only too happy to share their knowledge and with their help Manus perfected the recipe and began production of the bread mix for distribution. As they say, the rest is history!

We wish Manus every success in his future. As If being Ireland's top young entrepreneur isn't enough, Manus is also an accomplished musician, actor and rugby player.

Find out more about his journey at www.abbeybread.ie



Manus Heenan TY

Dom Peter Garvey Memorial Lecture 27th April 2018

The College was delighted to welcome pastman and former Taoiseach Brian Cowen to give the inaugural Fr Peter Garvey ocsa Memorial Lecture on the topic of the 20th Anniversary of The Good Friday Agreement.

It was a wonderful evening with an audience comprising of students, staff, past staff, monks, the Garvey family, parents and pastmen. Brian Cowen gave an excellent and very engaging talk with wonderful insights into the unseen work that helped make the Good Friday Agreement a reality.

He paid particular tribute to the often forgotten role of John Hume over several decades.



*Back row:
Michael Garvey, Andrew Cody,
Dom Richard Purcell, Sean Garvey,
Pat O'Sullivan, Tom Garvey,
Gerry Grealish.*

*Seated: Dom Kevin Daly, Kay Garvey,
Brian Cowen, Dom Malachy Thompson,
Mrs Jean Garvey and Mrs Mai Garvey.*

Cistercian College - we need your help!

I want to say a huge thank you to all the Parents, pupils, staff and past pupils for facilitating the turnaround of the College to date. We opened for business in late August 2017 which was the major priority and so far, heading into the summer term in April 2018, the College has been operating very well. A monumental amount of work went into the whole CCR project since February 2017 and what happened as a result is most impressive.

We looked at what went wrong and we have tried to address all those concerns - we spoke and consulted with past pupils, staff, parents - we respected and acted upon their feedback - the Ship has been steadied. Here is a list of the very positive outcomes to date, not in any particular order;

1. Strengthened Senior Management team with the addition of Pat O'Sullivan and Gary Halpin
2. Better marketing of the College with a new brand image and guide, new leaflet, new prospectus and a new website
3. Better financial control, with re-establishment of the Bursar role, better practices, better value for money and much improved transparency through monthly reporting to the Board and trustees.
4. Better food and general catering for the boys, the staff and indeed guests to the College
5. Increased enrolments - numbers for next September are currently up substantially on last year and well ahead of projections. In addition

- international markets have been targeted.
6. Better standards of behaviour among the boys. More responsible pupils are a great advertisement for the school.
 7. CCTV throughout the College
 8. Greater engagement with Parents and past pupils so much more involved in assisting the school
 9. Positive atmosphere in the school is in evidence and the boys appear to be happier than ever
 10. Welcomed back stalwarts like Marcelline Cody
 11. Greater choices with 7 day, 5 day, day boarding and day pupils.
 12. Academics very strong as we continue to feature strongly in league tables at the very top.
 13. Increased community engagement with summer camps etc.
 14. Great sporting achievements such as 5 CCR boys on the Irish U19 Rugby panel.

The final push is under way to collect the current year pledges, we are setting priorities for the upgrading of facilities and putting together a fundraising team.

But folks, that is only the start.....we have a very long and hard road ahead. We need your help now and will need it for the future, always. Remember, the community of Mount Saint Joseph are no longer in the position to underwrite the College so for the College to survive and thrive, we need the persistent help and support of all stakeholders of "Club CCR".

So.....

If you have made a pledge, please honour it.....come to us, don't wait for us to chase you up

If you did not make a pledge and are now in a position to do so..... please come to us

If you want to help by way of effort or expertise.....come to us with your suggestions and your willingness

If you can help us with our need to improve the premises.....come to us as we will definitely need all the help we can get on it

If you can find a place for us in your will, please make an appointment with your solicitor.....don't wait for us to ask

If you have friends or family who have potential boys for CCR, encourage them to come and have a look

We need you now more than ever!



Ronnie Culliton

FR ÉANNA HENDERSON (1925-2018)

March 2018 brought the sad news of the death of An tAth Éanna Mac Ionraic, who passed away shortly before his ninety-third birthday. He entered the Monastery in wartime and was one of the monks most associated with the College in the second half of the twentieth century. He was a keen, and often concerned, observer of social change, but he was also a reflective person who showed a remarkable ability to revisit his attitudes to political and religious questions. A very proud Dubliner who loved his native city, he was, in many ways, a curious addition to a boarding school in the Midlands. Although a housemaster for over forty years, he freely admitted that he would have hated to have been a boarder!

Fr Éanna was born on 12th March 1925, the fourth child of Frank and Josephine Henderson. His father had been a Captain in the GPO Garrison during the 1916 Rising and was later a Commandant in the Irish Army. Éanna grew up in a large family with seven brothers and one sister, and often spoke nostalgically and vividly about his early years. He recalled a very rural Glasnevin, where the local church was a temporary structure called ‘the Woodener’. Religious observance and the Irish language were central parts of his happy upbringing, and

the family rosary was recited, as Gaeilge, each evening. Éanna would recall, with a glint in his eye, that he and his siblings were not always easy to locate when the time for the rosary drew near, and that his mother would have to expend considerable energy in gathering them all inside. The excitement around the holding of the International Eucharistic Congress in Dublin in 1932 was an early memory. Writing in the *Vexillum* on the occasion of his golden jubilee in 2000, he stated that the Congress left an “indelible mark” on him and influenced his vocation. In the same article he recalled witnessing an Air Corps plane crashing during a display in the Phoenix Park, killing two airmen. This was in August 1933, and it put the eight year-old Éanna off flying for life. The world of his youth was dominated by a tense international situation and the outbreak of war. The threat of invasion was real and he remembered bombs falling on the North Strand in Dublin, where his grandmother lived. He completed his secondary education at Colaiste Mhuire, the Christian Brothers’ school on Parnell Square. He became acquainted with the Jesuit social campaigner Fr Richard Devane and considered joining that order. When explaining his decision not to become a Jesuit many decades later, he treated me to a hilarious impression of what he envisaged his life would have been like – “too much sitting around in parlours sipping tea!” Certainly



Clongowes’ loss was Roscrea’s gain.

Éanna visited Roscrea in the early 1940s and was very impressed by the kindness of the monks he encountered. Cycling from Dublin, he entered the monastery on 10th October 1943. Unlike many of his brethren, he did not change his name on entering religious life. These were the hard years of the Emergency and the monastic rule was very strict. However, the community was large and there were plenty of idealistic young novices. When recounting these early years, Éanna always mentioned the felling of trees for fuel and the snores of the other monks in the dormitory they shared. He was ordained a priest on 25th January 1950. The company and inspiration of his fellow monks was always very important to him. He found it difficult to see men going off to establish new foundations in Nunraw (1946) and Tarrawara (1954), knowing

that he would not see many of them again.

In 1949 Fr Éanna's relationship with Cistercian College began. It was the beginning of an association that would last into the twenty-first century. His work was always on the residential rather than the teaching side of the house, as a Dean of Discipline (Housemaster). He would have liked to have taught Irish, but rarely did. He firmly believed that if all was not well in the dormitories, all parts of school life would be affected. In the first half of his career only two monks acted as Deans and they were kept busy ensuring that the boarding school ran smoothly. It was an all-consuming job and time off was not a recognised phenomenon. Recreation, meals, study and dormitories all had to be supervised. Theft, so corrosive of boarding school life, had to be investigated. The breadth of these duties and the work and stamina expected of the Deans were thus considerable. Past students, including those from his early years in the College, say that Fr Éanna always looked out for the shy or quiet boy who was not interested in games (this in spite of loving all sports himself). His energetic organisation of whist drives, pushpenny leagues, table tennis, the Stamp Club and pool rooms attested to his concern that everyone would have something to do that grabbed their interest and helped them to make friends. The lad who did not want to tog out would find himself in charge of the Ball Room in the

Pavilion or installed as Secretary of the Stamp Club, with Éanna encouraging him along in the background. In later years he also acted as Spiritual Director of the Legion of Mary praesidium. One of his pet hates was "jeering and slugging." He was very conscious of the damage that nasty remarks could have on a boy's happiness and self-esteem. He always anxiously scanned the Vex for comments that might hurt somebody. A sensitivity in his own nature enabled him to spot it and respond to it in others.

At times Fr Éanna was prone to misunderstanding what was going on, which gave rise to much hilarity. I am told that on a long walk in the 1950s, some students ran into a shop and bought a bottle of Cidona, which was a new arrival on the shelves and was causing much excitement. Éanna discovered them with the bottle and, convinced it must be alcohol, went berserk. Four decades later, the subversive Katz Concert - always dreaded by the house staff - gave rise to more confusion. One sketch involved the house captain dressed as a woman for a Roscrea-themed 'Blind Date'. It was all fairly harmless but Fr Éanna told us gravely: "Well I never thought I'd see the day when the Captain of the House would be up on the stage dressed as a prostitute." Our protests were batted away; there was no explaining that it was more innocent than he thought. On another occasion he knocked on the door of a house in Dublin, told the owner that he had lived there as a child, and was invited

in. At the end of a long visit, filled no doubt with lots of storytelling, he took one last look around and said "Good old 53." The horrified owner replied: "This is 51!" He enjoyed recounting this and other stories at his own expense.

Éanna was a highly sociable person with a wide circle of friends of all ages. He loved conversation, be it with students, parents, College staff, fellow monks or past students. His preference was for a long chat in which topics could be discussed in forensic detail from all angles. These conversations covered all manner of contemporary goings on but were greatly enriched by Éanna's reminiscences of times past in his own life, the College and Monastery. He loved discussing history and politics, and his knowledge in these areas enriched the lives of many students who sat with him and discussed the issues. In the early 1990s he survived a dramatic fire in his room off the Kids' Dormitory, which broke out during holiday time while renovations were being carried out. His accounts of the fire, his injuries and subsequent recovery were always delivered with a certain relish. It was another story to tell.

Many friends and acquaintances will recall his epic letters, which could run to 10 or more pages, usually written on paper he found lying around the College. When I once suggested that people did not expect such long letters, he replied firmly that he liked to

get value from his stamp. These letters were a discourse on all issues that occurred to him - any College and Monastery news; Irish politics; the Church; social mores; world affairs; his family; his health; any visitors that had called on him or past students who had been in touch. The letters were the paper equivalent of a conversation with him in person – detailed, informative and amusing. A letter he wrote in 1998 provides one example of his characteristic wit. Noting that 900 candles were being lit to mark the 900th anniversary of the Cistercian order, he quipped: “I would prefer 900 novices!”

Fr Éanna was an avid newspaper reader and in another life might have been a journalist. He liked to get to the truth and weigh up competing versions of events. He was forever filling showcases with historic and philatelic items that he thought would be of interest to the boys. He always regretted that he never achieved his dream of establishing a proper museum in the College, to house historical items that he had collected and received as gifts. He donated many of these to the museums at Knock and Kilmainham Gaol.

In a chat with Éanna, nothing was out of bounds for discussion, and he could be quite probing in his questioning! Although he was a vocal supporter of the orthodox Vatican perspective on issues like contraception, he was quite prepared to respectfully debate such matters. In later years his views on human sexuality

became less rigid, and he even went as far as saying that Pope Francis was challenging people of his generation to reassess their assumptions and views. His nationalism also became tempered with the passing years and he was delighted with the spirit of reconciliation that came with the visit of Queen Elizabeth II in 2011. In similar vein, he expressed the hope that he had not been overly strict in his early years at the College or caused hurt to anyone who had attended the school.

In spite of his love of food and his lack of exercise in later years, he outlived many of his brethren in the monastery, including close friends Fathers Peter and Bonaventure. Bonaventure and Éanna were an unlikely pairing, and very different characters, but they shared a number of interests including hurling and most especially the College. Éanna was not above imitating his pal Bonaventure on occasion, in the manner of an overgrown schoolboy who might be caught at any moment. There was an unmistakable quality of mischief to the Éanna I knew, one example being his determined and surreptitious purchases of the Sunday Independent when it was out of favour “inside” (as he would say, pointing to the Monastery from the College). There was also a very serious and earnest side, and he gave voice to emotions and observations that many would keep to themselves. He was fond of saying that he had been privileged to live with great

men down through the years and, towards the end of his life, that he had been very lucky to be so well looked after.

Although Vice President in name, Fr Éanna had retired from a formal role by the time I arrived at the College in 1997. But he was there as a friend of the place and of its students, keeping a watching brief in a time of transition. On Monday evenings after long weekends he would stand in the Front Hall, his anorak over his habit and leaning on a stick, to welcome us back and chat to our parents. His memories of the school over the decades are preserved for posterity in *Céad Bliain Faoi Rath*, the book published to commemorate the centenary of the College. In recent years he would tell visitors that he was waiting to be “called home.” In classic Éanna delivery he would pause very deliberately, ask you if you knew what he meant, and then state with emphasis: “to the Kingdom of Heaven.” Fr Éanna embodied the spirit of the College and added greatly to its unique atmosphere and commitment to pastoral care. He was a man of very varied interests and many enthusiasms, and he relished human interaction. Not somebody who pushed himself to the fore, and sometimes underestimated, he should be remembered as one of the giant figures of CCR.

Mark Coen (CCR 1997-2003)

FR ÉANNA HENDERSON (1925-2018)

Most CCR Pastmen will remember Fr. Éanna in his capacity as an understanding and fair Dean of Discipline. Many generations of sportsmen are however, more likely to remember him for his management of the CCR hurling teams and his enthusiasm in the role.

With all his interests and hobbies as described by Mark, Fr. Éanna's true passion came to the fore when pucking around with the students during training. Indeed, students from the traditional hurling counties often expressed their puzzlement as to how someone from Dublin city was so enthusiastic and knowledgeable about the game. *(Editor's note: they obviously didn't know that Dublin have won six Hurling All-Irelands, the same number as Wexford, and more than Clare, Waterford or Galway, and were beaten finalists four times in the 1940s, i.e. during Fr Éanna's formative years!)*

When Fr. Éanna joined the CCR staff in 1949, hurling was a simpler game compared to the spectacle that we are privileged to witness nowadays. Players did not wear a helmet or gloves and it was perfectly legal to obstruct an opponent (the 'third man' tackle). Tactics such as the 'sweeper system' or the 'short puck out' were unheard of. Being able to call on backroom staff or indeed a Hurling Support Group was never a consideration – Fr. Éanna was manager, coach, trainer, tactician, first aid man, supporter, cheer leader and any other job as required.

He got great enjoyment in travelling to matches with the various teams despite his tolerance often being tested on those journeys.

Fr. Éanna's brother, Ruairi was for many years, Aide-De-Camp to President de Valera. Much of the ribaldry focused on what the students would do to President de Valera when they got the opportunity – regardless of Ruairi's protective role. Fr. Éanna just took it all with his usual equanimity.

Having won the Leinster Senior Hurling College's Cup in 1946-'47, CCR was very competitive throughout the late 1940s and early 1950s. While championship success wasn't achieved, CCR regularly put in thrilling performances against the Leinster kingpins, St. Kieran's of Kilkenny. Along with Fr Éanna, long time teacher in the College, Rody Ryan was coach to many of those teams. Fr. Éanna managed the hurling teams throughout the 60s and 70s. Céad Bliain Faoi Rath refers to the 1960s and 1970s as the 'barren years'.

While success was limited in the CCR colours a number of pastmen from that era went on to greater achievement. Jody Spooner (1970) was a member of the UCG team that won the Fitzgibbon Cup in 1977. Three of Jody's team mates – Joe Connolly and Conor Hayes (Galway) and Pat Fleury (Offaly) later captained their counties to All Ireland success. Jody, along with his brothers Aidan and Liam won several Tipperary championships with their club, Roscrea. John O'Dwyer (1968) represented Limerick in the Munster championship.

Hugh McDonnell who joined CCR in 1970 took over the hurling baton from Fr. Éanna. However, Fr. Éanna never lost his enthusiasm for hurling and for all things CCR. He took tremendous pride in the sporting achievements of Shane McGuckian (Offaly), Seamus Hennessy, Hugh Maloney, Paddy & John O'Brien (Tipperary), Conor Phelan and Austin Murphy (Kilkenny), Stephen Lucey (Limerick), Redmond Barry (Wexford), Peter Garvey and Brian Connolly (Galway). This continued on to very recent times – Alan Tynan (Tipperary) and Jack Canning (Galway).

In part, their achievements can be attributed to Fr. Éanna's legacy who carried the CCR hurling torch in a more challenging era.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam dílis.

Gerry O'Meara (CCR 1965-'70)

New Faces in CCR



Pat O'Sullivan
DIRECTOR

Mr. O'Sullivan works actively with and supports the Senior Management team in the College in developing models of best practice and accountability.

He also works with the Board of Management, College Principal, Head of Boarding, Teaching, Boarding and Admissions Staff so as to ensure a positive engagement with parents, students and all stakeholders. Mr O'Sullivan is a graduate of University College Cork and taught in Thurles CBS before being appointed Principal of Carrick on Suir CBS in 1994 and then Principal of Rockwell College in 1997, a position he held until 2012. Since 2012 Mr O'Sullivan has worked as a third level School inspector mentoring and training new teachers.

Mr O'Sullivan brings a wealth of experience having managed Rockwell College with over 500 day and boarding students for 15 years.

Dom Malachy Thompson

Dom Malachy a Dublin native who was ordained to the diaconate on 7th April 2018 by the Bishop of Killaloe is a member of the Board of Management since last year.

He joined the monastery in 2006, leaving behind a very lucrative career as European Sales & Marketing Manager with Kenilworth Products Ltd.

He tells his amazing story on the Monastery website <http://www.msjeroscra.ie/vocation-stories-brother-malachys-story/>

As we go to print he is very actively campaigning for a 'No' vote in the referendum on abortion, including on his Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/profile>.



Gary Halpin
HEAD OF BOARDING

Gary joined the staff as Head of Boarding in January 2018, having taught in a number of schools in England. He is fondly remembered in Ireland for scoring a try against the All Blacks in the 1995 Rugby World Cup, though this was his last cap and saw the end of the amateur era in International Rugby. One of his first 'public' roles was giving an address to the assembled gathering at the CCR Ball in February and his speech went down extremely well.

Gary was also an accomplished athlete specialising in the Hammer and represented Ireland in the 1987 World Athletics Championships.

Gary taught at St George's College, Weybridge, Surrey and later at the Oratory School just outside Reading where he was housemaster.

Gary brings a huge wealth of experience and all will wish him well going forward.



Arriving at Clontarf RFC for the first round match in which CCR beat Wesley College: Marcelline Cody who is now back teaching in CCR; Pat O'Sullivan, Director; Catherine Smyth, Vice Principal and Board of Management Member and Gerry Grealish, Principal.

Galway Races and the CCR Ball

Two absolutely novel, one could almost say unprecedented events took place within the past year. After all, it was a year of unprecedented events!

On Saturday 5th August last, the CCR family and friends took over the Killanin Stand at the famous Ballybrit Course for the penultimate day of the Galway Festival. As the photographs on pages 16 and 17 show, it was a day when people turned on the style in earnest. Full marks to the Western Branch of the Union for coming up with the idea – it was a coming together of pastmen, parents, staff and friends of CCR from all over, and to John Sherry and his team for the wonderful meal they laid on. With Breandán O'Rourke on hand as tipster we were well looked after – he even brought Willie Mullins in for a Q and A which was most entertaining and informative. Breandán even told us a story of his talking to Willie on 16th March, the third day of the Cheltenham Festival, one which hadn't started that well for him. Willie eventually had his first winner that day, but talking to Breandán, the news he had just heard about CCR being saved gave him far more joy!

Another trip to Ballybrit is planned for Saturday 4th August – see the Union Calendar on page 35 for details.

Continuing that coming together of parents, staff and pastmen, the decision was made to celebrate the anniversary of the saving of CCR by gathering for a Gala Ball in the County Arms, Birr on Saturday 24th February. The Black Tie event was attended by over 200

guests including, Fr. Kevin of the Monastic Community, parents, past students, staff members, future parents and friends of the College.

Following on from the dramatic 6 Nations Rugby win against Wales, the evening began with everyone in flying form, with a Prosecco Reception followed by a top class 5 course dinner in the beautifully decorated Ballroom of the County Arms, which is renowned for gala events. Pages 18 and 19 show some of the style at the Ball!

Chairperson of the Parents' Association, Inez Heenan introduced the guest speakers: PPU President, Liam Spooner, new Head of Boarding, Gary Halpin, Chairman of the Board of Management, Ronnie Culliton and guest speaker, editor of the Farmers Journal, Mairéad Lavery, whose sons and father are past students of the College. She spoke quite emotionally about her family's long association with CCR.

Mr Halpin in his speech commended the staff and students for their hard work and dedication and went on to say that moving to Cistercian College was the best decision he and his wife Carol had ever made.

The Cistercian College Roscrea Parents' Association thanked all who attended and those who provided raffle prizes on the night. The proceeds from the Ball have gone to enhance the Health and Fitness facilities for the students.

A special mention of appreciation went to the Loughnane Family and the County Arms Hotel staff who made the event such a memorable occasion for all. Those of us who have had class reunions there know well how good a venue it is, but this was at another level altogether.

The Gala Ball Committee is looking forward to making this an annual event, and recommends that pastmen attend in even greater numbers in 2019!



***Members of the CCR Gala Ball Organising Committee
Standing: Paul Davey, Willie Burns, Liam Spooner,
Shauna Meagher, Adeline Loughnane, Martin Mullen,
John Dunne,
Seated: Conor Loughnane, Ann O'Connor, Inez Heenan,
Marie Culliton and John Hanily.***

London Dinner 2018

The Annual London Branch Dinner was held in the RAF Club, Piccadilly on the night of 16 March, the eve of the England V Ireland Rugby match held in Twickenham.

The Guest of Honour was the Union President - Mr Liam Spooner accompanied by Ms Nuala Callanan. The College was represented by the Chair of the Board of Management – Mr Ronnie Culliton. Also in attendance were Union Treasurer, Mr Pat Keane and former Union President, Mr Jim Keating.

A total of 25 attended the dinner and included the wives of many Pastmen.

The Branch Chairman Fergal Keane having thanked all those present especially the younger members, expressed the view that the London Branch needs new members. He also asked all present to spread the word to their contemporaries to attend the functions that will take place in the future, and if anyone knows of anyone who has come or is thinking of coming to work in the United Kingdom to encourage them to join the London Branch which

encompasses the whole of the UK. The London Branch is not only there for social events but to provide advice and support to past students when they arrive in the UK where necessary.

He also would like to encourage the College through the Director – Mr Patrick O’Sullivan and Union Secretary Katherine Donovan to advise the boys on the importance of joining the Union through one of its Branches.

Following updates about the College by Liam Spooner and Ronnie Culliton there was a lively discussion on the future of the College.

After Dinner entertainment was provided by Ms Ann-Marie Keane and this was followed by the customary raffle where the prizes included 2 tickets for the following day’s match.

Everyone went home in good spirits in the hope that Ireland would win the Grand Slam for the third time the following day. *The rest is history!*



Front Row: Ann-Marie Keane, Marion Keane, Maureen Moran, Manus Moran, Union President Liam Spooner, Ciaran Egan, Pierce Byrne.

Back Row: Nuala Callaghan, Pat O’Grady, John O’Shea, Dermot Hurley, Ronnie Culliton, John Yurky, Gearóid Ó Fallamhain, Pat Keane, Michael Meagher, Tom Keenan, Liam Nicholl, Matthew Quinlivan.

New York Dinner November 2017

There was a modest attendance of 14 at Delmonico's Kitchen on West 36th Street, in Midtown Manhattan. These included Ronnie Culliton and his wife Sharon, Roger Healy and his wife Catherine, Peter Kehoe and his son, and pastmen Des O'Brien, Paddy Boland, Bill Fahey, Tommy Lynch, Brian and Glen Adams, Dermot Cryan and Garrett Lawlor.

Roger had put the word around to everyone giving notice of the event and he has also been in touch with Fergal Cox and Ronnie Culliton to progress the registration of CCR with the Charities Aid Foundation (CAF). This will enable anyone in the US who wants to make a financial contribution to the College to do so by paying it into the CAF who in turn will pay this over to CCR. They take a charge of 8% on amounts up to \$100k, 4% on amounts between \$100k and \$300k with a 1% charge applying to all amounts above \$300k, but it allows the US taxpayers to get a full tax deduction for their contribution. Roger explained that CCR is almost fully set up now with a final confirmation expected in the next few weeks. He would be in touch then with everyone once this is confirmed to encourage the execution of those generous pledges made in response to the call to arms from Pádraic Ó Máille back in March 2017.

Des welcomed everyone, in particular the travellers from Ireland and expressed a great interest among the group to hear of events in Ireland since the fateful

day on 17th February, when the announcement was made that CCR would close in June 2017. He then invited Ronnie to speak.

Ronnie suggested that a Q&A session might be most beneficial but opened with a few words of summary – of the events in February to the reversal of the decision on 16th March and then on to all the great work that has been ongoing around the College since then. He quoted from Pádraic Ó Máille, who greatly regretted not being able to make the trip, and in particular from Brendan O'Rourke who has reported that "the boys in CCR have never been happier".

There followed a great debate with contributions from all quarters. Ronnie was very grateful for the presence of his wife Sharon who could give of a mother's perspective on the many issues that arose. There was, as Des had suggested, a genuinely warm interest in the College and a great sense of relief and pride in the group to learn that CCR is set to "survive and thrive" for many years to come. They acknowledged that there is still huge work to be done and the College is certainly not out of the woods for some time to come. Many expressed their gratitude for the visibility they now have on what is going on in the College, much thanks to the Social Media activity and indeed the latest decision to circulate The Eagle to pastmen as well as parents on a weekly basis.



Photo shows Ronnie Culliton in relaxed form with from left, Glen and Brian Adams, Roger Healy and Garrett Lawlor.

Dublin Dinner 2017

The Dublin Dinner was held in the Alex Hotel on 4th November 2017. Our guest speaker was the legendary Conor Massey, an Honorary Life Vice President of the Union who regaled us with, inter alia wonderful stories from Union dinners of the past. All agreed that to hear Conor was alone worth the the price of the Dinner!

It was also most heartening to see Kieran Fitzgerald at his first Union event since his serious accident in 2016. Kieran, while in a specially adapted chair was very much his usual self. His recovery though far

from complete is an inspiration to all who undergo misfortune.

Andrew Cody, a member of the College's Board of Management gave us an update on the term's progress which was extremely positive and well received.

Because we now have the Business Lunch scheduled for an Autumn date, the Committee has put back the date of the next Dublin Dinner to January 2019.



Guest Speaker Conor Massey, Kieran Fitzgerald and Katherine Donovan.



Union President Liam Spooner and Dublin Chairman Paul Murphy.



Fergal Ó'Dubhghall and Andrew Cody.



Rob O'Shea and Sean O'Sullivan.



Brendan Phelan, Martin Kelly and Joe O'Shea.



Fergal Cox, Ronan Egan and Charles Mc Goey.



Oisín Heffernan, John Bourke and Marc Kelly.



Jack Culligan and Simon Meagher.



Dublin Golf outing 2017

The annual Dublin golf outing was held in Elm Park Golf Club on 23 June 2017. 51 golfers took part and some great scores were posted.

The prize winners were:

Matt Hyland Trophy: Hugh O'Neill

Windle (Ladies) Cup: Barbara O'Mara

Dom Peter Garvey Trophy Jim McMahon
Best Team: Hugh O'Neill, Graziano Romeri
and Pat Coady.

Guest Prize: Fergus Byrne.

As a result of fantastic sponsorship from Ronan Cahir (CCR 1984-'89) of Beleek Pottery, Ennis

and giftvenue.com, the 2017 winners had really beautiful prizes to take home. We are extremely grateful to Ronan and to our other sponsors of teas or donors of raffle prizes. These include Abrivia Recruitment Consultants, Comans' Wholesale Ltd., Commtech, Elm Park Golf and Sports Club, Gowan Group, Graphprint, Indaver, Matheson, Mason Hayes and Curran, Michael Collins Solicitors, Michael McNulty & Co. Accountants, Nico's Italian Restaurant, O'Callaghan Hotels, O'Connell's Restaurant, Paddywagon Tours and Three Rock Capital Management.



Paul Murphy presents the Matt Hyland Cup to a very happy Hugh O'Neill.



Chairman Paul presents the Windle Trophy to Barbara O'Mara.



Kay Garvey presents the Dom Peter Garvey Trophy to Jim McMahon.



Ladies' Runner up Yvonne Malone with Chairman Paul Murphy.

Dublin Branch AGM 2018

The AGM of the Dublin Branch took place on 26th April and it was almost completely a passing on of the torch to a younger generation of pastmen. An exception to that was the election of Liam Nicholl (1970) as Chairman with the officers being as follows:
Vice-Chairman – Sean O'Sullivan (2004)
Secretary – Derek Masterson (2005)
Asst Secretary – Michael McNamara (1970)

Media / PRO - Troy McNamara (2004)
Treasurer – Paul Murphy (1989)
Asst Treasurer - Tim Foley (2015)

The Committee is already hard at work planning the Annual Dublin Golf Outing which takes place this year in Elm Park GC on Friday 22nd June.

Galway Races Gallery



Galway Races Gallery



review

CCR Gala Ball 2018

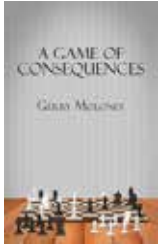


CCR Gala Ball 2018



Pastmen in Print

Several pastmen have been busy in recent times producing a variety of written work.



● **Gerry Moloney
(CCR 1961)**

has produced a novel *A Game of Consequences* is very appropriate given the banking sector's recent history in Ireland. Of course Gerry at one stage (long before the crash!) was an Executive Director of Allied Irish Investment Bank, and Investment Director of Enterprise Ireland. He describes the pressures on banking executives to meet targets and perhaps take moral short cuts? Though Gerry denies it is autobiographical, on reading it one gets a sense of his own strong value system and even a hint backwards to his time in CCR.

For more see <http://www.gerrymoloneyauthor.ie>



● **Joe Buckley
(CCR 1961)**

Joe Buckley (pictured below) is also an accomplished author, with lots of books for children to his credit. His most recent offering, *Fickle Currents* deals with a situation that arises when a well established and well respected teacher in a co-educational school is told by his Principal that an allegation of sexual impropriety has been made against him by a female student and that the principal has felt obliged to follow 'procedures'. Thus begins an unforeseen crisis in the life of a man who had always found fulfillment in the classroom.

Read more at <https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/39291231-fickle-currents>.



*At the launch in Hodges Figgis last October of "A Game of Consequences":
Joe Doherty, Peter Sommerfield, Joe Hoban, Joe Buckley, Gerry Moloney and John Joyce.
All from the eponymous Class of '61!*



● **Gerard (Ger) Lyne**
(Class of 1963)

recently published *MURTAÍ ÓG* a life of Murtaí Óg Ó Súilleabháin (c1710-1754) of Beara, County Cork, middleman, smuggler, captain in Lord Clare’s regiment of the Irish Brigade in France, recruiting officer for same and (allegedly) for the Spanish army also. The book provides an exemplar of the complex interface between the old Gaelic order of the early to mid-eighteenth century and the new Anglo-Irish colonial establishment.

Many propertied Gaelic Irish families, albeit reduced to the status of middlemen, retained a deep devotion to the Stuarts. Shut out by the Penal Laws from secure title to land and access to the professions at home, they were forced to seek military and other service abroad. Published by Geography Publications – see more at <http://www.geographypublications.com/product/murtai-og-suilleabhain-c-1710-54-a-life-contextualised/>

The book was launched in the National Library where Gerard worked between 1973 and 2009

retiring from the role of Keeper of the Manuscripts. His first book *The Lansdowne Estate in Kerry under the agency of William Stewart Trench 1849-72* became the subject of a major RTE documentary called *Land is Gold*. Gerard was awarded the National University of Ireland Irish Historical Prize in 2001 for that book.



A gathering of Ger’s classmates in the Dropping Well, Dartry, Dublin 6 in January 2018 for a lunch in his honour (to which the Editor was invited – thanks lads!).

From left: Tom Grennan, Tony Bardon, Ger Lyne, James Bardon, Joe Doyle, Ted Forde and Pat Cuneen.

● **Eamon Maher - (CCR 1972-’78)**

One of our most prolific writers Eamon Maher is editor of the series *Reimagining Ireland*. The night before the country became engulfed in snow and Storm Emma he launched *The Reimagining Ireland Reader: Examining Our Past, Shaping Our Future*, a selection of essays from the first fifty volumes of the series in IT Tallaght where he is a lecturer. The occasion coincided with the 25th IT Tallaght commemorative lecture which was attended by Uachtarán na hÉireann, Michael D. Higgins.



REUNIONS!

REUNION OF CLASS OF 1966

THE CCR CLASS OF 1961-1966 : 50TH ANNIVERSARY REUNION - SATURDAY 1 OCTOBER 2016

The CCR class of 1961-66 held its 50th Anniversary reunion on 1st October 2016. As this was the third reunion the others being our 25th in 1991 and 45th in 2011 the contact emails and postal addresses were fairly up to-date, but Katherine Donovan ensured that we had all the latest details. The organising committee: Conor Brady, John Rafferty, Fergus Owens and I held a number of meetings to put all arrangements in place. A reception was arranged by the College authorities on Saturday 1st October 2016 in the afternoon which was followed by a group photo and Mass in the College chapel. We were delighted that thirty six pastmen were able to attend the function, two coming from the USA and one from the UK. We were very pleased that John Shanahan was able to join us at the College for the reception and Mass. We were honoured that Dom Kevin Daly celebrated the Mass and Liam Mulcahy performed the readings and prayer of the faithful (Liam unfortunately passed away after a short illness in April 2017). Dom Kevin shared some memories of his first year in the college trying to manage us.

After the Mass we headed to the County Arms in Birr to view the replay of the All Ireland Football Final between Dublin (1-15) and Mayo (1-14) which (slightly) disrupted our plans.

We had a most enjoyable meal and evening, and were delighted that Frank Thompson (then Chairman, College Board of Management) was able to join us as a guest and brought us up to date on the challenges that the low student numbers were creating for the college. We had a souvenir booklet for all attendees, comprising of group College photographs, recollections of Fergus Owens, Tony Bennett (UK), Kieran Moran (Aus), Ken Forde (NY) and Conn Foley (NY), the nicknames of

monks, teachers and boys, CCR slang, and selective chronology of world, Irish and CCR events,.

We were very sorry to hear that Ken Forde who had travelled to Dublin from New York for the reunion, was taken down with a tummy bug after arriving in Dublin and was unable to join us for the reunion.

As we left Birr on the Sunday many of us wondered if the College would still be in operation for our next reunion.

After all the bills were paid, we had a small surplus of €200, that we were happy to donate to the College orchestra.

Tom Hope.

Editor's note: Space did not permit the inclusion of this piece in the Summer 2017 issue



*Current Union President Liam Spooner
with Preseident Elect and
London Branch Chairman
Fergal Keane.*

CLASS OF 1992 25Y REUNION

The Class of 92 centres on the rise of a group of talented young men to the top of their profession before conquering Europe – there certainly are a lot of similarities between the Cistercian College Class of 1992 and the more famous Manchester United Class of 92; but give me my classmates over Becks and Gary Neville any day of the week! We gathered for our 25 Year Reunion on September 9th, 2017, and what a weekend we all had. 2017 will go down as a historic year of rebirth for Cistercian College and everyone was interested to see how the new reawakening of the school is progressing. A decent cohort assembled to enjoy the excellent reception at the college. Special praise must go to Katherine Donovan, the College Alumni Officer, for organising the afternoon. After an hour or so of remembering the good old days, the College Director Pat O’Sullivan addressed the congregation and spoke with great gusto about the strides the college has made this year. The Chairman of the Board of Management, the great Ronnie Culliton, also spoke with passion about what is needed to return the school to a picture of health once again. Gerry Hayes then treated us to a wonderful tour of the campus. We were particularly jealous of the sports hall, thinking back to how much we would have enjoyed availing of the facility during the cold winter months of the early 1990s!!

After the tour of the College, we sprinted back to the spiritual home of Cistercian College past students young and old, the County Arms in Birr. As is always the case with the Loughnanes, the red carpet was rolled out for us and we all enjoyed remembering

happy times of many a Sunday lunch spent there. Special thanks must go to Conor, Barry and Willie for being such gracious hosts yet again.

A canape reception awaited the hordes in the County Arms, which was washed down with some Guinness for good measure – you can take the boy out of Roscrea.... We were then joined by Brendan O’Rourke and Pat Sheedy for a wonderful 4-course meal in the County Arms - no one was fit to do anything but roll down to the bar afterwards! I said a few words at the end of the meal to thank everyone for making it along and shared my experiences with the Save CCR campaign earlier in the year.

28 hardy souls came back for the Reunion, which was a good showing given 60 finished 6th Year. We have had 10yr, 15yr and 20yr reunions so are well used to each other at this stage! It is always remarkable how quickly it takes us to get comfortable in each other’s company and remember the hilarious stories, even if most of them have an element of “fake news” about them given they have been embellished so much at this stage!

The party went on well into the early hours of the morning and the Loughnanes were also present right to the bitter end, which was great to see.

Thanks to Maurice Phelan for helping me organise the whole event – I couldn’t have done it without him that’s for sure. Thanks to Katherine Donovan for sharing the list and organising festivities at the college and finally thanks to the Loughnanes once again for making us feel at home and putting on such a show.

*Bring on the 30Y in Birr in 2022!!
Fergal Cox, Class of 1992.*



Back Row (Right to Left): David Lawlor, Fergal Cox, David Ryan, Shane O’Neill, Richard Mooney, Peter Ormond, Mark McGrane, Declan McNulty, Brian Hogan, Mark O’Byrne, Pdraig McGillicuddy, John Ryan, James Lee, Hugh Liston, Barry McCormack, Jonathan Quinn, Michael Kennedy, Dara Waldron, Brian Brosnan, Dermot Dwan, Karl O’Sullivan
Front Row (Right to Left): Frank O’Hara, Michael Dooley, Maurice Phelan, Geoff Barry, John O’Carroll.

CLASS OF '62 REUNION SEPTEMBER 2017

As 55 years had passed since our departure from CCR it was decided to hold a class reunion this year - we had managed 25, 40 and 50 year anniversaries. This reunion as before was held at the College with a dinner to follow in The County Arms Hotel Birr. A select group assembled in the Billiard Room (now the Centenary Room) at the College. Katherine Donovan kindly arranged the service of tea sandwiches and cake to sustain us for the afternoon.

Ronnie Culliton had agreed to provide an update following the shocking news earlier in the year of the threatened closure of CCR and the subsequent Save CCR campaign. The college is saved for now but much effort remains required to secure the school for the future. Only time will tell.

Each pastman present was very kindly provided with a complementary copy of *Lumen Christi* a profusely illustrated book by Dom Laurence Walsh "The Stained Glass Windows of Mount Saint Joseph's Abbey". A number of present pupils agreed to conduct us on a tour of the school to admire the additions and improvements since our day. Much comment centred on the lack of the hard edge that we had endured!

We assembled on the steps for a photo call and then adjourned to the College Chapel where Fr. John Garry

(one of our classmates) celebrated Mass during which we prayed for those who could not be present - some due to a higher calling, some due to poor health and some due to other engagements. All were fondly remembered.

We adjourned to Birr for a reception with canapés and a 4 course feed served with appropriate wines and other beverages of choice. Having finally recovered from the surprise and now being able to identify all present, a wonderful evening followed. The Union President Liam Spooner joined us for dinner and provided further evidence of the resolve there is to preserve the old school. The academic, sporting and other achievements are testament to the good work of the college and teaching staff. Of course the monks who provided much of the educational and other leadership during our time are greatly diminished in numbers.

Les Faughnan was unable to join in the College and dinner activities but had travelled from Sligo to Birr so we met him the following day for a drink and sandwich in "Kelly's on the Green." He hasn't changed and still looks the part of Hamlet one of the great school productions from the early 60s. So some 24 hours after meeting we were for the road again. Having arrived in 1957 for the unthinkable period of 5 long years we parted with the thought that 60 years had just slipped by, and decided we would need to repeat the weekend at ever shorter intervals in the future.

John Yurky (CCR 1957-'62)



Union President Liam Spooner presents the Union Gold medal to Bill Burns who achieved the best result in last year's Junior Certificate examination. In the photos are College Principal Gerry Grealish, along with Bill's parents Helen and Willie and his sister Lizzie.

CLASS OF '97 REUNION



Top step (L-R): Alex Wilsdon, Ray Hanniffy, David Casserly, Justin Kelly, Padhraic Doran, Patrick McHugh, Fergus Kelly, Darragh O'Malley
Next step down (L-R): Niall O'Brien, Mark O'Boyle, Mark Finlay, David Mescal
1st Step (L-R): David Greene, Kieran Kelliher, Tom Devine, Padhraig O'Loughlin, Jim McDonnell, Shane Garvey *Ground (L-R): William Stokes, Martin Hughes, Ronan Burns*



Kieran Kelliher, William Stokes, Martin Hughes



Padhraic Doran, Gary Morrissey



Tomás Sheehy, David Mescal



Padhraig O'Loughlin, David Casserly, Niall O'Brien



David Greene, Martin Hughes, David Casserly, Ronan Burns, Padhraig O'Loughlin



CLASS OF 1962- '67 REUNION 9TH SEPTEMBER 2017

Short but very sweet – it was great to be back for our 50 year reunion, everyone wondering where the time had gone, many of us happily retired, though some are still happily working.

All seemed fresh and cheerful and there was a noisy buzz around the room in the County Arms where 36 of us had a superb meal, of which more anon.

For some it started with a tilt at the Abbot's Cup golf, though no one from our year threatened the leaderboard. After the golf we dashed to the Billiard Room (or the Centenary Room as they now call it) for a reception and a presentation by Ronnie Culliton and Pat Sullivan, dealing with the progress made since the traumatic days of February and March last.

This was made jointly to the three years groups (ourselves plus the classes of 1992 and 1997) holding reunions that weekend. If the group photo looks a bit chaotic, put that down to the general chaos in the room at the time with dozens of guys from three different year groups meeting up with old friends and former teachers, in some cases for the first time since leaving CCR.

It was indeed a pleasure to meet four of our former teachers – Sean Burke and Pat Kilbane as well as Vincent Leahy and John Shanahan the latter two having come all the way from Galway and Co. Limerick for the occasion.

There followed a Mass in the College chapel, beautifully celebrated by Dom Laurence and his wise, reflective, kindly words touched very profoundly on the fragility of life and reminded us of the benefits of having spent this important time in our young lives in the shadow of one of Europe's great monastic traditions.

When we last gathered 10 years ago, just 4 of our year group had passed away – Oliver Murphy, Jim Gaffney, Owen Farrell and Joe Mellotte. Since then, the number had more than doubled with the deaths of John McNamara, John 'Chuck' Cahill, Fintan

Corrigan, Philip Hunt, Brian Ryan and Paddy Brown: sadly there is one more to add to the list of departed – Donal Hogan who had hoped to make the Reunion, but was hospitalised at the time and died a few weeks later.

Onward to the County Arms where we had a thoroughly marvellous night. If having Sean Loughnane on our organizing committee was to mean anything, there would be pressure on his nephew Conor (CCR 1990-'95) to deliver the goods – and he did so in spades! All were fulsome in their praise of every aspect of the night's proceedings! But the main contributions to a successful night come from the participants and just like on previous occasions, this crew made sure they enjoyed themselves.

Nobody pre-planned the tables, but judging by the sounds coming from one table in particular, it was just like being back in school after a three month holiday.

Three guys came who had not been at previous reunions and enjoyed themselves thoroughly. Three failed to make it due to illnesses or accidents just before the occasion – now thankfully recovered, and one who hadn't committed beforehand turned up on the day, and enjoyed himself no end. Dan Ryan who captained Junior and Senior Rugby teams and played rugby into his 40s came all the way from Perth, Australia and gave a rousing impromptu speech, as did our House Captain Joe Hayes.

The coup de grace, however came from our special guest, Union President Pádraic Ó Máille who was attending his very last event as President. After toasting us in his own unique way he announced the name of the incoming President to take office at the AGM the following day – our very own Liam Spooner! Liam then said a few words to the obvious delight of all present.

As in the case of other reunion groups at our stage of life, there were several suggestions that we reconvene after five years – here's to 2022!



CCR Class of 1962-'67 Reunion photograph 9th September 2017, with four of their teachers, Dom Laurence and Union President Pádraic Ó Máille.

Front (Kneeling): John Lucey, John Kane, Oliver Kiernan.

Seated: David Wrafter, Paul Fogarty, Sean Feehan, Pat Hanratty, Union President Pádraic Ó Máille, Dom Laurence Walsh, Sean Loughnane

Middle Row: Vincent Leahy, Pat Phelan, Sean Costelloe, Hugh Garahy, John O'Donoghue, Mundy Prendiville, Seamus Hoare, Austin Vaughan, Brian Duncan, Liam Kelly, Pat Ahearn, Willow Phelan, Pat O'Dwyer, Tim Corcoran, Liam Spooner, Sean Burke, Joe Hayes, Frank O'Meara, John Shanahan.

Back row: Pat Kilbane, Vincent Egan (partially hidden), John Cunningham, Michael Shouldice, Pat Naughton, Ted Joyce, Tom Stokes (partially hidden behind Liam Spooner), Michael Ward.

Standing at rear: Michael Hanly, Fergal O'Gara, Martin Phelan, John Reynolds.

Dan Ryan also joined us later.



The morning after: Newly installed Union President Liam Spooner after the chain was handed over by outgoing President Pádraic Ó Máille.

More photos from the Class of '62-'67 can be viewed on the Union website www.ccrunion.org



back: Donal F. Flynn, Michael Meagher, Donal Monks, Owen McEnroe, Michael Harney, Jim Egan.
middle: Jim O'Shea, Michael Cullen, Gerald F. McCarthy, Tom Kerin, Dom Richard Purcell, Abbot., Dom Laurence Walsh, Brendan Cullen, Jim McGuinness, Terry Ashe.
front: Dom Kevin Daly, Pat O'Shea, John Cahill, Dom Ambrose Farrington.

Photography by Redmonds of Roscrea®

Class of '56 Reunion - 10th September 2016

Cistercian College Roscrea-Class of 1966-50th Anniversary-Reunion 1st October 2016



Back Row : James Coman Chris Bardon Tom Stokes Matt Coady Michael Crowley Patrick Kinsella Gerry Buckley Alan Loomes Michael McNamara Tom Healy Michael Nevin
Middle Row : John Shanahan Peter Joyce John Kiernan Tim Maher Pat Collier Brendan McGrath Damien Coffey Fergus Owens Chris Farrell Michael Comer Tom Hope
Front Row : John Rafferty Peter Nugent Billy O'Neill Liam Collins Derry Bergin Jim Lyndon Jim Phelan Billy Clarke Peter Murray Tony Bennett John Woods Liam Mulcahy
 Reunion Mass celebrated by Dom Kevin Daly. Also in attendance Conor Brady,Eugene Hardiman,Eugene McGinnity,our guest Frank Thompson,Chairman,College Board of Management

The Union Website - A MESSAGE FROM OUR TREASURER



Pat Keane, Union Treasurer



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**Liam Spooner
Union President**
Cistercian College
Roscrea, Co. Tipperary

CCR Union website – www.ccrunion.org

Dear Member,

Early this year, I made changes to the website to bring it up to date.

- ◆ Front page split into quarters showing:-
 - Introduction with picture of the current president
 - 2018 calendar of events
 - Latest news
 - Latest events
- ◆ Contact page now shows the contact details of the Central Committee and branch chairmen.
- ◆ Gallery has been reorganised to show the latest photos first.
- ◆ The Roscrea Review has been allocated a main heading.
- ◆ Links – LinkedIn, College and Abbey website, Facebook – College, Abbey and Dublin branch, Twitter- College account.

Correspondents required to keep our website up to date by providing:

- ◆ Photos and reports from each branch function.
- ◆ Branch AGM dates and proposed events to be added to the calendar.
- ◆ Branch AGM reports for inclusion on the website.
- ◆ Obituaries details for inclusion on the website.
- ◆ Reunion functions & photos.

Can you help?

Further improvements are needed but technical help will be required from members with a background in websites/computers. We also need help to move photos to the gallery which are scattered over the website.

Donate Page

The Union Central Committee is dependent on your donations to finance its activities e.g. The Roscrea Review, Union Gold medal, administrative costs, website costs etc. We need more contributors in order to continue supporting the past pupils and college.

It is my hope, that in time, our website will become a useful resource for past pupils in conjunction with the branch Facebook pages and the LinkedIn page. The central committee and the branches will need to work together to ensure this. Hopefully, it can act as a method of communication with the past pupils both in Ireland and abroad and encourage them to get involved with the Union.

I would be delighted to get suggestions and help with the website at treasurer@ccrunion.org.

Beir Bua,

Pat Keane

Pat Keane, Treasurer,
Cistercian College PPU

OBITUARIES

In these pages are details of pastmen who have gone to their reward mostly in the past year or so. Several of them led extremely illustrious lives and we are grateful to those who sent details of their lives for use in these pages. They are an inspiration to those of us who follow in their footsteps.

John Coffey

(CCR 1956-'61) died on 14th March 2018 at the Galway Clinic following a long battle with ill health. On leaving CCR he worked with Ulster Bank in Killeshandra and Eyre Square, Galway before taking over the pub and supermarket elements of the family business in Lecarrow, Co. Roscommon. His older brother Paddy who died in 2016 had assumed responsibility for wool buying and agricultural supply elements of the business in the years following his leaving CCR in 1959. Coffey's pub which is very much part and parcel of the local community in Lecarrow is almost 100 years trading having been first established in 1918 by John's grandfather Patrick – it has been modernised over the years but still has the same old-style feel. John is survived by his wife Auriol, three daughters and a son, two sisters and a brother, Damien (CCR 1961-'66).

Vincent Dooley (CCR 1955-'60) died on 3rd September 2017. He was living in Dublin and had been ill for some time. A native of Roscrea he pursued a career in banking and achieved a senior level in the Bank of Ireland. Vincent was a popular figure in the class. He was an articulate, philosophical student with a penchant for writing poetry. He was also a nifty corner forward in the best Tipperary hurling tradition. His classmates wish sincere sympathies to his wife Mary and children Brian and

Anita and to his brother Joe (CCR 1959-'64).

Cathal Bredin.

Michael Drury (CCR 1946-'50)

died on 18th April 2018 in Brussels. A native of Rathgar, Dublin, he passed his Leaving Cert with flying honours in 1950 but at 16 was too young for UCD, so with a strong reference from his PP he was given permission by Archbishop McQuaid to attend evening lectures in TCD for two years. On graduating from College he joined the Dept. of Foreign Affairs, and after Ireland joined the EEC, the European Commission. He served both in a long and distinguished career in many different countries. His last post was as Head of the European Commission Delegation in Bangladesh from 1994 to 1999. When he retired he continued living in Brussels with his wife Marlene. He was a frequent contributor to Irish Times letters page, his last missive appearing only a few weeks before his death.

Fr. James English

(CCR 1953-'58) James (Jim) English was a native of Hollyhill, Newport, Co Tipperary. After sitting the Leaving Certificate in June 1958 he joined the St. Patrick's Missionary Society in Kiltegan the following September and was ordained in 1965. After ordination Jim was appointed to the Diocese of Ogoja, Nigeria. His first assignment was

to St Patrick's Parish, Kakwagom, later ministering in St Charles Parish, Obudu. After the Civil War he was appointed to Holy Family Parish, Ikom where he remained until 1983. During his time in Ikom he began the work of establishing a new parish at Four Corners, St Peter the Apostle. Jim became Administrator of St Benedict's Cathedral, Ogoja, in February 1983. He spent the next sixteen years in the biggest parish of the Diocese. He lived in the Presbytery in Ogoja and oversaw the extension of the Cathedral and the establishment of a second parish in Ogoja Town, St Thomas Parish. The Society decided to withdraw from Ogoja in 1999 since it believed that its mission there had been successfully completed and that the needs of the Church were greater elsewhere.

Jim was redeployed to the Archdiocese of Lagos where he went to work in St Joseph's Parish, Kirikiri. It would be his home for the next twelve years. During that time he established many projects in the parish, built a big Health Clinic in association with the Religious Sisters of Charity and opened a new parish, St Monica's, in Mazamaza. After forty six years of faithful missionary service Jim returned to Ireland in July 2011 and came to live at Kiltegan.

Jim was an outstanding missionary priest who served the people to whom he was sent with every fibre of his being. To use an image from the sporting world:

“Jim left everything on the field of play!” His whole life revolved around the people to whom he ministered. He listened to them with great patience, compassion and wisdom. He spent hours in the parish office every week and all who came were welcomed warmly and were assured of a listening ear, an encouraging word and when appropriate received some material help. Jim invested heavily in education and in health projects.

There is a school in Ogoja which bears his name: The Fr Jim Inglis International Nursery and Primary School. The parishes where he ministered were hives of activity and places of love, joy and sharing. Jim introduced *Marriage Encounter* to the people of Ogoja and even became known as The Marriage Priest! He put great emphasis on strengthening family life and organised many events with the aim of encouraging families to be centres of love, acceptance, healing and compassion.

On his return to Ireland Jim settled into life at Kiltegan very easily. He often led the Community Mass at 12.15 and members appreciated his gentle and encouraging style. He knew he had borne the heat of the day and was now enjoying a more relaxed and leisurely lifestyle. His health deteriorated over the last two years. He died peacefully in the Care Unit on the afternoon of 12th April 2018.

Jim was predeceased by his brothers Pat and Michael. He is survived by his sister Maureen (Ryan), by his sister-in-law Lily, his brother-in-law Denis Ryan and by his nephews and nieces and their families.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam uasal.

Fr. John Garry (CCR 1958-'62)

Jim Egan

(CCR 1952-'57) died suddenly at his home in Co. Sligo on 6th January 2018. He studied Accountancy and practiced as a Chartered Accountant, but also had business interests including bookshops. A long time resident of London, he was very active over the years in the London Branch of the Union. He was particularly fondly remembered by London Union stalwarts Donald Gallivan and John Yurky, the latter recalling with great fondness zooming around London in Jim's open top car! His contemporary Brendan O'Dea also remembers him with fondness as a high achiever, an excellent athlete and a formidable hurler at a time when CCR was one of the top names in Leinster Hurling. He recalls that Jim was always a proud pastman and a helper and supporter to others in less successful circumstances particularly when in London. Brendan also recalls how their year group were in CCR at the very beginning of An tAth Éanna's long tenure as Dean of Discipline and that he taught them Irish – indeed Jim used to recall how he and An tAth Éanna shared two great loves – Iománaíocht agus an teanga!

John Yurky recalls Jim's great singing voice and how he used to entertain the London Branch at many a function. Jim moved from London to Sligo for health reasons some years ago, but attended the London Dinner as recently as 2016 and was one of 17 at the 60 Year Reunion of the Class of '57 last Autumn.

Cyril Ferris

(CCR 1957-'62) died on 2nd January 2018. He was retired Media and PR Manager of Iarnród Éireann and had previously been Head of Communications at CIÉ. Long before AA Roadwatch became a feature of early morning radio Cyril could be heard reading

the traffic reports.

Bernard Finnegan

(CCR 1951-'57) formerly of Mountrath, Co. Laois and later Piercetown, Co. Wexford, died on 12th November 2016. Bernard was a brother of the late Fr. Anthony Finnegan OCSO.

Colin Flannery

(CCR 1978-'83) formerly of Ladywell, Athlone died suddenly on 20th January 2018. He was living in Galway at the time of his death.

Monsignor Jack Foley

(CCR 1952-'53) who died on Ash Wednesday, 1st March 2017 was one of three brothers from Ballinahinch, Newport, Co. Tipperary who attended CCR. Though ordained in All Hallows, Dublin in 1959, he spent his life as a priest in California. A lovely tribute to him was posted on the website of the Crescenta Valley Weekly, from which we quote the following extract:

“Fr. Jack touched the lives of many as a servant of the Lord and his family and parish community thank you for your prayers over the last year,” stated the church's website.

Everyone, Catholic and non Catholic, loved Father Jack, the kindest, most dedicated priest. Just this Christmas season, I went to confession with him. He gave of himself, no matter how sick or old he had become,” said one local parishioner. “Just recently, he surprised Father Marc by showing up on the altar to concelebrate Mass, even though I suspect he was most probably suffering. He was always smiling and jolly. Somehow when he held your hand, you knew everything would be all right.”

Fr. Jack's brother, Fr. Denis Foley is a retired priest of the Cashel

Archdiocese, currently living in Dublin. He regularly attends Union functions and CCR matches in Donnybrook.

Dr. Joseph Gallagher

(CCR 1940-'42) of Milltown, Dublin and originally from Westport, died on 19th March 2018 two days after his 93rd birthday, having led an extraordinarily full life, although a gentleman of real humility.

He studied medicine at UCD, playing Rugby and captaining St. Vincent's in the Hospitals' Cup. He worked at different hospitals in England before returning to Ireland in 1956. He went on to have a stellar career in orthopaedics – he set up the A & E Department in St. Vincent's, he was one of the first Irish physicians to ever attempt spinal surgery and he was reputed to have carried out the first successful hip replacement in Cappagh National Orthopaedic Hospital.

He continued his involvement in Rugby and in the early 1970s he was appointed medical advisor to the IRFU, and in 1989 was appointed to the International Rugby Board.

He met his wife Betty (who predeceased him) while working in Leicester: they had three sons and a daughter. A deeply committed family man, he also excelled as a sailor, took up painting in retirement, and was a keen fisherman and golfer: indeed he was playing golf in Milltown GC up to a few weeks before his death.

Joe's younger brother Roger who died a few years ago was House Captain in 1944-'45.

Donal Hogan

(CCR 1962-'67) died on 20th October 2017 after a lengthy battle with illness. Several years ago, Donal had a brain tumour which

caused him to retire early from his work as an engineer with the ESB in Tullamore. Despite the ongoing difficulties this caused, Donal remained cheerful and resilient. He was one of the most positive, outgoing guys in the Class of '62-'67 and he attended our reunions in 1992 and 2008, and was a regular at the Midlands Branch golf outings in Tullamore GC and later Esker Hills GC, even when not well enough to play. Indeed he had hoped to attend our 50 year reunion last September but was hospitalised shortly before it.

It was with very deep regret that we learned of his death. We extend our sympathies to his wife Miriam and son Daniel.

John B. Lynch

(CCR 1950-'55) died peacefully, at Cork University Hospital on 1st March 2018. A native of Charleville he was a retired dentist and practised in Mallow. His son, Garvan is also a CCR pastman.

Michael McNulty

(CCR 1960-'65) died on 10th April 2018. A native of Sligo, Michael excelled at sport and was scrum half and captain of both the Junior and Senior Rugby teams. Indeed he was also a very good soccer player, and a life long supporter of Sligo Rovers, having grown up within a stone's throw of the Showgrounds. He regularly attended CCR's Rugby matches thinking nothing of the round trip from Sligo, and though not a golfer, he was generous in his sponsorship of the annual Dublin Branch outing. He was second House Captain in his Leaving Cert year.

On leaving CCR he studied accountancy and practiced for some years in Rathgar, Dublin and later in Co. Kildare before returning to his beloved Sligo some years ago.

As well as being a first class accountant, he was an excellent raconteur and story teller. A friend described him as always being great fun with a most infectious and happy laugh. The huge turnout at his funeral was testament to his popularity and the esteem in which he was held. Unfortunately, he had some health issues in recent years and finally lost the battle with cancer last month. He is survived by his wife Marian, daughters Aoife, Muireann, Neasa and Emer and son Gavan (CCR 2001-'07). He was a first cousin and classmate of Union Honorary Life Vice President Aidan McNulty.

John Morgan

(CCR 1965-'70) died after a lengthy battle with cancer on 10th January 2018. A native of Athlone, he was an engineer with Galway Co. Council.

Liam Mulcahy

(CCR 1963-'66) who died three days after Easter 2017 was a native of Skerries who joined the class of 1961-'66 in their Inter Cert year. He quickly established a reputation as a speedy winger and played Junior and Senior Rugby for CCR.

The following is an extract from a piece Alan Loomes circulated to classmates soon after his death.

Michael McNamara and I met Liam on the Tuesday of Holy Week for one of our regular alcohol free weekly lunches. He was in great form having just spent a month in Lanzarote. He rang me from St. Vincent's Hospital on Easter Sunday morning to tell me he had had an accident and to let me know his whereabouts. He told me that on Good Friday as he was leaving the house of a neighbour/friend in a totally sober state, he tripped when exiting the front door. In the resulting fall, he broke his pelvis and his wrist in

two places and badly damaged his pancreas but insisted that he was all right and that in time he would be healed and that I should not worry about him. Sadly, however he was not to know that his heart was in a bad state and it began to fail on the following Tuesday. He was aware of how serious things were for him following an immediate heart operation but with his belief in God he was calmly resigned to his fate. In fact, on the Tuesday night he said "Shush" to his Priest brother Tom "Our Lady is coming for me. Do not worry about me. I am happy". May I have such composure when the Grim Reaper comes for me.

He died peacefully the following evening, 19th April with his brother and his girlfriend by his side. He was buried in Skerries Holmpatrick Cemetery on Monday 24th after Mass in his local church, St Patrick's, Ringsend where he served as part time sacristan twice a week. There was a great turnout of neighbours and friends and from his Bridge Club and Clarendon St. Prayer Group and from Skerries Rugby Club where he was well known as a former member and always a loyal supporter.

As you will understand Michael and I are in a state of shock and total disbelief that we will no longer be able to listen to his "slow" delivery and hear his loud infectious laughter following a telling of his latest, always clean, joke.

After the Month's Mind Mass on Friday 19th May in Ringsend, Michael and I travelled to Skerries to pay our respects to Liam after which we retired to a much recommended local Restaurant where we raised a glass or two to our friend of 54 years ... bear in mind that he did a short committal in CCR... arriving in 1963... unlike most of us poor sods who served the

full sentence. And of course as Bus Éireann with a good CCR man at the helm didn't as feared go out of business we went free with our bus passes. Liam would appreciate that.

May Liam continue to pray for us all as he always did and may he use his inside knowledge to have the pearly gates open for us when we arrive to join him. I checked to make sure he was buried wearing his CCR tie... which he was.

Conor Brady, also a classmate, described him as a gentle soul who battled ill health and other life challenges with good humour and courage - devout in his faith and unwaveringly loyal to CCR.

John Needham

(CCR 1965-'68) died on 14th October 2017. A native of Lorrha, he had been in ill health for a long time, following a stroke over 15 years ago. He was pre deceased by his brother Richard (CCR 1959-'62).

Joseph (JV) O'Loughlin

(CCR 1944-'48) died on 31st December 2017. A native of Gorey, he was a contemporary of Manus Moran and the late Dom Colmille O'Toole – they were often referred to as the three musketeers. On leaving CCR, Joe did a B.Sc at UCD and worked for some years with Albright and Wilson in Dún Laoghaire. He enrolled in Ireland's first MBA Course in 1962 and soon after obtaining that degree he was appointed MD of Loctite (Ireland), a post he occupied for a decade before setting up his own company Clonattin Chemicals with his wife Connie in 1977, and at one stage he was Chairman of the Federation of Irish Chemical Industries.

His sons, Diarmuid, Shane, Fiac and Cormac all attended CCR in the 1970s.

Frank O'Malley

(CCR 1941-'46) died after a short illness on 22nd June 2017. Born in Rosmuc, Co. Galway in October 1928 he returned to the family business after completing his Leaving Certificate. In 1953 he married Maud Kyne, from Clonbur, and they had 8 children. While in Roscrea he was involved in athletics, specialising in sprints and the long jump. He also represented Roscrea in rugby, playing on the wing. According to his son, Tomas, Frank always spoke fondly of the five years he spent in the college and the many friends he made there.

Vincent Sherry

(CCR 1929 -'35) was one of six brothers who attended CCR and was probably the oldest living pastman of CCR when he died in July 2017, just a few months after his 100th birthday. He qualified as a surgeon and worked in England for many years. According to his baby brother Barney (now 97), it was love at first sight when a friend introduced him to his wife Kathleen, also a surgeon.

He spent the war years in London working in a hospital that was on the flight path of the German bombers during the Blitz. Surprisingly, perhaps, he was the only one of his team not called up during WW2.

Kathleen predeceased him and they are now both buried in the Monastery Cemetery.

Colm Walsh

(CCR 1947 - '52) died on 29th December 2017. He was the second of the four Walsh brothers (Michael, Colm, Sean (RIP) and Raymond) from Ballivor, Co Meath to attend CCR. He inherited the family business and farm which prospered under his guidance. He is survived by his wife Thérèse, five children and fourteen grandchildren.

Abbot's Cup 2017

The 2017 Abbot's Cup held at Roscrea GC on 9th September 2017 and despite a large and competitive field, Eamon Maher (CCR 1972-'78) playing off 16 scored a brilliant 41 points to retain the Cup he won last year. Runner up on 37 points playing off 5 on a count back was Gary Morrison, while Eamon's playing partner David Powderly also on 37 playing off 17 was third.

Regular participant Frank Thompson (10) won fourth prize with a score of 36 points, while the ladies' prize went to Mai Quaid (18) with an excellent 39 points and Colm Cunningham (28) won the Student Prize with a score of 36 points. It was predicted that

Colm wouldn't be playing off 28 for long!

The event was boosted by the attendance of members of three Class groups holding reunions that weekend, though the absence of anyone from the classes of 1967, 1992 or 1997 on the leaderboard is noteworthy.

This year's event takes place on Saturday 8th September – see details on Union Calendar on opposite page.



2016 and 2017 winner Eamon Maher (right) with his playing partners, Joe Geraghty (guest) and David Powderly (CCR 1975-'80) at the start of their round.



UNION CALENDAR AND CLASS REUNIONS 2018/2019

- Fri. 22nd June** Dublin Branch Golf Outing – Elm Park GC
- Contact Sean O’Sullivan sdposullivan@gmail.com
- Fri. 6th July** Hurling Support Group Golf Classic: at Roscrea GC.
- Contact Ann McIntyre 087 268 8052
carrickmcs@gmail.com
- Sat. 4th August** Roscrea Day at the Races at Galway Racecourse
- Contact Fiona Glynn, Lydon House Catering,
091 564015
- Sat 8th September** Abbot’s Cup Golf: Roscrea GC
- Contact Katherine Donovan
katherine.donovan@ccr.ie 0505 31203
- Sun. 9th September** Union AGM at 12.00 noon in College Centenary Room
- Liam Spooner will hand over the chain of office to
Fergal Keane
- Fri. 19th October** Dublin Branch Business Lunch Fitzwilliam LTC
Guest Speaker tbc
Contact Liam Nicholl nicholl@perfast.com
- Fri. 16th November** North American Dinner
- Contact Contact Des O’Brien: langans@earthlink.net
- Fri. 8th March 2019** Dublin Dinner tbc
- Contact
- London Branch Dinner 2019** tba
- Contact Fergal Keane fergal@gfkaccountants.co.uk.

REUNIONS 2018

Date	Details
Saturday, 29th September	Class of 1988 Reunion - 30 Year Reunion Venue: Racket Hall Hotel, Roscrea Contact: Pierce O’Leary 086 255 9649 poleary508@gmail.com
Friday/Saturday, 5th/6th October	Class of 1968 – 50 Year Reunion Venue: Midlands Park Hotel, Portlaoise (Sat.) and CCR (Sun.) Contact: Jim Keating 086 817 7597 jaskeating@gmail.com
Saturday, 20th October	Class of 1993 Reunion – 25 Year Reunion Venue: County Arms Hotel, Birr Contact: Darragh Hanratty 086 807 9551 darhanratty@gmail.com

Dublin Business Lunch 22nd September 2017



The re-scheduled Business Lunch was held on 22nd September at Fitzwilliam Lawn Tennis Club with the Dublin Branch Chairman Paul Murphy's former boss at DuPont, Kerry Kehoe as Guest Speaker.

Kerry did a fantastic job, managing to entertain an audience made up of over 50 pastmen and guests of varying ages, and providing very sound advice to those starting out on their careers. (See photos on the back page). It must be said that Kerry is an extremely smart guy who excelled at Maths, loved problem solving, decided to focus particularly on things he liked doing, unashamedly let others do the things he didn't like doing but did work extremely hard both at school and college (UCD and Cambridge) and combined that with plenty of involvement in sport and a very good social life. His address can be read on the Union's website www.ccrunion.org

www.graphprint.ie