

# THE ROSCREA REVIEW

No. 28

Quarterly of the Cistercian College (Roscrea) Union

Spring 1975

## SECOND AND THIRD GENERATION



Front row from left to right: Neil Johnson, John Kinirons, Henry Windle, Richard Ryan, Pat Lanagan-Ryan, Colm O'Connor, John Walsh, Brian Rafferty, Michael Quigley, Liam Fleming, Declan O'Dea, George Mellotte, Thomas Croke.  
Second row: John Scott, Cormack O'Loughlin, Gerard Condon, Dermot Mellotte, Terry Gleeson, Peter Nolan, Eoin Sherry, Pat Cahalan, Jim O'Connor, Nicholas O'Connor, Jerry O'Donoghue.  
Third row: Denis Croke, Brendan Lynch, Michael Fitzgerald, Tim J. O'Donoghue, Fiac O'Loughlin, Colm Dwyer, Eddie Byrne, Denis O'Donoghue.  
Fourth row: Derick Shaw, Maurice Mellotte, Bredni Martin, Dermot de Loughry, Eugene O'Loughlin, Michael Grace, Mark Kinirons, Joseph O'Loughlin, John Irwin, Jim McNamara.  
Fifth row: Brian Sherry, Ciaran McMahon, Paul Lynch, Bill Shaw, Seamus Lanigan-Ryan, David Culliton, Anthony Garahy, Risteard Mulcahy, John Murphy, Paul Irwin.  
Sixth row: Joe Nolan, Gearoid Garvey, Conol Ryan, David de Loughry, Mark Ryan, Piers Bergin, Vincent O'Brien, Peter Sherry, Garry Cooney.

## Branch Officers for 1975

### Dublin

Chairman: Tom Ambrose.  
Vice-Chairman: Frank Lynch.  
Hon. Secretary: Simon Coyle.  
Hon. Treasurer: Frank Lynch.  
Committee: Matt Hyland, Joe Chambers, Michael Coyle, Conor Massey, Patrick Kelly.

### Southern Branch (Cork)

Chairman: Gerard Murphy, Newmarket.  
Committee: Joe Geaney, Castleisland; Cola Kelly, Drumcollogher; Donal Long, Cork; Conor O'Flynn, Newmarket.

### South Tipperary

Chairman: John A. Hanley.  
Hon. Secretary: Rev. Fr. T. J. Hogan.  
Committee: Canon P. O'Grady; Dr. T. O'Neill; Patrick Ryan, Gerard Beresford, Kevin Dwan.

### New South Eastern Group (Kilkenny)

Chairman: Pat O'Shea, Ballyragget.  
Hon. Secretary: John A. Comerford, Thomastown.  
Committee has yet to be elected.

### North Tipperary Branch

Chairman: Richard Liffey (Jnr.).  
Hon. Secretary: Tim Maher.  
Hon. Treasurer: Philip Sheedy.  
Committee: Dr. Cosgrave, Michael Madden, Dan O'Meara, Dr. O'Dwyer, Arthur Joyce, John Joyce.

## CENTRAL COMMITTEE MATTERS

Since the A.G.M. in October 1974 the Central Committee has met twice under the Chairmanship of Conor O'Flynn. The meeting on the 24th November reviewed the results of the A.G.M. and the time-table on that day. The meeting was generally critical of the whole arrangement. Various suggestions were discussed including the possibility of having a week-end for the occasion—the Past v. Present matches one day, and a Saturday night stop-over with the A.G.M. and Union Dinner on Sunday. With certain modifications this seems to have been the most acceptable suggestion and has been adopted for this year; i.e. Union Day 1975 will be on the 25th/26th October.

Under the headings: "Where are we going?" "What are we doing?" "What should we be doing?" A very thorough discussion followed and it was decided that the next meeting on 26th January 1975 should be completely devoted to the objectives of the Union.

Resulting from this meeting a Study Group was set up of advisers who would examine the problems confronting our students in their final year at school, and in the years

immediately following. In conjunction with the schools professional adviser—Mr. Sean Cunningham—and representatives from the staff and students, this group would draw up a programme of advice for the Central Committee. The Committee could then decide on what course of action could be adopted, so that the personnel and resources of the Union could be used for the benefit of the students and the College. The members selected for the Study Group were:

Mr. Sean Cunningham, Career Guidance Adviser to the College.

Dr. Tom Ambrose, Third Level Education, Dublin.

Mr. Pat O'Shea, Business—with a bias to Agriculture with experience at home and abroad.

Mr. Jim Fehily, Architecture—with professional experience in Third Level Education both at home and abroad.

Dr. Bernard Sherry, Medical Profession in Dublin.

Mr. Paddy McMahon, Banking and Finance in Dublin.

Mr. Michael Madden, Pharmaceutical Profession and business experience in country town.

Mr. Frank Lynch, Management and Business.

Mr. Michael Coughlan, Teaching Staff in College, foreign experience in Africa.

Fr. Anthony Finnegan, from the Monastery.  
Fr. Peter Garvey, President of the College.

Mr. Joe Chambers, House Captain last year, now University Student, Dublin.

John Madden, House Captain 1974/75; Terry Gleeson and Denis O'Donoghue, Assistants.

The "Think Tank" as it came to be known, met on the 8th of March in the Guesthouse of the Abbey under the Chairmanship of Conor O'Flynn, President of the Union. Over eight hours of intense hard work were spent over the week-end discussing a wide variety of subjects.

Some of the topics which came up for discussion were: God, materialism, people, job satisfaction, drink. The linking of career choice to Christian principles and social life to social involvement took up much time, as did the choice of a suitable career and the importance of job satisfaction. Failure to achieve the

latter was very often the reason for religion being dropped and refuge sought in drink. The step from drink to drugs is an easy one.

### IMPORTANCE OF RELIGIOUS CONVICTIONS

The discussion highlighted the importance of sound religious convictions. The formal teaching of religion and the formal practice of religion were considered vital elements in the College programme, and the fostering of the traditional religious organisations of C.C.R. should be cherished. These linked with the influence of monastic environment left life long impressions. One man summed up his reaction thus: "Religion is caught, not taught." Practices may vary, but principles do not change.

Questionnaires were drawn up to be sent to members in various professions and careers. From these it is hoped to build up a body of information which can be placed at the disposal of students in the School Library. A somewhat similar scheme has been devised for building up a library of tapes on professional, social, and economic subjects.



# Leaving Certificate Students who finished in Roscrea, June 1974

Billy Allen, Puttaghaun, Tullamore, Co. Offaly.  
Gerard Barnard, "Greenhills", Carlow.  
Con Barry, Danesfort, Kilkenny.  
John Barton, 89, Ballyroan Crescent, Rathfarham, Dublin 14.  
Michael Breen, Main Street, Roscrea, Co. Tipp.  
Roy Breen, Church Rd., Nenagh, Co. Tipp.  
John Brennan, Bawnmore House, Johnstown, Co. Kilkenny.  
Desmond Cantwell, 25 Main Street, Cashel, Co. Tipp.  
Aidan Carey, Lourles Rd., Roscrea, Co. Tipp.  
Edwin Carey, 28 Villa Park Gardens, Navan Rd., Dublin 7.  
Joseph Chambers, Henry Street, Kirush, Co. Clare.  
Nicholas Connaire, Main Street, Loughrea, Co. Galway.  
John Connolly, Ballymahon, Longwood, Enfield, Co. Meath.  
John Coyle, Curragbeg, Athleague, Co. Roscommon.  
Frank Donoghue, Ballinderry, Nenagh, Co. Tipp.

Tim Doyle, Kilrush House, Athy, Co. Kildare.  
Arthur Duignan, Abbeytown, Roscommon, Co. Roscommon.  
Brian Egan, Beltra, 14 Threadneedle Rd., Salthill, Galway.  
Richard Ennis, River Street, Clara, Co. Offaly.  
Gerard Finn, River Street, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway.  
John Fitzgerald, 53 Butterfield Close, Rathfarham, Dublin 14.  
Edmond Gibbons, Dunmore, Kilkenny.  
John Grennan, Rath, Birr, Co. Offaly.  
Pat Hanrahan, 2a The Square, Rathdowney, Co. Laoise.  
Fergal Hassett, Patrick Street, Durrow, Portlaoise, Co. Laoise.  
Frank Heslin, Newpark, Portlaoise, Co. Laoise.  
David Hogan, Shorepark House, Kildysart, Co. Clare.  
Liam Jones, Brickernagh, Ballinaslie, Co. Galway.  
Tom Kavanagh, Pipe Street, Thomastown, Co. Kilkenny.  
Sean Keane, Killane, Edenderry, Co.

Offaly.  
Paul Kelly, "The Twenties", Drogheda, Co. Louth.  
John Kenny, Dairyhill, Ballacolla, Portlaoise, Co. Laoise.  
Donal Long, Chapel Street, Cloyne, Co. Cork.  
Conor de Loughrey, 15 Pearse St., Nenagh, Co. Tipp.  
Michael Lynch, "Loreto", Sandhill Rd., Ballyunion, Co. Kerry.  
John McKenna, Hillside, Birr, Co. Offaly.  
Fintan McMahon, 36 Castle Park, Monkstown, Co. Dublin.  
George McMahon, "Badger Hill", Manor Kilbride, Co. Wicklow.  
John Madden, Grange End, Dunshaughlin, Co. Meath.  
Jerry Maher, Main Street, Roscrea, Co. Tipp.  
Jerry Meehan, High Street, Rathdowney, Co. Laoise.  
Gerard Mellotte, Mountbellew, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway.  
Richard Mellotte, The Neale, Claremorris, Co. Mayo.  
William Mullins, Doninga, Goresbridge, Co. Kilkenny.

Eamonn Nolan, Kilree Street, Bagnalstown, Co. Carlow.  
John O'Brien, Castle Street, Carrick-on-Suir, Co. Tipp.  
Aidan O'Colmain, Abbeyknockmoy, Tuam, Co. Galway.  
Joseph O'Donnell, James Street, Westport, Co. Mayo.  
David O'Grady, "The Quarry", Knockainey, Hospital, Co. Limerick.  
Shane O'Loughlin, Ticknock, Sandyford, Co. Dublin.  
Stephen O'Mullane, 29, Firgrove Gardens, Bishopstown, Co. Cork.  
Oliver O'Shea, Hillcrest, Portumna, Co. Galway.  
Michael Quinlan, Claremont, Nenagh, Co. Tipp.  
Patrick Quinlan, Cuma, Milestone, Thurles, Co. Tipp.  
Seamus Quinn, Kilminchy, Dublin Rd., Portlaoise, Co. Laoise.  
Thomas Tynan, Keem Hse., Upper Main Street, Portarlinton, Leix.  
Richard Tynan, Keem Hse., Upper Main Street, Portarlinton, Leix.  
Peter Vaughan, Charleville Rd., Tullamore, Co. Offaly.

## SOUTH TIPPERARY DINNER DANCE

After a break of three years the South Tipperary Branch of the Union threw discretion to the wind and decided on holding a Dinner Dance. In January the Secretary, Rev. T. J. Hogan, sent out 130 circulars to the members of the branch in which he outlined the details of the function as decided by the committee.

The function was held in the Clonmel Arms Hotel, Clonmel, on February 14th. Below we give the names of the sixty-two who attended. The committee express their thanks to the President of the Union, Mr. Conor O'Flynn, who attended with his charming wife, Mary. Due to an unfortunate error re transport the Union's much loved and hard working Rev. General Secretary, Fr. Dermot, failed to attend. The committee very much regret this.

At 9.30 the guests sat down to a scrumptious meal in the well known River Room. The main course was roast beef—it was delicious!

After dinner the ladies were given time to get to know one another while the men folk moved to a nearby room where they held a general branch meeting. In the unavoidable absence of the Chairman, Pat Rafferty, the Union President took the chair. The Secretary said that the most important item on the agenda was the election of officers and committee for the coming year(s). John A, better known as Ailbe, Hanly was unanimously elected as Chairman. Ailbe is a Bank official in Tipperary and lives at Garnacanty, Tipperary. Fr. Hogan was re-elected Secretary. On to the Committee were elected Canon O'Grady, Dr. Tony O'Neill, Pat Ryan, Gerard Beresford and Kevin Dwan. During a discussion which followed it was thought that the small number attending the function was due to the fact that it was confined to pastmen and their wives or

girl friends. It was suggested that to the next function each pastman be allowed to bring one non Roscrea man with wife or friend. It was also suggested that a nine hole golf outing be arranged for the afternoon. The Union President concluded the meeting with a short speech in which he referred to two things. First he paid a glowing tribute to the pastmen of South Tipperary who had, he said, subscribed so generously to the College swimming pool. He also outlined the efforts being made by the Central Committee to help the present students in the College.

After the meeting, which lasted half an hour, the men returned to the River Room for a good night of song and dance, which was enjoyed by all.

Conor and Mrs. O'Flynn, Newmarket; Canon Paddy O'Grady, Hospital; Peter and Mrs. Daly, Tramore; Pat and Mrs. O'Shea, Ballyragget; Gerard and Mrs. Beresford, Dungarvan; Kevin and Mrs. Dwan, Thurles; Noel and Mrs. McCormack, Killenale; James Hayes, Thurles; Oliver O'Shea, Portumna; Patrick and Mrs. Grace, Ballyragget; Fr. Denis Foley, New Inn; John and Mrs. Lanigan Ryan, Ballycahill; Joseph and Mrs. McMahon, Clonmel; Thomas and Mrs. McMahon, Dundrum; Sylvester and Mrs. Murray, Clonmel; William and Mrs. Murray, Roscrea; Ramy and Mrs. Hennessy, Tipperary; William and Mrs. Kiely, Tipperary; William O'Brien and friend, Fethard; Noel and Mrs. Condon, Tipperary; Seamus and Mrs. Meagher, Clonmel; James and Mrs. Dillon, Clonmel; Pat and Mrs. Ryan, Ballyryan; Tipperary; Edmond Power, Ballinamult; Patrick and Mrs. McMahon, Tipperary; Donal Byrne and friend, Callan; Dudley and Mrs. O'Gara, Clonmel; James Doyle and friend, Moyne, Thurles; Tom and Mrs. Fitzgerald, Dungarvan; Rev. T. J. Hogan, Aherlow, Tipperary.

## THE CORK BRANCH FUNCTION: 1975

After many abortive efforts—the date—the time and the venue were arranged. It was to be Saturday night 1st March and the venue was to be the Isle of Skye Hotel, Banteer. Somebody asked what in the name of G. is taking us out to that place—for those that came that question has been definitely answered because Kevin Morrissey the proprietor of the Isle of Skye Hotel and his staff did a wonderful job on dining, wining and entertaining us. Of course we all expected this anyway as Kevin, a Cloyne man himself, was a past student of the College and of 1950 vintage. I am not going to make your teeth water by going through the menu, I must however draw attention to the highlight of the meal—did you ever try Roscrea Brown Bread with lots of smoked salmon because thanks to Father Dermot we experienced this on March 1st at the Isle of Skye—it was marvellous—and there is a suggestion being put forward to the President of the College that he should make it a regular feature of the menu in the College—Fr. Gabriel believes, rightly or wrongly, that there is more nourishment in sausages and chips.

Owing to a previous commitment Fr. Abbot could not be with us, but sent in Fr. Gabriel (John McCarthy, Middleton early 1940's) a very worthy representative. From inside information I believe Fr. G. spent a few restless nights wondering what he could say to his fellow county men, he was thinking of course of the old saying—the prophet is never recognised by his own people. Maybe, and I do say maybe we cannot claim Fr. Gabriel as a prophet, but we can claim that he is an excellent after dinner speaker,—we were all delighted to hear of the progress being made in the College and the changes that are taking place there. Having taken leave of our good ladies and guests, past men assembled

for the A.G.M. of the Cork Branch. The main business of the meeting was to appoint a Chairman and officers for the coming year and if he acquits himself well, maybe for two. The new Chairman is Gerard Murphy of Newmarket, Co. Cork, House Captain of the College 1971. Gerard has got a young vigorous committee with a small sprinkling of vintage models with him, so we look forward to great things in the coming year. Subject to the ratification of the Central Committee it was decided that in future the Cork Branch would be known as the Southern Branch of the Roscrea Union. It was the general feeling of the meeting that the committee should cater for Kerry and Limerick Past Students. As a result of this decision Kerry and Limerick are represented on the new committee. Having got over the serious business of the A.G.M. we proceeded to dance and make merry until the early hours of the morning. I have been told that some members of the party had a champagne breakfast.

Attendance included:-  
**Dublin Branch:** represented by Frank Lynch, Tom Ambrose, Paddy McMahon, and of course their 3 charming wives.

**1930s:** Charles McCarthy, Newmarket; John O'Callaghan, Newmarket; Cola Kelly, Drumcollogher.

**1940s:** James Wall, Drumcollogher; John O'Leary, Drumcollogher; Pat Buckley, Killarney; Conor O'Flynn, Newmarket; Donal O'Leary, Cork; Killian Boland, Cork; Paddy Abernethy, Castlemartyr; McCarthy Brothers, (3) Middleton.

**1950s:** Gerard, McCarthy, Cork; Kevin Morrissey, Cloyne.

**1960s:** Kelliher Brothers, Castleisland; Joe Geaney, Castleisland; Murphy Brothers, Newmarket; Con O'Flynn, Newmarket; Damien Murphy, Newmarket; Ted Murphy, Newmarket.

Signed—One of the 1940s.



# THE COST OF THE REVIEW AND ITS SUPPORTERS

When we embarked on the publication of the Roscrea Review in the Spring of 1962, the issue cost £40.00 and the postage £10.00. The size of the printing has expanded since then, and the Review is now sent to nearly 1,500 people at home and overseas.

Like everything else the cost of the Review has escalated at a most alarming rate, especially in the last eighteen months. The stamps for one issue cost £60.00. On more than one occasion recently we have cleared out the local post office's stock of "five pennies"!

Another item that has been hard to come by for some time was the newspaper wrapper that we post the Review in. These used to cost a few shillings per hundred; now they work out at about 1/2p each when you can get them. We were lucky this time as someone put us on to Donal O'Leary of Cork who supplied the necessary.

The dispatch of the Review is a major operation carried out by the students in the College. The folding, wrapping, addressing and stamping takes about a week of recreation time—and sometimes a free study. The addresses are now nearly all on addressograph plates, and this is a great saving of time and labour.

Our use of advertisements was a temporary solution to the problem of making the Review pay its way. The number of supporters whom we could ask for advertising space was limited, and the restricted circulation of the paper hardly made it a valuable organ of publicity. A fact which makes us all the more obliged to those firms who used our paper and the men who arranged the copy.

Late in 1969 a system of Banker's Orders was devised. The response to this appeal was gratifying as the following long list testifies:

Joseph O'Loughlin, Carnew.  
William D. McEvoy, Enniscorthy.  
Liam Burke, formerly of Carlow.  
Sean Donnelly, R.I.P. Cork.

Brendan O'Dea, Dublin.  
Dr. Bernard Sherry, Dublin.  
Noel Windle, Dublin.  
Andrew Galvin, Tullamore.  
Dr. Colman Ryan, now in San Francisco.  
Joseph P. Bergin, R.I.P., Nenagh.  
William V. Conway, Cullen, Co. Tipperary.  
Noel J. Condon, Rathkea, Co. Tipperary.  
David Andrews, Dublin.  
Peter J. Walsh, Dublin.  
Gerard J. Houlihan, Galway.  
Michael J. Madden, Roscrea.  
James F. Flanagan, Dublin.  
John de Loughry, Nenagh.  
Thomas J. Egan, Galway.  
G. E. McElvoy, Cork.  
Thomas O'Reilly, Dublin.  
Michael J. O'Brien, Stradbally.  
John P. McCormack, Dublin.  
Denis F. X. Hegarty, Arklow.  
Tom J. Garvey, New Inn, Co. Galway.

Edward J. Comerford, Wexford.  
Dr. Thomas M. Collins, Dublin.  
M. B. Garvey, Dunboyne, Co. Meath.  
Justin B. O'Connell, Dublin.  
Patrick McInerney, Longford.  
Peter D. McCreery, Clane, Co. Meath.  
Brendan Galvin, Nenagh.  
Louis J. Culliton, Rosentalis, Co. Laois.  
Thomas E. Byrne, Kilduff.  
Dr. John Dunne, Dublin.  
Joseph Gallery, Ennistymon.  
Donal Chambers, Dublin.  
John Fitzpatrick, Charleville.  
Daniel O'Meara, Roscrea.  
Michael L. Carey, Newcastle, Co. Wicklow.

Martin F. Moloney, Dublin.  
Christopher J. O'Farrell, Edgeworthstown.  
John Fleming, Swords, Co. Dublin.  
Rev. John K. Dempsey, Dublin.  
Frank B. Lynch, Dublin.  
Anthony Bardon, Abbeyleix.  
Richard St. J. Fennell, Bank of Ireland, Ballybay.  
Donal P. Johnson, Ardagh.  
Richard E. Johnson, Drumcollogher.  
Conor Guiney, Dublin.

Patrick Connelly, Curragh.  
Thomas A. Martin, Dublin.  
Patrick J. Magee, Kilcock.  
John M. O'Dwyer, Pallasgreen.  
Aidan Quigley, Dublin.  
Maurice M. Power, Kilmallock.  
Patrick J. Moloney, Dublin.  
John B. O'Hara, Dublin.  
Patrick J. Murphy, Limerick.  
Peter J. Conry, Dublin.  
Gerard Bates, Dublin.  
Dr. John J. Fitzpatrick, Dublin.  
Thomas P. Houlihan, Clonakilty.  
John F. Walsh, Dublin.  
Joseph G. O'Shea, Carnew.  
Matthew Duffy, Hacketstown.  
Conor M. Doyle, Dublin.  
Patrick J. Hartnett, Roscrea.  
Dudley A. O'Gara, Clonmel.  
Laurence F. Branigan, Dublin.  
Philip M. Ryan, Newport, R.I.P.  
John T. Murray, Belfast.  
John B. Lynch, Mallow.  
Gerry Moroney, Canada.  
Brian Comerford, Kilkenny.  
Ulic S. Nolan, London.  
Dr. Manus F. Moran, R.A.F., England.  
Dr. Vincent Sherry, London.  
Dr. James G. Cooney, Skegness, England.  
Col. Peter J. J. Power, R.A.M.C., England.  
Patrick J. Moriarty, Shirenewton, Wales.  
Fr. Seamus Brennan, Flints, England.  
James P. Egan, London.  
Dr. George Egan, Liverpool.  
Patrick Keane, Dublin.  
Thomas Haugh, Athlone.  
Fr. Fintan Keegan, U.S.A.  
Canon J. O'Grady, Hospital, Co. Limerick.  
Joseph Doherty, Dublin.  
Fergal Keane, Dublin.  
Denis Crowley, Dublin.  
Harry Hall, Dublin.  
Fr. Brian Fitzpatrick, Dublin.  
Dr. Con F. MacGuire, Hove, England.  
Jack Philbin, Dublin.  
Tom Maher, Tullamore.

We have received many other subscriptions from time to time, and

their receipt and acknowledgement has been published at intervals in the Review. We will continue this policy, and subscriptions, other than those paid directly into the Bank, will be acknowledged in each subsequent issue.

The problem of financing the Review has become a matter of urgency. In spite of the income derived from these subscriptions — which are for the most part 50p annually — the expense of the publishing and posting the Review is eating into the slender Central Funds. This fund is maintained by the membership fees which amount to about £160.00 annually.

Two small issues of the Review annually will cost something in the region of £300.00 per annum. It is a lot of money for a small paper, but the Central Committee passed a resolution at its last meeting, that the size and format of the Review should be maintained, and that a special appeal be made to our past men to lend more financial support.

We do this with reluctance, since we are still paying for the Swimming Pool; but the Review is our only link with one another and it is important that we should know what is happening within the Union and in our relations with the College and its activities.

We are therefore including in this issue a Bankers Order on the Bank of Ireland, National Branch, Castle Street, Roscrea, for the Cistercian College Union, Central Account. This time we are not specifying a figure but leaving the amount to your own discretion.

Many younger members "have come up in the world" since our last appeal, we hope these will now rally around. And finally, if you know of any past man who is not receiving a copy of the Review—and who should be—send his name and address to the editor, Roscrea Review, Cistercian College, Roscrea.

## Reflected Light

The other day I read in a book that "Wisdom is a reflection of the eternal light." I would dearly love to have been the author of that sentence, but alas, the authorship must be credited to a well-educated Jew who wrote in the last century before the birth of Christ. The book from which I quote is the Old Testament Book of Wisdom (7:26).

Have you ever seen the city lights that tinge with red the sky at night reflected in the still waters of a near-by bay? I have seen New York City's myriad multi-coloured lights reflected in the dark waters of the Hudson and the Harbour. An artist with brush or camera will often seek reflection of his subject in close-by waters. The reflection gives an added dimension of beauty, of symmetry, of perfection that makes us pause in admiration and wonder,

that makes us even forget for the time that the waters may well be dirty, rotten and utterly polluted, may stink and poison and kill.

True wisdom is the reflection of eternal light in a world made dark and dismal by man's sin, by man's perversity, by man's inhumanity. Worldly wisdom leads worldly men by the noses, tosses them about in a cauldron of unfulfilled desires and dark despair, burned up in a fever of human endeavour that signifies nothing but confusion and the ultimate folly. True wisdom, reflecting eternal light, enlightens men, makes them aware of a new dimension of beauty and goodness and order and perfection that the world, the work of God's hand, surely has. True wisdom, reflecting eternal light, lights up men's dull minds and lifts up their earth-bound hearts to know the wisdom of the Cross and to follow the way clearly pointed out by Christ, the Word of God, "The true light that enlightens all men."

## Summertime

Each season has its special attractiveness. Spring is a time of seeding, a time of release, a growing time of great awakening. Summer is a time of growing, of development and of ripening in the warmth of long sunlit days. Autumn is harvest time yellowing to winter's icy year-end. Winter itself is the time for the protective haven of home and fireside. Each season has its own nostalgia to stir the memory to recall a thousand pleasures.

Summer is for most the year's high-noon. We look forward to it with hopeful expectancy throughout the slowly passing days of spring and we make our plans for the enjoyment of the sun-filled days ahead. Summer holidays become the almost universal topic and one is inundated with anxious queries about the when and the where — very often from

good people who do not have the chance of going all themselves. To list the many pleasures that make summer such a special season would take too much time and space but each person will have his or her preferences amongst the many delights it holds. Summer smiles, however, are often mixed with summer tears, for sorrow keeps no special season.

But summer passes and is all too quickly gone. Its sunlit days and its clouded days reflect the bright and the dark places of life itself. From it all we can learn wisdom—the wisdom to evaluate correctly the passing nature of material things no matter how sublime, of life itself and to fix our sights steadily on the after-life, hoping and striving for unending happiness in the eternal Summer of God's blissful heaven.

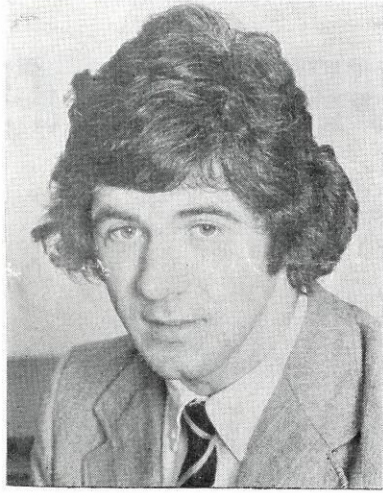
—V. Rev. Canon P. O'Grady, P.P.



## RUGBY INTERNATIONALS



Dr. P. O'Connell



Mick Sherry



Seamus Deering



Jack Guiney

The first Roscrea man to be "capped" for Ireland was Dr. Paddy O'Connell (1910). He played his first International Rugby match in 1913. In the years of war and trouble that followed in Ireland until nearly 1923 Rugby was abandoned in Roscrea. Soon after this Seamus Deering emerged as our second "cap". He was hailed as one of the finest International Rugby players in the 1930s. In the following decade Jack Guiney played for Ireland in by Christmas he was back on the

1946: Then in 1952 Charley Lydon of Westport played for Ireland. About a decade later Gerry Culliton became one of the greatest rugby players of recent years. He played for Ireland from 1958 to 1964. Now a new star has appeared. Michael Sherry has already this year played for Ireland against France and Wales. A broken shoulder has put him out of play for the present, but we hope to see Sherry again in the Green jersey next season.

## Midland branch Looking back to last year

The A.G.M. of the Midland Branch was held in Athlone on 3-3-75. Attendance included E. Ryan, T. Maher, Dr. McNamara, J. Flynn, N. O'Rourke, T. P. Haugh.

The following is a list of the Officers for the coming year:

Chairman: Tom Maher, B.Agr.Sc., (Hort.), Firmount House, Clara Road, Tullamore.

Vice-Chairman: John Flynn, The Mart, Moate.

Treasurer: Niall O'Rourke, Hill View, Moyvoughley, Moate.

Rep. of Central Committee: Eamon Ryan, Lanesboro.

Secretary: Tom Haugh, Beech Park, Athlone.

Committee: Dr. J. J. McNamara, Andy Galvin, Des O'Rourke, Sean Wrafter, Dr. Joe Daly, Richard Flynn.

The Organising Treasurer advised that our financial position was sound with £105 invested in the A.C.C. A message was conveyed from the Central Committee members that material was required for the next issue of the Review and among the items of interest was one conveyed by John Flynn that during a recent holiday in Asia he came across the grave of one of his contemporaries the late Kieran Connolly of Lisglassick, Kenagh, Co. Longford. Kieran left C.C.R. in 1941 and joined the R.A.F. He was captured by the Japanese and died in a Concentration Camp in 1943. His remains were interred in a cemetery in Chungai near Bangkok not far from the site of the famous "Bridge on the River Kwai."

Sean Wrafter former Secretary of the Branch is now Chairman of the Tullamore Junior Chamber to which he is devoting almost all his spare time this year. He has also moved house to Clonminch. Des O'Rourke (brother of Niall) is now in the Athlone Regional Office of the Bank of Ireland and Jim McGuinness, B.Agr.Sc., M.V.B. (Kilbeggan) has commenced practising as a Vet in Tullamore where he now resides. Lt. M. Stapleton is now stationed in Costume Barracks, Athlone and plays at Wing Forward on the Athlone Rugby Team for which Canavan of Ballymahon also plays. Johnny Dolan has returned to Kilbeggan, he is making a name for himself as a Golfer having recently won the Junior Scratch Cup in Roscommon. His brother Tom is also an accomplished Golfer and is in the Cattle Mart and Auctioneering business in Moate.

It had come at last—the day that was going to remain deep in our hearts for many a day to come. For some, it meant merely coming together, for others it meant the fruits of exhausting labours, but to the schoolboy himself, this was really it. I can see him now his eyes glistening at the thought of the happy days that lay ahead for himself as well as the other schoolboys.

There was an enormous crowd there and it wasn't the fact that there was so many there, that you couldn't count them but that they were spread out everywhere—across the pitches, down the golf course, or God knows where.

For many past students it meant a place in their memory being revealed again to them. Yes, everything seemed to be at the peak of its perfection—the clear blue water in the pool blended in with the shrubs and flowers of the surrounding landscape. Undoubtedly the swimmers seemed over thrilled with what they had received from the past pupils. I personally felt proud to be a member of the Midland Branch on that day, as I thought what a gift we were giving to the boys of the College. I am sure our President, Tom Haugh, was much inclined to feel the same. We in the Midland Branch were doubly proud to have Tom as President for such a great occasion in the opening of the pool and above all during the building of the pool and the collecting of funds.

Then came the most important part of all—the blessing of the pool by the Lord Abbot. It seemed as if a whole new College was being opened, because this swimming pool was in the mind of everyone young and old that day. The whole scene was one of sincere deep feelings towards this building whether they were feelings of joy or gratitude no one knows or cares. Yes! The College was proud of her new member—the pool, and so were we, for we felt that we had given C.C.R. something that she would long remember for many years to come. Last but not indeed least our thanks to Brother Nivard and the sisters, who so capably arranged the most welcomed refreshments.

—EAMONN RYAN

Midland Branch:

Tom Haugh

Past-President

of

The Union



### Irish Schoolboy Rugby International:

Donal Spring (Captain)

Donal began his Rugby career in C.C.R. in 1969. That year he played as out-half on the u-14 side. The following year he moved to Lock on the same team. He played for two years on the J.C.T., the first year as Hooker the following year as Wing Forward. In 1972 he played in the 2nd Row for the S.C.T. The following year Donal missed most of the first term due to illness, but S.C.T. side as No. 8. In 1971 Donal

was elected Captain of the College XV and played in the No. 8 position. This season Donal had three trial games for the Leinster Schoolboys and won the No. 8 position and was appointed Captain of the side. He had two trial games for the Irish side and won his place again as No. 8 and was awarded the great honour of leading the first ever Irish Schoolboys International team against England.

During his six years in C.C.R. Donal has played about 100 games for the College. He has also represented the College in Public Speaking, Golf and Athletics.





Conor O'Flynn (1944-47), "The Elms", Newmarket, Co. Cork:

## UNION DAY 1974

Union Day 1974 was held at the end of October in conjunction with the Past v. Present matches. The arrangement was just one more experiment in the search for a suitable day that will afford an interesting programme and attract a good representative gathering of past students. In retrospect it was agreed that the programme was too crowded. None of those who attended the A.G.M. could attend the matches because the meeting was prolonged and did not conclude until long after the matches were over. We also had the Golf Competition for the Abbot's Cup, played on the College Pitch and Putt course. This did not get as much attention as usual because so many people were engaged elsewhere.

The A.G.M. was held in the Geography Room of the new block. The annual reports of the General Secretary and Treasurer were given, and the installation of the new President of the Union took place. Tom Haugh who had occupied the office since January 1972, and had seen to the inauguration and completion of the building of the Union's Swimming Pool gift to the College during that time, thanked the Branch Chairmen and the members of the Central Committee for their co-operation. He passed on to his successor, Conor O'Flynn of Newmarket, Co. Cork, a Union in a very promising condition and he wished him every success in his new office.

The new President thanked his colleagues for the honour they had bestowed on him. He hoped that in future meetings of the Central Committee the aims and objectives of the Union would be carefully examined. The Union to his mind was made up of the Past Pupils of the College, the present pupils, the College staff both lay and monastic and the monks in the Abbey.

The business of the A.G.M. was then continued. Paddy McMahon

presented a very thorough financial report which showed a healthy balance. The discussion about the form Union Day should take became an exchange of ideas about week-ends in the College, stag-dinners, dinner-dances, bars, whether they should be mid-term, summer time or when the days get short. Canon O'Grady thought we were seeking too many "fringe benefits" for Union Day, which he looked upon as an occasion to renew old links with College friends and forge new bonds of friendship with colleagues of other generations; and to attend to the annual business of the Union at the A.G.M. Nevertheless the week-end idea seems to have caught on and the President directed that the matter be discussed at the next Central Committee Meeting.

On concluding his report the Chairman of the Swimming Pool sub-committee was asked if the subscription list for the Pool Fund was closed? "No", Gerard Bates replied, "We have still very heavy financial commitments to meet, and any subscriptions great or small will be most welcome and helpful."

The position of the "Roscrea Review" was discussed and the Editor was advised to make a strong plea in the next issue for more financial help from members, and set out the conditions and expenses involved in the production for the benefit of all. The size and format should be kept as it has been.

Frank Lynch brought up the subject of the Union Tie. It is a ready identification for C.C.R. men to recognize one another and should be used more often (Note: The Union Tie is stocked by Collins of North Earl St.).

It was at this meeting that the President, Conor O'Flynn, put forward his ideas of an organised programme for helping fellow members and using our personnel and expertise for the benefit of younger members and the students in their final year at the College. The Study Group mentioned elsewhere was the outcome of this.

## The Kilkenny Branch

At the meeting of the Central Committee on 26th January 1975, the President proposed that a new branch of the Union be formed with Kilkenny as the centre. In the discussion that followed it was decided to include the neighbouring areas of Co. Carlow and Co. Wexford with Kilkenny in order to make the new branch a viable entity.

In this arrangement South Tipperary lost Kilkenny, and Dublin surrenders Carlow and Wexford. There is a strong past student body in this area and as time goes on it will increase substantially for many of the present student body have come from the area in recent years.

A young and enthusiastic group led by Pat O'Shea of Ballyragget and John Comerford of Thomastown form the nucleus of this branch. Under their guidance a very successful social gathering was held on 15th

March at the New Park Hotel, Kilkenny. As well as past students, their wives and girlfriends, the parents of present students were also invited. This made for a very interesting and sociable group. After a very good meal was served, the management of the hotel presented the new branch with a huge "birth-day cake."

At the dance and sing-song that followed Jim Gibbons T.D., gave a nostalgic rendering of the "Mountains of Mourne" and Michael Houlihan made the rafters ring with excerpts from "My Fair Lady," and "My Way."

The success of this gathering augers well for the future. We hope that by the next Central Committee a regular group of officers and a committee will be formed. The names and addresses of the personnel of the new branch will be printed in the next issue of the Review.

## General Secretary's Report to 1974

Mr. President, Reverend Fathers and Gentlemen, 1973/74 has been one of the historic years in the Union history. We have seen the completion of the Swimming Pool project undertaken by you at the Annual General Meeting of the Union in May 1970. For a voluntary organisation like ours it was a mighty undertaking, but by the Grace of God and the hard work of the Officers and collectors in the various branches this task has been successfully accomplished.

To date there have been 672 subscribers to the fund for the building of the pool. Two hundred and fifty of those have covenanted sums of money over periods from four to seven or more years. We have special arrangements for the recovery of Income Tax both in England and in Ireland from these covenants. It ranges from 35p to 48p in the £. and comes to a tidy sum annually. But there is a hazard about covenants and seven have already ceased with the demise of the donors. Then there are fifty standing orders that subscribers have placed with their banks for payment monthly, half-yearly and annually.

As these subscriptions take time to accumulate we had to appeal for loans to meet current costs. To the men who placed loans at our disposal we are under heavy obligation. The total of the loans to date amounts to £26,100.00. As soon as we have settled our final accounts we will turn our attention to paying back these very generous men.

Still on money matters: I would like to point out that the above funds have no connection with the ordinary day to day running of the Union. The money necessary for this is met by the Central Fund, which also pays for the Review. This fund is maintained by the membership fees and the subscriptions to the Review. The two issues of the Review which we have managed to produce annually for some time will quickly exhaust any funds we have if costs continue to rise and we do nothing about our income. Last year, 1973, we had 49 new members with a membership of £3.50 each.

Of course the event of the year was the opening day of the Swimming Pool. Some 700 guests—pastmen and their families—were entertained by the College that day. The memorial swimming medal was won by Tom Ambrose. It has been suggested that a Swimming Championship for past pupils be established as an annual event.

I would like to put on record again the great debt we owe to Jim Fehily and his associates for the time and professional skill that he spent during the last couple of years in bringing the work on the Swimming Pool to a happy conclusion.

Finally I would like to thank the President Mr. Tom Haugh and the Officers of the Central Committee for their patience and tolerance to my many demands on their time and energies.

Thank you gentlemen.

## From Thomas Merton

The important thing in monastic life is to persevere. The Monastery does not exist as a temporary retreat from which one can simply return to the world and take up where he left off. A monastic vocation is for life, and he who enters the monastery should not do so merely to "see how hard it is" or, for that matter, how easy. It is not the relative easiness or hardness of the monastic life that counts, but the fidelity with which one embraces the life as God's will and continues to follow every indication of that holy will until death.

The real beauty of the monastic vocation is in its imitation of Abraham's journey into exile at the Call of God. It is not a tour of a few weeks in the desert, but a life long exile, a pilgrimage, in search of a land promised by God Himself.

He who hears the voice of God must recognise that he is called to an adventure whose ending he cannot foresee because it is in the hands of God. That is the risk and the challenge of the monastic calling: we surrender our lives into the hands of God and never take them back.

## International Hurdler

Mark Grealy a fourth year Student won the Junior Hurdles at the International Students Games in Malta last August, in record time of 11.9. He now holds the European Record for this event. Mark won the South Leinster Championships last May, with a time of 11.6. In the Leinster Finals a fellow Student, Paul Heslin, just pipped Mark in the tape to take the Gold Medal in a record time of 11.5. In the All Ireland Mark won the event and

Paul was second. Both were given the same time of 11.6. The following week Mark won his place on the Irish Students team by recording another 11.6 at Belfield. Now Mark and Paul are joint holders of the Irish Record at 11.6 while Paul holds the Leinster Record at 11.5. Both share the House Record at 11.5.

As you can see from the above Mark and Paul are keeping up the great Roscrea Tradition in this event. What about 1975?



## News about pastmen

**Very Reverend Martin Skehan** (1935) has been appointed Vicar General by Bishop Walsh of Yakima diocese in the State of Washington, U.S.A. He is parish priest of St. Aloysius Parish Toppenish.

**Hugh Cahill** (1972) and his family formerly of Finglas, Dublin, have moved to London, Ontario, Canada. Hugh is attending a college of technology in the area.

**Jam Kelly** (1967) formerly of Ballinasloe, Co. Galway. He now lives with his wife Anne in Santa Cruz, California, U.S.A. Things are going well for them at present and they hope to return home in a year or so.

**Jim Ryan** (1968) of Dublin was married to Katherine Danaher, January 1975.

**Leo Crehan** (1968) is a qualified civil engineer. He married in August 1974.

**Tom Hunt** (1968) from Roscommon, is also a civil engineer. He has gone to work in the U.S.A.

**Noel Burke** (1969) qualified in Architecture in 1974. He is now working in London.

**John Kiely** (1969) of Millstreet Co. Cork, is a Chemical Engineer and works in Reading, England.

**Shane Sweeney** (1959) one of the famous men from Ballinamore, Co. Leitrim—is with the Ulster Bank in Blessington. He is one of the youngest managers in the business. He is married and has three sons. During the year, Shane was on a Career Guidance Panel and spoke to the senior boys on Banking.

**Tom Holmes** (1946) formerly of Foxford, is County Agricultural Officer for Co. Kildare.

**Fintan Gilheany** (1949) is married and farming in Blessington, Co. Wicklow.

**Hugh Ferris** (1959) is a chemist and Assistant General Manager to Johnson and Johnson Ltd., (Ireland).

**Dr. Michael Barnard** (1965) after some years in dental practice in England has returned home to take up an appointment with the South Eastern Health Board.

**Brendan Mackey** (1959) formerly of Dungan, is teaching in the Wexford Vocational School.

**Paddy McIntyre** (1956) of Cloghan has been appointed Permanent Agricultural Instructor for South Offaly.

**John O'Connor Jnr.** (1958) has taken up practice as a Solicitor in Roscrea.

**Cyril O'Loughlin** (1956) now happily married, has two children, a boy and girl. He is in business with Scholl's of Dublin. His brother **Kevin** (1958) is also married and in Insurance. **Brendan** (1969) is doing Industrial Architecture.

**Martin Clancy** (1958) of Thurles

has taken his Doctorate and lectures on Animal Nutrition in Pennsylvania State University. Martin is married and has two children.

**Donal J. Smyth, M.C.R.V.S.** (1951) still known to his friends as Doug. Now lives in Sligo. He is married and has three boys and a girl. He is at present Assistant Manager of the North Western Cattle Breeding Society.

**Willie Smyth** (1958) brother of the Doug, still lives in Dublin. He followed in the family business and he is now President of the Master Victuallers Association.

**Vincent McGill** (1946) formerly of Cloughjordan is with the Institute of Industrial Research and Standards. He is also a chief executive of Bord na gCapall. He now lives in Dublin.

**Raymond Simon** (1951) is also with the Institute and specialises in paints.

**Charles Lydon** (1950) is still in Westport. He is on Bord na gCapall.

**Anthony Tallon** (1953) is married and lives in Glenageary. He is employed by Arnotts.

**Gerald O'Donnell** (1958) formerly of Birr is in the head office of the Allied Irish Banks. He is married to a Donegal girl.

**Gerard O'Brien** (1967) of Glandore, Co. Cork is now with the Avonmore Creameries, Ballyragget.

**Jim Geary** (1964) of Ballycotton recently returned from the U.S.A. laden with scholastic honours, including D.Ph. He is seeking a suitable appointment in third level educational establishments at home.

**John M. Ryan** (1963) has retired from the world of pop music and settled down to a more prosaic life of business in Dublin. At one time his group known as "Granny's Intentions" reached the top of the charts. He would like to contact some of his C.C.R. colleagues, in particular Jim Molloy, Brian Comerford, Liam Burke, John Monks and Gay Commane. John now lives in 18 Myrtle Park, Dunlaoghaire.

**Fr. Paddy Moroney O.M.I.** (1958) paid us a visit during the winter. Having spent some time serving with the Australian Province of his congregation, he is now working in Indonesia and Djakarta.

**Fr. Demot McCarthy** (1959)—another Ballinamore man—is now in the Dublin diocese. He is one of several C.C.R. men attached to R.T.E. where he is editor of "An Radharc." Others in the field are **Michael O'Carroll** (1963), on sport; **Joe Doyle** (1963), news department; **Joe Murray** (1955), agriculture; **Michael Littleton** (1956), producer of the Sunday documentaries on Radio; **Denis O'Grady** (1950), senior programme planner and director; **Aidan Maguire** (1948) a director of "This Day" and Sunday Service.



Fr. Leo Close (1952) received the O.B.E. from the Queen of England in the New Year Honours List of 1975. Fr. Leo was ordained priest in 1959 and devoted much of his time to Irish paralytics. He helped to found "The Irish Wheelchair Association" in 1960, to try

to do something for the estimated 10,000 wheelchair cases in Ireland. The same year he and five other members of the Association took part in the Paralympics in Rome. It was on this occasion that he had his private audience with Pope John XXIII.

## Dr. Gerard Meehan President of the Irish Dental Association

Thomas Gerard Meehan attended school in Galway and Roscrea—1947 to 1952—and university in Galway and Dublin where he graduated B.D.S.N.U.I.

In 1957 after winning the Hyland Memorial Prize for "general excellence, attendance, application, behaviour and general efficiency." Into the subsequent eighteen years Gerry has packed a lifetime of professional experience composed of a rich mixture of study, teaching and clinical practice.

Following graduation he practised privately in Dublin until 1962 when he left to study at the University of Toronto where he obtained the degree of Doctor of Dental Surgery in 1963. On from there he went to Ann Arbor, University of Michigan for courses in endodontics and radiology. Returning to Dublin in 1963 he was appointed Clinical Tutor in Crown and Bridgework at the Dublin Dental Hospital. In 1967 he moved back to his native Galway and set up private practice where he very quickly made his mark both

with his patients and his colleagues.

The name Meehan has become well known in F.D.I. and B.D.A. circles following his valuable contributions to the activities of those organisations. He was a member of the F.D.I. Publicity Committee in 1960, was awarded a Travelling Fellowship to the F.D.I. Meeting in Vienna in 1965 and was subsequently appointed Assistant Secretary to the Federation in which capacity he attended the 1966 Tel Aviv and the 1967 Paris Congresses. Mention must be made of Gerry's interest and participation in the American Dental Society of Europe in which in 1967 he was the first Irish member in dental practice in Ireland. He later assisted in the foundation of the American Dental Society of Ireland. In this connexion a highlight of a sporting record which has embraced football, hurling, golf and fishing was Gerry's winning of the A.D.S. of E. Singles Golf Trophy, the S. S. White Cup in Lucrene in 1973, the first time by an Irish member. He successfully defended the Trophy in London in 1974.