

ROSCREA REVIEW

No. 69

Newsletter

the new President

PATRICK CRONIN

Find it hard to believe that almost a year has passed since I first saw an advertisement in the Times Educational Supplement, the major weekly education journal which is read avidly in school and college staff rooms across the United Kingdom since most teaching posts are advertised in it. This particular advertisement immediately caught my eye for two reasons. First, I had never before seen an advertisement for a post in the Irish Republic and second, never before had the top post of President of a major Church boarding school been advertised openly. I sent off for details of the post and so began my formal relationship with Cistercian College, Roscrea. I had reached a stage in my career in the U K where I was seriously considering my future. I faced the choice of remaining at Queen Elizabeth School in Corby, Northamptonshire where I had been Head in very difficult circumstances for nearly eight years or of looking for the headship of another school somewhere in England. Neither of these options was particularly attractive to me in that I would only have been doing more of the same type of work for at least another decade until I could retire. The post of

President of C C R was exactly the type of challenge I needed and I am delighted to have been given the opportunity of leading a fine College into the new millennium.

The Abbey and the Board of Governors have worked tirelessly to make the transition from monastic to lay control as seamless as possible. I have been able to work in tandem with the outgoing President, Fr Kevin, for several weeks during which time I have been able to look, listen and learn so that when I take over I shall have a good idea of how things operate. Fr Kevin has been kindness itself in inducting me not only into the procedures of the College but also guiding me through its history and traditions. He will be a very hard act to follow. However, he knows that I do not intend to be a pale shadow of him and that I shall do the job in my own distinctive way.

I am indebted to the Monks, the Governors, the staff (teaching and



support) and, in particular, the students and their parents for the positive way in which they have responded to the transition. The Pastmen, too, have been a great source of strength. I am proud to be an honorary Pastman and I wear our distinctive tie with pride on special occasions.

It would be foolish at this stage to make a long list of proposed changes. To be truly effective, change needs to be generated from within in response to a perceived need and then implemented with the full support of those most affected by any such change. However, change can also be imposed from outside and I hope that my twenty-seven years of experience (fifteen of those at Head level) in a system which has gone through a revolution in the past decade will be of use as the College meets such changes in a spirit of con-

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ROSCREA

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welcoming a new broom



confidence. With the help and support of all the partners - Monks, Governors, Staff, Students and their Parents, the Pastmen - I shall be working to build on the strong foundations laid down by the Monks over the years so that Cistercian College can continue to fulfil its distinctive and valuable role within the Irish system of education as a seven day boarding school for boys.

I am pleased that we shall continue to enjoy the presence and services of members of the monastic community for the foreseeable future. I particularly value the presence and support of Fr Peter in his role as College Pastor. We shall be working closely to ensure that the monastic ethos of the College is not only identified but also strengthened wherever

possible. Recent surveys have shown that parents continue to choose the College because of the kind of spiritual development it seeks to provide for their sons. Many of those working within the College worry that this aspect of their work is not as strong as it should be. However, as an outsider looking in with fresh eyes, I can assure you that it is much stronger than you think. It may not be evident in ways that meet the strictures of traditionalists but a spirit of openness and generosity pervades the whole campus - the Abbey and the College - which is quite special.

I look forward to giving all those interested in C C R a regular report on the work of the College through the medium of the "Review". I am very grateful to you all for your great kindness and the warmth of your welcome to this returning emigrant. I shall always be pleased to welcome you to C C R if you are able to visit. After all, it is now my home too.

Departures are never easy. Of course I shall miss the daily camaraderie with the boys, the teachers, the administrative staff and the domestic staff. Oh yes we had our differences but the companionship survived. C.C.R. is a lively and friendly place in which to live.

Slán

The school is for the students, without them there would be no school. From 1905 to 1997, the boys have been basically the same but there have been differences. Breaking bounds, horse play, even some bullying, nicknaming staff, dodging mass, class or study, trying to beat the system - these are the permanents, but the changes in society have also altered the boys. Authority is no longer sacrosanct, religion has lost much of its influence, the media dictate standards, commercialism and individualism have distorted the values of both students, staff and parents. These are painful realities which every school in Ireland has to face and challenge. Yeats' "Terrible Beauty" is still with us, the "terribleness of selfishness and bohemianism and the beauty of young minds devoted to the marginalised both at home and overseas."

I go back to October 1982 for a quote which synthesises my own assessment of our situation. Brother Jerome Kelly



was speaking to a conference of major religious superiors on the challenge and opportunities in Irish post primary education. Quote: "The word crisis originally meant decision and I am proposing that we should decide to accept the challenge proposed by the situation. The family is under attack, young people are disillusioned with the materialistic world, parents are unsure of themselves and of their priorities in a changing value system, the church is in difficulty trying to be relevant to a restless people. The school perhaps more than ever before is faced with a challenge which can become an opportunity. This opportunity is for those who have the will and ability and the commitment to take it. This is an exciting time to be in education. In stormy weather many boats head for

harbour, only the lifeboat goes to sea. The leadership challenge I propose is not that of dealing with the crisis but of grasping the opportunity which the crisis offers. We have three options with regard to the present system, to leave it as it is, to continue to patch it up, to replace it with a new one. The decision is ours. May the Spirit motivate us and the ideals of our founders guide us as we face that challenge."

(end of quote)

Jerome's words are as valid today as they were in 1982. We are helpless ourselves but powerful when sustained by the Holy Spirit. We must press on regardless of media negativism or departmental obscurantism. The job of christian education is to produce leaders with vision and followers with convictions. Our youth must be trained to think for themselves and be free to put their thinking into action to test the liberal agenda for its virtues and its vices.

And so as I say farewell to the men, women and boys who make up the college, I carry with me half a century of memories, some sad, most happy. I always carry a conviction that a dedicated staff can make the vision of C.C.R. a prophetic reality.

GOD BLESS.

KEVIN





Editorial



In one way, our cover photograph speaks volumes, featuring as it does the school's first Lay-President, Mr. Patrick Cronin and his Cistercian predecessor, Fr. Kevin Daly. The photo is testimony to many realities. The monks at this time are not in a position to appoint a Cistercian President. The monastery shares with the general Catholic Church in Ireland a serious shortage of vocations. The response of the Abbot and the community has been to entrust responsibility for the running of the college to the Board of Governors and they in turn have opted to appoint a Lay President.

Patrick Cronin introduces himself to you in this issue. He will lead the College into the next millennium and he is fully aware of the unbroken tradition of dedication and integrity that characterised the work of all his Cistercian predecessors. A natural sense of sadness at the departure of Fr. Kevin accompanies an underlying optimism concerning the school's future. The past few years have in many areas witnessed a remarkable pace of change. A host of new appointments have been made and yet, the essentials of College life remained unaltered. Indeed the late Fr. Patrick's much loved "Horarium" remains substantially unaltered - 5 hours class, 2 hours recreation and 4 hours study followed by "lights out" at 10.15 p.m.

No doubt the coming years will see the necessary refinements made to many of these areas of student life, but the essential characteristics of a C.C.R. education will remain in place. We face the future with confidence, secure in our past and ready to structure the future in order to accommodate the needs of new generations, young men who in their turn will become the back-bone of our Union in the years ahead. We wish Fr. Kevin well for the challenges that will face him, and the same situation applies to Patrick Cronin.

At the last A.G.M. of the Central Committee, the decision was taken to have a one year Union Presidency, as opposed to the two years in office that had become the norm in recent years. Part of the rationale for this move was to engage a wider number of pastmen in the officeship of the Union, and the general view was that as a Union we have plenty of pastmen ready for high office and that it would be foolish not to avail of their various skills. Our new President, John Comerford, sets out his targets in this Autumn "Review".

Finally, the response to the database requests in the last "Review" was excellent and all that information has now been entered into our P.P.U. files. Not unexpectedly, a number of pastmen forgot to reply and for their benefit the "Review" once more carries a request for updated information which I hope you will find time to forward to the office.

I look forward to seeing many of you on Past-Pupils Weekend - Abbot's Cup on Saturday, September 20th and Past Pupil's Day, Sunday, September 21st.

NO ONE THERE!

I have heard too often, "I don't attend Past-Students Day because none of my classmates would be there." For those of you who are not familiar with the day(s), it has grown out of all recognition in the past few years. Apart from the Abbot's Cup Golf Competition on the Saturday, which will have about 200 competitors, class re-unions for the years 1947, 1957, 1972 and the "Cross-roads" meeting for 1994, will mean another 200 people, add in 300 students and some 300/400 members of visiting families, then add in the two Past-Student teams, most of the Staff, the Central Committee and a hundred or so other Pastmen, we are talking of some 1200 to 1300 people, so don't tell me there will be no one there

Your Union in conjunction with the College organises the day and lays on

Learning from EXPERIENCE

As toddlers we soon learn what hurts and what is pleasant. As we grow we accumulate some formal education and lots of different experiences and if we are wise, we learn from our own and from others experiences.

I have been asked to write a short piece on what the Union means to me and after much thought, it struck me that it is about meeting people of all walks of life, of all ages, who have only one thing in common, a rite of passage in our teenage years through C.C.R. It is a strange bond, but I've seen over and over, it's a great ice-breaker and an equaliser between different generations.

My experiences of the Union have always been uplifting. I've been in the

all the facilities. If you are not part of one of those organised groups, do you not think it might be your responsibility to pick up the phone, call a few friends and arrange to meet there. In case you don't know, the Golf is on Saturday 20th and Past-students' day is on Sunday 21st. September 1997.

Some 15 or 16 couples were disappointed last year when they left it too late to book the Park Hotel in



company of wonderful people, enjoyed superb, hospitality at functions and in peoples' homes. I have been given tremendous advice in all areas of life, financial, business, investments, children's education and even in life's values. Some of this advice came from other pastmen's experiences and some at my request, which was never refused. I received all this whilst enjoying myself with good food, fine wine and exciting golf outings, but most importantly in good company. I would encourage anyone of you to get involved; all of the branches need new blood.

It is because of my experience and that of my sons (Eoghan and Brian), that I have initiated what might be

Kenmare. It is without doubt the best value, the most relaxing and fun weekend break you could treat yourself and your partner to in Ireland. You are wrong if you think its just for old foddy-doddies and the Lord normally blesses us with good weather. The details are elsewhere in this "Review" Book Today.

As you know, there is a serious fund-raising effort going on at present and your Union fully supports the fund-raising and the building programme, but the Union is not a fund-raising vehicle and no one should have reservations about going to a Union social function for fear of being embarrassed by aggressive fund-raising. It will not happen.

JOHN COMERFORD

called a Cross-roads meeting with the Class of 1994. With the full co-operation of the college, I have invited that year back to C.C.R. on the 21st September, to meet with past-men who have experience in their chosen field, be it in Law, Business Studies, Medicine, Engineering etc. etc., to share their experience and to advise them if they can. This is in part, Careers Guidance and in part Networking. I am determined that this will become an annual event, because apart from the advice, we know that at about three years out, a class starts to lose contact with one another and it will be great to get them back together and in touch with the college. These are core functions of the Union.

For the other past-students, all I can say is that I have yet to meet a pastman who was unwilling to give advice if asked. Please feel free to draw from the well of experience and goodwill which is within the Union. Contact any branch officer; their names appear elsewhere in this "Review".

JOHN COMERFORD

COMERFORD

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John Comerford is married to Helen, sister of Eddie Tallent (1964), two sons, both past-students : Eoghan ('89) and Brian ('90), two daughters, Elizabeth and Sarah-Jane, both in 2nd level.

John left CCR in 1964 after Inter Cert., Graduate of Hollings College, Manchester, (Bakery Management).

Occupation: After almost 30 years working in the family

bakery business, John is now semi-retired with a few side-lines.

Interests: Family, local development, economics, politics (non-party), sport in general but especially hurling, rugby and as a member of Mount Juliet, a small addiction to golf.

John Comerford, Burrellspark, Thomastown, Co. Kilkenny. Age: 49

Hurling

ALL IRELAND GLORY TRIAL 1997

By STEPHEN LUCY

The alarm bells were ringing when the Trim centre-forward burst down the field and unleashed a powerful shot which John O'Brien saved brilliantly but the rebound was finished to the net. Trim were getting into things more and more but our backs stood firm and managed to withstand the hard-hitting Meath men. Now only Gorey stood between us and a third Leinster Final in four years.

When the final whistle went on that miserable rainy day in Nenagh, a cold shudder ran through me as I stood, dead still, crushed and dejected. It was agonising watching the hordes of opposing supporters flood the field engulfing their heroes. I looked around at my team-mates and observed dead, despondent expressions. The impossible dream which almost gloriously transpired, was shattered before my eyes in a split second. One minute the Cup was sitting on a small table in the stand, glistening majestically in the rain and the next they were putting the opposing team's colours on the handles. We had battled incessantly to attain the unattainable but just when we thought the breakthrough might arrive - it was gone. A small ripple in the bottom of the net as the ball trickled over the line and that was that, another All-Ireland lost. At full-back and one yard from that ball as it crossed the line - it was heartbreaking.

It all began on a sunny afternoon in September. There we stood, a group of eager and enthusiastic young lads while our trainer walked around looking at us in grief, throwing his eyes up to heaven. After insulting each of our native places and wondering why a Meath man was out at hurling training, we began to get to know each other better. There was our Hugh (Mr Mc Donnell) the wise, understanding, caring, sympathetic, ever-encouraging Hugh. His jobs were many - Trainer; Coach; Manager; Selector; Fitness Advisor; Physiotherapist; Doctor; Psychologist and Valuables' Minder and he proved his worth in each of the above. To us, he was everything and more. If it wasn't for Hugh, we wouldn't have achieved what we did this year and his dedication in all aspects of school life each year, largely goes unnoticed, so I would like to thank him sincerely for all he has done for us and to wish him luck in the future.

We started our campaign with a group match against Ballyfin on October. The opposition were exceptional and we were lucky to come away with a draw. Only one month of practice proved to be fatal at the on-set but for our first outing together as a team, it was as good a start as any.



Perseverance won in the end as we retrieved a six point deficit in the second half and went home in unusual high spirits.

There was a lull in competitive fare over the next few months as we got a walk over from Tullamore and a series of postponements due to various unavoidable circumstances meant that our final group match against Portlaoise wasn't played until the end of February. In the meantime however, we had three practice matches to keep us sharp. Birr, Banagher and Rathdowney all bowed down to the "Lean Mean Black & White Striped Machine". Our confidence was now soaring and with our many physical training sessions behind us we were well prepared for Portlaoise.

This was our crunch match "If we beat Portlaoise then we will win the All-Ireland", said Mr Mc Donnell and he wasn't far wrong even though we laughed at such a notion. The big day arrived and at a sun-drenched Roscrea with our ever-faithful supporters cheering us on, we didn't disappoint and in the end we came out easy winners 1-21 to 2-3. Paddy O'Brien, our Tipperary and Toomevara star contributed a sizeable tally of 1-16 and he proved to be our scoring machine throughout our campaign.

Next up, in the Leinster Quarter-Final were Saint Michaels of Trim and this match took place in Longwood Co. Meath, on Friday March 14. There was a worry that our small young team might not be able to stand up to the big sturdy Meath men but yet again we silenced the critics with a convincing 5-10 to 1-5 victory. It wasn't all one way traffic however, and at half-time it was 2-7 to 0-2 but we had had the advantage of a strong wind.

A sun-splashed Carlow was the venue for an enthralling contest with last minute equalisers, goal-mouth scrambles and extra-time all contributing to the excitement. This wasn't our best performance of the year but our dogged persistence, heart and determination again carried us through. With Gorey 3 points ahead and only a few minutes remaining, all seemed lost, Paddy O'Brien sent a 30 yard free crashing to the roof of the net. Extra time saw us emerge triumphant by the narrowest of margins as we scored three points, only conceding two. The final score 3-12 to 2-14 prepared the way for a Portlaoise showdown against Colaiste Eoin from Dublin.

Yet another sunny day and another huge crowd for this Leinster decider against the All-Irish speaking Dubliners. This was also a close encounter again. It was a tough match as we were pushed all the way. Again 1 point separated the two sides in the end, even though we should have taken control in the second half backed by a stiff breeze. The atmosphere was electric as the battle between the supporters for vocal supremacy at times, matched the exchanges on the field. Both sets of players served up a wonderful game which had everyone on tender hooks until the final whistle. Unbridled celebrations erupted on the field and in the stand when the final score read 0-10 to 1-6. We were Leinster Champions!

Our next port of call took the shape of Mc Donagh Park in Nenagh with St Cuan's of Castleblakney, Co. Galway next for the taking. A better performance was in order and we did not fail to deliver. With the pitch conditions immaculate, and the new stand packed to the rafters, we quickly built up a 1-5 to 0-1 lead after 15 minutes. We started to fall asleep however, and let Cuan's back into the game at 1-6 to 0-5 at half-time. Our pep-



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1. MR. NOEL WINDLE, DR. JOE DALY & FR. KEVIN
2. C.CR. - ALL-IRELAND SCHOOLS' EQUESTRIAN CHAMPIONS
3. CATHAL BREDIN, JOAN O' GARA, MICHAEL KEOGHANE
4. CATHAL AND MARIAN BREDIN, KENMARE '96
5. JUSTIN KEOGH - A MEMBER OF THE ALL-IRELAND SCHOOLS' GOLF TEAM



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CONTINUING TO LOOK FOR ALL IRELAND GLORY

talk at half-time was unrepeatable but it certainly woke us up. From the restart, a vigorous battle commenced with both sides desperate to gain the upper hand. A goal from St Cuan's after 5 minutes stung us out of our casualness and we got back into our stride stretching our margin of victory to 9 points. We had now reached the All-Ireland Final!

Beaten in 1986 and 1987 with such greats as John Bates, Shane Mc Guckin and Eric Barry we had to make it third time lucky for Hugh's sake. All that stood between us was St Clement's of Limerick (It had to be a Limerick school!!)

We entered the field as under-dogs with Paddy Power giving the odds in their favour. With the Carey Brothers & Co. from the heartland of Limerick hurling, it was going to be difficult. But after all we had come this far so why not? There were never more than 4 points between the sides as we both struggled in the terrible conditions. Paddy O'Brien had sustained a calf injury playing for the Tipperary Minors in the preceding week so we were at a big disadvantage, nevertheless it was a very exciting game right up to the end until fate stepped in. A clearance near the goal was charged down and Kevin Carey finished it to the empty net. In the end, we had no regrets because we had done ourselves proud and justice to the school.

The panel of players who each played his part in the success are: J. O'Brien (Toomevara), J. Phelan (Ballacolla), S. Lucy (Croom), S.

ROSCREA
REVIEW

Ormond (Shinrone), D. Spooner (Roscrea), B. Ahern (Ballyhooley), E. O'Maille (An Ceathru Rua), G. Mc Inerney (Loughrea), T. Doody (Knockainey), P. Mc Breen (Tuam), P. O'Brien (Toomevara), F. Hennessy (St Brigid's, Navan), D. Mc Donnell (Roscrea), G. O'Brien (Portumna), J. Mc Donnell (Roscrea), D. O'Loughlin (Kilteely), P. Mernagh (St. Martin's, Wexford), D. O'Brien (Kildorrey), P. Garvey (Sarsfields, Galway), M. Murphy (Newport), N. O'Flaherty (Borrisokane), T. O'Connor (Ballinakill), D. O'Meara (Kilsheelan)

When we look back on 1997, it will undoubtedly stir the cockles of the heart. It was a fantasy world and we were all in it together. We had highs and lows but we enjoyed every moment. The unity we shared and the friendship which binded us together knew no bounds. Where other teams faltered and sank, we fought and triumphed. From the flicker of hope at the beginning of the year we burst into a conflagration of desire and conviction. It was exciting, it was sensational and it was ours.

Let it be just the beginning of a new era for the school, one in which we will no longer succumb faint-heartedly to the so-called "good teams". We should enter the field with an undying spirit and fire that will never be quenched. Our success has thrown down the gauntlet for emulation. Our time has passed. So let us hope that future generations of C.C.R. will surpass our great effort and that the All-Ireland Trophy will be nestling proudly in C.C.R. in the very near future.



trust God to move your mountain, but keep on digging

On July 4th this year I was in the monastery of St Benedict at Snowmass, 8000 feet up in the Colorado Rockies. The community invited me to preside at the Eucharist and the following is the homily.

It is a privilege for an Irishman to preach to a US congregation on this day. I am glad of the opportunity it gives me to express my own thanks for the thousands of Irish families who came here since this year a century and a half ago and found new life and prosperity here after the starvation of the Great Famine back home. In the Irish language we do not speak of the Famine but of the Great Hunger - and the year 1847 was the worst - it is known to the Irish simply as "Black 47".

Independence Day USA '97

There are three points about the Declaration of Independence that I propose to you: The great phrase that comes out of the Declaration is "With a firm reliance on the protection of Divine Providence" and that has been translated, as it were, into the statement on the dollar bills - "In God we trust". Which is a good place to have it, even though one of your most notable theologians John Courtney Murray, who did so much to advance the theology of Church-State relations, has said that "Banks don't need God" It was unthinkable that the men who framed the Declaration would not express their faith in God and their belief in his providence. They were men of faith, and it seemed to them the most natural thing in the world that they would express their faith in God as simply as they did. Their need for his help and his guidance was clear to them.

We live today in very different times. Your country and your theologians have pioneered the idea of the separation of Church and State. It is a sound idea, in that established religion tends to lead to persecution of other religions and the oppression of minority faiths. But the separation of Church and State does not mean the exclusion of God from all civil life and much less from our own lives. As Catholics you have a distinctive and special contribution to make to the con-

tinuance of that freedom which is the hallmark of the United States.

We happily believe of course that we trust in God but I wonder do we really trust him? We say we do - "We must trust in God" - but often that only comes after we have failed to achieve something and there seems to be nothing else left to do. That is not trusting in God - that is using a shibboleth as a refuge when we are stuck for ideas. Trusting in God means believing that he is with us, that his providence governs all events, and that he is interested in our doings, however humble and ordinary these be. It means calling on his help at the beginning and end of all we do; it means being aware that he is with us always, that he is with us as individuals, not



merely in some vague global fashion. At the same time while calling on his help, we do all we can ourselves, not just in emergencies but every day.

Just before I left Holy Spirit Abbey in Georgia last week, Br Ken, who runs the store there, gave me a sticker which read "Trust God to move your mountain; but keep on digging". That is the idea - I commend it to you!

The second point I suggest today is that the men who framed the Declaration of Independence were not out to get their enemies. They determined to build one nation under God where all could live together in freedom. There is a magnanimity about that which is important. We live in a culture of getting your own back, a culture of blame. There is nothing so sweet as revenge. We are forever looking for someone to blame. If something happens us, we look around to see whom can we blame. The cry of our generation is "It wasn't my fault". It was our parents, or our upbringing or the school we went to or the teachers we had as kids or the racial mix where we lived, or anything at all that can save me from taking responsibility for my own life. Let me blame someone - anyone - other than myself. It wasn't my fault!

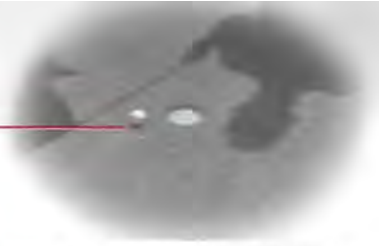
What has all that got to do with the gospel or with being a Christian? Very little indeed. We are called to construct a society where all can dwell together in peace and justice and forbearance; where the truths which the Founding Fathers held to be self-evident - that all men are created equal and that to all belong the inalienable right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, are respected and lived out. As Christians we are called to live by the Spirit and that means that we spread love, joy, peace, patience, kindness and goodness wherever we go, in whatever community we live, for all are called to be the sons and daughters of God.

The third point I put before you is that the men who signed the Declaration had faith in themselves, in their ability to work together to build a great nation from a collection of colonies, and they succeeded. This is a great country - don't ever lose faith in it! Sure, it has made mistakes. When you give freedom, you ask people to walk a tightrope, as it were. Freedom will be abused. As St Paul tells us in his letter to the Galatians - 'Take care or freedom will spill over into licence'. Inevitably that has happened. And from your very strength has come weakness. Because your country is great and rich and powerful, its sins are big and shocking and known worldwide. My country is small and poor and without much power in world affairs - and so our sins are correspondingly small and mean. I have stood by the Vietnam Wall in Washington and wept for the lives which were lost and the treasure and the talent which were wasted; but I have looked too at the memorial to the Women of that War, which is one of the most poignant I have seen anywhere, and in the faces of the women looking to the sky for the helicopters to come and take out the wounded, I see the hopes and yearnings of every generation for the American Dream, those hopes which have never died. The Declaration of Independence is surely saying that we must give God what is his, and give our country what belongs to it - and that means our loyalty, our critical assessment of its actions, coming from our patriotism and our love for our land, because it is ours, and not from a mean-spiritedness which can only carp and find fault. So on this day let us ask God to bless this great country and grant that it may be a force for peace in the world.

FR NIVARD KINSELLA
OCSO

MOUNT ST JOSEPH ABBEY





ABBOT'S CUP 1997

Saturday, September 20th 1997

Each year you are encouraged to make your arrangements for the Abbot's Cup Golf Competition as early as possible because of the amazing interest generated by the event. For this year, the advice to book early is more relevant than ever before. At the time of writing, the class of 1947, the class of 1957 and the "youngsters" who attended the college between 1967 and 1972 are all well advanced in preparations for their various Reunions. All of these groups have already block-booked various tee-times so even at this stage the timesheet is filling up.

Fortunately, Roscrea Golf Club have been exceptionally generous in their allocation of tee-times to the PPU so we are hopeful of being able to accommodate the 130 plus who played in last years event. The first tee is available to us between 8.00 a.m. and 3.15 p.m., with a short period of time reserved for local members who wish to play on the day.



ABBOT'S CUP

Saturday, Sept. 20th 1997

How to book a tee-time:

Gerry Hayes is responsible for the Time Sheet and he can be contacted at the following numbers:

Home (0502) 61301
Work (0505) 23344
Fax (0505) 22066

Alternatively, you can contact Gerry Maher at:

Home (0505) 47245
Mobile (086) 427312

The entry fee for the Abbot's Cup is £5.00 plus Green Fees (where applicable) of £15.00. The competition format is 18 Hole Stableford, current handicaps to apply, three balls only. While the Abbot's Cup itself can only be won by a member of the P.P.U., parents of students and partners of pastmen are eligible for the remainder of the prizes.

Mention of prizes brings me to the topic of sponsorship. Over the years, people have spoken positively of both

the range and standard of prizes that accompany this day. Of course, none of this would be possible without the exceptional level of support the competition enjoys among pastmen, parents and local businesses. Thankfully, the level of sponsorship for the 1997 event matches the generosity of previous years and the organisers from North Tipperary Branch are deeply appreciative of that.

In addition to the Golf, there is also the Abbot's Cup Dinner, which will take place in Roscrea Golf Club at 8.00 p.m. on Saturday evening. Due to space limitations, only seventy can be accommodated so, again, early confirmed bookings are a priority in order to confirm attendance. Dinner Bookings are to be arranged with Liam Spooner who can be contacted at the following number: (0505) 21063 (Office/Home)

Dinner costs £15 per head, wine included. Union President, John Comerford and his wife Helen, will be among the guests and a high level of enjoyment and "craic" is guaranteed.

So, make contact as a matter of urgency and enjoy a great "C.C.R. Day" in the challenging environs of Roscrea Golf Club.

The Cork Dinner

The Annual Dinner of the South-West Branch under the Chairmanship of Fergal O'Gara was held in the Hayfield Manor Hotel, Cork on Friday 18th April 1997. The attendance of over fifty pastmen and guests seemed to be matched by the age profile of the majority of past students. Contributing to a very sociable evening was the presence of Fr. Kevin, President of the College and his worthy successor Mr. Patrick Cronin, as well as Gerald McCarthy, the new Chairman of the Board of Governors and his wife Nance. The South-West Branch especially welcomes Gerald's appointment in succession to Larry Branigan. Fr. Dermot, a regular attendee at Branch dinners, could not make it to Cork on this occasion. He was missed by his many fans in the South-West.

It was a historic but sad occasion as Fr. Kevin addressed our group for the final time as President and as the last Monk to hold the hallowed office. Patrick Cronin too was making history being the first layman to head the school since it first opened its doors in 1905. Guímid sonas ar agus rath Dé ar a chuid oibre.

Fergal O'Gara, after a successful two years, handed over the office as Branch Chairman to Liam Kelly to whom we offer our continued support.

A reminder - you do not need to have lived fifty summers to enjoy the Cork Annual Dinner and other branch events. They are equally enjoyable between ages 19 and 49.

CUIMIN T. DOYLE.





As you will have observed elsewhere in this Issue, we have a new President in the person of Mr. John Comerford. Having taken up the reins of office in May he set off at what I knew would be a cracking pace with great energy on behalf of the Union. I wish John every possible success.

Our Editor, Gerry Maher, has urged me to pen a few words. As I am extremely conscious of the fact that an explanation is owed to you, my fellow pastmen, I now set out on this task. Having had the honour to represent the Union as your President for one year only, I took this decision myself following consultation with the Central Committee. Unlike previous Presidents I found myself deeply embroiled in College and Monastic affairs. Following the success of the Link Building the Board of Governors recognised the importance of improving College facilities and proceeding with the development plan and it was obvious that this could not be undertaken without a very serious and substantial fund raising campaign. As well as being a member of the Board of Governors and on a number of sub-committees, I was entrusted with the job of chairing the Fund Raising Committee.

It was quite a shock for Fr. Kevin and Fr. Peter to find themselves on fund raising exploits all over the country, but like the good Monks, I have to report that everywhere we have been we have been greeted with generosity, support and enthusiasm to the extent that we now have pledges of in excess of £1.8m. towards our £2.25m. target. The commitments have been so great that the building committee have now decided to embark on the further developments so that immediate results will be seen on site. This is exactly what we had hoped for, for CCR.

I have also been embroiled very heavily in the recruitment of our new College President and we are absolutely delighted with the arrival of Patrick Cronin and the admirable way in which he has been assimilated into the Monastic College and Union life and the enthusiasm he shows for all three. We wish Patrick every possible success. The President becomes a member of our Union and I had great pleasure in presenting him at the first Union function that he attended with the CCR tie which he proudly wears.

As you can imagine, in conducting the above activities and involving myself with the Union, I have had more contact than perhaps most Presidents have had with parents, past parents, past pupils, all over the country. This exposure prompted me to realise that there are currently at least 25 excellent potential Presidents. With such over capacity and so much excellence at our disposal, I realised that there would be much more enthusiasm if we had a yearly turnaround of the Presidency, as apparently happened in the past, rather than the President holding office for two years. This, therefore, is the explanation for what has occurred. I suggested at the May AGM, following consultation with the officers and with the Central Committee, that I should complete a one year Presidency only and that, in future we should adopt a yearly Presidency, as indeed the Constitution provides, although it

also makes provision for extension to a second year.

I am absolutely delighted therefore to report the election of John Comerford noted elsewhere in this Review, and also the election as his immediate successor and therefore Vice-President, Larry Branigan, former Chairman of the Board of Governors, to succeed John in the following year.

I think that with this quicker turnover we will have more past pupil involvement and hopefully more enthusiasm and more action from the President than I have been able to deliver.



MICHAEL HOULIHAN

I would like to thank my officers and my immediate predecessor, Gerald McCarthy, whom the Abbot has now named the Chairman of the Board of Governors in succession to Larry Branigan, and also all the members of the Central Committee for their enthusiasm and support for the Union. I would like to thank the Dublin Branch, the Cork Branch and the London Branch and their officers for their hospitality and Union support. I hear from Noel McCarthy a new Branch based in New York is about to have a function in September, and already an enthusiastic group of pastmen are getting ready to embark to join in such a function. I am absolutely delighted with this Union expansion.

It is a very exciting time in CCR. I am glad to have had an opportunity of presiding over your Union and I thank you for the privilege. One final word of special thanks to our Very Reverend General Secretary Fr. Dermot, who has given unstinting services to the Union for more years than I care to remember.

MICHAEL P. HOULIHAN

Dates for your Diary

KENMARE WEEKEND

PARK HOTEL, KENMARE

Friday, October 31st to Sunday, November 2nd 2 Nights B & B and 2 Dinners - including Gala Dinner cost £158 per person sharing 1 Night B & B and Gala Dinner £118 per person sharing Golf, Tennis and Walking available.

Early Reservations essential - Phone 064 41200

Abbot's Cup 1997

Venue : Roscrea Golf Club
Date : Saturday, September 20th
Times : 8.00 a.m. - 3.15 pm.
Format : 18 Hole Stableford
Current Handicaps for Ladies and for Gentlemen
Entry : £5.00 (competition) plus £15.00 Green Fees (Total £20)
Dinner : £15



Greece '97

BY MICHAEL O'REILLY

Greece and its riches - a land of classical beauty and culture, a land steeped so deeply in tradition, myth and history that the Greek Historians themselves must be nauseated by tourists and historians. The prospect of travel to a foreign location certainly can have a huge impact upon the winter-beaten perceptions of people. This is especially true in Ireland in November. The Roscrea tour of 1997 was to be the second in what the enthusiastic, culturally-motivated Roscrea boys hoped would be "a new era foreign excursions" from the school. It had been some years since Mr. Brendan O'Rourke's brave excursions across the Iron Curtain and into Eastern Europe. Mr. Gerry Maher, following his ever-reliable instincts, chose to lead the tour for a second year succumbing to his personal interest rather than obligation of any form. Greece was chosen by Mr. Maher and his tour assistant Mr. Billy Gallagher as far back as late October 1996.

The flight itself went without event. We arrived in Athens at exactly 3.10 p.m. Greek time, perhaps a little over-exhausted to appreciate any of the volume of cultural sights of the city. Our coach driver, tour correspondent and the latter's teenage son awaited us at the Airport. Christos, our correspondent was a remarkable character. His sizeable abdominal mass was greatly outweighed by his own personal oddities. A heavy smoker, Christos, however, rarely drank. He was remarkably versed in culture and Greek literature, in history and of course his own well-defined social code of behaviour. We were driven to our hotel the Palace Hotel. Groups of three were allocated rooms and most stayed in these specific triplets for the duration of the tour. The hotel itself was modest and perhaps a little bare, yet such factors were not relevant to the wearied group of students and teachers who retired with body odour and irritability undeniably rampant, to rest and shower in their rooms. That evening, we were given a full rundown of the itinerary for the tour by Christos. The prospect of no disco was greeted dejectedly by most (except teachers) but as we were to learn, much was retrievable.

We were given an early glimpse of Athens by night after dinner and went bowling before retiring. Yet retire we did not! Our return to the hotel was accompanied by an adrenalin rush as a buoyant group of Italian students greeted us in the lobby.

Student interest was once again overwhelming, although, on an indubitable break with tradition, three junior students were incorporated into the group of 37 travelling.

The cheery group departed on Wednesday, March 19th at approximately 5.30 p.m. Travelling with the group were the reputable principality of the college, Mr. Frank Smyth and Mr. Burke, Mr. Gerry Hayes and the apparently inexhaustible, Mr. Gerry Maher. Travel arrangements for our classical destination were oppressive to say the least. As there was no direct flight from Dublin to Athens until the onset of July, the group was obliged to travel to Gatwick. To add to travel inconvenience, a ferry from Wexford to Fishguard was requisite. We reached Rosslare at approximately 8.45 p.m. and boarded almost immediately. Suggestions of the "social chaos" that was in store for the authoritative members of the group during the tour became immediately obvious aboard. Travelling to Fishguard on the preliminary stage of their trip to Paris, were a group of Wexford girls. The more sociable of the group became immediately acquainted with these energetic and inexplicably friendly females.

Arrival in Fishguard at approximately 1.00 a.m. was almost immediately followed by a barbaric eight-hour overland haul to London. The trip was exhaustive! Due to an ineffective ventilation system aboard the bus, the exhausted group were subjected to an arctic-like haul seemingly impassive to our already terrible sleep shortcomings.

Gatwick Airport presented a dilemma of its own. Due to circumstances outside the tour-leader's control, we were substantially late. Incompetence and inefficiency at Gatwick plagued our wait and we almost missed the flight. Britain's disregard for EU customs regulations bore huge implications for the unsuspecting Roscrea boys who just wanted to have some fun.

What must surely have been an apocalyptic-type struggle for the teachers ensued as the Italians, seemingly exempt of any form of authority, ran rampant around the hotel. As Mr. Smyth after remarked, perhaps their inexplicable exuberance and energy were derived from their great love of Greece's classical wonders! If only equal passion, in a more controlled manner, could have been exhibited by our own!

To everyone's great relief, we left Athens after breakfast the following morning Friday, March 21st. The bus presented us with an opportunity to acquire a glimpse of the capital itself on our way. Like most south eastern European urban agglomerations, Athens appears old and shabby. Unlike such classical masterpieces as Rome, which benefited from the Renaissance, Athens, excluding its antiquities and ancient wonders is in my view quite an unpleasant, disorganised city with quite serious traffic problems.

We travelled a great deal on Friday. Our first stop was at the Ithmus Canal. This was remarkable and surely must have captured the awe of even the least historically-cultured, and reflected the phenomenal architectural prowess of the ancient Greeks. Friday was one of the longest days travelling, yet all seemed perfectly tolerable to the amenable group. Lost sleep was caught up on, thoughts were pondered and undeniably the beauty of Greece, with its culture and riches was appreciated. Friday

evening involved an enjoyable but brief visit to Mycenae. The huge stone fortress, built in a particularly mountainous region, dominated the skyline for miles around. Like the Athenians and Spartans of later entries, the ancient Mycenaeans were a warlike but defensive race. Such a mentality is effectively reflected in their architecture. It was at this stage of the tour that we were introduced to our tour guide Effi. Effi was interesting to say the least. Like Christos, who accompanied us to each destination, Effi's flamboyance seemed culturally generated. She was very intelligent, a passionate speaker and her Mediterranean looks were instantly admired by all in the group. After a brief visit to Agamemnon's grave at Mycene, we departed for Corinth. Here, we saw the beautiful theatre of Argolid which provided a source of much interest, whilst most students succumbed to the lure of refreshments nearby. Corinth was our final stop before our destination for the day - the village Tolon. Tolon was a typical example of a Greek tourist village, fully equipped with pubs, hotels and quite unexpectedly, the Gorilla Night-club. After a period of sharp

diplomacy, by the four student leaders, an agreement was reached. We were allowed to go to



the Night-club on the condition of bed by half past midnight. The disco was great, stimulating refreshing. A group of noisy English sought to dominate the dance-floor proceedings but they were soon overpowered by the exuberant Roscrea army releasing the tension of the day's travel.

Saturday morning heralded a return to a more cultural and historical side of affairs. Some of the older students feeling forced and over fed on a diet of temples, fortresses and arenas, were particularly relieved by our many stops at roadside restaurants or other such "luxuries". Saturday's principle attraction was a trip to the ancient theatre of Olympia. We saw huge temples and shrines, ancient hotels for the athletes of old, and as Effi outlined to us, the significance of the ancient Olympics to the Greeks themselves. Wartime truces were declared at the time of the games, which ran from 776BC to 393AD. We drained students were subsequently subjected to a ridiculous idea of Christos which involved running a race on the old track. This barbaric and torturing episode insisted upon by staff persisted haphazardly for over half an hour, until such time as Christos believed our "initiation" to be complete.

We arrived at the scenic town of Delphi that evening at approximately 6.30 p.m. Exhausted by the day's sadistic ritual at Olympia, we retreated to our allocated rooms and showered, preparing ourselves once more for a night of social chaos. Another suitable disco location was found and integration with a group of American girls was made. Once again the disco was very enjoyable and most resisted the immoral allure of the Yanks, though some couldn't handle the pressure. Just as the night seemed to begin to abound, we were dragged from the disco by the teachers. Any negotiations for a time extension apparently broke down, and the whole affair was dissolved. One of the most frustrating aspects of the whole tour was the

early rise insisted upon by Christos - 7.30 a.m. After chaotic nights such as that unforgettable first night in Athens, Christos' requests seemed comical. Yet at 7.30 a.m., we did arise and Sunday, March 23rd was no different. Sunday too comprised the perfect blend of culture, restaurants and entertainment and all looked forward to that evening's return to the Palace Hotel in Athens. Yet Sunday had only begun. Our first stop was at the fascinating Oracle of Delphi, the legendary shrine where a virgin priestess prophesied for Kings and Princes in return for gifts and financial reward. The shrine itself was a huge agglomeration of temples, shrines and storehouses, and most availed of an opportunity to explore the deepest recesses of the campus. The visit to the Delphi Shrine was followed by a visit to a nearby museum. This, most judged to be a tedious affair of walking, standing and listening, especially after the previous night's social vibes. After the subsequent long bus trip, we reached Patras on the coast, where we visited the renowned Orthodox Cathedral. From there we travelled by ferry across a narrow stretch of water (a short trip of only 25 minutes). That night we reached the Palace Hotel seemingly only minutes before the crazed Italian students had departed. Our usual nocturnal adrenalin refuels were this time quelled however, when we were subjected to a monotonous "Greek Culture" night in the heart of Athens. This, organised at the leisure of Christos and costing 5,000 drachmas (£13) was a gruesome rendition of Greek music and dancing.

The unloading of culture had apparently taken its toll. Oh, how we longed for the packed dance floor once more with the pounding of Prodigy's "Firestarter" rampant around us.

Monday's early rise of 7.00 a.m. was hardly a good start,

but the day itself was particularly enjoyable. We visited the

beautiful and architecturally amazing Acropolis first, with its Parthenon and Propyalea. Mr. Maher, sensing a possible confrontation, wisely dismissed Effi's intention to visit a museum. From the Acropolis with a marvellous display of fighter aircraft buzzing above us, we saw Athens in all its classical splendour. Our visit to the Athenian flea market was perhaps the most enjoyable daytime excursion of the tour. Bargaining with the vendors, mixing with the locals and chatting with any interested females seemed an idyllic blend of culture and entertainment. Perhaps the day's highlight was the soccer match, organised by Mr. Hayes amongst any interested contenders of the group. The game, played near the beach, was a thoroughly enjoyable affair despite Christos less-than-able refereeing! That night we had a most enjoyable experience at a carnival adjacent to the hotel.

On Tuesday, March 28th, Christos served us well when he organised a boat-trip for the group. The trip involved a cruise and visit to three prominent islands in the Aegean Sea of which Aegina was the largest. These islands noted for their tourist-directed commerciality were all visited, and proved immensely enjoyable along with the cruise itself. That night, Christos had organised a "late" disco for us. The group comprising 4th and 5th years exclusively was to plummet to the height of social integration until 2.30am. However, it was not to be. Sadly, it was a bank holiday and on arrival we discovered the night-club effec-



Cistercian College Roscrea Development Office

January 1996 saw the initiation of a very successful capital campaign in the College. Community Counselling Services (CCS) were retained to assist the College in our Fundraising endeavour. Executive Director, Michael Madnick first implemented a Planning/Action Study to obtain an overall view of the College from the perspective of its various constituents. His findings formed the basis of a case study which confirmed the three areas of capital improvement of which Phase II of the Development Programme is comprised: -

- Provision of an Information Technology Centre - Within this academic year
- Renovation of Existing Dormitories - Phased programme to begin June 1998
- Construction of a fully equipped Gymnasium - Commencing in latter half of 1998

The estimated cost of Phase II is £2.35 million.

In the 125 year history of the Abbey at Roscrea, this past year represents the first time external support has been sought to meet internal needs and thanks to the generous support of our many constituents, the College of the Millennium Programme continues strong. Support has come from our parent body, past parents, past students and friends from all corners of Ireland, England, the United States and beyond with commitments of £1.8 million to date.

The departure of CCS, prompted the establishment of a permanent Development Office in Roscrea and in April 1997 I was appointed to this office. I have worked in Cistercian College since 1989 and assisted Michael Madnick during the various stages of the capital campaign.

Fund-raising, of course, remains a priority but also, for the first time, a formal Marketing and Public Relations Policy has been implemented to foster and enhance relationships with our broad and diverse constituency.

A central Past Pupil Database has been compiled and is continually updated with information supplied via the "Roscrea Review" information requests sheets and other sources. An annual Mailing List will be sent to regional representatives to facilitate the organisation of Union functions and help maximise attendance at such events.

To assist in organising Reunions, class representatives can contact the Development Office and will be supplied with a structured document to help co-ordinate the various steps involved.

From September 1997, Cistercian College Roscrea will be on the Internet. Parents will have access to our comprehensive Prospectus which outlines the academic, spiritual, sporting and social activities of the college. Past Students can "log-on" to get the calendar of Union Functions, details of the Abbot's Cup golf competition, guidelines to help organise Class Reunions, and also the "Roscrea Review" will be scanned "on-line" later in the year. There is a comprehensive feature on the Monastery - historical background regarding the formation of the Abbey at Roscrea and the life and work of the monks.

The Development Office offers a vital link between the College and its various constituents and your suggestions and comments are always welcome. In the coming months, I hope to attend some more PPU functions and look forward to meeting many more members of CCR's extended family. It is my aim to continue to build on the success of the campaign to date and with this in mind we continue to seek the support of all our constituents, team-building as we go.

KATHERINE DONOVAN HAS WORKED IN THE COLLEGE SINCE 1989 AND HAS JUST COMPLETED SIX MONTHS AS DEVELOPMENT OFFICER. SHE HAS BEEN EXTENSIVELY INVOLVED IN THE PRODUCTION OF RECENT "ROSCREA REVIEWS" AND IS HEADING UP THE WORK ON THE COLLEGE WEBSITE AND THE ON-GOING UPDATING OF UNION ADDRESSES FOR THE DATABASE ETC. SHE WILL HELP CO-ORDINATE CLASS REUNIONS AND IS HOPEFUL OF ATTENDING EVERY PPU FUNCTION IN THE COMING MONTHS.

CONTINUING THE GREAT GREECE EXPERIENCE

tively deserted. The wrath of the group immediately turned towards Christos whose "perceptions" seemed once again to have failed. The partially refunded but undoubtedly dejected group returned to the hotel, deprived of their final night of chaos.

The welcome sleep-in until 10.30a.m. on Wednesday morning was availed of by most. Mr. Smyth as always was on hand to ensure that there were no late starts though he appeared obviously dishevelled by the previous nights roller coaster ride. We departed for the airport at approximately 1.00 p.m. to check in for our three-thirty flight. Despite the brilliance of the tour all simply wished to return to Paddy-land. After a long stop in the Duty Free at Athens Airport, we departed, arriving in Gatwick at 6.00p.m. Our Ryanair flight whose comfort can be notably contrasted with the luxury of British Airways, left at around 8.30p.m. and reaching Dublin by 9.00p.m. Our remarkable travels were complete. Any disaster which Mr. Smyth may have anticipated had been averted!



to such an immaculate degree that many were disgusted to return to the familiar sight of green fields and stony walls. All good things must come to an end. Both teachers and students should be commended for their sense of responsibility but gest throughout the tour and it is with little hesitation that I claim it to be a complete success.

The greatest impact of the tour for many students was the sense of independence attained throughout. It was a holiday with friends, a unique experience for me. It was also a revolutionary experience for many first time flyers, one of whom remarked to me that prior to the tour, he could not have even contemplated tackling the pandemonium of an inter-national airport. In summary, a school tour is a powerful experience. It requires responsibility and personal composition, yet it's ultimately objective is as a source of enjoyment and through such a medium, independence can be attained. Greece '97 was by no means a heavenly or idyllic affair. Yet it was an ultimate experience, enjoyed by all. Like all school tours irregularities were frequent but not oppressive

Well done to all involved!

In our last Review we were introduced to a Yorkshire man, the Rev. Richard Heaton, who was Rector of Birr and of other places, and we discovered that it was through money-lending that in 1640 he first became involved in Ballyskenagh, our townland. We also met his future father-in-law, Francis Medhop, another English man who had received grants of land in this area. Medhop had two daughters, one of whom in 1639 married Trevor Lloyd of Gloster on the Birr-Roscrea road. Those of us of the Fr. Ailbe era would have visited the Gloster gardens. Medhop's other daughter married Richard Heaton. It was through this latter marriage that the lands of Lisnageeragh on the north side of the Little Brosna, where most of the monastery farm is situated, was joined to Ballyskenagh, thus forming our present property. Lisnageeragh was part of Medhop's grant and seems to have been his daughter Grizell's marriage dowry.

It was as a cleric that Heaton came to Birr, as a money-lender that he found Ballyskenagh, as a family man that his name endures in our topography, but it

as a botanist that he is especially remembered. A contemporary of his described him as "a man of competent skill in Botanicks and an honest person." A century later another English botanist says of him "from the number and rarity of the subjects recorded, he must have been a person of considerable knowledge in his way. All worthwhile histories of botany here or in Britain right down to the present day give Richard Heaton honourable mention, even describing him as the first Irish botanist. One of my monastic confreres challenged me strongly on this, saying that Celtic monks a thousand years earlier were steeped in love of God's creation, and were botanists in the best sense of the word. Possibly we should be more precise and style Richard the initiator of the scientific study of the Irish flora.

Many of his discoveries from both here and England were published in 1650 in William How's *Phytologia Britannica*. Heaton's best known discovery comes from the Burren in Co. Clare, the wonderful Spring Gentian, one of the glories of the Burren, which abounds there in April-May with its intense blue flower. Heaton called it 'Gentianella Alpina verna' and tells us that he discovered it "in the Mountains betwixt Gort and Galloway (Galway) abundantly." Mountain Avens and a dwarf Juniper were two other Burren discoveries of his. Seeing that he lived in Dublin for a time we are not surprised to hear that he had a botanical find from the area, though the actual location for a wild flower amazes us; "The small spring starred Hyacinth at the Ringsend near Dublin".

Edenderry was pretty well on Heaton's road from Dublin to Birr, so finds from there are understandable. The unexpected element is that he gives the name of one in an Irish form - phonetically "Soon-a-man-meene." In English, "The juyce of a faire woman." The reference is to Stone Bramble, which Heaton was the first to record in either Britain or Ireland. The accepted Irish name is "sú na mban min". This entry leads some to think that Heaton knew Irish. Caleb Threlkeld, an English dissenting minister and physician, who had settled in Dublin, published in 1726 a catalogue of over 500 Irish plants, giving Irish names for over half of them. Threlkeld tells us that

"As to the Irish names I copied them from a manuscript which bears great authority with me, and seems to be written sometime before the civil wars in 1641, and probably by that Revd. Irish Divine Mr. Heaton. Threlkeld does not offer any reason for this attribution. Perhaps it was one English minister acknowledging

another, or perhaps it was because of the Edenderry entry in How's *Phytologia*, "Soon-a-man meene." In any case this phonetic rendering of his is so far wide of proper Irish, that it suggests that Heaton did not know the language. Moreover it would have been very unusual for any English clergyman of the time to have had Irish. Heaton's other midland find was *Drosera anglica*, Great Sundew, which he describes as "Long-laved Rosa Solis" which he found "Plentifully in a Bogge by Edenderry."

On a visit to England some twenty years ago I took the opportunity of doing a bit of Heaton research, which took me to his alma mater, St. John's College, Cambridge, where they unearthed for me a register of new boys with Richard's signature. In the University Library I examined an original of How's "Phytologia Britannica" of 1650. what a thrill to read on page 100: "Pyrnia vulgans... Winter Green. It growes in a Bogge by Rofcre in the King's County. Mr. Heaton." This find, which is now identified as *Pyrola meda*, was almost certainly from Mount Butler, where past student Victor Mitchell has

his auction rooms, near Roscrea Golf Club. Mount Butler is a southern tip of Offaly, (once King's County).

My other Cambridge Library thrill was on page 57 of How's collection. "Helleborine flore atro rubente, Park. Wild white Hellebore with dark red flowers: found by Lysnegeragh. Mr. Heaton." Heaton wasn't married at the time of this discovery. Perhaps he was walking over to visit his future wife and father-in-law, when he stumbled on this find in a part of their property, soon to become his and now ours. The name Lisnageeragh is from the Irish, Lios na gCaorach, the Fort of the Sheep. The townland still has its "Ring of Trees", which was generally thought to be the original lios, but a recent suggestion is that this Ring of Trees was in fact a spinney, planted by 19th century sportsmen for sheltering game-birds. This contention is borne out by a small wooded circle on an 877 estate map, more to the south near the esker ridge, which could well be the site of the lios. Fifty years ago the monastery dump was located in the area. Is that how we treated our lios? Whatever about the monks' behaviour - thanks to Richard Heaton, Lisnageeragh has its name enshrined as the location of one of the ten earliest Irish botanical finds.

The outbreak of the 1641 Rebellion in Ireland saw many Protestant settlers pack up and head for England. We have every reason to believe that Richard Heaton was among this number. England, however, proved to be no great comfort to the royalist Richard Heaton, as the Parliamentarian had taken the upper hand in the Civil War by the autumn of 1643, while Cromwell was rising to command in the army, and would eventually lead them to victory.

Heaton moved around England during those years keeping away from Parliamentarian attention, but continuing to occupy himself with botanical discoveries. Several of his English botanical finds are regarded as of importance.

As an Officer who had served Charles I in the wars of Ireland Francis Medhop had obtained grants of Irish lands in recompense. With the outbreak of the 1641 rebellion, flight to England was the only prudent path for him and his family. Possibly Heaton and Medhop went together. Certainly they kept in close contact and it appears that it was during this time that Richard Heaton and Grizell Medhop were married.

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The Place We Love

LISNAGEERAGH OF GRIZELL MEDHOP

a tribute to a unique individual

EULOGY: *Sean Mackey*

24 JUNE, 1997

Fifty seven years ago, Sean Mackey, a civil engineering graduate and demonstrator from UCD, with his young bride, Lilian, left Ireland for Middlesborough, to take up a position as structural engineer with Dorman Long Engineering. Their experiences in setting up home there under wartime conditions and shortages were to have a lasting effect on their subsequent lives together.

Sean's family background in Tipperary had an academic strain, which included his uncle, Professor Hugh Ryan, whose work in chemistry is remembered by an annual award in UCD and through a research laboratory in Germany. After the war years, Sean left Dorman Long to join the Department of Civil Engineering at Leeds University, where he was instrumental in building up laboratories and courses in soil mechanics while at the same time carrying out research towards his higher degrees in civil engineering. It was in these laboratories that I first met him and formed a friendship with him and his family which has continued ever since.

In the early 50's, UNESCO was establishing four major Institutes of Technology in India and in 1953 Sean joined their Institute at Kharagpur, in Bengal, as Professor of Civil Engineering. Once again he built up engineering laboratories and courses, together with recreation facilities for staff and students, this time working with a team of UNESCO staff drawn from many countries in Europe and America. It was while they were in India that their three sons, Michael, John and Anthony, commenced their travels between home and Blackrock College (and, later, UCD) several times a year during their college years.

His work completed in India, Sean was invited to the Chair of Civil Engineering at Hong Kong University, thus commencing his twenty one year's association with that university, for most of which time I was a member of his staff. Yet once again he built up a small civil engineering department into a five-department faculty, of which he became Dean, in order to cater for an explosion in student numbers greatly exceeding that taking place in Ireland over the same period.

Over this period, he established the High Buildings Research Centre to study the effects of typhoon (hurricane) winds on tall buildings, research work which attracted international recognition and led to his travelling world-wide to international conferences. For this work he received a much-prized Doctorate of Science from his Alma Mater in addition to an honorary doctorate from Hong Kong University.

Throughout this period, Sean, and Lilian also, were involved with the

Catholic communities in Hong Kong, including the Jesuits (who run a hall of residence at the University in addition to secondary colleges), the Caritas organisation, the Columban Sisters from Wicklow (who run an orthopaedic hospital at Sandy Bay), and most especially the Irish Salesian Fathers (who run St. Louis School, a major secondary school close to the University). For his unstinting support to these communities and his engineering services freely provided to them he was appointed a Papal Knight of Saint Gregory while Lilian was awarded a Papal Medal at the same time for her supporting efforts.

Both Sean and Lilian were fully involved in the Hong Kong community at large. Sean was a committee member and a president of the large St. Patrick's Society of Hong Kong. He was also for many years a Steward of the Royal Hong Kong Jockey Club.

A more serious involvement was Sean's many years spent as an active member of the Hong Kong Government's Anti-corruption Committee, work for which he was made a Justice of the Peace.

Shortly before retiring from the University, Sean's work for the University and the Hong Kong community was recognised by the award of the OBE in the Queen's honours list. The award was an honorary one owing to his nationality.

Following his retirement from the University with the title of Emeritus Professor, Sean established a consulting practice in Hong Kong. His services were sought as arbitrator as far afield as Indonesia and as contracts' adviser by the large Japanese contractors then moving into Hong Kong for work on the Hong Kong Harbour tunnels, the Hong Kong Underground, the new container terminal port and the much publicised new airport, then in the planning stages.

Sean and Lilian returned finally to Ireland in 1983. He happily renewed his love of angling, learned in his boyhood days near Nenagh, and added his support to his old school, Roscrea, at rugby and to his county at hurling. He also became involved in the Irish Branch of the Institution of Structural Engineers and was awarded the Institution's Medal for engineering achievements. His engineering achievements over his career were further marked by the President's Award of the Association of Consulting Engineers of Ireland four years ago.

In recent years Sean had suffered from declining health. Some years ago, a series of eye cataracts had forced him to part with his much-loved and quite unique collection of Irish stamps and postal history. More recently, a number of periods of hospitalisation and treatment preceded his final operation for a fractured hip, all of which he bore with great patience and, finally, with resignation.

Ar dheis De go raibh a anam dilis.



**LONDON
DINNER
1997**



News of Pastmen

DAVID HEALY (circa 1980's) has a Law Degree. A member of the Green Party and a County Councillor in Howth, he is completing a Masters Degree in Environmental Science.

ROGER HEALY (circa 1980's) is a Banker with Merrill Lynch in the Caymen Islands.

CARLOS MC CAMBRIDGE having qualified from the National College of Art in 1983 with a Degree in Visual Communications, started his career working in various Design, Advertising & Communications companies - including Bailey Gibson, Carr Communications, Alto Video Productions and Print & Display. Two years ago he began working for himself and now runs his own Design Consultancy equipped with state of the art computer technology and Studio.

JOHN THOMPSON (1990-1996) was awarded an Athletics part-scholarship on entry to Trinity College Dublin, 1996.

DR. DECLAN WALSH (1982-1987) is currently a Lecturer at Heriot-Watt University in Edinburgh, in the Department of Chemical Engineering. He took a 2:1 Honours Degree in Chemical Engineering from Loughborough University, England in 1992. He proceeded to gain a PhD qualification in Aerosol Technology and Filtration from the same University in 1995. His research has since led him to his present post in Edinburgh.

AIDAN WALSH (1984-1989) is currently training to be an Information Systems Engineer with EDS Ireland in Dublin. He graduated from the Sheffield University in 1994 with a 1st Class Honours Degree in Materials Science and Engineering. This period included a year at Philips Research Centre in Eindhoven, The Netherlands which inspired a great interest in the language and culture of Flanders and the Netherlands. Following his first Degree, he proceeded to the Queen's University of Belfast where he gained an Msc Degree in Manufacturing Systems Engineering. He worked for a short time as a Manufacturing Process Engineer at NEC Semi-conductors in Co. Meath before proceeding to his current job with EDS.

ADRIAN BRADY (CCR 1973-1978) after leaving CCR, studied Medicine in UCD, graduating in 1984. He worked for a few years in Hospital Medicine, before training as a specialist in Radiology, initially in Dublin and subsequently in Canada. He lived in Canada for four years, first in Hamilton and then in Toronto, before returning to Ireland to take up his present position in Cork in May 1995.

MARTIN E. MULLIGAN (C.C.R. 1967-1972), attended UCD and graduated with a B.Sc (Hons) degree in Biochemistry in 1976. He then moved to Cambridge, Massachusetts to study for a Ph.D. in Biochemistry at Harvard University. By that time, his research supervisor had moved his laboratory in Carnegie-Mellon University in Pittsburgh, so he lived both in the Boston area and in Pittsburgh. Following this, he obtained a postdoctoral research position at the University of Newfoundland. He has been there for almost 9 years and is now Associate Professor. In addition to his lecturing duties, he tries to maintain a research laboratory - his interest in a special class of proteins called RNA-binding proteins - in the cyanobacteria (also known as blue-green algae)

PATRICK J. O'BOYLE (CCR 1954) contacted us by Email in July of this year. He is presently living in Canada and was interested to read about Father Kevin's visit to the USA last January. He believes that there are a number of pastmen based in Canada and is interested of making contact with them. His Email address is <oboyle@gan.mulberry.com> His wife, Sally, was educated at St. Joseph's Convent in Redding operated by the same order of nuns who were in the College (see obituary note re: Sister Rita). Having worked in the Airline Industry for 25 years, he is now working in the financial markets mainly as a financial planner.

ALAN KENNEDY (CCR 1985-90) went to UCD after leaving school and recently graduated as a Bachelor of Civil Engineering. He is presently working with the ASCON Company on their project in Kill, Co. Kildare.

DAVE MERNAGH contacted us by Email to announce that **JOHN MAHER** (CCR 1985-90) got married to Rosanne Hennessy on the 27th June, 1997. Congratulations to both.

NIALL POWDERLY has returned to Ireland and is, now back in Dublin working with the WANG Corporation. He played at out-half for Bangor RFC in last season's All-Ireland League but even his best efforts couldn't prevent their demotion from Division III to Division IV.

EDWIN CAREY is presently lecturing in the Regional College in Tallaght in his chosen field of Chemistry. Eamon Maher (CCR1972-78) is also lecturing in Tallaght RTC. He is a member of the French Faculty and is in the process of completing his Doctorate.

JIM MC CORMACK has recently opened a pharmacy in William Street in Limerick and Aidan Murphy also a pharmacist is operating in Ennistymon, Co. Clare.

JIM BARDON is Director General of the Irish Banker's Federation.

GERRY SLATTERY of George Warren Estates, Gorey, is President Elect of the I.A. V.I.

TOMMY O'REILLY who left CCR circa 1936, owns a very pleasant Hostelry in Sandymount and he loves to see a Roscrea tie on a customer. Pastmen **NOEL WINDLE** and **BARNEY SHERRY** drop in for a quiet libation from time to time. His pub is a favoured stopping point for Welsh visitors on International Days.

JOE O'CONNOR (CCR 1935-40) now living in Limerick does a retreat with his old CCR pal **JUDGE SEAN MC GEE** in the monastery Guesthouse every November.



Obituary Notices

JOHN WHITE (CCR 1927-1930) died December 6th 1996 aged 84 years. His brother Dr. P.J. White (RIP) was also a Roscrea pastman.

KEVIN JONES from Scarriff was on the 1939 Hurling Team which won the Munster Cup.

LAURENCE (LARRY) POWER died on July 22nd 1996. He was a pupil in CCR from 1935 to 1939 and lived his life in Dunlaoghaire.

JAMES (JIM) GAFFNEY (CCR 1962-64) died following a tragic accident in Jan. 1997. He was a brother of pastman Doctor Niall Gaffney. Niall is now based at 116 Main Street, Bray.

JOSEPH POWELL died in December 1996- he enjoyed a long and distinguished career as a teacher in Blackrock College, Dublin.

JOHN FITZPATRICK of Oakville House, Charleville attended CCR in the 1930's and died on February 26th, 1997.

RICHARD O'REGAN (CCR 1935-38) of Cahernagh Lodge, Kilmallock died in January '97.

MARTIN LANGAN died on April 17th, 1997. He was known in CCR as "The Bomber". He was a great Rugby Prop and played Inter-Pro for Connaught. He was formerly an Inspector with the Department of Education.

1997 saw the death of **JOHN SENAN CONWAY**. Senan was on the Rugby and Hurling Teams and was also a member of the school's Athletic Team. He was House captain circa 1937. He qualified in Engineering and was Captain of both Portmarnock and Lahinch. There was a huge attendance at his funeral Mass in Dublin and the Mass was celebrated by his Past Student brother, Kevin, who is now a Monsignor in Scotland.

PEARSE GREY MPSI who attended the school in the 1930's died June 27th, 1997. He was formerly of Dalkey, Co. Dublin.

MICHAEL COURTNEY died suddenly on May 20th, 1997. A native of Cork. He came to Roscrea in 1953 and stayed for one year. Then he left for Dublin where he became the first Vice Principal at Oatlands College. He was a gentle man of refined tastes, a lover of reading and of sport. The boys of the early fifties may remember his scholarly approach to teaching. The authorities regretted losing his quiet erudition and masterly discipline.

IGNATIUS HOULIHAN - The death of Ignatius Houlihan in May was mourned by his immediate family, by the entire Irish Legal profession, by the business community of the Shannon area, by Killaloe Diocese, and by the people of Clare whom he had served so well. But nowhere was his passing felt more keenly than by the community of monks and the College at Mt. St. Joseph. For 70 years, Ignatius has been one of our staunchest friends, and a lifetime of support has come to an end. Ignatius came to the College from West Clare as a small boy of 11 in 1925 and matriculated at age 15 in 1929 from which he proceeded to law school and a distinguished career in law and business. Those 4 years in Roscrea left an indelible impression on his life, and among his many passionate interests there was none he liked to talk about more than his old school.

This attachment had many facets. He seemed to have an abiding fascination with the monastic vocation and with the theological nuances of a life given to God. Monks like Fr. Ailbe seem to be constantly before his eyes in the decisions and orientations of his busy life. And there was nothing he liked better than to engage in serious theological discussion - especially in dismantling some of the modern liberal exegetical stances.

Ignatius was part of every major event that has taken place in the College during that past 70 years. He was involved in the memorial to Fr. Ailbe's memory in the College Chapel. He chaired the committee which organised the Golden Jubilee of the College in 1958. He was President of the past students' Union 1976-78 in which capacity he chaired the committee organising the Centenary of the Abbey in 1978.

His name will always be associated with the Gold and Silver medals for public speaking which he has faithfully presented every year since 1961 and made provision for the years ahead. There is no more treasured College prize than one of those medals, and they in turn have been instrumental in raising the standard of public speaking to unforeseen levels.

Best of all he took tremendous pride in sending his three sons, Michael, Desmond and Peter to the College, and had the pleasure of seeing his grandson Brian complete his course in the College and his grandsons Simon and Desmond begin their courses.

And all these were mere expressions of the loyalty he had towards the place and his unlimited energy and ingenuity in showing that love and loyalty. To Oona, Mary, Ooneen, Deirdre, Michael, Desmond and Peter we extend our deepest sympathy.

PETER GARVEY O.CIST.



Sister Rita Casey

(Died May 8th, 1997 & buried at Roscrea churchyard in the Mount Carmel plot)

Born in Kishkeam in West Cork on March 25th, 1916. Father a farmer - nine children of whom two became nuns (her sister was Sr. Cecilia who died at Parkmore a few years ago).

Sister Rita joined the order of St. Marie Madeleine Postel at the age of 21 (she had already spent 2/3 years at Hollywood in North Wales as a postulant, got pneumonia and returned home). She began her postulancy at Worcester from October 1937 to June 1938. In July she went to Normandy for her noviciate.

From 1940-1946, she lived there with no contacts, not even correspondence, from home. June to August 1944 was the worst period as the Americans drove the Germans down the west coast. Heavy bombing retaliations were so regular that the nuns could not bury one of their sisters in the nearby cemetery. Rita was reluctant to speak about those years. She became a fluent French speaker.

She came home in 1951, spent 3 years in Birmingham and 4 at Redding. She came to C.C.R. in 1958. There she stayed until 1992. She was the Housekeeper and kept check on all matters pertaining to upkeep. She was most meticulous in her responsibilities. She worked well with Fr. Edmund and later with Fr. Gabriel (Bursars).

She loved debating and public speaking. On Muintir na Tire outings (competitive) she was in front of the mini-bus. The boys looked on her as their mascot. On Golden and Silver Medal evenings she was invariably in one of the front seats. A shrewd judge of a speech.

She was a friend of the boys, the monks and the lay staff. Sr. Anthony came to the College in 1966 and she and Rita formed a team of friendship which remained constant until 1997.

In January 1992, they were told they were leaving the College. The parting that summer was painful. The nuns bought a house near Knock Shrine which became a hostel for pilgrims and one of the best B & B's in Western Ireland. It was there Sr. Rita died suddenly last May.

This issue of the "Review" salutes a great lady who befriended hundreds of pastmen. They revere her memory. She is part of C.C.R. history.



THE ROSCREA UNION IN GENERAL AND THE DUBLIN BRANCH IN PARTICULAR WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL THE TEE SPONSORS AT THE RECENT MATT HYLAND PERPETUAL TROPHY SET OUT HEREUNDER:-

- THE IRISH TIMES (CONOR BRADY, EDITOR)
- THE EDUCATIONAL BUILDING SOCIETY (NOEL WINDLE, DIRECTOR)
- ANDERSEN CONSULTING (MARK RYAN, DIRECTOR)
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- TOM CANAVAN MOTORS LIMITED
- GRANTS HOTEL & CONFERENCE CENTRE, ROSCREA



ATTENTION PASTMEN

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

ATTENTION PASTMEN ! NEW DATABASE AT COLLEGE

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

Name :..... Year Entered:..... Year Left:.....

Permanent Home Address:..... Occupation & Address:.....

.....

.....

Home Tel.:..... Work Phone:..... Fax:.....

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

.....

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

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

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

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

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

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

THANK YOU FOR A PROMPT RETURN.



Roscrea Review Editor Gerry Maher has asked more of me than he realizes.

Gerry, concluding that given my background as an American, from New York City (and before that, Asbury Park, New Jersey), who moved from West 66th street to a mile off the Birr road, and coming to work with the Cistercian Monks at their College, and subsequently traversing Ireland for fifteen months meeting every possible "constituent of CCR", and oh right.. being Jewish as well, that I might be able to offer a "new" or "different" insight to the Roscrea experience.

I doubt it.

To update those whom I missed in my travels, I am a consultant with a fund-raising firm, and assisted Roscrea with its implementation of its continuing capital campaign. Attendant with the challenges of such an exercise, I will state at the outset that it rather quickly became an honour.

My Roscrea bonds, as I learned from all of you, are ultimately personal; be it to one's friends, the monk or monks (for me it is plural), a teacher or coach, the serenity of Mount Saint Joseph or a combination of some or all.

The School. In that school, within those abbey walls, the boys ultimately have one supreme constant...each other. It was never lost on me when Fr. Kevin or Peter and I would return from yet another day in Dublin, Galway, Cork, or at countless farms and towns and villages in between, that, especially in the evenings, I was seeing those kids at home. And even with the 'order' that surely exists thanks to outstanding men like Eddie O'Sullivan, at the end of the day those guys run their own home, make decisions for themselves and give advice and direction to one another, just as a parent would. This way of life can not but give them something different.

The monks. People say often how wonderful and good the monks are at Roscrea, but is it "window dressing" conversation, or do they ever stop and think about it as it relates to the College? Do they, in fact, ever really think about what those monks have so quickly achieved through the College, not only for those who attended, but for Ireland? People of every walk of life have been bettered by Cistercian College; farmers and doctors, politicians and publicans, financiers and grain dealers, manufacturers, horse breeders and retailers.

C.C.R. Staff 1996 - 1997



Do people think about the sacrifices the monks made for them or their sons? Are people aware that the College ran at a loss until recent times, and even today the monks make sure you don't know (that is, until the American blurts it out)? Are people aware that this is how the monks want it, because they desire student diversity at Roscrea even more than the people who demand it with pronouncements like "Keep the muck! Knock off the edges!"?

Do people know these things? Probably not, because the monks themselves have never burdened their graduates and friends with the knowledge of such "detail", better known as reality.

There was a high level of monastic concern over the issue of asking others to help them sustain and improve Roscrea. There was much reflection, and once the decision to go forward was made, the concern only

began to diminish when so many alumni, parents and friends responded so strongly and positively to the College's real and deserving needs. Many realized quite quickly that since they have never asked before, the monks actually need help to sustain and improve facilities, to match the strength of purpose, spirit and success the College has and continues to enjoy.

Striking to me was the monastic reaction to the enormous goodwill and tangible support that has come. It truly suggested an apparent first recognition on their part of the impact the monks have and continue to make on the lives of so many of the boys and their families.

Certainly also intriguing to observe was their surprise caused by those who were suddenly avoiding a phone call or had seemingly stepped away from their offices [permanently]. Sometimes I used to think, Oh if Fr. Kevin heard one more time, "... Oh of course we'll be on to you about that." And fair enough, because that man gives his life in two functions: to God and to Roscrea.

The monks of Roscrea expect nothing from those who come to Mount Saint Joseph or the College. That is clearly part of who they are. They exist to serve God and also, if able, to give peace, stability and perspective to the lives of those who cross their path. Few can denounce the worthiness of these callings, nor the Cistercians' profound impact on those who have come through the front gates, including myself. The bottom line: don't make it hard on them to continue the work we all believe in ... support the campaign in whatever way you can.



'67



CCR CLASS REUNION'S



'72

A very special weekend has been organised to honour the 25th Anniversary of the departure of the '67-'72 class from CCR. There is optional golf in Roscrea Golf Club on Friday September 19th (Green Fees £10) followed by an informal dinner in Grant's Hotel, Roscrea.

Saturday morning sees the golf enthusiasts labouring to win the much coveted Abbot's Cup. The more sedentary (or sensible!) join their Athletic brethren at 3.00 p.m. approx. in the Golf Club and then proceed to the College for year photograph.

Mass and Reception with the Abbot and staff. Reunion Dinner takes place in Grant's Hotel at 8.00 p.m. followed by a Post-Dinner get-together, with bed time optional.

Sunday starts with Mass in the Monastery church at 11.00 a.m. followed by lunch, Past V Present matches follow; and a final get-together in Grant's Hotel at 5.00 p.m.

If you haven't already done so, please contact Simon Coyle at 41 Strand Road, Sandymount, Dublin 4. (phone: 01 2830196) as a matter of urgency!

We want all the year involved on this very special weekend.

CCR CLASS OF '67 INFORMATION

Reunion: September 19th, 20th & 21st 1997

Friday, September 19th

Dinner and Overnight in Maltings Guesthouse, Birr (Mood informal but attendance strongly recommended)

Saturday, September 20th

10.00 a.m.: Abbot's Cup Golf, Roscrea G.C. (Entry Fee £20)

4.00 p.m.: Coach departs Golf Club for Mass and Reception in C.C.R.

8.00 p.m.: (for 8.30 p.m.) Class of '67 Reunion Dinner - Spinners Restaurant, Birr (Dinner/B & B £50)

Contact :

BRENDAN O'DEA,

Williamstown, Kells, Co. Meath

Fax 046 27722 @ Bookwise, Navan Co. Meath

Jimmy



JIMMY

100

- YEARS -

MAHER

Maher



CENTRAL COMMITTEE presentation to Father Kevin hosted in the Alexander Hotel, owned by pastman Noel O'Callaghan, one of his three Hotels in that area of Dublin.

L. TO R.: GERALD MCCARTHY, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS; JOHN COMERFORD, UNION PRESIDENT, FATHER KEVIN, FORMER COLLEGE PRESIDENT, LAURENCE BRANIGAN, UNION PRESIDENT-ELECT.

NOTICES

UNION TIES

Union Ties available again:

Bows: - £10.00

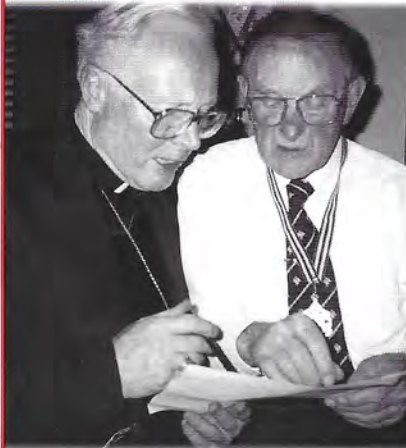
Polyester Blades: - £10.00

Pure Silk Blades: - £20.00

Cash with order please to:

Fr. Dermot

Cistercian College



U.S. RE-UNION

(Please note Date change for your diary)

Date: October 17 1997
(Friday)

Venue: Langan's Restaurant
New York City
@ 7p.m.

Contacts: Dr. Noel McCarty
203 287 8631

Des O'Brien
212 8695 482

