



NEWSLETTER FOR THE CISTERCIAN COLLEGE,  
No. 75 ROSCREA, UNION. SPRING 2000

# review

## Millennium Sports Complex for CCR

It is fitting perhaps, that the first "Roscrea Review" of this new Millennium should celebrate the opening of the Millennium Sports Complex on September 19th, 1999, when the Abbot and community joined with the college staff, students, parents, pastmen, neighbours and friends to celebrate this historic occasion.



After much discussion regarding the future needs of the College, the Board of Governors, in 1996, commissioned a strategic Development Plan to help improve and enhance our facilities and accommodation in preparation for the demands of the new Millennium. The opening of the Millennium Sports Complex sees the completion of Phase II of this Development Programme - Phase I being the provision of the Link Building, which was opened in September 1996 and the Information Technology Centre, which was installed in February 1999.

In welcoming those present at the official opening ceremony, Father Peter Garvey, Acting College President said it was a privileged moment for the school and one, which fulfils plans dating back to the mid-nineties. In this regard, he thanked the Abbot and the Board of Governors for their foresight and encouragement to forge ahead.

As the Lord Abbot, Dom Colmcille O'Toole prepared to conduct the simple Liturgy of Blessing, the Irish weather interrupted proceedings momentarily, causing them to be adjourned indoors where the students performed a moving rendition of a very appropriate hymn "Bless this House".

Father Kevin Daly, Chairman of the Development Committee thanked all those involved in bringing the project to completion. These included Architects Mc Carthy Lynch Partnership, Cork; Quantity Surveyors, Patrick Coveney Partnership, Cork; and Structural Engineers, Ove Arup & Partners, also of Cork. The main contractor was local builder Frank Murray & Sons. Michael (Jackie) Shanahan, Roscrea, was the Electrical

L-R:- GERRY HAYES, DIRECTOR OF SPORT, FR. PETER GARVEY, ACTING COLLEGE PRESIDENT, FR. KEVIN DALY, CHAIRMAN OF DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE, DOM COLMCILLE O'TOOLE, ABBOT MT. ST. JOSEPH ABBEY, GERALD MCCARTHY, CHAIRMAN OF BOARD OF GOVERNORS



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Sub. Contractor and Suir Mec Ltd., Mooncoin, were the Mechanical Sub. Contractors. Mr John Healy, Limerick, was the Project Manager for both the Link Building and the Sports Complex and a special word of thanks was extended to Father Laurence Walsh, who co-ordinated the entire project. He also acknowledged the work of the Development and Building Committees who put in so much time and effort behind the scenes. However, the dream could not have become a reality at this time, without the generous support of the many parents, pastmen and the friends of the College and indeed a generous donation from the Abbot and Community of Mount St. Joseph Abbey.

The President of the Past Pupils Union, Dr. Cuimin Doyle, recalling the freezing showers of his day to wash away the mud after a match, said that he and his contemporaries could justifiably envy the facilities of the new Sports Complex. Speaking on behalf of the PPU, he said he felt a great pride at being present to celebrate the opening of this magnificent new facility. He reminded the student body of the advantages to be gained by those who enjoy and partake in the various sporting activities which the college provides but also outlined that this Sports Complex will also open up a whole new range of sporting activities for those students who do not have a natural tendency to get involved in team games.

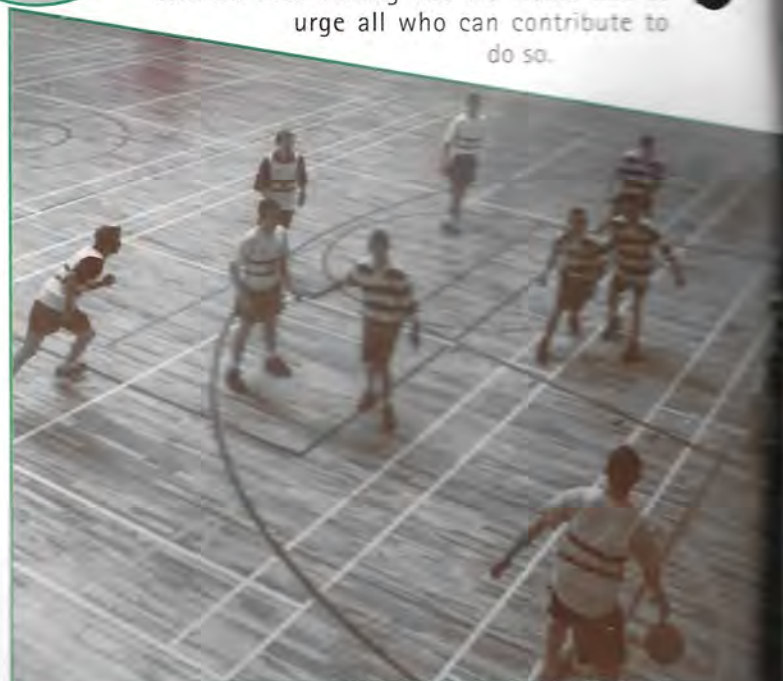
Mr Gerald McCarthy, Chairman of the Board of Governors, declared the Sports Hall open by performing the tape cutting ceremony and unveiling a commemorative plaque inside the main door of the Complex.

The Sports Complex has now been in use for the first term of this Academic Year and in that time it has



become the focal point of the College. As well as being used for Physical Education Classes, it is open seven days a week during recreation time. Mr Gerry Hayes, Sports Director has instigated a varied sports programme including Basketball, Badminton, Volleyball, Athletics Training and Circuit Training. The Weights Room, Table Tennis and Pool Room are also in great demand and to give access to as many students as possible, non-examination classes are given a respite from one study period a week to use the facilities.

Phase III of our Development Plan has as its focus the upgrading and extension of Dormitory Accommodation. This work will be phased over the coming years - starting next summer with work on the Junior Dormitory. Following the completion of the Sports Complex, an audit of accommodation in the College is underway to see how existing space might most effectively be used in the future. The Kitchen and Refectory require renovation and the feasibility of introducing self-service is being examined as this is working very satisfactorily in a number of other boarding schools. Scheduled for expenditure also under Phase III will be improvement of campus accommodation for House Staff. Expenditure to date on Phase I & II has exceeded £3.5 m and initial estimates for Phase III would indicate that we are only at the half way stage of our capital programme. Our ability to progress Phase III will obviously be dependant on fund-raising and we would like to urge all who can contribute to do so.







# EVOLVEMENT OF *College Buildings*

- MAIN BUILDING :** 1900 - Plans drawn up by Abbot Camillus Beardwood.  
1901 - Site cleared of a grove of beech and oak.  
1902 - Foundations dug. Abbot Camillus and his architect brother, William H. Beardwood, were responsible for the design of the original building.  
1905 - On September 11th, 1905, the first group of CCR students negotiated the planks, which led to the front door, as the stone steps were not yet in place.
- INFIRMARY WING :** 1909 - The Infirmary extension was erected inexplicably on a different level and to a different architectural design than the main building. Completed in 1911.
- BALL ALLEYS & PAVILION:** 1921 - Under the inspiration of Fr. Ignatius Kennealy, the Ball Alleys were built.  
1930 - Its side walls were extended to form the Sports Pavilion
- COLLEGE CHAPEL :** Fr. Camillus Claffey instigated the building of a new College Chapel and Abbey Bursars, Fr. Francis Martin and Fr Michael Sherry, were the driving force behind the work, which was carried out during the difficult years of the Second World War.  
1943 - The first Mass was sung on September 15th.
- TOILET BLOCK :** 1953 - This extension was erected under the direction of Br. Colmcille Clifford.
- CLASSROOM WING :** 1970 -'71 Built by Duggan Brothers, Templemore, to the design of Louis J. Brennan, Architect. Fr. Cronan Sherry oversaw the project. This was the only building in our history to have been grant-aided by the Department of Education.
- SWIMMING POOL :** 1974 - On May 23rd, the swimming pool - a gift from our Past Students Union - was opened. It was designed by Jim Fehily, and was built by local contractor, Daniel White. Fr. Dermot O'Colmain, General Secretary of the Union, oversaw the work.
- CHAPEL RENEWAL :** 1983 - To bring the College Chapel up to date with post Vatican Council liturgical requirements, it was re-designed by Gerald McCarthy of Cork. Chris Ryan of Dublin was the artist on this project. The Chapel was re-dedicated on September 15th 1983, the fortieth anniversary of its opening.
- THE LINK BUILDING:** 1996 - The "Link Building" was opened providing better locker facilities, common rooms and a large new dormitory. This building, costing £1.6m, was a gift from the Abbot and Community of Mount St. Joseph Abbey and is a very real example of the ongoing commitment the Monastery has shown to the College since its foundation in 1905.
- THE COURTYARD :** The erection of the Link Building created an interesting new courtyard with a bubbling water fountain, much in the lines of a monastic cloister-garden. This courtyard is dedicated to the parents of our students; past, present and future.
- I. T. CENTRE** 1999 - On February 15th last, we opened our Information Technology Centre. This multi-media centre of learning provides our students with up-to-the minute technology to enhance information dissemination and explore the wealth of educational resources available in today's global community.
- SPORTS COMPLEX :** 1999 - The opening of this £1.9m Sports Complex on September 19th last, completes Phase II of our "College of the Millennium" Development Plan. This building, which was funded entirely by voluntary subscriptions, is a tremendous asset to the students in offering facilities for a more varied sports programme, additional changing rooms, shower facilities, meeting room, referees' changing room and sports directors office.
- THE FUTURE :**
- Upgrading and extension of dormitory accommodation, commencing with the junior dormitory in the summer of 2000.
  - Renovation of the kitchen and refectory.
  - Improvement of campus accommodation for house staff.





## Editorial - Gearóid M. Ó Brien (class 1985)

It is a great honour to be involved in the first edition of the "Roscrea Review" in this new Millennium. The cover story highlights the impact that past development and future development will have on the College. I was among proud pastmen who were present at the opening of the sports complex and saw the evidence of the planning that will ensure that the College can comfortably face the challenges of this new Millennium. CCR is known for the comprehensive education for life it imparts to its students during their formative years not least of which is its all round sporting activities interlinked with the cultural, spiritual and academic elements. The Union is the link that ensures the continuation of the sense of togetherness, belonging and sincere friendships built up over the years between College and pastmen and amongst pastmen themselves and their families.

Details of a wide array of Union activities, organised by various branches, are included in this issue. I particularly enjoyed Chris O'Donoghue's article on "The Opera Tradition in CCR," as all pastmen some time or other have been on stage, thinking that we were singing our hearts out.

We must congratulate and thank Gerry Maher for his commitment to the Review over the last number of years. Gerry, involved in the heart of our Union, also acts as Chairman of the North Tipperary Branch, a position he has held for the last 16 years. He supported the College Rugby Development Committee and at present is President of Roscrea Rugby Club, a club that has achieved success in being promoted to Leinster Division 1 status this year. Gerry has overseen a major club development for their 50th anniversary this year. I believe Gerry's thinking about the P.P.U. is that its members (particularly its committee members), apart from carrying out their various roles and functions, should enjoy it. I personally would like to thank Gerry for his time and Editorial advice given to me over the last number of months.

My sincere thanks also to Katherine Donovan, College Development Officer, for her enormous help. Katherine has been involved in compiling the "Review" for many years and I appreciate her guidance in the preparation of this publication.

Many thanks are due to all those who forwarded information and/or photographs. I have come to realise that the quality and success of the "Roscrea Review" depends wholly on our readers and their supply of material.

I hope you enjoy this issue of the "Review". Please keep the information coming in, so that all pastmen can be kept updated.

Finally, I would also draw your attention to the slip "Attention Pastmen" - please forward any new or relevant information especially updated addresses.

INFORMATION CAN BE SENT TO KATHERINE AT THE COLLEGE OR DIRECTLY TO ME AT

"BALLYMALONE", 1 APPIAN CLOSE, ARDKEEN VILLAGE, DUNMORE ROAD, WATERFORD. • TEL. (051) 843002 • MOBILE: (086) 8279463 • Email: gearcait@gofree.indigo.ie



## The Jubilee Year

The celebration of 2000 years since the birth of Christ and 2000 years of Christian history invites us all to remember the past and to cherish it. The College will in the course of the year have many moments of such celebration. Already the students have joined with the community in the monastery to share in the monks' renewal of their consecration to God on February 2nd and in the process renewed their own baptismal vows. The boys also transformed the Christmas Carol and Prayer Service on December 12th 1999 into a Jubilee celebration of the birth of Jesus.

It is hoped that during the year many past students will avail of the opportunity to return to the College and renew the contact with the place and with the monks and staff they have known. An essential part of the celebration of a jubilee year is to try to heal the wounds of the past and strive to bring about reconciliation. Some pastmen have painful memories of their time in the College and it is hoped that this year may be a time when these painful memories can be diminished or wiped out. The Community mass on Sunday May 21st, which is designated Sports Day this year will be offered with that specific intention of healing the wounds and injustices of the past and during the year we in the College will have that aspiration in our thoughts and prayers.

FR. PETER GARVEY OCSO  
ACTING PRESIDENT



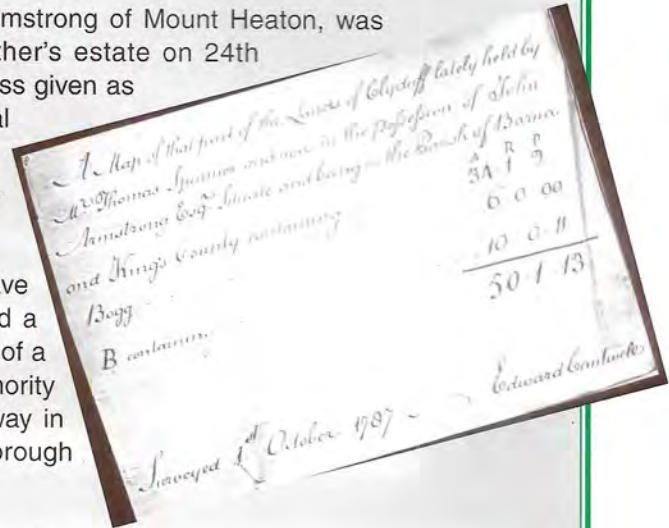
A map of that part of the County of Wick lately held by  
 Thomas Spinnock Esq. & John  
 Armstrong Esq. & being in the Parish of Banna  
 and Kings County containing  
 Bog  
 B. containing  
 Surveyed 1<sup>st</sup> October 1787 - Edward Confort

# THE Place We Love

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE JOHN ARMSTRONG ONE OF HIS MAJESTY'S  
 MOST HONOURABLE PRIVY COUNCIL OF THE KINGDOM OF IRELAND

FR. LAURENCE WALSH, OCSO

John Armstrong, son of Mary Heaton and William Armstrong of Mount Heaton, was probably thirty-three when he took administration of his father's estate on 24th February 1767. John was a barrister since 1759 with his address given as *City of Dublin*. He may have been running into some financial difficulties, as on 3rd June 1767 he mortgaged out Ballyskenagh and Lisnageeragh, his late mother's inheritance, to Robert Percival of Knightbrook, Co. Meath



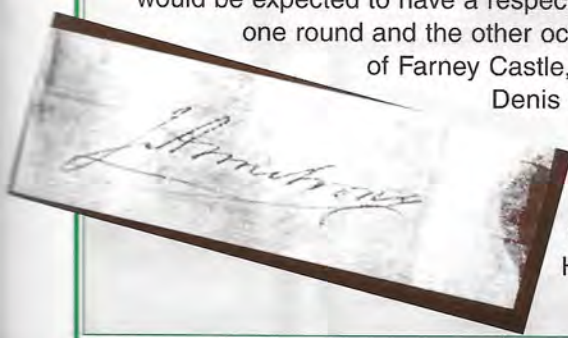
If there was any temporary financial problem it must have been of short duration, for in February 1769 John was elected a member of the Dublin Society (later R.D.S.), on the nomination of a Mr. Monk and Wentworth Thewles, who was incidentally an authority on the reclamation of bogland. Further honour came John's way in his becoming a Member of Parliament, representing Fore Borough 1769-1776.

The thirty-six year old barrister - landowner - M.P. was an attractive match for any young lady. On 17th July 1770 John married nineteen year old Letitia Greene, the eldest daughter and co-heir of Abraham Greene of Ballymacreece, Co Limerick. Their marriage appears to have been a happy one. After his marriage he continued to maintain a Dublin house at Frederick Street.

The eldest child of their marriage was named William-Henry. One record refers to his birth as in 1772 in Kings County - Mount Heaton obviously. Another gives it as 1774 in Toulouse. Whichever is correct, Letitia did go to the South of France, perhaps because of ill health. Certainly John retired from the Bar in 1776 and went abroad, selling his Dublin house, but retaining Mount Heaton. Taylor & Skinner's *Maps of the Roads of Ireland* published in 1783 records the property as *Mt. Eton - Armstrong Esq.* It was in that year that the Bank of Ireland was established and John was back in Ireland, becoming M.P. for Kilmallock and purchaser of a house in Leinster Street in Dublin. John also purchased lands south of the present Toomevara - Silvermines Road in Co. Tipperary.

On 20th January 1783 a daughter, Elizabeth Mary, was born to John and Letitia. She was the great joy of her parents' life, but a short-lived one, for her tombstone in the Armstrong plot at Ballycahill cemetery testifies that she lived only *6 years one month 6 days* having *departed this life to the incomprehensible grief of her parents, the 26th February 1789.*

We lack definite information regarding the building of Mount Heaton mansion (i.e. the present Guest House) but all the indications are that it was the work of John Armstrong. First of all a man of such prestige would be expected to have a respectable dwelling. Next the castelleted design with unusual flanking towers, one round and the other octagonal, may well have been inspired by the Armstrong ancestral home of Farney Castle, Thurles. Then Dr. Maurice Craig, brought here in 1986 by past-student Denis Crowley, suggested a date somewhere between 1790 and 1810. He very much admired the main sitting room, especially the cornices and the fireplace, which latter he dated c.1790. He was quite impressed by the courtyard, which was built at the same time as the mansion and by the walled garden which probably pre-dated it. John's son, William Henry, was only seventeen when his father died in 1791. All William







## THE *Place We Love* CONTINUED

Henry's earlier legal transactions after coming of age indicate financial pressures. So we can conclude that he could never have been the builder of the mansion, and that it was the work of his father.

The oldest original deed in the possession of the Abbey is dated 1st May 1787, a lease of 50 acres of Lower Clyduff by Thomas Spinner of Milltown to John Armstrong at a yearly rent of £52.17. The lands involved are those in the triangle between the two walls west of the stream in what later became Sharpes, and other adjoining lands. There is an interesting map appended, work of Edward Cantwell, dated 1st October 1787, so subsequent to the Deed itself. It shows a *Road leading from Mount Heaton to Shinrone* and a *Deer Park Wall*, names that still survive.

**Burke's Irish Family Records** tell us that John *raised and kept a troupe of horses in the King's service, and for this and other services was twice offered a baronetcy, which honour he declined, and it was finally arranged that he should be created a Peer under the title of Baron Dunamace in Ireland*". However, John was made a member of *his Majesty's most Honourable Privy Council of the Kingdom of Ireland* in 1789, remaining such 'till his death, and also an M.P. of Kilmallock 'till death.

John's will of 28th April 1787 and subsequent codicils give us many insights into the person and his character. He had a keen sense of justice and a sincere devotion to his wife, his children, his own and his father's servants and to his relatives. His first bequest is to discharge his just debts. He goes on to confirm in *every particular my marriage settlement, made previous to my marriage with my present dear wife Letitia*. He also devised his house in Leinster Street with its furniture to her for life.

There follows a bequest *to my natural children the sum of five hundred pound to be divided amongst them as my dear wife shall direct*. There seemed to be no disgrace involved and no secrecy. A subsequent codicil bequeathing £1,000 to *my natural son John Burke* indicates that John Burke was born before John Armstrong's marriage to Letitia.

His principal bequest was of course of his real and personal estate *to my dear wife's only son William Henry Armstrong*. Should he die unmarried before reaching twenty one, all would go to *my dear daughter Elizabeth Mary Armstrong*. And there is the very touching bequest *to my dear wife the sum of two hundred pounds to dispose of amongst those servants who have been particularly attentive to me during my illness, viz John Draughman, Richard Stokes, Mary Bergen, Margaret Brown and William Brophy*.

John's last hours have gone down in the history/mythology of Irish landlordism. The story is best told by Charles J. Kickham in *Knocknagow*. Yeat's poem, *The Ballad of the Foxhunter* is also based on the story. As *Knocknagow* is historical fiction, the names given are all fictitious as are many of the 'facts'. But local tradition has always attributed the story to John Armstrong's death.

Our Fr. Joachim Hennessy writing in 1893 gives an unadorned account of the event and probably the truest one: *when death drew near, (he) had all his cattle driven beneath his bedroom window, caused himself to be borne to it that he might take a last, long, lingering look on the the fairy scene beneath him*.

John was buried in Ballycahill cemetery near the ancestral homestead of Farney Castle a twenty mile journey from Mount Heaton, a three to four hour journey by carriage up Carrick Hill and through Clonakenny, as the present Roscrea Templemore road was not in existence then. His tombstone - a horizontal one at ground level, lies in the little family enclosure at the east end of the Church ruins. The inscription reads: *Here lies All that is Mortal of the Right Honourable John Armstrong one of his Majesty's most Honourable Privy Council of the Kingdom of Ireland who departed this life year 12th of Sept A.D. 1791. Aged 60 Years*.

On 14th November 1791 Letitia took out probate to the will and codicils of her late husband. Ten years later she re-married, a widower, James Hobson, clerk in Holy Orders of Sidmouth on the south west coast of England, where she died 28th January 1820, and where she is buried.





## What Sort Of God

FR. NIVARD KINSELL, OCSO  
MOUNT ST. JOSEPH ABBEY, ROSCREA.

I am writing this in the aftermath of Christmas. If one were to believe the Christmas cards one would get the impression that it is about a funny fat man with a white beard, dressed in red, driving a sleigh through the snow, drawn by reindeer. This year I got a card from a friend in Canada and stamped on the envelope was the little rhyme "Jesus is the Reason for the Season". We might smile at it, perhaps, but that only disguises the fact that it is true. Jesus IS the reason for Christmas. And the Millennium also about Jesus!

On the same day that I received that Christmas card, the newspapers carried a short account of a world-wide survey about belief in God. Apparently 87% of people believe in God. And that means that atheists are only 13% of the world population, a comforting thought to us believers. We might be tempted to say with a note of triumph "See - there you are - after all that talk about people not being religious - only 13% don't believe in God! And you will surely get thirteen people in any hundred who are stupid or ill-educated or out of touch with reality in some way - after all there ARE people who still believe in a flat earth! So we need not worry too much about that!". For the survey they questioned "50,000 people in 64 countries representing a population of 1.25 billion", according to the report. Fifty thousand seems to me to be a very small fraction of one and a quarter billion! I would not take those figures too literally. Most people apparently believe in God!

We may feel slightly superior, for after all we knew there was a god. In fact it would be more correct to say that we knew that God was there. He wasn't just a god - any old god. He was God, and we knew him and we had access to him and we knew where we stood on that one. This worked for a long time. It doesn't work any longer because faith is about not seeing. Sometimes one hears people say "Sure anyone can see there is a God". In fact lots of people cannot see it at all. And I fear for that person and I wonder what will happen when he/she hits the wall of blackness that suffering brings. When they enter into what the medieval monk called "The Cloud of Unknowing" - The Cloud of Not Knowing. He wrote a book with that title. It's a good title, isn't it? For we don't actually KNOW!

But there is another question which is really more important. The first question is "Do you believe in God?". If the answer is Yes, then the second question is "What sort of God do you believe in?". There are all sorts of gods. There is God the policeman; God the judge; God the punisher; God who is waiting to catch you out; God who doesn't care about you your problems and difficulties. And what about the God who throws people into hell for all eternity. Now THERE is some God.

Suffering is the test. Why does God allow this to happen? Why did he allow the Holocaust? Why does he allow war which brings untold suffering to innocent victims, caught between the warring armies? Why does he allow a family to suffer? After all I have done my best always and have never really wronged anyone - why does God allow my child to die? Why did he let my husband go off with that other woman?

What sort of God do we want to believe in? One who will run the world through a series of miracles and will prevent human suffering or stop me having to suffer? One who will ensure that things always go right for me - and if I am foolish enough to get into trouble, he will get me out of it. There is no such God, but at the same time it must be admitted that the God of Fear has played too big a part in our lives as Catholics. We have been brought up with a divided mind about God, unsure if he is on our side or not. We might discover that he is not! And that would leave us worse off than ever!

The church has not got it right all the time either. We cannot say that it is all our own fault if we have got it wrong. We have been brought up on a diet of almost undiluted moral preaching. We were told what we had to do. The Ten Commandments of the Bible and the Six Commandments of the Church - Sixteen commandments and apparently all of them equally binding. Did anyone ever say that Jesus did not preach the Ten Commandments? He did not talk about commandments, he talked about standards. He said that his teaching would surpass that of the commandments. The Christian could no longer live by keeping commandments - these would not be enough for the disciple of Jesus. They would have to do more! "You have heard 'You shall not kill' - but I say do not even be angry with your brother or sister." "You have heard 'You shall not commit adultery' - but I say to you that you should not even think about it".

An undiluted diet of moralising brings about a minimalist mentality - What have I to do to keep the law and avoid hellfire? How far can I go? We certainly did not escape that!

Theologians differ about the reason for the Incarnation - would the Son of God have become man even if there had been no original sin? I think he certainly would have. We had got it so wrong about God that he had to come and explain himself to us. And he never said - "God is like this". He told a series of stories - The Prodigal Son, the Good Shepherd, the Housewife searching for the lost coin, and what emerges from them all is that he is on our side. During his life he was always on the side of the dispossessed, the poor, the marginalised, the have-nots. The only people he condemned were the hypocrites. And he said the prostitutes would get into heaven before the people who thought themselves just. He leaves the world to us to run, and we mess it up. Why should he correct our bad management with miracles? He too suffered because suffering is an inevitable part of being human. He won't remove the suffering with a miracle. But he has gone down this road of suffering too and has felt abandoned and has cried out against that dreadful loneliness and God has raised him up. Until we see our lives as a challenge to us as individuals, and society as a challenge to us to work together, with the conviction that God is on our side, we will not begin to get it right. What sort of God do we believe in? A God who became a human being and suffered and died and can never be separated from us now, and who above all is on our side.

*end*





# Senior Rugby 1999 – 2000

## PREPARATION:

It is the first occasion in almost 60 years that a CCR senior side has gone into the Cup Competition wearing the label "last years finalists."

On the playing front, the slow start that has characterised CCR seasons of late was once again in evidence and the early games against Blackrock College and St. Mary's College proved to be a "Baptism of Fire" and led to significant defeats. Separating these two games was the annual Rockwell encounter and this proved to be a competitive outing.

After mid-term, the program continued with a well-contested away game at Clongowes. Despite a 22pts to nil defeat, we started to put together good patches of constructed rugby. P.B.C. were next to visit on November 10th. This recently revived fixture is already proving to be an excellent one. As last year, the sides were well matched and but for some missed opportunities, CCR would have won their first match of the friendly season. Final score P.B.C 10 CCR 5. Next came our visit to Kings Hospital. CCR finally earned a win. Final score CCR 8 - K.H. 3. Castleknock visited on November 20th CCR played better rugby and were in reasonable control of play but some poor defensive work resulted in three breakaway tries and a final result Castleknock 22 - CCR 3. Our next home fixture was against Newbridge College. Defensive errors were significantly reduced in a workman-like performance. Roscrea ran out deserving winners by 19 pts. - 8 in a reasonable match.

Our final pre-Christmas friendly was at Kilkenny College against the side that already qualified for the Senior League Final. The pace was quick, the skill high and a thoroughly enjoyable match unfolded. It was the delightful running skills of Roscrea's back division that decided the issue with a deserved win 21 pts - 7.

## SENIOR CUP FIRST ROUND

(Oak Park, Carlow 31/01/2000) The High School 14 - Cistercian College 8

Without injured, influential and flamboyant full-back Redmond Barry, the team lacked creativity and initiative and relied too heavily on schoolboy international Gavin Duffy. From kick-off High School piled on the pressure and were rewarded with a try after eight minutes. The try went unconverted and almost immediately Roscrea's Gavin Duffy replied with a well-taken penalty. On the stroke of half-time centre Gavin Duffy underlined his worth again with a try. The resulting conversion came agonisingly back off the post and Roscrea went into the interval three points adrift after High School had been successful with two penalties.

Alarm bells started ringing in the Roscrea camp ten minutes into the second half when High School dropped a goal to stretch the lead but at that stage the minnows were well on their way to causing a cup shock and confining their more illustrious opponents to a premature exit and a place in the plate competition.

Roscrea pressed hard in the final moments of the game but even the introduction of David Farrell and Eamonn McQuinn failed to ignite the Roscrea pack and the better team won on the day.

## REPRESENTATIVE NEWS:

Congratulations to Redmond Barry, Gavin Duffy and Aaron Spring, all of whom represented Leinster Schools this year.

A special word of congrats also to Gavin Duffy on his selection as Captain of Ireland Schoolboys rugby XV.

DIARMUID FITZGERALD, (TEACHER, CCR) STEVE MILLER, TRANSITION YEAR STUDENT.



## Athletics at CCR

Congratulations to all participants in the Munster Schools Championships at Nenagh on 1/3/100.

- *Senior Events :*  
Niall Doran - Long & High Jumps  
Peter Tierney - Shot Putt.  
Alan Kavanagh - Shot Putt.
- *Intermediate Events :*  
Brian Sexton - Long Jump

Due to pre leaving and Junior Examinations, those unable to participate were :

- Niall Purcell
- John Spencer
- Peter Brady
- Ed. Molloy
- David Dineen
- Frank Hegarty
- John Egan
- Conor Duignan

Congratulations to dedicated and committed coach, William Guiry.

AIDAN McNULTY.







# DUBLIN BRANCH DINNER



CLASS OF '85 DONAL HARRINGTON, MANUS AGNEW, LIAM Ó SHEA WATCHED CAREFULLY BY CLASS '84 TOM COMAN (CENTRE)

The Dublin Branch Dinner was held yet again in the beautiful surroundings of the Hibernian United Service Club on St. Stephen's Green last November. As is the norm for the Dublin Branch they invited presidents from other kindred Past Pupil Unions from various Colleges in and around Dublin. It was our pleasure to have with us, David Fanagan of St. Mary's, Patrick Kilbride of Clongowes, Darren Phillips of Terenure and David Wynne of King's Hospital. The ever gracious Fr. Peter Garvey represented the College while the famous architect Gerald McCarty feasted on behalf of the Board of Governors. Our President Cuimin Doyle, Gerard Maher and Gearóid O'Brien represented the Union. Ms. Katherine Donovan from the College Development Office was very elegantly attired which made her the focus of the evening.



L-R: JOE O'SHEA, KIERAN FITZGERALD AND FEARGAL DOYLE.

Prior to the Dinner there was the usual "get to know you again" drinks reception and because of the night that was in it, a large screen television was acquired so that the Ireland v Turkey soccer match could be viewed.

Having feasted ourselves, the chairman, Michael McNamara warned the various speakers to restrict their narratives to a maximum of five minutes, this of course was duly ignored. Conor Irwin acted as our very entertaining Toast Master, while Kieran Fitzgerald, in a break from tradition, responded with gracious gaiety on behalf of our guests. Fr. Peter enlightened us about the various famous people who had attended the college and how some of the present students admired them, even if some of these happened to be sons of Pastmen. Our President Cuimin Doyle spoke of the strength of the Union and how well it was.

The Chairman, Michael McNamara noted the good spirit and great unselfish works done by the various Pastmen on the Rugby, Hurling and newly formed athletics support committees.

Having completed the formalities, the relaxation continued on into the late night and early morning for some. This was the penultimate official function of the present Chairman's term, so he would like to take this opportunity to thank all the members of the Dublin Branch Committee for their support and hard work over the past two years.



NEW DUBLIN BRANCH CHAIRMAN

MICHAEL McNAMARA AND KIERAN FITZGERALD



MICHAEL McNAMARA / FEARGAL DOYLE.



"ALL THE PRESIDENT'S MEN"

FRANK DINEEN, MICHAEL McNAMARA, AND JIM GLENNON.

JOHN F. WALSH, BRIAN Ó CONNELL, BARNEY SHERRY, NOEL WINDLE, TOM AMBROSE, DONAL TAFFE,





# DUBLIN BRANCH DINNER



CLASS OF '85 DONAL HARRINGTON, MANUS AGNEW, LIAM Ó SHEA WATCHED CAREFULLY BY CLASS '84 TOM COMAN (CENTRE)

The Dublin Branch Dinner was held yet again in the beautiful surroundings of the Hibernian United Service Club on St. Stephen's Green last November. As is the norm for the Dublin Branch they invited presidents from other kindred Past Pupil Unions from various Colleges in and around Dublin. It was our pleasure to have with us, David Fanagan of St. Mary's, Patrick Kilbride of Clongowes, Darren Phillips of Terenure and David Wynne of King's Hospital. The ever gracious Fr. Peter Garvey represented the College while the famous architect Gerald McCarty feasted on behalf of the Board of Governors. Our President Cuimin Doyle, Gerard Maher and Gearóid O'Brien represented the Union. Ms. Katherine Donovan from the College Development Office was very elegantly attired which made her the focus of the evening.



L-R: JOE O'SHEA, KIERAN FITZGERALD AND FEARGAL DOYLE.

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# LIMERICK / CLARE BRANCH DINNER

Although the evening was overcast and drizzly, the sun was shining in a function room of the 'Brazen Head' in O'Connell Street, Limerick on the 15th October 1999 for the annual Limerick/Clare Branch dinner.

The talk of CCR past and present was lively with reminiscences about monks, teachers and of course fellow pastmen, what they got up to in CCR and where they are now. Every decade from the 30s to the 90s was represented apart from the 40's.

The "senior" of the evening was **Joe O'Connor (1939)** father of **Jim (1976)**. Joe a retired accountant vividly recalled Fr Ailbe on the rostrum in the refectory demonstrating how to eat soup, top an egg and hold a knife and fork! The "junior" was **James Lynch (1995)** who is studying TV Directing and Production having graduated BA from UL/Mary immaculate College. The 50s was represented by **Cuimin Doyle (1952)** President of the Union who travelled up from Cork and **Robert O'Sullivan (1956)** father of **John (1998)**. Robert is in the construction industry.

From the 60s we had **Michael Murray (1966)**, State Solicitor for Limerick City, and **Dermot Ward (1969)** accountant and company director. Michael is a nephew of **Stephen Foley (1941)** and first cousin of **Sean Leyden (1968)** and **Gerry Casey (1975)**. Gerry is a sales manager with Ark Life.

Also from the 70s we had veterinary surgeon **John McCarthy (1970)** and his wife Barbara whose son **Patrick** joined the PPU in 1999. Their younger son **Robert** is in third year in CCR.

**Jim Kelly (1986)** was the sole representative of the 80s. Jim is an engineer with Tellabs in Shannon. He and Isult Cleare married recently and they live in Ballina, Killaloe, Co. Tipperary. (I bet you thought there was only one Ballina)!

**Michael Sherry (1969)** who organised the event with Gerry Casey was unavoidably absent but Gerry saw to it that we enjoyed ourselves with lively conversation, good food and a plentiful supply of liquid refreshment.

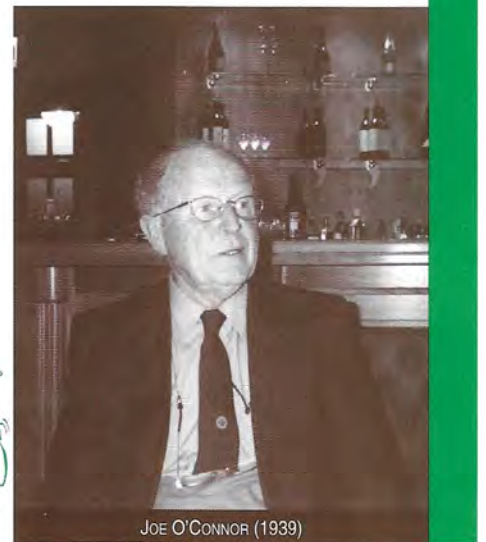
Those pastmen from Limerick and Clare who were not there missed a very enjoyable evening. Let us hope they will match the millennium in numbers for this years 'get together'



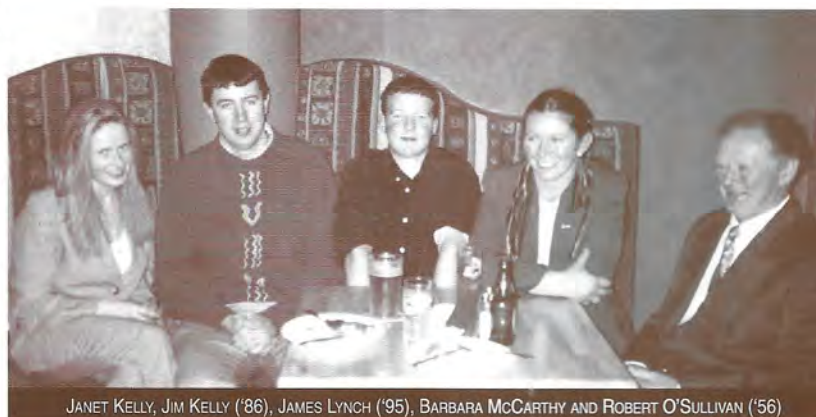
JOHN MCCARTHY ('70) AND DERMOT WARD ('69)



GERRY CASEY ('75), CUIMIN DOYLE ('52), MICHAEL MURRAY ('66)



JOE O'CONNOR (1939)



JANET KELLY, JIM KELLY ('86), JAMES LYNCH ('95), BARBARA MCCARTHY AND ROBERT O'SULLIVAN ('56)

CUIMIN DOYLE







# Abbots Cup - September 18th 1999

Friday, September 17th 1999 and the heavens opened. To describe the rain as incessant would be an understatement. It is to the credit of the course committee of Roscrea Golf Club that golf could be played on the Saturday. The organising committee of the Abbots cup is deeply grateful to the officers of the Golf Club who went out of their way to ensure that the day would proceed as normal.



ENJOYING THE ABBOT'S CUP  
L-R: KATHERINE DONOVAN (COLLEGE DEVELOPMENT OFFICER), DONAL TAFFEE, SIMOM COYLE, PAUL O'SHEA AND MATHEW PETERS.

Over 110 played in the competition and the morning rain seemed to add to the sense of adventure and comradery. By midday, the rain had ceased, providing some small advantage to the afternoon participants. For much of the day one of the competitions great supporters, Johnny Dolan held the lead. His 39 points, playing off a handicap of 6, was a remarkable achievement in the prevailing conditions. But late in the day, local member, John Cahill went one better and produced the winning score of 40 points. John has now managed to win the Abbots Cup on three occasions and will obviously be provided with a special handicap for the 2000 competition.



ENJOYING THE ABBOT'S CUP  
L-R: GERRY MAHER, JOHN CAHILL (WINNER ABBOTS CUP '99), FR. KEVIN DALY, LIAM SPOONER AND GERRY HAYES.

Hugh Mc Donnell and Sean Burke ensured that the teaching staff past and present were represented among the prize winners.

The evening concluded with dinner in the Club House where Roscrea Golf Club was represented by it's President Nora Mc Donnell, Club Captain, Kieran Mc Donnell and Lady Captain Rita Cunningham. The Union was represented by its President Cuimin Doyle and Father Kevin Daly represented the Abbey.

The organisers, North Tipperary Branch PPU, once again express their gratitude to the many pastmen and local businesses who support the competition. The only disappointing note to the 1999 Abbots Cup was the very small number of ladies who participated. It is hoped that this will be redressed in this new Millennium.

## "THE OPERA TRADITION" CONTINUED

and one wonders if he will develop his voice in future. Visual authenticity has developed over the years and in the 1974, "Joseph and his Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat", produced by Frankie Bergin, the boys wore real sheepskin costumes. Set design has developed too and under Aidan O'Reilly as producer, elaborate sets were made for "The Mikado" in 1990 and "HMS Pinafore" in 1992.

My own background in painting and set design was more than matched by enthusiastic painters and property makers among the boys. Since 1987, I've seen authentic Samourai Armour and 'sharp swords' (Mikado 1990), an Egyptian Sarcophagus gracing the foyer (Joseph 1996) and battle tattered and burned Japanese and U.S. Flags (South Pacific 1993 and 1999). Through these, the boys learned much from Post Impressionism to Hieroglyphics.

New technology now means lights are always sophisticated and a video is made of each production. Yet whatever new developments take place in the future it is unlikely the timeless humour and political satire of Gilbert & Sullivan will fade whenever we perform them. Nor should the confidence building and experience of teamwork by the boys and staff be ignored as the fabric and cohesion of school life.

I sign off with an apology for the many people not celebrated including Frank Mc Namara, musicians, pianists, lighting experts and not least Roddy Spillane who has built every set since at least 1987, if not before.

CHRIS O'DONOGHUE  
(ART TEACHER IN CCR SINCE 1987)





L-R: NOEL MCCARTHY ('53), GERALD MCCARTHY ('56), CUIMIN DOYLE ('52), FR. KEVIN DALY ('53), PADDY BOLAND ('61), PAUL MCGOVERN ('66)

MICHAEL CULLEN ('56) AND FR. JACK FOLEY ('53).

## North American Branch Dinner

A significant group of pastmen and friends met on Saturday evening 2nd October 1999 in the Carnelian Room on the 52nd floor of the Bank of America headquarters in San Francisco.

With stunning views over the city, Roscrea men from Ireland, Vancouver, Saskatchewan in Canada, Connecticut, New York on the east

coast, Minnesota in the mid-west and California enjoyed a superb meal in plush surroundings. Many were meeting for the first time and recollections and stories of years spent in CCR were exchanged with enthusiasm and nostalgia.

**Monsignor Patrick McNulty (1947)**, originally from Foxford Co. Mayo, vividly recalled the character and qualities of Fr. Ailbe then President of the College. Other priests present were **Fr. Joe O'Shea (1955)** who looks after three parishes in California, **Fr. John Ryan (1964)** pastor of St. Gabriels in San Francisco and **Fr. Jack Foley (1953)** pastor of the Church of the Holy Redeemer, Montrose, Southern California. **Gerry Moroney (1953)** formerly in financial services and now marketing director of a sports company travelled from Saskatoon in Canada. **Stephen Brady (1981)** an autobody repairs specialist in San Francisco and originally from Dublin was there with his wife Kate. **David O'Kelly (1990)** a software engineer in San Francisco represented the 90s.

From the medical profession were **Coleman Ryan (1956)** who runs the San Francisco Heart Institute, **Dermot Kerins (1954)** a physician in Vancouver, **Andy Durkin**

**(1956)** a radiologist in California since 1962 who likes to visit the CCR website and **Paddy Boland (1961)** a bone and cancer surgeon in New York. **Paul McGovern (1971)** Professor of Epidemiology at the University of Minnesota exemplified the essence of fortitude by his presence. Paul has severe muscle weakness because of motor neurone disease diagnosed in 1995 but was full of enthusiasm for this unique meeting of the Union. Our thoughts are with

him as they were with **Noel Windle (1952)** who through illness was prevented from travelling. However Noel was represented by his sister Ann and his nephew Liam Rafferty.

This memorable occasion was organised by **Noel McCarthy (1953)** obstetrician/gynaecologist from Connecticut, USA and Secretary/Treasurer of

the Branch and a CCR man by association on the night was Noel's son Paul, public relations officer with San Francisco Highway Patrol, his wife Katherine. Another pastmen by association was Dr. Bosco Cardoza a Rockwell pastman who has attended many Roscrea functions over the years including the Kenmare weekend.

Regrettably the local organiser **Damian (Barry) Smyth (1952)** was unable to attend because of illness.

The Monastic Community in Roscrea was represented by Fr. Kevin Daly (1953). Also from home were **Michael Cullen (1956)** veterinary surgeon from Ballinasloe, **Gerald McCarthy (1956)** architect, Chairman of the Board of Governors and brother of Noel, and **Cuimin Doyle (1952)** President of the Union.

Given the commitment of the Chairman Paddy Boland and the Secretary/Treasurer Noel McCarthy the North American Branch is alive and well.

This was an occasion not to be missed.

CUIMIN DOYLE



L-R: DERMOT KERINS ('54), PADDY BOLAND ('61), CUIMIN DOYLE ('52) AND FR. KEVIN DALY ('53)





# Kenmare Weekend

The last Kenmare weekend of the century lived up to its renowned reputation for comfort, cuisine, and conviviality. The sixty or so who attended were almost all regulars' including the American contingent led by **Noel McCarthy (1953)**. There was disappointment when it was learned that some familiar faces would be missing for very good reasons. By bedtime the chief organiser of the weekend, **Gerald McCarthy (1956)**, had the list of names and the tee times ready for the golf competition.

On Saturday morning, facing tornado-like bursts of wind and showers, the 'hardy annuals' competed fiercely for the coveted prizes which someone alleged came from the local pound shop. A special prize went to **Sean (Johnny) Walsh (1953)** for heroic endeavour in the "mixed twosomes" with his wife Marie. **Fr. Peter Garvey (1953)** acting President of the College, completed 18 holes with a very impressive score as though the elements were calm and still. Some begrudgers complained of unfair competition alleging divine intervention. The ultimate prize, the **An tAth. Diarmuid O'Colmáin Cup** was won by the team comprising **Owen Fox (1953)**, **Andy Galvin (1959)** and **Tanja Curry**.

After a lunch of hot whiskies and brown bread, individuals got lost in various afternoon pursuits viz. shops (mostly female), local tavern to watch the Australia v South Africa rugby world cup semi-final (mostly male), or bed for some, sleep in anticipation of the night ahead. Meanwhile Gerald McCarthy and his committee of scrutineers (i.e. Neans), conscious of possible tribunals and sworn enquiries, meticulously scrutinised score cards, handicaps and other influences both natural and supernatural to emerge with a scrupulously fair list of prize winners.

As always the dinner was superb and was followed by short speeches from Fr. Peter, **Cuimin Doyle (1952)** Union President and presentation of prizes. The usual 'sing song' was rapturous. Perhaps the highlight was Fr. Peter's rendition of 'Jerusalem' accompanied by a chorus of slightly inebriated angels. As the mid-night hour came and went and voices began to croak, the drift to the stairs increased with the solace of an extra hour in bed, salvaged from the change to wintertime.

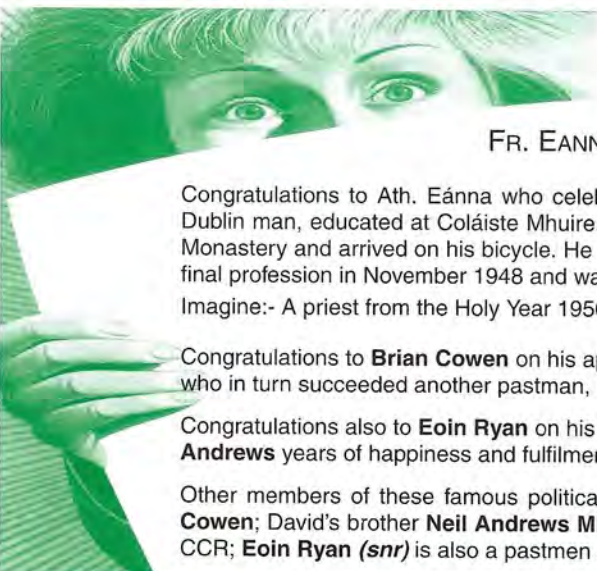
On Sunday morning the group assembled in the lounge for Mass, celebrated by Fr. Peter as outside the windows the sun sparkled bright on the South Kerry hills in their autumn shades. It was an uplifting ceremony with maximum participation in the readings, prayers for the faithful and singing. After the blessing, by popular request, there was an inspiring rendition of the 'Salve Regina' led by Owen Fox.

Then followed the goodbyes and the pledges to be back for the **Millennium Kenmare Weekend, November 3rd to the 5th 2000**. Book now, you will be sorry if you miss it!

CUIMIN DOYLE / GERALD MCCARTHY



L-R: ANDY GALVIN '52-'57, TANJA CURRY (GUEST OF NOEL MCCARTHY), NOEL FOX



## Late News flash!

### FR. EANNA OCSO : 50 YEARS OF SERVICE TO CCR

Congratulations to Ath. Eánna who celebrates the Golden Jubilee of his ordination to the priesthood. Ath. Eánna is a Dublin man, educated at Coláiste Mhuire. At home, his family spoke mostly in Irish. As a school boy, he often visited the Monastery and arrived on his bicycle. He entered in October 1943 when he was 18 years and 7 months old. He made his final profession in November 1948 and was ordained a priest on 25th January 1950.

Imagine:- A priest from the Holy Year 1950 to the Great Jubilee Year 2000. — Thanks for so many memories !

Congratulations to **Brian Cowen** on his appointment as Minister for Foreign Affairs, succeeding pastman **David Andrews** who in turn succeeded another pastman, **Dick Spring**. Three in a row - not bad for a small country school.

Congratulations also to **Eoin Ryan** on his appointment to the Dept. of Tourism, Sports and Recreation and we wish **David Andrews** years of happiness and fulfilment in his retirement.

Other members of these famous political families who attended CCR are :- Brian's brothers, **Christopher and Barry Cowen**; David's brother **Neil Andrews MEP**; Dick's brother **Donal Spring** and Dick's son **Aaron** is currently a student of CCR; **Eoin Ryan (snr)** is also a pastmen as are Eoin's brothers **Jim and Mark Ryan**.





# Hurling Support Group

*Another busy hurling year is in progress in the College. The outstanding success of the HSG Golf Classic in July '99 was a great boost to the morale of the hurling teachers in the school. We were lucky to get a very good intake of hurlers into first year.*

## SENIOR HURLING.

Hugh McDonnell has started his thirtieth year training the senior team. We have already qualified for the quarter-final in which we will have a home game. In the first round we beat Trim CBS by 2-15 to 0-6. Trim had won the junior title two years ago, but many of that team completed their Leaving Certificate last June. We travelled to Celbridge to play the local Salesian College in the second round. Again, we had a convincing victory. Our toughest game in the section was the last one in which we beat Ard Scoil Rís from Dublin in Abbeylax.

Our leading players this year are Peter Garvey, Brian Connelly and Alan Fleaherty from Galway, Conor Phelan from Kilkenny, Redmond Barry from Wexford and John O' Brien from Toomevara. Congratulations are due to John on contributing so handsomely to Toomevara's County Final win.



## JUNIOR HURLING

The junior championship takes place entirely in the first term. Pat Sheedy had very high hopes for his team after beating Birr CS in an early challenge. However, injuries took their toll. John Phelan, Pat McIntyre and Liam Meehan, who would have formed the backbone of the team, all suffered injury or illness. In both our games against the Banagher schools, we encountered appalling weather conditions. We lost those two games as well as the last one to St. Marys, Mullingar, on account of our lack of scoring forwards.

HUGH McDONNELL, FR. PETER GARVEY, SEAN ORMOND (SHINRONE), ANNE AND JOHN ORMOND (PARENTS) AND PAT SHEEDY



OFFALY MINOR CAPTAIN RECEIVES JOHN COMERFORD CUP - HURLER OF THE YEAR 1998 / '99

In the Tipperary Schools competitions, we have been promoted to the "A" division in all grades. We were drawn against St. Joseph's, Borrisoleigh, in the first round of the Croke Cup. We lost a thrilling game on the score of 1-8 to 0-8. Features of this game were the displays of Jody Milne (Birr) at full back and Diarmuid Corcoran (Templederry) who shot seven great points. Again, we lacked scoring forwards. We are now running a junior league within the school, sponsored by the HSG.

## JUVENILE HURLING

Mark Carey has been very busy with this very talented group of hurlers. The first major event was a coaching session arranged by the Clare fullback, Brian Lohan. This was organised by the HSG and Brian gave a superb session, which was thoroughly enjoyed by the lads. We look forward to several other such sessions in the second term. Mark has already completed a very successful juvenile league. In November, we beat Mitchelstown CBS in our first challenge game.

## INDOOR HURLING

The opening of our magnificent sports complex has given us the opportunity of introducing indoor hurling for the first time. We were very fortunate to acquire the services of Paul Maher, one of the best coaches in the Moneygall Club. Paul organises matches and coaching for the juvenile panel in the complex every Thursday night. The boys thoroughly enjoy these sessions. All the equipment for the indoor hurling were sponsored by the Leinster Colleges Council to whom we are most thankful.

## WORK OF THE HURLING SUPPORT GROUP

The HSG now plays a crucial role in supporting the College and its hurling coaches in promoting the game. Hurleys are now provided for first year students. Meals are paid for after league games. Outside coaches are organised. Medals and trophies are sponsored for internal leagues. Hurling videos are supplied. Most importantly of all, the HSG is helping in the planning and financing of a new hurling field for the College. In March 1999, the Lord Abbot and Community granted land to the hurling fraternity in the school for a badly needed pitch. The old senior/athletics pitch has deteriorated badly and only for the generosity of the Ballyskinach Club, we would have been unable to play any home games. Dan Ahern has been doing fantastic work in the planning of the new field. Congratulations must be forwarded to Terry Doyle (class '84) who represented the Cavan Senior hurling team for the last number of years.

## GOLF CLASSIC 2000

The HSG third annual golf classic is organised for July 8th 2000 at Roscrea Golf Club. Tees have been reserved from 8.30 a.m. - 5 p.m. The cost is £150 for teams of four (stableford competition), dinner included. Excellent prizes. Contact Niall Doogue @ (087) 2440395

NIALL DOOGUE/PAT SHEEDY







## The Class of '59

The class of '59 met for their 40th Reunion on September 18th, 1999, This particular class had met for their 30th Reunion ten years earlier and the event was very successful. Because of the success of that event, the organisers decided to set about organising the 40th Reunion, The three people concerned were Andy Galvin, Conor Massey and Tom Maher. We found that organising the 40th Reunion was quite a bit easier than the 30th because most of the work in tracking down the members of the class had been carried out for the 30th and most were still at the same address. There were 54 members in the class of '59 but unfortunately two more had passed away since our last get together - bringing the total to five who have died since we left in 1959. Those five were: Hugh Ferris, Dublin; Paddy Mc Redmond, Kilcormack, Co. Offaly; Hugh Daly, Kinnity, Co. Offaly; Bill O'Connor, Abbeyfeale - who died a short time before our 40th Reunion and Michael Boyce, who was the latest member to pass away. He died in a car crash outside his native Charleville. We decided on September 18th as the date for the Reunion and we set about getting the people to return. We found that a few people had changed addresses but we eventually got in contact with most of our members. Brian Monks, who is in Canada and had returned for the 30th had changed house and it took us quite a long time to find his address. However, we eventually tracked his brother down in London who was able to give us Brian's new address in Canada. When we finally got in touch with Brian, it was only days before September 8th and unfortunately Brian had a wedding on that date and was unable to return.

So on to September 18th. Of the forty-nine members still alive we got twenty-five classmates to come back to the Reunion. It began in the early afternoon in the Golf Club in Roscrea. Quite a number of the members took part in the Abbots Cup Golf Competition even though the weather was really dreadful. Our top performer was Tom Collins, who was very quiet about how well he had played in the competition but we found out as the night progressed that he was actually the best of our Class representatives. From the Golf Club, we made our way to the College where we attended Mass in the College Chapel. Father Bonaventure said the Mass substituting for the Abbot who was unavoidably away but who sent his apologies. After Mass, we convened to the Recreation Hall for a sherry reception. This was a very enjoyable experience with many people meeting each other for the first time in ten years and a few who had come back for the first time in forty years. After the sherry reception we had a class photograph taken on the stage and were joined by some members of the teaching staff and priests. A copy of this photograph was subsequently distributed to each member of the class courtesy of Michael Houlihan to whom our thanks is extended. After the photographic session we headed to Grant's Hotel in Roscrea where we discovered we were sharing the venue with the Class of '74 who were celebrating 25 years out of CCR. They looked so young, they were like first years in comparison to us - however, we were in separate rooms so we were not too depressed looking at their youthful appearance. When we arrived at the hotel, there were three other members of our class waiting for us; Gabriel Manning, originally from Brosna now in Celbridge; Hugh Curley from Ballyhaunis and John O'Meara from Scarriff in Clare. So they joined us and we had another reception. This reception was of a stronger nature with little or no sherry to be seen but beverages of a stronger hue. As this reception continued, the chat became louder and the stories told gained quite a bit in their telling. After the reception we made our way down stairs for the Reunion dinner. After dinner, Michael Houlihan addressed the class, thanked us all for coming back and wished us all an enjoyable evening. We were then joined by Father Peter Garvey, Acting College President, Katherine Donovan, College Development Officer and the President of the Past Pupils Union, that man from Shinrone, Cuimin Doyle. The meal was very enjoyable after which the class members mingled a very enjoyable night was had by all. Eventually, as we were headed towards dawn - some members headed for their beds and some headed for home. But the overall consensus was that we had a very enjoyable time and many said don't wait for another ten years - don't wait for the 50th but to have a get-together again for the forty 45th, in fact leaving the hotel, the words that were ringing in my ears were 'Tom don't wait until the 50th - too many of us could be gone.'

TOM MAHER



# Class of 1959



Back Row: L/R  
Kevin Garvey, Roscrea, John Kenny, Ballina, Paddy Coffey, Athlone, Tom Maher, Tullamore, Ger. McMahon, Dublin, Paddy McGuire, Dublin, Donal O'Connell, Ballyvaughan, Conor Massey, Dublin, Pat O'Shea, Dunmore East, Sylvester Murray, Clonmel, Frank Smith (Dean of Studies 1999).

Middle Row: L/R  
Fr. Ambrose, Moore, Ger. Slattery, Gorey, Aidan McNally, Carrick-on-Shannon, Jeremy Hennessy, Dun Laoghaire, Denis O'Sullivan, Lichfield, Michael Houllihan, Ennis, Rory O'Shea, Bray, Tony Mitchell, Borris, Finian Ryan, Dublin, Michael Byrne, Cahir, Andy Galvin, Tullamore, Fr. Kevin.

Front Row: L/R  
Tom Collins, Galway, Dermot McCarthy, Dublin, Fr. Claran, Fr. Peter, Fr. Dermot, Fr. Eanna, Ailbe Hanley, Tipperary Town, Aidan Flynn, Banagher.

Absent from Photograph:  
Garry Manning, Celbridge, John O'Mara, Feakle, Hugh Curley, Ballyhaunis.







## Obituary Notices



Sean McMahon, attended the College from 1940 to 1945, of Dargie Road, Bray, Co. Wicklow died in September 1999.

Maurice Blake, of Terenure, Dublin and Thurles, Co. Tipperary attended the College in the 1930's died on January 7th 2000.

Richard J. (Dick) Brannigan, attended the College from 1947 to 1953 died on 21st October 1999. Dick practised as a solicitor in Drogheda, Co. Louth. He was a brother of Larry, a past president of our union and past chairman of the board of governors. To Dick's wife, Isolde and family we extend our deepest sympathy.

The unexpected death took place of Jack Houlihan of Mount Merrion, Co. Dublin (formerly of Dingle, Co. Kerry) on November 22nd 1999. Jack attended the College in the 1940's and was an engineer with the ESB(Retd.)

Sympathy is extended to Father Bonaventure Melvin on the recent death of his mother at the age of 98 years.

### Evening of Reminiscence and Relaxation

Galway/Mayo/Sligo branches invite you to a Dinner Dance at the Westwood House Hotel, Newcastle, Galway on Saturday 11th March 2000.

The cost of the evening which includes a four course dinner with wine together with pre-dinner reception will be £30 per person (£15 students). Entertainment and music for dancing is provided.

Hotel accommodation available at reduced rates.

Contact the Hotel directly mentioning CCR Function (Teresita Nugent, Reservations Supervisor).

Phone: 091-521442 Fax: 091-521400 or

Contact John Sherry, 5 Shop Street, Galway. Tel: 091-564372 Fax: 091-564379



## ATTENTION PASTMEN

Please detach and return.

### ATTENTION PASTMEN !

Are you receiving the "Roscrea Review" twice a year, posted directly to your present address.

If not, or if the "Review" is being re-directed to you, please fill in your details below so that we can update our computerised database of pastmen.

The details below will also help us with Mailing Lists and in the organisation of Class Reunions.

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

Home Address: ..... Occupation: .....

..... Business Address: .....

.....

.....

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

Mobile:..... Fax: ..... E-mail: .....

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 your regional PPU representatives are? Yes No

Would you like information sent to you regarding the "Abbots 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 sit: http://www.iol.ie/~mtjoseph **THANK YOU FOR A PROMPT RETURN.**





## CCR Union Calendar 2000

SATURDAY, MARCH 11TH

### Galway Branch Function

Dinner Dance Westwood Hotel, Newcastle Road, Galway  
Cost: £30 per person  
Bed & Breakfast available at £35 p.p. or £59 for two night stay  
Contact: Sean Murphy (0509) 41196  
Padraic O'Maille (087) 2647817  
John Sherry (091) 564372/ (091) 564379 (Fax)

FRIDAY, APRIL 7TH

### Union Annual Dinner - hosted by the Midlands Branch

Golf has been booked at Esker Hills Golf Club from 12am-2.30 pm followed by Dinner in the Tullamore Court Hotel at 8.30 p.m.  
Contact: Frank Thompson (0506) 21710141060  
For tee reservation contact Paul Fitzpatrick - (0506) - 21396.  
All proceeds in aid of Athletic Support Group.  
Sponsorship welcome - tee boxes available for sponsorship.

THURSDAY, APRIL 13TH

### Evening at Shelbourne Park

The Dublin Branch holds an evening at the dogs. Cost £15  
contact: Kiernan Fitzgerald at (01) 2082675  
All proceeds for a special school with children with special needs.

FRIDAY, APRIL 21ST

### Good Friday Reunion & Liturgy

Meet at Guesthouse at 11.00 a.m Talks & Discussion Groups  
Good Friday Liturgy in Mount Saint Joseph Abbey 3.00 p.m.

FRIDAY, MAY 19TH

### South Western Branch Function

Venue: Mallow Racecourse  
Races commence at 5.30 p.m. followed by Dinner at 8.00 p.m.  
Contact: Seamus Mulherin (021) 277670

SATURDAY, MAY 20TH

### Annual General Meeting of the Union

Meeting 6.15 p.m.  
Dinner at 7.30 p.m. (booking :0505 23344 or 21045)  
Immediately after AGM: Reports from Sporting Support Groups.  
(Overnight accommodation can be arranged on request)

SUNDAY, MAY 21ST

### Sports Day at CCR - All are welcome!

Date to be Confirmed  
The Matt Hyland Perpetual Golf Trophy  
The Windle Ladies Perpetual Golf Trophy  
Venue : Milltown Golf Club

SATURDAY, SEPT. 16TH

### Abbotts Cup Golf Competition

25 Year Reunion - 21 Year Reunion - 10 Year Reunion

SUNDAY, SEPT. 17TH

### Union Day at CCR

FRIDAY, NOV 3RD TO SUNDAY NOV. 5TH

### Kenmare Weekend

Venue: Park Hotel, Kenmare  
2 nights B&B (Friday Night Dinner & Gala Dinner) £190p.p.  
£40 Single Room Supplement  
1 Night B & B (Plus Gala Dinner) £125 p.p.  
Extra night, Dinner, B&B  
£95 p.p. (Early booking essential as places are limited)  
Contact: John Brennan at The Park Hotel (064) 41200

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 10TH

### Dublin Branch Dinner

Hibernian United Service Club, Stephens Green, Dublin 7.30 p.m.  
Contact: Dublin Branch Chairman Kieran Fitzgerald at 01-2082675

## Class of 1975

### REUNION - SEPTEMBER 2000

The class of '75 will celebrate its 25th Anniversary this year with a reunion in September. Planning is already underway and most of the class should have received a preliminary mailshot by now. Anybody with details of any class member who may have lost contact with the college e.g. through recent change of address etc., should contact Katherine Donovan at the college or Hugh Carthy at the following address:

Woodside, Roslevan, Ennis, Co. Clare  
Phone (home): (065) 6823237 • (work): (061) 370510  
E-mail: carthyh.ennis@tinet.ie

## Class of 1979

It is 21 years since you did the Leaving, said goodbye to your class mates and to Roscrea and headed off into the sunset. Some of you may have stayed in touch with by choice. Others, like barnacles, may have stayed in touch with you. But you will never again meet all the men with whom you lived with for five years. You do, however, have a chance to meet some. On this, our 21st anniversary it is proposed that we get together for an evening to have a good look at one another, compare hair-loss, access weight-gain and see if any of us have learnt anything useful at all since "the good ol' days".

Details will follow when the level of interest is ascertained. Please contact Kieran FitzGerald at 01 2082675 or fitzgek@te.ie. The sooner the better and even better again to include contact details for anyone else from our class with whom you are in touch.

## Class of 1980

Conor Irwin writes to say that it is 20 years since he and his class-mates left CCR. He feels he can no longer wait to see those of his pals who didn't write, who didn't phone. So he wants them now to get in touch with the purpose of a mind-bendingly wild reunion in mind. Get him at 01-8256983

## Class of 1990

Preliminary plans are under way to organise a 10 Year Reunion later this year. If you have any suggestions, ideas or plans on how to make this a memorable and enjoyable event, please contact John Molloy @ (091) 555134

## An evening at the Races with the South West Branch

The South West Branch are planning a unique event for their annual dinner. The new Cork Racecourse at Mallow will be the venue for the annual get together of pastmen from the Cork Kerry region on Friday 19th, May 2000 where they are combining their annual dinner with an evening at the races. Roscrea connections with the venue are strong as the Project Managers and Engineers for the new development were Ove Arup & Partners, led by the Chairman of the South West Branch, Seamus Mulherin, while the architect was Gerald McCarthy, Chairman of the Board of Governors.

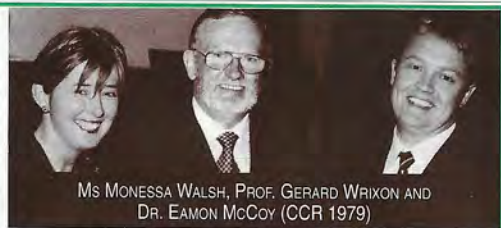
Racing starts at 5.30p.m. and the dinner will be at 8.00p.m. Cost of the combined race entry and dinner will be £35.00 and for those who want the dinner only the cost will be £20.00. Bookings : Seamus Mulherin, 29, Elmvalle, Wilton, Cork. Phone 021-276670 (W) or Gerald McCarthy 021-893428 (H) or 021-361102 (W)







## News of Pastmen



MS MONESSA WALSH, PROF. GERARD WRIXON AND  
DR. EAMON MCCOY (CCR 1979)

**Eamon McCoy (class '79)** was presented with the 1999 UCC Alumnis Achievement Award. Dr. McCoy, a consultant anaesthetist at the Royal Victoria, Hospital Belfast, invented the McCoy Laryngoscope designed to help doctors in managing normal and difficult airways and solve many problems in endotracheal intubation.

**Sylvester Murray (class '59)** Originally from Fancroft outside Roscrea now works in his butcher's shop in Clonmel.

**Aidan McNally (class '59)** Formerly of Longford but now lives in Carrick-On-Shannon where he is a Bank manager.

**Ailbe Hanley (class '59)** Lives in Tipperary town and is a bank Manager.

**Aidan Flynn (class '59)** Originally from Banagher, spent most of his working life in Dublin but has now retired back to his native town.

**Declan McNulty (class '92)** Son of pastman, Aidan. Declan recently pictured in The Irish Times after receiving his Masters, with distinction, in commercial law. (see picture across)

**Peter Ormond (class '92)** Married recently. Also from the same class, Owen McGinity married recently.

**Owen O'Carroll (class '93)** Originally from Ardfert, Co. Kerry has opened a Sandwich Bar in Notting Hill Gate, London.

**Graham Ross (class '95)** Has joined the Irish Horseracing Authority and his offices are at Leopardstown. Graham's brother Gordon was scrum half on last year's Senior rugby team.

**Luke Daly (class '85)** Married Jacqueline O' Donnell from Roscrea in November '99. Luke is a nephew of Fr. Kevin Daly.

**Pierce O' Leary (class '88)** Brother of Mick. Pierce married in November '99. John Quinn (class '86) is training horses in Newcastle, Co. Dublin.

**Patrick Grealay (class '85)** Has been accepted into the Institute of Actuaries in London. Patrick is now back in Dublin, based in the IFSC, where he is actuary for X.L. Europe (Ins.).

**Shay Garvey (class '72),** Past house captain, has joined the board of E-commend, a British Internet company. Shay is involved with Irish venture capital firm Delta Partners and this firm has invested £1 million in E-commend. This seed investment is being used to create a business team of 20 people and a pilot test. The company aims to raise a further £10 million in the first quarter of 2000.

**Tom Hastings (class '49)** We wish the very best to Tom on his retirement from St. Senan's Hospital, Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford, after 25 years of dedicated service.

**David Goddard (class '90)** Congratulations to David on his engagement to Mary Rose Fagan from Mullingar.

**Micheal Grace** Oola hammer throwing champion Micheal Grace received the prestigious Canon Hayes National Sports Awards in November '99. He beat competitors from Yale, Harvard, Oxford and Cambridge. In all, he has held four national titles since '92.

**Declan Martin (class '71)** Is director of policy at the Dublin Chamber of Commerce.

**Ciaran McMahon (class '76)** Is general manager of Irish Small and Medium Enterprises Associations (ISME)

**Michael McGovern (class '84)** Originally from Thurles now lives in 30 Westminster Drive, Douglas, Isle of Man, IM1 4EL, Tel: 044 1624 629929

**Noel Flood (class '75)** Is living in Douglas, Cork Tel: (021) 294747 and works as an accountant with Kepak, Watergrass Hill, Co. Cork.

**Michael Ryan (class '88),** Is a chartered accountant and is working with Price Waterhouse Coopers in Rotterdam.

**Terence McCarthy (class '52)** Is club manager of Donoughmore Club, 13 Nelson Street, Clonmel.

**Eoin Magrath (class '89)** Is home from Germany and now lives in Dublin. Tel: (01) 6611023

**Joe O'Shea** (Brother of Liam, Rob, Paul and son of our Union Past President Pat O'Shea.) Congratulations on his recent engagement to Margaret McDermot (Kilkenny), a sister to pastman James. Paul also got engaged to Sharon O Gorman from Kilkenny.

**Brendan Muldoon (class '93)** Has qualified as a chartered accountant.

**Dermot Deering (class '88)** Is a solicitor working with Deutsche International, IFSC, Dublin. Dermot lives in Dublin, Tel: (01) 6678184

**Tom Kavanagh (class '74)** Is a chartered accountant and is in private practice at 14 Pembroke Road, Ballsbridge, Dublin 4. Tel: (01) 6680288

**David Lawlor (Class '92)** Congratulations on his recent engagement to Marguerite Culhane.

**M. O'Boyle (class '97)** from Lought, Moylough, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway received a rugby NUI Galway Sports Scholarship (1999-2000).

Four CCR Pastmen received Sports Scholarships to University College Dublin

**Justin Kehoe ('92-'97)** – Golf Scholarship

**Stephen Lucey ('92-'97)** and **Paddy O'Brien ('92-'97)** – Hurling Scholarship

**Dermot O'Loughlin ('93-'99)** – Rugby Scholarship



DECLAN MCNULTY