

For lo the winter is past,
 the rain is over and gone:
The flowers appear on the earth,
 pruning
Record time has come, and
 the voice of the
 turtledove
 is heard in our land



(Song of Songs 2:11-12)



St Kieran's College
 Kilkenny
 2002



THE RECORD

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The Record

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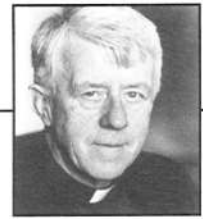
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Bishop Laurence Forristal

I welcome the St Kieran's College RECORD 2002. The Record is a chronicle of all that has happened and is still happening in the College since 1998.

A quick perusal of its contents shows the changes that have taken place over the past few years, particularly since the seminary suspended its work in 1994. St Kieran's is still the largest secondary school for boys in the diocese and in the county. The college campus is also home to CREIDIM, the diocesan Centre for Adult Religious Education and Faith Formation, and to the outreach programme of the National University of Ireland, Maynooth. In more recent times it has facilitated degree courses from Mater Dei Institute of Education, Dublin and Queen's University, Belfast.

The Record reflects the work of all these groups: the Secondary School, CREIDIM, NUIM, Mater Dei and QUB. It shows how their presence and their activity have ensured that the College is a vibrant place of learning and formation even in these changed times. It is a great tribute, especially to Mgr Jim Cassin, President, and to Fr Kieron Kennedy, Administrator, that the College has been able to adapt and adjust to the times in such a positive fashion. Thanks to them, and to all involved, St Kieran's is a significant centre of learning and formation in the lives of so many people.

The articles on the Secondary School, with the accompanying pictures, give a vivid impression of a

school, where, as always, the academic life, which is of prime importance, is supplemented by sport, drama, outings and may other activities beneficial to young people. There is also room for news and pictures of past pupils. The College maintains its link with the past.

The Record especially maintains its link with those who were in the seminary. It is good that these men come back for Reunions (first Tuesday after the 15th August each year!) and for the celebration of important jubilees.

It is unfortunate - but inevitable - that the Boarding School will eventually close in June 2006. Let us hope that the boarders, when they look back to their days in St Kieran's, will have the same kind thoughts of the place as our former seminarians have and that they, too, will come back to Reunions and various functions.

I thank Father Richard Scriven, the Editor, and his team who have produced this fine Record. I wish them well and I pray God's blessing on the College and on all who live and work there that they may continue to spread the Christian message in Ossory and further afield.

Laurence Forristal

Bishop of Ossory



Monsignor James Cassin, College President

St Kieran's has entered a new century, a new millennium, a new era. I am happy to note that from a reading of The RECORD one is struck by the ability of our college to respond to new challenges and grasp new opportunities. The work of teachers, students, parents and all associated with the college is impressive. New developments in education give new life to the college and call for a renewed engagement from pupils and teachers alike.

The RECORD exudes affection for a venerable institution that continues to serve us well after a history of more than two hundred years. Developments are logged with pride; events of the past are recalled with a certain reverence for time and place. Nobody passes through these halls of learning without struggle and sometimes pain yet the alma

mater somehow cares for students so that they can live with and sometimes make sense of the ups and downs of college life and benefit from the school curricula. It is always impressive when former staff and students revisit with humour and affection their student days in St Kieran's. For those of us who work here it gives meaning to what we do and encourages us to commit ourselves each day to the work of education, drawing forth the best that is in our pupils.

We are living through the best of times and the worst of times. Was it ever any different? We have witnessed brokered peace process after peace process all over the world while at the same time there are outbreaks of hostilities and the reality and increasing threats of terrorist

attack. Ireland has a booming economy yielding great prosperity to thousands of people yet social and personal deprivation is on the increase leading to family breakdown and to various forms of unhealthy dependence. There is a search for a spirituality that is in tune with the contemporary world coupled with a widespread rejection of the teachings and values of the Church. Making sense of the world of our time is never easy and for each one is a lifelong project. Without a value system it is well nigh impossible. St Kieran's College, a Catholic school, proposes a set of values based on the message and teaching of Christ. It engenders love, respect for the individual, tolerance, a commitment to prayer and the Gospel, a special care for the poor and marginalized and a willingness to be guided by the Church's teaching. The contents of The RECORD lead me to believe that the current staff and students of our college are inspired by this value system. By their fruits, so evident in this publication, you shall know them.

A tinge of sadness touches me as I write the foreword for the 2002 RECORD. In the years to come we will say goodbye to the boarding school. As a former St. Kieran's boarder, I have a special attachment to the boarding school and owe a debt of gratitude to my alma mater. Boarding brought a unique dimension to the college and gave it the feeling of home. Close bonds were made that endured for life. Now in response to new needs and new circumstances the boarding school is being phased out. The deans of the boarding school had a special place in the lives of students. Their memories live on through the generations. To all who passed through St Kieran's College Boarding School and especially to the current Deans, Fr Richard Scriven and Fr Patrick Carey, and the current students we say thank you for all you contribute to the life of the college and we pray that your experience in St Kieran's College will serve you well through life.

If growth is the sign of life, then St Kieran's College is truly alive. With the unstinting support of Bishop Forristal, our patron, College Management maintains a vision for the



Mícheál Ó Diarmada, Principal

The St Kieran's College Record was first published in 1956. Subsequent editions since then have brought back a host of memories (happy ones, we hope) to so many of our former students at home in Ireland and throughout the world. The Record has been an excellent chronicle of life in the College during that time. Having spent over thirty years on the staff of St Kieran's College, I find myself occasionally skimming through the pages of old Records and wondering how time has passed so quickly.

Various editors over the years have put their personal stamp on this publication and have given unstintedly of

college that constantly looks towards development in response to current need and with an eye to the future. We are privileged to have a capable and experienced College Administrator in Fr Kieron Kennedy. His financial acumen and proven ability in forward planning serves us in good stead.

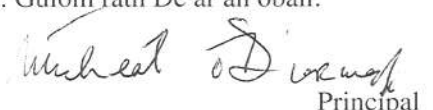
The expansion of educational provision in all departments of the college is remarkable. The Secondary School, under the able stewardship of Principal Mícheál Ó Diarmada together with his staff, offer a wide curriculum to students. CREIDIM continues to develop new programs and courses. This year sees the delivery of two new MA programmes on site in the college. NUIM Campus Manager, Chris Reid, and his staff oversee the development of third level courses and a range of other initiatives and have arrived at a point where space has become a problem.

I welcome the new-look RECORD of life at St Kieran's College, Kilkenny. It is appropriate that the first edition in the new millennium should re-invent the work of chronicling the events of college life. The age of electronic information and communication offers amazing possibilities that will surely leave future generations a wealth of data on the people and events of this time. Only somebody with the immense expertise, energy and enthusiasm of the editor, Fr Richard Scriven, would have undertaken the herculean task of assembling the vast array of material that is between the covers of The RECORD. In his hands modern technology has served us well in the production of this interesting and entertaining vista on St Kieran's College. The RECORD has done us a great service in affording us a new perspective on ourselves whence we can give thanks for what has been, rejoice in what is, and go forward to the future with confidence.


President

their expertise and time. Modern technology has moved on since 1956 and this edition of the Record reflects that progress, with the desk top work done on campus. We are indebted to Fr Richard Scriven and his team for undertaking the editorship of the first RECORD of this millennium.

Tá a fhios agam go mbainfidh na léitheoirí taitneamh as an bhfoilseachán breá seo. Guíom rath Dé ar an obair.


Principal



Rev Richard Scriven, Editor

I am happy to present the latest edition of THE RECORD. Like the College it seeks to represent, this publication has undergone a change in purpose and focus. This publication is a transition between the past and the future. The new format is dominated by accounts of life in the secondary school and the boarding school. It also acknowledges the other facets of life here in the College: CREIDIM, NUIM and its associated courses, seminary and secondary school reunions. As a diocesan college THE RECORD also includes an account of the celebration of the Jubilee in the diocese. I am delighted that this issue also includes a series of articles written by past pupils about their life in the College during the early decades of the twentieth century. It also includes a series of articles from past pupils who are living overseas writing not just about their memories of St Kieran's but about their life now - another aspect of the extended family of St Kieran's. Many of the articles about school life dealing with new programmes and options will give a sense of the changing nature of teaching and the changes in methodology which the new syllabi have required.

It is the first day of 2002 as I write: a new year in and the old year out. It is also the day when the Euro has been embraced by twelve European countries and so the day marks the departure of Lady Lavery and the our national currency - at least as we have known it since 1971! The imagery of the new currency is that of bridges and arches, links between nations and people. It perhaps is a image that could describe this publication and the COLLEGE RECORDS that precede it. I hope that this RECORD is a link with the previous COLLEGE RECORDS which chartered so well the life of the college over the past fifty years. I would like to pay tribute to the work done by previous editors who recorded the years of college life in their publications. To browse through a past edition is a delightful exercise and one which will always throw up something new about St Kieran's. I hope that this publication is a link or a bridge between different generations, past pupils and present students, seminary alumni and former boarders, retired staff members and new ones and the various departments which make up St Kieran's in this first decade of the new millennium. I hope also that it is a point of contact for all who have had some association with the College and that it will instil in those who presently wear the 'black and

white' a sense of the history and tradition.

A publication such as this requires the dedication of many people. I would like to acknowledge the considerations of the committee from the school who have worked with me in preparing THE RECORD and in a particular way for helping with the discussions which led to this format as the replacement for the previous publications. Thanks to all all who wrote articles and reviews that contribute to this extensive overview of the past four years in the life of the college. The dedication and patience of the proof readers has been invaluable and important contribution to the final text. A word of thanks also to Modern Printers who have been very helpful in the preparation and layout of the RECORD. The collection of photographs which dominate this publication have been received from many different people and quarters and I hope those who took them, loaned them, borrowed them or arranged access to them will enjoy this publication and know that these photographic 'records' have added greatly to the finished text. Particularly I would like to acknowledge the contribution which the various professional photographers make to the recording of life in St Kieran's and their help in archiving photographs of teams and college events of the past years. Thanks also to Fr Martin Delaney who has helped with layout and cover design.

A final word of thanks to all who have through their patience and encouragement supported the preparation of this publication. Thanks particularly to Bishop Laurence Forristal, Mgr James Cassin, Mr Mícheál Ó'Diarmada and the staff of the Secondary School who have through their continued and sustained interest enabled this, the first RECORD of the new millennium, become a reality.

I hope you enjoy reading the various articles and accounts of life in the College over the past few years. I also hope that you will enjoy THE RECORD in years to come and that it will recall memories of those halcyon days inside the 'Callan Gate'.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Richard Scriven". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath.

Richard Scriven
Editor

CROSSING THE THRESHOLD

ST KIERAN'S IN TWO MILLENNIA AND THREE CENTURIES

St Kieran's College was founded in 1782, the first Catholic school after the repeal of the Penal Laws. Established by Bishop Troy with the assistance of two enlightened and learned clerics, Doctors Dunne and Lanigan, who were 'registered priests of the City of Kilkenny', the college was founded 'under the name of an Academy in which young boys, destined especially for sacred orders, would be taught the humanities and Christian morals under the vigilant care of the bishop of the diocese of Ossory. On 13th January the 'earliest Catholic College in the Kingdom' opened its doors for the first time. It was to be another fifty years before the College would be located on its present splendid site of Gransthor - or the Callan Road as it is more commonly known - occupying different sites prior to this building: one close to St Mary's Cathedral, another the former Loreto Convent and then a property on Maudlin Street on the other side of the city.

St Kieran's adopted the motto *Hiems Transiit* from the text of the old Testament book The Song of Songs:

For lo the winter is past,
the rain is over and gone:
the flowers appear on the earth,
pruning time has come,
and the voice of the turtledove
is heard in our land
(Song of Songs 2:11-12)

The 1770s heralded a new beginning in Ireland and as the winter of the penal days past the founders of St Kieran's College saw the beginnings of a new springtime.

While initially established to provide education in 'every brand of useful and polite literature' later it added a new dimension to its character by including the education of young men for the priesthood. In 1792 the first students enrolled in the college to study for the priesthood. For nearly two centuries young men were ordained for work in the dioceses of Ireland and the English speaking world. Priests from St Kieran's have worked in all five continents in all types of ministries: schools, hospitals, prisons, parishes, universities and mission territories have all benefited from the talents of those ordained from St Kieran's.

Those who have entered the Callan Gates to begin their secondary school days have also brought their skills and talents to the four corners of the world. From all walks of life students enrolled in St Kieran's: backgrounds as diverse as the students themselves. In turn they too have made their homes in countless different countries and cultures: from Japan to Western Canada, from Australia to Sweden. A summer does not go by when a past pupil drops in to revisit past memories and familiar corridors, to recount a forgotten anecdote of earlier years.

1982 was a year of celebrating: two hundred years since the first students made their hesitant steps in the tradition of St Kieran. It was an opportunity for past pupils from both the secondary school and the seminary to return to the city of their alma mater.

At the turn of the new millennium St Kieran's is a very different place from its earliest days. It has come through times of difficulty, known success and failure, progress and decline, war and peace: the rebellions of '98 and 1916, the tithe war, Catholic Emancipation and Repeal, the long years of land agitation, the struggle for national independence - none of these events had left the college untouched. Today St Kieran's is a vibrant secondary school with some six hundred students, a facility for fifty five boarding students, an adult education centre for the diocese of Ossory and an outreach centre from the National University of Ireland Maynooth.

Educationally the school has adapted and adopted many new teaching practices: it has a very full Transition Year programme, two dedicated computer rooms, specialised rooms for electronic and material technology, a music room, an extensive curriculum at both Junior and Leaving Certificate levels, expertise in the area of remedial and career guidance and a pastoral care programme dedicated to helping students to take their place in society. Study facilities are offered to over sixty students in conjunction with the boarding school. The five day boarding school continues to welcome students from the surrounding counties as well as students from the diocese of Ossory.

In 1994 seminary training was suspended and the resources of the College were channelled into the newly established religious education centre. CREIDIM, founded in 1992, provides a series of different programmes for the diocese of Ossory and beyond. Courses ranging from personal development to parish ministry have welcomed people into a positive and creative exploration of life, church and family matters.

In 1997 NUIM - The National University of Ireland Maynooth - welcomed its first students to its outreach programme in St Kieran's College. Offering a range of modular third level programmes for mature students over two hundred students have benefited from the development of NUIM Kilkenny. In 2001 a connection with Queens University in Belfast extended the range of courses and increased the number of students availing of the facility put in place by NUIM.

Now in its third century St Kieran's College can look back with great pride on the work begun by Messieurs Dunne and Lanigan and their bishop Fr John Troy. The tiny seed they sowed has borne much fruit. The winter is long past and the spring, full of hope and promise, is ever renewed.



ST KIERAN'S CELEBRATES THE JUBILEE YEAR

St Kieran's celebrated the Jubilee Year at the different liturgical celebrations throughout the year itself and with some specially organised events. The oldest student, Loughlin Moore from Kilmacow, lit the Jubilee Candle during the Carol Service in December 1999 marking the commencement of the Jubilee Year.

In August Michael O'Gorman, a fifth year student, joined the group of young people from the diocese who travelled to Rome for the World Youth Pilgrimage.

At the beginning of the new school year in September 2000 a group of boarders accompanied Frs Carey and Scriven to Seir Kieran where they celebrated mass.

In October 2000 Fr O'Gorman arranged the annual retreat for the sixth years. Beginning in Aghaboe, the ancient seat of St

Canice, with the celebration of the sacrament of reconciliation the group travelled on to Seir Kieran where all enjoyed a 'pilgrim walk' (nearly four miles) around the various holy places associated with St Kieran: the holy well, the Church of Ireland Church, the 'Ragged Bush' and the present Catholic Church. Mass was celebrated and after a light lunch all journeyed on to the Cistercian Monastery of Mount St Joseph's in Roscrea where the group were received by one of the monks who spoke about the life of the monastery.

During the Carol Service in December 2000 the Jubilee Candle was lit for the last time - this time by the youngest member of the house.

As a lasting memento of the Jubilee Year a beautiful icon of St Kieran was acquired by the College. Made by Rev John Reynolds the icon depicts St Kieran with many of the attributes which describe his life and work.

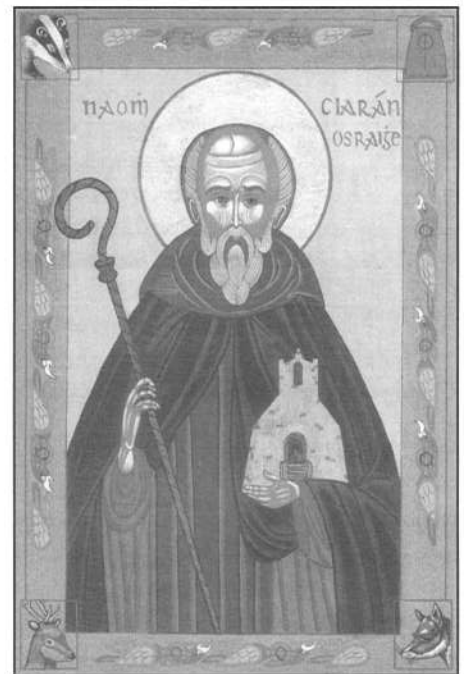
THE ICON OF ST KIERAN

The icon of St Ciaran, first Bishop of Ossory, was created by Father John Reynolds, Kells, Co Kilkenny, using traditional Byzantine methods which have their origin in the eighth century. The board is of wood, coated with fifteen layers of gesso; this is polished and then incised with the drawing. The colours are made from natural pigments bound together by the yoke of egg mixed with red wine vinegar. The halo is 23 carat transfer gold. The figure is in the Byzantine style with a Celtic border; a happy blend of both traditions. The border includes the all important bell and three of St Ciaran's pets. The church resting on Ciaran's left arm is the ruin of the twelfth century church dedicated to the Saint of Kells, Co Kilkenny.

As a young man Ciaran went to France and Italy. We are told that in Rome he met St. Patrick. In a Life of St Ciaran we read; "Proceed before me to Ireland (said St Patrick), and you will meet a well in a solitary spot in the central part of the country, and erect a monastery for yourself at that well. The name of the well is Fauran; and your name will be held in reverence there until the resurrection of the dead." Ciaran replied and said: "I do not know the place where the well is situated"; and Patrick said to him: "The Lord will guide you; and take this small bell with you, which will not ring until you reach the well: but when you do, it will ring with a clear and melodious sound, and thus shall you

know this well; and in thirty years hence I will follow you to that place".

St Ciaran then returned to the south of the Country and began his missionary work. He came to Ossory and worked in the areas of Johnstown, Rathdowney and Camross. He continued his journey beyond the Slieve Bloom Mountains, and at Seir, near Birr in Co Offaly, the bell sounded. Seir was the birthplace of the Kings of Ossory. At Seir, later called Seir Kieran, Kieran established an important monastery church and school. He did missionary work in Ossory, and at times experienced opposition and hostility from the pagan people. Places associated with him in Ossory include Tullaherin, Tullaroan, Freshford, Kilkenny, Kilmacow, Templeorum and Tullahought.

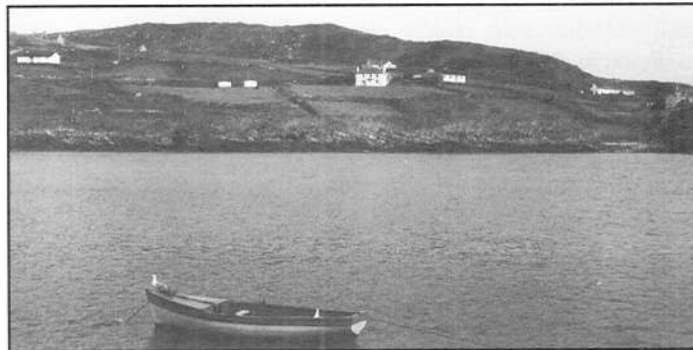


The trip to Seir Kieran was at the beginning of September 2000 - the week before the All-Ireland between Kilkenny and Offaly. On route to Birr we spotted a message from the Offaly hurlers and could not resist stopping!!

JUBILEE 2000



To celebrate the Jubilee a group from Cornwall came to Ireland and visited Cape Clear Island, Co Cork. Míchaél Ó'Diarmada travelled to Cape Clear for the weekend and in turn hosted some of them here in Kilkenny when they visited. St Kieran came from the island and a group from the College visited during the Bicentenary in 1982 - photographs of which are printed here.



Bhí cur amach riamh agam ar an gceangal a bhí idir Osraí agus Oileán Chléire, áit dúchais Chiaráin naofa. Bhí mé i measc na ndaoine a thug cuairt ar an oileán in 1982 nuair a bhí comóradh an dá chéad againn sa Choláiste agus scríobh mé cuntas ar an dturas sin san Record. Tháinig grúpa beag de mhuintir Chléire chugainn níos déanaí sa bhlian chéanna nuair a bhí an Cairdinéal Tomás Ó'Fiaich inár measc do cheiliúradh an Aifrinn san Gymnasium.

Mo bhean Máire a bhí i mo theannta an Sathairn álainn sin agus sinn ag trailli ar Chontae Chorcaí. Bhí sé ar intinn againn a bheith i nDún na Séad do sheoladh an bháid, an Naomh Chiarán a Dó ar a trí a chlog. Ba bhreá leat bheith ar an bhfarraige an lá céanna agus tar éis 45 nóiméad, bhí Traígh Chiaráin bainte amach againn. Chuir Bean Úi Leonard fáilte croíúil romhainn. Tar éis dúinn cupán tae a ól chuamar ag spaisteoireacht ar fud an óileain agus an ghrian ag spalpadh anuas ón spéir.

Bhí áthas orm mar sin nuair a scríobh Éamonn Langford chugainn ag cur síos ar an searmanas eaglasta a bhí beartaithe acu ar an óileán chun an mhílaois a chomóradh. Tugadh cuireadh do dhaoine ó Shaighir Chiaráin agus ó Choláiste Chiaráin a bheith leo ar feadh deireadh seachtaine i lár mhí Mheithimh. Tugadh le fios dúinn go mbeadh slua ag teacht ó Chornwall freisin, toisc an ceangal a chreidtear ansin a bheith idir Chiarán agus an ceantar Ceilteach sin. Ní raibh mórán eolais agam faoi sin ach léigh mé an t-alt a scríobh Dr James Brennan san 'Old Kilkenny Review 1997'.

Níos déanaí sa tráthnóna tháinig muintir Kernow isteach. Thug mé suntas do na bratacha móra a bhí crochta in airde acu – dúbh le cros bhán. Dar ndóigh, tháinig dathanna an Choláiste i gcuimhne dom. Timpeall 30 a bhí sa ghrúpa, idir óg agus aosta, idir fhir agus mhná. Bhí lucht polaitíochta ina measc freisin. Bhí roinnt de mhuintir Cléire ar an gCé agus chuireamar go léir athine ar a chéile. Níos déanaí an tráthnóna sin taispeáineadh físteip dúinn a léirigh na traidisiúin a bhain le Piarán sa Chorn.

Glacadh leis riamh in Osraí go bhfuair Naomh Ciarán bás in Saighir Chiaráin agus go bhfuil sé curtha ansin, ach tá tradisiún láidir in Cornwall nó Kernow mar a glaotar air in a dteanga féin, gur dhein Ciarán a shlí trasna na farraige chucu agus gur bhunaigh sé an Eaglais ansin. De réir scoláirí teangan, glaofaí Píarán ar Chiarán sa teanga Cheilteach a bhí thall. Athraíodh é sin go Piran nó Peran sa Bhéarla. Tá Peran coiteanta go leor in sna logainmeacha sa cheantar sin agus sa Bhreatain Bheag freisin. Tá sé suimiúil go ndéanann siad comóradh ar Naomh Piran ansin ar an gcúigiú lá de Mhárta fé mar a dhéanamidne anseo in Osraí agus i gCléire.



Bhíodh conspóid ann i measc scolairí faoi cén naomh ba thúisce a thug an Chríostaíocht go hÉirinn. Níl sé sin réitithe go fóill agus ní docha go réiteofar é ach tá daoine ann a chreideann gur Léadh an chéad aifeann in Éirinn ar Chléire nuair a d'fhill Chiarán ar a mhuintir féin. Bailíonn pobal Cléire ar an láthar sin tráthnóna áirithe gach blian chun aifeann faoin air a d'éisteacht.

The photographs on this page are some taken during the visit of St Kieran's College to Oilean Cleire on the occasion of the bicentenary in 1982. Above left: Michael Kirwin and Fr Seamus McEvoy look out over the Atlantic. Above right: First view of the island from the boat. Below: Students preparing sandwiches for the day's activities.

Bhí Aifreann speisialta sa séipéal an lá dár gcionn. Ag an mBronnadh, tháinig daoine ó Chléire, ón gCorn agus ó Shaighir chun tosaigh. Cóip de Stair Choláiste Chiaráin a thug mé féin go dtí an altóir. Ag deireadh an Aifrinn, léigh mé teachtaireacht a d'ullmhaigh Easpag Osraí don ócáid. Luaigh sé gur thug sé féin agus Uachtarán an Choláiste, an Monsíghnóir Ó Caisín cuairt ar Chléire cúpla bliain roimhe sin nuair a bhí an t-oileánach, an t-Athair Ó Ceadagáin ag comóradh a chaoga bliain mar shagart. Oileadh eisean i gColáiste Chiaráin agus oirníodh é sa bhliain 1946. Rinne an t-Easpag tagairt freisin don sagart óg Osraíoch, Risteárd Ó hAllmhuráin, a fuair bás ar Chléire sa bhliain 1917.

Bhí an t-ádh linn maidir leis an aimsir an lá sin. Bhí oilithreacht thart ar na háiteanna beannaithe leagtha amach dúinn ag an Athair Ó Cadhla agus ag Éamonn Langford, tamall ag guí, tamall ag siúl agus tamall ag caint is ag comhrá. Bhí slua maith bailithe sa reilig thart ar Theampall Chiaráin tar éis an Ióin. Beannaíodh uisce ó Thobar Chiaráin agus thugamar

roinnt de abhaile linn go hÓsraí. Ina dhiaidh sin bhí teacht le chéile againn san Mhusaem. Bhí cathairleach Chomhairle Chontae Chorcaí i láthair, an Comhairleoir Ó Riain. D'inis sé dom go raibh eolas maith aige ar Choláiste Chiaráin tois gur dhein beirt dheartháir leis staidéar sa chliarscoil. Bronnadh cóip de dhán Ghaeilge ag cur síos ar Chiarán Naofa orm. Tá sé sin crochta sa Choláiste anois.

Bhí oíche bhreá comhluadair againn sa Chlub. Fuaireamar an-léiriú ar chultúr an Choirn. Féachann siad orthu féin mar náisiún agus tá siad an-mhórálach as na traidisiúin atá acu. Chan siad gan stad agus bhí file ina measc freisin. An teanga Cheilteach a bhíodh san áit níor labhradh í le dhá chéad bliain ach tá grúpaí ag iarraidh í a aithbheochaint. De réir dealraimh, tá roinnt mhaith daoine ann gur mhaith leo a bheith scartha ón mBreatain. Nuair a thiocfaidh muintir an Choirn go Cill Chainnigh in earrach na bliana 2002, nuair a bheidh an Féile Pan-Cheilteach ar siúl, beidh seans eile ag Pobal Chiaráin aithne a chur ar Phobal Phiaráin.

OSSORY CELEBRATES JUBILEE 2000



Sr Nora McCarthy, a member of the Presentation Sisters, was a member of the Diocesan Jubilee Committee which was responsible for preparations leading up to the Jubilee and the celebrations during the Jubilee year itself. She records the work done by this committee and the celebration of the Jubilee Year in the diocese of Ossory.

The Ossory Diocesan Jubilee Committee was formed at the invitation of Bishop Laurence Forristal in September 1996. Membership reflected the different vocations in the Church i.e. bishop, priests, lay people and religious. Regular meetings were held which consisted of reflection on Scripture and on the Papal document "The Coming of the Third Millennium". A number of possibilities for launching a programme of preparation for the Jubilee in the diocese were explored. It was decided that the focus for all preparation should be the parish. Some committee members attended a day in Clonliffe College at which resources for a Prayer Service on Baptism were presented.



1997 YEAR ONE JESUS CHRIST

At the Priests' Conference in January 1997 Bishop Forristal spoke to the priests regarding diocesan plans to celebrate the Jubilee. In keeping with this year's theme the committee presented the Prayer Service on Baptism. Many felt that with some modifications this was practical as a model for use at parish level. Fr Michael Drumm also addressed the Conference on issues concerning the Church at this time. Overall there was evidence of genuine reflection on renewal and an appreciation of the presence of lay people with the priests.

Encouraged by this response, the Committee planned a series of nine Regional Meetings involving every parish, to be held throughout the diocese during the year. The format of these meetings consisted of (i) A short Prayer Service, (ii) Input giving the vision for the Jubilee, (iii) Focused questions for group reflection e.g. What is the Spirit saying to the churches at this time? What action/s can we take now? What resources can we call on? Each parish was then asked to form its own Jubilee Committee which would link with the Diocesan Committee.

Having carried out this listening process the Diocesan Committee was then able to draw up a list of needs of the diocese:

1998 YEAR TWO THE HOLY SPIRIT

The Diocesan Committee continued to meet regularly for reflection, prayer and planning around the theme for the year – The Holy Spirit. Having organised the nine regional meetings in the diocese it was decided to spend a day together in February for reflection and planning. Fr Eamon Fitzgibbon shared some helpful insights from the experience of the Limerick Diocesan Jubilee Committee.

A meeting of priests and contact persons was later held in St Kieran's College at which the following questions were used for reflection: "*Since the Regional Meeting, what has gone well for your group? What difficulties have you experienced? What does your group need to help you move forward in preparation for the Jubilee?*"

In response to a plea for resources at parish level the Diocesan Committee prepared three pre-Pentecostal Prayer Services which were held respectively in the Creidim Centre, Slieverue Parish Church and De La Salle Centre, Castletown. These were very well attended and positively received by the people of the three deaneries. There was a creative use of symbol, prayerful incorporation of the needs of the diocese (as expressed in the previous year's regional meetings) and good participation. The booklet proved a practical resource for a number of parishes who used sections of the ceremony for their Pentecostal Liturgy in May. In keeping with the theme of the year

Bishop Forristal presented each Confirmation student in the diocese with a special card.

In October some committee members attended Fr Harry Bohan's challenging conference in Ennis, entitled, "*Are We Forgetting Something? Our Society in the New Millennium*". This was followed in November by the attendance of the entire committee at a gathering in St Patrick's Training College, Drumcondra, called "TIONÓL 2000", organised by the National Jubilee Committee. Some 400 representatives from the various dioceses listened to keynote speakers like Bishop Donal Murray, Fergal Quinn, Gemma Loughran, Fr Seamus Ryan, and participated in a number of interesting workshops on such varied topics as reconciliation, pilgrimage, music in liturgy, a fresh start for the poor, youth, culture and faith. Along with two inspiring liturgies, the TIONÓL gave the committee a renewed sense of being on pilgrimage with others "to the house of the Father" (TMA 49) One direct result of attendance at the workshop given by Fr Frank Fahy from Ballintubber Abbey was the idea of having a protracted pilgrimage through the diocese of Ossory in the Jubilee Year – "*Exploring the Roots of Our Faith*". Fr Martin Delaney took responsibility for organising this venture.

Throughout the year members of the committee kept in touch with the Parish Contact Persons to encourage them in their local efforts. In November, representatives from each parish were invited to attend a series of lectures and workshops in the Creidim Centre entitled "Facing the Millennium". Conducted by Fr Michael Drumm and Mr Tom Gunning the talks presented some key millennium themes in a creative and engaging way and were well attended.

In December the Committee held another Planning Day in St Kieran's College to plan the third and final year of preparation for the Jubilee.

1999 YEAR THREE THE FATHER

Meetings of the Diocesan Committee continued with the focus on the theme of the third year of preparation. It was decided to hold a prayer service in three venues incorporating the theme "Journey to the House of the Father". A booklet was prepared for the purpose and a good cross-section of people attended the gatherings in St John of God Primary School, Kilkenny (Middle Deanery), Slieverue Parish Church (Southern Deanery) and the De La Salle Centre, Castletown (Northern Deanery).

This year Bishop Forristal encouraged the priests to invite parishioners to the Chrism Mass in St Mary's Cathedral on the Wednesday night of Holy Week. There was a great response. Bewleys in the Market Cross Shopping Centre provided coffee/tea afterwards which added to the community spirit experienced by all.



Above left: Ossory Diocesan Jubilee Committee. Above right: A discussion group at the Diocesan Tionól. Bottom right: Members of the Jubilee Committee view the logo prepared for the Jubilee Year.

An Ossory diocesan logo was designed and made available for parishes in card form and as banners for the churches of the diocese. Candles were commissioned for churches and homes. A diocesan calendar for the Jubilee Year was also drawn up, bearing in mind the calendar for the universal church published in Rome. Plans for the diocesan pilgrimage began to take shape and it was agreed that it should take place over eight weekends involving all the parishes of the diocese.

Following another National TIONÓL in Dublin in the autumn a diocesan gathering - TIONÓL OSRAÍ - was held on Saturday November 20th 1999 in St Kieran's College. With representatives from all over the diocese, this generated considerable enthusiasm. The day began with an inspiring talk by Fr Martin Tierney from the National Jubilee Committee. This was followed by the launch of the Jubilee 2000 Calendar for the diocese. Various resources for celebrating the Jubilee at parish level were introduced, e.g. the Ossory Jubilee candle, aids for family prayer and suitable liturgical music. A suggested liturgy for announcing the Jubilee at Midnight Mass on Christmas Eve was presented in the Chapel before lunch. Later in the day the people of Slieverue Parish presented "There is a Time", a ceremony for New Year's Eve. Subsequent reports showed that most parishes made very creative use of these resources.

2000 JUBILEE YEAR

The Jubilee Year was launched in all parishes of the diocese on Christmas Eve at Midnight Mass. Bishop Forristal celebrated Mass at St Mary's Cathedral. On New Year's Eve, at the going down of the sun on the second millennium, the service "*There is a Time*", or adaptations thereof, was conducted in most churches of the diocese and all over the country. It proved to be a very significant occasion for people as they looked to the past with gratitude, celebrated the present and looked forward to the future with hope.

Before Lent the theme of Reconciliation was highlighted with the publication of the brochure "To Walk Together Again", copies of which were made available for every parish.

TOCHAR CHIARAIN NAOFA Weaving a pilgrim path through the Diocese of Ossory

This was the highlight of the Jubilee celebrations in Ossory. The pilgrimage took place over eight weekends, weaving an imaginary 'Kieran's Way' from north to south of the diocese in the footsteps of its first apostle and bishop. Each of the weekend stages involved the 'host' parish and a specific cluster of neighbouring parishes. Some pilgrims from various parts of the diocese attended each weekend.

The pilgrimage was launched in Seir Kieran on March 4th-5th, the feast of St Kieran, and focused on the Sacrament of Baptism. Saturday was 'walking day', with pilgrims converging on the parish church from over the mountains and from the more level plains. The penitential rite and renewal of Baptismal promises of the Sunday Liturgy took place at St Kieran's Well, followed by a pilgrim procession, led by Bishop Forristal, to the monastic site for the Liturgy of the Word and thence to the parish church for the Liturgy of the Eucharist.

The next stage focusing on the missionary dimension of the diocese, was in historic Aghaboe on April 15th-16th. Mass was celebrated in the open at the site of the ancient monastery where St Canice spent most of his life and from whence St Fergal went to establish the church in Salzburg, Austria. Clogh Church was the venue for a Taizé youth vigil on Saturday night.

The third stage, on May 20th-21st, was 'A Pilgrimage to Edmund Rice's birthplace and the parish of Callan, and this stage celebrated the contribution of religious congregations to the diocese. After processing from the grounds of the Mercy Convent the Sunday Liturgy took place on the site of the old Augustinian Abbey against the splendid backdrop of the Abbey ruins.

The pilgrimage to Ladywell, Ballyouskill, on June 3rd- 4th, had as its theme the sacrament of Holy Orders. The large crowds gathered at this important place of pilgrimage for north Kilkenny and south Laois witnessed the priests of the diocese renewing their ordination promises.

The pilgrimage in Mooncoin on June 24th-25th took place on the weekend of the feast of Corpus Christi and had the Eucharist as its theme. An impressive Eucharistic Procession made its way through the parish from the banks of the Suir to the parish church.

Gowran on August 19th-20th hosted the sixth stage of the pilgrimage with the theme, 'Celebrating Family Life'. Families from Gowran and from the neighbouring parishes gathered at the newly refurbished site of the ancient medieval church dedicated to the Assumption of Our Lady.

The theme for the seventh stage was 'Celebrating Young People' and took place amid the impressive ruins of the Augustinian Priory in Kells on September 16th. A unique feature of this event was the presence of young people who had taken part in the Jubilee Youth Pilgrimage to Rome where they were greeted by Pope John Paul II. Music, dance, reflection were used to express the faith of young people, while some shared their experience of being in Rome.

Jerpoint Abbey, Thomastown, September 30th-October 1st was the eighth venue of the pilgrimage, with the theme of Reconciliation. The presence of Cistercian monks at the Mass on Sunday made a visible connection with the medieval Cistercian foundation.

The final stage of the pilgrimage took place in St Mary's Cathedral, Kilkenny, with Mass on Sunday November 26th. The Pilgrim Cross - carved from three pieces of bog oak by Donnchadh Ó Riordain - which had spent some time in each parish was part of the final celebration. Squares of cloth artistically depicting each locality, and presented by the different parishes, added a variety of colour to the Cathedral for this diocesan gathering of the threads of the pilgrimage. A thousand people packed into the Cathedral.

Some fifteen hundred people took part in the walking element of the pilgrimage, while well over six thousand people from all over the diocese participated in the various Sunday liturgies at the different stages. The whole experience was a great tribute to the local parishes who took such pride in participating by mapping out routes, preparing prayer services, forming choirs, walking miles, providing refreshments, celebrating outdoor Masses, and in some cases braving unfavourable elements. Tochair Chiarain Naofa will not be forgotten.

Once again the Diocesan Committee attended the national conference in St Patrick's Training College, Drumcondra on October 14th-15th to consider the challenging theme: "*News too Good to Keep: Evangelisation in the Third Millennium*". Following this, another TIONOL OSRAI was held on Saturday November 18th. Fr Michael Breen from Limerick University addressed the topic, "The Church - From Here to Where?", while Bishop Forristal spoke about "The Year of Jubilee Reaches its Conclusion". Resources were provided to help the parishes celebrate the closing of the Jubilee Year.



Below: Bishop Forristal with Rev Patrick Carey and Rev Frank Grace after blessing the boats as part of the pilgrimage to Mooncoin.

PRESIDENT OF ST KIERAN'S BECOMES PRESIDENT OF AMCSS/JMB

Monsignor James Cassin was elected president of JMB (Joint Management Body of Voluntary Secondary Schools)/AMCSS (Association of Management of Catholic Secondary Schools) in January 2000. As president he has a leadership function in the organisation and is chairman of CMCSS (Council of Management of Catholic Secondary Schools), which meets monthly at the Secretariat of Secondary Schools, Emmet House, Milltown, Dublin.

The CMCSS is made up of the secretary and chairperson of the ten regions of the AMCSS. A representative of the Episcopal Commission on Education and a representative of CORI (Commission of Religious of Ireland) also attend council. AMCSS is the representative body of Catholic voluntary schools. JMB consists of CMCSS plus representatives of ISA (Irish Schoolmasters Association) the management body of Church of Ireland Schools. The JMB represents school management in all negotiations with the Department of Education and Science, with ASTI and all other education bodies. The JMB also deals with all matters pertaining to the day-to-day management of schools. The Secretariat of Secondary Schools is the executive arm of AMCSS and JMB and accordingly provides a wide range of resources in all areas pertaining to the management of schools. Mr George O'Callaghan, General Secretary, manages the Secretariat on behalf of AMCSS/JMB

Right top: Mgr James Cassin meets Secretary Richard Reilly, Secretary for Education in the US Government at his offices on Capitol Hill Washington.

Right middle: Mr George O'Callaghan (Secretary General of AMCSS/JMB), Mgr James Cassin (President of AMCSS/JMB), Minister Woods, Mr Noel Merrick (AMCSS Council Member)

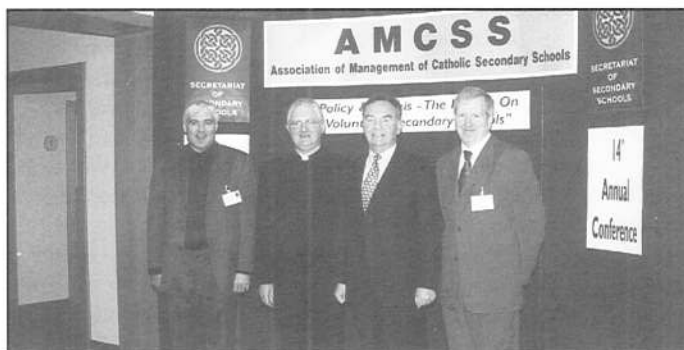
Right bottom: Dr Michael Woods, Minister of Education, is welcomed to the AMCSS Annual Conference in Hotel Europe Killarney.

Below: The President of AMCSS addresses the Annual Conference. Seated are: Mr John Dennehy (General Secretary of The Department of Education and Science), Dr Woods (Minister of Education), Mr Fergus Dunne (Vice-President of AMCSS) and Mr George O'Callaghan (General Secretary of AMCSS)

The current agenda for JMB/AMCSS

Over the past year the JMB has had a key role in negotiations arising from the industrial action pursued on foot of a pay claim submitted by the ASTI. At present the ASTI have pulled back from strike action and withdrawal of substitution and supervision cover in schools. Last year also the JMB mounted a campaign throughout the regions for the implementation of The Blackstock Report on funding for second level students. A further issue for JMB/AMCSS is the provision and funding of full time chaplains in voluntary secondary schools. A subcommittee of CMCSS on Catholic Education is preparing documentation on The Catholic School and other resources to help Boards of Management and Staff in the implementation of a Catholic Ethos in Catholic Voluntary Schools.

The work and extraordinary output of George O'Callaghan and the Secretariat staff in implementing JMB/AMCSS policy contributes enormously to the running of the voluntary schools in Ireland. In the past year the work of the above associations, aided by George O'Callaghan's personal ability and his sheer attention to detail, ensured that all those schools negotiated safely through a very challenging time.



Rev Liam Bergin RECTOR OF THE IRISH COLLEGE ROME



On behalf of the College Mgr Cassin congratulates Fr Bergin on the occasion of his appointment as Rector of the Irish College.

On Friday, 28th September 2001, Father Liam Bergin (pictured above with Mgr Cassin), a priest of the diocese of Ossory, was appointed Rector of the Pontifical Irish College, Rome.

Father Bergin is a native of Ballacolla, Co Laois, and is the eldest of six children of Cait and the late Austin Bergin. He attended

primary school at St Pius X National School, Ballacolla, Co Laois and secondary school at St Kieran's College, Kilkenny doing his Leaving Certificate in 1977. He was ordained for the diocese of Ossory on the 13th July 1985, having studied at St Patrick's College, Maynooth, and the Pontifical Irish College, Rome.

Father Bergin spent the first two years of his ministry as Curate in the parish of Ferrybank, in Ossory. Following this he was appointed to St Kieran's College where he taught in both the Secondary School and the seminary. After his time in St Kieran's, Father Bergin returned to Rome where he continued his post-graduate studies. He was Director of Formation at the Pontifical Irish College, Rome from 1993 to 1997 and has been Vice Rector of the College since 1997. He has also been lecturer in Sacramental Theology in the Pontifical

Gregorian University, in Rome. As Rector Liam will continue this work and also be closely involved with the Irish diaspora who are resident in Rome.

Father Bergin was awarded the B.Sc (Hons) from the National University of Ireland Maynooth. Later he obtained the Licentiate in Sacred Theology (STL) with specialisation in Dogmatic Theology, at the Pontifical Gregorian University, Rome. In 1997, Father Bergin graduated with a Doctorate in Sacred Theology (STD), *summa cum laude*, from the same University. The title of his doctoral dissertation was "O Propheticum Lavacrum: Baptism as a Symbolic Act of Eschatological Salvation". Father Bergin was presented with the Bellarmine Award for Theology at the Pontifical Gregorian University, which is granted by the faculty to the best doctoral thesis of each year.

VERY REV TIMOTHY O'CONNOR DEAN OF OSSORY



Mr Richard McEvoy pictured with Rev T. O'Connor on a recent visit to the College. Mr McEvoy salutes his appointment as Dean of Ossory.

During the Millennium year Dean Comerford of Freshford passed away at an advanced age and Canon Timothy O'Connor PP, Rathdowney became the new Dean of Ossory. While this honour was a diocesan matter, richly deserved no doubt, the title Dean O'Connor was already very familiar to a whole generation of St Kieran's past pupils. It is what still defines him in our collective memory.

My first encounter with him predates his time as dean. He had us for English, as they say, back in first year in 1955. He lifted the bonnet on that language and showed us some of its workings. There were strange figures of speech and literary devices about which we had never heard. He managed to do this without doing violence to the value of the literature as a whole. I have a clear memory of Tennyson's *The Splendour Falls* getting this treatment.

The enthusiasm with which he approached this work was something that characterised everything he did over the years. There was another sign of things to come on my very first day. I managed to get lost and arrived late for class somewhat flustered as a first year boarder might be. Instead of being reprimanded I got a friendly welcome and was amazed to find that he knew my first name. Oh, the innocence of it! On that occasion it was a mere matter of looking at a list and seeing who was missing. In the years that followed, when he was Junior Dean, it was his proud boast that he knew each and every student by name, as well as all the ecclesiastical students, something nobody else could so safely claim. His interest in the individual was pastoral care at its best, long before that term became familiar.

He had to impose discipline during an era when such an idea was being challenged as never before. He was Dean from 1958 to 1973. The discipline of that era is spoken of nowadays as something very harsh but that cannot be said of his methods. He constantly strove to have us understand why a degree of uniformity was necessary. He had no problem with losing an occasional battle with us because he saw the bigger picture. At one stage I had to represent the student body along with another classmate. We invented issues so that we could get out of study and go to his room to discuss them. These meetings invariably ended with his playing some of his classical music records for us. And we thought it was our agenda!

If there was any doubt about the value of his work or the regard in which he was held the answer is to be found in the silver jubilee reunions of his past pupils. For a number of years he has been guest of honour at these functions. He has displayed an exceptional memory for details about these men of forty-something and his witty speech followed by a standing ovation has always been the highlight of the occasion.

Dean O'Connor first entered St Kieran's as a student in 1939 on the day the war broke out. After a distinguished academic performance there and in Maynooth he was ordained in 1951 and is proud to show Cardinal Desmond Connell as one of those in his ordination group photograph. He returned to St Kieran's to teach English and Greek in 1952. After his fifteen years as Junior Dean he became Spiritual Director and had responsibility for Liturgy in the Seminary until he moved from the college to parish work in 1978. He ministered in Coon, Glenmore and finally Rathdowney in 1986. He has now retired officially but already we hear that it is an extremely busy retirement. Living in Erril he continues to work in the parish of Rathdowney and continues his life long interest in church liturgy.

In the forty-six years that I have known him he has remained a person of strong principle in a changing world and his courtesy and integrity have guaranteed him the respect of all who know him and had occasion to benefit from him.

CREIDIM

CREIDIM continues to serve the needs of the people of the diocese of Ossory and over the past four years offered a series of programmes that have enriched and informed those who attended. A primary aim of the centre is formation in faith. In an increasingly secular culture it is difficult to nourish the life of faith without a sustained reflection on its content. Currently a feature of debate in the area of faith is an alarming lack of literacy in theology on the part of the public at large. Hence the need for solid education and formation. Also if the Church and Christianity are to act as a leaven in society it is urgent that the individual Christian be able to offer a reason for the hope that lies at the heart of the message of Christ. Accordingly during the last number of years CREIDIM offered a series of programs that were directly intended for people wishing to nourish their faith and understand it more fully. The following faith development courses were delivered at CREIDIM in the past four years:

Why I Remain in the Church
 Lectio Divina
 From Church to Kingdom
 The Way Forward
 Facing the Millennium
 Take and Eat
 Exploring the Scriptures
 One Bread One Body
 Exploring the Scriptures
 Why attend the Sunday Mass?
 Relating to God
 Alpha
 Jesus Christ Yesterday, Today and Forever
 Exploring the Gospel of Mark
 Jesus of Matthew
 Word of God and Life
 Exploring the Christian Faith
 Catechism of the Catholic Church
 Faith of Our Young People
 Recognising God in Action in Our Everyday Lives

Owen O'Sullivan OFM Cap.
 Sr Nora McCarthy
 Owen O'Sullivan OFM Cap.
 Jim O'Donoghue, MHM
 Fr Michael Drumm / Tom Gunning
 Fr Tom Norris
 Sr de Lourdes Sheridan
 Fr Kieran Cantwell
 Sr de Lourdes Sheridan
 Fr Michael Drumm / Tom Gunning
 Owen O'Sullivan, OFM Cap.
 The Alpha Team
 Jim O'Donoghue, MHM
 Sr de Lourdes Sheridan
 Sr de Lourdes Sheridan
 Patsy Kelly MSC
 Fr John Littleton
 Fr John Littleton
 David Tuohy, SJ
 Jim O'Donoghue MHM

An ever-changing society seeks a new response from the Church or as John Paul II has said 'each generation is a new continent to be won for Christ.' Until recently Ossory like the rest of Irish society had a relatively homogeneous society. The majority of people were Catholic and in the main church going. Vocations to the priesthood and religious life were high. The liturgical and prayer life of the Church found a deep resonance with people in general. Generally speaking being a member of the Church did not call for a considered personal choice or a special commitment beyond the routine weekly practice. Rather it was more a



CREIDIM Graduates at the conferring of certificates with Bishop Laurence Forristal, Mgr James Cassin (Creidim Director), Ms Ann Murphy (NUIM Campus Manager), Ms Joan Power (Course Director Waterford Institute of Technology), PJ Donnelly (County Manager), Jill Tynan (Course Tutor) and Richard Moody (Deputy Head of Department at WIT). The graduates are: Liz Bambrick, Rose Brennan, Mary Butler, Michael Byrne, Mary E. Davis, Noreen Dowling, Nora Farrell, Molly Farrelly, Mary Fitzpatrick, Geraldine Gannon, Mary Harding, Tracey Martin, Pamela McCluskey, Mary Moore, Carmel O'Donoghue, Anne O'Reilly, Catherine O'Reilly, Joan Phelan, Mary Quinlan, Liz Ruth, Daphne Ryan, Jane Ryan, Eileen Mary Sommer-Ryan, Michael Tobin.

matter of following the great majority. It was the way things were. In the wake of Vatican II and a rapidly changing Irish society the Church is faced with having to respond to a new generation and a changed set of circumstances.

The Church is the people of God all sharing responsibility for the mission of Christ through Baptism. In former times responsibility for the mission of the Church was seen to rest mainly with bishops and priests and to a lesser extent with religious. Now with a declining number of priests and a renewed vision of Church it is evident that being a Christian calls for personal choice reflected in a committed daily life. In a more secular society the Christian swims against the tide rather than drifts with the current. In parish life this calls for ownership of the Church's mission by all and a greater collaboration in the administration and daily life of the local community.

CREIDIM aims to resource the parish community in becoming a vibrant Christian community. Over the past four years a series of programmes have been delivered to offer practical help to parishes. Given the renewed vision of Church and the reduction in vocations to the priesthood the need for greater involvement of people in parish ministry is urgent. A parish leadership programme for the training of parish groups was availed of by approximately two thirds of the parishes in the diocese. Priests, religious and people attended a yearlong course that provided initial training for ministry at parish level. Located at three venues throughout the diocese, the course was convenient for parishes distant from Kilkenny. As follow up a number of courses in group-work, liturgy and training for the Extraordinary Ministry of the Eucharist and Ministry of the Word were organised by CREIDIM and well attended. In response to requests from the priests and people in parishes, each year the centre organises a variety of courses and programmes in support of parish life. In the years 1998 – 2001 CREIDIM ran a series of courses for parishes as follows:

Easter Liturgy	Fr Willie Howell
Celtic Music & Prayer	Fr Liam Lawton
Youth Music Workshop	Martin Ryan and Team
Taize Workshop	Martin Ryan and Team
Youth Liturgy Workshop	Martin Ryan and Team
Confirmation Music	Fr Liam Lawton
Advent Celtic Celebration	Fr Liam Lawton
Youth Music Workshop	Nuala Foley
Preparing for Lent and Easter	Fr James Purcell
Training for Ministers of the Eucharist	Diocesan Team
Training Course for Baptismal Teams	Raymond Topley
Ministry of the Word	Marie Hogan
Youth Liturgy Workshop	Nuala Foley
Leadership Skills	Sr Maura Corbett
Advent Liturgy	Fr Willie Howell
Cantors	Fr Willie Purcell
Parish Leadership	Sr Nora McCarthy and Team
Seinn Alleluia	Sr Moira Bergin
Word of God - Training for Readers	Chris Hayden
Ministry of Word for Young People	Team
Confirmation Seminars	Martin Browne and Catechetical Team
Renewal for Eucharistic Ministers	Fr Liam Taylor
Parishioners' Part in the Mass	Fr Willie Howell
Lent and Easter Liturgy	Fr Willie Purcell
Bereavement Befriending Group	St John's Team
Prepare for Advent & Christmas	Fr Liam Lawton
Training Workshops for Baptism Teams	Catherine O'Riordan
Creative Liturgy for Lent and Easter	Fr Willie Howell
Why We Do The Things We Do	Fr W. Purcell
Evening of Liturgical Music	Paul Brett and Eilish O'Shea

The New Testament parable of the sower and the seed recalls that we benefit from the gifts that come our way to the degree that we are ready and able to receive them. It is the well-tilled land that produces the crop. And so it is with the human person. There is need for personal development if we are to be enriched by the gifts of grace, life and the experience of living. Recently there has been an exponential growth in self-awareness and personal enrichment courses. Many of these courses are very helpful. In CREIDIM special care is taken to ground personal development work in the Catholic philosophy and ethic. Waterford Institute of Technology in association with CREIDIM deliver a modular Diploma in Health Care and Positive Living. The affiliation with WIT offers a wide constituency, the possibility of accreditation and the availability of a broad range of expertise and courses. Already a number of students have been conferred with the Foundation Diploma.



CREIDIM Diplomatic
Front row: Daphne Ryan, Richard Moody (WIT), Margaret Richards (WIT), Mgr James Cassin (President St Kieran's),
Back row: Mary Moore, Kay O'Reilly, Mary Fitzpatrick, Mary Butler.



The CREIDIM Concert
Mgr James Cassin, Fr Liam Lawton, Marion Gaynor and Maeve Mahon discuss plans for the CREIDIM concert with took place in St Mary's Cathedral Kilkenny in May 2001.



CREIDIM, NUIM and St Kieran's College staff celebrate - Mary Cody, Mary Delaney, Liz Ruth, Mary Martin, Anne Murphy and Geraldine Butler.

In the period 1998 – 2001 a series of personal development courses have attracted a large attendance from around the diocese

Dealing with Stress	Sr Eilish Bergin
Maintaining Mental Health	Dr Patricia Casey
Coping with Loss	Jill Tynan
Enneagram	Fr Donal Neary
Losing and Living	Jill Tynan
Practical Psychology	Jill Tynan
This is the Time of Your Life (Retirement)	Catherine McCann
Counselling	Jill Tynan
Parenting	J. Tynan and F. Heffernan
Challenge of Change	Carmel Wynne
Communicate with Confidence	J. Tynan and F. Heffernan
Women and Spirituality	Janet E. Sahafi
Learning to Meditate and Relax	Chris Kelly
Bereavement Befriending Group	St John's Team
Understanding Depression	Bernie Hackett
A Positive Beginning To Our Day	Chris Kelly



Ms Liz Ruth, CREIDIM Secretary

Since the College Record last went to press we celebrated the Jubilee Year 2000. A diocesan Jubilee Committee made preparation for the great event and with the help of CREIDIM provided valuable resources for parishes. Two gatherings at CREIDIM were memorable. Tionóil Osrai in November 1999 and Tionóil Osrai 2 in Autumn 2000. On both occasions the large crowds that attended were invited to celebrate the historic moment while being introduced to new ideas and liturgical resources to help parishes mark the great jubilee. Fr. Frank Fahy from Ballintubber Abbey in an illustrated lecture recovered the riches of pilgrimage and enthused the large attendance, particularly the committee who organised a most evocative Tochar Chiarian Naofa in the year 2000. It was Fr Michael Drumm and Tom Gunning who over a number of weeks helped people see the significance of Jubilee as a threshold time when we give thanks for what has been, celebrate what is and plan carefully for what is to come. The need to be reconciled and be delivered from past hurts, to lay down the burden of sin and guilt was seen to be crucial in a time of Jubilee. Pope John Paul's II theme for the year: 'Jesus Christ, yesterday, today, tomorrow and forever' enkindled the hope which was the predominant mood of the entire Jubilee Celebration.

The delivery of graduate MA degrees at CREIDIM is a promising initiative and opens the way for further exciting developments. Mater Dei, a constituent college of Dublin City University, has begun delivery of an MA in Chaplaincy and Pastoral Care. Sixteen post graduate students are registered for the MA, which uses the more traditional lecture mode and also video conferencing. Queen's University Belfast, through its

outreach campus in Armagh, has eight post graduate students in Kilkenny registered for an MA in Religion and Society. Co-operation between CREIDIM, The National University Maynooth, and Queen's University Belfast led to this latest innovative provision. Lectures are attended by video link and the work of the outreach students is facilitated by a tutor in Kilkenny. Contact with the parent campus is maintained through occasional weekend visits and other means. As technology develops, new possibilities open up. Scarce resources are shared and access to ongoing education and formation becomes available to people traditionally denied such possibilities.

CREIDIM looks to the future with a renewed sense of mission. In a 1998 review of the working of CREIDIM the following vision statement was agreed: CREIDIM is an agent of the Diocese of Ossory to promote the spread of the Gospel. It is about animating and enabling Faith Development in the context of the people of the Diocese and the surrounding culture. It promotes a vision of the Church where collaboration is central and a variety of ministries are acknowledged, supported and developed. The working principles of CREIDIM arise from the stated aspiration of CREIDIM to be: " – a growth process resource, - person centred, - future building, - develop faith programmes and – promote organic leadership". St Kieran's opened its doors in 1782 to offer education to the people of the Diocese of Ossory. More than two hundred years later and having entered a new millennium St Kieran's continues its mission of education with a growing brief. CREIDIM continues the work of formation of people that was once the role of the seminary albeit no longer for ordained ministry rather for the general ministry of all the baptised.

GRADUATION 2000

Seated from left: Mgr James Cassin (Creidim), Margaret Harrington, Barbara Shepherd, Margaret Richards (WIT), Richard Moody (WIT), Daphne Ryan, Brendan Kerwick, Geraldine Gannon. Included are Maura Griffin, Sheila Dalton, Liz Ruth, Sheila Woodcock, Mary Butler, Kitty Norton, Angela McDonald, Kay O'Reilly, Pamela McCluskey, Mary Moore, Mary Farrell, Mary Fitzpatrick, Frances Walsh, Eileen Connolly, Mary Quinlan, Mary Gaynor, Betty Leahy, Susan Lavin, Noreen Bergin.



NUI MAYNOOTH

KILKENNY OUTREACH CAMPUS

In 1997 NUI Maynooth opened its Kilkenny Campus based in St Kieran's College. The initiative had been driven locally by a Steering Committee drawn from educational, business and community interests in the city. Under the chairmanship of Dr Pat O'Neill the Steering Committee has guided the development of the Outreach Programme from its initial intake of 40 students to the present number of 150 who enjoy the facilities and educational possibilities that this initiative offers to Kilkenny and the surrounding areas.



ACADEMIC PROGRAMMES AND CONFERRINGS

The NUIM Kilkenny Campus has offered the following range of part-time third level programmes for mature students:



BA (Local & Community Studies)

This is a part-time degree for mature students offered on a modular basis over a five year cycle. It is delivered in two programme areas:



Local Studies Programme

This course offers modules on local history, national history, archaeology, architecture, geology, landscape, Latin, Irish language and literature.

Community Studies Programme

This module offers modules on social theory, public administration, community development, youth work, psychology and counselling.



Diploma in Youth and Community Work

This is a part-time professional training programme in youth and community work offered through the Department of Applied Social Studies with participants drawn from Kilkenny and the south-east.

Higher Diploma in the Application of Information and Communications Technology in Education (AICTE)

This innovative programme, based in the Education Centre, Seville Lodge, was launched in Kilkenny to serve the need of teachers in the region.

NUI Certificate in Training (Special Needs)

This open learning programme for trainers who work in the field of disability has been offered as a professional qualification in the south-east region by NUI Maynooth for the past ten years. The programme is now based at the Kilkenny Campus.

NUI Certificate in Training & Continuing Education

This training programme for the commercial, industrial and business sectors is delivered through work-shops and distance learning materials for home based study.

Top: Dr Frank Mulligan, Vice President NUIM, presents a piece of Waterford crystal to Paul Redmond, first graduate of the B.A. (Local and Community Studies) from the Kilkenny Campus, pictured with Dr Laurence Forristal and Dr Pat O'Neill

2nd row left: Liam Bolger, Patty Dalton and Walter Walsh
2nd row right: Ann Mulhall,

3rd row: Pictured with Dr. Tom Collins, Director of Adult and Community Education NUIM, following their presentation with the NUI Certificate in Training (Special Needs) at the Kilkenny Campus: Sena Harenberg, Paul Ryan, Aoife Murphy, Richard Sinnott, Janine Duffy, Olivia Sweeney, Suzanne Ryan.

Bottom: Brigid Fox, Jackie Greene, Anne Griffith, Patrick Lacey, Margaret Lannigan, Joe Ledwidge, Breda Lynch, Andrew Timmons, Philip Tobin, William Smyth and GERALYN WHITE with Miriam Moffett, from the Department of Modern History, when they were presented with their NUI Certificate in Local History.

NUI Certificate in Local History

This very popular programme is delivered over one academic year on one evening per week. Students who successfully complete this programme may claim credits and module exemptions on the BA (Local & Community Studies) degree programme.

Conferrings

Students from the Kilkenny campus have been conferred with the Diploma in Arts (Local and Community Studies) and the Diploma in Youth and Community Work. Students have also been awarded certificates in Local History, Training (Special Needs), and Training and Continuing Education.

The first degree from a university programme delivered in Kilkenny was conferred on Paul Redmond in Autumn 2000. Paul teaches in Killeslin primary school and is proud of his Kilkenny connections as his mother was born and reared in Dean Street, Kilkenny.

SUMMER SCHOOLS

As part of its degree programme the campus offers Summer Schools to both enrolled students and to occasional students who have an interest in the content. Summer Schools have been offered in such subject areas as The Early Irish Landscape, Community Arts, Wetland Archaeology, and Rural Enterprise Development. In Summer 2000 a programme was offered on Radio and TV Documentaries in association with KAIROS and Radio Kilkenny. Also in that year a party of thirty travelled to the University of Lampeter, Wales, for a course on Castles in Ireland and Wales.

In June 2001 Dr Fergus Campbell offered a course on “Elites, Power and Society in Ireland 1879-1914” while Dr Ciara Kierans and Dr Philip McCormack led their students on a quest for “Cultural Transparency”.

CULTURAL ACTIVITIES WITH KILKENNY CITY

The presence of NUIM in Kilkenny has had a much wider influence than its immediate presence in St Kieran’s College and the academic programmes which it offers. A series of concerts, radio lectures and publications have accompanied the development of the Outreach Campus.



A party of thirty travelled to the University of Lampeter in Wales for a course on Castles in Ireland and Wales.



Clockwise from top left: The Launch of *Themes in Kilkenny's History*: Jim McAuley, Dr John Bradley (Editor), Professor Peter Carr (NUI Maynooth), Anne Murphy (Editor) and Willie Quanie (Radio Kilkenny). Members of the Steering Committee with Professor Gerard Gillen and Rev Liam Cassin planning Rossini's *Petite Messe Solennelle* outside St John's Church Kilkenny. Radio lecture recording in Radio Kilkenny: Dr Ray Gillespie (NUI Maynooth), Dr James Brennan (St Kieran's College), Mary Delaney (Campus Librarian), Anne Murphy (Campus Manager), Diarmuid Healy (Radio Kilkenny) and John Walsh (Radio Kilkenny). Bishop Laurence Forristal pictured with Bernadette Greavy, Professor Gillen, Mayor Margaret Tynan and Mr P. Donnelly after the performance of *Rossini's Petite Messe Solennelle*. The assembled choir and orchestra in St John's Church Kilkenny.



Choral Concerts

The Kilkenny Campus has been privileged to collaborate in the cultural life of the city through the staging of two major choral concerts directed by Professor Gerard Gillen: Handel's Messiah in 1998 and Rossini's Petite Messe Solennelle in 1999.

Radio Lecture Series

The Campus is very proud of its academic lecture series broadcast in association with Radio Kilkenny. To date five series of six lectures each have been broadcast in the Spring and Autumn series with contributions from students, local specialists and staff.

The lectures have ranged from the past to the present, political to social, rural to urban, reflecting not just the variety of courses on offer at St Kieran's but also the wide diversity of people who have availed of the possibility of returning to education. Historical themes with a particular local interest have ranged from The Lugacurran Evictions in the Second Phase of the Land War 1879-1900 to Confederate Kilkenny; The Study of Rose Inn Street (its history, families, and business traditions); and an examination of The Malting and Brewing Industries of Kilkenny (1787-1999). Kilkenny as a medieval city also featured in the study of Kilkenny Castle and The Medieval Farm Settlements in Kilkenny. A particularly interesting comparison of Kilkenny and Armagh as Cathedral Cities was also given.

Social topics were also covered in Personal Memories on the Mines of Castlcomer, Landlord/Tenant Relations on the Bushe Power Estate, Camphill Communities: an Ideal in Action and Farmer Mobilisation in the 1960's.

Personalities such as Bishop Ledrede and Alice Kyteler, the historian Canon Carrigan, William Marshall, Frank Patterson, Francis MacManus and Amhlaoibh Uí Shúilleabháin have also featured in the thirty lectures that have been broadcast by Radio Kilkenny.

CONNECTIONS WITH QUEEN'S CAMPUS ARMAGH

The Kilkenny Campus has had a special interest in links with Armagh, a cathedral, inland city like Kilkenny which has a rich architectural and historic past, and which also has outreach campus provision from a parent university.



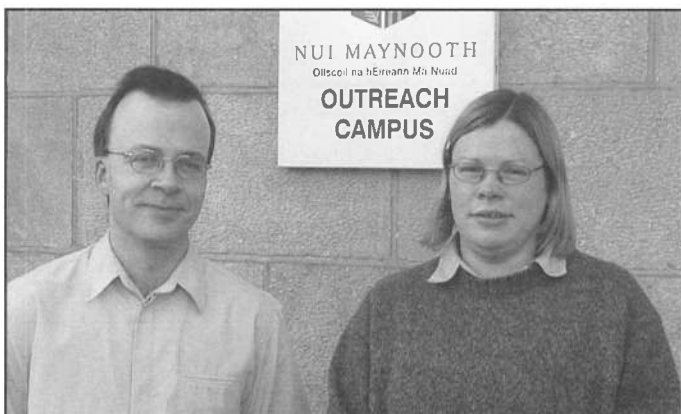
Visits have been exchanged with discussion on possible academic and civic co-operation between the cities, and staff member of Queen's University, Dr Bruce Campbell, contributed to the academic radio lecture series with Dr Ray Gillespie, NUI Maynooth. The lecture *Kilkenny and Armagh: Cathedral Cities* was recorded in Queen's University, Belfast for transmission on Radio Kilkenny. Further collaboration is planned for the near future.

PUBLICATIONS

The Kilkenny Campus was very pleased to launch its first publication, *Themes in Kilkenny's History*, in December 2000. This fine book, edited by John Bradley, Diarmuid Healy and Anne Murphy and published by Red Lion Press contains the text of ten of the first two lecture series broadcast by Radio Kilkenny. (Copies of the book are available from bookshops in the city, from Radio Kilkenny and from the Campus at €12). A further publication is planned for 2001.

VISITS

Since Autumn 1997 the campus has been visited by a number of government ministers and members of Dail Eireann including Joan Burton, Noel Dempsey, Willie O'Dea, Dermot Aherne, John Bruton and Dr Michael Woods.



Pictured above Chris Reid (Campus Manager) and Mairead McQuaid (Campus Librarian)

November 2000

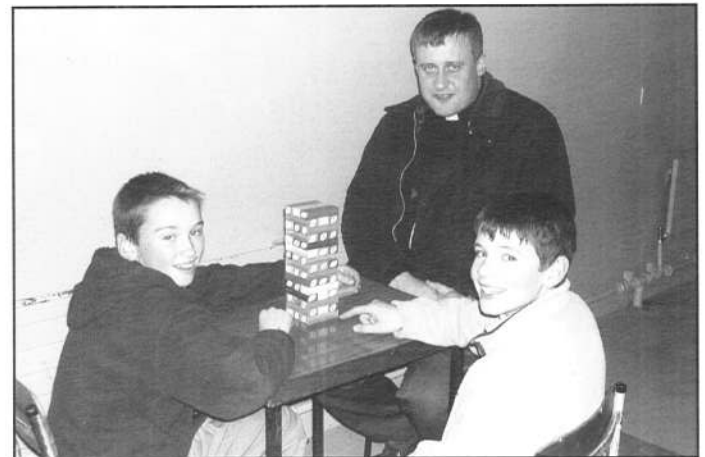
Top left: Dolores Gaffney, Eileen McGregor, Willie Smyth, Pat Bracken and Pat Tynan who were among those to be conferred with a Diploma in Arts (Local & Community Studies)
Top right: Paul Redmond, first graduate of the BA (Local & Community Studies) programme with Professor Vincent Comerford, Department of Modern History, NUI Maynooth.

ST KIERAN'S COLLEGE BOARDING SCHOOL

All through the years links with other counties have been a strong and influential feature of life at St Kieran's as students from well outside the catchment area of the school availed of the opportunity to attend St Kieran's College. While the boarding school continued to offer the opportunity to students from far away in recent years, with the availability of transport, many more students have had the opportunity to travel to Kilkenny, in many cases continuing a link with the College that goes back generations. In recent years we have welcomed a number of students from Wexford and it has made an interesting addition to the 'colour' of St Kieran's to see the purple and gold play alongside the black and amber of the home county, the blue and gold of our neighbours and of course the blue and white of Laois, the northern section of the diocese.



The Trustees of the College have announced the phasing out of the boarding aspect of St Kieran's between now and the year 2006. First year students have been taken in September 2001 and given a commitment for three years. This will certainly be a break with the past but it is a decision that has been reached after much deliberation and consideration.



In the academic year of 2000-2001 there were forty nine boarding students. Returning on Sunday night or Monday morning and going home on Friday evening the students are cared for by Frs Scriven and Carey, who are the Deans of the College, and a catering and domestic staff employed by the college who care for their day to day needs. During the summer the boarding facility has been used by foreign students, a tennis camp, the GAA and during the last two summers an Irish language school.



September 2001 welcomed nine new students into first year. Six other students were accepted into the senior classes and so the number of students for the year 2001-2002 is fifty three. So, changing times around St Kieran's. A change that will certainly alter the fabric of the place and surely will evoke many memories in the hundreds of students who developed a unique relationship with the College in their boarding years.

Below: Niall Fennelly (Kilkenny), John Walsh (Laois), Damien Bergin (Laois) and Rev Richard Scriven greet the victorious Kilkenny team members Andy Comerford, Canice Brennan and Aidan Cummins in September 2000



**ST KIERAN'S COLLEGE
SECONDARY SCHOOL STAFF
DECEMBER 2001**



Back Row (from left): Rev Eamonn O'Gorman, John O'Keeffe, Michael Kelleher, Liam Nolan, Martin O'Neill, Jim Carew, Rev. Patrick Carey (Dean), Philip Walsh, Don O'Connor.

Fourth Row: Billy Bolster, John Quane, Charles Lynch, Eilis Ahearn, Joe Kavanagh, Donal Byrnes, Bernie Boland.

Third Row: Ken Archbald, Neil Connolly, Emma Ryan, Michelle Byrne, Aythami Rodriguez, Bernadette Dowling, Francesa Conroy.

Second Row: Pat Murphy, Larry Cotter, Audrey Larkin, Nicholas Cashin, Ger Buckley, Thomas Murphy, Thomas Looby, Adrian Finan.

Front Row: John Harris, Rev. Richard Scriven (Dean), Loretto Mannion, Rev. Kieron Kennedy (Administrator), Mgr James Cassin (President), Michael O'Diarmada (Principal) Richard McEvoy (Vice-Principal) Anne Wemyss, Richard Windle.

STAFF CHANGES IN ST KIERAN'S

Rev Dan Carroll has become Team Leader in St Patrick's Parish in Kilkenny leaving St Kieran's College in June 2000 after serving as Dean for sixteen years. Dan, a native of Castlecomer, was a student in the seminary from 1974 until his ordination in 1980. After serving in the parish of Kilsaran (Archdiocese of Armagh) and in the parish of Kilmacow he joined the staff of St Kieran's in 1984.

He was Dean of the boarding school for sixteen years and during that time he also taught religion in the Secondary School. During his years in St Kieran's he also worked in Ballyfoyle, part of the parish of Muckalee.

Dan was also very active in the area of ecumenism, representing the diocese of Ossory at many of the inter church gatherings over the years. In recent years he became part of the presentation team of the four major churches here in Kilkenny and has presented *New Horizons* on Radio Kilkenny. Dan also gave time to the Kilkenny Association for the Deaf and was chaplain to this group for many years. Ms Jean Fitzpatrick presented Dan with a gift on behalf of the staff and the Board of Management of the College.

Mr Thomas (Tommy) Lanigan has been appointed principal of Abbey Community College in Ferrybank, Waterford.

A native of Mountrath Co Laois and a past pupil of St Kieran's College, Kilkenny, Tommy taught Latin and English at St Kieran's since his graduation from UCD in 1976. He received an honours degree of Master of Studies in School Leadership (MSt) at Trinity College in 1997. A keen sportsman who has coached hurling at all levels for his school, his club and the county, he trained two Senior Hurling teams at St Kieran's to All Ireland Senior Colleges honours in 1990 and 1992. In more recent years he had been involved with Radio Kilkenny and is the regular commentator for local club and inter county matches.

Tommy brings his extensive experience in positions of responsibility within the education system, having been a member of the School Board of Management at St Kieran's College and a member of Transition Year Support Team in the South East Region. He was also an Assistant Principal and part of the senior management team at St Kieran's.

We wish him well as he takes on this new challenging job. We are sure that his links with St Kieran's, which stretch back to the early 70s, will continue.

Mr Michael O'Dwyer retired at end of the academic year 2000-2001. Michael, a native of Tipperary had been a member of the staff from 1970 and prior to this had taught for ten years in Downpatrick, Co Down. A member of the science department Michael taught science to Junior Certificate level and physics to Leaving Certificate. Michael O'Diarmada in saluting his dedication and commitment to the sciences over his years in St Kieran's, highlighted also his keen interest in local history.

A member of Kilkenny Archeological Society for many years Michael had contributed many articles to their publications. He also published a history of his own parish, Emly, in Co Tipperary and also a history of Gaelic Games in Emly. More locally he worked on a photographic record of Kilkenny and a book which recorded the history and inscriptions of the old St Patrick's Graveyard.

Staff members, represented by Michael Forrest presented a token of appreciation on behalf of the Board of Management and the teachers. Michael returned thanks on behalf of his wife Anne and family and wished all well in the future. He looked forward to a quieter time in the future when he could devote himself to his love of local history and a little golf.

Mr Bernie Clarke retired from the staff of St Kieran's College in the summer of 1999 having served as a science teacher since 1967. A native of Loughrea, he is a past pupil of what was then De la Salle, Loughrea and he took his science degree in UCG.

Bernie has always been noted for his quiet, gentle demeanour with all who came in contact with him. His one and only hobby over all the years has been golf. His talent in this area is legendary. He has been a 'single figures' golfer as long as anyone can remember and various staff members gained from his positive and helpful approach over the years as they tried to emulate him.

His many past pupils and colleagues will wish him well in what is bound to be a very enjoyable retirement.



Rev. Kieron Kennedy (Administrator St Kieran's College), Rev. Dan Carroll, Mr Mícheál Ó'Diarmada (Principal St Kieran's College) Ms Jean Fitzpatrick (Staff member St Kieran's College) and Mgr James Cassin (President St Kieran's College) on the occasion marking the appointment of Rev. Carroll from St Kieran's to parish work in St Patrick's Parish in Kilkenny.

Ms Valerie Murray joined the staff in 1988 to launch the new Spanish department in St Kieran's as well as to teach Irish. A native of Arklow Valerie had taught previously in Dublin. Within a short time Valerie became very involved in different groups in Kilkenny such as drama and Toastmasters. In St Kieran's she was interested in athletics and she helped with the athletics team during her time here. Married to Martin O'Shea, a native of Conahy, she resigned her teaching position in 1998 and we wish her well in the future.

Ms Nuala Lonergan from Co Cork joined the staff of St Kieran's College in 1993. A permanent member of staff for five years Nuala taught English, Irish and History - working also with some students who needed particular attention in these areas. In 1998 she married and decided to return to her native county where she is presently teaching in Scoil Mhuire in Cork City.

Rev. Kieron Kennedy (Administrator), Mr Míchaél Ó'Diarmada (Principal), Mgr James Cassin (President), Mr Michael Kelleher (Staff Representative) with Ms Nuala Lonergan, Mr Tommy Lanigan and Ms Valerie Murray on the occasion that acknowledged their years in St Kieran's.



Mgr James Cassin (President) and Mr Míchaél Ó'Diarmada (Principal) pictured outside the College with Mr Bernie Clarke, and his wife Joan, on the occasion of Bernie's retirement from the staff of St Kieran's.

Front: Mgr James Cassin (President), Mr Míchaél Ó'Diarmada (Principal), Mr Michael O'Dwyer and his wife Ann, Mr Michael Forrest (Staff Representative) are joined by Mr Bernie Clarke, Mr Jim McAuley, Mr Art Anglin, Mr Joe Lambe, Mr Seamus McGurran and Mr John Collins at the reception to mark Mr O'Dwyer's retirement from St Kieran's College.



ST KIERAN'S COLLEGE PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

St Kieran's College Parents' Association was set up in September 1984 and since then has been involved in many areas of activity in support of the school, its pupils and teachers. A great ethos of teamwork has been developed between the Parents' Association, the School Principal, Mícheál Ó Diarmada, the College President, Monsignor James Cassin, the staff of the school and the Board of Management. Ger Mulvey and Patricia Mulhall have been the Parents' representatives on the Board of Management which served through to summer 2001.

The Parents' Association is also affiliated to the Catholic Secondary School Parents' Association for the Carlow/Kilkenny Region. The current Regional Executive Secretary is Siobhan Murphy who is also a Regional Representative together with Joan O'Keeffe.

The Parents' Association in conjunction with Career Guidance Counsellor Mr John Quane organises a Careers Evening for Students where they have an opportunity to meet personnel from a wide variety of professions. An interview preparation night is also organised for Leaving Certificate Students.

Over the last three years the Parents' Association has organised some fund raising events. These have included a fashion show in conjunction with Paddy Ryan, Manager Market Cross Shopping Centre and a Greyhound Race night co-ordinated by Anna Corr with the help of past and present Committee members. A cheque for £15,500 proceeds of the race night was presented to Mr Mícheál Ó Diarmada, Principal, as a contribution towards the newly developed computer facilities. There is also a yearly contribution given towards the purchase of books and equipment for remedial classes as well as a donation

towards the school musical. Other areas of involvement are assistance with refreshments at the Parent Teacher Meetings as well as organising the Pat McCarthy Memorial Essay Competition.

St Kieran's College Parents Association in conjunction with the Parents' Associations of the other secondary schools run a very successful sale of second hand school books at the end of the school year. Recent Parents' Association AGMs' have been addressed by the following guest speakers Sr Veronica (The Aislinn Centre Ballyragget), Jill Tynan (MIACT), Dr Brendan Lee, (General Practitioner) and Fr Seán Cassin (the Merchant Quay Project which deals with substance abuse).

The following have served as officers at the Parents' Association from 1997-2000: Deborah Donovan (Chairperson), Brigid Nolan (Secretary), John Eardly (Treasurer), and Michael Shortall (PRO). The officers for 2000-2001 were: Liam Burke (Chairperson), Ann Bergin (Vice-Chairperson), Donal Murphy (Secretary), Roberta Hickey (Treasurer), Deborah Donovan (PRO). Election to the various offices take place after the AGM of the Parents' Association which takes place every October in St Kieran's.



The Parents Association present a cheque to the value of £5,500 to Mgr Cassin, Rev Kieron Kennedy and Mr Mícheál Ó Diarmada after the night at the Kilkenny Dog Track.



Gary Knox and Vincent Dunne reviewing the 1998 College Record

THE 1998 ISSUE OF
THE COLLEGE RECORD
IS AVAILABLE
(CLASS PHOTOS, TEAMS, EVENTS FROM 1993-1998)

CONTACT
THE COLLEGE OFFICE
056 61707 Ext 200

PASTORAL CARE FOR ALL IN ST KIERAN'S

True to its Catholic ethos and its past as a diocesan seminary St Kieran's College places highly the importance of religion. Inspired by the spirit of the second Vatican Council St Kieran's college directs religious education to the formation of the person spiritually and as a member of society.

Each student is given an understanding of his religion through the study of doctrine and scripture. The liturgy of the Church is celebrated during the year to give the students a living experience of faith.

The chaplain seeks to take care of the holistic welfare of the students and staff by being available to listen and guide and to offer support in a Christian manner.

The religious education teachers and the chaplaincy work with teachers from different faculties in the pastoral care

team to ensure the school is an environment where each student can flourish.

The Cairdeas programme - the mentoring of first year students by those in the senior classes - has been a very positive experience for all involved. In April and May students in fifth year are invited to apply to be mentors for the incoming first years. A programme of training is put in place and they work with the first years in September and on an ongoing basis during the year. Most importantly the first years are

invited to attend school on the evening of the first day of school in September. The new students meet with the assigned senior, going through issues which may be important as they begin their time in St Kieran's.



Second year students with Mr O'Keeffe, Mr Harris and Mgr Cassin present a cheque to Trociare after their 24 hour fast.

CAREER GUIDANCE A WINDOW ON THE WORLD

Melbourne, Stockholm, Brussels, Barcelona, Chicago, San Francisco, Alberta and Tokyo. Edinburgh, Tenerife, Germany, Vietnam, Barbados and Capetown. Far flung places, thousands of miles from Kilkenny, dreamed of by youthful minds, imagined by minds that knew no boundaries. But these places are only a few where those who spent the 'best days of their lives' in St Kieran's are to be found. Far-flung fields are now home to countless former students, not to mention every parish in the diocese of Ossory and many more places in the surrounding counties.

The world as one large village is now surely a reality - distance and travel are no longer the obstacles that they once were. The majority of our students proceed to third level; others seek employment here in Ireland or try their luck in the global village.

Courses in agriculture, engineering, arts and science, computers and languages all attract students from St Kieran's. If one were to examine the CAO application forms of the students there is no clear pattern in choice of college. Certainly business and computers courses have been high on the list in recent years but not to the exclusion of arts and more

particular sciences. Students are more selective now and with the possibility of changing course choices up to the middle of June they tend to make personal choices rather than simply 'drift with the crowd'.

The past decade has also seen an interest in courses offered in British colleges and many students have opted for this route. The Agricultural Colleges of Writtle, Reathsheath, Harper Adams and Aberystwyth have all welcomed our students in recent years. Students have also gone to Britain to take courses in Physical Education, Chemistry, Pharmacy, Hotel Management and Theatre Studies and to colleges that offer training as primary and secondary teachers.

The *Celtic Tiger* has enticed many pupils directly into the work force. Experiences offered by people from a variety of industries and by the students to various workplaces all enhance the work done by career guidance in the school. Another very valuable experience is the invitation to some fifty people from different professions to a Careers Evening each year in the school. Students are free to go and talk to the guests about their type of work and the

possibilities that these professions might offer them.

Another important aspect of career guidance is the visits to the various open days hosted by Universities, Institutes of Technology and Agricultural Colleges. These days are invaluable not just from the aspect of talking to members of the faculties at these colleges but also for the exposure that the visit gives the students to campus life.



Work experience is an invaluable aspect of the school curriculum and is inbuilt into the Transition Year programme and LCVP

SCHOOLS INTEGRATED PROJECT (SIP)

KILKENNY THEN AND NOW

Kilkenny Then and Now is a multimedia project produced by Transition Year students from St Kieran's College. The SIP programme (The Schools Integrated Project or as we call it in St Kieran's The Student Integrated Project) is run under the auspices of the National Centre for Technology in Education (NCTE) and the Kilkenny Information Age Town (KIA Ltd) who provided financial backing. A new subject was added to the curriculum in 1999/2000 and involved the students using skills from subjects like Technical Graphics, Art, French, Computer Studies, History, Geography, Music, and English.



In the first year the theme of the project was the architectural history of Kilkenny City incorporating the well known landmarks of this great medieval city. The home of the Ormonde family Kilkenny Castle, the medieval townhouse of John Rothe, the splendid St Canice's Cathedral, the Black Abbey, the city walls and gates and of course St Kieran's College itself were all part of this integrated study.

First the buildings were painstakingly measured and drawn by hand, then they were transferred into the computer using programmes called MiniCad and Vector Works. Photographs were also taken which were scanned and then touched up using the latest designer software.

Derek Collins, a student, has become adept at scanning and restoring images for both the booklet and the website. "I have certainly learned an awful lot this year. This project has given me an idea of what it would be like to work with computers full time", he commented. A particularly interesting dimension to the project was the interviews that the students carried out with local dignitaries, historians and the general public obtaining their perspective on how Kilkenny has changed over the centuries.

Two students, Mel Clohosey and Martin Green, were so rigorous in tracking down the information that they required that they even had a question raised in the Dáil so that they could secure access to copies of original drawings of Kilkenny Castle. All of the information was compiled by the students in a professionally designed website, video and booklet - a real asset to the collection of anybody interested in the history of our wonderful medieval city.

Accompanying the collection is a CD containing a musical soundtrack, which was composed and recorded by the students

themselves who mixed a range of evocative sounds from the voices of interviewees to the sound of the river Nore. In conjunction with this work the students developed a web page and this can be accessed at the following address:

homepage.tinet.ie/~stkierans/

The website was also translated into French and will help to build a bond between St. Kieran's College and French secondary schools. The website was awarded website of the month by Eircom in February 2001.

The project was launched by Mr Noel Treacy, Minister for Science, Technology and Commerce in June 2000. There was also an evening of presentation by those involved when the work was put on show for parents, teachers from other schools, the local authorities, the NCTE and the KIA Ltd. Mr Don O'Connor, a French and Technical Graphics teacher, commented: "When we were planning this project in September 1999 we never envisaged the amount that both we the teachers and the pupils would learn. The students have learned to take photographs, draw technical drawings by hand and on computer, how to research a topic, how to interview, basic computer skills and advanced skills such as touching up photographs and the editing of a film. It has been truly amazing".

At a special meeting of European IT experts in Sweden in May 2000 the project was used by the NCTE as an example of the success of SIP and IT studies in Irish schools. Mr Seamus



Above left: Minister Treacy with Deputy John McGuinness is welcomed by Mgr James Cassin and Mr Mícheál Ó'Diarmada when he visited St Kieran's to launch 'Kilkenny Then and Now' (pictured above).

Below: Minister Treacy gets a hands on experience in the Zip Room.



Knox of the National Centre for Technology in Education remarked that "this project is a model of integration of ICT across the curriculum merging as it does a variety of subject areas with ICT as the unifying theme." Ms Marion O'Neill of Kilkenny Information Age commented that "the *Kilkenny Then and Now* project is an investment in the preservation of the cultural heritage and history of Kilkenny City through the medium of the internet. Pupils are given the opportunity to gain experience in the use of web development packages such as Dreamweaver and Adobe Photoshop while at the same time developing an awareness of the impact different historical buildings had and continue to have on the development of the city".

In the year 2000/2001 the project undertaken was '*Duel at the Triangle*'. This was a video representation of an event in local Kilkenny history concerning a duel between James Ager and Henry Flood (who was a member of Grattan's Parliament) that took place in the late eighteenth century. The project gave the students the opportunity to learn ICT skills along with research, set design, acting, music, filming and film editing skills. SIP was timetabled this year and many students, upon hearing about the experience of the previous year, opted for the class. While requiring a lot of dedication and hard work the benefit to all involved in these projects has been very easy to see and at a national level a lot of interest has been expressed in the work done.

TECHNOLOGY

St Kieran's College has two dedicated computer rooms. The SIP (School Integrated Project) programme, now in its second year, uses one of these rooms for the various modules which require computer work: the drawing of plans with Minicad and Vector Works, the editing and finishing of video material using Adobe Premier, the use of Dreamweaver and Adobe Photoshop for web design and the editing of photographs and Quark Xpress for publishing. The second dedicated room opened in 1999 has 25 computers, a server room, a teacher's computer that is linked to an overhead data projector for teaching purposes. In this present year it is possible for students to gain experience with Linux and Windows NT as they now reside side by side in this up to date computer facility.

All students in Transition Year take the ECDL Course – the European Computer Drivers Licence - an internationally accredited programme which gives the student skills in computer technology, word processing, database, spreadsheet, powerpoint presentation, internet and file management.

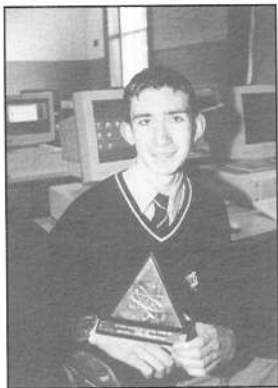
This facility is also made available for those who take music to Leaving Certificate level. The music course is now much more accessible than previously and incorporates a module based upon computers and music. Varying software packages which enable computer aided music is available and students have exposure to many different forms of composing and audio editing. Technology (Electronic and Materials) is provided to Junior Certificate and Engineering and Construction Studies are given to Leaving Certificate. Students present a project as part of these subjects and their ability with computers, gained from computer studies, enables them to present the written portfolios using word processing and drawing packages.

SIP 11 Information and Communications Technology for English was launched by Minister Michael Martin in 1999 as one of several pilot projects for the use of information technology in education. The project, co-ordinated from CBS Sexton St Limerick, includes schools in Kilkenny, Donegal, Laois, Waterford, Dublin and Cork. Fifty students from St. Kieran's published book reviews on the internet, the Leaving Certificate students took part in a discussion with a 'virtual Hamlet' and second years sent Haiku poetry to Japan by email and received reply poems from pupils of Meck International School in Yamaguchi. First, second and fifth year boys debated with the students of Heywood College Ballinakill through the medium of the video conferencing facilities available through the NUIM Outreach Centre.



Telecom Young Scientist & Technology Exhibition January 2000

'ALIFE'



Eamon Phelan & Emmanuel Stone entered their project in the Senior Group Section in the Chemistry, Physics and Mathematical Sciences Category at the Esat Telecom Young Scientist and Technology Exhibition in January 2000. They won a Special Award presented by the Information Society Commission. Eamon's teacher was Ms Maureen Meany.

Eamon also travelled to Beijing as a member of the Irish Programming Team to compete in the International Olympiad in Informatics (IOI). He writes an account of his travels.

We discovered Alife mostly by accident: the two of us were discussing the possibility of a programme which could recreate itself, as a precursor to dynamic learning. We realised that one programme on its own probably wasn't enough, but that many programmes running together and interacting and breeding would be needed for diversity. When we had thought up an idea for creating a mini-ecosystem with breeding and feeding, we did some research to see if anyone had done anything similar in the past and discovered that it was in fact an entire field of Computer Science called 'Alife'.

After revising our original idea to incorporate the work of others in the past (so as not to repeat the same problems) we decided to build an 'Artificial Eco-system' with Genetic Algorithms utilising Machine Learning. While Machine Learning (or classifier systems) have been coupled with environmental genetic algorithms in the past, they have usually been in relatively simple environments such as mazes. To the best of our knowledge nobody has previously attempted an 'eco-system' which incorporates a complex environment, an evolution, learning, transferred learning (i.e. one creature can learn rules from another) and instinct.

The eco-system we experimented this in was modelled on an Antarctic

environment. The Alife creatures which were evolved and which we studied were modelled on penguins, with predators such as killer whales and their food fish. We placed them into the environment and let them breed and evolve to see the results.

They had to go from a point of knowing nothing to learning things like not to approach predators, and that it was necessary to eat. We modelled both learning from other animals and creating rules which were treated as instinct: however we found the former to be much more beneficial. All our programming and testing was completed on a Linux based system.



In September 2000 I was a member of the Irish Programming Team that competed in the International Olympiad in Informatics (or IOI) in Beijing. The IOI is a competition which allows second level students from around the world to compete based on their programming ability. There are also international olympiads in physics, chemistry, biology and mathematics. This is the twelfth time the competition has been held, and the first to be held in Asia. This year seventy five countries competed with a total of two hundred and seventy five competitors (each team had a maximum of four participants, but not all used all four places). The teams stay for a week in the host country, spending two days programming and the rest is spent sightseeing and experiencing the culture of the host country. During the two days of competition the contestants spend five hours writing programs to solve three problems which have been chosen by the team leaders (usually university professors who run the national competitions to choose the team, in Ireland this is run by DCU).

During our stay we visited several sites of cultural significance to the Chinese. We were taken to see the Summer Palace, which was the summer home for Chinese royalty for nearly eight hundred years. On the second excursion we visited the Forbidden City, which was the seat of imperial power in China between 1368 and 1911. We visited Tienamen Square on the third excursion. The fourth trip was to the Great Wall. This four thousand five hundred mile long wall has stood for two thousand years as a symbol of Chinese ingenuity and will-power, at one point every fourth person in China was engaged in building the wall.

This was the first Asian IOI and the largest ever held. The next IOI will be held in Finland in July 2001 and the Irish team will be travelling to compete.



TRANSITION YEAR

The Transition Year option is devised to give students time and space for growth and development, away from examination pressures. Broadly speaking, the year will endeavour to promote the personal, social, educational and vocational development of pupils and to prepare them for their role as autonomous, participative and responsible members of society.

During the year the students get opportunities to participate in a number of activities that would not normally be available to them. One of the highlights of the year would be the two periods of work experience that the students undertake - in October and February. This time in the workplace gives students an appreciation of working life and also hopefully will aid them in making career decisions for the future.

Another highlight of the year is the trip to Delphi adventure centre in Mayo. The students get to spend three days in a beautiful part of the country and participate in sporting activities such as kayaking, wind surfing, abseiling etc., sports which they may never have had the opportunity to participate in prior to this.

Many of the students get involved in activities outside the class such as running the Credit Union, participating in the Gaisce Awards, setting up their own businesses for the Young Entrepreneurs Competition.

Along with all the above activities is normal class work. The students can get a taste of subject areas that are provided for Leaving Certificate which puts them in a better position to make subject choices in fifth year.

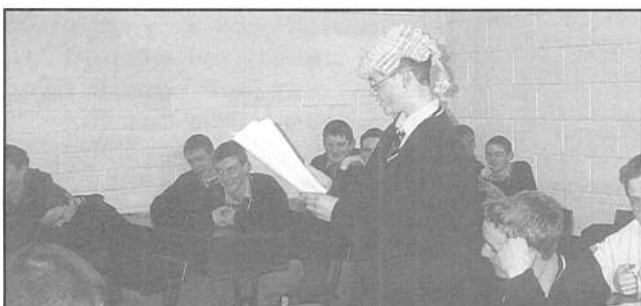


Transition Year offers many experiences to students: from work experience to outdoor pursuits, class work to case work to road work.

Above: Driving skills were offered by Rosemary Smith. Centre: A few days in Delphi Outdoor Pursuits Centre in Mayo.

Below: A visit to the class room by the Law Society gives students an experience of the world of Law.

Each year is different and perhaps most important the benefits are hard to quantify.



CHESS

BLACK AND WHITE ON BLACK AND WHITE

Most games have two halves..... a first half and a second half! It is said that a chess game is divided into three stages: the first, when you hope you have the advantage, the second when you believe you have an advantage and the third...when you know that you're going to lose! It may be so but it is estimated that there are 550 million players in the world – it has all the aggression of field sport but without the risk of breaking bones or getting muddy.

The number of possible ways of playing the first four moves per side is 318,979,564,000 and a small committed group in St Kieran's have tried a few of these in their time and are part of this 550 million world wide group.

Encouraged by Mr Tomás O'Murchu, Mr Martin O'Neill and Mr Donal Byrnes chess has a faithful following who gather around the black and white boards during lunch time to enjoy the challenge - some 20 people actively play the game and another 15 or so come along to observe. In 2000-2001 the school entered a team into the Leinster Schoolboys Championship. The team members were Karl McPhilips,

Stephen Stokes, Harry Maharaj, Barry Donovan, Johannes Steinbreuch and Carlos Matemales. The other four teams in the competition were Gonzaga College A, Gonzaga College B, St Benildus and CUS Blackrock. Gonzaga, Benildus and Straffan have dominated these leagues over the past 20 years and have rarely been beaten. Wednesday was the day of battle. The team was victorious against Gonzaga B and though they were beaten by St Benildus, who had fielded a weakened team because they underestimated the Kieran's team, St Kieran's were pleased with the result - the strategy of Benildus probably cost them the Leinster League!

On the international stage Karl McPhilips and Stephen Stokes were part of the Irish team who represented Ireland in the European Youth Championship held in Greece in August 2001. Stephen, a boarder from Dublin, competed in the Under-18 section and Karl, from Kilkenny, competed in the Under-14 section (Sephen's brother Kyle also competed).

Great to see that some of our students are doing well representing the famous colours of black and white on the 'black and white'.



SWIMMING

Swimming and water safety are extracurricular activities in St Kieran's College. Classes are given in swimming (including beginners), water safety, life saving and survival techniques. Pupils are tested in the various disciplines at the end of each ten week course and Irish Water Safety Association Certificates are awarded. Classes are open to students - although preference is given to first years.

Many students are active members of Kilkenny Swimming Club and they participate to a very high standard in national swimming competitions and inter school galas. The Leinster Inter Schools championships takes place each December and students can qualify for the All Ireland Competition which takes place each year in February. Representing St Kieran's in the past years were Killian Byrne, Kieran Bryne, Michael Downey, Thomas Downey, Peter Brady, Liam Dowling, and Ronan O'Brien.



Mr Eddie Hoyne, Chairperson Co Kilkenny Area Water Safety Committee (pictured back right) visits St Kieran's to present certificates to students who completed a water safety course.

SHOW BIZ

In recent years St Kieran's and Presentation Secondary School Kilkenny presented *Rock Nativity* and *Joseph and His Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat*. A cast of some 70 students from both schools supported by a backstage crew and front of house workers enjoyed many nights on stage. The production of *Joseph* was an interesting return to a show that was given by both schools some ten years previously. The production team was led by Fr Richard Scriven. The director of both shows was Mr Tom Madden from Kildare. Teachers from both school played a most important part in the productions encouraging and involving as many students as possible. Many of the students who took leading roles had participated in previous productions and their experience was notable in the productions. Ian Gannon, Shane Hennessey and Neville Mullaly took leading roles in *Rock Nativity* and James Cody, Willie Holohan and David Thompson were in the front line of *Joseph*.

An interesting development in recent years is the number of students who had enjoyed stage experience during their school days and who are now playing a huge part in local productions. David Thompson, Mark Duffy, Michael Hayes and Liam Brennan are a few names that come to mind.



ST KIERAN'S HITS THE SLOPES SCHOOL TOUR - FEBRUARY 2001

School tours have changed significantly over the years. The school tour 2001 was a skiing trip and Martin Greene gives his account of the week spent on the slopes, the trial and tribulations of what always looks so easy!.

After the enjoyment of last year's ski tour St Kieran's set off again in February 2001 for the slopes of France and Spain. After a two hour flight from Stansted we arrived in Perpignan, a city of southern France near to the Spanish border. A two hour drive from the airport brought us through amazing countryside and deep narrow valleys into the heart of the French Pyrenees. It was amazing to see the snow - vast expanses lodged precariously on the side of the mountains. Our destination was Puigcerda across the Spanish border and our home from home for the week was the Campine Quixans. We got up at seven o'clock each morning and after breakfast headed for a day on the ski slopes. The skiing was excellent and we had the opportunity to visit a number of different slopes: Puigmal and Font Romea in France and the Spanish resort of La Molina.

We had lessons each morning and then tried out our skills after lunch. It looks easy - but the only thing easy was falling and there was a lot of that! It took a few days for most people to get used to the skis - walking up hill is quite tricky and as for stopping, well the most effective way is to fall! Each lesson was given by an experienced instructor who took us in small groups. I suppose the best thing was that there were others all at the same stage and that gave everyone the encouragement to keep on trying. Strangely, as the week went on we tried the more difficult slopes and it seems now that the more difficult the slopes the easier it was to ski. It was a great week and all agreed at the end of the week that a holiday on the ski slopes was far preferable to lying on a beach. While it was hard work at times our progress from easy slopes to more demanding made all the effort worthwhile. I have no doubt that most people will try to get back on skis again.



THE LEAVING CERTIFICATE VOCATIONAL PROGRAMME

The Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme (LCVP) is now in its fourth year in St Kieran's College. The programme, which seeks to make links between Leaving Certificate subjects and the real world, gives a better understanding of the subjects being studied and seeks to heighten awareness of why these subjects are being taken.

The programme invites students to meet and interview people from the business community. This year Mr Damian Donnelly (Human Resources Manager for ProTec), Mr D J Carey (Managing Director of Carey Enterprises) and Mr Enda McEvoy (Journalist and Sports Reporter) were invited to visit and address the students. Preparation of questions for these visits, recording the meeting on video and drafting reports was also undertaken by the students.

An opportunity to prepare for work is also provided: areas such as job-seeking skills, letter writing, CV presentation and interview technique were covered. An integral part of the

programme is work experience and students were invited to source a place of employment in an area that interested them. All of this work is accessed as part of the Leaving Certificate and the student has the opportunity to benefit in the accumulation of points towards entry into University or Institute of Technology.

The immediate value of LCVP is that it provides the student with an extra subject in their Leaving Certificate that can be used as one of their subjects towards entry into third level. More important perhaps is the long term benefit of an integrated approach towards education, the development of personal and social skills and a sense of team work. The additional skills - such as planning, researching, writing reports and making presentations - that students gain give them solid preparation for study at third level. More importantly LCVP enables students to get involved in activities that they might never think of themselves and helps in building confidence and self-esteem.

THE FOUR CORNERS OF THE WORLD

HOME TO ST KIERAN'S COLLEGE PAST PUPILS



John Doyle, a native of Carrick-on-Suir, was a boarder in St Kieran's and did his Leaving Certificate in 1988. After college he spent some time in Ireland and through work opportunities found himself working out east and now in Japan.

After I left St Kieran's I went to Waterford Regional Technical College and did a degree in computer programming. A few months after graduating one of the guys I went to WRTC with told me about a company in Bray looking for software engineers. I applied and have been with them ever since.

The company was an Irish company called International Translation and Publishing until it was bought out by SDL a UK company early last year. I worked in Dublin until 1996 when the company looked for someone to go work in Singapore for six months. Being the only volunteer I got the job.

When I was there three months they decided to close the office and move operations to Japan. I was given the choice of going home or to Japan. It took me two seconds to choose Japan and I have been here now for four and a half years. A year and a half ago I became the engineering manager.

Before Christmas I got engaged to a Russian lady called Natasha from a city called Ufa near the Ural mountains. We will probably be in Japan for another two or three years until Natasha completes her PhD.

I drove in around Saint Kieran's at Christmas with Natasha, she was very impressed by the architecture. It brought back many memories - mixed I suppose but still very vivid.

I enjoy Japan, the people are friendly, the food and beer are good and it is nicely located for travelling on holiday in Asia. There is a lively Irish community here that organises events such as the Emerald Ball, St Patrick's Day parade. There are a couple of Irish soccer teams and we enter a couple of teams in the South East Asia GAA tournament every year. Willie Byrne, another ex St. Kieran's man and native of Gowran, was a member of the winning team last year.



Donal Moore, from Bagnelstown, was a student in St Kieran's College from 1978 until 1980. He recalls the experiences which have brought him east and west before his present position with Waterford Corporation.

I'm a native of Muine Bheag Co Carlow and attended school locally until I was 16. I was a boarder in St Kieran's from 1978-80 and have to say that I very much enjoyed my time in the College. After my Leaving in 1980 I went to Maynooth as a clerical student for Kildare and Leighlin diocese.



Oisín Hayes did his Leaving Certificate in 1995. He went to Maynooth where he did a BA degree. He lived and worked in Japan teaching English. He writes of his life there, the country and its people.

Apart from their aversion to mistakes Japanese people on the whole are very nice. One of the most striking differences between our countries is the almost overbearing politeness of Japanese staff. In every shop and restaurant you are greeted with bows and chants of welcome. At first I was a little put off by it. After all I couldn't understand why they were shouting at me. They could have been calling me funny-names for all I knew! Now however I'm all the wiser and I've come to love their cheery banter just as much as I'm sure they love my confusion as I stare at the price of bread and milk: six slices of bread will set you back about one pound fifty. I don't even want to think about the price of a pint.

Japanese politeness can be matched only by how helpful they are. One evening as a storm was brewing I overlooked taking an umbrella to the shop with me and as I was leaving I was greeted by the heaviest rain I've ever seen so I took shelter under a tree outside and decided to wait it out. While I was waiting a young guy ran out of the shop and handed me an umbrella. It was a lovely gesture but unfortunately it didn't make much of a difference and the storm soaked me anyway. The rain here is no joke, umbrellas are a mere plaything as far as it's concerned.

I suppose that one of the best things about Japan and travel in general is that it puts you in touch with the unknown both inside and outside of yourself. How could I ever have known that I'd enjoy the taste of raw fish on a bed of cold rice or that you can bathe outdoors in the middle of a snowy winter's afternoon in a hot spa pool. I'd never have known any of these things and a lot more if I hadn't come and so I'm glad that I did. But that's not to say I don't fantasise about sausages and beans on a bed of chips or the hearty flow of the river Nore, believe me I do but I also know that the things I miss will shine twice as bright on my return home. Absence makes the heart grow fonder.

Within six months I realised that the seminary was not the place for me, but I stayed on in Maynooth to do my degree. I completed an Honours degree in History and Philosophy in 1983 and then completed a Masters degree in Early Modern Irish history in 1985.

After working at a variety of teaching/tutoring and other jobs in and around Dublin for eighteen months I went to study in Fordham University, New York, in January 1987. I spent 3 semesters in Fordham and then got a job teaching in an inner-city school in Yonkers, New York. I stayed at this for three years. That was an experience! Most of the kids were from disadvantaged backgrounds and teaching was tough. On the

other hand, I got to spend time in one of the world's great cities. I still sometimes get homesick for the Big Apple!

While in New York I decided that I would like to return to college to do a professional qualification that would get me out of teaching. Ironically to get the money to allow me to do so, I ended up teaching again - this time in Saudi Arabia! After teaching tough kids in New York I was surprised how difficult it was to teach small groups of very rich Arab boys, but I made the best of it. I suppose that the fact that I had a definite goal in mind helped me through the two school years I spent there. I enjoyed immersing myself in a very different culture and I took the opportunity to do some travelling around the Mediterranean and further afield. While I can't say that I miss Jeddah, I learned (and earned!) a lot from the experience.

In July 1993 I returned from Saudi to start a diploma course in Archival Administration in University College Dublin. This was the toughest year I had to do in college, but it was exactly what I was looking for. After completing the course I worked

in the National Archives, initially travelling around the country surveying local authority records and later working on the records of the Famine Relief Commission.

In December 1997 I moved to Waterford to take up the post of City Archivist with Waterford Corporation. This job entails caring for the records of the city going back over 400 years, running a research service, giving talks/lectures to various groups and advising the Corporation on the management of their records. The job is interesting, enjoyable and challenging. In a round about way it took me the best part of twenty years after leaving school to find the right career. I have now settled here in Waterford and can see myself remaining here long term.

I regret to say that I have lost contact with all the old gang from Kieran's. Occasionally I run into someone in the street in Kilkenny, Dublin or Waterford, or read a report of some match or other that brings back memories. If anyone out there still remembers me and would like to get in touch, I can be contacted at dmoore@waterfordcorp.ie



Ray Power, pictured left with Monica, is from the College Road and spent five years in St Kieran's doing his Leaving Certificate in 1990. Always interested in art during his time in St Kieran's he also was a member of the cast of West Side Story in 1990. After a number of years in college he now lives in Spain.

Saturday mornings about 10.30am I'm awoken by the intro to a *pasa-doble* being played out on a Casio keyboard, then begins the drum machine and the music takes flight playing some very off-key notes every couple of bars. Every Saturday morning it's the same gypsy with his keyboard, amplifier and car battery all mounted on a home-made cart that blasts out this uniquely Spanish busking experience. What a way to start my weekend.

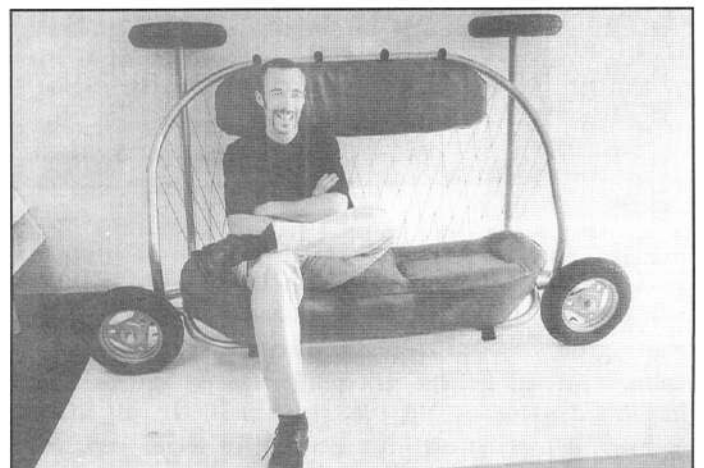
But it gets me up and thinking of all the things I could get done: finish that prototype, finish sanding that old chair I have in my room, send e-mails to people, build those shelves in the kitchen. And like the weekend before, with great Spanish procrastination, very little gets done (it would embarrass me to total all the plans, projects and ideas I have going around inside my head). Instead I buy the newspaper, drink some real coffee, maybe play the guitar or maybe even read the newspaper. One thing that's granted at the weekends is dinner on Sunday with Monica's family. Her father is a crazy scientist type from Granada in the south of Spain and her mother an American from Pittsburgh who just loves to talk. I enjoy the meal because it's probably the only time all week when I meet other people and the conversation is in English. Sure enough Monica and I always converse in English. English is her first language with Spanish a very close second but I don't mind we don't speak in Spanish I can learn it from my friends and work and the telly.

A normal workday starts at 7:00am to the sound of my alarm clock, I don't know which I hate more the 10:30 singing gypsy or the 7:00 hi-pitch beeper. I work from 8:00am to 5:30pm. Apart from getting up so early I like my work. We make lamps in a small workshop. The company's name is *Luzifer!* It's a

play on words, in Spanish *luz* means light. Our small workspace is packed to the brim - we're presently looking for somewhere else. My work in *Luzifer* is only a manual labour position. On the weekends and evenings I try get some designs done for the company. Apart from my weekly pay cheque I receive payment in the form of royalties for the sale of lamps I design. We have just recently begun doing business with two companies in Ireland, Foko of Georges St Dublin and Willie Duggan Lighting of Rose Inn St Kilkenny.

Lastly, I have to mention I have a music group here in Valencia. We play traditional Irish and Scottish jigs and reels, some of the Irish ballads and some of the Celtic music from the northern part of Spain. It feels strange playing Irish music or singing some Irish ballad when very few people are familiar with the tunes. If we had this group in Ireland I would insist we take out some songs from our set for lack of preparation but Celtic music is very popular in Spain and this offers us an outlet to play live gigs. So what if our technique is not perfect playing in public is a great sensation. I only wish we had more time to dedicate to music but when would I ever get to procrastinate?

My latest lamp design is called *Alhambra* after the famous palace of the Moors in Granada. The lamp is made from strips of polipropelene plastic, hand folded and then woven by hand and has been very well received.



Ray with his design 'LIMO' at the DIT Eye Spy Exhibition in Dublin.



Patrick McAlinney, a native of Kilkenny, was a student in St Kieran's. He did his Leaving Certificate in 1989 and went to Trinity College. He writes about his experiences since that time which have brought him throughout the world.

Since leaving Kieran's in 1989 I spent four years in Trinity College studying Psychology and English. After a brief time as a tour guide aboard a full-scale replica of the Golden Hind off the east coast of England I returned to Dublin and was a research assistant for an EU-funded project aimed at training formerly depressed women who wanted to return to the workplace.

In late 1997 I decided to do volunteer work abroad in Angola, in Sub-Saharan Africa. In early 1999 I spent about three months as an international accompaniment for intimidated people in Xaman, Guatemala, Central America. I returned to take up a place in the MSc in Humanitarian Assistance in University College Dublin, which I completed last year.

I worked for Irish Ferries in late 2000 and early 2001 while waiting to do a short postgraduate course in web design at the Fitzwilliam Institute in Blackrock, Dublin. As part of that course I did a two month internship in ICL in Leopardstown and I am now working on an archaeology dig in Wicklow while I await results on interviews for a possible position related to the IT qualification that I have just done. A long way from Kieran's it appears!

PAST PUPILS IN THE NEWS

FATHER OF THE DAIL MR SEAMUS PATTISON



The 1998 College Record marked the appointment of Mr Seamus Pattison as Ceann Comhairle of Dáil Éireann. A student in St Kieran's College from 1950 to 1955 he was first elected to the Dáil as a Labour deputy for the Carlow-Kilkenny constituency in the general election of 1961.

On this occasion we honour his status as "Father of the Dáil". Seamus Pattison was unanimously elected Ceann Comhairle at the first meeting of the 28th Dáil on June 26th, 1997. When the Dáil returned in October 2001 the deputies honoured the beginning of Seamus' 40th year in Dail Eireann.

We wish him well as he continues to carry his long service to the nation and the constituency of Carlow-Kilkenny.

CHAIRPERSON OF AER LINGUS TOM MULCAHY



The 1993 College Record marked the appointment of Mr Tom Mulcahy as Group Chief Executive of Allied Irish Banks. A native of Carrick-on-Suir, he was a student in St Kieran's from 1956-1958. He joined AIB in 1958 and worked in London and Dublin before his appointment in 1993.

In August 2001 he was appointed Chairperson of Aer Lingus by Minister for Trade and Industry Mary O'Rourke replacing Mr Bernie Cahill who died following an accident in August.

We wish him well in this new and very high profile job.

HEAD CHAPLAIN TO THE DEFENCE FORCES MGR JOHN CROWLEY



In 1997 Mgr John Crowley was appointed Head Chaplain to the Defence Forces. He replaced Monsignor Raymond Field who was appointed Auxiliary Bishop of Dublin, along with Mgr Martin Drennan. Mgr Crowley had been based in Stephens Barracks Kilkenny from 1983, and on taking up his new post was transferred

to McKee Barracks Dublin. He will now work as chaplain in McKee Barracks and also in St Bricin's Hospital, a small military hospital near the barracks, and will offer back up and support for other chaplains based in the various army barracks through Ireland. On four occasions Mgr Crowley has served overseas: 1984, 1988, 1990 and 1992. He brings to his new appointment his experience of social work and studies which he did in Boston.

INTERNATIONAL THEOLOGICAL COMMISSION REV TOM NORRIS



Tom Norris, a native of Thomastown has been appointed a member of the International Theological Commission for five years. A past pupil of St Kieran's College Dr Norris was a member of staff until he was appointed lecturer in Dogmatic Theology in St Patrick's College Maynooth in 1984. For many years he has been involved in

ecumenism at a national level. Dr Norris was appointed to the International Theological Commission (ITC) in 1997. This committee of thirty, chosen by National Bishops' Conferences, is to be of assistance to the Magisterium of the Church. He is a member of the sub-commission which drafted **Memory and Reconciliation: The Church and the Faults of the Past**, a text of the Commission published in the course of the Jubilee Year.

FROM TENERIFE TO THE WORLD VIA KILKENNY

Over past 15 years or so St Kieran's has welcomed students from different countries. Three members of the Cubillo Blasco family from Tenerife spent some of their secondary school years in Kilkenny living in the boarding school during the week and with host families at weekends. We catch up with them now, after a few years, to see where they are.

Oscar writes:

Intensity: one of the words I could use to define the past few years. I left Ireland in 1993 and was not sure what was to come after my last year in High School. I decided to go to University and study Tourism and Hotel Management. It took me three years and lots of thoughts about what I wanted to do with it. Ireland had put a seed in my stomach and the traveller came out. Therefore one day, in January '98, after a couple of jobs at the front desk in hotels around Tenerife, the wind blew in the direction of Europe again and I went with it. I took a flight to Germany and I lived there for almost two years, learnt German, worked my way around, met fabulous people, came to understand such a strange and apparently cold mentality, visited France and Holland, Belgium and Luxembourg, Portugal, England, Spain.... and fell in love with an amazing Canadian woman.

After all that, my body and soul asked me to move on again. I waited for the wind to blow. And it did. Yes, it did. In November '99 I had saved enough money to buy a ticket around the world for a year. So I talked to the wind and from Germany it took me through Argentina, Bolivia and Peru for three months. My heart thought of Canada and there I spent six wonderful months. My tourist visa expired so back to flying: Chile, Australia, Hong Kong and Tenerife came next. I hadn't been there in two years and I really missed my family and friends. Six weeks among them and I already felt the butterflies in my stomach and the wind. And the love. So I flew to Toronto where I've been since last October (well, I did fly back home for Christmas and again to Canada). Wind and love. Pretty much it since leaving Kilkenny!

Now, I'm 26 and I work 'under the table' as a cook, enjoying myself with it and dealing with an intense cold winter. I mean, Canada's winter. The cold belongs to it. I'm planning to do a Master's Degree (MBA) in Hotel Management and International Companies. It will take me to Madrid next autumn for at least eight months. I hope it will provide me with enough knowledge and abilities to find the job I long for. But still wind and love!

Victor writes:

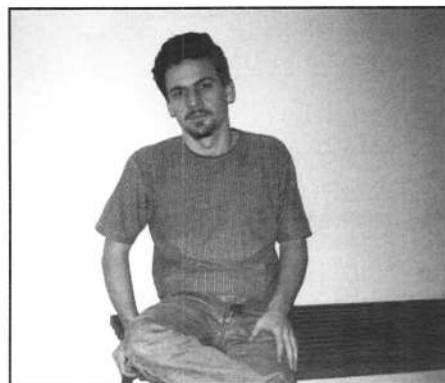
Well, I'm still studying. Since my last time in Kilkenny I finished my school years in Tenerife. Then I thought about going to Cork to study dentistry, but I ended up in Madrid. I'll finish university June 2001. It's a five years course. I've been living in an apartment with some friends here in Madrid for the last five years, only returning to Tenerife for Christmas and summer. I think I'm going to stay here in Madrid for two or three more years, as I want to do some post-graduate courses. I have a friend who owns a dental clinic and has offered me a job, and I'll take it for as long as I am staying in Madrid. After that time I want to go back to Tenerife to open my own clinic.

About sports... I don't play much now. In Tenerife I didn't find time to practice as I found the exams harder than in Ireland. Next summer I'm going to go inter-railing around Europe. I'll travel through Europe by train visiting France, Italy, Greece, Germany, Holland and some other countries. That will be for a month and afterwards I'll be in Tenerife for some time. This has been my life for the last few years.

I'm really looking forward to visit all of you in Ireland sometime in the future - perhaps when I will have enough money.

I can't believe you're closing the boarding area. My time there in St. Kieran's were some of the best years in my life, and it's strange thinking about St. Kieran's without the boarding school. It was great.

Eduardo writes:



Victor



Above: Oscar
Below: Eduardo



It was nice to receive your letter, it brings me nice feelings from a year full of unique experiences, new people and different ways. Too much time has passed from the day I left one of my homes: St Kieran's. When I came back to Tenerife I started to play the guitar and this changed my life. I joined a few bands playing drums and I started to get into that strange world of music. I play in concerts, make records, nothing too important. I now realise that it is too difficult to make a living from music so I have decided to earn my money not far away from it! I am studying to become a sound engineer in a very good college in Madrid. That is what I am doing now and am happy because being a sound engineer is exactly what I wanted to do when "I grew up". For two years I have worked in a 'restaurant' that my older sister has, 'Tasca la Tata'. I worked in the kitchen and it was good, I was thinking of become a chef and my mother was happy that I was going to get a real job. One day I realised that it was crazy, there was too much work, not much money and all my life cooking food: "NO WAY".

I hope to visit Ireland in the next few years - perhaps I will go to Dublin and practice in a musical studio. I hope you'll be better at table tennis because I will go to St Kieran's to see how it is all going over there.

BRIAN RYAN - THE QUIET MAN

Name: Brian Ryan
Club: Fenians Johnstown
Date of Birth: 10/2/1970
Favourite players: Joe Cooney and Billy Fitzpatrick
Most memorable matches: All Ireland Colleges Final 1988 in which St Kieran's won the title after a lapse of 13 years
Also 1987 U-21 county final - defeated Rower after 2 draws.
Present Position: Coaching and Games Promotion Officer, Kilkenny County GAA Board.



Brian Ryan was just like any of the other young first years who passed through the front gates of St Kieran's College in September 1983, but his ability with the *camain* quickly marked him out from the other hurling hopefuls once the first year leagues started. Although shy and retiring by nature, the young Johnstown lad quickly won the respect of his peers by his deeds on the hurling pitch, and his many qualities were to earn him Leinster Colleges medals in Juvenile 1984, Junior 1986 and Senior 1987, 1988. He captained the senior college team in 1987 but in the All-Ireland Final they went down to a powerful colleges team from St Flannan's in Birr. But it was a young Kieran's team and 10 of them were back the following year to taste sweet victory against Middleton CBS in Walsh Park Waterford. Brian played a leading role in that victory, orchestrating many attacks from centre forward and staying cool and calm when the pressure came on in the second half. (Other players to feature in that team were D.J. Carey, Pat O'Neill, Adrian Ronan and Dick Dooley.)

On leaving Kieran's, Brian enrolled in Carlow Institute of Technology where he continued his hurling career alongside his studies. Success came with a Ryan Cup third level colleges medal in 1991 and a Division 2 league medal in the competitive world of Higher Education hurling.

All the while he was hurling with his native club, captaining Fenians U-21 team from 1989-1991. He also captained the Fenians senior team in the county final of 1995, and inter county honours also came his way with an All-Ireland minor medal 1988, All-Ireland U21 1991, and All Ireland senior medal 1993. His family in Johnstown were rightly proud of him, especially as his brothers Michael and Tommy had soldiered for Kieran's in the early eighties without much success.

Having graduated from Carlow IT in 1992 he applied for interview on a full time GAA coaching course in Thurles, was successful and commenced his role as Kilkenny Coaching and Games Promotion Officer. His role is to complement the work being done at every coaching level in the GAA by the dedicated volunteer. Initially the role was assisting in the schools, but now it has developed substantially over the intervening years to include coaching for development squads, camaint competitions, coaching courses for secondary school students, juveniles and adult coaches.

He is also involved in organising indoor hurling competitions and on teacher training courses. His coaching work has taken him to Longford, Wexford, Kildare, Laois, Offaly and Carlow. He has also produced hurling and football coaching booklets that are available to schools and clubs in Kilkenny for coaches to aid variety in their coaching sessions and to keep coaches up to date with modern day practice.

Brian also has had a hand in launching hurling into cyberspace as he is co-designer and co-editor of Kilkenny's GAA website at <http://kilkenny.gaa.ie> where you can keep up to date with all recent coaching developments, fixtures and results, match reports, match previews, school board news, club profiles, All-Ireland previews, summer camp details, and coaching resources.

Obviously enjoying his work and the many people he meets he describes his work as a labour of love that was nurtured from home in Johnstown, attendance at St Kieran's and most particularly by dedicated club and school mentors.



Brian on a recent visit to the school met with a group of second year students: Eoin Roche, David O'Shea, John Dalton, John Kearney, Nicholas Fitzpatrick, and Mark Culleton. Also in the photo is Rev Tom Murphy, PP Slieverue.

STUDENTS BECOME TEACHERS

Many of the pupils in St Kieran's are inspired to follow a career in teaching. Brian Roche (1993) and John McEvoy (1995) write about life in the classroom - Brian at primary level and John McEvoy at secondary level. They reflect on their path to teaching and consider the various influences that brought them to their chosen careers.

Brian, having finished his studies in Maynooth, studied in Mater Dei Institute in Dublin and St Patrick's Drumcondra. He is presently teaching in Kilkenny.



There's an old saying that maintains that "Those who can do and those who can't teach!" I've also heard this extended to "those who can't teach, teach teachers and the rest study educational philosophy"! This was not I hope the reason I had for becoming a teacher.

However, I can't help but see a touch of irony in writing this piece for the Record. As it is not that long ago that I, along with others, felt it was our duty to help teachers to earn their wages! Now that I have traversed the educational abyss (i.e. university) and that I have been lucky enough to get a job as a teacher I suppose I should offer an apology to one and all who had to teach me!

I am one of those rare ones. The ones that seem as rare as admissions of guilt in the Dail. Yes, I am a Male National School Teacher. This has its perks, most of all, the ability to find a permanent job! Another perk is three days paid 'paternity leave' - while I know it will not cover the cost of paternity it's nice to know they care!

On a serious note I consider myself very lucky to be in this profession. Having the opportunity to shape people's lives and facilitate their growth and development is a wonderful thing. The rewards are certainly not monetary ones but that's a whole other argument. Being able to take a young person and give to them the smallest nugget of knowledge and see them exploit and use that knowledge has to be one of the best perks in teaching. It is only gradually that I am beginning to witness this: weeks after dealing with some topic I am amazed when someone in the class recalls a piece of information and pieces together some concept.

Luckily in Ireland we have very dedicated and talented teachers. It is easy to forget this. I hope my future in teaching can be as bright as those who in no small way guided and moulded me. And I suppose that has to be one of the main reasons for becoming a teacher: the influence of those who taught me. Thank God they were more interested in the process than the product or I would have been in trouble!



John McEvoy, from Ballacolla, did his Leaving Certificate in 1996. A member of the Student Council in his final year he was very much involved in hurling during his time in St Kieran's. Working now in Marian College Dublin he still plays hurling for his native Ballacolla.

I left St Kieran's in 1996 and spent four marvellous years in NUI Galway where academic endeavour was coupled with sporting commitment. I graduated with a H Dip Ed in 2000: geography and history were my two main subjects. My first encounter with teaching was during my Teaching Practice in St Joseph's Galway. In 2000-2001 I worked in St Michael's Diocesan School, Trim, Co Meath. teaching history and geography. Summer 2001 and an opportunity of a position in Dublin came my way.

Obviously it is different on the 'other side of the fence'. My attitude to teaching is moulded by many factors. In St Kieran's I admired the teachers who were enthusiastic, fair and straight-talking. There existed too, a good spirit among the students. In Galway I admired the lecturers who were leaders in their field, who delivered good lectures with character and who refused to over indulge in theoretical waffle. Therefore this academic background had a positive impact upon me. Although I have been influenced by both experiences I have my own teaching style and am my own man within the classroom.

Both geography and history are enjoyable subjects to teach. Students warm to geography because it is practical and influenced greatly by human activity. A teacher of history must bring 'life' to the subject and where possible make it relevant to the students' own lives. I admire the student who shows initiative, is a grafter and who has a sense of humour. A good character can set the atmosphere and the tone for the rest of the class.

Students who are academically weak may excel in the area of sport. This aspect of school life is essential to any education system. On the Gaelic games front I enjoy being involved with school teams, particularly hurling. Gaelic games gives teachers a chance to develop a rapport outside of the class. In Trim for example there is a good tradition of hurling though from a county perspective the game is the poor relation. Involvement with school teams has demonstrated for me that players with average hurling ability can be successful if they are encouraged, show a willingness to learn new skills, and have pride in their school jersey.

Being a teacher is far different from the public perception. A good teacher must be willing to learn, be enthusiastic in one's own field, and have the ability to adapt to new situations. The teacher who has these qualities will have respect in and outside the classroom. Some of these qualities I certainly witnessed in St Kieran's and have been lucky in my few years teaching to have met many more talented and dedicated teachers.

RECOLLECTIONS OF ST KIERAN'S FROM THE PAST

ST KIERAN'S IN THE 1930's

This edition of the Record marks the crossing of the threshold of both a century and a millennium. We invited three past pupils to write about their experiences when they were in St Kieran's College in the earlier part of the 20th century. Dr James Brennan, a regular contributor to the College Record over the years, entered St Kieran's in 1931, Sean Kealy in 1938 and Frank Muldowney in 1941. Printed here are their memories and recollections.



Dr James Brennan is a resident in St Kieran's College. As student, staff member, priest of the diocese he has always had a keen interest in the life of the College. Never tiring of scholarly work in recent years he has worked on an MA with NUI Maynooth on Bishop Ledrede.

I entered St Kieran's College as a new boy on the first Tuesday of September 1931. What was it like then? Perhaps the best way to convey my impressions is to quote from an article which I wrote for the College Record of 1958 (under a pen-name, I may add). 'It is no exaggeration to say that the main interest of the average student at St Kieran's, outside his work, is hurling: he plays it, if he can; and, in any case, he thinks about it, talks about it, reads about it, dreams about it. Almost standard equipment for the new boy entering the college is a hurley, and almost his first act after arriving is to get on the playing field to try his skill with the other new-comers'.

My arrival in the college was just like that; indeed the above piece was inspired by my own remembrance of that day in September. Brought by my parents in from the country, after a meeting with one of the priests on duty for the occasion, I was immediately attracted by a group of boys playing at hurling on what we came to know as the Intermediate pitch. After parting with my parents I was out at once on that hurling pitch trying my skills with hurley and ball like the rest, finding happily that there was no better cure for homesickness than 'the clash of the ash and the smack of the leather'. We were

soon to be confined, of course, to the Junior pitch, nearer to the farmyard entrance on New Street, with its plain red doors - all now the location of the Vocational School.

The front entrance to the college at that time was also a double red door on the Callan road, with a sombre yew avenue leading to the front terrace of the main building. That red door was replaced later on (1941) by the present gates, under an imposing arch, which was formerly the entrance to the estate at Jenkinstown known as Swift's Heath. Embellished with the college motto, *Hiems Transiit I782*, ('The Winter has passed'), it proudly proclaims its origin as the first Catholic school to be opened in Ireland after the Penal Laws of the eighteenth century. The yew trees have gone, leaving a more open view of the college front with its neo-Gothic styling.

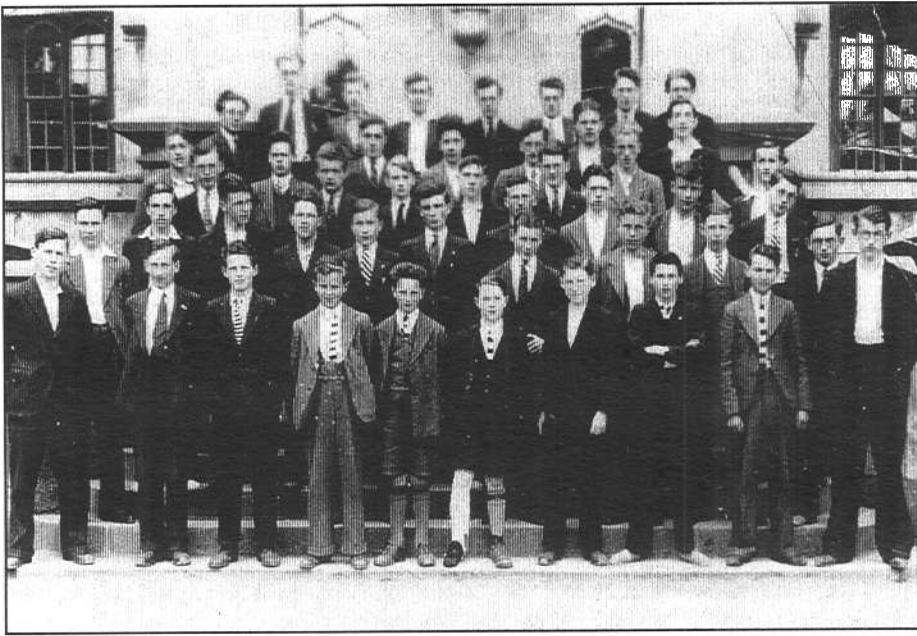
Looking back, it is easy to see how the playing-fields of St Kieran's were indeed our first impressions of the college, and were to be part of our education there in an environment largely dominated by hurling. This was to create a kind of hierarchy in our external lives at any rate: first-year students in the Junior field; two more years or so in the Intermediate field, and the final two in the Senior pitch, or Fennessy's as it was popularly known, from its former owner. It was there that the Cup team, the elite of hurling in our school, trained and played. All three of those fields were bounded by the walks from which most of us watched the games that were fought on the different pitches, cheering on our own team of the day.

Flanking Fennessy's field, behind the main college building, was an extensive orchard (known as Stallard's), now a full-length hurling pitch. Backing Fennessy's field on the city side was the Bottling Store of Smithwick's Brewery, whose high wall was a constant challenge to the more adventurous students who climbed over in search of forbidden pleasures. It was guarded, in fact, by the benevolent presence of its manager, John Roberts, a famous member of the great Kilkenny hurling team of the 'twenties, who must have turned a blind eye to those students, who were never reported, as far as we knew.

The Intermediate pitch was also bounded on one side by a garden and orchard, which was jealously guarded by the grim, forbidding figure of Mick ('The Dust') Flavin, who went about pushing a barrow which was somehow symbolic of his occupation. He always wore a hard hat (probably of clerical origin) and never took off his coat. To enter his garden with intent (as the legal term has it) was to count on Mick's wrath and risk a report to higher authority. Rumour had it that he used to bet on horses, and that some of the more sporting students got him to put on their bets as well. That garden, like its guardian, is no more; it is now taken up with a gymnasium, a modern American-style handball alley, and a number of houses for the elderly of St Patrick's parish. Likewise, the old farmyard at the back entrance has become the site of the Vocational School. One of my memories is of a harvest threshing taking place there one September, before a large gathering of students, smitten, no doubt, with nostalgia for home on that day. One feature of all that area has remained: the old open handball alley which still stands at the corner of the garden. In those days it provided another way into Mick Flavin's territory, where players used to climb in to look for lost handballs, but also for the fruits of the garden while his back was turned. It was a haven for smokers, who



Back Row: Robert Walsh, John Kearney, Eoin Roche.
In Front: John Dalton and David O'Shea.
'Wall Ball' is the modern game that is played in the Alleys.



1933: Students who did the Intermediate and Leaving Certificate photographed on the front steps of the College. The author, who had sustained an injury during recreation, is sixth from the left.

could at least have a quick pull at a cigarette out of sight of the prefects who patrolled the walks.

Such was the external world of St. Kieran's in which one kind of education went on in those days. But while our life outdoors was given to playing games or watching them, the real business of the college was learning, pursued in the class-halls and the study-halls, constantly impressed on us by the higher authorities and varying with the different professors, dressed in their academic robes (or 'togas'), mostly clerical in those days, with only five lay teachers among the staff.

The main impulse behind the drive for academic excellence came from a dynamic, forceful President, Dr James Staunton (afterwards Bishop of Ferns), who set high standards, demanded results, and rewarded them with an elaborate prize system for the major examinations. Both Intermediate (now Junior) and Leaving Certificate exams carried scholarships, with medals for individual performances. Results were published in the local papers to ensure that St Kieran's was noted for success in this as much as in hurling prowess. Monthly tests were read out in public in the Big Study, sometimes in the presence of the Bishop, Dr Collier, in a doomsday atmosphere for many an unfortunate student who hadn't performed to his supposed ability and was duly put to the cane. The President regularly made his rounds of the study halls, to keep up the pressure, constantly urging us to 'Work, work, work' (for which he was nicknamed

'Doggie'). He was equally vehement, it must be said, on the side-line at Cup matches - a man for all seasons, one could say of him.

The main thrust of the curriculum was in the humanities, in the study of language and literature in English, Irish, Greek, and Latin, with French as an extra. The course in each of these was an open one with no set texts, which encouraged us to read as widely as possible. The very first books we were given included the Concise Oxford Dictionary and Palgrave's Golden Treasury of English Poetry, that evergreen anthology, regularly brought up to date, whose edition of that date I still possess. Our English teacher, for the whole five years of our course, Fr Jim Ryan, had spent several years in Edinburgh as a young priest (he figured in Brian Marshall's famous comic novel, *Father Malachy's Miracle* - rather unflatteringly and undeservingly, it must be said), who taught us to appreciate the riches of Shakespeare and Milton, of Keats and Wordsworth and Tennyson, of Scott as poet and novelist, of Dickens and Thackeray in the field of the novel. Likewise, in the Irish class, with its admittedly restricted range of literature, Mr Patrick Mac Sweeney, MA, from UCC, with his informal style (he used to sit on a desk in the midst of the class), who brought us from Mo Sceal Fein and Jimin Mhaire Thaign in our first year to the intricacies of Filiocht Fiannaiochta from the past to the more modern poets at a later stage, including Cuirt an Mhean Oiche, whose racy nuances went largely over our heads, but left us with some appreciation

of what the Irish language could do with a popular subject such as marriage Irish style.

At the core of the curriculum were the classical languages of Greek and Latin. Again, while grammar and syntax were drilled into us from the beginning, we were reading Caesar's Gallic Wars in the original Latin in our very first year, graduating in later years to the Latin historians such as Tacitus and Suetonius, with selected extracts from Virgil's 'Aeneid'. Given the method of teaching with the whole emphasis on the ability to translate the text accurately, we missed the 'stately measures' of Virgil's poetry, but the groundwork had been laid for that to come later. Likewise in Greek we learned how to read Xenophon's Anabasis, the epic tale of the Greek army's retreat from Persia to the Black Sea, and were introduced to the great dramatists such as Euripides, plus passages from Homer - heady stuff, now as I look back on it.

The classical influence in our time in St Kieran's was even reflected in the place-names attached to certain parts of the college, such as 'Parnassus' (the abode of the gods in Greek mythology) which was at the top of the house where the ecclesiastical students had rooms, and 'Hades' (the Greek underworld of the dead), which was inevitably the basement where the kitchen was located and the college staff lived. In such ways did something of the classical world rub off on us and enliven our everyday conversation with classical references.

The doyen of our Greek studies was Mr Peter Byrne who was for us the very embodiment of that ancient civilisation - a stately figure with his mane of white hair and his broad-brimmed hat which he doffed in salute as he strode up the walk to take his classes. It was he who gave the classic description of a Classics teacher to someone who asked him what he was doing in St Kieran's: 'I regard my task as one of dragging reluctant youth up the steps of Parnassus by the scruff of the neck!'

Peter was a fine classical scholar who could recite whole passages of Greek literature with impressive ease, and equally define obscure words and references with a mind like an encyclopedia. He was, in fact, a walking dictionary, both Greek and English, who often told us that the only work he would take on a desert island would be a dictionary - or, if pressed for an alternative, the Bible, for which he had the greatest respect.

In a word, Peter Byrne conveyed a lasting sense of learning and its importance for life; his classes were truly an example of that proper study of mankind which is man. His digressions, prompted by cunningly placed questions, were always a source of merriment. 'Sir, where did you get the worst drink in your travels? Twice, laddie, in Toulouse and in Castlecomer,' (the questioner being, of course, from that very place in Co Kilkenny). Yes, 'Professor Byrne' was a legend in his time, one of the most quoted teachers of that era amongst those of us who have survived to remember him, especially at past pupils' unions. Incidentally, he always corrected us for using the term 'professor', reminding us that the title properly belonged to third-level places of higher learning.

It is curious how the most lasting memories we have of our college life are centred on the men who taught us, and not only in class but outside it. In the field of mathematical studies (we did no science in those days) there was the forceful figure of Father Frank Lalor, nicknamed 'Pi' from the formula for Pi-R-squared which was one of his test-questions (and woe betide the student who failed to come up with the answer!). He was an exact and exacting teacher, as befitted the subject he taught, whose methods were direct and often painful - but he got results. He was a man of uncertain temper, too, who could spread terror on his bad days (or ours) when word would be passed from class to class: 'Watch out, lads, Pi is on the warpath.' Then there were the exceptional days when he arrived into class (minus cane) to read one of his favourite stories from Arthur Conan Doyle, or recite one of Robert Service's 'sourdough' ballads (notably 'The Cremation of Sam Magee'), or give us that gruesome story of Sweeney Todd, the Demon Barber of Fleet Street, done with great relish and excellent diction. Outside class, he was a friendly person to meet, who always took a personal interest in us students and would advise us about our futures. It was only long afterwards that we learned of the incurable disease which took him prematurely from his beloved books and his various interests.

With all that emphasis on the academic (or exam) subjects, our cultural education was not neglected. We had choirs and an orchestra, with annual performances of Gilbert and Sullivan

operettas, such as 'The Pirates of Penzance' and 'Pinafore' in our early years. A combined caste of ecclesiastical students and lay boys (the soprano roles), with an orchestra of adult musicians and lay students, gave us performances which still linger in the memory. All of this under the direction of Herr Josef Koss (or Joe Koss, as we called him), who also played the cello in the orchestra. The Gilbert and Sullivan sequence was followed by a succession of Shakespearean productions, performed almost entirely by the seminarians. Two of the most memorable of these in our time were 'Macbeth' and 'Hamlet'.

Over the world of music in St Kieran's Herr Koss reigned supreme, both in choral singing and individual tuition. A short, stocky figure, with a round, balding head, he was the very epitome of a German music teacher; in moments of stress, which were frequent, he would lapse into his native language. On one occasion, when he was taking a youngster for piano in the little visitor's room next to the priests dining room (or parlour), he was overheard to shout, 'Mein Gott, I had rather be breaking stones!' At choir practice ('bractice' as he pronounced it: 'The young Mozart, he bractised for fifteen hours a day') he would suddenly appear at one's ear and hiss 'You are not zinging!' Sometimes, on his Saturday night singing lessons for the whole lay-side, when driven to exasperation by some unruly students, he would rush from the Big Study Hall to seek the 'Bresident', the aforesaid Dr Staunton, to restore order.

Yet, in that impossible task, he succeeded in getting us to learn a variety of songs, sacred and secular, including a number of patriotic ones, such as the National Anthem, or 'The West's Awake' ('Sing O, hurrah, let England quake, we'll watch till death for Erin's sake'), prompted, we believed, by his rooted dislike of the British Empire and all it stood for - he had been a prisoner-of-war in Ireland during the first World War of 1914-18. Marching songs were his favourites (and ours too), such as the American civil war song, 'Marching Through Georgia', or the rousing Welsh 'Men of Harlech', with choruses calculated to raise the roof. But we also learned gentler ones: 'Linden Lea', 'All Through the Night', 'Loch Lomond', and 'The Harp That Once Through Tara's Halls', to name just those as a sample out of many.

The most important role of all for Herr Josef Koss was as choir-master (Kapellmeister, a prestigious post in his native Germany) for the Cathedral, where he presided every Sunday and on festive occasions in surplice and soutane. He had a sense of humour and liked to tell how, on one such occasion, when he was standing outside the Cathedral, he overheard a woman saying to her companion, 'Look, there's Father Koss' to which the other replied, 'And there's his wife'. From the beginning under his tuition we were introduced to Gregorian Chant, and learned to sing the Missa de Angelis (or Mass of the Angels) in our very first year. Later on, we would sing this and other Masses in the Cathedral, and above all at the great Gregorian Chant festival with choirs from all over the diocese. The feast of St Kieran was, of course, the high-light of the year, with the Bishop presiding and all the organ stops pulled out as he entered the Cathedral to the strains of *Ecce Sacerdos Magnus* ('Behold the great high priest') with Joe Koss at the key-board of its splendid organ. These were indeed occasions which lived in the memory long after the music had ended and the singers were no more.

There was one unusual feature of our lives in St Kieran's and that was the presence of the seminary side-by-side with the secondary school. That was a constant reminder of why the college was founded: preparing young men for the priesthood, some of them students from the secondary department; others, the majority, from other schools all over Ireland.

There were two areas which we lay boys shared with these rather remote figures in their black soutanes, the refectory and the chapel. In the one we ate while listening to the reading prescribed for those higher aspirants from the senior house, under the watchful eye of the dean of discipline; in the other we shared morning Mass and night prayers, listening this time to the senior dean giving out the theme for meditation from a mysterious book named *Challoner's Meditations*. In this way we touched on another, more spiritual world of learning, to rejoice on each Ordination Sunday in June with the newly ordained, eager to get a blessing and the free cigarette which went with it - a symbol in its way of the mingling of the sacred and the secular in this 'home of learning and piety', as the inimitable Peter Byrne was wont to describe it.

HOW WAS IT THEN?



Kevin Kealy, or Sean Kealy as he was known in St Kieran's, did his Leaving Certificate in 1939 and was in the seminary from 1939 until 1945.

On a recent visit to St Kieran's he recalled many of his experiences from his days in the College particularly the personalities who were so central during his days as a student. Frs Dicky Lowry and John Joe Reidy of the staff, Nicky Rackard and John Murphy who became veterinarians like himself, Mick Holden who was later ordained for San Antonio and Father Tommy Maher who was a year or so behind him. He left St Kieran's in 1945 and studied veterinary science in UCD. Later a member of staff there he is author of "Diagnostic Radiology of the Dog and Cat".

I entered the College Gates in 1938 and stayed until 1946. The first day was spent in getting to know one's fellow students and being assigned a place in the dormitory, in the refectory and in the chapel - places which would be retained unaltered throughout the year. An order of seniority was established which remained unchanged for all the ensuing years. Students coming to the ecclesiastical side from the lay side were always made senior to students coming from outside. Entering a seminary in those days was something of a cultural shock even after having spent time on the lay side. From the beginning the discipline was total. Training began with a week-long retreat during which solemn silence was observed. No one was allowed to talk to anybody for the week. Breaking solemn silence was a serious offence. Following the week's retreat there was a free day and then work began in earnest. The only communication one had with the outside world was through occasional visitors or through letters from outside. Radio and newspapers were not permitted.

The entire course of study took six years - the first two years were devoted to the study of philosophy and the next four to the study of divinity. Students were known by their class. For example a first year student was known as a First

Philosopher while a final year student was a Fourth Divine. To a First Philosopher, Fourth Divines were distant and revered figures. Many of the Fourth Divines had rooms to themselves on the top floor of the building which housed the kitchens. Their abode was known as "Mount Parnassus" (the home of the gods in Greek mythology).

The daily routine seldom varied: 6.30 a.m. Rise, wash and dress. Winter or summer no hot water was available for washing, there was a basin and a jug of cold water in each cubicle in the dormitories. The day began at 6.50 a.m. with morning prayers and meditation in the chapel. At 7.30 a.m. there was Mass. At 8.00 a.m. there was breakfast. Breakfast consisted of porridge, bread butter and tea. Each student got two small "prints" or patties of butter. Should a student not turn up for a meal there was always great competition to see who could pinch his butter without being caught by the Dean. All meals were eaten quickly and at 8.10 a.m. students returned to the dormitories to make up the beds and tidy the cubicles. These were inspected irregularly. Having finished here, there was recreation until 8.45 a.m. when the bell rang for classes to commence. Recreation for the ecclesiastical students meant in practically all cases going out to the smoke field, beside the playing pitch, for a smoke. Almost everybody smoked but smoking was allowed only in the smoke field irrespective of the weather. Classes were held from 8.45 a.m. to 12 noon. At noon there was lunch consisting of bread, butter and tea. There was just time for a smoke before classes resumed at 12.30 p.m. They continued until 2.55 p.m. At 3.00 p.m. there was dinner. From 3.25 p.m. to 4.55 p.m. there was recreation. From 5.00 p.m. to 6.55 p.m. there was study. 7.00 p.m. was tea time - again bread, butter and tea. From 7.10 p.m. to 7.40 p.m. there was recreation. At 7.45 p.m. night prayers were said in the chapel. And from 8.00 p.m. to 10 p.m. there was study. At 10.20 p.m. lights were put out. A bell was rung to signal the start of each activity. Basic needs were catered for by the Sisters of St John of God of whom three lived in the College - one supervised the kitchen, one the infirmary and one looked after the chapel and the

oratories. On Wednesday there was a half day and the afternoon was filled with hotly contested hurling matches. There were various leagues of teams to cater for all, from the expert to the novice hurler. The novice players were known as "The Old Crocks". There were two croquet lawns in the smoke field and they were always in great demand.

In the refectory the lay students sat to the left as one entered and the ecclesiastical students to the right. A passage was left clear in the middle of the refectory up and down which either the Junior or the Senior Dean paraded during the meal. It was his function to see there was no whispering or talking. There was solemn silence. Opposite the door there was a pulpit in which, during meals an ecclesiastical student sat reading from some spiritual book. This chore was taken in turns. The end of the meal was signalled by the Dean ceasing to parade and moving in to take a stance just in front of the pulpit. From here he said grace. It was the custom that if the reader came out with something that might be relevant, all the students would stamp their feet on the floor producing a room shaking noise. Nobody ever got into trouble for this as the Dean could not see who was stamping or who was not. At the evening meal the reading was always from "The Imitation of Christ" by Thomas a Kempis. This had many pithy sayings which often provoked stamping. For example on the evening before a free day, which had to be requested from the President on each occasion by the senior students on both the lay and ecclesiastical sides, the lector would often read that passage from a Kempis which says "To-morrow is an uncertain day and how dost thou know that thou shalt be alive to-morrow". Invariably that provoked earth shaking stamping.

During the war years the quality of the food suffered considerably though one would have to say that it was always adequate. Bread pudding, or "Durney" as it was called was a staple at practically every dinner. As tea became scarcer various kinds of substitutes were introduced, each one being somewhat more unpalatable than its predecessor. There was almost a mutiny when it was



Sean visited St Kieran's College in September 2001 and met up with the new first years: Paul Deady, Paul Mullins; Tony McGrath, Jonjo Farrell, Darren Ferns and Daryl Whitty.

announced that at lunch time there was to be soup instead of tea substitutes. The Bishop gave a special address to the ecclesiastical students advocating the merits of soup as a lunch time beverage. His address ended any murmurings of dissent.

Certain favoured ecclesiastical students were appointed to be prefects, sacristans or bookmen (they supervised a book shop and sold books and writing materials during study time). Some prefects were appointed to officiate on the lay side where they supervised study, recreation and the dormitories. Others were appointed to the ecclesiastical side where they performed similar duties. In the study halls the prefect sat at a special raised desk at the front of the hall facing the students, who sat two by two at double desks. In theory prefects reported misdemeanours to the Senior Dean on the ecclesiastical side and to the Junior Dean on the lay side. Such reporting was much more common on the lay side than on the ecclesiastical side – the commonest reported offence being smoking which was not allowed on the lay side. It was quite a feat for lay students to snatch a smoke on winter evenings at the recreation period after tea. They would walk around outside but because it was dark cigarettes would glow and could be seen by the prefects. Overcoats were regularly worn at this time as one could hide a cigarette under a big coat and cover one's head with it as one took a puff. The penalty for being caught was three strokes of the cane on each hand administered by the

Junior Dean. There was always a slightly uneasy relationship between prefects on the ecclesiastical side and their classmates. Inevitably the loyalties of a prefect were to some extent divided as he was supposed to report the misdemeanours of his classmates. In practice this rarely happened.

Solemn silence was supposed to be observed from 5 p.m until after breakfast the next morning except during the short recreation period after tea. There was to be no talking in the study halls, corridors or dormitories. This was an almost impossible imposition on students sitting in close proximity to one another over a period of several hours. Prefects usually overlooked a certain amount of whispering and communication during study as long as it was done discreetly while maintaining the charade that the prefect was not looking. However, the Deans occasionally "rushed" the study halls. "Rushing" consisted of barging unexpectedly into the study hall, walking about half way up towards the front, turning around and going out again. The purpose of such a procedure was to catch anybody who might be talking, be out of his place or perhaps reading unapproved material. Any rule infringements noted were not dealt with there and then but would be noted for future reference.

The daily routine seldom varied apart from the odd free day. There was little communication with the outside world apart from occasional visits by relatives

or friends. Visitors were warmly welcomed by the students and they usually brought presents of food and cigarettes. They were entertained in visitors' rooms which were on the same corridor as the priests' refectory. Permission had to be obtained before going to meet visitors. Occasionally there was a day of "Reads". This meant that the teachers, instead of giving their usual lectures, would read something of interest outside the curriculum. Some of the teachers would read from the daily newspapers, others would read from their favourite authors. Short stories were favoured.

Apart from theological and philosophical subjects, training was also given in public speaking and in music. The College choir performed at all the great liturgical occasions during the year whether held in the College or down town in the Cathedral.

As part of the educational process plays were performed in the concert hall on two occasions during the year. At Hallow E'en, usually a modern play was produced and for St Kieran's Day (March 5th) a more ambitious Shakespeare drama. The Shakespeare play was performed on three successive nights. The plays were accompanied by music performed by the College orchestra under the baton of Herr Josef Koss, the resident Professor of Music. There was great competition to obtain a part in the play or, for those of a musical bent to get a place in the orchestra. The reason was that the actors and musicians were given special treatment at times when they were performing – such as being allowed to sleep late and have something extra tasty at meal times. Koss was a sensitive soul. Somebody singing off key or playing out of tune appeared to hurt him physically. He would positively wince. He could however, be deceived by silence. As long as there was no discordant voice or wrong note played he appeared happy. It was well known that one ecclesiastical student survived for several years in the orchestra playing the viola, by employing the simple technique of putting soap on his bow so that when he drew it across the strings no sound was produced.

At the end of each year there were written and oral examinations. The oral examinations were known as "The Boards" and priests from the diocese

who had special expertise in the different subjects were brought in to help the resident teachers with the oral exams. There were even examinations in elocution and singing, though these were never taken very seriously by the students. The results of the examinations were never published so one never knew how one had performed or how one's friends had performed. Presumably failures were communicated to the students concerned on the day of reckoning.

On the ecclesiastical side the big day each year was, of course, Ordination Sunday – usually the first Sunday in June. But there was a great hurdle to be negotiated before then. The Friday week before Ordination Sunday was known as "Black Friday". This was the day of reckoning when all one's misdemeanours of the past year had to be faced. After breakfast the ecclesiastical students were assembled in the College chapel. On the altar there was a table at which sat the President with the Senior Dean to his right and the Junior Dean to his left. They faced the students. The Senior Dean read out lists of names. All the Philosophy students were expected to be on a "Satisfactory List" so the Dean read out the names of those who were deemed to be satisfactory. In the case of the Divinity students the lists were a call to the various "orders". Thus First Divines were supposed to be called to "Tonsure" – a ceremony designating them as clerics. Second Divines were due to be called to "Minor Orders" (Porter, Reader, Exorcist and Acolyte). Third Divines were called to Subdiaconate and Diaconate and the Fourth Divines were, of course called to the priesthood. All this was conducted in Latin. If one's name was not on the appropriate list then that meant one had offended in some way during the year. So shortly after this ceremony was concluded a queue began to form outside the door of the Senior Dean's office and one by one the offenders went in and received varying degrees of reprimand and reproof. The Dean referred more serious cases to "The Council". This consisted of the President and the Senior and Junior Deans. The Council met in the President's office in the afternoon. There was usually a visible degree of stress and apprehension affecting those referred to the Council for it was the Council who decided to advise a particular offender that he should not

return after the summer vacation. In other words he was discreetly but effectively "fired". At the start of each year there was considerable interest in, and speculation about those who did not return.

On the evening of Black Friday a week's retreat began during which again, solemn silence was supposed to be observed. This lasted until the Saturday morning before Ordination Sunday. Ordination Sunday was a great day – the fulfilment of a dream for those ordained. The ordination rite was held in the Cathedral amid much pomp and ceremony. The Bishop presided in all his pontifical splendour, attended by several assistant priests and the College choir was usually at its very best for that day. The pomp and ceremony surrounding the arrival of the Bishop was something to be experienced. He entered the Cathedral in a magnificent red soutane with a long red train extending out behind supported by two acolytes. When he reached the altar several of the assistant priests, who included the College Deans, surrounded him and he was ceremonially dressed for the coming ceremony – even down to his red shoes and buskins. Meanwhile the choir sang "Ecce Sacerdos Magnus" – behold the great priest- "qui in diebus suis placuit Deo" – who in his days pleased God !! The Bishop appeared to do nothing for himself. The assistant priests even took off and put back his mitre as the occasion arose. It really was a time of great emotion.

Following ordination all returned to the College where the newly ordained priests were treated to breakfast in the priests' refectory, the "Sanctum Sanctorum", the inside of which they would not have seen during their previous six years in college. Later the young priests would come out on to the immaculately manicured lawn to the front of the College. There would be assembled their relations and the students. The priests would go around giving the "first blessing" to each individual who requested it. Fond memory relates that Ordination Sunday was always sunny and balmy. In the afternoon there was a ceremony in the chapel at which the solemn "Te Deum" (a paean of thanksgiving) was sung. On the Monday morning all dispersed for the summer holidays. Before going home there was usually some friend's First Mass to be attended at one of the

churches or convents in the city, followed by breakfast.

There were certain mysteries associated with college life as an ecclesiastical student in those days. How appointments as prefects or sacristans or bookmen were decided on was never explained but one suspects that those favoured were picked because of a combination of examination results, general demeanour and perhaps a degree of favouritism. Explanations were never given. It has to be said that no special preference seemed to be given to those students who transferred from the lay side as against those who came to the seminary from other institutions. These office bearers had some minor privileges and were invariably called to the appropriate orders on Black Friday.

Life had its lighter moments too and there were some inexplicable relaxations of the rigid rules. When a recently ordained priest returned for a visit to the College he was housed in the visitor's room on the President's corridor. He could invite his friends still remaining in college up to his room and the good Sisters of St John of God provided tea and goodies and usually card playing and heavy smoking went on in the room into the small hours of the morning. Such activity was never interfered with by the authorities. And who can explain how gambling was allowed on one day of the year - Good Friday ? A roulette wheel was installed in the "Smoke House" at the Callan end of the playing pitch and the small room was crowded all afternoon with eager gamblers. Had it anything to do with the biblical account of how "they cast lots for his garments"? And incredibly on one occasion the ecclesiastical students were treated to a visit from "Bamboozalem" a travelling magician who performed in the concert hall complete with a scantily clad female assistant. And yes! The Council sat in the front row – exuding disapproval. But who let him in?

Two vacations were allowed each year: two weeks or so at Christmas time and the summer months. College discipline followed the student home. He was expected to wear clerical black during his vacation time and report to his local parish priest who might be asked by the College authorities for a report on his behaviour during the vacation. Each September it began all over again. O tempora ! O mores!

THE SECONDARY SCHOOL - ST KIERAN'S IN WORLD WAR TWO



Frank Muldowney was a student in St Kieran's College from 1941 until 1946. He was Consultant in St Vincent's University Hospital and Professor of Medicine at University

College Dublin, Rockefeller Travelling Fellow, Harvard University, Litchfield Lecturer in the University of Litchfield and Visiting Professor of Medicine in the University of California San Francisco. Each year the Muldowney award - a beautiful tie pin - is presented to the student with the best Junior Certificate results.

Sixty years agrowing, and it is hard to believe that this September it will be sixty years since I took the shiny Rudge bike down the steps of 35 Parliament Street and headed for the New Street gate.

Joe Lambe, Canice Treacy, Paul Crotty and Jim Bourke would be with me, I knew, transferring from the 'Brothers' in James' Street. What about these boarders though - a new concept to us dayboys - and known to be formidable hurlers!! Maybe we'd better just stay out of their way for a while. The likes of John Kinsella and Dick Dunphy, both from South Kilkenny, with the vaguely French accents, and Frank White the mathematician who understood theorems without having to think - these had to be assessed before we broke cover.

The uncertainties of the new boy at school are ingrained in us still. What was certainly new was the tradition of four hours study every evening, seven days a week except Sundays and the monthly 'Free Day' (three hours only!). Five to seven, and eight to ten it was. Class hours by day were nine to three, with a half hour break at twelve. Either you got bored or you learned to get interested and actually work at it.

Having crossed the hurdle (it took me a year) realisation dawned that a bit of competition was fun in class the next day. Who knew how many elephants Hannibal had crossing the Alps to attack the Romans, so that we could snare every Fr Jack Kennedy? Don't forget this was wartime too, and the Western

desert battles were seesawing over the same ground of ancient Carthage as of yore. Stirring stuff to relieve the humdrum of mere grammar. The teachers were into the competition element as well, prodding us forward and plotting quietly who would do well in the Intermediate (now Junior) Cert, provided we didn't get 'swelled heads' - a serious misdemeanour in what was then fundamentally a seminary. I must admit to a personal sense of pride in having recently been permitted by Mgr James Cassin to donate an award for the present generation of students to keep that competitiveness alive.

Half of our class of fifteen in 1946 went on proudly to be priests, leaving the rest of us to sneak off to hops in Desart Hall or the Mayfair when we could, to the Tennis Club in the summer.

Hops? We had our own music after all: McNamara's Band was the current U2 then. For practice sessions, after the ten o'clock study bell, if you hurtled down on the bike to Crotty's or O'Carroll's you could have a 'bazz' on the accordion, clarinet, piano, drums and even Des Walsh's cello (supplied by Fr Con Sherin to 'up the tone'). All of this, of course, was against the background of war shortages and those awful ration books. Who remembers that we had only a half ounce of tea and half a pound of sugar *per week!*

You had clothes coupons which could buy only one suit in the Monster House every second year, even if you had the money, and we mostly hadn't. Since all entertainment had to cost nothing for the same essential reason, we had to make up our own amusement - handball,

hurling, the bank, rugby with the local bank clerks - but full of fun, and ne'er a professional in sight. We did have Jim Langton - the D.J. Carey of his time - but no Mick Galwey on the rugby team - only Paddy Dore, Terry Statham, Paddy Reynolds and myself.

How many are alive now who remember cycling - yes cycling - from Kilkenny to Athy to cheer on the St Kieran's hurlers in the Leinster Championship? The tough part was coming home up 'The Rushes' with a sore backside on the saddle. Canice Treacy broke down, and was heroically lifted all the way to Dean St by none other than Fr Tom Brennan on the crossbar.

From a work standpoint, the abiding memories from St Kieran's were of what Dr Birch labelled the habit of study; of the real interest in us by the teachers of that era: Frs Joe Dunphy, Tom Brennan, Peter Birch, Jack Kennedy, Ned Wall and Messrs Charles Sandvoss, Paddy McSweeney and Ned Costello. These all shared the sense of suspense before the exam results came through.

A special event was that big day in October when the Intermediate (Junior Cert) scholarships were announced and a great cheer rang through the Glass Hall. I was only one of five privileged to ask for - and get - the free day from Canon James Ryan. These are things you don't easily forget.

Credit to our teachers then as now for preparing us to jump those hurdles in many another testing ground later in life. Our thanks to St Kieran's: long may the black and white jerseys carry forward the Kilkenny tradition of work **and** play.



A photo of students in 1943. The author is sixth from the left in the second row. In the back row, fifth from the left, is former member of staff Joe Lambe. Six of the class were ordained.

We publish a number of essays written by students. Encouraged by their English teachers students submitted these essays to various competitions. Jamie Quane and Thomas Walton were among six national winners in the Department of Education Essay Competition held in 2001. Johannes Steinbrueck wrote for a competition organised by An Chomhairle Leabharlanna in association with The Irish Times and International Education Service entitled 'Without my Library/ Mura Mbéadh mo leabharlann ann...'. Johannes received second prize in this competition. Eamonn Power's essay was written for Kilkenny County Council's Millennium Project. Michael Crotty wrote 'Macbeth: A Cautionary Tale for the Celtic Tiger in 1999'.



Jamie Quane and Thomas Walton with English teacher Mr L. Cotter

EUROPE - OUR COMMON HISTORIES

The amount of history Europe has couldn't possibly be written in detail in one essay. That is why I have chosen those pieces of history that have made Europe what it is today – a prosperous, cultural continent.

First, there is the Renaissance, one of the most influential times in Europe's history. It was to bring out masterpieces like Michelangelo's David, the Pieta and his work on the Sistine Chapel, Da Vinci's Mona Lisa, The Last Supper, Raphael's Sistine Madonna and School of Athens and many other works of art.

The Renaissance began in the early 1300's and continued to the late 1500's. The artists abandoned the dead, dark look of the Middle Ages and brought to life pictures with movement and depth. This was to change the world of art forever, because Renaissance artists were inspired by observing the people and nature around them, capturing their beauty in the artists' own style. The artists' work was to be studied by millions of others in years to come.

Another major factor in European history was its explorers, such as Columbus and Magellan. In the 14th and 15th centuries, people believed that the world was flat, and had no idea that America was even there. Explorers of this time had doubts about information handed down from the past, most saying that the world was flat. But before the explorers could prove the facts wrong, they needed better ships and equipment. Early compasses provided necessary directions, and new ships like the caravels, sturdy ships suitable for long journeys helped them on their way. Explorers also had trouble getting sailors as many believed that strong currents would sweep them off course, that sea monsters would attack them, or that the ship would fall off of the side of the Earth.

Christopher Columbus was the first person to successfully cross the Atlantic to the Bahamas. He never knew he had discovered a new continent. He thought he had failed, but he had actually discovered Cuba.

Then there was Ferdinand Magellan, the first person to travel around the world, proving that it was round. On his journey his crew faced terrible diseases, the worst of which was scurvy. Most of them died from this.

Without these explorers, the world would have developed at a much slower pace, because trade routes between countries would not have been found.

Moving on to this century and we find more destructive event: World War I. It all started in 1914, when Archduke Franz Ferdinand, heir to the Austrian throne, was murdered by a Serbian terrorist. This started off other events that led to the war. Britain, France and Russia were fighting against Germany and Austria.

Neither side could win quickly so trench lines were built from the Swiss border to the sea at Belgium and from the Black Sea to the Baltic Sea. Many battles were held but no side could be beaten. In the third year of the war, the USA joined on the British, French, and Russian side. These new fighters conquered the trenches and Germany and Russia were defeated. But the results were disastrous, Europe lay in ruins, and millions were dead.

These events – the Renaissance, the exploration years, and World War I – shaped Europe as we know it. They have created cultures divisions and leaders in countries. The question is though, will these events, in the long term, be a liability or a help?

It is obvious that the people of Europe have had an absolutely huge effect on the rest of the world. Everywhere there is evidence of Europe; from the dress of Japanese businessmen to the first languages of Central America. This influence was not necessarily a good thing, and I hope I will be able to give examples of both the positive and the negative effects.

Even in ancient times, Europeans were doing things that would change the world. The ancient Greeks made many important mathematical discoveries. Some Greek city-states also practised a precursor of today's main system of government: democracy. Wealthy Romans enjoyed central heating. Christianity was eventually promoted by the Roman Empire and later found a stronghold throughout the continent.

During the Renaissance in Europe many scientific discoveries were made. Around this time Europeans discovered that gunpowder could be used to deadly effect in war. This gave European armies the upper hand in warfare and it enabled them to subdue, conquer and colonise the continents of Africa, America and Australasia, establish new territories and impose European mores. Colonisation led to the spread of European languages and ideas throughout the world. However, it also wiped out many native cultures, languages and people.

The West African slave trade was run by European nations such as Portugal and Spain for people of European descent in America. This forced migration greatly affected the societies of West Africa and America.

The Industrial Revolution in Britain has probably had the most drastic effect on the world. The effects of the Industrial Revolution are so great and touch so many people, that it would be very difficult to imagine today's world without this turning point. During these times, steam engines were developed, and agricultural and industrial machines came into being. The accompanying Transport Revolution allowed for the further growth of the factories that fuelled the Industrial Revolution. Both world wars were fought between European countries and these wars also spilled over into the empires of these states. In the aftermath of these wars when former superpowers were weak, many European colonies demanded independence, and so the map changed again.

Today, Europe is one of the most developed, stable and prosperous continents in the world, equalled only by North

America. Through the European Union, Europe has prospered and gained strength with unity. It is still an influential continent, with peacekeeping operations all over the world involving European troops. It is plain to see that Europe's people have influenced other areas of the world in many ways, but now with the establishment of independent states in all continents and their development, we are likely to see these new nations take control of their own affairs. This evening out of power, in my opinion is a welcome change and I only hope that these new nations can retain a stable self-governance. It remains to be seen if these former colonies have survived the destruction of their culture by their European rulers.

It is strange to see that after hundreds of years of oppressing and discriminating against the people of their former colonies, that many former empires are now supplying aid to these countries. Attitudes have also changed in relation to indigenous cultures. Former colonies are realising the importance of their heritage and are trying to regain some of their culture that for so long was put down by their colonial rulers.

WITHOUT MY LIBRARY



Johannes Steinbrueck was a student in St Kieran's College from January 2001 until June 2001. A native of Griesbach in Germany this essay was awarded second place in a national competition run by An Chomhairle Leabharlanna in association with The Irish Times. His achievement in securing the under-18 runners up prize was remarkable as English is his second language.

It was another hot night in July, a windless hot night, the kind that makes people do secret and dark things. Xavier von Marz walked through the floors of his villa near Berlin's Tiergarten, he wore an expensive bathrobe with a swastika right over the heart. In one hand, he carried a thick hardcover book in the other he held a half-filled glass of whiskey. Xavier von Marz was no tall man, just about five feet and three inches, and his enormous belly made him look smaller, his hair belonged to the past and apart from his moustache he was completely bald.

He passed through the salon, and stopped short to look at the place where his van Gogh used to hang, now it was behind a faked wall down in his cellar, he knew that they would have taken it if he had left it there. Now, in his opinion, a very poor imitation of Martin Beck's "Wilhelm auf der Albatross" showing Kaiser Wilhelm sailing on his favorite ship was hanging in its place. "A really poor replacement" thought von Marz, for maybe the tenth time.

But then, after taking a big gulp from his glass he left and walked towards the library, there he sat down in a big leather chair and looked at his favorite room in the house. The room wasn't big, but the shelves reached the ceiling. The shelves were around the whole room and their black wood in addition to the dark books and the fireplace gave the room a heavy but comfortable atmosphere. Von Marz opened the book he carried with him for now quite a while; he couldn't bear the thought of sending it into another country but here his poor Kafka would be murdered, like all the other books they had already murdered, burned like witches five hundred years earlier, but it really was like that, enemies of the system.

Normally von Marz agreed with his party, but this time he was nearly shocked. How could this man, who was worshipped by von Marz for all these years, order the destruction of innocent books, pictures and statues? The day von Marz heard about the 'Bucherverbrennungen', the burning of books, he drove home from his work place and checked his house. He found four pictures, one statue and countless books he would have to see burn and he would also see soldiers marching around the fire and celebrating the destruction of his books.

On that day he decided to disobey his orders for the first time, and to hide his books and pictures. With the help of a loyal friend he managed to hide the statue and the pictures behind a fake wall down in his cellar, but he couldn't hide the books that way. There were too many of them. So he took the risk and bribed a guard at the DRB, the German train company, who would take the three boxes with him on a ride to Paris, where a priest would keep them in his church. A generous donation was already paid.

Von Marz finished his whiskey and looked again at the long boxes lying in his library. They were maybe six feet long, two wide and one high, the normal size. Black letters at each side said 'Maschienenteile', machine components. Von Marz still had doubts if it would work, but the guard had assured him that there were hundreds of boxes like that on the train, only the box's number would be the identification for the priest. The guard said that he'd come around at midnight to collect the boxes and to leave quickly after he had been paid. Von Marz looked at his pocket watch, more than half an hour left, enough for one more Scotch and getting dressed. He stood up, ran his hand over the book, then put it into the box.

Back in his room he put his uniform on. With the black and silver uniform of an SS-General he looked much more like an authority figure than in his normal clothes. He thought about taking his pistol with him, decided to, but then decided against it. He took the Luger out of its box, loaded the clip and let it slide into the weapon. As always the clicking sound made him feel good and sure of his position as a general.

continued on page 53

PICTURE FILE



SECONDARY SCHOOL STAFF 2001

Back Row (from left): Rev Eamonn O’Gorman, John O’Keeffe, Michael Kelleher, Liam Nolan, Martin O’Neill, Jim Carew, Rev. Patrick Carey (Dean), Philip Walsh, Don O’Connor. **Fourth Row:** Billy Bolster, John Quane, Charles Lynch, Eilis Ahearn, Joe Kavanagh, Donal Byrnes, Bernie Boland. **Third Row:** Ken Archbald, Neil Connolly, Emma Ryan, Michelle Byrne, Aythami Rodriguez, Bernadette Dowling, Francesa Conroy. **Second Row:** Pat Murphy, Larry Cotter, Audrey Larkin, Nicholas Cashin, Ger Buckley, Thomas Murphy, Thomas Looby, Adrian Finan. **Front Row:** John Harris, Rev. Richard Scriven (Dean), Loretto Mannion, Rev. Kieron Kennedy (Administrator), Mgr James Cassin (President), Michael O’Diarmada (Principal) Richard McEvoy (Vice-Principal) Anne Wemyss, Richard Windle.



HOUSE KEEPING AND MAINTENANCE STAFF

Back row (from left): Denise Dowling, Susanne Skehan, Margaret Shanahan, Breda Comerford, Margo Coonan, Ann Meany, Eileen Fitzpatrick. Front row: Tommy Galvin, Pat Drennan, Jim Delaney.



THE SECRETARIAL STAFF

(from left)
Karen O’Mahony, Mary Martin, Mary Lennon, Geraldine Butler, Elizabeth Ruth



In recent years areas of the college which were used by the boarding school in previous years have been adapted to provide much needed space for the secondary school. The dormitory over the Theatre is now a spacious Art Room and Technical Graphics Room.



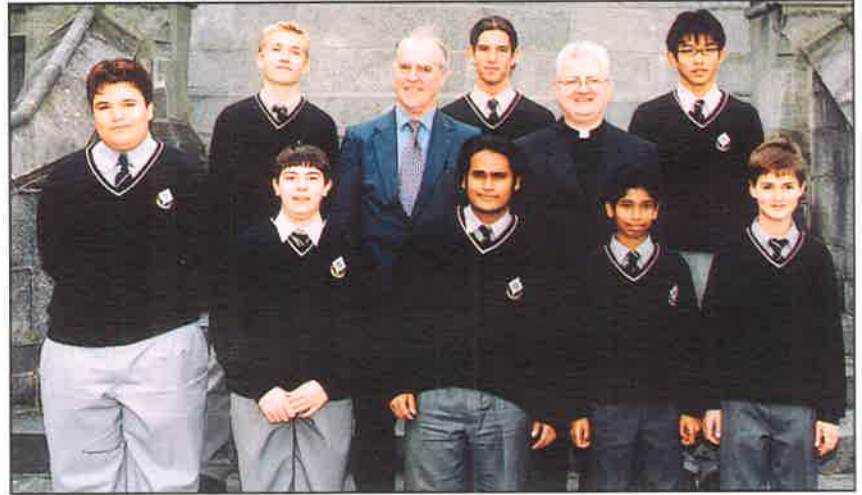
Shane Phelan, Paddy Walshe and Barry Hayden enjoying the facilities of the boarding school.



CHRISTMAS DINNER 2001



Computer Studies and Wood Technology are an important part of Transition Year



Above left: Michael Sherman and Brendan Doyle head home - the bike is still as popular as ever.

Above right: Overseas students in the College. Juan Riutort Gelabert (Spain), Fabio Gismondi (Italy), Vankatesh Murugesan (India), Rajesh Murugesan (India), Karl Barnett (South Africa). Behind: Olivier Valentin (Italy) Carlos Matemales Llompart (Spain), Toshinari Okido (Japan).



Left: Sr Gregory with Geraldine Butler, Mary Martin, Mary Lennon and Ann Meany

Below left: At the presentation to Rev. Liam Bergin: Rev. Patrick Carey, Mgr Paul Fitzgerald, Rev. Liam Bergin, Ms Mary Dermody, Mgr James Carey, Most Rev. Laurence Forrestal, Mgr James Cassin, Rev. Kieron Kennedy, Mr Mícheál ÓDiarmada and Rev. Richard Scriven. **Below right:** Mgr James Carey.





Above left: Cast of Joseph and His Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat. **Above right:** Stephen Knox, Gary Knox, Shane Corcoran, Vincent Mulvin and Stephen O'Connor who were in the Orchestra for *Joseph*.



Left: Thomas Downey representing St Kieran's College. **Right:** Students from Kilkenny College and St Kieran's College attend the launch of the Hunter Trials in the Chamber of Kilkenny Corporation.



Left: Past pupils who were members of the Kilkenny senior panel in the 2000 All Ireland visited the College and are pictured with Mr Mícheál Ó'Diarmada (Principal), Rev Richard Scriven (Dean) and other members of the staff.

Below: The victorious College team who won the All Ireland College Championship in 2000



Then he heard the doorbell. He had to remember himself that he had given his servant Daniel a free evening and that he would have to go on his own. So he left his room and walked down to the hall. The sound of his polished leather boots made an uncommon loud sound in the silence of the empty house. He reached the door and let the guard in who raised his arm and greeted "Heil Hitler! Heil Hitler!" "Come on in, you have work to do". The guard followed von Marz silently and entered the library. He had brought a small vehicle with him to transport the boxes to the van. The work needed less than thirty minutes. The guard nailed the boxes and brought them with hard effort to the VW van waiting outside the door. Von Marz didn't help him. He is paid well enough for this effort', he thought, watching his garden and the street. Luckily the big trees avoided every sight from the street to his house, so the operation couldn't be watched. After the guard had stored the boxes he sat down in the driver's seat and looked at von Marz, who looked back, then reached into his pocket

took out a bundle of Reichsmark's and threw it to the guard who caught it without effort, started the van and drove away. They had spoken about the plan again a few minutes ago. Von Marz himself walked around his house and took his own car, a black Mercedes-Benz with the Reichseagle on its bonnet, and followed the van.

During the driving von Marz thought about all the risks he had taken. What if his friend was less loyal than he thought, what if the guard was more loyal to the Reich than to the money and what to do if they discovered the boxes? He parked the car at the train station, walked on the gangway, sat down, lit a cigarette and thought: "After all it was worth it, if they get me for this it was the right thing to do and I will wait to see my friends again, without my library life is not worth living." Then he took a puff of his cigarette and watched the train leaving the station towards Paris.

MACBETH

A CAUTIONARY TALE FOR THE CELTIC TIGER

Michael Crotty wrote this essay reflecting on the message of Macbeth for modern Ireland. He won a national essay writing competition organised by the National Parents Association.

The character of Macbeth is a paragon for the entrepreneurial spirit and its virtues. In our Celtic Tiger economy today, rewards and encouragement are given to those traits which ultimately lead to the death and destruction of Macbeth. The ideal business person as dictated by market forces is neither intrinsically good nor evil. Their moral ambiguity serves to aid them in the pursuit of monetary gain and financial success. Ambition is the catalyst which transforms the lowly entrepreneur into a corporate leader, and in doing so elevates him beyond his state in society. Initiative and materialism are unmistakable elements of the thriving capitalist which act as a spur to motivate him in the eternal battle against failure. Above all, ruthless efficiency and lack of sentiment, two characteristics with which Macbeth was abundantly blessed, are the decisive factors which contribute to the development of industry and the economy.

Perhaps the most important and basic question we must ask ourselves is, where do the parallels derived from Macbeth and the Celtic Tiger actually diverge? Are we, like Macbeth doomed by fate to have our surroundings turn against us and devour us? If we are to heed the

"Cautionary Tale" of the Scottish play we must examine those deficiencies which have arisen in our society as a result of our "vaulting ambition".

From the evidence of the play there is a multitude of various prophecies contained within the fable of Macbeth. The decision for monetary gain by the principal character leads to a loss of everything. A family, however dysfunctional, is torn apart by the pressures and stresses placed upon it by the lust for power and security. Much like a modern family, the anxiety and discomfort of ambition have resulted in a marked degradation and deterioration in the quality of relationships within the play. An eager business person may sacrifice a number of friendships in their pursuit of

advancement. This will definitely be to their detriment as they become more and more isolated and lonely. It is not within the capability of mankind to forego the satisfaction and pleasure acquired from social intercourse. By allocating very little of their finite free time to socialising it is ultimately inexpedient to the quality of life of the person, and alienates them from those around them, "that which should accompany old age, as honour, love, obedience, troops of friends, I must not look to have"- Macbeth.

In Macbeth it is speculation about the future that brings about the downfall of the usurping King. From the prophecies which he receives from the three witches Macbeth is lured into a false sense of



Shakespearean plays were produced each year in the 1930s. Macbeth was given in 1934. The Cast is pictured on the front steps of the College. Fr Byrne (Producer) is front left.

security. He believes that "none of woman born" shall harm him and so acts wildly and tyrannically. He is a victim of tragic blindness and cannot foresee possible problems or difficulties which may arise. It is in this way that Irish people are failing to recognise many of the future consequences of the Celtic Tiger. It is often the case that recession and boom periods move cyclically. Although prosperity and affluence are embracing practically all regions of our society many people have mistakenly assumed that this prosperity will be eternal. Inflation as a result of higher incomes and higher levels of disposable cash, may result in the prices of many commodities spiralling upwards out of control. This can already be seen in the area of property prices and housing.

The increased competition between firms could cause a sharp decrease in the survival rate of small businesses and local traders, as they are replaced by sterile, impersonal superstores. Unemployment and redundancies would increase as firms attempt to maximise profits and cut costs. In effect the free market could turn back on itself unless people learn from the lessons presented in *Macbeth*. The chaos and universal confusion as portrayed in the play would mirror an economic system which lacked order and regulation. By nature, the Tiger is a wild uncontrollable animal who must be watched at all times lest it should turn on us and attack us. In this way the tiger is a creature very similar to *Macbeth*. Truly we must never lose sight of the fact that the economy could regress at a moment's notice to a state of depression and recession. We must be prepared for this eventuality.

The character of *Macbeth* is that of a brutal, bloodthirsty predator who seeks stealthily to seize power in an effort to elevate himself to a higher rank. When he succeeds we witness his gradual deterioration into an increasingly desperate state. By killing Duncan he has committed a terrible crime, but in an attempt to consolidate his position he proceeds to murder Banquo, and slaughter the family of Macduff. Before he knows what has happened he has reached a point where killing is his only option to stay on the throne, "I am bent to know, by the worst means, the worst. For mine own good all causes shall give way: I am in blood steeped in so far that should I wade no more, returning where as tedious as go o'er." - *Macbeth*. Here

Shakespeare warns of the dangers presented when we protect ourselves from risks and threats. This idea is just as applicable to the situation of our economy. As business people find themselves confronted with adversity and obstacles, they may find that they are unwilling to relinquish the wealth and commodities they have acquired. They will become exceedingly more resourceful and ruthless to a point where they could destroy themselves, their family, their lives or their reputations.

Another danger facing people in today's Celtic Tiger society is the threat of being manipulated into doing things which are against our better judgement and logic. We are already pressurised and induced into many of the decisions we make in our daily lives. Advertising and the media have a large effect on the clothing and commodities we purchase, and with the growth of the internet and other forms of communication it is not unrealistic to assume that we will be influenced even more in the future. The expansion of industry and the economy means that companies will continue to bombard us with opinions which will effectively reduce the capacity for free-thinking and individuality. In *Macbeth* we see the dire consequences of the manipulation by Lady *Macbeth* of her husband. She questions his manhood and does everything in her power to influence him into murdering Duncan, even though she recognises his doubts and perturbation at the idea. By illustrating this, Shakespeare warns us of the danger of how we can be coaxed into situations without our awareness; "Art thou afeared to be the same in thine own act and valour as thou art in desire? Would'st thou have that which thou esteem'st the ornament of life, and live a coward in thine own esteem," - Lady *Macbeth*.

In today's world where wealth and social standing are all important, we often lose sight of the fact that being rich does not necessarily guarantee happiness. *Macbeth* was not really as powerful or rich a King as he thought he would be, and his power is really nothing because he feels so threatened. He certainly was not happy as King, even though it was the realisation of his dreams. Human development is infinitely more important than social advancement and riches. The Celtic Tiger neglects personal fulfilment and instead concentrates on financial fulfilment.

While discussing the state of affairs in

Scotland with Macduff, Malcolm bestows upon us a pearl of wisdom which we would do well to remember when dealing in the context of the Celtic Tiger. He explains that the achievement of wealth and prosperity only entices and tempts a person into seeking and lusting after more wealth. He deduces that it is unfulfilling because we can never have enough. Who can place a value on happiness in monetary terms? It is impossible to calculate when we will be satisfied. "And my more-having would be as a sauce to make me hunger more, that I should forge quarrels unjust against the good and loyal, destroying them for wealth".

This statement is extremely relevant to modern economics and can be used to explain many of the wars and battles fought throughout history. For example the plantation and colonisation of America by the English and French. Decades of unrest ensued as a result of the lust for increased territory and resources. It is a statement with which the author and poet W H Auden refers to when he wrote: "All sins tend to be addictive, and the terminal point of addiction is what is called damnation". Auden goes further in his condemnation of sins, in this case lust and greed, and believes damnation will follow (W H Auden *The Penguin Dictionary of Modern Quotations*).

In his speech testing Macduff, Malcolm also mentions another significant theme which has connotations with respect to our Celtic Tiger. This is the theme of trust and loyalty. As the tragic epic unfolds we witness a spiralling disintegration in the bonds of loyalty between the principal characters. It is the belief and trust contained in these bonds that are constituents of the moral fibre of our society. In *Macbeth* a breakdown in reliability and loyalty is to blame for the plunge into chaos and uproar. *Macbeth* betrays Duncan, Banquo and his fellow Lords and is unable to control the consequences. The devious and deceptive nature of business today threatens to destroy the prosperity and camaraderie of the Celtic Tiger. The wise Duncan presents us with an important revelation of human nature when he tells us. "There's no art to find the mind's construction in the face" - Duncan.

In society today there is a vast contrast

between the reality of our Celtic Tiger economy and the illustration presented to us by the media and government. This is very similar to the division apparent in the character of Macbeth. On the surface he is a boy, has the appearance of a loyal and trustworthy Lord but in reality this is merely an illusion. – He is actually a devious, bloodthirsty and murderous traitor. "Look like the innocent flower but be the serpent under't" – Lady Macbeth.

In a comparable way the Celtic Tiger too can be seen to have two different faces. On one side it is a magnificent occurrence which has brought about a rise in incomes, soaring exports and higher aggregate demand than ever

dreamed possible. In reality this is proven to be an illusion. It is only the upper echelons of our social structure who reap the rewards and benefits of our economic boom. The average person is largely unaffected, with many sectors of society finding life increasingly daunting. Inflation has meant that the cost of living for more people has soared. Property prices are continually rising with the result of the alienation of the first time buyer. Above all we can conclude that the Celtic Tiger is seldom recognized for the dangerous, predatory beast that it is.

Whether viewed from a literary, moral or economic perspective it is true to say that Macbeth offers us many cautionary

truths in a way that can be universally appreciated and enjoyed. On close examination it is not difficult to recognize many of the warnings and predictions made by Shakespeare, and utilize them in the context of modern life. The morals and values presented have the ability to transcend the ages and still retain their relevance. The Celtic Tiger would do well to heed the messages and predictions contained within Macbeth. In writing Macbeth Shakespeare has not only succeeded in entertaining us but also educating us. This is an astounding achievement because after all 'What we learn with pleasure we never forget.'

LOCAL GOVERNMENT THE NEXT ONE HUNDRED YEARS

Eamonn Power wrote this essay on Local Government and submitted it to the Education Department of Kilkenny County Council to mark the new millennium. The collection of essays from secondary school students was published by Kilkenny County Council. Eamonn, a native of Callan, did his Leaving Certificate in June 2000.

As Einstein himself once said "I never think of the future. It comes too soon". A view which I would agree with in that I think we must firstly address the present before we have a backlog of problems from the future.

"Give me fever-election fever" was a headline in our local newspaper this third week of April 1999. This headline appeared because on Friday the 11th June there will be ten new county councillors elected. Earth shattering news? I don't think so! The question is how many people really care about local elections? The answer I'm sure you would find in 'not many'.

The Kilkenny/Carlow constituency is entitled to twenty six County Councillors and five TDs. The question most people would like to ask is what these twenty six people can actually do for ourselves and our region. Legally I mean!

As a young county Kilkenny person I'm not sure that I would be a great representative of the common view of my peers. The fact is I can unashamedly

say I have a reasonable interest in politics and I would have strong views on this subject. Unfortunately Ireland's young people are losing interest in our system of government. If you asked a lot of, say, fifteen to twenty year olds the following question: 'What influence do they think our national, never mind local government, would have on their lives once they enter the work force?', some might walk away; others would offer this opinion "Fianna Fail, Fine Gael or Labour: what difference? Everything will be the same anyway. Taxes, grants, the works".

Something must be done to address the ignorant but prevalent view which people have towards government and politics. The fact is it is difficult to get a reasonably high percentage of the electorate to vote in the national elections never mind local ones. If it rains on voting day, you may just forget about the whole thing. Maybe some little incentive could be offered to people who vote regularly. It may seem harsh but perhaps people seeking grants should have to provide a regular voting record before their queries would be addressed. It would be a bit radical but something has to be done.

The biggest problem is that many of our citizens cannot identify with government and are unsure about the whole agenda. Public political awareness must be promoted and people informed of the exact powers held by the various divisions of government. There has I

understand, been an introduction of a subject called Civil, Social and Political Education into the Junior Certificate curriculum. This political educational integration has to be looked upon as a positive step. This new subject however should be carefully monitored. After all it would be undesirable to put young teenagers off politics for life through a bad experience early on.

The formation of organisations such as young Fianna Fail or Fine Gael would be totally desirable in all regions of the country. Through the setting up of such movements, young people would have a chance to learn and experience the spectrum of political life and policies. Some people might say a teenager wouldn't be caught dead attending such meetings however my opinion would be to the contrary. I have heard it said that Ireland's youth were never as well educated so why not give us a chance if not a say?

Briefly, to remind you again, Kilkenny/Carlow has 26 county councillors and TDs who serve us well. How can they serve us in the future? One Councillor who made the local news recently was Cllr Jimmy Brett who reportedly has aided in securing a long awaited ATM machine for the Bank of Ireland in the Callan area.

Looking forward to the next one hundred years I can visualise concerns such as the environment, employment, education, infrastructure and technology.

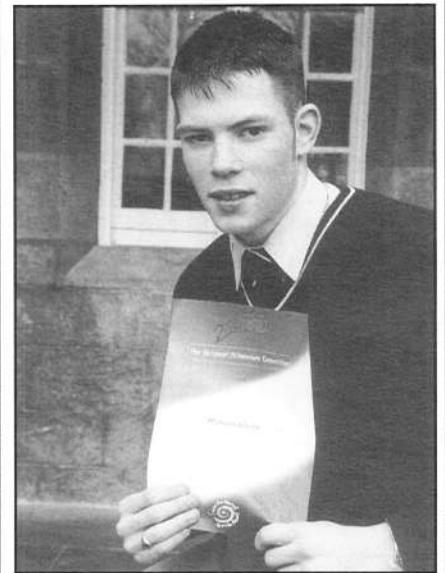
Within recent years the environment has become a major concern and there is much talk about preserving the clean green Ireland in which we live, for future generations. Some local opinion seems to be that we're all right we don't have major environmental concerns here in Kilkenny. On the other hand when we look around us we notice dirty waterways, litter, a decrease in air quality and a declining water supply. These problems are interlinked and must all be addressed immediately. Let us see our Councillors use their clout to bring through air pollution laws, litter regulations and maintenance and development of our water treatment facilities. We may be a city but let us not become a little Dublin with smog and other pollution problems.

Kilkenny is reasonably well equipped educationally but our political representatives must fight to further develop this system. As well as this it would be essential to attract firms and industry to locate in our city so that our highly skilled students can get jobs near home.

The Flood Tribunal has recently highlighted corruption in our political system. Our local representatives must avoid the temptations and work for the common good of every one within the constituency. If this is done the future cannot be too bleak.

To finish up this brief summary of our local government I think of Europe, Ireland and then Carlow/Kilkenny and realise there is a degree of insignificance. Everything these days is aimed towards Europe from the Euro to the EU. We are, in my opinion, constantly moving to an inevitable integration. We indeed see a United States of Europe, with a single government which would leave Ireland as a mere constituency hosting local government in Dublin. Where would that leave Carlow/Kilkenny? We could lose out big time due to objectives such as priority regions. This is why our political representatives must conform to a saying from our greatest local sport and keep their eye on the ball to ensure prosperity and security for our constituency in the next one hundred years.

Millennium Essay Competition



James O'Sullivan received an award for his essay which was published in The Millennium Book of Essays.

POETRY CORNER

The English course at both Junior Certificate and Leaving Certificate has changed greatly over the past number of years. Emphasis is now on reading, literary analysis and appreciation, and each student is encouraged to develop writing skills. Transition Year has also given time and space to this endeavour and invitations are given during this year to writers, poets, and those involved in the liberal arts to visit and conduct work shops. We publish poetry written by three students (Martin Greene, Vinny Watson and Conor Jenkinson) who are all doing their Leaving Certificates in 2002.

WAITING

The sun shines through
my little window as I
wake to the sound of
lake water lapping.

I turn on the wireless
for some early morning news.
Inflation's down, pensions up,
My face fails to smile.

I am a sinking stone, a
rotting apple, hoping
grass will be greener on
the other side, as I await
for my name to be called.

Martin Greene

SADNESS

There's not a day goes by I don't remember
I think about the day on which we met.
He went out of our lives before September,
Our greatest friend I will never forget.
And when I think back to those days, I smile,
We'd drink till day was night and night was day,
A distance that was but a mile,
I never thought we'd be parted this way.
So, in this pond of tears, we spill in sorrow
Reflects the brutal portrait of our pain,
It hurts to think I won't see you tomorrow
Behind it all, I think you feel the same,
Yet, when I reflect for just a while
His memory still always brings a smile.

Vinny Watson

FALSE LIGHT

Our shadows fade into false light
Concealing our constant pain,
Timidly fighting the lies
Our battle fought in vain.

Lost in the dark corners
Afraid to face the light,
Afraid of scorn and judgement,
Keeping our lives out of sight.

But the battle isn't simple
We have neither friend nor foe
The problem lies within ourselves,
The person we fear to show.

We feel but do not say,
We say but do not mean,
We lie to keep ahead
But things aren't what they seem.

Rules run rampart,
Boundaries stand too fast
Truth must reign supreme
For true light to be cast.

Conor Jenkinson

IN PRINT

FORMER STAR HURLER TURNS AUTHOR



Eddie Keher, former county star and college star has taken to the pen! He has written a book about some of the greats of hurling from the past half century. Launching the book, *Hurling Heroes*, in October 2001 Eddie admitted that it was a daunting task to begin but one which gave him great enjoyment. Featured in the book are stars such as Philip 'Fan' Larkin, Noel Skehan and Tom Walsh from Kilkenny, Tom Cheasty of Waterford, Jimmy Doyle of Tipperary and Ger Loughnane from Clare. At the launch, and acknowledged by Eddie as one of the great contributors to the game, was Mgr Tommy Maher, former president of St Kieran's and trainer of Kilkenny senior teams.



Above (from left): Mgr Maher, Eddie Keher, Noel Skehan and Pat Hartigan.

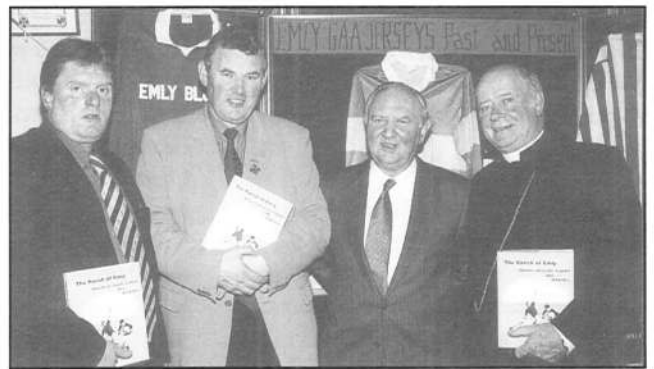
Below: Tom Walsh, Jimmy Doyle, Mgr Maher, Eddie Keher, Noel Skehan, Pat Hartigan, Ray Cummins, Len Gaynor, Tom Cheasty and Pat Fox.

THE RECORDING OF LOCAL HISTORY



Mr Michael O'Dwyer for many years has been a regular contributor to various local historical journals. In recent years he was editor of *The History of Kilkenny County Council*. Written by Tom Boyle this book was published in 1999. It was commissioned by Kilkenny County Council to mark the new millennium and was launched.

Always interested in the state of hurling in Tipperary Michael was also involved in the compiling of a history of the parish of Emly. A native of Emly this was a labour of love for Michael as he brought together the many facets of life that make up parish life. He is pictured above at the launch with Archbishop Clifford of Cashel.



HISTORY OF THE DIOCESE OF PAISLEY

The history of the Diocese of Paisley (1947-1997) was formally launched by Bishop John Mone of Paisley on Friday September 14, 2001, the eve of the feast of St Mirin, patron of Paisley. It was launched at the Diocesan Centre Greenock. The book covers the first fifty years of the diocese since its formation by Pope Pius XII through his Apostolic Constitution *Maxime Interest* of 1947 and his naming in 1948 Mgr James Black VG of Glasgow as its first bishop. The introduction of the history goes back to St Mirin of the seventh century, patron of Paisley.

The episcopate of the three bishops is extensively covered. There is a mini-biography of each of the 168 priests who served in the diocese, a short history of the 35 parishes and a quasi-parish, the various religious congregations who worked in those years, a limited coverage of some Catholic schools and organisations. The present Catholic population of the diocese

incorporates Renfrewshire is 79,500 served by a bishop, 87 priests (including two Monfort Fathers) and 52 sisters. The diocese has had three bishops, the first two each having twenty years, Bishop James Black and Bishop Stephen McGill. The present bishop is John Aloysius Mone.

In its fifty years existence Paisley diocese had had 95,295 baptisms - the largest being 2,664 in 1947 and the smallest 1,288 in 1997. It had 31,215 marriages, 77,884 confirmations and 113 ordinations to the priesthood. The largest was twelve in the Marian Year of 1954.

The history runs close on 300 pages with 88 pictures, 404 references, useful statistics and a helpful index. Compiled by Canon Bernard J Canning, a past pupil of St Kieran's, it is a work that took some seven years to compile.



ALL IRELAND CHAMPIONS 2000

Back Row: Ned Sweeney, Ken Coogan, Shane Hennessy, Michael Walsh, Robert Aylward, Brendan Doyle, Peter O'Neill, John Lennon, Michael Connolly, Dick Fitzpatrick.
 Middle Row: Stephen Dunne, Michael Rice, Derrick Brennan, Ger Prendergast, Brian Hogan, James Moran, Jackie Tyrrell, Enda Cleere, Pat Reid, Seaghan O'Neill.
 Front Row: Mr Adrian Finan (Trainer), Eoin Kelly, Brian Carroll, Brian Dowling, Tommy Walsh, Tim Murphy, Liam Heffernan, Joe Delaney, Michael Drennan, Daire Connery, Mr Pat Murphy (Trainer)

A rectangular piece of Kilkenny earth. Goalposts at either end, with a barren patch in front of each that spoke of valiant attack and stout defence. A hallowed walkway for a boundary, where dreamers and pundits alike could stop to view the action.

Fennessy's Field. A field of dreams for thousands of would-be stars in the glorious game of hurling. And a proving ground, practice pitch and performance arena from hundreds who made it. Those thousands came to St Kieran's College from the townlands, the villages and the towns of Kilkenny and Laois – and often from further afield: Tipperary, Offaly, Wexford, Carlow, Wicklow, Waterford, Dublin, Limerick and Clare.

Some of the names became the stuff of hurling legend: Carey, Carroll, Keher, Rackard. Others dominated championship and league encounters at college, county, provincial and All Ireland level for a decade or so, and then moved on to make way for a new generation. And behind it all a tradition of nurturing and coaching that was far ahead of its time – and that led the college to an unprecedented fifteen All Ireland senior

championships since their first victory in 1948.

The most significant indicator of the successful and pervasive influence of the St Kieran's hurling nursery was on July 27th 1997 when Kilkenny defeated Galway in a thrilling senior All Ireland Championship quarter final in Thurles. Ten of the Kilkenny team who played that day were past pupils of St Kieran's College, laden with medals from every grade of hurling and football. Ten members of that team (Adrian Ronan, Pat O'Neill, Philip Larkin, Andy Comerford, Peter Barry, Canice Brennan, P J. Delaney, D J Carey, Charlie Carter and Brian McEvoy) and the sub-goalie (Joe Dermody) were all past pupils

of St Kieran's and had many days graced the turf of Fennessy's Field. Nicky Brennan was the manager that day and he too had come from the



Left: A selection of Cups that visited the College over the past few years: From The McCarthy Cup to Colleges Juvenile Cup

SENIOR HURLING LEINSTER CHAMPIONS 1999



Back Row: G. Whelan, P.O'Neill, B. Griffith, S. Dunne, M. Luttrell, B. Hogan, J. Power, M. Kennedy, P. O'Brien, D. Cashin, D. Walsh,
 Middle Row: L. Heffernan, J. Moran, K. Coogan, T. Murphy, J. Coogan, M. Phelan, M. Drennan, D. Dowling, P. Reid.
 Front Row: A. Finan (Trainer), E. Kelly, B. Carroll, J. O'Keefe, H. Gannon (Captain), P. Bowdan, N. Skeeahan,
 S. Hennessy, D. Connery, Mr Pat Murphy

UNDER 16 JUNIOR A 1997 CHAMPIONS



Back Row: Brian Carroll, Ken Coogan, Brian Tennyson, Seamus Direen, Jackie Tyrell, Gary Hayes, Peter O'Neill, Mick Connolly,
 Ned Sweeney, Robert Alyward, Joe Delaney, Ger Prendergast, Martin Prendergast
 Front Row: James Moran, Paddy Reid, Paddy Conway, Daire Connery, Stephen Roche, Tommy Walsh, Derek Brennan, Billy King, Liam
 Barron, Richard Fitzpatrick

UNDER 16 JUNIOR B 1997 CHAMPIONS



Back Row: James Rice, Maurice Harkin, Bill Walsh, John Dermody, John Brennan, Alan O'Brien, Mick Walsh, Jonathan Savage,
 Conor O'Grady, John Power, Shane Murphy, Shane Parsons, Fintan Treacy
 Front Row: Brian Dowling, George Frisby, Mick Eardly, Anthony Owens, Michael Dermody, Brendan Doyle, Declan Brennan,
 Fergus Knox, Paudie O'Shea and Liam Hickey

same training ground of St Kieran's. Many of these names were to re-emerge in the 2000 championship and reversed the disappointment of 1999 returning to St Kieran's to proudly hold aloft the McCarthy Cup on the front steps of St Kieran's to the united cheers and roars of the assembled students and staff.

But the county players are a generation beyond Fennessy's Field. At senior level the 1990s began with a memorable victory over St Flannan's – an impressive and unprecedented third title in a row over the talented sister school from the diocese of Killaloe. The remarkable domination of Colleges' hurling in the ten years is reflected in five All-Ireland Championships and six Leinster titles in the decade. The 1996 title illustrates the tenacity and skill that is a hallmark of those who wear the black and white. Brendan Larkin's report in 'The Examiner' on 28 April began by describing the game as

"...a magnificent game of hurling. The Fermoy college went into the game as favourites on foot of hugely impressive displays in earlier rounds but paid the price for failing to reproduce the form that got them to the final. They can have few complaints. In typical Kilkenny fashion, St Kieran's hustled Colman's at every opportunity, and never allowed the Cork side any time to dwell on the ball."

Though Colmans led by 2-5 to 0-7 at half time, they managed only one point early in the second half because "Kieran's barred the way to the goal with some superb defensive play particularly by David Carroll, Kieran Philpott and Sean Dowling. Four points on the trot had the Kilkenny boys firmly in control and when Willie Maher first timed David Carroll's well struck 65 to the net there was no way back for the Cork side. Kieran's were rampant after that goal and as the Colman's challenge faded two further points by Maher and Podge Delaney put the seal on a marvellous performance by the Kilkenny youngsters."

The captain that day was David Carroll and in a moving speech he dedicated the victory to his late father, Ted, who had skippered the College to victory in the 1957 final.

The 1998/1999 championship culminated with St Kieran's College and St Flannan's lining out against each other in Croke

Park. With a scoreline that smotheres the truth Flannan's were victorious snatching the championship title from under the noses of St Kieran's. Hailed as 'magical stuff' the pulse stopping game enabled Flannan's to join Kieran's at the top of the All-Ireland schools roll of honour with 13 titles each. Perhaps it was a fitting way to finish the last championship of the twentieth century: all square.

April 2000 and the faithful of St Flannan's and St Kieran's journeyed to Nenagh. On a drizzly cold afternoon there wasn't a hint that St Flannan's were going to surrender the title they had gained the previous year. In truth they were chasing the game for most of the hour although were never buried until the final whistle. In the dying moments they were again searching elusively for the goal that in 1999 had brought such celebration but they just couldn't find the crack in the St Kieran's outfit. The majority of the scores came from the outstanding centre forward Eoin Kelly and the positive contribution from full back James Moran, midfielder Tim Murphy, and Liam Heffernan at corner forward helped return the Croke Cup to St Kieran's.

An annual event between St Kieran's and St Flannan's is the hurling game in January to compete for the Old Croke Cup. This was the cup used by the Colleges Championship in the early years and subsequently awarded to the victors of the game between the two schools. The tradition of playing the game goes back to 1940 and the victors have the honour of keeping the trophy for the following year. St Kieran's were victors in 2000 and in 2001.

At Junior and Juvenile levels the College has had much success in the nineties. Both levels have developed greatly in the last decade and have contributed significantly to the 'infrastructure' needed for the development of the senior side. There was success in 1993, 1994, 1995, and 1997 at junior level and titles at Juvenile level in 1995, 1997 and 1998. Another development since 1995 is the evolution of a new juvenile competition for second school teams in County Kilkenny. This initiative has enabled many more young hurlers in the College to wear the black and white hoops with pride.

Another interesting development is the links that St Kieran's has established with De La Salle High contd. page 62

GAELIC FOOTBALL

St Kieran's College competes in the Leinster Colleges 'B' Championship in both the under 14 and under 16 grades. Over the last few years the College has fielded a number of strong teams who have come close to bringing home some silverware.

In the 1998/1999 season the Junior team, which featured a number of players from the successful senior Hurling team of 2000, managed to get through to the Leinster semi-final. On the day they were decisively beaten by a very strong Knockbeg team. In the 1999/2000 season the under 14 team, who had strolled through their campaign up to the Leinster quarter final, again came up against an excellent Knockbeg team and unfortunately came out second best on the day.

Over the years a dedicated group in the boarding school have enjoyed the possibility of wearing the College colours. Laois, Wicklow, Wexford, Carlow and Tipperary natives have all contributed to the game.

The teachers involved in training the teams were Mr Walsh, Mr O'Keeffe and Mr Connolly.



Neighbouring counties always make a contribution to hurling in St Kieran's.
Above: Tipperary pupils Denis Dunne, James Moran, Michael Luttrell, Eoin Kelly with Mr Adrian Finan and Mr Pat Murphy
Below: Brian Carroll with the Croke Cup, The Old Croke Cup, the Leinster League Shield and the Leinster Senior Championship Cup.



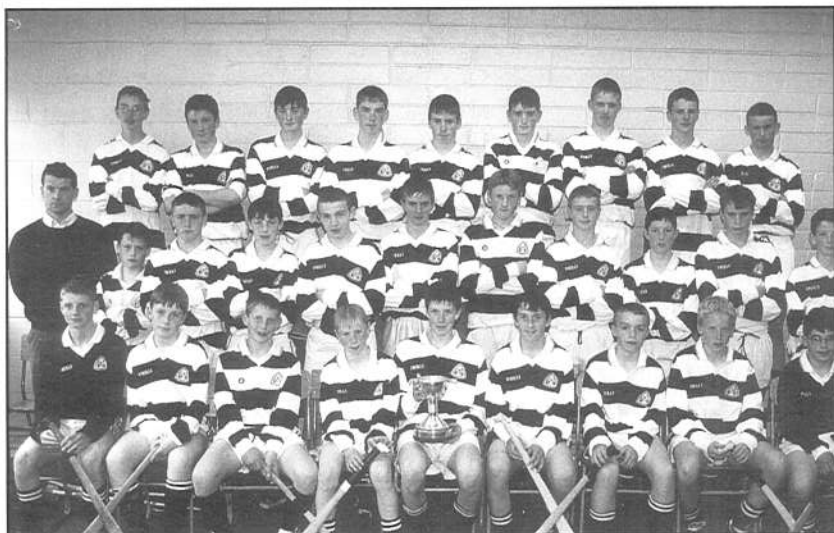
JUVENILE HURLING CHAMPIONSHIP

1997 LEINSTER A CHAMPIONS

Back Row: L. Hennessy, D. Prendergast, S. Whelan, P. Kennedy, M. Heffernan, C. Whelan, J. Lennon, A. Doyle, R. Collins-Hughes.

Middle Row: Mr T. Hogan (Trainer), L. Ryan, D. Grogan, E. Reid, J. Hickey, D. O'Neill, B. Gallagher, S. Maher, E. Fitzpatrick, E. O'Gorman, B. Moloney.

Front Row: D. Nolan, J. Murphy, J. Tennyson, J. Fitzpatrick, M. Rice (Captain), E. Larkin, G. Hickey, E. Holohan, D. Healy.



1998 LEINSTER B CHAMPIONS

Back Row: P. Butler, Mr J. Quane (Trainer), P. Kennedy, C. Gilligan, J. O'Brien, J. Quane, J. Walsh, J. Tennyson, S. Maher, E. O'Gorman, D. Murphy, Mr T. Hogan (Trainer), E. Reid.

Middle Row: J. Connolly, E. Brennan, P. Walsh, M. Aylward, P. Atkinson, S. Prendergast, P. Wall, L. Ryan, B. Moloney, M. Bergin

Front Row: D. O'Neill, D. Bergin, G. Hickey, D. Healy, J. Fitzpatrick (Captain), J. Murphy, D. Prendergast, D. Cody, R. Power.



1999 LEINSTER CHAMPIONS



Back Row: D. Kelly, J. Dermody, M. Walsh, M. Fitzpatrick, D. Bergin, E. Everard, N. Prendergast, E. Walsh, P. Treacy, M. Bergin, P. Hogan, P. Kennedy, M. Nolan.

Middle Row: T. Keogh, W. Norton, P. Walsh, R. Power, M. Mackey, J. Walsh, P. Butler, N. Fennelly, R. O'Shea, J. Connolly, M. Neary, J. Quane.

Front Row: Mr J. Quane (Trainer), J. Hayes, M. Aylward, D. O'Neill, D. Cody, D. Fitzpatrick, S. Prendergast, R. Walsh, Mr T. Hogan (Trainer), Mr R. Mc Evoy (Vice Principal).

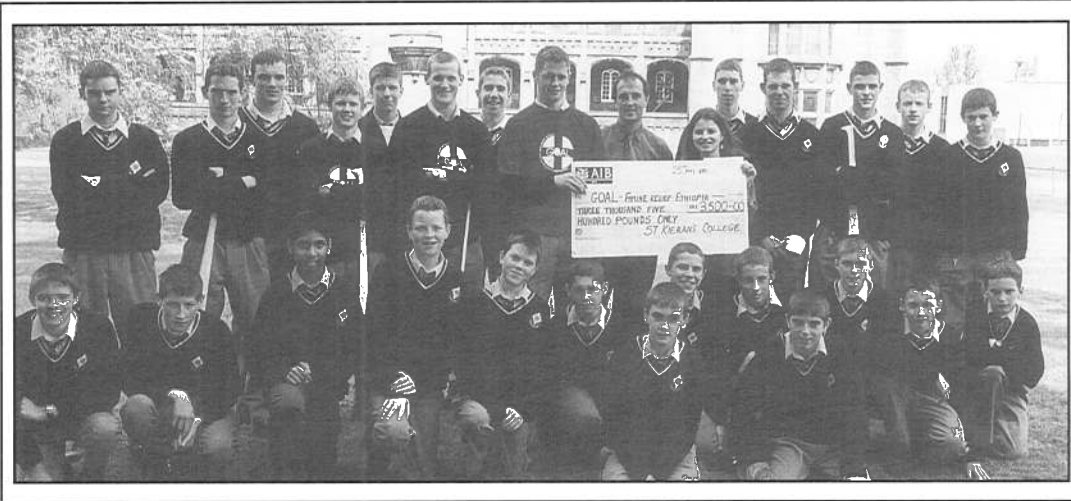
School in Belfast. Teams from both schools have visited each other, hosted by families, and enjoyed coaching sessions and games during these exchanges.

While interest and energy is often perceived to be concentrated on hurling St Kieran's College has also enjoyed a growing and developing interest in Football. Fielding teams at Under 14 and Under 16 levels St Kieran's have competed in the B competition in recent years. While it is notable the number of students who are involved in hurling as well as football the presence of the

football squads facilitates a number of students whose interest and background may be more in the direction of football than hurling.

The 2000/2001 hurling year began with St Kieran's completing a three in a row of Leinster Hurling League titles in December. In only its third year this league provides competitive league games before Christmas and determines the draws for the Championship that commences in February. A big win over St Flannan's in the annual challenge for the old Croke Cup in January was

followed by a quarter final victory over St Peter's. Hopes of retaining Leinster and All-Ireland crowns looked good. All changed in March however with the outbreak of 'Foot and Mouth' disease. The semi-final was re-scheduled against the combined Dublin Colleges team and the game eventually took place in Parnell Park in late April. St Kieran's were only a shadow of themselves and despite a gallant performance by the 'Black and White' a spirited Dublin Colleges earned a deserved victory in a nail biting game that was decided only after extra time.



GOAL FAMINE RELIEF

The senior hurlers present a cheque for £3,500 to GOAL for the relief of famine in Ethiopia.

VISIT OF U21 TEAM

The victorious U21 Kilkenny team visit the College with their trophy. Former students Martin Comerford, Sean Dowling, Alan Geoghegan, Jimmy Coogan and Henry Shefflin meet with a group of first years in 2000.



VISIT OF THE SENIOR HURLING TEAM 2000

In September 2000 the former students who were members of the Kilkenny Senior All-Ireland Hurling team and Brian Cody visited the College. The students and staff gathered on the front lawn and the team were introduced.



SUCCESS - IN BLACK AND WHITE



Enda McEvoy is the hurling correspondent of the Sunday Tribune and author of Fennessy's Field - A Century of Hurling at St Kieran's College. A student of St Kieran's, doing his Leaving Certificate in 1986, he studied journalism. He was invited to write a reflection upon the contribution of past pupils of St Kieran's to hurling in Kilkenny during the 1990s.

In recognition of his work Enda was guest of honour at the Annual Awards Ceremony in 1999 and awarded the Past Pupil of the Year Award.

When it comes to reviewing the contribution of St Kieran's College to Kilkenny hurling in the 1990s, there's an obvious if paradoxical place to begin. No, not any point in time during said decade, but some months later - at Croke Park shortly after 5pm on the second Sunday of September 2000. More of that anon.

But let's be different, train our sights elsewhere and look instead to Semple Stadium on February 25th 2001. Graigue-Ballycallan, the Kilkenny champions, and Sixmilebridge of Clare have just played out a thrilling draw in the All Ireland club hurling semi-final. The star of the show, the AIB man of the match, is none other than Graigue's Adrian Ronan, who's landed a whopping 1-5 from play. Clearly it is not only in the black and amber stripes that the hurling alumni of St Kieran's make their mark. And Ronan, for the benefit of younger readers, is one of its most celebrated hurling alumni: the hero of the school's 1988 All Ireland Colleges victory against Midleton CBS at Walsh Park, the star of Kilkenny's All Ireland minor triumph the following September, called up for the county senior team a month later. While one particular school of thought may contend that Ronan never quite delivered on the glittering promise of his teenage hurling career, under-21 honours and two All Ireland senior medals with Kilkenny constitute a pretty decent riposte to that line of argument. And he's still plugging away helping to bake the daily bread at home with Graigue-Ballycallan.

Therein lies arguably the true index of satisfaction from a St Kieran's standpoint. It's all very well, and very desirable, that the college should produce performers who grace the national stage. It's even more important, however, that the school should also play its part in irrigating the local hurling landscape. Happily these targets are not mutually exclusive: quite the reverse, indeed. So Kilkenny win the millennium All Ireland with a team managed by Brian Cody, one of the college's greatest centre-backs ever, and assisted by Johnny Walsh, who wore the black and white hoops in the mid-1960s. And Graigue-Ballycallan reach the All Ireland club final under the guidance of Jim Neary, another St Kieran's past pupil, one of whose selectors is Tom Hogan, a 'Kieranite' of the late 1970s. High achievement on both of the aforementioned counts.

Such was the story throughout the 1990s, success by the pupils of St Kieran's on the colleges field being complemented by success by the past pupils of St Kieran's on the intercounty field. Pat Dwyer, Pat O'Neill, D. J. Carey and Eamon Morrissey in the vanguard of Kilkenny's McCarthy Cup double of 1992-93. O'Neill, the RTE man of the match in 1992, P. J. Delaney the matchwinner against Galway the following year. All Ireland colleges' glory for their alma mater in 1990, 1992, 1993 and 1996. Neat symmetry.

Now fast forward to millennium All Ireland final day and the heartening spread of schools represented on the winning side. Callan CBS with Noel Hickey, John Power and Denis Byrne. Kilkenny CBS with James McGarry and John Hoyne. Good Counsel of New Ross with Willie O'Connor. And, yes, St Kieran's College, with Michael Kavanagh in the Kilkenny full-back line, Philip Larkin and Peter Barry at half-back, Andy Comerford and Brian McEvoy in the middle of the field and the blessed trinity of Charlie Carter, D. J. Carey and Henry Shefflin in the full-forward line. Just for good measure, the two men who came on as substitutes, Canice Brennan and the unrelated Eddie Brennan, received their second-level education on the College Road too.

Ten Kieran's men out of an All Ireland-winning 17. No real need to say anything more, is there?



Above: Brian Cody receives the Philips Sports Manager of the Month for September 2000 from David Rafferty of Philips.

Left: All Ireland Champions 2000

FENNESSY'S FIELD



Art Anglin, a native of Belfast, was a member of staff in St Kieran's and a faithful supporter of all who wore the black and white. He has followed many of the recent Kieran's teams with interest and watched many graduate to county and club competitions. He reviews Fennessy's Field - A Century of Hurling in St Kieran's by Enda McEvoy.

Fennessy's Field is most informative and very enjoyable. Being a former student in the College must have contributed somewhat to the author's ability to capture the atmosphere of St Kieran's College in his portrayal of events there.

This might have been a book of mostly hurling statistics. Instead the author's approach has enlivened each topic to provide a warm and newsy read. It is, nevertheless, a wonderful reference book of facts and figures. At first you might miss this aspect of the book, because of his easy style of mixing anecdote with statistic.

Fennessy's field was "proving ground, practice pitch and performance arena" for hundreds of St Kieran's students who made it at one level or another in the hurling world. "Some of the names became the stuff of hurling legend..... others dominated championship and league encounters at college, county, provincial and All Ireland level....." The year 2000 and 2001 have proved once again the veracity of these quotes.

Though the blurb on the cover states, "A hurling history of St Kieran's College", the author goes further and includes a short history of the College from its beginning as the first Catholic second-level school after the Penal Days. He follows the emergence of its hurling identity in the years 1906-1920 and it is interesting to find that St Kieran's hurling opponents were Blackrock College, Castleknock, Dublin Dominican College, Newbridge and Mount St Joseph's College Roscrea. Nowadays these colleges are better known as leading rugby colleges.

Excerpts from most newspapers, anecdotes from those who were party to the successes, and a lovely mixture of fact, observation and asides, add to the richness of the book. It is interesting to learn that Nicky Rackard of Wexford fame and Monsignor Tommy Maher, with similar Kilkenny status, played on the same St Kieran's winning combination. Later in 1957 the successful St Kieran's team included Mgr Martin Campion, later President of St Kieran's College, Ollie Harrington, vice principal in Kilkenny College, Dick Dowling, Fine Gael T.D., Ted Carroll who served Kilkenny so well as player and County Secretary, and Eddie Keher, Bank Manager and hurler extraordinaire. Looking at later teams it is not now surprising that they were so successful when you consider how many future stars were blended together in each winning outfit. The team photos contain the faces of many who went on to win All-Ireland medals and All-Star awards.

One interesting aside to the hurling story is the contribution

of the "outsiders" to the College and, ultimately, to Kilkenny hurling. Among those who trained All-Ireland winning teams for St Kieran's were Nicky Cashin from Waterford, Tommy Lanigan from Laois, Denis Philpott from Cork and Pat Murphy from Carlow. Those from Kilkenny who master minded All-Ireland success include Adrian Finan from Thomastown, Dermot Healy from Conahy and that doyen of hurling coaches and native of Gowran Monsignor Tommy Maher.

In recalling 1993 and its achievements the author acknowledges another aspect of St Kieran's. "The college went to war on two sporting fronts provincially, and swept all before them in each. Leinster champions again in hurling, Leinster champions in soccer also." He talks about the College's success in a replay over St Joseph's Fairview in Buckley Park, Kilkenny. "Key man for Jim Carew's soccer starlets", he writes, "was Brendan Dalton, the sweeper, a key man with the hurlers as well". He adds a comment from Nicky Purcell that the previous time he was at a match with the same opposition Charlie Haughey toggled out for St Joseph's Fairview. Another little gem from Enda's research.

In his final page Enda writes "Some certainties endure. Sound structures, stirring traditions, fanatically enthusiastic and knowledgeable staff, a stringent work ethic on the training field, an unbending emphasis on discipline and sportsmanship..... the College's success story will continue". It has!



Toshinari Okido is a sixth year student in St Kieran's College. From Japan and in his second year in St Kieran's he writes about why he is in Ireland. We invited him to write about hurling and what his impressions are about our native sport.

Everyone asks me why I came to Ireland; why Ireland? Why did I not go to England or America? My answer is I don't know! Maybe that is because I came to Ireland before I decided to study in Ireland. The priest in my parish in Japan used to bring Japanese people to Kilkenny to study English so I came when I was 12. I never expected to return but when I was 15 I wanted to be a chef and I wanted to go to a school to study cookery. My parents did not want me to leave school so they encouraged me to go abroad and learn English - and they suggested Ireland because I had already been here. School in Japan is very different. In Japan we have to memorize everything - there is very little room to question!

I had never seen such an exciting and dangerous sport as hurling until I came to Kilkenny. The first time I saw a hurling match was the 1998 All Ireland Hurling Final. The players used a stick to hit a ball and also to block a shot. I could not say a word. It was so amazing!

After that I came to like hurling. Before I go back to Japan I would love to see the All Ireland final again in the stadium in Dublin.....of course a match that Kilkenny will be playing and winning!

SOCCER

As the class of '76 gathered recently to celebrate their 25th anniversary among the many memories shared were those of the beginnings of competitive soccer in St Kieran's. Francis Grincell and Maurice Walsh chatted to John Poyntz who has been involved ever since and won all honours in the local game. Players like Peter Murtagh and Domo Connolly who played for Ireland had few equals in the local game.

Around that time the Kilkenny and District league introduced a schools competition 'The Calnan Cup' to promote the game locally. However very few teams competed initially and St Kieran's recognised the need to compete in Leinster Cup competitions which were regionalised at that time.

The following years were difficult as teams were fielded at U-14, 16 and 18 levels. There were many memorable games: tales of near misses, going out on penalties, hard luck stories, defeat in the latter stages of the competition, winning at U-16 Leinster but never the "big one": The Leinster Cup.

Eventually the deadlock was broken and the senior cup came to St Kieran's in 1993. The players from that team still get together and remember, like little children on Christmas morning, the euphoria of the occasion.

At last the fear of playing the big teams was gone. The following few years were very successful as teams trained harder and had better coaching. St Kieran's were back in the Senior finals in '96 – losing to Drimnagh Castle after a replay – and in 1997 when they lost to St Joseph's of

Fairview – the defeated finalists of 1993. Participation in the Leicester tournament and the Ian Rushe Tournament continued to foster the game in the College. The past few years have seen the age groups change to U-13, 15 and 17 and it is taking time to adapt and so there is perhaps less success. There is no doubt that the wheel will turn again and St Kieran's will be up with the best. The continued involvement by teachers is vital to the promotion of the game. Earlier this year legendary Jairzinho of the Mexico world champions team 1970 visited the college with hurling legend and past pupil D. J. Carey to promote a SAMBA soccer Summer camp. Several St Kieran's College students were involved in this experience during the summer.

Players who represented St Kieran's in soccer have contributed to the development of the game in the local leagues as players, mentors and administrators. Some have represented county, province and country, such as the Holden brothers Patrick and Brian; Brian Jordan, Michael Comerford with Kilkenny City, Shane Carew with Shelbourne and now on a soccer scholarship in North Carolina; Damien Hurley who his now a PE teacher in Norwich; Brendan Dalton, Eamonn Daly, Andy Comerford, Philip Larkin, Brian McEvoy, Henry Shefflin and many more.

We look forward to many more opportunities for St Kieran's students to continue the tradition that has brought glory to the College wearing the famous black and white of the College and given many hours of fulfilment and enjoyment to countless people over the past thirty years or so.

Damian Kelly



My name is Damian Kelly and I play for Cherry Orchard Football Club in Dublin. I moved there at the start of the 2001 season. The standard of football in my new club is very high and I am looking forward to the experience that it will give me.

Last year was my most successful year to date - I had the opportunity to travel to England on 'trial' with a number of premiership clubs. I have been to Leeds, Newcastle, Aston Villa, Nottingham Forest, Everton, Middlesborough and I am looking forward to more visits this season.

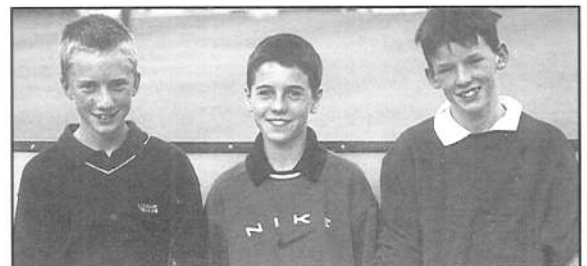
I was chosen for the U-14 Ireland team last year and played a few matches against Holland, Scotland and Northern Ireland. This season I will be representing Ireland in the U-15 squad.

Here in Kieran's I have had the opportunity to compete at U-13 and U-15 levels. I enjoy the game at every level and I am delighted that I am getting the opportunities to play at different age groups and in different competitions.

Left: Jason Mullins, Jamie Whitty and Cian Walsh at Buckley Park.

Below left: Maurice Harkin and Conor O'Grady in happy mood.

Below right: Mr Don O'Connor, Mr Martin O'Neill meet Jairzinho outside St Kieran's during the summer of 2001.



CROSS COUNTRY RUNNING



St Kieran's had a successful cross country season in 2000-2001. The high point of the season was the U-14 team winning a Leinster title at the recent Cross Country Championship at Knockbeg College, Carlow. The season started last October with a first year gallop around the school grounds. Healthy pre-race rivalry between the classes and the students was evident with individuals out to prove themselves against their peers. Athletic running ability was easily identified over the mile long school course. Nearly one hundred runners finished the event.

Pupils went into training for the inter-school competition. Students of all ages were encouraged to run and nearly forty took up the challenge of this demanding sport. Training schedules and programmes were discussed and lunchtime runs down to the Castle Park became the routine. All runners were advised to join and train with their local athletic clubs.



Teams to represent the school were chosen. The inter school races are very competitive. St Kieran's entered four teams in the South Leinster Cross Country Championship at Newbridge Co Kildare. A total of thirty three runners represented the school. The U-14 team won their race in style comfortably beating off Presentation Carlow. Killian Everard and Eoin O'Shea were 2nd and 3rd respectively. The U-17 team were silver medallists with fine individual performances by Eoin Everard and Shane Collins. The U-19 team were most impressive, easily winning gold due to the running prowess of Dermot Cummins, Colin Barry and Noel Kelleher. Scoil Aireagal Ballyhale were second in the senior team competition. Three St Kieran's teams qualified for the Leinster championship at Knockbeg College. The U-17 and U-19 teams were not in the medal positions but the U-14 team again won gold squeezing out Willow Park, Blackrock and St Joseph's Drogheda.

Track and Field athletics is also experiencing a renaissance in recent years. Presently in the college there are some exciting prospects. Adrian O'Dwyer is making a name internationally as a high jumper. Dermot Cummins and Jamie Quane are concentrating their efforts on middle distance running, the 800m and 400m respectively. Some younger athletes are also showing great promise - in particular Eoin Kelly in the hurdles.

In all great encouragement for many more to get involved and to be part of this ancient sport. Winter and summer there is a welcome to all to participate at whatever level they choose and commit themselves.

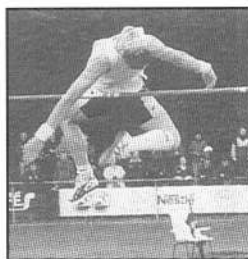
Above left: Students who won gold medals (under 15) and silver medals (under 17) in the South Leinster Cross Country Schools Championship. In front (from left): Philip Long, Philip Walsh, Eoin Everard (third overall), Shane Collins, Adrian Harkin.

Centre: Shane Corcoran, Jamie Quane, Darren O'Neill, John Madigan, Graham Scanlon. Behind: Mr John O'Keeffe, Dermot Cummins (third overall), Daniel Coady, Colin Barry and Brian Malone.

Centre Left: Back Row: James Doyle, Adrian Dwyer
Middle Row: Eoin Kelly, Jamie Quane, Eoin Everard
Mr Billy Bolster with Ciaran Cleere from Bank of Ireland

Below Left: Robert Hehir, Mr John O'Keeffe, Darren O'Neill, P. J. O'Keeffe and Jamie Quane

HIGH JUMP RECORD BREAKER



We congratulate Adrian O'Dwyer on his many achievements in the past few years. At school, local, national and international events Adrian has many records. In this year alone at senior level he was first in the schools' All Ireland high jump (2.06m), first in Derby with a 2.05 metre record, in Cardiff first with a 2.02 metre jump and in the under 20 division at the Cork International Meeting he was first again with a 2.10 metre record jump. We wish him well in the future.

EQUESTRIAN SPORTS

Over the past number of years interest in equine sports has grown significantly. St Kieran's now presents teams in Hunter Trials and Show Jumping each year. Along with this many of our students compete at regional, national and international events.

The most significant aspect of the sport, from a school point of view, has been the co-operation between St Kieran's College and Kilkenny College over the past two years. St Kieran's and Kilkenny College have played host to the Inter-Schools Hunter Trials in 2000 and planning was at an advanced stage for the 2001 competition when, due to the Foot and Mouth scare, the event was put on hold. Plans are now in place for the event to take place in Ballyfoyle in March 2002.

In 1999 horses and boxes headed to Tipperary for the annual meeting of schools. St Kieran's were All Ireland Champions from the previous year and success was theirs again this year: three teams were placed in the top ten. Second were Conor Whelan, James O'Farrell and Eddie Costello, third were Bill Keogh, Michael Downey and Don Callanan, and eighth were Edward Fitzpatrick, Richard Fitzpatrick and George Frisby. Kilkenny College were placed first.

The competition in 2000 was held on the lands of Mr John Fogarty at Coolmeen in Ballyhale hosted jointly by St Kieran's and Kilkenny College. Both colleges had previously hosted the competition but on this occasion a committee from both schools

undertook the task. At the public launch of the competition at County Hall on February 23rd Bishop Laurence Forristal and Bishop John Neill welcomed the continued and growing co-operation between the two diocesan colleges. Canon Black and Mr Míchaél Ó Diarmada welcomed all gathered - the national committee, students, teachers, parents and friends of both schools - and it was an opportunity for the principal of St Kieran's to show off his wide knowledge of equine ancestry of the county!

125 teams were present on the day and St Kieran's had .. teams and were delighted to again be placed among the prize winners. The pressure was on St Kieran's College - the record of previous years always urged the riders to give their best.. The team event was won by Loreto Convent The Green and St Kieran's, represented by Thomas Keogh, Bill Keogh and Don Callanan, were placed second in the team event. Each of the competitors also were invited to take part in the individual competition and Conor Whelan, riding Robocop, came home with first prize in the Junior Individual Competition.

The 2001 competition was again in the hands of the two schools and was planned for the lands of Matt and Kay Hogan in Ballyfoyle. The public launch of the event again brought many familiar faces back together but the venue on this occasion was the Chamber of Kilkenny Corporation. Hosting the night was Mayor Paul Cuddihy - Chef d'Equipe of Kilkenny College and Lord Mayor of Kilkenny. The assembled group were treated to a



most interesting talk by Daithi O'hOgain, the Department of Folklore UCD who shared with us many of the legends and traditions associated with horses both nationally and locally - some true and some legendary! It was with great regret that the competition had to be postponed but already both schools are looking forward to the challenge and pleasure of hosting this marvellous national school event in March 2002.

Showjumping competitions have also attracted teams each year. Venues such as the Portlaoise Equestrian Centre and Warrington Equestrian Centre in Kilkenny have welcomed teams wearing the Black and White of St Kieran's. Thomas Keogh, Alan Drennan, Ivan Dalton and Thomas Downey were successful when they represented the college there in May 2001. Already since September 2001 students have been very successful in the various inter school competitions.

All of the students are involved in Pony Clubs throughout the county. Students have participated in Tetrathlon, Eventing, Pony Club Hunter Trials, Showjumping and Mounted Games. Michael and Thomas Downey have won All Ireland Individual Junior Tetrathlon. Thomas Downey has represented Ireland in Windsor for the International Mounted Games Competition in 1999. In 2000 Michael Downey was a member of the Senior Irish International Tetrathlon Team that was placed first in Scotland and Ireland and was second in England. James O'Farrell and Robert Quinn both have amateur licences to ride races and have featured in races in throughout Ireland.

As we go to print the arrangements for the 2002 Inter-Schools Hunter Trials, hosted again by St Kieran's and Kilkenny College, are well under way and we look forward to the national event in Ballyfoyle.

HORSE LORE

We publish a presentation by Mr Daithi O'hOgain, Associate Professor in the Department of Irish Folklore in UCD. A native of Ballyfoyle he has written many books on Irish folklore: Fionn MacCumhaill and The Hero in Irish Folklore. A well known presenter on RTE radio and television he presented this reflection on the place of the horse in Irish folklore at the launch of the 2000 Inter Schools Hunter Trials.

There is a strong emphasis on horses in Irish tradition. The old writers were accurately reflecting the status of the horse in their culture when they ascribed its introduction in mythic times to the god Lugh, but archaeology shows that horses had in fact been part of life in the country long before either the cult of Lugh or the Celts themselves arrived here.

The Celtic people were noted in Europe for their fine horsemanship, and their goddess of horses, Epona, was adopted as patroness by the Roman cavalry. The name Epona (which meant something like 'revered horse-lady') was in fact a variant designation for the mother-goddess, who was more usually called Rigantona ('the revered queen') or in Irish the Mór-Ríoghain ('great queen'). Another name for the Mór-Ríoghain among the ancient Ulstermen was Macha, and so it is not surprising to find the story of a beautiful lady called Macha who was a great runner and capable even of defeating horses in a race! In the Irish literature, both heroes and saints had their faithful horses - the black Saingliu of Cú Chulainn, for example, and the faithful old white horse of St Colmcille.

Ordinary folklore stressed the very close contact between horse and man by some curious traditions. We are told that horses once had speech, and for that reason one should always speak to a horse 'as if it were a Christian'. Equine nature is said to be very closely akin to human, and it was even claimed that the horse has one rib of the human in his body. Perhaps resenting the leading position of humans among the creatures, the equine species is said to have a certain animosity towards the humans. Horses, indeed, might even kill people, except for a fortunate quirk of their eyesight. For, to the convex eye of a horse, humans look several times bigger and stronger than we are, and this saves us from being savaged!

A common tendency in human thought is to express the social importance of things by attributing a spiritual significance to them. Horses were very important animals and, accordingly, much lore represents them as being close to the otherworld. They can, for instance, see ghosts which remain unseen to the human eye, and

many accounts tell of a horse stopping at a particular place and not moving despite the efforts of its rider or driver. If one looks forward between the two ears of the horse, it is claimed that the spirit or shade which has caused it to halt can be seen. Perhaps the origin of such ideas is in the very keen sense of smell which horses have and which causes them to notice many more things than humans do.

Because of its crucial value for agriculture and transport, the owner of a horse tended to be himself quite nervous for its welfare, and thus beliefs abounded concerning many unexpected dangers which might lie in the animal's way. Often when the owner would come to the stable in the morning he would find the horse in a lather of sweat, and this was explained as the result of it being stolen overnight by some neighbour who rode with the fairies. These otherworld beings themselves were thought to be a danger to horses, as they might wish to abduct a fine one. From this arose the custom of tying a red ribbon or a piece of hazel to the horse, or of spitting on it, for all these things repelled the fairies. Moreover, it was said that the horse sneezed in order to keep fairies and spirits out of reach. One of the greatest dangers to the animal's welfare was believed to be the evil eye of some begrudging person, and to prevent this the Sign of the Cross was frequently made over the horse.

One type of horse was well able to defend itself, if tradition be credited. This was the 'true mare' (fíorláir), defined as the seventh filly foal born to its dam without any colt being born in the interval. No evil force could interfere with such a mare, and whoever was riding it was secure from all harm. If a racehorse, the true mare could never be bested. It was further believed that where the true mare fell to the ground at its birth a shamrock grew. This had four leaves and was known as the seamair Mhuire (Mary's Clover). It was considered to have curative and protective powers and was a favourite talisman. Most horses have some luck attached to them, according to folklore. People liked to allow a horse to trample a little on seeds when sown, as this would cause them to sprout well, and the horse's halter was believed to bring good luck and should always be retained when the animal was sold. The horseshoe, of course, was believed to contain good luck, but this probably relates to its container shape rather than to its specific association with the horse.

Not all horses, however, were considered lucky. A foal born at Whitsuntide was held to have a vicious nature, and a white horse was generally considered an unlucky thing to see. A horse with

four white feet was difficult to sell, as animals with this colouring were popularly believed to be of intractable disposition. There was much speculation, and many different maxims, concerning the best colour for a horse, but a white mark in the forehead was usually considered a good sign. A detailed system of evaluating good traits in a horse has been popular in Ireland for several centuries. According to this the perfect horse should have 'three traits of a bull – bold walk, strong neck, and hard forehead; three traits of a hare – bright eye, lively ear, and swift run; three traits of a woman – broad breast, slender waist, and short back'*. The close relationship of equine and human is underlined by other parallels in beliefs concerning both, such as the idea that a foal born with a caul will be a great racehorse, and that a mare in foal should never be put under a hearse or brought near to a corpse.

The horse was the closest companion to man in travel, work, and sport, and this close relationship led to the notion that the ideal rider was one who appeared to be part of the same being as his mount - in other words 'two in one'. Expert horsemen, of course, were held in high regard, and their trade could be quite a lucrative one, especially for those who could handle wild or vicious stallions. Some individuals had this skill, which seems to have been due to a combination of courage and manipulation of the horse's keen sense of smell. Various substances with odour either pleasant or odious to the animal could be used to calm it, halt it firmly on the road, or drive it wild. One of the favourite items used to calm a horse was the substance found in a foal's mouth after its birth, the greim searraigh or 'foal's milk', but it was usually complemented by a variety of medical oils. The explanation given, however, was that a savage horse could be tamed by whispering into its ear a special secret word. The most celebrated of these horse-whisperers was a Corkman called James Sullivan who flourished in the early 19th century. He met with astounding success, rendering tame and rideable even killer horses. In the year

1810 he performed his greatest feat when he so quietened a notorious stallion, called 'Black and All Black', on the Curragh of Kildare that the animal actually took part in a race and won on the occasion. Lore of his native area claims that, having tamed a horse, he could with a word make it lie on its back with its four hooves in the air, so that a glass filled with drink could be balanced on each hoof and not a drop would be spilt!

*This (with apologies to all our lady-friends!) goes as follows in Irish:

Trí tréithe an tairbh - siúl dána, muineál láidir, agus éadan cruá;
Trí tréithe an ghiorria - súil gheal, cluas thapa, agus rith mear;
Trí tréithe na mná - ucht leathan, com caol, agus drom gairid!

H A N D B A L L



Pictured with Mr Tom Looby are handballers Maurice Nolan, Niall McEvoy and Damien Kelly who won the Lenister Juvenile Handball Champions A and B in 2001.

In September 2000 St Kieran's participated in the Inter Schools Matchplay organised by the Golfing Union of Ireland. It is run on a league basis within the district, the top scoring school getting through to the Leinster knock out stage. Unfortunately, the opposition proved too strong and despite a gallant effort by all involved we were unsuccessful in qualifying. The panel was Dermot Kearney, Niall Kenny, Patrick Butler,

Conor Mannion, James Crotty and Conor Whelan. On the Junior front the picture was more positive. The school entered a team of three in a competition open to students in Junior Cycle only. This panel was Patrick Butler, James, Crotty, Mark O'Brien, Conor Whelan, Mark Gypps. The team of Patrick Butler, James Crotty and Mark O'Brien were narrowly beaten on a very wet day in Borris Golf Club.



G O L F

Below: (left to right): Ms Wymess, Mark Gypps, Patrick Butler, Mark O'Brien and James Crotty
The Junior Golf Team in St Kieran's 2000-2001



STUDENT AWARDS JUNE 1999

THE SUBJECT AWARDS

Maths (Junior): Robert Collins Hughes

Maths (Senior): Martin Donovan

Art (Senior): Patrick Walsh

Art (Junior): Stephen Hennessy

Business Studies (Junior): Colm Gerraghy

Business (Senior) Eoghan Guinan

English (Junior): Morgan McEvoy

English (Senior): Mark Phelan

Languages (Junior): Declan O'Neill

Languages (Senior): Paddy Hogan

Classics (Junior): Emmanuel English

Classics (Senior): Padraig Shortall

CERTIFICATES OF MERIT

Niall Muldoon, Andrew Power, Paul O'Donovan

CONSTRUCTION STUDIES

THE JOE DOHERTY PERPETUAL TROPHY

John Prendergast

MUSIC

John Donovan

CORN NA GAELGE

Eoghan Guinan

SCIENCE

Damien O'Neill

HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY

Joseph Buggy

THE FRANK MULDOWNEY AWARD FOR BEST RESULTS IN JUNIOR CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION

Kevin Shortall

SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENTS AWARDS

COMPUTER PROGRAMMING

Eamon Phelan

4th Place in Ireland

BALLROOM DANCING

Laurence Somers

Irish Champion

Represented Ireland in European Championships in Budapest

and is Intermediate Champion of Wales

CENTRE FOR TALENTED YOUTH DCU

Eamon Phelan and Morgan McEvoy

GAA MATCH REPORTING

Barry Hogan

MUSIC

John Donovan

Winner Wind Instrument Arklow Music Festival

David Wallace

National Youth Orchestra

Stephen Shortall

All Ireland Accordion Championship U-15

ART

Joseph Bolger and Niall O'Brien

Drug Awareness Art Competition Winner

Eamon Power

Drug Awareness Art Competition - Slogan Award

James Carew & Eddie Corr

"Muse" Exhibition National Museum

L.C.V.P.

William Holohan

TALKING NEWSPAPER

David Morris, Ian Doran

Paddy Walshe, Mark Lane

ESSAY

Philip Walshe

Irish Times/Library Board Runner Up

Brian Dowling, Thomas Walton

Evan O'Shaughnessy, Darren O'Neill

Sunday Tribune/Encounter 2001 National Winners

Michael Crotty

Parents Council Essay Winner

CAIRDEAS REPRESENTATIVE

John Quinn

on behalf of those involved in the Programme

TRANSITION YEAR ENDEAVOUR AWARDS

Robert Aylward, James Corr and Stephen Knox

ACADEMIC OF THE YEAR

1st Year: Niall Muldoon

2nd Year: Cormac Gilligan

3rd. Year: Morgan McEvoy

5th. Year: Padraig Shortall

6th. Year: Eoghan Guinan

BOARDER OF THE YEAR AWARDS

Junior: Cormac Gilligan

Senior: John Murphy

1999 PAST PUPIL AWARD

Mr Enda McEvoy

S P O R T S A W A R D S

BOXING

Darren O'Neill

U-13 Champion

SWIMMING

Kieran Byrne

Bronze Medal in the 1999 Irish Championship and Leinster Squad Member

Killian Byrne

Smithwick's Sports Star of the Month Winner

ATHLETICS

P. J. O'Keefe

All Irish Champion Under 14 Walk

Jamie Quane

2nd Leinster Championship 500m

Graham Scanlon

3rd Leinster Championship Triple Jump

Rugby

Stephen Dunne

Member of the Munster Provincial Panel

EQUESTRIAN

Conor Whelan, James O'Farrell,

Eddie Costello

2nd in the All Ireland Inter Schools Hunter Trials

Bill Keogh, Michael Downey and George Frisby

3rd in the All Ireland Inter Schools Hunter Trials

Michael Downey

All Ireland Minimus Champion

U15 County Champion

Patrick O'Flynn

SOCCER

U-13 South Leinster Champions

U-15 South Leinster Runners Up

PLAYERS OF THE YEAR

U-13: Richard Brennan

U-15 John Comerford

U-17: Kenny Lynch

SPECIAL AWARD

Damien Kelly

Selection on Irish U-15 Team

GAA

HURLING

Juvenile A Leinster Shield Winners

Junior Leinster Champions

Senior Hurling League and

Leinster Championship Winners

Hurling Players of the Year

Juvenile: David Prendergast

Junior: Brian Carroll

Senior: John Coogan

Minor County Representatives

Brian Carroll (Offaly)

Jackie Tyrell (Kilkenny)

Gary Whelan (Kilkenny)

Martin Og Kennedy (Kilkenny)

Liam Heffernan (Kilkenny)

Owen Kelly (Tipperary)

GAELIC FOOTBALL

The Alfie Sheehy Award for

Gaelic Footballer of Year

Gerard Prendergast

SPORTS STAR OF THE YEAR FOR 1999

Adrian O'Dwyer

STUDENT OF THE YEAR

1st Year: Donnacha Cody

2nd Year: Cormac Gilligan

3rd Year: Eamonn Phelan

4th Year: Alan Bourke

5th Year: Padraig Shortall

OVERALL STUDENT OF THE YEAR FOR 1999

6th Year: Killian Byrne

STUDENT AWARDS JUNE 2000

THE SUBJECT AWARDS

Maths (Junior): James Freeman
 Maths (Senior): Pdraig Shortall
 Art (Senior): James Carew
 Art (Junior): Eamonn McEvoy
 Business Studies (Junior) D Delaney
 English (Junior): Paul O'Donovan
 English (Senior): James Freeman
 Languages (Junior): Eoin O'Reilly

CONSTRUCTION STUDIES THE JOE DOHERTY PERPETUAL TROPHY

George Frisby

MUSIC

John Donovan
 John Joe O'Farrell
 David Wallace
 Vincent Mulvin

CORN NA GAELIGE

Pdraig Shortall

THE FRANK MULDOWNEY AWARD FOR BEST RESULTS IN JUNIOR CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION

Colm Gerraghy

LCVP

William Holohan

TRANSITION YEAR AWARDS

Daniel Coady
 Mark Brady
 Ciaran Cooke
 James Blanchfield

ACADEMIC OF THE YEAR

1st Year: Thomas Downey
 2nd Year: Jamie Quane
 3rd Year: James Fitzpatrick
 5th Year: G Fitzpatrick
 6th Year: Pdraig Shortall

COMPUTERS

Joe Mullaly

ART

Paul Cullen

L.C.V.P.

Jonathan Meighan

CHESS

Vincent O'Regan

ESSAY

Eamon Power, James O'Sullivan

BOARDER OF THE YEAR AWARDS

Junior: Cormac Gilligan
 Senior: John Dermody

2000 PAST PUPIL AWARD

Mr Seamus Pattison

SPORTS AWARDS

BOXING

Darren O'Neill

SWIMMING

Michael Downey
Tetralhlon

Conor Mannion

Life Saving All Ireland Award

ATHLETICS

P. J. O Keffe

EQUESTRIAN

Conor Whelan

*Junior Individual All-Ireland Champion
 Hunter Trials*

Thomas Keogh, Bill Keogh
 and Don Callanan

2nd All-Ireland Inter Schools Hunter Trials

SOCCER

PLAYERS OF THE YEAR

U-13: D Kelly

U-15 M Rice

U-17: John Comerford

GAA

HURLING

*Juvenile A Leinster Shield Winners
 Junior Leinster Champions*

*Senior Hurling League Champions
 Leinster and All-Ireland Senior Champions*

Hurling Players of the Year

Juvenile: John Walshe
 Junior: Michael Rice
 Senior: Eoin Kelly

GAELIC FOOTBALL

*The Alfie Sheehy Award for
 Gaelic Footballer of Year
 Darren O'Neill*

Minor County Representatives

Eoin Kelly (Tipperary)
 Tim Murphy (Kilkenny)
 Jackie Tyrell (Kilkenny)
 Derek Brennan (Kilkenny)
 Brian Carroll (Offaly)

SPORTS STAR OF THE YEAR FOR 2000

Eoin Kelly

STUDENT OF THE YEAR

1st Year: John Joe O'Farrell
 2nd Year: Jamie Quane
 3rd Year: James Fitzpatrick
 4th Year: Derek Collins
 5th Year: J Fitzpatrick

OVERALL STUDENT OF THE YEAR FOR 2000

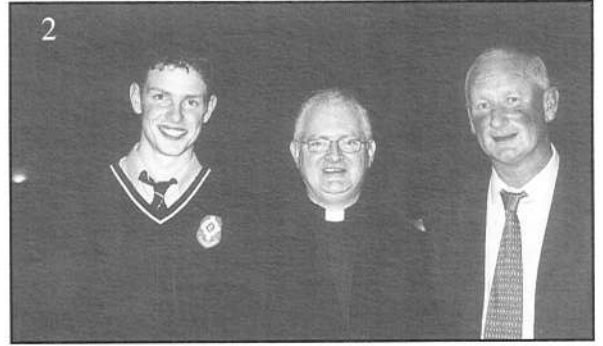
6th Year: James Carew

The list of recipients at the 2000 Awards Night is incomplete. All efforts have been made to compile the full list. Apologies to anyone who has been inadvertently omitted.

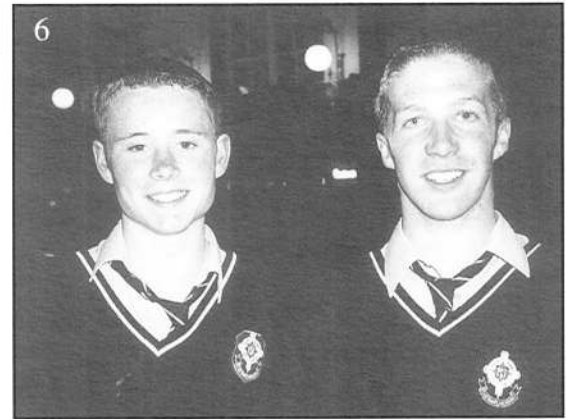
Below left: James Carew, Vincent Mulvin, Pdraig Shortall, Jamie Quane, John Fitzpatrick, James O'Farrell and Thomas Downey - all recipients of awards in 2000. **Below right:** Donnacha Cody, Tim Murphy and Eoin Kelly with the GAA silver of 2000.



STUDENT AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS 2001



The Student Awards Night has become a major event at the end of each year. Nominations are invited by a committee of teachers and awards are given which acknowledge the achievements, dedication, effort and contribution of students during the previous year. In a unique way this night acknowledges the wide breadth of activities that students are involved in - both within school and outside.



No. 1: Mark Cashin, Mark Tyrell, Darren Cullen, Conor Britton, Neill Prendergast, Kevin Quinlan, Adrian O'Dwyer.

No. 2: Robert Aylward (Student of the Year), Mgr Cassin (President) and Brian Cody (Special Guest of Honour)

No. 3: Back Row: Eoin O'Shea, Niall Tennyson, Richard Hogan, Mark O'Donovan, Robert Quane, John Madigan. Front Row: Thomas Jordan, Martin Walsh, Robert Walsh, John Lawlor, Emmet Gladney

No. 4: Ms Ahern, Ms Boland, Ms Wymess and Ms O'Dwyer

No. 5: John Tennyson, Michael Rice, Tommie Walsh, Morgan McEvoy, Jamie Quane

No. 6: Damian Bergin and Brian Ferns

No. 7: Eamonn Sheehy, Adrian Harkin, Brian Culleton and Robert Quan

STUDENT AWARDS JUNE 2001

THE SUBJECT AWARDS

Maths (Junior): John Madden
Maths (Senior): Vincent Mulvin
Art (Senior): Andrew Power
Art (Junior): Liam O'Shaughnessy
Business Studies: Sean Roberts
English (Junior): Patrick McGlynn
History/Geography (Junior): Niall Muldoon
History/Geography (Senior): Robert Aylward

CONSTRUCTION STUDIES THE JOE DOHERTY PERPETUAL TROPHY

Robert Aylward

MUSIC

Junior: Thomas Walton
Senior: Vincent Mulvin

CORN NA GAEILGE

Stephen Knox

THE FRANK MULDOWNEY AWARD FOR BEST RESULTS IN JUNIOR CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION

James Freeman

SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENTS AWARDS

COMPUTER PROGRAMMING

Eamon Phelan
*Computer Olympian who won Silver Medal
while representing Ireland in Finland and
China*

MUSIC

John Donovan
Feis Matthew Winner

L.C.V.P.

James O'Sullivan

ESSAY

Jamie Quane and Thomas Walton
European Essay Competition

CHESS

Karl McPhillips
*2nd Cork Congress Irish Junior Champion
and Irish International Player*

SPECIAL TRANSITION YEAR AWARD

Joe Mullally
*for his outstanding contribution to the
Information Technology Department of S.K.C.
during the school year.*

TRANSITION YEAR ENDEAVOUR AWARDS

James Fitzpatrick

ENDEAVOUR AWARD:

James Fitzpatrick
Cormac Gilligan
Joe Mullally
Nicholas Landy

ACADEMIC OF THE YEAR

1st Year: Eoin Kelly
2nd Year: James Whitty
3rd Year: Jamie Quane
5th Year: Morgan McEvoy
6th Year: Robert Aylward

BOARDER OF THE YEAR AWARDS

Junior Boarder of the Year: Damien Bergin
Senior Boarder of the Year: Brian Ferns

2001 PAST PUPIL AWARD

Mr Brian Cody

SPORTS AWARDS

ATHLETICS

Minor Leinster Champions

Killian Everard, Robert Walsh, Eoin O'Shea,
Liam Dowling, Ronan O'Brien,
James Dowling, John Lawlor

U-17 South Leinster Runners Up

Eoin Everard, Shane Collins,
Graham Scanlon, Shane Corcoran,
Darren O'Neill, Mark Cashin,
Thomas Downey, James Doyle

U-19 South Leinster Champions

Colin Barry, Dermot Cummins, Dermot Nolan,
Vincent Wallace, Martin Greene, Noel Kelleher,
Michael Downey, Denis O'Sullivan,
John Madigan

2nd Cross Country Relay

Jamie Quane, Eoin Everard, James Doyle,
James Whelan, Daniel Kinsella,
Alan Drennan, Donnacha Cody

South Leinster High Jump Winner

D Kinsella

2nd South Leinster Triple Jump

Alan Drennan

2nd South Leinster Walk

D Cody

ATHLETES OF THE YEAR

Minor: Eoin Kelly and Eoin O'Shea
Junior: Paul Mitchell
Senior: Adrian O'Dwyer
(Irish Record Holder in High Jump)

HANDBALL

U-15 Leinster Champion: Niall McEvoy
U-12/13 Leinster Champion: Richard Hogan
Leinster Doubles Champion: Maurice Nolan
U-14 County Champion: Patrick Hogan
U-15 County Champion: Patrick O'Flynn

SOCCER

U-13 South Leinster Champions
U-15 South Leinster Runners Up

PLAYERS OF THE YEAR

U-13: Kevin Quinlan
U-15: John Walsh
U-17: Mark Cashin

SPECIAL AWARD

Damien Kelly
Selection on Irish U-15 Team

GAA

HURLING

Juvenile B Kilkenny County Champions
Junior B Kilkenny County Champions

Juvenile A Leinster Shield Winners

Senior Hurling League Champions:

Hurling Players of the Year

Juvenile: Neill Prendergast
Junior: John Tennyson
Senior: Tommy Walsh

Minor County Representatives

Brian Ferns (Laois)
Brian Carroll (Offaly)
Tommy Walsh (Kilkenny)
Michael Rice (Kilkenny)
Brian Dowling (Kilkenny)
Shane Hennessy (Kilkenny)
Brendan Doyle (Kilkenny)
Michael Walsh (Kilkenny)
Richard Power (Kilkenny)
Sean O'Neill (Kilkenny)

GAELIC FOOTBALL

The Alfie Sheehy Award
for Gaelic Footballer of Year
Eamon O'Gorman

SWIMMING

Peter Brady
*3rd Irish Schools 100 metres
Member of Leinster Squad*

Kieran Byrne
*3rd Leinster, 4th Irish Schools,
Member of the Leinster Squad*

SPORTS STAR OF THE YEAR 2001

Adrian O'Dwyer

STUDENT OF THE YEAR

1st Year: James Dowling
2nd Year: Mark Tyrell
3rd Year: Conor Britton
4th Year: Darren Cullen
5th Year: Michael Rice

OVERALL STUDENT OF THE YEAR FOR 2001

6th Year: Robert Aylward

SECONDARY SCHOOL CLASS GROUPS



FIRST YEAR

Back row: Gary Breen, Derek Flood, Liam Geoghegan, Enda Butler, Paul Deady, Kevin Morrissey, Jason Hayes. **Middle row:** Seamus McEvoy, Patrick Leahy, Jeremiah Rowe, Daryl Whitty, Tirrell Walsh, Mark Casey, Shane Connolly, Michael Gannon. **Front row:** John Barry, Luke Gleeson, Brian Maher, Neal Stapleton, William Brady, Darren Brennan, Mark Geraghty, Anthony Hall.



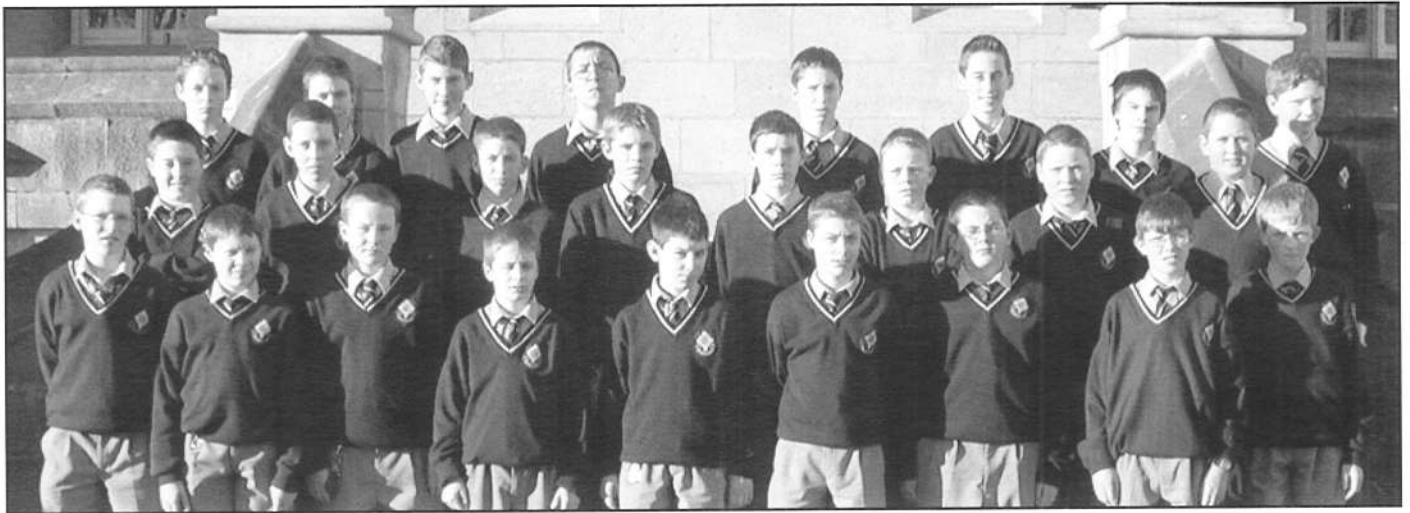
FIRST YEAR

Back row: David Walsh, Keith Mullins, Frank Mullin, Ciaran Kiely, David Hession, Sean Leahy, John Creggan, Michael Meaney. **Middle row:** Jonathan Rigley, Aidan O'Neill, Martin Meaney, Micheal Lawler, James Shortall, Darragh Wafer, Michael Brannigan, Colin Murphy. **Front row:** Niall Phelan, John Prendergast, Sean O'Shea, Christopher Foley, Luke O'Mahony, Paul Mullin, Darren Rafter, Darren Ferns, Raymond Barrett



FIRST YEAR

Back row: Nigel Kavanagh, Andrew Hickey, David O'Connor, Tony McGrath, Jason Tallot, Craig Dowling. **Middle row:** James Nolan, Brendan Martin, David Galway, Martin Doyle, James Donnelly, T. J. Fitzpatrick, Pdraig Murphy, Declan Casey. **Front row:** James Taylor, Shane Dunphy, Thomas Walton, James Collins-Hughes, Sean Hayes, Michael Slattery, Shane Scanlon, Michael O'Neill, Darren Adams.



FIRST YEAR

Back row: Sean Holohan, Michael McDonald, Roger Dalton, Adam McCarthy, Colm Brady, Edward Hogan, Liam Freyne, James Cahill.
Middle row: Paul O'Dwyer, Glen Campion, Stuart Delaney, Conor O'Brien, Darren Lennon, Keith Hogan, Shane Brennan, Philip Brennan.
Front row: Sean Ruth, Noel Dermody, Richard Dowling, Liam Ryan, Kevin Healy, Eoghan Carney, Padraig Butler, Michael Johnson, Stephen Colfer.



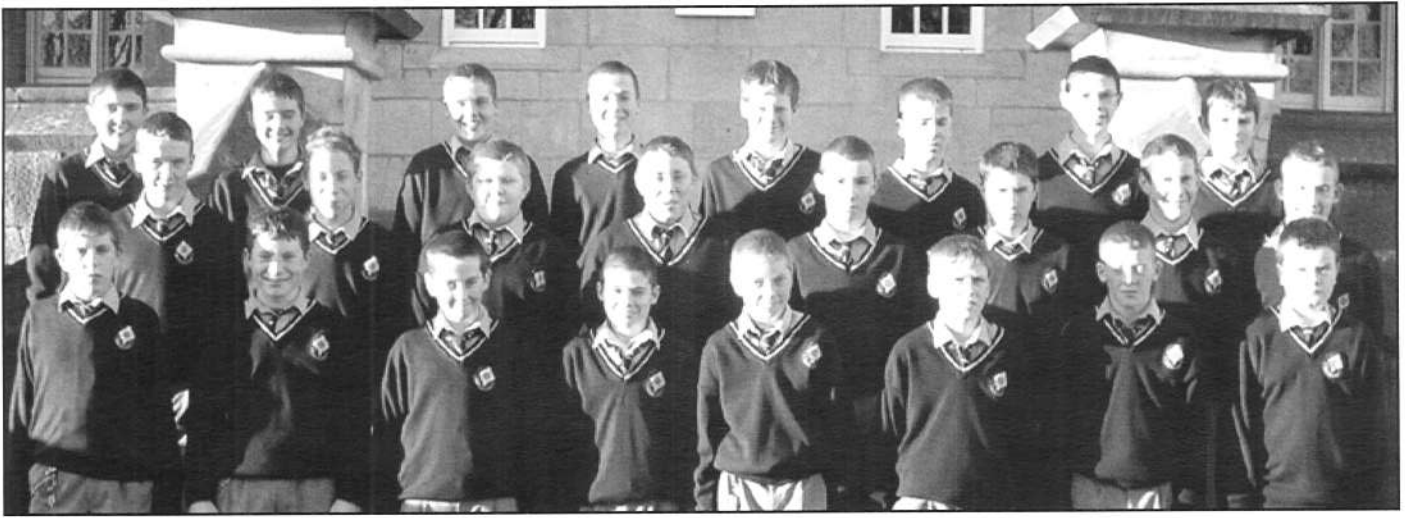
SECOND YEAR

Back row: Eoin Kelly, Niall Muldoon, Ronan O'Brien, Peter Brady, Stephen Shortall, Eoin O'Shea, Conor Duffy, Patrick O'Neill, Joseph O'Brien, Thomas Millea. **Middle row:** Eoin McCormack, Eoin Cullen, Enda Rafter, Harry Kelly, John Lawlor, Shane O'Neill, Mark Coughlan, Donal Cody, Richard Ryan. **Front row:** Harry Marahaj, Donal Fitzpatrick, Nicholas Fitzpatrick, Richard Moore, Martin Walsh, Robert Walsh, John Brennan, Brian McCann, Lorcan Brennan, Killian Everard.



SECOND YEAR

Back row: Niall Clifford, Robert Brennan, David Doyle, Donal O'Sullivan, Thomas Burke, Paul Egan, Eoin Stapleton.
Middle row: Damian Donovan, Shane Donnelly-Swift, David Power, Philip Evans, Patrick Barcoe, Stephen Shortt, John Egan, Jason Butler, Brendan Delaney. **Front row:** Nicholas Harrison, John Kearney, John Dalton, James Dowling, Mathew Deegan, Gareth Byrne, Eoin Roche, Patrick Brennan.



SECOND YEAR

Back row: Harry Clifton, Paul Grogan, Christopher Moriarty, Kevin Shore, John Corr, David Hayes, Barry Donovan, David O'Connor.
Middle row: Michael Rafter, Eoin Heafey, Derek Nolan, Marc O'Connor, Richard Cody, Karl McPhillips, Niall Tennyson, Richard Hogan.
Front row: Michael Dore, Niall Lanigan, Alex Watchorn, Dermot Moynihan, Darragh Callanan, Lyster Ryan, Luke O'Grady, Shane Barnaville.



SECOND YEAR

Back row: Jamie Durney, Shane O'Malley, Ambrose Kelleher, Pdraig Flynn, Mark Culleton, Darren Wemyss, Damien Phelan, Thomas Grace. **Middle row:** Mark Flynn, Nicholas Cleere, Patrick Neary, Patrick Nolan, Martin Barry, Eoin Mulrane, William Culleton, T.J. Reid, Jamie McCarthy. **Front row:** Patrick McKee, Liam Dowling, David Grincell, William Muldowney, Stephen Downey, William Leahy, David O'Shea, Brian Burke.

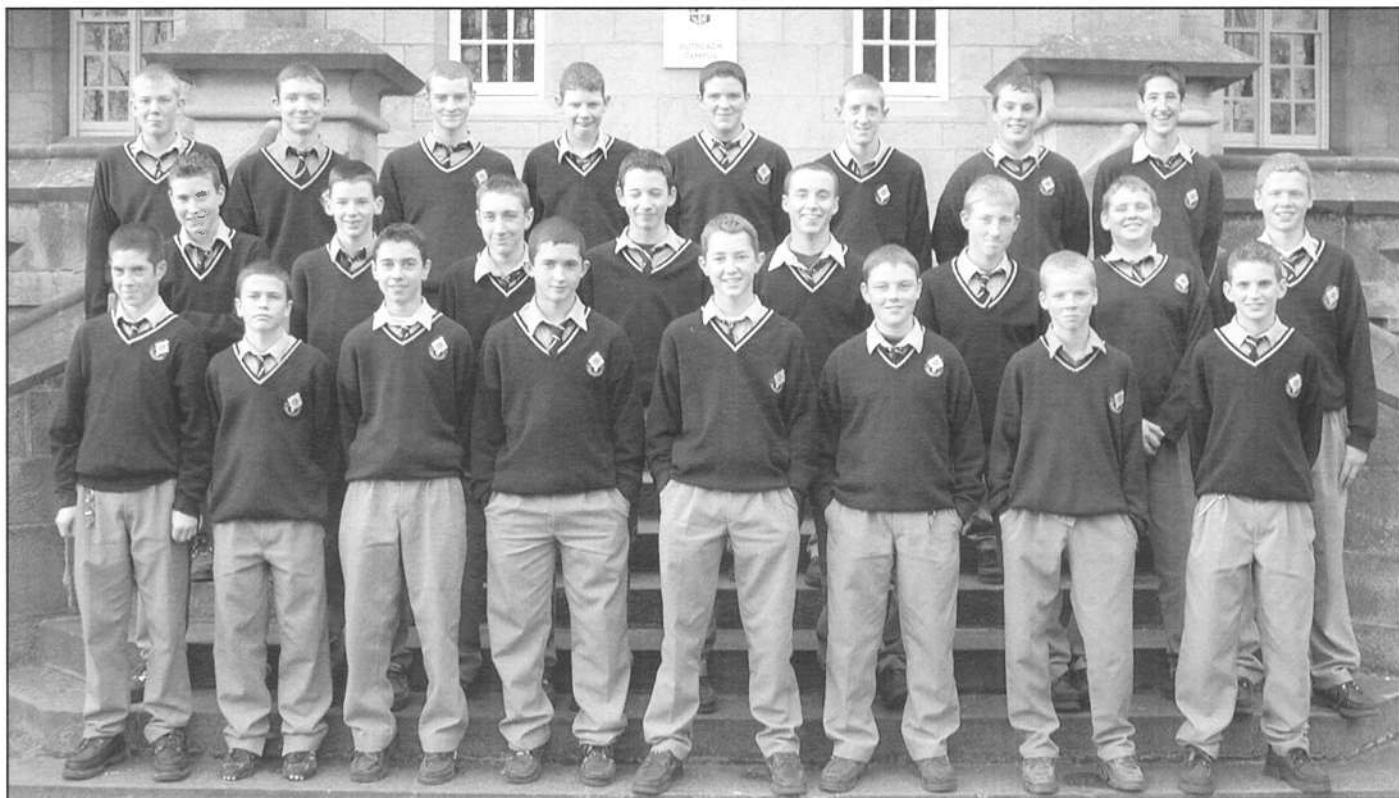
PHOTOGRAPHS

A sincere word of thanks to all who supplied photographic material for this edition of The Record. Thanks in particular to the various professional photographers whose services have been used by the College to record the many different events that make up the life of the College. From NUIM to the boarding school, CREIDIM and the various re-unions, from the playing fields to the theatre, the class room to the front lawn, these photographs provide an invaluable 'record' of the variety packed life which makes up St Kieran's College.

In particular the College would like to thank and acknowledge the contribution which Mr Tom Brett has made over many years to the recording of events associated with the College. Team photographs, year groups and many other activities during the school year have been photographed by Tom. Copies of many of the photos in this publication and previous ones are available directly from his studio in Kilkenny - likewise for the other photographers.

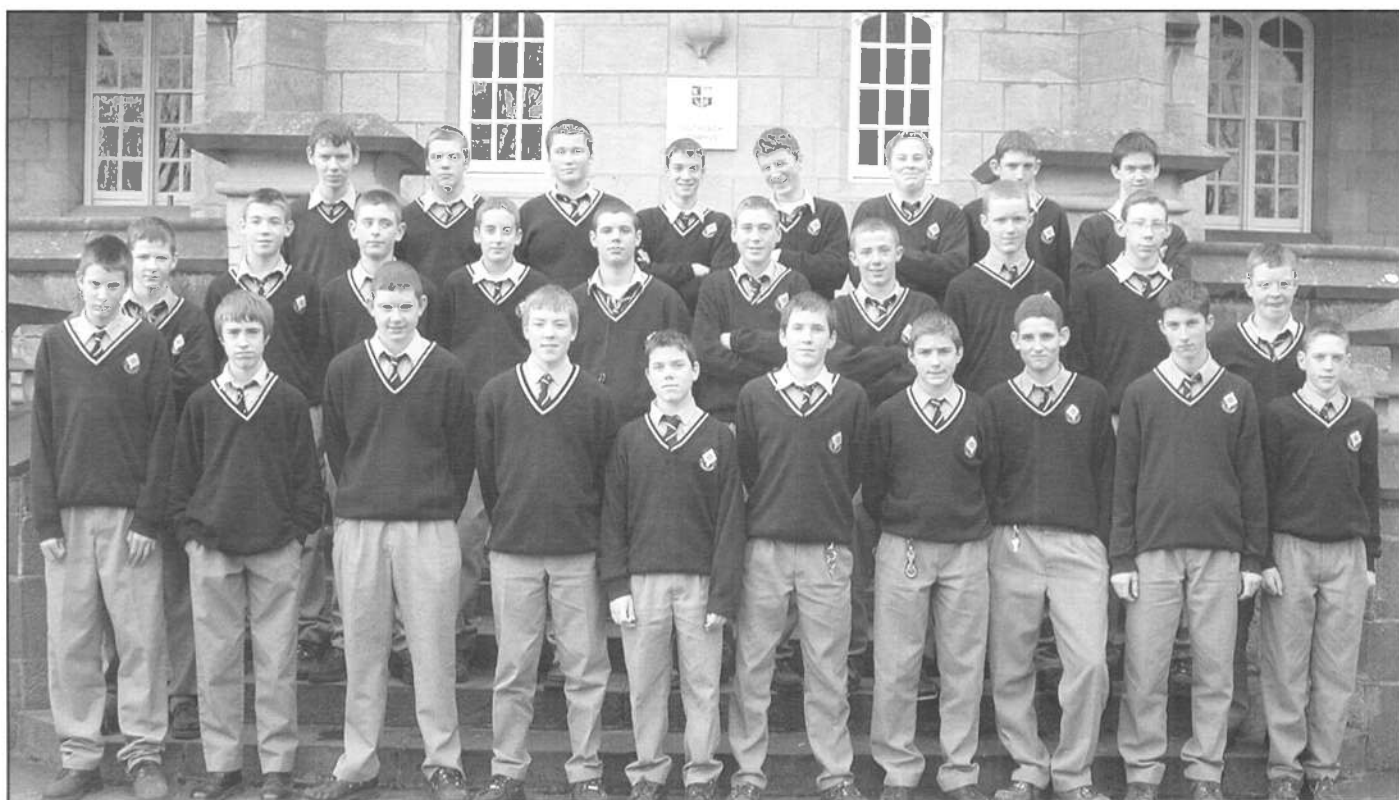
In this edition of The Record, with the advent of digital photography, many of the photographs have been taken by members of staff.

Thanks to one and all.....as is said: A picture speaks a thousand words!!



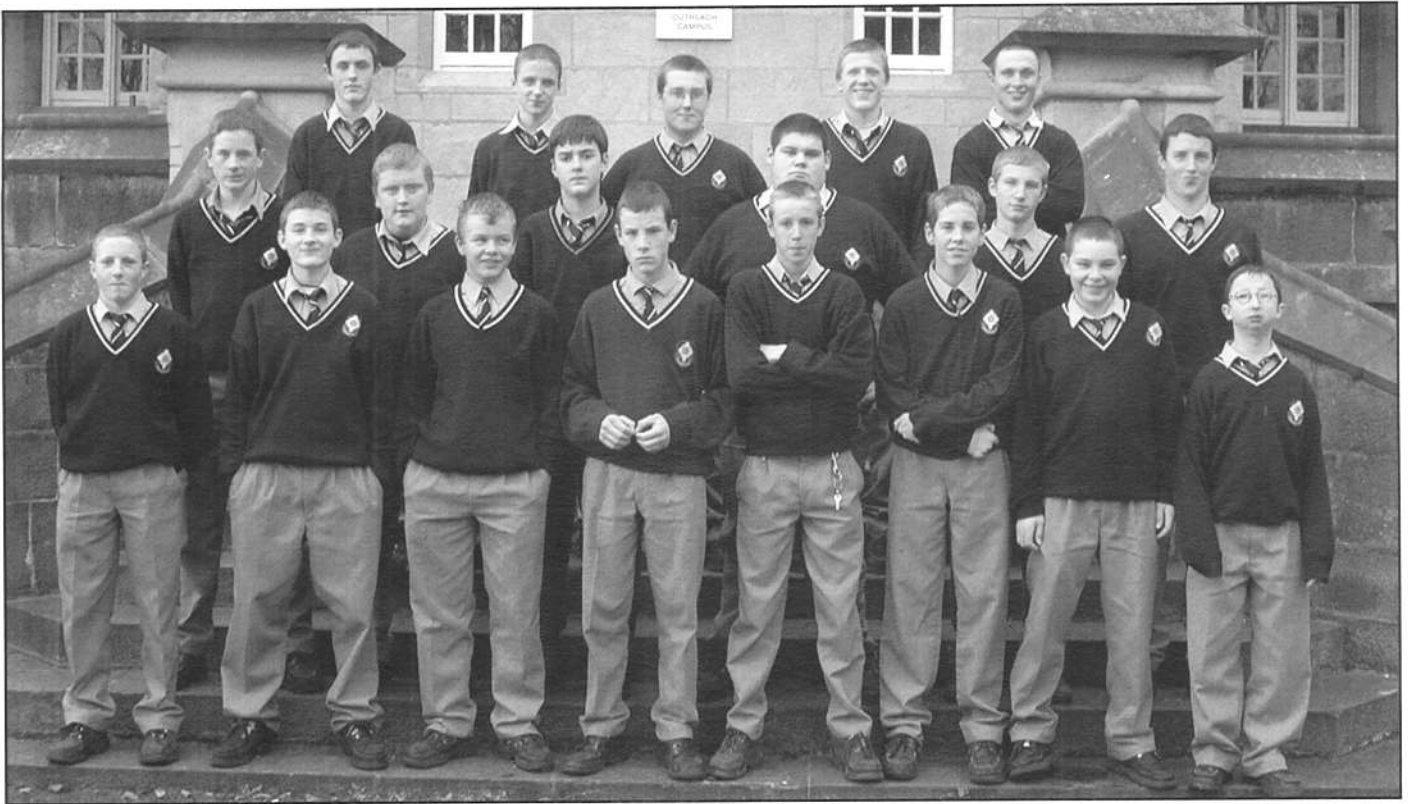
THIRD YEAR

Back row: David Dowling, Patrick McGlynn, James Whelan, Jason Darmody, Declan Byrne, Mark Hanrahan, James Crotty, Patrick Bergin. **Middle row:** Ivan Dalton, Cian Walsh, Brian Cummins, Cainneach Lennon, Damian Kelly, Thomas Keogh, Niall Costigan, Patrick Carr. **Front row:** Nicholas Maher, Thomas Jordan, Jamie Whitty, Damien Ryan, Mark Walsh, Edward Cunningham, Shane Gleeson, David O'Quigley.



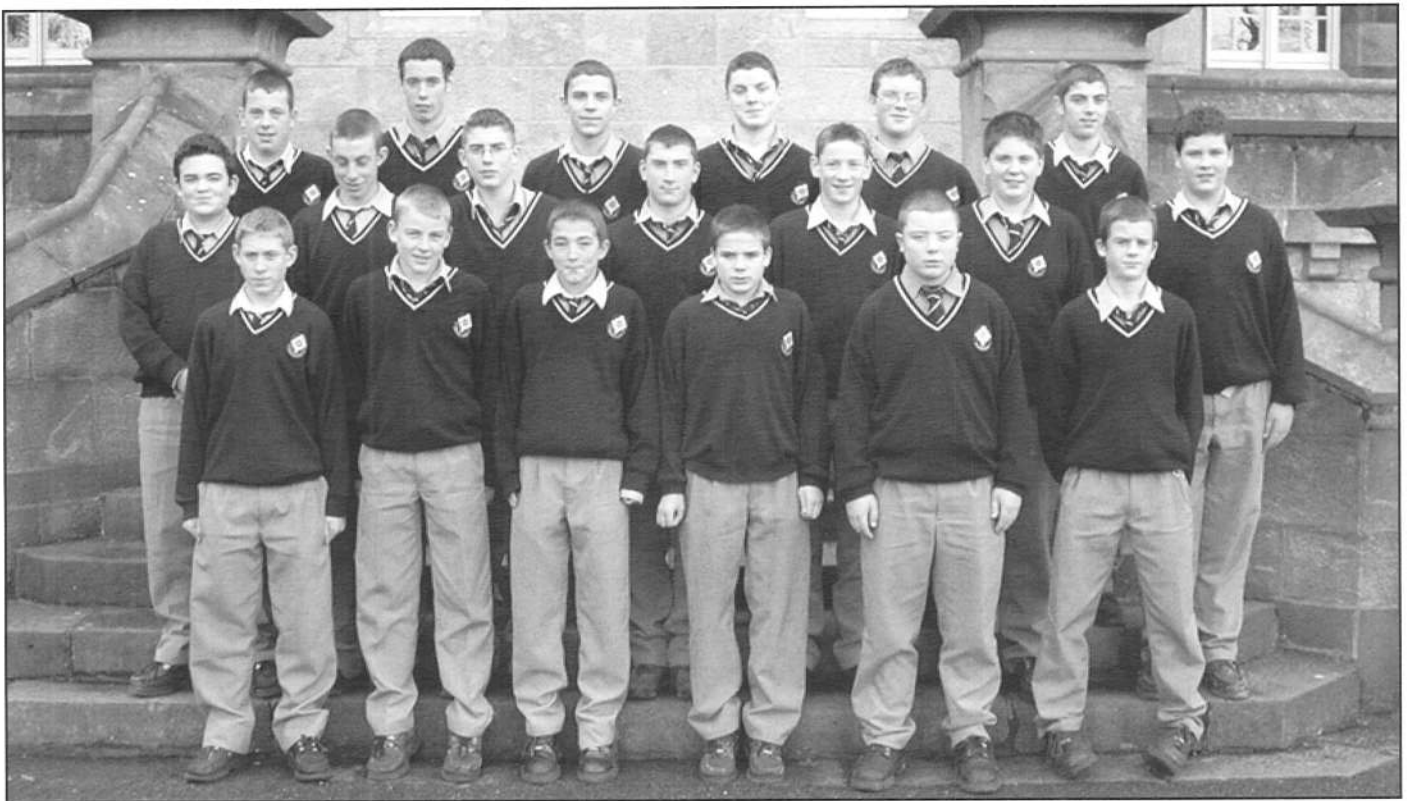
THIRD YEAR

Back row: Darren Kerwick, Michael Savage, John Paul Murphy, Eoin Everard, Neil Prendergast, Pdraig Neary, Alan Drennan, Niall O'Shea. **Middle row:** Killian Brennan, Patrick Hogan, Patrick Phelan, Eamonn Power, Kevin McPhilips, Eamon Walsh, Michael Larkin, David Lanigan, Desmond Fitzgerald, Eoin Hoyne. **Front row:** Mark Brennan, Noah Hamilton, David Broderick, Mark O'Donovan, Donal Maher, Cathal O'Shea, John Joe Farrell, Philip Long, John Roche, Shane Collins.



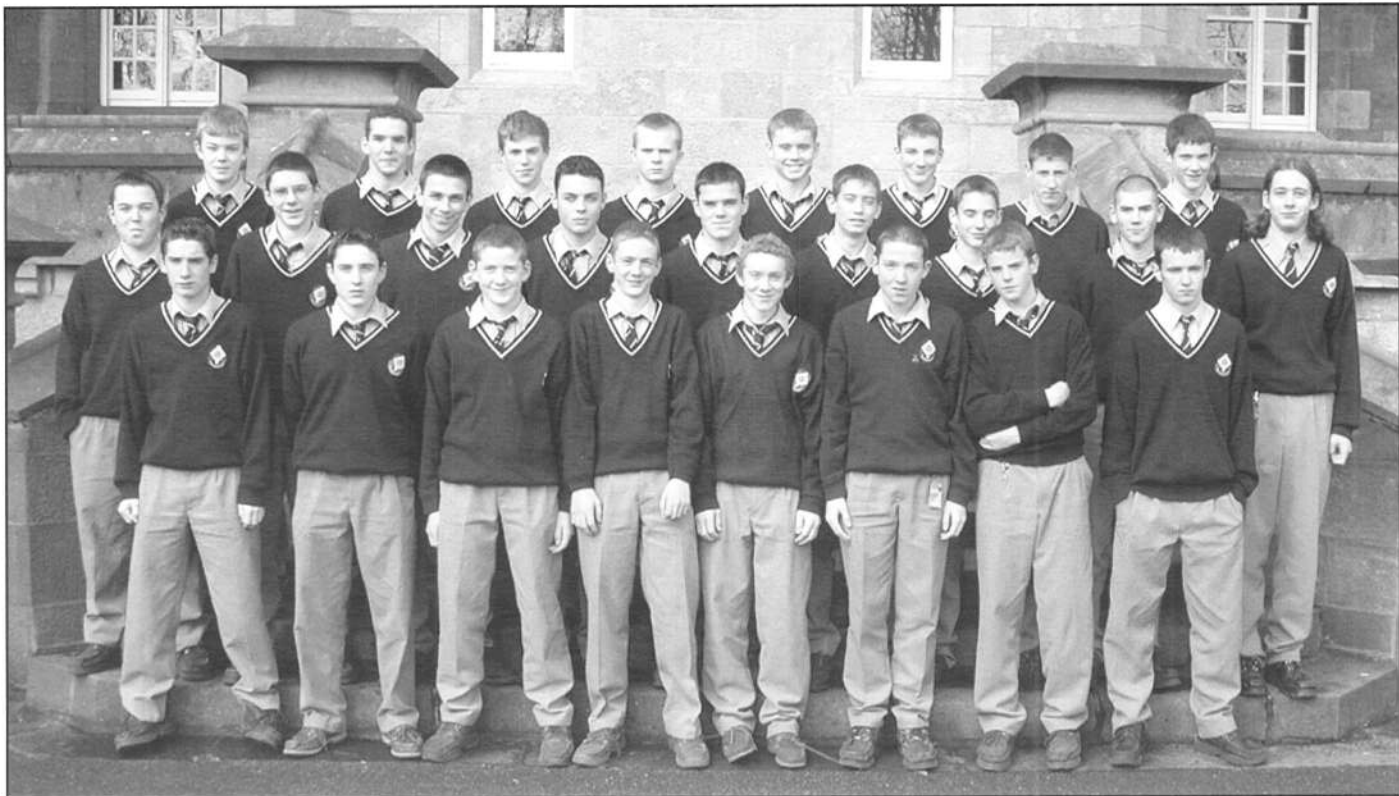
THIRD YEAR

Back row: Francis Clohosey, Colin Landy, Ruardhi O'Connor, Damien Greene, James Doyle. **Middle row:** Myles Walshe, Brendan Tierney, Kyle Barnett, Mark Tyrell, Greg Morton, Edward Fitzgerald. **Front row:** John Taylor, Adrian Walsh, Eoin Scanlon, Sean Falsey, Donnacha Fitzpatrick, Robert Quan, Michael Neary, Eoin Carey.



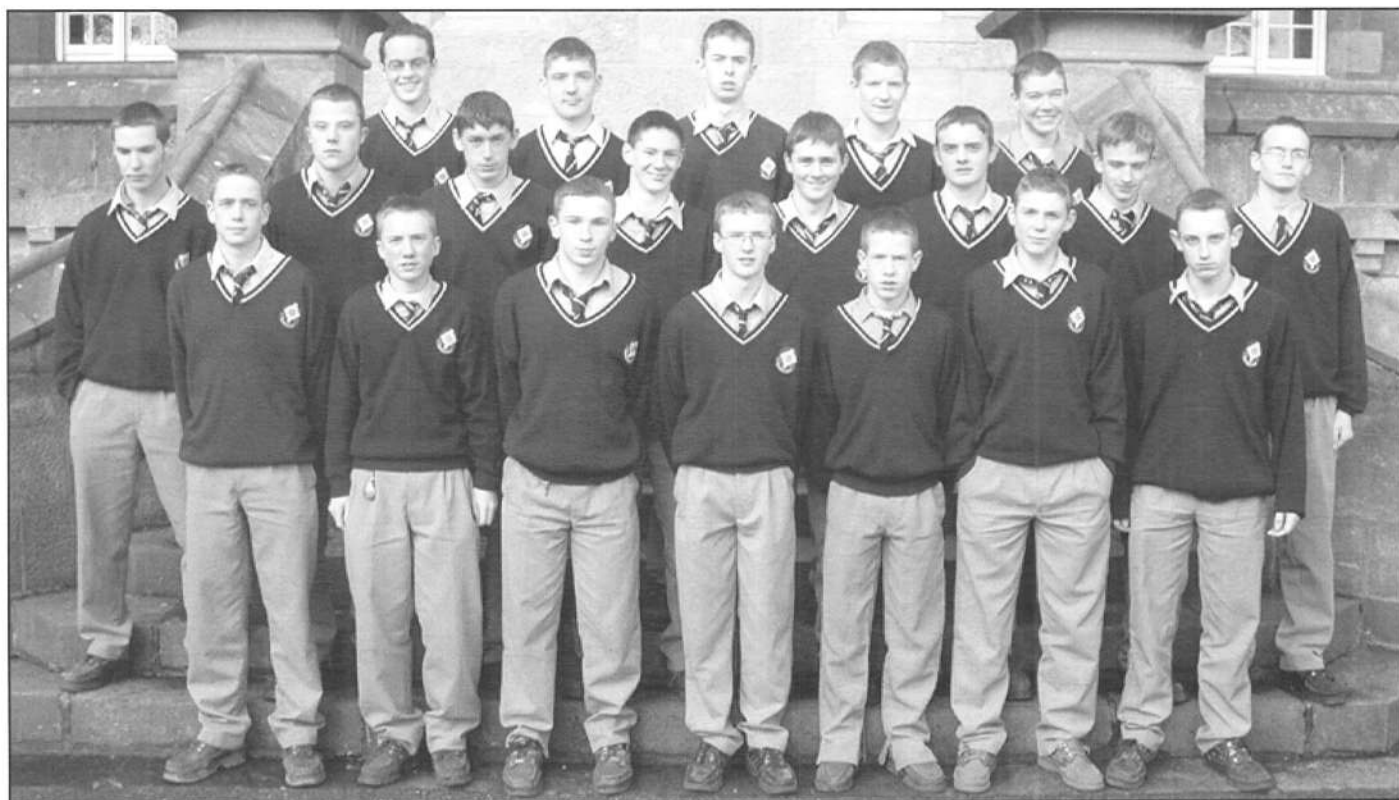
THIRD YEAR

Back row: Martin McGrath, Niall McEvoy, Emmet Holohan, Mathew Comerford, Brian Nolan, Liam Barcoe. **Middle row:** Thomas McMurray, Daniel Kinsella, Mathew Thornton, Paul Mitchell, Patrick Kennedy, Cathal Simpson, Colman Hoey. **Front row:** Brendan Dalton, Kevin Quinlan, Mark Gibbs, David Gleeson, Brian Kinsella, Ian Conroy.



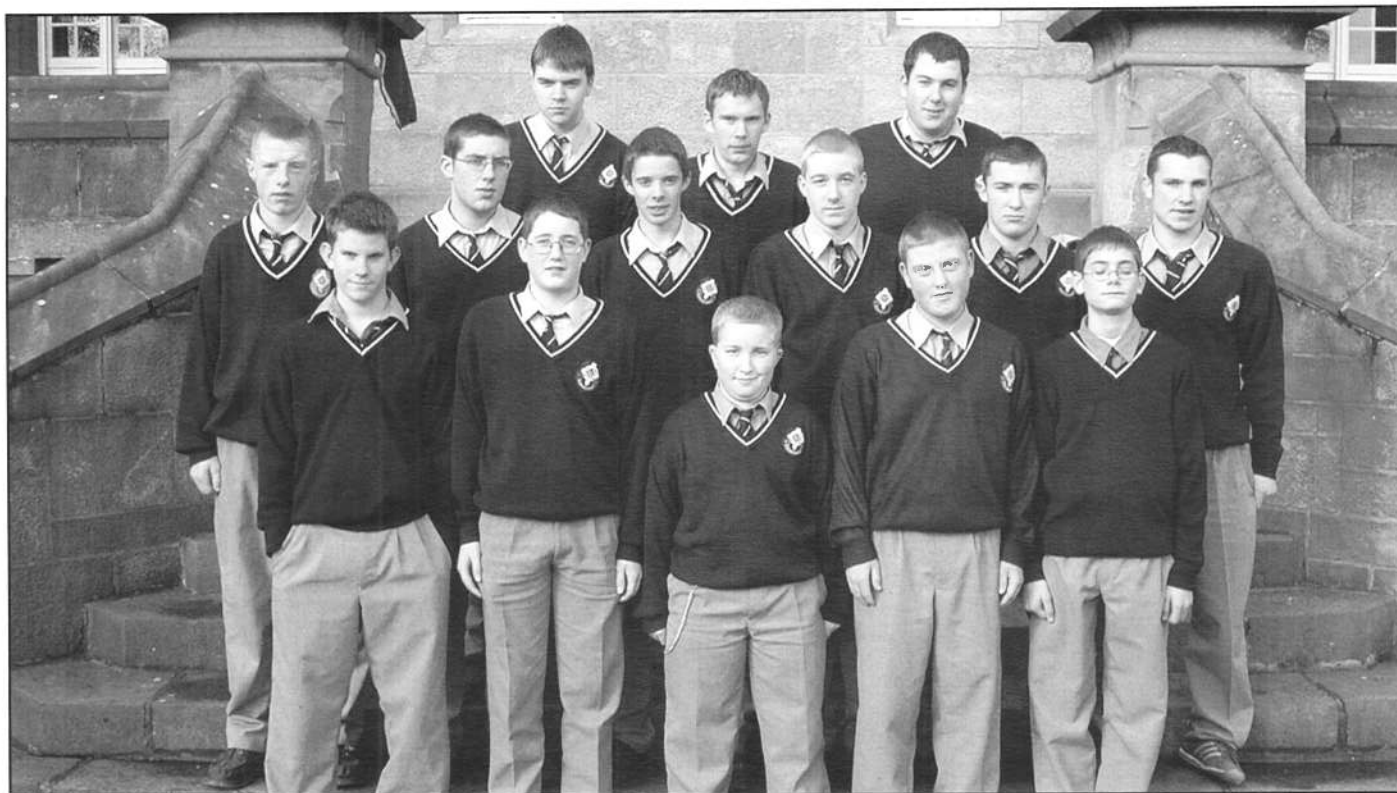
FOURTH YEAR

Back row: John Madigan, Thomas Walton, John Prendergast, Jamie Quane, Damien Bergin, Shane Prendergast, Stephen Barcoe, Donnacha Cody. **Middle Row:** Patrick Grace, Richard O'Shea, Niall Muldoon, Francis Bourke, Philip Walsh, Stephen Shortall, Edward Collins-Hughes, Liam Teehan, Ian Flynn. **Front Row:** Sean Murphy, William Norton, Kieran Holden, Niall Fennelly, Conor Whelan, Ciaran Brennan, Padraic Treacy, Michael Walsh.



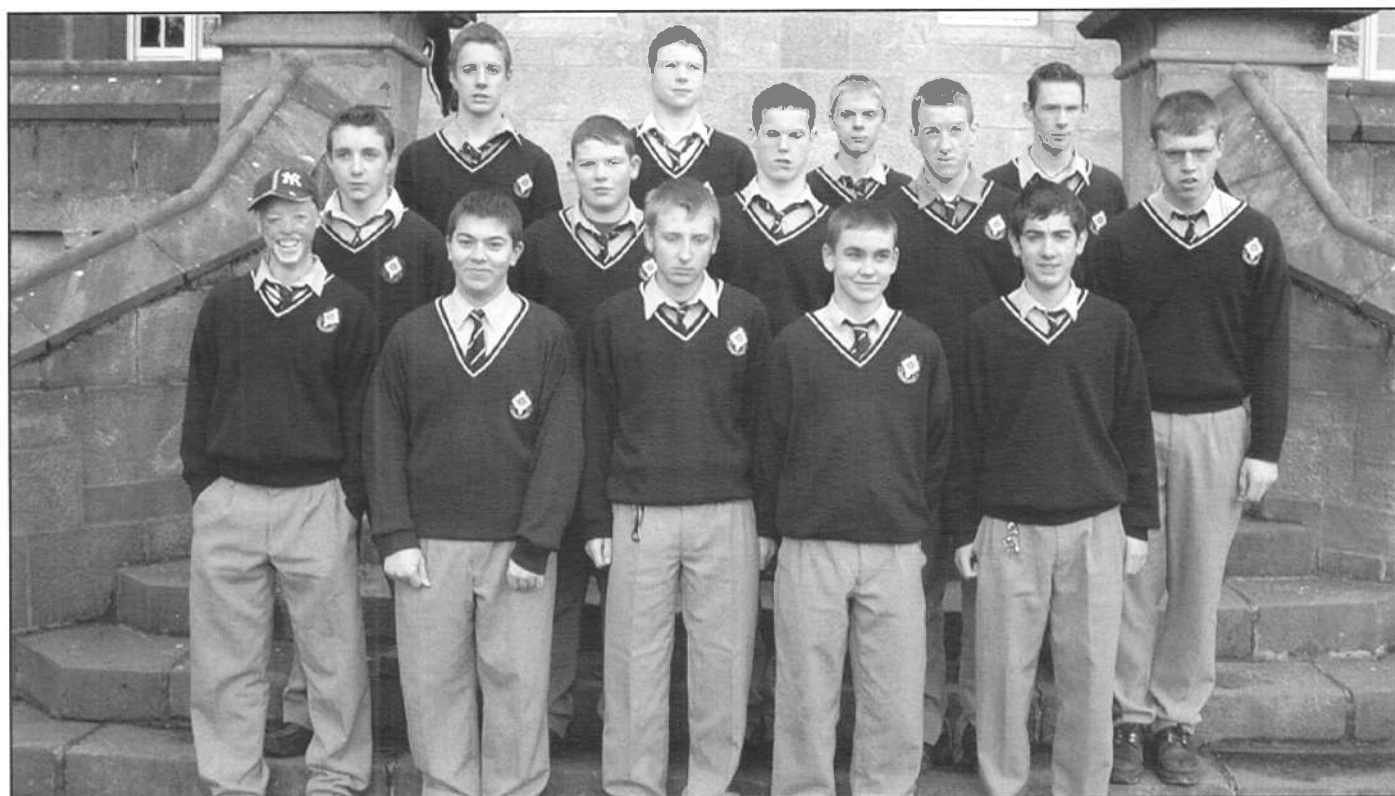
FOURTH YEAR

Back row: Darren O'Neill, John Walsh, Conor Noonan, Richard Power, Patrick O'Flynn. **Middle row:** Paul Kennedy, Paul Kinsella, Richard Kelly, Adrian Harkin, Brian Dowling, Eamon Power, Colin Purcell, Andrew Power. **Front row:** Darragh Bergin, Jason Mullins, Ciaran Kirwin, Joseph Doherty, Mark Coyne, Michael Bergin, Mark Nicholson.



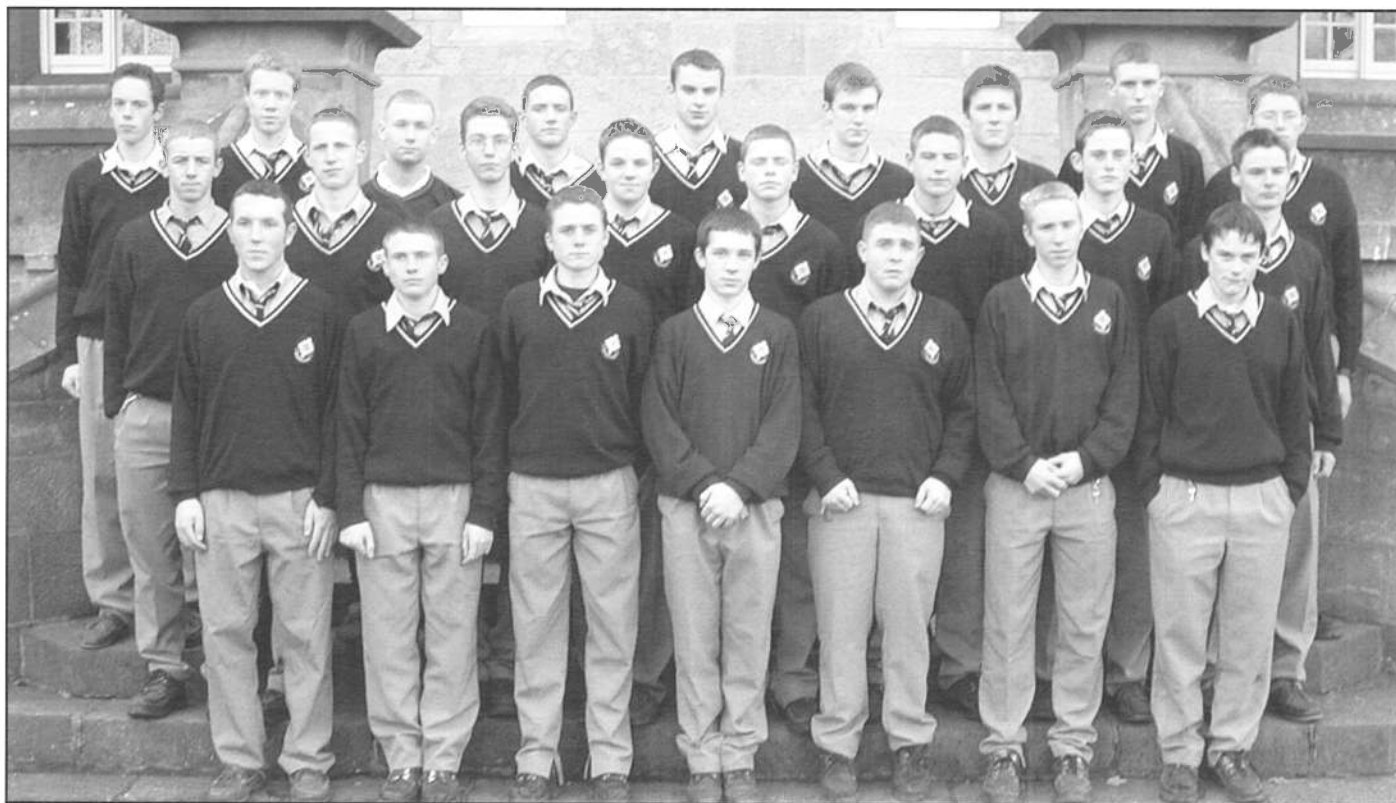
FOURTH YEAR

Back row: Michael Muldowney, Richard Walsh, Paul Cummins. **Middle row:** Mark Alyward, Peter Dowling, Stephen Buggy, Stephen Somers, Gregory McCusker, Martin Doyle. **Front row:** Robert Healy, Conor Britton, Paul Tynan, Frank Hayes, Daniel Freyer.



FOURTH YEAR

Back row: Eamon Brennan, Patrick Butler, David Crilly, Kevin Broderick. **Middle row:** Barry Murphy, Richard Shortt, Andrew Duffy, Thomas Cullen, Paul McKane. **Front row:** Paul Nolan, Fabio Gismundi, Stephen Barham, Evan O'Shaughnessy, Ronan Brett.



FIFTH YEAR

Back row: Enda O'Donnell, James Hickey, Aidan Ryan, Patrick Duggan, Eamon O'Gorman, James Freeman, David Prendergast, Edward Walsh, Richard McEvoy. **Middle row:** Shane Corcoran, John Tennyson, Patrick Ragget, Gerard Shiel, Eamon Sheehy, Eoin O'Reilly, Vincent O'Regan, Cormac Gilligan. **Front row:** Richard Brennan, Michael Carroll, James O'Farrell, James Costello, Kieran Byrne, James Fitzpatrick, Liam Ryan.



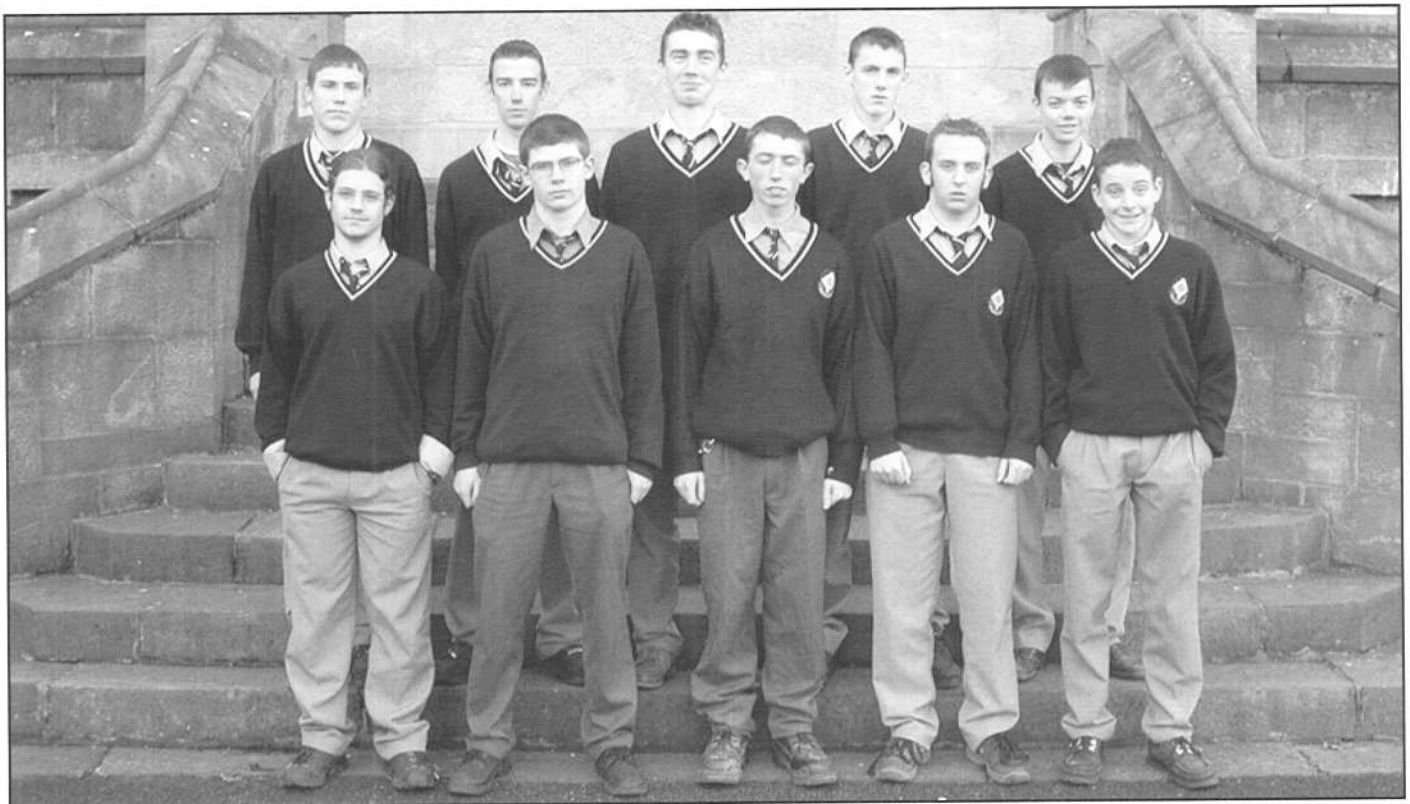
FIFTH YEAR

Back row: James Connolly, Nicholas Landy, Daniel Grace, Cethern Reid. **Middle row:** Brendan Kelleher, Martin O'Shea, Dermot Cummins, Denis Parson, Paul Sheehan. **Front row:** Brian Doyle, Mark Shortall, Mark Cashin, Martin Brennan, Paul Hindle, Patrick Shepherd.



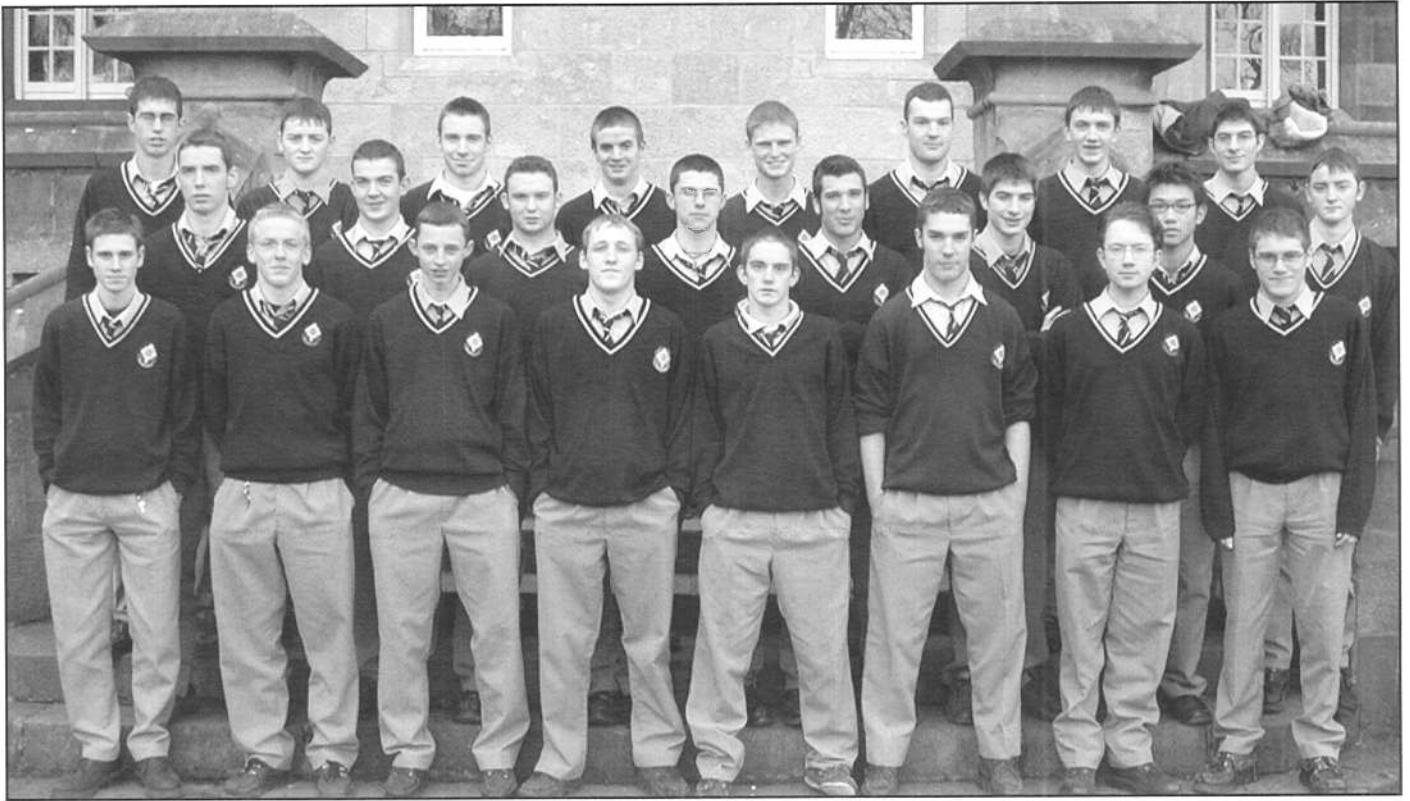
FIFTH YEAR

Back row: Ken O'Dwyer, Thomas Manning, Alan Connolly, Richard Walsh, Paul Kenny. **Middle row:** Mark Treacy, Paul O'Donovan, Edward Kennedy, Thomas Flood, Edward Costello, David Knox. **Front row:** John Brennan, Fintan Brennan, John Murphy, Bernard Jacob, Shane Dabinett, George Hickey.



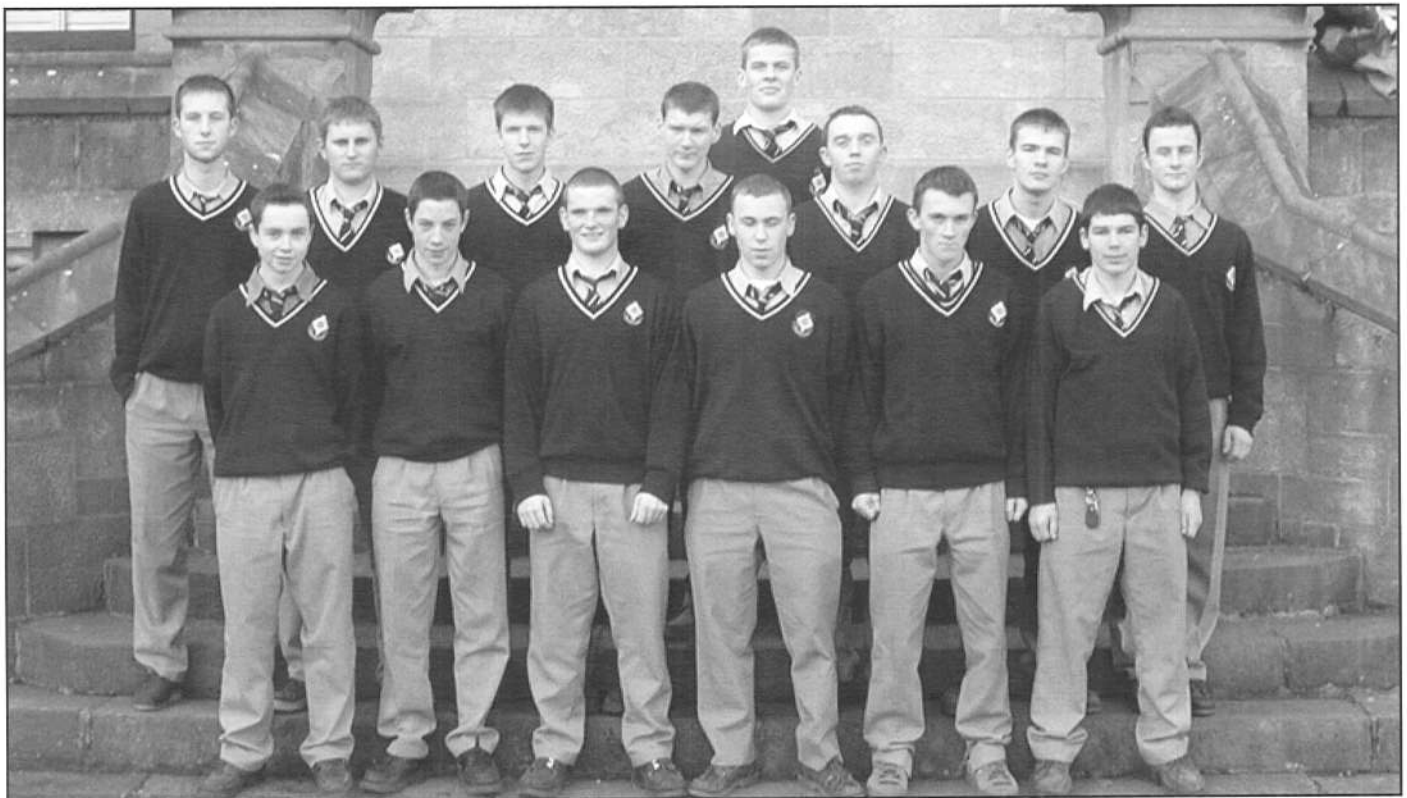
FIFTH YEAR

Back row: Richard Holohan, Brian Malone, P. J. O'Keeffe, Eoin Reid, Darren Cullen. **Front row:** Rodrigo Bussad, Brian Culleton, Robert Dunne, Thomas Ward, Stephen Smyth.



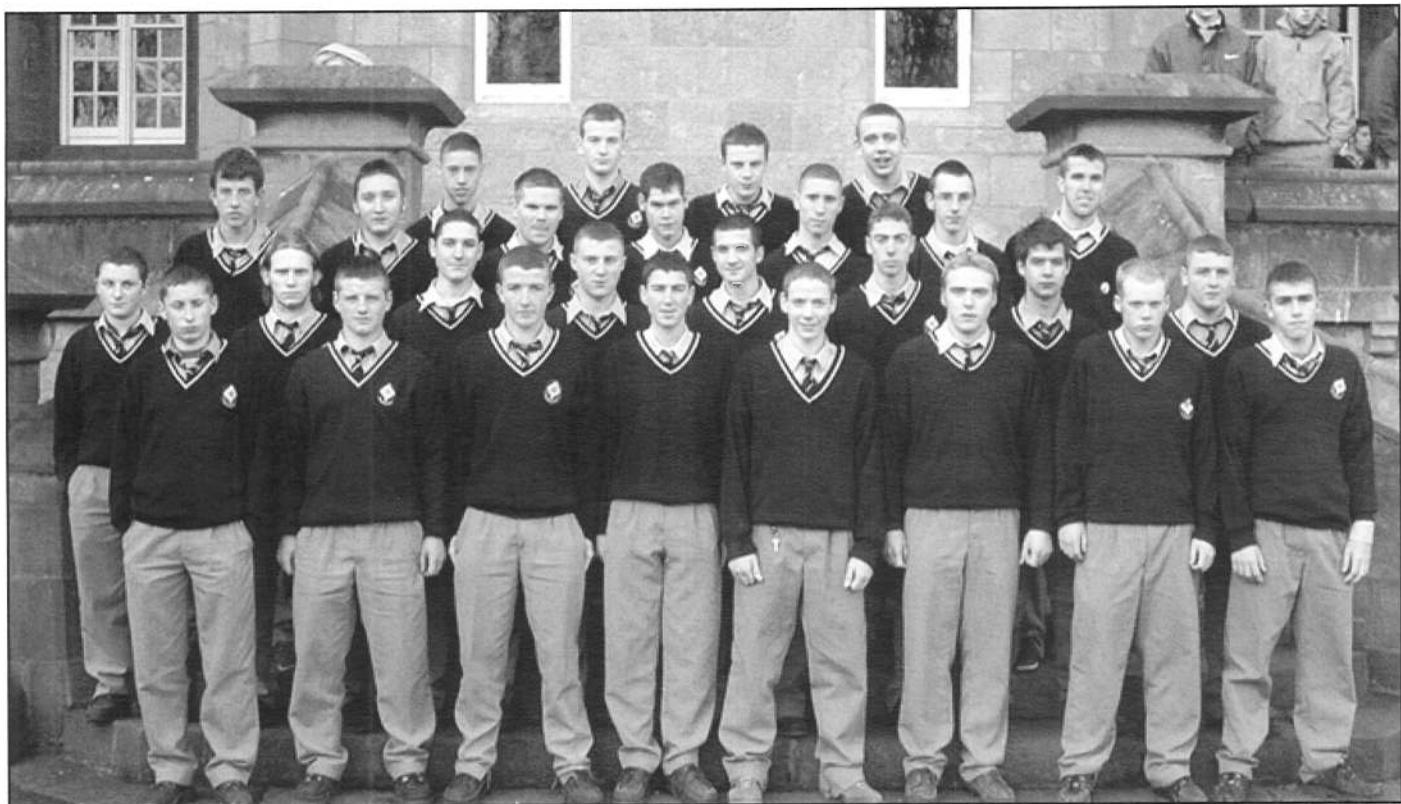
SIXTH YEAR

Back row: Michael Downey, Conor Whelan, Mark Heffernan, Declan O'Neill, Chris Walsh, Gerard Prendergast, John Donovan, Martin Kelleher. **Middle row:** Pdraig Kennedy, Niall Brady, Robert Collins-Hughes, Joseph Buggy, Kieran Cooke, Brendan Kelleher, Toshinari Okido, Shane Whelan. **Front row:** Cian Muldoon, Enda Holohan, Shane Kelly, Robert Maher, Jack O'Keeffe, Mark O'Neill, Morgan McEvoy, Colm Garraghy.



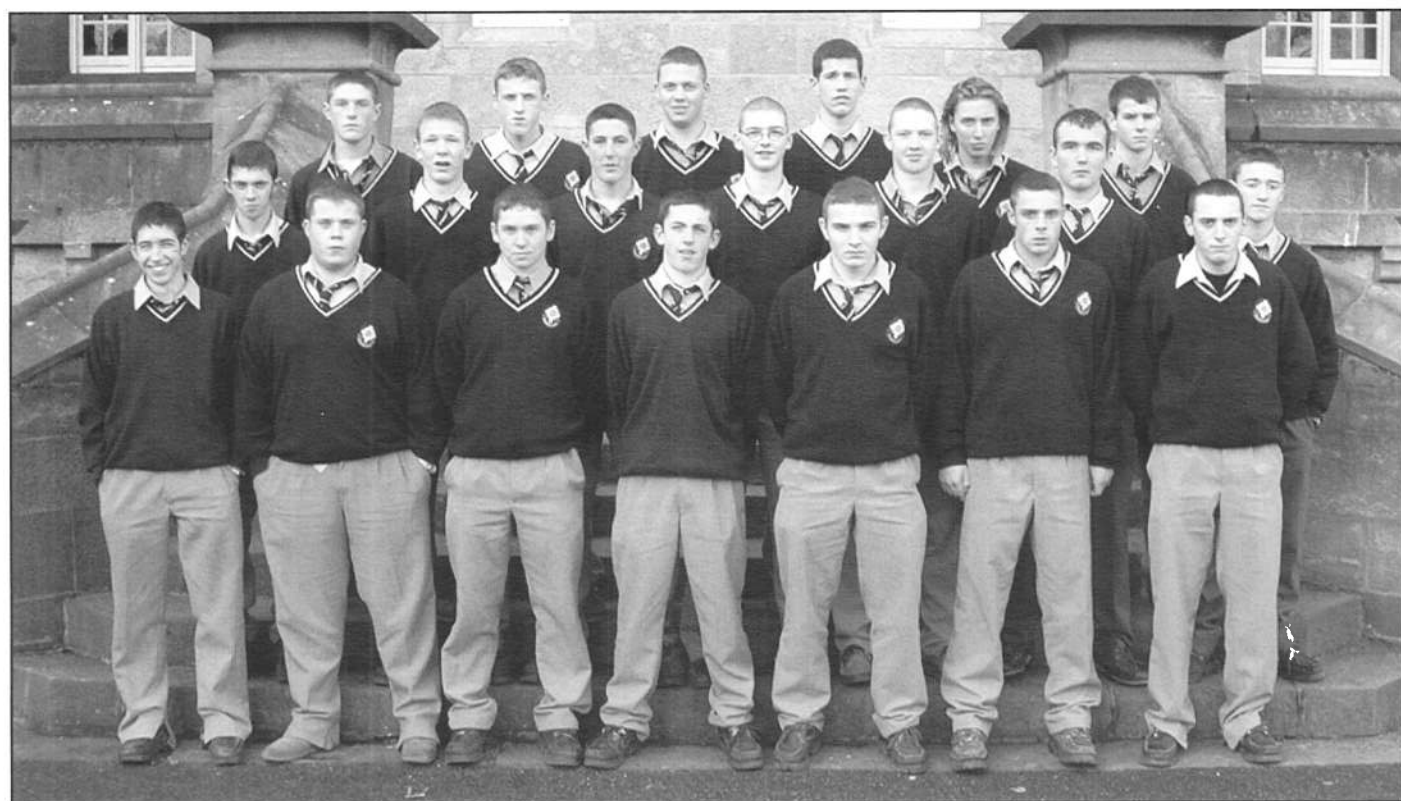
SIXTH YEAR

Back row: Michael Phelan, Patrick Walsh, Michael Rice, Sean O'Connor, Conor Mannion, James Ryan, Michael Sherman, William McCormack. **Front row:** Derek Whelan, Richard Frisby, John Luttrell, Damian Clifford, Shane Phelan, David Healy.



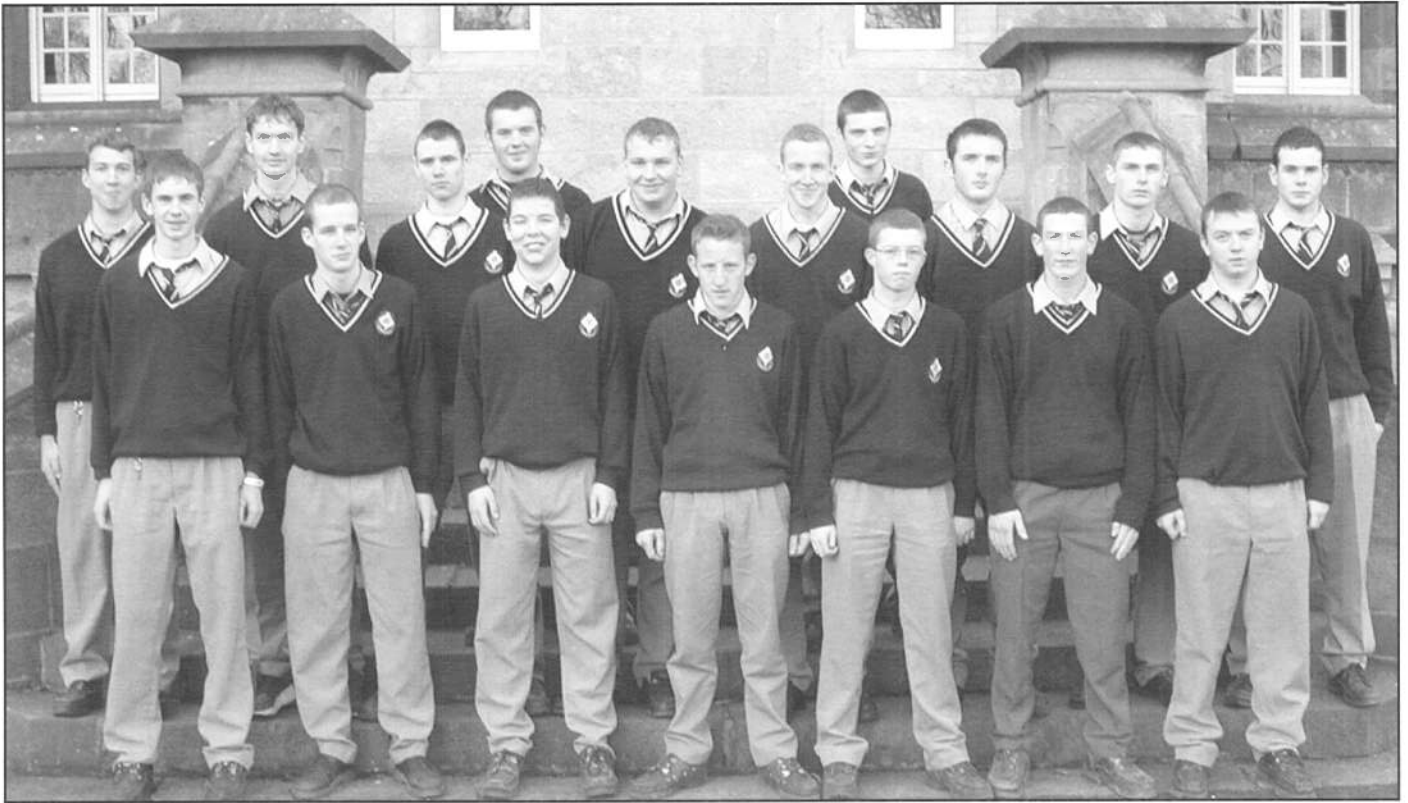
SIXTH YEAR

Back row: Anton Bashorum, Joe Teehan, Vincent Watson, Shane Lacey. **Third row:** Patrick Foley, Damien Caplice, Eoin Doherty, Richard Teehan, Niall Staunton, Liam Hennessy, Kieran Carew. **Second row:** John Cunningham, Alan Dawson, Conor Jenkinson, Robert Hickey, John Comerford, Anton Deegan, Anthony Shortt, David Grogan. **Front row:** J. J. Delahunty, Dermot Nolan, Shane Ferns, Declan Brett, Michael Butler, Rory Mullins, Vincent Wallace, John O'Neill.



SIXTH YEAR

Back row: Daniel Coady, Brian Gallagher, John Lennon, James Blanchfield, David Thomsson, David Hennessy. **Middle row:** Mark Brady, Jason Bryan, Eamon Fitzpatrick, Robert Quinn, Gareth Hickey, Daniel Flynn, Andrew Connolly Rice. **Front row:** Derek Collins, Mark O'Dwyer, Brian Donovan, David Butler, James Hickey, Gerard Holden, James Loughman.



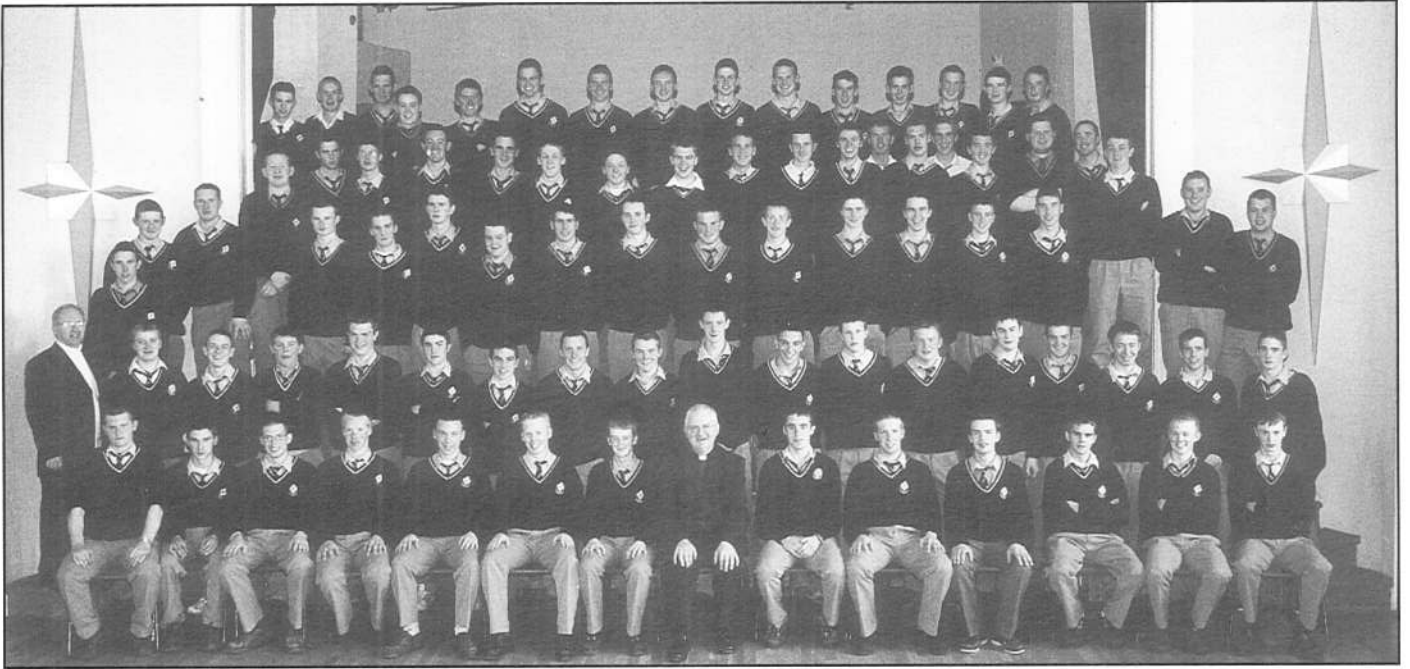
SIXTH YEAR

Back row: Padraic Murphy, Adrian O'Dwyer, Seaghan O'Neill, William Delaney, Sean Whitehead, Martin Greene, Conor O'Dwyer, Mel Clohosey, Vincent Fitzpatrick, Martin Duggan. **Front row:** Denis O'Sullivan, Declan Bryan, Michael Phelan, Neil Lanigan, John Joe O'Donovan, Barry Maloney, Graham Scanlon.



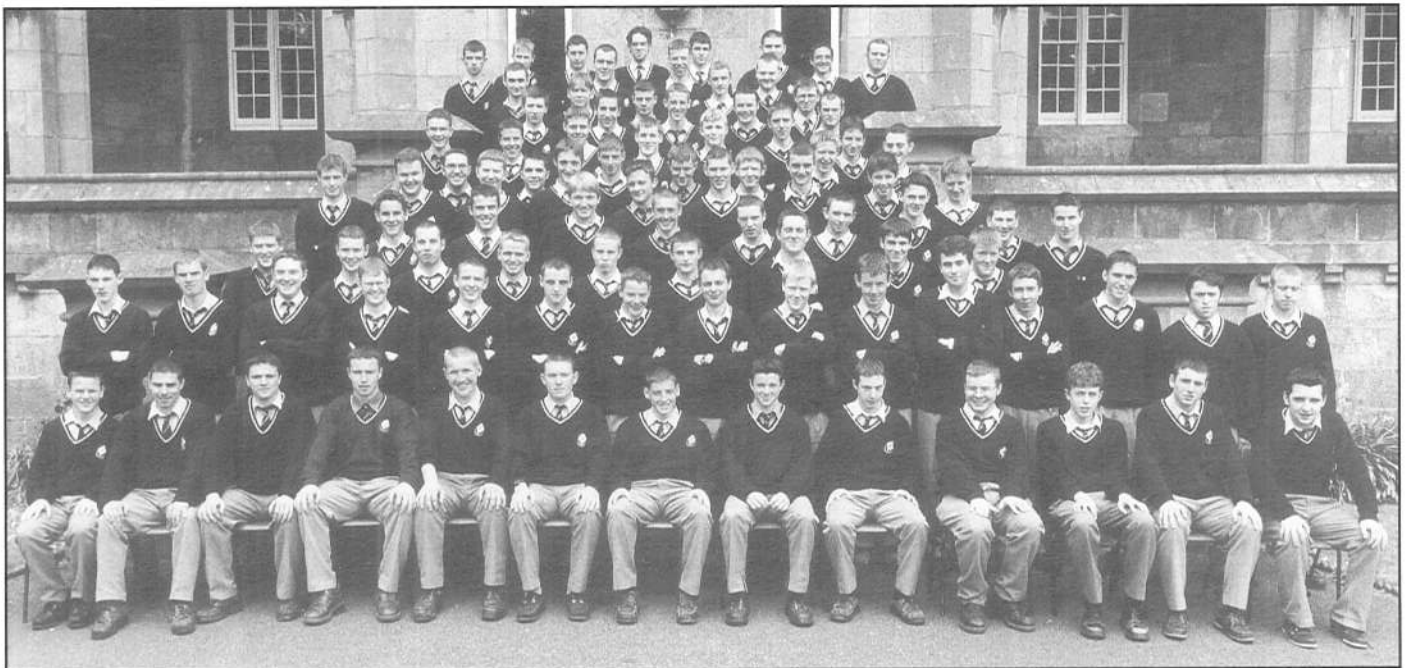
**FIXING TIES
THE MOMENT BEFORE EVERY PHOTO!**

SIXTH YEAR CLASS PICTURES



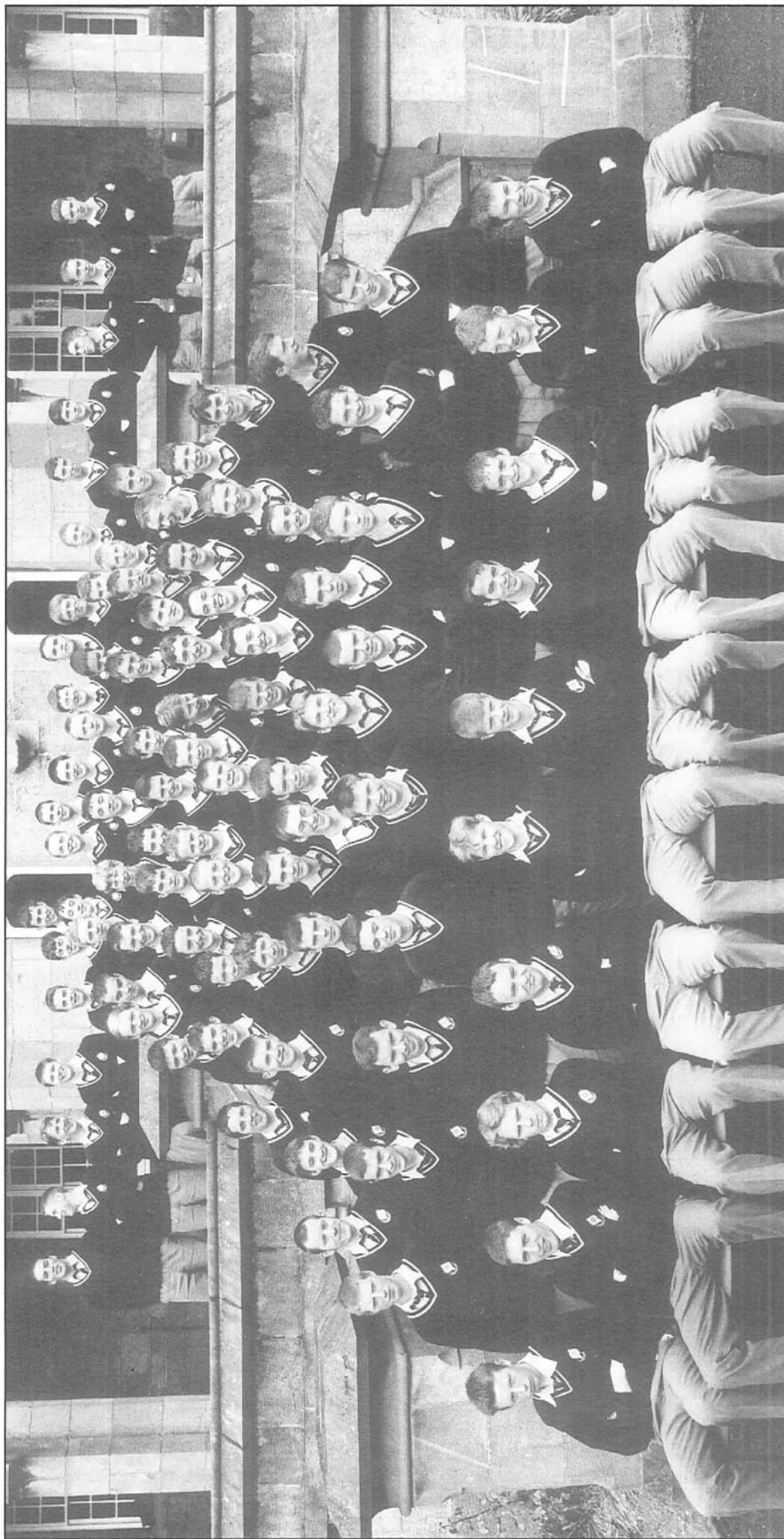
Leaving Certificate Class 2001

Front row: Alan Madigan, Tim Dooley, James O'Sullivan, Anthony Owens, Damien Clifford, Ciaran Bergin, Simon Watchorn, Mgr James Cassin (President) Michael Dermody, Brian Ferns, Michael Sherman, Ned Sweeney, Tommy Walsh, Richard Kenny. **Row 2:** Rev. Richard Scriven, David Madigan, Conor Nolan, Keith Gladney, Liam Walsh, Joe Forristal, Shane Parsons, Michael O'Gorman, Noel Rafter, Maurice Harkin, Alan Cahill, Tony O'Brien, Tom Mulhall, David Morris, Niall Brady, Niall Holden, Ciaran Keyes, Jack O'Keefe. **Row 3:** Barry Delaney, Alex Holligan, Brian Tennyson, Stephen O'Connor, Vincent Mulvin, Ian Phelan, Alan Burke, Paddy Walker, Neil Cullen, John Nolan, Joe Bolger, Derry Kearney, Kevin Jacob, Edward Fitzpatrick, Enda Cleere, Liam O'Shaughnessy, Brian Hennessy. **Row 4:** Padraig Long, Liam Carragher, Noel Kelleher, Seamus Direen, Alan Gallagher, Bobby Maher, Fergal Knox, Brian Carroll, Declan Brennan, John Whitty, John Sheehan, Gary Hayes, Jonathan Savage, Brendan Doyle, Sean Roberts, Diarmuid O'Dowd, Conor O'Grady, Barry Hogan. **Row 5:** David Roche, Cormac Murphy, Ken Coogan, Eoin Father, Stephen Foster, Michael Walsh, Kevin Shortall, Eamonn Down, Robert Aylward, Jackie Tyrell, James Corr, Stephen Knox, Michael Manning, Barry Hoyne, Gary Canavan.



Leaving Certificate 2000

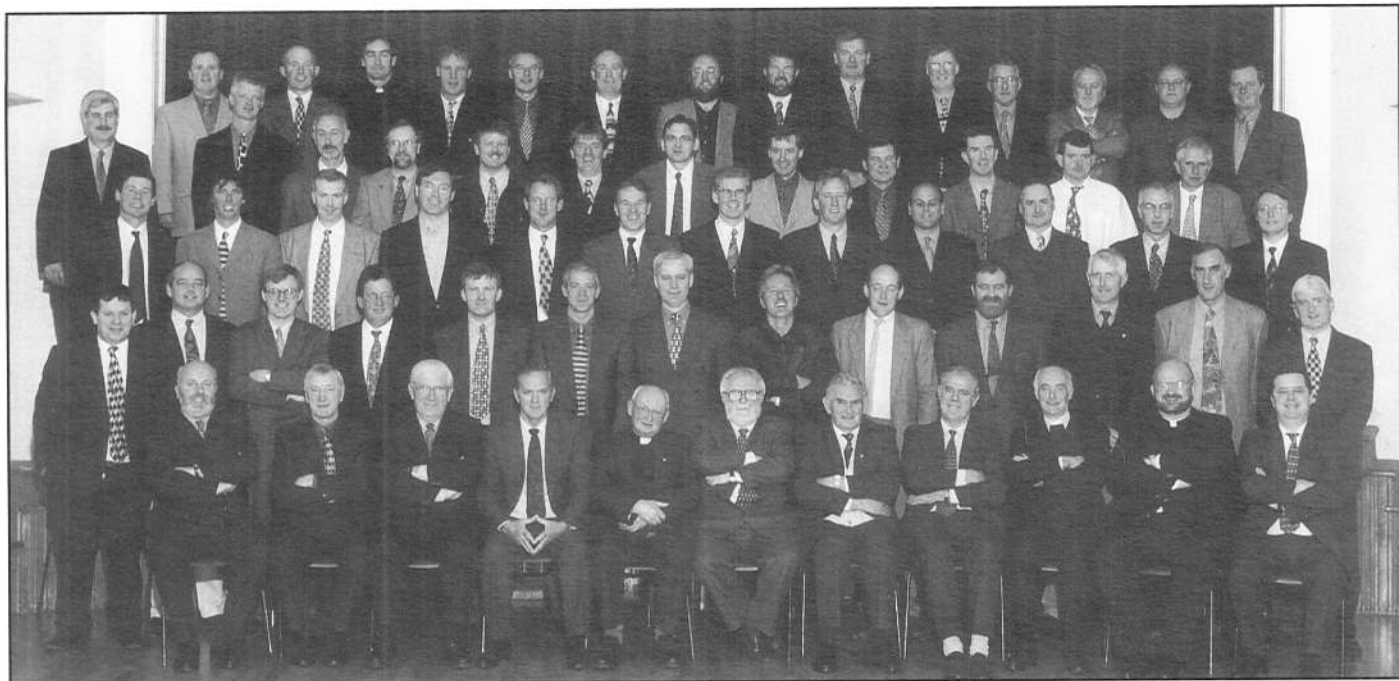
Front row: T. Maloney, L. Helfernan, D. Connery, J. Moran, Ml. Drennan, D. Brennan, J. Bowden, G. Knox, P. Thompson, G. Tiernan, L. Lanigan, E. Kelly, S. Roche. **Second row:** P. Reid, D. O'Shea, G. Murphy, A. Dunne, C. Nolan, Ml. Nicholson, G. Frisby, D. Power, P. Nolan, E. Wemyss, R. Grace, J. Massey, J. Dermody, J. Delaney, Rd. Fitzpatrick. **Third row:** D. Wallace, L. Barron, A. Doran, P. Brennan, A. Lawrie, B. Walsh, E. O'Brien, W. Holohan, B. Nolan, J. Carew. **Fourth row:** A. Gallagher, T. Murphy, K. Grogan, A. O'Donovan, P. Maloney, I. Gannon, W. Brett. **Fifth row:** J. Rice, Mt. Prendergast, F. Treacy, B. Keogh, G. Hehir, W. Walsh, A. Barry, Rd. Teehan, S. Hennessy. **Sixth row:** K. Doran, D. Cashin, J. Brennan, A. Maher, L. Crean, G. O'Donovan. **Seventh row:** J. Treacy, Ed. Corr, T. Dowling, S. Duffy, P. O'Shea, P. Shortall, E. Power, B. O'Regan, M. Lane, P. O'Neill, S. Murphy, J. Meighan, D. Buckley. **Eight row:** P. Collins, N. Teehan, M. Culleton, A. Ratighan, K. Kane. **Ninth row:** S. Murray, J. Holland, S. Fennelly, S. Dunne, L. Moore, B. Hogan, S. O'Driscoll, D. O'Neill, N. Cody, Mk. Morrissey, C. Parson.



Leaving Certificate 1999

Front row (from left): Eoin Mulhern, Brian McCullough, Thomas Shiel, Shane Grennan, Adrian Costigan, Jamie Power, David Dowling, Walter Bergin, Richard Holland, P.J. Flanagan.
Second row: Pat McLoughlin, Robert Gray (R.I.P.), Brendan Kerwick, Robert Ryan, James Murphy, Thomas Murphy, Jonathan Hayes, Stephen Rochford, Michael Luttrell. **Third row:** Niall O'Brien, Eoghan Walsh, Michael Culleton, Padraig Rafter, John O'Gorman, Brendan Tobin. **Fourth row:** Stephen Cahill, Michael O'Neill, Joe Walsh, Stephen Smith, Ross Doyle, Damien Griffin, John Clohosey, Patrick Bowden, Philip Maher. **Fifth row:** Colm Dowd, Nigel Sheehan, Gary Whelan, Paddy Hogan, Eoin Bulfin, Pat Kenny, John Coogan. **Sixth row:** Paul Murphy, James O'Keefe, John Morgan, Brian Sheehan, Michael Fitzpatrick, Kevin McDonnell, Thomas Mackey, David Cashin, Ger Cooote. **Seventh row:** John Prendergast, Daniel Kiely, Martin Leahy, Dermot Byrne, Sean Dooley. **Eighth row:** William Carr, Sean Brennan, Ronan Walsh, Ger Watchorn, John Murphy, Laurence Bolger, Damien Murphy, Brendan Griffith.
Ninth row: Brian Callanan, John Quinn, Gary O'Neill, Peter Dowling, Glen Killian, Donal Hanrahan. **Back row:** Michael Crotty, Eoin Walsh, David Mulrooney, Damien Walsh, Eamonn McEvoy, Shane Murray, Brian O'Connell, Mark Dowling, Leonard O'Shea, Martin Donovan, William Wallace, Hugh Gannon, Cormac Dalton, Killian Byrne, Tony Woodcock, James Murphy, Mark Phelan, Eoghan Guinan, Liam Aylward.

SECONDARY SCHOOL REUNIONS



LEAVING CERTIFICATE CLASS 1973

Front row: E. Roche, Mr D. Phillpott, Mr R. McEvoy (Vice Principal), Mr B. Clarke (Former teacher), Rev T. O'Connor (Dean), Mr T. Murphy (Teacher), Mr J. Collins (Teacher), Mr M. Ó'Diarmada (Principal), Rev J. Delaney (Former Principal), Rev E. O'Gorman, W. Grace. **Second row:** B. Stafford, M. Kirwan, P. O'Neill, T. Doheny, S. Collier, J. Bergin, P. Lynch, T. Dowling, R. Reid, D. Murray, P. Byrne, P. Bergin, B. Moore. **Third row:** S. Walshe, T. Prendergast, M. Brennan, D. Ryan, M. Barry, M. Doheny, K. Marum, P. Dunphy, M. Devane, S. Lennon, B. Holohan, J. O'Hara. **Fourth row:** G. Manning, P. Mullen, S. Costelloe, M. Farrell, D. Kelly, J. Ryan, S. Murray, M. Bambrick, E. Campion, P. Beirne, K. Marrinan, N. Mulhall. **Fifth row:** T. Byrne, D. Hughes, Rev. L.O'Keeffe, J. Phelan, G. Troy, L. Tobin, T. Collier, D. Costigan, S. O'Dwyer, J. Bergin, S. Downey, I. Doyle, G. Reidy, J. McCarthy.



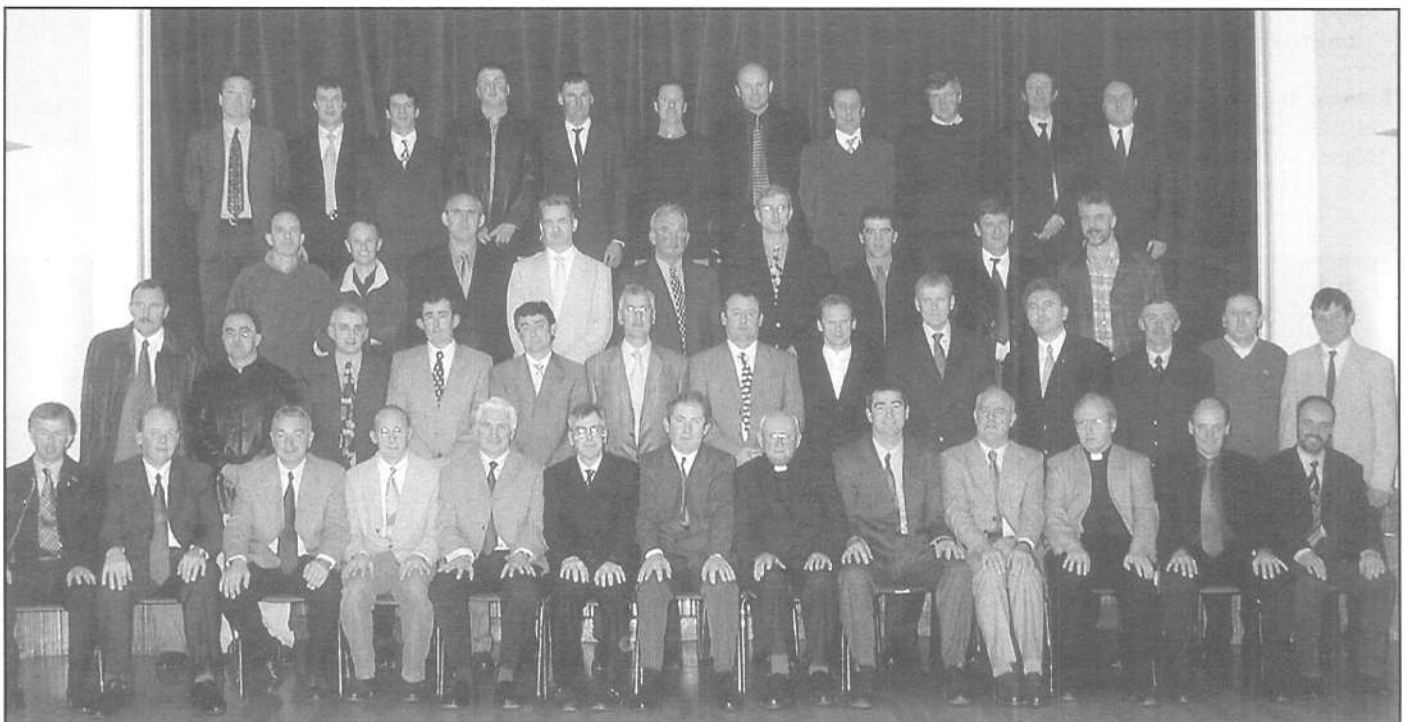
LEAVING CERTIFICATE CLASS 1974

Front row: Fr Tom O'Toole, T. Lanigan, T. Walsh, P. Dack, Fr T. O'Connor (Dean), M. Barrett, P. Phelan, J. Collins (Career Guidance Teacher), K. Bates, M. Cantwell, P. Brennan, M. Carey, T. Walton. **Second row:** Fr E. O'Gorman, J. Doran, P. Bolger, T. White, M. Delahunty, J. Kennedy, M. Meehan, F. Holohan, T. Doheny, S. Sunworth, K. O'Shea, M. Delahunty, R. Hennessy, J. Mooney, B. Power. **Third row:** J. Hyland, V. Crowley, N. Murphy, L. Cody, M. Hennessy, Al. Mallon, N. Downey, J. Hyland, P. Norton, G. Dawson. **Fourth row:** B. McIntyre, J. Heffernan, B. Cahill, T. Greene, B. Little, P. Power, J. Walsh, N. Power, K. Bollard, J.J. Synnott, P. Holohan, F. O'Donovan, J. Phelan, P. Malone, Fr M. Cleere, T. Keating.



LEAVING CERTIFICATE CLASS 1975

Front row: Joe Mooney, J. Brennan, Mr Richard McEvoy (Vice Principal) S. Brennan, Ignatius Marum, Kevin Dooley, Mgr James Cassin (President), Michael O'Diarmada, Richie O'Keeffe, Ronnie Grace, Joe O'Shea, Kieran White, Kevin O'Shea, George Muldowney. **Second row:** Mr B. Clarke (Science Teacher), Dick Dalton, Brendan Dowling, J. Kennedy, David McDonald, John Flynn, B. Maher, Pdraig Walsh, Raymond Sheehan, George Leahy, Paddy Shanahan, Jim Hickey, Frank Doheny, John Meany, Colm Costello, Mr John Collins (Retired Vice Principal). **Third row:** John Joe Collier, Diarmuid Twomey, Pat O'Neill, Jim Connolly, Eamonn Phelan, Tony Carroll, Michael Gorey, Tom Whearty, John Connolly, John Ryan, Mr Art Anglin (retired Maths teacher). **Back Row:** Fintan Ryan, Pat Murphy, Jimmy Lennon, Barry O'Donoghue, Martin G. Delaney, Mick Mullally, John Dixon, P. Burke, Kieran Brennan, Rev. Richard Marnell, Milo Kavanagh, Ger Kavanagh, Mark Kirwin, Martin Joyce, Declan Fitzpatrick, Paddy Prendergast, Raymond Sheehan, Brendan Dixon.



LEAVING CERTIFICATE CLASS 1976

Front row: John Greene, Richard Walton, Franny Grincell, Toddy Farrell, Dermot Ahearn, Walter Holohan, Richard Hogan, Fr T. O'Connor (Dean), David Hogan, Mr Michael O'Diarmada (Principal), Rev Richard Scriven (Dean), Liam Campion, Anthony Campion. **Second row:** Noel Walshe, John Gaffney, John Fennelly, Con Dooley, Noel Phelan, Richard Dore, Richard Bergin, Patrick Fitzgerald, P.J. Quirke, John Connolly, John Kennedy, Dominic Maher, Jimmy Morrissey. **Third row:** Brian Moore, Thomas Mullins, Martin Farrell, Richard Walsh, Thomas Comerford, Vincent Shiels, Mick Maher, Jim Grace, J.P. Walsh, Gearoid Walsh, Patrick Shortall.

PHOTOS FROM THE PAST



Top left: Fifth year students (Back row from left: Oliver Blanchfield, Oliver Byrne, Pat Comerford, Sean Dowling, Joe Lawrence, Eoghan Farrell, Oliver O'Connor, Eamonn Delahunty, Kyran Vaughan. Front: Brian Roche, Kenneth Hughes, Laurie Holland and Brian Conway) in 1991 doing some field work.

Above: St Kieran's Day 1984: (from left) Nigel Leydon, Charlie Maher,, Patrick Maher, Aidan Gleeson, Shane Johnson and J.J. Reidy.

Below: The oldest photograph in the archives: a group of students photographed at the side of the Chapel in 1883.

Bottom: Boarders in the Refectory (1993): Frank Holohan, Michael Gannon, Richard Norton, Thomas Shortall, Alan Hughes, Victor Cubillo Blasco, Eoghan Farrell, Alan Ryan, Liam Dunne, John Kelly and Liam Hally.

Top right: Some of the boarders from 1988 class met up over Christmas 2000. Back: (from left) Brendan McEvoy, Willie Cullen, Declan Dunden, Rev W. Hennessy, Rev Martin Cleere. Front: John Comerford, Brian O'Neill, David Sherman, Declan Dunden, Robert Dillon, Padraig McCluskey, James O'Brien, Michael McNena and Rev Richard Scriven.

Above right: The Collier Wing under construction.

Below: Eoin O hOgain (CPO), Niall Brett, Declan Dempsey, Alan Cass (CPO), Michael Ryan, Paul Roberts, Gene Ryan, Martin Cody, Michael Brennan, Pat Tennyson and John Barnaville.

Bottom: Debs 1993: Liam Dunne, Brian Roche, Conor Hayes and Brian Walsh.



Dr Patrick Francis Moran

Bishop of Ossory 1872-1884
Archbishop of Sydney 1884-1911



Patrick Francis Moran:
Bishop of Ossory 1872-1884;
Archbishop of Sydney 1884-1911;
Australia's first Cardinal in 1885.

Strolling through the library of the Gregorian University Rome in October 2001 I spied a magazine from Australia. The January 2001 edition had a lead article on Cardinal Moran who was Archbishop of Sydney from 1884 to 1911. As every Ossorian knows, Dr Moran had been bishop of Ossory before that. Of more relevance to students of St Kieran's College is the fact that he played a major part in the shaping of the present college building. That part of the college building which houses the students' refectory, the theatre and now the art and technical graphics room was built during his time as bishop and is known as the 'Moran Wing'.

The article was written by A.E. Cahill – a historian from New South Wales who has done extensive research on the Church in Australia at the turn of the 19th to the 20th Century – and who has been preparing a work on Cardinal Moran for many years. In the article he examines the contribution of Dr Moran to the forming of the Federation of Australia in 1901.

In the lead up to the centenary of the Australian Federation various names have been put forward as the architects of the federation. Once such name is Sir Henry Parkes, who in 1996 appeared on the Australian coin and was described officially as the 'Father of the Federation'. Parkes himself, however, in old age, emphasised the importance of Patrick Francis Moran (1830-1911). Dr Moran was already acquainted with the problem of the Australian colonies from his years at the Irish College in Rome. When he arrived in Sydney in 1884 he immediately set about visiting the entire colony, which was his province as Archbishop, by train, buggy and steamer.

He availed of many opportunities to put forward the notion of federation, using the status and authority of his church position to serve the cause of national unification. Moran's contribution to the process included regular comments at church functions and occasional formal lectures and press interviews as well as direct public interventions at Bathurst in the 1896 and 1897 convention elections.

Patrick Francis Moran was Cardinal Cullen's step-nephew and was appointed co-adjutor to Bishop Walsh of Ossory in December 1871.

A native of Leighlin-bridge he had a distinguished career behind him both in Rome and Dublin before arriving in Kilkenny. He played a very active role in the life of St Kieran's College, and it was during his episcopacy that the college crest was adopted. It is a "representation of St Kyran, robed, with the Mitre and Crozier, standing between two pillars (this representation had already been part of the seals of a number of bishops of Ossory) together with the motto and title of the College, and the date of its foundation". The report of a meeting of the Ossory Archaeological Society on the 7th January 1874 records that the motto, *Hiems Transiit*, was selected, since the date of the College's foundation, 1782, "coincided with the dawn of a brighter era of the Irish Church, and as St Kyran was one of the first flowers of the Spiritual garden of Erin". The form 'Kieran' was substituted for 'Kyran' in the title of the College later that year, but for a time, as was to be expected, both spellings of the name were used.

Another important contribution by Bishop Moran was the completion of the east wing which was undertaken in 1874. In November of that year the bishop issued a pastoral appealing for subscriptions and about £3,000 was collected throughout the diocese. On St Kieran's Day 1875 the foundation of the 'Moran Wing' was laid. Designed by George Ashlin the building was to contain a refectory, a large assembly room and a dormitory. The stone was quarried locally and cut in the college grounds. The final stone was put in place in June 1877 and by then over £6,500 had been spent on the new college.

In 1884 Dr Moran's term as bishop of Ossory came to an end. From his days in the Irish College in Rome his relationship with the Australian Church had been close and remained so during his time in Kilkenny. And it probably came as no great surprise when Pope Leo XIII appointed him archbishop of Sydney in March 1884. On 10th June the priests of the diocese, the superiors and professors of the College and the students with an impromptu address bade their farewells to Bishop Moran. A year later he was to become Australia's first Cardinal.



The 'Moran Wing' and the steps of the east wing were added, and both terraces were faced, in 1876-77

ORDINATIONS



REV. SEAN O'CONNOR

Rev. Sean O'Connor pictured with his family on the occasion of his ordination to the priesthood in June 2000. A native of Parish of Clogh Sean was a student in St Kieran's College and St Patrick's College Carlow and is at present team member in St Patrick's Parish Kilkenny.

REV. MARK CONDON

Rev. Mark Condon, a native of Slievruie, was ordained in December 2000. Pictured right with his family Mark was a student in St Kieran's College Seminary, St Patrick's College Maynooth, and the Pontifical Irish College Rome. Mark is at present curate in Callan.



REV. DERMOT RYAN

Rev. Dermot Ryan with his parents and sister after his ordination to the priesthood in St Canice's Church Kilkenny. A past pupil of St Kieran's College Secondary School Dermot completed his seminary training in St Patrick's College Carlow. Dermot is presently curate in Ferrybank Waterford.

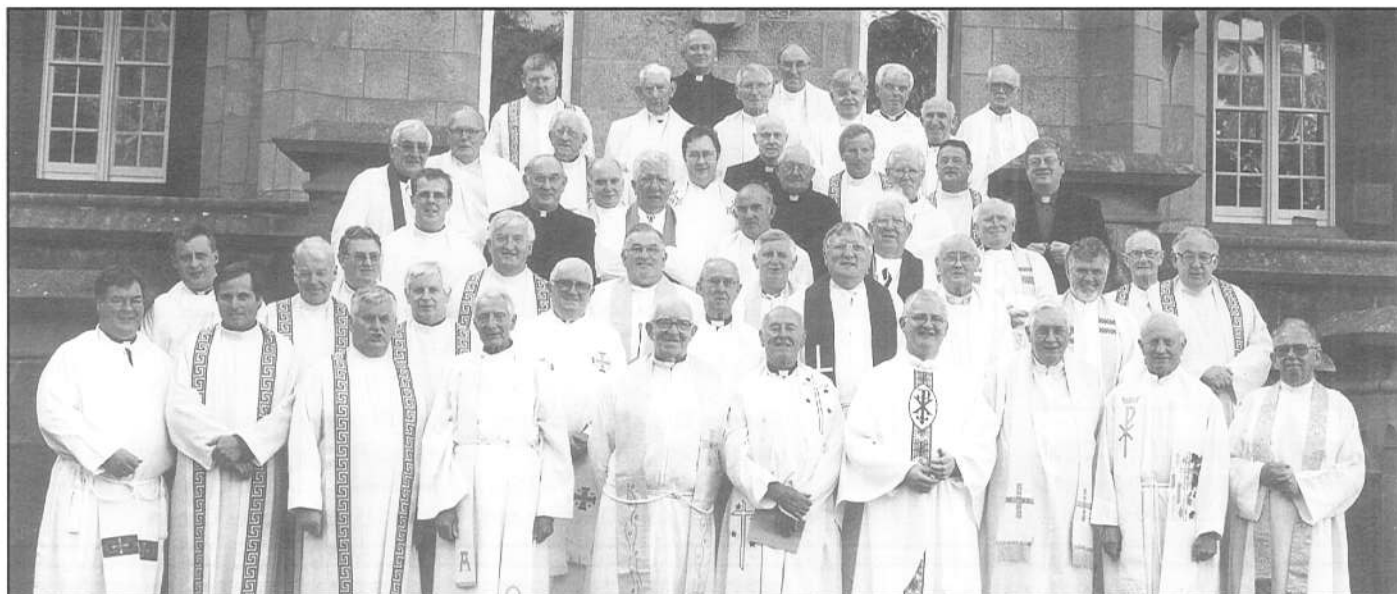


REV. KIERAN O'SHEA

Rev. Kieran O'Shea, from Durrow, completed his seminary training in St Patrick's College Carlow and was ordained in Durrow in June 2001. Pictured right with his family after the ordination in Durrow Kieran is presently curate in St Mary's Cathedral Kilkenny.



SEMINARY REUNIONS



PRIESTS AT THE 2001 JUBILEE CELEBRATION AUGUST 2001

Front row (from left): Rev. Dan Carroll (Ossory), Rev. William Hennessy (Ossory), Canon Laurence Dunphy (Ossory), Rev. John O'Shea (Southwark), Canon Percy Grant (Ossory), Rev. Tom O'Donnell (Christchurch), Mgr James Cassin (President, St Kieran's College), Rev. Louis St John (Shrewbury), Rev. Frank O'Gorman (Lismore), Rev. Jeremiah O'Carroll (Glasgow). **Second row:** Rev. Patrick Carey (Ossory), Rev. Jeremiah Joyce (Ossory), Rev. William Dalton (Ossory) Mgr Francis Pattison (San Diego), Rev. Tom Nolan (Paisley), Mgr Michael C. Conway (Glasgow), Rev. Tom Palmer (San Antonio), Rev. Benedict O'Shea (Arundel and Brighton), Dr James Brennan (Ossory), Mgr Michael Ryan (Ossory). **Third row:** Rev. Peter Kehoe (O. Carm), Rev. Tom Murphy (Ossory), Rev. Kieran Cantwell (Ossory), Rev. Brendan McAteer (Dromore). **Fourth row:** Rev. Kieran Rice (Wellington), Rev. Patrick Magner (Hexham and Newcastle), Canon John Brennan (Ossory), Rev. James Burke (Nottingham), Rev. Tom Phelan (Perth), Rev. John Condon (Ossory), Rev. Liam Cassin (Ossory) Rev. John Reynolds (Salford), Rev. Laurence Wallace (Ossory), Rev. Kieron Kennedy (Ossory). **Fifth row:** Rev. Liam Barron (Ossory), Canon Andrew O'Dwyer (Ossory), Rev. Gerard Conway (Edinburgh), Rev. Donal O'Brien (Hexham and Newcastle), Rev. Joseph Cahill (Shrewsbury). **Sixth row:** Mgr Patrick Hennessy (Leeds), Mgr Edward Kavanagh (Sacramento), Rev. Patrick Guilfoyle (Ossory) Rev. Michael Brennan (St Patrick's Missionary Society, Kiltegan).

Golden Jubilarians 1951-2001

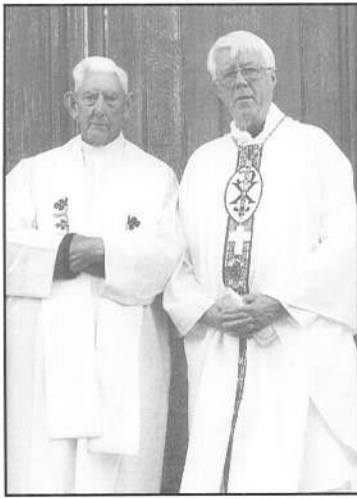
Canon Percy Grant (Ossory), Rev. Tom O'Donnell (Christchurch, New Zealand), Mgr James Cassin (President), Rev. Louis St John (Shrewsbury), Rev. Frank O'Gorman (Lismore, Australia), Rev. Jeremiah O'Carroll (Glasgow).



Golden Jubilarians 1950-2000

Rev. William Clancy (Wellington), Rev. Sean Collier (Ossory), Rev. Kevin Molloy (Shrewsbury), Archbishop Thomas White, Bishop Laurence Forristal, Rev. Patrick J. Moss (Glasgow), Rev. Patrick Crean (Paisley), Rev. Philip O'Brien (Hexham and Newcastle), Rev. Michael Brennan (St Patrick's Kiltegan).





DIAMOND JUBILEE 2000

Rev. Andrew O'Dwyer pictured with Bishop Laurence Forristal.



SILVER JUBILARIANS

1975-2000

Rev. Terence Toner (Meath), Rev. Dan O'Donovan (Clonfert), Rev. Patrick Lynch (Leeds), Archbishop Tom White, Bishop Laurence Forristal, Rev. Nicholas Flavin (Ossory), Rev. Ray Fulton (Down and Conor), Rev. Michael Campion (Hexham and Newcastle), Mgr James Cassin.

GOLDEN JUBILARIANS

1949 - 1999

Back (from left): Mgr James Cassin (President), James Mullins (Perth), Rev. Sean O'Shea (Motherwell), Rev. James Dowling (Perth).

Front (from left): Bishop Martin Drennan, Bishop Laurence Forristal, Bishop Robert Healy (Auxiliary Bishop of Perth), Rev. John O'Brien (Ossory).



SILVER JUBILARIANS

(1973-1998)

Back left to right: Rev. John Clohosey (Hexham and Newcastle), Rev. Declan Boland (Derry), Rev. John Robinson (Ossory) and Mgr James Cassin (Ossory)

Front left to right: Rev. Liam Cassin (Ossory), Bishop Forristal, Rev. Frank O'Hagan (Derry)

GOLDEN JUBILARIANS

1948 - 1998

Back row (from left): Mgr Thomas Maher (Ossory), Mgr Edward Kavanagh (Sacramento), Archdeacon Patrick Grace (Ossory), Rev. Patrick Palmer (San Antonio).

Front row (from left): Mgr James Cassin (President), Rev. Thomas Murphy (Edinburgh), Bishop Laurence Forristal, Rev. Michael O'Keefe (Glasgow).

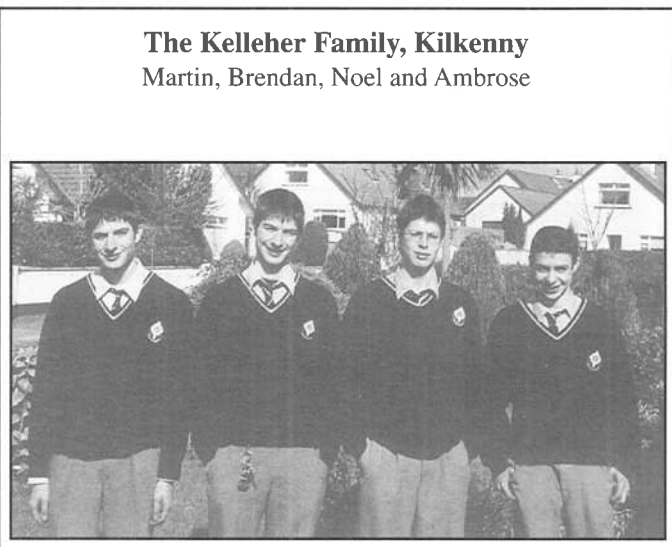


BROTHERS

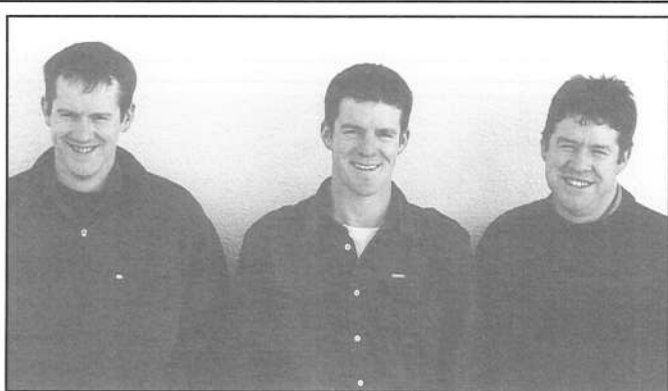
We continue our record of 'Brother-groups' of St Kieran's College Pupils (past and present) with photographs of 12 families who between them have had 44 members in the college in recent years.



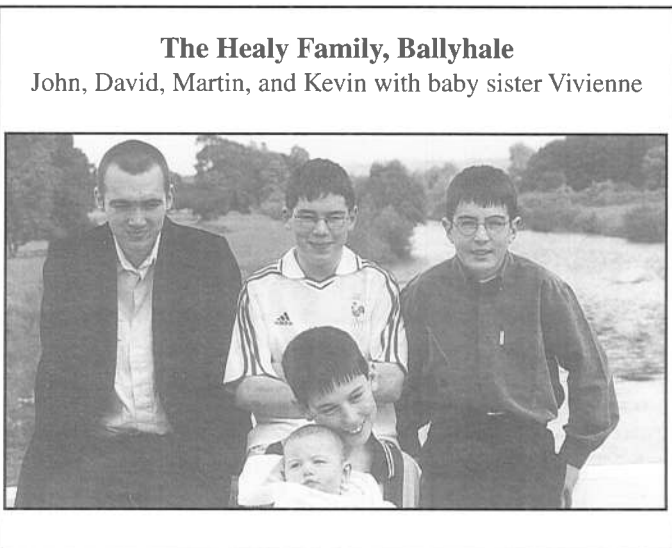
The Lennon Family, Dunmore
Edward, Michael, Patrick, Ruaidhri and Cainneach



The Kelleher Family, Kilkenny
Martin, Brendan, Noel and Ambrose



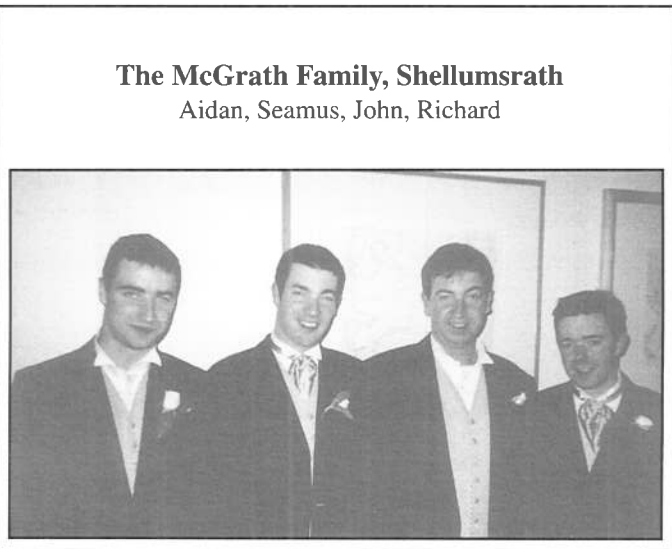
The Lawrence Family, Drangan
Edmund, Joseph and Michael



The Healy Family, Ballyhale
John, David, Martin, and Kevin with baby sister Vivienne

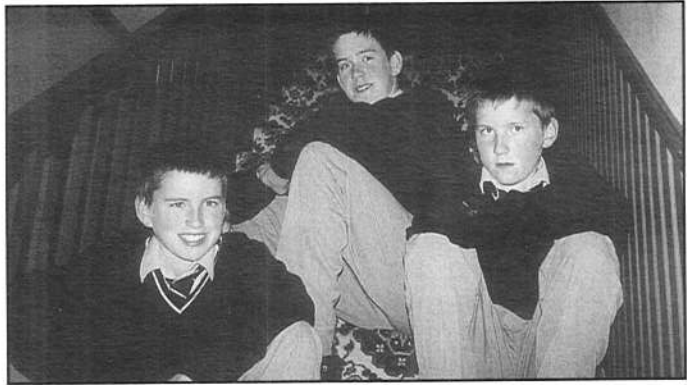


The Prendergast Family, Clara
John, Martin, Gerard



The McGrath Family, Shellumsrath
Aidan, Seamus, John, Richard

The O'Shea Family, Piltown
David, Niall and Cathal.



The Kelly Family, Kilkenny
Niall, Alan, Garry and Sean



The Muldoon Family, Ballyhale
Brendan, Liam, Niall, Cian



The Harkin Family, Kilkenny
Adrian, David and Maurice



The Donovan Family, Kilkenny
John, Barry and Martin



The Kennedy Family, Tullaroan
Padraig, Michael, Paul and Martin Og

Very Rev. William Meany

Past Pupil, Former Professor and Outstanding Classical Scholar



We publish an appreciation, written by Dean Timothy O'Connor, on the occasion of the death of Very Rev. William Meany. A former student and staff member of St Kieran's Fr Meany joined the staff of St Patrick's College Maynooth in 1951 as Professor of Classics.

On Friday, 1st June 2001, the feast of St Justin, Martyr, we laid to rest our friend and colleague Dr William Meany (known affectionately to colleagues and students as "Bill").

It was a significant day for him to be laid to rest. Both Justin and Bill were Christian humanists, nurtured on the culture of Israel, Greece and Rome and seeing in them a preparation for Christianity and the Gospel. Bill easily harmonised these cultures in his person with his unwavering Christian faith and in the practice of his priesthood. He relished the saying of one of his favourite Latin authors: "Homo sum; nil humani a me alienum puto" ("I am a man; I regard nothing that is human as foreign to me").

While Justin was born in Palestine and lived in Rome at the centre of Classical culture, Bill was a Kilkenny-man, born in Cellarstown, in the parish of St John's, in 1918, and deeply attached to his native Kilkenny and to his family home and roots. He deeply loved his brothers, sister-in-law Mary, nieces and nephews and a multitude of cousins. Kilkenny can claim him as one of its brightest and greatest scholars.

Classical scholarship reached its highest degree in both England and Germany. In both countries education in the Ancient Classics was regarded, and still, is by many today, as the best foundation for all education, the basis of the ideal, liberal education of Cardinal Newman. That was eminently true in Bill's case. From the foundation he received in St Kieran's College with its long Classical tradition and the inspiration of his great mentor Peter Byrne, he grew in depth and appreciation of that culture and mastered it.

At Maynooth

He entered Maynooth Seminary in 1937, did a brilliant course in Classics for his BA and likewise for his BD in Theology. Ordained a priest in June 1944, he returned in September to pursue post-graduate studies. It was then

that I met him for the first time – and it was a revelation. He got his doctorate in Theology for his study of "The Hebrew Notion of Sin", his Master's degree on "The Christian Poetry of St Paulinus of Nola" and his Diploma in Education in 1947.

This highly qualified scholar returned to St Kieran's to "teach callow school boys" (his own words). But he learned a lot in the process and loved it. He kept the exercise books of three of his pupils in grateful memory.

Appointed Professor of Classics in NUI Maynooth in 1951 he remained in the College until his recent illness. After some years of teaching he went to the University of Freiburg-im-Breisgau in Germany, studied under some of the most famous German scholars and got his Ph D. He mastered the German language at the same time.

He was an outstanding teacher; this shown by the number of his secondary pupils who went on to further classical studies and several of whom became teachers in turn. Two of his students later joined him as Professors in the Department of Ancient Classics.

In class he was lively, engrossing, entertaining and effective. He knew all his students personally, formed abiding relationships with them and never forgot them. Many of them were his friends for life.

Friendship

He had a great gift for friendship which he cultivated by phone calls, visits and letters. I was the frequent recipient of all three. The surest evidence of his wide circle of friends was his address book which covered the world. He was devastated on one occasion when he lost it in the airport at Lourdes. He promptly began another one.

A citizen of the world, he travelled the world. As early as 1953 he went to Australia to visit a Sister of Mercy, a close relative who had spent 30 years there. It turned out to be a good will tour of visitation of Irish Sisters, Brothers and Priests, especially the St Kieran's alumni in Australia. Then it was to the US to visit his classmate Fr Willie Treacy in Seattle, relatives, and again St Kieran's alumni, Britain, South Africa but above all Greece and the Aegean.

Not content with reading the literature he had to experience the "splendour that was Greece" on the spot, enriching his literary experience. He walked the places sacred to the gods of Olympus, studied the archeological sites and their relics in the museums, basked in the sun of the lovely islands of the Aegean and drank in the culture.

He had learned Modern Greek to allow him to converse freely with scholars, Orthodox priests and monks, shepherds and mountain peasants. His classes were enlivened by his traveller's talks on his return. He began writing a diary in his first days as a student in Maynooth and kept it up all his life. Endowed with a powerful memory, he felt the need to supplement it with the written word, the pungent comment, the telling phrase, the live word-picture.

What a marvellous commentary on sixty years of a full life. What he did not retain in script he recorded on his camera. To quote one of his great authors, Thucydides, his diary is a "Ktema es aei" – a possession for ever, but according to his wishes, it will not see the light. It was for himself only.

The Priest

In the midst of academic life he was always a priest. Though he never served in a parish on a permanent basis, he was always open to give pastoral care. His personal care for his students was pastoral. So too his work for Sisters as chaplain. He used to work in parishes in London, and the US. Above all he brought hundreds of people to Lourdes on his many pilgrimages there and showed his skill as pastor and priest.

His facility with words, honed by close acquaintance with many languages, both ancient and modern, made him a lively conversationalist, especially at table, where in his self-deprecatory way he regaled his colleagues with stories and travel-lore, spiced with wit and sometimes, acerbic comment.

And so Maynooth was fittingly represented at his obsequies by the President and past President and Professors past and present. The homily was given by Professor Thomas Finan, a past pupil.

This rich, fulfilled life came to an end after a lingering illness. Death and immortality loom large in the classical literature. One can imagine him then pondering these famous words of Virgil (Aeneid VI): "Tendebantque manus ripae ulterioris amore" – The shades of the dead stretched out their hands, in yearning for the farther shore.

But then the words of Compline, with which he blessed us, would take over.

"May the Almighty Lord
grant us a quiet night and a perfect end."

I'm sure He did give him this end, as our prayer is:

Requiem aeternam dona ei, Domine.

Very Rev. Michael Carroll

Past Pupil, Former Professor and Parish Priest of Thomastown



Canon Carroll was born on December 12th in 1909 in the parish of Conahy. Following the completion of his second level education at St Kieran's College, Kilkenny he began studies for priesthood at the Pontifical Irish College Rome in the Autumn of 1929. In March of 1935 he was ordained to the priesthood and remained on at the Irish College to complete his studies for a Doctorate in Divinity at the Lateran University. The title of Michael Carroll's *Dissertatio ad Lauream* was: *De Origine, Natura et Proprietatibus Ecclesiae juxta G. Tyrrell (1861-1909)*. Written in Latin on the ecclesiology of G. Tyrrell, the thesis has the distinction of being one of the earliest theses ever presented by an Ossory cleric in Rome.

On his return to the diocese of Ossory he was appointed curate in Ballycallan where he served for one year. In July 1937 he was appointed professor in St Kieran's College, Kilkenny,

where he was to remain for twenty-seven years first as professor of Systematic Theology and later as professor of Moral Theology and Canon Law. In 1965 Fr Carroll was appointed Parish Priest of Thomastown and in 1979 he became a member of the Diocesan Chapter. In September 1987 Michael Carroll retired as parish priest and was appointed Pastor Emeritus until his retirement from active ministry in July 1993. His final years were spent in Thomastown. Canon Carroll died in Aut Even Hospital on 4th August 2000 and his burial took place in Thomastown on 7th August 2000.

Throughout his ministry Michael Carroll had a profound love for the Church, which sometimes manifested itself in a rugged and literal commitment to its law. A keen conversationalist, nothing pleased him more than a robust argument in defence of the tradition as against modern theological opinion. He was an avid reader and remained au fait with Church teaching right to the end. He was faithful to the liturgical reforms that resulted from Vatican II and he vigorously introduced the various liturgical reforms as they were approved. Both as professor and pastor he tirelessly worked for those in his care. A true son of the soil, farming was very close to his heart and in his spare time he cultivated farm produce that often featured in prize giving in local agricultural shows. He loved to fish and to go fowling. He enjoyed winemaking and conscious of modern developments he was one of the first to practice organic methods. All of this contributed to a fine table where his guests were treated to good food and stimulating conversation.

May he rest in peace.

Please remember in your prayers the past pupils of St Kieran's College who have died since the last edition of the College Record. In particular we commend to the Lord those listed here who worked in Ossory and those who were ordained in the College to work overseas.

Rev. Richard Cass	Hexham and Newcastle	1999	Very Rev. Mark Canon Kirwin	15.8.1998
Rev. Thomas Hourigan	Salford	1998		
Rev. Joseph Vereker	Sacramento	1999	Rev. Patrick Prendergast, S P S	15.1.1999
Rev. Oliver Mahedy	Washington	1999	Very Rev. Dean Martin Comerford	31.1.2000
Rev. John Phelan	Baker	1999		
Rev. Nicholas Hughes	Boise	1999	Very Rev. Michael Canon Carroll	4.8.2000
Rev. Michael O'Meara	Birmingham (England)	1999		
Rev. Hugh Curneen	San Diego	2000	Rev. Richard Holohan	26.8.2000
Rev. Hugh Raferty	Providence	2000	Very Rev. Michael Canon Purcell	1.9.2001
Rev. Michael McNulty	Edinburgh	2000		
Rev. Thomas Foynes	Birmingham (England)	2000	Very Rev. John Canon Carey	6.01.2001
Rev. James Mullins	Perth	2000		
Rev. Nicholas Hughes	Boise	2001	Rev. William Meany	30.5.2001
Rev. Tobias Vereker	Sacramento	2001	Very Rev. Richard Canon Nolan	2.7.2001
Rev. Patrick J Murphy	Mobile-Birmingham	2000		
Rev. Sean Sorohan	Perth	2001	Very Rev. Philip Canon Madigan	1.8.2001

TOM RYALL

Jim Neary, a past pupil of St Kieran's and teacher in Kilmanagh National School, writes about Tom Ryall who died in 2000. Tom was a past pupil of St Kieran's and a life long GAA supporter at every level.



A native of Ballycallan Tom's first love was his local club. St Kieran's past pupils have contributed greatly to the recent success of Graigue-Ballycallan. 11 of the panel had at one stage worn the black and white of St Kieran's. Jim Neary and Tom Hogan are also past pupils.

The first year of the new Millennium was a magnificent year for all GAA supporters in Kilkenny. St Kieran's College set the victory trail when winning their Senior All Ireland. The Kilkenny senior team then went on to win the Liam McCarthy and afterwards nine of our heroes gained the ultimate All Star Awards. Finally, in the shortening days of winter, Graigue-Ballycallan brought the Leinster Club hurling title back to Kilkenny after a lapse of five years.

Enjoying all of the excitement associated with the path to eventual success was Tom Ryall, the GAA's most loyal and fervent servant. Though encountering various and serious health problems throughout the year Tom never wavered. He continued to carry out his myriad duties in the GAA keeping a watchful eye on all activities and maintained his passionate interest in all games from Under-9 at parish level right up to national senior level. Just as everything was accomplished, the trophies proudly placed on the side boards and all looking forward to the winter break and the joys of Christmas, Tom, unexpectedly, passed to the green pastures of Heaven on the shortest day of the year. For the Ryall family and the GAA the year 2000 encompassed, "The best of times and the worst of times".

Tom Ryall ranks as one of the greatest illuminaries of St Kieran's College. For one who never sought the limelight, it is astonishing the influence he dispersed throughout the 32 counties and way beyond. His sixty seven years were all too short a time. He had accomplished so much, but there was much, much more for Tom to do and enjoy.

In 1947 Tom commenced his secondary education in St Kieran's with companions from his own beloved parish. He cherished their friendship and indeed all his St Kieran's contemporaries for the rest of his life. Tom was very popular in the College, being noted for his "poaching" skill in hurling and he excelled at athletics. St Kierans didn't attain any All Ireland titles with Tom's group but were victorious in a Leinster Junior final. Perhaps, he was most

remembered for his abiding interest in G A A games in general and the ends he went to, to get his hands on the forbidden newspaper to catch up with the results and reports. Anyone who spent time in College or Convent under the old regimes would understand the loneliness and heartache it must have been for Tom and his friends to be impounded in St Kieran's, far away from the open fields of home, the local jargon, the radio and the newspaper filled with dazzling reports of their heroes.

Again, those who passed through St Kieran's in a bye gone time would recall the preoccupation with hurling. Every break was spent hurling in Fennessy's and in the two fields along the avenue to New Street. Those not involved with the College teams weren't too disappointed as they had their own leagues and the ever popular "few pucks" to appease insatiable appetites for hurling. Here too, Tom was to the fore using his refereeing skills to promote hurling among the aspiring stars.

Tom epitomised all the excellent values and traits associated with the fine men who journeyed through the hallowed halls of St Kieran's. He acquired a loyalty for his school which made him extremely proud when his alma mater figured in the kudos, be it sport or academics. He had a respect which we all admired and indeed many of us tried to emulate.

Tom's respect led him to give everybody their title and everything and everybody had to be put in their proper place and order. This was forever evident in his courteous dealings with people, in his correspondence, and of course in his books. Other St Kieran's qualities I would associate with Tom were commitment and dedication. Tom's commitment to his family, his parish, to his work and to the ideals of the GAA is legendary. And like all great men with a cause Tom dedicated himself totally to its fulfilment.

In my own time in St Kieran's we had an eminent Dean

whose motto for us was, "Every day in every way I am getting better and better". We all listened intently and of course nodded and promised to do our best. But I am afraid most of us relied on the belief that God loves a trier. I don't know if Tom encountered the motto, but I personally believe that Tom Ryall strove every day of his life to use every minute of God's time for his own development and for the benefit of his dear family and friends.

I had a personal friendship with Tom since 1974 but I knew him through his association with his club and the Factory League even before that time. During all those years I could never imagine Tom being idle for a moment. When you called to his house (no matter what the time) he invariably answered the door with a pen in his hand; while talking to him the 'phone would ring on numerous occasions and then he would have a multiplicity of questions about ongoing matters. In later years Tom had a daily walk routine and there was tangible evidence of his thinking, memorizing and planning as he walked along the roads of his beloved Michaelschurch, Ballyfrank, Ballycallan, Dama and Ballyhendricken. Once back in the house I envisaged Tom working for Bord na nÓg, attending to PRO business for club and county, preparing for Central Council meetings, keeping up to date with his fascination for facts and figures, answering queries from all over Ireland about club histories and compiling his own acclaimed books "Kilkenny: The GAA Story" and "1900 - 2000 Comhairle Laighean".

However, Tom did even more than that. He was a loyal and active parishioner working specifically on the parish finances and above all he was a devoted and treasured husband and father. At his funeral mass his daughter Ann Marie paid a moving tribute to Tom the family man and shared some lovely private moments of his life with us.

Tom was born in the secluded hamlet of Kilbraghan, nestling in the foothills of Slieveardagh and he was forever proud of his birth place and the dear friends of his youth. Those friends recall Tom's lingering moments under Kilbraghan Tree with the newspaper in his hand; his cycling home from Mass and school rendering commentaries on real and perceived games in the true Mícheál O'Hehir style; his trips down the fields hurley and sliotar in hand, for the cows and usually very late returning having re-enacted the many deeds of his heroes on the way.

What better place to nurture a true Christian than Kilbraghan. Tom was humble. I sat beside him at an All-Ireland medals presentation. After the presentation the County Chairman commenced a tribute to a hard working and dedicated GAA official who had retired from work. It took quite a while for it to register with Tom that he was the subject. He was visibly shocked and overcome by the time he received his award. As usual in his acceptance speech he showered praise and thanks on everyone else. In the autumn of 2000 Tom received a "Kilkenny People of the Year Award". This award recognised the contribution Tom has given to the happiness of people throughout his entire life - in all the areas he was so actively involved.

Tom was most gracious. He lavished praise constantly on others. It was such an honour to have Tom Ryall mention your name on KCR (as it was known in its infancy) or to read your name in Tom Ryall's reports in the local Acorn, the Kilkenny People or the Kilkenny Year Book.

Tom was so unassuming that he was chuffed when any of the present day hurling stars recognised him and had a word or two with him. So little expected from one who contributed so much for so many.

Tom was caring and dependable. He foresaw difficulties with games fixtures and had matters rectified before even those involved were aware. The Chairmen of the different boards depended on a wink from Tom as to the wisdom of pursuing a particular line at meetings. Those proposing motions knew they had a winner if Tom Ryall was on their side.

In the tributes to Tom many mentioned that he never lost touch with the grass roots. He was a member of the Central Council yet he would look after an U-11 camaint team, take charge of under age training, carry car loads of youngsters to matches, referee, collect the jerseys and write out the players lists at all games from juvenile to Leinster Club Championship. He was available for advice before the games and at half time he always came to the dressing rooms to confer. I often think that it was rather audacious to be so familiar with and demanding of one of Tom's ilk. But then that was Tom Ryall.

"If you can walk with crowds
and keep your virtue,
Or walk with Kings-
nor lose the common touch,
If neither foes nor loving friends can hurt you,
If all men count with you,
but none too much;
Yours is the Earth
and everything that's in it."

There was a driving force in Tom Ryall. He had a fascination with records, order, progress and excellence. When a title was won he didn't sound the trumpet but wisely reflected and quietly advised as to the future. There was always another game to be played, another title to be won and another medal to be added to some individual's collection. I could never see Tom writing a final chapter. He was intent on creating opportunities for others and then recording their achievements in the annals of the GAA. How content and proud Tom must have been that his own native club would fill the first chapter in the Leinster Records of the New Millennium.

He has left us an outstanding legacy, he bravely defied illness to lead a life full of purpose, his zestful spirit will undoubtedly gently guide us all along the difficult winding path of life. All will forever share the memories of Tom's life and we thank his kind and courteous family for allowing us to share in the generosity of a true Christian gentleman.

