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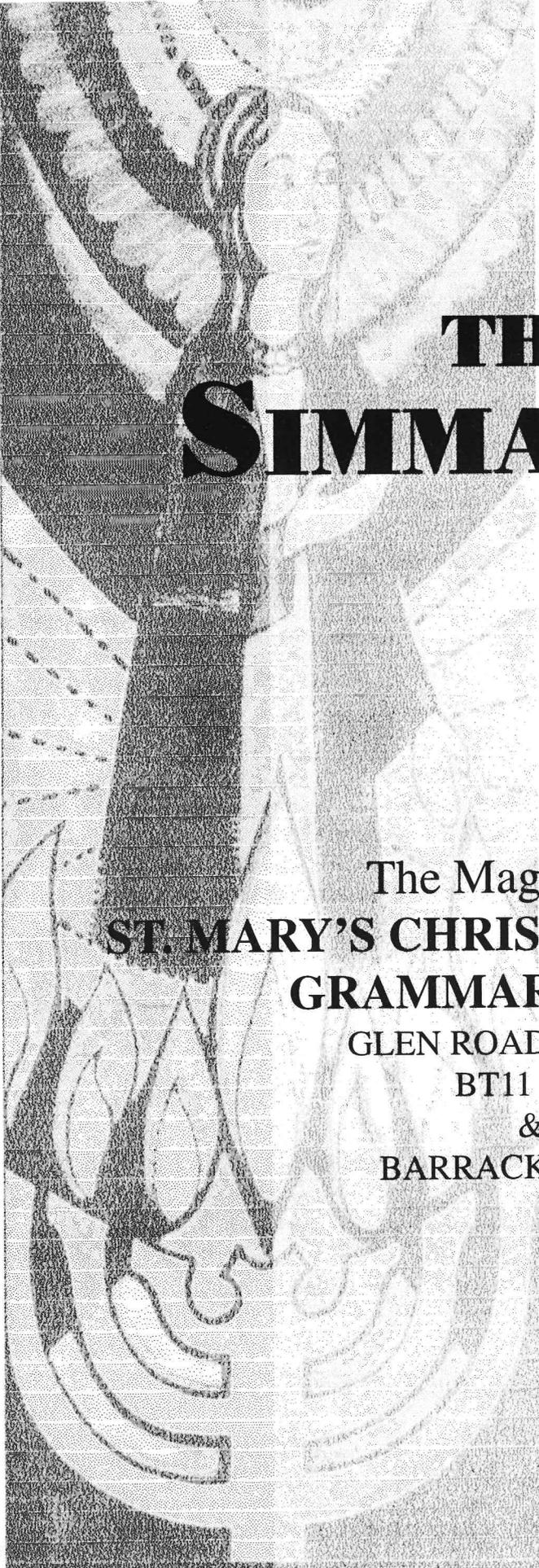


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# **THE SIMMARIAN**

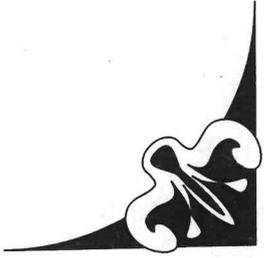
The Magazine of  
**ST. MARY'S CHRISTIAN BROTHERS'**  
**GRAMMAR SCHOOL**

GLEN ROAD, BELFAST

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BARRACK STREET



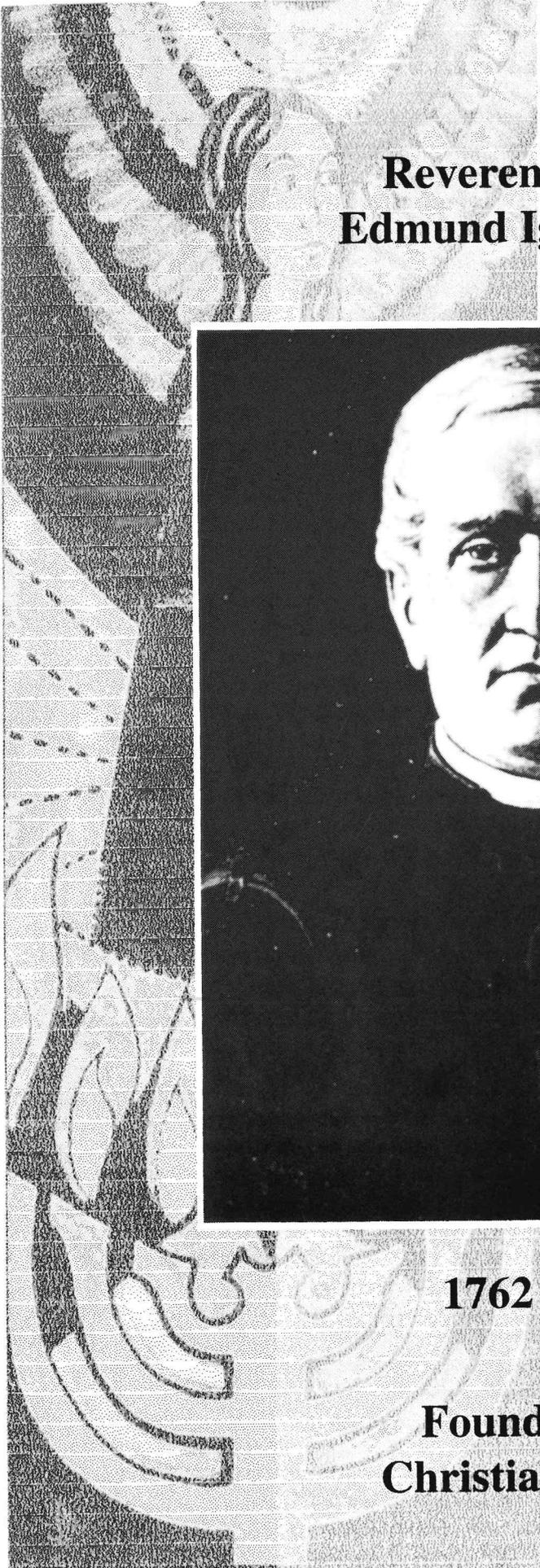
# PLAYING OUR PART

First Trust Bank is active in its support of the local community. This commitment is not limited to the financial world but is visible in many fields from the arts and sport to youth and environmental projects.

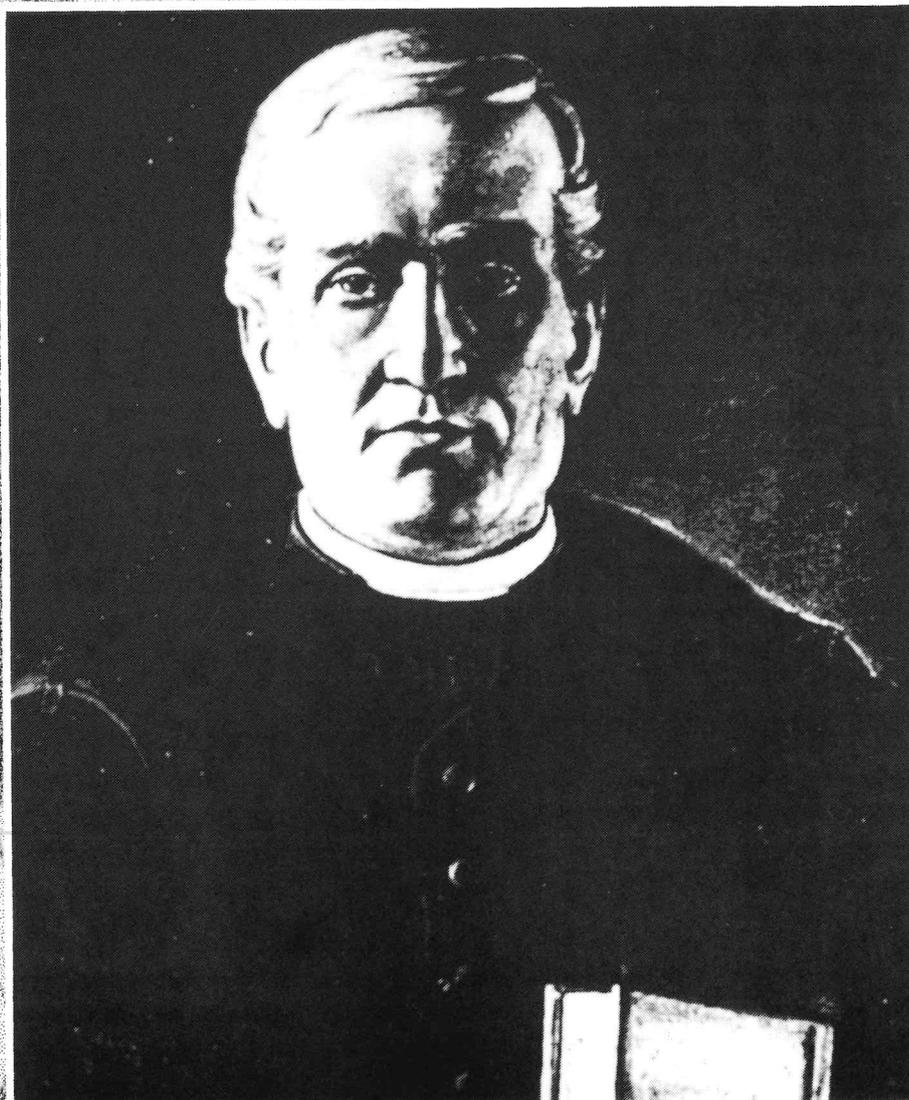
There is much tangible evidence of First Trust's interest in improving the quality of life for people in Northern Ireland. Our support of St. Mary's CBS is just one way of showing our commitment to the community and of enabling all of us to enjoy the results of their labours.

First Trust Bank has always played an active part in the life of Northern Ireland and this involvement will continue to grow in the years ahead.



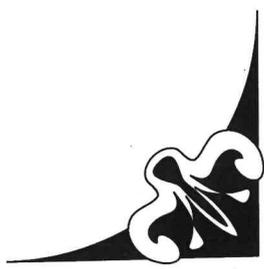


**Reverend Brother  
Edmund Ignatius Rice**



**1762 - 1844**

**Founder of the  
Christian Brothers**



# Acknowledgments

Editor: Miss M. Sloane

Photography: Mr. P. Morris

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Mrs. Mary Johnston, Mr. Jim Sheerin, Mr. Hugh McGettigan, Sean McGolderick (13A), Our Advertising Sponsors, and to all teachers and pupils who contributed to the 1997 Simmarian.

The 1997 Simmarian Literary Prize Winners:-

Junior Matthew Neill (9E)

G.C.S.E. Paul Hunter (12D)

Senior Kevin Dyer (14D)

# Introduction

I am delighted and honoured to be introducing this edition of our Simmarian covering the year 1996-1997. This has been a year of great change, great achievements and great anticipation. The Simmarian records the notable events, accomplishments and experiences in our school community.

We begin with tributes and gratitude to those who have left. Bro. Gleeson took a year's Sabbatical leave to work among the natives of Papua New Guinea. During this year he decided that his additional responsibilities within the Council of the Christian Brothers' meant he felt he had to resign as Headmaster. He bore the heavy responsibilities of Headmaster of this great school with genuine quiet dignity and integrity. He brought true and meaningful Christianity to his position and by his example and inspiration increased the level of Christian education throughout our school community. He worked tirelessly for St. Mary's and earned the complete respect and affection of staff and pupils. His was the inspiration behind the development of the Edmund Rice Building and we sincerely hope he will return to us for the official opening.

On behalf of our school community may I express our sincerest gratitude for his contribution to St. Mary's and for the warm Christian concern he showed to us all.

We hear our past Vice Principal, Bro. Carlin is doing well in his studies in Spokane and enjoying the skiing in the Rockies.

Ben Caraher left us during the year due to ill health. He is now very actively working in his first love, politics; both looking and feeling better for it. Eamon Trainor moved on to greater things as Head of English in St. Rose's and Mary Farag left for a career break.

We welcomed on staff a number of very committed, enthusiastic young and not so young teachers including; Mrs. Bridget Breen (R.E.), Miss Imelda Breen (Maths), Miss Caron Collins (English), Mr. Declan Crudden (Science), Mr. Martin Donaldson (R.E.), Mrs. Fiona Murphy (English), Mr. Brendan Rasdale (German), Mr. Brian Roddy (History and Geography). They have already contributed greatly to our school community.

During the year our school was vibrant and successful in the extra curricular field. It was the year of 'West Side Story'. The musical was brilliant, dramatic, artistic, tragic with great songs and music and spectacular dancing. The highlights, as usual Pensioners Night and the Finale were really memorable. Congratulations and thanks to our wonderful cast and to all the staff involved.

We are, again, Ulster Colleges Hurling Champions, winning the Mageean Cup. Our hurlers were magnificent ambassadors for St. Mary's as the letters in the Simmarian show. The footballers especially the Juniors are having a successful year. The Senior Water Polo team regained the All Ireland Championship. We are once again successful in Business competitions with

further triumphs promised and expected. This is just a sample of the successes of our pupils and staff illustrating again that inspired, coached and led by our staff, there is nothing that cannot be achieved by our pupils. Congratulations to all.

During the year we had trips to France for Skiing, to Italy, and to the Gaeltacht in Donegal. These trips went very well and both students and staff were worthy representatives of our school. Further trips are already planned for next year.

At the time of writing we are ready and very willing to move into the Edmund Rice Building. It will be one of the finest school extensions in the country and when the planned refurbishment is complete St. Mary's will be fully equipped to enter the 21st Century. Our gratitude to all the staff who have worked so hard to ensure the success of this project.

Our school community celebrated the Edmund Rice beatification in October. The school was represented at the beatification ceremonies in Rome by Bro. Monaghan (Chairperson of the Board of Governors), Mr. T. Hegarty (Teacher/Governor), Mr. J. Sheerin (Staff Representative) and Daniel Jack and Anthony Finnegan (Pupil Representatives). Closer to home the staff and pupils participated in a celebration mass concelebrated by three of our past pupils. Fr. Rooney, Fr. Tumelty, Fr. Spence and with Fr. Raymond our school chaplain. We will continue to emphasise the spirit of Edmund Rice in our relationships with pupils and parents.

We had a very successful and enjoyable Prize Night. It was a very 'St. Mary's family occasion', since our chief speaker was Dr. Dermot Diamond of City University, Dublin. 'Dermie', as he is invariably known, is as past pupil, and former teacher at St. Mary's. His family attended to witness his honour as chief speaker. His speech, which was both inspiring and entertaining was very well received by all. Conor Murphy won the C.B.P.P.U. Gold Medal as top G.C.S.E. student and Francis D'Arcy was the best 'A' level student, both straight 'A' pupils. Frankie's speech was also a model of good taste and humour.

In a school as large as ours there will always be some sorrow. We want to remember all those who suffered bereavement or tragedy during the year. I ask you to remember them in your prayers especially our pupil Ruairi Millar and past pupil Chris Walker who died recently.

Finally we are grateful to the teachers and staff who have produced the Simmarian; Miss Maureen Sloane acting editor, Paul Morris for photography, Joanne and Mary for typing and Fiona Kinney for designing the cover. The quality of the magazine reflects the dedication and hard work that all contributors brought to the task.

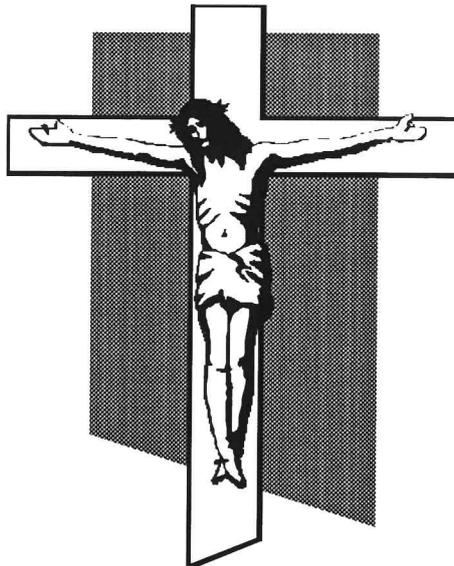
**Mr. Michael Crilly - Acting Principal**

# R.I.P.

## Christopher Walker 1973-1996

Christopher died over Christmas 1996. We remember him as a very pleasant and co-operative student throughout his years at St. Mary's. He contributed to the Golf and Chess societies and was successful in his examinations at 'A' Level. We offer our condolences to Christopher's family and remember him in our prayers.

May he rest in peace.



## Ruairi Millar R.I.P.

On the 14th of March the school community was stunned to learn of the untimely death of one of our fifth form pupils, Ruairi Millar.

Ruairi had been a popular figure around the school, as was evidenced by his large contingent of friends. The main reason for his popularity was that he always had time to listen and was never too busy to lend a helping hand. Such people are few and far between.

He had such a cheerful disposition and such a charming and happy outlook on things, even in times of difficulty, that it was impossible not to like him and enjoy his company.

He had many interests, including sports and weight-training and this added to his charm; we could do nothing but forgive him for being a Leeds United supporter.

Outside of school Ruairi was just the same - popular with all who came in contact with him - and so his whole community was shocked by his death.

He is dearly missed by all in the school, especially those who were closest to him. (We find it hard to accept that someone so alive is now gone from us). But we treasure his memory and thank God that we knew him. He will never be forgotten by us, who keep his memory alive in our thoughts and conversation.

To his family we tender our deepest sympathy. We, more than most, know what you have lost.

# Academic Staff 1996/1997

## Headmaster:

Mr. Michael Crilly                      B.A., B.Sc.(Econ)., Dip. Ed.

## Deputy Headmasters:

Mr. K. Burke                              B.Ed., Dip. R.E.  
Mr. F. Woods                              B.A., Adv. Dip. Ed., M.Ed.

## Senior Teachers:

Mr. J. Bennett	B.A., Dip.Ed., Dip. Guid. & Counselling.
Mr. N. Cushley	B.Sc., Dip. Ed., Dip. in Catechetics, M.Sc.
Mr. E. McFlynn	B.A., Dip. Ed., M.Sc.
Mr. J. Sheerin	B.A., Dip. Ed., D.A.S.E.
Mr. D. Armstrong	B.A., P.G.D.C & M. Accounting, P.G.C.E.
Mr. A. Austin	B.A., P.G.C.E., Cert. in Health Ed., P.G.C.E. & Mngt.,M.Ed.
Mrs B. Breen	B.A., P.G.C.E., M.A.
Mr. D. Breen	B.A., P.G.C.E., Dip. Theology.
Miss I. Breen	B.Sc., P.G.C.E.
Mr. D. Campfield	B.A., Dip. Ed., M.A.
Mr. B. Caraher	B.A., Dip. Ed.
Mr. E. Collins	B.A., P.G.C.E.
Mr. J. Conlon	B.A., P.G.C.E., Dip. Ed., M.A.
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Mr. E. Crummy	B.A., Dip. Ed.
Mr. G. Cullen	B.A., P.G.C.E.
Mr. P. Cullen	B.A.
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Mrs S. Devlin	B.Ed., Dip. French Stud., Dip. R.E.
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Mr. M. Donaldson	B.A., T.Theology, C.Ed., M.A., P.G.C.E.
Dr. M. Donnelly	B.Sc., P.G.C.E., Ph.D.
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Mrs D. Tohill	B.Ed., Dip. in Comp. Science, P.G.C.E., M.Sc.
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Ms. D. Morroi	Italian
Mr. F. Tournois	French
Ms. C. Soto	Spanish

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 Mrs P. McMahan  
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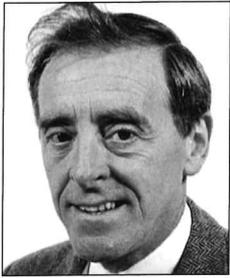
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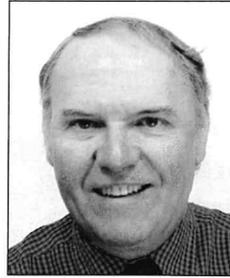
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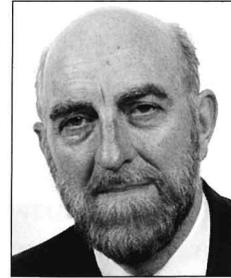
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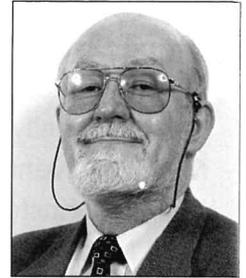
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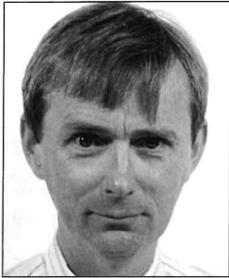
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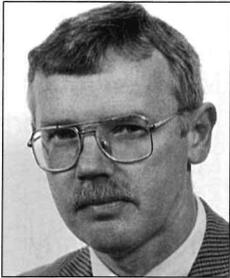
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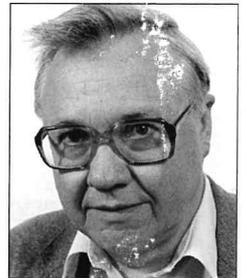
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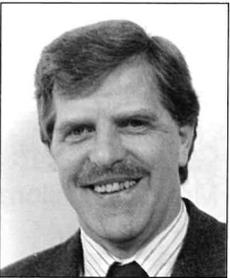
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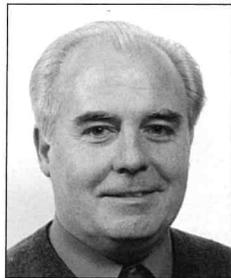
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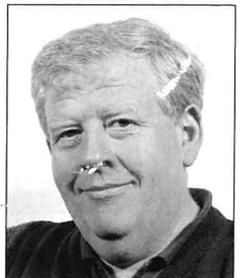
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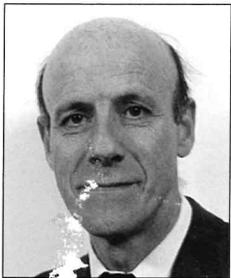
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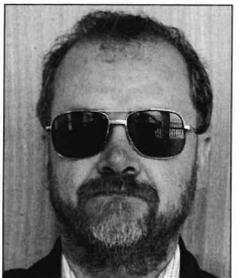
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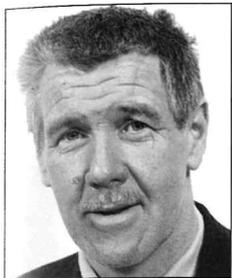


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French



**Mrs A. Thompson**  
Head of German/RE

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**Mr F. Dynan**  
Mathematics



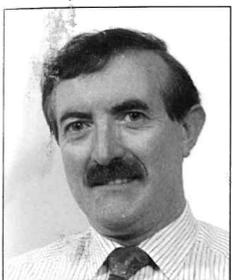
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Head of Irish



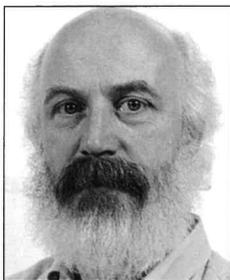
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**Mrs M. McQuillan**  
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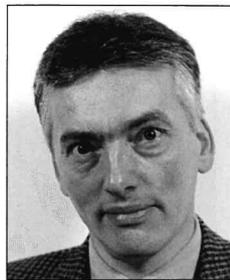
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Chemistry  
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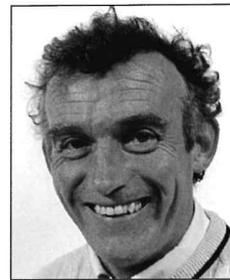
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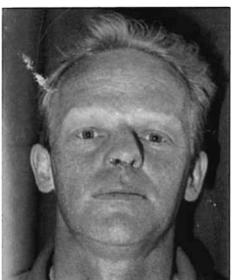
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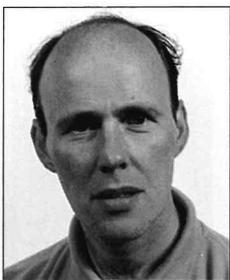
**Mr D. Campfield**  
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**Mr H. McGettigan**  
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**Mrs D. Tohill**  
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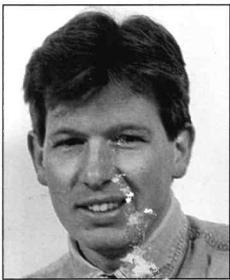
**Mrs J. McEvoy**  
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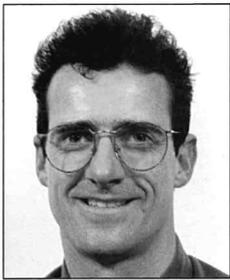
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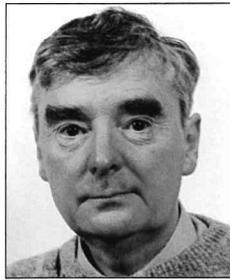
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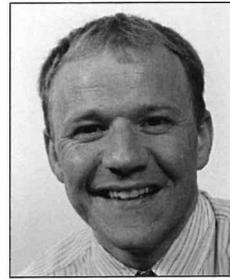
**Mr T. Scullion**  
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**Mr B. O'Rourke**  
Head of Computers  
GNVQ Coordinator



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Geography



**Mr G. Quigg**  
English



**Dr M. Donnelly**  
Chemistry



**Mr D. Armstrong**  
Mathematics



**Mr T. Austin**  
P.E.



**Miss M. Sloane**  
English



**Mr J. Heaney**  
Head of Technology

# TEACHING STAFF 1996 - 97



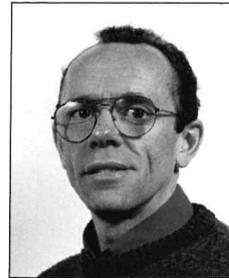
**Dr A. Donaldson**  
Religion



**Mrs F. Marshall**  
Religion/History/GNVQ



**Miss C. McHugh**  
Mathematics



**Mr K. Morgan**  
Mathematics



**Ms G. Curran**  
Biology



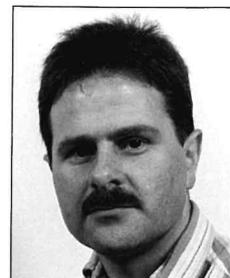
**Mr S. Fearon**  
Irish



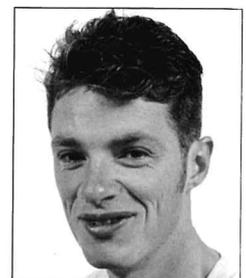
**Miss C. Morris**  
Music



**Mrs M. Murray**  
English/Geography



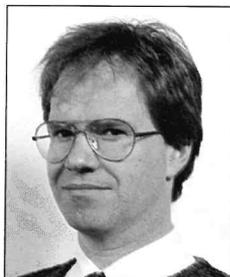
**Mr D. Mahon**  
Technology



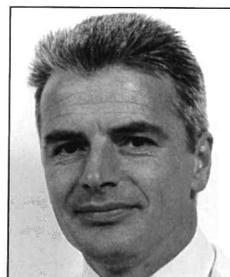
**Mr D. McNeill**  
P.E.



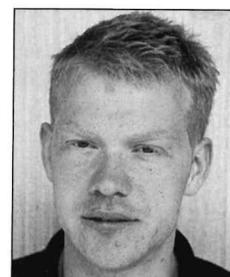
**Miss F. Kinney**  
Art



**Mr C. McCann**  
Physics



**Dr T. Shannon**  
Biology



**Mr T. Murphy**  
Politics/P.E.



**Mrs B. Breen**  
English/R.E



**Mr B. Rasdale**  
German



**Mr D. Crudden**  
Biology

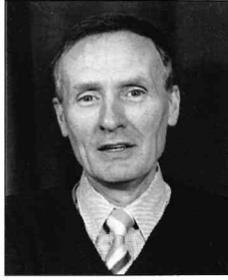


**Miss I. Breen**  
Mathematics

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Bursar



**Mr J. Donnelly**  
Canteen/Bookstore



**Miss A. Fitzpatrick**  
Office Manageress



**Mrs M. Johnston**  
Executive Officer

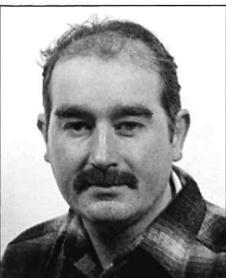


**Miss N. Harbinson**  
Telephonist Receptionist



**Mr P. Green**  
Librarian

**TECHNICIANS & LABORATORY ASSISTANTS 1996 - 97**



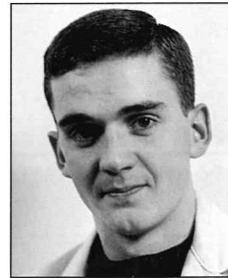
**Mr P. Morris**



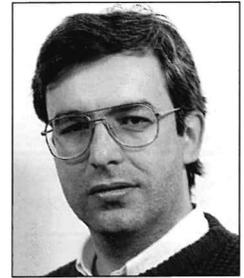
**Mrs P. McMahon**



**Miss T. Thompson**



**Mr S. McCusker**



**Mr S. Smart**

**CARETAKER**



**Mr H. O'Neill**  
Caretaker

# Beatification of Edmund Rice : 6th October 1996

It was a privilege to be in Rome on October 6th 1996; to be Irish, to be associated with the Christian Brothers' made for a memorable weekend as we celebrated the beatification of Edmund Rice.

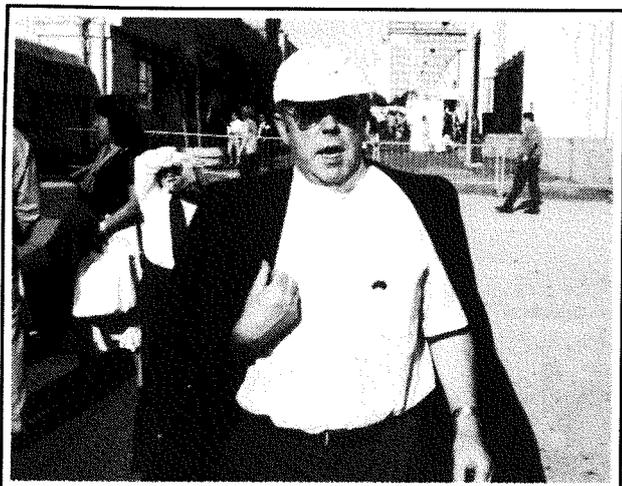
130 years earlier, most Rev. Bishop Dr Dorrian of Down and Connor had responded to the increasing population of an industrialising Belfast by inviting the Brothers to the city.

Educational opportunities for young people were wholly inadequate and four brothers responded to this challenge on November 3rd 1866 when they took up residence at No. 26 Regent Street. Nine days later St. Mary's opened its doors and over three hundred students enrolled on the first day. Edmund Rice had himself died in 1844 but his influence on Belfast had begun.

The Brothers continued to make an immense contribution in preparing young people for life both spiritually and academically. Their positive guidance is incalculable and the expression of support for their ideals was seen in Rome with the universal celebration by people from Ireland, Australia, America, India, South Africa etc.

The pictures we took capture a little of a unique occasion when the whole extended community of St. Mary's contributed to an historic Irish occasion.

**Mr J. Sheerin - Mr T. Hegarty**



*Bro. Leo Kelly, ex-Headmaster, enjoying the 'Fleadh Ceoil' in Rome*



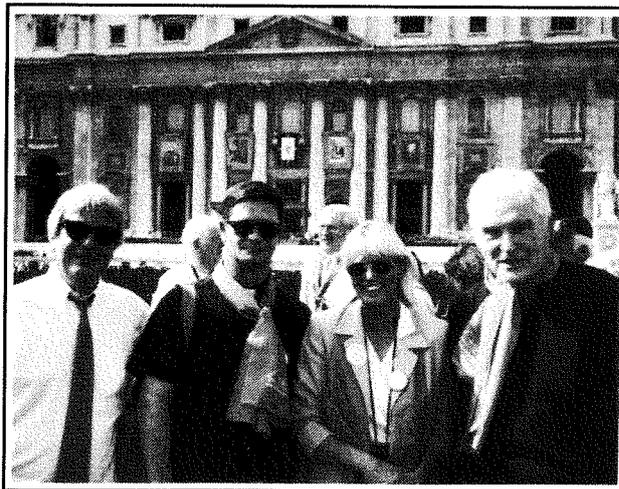
*Bro. T. Monaghan (Chairman of Board of Governors) and Mr. J. Sheerin savouring the atmosphere in St. Peter's*



*Bro. Monaghan, Mr. Terry Hegarty and Rev. John Murray (Chaplain) with two teachers from Waterford*



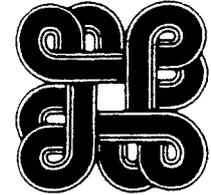
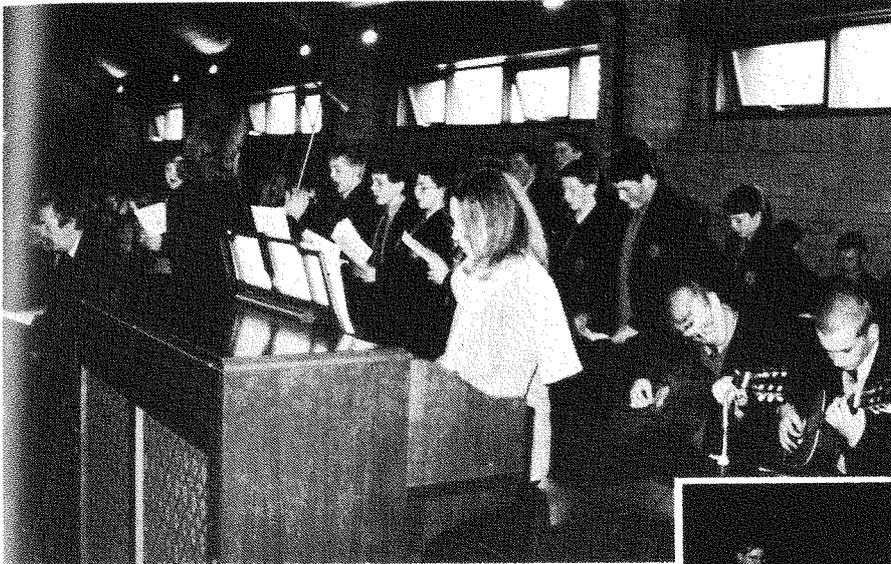
*Two distinguished ex-teachers. Bro. Colohan and Bro. O'Mahoney.*



*Bro. Monaghan with Bro. Malcolm Crummey (Principal St. Aidan's P.S.) and Mr. and Mrs. Stewart parents of James (ex-pupil) and Hugh (U6)*

# Edmund Rice Celebration Mass

On 4th October 1996 at the Church of the Holy Spirit our school chaplain Fr. Raymond concelebrated Mass with past pupils Fr. Rooney, Fr. Tumelty and Fr. Spence. The entire school was present and the occasion was memorable for both staff and students. Congratulations to the choir who contributed enormously to the beauty and spirituality of the Mass.



Edmund Ignatius Rice: from the Carrick portrait

# Impressions of Papua New Guinea on the Gazelle Peninsula

I arrived here in St. Michael's Christian Brothers' Novitiate in Vuvu, in November 1996, two months ago. Since then, some impressions have formed regarding life here on the Gazelle Peninsula, a lovely corner of this very beautiful country. These impressions are being shaped by what I see and experience, what I hear from the other Brothers, what I read in newspaper articles and what I watch on the country's television station.

## **The Gazelle Peninsula:**

The Gazelle Peninsula takes up the northern tip of the island of New Britain which is the largest of the islands of Papua New Guinea. The Tolai and the Baining peoples make up the indigenous Melanesian population. They, of course, speak their own languages though about half would speak Pidgin and somewhat fewer, English. My own experience of the people is that they are easy going and friendly. In some ways, they are also long suffering.

In 1994 volcanoes erupted either side of Blanche Bay and absolutely devastated the main town of Rabaul along with the surrounding countryside. Two thirds of the town's buildings were destroyed and this was followed by widespread looting. Over two years later, the town remains a ruin with almost no reconstruction at all and not a whole lot of Government action. For its part, the Catholic Church, which has a tradition of more than a hundred years in Papua New Guinea, was able to make some significant response to the disaster.

Along with homes, businesses, Churches and schools, Rabaul airport was destroyed and Tokua airport, almost fifty kilometres away over bad roads, now provides the main way onto and off the island. The sealed airstrip was completed at Tokua last month, but the airport buildings are still makeshift and there is no public telephone.

## **Standard of Living:**

By the standards that would be applied elsewhere in the world, the majority of the people are poor. The vast majority, for example, would not have electricity. The Brothers' house here does have electricity, but blackouts are common and you can expect them at any time. House structures range from traditional houses and tin dwellings for most people to fairly solid wooden houses with louvre windows and mosquito screening for a minority.

## **Health Facilities:**

Medical facilities appear to be very basic and medicines are not always in regular supply. In today's national paper, for example, the main hospital in Port Moresby, the capital itself, was warning that it would have to cut back on its basic services because of financial difficulty. The local clinic up the road here is



*Bro. D. Gleeson, C.F.C.*

just an open-sided building. Nonga, the Regional Hospital a short distance from us, has a new building that remains, to date, unused. Patients at the hospital provide their own food.

In an article for the Australian paper, The Sydney Morning Herald, on Friday December 13th, 1996, Greg Roberts wrote that P.N.G. was facing a crisis in health care. The country's infant mortality rate was nearly twelve times that of Australia and life expectancy was 52 years compared with 78 in Australia. Government spending on health was falling and, by its own admission, immunisation programmes for preventable disease were in decline. P.N.G. had only 6.4 doctors per 100,000 people whilst the average around the world was 134 doctors per 100,000. Child malnutrition was among the worst anywhere, 70% of women could expect to be beaten by their husbands and 20% of workers on a coconut plantation could be sick with malaria at the same time. Roberts adds:

**"One in 22 rural mothers will die during pregnancy or childbirth. Yet 70% of health care facilities were not visited by doctors last year, and one in five aid posts has closed due to funding shortages. Only one in five people has access to adequate sanitation, and more than 70% have no access to safe water. Six of the top 10 causes of death in P.N.G. are communicable diseases."**

## **Education:**

Primary schools are very simple open buildings and the only material resource, apart from what the teacher may be able to bring in his or her hands, is the blackboard. Local education was not helped by the fact that the three local secondary schools in Rabaul were completely destroyed by the volcano in 1994. None has been replaced. Our own school, St. Mary's Vuvu doubled up with St. Paul's Teachers' College

Vunakanau, which was also run by the Brothers, and now with the amalgamation of St. Paul's with Kabole Teachers' Training College, the school is in full possession of a new site. The other two schools were not so lucky and simply doubled up with existing schools without any additional facilities being made available for the extra children.

#### **Economy and Infrastructure:**

Apart from the coconut and cocoa plantations which dominate the economy of the area, village gardening schemes are important sources of food, and sometimes revenue, for the local people. One peculiarity of the political system here is that huge amounts of funding are channelled to the local areas through the local M.P. The final distribution, and the timing of it, is then at the M.P.'s discretion. Schools, for example, can be adversely affected if the local M.P. does not pass on the funds due promptly.

Most of the main roads around Gazelle Peninsula are sealed but some are just coral, or mud. Even the sealed roads can be in poor condition, however, and after heavy rain parts of the road can be washed away. A vast amount of damage was done when the rains followed the volcano and the infrastructure has not fully recovered from that damage. Deposits of ash and pumice led to rainwater running off the sides of the mountains, creating rivers where previously there had been none and gouging out large crevices in the landscape. Repair work is being carried out at a painfully slow pace. A bridge has been in place, for example, at the entrance to St. Michael's Novitiate Vuvu for the past several months, but there is no road on either side for some forty yards. The road beyond Nonga Hospital, which stretches for some miles, has, inexplicably, been repaired, because, that road is now a dead end - the damage to the section leading around the mountain into Rabaul being so extensive that it had to be abandoned to the jungle.

#### **Social and Political Stability:**

Papua New Guinea is a democracy that does have significant internal problems with which to cope. Bougainville Island has been a centre of unrest over the past few years and the Government has been pouring money into the army as a result. In other places tribal conflict is still fairly common and occasionally, throughout the country the police are empowered to impose a night time curfew to help them get on top of the "rascal" problem.

#### **The Brothers:**

As you would expect, the Brothers in Papua New Guinea run schools and Teacher Training Colleges along with an Agricultural College. In addition, a number of Brothers have specialised ministries. Brothers have also become involved in meeting medical needs by setting up Callan Services which employs its own doctor and which provides services for disabled children and adults and for their families. Provision for the disabled has been an area of great neglect in the country and the services are very badly needed. Social stigma is still very much attached to disability and families are often ashamed that they have a child who is disabled.

At present there are eight novices in the novitiate and the hope is that some of them will eventually qualify and work with Callan Services and other will qualify to go into village based preschool programmes. For this we can only pray. Roughly one third of novices pass through the two year novitiate course and then continue on as Brothers and the future for further vocations must, as always, remain uncertain. Seventeen of the thirty-eight professed Brothers in the country are native to the country. There is every reason to think that the Brothers, and the magnificent work that they have been involved in here, should continue to flourish but the future will not be an easy one in this wonderful land that is Papua New Guinea.

Denis Gleeson C.F.C. - January 1997

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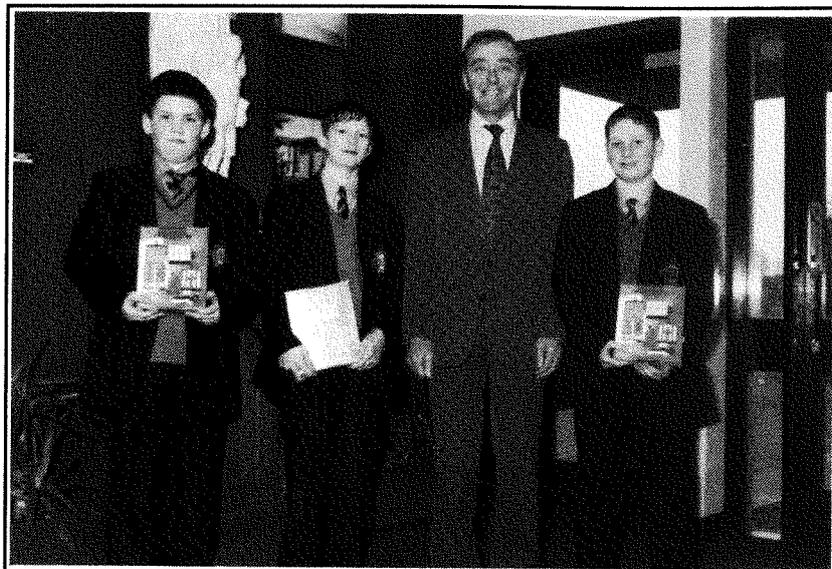
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# Technology & Design

The three proud winners of the Technology & Design departments "Design a Logo" competition held during the Autumn term of 1996 receive their prizes from Mr. M. Crilly (Principal). Over one hundred first year pupils entered the competition and the standard of all the entries was extremely high. The talented winners, pictured here with Mr. Crilly, were Patrick Harvey 8D, Kieran Connolly 8B and Sean McShane 8E.



*'Logo' Competition Winners - Autumn Term 1996*

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# The Voice of Experience

It was Wednesday 18th December and the school term was virtually finished. The day was to go on until 1.40 p.m. and then the doors would open and all would stampede out. However, as everyone was leaving, the Science department was only starting. They had organised an informal talk to be held in the chapel. The speaker was to be Dr. Dermot Diamond, a past pupil of St. Mary's. Dr Diamond is now the Research Director at the Biomedical and Environmental Sensor Technology Centre in Dublin City University. This is a highly paid job and is a far cry from his previous employment as Science teacher in our own school.

The talk went very well with a wide ranging audience from many sixth and seventh year Biology and Chemistry students, two fifth year groups both double and triple award, and even, to many of the boys' surprise, two 'A' level students from St. Dominic's down the Falls Road. There were a few teachers there including, Mr McAleese, Miss McCann and Mr Heaney who had all come to see if their old friend still had what it takes.

The talk consisted of firstly an introduction and a bit about where he worked. Then he went on to describe what he actually did as a researcher. At present he and his team of fellow researchers are working on some very challenging ideas.

He began to explain what sensors were and how they were used in the medical professions. For example, if someone was in hospital and they had to be continuously monitored for sodium levels in the blood, it would be very hard because it would mean that a nurse would have to take blood samples all the time. This

isn't very viable as there is a high infection risk and a lot of pain would be experienced. Therefore, this is where sensors can be used. They work on the basis that if you place a sensor on the skin you can measure the amount of sodium directly. This is done by allowing negative anions in the blood to be passed into the sensor which is linked up to electrodes which, in turn, can directly measure the levels of ions and therefore the level of sodium.

This all sounds very complex but it works on the principle of conduction of ions, and the selection of some ions and not others by means of different compounds. The talk overall was very complex and detailed and some of the 'A' level students could hardly keep up with the pace. I think that there were about three good points which I seemed to pick up. Firstly, that even with a basic degree in the Sciences many doors of opportunities can be opened. A Science based career can vary widely. Secondly, research isn't all that boring and uneventful and thirdly, that research does not mean just ideas; you can actually get in and try out the ideas.

Thanks have to go to Mr McAleese and Miss McCann who helped to make the talk possible, also to Dr. Diamond who of course gave of his valuable time. Even after our talk he had the honour of distributing awards at the annual St. Mary's Senior Prize Giving later that evening.

All in all, a packed schedule.

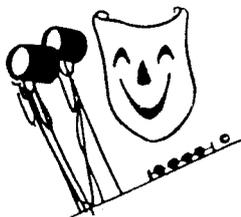
**Dominic Darby (12H)**



*Dr. Dermot Diamond with fifth and sixth form students, with two very welcome pupils from St. Dominic's.*

# ***Christian Brothers Past Pupils Union***

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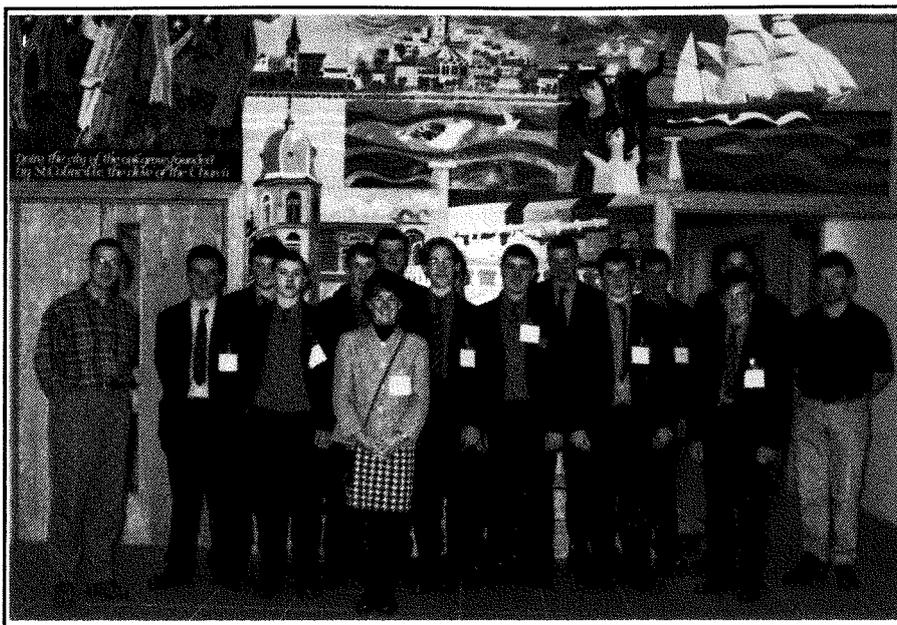
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Applications to Registrar John Devine**

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## SEAGATE - AN INDUSTRIAL ENDEAVOUR OR THE AMERICAN EXPERIENCE

It was a cold and windy day on which thirteen pupils from here braved everything and went to Derry. Mr Manning and Dr Donnelly had approached the boys the previous week asking them if they wanted to go on the industrial trip. They were selected on the grounds that they had hopes of following a Science based career in either Physics, Chemistry or Engineering. The trip to Derry was to the young American industry - Seagate.

It is situated in one of Derry's prime industrial parks. It has been in operation for approximately six years but due to the American money backing, it has thrived. It has boosted Derry's and even N. Ireland's economy with the need for the skilled workers who live there.



*Dr M. Donnelly with a group of Fifth Formers at Seagate.*

Seagate produce what are known as "Read/Write" heads. Basically these are the components in the hard drive of your P.C. They are only as thick as a hair yet without one of these your computer wouldn't work.

In the process of making these heads they employ a lot of people. They employ two types of people. There are the graduates who come out of university with a degree in Physics, Chemistry or Engineering. Other combinations include those who possess the above degrees but with the addition of management skills. Then there are the people who do the actual work. They could be technicians, engineers or even just people who left school with G.C.S.E.'s.

The starting salary for a graduate is about £16,000. This gets better as you climb up the corporate ladder. If you are a top guy then you work from nine to five for five days. Yet if you are an engineer or technician, etc, then you work different hours. These can be quite anti-social hours - four days at twelve hour shifts, then four days off. The plant was not exactly what most people assumed a factory would be like. It was a reasonably small plant with surprisingly a lot of security. Inside there was a very clean and sterile atmosphere.

The first part of the morning comprised of Brian, our guide and his friend telling us about what they actually do. It was good yet very intense and there was a lot to take in. After lunch there was one last talk from one of the engineers of the plant and then we went on a tour.

We were divided into two groups and were taken around the plant. For safety and security reasons we

were separated from the stages by a wall. However there were windows and we could see the numerous stages. The processes included photochemistry, electromagnetism and electroplating. The tour ended the visit and with a memorial photograph taken at the front of the plant, we set off home. Overall the general opinion was that the visit had been good. Thirteen people went and out of that, only three were put off by the ethos of the company. We learnt a lot and it was a good way to find out what industry was really like. It opened our eyes and allowed many of us to have our first experience of this life.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr Manning, Dr Donnelly, Paul Morris, Brian and all the people at Seagate for all their hard work; they made the trip possible.

**D. Darby (12H) & C. Trainor (12H)**

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# Annual Prizegiving

St. Mary's Senior Prizegiving took place on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December 1996. The guest speaker was a distinguished former pupil Dr. Dermot Diamond, B.Sc., M.Sc., M.I.C.I., M.R.S.C., C.Chem. Dr. Diamond is the Research Director at the Biomedical and Environmental Sensor Technology Centre in Dublin City University.

The evening was a tremendous success. Proud parents, relatives and teachers had the opportunity to see the students honoured for their hard work and dedication in a wide variety of spheres-academic, sporting and extra-curricular.

During a thought-provoking and entertaining address Dr. Diamond spoke with affection of his experiences as a pupil and teacher at St. Mary's and he stressed the importance of his West Belfast roots. He concluded his speech as follows:

Looking around this hall tonight, I see students who have worked hard to reach excellence in their various disciplines, and whose excellence will be acknowledged publicly in the awards. But I would remind you that these achievements are a team effort, just as it was in my day, impossible without the help and support of your

parents, your families, and your teachers, and just as they will applaud you later, I would ask you now to applaud their contribution to your achievements.

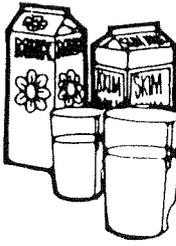
Your parents and teachers are proud of you tonight and justifiably hopeful for your futures. A community which can produce young people as talented as you has nothing to fear from competition in any sphere of life. It is my hope that peace in Northern Ireland can and must prevail, and provide you with the environment you deserve, to grow, develop and prosper, and contribute to the continuing evolution of our Island. In 10 years time will we all be European Irish rather than Irish Europeans?

In conclusion, I thank the organisers of this ceremony, and in particular Fergie Woods for providing me with the opportunity to speak on my home ground, and I take this opportunity to wish the students and staff of St. Mary's and this community every success in the future. Who knows, perhaps some of you may even consider contributing to our research at D.C.U. in the future!

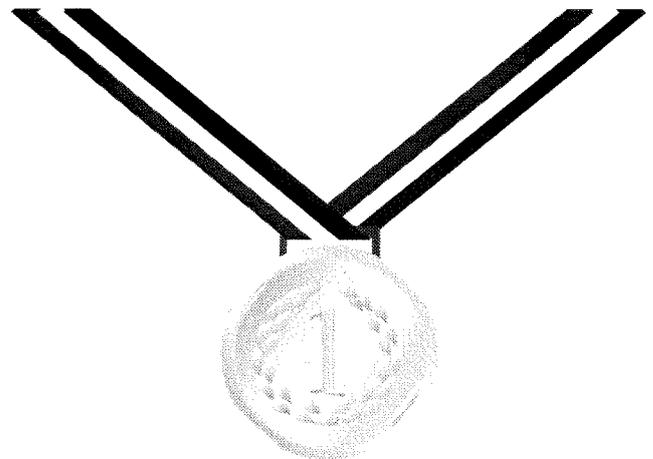
**Go raibh mile maith agaibh.**

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*We wish our congratulations and best wishes to all our pupils who completed their G.C.S.E.'s in 1996.*

## **G.C.S.E. Year Group - School Year 1995/96**

ADAMS, Conor P.	GRIFFITHS, David	Mc HUGH, Ronan S.
ADAMS, Feargal M.	HAMILL, Kevin J.	Mc ILROY, Kieran T.
ARMSTRONG, Gerard J.	HAYES, Sean Paul	Mc KENNA, Damien C.
ARMSTRONG, William P.	HESKETH, Conor J.	Mc LEAN, Paul J.
BANKS, Ronan T.	HUGHES, Thomas J.	Mc MACKIN, Martin J.
BANNON, Francis D.	HUSTON, Gareth G.	Mc MAHON, Neil J.
BEGGS, David	KEENAN, Criostoir S.	Mc MANUS, Sean C.
BELLEW, Gareth J.	KELLY, Patrick	Mc MENAMY, Michael
BILLINGS, Seadna J.	KELLY, Sean D.	Mc NALLY, Gerard A.
BIRCH, Nicholas J.	KENNEDY, Gerard M.	Mc NALLY, John P.
BONNER, Gerard	KENNEDY, Hugh J.	Mc NEILL, Barry D.
BOYLE, Nicholas F.	KETTLE, Michael A.	Mc QUILLAN, David S.
BRANIFF, Christopher J.	LARMOUR, William J.	MOHAN, David M.
BURNS, Michael	LAVERTY, Robert A.	MOONEY, Karol P.
CALDWELL, Paul E.	LENAGHAN, Gerard	MORRISSEY, Martin
CAMPBELL, Gary	LOGAN, Owen J.	MURPHY, Conor J.
CARLILE, John J.	LOUGHLIN, Damien	MURPHY, Patrick J.
CHRISTIE, Conor J.	MacMANUS, Christopher	MURRAY, Stephen
CONLON, John C.	MacMANUS, Kevin J.	O'BRIEN, Matthew J.
COOKE, Sean P.	MADDEN, Liam J.	O'DONNELL, John P.
COOLEY, Fergal J.	MAGEE, Ciaran T.	O'HARA, Francis A.
CORR, Kevin J.	MAGUIRE, Brian J.	O'HARE, Peter
CRUDDEN, Gerard F.	MAGUIRE, Niall C.	O'NEILL, Anthony G.
CRUMMEY, Declan J.	MALLAGHAN, Gerard A.	O'NEILL, David J.
CRUMMEY, Stephen J.	MASKEY, Sean A.	O'NEILL, David M.
CUNNINGHAM, Henry	Mc ALLISTER, Conor P.	O'NEILL, James J.
DENVIR, Paul J.	Mc ALLISTER, John P.	O'NEILL, Martin
DEVINE, Ciaran A.	Mc CALLUM, John G.	REA, Martin C.
DEVLIN, John M.	Mc CANN, Anthony	RICE, Peter J.
DIAMOND, Jonathan P.	Mc CARTAN, Kieran F.	ROBINSON, Francis K.
DOBBIN, David P.	Mc CLOSKEY, Ciaran T.	ROBINSON, Patrick D.
DONAGHY, Francis P.	Mc COMB, Martin S.	ROONEY, David P.
DONNELLY, Andrew M.	Mc CURRY, Adam D.	SHEEHAN, John P.
DONNELLY, Sean J.	Mc CUSKER, Martin	SHORT, Ciaran
EDWARDS, Joseph	Mc GARRITY, Sean P.	SMYTH, Ryan E.
FINNEGAN, Hugh W.	Mc GARRY, David A.	STEWART, Hugh E.
FITZPATRICK, Christopher R.	Mc GEOWN, Gregory O.	STRAIN, Stephen J.
FITZSIMONS, Adam J.	Mc GLONE, Eugene	STUART, Ciaran P.
FORDE, Conor D.	Mc GOLDRICK, Sean P.	SWEENEY, Christopher
FOX, Sean J.	Mc GONAGLE, Lorcan J.	TRACEY, Thomas
GALLAGHER, Bernard F.	Mc GRANN, William G.	WARD, Gareth J.
GALLAGHER, Paul A.	Mc GRATH, Michael G.	WARD, Niall J.
GIBSON, Andrew C.	Mc GREEVY, Sean Pol	
GREEN, Ciaran E.	Mc GURK, Joseph G.	

## Academic Awards at G.C.S.E.

### G.C.S.E. Art

- **Adam Fitzsimons**  
(St. Patrick's P.S., Ballynahinch)

### G.C.S.E. Computer Studies

*(The Staff Memorial Medal)*

- **Martin McMackin**  
(Our Lady of Lourdes P.S.)

### G.C.S.E. English

*(The W. H. McEvoy Medal)*

- **Nicholas Boyle**  
(St. Peter's P.S., Ross Rd.)

### G.C.S.E. French

*(Rev. Bro. Nannery Memorial Medal)*

This medal is dedicated to the memory of Bro. Nannery, a distinguished past teacher who gave significant service to pupils in St. Mary's throughout the '60's and '70's.

- **Christopher MacManus**  
(St. Bernard's P.S., Glengormley)
- **Jonathan Diamond**  
(St. Peter's P.S., Ross Rd.)

### G.C.S.E. Geography

- **Conor Murphy**  
(Our Lady of Lourdes P.S.)

### G.C.S.E. Gaelige

- **Sean J. Donnelly**  
(Bunscoil Phobal Feirste)

### G.C.S.E. German

- **Feargal Adams**  
(St. John the Baptist P.S.)

### G.C.S.E. History

- **Christopher MacManus**  
(St. Bernard's P.S., Glengormley)

### G.C.S.E. Irish

*(The Joe Devlin Medal)*

- **Lorcan McGonagle**  
(St. John the Baptist P.S.)

### G.C.S.E. Italian

- **Gerard Armstrong**  
(Holy Trinity P.S.)

**G.C.S.E. Mathematics**

*(Rev. Bro. L. F. Ennis Medal)*

Brother Ennis was a distinguished member of the Mathematics Department and also ex-Headmaster of St. Mary's and contributed significantly to the academic and sporting life of the School.

- **Hugh Finnegan**

(St. John the Baptist P.S.)

**G.C.S.E. Music**

- **Nicholas Boyle**

(St. Peter's P.S., Ross Road)

**G.C.S.E. Physical Education**

- **Gareth Ward**

(St. John the Baptist P.S.)

**G.C.S.E. Religion**

*(The Kevin Dunne Memorial Medal)*

This medal is dedicated to the memory of a pupil who died tragically in 1988 during his fourth year in St. Mary's.

- **Paul Caldwell**

(St. Kevin's P.S.)

**G.C.S.E. Double Award Science**

- **Gerard Armstrong**

(Holy Trinity P.S.)

**G.C.S.E. Triple Award Science**

*(D. J. MacRandal Medal)*

Donated by the School Architect, a past pupil of St. Mary's.

- **Jonathan Diamond**

(St. Peter's P.S., Ross Rd.)

**G.C.S.E. Spanish**

- **Martin McMackin**

(Our Lady of Lourdes P.S.)

**G.C.S.E. Technology**

- **Jonathan Diamond**

(St. Peter's P.S., Ross Road)

**G.C.S.E. Theatre Studies**

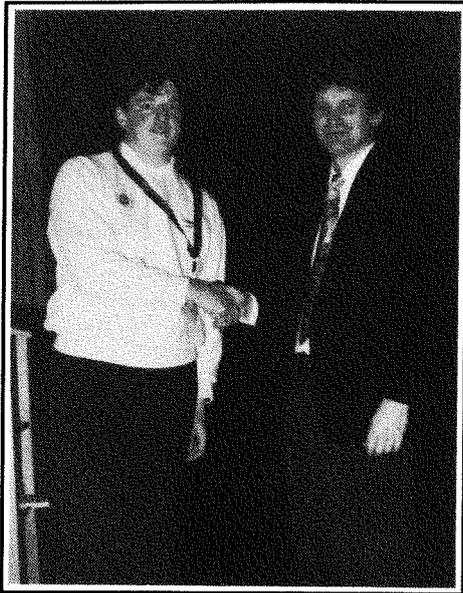
*(The Campbell and Caher Medal)*

- **Martin Rea**

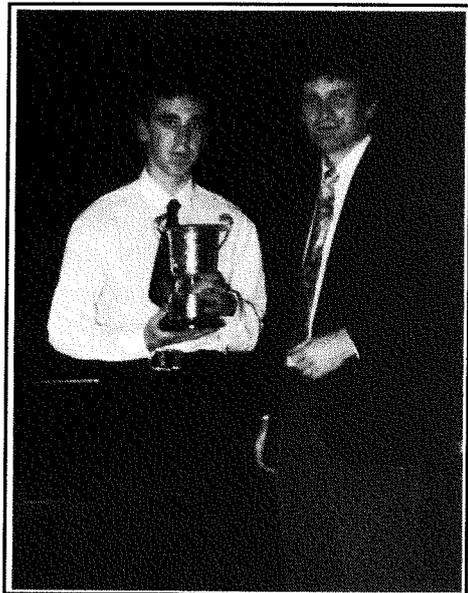
(St. John the Baptist P.S.)

- **Gregory McGeown**

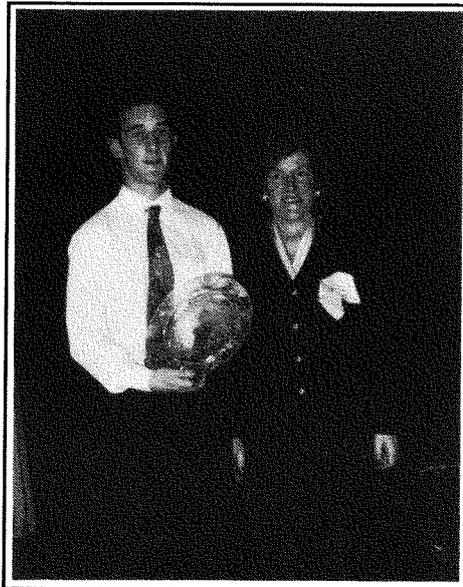
(Bunscoil Phobal Feirste)



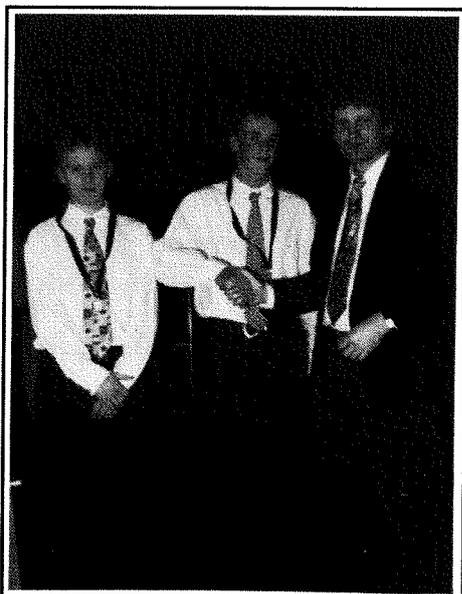
*Gerard Armstrong receivevs his Italian medal  
or is it his Double Award Science Medal?*



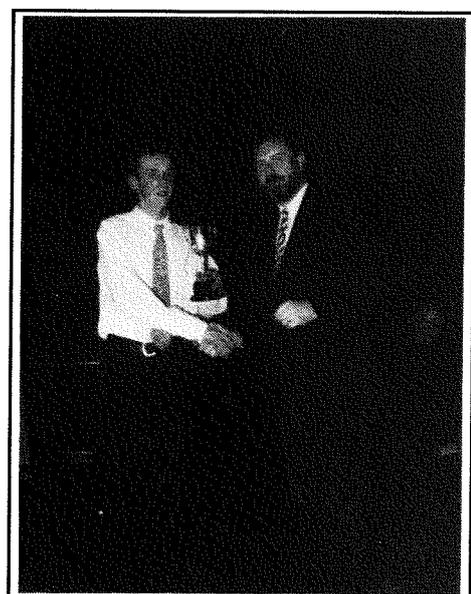
*Paul Caldwell receives the Father Sean O'Neill  
Memorial Cup for GCSE religion.*



*Neil Ryan receives the award for  
Japanese Studies from Mrs. McGarrity.*



*Jonathan Diamond and Chris McManus  
are congratulated on their French Awards.*



*Jonathan Diamond receives the Ford Technology Cup  
from McCooley of Ford.*

## Outstanding Performance at G.C.S.E.

<b>William Armstrong</b>	- (St. Gall's P.S.)
<b>Gerard Crudden</b>	- (St. John the Baptist P.S.)
<b>Bernard Gallagher</b>	- (Our Lady of Lourdes P.S.)
<b>Paul Gallagher</b>	- (Holy Child P.S.)
<b>Kevin Hamill</b>	- (St. Kevin's P.S.)
<b>Conor Hesketh</b>	- (Good Shepherd P.S.)
<b>Gareth Huston</b>	- (St. Luke's P.S.)
<b>Gerard Kennedy</b>	- (St. Kieran's P.S.)
<b>Michael Kettle</b>	- (St. Kevin's P.S.)
<b>Niall Maguire</b>	- (Bunscoil Phobal Feirste)
<b>Martin McComb</b>	- (St. Gall's P.S.)
<b>Ronan McHugh</b>	- (St. John the Baptist P.S.)
<b>Sean McManus</b>	- (Bunscoil Phobal Feirste)
<b>Gerard McNally</b>	- (Holy Child P.S.)
<b>John O'Donnell</b>	- (Our Lady of Lourdes P.S.)
<b>Peter O'Hare</b>	- (St. John the Baptist P.S.)
<b>Ryan Smyth</b>	- (St. Teresa's P.S.)
<b>Ciaran Stuart</b>	- (St. Teresa's P.S.)
<b>Christopher Sweeney</b>	- (St. Anne's P.S.)

## Attendance Awards

<b>Gerard Armstrong</b>	- (Holy Trinity P.S.)
<b>Paul Caldwell</b>	- (St. Kevin's P.S.)
<b>John Carlile</b>	- (St. Oliver Plunkett P.S.)
<b>Francis Donaghy</b>	- (Vere Foster P.S.)
<b>Conor McAlister</b>	- (St. Joseph's P.S., Crumlin)
<b>Neil McMahan</b>	- (St. Joseph's P.S., Crumlin)
<b>Paul McLean</b>	- (St. Anne's P.S.)
<b>Anthony McCann</b>	- (Good Shepherd P.S.)
<b>David Mohan</b>	- (Holy Child P.S.)
<b>Mathew O'Brien</b>	- (St. Joseph's P.S., Crumlin)
<b>Peter Rice</b>	- (St. Anne's P.S.)

**The Ford Perpetual Trophy**

- **Jonathan Diamond**  
(St. Peter's P.S., Ross Road)

**The McGarrity Family Honda Trophy**

*(Best Japanese student)*

- **Neil Ryan**  
( St. Anne's P.S.)

**Father Sean O'Neill Memorial Cup**

(Presented by the Mervyn Family of Tornaroy whose son Thomas earned the highest marks in Religion in the inaugural year of the G.C.S.E. examinations)

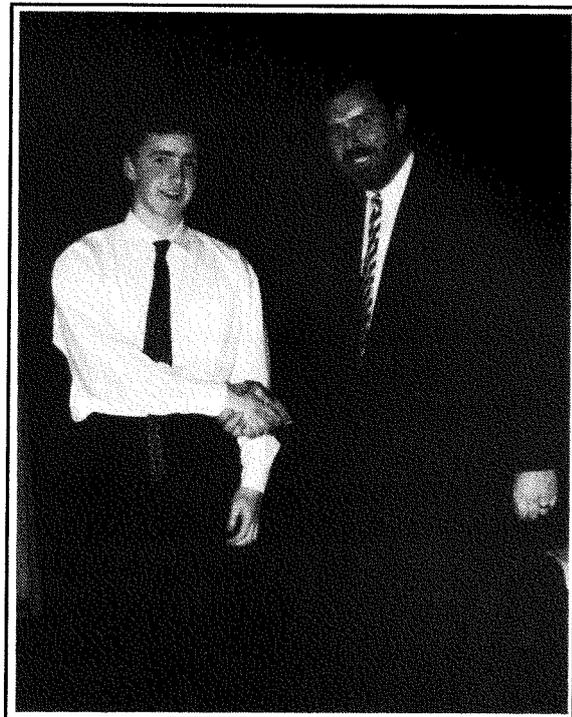
- **Paul Caldwell**  
(St. Kevin's P.S.)

**Best G.C.S.E. Student**

*C.B.P.P.U. Gold Medal 1996*

**Conor Murphy**

(Our Lady of Lourdes P.S.)



## **'A' Level Year Group - School Year 1995/1996**

AGNEW, Luke F.	GORMAN, Tomas B.	Mc GREEVY, Brendan
AGNEW, Oliver G.	GORMLEY, Colin	Mc GUIGAN, David D.
BELLEW, Martin D.	GOUGH, Michael	Mc HUGH, Breandan
BIRCH, Christopher G.	GRAHAM, Ronan P.	Mc ILVENNY, Patrick
BLACK, Stephen	GUINEY, Patrick M.	Mc INTYRE, John
BRANKIN, Ciaran P.	HOGG, Kevin M.	Mc KINNEY, Conor
BUNTING, Conall P.	HOLLAND, William	Mc WILLIAMS, Paul G.
BUNTING, Diarmuid H.	HUGHES, James B.	MOORE, Andrew J.
BUTLER, James	JOHNSTON, Martin S.	MOORE, Brian D.
CALDWELL, Gary S.	KANE, Ronald D.	MURRAY, Declan
CASSIDY, Kieran D.	KEENAN, Colm P.	MURRAY, Sean C.
CHRISTIE, Joseph M.	KEENAN, Colum F.	O COISNEACHAIN, Eoin
CLARENCE, Benjamin	KELLY, Daniel	O MEALLAIN, Fionntan S.
CLARKE, Colin	KELLY, Kieran N.	O'CONNOR, Gerald
CLARKE, Seamus	KERRIGAN, James J.	O'DONNELL, John D.
COMERFORD, Joseph P.	LAIRD, Kieran P.	O'HAGAN, Peter W.
CONERE, Mark J.	LAMBON, Martin	O'HARA, Brendan G.
CONNOLLY, John G.	LAWLOR, Terence P.	O'HARE, Mark C.
COOPER, Barrie N.	LIDSTER, Ciaran	O'NEILL, Ciaran G.
CORSCADDEN, Peter E.	MAGEE, Breandan G.	O'NEILL, John J.
CROOKES, Sean P.	MAGEE, Colin J.	O'PREY, Conn R.
CRUDDEN, Anthony	MAGEE, John T.	O'REILLY, Christopher
CUNNINGHAM, Liam	MAGUIRE, James B.	O'RIORDAN, Joseph M.
D'ARCY, Francis T.	MAGUIRE, Martin A.	PATANE, Rodrigo
DEEDS, Paul	MAGUIRE, Michael	PERRY, Vincent G.
DEMPSEY, Hugh	MAXWELL, Keith	PHILLIPS, Neil M.
DEVINE, Colm	Mc ALISTER, John J.	SAVAGE, Mark
DEVLIN, Anthony	Mc CAFFERTY, Michael	SHANNON, William
DEVLIN, Conal	Mc CANN, Ruairi O.	SLOAN, Stephen J.
DONNELLY, Desmond P.	Mc CARTNEY, Conor M.	SLOANE, Aidan G.
DORAN, Paul	Mc CAUGHEY, Thomas	SMYTH, Daniel G.
DOUGHERTY, Ciaran M	Mc CLOSKEY, Alan	SMYTH, Michael A.
DOUGLAS, Paul	Mc CORMICK, Robert	STITT, John G.
DUFFY, Sean G.	Mc CULLAGH, Conor	TEER, Kristoffer J.
EGAN, John	Mc CURRY, Vincent P.	WALSH, Jason M.
FERRIN, Sean	Mc DONALD, Mark G.	WARD, Ruaidhri J.
FITZGERALD, Stephen	Mc DONNELL, Aidan P.	WEBB, Karl
FITZSIMONS, Conor J.	Mc ERLEAN, Damien J.	WHITE, Declan B.
FLANNERY, Francis	Mc FALL, John	WILSON, Paul
GAMBLE, Robert S.	Mc GEOUGH, Ciaran	WOODS, Joseph
GANNON, Conor M.	Mc GINLEY, Conor M.	
GORDON, Ciaran	Mc GONIGLE, John P.	

## Academic Awards at 'A' Level

### 'A' Level Biology

- Francis D'Arcy  
(St. Bride's P.S.)

### 'A' Level Chemistry

- Francis D'Arcy  
(St. Bride's P.S.)

### 'A' Level Computer Studies

*(Flanagan & Jennings Medal)*

Sponsored by St. Mary's Accountants

- Michael Smyth  
(St. John the Baptist P.S.)

### 'A' Level Economics

*(Ulster Business Equipment Medal)*

- Patrick McIlvenny  
(St. John the Baptist P.S.)

### 'A' Level English

*(The Serridge Medal)*

- Kieran Laird  
(St. John the Baptist P.S.)

### 'A' Level French

*(The McClure Medal)*

- David McGuigan  
(St. Colman's P.S., Lambeg)

### 'A' Level Geography

*(The Northern Bank Medal)*

- Aidan McDonnell  
(C.B.S., Hightown Road)

### 'A' Level History

*(The Bank of Ireland Medal)*

- Declan O'Donnell  
(Our Lady of Lourdes P.S.)

### 'A' Level Italian

- Rodrigo Patane  
(St. John the Baptist P.S.)

### 'A' level History & Appreciation of Art

- Jason Walsh  
(St. John the Baptist P.S.)

### 'A' Level Irish

*(Cumann Gaelach Scoil Mhuire)*

- Breandan McHugh  
(Bunscoil Phobal Feirste)

### 'A' Level German

- Francis D'Arcy  
(St. Bride's P.S.)

**'A' Level Mathematics**

*(The Rev. Bro. McGreevy Medal)*

The name of Brother McGreevy was synonymous with the teaching of Mathematics in St. Mary's in the '50's, 60's and 70's. He was a man of great inspiration for both staff and pupils.

- **Martin Lambon**

(St. John the Baptist P.S.)

**'A' Level Political Studies**

*(First Trust Bank)*

- **Patrick McIlvenny**

(St. John the Baptist P.S.)

**'A' Level Physics**

- **Diarmuid Bunting**

(St. Joseph's P.S., Larne)

**'A' Level Psychology**

- **Kieran Laird**

(St. John the Baptist P.S.)

**'A' Level Religion**

- **Desmond Donnelly**

(Our Lady of Lourdes)

**'A' Level Spanish**

- **Breandan Magee**

(St. Aidan's P.S.)

**'A' Level Theatre Studies**

*(The John McQuillan Contracts Medal)*

- **Vincent McCurry**

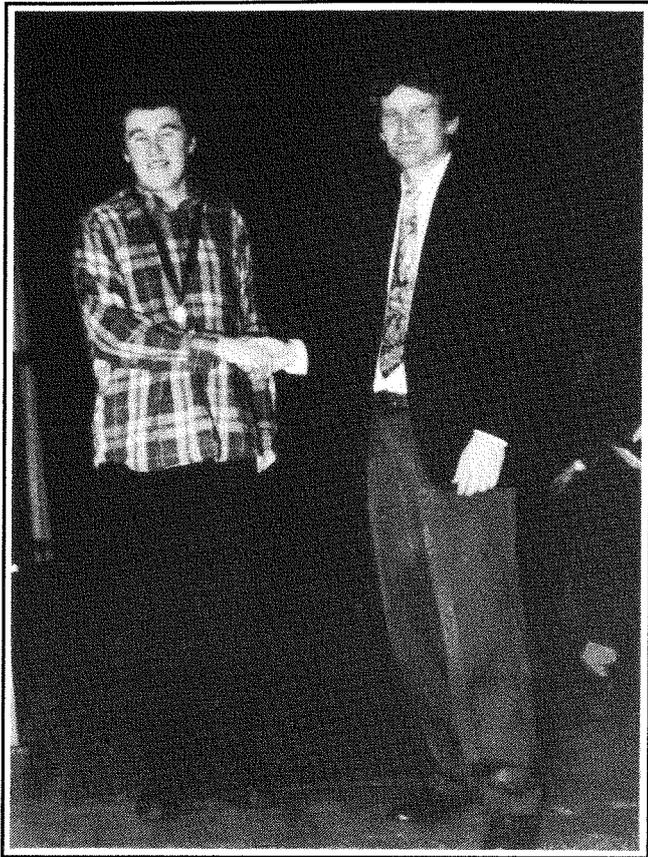
(St. Colman's, P.S.)

**The Brother Monaghan Cup**

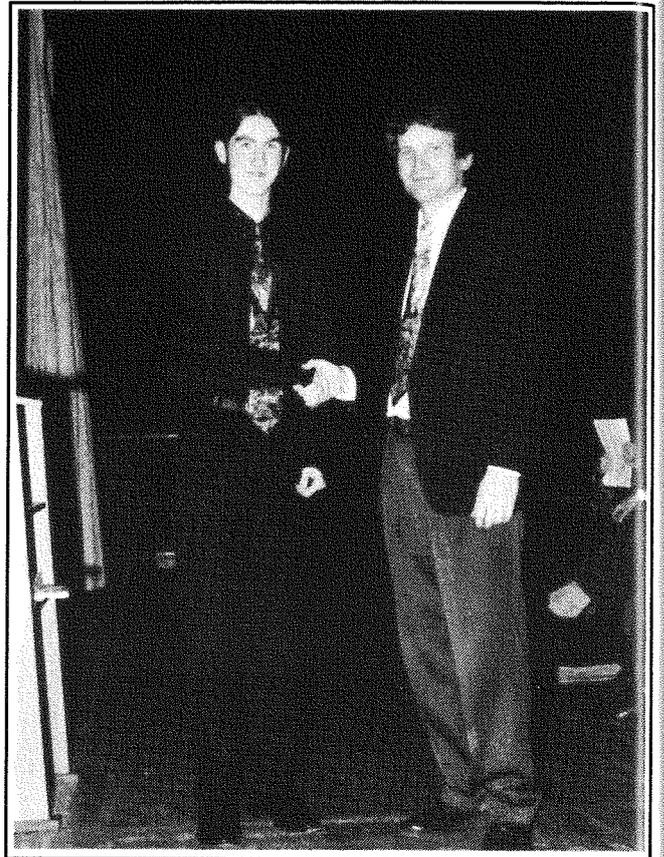
*(Presented to the outstanding pupil who entered senior School from our associated Secondary Schools)*

- **John Connolly**

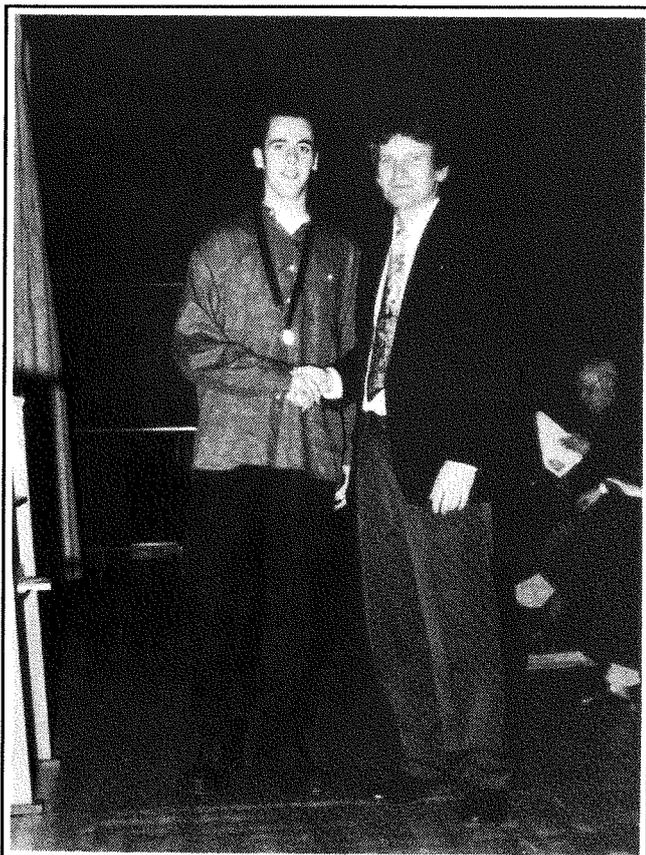
(C.B.S., Glen Road)



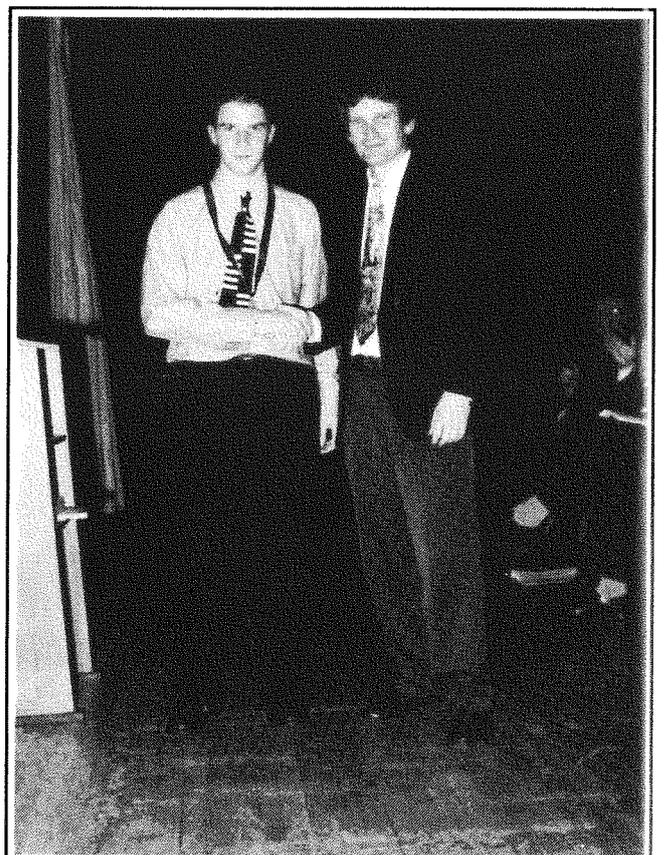
*One of the driving forces in the Mini-Company. Michael Smyth is a little overwhelmed to receive the Computer Studies Medal.*



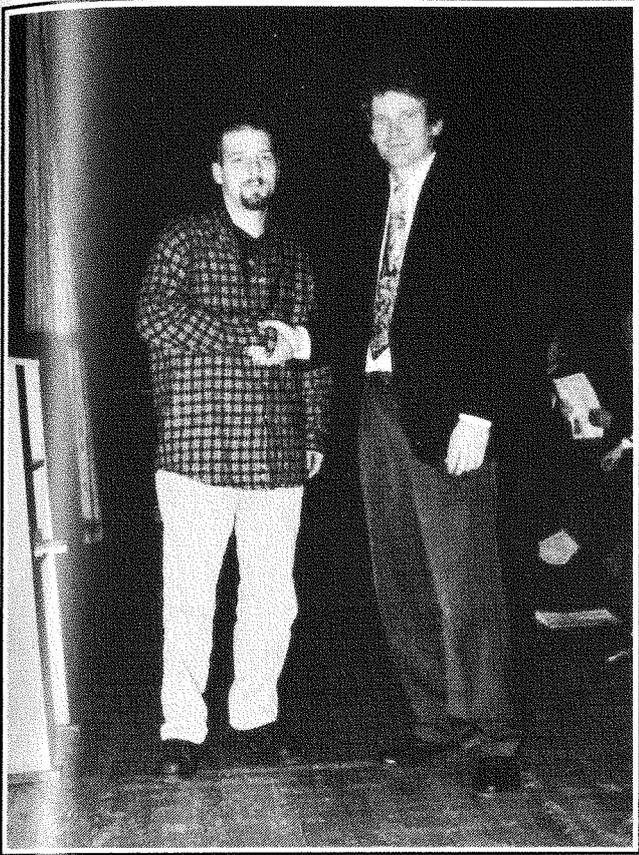
*Kieran Laird receiver of the English Award.*



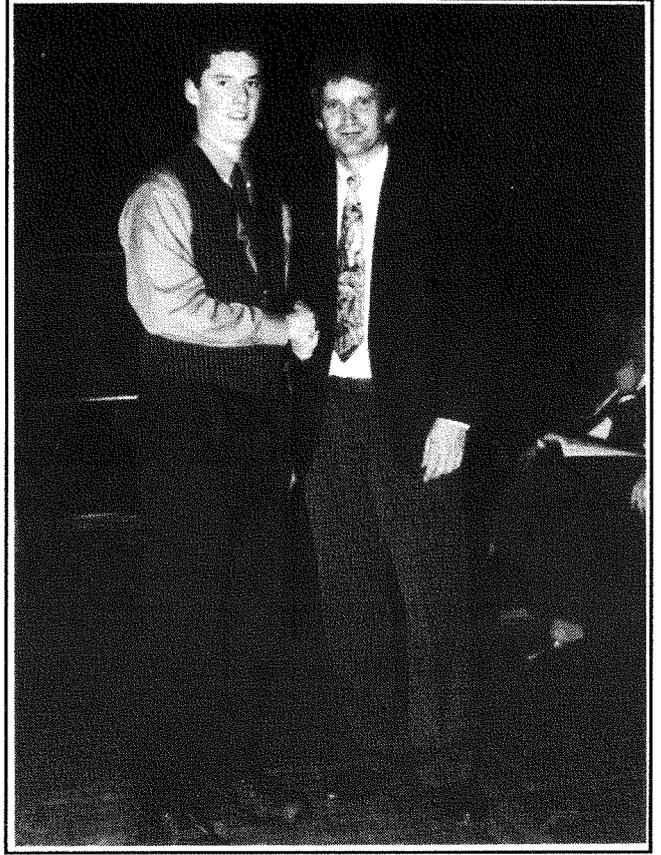
*Brendan McHugh returns from Trinity to receive his medal for 'A' Level Irish.*



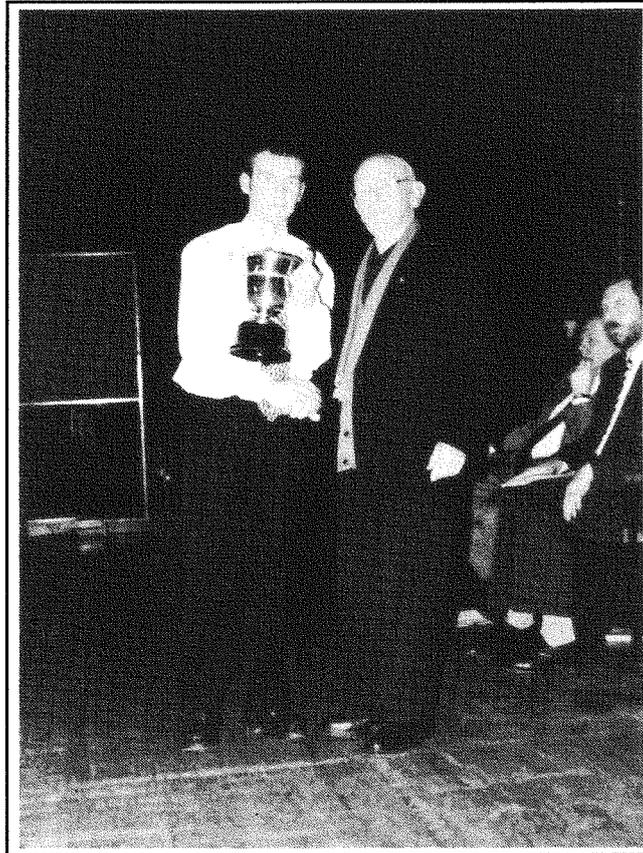
*Patrick McIlvenny looks very serious receiving his Economics Medal. Relax Patrick you've got your 3 'A' grades.*



*Our 'A' Level Religion winner Desmond Donnelly.*



*On stage again for one of the Drama men - Vincent McCurry's 3As and 1B are rewarded.*



*Bro. Mallon presents John Connolly with the Bro. Monaghan Cup.  
Thanks C.B.S. Secondary for passing on a quality pupil.*

## Extra-Curricular Achievements 1996

### **Brother Gallagher Perpetual Shield**

*(Presented annually to the  
Outstanding Member of the Ski Society)*

- **Declan O'Donnell**  
(Our Lady of Lourdes P.S.)

### **Ulster Schools' Skiing Championship Winners**

- **Peter Cassidy**  
(St. John the Baptist P.S.)
- **Denis Cormican**  
(Ballymacrickett P.S.)
- **Declan O'Donnell**  
(Our Lady of Lourdes P.S.)
- **John Paul O'Donnell**  
(Our Lady of Lourdes P.S.)

### **Winners (England, Wales, Ireland Ski Championship)**

- **Declan O'Donnell**  
(Our Lady of Lourdes P.S.)
- **John Paul O'Donnell**  
(Our Lady of Lourdes P.S.)
- **Niall O'Donnell**  
(Our Lady of Lourdes P.S.)

### **All-Ireland Water Polo Champions 1996**

- **Gerard Armstrong**  
(Holy Trinity P.S.)
- **Nicholas Birch**  
(Our Lady of Lourdes)
- **Conor Campfield**  
(St. John the Baptist P.S.)
- **Peter Corscadden**  
(St. Teresa's P.S.)
- **Sean Crookes**  
(Edmund Rice College)
- **John Magee**  
(Our Lady of Lourdes P.S.)
- **Martin McComb**  
(St. Gall's P.S.)
- **Mark McDonald**  
(St. Finian's P.S.)
- **Declan Murray**  
(Bunscoil Phobal Feirste)

**Scoildramaíocht**

*(Ulster & All Ireland Drama Winners)*

- **Ciaran O Grianna**  
(Bunscoil Phobal Feirste)
- **Sean O Grianna**  
(Bunscoil Phobal Feirste)
- **Sean Elliman**  
(Holy Trinity P.S.)
- **Sean McManus**  
(Bunscoil Phobal Feirste)
- **Marty Rea**  
(St. John the Baptist P.S.)
- **Ciaran Stuart**  
(St. Teresa's P.S.)
- **Damian McCallin**  
(St. John the Baptist P.S.)

**Bonn Sheamais Mhic Eachaidh**

- **Tony Devlin**  
(C.B.S., Hightown Road)

**The Brother Mallon Award 1996**

*(Named after a distinguished former teacher and donated by an ex-pupil John Larkin, Reid Professor of Criminology at Trinity College, Dublin)*

- **Eamon Gamble**  
(St. Oliver Plunkett P.S.)

**Gerry Magennis Memorial Award**

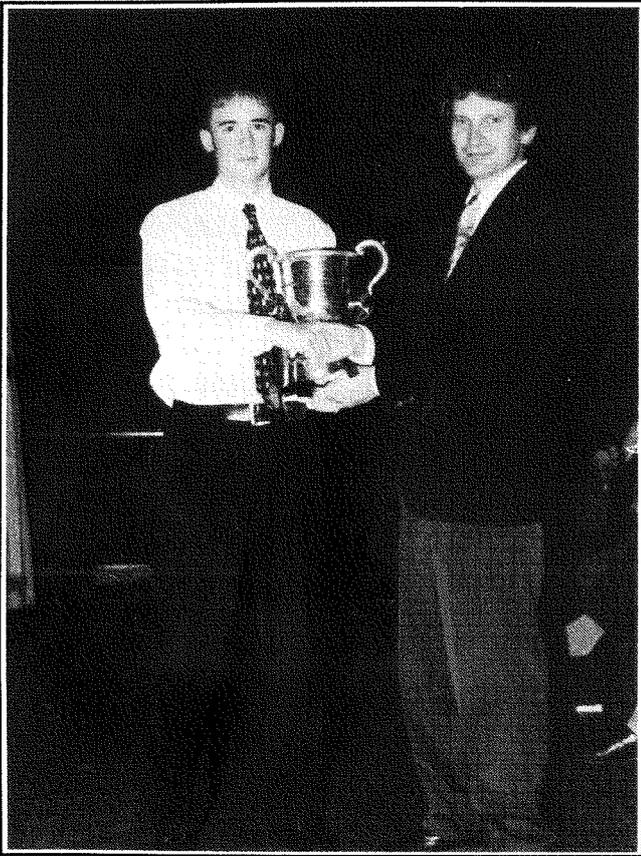
- **Gareth Ward**  
(St. John the Baptist)

**Forresters' Medal**

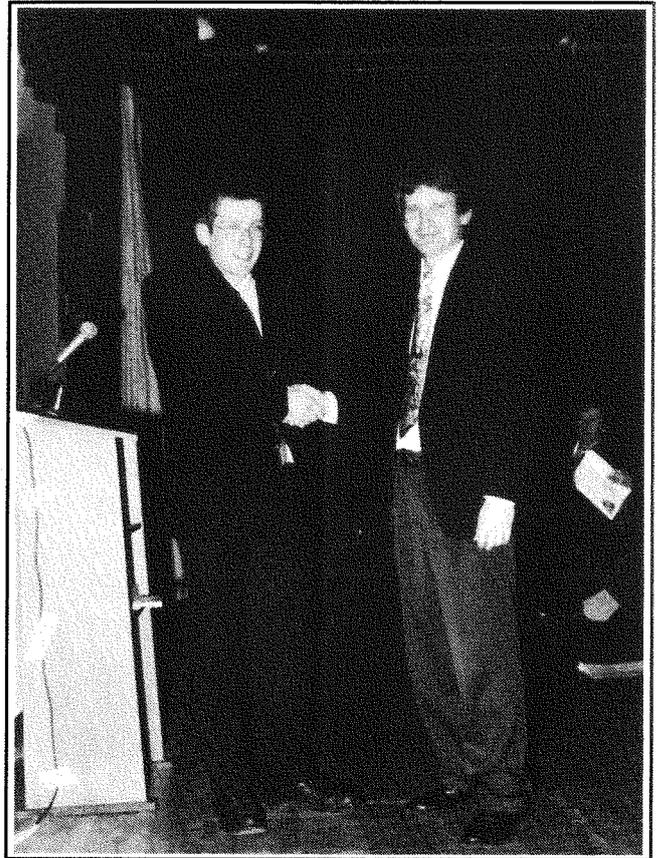
- **Ciaran Magee**  
(Bunscoil Phobal Feirste)

**Mageean Cup Winners 1996**

- **Jonathan Flynn (Captain)**  
(St. Annes' P.S.)

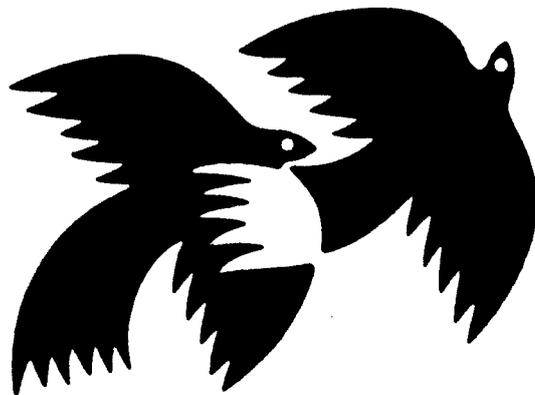


*Jonathan Flynn the captain of the successful Mageean Cup Campaign.*



*Ciaran Magee receives his award for 'Hurler of the Year'.*

**TAKE CARE  
OF THE THINGS  
YOU VALUE.**



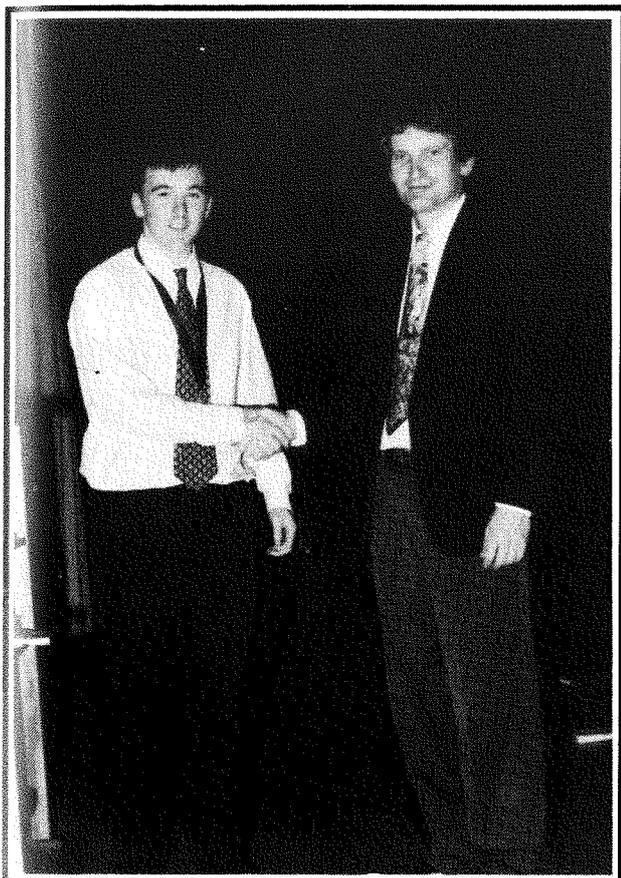
**Church & General**

Church & General Insurance plc., Yorkshire House,  
10 Donegall Square South Belfast BT1 5JD  
Tel: 324621. Fax: 332271.

## **Best 'A' Level Student**

*The Edmund Rice Gold Medal  
(Named in honour of the founder of the Christian Brothers)*

**Francis D'Arcy**  
(St. Bride's P.S.)



*Is Francis D'Arcy being congratulated  
for his award in Biology? Chemistry? German?  
No!! Mr. Diamond is inviting him to  
receive the Edmund Rice Gold Medal  
as Best 'A' Level Student 1997.*

## ***Edmund Rice Perpetual Trophy***

### **Best 'A' Level Student**

**Francis D.Arcy**  
(St. Bride's P.S.)

# Junior Prizewinners 1996

German	Joseph McAuley	11B
Irish	Martin Duffy	11B
Italian	Kevin Gannon	11B
Spanish	Alan Rainey	11G
French	Joseph McAuley	11B
English	Laurence Donaghy	11B
Geography	David Boyle	11A
History	John O'Hare	11A
Religion	Eamon Toner	11D
Theatre Studies	Desmond Kennedy	11B
Music	Joseph McAuley	11B
Art	Peter Fay	11F
Science	Kevin Gannon	11B
Mathematics	Francis Gough	11B
Technology	James Montgomery	11B
Football	Sean Kelly	11A
Hurling	John Joe Hartigan	11H

## OUTSTANDING:

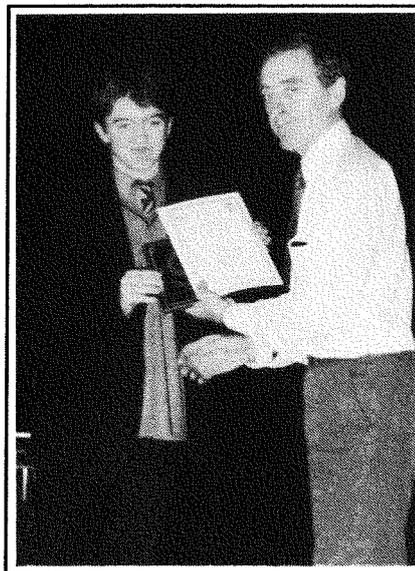
John O'Hare 11A  
 Kevin Gannon 11B  
 Francis Gough 11B  
 David Boyle 11A  
 Stephen Keely 11B  
 Joseph McAuley 11B  
 Conor Murray 11H  
 Liam O'Reilly 11H

## MOST CONSISTENT:

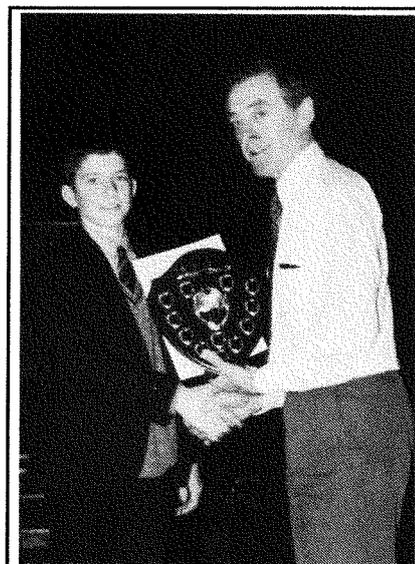
Kevin Elliot 11B  
 Conor McClean 11A  
 Conor McKenna 11A  
 Desmond Kennedy 11B  
 Paul Curran 11G  
 Pdraig Murray 11H  
 Liam Sheppard 11H

## THE BOBBY McCARGO MEMORIAL TROPHY:

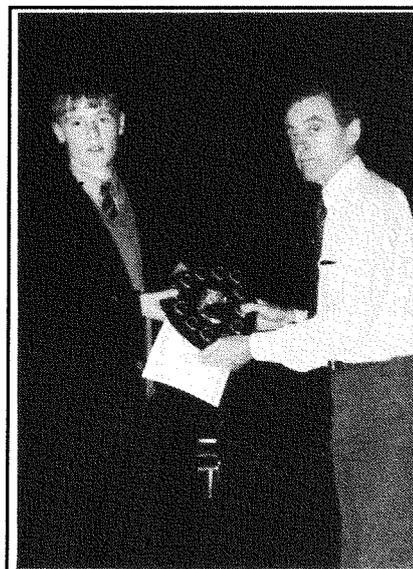
Alan Rainey 11G



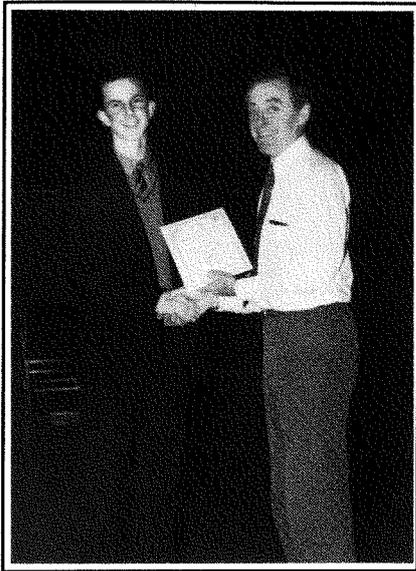
*Desmond Kennedy receiving his award for Theatre Studies*



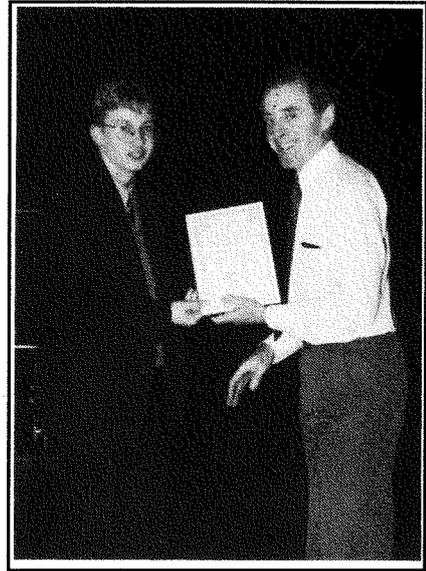
*Sean Kelly receiving "Forrester's Shield" for Gaelic*



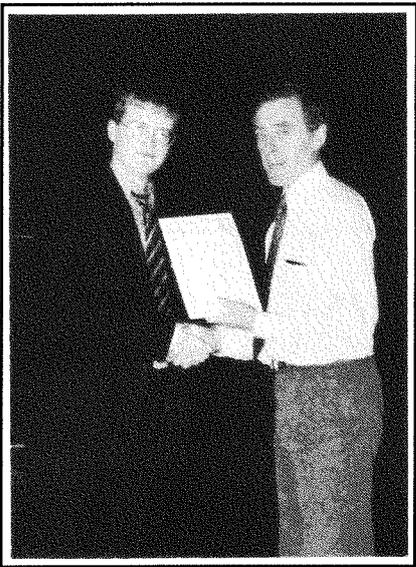
*John Joe Hartigan receiving the McAllister Shield for hurling*



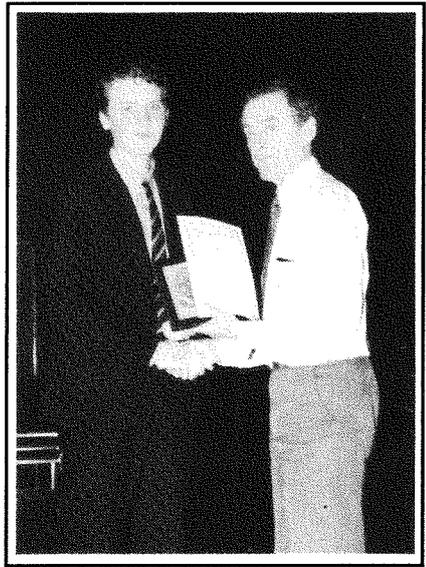
*Joseph McAuley  
winner of the German, French and Music Awards*



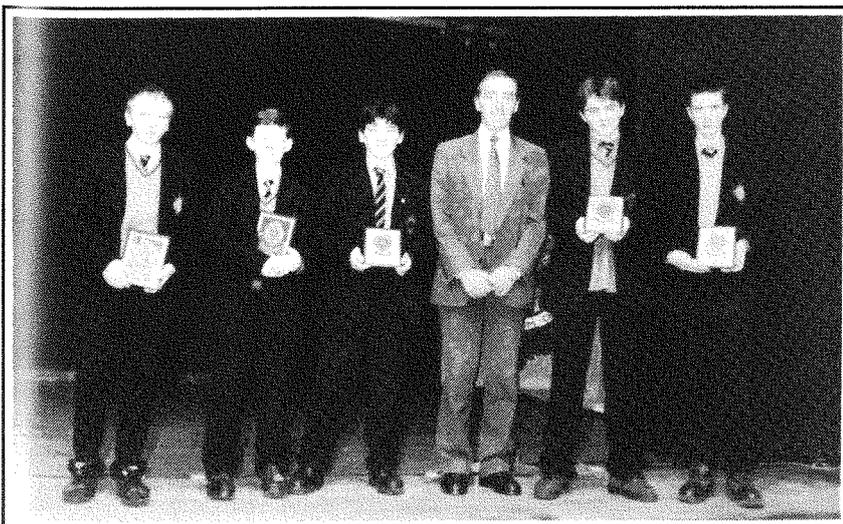
*Kevin Gannon being presented  
with the Italian Award*



*Lawrence Donaghy  
winner of the English Award*



*Francis Gough  
presented with the Award for Mathematics*



*From left to right:  
Paul Curran  
Kevin Elliott  
Pearse Murray  
Headmaster Mr. Crilly  
Desmond Kennedy  
Liam Sheppard  
receiving their plaque for  
"Most Consistent Students"*



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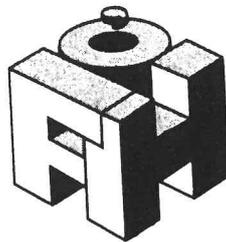


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Michael Forrester  
St Kieran's



Michael Kavanagh  
John the Baptist



Adrian McCann  
Good Shepherd



Ciaran McCartney  
Good Shepherd



Kevin McDonnell  
St Anne's



Patrick McFall  
John the Baptist



Sean McGuinness  
John the Baptist



Colmcille McKenna  
St Anne's



James McMorrow  
John the Baptist



Anthony McQuade  
Holy Trinity



Andrew Mulholland  
St Colman's



Pdraig O'Donnell  
John the Baptist



Manus O'Gorman  
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Christopher Porter  
John the Baptist



Gareth Presley  
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Christopher Toal  
John the Baptist



Christopher Toal  
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Micheal Toal  
John The Baptist



John Webb  
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Kieran Connolly  
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Christopher Jones  
St Teresa's



Donal Magennis  
Holy Child



Miguel Martin-Greenwood  
St John the Baptist



Mark McAtackney  
St John the Baptist



Gabriel McComish  
St John the Baptist



Patrick McGarrity  
Holy Trinity



Christopher McGowan  
St John the Baptist



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Christopher McMahon  
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David Megaw  
St Teresa's



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Gerald Murray  
St. Teresa's



Christopher O'Neill  
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Peter Robinson  
Holy Trinity

8C 1996 - 97



Sean Agnew  
Good Shepherd



Eamonn Armstrong  
Good Shepherd



Mark Austin  
St John the Baptist



Ciaran Bell  
Holy Trinity



Michael Bonner  
St Teresa's



Conor Dawson  
St John the Baptist



Christopher Donnelly  
St Anne's



Stephen Downey  
St Gall's



Desmond Egan  
St John the Baptist



Kevin Fairley  
St Kieran's



Aodhan Gallagher  
St John the Baptist



Stephen Herdman  
St Kevin's



Michael Kincella  
St Aloysius



Ciaran Loughran  
St John the Baptist



Padraig Maxwell  
St John the Baptist



David McErlean  
St Paul's



Liam McGuinness  
Good Shepherd



Daniel McIlhone  
St Kieran's



James McMillan  
St Kevin's



Joseph O'Hagan  
St Peter's the Rock



Sean O'Kane  
St John the Baptist



Sean O'Reilly  
Holy Trinity



Paul Rafferty  
St John the Baptist



David Savage  
Good Shepherd



Terence Sheppard  
Holy Child



Brian Torbitt  
Oliver Plunkett



Mark Vernon  
St Anne's



Michael Watson  
Oliver Plunkett

8D 1996 - 97



Ciaran Bradley  
Bunscoil Phobal Feirste



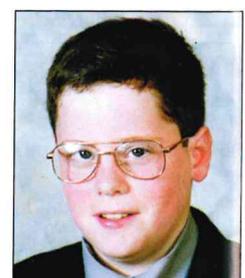
Anthony Currie  
Bunscoil Phobal Feirste



Robert Davidson  
St John the Baptist



Fionntan Gamble  
Bunscoil Phobal Feirste



David Gillen  
Good Shepherd



Sean Gough  
St Oliver Plunkett



Gerard Hamilton  
Holy Trinity Boys



Pol Hamilton  
Bunscoil Phobal Feirste



Patrick Harvey  
St Teresa's Boys



Michael Herron  
Bunscoil Phobal Feirste



Declan Hughes  
Holy Trinity Boys



Ciaran Johnston  
St Teresa's Boys



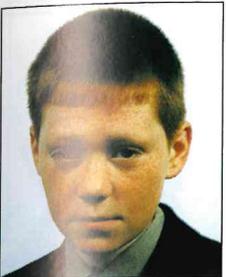
Steven Kelly  
Good Shepherd



Conor MacParland  
Bunscoil Phobal Feirste



Christopher Maguire  
St Colman's



Damian Martin  
St Mark's



Sean McAreavey  
St Kieran's



Conor McAteer  
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Colm McCabe  
Holy Trinity



Conor McCabe  
John the Baptist



Anthony McCann  
St. Kieran's



John McCloskey  
John the Baptist



Padraig McGarrigle  
St Teresa's



Gerard McGrath  
Bunscoil Phobal Feirste



Donall McHugh  
Bunscoil Phobal Feirste



Breandan McParland  
Bunscoil Phobal Feirste



Gerard Millen  
St Gall's P.S.



Gerard Nugent  
Bunscoil Phobal Feirste



Daniel Savage  
Good Shepherd

8E 1996 - 97



Christopher Bell  
Holy Trinity



Andrew Black  
Holy Trinity



David Black  
Holy Trinity



Daniel Blackburn  
Holy Trinity



Ciaran Chapman  
St Luke's



Sean Chapman  
St Luke's



Stephen Darragh  
Holy Trinity



Christopher Gillen  
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Christopher Hagan  
Good Shepherd



Kevin Hawkins  
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Dermot Huston  
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Colm Lavery  
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Damien Lavery  
Good Shepherd



Anthony McCann  
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Ailin McCullagh  
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Peter McMorro  
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St Galls



David Moge  
St Kieran's



Paul Mulligan  
St Teresa's



Christopher Seenan  
John the Baptist



Stephen Smyth  
St. Anne's

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Eamonn Andrews  
St Peter's



Christopher Callaghan  
St Gall's



Finnbar Christie  
St Joseph's



Simon Darby  
Park Lodge



Ciaran Diamond  
St Anne's



Gary Donnelly  
St Peter's



Sean Green  
St Mary's



Ryan Heaney  
St Gall's



Eamon Kerr  
St Gall's



Kevin Maguire  
St Gall's



Thomas Marley  
St Gall's



Peter McAleese  
St Gall's



Padraig McBride  
St Joseph's



Kieran McCleave  
St Peter's



Patrick McElwee  
St Peter's



Martin McGoran  
St Kevin's



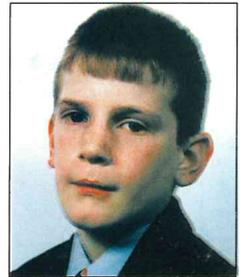
Paul McNeill  
St Mary's



Colm Meehan  
St Gall's



Donnchadh Murphy  
St Mary's on the Hill



Cormac O'Neill  
St Gall's



Christopher Thibodeau  
St Anne's

8G 1996 - 97



Paul Acheson  
St Anne's



Gerard Collins  
St Paul's



Ciaran Cooley  
St. Therese de Lisieux



Colm Darby  
Park Lodge



Ronan Day  
Park Lodge



Joseph Donnelly  
St Joseph's Crumlin



Anthony Flavin  
St Colman's



John Hannon  
St Kevin's



James Johnston  
St Joseph's



Edward Keown  
St Aloysius Lisburn



Desmond McAuley  
Ballymacward



Christopher McCarthy  
Holy Rosary



David McClarnon  
St Kevin's



Declan McKerr  
St Gall's



Michael McLaughlin  
St Joseph's Crumlin



Liam McParland  
St Gall's



Conor McShane  
St Paul's



John Morris  
St Paul's



Gabriel Mulholland  
Ballymacward



Kieran Mulholland  
Ballymacward



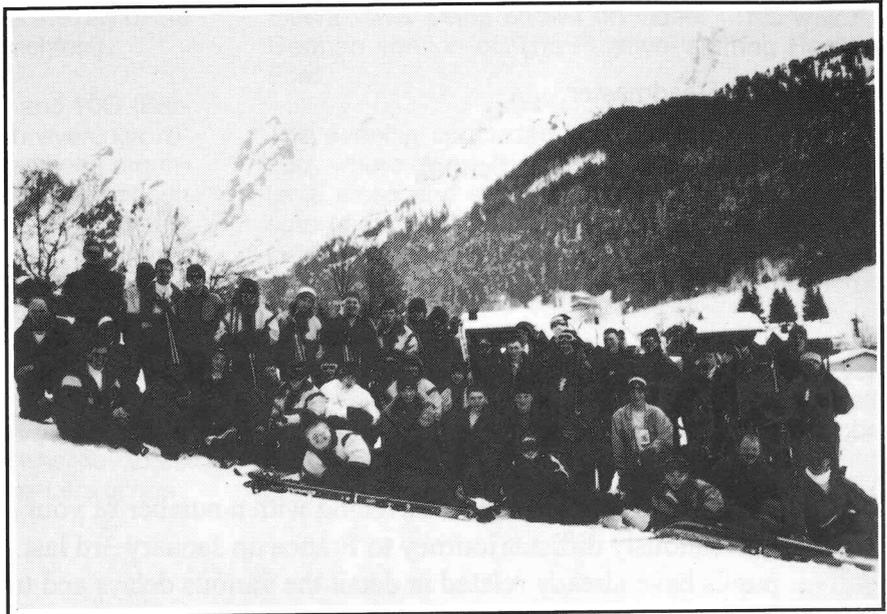
Patrick Rainey  
St Gall's



Gerard Toner  
St Gall's

# Ski Trip '97

This year's destination for the ski-trip was La Cluaz, France. The journey began with the group meeting up at the unearthly time of 6.00 a.m. at Aldergrove airport. At this stage of the journey the atmosphere was electric and everyone's spirits were high. The weather reports from France proclaimed snow, snow and more snow. Unfortunately it turned out that there was too much snow for us to get there. Little did we know that twelve hours later we would still be sitting in the airport. A technical hiccup with our plane was keeping us in Belfast. Eventually we got on the plane and were on our way. Our next stroke of luck was the French weather. They were having problems with 'freezing rain' on the runway. This meant more time in the air. We were further tortured with ski videos that cabin crew played for us. At this stage I think we would have risked crashing just to get there! We had to divert and land in another airport, which was closed. From there we faced a three hour coach trip to get to La Cluaz. The incredible thing was the group morale and jokes were still an all time high. The bus journey was great as we were shattered and most of us slept through it.



trip ever. The crack was non-stop and everyone's spirits were always high which added to a truly brilliant holiday.

I would highly recommend this to anyone who is interested in having a good time and who would enjoy the exhilaration of racing down a snowly Alpine Slope.

**Paul McLean 3C**

When we eventually arrived in La Cluaz, we were greeted with the most fantastic alpine scenery and our hotel manager who looked like Meatloaf. As we had taken so long to arrive, we had actually missed a full days skiing. Mr. Perry wasn't having any of this and negotiated more skiing time which meant we wouldn't lose any time.

The skiing itself made up for all the delays and hours of travelling. It was amazing. The snow was in perfect condition and the slopes were brilliant. The skiing instructors were 'sound'. My group's ski instructor was the ever-smiling Jean Michelle (who was a bit mad). He perpetually addressed Mrs. Marshall as 'Fino Darling'.

At night time there were many activities for us to do such as; 'bumboarding' (which was great fun), quizzes, karaoke and ice-skating. A certain teacher (who will remain nameless) showed us the dangers of skating on your face.

The week flew in and when it came to an end we were all a bit sad. Thankfully there were no delays on the way home and everybody thought it was the best ski-



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The Headmaster,  
Mr. L. Perry,  
St. Mary's Grammar School,  
Glen Road,  
Belfast

16th January, 1997

Dear Mr. Perry,

I had the great pleasure of travelling with a number of your staff and students on an horrendously difficult journey to France on January 3rd last. I am sure the teachers and pupils have already related in detail the various delays and traumas of this flight, and subsequent transfer. It was exhausting, frustrating and even at times a little scary.

My purpose in writing is simply to commend the behaviour and happy disposition of these pupils over the thirty-six distressing hours. They were tired and un-slept, but they preserved a mischievous good humour and extraordinary pleasantness. What I am simply saying is, that they were a credit to their parents and to their school. I would greatly appreciate you conveying my commendation to the staff involved, who were quite marvellous and to the young people, who were a delight to be with.

With best wishes for '97.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Trevor W.J. Morrow".

**Rev. Dr. Trevor W.J. Morrow**



# Deutschfest - Dezember '96

Tuesday 17th December was a busy day for the German department in St. Mary's, for it was the day of the much awaited German Festival (Deutschfest).

After school that day, the boys of 10C and 10G (Barack Street) met in Room Q13 for an evenings refreshment and entertainment which had been organised for them by German teachers, Mrs Thompson and Mr Rasdale.

The boys, (thirty-five in all) began by tucking into a specially prepared selection of German delicacies such as Salami, Wurst and other cold meats. This snack, served with a bread roll, is very popular in parts of Germany and there are many different types of Wurst. This was followed by a Black Forest Gateau or 'Schwarzwaldkirschtorte', which was devoured along with a selection of typical German 'Lebkuchen', or ginger cakes.

Throughout the evening the German video 'Auf der Flucht', was being shown on video. This was the German version of 'The Fugitive' starring Harrison Ford.

The evening concluded with a closely fought table quiz, where all questions were asked in German. After a close and exciting contest, the winning team emerged as Stephen O'Hagan (10C), Thomas Mullan (10G), Gerard McCartan (10G) and David O'Reilly (10C). The boys each received a £5 book token from the school as a prize.

Overall, this event was a great success and was very well attended. Everyone enjoyed themselves greatly and there will be another Deutschfest in December 1997.

Mr B. Rasdale

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# Cornmarket 1996

It was Friday 20th December and it was a very special day for the choir. We were all very excited about going to Cornmarket podium. We had all practised for weeks and finally the big day was here. Miss Morris and Mrs Gibson polished up our voices about an hour before we went on in Barrack Street.

At about 12.10 p.m. we all started heading towards Cornmarket. A lot of us saw people whom we knew and we were given good luck gestures by them.

As we arrived at Cornmarket, Mr Crilly had already arrived with some Barrack Street teachers such as, Mr McClean and Mrs McEvoy. We got up on the podium and got ourselves prepared with the help of Miss Morris. Mrs Gibson was ready at the piano. We were all ready so we got under way.

Just after we started singing a huge crowd of shoppers had stopped to listen to our impromptu performance!

About half way through the performance, me and my friends saw that a Sky News television camera had arrived and were filming us. We were quite shy and decided to look away. We found out after the performance that they were doing an article on balloons and so we were given balloons to blow up in front of the camera.

Overall I would say that the performance was a great success and we hope that the Belfast City Council will invite us back next year to do another performance.

Darren Black (10F)  
Ciaran Smith (10F)

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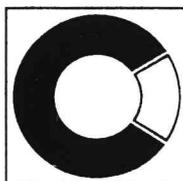
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# Careers Report 1996-'97

The personnel in the Careers Department consists of four teachers (Mr F. Woods, Mr J. Sheerin, Mr E. Collins and Mr F. Rice) who have designated time for dealing with careers issues in the school. However other areas of teacher/pupil contact also deliver 'careers'. Our main role in the Careers Department is to raise awareness of the opportunities that exist and to promote various skills and qualities which give an advantage. It is not essential that a pupil has identified a specific career ambition, even by the time he leaves St. Mary's, but he should have used the resources available to educate himself about the various possibilities.

## Junior School

By next year we hope that elements of careers guidance will be built into the Junior school and delivered by the form teachers through the Friday 'Form Class' period. We intend that it will segue seamlessly into St. Mary's overall pastoral approach. As Third Year pupils approach their Options choices for GCSE, specific advice is offered to pupils and also to parents either at the Options meeting or at subsequent appointments. Mr Sheerin and Mr G. Cullen, Head of Third Year, guide this process.

## Middle School

Mr E. Collins organises the programme by which all Fourth Year pupils discuss decision making skills, changing work patterns, job groups and levels, and begin the process of accessing careers information. In May and June the Year Group meet with the officers from the Training and Employment Agency (T & EA) for the first time and go through an inventory procedure to determine their interests and suitability for certain careers. Our T & EA Officers are Jock O'Callaghan and Carmel Gates and their presence is an invaluable resource for the school.

In Fifth Year formal talks are given by Jock on specific career areas, e.g., Engineering, Finance, Media, Health Sciences, etc, to which all Fifth Year pupils are invited. Guidance is also offered in individual interviews with Jock and Carmel. Our hope is that pupils will develop a greater awareness of career opportunities and their routes to attaining employment by the time they are 16. We are especially pleased with those who decide that St. Mary's will no longer be an appropriate institution for them post-16 and who access information and advice, know the full range of their options and make an informed decision about their future.

Mr Woods guides and assists Fifth Year pupils with Option Choices for Lower Sixth.

## Upper School

Pupils in Lower Sixth are invited to attend a variety of events; the annual Careers and Higher Education Convention held at Methodist College, the Institute of Directors' Programme, Accountancy Workshops, Open Days at B.I.F.H.E. and Loughry College, the April Medical Symposium etc.

An innovation this year was 'job' interviews offered in liaison with the Knights of St. Columbanus. The Form Class Monitors facilitated the preparation for the interviews. Each pupil produced a Letter of Application, a completed Job Application Form and a CV. The interviews took place in December.

Lower Sixth pupils rotated within three Careers Modules over the year. Mr F. Rice took a Module on Research Skills; Mr E. Collins one on UCAS preparation and Mr J. Sheerin one on Job Applications.

Sixth Form Pupils had the option of attending seminars during and after school in which past pupils detailed their career routes.

\*\*\*\*

Preparation for the Work Shadowing experience continued with the Monitors in the weekly Friday 'Form Class'. The set assignment was discussed in detail and advice offered.

The Work Shadowing Programme took place during February. During this week (Monday 3 February - Friday 7 February 1997), 87% of students completed a placement. The follow-up assignments will be used to assist in determining each pupil's commitment to the life of the school and will factor in the UCAS assessment by the school and other references.

Work Shadowing for GNVQ pupils takes place in September 1997.

The Careers Library is open to all Sixth Year pupils for research and consultation. Private consultation is always available from Careers Teachers or, as always, Jock and Carmel, our Careers Officers from the Training and Employment Agency.

Pupils involved in the School Bank also gained invaluable experience of the world of work. Ciaran Donnelly took part in the Rotary Club district finals.

In May, Mr. F. Woods organised talks by Admission Officers from Queen's University and the University of Ulster. Prospectuses for both universities are given to all students and further talks follow on entry to Southern Universities and other aspects of Further Education. Other prospectuses will be available for consultation. Open Days at QUB and UU will take place in early September 1997.

By the completion of Lower Sixth, pupils who positively engage in the Careers Programme will have had learning opportunities in work and interview experiences, developed skills in researching jobs and completing application forms, accessed Careers resources and begun their planning for the UCAS and Further Education route.

The names of those students who obtained places in Third Level education and those past pupils who

graduated from universities in the last academic year are included in this year's 'Simmarian'. Many of last year's leavers performed with distinction and obtained courses of their choice. In keeping with the historical pattern the majority entered Queen's University and the University of Ulster, some were attracted by courses in Dublin and in Edinburgh and some continued into Further Education Colleges. We anticipate success for Upper Sixth students and certainly for Liam Kane who has received an unconditional offer to read Law at Cambridge.

The clear message from various contacts is that academic qualifications will not guarantee success in the job market. Pupils must take all opportunities in and outside of the curriculum to acquire the other attributes which will enhance their overall profile.

(A special word of thanks to Peter Cassidy, Chris MacManus and Conor Murphy for their work as Career Librarians).

Mr. J. Sheerin

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*Best wishes to St Mary's C.B.*

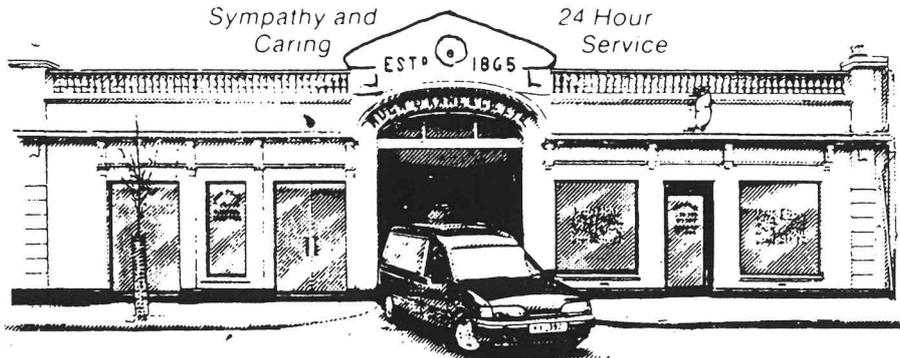
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## Leavers 1996

Name	Third Level Education	Courses Being Followed
AGNEW, Oliver	U.U.	Estate Management
BIRCH, Christopher	B.I.F.H.E.	H.N.D. Business & Science
BLACK, Stephen	B.I.F.H.E.	Business & Finance
BRANKIN, Ciaran	U.U.	Accounting
BUNTING, Conall	U.U.	Biochemistry
BUNTING, Diarmuid	Q.U.B.	Medicine
BUTLER, James	B.I.F.H.E.	H.N.D. Business
CALDWELL, Gary	Bangor University, Wales	Marine Biology
CHRISTIE, Joseph	U.U.	H.N.D. Applied Science
CLARENCE, Ben	Paisley University	Marketing
CLARKE, Seamus	U.U.	H.N.D. Transport (Dist.)
CONNOLLY, John	Trinity College, Dublin	Law
COOPER, Barrie	U.U.	Environmental Engineering
CORSCADDEN, Peter	U.U.	European Business
CROOKES, Sean	Paisley University	Business
CRUDDEN, Anthony	Q.U.B.	Food Science
D'ARCY, Francis	Trinity College, Dublin	Medicine
DEEDS, Paul	U.U.	Irish Studies
DEVLIN, Anthony	Mountainview Theatre Sch.	Drama
DONNELLY, Desmond	Q.U.B.	Arts
DORAN, Paul	U.U.	Government & Law
DUFFY, Sean	U.U.	Politics
EGAN, John	Q.U.B.	Music
FERRIN, Sean	U.U.	Law and Economics
FITZSIMONS, Conor	Q.U.B.	Celtic Studies
FLANNERY, Francis	U.U.	Economics
GAMBLE, Robert	U.U.	Hospitality Management
GANNON, Conor	U.U.	Government & Law
GORMLEY, Colin	U.U.	Year Out
GRAHAM, Ronan	B.I.F.H.E.	Business Studies
GUINEY, Patrick	Catering College, Portrush	Hotel Management & Hosp.
HOLLAND, William	Art College	B.A. Degree
HUGHES, James	B.I.F.H.E.	Business Information
KEENAN, Colm	St. Mary's Training College	Teaching Training
KELLY, Daniel	Paisley University	Business Studies
KELLY, Kieran	U.U.	Hospitality Management
KERRIGAN, James	B.I.F.H.E.	H.N.D. Business and Market.
LAIRD, Kieran	Q.U.B.	Law with Politics

LAMBON, Martin	Q.U.B.	Chemical Engineering
LAWLOR, Terence	U.U.	Computers & Infor. Systems
MAGEE, Colin	Q.U.B.	Accountancy
MAGEE, John	Q.U.B.	Law (Year Out)
MAGUIRE, James	B.I.F.H.E.	H.N.D. (Year Out)
MAGUIRE, Martin	Q.U.B.	Arts
MAGUIRE, Michael	Q.U.B.	Agriculture
MAXWELL, Keith	Q.U.B.	Mathematics
McALISTER, John	U.U.	Sciences
McCAFFERTY, Michael	U.U.	H.N.D. Computers
McCANN, Ruairi	Q.U.B.	Arts
McCARTNEY, Conor	B.I.F.H.E.	H.N.D. Computer
McCAUGHEY, Thomas	Q.U.B.	Scholastic Philosophy
McCULLAGH, Conor	Q.U.B.	Economics (Year Out)
McCURRY, Vincent	Q.U.B.	Law
McDONNELL, Aidan	Q.U.B.	Law
McGUIGAN, David	Manchester University	Arts
McHUGH, Brendan	University College, Dublin	Business & Legal Studies
McILVENNY, Patrick	U.U.	Business Studies
McINTYRE, John	U.U.	Radiography
MOORE, Andrew	Greenmount	H.N.D. Agriculture
MURRAY, Declan	John Moore Liverpool	Outdoor Education
MURRAY, Sean	Edinburgh College	Marine Biology
O COISNEACHAIN, Eoin	St. Mary's Training College	Teaching Training
O'CONNOR, Gerald	Q.U.B.	Electronic Engineering
O'DONNELL, John	U.U.	Government & Law
O'HAGAN, Peter	Edinburgh	Estate Management
O'HARA, Brendan	U.U.	Electronic Systems
O'HARE, Mark	B.I.F.H.E.	H.N.D. Leisure
O'NEILL, Ciaran	Q.U.B.	Sociology
O'NEILL, John	School of Acting, London	Drama
O'REILLY, Christopher	Q.U.B.	Psychology
O'RIORDAN, Joseph	B.I.F.H.E.	HND Business & Finance
PATANE, Rodrigo	Cardiff	Architectural Studies
PHILLIPS, Neil	Hertfordshire	Business Management
SLOAN, Stephen	U.U.	Sports and Leisure
SLOANE, Aidan	Paisley University	Business Information Manag.
SMYTH, Michael	Q.U.B.	Computers & Chemistry
TEER, Kristoffer	B.I.F.H.E.	H.N.D. Computer Studies
WALSH, Jason	U.U.	Art & Design
WEBB, Karl	U.U.	H.N.D. Business Studies
WOODS, Joseph	Q.U.B.	Sociology

## Other Destinations

Repeating 'A' levels at St. Mary's :: 3

Colleges of Further Education :: 33

Employment :: 6

Seeking Employment :: 2

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# Graduates 1996

## The Queens University of Belfast

Name		Award Obtained	Course
ADAMS	Fionntan	B.Sc.	Chemistry
BOYLE	Joseph F.	B.Sc.	Bus Admin.& Comp.Science
BRODERICK	Gerard P.	B.A.	Politics
BRYAN	Aiden J.	Ph. D.	Chemistry
BURKE	George A.	B.Sc.	Anatomy
BURNS	David M.	M.Sc.	Opto.-Elec. & Opt. Info.Proc.
CAIRNS	Christopher	B.Sc.	Zoology
CALLAGHAN	Philip	B.Sc.	Chemistry
CARBERRY	Colin G.	B.A.	English
CONNOLLY	James P.	B.Sc.	Archaeology
CONNOLLY	Michael	M.Eng.	Mech. & Man. Eng.
CONNOLLY	Paul	B.A.	History
COX	Anthony	B.A.	English
COYLE	Damien J.	B.Eng.	Mech. Eng.
CROSSAN	John P.	B.Eng.	Mech. Eng.
DeORNELLAS	Kevin P.	B.A.	English
DOHERTY	Daniel J.	B.Sc.	Finance
DONNELLY	Christopher	B.A.	Politics
FARNAN	Turlough	M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O.	Medicine
FINNEGAN	Kevin J.	B.Sc.	Computer Science
FITZPATRICK	Seamus	B.Sc.	Economics
FRIEL	Colm F.	B.Sc.	Biochemistry
GARLAND	Brendan	Cert. Prop. Law	Law
GRAY	Barry	B.Eng.	Mechanical Engineering
HAMILL	Noel A.	B.Sc.	Chemistry
HARBINSON	Adrian	D.A.S.E.	Education
HEANEY	Joseph P.	B.Eng.	Mechanical Engineering
HUNTER	Sean P.	B.Sc.	Computer Science
JOHNSTON	Gary	B.M.Sc.	Biomedical Science
KANE	Gavin H.	B.A.	Info. Manag. with Politics
KELLY	Mark G.	M.Sc.	Applied Environ. Sciences
KENNEDY	Donal J.	B.Ed.	Education
KENNEDY	Gerard A.	B.A.	General Stud. With Human.
LEYDON	Michael	Dip. Eng.	Engineering Computation
LUNDY	Gerard	M.Ed.	Modern Languages
Mac MANUS	Donal M.	B.Sc.	Pharmacy
MAGEE	Gerald D.	D.M.	Surgery
Mc ALINDEN	James P.	LI.B.	Law

Mc ALLISTER	Colin M.	Grad. Cert. Ed.	Education
Mc BRIEN	Gerard D.	M.Ed.	Educational Management
Mc CALLIN	Andrew	B.Sc.	Architecture
Mc CARRON	Philip J.	M.Sc.	Chemistry
Mc CORMICK	Conor	Grad. Cert. Ed.	Education
Mc CROSSAN	Paul F.	D.A.S.E.	Education
Mc ELKERNEY	John	B.Sc.	Economics
Mc GARRIGLE	Eamon	M. Eng.	Mech & Man. Engin.
Mc GIBBON	Paul G.	B.A.	Politics
Mc KENNA	Eugene	M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O.	Medicine
Mc LAUGHLIN	Brian	Cert. In Pro. Lgl. Stu.	Law
Mc MAHON	Neil	B.A.	Modern Hist. & English
Mc MANUS	Conor G.	B.A.	Politics
Mc NALLY	Hugh G.	M.S.Sc.	Irish Studies
Mc NALLY	Michael G.	B.Sc.	Environmental Biology
Mc NAMEE	Peter T.	Dip. In Public Health	Public Health
Mc NEILL	Robert K.	M.Sc.	Electronics
Mc PHILLIPS	John C.	Grad. Cert. Ed.	Education
Mc QUILLAN	Daniel F.	B.A.	Politics and Social Policy
Mc QUILLAN	Stephen	M.Sc.	Comp. Science & Applic.
Mc SHANE	Patrick	B.Eng.	Mechanical Engineering
MERVYN	Cathal P.	B.A.	Politics
MOORE	Louis D.	M.Eng.	Mech and Manuf. Engin.
MULDOON	Mark T.	B.A.	General Stud. & Envir. Stud.
MURRAY	Kevin G.	Prof. Prac. & Prac. Ex.	Law
NOGHER	Stephen F.	B.A.	Italian with Politics
NOLAN	Seamus	B.A.	General Stu. With Envir. Stu.
O'CONNOR	Damien T.	M.Sc.	Finance
O'DOHERTY	Simon P.	B.Sc.	Science
O'LOINGSIGH	Tomas	B.D.S.	Dental Surgery
O'NEILL	Paul J.	B.Eng.	Elec. & Elec. Eng.
O'REILLY	Patrick J.	B.A.	Celtic, French & Schol. Phil.
POLLEY	Ciaran J.	B.Sc.	Applied Maths & Physics
RICE	Ciaran A.	B.Sc.	Environmental Biology
RIGBY	Jason B.	Grad. Dip. Com. Sc.	Computer Science
ROBINSON	James H.	B.A.	Information Manag with Pol.
SAVAGE,	Brian	M.Sc.	Opto-Elec. & Opt. Info. Proc.
SHARPE,	Thomas D.	M. Phil.	Medical Ethics and Law
SMYTH	David M.	B.Eng.	Aeronautical Eng.
STEELE	Declan	Dip. in Appl. Eco.	Applied Econ. & Manag.
SWEENEY	Paul	LI.B.	Law
TAYLOR	Gareth S.	B.A.	French with Italian
VALLEY	Liam J.	Cert. Prof. Lgl. Stud.	Prof. Legal Studies
WATSON	Mark	Grad. Cert. Ed.	Education
WAUGH	Bernard	B.Sc.	Psychology
WILLIAMSON	Thomas	B.Sc.	Applied Physics
WILSON	John	B.Sc.	Biochemistry

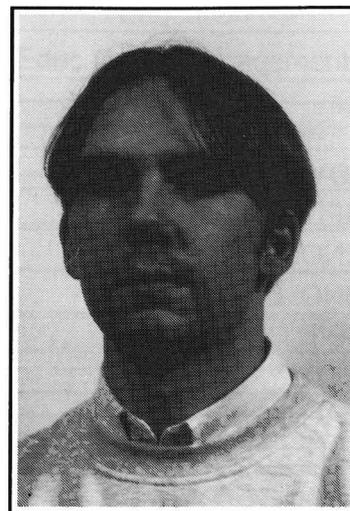
## Graduates 1996

### The University of Ulster

Name	Third Level Education	Course
BRADY, Michael	H.N.D.	Building Studies with C.I.S.
CAMPBELL, Paul	B.Sc.	Applied Psychology
CONNOLLY, Martin	B.A.	Modern & Contemp. History
CONNOLLY, Martin J.	B.Sc.	Transport with D.I.S.
DOBBIN, James	B.A.	Mod. Stud. in the Human.
DOHERTY, Anthony	B.A.	Applied Econ. with D.I.S.
DONAGHY, Conleth	B.Sc.	Com. & Inf. Sys. with D.I.S.
DUMITRESCU, Avram	Cert. in Found. Studies	Art & Design
FERRON, Gerard	H.N.D.	Building Studies with C.I.S.
FLYNN, Barry	B.Eng.	Build. Serv. Eng. with D.I.S.
FLYNN, Seamus	Cert. in Ex-Mural Studies	Comm. Relations
HYLAND, Lawrence	B.A.	Policy & Management
LAGAN, John	H.N.D.	Bus. and Finance with C.I.S.
MAGEE, Damian	B.A.	Mod. Stud. in the Humanities
MARTIN, Gerald	B.A.	Business Studies with D.I.S.
McARDLE, Anthony	B.A.	Humanities Combined
McCLEAVE, Gerard	B.A.	Applied Econ. with D.I.S.
McCLUSKEY, Stephen	B.A.	Sport & Leis. Stu. with D.I.S.
McCORMICK, Pearse	B.A.	Public Policy & Management
McELLONE, Gary	Cert. in Found. Studies	Art & Design
MEAD, Paul	H.N.D.	Transport (Distribution)
MOORE, John	M.Eng.	Engineering
MURTAGH, Hugh	Dip. H.E.	Professional Dev. in Nursing
O'PREY, Seamus	B.A.	Government & Law
PRIVILEGE, Neil	B.A.	Combined Stu. in Art & Des.
QUIGLEY, Cormac	B.A.	Mod. Stud. in the Humanities
SANSOME, Brendan	B.A.	Mod. Stud. in the Humanities
TONER, Paul	B.Eng.	Electronic Sys. with D.I.S.
WALSH, Ciaran	B.A.	Sport & Leisure Studies

# Success for St. Mary's Pupil

The following letter was received from Cambridge University regarding one of our outstanding 'A' Level pupils Liam Kane (4B). Liam has been offered an unconditional place at Cambridge and the comments made by Mr. Golding clearly illustrate the calibre of our students and the favourable impression they make outside St. Mary's. Congratulations to Liam and best wishes to him in his future career.



Liam Kane 14B

MR M. S. GOLDING  
TUTOR FOR ADMISSIONS

PETERHOUSE.  
CAMBRIDGE.  
CB2 1RD  
Direct Line 01223 338223  
21st March 1997

Dear Mr Woods,

As you know we made an offer of EE to Liam Kane, who applied to us for a place to read Law: here is my promised letter about the progress of his application. I apologise for the long delay, which has been owing to prolonged illnesses in the Admissions Office.

As you have gathered from the nominal conditions of our offer, we were greatly impressed by Kane. He submitted some well written, well structured, and detailed essays, which argued quite powerfully; and his test in College, though not outstanding, was accurate and sound. Both interviews impressed us greatly. He seemed to us to be sensible, articulate, tough-minded, and above all intellectually self-moved. We all found him quick on the uptake and acute in some ways; and we also felt there were the makings of a real intellectual life - something quite powerful in the way he turned our questions over, thought about them, and put his points to us. We also thought he had a good deal of political *nous*: he has clearly thought a lot about politics (perhaps inevitably) and he has a view of it which is his own, and which he is willing both to explore and defend. He is a most impressive young man, and we had no hesitation about him at all: we look forward to seeing him here very much.

I was delighted to be able to make an offer to such a clever young man to follow Michael Dougan, who went down last summer with a Starred First and another University prize. He was a really outstanding undergraduate, and we are very pleased that he will be returning to us in October to begin work on a PhD. It will be very good to have two of your old pupils here at the same time; and I do hope that we shall, in due course, be able to consolidate this connection, which gives us so much pleasure. Meanwhile, I enclose a copy of this year's version of my annual account of Admissions at Peterhouse and notice and booking form for our Open Days. Please do not hesitate to get in touch with me if you would like advice about any of your pupils, or if you would like to arrange for them to visit. If they cannot come to an Open Day, we can always arrange an alternative.

Yours sincerely,

M.S. Golding

F. Woods Esq.,  
St Mary's Christian Bros. Grammar School,  
147A Glen Road,  
Belfast,  
BT11 8NR

# Work Shadowing

As part of the Careers Programme a Work Shadowing exercise is an annual event in early February for the Lower Sixth group.

We are indebted to the many parents and past pupils who accept our pupils for the week and offer such a valuable learning experience. Last year 87% of the year group participated in the Programme. The insight and experience gained by Patrick Loughran with Donnelly and Wall solicitors illustrates the value of a successful placement. This is Patrick's account from his follow-up assignment on his return to school.

## Donnelly and Wall - 1st February 1996

We set off early this morning for a meeting with Mrs Fenton of The Institute of Professional Legal Studies. This meeting was very informal and it gave me the opportunity to ask questions that I had always wanted to know the answers to. I found out about things that I had previously not known about and I was somewhat surprised at several of the matters that Mrs Fenton discussed with us. For example, I was not too clear on the exact difference between being a Solicitor or being a Barrister but these differences were soon pointed out to me, such as a Barrister receives instructions from a Solicitor on a client's behalf and pleads his case in court. What I also learned that I had beforehand had no knowledge of was that after obtaining a law degree it is not definite that the student will become a lawyer. Indeed it is difficult to do so because there is a restriction on the number of places available at the Institute and there is great competition for these. Also, there are only ninety places up for grabs and out of the ninety only sixty will be awarded a bursary while the remaining thirty must pay their own tuition fees (almost £5,000) and so on.

Following this we went to the Crumlin Road Courthouse where we sat in on a murder trial. However, I was slightly confused by what was taking place because the trial had not yet begun. The Barristers were merely trying to determine with the magistrate whether the offence should be murder or manslaughter and in doing so constantly referred to similar cases and thus was hard to follow.

## Assessment of Work Shadowing Week

I have to say in all honesty that I thoroughly enjoyed this week and it was much more involved and educational than I expected it to be. When I first went to the Donnelly and Wall offices I half expected my week to involve delivering letters and messages and studying cases in the office. However, this fortunately was not the way things turned out and a lot of our time was spent in the different types of courts observing cases. I especially enjoyed the Juvenile Court and as well as that the murder case which was a totally different type of case altogether. Mr Moloney took a great interest in us and I am very grateful to him for making my week so interesting. He kindly organised everything so that we could learn as much as possible. I began the week interested in studying law and now that I have completed my work experience, my desire to do so is even stronger.

I would definitely like to pursue this course at University. I would like to follow the Single Honours course, if possible, at Queens University. I want to study Law because it is something that I have always wanted to do ever since I was very young. As well as becoming a solicitor, I believe that becoming a teacher or journalist would be other careers I would like, but Law takes precedence over the others.

If I am lucky enough to study law and then if I graduate I would rather study to become a Solicitor than a Barrister. I have several reasons for preferring to be a Solicitor. Firstly, this week with a Solicitor, Mr Moloney, has shown me what the job involves and the sort of things that occur, and I firmly believe that it is a hugely enjoyable and rewarding job. In my opinion, being a Solicitor is a more secure and steady profession than a Barrister because the Barrister relies upon Solicitors to provide work for him/her and so it would be most likely that the Barristers that are most frequently used are the experienced, well-known people and it would be difficult for a young Barrister to get work.

Another difference between the two jobs is that Barristers spend a lot of time giving opinions on questions referred to them which means doing a lot of research on cases and decisions which have a bearing on the question. I do not think that this is what I would like to do because it is very time consuming and I would also say, tedious.

Many thanks again to the teachers and employers who made this worthwhile and stimulating experience possible.

Patrick Loughran (14E)

# Work Shadowing

The following letter from Donnelly and Wall regarding Patrick Loughran's performance clearly illustrates his enthusiasm and commitment.

**DONNELLY & WALL**  
SOLICITORS  
NOTARY PUBLIC

PATRICK H. DONNELLY, LL.B.  
JAMES J. WALL, LL.B.  
DENIS G. G. MOLONEY, LL.B., N.P.  
BRENDAN TAYLOR, LL.B.

BRENDAN McCANN, LL.B.  
AILIS McKEOWN, LL.B.  
CORMAC KEENAN, LL.B.

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BELFAST BT1 5HB  
TELEPHONE: 01232 233157 (6 lines)  
FAX: 01232 329743

Your Ref

2nd February 1996.

DM/CMEM Ref

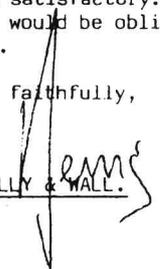
Brother Gleeson,  
Principal,  
St. Mary's Christian Brothers' Grammar School,  
147a Glen Road,  
BELFAST BT1 8NR.

Dear Brother Gleeson, 

RE: Patrick Loughran.

Further to my telephone conversation today I wish to commend in the highest possible terms the above named student who was with me on work experience for the past week. I hope you find his reports on the work given satisfactory. He was a credit both to the school and his family and I would be obliged if you would please commend him widely for so being.

Yours faithfully,

  
DONNELLY & WALL.

This Firm is regulated by The Law Society of Northern Ireland in the conduct of investment business in accordance with the Financial Services Act, 1986.

# INSTITUTE OF DIRECTORS (I.O.D.) 1996-'97

The prelude to the compulsory interview demanded by the IOD was daunting. I briefly saw the frantic energetic dynamism of the newsroom. After meeting with Mr Barrons, the Chief Executive, and seeing the agenda or itinerary I would be following, I had a quick preview. The time was around 5.00 and the pace in the newsroom was becoming increasingly frenetic. The velocity at which people were moving and the work they were producing (in what seemed disarray) was to my eyes an organisational nightmare. However my hypothesis was patently incorrect as the next morning all editions had been printed and distributed.

That which had apparently appeared as confusion and sporadic movement was in fact highly structured and organised. It was the product of people with firm objectives working exhaustively to reach a deadline. It was the constant collation of information, advertisements, stories and photographs all being submitted to secure the next edition. Basically my time was divided between all the sections to give me an overview of how this all works practically.

My first day was divided between the Chief Executive and advertising. The Newsletter is the oldest British daily newspaper being founded in 1737 reporting everything from the French Revolution to the first man on the moon. Its ethos is unionist. The command structure was explained. Basically, the Chief Executive has overall administration over the subsections such as editorial and finance. Each of the subsections has a Manager or Editor that presides specifically over that section. Within this are the employees. However a slight change has been introduced since the Mirror has taken over with the inclusion of a Managing Director also. It was pointed out that since Mirror involvement the paper has access to its electronic library and advertising. This gives in a sense an extended work force to the Newsletter which can utilise photographs that other papers here would not have the option of printing for instance.

After this I was introduced to the Production Director, Mr Alexander. His job has a multiplicity of responsibilities from health and safety, even maintenance, to the assurance that a paper will make its diurnal emergence. He co-ordinates all the components of the paper and insures they meld together. All costings are copied and filed by him and filed for any discrepancy that may arise or simply to compare performance. He also deals with such issues as discrimination. Not all cases however have a factual basis. Dismissal inevitably breeds discontent and disquietude despite the grounds for it. However it is in many companies interest to employ the best as this is reciprocated in the success of the venture. In effect it is not economically viable to discriminate along religious or gender lines. He stressed the need for communication with pronounced conviction. Communication leads to task specificity. This eliminates procrastination and indecision and allows everyone to concentrate on their objectives. Every Friday the departmental heads meet and discuss personnel and finance. In this way people can work cohesively as a team and

contribute and make suggestions. This participative approach is fundamental in the atmosphere of a newspaper which allows little or no margin for error and has to satisfy a readership daily. In this way nothing is ambiguous and employees know what is expected of them.

For me witnessing the workings of the editorial section was the highlight of my time at the paper. Mr Martin, Chief Editor, delineated the genres of journalism from political to fashion. Each story is subsequently read and evaluated by Sub Editors. A journalist must be willing to follow a story irrespective of the fact that the effort may prove fruitless. Time is flexible to compensate for the unpredictability of a story breaking. The legal considerations are of paramount importance in the newspaper industry. Stories involving emotive subjects or areas of great sensitivity require meticulous consideration before going to print or being discounted. One incident as I perceived from firsthand experience acquires an acute discriminatory sense for what is acceptable. People must not be compromised on the basis of a story. However, people can be accidentally incensed enough to initiate court action. If someone is unintentionally misrepresented in a photograph due to a generic quotation, this could be adequate grounds. In fact this constitutes the most problematic occurrence in this field. In an ambivalent case it is the editor who either sanctions or permits the story.

I also saw the presses rolling. They print at 30mph approximately and initially it was quite impressive to witness the sheer output of the machine. All problems and technicalities are the responsibility of Mr McCandless. In the actual process of printing, quality control is indispensable. Print must be of the highest standards whilst fulfilling the stringent deadline for delivery. Registering is of premier importance. Basically, colour prints consists of four colours which when combined create the colour in a photograph. If one of the colours is not properly aligned with the others the picture loses its sharpness and appears unfocused. This is not the only problem. Paper breaks slow the progress of printing. Incidentally, since recycling and prior to the uptake of other papers, the record of the Newsletter is particularly good. In the event of a motor failing a technician is called out rather than employing one on a full time basis. If printing is not finished in time or exceeds the specified time limit there is a danger the paper will not be delivered as the delivery service is autonomous from the paper. Such an event would have catastrophic implications.

If the lay out of a paper is scrutinised analytically the reader will observe the format to be regular. This format is not however haphazard or fanciful. Studies have been conducted to ascertain the fashion in which people read a paper. Some people may read attentively concentrating on each story, some might read in a discriminatory fashion and others simply browse. This also highlights a difference that was pointed out to me in which a tabloid and local paper sells. A tabloid usually sells by its front page, a sensational story

or exclusive, whereas a paper like the Newsletter has a loyal readership.

Advertisement is key to a paper. The revenue gained is comparatively huge. It accounts for in relation to space 25% of the paper and up to 35% in the free edition. The logic behind the free edition was to provide an incentive for people to buy the priced edition. Effectively sales were augmented and interest kindled by its emergence bolstering the sale of the paid edition. This is how its cost is justified. In effect the paper pays for itself. Since the Mirror bought the newspaper the advantages have become obvious. Computerisation of the advertising section allows the page setup to be viewed and eradicates the need for pasteboards. To implement this approach staff needed retraining to become competent in the use of the new packages. Colour scanning equipment reproduces the image on the screen which can be manipulated to achieve the quality needed. Basically the client buys the advertising space. They may send a caption or graphic. These are saved on the computer in case of a future requirement for the same advertisement. It is the job of the artists to seamlessly join both resize or recolour in accordance to the newspaper. Slightly separate from this type of advertising is the classifieds section which deals more advertising for the public.

The Sales and Marketing Director was Miss Mitchell. She makes sure papers reach their destination and that the consumer is satisfied. The paper is pitched to those of an AB or C1 social disposition, those with a relatively high disposable income. The higher proportion of the readership is over 35. However the paper must reach these people. Circulation is an aspect of this. Circulation is a multi-faceted job encompassing salesmanship and PR. It entails the responsibility of ensuring that newsagents subscribe to your paper. They also post bills and provide shop faces advertising the paper. It is a particularly demanding job and requires great versatility and a predilection for rising at 5.00 every morning. I received a phone call to get up at 5.00 so to my discomfort I witnessed this firsthand. This section also deals with complaints.

**Nicholas Boyle (13H)**



This sometimes sensitive area demands unremitting patience, but a satisfied customer is preferable to a disgruntled one. Another dimension to the Newsletter absent from other papers is the provision of a 'Select Book'. This offers bargains on shop equipment as well as other incentives for the prime position on the shelf of their paper. In effect, advertising and loyalty are simultaneously won.

Apart from this finances have to be constantly considered. This is the responsibility of Mr O'Donnell. This is the preserve of the accountants. All credit control falls here. They ensure bills are paid, for example, electrical bills, the cost of paper etc, and also ensure that clients pay the Newsletter for advertising space. The information on expenditure in all areas is kept on a database. This assists efficiency as numbers can be keyed into preprogrammed formulas to assess the monetary situation. As well as this costings can be cross referenced and compared to previous costings allowing the management to constantly streamline and fine tune. This section deals comprehensively with taxation and pensions, payrolls and purchases. Due to the importance of finance in any company this section keeps a careful account of all transactions. The refurbishment and reequipping of the Newsletter since the Mirror take over for example would have been the responsibility of the nominal ledger.

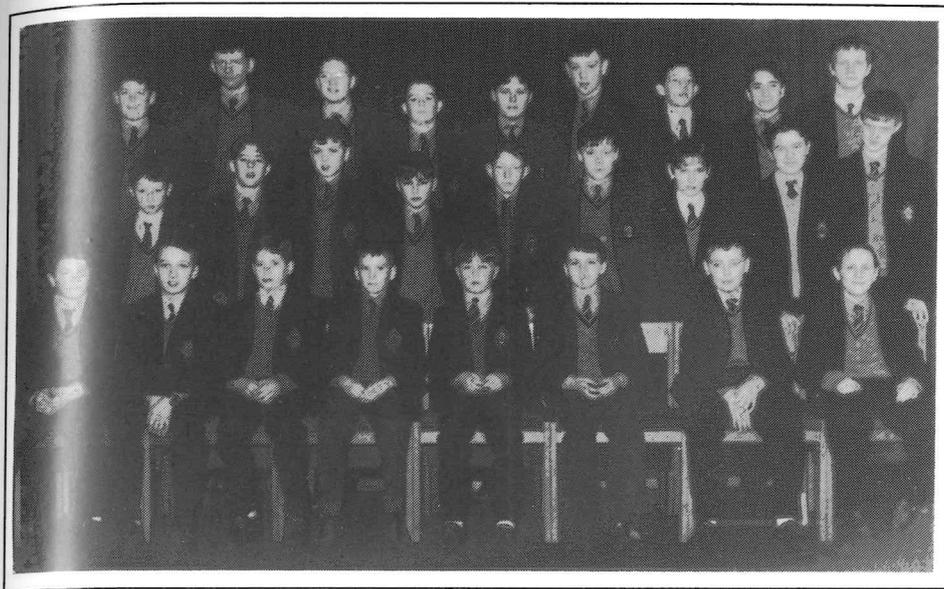
My time at the Newsletter was both informative and educational as well as enjoyable. Over the course of the week I had the opportunity to discover how the components of a newspaper are synchronised and amalgamate. It showed the indispensable need for lucid communication between employee and manager. The sheer volume of administration and filing was quite unexpected from me. This was an invaluable experience and has provided a stimulus for me to hopefully follow the newspaper direction in the future.

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**CLASS 9A**

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- K. McDonald
- M.J. Mallon
- G. McDonald
- D. Toner
- A. Kelly
- C. McConnell
- D. Murray
- C. Marsella
- J. Sloan

*Middle Row: L to R*

- G. Douglas
- S. Maguire
- C. Doherty
- C. Barnes
- C. McKeown
- P. Finnegan
- J. Gilliland
- N. McDonnell
- R. Kelly

*Front Row: L to R*

- B. O'Neill
- D. Monaghan
- P. Hughes
- F. McCallan
- P. McCorry
- S. O'Kane
- J. Devlin
- E. Stewart

*Absent:*

- S. Fitzpatrick
- K. O'Riordan

**CLASS 9B**

*Back Row: L to R*

- C. King
- C. Miskelly
- R. Johnston,
- C. Ward
- B. Burns
- S. McGarry
- P. Kettle
- P. Dugan

*Middle Row: L to R*

- T. Carberry
- E. Donnelly
- P. Hanna
- C. Magee
- J. McKenna
- J. Heath
- D. Lindsay
- F. McCoy
- M. Bradley

*Front Row: L to R*

- S. Dick
- C. Strong
- D. Thompson
- M. McGoldrick
- P. McDonald
- C. McConville
- J. Connor
- R. Devlin
- P. Deighan

*Absent:*

- J. Canavan



**CLASS 9C**

*Back Row: L to R*

- B. Barr
- M. Connolly
- J. Glenholmes
- M. Braiden
- J. Nicholson
- C. Dyer
- D. Donaghy
- E. Browne
- M. Grimley

*Middle Row: L to R*

- F. Austin
- K. Burns
- D. Smyth
- M. Kane
- B. Hughes
- F. Clarke
- D. Hasson
- D. Brown
- P. Gibson

*Front Row: L to R*

- S. Donnan
- E. Duffy
- T. Demeulemeester
- S. Kearney
- N. MacDonagh
- K. Cassidy
- K. Black
- J. Hughes
- P. Brunty

*Abs: S. McKearney*





**CLASS 9D**

*Back Row: L to R*

- C. McCallan
- P. McCabe
- J. Allen
- G. McLaughlin
- A. Hartigan
- C. Fitzsimmons
- D. Moore
- P. O'Hara
- C. O'Neill

*Middle Row: L to R*

- P. O'Hare
- C. Lagan
- S. Martin
- D. McManus
- P. Mullan
- C. McIlmurray
- P. Burns
- P. McFadden
- D. McKeever

*Front Row: L to R*

- M. Magee
- D. McHenry
- T. Donnan
- P. Brennan
- S. McNally
- P. McAuley
- SD. McNaughton
- P. Mallon
- D. McCullough

*Absent:*

- M. Burnett, K. Martin

**CLASS 9E**

*Back Row: L to R*

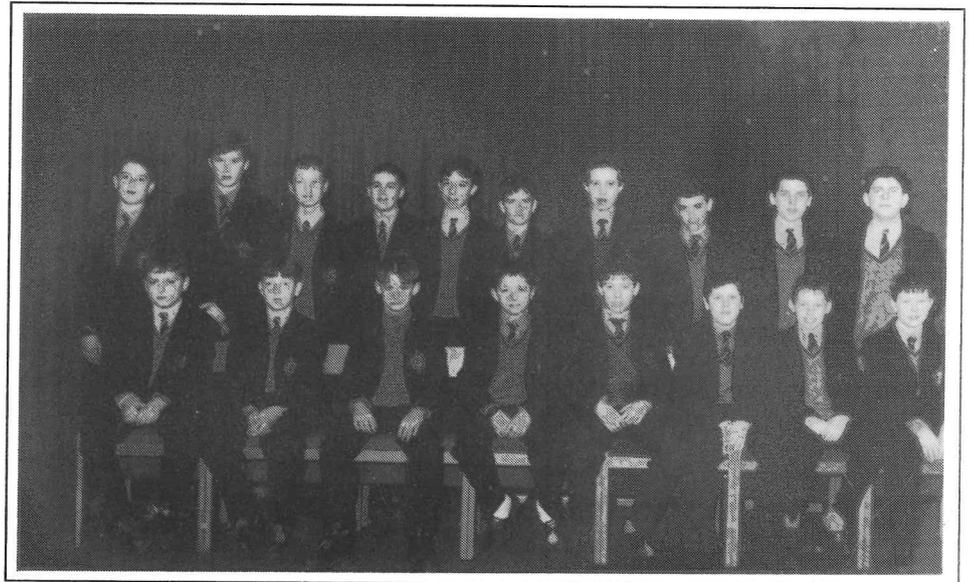
- H. Shevlin
- S. McAteer
- A. Finnegan
- G. Dobbin
- C. McGrath
- S. Morrison
- J. O'Neill
- A. McMullan
- S. McGarry
- C. Flynn

*Front Row: L to R*

- M. McGuigan
- P. McErean
- P. Mullan
- G. McNally
- D. Donnelly
- C. Madden
- D. Magee
- M. Neill

*Absent:*

- J. McShane, K. Gilmore



**CLASS 9F**

*Back Row: L to R*

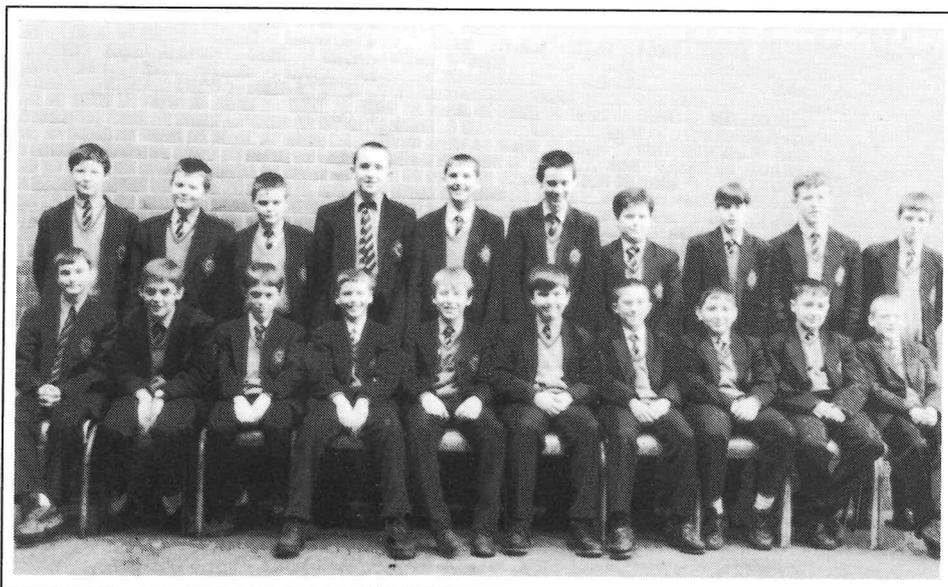
- A. Shannon
- J. Agnew
- B. Webb
- M. Holland
- A. Irvine
- J. McIlwee
- N. Doran
- G. Ward
- R. Boyle
- J. Richardson

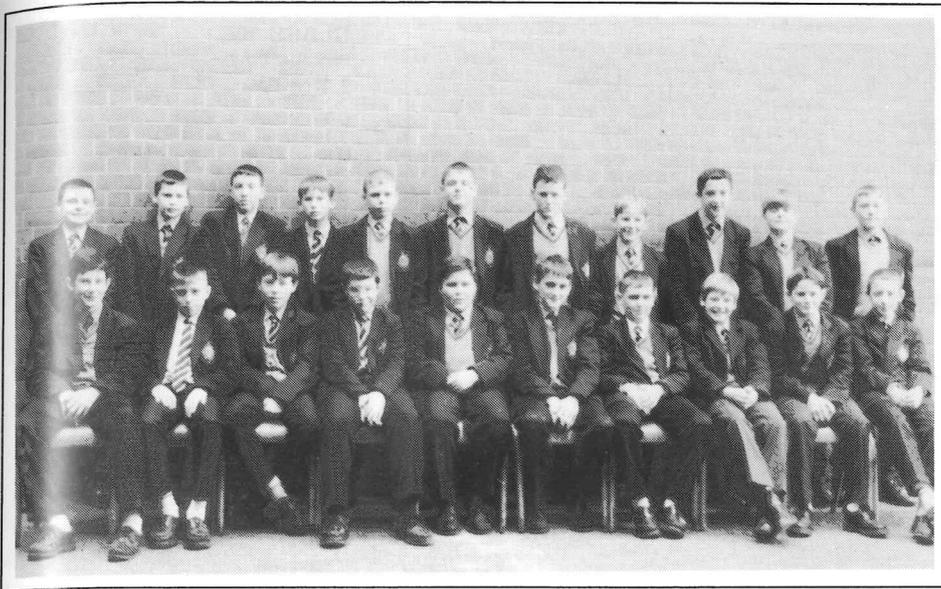
*Front Row: L to R*

- E. Diver
- P. McVeigh
- G. Curran
- P. Quinn
- P. McConville
- K. McLean
- G. Hayes
- K. Chesney
- R. Murray
- J. Black

*Absent:*

- P. Burns
- D. O'Neill





**CLASS 9G**

*Back Row: L to R*

- C. Johnston
- S. Burns
- C. McCallon
- M. Scannell
- P. Gillespie
- T. Hughes
- O. McAllister
- G. McAlorum
- K. Moore
- M. McCorry
- J. Rainey

*Front Row: L to R*

- K. Holmes
- C. McKeown
- P. Gault
- S. Walls
- P. Croston
- N. Flood
- M. Scott
- T. Magill
- D. McKee
- P. Campbell

**CLASS 10A**

*Back Row: L to R*

- J. McAuley
- E. Scanlon
- C. Walker
- A. Forte
- D. Moore
- P. Lenzi
- C. Kerr
- C. Cahill
- G. Conere

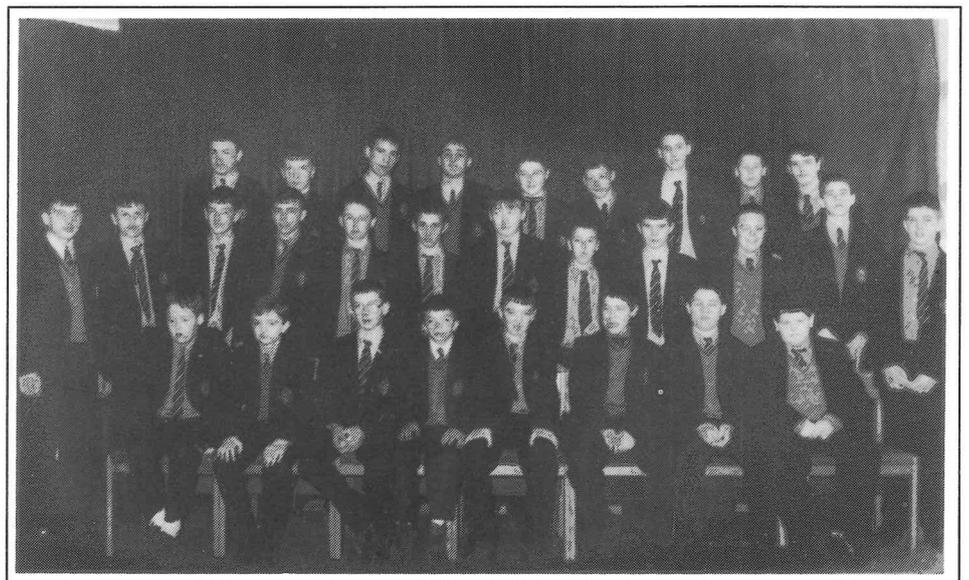
*Middle Row: L to R*

- D. Hamilton
- D. McAllister
- P. Barr
- C. Donnelly
- M. O'Neill
- R. Garland
- C. Conlon
- M. Donnelly
- T. McNeill
- D. Doyle
- D. McGarrigle
- D. Burns

*Front Row: L to R*

- M. McGuigan
- C. McIntyre
- S. Rice
- B. Jones
- C. McGurk
- S. Cooke
- C. Smyth
- C. Duffy

Abs: M. McParland



**CLASS 10B**

*Back Row: L to R*

- P. Dick
- N. Conlon
- N. Reynolds
- D. Armstrong
- G. Meehan
- D. Murray
- P. Doran
- N. Dowdall

*Middle Row: L to R*

- M. Hamill
- J. McCluskey
- J. Gallagher
- C. McGarrigle
- D. Rice
- L. Rooney
- C. Dunlop
- S. Maguire

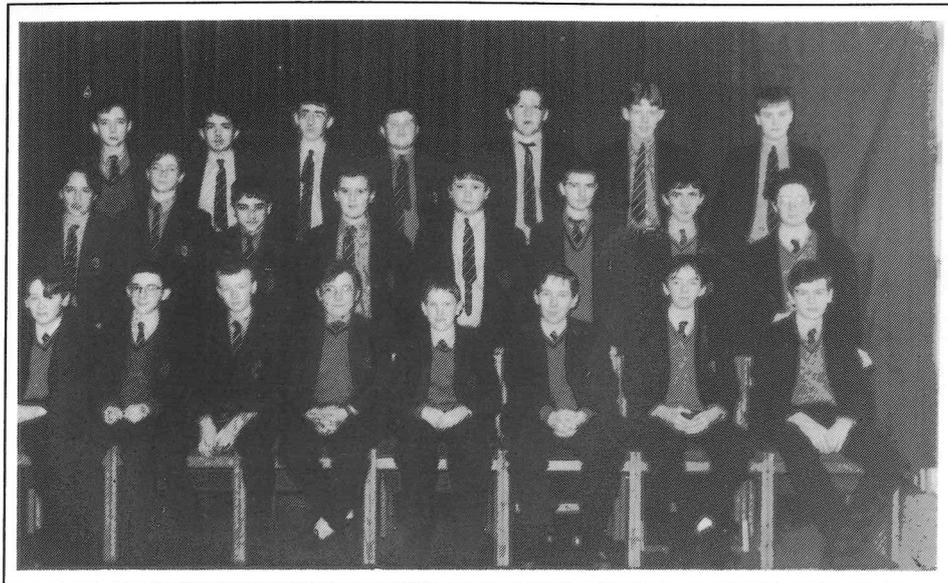
*Front Row: L to R*

- G. Clarke
- G. McIlhatton
- G. Lynch
- P. Adams
- C. Morris
- E. Smyth
- G. McClory
- T. Hawkins

Absent:

- K. Mallon, C. Morren, S. McCarthy





**CLASS 10C**

*Back Row: L to R*

- M. McCann
- R. Carberry
- C. McKiernan
- E. McErlane
- L. Kane
- E. Dickson
- C. Kerr

*Middle Row: L to R*

- J. Rice
- P. Quinn
- M. Buchanan
- J. D'Arcy
- P. Hartley
- G. Kerr
- D. O'Reilly
- M. Gillen

*Front Row: L to R*

- P. Donnelly
- S. O'Hagan
- F. McArdle
- C. Brannigan
- B. Conlon
- P. Feeney
- P. Barronwell
- P. Maddin

Abs: S. Conlon

**CLASS 10D**

*Back Row: L to R*

- M. Cassidy
- B. Devine
- T. McCabe
- D. Begley
- C. McCormick
- P. Lyttle
- P. Maguire
- K. McNamee

*Middle Row: L to R*

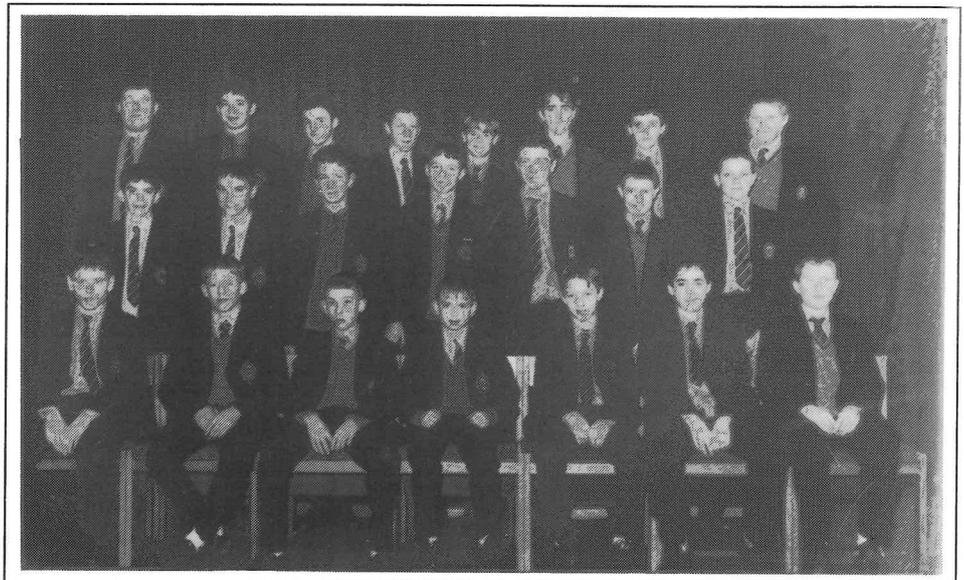
- B. Herron
- C. Kelly
- M. Costello
- F. Drain
- S. Lavery
- G. Farrell
- K. Rowntree

*Front Row: L to R*

- C. Campbell
- T. Doherty
- C. Lavery
- J. Donnan
- D. Campfield
- J. Casey
- L. Braden

*Absent: M. Clarke*

- G. Duffy
- P. Farrell
- E. Grieve
- P. Hall
- C. Kelly
- N. McLaughlin



**CLASS 10E**

*Back Row: L to R*

- C. McEvoy
- F. McHenry
- C. Reilly
- M. Walsh
- P. Murtagh
- N. McNally
- D. McLarnon
- D. Walker
- D. Ward
- J. Mulholland

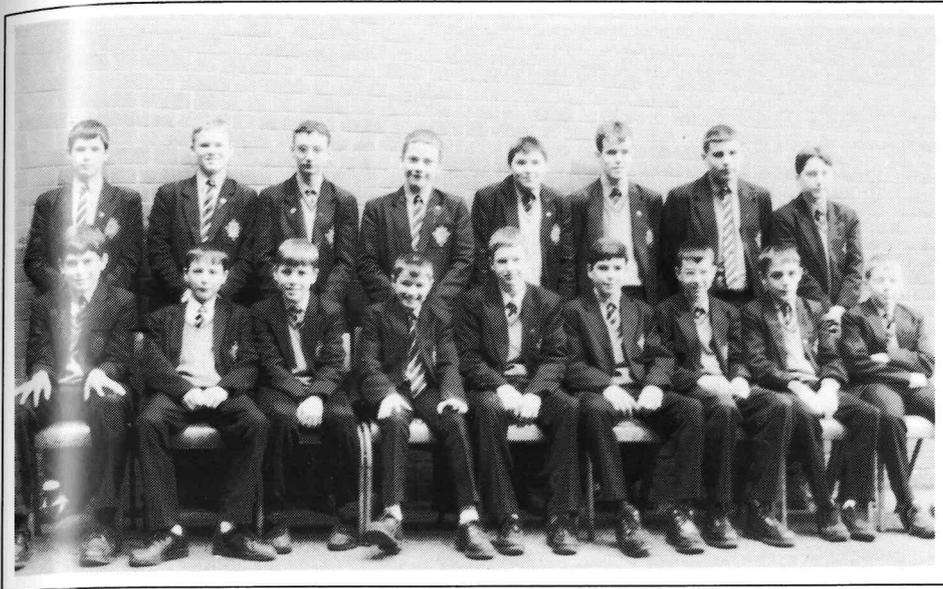
*Front Row: L to R*

- R. McGinley
- C. Scott
- P. McDonald
- T. Norney
- P. Toal
- E. McIlwee
- D. McManus
- N. O'Reilly
- E. Rooney

*Absent:*

- P. McCann





**CLASS 10F**

*Back Row: L to R*  
 C. Anderson  
 P. McFarlane  
 G. Hayes  
 P. George  
 C. Smith  
 D. Black  
 G. Dornan  
 K. McStravick

*Front Row: L to R*  
 B. McCartan  
 P. McCurdy  
 T. Johnston  
 K. McVeigh  
 F. Carey  
 T. Owens  
 G. Quinn  
 G. Campbell  
 C. McCartney

*Absent:*  
 R. McKnight, P. Gormley, R. McKeown

**CLASS 10G**

*Back Row: L to R*  
 C. O'Neill  
 G. Torbitt  
 D. McCann  
 G. McArdle  
 G. Hanlon  
 B. Green  
 L. McVeigh  
 H. Mullan  
 N. McCann  
 T. Mullan  
 F. McCrory

*Front Row: L to R*  
 S. Garland  
 C. Bannon  
 F. Donaghy  
 S. Connolly  
 P. McKay  
 B. Crookes  
 G. McCartan  
 C. Creaney  
 C. Lenaghan  
 C. McElroy  
 D. McLaughlin



**CLASS 11A**

*Back Row: L to R*  
 P. King  
 G. McQuillan  
 R. McCabe  
 P. Fiannagan  
 J. McKearney  
 C. McClean  
 M. Cummins  
 J. O'Hare  
 K. Donnelly  
 B. Brennan

*Front Row: L to R*  
 C. McKenna  
 G. O'Neill  
 K. Toal  
 C. Auld  
 S. Kelly  
 B. Crawford  
 J. Carmichael  
 D. Boyle





**CLASS 11B**

*Back Row: L to R*

- C. Smith
- L. Donaghy
- K. Gannon
- J. McAuley
- D. Kennedy
- C. McMahon
- J. Sweeney

*Middle Row: L to R*

- S. Thompson
- K. Stitt
- K. Murphy
- A. Donnelly
- M. Duffy
- J. Montgomery
- A. McCrory

*Front Row: L to R*

- P. O'Reilly
- D. O'Hare
- P. McDonald
- K. Elliot
- S. Keely
- J. Ramsey
- D. Burns

*Absent:*

- F. Gough
- M. McKiernan
- S. Turner

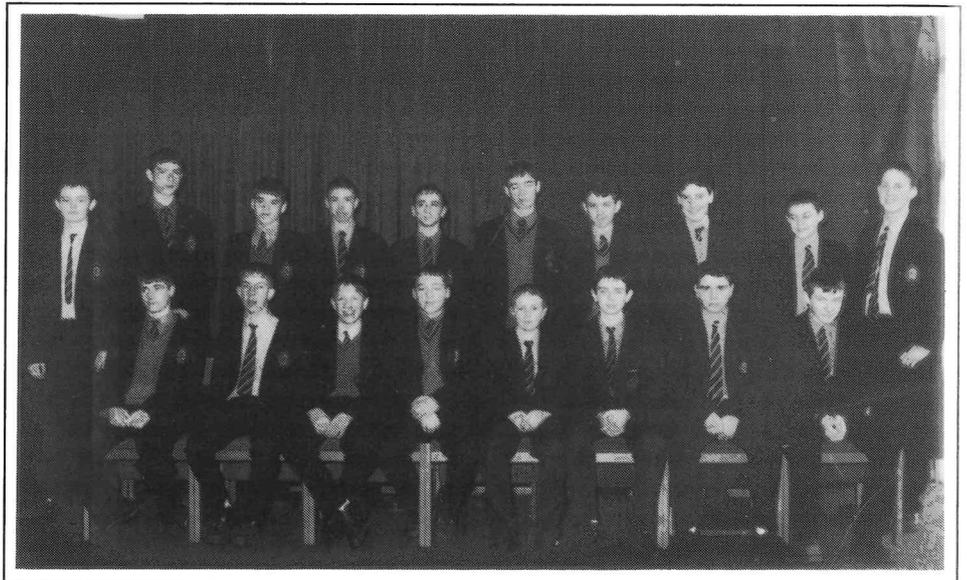
**CLASS 11C**

*Back Row: L to R*

- C. Gorman
- P. Mulvenna
- P. Gibson
- P. Rooney
- S. Green
- M. McCahey
- G. Devlin
- P. McCabe
- P.J. Townsend
- G. O'Hare

*Front Row: L to R*

- N. Cunningham
- C. Killen
- E. McManus
- M. Hegney
- P. McCrudden
- B. Livingstone
- M. Kennedy
- C. Tohill



**CLASS 11D**

*Back Row: L to R*

- B. Kennedy
- D. McCaffrey
- M. Davey
- J. Cassidy
- C. McGeown
- S. Kavanagh
- J. McLaughlin
- E. Toner
- P. Colligan
- S. Turley
- P. White

*Front Row: L to R*

- C. Keenan
- T. Cushnahan
- P. Murray
- T. Fitzpatrick
- D. Watson
- B. Quinn
- P. Gorman





**CLASS 11E**

*Back Row: L to R*

- B. Hicks
- M. Keenan
- P. McMahan
- S. Boyle
- C. Boyd
- C. Barr
- J. Armstrong
- G. Kane
- K. Gamble
- D. Pimley

*Front Row: L to R*

- B. Auld
- C. Shortt
- M. Marshall
- R. McAllister
- S. O'Neill
- S. O'Hara
- E. Browne
- G. Devlin

Absent:

- J. Flynn, R. McDonnell

**CLASS 11F**

*Back Row: L to R*

- P. Smyth
- C. McCartney
- S. Carson
- G. Heaney
- H. Moore
- P. Irvine

*Middle Row: L to R*

- G. Hunter
- D. McGuire
- B. Lowe
- P. Fay
- G. McCullough
- M. McGeown

*Front Row: L to R*

- P. McCorry
- C. Devine
- B. Beggley
- S. Bunting
- S. Armstrong
- J. Shortt
- N. Monaghan



**CLASS 11G**

*Back Row: L to R*

- B. Murphy
- C. Bradley
- D. Blackburn
- G. McKenna
- M. Rafferty
- M. Denny

*Middle Row: L to R*

- C. Toland
- M. Cummings
- M. Dornan
- R. McKenna
- T. Kelly
- A. Rainey
- S.P. Murphy

*Front Row: L to R*

- T. Champion
- D. O'Neill
- J. McWade
- C. McAuley
- P. Curran
- S. Kearney
- J. Birch

Absent:

- B. McBride, D. McColgan, G. O'Donnell
- M. Smyth





**CLASS 11H**

*Back Row: L to R*  
 S. McErlean  
 B. Lyttle  
 L. O'Reilly  
 L. Sheppard  
 K. Begley  
 J. Connolly  
 J. Hartigan  
 D. Kelly  
 J. McQuillan  
 S. Perry  
 P. Crudden

*Front Row: L to R*  
 K. Williamson  
 B. Quinn  
 P. Crawford  
 C. Murray  
 F. Hodgkinson  
 G. Armour  
 P. Murray  
 B. Daly

**CLASS 12A**

*Back Row: L to R*  
 G. Bell  
 S. O'Neill  
 P. Officer  
 T. Holland  
 M. Lynn  
 D. Christie

*Middle Row: L to R*  
 D. Rogan  
 G. Wallace  
 T. Cunningham  
 B. Gallagher  
 P. Quinn  
 A. Hanna

*Front Row: L to R*  
 K. Toman  
 B. McDonagh  
 J. Rowntree  
 E. Collins  
 T. Wilkinson  
 J. McDermott  
 S. Duffy

Absent:  
 B. Gallagher, J. Meredith, P. Neill



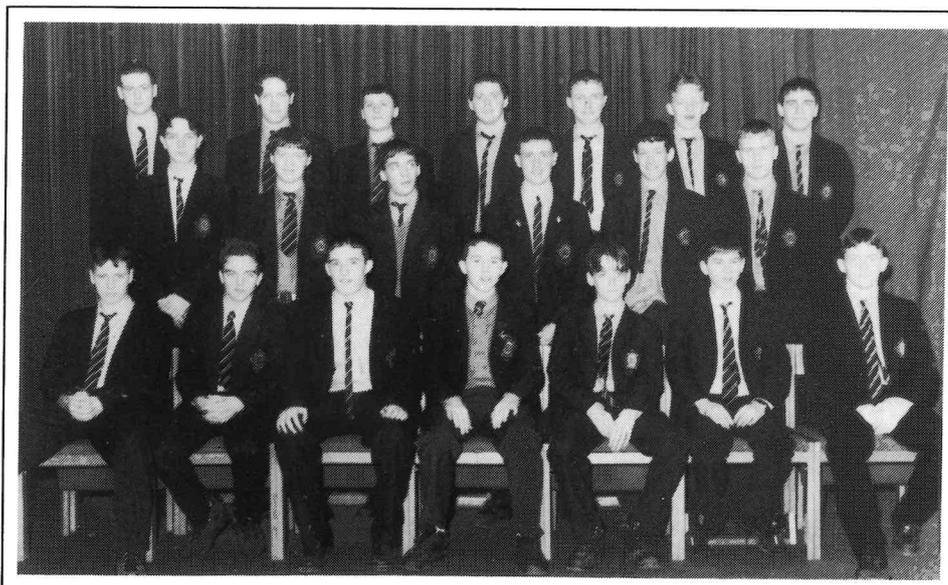
**CLASS 12B**

*Back Row: L to R*  
 M. McAllister  
 M. Hesketh  
 J. McLaughlin  
 S. McVarnock  
 G. Chapman  
 M. McAree  
 N. Kelly

*Middle Row: L to R*  
 M. Robb  
 K. Hegney  
 C. Feeney  
 A. O'Hara  
 D. Mullan  
 T. McMullan

*Front Row: L to R*  
 J. Clarence  
 D. Hill  
 P. Rooney  
 P. Smith  
 B. Scannell  
 M. Montgomery  
 D. Mathews

Absent: M. McMullan





**CLASS 12C**

*Back Row: L to R*  
 C. O'Riordan  
 C. Armstrong  
 D. Burns  
 M. McCartney  
 C. Campbell  
 S. Largey

*Middle Row: L to R*  
 G. Kearney  
 C. O'Brien  
 C. Moss  
 S. Berne  
 R. McHugh  
 A. McCabe

*Front Row: L to R*  
 M. O'Hara  
 P. Dowdall  
 G. Brown  
 K. Ferris  
 T. Doherty  
 S. Nolan  
 M. Mullholland

*Absent:*  
 G. Savage  
 J. McAuley  
 S. Campbell  
 P. Bradley

**CLASS 12D**

*Back Row: L to R*  
 M. Murphy  
 D. Ferris  
 J. Loughan  
 M. Sullivan  
 J. Muldoon  
 P. Kerr  
 R. McGlue

*Middle Row: L to R*  
 J. Gillen  
 P. Mallon  
 S. Logan  
 B. Dornan  
 E. O'Loughlin  
 P. Toal  
 M. McLaughlin  
 S. Harper

*Front Row: L to R*  
 C. Meenan  
 G. Caldwell  
 S. O'Connor  
 P. McKee  
 G. McCabe  
 M. Fox  
 C. McCrory

*Absent:*  
 J. Donaghy



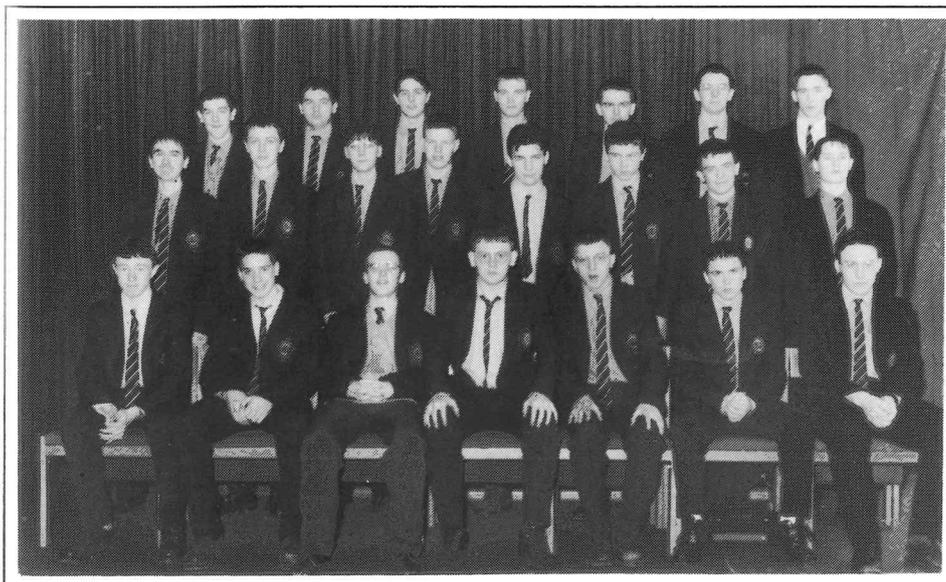
**CLASS 12E**

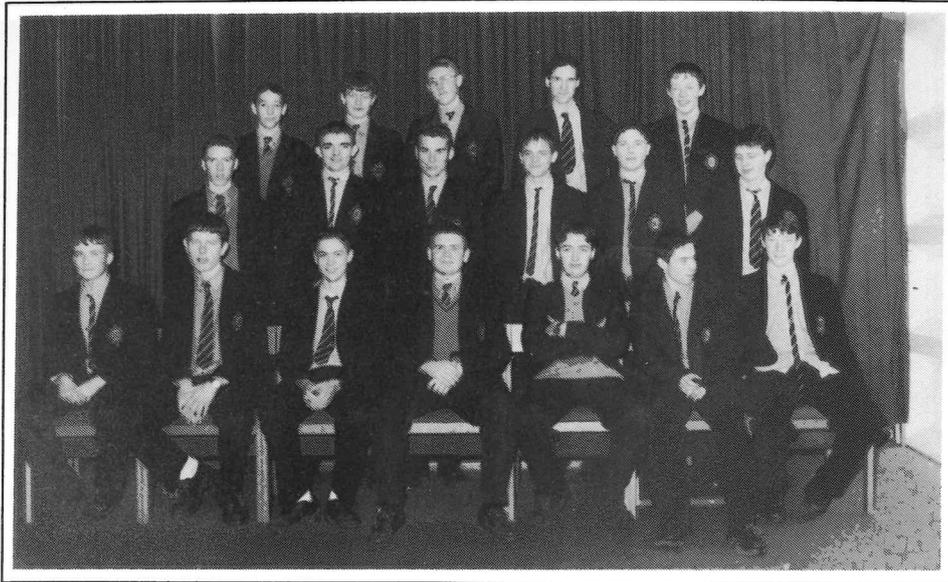
*Back Row: L to R*  
 L. Mulholland  
 M. Rosbotham  
 G. Austin  
 S. McGlennon  
 J. Walker  
 P. Martin  
 S. Crossey

*Middle Row: L to R*  
 D. McDonnell  
 G. anderson  
 D. Trainor  
 R. Lawlor  
 M. Sansome  
 J. George  
 C. Martin  
 D. McComb

*Front Row: L to R*  
 M. Lynch  
 C. Herron  
 C. Fitzpatrick  
 M. Henry  
 S. Elliman  
 T. Farrelly  
 N. Harte

*Absent:* R. McKenna





**CLASS 12F**

*Back Row: L to R*

- L. Barr
- D. McCallin
- G. Maguire
- M. Reel
- C. Hamill

*Middle Row: L to R*

- E. McKermott
- V. Dugan
- D. McCann
- N. Devlin
- B. McVeigh
- S. McLroy

*Front Row: L to R*

- D. McDonald
- S. McLaughlin
- P. Cullen
- K. Ward
- C. Walsh
- S. Casey
- K. McGourty

*Absent:*

- M. Robinson
- B. McArdle
- D. Kennedy
- M. Lyttle
- D. McAuley

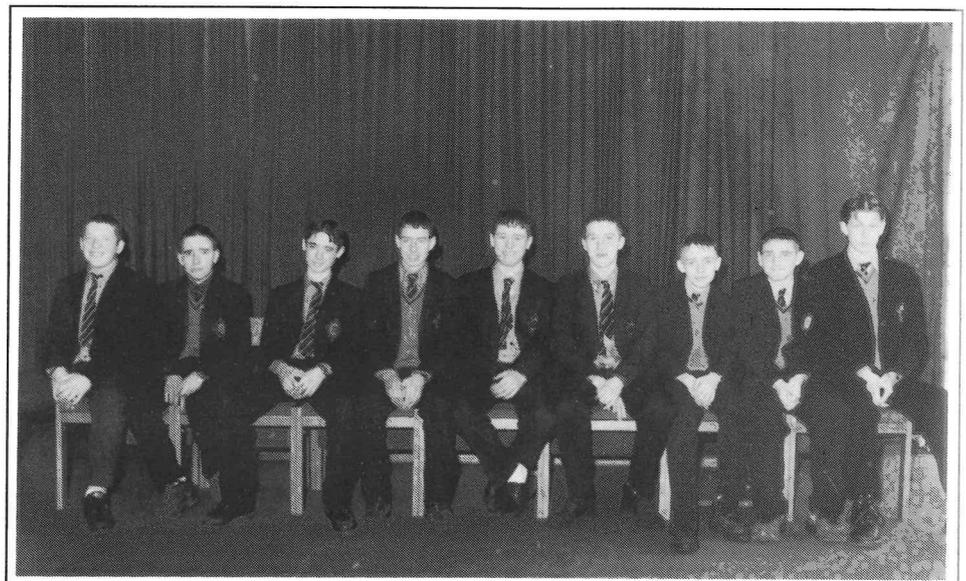
**CLASS 12G**

*L to R*

- D. Hawkins
- P. McKeever
- S. Carrigan
- S. McLaughlin
- G. Gillen
- D. McLwaine
- T. Rooney
- J. Quinn
- G. McCarthy

*Absent:*

- P. Bryson
- J. Cooper
- M. Donnelly
- B. Dornan
- D. Hurley
- S. McIlwee
- B. Shortt



**CLASS 12H**

*Back Row: L to R*

- R. Miller (R.I.P.)
- D. Ferguson
- M. Scullin
- C. Bennett
- D. Darby
- P. McCarthy
- A. Rooney
- C. Connor

*Middle Row: L to R*

- D. Kieran
- M. Bennett
- T. Honey
- B. Graham
- G. O'Neill
- A. Donnelly
- D. McKinney
- C. Lamb

*Front Row: L to R*

- J. O'Neill
- C. Trainor
- D. Gillespie
- D. McKay
- C. Gordon
- P. Gibson
- G. Hughes

*Absent: G. Lagan*



**CLASS 13A**

*Back Row: L to R*  
 S. McGoldrick  
 B. McNeill  
 S. McErlan  
 D. O'Neill  
 S. Strain

*Front Row: L to R*  
 G. Armstrong  
 S. Crummey  
 D. Rooney  
 F. Donaghy  
 K. McCartan

*Absent: D. Griffiths*  
 J. McAllister  
 S. Murray  
 G. Pollock



**CLASS 13B**

*Back Row: L to R*  
 T. Tracey  
 J. McGurk  
 C. MacManus  
 P. Denvir  
 C. Murphy  
 H. Finnegan  
 R. McHugh  
 D. McGarry

*Front Row: L to R*  
 L. McGonagle  
 J. Edwards  
 G. McNally  
 D. McQuillan  
 L. Madden  
 F. O'Hara  
 P. Robinson

*Absent:*  
 S. McCallum  
 L. Scullion



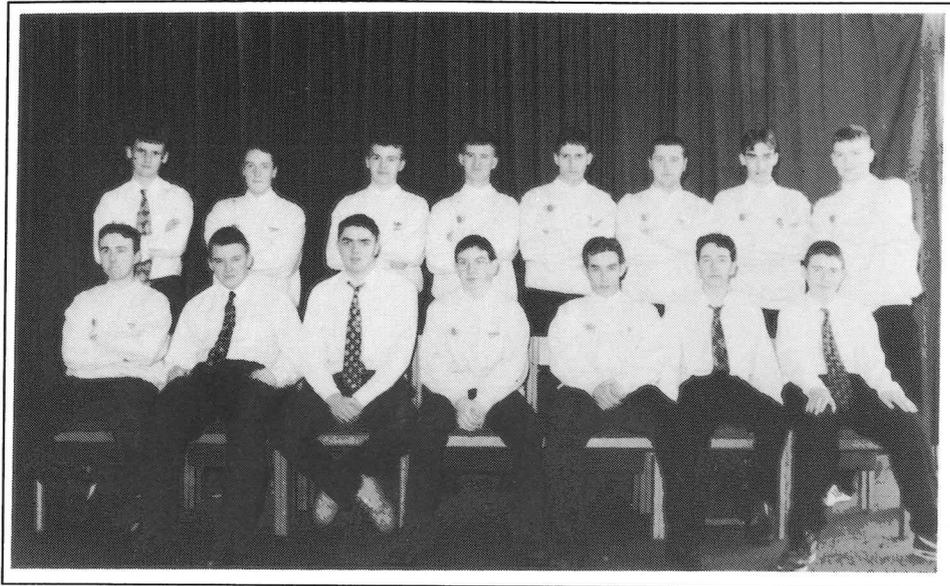
**CLASS 13C**

*Back Row: L to R*  
 A. O'Neill  
 M. Burns  
 J. Conlon  
 P. Shannon  
 C. Clarke  
 G. Lenaghan  
 P. McLean  
 C. Fitzpatrick  
 P. Murphy

*Front Row: L to R*  
 A. McCann  
 C. Magee  
 H. Kennedy  
 F. Bannon  
 W. Larmour  
 G. Crudden

*Absent: C. Forde, J. Carlile, S. McManus*





**CLASS 13D**

*Back Row: L to R*

- M. O'Brien
- S. McGarrity
- M. Kettle
- C. Hesketh
- C. Adams
- G. Kennedy
- C. Christie
- G. Ward

*Front Row: L to R*

- J.P. O'Donnell
- M. O'Neill
- D. Beggs
- P. Rice
- P. McKillop
- S.P. McGreevy
- C. Devine

**Absent:**

- P. Caldwell
- E. McGlone
- P. O'Hare

**CLASS 13E**

*Back Row: L to R*

- H. Stewart
- P. Kelly
- R. Banks
- D. Loughlin
- K. MacManus
- J. O'Neill
- F. Cooley
- P. Lagan

*Front Row: L to R*

- N. Birch
- A. Donnelly
- P. Gallagher
- C. Keenan
- H. Cunningham
- B. Maguire
- R. Lavery

**Absent:** S. Maskey & S. Billings



**CLASS 13F**

*Back Row: L to R*

- S. O'Brien
- J. Sheehan
- A. Gibson
- G. Evans
- S.P. Cooke
- M. McCusker
- C. Braniff
- M. McGrath
- G. McComish

*Front Row: L to R*

- R. Smyth
- M. Toal
- B. Garland
- M. McMahan
- A. Fitzsimons
- A. McCurry
- C. McEntee

**Abs:**

- N. Maguire





**CLASS 13G**

*Back Row: L to R*  
 J. Gourley  
 C. Short  
 K. Mooney  
 G. Campbell  
 S. P. Hayes

*Front Row: L to R*  
 K. Toland  
 D. Crummey  
 G. Bonner  
 G. Bellew  
 C. McAllister  
 F. Fitzpatrick  
 J. Devlin

*Absent:*  
 D. O'Neill  
 O. Logan  
 C. Mooney  
 P. McClean

**CLASS 13H**

*Back Row: L to R*  
 C. ó Fearain  
 J. Diamond  
 P. Maguire  
 R. Banks  
 K. McLroy  
 N. Meenan  
 N. McMahon  
 N. Ward  
 M. Morrissey

*Front Row: L to R*  
 G. McGann  
 K. Corr  
 F. Robinson  
 C. McCloskey  
 W. Armstrong  
 G. Huston  
 B. Gallagher

*Absent:*  
 N. Boyle  
 J. Gault



**CLASS 13I**

*Back Row: L to R*  
 G. Kennedy  
 M. Quinn  
 D. Mohan  
 T. Hughes  
 D. Jack  
 S. Donnelly  
 L. McGrann  
 G. Mallaghan  
 M. McCullough  
 D. Kelly

*Front Row: L to R*  
 D. McKenna  
 C. Sweeney  
 J. McNally  
 M. McMenamy  
 K. Hamill  
 M. Rea  
 M. McComb

*Absent:*  
 F. Adams  
 M. Brennan  
 G. Mallaghan  
 C. Stuart

*“You came when we needed you.  
When Trócaire came, you came.  
We thank you for your solidarity,  
for your love, for the strength  
you gave us.”*



This was the message from Rwanda brought by Madame Veneranda Nzambazamariya when she visited parishes, schools and community groups in Ireland during Trócaire's 1995 Lenten Campaign.

It is the same message brought by Lenten visitors from Peru, Brazil, Bangladesh and Somalia.

It is the same message that Trócaire receives constantly from partners throughout Africa, Asia and Latin America.

*Whether responding to famine, flood, drought or earthquake,  
or in the patient, undramatic work of improving  
crop production, clean water supplies, health and literacy,  
training community leaders, protecting human rights  
- where Trócaire is, so also are the Irish people,  
in solidarity, in strength, in partnership with the poor.*

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**THE  
SCHOOL SHOW**

**West Side Story**



# Headmaster's Address

The staging of "West Side Story" was the culmination of a process begun immediately after the closure of "My Fair Lady". Everyone approached this choice with trepidation, there were even those who said it could not or should not be done. Those who produced the show saw no such problems; or if they did, they did not admit to them.

This magnificent musical lived up to the standards of previous musicals and even surpassed them. This was due to the dedication, possibly even fanaticism of those involved. The production team included friends, past pupils, parents, pupils and teachers. No amount of praise and admiration is too much for those involved.

The decision to stage a musical on this scale, involving effort, time, work, inspiration, dedication and expense was not taken lightly. Why does a large boys Grammar School decide to do it? Partly for tradition and expectation! Every two years we stage a musical. Many people, pupils, parents, staff, even a bishop look forward to it. We could not disappoint.

However we stage it for our school. A school show of this quality and type is a remarkable educational event, long remembered by the cast as a highlight of their school careers. It develops a pride in our school, students are proud to say, "I starred in a St. Mary's Musi-

cal". Our cast is continually told, "You are all stars". No one who wants to participate is ever rejected. This is reflected in the dedication and professionalism of all involved and in the quality of the show. For our school it is education at its best and most creative, embodying all its virtues.

The themes and action of "West Side Story" are poignantly relevant to our own society. The musical deals with life, love, loyalty and hope for the future. It deals with death and hatred, fear and despair. So much like our own divided society. During the show many members of our audience related very closely and personally with the emotions, passions and action portrayed on stage. There were moments during the performance when the cast and the action held the audience spellbound. These theatrical moments are the result of artistry, inspiration, dedication and very hard work. Again I salute the professionalism of our production team and cast.

Finally a special word of thanks and appreciation to our only REAL girl in the cast, Miss Orla McQuillan, currently a First Year student at Aquinas Grammar School but now certainly an honorary St. Mary's student.

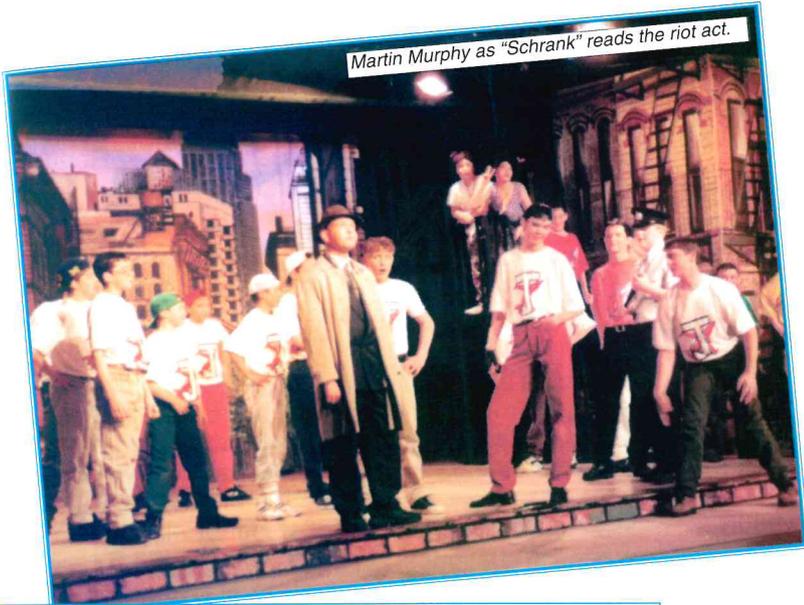
**Mr Michael Crilly**



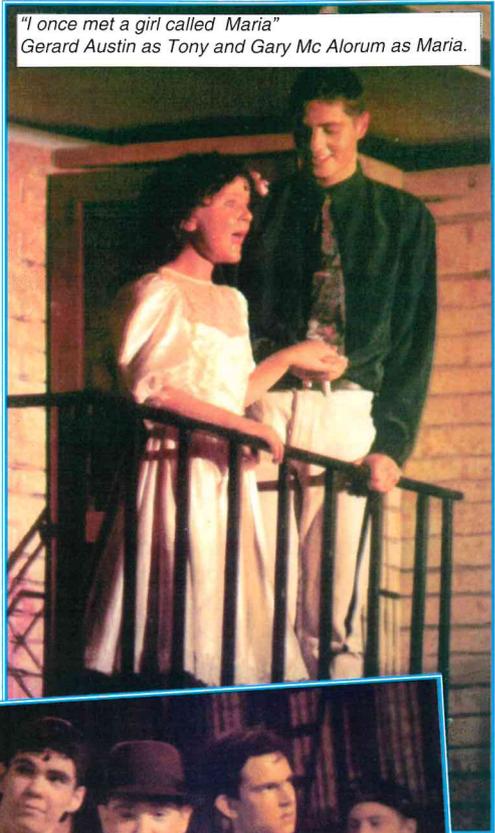
Line up for "AMERICA"



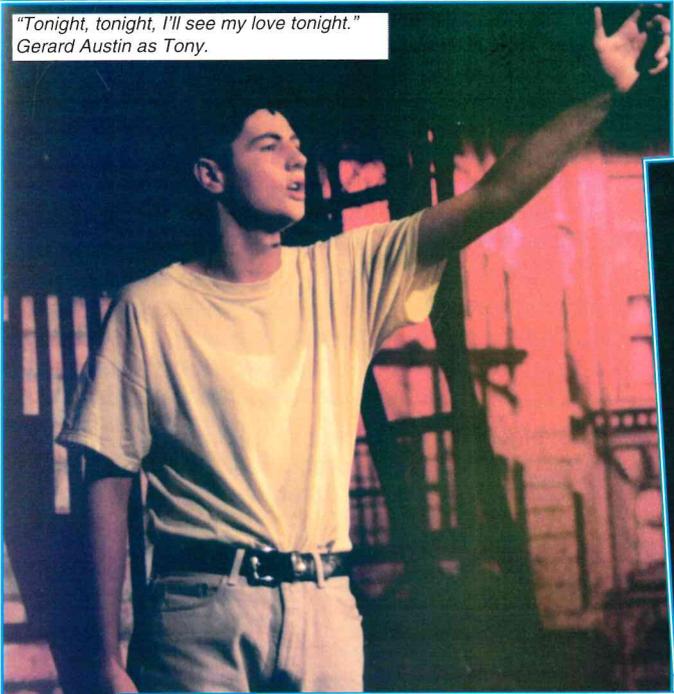
# WEST SIDE STORY



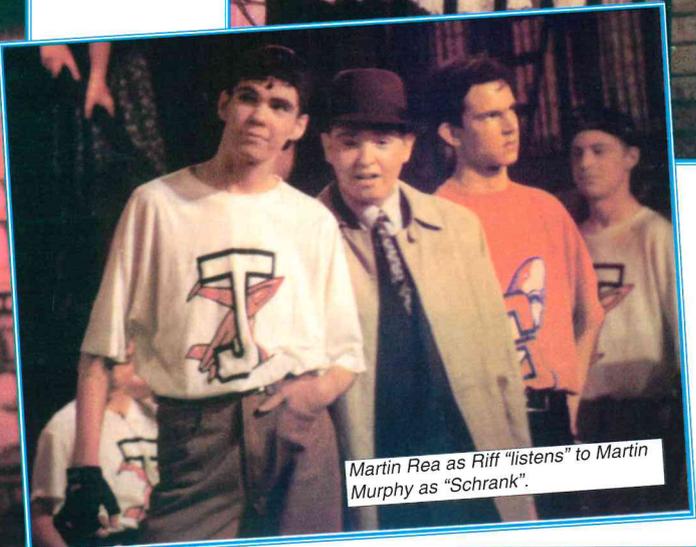
Martin Murphy as "Schrank" reads the riot act.



"I once met a girl called Maria"  
Gerard Austin as Tony and Gary Mc Alorum as Maria.



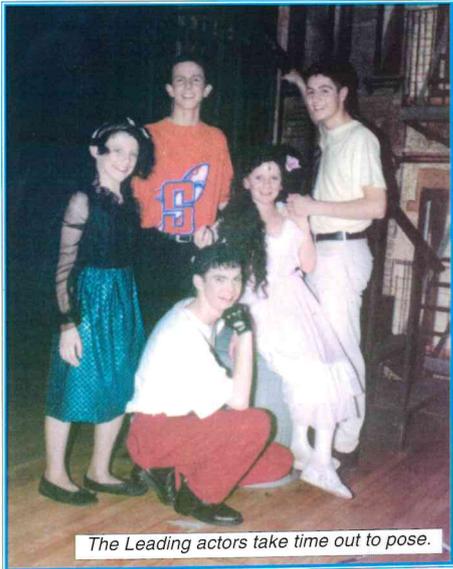
"Tonight, tonight, I'll see my love tonight."  
Gerard Austin as Tony.



Martin Rea as Riff "listens" to Martin  
Murphy as "Schrank".



"Keep Cool Boys", Martin Rea, Greg  
McGeown and Aidan Rooney as "Jets" All.



The Leading actors take time out to pose.

# 'WEST SIDE STORY' - December 1996

Dear Mr Crilly,

Those who might have considered 'West Side Story' - (A difficult production by all accounts) - too troublesome to stage chez CBS, had not reckoned with the flinty determination of director/producer, Mrs Marie McQuillan and equally flinty Dan Tracey BSc - her steely-eyed, long suffering Co-Director.

We, the parents, neighbours, relatives and friends of St. Mary's have come to expect standards of Mrs McQuillan et al that we would hardly expect of the Riverdance team. And we are never disappointed. We were enthralled with previous productions - 'Oliver', 'My Fair Lady' etc, but 'West Side Story' has broken all records. Sensitive themes, which have sad parallels in our own society - bigotry, hatred and fear - permeated the story but were delicately handled and happily resolved. So much so that some were moist-eyed before the show had ended. Those of us who had determined to be detached, sphinx-like observers found ourselves nevertheless struggling with inconvenient knots in our throats.

But ever the magician, puppeteer and manipulator, our intrepid director/producer managed somehow to blend tragedy with humour, dialogue with dance, laughter with tears. How does she do it?

We suspect that after deciding on 'West Side Story', the Tracey & McQ team immediately secured the services of Michael Flatley. We suspect too that their Josephine Mulvenna is an ex-Riverdance girl. Rumour has it that same Josie is a film star. She must have been thrilled to find the CBS's old hand, Martin Rea, in the cast for W.S.S. Martin is best remembered as the House Keeper in Wimpole Street in 'My Fair Lady'. Well done Martin (although I was horrified that you were floored in the first half). Still, you're going places!

Ditto **Tony** alias Gerard Austin who grew four inches since last viewed in 'Oliver'. A superb performance and no doubt we haven't heard the end of you, either.

And what with his Latin good looks and sleek blue-black hair, the tall, super-fit Joseph McAuley was a perfect choice for **Bernardo** and a perfect foil for the peace-loving **Tony**.

The two **Anitas** captured wonderfully that flavour of Latin-America - the nonchalance, the indolent grace, that calm indifference, (yet, when roused) that fiery ardour peculiar to Hispanics everywhere.

And as for your Gregory McGeown - he clearly belongs in Riverdance, aye, Michael Flatley eat your heart out. They say you'll be a household name someday, Greg. We'll be watching!

Another name to note, Gerard **Action** McCarthy - not just a pretty face, he can act, dance, sing and really 'move'. A real gem they say.

Another potential household name, Gavin **Doc** Kennedy (Harold of 'The Precious Blood') and if memory serves me well, auld Fagin of 'Oliver' fame. We'll be hearing more of Gavin I haven't the least doubt.

We considered **Officer Krupke's** performance second to none and see no reason why young Michael

Cassidy should not indeed feature in a Hollywood Blockbuster. Wait and see. Not surprised to hear Martin **Schrank** Murphy was the winner of the Junior Drama Award in 1996. Well done, Martin and we hope to see you in at least two more productions at CBS before you hit big time.

Our congratulations too to Aidan **Big Deal** Rooney, Peter **Baby-John** Campbell and 'DDD' (Dominic **Diesel** Darby) - great men, great finds.

And well done to **the** stars of the show, the two **Marias**, Gary McAlorum and Paul McErlean. It wasn't just the purity of their piping trebles, or the film-star good looks that drew us to them, so much as their classy Puerto Rican accents and the superb acting.

No point in Conor **Gladhand** Lamb having the hair shorn. We were as perfectly pleased with your tresses as we were with your performance ..... but we remember you best as Mrs Eynsford Hill in 'My Fair Lady'. Great work, Conor!

Talking of fair ladies, our image of Ms Orla McQuillan, that exquisite Royal Doulton figurine, was horribly shattered when we beheld her on stage, brazen, jean-clad, perfect 'West Side' accent, hard woman mien, chin battling with the world, three inches taller since last sighted. However, same image somewhat restored with the onset of the ballet sequence, superbly executed - a great release from the tension that went before and the violence that was sure to follow. (And did you see that incredibly delicate scenery!) Well done beautiful real-girl Orla. So glad you'll be with us for a few more years at least.

Neil McDonagh and Tony Cushnahan gave us much to laugh about and the Choruses were simply riveting - well they couldn't **not** be with Lloyd Webber himself, Damien Kennedy, as assistant Chorus Director.

We must sincerely thank the school orchestra, which, risen from its secret catacomb under the stage, burst triumphantly into 'America' when we least expected it and left us with goose pimples the size of peaches on the backs of our necks.

I was more than pleased to see future virtuoso John Egan (now a QUB student) in his usual perch in same catacomb. And after the blood, sweat and tears of which orchestra work is chiefly composed, I am sure that Mrs Gibson and Miss Morris will be taking a two week leave of absence. Well done you two great chiefs.

The two Morgan gentlemen are to be sincerely congratulated on their outstanding sets and the paintings which must be seen to be believed. And we, the audience, absolutely loved the lines of washing all over the assembly room - great work Art class. Where all the talent comes from is difficult to fathom!

Once again, on behalf of the parents and friends of St. Mary's, our grateful thanks to Mrs McQuillan and Mr Tracey and although 1998 is a long way away, we wonder about and look forward to being stunned again with something we know will be great but surely never as spectacular as your 1996 'West Side Story'.

Yours sincerely,  
Mrs Mary D'Arcy.

## “I WANT TO BE IN AMERICA”!!!

When the word spread that St. Mary's Grammar School was hosting the production of 'West Side Story' it was naturally presumed that the all male school would join with a female school in order to fulfil the casting requirements. However all those attending the play soon became apprehensive on discovering that there would be only one female actress in amongst dozens of males. That lucky girl would play the role of **Anybody**, while the roles of **Maria**, **Anita** and other young ladies were played by extremely brave junior male students. A recipe for disaster so it appears!

Yet, as soon as the curtain rose until it fell, I was among the many who were completely captivated by the tremendous performances given by the actors. The male actors lived the female characters with such skill that it was difficult to believe that the actors were actually male.

The male characters of **Tony**, **Riff** and **Bernardo** were extremely well portrayed by the senior students of the school. Each character was real to the audience, which is usually difficult for an amateur actor to achieve. The emotions conveyed in the love scenes between **Tony** and **Maria** brought tears to the eyes of everyone listening to their struggle.

The set design matched the quality of acting. Set in the downtown streets of New York, the set design depicted the reality of the hardship of life for people growing up in it.

The overall standard of acting, singing and dancing was so high it can be claimed to be faultless.

Those who have not read the play should take this opportunity to do so. The story of love trying to triumph over the racial prejudices of two teenage gangs is powerful, entrancing and thought-provoking. The play forces the reader to look inside their heart and spirit to discover what is more important in life - the colour of someone's skin or what that person is inside. The answer, I hope, is apparent, yet to many it is not.

**Jennifer Campbell (6C)**  
Fortwilliam Student



Peter McMorro and Christopher French  
"Hang out" at the drug store.

## “WEST SIDE STORY”

### for Older People at St. Mary's Grammar School

400 elderly residents from across North & West Belfast attended a spectacular performance of the hit musical, "West Side Story" organised and performed by St. Mary's Christian Brothers' Grammar School.

Tony Kelly, Senior Social Worker for the Trust, paid tribute to the pupils and staff. He said, "Once again the pupils of St. Mary's Grammar School have displayed exceptional talent in performing this famous musical, providing a wonderful evening of entertainment."

He went on to thank Headmaster, Mr Michael Crilly, for organising this special event for the older people of the area and looked forward to many more in the future.

Taken from the 'All Points' Magazine



Gerard Austin as Tony giving a  
rendition of Maria.

# West Side Story

Brilliant! Spectacular! Astounding! Yes but even such superlatives seem somehow inadequate and jaded, incommensurate with the sheer magnificence and splendour of St. Mary's 'West Side Story', for this show has been universally acclaimed as the best school show so far - each last of which was hailed - definitively - not to say consummately - as the ne plus ultra in school musicals until triumphantly superseded by the next and so on and so forth. This was perfection trounced - and the begrudgers confounded - again and again until it was concluded that the 1994 production of 'My Fair Lady' was the show for excellence - the ultimate theatrical extravaganza. That show surely could not be transcended.

And yet - and how shamed we all were - it too was trumped - and yes even quite spectacularly. St. Mary's Drama and Music Departments have done the seemingly impossible. 'West Side Story' is surpassing and surely, this time unsurpassable. This time it simply has to be THE BEST.

Nor was this solely because this story about love, loyalty, hatred, discord and violence - all set in New York and revolving around the territorial conflict between two rival gangs - the Sharks and the Jets - had piquant contemporary resonance. Rather it was more to do with its sheer theatrical and musical wizardry.

The show - long weeks in difficult gestation - passed its always difficult first test playing to three discerning audiences of St. Mary's school boys. Lyrical would not quite suffice, as it omits the gleeful, if occasionally ironic, gusto of the school audience response - their ability to discover subtleties not even apparent to subsequent English teachers. Even before such an excited and always potentially tumultuous and raucous crowd, the young cast acquitted themselves with panache and brio - yes even as they were fed to the hungry whelps of 8A and 8B not to mention the demanding voracious lions of 10D and 11G.

Having passed - relatively unscathed - this test to destruction - the four subsequent evening performances were truly bravura displays as the cast rose in confidence night after night before reaching their lofty consummation on the evening of Sunday 1st December before a distinguished, invited audience though some of the cognoscenti would aver that their performance before a cross-community audience of enraptured senior citizens (zimmer frames rattling like tambourines) came close to equalling it in energy and verve.

Who are we to thank for mounting this dazzling spectacle?

Mrs McQuillan, of course, who seems to approach each new show with redoubled dedication and enthusiasm - and who in the dark winter nights of the winter term and endless rehearsal refuses ever to despair; Mr D. Tracey, too, for his unfailing, fastidious original advice; Mrs J. Gibson, on impassioned piano (yet with deft and delicate grace), produced notes as occasion

demands; Miss C. Morris on velvety, moody, classy clarinet; Josephine Mulvenna and Joanne Haughey for their priceless, inspired choreography (who can forget the fire and finesse of that feisty finale?); Thomas Reilly (lighting); Mr G. Cassidy (Stage manager); and Mr Gerry Vernon (sound).

And the cast! Where are the words to describe the ineffable - the athletic balletry of Greg McGeown (a unique conflation of a Romanian gymnast and a Chaplinesque mime-artist), the easy authority of Martin Rea's sinuous and sinewy dance, the seraphic voices of Stephen Kearney, Paul McErlean and Gary McAlorum, the inspired tom foolery of Conor Lamb, the slinky, seductive swank of so many of the 'young girls' - suitably costumed and coached by Mrs Breen and Miss Conway drawing on God knows what experience (one enthused member of the audience was overheard remarking that the 'girls' were better than the 'boys!'). How does St. Mary's produce such 'boys'? How does St. Mary's produce such 'girls'? And this is not to mention - one can't focus properly for the dazzle:-

<b>Maria</b>	Gary McAlorum / Paul McErlean
<b>Tony</b>	Gerard Austin
<b>Anita</b>	Stephen Kearney / Joseph O'Neill
<b>Riff</b>	Martin Rea
<b>Bernardo</b>	Joseph McAuley
<b>Action</b>	Gerard McCarthy
<b>A-Rab</b>	Greg McGeown
<b>Chino</b>	Sean Pol McGreevy
<b>Doc</b>	Gavin Kennedy
<b>Schrank</b>	Martin Murphy
<b>Krupke</b>	Michael Cassidy
<b>Rosalia</b>	Christopher Dyre
<b>Anybodys</b>	Orla McQuillan
<b>Glad Hand / Snowboy</b>	Conor Lamb
<b>Baby John</b>	Peter Campbell
<b>Pepe</b>	Stephen Kearney
<b>Diesel</b>	Dominic Darby
<b>Big Deal</b>	Aidan Rooney

And one, indeed, never ceases to wonder at how Mrs McQuillan can transform a weary, bedraggled, bunch of cynical, street-wise, hard-bitten West Belfast adolescents into such a sparkling and joyous troupe! Rich, rich, congratulations!

**Mr D. Campfield**  
(English Department)

"Great dancing ..... Great acting .....it was sheer class!"

(Brendan Garland)

"Best night of my life.....I'll certainly be back in two years time!"

(Adam McCurry)

"Music was fantastic, acting was superb.....an all round success for St. Mary's"

(Eileen McMahon, Whiterock)

"They were all boys? I could not believe it."

(John Jones, Suffolk)

"Smashing stuff"

(Emma McCrory, Beechmount)

"Thanks for a great night out!"

(Robert Robb, Shankill)

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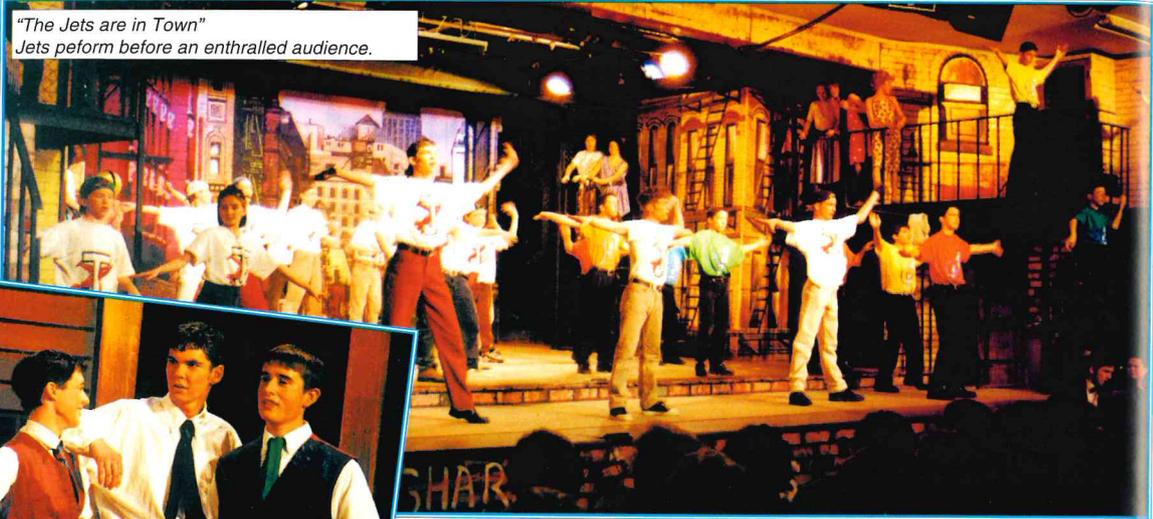
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The lads - As Puerto Rican "Ladies" line up to perform  
"I'd like to be in America"

*"The Jets are in Town"  
Jets perform before an enthralled audience.*



*Marty Rea, Aidan Rooney, Gerard McCabe  
and Stephen Carrigan discuss the "rumble"*



*Tony Kelly, Senior Social Worker presents Marie McQuillan with the bouquet for the  
gala performance of West Side Storey for senior citizens of North & West Belfast.*



*"The Jets are Angry"  
The Heat is On.*



*Conor Lambe as "Glad Hand" urges the Jets and Sharks to mingle - to no avail.*

# WEST SIDE STORY



# *“West Side Story” - Production Team*

Directed and Produced by	-	Mrs Marie McQuillan
Co-Producer	-	Mr Daniel Tracey
Musical Director	-	Mrs Jill Gibson
Co-Musical Director	-	Miss Colette Morris
Assistant Chorus Director	-	Mr Damien Kennedy
Choreographer	-	Miss Josephine Mulvenna
assisted by	-	Miss Joanne Haughey
Dance Captains	-	Greg McGeown Gerard McCarthy Marty Rea
‘Somewhere Dream Sequence’	-	Ciaran Green and Greg McGeown
Choreographed by	-	Greg McGeown and
Danced by	-	Gerard McCarthy
Second Sequence danced by	-	Greg McGeown and Orla McQuillan
Costumes and Wardrobe	-	Mrs Bridget Breen and Mrs Fiona Murphy
Puerto Rican Skirts	-	Miss Mary Lindsay
Set Design and Building	-	Mr Francis Morgan
Painting	-	Mr Frankie Morgan Jnr.
Lighting	-	Mr Thomas Reilly
Sound Engineer	-	Mr Gerry Vernon
Stage Manager	-	Mr Gerard Cassidy
assisted by	-	Ciaran Stuart
Properties	-	Mr John Heaney and Mr Tony Whitehead
Make-up	-	Miss Joanne Haughey Mrs Mary Johnston Miss Eileen McCaffrey Miss Kathryn Tracey Bridget and Marie Breen
Programme	-	Mrs Mary Johnston
assisted by	-	Miss Joanne Haughey
Photography	-	Mr Paul Morris and Mr John Heaney
Video	-	Mr Paul Morris
Publicity	-	Mr Eddie Collins

Stage Crew

David Dobbin 13E  
Christopher Fitzpatrick 13C  
Gerard Lenaghan 13C  
Kieran McCartan 13A  
Paul McLean 13C  
Peter Rice 13D  
Brendan McManus 14C

Production Administrative  
Co-ordinator and Front of House

Mrs Marie McQuillan

### *Acknowledgements:*

Singer Sewing Machine

Courtesy of  
Mrs Mary Reynolds  
(Mrs McQuillan's granny)

The cast and production team would like to thank the following people, without whose support and co-operation "West Side Story" may not have been possible.

Mr Michael Crilly, Mr John McKenna, Mr Kevin Burke, Mr Fergus Woods, Mr John Donnelly, Mr Hugh McBarron, Mr Nigel Cushley, Mr Joe McKeaveney, Mr Stephen Smart, Miss Teresa McCann, Miss Fiona Kinney, Miss Sheena Donnelly, the Office Staff, Canteen and Ancillary Staff, the show sponsors, and those who advertised in the programme, Cabel Tel, who sponsored the senior citizens gala performance, Mrs Maureen Tracey and Mr Gerry McQuillan.

Mrs Marie McQuillan  
(Head of Drama)

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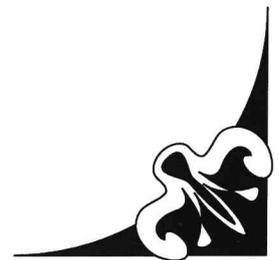
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# LITERARY SECTION



# 'CITY SEASONS'

People move from shop to shop as quickly as possible. No-one lingers. The biting cold attacks those who attempt to defy it. Couples huddle together to defend themselves from the onslaught of the vicious chill. Everyone is wrapped up in dufflecoats and woollies. Scarves and hats are now essential. People move, robot-like about the streets. Stiff and frozen. Shop heaters are on full blast, luring people in, beckoning them to take shelter from the snow covered streets.

A few unfortunates lie in front of a moaning, creaking, old solid oak doorway. Icicles grasp the ceiling above, threatening to break, crash to the marble floor below. On the step, the homeless cling together, huddled up to preserve heat. A small, grey, dirty, tattered blanket is shared between three. Their jaws are sore through constant chattering. Their mouths move, but they keep an eerie silence. They have witnessed it year after year before now and an atmosphere of fear hangs over them. The snow and cold and winter chill become murderers, taking innocent lives as they sweep through the town. They look to the heavens and see the grey menacing sky. The blanket of cloud stretches as far as the eye can see and beyond, running for eternity. The summer months are far away. There is no escape from the terror that awaits if pneumonia wants to feed. It will kill in a cruel and extremely painful way.

A bus drives through the city centre. The passengers, still wrapped and covered, look down on the commuters, moving coldly below. The lights of the Christmas tree gleam as the bus rounds the corner. Parents spend endless amounts of money on last minute shopping sprees for their children sitting warm and comfortable at home. Darkness has now attacked and with it falls new showers of snow.

In the streets and laneways of every housing estate children play, full of vivid fun. For children it is a time of enjoyment and play. As Christmas trees glow from every house they feel an air of excited anticipation. But for the elderly, winter is a nightmare. Death seems to loom for every pensioner. They cannot afford the massive, sky-high prices for home heating and may, as many before them have already, pay with their lives. Even if their homes are warm and safe, stepping onto an icy, snowy street causes a definite danger. Bones are easily broken for the fragile O.A.P.s and the streets are like sheets of thick glass where a walking stick no longer serves its purpose. The old people pray for the break of a new dawn and the return of summer.

\*\*\*\*\*

As the sun rises over the horizon, shattering the dark of night and allowing the life of a new day to dart and scatter about the world, the birds begin to whistle and sing. The grasses and hedgerows glisten and shine as the dews reflect the beams of the sun. People

arise from bed, opening curtains and blinds to allow their houses to become engulfed by light. They let their homes be filled with the joys of summertime.

In the city people whistle joyful tunes as the infectious buzz of a new day of heat and brightness spreads, working its ways to everyone. The town quickly fills as people no longer postpone leaving their homes. No-one wants to stay indoors as the sun shines down for the population to relish.

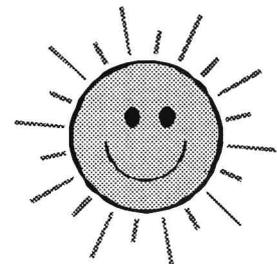
Parents, dressed in brightly coloured t-shirts, shorts or skirts, colourful and patterned, light and cotton, push their children around the park. Youngsters play, dressed for summer, rolling about the grass. The smells of the newly cut lawns are everywhere, sweet and pleasant. A humming of lawn mowers and hedge clippers is constant. An ice-cream van plays tunes in the distance; business is booming as people enjoy the refreshing treats he has on board.

The motorways are jammed with holiday makers, windows down and music blasting. Almost everywhere people are smiling, laughing, playing games. Enjoyment surrounds everyone. Even as hay fever sufferers sneeze and weep they feel the summer buzz and love to let the sun shine down on them.

As evening draws in the swallows reappear and sing their lullabies that send countless children to sleep. Smoke belches over garden walls. Charcoal and the smells of pork and steak, fresh off the barbeque, make mouths water. People laugh and talk light heartedly at garden parties and get-togethers.

The few clouds in the sky are now silhouetted in a glowing orange and red array. The hum of lawn mowers still buzz on, as if never ceasing. People return indoors, beer and wine in hand, leaving furniture and garden tools out, knowing that as the sun sets, it will be back tomorrow, to once again embrace everyone and fill them with the joys of summertime.

Barry Doran (12D)



## 'Facing Death'

It was then that I knew it was all over.  
I prayed, perhaps God would have mercy on me,  
But I knew in my heart that it was what I deserved,  
My final hours alive alone.

My whole life flashed before me, like a slide show,  
Every single little detail was buried deep in my mind,  
How I wished that I could start afresh,  
To face the evil memories engraved in my soul.

The scene was set for a cruel end to a horrible man,  
Why did I do those things? Why did no-one stop  
me?

Many questions I needed to ask,  
But I would never have the chance.

For years to come people will be using my name,  
Future generations will revile me,  
I will become the epitome of shame,  
But being cast as the villain will be new to me.

As I walked into the gas chamber,  
I was overcome by fear,  
I knew that I was wicked,  
But I didn't deserve to die like this.

**Christopher Morren (10B)**

## 'Ceasefire'

Are we going to have a ceasefire again?  
Sure it's down to Sinn Fein and big Ian.  
We have to look forward to the future,  
And forget all these notions of butcher.

It's all about necessitation,  
To put food in our mouths,  
And a place for us to house,  
So we need some negotiation.

So come on all you aul politicians,  
And provide us with some ambitions.  
You've kept your stubborn old way,  
Now it's time for us to have our say.

We're sick of your long-winded waffle,  
For all it has done is to baffle.  
Now we want some real explanation.  
We're fed up with your procrastination.

**Terence Hawkins (10B)**

## 'Me'

No-one understands me,  
That's what make me angry.  
No-one listens to what I say,  
Though I talk all through the day.  
And most of what I say and do,  
Is uncomphensible to all of you.  
You don't need to scream and shout,  
If you don't know what I'm on about.  
That only creates frustration,  
When I fail to show elation.

**Laurence Rooney (10B)**

## 'Barrack Street Elegy'

I'm a pupil down at Barrack Street,  
But although it may be small,  
It doesn't mean that we are lesser men,  
No, not at all.  
It doesn't have many teachers,  
It doesn't have as many rooms,  
We're told that it is going down,  
Down to its doom.

No more will we be able,  
To be at class almost instantly.  
We'll be roaming about the corridors,  
Trying to find our way.  
It's great to go to Barrack Street,  
For the new First Years  
It is good to start off here,  
It helps us in our careers.

It's great to be at Barrack Street,  
We like it small as it is.  
The teachers are so friendly  
And we always know the bizz.  
The homework at times is heavy,  
And our classes can make you sigh,  
But when we go to the Glen Road site,  
There will be a tear in many an eye.

**Barry McLarnon (9G)**

# The Future?

At this particular stage in history we find ourselves at an exciting but terrifying threshold between past, present and future. So many weird and wonderful things are taking place that we sometimes find it hard to keep up with and understand.

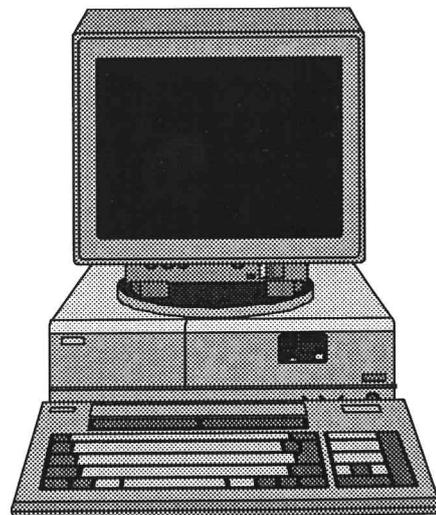
So much has happened over the past few years. The world that our parents and grand-parents knew is almost unrecognisable. They, as children, were forced to make their own fun. They didn't mind playing outside or using very primitive toys. They knew no other way. Nowadays, with the advent of computers, consoles and complicated data systems, children have no wish to play traditional games such as 'Hop Scotch'. They want a technological fantasy instead of "whole-some, fulfilling games". Children wish to be taken to far away places, like the Amazon Jungle, swing through the trees like Tarzan to save the stricken maiden or, counter-attack violent Martians on a mission to over-run the Galaxy. Suffice to say, with the technology at their disposal this can be made possible. In one touch of a button that child can be whisked off into the desert in search of Aladdin's lamp. That child is able to fly the latest, high-speed jet fighter. It can be done. Virtual Reality or V.R. systems have recently been produced. To use these machines you don a large helmet and take control of a handset. Inside your helmet your own little world is created. To all intents and purposes it is actually a separate world. The earliest versions of these machines though appeared a little cartoon-like. Advances are being made and the machines are being fine tuned. The developments will go so far, some believe, that it will no longer be called Virtual Reality but it will be called Actual Reality. This means that a totally new artificial environment could be created. We would be able to languish in our own perfect world with no worries and no fuss providing we can afford it, of course. The only hiccup seems to be the price. Until these machines are made readily available, the cost will be in thousands of pounds.

Communications technology has come on by leaps and bounds in the last few years with the establishment of new telephone links and the introduction of the Internet service. The Internet is a system where, with the aid of a computer and telephone link we are able to talk with people and receive images from around the world. The main appeal of this link is its cost. Apart from the initial hardware, all one needs is a telephone line. These extras, such as live pictures from faraway family members for example, cost no more. It is through the new fibre optic channels that these new innovations are made possible. Fibre optic telephone links will enable this world to seem so small. For the first time we will be able to be connected to thousands of television networks from throughout the world. Again, it is because of the new telecommunications networks that have been established. These new links are going to be very prominent in the future.

Satellite technology has also seen great advances in the past few years. I can only visualise these advances being built upon in the next few years. The new radio, and again, television links are due mostly to this. The global television and radio services have only come about by satellite and related innovations. The whole planet can now be covered by satellite broadcasts. The exploration of space is also moving swiftly along. Frontiers, which for so long have been impenetrable, have been shattered. New inventions such as the Hubble Space Telescope have allowed us humans to reach out, further than ever before, towards unknown galaxies and far away systems. Maybe one day in the future we may be able to visit other distant planets or nebulae. Who knows?

Another feature of this 'Great Future' is that old adversaries and divided communities also seem to be reaching out to each other. In the past all we seemed to hear of was the outbreak of War. Now, thankfully, many troubled countries are at least trying to bring about a lasting peace. In the Middle East, the Palestinian and Israeli people are talking and thinking out their differences. In South Africa, black and white Afrikana and African are learning to sort out their problems and work together. Lastly, in my own country, Ireland, we still have the opportunity to seize the fragments of our broken peace and build a better future. We must take on board our differences, discuss our problems and iron out all the misconceptions we harbour. It is now that we must realise that we can all share in this 'Great Future' together.

**Martin Flynn (14E)**



## 'My Favourite Place'

This is the place that is special to me,  
A place to hear the birds in the trees.  
I feel as if I'm in a world of my own.  
Such a really peaceful and tranquil zone.

Every day I have a walk in the sand,  
And I know those rocks like the back of my hand.

As soon as night falls I'm in a daze,  
I lie down and at the stars I gaze.  
I listen and hear a tiny rumble,  
I turn around and see the small white rabbits tumble.

This to me is the place I like best,  
And now I must go, I'm finished my rest.

**Michael Scannell (9G)**

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## 'Study'

It's Friday, and  
The bell starts to ring.  
It's time to go out  
And do anything.

Go out with my mates,  
Party all night,  
Then come home,  
To have a great big fight.

Yes, it's my mum,  
And this is what she said,  
'Get upstairs now,  
and get into bed!'

I trudged upstairs,  
Ever so glad,  
Then at that moment,  
I saw my dad.

Monday came,  
And I hurried to school,  
To talk to my mate,  
About his new swimming pool.

But while I was talking,  
I could just faintly hear,  
That we had a test,  
Then I shuddered with fear.

I knew I should have studied.  
I really wish I had,  
But I had just found out,  
And that really made me sad.

Then the bell rang,  
And I knew it was too late,  
So I walked into the classroom,  
To meet my awful fate.

**Peter Campbell (9G)**

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# AWAITING THE ANSWER

Johnny put down the phone. He slowly raised his plump and bearded face while running a few words over in the back of his mind. He was in his late forties, overweight, with a receding black hair-line, well dressed in a shirt and tie. He looked over the bar out onto the sea of people surrounding it. This was his bar and these were his people. Some how he had to tell them.

The air was full of anticipation. The feeling of concern and distress hung over the crowd like an oppressive weight. The odd person would cough or maybe even move slightly. All eyes were fixed upon Johnny who seemed like a trapped animal behind the massive wooden bar which clung to the back wall of the pub.

Since Johnny had put down the phone no-one had spoken a word. Their silence spoke volumes, asking questions and demanding answers. The only noise was the pattering of the rain on the window panes outside and the echoing ticking sound of the clock. The silence was deadly and damning.

Johnny stared at the gallery of faces that stared back at him from a few feet away. It seemed to him that his tiny Manhattan pub was about to burst at the seams. It felt as if every man and woman in New York was watching him.

How could he tell these people what had happened? How would they react?

Some might explode into a rage, others might find solace in themselves or even maybe breakdown into tears. A lot of lives would change tonight when he said those words.

The sentences that everyone was expecting but no-one wanted to hear.

The thought crossed his mind. Should I tell them? They would eventually discover the truth in their own time. He didn't need to be the one. No, Johnny couldn't do that. He loved and respected these people too much to fob them off with an, "I don't know" or an all too simple, "No word yet." They would believe him no matter what he said, for he had always been honest and above board with them. He knew if he did not tell them the truth he would lose many customers tonight, but worse than that, he would lose many more good friends. People who had been with him during the bad times and were around to enjoy his good times. They deserved the truth, nothing less. These were good, honest, hard-working people, a rare community in today's society and after all they would do the same for him.

People were starting to draw their own conclusions from his silence. It was time for him to set the record straight.

"Ahem," he fixed his glasses and he began; "Ah... well, there's no easy way to say this. That was the family on the phone about Sid."

He wiped his brow with a tissue and then bowed his head.

"They.... they.... said he was ..... I mean he had ....died. Sid O'Sullivan is dead! He will be sorely missed and bitterly grieved by all for he was a good friend. Sid helped us whenever he could, whether it was financially or emotionally. Without him I could never have established this pub. He shaped our lives and filled them with joy and laughter. He will be greatly missed by us all."

The oppressive silence was gone and was replaced by a poignant outburst of emotion. One that consisted of tears, echoes of "I can't believe he's gone" and "He was a great man!" This reverberated around the tiny pub until the noise became unbearable.

Johnny watched this scene of grief and emotion from behind the bar until his heart ached. The sorrow welled up inside him. Slowly tears started to pour from his eyes. He attempted to stop them but after a while he stopped trying and shakily, poured himself a whiskey. He knocked it back in one and then poured himself another. He stood behind the bar holding a glass of whiskey in his left hand and a half full bottle of it in his right. Johnny looked across the bar to one desolate bar stool among masses of grieving people. The stool was Sid's and then he knew. From that point everything was changed and nothing would ever be the same again.

**Kieran McCartan (13A)**



# 'St. Joseph - The Quiet Man'

Saint Joseph was the most silent saint of all. No one has written down one word of his for our edification. Not one small word of his was saved unless it is the WORD that was the sum of all his life.

He left no words.  
He wrote no books.  
Yet his memory remains  
In our hearts and our hopes.

This silent man  
Hand picked by God  
To protect the VIRGIN  
And the unborn WORD.

He cared for the maid  
While she was with child  
And when the WORD became flesh  
SAVED them both from Herod's wiles.

He laboured for the Mother  
Watched over the DIVINE  
Joseph the worker  
With his gentle smile.

In the years that passed  
While the BOY grew  
Joseph set the standards  
Which the SAVIOUR knew.

He taught JESUS the SCRIPTURES  
And the skills of his hands  
And silently marvelled, as  
The WORD obeyed his commands.

JOSEPH, son of kingly DAVID  
When your last hour drew near  
What joy - what peace  
As you whispered in CHRIST'S ear.

Now you go to meet your maker  
The FATHER of your SON  
Hail to thee, for thou art blessed  
And your task on earth is done.  
MARY'S husband, CHRIST'S guide  
May you always be at my side.  
Help of the worker, PATRON of the CHURCH  
In thee surely, we can place our trust.



Mr John Donnelly

# THE EXORCISM



A shadow spread over the stained glass window. Rays of sunlight no longer diffused through the shapes of colour, they no longer poured illumination onto the interior of the small building they occupied. Now it was all dark - in every sense of the word.

La Felchan felt the hairs on the nape of his neck stand on end. As soon as the sun went down the already unsettling atmosphere of the abandoned Church became tangibly malevolent. The sensation of darkness stretched beyond the mere absence of light. Evil was definitely present in the little building.

*Why did these things always have to be done at night?* Because *they* only come out at night, he answered himself.

La Felchan shook himself. The temperature appeared to have dropped a couple of degrees. He didn't want to think why. Looking over his shoulder he observed the form of Jim Carlson tinkering with the frequency amplifier.

"Come on, Jim. It's show time," he shouted.

Jim didn't look up. "Nearly there," he announced, eyes still intent on what he was doing.

*Well, hurry up!* La Felchan shouted in his mind. The sudden urgency to get the job over with and get out of this God forsaken place was becoming unbearable. He'd never done anything like this before. Had never come close to the practical side of his study before. The awe inspiring tales of his senior lecturer had installed this image of the eternal battle of Good versus Evil, Light versus Dark. To be able to fight against Evil in this form was a privilege - a noble cause which very few obtain an opportunity to serve.

Well, La Felchan felt anything but privileged.

He felt frightened.

But before, when he had read about the Church and its sinister history, he had felt differently. He had been astounded that no other respectable parapsychologist had even investigated the Church, considering the reliability of the sources and the frequency and *severity* of the incidents. The Police had written off the incidents as the work of a madman, a European named Jeffrey Dalmer. Yet eye-witnesses insisted on the supernatural connection - and their stories supported each other, even to the details of what was done with the missing body parts.....

But nobody believed them. Not even the parapsychologists.

Except for La Felchan. This was to be his baby - the opportunity of a lifetime. *His* chance to fight the forces of Evil. *His* chance to be a part of the cause. *His* chance to make a contribution. He had set about the preparations like an excited child, gathering the necessary equipment, getting a mechanical genius (Jim) to help set up and operate the thing, and best of all obtaining advice from Professor Jantzen. It had been like a dream turned reality.

Now, however, that dream was turning sour. At the very worst it was turning into a nightmare. The uneasiness coiled within La Felchan's gut was growing exponentially. The land of dreams-to-fruit, and ide-

alistic expectation that were the weeks - *months* that preceded this day seemed so far away now.

An eternity.

One which was filled with foolishness and a complete lack of reality testing on his part. *Noble cause* - there was nothing noble in the soul-numbing knot of dread that comprised his bowels. Or the feeling of deep, dark foreboding which had seized him since sundown. Nothing noble at all.

"It's ready," shouted Jim. La Felchan wanted to tell him to keep his voice down, afraid something might hear him. Then he realised how stupid it sounded. Looking at Jim, La Felchan realised that his fears and sinister sensations were not shared by his companion.

"How do you feel?" he asked him.

"A bit odd, actually. What about you?"

"Slightly edgy."

*"Slightly edgy," what a gentle euphemism.*

"Come on. Lets get this over and done with."

Approaching the amplifier, La Felchan surveyed the interior of the Church. The only light was provided by those flashlights that were on the amplifier, and even they didn't penetrate very far into the unnatural inky blackness that filled the Church. The place was straight out of one of those sixties Hammer Horror films. The dank, dark walls; dripping background sound effects; and gothic 'decor' and pews made the picture flawless. If he hadn't been so nervous La Felchan would have laughed at the whole array of cliches.

But La Felchan *was* nervous, and fearfully expectant. He turned his attention to the various switches which adorned the computer panel. When he turned on the amplifier whatever sinister force that occupied the Church was going to appear. The pain caused by the modified frequency sound waves would flush anything from the ethereal plane out into the physical world, whereby it could be disabled.

What La Felchan wanted to know was whether or not he wanted the Force to appear.

"Well? Are you going to throw the switch or not?" asked Jim.

La Felchan snapped to attention, realising he'd been staring into space.

"What? Oh right."

Jim looked at him quizzically.

"Are you *sure* you're alright?"

La Felchan wondered if he should come out and say it. He wasn't sure how Jim would react but at the same time he was sure that something awful was going to happen here tonight.

"Jim, I'm wondering if we should call this off. I mean .... not carry out the exorcism."

Jim looked as if he'd been slapped in the face.

"What? Are you serious?"

La Felchan nodded, slowly.

"I thought this was supposed to be our moment of glory - your moment of glory. That this was going to put you on the map and give you the professional recognition you've been after."

La Felchan could only shrug. He looked at Jimmy, the disbelief possessed by his friend was a physical thing. It practically choked him into silence. La Felchan decided to press on.

"But don't you feel that, Jimmy? I know there's something here. I've been betting on it for months, but now I'm here I can taste it. And it tastes foul."

La Felchan paused for reaction, but he received the same stupefied expression.

"Don't you see? For ages we've been so caught up with this thing, the preparation, the excitement, the anticipation that we've lost sight of exactly what we're dealing with. This isn't a game, we're going to face something inexorably Evil. There's never been anything as brutal and sadistic as this dispelled. Professor Jantzen has exorcised poltergeists and other such things - yes, but even he hasn't come up against anything as bad as this. It's killed *seven people!* In inhuman ways. And now we, us, the righteous university students are going to ask it to leave! What do you think its going to do to us?"

The expression of amazement evaporated from Jim's face, replaced with a look of disgust.

"You've gone chicken."

Finally it had sunk in. But the way Jim said it gave him a feeling of numbness in his chest.

*You are a chicken. Afraid of the bogey man.*

Yes, but this bogey man is very real.

"What about all the equipment, the preparation. I've been calibrating this thing for the past two hours. Not to mention all the time I've put into every other aspect of this experiment. We have to go through with this, we've put so much effort into it we can't back out now. Think of the campus. How are you going to explain giving up to Jantzen and everyone else. What are they going to think of you? You'll never be taken seriously again. And your chances of becoming a parapsychologist, what will they be then? I'll tell you - none."

He softened slightly, pausing before he lowered his voice.

"Come on, Jean. We have to do it. There's no other option."

La Felchan knew Jim was talking sense. His reputation, both professional and personal, would be ruined if he went home with his tail between his legs. The exorcism had to go through.

"Okay. I see your point," he said quietly. Jim visibly brightened as he heard La Felchan speak.

"Yeah, you know its the right choice," he replied.

La Felchan didn't know about that. The choice he made was the only rational one.

*But am I in a rational situation?*

"Let's do it," he stated.

Looking at the control panel he spotted the green switch. He flicked it. The amplifier began to whirr to life, leaving a delectable hum in the air as it reached full power. La Felchan stared for a moment at the red latch switch in the centre of the array.

It was the resonator switch.

The switch that could end their lives or make them heroes.

*Moment of truth.*

He pressed it. The subtle hum of the amplifier mutated into a deep, unnatural bass sound. One of such power and magnitude that it caused the very bones of La Felchan to vibrate. La Felchan had prepared

himself for the effect. Professor Jantzen had described to him the feeling. Jim however was not so well armed, the look of shock on his face when the machine started brought a smile to La Felchan's face. As he looked about the Church with distorted vision, he attempted to identify any sign of his prey. So far the alien undulation of the amplifier was the only unusual manifestation in the Church.

It didn't seem to be having any effect.

*Damn!*

What was wrong with the thing!

Maybe Jim didn't modify the amplifier properly, he guessed. La Felchan looked over at Jim. He found the same confused expression mirrored in Jim's face. He mouthed "What's wrong?" over to his companion. Jim shrugged....

then he jumped, matching La Felchan for height.

A scream had split the air, making the amplifier sound like a whisper in a crowd. It persisted. Along, eerie undulation that sounded not quite animalistic and not quite human - but wholly preternatural. It began as a steady shriek before it spiralled onward and upward, gathering volume and pitch, transforming into an unholy crescendo as it peeled the very soul from La Felchan's body.

As it increased in intensity it kept going, breaking the laws of sound and nature with its terrifying lamentation. La Felchan covered his ears when the pain overrode the shock. Yet still through the hands and through the body crept the hellish poison. Piercing him inside as well as out. All at once he felt the agony of the flesh and the sorrow of the soul His soul. The shriek of the demon spirit repealed everything that was right and sane in the world, showed him the extent of its malignancy and depravation.

Which was that the demon was, and forever will be, eternally Evil.

He will not be able to kill it. It was as eternal as time and space and twice as grand. He was nothing to it. He was a moment in its forever life. But he was giving it pain.

Pain which would be heaped upon him for infinity.

The shriek continued to pollute his mind with the thoughts of darkness, until all at once the many voices in the single utterance ceased. A scream of a different sort erupted from the Church, as every window in the place exploded inward, showering the ground with shards of stained glass. La Felchan felt the tiny razor sharp daggers cut into his skin. They penetrated his clothing, drawing blood at near every square inch of skin. The pain was crushing but the wounds were superficial. He could still function properly. He scanned the surroundings, shielding his eyes from the airborne fragments.

As the particles settled he realised that silence had enveloped the Church.

The amplifier no longer emanated its basic tone. It stood noiselessly.

La Felchan wanted to speak. Wanted to tell Jim of the pain they were to endure, wanted to tell him of the thoughts that had flashed through his mind - the Dark thoughts. But language would not come.

Both men stood still in the centre of the Church, bleeding. They looked at each other, the mere glance communicating the plan to both of them.

They ran to the entrance of the Church.

For La Felchan the run was like wading through treacle. No matter how fast he pedalled his legs or pumped his arms the feeling of running in slow motion persisted.

He couldn't get out of the Church fast enough. But as he and his partner in eternal damnation reached the doors, slowly and with deliberate sadism did the oak panels begin to draw together, until at length they united.

*No!*

La Felchan and Jim slammed into the doors. With frantic desperation they began to beat them, pommel them - *scream* at them. But it was hopeless. Their efforts met with as much success as either of them predicted.

They were trapped.

Cruel laughter rang throughout the Church. It stemmed from no particular area - it was just there. Just like La Felchan and Jim was just here. Sitting ducks.

"What are we going to do?" asked Jim.

But before La Felchan could form a reply, one was made for him.

"DIE," announced the voice from the darkness.

The ground opened up beneath Jim. It formed a manhole of purest ebony. Jim fell to his waist before his reflexes saved him. His arms shot out, gripping the edges of the hole.

La Felchan moved to help him, shouting at him to hold on. Lunging, La Felchan grabbed Jim under each armpit in a hold of sorts and began to haul him up. For the first few seconds it actually seemed to be working. That was until La Felchan noticed the first of the ants.

He spied it out of the corner of his eye, crawling up his forearm. Its spindly little legs forming ticklish imprints on his flesh as it scurried, with lightning speed, up his limb. Instinctively he withdrew his arm, causing him to lose his grip on Jim. As he sought to reclaim it he noticed how many of the creatures were beginning to crawl over his friend.

Thousands.

All stemming from the impenetrable blackness below. They were enveloping him in a layer of flesh-crawling foulness. It was a scene from a nightmare. Jim squealed, producing a noise a child would make as panic seized him. He bucked and writhed, loosening La Felchan's grip even more as he watched with horror as the ants began to cover his entire body.

He looked up pleadingly at La Felchan - eyes bulging. Silently requesting help when he knew nothing could be done for him. Eventually as the wave of ants reached his neck he did the only thing in his power.

He screamed. A long, heartfelt cry of mental pain and anguish. Almost immediately, however, the scream was cut short - muffled by the creatures that covered his face. The layer of ants was half a foot deep, appearing like some viscous liquid as each little beast crawled over every inch of Jim in its own random fashion. La Felchan could imagine them entering his mouth, scurrying up his nostril.

Suddenly he couldn't bring himself to touch Jim any more. He had to let him go, the urge was too much. He found himself gagging at the sight of his friend, who was now, slowly but surely, being swallowed by the black hole.

*I just hope he's dead.*

La Felchan could feel the wave of grief building up in the centre of his being. It was a living thing. He lay against the oak doors of the Church basking in panic and remorse - a crumpled shell of a man.

*It's all gone wrong.*

*So terribly wrong.*

He had no time to grieve, however, as he felt something snakelike and incomprehensibly strong seize him by the ankles. He looked down at his feet only to see a flash of black, and then he was being dragged along the Church floor. The pain caused by the floor stones as each one lacerated the flesh on his back was unreal. He literally thought he had left a layer of skin on the floor, removed by the friction with the paving.

The pain continued, coarse and unwavering, until he felt his lower body being raised at an angle. The size of the angle increased and began to affect his entire body. Eventually it reached the stage where his entire body was raised above the ground.

La Felchan felt a sudden rush of blood to his head. The pressure it exerted made him feel as if his skull was going to explode.

He could still see, however, which was a curse, for what he saw emerging from the darkness at the entrance of the Church was straight from hell. A form of supreme Evil that no human should ever lay eyes on. Here was the tenant of St. Anthony's Church.

It's luminescent yellow eyes bore into La Felchan as it crossed the divide between it and its victim. As he gazed upon the creature's face a scream became trapped in his voicebox, prevented from issue by a chokehold of fear. Its black lips curled to form a variant of a smile, revealing a mouth comprised completely of canine teeth.

"*Do you know what I am?*" it asked, its voice sounding like stone scraping stone.

La Felchan could not form a reply, issuing instead a whimper as he hung, powerless, before the nightmare. His entire body was shaking. Uncontrollable spasms of fear consumed him. A sight which seemed to amuse the form that stood before him - its smile widened just that little bit more.

"*And still you try to destroy me!*" it snorted derisively. "*How very human. You understand little, yet you attempt to slay that which is beyond your comprehension. We do not follow your laws; we do not obey the petty rules of nature that you cling to for security. Your kind was put on this Earth for our amusement - a fitting justification for your existence. That has always been the way and always will be. Forever. You cannot break the cycle, no matter how dearly you wish to.*"

Then it paused, eyes flashing in the dark emptiness. "Something **you** will discover soon enough."

The creature began to laugh, causing his huge ebony form to shudder. La Felchan feared for his life, his sanity and his soul. All of which he feared were to be taken from him imminently.

It was when the laughing stopped that the real pain began. When all La Felchan had was memories of happiness, of glorious moments when something wasn't tearing at every nerve in his body; when his flesh wasn't fused to his bones in a blackened, charred mass; when every moment wasn't filled with pain, loathing and most of all sweet dreams of death.

**Kevin Dyer (14D)**

# 'Crazy Frankie'

Crazy Frankie is round the twist,  
Cross him off your party list.  
He'll beat up your guests, wreck your house,  
Even call Gran a dirty louse!  
He'll open your presents, stuff his face,  
Throwing things all over the place.  
He'll cut the sleeves off your Mum's nightgown,  
He'll even let your dad's tyres down.  
He'll go and mix up all your jigsaws,  
While deafening the neighbourhood with loud guffaws.

Cross him off your party list,  
Crazy Frankie is round the twist.

**Gerry Ward (9F)**

# I Like .....

I like summers and days off school,  
To wear dark shades and feel real cool.  
I like cities and a large range of shops,  
And collectable stickers which you buy and swap.  
I like calculators and computers too,  
If you've got a problem they'll see you through.  
I like football, rugby and swimmin',  
To win gold medals and be cheered on by pretty women.

**Stephen Morrison (9E)**

# War

War is a game in a field of blood  
That breaks up families, friends and allies.  
People that take part are sinners  
Who proclaim themselves to be the winners.  
There's a simple rule that everyone knows  
And that's, in war anything goes.

Women and children killed in their beds,  
Just try and picture it in your heads.  
Guns, bombs, cannons and knives  
Tear apart people's lives.

**Colm Conlon (10A)**

# 'Hunger'

It was a dark and gloomy day.  
The air was full of sorrow.  
Death loomed around every corner.  
It seemed like the sky would fall on me.  
Women and children howled, and the wail  
of the banshee deafened all cries for help.  
Death destroyed everything in its path.  
Death, Starvation, Famine, the dark, mysterious  
creatures that ravage and plunder this fertile land.  
The evil that took apart fair Hibernia.  
As I walk down this decéased road that seems like  
a rotting limb, I remember a clear land, a land  
where food was plenty, the people healthy.  
Walking down this road, Hunger follows me.  
It will follow me until it consumes my Hope, my Life.

**Matthew Neill (9E)**

**In remembrance of the Irish Famine.**

# Twilight Secrets

Dusk's ominous legions of shadow creep tentatively down the hills,  
A winter night's dull grasp begins,  
Its icy emanations omnipotent,  
The cool slender fingers caress the earth,  
Swathing it in the vestal waters of Nuit.

A cottage lonesome in a valley's bosom,  
Torch and firelight illuminating arched windows,  
Tall, dark eyes aglow with some clandestine fear,  
As the hooded figure approaches from the woods beyond.

The wind carries with it solemn, pernicious messages,  
Its verdant swirling turbulences alive with experience.  
The cottage pulsates with palpable forebodance,  
The climax, a knock at the door,  
Death comes easy as it sweeps through the abode.

The moons lambent beams alive with cosmic radiance,  
Cast slim vivacious fingers of light through the grove of oaks,  
Towering oaks of unconquerable glory,  
The creepers at their roots, futile in subservience.

The moon's wan and pallid presence,  
Cannot be compared to the ebony white of the dancing maidens,  
Their voluptuous forms accentuated by the dim torchlight,  
Their fiery eyes beacons in the still night.

Liam Kane (14B)



# “NO MANS LAND”

It was a cold, bleak morning of July 6 that greeted both sides. The battle plain of the previous night, now lay shrouded in a blanket of guilty mist that disguises the horrid sight of a single grave, degradingly shared by thousands of ardent young men, undeserving of such an undignified and solemn fate. The dreadful din of the night before was now replaced by an eerie silence, more chilling than the sound of any weapon. The only noise that occasionally interrupts the silence is the unnerving sound of encircling crows, lunging down below the smothering mist.

As the early morning mist lamentably passes from the death-ridden fields, the true horror of war is revealed; for what was once a luscious green field, filled by thousands of lively, vivid red poppies, is now a muddy, shapeless burial ground for thousands of wasted lives. At the sight of the dull, sunless sky, the stretcher party of one side trudges laboriously into No Mans Land. Jutting out like a toppled and deformed statue, lies one of the helpless dead soldiers. His pitiful uniform achieved nothing. What was there for camouflage, is now such a murky brown, that it seems the soldier is now at one with these hellish surroundings. The mossy green helmet which protected him from cold, merciless bullets, is just an unnatural habitat for the many swarming, ghostly white maggots. These parasitical creatures are crawling over flaky, decaying bones, and through his empty eye sockets. The blackness of these deep holes resembles the evil blackness and death of the war's achievements. His gaping wide mouth paints the excruciatingly painful countenance of a last, hopelessly desperate, shrill cry. His stiff legs are crookedly spread in the air, showing that this man, like all the dead, wanted to live, not die. His charred bones are like the peeling rust of an old car that has been cruelly stripped of paint. But this was only a young man barely out of his teens; it was not his time to decay into obscurity. The sooty black stains upon his bones are like coal markings on rich ivory; the corruption of death polluting the innocence of life.

Scattered upon the sludge, close by to the horrid frame of the man, lies the tattered remains of a family photograph. It is the only symbol of life amidst this sombre coffin. The picture shows himself, and his mother, father and brother, posing vivaciously for the camera, in contrast to the wry grimace of the Somme. His mother and father now kneel at home, praying for the end of the war, and the return of their beloved sons. Pain and anxiety are deeply manifested in them. Once proud and erect, they now solemnly cower over cold wooden chairs, monotonously echoing each prayer, with faith in God himself dwindling. At the corner of the room, two candle-lights flicker and then go out. The room is now cloaked in a swarthy black and the prayers cease.

Dusk is saluted by a hail of chilling gunfire. The stretcher party makes its way back to base, passing for a second time the contorted image of the dead soldier. They avoid him, not because of the decayed

condition his corpse is in, but because his harrowing image frightens them too much.

When utter blackness sets in, a small group of men stumble over the nearby trench, into the ruthless nakedness of No Mans Land. Their mission is to creep silently to the enemy lines and cut the entangled barb wire which settles upon the ground like the dense thicket of a jungle. Silently, slowly they shift over the shapeless earth towards their doom.. Abruptly, one stops dead, while the rest carry on. He has seen something on the ground, something so solemnly shocking that it freezes him like a weary statue. It is the tattered photograph on the ground that halts him. He notices himself in the company of his family. He has forgotten their faces, as well as his own. Crookedly, tentatively his neck turns until he spies something. Falling to the ground, he approaches it bent-double; his bitter sobbing resounds over the vast battle field, drowning the shrill, menacing cry of illuminating flares. He then witnesses what he dreads most of all: the haggard travesty of his dead brother. At the sight of this he rises from the ground, staring opaquely at the enemy lines. Raising his cold gun to a spear-like position, he yells vociferously, but his weeping drowns the words. Keeping his yell, he charges towards the enemy, his mission different now. Almost immediately he is heard. At the sound of biting shots, he falls, bullets flying from his own gun. Respondingly, his compatriots fall also. The night beats on monotonously, as thunder claps from the hellish sky.

As the morning draws in, the lively sounds of colourful swallows can be heard. However, they flee when the harsh cries of encircling crows swoop down towards the funeral field.

**Paul Hunter (12D)**



# School Bank

Wednesday, 3.30 p.m. and the doors open to the financial consortium, that is, the St. Mary's school bank. Controlled and coordinated by a small group of hardened sixth year future executives, this branch of the First Trust Bank is, in my opinion, probably the jewel in the corporation's crown.

Each week the team comes together in Mr McBarron's room (H12) under the watchful eyes of Mr Hegarty and Ms Kathleen Quinn (the representative from the First Trust in Andersonstown) and for about fifteen minutes we try our best to look organised (although at times we are far from it).

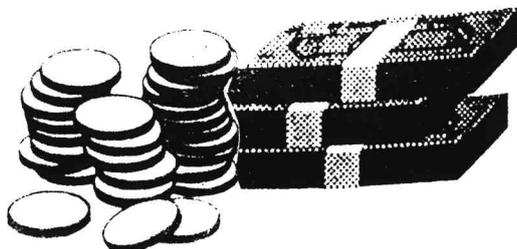
The bank is made up of about thirteen sixth years and because of this number, two teams had to be formed. Each team is headed by a manager, namely myself and Martin McMackin, who are given some kind of authority over the other members. Each team then has an assistant manager, a records clerk, a head cashier and two regular cashiers, although these jobs are often shared or exchanged. The teams then take turns on a week about basis with hopefully both groups getting an equal share of the experience.

Some of you reading this may underestimate the role of the bank within the school but it does play an integral part in the development of responsibility within the students. Each student who applies for a post in the bank is formally interviewed and subsequently designated a job, but all who apply get some kind of role. Although there are only seven jobs, all thirteen were given a part to play. The seventh job is Public Relations Officer which is held by Adam Fitzsimons. While talking to him on the subject of the bank he told me that **"being able to tell people that I am Public Relations Officer gives me a sense of pride and importance that I have never known before."**

To all those who may wish to organise next year's school bank, I would definitely recommend the experience. But for all those who wish simply to use the bank for more conventional reasons, remember to come to H12 every Wednesday at 3.30 p.m. We'll be happy to help.

Thanks to all this year's staff and members. Who knows, perhaps this could be the club that inspires you to become the next Richard Branson. We can live in hope I suppose!

**Bernard Gallagher (13H)**



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Monday ..... 7.00 pm/8.00 pm

Wednesday ..... 7.00 pm/8.00 pm

### Indoor Bowls

Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday ..... 2.00 pm

### Soccer Skills

Monday ..... 4.00 pm & 5.00 pm

### Basketball

Thursday ..... 4.00 pm

### Judo

Monday & Thursday ..... 6.30 pm

### Irish Dancing

Wednesday ..... 5.30 pm

### Lifesaving

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### Swim Lessons

Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday ..... Various Times

### Swim Club

Monday ..... 4.30 pm

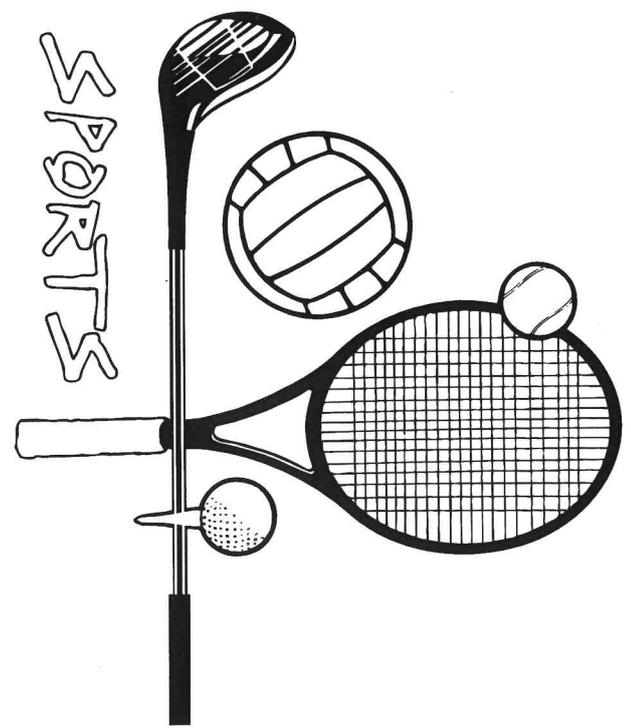
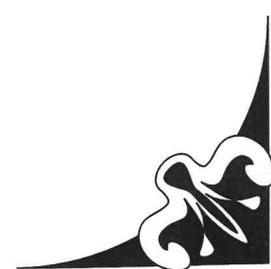


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BELFAST CITY COUNCIL CONTRACT SERVICES LEISURE SECTION



# SPORTS SECTION



# Sports Round up

## 1996-1997

### Croke Cup Semi-Final 1997

St. Mary's C.B.G.S. having won the Mageeann Cup in November had to wait until the 13<sup>th</sup> of April for their next competitive outing in the Croke Cup Senior A Hurling Competition against the Harty Cup Munster Champions St. Colman's Fermoy. With such a long gap between winning the Mageeann Cup and playing in the All-Ireland semi-final St. Mary's mentors Mr. E. McToal and Mr. T. Austin had the difficult task of keeping the players active on the hurling field.

They started preparations for the All-Ireland in December with a short break after winning the Mageeann Cup. During the Mageeann Cup the school played and won six matches on the way to a semi-final against St. MacNissis Garron Tower. In atrocious conditions St. Mary's won through by 5 points in a titanic struggle after some great displays by Tommy Maguire, Chris Clarke and Hugh Kennedy. St. Mary's went on to win the final against St. Louis, Ballymena by 14 points.

St. Mary's training was stepped up after Christmas in preparation for the school's first trip to Wexford and this preparation helped them to two good performances against Bridgetown Vocational School and St. Peter's Wexford. Spirits were high after this four day trip.

St. Mary's next venture down south was at Callan C.B.S. in which they lost by 2 points in another fine performance. St. Mary's kept training and playing matches up until the Easter break when they went south, again, for a coaching weekend in Navan which included 2 matches against the Laois and Dublin minors. Despite losing both games it was felt that the team had put in their best performances at the season going down by 6 points to the Dublin minor team. On this particular day Ciaran Magee, Paddy Kelly, Eugene McGlone and Kieran McGourty all played well. At this stage, two weeks before their semi things were going according to plan. St. Mary's squad and mentors once again gave up their holidays (on, this particular occasion their Easter break) in a bid to put final preparations together for their semi-final clash against St. Colman's Fermoy in Tullamore.

### All Ireland Semi

In an attempt to be prepared for this game St. Mary's once again travelled south staying this time in the Athlone Holiday Hostel. On the day before the game St. Mary's had a final training stint on the Tullamore pitch. The team returned to their accommodation in good spirits and seemed to be well 'keyed in' for this vital game. St. Mary's were all presented with fine, new tracksuits on the Saturday night and Tommy Maguire operated a haircutting service for all squad members.

The semi-final itself started at a hectic pace in blazing sunshine and after twenty minutes St. Mary's were leading 4 points to 3 with Ciaran Magee having struck the St. Mary's goal. The professional preparation seemed to be reaping its rewards. However into the game came the Fermoy superstar Neil Ronan who scored and set up goals which had a devastating effect on the St. Mary's side. Ronan in his first year with St. Colman's was the difference in the two teams and with 2-11 on the day St. Colman's strode to an easy victory which was similar to their performances throughout their Harty Cup campaign. St. Mary's players that played well in the 4-18 to 1-6 defeat were Chris Clarke, Gavin Bell, Ciaran Magee and Tommy Maguire.

Despite losing their semi-final St. Mary's put in an amazing amount of work into their preparations for both the Mageeann Cup and Croke Cup campaigns. They met a lot of great managers and players during their trips including All-Ireland winning players from Wexford, M. Storey, G. O'Connor, D. Fitzhenry and L. O'Gorman. Everywhere the team went, throughout Ireland, people were amazed by their dedication towards hurling and their first class behaviour. I'm sure that the players will take what they have learned from this campaign and will go on to achieve All-Ireland success with their Universities, Clubs and Counties.

# St. Mary's Senior Hurling Squad 1996-1997



*St. Mary's squad with Wexford's All-Ireland winning Captain, Martin Storey.*

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# Sports Round up

## 1996-1997

### Corn Na n-Og

This year we won the Belfast Schools Competition beating Edmund Rice C.B.S. in the final played at Rossa Park. An exceptional display was shown by all despite having players missing through injury. Thomas Doherty was exceptional in defence while Chris McHenry and Declan McLarnon (Captain) dominated midfield with the show of strength, courage and skill. Up front the 3<sup>rd</sup> Year team had stars of the future in David Ward and Tomas McNeill. All looks well for the team in the future. Unfortunately the Corn Na n-Og was before the Belfast Schools and not after.

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Year Gaelic Panel 1996-1997

Gerard Farrell, Eamon Browne, Declan McLarnon (Captain), Paul Barr, Brendan Herron, Thomas Doherty, Aodhan Hartigan, Cahal Kelly, Chris McHenry, Eamon Dickson, Thomas McNeill, Sean Conlon, Noel McNally, Colm Scott, David Ward, Paul George, Conal Kelly, Paul Farrell, Peter Dick, Philip Quinn, Gavin Lynch and Gareth Clarke.

---

## Forester's Cup - Hurling Competition (Under 16)

In this year's competition St. Mary's got off to an exceptional start when they defeated St. Columbus, Portaferry, St. Pat's, Keady and La Salle to top their league section. At this stage St. Mary's had high hopes of making it to the Foresters Cup Final for the 3<sup>rd</sup> year in a row.

In the quarter finals they were drawn against Cross and Passion, Ballycastle and despite having the better team they made hard work beating the North Antrim boys. Two days later they played their semi-final against St. Pats, Maghera the eventual winners and with a number of players injured from the quarter-final tussle they were never able to show their true potential. The biggest blow was losing centre-half back - Gavin Bell with cracked finger and his presence was sorely missed against the physically stronger Maghera side. During the campaign several players gave memorable performances - Ciaran Herron, Ronan McKenna, Damien Matthews, Kieran McGourty, Neil Devlin, Brendan Quinn and Stephen McGlennon. Finally the players would like to thank Mr. B. Armstrong who put a great effort into training the team.

Reports on Croke Cup  
Corn na-nOg  
Foresters Cup

compiled by Mr. H. McGettigan  
and Sean McGoldrick 13A

# Sports Round Up

## The MacRory Cup

In this year's MacRory Cup competition we faced a difficult task, being grouped with St. Patrick's, Dungannon, St. Pat's, Maghera and St. Pat's, Armagh. Not surprisingly we failed to qualify for the knock-out stages of the competition. However some great performances by our team were not ultimately reflected in the scores - most memorably in the match against St. Pat's, Maghera when it looked at one point as if we might just 'pull it off' against the cup holders. All of the other matches proved to be narrow defeats (all within eight points) except against St. Pat's, Dungannon when we were convincingly beaten.

Some outstanding individual performances included Thomas Tracey, Martin Lynch, John Devlin, Ciaran

Stitt, Terry McCabe, John McCambridge, Lorcan McGonagle and Anto Devlin. These players were particularly energetic and committed throughout the course of the competition.

Finally thanks are due to Mr. Tony Austin and Mr. Tom Murphy for their patience and enthusiasm in coaching the team. Hopefully the younger players in the 1997 squad can gain further experience which should be put to good use when we aim to qualify next year for the quarter finals of this prestigious competition.

**Cormac McKenna 14B**



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# Wexford Hurling Trip 1997

When Mr. McGettigan told us we would be assembling at Airfield House at 7.15 a.m. there were a lot of disgruntled and disenchanted looks among many of the players. However, somehow we managed to arrive at that time - except for Sean McManus who more sensibly weighed in at 7.30 a.m.

It wasn't long before disaster struck when Niall 'Bootsie' Ward remembered that he had brought everything (including a pair of slippers) but somehow forgotten to pack his football boots.

Although we knew that we were in for a long journey (7 hours including stops) it still felt like an eternity when Micky Kettle began singing.

We soon discovered that even Eugene McGlone and Paul Denvir could talk when they felt driven to voice their disapproval of the constant barrage of silly jokes from Thomas Maguire.

After enduring such an arduous journey we were all pleasantly surprised to discover that our hotel was extremely welcoming and comfortable.

We all settled into our rooms, unpacked and immediately launched into a training session under the guidance of no other than Liam Griffen (Wexford Manager 1996) combined with Mr. McToal and Mr. Austin (St. Mary's manager and coach 1997).

The hour long session spent with Liam Griffen was an invaluable and unforgettable experience for all concerned. Mr. Griffen emphasised the importance of team unity if a side is to be successful as All-Ireland Champions. He also underlined 'key words' which reflected how he thought the game should be played - fast and skillfully. Every player (even Larry Scullion) gave of their best in an attempt to impress Liam Griffen.

On the following day we had a training session with two famous Wexford players Martin Storey and Damian Fitzhenry. This was a fabulous experience for all the players but particularly for Ciaran Magee who simply idolises Martin Storey to the extent he often refers to him as 'The Messiah'

This session was kept simple as we were playing for a game in the afternoon against Bridgetwon Technical College. Damien Fitzhenry trained myself and Gareth Bellew on an individual basis in an attempt to improve our already 'All-Star potential' (not!).

I believe that this experience was tremendous and undoubtedly spurred on the players and was even more special for the two youngest team members - Gavin Bell and Kieran McGourty who are only fifth formers.

The match in the afternoon against the 'tech' proved extremely successful as we triumphed 4-11 to 0-5, a totally convincing scoreline. This was a fabulous team performance all round but special praise must go to Chris Clarke, Hugh Kennedy, Gareth Ward and Chris Hamill who all played absolutely brilliantly throughout.

On the Friday morning at 7.00 a.m. we all went for a walk along the beach before breakfast to waken us up. Afterwards we went for another light training session in preparation for a match that afternoon - this time under the guidance of Michael Kinsella. All of the players gained invaluable tips and knowledge about aspects of hurling from the Wexford coach.

That afternoon was our acid test (in terms of beating a Leinster 'A' College) against St. Peter's College, Wexford. From the first to the last whistle we played with our hearts and souls and were superb. Not only did we give our best performance as a team to date but we destroyed Leinster 'A' College 4-13 to 0-10. This scoreline and performance instilled so much confidence within the players that we felt we could match anyone. In an absolutely terrific performance a special mention must be given to Johnny Flynn, Micky Kerr, Kieren Grego, Gerard McNally and Micky McCullough who were all incredible with their efforts. The way we played in this game capped off a tremendous few days in Wexford which instilled a new belief and unity within the team.

Every single player enjoyed the trip and special thanks must be given to Messrs McGettigan, McToal and Austin for the time and effort they all put in to ensure that the trip was possible. I believe that the St. Mary's Wexford trip 1997 will live long in the memory of everyone involved (players, mentors and supporters).

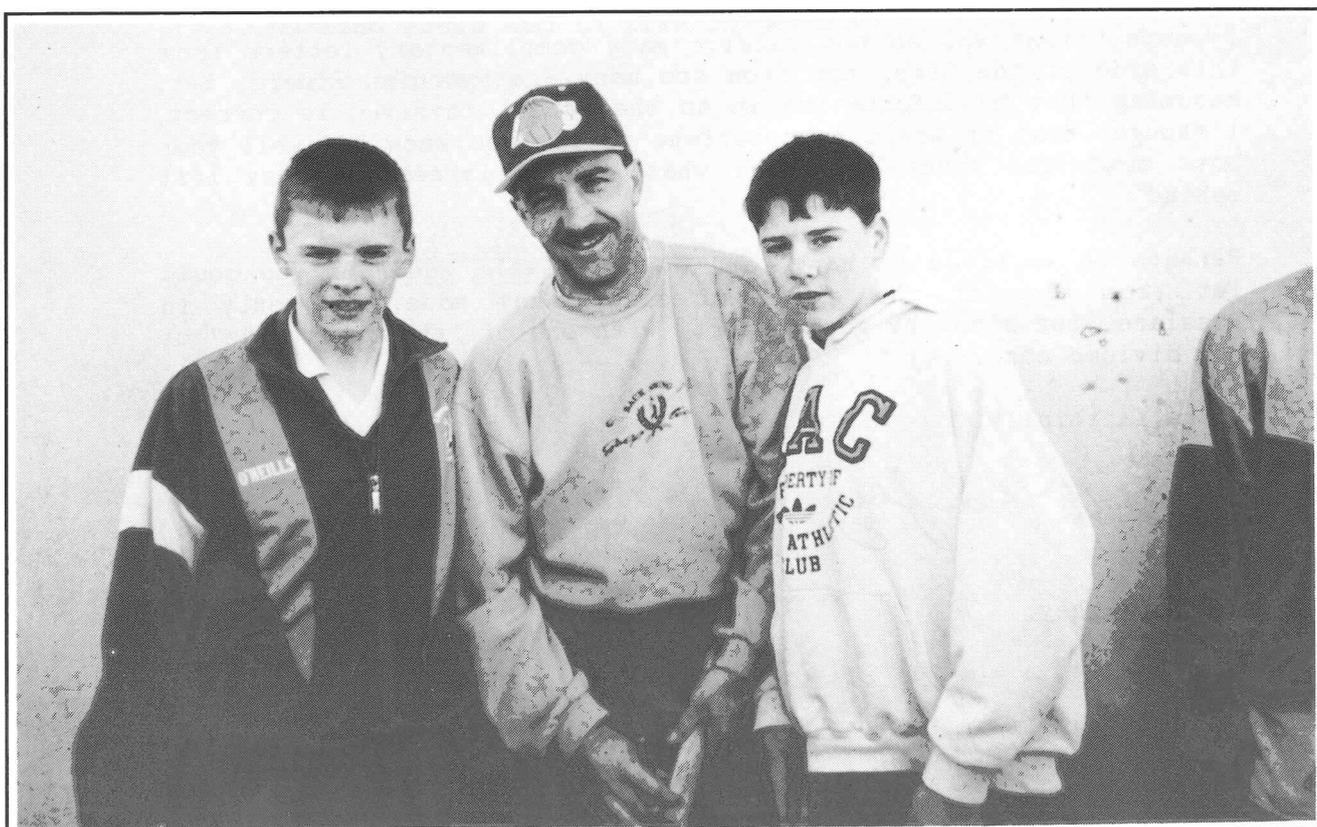
It was a great success and will undoubtedly help our efforts to secure an All-Ireland Colleges title in the future. (This would be a first in the school's history!). One thing for sure we will now redouble our efforts to achieve such a feat.

Our thanks to the staff and management of the Hotel Rosslare - without doubt the best hotel in Ireland.

**Cormac McKenna 14B**



*Some of the St. Mary's squad with Wexford goalkeeper Damien Fitzhenry and Head of Coaching in Wexford Michael Kinsella.*



*Seán McManus and Gareth Bellew with Wexford Captain Martin Storey.*

# John D. McCaughey

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St. Mary's Christian Brother's Grammar School,  
Glen Road,  
Belfast BT 11

19th February 1997

Dear Sir,

I have just returned from a business trip to Rosslare, where I stayed at the Rosslare Hotel, and felt compelled to tell you of the comments made this morning by my waiter and by the Hotel Manager, entirely spontaneously.

On my commenting that I was about to return to Belfast, they each said that, some two weeks ago, they had had a party of school-boys, (they said from St. Mary's, and they thought from Glen Road), down south on a hurling visit.

They each commented that, unusually for a school party away from home, who are frequently not well behaved, the boys from your school were exceptionally pleasant, well behaved, polite and a delight to have staying at the Hotel. The waiter also commented most favourably on their ability on the hurling pitch. They felt that the party was made up of very good ambassadors for Belfast and your school in particular.

I suspect that you do not receive many complimentary letters from this side of the City, nor from too many Presbyterian Elders, but, assuming that my information as to the school involved is correct, I thought that it would be opportune to let you know how well your boys conducted themselves, and what a good impression they left behind.

Perhaps it would do no harm, and even a little good, if you could let them know of the good impression they made, not only in Rosslare, but also, by good report, with one of "the other side" of our divided community !

Yours faithfully,



J. D. McCaughey.

# HOTEL ROSSLARE

*Feel the warmth*

Our Ref: CC/ND

21st February 1997

Mr Michael Crilly,  
St. Mary's C.B.S. Grammar School,  
Barrack Street,  
Belfast,  
Co. Antrim.

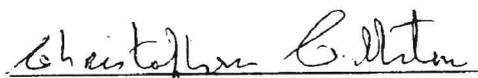
Dear Mr Crilly,

I am writing to you to thank you for allowing Hugh McGettigan to bring his group to our Hotel. It was a pleasure having them with us for the three days. The students are a credit to you, their teachers and their school. Their dedication to the game of hurling was evident in the way they behaved both in the Hotel and outside it.

I would have to say a special word of thanks to their teachers for their total co-operation with both the coaching programme and their itinerary in the Hotel.

I hope the team benefits from their visit to us on the hurling field and in life in general.

Yours sincerely,

  
CHRISTOPHER CULLETON, I.T.E.C.

Rosslare Harbour, Co. Wexford, Ireland.  
Telephone (053) 33110 Fax (053) 33386

HOTEL  GROUP

# Bank of Ireland Colleges All Stars

## Hurling

### Bank of Ireland All Stars 1997

#### Roll of Honour

Michael Kettle

Chris Hamill

Laurence Scullion

Johnny Flynn

Gareth Ward

Tommy Maguire

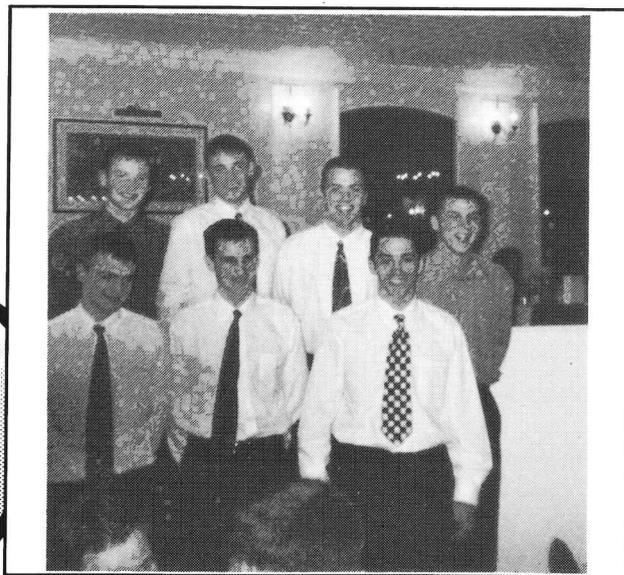
Kieren Grego

This year St. Mary's won seven prestigious awards - the highest number received by any school in one year. The players were honoured at a Gala Banquet hosted by the Bank of Ireland in the Drumsill House Hotel in Armagh on March 22<sup>nd</sup> 1997.

The players were presented with special plaques to mark the occasion along with a specially designed Ulster Colleges All-Star rig. The awards were not only presented for outstanding hurling ability but sportmanship on the field of play. Down's double All-Ireland winner James McCartan made the presentations.

The special guest at the function was Mr. Eamonn McCartan - Chief Executive of the Northern Ireland Sports Council. In his speech he thanked the Bank of Ireland for their continual sponsorship of sport and congratulated all hurlers and footballers for their outstanding achievements. He wished them well in their future careers.

Also present were the All Stars' parents and families who were extremely gratified to see the boys honoured in this way.



*All Star Team 1997*

*Back Row: Gareth Ward, Johnny Flynn,  
Lawrence Scullion, Tommy Maguire.*

*Front Row: Michael Kettle,  
Chris Hamill, Kieran Grego.*

# SECOND YEAR HURLING

## McNAMEE CUP

### THE CUP

The name of the cup came from a man called Padraig McNamee. He was born in Armagh but moved to Antrim and lived in a house just outside Randalstown. He was a teacher, a fluent Irish speaker and also became President of the GAA and served two terms. The Cup was donated by his wife for the Ulster under 13 1/2 hurling competition.

### THE PATHWAY TO THE FINAL

In our group there were four other schools; Cross and Passion (Ballycastle), La Salle, St. Patrick's (Maghera) and Portaferry. In our first match we played Cross and Passion and lost although we were missing players. Our second game was against La Salle. By this time we had got our injured players back. We were dreading this game but eventually came out clear winners. Portaferry was the third game which we won easily.

St. Patrick's, Maghera, pulled out through not winning a game and did not play us. The quarter finals were hard and we were drawn against C.B.S., Glen Road. We played them up at Lamh Dhearg. It was tough but we won eventually. In the semi-final we played St. Patrick's, Knock and held them off comfortably enough. We were so happy we were in the final. During the play-off stages, St. Mary's outstanding players were: Aidan Shannon, Paul Brunty, Declan Hasson and Finbar Austin.

### THE FINAL

We trained hard for this game and had to come in to train on school holidays. On the morning of the big day we had to be down at Casement Park for 10.15 a.m. The match didn't start to 11.00 but this gave us time to get changed and psyched up. The team was named as:

M. Herron  
K. McDonald A. Shannon C. McCallan  
J. Gilliland A. Hartigan (Capt.) P. Brunty  
K. Martin F. Austin  
D. Hasson M. McCorry G. McAreavey  
E. Grieve T. Irvine A. Gallagher



*The McNamee Cup Team*

Ballycastle got the best possible start with a goal in five minutes. We pulled back well and at half time we were winning 4-1 to 1-0. In the second half we pulled away even more with Ballycastle only scoring two points. By the end of the game we had won 6-6 to 1-2 and this set up the first leg of a double for St. Mary's. St. Mary's outstanding players in the final were: Mick Herron, Kevin McDonald, Aidan Hartigan, Sean McAreavey and Eamon Grieve.

Congratulations to all involved and thanks to our hard working coaches, Hugh McGettigan and Peter Rogan.

### **McNamee Cup Team**

- |                                     |                        |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. M. Herron                        | 13. E. Grive (3-0)     |
| 2. K. McDonald                      | 14. T. Irvine          |
| 3. A. Shannon                       | 15. A. Gallagher (1-0) |
| 4. C. McCallan                      | 16. D. McManus         |
| 5. J. Gilliland                     | 17. P. Mullan          |
| 6. A. Hartigan <i>Captain</i> (0-1) | 18. G. McLaughlin      |
| 7. P. Brunty                        | 19. D. Hughes          |
| 8. K. Martin                        | 20. G. Hamilton        |
| 9. F. Austin                        | 21. E. Duffy           |
| 10. D. Hasson                       | 22. M. Bradley         |
| 11. M. McCorry (0-2)                | 23. P. Dougan          |
| 12. S. McAreavey (2-3)              | 24. K. Chesney         |

## THE CLASS LEAGUE

The class league gives all First Years interested in representing St. Mary's in Gaelic Football a chance to impress the manager. It also gives First Years an opportunity to get to know their class better and most of all to enjoy themselves.

Messrs Quigg, Crudden and Rasdale organised this year's league to great success. Star performances from Sean McAreavey, Michael Herron and Sean Gough enabled 1D to take the title. Quotes from the management give us an idea of how good the victors were.

"The best team I've seen in a long time."

"An excellent side."

"A team for the future."

After the class league had ended, the 1D side went on to, in the words of Sean Gough, "meet and defeat" two First Year select teams.



*Winners of the 1st Year Football Blitz.  
Pupils from 1D pictured with Mr. M. Crilly.*

Every game, the managers were thinking hard about the first panel. There were so many good footballers which made their selection that little bit more difficult. In the end, two squads were picked. An 'A' Team and a 'B' Team. The 'A' Team is one of excellent ability and the managers are hoping for big things in the Belfast League and Cup and also in the Ulster Colleges blitz at the end of the year.

**Michael Herron (8D)**

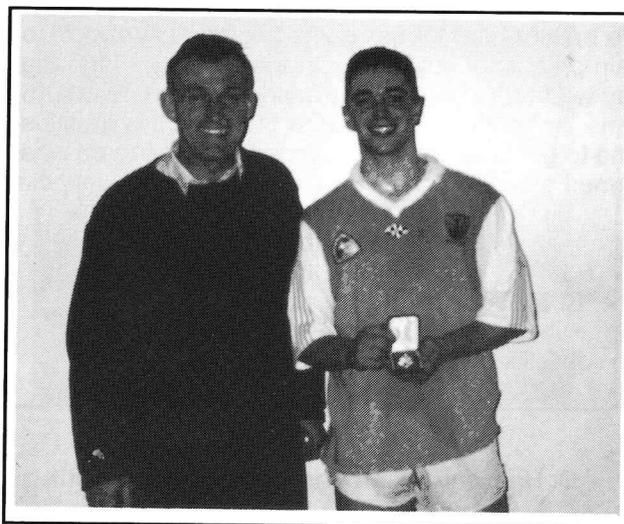
## HANDBALL

### ALL IRELAND COLLEGES SENIOR

The first round of the Ulster Colleges were held in St. McCartan's College, Monaghan where Ricky McCann played Ciaran Meenagh from Omagh C.B.S. This was the longest match lasting almost two hours but in the end, Richard beat his old rival, 21-14, 17-21 and in the tie breaker, 21-6. The final saw Richard play Ciaran Brady from St. Patrick's, Cavan and he won this game 21-1, 21-4.

In the All-Ireland semi-final, Richard travelled to Tydarnet where he met Brian Tansey the Connaught Champion. This proved another convincing win 21-7, 21-6.

The All-Ireland final was played in Loklip just outside Dublin. Richard played Paul Coleman from Munster who was coached by the Golden Gloves Champion, Eddie Corbett. This was an excellent game. Richard's strength in serving and speed about the court proved too much for Paul and he stormed on to win the game, 21-11, 21-12 giving the North its first All Ireland senior Colleges singles medal.



*Ricky McCann - All Ireland Senior  
Colleges Singles Champion with Mr. C. Monaghan.*

## St. Mary's Water-Polo

1996 was a highly successful year in water-polo. Our U19 team regained the Gallagher Trophy by winning the Irish U19 Cup last March in Gormanstown College, Co. Meath. Then after Easter, the team regained the Canada Trophy for Ulster Schools at U19 when they eased in front of arch local rivals, La Salle on goal difference in an exciting competition in the Falls Swim Centre.

Finally, in November, after quite a few years, the U16 squad recaptured the All-Ireland U16 Cup with a superb series of comprehensive victories in a competition featuring thirteen teams from all over Ireland. The U16 team was led by Nicky Birch as Captain and consisted of: Ronan McGlue, Damien McComb, Dermot Campfield, Barry Crookes, Gerard Brown, Michael Gillen and Gerard Armstrong in goals.

The U19 team was captained by Peter Corscadden and consisted of Conor Campfield, John Magee, Mark McDonald, Martin and Damien McComb, Nicky Birch, Peter Cassidy and Sean Crookes. Mark, John and Sean and Peter Corscadden have all left St. Mary's. I wish them every success in the future and thank them for their dedication and commitment to St. Mary's School water-polo.

We are currently in the process of rebuilding at Junior Level. So, if any pupil is interested in one of the most demanding yet enjoyable team sports with a very long and successful tradition here, please contact me about the times of our weekly training session in the school pool.

**Mr. J. McClean**  
(Water-Polo coach)

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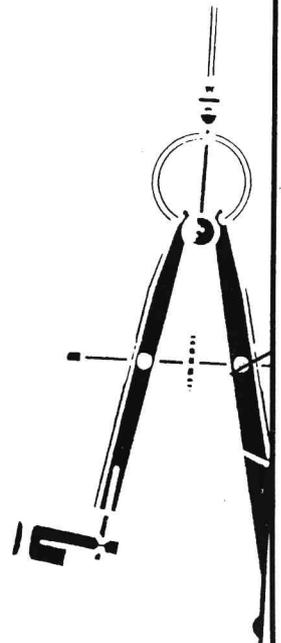
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# ALL IRELAND SCHOOLS/COLLEGES JUDO CHAMPIONSHIPS

In December 1996, four pupils attended the All Ireland Schools/Colleges Judo Championships in Portmarnock, Dublin. It was the first time that St. Mary's had entered players in this tournament, which had a large number of entrants from all over Ireland.

Fifth year brown belt, Paul McKee, got the school off to a good start. He fought exceptionally well in the under 50 kg category and won, what should have been a difficult final, in convincing style. Sixth year black belt, David Griffiths, took a gold medal in the schools over 65 kg category, winning all his fights inside the time limit.

There were also gold medals for two seventh year black belts in the Colleges competition. Neil Ryan won the under 65 kg category when he arm-locked his opponent into submission in his final fight. Neil Pimley completed a successful day with a well executed throw to take the under 71 kg title.

All four boys are members of the Yamakwai Judo Club, which is based in Andersonstown Leisure Centre and coached by Jimmy Ward. This performance made St. Mary's the most successful team from all the schools and colleges that competed at the championships.



*All Ireland Schools Judo Winners.  
Left to Right: Paul McKee, Neil Pimley,  
David Griffiths, Neil Ryan.*

**Neil Ryan (14C)**



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# BOXING

The Cunningham brothers, Liam and Harry, who box for the Saints Club in Twinbrook, have similar records in that they have both won six Co. Antrim, six Nine County Ulster, six Northern Ireland Boy's Clubs and four All-Ireland titles each.

Liam, who is nineteen and is studying for his 'A' Levels, is now the current Irish Senior champion. He has represented Ireland at schoolboy and youth level six times and he is a junior Olympic Gold Medalist.

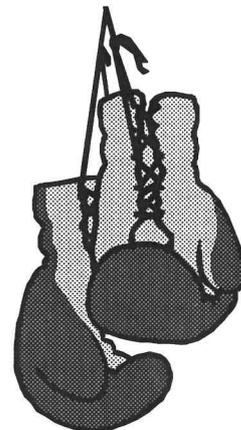
Harry (13E) won the Gaelic Games Gold Medal in Canada last year and he has also represented Ulster and Ireland at youth level. Both boys have won the United Kingdom National Association of Boys Club in England and both boys were awarded 'Most Stylish Boxer' of the Championship. Liam will be representing Ireland at all international contests this season which will include matches in Sweden, Greece and Finland and Harry is hoping to represent Ireland at the European Under 18's.

## BOXING ACHIEVEMENTS

### **Liam Cunningham - Saints A.B.C.**

- 1 All Ireland Senior Title.
- 3 All Ireland Boy and Youth Titles.
- 1 United Kingdom N.A.B.C. Gold Medalist.
- Junior Olympic Gold Medalist (in USA).
- 7 Co. Antrim Titles.
- 7 Ulster Titles.
- 6 Northern Ireland Boys Clubs Titles.
- Represented Ireland six times.
- Represented N. Ireland Boys Clubs v Chicago.

Total Contests	-	55
Won	-	48
Lost	-	7

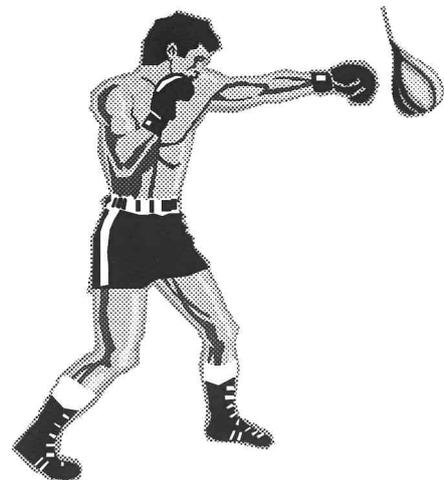


## BOXING ACHIEVEMENTS

### **Harry Cunningham - Saints A.B.C.**

- 6 Co. Antrim Titles.
- 6 Nine County Ulster Titles.
- 6 Northern Ireland Boys Clubs Titles.
- 4 All Ireland Titles.
- 2 All Ireland Finals.
- 1 United Kingdom N.A.B.C. Title Gold Medal.
- 1 United Kingdom N.A.B.C. Finalist.
- Gaelic Games Gold Medalist.
- Ulster Representative.
- Ireland Representative.
- Represented Northern Ireland Boys Club v Chicago.

Total Contests	-	46
Won	-	43
Lost	-	3



# The Fight

Emotions flew at the weigh-in. The Celtic Warrior versus the Dark Destroyer, what a match up! 14 st of muscle versus 14.8 st of muscle.

Collins was 0.8 of a stone over and Benn was right on the nose. Aggressive comments were exchanged before the two fighters left the platform. Times and dates were prepared in advance. **The time:** 9.30 p.m., **the date:** Saturday 19th October, **the place:** Manchester's Syntec Arena. The crowd dispersed quietly and looked forward to watching the fight.

Ten days later the stage was set, the fighters were ready and people had laid their bets. Six months earlier Collins had beaten Benn and taken the W.B.A. Middleweight Championship belt off him. Now it was Benn's turn to upset the odds.

Sweat shone from their bodies as they approached the ring. As they entered, Collins determined as ever said something. Benn replied and the two men nearly

got into a tussle. The referee stopped it and warned both of them. The referee spread out his arms and the bell rang.

The two fighters exchanged blows. Collins caught Benn with a right hook and then Benn replied with an upper-cut. Arms flew and heads banged until the bell rang. Both fighters retreated to their corners eyeing each other the whole way. A minute later they were at it again. Collins punched his way to the ropes where he unleashed devastating blows to the head and body.

Then came the sixth round. Both men were tired but still as determined as ever. Towards the end of the round, Collins threw, what seemed to be a harmless punch, but it caught Benn off balance and left him staggering. The bell rang. Benn retired hurt and Collins was the champion once again.

**Kevin Holmes (9G)**

## PATRICK SARSFIELD

I belong to what I believe to be the best G.A.A. club in Ireland, Patrick Sarsfield G.A.C.

This club was named after a heroic Irishman who was born in 1650 in Lucan, Co. Dublin. Patrick received his education in France as Irish-Catholics were forbidden an Education by Cromwell's laws. He became a professional soldier and fought many battles. His most famous battle was "The Siege of Limerick". In 1691, Sarsfield outmanoeuvred William of Orange who was then forced to retreat.

To save the people of Limerick from being massacred, a treaty was signed by Sarsfield and others with William, part of which included their exile to France. This became known as the 'Flight of the Earls'. In 1693, Patrick Sarsfield was killed fighting for the French at the Battle of Handen. Sarsfield's name is today well known and there is even a football team named after him in Argentina.

**Canice McGarrigle (10B)**

## ERIC CANTONA

In nineteen sixty six,  
On the 24th of May,  
A little boy was born,  
In the French town of Marseilles.

Twenty six years later.  
He was playing for Leeds,  
But he soon found even they,  
Could not fulfil his dreams.

So Eric came to move,  
To a team he'd help go higher.  
The stadium, Old Trafford,  
Was about to be set on fire.

He played with flair and style,  
And the goals just flooded in.  
He turned the team around,  
And secured a double win.

They came so close to losing him,  
All throughout his ban,  
But luckily Ferguson made sure,  
They kept their favourite man.

Now they've won another double,  
And they all unite and sing,  
About that little French boy,  
Who became Eric, the KING.

**Gerard Meehan (10B)**



# BHOYZONE

Every other Saturday a couple of dozen pupils make their way with various supporters clubs from West Belfast to Glasgow's east end to cheer on Celtic. For them the sixteen hour round trip is well worth it to watch their Hooped Heroes. Featured below are some of the pilgrims.

## Sean Turner (11B):

- First Match** : About four years ago. A 0-0 draw with Hearts. I remember the non stop singing on the ferry.
- Favourite Players** : Paolo Di Canio and Jorge Cadete. They both love to get the fans going.
- All time favourite Celt** : 'Jinky' Johnstone, I had my picture taken with him.
- Favourite Goal** : Pierre's last minute header against Motherwell. I was there!!!

## Joe Quinn (14F):

- First Match** : Scottish Cup Semi-Final against Hearts, 1988. Losing 1-0 with a minute or so left. We won 2-1, typical Celts.
- Favourite Players** : Paolo and Jorge - playing for the fans, not their wallets.
- All time favourite Celt** : 'Jinky'.
- Favourite Goal** : 1989 Cup Final winner by Joe Miller. A toe-poke, but it was against Rangers! He ran towards the Rangers end, blowing kisses!!!

## Donal O'Neill (11G):

- First Match** : November '96, a 1-0 win over Aberdeen; we went top!
- Favourite Players** : Paolo, he scored the first goal I'd ever seen at Parkhead.
- All time favourite Celt** : Packie Bonner, even though he'd lost his place he stayed with Celtic; he never wanted to leave.
- Favourite Goal** : Tommy Gemmill's left foot screamer against Inter Millan in 1967, which helped ensure that a Glasgow team would win the European Cup.

## Philip Quinn (12A):

- First Match** : September 1989, a 1-1 draw with Motherwell and a rare McStay header.
- Favourite Players** : Paul McStay, leads by example and always tries his best.
- All time favourite Celt** : Kenny Dalglish, a Rangers supporter who became a Celtic legend.
- Favourite Goal** : Pierre's header in the 1995 Cup Final. Our six year drought was over and Hampden erupted into "The Fields".

## **And Now:**

- First Match** : "1996 Cup Final, a 0-0 draw with Rangers, thank God I didn't go over for the replay" - *Mr E. Collins.*
- Favourite Players** : "Paul McStay, the Maestro" - *Mr. E. McToal*
- Best Legs** : "Malky McKay" - *Mrs. F. Marshall.* "Every one against Rangers!" - *Dr A. Donaldson*

## **If you know your history!**

Answers please in an envelope marked Celtic Quiz, to be in the school office within one week of publication of The Simmarian. First correct answer drawn will win a new Celtic top.

1. Which current celt was born in Porto Amelia, Mozambique on 27.08.68?
2. What was the score on penalties when Celtic lost to Aberdeen in the 1990 Cup Final?
3. Who managed Celtic between Billy McNeill's two spells from 1983-'87?
4. Who was Celtic's goal-keeper in the epic Cup Final against Dundee United in 1988?
5. Which Celtic great has an autobiography called, "In Sunshine and In Shadow"?
6. From which club did Celtic sign former Irish full-back, Chris Morris?
7. How many European Cup Semi-finals have Celtic played in?
8. Who scored Celtic's goal in the 1970 European Cup Final against Feyonord?

## **Hit The Net**

Last year Celtic became the first Scottish Club to launch its own official World Wide Web Site. For everything you need to know about Celtic, key in:

<http://www.celticfc.co.uk>

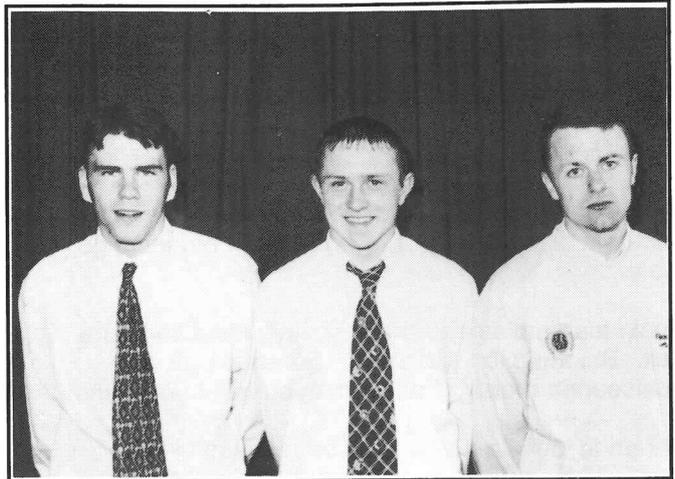


*Left to Right: Seán Turner,  
Joe Quinn, Philip Quinn.  
All keen Celtic supporters.*

# COMÓRTAS DÍOSPÓIREACHTA GAEL LINN

Ag tús na bliana cuireadh tús le comórtas díospóireachta Gael Linn. Comórtas idir scoileanna atá ann a thugann scoileanna as achan chearn den tír le chéile le cuidiú le dul chun cinn na Gaeilge. Bhí muid uilig, sin scoláirí A Leibhéil an 6ú bliain, ag dúil leis na díospóireachtaí mar bíonn giota craic le fáil iontu. I gceann tamaill roghnaigh an tUasal Ó Fearáin an tríúr a bhí le bheith mar bhaill den fhoireann. Bhí Seán Maskey mar chaptaen agus mar sin ba é an chéad chainteoir againn. Crístóir Ó Cianáin an dara cainteoir agus mise an tríú duine a labhair. Bhí orainn fanacht go ceann tamaill le fáil amach cé a mbeimis ina n-éadan, agus níos tábhachtaí arís cén rún a bheadh le plé againn ach nuair a tugadh an t-eolas sin dúinn thosaigh muid gan mhoill.

Reachtáladh an chéad bhabhta i Scoil Rís, Dún Dealgán. Bhí muid in éadan Coláiste Cholmáin, Iúir Cinn Trá, agus ghlac muid linn lucht leanúna s'againne a bhí ar mire, caithfidh mé a rá. "Tá forbairt na n-ollmheán cumarsáide ar leas an phobail", an rún a bhí againn. Bhí muidinne ar son an rúin agus bhí an lá linn. Bhí an chéad rún eile againn gan mhoill agus tosaíodh ar an ullmhúchán láithreach. "Táthar rófhlaithiúil le feirmeoirí an lae inniu", an rún a bhí le plé an iarraidh seo agus arís bhí muidinne ar son an rúin. Bhí an díospóireacht seo ar siúl i scoil s'againne



*Left to Right: Seán Maskey, Crístóir Ó Cianáin and Caoimhín Ó Fearáin.*

in éadan Scoil na Mainistreach, Iúir Cinn Trá, ach an t-am seo bhí an bua ag an fhoireann eile, ar an drochuair. Ba cheart iog a chur sa mhaide mhullaigh! 'Cleachtadh a dhéanann máistreach', a deir siad. Fan go bhfeice tú muid ar an bhliain seo chugainn!

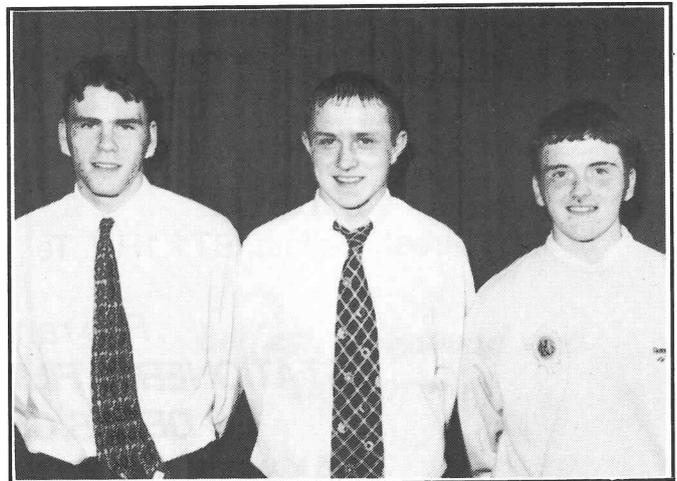
**Caoimhín Ó Fearáin (13H)**

## SIOS

Arís eile i mbliana ghlac Scoil Mhuire páirt i bhFIOS, comórtas tráth na gceist Gael-Linn i gcómhar le BBC. Bhí an chéad bhabhta i bhfoirm Quioz-boird i dTeach Ósta Ghleann na hAbhann, An Cora Críochach. D'éirigh leis an fhoireann s'againne dul ar aghaidh chuig an chéad bhabhta eile i gcuideachta seacht bhfoireann eile ó achan scoil sa Tuaisceart. Chomh maith leis an chraic a bhí againn, bhlaís muid sampla d'ardchaighdeán na gceisteanna a bhí le theacht.

Reachtáladh an dara babhta i Scoil Naomh Pádraig, Ard Mhacha, ach an iarraidh seo ní raibh ach dhá scoil i gceist, Scoil Mhuire, Machaire Fíolta agus muid féin, aghaidh ar aghaidh ar an Raidió. Bhain muid gan stró agus chuir muid iontas orainn féin an méid truíse a bhí ar eolas againn.

**Crístóir Ó Cianáin (13E)**



*Left to Right: Seán Maskey, Crístóir Ó Cianáin, Seadhna Billings,*



# TRÁCTH na gCEIST

Chuaigh muid go Sólann Bhaile Andarsan agus bhí quioz Gaeilge ann. Chuaigh muid go dtí an halla mór agus shuigh muid inár ngrúpaí. Rinne muid réidh don quioz. Thosaigh sé agus bhí na ceisteanna iontach crua. Bhí na ceisteanna ar eolas gineáralta.

Bhí daoine ansin ó gach scoil i mBéal Feirste agus áiteanna eile. Bhí sé iontach crua ach bhí muid go maith.

Ansin fuair muid na torthaí. Tháinig muid sa darna háit. Bhí muid iontach sásta. Bronnadh na duaiseanna orainn. I ndiaidh an quioz bhí céilí ann.

Bhí an lá iontach maith agus bhí na daoine iontach cairdiúil. Ba mhaith linn dul ar ais!

**Breandán, Diarmuid, Pádraig agus Pól (10D)**



*Left to Right: Brendan Herron, Patrick Hall,  
Paul Maguire, Dermot Campfield.*



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# 'AN APPRECIATION OF RORY O'PREY'

Last year saw the early retirement of Rory O'Prey from St. Mary's Teaching Staff. Rory or "Rope" as he was known to the boys, has a long association with both St. Mary's and the Christian Brothers in Belfast. He, his brother Harry and his cousins, the O'Preys and the Rices, were all C.B. past pupils and Rory first began the association over 50 years ago when as a very young boy he enrolled in 1946 in the Christian Brothers' School, Donegall Street. It was in Donegall Street that he first developed his life-long interest in Music for he was chosen by Brother Aidan Byrne R.I.P. to sing and dance in the famous concerts run by the Brothers in the early post-war years in St. Mary's Hall. He also began to study piano around that time.

In 1955 Rory transferred to St. Mary's C.B. Grammar School in Barrack Street where he remained until he commenced Queen's University in 1959. While in Barrack Street he joined a skiffle group playing guitar and at Queens he formed and played in a group with a young piano player and fellow student Phil Coulter from Derry. It was also at Queen's that Rory developed an interest in German history which awakened in him a passion for things German.

After graduation, Rory found a post as a teacher in St. Patrick's, Downpatrick where he remained for two years before returning to Belfast and his old Alma Mater, Barrack Street, to take up the position of teacher of Irish, English, French and R.E. and, apart from one year spent teaching the girls of St. Louise's in 1976-77 (definitely not his cup of tea), it was in St. Mary's that Rory remained until his recent retirement. In the '70's his interest in German history led him to study part-time for a degree in German and eventually he began teaching German here, and became our first Head of the German Department. He also organised a number of very enjoyable school trips to the Rhineland and became heavily involved in the R.A.Y. group (Renewal for Action and Youth) which encouraged young people to employ their energy in helping others and not to waste it in addiction to drink, which was a growing problem among the young.

Rory was also involved in setting up the Senior Prefect system, at the behest of Brother Kelly (former Headmaster), and for many years wisely guided the various formal committees as well as entertaining the Staff and their guests at a number of school functions with his group "Windmill". He was indeed a most valuable asset to the school, well liked by virtually all the boys he taught, respected by his fellow professionals for his commitment, concern and his own professionalism, and held in high and fond regard by that bunch of veterans on the staff whom he regarded as particularly close friends and associates. He greatly appreciates the very happy years spent at what he regards as one of the best schools in the country.



Mr. R. O'Prey

On behalf of all the Staff of St. Mary's, I wish Rory a long, healthy and hearty retirement and continued happiness to him, Ann and family.

Mr Jim McClean

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## **Amnesty International**

Malachy McKavanagh, spokesman for the West Belfast branch of Amnesty International, recently gave a talk to sixth and seventh year students about the work undertaken by the group on behalf of prisoners of conscience in several countries around the world. In particular attention was drawn to the situation in East Timor, a small country in the Pacific, in which the most appalling genocide is occurring. Since the 1975 invasion of the country by Indonesia - with the support from the U.S., Australian and U.K. governments - more than 200,000 people (one third of the Timprese population) have been killed by the Indonesian authorities.

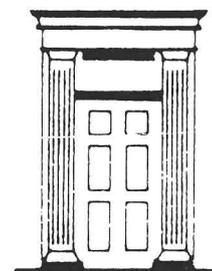
The content of the spokesman's speech and interest generated by it, led to the formation of a branch of Amnesty International in the school.

Anyone interested in joining should contact **Conor Forde 13C, Mrs. Breen or Dr. Donaldson.**



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# “Oh, ‘What A Night.....!’”

The time: 7.30 p.m. The place: Forte Post House, Dunmurry. The date: 3rd October 1996. The event: St. Mary’s Senior Formal!!!

Months of hard work and preparation by Mr Hegarty and the formal committee had gone into this one night at the beginning of October and expectations were running high. For literally months in advance, lowly Sixth years had buried away the shillings, taken chronic amounts of overtime at work, or even begged reluctant parents for the vital cash that would ensure the dapper dinner-suit and the celebratory drink (or two!). The summer had gone slowly and the exams were coming increasingly nearer.

Limousines, Mercedes and even funeral cars snaked their way towards the Forte Post House with expectant revellers held inside. The complimentary champagne was consumed with gusto. On arrival, gentlemen held open doors for ladies while others fled from the cold. Once inside, smiling faces were everywhere, even on the faces of the staff who were at all times very friendly. In the lobby one couldn’t help but notice one particular seventh year’s BLUE shirt, worn to ensure originality, or those who stood out a mile in their white tuxedos. It was clear to see that collective hours of preparation had gone into ensuring that every single girl would look her very best.

The meal was a standard one, but was an irrelevancy as the conversation at the tables was reaching fever pitch. Talk centred around how much make-up Gerard May had applied, and the nature of Gary Flynn’s waist-coat, (“A tin of shortbread wouldn’t be in it”). The teachers were banished to the far corner of the hall and rumour had it that Mr Sheerin was handing out detention to anyone caught laughing at the woman who dropped the plates at the start of the dinner. Oh well, once a teacher .....



Andrew McCarron 14F  
with his partner

After the meal, D.J. Ray limbered up to start the music for the disco and it was then that the party really began. The “Macarena” was the song of the hour and some people on the dance floor spent most of their time learning the dance steps. The bar staff were kept busy all night with one half of the bar taken up with about five gallons of orange juice for Mr Murphy, and the other half shared equally between Dr Donaldson and Mr Gerry Vernon, who seemed to be competing to see who could have the most drink bought for them. (“We’ll have a Guinness each, Marty!”).

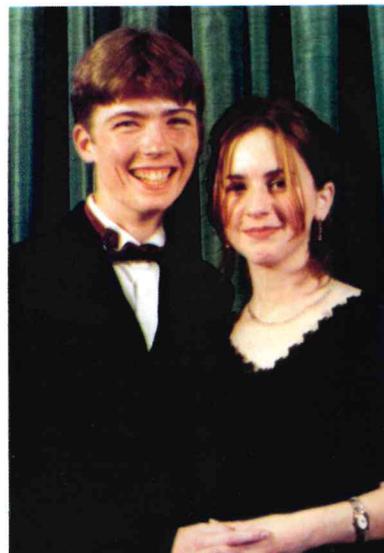
Paul Morris was kept busy all night by those who wanted to preserve the night in print, although admittedly some had to be held up for the photograph. His shots were continually disturbed by people passing through the photographic area on their way to the toilets. Flashbulbs popped all night from the disposable and aptly named “Fun Cameras” as groups of “Friends” (Brendy Grieve) collected together with hugs and smiles.

As the evening drew to a close, boyfriends went looking for girlfriends and Stephen Mason went looking for his jacket. Then everyone was onto the buses or into taxis and the rest, as they say, is history!!!

Martin Flynn (14E)



James Tiernan 14A  
with his partner



Rory McDonnell (14F)  
with his partner

14A 1996 - 97



David Caldwell



Peter Cassidy



Ruairi Conlon



James Harvey



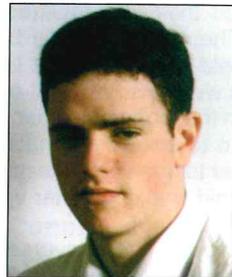
Gerard Keenan



Thomas McCabe



Martin McIlvenny



Sean Mullan



Michael Quinn



James Tiernan



Paul Whinnery

**ABSENT**

Sean Fitzpatrick  
David McCabe

14B 1996 - 97



Russell Allen



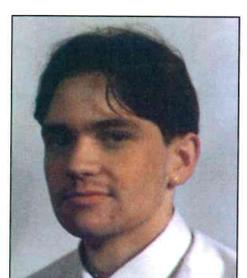
David Connolly



Ciaran Donnelly



Liam Kane



Paul Lamb

**14B 1996 - 97** *continued*

**Seventh Year 1996 - 97**



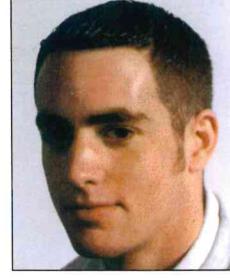
Gareth McCallion



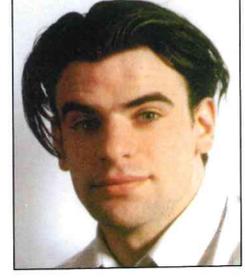
Cormac McKenna



Christopher Oliver



Ciaran Stitt



Conor Thornbury

**ABSENT**

Sean Green

**14C 1996 - 97**



Damien Broderick



John Paul Connor



Ciaran Gallagher



Conor Magennis



William McAuley



Stephen McDonnell



Michael McErlean



Brendan McManus



Peter Quinn



Neil Ryan



Ronan Scannell

**ABSENT**

Sean Farrell

**14D 1996 - 97**



Paul Boyle



John Bradley



Arthur Carson



James Collins



Aidan Cullen



Stephen Donnelly



Kevin Dyer



Christopher Fisher



Christopher hamill



Damian Higgins



Mark Hughes



Conor McHugh



Ciaran Murphy



Neil Pimley

**ABSENT**

David Baker  
David Carville  
Paul Casey

14E 1996 - 97



Conall Bennett



Gary Crosbie



Anthony Devlin



Martin Flynn



Brendan Grieve



Mark Lamb



Patrick Loughran



Gerard May



Peter McKenna



Francis Morgan



Mark Reel



Raymond Wilkinson

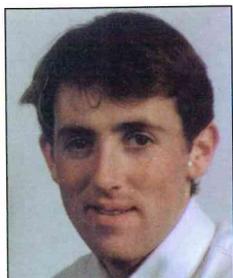
**ABSENT**

John McAllister

14F 1996 - 97



Patrick Cairns



Denis Cormican



Joseph Irvine



Kevin Kelly



Terry McCabe

14F 1996 - 97 *continued*

Seventh Year 1996 - 97



Richard McCann



Andrew McCarron



Rory McDonnell



Bernard McKeaveney



John Paul McKee



Niall McMorrow



Aidan Owens



Joseph Quinn



Conor Skelly

14G 1996 - 97



Brendan Burns



Kieran Devlin



Colm Fanning



Eamon Farrell



Gavin Fee



Gary Flynn



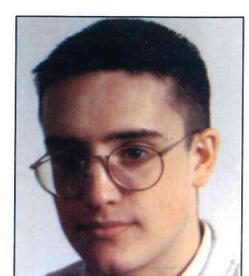
Eamon Gamble



Kevin Heaney



Martin Kilifin



Stephen Mason

14G 1996 - 97 *continued*

Seventh Year 1996 - 97



John McCullough



Declan McGinley



Neil A McIlroy



Martin Robb

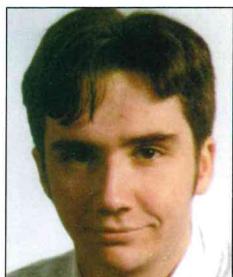


Christopher Toman

14H 1996 - 97



Oisin Billings



Conor Blaney



Conor Burke



Conor Campfield



John Paul Canavan



Daniel Devine



Sean Dobbin



Aidan Fitzpatrick



Declan Gamble



Charles Johnston



Paul Magee



Thomas Maguire



James McCallum



John McCambridge

**ABSENT**

Gary Millen

**14I 1996 - 97**



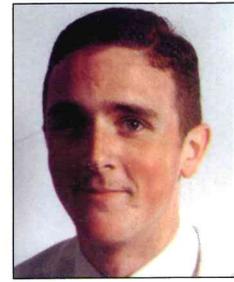
Ryan Barr



Jonathan Flynn



Kieren Grego



Michael Kerr

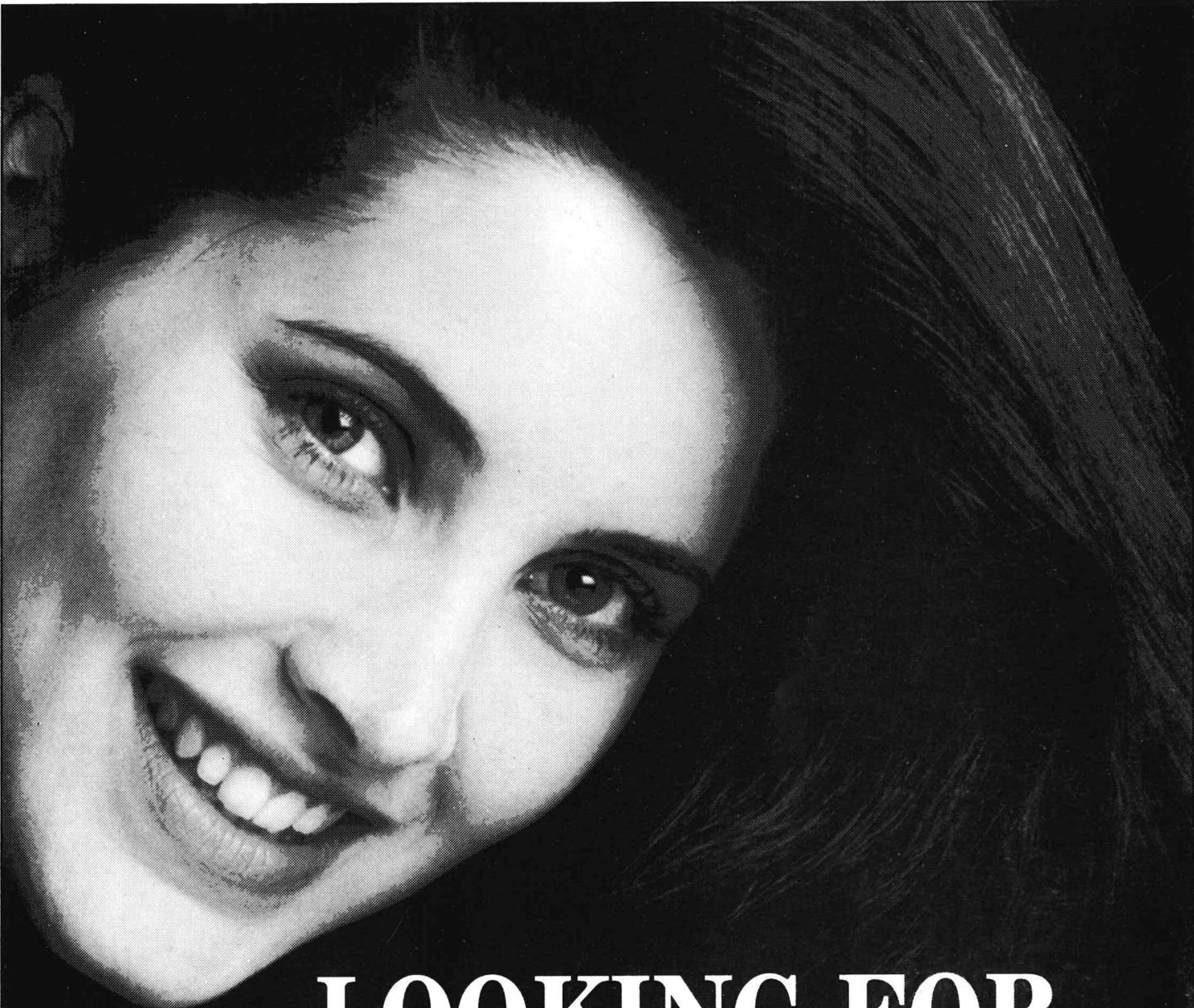


Kieron McCann

**Seventh Year 1996 - 97**

**ABSENT**

Luke Agnew  
Liam Cunningham  
Daniel Mateer  
Ciaran McKenna  
Paul McLarnon  
Christopher Mohan  
Patrick Sansome



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