

SPECIAL
POINTS OF
INTEREST:

- Good Luck Jason McMahon in your Junior Cert.
- Band re-opens on 28th August
- Special Offer Bagpipes for sale (page 2)
- Eoghan Carey earns 77 BTCs

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Newsletter

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SUMMER 2008

Season's Finale

Saturday, July 5th will see the band's participation in the 63rd All Ireland Pipe Band Championships in Ennis. This will mark the culmination of this year's very successful playing season. Following the event the band will close for summer holidays.

Our participation at this, our 3rd contest this year, is particularly noteworthy as many of our participants only commenced playing this year. In previous years more experienced band members frequently mused.....we should enter contests and..... why don't we enter contests?... but, when it really came down to it, they lacked the determination, dedication and direction to bring their plans to fruition.

Our current members have overcome all these obstacles. The presence of a strong officer corps in the band provided a stable base on which to build.

The commitment of all members to additional practice and in particular home practice became apparent.

This enthusiasm encouraged external tutors to take an interest in the band and our sincere appreciation and thanks must go to Tommy O'Carroll in particular and also Catriona Hickey both from Cullen Pipe Band for their work with our drummers.

The outstanding input of our own band tutors must also be acknowledged... our sincere thanks to them.

Band will re-commence after the summer break with a full practice on Thursday, 28th August in preparation for our participation at the Milford Hospice Annual Harvest Fare which will be held on Sunday 31st August.



BAND OFFICERS: (Clockwise from left) Drum-Major Jason McMahon, Pipe-Major Andy O'Riordan, Pipe-Sergeant Conor Coughlan, Pipe-Corporal Damien Kelly, Bass-Drummer Dylan O'Sullivan, Drum-Corporal Adam O' Riordan and Drum-Sergeant Jamie Stewart.

Our best wishes for success go to Drum Major Jason McMahon who sat his Junior Cert. exam this year.



Congratulations to our Competition Band on their performances at the South of Ireland and the Munster Pipe Band Contests. Also a special well done to Drum Major James Hackett on his personal success at both events.

Upgrade of Uniforms & Equipment

Not alone has the band achieved playing success this year but it has also managed to significantly upgrade its uniforms and equipment.

Items purchased include:

- Band Hoodies,
- Inverness Rain Capes,
- Waistcoats,
- Sporrans.
- A number of extra small kilts
- Pipe & drone reeds
- Glengarries, gillie brogues and socks

The kind offer by parents to transport band members in their cars to a number band

engagements has resulted in an estimated saving in the region of € 1,500.00 on coach hire costs for the year.

This, combined with the proceeds of our fundraising events, means that we are now in a position to purchase a number of new sets of bagpipes for the band which are badly needed.

The band's present bagpipes were donated by a local businessman to the band over 10 years ago and have served us well over the years. However, over the last two years in particular they have been subject to an expensive series of running repairs in order to keep them operational.

We are hoping to recruit additional pipers this autumn with a view to doubling the strength of our pipe corps.

We estimate that the band will require 10 additional sets of bagpipes but we can obtain a better bulk deal from our supplier if we purchase 15 sets.

With this in mind we have placed the order for 15 sets of bagpipes and, as a "once-off-deal" we will offer **5 sets for sale to band members at a special subsidised price of €200.00 each.**

Any piper wishing to avail of this offer should contact the Band Management Team.

www.cbspipeband.org

The band website has received considerable commendation since being set up earlier this year. It has received a significant number of "hits" not alone from within Ireland but also internationally, particularly from the United States. Fingers crossed for some major sponsor to take an interest!



Pipe Major Nicholas Kiely

Nikky Kiely oversaw a period of immense transition for the band.

A change of Directorship in CBS Pipe Band combined with the foundation of the new Curragour Pipe Band resulted in many of the band's senior members leaving.

Nikky stepped into the breach becoming Pipe Sergeant in 1979 and was promoted to Pipe Major in 1980.

On leaving school he unfortunately gave up piping in favour of other musical instruments, the saxophone in particular.

Ar dheis De go raibh a hanam.



James Cronin

James Cronin was never destined to be one of the band's more accomplished musicians despite his best efforts.

He initially joined the band as a flag bearer before moving to tenor drum, snare drum and eventually pipes. He was certainly versatile, if not proficient, as there are few band members over the years who can boast of parading in display corps, tenor corps, snare corps and pipe corps.

He was a popular member of the band for six years.

Suamhneas síoraí dá anam.

South of Ireland Festival of Piping & Drumming



Band Travel Credits (BTCs) for 2008 to date

With two weeks to go before final compilation of BTCs for this year the top three members are:

1. Eoghan Carey - 77 BTCs
2. Damien Kelly - 39 BTCs
3. Colin Byrnes - 33 BTCs

Band average is around 12 BTCs per member.

Eoghan's significant advantage was arrived at through his own participation in band events combined with the participation of his mother, father, grandmother, uncle and aunt in band fundraising events.

Similarly with the other two boys, the assistance given by family and friends boosted their BTC total.

Newer band members and their parents who are unfamiliar with the band's BTC system should note that this system was put in place to ensure the equitable distribution of band subsidisation of foreign travel events.

As with most organisations, the 80/20 rule became apparent a number of years ago. Basically 20% of the members account for approximately 80% of the fundraising. Parents at that time complained bitterly that some members were receiving the exact same amount of subsidy toward the foreign trips even though they had contributed very little towards them. These

parents became very disheartened to the extent that morale in the band was suffering.

The current situation is that the amount that the band can afford to subsidise the trip is divided by the total amount of BTCs thereby assigning a value to each BTC.

For example:

Total if band subsidy = €1200
and total BTCs = 600
Value of each BTC = €2

Therefore a boy with 30 BTCs will receive $40 \times €2 = €80$

While a boy with 10BTCs will receive $10 \times €2 = €20$



Congratulations to Eoghan Carey on earning 77 BTCs

2008 Playing Season

This year's playing season for the band comprised the following events:

- 21st January - President Mary McAleese launches Limerick Regeneration.
- 14th March - St. Patrick's Day parade, Bawnmore Centre, Limerick.
- 16th March - Limerick International Band Competition.
- 17th March - St. Patrick's Day parade, Limerick.

- 17th March - St. Patrick's Day parade, Shannon.
- 08th April - Umbro Senior Boys All Ireland Soccer Final.
- 27th April - "Tommy Birchall Tournament" at Na Piarasigh GAA Club.
- 05th May - Opening new GAA Pitch at Caherally, Grange.
- 10th May - Opening Ceremony of the Special Olympics at the University of Limerick

- 11th May - Closing Ceremony of the Special Olympics.
- 25th May - Fleadh Nua parade in Ennis
- 01st June - South of Ireland Festival of Piping and Drumming in Cobh
- 08th June - Feile na nOg Parade, Ard Scoil Ris to Gaelic Grounds.
- 22nd June - Munster Pipe Band Championships in Tralee
- 05th July - All Ireland Pipe Band Championships in Ennis.

"Congratulations to our Competition Band on their both Contests."

Organisation

CBS Pipe Band

Management Team

Barry Carey	Director Tel. 0872357922
Stephen Hayes	Assistant Director Tel. 0851422056
Ann O'Driscoll	Treasurer Tel. 0872481827
Eimear Purcell	P.R.O. Tel. 0876552587
Denis Carroll	Uniforms & Equipment Tel. 0851289598

Fundraising Coordinator

Bernie McNamara

Tutors

Justin Fitzgerald, Gerry O'Brien,
James Hackett

Parents

Aoife Carey (Uniforms)

The band was founded during the winter months of 1961 by Christian Brothers Br. John Kenny and Br. C Wright.

There followed an intensive programme over the next eighteen months to equip and train the band.

The band made its first ever public appearance in the Limerick St. Patrick's Day parade of 1963 and since then has only missed three St. Patrick's Day parades in its native city. On two occasions the band represented the city in the New York parade and once in the city of Cork parade.

The band has performed extensively throughout the thirty two counties of Ireland and beyond, having traveled on numerous occasions to Scotland, England, Wales, France, Germany, Holland, Belgium, Spain and the United States of America.

"Remember band will re-commence after the summer break with a full practice on Thursday, 28th August"

Munster Championships



Poet John Liddy Supports Band



Our sincere thanks to John Liddy who has offered to donate to the band his fee for a poetry reading he is giving in the White House Bar in Limerick on 16th July .

John Liddy was born in Youghal and grew up in the Rathbane area of Limerick. He moved to Madrid 25 years ago where he works as a teacher. He is the founding editor along with Jim Burke of *The Stony Thursday Book* and has edited bilingual issues with his brother Liam and Miguel Ortega. He is a teacher and librarian and lives in Madrid.

John's publications are *Boundaries* (1974), *The Angling Cot* (1991), *Song of the Empty Cage* (1997), *Wine and Hope* (1999), *Cast-A-Net* (2003) and *The Well: New and Selected Poems* (2007). Forthcoming are *La Barca de la Arena* (a translation by Francisco Rivero in Spanish of *The Angling Cot*) and *Poisonous Pleasure* (a translation by John Liddy from *Tosigo Ardento* by José Maria Álvarez).