

**SPECIAL  
POINTS OF  
INTEREST:**

- The next allocation of Band Travel Credits (BTCs) will occur in the first week of April.
- Participants on our forthcoming trip are encouraged to continue participating in the band's travel savings scheme.
- Bagpacking in Dunnes Stores Parkway Shopping Centre on Sunday 10th May.
- Annual flagday will be in mid May (date yet to be finalised). Adult support will be needed.

**INSIDE THIS  
ISSUE:**

Karaoke Night	2
James Carey	2
Presidential Performance	2
F.S.V.	3
Sponsors Band	
Italy Trip 2009	3
For Old Times Sake	3
Fundraising	3
Organisation	4
National Youth Pipe Band Concert	4

# Newsletter

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 8

SPRING 2009

## Best Local Band Award

There were happy faces all around when CBS Pipe Band was deservedly proclaimed "Best Local Band" at this year's Limerick International Band Parade which was held on Sunday 15th March.

A crowd of thirty thousand lined the route of the parade and witnessed the band's triumph.



The Mayor of Limerick Cllr. John Gilligan presented the trophy to a jubilant Pipe Major Conor Coughlan.

Many ex-members of the band, parents, grandparents, family members and friends were on hand to offer their congratulations to all of the members on their wonderful achievement.

## New Piping Officers



Introducing our recently appointed piping officers (*left to right*):

- Pipe Corporal Eoghan Carey
- Pipe Major Conor Coughlan and
- Pipe Sergeant Colin Byrne

We wish them every success in their new roles as officers and trust that they will uphold the tradition of excellence established by preceding officers over the years. Conor Coughlan has the distinction of being the 35<sup>th</sup> Pipe Major of the band.

## Proud Performance

On Friday, 13th March the band's officers paid a surprise visit to Mr. Frank Whelan and proudly performed for the original drumming instructor of our band who is recovering from recent surgery.

A founding member of the Limerick City Pipe Band in 1950, Frankie joined the CBS Pipe Band in 1961 training the first drum corps for their debut on St. Patrick's Day 1963.

Frankie complimented the boys on their musical skills and invited them into his home to view some old band photos.

The officers made a presentation of a band hoodie to Frankie and extended an open invitation to him to visit the band at any time as an honorary life member. Frankie accepted the invitation and agreed to visit when his health is restored.



**Membership****Fees**

*Our thanks to all members of the band for their prompt payment of membership fees for this season.*

*There are no further membership fees due until September*

# Karaoke Night

The Karaoke night held in the Imperial Bar on 4th November proved an extremely popular fundraising event raising just over €2000,00 towards band funds.

A special word of appreciation to Susanna Rooney who organised the event and to Leo Shine who assisted on the night.

Our thanks also to famous Limerick comedian Pascal O'Grady who presided over the raffle on the night. Pascal's longstanding support of band fundraising activities dates back to the 1970's when, as part of the Tom & Pascal comedy act, he entertained at various fundraising cabaret's held in the old school hall in Sexton Street.

The main prize of a bicycle (sponsored by Mc Mahon's Cycle World) was won by Piping Instructor Gerry O'Brien while the 2nd prize of a hamper was won by Noel O'Neill with the 3rd prize of a cuddly toy going to Caithlin Stewart.

There were many other winners of spot-prizes on the night and we thank all those who donated prizes, assisted in ticket sales or supported the band in other ways for this event.

**JAMES CAREY**

*The band extends its sympathy to the Carey family on the loss of Barry's father, Jim Carey, who died peacefully on 22nd March 2009.*

*R.I.P.*

# Presidential Performance

On 4th November 2008, the President of Latvia Mr. Valdis Zatlers visited Limerick as part of a three day visit to Ireland to coincide with the 90th anniversary celebrations of Latvian independence.

The first stop on his visit was at Presentation Secondary School where the red carpet was rolled out. Students from Presentation Secondary and Primary Schools were joined in forming a guard of honour by students from Coláiste Mhichíl Secondary School, Scoil Íosagáin Primary School and St. Michael's Infant School.



Mr Zatlers, who was accompanied by First Lady Lilita Zatlere, ambassadors and embassy officials, was then treated to a musical extravaganza in the school hall.

**Pipe Corporal Colin Byrnes** of the CBS Pipe Band was among the traditional musicians who performed for the president, playing a reel on the bagpipes. And the Presentation School Choir had even learned the words of the Latvian national anthem for the occasion.



## F.S.V. Sponsors Band

*We would like to express our appreciation and thanks to music shop F.S.V. Future Sound and Vision of Newtownmahon House, Mulgrave Street, Limerick who kindly donated seven new drum carriers to the band.*

*This is a major donation by a sponsor for which we are extremely grateful. We would encourage all band members, their families and friends to support this local business.*

*Our thanks also to Colin Byrne's dad, Martin, who carried out some modifications to the carriers to suit the band's Andante snare drums.*



## Italy Trip 2009

Arising from the cancellation by Ryanair of their scheduled flights from Shannon to Berlin we have been forced to change our travel plans for this year's trip.

Following discussions with participants and parents it was agreed that we are now travelling to Italy instead of Germany.

We will be flying from Shannon to Bergamo (Milan) on Thursday 1st October and returning from Treviso (Venice) on Monday 5th October.

The tour will include visits to

- Milan (including San Siro Stadium)
- Lake Garda (including boat trip on lake)
- Parco Naturo Viva (safari park)
- Gardaland Theme Park
- Verona (including Juliette's house)
- Venice (including waterbus)

The first and second deposits for the trip have been paid to the tour company and the final payment of outstanding monies will be due immediately prior to the band's summer holiday shut down at the end of June.

The band has already subsidised the 8.8% of the overall cost of the trip based on Band Travel Credits awarded in September 2008 and January 2009. The next subsidy will occur in early April based on BTCs earned for the period January to March 2009. We also would encourage those travelling to continue to avail of the band's ongoing travel savings fund (Confirmation money etc. will help!) in order to alleviate the expenses involved.

**Don't leave it all till the last minute!!!**

## For Old Times Sake

Well known Limerick political correspondent, journalist and author John Downing, himself an ex-pupil of Sexton Street, has kindly made a personal donation of €120 to the band. This is intended to assist in the retrieval from RTE of some archive footage of the band taken during JFK's visit to Limerick in 1963.



## Fundraising

Over the last number of months the band's expenditure on new uniforms, instrument parts, flag poles, flags, banner and transport has far exceeded our actual income despite recent bag-packing fundraisers in Dunnes Stores on the Childers Road in February and Dunnes Stores at the Parkway in March.

Our thanks to all who assisted on these fundraisers.

We will be having a further bag-packing fundraiser on Sunday, 10th May in Dunnes Stores at the Parkway and our flag-day in mid-May (date not yet finalised) and once again, we need adult support for these events.

Also, we are also looking for suggestions and assistance from parents in organising further fundraising events.

# **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, Mark Sheehan

### **Parents**

Aoife Carey (Uniforms)  
Stephen McMahon (Supervision)

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 Travel Credits (BTCs) are awarded for participation in fundraising events."*

## **National Youth Pipe Band Concert**

On Saturday 21st February, fifteen members of our band participated in the of the National Youth Piping and Drumming Ensemble's "Celtic Notes" concert which was held in Siamsa Tire, Tralee, County Kerry.

Following a full day of rehearsals, the concert commenced at 7.30pm, ran for two hours and was attended by many dignitaries including mayor of Tralee Cllr. Ted Fitzgerald.

More than 120 musicians from seventeen bands from all over the country participated on stage and, together with the Kingdom Dancers, Rinceoirí na Ríochta, performed a combination of contemporary and traditional music, song and dance which combined modern electronic instruments with traditional bagpipes and drums.

