

PRESENTATION COLLEGE UNION

PRESPOST

OCT. 2008

This year, 2008, marks the 75th. Anniversary of Presentation College Union founded in 1933 by Bro. Dr. Ignatius Connolly, a great and long serving Headmaster, popularly known as “The Man”. During the past 75 years the Union has attempted to serve the College and past pupils. We would like to pay tribute to all those who have served so loyally and faithfully over all those years and pray that they reap the blessings of their generosity.

The year 2008 was also one of continued growth and success for the College. The emphasis continues to be on a holistic approach to education and the fostering of students’ self-esteem and sense of security. The “Pres ethos” so long nurtured by the Brothers endures and continues to develop in the multiple and varied activities of the students.

Academically students achieved excellent results in the Leaving and Junior Certs. Over 30% of students gained 500 points or more in the Leaving Cert with pride of place going to Philip Bredin with 7A1s. The Junior Cert results were equally impressive and two students, Killian McCarthy and Jack Duffy got 10As.

There is a huge involvement by students, staff and management in sport. In **Rugby** the College had a very good year. Teams took part in 5 finals winning 3. The **Bowen Shield**, with victory over great city rivals CBC, was the highlight of the year and the Senior 2nds won the **Barry Cup**. Six Pres boys were capped for Ireland, with **Brian O’Hara** captaining the U18 team and **Peter O’Mahony** captaining the U19 squad. Considering that **Ronan O’Gara** captained the Senior Irish team leadership qualities would appear to flourish in Pres. The highpoint of the year must be the appointment of **Declan Kidney** as Senior Irish Coach. Everyone associated with Pres is proud of Declan’s achievements and we wish him every success as Ireland Coach.

The Pres **Soccer** team emerged as Munster Champions after an excellent final against Crescent Comprehensive. They scored four goals to Crescent’s three and Mark Reardon who starred for Pres scored a hat-trick. **Cricket** also continues to flourish under the guidance of Dermot Giltinan. **Rowing** is stroking as strongly as ever and Pres had wins at Limerick, Bantry and Athlone regattas, while Mark Callanan was selected at Junior 18 level to represent Ireland at the home internationals. The Pres U/14 team won the All Ireland **Chess** championship while the 1st Year **Basketball** team won the Cork County League. Pres **Tennis** teams won the U/14 and U/16 Munster Cups and the U/14 **Swimming** teams won both the Munster and National titles in team medley and freestyle.

The **Drama Society** presented “Philadelphia here I come”, directed by Kieran Aherne. Schools from Cork City and County competed in the Irish **Science Teachers Quiz** with Pres teams taking 1st. and 2nd places. In January students from 250 schools from the whole island of Ireland took part in the Irish Science Olympiad in Dublin where Stephen Murphy of Pres came home with the bronze medal in **Chemistry**.

Preslink is a new organisation in the College. It aims at promoting the Presentation spirit and at helping Presentation schools abroad, especially in Ghana. Last year they collected €10,000 and sent a shipment of computers to Ghana. This year they have set the target a €20,000 and so far have raised €13,962. **Share**, which was highly praised by An Taoiseach, Bertie Aherne when he delivered the Br. Jerome

Memorial in November is once again planning and organizing its campaign for Christmas and will as usual, be generously supported by all past pupils.

Building: The College has been working on a Strategic Plan for Education Development and permission has been granted to build a new sports centre in the College as well as well as permission to construct an all- weather facility in the grounds.

Atlantic Rowing Record: Peter Williams (class 2001) will be part of a British/Irish team attempting to break the record of 33 days for rowing across the Atlantic. Living in Galway at the moment Peter is hoping to raise funds for **Cancer Care West**. A rowing star in his time in Pres Peter will face his greatest challenge yet in attempting to become the first Corkman and indeed Presman to row across the Atlantic. Naturally he needs sponsorship, individual and corporate, and will be delighted to talk or make a presentation to would-be sponsors. You may contact Peter at 086-868386 or at peterjwilliams@hotmail.com

Annual General Meeting will take place in the College at **8.00pm on Monday 3rd November**.

ANNUAL MASS for deceased Past Pupils and Staff will be celebrated in the College on **Monday 24 Nov. 2008 at 7.30 pm**. Celebrant Fr. Billy O'Sullivan (Class of 1964).

ANNUAL DINNER will be held in the **ROCHESTOWN PARK HOTEL** on **SAT. 29TH Nov. at 7.30pm. (see enclosed form)** .

Members contributed €2200 to the Pres mission in Ghana at last year's function.

Union goes Electronic: With a new College website the Presentation College are going electronic! As a first step this newsletter will be published on the Pres website and there is a dedicated e-mail for the Union. This is ppu@pbc-cork.ie

We need to update our database of past pupils and since the easiest and cheapest way of contacting people is electronically we would be obliged if all past pupils with an e-mail sent it on to our **e-mail address** with Name and Year of graduation. Since it is impossible to contact everybody directly we will have a notice on the website www.pbc-cork.ie and we would be grateful if you would pass on the address of the website to any past pupil you meet.

Pres in Dublin: For many years a Branch of the College Union was active in Dublin. However some years ago the Dublin Branch became defunct. Following an initiative of our President Barry Groeger contact was made with Pat (PJ) O'Reilly and a golf game between a group from Cork and one from Dublin was arranged. This was held in Dun Laoighre and was highly successful. A feature of the occasion was the presence of Frank O'Donovan a stalwart of the Union for many, many years. How matters will progress is of course a matter for Presmen in Dublin. All interested should contact

Golfing Society: The Golfing Society has been in full swing despite the vicissitudes of the weather. The incoming officers are

President:

Captain: Richard Scott

Hon. Sec.: Aubrey Murnaghan ; 086-2268244;

Aubrey_ Murnaghan@emc.com

Hon Treas: J B Murphy