



# CBS Pipe Band Newsletter

Volume 2, Issue 7 Spring / Summer 2013

## 32 County Challenge

Spring 2013 was a very intense season for the band as the realisation of the enormity of its 32 County Challenge began to hit home.

In the 9 months up to the end of December 2012 the band, hampered by a lack of funds, had only played in 17 of the 32 counties. The hoped for overnight stay in Belfast was not now financially feasible and indeed was further hampered by political issues relating to the flying of flags in Northern Ireland.

A rescue plan was formulated to substitute the two day/overnight trip with two single day trips .

On 16th February the band set forth on the first of two day-trips around Ireland with performances in Loughrea, Co. Galway, Granard, Co. Longford, Ballyjamesduff, Co. Cavan, Kells Co. Meath and culminating on the seafront in Bray Co. Wicklow.

Following the band's participation in the second leg of the Munster Solo's in Waterford members gave an impromptu performance in Mooncoin thereby adding Counties Waterford and Kilkenny to the completed list.



The second epic day-trip saw the band play in Ardee, Co. Louth, Carrickmacross, Co. Monaghan, Armagh, Co. Armagh, Dungannon, Co. Tyrone, Magherafelt, Co. Derry, Toome, Co. Antrim and Newry Co. Down.

The final county of the challenge was Co. Wexford and this was accomplished on the 31st March when the band performed at Rosslare Harbour en-route to France.

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### Special points of interest:

- A gentle reminder that Membership Fees for the winter months were due in September and we would appreciate if these could be paid as soon as possible
- We welcome our new recruit members who joined the band in September and hope that they will enjoy their time with the band.

### March of Time

The band's 50th Anniversary Band Reunion of past members was held on 23rd February in the Pier Hotel, Limerick. Our very special guest of honour on the night was Br. Clement Wright one of the founders of the band. The celebration was attended by the Mayor of Limerick, Cllr. Gerry McLoughlin, himself a past pupil of Sexton Street, who praised the achievements of the band over the last 50 years and recognising the important contribution its members had made to the musical reputation of the city.



Br. Clement Wright (Band Founder) with Mayor of Limerick Cllr. Gerry McLoughlin at the band's Reunion Night on 23rd February



An "attitude"(collective noun) of Pipe Majors of the band over the years

As usual, March was to prove a busy month for the band with many parades and performances. Ardee, Carrickmacrosse, Armagh, Dungannon, Magherafelt, Toome and Newry, as part of the 32 County



Challenge , then Newport, Limerick, Shannon, Adare and Limerick again for St Patrick's Day and the Internatioinal Band parade. Newcastlewest was the venue for the second round of the Munster Solos and our final performance of the month was at Rosslare Harbour on 31st March en-route to France.



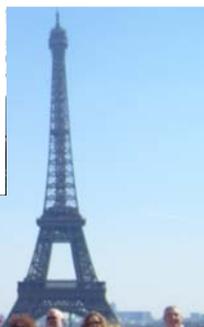
## France Trip

On 31st March the band embarked on its eagerly anticipated tour of France with a very intense schedule.

In Normandy the band visited Bayeux, home of the famous Bayeux Tapestry and performed at Arronanches, where the British army landed on D-day in 1944.



In Paris, following a stroll through the Tuileries Gardens we were met by a tour guide who joined the coach to point out some of the city's more famous attractions. Later the group ascended the Eiffel Tower and took a boat trip on the river Seine.



A enjoyable day was spent at Disneyland Paris.



At Versailles the band again performed before briefly visiting the famous gardens.

On the return trip through Normandy a brief stop was made at the American War Cemetery before once again embarking on the ferry at Cherbourg for the return trip to Ireland.



Μολ αν οίγε αγυς τιοφαιοη σιαδ. (Praise the youth and they will come.)



CBS Pipe Band was founded during the winter months of 1961 by Irish Christian Brothers, Br. John Kenny and Br Clement 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 missed only 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 all thirty two counties of Ireland and beyond, having travelled on numerous occasions to Scotland, England, Wales, France, Germany, Holland, Belgium, Spain, Italy and the United States of America.

Postal Address: 53 Norwood Park  
Singland  
Limerick  
IRELAND

#### Management Team

Barry Carey Director Tel. 087 2357922  
Ann O'Driscoll Treasurer Tel. 087 2481827  
Eimear Purcell P.R.O. Tel. 087 6552587  
Denis Carroll Quartermaster Tel. 085 1289598

#### Fundraising Coordinator

Bernie McNamara

#### Tutors

Justin Fitzgerald James Hackett Ronan Madden  
Tommy O'Carroll Pat O'Brien Pat Wallace

#### Parents Representatives

Aoife Carey Deirdre McMahon Diane Franklin



**We're on the web**  
[www.cbpipeband.org](http://www.cbpipeband.org)  
**and also on**  
**Facebook**

## April thru August

The summer months saw mini-band performances at the launch of 'Oscailt' report at Thomond Park, at Limerick Sings International Choral Festival, at Croom GAA Festival of Hurling and at the Irish Amputee Football Association's 'Paddy Power Cup'.

The full band played at the Foynes Irish Coffee Festival, Monaleen GAA Family Fun Day, Limerick GAA Festival of Hurling Camogie & Handball Parade (from the Gaelic Grounds to Perry Square), and at the Sarsfield 320 Homecoming Festival in Knockane.

## Obituary

Frank Whelan

Born: 1923

Died: 27<sup>th</sup> January 2013

An appreciation  
by Barry Carey



### Frankie Whelan

Today we sadly learned of the death of Frankie who was the first drumming tutor with the CBS Pipe Band.

I was just 10 years old when I first met Frankie. A dapper gentleman who shadowed the drum corps on parade and encouraged us in competition with a wiggle of his double-jointed thumb.

His gentle effortless touch with a pair of drumsticks as he demonstrated light and shade was only surpassed by his patience as a teacher working with a corps of boys.

Over the years Frankie remained in touch with the band and attended all of its major celebrations

AR DHEIS DE SO RAIBH A ANAM DILIS