

Irish Trust Talk

Spring 2006 No. 71



From the Chairperson.....

Greetings to one and all in these opening days of 2006.

2005 was an interesting year. In ways as you reflect back on the past year it was a combination of many good things and many bad things. St John would have spoken of the year in terms of light and dark and clearly presents Jesus as the light coming into a world of darkness.

2005 was a year of light: incredible generosity in response to the tsunami, a worldwide outpouring of faith and thankfulness on the occasion of the death of John Paul II and welcome for Benedict XVI, renewed energy in the peace process in the North of Ireland, the Live 8 concerts and concern for those who live in poverty stricken lands. But there was also darkness in 2005: bombings in London, prisoners in Guantanamo Bay, hurricanes in New Orleans, gun murders on our streets, deaths of fishermen off our coasts and young students on our roads. It was the year of the Ferns Report and renewed challenges to our Church to put in place best practices at every level.

2005 was a year of tragedy and triumph, of hope and failure, of brokenness and wholeness, of pain and joy. It is to this reality that Christ was born. It is in this reality that we are called to be Christ to one another. Christmas has come and gone, the crib is put away, the tree taken down, the wrapping and cards recycled. But the season we have just celebrated is not just a time for doing good deeds. The challenge of the Christ Child to all of us is to do Christmas things all year round.

In IHCPT Christmas marks the half way mark in our IHCPT year. Forms have been processed and invitations are issued. Thank you for all the work that has been done to date and in advance thanks for the work that you now begin. It is a busy time for group leaders - thank you for all that you do as group leaders. Be assured of our support and help and also that of the office. Never feel that you are on your own at this time - there is a wealth of experience and good will in the Trust at your disposal.

2006 will be the 50th anniversary of HCPT and the 35th anniversary of IHCPT. The Easter pilgrimage will mark both these achievements. Well done to all who were part of IHCPT and HCPT over these years. IHCPT are delighted that some helpers from yester year will travel to Lourdes at Easter. We look forward to meeting them there.

There will be two groups in Hosanna House again this year and applications are invited to be part of this pilgrimage in June - information and details are available from HQ in Kilcuan.

Kilcuan continues to grow from strength to strength and provides a wonderful home away from home for many people in Clarenbridge. Well done to all who are part of this important work of IHCPT. We are now looking forward to the next project here in Ireland. Plans are at an advanced stage for the development in the South East. This new building will be a further 'string to the bow' of IHCPT and I am confident will be a wonderful new activity within the work of the Trust.

A final word of encouragement to all involved in the cycle to Lourdes. Thanks for your commitment and involvement in the life of the Trust. Your effort and generosity makes a significant contribution to our work. Thank you for your training - and unlike the words of the Irish Blessing may roads NOT rise to meet you in the weeks and kilometres ahead!

Looking forward to seeing you in Lourdes or Kilcuan during this our 35th year.

I wish you God's blessing on you and your work



Richard Scriven

**IHCPT
The Irish
Pilgrimage
Trust**



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Charity Number 5992

Things to note

EHIC: Please remember to apply in adequate time for the European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) which replaced the E111 medical form in 2004. One card is needed for every individual or member of the family. If a person is a holder of a medical card or a DPS scheme card application can be made online at 2www.ehic.ie An application form can also be downloaded from this site. Alternatively you local Health Board centre can provide the forms. The card is valid for two years. If you already have one, please check that it is still valid.

Helpers Forms: The situation with regard to HELPERS FORMS has vastly improved in the past two years but there is still work to be done. Again this pilgrimage year we are asking that the **LIST OF CARERS** be submitted to Kilcuan before January 31st and all **CARER FORMS AND FARES** be lodged with the office before **FEBRUARY 28TH 2006**. For administrative reasons group leaders are asked to adhere to these dates.

Moving and Handling: Another two people have now qualified as instructors to give courses in Moving and Handling for IHCPT. Thank you to those who have volunteered for this work. This means that we have five people qualified to provide the training that has been requested by our insurance company. Each group is required to have a number of people instructed in the correct procedures. This training will be provided at regional and group level. Please arrange for a number of your group to be available for this training.

Trust Directory: The Trust Directory is available on CD. Please notify the office of changes of address, phone numbers or email address.

Code of Practice: The Code of Practice is available from Kilcuan or on our website in pdf format: [ihcpt.com/code of practice](http://ihcpt.com/code_of_practice) Please make yourself aware of the contents of this book and take some time in the group to discuss the various protocols of IHCPT. A copy of the Code of Practice is sent to the family of each young person who travels with us to Lourdes or is part of a Friendship Week in Kilcuan.

Group Leaders' Manual: A working draft of the new edition of the Group Leaders' Manual will be available for each group leader in February. This book will contain vital information about the working of the Trust and will outline all protocols of IHCPT. It will be the working document for this year's pilgrimage and after further editing will be published later this year.

Headed Paper: Please make sure that all correspondence on behalf of the Trust is written on the up to date edition of headed paper. Please get rid of all old paper - the detail on the end of the paper is not accurate on the old paper.

Receipt Books: It is the policy of IHCPT that all money received at group, regional or national level is receipted using the IHCPT Receipt Book. Please make sure that all money is properly acknowledged with a note of thanks and a receipt. Please note also the requirement that at least two people count and prepare money for lodgement. Receipt books are available from HQ.

Im Memoriam: Please notify HQ of names of deceased young people, carers, group members and benefactors to be entered into the *Im Memoriam* book.

Irish Trust Talk: The February edition of the Irish Trust Talk is presently being prepared. Photos of your group in Lourdes or re-unions here in Ireland are always welcome. Please forward them on CD to Kilcuan or by email to editors@ihcpt.com

Website: An extensive overhaul of the the IHCPT website has taken place in recent weeks. Please check it out! Over half of the groups have a link to the main page at present. Please forward text and photos (about four or five) to rscriven@eircom.net or on CD to Kilcuan. It is hoped that all groups will have a page before our pilgrimage this year. Updating and changes can be done regularly but require that material be forwarded. One person in your group might like to take responsibility for this.

Kalendarium 2005-2006

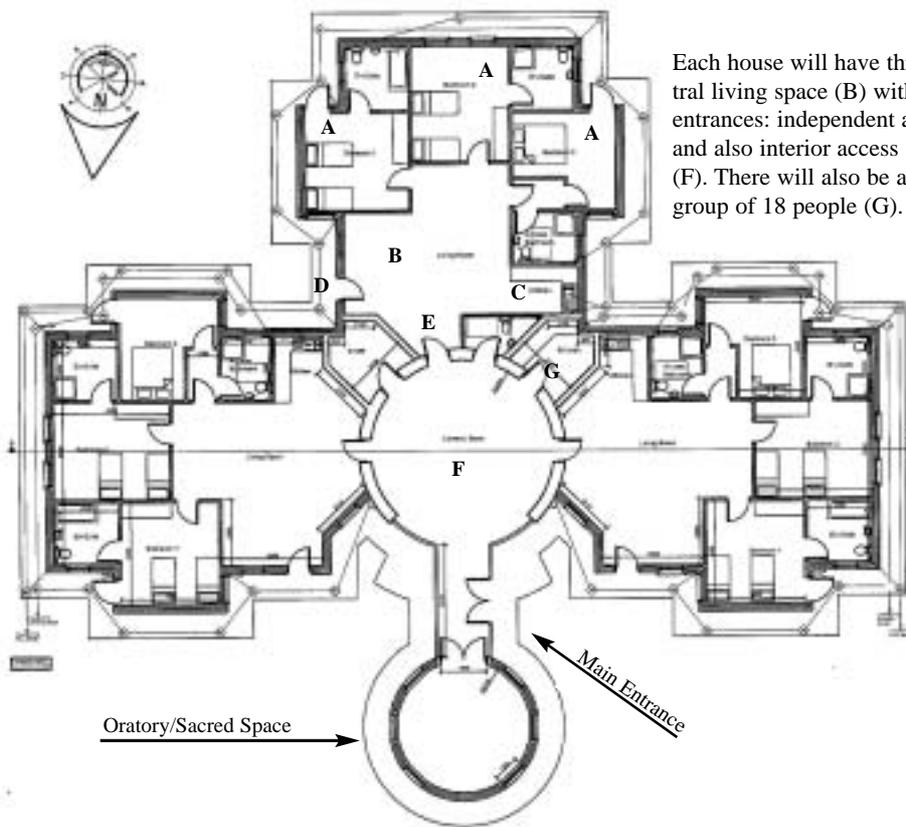
Dates for your Diary

| Date | Meeting | Venue |
|--------------------|--|----------------------|
| January 14th 2006 | Visit of Board of HCPT and IHCPT to Br Michael Strode | Caldey Island, Wales |
| January 20th 2006 | Mailing of the Newsletter | Kilcuan |
| January 21st 2006 | Trustees Meeting | Kilcuan |
| | Dinner for Present and Former Board Members of IHCPT | Kilcuan |
| January 31st 2006 | List of Carers to be submitted to HQ | Kilcuan |
| February 11th 2006 | Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes / World Day of the Sick | |
| | International Planning Meeting | Lourdes |
| February 25th 2006 | Cycle Training - Date to be Confirmed | Kilkenny |
| February 28th 2006 | All Carers forms and fares to be in HQ - Early Bird Closing Date | Kilcuan |
| March 3rd 2006 | CEO to contact Group Leaders about Carers Forms | |
| March 10th 2006 | Trustees Meeting | Kilcuan |
| March 11th 2006 | Pre Pilgrimage Meeting | Kilcuan |
| March 24th 2006 | Mailing of the Newsletter | Kilcuan |
| April 1st/2nd 2006 | Cyclist Meeting and Pre Lourdes Cycle | Kilcuan |
| April 8th 2006 | Cyclists Depart | TBC |
| April 14th 2006 | Cyclists arrive in Lourdes | Lourdes |
| April 16th 2006 | Easter Sunday | Pilgrimage 2005 |
| May 26/27th 2006 | Trustees AGM | Kilcuan |
| June 2006 | Hosanna House Pilgrimage | Lourdes |

IHCPT BUILD IN THE SOUTH EAST

As you will know from previous newsletters IHCPT was successful in its application to the Dormant Accounts Fund for a grant to finance a proposed project in the South East. We are pleased that our request to the Charity Commissioners to proceed with this work was granted in October 2005.

We are now at an advanced stage with the planning. Thanks to all who replied to the letter with some very constructive suggestions which we have sought to include in the final plan. We have also now included an oratory and are working with Fergus Costello who designed the oratory in Kilcuan. Below are draft drawings that we are finalising at this time. The work should begin during the summer and the buildings ready for use in 2007. Below are drawings of the proposed development. It is an exciting development in this our 35th year.



Each house will have three bedrooms (A), a central living space (B) with a galley kitchen (C), two entrances: independent access to the grounds (D) and also interior access (E) to the central atrium (F). There will also be a kitchen designed for a group of 18 people (G).

www.ihcpt.com

CYCLE 2006 - 22 YEARS PEDALLING AND STILL GOING STRONG



The cycle is on! The cyclists are in training! Only a few more weeks left before IHCPT cyclists gather in the Marble City - Kilkenny - for the pre-pilgrimage practice cycle at the end of February. The cycle has grown from strength to strength over twenty years. This year there will be over 115 people participating: the majority on bikes and a back up team to support those on the road. Well done to all who have committed themselves to this biennial cycle. It is a most important aspect of the work of IHCPT and contributes significantly to the life of the Trust.



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