



Dancers at the inaugural Trinity Ball

A TRINITY WEEK BALL HELD FOR THE FIRST TIME ON CAMPUS

Dr Brian Fisher recounts his memories of organising the first ever Trinity Ball held on Campus. "In 1958 there was an idea raised by the late Barry Brewster, Trinity Week Secretary, that the Trinity Week Ball should be held in College. I was to be the Trinity Week Secretary for the following year and George Henry the Ball Secretary, Chairman of Trinity Week was Professor Hartford and Chairman of D.U.C.A.C. was Professor J.V. Luce, with their help we approached the Board. The main problems were allowing ladies into College after 9pm and preventing them from going into student rooms. The Board also asked that floodlights should be directed towards the bushes in Fellows Garden to expose couples lurking there at the end of the evening. The first year The Dolphin Restaurant provided the supper, not very satisfactorily, one year Aer Lingus provided supper in cardboard boxes, which was better. In 1960 George Henry and I reversed roles so that we could try and sort some of the problems experienced."



Dr George Henry M.A.O., M.D. (1959) and Dr Brian Fisher M.B. (1958)



Dr George Henry, Hilary Barton, Professor Hartford, Mrs Hartford, Dr Brian Fisher



Dancers at the Dining Hall steps

1959

Photo: Irish Photo Archive

Photo: Irish Photo Archive

Trinity Ball

— Dancing Through the —

Decades

Marking the end of the teaching term and the beginning of the exam period, the Trinity Ball has been the leading event on Trinity's social calendar for decades.

AFTER THE BALL

"Newbridge House was built by my ancestor Charles Cobbe, Archbishop of Dublin, between 1747 and 1752 to the design of the architect, James Gibbs with the work carried out under the supervision of Dublin architect George Semple. It was a wonderful place to grow up and, now that it is owned by Fingal County Council, it is good to see so many people enjoying the grounds and the house, say, at a Bank Holiday weekend."

Hugh Cobbe, M.A. (1965)

The morning after the Trinity Ball at Newbridge House, 1965.

From Left: Peter Lavery B.A. (1965), Margaret de Bunsen (née Wilson) B.A. (1966), Margaret Pollen (née Kelly) B.A. (1965), Keith Grant Peterkin, B.A. (1966) (at the back), Suzanne Jackson (née Bateman) M.A. (1966), Alan Bateman M.A. (1966), Patrick Kelly M.A. (1965), Angela Gibbon B.A. (1966) and Hugh Cobbe M.A. (1965).

More images of 1960s social occasions can be found in *Portrait of an Era*, edited by Anne Leonard M.A. (1969), on sale online at www.trinitygiftshop.ie and in the Library Shop.

1965



1976



The late Arthur Deeny B.A., M.A. (1978) and Sile Connaughton-Deeny B.A., M.A. (1980)

AVOID TROUBLE

"When I look at this photo it makes me think of my first day at Trinity when I took a taxi from the airport and as we arrived the driver gave me some advice: 'Stay away from the medical students. They're trouble!' A couple of weeks later as I sat in the Buttery an older, wiser student gave me the benefit of her experience: 'Stay away from those Deeny's. They're trouble!' (There were three Deeny brothers in Trinity at that time). And there I am Trinity Ball 1976 with a Deeny who had been a medical student! Arthur is back in the Medical School now having donated his body after his untimely death on 18 March 2018."

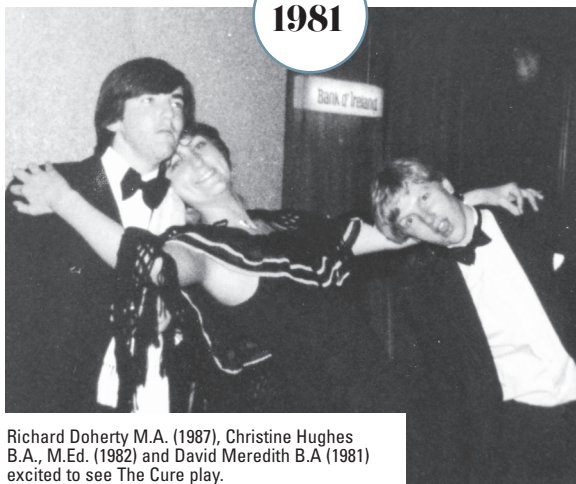
Sile Connaughton-Deeny B.A., M.A. (1980)

1978



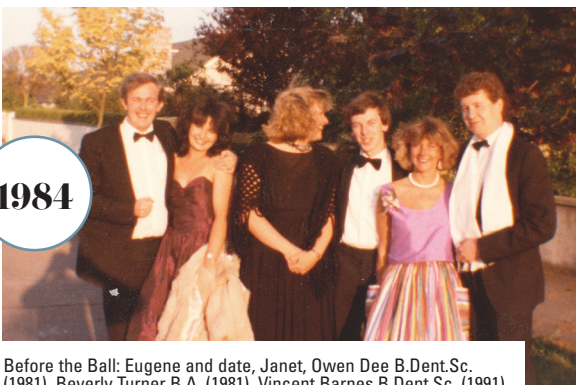
Valerie Mulhall B.B.S., M.A. (1981) and Eugene Bent M.A. (1980). Married in 1986.

1981



Richard Doherty M.A. (1987), Christine Hughes B.A., M.Ed. (1982) and David Meredith B.A (1981) excited to see The Cure play.

1984



Before the Ball: Eugene and date, Janet, Owen Dee B.Dent.Sc. (1981), Beverly Turner B.A. (1981), Vincent Barnes B.Dent.Sc. (1991)



Yvonne Thunder and Stephen Loughman

Photo courtesy of the Sunday Independent

LAST MINUTE

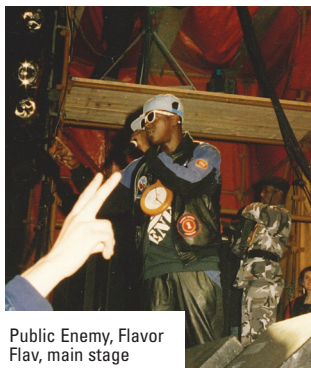
"Lucky to get last minute Trinity Ball tickets from Sides Club DJ Liam. Giddy and dizzying first ever taste of champagne in queue outside Front Gate. Danced outside the Library to The Pogues at dawn then crashed before making it to Bewley's Cafe for early morning breakfast followed by more socialising." *Yvonne Thunder*

1986

1988



The Golden Horde



Public Enemy, Flavor Flav, main stage



Jonathan Cummins M.A. (1989) and Ali Murphy

Photos: Trevor Butterworth

THROUGH THE LENS

"The Ball was never just 'The Ball' for those of us on the Trinity Week Committee, that was just the capstone to putting on a week of events, which in the late 80s and early 90s, included the Smirnoff Young Designer Awards Fashion Show, the peach schnapps-filled Garden Party, and a vast number of student activities, including the notorious kissing competition in the Buttery. There was no greater extracurricular adventure or academic risk in putting all this together. Exams began the following week in those days. I was particularly lucky, and not just in avoiding repeats; as a fresher I had been asked to photograph all the events in 1988. I finagled my way onto the Trinity Week Committee for the next four years. I pretty much did a masters in order to work on the mother of all balls for the Quatercentenary in 1992, when 14,000 people attended. But it is not so much the events that remain with me so many years later; rather, it is that sense of promise electrifying College and the common purpose of magic and mayhem. How I wish I could go back." *Trevor Butterworth B.A., M.Phil. (1991)*



Photo: Paul Dermody

THROUGH THE LENS

"I remember that the night was full of spectacular performances by a wide variety of artists on countless stages. Everybody looked great (including Trinity itself!) and laughed and danced until the early morning hours. For me, it was a wonderful and fitting end to an unforgettable four years learning and growing in Ireland's most beautiful University." *Paul Dermody B.A. (1991)*

Top row: Christina Lear (née Hogan) B.A., M.Sc. (1991), Elizabeth O'Neill B.A. (1991), Denis Dermody Middle: Samantha, Niamh Morris, Gwen Hollingsworth B.A. (1990) Bottom: Jeanne Dermody, Eoin O'Byrne at the Trinity Ball, 1992

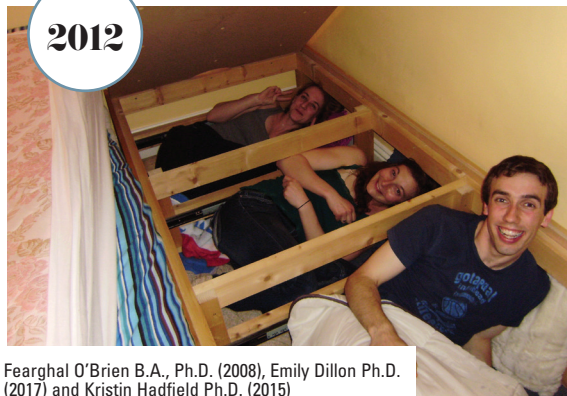
1992



Photo: Trevor Butterworth

Students collecting their tickets for the Trinity Ball

2012



Fearghal O'Brien B.A., Ph.D. (2008), Emily Dillon Ph.D. (2017) and Kristin Hadfield Ph.D. (2015)

SNEAKING IN

"All three of us got into the Ball later that night. We hid in that bed for four hours because the person coming by to check the rooms missed our floor completely." *Kristin Hadfield Ph.D. (2015)*

2018



Photo: Katie O'Neill

Trinity Orchestra members Niamh Huethorst, Senior Fresh, Music Performance, Jessie Smith, Senior Sophister, Genetics, Tommy Mulligan B.Sc. (2018)

2017



Photo: Sínead Baker

Crowds gather at Front Square stage

@ Thank you to all our alumni who submitted images to this campaign. View the full gallery at www.tcd.ie/alumni/gallery. Share your Trinity memories and photos by email to alumni@tcd.ie.