

171

OCT - JAN
2013/14

Glen Rovers



Kaylynn Lee



Shauna Busteed



Leeann O'Sullivan



Aideen Guiton



Kelly Falvey



Lauren Callanan



Karen O'Connell



Jennifer Hosford



Lydia Cunningham



Denise Luby



Emma Hennebry



Aisling O'Keeffe



Sinead Fahy



Kelly Fitzgerald



Sinead O'Halloran

16. Kelly Newman
17. Aisling Wallace
18. Nicole O'Brien
19. Aoife Walsh
20. Zoe Buckley
21. Tara Cunningham

22. Beth Walsh
23. Susan Collins
24. Niamh Gowen
25. Trisha Kenneally
26. Olivia Harrington
27. Chloe Cotter

28. Shauna Brickley
29. Sarah Kerins
30. Edel O'Connell
31. Ciara O'Sullivan

Selectors: Deirdre Coleman, Tom Luby, Dave Ellis

Eire Og



Marie Gleeson



Maeve Corkery



Katie McCarthy



Aoife Hennessy



Ciara McKenna



Clare Meaney



Ruth Murphy



Margaret O'Herlihy



Aine Barry



Emma Crowley



Elaine Scally



Aoife O'Callaghan



Erin Corkery



Aoife McCarthy



Maeve Ellen Desmond

16. Rachel Murray
17. Eimear Scally
18. Niamh Gleeson

19. Aoife Scally
20. Grainne Hutchinson
21. Laura Hayes

22. Lydia O'Keeffe
23. Leanne O'Shea
24. Siobhan Hutchinson

A HISTORY OF THE SENIOR B CHAMPIONSHIP

BY MARY NEWMAN

Since its inauguration in 1994 the Senior B championship has gone from strength to strength and as the county's second biggest competition it is hotly contested for with the winners gaining promotion to the top flight in the following season.

Bishoptown were the first club to annex the title in 1994 as Claire Murphy became the first captain to receive the trophy as Bishoptown held off the challenge of Kilbrittan/Timoleague.

Newly crowned Intermediate champions Fr O'Neills will be playing senior B in 2012 following their recent success but it won't be their first time playing at this level as they were winners in 1995 defeating St Finbarr's. Inniscarra captained by Irene O'Keeffe held off the challenge of Kilbrittan/Timoleague as her side were crowned champions in 1996. In 1997 Newtownshandrum in their first season at Senior B grade looked potential champions from the start of the campaign and in a thrilling contest their challenge was spearheaded by Ursula Troy, Muireann Harrington and Paula O'Connor as they took the title to North Cork defeating St Finbarr's in the final in Ballinlough.

There was disappointment again the following year for the Togher girls as they reached the final only to lose out to Barryroe who had made the step up from Intermediate that year without winning the title and in the space of twelve months they found themselves Senior B champions and playing in the top flight for the following year. Kilbrittan/Timoleague were back in the final again in 1999 and it was neighbours Courcsey Rovers that provided their opposition and with Rachel Moloney in top form hitting 1-8 of her sides tally Courcsey's took the crown captained by Carol Hannon.

Millennium year belonged to Eire Og as spearheaded by the experienced Marion Mc Carthy, Helen Walsh and Ellen O'Herlihy took the title to Ovens as they defeated a young Milford side playing in the Senior B grade for their first year and in doing so they became the first club to have been champions in both senior grades. The following year St Finbarr's over came the heartbreak of losing two final to become champions as the first senior title came to Togher. Milford were back in the final in 2002 and this time they got it right as they got the better of Ballygarvan Emer Watson, Anna Geary and Regain Curtin leading the way for them.

Kilbrittan/Timoleague having suffered disappointment on two previous occasions were not going to be denied their first title when they lined out in the finals in 2003 and Miriam Deasy and Eimear O'Sullivan at last got their illusive county medal.

The cup headed to Mid Cork again in 2004 as Aghbullogue coached by Murt Murphy engraved their names on it for the first time

Sally Ann O'Halloran led Ballygarvan to victory in 2005 but they had to go to a replay with St Catherines before securing the title. 2006 saw St Catherines return to the final and this time they made no mistake as the Twomey's Denise and Deirdre and Orla Cotter led the way in the final.

2007 belonged to Douglas as experienced performers Fiona Mc Sweeney and Amanda O'Regan were joined by younger players Katrina Mackey and Julia White to take the Senior B crown to Douglas. 2008 was Rockban's year spearheaded by their senior inter county duo of Sile Burns and Katrina Foley they got the better of Eire Og to ensure it was Therese Howard who lifted the trophy.

In an all Mid Cork final 2009 belonged to Ballincollig as they over came Eire Og to take the title and it was like old time in 2010 as Killeagh and Eire Og renewed their old rivalry with a final meeting but again there was heartbreak for the Ovens girls as Killeagh driven on by Mary O'Connor and captain Claire Keohane climbed the victory rostrum to take the cup down to East Cork. In 2011 Ballinhassig edged out Glen Rovers in a thrilling decider that went right down to the wire and it was Eimear O'Sullivan who got to lift the trophy.

Last year Barryroe enjoyed their short stay at Senior B as they took the title defeating Clonakilty in a game that went to a replay.

Today Glen Rovers contest the final for the second time whilst Eire Og have been there before winning the title in 2000 they went on to lose three finals in a row to Rockban in 08, Ballincollig in 09 and 2010 to Killeagh. Will it be Karen O'Connell who makes history as her sides bids to return to a grade they graced for many years with huge success or will Margaret O'Herlihy and Eire Og finally break the hoodoo and heartbreak and win their promotion back to senior as she leads her club Eire Og against the club her grandmother and grandfather lined out and won senior county honours with

By 2pm today we will know the answer.

CORK SENIOR B CHAMPIONSHIP ROLL OF HONOUR

1994 Bishoptown	2004 Aghbullogue
1995 Fr O'Neills	2005 Ballygarvan
1996 Inniscarra	2006 St Catherines
1997 Newtownshandrum	2007 Douglas
1998 Barryroe	2008 Rockban
1999 Courcsey Rovers	2009 Ballincollig
2000 Eire OG	2010 Killeagh
2001 St Finbarr's	2011 Ballinhassig
2002 Milford	2012 Barryroe
2003 Kilbrittan	

OCT. 2013



LINDA MELLERICK

COUNTY FINAL

Glen Rovers 1-13
Éire Óg 2-7

THE disappointment of their 2011 county final defeat was far from the memory when the full time whistle blew in Castle Road yesterday afternoon as Glen Rovers won the Cork senior B county championship title to add to the league title they secured last May.

Glen Rovers now step back up to senior A status for 2014, the only place for a club with such a proud and tremendous record in the top flight of camogie.

While the Glen enjoyed a seven point lead at half time they were made to fight all the way as Éire Óg produced a spirited second half challenge to almost draw the game on full time.

Over the hour Glen were the better side yet a failure to close the game out with a few missed pointing opportunities entering the final quarter could have cost them.

Maeve Corkery switched to full-back to mark Glen's dangerous full-forward Denise Luby and had a fine game despite Luby making her own valuable contribution of 0-5 (0-1 from play).

With the Glen enjoying the slight wind advantage, both sides swapped early points, 0-2 apiece after six minutes.

From an early stage Eimear Scally was proving a handful for the Glen such was her speed.

Both sides had attacking chances, but equally both defences were having great games with Leanne O'Sullivan, Lauren Callanan and Lydia Cunningham excellent for the Glen with Maeve Corkery and Clare Meaney likewise for Éire Óg.

An excellent pinpoint pass by Luby found the unmarked Sinead O'Halloran one-on-one with goalkeeper Marie Gleeson and she finished superbly to follow on from her point scored seconds earlier as the Glen led by four.

Soon afterwards Éire Óg split the Glen defence, but Maeve Ellen Desmond took her eye off the ball at the crucial moment and the danger was averted for the Glen.

As the Glen started to edge out some distance between them they were rocked back to earth after Elaine Scally made no mistake from close range.

Just three points separated the sides entering the final minutes of the half, yet the Glen shifted a couple of gears and four points, one a magnificent strike from Lydia Cunningham, saw them go seven up.

The opening 10 minutes of the re-start belonged to Éire Óg.

g. Erin Corkery goal after being set up by Maeve Desmond and a great Eimear Scally run saw her off-load to Emma Crowley to strike over and cut the gap to three.

Excitement grew around the ground as Karen O'Connell became highly influential along with the excellent Jennifer Hosford and Lauren Callanan in stemming Éire Óg's dominance and when Denise Luby struck over the Glen's first second half score from a free after 12 minutes, it



The Glen Rovers Senior B squad celebrate after the Senior B Camogie final, where they beat Éire Óg at Castle Road
Picture: Jim Coughlan

Glen will relish title win after tense decider



Marion McCarthy, chairperson Cork Camogie County Board, presents Karen O'Connell, Glen Rovers captain, with the Senior B Camogie Trophy after the Glen beat Éire Óg, at Castle Road.
Picture: Jim Coughlan



Photo Gallery:
You can see more photographs at
www.photosales.eecho.ie

Story of the game

PLAYER OF THE MATCH

THE honour went to Glen Rovers' Lauren Callanan for a superb performance at centre back. Her intelligent reading of the game ensured she swept up a huge amount of ball across the width of the pitch.

TURNING POINT

NO one score turned the game, it was the Glen's ability to respond every time to an Éire Óg score which saw them take the lead five minutes into the game and never relinquish it.

SCORE OF THE MATCH

WITH impressive scores from Kelly Fitzgerald, Sinead O'Halloran and Emma Crowley the score of the game goes to Lydia Cunningham's wonderful strike from over 65 metres in the 32nd minute of the opening half.

REFEREE WATCH

MALLOW'S John O'Leary handled the game well. The game was highly entertaining, some great scores, great defending, good open, fast play and he contributed to that.

was an important point. She followed it up with a point from play as the Glen seemed to have overcome Éire Óg's purple patch.

Yet Éire Óg, as it customary, re-

fused to wilt and points from Margaret O'Herlihy, from a free, and Erin Corkery had the margin back down to three again.

The stylish O'Halloran pointed be-

fore she won a penalty on 23 three minutes. Denise Luby stepped up and opted to go for goal, but it was saved.

Margaret O'Herlihy pointed a free as the tension in the game reached fever pitch.

Éire Óg pushed for an equaliser and one minute into injury time a high delivery gave them a golden opportunity.

Huge credit must go to Glen defender Aileen Guiton for putting Erin Corkery off.

The ball went out for two consecutive 45s and with Margaret O'Herlihy having to drop it short on both occasions the Glen defence withstood the pressure and cleared to huge expressions of emotion as the final whistle blew.

Scorers for Glen Rovers: S O'Halloran 1-3, D Luby 0-5 (0-3 f, 0-1 45), S Fahy 0-2, K Fitzgerald 0-2, L Cunningham 0-1.

Éire Óg: E Corkery 1-1, Elaine Scally 1-0, M O'Herlihy 0-3 (f), C Meaney, E Crowley, Eimear Scally 0-1 each.

GLEN ROVERS: K Lee; S Bosteed, L O'Sullivan, A Guiton; K Fahy, L Callanan, K O'Connell; J Hosford, L Cunningham; K Fitzgerald, E Hennebray, A O'Keefe; S Fahy, D Luby, S O'Halloran.

Subs: N O'Brien for E Hennebray (44), A Wallace for S Fahy (47).

ÉIRE ÓG: M Gleeson; M Corkery, K McCarthy, A Heennessy, C McKenna, M O'Herlihy, R Murphy; C Meaney, A Barry; E Crowley, Eimear Scally, A O'Callaghan; E Corkery, Elaine Scally, M E Desmond.

Subs: A Scally for R Murphy (46), S Hutchinson for A Barry (44), A McCarthy for M E Desmond (56).

Referee: John O'Leary (Mallow).



The Glen Rovers Senior B squad, after the Senior B Camogie Final, where they beat Éire Óg at Castle Road.

Picture: Jim Coughlan

Luby generous to his opponents



LINDA MELLERICK

CAMOGIE

"IT'S hard to enjoy it at this moment being honest with you," admitted an emotional Tom Luby, selector with Glen Rovers minutes after they celebrated their county final triumph at Castle Road yesterday.

As ever the gentleman, Tom's first thoughts were with Éire Óg.

"I feel for Éire Óg, we're very, very close to them especially the Corkery's, the Scally's and Margaret O'Herlihy. We know each other so well over the years, underage we've beaten each other year in and year out. This is our fourth final. I know they're gutted. I'd be gutted for them but we have to look inside ourselves. We put so much work in and we're very, very young. They're (Glen) a great bunch, they were good to train, they had a very good attitude, they did everything that was asked of them. We brought in Cian O'Brien to bring them up a bit physically and I'm grateful to him and to Dave Ellis.

"As a manager he brings something special and the experience of Deirdre Sutton who kept us disciplined and quiet on the side-line. We're grateful to the club for looking after the players so well and the support we got today."

It got a bit nerve wracking for the Glen towards the end? "We have it drilled into them," said



Sheila Golden, secretary Cork Camogie County Board, presents the Player of the Match award to Lauren Callanan, Glen Rovers.

Picture: Jim Coughlan

Tom. "They (Éire Óg) will come at us. Every team and a good team like Éire Óg will get a purple patch. It's how we handle it. We may not have handled that very well today but all year we've been handling it very well and we had the subs to kill it off today; that's the key to any match."

I put it to Tom that over the course of the hour I thought the Glen were the better team, they had the better spread of hurlers: "Em, maybe slightly. I'm delighted in particular for the older girls, such as Aileen Gulton. She's playing a long time, got married and was still able to come out and do it for us so I'm delighted for her."

You'll enjoy the celebrations? "We will, thanks very much."



Marion McCarthy, chairperson Cork Camogie County Board, presents Karen O'Connell, Glen Rovers captain, with the Senior B Camogie trophy after beating Éire Óg.

Picture: Jim Coughlan

GAA legend Mary to be honoured in east Cork

MEMBERS of Cork Historical Club will honour one of Cork's greatest ambassadors in the sports of camogie and ladies gaelic football on Friday, October 25.

Mary O'Connor from Killeagh, a Cork dual legend, will be presented with the Cork Historical Club Community Award for October and will be inducted into The All Ireland Hall Of Fame Gallery of www.scoreboardmemories.com. Mary is one of the best-known Cork female athletes in Ireland and her collection of medals includes seven All-Ireland Senior Camogie medals and five All-Ireland Senior Ladies Football medals.

A spokesman for the group said: "In GAA sport she stands alone as the greatest ever sportswoman to hail from the Rebel County of Cork. Her total collection of All-Irelands, All-Stars and other prestigious awards are the dreams of many young aspiring Cork school athletes involved in any sports code."

The tribute event to Mary will take place at The Two Mile Inn, Churchtown, outside Middleton at 9pm. Tickets available from 085-807 37 07 and at selected business premises around Killeagh.

Lord Mayor Cllr Catherine Clancy will also welcome Mary to City Hall for a special reception at noon earlier in the day.

O'Connor hailed as a leading Cork woman

THE Historical Club (Cork) has selected former Cork ladies footballer Mary O'Connor for its upcoming October award as recognition of the key part the sporting women of Cork have played for many years.

A native of Killeagh, Mary is one of the most decorated dual stars in

By Mary White

Ireland, having won seven camogie and five football All-Ireland medals.

In January 2012, O'Connor was bestowed an honorary doctorate from University College Cork (UCC), along with former Manchester United player Denis Irwin, rugby star Ronan O'Gara,

eight-time All-Ireland-winning Kilkenny hurling boss Brian Cody and horse trainer Aidan O'Brien.

The tribute and presentation to the Inch Rovers player will take place next Friday, October 25 at 9pm at The Two Mile Inn in Castlemaryr. Mary will be inducted into

the All-Ireland Hall Of Fame Gallery. In March the club honoured eight-time All-Ireland-winning coach Eamonn Ryan.

To further honour Mary's distinguished sporting career, the Lord Mayor of Cork will also hold a reception at Cork City Hall earlier that same day.



Hall of Fame: Killeagh's Mary O'Connor.

Newmarket back on top

Newmarket
Clooney-Quin

1-11
0-9

Sports Editor, Seamus Hayes

A STRONG first-half performance laid the foundations for Newmarket's merited win over Clooney-Quin in the final of the Clare Senior Camogie Championship, played in excellent conditions at Clarecastle on Sunday.

Opening a seven-point lead by half-time put Clooney-Quin, who were chasing their first success in this competition in over 60 years, under pressure.

When Newmarket started the second half with the game's only goal, last year's beaten finalists had a mountain to climb. To their credit, they didn't throw in the towel and came back strongly in the remaining time.

However, the gap was too wide and when the final whistle sounded, Newmarket were deserved winners of the McMahon Cup and were back as Clare champions after a lapse of one year.

To add to their celebrations, the player-of-the-match title went to Aine O'Brien, who scored 0-8 as well as winning a lot of valuable possession around the middle of the field.

O'Brien gave her side the lead in the second minute when she converted a 30m free. They doubled their advantage five minutes later when Laura McMahon came up from full-back to take a penalty, which she drove over the bar.

Two more O'Brien frees and one each from Niki Kaiser and Jenny Kelly left the winners six clear after 19 minutes and Clooney-Quin were a little fortunate not to have been further behind at this point.

The placing of full-forward Orlaith Duggan in a sweeper's role behind the half-back line helped to cut out a number of Newmarket attacks.

The game was 21 minutes old when Clooney-Quin opened their account with a point from Ashling Corbett but Newmarket hit back with points from Niki Kaiser and another brace from O'Brien to go 0-9 to 0-1 clear with a minute to play in the half.

A Deirdre Murphy free left seven between the sides when referee John Dolan sounded the short whistle and while Clooney-Quin would have the assistance of the wind for the second half, Newmarket looked to be in a strong position.

Inside the first minute of the second half, Clooney-Quin were dealt a huge blow when Newmarket full-forward Jenny Kelly goaled. After Clooney-Quin captain Deirdre Murphy and top scorer Aine O'Brien exchanged points, the underdogs piled on the pressure and hit four unanswered points to give their followers hope of a fight-back with six points between the sides and 11 minutes still to play.

An Aine O'Brien effort, her final score of the day, pushed the margin out to seven again but Clooney-Quin refused to give in and did most of the attacking for the remainder of the game.

They added two further points to their tally through Marie Halpin and Murphy but needed a goal. However, they just could not break down a strong Newmarket defence, in which central defenders Laura and Róisín McMahon excelled. Elsewhere, Aine O'Brien and Niki Kaiser made a huge contribution to a merited win.

For Clooney-Quin, Aisling Hannon, Edwina O'Brien, Orlaith Duggan, Claire Ryan and Deirdre Murphy worked tirelessly but Newmarket's all-round balance proved too much.

After the game, Clare camogie chairman Joe Robbins presented the McMahon Cup to the winning captain, Róisín McMahon.

Newmarket: Erica Minogue; Jane O'Leary, Laura McMahon, Aislinn Keogh; Aimee McInerney, Róisín McMahon (captain), Aoife Griffin; Ruth Kaiser, Aine O'Brien; Deirdre Cassidy, Carol O'Leary, Carol Kaiser, Ann Marie Hayes, Jenny Kelly, Niki Kaiser.

Subs: Joanne Walsh for Cassidy (47 minutes) and Sharon McMahon for AM Hayes (51 minutes).

Scorers: Aine O'Brien (0-8, 6f, 1 45'),



Jenny Kelly (1-1) and Nikki Kaiser (0-2).
Frees for: 16; **wides:** 7; **45s:** 1.

Frees for: 11; **wides:** 6.
Referee: John Dolan, Clarecastle.

Clooney-Quin: Sheelagh Daffy; Jenny Costelloe, Aisling Hannon, Christina Colleran; Edwina O'Brien, Kelly MacLean, Laura McHugh; Claire Ryan, Aisling Corbett; Siobhán Lee, Deirdre Murphy, Louise Henchy; Marie Halpin, Orlaith Duggan, Mary Clune.

Sub: Maire Begley for Corbett (61 minutes).

Scorers: Deirdre Murphy (0-5, 3f), Aisling Hannon (0-2), Claire Ryan and Marie Halpin (0-1 each).

Munster club championship

NEWMARKET will be back in action on Saturday when they will have home advantage against Annacarty in the Munster Intermediate Club Camogie Championship.

The game will take place at 2.30pm and the newly crowned Clare champions will be determined to progress.

■ (Top left) Newmarket's AnnMarie Hayes gets away from Clooney-Quin's Christine Colleran during their Senior Camogie Championship county final. ■ (Top right) Newmarket's captain, Róisín McMahon, lifts the cup after her side's victory. ■ (Above) Newmarket players celebrate their win. ■ (Left) Ruth Kaiser gets away from Clooney-Quin's Siobhán Lee. ■ (Far left) Newmarket's Laura McMahon closes in on Claire Ryan.

OCT. 2013

O'Leary goals seal stylish final win for Coachford side

CAMOGIE

Coachford College
Coláiste Choilm, Ballincollig

2-12
0-3

THE Mid-Cork School defeated reigning champions Coláiste Choilm at a rain swept Coachford pitch Thursday by a comprehensive margin to annex the pennant competition in Cork Colleges camogie.

The home side started well, with Dearbhla Ahern and Emma Flanagan dominating the early exchanges at midfield, supplying plenty of ammunition to the lively inside forwards Megan Buckley, Ciara O'Leary and Aisling O'Donovan. Early pressure yielded two points from O'Leary and another from Buckley before Ballincollig keeper Sarah O'Sullivan made the first of her four outstanding saves.

Niamh Byrne was well shackled by Una Browne and with the experienced Maeve Corkery a commanding figure at full back, it took 15 minutes before the visitors registered their opening point, a free from Byrne. Niamh O'Leary, Edel Tarrant and in particular Emma Clifford won the lion's share of ball and further scores from O'Leary (1-6) and Buckley (0-1) put some daylight between the teams before half time. Ciara O'Leary was accuracy personified from placed balls and intelligent clearances by the stylish centre back Orlaith O'Driscoll meant the forwards were gaining easy possession in promising areas. Coláiste Choilm did forge forward, but keeper Katie Ward made a timely interception and her accurate distribution was a feature throughout the game.

Byrne added two frees after good work from Rebecca Keane and Jessica Hennigan but Coachford surged on through sisters Megan and Katie McCarthy, Aileen Hennessy and the dangerous Jill Kiely. Megan Buckley scored her third point of the afternoon when ghosting past the centre back and took the prudent option. Shortly after, Joanne Crowley found Ciara O'Leary who hit a cracking drive to the net to finish the game as a contest.

Coachford's victory was all the more impressive for their apparent strength in depth with many of those introduced were keen to impress for their next outing, the Munster Senior A quarter final against a fancied Laurel Hill side. Coachford have also qualified for the Senior league semi-final and await the result of the St Joseph's Doon v Gort tie.

COACHFORD COLLEGE: Katie Ward, Katie McCarthy, Maeve Corkery (0-1), Aileen Hennessy, Una Browne (C), Orlaith O'Driscoll, Megan McCarthy, Emma Flanagan, Dearbhla Ahern, Emma Clifford, Edel Tarrant, Niamh O'Leary, Aisling O'Donovan, Ciara O'Leary (2-6), Megan Buckley (0-3).

Subs: Avril Healy, Catherine Dineen, Fiona Cooney, Katie O'Sullivan, Jill Kiely, Joanne Crowley, Leah Keating, Michelle Browne, Tess Desmond
COLÁISTE CHOILM: Sarah O'Sullivan, Jennifer Sorenson, Clare Cronin, Aoife O'Callaghan, Caoimhe O'Keefe, Jessica Hennigan, Aoife Nic A Bhaird, Rebecca Keane, Niamh Byrne, Abbie Murphy, Judy Murphy, Siobhan O'Regan, Lauren Cooper, Clodagh Donovan.

Subs: Sarah Keating, Sheona Kiely, Megan Hennigan, Megan Murphy, Aoife Dineen, Maria O'Shea, Sherry O'Hanlon, Chloé Coughlan, Anna Marie Leahy.

Referee: Cathal Egan



LINDA MELLERICK

CAMOGIE

MILFORD begin the defence of their Munster and All-Ireland crowns today at home to Tipperary side Burgess Duharra.

For a side that amassed 18-75 from just four championship games on route to retaining their county championship title last Sunday, who would bet against them going all the way again this season?

Outside of Milford the senior championship wasn't of a very high standard.

Any excitement came from the tightness of games more so than the level of skill on display and that is a concern for Cork camogie.

Whether it's work commitments, injury or travel, many senior clubs seem to have taken a step backwards.

Taking Milford out of the equation and maybe Douglas, to a lesser degree, there is very little between all the other clubs vying for honours and the standard in that group isn't as it should be for senior A.

Douglas had a comprehensive victory over a very disappointing Cloughduv side in their preliminary round in early July. A depleted Cloughduv struggled from early in the contest. By half time it was 2-16 to 0-2 in Douglas' favour and they continued their dominance in the second period finishing victorious 5-23 to 1-6.

The clinical finishing of Finola Neville proved the major difference between St Catherine's and Ballinhassig in their first round championship tie.

With play at times evenly matched out the field St Catherine's firepower up front was superior to Ballinhassig's and they were deserving of their six point win.

Milford began the defence of their campaign against another side heavily depleted mainly through injury; Courcy Rovers. Rachel Moloney, Christine O'Neill and Julie Mulcahy were all absentees and despite the best efforts of Sarah Hayes, Aisling Moloney and Emily O'Regan they had no answer to Milford who cruised to a 6-29 to 0-5 victory.

Killeagh advanced to the championship quarter-final with a comfortable victory over St Finbarr's in Carrigrohilly.

An ability to take their points and playing more direct hurling helped Killeagh enjoy a half-time interval lead of 0-6 to 0-1 after St Finbarr's were guilty of shooting eight wide's. In the finish the overall strength of Killeagh proved too much and powered by the experienced Mary O'Connor, Angela Walsh and Niamh O'Keeffe they comfortably got over the finishing line with eleven points to spare.

There were no surprises in Bandon when Douglas advanced at the expense of Barryroe. Barryroe, stepping back up to senior A after 12 months playing and winning the senior B championship, played with heart but the gap in standards was evident. Final score 2-21 to 1-3.

Ballincollig and Inniscarra squared off with Inniscarra taking the opening round by two goals, 4-6



The winning Milford team, that secured the Evening Echo Cork County Senior Camogie Championship after victory over Ballincollig. Picture: Larry Cummins

Milford are on a different level to rivals

to 2-6. The back door second round tie's followed.

Cloughduv and Barryroe were tied seven times during their closely fought affair yet it failed to excite until the last 15 minutes as the clock ticked down and possession and scores became vital.

Barryroe, three points down with 16 minutes remaining, went one up.

Cloughduv's character was called upon, and none epitomised it more than Ciara O'Leary, whose three well taken points from play pushed Cloughduv two in front. A tremendous point by Sile Burns on full time narrowed it to one, her equally impressive attempt at levelling the game sailing just wide, 0-14 to 1-10.

A comprehensive win for Ballincollig ensured their progression at the hands of Courcy Rovers. Having controlled the game from the outset Ballincollig's spread of hurlers and scoring saw them win comfortably, 3-13 to 1-4.

Such was the competitiveness of the opening half in the second round championship tie between Ballinhassig and St. Finbarrs that it was hard to see twelve points separating the sides at the full whistle. Recording a 4-5 to 0-5 victory it was a much improved Ballinhassig performance, their first championship win at this level and well deserved.

On to the quarter finals. Douglas recorded a strong 2-15 to 0-8 win over St Catherine's. The most exciting game of the championship saw Killeagh edge out Ballinhassig 4-12 to 4-11 in a nail biting finish. Mil-



Evening Echo camogie reporter Linda Mellerick presents the Evening Echo Player-of-the-Match award to Milford team captain Elaine O'Riordan after their county final victory over Ballincollig. Picture: Larry Cummins

ford continued their march with a 2-17 to 0-3 victory over Inniscarra and Ballincollig sustained their good form over Cloughduv, 1-8 to 0-4.

Ballincollig booked their first ever senior A final spot with an excellent 0-14 to 2-6 win over Killeagh. It was an historic night for the club who fought back from a five point half time deficit to win by 2.

Milford eliminated challengers Douglas by 5-12 to 3-7.

And so the final was upon us.

A spirited and admirable opening 30 minutes by Ballincollig

tested the champions but once Milford got into their stride there was only going to be one winner.

Senior A club championship 2013 preliminary round: Douglas 5-23 Cloughduv 1-6.

First round: St Catherine's 2-11 Ballinhassig 1-8 Milford 8-29 Courcy Rovers 0-5 Killeagh 2-10 St Finbarr's 0-5 Douglas 2-21 Barryroe 1-3 Inniscarra 4-6 Ballincollig 2-6
2nd Round: Cloughduv 0-14 Barryroe 1-10 Ballincollig 3-13 Courcy Rovers 1-4 Ballinhassig 4-5 St. Finbarrs 0-5.

Quarter-finals: Milford 2-17 Inniscarra 0-3 Ballincollig 1-8 Cloughduv 0-4 Douglas 2-15 St Catherine's 0-8 Killeagh 4-12 Ballinhassig 4-11.

Semi-finals: Milford 5-12 Douglas 3-7 Ballincollig 0-14 Killeagh 2-6.

Final: Milford 5-17 Ballincollig 0-7.

OCT. 2013



Glen Rovers Senior B squad, celebrating after the Senior B Camogie final, where they beat Éire Óg, at Castle Road.

Picture: Jim Coughlan

CAMOGIE

By Mary Newman

AS THE curtain came down on the Evening Echo Senior B Championship last weekend, it felt great to be there to witness a cracking final.

They were enjoyed by what must surely have been the biggest crowd at a game in Castle Road.

It very nearly ended all square in a game that was a fitting finale at the end of what was a most enjoyable senior B championship.

Two very competitive Senior B groups pitted hot favourites and defeated finalists from 2012, Clonakilty, in a group with Mallow, Fr O'Neill's, Valley Rovers and Kilbrittain/Timoleague with many predicting it would be Mallow who would join Clon in the semi finals.

Group two saw Ballygarvan, who had made the step down to Senior B drawn, grouped with Éire Óg, Glen Rovers and newly promoted Aghabullogue and the people with the crystal ball were tipping it to be Ballygarvan with either Glen Rovers or Éire Óg joining them to make up the last four.

As so often happens, predictions mean nothing and the first surprise came on July 22 as a tough Kilbrittain/Timoleague stood up and were counted as they held a fancied Mallow side to a draw.

Clon, meanwhile, overcame Fr O'Neill's while in group two Glen Rovers had to dig deep to fashion out a two-point victory over Ballygarvan. With Éire Óg defeating Aghabullogue, the pressure was on them in their second game with Glen Rovers.

In a game where Denise Luby helped herself to four goals, the Glen ran out winners, Ballygarvan found it hard against a tenacious Aghabullogue as they won out by five points, section one continued to be fascinating as Kilbrittain/Timoleague held out to defeat Clon in a nail biting contest 2-4 to 1-6 the full time score.

Valley Rovers got their campaign up and running with a win over Fr O'Neill's.

Victory was vital to both Éire Óg and Ballygarvan and a class display saw Éire Óg book their place in the last four as Glen did likewise defeating Aghabullogue.

Valley Rovers who had sought and were refused re grading to Intermediate showed they were strong enough as they dumped Clonakilty out of the championship with an impressive 3-11 to 2-6 win. Mallow kept themselves in

Glen and Éire Óg lit up the championship

with a mathematical chance of forcing a play off as they defeated Fr O'Neill's but any hopes they had of this fell by the way side as Kilbrittain/Timoleague defeated O'Neill's and Valley Rovers were to strong for Mallow.

The last four were Valley Rovers v Glen Rovers and Éire Óg v Kilbrittain/Timoleague. It had to go to a replay before Éire Óg and Kilbrittain/Timoleague were separated.

Glen Rovers' ability to get goals was vital in their semi final win over Valleys.

The introduction of Eimear Scally turned the game in Éire Óg's favour as she hit an equalising point deep into injury time in the other semi-final. Éire Óg's ability to take their chances proved crucial in the replay plus the accuracy of Margaret O'Herlihy from frees played a huge role.

Éire Óg's banner is now proudly flown by players that include the Scallys, Margaret O'Herlihy, Meave Ellen Desmond, Katie McCarthy and Aoife McCarthy in the Red and Yellow of Éire Óg whilst proudly wearing the Glen colours were the Cunninghams, stalwart Aileen Guiton, Shauna Busteed and Kelly Falvey.

It's been a long time since such crowds attended a Senior B final and they weren't disappointed as both teams gave a superb display and in the finish victory went to Glen Rovers but only after withstanding a tremendous fight back by a gallant Éire Óg side.

The final was a fitting finale to what was without doubt a great Senior B championship where all of the games were close and exciting.

To pick a game of the Championship is hard but the clash of Valley

Rovers and Kilbrittain/Timoleague was a contest which was hugely enjoyable.

A lot of players caught the eye through this hugely competitive and entertaining championship. Ballygarvan's Catriona Kelly continues to be a class player while young Rebecca Murphy and Ellen Martin are names to watch out for in the years ahead.

Fr O'Neill's Sarah Harrington and Keelagh Cullinane gave it their all in their club's quest for success.

Kilbrittain/Timoleague, who were disappointed not to have closed out their semi-final clash with Éire Óg had a good championship campaign from Aine Crowley Clara Guinevan and Laura O'Callaghan.

Clonakilty will be hugely disappointed that they did not build on reaching last season's final but it was not for the want of trying on the part of Cliona O'Regan Lisa Kemp and Aoife Deasy.

Michelle Browne and Aoife O'Rourke tried to the finish for Mallow while Joan Twomey and Eireann O'Connell worked hard as Aghabullogue battled in their first year in the grade.

And so to the final; it is impossible to be so close to the action and to remain impartial, but it is something I always endeavour to do. Therefore to heap all the praise for a superb occasion last Sunday on my own club Glen Rovers would wrong of me.

To Éire Óg must go huge praise they came into this final having lost the finals of 2006, 09 and 2010 and to lose last Sunday must be heartbreaking for them. The game was still there for the taking at the final whistle.

From seven points down to be

pushing two minutes into injury time for an equaliser; this is what made this final such a great spectacle.

They have dedicated mentors, players and officials and people like Paddy Corkery, Ken Murphy and Martina Hutchinson (Murray) who herself won senior honours with the club are dedicated to the game in their club, and hopefully the day is not far when we will see them back up gracing the Senior grade Cork as a county needs clubs such as these playing in our top competitions as it was in days of old.

Sport is cruel as we know only too well and having experienced the feeling of losing the final of 2011, we were glad to hear the full time whistle on Sunday last.

It means a lot to Glen Rovers to have won this championship just as it did to Killeagh in 2010 as it ensures elevation back to senior status for 2014.

This did not happen overnight and the years of hard work by a dedicated few ensured the battle was fought in hard years with little success.

Under age success was gradually achieved and finally a breakthrough in 2009 when a senior B league title was won and the continued hard work brought us to last Sunday.

Well done to all the players, mentors and officials whose dream has finally become a reality.

It would be remiss of me not to mention the huge effort of so many who made last Sunday's final a special day. Marion McCarthy the senior and juvenile board officers and GPC members deserve huge praise as everything was spot on and a most enjoyable occasion for players mentors and spectators.

Minors get a chance to shine on a busy weekend

CAMOGIE

By Mary Newman

IN WHAT can be termed a "minor" weekend, all the focus is on the minor championships following the completion of the last three adults championships last weekend.

Such is the high level of competition, there are four championship grades in minor and this weekend the focus is on the back door as clubs defeated in the opening rounds enjoy their second chance.

Already the Cork minor selectors are busy and in recent months, since losing the All-Ireland final replay, they have been in attendance at games at all levels as they scout around for talent to add to their panel.

They are also overseeing the Cork U17 development squad and this is an ideal opportunity for them to unearth new talent.

In the Evening Echo Minor A Championship, Courcoy Rovers who lost out to Douglas in round one face a tough assignment when they travel to Inniscarra to meet the home side who were defeated by championship favourites Cloughduv.

Glen Rovers host Éire Óg in the Glen Field where several of the players from last weekend Senior B county final will once again come face to face. Éire Óg lost out to Killeagh in round one while holders Glen Rovers were defeated by another of the championship favourites Newtownshandrum.

In the Evening Echo Minor B Championship Brian Dillon's, who lost out to Milford/Ballyhea, will be hoping to get their campaign back on track when they make the short journey to St Vincent's who lost out in a high scoring contest against Kilbrittain/Timoleague while Ballincollig will play host to Carrigaline.

In the Evening Echo Minor C Championship, St Catherine's make the journey to Enniskeane, Clonakilty/ St Colum's head to Millstreet, Barryroe host Ballygarvan as Fr O'Neill's head to the city for a meeting with Bishopstown.

The Evening Echo Minor D Championship is down to semi-final stage and Bride Rovers continue to make good progress as they contest the semi final against Newcestown who they host for this important clash. Youghal boosted by the success of their Junior B team in taking championship honours will host Ballinascarty.

FIXTURES TODAY

Evening Echo Minor A Championship: Barryroe v Ballygarvan at Barryroe at 6.30pm

Munster Senior Club Championship: Milford (Cork) v Burgess/ Duharra (Tipp) 2.30pm Milford.

Munster Intermediate Club Championship: Carrigaline (Cork) v Lismore (Waterford) 3pm Carrigaline

SUN, OCT 20

Evening Echo Minor A Championship: Inniscarra v Courcoy Rovers at Inniscarra 2pm

Glen Rovers v Éire Óg at Glen Rovers 5.30pm

Evening Echo Minor B Championship: St Vincent's v Brian Dillon's St Vincent's Time TBC. Ballincollig v Carrigaline Ballincollig Time TBC.

Evening Echo Minor C Championship: St Catherine's v Enniskeane at St Catherine's 12. Blarney at Cobh 2 in Cobh 2pm. Millstreet v Clonakilty St Colum's Venue and Time 2pm. Bishopstown v Fr O'Neill's at Bishopstown at 12.30pm.

Evening Echo Minor D Championship semi-finals: Bride Rovers v Newcestown at Bride Rovers 1.45pm. Youghal v Ballinascarty at Youghal 2.30pm.

OCT. 2013

Senior and intermediate sides fly the flag for Cork

CAMOGIE

COUNTY senior champions Milford and intermediate champions Carrigaline step into the provincial arena on Saturday when they represent Cork in the respective Provincial competition, writes MARY NEWMAN.

TOMORROW
Munster Senior Club Championship;
Milford v Burgess/ Duharra (Tipperary);
Milford; 2.30pm.

Holders, Milford face Tipperary champions Burgess/ Duharra in a repeat of last year's final where the Cork champions had a four point victory in a tough contest. Last weekend both retained their respective county titles, Milford overcoming Ballincollig whilst Burgess/ Duharra had a battle before overcoming the challenge of Drom and Inch in a contest where just two points separated the sides. With Eimear McDonnell, Amy and Tara Kennedy prominent Burgess raced into a nine point lead after 15 minutes but in the second half they had to call on all their experience as they hung on for victory as Drom and Inch mounted a comeback. Milford ran out convincing winners over Ballincollig in the Cork final, a goal-blitz before half time proved crucial as they consolidated their lead and never looked back. Captain Elaine O'Riordan continues to be inspirational whilst Maura Flanagan, Aisling Thompson, Marie O'Neill and Maria Watson gave their usual solid performances. Last year the sides served up a cracker and with both similarly matched in physical strength and ability it should be another top class battle with the victors the likely ones to go on to take the title.

TOMORROW
Munster Intermediate Club Championship;
Carrigaline v Lismore (Waterford);
Carrigaline 3pm.

For Carrigaline it's a new experience when they meet Waterford champions Lismore in the Intermediate Club Championship and they will face a tough battle against a strong well balanced side that features several of the Waterford county side. They overcame the challenge of St Anne's to take the Waterford title whilst Carrigaline went to a replay to overcome Tracton last weekend. Inter-county player Shona Curran captains the Waterford champions whilst her fellow inter county players Nicola Morrissey Aisling O'Brien Johanna Houlihan Sarah Coughlan and Laura Buckley form a strong club side. Carrigaline will not be found wanting and will relish the challenge last Saturday Sarah Cotter, Rachel O'Shea, Ellen Twomey Maria Moran and captain Joanne O'Keefe stood up and were counted when the chips were down, they have a nice blend of youth and experience and can match the pace of the Waterford champions they are in with a right shout of advancing.

Classy Milford are into another decider

Milford
Burgess Duharra

2-15
1-9



LINDA MELLERICK

CAMOGIE

A HARD-FOUGHT battle in Milford on Saturday saw the hosts advance to the Munster senior club final in two weeks' time.

A spirited Burgess Duharra travelled to Milford intent on dethroning the champions and while they certainly made the North Cork club fight all the way the home side started and remained in control throughout.

Trailing 0-4 to 1-9 at the break the spurt Duharra received from a Tara Kennedy goal 30 seconds after the re-start was stopped short 10 minutes later after a lightning paced opportunistic Deirdre O'Reilly strike flew past Clara Holohan putting eight between the sides again.

The once again dependable free-taking of Emer Watson (2) and a Marie O'Neill strike saw Milford take the lead by three nine minutes into the game.

A heavy downpour during the

opening minutes didn't adversely affect the well maintained pitch, yet play was tight as both sides' work ethic was commendable and winning possession fell to the most battle-hardened.

With Milford leading 1-4 to 0-2 at the first quarter stage, after a wonderfully executed goal involving Deirdre O'Reilly, Máire Flanagan and Marie O'Neill, it was clear that Burgess would need to make the most of every limited scoring opportunity that came their way.

Yet that determined instinct wasn't there when Amy Kennedy had three yards on Katie Galvin with only the keeper to beat yet opted to strike over the bar from 20 metres.

The hard battles remained out the



Milford's Ashling Thompson and Orlaith O'Mahony and Burgess/Duharra's Gemma Garce, tussle for the ball during their Munster Senior 'A' Camogie Championship semi final at Milford.
Picture: Eddie O'Hare

field with Aisling Cremin, Aine Mulcahy, Eimear McDonnell and Caoimhe Maher pushing hard for Burgess and Aine Watson, Deirdre O'Reilly, Elaine O'Riordan and Marie O'Neill doing well for Milford.

Burgess's goal gave them renewed impetus after the break, after a great run by the stylish Eimear McDonnell drew the Milford defence and her offload to Tara Kennedy was well finished.

With the wind picking up and favouring the Tipp side, Anna Geary was magnificent during this crucial period, her ability to win possession and provide great deliveries hugely instrumental.

The fight was all but snuffed out of Burgess once the inform O'Reilly struck after they had put so much effort into getting back into the game.

Milford's unselfish style of play saw impact sub Louise O'Flynn.

O'Neill and Emer Watson strike further points. Amy and Tara Kennedy and Eimear McDonnell refused to give up the fight with three of their own but for Milford the right outcome was never in doubt.

Scorers for Milford: E Watson 0-8 (0-5 f, 0-3 45), M O'Neill 1-4, D O'Reilly 1-1, M Watson, L O'Flynn 0-1 each.

Burgess Duharra: T Kennedy 1-3 (0-2 f, 0-1 45), E McDonnell, A Kennedy 0-3 each.

MILFORD: R Finn, K Galvin, M Walsh, L Healy, E O'Riordan, A Geary, A Watson, A Thompson, O O'Mahony, E Watson, D O'Reilly, S O'Flynn, M O'Neill, M Flanagan, M Watson.

Sub: L O'Flynn for M Flanagan (44).

BURGESS DUHARRA: C Holohan, A Murphy, T O'Halloran, A Egan, A Cremin, C Maher, D McDonnell, R Barry, J O'Halloran, S Hayes, J Grace, A Mulcahy, A Kennedy, E McDonnell, T Kennedy.

Subs: G Grace for A Murphy, M Moloney for S Hayes, E King for A Cremin (all h-t), C McKee for R Barry (57).

Referee: John Dolan (Clare).

Carrigaline fall short in the finish

Lismore
Carrigaline

1-10
1-6

FINISHING stronger, Waterford champions Lismore edged past Cork representatives Carrigaline in the opening round of the Munster intermediate club championship in Carrigaline on Saturday.

Playing with the aid of the crossfield wind Carrigaline led by just a point at the break, and despite a huge effort on their part it was the visitors' ability to hit 1-3 without replay in the closing quartet that finally swung

the result in their favour.

Carrigaline took the lead 20 minutes into the contest when trailing 0-3 to 0-1. Sandra Moran connected superbly with Gráinne O'Keefe's delivery to give Lismore goalkeeper Aisling O'Brien no chance.

Boosted by this, Carrigaline put huge pressure on the Lismore defence but they held firm and twice the sides swapped points before Ruth Geoghan narrowed the gap to one just before the break, where it was 1-4 to 0-6 in Carrigaline's favour.

Aoife Hannon had the sides level inside three

minutes of the restart with a pointed free, but from the puck-out an accidental collision forced her to leave the field with a head injury.

Her teammates responded as they shifted into top gear, and with captain Shona Curran and Nicole Morrissey now influential Carrigaline were under huge pressure.

Gráinne O'Keefe and Rachel O'Shea edged Carrigaline into a two-point advantage, but as the half wore on Lismore began to gain

control and when Catriona McGlone first-timed Shona Curran's dropping free to the net the Waterford champions were back in front.

With captain Curran showing the way, pointing from play and a free, they kept their foot on the pedal. Carrigaline did have two chances to cut the deficit but both efforts sailed wide and with it went their chance.

Catriona McGlone pointed late to secure a final spot for Lismore but not before a hard-fought battle against a Carrigaline line that showed huge determination.

Scorers for Lismore: A Hannon 0-5 (0-3 f, 0-1 45), C McGlone 1-1, R Geoghan 0-2, S Curran 0-2 (0-1 f).

Carrigaline: R O'Shea 0-4 (0-3 f), S Moran 1-0, M Moran, G O'Keefe 0-1 each.

LISMORE: A O'Brien, S Coughlan, Shauna Prendergast, Sandra Prendergast, M Russell, S Kiernan, S Geoghan, C McGlone, N Morrissey, A Hannon, R Geoghan, S Bennett, J Houlihan.

Subs: L Buckley for S Geoghan (15-1), S Walsh for A Hannon (36 in).

CARRIGALINE: A Kiely, J Kiernan, A Collins, E Twomey, L Dwane, J O'Keefe (c), D O'Leary, S Cotter, M Moran, G Harrington, G O'Keefe, R O'Shea, A O'Keefe, S Moran, H Fitzgerald.

Referee: Ger O'Dowd (Limerick).

Good start the key for champions

NEWMARKET manager Darren Hayes has no doubts as to the merits of his side's victory.

"We said at half-time that they would throw the kitchen sink at us and they did. Fair play to them for not giving up. Our girls trained hard all year and we just about deserved this on the day."

According to Hayes, Newmarket's plan was to get on top from the start. "We said all week that the first 10 to 15 minutes would be the winning of the game and it turned out to be the way. The goal after half-time was crucial, as it stopped their momentum a bit. All in all, we deserved it."

Player of the match Áine O'Brien is, according to the winning manager "a super player".

"Some people have doubted her in the last couple of years but she was always going to be a main player in this team and she proved it today."

He also acknowledged that Newmarket's strong defence played a key role with Laura and Róisín McMahon, Aimee McInerney and Aoife Griffin.

"They are all county players and I had two county players that I managed to bring on in Sharon [McMahon] and

Joanne [Walsh]. They are serious players. Sixteen-year-old Ann Marie Hayes and Ashling Keogh have been outstanding this year," he said.

Hayes and his players are looking forward to representing Clare in the Munster club championship.

"The last time they were in the competition, they played Lismore, a game I was at, and I feel they left that behind them. After tonight, we will start thinking about the Munster club but first we will celebrate this tonight," he concluded.

According to team captain Róisín McMahon, Newmarket will take it one game at a time. "We are delighted to be back in the Munster club championship and we will give it our best shot. We will give it everything and, hopefully, do Clare proud," she told *The Clare Champion*.

She paid tribute to the team mentors and club officials for their work in steering the team to this success.

"We worked hard and we are so happy with the result. We started well, which was important. Clooney are a fantastic team and they came back strong in the second half. The goal after half-time was very important, as it helped settle us again after the break," according to Róisín, one

of three sisters on the panel.

Clooney-Quin manager, Raymond Ryan was disappointed with the outcome.

"It's very hard to lost two-in-a-row. I can't give enough credit to the girls for their second-half performance. They were superb. They fought for everything. They are a very committed bunch of girls and they will be back," he confidently predicted.

He agreed their first-half performance, which saw them slip seven points in arrears, was costly.

"Being down by seven points at half-time was a step too far. The early goal conceded in the second half was a big blow but the girls rallied again. The ball just didn't fall for us," he said.

He went on, "Maybe playing a semi-final and a final within seven days was a bit too much, a step too far. We hadn't time to regroup after last week's brilliant performance."

"There are a lot of young girls there and this is a very young team. They will be back and they deserve a title. There has been a huge effort from players and management. It's a fabulous club and a fabulous team to be involved with."



Niki Kaiser under pressure from Clooney-Quin's Orlaith Duggan. Photograph by Arthur Ellis



Costcutters Dedicated Services Award winner Sheila Golden being presented with the award by Marion McCarthy



Marion McCarthy on behalf of Cork Camogie is presented with Best County Final Programme Award by Lily Dunne watched by Aileen Lawlor and Paul Byrnes



Coachford College players celebrating their victory over Colaiste Choilm, Ballincollig, in the Cork Colleges Senior A Camogie final at Coachford. Picture: Denis Minihane



Two goals from Naomi Carroll

This year it was decided to introduce a new award for Distinguished Service and it gives me great pleasure to announce our current Runai of the Camogie Board Sheila Golden as the inaugural winner of this prestigious award - "The Costcutter Distinguished Award"

Sheila has given over 50 years service to Camogie in Cork both as a player, Selector and Administrator. It all began for Sheila in South Presentation Secondary School which was a wonderful nursery for Camogie in Cork until its closure in 1987. Sheila played with the School Team and then went on to play with South Presentation Past Pupils with whom she won three Cork County Senior Championship Medals in a row from 1969 to 1971. She also won a Munster Club Championship Medal in 1970 and won provincial honours with the County. Sheila was a member of the Cork Senior team that unfortunately lost to Wexford in the 1968 All Ireland Final.

It is as an Administrator that Sheila has really excelled and this was signalled very early in her life when she took the position of the Secretary of the Cork Schools Board at a very young age. In what has been a remarkable career in administration she has held the office of President, Chairman and Secretary of the Cork County Board. She was Secretary of the Cork Senior Board from 1964 to 1968 before retiring for a few years to rear her family. But during her absence from the County Board she still kept in touch and was actively involved with her Club Inniscarra and was one of the founder members of the Underage Section in Inniscarra. She was also Chairman and Selector with the Club during the 1980's

In 1988 Sheila attended the County convention as a delegate for the Inniscarra Club and left the meeting as chairman of the Board. At that time cork were finding it difficult to get a chairman and Nora Newman pleaded with Sheila to take on the role for twelve months and

the rest is history - Sheila served as Chairman of the Board from 1988 to 2002 and then took on the role of Honary President from 2003 to 2007. At that stage I am sure Sheila thought she could retire in peace but such is her love for the game that when Cork needed a secretary in 2008 she answered the call and stepped into the breach a role she is still filling with her usual efficiency and enthusiasm.

She was also a selector with Cork Teams down through the years when many titles were won but one of her most proudest moments I am sure was when she presented the Senior B championship Cup to her Club Inniscarra a team that was captained by Hall of Fame winner Irene O'Keeffe and also when Inniscarra won their first senior championship in 2010

Sheila comes from a family steeped in the history of our Gaelic games - her grand father Timothy O'Sullivan Inniscarra was a member of the first Executive Committee of the Cork GAA Board set up in December 1886. She has a deep love of Camogie and Hurling and has travelled the length and breadth of the country to attend games.

Sheila receives huge support from her family especially from her husband Tommy who is always there to help her in any way he can and has been an important part of sheila's involvement in Camogie.

Sheila has given and continues to give outstanding service to Cork Camogie and truly deserves this honour.

It gives me particular pleasure to present this award as I have worked very closely with Sheila for the past 22 years and was her vice chairman from 1991 to 2002.

During those 22 years there has rarely been a day that I would not be in contact with Sheila and we have enjoyed and shared many happy victories and events particularly the opening of our County Grounds in Castle Rd a project that was a priority to both of us for many years.

Senior County Camogie Championship — Final



Winning team captain and player of the match, Milford's Elaine O'Riordan, in action on the half-back line during the Cork County Senior Camogie Championship final.

Picture: Larry Cummins

Milford
Ballincollig

5-17
0-7

Milford retained their *Evening Echo* senior county championship title with a comprehensive victory over Ballincollig, who made them battle during the opening 30 minutes — but an injury to captain, Linda Dorgan, upset Ballincollig's momentum.

With Emer Watson pointing a penalty, Milford led 1-3 to 0-2 after eight minutes, but Ballincollig worked hard, especially in defence.

Denise Cronin pointed a '45, before Deirdre O'Reilly and Emer Watson (f) gave Milford a five-point lead. Denise Cronin responded with two Ballincollig points.

Ballincollig were hit a killer blow with the injury to Dorgan and, on 30 minutes, Orlaith O'Mahony grabbed a Milford goal, and a Marie O'Neill point extended the advantage. Milford showed their class just before the break, with Maire O'Neill, Deirdre O'Reilly and Maria Watson linking up for Watson to tap the ball to the net, to give Milford a ten-point advantage at the break after a tough opening half.

Ballincollig were rocked six minutes into the second-half, when

Maura Flanagan struck Milford's fourth goal and, from here on, they dominated, with Elaine O'Riordan, Anna Geary, Aisling Thompson, Marie O'Neill and Maria Watson all influential. Substitute Louise O'Flynn added 1-3 to their tally, while Elaine O'Riordan was dominant and was named as player of the match after an impressive display, as Milford made it back-to-back senior county championship titles and, on this display, will be favoured to add further honours.

Milford: R Finn; K Galvin, M Walsh, L Healy; E O'Riordan, A Geary, A Watson; O O'Mahony, A Thompson; E Watson, D O'Reilly, S O'Flynn; M O'Neill, M Flanagan, M Watson.
Subs: L O'Flynn for S O'Flynn (42), D Hayes and A O'Flynn for L Healy and A Thompson (52), E O'Flynn for E Watson (58). **Scorers:** E Watson 0-5 (0-1 f, 0-1 45), L O'Flynn 1-3, M Watson 1-3, D O'Reilly 1-1, M O'Neill 0-4, M Flanagan, O O'Mahony 1-0 each, S O'Flynn 0-1.

Ballincollig: S O'Sullivan; A Kiely, E Murphy, L Weste; E Casey, K O'Donoghue, C Ryan; J Hennigan; S Buckley; M O'Donoghue, L Dorgan, D Cronin; A Coughlan, S Coomey, P Buttner.
Subs: C Hennigan for L Dorgan (in), 38; S Barry for C Ryan (57). **Scorers:** D Cronin 0-5 (0-3 f, 0-1 45), L Dorgan, M O'Donoghue 0-1.

Referee: Cathal Egan (Glen Rovers).

Senior B County Camogie Championship — Final

Glen Rovers 1-13
Eire Og 2-7

Glen Rovers made it a double as they added the *Evening Echo* Senior B championship title to their league crown as they put the disappointment of losing the 2011 final behind them.

They led by seven points at half time but a strong Eire Og fight back saw the Glen hanging on as the Ovens girls almost fashioned a dramatic draw two minutes into injury time the Glen defence stood solid under huge pressure as Eire Og dropped two 45 metre frees into the square in search of an equaliser but it wasn't to be.

The Glen enjoyed a slight wind advantage in the opening half and the sides swapped early points and it was 0-2 apiece after six minutes, Sinead O'Halloran put the Glen ahead with a point and extended their lead when an excellent pass from full forward Denise Luby to the unmarked O'Halloran saw the corner forward finish superbly to the net to put her sides four points ahead.

Picking off points with Sinead Fahy and Kelly Fitzgerald all contributing they started to edge further ahead, but they were pinned back when Elaine Scally took on their defence and finished to the net. Then the Glen hit four points in a row, one a superb long range effort from Lydia Cunningham as they went seven points clear and they held it to the half-time whistle.



Nicole O'Brien, Glen Rovers, battling with Aoife Hennessy, Eire Og, during the Senior B Camogie Final, at Castle Road in Cork.

Picture: Jim Coughlan

Eire Og came out fighting in the second half and began to dominate. Erin Corkery cut the deficit with a goal after being set up by Maeve Desmond and when Eimear Scally set up Emma Crowley for a point the gap was down to three points and it was game on again.

With Karen O'Connell playing a captain's part in defence the Glen began to settle again and with Lauren Callanan superb in defence they closed down Eire Og's attack. Denise Luby had their first second half score with a pointed free after 12 minutes and she added a point from play as they looked to have weathered the Eire Og storm. But refusing to give in Eire

Og hit back, points from Margaret O'Herlihy free and Erin Corkery had it back to three again. Sinead O'Halloran pointed to settle the Glen's nerves and winning a penalty it looked as if they were going to be safe, but Denise Luby's effort was saved and Margaret O'Herlihy ran upfield to point a free.

Excitement was now fierce as these two old rivals battled it out with Eire Og pushing for an equaliser a minute into injury time a high dropping ball gave Eire Og an opportunity, but Glen defender Aileen Guiton got in a timely challenge to avert danger for a 45s. From this they won a second 45 twice, but to no avail.

Cork minor captain Lauren Callanan was named player of the match.

Glen Rovers: K Lee; S Busted, L O'Sullivan, A Guiton; K Falvey, L Callanan, K O'Connell; J Hosford, L Cunningham; K Fitzgerald, E Hennessy, A O'Keefe; S Fahy, D Luby, S O'Halloran. **Subs:** N O'Brien for E Hennessy (44), A Wallace for S Fahy (47), N Gowen for A Guiton (63). **Scorers:** S O'Halloran 1-3, D Luby 0-5 (0-3 f, 0-1 45), S Fahy 0-2, K Fitzgerald 0-2, L Cunningham 0-1.

Eire Og: M Gleeson; M Corkery, K McCarthy, A Hennessy; C McKenna, M O'Herlihy, R Murphy; C Meaney, A Barry; E Crowley, Eimear Scally, A O'Callaghan; E Corkery, Elaine Scally, M E Desmond. **Subs:** A Scally for R Murphy (44), S Hutchinson for M E Desmond (56). **Scorers:** E Corkery 1-1, Elaine Scally 1-0, M O'Herlihy 0-3 (f), C Meaney, E Crowley, Eimear Scally 0-1 each.

Referee: John O'Leary (Mallow).

Intermediate County Camogie Championship — Final

Carrigaline 0-9
Tracton 2-2

This was a cracking contest. A point separated the sides in the replay of the *Evening Echo* Nano Nagle intermediate championship in Castle Road. A pointed free a minute from full-time won Carrigaline the title.

Carrigaline put huge pressure on the Tracton defence early, with Rachel O'Shea pointing two frees in the opening eight minutes. Tracton's defence held their lines as Carrigaline pressed, but up-front Tracton could find no way through Carrigaline. It took Tracton 25 minutes to score. Marion Jagoe grabbed Jennifer Kiely's cross-field ball and finished it superbly to the net. O'Shea and Maria Moran had extended the Carrigaline lead with three further points, but the Tracton goal cut that. Tracton im-

proved and Carrigaline had to be at their best and they led 0-5 to 1-0 at half-time.

Tracton applied early second-half pressure and had two wides, before Jagoe scored their second goal, and they battled to push ahead. Hayley Fitzgerald and Jennifer Griffin swapped points, as Tracton held the advantage, but Maria Moran had levelled the sides with an excellent point and O'Shea converted a free to swing the momentum back in Carrigaline's favour.

Battling with all their might, Tracton upped the pace: Jennifer Griffin pointed a 45 to level matters. With the game for the taking, two superb teams gave it their all.

It remained deadlocked and looked as if we would have extra-time.

Twice Tracton had a chance to take the lead, but failed, and Carrigaline won a free on the wing. O'Shea pointed, to give her side the lead and they held on to be crowned champions and win promotion to the senior B grade.



Tracton's Erin Harrington takes on Carrigaline's Laura Dwane and Donna Smyth during the Intermediate Camogie Championship final replay.

Picture: Eddie O'Hare

Carrigaline: A Kiely; J Kiernan, A Collins, L Dwane; D O'Leary, J O'Keefe (c), D Smyth; S Cotter, M Moran; G Harrington, G O'Keefe, H Fitzgerald; R O'Shea, S Moran, E Twomey. **Subs:** A O'Keefe for G Harrington (37). **Scorers:** R O'Shea 0-6 (0-5 f), S Moran, M Moran, H Fitzgerald 0-1 each.

Tracton: T Harrington; J Kiely, J A Kingston, N Mullane; S Harrington, K O'Sullivan, C Castleton; J Lynch, A Kiely; J Griffin, E Harrington, A Dempsey; C Fitzgerald, M Jagoe, M Mc Guinness. **Subs:** L O'Callaghan for E Harrington (45). **Scorers:** M Jagoe 2-0, J Griffin 0-2 (0-1 f, 0-1 45).

Referee: Cathal McAllister (Aghada).

CAMOGIE ULSTER CLUB FINALS

Belfast sides clash in Ulster decider

NWP RECYCLING ULSTER JUNIOR
CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL
ST JOHN'S V BREDAGH
Sunday, Clann Éireann, Lurgan, 2.45pm

THIS Sunday's NWP Recycling Ulster Junior Championship Final will see a Belfast derby match as St John's face Bredagh. Both teams battled to victory on Sunday in their respective semi-finals and will face-off this Sunday in Clann Éireann, Lurgan.

St John's defeated Derry champions Banagher at Corrigan Park in a physical low scoring affair coming out the right side of a 2-5 to 0-4 victory.

Bredagh, however, pulled off a bit of shock defeating reigning NWP Recycling Ulster Junior Champions Crosserlough as their scoring of 2-5 was enough to pip the Cavan side in Kilmaleck.

Despite both teams competing out of Belfast, with Bredagh being a North Down side there has been little exchanges between the two bar an early season friendly which St John's manager Malachy McToal isn't reading much into.

"Bredagh beating Crosserlough caused a bit of an upset so we'll have to give Bredagh full respect come Sunday."

Bredagh manager Fintan McDonnell concedes that despite that win his side remain underdogs.

"We'll be underdogs again this week as we were last week. Both teams have a lot of young players but St John's have many players who played for Antrim seniors and would have more experience. Like last week we'll go out and give it a good rattle see what happens from there."

McToal believes the intensity of the game and the work rate of his side and Banagher led to a low scoring game which will hold the Johnnies in good stead.



DOWN V ANTRIM...Pictured ahead of the NWP Recycling Ulster Junior Championship Final are Bredagh captain Christine Smith, Ulster Camogie Chairperson Kathleen Woods and St John's captain Helen Wilson



MONAGHAN V ANTRIM...Pictured ahead of the NWP Recycling Bridie McMenamin Shield Final are Loughgiel Shamrocks' Sarah Anne McGarry, Ulster Chair Kathleen Woods and Clontibret captain Seana Finnegan

"It was hard hitting and Banagher really put it up to us. Both sides closed each other down well and didn't provide much space. In the last five minutes we spread the play and Niamh Adams and Aisling Jackson got a bit more space to play."

NWP RECYCLING BRIDIE MC MENAMIN
SHIELD FINAL
CLONTIBRET V
LOUGHGIEL SHAMROCKS
Sunday, Clann Éireann, Lurgan, 1pm

Sunday's NWP Recycling Bridie McMenamin Shield Final sees Monaghan side Clontibret square up against Loughgiel Shamrocks in Clann Éireann for the competition

Double delight for busy Scariff

Scariff/Ogonnelloe (Clare) 2-17
Butlerstown (Waterford)0-3
By Fiona Casey
Munster Club Junior
Camogie final

Scariff/Ogonnelloe threw down the gauntlet to their Déise opponents who had no answer on Saturday in Lattin Cullen.

A goal after 30 seconds from their nippy corner-forward Sarah O'Donnell set the tone and the same player pounced for a second to leave it 2-8 to 0-3 at half-time.

The second half began in similar fashion to the first, except Scariff's conversion rate slipped.

Celebrations were put on ice, however, as they beat Tara of London in a 24-hour turnaround in the All-Ireland quarter-finals, 0-8 to 0-4, yesterday.

Scorers for Scariff/Ogonnelloe: M Scanlon (0-10, 1 45 3ls), S O'Donnell (2-2), R O'Brien (0-2), S Vaughan, R Moloney, D Sheedy (0-1 each), S O'Donnell, A Thornton, R Moloney, Subs: R O'Brien for Thornton (50).

SCARIFF/OGONNELLOE: A Corbett; S Daly, G O'Brien (capt), L Horan; S Madden, M O'Brien, S McNamara; S Vaughan, H Mooney; E Collins, D Sheedy, M Scanlon; S O'Donnell, A Thornton, R Moloney. Butlerstown: D Brennan; E Kearney (joint capt), C Doherty, K Walsh; M Kelly, J Burns, N Fitzgerald; KM Holmes, C Farrelly; V Falconer, B Kennedy, M Cashin; M Burns, R Tahery, A Breathnach.

FIVE MINUTES WITH... KELLY MAYBIN

Name: Kelly Maybin

Age: 27

Occupation: Applications Support Analyst

Teams Played for: Eoghan Rua, Coleraine

If you were throwing a party who would you ask around?

I'd ask Aisling Carey. She loves a party and she'll always be there 'till the death. Grace McMullan, because she has a handy supply of beverages. I'd also ask Dan Carter, because he's quite popular with the Eoghan Rua camogs.

Best ever performance?

My best performance was probably the Ulster final against Derry. I'd been suffering with a hamstring injury up until that and I wasn't sure if I was going to be playing and I was dying to get on and when I did I played well on the day.

One to forget?

The championship semi-final against Balinascreen. It was one of those days where anything that could have gone wrong for you did.

Where do you like to go out to celebrate after a win?

It has to be the Port obviously. We're quite a fan of Mary's in Magherafelt. We always have Meabh McGoldrick as a driver, she looks after us all. She's a renown tea drinker, she always brings a thermos with her in the car.

Who hogs the mirror in the dressing room?

She's been away in Australia for a while, but whenever she was here it was Cara McPeake. She loves her Estée Lauder and her Chanel.

Who's the worst person to sit beside on the team bus?

It can be quite hard to get a seat beside anybody, because they all like their double seats. Everybody likes a bit of room to get in the zone.

Which player is the worst trainer?

Nobody. We train hard and play harder.

Apart from your home venue, where is your favourite pitch?

Croke Park, we've been there twice now.

Who has the best looking other half?

Well, everybody loves Aisling Carey's other half!

Who do you share a room with when you're away?

The last trip we were away on I shared a room with Maeve Dillon. She knows how to party, always good for the pre-night-out supply.

Who's the best manager you have played under?

I'm biased, but I'll probably have to say my Daddy. Then it would be Joe Passmore.

What's the first thing you'd buy if you won the lottery?

The first thing I would do is book a massive holiday in Spain and go with all my friends.

Who's the biggest joker on the Eoghan Rua team?

The biggest jokers would be Joe [Passmore] and Brendan [McLernon, Eoghan Rua managers], because they are always on the look out for gossip and they find out everything about us and then rib us about it at training.

When you were playing football in the back garden, who did you pretend to be?

Nobody really

Which team do you love to beat the most, and why?

I like to beat them all, don't like losing, especially in Derry.

If there was a transfer market who'd be in and who'd be out of the team?

I wouldn't swap any of our girls for anybody. If I had to get someone in I would say someone like Therese Maher of Galway. She's just an outstanding player.



HANDY WITH A HURL...It's obviously Dan Carter's stickwork that has wowed the Coleraine camogs
Picture: Stephen McCarthy / SPORTSFILE



ULSTER CLUB SCC FINAL

McAuley believes young guns can deliver the goods

BY NIAL MCCOY

FATE moves in mysterious ways, and Rossa manager Liam McAuley knows that better than most.

The 25-year-old dual player had his focus firmly on furthering his playing career when he suffered a cruel cruciate injury in last year's Antrim SHC opener against Loughiel.

Faced with a long lay-off, McAuley decided to give something back to the club during his rehab and took over the senior camogie side for the 2013 season.

And it has paid off as the club claimed their 10th county title in 13 years and now face Eoghan Rua, Coleraine as they attempt to retain their Ulster title.

"I did my cruciate last year in the senior hurling championship for the club and decided in my year out, and with the girls needing someone to take the team, to give a bit back to the club," said McAuley.

"It's been a tough year with the changes to the squad but things are improving every week and they are a great bunch to work with."

McAuley has been pleased with how the newer members of the squad have reacted this year, and he is hopeful that will be evident once more at Owenbeg on Sunday against the Derry champions.

"Usually we would be considered favourites but this year might be different," he said.

"The younger girls in the squad are improving but we are up against a very experienced team. We are up for the challenge though."

"Hopefully we have another 60 minutes in us and we can get across the line."

Natalie McGuinness echoed her



THERE CAN BE ONLY ONE... Pictured ahead of the NWP Recycling Ulster Senior Club Championship Final are Coleraine's Grainne McGoldrick, Ulster Camogie Chairperson Kathleen Woods & O'Donovan Rossa's Natalie McGuinness

manager's belief that they felt they would struggle inside county bounds this season.

"At the start of the year we didn't think we would even get out of Antrim," she said. "We have played Eoghan Rua on many occasions and

with players like the McGoldricks you know it is going to be a tough game."

"It will be a 50/50 battle and we continue to train hard and hopefully we will come out the right side at the end of the game."

McGuinness has said that the club

have been forced to blood a number of new players in this campaign.

"We have a different squad to what we have had over the last number of years for various reasons like retirements and travel but we have a good number of young girls who have

boosted the squad, and this helps. "We have been giving these young players a lot of games throughout the year in preparation for the later stages of the championship and they've proved that they are capable of stepping up to the mark."

McGuinness also feels that a younger side doesn't necessarily mean a poorer side.

"We have lost some older faces, but when we won the All-Ireland we had a lot of young players so we don't see any problem with that."

"Those girls who were young in 2009 are now the leaders of the team and of course we are missing some big names, but we are pulling well together and that is what has got us this far."

n.mccoy@gaeliclife.com



ULSTER CLUB SCC FINAL

O'DONOVAN ROSSA

V

EOGHAN RUA, COLERAINE

Owenbeg, Sunday, 2.45pm.

STORY SO FAR

O'Donovan Rossa

Antrim SCC final

Rossa 4-11 Portlengone 4-6

Antrim SCC semi-final

Rossa 0-11 Ballycastle 0-7

Antrim SCC quarter-final

Rossa 3-18 Cushendall 3-3

Coleraine

Derry SCC final

Coleraine defeated Slaughtneil

Derry SCC semi-final

Coleraine defeated Ballinascreen



ULSTER CLUB ICC FINAL

Extra games give English better build-up for final showdown

BY NIAL MCCOY

ENGLISH captain Siobhán Hughes believes that the revamped format of the intermediate championship ensures they are better prepared for this year's final.

Twelve months ago a late goal by Ballycran's Nicola Braniff broke English hearts in the decider, but Hughes believes they are better equipped to get over the line this time around.

"The changed format will hopefully have stood us in good stead," she said. "Last year we were straight in to the final with no real preparation."

"Ballycran were a lot better prepared than us in 2012. This year we have had two tough games with Tullysaran and Liatroim and we face Liatroim again on Sunday so we are ahead of where we were last year and from a players' perspective it's a better format."

Jim McCormick's players had a

steely determination about them in the group stages. They won a hard-fought contest with Liatroim away

from home and blitzed Armagh side Tullysaran. The Tullysaran victory was impressive as they were able to

see off a comeback just after half-time to win comfortably.

Hughes admits that the loss to Bal-

lycran in 2012 has been driving them on in those games.

"Last year we were beat at the death by a late goal," she said.

"We have been banging on the door for the last number of years and we hope that this year we will be able to finally secure the title the girls have been working hard for."

It has been a fantastic year for English Camogie Club. Every one of their teams, from post primary to senior, have been crowned county champions.

They also impressed at the All-Ireland Kilmacud Sevens back in September, winning four games before losing out to eventual winners Kilmaley by four points in the semi-final.

They will be hoping that they can add another prestigious piece of silverware this weekend.



FLYING THE RED HAND FLAG...English's senior camogs pictured ahead of their Ulster final date with destiny

n.mccoy@gaeliclife.com



ULSTER CLUB SCC FINAL

Eoghan Rua ready for the step up

BY NIAL MCCOY

EOGHAN Rua player Grainne McGoldrick has said that the side are now in bonus territory having successfully regained their Derry championship.

Last year, Slaughtneil shocked the side in the semi-final en-route to their first county title, but the Coleraine camogs gained revenge this season.

"After winning two All-Ireland titles at Intermediate and the county going into Senior Championship, it was a natural progression for our club champions to go into senior club as Slaughtneil did last year," said McGoldrick.

"It's better for our club game. We regained our Derry title and anything above that is a bonus - we are going to go into the game and see what happens."

Sunday's finalists know each other inside out at this stage and McGoldrick has said she is looking forward to renewing their rivalry with the west Belfast outfit.

"We have had a four-week break since county title," she said.

"I am a massive fan of Rossa's style



EYES ON THE PRIZE...Grainne McGoldrick believes the time is right for Coleraine to push on

Picture: Matt Browne / SPORTSFILE

and admire their achievements and we look forward to a tough battle

come Sunday."

Team selector Brendan McLernon

feels that the Oak Leaf girls will go in to the game as underdogs.

"We have worked hard and started back last November with the intention of regaining the Derry Championship and have been focused and we'll hopefully give the Ulster Championship a right rattle," he said.

"We'll go in as underdogs against Rossa but we'll give it a go."

"The players were gutted to lose the Derry semi-final in 2012 even though we had been on the go for almost three years non-stop."

"We were devastated to lose out, but determined this year with that bit of rest that we got that we could get back to an Ulster final, but this time a senior one."

"The girls have put in massive work and got their rewards."

All-Ireland intermediate champions in 2010 and 2011, the Coleraine side are ready to continue their progress in the senior ranks.

The 2012 season may have proved a false start, but the Oak Leaf club will be determined to make amends this Sunday at Owenbeg.

n.mccoy@gaeliclife.com



ULSTER CLUB ICC FINAL

Goals costing Fontenoys dear

BY NIAL MCCOY

LIATROIM manager Declan Burns has said that if they are to have any chance of winning the Ulster intermediate title against Eglis, they must stop conceding soft goals.

While they raised seven green flags in their victory against Tullysaran last time out, they also conceded five at the other end.

That brought their goals conceded tally to seven in their two group games, with this weekend's opponents also managing to strike twice when they met earlier this season.

"It's definitely something that has been a problem for us," admitted Burns.

"It's been something we have been working very hard on since the last game because it has been an issue."

"Even going back to last year's county final against Ballycran, we let a few in then."

"So it's something we have worked on and it's something we're hoping to see an improvement on against Eglis."

A win on Sunday would be another



INTERMEDIATE ISSUES...Pictured ahead of the NWP Recycling Ulster intermediate championship final are Liatroim Fontenoys' Lisa McAliskey, Ulster Camogie Chairperson Kathleen Woods and Siobhán Hughes of Eglis

milestone for a club enjoying a incredible season.

County titles have been secured at u-16, minor and senior level, and as Burns explains, it's a special season for three players in particular.

"We've won titles at u-16, minor and senior now so things are looking up for the club," he said.

"We have three girls on the panel who have played with the u-16, minors and senior, so obviously it has been a special year for them."

"Dearbhla Magee, Aislinn Brown and Deirdre McCabe are the three and Dearbhla and Deirdre started all three finals too and Aislinn has been a very important part of the squad."

Having already lost to the Tyrone side in the group stages, Burns is not underestimating the task at hand.

"It's going to be a tough ask," he said. "We played them a few weeks ago and they got in front and we just couldn't get a way back into it."

"They got a couple of goals and they were able to get the win."

n.mccoy@gaeliclife.com



ULSTER CLUB ICC FINAL

EGLIS

V

LIATROIM FONTENOYS

Owenbeg, Sunday, 1.00pm

STORY SO FAR

Liatroim Fontenoys

Ulster ICC group stages

Liatroim 7-18 Tullysaran 5-2

Liatroim 0-14 Eglis 2-11

Down final

Liatroim defeated Ballycran

Eglis

Ulster ICC group stages

Eglis 2-16 Tullysaran 1-4

Eglis 2-11 Liatroim 0-14

Tyrone final

Eglis go straight into Ulster as no other team at their level in Tyrone





EOGHAN RUA
CUIL RAITHIN C.L.G.

Best of luck of the
Senior Camogs in the
Ulster Club Finals

OCT. 2013



The Sarsfields U16 A league winners. See match report on right of opposite page.

Picture: Supplied

WHILE the senior, intermediate and junior club championships are finished both the minor and U16 competitions remain open and realistically it'll be another five or six weeks or so before they conclude.

Any delay in the U18 competition will push the U16 league and championship back and that looks like what is going to happen. It's tough.

I know because I'm involved in underage and having trained since February it's hard going trying to keep players fresh and enthusiastic when it's quite obvious that they're getting tired now and close to having enough.

It's OK if you're senior players and pushing on to win a Munster and All-Ireland title; you want that, it's your dream, your goal and actually I used to enjoy training at this time of year.

You knew you were at the important stage of business, particularly when the All-Ireland club finals were played late November.

But for underage players this isn't fun at all.

Last year we finished up on December 15 after training since January. We came back at it in late February of this year so in essence we are on the go for the past 20 from 22 months.

Inter-county players don't do that. Could you do it for a third year in a row? I doubt it very much so there is another negative aspect to this, losing mentors that are difficult to recruit in the first place.

I know it isn't easy to fit so many

Finish up the underage by mid-May



games in and I don't envy the juvenile or senior board. With trying to cater for and gain a wider reach of player we have underage development squads, intercounty U16 A and B teams and minor A and B teams.

There are Seandún competitions, blitzes and summer cups and every manager of the four inter-county teams wants at least two weeks of a

free run into championship games.

If I was an inter-county manager I'd be looking for that too but in reality this can't continue. There are just too many games and the clubs have to sit back and wait.

Outside of that many clubs are struggling to field. They have the bare 15 players so any injury, any player on holiday, any player tied up in another activity and clubs are putting off games.

We've had to do it ourselves. All of the above lends to the situation we have now; young players playing in the mud and rain up to Christmas, players that don't have the physical strength to cope with such conditions. And the standard drops.

The pecking order is wrong in my

view. The underage fixtures should take priority. It's at that age, between 15 and 18 where you risk losing young girls.

Holding them should be the primary goal. Strides have been made in this regard by increasing the number of competitions yet all of these seem to take precedent over the club league and championship, the ones that really matter.

All underage leagues should be finished by mid-May. What's wrong with starting them in February or March, running them week in and week out for 10 weeks and ensuring that they are completed? If clubs can't field they'll have to forfeit. You'd probably get away with mid-May.

After that the players are exam committed until the end of June. But playing a few league games up to May and waiting until September for your next competitive outing is wrong.

Having said that, trying to field at underage during summer time is a nightmare and I'd say I'm not the only manager frustrated with this. Wouldn't it be great to go back 30 years when holidays didn't interfere with sport? Whatever happened to a few days in Youghal?

We must have been very well off because our family managed four days in Tramore two consecutive weeks in a row; went on a Sunday, back Thursday (just in time for training).

Times have changed, sport has suffered and the knock-on effect of that is that players don't realise what they are missing. I have to admit I find it hard to take when parents think nothing of taking their children off for two or three months to holiday homes and make no effort to come back at least once a week for training or commit themselves to games. The fact that camogie is a team sport doesn't seem to come into the equation at all.

And it's the parents who decide this, not the children. Others then are great, will go to great lengths to make long journeys back and that's always appreciated.

There are a busy couple of weeks ahead in the AIB Camogie Club Championships with plenty of provincial titles down for decision. Milford play Granagh-Ballingarry in Lattin-Cullen (Tipperary), next Saturday.

AIB All Ireland Club Championships

There is a busy couple of weeks ahead in the AIB Camogie Club Championships with plenty of provincial titles down for decision. Below is a summary of the current status of the club championship.

AIB Connacht Camogie Championship

Four Roads (Roscommon) will be representing Connacht in the AIB All Ireland Junior Club Semi-Final

Portumna from Galway will be representing Connacht in the AIB All Ireland Intermediate Club Semi-Final

Ardrishan will be representing Connacht in the AIB All Ireland Senior Semi-Final

AIB Leinster Camogie Championship

Junior

Myshall Carlow v Johnstownbridge Kildare
Sunday October 27th 1.00pm, Clonsilla, Westmeath

Leinster

Mullinavat (Kilkenny) v Bally (Wexford) Venue TBC November 10th

Intermediate

October 27th

Semi-finals

Shrone (Offaly) v Carrross (Laois) - 2pm, Shrone

Lucan Sarsfields (Dublin) v Bally Shamrocks (Kilkenny), 2pm, Lucan

Links Community

Leinster Final to take place November 17th

*NWP Recycling Ulster Camogie Club Championships

Ulster Senior Final - 2.45pm

Eoghan Rua (Derry) v O'Donovan Rossa (Astrin)

Intermediate Final - 1pm

Lisroim Fontenoys (Down) v Eglis (Tyrone)

AIB Munster Club Championships

Senior

Milford (Cork) v Granagh Ballingarry (Limerick) 1.00pm Lattin-Cullen (Tipperary), November 2nd

Intermediate

Lisroim (Waterford) v New Market on Fergus (Clare) 2.30pm Lattin-Cullen (Tipperary)

Junior

Scarriff Oganncello (Clare) v Butlerstown (Waterford), Saturday October 28th

Winners will play Tara Linn in either Butlerstown or Scarriff on Sunday October 27th in the AIB All Ireland Quarter Final.

The Coachford College players celebrating their victory over Coláiste Chóilín, Ballincollig, in the recent Cork Colleges Senior A Camogie final at Coachford.
Picture: Denis Minihane



Carrig dedicate victory to Daithí

WITH THE Nano Nagle trophy safely in the possession of Carrigaline it's time to reflect on what was a highly competitive and enjoyable *Evening Echo* intermediate county championship.

Again the round-robin series of games were all contested with huge determination and we had some superb games of the highest standard.

From the word go Carrigaline indicated their determination as they overcame Brian Dillon's with an impressive 5-11 to 3-6 victory.

They went through the round-robin series of games undefeated.

With a win over Sarsfields under their belts they dug deep to get the upper hand on pre-championship favourites Newtownshandrum in a hard-fought 1-14 to 3-5 contest.

CAMOGIE

By Mary Newman

In the same section, Newtownshandrum had victories over Sars and Brian Dillon's to ensure they finished as runners-up and secured their semi-final spot.

Section B was also highly competitive.

Tracton had two goals to spare over Blackrock before defeating Buttevant and Newcestown to finish in top spot.

Newcestown proved too strong for Buttevant, but Blackrock showed tremendous determination as they confidently defeated Newcestown 3-8 to 0-6. Going on to overcome Buttevant, Blackrock secured their place in the last four.

The four semi-finalists served up two cracking semi-finals and both

went down to the wire Carrigaline edged it over Blackrock with a late goal from substitute Ellen Twomey helping secure a 1-7 to 0-6 victory.

Tracton and Newtownshandrum played out a superb game and were unable to find a winner as it finished level 2-8 to 1-11.

The replay proved equally exciting as it finished in Tracton's favour.

The final was a huge occasion and again the teams didn't disappoint. Carrigaline looked to have the title secured as they led by two points as the game entered injury time but Tracton fought back to earn themselves a replay with two late points from Mary McGuinness and Jennifer Lynch.

If the first meeting between the sides was high scoring, the replay proved the opposite.

Never the less it was by far the better of the two contests and in

the finish just a pointed free a minute from full-time from Rachel O'Shea gave Carrigaline the title.

Carrigaline's Sarah Cotter was selected as Player of the Match following an excellent display and at the presentation in a fitting speech Carrigaline captain Joanne O'Keeffe dedicated the victory to their recently deceased club president Daithí O'Donovan, a man who was the life and soul of the club at all levels.

The championship had many highs and few lows. The superb summer added to every game. To pick a game of the championship is hard, but the final was a fitting testament to a great season, while the meeting of Carrigaline and Newtownshandrum was another top-class contest.

Congratulations to Carrigaline and to all the clubs who made it a splendid competition once again.

Killeagh goals fail to halt the march of Sarsfields

CAMOGIE

By Mary Newman

Sarsfields	1-18
Killeagh	3-6

SARSFIELDS were crowned U16A league champions as they overcame Killeagh in an exciting encounter recently.

Their ability to hit points proved crucial as they notched up an impressive 18. Michelle Barry and Lucy Kelly picking off five points each from play over the hour and this helped in their quest for victory.

Michelle Barry had two pointed first-half frees and two from play while Lucy Kelly added three. And with Emma Casey and Sarah Costello striking one each as Sars opened up a 0-9 to 1-2 half time lead.

Sinead Landers had a Killeagh goal and with points from Chloe Sigerson and Hannah Looney Killeagh stayed in touch.

Through the second half Sars continued to pick off their points and a goal was a huge boost.

Landers and Sigerson had second half Killeagh goal but with Michelle Barry adding a further four points, Lucy Kelly with two and Holly Herlihy one, Sarsfields stretched their lead.

Gill Butler, Sigerson Ciara Barry and Hannah Looney all added points to the Killeagh tally in the second half but it wasn't enough to stop Sars taking the title.

Sarsfields' Katie Barry was awarded player of the match after a solid performance at centre-back while others to impress were Shona McCarthy, Emma Casey, Maeve McCarthy, Hollie Herlihy and Rachel Kelleher. Mary O'Sullivan, chairwoman of the juvenile camogie board, presented the trophy to Sars captain Holly Herlihy.

Scorers for Sarsfields: M Barry 0-8 (0-3 f), L Kelly 0-5, M Mullins 1-1, H Herlihy, E Casey, M McCarthy, S Costello 0-1 each.

Killeagh: S Landers 2-0, C Sigerson 1-2, H Looney 0-2, C Barry, J Butler 0-teach.

SARSFIELDS: C Casey; S McCarthy, L Casserly, A Turpin; R Kelleher, K Barry, K Lyons; M McCarthy, E Casey; C O'Sullivan, M Barry, H Herlihy; S Costello, M Mullins, L Kelly.

Subs: C Tobin for S Costello, J Lyons for A Turpin.

KILLEAGH: C Motherway; E Treacy, L Moscovitz, E Byrne; R Fogarty, L McEvoy, N O'Brian; D Coleman; C Sigerson; A Banaim, H Looney, C Barry; S Landers, G Butler, N Daly.



*Pictured Therese Maher (Athry) and Elaine O'Riordan (Miford) at the launch of the AIS Club Championships

OCT. 2013



in association with
Liberty Insurance

ALL-STARS

1
**SUSAN
EARNER**
GALWAY

2
**MAIREAD
POWER**
KILKENNY

3
**SARAH
DERVAN**
GALWAY

4
**LORRAINE
RYAN**
GALWAY

5
**EDWINA
KEANE**
KILKENNY

6
**THERESE
MAHER**
GALWAY

7
**CHLOE
MOREY**
CLARE

8
**NIAMH
KILKENNY**
GALWAY

9
**JENNIFER
O'LEARY**
CORK

10
**KATIE
POWER**
KILKENNY

11
**NIAMH
McGRATH**
GALWAY

12
**KATE
KELLY**
WEXFORD

13
**SHELLY
FARRELL**
KILKENNY

14
**ELAINE
DERMODY**
OFFALY

15
**AILISH
O'REILLY**
GALWAY

MANAGER of the YEAR

**TONY
WARD**
GALWAY

INTERMEDIATE SOARING-STARS

**REBECCA
HENNELLY**
GALWAY

**NIAMH
MULCAHY**
LIMERICK

**PAULA
KENNY**
GALWAY

SOARING-STARS

1
**LAURA
DUNNE**
LAOIS

2
**KAREN
TINNELLY**
DOWN

3
**AOIFE
TRANT**
KILDARE

4
**KATE
AHERNE**
OFFALY

5
**AISHLING
DUNPHY**
LAOIS

6
**SARAH ANNE
FITZGERALD**
LAOIS

7
**ANGELA
LYONS**
KILDARE

8
**CAROL ANNE
CANNING**
DUBLIN

9
**ORLA
BAMBURY**
KILDARE

10
**CLODAGH
FLANAGAN**
KILDARE

11
**SIOBHAN
HURLEY**
KILDARE

12
**LOUISE
MAHONY**
LAOIS

13
**DENISE
McGRATH**
WESTMEATH

14
**SUSIE
O'CARROLL**
KILDARE

15
**NIAMH
DOLLARD**
LAOIS

All-Star line-up



DRESSED TO IMPRESS: The 2013 Camogie All Stars were named on Saturday night at the CityWest in Dublin. Front row, (left/right) Chloe Morey, Clare; Therese Maher, Galway; Edwina Keane, Kilkenny; Joan O'Flynn, Ard Stiúrthóir of the Camogie Association; Donal Og Cusack, Aileen Lawlor, President of the Camogie Association; Sarah Dervan, Galway; Máiread Power, Kilkenny, represented by her mother Ann; Susan Earner, Galway. Back row, (left/right) Lorraine Ryan, Galway; Niamh Kilkenny, Galway; Jennifer O'Leary, Cork; Ailish O'Reilly, Galway; Elaine Dermody, Offaly; Shelly Farrell, Kilkenny; Kate Kelly, Wexford; Katie Power, Kilkenny; Niamh McGrath, Galway, represented by her mother Geraldine.

Picture: INPHO/Cathal Noonan

Champions pick up seven All Stars

By Eoghan Cormican
Camogie

All-Ireland camogie champions Galway dominated the 2013 All Star team, picking up seven awards at Saturday evening's banquet in Dublin.

Goalkeeper Susan Earner, defensive trio Sarah Dervan, Lorraine Ryan and Therese Maher, along with midfielder Niamh Kilkenny, centre-forward Niamh McGrath and

corner-forward Ailish O'Reilly were all rewarded for their exploits this summer.

Player of the match in September's final, Maher collected her fifth All Star, while it was a first award for 19-year old O'Reilly who scored the crucial goal in the final. Tribes boss Tony Ward picked up Manager of the Year for his double-winning efforts.

Defeated finalists Kilkenny had four players named on

the team, while Jennifer O'Leary, selected at midfield, was Cork's sole All Star winner. Offaly's Elaine Dermody and Clare's Chloe Morey were the first players from either county to win an All Star award.

2013 All Stars: Susan Earner (Galway); Máiread Power (Kilkenny); Sarah Dervan (Galway); Lorraine Ryan (Galway); Edwina Keane (Kilkenny); Therese Maher (Galway); Chloe Morey (Clare); Niamh Kilkenny (Galway); Jennifer O'Leary (Cork); Katie Power (Kilkenny); Niamh McGrath (Galway); Kate Kelly

(Wexford); Shelly Farrell (Kilkenny); Elaine Dermody (Offaly); Ailish O'Reilly (Galway).

2013 Soaring Stars: Laura Dunne (Laois); Karen Tinnelly (Down); Aoife Trant (Kildare); Kate Aherne (Offaly); Aisling Dunphy (Laois); Sarah Ann Fitzgerald (Laois); Angela Lyons (Kildare); Carol Anne Canning (Dublin); Orla Bambury (Kildare); Clodagh Flanagan (Kildare); Siobhan Hurley (Kildare); Louise Mahony (Laois); Denise McGrath (Westmeath); Susie O'Carroll (Kildare); Niamh Dollard (Laois).

2013 Intermediate Soaring Stars: Rebecca Hennelly (Galway); Niamh Mulcahy (Limerick); Paula Kenny (Galway).



STARRY, STARRY NIGHT: Galway's Senior All Stars (L-R) Lorraine Ryan, Ailish O'Reilly, Niamh Kilkenny, Susan Earner, Geraldine Ryan (representing her daughter Niamh Ryan), Therese Maher and Sarah Dervan at the Camogie All Star awards at the weekend.



TALENTED: Intermediate Soaring Stars winners (L-R) President of the Camogie Association Aileen Lawlor, Rebecca Hennelly and Paula Kenny of Galway, Niamh Mulcahy of Limerick and CEO of Liberty Insurance Pat O'Brien.

Nov. 2013

Kate's seventh

KATE KELLY'S magnificent record was embellished further at Citywest on Saturday last when she claimed an amazing seventh All Star camogie award in the left half-forward position.

The outstanding St. Ibar's/Shelmallee performer was the sole Wexford recipient and now becomes the county's most-honoured individual in any code, an accolade she shared with her former full-back colleague, Catherine O'Loughlin, up to this year.

Her ongoing brilliance shows no sign of abating and already the Screen star had created a little bit of history by becoming the sole player to be nominated in each and every one of the ten years since the All Stars scheme was inaugurated to celebrate the centenary of camogie in 2004.

This latest honour was all the more praiseworthy given the fact that Wexford didn't set the world alight this year after their All-Ireland three-in-a-row exploits from 2010 to 2012, with the season marred by off-field shenanigans while losses were shipped to Cork in the league decider and eventual champions Galway in the

seal of approval

championship semi-final.

Kelly was one of three nominees along with goalkeeper Mags D'Arcy (Na Fianna, Dublin) and fellow attacker Ursula Jacob (Oulart-The Ballagh) who were unsuccessful on this occasion.

And now she has set her sights on another big target as she will be a key figure as St. Ibar's/Shelmallee bid to regain the Leinster Club title for the first time since 2002 when they take on Mullinavat of Kilkenny in the final in Nowlan Park on Sunday next at 2.45 p.m.

The full All Stars team was: Susan Earner (Galway); Máiread Power (Kilkenny); Sarah Dervan (Galway); Lorraine Ryan (Galway); Edwina Keane (Kilkenny); Therese Maher (Galway); Chloe Morey (Clare); Niamh Kilkenny (Galway); Jennifer O'Leary (Cork); Katie Power (Kilkenny); Niamh McGrath (Galway); Kate Kelly (Wexford); Shelly Farrell (Kilkenny); Elaine Dermody (Offaly); Ailish O'Reilly (Galway).

Milford still are the side to beat

By Mary Newman

TOMORROW
Munster Senior Club
Championship Final; Milford v
Granagh-Ballingarry,
Lattin-Cullen GAA Grounds
Tipperary; 1pm

COUNTY, Munster and All-Ireland champions Milford defend their provincial title tomorrow Saturday when they take on Limerick county champions Granagh-Ballingarry in the Munster final. For many years Granagh-Ballingarry were kingpins in Munster and beyond but having lost out to Inniscarra in the provincial decider of 2011 they failed to hold their county championship crown the following season and many felt the glory days were over for one of Limerick's most decorated clubs. This year an impressive performance by Granagh-Ballingarry saw them regain the Limerick senior title they last won in 2011 as they overcame Ahane with seven points to spare in an exciting final. With Limerick having lost out in the All-Ireland Intermediate final to Galway hopes are high in the county that Granagh-Ballingarry will lift the spirits in the county once again and bring the glory days back to Limerick.

With just three teams participating in the Senior provincial championship they went straight into the provincial final after their county championship success over Ahane and this may work in their favour as several of their side have had a long season with the county team. Milford retained their Cork County championship title with ease and went on to overcome Tipp champs Burgess Duharra to reach the provincial final. On form it is hard to see their march being halted, they are a physically strong outfit and they know what is required. All over the pitch they have quality and strength and they also possess plenty of back-up when introducing substitutes to the fray. Their clash with Burgess Duharra failed to live up to the pre match expectations as they simply proved to strong as they confidently overpowered the Tipp champions. Captain Elaine O'Riordan, Anna Geary, Marie and Emer Watson, Aisling Thompson and Marie O'Neill are amongst the players who will lead the march to what is expected to be another title. Therese Mulcaire, Mairead Fitzgerald, Sarah Carey and Niamh Mulcahy are amongst the younger generation who are now flying the Granagh-Ballingarry flag with pride. Captain Vera Sheehan continues to be a great servant to her club. With former Inter county senior hurler Ciarán Carey at the helm guiding them as coach, they won't be found wanting but it will take a huge effort on their behalf to stop Milford.

Verdict: Milford.

Ibar's bid for Leinster glory

TEN YEARS ago last Sunday, on November 3, 2002, the dejected St. Ibar's/Shelmallee troops left the field in Duggan Park, Ballinasloe, after losing the All-Ireland Senior Club camogie championship final to Pearsons of Ballymacward in Galway.

Remarkably, it has taken them since this year to get out of their own county again, so that's why they will be relishing the opportunity of bringing a third Leinster title home when they lock horns with Mullinavat of Kilkenny in the provincial decider in Nowlan Park on Sunday next (2.45 p.m.).

Prior to the current campaign, nine of the last ten titles were captured by Oulart-The Ballagh, with only Rathnure breaking their winning sequence in 2008. The Ibar's had suffered county final defeats to the long-time queens of the local scene in 2003, 2004, 2010 and 2012, but they finally enjoyed their day of glory last month when they secured a ninth Senior championship crown with a dramatic 2-12 to 2-10 victory in Bellefield.

The Over The Water crew only had eight days to recover from their exertions before travelling to the lion's den of Páirc Uí Mhurchú to face a Ballyboden St. Enda's side seeking a fourth successive Leinster final place, but the provincial champions of five years ago were edged out by 1-14 to 3-7 in another cliff-hanger.

The Ibar's will have enjoyed the benefits of three full weeks to prepare by the time Sunday's big test comes around, and mentors Alan Ahern (manager), John Kelly (coach), John Furlong (selector) and Sim Canning expect to have a full squad to choose from when they sit down for the difficult task of selecting the starting 15.

With only the champions of three counties competing at Senior level within the province, Mullinavat had a bye to this stage and have been idle for five weeks as their 4-9 to 2-9 Kilkenny final win over Thomastown in Bennettsbridge was held on October 5.

The south county side have taken over from Freshford as the dominant force on Nore side over the past four years, but they have yet to make the provincial breakthrough.

They have appeared in the last five Kilkenny finals, winning their first-ever title with an injury time goal against Freshford in 2010. While the tables were turned when they suffered a heavy defeat to the same opponents the following year, they regained their crown in 2012 and completed a double for the first time last month.

Five of the Mullinavat players were on the Kilkenny squad in their recent All-Ireland Senior final loss: centre-back Elaine Aylward and centre-forward Leann Fennelly (daughter of Ballyhale's Liam, who captained the Kilkenny hurlers to two All-Ireland titles) started that game against Galway while corner-forward Michelle Quilty, who was captain, came on. In addition, right half-back Claire Aylward and midfielder Aine Kinsella were substitutes. The star of their win over Thomastown was full-forward Julie-Anne Malone, a county Minor last

year, who scored 1-3 from play, while Amy Butler is another capable performer with past inter-county experience.

St. Ibar's/Shelmallee haven't played this Mullinavat team in a full competitive game, although their paths crossed at a sevens tournament in Piercestown last year when they lost to them by 5-4 to 3-2 in the first round before meeting again in the semi-final. On that occasion the visitors prevailed by 4-1 to 3-2 but the Ibar's missed enough chances to win several games.

There is a lot of experience among this squad as no fewer than nine of the 17 players used in that 2002 All-Ireland final are still key members of the side although some have re-located to new positions.

Centre-back Sandy Carr is now between the posts while Leona Tector is at full-back after coming on in the forwards and scoring a goal on that occasion. They will be joined by Kate Kelly, Fiona Cullen, Michelle Murphy, Bridget Curran, Mag Kelly, Michelle Hearne and Anne-Marie Kelly as the Ibar's bid to build further on what has been a tremendous year to date.

That much-needed youthful spark is provided by the likes of team captain Ciara Donohoe, her first cousin Aine Lacey, Niamh Walsh, Hazel O'Leary and Ciara Neville, while Katrina Parrock, Maeve Quill, Sharron Daly, Shelly Doyle and Deirdre McMahon are all very experienced campaigners.

Victory is within the capabilities of this battling side if they can produce their top form, and that would lead to an All-Ireland semi-final clash with first-time Galway champions Ardara on February 2.

The other side of the draw will pit Eoghan Rua of Coleraine in Derry against reigning champions Milford from Cork who retained their Munster crown with a 0-14 to 0-4 win over Granagh-Ballingarry from Limerick in Lattin, Co. Tipperary, on Saturday last.



Centre-back Bridget Curran in action in the county final victory over Oulart-The Ballagh.

Milford retain their Munster crown thanks to O'Neill

CAMOGIE

By Sean Ryan

Milford 0-14
Granagh-Ballingarry 0-4

A STUNNING performance by player of the match, Maire O'Neill ensured that defending All-Ireland champions Milford retained their AIB Munster Senior Club crown with an emphatic victory over neighbours Granagh-Ballingarry at Hannon Park in Lattin on Saturday. Milford, with 13 of last year's All-Ireland winning side, drew first blood after two minutes with All-Ireland hero Maria Watson pointing.

However, Ballingarry were level three minutes later when wing-forward Eileen Costello pointed from a seventy and went in front on nine minutes when Siobhán Enright pointed a free. However, playing with the wind, Milford were to dominate the rest of the half. O'Neill opened her account after 14 minutes and put her side ahead with an excellent point on 16 minutes.

Seconds later Deirdre O'Reilly put over another point before two great stops by Ballingarry goalkeeper Claire Enright firstly from Louise O'Flynn after 18 minutes and from O'Neill after 24 minutes kept Ballingarry's goal intact. However O'Neill hit a brace in the 26th and 29th minutes leaving Milford two up at the break.

Facing a strong wind, a point by Emer Watson four minutes in settled Milford nerves however Mairead Fitzgerald kept Ballingarry in touch with her sides first point from play on 36 minutes. Ballingarry continued to rally and Eileen Costello fired over a free after 38 minutes. That they failed to capitalise owed much to their opponents superb defensive system.

A great run by O'Neill after 40 minutes saw her brought down by the Ballingarry rearguard with Emer Watson opting to point the resulting penalty. Milford kept going and further points from O'Neill on 46 minutes and substitute Aileen O'Flynn on 48 minutes put them six up.

Milford owned the last ten minutes with a brace from Maria Watson and one each from O'Reilly and O'Neill ensuring the Thomas MacDonagh Cup stays in North Cork.

Afterwards Milford manager James McGrath said that he was thrilled with his sides performance.

"Maire (O'Neill) has been our go to forward all year and she was superb again today."

Disappointed Ballingarry coach and former Limerick hurler Ciarán Carey said: "I'm very proud of the girls today they were well in this game until the last 10 minutes."

MILFORD: R. Finn; K. Galvin, M. Walsh, L. Healy; E. O'Riordan (c), A. Geary, A. Watson; A. Thompson, O. O'Mahony; E. Watson (0-2, 0-1 pen), D. O'Reilly (0-2), M. Flanagan; M. O'Neill (0-6), L. O'Flynn, M. Watson (0-3).

Subs: M. Flanagan for S. O'Flynn (35), A. O'Flynn (0-1) for L. O'Flynn (48), D. Hayes for Galvin (52), E. O'Friel for O'Reilly (57).

GRANAGH-BALLINGARRY: C. Enright; K. Stapleton, L. Kelly, E. Hickey; E. O'Grady, S. Carey, F. Hickey; V. Sheehan (c), S. Enright (0-1), E. Costello (0-2, 0-1, 0-1 65), A. Sheehan, R. Noonan; M. Fitzgerald (0-1), T. Mulcaire, M. Lynch.

Subs: N. Chalke for Noonan (22), A. Smith for Lynch (41), A. Sheehy for Fitzgerald (45).

Referee: F. McNamara (Clara).

Granagh/Ballingarry all out to end Milford's great run

By Eoghan Cormican
Munster camogie

Munster camogie's power base has shifted south of the Limerick border, much to the annoyance of Vera Sheehan. Almost a decade has elapsed since Granagh/Ballingarry last tasted provincial success, and captain Sheehan hopes to end that barren spell today by

overcoming the all-powerful Milford outfit dominating down south (Lattin, 1pm).

Sheehan, along with sisters Aoife and Deirdre, and Eileen O'Brien, are the surviving quartet from Granagh/Ballingarry's 2003 All-Ireland club final win, yet continue to provide the backbone of Ciarán Carey's outfit.

"Milford have set the bar for club teams across the

country. They were awesome in winning the All-Ireland earlier this year, have come through Cork fairly comfortably and got past the Tipperary champions earlier this month. We know what is ahead of us. We would be well accustomed with the Milford girls having gone to school with them at St Mary's Charleville. I captained St Mary's to the senior All-Ire-

land in 1997 and while there would have been none of the current Milford team playing that year, in later years my sister Aoife, and Eileen O'Brien would have played alongside Anna Geary, the three Watson sisters, Maria Walsh and Aisling Thompson. They won a number of All-Irelands. After that, a lot of the girls played together when UL won three Ash-

bourne titles in the mid-00s."

Expectations in the Granagh/Ballingarry camp were relatively modest at the outset of the year, dampened by emigration, and Sheehan hailing the input of Limerick legend Carey.

"It is as simple as this: we would not be in a Munster final were it not for Ciarán Carey. We would not have won the county title was it

not for Ciarán Carey."

"We had lost four girls through emigration and pregnancy and then young Aisling Scully did her cruciate so we were fairly depleted for the county championship. It was Ciarán who instilled the belief in us that we could still succeed. To get him as manager this year was massive. The man eats, sleeps and drinks camogie."

Time to reach out

CLOSE CALL: Milford's Marie Flanagan battling for the ball with Granagh Ballingarry's Vera Sheehan in the Munster Club Camogie championship final in Lattin, Co Tipperary on Saturday.

Picture: Press 22.



Nov. 2013

ALL-IRELAND SEMI-FINAL CAMOGIE

Semi-final beckons for St John's camogs

BY ROMAN SCOTT

ST JOHN'S won the Belfast derby in the NWP Recycling Ulster Junior Championship Final against Bredagh and now are preparing for Sunday's encounter with Scariff/Ogonelloe from Clare in Ashbourne.

Johnnie's captain Helen Wilson is eager for her team to keep making history as she chases All-Ireland success.

"St John's have never participated in a Camogie All-Ireland semi-final so this teams making a bit of history already, but we do not want to stop there and hope we go from here," Wilson said.

"The supporters in the club have been great. There's buses being organised and everyone is really behind us."

St John's strong first half against Bredagh meant that despite a battling performance from their neighbours from the south of the city, the result was never really in doubt. Helen believes the strength of their



RAISING THE ROOF...Helen Wilson lifts the Ulster junior title for St John's

backs and midfielder Meabh Lavery was key to success.

"Meabh Lavery was excellent at midfield and went through an awful lot of dirty work and carried the ball through the field for us which was very important," said Wilson.

"Una Simpson was key on the day in the half back line and Eimear Grieve was her usual steady self."

"Sarah Jane McGuigan marked Bredagh's best forward on the day and kept her out of the game which gave us great confidence."

"It was a battling performance and the weather conditions were quite tough on the day but we worked well as a team and we are delighted to win an Ulster Championship and go on now to an All-Ireland semi-final this weekend."

Clare outfit Scariff/Ogonelloe had to play their Munster Final on Saturday 26th October followed by the AIB All-Ireland Quarter Final the next day which provided St John's manager Malachy McToal an opportunity to

run his eye over this weekend's opponents however Wilson believes that her side will focus on their own game plan.

"Our manager Malachy was able to see their quarter final with Tara of London so we know a bit about them, but we'll go on and concentrate on our own game," Wilson said.

"We played UUJ last week in a challenge game and with no big gap between the games we'll be well prepared."

"We'll focus on Sunday only and battle to secure a win in Ashbourne. We know bits and pieces about Scariff/Ogonelloe, they won the Kilmacud Shield in September as well as the Munster title."

"We usually participate at Kilmacud, but couldn't due to a club wedding so we know that for them to be successful at Kilmacud and in Munster they must be a strong team."

r.scott@gaeliclife.com

Youghal win minor D title

Youghal 2-6
Bride Rovers 0-5

Youghal took the *Evening Echo* minor D championship as they overcame Bride Rovers in an exciting contest played under lights in Youghal. Goals proved the difference between the sides — with one each, from Sophie Monaghan and Shannen Bulman-Joyce, Youghal had done enough to be crowned champions.

The Youghal defence came under a lot of pressure, but held firm, as they denied Bride Rovers a goal and, with their goalkeeper Shannen Watson in excellent form, they held firm. Gemma O'Brien and Amerah Goggin were also to the fore in a strong Youghal defence and it helped them set the pace.

Bride Rovers worked hard over the hour, but it was the Youghal defence's ability to deny them goals that proved crucial.

Trish O'Sullivan opened

the Bride Rovers account with a point and, with Kate O'Connor and Jennifer Cahill also finding the range, they dug deep to stay in contention.

Shannen Bulman-Joyce found the range with four pointed frees for Youghal as the Bride Rovers defence was under a lot of pressure.

Youghal's goals helped to put a seven-point gap between the sides. Bride Rovers battled to the final whistle, but Youghal were not going to be denied.

Youghal S Watson; N Roche, L Dempsey, G O'Brien; C Landers, A Goggin, L Broderick; A Finn, E Galvin; E Roche, S Monaghan, N Crowley; S Bulman-Joyce, A McCarthy, M Dalton
Scorers: S Bulman-Joyce 1-6 (0-4f), S Monaghan 1-0.

Bride Rovers S O'Flynn; A Cashman, M Parle, M O'Sullivan; M Hazelwood, T O'Sullivan, B Bartley; L Quirke, J Cahill; K Sheehan, K Connor, J Howard; S O'Connell, G Buckley, C O'Flynn
Scorers: C O'Flynn 0-2, T O'Sullivan, K Connor, J Cahill, 0-1 each.
Subs: G Noonan for G Buckley.

O'Neill the star as Milford progress

Milford (Cork) 0-14
Granagh/Ballingarry (Limerick) 0-4
By Fiona Casey
Munster Senior Camogie Club Final

Ignore the scoreline. Milford didn't get it all their own way in this contest.

At half-time Milford led 0-6 to 0-2 with player of the match Marie O'Neill slotting over five points from play.

Before the second-half, Ciarán Carey left his opponents on the pitch in the driving rain for almost five minutes, to raise his troops, but Milford drove on with the wind at their backs with points from

Maria Watson, Aideen O'Flynn and Emer Watson to ensure the Thomas Mhic Dhoncha cup remains in the club for a second year in a row.

Meanwhile Newmarket-on-Fergus and Lismore must do it all again for the Intermediate title after a 2-10 apiece draw following extra time.

MILFORD: R Finn; K Galvin, M Walsh, L Healy; E O'Riordain (c), A Geary, A Watson; A Thompson, O O'Mahony; E Watson (0-2, 1f), D O'Reilly (0-2) S O'Flynn; M O'Neill (0-7), M Flanagan, M Watson (0-2).
Sub: A O'Flynn (0-1)

GRANAGH/BALLINGARR: C Enright; K Stapleton, L Kelly, E Hickey; E Grady, S Carey, F Hickey; V Sheehan (c), S Enright; E Costello (0-3f), A Sheehan, R Noonan; M Fitzgerald (0-1), T Mulcaire, M Lynch.

NEWMARKET ON FERUS: E



Milford captain Elaine O'Riordan celebrates victory over Granagh/Ballingarry.
Picture Brian Arthur

Minogue: J O'Leary, L McMahon, A Keogh; A McInerney, R McMahon (c) (0-1f), A Griffin; R Kaiser (0-1), A O'Brien (0-5, 4f); D Cassidy (0-2), C O'Leary, C Kaiser (1-0); AM Hayes, J Kelly (1-1) N Kaiser.

LISMORE: A O'Brien; S Coughlan, S Prendergast, Sandra Prendergast; M Russell, S Kernan, S Geoghegan; A Houlihan, S Curran (0-2f); N Morrissey (0-2), R Geoghegan (1-0), S Walsh; A Hannon (0-4, 3f), C McGlone (1-3), J Houlihan.

ON^{THE} BALL



WINTER 2013

Inside

- All Stars & Soaring Stars
- Therese Maher on reaching 'the promised land'



Plus

- Our new Árd Stiúrthóir Joan O'Flynn
- Liberty Insurance All Ireland Championships & Irish Daily Star National Leagues in Review
- Development News
- And much more*



THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF



**THE
CAMOGIE
ASSOCIATION**
An Cumann Camógailochta

Nov. 2013



President's Address

Aileen Lawlor, President of the Camogie Association
Eibhlín Uí Leathlóbhair, Uachtarán, An Cumann Camógaíochta

Welcome to the 9th Edition of On The Ball Magazine

What a great Camogie year we have had; a year full of surprises with new counties emerging to take the honours, and some old reliables regaining silverware.

It was a great pleasure once again to host Uachtarán na hÉireann Michael D. Higgins and his wife Sabine and Taoiseach Enda Kenny and his daughter Aoibheann at this year's Liberty Insurance All Ireland Finals. We know they have very busy schedules and we are honoured they choose to attend our finals. They were treated to three great games of Camogie and saw for themselves our top Camogie athletes in action in Croke Park.

Congratulations to all six teams who entertained us on the day, especially to Galway on their double wins in the Intermediate and the Senior, and to Kildare who captured the Premier Junior.

New Sponsorship

It was great to secure two new sponsors in 2013 with Liberty Insurance sponsoring the All Ireland Championship and AIB sponsoring the Club All Irelands. The Camogie Association look forward to working with AIB and Liberty Insurance over the next couple of years.

Our Camogie Stars

The 2013 All Stars, Soaring Stars and Intermediate Stars were selected from the Irish Daily Star League and Liberty Insurance Camogie Championship games this year. It was a hard task for the selectors as they witnessed many fine games of Camogie with talent exuding in all counties. Congratulations to all of our stars, and thank you for entertaining us throughout the year.

Continental Youth Championships

This year was Philadelphia's turn to host the Continental Youth Championships. The games were held in a soccer venue just outside the city and it proved to be a very successful tournament. There were 2,500 children aged between 6 and

18 playing over four days. There were some 550 games played over those four days in Camogie, Hurling and Football. It was a huge undertaking by the CYC committee and a host of volunteers and it was an incredible family experience with families travelling from New York, Boston, Chicago, San Francisco, and the home team of Philadelphia. One thing is for sure that Gaelic Games is developing at a huge rate outside the island of Ireland. Camogie has grown and grown, and the standard is improving year after year. This year saw the introduction of Go Games to the tournament. While the clubs were a little hesitant in preparation for the games, they all went home convinced of the value in introducing these Go Games to this age group, and were very positive of this being the way forward in coaching the skills of the games to these young players.

Poc Fada

Congratulations to Patricia Jackman who secured her 5th National Poc Fada title in a row. A huge achievement from this Waterford star. Each year there is very stiff competition in the Cooley mountains for this prestigious award with only one or two pucks separating the winners. Patricia shows great skill and strength of character in securing titles back to back.

Congratulations to Sinéad Millea, Kilkenny who was introduced into the University of Limerick Hall of Fame. Well deserved recognition of a very talented Camogie star.

Féile na nGael

Two thousand children took part in a very successful Feile na nGael this year hosted in Limerick City.

As usual this was a fantastic weekend; a true festival of Camogie, Hurling and Handball. An experience of a lifetime for all the 13 and 14 year old girls and boys who played in this prestigious national tournament, who were hosted superbly by host families throughout the City of Limerick and its environs.

The parade was a colourful spectacle starting in Limerick's Gaelic Grounds with each visiting and home club marching proudly under their club banners down through the main streets of Limerick City.

The finals were played in two venues; the Gaelic Grounds

and in Mungret St. Pauls and spectators were treated to great exhibitions of skill and athleticism from these young budding stars.

Once again Feile na nGael was a resounding success. Thanks to the National Feile Committee, Limerick GAA, Limerick Camogie and Handball on a job very well done.

The Camogie Gathering

The Camogie Gathering "Let's Play Ball & Have a Ball" commenced on Thursday July 25th.

Starting in Dublin's Na Fianna grounds, all the participants were welcomed with a reception in the Clubhouse. "Let's Play Ball & Have a Ball" was organised in conjunction with Dublin Camogie Board and was a three day event to celebrate the Gathering 2013.

It was a resounding success with teams from Toronto, Croydon London, Tara London, Fullen Gaels Manchester and a North American representative team, made up of players from Seattle and Washington DC. The home clubs were Na Fianna, Ballyboden St. Endas, St. Vincent's, Trinity Gaels and St. Brigid's.

One of the undoubted highlights of the weekend for all the players and spectators was the Camogie tournament on Friday night in Croke Park Stadium. Despite the torrential rain, every player weathered the storm and relished the

occasion and the opportunity to play on the hallowed turf of Croke Park.

Mile buíochas to the Gathering Committee, Dublin County Board, Na Fianna and the host clubs who made this event such a success.

Looking forward

It won't be long now until we are preparing for the 2014 Leagues and Championships.

The AIB Club championships are well under way with the Junior title up for grabs at the end of the year. Myshall and Milford are still in contention to put titles back to back.

We will have to wait till March to see who will take the Intermediate and Senior honours.

Whatever the results, we are sure that we will witness some more great games, and still be in awe of this wonderful game of ours. Thanks to everyone who contributed to a fantastic year of Camogie in 2013, and we look forward to another great year of camogie in 2014.

Eibhlín Uí Leathlóbhair
Uachtarán
An Cumann Camógaíochta

Team glory the motivating

Daragh Ó Conchúir speaks to Therese Maher in the aftermath of the Liberty Insurance All Ireland Final.

Afterwards, she was moved by the depth of feeling for her and by many of the articles written about her. She didn't read them beforehand. Never does. She wouldn't chance any distraction and there was a job to do.

Therese Maher joined the Galway panel at a time when the county was on the crest of a wave. She was winning U16 All-Irelands and the seniors had just made an historic breakthrough at senior level just a few months earlier. It seemed that her timing was perfect.

Yet last September, she was facing up to a sixth senior All-Ireland, having lost the previous five. For bad measure, she had suffered the same torture with Athenry twice. This was another chance of fulfilling a lifelong dream that had driven the 32-year-old for half her life.

There was no time for reading papers. That could happen afterwards and it did, because her family kept them all.

She appreciates the goodwill but while there is no attempt to mask her own satisfaction at having scaled Everest, she cannot emphasise enough how this was about Galway - the 53 players that had trained since the beginning of the year and the management. She was but one of the players.

Ah, but what a player!

Some might say it's a small decision but for me it's not. It's not just a hobby. It's part of my life. It's something you've done for so long. It's very hard to say 'I'm never going to do that again'. So it's not as easy a decision to make as some people think...

It is typical that Maher tries to deflect media attempts to make it about her. Despite her brilliance, she has always been the consummate team player. She never had any truck with the notion that she deserved to win one All-Ireland but the love was there throughout the camogie community nationwide was significant.

It was there as her team-mates congregated around Maher on the final whistle, ecstatic for themselves but thinking primarily of the one they came to call the Queen. The cameras were trained on her for those last moments and captured her reaction as the dream became a reality at last. She knelt down, took off her helmet and put her head in her hands. What was she feeling?

"I think initially it was just a huge relief for me" says Maher now at a couple of months' remove. "When you've been playing half your life for this, to get over the line..."

She catches herself, in danger of making it too personal for her liking.

"... but for this team especially. A lot of the core of this panel have been there for a number of years and we made up our minds it was going to be now or never."

The thing is, they would have gone into a few finals thinking that. The niggling fear that it might never happen must have begun to surface.

"I think you would initially after the final defeats. Especially 2011. That was one we were there for the 60 minutes... well, probably 55 and the last five caught us. That was particularly hard to take. But there's worse things that happen in your life. I'm sure everyone else has things themselves to deal with. You go home and you have to park it.

"When the new season comes around... you don't get to play this game all your life and if you want to try to achieve, you go back. So I never dwelt too much on it. Once it was over, it was over."

In recent years, retirement was briefly considered but management gave her time to assess. And for Maher, it wasn't primarily about pursuing her personal ambition. What she wanted to be certain of was that she could maintain the standards that made her a four-time All-Star. Providing leadership and experience was grand but if she felt she couldn't perform, she wouldn't go back. Because the collective good is always number one.

"We all have a great rapport. Out of this sport you get a lot



ARDAHAN U14 TEAM THAT WERE DEFEATED BY SRSFIELDS IN THE FEILE FINAL

Back Row Left to Right: Grace Finnerty, Emer Curtin, Nicole Connolly, Louise Finnerty, Browhyn Brennan, Aoife McKeown, Kate Tarpey, Ava Lynskey, Aine Murphy, Sarah Slevin, Leah Finnerty, Nicola Quirke, Dearbhlaile Walsh, Catherine Casey
Front Row Left to Right: Jessica Caulfield, Anna Howly, Alannah Glynn, Caoimhe Cahill, Chloe Cunningham, Saoirse O' Neill, Ciara Broder, Nicola Quinn, Laura Carr, Katie Hunt, Shauna Quinn, Saoirse Burke

force for Maher

"We can't leave it as long again to get back to the top as we have done. We have been continually winning at U-16 and minor. We need to push on from here..."

of friends. This year, we had a great bunch of young and experienced players. The young ones keep you on your toes and they were as good for us as we were for them."

"I know people say it was great (for me) but it's great for the other 52 girls too. We're All-Ireland champions. It's not just me got the medal. I am so delighted that they have gotten this medal as much as for the fact that I did. And the management, who have put in Trojan work."

There are two questions on everybody's lips now. The first surrounds whether Galway can build on this with the weight of so many near-misses removed from the players' shoulders, or if will they be blunted by a sated appetite.

"We can't leave it as long again to get back to the top as we have done. We have been continually winning at U16 and minor. We need to push on from here. There's a great amount of youth coming through with a lot of talent. This year our subs bench was very strong with a lot that could come in and do a job on a given day.

"They are the future. They need to have the same drive next year. You have to push on because if you don't it'll be like 'oh, they're the one-hit wonder again'. But these girls are high achievers. They want to be the best that they can be so I think they'll go back as determined next year."

They? That leads to the second, most pressing question. Does that mean Therese herself won't be back?

"I don't know! Oh God..." It's the only time in the entire conversation that she lacks sureness. But it's not that she's being purposely evasive. She just doesn't know yet.

It was mentioned within camp before the final that she mightn't be around much longer and perhaps it served as an extra little motivational edge. But right now, she has an upcoming knee operation to repair torn cartilage and will see how she comes out of that.

Then, it will be a similar process to the last couple of seasons. Take stock and see if she has something to offer. And like Galway, will the fire be dimmed by finally getting her hands on the most cherished memento in camogie or will it release the shackles? If anyone is entitled to walk into the sunset though, it's Therese Maher.

"If it was another defeat it would be very easy to say (that's it). But I don't know. If I was to go there would be no better way for me to go. That sounds like it's all about me and it's not. There are a lot of young ones there and there has to be a time where you need to blood them. Someone else is gonna take the No 6 (jersey) and hand on my heart I'll be delighted to see them do it.

"I want it to be the right decision for me and I don't want to be one of those who'll say they're retired and come back again. Some might say it's a small decision but for me it's not. It's not just a hobby. It's part of my life. It's something you've done for so long. It's very hard to say 'I'm never going to do that again'. So it's not as easy a decision to make as some people think.

"I'll know what to do when the time comes."



SARSFIELDS U14 TEAM WHICH WON THE FEILE FINAL

Back Row Left to Right: Clare Donoghue, Alana Duhan, Rebecca Kingsland, Erica Leslie, Yvonne Lyons, Stephanie Cannon, Denise Gormally, Sarah Spellman, Rachel Murphy (Capt), Hannah Curley, Michaela McGuinness, Stephanie Spain, Maura Melody, Siobhan Gill, Jessica Moore.

Front Row Left to Right: Aoibheann Duhan, Aoibhe Deely, Sinead Cannon, Grainne Ryan, Rachel Murray, Clionadh Cahalan, Siobhan McGrath, Cora Kenny, Sheena Cannon, Aishling Kenny, Leah Poland, Deindre Larkin.

Galway reach 'Promised Land'

Reflections on a memorable day at Croke Park

upper hand with a four-point interval advantage.

Shelley Farrell and Aisling Dunphy were amongst those to get on the scoresheet for Kilkenny and skipper, Michelle Quilty came off the bench to convert a couple of frees.

They never looked like getting the goal they might need though, with Maher and inspirational captain, Lorraine Ryan leading the defensive effort for Galway. When Niamh McGrath brought her tally to five points with two late frees, the Tribeswomen could relax in the final moments before recording a 1-9 to 0-7 success.

It completed a double for Galway, who had earlier won the Intermediate Final by beating Limerick 0-12 to 0-10, and for Ward, who oversaw both sides.

Orlaith McGrath – who came on as a sub in the Senior Final and is a sister of the Seniors' top scorer, Niamh – was in scintillating form for the Tribeswomen, slotting four points from play.

Limerick fought to the bitter end but were hugely reliant on Niamh Mulcahy, who scored all bar two of her side's points. That kept the Shannonsiders in contention

right to the end and they were just one behind entering injury time.

Rebecca Hennelly pushed the gap to two with a 62nd minute free. Karen O'Leary almost snatched a dramatic victory for Limerick but her shot deflected out for a 45 and it was to be Galway's day.

It was Kildare's too, as the Lilywhites proved far too strong for midland neighbours Laois in the Premier Junior Final.

They flew out of the starting blocks with points from player of the match Siobhán Hurley and 18-year-old Melissa Lyons inside two minutes. Susie O'Carroll, Róisín O'Connell and Hurley (free) added to their tally and it was the 24th minute by the time Laois got off the mark through a Louise Mahony free.

A goal two minutes after the resumption from 17-year-old substitute Grace O'Neill gave Laois brief hope but Kildare responded in the manner of champions, with two goals in a minute almost immediately afterwards from O'Carroll to cement a famous victory for Jim McMullen's outfit.



Nov. 2013

2013 Liberty Insurance

All Ireland Camogie Championship Finals

They say all good things come to an end and so it was for Wexford this year, as they finally gave up their stranglehold on the O'Duffy Cup after completing the three-in-a-row in 2012.

The Liberty Insurance All-Ireland Senior Camogie Championship indicated that all bad things come to an end too however, as Galway finally reached the 'Promised Land' after so many near-misses to bag only their second title, 17 years after breaking their duck.

It was a victory for many but few looked beyond Therese Maher, who had joined the county panel just a matter of months after the 1996 success and experienced five All-Ireland Final losses in the intervening period.

Tony Ward was manager when Galway annexed their maiden Championship and it was he that introduced Maher to the squad. He returned to the fold at the beginning of 2012 in a bid to end the nightmarish famine and the man with the Midas touch worked the oracle once again with a blend of youth and experience.

It wasn't looking good early on mind you, as after failing to make the last four of the league, they fell to Kilkenny – their subsequent All-Ireland Final opponents – in the opening round of the Championship Group stages.

They did improve in the second half of that game though and continued gradual progress was made. That was just as well, because their group could hardly have been more difficult. Vitally, they accounted for Wexford by two points and built from there.

They were very impressive in overcoming Clare by two goals and the expected victory over Derry secured a quarter-final against Tipperary, from which they emerged with 16 points to spare.

Wexford were lying in wait in the Semi-Finals and while not the force of old due to retirements and the unavailability of other key players, there was a psychological hurdle to clear for Galway, having fallen to the Yellowbellies so often when the stakes were high.

Once Niamh Kilkenny struck for a 23rd minute goal, the result was inevitable however, and while Galway never opened up completely, they were always in command.

There was another mental mountain to contend with in terms of their history of Finals' failure and that wasn't taking into account that Kilkenny were entering the decider with a 100% record, having dispensed with League Champions and 2012 Championship Runners-up Cork in the penultimate round.

It wasn't a free-flowing classic due to the brilliance of both defensive units but youngster Ailish O'Reilly goaled in the 27th minute to give the westerners the



CORK RETAIN DIV 1 HONOURS

The Irish Daily Star League has been good to Cork in recent years and after accounting for Wexford in last season's Division 1 Final, they repeated the dose once more in another tight decider this term.

The Leesiders emerged from Group 1 with an unblemished record, mixing comfortable wins over Offaly and Division 1 newcomers Derry, with hard-fought victories against Tipperary and Kilkenny, with the Noresiders bagging the second qualification position.

Special mention must go to Derry, who registered wins over Offaly and Tipperary to finish third in the group, in their very first top-flight League campaign.

There was some surprise in Group 2 as Galway failed to qualify for the Semi-finals, although subsequent events ensured that they won't be fretting about that over Christmas dinner.

This four-team group was a competitive affair with each side suffering at least one reverse. In the end, it was Clare that secured the top qualification spot by virtue of seven-point superior score difference over Wexford.

The All-Ireland champions were undergoing a period of significant transition, with Martin Lynch taking over from JJ Doyle as manager, while six key players were no longer available due to retirement or choosing to travel.

It was quite an achievement then for them to reach the League Final by accounting for Kilkenny with five points to spare. Cork have had some mighty battles with their Semi-final opponents Clare in the last couple of years and only three points separated them on this occasion.

The margin was only two in the decider at Nowlan Park – where the game acted as a curtain-raiser to the National Hurling League Division 1 Final – as Wexford showed their customary grit to put it up to the hot favourites.

Wexford opened very brightly thanks to points from Ursula Jacob and Fiona Kavanagh but two frees from Orla Cotter had Cork level by the seventh minute.

Sile Burns and Jacob exchanged points but the latter, from a ninth-minute free, proved to be Wexford's last score of the half as Cork opened up.

With the Rebels monopolising possession from puckouts and Rena Buckley dominant at centre-back, they pushed ahead with points from Julia White, Briege Crockery, Eimear O'Sullivan and Sile Burns to give them a 0-7 to 0-3 advantage at the break.

The scoring rate dropped considerably in the third quarter, with Jacob's 39th minute free the only return. It took Cork 18 minutes to get going but quick-fire efforts from White and Katrina Mackey gave Paudie Murray's crew a distinct advantage.

Frances Doran struck back with a lovely point from play before the magnificent Kate Kelly popped over the first of her two points after coming on as a substitute.

When Mackey and Cotter (45) raised white flags with six minutes remaining, it looked like curtains for Wexford but a penalty awarded for a foul on Kelly was blasted to the Cork net by Jacob in the 60th minute to give Wexford hope.

Kelly reduced the margin to one but Wexford couldn't find the equaliser in four minutes of injury time and instead Cork sub Finola Neville found the target with almost the last puck of the sliotar to secure a 0-12 to 1-7 success.

Limerick overcame surprise packages Kildare to harvest the Division 2 title in Birr. It was the Lilywhites' first year at the second level and they impressed everyone by recording wins over Down, Cork and Tipperary in the group stages before shocking Waterford in the Semi-final.

Limerick emerged from a very tough group that also included Waterford, Galway and Meath. A hat-trick of goals by Mary O'Callaghan enabled them to account for Kilkenny in the penultimate stages.

And the Intermediate side had too much firepower for the Premier Junior outfit as illustrated by the 3-14 to 0-10 scoreline. Not for the first time, Susie O'Carroll was sensational for Kildare, scoring all her side's points, but Niamh Mulcahy had eight for Limerick, while dual star Dymphna O'Brien, O'Callaghan and influential sub, Marie Keating grabbed goals.

Laois just edged out last year's Division 4 Champions Dublin in the Division 3 Final by 0-9 to 0-7 in Mullingar. They had Laura Dunne to thank after the goalkeeper made two point-blank saves 10 minutes from time.

The sides were deadlocked on 0-7 apiece when Dunne was faced with two one-on-one situations but the St Brigid's netminder was equal to the task, first denying Róisín Collins before blocking Emma Flanagan's shot.

That spurred Laois on and points from Sile Burke and Player of the Match, Sarah Ann Fitzgerald (from a 70m free) clinched the title for the second time in four seasons.

The Division 4 Final was also held in Cusack Park and it produced a dramatic conclusion as full-back Marian Doyle stole forward to strike a winning goal for Carlow deep in injury time.

The Red Hands looked to have done enough in the first half, with Caoimhe Rafferty's goal after just 10 seconds giving them a dream start. Niamh McNulty grabbed a second major for the Ulster girls in the 23rd minute but crucially, Ciara Quirke found the net at the other end before half time.

Carlow had a strong wind after the resumption but it looked like Tyrone would hold on before Doyle's late contribution snatched the 2-6 to 2-4 win.

Nov. 2013

Cooper All Ireland Under 14 Camogie Championship Blitz

As with the under 15 development model, this year was the second year of the Cooper U14 All Ireland Championship blitz competition. The blitz for Division 1 to Division 4 took place on Saturday the 14th of September in a range of Dublin venues. Thanks to Naomh Mearnog, St. Sylvester's, Craobh Chiarain, Thomas Davis, St. Annes and Croi Ro Naofa for the venues. The Association would like to thank Cooper for its continued sponsorship of this competition. This year 30 counties entered at least one team in the competition over the 5 divisions with 48 teams taking part in total.

Congrats to everyone that took part in the competition this year. The parade proved very successful again this year on All Ireland final day in Croke Park when the Under 14 teams took to the pitch at half time of the Liberty Insurance All Ireland Camogie senior Final.



Camogie Underage Development Models Under 15

2013 was the second year of the Camogie Association's underage development model at under 15 level. This development model encourages all counties to run a development programme for their Under15 players. Counties participate in one of 2 phases in this programme. The idea of this model is to encourage players from all clubs in the county to participate in organised sessions (Schools of Excellence) over a set number of weeks. Young players from the age of U15 get the opportunity to be part of a programme that improves their skills and encourages them to be the best they can be and represent their county with pride.

Phase 1 National participation blitz took place in Tipperary this year on All Ireland Semi final day. 11 counties participated with 16 teams taking part in total. The blitzes took place in Borrisoleigh, The Ragg, Drom/ Inch, Thurles Sarsfields and Dr. Morris Park. The aim is that all girls get the chance to play on the day and enjoy the game of Camogie while developing both their skills and confidence. Phase 2 participation Blitz took place in Clonad in Laois on October 5th with Laois, Wicklow and Westmeath taking part on the day.

APPOINTMENTS

The Camogie Association are delighted to welcome **Caroline Fitzsimons** to the team. Caroline, a native of Cavan and a graduate of Dundalk Institute of Technology is the Association's new Office Administrator. Caroline previously worked with the Irish Sports Council.

Liz McGuinness has also joined the Association, taking up the post of Fixtures Administrator. Liz, a native of Dublin previously worked in Sales. Liz plays camogie with Dublin club, Good Counsel.

Lisa McAliskey has taken the position of RDO for Antrim, Armagh, Derry, Down and Tyrone and started in her role in mid-August. Lisa previously worked for Ulster GAA as a coach in their DENI Programme working on improving physical literacy skills in 4-8 year olds whilst also improving club school links in the Gaelic Start programme. Lisa is an experienced playing member of the Down Camogie squad whilst also representing Ulster on many occasions in the Gael Linn.

THIRD LEVEL NEWS

The 2013 / 2014 Third Level season is well under way with the first two rounds of the league wrapped up. Dublin College DIT made the first statement of intent for the year with a comprehensive win over UUJ, followed up with a good win over UCD. UUJ got off the mark with a win over DCU. While WIT beat UCC in their first league game while in round two UL gained a small bit of revenge on Ashbourne Cup holders WIT with a hard fought victory in Waterford.

In Division 2 Mary I beat CIT, UUC 2 beat WIT 2, St Pat's defeated DIT 2 and Carlow IT overcame Athlone IT.

The Ashbourne and Purcell competitions this year will be held in Belfast as part of the Queens University "Festival

of Sport". QUB are hosting all four of the elite third level competitions starting with the Ashbourne and Purcell weekend which set to take place on the 15th and 16th of February 2014.

Big celebrations are coming up in the Third Level calendar with the Ashbourne Cup celebrating its Centenary year in 2015. The planning stages have already commenced and we would encourage anyone who has an interest in getting involved or who knows anything about the History of the Ashbourne to please get in touch with Fionnuala Carr CCAO PRO pro.thirdlevel.camogie@gaa.ie

The event promises to be a fantastic occasion to remember some of Camogie's most famous players.

Camán to Croker

Camán to Croker activity day took place on Saturday the 6th of April. 48 clubs took part in the day with 720 under 12 girls taking part in total. Torpey Hurleys provided sponsorship of this very popular day for clubs in Croke Park.



Camogie For all workshops

A very successful Camogie for All Workshop took place in Athlone IT on September 27th with 52 participants in total.

Hurl Smart Week

The Camogie Association's second annual Hurl Smart week took place in clubs across the country from the 17th to the 23rd of June. This initiative is a partnership between the Camogie Association and the Nutrition & Health Foundation. The programme was a resounding success with a range of activities for all ages, males and females being organised to encourage people to Hurl Smart, increase their activity levels and become healthier. Some of the clubs that took part include Castleknock Dublin, Young Irelands Kilkenny, Na Brideoga Mayo, St. Annes Louth, Edendork Tyrone and Newmarket on Fergus Clare.

Camogie continues to grow

Growth at club level continues with new clubs forming in a range of counties. These include Camogalocht na nGleannta in Leitrim who represented Leitrim in the national Feile competition.

Crossmolina affiliated in Mayo with Ballina starting camogie also in the county. Other new areas include Doon, Limerick, Abbeyleix Laois, Banner in Ennis, Lavey in Cavan, Omagh in Tyrone and Ballybacon Grange in Tipperary among others.



JOAN O'FLYNN

New Chief Executive of the Camogie Association, Joan O'Flynn, speaks to On the Ball about the road ahead for the sport and the exciting challenge of raising the profile of Camogie.

When Joan O'Flynn's term as President of the Camogie Association drew to a close 18 months ago, it was reasonable to assume that while she would

maintain her lifelong commitment to camogie, it would be with a lower profile.

As one would expect from someone that has been involved in the game since staggering her first steps in the East Cork village of Ladysbridge - making her mark with Fr O'Neill's before doing the same in London, Celbridge and Kildare - she gave her time unsparingly.

She helped out with her club Celbridge and was manager of Kildare's second adult team this year. It was a hugely enjoyable phase - anything connected with camogie gets O'Flynn's blood flowing.

Now though, she's got the biggest job as the Association's newest Árd Stiúrthóir. It is still fairly hectic, given that she only sat into the hot seat in the middle of October, but calling it a job doesn't sound right.

"When you find your passion, it's no longer work" smiles O'Flynn. "I've been involved in camogie for so long in different capacities but solely as a volunteer. So to move into it in a professional capacity is a great opportunity as well as a great privilege. I'm delighted to be in the role and looking forward to building on all the progress that's been made over the years and bringing the game onto a wider level."

Her various administrative and coaching roles will be distinctly helpful but so too will her professional experience, be it with the Action Group for Irish Youth voluntary organisation in London, her private sector work at AIB or the public sector history with Combat Poverty Agency, as director of the national advisory committee on drugs, and consultant on European Drugs Policy to the Department of Health.

"My role is really around the day-to-day management and development of the association, the implementation of policies, supporting the development of policies and programmes. It's got a finance and personnel management

function as well. I do think there is a leadership and management role for the Árd Stiúrthóir as well.

"There are inter-dependencies between the Árd Stiúrthóir and President. I'm very privileged to have been President of the Association. The learning from that experience will be hugely beneficial to me in my professional role within the organisation. When you're president, you're combining that with your full-time work responsibilities. But now my full-time work responsibility is camogie and that's a great position to be in."

While the 2010-2015 strategic plan is "the signpost for the organisation", changes to the economy, the sporting landscape and society in general mean that there must be an ongoing review within the six-year terms. Preparations must also be made for the next plan.

In terms of camogie itself, the Chief Executive believes that there are four areas that must be considered in that process, all designed to giving the game a wider profile.

The first is to provide broader support to the volunteer chain, without which the full-time team at Croke Park headed by O'Flynn would have nothing to work on, or for. Increasing camogie's fanbase

to reflect the rapidly growing participation levels and eliciting more coverage of the games is a definite priority.

Attracting the hearts and minds of teenagers, and emphasising the broader health issues is a challenge for all sports at the moment and the new chief executive wants women's sports in general to be the leaders in this area.

And finally, there is the area of integration with regard to the governing bodies of all Gaelic games.

Growing the fanbase won't be easy but O'Flynn is determined that it can be done. Having said that, she thinks negative commentary surrounding attendances is out of context at times.

"The All-Ireland finals are obviously important as the showcase for the sport but if you look at other organisations, there are obvious examples within Ireland and outside of Ireland. There are innovations in other codes like basketball in the United States. Or the Paralympics. They have succeeded very well at building a fanbase. And obviously the GAA is superb!

Nov. 2013

The newly-appointed Árd Stiúrthóir of The Camogie Association

"It's a long game rather than a short game. You have to build it... there's always commentary around how many were at the women's All-Irelands. It depends what you measure them against. If you measure them against the men's finals, well obviously they're smaller attendances.

"But if you measure them against other women's sporting events they rate very highly, and indeed if you measure them against many other men's sporting events they do equally well. Also if you measure them in relation to the revenue those sports generate... it stands up I think."

O'Flynn is convinced that the will to pursue integration is strong at national level amongst the hierarchy of the GAA, ladies football and camogie. It won't be a straightforward progression though, as evidenced by some counties' GAA boards playing major fixtures, including county finals, on a day when their camogie representatives are on All-Ireland duty at Croke Park.

"If we can learn from what works, that to me is the key thing. So at club level, there is loads of experience of it. You look at the administration of the Gaelic games internationally

as well. Look at Europe and Asia; they are integrated from the start.

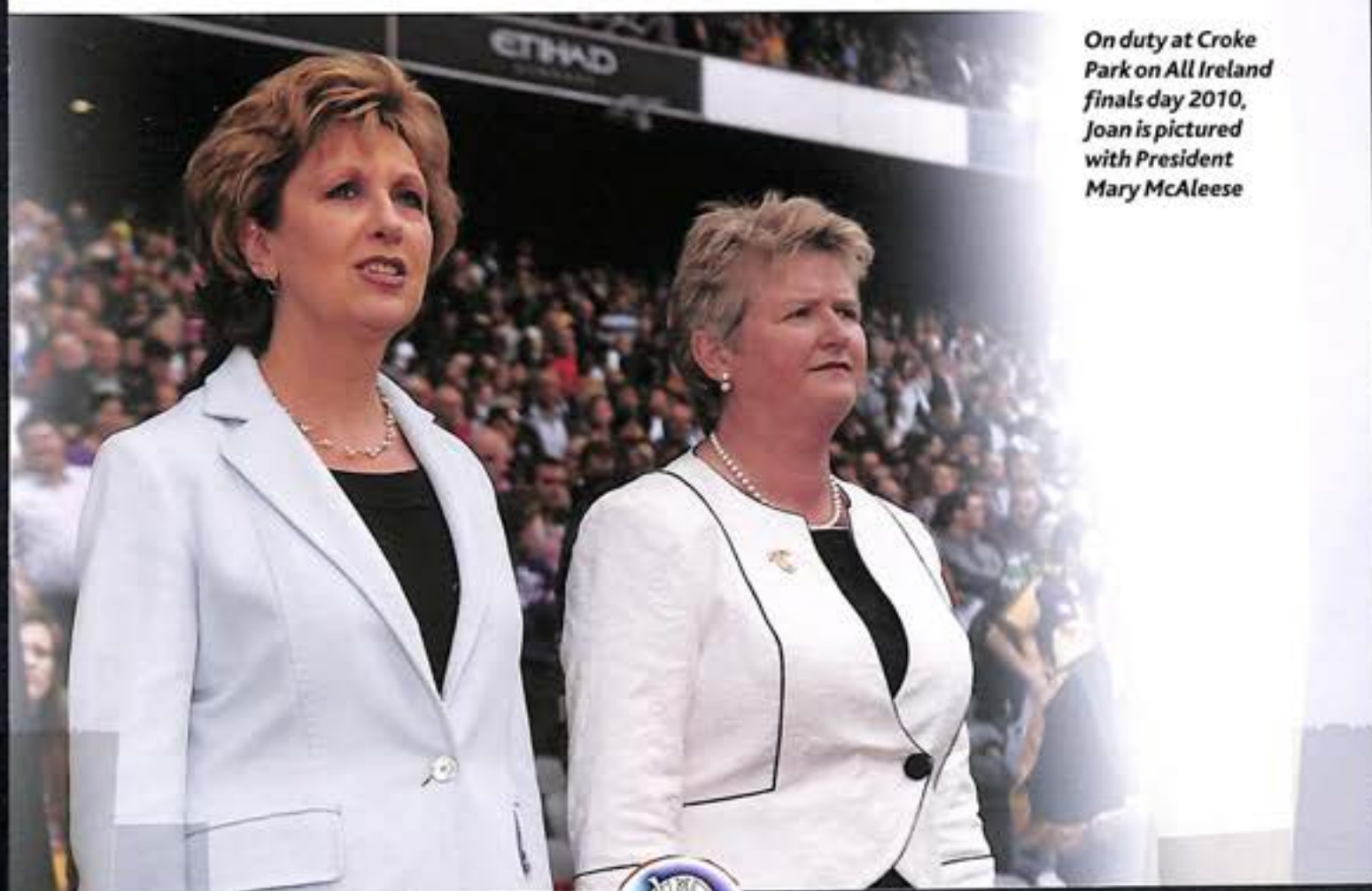
"So it's about looking at what works but also being considered and open about the processes towards integration. There's issues of parity, trust and culture change and responsibilities both way. That's a process, an ongoing thing that evolves over time.

"I'm very privileged to have been President of the Association. The learning from that experience will be hugely beneficial to me in my professional role within the organisation."

"When you look at Liberty Insurance jointly sponsoring the hurling and camogie championships and AIB sponsoring the Club Championships, that's an excellent example of the benefits of working together and being together in the same mission of promoting Gaelic games."

She can't wait to get stuck into it.

"I'm joining a very high-performing team of staff and a very high-performing voluntary team as well... It's a great time to be joining an Association that's promoting women's sport because women's sport is on the rise, that's established, and camogie is out there as being one of the longest established sports. So I hope we can continue to be leaders in that capacity."



On duty at Croke Park on All Ireland finals day 2010, Joan is pictured with President Mary McAleese



Brid MacNamara, second from left, from County Clare, receives the Mick Dunne Memorial Award for PRO of the Year from Alian Lawlor, left, President of the Camogie Association, Lily Dunne, wife of the late Mick Dunne, RTE Sports Broadcaster, and Paul Byrnes, Acting Head of TV Sport at RTE

Launch of first National Referees Academy

First of its kind within the Association

The first National Referees Academy was launched by the President of the Camogie Association Aileen Lawlor at Croke Park on Saturday June 15th.

The Referees Academy is the first of its kind within the Association and is part of a number of initiatives introduced by President of the Association, Aileen Lawlor to support the development and progression of referees.

Twelve referees (six men and six women) have been selected for this year's Academy. They will receive concentrated training and will be monitored and assessed on their refereeing performance throughout the year.

Speaking at the launch President of the Camogie Association Aileen Lawlor said:

"I am delighted to launch the first ever National Referees Academy and I would like to pay tribute to the sterling work of the National Referees Committee who have undertaken this project on behalf of the Association. As a former referee, this is an area that is very close to my heart. The role of a referee is one that is very demanding and challenging but it is also one that is extremely satisfying and worthwhile. Referees make an enormous contribution to our games and it is vital that we provide training and support that enables referees to perform at the highest level.

The Academy is an exciting initiative and it will enable us to provide excellent training to referees and to monitor and assess the standards of each referee. I want to congratulate each of the members of this year's Academy and to wish

them well in their endeavours over the coming months."

The members of this year's National Referees Academy are: Julie O'Neill (Armagh), Naomi Feighery (Kildare), Grainne Coulter (Down), Fiona O'Sullivan (Dublin), Jenny Byrne (Dublin), Siobhan Ryan (Tipperary), Kieran Kelly (Carlow), Pat Kehoe (Carlow), Eamon Cassidy (Derry), John McDonagh (Galway), Ray Kelly (Kildare) and Peter Dowd (Meath).

Speaking about the new Referees Academy, Chairman of the National Referees Committee Peter Downey said:

"While the Camogie Association is fortunate to be well served by a strong panel of Inter County Referees it is vital to ensure that the panel remains so into the future. The National Referee Academy is comprised of Referees who have displayed the potential to officiate at the highest level, and in turn provide them with the training and education they need to reach their maximum potential. The Association is fortunate to have a wealth of experience at its disposal and the Committee intends to use as much of that pool as is possible.

During the closed season the Academy members will take part in two initial training modules, equipping them with the skills needed to make good Referees, better. During the course of 2014 the National Referee Pathway will be rolled out, with the Academy being the ultimate destination. Progression through the Academy will be totally performance based. Members of the Academy have a busy time ahead of them and we wish them all the best."



YEAR	DATE	WINNER	SCORE	RUNNER-UP	SCORE	CAPTAIN
1964	Dec 13	Celtic (Dublin)	5-2	Deirdre (Antrim)	1-0	Brid Hanbury
1965	Oct 17	St Patricks (Tipperary)	3-3	Deirdre (Antrim)	2-3	Mary Graham-Barrett
1966	Oct 30	St Patricks (Tipperary)	5-5	St Paul's (Kilkenny)	2-1	Ann Graham
1967	Nov 5	Eoghan Ruadh (Dublin)	3-4	Oranmore (Galway)	4-1	Maureen McCormack
Replay	Mar 31	Eoghan Ruadh (Dublin)	7-3	Oranmore (Galway)	4-1	Ailish Toner (RIP)
1968	Nov 3	St Paul's (Kilkenny)	7-2	Ahane (Limerick)	1-2	Teresa Brennan
1969	Nov 9	St Paul's (Kilkenny)	3-7	Ahane (Limerick)	2-1	Carmel O'Shea
1970-1	Mar 28	St Paul's (Kilkenny)	6-5	Bellaghy (Derry)	2-0	Mary Conway
1971-2	Mar 19	Austin Stacks (Dublin)	5-4	Thurles (Tipperary)	2-1	Mary Ryan
1972-3	Mar 25	Austin Stacks (Dublin)	4-2	Portglenone (Antrim)	2-0	Mary Ryan
1973-4	Mar 10	Oranmore (Galway)	3-2	St Paul's (Kilkenny)	1-3	Nono McHugh
1974-5	Mar 9	St Paul's (Kilkenny)	3-3	Oranmore (Galway)	1-1	Angela Downey
1975-6	Mar 14	Croagh-Kilfinny (Limerick)	4-6	Athenry (Galway)	4-5	Brid Stokes
1976-7	Mar 13	St Paul's (Kilkenny)	6-3	Athenry (Galway)	1-3	Mary Fennelly
1977-8	Mar 19	Athenry (Galway)	10-5	Portglenone (Antrim)	1-1	Mary Daly
1978	Nov 19	Ballyagran (Limerick)	1-3	Buffers Alley (Wexford)	0-1	Pauline McCarthy
1979	Dec 2	Buffers Alley (Wexford)	2-6	Athenry (Galway)	1-2	Kathleen Tonks
1980	Nov 9	Killeagh (Cork)	4-2	Buffers Alley (Wexford)	1-7	Breda Landers
1981	Nov 8	Buffers Alley (Wexford)	2-6	Killeagh (Cork)	1-4	Ann Butler
1982	Nov 14	Buffers Alley (Wexford)	3-2	Athenry (Galway)	0-2	Elsie Walsh
1983	Oct 30	Buffers Alley (Wexford)	3-7	Glenamaddy (Galway)	0-6	Caroline Farrington
1984	Oct 28	Buffers Alley (Wexford)	2-4	Killeagh (Cork)	1-4	Norah Gahan

The last few weeks have been busy in the Seandun division. The under-13 A and B finals were played and it was a north-side double, as Glen Rovers won the A and Na Piarraigh won the B.

Glen Rovers 4-2
St Finbarr's 4-1

Heavy rain, in Castle Road, didn't stop the youngsters from Glen Rovers and St Finbarr's, as they battled it out to the full-time whistle for the Seandun under-13A title.

It was an exciting contest. Aided by the strong wind, Glen Rovers went in search of early scores but the St Finbarr's defence was strong.

St Finbarr's Eimear Hurley scored a goal, but Glen Rovers responded superbly with an Emma Murphy goal, to tie it up.

Glen Rovers kept the pressure on and they took the lead via a Lisa O'Riordan goal. Mairead Mc

Carthy extended their lead with a point.

The 'Barrs hit back as Leona Smith scored a goal, and Hurley gave them the lead. The weather made it difficult for both sides, and, in a goal-mouth scramble, Naoise McGuckin scored as the Glen regained their lead. A McCarthy pointed extend it to two points, before the break.

In the second-half, St Finbarr's attacked, but they met strong resistance from a Glen defence that now had Lisa O'Riordan and Megan O'Donovan helping them out. Emma Murphy scored a goal ten minutes into the half, as the Glen went five points ahead, but from here to the final whistle they had to constantly defend. Hurley pointed, before scoring a goal, and with five minutes remaining just a point separated the sides.

The Barrs' girls gave it their all,

but the Glen defence stood firm. O'Riordan settled her side down with superb long-range clearances as they held on to the final whistle to be crowned champions. Both sides must be credited for a magnificent display in awful conditions. O'Riordan was player of the match.

St Finbarr's S Thornton, E O'Regan, O Keane, R Cotter, A O'Neill, C Varian, N Power, R Twomey, Sophie Cotter, Emma Olden, A Keegan, J Long, L Hayes, E Hurley, L Smith. **Scorers:** E Hurley 3-1, L Smith 1-0.

Glen Rovers N Condon, N McGuckin, C McCarthy, C Martin, S Lane, E Murphy, R White, A O'Neill, N Wallace, M McCarthy, M O'Donovan, S Duggan, L O'Riordan, L Whitford, C Bowen.

Sub: N Falvey for C Martin. **Scorers:** E Murphy 2-0, L O'Riordan, N McGuckin 1-0 each, M McCarthy 0-2.

Referee: Andrew Larkin.

Na Piarraigh 3-1
Douglas 1-2

A strong opening 30 minutes helped Na Piarraigh settle into this Seandun

under-13 B championships final, as they scored two goals, aided by the wind. Emma Dunlea and Casey Coleman were the scorers. Captain Jessica O'Mahony settled Douglas with an early point and both sides gave it their all.

At the interval, Na Piarraigh were five points ahead, 2-0 to 0-1, but they were defending their lead against a strong wind. They closed down the Douglas attack, holding their lines under pressure. Emily Buckley did huge work, as she dropped back to help out in defence, her long-range clearances keeping the pressure on the Douglas defence.

Aisling McKenzie pointed a free to extend the Na Piarraigh lead, but Douglas worked hard and Jessica O'Mahony and Tara Costello were on target with second-half points. Buckley sent a 45-metres free to the net for Na Piarraigh, but a Laoise

Cahill-Murphy Douglas goal saw them battling hard to get on parity. Continuing to keep the pressure on the Na Piarraigh defence, they gave it their all, but they failed to narrow the gap, as Na Piarraigh held on to take the title.

Emily Buckley was named as player of the match, after an excellent display for Na Piarraigh, while Captain Carla Tobin accepted the trophy on behalf of her team.

Na Piarraigh: J Monahan, A O'Sullivan, C Tobin (cl), E Morrissey, N O'Connor, K Scannell, C Buckley, A McKenzie, E Buckley, E Dunlea, A O'Sullivan, C McCarthy, C Coleman, N O'Sullivan, M C Dorgan. **Sub:** K Harrington for M C Dorgan (hvt). **Scorers:** E Dunlea, C Coleman 1-0 each, E Buckley 1-0 (45), A McKenzie 0-1 (f).

Douglas: A Cummins, A Cottrell, L Velon, A Cummins, L Hurley, D Harrington, R O'Keefe, S McFeely, S Brennan, T Costelloe, J O'Mahony (cl), L Cahill-Murphy, M McCarthy, C Walsh, J Collins. **Sub:** C St Ledger for R O'Keefe, S Nagle for J Collins. **Scorers:** L Cahill-Murphy 1-0, J O'Mahony, T Costelloe, 0-1 each. **Referee:** Dave O'Connell (Glen Rovers).

Anna is the perfect pin-up for camogie

CAMOGIE

Rory Noonan

"UNBELIEVABLE," was how Anna Geary described the reaction to her appearance on the RTE documentary, *Skin in the Game*, last week.

Anna was one of four GAA players, the others being Eoin Cadogan, Lar Corbett and Michael Carton, to appear on the show which followed them for most of the season. Approximately one million people watched the show.

Anna was Cork senior camogie captain and it followed her during their progress through the championship, before losing out by a point to Kilkenny in the semi-final.

As well as being involved in the Cork set-up Anna was a key player for her club, Milford, as they won the county, Munster and All-Ireland championships last season.

"When they approached me about being on the show I had to think about it for a while," said Anna, "between work, captaining Cork and also going back to college at night I had a fair bit on already. But then I said to myself if players aren't going to get involved in trying to publicise the game then who is?"

"So to be honest I made up my mind fairly quickly and I was delighted and honoured to be asked. It gave me a great opportunity to highlight camogie and show the effort that players put in as much as their male counterparts.

"I was so glad I got involved and when it got the reaction it did, I was delighted to have played a small part in highlighting just how good camogie games are.

"The reaction that night on the likes of twitter and Facebook was unbelievable and one comment more positive than the next. You are always worried when you do something like this as to how it will

be received and I was delighted it went down so well.

"I hope it did, that it showed we are all just ordinary people who love our chosen sport and are in it for the love of the game. We are lucky and privileged to be inter-county players and I never forget that.

"For every one, be it camogie, hurling, football or ladies football, that is on a Cork panel, there are many more who would love to be in that position. So yes, it does take up a lot of your time, but we all do it because we want to.

"Getting the chance to be able to highlight the game I love was just too good an opportunity to turn down. There were friends of mine who never went to camogie games

until I dragged them along and once they did they were hooked. They saw that games are competitive, tough and like hurling, there is no holding back.

"One particular game I brought them too ended in a draw and I was unable to go to the replay, but they did even though they had no connection to either club. In a nutshell that to me is what it's all about. Getting more and more people interested in the game and hopefully coming to games.

"I would like to thank Jacqui Hurley for giving me the opportunity to be involved and she was brilliant to work with. Also Dan Bambrick, who was working with her, for the help he gave me."

Asked about how she is fast becoming the pin-up of GAA in Cork and further afield, she said: "I don't know about that."

"I was out for a meal recently and I noticed a man looking at me a few times. When he was leaving he came over and said how much he enjoyed the show and fair play for my part in highlighting camogie in it.

"So yeah that was nice and then I looked at what I was eating and thought if he looked at that I wouldn't be seen as much of a good example to young players," joked Anna.

But one thing is for sure, with people like Anna to the fore highlighting the game, camogie is sure to go from strength to strength.



Cork's Anna Geary (right) and Jennifer O'Leary, with their 2011 Camogie All-Stars awards during the 2011 Camogie All-Stars in association with O'Neill's at Citywest Hotel in Saggart, Co Dublin.

Picture: SPORTSFILE

Nov. 2013

St Angela's
are back
winning
trophies

SCHOOL'S CAMOGIE

THEY may be more renowned for their sporting exploits at hockey and basketball, but the camogie players from St Angela's made their mark in no uncertain terms on the camogie fields recently, writes MARY NEWMAN.

They continued their superb progress in competitions as they annexed the Junior B Cork Colleges trophy with a victory over Kanturk.

St Angela's had participated on and off in camogie college competitions over a number of years, but there was a lapse when they were not participating.

In the 2011/2012 season a renewed effort was made to get camogie up and running again in the famed St Patrick's Hill College.

With former Ballincollig teacher Aidan Murray leading the way and showing huge enthusiasm, with huge support from principal Pat Curran, the season got under way and in their first year did remarkably well.

You only have to look at the spread of clubs involved in the school to see that the talent is defiantly there, and it came as no surprise to see them crowned champions when they took on Kanturk at the Glen Rovers grounds.

With strong representations from locals clubs Glen Rovers, Brian Dillon's and Sarsfields, and one player from Carrigaline, the St Angela's girls were superb.

Many of the side are just first year students, still U13, so the future of camogie in the school looks bright.

When you consider they confidently held their own in a competition for U16 and a half year olds, it makes their achievement more impressive.

"We're really delighted to win the title, as the girls put in a great effort in all our games," said coach Murray.

"We will be hoping to build on this now and looking at the players we had in action here I would be hopeful.

"We are delighted to win a championship trophy in only our second year back in competition.

"The girls have huge enthusiasm and are always busy with their clubs, and it certainly helps as well that they are so interested."

Cats and Tribe are



Jennifer O'Leary, who has moved to Armagh, pictured with her All-Star at the Citywest Hotel.



LINDA MELLERICK

CAMOGIE

ALL-IRELAND champions Galway and finalists Kilkenny shared 11 All-Star awards at the 10th annual Camogie All Stars, in association with Liberty Insurance, presented at Citywest last Saturday.

Galway manager Tony Ward received the Manager of the Year award having led Galway to both senior and intermediate All-Ireland titles in September.

Former Cork goalkeeper Donal Og Cusack and chairman of the GPA was this year's special guest.

Galway goalkeeper Susan Eamer and defensive trio, Sarah Dervan, Lorraine Ryan and Therese Maher along with midfielder Niamh Kilkenny, centre forward Niamh McGrath and corner forward Ailish O'Reilly were all rewarded for their All-Ireland winning exploits this season.

Kilkenny's Mairéad Power and Edwina Keane in defence and wing-and corner-forwards Katie Power and Shelly Farrell represented the 2013 finalists in this season's line-up.

Offaly's Elaine Dermody collects her county's first senior All-Star award. The Drumcullen club player was been chosen at full-forward. Chloe Morey of Clare is named at wing-back and collects her first and the county's second ever award—a great achievement.

Cork's Jennifer O'Leary, who has now moved to Armagh for work and won't line out in red again, was presented with her seventh All-Star at midfield. Kate Kelly of Wexford was named at wing-forward and collected her seventh All Star award. Kelly and O'Leary — along with Gemma O'Connor — now hold the highest number of All-Stars since their inception in 2004.

Speaking at the event President of the Camogie Association Aileen Lawlor said:

"This year's awards ceremony capped another fantastic season for

Picture: Sportsfile



St Angela's, winners of the Cork Colleges Junior B title, with their coach Aidan Murray.

brightest stars

Camogie club notes

DUNGOURNEY

Congratulations to our U16 team who won the C county league final recently.

The final was played under lights in Aghada and turned out to be a fantastic and very close game, our girls had given such a display of heart and determination in the drawn game and this was to be no different.

We played with great skill and determination and the team effort was enormous as we played outstanding and emerged deserving winners with a full time score of 1-9 to 2-3.

Team Captain Lucy Lawton accepted the cup amid great scenes of joy and to cap a great occasion Lucy O'Gorman was awarded player of the match.

Thanks to our trainers James Leahy and JJ Ahern who put in such work with the girls throughout the year and to all the parents who helped out thanks to our main club sponsors Robinson's Tyres and Casey's Coal for their generous sponsorship and support.

Team: M Cullinane, A O' Sullivan, M Ahern, C Buckner, M McGann, L Lawton, Harney, M Ahern, C Harney, L O' Gorman, M Rohan, K Ahern, S O' Sullivan, C O' Doherty, O Murphy, A O'Callaghan.

All roads lead to East Cork Golf Club on Saturday 16th November for our Camogie Club Social and Awards night at 8pm. A fantastic night in store for all.

BRIDE ROVERS

Camogie action for 2013 ended for Bride Rovers on a disappointing note at Riverstick when the home side avenged their defeat at our hands in the Under 16 league earlier in the year as they defeated us in the U16C championship semi final.

Our girls did their best but found scores hard to come by while Sliabh Rua goalied at critical points of the match to earn a place in the county U16C final and we wish them the best of luck in that.

Well done to all the panel and their mentors for the effort put in this year. Full time score Sliabh Rua 4-3 Bride Rovers 1-2.

Scorers: Emma Barry 1-0, Laura Quirke 0-1, Siobhan O'Sullivan 0-1.

See www.briderovers.ie for all club news/events.

GLEN ROVERS

Our minor team contest the county minor championship semi final tomorrow Sunday in Castle Road Camogie Grounds Blackrock at 2.30 in what is a repeat of last years county final. We are hoping for a big turn out of supporters at the game.

Training continues for our under age teams as follows beginners to 12 year olds Sunday at 12 noon and Tuesday at 6pm, Under 13, 14, 15 and 16s Monday and Wednesdays at 6pm. Bring runners and boots and a jacket training will be indoors if weather is bad. New members welcome to come along and join.

We congratulate St Angela's school team on winning the Cork Junior B championship on Tuesday last when they defeated Kanturk, well one to all our girls on the team and to Lorna Hickey who captained the side to glory and to their coach Mr Murray who is doing great work with the team.

On Tuesday next we will be paying a visit to Scoil Oilibhéir with the senior championship and league trophies and with our victorious under age teams as well and we look forward to that.

FIXTURES

TODAY

Evening Echo Minor A Championship semi-final: Cloughduv v Courcy Rovers, Brinny, 2.30pm.
Minor C Championship semi-final: Enniskeane v Bishopstown, Ovens, 12pm.

SUNDAY

Evening Echo Minor A Championship semi-final: Killeagh v Glen Rovers, Castle Road, 2.30pm.
Evening Echo Minor B Championship semi-finals: Brian Dillon's v St Finbar's, venue TBC; Blackrock v Valley Rovers, Castle Road, 11.15am.
Minor C Championship semi-final: Cobh v Millstreet, Ballincollig, 1pm.



Galway's Susan Earner, Niamh Kilkenny, Lorraine Ryan, Sarah Dervan, Therese Maher, Alish O'Reilly, manager Tony Ward, Emma Kilkelly, Niamh Ryan represented by her mother Geraldine Ryan, Heather Cooney, Rebecca Hennelly, Paula Kenny pictured at the All-Star awards. Picture: Sportsfile

the Camogie Association. It is a tremendous honour to present the 10th Annual Camogie All-Star awards and the event has grown since its inception in 2004. Next year marks the 110th anniversary of the Association and it will be a fantastic milestone which we are looking forward to celebrating throughout the year.

"The All-Stars are a significant event for the Association and for players and supporters alike as they publicly acknowledge the contributions of individual players based on their performances throughout the year. We are proud to acknowledge the wonderful achievements of these young women who are strong ambassadors for the game of camogie.

"It is a privilege to present the All-Stars, Soaring Stars and Intermediate Soaring Stars and I want to

congratulate each and every player this evening who has been considered for an award and presented with one. I also extend my congratulations to Tony Ward on receiving the Manager of the Year accolade.

"I would like to thank our All-Stars associate sponsors Liberty Insurance. This year was the first year of the Liberty Insurance championship and we are looking forward to building even further on that in the years ahead and strengthening our partnership."

2013 ALL-STAR TEAM

Susan Earner (Galway), Mairead Power (Kilkenny), Sarah Dervan (Galway), Lorraine Ryan (Galway), Edwina Keane (Kilkenny), Therese Maher (Galway), Chloe Morey (Clare), Niamh Kilkenny (Galway), Jennifer O'Leary (Cork), Katie Power (Kilkenny), Niamh McGrath (Galway), Kate Kelly (Wexford), Shelly Farrell (Kilkenny), Elaine Dermody (Offaly), Alish O'Reilly (Galway).

2013 SOARING STARS TEAM

Laura Dunne (Laois), Karen Tinnelly (Down),

Aoife Trant (Kildare), Kate Ahern (Offaly), Aisling Dunphy (Laois), Sarah Ann Fitzgerald (Laois), Angela Lyons (Kildare), Carol Anne Canning (Dublin), Orla Bambray (Kildare), Clodagh Flanagan (Kildare), Siobhán Hurley (Kildare), Louise Mahony (Laois), Denise McGrath (Westmeath), Susie O'Carroll (Kildare), Niamh Dollard (Laois).

2013 INTERMEDIATE SOARING STARS

Rebecca Hennelly (Galway), Niamh Mulcahy (Limerick), Paula Kenny (Galway).

2013 MANAGER OF THE YEAR

Tony Ward (Galway)

In my view the Player of the Year award must go to Galway star defender Therese Maher, five times beaten All-Ireland camogie finalist, who finally got her covered medal last September. The Athenry player, who made her debut in 1997 revealed how the thoughts of missing out on the big one kept her going.

"Every time we came up to Croke Park and every time we came home defeated, you'd always think 'will it be next year, will it be next year?'"

You just keep going and you hope that that day will come and finally it came, thank God," said Maher.

And so another inter-county and local senior club championship comes to a close. Underachievers, overachievers, team and individual highs and lows, blood, sweat, cuts and bruises, months of training and yet many needing soothing.

There are far more players and teams that failed to achieve their goal than did.

There can only be one winner. And amidst the disappointment many will swear that they'll never put themselves through this again.

But as weeks turn into months and as the new season dawns they will of course all go at it again because there is nothing, absolutely nothing that compares to the wonderful highs and lows of sport.

McCarthy swings it for Barryroe

Barryroe 2-7
Clonakilty/St Colum's 3-2

WEST CORK CAMOGIE

THESE sides had to go to a replay before the destination of the West Cork U18 B title was decided, writes MARY NEWMAN.

As was the case in the first game, there was little between the sides, with Barryroe just about edging it.

Clonakilty/St Colum's made a good start with a point inside seven minutes, but Barryroe responded with a Caroline McCarthy goal to hit the front. Claire Tyndal extended the lead

with a point but Clonakilty/St Colum's responded well with a Leanne Calnan point.

The home side answered within a minute, before Emma Deasy doubled on a high ball to keep Barryroe in front.

Clon/Colum's were back level, but responding to the challenge with points from Hannah Whelton and Caroline McCarthy, Barryroe edged back in front.

The lead was short lived as Clonakilty/St Colum's grabbed a goal before the break.

Caroline McCarthy pointed a

45 to tie the sides up early in the second half but 10 minutes in Clonakilty/St Colum's had a third goal and with their defence holding the Barryroe attack.

They held their lead and it was nip and tuck as Barryroe battled to get back into the game against a strong Clon/St Colum's defence where goalkeeper Mary Hurley, Niamh Desmond Collins, Libby Copping, were to the fore.

It was level pegging again when Marie Dineen got the final touch in a goalmouth scramble.

Two McCarthy points put Barryroe back in front and with

the clock ticking towards full-time.

Scorers for Barryroe: C McCarthy 1-4 (0-1 f, 0-1 45), M Dineen 1-0, E Deasy, C Tyndal, H Whelton 0-teach.

Clonakilty/St Colum's: L Calnan 1-1, H O'Sullivan, C Dullea 1-0 each, R McAree 0-1

BARRYROE: M Sexton; M C Whelton, K Dunlea, H O'Brien; A Sheehy, S Smith, R McCarthy; C Sexton, E Cahalane; C Tyndal, H Whelton, S Dineen; C McCarthy, E Deasy, M Dineen.

CLONAKILT/ ST COLUM'S: M Hurley; R Harrington, Claire O'Sullivan, Cathia O'Sullivan; N O'Donovan, R Dullea, N Desmond-Collins; L Copping, L Collins; H Harrington, C Dullea, M McCarthy; L Calnan, R McAree, H O'Sullivan.

Referee: Michael O'Mahony (Kilbrittain/Timoleague).



Michael O'Mahony presents the West Cork U18 B Camogie Cup to Barryroe joint captains Emma Deasy and Claire Tindall.

Barryroe
Clonakilty/St Colm's

2-7
3-2

It took a replay to decide the West Cork U18B final and Barryroe just about edged it.

Clonakilty/St Colm's made a good start with a point inside seven minutes but Barryroe replied with a Caroline McCarthy goal to take the lead. Claire Tyndal extended it with a point but Clon/Colum's responded well with Leanne Calnan pointing to cut the gap.

The home side answered within a minute, before Emma Deasy doubled on a high ball to ensure Barryroe stayed in front. Clon/Colum's were soon back on level terms but challenge Barryroe regained their lead to edge back in front with points from Hannah Whelton and Caroline McCarthy. The lead was short-lived as Clon/Colum's

Barryroe hold out in replay to take U18B camogie final



Barryroe defeated Clonakilty/St Colm's to win the West Cork U18B camogie final.

worked hard and grabbed a goal before the break to lead 2-2 to 1-4.

Caroline McCarthy pointed a 45 to tie the sides up early in the second half but 10 minutes in Clon/Colum's had a third goal and, with their

defence holding firm, they held their lead. Barryroe battled to get back into the game against a strong Clon/Colum's defence where goalkeeper Mary Hurley, Niamh Desmond Collins and Libby Coppinger were to the fore.

Battling hard, Barryroe began to gain a grip around midfield and with Hannah Whelton and Sally Smith prominent they put the Clonakilty/St Colm's defence under pressure. It was level pegging again when Marie Dineen got the final touch in a goal-mouth scramble.

Two Caroline McCarthy points put Barryroe back in front and they held out until the end.

Barryroe M Sexton; M C Whelton, K Dunlea, H O'Brien; A Sheehy, S Smith, R Mc Carthy; C Sexton, E Cahalane; C Tyndal, H Whelton, S Dineen; C Mc Carthy, E Deasy, M Dineen. **Scorers:** C McCarthy 1-4, M Dineen 1-0, E Deasy, C Tyndal H Whelton 0-Teach.

Clonakilty/St Colm's M Hurley; R Harrington, Claire O'Sullivan, Cadhla O'Sullivan; N O'Donovan, R Dullea, N Desmond Collins; L Coppinger, L Collins; H Harrington, C Dullea, M McCarthy; L Calnan, R McAree, H O'Sullivan. **Scorers:** L Calnan 1-1, H O'Sullivan, C Dullea 1-0 each, R McAree 0-1.

Referee Michael O'Mahony (Kilbrittan/Timoleague).

Minor championship semi-finals

Despite the appalling weather conditions over the weekend, the minor championship semi-finals went ahead.

Cloughduv overcame Courcy Rovers on a 3-13 to 1-6 scoreline in Brinny on Saturday. They will have to wait another week to see who their opponents will be after extra-time failed to separate holders Glen Rovers and Killeagh in what was a repeat of last year's final in Castle Road with Glen Rovers scoring 0-16 to Killeagh's 3-7.

In the Evening Echo Minor B semi-finals Blackrock and Brian Dillon's set up an all city final. Blackrock edged out Valley Rovers on a 2-10 to 2-7 score-line whilst it finished Brian Dillon's 3-7 St Finbarr's 0-7.

In the Evening Minor C

semi-finals Enniskeane, despite having to line out minus their Cork minor player Orla Cronin through illness still had too much strength for Bishopstown where it finished 3-9 to 1-7 in their favour. Enniskeane will meet Cobh in the final after they defeated a fancied Millstreet side 6-3 to 1-9.

■ The B and C final will be played in Castle Road.

Evening Echo Minor C Championship Final Enniskeane v Cobh on Sunday Nov 17, Time TBC.

Evening Echo Minor B Championship Final Blackrock v Brian Dillon's on Sunday Nov 17, Time TBC.

■ The minor A semi-final replay will be next weekend, the day and time to be confirmed.



The Na Piarsaigh team which won the U13B camogie championship.

Early scores seal title victory for Na Piarsaigh

Na Piarsaigh
Douglas

3-1
1-2

SEANDÚN U13 B CHAMPIONSHIP

By Mary Newman

NA PIARSAIGH set the foundations for victory in the opening half of this Seandún U13 B Championships final with two goals as they played with the strong wind.

Emma Dunlea and Casey Coleman found the net as they set the pace of the game, but Douglas worked hard and a point from Captain Jessica O'Mahony settled her side as they battled on.

Weather conditions were not the best but both sides gave it their all and at the break Na Piarsaigh led 2-0 to 0-1 as they turned to defend their lead against a strong wind.

With their defence strong, they closed down the Douglas attack and with Julie Monahan captain

Carla Tobin and Emily Morrissey working hard they held their lines.

Emily Buckley did huge work

as she dropped back to help out in defence whilst also keeping the ball moving forward with long range strikes which kept the pressure on the Douglas defence.

Aisling McKenzie pointed a free to extend the Na Piarsaigh lead, but the Douglas girls kept working away with good displays from captain Jessica O'Mahony and Tara Costello, who were on

target with second-half points.

Emily Buckley send a 45-metre free to the net for Na Piarsaigh but a Laoise Cahill-Murphy goal for Douglas ensured they were still in the game. Continuing to throw everything they had at the Na Piarsaigh defence, they could not narrow the gap as Na Piarsaigh held on to take the title.

Emily Buckley was named as player of the match after an excellent display for Na Piarsaigh.

Scorers for Na Piarsaigh: E Dunlea, C Coleman 1-0 each, E Buckley 1-0 (45), A McKenzie 0-1 (ft).

Douglas: L Cahill Murphy 1-0, J O'Mahony, T Costello 0-1 each.

NA PIARSAIGH: J Monahan; A O'Sullivan, C Tobin (c), E Morrissey; N O'Connor, K Scannell, C Buckley, A McKenzie, E Buckley; E Dunlea, A O'Sullivan, C McCarthy; C Coleman, N O'Sullivan, M C Dorgan, Sub: K Harrington for M C Dorgan (h/t).

DOUGLAS: A Cummins; A Cottrell, L Vailon, A Cummins; L Hurley, D Harrington, R O'Keefe; S McFeely, S Brennan; T Costello, J O'Mahony (c); L Cahill-Murphy; M McCarthy, C Walsh, J Collins. Sub: C St Ledger for R O'Keefe, S Nagle for J Collins.

Referee: Dave O'Connell (Glen Rovers).

Cork camogie jersey

CAMOGIE club mentors have informed us that Santa Claus has been getting requests regarding the availability of the Costcutter Cork camogie jersey. Parents or young camogie players anxious for Santa to bring same can drop in to Páirc Uí Rinn Monday to

Friday from 9.30am to 4pm where they will be helped to get their request off to the man himself in time for the big day. All sizes from age five to small adults are available.

Local Costcutters shops in Cork are also stockists of these as well.

Nov. 2013

Minor girls put on a super show in semi-final

MINOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

By Mary Newman

IT was a battle of willpower as minor players had to endure horrible weather conditions last weekend in their semi-finals outings. Despite this, excellent performances were given as all the sides battled it out in the A, B and C semi-finals.

Cloughduv showed their strength and confirmed their tag as firm favourites to lift the title as they overcame Courcay Rovers on a 3-13 to 1-6 scoreline in Brinny.

Leading 1-7 to 0-3 at the interval, they turned in an impressive second half with Becky Hennigan, Niamh O'Leary and Claire Byrne to the fore to run out winners and book their place in the final. Extra time failed to separate holders Glen Rovers and Killeagh in what was a repeat of last year's final in Castle Road. Torrential rain failed to dampen the spirits as the sides gave it their all and it was no surprise to see it level at the full time whistle 0-12 to 2-6.

The rain got heavier in extra time and players and supporters had to endure 20 minutes of extra time in appalling conditions and that could still not separate the sides who must meet again.

In the Evening Echo Minor B semi-finals Blackrock and Brian Dillon's set up and all-city final when they had victories over Valley Rovers and St Finbarr's respectively. Blackrock edged out Valley Rovers on a 2-10 to 2-7 while Brian Dillon's overcame St Finbarr's in appalling weather conditions in Whitechurch.

St Finbarr's led at the break 0-5 to 1-1. Caoimhe Rogers was on target for Brian Dillon's. St Finbarr's extended their lead with an early second-half point, but from there on, Brian Dillon's took control with goals from Kayleigh Luby, Caoimhe Rogers and Shauna Cronin gave no way back to St Finbarr's in a game played in appalling weather conditions. Every Dillon's player played their part especially Alison Smith at wing-back. She was the driving force behind Dillon's motivation to reach the final. On Saturday it was close all through in the Evening Minor C semi-final Enniskeane, despite having to line out minus their Cork minor player Orla Cronin who was absent through illness, still had too much strength for Bishopstown and it finished 3-9 to 1-7 in their favour. Cobh made it to the final as they defeated a strong Millstreet side 6-3 to 1-9.

It's all systems go tomorrow with the B and C finals down for decision in Castle Road, the minor A semi-final replay will go ahead today while the Junior B and C plate finals are also on the fixture sheet as the season draws to a conclusion.

TODAY

Evening Echo Minor A Championship semi-final: Killeagh v Glen Rovers Castle Road 2pm.
Junior C Plate final: St Finbarr's v Ballinora Nemo Rangers 2.30pm.

TOMORROW

Evening Echo Minor C Championship final: Enniskeane v Cobh Castle Road, noon.

Evening Echo Minor B Championship Final: Blackrock v Brian Dillon's Castle Road 2pm
Junior B Plate final: Newtownshandrum v Ballinacraig Whitechurch 2pm.



The Glen Rovers team which won the U13A camogie championship.

Driving rain fails to dampen Glen spirits in decider

Glen Rovers
St Finbarr's

4-2
4-1

SEANDÚN U13A CHAMPIONSHIP

By Mary Newman

TORRENTIAL and persistent wind and rain failed to dampen the spirits as the youngsters from Glen Rovers and St Finbarr's battled it out for the Seandún U13A Championship title in Castle Road.

From the start it was tough. The gale-force wind and driving rain made it difficult but the excellent under foot conditions helped as both sides gave it everything they had in their quest for the title.

Aided by the strong wind Glen Rovers put the St Finbarr's defence under early pressure, but with stern defending from Rebecca Cotter, Emma O'Regan and Aoife O'Neill, they kept the Glen attack at bay.

St Finbarr's, despite playing against the conditions, enjoyed

their fair share of possession and hit the front with an Eimear Hurley goal, but Glen Rovers responded well with an Emma Murphy goal the sides were back on level.

Pressing hard to make the most of the weather, Glen Rovers hit the front with a Lisa O'Riordan goal and Mairead McCarthy extended their lead with a point.

The Barrs hit back as Leona Smith finished to the net and with Eimear Hurley again on target, they took the lead.

With the weather making it difficult for both sides, it was hard and in a goal mouth scramble Naoise McGuckin looked to have got the last touch as the Glen regained their lead.

Mairead McCarthy pointed to extend it to two points before the

break, but it looked as if the strengthening wind was going to play a huge part in the second half.

From the throw-in, St Finbarr's attacked but met strong resistance from a Glen defence who now had Lisa O'Riordan and Megan O'Donovan back helping them out to relieve the pressure.

Emma Murphy grabbed a vital goal 10 minutes into the half as the Glen went five points ahead but from here to the final whistle they had to constantly defend as the Barrs gave it everything in search of scores.

Eimear Hurley pointed before finding the net and with five minutes remaining just a point separated the sides.

From there to the full time whistle the Barrs' girls give it their all in search of a score but the Glen defence as a unit stood tall as they cleared ball after ball.

Lisa O'Riordan showed some excellent touches as they lifted the

siege to the final whistle to be crowned champions after a game where both sides must be credited for a magnificent display in awful conditions.

Lisa O'Riordan was named as player of the Match following an excellent game both in attack and defence for her club while Glen Rovers captain Katie Buckley was unable to line out due to illness but she was on hand to accept the trophy on behalf of her team mates.

Scorers for Glen Rovers: E Murphy 2-0, L O'Riordan, N McGuckin 1-0 each, M McCarthy 0-2.

St Finbarr's: E Hurley 3-1, L Smith 1-0.

ST FINBARR'S: S Thornton, E O'Regan, O Keane, R Cotter, A O'Neill, C Varian, N Power, R Twomey, Sophie Cotter, Emma O'Brien, A Keegan, J Long, L Hayes, E Hurley, L Smith.

GLEN ROVERS: N Condon, N McGuckin, C McCarthy, C Martin, S Lane, E Murphy, R White, A O'Neill, N Wallace, M McCarthy, M O'Donovan, S Duggan, L O'Riordan, L Whitford, C Bowen. Sub: N Falvey for C Martin.

Ref: Andrew Larkin (Douglas).

KILLEAGH

Sunday afternoon saw most people at home and cosy around their fires such was the weather, but for minor camogie players, mentors and parents that luxury was not an option. Castle Road for the Minor A County semi-final versus Glen Rovers was their destination and many thanks to those who came out to support the girls.

It took both teams a while to settle but after a few missed shots at goal it was down to business and no better girl than Hanna Looney to get us up and running, driving the ball over the bar. Glen Rovers had three points from two frees and a 45. Leah McEvoy scored two 45s to draw

us level for the first of many times in the game. Glen Rovers struck four unanswered points to leave the half time score 0-7 to 0-3 in their favour. Despite their dominance on the scoreboard, our girls were well in the game and still up for the fight.

The second half began with a Glen point which now gave them a lead of five points as the rain poured down and spirits in the dugout were more hopeful than optimistic.

Leah pointed another free, but Glen replied and there was no getting away from them. Then lightning struck in the form of two goals, the first a well-taken free by Leah was grabbed in the

air by Ciara Daly and batted to the net. Laura Treacy drove the second cracker to the net and we were level again and all to play for. The mentors stayed firm but calm and the dugout encouraged the girls. Glen Rovers pointed but again there was another free pointed by Leah. The whistle of Walter Cole blew. Extra time had to be played and supporters and players alike were exhausted. Extra energy was sent for (thanks Celia and Liam) and the girls were up and ready to go again for another 20 minutes. Despite our best efforts it looked as if there was more energy in the city side and they fired over four unanswered points and it was half time again. As the sky darkened

Camogie club news

Our girls began to get brighter each and every girl dug deeper. Leah had a point, Ciara Motherway a super goal and we were level again. Laura Treacy pointed to put us in the lead but again the Glen replied. Try as we might another score was not possible and we have to have another go at it. This was a fantastic team effort from everybody. Club jerseys: Club jerseys are available for your Christmas list. Contact Mary 085-1607072.

BRIAN DILLON'S
Our U16 team has reached the championship final following a

magnificent win against St Finbarr's in the semi-final which was held in Whitechurch. Dillon's were determined to reverse the defeat by St Finbarr's in the league final last September a goal and a point from Caoimhe Rogers in the first half let the score at half time 1-1 to 0-5. Even though we were a point down we were playing exceptionally well at this time the Barrs scored the first point of the second half but this proved to be their last score in the match from that point on there was only one team in it. Second half goals from Kayleigh

AWARDS

By John Tarrant

DELIGHT for Glen Rovers Camogie on returning to senior A status for the first time in more than a decade after a stylish display collected a county junior B championship title.

The pride of the famed Glen had been wounded and it called for a passionate response to return to familiar surroundings and duly acknowledged with the North City and District Sports Star monthly Award at a pleasant function in the Ambassador Hotel.

In doing so, the Glen announced their arrival to outright glory on coming through a competitive campaign to defeat Ballygarvan, Éire Óg and Aghabullogue before over coming Valley Rovers in the semi final to set up a meeting with Éire Óg again and ultimately land the outright spoils.

Team captain Karen O'Connell didn't conceal her delight on completing a league and championship double.

"The hard work and dedication undertaken during the past year has paid off. From the outset, our objective was on the junior B title involving training three times a week. The league was a bonus but it was really heads down for the championship," said Karen.

A winning sequence instilled confidence into a skilful Glen side yet they remained focused to the task as the big prize came closer with Éire Óg cast in the role as opponents in the decider.

"Preparation involved coming together on Sunday mornings at 9am, the commitment just fantastic."

Éire Óg and the Glen are always serious competitors. We had defeated them earlier, going in as favourites and Éire Óg had nothing to lose. After enduring some nervous moments, we had the players and the teamwork to succeed", she said.

And Karen is looking ahead to new challenges as Glen Rovers are amidst the elite to figure amongst the best teams across the county.

"2014 is a big step, the standards rising and sure to be much more difficult. That said, the Glen have younger players coming through and that augurs well for the future," she said.

County PRO Mary Newman extended congratulations to Karen and all associated with the Glen triumph that culminated on receiv-



Glen Rovers Camogie Club's Karen O'Connell, senior captain, Rachel White, captain of the U12 winning team; Katie Buckley, captain of the 13A winning team and Ruth O'Neill captain of the U14B team. October winners of the Northside and District Sports Awards, in association with Ambassador Hotel main sponsors; Media Partners, Red FM and award sponsors, Gurranabraher Credit Union.

Picture: BPhoto

Karen looks ahead to new challenges

ing the North City & District Sports Award, sponsored by the Ambassador Hotel in association with Gurranabraher Credit Union.

"Glen Rovers are Cork's oldest Camogie club and in 2013 celebrated their 80th year.

"Huge work is going on at underage level and the products of this are now coming through as the underage nursery churns out the players who are now making their mark at adult level.

"Many of the club's players have

featured prominently on Cork teams in the last few years and this is a testament to the huge amount of work that is going on at all levels in the club," she said.

The Glen Camogie club officers comprise Chairperson Nora Newman, Vice Chairperson Mary Sheehan, Treasurer Deirdre Sutton and Club Secretary and County PRO Mary Newman with Tom Luby, Dave Ellis and Deirdre Sutton in the role of selectors.

The attendance at the function

included Catherine O'Connell, Gurranabraher Credit Union, Onoir O'Brien, Red FM; Rhona Heggtveit Ambassador Hotel; Cian O'Brien, PRO Rebel Óg along with Glen under age captains Katie Buckley, Ruth O'Neill and Rachel White.

Glen Rovers officers and players were headed by Chairperson Nora Newman in the company of the adjudicating panel of Michael Ellard, Tony O'Sullivan and Awards Co-Ordinator Seán O'Sullivan.

Star Geary a hit with viewers

Lar Corbett picked up a lot of the plaudits from RTE's excellent *Skin In The Game* programme earlier this week.

However, it was Cork camogie star Anna Geary, right, who turned out to be the real star, trending on Twitter as well as picking up over 1,000 followers in just 24 hours.



CAMOGIE

Cork

MACC semi-final: Cloughduv 3-13 Courcey Rovers 1-6; Glen Rovers 0-16 Killeagh 3-7 (aet); MBCC semi-finals: Brian Dillon's 3-7 St Finian's 0-7; Blackrock 2-10 Valley Rovers 2-7; MCCC semi-finals: Enniskeane 3-9 Bishopstown 1-7; Cobh 6-3 Miltreath 1-9.

CAMOGIE

MAC semi-final replay: Glen Rovers 1-19 Killeagh 3-12 (aet); MBC final: Blackrock 3-13 Brian Dillon's 2-3; MCC final: Enniskeane 6-5 Cobh 2-5; JBC Plate final: Ballincollig 2-7 Newtownshandrum 3-3; JCC Plate final: Ballincora 4-8 St Finian's 1-7.



Cork camogie captain Anna Geary launches the appeal for Bags 'N' Bling at the Imperial Hotel penthouse suite. The fund-raising event, which takes place on December 1 at the hotel, from noon to 6pm, is in aid of the Mercy University Hospital and Make A Wish foundation.

Picture: Ger McCarthy

Quirke on fire as Myshall make it two-in-a-row

By Camogie Press
Posted 24/11/2013



Myshall 3-9
Scariff/Ogonnoloe 0-8

Two goals in the dying embers of a hard-fought encounter confirmed Myshall's supremacy over Scariff/Ogonnoloe and saw them retain the AIB A3-Ireland junior club title at Kilmac writes Dara Ó Corcháir.

Cara Quirke ran riot for the champions, the youngster showing the benefit of having the bank of experience from last year's final, when she went on to make an important contribution despite uncharacteristically missing a number of early frees.

Nerves weren't a factor on this occasion though, as the Carlow star - whose mother, Nuala also lined out - scored 2-7, with the goals a fitting adornment to any A3-Ireland final.

With the half-back line of Kate, Michelle and Breege Nolan maintaining the dominance they have exerted all season, Scariff/Ogonnoloe never looked like getting the goals they needed to be victorious.

Both defences held the upper hand in the opening period, with scores at an absolute premium. Cara Mullins got Myshall off to a positive start but the accurate Maired Scanton, who finished with five points, equalised.

A foul on Mullins gave Quirke her first score but once more Scariff/Ogonnoloe's riposte was good, this time courtesy of Róisín O'Brien. Danielle Sheedy played an important role in that score and was on the mark herself to give her side the lead for the first - but alas for them, the only time.

A brilliant save from Aisling Corbett came at the expense of a 45, which yielded a point to Quirke, and the Myshall centre-forward followed up with a fine score on the run. An injury-time point from Olivia Maye made it 0-5 to 0-3 at the break.

The second half was a nip-and-tuck affair too, with Scanton and Quirke exchanging early scores.

Corbett made another stupendous save but there was nothing she could do when Quirke unleashed a blistering shot at the three-quarter mark, at the end of a convulsing run from the middle of the field.

That put five points between the sides but the Clare team didn't get to this juncture without having endless reserves of determination to go with their ability. A brace of points from Scanton reduced the margin to three and it was still, very much all to play for.

Quirke and Sheedy, and then Quirke and Scanton made sure that that was how it remained until Myshall made sure in the most stunning fashion possible, blitzing Scariff/Ogonnoloe with two goals in a minute.

Another unstoppable shot from Quirke in the 56th minute gave the winners some very welcome breathing space and from the next passage of play, Olivia Jordan pounced to remove all doubt.

SCORERS FOR MYSHALL: C. Quirke 2-7 (0-2fs, 0-1 45); O. Jordan 1-0; C. Mullins, O. Maye 0-1 each

SCORERS FOR SCARIFF/OGONNOLOE: M. Scanton 0-5 (2fs, 1 45); D. Sheedy 0-2; R. O'Brien 0-1

MYSHALL: J. Joyce, N. Quirke, M. Doyle, F. Jordan, K. Nolan, M. Nolan, B. Nolan, C. Mullins, T. Wilson, L. Doyle, C. Quirke, O. Jordan, O. Maye, C. Foley, A. Ruschitzka

SCARIFF/OGONNOLOE: A. Corbett, S. Daly, R. O'Brien, L. Horan, M. Vaughan, M. O'Brien, S. McNamara, S. Vaughan, S. Madden, R. Moloney, D. Sheedy, M. Scanton, S. O'Donnell, A. Thornton, R. O'Brien, Sub: A. Mirogus for Thornton (56)

REFEREE: R. Kelly (Kildare)

Nov. 2013

Ballyhale claim AIB Leinster Intermediate crown

By Camogie Association
Posted 12/11/2013



THE CAMOGIE ASSOCIATION
An Cumann Camógaiochta

Ballyhale Shamrocks 3-3 Camross 1-4

The Fennelly clan has led Ballyhale Shamrocks to many a haring success and now it's the turn of the female side of the house. All bar a goal and one point of their tally came from the stick of a Fennelly in this AIB Leinster Intermediate Camogie club final in Nowlan Park reports Garry O'Sullivan. Keeva Fennelly (daughter of Gar, former Kilkenny legend) was the star of the first half notching 1-2 while player of the match Margaret Mary (a sister of current Kilkenny star Michael) bagged the decisive third goal 12 minutes into the second half.

Camross' Soaring Star winner Sara-Ann Fitzgerald began the game in deadly form with two pointed placed balls from around the 45m mark. But the radar deserted the centre back from there-on and four opportunities that were well within her range missed the target. Ballyhale took full advantage, none more so than wing forward Keeva Fennelly whose 11th minute goal came from a long delivery from her first cousin, Margaret Mary which Keeva met on the hop to hit first time to the net. Camross had plenty of the play but with Jacqui Friby commanding the centre back spot, chances were scarce although Therese Keenan fired home a neat point in the 17th minute to leave the scores Ballyhale Shamrocks 1-2 to Camross 0-3 at half-time.

Seven minutes after the restart a speculative shot from Kelly Ann Cottrill dipped under the bar and when Margaret Mary Fennelly's superb overhead double hit the net for a third Ballyhale goal four minutes later, they were well on their way to victory.

Niamh Dollard scored a superb point for Camross in the 38th minute but the Shamrocks defence was outstanding throughout and Cara Fennelly's goal was never threatened in play. Sara-Ann Fitzgerald grabbed a consolation goal from a free in the final minute.

Ballyhale Shamrocks: Keeva Fennelly (1-2), Kelly Anne Cottrill (1-1), Margaret Mary Fennelly (1-0)
Camross: Sara-Ann Fitzgerald (1-2, 1-1f, 1 45), Therese Keenan and Niamh Dollard (0-1 each)

Ballyhale Shamrocks:

Cara Fennelly, Clodagh Corcoran, Róisín Fennelly, Oma Fennelly, Emily O'Dwyer, Jacqui Friby, Breena Fennelly, Catherine Connolly, Edel Friby, Margaret Mary Fennelly, Kellianne Cottrill, Keeva Fennelly, Eimear Fitzpatrick, Eimear Damodry, Lorna Ni Phionraigh

Camross:

Jennifer Moore, Fidsina Ni Chonraoi, Bríge Cuddy-Meade, Aisling Burke, Doreen Moore, Sara-Ann Fitzgerald, Mairead Burke, Dawn Mortimer, Clare Fitzgerald, Michelle Holmes, Niamh Dollard, Lizzy Ryan, Sile Burke, Therese Keenan, Olga Parkinson

GAA considers bringing ladies into the fold

GAA president Liam O'Neill has revealed the GAA is exploring the possibility of bringing ladies football and camogie under its wing. "The move is gathering a bit of momentum," he said at the launch of the GAA's 2013-16 strategic plan for Rounders at Croke Park. "I don't know if you're aware that the Central Council of the GAA has already approved the putting forward of a motion to congress next year to begin the unification process. Camogie has also put forward a motion to its Congress," O'Neill explained.



The four main recipients of the Reardens Player of the Year awards for 2013, from left: Caoimhe Creedon, St Val's (Ladies Footballer of the Year); Conor Lehane, Midleton (Hurler of the Year); Brian Hurley, Castlehaven (Footballer of the Year) and Marie O'Neill, Milford (Camogie Player of the Year).

Nov. 2013



Last week Maria Assumpta Ballypéhane celebrated their first football win in Sciath na Scol. ago the school celebrated its first win in camogie. Here **Barbara O'Connell** talks to principal Christine Fitzsimons about the importance of sport in the school.

TWENTY years on from their inaugural success at camogie at Sciath na Scol, Maria Assumpta, Ballypéhane are celebrating another milestone. Last week at Páirc Uí Rinn, they captured their first football title beating Brooklodge in the final.

That hurling team of 1993 produced three of Cork's finest camogie players, Gemma O'Connor, Lynda O'Connell and Orla O'Sullivan have all made their mark in the red and white of Cork.

Hopes are high that 20 years from now, the football team will have produced at least three more Cork football stars. Names to watch out for are Ciara Hill, Jesse Mendez, Ciara Golden, Ava Lyons and Sophie Thompson.

"Twenty years ago we celebrated our first camogie success and three of that team won numerous All Ireland's with Cork," school principal Mrs Fitzsimons said.

"The current football team contains some great players and I'm hopeful four or five of these girls will emulate the success of the camogie team of 20 years ago.

Another link to that success of 20 years ago is that Lynda O'Connell and Gillian O'Sullivan's nieces played on the football team this year, (Jesse Mendez and Lya Guilhooly).

Camogie began in the school in 1990. The first coaches involved were Christine Fitzsimons, parents, Patsy Fookes, Anne Kelleher, Margo Kenny, Margo Sugrue and Geraldine O'Connor.

"We started small and at first it was just parents of the children and myself that trained the team but over the years we became more experienced, the players got better and eventually all our hard work paid off when we won our first title in 1993.

"We won it again in 2002 and 2003. We reached the finals in 2000 and 2001 but unfortunately lost."

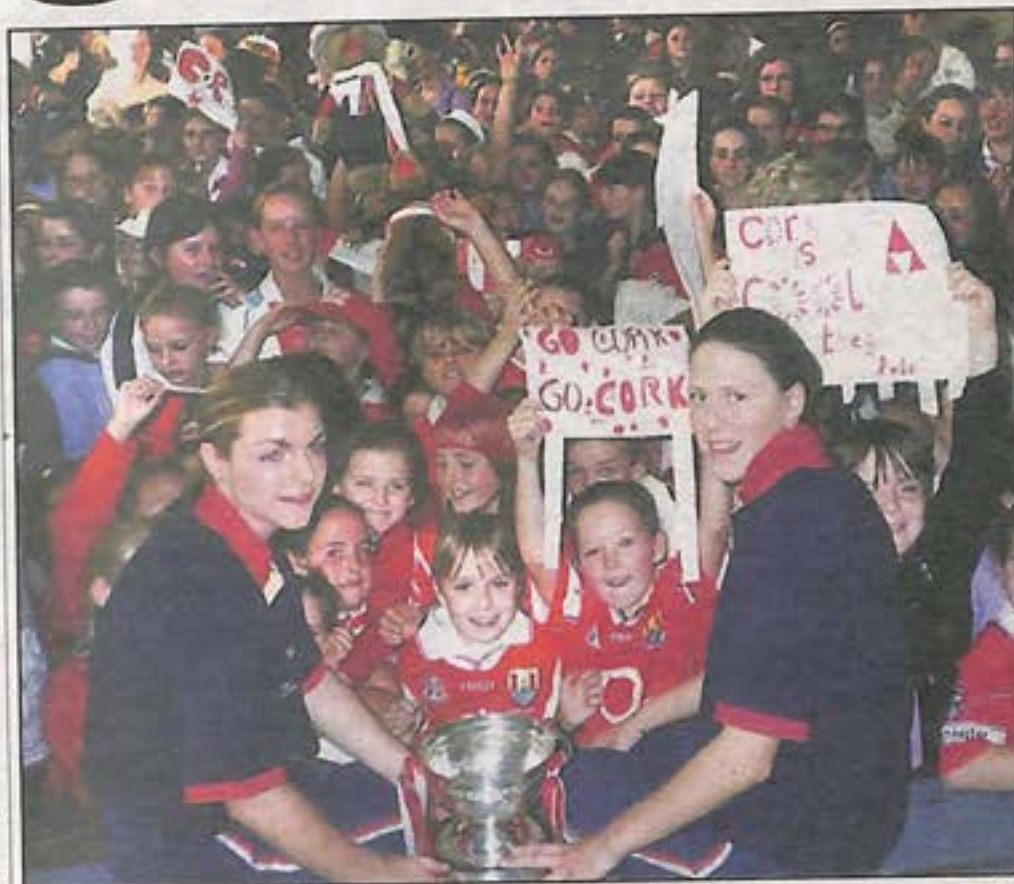
Even though they were losing finals, Mrs Fitzsimons and her coaching team were developing great camogie players and more importantly great children.

The school places huge emphasis on sport as the teachers believe you'll learn as much about life on the sporting field as you do elsewhere. It teaches you about success, failure, team work, how to handle failure and how to cope with success.

"Sport in Maria Assumpta is fostered and nurtured. We offer basketball, camogie, gaelic football, swimming and athletics. Children get the opportunity to partake in every activity and great and wonderful talent is discovered.

"Sport helps other pupils to be aware of healthy eating, team work, accepting the highs and lows of sport. To take a beating well and to enjoy the celebrations of winning.

Assumpta's new generation ready



Former Maria Assumpta students Orla O'Sullivan and Gemma O'Connor show off the All-Ireland trophy to students in Maria Assumpta.



Cork camogie manager Denise Cronin, Lynda O'Connell, Assumpta camogie coach, with the O'Duffy Cup on a visit.



Camogie coach Christine Fitzsimons.

"Sport can bring out the best in people, encouraging their team mates and respecting each other and the opposition and those who referee our games.

"I believe sport can enhance people's life skills.

"The friendships made through sport at school, club and county level can be lifelong," says the school principal.

Another reason the school has

enjoyed success on the sporting field is thanks to the co-operation of local clubs, Ballypéhane and St Finbarr's. Most of the pupils play with either or, and the club coaches are regular visitors to the school.

"All our classes from Junior Infants to sixth class are involved in sport. Denise and Tim Walsh from Ballypéhane GAA come every

week to the school on a voluntary basis to coach gaelic football with the help of students from Coláiste Stiofáin Naofa.

"Denise Doolan and Ivan O'Mahony from St Finbarr's camogie club coach the girls team. We are very lucky to have so many dedicated people willing to help out in the area of sport in our school and I can never thank them enough for all they do for us.

"The willingness of coaches like Denise and Tim to come to our school every week to coach football awakened a great response from the pupils and two of our teachers Ashley Lovett and Elaine McGuire (A Kerry woman) coached the girls after school.

"Last year we also had Sarah Clynn and Liz Cronin on the staff who coached so there is great willingness and generosity on the part of the staff to be involved in after school activities. The enthusiasm was so great in football that we decided to enter Sciath na Scol this year for the first time." As reported in this paper last week, the school triumphed in the GF5 final 7-5 to 0-1, but the build up to the game and the after-match reaction from both the parents, staff and pupils will live with me

forever. "The buzz in the school coming up to the final was electrifying for the team, pupils, staff and parents. All classes from first to sixth class travelled to the final along with staff and parents. Four bus loads with teddies, banners and cheerleaders cheered on our school to victory.

"The day after the final, the team were given a hero's welcome at the school. They paraded the cup in the secondary school and were introduced to the primary school in the hall.

"I'm sure the girls on the team will never forget this victory. Some of them will go on and win All-Ireland's with Cork in various codes and at levels but days like this will remain a highlight of their careers no matter what they achieve afterwards.

"We are constantly told this by successful ex pupils who come back to us with the O'Duffy cup.

"The pride and joy felt when our past pupils returned to the school after winning numerous All-Ireland finals was truly amazing. It was great to see the love of the game that we had for camogie being passed on to another generation as Cork players and more importantly club players."

Exactly 20 years
to school

xt
dy



and Christine Fitzsimons, Maria
to the school. Picture: Mike English



A young Gemma O'Connor leads her
school Maria Assumpta off the pitch
at Páirc Uí Rinn.



Maria Assumpta, Ballypnehane, players celebrate their victory against Brooklodge NS in the GF5 final in the Sciath na Scol at Páirc Uí Rinn.

Picture: Denis Minihan



Maria Assumpta Sciath na Scol first winning team of 1993. Back Row - Miriam Sheehan, Lenor O'Callaghan, Marian Foley, Veronica Nash, Jean Treacy, Mandy O'Keefe, Lorraine Cotter. Front Row - Grace O'Sullivan, Marguerite Cummins, Gillian O'Sullivan, Bernadine Maher, Lynda O'Connell (captain), Noelle Delaney, Supplied

Glen girls reach the final after epic win

MINOR A CHAMPIONSHIP

By Mary Newman

Glen Rovers 1-19
Killeagh 3-12
(aet)

KILLEAGH and Glen Rovers returned to Castle Road after extra time had failed to separate the sides a week previous in the Evening Echo Minor A championship semi-final.

Killeagh took the lead with a Ciara Motherway goal, Hannah Looney pointed, but Michaela Hyde, with three points in a row, narrowed the gap.

Leah McEvoy hit three for Killeagh, converting a free, and two from play, but Michaela Hyde showed she was equal to the challenge pointing three in-a-row for the Glen girls and it was Killeagh, who led by a point at the interval.

The Glen girls drove forward from the restart and turned the deficit around to lead by a point.

Michaela Hyde was on target with two points and Olivia Harrington scored a goal.

Killeagh responded with Ciara Motherway connecting with Leah McEvoy's dipping free to send it to the net.

Laura Treacy struck a long-range point, but the Glen replied with Hyde on target yet again.

Back came Killeagh with three in a row from Leah McEvoy to put them into the lead yet again, but a fighting Glen side replied with an Aisling Wallace point and it was level once again.

It remained deadlocked at the final whistle 2-8 to 1-11 and so to extra time had to be played once again.

Glen Rovers, as they did in the first game, took the lead with three points in extra time from Michaela Hyde (2) and Aisling Wallace.

Ciara Motherway replied for Killeagh. The Glen went three ahead on the turnover. Aisling Wallace and Michaela Hyde were on target for them, but the Killeagh defence were now on top.

Sinead Landers set up Ciara Motherway for a goal and just a point separated the sides.

Leah McEvoy converted a free to once again force parity after another 80 minutes of top-class camogie.

Two tired and weary teams turned to play another 10 minutes of extra time.

Killeagh hit the front with a Leah McEvoy point, but Michaela Hyde hit three in-a-row to put the Glen three ahead and bring her own tally to 16 points.

As they turned around yet again Laura Treacy drove Killeagh forward and pointed, but despite huge pressure the Glen held firm to record a win after 170 minutes on a score of 1-19 to 3-12.

Glen Rovers meet Cloughduv this afternoon in Castle Road at 2.30pm in the final.

Scorers for Glen Rovers: M Hyde 0-16 (0-8f 0-2 4s), A Wallace 0-3 O Harrington 1-0.

Killeagh: C Motherway 2-1, L McEvoy, 0-8, (0-5f) L Treacy 0-2, H Looney 0-1.

GLEN ROVERS: K Lee (c); H Duggan, K Falvey, S Goggin, E Foley, L Callanan, D O'Neill; J Horsford, K Fitzgerald; N Gowen, S Riordan, M Hyde; L Hickey, A Wallace O Harrington. Sub: N Kelly for D O'Neill (inj).

KILLEAGH: J Swayne; Z McEvoy, N O'Farrell, E Terry; L Treacy, E Benaim, C Sigerson; C Daly, L McEvoy; J Treacy, J O'Gorman, H Looney; C O'Connor, C Motherway, A Daly.

Referee: Andrew Larkin (Doonbeg).



The Blackrock team which won the Minor B Camogie Championship recently.

Hayley hailed for a terrific display against Dillon's

Blackrock 3-13
Brian Dillon's 2-3

MINOR A CHAMPIONSHIP

By Mary Newman

A PHYSICALLY stronger and better balanced Blackrock side were full value for victory in the Evening Echo minor A championship final over Brian Dillon's at Castle Road last Sunday.

Ideal weather and a superb pitch added to the occasion as the sides battled it out in an all city final.

Full-forward Hayley Ryan was on form for Blackrock and she signalled their intentions early with two points before the hard working Megan Delaney extended it to three.

Rachel Carroll had Brian Dillon's on the score board with a point but leading the way Ryan converted

two frees to stretch the Blackrock lead.

Caoimhe Rodgers finished to the net to bring her side back into the contest but Ryan settled the Blackrock nerves converting a long range free and with the pacy Michelle Murphy causing huge problems for the Brian Dillon's defence Blackrock extended their advantage with points from Murphy and Captain Kaitlyn Hickey.

With four minutes to the interval Clodagh Coughlan denied Brian Dillon's a goal with a superb save after Ruth Brosnan's shot had come back off the crossbar to Caoimhe Rodgers who struck it hard but

Coughlan was equal to the challenge with a super one handed save. From the resulting clearance Michelle Murphy hit a magnifying effort from way out field between he posts Blackrock breathed easy again.

With two minutes to the break Blackrock grabbed a goal Kate Leneghan setting up Clodagh O'Keeffe with a long delivery and at the interval it was 1-9 to 1-1 in Blackrock's favour.

Inside four minutes of the restart the sides had traded points but with captain Kaitlyn Hickey, Aileen Nagle and Michelle Murphy doing huge work Blackrock took control Hayley Ryan finished to the net before Michelle Murphy added two points, Shauna Walsh denied Blackrock a goal with an excellent save before Maeve Brennan found the net.

With four minutes remaining Kayleigh Luby added a goal to the Brian Dillon's tally before Rodgers converted a free but the last word was left to Blackrock captain Kaitlyn Hickey as she converted a long range free to seal victory for her side.

Michelle Murphy was named as player of the Match after a superb hour in the Blackrock half forward line.

Scorers for Blackrock: H Ryan 1-5 (0-3f), M Murphy 0-4 (0-1f), M Brennan 1-1, C O'Keeffe 1-0, K Hickey 0-2 (0-1f), M Damerly 0-1.

Brian Dillon's: C Rodgers 1-2 (0-1f), K Luby 1-0, R Carroll 0-1.

BLACKROCK: C Coughlan; S Hennessy, F Deegan, A O'Leary, A Mac Curtin, A Nagle, C Ryan, M Delaney, K Hickey (c); K Leneghan, A Kearney, M Murphy; M Brennan, H Ryan, C O'Keeffe. Sub: E Fahy for M Brennan (55).

BRIAN DILLON'S: S Walsh; N Cotter, N O'Leary, D Keane, E O'Connell, E Sharpe, R Brosnan (c); A Smith, S Cronin; L Barry, S Mills, R Carroll; C Rodgers, E Carroll, K Luby.

Ref: Diarmuid Kirwin (Eire Og).

Camogie club news

blew on yet another deadlock. Another ten minutes to play in the hope of breaking the gridlock. Leah opened the scoring with a point the Glen had three before the break. We resumed yet again. Captain fantastic Laura had a point to leaves us one behind but despite the heroic efforts of the girls that score never came. The final whistle blew and after 170 minutes of play we were beaten 1-19 to 3-12, just a single point between us. To say we were devastated would be an understatement but each and every girl from 1 to 21 can and should hold their

head up high and be proud of the fantastic effort they made over the past two days. Camogie at its very best.

To Mattie J. and Brian many thanks for all the effort you put in with this great team over the year. Trisha and Dolores you were a great support to the lads and the girls, thank you.

CLUB JERSEYS: Club jerseys are available for your Christmas list. Contact: Mary 0851807072.

BRIAN DILLON'S Our U18 team was beaten by Blackrock in the Minor B Championship Final held at Castle Road.

Nov. 2013



Enniskeane, winners of the Evening Echo Minor C championship.

Cronin's impact crucial in classy minor C decider

Enniskeane 6-5
Cobh 2-5

MINOR C CHAMPIONSHIP

By Mary Newman

A FOUR-GOAL gap does little to reflect the closeness of this Evening Echo Minor C county championship final in Castle Road on Sunday last where two balanced teams battled it out for the title.

In the finish Enniskeane took the title thanks to a superb opening thirty minutes where they led 4-1 to 0-3 at the interval, in the second half Cobh came more into the game but again goals proved vital for Enniskeane and their ability to add an addition two to their tally ensured no way back for Cobh.

Cork senior panellist Orla Cronin had Enniskeane in front with an early point before adding a goal but Erica Field and Kate Sheehan replied with two Cobh points.

Megan O'Regan extended the lead before Erica Field pointed a forty five but a goal blitz before the break proved crucial for Enniskeane. Orla Cronin sent a free all the way to the net before Julie Ann Hayes added their fourth goal to leave

them in control at the interval.

On the resumption Cobh applied a lot of pressure but the Enniskeane defence were strong. Erica Field converted a forty five before Julie Ann Hayes and Megan Foley swapped goals.

Enniskeane upped the pace as the game entered the final quartet and four points in a row saw them wear down the Cobh challenge. Rochelle Scannell and Kate Rohan had a goal at either end of the field but now Enniskeane were controlling matters. Cobh battled to the finish but the gap was too much. Erica Field converted a free before the full-time whistle.

Orla Cronin was named as player of the match and presented with the trophy in memory of the late Shirley Murphy was presented to the winning captain Kate McCarthy by Shirley's aunt Sheila Golden, secretary of the Cork Camogie Board.

Scorers for Enniskeane: O Cronin 2-2 (1-1f), J A Hayes 2-1, M Foley, R Scannell 1-0 each, A Everard 0-2.
Cobh: E Field 0-4 (0-3f 0-1 45), K Rohan 1-0, K Sheehan 0-1.
ENNISKEANE: C White; A O'Driscoll, D Carroll, L Glavin; K Scannell, K MacCarthy (c), A Crowley; S Curtin, A Everard; R Scannell, J Ann Hayes, M O'Regan; S O'Driscoll, O Duggan, O Cronin. Subs: S Duggan for O Duggan (h/t), K Scannell for S O'Driscoll (40), O Duggan for O Cronin (52), M O'Driscoll for A Crowley (48), S O'Driscoll for R Scannell (55).
COBH: N O'Sullivan; S McKeown, A Sheehan, E Moynihan; C McGrath, N Meaney, M Damery; L Van Wynen, A Higgins; E Sprigg, M Foley, K Sheehan; N Sawani, E Field, K Rohan. Sub: K Quinlan for N Sawani (40).
Ref: Andrew Larkin (Douglas).

Fixtures

TODAY
U16 A Championship final: Kilbrittain/Timoleague v Sars Castle Road noon
Evening Echo Minor A Championship Final: Glen v Cloughduv Castle Road 2.30pm

Blackrock outshine Brian Dillon's to take Minor B crown

Blackrock 3-13
Brian Dillon's 2-3

Blackrock were crowned Evening Echo Minor B champion as they overcame Brian Dillon's at Castle Road recently in ideal weather conditions at the superb camogie grounds pitch. As sides battled it out in an all city final and it was the better balanced Blackrock side that emerged as victors.

Hayley Ryan settled Blackrock early with two points, and with Megan Delaney extended it to three they dictated the pace of the game. They worked hard to contain the Brian Dillon's attack with Fiona Deegan, Aileen Nagle and Carol Ryan impressive in defence.

Rachel Carroll opened the Brian Dillon's account with a point, but with Hayley Ryan continuing to show great leadership converting two frees Blackrock stretched their lead.

Caoimhe Rodgers grabbed a goal to bring Brian Dillon's back into contention, but Hayley Ryan steadied Blackrock converting a long range free, and with the excellent Michelle Murphy causing huge problems at half forward for the Brian Dillon's defence Blackrock consolidated their lead with points from Michelle Murphy and captain Kaitlyn Hickey.

With four minutes to the interval Clodagh Coughlan denied Brian Dillon's a goal with a superb save

after Ruth Brosnan's shot had come back off the crossbar to Caoimhe Rodgers, but Coughlan was equal to the challenge with a super

one-handed save to deny the Brian Dillon's centre forward a goal. From the resulting clearance Michelle Murphy hit a magnificent effort

over the bar as Blackrock responded to the challenge.

With two minutes to the break Blackrock grabbed a goal, Kate

Leneghan setting up Clodagh O'Keefe with a long delivery and at the interval it was 1-9 to 1-1 in Blackrock's favour.

Inside four minutes of the restart the sides had traded points, but with captain Kaitlyn Hickey, Aileen Nagle and Michelle Murphy continuing to doing huge work Blackrock remained in control. Hayley Ryan won possession cleverly and finished to the net before Michelle Murphy added two points. Brian Dillon's keeper Shauna Walsh denied Blackrock a goal with an excellent save but Maeve Brennan found the net shortly afterwards as Blackrock continued to pile on the pressure.

With four minutes remaining Kayleigh Luby rallied Brian Dillon with a goal before Caoimhe Rodgers converted a free but Blackrock captain Kaitlyn Hickey converted a long range free to seal victory for her side. Michelle Murphy was named as player of the match.

Blackrock: C Coughlan; S Hennessey, F Deegan, A O'Leary; A MacCurtin, A Nagle, C Ryan; M Delaney, K Hickey (c); K Leneghan, A Kearney, M Murphy; M Brennan, H Ryan, C O'Keefe. Sub: E Fahy for M Brennan (55).
Scorers: H Ryan 1-5 (0-3f), M Murphy 0-4 (0-1f), M Brennan 1-1, C O'Keefe 1-0, K Hickey 0-2 (0-1f), M Damery 0-1.

Brian Dillon's: S Walsh; N Cotter, N O'Leary, D Keane; E O'Connell, E Sharpe, R Brosnan; A Smith, S Cronin; L Barry, S Mills, R Carroll; C Rodgers, E Carroll, K Luby. Scorers: C Rodgers 1-2 (0-1f), K Luby 1-0, R Carroll 0-1.

Referee: Andrew Larkin (Douglas).

Referee: Diarmuid Kirwin (Eire Ég).

Enniskeane crowned Minor C champions

Enniskeane 6-5
Cobh 2-5

Enniskeane made it a double as they added the Evening Echo Minor C championship crown to their league title in a final where the scoreline doesn't do justice to the closeness of the contest.

Two evenly matched sides gave it their all but in the finish Enniskeane's opening half performance proved crucial.

They led 4-1 to 0-3 at the interval, but in the second half Cobh came more into the game, but goals proved vital for Enniskeane and adding a further two to their tally in the second half ensured no way back for Cobh.

Orla Cronin had Enniskeane in front with an early point before adding a goal, but Erica Field and Kate Sheehan replied with two Cobh points.

Megan O'Regan extended the lead before Erica Field pointed a 45, but a goal blitz before the

break proved crucial for Enniskeane. Orla Cronin sent a free all the way to the net before Julie Ann Hayes added their fourth goal to leave them comfortable at the half-time whistle.

Cobh applied a lot of pressure from the start of the second half but the Enniskeane defence held firm. Erica Field converted a 45 before Julie Ann Hayes and Megan Foley swapped goals.

As the game entered the final quartet Enniskeane began to regain their grip on proceedings and firing over four points in a row they responded to the Cobh challenge. Rochelle Scannell and Kate Rohan swapped goal as Cobh battled to the finish but it was a bridge too far. Erica Field converted a free before the full-time whistle but Enniskeane had done enough to ensure the title was secured.

Orla Cronin was named as player of the match and presented with a memento by chairperson

Marion McCarthy, whilst the trophy in memory of the late Shirley Murphy was presented to the winning Enniskeane captain, Kate McCarthy, by Shirley's aunt Sheila Golden, secretary, Cork Camogie Board.

Enniskeane: C White; A O'Driscoll, D Carroll, L Glavin; K Scannell, K MacCarthy (c), A Crowley; S Curtin, A Everard; R Scannell, J Ann Hayes, M O'Regan; S O'Driscoll, O Duggan, O Cronin. Subs: S Duggan for O Duggan (h/t), K Scannell for S O'Driscoll (40), O Duggan for O Cronin (52), M O'Driscoll for A Crowley (48), S O'Driscoll for R Scannell (55).
Scorers: O Cronin 2-2 (1-1f), J A Hayes 2-1, M Foley, R Scannell 1-0 each, A Everard 0-2.

Cobh: N O'Sullivan; S McKeown, A Sheehan, E Moynihan; C McGrath, N Meaney, M Damery; L Van Wynen, A Higgins; E Sprigg, M Foley, K Sheehan; N Sawani, E Field, K Rohan. Sub: K Quinlan for N Sawani (40).
Scorers: E Field 0-4 (0-3f 0-1 45), K Rohan 1-0, K Sheehan 0-1.

Big ask for Scariff-Ogonnelloe

**Sports Editor
Seamus Hayes**

KILCORMAC, outside Birr, is the venue for Sunday's All-Ireland intermediate camogie championship final in which Clare and Munster champions Scariff-Ogonnelloe will take on the reigning All-Ireland title holders, Myshall from Carlow at 2pm.

Clare clubs have been in the latter stages of this competition in recent years with Inagh capturing the title two years ago. Truagh lost out to Myshall last year having earlier beaten Scariff-Ogonnelloe in the Clare final.

Girls have a battle on their hands

FOR a small amalgamation from East Clare, reaching an All-Ireland camogie final is the stuff of dreams. Scariff-Ogonnelloe face Myshall of County Carlow on Sunday and they won't be found wanting in commitment to topple the reigning champions.

"It's a huge achievement to get to this stage of the competition. Myshall are strong but we will focus on our own game," said the Clare side's captain, Regina O'Brien. "It's 50-50 and, hopefully, we can keep the winning run going."

"We are going well this year; the girls are working very hard and everything is going right for us."



"There is great colour throughout Scariff and Ogonnelloe and we are getting great support. I can only imagine what celebrations will be like if we can manage to win the final," said Regina.

"We are a tight group and we have all played together up along so there is a great bond there," she added.

According to Susan Vaughan, it was devastating to lose to Truagh by a point in last year's Clare final.

There is no doubt but that the Carlow club will carry the favourites tag into Sunday's final. They have the majority of last year's title winning side available again and that experience could well prove vital.

The Mike Rodgers trained Scariff-Ogonnelloe side has improved with each outing and their supporters will travel to the Offaly venue, quietly confident that they can dethrone the Leinster club.

In the Nollans, Mairéad Doyle, Ciara Mullins, Katherine Foley and Ciara Quirke, the title-holders have experience and strong players to fill key positions.

The Clare side will be looking to Marian O'Brien, Susan Vaughan, Danielle

Sheedy, Gina O'Brien (team captain) and Mairead Scanlon to give them an edge.

It's a huge task for the Clare standard bearers but their form to date suggests that they can trouble the champions. It won't be easy but Mike Rodgers and his backroom team have put the players through a tough training programme in recent weeks.

A big East Clare following will make the journey to the Midland venue for the final, hoping to see the Clare girls end the season on a high.

Members of the Scariff/Ogonnelloe panel are Aisling Corbett, Sarah Daly, Gina O'Brien, Leanne Horan, Sarah Madden, Marian O'Brien, Shannon Mc-

Namara, Susan Vaughan, Helen Mooney, Ellen Collins, Danielle Sheedy, Mairead Scanlon, Sarah O'Donnell, Aileen Thornton, Rachel Maloney, Ashley Minogue, Mairead Vaughan, Róisín O'Brien, Laura Nugent, Caoimhe Gorman, Ciara McGill, Kathy Madden, Kealy Power, Trudy McGonigle, Eleanor Minogue, Keli Nugent, Dervla Nash and Maeve Kavanagh.

Path to the Final

Clare championship

Scariff-Ogonnelloe 2-8 Éire Óg 2-5;
Scariff-Ogonnelloe 4-22 Wolfe Tones 0-2;
Scariff-Ogonnelloe 7-10 Clarecastle 2-3.

Semi-final: Scariff-Ogonnelloe 1-13

Whitegate 0-2.

Final: Scariff-Ogonnelloe 3-15 Clarecastle 2-6.

Munster Championship

Semi-final: Scariff-Ogonnelloe, Clare 2-11 Clannaurice, Kerry 1-8

Final: Scariff-Ogonnelloe, Clare 2-16 Butlerstown, Waterford 0-8.

All-Ireland Championship

Quarter-final: Scariff-Ogonnelloe Clare 0-8 Tara, London 0-4

Semi-final: Scariff-Ogonnelloe, Clare 1-17 St John's, Belfast 0-8.



■ (Above) Scariff-Ogonnelloe after winning the Munster Junior Club Championship final. ■ (Left) Scariff-Ogonnelloe captain Gina O'Brien with the Fr. Liam Murray Cup after winning the Intermediate Camogie Championship Final against Clarecastle.

Team doing better than expected

SCARIFF-Ogonnelloe were hell bent on winning the Clare intermediate camogie championship in 2013 but they have done ever better than expected.

"Last year we lost the league final and then the championship final by a point to Truagh. The structure in Clare is that teams play the league until May and then take a break for a few months. We are looking at two championships really and our ultimate goal was to win both", Michael Rodgers said.

The Scariff-Ogonnelloe club was formed just two years ago, as both clubs were dis-

ers moving on. Four of last year's team retired and we replaced them with minors. The formation of the one club was down to a lack of numbers. It was a natural progression," Mike explained.

The manager is delighted with the team's progress since winning the Clare title. "After winning in Clare we had a difficult assignment against the Kerry representatives and we were lucky to get out of it with a win. Then we had the Munster final against Butlerstown and we didn't know what to expect. It was a surreal weekend as the winners were out again the follow-

ing last three Leinster titles and they are the reigning All-Ireland champions.

"One of the most difficult things is to get consistency and we have been very consistent in our performances to date", according to Rodgers.

According to selector, Eleanor Walsh the first weekend in October was always a focus as it was the date for the Clare final.

"Being honest I would say that we didn't expect to be still playing at the end of November."

"There is great excitement about. This

A marriage with benefits

A DECADE ago, Scariff and Ogonnelloe joined ranks for underage hurling simply because neither club had the numbers to compete and were in a perennial battle for survival.

Such an amalgamation was a precursor for what was to follow on the camogie front. Two years ago, both Scariff and Ogonnelloe disbanded their respective clubs and teamed up under the one umbrella. It has been a successful marriage, one with benefits as the team faces at All-Ireland club final on Sunday.

Scariff GAA Club chairman, Dan Treacy explains that amalgamations are inevitable and a thing of the future.

"A lot of the same families are involved, it's a real community thing as many of the girls have brothers playing hurling. It's important that we must work together. Both codes are all the better for it when working together," he said.

Preparing to support the Scariff-Ogonnelloe U-15 hurlers in their championship final replay, he said, "When young fellas get hurling together at a young age, there is no 'them and us', it's all together and the camogie club have also shown that. When numbers are an issue that dictates that they must work together and the camogie club is a prime example of that success. In the under 15 competition, neither club on their own would find it possible to field a team. It works on and off the field with people working together and there are a lot of benefits from that."

"Having a team in this All-Ireland final is huge for both parishes. The excitement has been building up in the last few days in particular. It's all people want to talk about when they meet. Great credit is due to the girls and all involved. They have worked really, really hard and they are getting their just rewards now. All-Ireland don't come easy, once in a lifetime for most," the Scariff chairman said.

Pat Gavin, secretary of Ogonnelloe GAA club, said in reaching an All-Ireland final, a first for both clubs, they have stolen the limelight at a time when hurling is down a bit in both parishes.

"The times and a shortage of numbers forced this. In underage hurling the clubs have been together for nearly 10 years. The GAA clubs have supported the decision to amalgamate the camogie clubs. There were huge numbers in Ashbourne last week for the semi-final. A win would be the icing on the cake for East Clare in a great year for the county," he said.

"It might be no harm to put pressure on the boys. They might learn from the commitment the girls have shown."

According to Scariff-Ogonnelloe Camogie Club chairman, John Moloney, the decision to form the one club has "been a great success and we have won a trophy at every grade this year. The girls are getting on superbly, mentors and officers also and fundraising has improved. It is now fashionable to be a camogie player. Camogie in Clare is doing well also."

He went on to point out that Scariff school won four trophies last year. Earlier this year, the local community games team won the All-Ireland title.

"Throughout the parish we have great support and everybody will help. A win

Nov. 2013

"We saw how they did in Munster and we are keen to emulate that. It's been a great journey so far. We didn't have time to celebrate our Munster

banded to form the one.

"It was a huge step for us but it was necessary due to falling numbers. Over the last four years we have had a lot of play-

ing day in the All-Ireland quarter final against Tara from London".

Rodgers said the East Clare club is up against it on Sunday. Myshall have won

highlights the importance of the club. It permeates everything. People stop you on the street to talk about the final. They are really supporting the team," she said.

would be an amazing achievement for all. The players have worked very hard and Ogonnellloe and Scariff GAA clubs have helped greatly. They have pulled out all the stops to get everything ready for the girls," according to John.

2013 Scariff- Ogonnellloe panel



Ellen Collins



Ashling Corbett



Sarah Daly



Leanne Horan



Maeve Kavanagh



Cathy Madden



Sarah Madden



Rachel Maloney



Ciara McGill



Trudy McGonigle



Shannon McNamara



Ashley Minogue



Eleanor Minogue



Helen Mooney



Dervla Nash



Kelli Nugent



Laura Nugent



Gina O'Brien
Captain



Marian O'Brien



Róisín O'Brien



Sarah O'Donnell



Caoimhe O'Gorman



Kealy Power



Mairéad Scanlon



Danielle Sheedy



Aileen Thornton



Mairéad Vaughan



Susan Vaughan



Mike Rodgers
Manager



Eleanor Walsh
Selector



John Maloney
Chairperson

Milford ace full of praise for her side



PETER McNAMARA

CAMOGIE

SHE has assumed the role of feared attacking assassin around the province but newly-crowned Reardens Camogie Player of the Year Marie O'Neill of Milford is one of the most grounded characters you could meet in the game.

Earlier this month, for instance, O'Neill registered 0-7 in open play in what was far from your run-of-the-mill club outing.

The 26-year-old Sports Studies, Physical Education and History UCC student, presently studying her second degree course, tallied such a magnificent scoring output in none other than the Munster Club Senior Camogie Championship final as Milford retained the Thomáis Mhic Donncha Cup defeating Granagh/Ballingarry of Limerick.

Yet, of course, that return is merely the tip of the seasonal iceberg thus far as O'Neill's scoring exploits this term have been phenomenal and, understandably, well-documented – the corner-forward contributed 7-20, in open play, of Milford's 18-75 totalled during the course of their successful defence of the *Evening Echo*-sponsored Cork Senior Club Camogie Championship.

Amid the euphoria that followed her name being revealed as the Leeside camogie club MVP for 2013, and in the most humble of manners, O'Neill was more interested in recognising the contributions of her teammates in her role instead.

"When I think about my role in every match it is just that of somebody that will hopefully produce the end-product in games," O'Neill stressed. "From, as far back as Rebecca Finn in goals the actual work is done all the way up the field.



Fergal Ryan of Britvic presents Marie O'Neill of Milford with the Reardens Camogie Player of the Year award for 2013.

Picture: Brian Loughheed

"The quality of possession I get then from the players outside me is second to none.

"All I do really is get it. Finish it. Job done. Or at least that is always the plan."

Milford are not only the back-to-back Leeside and Munster champions but in the new year the club from the areas of Kilbolane, Doony and Scart predominately in north Cork will be preparing to also defend the All-Ireland title.

The club has made incredible strides in recent times especially but even though O'Neill appreciates the scale of the task in front of Milford in 2014 she has every faith in what the attacker regards as an "exceptional" group of comrades.

"I genuinely feel we are a very talented group. Obviously I hope no team can beat us but we are certainly not unbeatable by any means and definitely wouldn't view ourselves in that

light.

"There is no doubting though that it is a very special group, an exceptional group of players actually.

"When you think about it though we had lost three county finals previously and only won two.

"The heartbreak we felt in losing the 2011 county final to Douglas was tough to take because we didn't play to our full potential on the day itself.

"You know what though a lot of it has to do with management as well.

"Last year we had Frankie Flannery and this year we have James McGrath.

"And we are very lucky to have such talented people involved with the side," she opined.

After Milford, who toppled Ballincollig comprehensively in the decider this year, overcame St Catherine's in the Cork Sen-

ior Club Camogie Championship final of 2012 there was bound to be an element of stepping into the unknown in terms of taking on the best of the rest in Munster.

However, according to O'Neill, there is no better preparation for a tilt at provincial honours than tackling their Leeside counterparts.

"I don't think we had to raise our standards at all because, in my opinion, there is no harder championship to win than the Cork championship.

"I think any team that comes out of Cork could look very good in the Munster and All-Ireland championships no matter what type of team they are.

"We were probably even more focused in Munster this year, though.

"We probably knew how to go about our business this year as there was no surprise factor whatsoever," she added.

O'Neill explains her inter-county absence

PEOPLE across Leeside will wonder why Milford's Marie O'Neill is not featuring on Cork's senior camogie outfit given she has just been recognised as the Reardens Camogie Player of the Year. Yet, the lethal attacker has revealed she turned down the opportunity at the halfway point in the season last year to link-up with the inter-county unit as the circumstances

would not have sat well with the player.

"I got asked in June of last year to join the Cork team but, personally, I just wouldn't have liked to have joined any panel in June of a season," O'Neill explains. "It wouldn't have been right for me to join in June because of the possibility of some other player that has trained with the side since the previous November missing

out or being dropped.

"And that's exactly what I told them. I just think it was too late to be asked anyway to be honest.

"Things just haven't fallen into place in that regard. Milford is a full-time commitment anyway as I am out with the club three, four times a week." However, were Milford to retain their national title in 2014 such commitment will

have been worth the effort.

They tackle Eoghan Rua, Cúil Raithin of Derry in the All-Ireland semi-final.

"Northern teams can be very physical but hopefully, with eight weeks of training done, we will have enough hurling to win.

"We might be expected to win but we wouldn't consider ourselves as favourites either though," O'Neill added.

Buckley (Cork): On November 26, 2013, peacefully, at the Cork University Hospital, CHIRISSIE (nee O'Leary), Dublin Street, Blackpool (President of Glen Rovers Camogie Club) and beloved mother of Padraig. Sadly missed by her loving son, relatives and friends. Reposing at O'Connor Bros Funeral Home, North Gate Bridge. Removal on this (Thursday) evening at 7pm to the Church of the Annunciation, Blackpool. Requiem Mass at 12 noon on tomorrow (Friday). Funeral afterwards to Old Kilcully Cemetery. Requiescat in pace www.oconnorfunerals.com

Nov. 2013

End of road for Scariff/Ogonnelloe

Myshall (Carlow) 3-09 - Scariff/Ogonnelloe 0-08

at Kilkenny, County Offaly

Eoin Brennan
ebrennan@clarepeople.ie

EXPERIENCE eventually told as perennial trophy collectors Myshall made it back-to-back All-Ireland Junior victories on Sunday. In doing so, the defending champions inflicted a first defeat in 14 games on Clare and Munster champions Scariff/Ogonnelloe who had garnered four major trophies during that remarkable run.

Of course, experience is perhaps an overly used sporting term but in Myshall's case, it cannot be argued with as their unbeaten season saw the Carlow club secure their 14th successive county senior title, a three-in-a-row of Leinster crowns and of course on Sunday, a second All-Ireland.

Such winning know-how was arguably most epitomised by scorer-in-chief Ciara Quirke who raided for 2-7 on Sunday. Still only 18, the lively forward has already amassed five county senior, four provincial and two All-Ireland titles. And while hugely impressive, that haul pales in significance when compared to her mother Nuala who lined out at corner-back as this year she collected her 30th county senior championship medal.

That understanding was prevalent throughout the Myshall side though as they expertly crowded out Scariff/Ogonnelloe by hunting in packs and never allowing them to reach the heights of previous displays.

Having got their noses in front by half-time, the Carlow side simply filtered everyone back to aid the defence as they brought the 'blanket defence' to a whole new level. More a 'duvet defence' tactic than that was to prove successful as the sheer number of bodies made it virtually impossible for Scariff/Ogonnelloe to break through and as they became more frustrated and desperate, Myshall cleverly pounced on the counter-attack to reap the decisive scores.

It must be said though that the final scoreline did in no way reflect what was a tense, evenly matched final throughout, with only a puck of a ball between the sides for over 54 minutes of the hour. Indeed, as the game drifted into additional time, only three points separated the sides but as Scariff/Ogonnelloe understandably went for broke up front, there was always the gamble that it would leave holes at the back. And so it proved as Ciara Quirke ruthlessly inspired an injury-time haul of 2-1 to ultimately skew the final margin in the Carlow side's favour.

In a very competitive opening quarter, the heavyweights went point for point with Mairead Scanlon finally finding her range to cancel out Ciara Mullins' opening point in the eighth minute before Roisin O'Brien did likewise when Ciara Quirke converted an 11th minute free. Indeed, O'Brien might have even gone for goal as she collected a pass from Danielle Sheedy and took on Myshall's last line but elected for an equalising point.



O'Brien then returned the compliment for Sheedy two minutes later as the Clare Intermediate champions hit the front for the first time, with county senior Susan Vaughan also beginning to exert some dominance around the centre.

Scariff/Ogonnelloe's luck appeared to be in as Quirke missed a free in the next passage of play before goal-keeper Aisling Corbett produced an outstanding reflex save to deny the raiding Ali Ruschitzko in the 18th minute. Quirke did convert the resulting '45 though and while she passed up a goal opportunity soon after-

wards, the teenage star would grab another point before the break as Scariff/Ogonnelloe found it increasingly difficult to bypass Myshall's superb half back line of Nolan's, Kate, Breege and centre-back Michelle. In addition, the free count was mounting for Scariff/Ogonnelloe who got little change out of referee Ray Kelly and right on the stroke of half-time, Olivia Maye added another point to hand the holders a 0-5 to 0-3 half-time advantage.

Scariff/Ogonnelloe, backed by a large support, emerged with renewed determination for the resumption

and quickly reduced the arrears to the minimum when a foul on Susan Vaughan was converted by Scanlon from 45 metres in the 35th minute.

Myshall quickly closed up shop however, bringing all but two forwards back into their own half, and such congestion soon halted Scariff/Ogonnelloe's flow as every forward was surrounded by three or four Carlow players.

Myshall's support play and understanding was also crucial however as they broke in numbers, and with scoring sensation Quirke their main outlet, she would revel in the space to

hit back with a 38th minute point.

As Scariff/Ogonnelloe fought valiantly but predominantly in vain up front, Myshall continued to issue warning signs at the other end with Ali Ruschitzko again threatening before Olivia Jordan flicked an effort just wide of the post.

Myshall's breakthrough finally came in the 46th minute though, inevitably through Quirke who cut in from the right wing to unleash an unstoppable effort into the top right corner of the net.

In such a low scoring encounter, it was game over one felt but credit Scariff/Ogonnelloe for refusing to lower their heads as they hit back immediately with Mairead Scanlon's effort from distance being tipped over the bar at 1-6 to 0-5.

Myshall were not about to loosen their grip on the game however and in an almost farcical example in the 50th minute, a Mairead Scanlon free from 60 metres was faced by 14 Myshall players, all within 20 metres of their own goal.

Inevitably there was no way through but it didn't deter Scariff/Ogonnelloe who twice traded points with their opponents thanks to Scanlon and Sheedy from distance before the former cut the deficit to just three with a 61st minute '45.

By this stage, Scariff/Ogonnelloe had pushed centre-back Marian O'Brien into the attack in search of that elusive equalising goal but just as hopes rose, Myshall finally slammed the door shut from the puck-out as Ruschitzko fed Ciara Quirke for their second goal.

It proved to be the final nail in Scariff/Ogonnelloe's coffin as Olivia Jordan added another goal while fittingly Quirke finished the scoring in the third minute of additional time with a final single.

The scoreline has harsh on Scariff/Ogonnelloe but a real lesson in result grinding and tactics that after such a successful season, they can only learn from and adapt for senior level next year.

Myshall

Joanne Joyce; Nuala Quirke; Mairead Doyle; Fiona Jordan; Breege Nolan; Michelle Nolan; Kate Nolan; Ciara Mullins (0-1); Tara Wilson; Marian Doyle; Katherine Foley; Olivia Jordan (1-0); Ali Ruschitzko; Olivia Maye (0-1); Ciara Quirke (2-7 2f, 1'45); Subs Pamela Whelan for Maye (58 mins); Patricia Stacey for Doyle (64 mins)

Scariff/Ogonnelloe

Aisling Corbett; Sarah Daly; Regina O'Brien; Leanne Horan; Mairead Vaughan; Marian O'Brien; Shannon McIlmurray; Susan Vaughan; Sarah Madden; Rachel Moloney; Danielle Sheedy (0-2); Mairead Scanlon (0-5 2f, 1'45); Sarah O'Donnell; Aileen Thornton; Roisin O'Brien (0-1) Sub Ashley Minogue for Thornton (54 mins)

Player of the Game

Ciara Quirke (Myshall)

Referee

Ray Kelly (Kilkenny)

Above: The Scariff/Ogonnelloe panel; Left: Susan Vaughan, Scariff/Ogonnelloe, attempts to get away from Kate Nolan, Myshall.

Caroline Quinn





Glen Rovers, winners of the Evening Echo Minor A County Championship and League titles.

Hosford rules the roost for Rovers

Glen Rovers 0-8
Cloughduv 0-5

CAMOGIE

By Mary Newman

GLEN ROVERS retained their Evening Echo Minor A championship title in Castle Road on Saturday last when they had three points to spare over Cloughduv to complete the double.

In a close encounter both defences were on top and it was reflected on the scoreboard through the opening half as neither attacker could get a break and stamp their mark on proceedings.

Glen Rovers enjoyed a lot of opening-half possession but failed to take advantage as the Cloughduv defence closed them down and made life difficult. Niamh McCarthy, Aisling Kelleher and Aileen Corkery were impressive as Cloughduv held their lines.

The Glen defence were also under a lot of pressure but they were also equal to the challenge. Eimear

Foley, Shauna Goggin and Hazel Duggan stood their ground while the excellent Lauren Callanan at centre-back was dominant.

Micheala Hyde gave the Glen the lead with a point from play and the same player pointed a free to stretch the Glen lead to two points. Battling hard to extend their lead, the city side could find no way through and it remained so until four minutes to the interval when Megan Buckley pointed to open the Cloughduv account to leave it 0-2 to 0-1 in their favour at the break.

From the restart the holders dug deep and applying huge pressure on the Cloughduv defence, they drove forward, with Jennifer Hosford leading the way at midfield.

Hyde pointed a free before Hosford struck a long-range effort between the posts as the Glen Rovers girls began to pull away.

Now four points clear they applied pressure far more, but Cloughduv defence rallied and with Máiréad Corkery and Orlaith O'Driscoll working hard for them they battled for every ball.

Becky Hennigan pointed a 45 but Kelly Fitzgerald responded taking on the Cloughduv defence and hitting a point to restore her side's four-point advantage.

Cloughduv replied with Becky Hennigan pointing a free, but the Glen were solid at the back and were now well on top, clearing their lines confidently, but still they could not pull away.

Time and again the Cloughduv defence cleared their lines but with the Glen keeping the pressure on they won a 45. Hyde again showed her accuracy sending it straight between the posts and again four points separated them.

Then Hennigan converted to cut the gap. Aisling Wallace replied but Hennigan again pointed and now with just three points in it Cloughduv gave a final push.

It wasn't to be as the Glen defence showed they were not going to be denied with Kelly Falvey, Niamh Gowen and keeper Kaylynn Lee helping them stand firm to take the title and seal victory and add the minor title to their Evening Echo Senior B championship and league double.

Glen Rovers' Jennifer Hosford was named as Player of the Match after an inspirational display at midfield and she was presented with a memento by Sheila Golden, secretary of Cork Camogie Board.

Scorers for Glen Rovers: M Hyde 0-5 (0-3 f, 0-1 45), J Hosford, K Fitzgerald, A Wallace 0-1 each.

Cloughduv: B Hennigan 0-4 (0-3 f, 0-1 45), M Walsh 0-1.

GLEN ROVERS: K Lee (c); H Duggan, K Falvey, E Foley; N Gowen, L Callanan, S Goggin; J Hosford, K Fitzgerald; A Wallace, M Hyde, L Hickey, S Riordan, O Harrington, L Hickey.

Sub: C Noonan for O Harrington (47).

CLOUGHDUV: Y Burgoyne; N McCarthy, A Kelleher, A Corkery; D Ahern, O O'Driscoll, C Byrne; B Hennigan (c); M Corkery; M Buckley, N O'Leary, E Clifford; M Walsh, R Hurley AM Ryan.

Subs: C O'Leary for R Hurley, A Crowley for E Clifford.

Referee: Walter Cole (Buttevant).

DUNGOURNEY

OUR annual Christmas bazaar is on tomorrow in Dungourney school hall, starting at 2pm.

Wheel of Fortune (lots of prizes), books, home baking and bric a brac and lots more. Special guest: Santa. A fantastic day out guaranteed and all are welcome.

GLEN ROVERS

Last Saturday will go down as one of the best days in our club's history as we made it back-to-back minor A championship titles as we overcame Cloughduv in a low scoring final in Castle Road.

Weather conditions were ideal for this time of year and the superb condition of camogie headquarters ensured everything was spot on. From the start we tore into the game but found it hard to get on the scoreboard while it was a similar story for our opponents as our defence stood firm.

Michaela Hyde broke the dead-

lock with two points but before the break Cloughduv replied and it was 0-2 to 0-1 in our favour at half time.

Again in the second half we won huge possession but found it hard to convert it to scores but we kept ahead with Hyde Jennifer Hosford Aisling Wallace and Kelly Fitzgerald on target.

Cloughduv threw everything they had at our defence but we held firm and were not going to be denied with captain Kaylynn Lee in goal marshalling her defence of Hazel Duggan, Kelly Falvey and Eimear Foley in the full-back line, Lauren Callanan and her wing backs Niamh Gowen and Shauna Goggin never allowed their players any leeway.

A wonderful team display ensur-

ing back to back titles and a league and championship double to add to our senior B championship and league double in what has been a great season for us. Well done to the team and their mentors who ensured no stones were left unturned in the campaign to retain the title.

Thanks also to the parents and our wonderful supporters from all sections of the club who once again turned out in numbers to support us they have been superb all year and we say a big thanks to all.

VICTORY DINNER DANCE

Our Victory Dinner Dance to celebrate our double / double is it Sat Jan 4th so a reminder to book your tickets within the next week as we want to get them collected

before the Christmas Break indications are that we can again expect a huge crowd so it is important to book tickets now. **BAG PACK:** A reminder that our Christmas bag pack is on Fri December 7/8.

Anybody who has not put down their availability please team mentors know ASAP.

PASSING OF OUR PRESIDENT: It was with great sadness that we learned of the death of our esteemed president Chrissie Buckley on Tuesday last. Chrissie the oldest resident of Blackpool was a member of our 1934 camogie team and was a great woman and a true Glen Rover's lady.

Born in the heart of Blackpool she was always in tune with everything that happened in the

club and as last as last week was checking out the progress of our minor team in the semi final replay.

She was a joy to sit down and talk to as she told wonderful stories of the old days in Glen Rovers and the Sunbeam where she spent her working life. Chrissie's passing is the end of an era for our club and we extend our condolences to her son Padraig relatives and great friends of whom she had so many.

It was wonderful to see so many present and former players turn out at her removal and funeral to pay tribute to her and acknowledge the wonderful legacy Chrissie and her team mates passed down to us. We had representatives from every era from the 1940s down to young U11 players present and we thanks the girls and their parents for the wonderful turnout.

Nov. 2013

Walsh is toast of Timoleague



Kilbrittain/
Timoleague,
U16 A County
Championship
winners.

Kilbrittain/Timoleague 1-9
Sarsfields 2-5

CAMOGIE

By Mary Newman

KILBRITTAIN/TIMOLEAGUE captured the U16 A county championship title as they overcame league champions Sars in tight encounter at Castle Road.

Over the hour both sides enjoyed periods of dominance but in the finish a vital goal decided the issue and it was Kilbrittain/Timoleague's Caitlyn Walsh, who was the toast of her club with her late green flag sealing victory for her side.

It was a thrilling contest as both sides battled to gain control and little if anything separated them over the hour, until the final 10 minutes.

Kilbrittain settled quickly into the game and with Sarah Burke and Michaela Holland prominent, they went into a two-point lead before Sarsfields settled.

It was 15 minutes into the contest before Sars had their first score, Michelle Barry pointing a free.

Ten minutes later she converted a second free before Hollie Herlihy edged Sarsfields in front with a point from play.

Yet as play swung from end to end Kilbrittain/Timoleague kept in touch and never allowed Sars any leeway.

Herlihy was instrumental in Sarsfields' opening goal, taking on the Kilbrittain defence before parting to Emma Casey, who made no mistake in finding the net with a powerful shot.

Sars finished the half stronger and they led 1-3 to 0-4 at the break.

The second half was tight from the restart and with the strong Kilbrittain defence closing down the threat of Sarsfields' forwards,

scores were hard to come by.

It was nip and tuck as the sides exchanged points. Sarah Burke, Michaela Holland and Aine Crowley were prominent up front for Kilbrittain while Sarsfields were driving forward with Lucy Kelly, Michele Barry and Holly Herlihy working hard.

With five minutes remaining it was level pegging and still all to play for. Sars brought their goalkeeper Chloe Casey out of goal in search of a winner, and almost immediately she was involved in the action as she set up Michelle Barry for a goal that looked as if it would decide the game.

Now a goal ahead, Sarsfields needed to batten down the hatches, but Kilbrittain held their nerve and replied with Sarah Burke pointing a free to leave two points between them.

As the tension and excitement continued and play swung from end to end both defences were under huge pressure.

Kilbrittain battled for and won possession. Caitlyn Walsh sent a

lobbed ball into the square where it deceived the Sars defence and ended up in the back of the net.

Showing tremendous determination, Sars attacked from the puck-out and laid siege to the Kilbrittain goal in search of an equaliser, but they failed to grab it as it went wide.

Kilbrittain worked tirelessly over the hour in quest of victory and were rewarded.

Sarah Burke was named as Player of the Match and presented with a memento by Tracy Sheehan, secretary of the juvenile camogie board.

Scorers for Kilbrittain/Timoleague: S Burke 0-7, C Walsh 1-0, M Holland, A Crowley 0-1 each.

Sarsfields: M Barry 1-3 (0-2 f), E Casey 1-0, H Herlihy, L Kelly 0-1 each.

KILBRITTAIN/TIMOLEAGUE: S Butler; E Harte, E O'Neill, K Sexton; Dineen, C Guivenan, C Walsh; O Fahey, A Crowley (c); N Butler, K Wall, A Burke; S O'Donovan, A O'Sullivan, M Holland.

SARSFIELDS: C Casey; J Lyons, L Caserly, A Turpin; R Kelleher, K Barry, K Lyons; M McCarthy, M Barry; C O'Sullivan, E Casey, H Herlihy; S Costello, M Mullins, L Kelly.

Sub: J Murphy for S Costello.

Ballincollig lift plate after narrow win

Ballincollig 2-9
Newtownshandrum 3-5

THE JUNIOR B plate competition for clubs who didn't qualify from their respective sections of the championship round-robin series of games proved most competitive as Ballincollig and Newtownshandrum battled it out for the title recently.

The game, played on 14-a-side basis, was of a high standard and credit to both sides who put in huge effort.

Newtownshandrum led at the interval by a point. Rebecca Sheehy's two first-half goals helped settle them into the game and put them in the driving seat.

Mia Cronin and Lauren Cooper hit two

CAMOGIE

By Mary Newman

points each for Ballincollig while Orla Ni Chathasaigh added one, as they stayed in touch with their opponents.

Kara Clifford added three points to the Newtownshandrum tally but Ballincollig upped the pace and two Emma Donovan goals ensured

it remained close.

Cronin added to her tally with three Ballincollig points, as Lauren Cooper struck one.

Judy Dunne had a second-half goal for Newtown but it was Ballincollig who took the title after an exciting contest between two committed sides.

Scorers for Ballincollig: E Donovan 2-0, M Cronin 0-5, L

Cooper 0-3 f, O Ni Chathasaigh 0-1.

Newtownshandrum: R Sheehy 2-0, K Clifford 0-3, J Dunne 1-0.

BALLINCOLLIG: L Doyle; J Cotter, L Weste, K Green; R Nevin, C Irish; M Cronin, C Ni Chathasaigh; M O'Dwyer, O Jennings (c), J Dineen; O Ni Chathasaigh, L Cooper, E Donovan.

Subs: F Ryan for J Dineen, J Dineen for M O'Dwyer.

NEWTOWNSHANDRUM: A Ryan; C Herlihy, M Doyle, S Cagney; C O'Sullivan, A Doyle, N Haws; S Curtin, E Coughlan; C Griffin, D O'Flynn, K Clifford; R Sheehy, Judy D.

Camogie stars receive medals in Rochestown



ABOVE: Ken, Jeanette, Ciara and Roy Keating, St Finbarr's Hurling and Football Club.

Picture: Jim Coughlan



At the Cork Camogie Medal Presentation Night: Christina O'Regan, Taryn Lynch, Mary Newman, Marian McCarthy, Sheila Golden, Tracey Sheehan and Mary McSweeney, members of the Cork County Camogie Board with some of the silverware won during the year at the Rochestown Park Hotel.

Picture: Jim Coughlan



Photo Gallery:
You can see more photographs at
www.photosales.eecho.ie

Anthony and Therese Nagle, Blackrock.



Ber, John and Aoife McCarthy, Youghal Camogie Club.

Picture: Jim Coughlan



Siobhan and Marie Dineen, Barryroe Camogie Club with Raina, Chloe and Tara Landers, Youghal Camogie Club.

Picture: Jim Coughlan



ABOVE: Kevin, Katie and Trish Crowley, St. Finbarr's Hurling & Football Club.

Picture: Jim Coughlan



Emma, Joe and Ciara Buckley, Na Piaras Camogie and Ladies Football Club.



Sarah Burke, Kilbriann, Aoibhinn Kidney, Tracton and Corie Butler, Ballinhassig Camogie Club.



RIGHT: Frances, Sean, Niamh, Roisin and John Killeen, Ballyhea.

Nov. 2013

In brief O'Flynn presents medals

FORMER national president Joan O'Flynn, in one of her first official functions as Ard Stiúrthóir of Cumann Camogíochta Na NGaeil, had the honour of presenting the National League and Munster medals to the Cork senior team and the All-Ireland U16 B winner's medals to Cork. Guests at the function included Marie Kearney, Munster Council and vice president of the camogie association, Former Board president Kay Dunne, Tracy Sheehan secretary juvenile camogie board, GPC members Lillian Zinkant, Christina O'Regan and county board officers Mary Mc Sweeney, Taryn Lynch and Sheila Golden.

Happy deal

IN THEIR first year as Cork sponsors Barry's of Mallow have enjoyed success with three national trophies winding their way Leeside and for 2014 all the Cork camogie teams will again be sporting the Costcutter logo on their playing and off-the-field gear — Liz Walsh representing Barry's at the function expressed great satisfaction at the county's success in 2013.

Celebrations

IT WAS a night of glamour and glitz as the underage and senior players mixed and enjoyed the occasion in the company of families and friends, for many of the U16 team it was their first taste of inter county victory celebrations and all were out in force to enjoy the occasion. Whilst a lot of the senior side were unavoidably absent due to work and holiday commitments several parents represented their daughters amongst them, Brigid and John Cotter, representing daughter Orla, and Mary Mackey, representing her twins Katrina and Pamela. Both parents proudly stepped forward for the medal presentations on what was a wonderful occasion for Cork camogie.



Members of the Cork senior camogie team, National League and Munster Championship winners, at the Camogie Board's medal presentation at Rochestown Park Hotel. Included are Hazel O'Regan, Clonakilty, Denise Luby, Glen Rovers, Leanne O'Sullivan, Glen Rovers, Nicole O'Brien, Glen Rovers, Denise Cronin, Ballincollig, Anna Geary, Milford, Maria Walsh, Milford, Leah Weste, Ballincollig, Christine O'Neill, Courceys and Rena Buckley, Inniscarra. Picture: Mike English

Senior and underage players are lauded

CORK Camogie celebrated a successful season on the playing fields when they paid tribute to their National League and Munster senior championship and All-Ireland U16 B winning teams at a medal presentation dinner in the Rochestown Park Hotel on Friday evening last.

Despite losing out to Kilkenny at the semi-final stage of the senior All-Ireland series, the season was not all doom and gloom. They retained the National League title in impressive fashion with a victory over All-Ireland champions Wexford and then went on to take the Munster title as they ousted Clare in a tough contest.

Captain Anna Geary spoke on behalf of the team and thanked the management and selectors, under the guidance of manager Paudie Murray, for the work that went in during a busy season. She expressed disappointment

CAMOGIE

By Mary Newman

at the side not reaching the All-Ireland final but hopes that the season ahead will be brighter for the side.

Paying tribute to the county U16B team who were crowned All-Ireland champions Anna Geary said: "With the talent at our county's disposal, it won't be too long before most of you are pressing for places on the senior and intermediate panels and that augurs well for the future of camogie in Cork."

She also expressed the wish that 2014 will bring better days for the senior team and that hopefully they will go on to win the O'Duffy Cup.

Chairperson Marion McCarthy welcomed guests that included Joan O'Flynn recently appointed Ard Stiúrthóir of Cumann Camogíochta, Liz Walsh from the county's sponsors The

Barry Group, Mallow, senior manager Paudie Murray and Munster council's Marie Kearney.

Marion paid tribute to the teams who had worn the red and white during the season and paid tribute to the mentors and players who helped bring glory to Cork.

"In Cork we measure adult success by All-Ireland titles and I am sure if any other county were here tonight with the National Senior League and provincial crown to their credit, they would be thrilled. Yes we were disappointed not to have gone all the way and won the All-Ireland, but we are thrilled to have taken the National Senior League and Munster crown and I am sure that come 2014 we will be to the fore once again in our quest for the title."

She paid huge tribute to the U16B teams and their management also.

Joan O'Flynn spoke of her delight to be back on home territory and being invited to present the senior and U16

teams with their medals. She was full of praise for Cork and the manner in which they go about their business.

"Cork are always to the fore in everything you do and it is widely acknowledged that you are one of the association's strongest counties."

"You have enjoyed a great season at both adult and underage level and this can only give huge hope for the future."

"In my term as president I received great support from Cork and I now look forward to working closely with you in my new role as Ard Stiúrthóir."

She also paid tribute to Milford on winning the All-Ireland club title and wished them well as the aim to retain their title in February.

Joan O'Flynn presented the senior team with their league and provincial medals while Marion McCarthy made presentation to senior manager Paudie Murray and to Liz Walsh of Barry's and to Joan O'Flynn.

A GREAT night for the U16 B players and their parents as they celebrated their victory in the All-Ireland final over Waterford at the Cork camogie victory dinner at the Rochestown Park Hotel.

A large gathering of families and friends joined with the senior team as Joan O'Flynn presented the All-Ireland medals to captain Niamh O'Leary and her team-mates. They were joined by the team management of selectors Anthony Nagle, Ken Bullman, Frances Killeen and Marie Harty who gave

huge help to the selectors during a busy season looking after gear and making sure everything was as it should be for the mentors.

Manager Anthony Nagle spoke and expressed a huge thanks to each player for the manner in which they went about winning the title. He said the players worked tirelessly as did the management to bring a much needed All-Ireland title back to Cork.

"We knew it was not going to be easy, we met Waterford in the Munster final and were

defeated comprehensively, but from there on we knuckled down to it and never took the foot off the pedal. The players bought into the concept that if we worked hard we could reverse the Munster final result and win the All-Ireland and they gave it 100% as did the parents and clubs."

He went on to thank the county board for the help given to the team and mentors and to sponsors Barry's of Mallow who supported the team all the way.

"We got huge support in our campaign and

Marion and her team of officers ensured no stones were left unturned and as a result we reversed the Munster final result in the best possible place when we defeated Waterford in thrilling All-Ireland final."

Joan O'Flynn, in presenting the U16s with their All-Ireland medals, congratulated Cork on their achievement she had special words of praise for one of her own club's players Keelagh Cullinane from Fr O'Neill's, who she was very proud to present an All-Ireland medal to.

U16s celebrate a special night as they received All-Ireland medals

BALLINORA



Back Row L-R: Anna Walsh (Trainer), Gemma Hourihane, Fiona Eiton, Fiona McGrath, Aine McGrath, Maire Fitzgerald, Julie Cronin, Deirdre Hourihane, Louise Barrett, Celia Hourihane (Captain), Karen Lane, Aine Fitzgerald, Kate O'Shea, Emily Dwyer (Goalkeeper).
Front Row L-R: Jennifer Murphy, Jacqui Murphy, Jennifer Sweeney, Gillian Beasley, Niamh McCarthy, Aoife Mc Auliffe, Caoimhe O'Kello, Lauren Walsh, Abbey Murphy

Louise: Kingdom well placed

by Denis Hurley

While it was a year ultimately ending in defeat by Cork at the All-Ireland semi-final stage, 2013 was one of progress for Kerry ladies footballers.

Star attacker Louise Ni Mhuirheartaigh — who will be honoured on Saturday with the ladies football prize at the 2013 Bord Gáis Energy Munster GAA Awards — believes wins in the Munster championship and Division 2 of the NFL leave the Kingdom well placed ahead of 2014.

"It's a massive honour to win," she said. "You could have picked any of a number of Kerry players, so I'm delighted to have been chosen, it was a good year for us. It was disappointing not to have got to Croke Park as we wanted to do that after getting to

Munster GAA Awards

the 2012 final but winning silverware was a dream come true. There's a lot to look forward to for next year."

Ni Mhuirheartaigh starred as Kerry twice beat Cork in the provincial championship — scoring six points in the final — and only on Sunday the final year PE and Irish student in UCC scored nine points as Na Gaeil claimed the All-Ireland Club ladies JFC title with a win against Edinburgh side Dunedin Connollys.

"It was great to end the year like that," she said. "We got a Garda escort coming back and a lot of people were out to see us, it was a great occasion."

Two other recipients at Saturday night's gala ceremony in the Malton

Hotel in Killarney will be Michelle Casey and Colin Crehan.

Limerick ace Casey is the camogie winner after she captained her county to victory in the All-Ireland intermediate championship.

Clare's Crehan, meanwhile, is the current minor singles and double All-Ireland champion in handball.

Ger Cunningham, sports ambassador with sponsors Bord Gáis Energy, hailed all three winners.

"Michelle Casey has led Limerick with distinction this year as a rock at centre-back," he said, "while Kerry All-Star Louise Ni Mhuirheartaigh was in devastating form when the Kingdom won their first Munster Championship in a decade."

Munster GAA Chairman Robert Frost echoed those comments.



Michelle Casey and Colin Crehan: Award winners.



Members of the Cork Under 16 Camogie team, winners of the All Ireland 'B' Championship, photographed at the Cork Camogie Board's medal presentation function at Rochestown Park Hotel. Picture: Mike English.

DEC. 2014

Kilbrittan shade final by slim margin

Kilbrittan/Timoleague
Douglas

2-11
2-10

Kilbrittan/Timoleague Senior B team took on Douglas in the final of the senior summer cup which was delayed due to their involvement in the under 16A championship until last weekend. Fielding minus their Cork players Douglas still fielded a strong line out of senior players.

Jennifer Cashman gave them a great start with a goal and they followed up with two points from Miriam Deasy and one from Caroline Murphy. Douglas responded hitting four points in a row, with Aine O'Donovan, Emma Kavanagh, Jill Kelleher, Sinead Duggan and Sarah Fahy to the fore.

Sophie O'Donovan making her senior debut showed she was able to the task as she responded for Kilbrittan/Timoleague with a goal. Douglas replied with a long-range effort going all the way to the net, but again points from the hard working Aine Crowley and Marian Murphy ensured Kilbrittan/Timoleague led 2-7 to 1-5 at the interval.

Scores were hard to come by in the second half but Kilbrittan/Timoleague still enjoyed most of the

possession and with Caroline Murphy, Sarah Burke and Marian Murphy adding on points their maintained their lead as Douglas hit three points to stay in contention.

Douglas upped the pace in search of a goal but the Kilbrittan/Timoleague defence stood firm. Two points had Douglas within shouting distance but Marian Murphy pointed a free to stretched the advantage before a last minute Douglas goal came too late to affect the outcome as Kilbrittan/Timoleague held on by the narrowest of margins.

Kilbrittan/Timoleague: E O'Neill, S Hurley, E O'Sullivan, M Moloney, M O'Sullivan, C Guinevan, M Dullea, A Crowley (0-1), M Murphy (0-5, 0-1 '45, 0-21) S Burke (0-1), Jennifer Cashman (1-0), C Murphy (0-2), M Deasy (0-2), S O'Donovan (1-0).

Scores: M Murphy 0-5, (0-1 '45, 0-21), S O'Donovan, J Cashman 1-0 each, C Murphy, M Deasy 0-2 each, A Crowley, S Burke 0-1 each.

Douglas: R McCarthy, R Sheehan, E Lynch, E Jordan, S Duggan, M Mulrooney, E Kavanagh, C Noonan, C Nason, S Fahy, J Kelleher, A O'Donovan, A Cremin, R Swanton.

Subs: C Hickey for C Nason, A Mc Donald for R Swanton, R Quinn for C Noonan.
Scores: A O'Donovan 1-2, C Noonan 1-0, E Kavanagh, J Kelleher, S Fahy 0-2 each, C Hickey, S Duggan 0-1 each.

Brian Dillons overcome Ballinhassig to win U6B league

Brian Dillons
Ballinhassig

1-11
1-6

Brian Dillons overcame Ballinhassig to take the Under 6B league title recently in Castle Road recently.

Little divided the sides in the opening half and they were even as the sides battled to gain control. Brian Dillon's led 0-4 to 0-3 at the break; Sinead Mills hit four points and in reply for Ballinhassig Diane Jordan hit two and Geraldine Collins with one.

The Brian Dillons defence stood firm under a lot of Ballinhassig pressure with Niamh O'Leary, Deirdre Keane and Shannon Mc Hale strong as they held their lines.

Brian Dillons kept the pressure on from the restart and with Sinead Mills leading the way with two points they stayed before Jessica Aigbaloga goal put them in control and they kept the pressure on the Ballinhassig defence as they battled to put the game out of reach.

To their credit Ballinhassig continued to battle hard all over the field but a strong Brian Dillons defence gave them no way through. Diane Jordan had Ballinhassig back in the game with a goal and they pressed for more, but the Brian Dillon's rearguard held their lines.

Kelsey O'Flynn had a Ballinhassig point but still Brian Dillons held their lead.

Sinead Mills pointed from play before converting a free and with

the result still in the balance both sides upped the pace.

Working hard to put the game out of Ballinhassig's reach Brian Dillons continued to win possession and making good use of it they had Rachel Carroll leading the way striking three points to extend their lead and in effect put the game beyond Ballinhassig's reach.

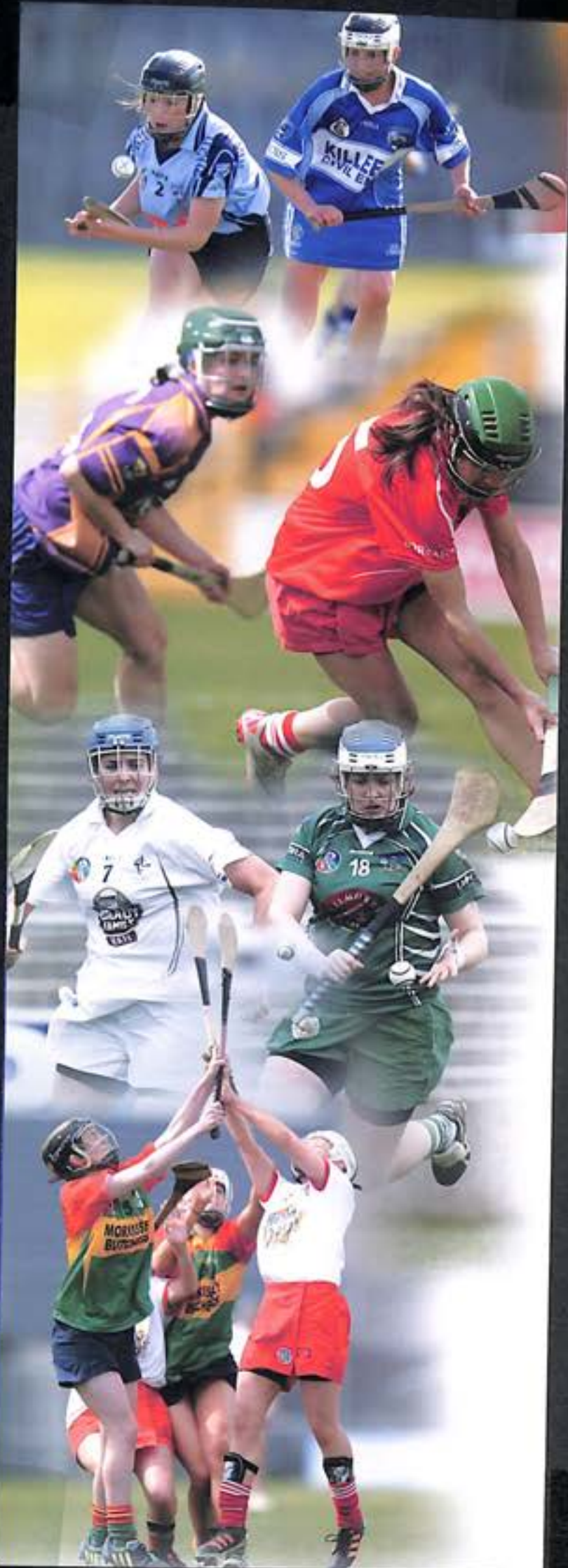
Ballinhassig continued to battle away in an effort to pull something out of the fire but the Brian Dillons defence stood firm and as the clock ticked towards full time Brian Dillons had done enough to retain their league title.

Sinead Mills was named as player of the match following an excellent display and was presented with a memento to mark the occasion by juvenile board secretary Tina Sheehan.

Brian Dillons: E Atkinson, L Burke, N O'Leary, D Keane, C O'Connor, E O'Connell, S McHale, S Cronin, S Mangan, L Barry, S Mills (c), R Carroll, M Garvin, J Aigbaloga, S Deane.
Sub: K O'Connell for S Deane.
Scores: S Mills 0-8 (0-4f), J Aigbaloga 1-0, R Carroll 0-3.

Ballinhassig: K Crowley, K Reynolds, E Reardon, E Crowley, M Tyrus, K Bohane, L Cullinane, A M Leahy, C Butler, R Moynihan, KO' Flynn, A Crowley, D Jordan, G Collins, R Reardon.
Sub: N Sheehan for R Reardon.
Scores: D Jordan 1-4 (0-3fs) G Collins Flynn 0-1 each.

Referee: Peter Downey (Inniscarra).



CAMOGIE REVIEW

The story of this year's Liberty Insurance Camogie championship undoubtedly belongs to Galway who finally reached the Promised Land after so many near-misses to bag only their second title, 17 years after breaking their duck.

After accounting for Wexford in the semi-finals there was another mental mountain to contend with in terms of their history of finals' failure. Kilkenny were entering the decider with a 100% record, having dispensed with league champions and 2012 championship runners-up Cork in the penultimate round.

It wasn't a free-flowing classic due to the brilliance of both defensive units but youngster Ailish O'Reilly goalied in the 27th minute to give the westerners the upper hand with a four-point interval advantage. Galway ran out with a 1-9 to 0-7 win in the end.



It completed a double for Galway, who had earlier won the intermediate final by beating Limerick 0-12 to 0-10, and also for Galway supremo Tony Ward, who oversaw both sides.

It was a day of joy for Kildare as the Lilywhites proved far too strong for midland neighbours Laois in the Liberty Insurance Premier Junior final.

Dublin claimed this year's Liberty Insurance Junior A title while neighbours Meath picked up the Junior B title. Cork, despite losing out in this year's championship semi-finals, retained the Irish Daily Star Division One crown; Munster neighbours Limerick picked up the Division Two title while Laois claimed Division Three honours at the expense of Dublin. Carlow continued to build on good work by claiming the Division Four title defeating Tyrone.

Barrs hold out to claim U15 crown



St Finbarr's U15 A team winners of the Seandun title.

St Finbarr's
Glen Rovers

3-5
2-5

CAMOGIE

By Mary Newman

ST FINBARR'S hung on under huge pressure to take the Seandun U15A title in a lively contest at Castle Road on Sunday last.

Once again the excellent condition of the pitch at the camogie board's grounds ensured an excellent surface and both sides made the most of it and served up an excellent game of camogie.

St Finbarr's came under a lot of early pressure as the Glen girls searched for a settling score, but failing to make use of possession they struggled to find the range and with the St Finbarr's defence clearing their lines on a few occasions under pressure their confidence grew.

Keeva McCarthy opened the

scoring with a St Finbarr's point and when the same player found the net the southside girls were settled into the game.

Still under a lot of pressure, Glen Rovers got on the score board with Michaela Hyde and Lorna Hickey pointing and now beginning to make better use of possession, they hit the front with an Amy Mills goal.

Mairead McCarthy finished to the net to stretch the Glen Rovers lead and with Michaela Hyde pointing a free they went five points clear.

St Finbarr's rallied before the break and on the stroke of half time Keeva McCarthy struck for a valuable goal and it was to prove vital as it cut the deficit to two

points and at the interval it was 2-3 to 2-1 in Glen Rovers favour.

From the start of the second half the sides were evenly matched St Finbarr's cut the lead to a point with Saoirse Noonan on target but Michaela Hyde responded with two in a row to put the Glen three ahead.

Keeva McCarthy responded pointing two frees and now as the pace of the game picked up it was nip and tuck as the sides battled for every score.

Both defences were under a lot of pressure and it was St Finbarr's who hit the front with ten minutes remaining when Keeva McCarthy finished to the net and pointed a free it put her sides three ahead with three minutes remaining.

The Glen Rovers girls battled on and applied huge pressure but the St Finbarr's defence cleared their lines as the push for an equaliser

continued to the full-time whistle and it was the St Finbarr's girls who had done enough to take the title after a highly entertaining contest.

Ciara Keating, St Finbarr's, was named as player of the Match and presented with her moment by Taryn Lynch, secretary of Seandun.

Scorers for St Finbarr's: K McCarthy 3-4, (0-2) S Noonan 0-1.

Glen Rovers: M Hyde 0-4 (0-3 f), A Mills, M McCarthy 1-0 each, L Hickey 0-1.

ST FINBARR'S: O Kean, C Madden, L Sweeney, C Cotter, A Egan, G Cahalane, R O'Sullivan, C Keating, M Fitzpatrick, L McCarthy, T Callanan, S Noonan, T Cotter, K McCarthy, N Rooney.

Subs: I Keegan for T Callanan (h/t), A O'Mahony for C Madden (55).

GLEN ROVERS: E Murphy, K Dooling, E Foley (c), E O'Donovan, N Kelly, M Hyde, K Bridgeman, K Walsh, S Riordan, N Wallace, L Hickey, S Collins, A Mills, K Buckley, M McCarthy.

Subs: A O'Neill for S Riordan (51), M O'Donovan for M McCarthy (55), C McCarthy for A Mills (55).

Referee: Billy O'Sullivan (Bishopstown).

U16 final will finish off season

THE curtain comes down on the local camogie season this afternoon when Millstreet and Cloughduv battle it out for the U16B championship title in Castle Road at noon. Both clubs have worked hard to reach the decider and for Cloughduv they will be hoping for a better day at headquarters as already this season they lost out in the Minor A championship and league final.

They overcame defeated league finalist Ballinhassig last weekend to reach today's final and will provide strong opposition for Millstreet who overcame league winners Brian Dillon's in their semi final on a 2-7 to 1-6 scoreline. Both sides have excellent players Kate O'Keeffe, Maire Ellen O'Connor and Leeanne Kelleher were hugely influential as Millstreet overcame the challenge posed by

Brian Dillon's and they showed some excellent vision and skilful touches as they made it to the final. Cloughduv are without the injured Ciara O'Leary and she is a huge loss to the sides but players such as Aisling Kelleher will drive her sides forward in search of success. As the curtain comes down on another season on the camogie playing fields in Castle Road this afternoon.

Camogie jerseys

CAMOGIE club mentors have informed us that Santa Clause is still late getting requests regarding the availability of the Costcutter Cork camogie jersey. Parents or young camogie players anxious for Santa to bring same don't worry you can still drop in to Páirc Uí Rinn Monday

CAMOGIE

to Friday from 9.30 to 4pm where they will be helped to get their request off to the man himself in time for the big day. All sizes from age 7 to small adults are available. Local Costcutter shops are also stockists of these as well so there are plenty available.

DEC. 2014

Camogie club notes

BALLINCOLLIG

CHRISTMAS PARTY: Our annual Christmas party took place on Sunday last and once again it went down a treat and a huge crowd attended and enjoyed a lovely evening, entertained by DJ James, who in camogie terms, had a fine performance.

Shortly after 5pm sirens could be heard throughout the village, as Santa and his sidekick Rudolph got a generous spin off Ballincollig Fire Brigade, while the sleigh awaits its NCT for the big night in two weeks time.

Each child had a chance to remind Santa what they had asked for and to make sure he received their letters and of course, Santa did and rumour has it Rudolph even proof-read them. (His eyesight is better because he eats his carrots!) They are such a great team now they're unstoppable at times however, the surprises weren't over yet.

As a club we love celebrating and birthdays only come once a year so a big shout out and a huge happy birthday to Mairead Donovan, one of our club's gems.

She was giving it socks on the dance floor and word up the village is that she's still there! So another Christmas party is done and dusted, and a great season is once again under our belts. It's time to crack open the tins of Roses, light the fire, and turn on the sparkly lights. Santa's nearly on his way back to Ballincollig look out for the sleigh he took a green and white flag for it, he also rang the GAA club after finally reaching home and said to give Celia Ryan a treat for being the best dressed all that shopping on Oxford Street paid off after all.

A massive thank you goes out to all the parents, friends, families, players and managers who provided a portion of party food and of course Richie and the bar staff.

Happy Christmas to all of our club members, their families, friends, supporters, sponsors throughout the year, and of course to our fantastic players!

INDOOR TRAINING: Indoor training is as normal throughout December. Runners are to be worn to indoor training, bring your helmet and shin guards and your own drink. All new members welcome!

Sundays in Gaelscoil Uí Riordáin: U8s 11am to 12pm, U9s 12pm to 1pm, Fridays in Ballincollig Community School: U10s 6pm to 7pm, U12s 7pm to 8pm, U11s 8pm - 9pm. Fridays in Tennis Village Sports Hall: U13s/14s / 15s/16s 6pm to 7pm.

CLUB LOTTO: Please continue to support the weekly Ballincollig GAA Club Lotto the Jackpot is now €9,800. Tickets cost €1.50 and are on sale in the club bar.

GLEN ROVERS

Despite a huge effort, our U16 team just fell short in a superb contest with St Finbarr's on Sunday last. The sides were evenly matched over the hour but at the full time whistle our opponents were a goal ahead and it finished 3-5 to 2-5.

We congratulate them on their victory and say well done to our own girls who turned in an excellent display. Well done also to the mentors and backroom team who worked so hard all year with the girls to reach the final.

BAG PACKING: A big thank you to all our senior and underage players, mentors, adult members and all who helped make our bag packing last weekend another huge success. A big thank to Dunnes Stores, Ballyvolane for having us and to all the staff who, as usual, made us feel so welcome.

CHRISTMAS PARTY: It's party time and medal presentation time (again) and for the second time this year we are hosting an under age medal presentation night and this time it's our U13 A Seandún championship winning team, our U14 second team county league winning teams and our U15 A Seandún runner up who are taking centre stage this evening from 6pm to 9pm in the club where we hope to see parents join the girls for their celebrations.

Tomorrow our younger brigade have their Christmas party in the hall from 11.30am to 1.30pm and we will be hoping to see everybody in attendance.

VICTORY DINNER DANCE: Our victory dinner dance to celebrate our senior and minors double is on Saturday January 4 so a reminder to book your tickets. Already numbers are near capacity as there is huge interest in the event tickets must be collected Saturday, December 14 from 6pm to 9pm, Sunday December 15 from 11.30am to 2pm, Monday December 16 from 6pm to 7.30pm, Tuesday December 17 from 6pm to 7.30pm and Wednesday, December 18 from 6pm to 7.30pm.

BINGO RAFFLE: Our bingo raffle is on Monday next so anybody who wishes to bring something for the hamper can drop it to club on Saturday or Sunday, every little helps.

CONDOLENCES: It was with great sadness that we learned of the death of Joe Crowley last weekend. Joe was a true gentleman and a great member of the club at every level, for many a year he was a selector with our camogie teams and repaired the hurleys for all the girls and indeed for many a Cork camogie player from outside of our club as well.

He loved the matches and the banter that went on and always enjoyed the news and chat, in recent years Joe had to scale back on his involvement but he still remained interested and it was wonderful to see such a large turn out of former camogie players at his funeral. May His Soul Rest in Peace.



Gaelcholaiste Mhuire AG, winners of the Hayes Shield.

History made by AG's girls with first title

HISTORY was made recently as the girls in Gaelcholaiste Mhuire AG brought the first camogie title to the northside school.

Renowned for its hurling prowess, the North Mon and Gaelcholaiste Mhuire AG have produced splendid hurlers for Cork, but now a new era is in the making as the ladies recently took centre stage when they brought the first camogie trophy through the gates much to the delight of everybody in the school.

Three years ago camogie got off the ground in the AG under the guidance of teacher Clár Ni Cheannabhuaidh who played her own clubs camogie with St Finbarr's. Clár needs no introduction to the game coming from a well known and renowned GAA family who are steeped in Gaelic games.

Clár is daughter of well known former St Finbarr's hurler and football star Niall Kennefick and is grand daughter of the legendary Mick Kennefick the youngest captain to lead Cork to All-Ireland senior hurling championship honours in 1943 when Cork recorded a

CAMOGIE

By MARY NEWMAN

historic four-in-a-row.

She is carrying on a dedication and commitment to the game that has been handed down to her by her father and grandfather.

A lot of hard work and effort was put in to get things moving but with little rewards came their way and they didn't enjoy much success for the first two years but last year things began to slowly change and they reached the final of U16½ C competition but lost out to a very strong Dungarvan side.

Undeterred, they continued on and with teachers Cillian Ó Conghaile and Laura de Brún coming on board this year to also lend a much needed hand, things were beginning to improve. With players a year older and wiser and also now benefiting from their involvement with clubs, things began to improve and it was a huge boost when they recently carried home the Hayes Intermediate Shield title as they defeated Coláiste Treasa of Kanturk. On

their way to the final they had to see off stiff opposition from Coachford and Mount Mercy to reach the final.

Against Coláiste Treasa, Gaelcholaiste Mhuire had to be at their best, but aided by strong performances Niamh Nic Gobhann at centre-forward who has enjoyed an excellent season winning county senior B and minor championship and league honours with her club Glen Rovers, Rebecca Ni Shíocháin who lines out with Douglas and Eimear Ni Fhoghlú also a member of the Glen Rovers championship winning minor squad chipped in with crucial scores.

Róisín Ni Dhónaill, Allie Ni Shúilleabháin and Na Pairsaigh's Casey Ni Cholmáin were also to the fore for the AG while they had a strong defence which composed of Shauna Nic Ghiolla Mhaol, Nicola Ni Chroínín with captain Sinéad Ni Mhurnáin always in control in goal as she marshalled her defence and ensured scoring opportunities were kept to a minimum.

In a close contest where both sides displayed some excellent skill leadership shown by Niamh

Nic Gobhann and Chloe Ni Mhurchú never waned as Gaelcholaiste Mhuire AG ran out deserving winners with six points to spare on a 3-4 to 2-0 score line to create history for their school much to the delight of their hard working mentors.

Captain Sinéad Ni Mhurnáin in accepting the trophy spoke of the constant effort of the team over the past four years and the dedication and commitment shown by players and coach Ni Cheannabhuaidh which in the end brought rewards.

The hope is now to continue to build on the success and with lots of new talent coming into the school from northside clubs such as Na Pairsaigh, Glen Rovers and St Vincent's. The hope is that it will go from strength to strength and with the continued support of principle Donal Ó Buachalla and of their coaches the players are in safe hands.

We congratulate them on their success and wish them the very best of luck and hope that old famous Mon song "Ar Aghaidh, Ar Aghaidh, an Mhainistir Thuaidh Abú" is being sung with gusto by the ladies of the AG.

St Finbarr's win exciting title decider

St Finbarr's 3-5
Glen Rovers 2-5

In a game that went down to the wire, St Finbarr's managed to take the Seandun under-15A title in an exciting contest at Castle Road where the sides made the most of an excellent playing surface and served up a superb game of camogie.

The Glen Rovers girls searched for an early score and applied a lot of pressure but ultimately failed to find the range. The St Finbarr's defence was solid under pressure and their confidence grew throughout.

Keeva McCarthy opened the scoring with a St Finbarr's point and soon followed it up

with a goal.

Glen Rovers got on the scoreboard through Michaela Hyde and Lorna Hickey points. They made better use of possession and hit the front with an Amy Mills goal, extending their lead through Mairead McCarthy's expert finish. Michaela Hyde topped things off by pointing a free to send them five points clear.

St Finbarr's rallied before the break and on the stroke of half time Keeva McCarthy struck for a valuable goal, cutting the deficit to two points, 2-3 to 2-1 at the half.

St Finbarr's soon cut the lead to a point, with Saoirse Noonan on target, but Michaela Hyde responded

with two in a row, while Keeva McCarthy hit two frees.

As the pace of the game increased, it was St Finbarr's who hit the front with ten minutes remaining when Keeva McCarthy finished to the net and pointed a free. It put her side three ahead with three minutes remaining.

The Glen Rovers girls battled on and applied huge pressure but the St Finbarr's defence cleared their lines as the push for an equaliser continued to the full-time whistle. It was the St Finbarr's girls who had done enough to take the title after a highly entertaining contest.

Ciaara Keating of St Finbarr's was named as player of

the match and presented with her award by Taryn Lynch, secretary of seandun.

St. Finbarr's O Kean; C Madden; L Sweeney; C Cotter; A Egan; G Cahalane; R O'Sullivan; C Keating; M Fitzpatrick; L McCarthy; T Callanan; S Noonan; T Cotter; K McCarthy; N Rooney.
Subs: I Keegan for T Callanan (h/t), A O'Mahony for C Madden (55).
Scorers: K McCarthy 3-4, (0-2) S Noonan 0-1.

Glen Rovers E Murphy; K Dooling; E Foley; E O'Donovan; N Kelly; M Hyde; K Bridgeman; K Walsh; S Riordan; N Wallace; L Hickey; S Collins; A Mills; K Buckley; M McCarthy.

Subs: A O'Neill for S Riordan (51), M O'Donovan for M McCarthy (55), C McCarthy for A Mills (55). Scorers: M Hyde 0-4 (0-3fs), A Mills, M McCarthy 1-0 each, L Hickey 0-1.

Referee Billy O'Sullivan (Bishopstown).

Ballincollig take title from Newtownshandrum

Ballincollig 2-9
Newtownshandrum 3-5

The junior B plate competition for clubs who didn't qualify from their respective sections of the championship round robin series of games proved highly competitive as Ballincollig and Newtownshandrum battled it out for the title recently.

The game played on a 14-a-side basis was of a very high standard and credit to both sides who put in huge effort.

Newtownshandrum led at the interval by a point. Rebecca Sheehy's two first-half goals helped settle them as Mia Cronin and Lauren Cooper had two points each for Ballincollig while Orla Ni Chathasaigh added one as they stayed in touch with their opponents.

In the second half Kara Clifford added three points

to the Newtownshandrum tally but Ballincollig upped the pace and two Emma Donovan goals ensured it remained close. Mia Cronin added to her tally with three Ballincollig points as Lauren Cooper added one. Judy Dunne had a second half goal for Newtownshandrum but it was Ballincollig who took the title by the narrowest of margins.

Ballincollig L Doyle; J Cotter; L Weste; K Green; R Nevin; C Irish; M Cronin; C Ni Chathasaigh; M O'Dwyer; O Jennings (c); J Dineen; O Ni Chathasaigh; L Cooper; E Donovan.
Subs: F Ryan for J Dineen, J Dineen for M O'Dwyer.
Scorers: E Donovan 2-0, M Cronin 0-5 L Cooper 0-3 (1fs) O Ni Chathasaigh 0-1.

Newtownshandrum A Ryan; C Herlihy; M Doyle; S Cagney; C O'Sullivan; A Doyle; N Haws; S Curtin; E Coughlan; C Griffin; D O'Flynn; K Clifford; R Sheehy; Judy D.
Scorers: R Sheehy 2-0, K Clifford 0-3, J Dunne 1-0.



Santa's got plenty of Cork Camogie jerseys for fans

Camogie club officials report that Santa Claus is still getting late requests about the availability of the Cork Camogie jersey. Parents and young camogie players anxious for Santa to bring a jersey this day next week can drop in to Pairc Uí Rinn each day this week up to Friday from 9.30am to 4pm where they will be helped to get their request off to the man himself in time for the big day.

All sizes from age 7 to small adults are available. Costcutters shops in Cork also stock the jersey.

Santa is still sorting authentic jerseys for girls all over Cork who want to emulate stars like centre-forward and captain Anna Geary.

Picture: Caroline Quinn

Ballinora prevail against St Fanahan's to claim victory

Ballinora 4-8
St Fanahan's 1-7

For the third time this year Ballinora and St Fanahan's met and this time out it was to decide the destination of the Junior C Plate.

In an eagerly contested game Ballinora came out on top to take the title in a competition which is most important as it caters for teams who failed to make it to the last four of championship competition.

Played on 13-a-side basis, the game was fast and furious with a lot of space to be cov-

ered by two eager teams.

St Fanahan's got off to a good start with two early points. Caoimhe Clancy and Sinead O'Sullivan were on target but Ballinora responded quickly and it was their ability to grab goals that proved vital. Lauren Walsh, Karen Lane, Fiona Fitton and Abbey Murphy were on target with one each as the St Fanahan's defence battled to try and close them down.

Catherine O'Sullivan had a St Fanahan's goal and with Caoimhe Clancy adding a point they kept in touch. Lauren Walsh added a point

to the Ballinora tally before the break with Fiona Fitton hitting two they held a 4-3 to 1-3 interval advantage.

In the second half the sides battled hard for the title. Lauren Walsh and Fiona Fitton added two points each for Ballinora as Sinead O'Sullivan hit three for St Fanahan's.

St Fanahan's continued to battle for everything but boosted by their opening half haul of goals Ballinora had a good foundation and they were not going to let their lead slip.

Tina O'Sullivan and Jennifer Murphy swapped points

but there was no denying Ballinora the title.

Ballinora C Hourihan (c); C O'Keefe; G Beasley; A Mc Grath; J Sorenson; D Hourihan; N Mc Carthy; A Fitzgerald; L Walsh; F Fitton; J Murphy; K Lane; A Murphy.
Subs: J Cronin for A Murphy, A Nic Abhaird for A Fitzgerald, K o Shea for J. Murphy F Mc Grath for A Mc Grath. Scorers: F Fitton 1-4, L Walsh 1-3, K Lane, A Murphy 1-each J Murphy 0-1.

St Fanahan's J Dawson; A Gallahue (c); S O'Brien; E Casey; C Frewen; O Moriarty; C O'Shea; S O'Sullivan; C Clancy; M Hogan; D O'Mahoney; L O'Callaghan; C O'Sullivan. Subs: K O'Sullivan for C O'Sullivan, T O'Sullivan for L O'Callaghan.
Scorers: S O'Sullivan 0-4, C O'Sullivan 1-0, C Clancy 0-2, T O'Sullivan 0-1.

Insurance Junior A Championship Final; Liberty Insurance Premier Junior championship semi-final
August 30: Liberty Insurance Senior championship semi-final replay; Liberty Insurance Intermediate Championship semi-final replay

August 31: Liberty Insurance Junior A Championship Final replay; Liberty Insurance Premier Junior Championship semi-final replay

September 14: Liberty Insurance Premier Junior championship final; Liberty Insurance Intermediate Championship final; Liberty Insurance Senior Championship final

October 5: Liberty Insurance Intermediate Championship final replay; Liberty Insurance Premier Junior Championship final replay; Liberty Insurance Senior Championship final replay
October 25: AIB All-Ireland Junior Club Championship quarter-final 2014

November 9: AIB All-Ireland Junior Camogie Club Championship semi-finals
November 23: AIB All-Ireland Junior Camogie Club Championship Final

November 30: AIB All-Ireland Junior Camogie Club Championship final replay

CAMOGIE

Master fixture list for 2014

February 2: AIB All-Ireland Senior and Intermediate Club Championship semi-finals

February 16: Ashbourne Cup final; Fr Meachair cup final; Purcell Cup final

March 2: AIB All-Ireland Senior and Intermediate Club Championship finals

March 8: Senior A, B, C, D Post Primary Schools finals

March 15: Junior A, B, C, D Post Primary Schools Finals

April 26: Minor A, B, C finals

May 4: Division 1, 2, 3, 4 Finals

July 20: Liberty Insurance Junior A championship semi-final

July 27: Liberty Insurance Junior A Championship semi-final replay

August 16: Liberty Insurance Intermediate championship semi-finals

August 23: Liberty Insurance Senior semi-finals

August 24: U16 A, B and C championship finals; Liberty

DEC. 2014

GaelicLife Ulster Club ALLSTARS 2013

CAMOGIE PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Below are the nominations for the camogie player of the year, 2013.



Aisling Jackson

St John's

St John's headed into their 2013 campaign with an extremely young outfit taking to the field, as they attempt to build their way back towards the top tier of Antrim and Ulster camogie. That made the vast experience of Aisling Jackson all the more important to them as she guided her young colleagues to success both at Antrim and Ulster level.

The hugely versatile player, who throughout their Championship campaign operated at number 11, was the conductor of the Johnnies orchestra and was instrumental in their impressive string of victories with a series of sparkling performances. Coasted the Antrim championship, with an unerring accuracy from frees a key facet of her game.



Lisa McCrickard

Liatroim Fontenoy's

A veteran of Liatroim's glory days of the past, Lisa was once again a key figure for the Down side as they laid claim to Ulster junior championship honours. Defenders tend to not always get the credit they deserve, but then not all defenders have the ability to influence a game in the way this defender can. She is tireless at the back, with a keen sense for

emerging dangers and more often than not is the springboard for Liatroim's attacking forays. She is one of the most polished players in the province, and her individual displays had a huge part to play in helping Liatroim secure wins over Eglis and Tullysaran in the Ulster group stages, before propelling her troops to provincial glory.



Meabh McGoldrick

Eoghan Rua Coleraine

She may not always get the plaudits and the recognition which her efforts deserve, but there is absolutely no questioning Meabh McGoldrick's value and importance to her Eoghan Rua side. The Coleraine girls secured a first ever Ulster senior club title, blitzing all before them in Derry before sweeping their way to success on the provincial stage. It is

perhaps the truest measure of Meabh's performances in the maroon and green of her club side that she was named as Player of the Match in both the Derry final and, subsequently, in the Ulster final where she helped Eoghan Rua romp to a 4-11 to 0-3 win against former kingpins Rossa, with Meabh a commanding presence around the middle.



Susan Kate Brosnan receiving recognition from Brian Dillon's for her selection on the Cork intermediate team from sponsor Ken Murray.



Linda Mellerick presents the Most Improved Player of the Year award to goalkeeper Shauna Walsh



Brian Dillon's club president Con Aherne presents Molly Garvan with her U16 league medal.

Bateman is Cloughduv star

Cloughduv 3-3
Ballinora 1-1

BALLINORA and Cloughduv played out a thrilling Mid Cork U13 B league final, after extra time failed to separate them the first day out.

Cloughduv took an early lead with a goal from Tara Clifford, before Clara Twomey pointed. Ballinora battled back with a goal from Emma Sorenson before Aine O'Regan scored.

As half-time approached Suzanne Bateman struck for a vital Cloughduv goal and the same player won possession and after a great solo run scored their third goal to make it 3-1 to 1-1.

Ballinora keeper Alice Farrell was in excellent form as she held her lines under a lot of Cloughduv pressure, but points from Bateman ensured Cloughduv were not going to be denied.

Scorers for Cloughduv: S Bateman 2-2, T Clifford 1-0, C Twomey 0-1.

Ballinora: E Sorenson 1-0, A O'Regan 0-1.

Cloughduv: N McCarthy, C Walsh, M Barry, R Meagher, R Walsh, A Buckley, K Ronan, C O'Driscoll, T Clifford, S Bateman, O Sexton, A O'Brien, C Twomey, A O'Reilly, N Walsh.

Subs: J Meagher for R Meagher, A O'Reilly for N Walsh, A O'Mahony for C Walsh.

Ballinora: A Farrell, M Forde, L Shinnick, B Holmes, K Dooley (c), A O'Regan, L Cahill, J McAuliffe, C Dooley, Murphy, C Nic a Bhaire, S O'Keeffe, A Linehan, E Sorenson, K O'Shea.

Subs: Sarah Kelleher, Aoife Carbery, Gemma Linehan.

No halting the Town

CAMOGIE

Bishopstown 5-7
Blackrock 0-0

DESPITE turning in a spirited display Blackrock had no answer to a strong Bishopstown side when the sides met in the Seandún U15 B Shield final recently.

Up front Bishopstown took their scoring chances and with Eimear Ni Mhurchú in superb form grabbing three goals, and Saoirse O'Sullivan and Amy O'Sullivan chipping in with one each they controlled matters all through.

Their ability to find the range for points was also superb and with Laura O'Neill striking four and Saoirse O'Sullivan adding two and Amy O'Sullivan one they ran out comfortable winners to take the Shield.

Credit to a gallant Blackrock who never allowed their heads drop and battled to the final whistle.

Scorers for Bishopstown: E Ni Mhurchú 3-0, S O'Sullivan 1-2, L O'Neill 0-4, A O'Sullivan 1-1.

Bishopstown: Ní Dheashmunaigh, M Broderick, L Power, A Townsend, F Richardson, R Leisk, N Hayes, L O'Neill (c), U Stevens, A O'Sullivan, G Houlihan, A O'Sullivan, M Richardson, E Ni Mhurchú, S O'Sullivan.

Subs: C Reidy for M Richardson, O Haynes for A O'Sullivan, C De Hora for A O'Sullivan, K Whelton for E Ni Mhurchú.

Blackrock: C Coughlan, A Hurley, F Deegan, E Dunphy, S Barrett, M Brennan, E Nagle, S Broderick, A Farrell, H O'Donovan, O Kearney, A O'Callaghan, M Dineen, O Coughlan, L O'Herrity.

Sub: O Bridgeman for O Coughlan.

Referee: Ger Sheehan (Douglas).

CAMOGIE

Connacht

Galway: Ardahan,

Roscommon: Four Roads

Leinster

Carlow: Myshall

Dublin: Ballyboden St Enda's

Kildare: Johnstownbridge

Kilkenny: Mullinavat

Laois: Camross

Meath: Kilmessan

Offaly: Shinrone

Westmeath: Raharney

Wexford: St Ibars/Shelmalsers

Wicklow: Knockanna

Munster

Clare: Newmarket-on-Fergus

Cork: Milford

Limerick: Granagh-Ballingarry

Tipperary: Burgess/Duharra

Waterford: Lismore

Ulster

Antrim: O'Donovan Rossa

Armagh: St Patrick's Cullyhanna

Derry: Eoghan Rua

Down: Liatroim Fontenoy's

Tyrone: Eglis

Clinical Piarsaigh are U15 B champions

CAMOGIE

Na Piarsaigh 1-9
Douglas 1-1

A SKILFUL and sporting game between two committed sides saw Na Piarsaigh hold too much strength for Douglas to capture the Seandún U15 B title, writes MARY NEWMAN. Na Piarsaigh ability to notch up points proved the difference in the finish with full-forward Emma Buckley contributing six. Rebecca Cooke, Kelsey O'Donovan and Emer Guest all had points as Na Piarsaigh built up a steady lead. Ciara Buckley at centre field worked hard over the hour to keep the ball moving to their inside line, while a strong defence where Holly O'Connell, Lauren Twohig and Emily Buckley stood firm under a lot of pressure ensured Douglas had to fight hard for everything. Niamh Daly found the range for a Douglas goal and with Ruth O'Halloran adding a point they stayed in the hunt. However a Rebecca Cooke goal left too much of a mountain to climb for Douglas as Na Piarsaigh ran out winners. Emma Buckley from Na Piarsaigh was named as Player of the Match.

Scorers for Na Piarsaigh: Emma Buckley 6-6, R Cooke 1-1, E Guest, K O'Donovan 0-1 each.
Douglas: N Daly 1-0, R O'Halloran 0-1.
NA PIARSAIGH: C Murphy; E O'Neill, S Simpson, S O'Donovan; Emily Buckley, L Twohig, H O'Connell; E Guest, C Buckley; K O'Donovan, R McDonnell, K Murphy; S Bell (c), Emma Buckley, R Cooke.
Subs: K O'Connor for E O'Neill (20), C O'Connor for S Bell (50), H Fitton for K Murphy (52), A Tracey for R Cooke (52), C Tobin for S O'Donovan (53), E Dunlea for R McDonnell (53).
DOUGLAS: M Daly; E Wall, C Carroll, A Hartnett; S Sheehan, S Mulrooney, N Ni Chuanachain; J Donegan, V Fleming; E Casserly, R O'Halloran, L Cashman; R Hurley, N Harrington, K Brennan.
Subs: Rachel Deane; Denise Harrington, Niamh Daly, Emer Kelly, Jessica O'Mahoney.

Season's greetings

HAPPY CHRISTMAS: Wishing all camogie players mentors supporters and sponsors a very Happy Christmas here's hoping everybody enjoys the rest from training and the playing fields. Special thanks to John McHale, Eamonn Murphy and all the Evening Echo sports team who continue to help bring all our camogie news to your home, my own thanks to everybody for all your support in 2013 looking forward to bringing you all the camogie news in 2014.



Members of the Brian Dillon's club who wore the Cork jersey this year at various levels with sponsor Ken Murray of Murray's Supervalu Mayfield. Ruth Brosnan, minor, Susan Kate Brosnan, intermediate; Anthea O'Brien, junior captain; Amanda Dorgan, Munster junior captain; Niamh O'Leary, captain of the All-Ireland winning U16B team; Sinead Mills, U16A; Essie O'Connell, U16B; Kate O'Connell, primary school. Missing from picture Deirdre Ring, junior and Munster teams; Shauna Ring, minor and junior and, Orlaith Ní Shuilleabháin, junior.



Brian Dillon's award winners Sinead Mills, Emma Sharpe, Shannon McHale, Shauna Walsh, Deirdre Keane.



Brian Dillon's camogie chairman presents Shannyn McHale with the U14 Player of the Year award.



Brian Dillon's camogie PRO Tom Myers presents Deirdre Keane with the Club Person of the Year.

Brian Dillon's honour players



Sinead Mills, Emma Sharpe,

BRIAN DILLON'S held their annual camogie awards night in the Tank Field pavilion after another successful year on the playing field.

As the club continues its growth strategy it was obvious from the fantastic atmosphere and bond between players, mentors and parents that there is much to be optimistic about.

Chairwoman Mary O'Sullivan spoke of yet another great year for the club. She acknowledged the fierce commitment and dedication put in by all the players during the season.

CAMOGIE

"The way the players conducted themselves on the pitch, their temperament and respect for the opposition and officials at all times is a credit to our club," she said.

Referring to defeats suffered during the year Mary stated: "It doesn't matter how many times you get knocked down but rather how many times you get back up."

"We must give credit to our coaches and mentors who have instilled in our club a will to win, a never say die, we are all

in this together attitude.

"We wear our jersey with pride; we give it our all where the will must be stronger than the skill."

Presentations were made to a number of players on the night. Brian Dillon's had no fewer than 11 players represented on various Cork teams during 2013 which was a great achievement. A number of individual awards were also handed out.

U16 and U18 manager Linda Mellerick spoke of how proud she was of some of her team's performances. With a young U18 squad they reached both the league and championship

DEC. 2014



North Presentation Convent Cork camogie team, winners of the Cork Colleges Senior League Championships.

Picture: ref no 218/19



Old AI's team which won the Cork Senior Championship in 1960. Back: Betty Walsh, Lil Coughlan, Margaret Barry, Gerry Vaughan, Deirdre Young, Anna McCarthy, Marian Hadden and Breda Lyons. Front: Audrey Geaney, Jos O'Grady, Gretta O'Sullivan, Joan Clancy (capt), Mary Clancy, Rena Manley and Elaine O'Donovan.

Picture: Exam photo

Linda Mellerick

looks back on a mixed season for the Cork camogie team which claimed league honours but missed out on the big one



FOR a county like Cork any year you don't win a senior All-Ireland title is deemed as under-achieving.

Certainly that's the feeling that circulated when Cork bowed out by a point to Kilkenny in the semi-final. This was the year when it was felt Cork would go all the way.

Wexford were in decline, the management team were in their second year, the intensity in training upped considerably; honesty seeming to be the mantra, players were hurting from the final defeat of 2012 and we had back to back league titles to our credit. But it all went wrong in Semple Stadium. Under new Costcutter sponsorship, Cork withstood a strong Tipperary challenge to take the points in their opening national league game in Páirc Uí Rinn in late February.

With the sides level on 57 minutes it was Cork that finished strongest with some well taken points.

Early season lack of match practice and cohesion was evident at times from the Cork camp but 19 points was a good return and the spread of scorers pleased management.

Cork, as expected, comfortably accounted for Offaly in their second national league fixture and while it took them a while to get out of the blocks they enjoyed the lion's share of possession from the outset. Perfect weather conditions in the impressive O'Connor Park lent to the game starting at a lively pace. A 12.15pm throw in ensured an early start for Cork but they showed no signs of the journey and the two points placed them joint top of their group with Kilkenny.

A good win in a bitterly cold and windy Nowlan Park pushed Kilkenny off their joint perch. A jittery first opening quarter in which Cork's distribution wasn't as it should be saw them trail 1-3 to 0-2 after 15 minutes.

Cork enjoyed good possession but didn't capitalise. An Aolfe Neary goal and points from Katie Power (2) and Leanne Fennelly saw Cork trailing by four early in the second half. Cork's hurling improved as the game progressed, a testament to the few outdoor sessions they had behind them. Their passing became more fluent and their intensity increased. The

Victory in league loss was the one

Cork players celebrate the National League win over Wexford.



THREE TO WATCH FOR IN 2014

Julia White Douglas

A player who grew in stature this season Julia has great pace and skill.

A year older and wiser she should start to take on more leadership responsibility and should she do this she will be a key player for Cork next season.



Gemma O'Connor St Finbarr's

GEMMA was a huge loss. Her presence puts the fear of God into the opposition and that was sorely missed. Her return gives Cork a great boost and with renewed enthusiasm and energy she should be a key figure for Cork next year.



Katrina Mackey Douglas

KATRINA is one of Cork's most exciting forwards. I believe there is still more in her and the best is yet to come. With pace and an eye for goal, if she's positioned right and given space and supply she could well be the player of the season.



introduction of Julie Mulcahy at half-time and Julia White 10 minutes later added speed inside and Cork started to put daylight between the teams.

As expected Derry produced a spirited first half in Cork's final group outing in Bray but couldn't match Cork's flair as the minutes progressed. With Cork leading 1-8 to 1-3 at half time the final score possibly didn't do justice to a Derry side

that brought a strong physical element to their game.

Cork remained on course to retain their national league division 1 title after a highly entertaining semi-final in Kilmallock. Receiving a stern test from Clare, this fiercely competitive game went to extra time where it took the second half to separate the teams. Enjoying a five point lead, 12 minutes into the second half of

normal time, Cork found themselves under intense pressure against a strong wind. Fading out of the game around the middle and half-forward line, Cork's defence had to withstand a heavy Clare onslaught and two excellent points in the dying minutes by Deirdre Murphy saw Clare draw level.

The first half of extra time

Dec. 2013

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2013

An *Evening Echo* Publication

29

but semi-final that got away



Paudie's task made tougher by fixtures

CORK decided, for the first time, that the senior and intermediate squads would train together and fall under the management of Paudie Murray.

This was a tough ask for any manager and it wasn't made any easier with both teams often lining out on the same day at different locations.

Cork intermediates opened their league campaign with a 1-14 to 1-6 victory over Tipperary and it continued with a victory over Down 4-11 to 2-8.

Kildare proved too strong on a day when the game was there for the taking and it finished 1-12 to 1-6 in Kildare's favour. It took a late pointed free to ensure Cork came away with a share of the spoils in the last game in the section against Kilkenny and here the determination shown gave great hope for the championship ahead.

However, the result wasn't enough to see Cork through as they made their exit from the league having lost one game. Their Championship opened with a trip to Ashbourne in Meath on a day when half of the intermediate team were subs on the senior team facing Tipperary and had to make a mad dash from The Ragg.

This was a huge disappointment that neither game was switched despite Cork's pleas.

It was a game of two halves in windswept Ashbourne where Cork were lucky to come away with a point after leading by 10 points at the interval.

Round two was a disappointing afternoon at sun-drenched Glen Rovers where Cork lost out narrowly to Waterford in a game they should have won.

It was a much improved Cork that faced an undefeated Limerick in Ballincollig and a spirited performance saw them record a 3-9 to 0-10 win to keep their qualification hopes alive.

As in the league, Kilkenny again provided the opposition for the last group game and another good display saw Cork record a 0-11 to 1-5 victory but unfortunately the result wasn't enough and Cork exited the championship.

Winning the Intermediate championship is a great honour. Playing in Croke Park and having the game televised is a great experience yet for a long time many players in Cork didn't seem interested in representing their county at this level. They possibly felt they weren't getting the attention they deserved as a training panel. That all changed this year and one hopes that an Intermediate title isn't too far away.

RESULTS

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Cork 0-19 Tipperary 2-10

Offaly 0-3 Cork 1-14

Kilkenny 1-8 Cork 1-10

Cork 4-21 Derry 3-5

SEMI FINAL

Cork 0-14 Clare 0-11

FINAL

Cork 0-12 Wexford 1-7

CHAMPIONSHIP

Tipperary 1-5 Cork 2-15

Cork 5-23 Dublin 0-4

Cork 0-19 Offaly 0-10

SEMI-FINAL

Cork 2-11 Kilkenny 2-12

A dejected Anna Geary, left, and Gemma O'Connor after Cork's All-Ireland Camogie semi-final defeat to Kilkenny, above right a happier Geary lifts the National League trophy.

Picture: SPORTSFILE



had Cork again against the wind. Two magnificent points from play by Orla Cotter and two pointed frees from Claire McMahon ensured that the sides were still tied entering the final 10 minutes where Cork's tenacity,

composure and greater experience saw them through. It was important that Cork retained their league title against Wexford. Psychologically it was important. It wasn't a classic but that didn't worry Cork as they showed fierce determination to fashion out a deserving victory.

And so Cork's thoughts switched to championship. From the outset the concern was that Cork's group contained the weaker of the senior counties competing. In truth they were never going to be challenged in any of the three games and manager Paudie Murray's training schedule therefore focused on peaking for August. Comfortable victories over Tipperary, Dublin and Offaly saw Cork paired against Group 1's table-toppers Kilkenny which was a strange scenario. First should have played second. Everyone looked set. The Cork team and management looked relaxed and ready as they wrapped up training in a wet UCC grounds on the Thursday evening. There was a great bond in the camp, the work was done and despite all the talk about resurgence in the Kilkenny camp it was felt that Cork would be the ones heading for Croke Park early September.

It wasn't to be. A young Kilkenny team inflicted a one-point defeat on the Rebels. A number of Cork players failed to get into the game. Yet Cork could have at the very least snatched a draw and that made the defeat even harder to take. Decisions were made on the line which didn't work. Cork's biggest error on the day was packing midfield in an effort to leave Katrina Mackey and Julia White inside two on two where their lightning pace would cause big problems. It worked for all of seven minutes where each of the aforementioned scored magnificent goals to all but shell shock Kilkenny and give Cork the dream start. The game plan failed to work after that. It led to midfield being very crowded and despite Cork having an extra defender in their half-back line Kilkenny won the majority of possession. They won a heavy majority of the 50/50 balls. Simple errors, losing many of their own puckouts and poor first touch led to Kilkenny gaining the upper hand.

Cork should have reverted back to the customary 15 on 15 for the second half. However outside of that the game still could and should have been won and without a shadow of a doubt Cork would have proved far greater opposition for Galway in the final. Doesn't matter. Kilkenny were there, deserved to be and Cork were left heartbroken again.



Picture of the Cork Team that played Wexford in the camogie All-Ireland final at Croke Park in September 1971. Ref 132/38



“ To our families, our boyfriends and that one husband that we have, thank you for the support you've given us ”

Galway camogie captain Lorraine Ryan gets in a special word for Therese Maher's spouse David Donoghue

GALWAY ALL-IRELAND SENIOR CAMOGIE CHAMPIONS



*Back Row (left to right): Marie Cooney Tara Kenny Susan Earner Ann Marie Starr Gina Glynn Eva Concannon Sinead Cahalan Heather Cooney
Therese Maher Niamh McGrath Sarah Dervan Therese Manton Brenda Hanney Siobhan Coen Maria Brehony Sinead Keane
Front Row (left to right): Orlaith McGrath Colette Gill Noreen Coen Ailish O'Reilly Emer Haverty Molly Dunne Lorraine Ryan Ann Marie Hayes
Niamh Kilkenny Emma Kilkenny Orla Kilkenny Clodagh McGrath Lorraine Farrell*

DEC. 2013

CASTLEGAR INTERMEDIATE ALL-IRELAND CAMOGIE CHAMPIONS



*Back Row (left to right): Kayleigh Fitzpatrick-O'Brien, Sara Crowe, Katie Crowe, Sinead Jacobsen, Marian Farragher, Ruth Flaherty, Cathriona Lee, Maria Corcoran, Karen Murphy,
Lorraine Grogan, Jenny Gill, Sarah Roche, Karen Noone, Dervela Fahy, Nicola Corcoran.
Front Row (left to right): Emma Murphy, Maria O'Brien, Elaine Murphy, Tara Connolly, Louise Farragher, Aislinn Connolly, Katie Connell, Donna Burke, Eva Concannon, Sarah Kelly,
Orlaith Keane, Fiona Gill, Ellen Connolly.*

DEC. 2013



CAMOGIE ALL STARS



2013 Camogie All Stars Awards in Association with Liberty Insurance, Citywest Hotel, Dublin 2/11/2013
Galway's Susan Earner, Niamh Kilkenny, Lorraine Ryan, Sarah Dervan, Therese Maher, Ailish O'Reilly, Emma Kilkelly,
Niamh McGrath represented by her mother Geraldine, Heather Cooney, Rebecca Hennelly,
Paula Kenny with manager Tony Ward
Mandatory Credit ©INPHO/James Crombie



2013 Camogie All Stars Awards in Association with Liberty Insurance, Citywest Hotel, Dublin 2/11/2013
Lorraine Kelly, Galway
Mandatory Credit ©INPHO/James Crombie



2013 Camogie All Stars Awards in Association with Liberty Insurance, Citywest Hotel, Dublin 2/11/2013
Niamh Kilkenny, Galway
Mandatory Credit ©INPHO/James Crombie



2013 Camogie All Stars Awards in Association with Liberty Insurance, Citywest Hotel, Dublin 2/11/2013
Galway's Senior All Star's Lorraine Ryan, Ailish O'Reilly, Niamh Kilkenny, Susan Earner,
Niamh Ryan represented by her mother Geraldine Ryan, Therese Maher, Sarah Dervan
Mandatory Credit ©INPHO/James Crombie

COUNTY CAMOGIE WINNERS



ARDRAHAN

Back Row Left to Right: Sinead Kilkelly, Ann Healy, Siobhan Gardiner, Margaurite Howley, Roisin Gardiner, Aoife Lynskey, Keelin O'Shaughnessy, Rachael O'Toole (Captain), Denise Murphy, Andrea Mullins, Megan Carr, Aoife Callanan, Rebecca Hennelly, Eleanor Stafford.
Front Row Left to Right: Siobhan Quirke, Niamh Gardiner, Clodhna Walsh, Katie Forde, Aishling Brennan, Edel Holland, Shiela Forde, Katie Quinn McMahon, Leanne O'Toole, Shauna Healy, Sarah Keenan, Olivia Keenan, Tara O'Shaughnessy, Clair Hogan



Rachael O'Toole of Ardrahan receives the cup from Geraldine McGrath



Aoife Lynskey Ardrahan, person of the match



Portumna captain Lorraine Conroy receives the cup from Geraldine McGrath chairperson of Galway Camogie Board



Katie O'Brien of Portumna receives her person of the match award from Frank Duane of Duane Hardware Killtulla



PORTUMNA

Back Row Left to Right: Rhona Geraghty, Orla O'Brien, Niamh McClearn, Shannon Whelan, Philippa Coleman, Maeve Moran, Lorraine Conroy, Hazel Treacy, Tara Harte, Caoimhe Horan and Brenda McClearn
Front Row Left to Right: Katie O'Brien, Trish Burke, Tara Rutledge, Linsay McClearn, Megan Moran, Amy Moran, Emma Rutledge, Triona Byrne and Sarah Conboy

DAVITTS COUNTY MINOR A CHAMPIONS



Back Row: Emer Donnellan, Tara Murphy, Lily Burke, Rachel Duggan, Aimee Devery, Ciara Robinson, Claire McHugo, Nicole Duggan, Ruth Jordan, Rachel Dolan, Amy Comar, Kate Flynn, Laura Fahy.
Front Row: Roisin O Byrne, Niamh Lawless, Emma O'Rourke, Lisa Shiel, Maria Behony, Taragh Moloney, Aine Dervan, Rebecca Dolan, Aoife McDonagh, Aisling O'Rourke, Katie Larkin.

CAMOGIE ROUND UP

SENIOR

A historic year never be forgotten, this year's All-Ireland double success hardly looked likely in June after both the seniors failed to reach the league knock out stages and the first outing in search of O'Duffy saw the Tribeswomen go down 1-10 to 1-8 against Kilkenny.

It's a testament to the belief of the squad who represented the county that they bounced back to complete the most remarkable season the maroon and white had ever known.

Despite some trepidation beforehand, Galway delivered a performance away to Wexford that suggested improvement was imminent. Niamh McGrath had a tremendous first half scoring five points while Therese Maher led the defensive resistance as Galway took a priceless victory. Another critical juncture arrived seven days later in Ennis. Trailing 0-8 to 1-3 at half-time after plenty of opportunities, conferences were held on field and inside before a much improved second half display including goals from Ann Marie Hayes and Molly Dunne secured a 3-12 to 1-12 win.

The following weekend was the defining weekend in Galway's season. The seniors pulled up in a 3-16 to 0-12 success against Derry the following day. Careless errors were creeping in and Tony Ward wasn't amused. The hairdryer treatment was delivered and the Tribeswomen never looked back.

In August, Tipperary were despatched in quick fashion as Ailish O'Reilly's two goals gave Galway a 2-19 to 0-9 victory in the senior quarter-final. Two weeks later, they were at it again as Niamh Kilkenny struck an

BY DARREN KELLY

early major on the way to dethroning champions Wexford in the semi-final by 1-12 to 0-6. And then, after so many near misses, Galway finally got their hands on the O'Duffy Cup. A nervous opening received its release when Ailish O'Reilly hand passed to the net before half-time and Noreen Coen struck over a brace of points. And even though Kilkenny stayed in touch in the second half, crucial scores from Niamh McGrath and Emma Kilkelly ensured 17 years of hurt had finally come to an end. For Therese Maher, it was the crowning moment of a glittering career for the Queen of Galway camogie. For the whole panel, it was the fully deserved award for their efforts! For all the hurt in pursuit of the Holy Grail, the maroon and white at last got over the line! For a new generation of supporters, they now had a new set of heroes!

INTERMEDIATE

While most of the attention centred on the senior breakthrough, the future of camogie in the county was also seen to be in a very strong position as the Galway intermediates took their third All-Ireland intermediate title when they defeated Limerick in Croke Park before the senior final.

They got the ball rolling back in June with Rebecca Hennelly and Orlaith McGrath prominent in the scoring in the 0-13 to 0-4 win over Meath before further wins over Wexford and Tipperary ensured them a semi-

final spot. Orlaith McGrath, Finola Keely and Aoife Donohue struck the goals in a 3-13 to 0-11 win over Wexford while Katie O'Dwyer's goal helped them to a nervous 1-11 to 1-10 success against Tipperary.

It was a long wait for the semi-final on August 24th but the intermediates weren't outdone as they took an impressive 1-15 to 1-7 win over Waterford. Caitriona Cornican threw herself into every tackle and Deirdre Burke scored an important point bypassing two defenders, before splitting the posts.

For the first time since 1998, Galway were sending two teams to Croke Park for All-Ireland final day. It was the first senior-intermediate combination and the intermediates were slight outsiders.

But despite a dogged start, they stamped their authority on the game in the second quarter as points from Rebecca Hennelly, Orlaith McGrath and Aoife Donohue put distance between the teams. And even though the Shannonsiders came back, points at crucial times from Hennelly and McGrath ensured the Jack McGrath Cup was heading west.

The senior success was special for Galway but the intermediates win beforehand showed that camogie is strong in the county and provides confidence that the wait for more silverware shouldn't be too long. Galway's hard working defenders and young lively attackers had the perfect mix to build an All-Ireland winning campaign and will provide major competition to their senior counterparts in 2014.



CASTLEGAR U16 CAMOGIE TEAM WHO WERE DEFEATED BY MOUNTBELLEW/MOYLLOUGH IN THE COUNTY FINAL
 Back Row Left to Right: Eithne O'Reilly (Sel), Liz Broderick (First Aid), Arlene Walsh, Lily O'Connell, Ellen Connor, Ellen Connolly (Capt), Ciara Gilmore, Chloe Broderick, Keely King, Elisha Broderick, Bryan Keane (Manager), Sarah Connor, James Flaherty.
 Front Row Left to Right: Aisling Ruane, Muireann O'Reilly, Saoirse McDermott, Robyn Lyons, Eilis Connell, Shannon Connell, Rachel Keady, Eva Gilmore, Anna Flaherty.



PEARSE'S U16 CAMOGIE TEAM WHICH WON THE COUNTY C FINAL
 Back Row Left to Right: Amy Kenny, Claire Carr, Saoirse Leonard, Sarah Murphy, Rachel Dunleavy, Aisling Hynes, Ciara Leonard, Lisa Dunleavy, Niamh Jennings, Collette Walsh Manager.
 Front Row Left to Right: Aoife Lydon, Alanna Taylor, Clara Doran, Ciara Lally, Leah Murray, Katie Kindergan (Capt), Chloe Naughton, Tara Naughton, Ciara Costello, Ruth Carr.

ST BRIGID'S VOCATIONAL SCHOOL, LOUGHREA



ALL IRELAND SENIOR CAMOGIE FINALISTS & CONNACHT CHAMPIONS 2013

Back Row Left to Right: Katie Naughton, Tara McNally, Tara Murphy, Katie Donoghue, Erica Coen, Aisling Connolly, Laura Porter, Lorraine Farrell (Capt), Caoimhe Reidy, Emma Holohan, Claudia Lowry, Fiona Burke, Aoife Kennedy, Ailish Mitchell, Laura Connolly.

Front Row Left to Right: Tommy Coen, Shauna Coen, Clara Finnerty, Linda Porter, Rachel Monaghan, Rebecca Finnerty, Patricia Manning, Niamh Connolly, Maria O'Brien, Siobhan Havery, Aoibhin Kenny, Niamh Murphy, Kate Gallagher, Laura Sweeney, Jessica Deely, Emma Byrne, Maria Cooney, Sarah Gallagher, Gerard Lyons (Manager).



SEPTEMBER: Galway captain Lorraine Ryan, Heather Cooney and Noreen Coen celebrate with the O'Duffy Cup after defeating Kilkenny in the All-Ireland senior camogie final at Croke Park.



AUGUST: Galway players celebrate after their All-Ireland minor football final triumph, from left: Darina Keane, Aisling Hynes, Keara Cormican, Caoimhe Ni Laol and super sub Leann Walsh.



Tears of Joy: Galway veteran Therese Maher at the final whistle after the Tribes defeated Kilkenny 1-9 to 0-7 in the Liberty Insurance Senior Camogie final at Croke Park on September 15. Picture: Dan Sheridan/INPHO



SEPTEMBER: Galway's camogie heroes celebrate with the O'Duffy cup after their triumph over Kilkenny in the All-Ireland Senior Camogie Final at Croke Park. PHOTO: INPHO/CATHAL NOONAN

DEC. 2013

JAN. 2014



BARBARA O'CONNELL

CAMOGIE

CORK minor captain Lauren Callanan has enjoyed a tremendous season with her club Glen Rovers where she captured the Senior B and minor doubles, as they brought home the league and championship trophies in both codes to round off a tremendous season.

The Leaving Cert student at St Aidan's Community College, Dublin Hill, has just turned 18 and is two weeks over-age and so cannot play minor again in 2014.

Taking over the centre-back role this season on the senior side, Lauren took it all in her stride and produced tremendous displays having picked up the player of the match award in the final where she gave a solid performance in the heart of the Glen Rovers defence.

Callanan began playing camogie at the age of eight along with her friend Eimear Sheehan and has been hooked ever since. Growing up with idols such as Denise Luby, Gemma O'Connor and hurling stars Ben and Jerry O'Connor, Callanan's focus was always to play at the highest level possible.

A member of Glen minor and senior teams, Cork minor and intermediate teams this year shows the talent and commitment Callanan has possessed over the past number of years to be playing a huge role in all four teams this year.

"Being part of four teams this year was great. But to achieve so much success was a dream really," said Callanan.

Winning minor and senior doubles with her club, captaining Cork minors to an All-Ireland final and playing with Cork intermediates was a huge achievement. However it was also a huge commitment and took up a lot of Callanan's time.

"My training schedule was pretty hectic all right, training or playing games six days a week, however I wouldn't have had it any other way."

"There's nothing better than training or playing with friends you have grown up with."

"The fact that we had a successful year was obviously a bonus, and made everything more enjoyable."

Although Callanan had a tremendous year with her club, her highlight was captaining Cork minors to an All-Ireland final. Unfortunately for her, they were unlucky not to carry home the honours as her side lost out in a replay. But she can be proud to know she produced another great display as they eventually bowed out to a talented Kilkenny side.

County titles are nothing new to this teenager, as she holds U16A and B county honours as well as Seandún honours from U11 to U15 with her club.

She also has many under age inter-county provincial honours.

A product of the club's underage nursery, Lauren believes she wouldn't have gained so much success and enjoyment without the hard work of a number of people.

"There are a handful of people who keep the club going and I will be forever grateful to them for all the hard work they have put in over the years. Mary Newman and Mary

Minor misfortune only blip on great year for Callanan



Alice Talbot, Kilkenny, in action against Lauren Callanan, Cork during the All-Ireland Minor A Championship final replay at Fraher Field, Dungarvan.

Picture: CD Photography

Factfile

Name: Lauren Callanan.
Age: 18.
Lives: Dublin Hill.
Family: Mam Sheila, Dad Robbie, brother Arron and older sister Stephanie.
Club: Glen Rovers.
Position: Centre-back.
Other hobbies/interests: Soccer, reading, loves playing guitar and listening to music and watching Game of Thrones!!
Sporting idol(s): Liam Rushe, Mesut Ozil.
A website you'd check every day: Sky Sports News.

why we did so well, I believe.

"Clan and Dave brought new drills every week to the sessions keeping things fresh and each drill got progressively more difficult so everyone knew that they couldn't afford to miss a session. The competition for places was crazy this year. No one was safe.

"However, when the season started we felt ready more than ever. I think we finally started using our brains, we became more efficient with the ball and started playing to our strengths but constantly improving our weaknesses. I think Jennifer Hosford's return from injury and young players coming up like Kelly Falvey added great strength to the team. However, you can't beat experience and the standout players for me this year were Lydia Cunningham and Sinead O'Halloran. They were absolutely class."

"Every year we learn something new from playing alongside players like them and I hope that a chance of winning a senior A county medal with my club is not far off the radar."

A superb athlete, Callanan has proved to be, however she is also a superb academic and is now focusing for the next few months on her Leaving Certificate as she hopes to pursue a career in medicine. For the benefits of the Glen and Cork camogie, let's hope her studies will allow her to remain in Cork.



Lauren Callanan has had a great year with club and county.

O'Neill: Merging our structures a seismic shift

by Niall Feerick

GAA president Liam O'Neill has accepted that moves to integrate all aspects of Gaelic games into one organisation would be the end of county boards as we know it.

O'Neill plans to bring a proposal to Congress to open formal negotiations with ladies football and camogie but accepted any move would have knock-on effects on the management structures in place currently around the country.

"Well I suppose there are three separate structures which involves three separate groups of people the whole way down along," he said of the current systems in place for ladies football, camogie and Gaelic football and hurling.

"In a single one, while you would have a sub-committee system that would put them in, it would be a realignment. You wouldn't have a county chairperson of all the one, you'd have one county body running it. We would have to look at the model where we couldn't have the county board officer-ships as we have them now.

"We probably have to move to some sort of an executive running the county board which might be an interesting way of... it would be a different way of looking at how you do things. You wouldn't be electing a youth officer, a development officer. You'd be electing an executive probably to run the county, with positions on it for what's now known as the camogie association, the ladies football association, handball and rounders.

"So there would have to be a rethink on how it would be done and that would challenge us. But it could be the means by which we could regenerate the entire organisation if everyone is open minded about it.

"I'm not saying this is easy. We would probably have to get outside help. We would probably have to get some sort of facilitator to look at the thing with us and say, 'this is how the thing could work if you all agree to go the route'.

"I think it could open up huge pos-

sibilities to do what we do, better."

The end goal is one body to govern all aspects of GAA life. That would also mean sacrifices from those currently occupying presidential roles in their own organisations.

"We're looking for one over-arching body, yes, but we're looking at a situation where we would have to redesign the GAA as we know it to accommodate that. And we're quite willing to do that.

"There would be one overall president but I'd imagine you could have a situation where the presidents of the other sports are vice-presidents of the GAA. You'd have to re-look at it. You'd have to look at where you would accommodate the other four presidents in the structure. There'd have to be some sort of realignment.

"They'd still be the leaders of their own organisations because one president couldn't present cups to camogie, ladies football etc at the same time. We can hardly do it as it is, so one person just couldn't cover it unless you had bilocation or trilocation or whatever."

He expects a natural resistance to change but promised to keep all sides informed as the process develops.

"It's hard to paint that picture for everyone at the moment because people look to it as, 'how would this affect us?' And that's a reasonable position.

"But in the change process, that's how life goes. You don't get your way on change immediately. You have to work with it. But if there was goodwill and if people wanted it to be done, it could be done over a very short period, if people want to put up barriers, then it's very easy to do it.

"What we're asking the other organisations is to be honest, tell us where they are with it. The three organisations have been asked to put three motions to Congress saying that we will start the process of negotiation. And it's a process that anybody can pull back from anytime they like. Nobody is going to be railroaded here."

Read more on Page 23

"We're looking for one over-arching body, yes, but we're looking at a situation where we would have to redesign the GAA as we know it to accommodate that. And we're quite willing to do that."

— GAA president
Liam O'Neill



NEWS CAMOGIE ALLSTARS

Camogie All-stars honoured

THE teams that contested a high quality Corn Uan Uladh final at the start of December dominate the Ulster Colleges' Camogie All-stars team announced yesterday.

St Patrick's, Maghera had gone into that final chasing an unprecedented fifth successive senior title. But they were stopped in their tracks by St Mary's, Magherafelt who then doubled-up the following weekend by collecting their third successive u-16 title.

Magherafelt gained five Allstars in total, and Maghera got four.

Captain of that u-16 team, Jackie Donnelly, a goal-scorer in both finals, wins her first All-star.

Aine McAllister received her third successive All-star.

Maghera's Máiréad McNicholl award equalled her older sister Gráinne's tally of two awards.

Aoife Keown and Aimee McAleenan pick up second successive awards for Assumption Ballynahinch, whom they helped win the Senior Medallion Shield recently under the captaincy of new All-star winner Colleen Clarke.

St Pius X Magherafelt captain Aimee Devlin also gains a second award, while there is also a second award for St Louise's Niamh Sher-

ry Adams, who plays for the St John's club in Belfast.

The Antrim team that won the Ulster minor title in July has four representatives - Niamh Sherry Adams, Cross & Passion pair Danielle McMichael and Erin Elliott, along with Nicole O'Neill who attends Loreto College Coleraine.

The girls will formally receive their awards at a Gala Dinner in the New Year.

Ulster Colleges' Camogie All-stars 2014
Jackie Donnelly, Megan Diamond, Nicole Clerklin, Kirsty McLeod, Aine McAllister (St Mary's, Magherafelt)
Máiréad McNicholl, Orlaith Ni Mhaoldáin, Bróna Ni Chaiside, Clare Burns (St Patrick's, Maghera)
Aoife Keown, Aimee McAleenan, Colleen Clarke (Assumption, Ballynahinch)
Caroline Rafferty (St Colm's, Draperstown)
Nicole O'Neill (Loreto College, Coleraine)
Eimear Hayes (St Catherine's College, Armagh)
Aimee Devlin (St Pius X, Magherafelt)
Deirbhile Savage (Our Lady and St Patrick's Knock)
Anna Rogan (St Malachy's, Castlewellan)
Danielle McMichael, Erin Elliott (Cross and Passion, Ballycastle)
Niamh Sherry Adams (St Louise's, Belfast)
Laura Smyth (St Patrick's Keady)



READY FOR ACTION: The Cork camogie team who played Kilkenny in 1914, in the days before the All-Ireland championship



Camogie players Chloe Murphy, Sarah Buckley, Semma Long and Amanda Dorgan of CIT Student GAA Club at the launch of the VMware sponsorship of CIT Student GAA Club.

Picture: Larry Cummins

Getting the ball rolling on uniting the

by Niall Feerick

Early last month, Donal Óg Cusack was the headline-grabbing speaker at the camogie association's All Star banquet for 2013.

"Camogie needs to be appreciated for what it is and not constantly held up to the light and compared to what the men are doing," said the Cloyne man to warm applause, stating how he'd love to hear someone say just once that Henry Shefflin would be proud of something Brieghe Corkery did, and not the other way around.

It remains to be seen if Cusack's desire for equal status among those who play both ancient games comes to pass.

What's certain is that he has a kindred spirit in GAA President Liam O'Neill who is spearheading the

drive to formalise not just camogie but ladies Gaelic football as official, equal, GAA units.

Cusack also touched on this issue in his speech, claiming he too favoured such a marriage or 'civil union' and that both parties had everything to gain from it.

The ball is already rolling in the direction of full integration with Dublin GAA recently confirming a multi-million euro sponsorship deal that relates to male and female players of both codes in the capital.

It is significant too that, for the first time, all four elite third-level Gaelic games competitions — the Sigerson and Fitzgibbon Cups and the Ashbourne and O'Connor Cups — will be hosted by the one university, Queens, in 2014.

Behind closed doors, talks have

been taking place between GAA, camogie and ladies Gaelic football officials since last April.

The next step is each of those organisations bringing forward motions to their respective congress gatherings to open formal integration negotiations, paving the way for a potentially historic accord.

For a start, county boards as they currently exist may have to be overhauled.

"It would be a different way of looking at how you do things," said O'Neill.

"You'd be electing an executive, probably, to run the county, with positions on it for what's now known as the camogie association and the ladies football association, and for handball and rounders.

"So there would have to be a re-

think on how it would be done and that would challenge us. But it could be the means by which we could regenerate the entire organisation, if everyone is open minded about it.

"I'm not saying this is easy. We would probably have to get outside help. We would probably have to get some sort of facilitator to look at the thing with us and say, 'this is how the thing could work if you all agree to go the route'. But I think it could open up huge possibilities for us to do what we do better."

On paper, the benefits appear to be loaded in favour of camogie and ladies Gaelic football. As O'Neill pointed out, they would immediately gain access 'to almost a billion euros of property, automatic access, the same way hurling and football have'.

Or for the many dual players who

entire GAA family

currently pay membership and insurance to two separate organisations, they would only have to pay to one, to the GAA, if all were integrated.

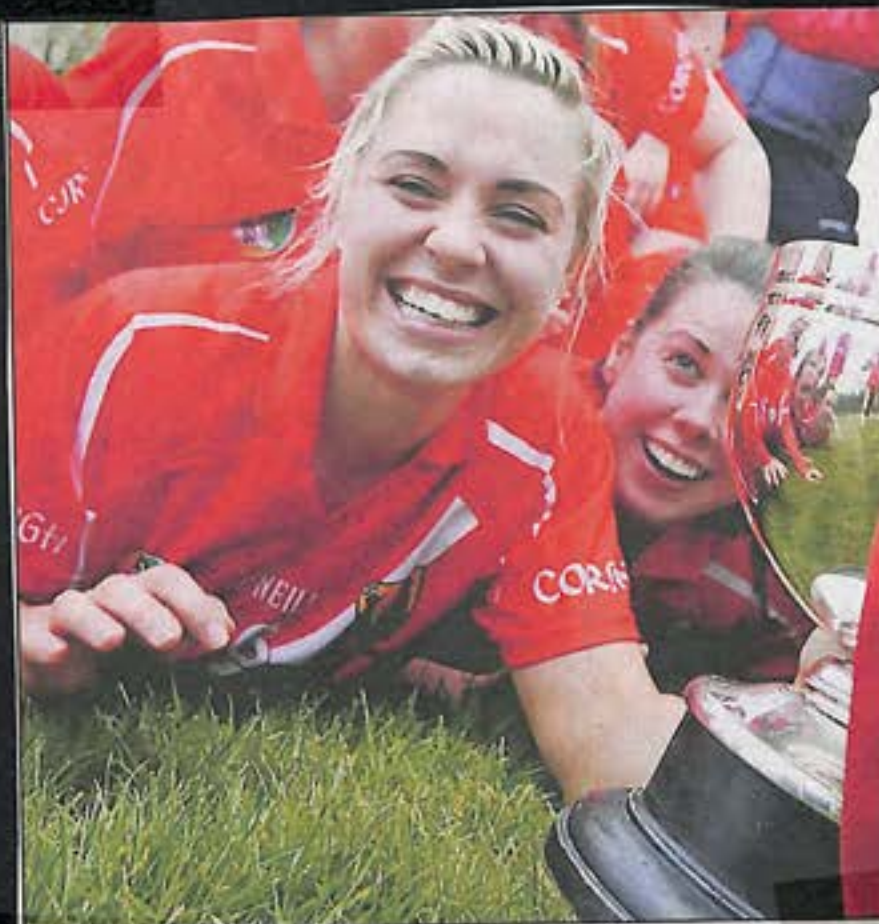
Viewed in a particular light, it is a no-brainer. But as camogie President Aileen Lawlor pointed out, previous attempts to bring the associations together have failed.

"It has been attempted a few times and never got too far along the way," said Lawlor, who is firmly behind the bid. "It would get to a certain stage and then stop. The terms of office of all the [GAA] Presidents were three years so you could get so much done in three years and then it might fall away, depending on who followed. In Liam's term, he's pushing it forward that much more and he might not get it done in his three years but at least he might get to a certain stage

where there's no going back."

Lawlor said the chief fear in camogie circles is 'of being taken over by the bigger fish'. That is something she doesn't believe will happen, mind. Those closest to the negotiations so far suggest that ladies Gaelic football officials are most cautious.

"I think it will happen," said ladies football President Pat Quill. "I have no doubt it will happen. Obviously there's a process that's to be gone through and there's a sell to be done on it. I suppose from our point of view it's just to ensure that there's equal development and opportunities for the girls as well as the fellas, that it's not a question of coming into an organisation and being swallowed up. But it will happen, let there be no doubt about it. It's a matter of when rather than if."



Cork's Anna Geary believes a catch-all association would provide increased coverage for camogie and ladies football.

Howard says voting rights the likely stumbling block

by Eoghan Cormican

Voting rights could prove the stumbling block to the integration of all aspects of Gaelic Games into one organisation, according to Liz Howard.

The former Camogie Association President welcomes the proposed move, but acknowledges the multitude of challenges that lie ahead.

"The parish rule doesn't exist in camogie, so if you take my own club Burgess as an example we have girls playing with us from Silvermines, Nenagh and Portroe.

Hurling people from Burgess, if this move comes to pass, mightn't

like people from Portroe and Silvermines voting on what is best for the Burgess club.

"In saying that, we have to look at the bigger picture of where Gaelic Games as a one family association can go.

"The possibilities are both endless and boundless. I would be confident with Liam O'Neill and Paraic Duffy leading the charge that the bigger picture will be realised.

"Who follows Liam O'Neill as President of the GAA is very important as he must be willing to follow in Liam's footsteps and ensure integration goes the distance. I am confident though that this will go the distance."

JAN. 2014

######

JAN. 2014

Glen bag their first Senior B crown

Rovers win league title in epic final

SENIOR B LEAGUE

TWO groups battled it out for the semi-final places with Glen Rovers, Éire Óg, Clonakilty and Ballygarvan, who had made the drop down from senior grade, emerging to contest them.

In a tight contest, Clonakilty edged-out Ballygarvan with just a point to spare in on a 3-10 to 3-9 scoreline. Goals proved vital for Glen Rovers in their 2-11 to 0-11 win over Éire Óg.

The final was played as curtain-raiser to the senior league final and Clonakilty and Glen Rovers didn't disappoint in a cracking final.

Clon, chasing their first senior B title, faced a Glen Rovers side who were champions in 2009 but lost out in the league finals of 2011 and 2012, making them determined to get this one right.

A superb display from their defence where Cork minor captain Lauren Callanan was outstanding, ably assisted by Lydia Cunningham and captain Karen O'Connell, saw the Glen hold a Clon side, who were aided by the strong wind in the first half.

It was the Glen who led 0-5 to 0-3 at the break. Sinead O'Halloran, Sinead Fahy and Denise Luby were on target as they held the upper hand while Aoife Deasy and Susan Forristal responded as Clonakilty battled against the strong Glen defence.

Aided by the wind in the second half the Glen hit three points without reply, Denise Luby and Aisling Wallace opening up a five-point lead.

Clonakilty held their concentration and battled to get something back, and when Aoife Deasy found the net just two separated the sides.

Again both defences were under pressure. Sinead O'Halloran settled the Glen's nerves with a point and when Jennifer Hosford's long range effort from midfield hit the net the Glen were six point clear with eight minutes remaining.

Denise Luby pointed a free to make it seven but again Clon fought back, Aoife Deasy and Sinead O'Neill pointing. With Clon pressing to get the vital goal the Glen defence had to stand firm but with the excellent Lauren Callanan and Leanne O'Sullivan mopping up anything they threw at them the Glen saw off the challenge.

Denise Luby converted a free before Aoife Deasy did likewise for Clon but there was going to be no denying Glen the league title as they signalled their intent for the rest of the season.



The Glen Rovers team which won the Evening Echo Cork County Senior B Championship.

SENIOR B CHAMPIONSHIP

By Mary Newman

The Evening Echo Senior B championship never fails to disappoint and 2013 was no exception with some terrific games.

Again, as with the league, the championship is played on round robin basis and really tests the stamina and ability of the clubs.

Section B was the strong group with three of the four league semi-finalists paired together: Ballygarvan, Glen Rovers and Éire Óg and they were joined by Aghabullogue.

Section A had Valley Rovers, Mallow, Kilbrittain/Timoleague, Fr O'Neill's and Clonakilty battling for the two semi-final spots.

It went down to the wire in section A with the second semi-final spot there for the taking up to the last round and it was Kilbrittain/Timoleague who topped the group with Valley Rovers in second.

Glen Rovers overcame Ballygarvan in the opening game, and with Éire Óg defeating Aghabullogue, the group pattern was already emerging. Glen needed to overcome Éire Óg in round two and in a tough contest they did that and then defeated Aghabullogue to secure top spot.

With Ballygarvan defeating Aghabullogue the pressure was on Éire Óg and Ballygarvan for the runners-up place in the group. Showing huge determination Éire Óg secured their place in the final and a meeting with their old rivals Glen Rovers.

There was a packed house in Castle Road for the final and they were treated to a great game as the sides gave it their all to take the crown and win a place back in senior ranks, where both had covered



Marion McCarthy presented the Evening Echo Senior B Championship trophy to Glen Rovers captain Karen O'Connell.

themselves in glory in former days.

Glen Rovers started well and led by seven points at half time but a strong Éire Óg fightback saw the Glen hanging on as the Owens girls almost fashioned a dramatic draw two minutes into injury time.

The sides swapped early points and it was 0-2 apiece after six minutes. Sinead O'Halloran put the Glen ahead with a point and she extended their lead when an excellent pass from full-forward Denise Luby to the unmarked O'Halloran saw the corner-forward finished superbly to the net. Picking off points, with Sinead Fahy and Kelly Fitzgerald all

contributing, the Glen girls started to edge further ahead but they were pinned back when Elaine Scally showed huge confidence as she took on their defence and finished to the net.

With three points separating the sides as half time approached the Glen hit four points in a row, one a superb long range effort from Lydia Cunningham, as they went seven points clear at the half-time whistle.

Éire Óg came out fighting in the second half and began to dominate. Erin Corkery cut the deficit with a goal after being set up by Maeve Desmond and when Eimear Scally

set up Emma Crowley for a point the gap was down to three points and it was game on.

With their captain Karen O'Connell playing superbly in defence the Glen began to settle again and with Lauren Callanan outstanding at centre-back they closed down Éire Óg's attack.

Denise Luby pointed twice and they looked to have weathered the Éire Óg's storm. But refusing to give in they hit points from Margaret O'Herlihy and Erin Corkery.

Sinead O'Halloran pointed to settle the Glen nerves and winning a penalty on 53 minutes it looked as if they were going to be safe. However the Denise Luby effort was saved on the line and they swept back upfield with captain Margaret O'Herlihy pointing a free.

Excitement was now fierce as these two old rivals battled it out with Éire Óg pushing for an equaliser a minute into injury time a high dropping ball gave them an opportunity but Glen defender and club stalwart Aileen Guinon showed all her experience got in timely challenge to avert danger for a 45.

From this they won a second 45. Twice Margaret O'Herlihy dropped the ball in but on both occasions the Glen defence stood firm.

The final whistle brought a huge out pouring of emotion as Cork oldest club took their first senior B championship title and made it a double and also won themselves promotion to senior for 2014.

Cork minor captain Lauren Callanan was named Player of the Match after a superb display in defence for her club. Both clubs must be credited for the superb game which was enjoyed by a huge crowd at the superb Castle Road venue.

Heartbreak for Éire Óg to lose another final, but elation for Glen Rovers who showed just what this victory meant to them at the full time whistle.

Millstreet triumph in delayed decider

CAMOGIE

By Mary Newman

Millstreet 2-4
Cloughduv 0-6

MILLSTREET captured the last championship title on offer for 2013 when they overcame Cloughduv in the U16 B final at Castle Road.

The game, which was due to be played a few weeks earlier, had to be postponed due to stormy conditions. This time out the sides were greeted by a strong wind blowing in the direction of Blackrock Castle as they had to contend with a cold wintry morning.

The condition of camogie headquarters was as always superb, and it must be said it is a venue that is a credit to the Cork Camogie Board, with a superb location and given the condition of the pitch all-year around.

Cloughduv, playing with the aid of the strong gale force wind found it hard to break down a solid Millstreet defence, and despite winning a huge amount of possession, they found scores hard to come by.

Niamh O'Leary, who did huge work for Cloughduv, was on target pointing three frees to open up a lead for her side. Working hard the Millstreet defence held their lines and denied Cloughduv a goal.

Millstreet struck it lucky when Leeann Kelleher's dipping shot for a point deceived the Cloughduv defence and dropped into the net for their opening score 14 minutes into the game.

Rachel Hurley steadied Cloughduv with an effort from play and with Niamh O'Leary pointing a free before the break Cloughduv led 0-5 to 1-0 at the interval.

Turning to play against the strong wind Cloughduv had it all to do to hold their advantage. With Maire Ellen O'Connor pointing inside two minutes of the restart just a point separated the sides.



The Millstreet side that overcame Cloughduv in the U16 B final at Castle Road.

Digging deep Cloughduv clung to the lead and with Niamh O'Leary adding a point to their tally two separated the sides.

Time and again Cloughduv cleared their lines, with Aisling Kelleher and Aideen Buckley impressive as they stemmed the tide and kept Millstreet at bay.

At the other end Millstreet had two scares as the Cloughduv attack failed to convert goal chances which came their way.

Cloughduv moved their impressive number 11 Niamh O'Leary to full-forward in the hope of grabbing a goal, but the move backfired as they now struggled to get the ball in playing against the wind.

Millstreet hit the front on the three quarter stage with substitute Una Buckley, who was just on the field, announcing her arrival edging the ball to the net after good work from Ava Barry and Derbhla

Murphy, who found Buckley with an excellent pass.

With their noses in front Millstreet began to open up.

Kate O'Keefe pointed but it was to be 15 minutes before they registered their next score as the Cloughduv defence regained their composure led by the excellent Aisling Kelleher.

Again they struggled to get the ball to their inside line as Millstreet, with Lydia O'Reilly and Kate O'Keefe impressing, worked hard to hold their lead.

With three minutes remaining Chloe Collins pointed to put three between the sides and a late Kate O'Keefe point ensured no way back for Cloughduv, after an exciting contest where goal proved vital for Millstreet.

They finally put several disappointments behind them to climb the rostrum much to the delight of

their supporters who travelled in large numbers to Castle Road.

Lydia O'Reilly was named as player of the match and presented with a memento by Tina Sheehan, secretary of the Juvenile Camogie Board, while Mary O'Sullivan, chairwoman of the Juvenile Camogie Board presented the trophy to Millstreet captain Leanne Kelleher.

Scorers for Millstreet: L Kelleher, U Buckley 1-0 each, K O'Keefe 0-2, C Collins 0-1, ME O'Connor 0-1.

Cloughduv: N O'Leary 0-5 (0-4 ft), R Hurley 0-1.

MILLSTREET: M Lane; C Murphy, S Dennehy, R O'Brien, J Tarrant, L O'Reilly, D O'Reilly, K O'Keefe, ME O'Connor, C O'Keefe, L Kelleher (cl), C Collins, D Murphy, N Scott, A Barry.

Sub: U Buckley for N Scott (38).

CLOUGHDUV: D Galvin, A Buckley, A Kelleher, S Walsh, J Bateman, N McCarthy, H Dunne, C Hughes, K O'Sullivan, A Twomey, N O'Leary, K Verling, A Ryan (cl), R Hurley, L Keating.

Sub: M Kelleher for A Twomey (39).

Referee: Ian Thomas (Carrigaline).

O'Reilly stars as brilliant Millstreet take county honours

Millstreet 2-4
Cloughduv 0-6

Millstreet captured the last championship title on offer for 2013 as they overcame Cloughduv in Castle Road recently.

A strong wind blowing in the direction of Blackrock Castle failed to deter both sides and the excellent condition of the pitch made for a most enjoyable encounter.

Cloughduv playing with the wind in the first half, found it hard to take control thanks to a solid display from the Millstreet defence.

Niamh O'Leary was to the fore, doing huge work for Cloughduv and she pointed three frees to open up a lead for her side. Still, with the Millstreet defence holding their lines, Cloughduv found no way through to goal.

Millstreet battled hard and Leeann Kelleher's dipping shot deceived the Cloughduv defence and dropped to the net to open their account after 14 minutes.

Rachel Hurley hit a Cloughduv point and with Niamh O'Leary pointing a free, Cloughduv led 0-5 to 1-0 at the interval.

Turning to play against the strong wind, Cloughduv had it all to do to hold their advantage and with Maire Ellen O'Connor pointing inside two minutes of the restart, just a point separated the sides.

Digging deep, Cloughduv held their lead and O'Leary added a point to their tally to leave two points between the sides.

Cloughduv's Aisling Kelleher and



Lydia O'Reilly is presented with the player of the match award in last Sunday's Under 16B final by Tina Sheehan, secretary of the juvenile camogie board.

Aideen Buckley were impressive as they tried to keep the Millstreet attack at bay.

At the other end Millstreet had two scares as the Cloughduv attack missed decent chances.

Cloughduv moved Niamh O'Leary to full forward in the hope

of grabbing a goal.

Millstreet hit the front on the three-quarter stage with substitute Una Buckley — just on the field — announcing her arrival, edging the ball to the net, after good work from Ava Barry and Derbhla Murphy.

With their noses in front,

Millstreet began to open up the game and were now exerting huge pressure on the Cloughduv defence.

Kate Keefe pointed but it was to be 15 minutes before they registered their next score as the Cloughduv defence regained their composure,

led by the excellent Aisling Kelleher.

Still Cloughduv struggled to get the ball to their inside line as Millstreet were getting stronger, Lydia O'Reilly and Kate O'Keefe fighting hard.

With three minutes remaining Chloe Collins pointed to put three between the sides and a late Kate O'Keefe point ensured no way back for Cloughduv after an exciting contest, where ultimately goals proved vital for Millstreet, as the North Cork side finally put several disappointments behind them to take the title, much to the delight of their supporters who travelled in large numbers to Castle Road.

Lydia O'Reilly was named as player of the match and presented with a memento by Tina Sheehan, secretary of the Juvenile Camogie Board, whilst Mary O'Sullivan Juvenile camogie board chair, presented the trophy to Millstreet captain Leanne Kelleher.

MILLSTREET: M Lane; C Murphy, S Dennehy, R O'Brien, J Tarrant, L O'Reilly, D O'Reilly, K O'Keefe, ME O'Connor, C O'Keefe, L Kelleher (cl), C Collins, D Murphy, N Scott, A Barry.

Subs: U Buckley for N Scott (38). **Scorers:** L Kelleher, U Buckley 1-0 each, K O'Keefe 0-2, C Collins 0-1, ME O'Connor 0-1.

CLOUGHDUV: D Galvin, A Buckley, A Kelleher, S Walsh, J Bateman, N McCarthy, H Dunne, C Hughes, K O'Sullivan, A Twomey, N O'Leary, K Verling, A Ryan (cl), R Hurley, L Keating.

Subs: M Kelleher for A Twomey (39).

Scorers: N O'Leary 0-5 (0-4 ft), R Hurley 0-1.

Referee: Ian Thomas (Carrigaline).

CAMOGIE

As it was for the county senior hurlers, 2013 was a year of progress but ultimately frustration on the senior camogie front.



Cork Senior National League Champions 2013



Cork Under 16 B All Ireland Winners

After winning the national league in 2012 and then reaching that year's All-Ireland final, losing to Wexford, hopes were high that a first All-Ireland since 2009 could be claimed. In the end, it proved not to be, but there were enough encouraging signs along the way to suggest that it will not be long before the O'Duffy Cup resides on Leaside once more.

With Paudie Murray still in charge, the bulk of the 2012 squad remained available and while Gemma O'Connor would miss the championship due to Army commitments, footballer Angela Walsh was once again going to attempt to combine that and camogie. Wexford were shorn of the presence of a number of stars, so it was clear that the Rebels would be serious contenders.

That status was only underlined as the league title was retained, Wexford beaten by two points in the final in Nowlan Park at the start of May. Sile Burns, Julia White and Brieghe Corkery were on the scoresheet in the first half as Cork built a 0-7 to 0-3 lead and with Rena Buckley doing well at centre-back and Orla Cotter

dominating midfield they were in control in key areas.

Though it took 18 minutes for Cork to score in the first half, White and Katrina Mackey helped them to keep Wexford at arm's length. The Model County did come to within a point as Ursula Jacob scored a goal from a penalty. Cork sub Finola Neville eased any worries though as she pointed for a 0-12 to 1-7 win.

A week later, Cork would beat Clare by nine points in the Munster semi-final, the goals from Corkery and Eimear O'Sullivan, to set up a Munster final clash against Tipperary. On May 26, Anna Geary – chosen as captain by her club Millford, the county champions who had added Munster and All-Ireland titles too – would be lifting another trophy as Cork regained the championship. The half-time score was 1-7 to 0-3 for Cork, Mackey with the goal as Aisling Thompson hurled up a storm at midfield.

While Brid Quinn and Jill Horan both found the net for Tipperary after the interval panic was never allowed to seep into Cork's

play, Cotter and Jenny O'Leary keeping the scoreboard ticking over, and at the end they were 1-14 to 2-6 winners. With a month to prepare for the All-Ireland championship, Cork were looking in good shape.

By coincidence, the Rebels' opening game in the round-robin series would be against Tipp again, and the outcome would be similar too. Cork would score a point more and concede a point fewer than the Munster final, the outstanding O'Leary and White raising the green flags. A home clash against Dublin was not expected to pose too many problems and Cork booked their spot in the knockout stages with a 5-23 to 0-4 win. Mackey racked up 2-3 and Burns helped herself to 2-2 while Walsh showed that she wasn't having any problems readjusting to intercounty action as she got 1-4.

It meant that the final group game against Offaly – who had also beaten Tipp and Dublin – on July 20 was effectively a semi-final play-off as the winners would top the section and advance directly to the last four, while the losers would progress to the quarter-finals. Though the scoring wouldn't be as free as in previous games, Cork still did more than enough, a 0-19 to 0-10 win just reward for them as O'Leary, Mackey and Neville combined for 14 points.

Cork were safely into the semi-finals, though with an open draw operating at that stage rather than having a seeding system, they were unlucky to be paired with Kilkenny, who had topped the other group with a 100% record in their four games. If there was some benefit from that though, it was that, while the semi-final was almost a month after the Offaly game, Kilkenny would actually be enduring a longer wait, having finished in their group on July 13.

The chance to reach a first final since 2009 was there, but unfortunately there would be heartbreak as the Noreiders would take the victory by the slimmest of margins. While Aoife Neary had put Kilkenny ahead inside a minute as she opted to put a penalty over the bar, Cork got off to a roaring start when Mackey profited from great play by Walsh and Thompson to fire to the net and then, after the Cats struck back with two points, Mackey set up White for a second goal.

Points were hard to come by, though, and by half-time Cork trailed by 1-7 to 2-3 after Katie Power had goaled for Kilkenny, who could have had more, Aoife Murray saving from Denise Gaule while Rena Buckley kept out a second penalty. A good third-quarter display saw Cork in front, and even though Neary's goal put Kilkenny back in front Cotter levelled. Gemma O'Connor – home on a break from duty – was brought on but Power and Michaelle Quilty put Kilkenny two ahead with five minutes left.

Walsh responded but Power – who finished with 1-6 – restored the two-point lead. Cork piled on the pressure as they sought a match-winning goal, but the closest they came was when Thompson's fizzing shot flew just over the bar. Kilkenny took the honours on a scoreline of 2-12 to 2-11 and while it was heartbreaking for Cork, the year provided enough to build on for 2014.

Millford, who had won the All-Ireland when they beat Galway's Killimor in February, retained their county senior title as they beat Ballincollig by 5-17 to 0-7 in the final. Maria Watson, Louise O'Flynn and Deirdre O'Reilly all scored heavily and player of the match Elaine O'Riordan was impeccable at centre-back. **Glen Rovers** returned to the top tier as they overcame Éire Óg in the senior B decider



Anna Geary is presented with the National League trophy by Aileen Lawlor, President Camogie Association



Millford Senior County Champions



Carrigaline winners of the Evening Echo Intermediate Championship title



Glen Rovers Senior B County Champions

JAN. 2014

CAMOGIE REVIEW

By Mary Newman

THE INTERMEDIATE championship and league were both played on a round-robin basis last year, with four teams emerging to contest the semi-finals of both competitions after a lot of superb games.

League winners Newtownshandrum were in search of a double after taking the first title and the smart money was piled on them as they looked to have the ability to make it a double.

Carrigaline, with several players now available after exams, were on the other side that looked good enough to lift the crown.

Many expected the four league semi-finalists to be in the last four again come championship time but they were proved wrong.

Carrigaline topped Section A with victories over Brian Dillon's, Sarsfields and league champions Newtownshandrum.

Newtown took the second spot as they had victories over Brian Dillon's and Sarsfields. In Section B it was Tracton and Blackrock that emerged as they held off the challenges posed by Newcestown and Buttevant.

It continued to be the year of replays in the championship semi-final as Tracton and Newtownshandrum served up a highly-entertaining Evening Echo Intermediate Championship semi-final.

All through it was close with little between two committed side and this was reflected at the half-time break where they were deadlocked 0-9 to 2-3.

The second half was nail-biting as play swung from end to end and it was score for score and it remained deadlocked to the final whistle as neither side could find a winner and it was all to play for again for the place in the final.

A goal proved crucial as Carrigaline edged it to book a place in the final with a victory over Blackrock. With five minutes remaining they introduced substitutes. U16 player Ellen Twomey got the vital touch when she grabbed the game's only goal and in the finish it proved crucial.

And so to the final and the replay stage continued after a Jennifer Lynch point two minutes into injury time gave Tracton a second chance.

Carrigaline looked to have done enough, leading by two points as the game entered injury time, but all credit to Tracton who fought back to earn themselves a replay with two well-struck points under huge pressure.

Two first-half goals gave Carrigaline the advantage in a contest where the freetakers on both sides showed unerring accuracy. Rachel O'Shea was superb for Carrigaline while Tracton had Jennifer Griffin and Jennifer Lynch both on target.

It was nip and tuck as Tracton opened up a 0-3 to 0-1 lead a Deirdre O'Leary's long-range strike deceived the Tracton keeper and ended in the net to edge Carrigaline ahead.

Tracton responded with two points but Carrigaline hit a second goal Rachel O'Shea on target as they opened up a 2-3 to 0-5 lead and by the interval it was 2-4 to 0-7 in their favour.

Five minutes into the second half they had extended their lead striking three points in a row. Jennifer

Carrig improve after exams are finished



Carrigaline's Deirdre O'Leary and Tracton's Aisling Dempsey tussle for the ball during the Evening Echo Intermediate Camogie Championship final replay at Castle Road.

Picture: Eddie O'Hare

Griffin pointed a free as Tracton battled to get into a game they were chasing.

With Aoife Kiely putting in a superb hour at midfield for Tracton her team mates upped the ante and putting enormous pressure on the Carrigaline defence they picked off their points and with six minutes remaining it was level pegging 2-8 to 0-14.

Carrigaline dug deep Rachel O'Shea pointed a difficult free and they were back in the lead and when the same player pointed from play with a minute of normal time remaining they looked to have their hands on the cup.

All credit to Tracton who fought back Mary McGuinness pointed, and from the puck-out Jennifer Lynch went highest to pluck the ball from the air and showing her experience and composure sent it sailing between the posts to earn her side a well deserved replay.

Again little separated the sides when they faced each other again a pointed free a minute from full time from Rachel O'Shea finally gave Carrigaline the title.

Tracton found themselves trailing early as they did in the first game, but a goal before half time had them back in it and with just two points in it at half time having played against

the stiff breeze they must have fancied their chances.

They hit the front three minutes into the second half with a Marion Jagoe goal, but they failed to build on it and hold their lead as Carrigaline fought back twice before edging ahead with a minute on the stop watch.

In a game that was far superior to the first meeting of the sides, Carrigaline hit the front early, as aided by the wind they put huge pressure on the Tracton defence, and with Rachel O'Shea pointing two frees inside the opening eight minutes they settled into the game.

Up front Tracton could find no way past a strong Carrigaline defence where Deirdre O'Leary and Amy Collins were strong.

Marion Jagoe sent the ball to the after Rachel O'Shea and Maria Moran had extended the Carrigaline lead with three further points and it was Carrigaline who led 0-5 to 1-0 at the interval.

Tracton applied early second half pressure. Jagoe gave them the lead with a goal.

Hayley Fitzgerald and Jennifer Griffin swapped points as Tracton stayed in front but Maria Moran had the sides level with an excellent point and with Rachel O'Shea converting a free Carrigaline were back

in the lead by the end of the third quarter.

Showing tremendous fighting spirit Tracton again fought back. Jennifer Griffin pointed a 45 — it was level pegging again.

Carrigaline won a free on the wing. Rachel O'Shea sent it between the uprights to give her side the lead and on this occasion it was enough as there wasn't enough time for Tracton to fashion an equaliser.

Carrigaline held on to be crowned champions and win promotion back to the senior B grade once again.

Carrigaline Sarah Cotter was selected as Player of the Match following an excellent display.

Carrigaline captain Joanne O'Keefe dedicated the victory to their recently deceased club president Daithi O'Donovan, a man who was the life and soul of the club at all levels.

Accepting the trophy from Sister Patricia of the Presentation Order she said: "Daithi would have been so proud today to see his son Tony coach his beloved club to a championship title and I want to dedicate this win to his memory."

A great victory fashioned out of pure desire and will to win.

It was certainly a wonderful season for both Newtownshandrum and Carrigaline.

Newtown on top in cracker of league final

INTERMEDIATE LEAGUE

LEAGUE ACTION started the intermediate year in 2013, and newly-promoted 2012 junior champions Brian Dillon's made the transition to intermediate smoothly as they confidently surmounted all the challenges to make it to the league semi-final.

The scene was set as Sarsfields, Newtownshandrum and Carrigaline joined Brian Dillon's in the last four.

Brian Dillon's continued to impress as they had two goals to spare over Sarsfields in an exciting 4-6 to 2-6 contest, while Newtownshandrum and Carrigaline had to go to a replay before Newtownshandrum proved to strong for Carrigaline on a 2-10 to 1-7 score line.

It took extra time to separate two committed sides in cracking intermediate league final in Castle Road.

Newtownshandrum started in splendid fashion before Brian Dillon's settled into the swing of the game.

With Caciemhe Rogers putting Dillon's ahead with a goal, twice the sides exchanged points before the break where the city side led 2-4 to 1-6.

As the game entered the last quarter, Rodgers grabbed a goal to put Brian Dillon's four points ahead.

With Deirdre Ring adding a point, they stretched their advantage and were looking likely victors with seven minutes remaining.

Newtownshandrum had other ideas and two goals in as many minutes had them ahead. Erin Reidy pointed before Paula O'Connor send a free to the roof of the net and two minutes later Denise Cagney gave Newtown the lead with a goal. And still there was more to come a Michelle O'Connor point gave Newtownshandrum a three point lead as the game entered injury time.

One last effort from Brian Dillon's saw Shauna Ring send the ball to the net for extra time.

Therese Drummond gave Dillon's an early lead when her long range free bounced to the net. Paula O'Connor pointed twice before the break to cut the deficit as two tired teams gave it their all.

Jane Dooley had Dillon's two points clear and they held their lead until three minutes to go, when Maria Reidy took on the Dillon's defence and finished to the net.

Boosted by this, Newtown pushed for more. Katie Coughlan and Paula O'Connor pointed and it was enough after a fantastic battle, which was a credit to both teams.

Intermediate season at a glance

Evening Echo Intermediate Camogie 2013
Championship winners: Carrigaline.
Runners-up: Tracton.
League winners: Newtownshandrum.
Runners-up: Brian Dillon's.
My Intermediate Player of the Year: Ellen Twomey (Carrigaline).

A YOUNGSTER with great strength and a good attitude, Ellen turned the championship semi-final in her side's favour when her late goal in injury time earned them a replay.

She enjoyed a great season as Cork won the U16B All-Ireland and is a good striker of the ball, who is equally at home in defence or attack. She is a player to watch out.

A Celtic Gathering 2013

by MÁIRE UÍ SCOLAÍ

Celtic, one of the best known Camogie clubs in Dublin and also in Ireland had a Camogie Gathering last September in the home of one of its most famous former players, the great Eileen Duffy O'Mahony. Fortunately one or two non Celtic players like myself got the royal invitation! As one might guess the stories kept coming out of the wood-work all afternoon!

One could almost fill this year- book with the stories of that September afternoon as we sipped tea/coffee, ate the most delicious sandwiches and cakes in the magnificently groomed garden of the great Eileen who had her two daughters, Gráinne and Niamh with her on the day.

My attention was quickly drawn to an old Tilly lamp sitting proudly on the manicured lawn. The story goes as many know Celtic was started in Coolock. One of the men that helped build the club house was the late Mr. Parson whose daughter Josie went on to play for Celtic for many years. According to Josie "I was the only one who could master the lighting of the tilly lamp"! That lamp now has a good home with another Celtic player Anne Twamley and so she brought it along that Saturday afternoon. That was the only light they had in that club- house!

Pauline Behan, sister of the late Kevin Heffernan told of the stop off on the way home 'when we had the money we would head down to the chipper, have our single and chat and then cycle home'

Ailis Brennan (nee Cairns), who hailed from Kilkenny also found her way to Celtic and was very fortunate to play championship with Celtic in Croke Park.

Kitty Murphy, another player who came from Cork, who held the position of National PRO at one stage paid a lovely tribute to the great Eileen, 'it's only Eileen who'd get this together, that beautiful back garden served so many purposes and now that beautiful garden is even more enhanced through the grace and graciousness of her two beautiful daughters'.

Tipperary former star Deirdre Lane, who was a great Celtic player paid her tribute to the great Eileen by saying 'when who you played in goals I felt so secure that you were invincible! Louth player Claire Harrington who played at left corner back for most of her career knew Eileen well, 'wonderful 2013 Gathering in Eileen's home, reliving all the wonderful memories' Marie O'Brien summed up the day very well 'I am proud to be part of this group, it warmed my heart to meet you all today'.

Surely the sentiment of many Celtic players, I would think

Over the years many players from Celtic graced the highest office in the Camogie Association, that of Uachtaran. The last player to hold that distinction was Libby Howard, who commented 'Eileen has the gift of bringing people together and memory, joy and fun'.

Mick Gill has the distinction of winning two All-Irelands in the same year with two different counties, Dublin and Galway. His daughter Angela Gill was able to tell me on that fair September afternoon. Angela now plays pitch and putt.

Travel did not deter Celtic players from staying in touch and though Cora Crowe spent 30 years in the U.S.A each time she was home she always met up with former players and spent many happy hours in Eileen's house.

Former Dublin player Vera Feely who enjoyed the gathering greatly left by saying 'hope to have many more days like this' Her counterpart Brid Hanburry (nee Pearse) recalled all the cycling 'we cycled to training in Coolock, cycled to the Phoenix Park and wait for it cycled to Croke Park'!

Patricia O'Dowd (nee Leech) had this to say 'is breá an lá inniu in ngairdín Eileen, an ghrian ag taithneamh go geal agus muidne go leir ag caint ar an sean aimsir'.

Evelyn Hanrahan (nee Sweeney) hailed from Tuam in Galway and found her way to Celtic in the very early 70's. 'It was the only reason I stayed in my good job in Dublin, thanks to Eileen and Neil Mc Carthy I made some life long friends here'. Alison Mc Garry summed up well by saying 'Celtic people were always special!'

I hope these few paragraphs give people a flavour of what Celtic club was in its hey day. As a Cuala or St. Mary's player as it was originally I was very fortunate to play against Celtic on many occasions and although the matches were always tough they always played fair.

Not everybody got the opportunity to write their thoughts on the day, but the good times and laughs in Coolock and the Phoenix Park is what everybody would comment on. I am very grateful to all who wrote their memories down for me.

Eileen many thanks for such a wonderful day.



Ruth Lyons and son Sean on winning the Senior 4 championship v Faughs



Rachel Ruddy



Seniors v Offaly in championship

JAN. 2014

ALL-IRELAND JUNIOR CAMOGIE CHAMPIONS 2013



Back row left to right: Georgina Kelly, Clodagh McGough, Gráinne Free, Gráinne Smith, Orla Beagan, Róisín Collins, Clíodhna McCullough, Ciara Long, Alison McGrath, Paula Lohan, Shauna Duff, Ailbhe Ryan, Carolanne Canning, Kirsten Farrell, Elaine Gallery, Rachel Noctor, Emer Maher, Laoise Quinn.

Front row left to right: Joeleen Hoary, Emer Keenan, Emma Flanagan, Elaine Sherry, Fiona Ní Shúilleabháin, Róisín Nic Uilleagóid, Michelle Kelly, Chloe Rochfort, Aishling Spillane, Mikaela Dunne, Ellen Keatley, Stefanie Carty, Rachel O'Connor, Gráinne Ryan, Lisa Berkeley.



Senior club winning all Ireland captains 64 to 84; (l to r) Bride Handbury, Celtic 1964, first club to win the Bill Carroll Cup All-Ireland Club Championship; Maureen Kearns, Eoghan Ruadh 1967; Patrick Martin; Mary Ryan, Austin Stacks 1971, 1972



Louise O'Hara at the launch of the new Dublin jersey



Ballinteer Twins Michelle and Niamh Varey Players of the under 14B championship final v Good Counsel



St. Jude's Faye McCarthy Player of the under 16A championship final v Lucan



Castleknock's Claire Murray Player of the under 15B final v Lucan



CAMOGIE REVIEW

by SEAMUS MASSEY AND GERRY O'SULLIVAN

JAN. 2014



Division 4 Naomh Fionnbarra v St Annes

If measured by trophies collected most clubs and counties would be deemed not to have enjoyed a successful year. Titles garnered are important but there are many other measurements. But in Dublin's case – all the boxes seem to be ticked. An All-Ireland Junior title, a Leinster minor championship and a Leinster U14 achievement. Topping that is the fact that the Association has in the region of 7000 members – clubs like Cuala, St Annes, Commercials, Naomh Peregrines, Parnells in particular are making rapid strides; Dublin Juniors took part in the Annual Shinty match with Scotland in Inverness; celebrated the Gathering in style in Croke Park and elsewhere and found time to battle to the final hurdle to name Dublin's new bridge over the Liffey after the legendary Kathleen Mills.

The senior team finished 2012 with an All-Ireland semi final tantalizingly close but 2013 failed to come close to this aspiration. Not for the want of effort from Denis Murphy, Ann Colgan, Brian Lawlor and the squad. But the loss of 8-9 players to injury, travel and personal reasons depleted the team and no squad can cope with these losses. The management team brought great professionalism and dedication to the task and introduced a number of players to the senior scene and this will pay dividends yet. There were high points like the win over All-Ireland champions Wexford in the League but at crucial moments games drifted from Dublin when a little bit of luck or application might have tilted the balance in a different direction. Many thanks to Denis, Ann and Brian.



Whitehall's Magan O'Reilly Player of the Senior 6 final v Na Fianna



Boden's Sile nic Coitre Senior A championship

Camogie

The Senior A's once again take pride of place in winning the Championship for the 4th successive year, and this was also our 9th title since 1999. All credit to the Captain Sile Nic Coitir and the girls, and to the management team of Richie Sweetnam, Phil Larkin, Nuala O'Sullivan and Bernard Curtis.

Fiona Corcoran was named the Player of the Final. Another notable point was that 10 of last year's U16A team were part of the successful panel, and this added to the core group of experience players will hopefully bode well for the future.

"The Senior B's won the Shield. A tense first half which Ballyboden dominated saw the score 0-8 to 1-1. The Boden ladies converted their superiority in the second half and ran out worthy winners 3-15 to 2-2. A fine finish to their season. Well done to all players, and special mention to Rob, Trish, Dolores and Gerry who have managed both the Senior 3's and Senior 6's this year."



Assumption School Walkinstown celebrate following their victory in the Sciath Nuri

The President's Mother tells a tale or two!

by MÁIRE UÍ SCOLAI

Máire Uí Scolai: Did you have a sporting back ground or was it your late husband's influence? Were you both from Dublin?

Mrs Ann Redmond: I played a small bit of hockey in school but Brian my late husband played football and hurling. I grew up in Dolphins Barn, and Brian grew up in Harolds Cross.

M: How many children in your family?

Mrs R: 9 children, 7 girls and 2 boys. Tony the eldest played hurling and football in school, but concentrated more on rugby playing for Aer Lingus and Ashbourne, he now plays a lot of golf. His daughter Gráinne represented Ireland in Track and Field events.

Sinead our eldest girl passed away 19yrs ago. She played a small bit of camogie, she was a keen lover of flowers and was a beautician. Her grandchildren Naomi and Rachel play camogie for Lucan Sarsfields.

Brian played hurling and football in school. Brian's son Richard played for Dublin hurlers, his other son Shane played for Ireland under 18 and 21's and played professional soccer in England. His daughter Emma played camogie and football for Dublin.

Ann played camogie for club Cuchulainn which later became Crumlin, she played for Dublin winning many honours. She also refereed at the highest level referring the Senior All Ireland Final in 1987. She coached Cuchulainn and Crumlin underage teams and is now actively coaching underage with Lucan Sarsfields. Ann was the main influence on the rest of girls in starting to play camogie.

Joan played netball in school and camogie for a very brief time. Joan lived abroad for 20 yrs so myself and Brian got to travel a lot abroad to visit her and her family. She is a keen walker and did the Camino Walk a few years ago.



Barbara played camogie in Assumption Secondary School Walkinstown, for club Cuchulainn then Crumlin. She played for Dublin at all levels and won All Irelands for Dublin and Provincial titles also in the Gael Linn series.

Barbara is now a very keen golfer living in Dingle.

Aileen played camogie for club Cuchulainn then Crumlin and under the stewardship of the popular Mrs Shortt played for Assumption Secondary School Walkinstown.

She played for Dublin at all levels and won many honours with Dublin and also played for Leinster.

Aileen moved to Westmeath and joined a club there called St. Munna's where she won 18 senior championships in 19 years. She also represented her adopted county, Westmeath. Aileen followed in Ann's footsteps taking up the whistle, and took charge of two All-Ireland Finals in Croke Park. Aileen is the current President of The Camogie Association.

Yvonne played for Assumption Secondary School Walkinstown, for Cuchulainn then Crumlin. She also played Colleges camogie for Queens University while studying in Belfast P.E. Education. Yvonne went to America after college and played in Boston for some time. She went on to study Sports medicine in the USA, Yvonne has also won many honours with Dublin and was awarded the B&I sports person of the year in 1984.

Ann, Barbara, Aileen and Yvonne were on the winning Crumlin team in 1985 who captured the All Ireland Senior Club title.

Frances played camogie at underage level, but went on to be a good basketball player. She along with Yvonne played accordion in a band.

CAMOGIE

Munster Colleges finals
Senior B replay: Our Lady's, Templemore v Christ King, Douglas, The Ragg. (F McNamara), 1pm.
Senior B League: St Joseph's Doon v Gort, Annacarty. (E Browne), noon.
Intermediate B: St Mary's, Newport v St Aloysius, Carrigtwohill, Eflin, (M O'Kelly), 2pm.
Junior A: St Flannan's Ennis v St. Mary's Charleville, Newmarket-on-Fergus. (W Barrett), 1pm.
Junior B: Coláiste An Dun Iascaigh Cahir v Ursuline's Thurles, Cahir, (C Egan), 2pm.
Junior C: St Joseph's Tulla v Cashel CS, Meelick GAA, (G O'Dowd), 2pm.
Junior D: Pres Waterford v Coláiste Ennis, WIT, (N O'Sullivan), 2pm.

CAMOGIE

Munster Colleges finals
Senior A: Laurel Hill (Limerick City) v St Flannan's Ennis, Ballybricken, Cahelally, 1pm; **Senior B:** Christ the King Douglas v Our Lady's Templemore, St Finbar's, Toghra, 1pm; **Senior C:** Greenhill Carrick on Suir v St Joseph's Doon, Piltown, 2pm.
Munster Colleges U16A south finals: Millstreet v Ardara Dunbarvan, Castle Road, Mahon, 2.30pm.

CAMOGIE

Munster Colleges SBC final: Christ The King (Cork) 1-11 Our Lady's Templemore 2-8 (replay to be confirmed); **SCCC final:** Doon (Limerick) 1-8 Carrick-on-Suir (Tipperary) 0-8; **SDC final:** Glanmire (Cork) 2-14 Coláiste na Trocaire Rathkeale (Limerick) 4-4; **U16AC South final:** Millstreet Community School (Cork) 3-10 Ardara Dunbarvan (Waterford) 2-5 (aet); **Hayes Intermediate Final:** Nenagh VEC (Tipperary) 4-6 St Joseph's Kilmallock (Limerick) 1-6.

Kathleen Mills was legend in gaelic games and is generally regarded as the greatest camogie player of all time. She was the

holder of 15 All-Ireland Senior Camogie medals – no other gaelic player has come near this record. She made her inter-county debut at the age of 17 in 1941 and played against Cork in the All-Ireland final that year. She won her first All-Ireland medal the following year beating Cork in a replay. Between 1950 and 1955 she won six senior All-Ireland titles in a row and then in 1961 she bowed out by winning her last medal at the age of 38.



Kathleen Mills



Dublin junior player Carolanne Canning receives her Soaring Star award from Pat O'Brien CEO from Liberty insurance in the presence of Camogie Association President Aileen Lawlor



Coláiste Phádraig

by TOMÁS MACGIOLLA PHADRAIG AGUS MARK MONAHAN



Back Left to Right: Thomas Parkins, Robert Murphy, Emma Denning, Grace Dillon, Aoife Harrigan, Aisling Carolan, Rosalyn Dwyer, Lisa O'Neill, Margaret Byrne, Dáirbhí Daly, Rosalyn Barlow, Anne Manning, Maibh Kehoe, Aoife Lyng, Annee Duncan, Nicholas Cullen, Danny Martin, Carroll. Front Left to Right: Laura Warren, Tara Hogan, Ciara Ruddy, Ciara O'Leary (C), Niamh O'Mahoney, Rachel Hogan, Claire Phelan, John Anne Murphy, Sine Griffiths, Fiona Keating (VC), Sinead Mella.

JAN. 2014

Geary calls for financial recognition for camogie

By Philip Lanigan

CORK STAR Anna Geary believes inter-county players in camogie and ladies football should get grant aid from the government just like their male counterparts.

The Gaelic Players Association led the fight for the national games to be recognised financially and the four-time All Star and three-time All-Ireland winner with the Cork camogie team hopes the scheme will ultimately be extended.

'You would imagine and you would hope that they would follow in the same footsteps because you give so much of yourself financially and more importantly, your time.'

'Not everybody can win an All-Ireland. That's the ultimate prize but it's the prize for just one team and how many different teams are competing?'

'By offering these to female sportspeople as well there is an incentive to younger people to take up the sport. Because there are so many distractions nowadays.'

Geary featured in the RTE documentary *Skin in the Game* last November along with Tipperary hurler Lar Corbett, Dublin hurler Michael Carton and Cork footballer Eoin Cadogan. It showed the sacrifices put in by all the players in their respective codes over the course of a season. But while the other three all receive funding under the GAA-GPA's deal for inter-county players, camogie players or ladies footballers have yet to be recognised.

Geary (right) was speaking at the launch of the Irish Blood Transfusion Service partnership with the GAA which aims to raise awareness of blood donation and access to the service for GAA clubs and their members.

'Your window of opportunity is so small you try to put absolutely everything of yourself into it.'

'You're out every single night of the week. If you're not training collectively, you're doing your own gym work. Or maybe it's rehabilitation if it's an injury.'

'It's a full-time job. You're in an elitist group and it's a privilege to be there. While I would look at it as a significant sacrifice - holidays go out the window, there's a lot of socialising that has to be cut back - there are so many benefits that go with it that it's worth it.'

The GAA's existing government-funded grant scheme - cut back to just under €1million from an original allocation of €3.5m in 2008 - is seen by the players as an important source of recognition.

And Geary says a similar reward for women playing Gaelic games would be welcomed.

First though, she insisted, other issues need to be addressed. 'For camogie, the biggest thing is the promotion and recognition of the game and increasing attendances. Because ultimately, if the Camogie Association is to have any power to look for these things, they need to have good attendances at games, which means the PR aspect of it.'

'If you have more people at your games, you have more power to dictate what you want.'



Aisling Carolan breaks free from NUIM player during League campaign

Led by captain Ciara O'Leary, they were unbeaten in the championship and lost out narrowly in the final of the league. It is a testament to the hard work and dedication shown by the full panel of players and managers throughout the year.

As a group of players, they instantly gelled and played together like loyal clubmates. Fiona Keating in goal was reliable throughout the year and was easily one of the most consistent players on the squad. Deirdre Johnstone was a rock at full back with a stand out performance against Trinity in the All Ireland semi-final, who stood between Niamh O'Mahony and Tara Hogan. The half back line was continually strong, commanded by Kilkenny senior Claire Phelan at centre back who picked up an all-Star award at the weekend away in Limerick after her efforts in the semi-final and final. Kate Mulvey was also awarded an All-Star at wing back. Captain Ciara O'Leary played midfield for the year. She picked up a worrying head injury during the semi-final and after being advised not to play, but the determined Captain donned a head bandage and led her team to success in the final! The attack was led by Rachel Hogan, Aisling Carolan and Aoife Lyng who never failed to register a score. Their consistently good performances resulted in high-scoring games against Mary's Belfast in the league and v Tralee IT in the championship.

As a group, the members bonded well and became a very close and friendly panel. Evidence of this is the generous number of fundraisers and bonding occasions organised throughout the year. At the end they had managed to raise just under five thousand euro for gear and funding for the weekend away - an achievement in its own right. Anyone that was involved with the team would have felt they deserved no less, with all the early morning trainings

and gym sessions that took place during the winter. Congratulations to all the players and to the very committed managers.



Inspirational College Camogie Captain, Ciara O'Leary, is presented with a further accolade as she accepts 'Female Player of the Year' from Dublin star, Paul Flynn, at the Clubs' n Socs' Ball

New Tipperary Camogie Manager's hoping to make inroads

By Rose Mannion

TIPPERARY Senior and Intermediate camogie teams will be under new management for the coming season, the County Board announced at the first board meeting in January.

Borris-Ileigh's Eoin Kennedy takes over from Conor Ryan who announced his resignation late last year after just one year into a two-year term with both the senior and intermediate teams. It wasn't that the Nenagh man lacked any of the qualities required, it was more a case that the desired results didn't just come for him.

So the search commenced almost immediately for a suitable candidate to step into the helm and while there was plenty of names bandied about, at the end it was the Borris-Ileigh clubman who emerged as the right man for the job. Eoin Kennedy brings with him over a decade of coaching experience in various school teams as a primary school teacher in Offaly.

He coached school teams to win county titles in all four codes in Offaly, Tipperary and Cork. He also coached various Development squads over a seven-year period as well as underage at various levels in camogie and hurling.

At Club level he coached the Kinnitty and Naomh Brid Senior camogie clubs in Offaly to Senior 'B' county titles in 2002 and 2005.

Since returning to Tipperary two years ago, he coached the West U14 Development squad to win last year's Peadar Cummins Tournament and was also a coach on one of the county underage development squads. He has been involved also in West Coiste



LtoR: New Tipperary senior camogie manager Eoin Kennedy with selectors, Michael King, Diarmuid Ryan and Michael Delaney. PHOTO: ROSE MANNION

na nOg activities and this year was elected as West Coiste na nOg secretary.

The 32-year-old who was "surprised but honoured" to be appointed manager, having always taken a keen interest in both club and county teams in his native Tipperary.

Kennedy (along with selectors fellow clubman Michael Delaney who has coached at club level and also at county underage level, Diarmuid Ryan who was part of the management team that led Annacarty to the county Intermediate camogie title last year and Coolderry man Michael King, who is

formally from Lorrha, and has many years of experience in both camogie and hurling with various clubs) commenced training after Christmas but are leaving the door open not only to existing panel members but also to players from clubs throughout the county to come and try their luck.

With the Intermediate players also training with the seniors under their new manager Shane Connolly from Nenagh Eire Og, the turnouts have been encouraging and with 35 adult clubs in the county, they will have close on 400 girls to choose from.

Connolly too has an impressive CV

having played with Nenagh Eire Og up until 2009 when he retired due to injury. He won hurling and football north and county titles from U14 to U21 level, and was captain of the Nenagh minor team that won back to back titles in '91 and '92, was a squad member in 1995 when Nenagh won the County Senior Hurling Championship.

He also won an intermediate football county title in 97; a North senior hurling title in 2001 and also coached the junior team for two years. He is actively involved with the juvenile club in Nenagh and is currently coaching

the U8 team.

He got involved with Nenagh camogie last year winning the league and championship with the Junior 'B' team and helped with the minors who also won the county 'B' title so had a good year for his first with Nenagh Eire Og.

Both managers are already praising the dedication and commitment shown by the girls so far and both say they are delighted to work with the county's most high profile camogie team's as they prepare for their opening league games against Offaly and Meath respectively on Sunday, February 23rd.

CAMOGIE ALL-IRELAND SEMI-FINAL

Passmore happy with Ashbourne

BY CIARAN WOODS

WITH just over two weeks to go until their All-Ireland senior camogie club championship semi-final against defending champions Milford of Cork, Derry's Eoghan Rua are stepping up their preparations.

Training for the Ulster champions over the Christmas period and in recent weeks has been spread between the University of Ulster campus at Coleraine, their own club pitch, and when available, the impressive indoor facilities of the Dunloy club. Although they report a few niggles from training, and the distraction of study commitments, manager Joe Passmore is confident that they have bridged the gap well.

"Things haven't been ideal. A number of our panel study away, there's a few of them who are in England, and a few of the younger players are doing AS Level modular exams. So things have been a bit disrupted the past while, but that is to be expected at this time of the year.

"We took a bit of a break. Having played in the All-Ireland intermediate series before, we had a fair idea of what we needed to do and how best to go about things. 2013 was the first year in a few years that we had a conventional season, and by that I mean a pre-season and everything starting from the outset. So it was a long run the girls had been on, until the Ulster final had been played, they needed a bit of a break."

As so many managers in a similar situation have discovered, challenge matches in January are not easily found. It's been a frustration, but Passmore insists that the game must



MANY HAPPY RETURNS...Joe Passmore is hoping to steer Coleraine back to All-Ireland glory after 2011's intermediate triumph

Picture: Brian Lawless / SPORTSFILE

be a meaningful one, otherwise they're better off staying in-house.

"Matches are difficult to get at this time of year, firstly because there are not that many teams in training at this early stage, and also trying to find opponents who are senior calibre. So we've been looking to the southern university sides, but even they are not fully back in training yet."

Donaghmore-Ashbourne has been chosen as the venue for Eoghan Rua's All-Ireland semi-final tilt, and the manager is happy with the choice. It's a long enough journey from the north coast without it being further extended by the decision over the venue, and Eoghan Rua will have the added bonus that it is an arena where many

of their troops have prior experience.

"Personally I haven't been involved in a game at Ashbourne before, but I did attend Derry's All-Ireland intermediate final there. There's a common joke among the Derry players that it's their home ground, as every game they have seems to be there.

"I'm happy with the choice. It's a good venue with good facilities, and from our perspective it's accessible because the key thing for us was that the venue would be this side of Dublin. They took us to a very muddy location before after a long journey, so we're definitely more content with this one."

c.woods@gaeliclife.com



IT'S IN THE BLOOD: Cork camogie player Anna Geary pictured at the 1 between the Irish Blood Transfusion Board and the GAA at the IBTS head o Hospital. Photo: Paul Mohan

JAN. 2014

Tommy's passing will leave a big void

OBITUARY

IT was with great sorrow and sadness that we learned of the untimely passing of Tommy Golden husband of county secretary Sheila.

Tommy was a great camogie man and a huge asset to Sheila as she carried out her duties with great efficiency both as chairperson, president and at present secretary of the Cork Camogie Board. Tommy was always to the fore in all camogie matters and was at every game home and away, always willing to help out. No job was too big or too small for him.

He loved nothing better than a day in Castle Road especially when there was a double or triple header of games. His favourite spot was to lean on the railings just by the gate into the field and have a great view up the pitch as the match played out. From there, he could also keep the door of the car open and keep an ear to the radio for commentary on other matches taking place.

He was jovial and full of laughter and always had a story or tale to tell. He loved gaelic games and camogie was one of the best games in his eyes.

He was a native of Donoughmore and despite Sheila and his daughters being involved with Inniscarra he would quickly point out that Donoughmore were his club.

He travelled the length of the country in the front seat of the bus with the Cork teams and was a great friend of Michael who regularly drives the Cork teams around.

He and Tommy would go off for a stroll or a chat before a game as Sheila set about her business with the team but they would make sure to be on hand nearby just in case.

He would fill water bottles, bring out gear bags or hurleys. The involvement gave him huge pride.

He was Sheila's right hand man and I often joked him about being the county secretary's personal secretary to which he would reply "a sure I do my best to help out."

He certainly did that. Phone calls and messages were always taken with the upmost courtesy and always guaranteed that Sheila would be fully informed on her return.

His passing will leave a huge void, not just in Cork camogie circles, but for his wonderful family who all possess his great love of gaelic games.

It will be strange not to see him at the gate into the pitch in Castle Road and hear him say 'Hello Mary.' He had a way of saying it that I, for one, will miss.

To Sheila, Thomas, Gillian Ann and Sinead, his daughter-in-law, sons-in-law and his adored grand children of whom he was so proud and his extended family goes deepest sympathy.

I was not at home to bid farewell to him but dear friend Tommy May the sod of your beloved Donoughmore rest lightly on your soul."

Mary Newman.

Juniors light



The Charleville team which won the County Junior C Championship and League.

THIS week we take a look back at the junior grades where a huge volume of games took place in Junior A, Junior B and C grades.

JUNIOR LEAGUES JUNIOR A

Na Piarsaigh made the step up to Junior A grade and settled in well and battled their way to the league semi-final where a strong Douglas side joined them. Enniskeane and Watergrasshill also showed steady improvement to win semi-final spots with a lot of work having been done in both camps.

Two superb games saw Douglas defeating Watergrasshill on a 4-9 to 0-6 scoreline while it took extra time to separate Enniskeane and Na Piarsaigh eventually finishing 2-11 to 3-8 in Enniskeane's favour.

A strong second-half performance helped Douglas eventually overcome Enniskeane, but not before a stern test.

Douglas held a 2-5 to 2-4 interval lead as Enniskeane had enjoyed the better of the opening exchanges and led 0-3 to 0-1 by the end of the opening quarter.

Goals from Ciara Lynch and Tracy McCarthy edged Douglas in front, but Enniskeane responded well with Julie Ann Hayes on target twice with goals. Joy Leo pointed in between to keep Douglas in touch as did Rachel Swanton and Leo again.

Inside four minutes of the restart Ciara Lynch grabbed a Douglas goal that stretched their lead to five

points and when Rachel Swanton goaled, it looked all over for Enniskeane as they trailed by eight. All credit to the west Cork side who fought back as Sinead Hennessy grabbed a goal but Douglas steadied themselves with three more points.

Orla Coughlan and Sarah Fahy swapped points before a late Sinead Hennessy goal on the 69th minute came too late for Enniskeane as Douglas had enough in reserve to take the title.

JUNIOR B

Glen Rovers' second adult team overcame Ballincollig's second string to set up an all-northside derby against a St Vincent's side who defeated Castlelyons 2-13 to 0-7.

The Junior B League final was another cracker in an all-northside derby.

Vincent's just about held out to take the Junior B League title as they had to withstand huge second half pressure from Glen Rovers.

Two first-half goals, one from a 45, helped give St Vincent's a good foundation as they battled with everything they had and raced 1-2 ahead before the Glen opened their account.

Two early points from Amy

Where the trophies went

Evening Echo Junior A champions: Enniskeane; runners-up Carrigaline.

Evening Echo Junior B champions: Youghal; runners-up; St Vincent's.

Evening Echo Junior C champions: Charleville; runners-up

Millstreet.

Junior League winners: Douglas; runners-up Enniskeane.

Junior B League winners: St Vincent's; runners-up Glen Rovers.

Junior C League winners: Charleville; runners-up; Banteer.

O'Connor had them in front before the same player grabbed a goal, Niamh Gowen and Edel O'Connell pointed to settle the Glen, but when Nicole Cream's 45 deceived the Glen defence and finished in the net, Glen looked in big trouble. For the remainder of the half Rovers matched their opponents in all sectors with Sinead Gallen and Kelly Falvey prominent.

They were back in the game when points from Niamh Gowen and Edel O'Connell cut the deficit before the break and it was 2-3 to 0-5 in St Vincent's favour.

From the restart, the Glen cut the deficit with points from Shauna Brickley and Kelly Falvey but St Vincent's kept their noses ahead with a Dyon Manning point but the pressure was now immense. The Glen had chances to cut the arrears, but failure to convert frees was costly.

Shauna Carroll pointed to ease the pressure on a St Vincent's side that were grateful to goal keeper

Michelle Gould who made two superb saves to deny the Glen. Alison Dowling grabbed a Glen goal but St Vincent's were not going to be denied as their defence stood firm under a barrage of pressure. With the last puck of the game Nicole Cream pointed a 45 to ensure the title was secured.

JUNIOR C

What a year for Charleville, who signalled they meant business at the beginning of 2013 as they came through the group stages to make it to the league final where they met a Banteer side who, in their first season of adult camogie, had qualified for the final — a huge achievement in itself.

With Kate Keane prominent, Charleville made all the early running and led 0-3 to 0-1 inside the opening quarter.

Olivia Roche kept Banteer in touch with a point in reply to Keane's three early pointed frees.

Charleville stretched their lead as Keane again showed how important

up great season



Junior A League winners Douglas.

a good free taker was.

She confidently slotted over from a tight angle and it was 0-4 to 0-1 in Charleville's favour at the break.

Inside three minutes of the restart, Banteer's Sarah O'Reilly pointed and they hit the front when Karen O'Keeffe finished to the net.

Charleville held their nerve and they were soon back on level thanks to Sinead Dennehy.

Points from Kate Keane and Leeann O'Regan stretched the lead but despite this, Banteer kept the pressure on and the Charleville defence held firm despite the huge pressure with goalkeeper Trisha Kerins in excellent form denying Banteer with some good saves.

Charleville closed the game out when Kate Keane finished to the net from close range after excellent work from Leeann O'Regan.

Banteer battled on but the Charleville defence remained solid clearing their lines while they added to their tally with points from Keane and Kate Fitzgerald before Una Twohig got one back for Banteer. The night belonged to Charleville as they took their first adult trophy and showed that come championship they would be the ones to beat.

CHAMPIONSHIPS JUNIOR A

Putting the disappointment of losing the league final behind them, Enniskeane overturned the result as they got their first game in section off to a winning start with a victory over Douglas.

They followed this up defeating

Inniscarra's second team and Sliabh Rua to top the group with Rua emerging as runners-up to grab the second semi-final spot.

Watergrashill put in huge effort and topped Section A and they were joined by Na Piarasigh who put in an excellent championship campaign also.

Watergrashill overcame Sliabh Rua to secure their place in the final while Enniskeane got the better of Na Piarasigh to book their spot.

Having lost out in the final of 2012, Enniskeane came into this final determined to reverse that result and it was their ability to take points that proved crucial as they fashioned out a 0-12 to 0-4 victory over a Watergrashill side who can look back on the year as being one of huge progress for their club.

Enniskeane's Katie Buttimer was named as player of the Match.

JUNIOR B

League champions St Vincent's defeated league finalists Glen Rovers. Youghal and St Catherine's made it to the championship semi-finals. St Vincent's proved too strong for Ballincollig with Youghal overcoming the challenge of the Glen Rovers girls.

In the final just one score separated the sides as Youghal just about edged it on a 1-9 to 1-6 scoreline to take the title and win promotion to Junior A for 2014. Katie Sloane Youghal was selected as the player of the Match.

JUNIOR C

The Junior C was a big championship where 12 teams played 17

games. Charleville continued to impress as they progressed through the championship to reach the final where Charleville emerged winners after a battle with Millstreet to ensure 2013 was a superb year for them with their double.

Meadhb Buckley, Charleville, was named as player of the Championship final.

JUNIOR PLATES

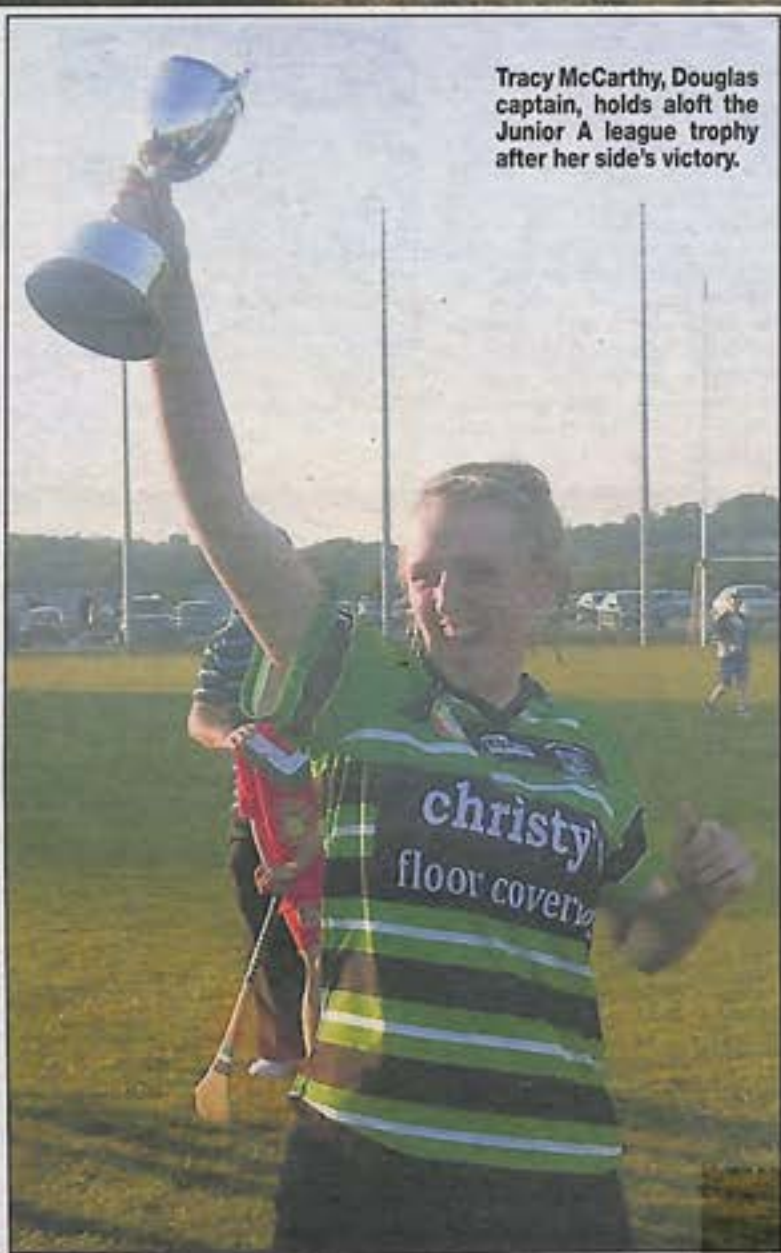
Ballincollig took the Junior B plate with a victory over Ballinora while Cobh were winners of the Junior C plate title.

My Players of the Junior Championships: Hard to pick stand-out players with three grades of Junior but here we go; At Junior A level Enniskeane's Julie Ann Hayes impressed me both at junior and minor levels.

Her ability to grab goals was most impressive. She has a keen eye for the net and is a player who, with a bit of hard work and a push in the right direction, could blossom.

A lot of impressive Junior B players through the championship but the vote goes to Youghal's Shannen Bulman Joyce who impressed in a lot of games during the season both in league and championship, a good worker and not afraid to go for scores.

In the Junior C grade Kate Keane impressed for double winning champions Charleville. Having watched Kate since underage days, it is fair to say she has a good work rate and is an excellent free taker especially under pressure.



Tracy McCarthy, Douglas captain, holds aloft the Junior A league trophy after her side's victory.

Girls keeping St Flannan's flag flying

by Terry Reilly

St Flannan's dominating the small ball game in Munster is hardly considered news given the hurling nursery's history, but when the game is camogie it's time to investigate.

The Ennis school opened its doors to female students in 2002 and quickly established a camogie arm to its sporting wing under the stewardship of teachers like Tim Kelly, Annette Collins, Elaine Dunne, Alan Dunne and Grainne O'Brien.

With a rich depth of talent feeding the school they developed into a growing force. But it wasn't until four years ago that they made a breakthrough when Laura Linnane and Damien Noonan coached the juniors to an All-Ireland JBC title. On that team stood

Camogie

Sinead Quinn and on Sunday the young Banner player helped Flannan's to a 4-9 to 0-8 win over Limerick's Laurel Hill FCJ in Ballybricken. This year she lines out with Linnane and current Flannan's senior coach Claire Ryan on the Clare camogie team alongside classmates Aoibheann Malone, Orla Devitt and Aoife Keane.

"They're starting to ask if they can call us by our first names at training saying it would be hard to call us Miss on the pitch," laughed PE teacher Ryan, joined in the senior management by Macroom's James Delaney.

Ryan moved to Clare from Urlingford in 2005 with pedigree in the game. She won a

national league and an All-Ireland intermediate with Kilkenny before getting the job and transferring to Clooney Quin. Thanks to the work of others and the talent available, she knew this team could succeed.

Ominously for the rest of Ireland three quarters of the side are still eligible for the junior grade with only three Leaving Certs lining out on Sunday. They have already won the All-Ireland junior sevens this year beating Loreto from Kilkenny in the final and celebrations are on hold until Saturday's Munster junior final against St Mary's Charleville is over.

"The team is gathered from a good few clubs with Ballyea, Clarecastle, Eire Og, Corofin, Inagh Kilnamona, Kilmaley and Doora Barefield all contributing," said Ryan.



St Flannan's celebrate after winning the Munster Colleges Senior A Camogie final by defeating Laurel Hill, Limerick at Ballybricken GAA Club.

Picture: Brian Gavin Press 2

First title for St Flannan's

St Flannan's (Clare) ..4-9
Laurel Hill FCJ (Limerick)0-8
By Fiona Casey
Munster Colleges
Senior A final

The old adage goals win games rang out in Ballybricken on Saturday as newcomers to the A ranks St Flannan's took the honours.

The Clare side had a nine-point lead at half time thanks to goals from Aoibheann Malone and Orla Devitt. Kate Mulqueen and Aoife Wilson pulled the strings for the city girls but missed goal opportunities meant the half time score read St Flannan's 2-8 Laurel Hill 0-5.

Laurel Hill kept the famed hurling nursery scoreless for 20 minutes in the second-half and, with points from Wilson, looked like staging the comeback. However, the Banner side kept cool and

when Nicola Shanahan failed to clear her lines, Lauren Touhy and Andrea O'Keeffe both pounced and ensured the cup went to St Flannan's for the first time in its short history of competing in schools camogie.

Scorers for St Flannan's: L. Touhy (1-3, 0-2fs), A. Malone (1-2), A. O'Keeffe, O. Devitt (1-0 each), A. Wiley (0-2), C. Browne, A. Keane (0-1 each).

Scorers for Laurel Hill: K. Mulqueen (0-5, 0-4fs), A. Wilson (0-3).

ST FLANNAN'S: D. Murphy; T. O'Keeffe, S. Quinn, R.A. Wall; C. Devitt, A. Malone, L. Browne; Louise Browne, C. Browne; A. Keane, O. Devitt (capt), L. Touhy, A. O'Keeffe, A. Wiley, L. McGuan.

LAUREL HILL: N. Shanahan; S. Fahey, D. Considine, J. Kirwan; C. O'Callaghan, E. Kelly (capt), J. Wilson; S. McNamara, A. O'Loughlin; O. Ryan, K. Mulqueen, S. Madden; R. Begley, N. Doyle, A. Wilson.

O'Neill has become an assassin in front of goal

SHE has assumed the role of feared attacking assassin for Milford around the province, but the newly crowned Reardens Camogie Player of the Year Marie O'Neill of Milford (pictured) is one of the most grounded characters you could meet in the game. In November, for instance, O'Neill registered 0-7 in open play in what was far from your run-of-the-mill club outing.

The 26-year-old Sports Studies, Physical Education and History UCC student, presently studying her second degree course, tallied a magnificent scoring output in none other than the Munster Club Senior Camogie Championship final as Milford retained the Thomás Mhic Donncha Cup defeating Granagh/Ballingarry of Limerick. Yet, of course, that return is merely the tip of the seasonal iceberg thus far as O'Neill's scoring exploits this term have been phenomenal and, understandably, well-documented – the corner-forward contributed 7-20, in open play, of Milford's 18-75 totalled during the course of their successful defence of the Evening Echo-sponsored Cork Senior



Marie O'Neill Camogie

Club Camogie Championship.

Amid the euphoria that followed her name being revealed as the Leaside camogie club MVP for 2013, and in the most humble of manners, O'Neill was more

interested in recognising the contributions of her teammates in her role instead.

"When I think about my role in every match it is just that of somebody that will hopefully produce the end-product in games," O'Neill stressed.

"From as far back as Rebecca Finn in goals the actual work is done all the way up the field.

"The quality of possession I get then from the players outside me is second to none.

"All I do really is get it. Finish it. Job done. Or at least that is always the plan."

Milford are not only the back-to-back

Leaside and Milford new year the Kilbolane, Dr. in north Cork defend the All-Ire



Chloe Morey receives her award from Donal Og Cusack and Aileen Lawlor

JAN. 2014

CAMOGIE: Munster Colleges Intermediate Camogie Championship Final

Munster title for Nenagh College

Nenagh College

4-6

Colaiste Iosaef, Kilmallock

1-6

NENAGH College won the Hayes Cup for the Munster Colleges Intermediate Championship title following a nine-point win over Colaiste Iosaef, Kilmallock in MacDonagh Park, Nenagh last Saturday.

Winning the toss, Nenagh elected to play with the wind in the first half and from where they built up a strong half time advantage with some excellent scoring from Zoe Grattan at full forward and centre forward Jenny Grace.

At half time Nenagh College knew they needed to start the second half well and an early score was needed and this arrived with Scarlait Quinn finding Jenny Grace who after rounding a couple of players hit an unstoppable shot to the bottom corner of the net.

To Kilmallock's credit they never gave up and responded with three well-worked points, and had impressive performances from Brona Mulcahy and Jessica Murphy.



Nenagh College joint-captains Amanda Egan and Jenny Grace celebrate with the Hayes Cup following their sides Munster Intermediate Championship final win last Saturday.

Nenagh College however powered ahead with great commitment and victory was well deserved for a group of very dedicated players including Ciara Gleeson, Ellen O'Brien, Zoe Grattan,



Nenagh College Camogie team who won the Intermediate Munster Final Back row: Ms. Devitt, Lauren Kennedy, Jennifer Ryan, Aisling Cummins, Sarah Slattery, Grace Gleeson, Searlalt Quinn, Shauna Rooney, Ellen O'Brien, Ciara Gleeson, Lynsey O'Grady, Ms. Darcy. Front row: Laura Hogan, Agnes Mulqueen, Leah Rooney, Amanda Egan, Jenny Grace, Zoe Grattan, Ciara Slevin

Lynsey O'Grady and Amanda Egan.

On the final whistle Amanda Egan and Jenny Grace accepted the trophy on behalf of the team and to finish on a high note; Jenny Grace from Burgess/

Duharra club was considered to be the player of the match.

Nenagh College panel: Agnes Mulqueen; Jennifer Ryan, Ciara Gleeson,

Leah Rooney, Laura Hogan, Ellen O'Brien, Searlalt Quinn; Amanda Egan, Lynsey O'Grady, Jenny Grace, L O'Halloran, Sarah Slattery, Zoe Grattan, Aisling Cummins, M Nagle, Shauna Rooney, Ciara Slevin, Lauren Kennedy, Grace Gleeson.

GAA Camogie News



2013 Camogie Association Media Awards

Submissions are invited for the 2013 Camogie Association Media Awards which will be presented in conjunction with the Camogie Association Volunteer Awards on All Ireland Camogie Club Finals day, Sunday March 2nd in Croke Park. Submissions are invited in the following categories:

PRO of the Year: Consistent output of work; competency with public relations tools such as utilising print, radio and social media for promoting camogie; presentation in terms of publications such as match programmes etc; level of effort and innovation to raise the profile of camogie.

Match Programme: Submissions will be judged on the accuracy of information, presentation and lay-out, correct branding, photography and overall content.

Local Radio: Submissions will be judged on the variety of coverage; consistency of coverage, content and quality of interviews, level of live updates for games & events; colour & emotional appeal of the piece; and the impact of the piece, locally and nationally. Samples of work must include details on the relevant events included in the audio samples submitted.

Newspaper (Local/Regional): Submissions will be based on the consistency of coverage, quality, variety, accuracy, content of reporting, interviews in addition to the presentation of the overall content. Nenagh Guardian were winners of this category in 2013.

Best Use of Social Media: Submissions will be based on the consistency, regular

updates, innovative use of social media with photographs and video content and the visual impact of the website or social media account.

Special Project: The Special Project category is open to clubs only. It will be awarded to any form of media, be it written, published, internet or otherwise, highlighting some aspect(s) of camogie which made a lasting impression. It will be judged according to presentation; research; imagination; accuracy and innovation.

Photography: The submissions will be judged on subjectivity, good taste, good reflection on the game/association, context and composition and the emotional appeal of the photo. Two samples of work only are required. Submissions are invited from Amateur photographers only.

Please send by submission by post, copies of submissions to the Camogie Association, Croke Park, Dublin 3 by close of business on February 6th.

BURGESS/DUHARRA

Registration Night: The club will host a registration night on Wednesday, 29th January at 7pm in Kilcolman. This event is for players up to and including U14s and the fees for 2014 are as follows: Adult - €50; Student - €40; U18 - €30; Associate Member - €20.

Presentation Night: We will honour our successful Senior and Junior teams from 2013 with a presentation night in Reidys on Saturday February 22nd. Details to follow.

Congratulations: Well done to Lyndsey O'Grady, Amanda Egan, Jenny Grace and Agnes Mulqueen on their Munster Schools victory with Nenagh College.

KILRUANE MACDONAGHS

Adult Teams: A meeting of all intermediate and junior players with the new team management will take place on this Friday, 24th January in the GAA Complex Cloughjordan at 8pm. All girls from age 16 upwards are encouraged to attend this

meeting.

Foundation Level GAA Training Course

This course will be held over three nights in the GAA Complex Cloughjordan in February on Thursday 6th, Thursday 13th and Thursday 20th. Any managers, selectors or other club members who are interested in doing this course, please contact club secretary Noreen Maher on 087-9713041 as soon as possible.

Congratulations: Well done to Laura Shinnors who won the U13 County Singles title representing Ardcroney National School last Saturday easily winning her three games. Laura now goes onto the Munster finals in Kerry this weekend. Also well done to Orla Molloy, Anna Mulcahy and Aine Spain and Aoife Peters representing Kilruane National School, all whom narrowly lost out in their age groups.

Presentation Night: The Camogie Club and Hurling Club are coming together to have a Joint Presentation Night to celebrate the achievements of the Junior A County Camogie Winners and the North Tipperary U21 Hurling Champions. This presentation will take place on Saturday 8th March in The Thatch, Ballycommon. More details later.

Date for your Diary: The Fashion Show, which will be one of the club's main fundraiser for 2014, will be held in the Abbey Court Hotel, Nenagh on Friday 28th February. Tickets priced at €10 each will be available shortly and each sold ticket will be included for a ticket prize draw for a holiday voucher to the value of €300. More details shortly.

LORRHA

Mad March Mock Wedding: Here Comes the Bride... Lorrha Camogie Club will be hosting the 'Mad March Mock Wedding' on Saturday, 8th March at 8.30pm so keep this date free! It will be the Camogie Club's main fundraiser for the year and tickets are now on sale and can be got from the Camogie panel, committee, Maher's shop in Lorrha and Kelly's

Shop, Rathcabbin. Tickets are €10 each which includes you into a draw to win 1st prize: Luxury night away for two; 2nd prize - €100 Voucher for David Broderick Sports Therapy, very kindly donated by David and 3rd Prize - Meal for two.

Also on the night wedding ceremony antics, special guests, a lavish buffet, music and much more!! It will be the maddest Wedding of 2014. More details to follow. Thanks for the support!

Clothing Collection: We are having a clothing recycling drive in aid of Lorrha Camogie Club. Please donate any unwanted clothes that are clean and dry and in big black bin bags. Clean dry Clothes-Belts-Shoes- Bags- Books, NO Bed clothes-curtains-pillows-duvets-cushions or household goods. So get collecting all your old unwanted clothes! The collection day will be at the end of March but we can collect bags at any time off people. More Info Contact: Elaine Hough 0871357080 Or any Committee member to collect items. Thanks for your support on this fundraising drive.

Facebook Page: Keep up to date on any recent activity in the Club and in the Parish. Thanks to all who entered into our competition over the weekend. There is great interest in the Mock Wedding which is great to see! Thanks again to TJ Larkin Hurlis, Killimor who kindly donated a prize of a free customized Hurl and to Maeve Wall, Thurles who kindly gave us some of her brand new uniquely designed Hurling grips. Andrew Hoctor, Sharragh, won these prizes and One free ticket to the event.

Best of Luck: to our own Fiona Kennedy and everyone involved in the Rathcabbin Play who present 'Poor Beast in the Rain' starting from this Friday the 24th in Rathcabbin Hall.

NENAGH EIRE OG

Congratulations: We wish to congratulate Nenagh College on their great win in the Munster Schools final on Saturday. Zoey Grattan was the sole Nenagh Eire Og representative and she had an outstanding game. A special thank you to her

coaches and teachers in Nenagh College who so generously volunteer their time to help promote camogie. Without the generosity of the teachers in all the schools in the town gaelic games would not be in the strong position it currently stands.

Dinner Dance: On February 1st, the club's dinner dance will take place in the Abbey Court Hotel where we will be honouring the Minor and Junior B teams who won their respective championships in 2013. No girl under the age of eighteen will be permitted entry on the night unless accompanied by their parents or guardians. This promises to be an entertaining night as we will be joining up with the hurling club who will be presenting their winning teams from 2013 with their medals as well.

Registration: Our registration night is Friday, 24th January. No player will be allowed train or play with the club unless they are registered as they will not be covered by insurance.

Newsletter: We are always looking for photographs, news and articles for future editions. If you feel you have anything to contribute or if there is news that we may not be aware of please email eireognenagh@gmail.com

Volunteers: We are always looking for new people to get involved in the club and if you would like to contribute to the growth of camogie in terms of administration, coaching, playing or in any other way please email eireognenagh@gmail.com

TOOMEVARA

Congratulations: to Nenagh College on winning the senior Munster final last Saturday on a score line 4-6 to 1-6. The Toomevara members were Ellen O'Brien, Jenny Ryan, Shauna Hogan Rooney, Grace Gleeson, Aisling Cummins, Leah Hogan Rooney.

Poker Classic: Our annual Poker Classic will take place on Friday, 7th February at 9pm sharp in Youngs, Lattaragh. €20 per person. Special tables available for beginners so all welcome.