



Na Fianna Nuacht

Chairman's New Year's Greetings

We're past the halfway point of January but it's still not too late to wish all members and supporters of Na Fianna a Happy New Year. Last weekend's Coaching Forum was very well attended. Even more importantly it was very well received. Thanks to all those who presented and prepared the material for the Forum. It is clear from the atmosphere around the club in recent weeks that the batteries have been re-charged and teams are emerging from their hibernation and are making plans for the playing season ahead.

2017 promises to be another eventful year in the life of our club. On the pitch the club will be fielding a record number of teams across our four unrivalled sports of hurling, football, camogie and ladies' football. Our handballers will continue to hold court and are growing in numbers. The introduction of Rounders last year proved to be an unqualified success and this section of the club is primed for growth.

Last year we celebrated the 25th Anniversary of the club nursery. Numbers continue to be strong. In fact this year's Under 8 male 'graduates' from the Nursery number 86 active players which is a record figure so far as I am aware. The Nursery is a wonderful testament to the commitment and dedication of our club volunteers. Long may it flourish.

The recent 'Na Fianna Does Strictly' in The Helix was a great success. It's only when you look at RTE's Sunday offering 'Dancing With The Stars' that you fully realise just how good 'Na Fianna Does Strictly' actually was. I want to personally thank all those, too numerous to mention individually, who did such great work and put in so many hours to deliver such a magnificent show.

Mar focal scor, guím Athbhliain faoi mhaise daoibh go léir. Go néirí linn le chéile i 2017.

Colum Cronin

Cathaoirleach

CLG Na Fianna



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Club Lotto Jackpot Won!

It had to happen sometime and it eventually did this week. The Club Lotto Jackpot of €20,000 which had been running since the middle of September was finally won and the single winner was announced at last Monday night's draw as Mr Aidan Moffitt from Sligo. Pictured below at Thursday night's presentation is the lucky winner with winning ticket seller Vinny Caffrey and Cathaoirleach CLG Na Fianna Colum Cronin.



Back to normal again next week when the Jackpot will be a respectable €5,750, so let's see how long this one lasts. See Club website www.clgnafianna.ie for application forms and direct debit mandates or get your lotto envelopes from Members' bar or usual sources.

Thanks For Your Christmas Trees!

Many thanks to all who contributed to our recent very successful Christmas Tree Collection fundraiser. This was the fifth year that the collection was run and the number of trees collected has increased each year. From very early on Saturday morning the dedicated team of Na Fianna collectors hit the local neighbourhood and spirited away the last remains of Christmas 2016.



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Any outstanding payments for trees collected should be returned in an envelope clearly marked "Christmas Tree Collection Service" to the Club office or bar as soon as possible. Please also include your name and address.



The 2017 Christmas Tree Collection Team: Kevin O'Sullivan, Eamonn Potter, Eoin Flaherty, Ciarán McHugh, Niall Brennan, Donal Ryan, Darren Fanning, Joe Murphy, Cormac O'Sullivan, Martin Quilty, Eoin McCabe, Liam Burke, Christy Donnelly, Tom Ryan, Jim Heffernan, Martin Rabbitte, Tony Kelly, Dick Shanahan, Greg Whooley, John O'Dea, Seamus McHugh, Michael Ryan, Paul McDonnell, Gabriel Travers, Karl Cummins, Tyrone Falls, Gerry Gray & Pat Breen. The following team distributed cards and flyers: Micheál Murphy, Patrick Skelly, Kevin Burke, Tyrone Falls and Ruairí Falls. Also, thanks to Philip Mongey and Cormac O'Donnchu for the use of their vehicles, and to Ciara, Kay, Gráinne and everyone who helped with tea and sandwiches. Thanks also to all the local tree sellers who attached our business card to the trees they were selling.

Having your tree collected is much easier and cheaper than having your car valeted! Anyone who hasn't used the service, please consider us next year!



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Annual Juvenile Coaching Forum



Thanks to all who attended last Saturday's Juvenile Coaching Forum. The day was a credit to the organisers for pulling together an impressive programme which was well received by those who attended. Watch out for some interesting and unusual training drills in the weeks to come as a result of Saturday's forum.

Members' Subscriptions

Members' subscriptions are due and payable since the AGM. Details of subscription rates and methods of payment are on the Club website

http://www.clgnafianna.com/?page_id=1028 . Subscriptions can be paid on Saturdays in the Club or at the office during normal opening hours (9.30am to 1pm Mon –Fri).

Club Shops

Both shops open tomorrow, Saturday 21st January. Hurley shop open 9-12 while Club shop reopens for first time since Christmas and will trade from 9-1pm.



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Annual Club Mass



The Annual Mass took place on Sunday 8th January in Áras na bhFiann. As usual a large crowd gathered to celebrate the lives of past members and friends who have contributed so much to our lives in the club. This year we remembered 55 people connected to members who passed on during the year and we remembered 4 past members who went to their final resting place. Fr Eoin Murphy (himself a member) presided and he reminded us as Christians of the need to stand up and be counted in this world and that's not a bad metaphor for any player or indeed member of a club. We are grateful to all who participated but particularly to the small committee who pull this together every year, Pdraigin Breathnach, Ann Ryan and Johnny Quinn.

Facilities Update

A quick January update from the Club's Facilities Committee on planned works;

Collinstown—The next pitch.

Facilities Committee and members of Club Executive have recently “walked the ground” at Collinstown and other pitches. We acknowledged the good work we had done so far and set out our aspiration to take the key steps to develop the next pitch at Collinstown. We have commenced last Saturday, 14th Jan, with the initial work of cutting back the boundary hedges



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and all the growth on stumps throughout the remaining 3.5 acres/almost 2 hectares. We are on site there on all the remaining Saturdays of January from 9am to 12 noon; we will then see how things are for February. Help is needed to do this volunteer work; it saves thousands of euros in cost as we drive on to make a full juvenile pitch here. Live bodies needed; cuppa tea/coffee also on the go. Any timber suitable for burning can be taken away by volunteers who give a dig out on this project. Contact Martin at 087-9092732 for details. Contractor to dig up roots, plough and prepare the ground, sow the seed etc is in the process of being selected. Goal posts and ball catching nets will be put up in due course and it will be open for play early next year. This project is being funded through dedicated additional donations over and above subs etc; contact Donal Ring as Treasurer to sort out arrangements.

Facilities –Updates

Tons of work going on to submit bids for National Sports and plan for completion of Club funded projects; upgrade to surface etc of smaller all weather, ball catching nets at all areas in Mobhi Rd, items inside clubhouse etc. Grass cutting machines being serviced, including dedicated tractor and mower which has been purchased through donations and is located on site at Collinstown. We also have plans to have a go at putting all weather type strips of material into the goalmouths with a priority of St Vincents School. Dedicated defibrillators is also in the process of being set up in Collinstown; keep an eye out for upcoming training and sincere thanks to Mary Davis for her help on this life-saving project.

Garden Tools

We would like to acknowledge donation of a set of gardening implements and maintenance tools recently. We would appreciate if you would consider donating you “previously loved” shovels, digging forks, sweeping brushes, hedge clippers, wrench sets etc as you do an upgrade as part of spring cleaning and getting stuck in on the garden etc for 2017.

Lawnmowers, chainsaws, strimmers etc also gratefully accepted. Contact Martin for details.

U-21B Football Championship

Our U-21B Footballers are looking for your support in tomorrow’s Championship semi-final away at 2pm against Fingal Ravens. Best of luck lads, all support welcome.



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C'mon Na Fianna! – Na Fianna abú!

Nathanna gríosaithe do mheantóirí – Phrases of encouragement for mentors. An tseachtain seo táimid ag díriú ar iomáint agus ar chamógaíocht... This week we are concentrating on hurling and camogie...

[At first training session back why not try this]: Bliain úr faoi mhaise dhaoibh a bhuachaillí / a chailíní. Happy New Year to you, boys / girls. Go mbeirimid beo ag an am seo arís! – May we all be here again same time next year!

Coimeád greim ar an sliotar – Keep a hold of the sliotar

Coimeád greim air – Hold onto it

Ardaigh é – Lift it

Ardaigh i do lámh é – Lift it into your hand

Ardaigh i do ghlac é – Lift it into your hand

Buail íseal é – Strike it low

Buail ard é – Strike it high

Pas láimhe! – Handpass!

Mo cheol thú – You're great (well done) [said when a player does something well or tries really hard on the pitch]

Juno At Na Fianna



Draíocht Players make their annual visit to Na Fianna on Friday 17th February at 8pm to present the O'Casey classic Juno and the Paycock as a Club fundraiser. Tickets will go on sale shortly, details to be advised, and will cost €10 each. Not to be missed.



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2009 Boys & Corrigans Join Forces



2009 Boys freshly out of Nursery and are now with the big boys and raring to go. They have recently received sponsorship from Corrigan's Butchers, Fitzmaurice Road, Ballygall for training bibs for the upcoming season and are getting really excited for what's coming next.....must be all that red meat!

Scoil Chaitríona Final Win



Na Fianna Nuacht 20ú Eanáir 2017



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Congrats to Scoil Chaitriona on their Dublin Schools Junior C Hurling final win in Abbottstown last Monday. A 2-14 to 1-5 win against Rathcoole saw the title head to Mobhi Road. Strong na Fianna representation included Séimí Ó Cathasaigh, Cuan McGuinness, Liam Gaughran, Tiarnán McCabe, Daire Ó Cuilleagáin, Ciaran Brennan, Adam Rafter, Sean O'Sullivan, Cillian Ross, Gavin Healy, Eoghan Gaugran. Maith sibh lads.

Christmassy Concert – Review

The Na Fianna Christmassy Concert which took place in the Hall on the 16th December last was a lovely night. It said on the tickets 8pm sharp and at 8pm, satisfied that the audience were nourished enough by the mulled wine on offer, MC for the evening, Mairtin Mac Coniomaire took to the stage. He introduced 'CÓRus'- the forty singers who were to set the high standard for the night's entertainment. (These singers, including some Na Fianna members, practice every Tuesday in the Mobhi Suite.) Under their conductor and musical director Mary Lowe they performed 'The Christmas Song', 'Shoop Shoop', then a choral version of 'O Holy Night' and ended their set with an enthusiastic rendition of 'Jingle Bell Rock'.



Although she looked a diminutive figure on the stage, emptied of the 40 choristers, our own Darina Gallagher complete with her ukulele, was unfazed when all eyes turned on her. Following an amusing introduction she gave a confident even cheeky performance of 'Santa



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Baby'. Mairtin Mac Coniomaire took time out from his MC job to give us a rousing version of 'Down the Glen One Easter Morn' ably assisted by Colm King on Guitar.

Katie King followed with a haunting performance of 'Down by the Glen Side'. Katie, Darina and Mairtin showed that they are as much at home with an attentive audience in a concert setting as they are in the 'hurly burley' of a Na Fianna Thursday 'seasún'. Colm no stranger to any stage, changed instruments to fill the hall with the romantic sounds of his Mandolin playing the theme music of the film 'Doctor Zhivigo' other wise known as the 'Lara Theme'.

The first of our visitor soloists was teenager Eyna Murphy. Her 'Christmas Shoes' was a reminder that Christmas can be the best of times and the worst of times She delicately captured the pathos (as only a teen could) of how a fellow teen wanted to buy shoes for his dying mother. Dry eyes were in short supply. In contrast our next visitor Dermot Lynskey (who graced many a stage at home and abroad) set out to put a smile on our faces. To describe him as a comedian is probably a misnomer because he is at heart a storyteller and actor. By allowing us a glimpse into his repertoire he led us into the interval with a smile on our faces and quite anticipation for the second half.

The rest of the concert was taken over by visiting soloists and choir. Well almost, Éamonn Murphy being the lone voice from Na Fianna. There is no better way to start the second half then with the unexpected. Miles O Brian did just that when he 'lifted the roof' with his singing of 'O solo Mio'. If that wasn't enough, Pavarotti must have applauded from his celestial home, when Myles took on the high notes of 'Nessum Dorma'. This was going to be a hard act to follow and expectations were high when Sarah Lawlor took to the stage. Any doubts there may have been were dispelled when Sarah's velvet voice strong enough to fill the hall took on 'Quando Me'nro' and 'Have Yourself a Merry Christmas'. London featured in the next two numbers.

Linsey Dempsey proved that she two could hit the high notes in 'A nightingale sang in Berkley Square'. Éamonn Murphy mimicked a 'love sick' gentleman from 'MY Fair Lady' when singing 'I Have Often Walked Down the Street Before'. Linsey and Éamonn then teamed up to sing the 'The Merry Widow Waltz'.

Ros O Flaherty gave us 'If Ever I Would Leave You' but his performance will be particularly remembered for his sensitive singing of 'Bring Him Home' from 'Les Miserables'. This set was completed on a high note when Sahara Éamonn and Ros backed Linsey in singing 'O



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Holy Night'. Sarah described the audience as being "small but very nice" and they showed their appreciation when that great Christmas Carol was given the performance it deserved.

Now is a good time to acknowledge the accompanist Derek Mahady whose expertise on the keyboard, was an essential ingredient in all the visitors contributions.

The choir returned to 'wrap up' and they did so with style. 'Silver Bells' and then 'Merry Christmas Darling' was followed by 'Yes sir I can boogie'. This last number brought the 'middle brow' audience to their 'dancing' feet and waving arms as they doubtlessly remembered 'Rock' Concerts of yore. Then agreeing with the choir, they sang the finally with gusto: 'I Wish it Could be Christmas Every Day'. This spirited community engagement brought this wonderful evening to a happy conclusion. Sincere thanks to all who came along and supported the evening.

.....and finally

Na Fianna Nursery returns on Saturday 4th February so there's still two weeks left to practice at home.

Comhbhrón

Sincere sympathies are extended to the Caffrey family on the recent passing of Mrs Josephine Gray, Mother of former Cathaoirleach CLG Na Fianna Bernie Gray (Caffrey), Mother-in-law of John Caffrey and Grandmother of Aoife (Junior ladies football), Leah (Senior ladies football), Sean (Senior footballers) and Hugh (Minor footballers).

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a h-anam.

Fógra Tabachtach

The objective of Na Fianna Nuacht is to communicate as much club activity as possible however it is important to note that all items for inclusion in either Club Notes or Na Fianna Nuacht are reported to pro.nafianna.dublin@gaa.ie or texted to 087 9250697 by Sunday evening. With a membership of 2700 and approx 100 teams now competing it is difficult to ensure all club activity is reported upon – **Do not assume** that your team's activity is already known to Na Fianna Nuacht or that someone else has reported it. When errors or omissions occur it is the policy of Na Fianna Nuacht to correct these in subsequent issues when they are reported to pro.nafianna.dublin@gaa.ie