



Na Fianna Nuacht

Féile Champions



Last Sunday was another proud and historic day for Na Fianna as both U-14 hurling teams contested Féile finals in Parnell Park. The day started with our Division 7 team in action at 10am, and at 1pm our Division 1 team took to the field. See pages 3-10 for full reports.

Weekend Fixtures

Club Hurling Championships continue this weekend with Inters away against Kilmacud Crokes on Saturday at 6pm. Both Junior Hurling teams are away on Sunday at 3pm, A's (Junior D Championship) play Clontarf in St Anne's Park and B's (Junior F Championship) play Whitehall in Cloghran, see page 2 for previews. Our three Minor football teams play on Sunday morning, A's host Thomas Davis in Mobhi Road at 10.30am, B's are away against Fingal Ravens and C's in St Vincents CBS against Whitehall, both at 11am. Full fixture list on website, best of luck to all teams, support welcome. <http://www.clgnafianna.com/fixtures/>



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Club Hurling Championship

Following the Senior Hurlers' success last night against O'Tooles in Round 2 of the Championship, Na Fianna's three other teams play in Championship over the weekend. Best of luck to all the teams and the lads will be looking for strong Na Fianna support. See previews below.

Inter Hurlers v Kilmacud Crokes – Glenalbyn Saturday 6pm

Our Intermediate Hurlers had a fantastic Championship start with a 2-19 to 1-12 win against Fingallians last Saturday. Without a doubt this was the lads' best performance of the year with the team unit gelling well and quality hurling in evidence all over the pitch. This Saturday the lads play Kilmacud Crokes in Glenalbyn in next round of Championship in an eagerly awaited contest. The panel remains injury free thankfully, and the lads are again hoping that given the current fine spell of weather that a good Na Fianna crowd will travel to roar them on.

Junior A Hurlers v Clontarf – St Annes Park Sunday 3pm

Following on from their opening round win last Sunday, our AHL 6 team play their second championship group game this Sunday against Clontarf. This will no doubt be another tough challenge for the team as Clontarf also won their opening fixture. With six players having made their adult championship debuts for Na Fianna last week it is hoped that these young hurlers will improve and grow in confidence with every game as they have done already this season. The game throws in at 3pm in St Anne's Park and all support welcome again.

Junior B Hurlers v Whitehall Colmcille – Cloghran Sunday 3pm

Having been awarded a bye in Round 1, Sunday will be the first foray of our Junior B's in this year's Championship. This team, which shows a good mixture of age and experience, has played well in League so far and are hoping to continue their form into Sunday's Championship fixture. The lads will be looking for Na Fianna support for their 3pm throw in.



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U14 B Hurlers Féile Adventure

For excitement, pride in the jersey, team spirit and incredible player bravery, Na Fianna B Team's Féile Hurling 2017 Adventure will live long in the memories of the players, the coaches and the many supporters who made the journey with us to hosts Trinity Gaels GAA Club on Saturday last.

With limited numbers of hurlers (29 in total) on the 2003 panel, fielding an A and a B team for Féile was always going to be challenging. Losing two of the panel through injury and sudden illness in the weeks leading up to Féile made the challenge almost insurmountable butrising to challenges has always been the hallmark of the 2003 Boys!

A recruitment drive was launched and a number of 2003 lads who played 'football only' were approached/encouraged/subtly coerced into 'giving hurling a go' for Féile. A guaranteed FOUR games on the Saturday (5 team group –top team to qualify for Sundays Final) combined with fond memories of their great run in the Féile Football competition spurred 6 brave lads to take a chance and step outside their comfort zones. For the two weeks leading up to the Hurling Féile, the 6 'footballers' whose exposure to hurling ranged from 'none' to 'played a bit at U11' turned out to training to have a crash course in 'small ball' skills. Under the experienced eye of club stalwarts Martin Quilty and Declan Feeney (drafted in for their coaching skills rather than for gender balance in the management team!!), they put their shoulders to the wheel and, by 'Féile Friday' were fitting in seamlessly with their hurling counterparts. The addition of 3 fine hurlers from the 2004 squad meant that on Saturday morning the Na Fianna B team headed into battle with a squad of 19.5 players (one had a soccer match to attend first!).

The Early Rounds

First up was a Skerries Team we had encountered in earlier years. Guest coach Declan Feeney marshalled our troops in the dressing room, keeping it simple and challenging them to get 'ten scores - 10 scores will win any match for us today'. Our team took to the pitch like gladiators – their work rate and support play was impressive and by half time had racked up 8 of the 10 scores demanded. The second half saw no let- up in their efforts with scores coming from ground strikes, air strikes and a significant number from kicked sliothars! A final



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score of 10.08 to 0.0 had our side quietly confident going into the next game against Fingallians.



Recognising that they would pose a much greater challenge (having beaten us in the League 2 weeks previously) our lads set out once again on their 10 scores quest. An early goal helped settle our nerves and in a hard fought first half, a score of 2.3 to 1 point for Na Fianna at half time had coach Declan looking for 'the other 5 scores' in the second half. A final score of 3.5 to 2 points for Na Fianna saw us top the table going in to a long (2.5 hour) break before our next game against St Olafs.

The arrival of the much anticipated pasta bolognaise hot lunch (sincere thanks to Richie Currie for his culinary skills) proved to be very popular. It fuelled our hardy hurlers (for such they all now were!) for the significant afternoon challenges to come and to a man they were itching to get back on the field of play.

St Olafs proved to be tricky opposition, needing a win to stay in the running. For our lads it was the equivalent of a quarter final – a win would see us go head to head with our hosts Trinity Gaels in the last game of the day – the prize a coveted place in the final in Parnell Park on Sunday morning.

Our lads once again rose to the occasion, stuck to the task at hand, defended brilliantly and scored some nice points in the first half, delivering a score line of 1.4 to nil at half time. The



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expected fightback from St Olafs came in the second half and it was all hands on deck to defend Na Fianna's honour and claim that 'semi- final' spot. We were disappointed to lose our very effective centre forward Cormac to a hamstring injury early in the second half but his teammates to a man stepped up their intensity again, scoring two fine goals and a point to leave the final score Na Fianna 3.5 N. Olafs 2 points.

The 'Semi-Final'

And so to the Trinity Gaels game – a 'winner takes all' challenge. A very excited panel regrouped in the dressing room. The strategic distribution of wine gums to all players saw silence descend and allowed wonder coach Declan craft the approach to the battle ahead. Players were reminded of how far they had come over the course of the day, the prize on offer, and the work rate and effort needed to attain it. Questions were answered, injury niggles sorted and, before taking to the pitch, the players were given that final minute in the dressing room to themselves (adult free zone) to reflect on the battle ahead.

And an epic battle it was! Playing against a very strong wind in the first half, the aim was to minimise the opposition's scoring opportunities in order to 'still be in the game' at half time. A nasty injury to our pacey midfielder Cian early in the first half saw him leave the field of play. Coming on top of the injury to Cormac in the earlier game, the signs were ominous. There was no more the coaches or parents on the side line could do..... it was game on and it was up to the lads on the pitch to step up their performance yet again to overcome the odds now stacked against them.

NO BOTHER TO THEM! A heroic first half performance, hooking, blocking, crowding out the very physical opposition while nicking a couple of scores against the run of play saw the lads just 2 points down at half time on a score line of Trinity Gaels 2.2 Na Fianna 2 goals.....and .just 20 minutes from a Féile Final!

The half time talk was brief and to the point! The warriors returned to the battlefield and fought like tigers for the Na Fianna jersey. To a man they were disciplined, determined and fearless. With the aid of the wind, goalkeeper Oisín's fine puck outs created scoring opportunities for our determined midfielders and forwards, while he and his resolute backline stood firm against repeated Trinity Gaels attacks. The very vocal, encouraging Na Fianna support on the side line provided 'the extra man' on the pitch and fine scores from Fergal, Daniel, Sean and Ruairi saw Na Fianna emerge 5.3 to 3.3 winners at the final whistle. David



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had slain Goliath and, against the odds, had secured a place in the Féile Division 7 final in Parnell Park the following morning!

To top off a great day, word filtered through that our A team (based in Faughs GAA Club) had also secured a place in the Division 1 Final the following day. There was much pride and celebration that our two teams had raised to the top in their divisions. Tired bodies were invited to ice baths in the Na Fianna Clubhouse later that evening where physios Eleanor and Pairic would see to any lingering injuries.

The Final

Sunday in Parnell Park saw us take the field against a strong St.Patrick's Palmerston team who had come through the other side of the division without conceding a score. Huge Na Fianna support, including the Féile 'A' team and their parents, lined up to make themselves heard. Unfortunately injuries and other circumstances saw our brave hurlers taking the field without some key players from the previous day. Playing against the wind in the first half, we battled hard to contain the opposition and were fortunate to be just 5 points down at half time on a score line of 1.2 to nil. The second half saw a ding dong battle with our forwards fighting hard to put scores on the board. A pointed free from Fergal saw us come more into the game and we were unlucky to have a free driven low for goal cleared off the line. The opposition then put over a free of their own and the final 8 minutes saw our lads battle to get back on terms.....alas to no avail. On a final score of St Patrick's (P) 1.3 Na Fianna 1 pt, St Pats deservedly claimed the Division 7 Féile title. After receiving their Runners Up medals, our lads demonstrated great sportsmanship and maturity, standing to provide a guard of honour as the victorious St Patrick's team made their way down from the presentation area with the Division 7 Cup and their winners medals. On the day Na Fianna U14 B Team did themselves proud and were a credit to the Club.

After a fantastic Féile experience, the U14 B hurlers owe sincere thanks to all who assisted and supported us through an unforgettable weekend. Declan Feeney (our guest coach) brought great energy and wisdom to our set-up and was the architect of our incredible match winning run that saw us reach the final. Our 'hurling footballers' who answered the call were a huge boost to us and we are looking forward to them remaining involved in our hurling panel. Martin Quilty put time and effort in the lead up to the weekend to converting the said footballers into hurlers! The U13 hurlers who stepped in to assist and provided strength in



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depth were awesome. Aisling, our physiotherapist battled against the odds to keep our players on the pitch and responded to every request for assistance (or in some cases just sympathy!). Mary O'Connell, our 2003's Head Coach, has dedicated the last 5 years to the development of this U14 hurling squad and is to be congratulated for the inclusive way she has managed the squad to get the best out of every single player (not forgetting her husband Richie who was caterer extraordinaire). Coach Pairic and Physio Eleanor who gave of their time so freely on Saturday evening . And finally – the parents and friends (ably led by Elaine and Lynn) who fundraised so diligently for the squad's Féile clothing, hurling equipment and sustenance and who turned out in such numbers to support the lads over the weekend. We would be nowhere without your combined efforts – go raibh mile maith agaibh go leir.

Under 14A - Hurling Féile 2017

Aonghus Brady - Breen DeRosfort - Ciarán Lambert - Daniel Day - Fiachra Cooney - Jack Cody - Jack Guinan - Jack Lacey - James Staines - Liam Fay - Naoise O'Carroll - Noah Williams - Oliver Feely - Sam Carty - Séamus Smith - Seán Stone - Tom Brennan. U13 Hurlers involved were: Adam Brady - Ben Gaughran - Ciarán Stacey - Eoin Gaughran - Jack Bourke





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An amazing weekend saw our Under 14 Hurlers win the Dublin Division 1 Hurling Féile for the 1st time ever in the club's history. This group of boys just out hurled everybody over the weekend and never stopped until the final whistle blew in Parnell Park @1.55pm on Sunday 30th April, it was amazing

Faugh's hosted us in the round robin group stages over in Tymon North - The group consisted of Na Fianna, Raheny, Faugh's and Lucan Sarsfields. Faughs were the favourites to come out of this group with ourselves just possibly 2nd favourites over Lucan to come out. But the boys just ignored all this and set about to play some of the nicest hurling you'll see in a long time

1st game vs Raheny - WON 0-06 to 3-12 This was probably our toughest game in the group as we were expected to win it, we were very nervous and it wasn't until there was 10 minutes to go that we just streaked ahead. Oliver Feely did a great 50 yard solo run and crossed the sliotar into the square which ended up in the back of the net and then the floodgates opened up where Tom Brennan & Jack Guinan became unstoppable.

2nd game vs Lucan - WON 2-05 to 7-04 The damage was done here in the 1st half where again the forward line just couldn't miss. By half-time, Lucan's hearts were broken and we were then able to run on all of our Under 13's who held the fort together for the 2nd half.

3rd game vs Faugh's - WON 1-04 to 3-09 It was in this game that we really discovered how good Adam Brady from the U13 squad was and after this, he was on every starting team sheet. Jack Lacey opened the score with an unreal point off his left, on the left hand side-line and as tough as this game was, our discipline and determination showed through and we just had an overall better 15 players on the pitch than Faugh's had. Tom & Jack G were outstanding in the 2nd half of this game as they just won so much dirty ball under very trying circumstances.

SEMI-FINAL vs Kilmacud Crokes - WON 2-06 to 0-06 This game was our toughest game to win as we had a strong breeze in the 1st half but just couldn't get the scores. The boys worked so hard but little flicks, bad bounces etc. etc. did not go our way. Oliver broke the deadlock then with a goal before half time which brought us level with Kilmacud Crokes. Going into the 2nd half, Breen DeRosfort just came into his own and broke Kilmacud Crokes hearts with 1-01 as they really thought they had us at half time knowing they were getting the breeze and the luck. Breen's 1st touch was sheer class and he they just could not mark him.



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It was a credit to him & the physios that he was even able to participate in Féile this year after a horrific cycling accident last October which saw him break both tibias & fibias in both legs. It was in this game too that Seán Stone just cleaned up the full back line as nobody could get by him as ball after ball rained in from Kilmacud with the strong breeze. They just gave up trying to out manoeuvre or out play Seán with 10 minutes to go as he just stone-walled them everytime they tried to invade his territory

FINAL - Parnell Pk vs Faugh's WON 1-04 to 3-09

Within the 1st minute, Tom netted and there was no going back. The boys weren't going to let this one go. Liam Fay was outstanding in the full back line as he read every ball that came into the full back line. He covered every inch of the full back line as there was no way he was letting this one go. James Staines then as centre-back came was so steady, again a credit to us as he also has been sidelined for the last 6 months with concussion and only came back the week of Féile. You wouldn't have known it to see how well he read the game at centre-back. Daniel Day also read every ball that came in and out caught and out blocked everyone on the half back line in this final, this was Daniel's best game by far in our campaign. In midfield, Naoise's athleticism, height and overall reading of the game was outstanding. Captain Fantastic Jack Guinan took a filthy pull across his shin in the opening minute but just waved it off as this was his club's day and wasn't going to let that deter him lifting the cup for Na Fianna. The excitement everyone felt when Tom got onto a ball was electric. Every player worked so hard to get it to him and would have gone through a brick wall to get the sliotar into the square. A clinical finish by Oliver Feely into the bottom corner of the net saw our 2nd goal before half time and we were really on our way. The boys themselves knew that if they held on for another 10 minutes that they could really take this final. A foul on Tom Brennan as he scored our 3rd goal ended up as a penalty. Sam, was delighted to step up for this and as everyone yelled 'just stick it over', from the sideline he heard, "NO WAY, he's been practising for this moment for the last 6 weeks" and with that, Sam belted it home, by the time the sliotar hit the net, the goalie hadn't even moved his hurl he had hit it so hard, classy... We all knew then that we were going to win this as that penalty took the fight out of Faugh's and they gave in. We had out hurled everybody in Dublin and deservedly took home the Division 1 Hurling Féile Cup.

Many thanks to our Physio Eleanor Buggy who somehow managed to get Jack Guinan onto the pitch for the semi-final after his legs seized up during the warm-up, for all the hard work



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she had to do during the games and before the semi-finals rubbing down the boys tired legs. For coming over to the club after the ice-bathss on Saturday and again, rubbing down the boys to get them ready for their Finals on the Sunday and to Aisling Freir who covered for Eleanor in that Final in Parnell Park.

Many thanks to Lynn & Elaine for all the fundraising they did this year and to the team management of Mary O'Connell, Pádraig Buggy and Stephen DeRosfort.

National Féile - Na Fianna will be hosted by Naomh Éanna in Gorey - schedule as follows:

FRIDAY 16th June @4pm vs Buffers Alley

FRIDAY 16th June @5.30pm vs NAAS

SATURDAY 17th June @11am vs Naomh Éanna

SATURDAY 17th June @3pm OR 4pm - SHIELD quarter-finals OR CUP quarter-finals

SUNDAY 18th June @12pm BOTH Shield & Cup semi-finals

SUNDAY 18th June @3.45pm BOTH Shield & Cup Finals





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U-21 Champions



Congrats to Dublin's Under-21 footballers including Eoin Murchan, Aaron Byrne and Glenn O'Reilly and also to Dessie, Phil, Cathal, John and Pat on Saturday's All-Ireland final win against Galway.

Na Fianna

Lotto Results

May 2nd 2017

Numbers

10 13 19 26

Jackpot €9250 - No Winner

Match 3 Numbers €45 - Winner

Deirdre & Brendan Fitzgerald (ID 461)	Numbers	13 19 22 26
Robbie Irwin c/o Vinny	Numbers	10 13 22 26
Tina Manning c/o Vinny	Numbers	7 10 13 19

Lucky Pick Winner - €15

Dermot Henessy
Richard Dunne
Robbie Irwin c/o Vinny
Sean (Sat Morning)
Sean O'Flaherty c/o Vinny

Next Jackpot €9500



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Dublin's League Title



Congrats to Dublin's Premier Junior Camogie team including Na Fianna's Gráinne Free, Roisín Baker and Niamh Gleeson on Sunday's League final win.

Club Shops Open Tomorrow

Both shops open tomorrow, Saturday 6th May. Hurley workshop open 9-12 and Club shop open from 9-1pm in Club foyer. Nursery in action from 9.30-11am and teas/coffees from the cabin throughout.

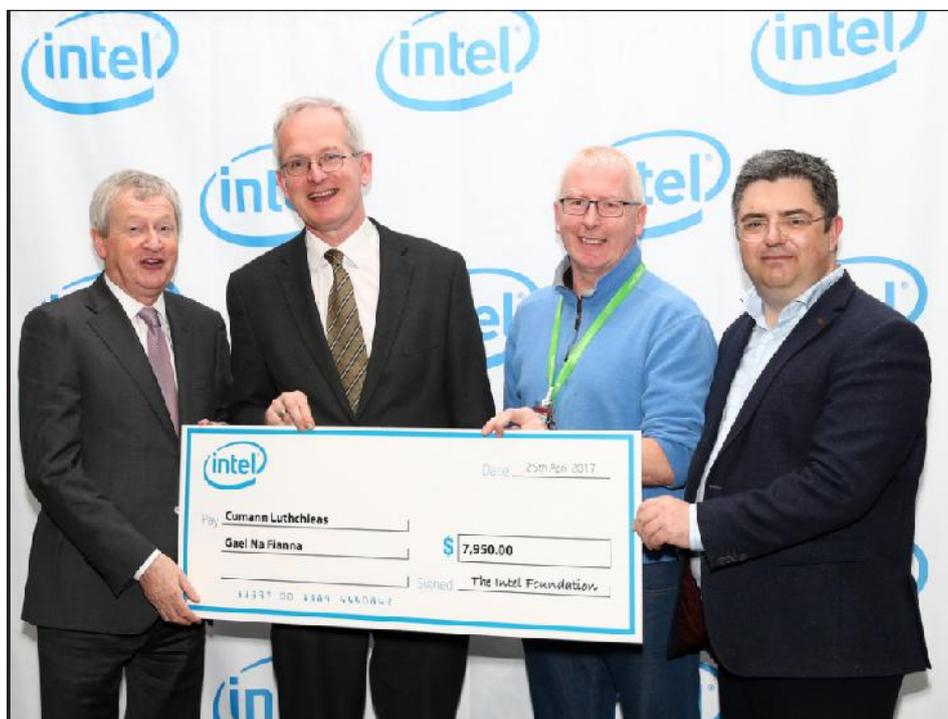


**YOUR CLUB. YOUR SUPPORT.
IT MAKES THE DIFFERENCE.**



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Intel Funding For Na Fianna



Pictured at the recent presentation to Na Fianna as part of Intel's Matching Grant 2017 Programme were I/r Pairic Duffy Árd Stiúrthoir Cumann Luthchleas Gael, Colum Cronin Cathaoirleach CLG Na Fianna, Des Tuite Na Fianna & Intel and Eamonn Sinnott Intel Ireland General Manager.

Na Fianna's Dubs

Best of luck to Dublin Senior Camogie team including Na Fianna's four starters, Eve O'Brien (Capt) no.7, Arlene Cushen no.2, Zoe O'Donoghue no.14 and Niamh Rock no.13 in Saturday's Leinster semi-final against Kilkenny in O'Toole Park at 3pm. Good luck also to Dublin's Premier Junior Camogie team including Grainne Free, Roisín Baker and Niamh Gleeson in Saturday's Leinster semi-final against Carlow in Netwatch Cullen Park at 2.30pm.

Best of luck to Karen O'Connell and Dublin's U-16 B Camogie team in Leinster Final against Laois on Saturday in Thomastown at 2.15pm. Dublin's U-14 ladies footballers play Meath in Leinster Final on Saturday in Clane and best of luck to all including Na Fianna's Eva Ahern, Molly Cassidy and Sophia Nyhan.



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McNulty Memorial Tournament



The 11th Annual McNulty Under 11 Hurling Tournament was played on the Bank Holiday Monday in a sun drenched Mobhi Road. The three Na Fianna Under 11 Teams were joined by Ballyboden St. Endas, St Vincents, Whitehall Colmcille, Setanta, Coolderry and Cuala in a wonderful day of hurling. Behind the scenes Philip O'Brien, Maurice Grehan, Gerard Keane along with a large team of mentors and parents worked from the early hours to set up pitches, organise sandwiches and welcome our guests for the day. The day started with a few words welcoming the McNulty Family, with Conall McNulty saying a few words about his father and his life-long love of the Club.

At 10.30, a Piper lead over 160 boys onto the front pitch in Mobhi Road and the hurling started at 11am with a Cup and Shield Competition. The Na Fianna Cup side got off to a flying start with a very comprehensive win over Cuala only to be narrowly defeated by Ballyboden in their second game. They went on to beat Coolderry in a great game. However in the final game of the pool stage against St Vincents they were beaten by a last minute goal, having just gone ahead with a goal of their own in the dying minutes. The Cup Final was contested by Ballyboden and Coolderry with Ballyboden coming out as winners by a single point.

The Shield was also closely contested with two Na Fianna Teams competing in it. While they won a number of matches and battled hard in the heat, it was Setanta and Ballyboden who qualified to contest the final. Ballyboden coming out on top with a late goal in an extremely competitive game.



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Overall it was a great days hurling with all of the boys learning a lot from the experience. There was over 300 parents catered for in the Mobhi Suite in addition to the 160 boys who played. It is a credit to all the Mentors and Parents who put in such a huge effort to making it the day the success it was. All the visitors commented on the warm welcome, the food and the high standard of competitive hurling.

Finally we would like to thank the McNulty Family for their continued support and based on this year, we can look forward to the McNulty Tournament going from strength to strength. Looking forward to McNulty 2018 already!

Summer Bedding Plants



With the current spell of good weather, members who might be getting into the garden are reminded that a full range of plants for Summer bedding now available from ChildVision, Grace Park Road, Drumcondra

Na Fianna Nuacht 5ú Bealtaine 2017



Na Fianna Nuacht

***Na Fianna Senior Football
Team Golf Classic***

Donabate Golf Course
26th May 2017

4 person team cost €350

If you are interested in taking part or would like further details
please contact one of the following:

Pat Breen 087 689 1241
Gerry Donohoe 087 673 6294
John Caffrey 087 691 7295

Comhbhrón

Sincere sympathies are extended to the Daly family on the death of Madeleine Conway, Mother of Frank Daly, Grandmother of Cian, Meadhbh and Órna and Mother-in-law of Clíona.

Sincere sympathies also offered to the Norton family on the passing of Na Fianna Founder Member Tommy Norton, husband of the late Patricia and Father of John, Harry, Larry, Christine and Mary.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a n-anamnacha.

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