



Na Fianna Nuacht

Last Weekend's Super Saturday

Last weekend was a superb weekend of club activity during which we secured a superb “3 in a row” run of U21 Hurling Championships, Hosted the first visit of our newly twinned Club Paris Gaels and celebrated the finals of the wonderfully successful Deirdre Lambe Tournament.



Upcoming Weekend Action

As the 2018 competitive year draws to a close this weekends action on the field of play sees our Female Minors compete in both codes - Our Footballers are out for a Division 1 League Final at 2.30 on Saturday in Mobhi Road and our Minor B Camogs play their Championship Semi Final on the front pitch at 10.30 on Sunday morning while our Minor C camógs host near neighbours Erins Isle at 12.30 Sunday on the Scoil Chaitriona pitch. Good luck to our own Leah Caffery at this evenings LGFA awards.

Put in the Diary for Next Sunday - our Adult year will close out when our Senior Hurlers will compete against Dublin Champions Bally Boden St Endas for the Dublin Division 1 League title. Best of luck to all our teams, all support welcome, full fixture list on website

www.clnafianna.com/fixtures



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U21 Hurlers clinch 3-in-a-row in dramatic fashion!

by Sean Burke

Na Fianna 3 – 18 St. Vincent's 1 – 18 (AET)



Back row (l-r): D Ryan, A Buggy, S Baxter, C Currie, J Tierney, E Skelly, D Burke, P Buggy, H Fenlon, E O'Dea, P Feeney, N Loftus

Front row (l-r): L Stacey, A Moran, K Burke, C Doran, D Lacey, G King, D Bergin, M Murphy, C Kelly, S Currie

Na Fianna's U21 hurlers were triumphant in O'Toole Park on Saturday afternoon, overcoming a resolute St. Vincent's outfit and in the process winning a third consecutive U21 'A' county final. Indeed it took extra time to separate the 2 teams in what was a pulsating contest throughout.

A Colin Currie free got Na Fianna off the mark, however it was Vincent's who started the brighter. They won an early penalty after Eoin Skelly was harshly adjudged to have bundled the opposing full forward over in the square. Skelly had no chance with the resultant penalty which was despatched into the corner of the net. Vincent's tacked on a couple of points to build up an early lead. This Na Fianna team is made of stern stuff though and they gradually started to stamp their authority on proceedings. Sean Currie sent over a classy point from



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near the side line and then we hit a purple patch. Big Padraig Buggy, who has been a revelation on the edge of the square in this campaign, reacted quickest to an under-hit free and bundled the ball into the net. Within a matter of moments Buggy struck gold again with another poacher-like finish after a goalmouth scramble. At this stage we had found our groove. Dónal Burke began to motor in the half forward line with a couple of nice points, and Peter Feeney had to settle for a point when his bullet was expertly deflected over by the Vinnies net-minder. Our defence was getting on top in this period as well. Kevin Burke won some vital ball in the half back line and Neil Loftus was taking no prisoners in the corner (he didn't lick it off a stone!). We went into the half time break with a commanding 6 point lead (2-07 to 1-04) which was reflective of our dominance.

The gap was by no means an unassailable one however, and Vincent's came out in the second half with the bit between their teeth. They gained a foothold in the middle of the park and started to chip away at the lead with a number of points. Our scores began to dry up in this period and we were reliant on the accurate Colin Currie from frees and play for most of the second half to keep our noses in front. All the momentum was with Vincent's though and our defence was under serious pressure, not helped by the whistle-happy referee. Micheál Murphy was introduced mid-way through the half and he stemmed the flow somewhat, getting stuck in and winning some dirty ball. Time was running out and we thought we were going to hold on by the bare minimum, but a booming puck-out from their keeper was caught by Conor Burke (who was their scorer in chief all afternoon) and he won a free in front of the posts. This brought the teams level and the ref duly blew for full time. 20 minutes of extra time was on the cards, the crowd certainly getting value for money!

Na Fianna had been in this position in the semi-final against Brigid's but all the momentum seemed to be with the Vinnies boys now. The first half of extra time was a tight affair and the teams went score for score, with Currie popping over a couple of hard-earned frees. At half time of extra time it was anybody's game. It looked like it might take a moment of magic to separate the 2 teams, and that's exactly what Na Fianna got at the start of the second half. Eoin O'Dea, having just been sprung from the bench, won a great ball in front of his man before making a bee-line for the goal. He unleashed an unstoppable shot to the roof of the net from about 25 yards out. Not bad for a footballer! Our sideline was all sorts of fired up at this stage but on the pitch there was only calm heads. Our defence held out in the face of the inevitable Vincent's onslaught. Conor Kelly cleared some great ball and Skelly stood firm between the sticks. The subs played their part too, Aodhán Buggy thundering into the game



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upon his introduction. Dónal B put the icing on the cake with a couple of booming scores from down town and ,with that, victory was ours on a final score line of 3-18 to 1-18.

The historic win was well deserved by this group of players who have put in a Trojan effort over the past number of weeks. A few players valiantly played through the pain barrier on Saturday which was testament to their fighting spirit, none more so than Hugh Fenlon at full back. Huge credit must also go to manager Dermot Moran and his extensive backroom team on the work that they put in. In his acceptance speech, captain Pdraig Buggy fittingly paid tribute to all the mentors who had been involved with these players down through the years and helped shape them into championship-winning hurlers. It has been a remarkable number of years for our underage hurlers and one can only hope that this will be the springboard for further success down the line.

Comhghairdeas le gach duine!



Na Fianna: E Skelly, C Kelly, H Fenlon, N Loftus, K Burke, D Ryan, S Baxter, D Bergin, C Doran, G King, P Feeney (0-2), D Burke (0-4), S Currie (0-2), P Buggy (2-1), C Currie (0-9, 0-6f)

Subs: M Murphy, E O'Dea (1-0), J Tierney, D Lacey, A Buggy, L Stacey, A Moran

Management team: Dermot Moran, Eamonn Rainsford, Phil Kelly, Liam Burke, Niall Madden, Shane Barrett, Mairtín Quilty

Medical team: Dee Quinn (physio), Dónal Buggy (doctor)

Na Fianna Nuacht 30ú Samhain 2018



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Deirdre Lambe Tournament 2018



Grass Pitches Closed

With the winter period upon us and the weather deteriorating, the Facilities Committee, as per club policy have closed all grass pitches from November 18th 2018 until February 2019. The only games permitted are the remaining official County Board Championship and League games.

No training or challenge matches will be permitted on grass pitches until next February at the earliest. Please do not request the use of them for this period. The All Weathers will be open and Winter Schedule is in place for teams. Míle Buíochas for your co-operation throughout the year.



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Margadh Na Nollag this Sat in Scoil Mobhí

Good luck to our neighbours Scoil Mobhi on Saturday as they host their annual Christmas fare- if your around please drop in and support !



TOYS

BOOKS

CRAFTS

BRIC-A-BRAC

SANTA'S GROTTTO

REFRESHMENTS

RAFFLES WITH GREAT PRIZES

HOT GOURMET BURGERS & SAUSAGES

JOIN US 11AM – 3PM

Saturday 1st Dec 2018

SCOIL MOBHÍ

MARGADH NA NOLLAG



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Would **€12,250** make a difference this Christmas?

Play the club Lotto this week.

Na Fianna
Lotto Results
November 26th 2018

Numbers

2	4	6	28
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Jackpot €12000 - No Winner

Match 3 Numbers €20 - Winner

Grace Bone (ID 96)	Numbers	2	4	6	13
Brian Clancy (ID 761)	Numbers	2	6	21	28
Eamonn Phelan (ID 763)	Numbers	1	2	4	28
Gerard Flannagan (ID 717)	Numbers	2	4	6	19
Ian Thornton (ID 738)	Numbers	2	4	6	12
Martin Killeen c/o Vinny	Numbers	2	4	6	8
Pauline Ryan (Sa. Morn.)	Numbers	2	3	6	28
Reg Igoe (Sat. Morn.)	Numbers	2	4	6	8

Lucky Pick Winner - €15

Anne Foley
Michael Smyth
Frances Keegan (Sat Morn.)
Michael Meade (Sat. Morn.)
Pat Fleming c/o Vinny

Next Jackpot €12250



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Touching Tribute from Victorious U21 Captain to 1997 Group



The 1997 age group is full of great friends, great lads and great hurlers. The 97s managed to win every championship they played as a team from u15 all the way to u21. This team has produced countless memories that will be cherished forever and it is hugely important to remember those who put this team together at the nursery, created the foundation, taught us the skills and encouraged us to keep playing this game of ours. A massive thank you to Peter Pringle, Finbar Gaffney and Donal Buggy. These three men brought us down the country to play the best teams and to associate hurling with great days and memories. True hurling men and the founders of this special 97 team.

At u14 a new management took the reins and steered us through some very successful years. Odhran “oranges” O Maoileidigh and Feargal Breathnach were coaches for 1 year each. Smart enthusiastic guys who brought a lot to the team. Through it all Daire O Maoileidigh was there. Each year driving us on that little bit more, trying to squeeze another 10% out of us each training session. It was incredibly lucky to have a top quality inter county level coach at such an early age and for so long. Daire was our coach from u15 all the way through until our last year of minor. He taught us how to hurl and for that, we are forever grateful.

Finally, to the men in charge. Paddy Oliver, ever present going about his jobs never looking to be in the spot light. He always put in Trojan work behind the scenes to the point that we may never really know the full extent of the amount of work he did for us. To Billy Fenlon who would have loved Saturday’s occasion so much. Another man who always stood out of the spot light. He was a great man to read a game on the sideline, see switches and changes and great to have 1 on 1 words with players and had a great relationship with every player. He is hugely missed on the line and also away from the pitch.

Now to the boss. We had an intercounty manager from the age of 14. The knowledge he brings to the game and his insight into not only opposition, but also to ourselves. He knows



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our 97 team so well and created the most successful underage team Na Fianna has ever seen, an accolade that will never be forgotten. I am still working with him, and hopefully the success will continue to flow. A massive thank you to our manager, Declan Feeney.

Last but not least, to the 2018 u21 management team. To Liam Burke and Phil Kelly for all the unseen work they do but also the great hurling brains they have, important figures to have around. To our coach Niall Madden, in his first coaching role you would have thought he was coaching all year round, a pleasure to work with on and off the field. And finally to Eamonn Rainsford and Dermot Moran, I couldn't name a more iconic duo. The scenes of pure and utter joy when "Rainsy" leaped into the air during the semi final dramatics. A huge thank you to these two greats of Na Fianna hurling who are now embedded in the history of the Na Fianna 1997 team

Fia - Na Fianna and Granny's Cake - Two Seasonal Successes

Well done to Lesley, Gina and all the crew who arranged two really successful fundraisers to mark this time of year - Gina arranged the sale of Fia - Na Fianna a set of Hot Chocolate kits for the season. They proved a great success and were sold out by 10.30 at the nursery.

Lesley Jameson - was on hand over the last few weeks selling raffle tickets for Grannys Christmas cake and the final winner was our own sweet toothed thespian Mark Brabazon. All around to the Brabazons then for the Cake!!



2018



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Leinster Council Bursaries

Proud of our two Club Members Cathal Caverely & Meabhdh Ní Dhalaigh recipients of Leinster Council 3rd Level bursaries in Portlaoise Tonight. Maith sibh #NaFiannaAbu #HeartOfTheCommunity



Congrats to club members Meadhbh Ní Dhalaigh and Cathal Caverely on their awarding of Bursaries for their work in the promotion of Gaelic Games at Third Level. They were among 21 individuals from the province who were presented with their awards last Tuesday in Aras Laighean Portlaoise by Leinster Chairman Jim Bolger. Remarkably the club was the only club to have two recipients - fair play and congrats to Meadhbh, Cathal and their proud families.



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Art Exhibition in the Club House

Have you seen the Photography Exhibition currently on display throughout the club? *An Ghaeilge mór thimpeall orainn / Seeing the Language* is a photographic project currently visiting Na Fianna which illustrates the visible presence of the Irish language in everyday discourse in Ireland in 2018. The underlying objective of the project is to raise public awareness of how the language is in many ways subtly embedded in our lives.



The project is a collaboration between Na Fianna's Fionán O'Connell and John Carroll and is their response to the Bliain na Gaeilge 2018 initiative of Conradh na Gaeilge. Well worth a visit.



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National Club Draw

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL CLUB

Opportunity for your GAA Club to raise up to €20,000



The GAA National Club Draw, an opportunity for all clubs to raise up to €20,000 has come around again. Na Fianna has done very well from the draw over the last few years thanks to the generosity of Club members and the hard work and dedication of people like former Cathaoirleach Colum Cronin who took on the administration of the draw within the Club.

In 2017, Na Fianna was the highest selling club in Leinster and the previous year, 2016, in addition to achieving the highest sales in Leinster, we also had the second highest ticket sales figure in the country. Over the past four years, Na Fianna has raised, between ticket sales and prize money, the impressive sum of €60,000. The hope is that the Club can replicate its success of the last years in selling the majority of the 2,000 tickets available to it.

Tickets for the Draw are sold nationally, cost a tenner each Tickets are now on sale in the Club and can be bought this weekend at Saturday's Nursery.





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Members' Subscriptions Due

Membership subscriptions for 2018/2019 are now due and can be paid in a number of ways. Subs can also be paid online here: <http://www.clgnafianna.com/membership/> or in the club office Monday to Friday 9.30am to 1pm.

Club Shops Open Tomorrow

The Club Shop and the Hurley Shop will both open tomorrow (Saturday 1st December). The Hurley Shop will open from 9-12 noon and December opening hours as follows; Thursdays and Fridays 9-1pm and 2-5.30pm (both days) and Saturday mornings 9-12 noon up to and including Saturday December 22nd. Closed then til January 2019. The Club Shop will open tomorrow from 9am to 1pm. Christmas hours not yet finalised by O'Neills but members will be advised once available.

Congrats to our New TV Stars on TG4

Well done to all involved in our latest TV appearance on TG4's programme Club - Particulary our Camogie star Roisin Baker..... Fair play to all involved - Maith Sibh ar fád!





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....and finally

For your diary.....The annual Friends Of Na Fianna Night, known in the past as the Mentors' Night, and always a great night in the lead in to Christmas at Na Fianna, takes place Saturday, 15th December 2018 from 8pm till Late. Live Music from The Aces, Complimentary Finger Food, Drinks from €4.00.....all welcome, save the date

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 news@clgnafianna.ie or texted to 087 9250697 by Sunday evening. With a growing membership of almost 3,000 and over 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 news@clgnafianna.ie