



Rathkeale Newsletter

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WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

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Have you something to advertise or tell the community, then you can email: rathkealenewsletter@gmail.com, call 087-2612030 or drop a note into Domhnall Ó Gairbhí Newsagent, Thomas Street, on or before Tuesday evening of each week.

Tribute to the late Shane Hourigan (RIP) (1970 – 2014)



On the 27th January last, the sad news broke amongst the community in Rathkeale and the wider GAA world of the untimely passing of Shane Hourigan. As the terrible news spread throughout the community a sense of shock, numbness and disbelief descended on everybody.

Shane was a proud member of St Marys/Sean Finns GAA club since his childhood. Playing at all levels, he wore the blue and white with pride during what was a relatively lean spell for the club. On finishing his playing career Shane's true worth as a club member came to the fore as he set about reviving the clubs fortunes by making a decision to get involved by coaching our underage players. He can take credit for kick-starting the career of many of today's senior players. From 1997 to 2005 he travelled the length and breadth of the county with our under-age players. An entire generation of GAA players in Rathkeale can trace their involvement in the GAA to Shane's commitment and dedication throughout these years.

A proud club-man, Shane took up a career in refereeing in 2004 and quickly progressed through the ranks to become one of the most respected hurling referees in the country. His ambition was to referee an All-Ireland senior hurling final and no doubt he would have achieved this ambition sooner rather than later. Shane was continuing a proud tradition of refereeing within the club and in doing

so he raised the club's profile at county, provincial and national level. It was with pride that our club members would often see Shane and the club mentioned on match programmes throughout the country. Shane refereed many important games at a national level but he never forgot his local club. He was always willing to referee challenge games and underage games for the club. Apart from being a player, coach and referee, Shane was also a former officer of the club having served as chairman and then secretary over a number of years.

The turnout at Shane's funeral on both the Tuesday night and the Wednesday morning were a testament to the calibre of the man and the level of respect in which he was held locally, at county level and nationally. It was great to see so many past and present players from our club turnout in such large numbers to pay their respects to Shane and sympathise with his family. Many GAA dignitaries and referees from near and far also attended to pay their respects.

Shane will be sadly missed by his immediate family, his many friends and his GAA family in Rathkeale. Even though he is gone, he will always be remembered for his contribution to the club, his willingness to get involved, his friendly advice and his larger than life humour. We as a club will miss him dearly and we offer our support and sincere sympathy to his family and friends.

Ní bheidh a leithead ann arís. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam.



The last 300 club draw will take place on Thursday 20th February at Bingo in Rathkeale Community Centre.

Last Draw 20th February 2014

Interesting Facts

- * A cockroach will live nine days without its head, before it starves to death.
- * Butterflies taste with their feet. Elephants are the only animals that can't jump.
- * An ostrich's eye is bigger than its brain.
- * Starfish haven't got brains.
- * Rubber bands last longer when refrigerated.
- * Peanuts are one of the ingredients of dynamite.
- * The national anthem of Greece has 158 verses. No one in Greece has memorized all 158 verses.
- * Los Angeles's full name is "El Pueblo de Nuestra Senora la Reina de los Angeles de Porciuncula". And can be abbreviated to 3.63% of its size, "L.A."
- * A cat has 32 muscles in each ear.
- * Tigers have striped skin, not just striped fur.
- * In most advertisements, including newspapers, the time displayed on a watch is 10:10.
- * Al Capone's business card said he was a used furniture dealer.

- * When the University of Nebraska Cornhuskers play football at home, the stadium becomes the state's third largest city.
- * The characters Bert and Ernie on Sesame Street were named after Bert the cop and Ernie the taxi driver in Frank Capra's "It's A Wonderful Life".
- * The name for Oz in the "Wizard of Oz" was thought up when the creator, Frank Baum, looked at his filing cabinet and saw A-N and O-Z, hence "Oz."
- * The microwave was invented after a researcher walked by a radar tube and a chocolate bar melted in his pocket.
- * John Lennon's first girlfriend was named Thelma Pickles.

- * The average person falls asleep in seven minutes.
- * There are 336 dimples on a regulation golf ball.
- * Stewardesses' is the longest word that is typed with only the left hand.
- * The average secretary's left hand does 56% of the typing.
- * A shark is the only fish that can blink with both eyes.
- * There are more chickens than people in the world.
- * Two-thirds of the world's eggplant is grown in New Jersey.
- * A dragonfly has a lifespan of 24 hours.

WHAT'S ON IN RATHKEALE!

Saturday 15th February

Foley's Bar & Restaurant – Reen's Pike

9.30 Music by N21

Rathkeale House Hotel

9.30pm Music by Steal Away.

Sunday 16th February

Rathkeale House Hotel - Ballroom

8.30pm Old Style Dancing .

Monday 17th February

Reen's Bar

9pm Rathkeale AFC Lotto draw.

Wednesday 19th February

Rathkeale Community Centre

9pm Cards – 45 Drive.

Thursday 20th February

Rathkeale Community Centre

830pm Bingo

Friday 14th February

Community Arts Centre (Over Library)

8.30pm Rathkeale & District Historical Society.
(For details see page 3).



Eddie's Quiz Corner

Last Week's Answers

1. What is a baby rabbit called ?
Answer: Kit or Kitten.
2. Which country had The Dauphin as a ruler ?
Answer: France.
3. Who won Euro song contest with Save All Your Kisses For Me ? - Answer: Brotherhood of man.
4. Which country had the guns of Naverone installed Answer: Turkey.
5. Ichthyologists study what ?
Answer: Fish.

This Week's Questions

1. What is a Winston Churchill ?
2. How long is the running track at Rathkeale AFC soccer ground. ?
3. What type of acid is used in car batteries ?
4. It's a flock of sheep what's a group of owls called ?
5. What animal would you find in a form ?

COMMUNITY NOTES

Reported By Tim Shiels

Senior citizens:

Please visit our senior citizens especially those living alone. Have a chat and a cup of tea and check if they have everything they need and are warm.

Monastic experience poor clares Carlow:

Inviting young women over 18 discerning a religious vocation, to find out more about our Monastic Life, on Saturday Feb 22nd 11am-5pm If interested see our website www.poorclares.ie or write to Mother Abbess Poor Clares Carlow.

Sincere sympathy:

Sincere sympathy is extended to the Foley family Knockaderry, the Meehan family, the Woulfe family, relatives and friends on the death of Mary Foley.

Sincere sympathy is extended to the Woulfe family, Rathkeale, relatives and friends on the death of Mike Condon.

Sincere sympathy is extended to Sr. Joseph, on the death of her sister Bridie Kelly.

May they rest in peace.

Congratulations:

Congratulations to Jim Roche who celebrated his 70th birthday on Sunday with family and friends.

Congratulations to Christina Woulfe, who celebrated her birthday on Saturday, in Sullivan's Bar, with family and friends.

Congratulations to Lauren Wilmot, who celebrated her 21st birthday in Kathleen's bar, with family, relatives and a wide gathering of friends. DJ Ray supplied the dance music.

Congratulations to Margaret (nee Healy) and Stephen O'Driscoll, Enniscouch, Rathkeale on the birth of their daughter Roisin.

Limerick County Council:

Best of luck to Barry Martin, who was chief engineer for the Rathkeale Area for many years. Barry has now retired and will be missed by all his colleagues in Limerick County Council.

Defibrillator:

The residents of the town and parish are still not informed where they can get a defibrillator or how to use them if urgently required.

GENERAL NOTES

Reported by Various

West limerick Supervised Study:

West Limerick Supervised Study are running A revision programme for lower level Leaving Certificate Maths on Tuesday February 18th and we are also running a Revision programme for higher level leaving Certificate English on Wednesday February 19th. Check us out on facebook or follow us on Twitter for more information. Call Ann on 0872416720. We are also providing Supervised Study during the midterm.

Tea Dance:

A Fundraising Afternoon Tea Dance for "Sr. Collette's Mission in Ecuador". will take place at Mungret G.A.A. Hall on Sunday 16th February. Music by Nite Waves. Dancing 3pm. - 6pm. Tea/Refreshments. Admission €8.00. You can get tickets on the door or from Maureen Finnegan 087 9845102.

Rathkeale & District Historical Society

The next meeting of the Rathkeale & District Historical Society will take place at 8.30 pm on Friday 14th. February at the Community Arts Centre Rathkeale. The topic for discussion and the speaker is: "**Famous throughout the world: St Ita and her associates**", Padraig O'Riain, Folklore Department, UCC.

All are welcome to attend and admission is free.



COLÁISTE NA TRÓCAIRE

All Ireland Schools Light Entertainment

On Tuesday last Feb 4, students from the Transition Year class took part in the Second-Level School's Light Entertainment competition. They competed against five other schools from around the country with their performance of a modern take on Aladdin which was produced by Ms Annette O'Brien. The competition was held in Mallow and though they did not qualify for the finals they put on a very entertaining show, well done to all who were involved.

Fine Dine

Katie Shire a second year student has qualified for the final of the 'Fine Dine With Me' cookery competition which will be held next May. Students who entered the competition had to prepare a favourite restaurant meal and make it a healthy option.

Young Innovators

A group of senior cycle students attended the 'Young Innovators' workshop held in Shannon this week. This is a programme aimed at developing creative ideas in our young people who will be the entrepreneurs and innovators of the future.

Sport

Due to the current bad weather conditions a number of sports activities have been cancelled, however our junior girls soccer team played in the Shannon Side League last Monday and had a win over Villiers, the final score was 4:1. On Wednesday last our senior girls soccer team won the Munster B Final against St. Peter's, Passage West, Cork. The match was played in Douglas and the final score was 2:1.

Athletics

Double Gold and New Munster Indoor Record

Last weekend in Nenagh was the start of a new year in Athletics. The first event of the year was the Munster Indoor Championships. Ellen Lynch was competing on Saturday and Sunday. On Saturday she competed in the under 13 600m hurdles and the under 13 Long Jump. Ellen was taking up a new event in the hurdles but she has had some experience at them with the Community Games three years ago at a very small height but this time it was tougher with them being higher and further apart. The training had gone very well and she looked a pure natural over them, so she went for her heat and with the top two to go through to the final Ellen got a great start and pinged every hurdle without breaking her stride. She easily won her heat to go straight to the final. The final was going to be very tough with some very fast sprinters in it. The race went off and again Ellen was very fast away and there was no holding her back to stride away and claim Munster Gold and to her delight she broke the Munster record in a great time of 9.92 seconds which is a very fast time for that age. Ellen showed that she had a great stride and drive over each of the five hurdles and hopefully it's an event she will take to over the next few years.

Later on in the day she took part in the Long Jump and she jumped very well twice but finished just outside the medals in 5th place. Ellen took off again on Sunday morning to take part in her favourite event, the 600m. She was going for a hat trick of indoor titles in this event. There were five heats and as it was going on best times she knew only her best was going to get her in the medals. There were two heats before hers and the time she had to beat was 1 min. 53 secs. So she knew only three fast laps would do. From the gun she went off at a very fast pace and kept that up all through the three laps with nobody else in the race keeping up with her. She powered away to come home in a time of 1 min. 49 secs. So with two heats to go all eyes were on the clock and to Ellen's delight no one came near Ellen's time and she was over the moon to claim her 3rd Munster Indoor 600m title in a row and also claiming her second Munster Gold of the weekend. Ellen had now qualified for the National Indoor Championships in March which will be held in Athlone. Best of luck Ellen.



Ellen Lynch of Dooneen A.C. and Rathkeale seen here after winning double Gold last weekend in the 600m hurdles and the 600m in Nenagh.



By
Caoimhe
Molyneaux

Congratulations:

Congratulations to Christina Woulfe, who celebrated her 30th birthday party with family and friends in O'Sullivan's Bar.

Rathkeale AFC Weekly Lotto Jackpot of €10,100 goes to Charlie Kirk

Congratulations to **Charlie Kirk of Reen's Bar** Ardagh he is the proud owner of the winning ticket and we congratulate him and thank all those who have supported the club and hope they will continue to do so.

Fixtures

Saturday 15th February

Desmond Youths Cup Quarter Finals (extra time & penalties)

Broadford Utd V Rathkeale 2.30 (D. Wallace)

Sunday 16th February

Weekly Observer Desmond Cup 1st Round (extra time & penalties)

Rathkeale B V Creeves Celtic B 2.30pm (E. Barrett)

Sunday 16th February

Premier Division

Adare Utd v Rathkeale @ 2.30pm (T Fitzpatrick)

Rathkeale AFC Weekly Lotto

JACKPOT € 10,100

1,11,15,19

Winner Charlie Kirk Reen's Ardagh

Lucky Dips (3 x €20.00)

1. Mary Coleman (Seller John Coleman)

2. Jimmy Hogan (Seller Mann's Hotel)

3. Ned Carroll (Seller Brian Tierney)

Next Week's Jackpot €1,000

Next Draw Date 17th Feb 2014

Draw will take place in Reen's Bar at 9pm

Special Offer

On Hire of Astro Turf Rathkeale AFC Club offers two, state of the art, floodlit and partitioned (removable) pitches available to everyone to rent by the hour. These pitches are supported with changing rooms and shower facilities. If you would like to block book a pitch to guarantee your slot each week or make a one off booking please contact us to avail of our special offer rates Contact John Coleman 0872754330

Contact Us

Rathkeale AFC can now be contacted on its new email address rathkealeafc@gmail.com if for any reason you need to contact the club requiring information or would like to share some information the above email address can be used.



Local Talent

After the success of our local talent evening. The Committee would like to thank our judges for all their help and making it such a successful night.

Any parents interested in helping with any of the following please contact Fiona Dalton 086 1593996

Next Registration Closing 19th February for the following

1. Judo Boys & Girls U-16
2. Futsal Boys & Girls U-13
3. Debating U-16 over 12
4. Table Tennis U-13 Boys & Girls
5. Basketball U-11 Mixed
6. Basketball U-13 Boys & Girls

Also in early March if parents would to manage any of the following below please contact Fiona Dalton 086 1593996 for details

1. Rugby U-11 Boys Girls or Mixed
2. Tag Rugby U-11 Mixed & U-14 Mixed
3. Hybrid Rugby U-16 Girls
4. Gymnastics U- 9, U-11, U-13, U-15 Boys & Girls
5. 45 Drive Cards - Individual Event U-14 (county)



Left: U11 Boys in Solo Disco Dance.

Right: U11 Group Modern Dance.



Left: U13 Solo Music Leah Cunningham O'Shea. Right: Myaraih, Jacinta, Nora, Patrice, Leah, Ellen, Megan & Eimly.



Ellen, Natille, Myra, Emily, Marguireta, kathleen & Ellen.



St. Mary's/Sean Finns GAA Club

Reported by David Gilbourne

All-County Senior Football League 2013

We still await a fixture for the County Senior League semi-final. Please note that training has resumed for the 2014 season, texts will be sent out in advance of all training sessions so there are no excuses for not attending or replying to management if you are unable to attend a session. This is a very important year for the Club so full attendances are required from now on; it's time to get serious.

West Board Meeting

At a well attended west board meeting last night in the Devon inn, the draws for the west championships were made. The following are the draws that involve our club.

West Junior Hurling Championships 2014

Format: Two groups with top team from both groups make semifinal. 2nd & 3rd teams from both groups make quarter finals.

Group1: Templeglantine, Croagh/Kilfinny, Drom/Broadford, Tournafulla, Adare.

Group2: Feohanagh, Monagea, St Marys, Askeaton.

West U21 Hurling Championships 2014

Format: Top two teams from both groups make "A" semifinals. As St Marys and Croagh/Kilfinny are only 2 non amalgamated teams they will play "B" final.

Group1: St Marys, (Drom-Broadford/Kileedy), (Askeaton/St Kierans)

Group2: Croagh/Kilfinny, (Monagea/NCW) , Allaughaun Gaels.

Note that the first games in this competition are likely to take place on Saturday 22 Feb.

West Junior Hurling League 2014

Format: Two groups with top 2 teams from both groups making the semi-finals.

Group1: Adare, Templeglantine, St Marys, Askeaton.

Group2: Knockaderry, Drom/Broadford, Croagh/Kilfinny

West Senior Football Championship 2014

10 teams participating in a straight knock-out format.

Quarter final-1: Newcastlewest v Fr Caseys

Quarter final-2: Castlemahon v Ballysteen.

Quarter final-3: Adare v Athea.

Preliminary rounds with winners playing in Quarter final-4: Sean Finns v Drom/Broadford & Mountcollins v St Kierans

West Junior-B Football Championships 2014

Format: Two groups with top team from both groups make semifinal. 2nd & 3rd teams from both groups make quarter finals.

Group1: Drom/Broadford, Mountcollins, Ballysteen, Athea, St Kierans.

Group2: St Senans, Gerald Griffins, Knockaderry, Glin, Sean Finns.

West Minor Football Championships 2014

Format: A single group of 8 teams with each team guaranteed 7 games.

Sean Finns, St Kierans, Drom/Broadford, Shannon Gaels, Deel Rangers, Mountcollins/Athea, (Gran/B'garry/Banogue), Adare.

Gum Shields now Compulsory – Attention All Footballers

We wish to advise that Gum Shields are now compulsory for all footballers from Bord na nOg level right up to Senior level. **The new rule will be strictly enforced in all training sessions and matches.** You have been warned!!

Club Membership now due

Club membership for the 2014 season is now due. Rates for 2014 remain unchanged from last year and are as follows: Adult €20, Under-18 €10 and a family rate of €50. All players must pay their membership prior to taking part in any games or training. This will be strictly enforced this year so make sure you contact Philip O'Donnell, who is the club registrar again for 2014, before training commences. We are taking this matter very serious this year and you simply won't play if you haven't paid, players are also going to ensure that their fellow players have paid so no excuses.

Find us on Facebook

Become a friend on facebook to receive updates on fixtures, last minute changes and results and so on. Go to www.facebook.com/#!/Rathkealegaa and send us a friend request.



Munster Juvenile Championships

We had a small number of athletes compete at the Munster Juvenile Championships u9 –u13 which was held at Nenagh indoor arena last weekend. Competitors were Kate Foley, Ashling Enright, Nessa Markham, Killian O Mahony , Nathan Cremin, Shane Fitzgerald, Ciaran O'Sullivan, Oisin Enright, Brian Guinea, Patrick Ambrose, Niamh Foley, Holly Meredith & Allannah Keys. All athletes put in an excellent performance, showed great sportsmanship and all enjoyed the experience. It's very important not to forget that all these athletes are very young and to compete at this level is very difficult as competition in Munster is extremely tough .In the u12 + u13 competitions the first three athletes qualify for the All Ireland finals on the 22nd +23rd March in Athlone's state of the art Indoor arena. In the u12 600m race Nathan Cremin lead from the gun and won in fine style, setting a new Munster record of 1.49.29. Also in record breaking form was Niamh Foley who took the u13 60m title in lightening speed, running a time of 8.19, the record was previously 8.42 which was held by Sarah Lavin who is currently Irelands Senior 60m Hurdle Champion. Not only did we have record breakers but a number of outstanding medal performances all of which are listed below:

Results:

U12 600m Gold Nathan Cremin 1m 49 Munster Record

U12 Shot Put Gold Shane Fitzgerald 7.73

U12 60m Silver Ciaran O'Sullivan

U12 High Jump Silver Ciaran O'Sullivan 1.26

U13 60m Gold Niamh Foley 8.19 Munster Record

U13 Long Jump Gold Niamh Foley 4.60m

U13 600m Silver Niamh Foley

U13 Hurdles Silver Niamh Foley

U13 High Jump Gold Holly Meredith 1.39
U13 Long Jump Bronze Holly Meredith 4.34
U13 Shot Put Bronze Holly Meredith 9.10
U13 Hurdles Bronze Allannah Keys

Congratulations to the above 6 athletes who will represent St Marys AC in Athlone at the All Ireland Juvenile Championships in Athlone in March. Some have qualified for one event and others have qualified for three events, It's fantastic to see such an array of events going to the All Ireland final : hurdles, sprints, long jump, 600m,high jump, shot put we've such a talented bunch of athletes and the results speak for themselves.

Next Events:

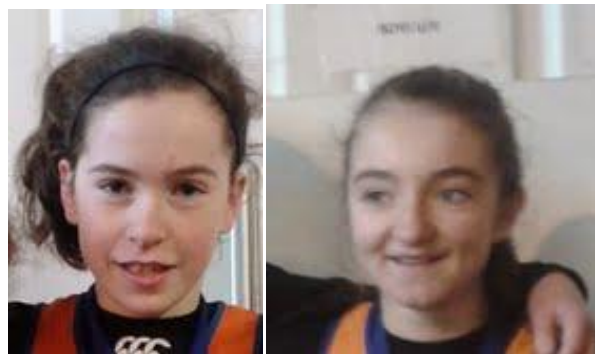
Munster Juvenile u14- U19 indoor competition Saturday 1st and Sunday 2nd March

All Ireland Juvenile Individual track and field Saturday 22nd and 23rd March

All Ireland Juvenile relay Saturday 29th March

Training:

Every Thursday Mick Neville Park Astro turf meet at 6:45 – 8:10 cost €3pp or €5 per family. Training Sunday St Marys park Rathkeale. Every Monday at NCW community centre at 6:50 to 8:00pm cost €2



Left: Niamh Foley gold u 13 60m & Long Jump , silver Hurdles + 600m. Right: Holly Meredith Gold High Jump, Bronze long jump & Shot Put.



Left: Ciaran O'Sullivan u12 60m & High Jump silver. Right: Alannah Keys u13 Bronze hurdles.



Left: Shane Fitzgerald u12 Shot Put gold. Right: Nathan Cremin u12 600m gold.



RATHKEALE HOUSE HOTEL

Wedding Fayre

SUNDAY 16TH FEBRUARY
1PM - 5PM

“The Perfect Place To Plan Your Big Day”

Come and View our stunning, Newly Refurbished Banqueting Suite,
Begin your afternoon with a Sparkling Wine Reception,
Where you will get a chance to meet with our dedicated
Wedding Team and discuss your big day.

You can also take this opportunity to meet our head chef Ger Nelligan who will be
holding a wedding menu tasting.

Meet with our fantastic selection of Local Expert Wedding Professionals.

Why not also take some time to View Our Bridal Suite and Bedrooms.

WIN A WEDDING

www.rathkealehousehotel.ie

Prices Slashed - Must End This Saturday



SEAN SAYS

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