

# Rathkeale Newsletter

rathkealecommunitycouncil@gmail.com

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## ST PATRICK'S DAY 2010

St Patrick's Day is nearly here again, if you would like to take part in the Rathkeale St Patrick's Day Parade or help on the day please contact any of our committee members or contact Anne on 087-2755735. There is a committee meeting on Thursday night at 8pm in Rathkeale House Hotel, all are welcome.

## Rathkeale Community Council 45 Card Drive - Results

1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: Mai Wall – Pauline Kerins  
Peter Donovan – Jim Langan  
John Quilty – Will Joe Woulfe

Table Prizes: Eileen Griffin - Irene Donovan  
John Quilty – Will Joe Woulfe

Raffle: €40 – Mike Kerins  
€20 – Marie Wrenn  
€10 – Peg Mulvihill  
€10 – Mai Wall  
€10 – Christy Lynch

## Rathkeale Hospice Needs Your Support

The Annual Church Gate collection in aid of Milford Hospice, Limerick, which caters for the terminally ill patients of Limerick City and County, will be taken up at all masses next weekend, Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 14<sup>th</sup>. Your support in the past years is deeply appreciated by the Sisters of the Little Company of Mary, who administer the Hospice services in the area.  
A little helps a lot.

## BIRTHS

Congratulations to Triona and Sean Giltenane, Ardgoul, Rathkeale on the birth of their son Dara, a brother for Jack.

## RATHKEALE BRIDGE CLUB

1<sup>st</sup>: Kay Cussen ó Mossie Stack  
2<sup>nd</sup>: Gretta Looney ó Claire Hanratty  
3<sup>rd</sup>: Helen Mc Enery ó Ann Dunne  
4<sup>th</sup>: Josie OøBrien ó Mary Tobin

## Bridge Club Officers and Committee 2010

President: Gretta Looney  
Vice-President: Mary OøSullivan  
Hon. Sec.: Eileen Kennedy  
Hon. Treasurer: Pat Neville

Committee: Pat Mc Namara, Ann Roche, Irene Donovan & Kathleen OøDwyer.

**Happy Birthday** to Amanda Glenny who celebrated her birthday with family and friends recently. Happy 60<sup>th</sup> birthday to Margaret Hayes who celebrated with family, friends and work colleagues.

## Thank You!

**The Street Children of Bucharest Charity** would like to thank everybody for their support and donations at the concert on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> January in St. Mary's church. It raised over p3,000 and some donations still coming in. God Bless everyone.

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### **Anointing of the Sick**

Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> February is the feast of ðOur Lady of Lourdesö.

Mass and anointing of the sick at 11.00am.

The sacraments of the sick is reserved for the elderly and those who are ill.

Names of those who wish to receive the sacrament of the sick must be handed into the sacristy by Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> February.

### **“Celebrating the Sacraments”**

Law and Life Public lecture on

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> February at 7.00pm in

Mary Immaculate College

Lecturer is Patrick Connolly

Cost þ5

### **Ardagh Drama Group**

Ardagh Drama Group

proudly present

Michael Careyðs “**Thy will be done**”

Rathkeale Arts Centre on

February 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>

at 8.00pm.

Tickets: Adults þ10,

OAP þ7, Students and children þ5.

### **Rathkeale Banch**

#### **Saint Joseph’s Young Priests Society**

hold their monthly meeting in Saint Anneðs

Convent on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> February at

8.00pm. New members welcome. The purpose of Saint Josephðs Young Priests Society is twofold:

1. To foster vocations to the priesthood and religious life.
2. To promote the vocation of thlaity, to foster a great understanding and love of the Holy Eucharist.

This is the ðYear of the Priestö. We need

to pray for vocations and for our priests.

Please join us in St. Anneðs Convent

Chapel for 30 minutes Eucharistic

Adoration, which will be followed by a brief meeting.

### **Spring Break – Feb 28<sup>th</sup> – March 5<sup>th</sup>**

Enjoy a relaxing break, sit back and view all the magnificent scenery.

Each evening after dinner you can sit and listen to the music or glide across the dance floor.

For information ring

Maureen 087-9845102

### **Sacred Space**

Is broadcast every Sunday morning

10.00am ó 11.00am on West Limerick

102fm featuring a reflection on the Gospel and a mixture of music, chat and

interviews.

# St. Mary's / Sean Finns GAA Club (Rathkeale)

## Exciting West Championship Draws Made

At a well attended west board meeting on Monday night, the draws were made for the West Junior, Intermediate & Senior championships and leagues. No draws were made for minor and U21 championships pending some decisions that still need to be taken by the County Board. St Marys/Sean Finns have entered the West Intermediate Hurling & Football Championships and The West Junior-A Hurling & Football leagues. We are also entered in the U21 football & hurling championship and Minor Football. We have decided to enter a joint team with neighbours Croagh/Kilfiny in the West Minor Hurling championship.

### West Intermediate Football Championship

This will be run in a straight knockout format with 8 teams entered giving 4 quarter finals as follows: Castlemahon V Fr Caseys, Mountcollins V St Marys/Sean Finns, Glin V Athea, Gerald Griffins V Cappagh. So an opening game against last years County Junior Champions will be an intriguing clash. Winners of this game will play winners of Castlemahon/Fr Caseys in the Semi-final.

### Junior-A Football Championship

Eight teams broken into two groups of four as follows:

Group 1: - Fr Caseys, Drom/Broadford, St Marys/Sean Finns, Cappagh.

Group 2: - Glin, Monagea, Feoghanagh, Knockaderry.

Each team plays other three in the group. Top team from each group qualifies for semi-final, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> teams play against 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> from other group in 2 quarter finals. On paper Group 1 looks the tougher of the two as it contains Fr Caseys who dropped down from the intermediate Championship this year. It also contains Drom/Broadford, last years County Junior-B Champions.

### Junior-A Football League

The draws for this were not made last night. At the moment 7 teams entered and decision taken to make 2 groups with top 2 from each group making the semi-finals.

### West Intermediate Hurling Championship

This will be run in a straight knockout format with 10 teams entered. In the two preliminary round games, Kileedy play Knockaderry and Croagh/Kilfinny play Askeaton. The winners of these 2 prelim games play each other in the first quarter final. Other Quarter finals draws as follows: St Marys/Sean Finns V Feenagh/Kilmeedy, Tournafulla V Newcastlewest, Feoghanagh V Monagea.

### Junior-A Hurling Championship

Nine teams broken into two groups (five & four) as follows:

Group 1 ó Askeaton, Templeglantine, Croagh/kilfinny, St Marys/Sean Finns, Adare.  
Group 2 ó Drom/Broadford, Feenagh/Kilmeedy, St Kierans, Feoghanagh

Each team plays all others in the group. Top team from each group qualifies for semi-final, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> teams play against 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> from other group in 2 quarter finals. On paper Group 1 looks the easier of the 2 groups

### Junior-A Hurling League

5 teams entered this league as follows:

Drom/Broadford, Templeglantine, Croagh/Kilfinny, St Marys/Sean Finns, Adare.

Amazingly this is almost identical to the 5 teams that were drawn in group 1 of the Championship. The only exception being the substitution of Drom/Broadford for Askeaton

## Date for your diary

This year's **Bord na nOg Awards** night will take place on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> February at Rathkeale House Hotel  
Further details later

## **Club DVD available for sale**

To celebrate our recent Munster Junior-B Hurling Championship success, a highly entertaining, good-quality DVD of Club events has been launched at Davy Mann's Hotel on Saturday night 6<sup>th</sup> Feb. It includes a look at the preparations for the Munster Final, interviews with past & present players, a rambling house event, the game itself and the celebrations afterwards. This DVD is a wonderful record of events in the club and contains a few surprises. It will provide many hours of entertainment for both young and old. It is a bargain at €20 and may be purchased from Molly Frawley (069-64903 or 087-9718941) or Mary Sheahan (085-1693766). There is only a limited number of copies available so don't delay in contacting either Mary or Molly to get your order in.

## **Coaching Course**

A Foundation Award Coaching Course will take place for Club coaches during February. Noel Hartigan and the Limerick GAA Development Officers runs these courses and all new coaches are recommended to attend a course. Our club is in the Davin Cluster and consequently the venue for coaches from Rathkeale will be at Old Christians GAA Club. The details are as follows: Friday night 12<sup>th</sup> Feb from 7pm to 10pm and then Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> Feb from 9.30am to 1pm. Please contact Tom Keating immediately if interested, as places must be booked in advance.

## **Club na nOg "Kits for Kids"**

### **-Tokens to collect**

Just short a small number of "Kits for kids" tokens from the "Daily Mail" newspaper but we have received a guarantee of receiving a full kit in our club colours if we reach the target. Please drop in any tokens you have collected to any of the collection points at Hourigan's Convenience Store, White's Shop & Petrol Station, Wilmott's Newsagents and Hough's Eurospar immediately or give to Karen Fahy or Mike Sheahan. We thank the shops for their support and co-

operation and the general public for collecting to date.

## **Irish Language & Culture Officer for each GAA Club**

Each club is now required to elect an "Oifigeach Gaeilge", whose role is to promote Irish Language and Culture within the Club. This function stems from the original aims of the GAA in strengthening of our national identity not only through our games and pastimes, but also by actively supporting the Irish Language, traditional song and dance and indeed all aspects of Irish culture. If any member of the GAA membership is interested in this position, please contact our Secretary, Pat Sheahan immediately as the position needs to be filled without delay. There are GAA Gaeltacht Scholarships available for 2<sup>nd</sup> level students who intent to spend some time in Irish College this Summer. Please contact Tom Keating, Secretary of Bord na nOg for further details.

## **Important Club Meeting**

A meeting to select and ratify all team managers and coaches from Under 8's to Under 16's for

the 2010 season will be held on this Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> Feb. at 8pm in Rathkeale House Hotel. It is essential that all persons interested and willing to act as managers and coaches should attend this meeting. If for unavoidable reasons you are unable to attend, please inform an officer of Bord na nOg in advance of your willingness to act as manager/ coach. All officers and committee members are also requested to attend this meeting.

## **Limerick GAA Development Draw**

Our club members are currently traversing the hi-ways & by-ways of the parish to recruit new and existing members for the Limerick GAA Development Draw. Expect a knock on your door over the next week or so. Cost of entry to the non-stop draw is just €100 per year. That is just €10 per draw for 10 draws, 23 fantastic

prizes are on offer ranging from €18,000 to €250 for each of 10 draws. The club get 50% commission for each member. This money goes towards the running of the club and further development of the Bog-Garden. We have plans to erect a stand there in the near future and need to put a fund together to do this. Your support would be appreciated.

## Sympathy

Deepest sympathy is extended to the Hogan and O'Connor Families on the untimely death of Carmel O'Connor, RIP last week. Her husband Brendan, her parents, brothers and extended family, sadly miss her. We extend sincere sympathy also to the Mulcaire family of Ballywilliam on the death of their beloved nephew in Tralee. Ar dheis De go raibh said go leir.

## Special Olympics Ireland need 3,500 Volunteers

The 2010 Special Olympics Ireland Games will take place in Limerick from the 9<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> June. In what will be one of the largest and most prestigious sporting events to take place in Ireland this year, **1,900** Special Olympics athletes from throughout the island of Ireland will spend 4 days in Limerick, participating in competition in 13 sports.

Special Olympics Ireland needs to recruit **3,500** volunteers to help run these Games. Volunteering at the Games promises to be very rewarding and lots of fun! Volunteers will be involved in running every aspect of the Games and will play an important role in welcoming and assisting the **1,900** athletes, their **650** coaches and official delegates as well as over **4,000** family members and friends to Limerick.

St Marys/Sean Finns GAA club are asking any of our members/supporters to make themselves available as volunteers for this event if possible. Please go along to any of the upcoming volunteer information sessions which will take place on the following dates:

**Saturday, February 13<sup>th</sup>** – 10.30am, The Strand Hotel, Limerick

**Monday, February 15<sup>th</sup>** – 7pm, The Strand Hotel, Limerick

**Wednesday, February 17<sup>th</sup>** – 7pm, Castletroy Park Hotel, Limerick

**Saturday, February 20<sup>th</sup>** – 10.30am & 1pm, Jean Monnet theatre, University of Limerick

**Wednesday, February 24<sup>th</sup>** – 19.00pm, West County Hotel, Ennis

All are more than welcome to attend! Further details are also available on:

[www.specialolympics.ie](http://www.specialolympics.ie)

# RATHKEALE AFC

## O'SHEA SINKS GALLANT MAGPIES

**Newcastle West B - 2**

**Rathkeale - 5**

Rathkeale made the trip to Ballygowan to take on Newcastlewest's second string team in the first round of this season's Desmond cup. Going on form this match looked like it was going to be just a formality for the A's but this was far from it. Rathkeale made a few changes from the team that started the week before and with a couple of player's given the chance to make their mark not too many took that opportunity to do so. Rathkeale started very poorly and with just ten minutes gone found themselves a goal behind. Poor defending and a miss communication between all four defenders allowed NCW centre forward to slot pass the on coming Byrnes. Rathkeale started to play a bit after this scare and when Hickey's goal bound shot took a slight deflection only to help it in to the back of the net to make the match level. Rathkeale soon went two up, Alan O'Shea found the ball at the edge of the box and with a sublime finish put Rathkeale in front. Barry O'Riordan shortly made it 3-1 with a typical centre forwards goal. So Rathkeale went in to the break two goals to the good. We started the second half just going through the motions and when Sean

O'Shea fouled in the box, NCW were rewarded a penalty and Daren McCoy made no mistake in making it 3-2. The A,s now knew they were in a game and it took O'Riordan and Lyons to take control of things, Hickey crossed to perfection to find O'Riordan at the back post to head home from five yards. Lyons combined again with O'Riordan who in turn found Sean White who finished his goal to perfection. So all in all it was an ok performance from the sky blues but alot of hard work and honest commitment is required for the season ahead if silver ware is to reach Holycross.

**TEAM;** Byrnes, Shorten, Lyons, O'Dea, O'Dunaghue, Hickey, O'Shea, Noonan, White, Enright & O'Riordan.

**SUBS;** Lyons, O'Shea, Barry, O'Sullivan & Walsh.

# St. Mary's Athletics Club

## FOUR INDOOR MUNSTER RECORDS SHATTERED

Last Saturday and Sunday the Munster Indoor events were held in Nenagh. On Saturday eleven athletes, all girls, were in action. We started with our under 9 girls ó Niamh Foley, Ellen Lynch, Holly Meredith and Sophie Liston. Ellen, Holly and Niamh won the heats in the 60m sprint and qualified for the semi-finals. Sophie failed narrowly to qualify. In the semiø, Holly finished second and qualified for the final with Ellen just failing to qualify. Niamh finished first in the semiø and in the final led from start to finish and set a new trace record to the delight of her proud father. Holly finished fourth which was a great achievement for a 7 year old. In the 300m the four girls ran again. Three qualified for the finals, finished outside the medals. Ellen and Niamh finished 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> in the long jump out of 30 girls. The best was yet to come.

Training and commitment proved good for the girls in the semi-final, was run at very fast pace, in the final start, Holly to Niamh, Ellen to Sophie to win the U9 relay with a new Munster Record. A great achievement for the girls and their coaches. Niamh is a natural in the spring, Holly and Ellen are very fast sprinters. These girls future looks bright from the experience they gained in the 60m sprint and 300m. And the relay Sophie Meredith in the 60m and 300m ran brilliantly, to gain 2<sup>nd</sup> in the 300m and 4<sup>th</sup> in the 60m. Well done Sophie, keep up the good work. Mary OøConnor, who missed training through illness, finished 5<sup>th</sup> in her race. U12ø Rachel Lynch and Maeve Power ó Rachel ran a powerful race but fell 10m from finish- Maeve did the 3 in a row by winning her race with another new record time. Rachel will be back again. 13 girls- Eadaoin Lyons and Tara Coleman won their heats easily with Eadaoin 1<sup>st</sup> in her semi and Tara 2<sup>nd</sup> in her semi. Eadaoin ran a blinder in the 60m final getting a silver medal, with Tara coming in 5<sup>th</sup>. U10 relay team secured bronze medals. Sophie Meredith, Aoife Corbett, Holly Meredith, Ellen Lynch and Niamh Foley. Sophie was second in the long jump with a personal best. So Saturday was a great day for the club.

On Sunday Pdraig Power finished 4<sup>th</sup> in the heat of the U12ø. The U13 girls relay team were looking for a back to back Munster Indoor title. The team, Eadaoin, Tara, Sarah and Maeve won a fantastic Munster Title over Nenagh Olympic in a brilliant race. Rathkeale team ended up with 12 gold, 2 silver and 5 bronze medals. What a superb weekend for the Rathkeale team, their coaches Yvonne, Kathleen and Jacinta. The hard work and commitment from all earned its rewards. The athletes, coaches and the parents can be proud of their achievements. As Paul Lynch says òYou only get out of sport what you put into itö. Well done on a great weekend to all.

# **A history of the townlands of Rathkeale – Abbeylands Part 1**

## **By Patrick Coleman**

The name of Abbeylands as I would have initially understood would be the name given to a housing estate of the old main Limerick road out of Rathkeale which was built in the late 1960's/early 1970's. The estate was built in a field owned by the Fennell family and which according to the late Brid O Shea, they received £4,000 in payment for. These new houses had consequences for those of us growing up at the time in Church Street. The Hartnett family who lived across the road from Fennell's, got one of the houses in Abbeylands and one of the families with whom we considered ourselves friends of upped and left our neck of the woods. A further unique event about the building of the houses also occurred at the time that Gerry Collins got elected to the Dáil. In those days politicians had a 5 minute political broadcast after the evening news. I was to see one of those of Gerry Collins and lo and behold there were the houses which were being built in the town. It was the first time I had ever seen Rathkeale or indeed part of the town on television. I believe that prior to the building of the estate, three houses were built in what had previously been Fennell's field. The most substantial of these belonged to a tradesman called Fitzpatrick. He and his wife had only the one child who in later years married the late Christy Fitzgerald of Enniscoush. At some time in the past I heard the following story about Mr. Fitzpatrick.

He was employed by a local farmer to do some work for him. At lunch time he and the servant boy who was an employee of the farmer were called to lunch. As was the custom of the time, the servant boy and Mr. Fitzpatrick were seated at separate tables in the kitchen from the farmer and his wife. When he realised what was happening, Fitzpatrick arose and went to the lady of the house. He apologised for putting the servant boy in such an awkward predicament but added that until he was good enough to dine at the same table as this couple, he was not good enough to work for them and with that he left the dwelling. The two other families who resided here were the Kelly's and the Condon's. Abbeylands is one of six townlands recorded in the 1840 Ordinance Survey records as making up the town of Rathkeale. The other 5 were Wolfesburgess East, Rathkeale, Englishtenaments, Enniscoush and Castlematrix. Over the coming weeks I will continue the story of Abbeylands history looking at the different components of the townland – the Abbey, Abbey House, the labourers cottages which remain today alongside Sullivans Ironworks and the new houses along the Ballingarry Road which are also built in the townland of Abbeylands.

The next meeting of the  
Rathkeale & District Historical Society  
will take place at the  
Sheltered Housing Meeting Room, Enniscoush  
at 8.30 pm on Friday 26th. February.

The meeting will be addressed by Dr. Brendan Curtin of UL and will be on the topic of  
"Early Church sites and Doon place names in Co. Limerick".