



KILMEENA G.A.A. CLUB

NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2019 | VOLUME 6 | ISSUE 1



U-14 Girls County Championship
Champions and League Champions

CHAMPIONS!



U-16 Mayo Division 'C'
Champions



U-10 Gearóid Murphy
Memorial Blitz Winners



U-10 Girls Paddy Golden Memorial
Blitz Group B Champions



U-12 Eoin McGroddy
Memorial Blitz Winners



U-21 County Division D Champions

CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS Willie Keaveney



Welcome to the Club's 6th Annual Newsletter.

The Newsletter started as an ambitious project six years ago – with about six pages in total – of Club-related anecdotes and triumphs. Today it is more than 30 pages, full of news and events from within the Club. It is pleasing to see how it has evolved, and let us hope it continues to grow.

The Club considers the Newsletter as a great source of information for parents, players, and the community in general, and we have taken steps to ensure that the Club will continue with the Newsletter for the foreseeable future. The Club is indebted to the production team of Ollie Mulchrone, Martin McIntyre, Barry Murphy, John McDonald, Majella O'Malley, Mel King, Mairead Durkan, Maura Hastings, Trish and Sarah Hogan, Noleen Coughlan and Sean Barrett, for their trojan work in preparing this year's issue of the Newsletter. We are indeed indebted to them for

their dedication and hard work, and we hope that the content is reflective of the past year's activities and accomplishments of the Club. The Club's Annual General Meeting was held on Saturday, November 23rd. By now you will be aware that there is a new Chairman, John McDonald, and a new Club Secretary, Mary Slattery. I wish both of them good luck as they steer the Club forward in the coming years. I want to thank Ollie Mulchrone for his work as Club Secretary for the past two years. The Coaching Officer, Michael Gavin, has also stood aside following seven years in the role. I wish to thank him for his dedication to the Club, and for his efforts in ensuring that our coaching standards were always of the highest standard. I want to wish his successor, John Reilly, well in his new role as Coaching Officer, and I'm confident he will endeavour to raise the bar a couple more notches in his pursuit of excellence.

I spoke last year about the difficulty in persuading people to take on roles in the management of the Club, and how a radical change was required in how people viewed the Club and its administration. Except for the post of assistant-treasurer, the Club was able to fill all official positions this year without too much difficulty. This role is still outstanding and needs to be urgently addressed.

As can be seen from our end of year financial report, the cost of running the Club is growing. In 2019 the Club's total expenditure was €71,509. When this amount is analysed, it works out at just under €1,400 each week. Transport and Public Liability insurance absorbed most of the Club's annual expenditure, plus the day-to-day expenses involved in keeping the Club open for business. Funding provided by way of donation from Councillor Brendan Mulroy (€5,000) and Councillor Christy Hyland (€1,500); the remainder of the finance to run the Club was made up from the weekly lotto, flag days, bucket collections and cash donations. To all who assisted in any way with the fundraising activities of the Club, a sincere thank you.

As can be seen from the various match reports, it has been a busy year for the Club on the playing fields around this County and at home in Kilmeena. I want to give a special mention to our U-14 girls this year on winning both the Championship and the League. It is a remarkable achievement in the six short years of the LGFA's existence, and one which gives the Club the springboard on which to build for the future. I wish to thank the Madden family for their sponsorship of tracksuits for this team. It was a practical gesture by the family and a fitting way to remember the loss of their daughter, Vivienne, whose 20th anniversary occurred this year.

I also must mention the U-16 boys and congratulate them on an outstanding season, which was capped off with a thrilling win over Achill in MacHale Park in August, to win the Division 3 County Championship.

I also must say well done to our U-21 team who defeated Ardroy McHales in Knockmore on December 1st in the County Final. It was a hard-fought encounter with the result in the melting pot until the last kick of the game.

I want to say "thank you" to all our coaches, both adult and underage. I say this each year, that you provide an invaluable service for the Club and the community, and the parish is all the more vibrant, and a better place because of what you do.

In addition to the Madden family, the Club was lucky to obtain sponsorship from other individuals and people in the area in 2019, and I want to acknowledge and thank them. Teddy McDonnell of Teddy's Fashions, Tile Warehouse, SuperValu Westport, and Joe Joyce Electrical Services. I must on behalf of the Club pay a huge "thank you" to Donal McIntyre for his sponsoring of the Club's annual Newsletter last year and again this year. Also, for his sponsorship of our recently launched document, the Club Plan for 2020 - 2023. This support is a significant commitment to the Club, and I want to thank him sincerely.

Without the generosity of our sponsors, it would unquestionably be more challenging to keep the Club afloat. In 2018 we submitted a further application for Sports Capital Funding. Unfortunately, in the past week, we received notification that our application was unsuccessful. That decision is now under appeal. It was the Club's intention that we would drain and level the main playing pitch if funding became available.

Finally, I want to thank everyone involved with the Club, in whatever capacity you have acted during the year. I want to especially thank the lotto sellers who are hugely instrumental in the effort of providing the general financing of the Club.

To my fellow Club Officers, who have served with me over the past seven years, I want to say a special thank you. For, without your support, my task as Chairman would have been a lot more demanding.

Personally, I regard it as an honour and a privilege, to have been entrusted by the members with the position of Chairman of the Club. I can reflect, with a sense of pride, on all that has been achieved during the tenure of my Chairmanship. I have enjoyed the experience immensely.

On behalf of the Club, I wish to extend festive greetings to all of you, whether at home or abroad. All the best for the Holy Season.

Nollaig Shona do gach duineagus ath bhlian faoi mhaise dhibh.

Kilmeena GAA Club would wish to express most heartfelt sympathies to the families, friends and neighbours of former Club members and players who passed to their eternal rewards during the year: Mick Burke, Drumminwonagh, Westport and formerly of Tourmakeady; Jim Moran, Roscahill; Joe Higgins, Rosduane and USA and Eamonn Geraghty, Rosduane.
May they rest in peace.

DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Willie Keaveney

Kilmeena GAA Club's five-year Strategic Plan comes to an end in December 2019. It was the Club's first attempt at putting a Plan in place and mapping out the changes which the membership would wish to see taking place. There's no doubt that the Plan was a major success and a lot of the improved facilities on view at the Club have come about as a result of that five-year Plan.

With the expiry of the Plan in mind, the Club decided that we should now introduce a three-year Plan beginning in 2020 and running to 2023.

At the beginning of 2019, the Club held several meetings, culminating in an open meeting in September, where Club members were free to express their views on ideas that ought to be considered for inclusion in the Plan.

A steering committee later considered and prioritised those points that formed the basis for the Plan for the following three years. These included: Coaching and Games, Finance and Fundraising, Club Structures and Administration, Facilities and Development, Communications and Public Relations and Cultural Activities.

A Plan has now been formulated and printed, which will provide a platform for the continued development at our Club until 2023. The Plan was launched at the Club's AGM, held on November 23rd, 2019.

A copy of the Plan is available for virtually every house in the parish and are available from any of the Club Officers.

Thanks to Martin McIntyre for his help in preparing the Plan for printing and distribution. I also want to flag it now in good time that there will be a number of sub-committees set up shortly to drive the principal areas so that the goals outlined will be achieved. If you would like to be part of driving the Club forward for the next three years, please let the executive committee know.



P.R.O. OVERVIEW OF THE YEAR

Sean Barrett



I took on the role as Public Relations Officer for the Club last November, filling the shoes of Trish Hogan who had done an excellent job for the past number of years.

I wanted to bring a fresh approach to get our Club's events, news and fixtures out to the public. The year has been busy keeping the various platforms updated for the ongoing activities of the Club through our social media platforms.

A new Club Instagram account was created along with getting involved with the app called "What's the Score", which gives you score-by-score updates from live games that we will hopefully see more of in 2020, so be sure to download the app!

The old reliable networks of Facebook and Twitter will keep members near and far updated of events also. It was an enjoyable year in the role which saw many of our teams throughout the various age groups claiming silverware. There is always room for improvement, and hopefully in 2020 we will be dipping our toes into other ways to keep the members updated of Club news. So be sure to keep an eye out on our social media platforms for all the club news!

ELECTED CLUB OFFICERS FOR 2020

Club Patron: Fr. Jim Walsh
President: Martin McIntyre
Vice President: Willie Keaveney
Chairman: John McDonald
Vice Chairman: Damian Hughes
Secretary/Data Protection Officer: Mary Slattery
Assistant Secretary: Majella McGonagle
Treasurer: Padraic Moore
Assistant Treasurer: T.B.D.
Club PRO: Sean Barrett
Registrar/Data Protection Officer: Damian Hughes
Coaching Officer: John Reilly
Safety Officer: Michael O'Grady
County Board Delegate: Kevin Barrett
West Board Delegate: Kevin Barrett
Scór Officer: Brian Lennon
Irish Language Officer: Máire Uí Riain
Development Officer: Willie Keaveney
Child Protection Officers: Majella O'Malley, Ollie Mulchrone & Derek Walsh
Fixtures Secretary: Mary Slattery
Injury Fund Officer: Mary Slattery
Health & Wellbeing Club Officer: T.B.D.
Grounds Caretaker: Paul Feehan
Club Trustees: Willie Keaveney, Padraic Moore and Paul Ryan
Executive Committee: John McDonald, Mary Slattery, Damian Hughes, Padraic Moore, Liam Heanue (players rep), Mickey Carney, Willie Keaveney, Majella O'Malley, Michael Ryan, Pat Mulchrone, Ollie Mulchrone and Martin McIntyre

ELECTED BORD NA NÓG OFFICERS FOR 2020

Chairman: Patrick Golden **Vice-Chairman:** Pete Mortimer
Secretary: Mairead Durkan **Assistant Secretary:** Barry Murphy
LGFA Registrar: Davina Carney **LGFA Assistant Registrar:** Maura Hastings
LGFA PRO: Sarah Hogan
LGFA County Board Delegates: John McDonald, Trish Hogan
Bord na nóg County Board Delegate: Leonie Martin

NEWSLETTER PRODUCTION TEAM



Seated L-R: Maura Hastings, Majella O'Malley, Martin McIntyre, Mairead Durkan and Noleen Coughlan.
Standing L-R: Mel King, Trish Hogan, John McDonald, Sarah Hogan, Barry Murphy, Sean Barrett and Ollie Mulchrone.



OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE RECENT DEVELOPMENT IN THE CLUB

Text: Willie Keaveney; Photos Ollie Mulchrone



Fr. John Regan, former Club member and player, concelebrating Mass with Club Patron Fr. Jim Walsh.

The official opening of the new development works carried out at Kilmeena G.A.A. Club took place on August 5, 2019. Fr. Jim Walsh, assisted by Fr. John Reagan, initiated the day's proceedings with a concelebrated Mass in the new upstairs gym for the deceased members of the Kilmeena GAA Club.

Following the Mass, the assembled dignitaries – Councillors John O'Malley, Christy Hyland, Councillor Flynn, ex Councillor Michael Holmes, Seamus Tuohy, Vice Chairman of Mayo County Board and

Michael Ring, Minister for Rural and Community Development – addressed the assembled. Each acknowledged the tremendous development work undertaken by the Club over the previous number of years and praised the commitment of the Club in providing the excellent facilities for its members and players of all ages and gender.

Councillor Mulroy submitted his apologies for his absence. The Club Chairman, Willie Keaveney, in his address, thanked Fr. Walsh

and Fr. Regan for concelebrating the Mass and blessing the Club's facilities. He also thanked the Choir and the readers; all who made an effort to be present for the opening and making the Mass such a memorable occasion. He issued a special thanks to the Club Members, who fundraised and contributed to getting the works completed and all who helped to bring the project to fruition.

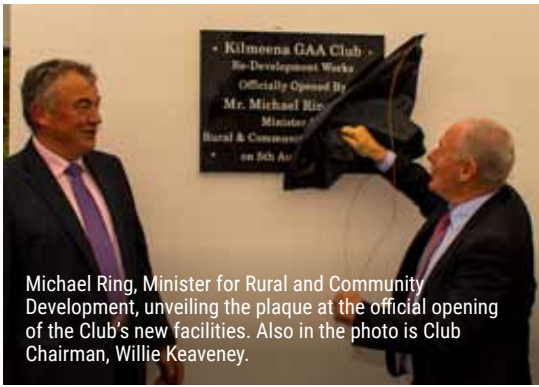
He thanked the principal financial backers who contributed to the project – the Connacht Council, Allergan



Dignitaries attending the opening were L-R: Willie Keaveney, Club Chairman; Padraic Moore, Club Treasurer; ex Cllr Michael Holmes, Mayo County Council; Cllr Peter Flynn, Mayo County Council; Cllr John O'Malley, Mayo County Council; Minister Michael Ring, Seamus Tuohy, vice-chairman, Mayo County Board; Cllr Christy Hyland, Mayo County Council and Ollie Mulchrone, Club Secretary.



Club members attending the Mass in the new gym.



Michael Ring, Minister for Rural and Community Development, unveiling the plaque at the official opening of the Club's new facilities. Also in the photo is Club Chairman, Willie Keaveney.



The Kilmeena Folk Choir, with instrumental accompaniment, were present for the opening.

Pharmaceuticals, Councillors Mulroy, Hyland and ex Councillor Holmes, Cannon Brothers Carrowholly, Michael Feehan Buckfield, Shane Muldoon, O'Donnell Family Carrowbeg, Austin Gibbons and Ruairi Duffy Carrowholly. He thanked Minister Ring for allocating €80,000 for the project when he was the Minister of State at the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport with Special Responsibility for Tourism and Sport and the Club members who raised €155,000, which for a small rural Club is a massive accomplishment.

The Club achieved all this without any borrowings or bank loans. He also thanked the Club sponsors, the people at various times of the year who sponsor playing attire for the various teams etc. He thanked fellow Club members for their support, and the design team of Robert Kilkelly and Gavin Joyce for all their help and advice. He also thanked the main contractor for the project, John Foran and Emerald Pitch Development from Offaly.

Minister Ring then unveiled the plaque and cut the tape to declare the opening

officially. Following the opening ceremony, refreshments were served upstairs in the Club House. At this point, the Chairman thanked those who assisted with the serving and preparation of sandwiches and home-baking, Ollie Mulchrone for taking the photographs, and grounds personnel for ensuring the facilities looked their best for the occasion.

Kilmeena GAA Club is 130 years in existence, and it has had to endure its share of good and bad times, however, this was a proud day in the life of the Club!



Minister for Rural and Community Development Michael Ring, pictured with Club members, cutting the tape at the official opening of the Club's new amenities.

HEALTHY CLUB PROJECT Willie Keaveney

Earlier this year the Club applied to Croke Park to be enlisted in their Healthy Club Project. The good news is that we are one of seven Clubs in the County selected for this initiative and we are looking forward to rolling out a programme of events, which will involve participation from the youngest to the eldest members of the community. Of course, there will be an effort required to get this Project up and running, and we the Club officers are now asking anyone in the community that would like to be involved or has the expertise in running events to please contact the Clubs Officers.

The Healthy Club project aims to help G.A.A. clubs explore how they support the holistic health of their members and the communities they serve. G.A.A. clubs already contribute to the health and well being of their members by providing opportunities to develop their physical, social, emotional, and psychological health. The Project aims to help G.A.A. clubs identify what they are already doing well; to recognise areas where they can or would like to improve. Also, to empower them to ensure that everyone who engages with their Club benefits from the experience in a health-enhancing way; be they players, officers, coaches, parents, supporters, or members of their local community. The Healthy Club model, which is based on the best national and international practice, also aims to embed a healthy philosophy in a club while integrating health into the day-to-day club activities in a sustainable way. It also seeks to place the local G.A.A. club at the heart of the community, making it a beacon for health in the locale.



JOHN WEST FÉILE 2019:

Text: Ollie Mulchrone and Mike Slattery; Photos: Ollie Mulchrone



Kilmeena GAA Club took part in the GAA's Féile football competition for U-14 boys on the weekend of Friday, June 28th to Sunday, June 30th.

Kilmeena participated in Division 5 and hosted St. Ergnat's from Moneyglass, Co Antrim. The children from St. Ergnat's stayed on the Friday and Saturday nights with some Kilmeena families who kindly volunteered to provide accommodation. Many Moneyglass families also travelled down and stayed locally in hotels and B&Bs. New friendships forged over the weekend proved a huge success and demonstrated all that is best with our Club.



Day One:

Kilmeena's Feile weekend kicked off on Friday, June 29th in Swinford. Our first game was against St. Colum's of Cork. We had a poor start to the game and were 2-1 to no score down after three minutes.

Our boys dug in from there and fought back to lead 2-6 to 2-1 at half-time. After the break, we added extra points to gain what looked like a comfortable lead. In the last quarter, we started to tire and St. Colum's fought back to give an exciting final five minutes, but in the end, we held out to win 2-11 to 2-6.

In our second game against Swinford, we started strong and pushed on to the finish and a comprehensive win. Swinford suffered four injuries in their first game and seemed to feel the effects of back-to-back games. We played nearly our full panel throughout the game, and all the lads played brilliantly leaving lots of headaches for the selectors for the following day.





Day Two:

On Saturday morning, we played our final group game at home against our guest club, St.Ergnat's of Moneyglass, Co Antrim

Kilmeena made excellent use of the ideal conditions, producing an expansive brand of football which included some excellent scores and some diligent defending. We were delighted that all members of the team got game time to showcase their skills. Kilmeena advanced comfortable winners and topped their group with three wins from three. Due to these results

Kilmeena advanced to play in the Cup competition while St. Ergnat's qualified for the shield competition. The Club provided refreshments for both teams in the clubhouse immediately after the game, providing an excellent opportunity to meet and greet the families from St.Ergnat's.

In the afternoon, our lads then departed for Castlebar, for our quarter-final against Glenuilin of Co. Derry. This game was played at an intense pace with Kilmeena starting the brightest with an early goal. Kilmeena

were then struck a blow when influential midfielder Daniel Kelly had to leave the field of play with an injury. The Ulster side then got a foothold in the game and went into the half-time break with a slender advantage on the scoreboard. Our lads gave it every thing in the second half, but Glenuilin deservedly emerged victorious with a scoreline of 4 - 07 to Kilmeena's 3 - 07. The unsavoury scenes by the visiting supporters in the stand were not in keeping with the spirit of the competition. This hostility spilled onto the pitch at the end of the game, creating





a degree of shock and disappointment with the Kilmeena supporters, management and players.

Later that evening the Club held our Féile social evening in Gracy's bar at Westport House. This event gave us an excellent opportunity to again mix and chat with our visiting club members.

After witnessing another stressful Mayo victory on the TV screens, a short presentation ceremony was held in the bar. Mementoes of the weekend were exchanged to commemorate a successful weekend both on and off the pitch. Thanks to all who made this great weekend possible.

Both sets of players also received Féile commemorative t-shirts which were generously sponsored by David O'Grady.

On Sunday morning, the Kilmeena host families returned the St Ergnat's players to their parents in Westport before they headed off to Islandeady to play in their semi-final and later the final in Westport.

Before they headed back we received the great news that St Ergnats had won the Division 5 Shield final.



Willie Keavney received a commemorative plaque to mark the special occasion from Sean O'Boyle, St Ergnats Club Chairman.



Mike Slattery receives a signed picture of jockey AP McCoy, a former St Ergnat's underage player, from their U14 manager Garry Duffin.



David O'Grady sponsored and presented a set of tops to the players of both teams. Pictured receiving are Darragh Slattery, captain of Kilmeena, and Paul Duffin, St Ergnat's captain.

Annual U-10 Paddy Golden Memorial Blitz

Text and photos: Ollie Mulchrone

The annual Kilmeeena GAA Club U-10 Paddy Golden Memorial Blitz was held on Saturday, June 22nd 2019.

The freshly painted grounds and manicured pitches looked immaculate as the sun shone down on the large crowd of players, supporters and volunteers who participated in this festival of football for all the GAA clubs in West Mayo.

Thirty-six teams with approximately 400 boys and girls took part.

Six teams took part in the "A" competition with Ballintubber and Parke topping the initial round in their respective groups. Closely fought semi-finals saw 13 goals and 18 points scored between Ballintubber v Balla, and Castlebar v Parke. Castlebar and Ballintubber qualified for the "A" final. The "A" final was a repeat of the opening game in Group 1 but this time the result was reversed with Castlebar emerging victorious on a score line of 5-5 to 1-7.

Twelve teams, divided into three equal groups of four teams, contested the "B" section. After the initial rounds, Kilmeeena, Ballintubber and Tourmakeady topped their respective groups. Due to scoring aggregate, Ballintubber got a bye to the final. Kilmeeena and Tourmakeady battled out a defensively strong, low scoring game which Tourmakeady won by 2-2 to 1-2. The "B" final again was a close game with Tourmakeady getting the better of Ballintubber by 2-2 to 0-3.



Section C was made up of eight teams with two groups of four. Ballintubber and Burrishoole contested the "C" final. This contest again was a tight competitive game with Burrishoole winning by 2 - 02 to 4 - 06.

As the number of girls playing football continues to grow in the West Mayo clubs, we had a record number of teams register for this year's event. The girls' competition was divided into "A" and "B" sections, both consisting of two groups of five teams. Westport and Islandeady qualified for the "A" final with Westport winning by 3 - 05 to 1 - 01. Kilmeena and Tourmakeady qualified for the B final. This was a close game with the host Club outscoring Tourmakeady by 3 - 04 to 2 - 04

Over 50 games were played with presentations completed before 3 pm. Well done to all the boys and girls that participated in the Blitz and congratulations to the winning teams. Before the final presentations our Club Chairman, Mr Willie Keaveney, held a minutes' silence as a mark of respect to our former Clubman, Mick Burke, who sadly passed away on Thursday the 20th June.

Kilmeena G.A.A. Club would like to acknowledge the Golden family, Carrowholly, for their continued sponsorship of this important Club event.

A huge community effort is put into making the U10 Paddy Golden Memorial Blitz successful. It takes a massive effort to plan and run this event. To all the club volunteers - parking stewards, referees, umpires, pitch co-ordinators, first-aiders, photographers, score takers, MC's, shop assistants, kitchen helpers, those who brought food - a big 'thank you'.



END-OF-SEASON REVIEWS

U-6 BOYS Maura Hastings

The 2019 training for Kilmeena U-6 Boys commenced on April 4th when we welcomed new members to the group, and the younger boys from 2018 returned for more action. We had lots of fun, and once we mastered some of the basic skills, we enjoyed a few mini-matches only when everyone had their gum shields with them. Many from the group took part in their first Cúl Camp in July and enjoyed it. The coaches were very impressed by the improvement in the boys' skills levels and their commitment to training over the season. Our season concluded with a short match followed by some treats and a medal presentation in the Clubhouse.

Coaches Maura Hastings, Mel King, Sean Kelly and Pete Lane, would like to thank the



boys and their parents for their continued support. We wish the best of luck to the older boys moving on to the U8 team, and we look forward to the return of our younger boys and any new boys who wish to join Kilmeena GAA club in 2020.

Back row L-R: James Hastings, Ciarán Kelly, Zac Walsh, Dylan Duffy, Jack Mulloy, Caolin Mcloughlin, Patrick Scott, Oran McManamon and Luke Molloy.
Front row L-R: Tommy Cannon, Brendan Smyth, Keegan Heritage, Rory O'Malley, Rowan Goggins, Aran Cawley, James Lawless, Michael Staunton, Theo Bronkal and Rory O'Donnell.

U-8 BOYS Ollie Collins

The U-8 Boys started back training in early April with a great turnout of players wanting to play for Kilmeena. There were 27 players involved in the U-8 team for 2019. The aim for the year was to introduce the team to the basic skills of football: to focus on their development, while making it entertaining for the team to enjoy playing football, and to encourage them to return and represent the Club.

The lads played numerous matches throughout the season against Tourmakeady, Islandeady, Louisburgh and Burrishoole. Great excitement and fun was had by all the players with everyone getting game time in

all the matches. It's just the start for these young lads' journey playing for Kilmeena, and the future looks bright for the club.

To all parents, we would encourage you to help develop the boys' skills by practising with them when possible over the long winter months. These exercise sessions will help develop their skills further and into quality footballers in time to come. I would also encourage parents to help out more and to get involved in coaching. Having more help will develop the lads into better players.

A special thanks to Pat Ryan for all his help throughout the year. Thank you to all the coaches involved: Kevin, James, Eamon, Leonie, Joey and Ollie.

U-10 BOYS Barry Murphy

The U-10s started back training on Thursday, March 28th with a healthy number of 25 players.

A skills booklet – a new initiative from Croke Park – was introduced at the end of the first training session. As defined in the booklet, this was to encourage players to learn and practise the football skills, at home, particularly on their weaker sides, for a period of six weeks. The booklet was taken home every week and signed by their parents. The progression of players' skills was evident at training and coaches felt it was a worthwhile initiative.



Back row L-R: Pat Mulchrone, Barry Murphy, Mairead Durkan and Kieran Hastings.

Middle row L-R: Cian Moran, Darragh Mulchrone, Robbie Murphy, Jason Feehan, Dara McDonnell, Kevin Hastings, Tom Cox, Jamie Durkan, Tadhg Daly, Finn Mulchrone, Alan Heanue, Ryan Cannon.

Front row L-R: Billy Lane, Lorcan Lane, Judah Fitzsimmons, Charlie Geoghegan, David Ryder, Jack Ivin, Noah Coughlan, Luke O'Donnell, Jason Lawless, Felix Zeray, Kyle Staunton, Donnachta McGauley and Liam Quinn.

Our Go-Games season was late getting underway, due to Achill's unavailability for the first fixture. Subsequent attempts to re-organise the fixture were unsuccessful. This meant that it wasn't until May 25th before we had our first match – away to Tourmakeady – which proved a tough encounter for our lads.

Our next games saw us travel to Louisburgh, where we played two matches. Both games were keenly contested, and our boys showed their mettle in each of the matches, getting our first wins of the season. We also travelled to Islandeady for the next Go-Game which we won easily.

Next up was the annual Paddy Golden Blitz. Having won all three group games - the only team of three groups in Division B to have done so - we were narrowly beaten in the semi-final by a strong Tourmakeady side. We didn't perform as well as we had in the group games, leaving our boys shattered at the final whistle. Players and coaches were disappointed as there was a feeling that we could have gone all the way this year.

Our final Go-Game was away to Burrishoole on July 13th. This match proved to be a very successful outing for us as we were much too strong a team.

Our second blitz of the season took us to

Balla, and while we lost our three group games, we weren't far off winning all three of them either. Games against Mayo Gaels, Breaffy and Parke, saw us lose by only a point or two. The coaches felt that the boys played well in all three games. They were especially impressed by the performances of some of the younger members of the squad.

After the splitting of the U-10s and U-11s, a home game for both groups against Islandeady on September 14th was our final home games of the season. The boys played well, emerging victorious at the end. The younger members of this squad caught the eye of the coaches and gave them great encouragement for the development of next year's U-10 squad.

The U-10s reconvened for the annual Gearóid Murphy Memorial Blitz on Saturday, September 28th and ultimately became the only team to win the competition twice since its inception.

Emerging from Group 1, having easily defeated all three of our opponents – Achill, Islandeady and Kiltane – we faced a strong Burrishoole side, winners of Group 2, in the final. Burrishoole had progressed to the final after wins against Tourmakeady, Ballycroy and Louisburgh. Our older boys, comprising nine of the starting 11, went

into the final knowing that, for them, this was to be their very last game for Kilmeena U-10s.

From the throw-in, they tore into Burrishoole. Having conceded the first point of the game, they simply overwhelmed their opponents, eventually winning by a 17-point margin. It was wonderful to see the joy - and relief - on their faces at the final whistle, having come so close so many times to winning competitions over the last two years.

Due to Storm Lorenzo, the only training session that was cancelled was the last one, scheduled for October 2nd. It was a pity as the coaches had filled out a "Player Pathway" form for every player detailing the players' strengths and weakness and we intended to give verbal feedback to the players based on their performance in the games.

Overall, it was an encouraging season, albeit with some disappointments along the way, but a huge boost at the end. The coaches took plenty of positives from the season. Our boys - and their parents - deserve a long break after their busy season. Parents, please help and encourage the boys to get out of the house with a football to further develop their skills during the winter months. It really will make a difference when training resumes next Spring!



Back row L-R: John O'Grady, Dean Staunton, Alex Kenning, Patrick Feehan, Eoghan Cannon, Tiernan Aherne, Oran Grimley, Rory Kilcoyne, Alan Gannon, Cormac O'Malley, Aaron Murray, Mickey Murray and Carmel Higgins.

Front Row L-R: Alan Mortimer, Sean Kilcoyne, Shane Durkan, Sean Keane, Alex Coyne, Kyle Mulchrone, Cormac Slattery, Darragh O'Grady, Adam Moran. Absent: Jake Staunton and John Paul Ryan.

U-12 BOYS Carmel Higgins

With a panel of 21 players, we commenced training on the April 5th and played five games in the Spring League against Islandeady, Burrishoole, Westport, Ballintubber and Balla. We had mixed fortunes on the field with everything covered - wins, draws, losses and no referees!

Some great football was played in the

Summer League which comprised of four games against Achill, Louisburgh, Westport and Tourmakeady. The lads took part in the Eoin McGroddy Blitz in Louisburgh on June 29th where they won the cup. They also took part in a blitz in Tourmakeady and competed well against the hosts and others.

A big "thank you" to "Tile Warehouse", who sponsored new training t-shirts for the U-12

lads. As always, we value the support from local businesses.

A big "thanks" to the parents and guardians for bringing the lads to training and matches and the management team for their time and effort throughout the year: John O'Grady, Mickey Murray, Jim Cannon, Sean Kenning and Carmel Higgins.

U-13 BOYS Michael Gavin

The U-13 Boys competed in Division 2B of the league that commenced on August 26th, with games involving Carras, Eastern Gaels, The Neale and Balla. They competed well in all games and management were happy with what they witnessed. It augurs well for the U-14 campaign for 2020.

The panel has an excellent skill range, and with some physical development over the winter, management believes that they will be an inspiring team to watch going forward.

Management: Michael Gavin, Dave O'Grady, Tomas Gill, John Doherty.

Player of the Year: Declan Moore



Back row L-R: David O'Grady, Fionn O'Driscoll, Patrick McGlynn, Martin Grimaldine, Aodhán Feehan, Micheál Regan, Danny Cannon, John Murphy, Alex Kenning, Rory Likcoyne, Cormac O'Malley, Dean Staunton and Michael Gavin.

Front row L-R: Tomás Gill, Evan O'Grady, Declan Moore, Aaron Burke, Luke Durkan, D.J. Keane, Oran Grimley, Zak Zera, Aaron Murray, Alex Coyne, Patrick Feehan and Darragh O'Grady.

U-14 BOYS Mike Slattery

The Kilmeena U-14 Boys team commenced indoor training in December in preparation for the season ahead. A total of 28 boys were registered with an average of 20 players attending each training session.

After two successful challenge games in March, our lads participated in Division 1 of the league grouping against Westport, Castlebar, Ballina, Claremorris, Parke and Moy Davitts. Despite performing well in all six games, our lads were unfortunate only to pick up a single win against Parke.

Following another block of well-attended training sessions, in mid-June, we were drawn to play Kiltimagh at home in the opening round of the championship. Here, our lads left everything out on the pitch and deservedly came away with a win by the smallest of margins. Seven days later, we came out on the wrong side in a hard-fought battle against Castlebar Mitchels.

This game signalled the end of the road for

our lads in the County Championship. However, we still had Féile Peil na nGael to look forward to in the last week in June. We were privileged to host St. Ergnats of Moneyglass from Co. Antrim for the tournament. The opening game was in Swinford, and Kilmeena showed their class and recorded two impressive victories at this venue. The following morning on our home turf we came up against our hosts, St. Ergnat's, where we retained our one 100 per cent start to the tournament. That same afternoon in our quarter-final we lost in controversial circumstances to a Glenullin from Derry.

That evening we held a social event at Gracy's Bar, Westport, where families from Kilmeena and our guest club could interact. A great night was had by all.

Three weeks after our somewhat successful Féile campaign, we faced Breaffy away in the West Mayo "A" quarter-final. Despite being quite depleted with injuries, we ran out comprehensive winners after a

dominant second-half display. In the semi-final, these injuries finally caught up with us, and we were well defeated. This game marked the conclusion of the U-14 Boys' season.

The loss of three players to injury, undoubtedly restricted our success this year. We wish a speedy and full recovery to Daniel Kelly, Donal Hastings and Rian Kilcoyne.

Special thanks to Teddy McDonnell (Teddy's Fashions) for the sponsorship of a set hoodies for the boys at the end of the season.

Overall, 2019 was a hugely enjoyable year. From a management's point of view, all the players have had considerable game time during a most satisfying year and improvements in fitness and skill levels noted. We hope to see all the lads donning the Black and White again in 2020!



Back Row L-R: David O'Grady(Coach), Donal Hastings, Fionn O'Driscoll, Lucas Kennedy, Rory McDaid, Aodhan Feehan, Dylan Staunton, Patrick McGlynn, Conal Gill, Martynas Grimala, Connor Kelly, Daniel Kelly, Rian Kilcoyne, Josh Browne, Thomas Gill (Coach) and Mike Slattery(Coach)

Front Row L-R: Declan Moore, D.J. Keane, Aran Bourke, Danny Cannon, John Murphy, Micheal Regan, Jack O'Grady, Keelan Corcoran, Stephen O'Grady, Evan O'Grady, Luke Durkan, Darragh Slattery, Joseph O'Malley and Michael Gavin(Coach).

Missing from Picture: Connor Feehan, Zack Zera

U-16 BOYS Padraic Moore

The U-16 Boys commenced training in late January for the season ahead. The first six weeks were mainly strength and conditioning work in our new gym. In early March we played two challenge games against Burishoole and Islandeady in preparation for the league ahead. We were placed in Division 2 of the league, but due to several long-term injuries, we knew that being competitive in this division would be our target. Up against Ballinrobe, Ballintubber and eventual winners Belmullet, we were well beaten in all three games. A decent performance against Breaffy convinced us that with everybody back on board we would be competitive in all other competitions for the summer ahead.

Placed with Burishoole, Parke and Kilmovee in the group stages of the Championship, nothing was taken for granted. The first game was a typical local derby played in Newport with a lot of hard tackling and no place for the faint-hearted. We came away with a 4-9 to 2-8 victory, which set us up nicely for a home game with favourites Parke. On an ideal July evening, both teams served up a highly entertaining game of football which we came out on the right side by the bare minimum. We were six points up with five minutes to go but conceded 1-2 to set up a frantic finish. We held out to the end to put one foot in the semi-final. The final score was 2-14 to 3-10. The last group game was home to Kilmovee, and a win here would seal a home semi-final. With a dominating first-half display and some great shooting in front of goal, we were 1-16 to 0-2 up at half-time, going on to win the game comfortably. As a result, a home semi-final was secured.

Eastern Gaels were our semi-final opponents. Both teams went at it hammer-and-tongs in a highly entertaining game full of free-flowing football, near misses, excellent scoring and a few mistakes, in a game that was level at the end of normal time. The entertainment and intensity went up another level in extra time, with Kilmeeena coming out winning by the narrowest of margins, 4-19 to 4-18. This was the game where the lads really stood up with their never-say-die attitude that brought us back several times into the match when the game seemed otherwise lost.

A three week lead into the final against Achill gave us a great chance to get all injuries sorted, with the full panel available and with fierce competition for places, we were in a good place. Achill had beaten a fancied Parke side in the other semi-final. So, on August 11th, the scene was set for the County Final. From the off, it was clear that Achill were a much more physical side and dominated Kilmeeena in the early exchanges to lead 2-3 to 0-1 after 10 minutes, which forced Kilmeeena into making an early tactical switch. This change saw the introduction of Chris McGlynn for his first game back after a year out with a serious knee injury, and by the 20th minute, the score was level. Kilmeeena were now playing with real belief and played the better football for the rest of the half to lead 3-5 to 3-4 at the break. The second half turned into an epic as both sides sensed victory, Kilmeeena scoring freely but goals keeping Achill in the contest. We were two points up going into injury time when an Achill '45 somehow landed in the Kilmeeena net. A frantic four minutes of injury time ended with a Kilmeeena point – more extra time! After a pulsating 20 minutes of extra time, Kilmeeena outscored Achill by 0-5 points to 1-0, sending the large Kilmeeena contingent wild - a County Final secured.

The West Mayo was the final U-16 competition for this group. In the quarter-final, a 1-12 to 1-6 win over a highly-fancied Balla side was one of our best performances of the season. Ballintubber, in a home semi-final, on paper was a bridge too far, but on a wet and windy evening, our lads delivered a fantastic display of work rate and controlled football to win by 0-8 to 0-4. Parke were our opponents in the final, but we struggled for form all over the pitch, and they ran out winners by 1-10 to 1-7.

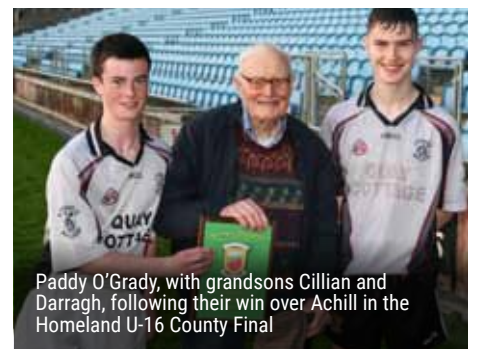
All said, it was a very enjoyable and successful season with a bunch of players who got better and better as the season progressed.



Back row L-R: Conor Feehan, Harry Sheridan, Rian Kilcoyne, Liam Moore, Finlay Gibbons, Darragh Slattery, Adam O'Grady, Oisín Grimley, Chris McGlynn, Sean Prenty, Evan O'Donnell, Brian Durkan, Rory Nolan, Niall Feehan (Management) and Padraic Moore (Management).
Front row L-R: Neil O'Donnell (Management), Conal Gill, Sean Gallagher, Jack Walsh, Cormac Feehan, Ben Lennon Daniel O'Malley, Jack Mulchrone, Colin Hasitngs, Ciaran Kilcoyne, Cillian O'Grady and Darragh Keaveney (Management).



Kilmeeena U-16 Boys, holding the Homeland sponsored Shield aloft after their win over Achill



Paddy O'Grady, with grandsons Cillian and Darragh, following their win over Achill in the Homeland U-16 County Final

Other achievements for U-16 boys



HURLING:

Liam Moore and Conal Gill played with Westport and claimed the County U-16 "A" Championship. Both lads played starring roles in the forward line of a highly competitive final against Castlebar, which Westport won 2 - 17 to 2 - 10.



Darragh Slattery, Conal Gill and Josh Browne played for the Westport U-14 team and participated in the All Ireland Feile, which took place in Kerry earlier this year.



RUGBY:

Well done to Harry Sheridan who was selected to play for Connacht U-16 Rugby team who beat Munster in July and Belvedere College in October.

COUNTY U-14 DEVELOPMENT SQUAD:

Darragh Slattery, Conor Feehan, Conal Gill & Rian Kilcoyne are part of the County U-14 development squad this year.

COUNTY U-15 DEVELOPMENT SQUAD:

Harry Sheridan & Liam Moore are part of the County U-15 development squad this year.

MINOR BOYS Declan Ryan

Kilmeena minors played in Division 3A league this season. It was a tough league with Eastern Gaels, Burrishoole, Swinford, Aghamore, Balla and Ballinrobe competing in it. We had to deal with several injuries to the players for the season. At times during the Summer, it was difficult to field a team as a number of lads had given up playing football or took time out. We had some very tight games with us being victorious against our neighbours Burrishoole. We

had no games from April to August as the season was interrupted due to the success of our county minors in the All-Ireland Championship. August took us to the County Championship with Ballinrobe and Aghamore in our group. Our first match saw us take on Aghamore with our full team at home. We lost out narrowly to them by one point and were well beaten by Ballinrobe as we could only field 13 players due to injuries.

In the West Mayo Championship, we were drawn away to Islandeady beating them

well in the quarter-final which was played in Parke. The game was played in great spirit, but unfortunately, we came out the wrong side, losing by three points. The lads put in an excellent effort for the season despite several injuries. It was a tough season for them. These lads are fantastic to work with and a credit to their parents. They have a bright future with our senior and U21 teams. Kilmenna abú!

Management: Declan Ryan, Mark Ryan, Liam Heanue, Niall Ryan.



Back Row L-R: Declan Ryan, Liam Heanue, Robbie Staunton, Kian Moore, Tom Smythe, Nathan Heanue, Ronan O'Donnell, Simon Duffy, Adam Sheridan, Ian Murphy, Mark Ryan and Niall Ryan.

Front Row L-R: Ronan O'Donnell, Jason McGlynn, Chris McNally, Brian Mortimer, Mikey Hastings, Mark Hastings, Ben Lennon, Cillian O'Grady, Niall Mullin.

Absent from photo: Jack Carney, Chris McGlynn and Liam Moore.

MENS SENIORS AND U-21s John Reilly



Standing L-R: Davey Feehan, Selector; Darren Madden, Selector; James Groden, Lorcan Beirne, Ross Mullin, Nicholas Keane, Conor Madden, Patrick Golden, Joey Smyth, Ryan McGonagle, Andrew Grealis, Nathan Heanue, Niall Feehan, Pat Mulchrone, Simon Duffy, Sean Moore, Brian Mortimer and Emmett Alyward.

Kneeling L-R: Pat Grady, Selector, Cormac McHale, Patrick Keane, James Keane, Sean Ryder, Stephen Staunton, Kevin Ryder, Sean Barrett, Tomás Gill, Alex O'Rian, John Ryan and Liam Óg McNamara.

Front L-R: Paul Groden, Cillian Ryan, Josh Ryan, Niall Ryan and John Rielly, manager.

The 2019 season began in early January. The management team of John Reilly, Darren Madden and David Feehan remained in place to continue with the team's progression from 2018. This season Pat Grady was added to the management. In his role as a member of the sideline support team, the ever-present James Keane – as “maor uisce” – ensured the team always performed at their best. Sean Ryder continued his duties as captain for the Kilmeena team for 2019.

Division 3 League

The league got off to a rocky start for the Kilmeena lads. First losing badly at home to Lahardane. Whereas a group we did not play anywhere near our potential. The next game away to Davitts was a heartbreak to come away empty-handed. This game highlighted how this player group has improved, showcasing their ability to play expansive but attrition football. Eventually losing out by a point to a team that would eventually make the senior championship quarter-finals. Kilmeena won their next three games. The first win came against Swinford away. Kilmeena controlled this game from start to finished and continued with their expansive brand of football. The second win was a comprehensive destruction of Achill in St. Brendan's Park. Kilmeena were ruthless and hit Achill for six goals. The third win away to Castlebar Mitchells was in contrast to the previous two games. Kilmeena had to grind this one out as Mitchells attempted to snuff out Kilmeena's attacking play.

Kilmeena then hit a mixed patch of form when losing to Ballyhaunis at home by four points; getting a last-gasp leveller to draw with Bonniconlon; beating Parke by four points by controlling the football in the second half; and coming back from an eight-point deficit in Shrule to leave with a one-point win.

Our final two games did not go well for us, losing out to The Neale, the eventual league and intermediate champions by four points and getting well beaten by Mayo Gaels in Mayo Abbey to round off the league.

Kilmeena finished fifth overall in the league and look to developing year on year in this league.



Darragh Keaveney played for the Mayo Junior team against Leitrim in MacHale Park earlier this year. Image courtesy of David Farrell.

Division 6 League

A second-place finish in the league and a semi-final spot is what awaits this group of players at the season's end. The first outing of the year was an away draw with Knockmore, an excellent game of football demonstrating the talent that is developing within the Club. Kilmeena went on to beat Ballaghaderreen and Westport, but then losing out to Islandeady at home. The next two games will stand out for this playing group; an away win in Moygownagh will go down as a great day for the Club because earlier in the day the junior championship team had to run out against Kilmovee, meaning 41 men toggled out for the Club that day. The win against Bonniconlon was a real Friday night-lights affair with the win going down to the last play.

Kilmeena played Breaffy in the league semi-final of Division 6; anyone who witnessed that game would agree that the standard of football was far beyond the level of Division 6. Sadly Kilmeena lost out in the end by four points to the team who would eventually win it out, The Neale.

Cusack Cup

Kilmeena received a bye into the final to play Westport's junior team. Westport hit the ground running and controlled the game from the off. Kilmeena were down six points at half time; a further two points by Westport put Kilmeena eight points in arrears. That's when the show came to town!

Kilmeena ramped through the gears and put three goals and seven points on Westport in a 20-minute scoring spell. With that, Kilmeena retained the Cusack Cup for the second year in succession.

Michael Walsh League

Kilmeena made the Michael Walsh league final, having easily topped their league and dealt with Ardagh in the semi-final. The final was played on a Baltic cold Sunday afternoon in Knockmore. Little could separate the sides, and after extra time, penalties decided the result. Cill Chomáin were the victors of the shoot-out, with Kilmeena left to rue the many missed scoring chances in normal and extra time.

Junior B

Kilmeena made it to the West Mayo Junior B semi-final after beating a fancied Breaffy team on their home patch. Facing Parke in the final, however, did not go our way. Parke eventually won out as comfortable winners to lift the Keane Cup for the first time in their history.

Junior Championship

Kilmeena topped their group of Ballycroy, Ballina "B" and Killmovee having dispatched all three by an average score of 22 points. Those victories put Kilmeena in a confident mood going into the quarter-final.

Cill Chomáin were our next opponents. The game played in Knockmore and was a well-attended affair by both travelling supporters. Cill Chomáin lead by two points at the interval, but in the second half Kilmeena yet again showed their attacking endeavour and hit them for two goals and six points to run out comfortable winners by five points in the end.

Next up was a showdown against Kilmaine in the County semi-final. This game has gone down as one of the games of the 2019 championship at all levels. Kilmeena really showed their attacking game, hitting Kilmaine for 17 points and were within touching distance of a County Final. Sadly, Kilmaine found the know-how from somewhere and managed to take the game by two points in the end.

A massive disappointment for Kilmeena.

UNDER 21 CHAMPIONSHIP

Kilmeena won the U-21 "D" County Championship of 2019. En route to the final, Kilmeena dispatched three senior clubs in the process – Hollymount/Carramore, Moy Davitts, Erris Saint Patricks (Kiltane and Ballycroy).

In the final, Kilmeena faced of against Ardroy, an amalgamation of three parishes (Lahardane, Ardagh and Moygownagh). Kilmeena started the game by hitting four unanswered points. Ardroy pulled themselves back into the match, but Kilmeena led by two points at the break. The start of the second half Kilmeena controlled and went ahead by five points. Ardroy got back into the game and levelled it. Kilmeena had the final say however and hit the final score of the game to take the win.

2019 was an eventful season for this group of players. In total, 41 players lined out for the senior squad and a further 25 for the U-21 team. The future is bright for this squad of players. Training will begin again in early January 2020.

U-21 COUNTY CHAMPIONS Division D



Back L-R: Brian Mortimer, Simon Duffy, Nathan Heanue, Bailey Nevin, Kian Moore, Ian Murphy, Niall Mullin, Jack Staunton, Kevin Ryder, Jack Carney and Robert Staunton.
Front L-R: Nicholas Keane, James Keane, John Keane, Keith Joyce, John Ryan, Joey Smyth Captain, John McGlynn, Alex O'Rian and Ronan O'Donnell. Missing from Picture Chris Heanue.



U8 girls that played in Westport Blitz:

Back Row left to right: Charley Coyle, Molly Mulchrone, Aisling Lawless, Éabha Feehan, Shauna Durkan, Emily Fahy and Emma Gannon.

Front Row left to right: Éabha Goggins, Holly Fortune, Aoife Durkan and Sadhbh McGawley.

Trainers: Richie Goggins, Leslie Feehan and Maureen Durkan

Absent from photo: Elsie Boyne and Luna Prampert

U-6 & U-8 GIRLS Maureen Durkan

This group consisted of 24 girls between the ages of 5-8. We worked on skills and encouraged friendships amongst the girls in the first few weeks. Training began on April 3rd, and we finished up on September 28th.

We hosted Burrishoole at the beginning of July. Both teams showed excellent skills and had lots of fun. We travelled to Westport in August to a blitz where we played four games. The girls had a great day and were presented with certificates. The season finished off with a trip to Burrishoole for another blitz. Our girls emerged unbeaten after playing four games against the hosts Burrishoole, Westport and Ballinrobe "1" and "2."

Well done to Shauna, Cailín and Charley who played most of the season with the U-10s. Best of luck to Emily, Emma, Elsie, Molly, Luna and Aisling who will move up to the U-10s next year.

We look forward to seeing everyone back in 2020 and welcoming new players. Thanks to Ritchie and Lesley for their help with coaching all year.



Back row L-R: Mairéad Durkan and Trish Keane (Trainers)

Middle row L-R: Cara Mongey, Ellie Mai Keane, Leah Gavin Walsh, Amy McIntyre Gibbons, Shauna Durkan, Charley Coyle, Kiera Kenning and Alice Bracken.

Front row L-R: Katie Moran, Julie O'Grady, Melodie Corcoran, Grainne Feehan and Cailín McPhillip.

U-10 GIRLS: Mairéad Durkan

The Kilmeena U-10 Girls were small in numbers this year, so Maureen and Richie permitted us to bring three U-8 Girls up to join the squad. We had a panel of 14 girls

who showed great commitment to training all through the year, having 12-14 girls for most Wednesday sessions.

We commenced training on April 3rd and those initial weeks we concentrated on building up and improving key skills, using drills and the kicking wall. Our first match

was against our neighbours, Burrishoole. The girls played very well, with the help of some U-11s to make up numbers against Burrishoole.

The win we secured at this home match gave us great confidence heading into the Paddy Golden Blitz. Our annual blitz was held on June 22nd, and we competed in the "B" division. Our first game was against Tourmakeady, which was an evenly matched encounter.

In our second and third matches against Burrishoole and Westport, we had some brilliant scores to win both games. So, we marched onwards to the final against our toughest rivals – Tourmakeady. This game was an epic contest from start to finish, both teams not giving an inch. The girls put in a massive performance here, doing everything we asked of them to secure the win, and by doing so wrote themselves into the history books of Kilmeena LGFA. Following the celebrations, joint-captains Leah Gavin Walsh and Amy McIntyre Gibbons lifted the shield.

After the summer break, the girls moved up to U-11s and were joined by five of the younger girls from the U-12s – Mary Kate, Catherine, Emelia, Laura and Eva. These girls were a welcome addition to the squad and brought with them a very high skill level and the experience of playing in the U-12 Spring League. On August 28th the U-11 squad were invited to enter the Balla Blitz. The standard here was quite competitive. We played three games and won one. But everyone had a great morning and loads of game time.

The following week, on a lovely September evening, we arranged a friendly with the Westport girls in Sacred Heart School pitch. They all played some super football, scoring well and coming away with a win.

For our last outing of the season, we entered the U-10 Girls in the county Blitz in Began on September 18th. We had three games against Westport, Breaffy and Ballintubber. We won two out of the three. There was a lovely presentation afterwards, and everybody went home with a medal.

We wrapped up training on September 25th where we had a lovely parents and players evening in the clubhouse. Players got a team photo and a goodie bag, and we looked over some of the action shots from the Paddy Golden Blitz. It was a pleasure to be involved with this great, energetic bunch of girls this year. Their behaviour, discipline and enthusiasm were exemplary both on and off the field of play.

On behalf of Trish, Bernie and myself we wish our older girls the best of luck with U-12s next year and look forward to seeing everybody else back in 2020..

U-12 GIRLS *Maura Hastings*

Our training season began in late February, and there was a large attendance and great team spirit for all practice sessions throughout the year. The teams in our grading group were very strong. It included Breaffy, Kilmaine, Moy Davitts, Westport "B" and Castlebar Mitchels "B". Our season didn't get off to a great start when there was a misunderstanding about our first match against Achill.

During the league, we won two and lost three matches. We had some injuries to some of our girls which was a setback. As a result, we introduced three U-10s - Leah Walsh, Amy Gibbons and Phoebe Russell - to our panel. These girls proved to be really strong and were a great asset to our team.

A strong Castlebar Mitchels team beat us in the second round of the Championship. It was a competitive match, but the girls gave it their all, even though we were missing some of our core players.

I want to thank all involved with the team during the season, including John Gallagher, Luanne O'Donnell, Carragh Ryan. A special thanks to Enda Lonergan for setting out the pitches and acting as a linesman for the games. Thank you to all the parents for their involvement with the Club over the season. Overall, it was a fun season with these great bunch of girls. Wishing them all the very best for the future years with Kilmeeena LGFA

Our Team: Rachael Needham, Ruby Lane, Ciara Kelly, Sarah Corrigan, Moira Fernandes Walshe, Laura Ingham, Mary Kate Lonergan, Emma Barrett, Laura O'Grady, Amy Carney, Siofra Hughes, Eva Mulchrone, Catherine Lawless, Ruby McDonnell, Áine Gallagher, Amelia Fahy and Kelsey O'Donnell.



Back L-R: Áine Gallagher, Eva Mulchrone, Sarah Corrigan, Rachel Needham, Mary Kate Lonergan, Amy Carney, Ciara Kelly, Emma Barrett, Catherine Lawless and Ruby Lane.
Front L-R: Moira Fernandez Walshe, Laura O'Grady, Laura Ingham, Siofra Hughes, Ruby McDonnell, Kelsey O'Donnell, Phoebe Russell and Amelia Fahy.



Back Row L- R: Katie Moran, Ellen Lonergan, Roisin Moran, Eabha Carney, Aoife Gannon, Ellen O'Toole, Amy Ingham, Hattie Cox, Aisling Hoban, Aoife Walshe, Roisin Feehan, Ava Prenty and Grace Gibbons.

Front Row L-R: Lisa Hastings, Abbie Quinn, Chloe McGlynn, Áine Gallagher, Ruby Lane, Muireann Duffy, Katie Jordan, Amy Carney, Laura O'Grady and Niamh McNamara.

U-14 GIRLS *Maura Hastings*

For the Kilmeeena U-14 Girls panel, 2019 is a year that they will never forget. The season started on January 30th, with a six-week strength and conditioning course under the guidance of Annette Keane Lonergan in the Club gym.

This program was a good foundation for the long season, which ran to the end of October. This team played their best in every game and with an average score of 12 points or more per game, not to mention a number of goals. These girls went through the season unbeaten in both league and championship competitions. This group were enthusiastic, dedicated and played as a solid unit from numbers one to 19 throughout the year. Any of our wonderful and dedicated supporters who witnessed their immense sense of team spirit and never-give-up attitude until the final whistle was blown during the season can say these girls are worthy of their championship and league titles.

The Division 4 league was our first competition in which we played Islandeady, Hollymount and Westport at home, Kilmoremy "B", Moy Davitts and Davitts away. As the weeks rolled on, we topped the table and were delighted to finish our round of games unbeaten. Islandeady were the semi-final challengers, and with a home draw and lots of supporters cheering them on, the girls went looking for a place in the league final. Victory was tasted on the night, and the final was put on hold whilst the Championship started.

We were fortunate to get a bye in the first round of the "C" Championship, but we didn't lack games because the U-13 and U-15 leagues had commenced, so all our girls were busy on those teams. We travelled to Kilmoreemoy "B" for the semi-final, which ended in a draw. Kilmeena won the replay and Kilmaine were our final opponents.

On Friday, October 6th, in Islandeady, the team won the Club's first Girls Championship title. With one final out of the way, we had to keep training and focused until the league final was scheduled. On October 20th, we headed for Ballina once more to see how we would fair out against a strong Kilmoreemoy "B" team. Victory was ours, and Kilmeena U-14 girls finished the year very happy and deserving of their cups (see match report below).

In August, the Madden family kindly sponsored tracksuits for the team in memory of their daughter and sister Vivienne, whose 20th anniversary occurred this year. All the girls are so thankful and appreciative of their generous sponsorship. A photo-book of action shots, captured during their league and Championship matches, sponsored by Pete Feehan and family, for which we are especially grateful, will be presented to the panel of girls to mark this historic double title win.

The management – Maura Hastings, Davina Carney and David Ingham – wish to thank the parents, grandparents, other family relatives, friends and Club members and officers who supported us in any way during the year. Thank you to the girls for their commitment and dedication to their team and Club. Well done everyone on a hugely enjoyable and successful year.

DIVISION 4 LEAGUE FINAL MATCH REPORT:

Division 4 League Final match report.

Kilmeena Girls U-14 team took on Kilmoreemoy "B" in the Division 4 League Final on a windy Sunday in Ballina on October 20th, 2019 at 2 pm. Having tasted success in the Championship Final just two weeks previously, this group of girls were determined to put up a good fight for a chance of winning some more silverware.

Given that this was the third time these two teams had come up against each other over the season, with Kilmeena taking the honours in their first meeting, expectations of a tight contest were high. The second time around ended in a draw, so for the third and last time, the large crowd of supporters from both sides were guaranteed a tense, competitive final.

Kilmeena had the wind advantage in the first half, but it took almost eight minutes before a score was registered with a point from Lisa

Hastings. The girls settled into their usual rhythm and free-flowing teamwork and contested every ball. Katie Moran got the team's second point; Grace Gibbons scored three points, and Lisa Hastings and Aisling Hoban got a goal each, bringing us to half-time with Kilmeena leading on a scoreline of 2-5 to Kilmoreemoy's 0-2.

Kilmeena girls faced a tough second half playing into a strong wind. Kilmoreemoy scored 1-3 in the first 10 minutes, but our girls dug deep and worked the ball up to the full-forward, Grace Gibbons, who hit the net with a superb shot. Aimee Ingham scored a beautiful goal, and Grace Gibbons notched up another 1-1, bringing us into the closing stages of the game.

Kilmeena held their lead but when Kilmoreemoy were awarded a penalty with less than three minutes to go. There was a sigh of relief from all of Kilmeena when the ball was struck wide. Our girls played defensively for the last few minutes to maintain their lead, running out worthy winners on the day. Well done to all involved!

GIRLS U-16 Pete Mortimer

The year started on January 16th with five weekly strength and conditioning sessions in the gym. Thanks to Annette Keane Lonergan for facilitating these sessions

Our initial outing of the year was a challenge match against Balla. This match was a historic day for Balla as it was their first-ever game fielding an U-16 girls team. We played seven league games, losing the first four but winning the last three. We finished with a great win against Carnacon. We were knocked out of the Championship by Louisburgh in the first round.

Our 2019 U-16 registered players were:

Rachel Gibbons, Aoife Gibbons, Megan O'Malley, Megan Mulchrone, Jessica O'Donnell, Laura Kelly, Aibhlin O'Flynn, Ciara Joyce, Keelie Hastings, Áine Regan, Abby McGreal, Aibhlin O'Flynn, Holly Barrett, Emma Murray, Mollie Keane and Sarah Gillespie.



Back Row L-R: Paul Ryan, Laura Kelly, Keeley Hastings, Rachel Gibbons, Ciara Joyce, Holly Barrett, Aoife Gibbons, Megan O'Malley, Megan Mulchrone, Amy Ingham and Pete Mortimer.

Front Row L-R: Roisin Moran, Mollie Keane, Aine Regan, Aibhlin O'Flynn, Evie Flynn, Eabha Carney and Aoife Gannon.

A big thanks to the U-14 Girls and management for their support throughout the year. Thanks to all the girls for their effort and commitment during the year. Thanks also to the parents for their support and help throughout the year. Thanks also to the management team of Geraldine Gibbons, Ann Hastings, Ollie Mulchrone, Colm Barrett, Paul Ryan and Pete Mortimer.

MINOR LADIES Trish Hogan

Kilmeena Minor Ladies pre-season training began on January 16th, 2019. The girls participated in a six-week strength and conditioning programme in the Kilmeena gym, kindly facilitated by Annette Keane Loneragan. Our minor girls took to the pitch in early February for their first outdoor training session. Initially, the team had a small panel of minors, and we knew that this was going to create difficulty as the season progressed. To keep the girls interested and to maintain consistency, we trained with the senior panel throughout the 2019 season. A very memorable start saw the opening game of the league being played on Sunday, March 10th, away to Carnacon. Torrential rain and hailstones forced both teams to run for shelter, briefly postponing the starting time of the game. On resumption, the team, consisting of 12 players, performed admirably despite the horrendous conditions. Unfortunately, we left Carnacon with a loss. On Bank Holiday Monday, March 18th, the girls played a home game against The Neale. The team, now restored to its full complement of players when some girls from the U-16 squad stepped up a grade to minor and relished the challenge. The girls performed beyond expectations and displayed exceptional skills and passion throughout the game – final score: Kilmeena 4-16, The Neale 2-3. A week later, the girls played at home to Westport "B". Displaying a massive, cohesive team effort, and playing in harmony, they continued to increase the scoreline against a competitive Westport side. They eventually secured the win with a final score of Kilmeena 6-7 Westport 2-9. Unfortunately, the last league game fixed for May 1st didn't go ahead, as Kilmoremy "B" withdrew from the competition. The Championship was due to kick off on August 6th against Moy Davitts. However, we were forced to concede this game due to low numbers. The long break in games due to state exams made it difficult for our girls to commit on the day. The girls played their last minor league game, a quarter-final, away to a very strong St. Mary's side on October 11th which brought our 2019 season to a close.



Back Row L-R: Majella O'Malley, Paul Ryan, Molly Moore, Shannon Bourke, Susannah Horgan, Áine Regan, Aoife Gibbons, Rachel Gibbons, Ciara Joyce, Keeley Hastings, Megan Mulchrone, Trish Hogan and Ollie Mulchrone. Front Row L-R: Pete Mortimer, Colm Barrett, Katie Hogan, Dearbhla Grealis, Ava Ryder, Laura Kelly, Emma Murray, Aibhlínn O'Flynn and Holly Barrett.

Kilmeena LGFA management would like to thank the minor girls who committed to the 2019 season, especially the U-16 girls who rose to the occasion and as a result have further improved their football skills. Girls who have a passion and interest for football must continue to dedicate their time to the development of our LGFA Club over the future years. Thanks to David O'Malley, John McDonald and Majella O'Malley for all their hard work and dedication with both training and match preparations. Thanks also to the U-16 management for their help and assistance during the year. Also, the parents that continued to support our efforts throughout the season. Also, a special thank you to Ollie Mulchrone and Martin McIntyre for all their action shots of the girls throughout the 2019 year!

Panel: Susannah Horgan, Katie Hogan, Dearbhla Grealis, Ava Ryder, Shannon Bourke, Jaimee Geraghty, Laura Moore, Chloe McGing, Aoife Gibbons, Ciara Joyce, Molly Moore, Laura Kelly, Megan O'Malley, Holly Barrett, Aine Regan, Abbi McGreal, Keely Hastings, Rachel Gibbons, Megan Mulchrone, Emma Murray, Aibhlínn O'Flynn and Ellen O'Toole.



Back Row L-R: Laoise Kelly, Fiona Groden, Ava Ryder, Áine Regan, Aoife Gibbons, Rachel Gibbons, Cathy McKenna, Molly Moore, Tracy McGreal and Helena Kelly. Front Row L-R: Jaimee Geraghty, Sarah Mulchrone, Ciara Navin, Shannon Bourke, Ciara Joyce, Katie Hogan, Dearbhla Grealis and Roisín Carney. Absent from photo: Susannah Horgan, Chloe McGing, Sarah Hogan, Lucy O'Malley, Mary Gill, Aoife Lavelle, Sarah Lavelle, Sophie Flynn, Aoife Roache, Caragh Ryan, Emma Jane Gill, Laura Moore, Noelle Keane, Orla Grealis, Laura Kelly and Abby McGreal.

JUNIOR LADIES

Majella O'Malley

Our year started promising with good numbers registered and the prospect of building on our inaugural year in 2018 with experienced adult players and girls from the minor and U16 teams making up the panel. David O'Malley continued in the management role assisted by John McDonald. Majella O'Malley and Trish Hogan helped as mentors. The team competed in League, Championship and the Memorial League, which is a new competition run at the start of the season for players not involved with the senior county panel.

Although we did not have much success on the field, we competed well in our games and were showing signs of improvement. The panel was unfortunate to lose girls through injury, travel, study and family commitments just as they were beginning to show signs of improvement. This all happened in a very

short timeframe and effected the balance and momentum at a vital time in the season. There is plenty of talent in this group and in the girls that are coming up behind them. With belief and commitment in themselves and the right focus, they can achieve success in the coming seasons.

Panel: Laoise Kelly, Fiona Groden, Ava Ryder, Cathy McKenna, Tracey McGreal, Helena Kelly, Ciara Navin, Sarah Mulchrone, Roisín Carney, Emma-Jane Gill, Caragh Ryan, Annmarie Crean, Noelle Keane, Sarah Lavelle, Orla Grealis, Lucy O'Malley, Sophie Flynn, Katie Hogan, Aoife Roache, Aoife Lavelle, Chloe McGing, Mary Gill, Aoife O'Kelly, Sarah Hogan, Dearbhla Grealis, Laura Moore, Susannah Horgan, Molly Moore, Jamiee Geraghty, Shannon Burke, Ciara Joyce, Aine Regan, Aoife Gibbons, Rachel Gibbons, Laura Kelly, Megan Mulchrone, Holly Barrett, Abby McGreal.

THE CLEW BAY PIPE BAND

Since its arrival on the stage in 2012, the Clew Bay Pipe Band has excited audiences all over Ireland and beyond. This exceptionally talented young group led by renowned musician Des Cafferkey (Pipe Major) and Peter Carney (Pipe Sergeant) firstly attracted the attention of Matt Molloy of The Chieftains. Matt invited the band to perform with The Chieftains in 2013, and since then the band's rise has been meteoric.

The Clew Bay Pipe Band reached a vast international audience when it performed the German National Anthem at the European Qualifier in 2013 at The Aviva Stadium to an audience of over 75 million. It was the first time the German National Anthem was performed on the bagpipes, and their rendition of the song went viral across Germany the following day.

Having appeared on 'The Late Late Show', 'Up For The Match', 'The Imelda May Show', 'The Gathering' and numerous times on Irish TV, the band has also performed live with Imelda May, The Chieftains, Mundy, Damien Dempsey, Jack L and Gene Butler.

Added to their list of achievements, the band have recently recorded with Matt Molloy and Imelda May. In early 2015 'Tears of Clew Bay' by Imelda May and The Clew Bay Pipe Band reached number four in the Irish Charts. The band performed with Imelda at her sell-out shows in Vicar Street, The Marquee Cork and The 3 Arena along with special guest Jeff Beck.

Voted 'Best Act' at the 2014 Westport Festival of Music and Food, audiences have raved about their 'Pipe-Versity Show'!

A fusion of Piping, Drumming, Rock, Traditional and Choral music awaits those who come to see the band perform. The Bands first CD "Pipe-Versity" live from Westport Town Hall was a huge success. Pipe-Versity shows have 'sold out' wherever the band has performed both nationally and internationally.

The Clew Bay Pipe Band were the headline act this August at the Criou Celtic Festival in Samoëns, France. The band enthralled huge audiences throughout the festival which culminated in performing to a sell-out concert of over 1400 people. Such was their appeal that the Clew Bay Pipe Band have been invited back to headline the festival in August 2020.

The band has once again been invited back to play at Temple Bar Trad Fest at the end of January and looks forward to entertaining the locals and tourists alike.

Twenty-five members of the band are also members of Kilmeena GAA Club. The band performed at the Club's 125th Anniversary celebrations and members of the band regularly play the National Anthem on the Pipes before championship matches. The close link between the Clew Bay Pipe Band and Kilmeena GAA Club was acknowledged by the Club when the band was awarded "Community Group of the Year" by Kilmeena GAA in 2017.



The Clew Bay Pipe Band at the Criou Celtic Festival in Samoëns, France



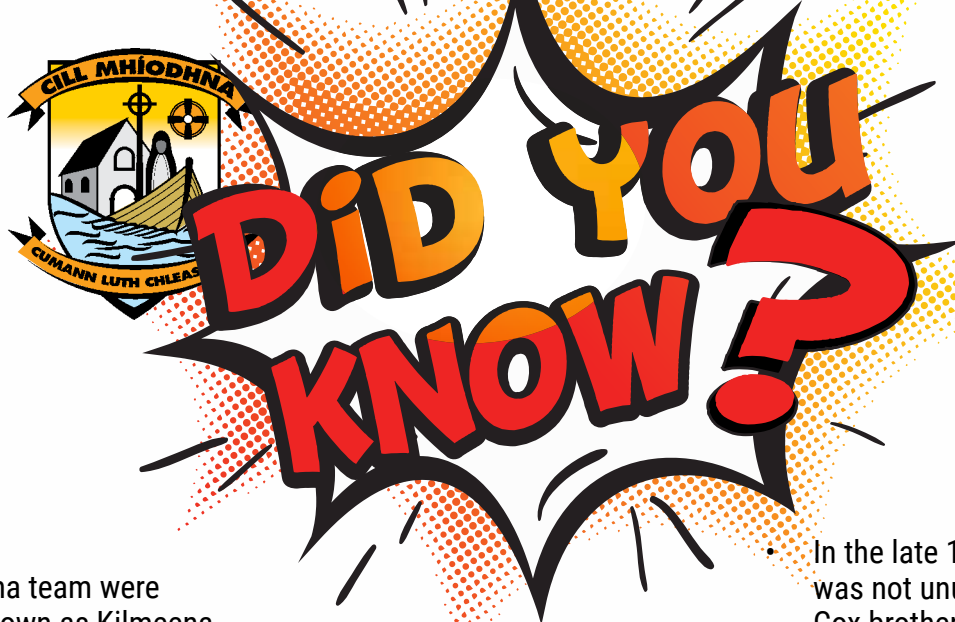


Quiz

How well do you know your Club and County's History?

1. In what year did Mayo win the Sam McGuire trophy for the first time? Answer: _____
2. What were the original Kilmeena club colours and in what year was the current Black and White Club colours launched?
Answer: _____
3. Who returned from London in 1967 and took up the position of Trainer, Selector and Manager of the junior team?
Answer: _____
4. In what year did the McIntyre brothers TJ and Martin first join the Kilmeena club? Answer: _____
5. What Kilmeena man played football for County Wicklow in 1969? Answer: _____
6. Can you name the six cities where the Kilmeena team played during their tour of the US & Canada in 1970?
Answer: 1) _____ 2) _____ 3) _____ 4) _____ 5) _____ 6) _____
7. Can you name (1) the Trainer and (2) the Manager of the under 14 team that brought the first ever County title to the club by winning the County Championship in 1970?
Answer: 1) _____ 2) _____
8. Who was the Kilmeena man that captained the Mayo Minor team in the All Ireland Football Final of 1974?
Answer: _____
9. Who was the first female secretary of the Kilmeena GAA club? Answer: _____
10. What was the main source of funding that supported the building of the original clubhouse and dressing rooms in 1981?
Answer: _____
11. Who was the captain of the under 14 team that played at full forward and scored three goals and two points to win the County under 14 "B" final against Lahardane by one point? Answer: _____
12. Who scored a point in injury time to bring the County Junior Final to a reply against Ballycastle in 1993?
Answer: _____
13. Can you name the three brothers that played on the Kilmeena under 21 team that won the West Mayo Championship Final in 1993?
Answer: _____
14. On the 10th May 2003 what caused the half-hour delay before the start of the All Ireland Junior club Final between Kilmeena and Nobber in Gremartin Park Co Monaghan?
Answer: _____

Answers: (1) 1936 (2) Black and Amber, 1952 (3) Answer: Paddy Keane (4) 1967 (5) Tommie Staunton (6) 1. New York, 2. Philadelphia, 3. Chicago, 4. Cleveland, 5. Buffalo, 6. Toronto (7) 1. Christy Ferris, 2. Martin McIntyre (8) Vincent Ryan (9) Mary Quigley (10) "Mayor of Kilmeena" competition (11) Michael Goggin (12) Michael Moore (13) Tadhg, Raymond and Jim Cannon (14) The late arrival of the Helicopter carrying the President of the GAA Sean Kelly.



- The Kilmeena team were variously known as Kilmeena "Sarsfields" and Kilmeena "Granuailes" in 1912.
- Four pairs of football boots cost the club £6 in 1951. This money was raised from dances and plays run during the year by the club.
- In 1952 and '53 Kilmeena had an active Camogie club with up to thirty six players actively participating in weekly training sessions and matches.
- In 1964 a handball club was formed in Kilmeena. That year Tommy Cox and Willie McNamee reached the County Final.
- Kilmeena minors amalgamated with Islandeady in 1967.
- During a junior Championship match against Louisburgh Padraig Mulloy got injured and had to go off leaving only 14 players to finish the first half. The referee for the game, Paddy Golden, handed over his whistle and played the second half with Kilmeena.
- Mayo won 6 consecutive National League titles from 1934 to 1939.
- Kilmeena won the Pete McDonnell Cup for the first time in 1977. The cost of the match programme for the 1977 Junior County Final was 10 pence.
- Michael Gavin, being "best man" at his brother Padraig's wedding, had to leave the wedding reception to play the West Mayo Junior Football Final against Breaffy in Westport.
- Kilmeena beat Balla in the 2001 West Mayo Junior Final on a score of line of 2-12 to 1-09. John Moore scored 9 points.
- The Kilmeena U-16 team won the Cushlough tournament in 1984 with Padraig Moore as captain.
- Kilmeena won a West Mayo Minor "B" title in 1986.
- Kilmeena played in the St. Judes Junior Sevens All Ireland Final in 1994 where they were narrowly beaten by An Ghaeltacht.
- The Kilmeena Goal keeper Michael Mulchrone saved two penalties in the 1993 County Junior semi Final match against Hollymount.
- In the late 1930's / early 40's it was not unusual for five of the Cox brothers from Mayour line out together on the Kilmeena team –Michael Joe, Jim, Marty, Frank and Pakie (Tommy being the younger would make his mark at a later stage).
- The 2001 County Junior Semi Final between Kilmeena and Shrule / Glencorrib had to go to extra time in a replay match in McHale Park. Kilmeena ended the game in normal time with 13 players after two were sent off. Twenty year old Davy Feehan scored 6 points in extra time (9 in total) to leave the final score reading 2-13 to 0-16 in favour of Kilmeena.
- Conor Madden, Sean Barrett and Kieran Golden were the three Kilmeena mascots who marched around Macartans Pipe Band for the All Ireland Junior club Final field alongside their team and behind the the St Macartans Pipe Band.



LGFA Interfirms Blitz John McDonald

On Saturday, May 18th 2019, Allergan took part in the L.G.F.A. Interfirms blitz in Naomh Mearnóg, Portmarnock, Co. Dublin. It was the first time that the ladies entered a team in the competition.

The competition was run in a blitz format with teams of seven drawn from a panel of twelve players. Twelve teams, divided into groups of six, played in the competitive section. The top two teams in each group competed for the cup, while the two teams that finished second played for the shield.

For the first outing in a competition that included some very skilful footballers, the Allergan ladies held their own, winning games against Cavan/Monaghan Garda and The Irish Prison Service. With single-point losses to Teagasc Moorepark and University Hospital Waterford and another defeat to finalists PWC #1, it wasn't to be this year.

This competition was a fantastically well organised and run day and everyone came away with great memories of a long but very enjoyable trip to Dublin.



Back Row L-R: John McDonald, Laura Keane, Maria Harrington, Aisling O'Malley, Linda Barrett, Mary Gill, Aisling Walsh and Bronagh Bourke.
Front Row L-R: Marie Ryder, Bridget McLoughlin, Tara Hastings, Aoife Keane, Aoife O'Kelly and Kelly Ann Gallagher.

KATIE MORAN Mickey Carney and Noleen Coughlan



2019 was an incredible year for Katie Moran. She joined an elite group, having been chosen by the officers of Cumann na mBunscol to play at half time in the Mayo match against Donegal. Katie had a fantastic year with her school in winning the West Mayo mini 7's competition and the county final in the same year. This marked another fantastic year in the school's history, and St Brendan's NS continues to compete at the highest levels in county football. We wish to thank all the coaches and management teams for all their hard work throughout the year, and we do not doubt that many of our current squads of girls will go on to represent their county. Well done Katie!

We are all delighted for you and indeed very proud!

FUNDRAISER CARAGH RYAN

Caragh, accepting her "Mayo People of the Year Award" from the Chairman of Mayo County Council, Councillor Brendan Mulroy, in acknowledgement of her fundraising achievements for Western Alzheimers. All at Kilmeena GAA Club are immensely proud of her accomplishment and wish Caragh the best of luck in her future fundraising efforts for the very worthy cause.



DANIEL KELLY

Daniel was a member of the Westport United underage soccer system and in July of this year joined the Mayo Schoolboys League team.

Along with Westport United teammates Adam Nugent and Conor Walsh (both now members of the Mayo Schoolboys League team) was selected to train with the Irish U-15 team in Abbotstown, Co. Dublin.

The trio was part of a 20-man Irish squad taking part in the UEFA Development Tournament which took place in Mayo in October 2019. Daniel proudly captained the team in the second game against the Faroe Islands, scoring the final goal in a 4-0 victory.

Daniel is also a member of the Kilmeena GAA U-14 team. All at Kilmeena GAA Club wish him well in his sporting exploits in 2020.



St. Brendan's Girls Complete Historic Double Mickey Carney

St. Brendan's National School had another fantastic year in 2019. They won the West Mayo Mini 7s competition and retained their County Division 2 title. They are the only team in the school's history to complete the double. The girls have gone from strength to strength, putting in some

fantastic performances against schools with a higher population of pupils than St. Brendan's, throughout the year. It is a tremendous achievement for a country school to complete such a double. Many of the group were involved with the previous years' winners. We are fortunate in the

school to have the excellent support and backing of Kilmeena GAA Club. We wish to thank the Club for the wonderful facilities and coaching that the girls have received. We want to thank all our parents sincerely for the continued support and in particular to Maura Hastings and Paul Moran for all their help and support throughout the year.



Back Row L-R: Garda Lynas Fahy, Maura Hastings, Katie Moran, Kayleigh Muldoon, Maeve Mullarkey, Patricia Moore, Roisin Feehan, Paul Moran, Emma Barret, Niamh McNamara, Michael Carney and Colm Boyle. Front Row L-R: Aoife Walsh, Laura O Grady, Lisa Hastings, Amy Carney and Ruby McDonnell.

The girls have also achieved incredible success at Club level this year and became the first ladies' team to bring silverware to the Club. There is no doubt that the future is bright for this great bunch. Well done girls!



Lisa Hastings holding aloft the Cumann na mBunscol shield



Aoife's On The Ball!

Well done to Kilmeena GAA U-14 player Aoife Gannon, who played with the Mayo U-13 soccer team. Additionally, Aoife has had the huge honour of captaining the Mayo team. The team participated in the Gaynor Cup in Limerick. The Mayo girls had some inspiring performances throughout the season and earned their place in the All-Ireland Final. Unfortunately, the Mayo girls sadly lost out to a very strong Limerick side. Well done Aoife on your fantastic achievement!

Abbie Jumps for Joy

Abbie and her pony, "Whiterock Jo Malone", have been competing successfully this year in a variety of events. She was placed third while representing her Club at The National Irish Pony Club Eventing Championships in Cork. Abbie also completed Level 2 on the Junior Academy - Future Jockey training course at the Racing Academy of Ireland on The Curragh, Co. Kildare.





Ellen Lonergan, our Golfing Footballer

Ellen Lonergan loves to golf and has done so for many years. Ellen's love for the sport is fostered by her Mum and Dad, who both have very strong sporting backgrounds, both competitively and professionally. Ellen is fortunate to be living close to the Westport Golf Club. This convenience enables her to avail of the opportunity to practise her golfing skills on an almost daily basis.

Ellen turned 14 in November, but despite her young age, she has already shown a tremendous aptitude for a game that demands great skill and a firm mental resolve. Ellen has already many notable achievements in golf, at club, provincial and national levels, especially during 2019.

Ellen began 2019 playing off a handicap of 34, but over the course of a year has halved that to 17. Ellen's reduction in handicap enabled her to be one of only six girls from Connacht to qualify and compete in the national ILGU Junior U-18 Medal finals at Seapoint Golf Club in Co. Louth in October. Ellen finished in the top half of the field in both her handicap category (0-20) and the overall rankings, despite carrying a wrist injury from playing in the Girls U-14 County League final days before. This achievement was not Ellen's only national fulfilment though in 2019; she also wore the green and red of her beloved Mayo in the National Community Games finals in Limerick. Ellen competed strongly to secure a silver medal in the U-16 Girls Pitch and Putt, only losing out on the gold medal on the countback.

On the provincial stage, Ellen finished third in the Leinster U-18 Girls "Ria Kenny Trophy" in June, at Elm Park in Dublin; she also won the prestigious "Bentley Plate" at the Connacht U-16 Girls Trophy in July at Tuam Golf Club. Such is Ellen's dedication to the Kilmeena U-14 Girls, on that same day, putting her first Championship Golf win celebrations on hold, she raced home to play a U-14 Girls football match in Foxford.

A secondary school student attending the Sacred Heart School in Westport, she led the school team to silver medal place in the Irish School Girls Junior Championship at Castlerea Golf Club in September.

Ellen's championship travels have also seen her play in Lahinch and Lough Erne - two world-class golf courses during 2019. 2020 will bring many more exciting outings for this talented young golfer. Ellen has also been a member of the ILGU Connacht Girls U-18 Development Panel in 2019, where she has gained considerable experience in the company of her golfing peers.

Ellen has worn a path to the Presentation Table at Westport Golf Club in 2019. She is a tremendous ambassador for the Club's successful Golf4Girls4Life programme, which has seen more than 40 young girls enrol in its first year during 2019.

Ellen, like many of her Kilmeena teammates, demonstrates that all our young girls can excel in as many sports as they wish when they set their minds to it. In fact, the wider variety of sports they play, the greater the skill set and big day experience they can bring to the table for the benefit of the entire Club.

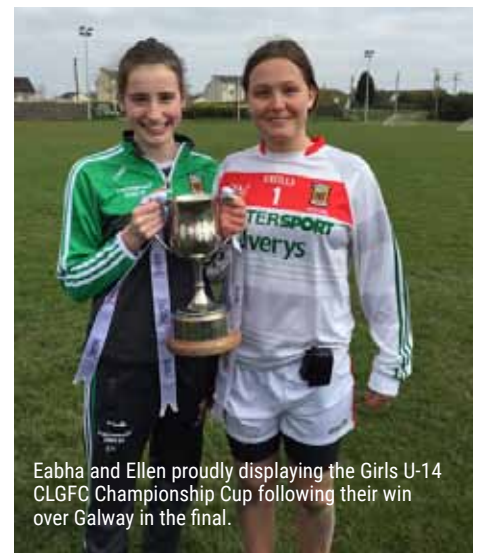
Our Mayo Ladies: Eabha Carney and Ellen O'Toole

2019 was a tremendous year for Eabha Carney and Ellen O'Toole. The girls created history with their Club in winning both the U-14 Girls League and Championship titles, the first silverware for the ladies since the establishment of the LGFA in 2013. For this small Club, these girls generated more excitement when both girls were chosen to play for the County Mayo U-14 team. It was a very tough process that started in August 2018 and for both girls to make it to the final panel of 30, reduced from 200, was a super accomplishment. It is a real achievement to have two girls from the Kilmeena LGFA Club, wearing the green and red jersey for Mayo this year.

They played their first U-14 games with Mayo in February, playing two challenge matches away to Clare and Limerick, winning both. In March they played at the Connacht Girls U-14 Blitz in Began beating Sligo, Galway and Roscommon. In April they contested the Connacht "A" U-14 Girls Final against Galway. This final was an exciting game that went to extra time. Neither side could win after an additional half-hour of football, so the game ended with a "point" shoot-out. The Mayo girls being more accurate ended up taking the cup home.

In May the girls travelled to Cavan for an All-Ireland U-14 Girls Blitz where they beat Longford, Wicklow and Leitrim. Also in May, they played the "A" U-14 Girls Championship in Clonberne playing Kerry, Meath and Sligo. They lost the quarter-final to Galway to bring their county season for 2019 to an end.

Their selection for Mayo is undoubtedly a triumph for individuality and recognition of their talents. Hopefully, we will see both these girls wearing the green and red again for their county in 2020.



Eabha and Ellen proudly displaying the Girls U-14 CLGFC Championship Cup following their win over Galway in the final.

MEMORIES FROM THE EAST

Ruairi Duffy



I want to start by thanking the club for asking me to put together a few words on my playing time with the Kilmeena GAA Club and with other clubs on my travels since then. Words cannot capture what the GAA means to me and the importance of being a member of the club in Kilmeena. The GAA goes beyond the players on the pitch, or the matches played. It represents where we come from, who we grew up with, who we met along the way, and the friendships we established and sustained throughout life. Kilmeena has everything a club and community can be proud of.

It's important to acknowledge the many people who took the time to train and develop myself and others as players; from Walter Cox, Jim Browne, Willie Quinn, Bill Hopkins, Martin McIntyre, Kevin Barrett, Joe Moore, Michael Ryan, Pdraig Golden, Michael Gavin and many more who gave so generously of their time. Apologies to those who I may have left out in the list.

It's also important to acknowledge one of the significant aspects of the club and that of many GAA clubs around Ireland and the world: the volunteers and community that show up in all conditions to support the team and club on match days. As an underage player, it was commonplace to see Paddy Keane, John Moran, Mr. O'Grady, Hugh Feehan, the Mulchrone's, Maddens, McIntyres, Quinns, Goldens, Moores, Gibbons, the Ryan clan and many more supporting on the sidelines. During the recent celebration of the 125th anniversary and the Clubhouse opening ceremony, the same people were in the crowd, always showing up, still proud and always supporting the club. They would never let you down. When we need to look for role models, we need to look no further than these people as examples of everything that is great about the west of Ireland and community spirit.

I started playing for the U-12 team and played up to minor, with my last match being against Breaffy in Parke's pitch in a West Mayo semi-final in the early '90s. We lost, and little did I know that this would be my last match in the Kilmeena jersey. College and injuries meant I did not play

GAA again until 1996 when I joined Naomh Olaf's in Dublin. This return to play was only for a short time as I was eventually told to quit football on medical advice.

It took until 2008 when I arrived for work in Brussels before I took up football again and began my adventure into European GAA. I arrived into a club on the way up, with members from many corners of Ireland and the world. We were blessed to have a great coach in Dave Barrett from Kinsale, Co. Cork. He wasn't always the easiest of individuals to deal with and the Cork/Mayo philosophies didn't always align. Still, time is a great healer, and we now laugh about those days and the importance of doing the "donkey work", preparing to win and getting the team over the line. I genuinely believe Dave has everything it takes to someday play a role in coaching at county level.

Playing in Europe has taken me to places from Clare Island (playing for Belgium GAA) to Copenhagen, Zurich, Vienna, Rome and many more European cities. In this time I've played for Belgium, Geneva and the Hague (Den Haag GAA) clubs and for the past two years I've trained the Hague team along with David Padden from Belmullet. We became known as the "Pat & Noel" of European GAA. As two great servants of Mayo football, I'll take that as a compliment.

There are over 90 clubs in Europe these days, and it's growing every year, with great work being done by the likes of Mary Gavin (Moylough Montbellew) and Tony Bass (Cuala) amongst others. While today Kilmeena is a thriving club at many levels, it took me until 2015 to win my first GAA medal. A GAA team from Geneva – with a Kilmeena/Castlebar half back line, a Killalla full forward and a few pints still on board from the night before - defeated the might of Moscow Shamrocks in the European Junior "B" Fnal. A great day for the parish of Geneva.

As a Mayo supporter and ever the optimist, I still hold out hope that on the back of some strong performances in Europe, JP Sheridan might someday give me the call. Pat Mulchrone tells me that the wait might be a while longer due to JP still getting used to modern technology and figuring how to add me to the "WhatsApp" group!

As with many from the club and the wider Mayo GAA community, I long for the day that Mayo will win the All-Ireland. I moved to Poland in early 2001, and my wife Ewelina had to quickly adapt to the fact that GAA had a major part in my life with FBD matches, league matches and the quest for Sam Maguire an annual journey. For many years I would listen to most of the games on the internet, with the commentary from Mícheál Ó Muircheartaigh or Midwest radio. It took Ewelina a while to adapt to Championship time and Mayo football, and she was always mesmerised by "the man with the strange accent".

This man was Mícheál Ó Muircheartaigh, a great person with an ability to bring the match and atmosphere into our homes many thousands of kilometres away. Down through the years, we've got to attend GAA matches together from U-21 games in early spring to summer Championship days, with each day being unique and special. So far each year when Ewelina asks: "How did Mayo do today?" The conversation typically moves to: "Hard luck and maybe next year." I have no doubt that quality footballers exist in Mayo and that the day a Mayo captain climbs the steps of the Hogan Stand to lift the Sam Maguire is not far off.

While winning Sam Maguire remains a goal, one of the proudest moments I had in recent years was when the Mayo Masters team won the All-Ireland. That day I listened in on Midwest radio to the historic win. On that day, when Ewelina asked how Mayo had done, I was proud to tell her we had won. And not only that, Pat Mulchrone had captained the team with Club colleagues Kieran Hastings, Declan Ryan and Darren Madden playing their part as well.

I played with these lads from U-12 up, and you could not ask to take the field with a nicer bunch of lads. Seeing Pat and the lads still going strong in their mid-40s is mighty, and a great credit to them and those around them. Long may it continue. I don't think we ever retire from the GAA. It remains a part of us. Wherever we are, we will always be drawn into it to play or participate in some manner and pass on the tradition to the next generation and people from other nations who want to take up the sport.

In August 1989, sitting in the Cusack Stand, Mayo had just beaten Tyrone in the All-Ireland semi-final to qualify for their first All-Ireland Final in 38 years. Dad turned to me and said: "My job is now done, I'll get yourself and Cian tickets for the final."

It was the last time we attended a match together, but over the previous 16 years, he had made sure we travelled the roads following Mayo through the good and bad times. When we won, we celebrated, and when we lost, we congratulated the opposition and were gracious in defeat. Because at the end of the day, it's a sport we all love, and it brings us together.

I hope I can also leave this legacy.



BACK TO BLACK (AND WHITE!) Róisín Carney

After nine years of playing Gaelic football for my Club and school, I decided to take a break and focus on my Leaving Cert exams. At the time, preoccupied with studying and other extra-curricular activities, I was quite happy to put football on hold until I went to college. In 2017 I started studying in Dublin and spent the first few months settling into the city and familiarising myself with college life; weeks turned to months, and I still hadn't joined the college football team!

Earlier this year, some of the girls playing for Kilmeena encouraged me to get back into playing football. With a bit of encouragement from my family, I decided to bite the bullet and nervously attended my first senior training session in late April

Now that I am back playing football, I have realised just how important it is to incorporate structured exercise into your weekly routine. The benefits are endless; my fitness levels have improved dramatically; I have rekindled old friendships and made many new ones. It gives me head-space away from studying and working, it has improved my footballing skills, and I have gained confidence in myself and learned to be a part of a team again.

It has been a fantastic experience to get back playing for Kilmeena, and I hope to continue playing for many more years. I would encourage anyone who has fallen away from football over the past few years to consider getting back into it. The management and volunteers in the Club have been hugely supportive and made my return to the Club much less daunting. Although we didn't bring home any silverware this year, we recognise that we are a new and developing ladies Club and with a few more years of work we'll be right up there with the best in the county!

CYCLOTHON CLUB FUND-RAISER Caragh Ryan



Getting up to speed: Aoife O'Kelly and Caragh Ryan

Back in September 2018 as part of a Club Development initiative, each team in our Club was asked to organise a fundraiser to raise much-needed funds towards the development of our Club. Kilmeena Junior and Minor ladies held a meeting in the Clubhouse to discuss various ideas of what we thought maybe a successful fundraiser, and we decided to settle on a 24-hour cyclothon. Instead of doing what would have been "the norm", cycling indoors in the Clubhouse, we decided we would go all out for the event and set up our bikes in the stand outside. We started off our cycle on Saturday, November 3rd at 3pm. We wrapped up our fundraiser at 3pm on Sunday, where we had gathered momentum from the crowd and the mens senior team as they carried out their "solo marathon" fundraiser on the field of play. Throughout the 24 hours, over 80 club members took part by donating their time to join us on the saddles. The cyclothon was a huge success for our club and between our two ladies panels we raised over €1,250.

On behalf of both ladies panels, we would like to extend a massive thank you to our coaches, families, friends and club members who donated and supported us every pedal of the way. Wishing you all a Happy Christmas and a healthy, enjoyable 2020.

ATHLETICS

Mairead Durkan

The cross-country season is well underway. The Connacht even and uneven ages were held on November 3rd and 10th in Belleek, Ballina. Kilmeena was well represented in these events with Tadhg Daly, Robbie Murphy and Jamie Durkan racing well on a tough 1500m course in the U-11 uneven age section.

In the U-14 Connacht's, John Murphy, Luke Durkan and teammates ran well, across the fast, hilly 3km. It was a course well recognised by these experienced runners. They ran a strong race securing first place position for their team. Declan Moore also ran a competitive race in the Mayo Championship and contributed hugely to the success of this team. Colin Hastings ran in the U-16 section in the longer 4km distance. He ran an impressive race, positioning himself on the home straight for qualification also.

These boys trained hard over the next few weeks in the run-up to the All-Ireland Championships in Abbotstown on November 24th. The course was very wet and muddy, but the weather conditions were ideal. There were some fantastic performances by our runners who represented themselves and their club brilliantly. Congratulations to Luke Durkan who secured All Ireland bronze as part of the county team.



Kilmeena boys who ran in the Connaught Cross Country Championship in Belleek, Ballina. Left to right: Tadhg Daly, Robbie Murphy and Jamie Durkan.



Kilmeena boys who ran in the National Cross Country Championship in Abbotstown on 24th November. Left to right: Luke Durkan, Colin Hastings and John Murphy.

CONNACHT RUGBY GIRLS

(Katie Hogan & Ava Ryder) Sarah Hogan

In March earlier this year, Katie Hogan and Ava Ryder were selected to try out for the U-18 Connacht Rugby Sevens team. Following a competitive and intensive few weeks of training with the panel, the two girls were selected to be a part of the team.

The first round of games kicked off in Barnhall, Leixlip where the Connacht girls played Munster, Ulster and Leinster. Two weeks later the girls travelled to Munster to play the three provinces once again. Unfortunately, the Connacht team didn't qualify for the semi-final, but the experience gained, and friendships made by Katie and Ava will follow them into the future.

Later on in the year, Katie, Ava and Chloe McGing (absent from the photo) were all selected to play on the Connacht U-18 Inter-pros team. The girls committed to tough training sessions and travelled to Galway and Ballinasloe twice a week for training. A series of competitive games followed, with one game being played in each province.

A special mention to Ava Ryder, who was called to join the Ireland U-18 Sevens team. Ava was presented with the opportunity to travel to England and Poland for Irish rugby games. Ava received her first "International Cap" in Poland and in each game Ava competed and performed to her full ability.

Well done to Katie, Ava and Chloe for their momentous achievements.



Flag-waving rugby girls, Katie and Ava

Nina's Pending Return

Nina Mathastein

When Kilmeena GAA Club set up their first girls team back in 2013, I doubt they thought by 2018 there would be six girls playing for Connacht rugby, and two girls also playing for Ireland U-18s, whether it be seven-a-side or 15-a-side. I wouldn't even be playing rugby if I hadn't been persuaded to start Gaelic back then; I only joined Westport RFC when I was told I was "too rough" for Gaelic. Over the years, half of the players on the minor girls team were also involved in the rugby, due to them hearing about it at Gaelic training and wanting to give it a try.

In 2018, when Lily Brady, Katie Hogan, Chloe McGing, Ava Ryder, Susannah Horgan and myself made the Connacht panel and Lily was selected on the Irish U-18 team, everybody was so happy and proud for us. The amount of support we received from all of our coaches and management was incredible. For this reason, we never lost our passion and commitment that we had for Gaelic. I remember racing home on Wednesday evenings from Galway after a five-hour rugby training session to make it back in time for Gaelic training or sometimes even matches.

As most of us were playing on the minor and senior Kilmeena ladies team, we ended up training around four times a week and could have two competitive games a week. I remember one time we had finished playing almost a full rugby game and afterwards we raced home straight to a senior match in Kilmeena and won! The girls and I loved every single minute of it!

Every one of us was so lucky and honoured

to have had that opportunity last year. Then the following year, to have Lily on the senior Connacht panel, Chloe, Katie and Ava on the U-18 Connacht panel again, and Ava making it onto the Irish U-18 Sevens team, is such an achievement especially to have all come from the Club of Kilmeena is even better!

Unfortunately, I missed out on the opportunity to play with the Kilmeena girls this year due to tearing a ligament in my knee at the end of 2018. Having reached our first ever championship final the year before, I was so excited to come back and give it another go with such a fantastic bunch of girls but sadly, I missed playing my last minor season with the Club. I used that passion and sadness and put it into my recovery to be fit and ready for the new year.

After a long 17 months away, I can't wait for the next season to start so I can finally pull on the black and white jersey and get back onto the GAA pitch with all the girls again.



What winning the Paddy Golden Blitz meant to me

Shauna Durkan, 8

Paddy Golden Blitz was very important to me, as soon as I heard the final whistle, it was one of my favourite times of my whole life. I never thought football could make me feel so good about myself. Even though we had a really small group I think we all did really well. In the final, Tourmakeady was

a hard battle but of course there was only one winner and we all know who that was, and in case you are not thinking right it was obviously Kilmeena. Some people did not like football at the start of the year and now all of us love it and we are all dying to go back to it next year.



Pupils from Fahy NS who took part in the Cumann Na mBunscol Exhibition game during the Mayo v. Galway NFL Game on March 2nd in Elverys MacHale Park. (Richie Goggins)

they lost narrowly. The Gaelscoil went on to win the tournament outright. It was a case of “what if” but nevertheless the team is well set up for the main competition after this Easter.

The girls also did very well getting to the semi-final but again losing narrowly to the eventual winners with a lot of the players in the girls’ team part of the Kilmeena U-12 and U-14 squad. The team are very hopeful for the upcoming Cumann na mBunscol competition.

Kilmeena GAA and Carrowholly NS continue to be closely linked with both agencies helping each other to develop the next generation of the Club and School footballers.

The future is bright for both schools and Club in both boys and girls football.

We wish both sets of teams the best of luck in the year ahead and congratulations to the organising committee on this lovely community publication.

SCOIL NÁISIÚNTA CEATHRÚ CHALAIHDH

Peter Carney

This year Carrowholly NS Boys Team were very unlucky to lose in the mini 7s to

Gaelscoil na Cruaiche. Missing 2 of their best players due to family bereavements

PAT MULCHRONE: INTERNATIONAL

The Irish Gaelic Masters played the Australian AFL Masters on Saturday, July 20th, 2019 in the Denn Gaelic Grounds, Cross Keys, Co. Cavan. The Irish squad consisted of two players from each of the 16 Counties that play Gaelic Masters football. Kilmeena Club man, Pat Mulchrone, had the honour of representing Mayo along with Michael Moyles from the Crossmolina club.

The Irish side set out their stall in the first quarter, taking early scores with the unfamiliar oval ball to go into a 12-0 lead. The Australians came back with 4 points to finish the first quarter 12-4. Surprisingly, the AFL Masters managed to compete well with the round ball in the second quarter and were unlucky that a few one-pointers didn't count as overs.

The third quarter was the most competitive with every ball contested. Australia outscored the Irish by 16 points to nine, leaving the score going into the final quarter at 41-26 in favour of the home side.

With a larger panel of players, the Irish team pushed on to finish the final quarter in style racking up an additional 46 points. Australia faded in the last quarter. Their reduced panel of players through injury and some fatigue setting in after a tour which saw them play international test matches in England and France. The Australian captain, Mark Cornish, mentioned in his post-match speech that the generous Irish hospitality over the past few nights might have taken its toll in the final quarter!

The final scoreline read Irish Gaelic Masters 87 Australia AFL Masters 29.



KILMEENA VALENTINE'S DINNER DANCE:

Text: Sarah Hogan; Photos: courtesy of Frank Dolan.

Our annual Kilmeena Valentines Dinner Dance was held earlier this year on Saturday, February 9th in Knockranny House Hotel. As always, the Kilmeena GAA Dinner Dance is an opportunity for our wider community and Club members to socialise and celebrate the fantastic achievements that our parish received throughout the year.

A brilliant night was shared between our Club Members and the community, with the success of the night marking the development our Club has achieved in recent years. The Kilmeena Dinner Dance also acts as an awards evening for our minor and junior teams from both the ladies and mens clubs. The 2018 awards on the night were presented as follows:

Laura Moore was named as our Minor Ladies "Most Improved Player of the Year". The "Cleary Brothers Shield" was awarded to Susannah Horgan as the "Minor Ladies Player of the Year". Su, who is the minor goalkeeper, was credited for her outstanding and crucial performances throughout the year.

Helena Kelly was crowned as our "Junior Ladies Player of the Year". Pete Feehan presented Helena with the shield in memory of his late wife, Noreen. Helena captained our junior team for 2018, which was also her first year playing for Kilmeena Ladies.

Patrick Golden was named as the "Senior Mens Most Improved Player of the Year", for his hard work and dedication to the team. A "Kilmeena Club Certificate of Achievement" was presented to Jack Carney in recognition of his involvement with the Mayo U-17 Panel. "Senior Men's Player of the Year" was awarded to Conor Madden for his outstanding performances for the team throughout the year and his commitment to training and competitive games.

The inaugural "Cillian McDonagh Memorial Players' Player of the Year" was awarded to Niall Feehan. The inaugural "Alan Browne Memorial Minor Player of the Year" was awarded to Niall Mullin. Both awards are dedicated to the memory of our late Club members, Cillian and Alan. The "Barrett Family Memorial Shield" for "Young Player of the Year" was awarded to Kevin Ryder. Kevin was credited for his influential role in securing The "West Mayo Cusack Cup" for the Club alongside his teammates.

Again, a huge congratulations to all our Kilmeena ladies and men who were recognised for their talents and dedication to the Club, which they clearly demonstrated throughout the 2018 season.

Trish Hogan was the recipient of the 2018 "Club Person of the Year" award. She was presented with her trophy by Teresa Smyth, from Midwest Furniture, sponsors of the award. Trish was one of the founding members of our Kilmeena Ladies Club alongside Willie Keaveney and John McDonald. On the night, she was credited for her hard work and dedication to the Club over the previous eight years.

Earlier this year, Trish stepped down as the secretary of the Bord na nÓg and Kilmeena LGFA for the past 10 years, she has also continued in the voluntary role of writing the Mayo News local notes for the Kilmeena and Carrowholly area. Kilmeena GAA Club is very grateful for Trish's commitment to the Club over the past number of years.

Kilmeena GAA Club would like to extend a huge thank you to everyone who made this night so successful, especially the event coordinators and sponsors. Kilmeena GAA would also like to thank our special guests for the night, former Tyrone player Joe MacMahon, Councillor Brendan Mulroy and Councillor Christy Hyland for attending. The 2019 footballing season has now come to an end, which means that the details for the 2020 Kilmeena GAA Dinner Dance are currently under consideration.

Kilmeena GAA are eager to share another brilliant community night with you all, and are even more excited for the 2020 football season to get underway!



Standing L-R: Trish Hogan, Majella O'Malley, Katie Hogan, Fiona Groden, Lisa Smith, Chloe McGing, Nina Mathastein, Róisín Hogan, Sarah Lavelle, Caragh Ryan, Helena Kelly, Sarah Hogan, Dearbhla Grealis, Ava Ryder, Jaimee Geraghty, Laura Moore, Susannah Horgan, Molly Moore, Sarah Mulchrone, Shannon Bourke and Sarah McDonald.
Front Row L-R: David O'Malley, Pat Mulchrone and Michael Moore.



Laura Moore, *Minor Ladies Most Improved Player of the Year*, with her parents, Michael and Bernie



Helena Kelly receives the *Junior Ladies Player of the Year* from Pete Feehan



David O'Malley presents Susannah Horgan with the *Minor Ladies Player of the Year* award



Niall Feehan receives the *Cillian McDonagh Memorial Players' Player of the Year* award from Pete McDonagh



Joe MacMahon presents the inaugural *Alan Browne Memorial Minor Player of the Year* to Niall Mullin



Joe MacMahon and Teresa Smyth present the *Club Person of the Year* award to Trish Hogan



From left: Joe Madden, Mary Madden, Joe MacMahon, Maria Madden, Conor Madden, *Senior Men's Player of the Year*, Darren Madden



Joe MacMahon presents Patrick Golden with the *Senior Mens Most Improved Player of the Year* award

BORD NA NÓG PRESENTATIONS 2019

With special guests **Emma Needham** (Mayo Senior Ladies player) and **Robbie Hennelly** (Mayo Senior goalkeeper)

U-6 AND U-8 GIRLS



Back Row L-R: Emma Needham, Richie Goggins, Maureen Durkan and Robbie Hennelly.
Middle Row L-R: Charley Coyle, Shauna Durkan, Cailín McPhillips, Emily Fahy and Emma Gannon
Front Row L-R: Eleanor Munro, Sadhbh McCawley, Aoife Durkan, Éabha Feehan, Éabha Goggins, Holly Fortune and Elsie Coyne.

U-6 BOYS



Back Row L-R: Pete Lane, Maura Hastings, Robbie Hennelly, Mel King, Emma Needham
Middle Row, left to right: Jack Mulloy, Dylan Duffy, James Lawless.
Front Row L-R: Caolin McLoughlin, Luke Mulloy, Oran McManamon, Zac Walsh, Brendan Smyth and Tommy Cannon.

U-8 BOYS



Back Row L-R: Robbie Hennelly, Ollie Collins, Leonie Martin, Kevin Lawless, Emma Needham.
Middle Row L-R: Adam O'Connell, Rian McManamon, Eoghan Smyth, Michael Gannon, Charlie McLoughlin, Oisín Ryan.
Front Row L-R: Bobby Lane, Cody Coughlan, Joe Durkan, Max Keane, Evan Ryder, Paul Joyce and Ruairi Ryan.

U-10 GIRLS PADDY GOLDEN BLITZ B WINNERS



Back Row L-R: Robbie Hennelly, Mairéad Durkan, manager; Trish Keane, manager; Bernie Jennings, manager; Emma Needham.
Middle Row L-R: Ellie Mai Keane, Keira Kenning, Charley Coyle, Cailín McPhillips and Leah Gavin Walsh.

U-10 BOYS GEARÓID MURPHY MEMORABLE BLITZ WINNERS



Back Row L-R: Robbie Hennelly, Mairéad Durkan, manager; Barry Murphy, manager and Emma Needham.
Middle Row L-R: Lorcan Lane, Felix Zeray, Kevin Hastings, Jamie Durkan, Robbie Murphy, Finn Mulchrone, Luke O'Donnell, Billy Lane.
Front Row L-R: Cian Moran, Dara McDonnell, Liam Quinn, Donnachta McGauley, Noah Coughlan, Jason Feehan, Ryan Cannon and Jason Lawless.

U-12 BOYS PLAYER OF THE YEAR: ORAN GRIMLEY



L-R: Robbie Hennelly, Oisín Grimley, Paddy Grimley, Oran Grimley, Angela Campbell and Emma Needham.

U-12 BOYS



Back Row L-R: Carmel Higgins, Robbie Hennelly, Sean Kenning, Jim Cannon, Mickey Murray, Emma Needham.

Middle Row L-R: Eoghan Cannon, Shane Durkan, Alex Kenning, Alan Gannon, Sean Keane, Rory Kilcoyne, Patrick Feehan and Dean Staunton.

Front Row L-R: Kyle Mulchrone, Aaron Murray, Oran Grimely, Darragh O'Grady and Cormac Slattery.

U-12 GIRLS PLAYER OF THE YEAR: MOIRA FERNANDEZ WALSH



L-R: John Gallagher, manager; Pete Lane, manager; Jannah Walsh (mother), Robbie Hennelly, Moira Fernandez Walsh, Antonio Fernandez (father), Emma Needham, Caragh Ryan, manager and Luanne O'Donnell.

U-13 BOYS PLAYER OF THE YEAR: DECLAN MOORE



Declan with his parents Julie and Peter Moore, also included L-R: Michael Gavin, Robbie Hennelly, Emma Needham and John Doherty, manager.

U-13 GIRLS PLAYER OF THE YEAR: ÉABHA CARNEY



L-R: Robbie Hennelly, Maura Hastings, manager; Éabha Carney, Emma Needham, Davina Carney (mother) and David Ingham.

U-12 GIRLS



Back Row R-L: Pete Lane, Ruby McDonnell, Robbie Hennelly, Catherine Lawless, Carragh Ryan, Ruby Lane, Luanne O'Donnell, Ciara Kelly, John Gallagher, Áine Gallagher, Emma Barrett, Emma Needham and Rachael Needham.

Front Row R-L: Mary Kate Lonergan, Kelsey O'Donnell, Laura O'Grady, Amy Carney, Moira Fernandez Walsh, Laura Ingham, Amy McIntyre-Gibbons and Leah Gavin-Walsh

U-14 GIRLS MAYO COUNTY C AND LEAGUE DIV 4 CHAMPIONS



Back Row L-R: Davina Carney, manager; Ellen Lonergan, Chloe McGlynn, Robbie Hennelly, Ellen O'Toole, Amy Ingham, David Ingham, Manager; Katie Moran, Grace Gibbons, Roisin Moran, Éabha Carney, Aoife Gannon, Emma Needham and Maura Hastings, manager.

Middle Row L-R: Aishling Hoban, Katie Jordan, Roisin Feehan, Aoife Walsh, Lisa Hastings, Muireann Duffy and Abbie Quinn.

Front Row L-R: Niamh McNamara, Laura O'Grady, Amy Carney, Áine Gallagher and Ruby Lane.

U-14 GIRLS PLAYER OF THE YEAR: LISA HASTINGS



L-R: Robbie Hennelly, Maura Hastings, manager and mother of Lisa, Emma Needham, Davina Carney, manager; David Ingham, manager.

U-14 BOYS PLAYER OF THE YEAR: CONOR KELLY



Conor with his parents; Eimear and Joe Kelly. Also L-R: Michael Gavin, manager; Robbie Hennelly, Emma Needham and John Doherty.

U-14 GIRLS

Photo Book of league and championship memories sponsored by Pete Feehan and family



Back Row L-R: David Ingham, manager; Amy Ingham, Ellen O'Toole, Davina Carney, manager; Grace Gibbons, Roisín Moran, Pete Feehan, Photo Book Sponsor; Ellen Lonergan, Catriona Feehan, Aoife Gannon, Katie Moran and Maura Hastings manager.
Front Row L-R: Katie Jordan, Aishling Hoban, Roisín Feehan, Abbie Quinn, Lisa Hastings, Niamh McNamara, Eabha Carney, Muireann Duffy, Chloe McGlynn and Aoife Walsh.

U-15 BOYS PLAYER OF THE YEAR: CIARÁN KILCOYNE



L-R: Robbie Hennelly, Darragh Keaveney, Ciaran Kilcoyne and his mother Carmel, Emma Needham, Padraic Moore, manager; Neil O'Donnell, manager.

U-16 GIRLS



Back Row L-R: Ann Hastings, Robbie Hennelly, Áine Regan, Sarah Gillespie, Rachel Gibbons, Pete Mortimer, Colm Barrett, Geraldine Gibbons, Paul Ryan and Emma Needham.
Front Row L-R: Holly Barrett, Emma Murray, Megan Mulchrone, Abby McGreal, Keeley Hastings, Evie and Flynn.

U-16 GIRLS PLAYER OF THE YEAR: EVIE FLYNN



L-R: Robbie Hennelly, Evie Flynn, Emma Needham and Paula Flynn (mother).

U-14 BOYS



Back Row L-R: Patrick McGlynn, Michael Gavin, Conor Kelly, Lucas Kennedy, Robbie Hennelly, Conor Feehan, Martin Grimlaite, Mike Slattery, Darragh Slattery, Rian Kilcoyne, Conal Gill, Emma Needham, Aodhán Feehan and John Doherty.
Front Row L-R: Donal Hastings, Jack O'Grady, Declan Moore, Danny Cannon, DJ Keane, Micheál Regan, Luke Durkan, Zak Zeray and John Murphy.

U-16 BOYS PLAYER OF THE YEAR: BEN LENNON



Ben pictured with parents Brian and Connie. Also in photograph, Robbie Hennelly, left, and Emma Needham, right.

U-16 MAYO C COUNTY CHAMPIONS



Back Row L-R: Padraic Moore, manager; Harry Sheridan, Ben Lennon, Darragh Slattery, Rory Nolan, Gavin Mulchrone, Robbie Hennelly, County Senior Footballer; Finley Gibbons, Rian Kilcoyne, Neil O'Donnell, Manager; Ciaran Kilcoyne, Emma Needham, Ladies County Senior Footballer; Sean Gallagher, Brian Durkan.
Middle Row L-R: Darragh Keaveney, manager; Jack Walsh, Conor Feehan, Conal Gill, Oisín Grimley, Daniel O'Malley, Cormac Feehan.
Front Row L-R: Adam O'Grady, Colin Hastings, Cillian O'Grady, Jack Mulchrone, Evan O'Donnell and Liam Moore.

U-21 COUNTY CHAMPIONS Division D



Back L-R: John Reilly, manager; James Keane, maor uisce; Davy Feehan, manager; Robbie Hennelly and Emma Needham.
Front Row L-R: John McGlynn, John Keane, Joey Smyth, Keith Joyce, John Ryan, Jack Carney, Kian Moore, Nathan Heanue, Kevin Ryder and Niall Mullin.