



Cumann Báire agus Peile Chaisleán Cnucha

Castleknock Hurling & Football Club



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NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2006



CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS

Teachtaireacht an Cathairleach

A chairde,

Castleknock Hurling and Football Club is a hugely successful, up-and-coming Club and it's an honour and a privilege to be part of it. To get the opportunity to be Chairman gives me enormous pride.

On Friday, 13th January 2006, we had an excellent, very well attended AGM. Naturally, the fantastic news that the Club has secured a "Home of Our Own" beside the Castleknock Hotel and Country Club in Somerton took pride of place. In seven short years we have made enormous strides, thanks in no small way to of our hardworking Grounds Committee (Ciarán Prunty, John Hillery, Vivian Peelo, Jim Healy and John Conway). We also owe a debt of gratitude to our elected politicians in Fingal County Council, and also to the County Manager, John Tierney and Director of Services Senan Turnbull.

Getting the land is a very significant milestone but now a big emphasis on fundraising is needed to build on this success. I know big funds are needed but with combined effort there is no doubt that we can meet our target. If you want to know where to start why not sign up for the Lotto Direct Debit! If you've already signed up why not ask a neighbour an aunt, uncle or a friend to subscribe (Details on page 4). Your financial contribution is an investment in the youth of our Club and an investment in the future of this Community. This is your Club but for it to succeed, it needs your help.

On the playing front we have had great success in the past few years. It's great to see this but we must also be mindful that we don't let the "win at all costs" mentality become prevalent. As Chairman I want to lead a Club where every juvenile member, boys and girls, are given a chance to develop their skills and where the Club provides them with hours of happiness and enjoyment.

I wish to thank the outgoing Executive and my predecessor John V. Hillery, as well as the first Chairman Fergus Hamill. There is no doubt that John and his team have done unbelievable work for the Club over the last few years.

Finally, I will give this job everything. I believe passionately that working with all the players, mentors, supporters and parents we will achieve greater success both on and off the field in the coming years. This is a great Club because of the efforts of so many, the Players, the Mentors, the Executive and all our Supporters. Let's keep it going!

Up Castleknock!

Mick Lynch
Cathaoirleach

"A HOME OF OUR OWN"

Following successful negotiations between Fingal County Council and Castleknock Hurling and Football Club, agreement has been reached whereby a long term lease agreement has been entered into in respect of prime amenity lands at Somerton, Castleknock, adjacent to the Castleknock Hotel & Country Club. Following initial approval by the Castleknock/Mulhuddart Area Committee meeting on 5th January 2006, the proposal was put before a full meeting of Fingal County Council held on Monday 9th January and was unanimously approved.

This positive outcome is the result of six years endeavour by a very pro-active committee with the close co-operation of all local elected public representatives. The decision to give the "green light" to Castleknock Hurling & Football Club is a hugely significant milestone in the development of the Club and duly recognises the important role the Club plays in the sporting and recreational life of the Dublin 15 community.

The Executive & members of Castleknock Hurling & Football Club are deeply appreciative of the collective efforts and support of the members of Fingal County Council and in particular County Manager, John Tierney and Director of Services for Community Parks and Recreation, Senan Turnbull.

The Club's immediate priority will be to proceed with the development of much-needed playing pitches on the designated site and plans have already been submitted to Fingal County Council outlining the Club's proposals in this regard. Whilst Fingal County Council have made a multi-million euro investment in acquiring the amenity designated lands, the Club intend investing a comparable figure in bringing the project to fruition over the coming years. This is both an exciting and challenging time for Castleknock Hurling & Football Club and we look forward to bringing the project to fruition in the years ahead.



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Adult Section Sponsor

2005 CLUB SUCCESSES

- ◆ Adult Footballers win Junior B Championship Final
- ◆ Adult Footballers win Dardis Cup
- ◆ Both Adult Football Teams reach League Promotion Play-offs
- ◆ Adult Hurlers reach Championship Semi-Final and reach League Final
- ◆ U15 Hurlers win League
- ◆ U14 Girls win Féile Shield
- ◆ U14 Boys win Football Championship Final
- ◆ U13 Boys win Gormanstown indoor Hurling Competition
- ◆ U12A Hurlers win Division 1 Dublin League
- ◆ U11 and U12s reach Camaint Hurling Competition for boys final
- ◆ Summer Camps - two hurling and two football were a magnificent success
- ◆ 300 Juvenile Members at Medal Presentaion in Castleknock Hotel & Country Club in April
- ◆ Numerous Inter-County representatives both boys and girls
- ◆ Trips organised to Croke Park, Longford, Cork, Ballymore Eustace and Portlaoise
- ◆ Highly successful Spring Ball - 400 in attendance
- ◆ Oiche Gaelach Family Night in Westmanstown a big success
- ◆ Enjoyable Summer Barbeque held in Castleknock Hotel & Country Club
- ◆ Golf Society held several enjoyable outings throughout the year
- ◆ Over 300 juveniles at U10's Christmas Party in CCC
- ◆ Well attended Pub Quiz in the Carpenter
- ◆ Successful Bag Pack in Tesco
- ◆ Golf Classic in Hollystown - a great success for the Club
- ◆ Juvenile Hurlathon with Erins Isle was a tremendous success
- ◆ Barbara O'Neill appointed Irish Officer to the Dublin County Board
- ◆ Win Dublin Scór Sinsear in Ballad and Recitation Sections
- ◆ Ballad Group win Dublin Scór na nÓg title and represent the Club in the Leinster Final
- ◆ John Hillery was again appointed as Dublin Ladies County Board Chairperson
- ◆ Dáire O'Neill appointed as new Games Promotion Officer
- ◆ New enthusastic Mentors at underage level
- ◆ By far the biggest achievement was the participation of 700 juveniles, 200 adult members and many many volunteers who played and worked for the Club in 2005.

JOHN HILLERY STEPS DOWN AS CHAIRMAN AFTER FOUR YEARS

It has been an honour and privilege to serve as Chairman of Castleknock Hurling & Football Club. Having guided the Club through a period of phenominal growth since first elected back in 2001 to succeed my predecessor and founder Chairman, Fergus Hamill, I now hand over the responsibilities to my successor, Mick Lynch, proud of the many memorable achievements over the years.

Indeed, there have been numerous significant milestones throughout the years, all of which you, the members of Castleknock Hurling & Football Club can be justifiably proud. The Club is a beacon of energy and light within the network of Clubs in Dublin, demonstrating what can be achieved in a remarkably short period. Our progress has been observed with both admiration and amazement from many quarters both within Gaelic circles and wider afield.

Our foresight and initiative in establishing a Nursery structure, long before the concept gained widespread popularity is testimony to the calibre of enthusiastic volunteers and mentors with whom I was fortunate to have the opportunity of working closely with over the years.

The Club, which in essence is community based, draws strength from the links forged between local community and Club. This collaboration has served us well and I would encourage my successor to continue with this policy. Community based initiatives, e.g. our support of the Dublin 15 Hospice Movement is a shining example of such solidarity achieving positive outcome within the community. Our strong links with the Primary & Post-Primary Schools in our catchment area has also paid rich dividends and with the resources invested developing Gaelic Games will be beneficial in the long term.

Our sponsorship partnership with the Premier Credit Union and the Castleknock Hotel & Country Club are important ingredients which alleviate the costs associated with running both our Juvenile and Adult Sections.

Capturing the sentiment and the wishes of our membership, I set out on a course which I had been involved with prior to my appointment as Chairman back in 2001 and that was to increase the momentum behind the quest to secure a home of our own in Castleknock. This has been a long and painstaking process which has finally paid dividends, the outcome of which you are all familiar from the breaking news earlier this week which confirmed that the Club secured a significant area of prime land from Fingal County Council in an ideal location.

I wish to express my gratitude to my colleagues on the CHFC Grounds Committee, Ciaran Prunty, Vivian Peelo, John Conway and Jim Healy. I would also like to acknowledge the earlier contribution of my predecessor, Fergus Hamill and the assistance of Kevin Nolan in the very early stages of the process. Our appreciation to Vincent Kiernan and Rúairi O'Dulaing for their assistance with key elements of the project.

We are indebted to all the local elected public representatives for their constant support. Our gratitude to Fingal co. Manager, John Tierney and the Director of Services, Community, Recreation and Amenities Department, Senan Turnbull for their support of the project.

We now embark on a critical stage of the development of the project and I plan to remain on the Grounds Committee to deliver a 'state-of-the-art' development. I personally had set a target date that would see the development of the facilities at an advanced stage by the 10th anniversary of

Our Club would not be to the forefront of sporting endeavour within our community were it not for the huge commitment and dedication of all our team mentors. I express to you our appreciation for all you do to promote Gaelic Games within our Club and community at large. Our success would be modest without your enthusiasm and commitment. We are deeply indebted to you for your loyal and steadfast contribution.

I consider myself very fortunate that my extended term in the Chair has been assisted in great measure by the calibre of individuals who have served on our Executive Committee over the years. I wish to pay tribute to each and every one for their diligence and support. Our Vice-Chairman, Mick Lynch who has been a source of steadfast support throughout the years. Previous and current Secretary's who have served with me, John Conway and Vivian Peelo, Treasurers, past and present, Jim Healy and Charlie Spillane both of whom deeply appreciate the valuable assistance of Eamonn Connor and the work over the years of our Juvenile Chairman, Ciaran Prunty, our Registrar, Laura Donoghue, our P.R. & Communications team of Tony Nulty and David Leydon.

I wish to congratulate my Executive colleague, Barbara O'Neill on her appointment as Irish Language Officer of the Dublin Co. Board and to compliment my colleague, Joe Murray who has served as Co. Board Delegate on behalf of the Club. Our founder member, Johnny Corcoran and our Adult Section representative, Donal Cunningham. Beyond that immediate Executive team, a whole entourage of capable and competent volunteers provide valuable service in the daily running of this vibrant Club. Our Lotto team who have worked tirelessly every Thursday throughout the years to promote our Club and generate much needed income for our future development. I compliment the valuable contribution of the Cultural & Creative artistic dimension to our Club in the form of Scór for juvenile and adults alike, under the direction of Barbara O'Neill, Christmas Juvenile and adult parties, our Spring Ball committee, with Cairtiona Prunty and Olive Hillery, our Golf Classic committee of Mick Lynch and Charlie Spillane. Our Summer Camps, under the direction of Michael Wylie, John O'Sullivan and newly appointed G.P.O.

Officer, Daire O'Neill. Our Club Shop team of Geraldine & Tara O'Reilly, Phil Shannon and Mary Corcoran. Our Club Fixtures Co-Ordinator, Mick Geraghty and our groundsman, Joe Coyle. Club merchandise has been managed superbly down through the years by Kevin Hogan.

My gratitude to Peter Bates who assisted me with the management of the Castleknock Ladies Minor Team. My thanks to Martina Reidy and Celine Valentine, joint secretaries of Castleknock Ladies Committee which I served as Chairperson. Congratulations to all our managers, mentors, players, parents and supporters who brought such pride to this Club.

During my term as Chairman of Castleknock Hurling & Football Club, I also served as County Board Chairman, Dublin Ladies Football, a challenging and indeed fulfilling role which I still undertake, presiding over a period of unparalleled growth in membership numbers and inter-county success. I have been involved in managing Dublin teams for a number of years and it continues to be a source of great satisfaction particularly when members of our Club secure Provincial and All-Ireland medals for Dublin and in so doing bring pride and distinction to this Club.

In conclusion, as I step down as Chairman of Castleknock Hurling & Football Club, I wish you to be all aware that it would have been impossible for me to achieve the level of success had it not been for the tremendous support, patience and understanding of my wife, Olive and family Lorna, Sandra and Baz who I owe my deep appreciation and affection.

I wish my successor, Mick Lynch and the incoming Executive committee every success in the future.

Slán libh go foill agus beannacht Dé oraibh go léir.

John Hillery

JUVENILE CHRISTMAS PARTY 2005



300 Juvenile members and their friends attended the annual Castleknock Hurling & Football Club Juvenile Christmas Party which was held on Saturday, 10th December in Castleknock Community College.

The sweets and goodies went down a treat as the children watched the excellent entertainment provided by the Wacky Entertainers. Club Coach, Daire O'Neill then took charge for the "heads and tails" game with a top prize of a boys and girls bicycle. Congratulations to Laura Mullins and Mustafa Said who won the bikes on the day.

When the party came to a close, each child went home with a small present which was handed out by our very own versions of Santa, Ollie Coffey and Brian Hogan.

The juvenile party is a small way for the Club to thank all of its juvenile members for their efforts during the year. Their efforts on the sporting field and also their behaviour at the party were a credit to the Club.

A big thank you to the parents of the Under 9 boys who organized the party, Catherine Troy who was the main organiser, Mary McDonald and Linda McDonald who helped decorate the hall, Kieran Kelly who organized the bikes and Martin Cleary who was 'bouncer' for the day. Thanks also to Paul and Mark Prunty who helped the ladies put out the tables and chairs and Jim Mahony, John O'Sullivan, Nick Boland and Terry Mullins who cleaned up afterwards.



NOTICE BOARD

DÁTAÍ DON DIALANN

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- ⇒ Juvenile AGM - Monday 23rd January, 2006 - Kavanaghs at 8p.m.
- ⇒ Fundraising Meeting - Monday 30th January - Church of Ireland Hall , Castleknock at 7.30 p.m.
- ⇒ Pub Quiz in the Bell - Tuesday 31st January 2006
- ⇒ Spring Ball - Castleknock Hotel & Country Club - Saturday 11th February 2006

HELMETS ARE COMPULSORY

Please note that with effect from 1st January 2006, that it is mandatory for all players up to and including U21 Grade to wear a helmet with a facial guard in all hurling games and training sessions. This decision was taken at congress in April 2005.

LOTTO

Please consider subscribing to the Club Lotto Direct Debit. Forms are available in the Club Shop or on our Website: www.castleknock.net

SCÓR

Good Luck to our Scór na nÓg Ballad Group who are competing in the Leinster Final in Laois on Saturday, 21st January!

Scór Sinsear will take place in early February - all those interested in taking part please Contact Barbara as soon as possible at 086 3782419!

FUNDRAISING BRAINSORMING SESSION

- ◇ Brainstorming meeting to come up with fundraising ideas for the year ahead
- ◇ We will then prioritise and agree which ones we will focus on
- ◇ We will agree a schedule of events for the year ahead
- ◇ We will look for people to volunteer their help with specific fundraising events
- ◇ All ideas and people welcome
- ◇ Monday 30th January - Church of Ireland Hall, Castleknock
- ◇ Meeting will start at 7.30 p.m. and will be over by 9.00 p.m

LOTTO NUMBERS AND RESULTS FOR DECEMBER 2005

THE CARPENTER

JACKPOT €1,200 — *NO JACKPOT WINNER* — 1st December 2006

1 8 9 14

Eleven "Match 3" Winners each receiving €30

Grace Aherne, Tom Bailey, Miriam Dunne, Vincent Kiernan, Neil McDermott, Carol O'Neill, Suzanne Langan, Brian Comerford, Colm Ward, Mick Geraghty, Joan Smith

THE BELL

JACKPOT €1,400 — *NO JACKPOT WINNER* — 8th December 2006

2 10 22 25

Six "Match 3" Winners each receiving €50

Pat Comerford, John Keogh, Ciaran Prunty, Bill Dolan, Mary Darcy, Noelle O'Shea

MYOS

JACKPOT €1,600 — *NO JACKPOT WINNER* — 15th December 2006

4 8 14 21

Seven "Match 3" Winners each receiving €45

Deirdre Hughes, Emma Lowe, Carmel Lennon, Alan Sheedy, Frances Ruane, Ciara Shine, Jim Boggin

BRADYS

JACKPOT €1,800 — *NO JACKPOT WINNER* — 22nd December 2006

4 8 13 16

Fifteen "Match 3" Winners each receiving €20

Damien Mahon, Neil McDermott, Geraldine Nulty, Barbara O'Neill, John O'Sullivan, Desmond Quinn, D. O'Leary, Farmer Brats, K. O'Shaughnessy, Rory O'Brien, Joan Smith, TC Hickey, Monica c/o Bell, Jillion O'Connor,