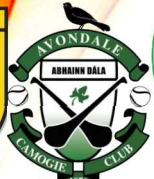




Featuring everything in 2022 for the Wicklow GAA, Camogie, LGFA Club and County fan it's the

# Yearbook

# 2022



GAA



Yearbook

2022

# 2022 a year in review in Wicklow GAA

We begin our 2022 review with a look back at our most important competitions in terms of games and that is the Club Championships and we will then look back to our County teams.

## County Championships 2022

Thank you to all our sponsors for the continued support for all our championships. Thanks to May and Therese for playing the bag pipes at all our adult finals. Thanks to all the Clubs and Team management for their cooperation. Our Championship launch was held on 11th July in Echelon Park Aughrim, we were delighted to have the Ladies and Camogie launch on the same night.

## Boom & Platform Hire Senior Football Championship.

Once again, another competitive year with some great games. Our Quarter finals saw Baltinglass beat Avondale, An Tochar beat 2021 champions Blessington, AGB beat Bray Emmets and St Patrick's beat Rathnew. Semi-finals were closely contested Baltinglass 2-11 An Tochar 2-9 and St Patrick's 1-15 AGB 2-8. Due to parking issues in 2021, it was decided to hold the Senior Final on its own. Once again between these teams it was nip and tuck St Patrick's 1-10 Baltinglass 1-8. It was on to Leinster Club where St Patrick's played Palatine Carlow in Netwatch Cullen Park on 22nd October which was also live on TV at 8pm, unfortunately it was not their night and lost 2-14 to 0-8.



## Senior Football Champions 2022 St. Patricks Wicklow Town

## Darcy Sand Intermediate Football Championship

Some great local derbys played in the early stages of our championship. Our Quarter Finals saw Eire Og Greystones beat Coolkenno, Hollywood beat Ballymanus, Kilcoole beat Carnew and Annacurra beat Newtown. Semi Finals Eire og 4-15 Kilcoole 0-11 and Annacurra 1-13 Hollywood 1-11. Another

close final saw Eire Og Greystones victorious on score line Eire Og 0-11 Annacurra 1-4. Eire Og played Fenagh Carlow in Carlow College 22nd October and won on score line Eire Og Greystones 1-14 Fenagh 0-6. It was on to Quarter Final on Sat 5th Nov in Enniscorthy to take on St Mogues Fethard and unfortunately goals win matches and they were defeated on score line 1-11 to 0-11. St Mogues Fethard won the final last weekend.



## Intermediate Football Champions 2022 Eire Og Greystones

## Fitzgerald Kitchens Junior A Football Championship

At Quarter final stage we saw Blessington defeat Shillelagh – Coolboy, Aughrim beat Rathnew, Ashford beat AGB and Laragh beat Baltinglass. In the semi-finals Laragh had too much for Aughrim, Laragh 1-17 Aughrim 2-8, the other semi-final came down to the wire with Blessington winning 1-

13 to 3-9. The final was exciting both teams working very hard, but Laragh were sharper and won 1-10 to 0-9. Laragh took on Amsterdam in their 1st round Leinster Club in Baltinglass winning 3-9 to 2-9 a great day for the Club. Sat 5th Nov was the Quarter final where they were home again in Echelon Park Aughrim, but unfortunately, they met a good side Castletown of Meath, and lost 2-19 to 0-7, Castletown went on to win the final last week.



**Junior A Football Champions 2022 Laragh**

## Philip Doyle Junior B Football Championship

The championship was in group format once again. Quarter finals Tinahely beat Hollywood, Eire Og Greystones beat Avoca, Baltinglass beat Avondale and Bray Emmets beat An Tochar. Semi Finals

Tinahely were too strong for Baltinglass and won 1-15 to 1-6, while the other semi-final was a lot closer Bray Emmets beating Eire Og Greystones 0-8 to 0-6. The final was very entertaining and nip and tuck to the end, Bray Emmets taking the title, Bray Emmets 2-12 Tinahely 3-8.



**Junior B Football Champions 2022 Bray Emmets**

## Arklow Bay Junior C Football Championship

The Junior C was also in group format. Once again, some great games took place in the group but at semi-final stage it was Blessington 1-9 Ashford 0-7

and Donard The Glen 2-16 Annacura 1-13. The final was very close and it looked like Blessington were taking the cup but Donard The Glen were not giving up and in the last kick of the game they found a gap in the net to claim the title, Donard The Glen 1-8 Blessington 0-10.



**Junior C Football Champions 2022 Donard The Glen**

## Junior D Football Championship

Group format for the Junior D again after its success in 2021. Semi-final stage saw Tinahely beat Barndarrig in a very close game 2-11 to 2-10 and

Eire Óg Greystones 2-9 Vallemount 1-6. In the final Eire Og Greystones had a lot of scoring power up front and won on score line Eire Og Greystones 2-12 Tinahely 0-5.



**Junior D Football Champions 2022 Eire Og Greystones**

## Keating Trophy

The final took place in Blessington where Tinahely won 2-13 to Kiltegan 1-9.

## U19 Football Championship

CCC started the U19 Football championship beginning of November there has been some great games played, and unfortunately some walkovers have also been given. In The A semi-finals both went to extra time in dreadful weather conditions, An Tochar 4-11 Blessington 5-10, and St Nicholas 1-15 Eire Og Greystones 2-11. The final An Tochar v St Nicholas is fixed for Sunday 11th Dec. In the B championship Rathnew beat Aughrim in a close encounter, Rathnew 1-10 Aughrim 2-6, and

Michael Dywers 0-6 Michael Hogans 0-2, The final will see Rathnew and Michael Dwyers played on Sunday 11th Dec. In the C championship Pearse Gaels unfortunately had no team to play St Patrick's and Carnew beat Kilcoole 3-7 to 2-9. The final was played on Saturday 3rd Dec in Arklow well done to Carnew who took the title Carnew 1-8 St Patrick's 2-3. Well done to all the Clubs for their cooperation, I know some clubs would like to see this in better weather, but with adult games and clash with players it is difficult, maybe a discussion will take place for 2023.



**U19 Football A Champions 2022 An Tóchar**

## Lightning Protection Ireland Senior Hurling Championship

The format for the 7 teams was 2 groups Grp 1 Bray Emmets, Carnew, Eire Og Greystones & Avondale with Bray finishing 1st and Carnew 2nd. Then Grp 2 consists of Glenealy, Kiltegan and St Patrick's with Glenealy finishing 1st and Kiltegan 2nd. The semi-finals saw Bray Emmets 1-19 Kiltegan 1-11 and Glenealy 2-16 Carnew 0-12. The final was a thrilling game and Glenealy were making it difficult for Bray Emmets to get their 5 in a row, the final ended in a draw Bray Emmets 0-16 Glenealy 0-16. In the replay Bray Emmets were fighting very hard to record 5 titles in a row and did so on score line Bray Emmets 2-16 to Glenealy 2-8.

LIGHTNING PROTECTION IRELAND  
**SENIOR HURLING CHAMPIONSHIP '22**  
**FINAL - REPLAY**

**Glenn-Fhaidhle**  
**Cumann Iománaíochta**

**Emmet Bhre**

**RESULT**  
**2:08 | 2:16**  
**GLENEALY v BRAY EMMETS**  
**Sat. 1st October | 3:30pm | Aughrim**

#OfficialWicklowGAA | #LPIGroup



## Bray Emmets 2022 Wicklow Senior & Leinster Intermediate Champions

It was on to Leinster Club Championship where Carlow Town HC pulled out of the competition so a walkover to the Quarter Final. Bray Emmets took on Abbeyleix St Lazarians in Echelon Park Aughrim on Sat 12th Nov a very tight game and a late free ensured Bray Emmets a place in the Leinster Semi-finals. Sat 26th Nov approached and Bray Emmets have worked hard in the mean time for their semi-final where Naomh Barróg were the visitors to

Echelon Park Aughrim. Bray Emmets were in control and won on score line 0-14 to 0-7. They made history for the Club, when they defeated Trim of Meath in the Leinster Intermediate Hurling Final on Sat 10th Dec in Bray on a scoreline of 0-17 to 0-11. The played Monaleen, Limerick in the All Ireland semi-final but after a gallant effort two quick goals for Monaleen near the end of the game secured the win for the Limerick side, 2-19 to 0-20.

## Lightning Protection Ireland Intermediate Hurling Championship

The format was also two groups, Grp 1 Kilcoole, Carnew, ARP & Barndarrig with Kilcoole finishing 1st and Carnew 2 nd, in Grp 2 Bray Emmets, Western Gaels and Glenealy with Bray Emmets finishing 1st and Western Gaels 2nd. The semi-finals saw Kilcoole 1-9 Western Gaels 0-9 and Bray Emmets 3-20 Carnew 2-16. Bray Emmets in to another final where their opponents were Kilcoole. Bray Emmets were far too strong for Kilcoole and led throughout the game which finished Bray Emmets 3-15 to Kilcoole 0-10. Due to rules, it was Kilcoole who would play in the Leinster Junior Club Championship. They took on Amsterdam at home at won on score line 1-13 to 1-11, a great result. They travelled to Darvar for their next game and unfortunately St Fechins proved too strong and they were beaten 1-18 to 1-6.

LIGHTNING PROTECTION IRELAND  
**INTERMEDIATE HURLING CHAMPIONSHIP '22**  
**FINAL**

 **v** 

**RESULT**  
**3-15 v 0-10**  
**BRAY EMMETS v KILCOOLE**  
 Sunday 25th | 1:30pm | Aughrim

 #OfficialWicklowGAA | #LPIGroup 

## Lightning Protection Ireland Junior Hurling Championship

The Junior A Championship semi-finals St Patrick's 4-16 Bray Emmets 1- 7 and Aughrim 6-18 Kiltegan 1-11. Aughrim and St Patrick's contested the final with Aughrim being too strong for St Patrick's to win on score line Aughrim 5-18 to St Patrick's 4-5. The beaten semi-finalist in Junior A Hurling Kiltegan and Bray Emmets contest the Junior B Hurling Championship with Kiltegan taking the title on score line 2-10 to 0-6. The Junior C semi-

finals took place Eire Og Greystones 4-12 ARP 2-14 and Avondale 0-15 Knockannana 1-4. Avondale and Eire Og Greystones played a very tight final which was nip and tuck throughout, but it was Avondale who took the title on score line 1-15 to 1-13. The CCC decided to promote hurling and give the beaten Junior C semi-finalists another game in The Junior D final ARP took on Knockannana and this game was a cracker for both teams and the winner was decided in the closing minutes Knockannana 1-8 ARP 1-7.

Yuasa Battery & Somora Motor Parts sponsors of Wicklow GAA Intercounty hurling teams

### JUNIOR A HURLING CHAMPIONSHIP '22

## FINAL




**RESULT**

**5-18** **4-05**

**AUGHRIM v ST. PATRICK'S WICKLOW TOWN**

**Saturday 24th | 5:00pm | Aughrim**

#OfficialWicklowGAA | #PoweringWhatMatters

Yuasa Battery & Somora Motor Parts sponsors of Wicklow GAA Intercounty hurling teams

### JUNIOR B HURLING CHAMPIONSHIP '22

## FINAL




**RESULT**

**0-06** **2-10**

**BRAY EMMETS v KILTEGAN**

**Saturday 24th | 3:00pm | Aughrim**

#OfficialWicklowGAA | #PoweringWhatMatters

Yuasa Battery & Somora Motor Parts sponsors of Wicklow GAA Intercounty hurling teams

### JUNIOR C HURLING CHAMPIONSHIP '22

## FINAL




**RESULT**

**1-15** **1-13**

**Avondale v Eire Óg Greystones**


**Sat 1st October | 5:00pm | Pearses Park, Arklow**

#OfficialWicklowGAA | #PoweringWhatMatters

Yuasa Battery & Somora Motor Parts sponsors of Wicklow GAA Intercounty hurling teams

### JUNIOR D HURLING CHAMPIONSHIP '22

## FINAL




**FULL TIME**

**1-07 | 1-08**

**Arklow Rock Parnell V Knockannana**

**Sat 1st October | 1:30pm | Aughrim**

#OfficialWicklowGAA | #PoweringWhatMatters



# Inter County Football

We started with disappointment as Covid was still doing the rounds and a walkover was given to Meath in the first round of the O Byrne Cup. But we got back with full squad and took on Wexford in Bray and won 1-11 to 1-7. The final game was against Laois in Crettyard where we were beaten 2-14 to 1-11.

## Div 3 Allianz Football League

We commenced our league campaign Sat 30th January away to Westmeath we were defeated 1-16 to 2-8.

Team: Mark Jackson, Patrick O' Keane, Nicky Devereux, Eoin Murtagh, Andy Maher, Niall Donnelly, Zach Cullen, Dean Healy, Pádraig O' Toole, Craig Maguire, Mark Kenny, Darragh Fitzgerald, Rory Stokes, Kevin Quinn, Paul Cunningham; Shane Doyle, Dave Devereux, Malachy Stone, Eoin Darcy, Jamie Snell, JP Hurley, Conor Byrne, Oisín Cullen, Cillian McDonald, Oisín McGraynor, Arran Murphy.

The remaining games were Wicklow 1-10 Fermanagh 2-7.

Team: Mark Jackson, Patrick O' Keane, Nicky Devereux, Malachy Stone, Andy Maher, Niall Donnelly, Darragh Fitzgerald, Dean Healy, Pádraig O' Toole, Eoin Murtagh, Paul Cunningham, Mark Kenny, Arran Murphy, Kevin Quinn, Eoin Darcy; Robert Lambert, Tom Burke, Jamie Snell, Craig Maguire, Dave Devereux, Zach Cullen, JP Hurley, Rory Stokes, Oisín Cullen, Oisín McGraynor, Eddie Doyle.

Antrim 2-10 Wicklow 1-7

Team: Shane Doyle, Patrick O' Keane, Jamie Snell, Malachy Stone, Zach Cullen, Niall Donnelly, Eoin Murtagh, Dean Healy, Pádraig O' Toole, Andy Maher, Mark Kenny, Darragh Fitzgerald, Oisín McGraynor, Kevin Quinn, Eoin Darcy; Robert

Lambert, Nicky Devereux, Tom Moran, Rory Stokes, Conall Ó Gallchobhair, Arran Murphy, Christopher O' Brien, JP Hurley, Alan Dillon, Dave Devereux, Craig Maguire.

Wicklow 1-9 Limerick 1-13

Team: Shane Doyle, Patrick O' Keane, Malachy Stone, Nicky Devereux, Zach Cullen, Niall Donnelly, Eoin Murtagh, Dean Healy, Pádraig O' Toole, Andy Maher, Mark Kenny, Darragh Fitzgerald, Oisín McGraynor, Kevin Quinn, Eoin Darcy; Robert Lambert, Jamie Snell, Tom Moran, Dave Devereux, JP Hurley, Conall Ó Gallchobhair, Rory Stokes, Arran Murphy, Craig Maguire, Paul Cunningham, Cillian McDonald.

Wicklow 0-8 Laois 1-17

Team: Mark Jackson, Patrick O' Keane, Jamie Snell, Nicky Devereux, Andy Maher, Zach Cullen, Eoin Murtagh, Dean Healy, Pádraig O' Toole, JP Hurley, Eoin Darcy, Darragh Fitzgerald, Alan Dillon, Rory Stokes, Kevin Quinn; Shane Doyle, Malachy Stone, Fintan O' Shea, Conall Ó Gallchobhair, Arran Murphy, Oisín Cullen, Craig Maguire, Mark Kenny, Paul Cunningham, Tom Burke.

Longford 2-13 Wicklow 0-20

Team: Mark Jackson, Patrick O' Keane, Jamie Snell, Nicky Devereux, Andy Maher, Zach Cullen, Eoin Murtagh, Dean Healy, Pádraig O' Toole, JP Hurley, Eoin Darcy, Darragh Fitzgerald, Alan Dillon, Rory Stokes, Kevin Quinn; Shane Doyle, Malachy Stone, Fintan O' Shea, Conall Ó Gallchobhair, Arran Murphy, Oisín Cullen, Cillian McDonald, Mark Kenny, Dan Cooney, Paul Cunningham, Tom Moran.

Wicklow 1-13 Louth 2-17.

We play Div 4 this year.

## Leinster Senior Football

### Championship

Our manager Colin Kelly stood down following our Limerick game due to work commitments, selectors Alan Costello and Gary Duffy agreed to be joint managers for the remaining league games and championship to which we and players were very happy with. Following the disappointment of our league campaign the lads re grouped for the Leinster championship.

Our first round was 24th April where we would play host to Laois, not forgetting our league result where they beat us by 12 points. The lads fought from the very start and worked hard throughout the game, things were going to plan and we recorded a win on score line 5-15 to 4-12.

Team: Mark Jackson, Malachy Stone, Patrick O' Keane, Tom Moran, Nicky Devereux, Andy Maher, Zach Cullen, Pádraig O' Toole, JP Hurley, Rory Stokes, Dean Healy, Darragh Fitzgerald, Mark Kenny, Kevin Quinn, Eoin Darcy, Shane Doyle, Jack Treacy, Conall Ó Gallchobhair, Noel Mulhall, Jack Kirwan, Arran Murphy, Oisín Cullen, Matthew Traynor, Christopher O' Brien, Mark Cullen, Oisín McGraynor.

The Quarter Final was next up and we would play Meath in Páirc Tailteann on Sunday 1st May, the game was not going our way but the lads never gave up but we were defeated 4-13 to 1-12.

Team: Mark Jackson, Malachy Stone, Patrick O' Keane, Tom Moran, Nicky Devereux, Andy Maher,

## Leinster U20 Football

### Championship

We had reached the final of The O Connor Cup having been defeated by Clare, this was tough on the lads as they had beaten Clare away the previous week, so two trips was hard. It was time to prepare for our championship for 7th April, our visitors to Baltinglass were Westmeath and we went in to the game having trained well, and were

Zach Cullen, Pádraig O' Toole, JP Hurley, Rory Stokes, Dean Healy, Darragh Fitzgerald, Mark Kenny, Kevin Quinn, Eoin Darcy, Shane Doyle, Jack Treacy, Conall Ó Gallchobhair, Noel Mulhall, Jack Kirwan, Arran Murphy, Oisín Cullen, Matthew Traynor, Christopher O' Brien, Mark Cullen, Oisín McGraynor.

So next up was The Tailteann Cup were we hosted Waterford in a prelim round on 21st May the lads put the defeat of Meath behind them and we started very well and finished very strong and won 3-16 to Waterford 1-10.

Team: Mark Jackson, Malachy Stone, Patrick O' Keane, Tom Moran, Nicky Devereux, Zach Cullen, Oisín Cullen, JP Hurley, Pádraig O' Toole, Arran Murphy, Dean Healy (C), Darragh Fitzgerald, Mark Kenny, Kevin Quinn, Eoin Darcy; Robert Lambert, Jack Treacy, Rory Stokes, Jacques McCall, Jack Kirwan, Matthew Traynor, Mark Cullen, Oisín McGraynor, Noel Mulhall, Christopher O' Brien, Shane Doyle.

We had Offaly in Round 1 in Tullamore. We started well and were competitive, but we could not match Offaly on the score board and lost 0-18 to 0-10.

Team: Mark Jackson, Malachy Stone, Patrick O' Keane, Tom Moran, Nicky Devereux, Zach Cullen, Oisín Cullen, Pádraig O' Toole, JP Hurley, Rory Stokes, Dean Healy (C), Arran Murphy, Mark Kenny, Kevin Quinn, Eoin Darcy; Robert Lambert, Jack Treacy, Paul Cunningham, Oisín McGraynor, Jack Kirwan, Mark Cullen, Eoin Murtagh, Christopher O' Brien, Noel Mulhall, Jacques McCall, Shane Doyle.

well prepared. The lads took to the field but we Westmeath started the better but we soon got in to the game and led 1-9 to 1-5 at half time. Westmeath had the better of the second half and approaching added time they led by 2 points, we had some disappointing play in the second half, then Westmeath sealed their win with a late goal the score line Westmeath 4-12 Wicklow 2-13.

## Leinster Minor Football Championship

We were in a group with Carlow and Wexford. We had a Bye in round 1 and took on Wexford on 2nd April where we were victorious on score line 2-13 to 0-5, round 3 saw Carlow travel to Echelon Park Aughrim for top of the group we again came out with the win 1-12 to 3-4. On 27th April we played Westmeath in the prelim QF this was a tight game and won 2-9 to 2-8. All was going to plan for all the lads. The Quarter Final took place away to Longford on 4th May this game was nip and tuck throughout and we were heading to the Leinster Semi Final having beaten Longford 0-8 to 0-6. We

## Inter County Hurling

Our senior hurlers campaign started off the year playing in the Kehoe Cup Shield our first game they made the trip to Longford where we recording a win, score a 1-20 to 1-10 ,up next was Louth who made the trip to Echelon Park Aughrim in what was a deciding game for the shield and after a hard fought game Wicklow emerged victorious to land a 1-19 to 0-15 win for our young team.

Team: Cian Staunton, Bryan Kearney, Michael Mangan, Martin O' Brien (C), James Byrne, Ciarán Breen, Jacques McCall, Shaun Cranley, Brandon Ryan, John Toomey, Seanie Germaine, John Doyle, Torna Mulconry, George O' Brien, Kieran Conway; Robert Fitzgerald, Ciarán Harmon, Mark Murphy, Shane Browne, Tommy Collins, Aaron Byrne, John Young, Tom O' Brien, Andy O' Brien, Bill O' Brien.

## Allianz National Hurling League

The opening round of the Allianz National hurling league Div 2B saw the side make the trip to Mayo Following a great battle the sides finished level on a score of 2-15 each which was a good all round team performance.

had to travel to Newbridge to take on Kildare, but the games each week took its toll on the lads but they fought to the end as we were defeated 2-18 to 0-10.

Team: Mark Shannon, Callum Clarke, Leo Byrne, James Fleming, Adam Kinsella, James Boland, James Healy, Gearóid Murphy, Aaron O' Brien, Joe McGuckian, Jack Kenny, Páidí Kavanagh, Éanna Nolan, Alex Kavanagh, Cian Deering; Ciarán Lambert, Finn Byrne, Maurice Hedderman, Conall Butler, Seán Byrne, Ross Sheridan, Jack Bookle, Brian Hurley, Charlie Graham, Adam Prunty, Ciarán Kelly, Daragh Heffernan, Eoghan Murphy, Jack O' Toole, Matthew Collins, Oisín Keegan, Rory Corrigan, Ryan Harrison, Seán Kenny.

Team: Robert Fitzgerald, Tommy Collins, Ciarán Harmon, Martin O' Brien, James Byrne, Davy Maloney, Shaun Cranley, Mark Murphy, Shane Browne, John Toomey, Seanie Germaine, Aaron Byrne, Torna Mulconry, George O' Brien, Bill O' Brien; Cian Staunton, Bryan Kearney, Michael Mangan, Marc Lennon, John Doyle, Brandon Ryan, Kieran Conway, Jacques McCall, Andy O' Brien, Eoin McCormack, Rory Lambe, Tom O' Brien, John Young.

Up next was old rivals Derry in Echelon Park Aughrim on this occasion the men from the oak leaf county inflicted a 2- 24 to 0-12 win over the home side.

Team: Cian Staunton, Davy Maloney, Michael Mangan, Martin O' Brien, James Byrne, Ciarán Breen, Jacques McCall, Mark Murphy, Shaun Cranley, John Toomey, Marc Lennon, John Doyle, Torna Mulconry, Seanie Germaine, Kieran Conway; Robert Fitzgerald, Bryan Kearney, Shane Browne, Aaron Byrne, George O' Brien, Brandon Ryan, Eoin McCormack, Bill O' Brien, Andy O' Brien, John Young, Rory Lambe, Eoin Byrne, Tommy Collins.

Round three of the league campaign saw Wicklow plays hosts to unbeaten Donegal after a battling performance in the second half from the home

side it was the men from Donegal who emerged victorious on a score line of 2 -16 to 3-8.

Team: Cian Staunton, Bryan Kearney, Michael Mangan, Martin O' Brien, Shane Browne, Ciarán Breen, Jacques McCall, Mark Murphy, Shaun Cranley, Aaron Byrne, John Toomey, John Doyle, Torna Mulconry, Seanie Germaine, Kieran Conway; Robert Fitzgerald, Tommy Collins, Rory Lambe, Eoin Byrne, John Young, Brandon Ryan, Eoin McCormack, Dylan Byrne, Ciarán Harmon.

Our next game was a trip to London on this occasion the exiles inflicted a 3-16 to 1-9 defeat on the Wicklow side.

Team: Cian Staunton, Bryan Kearney, Ciarán Harmon, Martin O' Brien, Michael Mangan, Ciarán Breen, Jacques McCall, Mark Murphy, Tommy Collins, Aaron Byrne, John Toomey, John Doyle, Torna Mulconry, Seanie Germaine, Kieran Conway; Robert Fitzgerald, Shane Browne, Rory Lambe, Eoin Byrne, John Young, Brandon Ryan, Eoin McCormack, Dylan Byrne.

The final round saw Wicklow play host to Sligo and after a battling performance the sides finished level in a high scoring game.

Team: Cian Staunton, Bryan Kearney, Ciarán Harmon, Martin O' Brien, Michael Mangan, Ciarán Breen, Jacques McCall, Mark Murphy, Tommy Collins, Aaron Byrne, Shane Browne, John Doyle, Eoin McCormack, Seanie Germaine, Kieran Conway; Robert Fitzgerald, John Toomey, Rory Lambe, Eoin Byrne, John Young, Brandon Ryan, Torna Mulconry, Dylan Byrne, James Byrne, Eoin Kavanagh.

After a tough league campaign Wicklow and Mayo faced each other in the relegation play off and after a battling performance we emerged with a one-point winning margin 0-16 to 0-15 to retain their status in division 2B for this year's league campaign.

## Christy Ring

The Opening round of the Christy Ring Cup saw us make the trip up north to face old rivals Derry after a hard-fought game the home side emerged victorious.

Team: Robert Fitzgerald, Dylan Byrne, Bryan Kearney, Tommy Collins, James Byrne, Martin O' Brien, Brandon Ryan, Mark Murphy, Jacques McCall, Aaron Byrne, John Doyle, John Toomey, Torna Mulconry, Eoin Kavanagh, Kieran Conway; Cian Staunton, Michael Mangan, John Henderson, Eoin Byrne, John Young, Seanie Germaine, Eoin McCormack, Ciarán Harmon, Owen Young, Ciarán Breen, Shane Browne.

Next, Mayo made the trip to Echelon Park, Aughrim looking to make amends for their one-point defeat in the league relegation play off by the men from Wicklow. The end result saw Mayo score a convincing win on a score of 0-26 to 1-10.

Team: Robert Fitzgerald, Dylan Byrne, Bryan Kearney, Tommy Collins, James Byrne, Martin O' Brien, Brandon Ryan, Mark Murphy, Jacques McCall, John Toomey, John Doyle, Aaron Byrne, Eoin Kavanagh, Eoin McCormack, Seanie Germaine; Cian Staunton, Michael Mangan, John Henderson, Eoin Byrne, John Young, Kieran Conway, Owen Young, Ciarán Harmon, Torna Mulconry, Ciarán Breen, Shane Browne.

Round 3 of the Christy Ring Cup we had to make the trip to Sligo aiming to collect our first points in the competition and after a battling performance it was Sligo that emerged victorious to ease their relegation worries.

Team: Robert Fitzgerald, Dylan Byrne, Bryan Kearney, Tommy Collins, James Byrne, Martin O' Brien, Brandon Ryan, Mark Murphy, Jacques McCall, Eoin McCormack, John Doyle, John Toomey, Eoin Kavanagh, Seanie Germaine, Kieran Conway; Cian Staunton, Ciarán Harmon, John Henderson, Eoin Byrne, John Young, Aaron Byrne, Owen Young, Shane Browne, Torna Mulconry, Ciarán Breen.

The next game in the competition saw Wicklow play hosts to Kildare on this occasion the Lily Whites emerged victorious in a high scoring game 5-25 to 3-10.

Team: Robert Fitzgerald, Dylan Byrne, Bryan Kearney, Tommy Collins, Michael Mangan, Martin O' Brien, Brandon Ryan, Mark Murphy, Jacques McCall, Eoin McCormack, John Doyle, John Toomey, Eoin Kavanagh, Seanie Germaine, Kieran Conway; Cian Staunton, Ciarán Harmon, John Henderson, Eoin Byrne, John Young, Aaron Byrne, Owen Young, Shane Browne, Torna Mulconry, Ciarán Breen, James Byrne.

## U20 Hurling

Under 20 B Hurling championship Wicklow travelled to Louth to face the home side in which they scored a comfortable victory.

Up next was Roscommon in Athleague and after a keenly contested game it was the home side that emerged victorious on a score of 2-15 to 1-9.

Team: Billy Molloy, John Young, Dylan Byrne, Darren Riley, Conor Manifold, Brandon Ryan, James

## Minor Hurling

The past year was a historic year which saw Wicklow field two teams at Minor level for the first with a blue team and Gold team which saw both teams reach national finals after some impressive displays during both campaigns.

The Blue team scored an impressive win over Antrim on a score of 5-16 to 1-8 to set up a meeting against Laois, while the gold side saw of the challenge of Tyrone on a score of 3-12 to 1-9 in doing so clinched a Final meeting against Kildare. The past year was a historic occasion which saw the two teams reach national finals while the gold team were defeated by a strong Kildare side.

Blue team: Tristan Doherty, Liam Murphy, Seán Kenny, Andrew Lynch, Zach Jordan, Michael Óg O'

The result saw the winners clinch a final berth while the we had four defeats in a row and we were relegated before the final round of games in which in Wicklow played London.

Team: Robert Fitzgerald, Dylan Byrne, Bryan Kearney, Tommy Collins, John Young, Ciarán Harmon, Brandon Ryan, Mark Murphy, Jacques McCall, John Henderson, John Doyle, Owen Young, Eoin Kavanagh, Seanie Germaine, Kieran Conway; Cian Staunton, Michael Mangan, John Toomey, Eoin Byrne, Eoin McCormack, Aaron Byrne, Rory Lambe, Shane Browne, Torna Mulconry, Ciarán Breen.

McGing, Tommy Collins, Cormac Byrne, John Toomey, Torna Mulconry, Owen Young, Dan Redmond, Eoin Kavanagh, PJ O' Connor; Adam Williamson, Cormac Redmond, Ruairí O' Brien, Conor Byrne, Eoin Byrne, Charlie Cruise, James French, Sam Gough, Adam Bushe, Charlie Chamney, Cian O' Neill, Ciarán Harmon, Dan Van Alpen, Jack Manley, Jamie Ryan, Kian Conlan, Shane Browne, Shane Byrne, TJ O' Neill, Tom O' Brien.

Neill, Denis O' Brien, Seán Byrne, Ríain Waters (C), James Boland, Cillian Ryder, Willie Cash, Alex Kavanagh, Brandon Rossiter, Johnno Moorehouse; Mikey O' Brien Hatton, Rory Corrigan, Lorcan Byrne, Luke Byrne, Adam O' Farrell, Sam Smyth, Ciarán Kelly, Craig Byrne, Jack O' Toole, Mikey Kinsella, Darragh Shannon.

Gold team: Christy Connors, Oisín O' Neill, Cathal Kirby, Kenneth Cullen (JC), Emmet Ronan, Tomás O' Connell, Daniel Burns, Tom Myler, Alec Bartac, David Peppard, Ciarán Traynor (JC), Darragh Shannon, Fionn Darcy, Joshua Barry, Thomas Walsh; Seán Meyler, Bartley Crummy, Conor O' Mahoney, Senan Gardner, Max Latham, Felim Ward Lynch, Dale van Dalen, Ryan McCormack.

## WICKLOW GAA ANNOUNCES JOINT SPONSORSHIP AGREEMENT WITH ECHELON DATA CENTRES AND BEAKONSHAW



**Wicklow PRO Bridget Kenny, Wicklow hurling manager Casey O'Brien, Mark Elliott CTO of Beakonshaw, Wicklow football manager Oisín McConville, Chief Executive Officer of Echelon and Executive Chairperson of Beakonshaw Niall Molloy, Chairman of Wicklow GAA Martin Fitzgerald, Chief Operating Officer Echelon Data Centres Graeme McWilliams, Runáí Wicklow GAA Chris O'Connor, Treasurer Wicklow GAA Alan Sullen**

Five-year deal with new Player Development Partners will support all levels of GAA in Garden County

Wicklow GAA is pleased to announce that it has finalised a €1.5m joint sponsorship agreement with Echelon Data Centres and the home builder Beakonshaw. As part of a five-year deal, the County Grounds in Aughrim will be named Echelon Park Aughrim, while both companies will become Player Development Partners of Wicklow GAA.

This wide-ranging, five-year partnership will hugely benefit the young players in our county, to further enhance all aspects of their GAA development and continue to grow participation levels. The ultimate aim of this partnership is to enable Wicklow GAA teams across all age groups to compete at the highest possible level.

Wicklow GAA will receive €300,000 per year from the sponsorship, which runs from 2023-2028. This will go towards increasing coaching hours in



schools, improving competitiveness at underage county level, further developing our structures at Wicklow GAA's Garden County Academy, and driving standards to broaden the talent pipeline for senior inter-county squads.

At elite level, it will help fund the county's Player Development Pathway, the appointment of a High-Performance Director for Wicklow GAA, and the ongoing development of facilities at the renamed Echelon Centre of Excellence, Ballinakill.

The sponsorship covers men's and juvenile male football and hurling in Wicklow. Along with naming rights to the Wicklow GAA's home ground, the county's player development centre will be renamed Echelon Centre of Excellence Ballinakill. Beakonshaw's name and logo will appear on the sleeves of the Wicklow GAA senior team jerseys, and on the front of Wicklow GAA juvenile team jerseys.

Martin Fitzgerald, Cathaoirleach, Wicklow GAA, said the sponsorship was vital for the future success of GAA in the county.

"I would like to thank Echelon Data Centres and Beakonshaw for backing Wicklow GAA," Mr Fitzgerald said. "The continued development of our players is a key strategic focus for us. The positive impact that this investment will have at all levels in Wicklow GAA is unprecedented and may be the most important partnership for our future development as an organisation."

"It will allow us to increase support for clubs and schools at grass roots level – and it will also allow us to put in place the structures and resources required for our footballers and hurlers to compete at a national level.

"Wicklow GAA has ambitious plans for our minor and senior teams – but success takes talent, dedication, and resources. We believe we have the talent and dedication; now, thanks to this sponsorship deal with Echelon Data Centres and Beakonshaw, we have the financial backing to make it happen."

Speaking on behalf of Echelon Data Centres and Beakonshaw, Niall Molloy, CEO of Echelon Data Centres, said the sponsorship deal demonstrated the commitment of both companies to the communities where they operate.

"Echelon and Beakonshaw are delighted to be partnering with Wicklow GAA. The GAA is a central to every community in Wicklow and this relationship reflects our commitment to the people of this county," Mr Molloy said.

"Echelon is building two data centre facilities in Wicklow that will provide high quality jobs, drive the digital economy, and be a template for sustainable modern data centre development throughout Europe. We understand the responsibilities that come with that to support the people where we operate.

"Beakonshaw, like Wicklow GAA, is about building from the ground up. The GAA builds community, character, and inclusiveness through sport, while Beakonshaw is building much-needed family homes that will support the commercial growth that will deliver ongoing prosperity for Wicklow."

"I can't think of a better way for Echelon and Beakonshaw to support our communities in Wicklow than partnering with the GAA to provide sporting opportunities for all and to develop the stars of the future. I'm looking forward to seeing the footballers and hurlers climb the leagues and hopefully make an occasional appearance at Croke Park in the coming years."

## **Katriona Rowan: Glenealy**

The village of Glenealy was stunned to silence when news filtered through on December 16<sup>th</sup> that Katriona Rowan had died. Even though Katriona was sick for some time it was tragic news when a mother dies leaving a grief-stricken husband David and a seven-month-old baby and a four-year-old son. Katriona Rowan grew up in Ballyfree Glenealy. It was here she learnt the skills of the game of hurling playing on the "Green" with her brothers, Lee and Warren along with her many friends and neighbours. This love of Gaelic games was passed down to her from her parents Butch and Collette who encouraged their children to participate and love the game. As the years progressed Katriona became one of Glenealy's greatest Camogie stars. Both on and off the field she excelled. She led Glenealy to many County Championship victories. She also was a prolific coach where she shared her knowledge of the game to a future generation on young players. Katriona never forgot her roots and supported all the endeavours of both male and female teams from Glenealy. She was a person with a great sense of humour, a compassionate heart, a great wife and a loving mother. Her outgoing sincere nature and ready smile made her many good friends with consummate ease. The attendance at the funeral was among the biggest ever seen in the district and a testimony to the respect and popularity of the deceased and the Kavanagh and Rowan family's. A guard of honour was provided by the Officers and members of the Glenealy Club along with of her Camogie team mates wearing the red and white jerseys of the

Glenealy club of which she was so proud off marched beside the hearse. To her Husband David children Josh and Fionn, parents Butch and Collette, brothers Lee and Warren, extended family and friends we extend our deepest sympathy.

*I gcomhluadar Mathair Muire sa bhfiatheas go raibh si agus go dtuga Dia gach solas da clann.*

## **Niall Moore: Stratford/Grangecon**

On January 1<sup>st</sup> Niall Moore passed away in his 97<sup>th</sup> year. He was a long-life GAA enthusiast whose commitment to Cumann Luthchleas Gael and to his club Stratford came second only to his devotion to his family and his deeply held religious convictions. When news spread that Niall was dead there was understandable sadness among his many friends and neighbours. He was a truly fine gentleman who personified only the best of human values. To meet him at a football match and talk with him was to feel uplifted by his all-embracing presence. He was, as the saying goes "the salt of the earth". In his young days he was a competent footballer and wore the Stratford colours with pride. He later served on the club committee for many years as a trustee and Vice Chairman, culminating with him being appointed president of the Club. He followed the fortunes of the club all his life and was a happy man when in 1983 Stratford defeated Blessington to capture their first Intermediate crown. The Moore family were well represented on the team that faithful day with Fergus, Andrew and Tom all playing their part in this historic win. Niall who was from the farming stock was always ready



to give unselfishly of his time to help a friend or neighbour. Niall Moore was laid to rest in Moone Cemetery after requiem mass in the Church of Saint Oliver Plunket Grangecon. As Niall was laid to rest the winter sun was setting over Moone Graveyard and the strains of his favourite song "The Rose of Tralee" could be heard. To his sons Tom, Martin, Andrew, Fergus, Kevin, and Sean, daughters Mary, Sarah, and Nora and extended family and friends we offer our sincere sympathy.

*Ní bheidh a leithéid ann arís.*

### **P.J. Burke: Glenealy**

The death of P. J. Bourke on Christmas day severed another of the few remaining links of the great Glenealy team of the fifties that brought the first of the three in a row hurling championship in both minor and senior to the Village. P.J. who hailed from Bunowen, Louisburgh, Co Mayo lived for most of his life in Glenealy. From a young age he was fond of Hurling and in was in this sport he was to excel. He first came to prominence when he was on the minor hurling panel that captured the county championship of 1950, '51 and '52. In 1951 he also won a junior championship medal when Glenealy captured the county title. In December 1957 Glenealy made the big break through when they defeated Avondale in Ashford to win their first senior hurling championship. P.J. wore the number 5 Jersey on that faithful day and was outstanding in a display of courage and skill. He was to win two further senior medals when Glenealy won the senior championships of '58 and '59 to make it three in a row. P.J.'s death has left a void in the parish but he has left an enriched legacy to remember him by and all those who knew P.J.

over his life time are all the better for his acquaintances in whatever sphere they met. To his daughters Sinéad and Deirdre, Son in law Seamus along with extended family members we offer our deepest sympathy.

*Go Ndeanaí Dia Trocaire ar a anamacha.*

### **M.J. Bolton: Avondale**

It was with great sadness that we learned on December 29<sup>th</sup> of the unexpected death of M. J Bolton. M.J. was part of the very fibre of Rathdrum a great athletic and a staunch supporter of Avondale GAA Club. M.J. Bolton was a member of the Parnell Athletic club for over 40 years. An outstanding mentor he encouraged and coached young children and was always ready to support them in their many athletic meetings throughout the country. He took great pride in their many achievements. His immense knowledge of his chosen sport along with his dedication and disciplined approach helped guide many a young athletic to county success. He was also a great supporter of Avondale GAA club and never missed an opportunity to support the club and attend their club games. He was caretaker in St Marys school Rathdrum for over 20 years where he was highly respected and greatly valued. The esteem in which M.J was held saw large numbers of people young and old accompany his remains on his final journey through his beloved Rathdrum to St Mary & Michael's Church, Rathdrum for Mass then to the local graveyard where he was laid to rest, and where he now rests in eternal peace. To his brother David, sisters Veronica, Betty, Freda, Teresa and Gay along with extended family we offer our sincere sympathy.

*Solas na bhFlaitheas ar a anam usal.*

## **Sean Fitzgerald: Arklow Geraldines Ballymoney**

A sense of deep sadness was felt around Arklow and surrounding areas when news broke on February 4<sup>th</sup> that Sean Fitzgerald had died. Sean was the last member of a distinguished family that contributed significantly to the life and times of the Arklow community. Sean was a great sportsman and played with both Ballymoney and Arklow Geraldines clubs. A gentleman at all times, and a man who evoked admiration from all who knew him. He was respected both on and off the playing field. In 1966 he was on the Arklow Geraldines team that captured the County Junior hurling championship when they defeated St Patricks Wicklow in a thrilling final. Sean's brother Michael was a selector with the team. Sean who up to his retirement worked for the Department of Forestry was a keen gardener, his garden on the sea road was always pristine and in spick-and-span condition. Above all, Sean was a man of fine qualities whose pleasing disposition won him many friends. He will be missed by many non-more so than his wife Breda who we tender our deepest sympathy.

*Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam usal.*

## **Paddy Cox: Arklow Geraldines Ballymoney**

Another great Gael called to his eternal reward during the year was Paddy Cox. His death occurred unexpectedly on Friday the 4th March. Paddy was a well-known and much respected person in the town. Hailing from that famous strong hold of the Gael Killane Co Wexford he took a great interest in all G.A.A.

activities. As a young player he played for the Rathnure club, home of the great Rackard brothers. When he came to Arklow in the late fifties he played with Arklow Rock Parnells. When the "Rocks" went out of existence for a short few years he through in his lot with the Arklow Geraldines club. Marrying Ann May Brauders he joined an Arklow family that was immersed in Gaelic games and were closely related to the Rackard's of Killane. It was a partnership that was to see them both immersed in Gaelic games and with the Arklow Geraldines Club. Paddy served the "Gers" club in many capacity's. He was a member of the club committee for many years. He served as Club Vice-Chairman from 1991 to 1996. His wife Anna May served as club treasurer and later his daughter Margaret would also serve in that roll and later club secretary. Their sons Thomas and Michael also played for the Geraldines. In 1991 Paddy was manager of the team that annexed the Carter and Swan Cups along with the County Championship. His son Michael was a member of that team. Paddy later went to assist the County Board and was their main gateman for many years. The GAA was Paddy's main interest and commitment. The dedication he gave down through the years was remarkable and unqualified. He was known far and wide and his easy going and cheerful manner made him a most popular man with everyone he came in contact with. While we all miss Paddy Cox and his gentle character it brings home to us the loss that his wife Anna May, his sons Michael and Thomas daughters Margaret and Ann-Marie have suffered. As was fitting his coffin was draped in the AGB club colours and the cortege had a guard of honour of present and former club members. Paddy Cox was a great father and

husband and there is a deep void in the lives of his loved ones. His brother and sisters too feel the loss as do his extended family, many friends and neighbours. To all we extend our deepest sympathy.

*Go ndeanáí Dia trócaire ar a anam.*

### **Liam Farrell: St Kevins Bray**

The death of Liam Farrell in April brought memories back to the early sixties when St Kevins Bray were the hurling "Kingpins" of the county. Liam's death brought great sadness to his family and also to the many friends who graced the playing fields with him during what was a golden era for the club. His family were involved with the St. Kevins club since it was established in 1958. The St Kevins club was firstly established as a juvenile club and after a short time they entered adult teams in both football and hurling. It was in hurling they were to make their mark and Liam Farrell was to play a crucial role in their many achievements. After playing for three years without success at senior level their big breakthrough came in 1961 when in the first round they defeated Glenealy who had won the senior crown three years in a row 1957,'58 and '59 and were still a force to be reckoned with. In the county semi-final they defeated Barndarrig, in the final they defeated hot favourites Forestry College 8-2 to 3-5. In all three games Liam Lynch played a pivotal role as corner forward. St Kevins contested the final again in '62 on this occasion Forestry College reversed the previous result, but not after a hectic battle. Back in the final in '63 they overcame Kilcoole on a score line of 4-4 to 3-1 and again Liam Farrell was one of their leading marksmen. Liam's death has broken another link in the

chain of that famous group of players who graced our playing fields many years ago. His death has left a void but he has left an enriched legacy to remember him by and all those who knew Liam over his life time are all the better for his acquaintances in whatever sphere they met him. To his sons Diarmuid and Barry and extended family we offer our sincere sympathy.

*Go ndeana Dia trócaire ar a anam.*

### **Joe Perkins: Donard**

On March 26<sup>th</sup> Joe Perkins passed to his eternal reward. For several years Joe was at the heart of a brilliant Donard side who brought fame and glory to their native parish with county and West Wicklow successes in the early fifties. Joe played for many years in the famed green and white. In 1951 he was on the team defeated by Carnew in the senior final where Joe played in the half forwards. The championship was later awarded to Donard due to an objection. Donard refused to accept the medals and later played the county junior team in Baltinglass for the medals who defeated Donard. The same year Donard defeated the Army (Curragh) team in the Baltinglass Cup final on that occasion Joe played in the middle of the field with Paddy Lennon. In 1952 Donard defeated Ballinacor in the semi-final, a feature of the game was the display of Joe Perkins when he scored two valuable points at crucial times in the game. In the county final St Patricks (Wicklow) was the opposition but victory was not to be St Patricks went on to win 1-7 to 0-4. In 1953 having defeated Clonmore in the Baltinglass Cup Tournament hopes were high that Donard would bring home the Miley Cup. However

hopes were dashed when after a replay they were defeated by St Patricks Wicklow. In all those games Joe Perkins played corner forward and was always one of Donard's ace score getters. From play and placed balls he had an unerring boot and contributed handsomely to many a great Donard victory. To his wife Maureen, son John daughter Joanne and his extended family we offer our sympathy.

*Ar dheis De go raibh a anam.*

### **Amby Quaile: Tinahely.**

Tinahely lost one of its most famous sons when On April 6<sup>th</sup> Amby Quaile passed away. A true gentleman Amby was a friend to everyone in particular the many hundred children he drove on the school bus for many years. In 1961 Tinahely reformed as a club. For the next eight years they contested well but never brought home silver. All that changed in 1969 when they reached the county junior final. In a thrilling game Tinahely won their first junior championship defeating Laragh 3 - 3 to 0-6. Amby Quale playing at full back was man of the mach. His long clearances and great defensive play were a feature of the game. His long kickout with the old leather ball was legendry. Amby was to wear the Red and White of Tinahely for many years and his unwavering commitment to the club down through the years was a measure of his love for his native place. His loyalty was reflected when eleven years later in 1981 Tinahely reached the junior "C" final. Amby playing at full back was again their saviour. Not alone did he have an outstanding game wearing the number three he also scored the vital goal from a penalty. The game was only one minute old when Tinahely were awarded the penalty.

Amby came up to blast it to the net, it proved to be the decisive score and Tinahely went on to win by one-point defeating Bray Emmets. He was also a prolific handball player and won many titles. His first in 1973 when he won the county junior soft ball title. He was to go on and win many more in the handball court including both Intermediate and senior county championship medals. Amby was a dedicated family man and loyal clubman a sincere and honourable person with a warm and generous heart, a man whose company it was always a pleasure to be part of. To Pat, Frances, Helen, Mary, Catherine, and Amy along with his extended family we officer our deepest condolences.

*Leaba l measc na Naomh do.*

### **John Dennehy: Arklow Geraldines Ballymoney**

On the 18<sup>th</sup> April the sad news spread that John Dennehy had passed to his eternal reward. Even though he had been in failing health for some time his passing was a shock to all who knew him. He was an outstanding sportsman. Johns first taste of success was when he played with the successful "Starlights" team from Rory O' Connor place. It was in this environment that he would acquire the skills of the game and from his brother Paddy who was himself an outstanding sportsman for both club and county. John later progressed on to the Geraldines Club teams where he was a footballer and hurler of considerable ability and had a number of years success with the "Gers". In 1955 Arklow Geraldines won the county U16 hurling final when they defeated Avondale in a thrilling final. John playing in the

half forwards excelled. In 1956 Arklow Geraldines annexed the “Dublin Wicklow Men’s” cup for a third year in succession . After an exciting game they defeated Kilcroneby by 3-6 to 1-11. John Dennehy was one of the teams outstanding players in that historic final. It was the first time any club had won the trophy for the third time in succession. He later played junior hurling and football with the club but in those years the club had little success. John Dennehy was a quiet and genial person. He was highly respected in the community and will be sadly missed by his neighbours and friends but most especially by his family , his son Paul, daughters Lisa and Lynn and his sister Pattie along with his extended family and friends to whom we offer our sincere sympathy.

*Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam*

### **Patsy (Patrick) Vickers: Eire Og Greystones**

It was on April 30<sup>th</sup> when Patsy Vickers sadly passed away. The news was received with sincere sadness and a deep sense of regret. Patsy as he was affectionally known by all was in his eighties. Since his death we have all come to really realise what a great character and personality he was. For a man of small stature, he was a giant in personality. In his young days he played football and hurling with Newcastle. For over 50 years he had a great affection for and commitment to the Greystones GAA club , now Eire Og Greystones . He served the club in many capacities. He was involved for many years in coaching juvenile teams in the skills of the game. In the seventies the club had a very successful minor team winning the “Old IRA Cup” on two occasions. Patsy Vickers was one of the

mentors that guided the team to success. Many of those players went on to win the Junior championship in 1982 and again Patsy was one of the team mentors. For over two decades he was the clubs chief grounds man. Patsy took a keen pride in the state of the pitch. He always made sure the grass was cut and pitch marked for all games fixed for the Greystones venue. For many years he represented the club on the old North District Board and also on the County Board. In 2017 at the “Garden County GAA Awards Banquet” he was bestowed a “Lifetime Achievement” award for all his work and commitment to his club and the GAA . He never missed a game where his club was involved and was one of the county’s greatest supporters. Patsy was always willing to offer a bit of constructive criticism when he saw fit and more often the important words of encouragement when things may not have gone well. Some years ago he was appointed President of the club. It was an honour he valued and cherished. Heaven, by its very description ,must enjoy the” Game of the Gael”. No doubt Patsy at this stage is actively involved up there as a selector and probably has found the formulae for to bring a county senior title to his beloved club “Eire Og”. Sincere sympathy to his relations and his legion of friends and admirers young and old.

*Ar dheis láimh Dé go raibh a anam. “Ní fheicimid a leithéid arís”.*

### **Tom O’ Neill: Donard / The Glen**

The passing of Tom (The Looney) O’ Neill in May brought profound sadness to the village of Donard and surrounding areas. Tom grew up in an area that is steeped in Gaelic tradition

and in particular football. He excelled as a footballer in his younger days playing with his club Donard. In good days and bad Tom could be relied on to give his best and while not many victories came the clubs way a change came in 1972 when against all the odds they captured the County Junior championship. It was a competition the club had not won since 1948. On the road to championship glory they defeated hot favourites Hollywood in the West final by a single point 1-4 to 1-3 to take the Tutty Memorial Trophy. Tom was in the corner back position on that occasion. In the county semi-final they defeated St Kevins Bray by a large margin. Tom was now operating at centre field where in the final against Ballymanus he gave an exhibition of football that brought the club their first county title in 24 years. The esteem in which Tom was held was reflected by a guard of honour by the Donard/Glen club and in the huge crowds that attended his funeral. Martin will be sadly missed by his children Lorraine Caroline, Garret along with extended family members.

*In iothlainn Dé go gceastar sinn.*

### **Paddy Devlin: Donard / Glen.**

The entire communities of Donard / The Glen and the entire county were shocked and saddened when news filtered through that Paddy Devlin had died suddenly when in Portugal on holidays. Paddy who was a native of Armagh came to reside in Donard in 1991. A former county hurler with the "Orchard County", it was not long before he was immersed into the Donard club scene. As the years progressed he would be part of many great days for the club. He was also was to play a significant role in the development of Hurling

in West Wicklow and beyond. He played both hurling and football with the Donard club and Donard/ Hollywood hurling teams for many years. Playing for Donard success came in 1995 when Donard / Glen defeated Shillelagh in the intermediate football final. In that game Paddy playing in the full forward position played a crucial role in the team's success. Under the management of Barney Keogh and Paddy Toomey a Hollywood / Donard hurling team developed. In 1994 the team reached the county final where Newcastle was the opposition. In an exciting game played in Pearses Park Arklow they overcome the challenge to bring the cup back to the West. It was a thrilling game when at the half way stage it was very close with the Hollywood side only one point in front 0-4 to 0-3. However after the restart it was the magic of team captain Paddy Delvin adding to his first half point by sending over two valuable points and scoring the all-important goal that won the day. He wore the county jersey for many years and was on the successful county side that defeated Kildare to win the home All-Ireland in 1995. Paddy was a man of courteous and helpful personality. While his loss to his club and his many friends is immense, it pales into insignificance when compared with the loss suffered by his family, wife Ann Marie, daughters Philomena and Ciara and extended family members to whom we offer our sincere condolences.

*I bhflaitheas Déi measc na h-aingeal naofa go raibh anam usal Padraig O' Doibholin.*

## **Tom O' Sullivan: Carnew Emmets.**

Carnew Emmets and Wicklow County lost one of its greatest sons with the death of Tom O' Sullivan following an illness. Tom came from a home that was the *Bastion of Gaelic Games and Irish Culture*. His father and mother were immersed in the "Game of the Gael" all their lives. His father Paddy was known the length and breadth of the county driving children to matches. It was in this environment that Tom along with his brothers John and Jim grew up. Tom won county honours in all grades and codes. He was involved in Carnew winning five minor hurling titles from '69 to '71. In 1970 and '71 along with his brother John he secured a double minor championship success winning in both football and hurling. He was part of the Carnew Emmets golden era of hurling and football. Along with his brother John they shared in many great triumphs. Tom won his first senior hurling medal in 1973 when Carnew defeated The West District. More success was to follow winning county honours in '74, '76, '78, '79, '80 '81 and the centenary year 1984. Sixteen years since he won his first senior medal he was back again at centre field when Carnew annexed the senior championship of 1989. He also won under 21 medals in 1977 and '79. He also wore the Blue and Gold for the county. Along with his brother John he was on the Wicklow team that defeated Down in Div.2 NHL final in March 1976. Tom O' Sullivan's name is firmly engrained in Carnew folklore, for the talents he displayed in that golden era of Carnew Hurling in the 70s and 80s. An outstanding sportsman he was respected throughout the county for his skill and sportsmanship. People came from all over the county to express their sympathy to his brothers John

and Jim. At the removal of his remains members and former colleagues formed a guard of honour as a mark of respect to a player who gave such sterling service to his club. To John and Jim along with his extended family members we offer our deepest sympathy.

*Suaimehneas Síoraí tabhair dó a Thiarna agus go ionraí solas sutháin air.*

## **Mary (May) O' Neill: Knockananna.**

It was on Sunday the 17<sup>th</sup> of July when news filtered through that "May" O' Neill had passed to her eternal reward. May in her 91<sup>st</sup> year was a pillar in the community of Knockananna. May was a great conversationalist, equally at home with all ages and groups and had always a word for everyone. Her door was always open and the kettle was always boiling when you called to see May. She was the heart and soul of the community. May's main interest along with her family was the local community and the commitment and dedication she gave down through the years was remarkable and unequalled. May witnessed tragedy in her life when her husband and daughter were killed in an accident 60 years ago. For many years she worked in Scoil Naomh Brid where she was greatly valued and highly respected. She was a person of strong faith and was very active within the Church of the Immaculate Conception. For decades she washed the Knockananna Club GAA jerseys. She made sure the team lined out impeccable in their jerseys. She was a true lady in every sense of the word and her family and the Knockananna community who appreciated her company, advice or assistance in many ways now truly and justifiably grieve for the void this sad

demise leaves. They will miss her friendship but above all her love. If the word unique has any real meaning then that adjective accurately describes May O' Neill. A large crowd attended her obsequie at her home and later attended her removal to the Church of the immaculate Conception for mass , a church she gave great service to over many years. The local GAA club formed a guard of honour to respect May who had made such a big contribution to their club and the entire Knockananna community. To her daughter Patricia and extended family members we offer our sincere sympathy.

*I measc na Naomh go raibh a h-anam dilis.*

### **Margaret (Maggie) Kenny: Baltinglass**

It was a July day when Margaret Kenny was laid to rest in Baltinglass cemetery. Margaret had passed to her eternal reward on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> of July surrounded by her beloved family. Maggie as she was known to her friends hailed from that great stronghold of the Gael Donard. Her family the "Flynn's" of Donard were legends of the Gaelic code. In her young days she played camogie for Donard along with her sisters Breda and Haddie. As time passed Maggie was to marry another legend of the Wicklow GAA Johnny Kenny from Baltinglass whom she met at a dance in Baltinglass on St Stephens night in 1952. Here they reared nine children four boys and five girls who would all inherit the great traditions of Irish culture and past times. She was the matriarch of a home that was infused with an Irish way of life and Irish culture. Her husband Johnny was himself one of the greats of the Gaelic Athletic Association both as a player and administrator. She was a proud woman when

her husband Johnny received the GAA Hall of Fame award in 1980 in front of their entire family. Her sons were to bring great honours to both club and county . Winning 8 Senior Championships also Playing in *The" Pantheon of the Greats"* they won All-Ireland honours . Her daughters would marry and see their children embrace the game of the Gael. It was with her loving support and in this environment the children grew up .They all inherited from their parents that love for their native place. Maggie Kenny was blessed with a generous spirit which could be seen both in her home and among the community at large. An expression of that respect the local community had for her was witnessed by the huge crowd that attended her funeral mass and the guard of honour from the Baltinglass club as she was laid to rest in Baltinglass cemetery. Truly a great Irish mother was laid to rest that day. To her husband Johnny, her sons and daughters Sean, Alice, Marcelle Breeda, ,Billy, Mairead, Kathleen, Hugh, Paul and extended family members we offer our deepest sympathy.

*Is measc na Naomh go raibh a hanam dilis.*

### **John Glynn: Glenealy**

It was a warm August day when we laid to rest one of the greatest sportsmen to come from the famed village of Glenealy. When news filtered through on Thursday the 11<sup>th</sup> of August of the death of John Glynn ,it was met with a deep sense of sadness by the people of his beloved Glenealy and beyond. His demise has left a deep void in the community. As a player he was talented and courageous, as an administrator he was exceptional, as a community person he was special , as a family



man he was loved. John Glynn was a special person who ranked high in the annals of both the Glenealy Club and the County GAA. Over a career that spanned 20 years he contested 5 senior hurling finals winning in '75 and 1986. He was captain in '75 when along with his brother Tommy they defeated hot favourites Arklow Rock Parnells in a pulsating final. Suffering a bad head injury in the game he refused to come off. He later accepted the Cup from county Registrar Pat Kinsella. It was Glenealy's first senior success since 1959. Seven years later Glenealy again won the championship when they defeated Carnew Emmets 2-8 to 2-6. John played beside his brother Tommy on that occasion and between them they scored six points. John's point in the 45<sup>th</sup> minute was a classic and towards the end of the game he scored the final point to ensure victory. He was a sportsman supreme. In a lengthy sporting career he never got into any confrontation or came to the attention of match officials. He gained respect far and wide as an outstanding sportsman. During his time as a player he was also heavily involved in the administration side of his club. When he retired from playing he was elected chairman. Here he met many challenges but through his wise counsel he was able to ensure the Glenealy club would be stronger. Through his wise counsel and efforts he laid the foundation for the many successes that was to follow. The GAA and in particular his Club Glenealy was John's main interest and the commitment and dedication he gave down the years was outstanding. He also had a distinguished career with the county and in the NHL of 1975/76, he captained to county to success. In that campaign the county defeated Down, Carlow, Roscommon and Meath. In the Final captained by John they defeated Down 2-

9 to 0-7 to win Div. 2 National league honours. He was known far and wide through his involvement as a player and as an administrator and his easy going and cheerful manner made him most popular with everyone he came in contact with. While we all miss John Glynn and his gentle character, it brings home to us the loss that his wife Berny, daughter Joanne, sons Jonathan, Joseph, Daniel, and James have suffered. John was a great father and husband and there is a deep void in the lives of his loved ones. His brother and sister too feel the loss as do his many friends and colleagues. John Glynn has left those of us privileged to know him with many memories and a host of stories to remember him by. Past and present players of the Glenealy club formed a guard of honour at St. Joseph's Church and at Glenealy cemetery where he was laid to rest. To all his family we offer our sincere sympathy.

*Suaimhneas Síoraí tabhair dó a Thiarna agus go ionraí solas sutháin air.*

### **William (Billy) Craul: Manor Kilbride.**

A feeling of shock, real sadness and deep regret enveloped the Kilbride and surrounding areas when then news broke on September 15<sup>th</sup> of the death of Billy Craul. Billy's love of his native place and his family is legendary. When his parents passed away along with his late wife Lill he took over running the family business. His store become the epi-centre of the Kilbride village. It was the heart of the community. He knew everyone and his pleasant manner and jovial nature attracted him to all. His store was the centre of the Universe. His support to the community and his generosity was renowned. Besides his

involvement in his business he was a talented musician. He played in halls all over Wicklow and beyond. He was also a great supporter of the Kilbride GAA club. He played an important role in helping Kilbride bring the "Miley Cup" to Kilbride in 1962 and '68 when he provided a field for the Kilbride team to train on. He facilitated the club for many years with the field and many a thrilling game was played out on that ground. He also presented the Craul Cup to the West Board for the promotion and development of the game between junior teams. In the early 80's he ran in and won the Lord Mayor of Wicklow contest as a fund raiser for the GAA. His most enduring traits, however was his no-nonsense approach to life, his concern at all times for his family, and his loyalty to his local community along with his little known charitable and compassionate endeavours over a long number of years. The very large crowd that attended his funeral to St Brigid's Church and his funeral to Manor Kilbride Cemetery was a fitting tribute to the popularity and esteem in which he was held. To his family, Mary, William, Pauline and Dennis we offer our sincere sympathy.

*Go ndeana Dia trócaire ar a anam.*

### **Michael Mulligan: Kilmacanogue.**

Michael Mulligan who died on the 12<sup>th</sup> of September was born, nurtured, influenced and moulded in a locality that it noted for its commitment to all things Irish. He came from a family that were immersed in Gaelic culture and Gaelic games. Along with his brothers Tony, Paddy, Anthony and Fr. Ben he wore the Kilmacanogue jersey with pride. The fifties was a great time for the Kilmacanogue club. Defeating Kilcoole to win the Schweppes Cup

and defeating Dunlavin to capture the Intermediate championship. With Michael club secretary and his four brothers on the team it was a special time for the Mulligan family. Along with his role as Club secretary Michael for a number of years was a member of the North District and County Board where his contribution were both constructive and meaningful. Michael enjoyed his term as club secretary and his discussions and debates at the clubs annual general meetings with the then chairman Bart Fitzsimons were legendary. Having married he resided in County Wexford where he was as a teacher in St Marys CBS Enniscorthy. Here he contributed to the training and management of the school teams. However his roots lay with his club Kilmacanogue and county. Along with his brother Fr Ben they always travelled to supported the Kilmacanogue teams and travelled the length and breadth of Ireland supporting the county teams. Michael Mulligan was a good and generous man whose passing we deeply mourn. The large crowd that attended his funeral in St. Mochonog's, Cemetery, Kilmacanogue bore testimony to the high esteem in which he was held. To his family and friends we offer our sincere sympathy.

*Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam.*

### **Michael Kelly: Avondale**

Avondale lost one of its most famous sons during the year with the death of Michael Kelly. When great Avondale teams of the passed are being discussed the name of Michael Kelly is sure to be mentioned. The respect and regard he was held in, was obvious at his removals and burial when some

of his illustrious team mates during his long career along with current players paid their respects. Michael's career started in the fifties when he was a member of the Avondale team that captured three minor championships in a row. Over the next number of years he graduated to the senior team panel. Here he was to win many more honours and play a pivotal role in bringing three more senior titles back to the home of the "Uncrowned King of Ireland". His first senior championship success was when Avondale defeated Kilcoole to win the 1960 title. In that game he played in the corner forward position. The final was played in Ashford in March 1961. Avondale repeated that success in 1964 when they again defeated Kilcoole 2-10 to 2-3. In this final Mick had an outstanding game playing at right half back. Two years later Avondale defeated Carnew Emmets in a close encounter to win the clubs thirteenth title. Mick was also involved in the 67' and 68' finals when on both occasion Carnew came out on top. Mick's final success was in 1983 nearly twenty years since he won his first senior medal. He was a member of the team panel that defeated Kilcoole to bring the 14<sup>th</sup> senior championship to the "Dales". He was also a very stylish footballer and won county junior honours in 1960. For many years Mick was also a valued member of the club committee. Mick was an outstanding sportsman. He wore the green and white for over two decades and always gave his best. He was a man of fine qualities whose pleasing manner won him many friends. At his funeral the Avondale club formed a guard of honour when his remains were laid to rest in Rathdrum Cometary. To his wife Margaret, sons Keith, Jason, Craig, and Chet along with

his extended family and friends we offer our deepest sympathy.

*Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam dhilis.*

### **Tommy Kavanagh: Arklow Geraldines Ballymoney**

Tommy Kavanagh who passed to his eternal reward on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> March had a great interest in hurling and football. He played hurling for Arklow Geraldines for a number of years until he suffered a bad injury when he lost the sight of his eye. He was a committed Wexford supporter and never missed attending Croke Park and other venues to support the Purple and Gold. A few weeks before his death members of the successful 1996 winning Wexford team came up to see him and thank him for his loyalty to the team over many years. Tommy was a very popular person and his friends in the Park miss him for their daily chat. Tommy Kavanagh was a genuine character a person people look forward to meeting. The popularity in which he was held was best exemplified by the large attendance at the funeral. To his family and wide circle of friends we offer our deepest sympathy.

*Ar dheis De go raibh a anam dilis.*

### **Fr. Harry Behan: Ashford.**

Fr. Harry Behan died on October 4<sup>th</sup> 2022 after a long illness borne with great fortitude and bravery. The Behan name is synonymous with the GAA and in particular the Ashford Club. Before he entered the priesthood, Fr. Harry played football with his local school and club. He was a very skilful and versatile player with

great dash when the need arose to split the opposition. As the sun was setting on the fifties a new dawn was about to break for the Ashford club. In 1959 Ashford won their first county minor title since 1931. That success was repeated in 1960 and '61 making it three minor championships in a row. Fr. Harry along with his brothers Michael & Sean were part of that great era in Ashford football. Those successes laid the foundations for the club's success when they captured the Miley Cup in 1974. His brothers Mick and Philip were members of that team success. The Lord has now called Fr. Harry to the great vineyard but his deeds for his club will long be remembered in Ashford where the Behan name is valued and respected. To his brothers and sisters along with extended family members and friends we offer our deepest sympathy.

*Is measc na Naomh go raibh a anam dilis.*

### **Pat Sheehan: Forestry College Arklow & Bantry Co. Cork.**

The death of Pat Sheehan in October severed another GAA link with the great Forestry College teams of the past. Pat came to the Forestry College in Arklow after one year in Kinnitty College Co Offaly. He arrived in Arklow College in 1969 and the word was that he was a useful exponent of the caman. Forestry College had proved their worth on the playing fields of Wicklow when in 1962 they won both the county senior hurling championship and county senior league. The same year they added the county intermediate football championship to their repertoire. For the next few years the college concentrated on football until in 1970 hurling was back on the agenda.

Over the next two years the college had many notable victories but were unable to repeat the success of 1962. However the teams did have some minor success over those two years. The hurling team with Pat Sheehan playing a crucial role overcame teams like Avondale, Kilcoole and Arklow Geraldines. Their biggest success was defeating Carnew Emmets in 1970 to win the Lacey Furlong Cup. In that game Pat Sheehan played a hero's part scoring vital points at crucial times in the game. It was the first defeat for the "Emmets" in two years. Pat also wore the Wicklow Jersey with both pride and distinction. In the pulsating All-Ireland junior final of 1971 he was in the half forwards where his contribution both in the drawn match and replay played a significant part in Wicklow's success. In the drawn game he scored the equalising goal on the verge of full time. Pat was also part of the team that defeated, Carlow, Kildare, Louth and Meath to win Div 11 of the National Hurling league. The final was played in Ballycran where Down was the opposition again Pat played a key role in that victory. Pat Sheehan is remembered with great affection in the "Garden County" for his exploits on the Hurling fields and for his rendering of the "Banks". Besides being a great hurler he was an excellent singer and guitar player. To his wife Gorretta, sons Russell, Eric, Robert and Paraic along with extended family members we offer our sincere sympathy.

*Go ndeana Dia trócaire ar a anam.*

## **Declan Walker: Arklow Geraldines Ballymoney.**

It was with great sadness we learned of the death of Declan Walker. Declan was a thorough gentleman. He came from a family that were intrenched in the Gaelic Code. His uncle Billy Redmond was a former player and President of the Geraldines Club. Declan himself in his young days played football with Arklow Geraldines where he was considered to be a very talented player. He first played football with the famous "Fishermen's Pride" in the street leagues. He also played on many successful under age teams with the club. Declan never lost interest in the club and always was interested in the clubs progress. He was married to Margaret Murray another Arklow family who supported the Gaelic Code. Margaret's father was a member of the first Minor team from Arklow to win the county championship in 1941. The term "nature's gentleman" was coned with men like Declan in mind. Of a most unassuming nature he was a friend to all and many appreciated his company advice and assistance. Declan was a devoted family man and was a loving and caring husband and father. Deepest condolences in their sad loss are tendered to his beloved wife Margaret children Paul , Lynn Ann, Ian & Gillian .

*Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam.*

## **Christy Keleghan: Bray Emmets**

Great sadness was experienced in the Bray Emmets club with the passing of Christy Keleghan who was residing in Athlone. Christy who worked with the ESB spent a number of years in Bray where he joined the local Bray

Emmets club. He was an accomplished footballer and a regular on the "Emmets" intermediate team. In 1972 he played a pivotal role in bringing back the "Schweppes Cup" to Bray after an lapse of 35 years when they defeated holders Enniskerry. In 1973 Bray Emmets had another successful year when they reached the county Intermediate final after a great win in the semi-final over Arklow Rock Parnells where Christy was one of their most prominent players. The county final was an all North District affair where the opposition was Enniskerry. In a thrilling game Bray came out on top 1-10 to 2-5 and brought the first Intermediate championship title to the border town. Christy played corner forward on that historic occasion. Christy also found time to help out with the club administration. He acted as secretary for a number of years during his time with the club. He was also a referee and was in charge of many championship games particularly in North Wicklow. He was a member of the county referees committee. He was a native of Shrule Co. Mayo. He was always proud he wore the Green and Red Jersey for his native county. Christy Keleghan was a man of fine qualities whose pleasing quit manner won him many friends on and off the field. To his family we offer our sincere sympathy.

*Go thugadh Dia trocaire ar a anam.*

## **Tomás Halpin: Arklow Geraldines Ballymoney.**

On May 6<sup>th</sup> the death took place of Tomás Halpin. Tomás came from a family that was immersed in everything Irish and Gaelic. His father Michael and his uncle Art were keen

Gaelgóirs and Irish language enthusiasts both played for the club and were on the team that won the county league in 1947. Tomás himself learnt his football playing with the "Fishermen's Pride" in the local Arklow Street leagues. He blossomed into a fine skilful footballer. He was a loyal and regular player on the under 14 and sixteen teams. In 1973 he was a member of the minor football panel that annexed the county championship defeating Blessington. The team reached the "Old IRA CUP" final only to be defeated by St. Kevins Bray after a replay. Tomás was a great community person and for many years was involved on the Board of the Arklow Credit Union. Tomás striking positive attitude and warm personality ensured a wide circle of friends, all of whom felt privileged to knowing a good sportsman and great giver to the local community. To his wife Siobhán, family Geraldine, Michael, Bernie, and Neill we offer our deepest condolences.

*Ar dheis de go raibh a anam.*

### **Michael (Mick) Behan: Knockananna**

The dark days of November had just begun to settle in when news filtered through that Mick Behan had passed to his eternal reward. The news brought profound sadness to the local community and beyond. For several years Mick was at the heart of a wonderful Knockananna team who brought fame and glory to their native place with county and league successes in the late eighties. Knockananna who had never won a county championship, in the '80's had a team of great quality. They contested the Junior "B" finals of '84 '85 and '86 without success. The clubs day

came in 1987 when they defeated Kilcoole in a thrilling final. There was further success that year when they defeated hot favourites and county junior "A" champions An Tochar to win the Swan Cup final. Mick Behan was part of that journey that brought so much success to the club. He wore the number 2 jersey for all those years. In the final of '87 he gave a display of courage and determination that insured it was going to be Knockananna's day. Above all Mick was an unwavering loyal friend to many. Whenever the glory years of Knockananna is discussed reflections on Mick's many fine performances in the red and white jersey will sure to be mentioned in the conversation. We offer our sympathy to Isa, his family Lynda, Audrey, Wendy and Noelle along with extended family members and friends.

*Solas na bhFaitheas ar a anam uasal.*

### **Paul McNaughton: Bray Emmets & Eire Og Greystones**

On Sunday November 6<sup>th</sup> Paul McNaughton passed away peacefully. The news of Paul's death was greeted with great sadness in the local area and beyond. Paul was a great family man and neighbour and was one of nature's true gentlemen. During his life he contributed greatly to many sporting organisations. He played many different spots with success and several different organisations benefited from his sporting abilities. He excelled in Soccer, Rugby and Gaelic Football. When playing for Bray Emmets he was part of the team that brought the "Schweppes Cup" back to Bray Emmets after a lapse of 35 years. In the final he played centre field where his high fielding was inspirational. When wearing the Blue and Gold of the "Garden County" he partnered

Moses Coffey at centre field in the Leinster senior championship of 1974 against Louth . In Rugby he was capped for Ireland 15 times and went on to manage the Irish Rugby team for the World cup in 2011. He also played in an FAI Cup final of 1975. Hugh was inducted in to the Rugby Hall of Fame in 2018 where he was described as “*The very definition of a Sports Man*”. We offer our sympathy to his wife Jean, sons Conor and Cormac and Cian and extended family and friends.

*Ar dheis De go raibh a anam dilis.*

### **Pat Mitchell: Rathnew**

It was with great sadness we learned of the death of Pat Mitchell on November 10<sup>th</sup> after a short illness. Pat was one of life’s true gentlemen , who always had a welcome for one and all. He was born in the village of Laragh in 1944 . As the young Pat Mitchell grew from boy to man his interest and love of Gaelic games began to develop and in particular his love for Gaelic football. Getting married he finally settled in Rathnew a village that is renowned for its success on the playing fields of Wicklow and beyond. It was here he began a journey that would see him rise to become one of the most active and committed within the GAA and in particular the Rathnew GAA club. His work for the club is legendary. The pride and passion he had for the GAA and in particular the “Tached Village” and for the many underage teams he managed and trained knew no bounds. For years he trained and managed the clubs underage teams. He had many successes in particular when in 1982 the under 14 team annexed the county championship and breached a 19-year gap and went on to contest the final of the national

Féile. . He was a member of the clubs committee for many years and former secretary of the juvenile committee. At the county convention of 1998 his work at youth level was recognised when he was elected county Youth Officer. In 2006 he was elected County Chairman of Bord na nOG and in 2013 he was elected county PRO. He also acted for a number of years as a county minor and u21 football selector. In all those positions he excelled in the service he gave. Pats dedication to Rathnew club was evident up to three weeks before he died. In Aughrim after Rathnew had successfully won the minor “B” championship he had the honour of presenting the cup to the team captain. Over the years the keen rivalry between clubs never touched him. Relationships may have been strained elsewhere but not where Pat was concerned, he never had an adversary. His friendship transcended all barriers. The warmth of his personality embraced all comers. Pat will be missed by many none more so than his wife Ann, daughters Amanda, Stephanie and Patrice ,sons Alvin and Stephen to them we offer our deepest sympathy. The appreciation of the community and the clubs of the county for his commitment was reflected in the huge attendances at the obsequies and at his removal to St Joseph’s church and later his internment in Rathnew cemetery. The coffin was draped in the colours of the Rathnew and Laragh club’s colours whose members flanked the hearse in a fitting farewell to a loyal clubman. A grave side oration was delivered by former county chairman Jimmy Dunne.

*Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam Dilís. Ní bheidh do leithéid arís ann. Beir bua agus beannacht ar do thuras go dtí ár d’Tiarna.*

## **Michael Lawler: Carnew Emmets & Kilkenny**

The death of Michael Lawler in November was received with deep sadness in Carnew and with the county hurling fraternity . It brought back memories of his exploits from those hectic days on the hurling fields of Wicklow in the 70's. Mick arrived in Wicklow in 1970 and set up home in Tinahely. He came to Wicklow with an impressive curriculum vitae. With his club Coon in 1967 he won a junior championship. In the All-Ireland hurling final of 1969 he played centre field for Kilkenny . He was one of the stars on that occasion scoring 0-2 , sending in a 60-yard side line cut that was sent to the net, defeating Cork to take home the Liam McCarthy Cup. He was the first player from Coon to win an All-Ireland senior medal. He was not long in Wicklow when he threw in his lot with Carnew Emmets . During his time with the club he gave great commitment figuring prominently in the club colours over a number of years. In the county hurling final of 1976 Avondale were the opposition . Wearing the number 14 jersey he scored four vital points ensuring the O' Donohue cup would again be returning to Carnew. He also hurled for the county and gave some outstanding displays. Many of his former Carnew team mates travelled to Kilkenny for the mass and funeral. He was laid to rest in Conahy cemetery. To his family we extend the sympathy of the Gales of Wicklow.

*Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam.*

## **Mick Mills: Blessington and Donard**

Mick Mills of Blessington and Donard passed away on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> November after a long illness bravely borne. The news was received with deep sadness within the community. He will be fondly remembered for many things by his family and friends but one thing that quickly comes to mind when we think of Mick is how great a GAA supporter he was. Mick was part of a trio of stewards that for over 20 years travelled each Sunday from Blessington to Aughrim . He was the absolute steward. His banter and at the same time firmness was always to the fore and in particular on big match days. He was a member of the Blessington club committee for three decades and in that time represented the club at both County Board meetings and annual conventions. He was a great fundraiser for the Blessington club and was one of their most reliable Lotto ticket sellers. Mick enjoyed both club and county Board meetings as no one else did and , in debate could always be relied on to find a dimension to the topic under discussion that no one else had thought of. His love of the GAA was shown in the high esteem he was held by the Gaels of Blessington, Donard and beyond by the fine gathering at his removal to the Church of Our Lady in Blessington and his burial in Burgage Cemetery. To his wife Bernie sisters Josie and Gretta along with extended family and friends we offer our sincere sympathy.

*Ar dheis De go raibh an anam uasal.*