

Stadium News

GAA



Community Liaison Officer Appointed

As the Uachtarán Cumann Luthchleas Gael Christy Cooney stated in the Christmas issue of Stadium News it is our intention to continuously work towards the establishment of a better working relationship with our surrounding neighbours in order to put in place a meaningful structure that will endure into the future.

When Dublin City Council set up the Croke Park Liaison Committee in October of 2008 we were happy to take our place at the table. The work of this Committee resulted in the commissioning and publication of a detailed study "Croke Park Social, Economic, Business and Environmental Influences".

The comprehensive document which ran to almost 250 pages came up with a series of conclusions and recommendations under the headings of (1) Communications, (2) Traffic / Clean-up, (3) Community Games and (4) Urban and Economic Planning.

While we have been working through those recommendations I think it is fair to say that one of the key recommendations was the appointment of a Community Liaison Officer. This took more time than we had originally envisaged. I am delighted to report now, however, that we have appointed Mr Ger Dorgan to the position and he has recently taken office.

We are delighted to welcome him and hope that over the coming months and years he will implement some of the recommendations and put in place the structure necessary to create greater harmony between the stadium and the local community.

In this newsletter you will find more information about Ger and some of the plans he already has in mind.

Earlier this year the FAI and the IRFU, completed their new stadium in Ballsbridge thus seeing the end of our arrangement to host all of their internationals. We would like to wish them well in their new home. We are also mindful of the fact that their departure will have a significantly positive impact on the local community with the removal of some ten major occasions during the year.

There is no doubt that the launch of our Community Fund in 2009 has been very well received. As you see from inside this newsletter we continue to receive applications from a wide number of different sources. It really has been

most successful but I would appeal to organisations all around the stadium to consider it in the coming months. I have absolutely no doubt that there are other projects out there that are both deserving and needful of support.

May I once again on behalf of all in the Association take this opportunity to thank you for your continuing understanding and for our part to assure you of our continuing desire to alleviate any of the problem areas that have been identified.

Peter McKenna
Stadium Director

CROKE PARK ADVICE CENTRE

One of the first initiatives undertaken by Ger Dorgan has been to set up an advice centre which will be based in the Ballybough Community Centre.

Ger will be available there on a number of different days with a view to meeting anyone who wishes to talk about Croke Park in relation to issues, concerns and hopefully suggestions.

The first two sessions are planned for **Monday 13 September** and **Monday 27 September**. In both cases Ger will be available at **Ballybough Community Centre from 7pm to 9pm**.

Introducing Ger Dorgan

Ger Dorgan has been appointed Community Liaison Officer for Croke Park Stadium. Ger has extensive experience in community and voluntary activities on the northside of Dublin for many years. A native of Cork he has lived most of his life in Dublin and is happy to confirm that his two daughters are true-blue Northside Dubs!

Ger was involved as chairperson of a local residents association in Ayrfield for a number of years and is a great advocate for the work done by residents associations and community groups. He is also involved in Coolock community based local radio station, NEAR 90FM, where he is mainly engaged with groups dealing with issues of local importance.

Ger has already taken some steps with a view to learning at first hand more about the issues in relation to the stadium. His intention is to meet as many people in the local community as possible. He has already taken the opportunity to attend a number of events in the stadium with a view to seeing how match days operate at first hand.

He is particularly conscious of the stadium's promise to organise a local community public meeting later this year and he is currently working on plans for such a meeting which he hopes will take place some time in October. Full details will be circulated to everyone in advance of that.

The one thing that Ger stresses is the need for involvement and participation by everyone. To that end he has set up an email address for queries and ideas.



You can contact Ger at:
crokeparkcommunity@gmail.com
or, alternatively, you can write to him at
**Ger Dorgan,
Community Liaison Officer,
Pairc an Chrocaigh Teo,
Croke Park,
Jones Road, Dublin 3.
Tel: 01 865 8607.**

COMMUNITY

The Croke Park Community Fund which was launched in 2009 continues to attract a really strong response from the local community. To date in a little over 18 months we have received applications from some 63 separate projects.

In 2009 we supported 20 projects while already this year a further 12 projects have received word that they had been approved for support. In addition a further 20 projects are currently under review and is highly likely that the majority of them will receive funding.

Some of the projects that have been approved for funding are shown on this page. Applications have been from many different sources including local schools, sports clubs, voluntary groups, residents associations and festivals. The kinds of projects that have been supported range from community garden upgrades, whiteboards for schools, Christmas parties, kitting out of a new premises, computers, books for schools, training equipment.

Full details of the fund are available on the Croke Park website (**www.crokepark.ie**).

The main principles / criteria behind the fund are as follows:

- The fund is intended to support projects which in the main will take place within a 1.5km radius of the stadium.
- If there are other projects that exist slightly outside that radius but which benefit members of the community in the local area these will be considered.
- Projects should benefit a group of people (minimum ten), 80% of whom are normally resident in the catchment area.
- No project will receive 100% of their total costs.
- Applicants should demonstrate that other funds are available for their project or should outline where the other funds are going to be found.
- The intention is to support the widest number of suitable projects within the area.
- Funding will either help initiate a project or top up a project that is already underway.
- Funding can be applied for by any not for profit group / project / initiative / programme / activity / equipment / facility which is a once-off.

FUND UPDATE

- Ongoing costs/overheads or administration costs are not eligible for funding.
- The same event / activity will not be funded in successive years.
- The fund is intended not alone to create new facilities within the community but also to support existing facilities / services.
- Applications should be made as far as possible in advance of when the funding is required.
- No specific closing date for applications. All applications will be dealt with in the quarter of the year in which they arise.
- Funding will be provided on the basis of original invoices and vouched expenditure being provided.
- All applications for funding must be made on the standard application form which can be downloaded from www.crokepark.ie. They are also available from Croke Park Stadium Community Fund, Croke Park Stadium, Jones's Road, Dublin 3.
- Completed forms can be sent by mail to the address above or emailed to community@crokepark.ie
- All completed applications will be recorded and acknowledged and an indicative timeframe given for processing.
- A decision to award funding can be withdrawn if the terms and conditions of the application are not adhered to.
- The funding does not create a precedent for the same or a similar application to receive funding in the future.
- The funding must be drawn down within a one year period unless otherwise agreed with the community fund committee.
- A list of all funded projects will be included on the Croke Park website.
- Successful applicants must acknowledge the Croke Park stadium community fund contribution in a meaningful way.

Projects Where Support Has Been Committed

The following organisations and projects have been accepted for funding and in many cases the funds have already been provided.

St. Lawrence O'Tooles Boys School	Outdoor soft play area
St. Josephs CBS	Outdoor sensory play area
Dublin Adult Learning Centre	Interactive whiteboard
Fairview/Marino Festival Committee	Free family fun festival
St. Josephs GAA Club	Structural development
St. Lawrence O'Tooles Girls School	Interactive whiteboard
Summer Street North Residents Committee	Community garden
Scoil Mobhí	Interactive whiteboard
Brendan Behan Court Residents	Garden upgrade
Liberty BELLS	Events & Training
Clonliffe Croke Park Community Hall	Training & computer upgrade
Summerhill Senior Peoples Complex	Garden upkeep and events
Clonliffe Croke Park Residents Association	Community events/Celebration
Foige Marino Youth Club	Lessons/Training
Sean McDermott Street Taekwon-Do School	Jigsaw mats for training
Clonliffe Croke Park Community Hall	Installing security alarms
HOPE	Premises funds
St. Vincent's Girls School	Interactive whiteboard
Gardiner Street Convent School	Interactive whiteboard
Inner City Organisation Network	Two newspaper productions
Hay Project	Kitting out new premises
Phibsborough Community Arts Festival	Community Arts Festival
Rothar	Bike repair and training
Foige Glasnevin Youth Club	Group trip
Marguerite Road Club	Street Party
Hill Street Family Resource Centre	Two Sewing machines / one over locker
NCCCAP	Laptop & Projectors

A further 20 projects are currently under consideration.



Stadium joins with Local School to create unique Exhibition

The GAA Museum in Croke Park Stadium recently joined forces with Central Model Senior School on Marlborough Street, to create a unique exhibition which is currently on display in the GAA Museum. The exhibition will run until Thursday 30 September.

The exhibition "My GAA Hero" is the culmination of three months work between the School and the Museum. Work began last March when the School's 6th class pupils visited the Museum to select their GAA Heroes who could potentially feature in the Exhibition.

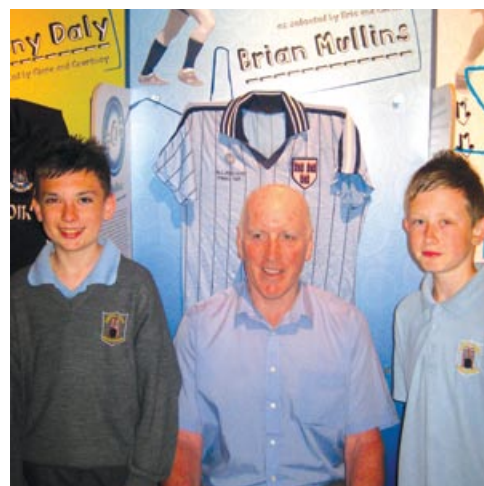
The school's pupils then wrote to their chosen GAA heroes and requested items such as football boots and jerseys to go on display in the Museum for the Summer – and their hard work has certainly paid off.

Dublin children and adults alike will be particularly keen to see Paul Clarke's football boots as worn in the 1995 All Ireland Final. Paul scored the winning point to ensure an All Ireland victory for Dublin. Jason Sherlock's jerseys from the 1995 and 2009 Leinster finals are also on display along with Brian Mullins 1983 All Ireland jersey.

Stephen Cluxton's goal-keeping gloves and his Parnell's club top are also there.

Kerry visitors to the Museum will be able to check out Kieran Donaghy's treasured Kerry jerseys alongside team mate, Colm Cooper's signed 2005 All Star Shirt. While the legendary Páidí O'Se's 1982 All Ireland jersey also features.

Other items of interest also include Colm O'Rourke's 1991 All Ireland Meath jersey; Peter Canavan's football boots as worn in the 2003 All Ireland Final; Nicky English's 1989 All Ireland Tipperary jersey and his childhood Tipperary jersey; Glen Ryan's handwritten 1988 Leinster final winning speech; Anthony Daly's Dublin hurling "bainisteoir" jersey; Ciaran McGeeney's 2005 Armagh Ulster Final jersey and a selection of DJ Carey's handball jerseys. All in all a unique exhibition well worth visiting.



Fixtures

The remaining fixtures for 2010 are as follows:

September

5 September:	GAA All Ireland Hurling Final
12 September:	Gala All Ireland Camogie Final
19 September:	GAA All Ireland Football Final
26 September:	TG4 All Ireland Ladies Football Final

October

3 October:	GAA All Ireland Football Final (if replay needed)
30 October:	International Rules

Fixtures and events are subject to change