

Stadium News



Seasons Greetings

From Christy Cooney
President of the GAA

Dear Neighbour,

I hope you have all managed to weather the snowy spell and can now look forward to the Christmas break. In our final newsletter of 2010 we will bring you right up to date on all stadium community initiatives. A provisional fixture list is also included with details of all proposed fixtures for the year ahead.

On a seasonal note we were again delighted to host the annual Old Folks Community Christmas Party in conjunction with Fitzgibbon Street Garda Station on Sunday 12th December. We had a fantastic day with over 500 guests from the local community and would like to thank all staff and suppliers who gave of their time to support the community. Croke Park staff are also working with the local St Vincent De Paul on their Christmas Food Appeal to provide much needed provisions to local homes in this area.

In line with our sustainability credentials, we are offering a Community Christmas Waste Recycling Service in early January (see details inside). We will accept and compost your old Christmas trees and recycle old fairy lights and Christmas gift packaging, so please remember to hold onto these items and we will be open for drop off from January 4th – 20th.

One of the most important stadium actions this year has been the appointment of Ger Dorgan as Community Liaison Officer. Ger is fully committed to improving the relationship between the stadium and the local community. I do hope you will give him your full support. Ger has also run community clinics in the Ballybough Community Centre and these will be held throughout the 2011 season starting in February. Details of clinics will be included in all newsletters and will also be available on www.crokepark.ie/about/community.

We recently hosted a meeting for local residents in the Community Centre. Those of you who attended will be aware that it was an open meeting where people had an opportunity to point out their concerns and issues in relation to events at the stadium. (Notes on the meeting can be found on our website www.crokepark.ie). The meeting was beneficial as it set the agenda for a follow-up to review progress on the recommendations from the Dublin City Council Croke Park Study (2008). This meeting will be scheduled for early next year. Further details will be advised online and through the media.

We are continually adding new recipients to our newsletter database and over 13,000 households in the area will receive this newsletter. It is also available in local shops and on our website. For all those with access to the internet, bear in mind that all relevant information, including planning application notices, are now posted on www.crokepark.ie/about/community.

Over the years you have asked us about work opportunities for local people. I am pleased to report that the numbers of local people working in the stadium on event days has risen considerably.

Our largest employer Fitzers Catering, now employs over 30% of its workforce locally and the last six security personnel hired by Brinks are from the local area.

The Community Fund has been one of the real success stories for the local community. We launched in 2009 and to date over €150,000 has been committed to local projects. Details of projects funded in 2010 are set out overleaf.

Some of the projects funded have been local school projects and in addition to this we have worked with local schools on projects and initiatives within the stadium such as the My Hero GAA Museum exhibition (6th Class boys and girls of the Central Model School) and the BS 8901 sustainability certification (O'Connell Schools). We are also inviting local DEIS schools to book a complimentary visit to the GAA Museum between now and February 2011.

May I take this opportunity on behalf of all involved both in the stadium and in the wider GAA to wish you all the compliments of the season. I do hope that you and all of your friends and family have a safe and happy Christmas.

Is Mise

Críostóir Ó Cuana

Uachtarán Chumann Lúthchleas
Gael / GAA President

Community Fund Supports Growing Number of Projects

The Croke Park Community Fund, which was set up in 2009 is receiving applications from an ever increasing number of local organisations as word of the Fund spreads. This year alone there has been 60 applications for funding. Projects range from support for local Festivals, through to educational equipment for many local schools.

The Fund has been set up to help fund projects within the area 1.5 kilometres around the stadium, with the proviso that the positive impact of any project must benefit the people living in the area.

Full details of how to make an application, along with the application form, are to be found at the Croke Park website.

You can get a physical copy by contacting Ger Dorgan, Community Liaison Officer at 8658607.



Alan Wise, Tommy Condren and Tom Kiernan of Marino / Fairview Community Festival Committee pictured with Ger Dorgan and the Community Fund plaque.



Lorraine Doherty of the HAYE project being presented with the Community Fund Plaque by Croke Park Community Liaison Officer Ger Dorgan.

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 Josephs/OCB GAA Club	Club House Facilities
Brendan Behan Court Residents	Garden Revamp
Foroige HAY Project	Furbishment of New Premises
Phibsborough Community Arts Festival	Arts Festival "Phizzfest"
Rothar - Cycling For The Community	Bike repair/building class for youths
Corinthians Boxing Club	Purchase of boiler and two radiators
Clonliffe and Croke Park Residents Association	Family Christmas Party
St Josephs CBS Primary School	Lexia equipment for Special Needs Children
Glasnevin Foroige Youth Club	Trip for youths to Carlingford Adventure Centre
Marguerite Road Club	Annual party to encourage a mix of young and old
St. Laurence O'Toole's Junior Boys School	Development of Parent and Child Play-To-Learn Room
Hill Street Family Resource Centre	Two Sewing Machines and One Overlocker
Marino/Fairview Community Festival Committee	Family Festival Day
Community After Schools Project	Summer Project Running For 8 Weeks
St. Laurence O'Tooles CBS	Library Development Project
North City Centre Community Action Project	Laptop and Projector
St. Columba's School	Fully Interactive Whiteboards
Croke Villas Youth Club	Trip to Dublin Zoo and Family Fun Day
Central Model Infants' School	Development of Play Area and PE Facilities
St. Vincents Primary School, Glasnevin	Whiteboards
Central Model S.N.S	PA/Audio System
Gardiner Street Convent School	Computers and Football and Hurling Training
Cumann Scoil Ui Chonail CLG	Training and Coaching
Summer Street North Residents Group	Official Opening of Garden
CrossCare/Dorset Street Afterschool Club	Creation of Afterschool Service to Primary Children
St. Mary's National School	Conversion of an empty classroom to a library
The Cavan Centre	Purchase of defibrillator

Senior Citizens PARTY SUCCESS

Over 500 senior Citizens turned up for the annual Christmas Party in the stadium on December 12. The party as always was co-hosted by the stadium and the Gardaí from Fitzgibbon Street and once again, despite the best efforts of our winter, a great time was had by all.

The party which has now been going for more than ten years has become almost an institution with many people looking forward to it each year.

As ever thanks are due to both the members of the Gardaí and the stadium staff, particularly Fitzers Catering, who gave their time to plan and organise the party and to be there on the day.

Thanks are also due to many of the companies working with the stadium who donate to the party every year.



Local School Teams up with GAA Museum

The 6th Class boys and girls of the local Central Model School teamed up with the GAA Museum earlier this year in a unique project that saw them interact with some of their sporting heroes from the world of GAA.

The result of the collaboration is a unique Exhibition that is currently running in the museum and will remain open until March 2011.

The Exhibition is called My Hero, and it features some of Ireland's biggest sporting stars. The children involved selected their stars and then contacted them asking them could they supply something associated with their sporting career to feature in the Exhibition.

There was a fantastic response and the children built the various items donated into the Exhibition. To see the results of their labours we would urge everyone to visit the museum before the Exhibition finishes in March next.



A World First for the Stadium



In 2010 Croke Park celebrated the distinction of becoming the first stadium anywhere in the world to receive the prestigious BS 8901 certification for sustainable event management. This is the highest accolade of its kind.

It is recognition for the concerted efforts of all the stadium team to ensure that the stadium operates to the highest standards.

To mark the achievement the stadium linked up with the local O'Connells Primary School in a novel initiative. The Stadium used compost, produced from its recycling initiatives, at the school where the pupils planted a commemorative tree in the school's garden - an excellent way of demonstrating to the pupil's the benefits of recycling and good management practices.

Our picture shows people from the school, with stadium Director Peter McKenna, on a visit to the stadium to mark the initiative.

Croke Park

Provisional Fixtures List 2011

February		
Saturday 12th	All Ireland Intermediate, Junior Club Football Finals	Evening
Sunday 13th	All Ireland Intermediate, Junior Club Hurling Finals	
Saturday 19th	Fixture - TBC	Evening
Saturday 26th	Fixture - TBC	Evening
March		
Sunday 6th	Camogie Intermediate / Junior Club Finals.	
Thursday 17th	All Ireland Club Hurling / Football Finals	
Saturday 19th	Fixture - TBC	Evening
April		
Saturday 2nd	Provisional Night Fixture	
Saturday 9th	All Ireland Colleges Football Finals	
Sunday 24th	N.F.L. Finals Div 1 Div 11	
June		
Saturday 4th	Meagher Rackard Ring Cup Finals	
Sunday 5th	Leinster SF Championship Qrt Finals	
Sunday 5th	Kildare / Wicklow V Meath	
Sunday 5th	Dublin V Longford / Laoise	
Saturday 18th	Take That Concert	Evening
Sunday 19th	Take That Concert	Evening
Sunday 26th	Leinster SF Championship Semi Finals	
Sunday 26th	Kildare / Wicklow / Meath V Dublin / Longford / Laoise	
Sunday 26th	Wexford / Offaly / Westmeath V Carlow / Louth	
July		
Sunday 3rd	Leinster M.H. S.H. Finals	
Sunday 10th	Leinster M.F.S.F. Finals	
Saturday 23rd	Round 4 - All Ireland Football Championship Qualifiers	
Sunday 24th	Round 4 - All Ireland Football Championship Qualifiers	
Saturday 30th	All Ireland Senior Football Quarter Finals	
Sunday 31st	All Ireland Senior Football Quarter Finals	
August		
Monday 1st	All Ireland Senior Football Qrt Finals - TBC	
Sunday 7th	All Ireland Senior Hurling Semi Final (Leinster V Qrt Final Winners)	
Sunday 14th	All Ireland Minor Hurling Semi Final (Leinster V Qrt Final Winners)	
Sunday 14th	All Ireland Senior Hurling Semi Final (Munster V Qrt Final Winners)	
Sunday 21st	All Ireland Senior Football Semi Final (Connacht V Munster)	
Sunday 14th	All Ireland Minor Football Semi Final (Connacht V Munster)	
Sunday 28th	All Ireland Senior Football Semi Final (Ulster V Leinster)	
Sunday 14th	All Ireland Minor Football Semi Final (Ulster V Leinster)	
September		
Sunday 4th	All Ireland Hurling Finals (replay 25.09.11)	
Sunday 11th	All Ireland Camogie Finals	
Sunday 18th	All Ireland Football Finals (replay 2.10.11)	
Sunday 25th	All Ireland Ladies Football Finals	
October		
Saturday 8th	All Ireland C.I.E. Football and Hurling	

Wishing You a Green Christmas!

Croke Park is offering Community Waste Recycling facilities after the Christmas period.

Details are as follows:

Croke Park, Cusack Stand
(via St. Josephs Ave)
4th – 20th January

DROP OFF TIMES

Mon-Fri 8am – 8pm

Sat/Sun 10am – 4pm

- **Christmas Tree recycling for compost**
- **WEEE domestic recycling** (e.g. fairy lights / batteries)
- **Cardboard Recycling**

www.crokepark.ie/about/community

Useful Numbers

There are a number of phone numbers which you may find of use in relation to the operation of the stadium.

These are as follows:

Ger Dorgan

Community Liaison Office

Telephone: 01 865 8607

Email: crokeparkcommunity@gmail.com

Dublin City Council

Waste Collection hotline

Freephone: 1 800 248 348

Dublin City Council Local Area Office

Sean McDermott Street

Email: central.area@dublincity.ie

Garda Síochána

Fitzgibbon Street

Telephone: 01 666 8400

Please note the Garda number can be used for application forms for Residents Parking Permits.

Advice Centre Opening Times

Monday 24th January from 7.30pm to 9pm at the Ballybough Community Centre.

Ger Dorgan will also be available at the Advice Centre on the second and fourth Monday from February through to September from 7.30pm to 9pm.