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Chairman's Address

As we close out on 2023, I would like to extend my gratitude to all our members, families, committee and all who continue to provide enormous support to the club. Through your generous financial contributions, we can support Kilkenny GAA teams and provide a social setting for those who reside in the Dublin region.

On the playing field, pride of place goes to the Kilkenny clubs and their tremendous success through Leinster and All Ireland campaigns. To the hurlers and camogie players of Shamrocks and Dicksboro, congratulations on their outstanding achievements. And equally, to O'Loughlin Gaels, Thomastown and Tullogher Rosbercon, good luck to all involved in the respective All Ireland Club finals next month.

At a county level, Derek and his management team took on the mantle of leading the team. By retaining the Leinster title and making the two national finals, they have made a progressive step in the transition to a new generation. Through the introduction of emerging club talent and the blend of experienced players, there is no shortage of ambition going into 2024. At the end of 2023, two of the most stylish Kilkenny hurlers to grace the field, Padraig Walsh and Richie Hogan, announced their retirements. Richie and Padraig had phenomenal playing careers, winning club and county All Irelands and as Kilkenny stalwarts act as an inspiration to the next generation.

Looking forward to 2024 we realise our contribution as a supporters club needs to expand to support our teams and membership, to which I am pleased to share updates on a few exciting events. An expansion of our initiatives to generate funds which will be directed towards development of academy players and championship fixtures. This will be achieved through:

- Golf classics occurring in May (Kilkenny venue) and in August (Killeen golf club), which will include past player options and more for teams and an emphasis on business promotion for those who generously sponsor teams.
- A 'Black and Amber' forum is planned for March 2024 in the form of a business breakfast / networking event, at which keynote speakers and business promotion will be part of the offering. Plans are advancing and this intends to be highly beneficial to the business sector.
- We will continue to support the social dimension and a planned 'Trip to Galway' for the Leinster championship fixture is set in the diary.

Finally, to all our members, committee, and contributors, without your continued support, this would not be possible and I appreciate all your efforts.

Have a Happy Christmas and best wishes as we venture forward into 2024.
Niall

Message from the Treasurer December 2023

My thanks to all members for their continuing support in 2023. Your great support for our teams, especially the senior hurlers, ensured a strong demand for tickets throughout the year.

We were able to support the team when playing in Dublin and also sponsored the team's overnight stay in Belfast for the Leinster Championship match with Antrim.

The club was also happy to support Ballyhale Shamrocks in their victorious All-Ireland Final.

In all, our Club contributed directly to Kilkenny GAA in 2023 over €54,000.

Membership continues to be stable thanks to the efforts of members led by Jim Dunne and John Mooney and we again supported strongly the Hurlers Co-Op Draw. Thanks to all members for the continuing financial support.

The Golf Classic under the stewardship of Eddie Nolan, John Nolan and Willie Grant continues to be our principal fundraiser.

I mentioned at our AGM in November that rising costs make the challenge of preparing teams increasingly difficult. Looking to 2024, it will be necessary to expand our fundraising efforts. Niall has outlined above initiatives in conjunction with Kilkenny County Board and the Kilkenny Branch of the Supporters Club. We will advise on developments as they happen.

My thanks and best wishes to all members for the Christmas season and 2024.

Seamus O'Neill

Message from the Membership Secretaries December 2023

Subscriptions continue to be healthy with 25 new members added in 2023. Social activities have not recovered due to Covid-19. Special thanks to Niall Butler for coordinating the successful Hurlers Co-Op Draw. We were pleased to be able to hold our annual Golf Classic once again. Thanks to Eddie Nolan, John Nolan, and Willie Grant the event proved highly successful and continues to be our principal fundraiser.

Best wishes to all members for the Christmas season and for 2024.

Jim Dunne/John Mooney

Kilkenny Management

The committee wish county managers, selectors and teams across all codes success in competitions in 2024.

AGM

A large crowd attended the Kilkenny GAA Supporters Club (Dublin Branch) AGM which was held in the Academy Plaza Hotel on Tuesday November 28th. After a meet and greet with tea and coffee, the meeting was opened by Niall Butler as Chair with some introductory words and an invitation that the meeting take a moment of silence in respect of bereavements over the year. Seamus O'Neill, Club Treasurer, provided a report detailing the Club's accounts for the year before delivering a Secretary's report summary. Jim Dunne, as Joint Membership Secretary, provided a comprehensive report on membership and asked those present to make a special effort to encourage existing members to renew and to get extra members to join.

Chairman Niall Butler thanked the Kilkenny GAA officers and representatives for their attendance and partnership approach and to the Club officers and committee their efforts through the year. He reiterated the role and purpose of the Dublin Branch and that our support extends to hurling and camogie teams from Kilkenny, at club and county level, when playing matches in the capital. Niall then detailed events of the past year, congratulating the Shamrocks on their All Ireland win and Derek and the team on retaining the Leinster Championship and reaching back to back All Ireland finals. He laid out Supporters Club plans and fundraising initiatives for 2024 and invited suggestions from the floor for ideas and initiatives and thanked the membership for all the support over the year.

Kilkenny Co. Board chairperson PJ Kenny then oversaw the election of club officers. All existing officers were returned unopposed and Laura Dalton was nominated from the floor and elected to the role of vice Secretary. In his follow on address, PJ provided an overview of topical issues such as Michael Fennelly's role as Performance Lead, the new gym in Dunmore and initiatives in fundraising. PJ extended congratulations to the five Kilkenny players named as 2023 All Stars. PJ then showed those in attendance the soon-to-be-launched Kilkenny jersey and thanked the Dublin Branch of the Supporters Club for their support and generous contributions to Kilkenny GAA teams. Tommy Maher from the Kilkenny Branch of the Supporters Club then delivered a talk on Digital Marketing and outlined the exciting potential around the utilisation by the Co Board of Myclub360, a software hub that will provide access to news, educational courses, skill-building opportunities and provide potential for revenue generation.



Kilkenny Senior manager Derek Lyng addresses the gathering



Club Chair Niall Butler making his address

Niall then invited Kilkenny Senior Hurling manager Derek Lyng to address the meeting in advance of his presentation to Richie Hogan on behalf of the Dublin Branch. Derek spoke of Richie's immense contribution to Kilkenny hurling, his exemplary attitude and his commitment and dedication shown. He described, whether it be as a teammate or manager, that it was always worth it, even to have Richie on the pitch for just one minute. Richie then took the microphone to thank the Supporters Club acknowledging his time spent in Dublin and, in a humorous exchange, the assistance provided by one Supporters Club officer in particular along the way.

As a final act of the night, Niall invited Seamus O'Neill to present a framed print to Club President Eddie Nolan by way of a delayed acknowledgement of his immense contribution to the Supporters Club for over twenty years, most of them as Chairman. Eddie then delivered a few words by way of acceptance.

Niall brought official proceedings to a close and a selection of hot food and sandwiches prepared by members of the excellent hotel team were enjoyed by all. Those in attendance got the opportunity to mingle and many took the opportunity to get a photo with Richie, Derek and of course, Bob O'Keeffe (aka the Leinster Senior Hurling Cup!). Kilkenny calendars were fresh off the press and for sale on the night along with the excellent book, Power – A Family Memoir with proceeds to Cois Noir and Kilkenny/Carlow Homecare.

New Jersey

The new Kilkenny GAA Jersey and leisurewear have now gone on sale on the O'Neills website and will be available in shops nationwide.

Food and nutrition co-operative Tirlán now proudly features on the new Kilkenny GAA jersey, alongside Avonmore, its market leading dairy brand. The Avonmore name has featured proudly on Kilkenny jerseys since 1994, making it one of the longest running GAA partnerships in the country.



County Championship News

Hurling

O'Loughlin Gaels pipped Ballyhale Shamrocks by a solitary point (0-20 to 0-19) to win the St Canice's Credit Union Senior Hurling championship, their fifth Kilkenny SHC title overall and their first title in seven years. Danesfort were relegated after just one year in the top flight.

Thomastown, as Michael Lyng Motors Hyundai Intermediate champions, will join the senior ranks for 2024 after completely outclassing Mooncoin in the final (1-29 to 0-17).

Tullogher Rosbercon's defeat of St Lachtain's in the JJ Kavanagh & Sons Junior Premier final 2023, (1-19 to 0-17) will see them elevated to Intermediate level for 2024.

Football

Mullinavat (3-7) defeated Thomastown (1-9) in the J.J Kavanagh and Sons Senior Football Championship 2023 Final.

In the JJ Kavanagh and Sons Intermediate Football Championship 2023 Final, Carrickshock (1 – 11) had the edge over Piltown (0 – 11).

The Junior Football Championship 2023 Final saw Bennetsbridge (7 – 6) overcoming Galmoy (1 – 6), by a comfortable score line.

Camogie

Warm Congratulations from the Supporters Club to Michael Lyng Motors Hyundai Senior Championship 2023 winners Dicksboro who went on to claim their first AIB All Ireland Camogie club senior championship title with a hard fought win (0-18 to 1-11) in Croke Park over 'three in a row' chasing Sarsfields of Galway.

Rower Inistioge (1-11) defeated Mooncoin (0-12) after extra time to win the Shaws Department Store Intermediate Championship 2023 Final.

John Lockes-Bennettsbridge (0-16) defeated Graiguenamanagh (2-2) to win the Kilkenny River Court Hotel Junior Camogie Championship 2023 Final.

PwC All Star Awards 2023

Congratulations to Eoin Murphy, Mikey Butler, Huw Lawlor, TJ Reid and Eoin Cody, our 2023 All Stars.

Eoin is now a four-time All-Star goalkeeper after making some wonderful stops during the season and in particular, his superb Cat-like reflex save against Peter Duggan from Clare in the semi-final.

Mikey Butler and Huw Lawlor both achieving their second awards, represent Kilkenny in the full back line and Eoin Cody and TJ Reid in the forwards.



Whilst this was Eoin's first All Star, TJ now moves into the top 10 most decorated All-Stars of all time. In claiming an equally magnificent seventh All-Star in 12 years, he joins county men and icons Noel Skehan and JJ Delaney as well as Cork dual star Jimmy Barry Murphy and Kerry football hero Mikey Sheehy on seven awards. He is one behind Kerry's Colm Cooper, two behind DJ Carey, Tommy Walsh and Pat Spillane in a list still headed by his Ballyhale Shamrocks club colleague Henry Shefflin who amassed 11 in his career.

In Camogie, congratulations to Half Forward Denise Gaule on her 4th award and on being the county's sole representative on the 2023 team. Dominated by Cork with 8 All Stars and with All-Ireland Championship finalists, Waterford picked up three. Denise's scored 1-10 and a superb goal in the knife edge quarter final loss to champions Cork.

Fixtures and Results

For County and Club Fixtures lists, results, other news and updates visit the:

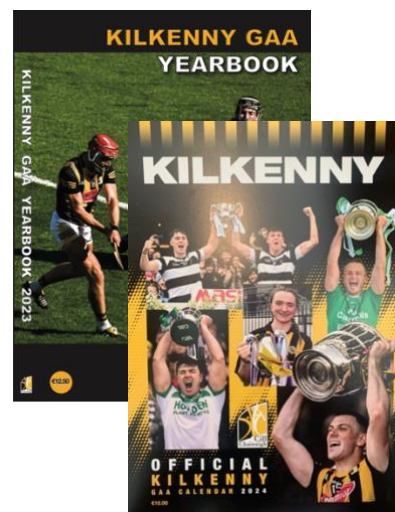
- Kilkenny GAA Website <https://kilkennygaa.ie/fixtures-results/>
- Kilkenny Camogie Website <http://www.kilkennycamogie.ie>

Kilkenny Yearbook and Calendar

Kilkenny GAA and Kilkenny GAA Supporters club have released their calendar for 2024. As usual, the calendar features some of the most memorable images from the season just past. The calendar is now on sale, at a cost of €10 and to order yours, just contact Niall Butler our Club Chairman (086 8071821 - email niall.e.butler@gmail.com) or your committee member.

The club will be happy to arrange delivery.

The Kilkenny GAA Yearbook for 2023 has now been released and is available to buy in shops around Kilkenny and the county. Priced at €12.50 it provides a comprehensive review of all things GAA from right around the county during the year.



All Ireland Club Championships

Congratulations to each of the 3 Kilkenny sides who have advanced to the AIB GAA Hurling All-Ireland Senior Club Championship Final at their respective grade. All games will be broadcast live on KCLR fm.

Senior

Following their defeat of Dublin side Na Fianna in the Leinster Final by the narrowest of margins, O'Loughlin Gaels beat Ruairi Óg, Cushendall from Antrim, again by the narrowest of margins, 1-17 to 1-16. They will now face St Thomas (Galway), who won their shoot-out 4 – 2 against Waterford's Ballygunner after the teams finished level at full time. The final will be in Croke Park on Sun January 21st.

Intermediate

Thomastown were crowned AIB Leinster Intermediate Club Champions following their defeat of Wicklow's Bray Emmets on a score-line of 2-22 to 1-9. Their semi-final game against Setanta from Donegal was played in Newry on December 17th and they came away easy winners in a one sided game, with the score line reading 6-26 to 1-8. They will play Castlelyons (Cork) in the final on Sat January 13th in Croke Park.

Junior

Tullagher Rosbercon as AIB Leinster Junior Club Champions Tullagher Rosbercon following their win over Offaly's Carrig Riverstown in O'Connor Park, Tullamore. The final score line following a match played in very windy conditions was Tullagher Rosbercon 2-14, Carrig Riverstown 0-8. The Downs, Westmeath was the venue for their semi-final victory over Castleblaney Hurling by 3-20 to 1-11. They now face St Catherine's (Cork) in the final on Sat January 13th in Croke Park.

In Loving Memory



The Club remembers and has had a Mass said for all members and their families who have passed away in 2023.
Ar dheis Dé go raibh a n-anamacha.

2024 National Hurling League.**Roinn 1A**

Kilkenny, Cork, Wexford, Clare, Waterford, Offaly.

Roinn 1B

Westmeath, Antrim, Dublin, Galway, Limerick, Tipperary.

Each team to play five ordinary rounds within their group.

- Top two teams in each group play in the Semi-Finals 1st Placed Team Roinn 1A v 2nd Placed Team Roinn 1B
- 2nd Placed Team 1A v 1st Placed Team 1B
- Two Semi-Final winners will play in the Final.
- Venues for the Semi-Finals, Final & Relegation Play-Off will be determined by the CCC.
- New format for 2025, to be based on final league placing after the conclusion of the 2024 Allianz Hurling League.

Kilkenny have Wexford at home in UPMC Nowlan Park on the opening weekend. They then travel to Cork six days later for a Saturday evening game against the hosts in Páirc Uí Chaoimh. Their second home game is against Offaly on Sunday, February 25. They have back-to-back away games against Waterford and Clare to conclude the regulation part of their campaign.

The 2024 National Hurling League fixtures are as follows:

04.02.2024 (Sun) 1.45pm Allianz Hurling League Round 1 Kilkenny v Wexford, UPMC Nowlan Park	10.02.2024 (Sat) 7.30pm Allianz Hurling League Round 2 Cork v Kilkenny Páirc Uí Chaoimh.
25.02.2024 (Sun) 1.45pm Allianz Hurling League Round 3 Kilkenny v Offaly, UPMC Nowlan Park	10.03.2024 (Sun) 1.30pm Allianz Hurling League Round 4 Clare v Kilkenny Cusack Park, Ennis
17.03.2024 (Sun) 3pm Allianz Hurling League Round 5 Waterford v Kilkenny, Walsh Park Waterford	

Leinster GAA Senior Hurling Championship 2024

6 teams - *Antrim, Dublin, Galway, Kilkenny, Wexford, Carlow.*

The Counties finishing in the top two places in each Provincial Group shall qualify for their respective Provincial Final.

Results shall be credited as follows; two points for a win and one point for a draw.

Relegation

For 2024, the bottom team in Leinster (Group of Six) shall be relegated to the Joe McDonagh Cup (Tier 2).

Leinster Provincial Fixtures featuring Kilkenny

Round 1 20-21.04.2024 Kilkenny v Antrim	Round 2 27-28.04.2024 Galway v Kilkenny
Round 3B 11.05.2024 Carlow v Kilkenny	Round 4 18-19.05.2024 Dublin v Kilkenny
Round 5 26.05.2024 Kilkenny v Wexford	Final 08.06.2024 1st Placed Team v 2nd Placed Team

All-Ireland Hurling Championship 2024**Preliminary Quarter-Finals 15-16.06.2024 (Sat/Sun)**

Winner Joe McDonagh Cup v 3rd Placed Team Munster Group

Runner-Up Joe McDonagh Cup v 3rd Placed Team Leinster Group

The Joe McDonagh Cup teams shall have home advantage*.

* The above arrangements shall be conditional on Home Grounds being deemed to meet the criteria set down by the National Facilities/Health and Safety Committee and the Central Competitions Control Committee.

Quarter-Finals**22.06.2024 (Sat/Sun)**

Leinster Runner-Up v Runner-Up Joe McDonagh Cup/3rd Placed Team Munster Group

Munster Runner-Up v Winner Joe McDonagh Cup/3rd Placed Team Leinster Group

Semi-Finals**06.07.2024 (Sat)**

Leinster Provincial Winner v Quarter-Final Winner

07.07.2024 (Sun)

Munster Provincial Winner v Quarter-Final Winner

Note: The semi-final draw is subject to the respective Provincial Champions not meeting the defeated finalists from their province and, where feasible the avoidance of repeat pairings.

All-Ireland Final**21.07.2024 (Sun) – (Replay 03.08.2024 (Sat))**

Semi-Final Winner v Semi-Final Winner

Venues

Venues for the All-Ireland Quarter-Finals, Semi-Finals and Final shall be determined by the Central Competitions Control Committee.

Winner on the Day

The All-Ireland Hurling Preliminary Quarter-Finals, Quarter-Finals & Semi-Finals will be Winner on the Day. The All-Ireland Final will have Extra time in the original fixture and will be Winner on the Day in the event of a replay.

GAA ticket prices in 2024

Allianz Hurling League Division 1 fixtures will be priced at €20/student & OAP tickets will be €15.

*Juveniles Under 16 will be free of charge for Allianz Leagues fixtures, except for reserved seating fixtures and selected fixtures where capacity is a concern.

Hurling Season Tickets will be priced at €140. A GAA Season Ticket covers all Allianz League fixtures for your chosen county, Allianz League finals and semi-finals, AIB All-Ireland Club Finals, guaranteed access to your county's championship fixtures and access to an All-Ireland Final ticket (should your county reach the Final and you have met the qualification criteria).

Club Plus Season Tickets, which includes club fixtures within your chosen county, will remain at €250.

Allianz League Packages

Division 1 Hurling: 5 matches for €75. A saving of €25. 3 matches for €50. A saving of €10.

Tickets will not be sold at venues. All tickets must be purchased in advance on gaa.ie/tickets or in selected SuperValu and Centra stores.

Presentations:

(Left) Presentation to Richie Hogan by Derek Lyng on behalf of the Supporters Club (Dublin Branch) at the Club AGM.

(Right) Presentation to Eddie Nolan, Hon Club President, by Seamus O'Neill, club treasurer by way of acknowledging Eddie's long service to the club and his tenure in the role of Chair.

**JP McManus Donation**

The Supporters Club (Dublin Branch) appreciate the generous donation by JP McManus, his wife Noreen and their family of €1 million to each county board. A welcome cash injection for clubs throughout the county.

All-Ireland Poc Fada Championship

The All-Ireland Poc Fada Hurling & Camogie Championships is an annual tournament testing the skills of Ireland's best hurling and camogie players. Poc Fada is of course the Irish for "long puck". Competitors must puck a sliotar with a hurley (they may lift and strike or hit the ball from the hand).

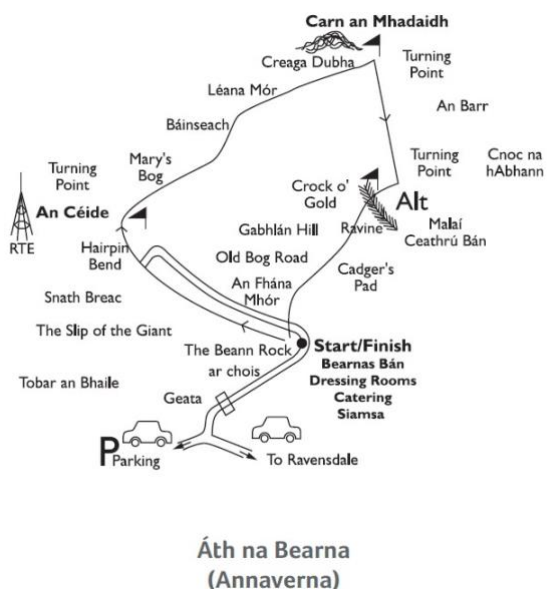
The concept of the competition originates in the Irish legend of "Táin Bó Cuailgne" when Cúchulainn, who as the boy Setanta set out from his home at Dún Dealgan to the King's court at Emain Macha hitting his sliotar before him and running ahead to catch it as he travelled over the Cooley Mountains. Setanta as a young boy wanted more than anything else to become a warrior and join the Red Branch Knights of Ulster. These were renowned warriors who defended Ireland. Their leader was Conor Mac Nessa the High King.

When he was 10 Setanta told his anxious parents that he was going off to Eamhain Macha (near Armagh) to join the Red Branch Knights. They tried to dissuade him but he was determined. And one sunny morning in May he headed off with his sliothar (ball) and his cáman (stick). As he made his way across the Cooley mountains he would strike his sliothar with his cáman and then chase after it catching it before it hit the ground.

Eventually he reached Eamhain Macha. He joined in a game of hurley with the Kings son and others much older than himself and impressed everyone with his skill; slayed the hound of Cullan, the Kings blacksmith,

by hitting his sliothar down its throat as it attacked him; and earned himself the name by which he is best remembered - Cuchullain – the Hound of Cullan.

Poc Fada Craobh na hÉireann Beanna Cuailnge



The Poc Fada tournament was founded in 1960 by Fr. Pól Mac Sheáin and Oliver Hodgers with the original contestants being six young hurlers from the Naomh Moninne club based in Dundalk taking on a course which stretched from An Céide on Annaverna Mountain to fields of the Mills family in Aghameen, a total distance of 3 miles and 320 yards (5.12km). The winner of the very first Poc Fada competition back in 1960 was Damian Callan (Cumann Ógra Naomh Moninne) with 115 pocs. In early 1961 a match was organised between Waterford and Kilkenny to promote hurling in the Louth area. The match was played in Dundalk and at the dinner afterwards the legendary Kilkenny goalkeeper Ollie Walsh was challenged by Fr. Pól Mac Sheáin to compete in the "All-Ireland Poc Fada". Ollie took up the challenge and the seeds were sown for the first All-Ireland competition later that year with 16 hurlers as contestants. Vincent Godfrey, a De La Salle brother from Limerick and who hurled with Clan na Gael in Dundalk, was the first 'All Ireland' Poc Fada winner.

The competition went off the calendar after 1969 before returning in 1981 with 12 competitors over a new course designed with accessibility by spectators in mind. The only one interruption since was 2020 due to the Covid Pandemic. Notable winners are Brendan Cummins with 9 and his own 5 in a row (2011-2015). Brendan also holds the record for the number of pucks, 48, (an average of 104 metres per puck) achieved back in 2004.

Ollie Walsh was a Corn Setanta winner in 1962, sharing the spoils in 1963 with Tom Geary (Port Láirge), Dinny Donnelly (An Mhí). Oliver Gough, representing Kilkenny, collected the spoils in 1964. Oliver, very much a 'giant of the ash' was the last person to win an All-Ireland hurling medals with two different counties. Oliver played with Wexford winning two All-Irelands in 1955 and 1956, going on to play with Kilkenny and win a third All-Ireland in 1963.

The Senior Hurling Final of the Poc Fada starts at An Fhána Mór, Annaverna, County Louth. Competitors must puck (hit) a sliotar with a hurley to the top of Annaverna Mountain (An Céide), and onwards to Carn an Mhadaidh. After a short break they continue down to An Gabhlán, before finishing back at the start of the course. The whole course measures 5 kilometres (3.1 mi). The 12 competitors competing in this category qualify as the 4 Provincial champions, the 4 Provincial runners-up, the current champion, the most recent "All Star" goalkeeper and 2 invitationals. *An Corn Setanta* ("The Sliotar Cup") is awarded to the player who takes the lowest number of pucks. Ties are broken by the distance by which the player's last puck crosses the finish line.

The senior camogie competition was introduced in 2004 and in 2007 an Under-16 competition was included and in 2015 an under 16 Camogie competition was played with Sarah Healy (Galway) coming out on top.



The senior men complete the full circuit (4 stages) 5km, the Camogie contestants poc to An Gabhlan and back again (2 stages) 2.5 km and the boys u16 poc to An Gabhlan and back again (2 stages) 2.5 km.

Traditionally the most successful competitors have been goalkeepers but increasingly there are more "outfield" Hurlers and Camogie players beating their goalkeeping contemporaries to Poc Fada qualification at both county and provincial final levels.

Camogie Final – (The Camogie Poc Fada Cup)

There are 7 competitors in the Ladies event, although if there is an invitational place/wildcard on offer there may be 8. Presently the current champion, the 4 Provincial qualifiers, a qualifier from Co. Louth and a qualifier from Co. Armagh, the latter 2 counties being the hosts.

The 2022 GAA Poc Fada Senior All-Ireland final saw Kilkenny man Killian Phelan from Clara crowned as king of the hill on his very first attempt with 49 pucks to take see off the 2021 champion Colin Ryan (Limerick).

Partnership - Kilkenny GAA and Castlecomer Discovery Park

Former Kilkenny captain Michael Fennelly has been engaged by the Kilkenny Co. Board to help emerging players and coaches in the county in a performance lead role that he is taking on that one part-time and in conjunction with his lecturing role.

Putting in coach education pathways and player pathways for underage development squads, (minor, and U20s) is part of his role. As a key element of the project, Castlecomer Discovery Park and Kilkenny GAA have announced a new partnership aimed at nurturing talent and furthering the development of Kilkenny's underage squads from U-14 to U-20.

The aim is to marry the sporting prowess of Kilkenny GAA and the facilities/educational opportunities provided by Castlecomer Discovery Park. The partnership will have an objective of fostering a shared pathway where through tailored packages, underage players are enabled to thrive in their sporting and personal development. Packages will provide for a range of age groups to attend the Park, along with their coaches, providing for teamwork, confidence building and theory based sessions through a range of activities and challenges.

Click on the link to read more about this collaboration <https://www.discoverypark.ie/official-partnership-2-2-2-2/>

For up to date news and information follow Kilkenny GAA on:



Official Website
www.kilkennygaa.ie



Kilkenny GAA
(@kilkennyCLG)



Kilkenny GAA
(@official_kilkenny_gaa)



Official Kilkenny
GAA

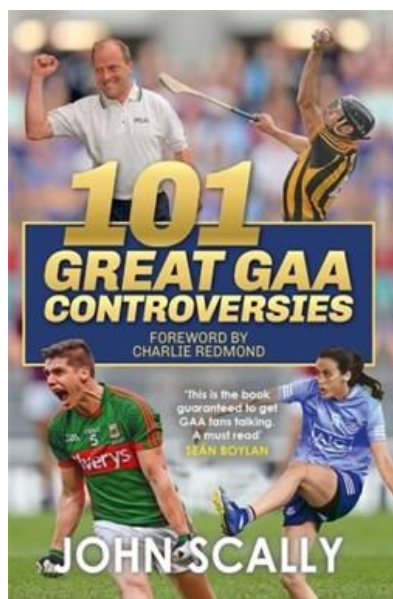
AGM 2023 Photos







Some recommendations for book-loving GAA fans this Christmas



101 Great GAA Controversies – John Scally

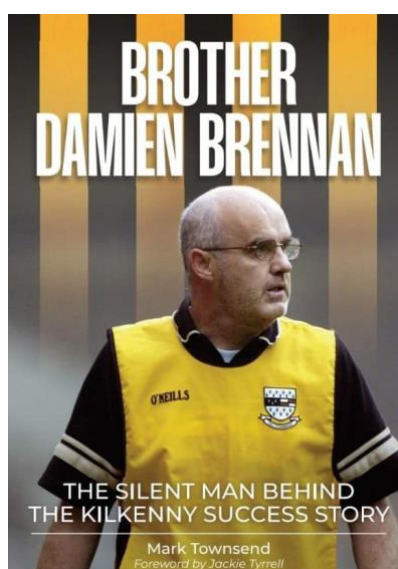
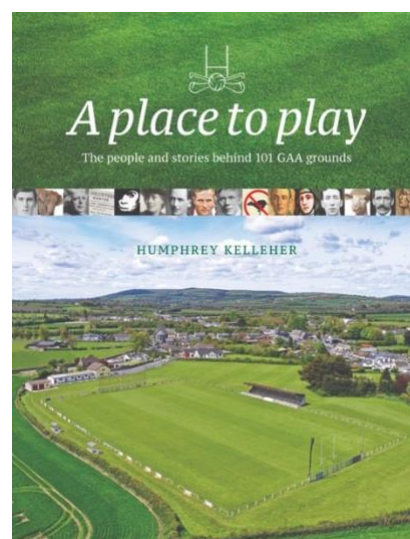
This book by John Scally is a collection of fascinating accounts from the field with appearances from some famous and infamous personalities, like Joe Brolly, Ger Loughnane, Pat Spillane and Babs Keating. With stories from the last 130 years, it is the major controversies that turn national games into our nationwide issues, often infuriating but never boring! Revealing insights into the Cork hurling strikes; Bloody Sunday; The Battle of Omagh; the Tony Keady affair; Louth's lost Leinster final; Kerry's undressing; the Sky Sports deal and of course the gripping events of the never to be forgotten hurling summer of 1998, this collection is bound to enthrall all fans of Gaelic Games and might even settle a score or two. Including epic tales from Gaelic football, women's football, camogie and hurling, this book is sure to entertain fans of every GAA sport and continue the lore of the Gaelic Games.

A place to play - Humphrey Kelleher

In every province and county in Ireland, GAA grounds are cornerstones of culture and community. They are imbued with history and their terraces echo with the sounds of decades, even centuries, of spirited sporting battles.

Each GAA ground featured has served as a county ground at some stage in its lifetime. Named for saints, landowners, political figures and more, every -one has a unique and absorbing history.

All thirty-two counties feature, and it doesn't stop there; the book also takes us to London and to New York, where the grounds reflect the lasting and far-reaching influence of the GAA beyond these borders.



Brother Damien Brennan-The silent man behind the Kilkenny success story

Between 2000 and 2015, Kilkenny won 11 All Ireland senior hurling titles. It was an unprecedented period of success for any GAA side, and across the land, people came to laud the players and management for their outstanding achievement.

But there was another man, working unofficially in the background, who also played a crucial role. Brother Damien Brennan was a Christian Brother from Laois, who came to Kilkenny in the 1990s to work in the secondary school in Callan and assist with the local hurling teams. In the last number of years, the likes of Henry Shefflin, Jackie Tyrrell and JJ Delaney have gone on record to say he was a key figure in their careers. But who was this mysterious man behind the scenes? What was the secret of his success? Who was the real Brother Damien Brennan?



Great Irish Book of Gaelic Games - Evanne Ní Chuilinn

Evanne guides readers through the wonderful world of Gaelic Games.

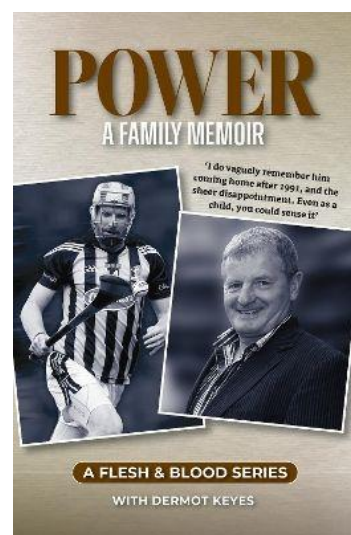
Discover what goes on behind the scenes on match day and which county has the zaniest fans! Read about the history of Gaelic sports and join in the 'hurl or hurley' debate.

The book is brought to life with illustrations and introduces Gaelic Games' most significant people, history and culture to fans of all ages.

Power: A Family Memoir

Richie Power Snr and his son, Richie Jnr are one of the most formidable and successful father and son pairings in GAA history. From the proud Carrickshock club in south Kilkenny, between them they represented the Black and Amber for almost a quarter of a century.

They each earned two All Star awards while shining for the Cats. Richie Snr won three All-Ireland titles in the 80s, but Richie Jnr almost trebled that haul when he took the field for Brian Cody's 'Invincibles' and tore defences apart with his magnificent speed and thirst for scores. He amassed a total of 14 goals and 81 points in his career for Kilkenny, which included eight All-Ireland titles. The pair won 14 Leinster titles, and were iconic personalities not just for their county but also their club. Their story is truly inspirational on every level, and deals with triumph and the more difficult times in life, when Richie Jnr found himself battling a severe gambling addiction through the latter stages of his hurling career.



...and finally....

