

Stadium News

Croke Park Community Newsletter

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Young members from Lourdes Hall Taekwon-Do celebrate their recent competition success. The local club on Sean McDermott Street has received annual support through the Croke Park Community Fund since 2009.



The Croke Park community team work on stadium event days to assist their neighbours and other local residents.

A Chara,

My first season as Uachtarán Chumann Lúthchleas Gael is coming to an end and I want to sincerely thank you for your continued support and cooperation throughout the year. In this final newsletter of 2015, we will be bringing you up to date on the latest local news from the stadium and our community gain initiatives.

Work on building a new long-term accord with the local community is continuing and meetings are taking place that are well attended by senior management from Croke Park and many of the local residents groups from the stadium's community area. I would like to thank the independent chairperson, Noeline Blackwell, Director General of the Free Legal Advice Centres, for her time and commitment to this process.

Most recently, we welcomed the decision by Dublin City Councillors to approve the joint development of Croke Villas between Dublin City Council and the GAA. This development will see an investment of €6.4 million by the GAA into the local area. The development will include social housing, a community sports complex and a new entrance boulevard into the stadium for event days. We hope that work on this project will commence shortly without any further delay.

Throughout the year, we have worked to increase the number of employment opportunities that are available for local residents in the stadium. Our largest employer is Aramark Catering, which now employs 20% of its staff from the locality.

Local residents are also employed as security and

matchday staff and there is also the stadium's community team which consists entirely of local residents.

It is clear from the emails and letters we receive, that the community team is making a significant difference on event days. In August, I was delighted to present Bopper Holland, a member of the community team from St. James' Avenue with a 'GAA Certificate of Recognition' to acknowledge the work he undertakes in the community on event days. Any local resident interested in future recruitment opportunities in the stadium should contact Julianne Savage directly – Julianne's contact details are below.

The Croke Park Community Fund continues to go from strength to strength and since it was launched in 2009, has now allocated nearly €675,000 in financial support to local community groups. So far this year, 47 local community groups have already successfully applied for support. The full list can be viewed at crokepark.ie/community and I hope it will inspire you to join up with your neighbours and apply to the Community Fund next year.

Once again, I would like to thank you for your continuing support and cooperation throughout the year and as this is our last newsletter for 2015, I will sign off by wishing you and your family a very happy and peaceful Christmas and every good wish for the New Year. Míle buíochas as ucht do comhoibriú i rith an bhliain 2015 agus bíodh Nollaig mhaith agat!

Go mbeire bliain ó inniu faoi mhaise orainn.

Aogán Ó Fearghail

Uachtarán Chumann Luthchleas Gael/
GAA President



250 children participated in the annual Kellogg's Croke Park Community Cúl Camp from June 29th - July 3rd in Clonliffe College. This year's camp was the biggest to date and is especially subsidised by Croke Park for children living in the stadium's 1.5km community area. Pictured are sisters Amber and Rhianna Skerritt from Ballybough with Dublin GAA Hurling Star Dotsy O'Callaghan.

Thank you for your continued support and cooperation with events here in Croke Park. Contact Croke Park's Community Officer **Julianne Savage** on **01 865 8607** or **jsavage@crokepark.ie** if there is any stadium related matter you wish to bring to our attention.



