

Stadium News

Croke Park Community Newsletter



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Dear Neighbour,

Another season in Croke Park has come to an end and I want to take this opportunity to thank you again for your support throughout the year. We greatly appreciate your continued cooperation during stadium events.

Off the pitch, there have also been very positive developments of late as the GAA and the local handball and community centre announced a new partnership initiative in early September. The GAA has agreed to work with Dublin City Council on the reconstruction of Sackville Avenue. This will provide new housing, the demolition of the existing Croke Villas, a new entrance to Croke Park to take pressure off other local streets and the building of a world class National Handball and Community Centre.

The project will require planning permission and other approvals, which will be sought in the near future. The new Centre will be managed by a partnership arrangement between the GAA and the local community and handball centre members, the result of a lengthy mediation process chaired by former Taoiseach Bertie Ahern. Until the new Centre replaces the existing facility beside Hill 16, arrangements have been agreed for the GAA to participate in the management of the existing premises.

Work on building a new long-term accord with the local community is continuing and meetings have taken place throughout the year that have been well attended by senior management from Croke Park and the GAA as well as by many local residents from the stadium's community area. I would like to thank the independent chairperson, Noeline Blackwell, for all her time, effort and commitment to this process. Details of the final community meeting for 2016 are included in this newsletter.

I am particularly looking forward to December 18th when we will be welcoming over 600 of our elderly neighbours to our 15th annual senior citizens' Christmas lunch! Plans are already well underway in partnership with An Garda Síochána for this large scale community event and I would like to thank the local gardaí and all the stadium and GAA staff and contractors who generously give of their time to make this festive lunch the very special community event it has become.

In this community newsletter, you will find updates on upcoming local recruitment opportunities as well as information on a number of the local community gain initiatives organised by the stadium. We would also welcome

any feedback you would like to provide us with as part of our post-season review – the questionnaire is included in this newsletter or it can also be completed online on the Croke Park website. I hope the wide number of community initiatives undertaken by the stadium and planned future developments for the area demonstrate how seriously we take our relationship with our local community.

I will sign off by reiterating my thanks to you for your continuing support and cooperation with stadium events and I look forward to working with you and your neighbours to build stronger community relations in the New Year. I would like to wish you and your family a very happy and peaceful Christmas and every good wish for 2017.

Míle buíochas as ucht bhur gcomhoibriú i rith na bliana agus bíodh Nollaig mhaith agaibh.

Le gach dea-ghuí,

Aogán Ó Fearghail

Uachtarán Chumann Lúthchleas Gael/
GAA President

GAA President Aogán Ó Fearghail meeting with teachers from Rutland NS earlier this year at the Croke Park Community Fund reception.

Croke Park Community Freephone: **1800 303 593**
crokepark.ie/community

Find us on facebook: **CrokePark**
Follow us on twitter: **@CrokePark**

Croke Park Community Fund 2016

With over €86,000 in support already allocated to 58 local projects, 2016 has become the busiest year to date for the stadium's community fund since it was established in 2009. So far, we have supported the following local community groups:

St. Columba's NS, Iona Road	Lourdes Hall Taekwon Do	Mud Island Community Garden
Drumcondra Foróige	Ballybough Boxing Club	Lower Dorset Street Community Group
Voice of New Communities Drugs & Alcohol Network	Marino Order of Malta	North Wall Community Association
Iona Community Games	St. Laurence O'Tooles BNS & GNS	Central Model JNS, Marlborough Lane
St. Vincent's Girls' NS, North William St.	East Wall Begsborough FC	Brendan Behan Senior Citizens Group
St. Joseph's Co-Ed NS, East Wall	The Iona Arch Club	HOPE Hands On Peer Education
Iona Active Retirement	Bradóg Youth Service	Lourdes Day Care
GlasDrum	Ozanam House, Mountjoy Square	1st Dublin Fairview Scout Group
Stained Glass Group - Clonliffe & Croke Park Community Centre	Larkin Community College	Summerhill Senior Citizens Complex
East Wall Youth	SWAN Youth Service	Dominic Street Crochet Club
Ballybough Community Group	NCCCCAP, Sherriff Street	North Inner City 1916 Commemorations Group
Susanville & Clonliffe Road Street Feast	Buion Mhuire na nDolas Girl Guides	Hill Street Family Resource Centre
Ballybough Youth Project	James Larkin Community Group	Nascadh CDP, East Wall
Irish Girl Guides & Brownies - Clonliffe & Croke Park Community Centre	The HAY Justice Project (Foróige)	Royal Canal Clean Up Group
Clonmore & Ulster Terraces. Residents Group	North Wall Community Development Project	Friends of Fairview Day Care Community Unit
Marino/Fairview Tuesday Club	NEIC Hallowe'en Festival 2016	Marino Mart Lane Clean Up Project
St. Patrick's BNS, Drumcondra	Ballybough/North Strand Local History Group	The Mater Foundation
St. Mary's NS, Fairview	Charmed With Rhythm Dance School	The House Presents
North Great George's St Residents Association	East Wall PEG Drama & Variety Group	Phibsboro Tidy Towns Committee

The application form for 2017 is now available in the stadium or can be downloaded directly from crokepark.ie/community. The first closing date for 2017 for projects taking place between January-March 2017 is Friday, November 25th at 5pm – please contact Julianne Savage in the stadium for more information or assistance: jsavage@crokepark.ie & 01 865 8607.

Coldplay Concert 2017

Coldplay will play one concert next year on Saturday, July 8th 2017. The concert is sold out but if you are registered on our residents' database you will be automatically entered into the local resident draw to win complimentary tickets – this draw will take place in June next year. Local residents who had registered with the stadium and provided an email address, also received access to an exclusive community ticket presale for the concert so make sure your details are up to date and on file by filling in the form and sending it back to the stadium in the coming weeks.

CoderDojo Classes for Children

Coder Dojo classes are back and each week free computer coding classes are held for children aged between 7 and 17 on Tuesday nights in Croke Park. Children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian to each class. Contact Julianne Savage in Croke Park on **01 865 8607** or jsavage@crokepark.ie if you would like more information.

Croke Park Community Cúl Camp

Last July, nearly 300 local children participated in the stadium's annual community cúl camp in Clonliffe College which is especially subsidised by Croke Park for our youngest residents. A special thanks to all our GAA coaches and the children for making it such a memorable week for everyone involved.

Local Recruitment Opportunity - Join the Croke Park Community Team

Since February 2014, the Croke Park Community Team work on stadium event days to assist their neighbours and monitor activity in the local community area. The team consists entirely of local residents and we are recruiting further members from the local community for the 2017 season.

Candidates must be:

- Over 18 years of age with an aptitude to working with the public
- Available to work outdoors and at weekends from February - September
- Friendly, approachable, and enjoy helping people
- A good communicator & team player
- From the Croke Park community area with a good knowledge of the local area and possess strong community spirit
- Previous work experience in a customer service role is desirable but not essential

Key responsibilities include:

- Monitoring event day access for your neighbours at the key garda cordons
- Monitoring and reporting littering, anti-social behaviour and illegal parking in the stadium's community area.
- Assisting your neighbours on event days

For an application form, please contact Julianne Savage in Croke Park Stadium on **01 865 8607** or jsavage@crokepark.ie. Application forms are also available from the main GAA reception desk on Jones Road. Closing date for applications is 5pm on Friday, 2nd December 2016.



Local residents Aine Gilmartin and Alex O'Connell from the stadium's community team on duty during this year's GAA All-Ireland Football Championship Final.

Upcoming Community Dates for your Diary

Community Meeting

The third community meeting of 2016 will take place in Croke Park Stadium on Tuesday, 22nd November 2016. The meeting is open to all those interested in attending who live in the stadium's 1.5km community area and will be chaired by Noeline Blackwell who is the independent chairperson for the process of building a new long-term accord between local residents and Croke Park Stadium.

Date: Tuesday, 22nd November 2016
Time: 7.30pm
Location: Ash Suite, Level 5,
Cusack Stand, Croke Park
(Entrance via St. Joseph's Ave)



The Croke Park Community Fund is a proud supporter of our local stained glass craft group who are based in the Barbara Ward - Clonliffe & Croke Park Community Centre.

Croke Park Senior Citizen's Christmas Party

We are looking forward to welcoming over 600 local senior citizens to the stadium on Sunday, December 18th, for the 15th annual Croke Park Christmas Party.

This special festive lunch is organised by the stadium in partnership with Mountjoy Garda Station. Invitations will be distributed by the Gardaí in the coming weeks and any local senior citizens interested in attending can contact the Croke Park Community Officer on 01 865 8607 or jsavage@crokepark.ie for further details.



GAA President Aogán Ó Fearghail with local resident Christopher McLoughlin from Clonliffe Road during last year's Senior Citizens' Christmas Lunch.

Community Christmas Recycling Campaign

Christmas may still be several weeks away but we want to remind you that Croke Park's Christmas Recycling Service will be happening again in January 2017. This community campaign provides you with the opportunity to safely dispose of your Christmas waste including domestic WEEE items such as old TVs, computers, kitchen appliances and Christmas lights. Full details on the campaign will be announced in December. Contact Julianne Savage in Croke Park for further details: jsavage@crokepark.ie or 01 865 8607.



Last year, over 1,000 local households dropped their Christmas trees into Croke Park to be recycled.