

An Mhaigh Tír na nÓg G.A.C. Notes

(week commencing 17/11/08)

Centenary Mass

A special Centenary Mass to remember the deceased members and friends of An Mhaigh G.A.C. will be held in St John's Church, Moy this Thursday evening (20th November) at 7.30pm. Celebrant for the Mass will be our Honorary Vice-President Fr. Dermot McCaul, who will also be taking time out from his duties in Rome to attend our Gala Centenary Night some 48 hours later.

Club members, representing various generations, male and female, will be taking an active part in the Mass. The choir will be led by Sean Kelly and include pupils of St John's Primary School, Moy. Past and present members of An Mhaigh G.A.C. will also be involved in the Liturgy, Offertory Procession and reading the Prayers of the Faithful.

Everyone is invited to come along to this special Mass to remember all those, no longer with us, who were associated with our club down through the years. All who attend the Mass will also be made welcome in the Moy Parochial Hall immediately afterwards for tea and light refreshments.

Centenary Gala Night

All roads lead to the Armagh City Hotel this Saturday evening (22nd November) for one of the most eagerly awaited social events in our club's history. Organisers of the big Centenary Gala Night are this week putting the final touches to their preparations for what promises to be a truly memorable and historic occasion.

Hundreds of An Mhaigh Gaels, many of whom will be travelling from various parts of the world, have accepted the invitation to attend this Black Tie Gala Dinner and are all eager to be a part of this major celebration. They will be joined by an array of special guests who will include GAA President Nicky Brennan, Tyrone County Board Chairman Pat Darcy, Cork's Railway Cup star Nicholas Murphy, as well as our four All-Ireland winning heroes – Colm and Sean Cavanagh, Philip Jordan and Ryan Mellon.

Proceedings will commence at 6.30pm with a drinks reception at the entrance to the Fisher Suite. This will be followed at 7.00pm by the official launch of our Centenary Book, documenting over 100 years of gaelic games and culture in Moy and the parish of Clonfeacle. The night will continue with a carefully selected five course meal, after which several presentations – including our annual football awards - will be made. A number of unique items will then come under the hammer in our Grand Auction. Part proceeds from the auction will be donated to our chosen charity, The Newry Hospice.

A special video montage of club personalities, teams, events and activities will also be shown on the night, while music will be provided afterwards by the ever popular Manhattan. Those attending should note that this all-ticket event is a strictly black tie affair and formal dress. No exceptions. Among the silverware on show on the night will be the famous Sam Maguire, Tom Markham and Railway Cups. Gerry Donnelly, former P.R.O. for the Derry County Board, will be Master of Ceremonies for an event which will be a fitting celebration of our club's 100th birthday.

Senior ACL Division 2

Clann na nGael 1-7

An Mhaigh 1-10

An Mhaigh senior footballers travelled to the home of league leaders Clann na nGael, last Sunday afternoon, knowing that anything less than a victory would end their division two title hopes. A large Moy following made the long trip to Aughabrack and they were not to be disappointed as their team recorded an impressive three point victory.

It may have been a bright and pleasant day for football, but conditions underfoot were very heavy and turned this game into a war of attrition at times. Thankfully, the Moy men were up for the challenge and they displayed tremendous battling qualities from the start to come out on top against tough opposition. Notable absentees included All-Stars Philip Jordan (Moy) and Brian Dooher (Clann na nGael), but it was An Mhaigh's greater strength in depth which won the day in an absorbing encounter.

The visitors were on top for much of the first half, playing some of their best football of the season. Not even a well worked goal by Clann na nGael in the 8th minute, which saw them lead for the first and only time in the game, could put Mattie McGleenan's charges off their stride. Points from Sean Cavanagh (3 frees), Karol McQuade (2 frees) and Ryan Mellon had their team 0-6 to 1-0 in front by the start of the second quarter.

Things got even better for Moy after 21 minutes when Colm Cavanagh palmed the ball to the net following a terrific move involving Ryan O'Neill, Brendan Kelly, Tommy McNicholl, Colm Jordan, Karol McQuade and Sean Cavanagh. With full back Francie McQuade keeping close tabs on Clans' ace attacker Stevie O'Neill at the other end, the Tír na nÓgs continued to grow in confidence and added a further point from the boot of wing back Padraig Laverty to lead 1-7 to 1-2 at half-time.

An Mhaigh had to withstand a strong Clann na nGael onslaught in the third quarter, and there were a few worried faces among the sizeable travelling support when a succession of close range free-kicks reduced the deficit to just two points midway through the half. Moy's only reply during that period was another well struck placed kick by Sean Cavanagh, but fears of a collapse subsided when Colm Cavanagh and substitute Tommy Conlon both fired over crucial points at the start of the final quarter.

Some determined defending by Brendan Kelly and company restricted Clann na nGael to just one more score – a pointed free with just three minutes remaining – as the Sky Blues held out for a crucial 1-10 to 1-7 victory. This was another excellent team performance by

Moy and one which further raises hopes of winning some much needed silverware at the end of the season.

Team & Scorers: Barry Gribbin; Brendan Kelly, Francie McQuade, Mark Donnelly; Padraig Laverty (0-1), Mark Jordan, Tommy McNicholl; Niall Conlon and Ryan Mellon (0-1); Kris Kavanagh, Karol McQuade (0-2, 2 frees), Colm Jordan; Ryan O'Neill, Sean Cavanagh (capt, 0-4, 4 frees), Colm Cavanagh (1-1, 1 free).

Subs used: Tommy Conlon (37 mins, 0-1), Peter Mallon (46 mins). **Other Subs:** Ciaran Conroy, Martin Conroy, Adam Currie, Mark Currie, James Devlin, Neil Donaghy, Conall Duffy, Adrian Jordan, Niall Kelly and Philip McQuade.

League Record: Played 11, Won 9, Drawn 0, Lost 2, Points 18. **Remaining Fixtures:** v Eskra (away) this Saturday 22nd November at 2.00pm; v Derrylaughan in MUSA, Cookstown on Friday 28th November at 7.45pm; v Gortin (home); v Trillick (home).

The league crown and a subsequent return to senior ranks are now in Moy's own hands. However, to be sure of success, the Tír na nÓg players must win all four of their remaining matches.

Good Luck Eunan

Good luck to Moy juvenile team captain Eunan Deeney who will be lining out for St Patrick's Academy, Dungannon in the final of the Rannafast Cup this Saturday. The big game takes place in Lissan at 11.30am when St Pius, Magherafelt will provide the opposition for Eunan and his Academy team-mates.

Youth Presentation

This year's An Mhaigh G.A.C. Youth Presentation will be held in Moy Parochial Hall on the evening of Friday 12th December. Watch this space for further details.

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