

# COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

[www.oxfield.ie](http://www.oxfield.ie)

ISSUE 4 - DECEMBER, 2010

## Bumper Edition...

Welcome to our end-of-year bumper edition of the Oxfield Community Newsletter. Included this month with our usual mix of local news is a brief look back at how some of our community groups and clubs got on in 2010. We hope you enjoy it.

## Oxfield Centre Redevelopment Project...

The Oxfield Community Centre 2010 AGM has been re-scheduled for Monday 13<sup>th</sup> Dec at 8:30pm in Oxfield. We would encourage everyone from the wider community to attend. The AGM itself will be kept short, and will be followed by a 'big screen' presentation summarising the proposed redevelopment project to date. Remember, if you'd like to help out in any way, big or small, we'd love to hear from you. Keep an eye on [www.oxfield.ie](http://www.oxfield.ie) for more.

## Lissadell Case - Judgement Due...



We understand that the High Court is due to give its judgement on the Lissadell public rights of way case on 14th December.

## Christmas Show...

The Rathcormac NS Parents Association are organising a Christmas Show in Rathcormac Hall on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> December from 3 to 5pm. If anyone is interested in performing (e.g. singing, dancing, poems, storytelling, magic, etc) then please get in touch with one of the Parents Association Committee members. Everyone welcome, and all proceeds will go towards the purchase of new books and resources for the school's library.

## Santa Wonderland...



Following up on his Oxfield debut last year, the big man himself (Santa) is making a welcome return to Oxfield on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> December this year. It promises to be a real festive outing for the whole family. From 2pm to 6pm, all are welcome!

## Foróige - Forging Young Citizens...

What makes a Foróige club different to average youth clubs is that it is run by the young people themselves. The Drumcliffe Foróige Club has thrived yet again in 2010. Now with some 56 members, they meet up on Friday nights (Sept to June, 8:30 to 10pm) in either Rathcormac Hall or Oxfield, where they hang out, meet new friends and have a voice.

**Citizenship Awards** - Club members are going for their citizenship awards this year. The redevelopment of Oxfield is the project of choice, and the Club is assisting with the Santa Wonderland day in December. There will also be a disco and a sponsored 'stay-awake-athon' in early 2011.



**Upcoming Events** - A pre-Christmas trip, interclub disco in the Crib (Fri 3<sup>rd</sup> Dec), fundraising (early 2011), and a possible visit to the Delphi Adventure Centre.

**Supervision** - The Club is facilitated by Foróige trained leaders who volunteer their time each Friday night. But for the safe and smooth running of the club, parents are needed to help with supervision. A big thanks to everyone who has helped out this year. For anyone else interested in helping out, for any further info about Foróige, please contact Mary McCarthy 087 6546580.

## X Factor - but 100 Years Ago...

100 years ago this month, a one of a kind 'concert & variety entertainment' show was held in the Hibernian Hall in Rathcormac.

The hall, which was 'packed to its utmost capacity', was treated to a wide variety of acts. Local 'artistes' including Mssrs Horan, Harte, Gilgan, Monson, Magee, Conway, Moore, Fallon, Timoney, Murphy, Mullen and Misses Jordan, Cunningham, Cummings, Mitchell and Ward sang songs (such as the 'Leprechaun' and 'The Minstrel Boy'), gave recitations (such as 'Emmet's Speech from the Dock') and performed two comedy sketches ('Engaging a Company' & 'Old Age Pension'). In all, the show lasted 4 hours, and was followed by a dance, where the crowd 'indulged their inclinations in enjoyable manner for some hours'. We bet they did!

The Sligo Champion, costing just 1 penny at the time, reported that 'never in the history of Drumcliffe entertainment has such a thoroughly enjoyable programme been witnessed'. What would Mssrs Cowell and Walsh have made of it?

*Source/Quotes/Names: Sligo Champion, Dec 1910*

## December Dates...

**Foróige Interclub Youth Disco** - The Crib, Sligo, Fri 3<sup>rd</sup> Dec

**Drumcliffe Rosses Point GAA AGM** - Radisson Blu, Sun 5<sup>th</sup> Dec, 5pm

**Oxfield Community Centre AGM** - Oxfield, Mon 13<sup>th</sup> Dec, 8:30pm

**Yeats Utd's 21st Birthday** - Collins Lounge, Sat 11<sup>th</sup> Dec, 9pm

**Christmas Show** - Rathcormac Hall, Sun 12<sup>th</sup> Dec, 3-5pm

**Charity Fashion Show (Rehab)** - Velvet Rooms, Fri 17<sup>th</sup> Dec, 8pm

**Santa Wonderland** - Oxfield, Sun 19<sup>th</sup> Dec, 2-6pm

**Charity Christmas Day Swim** - Lissadell Beach, 25<sup>th</sup> Dec, 12pm

**St Stephens Day Gaelic Challenge** - Oxfield, D'cliffe v R'Point, 2pm

**GAA Presentation & Awards Night** - Davis's, Wed 29<sup>th</sup> Dec, 9pm

Drumcliffe Rosses Point GAA...

# A Satisfying Year...



The club will look back on 2010 with satisfaction on its accomplishments and achievements both on and off the field of play. Below are some of the year's highlights.

**Scor na nÓg** - In February the Club took part in Scór Slighigh for the first time in the club's history, participating in 3 categories. The Grupai Ceoil consisting of Elsa Kelly, Noelle Carroll, Eamon Bell and Alex Kelly took the county honours.

**Marking 25 Years** - April saw the launch of a commemorative book marking the Club's 25th Anniversary. (Thanks again to Austin O'Callaghan for his hard work and dedication to this project, and congrats on a fine publication!). The book was launched by Donegal great Martin McHugh at a reception in the Yeats Tavern.

**Team Work** - The Club fielded football teams at all grades in both male and female competitions in 2010. At underage, success was achieved by U13 boys winning the Féile Shield and U16 girls winning the championship. At adult level the Intermediate girls won the Connacht Sevens Shield competition and were narrowly beaten in the County Championship final. The Intermediate men's team were also unfortunate to be beaten in the County final.



DRP Intermediate Side 2010



DRP Girls U16 Championship Winners 2010

**Another First** - For the first time in the club's history, the Club participated in competitive Hurling, fielding an U10 team which took part in many blitz's over the year and an U12 team which contested the county final.

**County Representation** - The club was represented by a number of players at County level.

- Amy Oates, Laura Oates, Erin Cunningham, Roisin Healy and Sarah Henry - U12 Sligo girls team.
- Amanda Healy, Yvonne Hedigan and Rachel Oates - Sligo U 14 team
- Ashling Ewing and Rachel Monaghan - U16 Sligo girl's team which went on to win the Connacht A championship.
- Siobhan O' Sullivan, Nicole Fowley, Lindsey Mc Manus, Karina Caraway and Grainne Loughlin - Sligo Senior Ladies team.
- Hughie Cannon - Sligo U16 team that won the Fr Manning Cup.
- Niall Collery - Sligo Minor team
- Conor Davey - Sligo U21 team
- Neil Ewing - Division 3 honours and a Connacht runner up title with the Sligo Senior team.



Rachel Monaghan and Aisling Ewing with the Connacht Cup which they won as part of the Sligo Girls U16 Team

**A Thank You & An Invite** - The Club wishes to thank all sponsors, players, team managers, coaches, mentors and supporters for their commitment over the last year. To round off the 2010 season, an Annual Presentation & Awards night is being held in Davis's on December 29th. All welcome!

Drumcliffe/Rosses Point GAA wish you and yours a happy Christmas and peace and optimism in 2011. Don't forget the annual St. Stephens day game which will be held in Oxfield at 2pm this year where two teams, Drumcliffe and Rosses Point, will play for a new memorial cup.

## Advertisers & Sponsors...



In order to cover the costs of running this Community Newsletter, we are seeking local businesses to sponsor monthly editions in return for advertising space. Here's your chance to advertise and support this community initiative at the same time! Contact Michael on 087 6755753.

## Yeats United FC...

# Kicking On...



Yeats United is going from strength to strength with 2010 seeing more kids involved than ever before.

**Changes** - The biggest change for Yeats this year was the stepping down of Michael Farrell as club chairman after an extremely productive and committed term at the helm. Taking the lead from across the water where womens involvement in soccer has catapulted, Jean Gaule took over as club Chairperson, Brid Logan as Secretary and Rosaleen Holland back as club Treasurer.

**Girl Power** - Yeats underage Girls teams had a terrific year:

- U12 Girls - League semi-finalists, top 4 finish in Sligo-Leitrim and Connaught Blitz's, and reached All-Ireland finals in Dublin.
- U14 Girls - League semi-finalists
- U16 Girls - League finalists
- U18 Girls - League finalists, winners of the Sligo-Leitrim U18 Cup, and runners-up in the Bláthnaid Foley U18 Cup fundraiser.



Yeats United U12 Girls



Yeats United U16 Girls



Yeats United U18 Girls



**The Boys** - Again the numbers at the younger age groups continues to grow with the U8 and U10 academy among the strongest categories. All the young guns continue to benefit from their Futsal involvement in the Showgrounds/IT Sligo.

The boys continued to be represented in the U12, U12 Development, 14, 16 and 18's age categories, and there is some fantastic talent in the making for the years ahead.

The highlight of the underage boys calendar was the trip to Stoke, in England to participate in a local tournament and sample some of the English league's finest. Great credit must go to Sean Feeney and team on their time and effort in organising the trip.

**Seniors** - Yeats Senior team successfully maintained their Super league status for the current season and with the continued progression of talented youth players into senior level, holding that league presence looks good for next year.

**21 Years of Yeats** - 2010 marks the Club's 21 birthday. To celebrate, the Club is holding a night out in Collins Lounge on 11th of December with music by the Cosmic Banditos. Everyone is welcome to come along and join in the celebrations. At this time of celebration the Club would also like to remember those members who have passed away this year and deepest sympathies are extended to their family members.

## Local Baby & Toddler Groups...



**The Tots & Co baby & toddler group** is welcoming new parents and their tots to meet up in the Lissadell Centre (opposite Lissadell Church) on Monday mornings at 10.30am, where there is play time for the tots, coffee for the adults, some singing, a short stories and crafts. All welcome.

Meanwhile, **the Carrigans parent and baby/toddler group** have organised a Christmas coffee morning on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> December at 10.30am in Funny Bones. €6 for over 2 year olds, €3 for under 2 walkers. Babes in arms go free. Complimentary tea and coffee for parents, and again, all welcome. For info contact Úna on 087 7930075.

## North Sligo Athletics Club...

### Making Strides...



Yet another year of fine performances for the AC, with the Juvenile athletes representing the Club all over the Country, collecting County, Provincial and National Titles along the way.

**Connaught Indoors** - Held in February in Nenagh, there were some very strong performances with Niamh Henry finishing 2nd in the U12 60m and 3rd in the 600m. Cian McBride and William Crowe continued their winning ways by finishing 1st and 2nd in the 800m race and Sorcha Fallon was 2nd in the U15 800m.

**National Indoors 1 and 2** - Held at the end of March. William Crowe went on to win the National title in the U14 800m event with team mate Cian McBride taking the silver medal.

**National Track & Field** - Another fine display of running by the boys in the 1,500m race in Tullamore, cheered on by a huge number of parents and supporters.

**Cross Country Season** - The Club is currently in the middle of their Cross Country season. They travelled in arctic conditions to Gransha, County Derry in late November. Well done to all the Juveniles and their parents who braved the elements! The U14 Boys Team, Cian McBride, William Crowe, Daire McCloskey and Ronan Anderson showed great strength and stamina to claim the Silver medals in the Team Competition.

**New Website** - 2010 also saw the launch of the Club's new website. Have a look at [www.northsligoac.com](http://www.northsligoac.com).

**Remember** - Training continues every Monday and Wednesday evenings in Oxfield from 7-8pm and new members are always welcome.



Boys U14 team - Ronan Anderson, Daire McCloskey, William Crowe and Cian McBride

## Drumcliffe Community Games...

### Enjoying and Achieving.....

2010 has been a very positive year for Drumcliffe Community Games. Amid a packed programme of events and competitions, they had a huge number of children from all over the parish compete and most of all enjoy the spirit of Community Games.

**Local Games** - The local competitions were held in Oxfield on a glorious Sunday in May. A great crowd as usual enjoyed the games. Thanks again to everyone who helped out on the day!



**National Finals** - Drumcliffe had a number of representations at the National Finals, having pre-qualified through County and Connaught competitions.

- Cian McBride was a member of the Sligo U14 Boys Mixed Distance Relay that won the Gold.
- Joseph Mooney took National Gold in the U14 Backstroke
- Peter Mooney 4th in the U16 Breaststroke
- Ciaran McCloskey 4th in the U16 Butterfly.
- U14 Tag Rugby Team took the Silver Medals.



Drumcliffe U14 Tag Rugby Team

**Thanks** - Well done again to one and all for a great year! Thanks particularly to everyone who took part (the important bit!), and also to those who helped out with all the events.

**New Members** - New people to the area are encouraged to get involved in this fantastic community activity. The AGM will be coming up in the next few weeks and will be advertised locally, so keep an eye out.

## The Handball Revival...



Some of the youngsters who took part in recent Handball demonstrations in Oxfield

The revival of the Drumcliffe Handball club became a reality on 26<sup>th</sup> Nov 2010 when the club was official re-registered. And so now the Club would like to welcome new members of all ages, both male and female, to come and try out this great sport.

**Membership** - There is a strong focus on attraction new members, and already the numbers are growing. Initially handball hours have been reserved for adults on Mondays and Thursdays from 8 to 10.30pm. Anyone interested should come down on those nights to organise a coaching session and remember, all are welcome.

**Start 'Em Young** - Kids coaching will commence on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> December and will continue through to February. The times are:

- 5-6 yrs - 9.45 to 10.30am.
- 7-10 yrs - 10.30 to 11.15am.
- 11-14 yrs - 11.15am to 12pm.

For information, contact Colin Slevin on 086 8060772 or email [DRHandball@Live.ie](mailto:DRHandball@Live.ie).

## Local Gift Ideas?...

We've had some unusual suggestions on this one...

- Six free range eggs from Benbulbin Farm
- A steel gate from Ben's Topline
- A smoking angel from Benbulbin Pottery
- A handcrafted woollen hat from Jill's Teahouse
- A witty illustration by Annie West
- A timeless timepiece from Yeats Country Antiques
- A Goodyear (or four) from Michael Regan's Tyre Centre



## Return of the Scouts...

In just a brief few weeks since 11th Sligo Benbulbin Scout Group re-started, the 'troops' are already getting stuck in and are now looking forward to an action packed 2011.

**Skills** - The Beavers, Cubs & Scouts have already gained basic knowledge in First Aid, map reading and knots.

**Activities** - The Beavers have been out on night adventures checking out the stars, while the Cubs had a great fancy dress Halloween party. The Scouts took part in the County Forum and met Scouts from the rest of the County to discuss their views on Scouting.

**Looking forward** - Next year will see some exciting activities such as Treasure Hunts, hikes on Benbulbin, Pirate Adventures to Coney Island and Kayaking already on the calendar. And that's not including the activities that the youth members are planning for themselves, to follow their personal journey, so 2011 promises to be a very active year.

**Places** - While the Beavers and Cubs are full, the Scouts (11-15 yrs) have spaces available. Scouts meet on Tuesday nights 8-9pm in Rathcormac Hall. For info call Michelle on 087 9819171.

**Thanks** - To everyone who has got involved this year, and also to everyone who generously supported the 12 days of Christmas Draw.

## Activities Listing ...

Remember, for a comprehensive listing of activities, classes, clubs and groups ongoing throughout the area, see the 'Timetable' page on the Oxfield website [www.oxfield.ie](http://www.oxfield.ie).



Speaking of activities, do something a little bit crazy this Christmas day - join Ian Flanagan for a charity swim on Christmas day at 12noon at Lissadell - In aid of Cregg House - call 087 6220116 for sponsorship cards.

**Contact Us** - If you have an item for the monthly Newsletter, please email [oxfieldnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:oxfieldnewsletter@gmail.com).

## Carney Carols...

A real festive treat! Look out for some carollers from the Drumcliffe group of parishes who will be singing around Carney village on the evening of Monday 20th Dec. Please come out and say hello! They will be collecting for a local good cause, and all donations will be much appreciated. Fa la la la la, la la la la!

## Oxfield Tennis...



Up and coming local tennis stars at the Allwin Tennis League event in Oxfield

**The Allwin Tennis Foundation (ATF)** has been developing tennis at Oxfield over the past two years, and following a county wide funding drive, it has brought new tennis posts and nets to the facility. The next target is to continue to raise the profile of tennis in the area and to have the court re-lined professionally!

**Kids** - As well as delivering free tennis blitz days at the local schools, which allows kids the opportunity to give tennis a go, ATF run year round junior tennis coaching on Fridays from 4.30-5.30pm for under 8s and 5.30-6.30pm for over 9s, costing €25 per six week term. The next term beings in February.

**Adults** - In the Spring of 2011, ATF hopes to introduce tennis for adults so watch this space!

**Info** - For more on tennis in your area check out [www.allwintennis.com](http://www.allwintennis.com) or text Olwyn on 086 3514123.

## CosCos Plan a Kilfenora Return...

The organisers of the 2011 CosCos Sean Nós Festival have just announced that the Kilfenora Céili Band will be making a return to the Rathcormac event, which runs from the 6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> May. Also, watch out for two forthcoming fundraising events:

- A street performance in Sligo on Sat 18th Dec for SVdP.
- A 'Drumcliffe's Got Talent' event in early 2011.