



Cumann Luthchleas Gael  
Naomh Mhuire Buiochar  
St. Mary's Rockcorry GAA



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### Secretary's Report 2010

#### A Chairde Gael

On behalf of the club I would like to welcome you all here this evening for the 2010 Annual General Meeting. We have reached the end of another year and are gathered here in St Mary's Hall, to reflect on the club's performance over the last year and to assess the challenges facing the club over the next twelve months. It was year of highs and lows, with the reserve team winning the reserve league and the Minors losing out in both the league and championship finals. On the fund raising front, there were several successful fund raising events, which provided a lot of fun and entertainment for all sectors of the community.

#### INTERMEDIATE FOOTBALL TEAM

Tom Daly and Cormac McFadden, along with David Mc Gregor, took charge of the Intermediate squad for 2010. As with other years it was a campaign of highs and lows. The team was pipped at the post, for a play off position in the League and was beaten in the semi final of the championship. Michael Carroll has produced a comprehensive facts and figures booklet outlining the achievements of each team throughout the year; therefore I am not going into a detailed account of the performance over the year. I'd like to thank our management team for their efforts throughout the year and also the players for their efforts. It's a tough job, with such a small squad and so many players based away from the village but with a good mixture of youth and experience in the panel and the addition of some younger players to the panel, next year, I see no reason why 2011 cannot be a successful one.

#### RESERVE FOOTBALL TEAM

Anthony Tate and Pauric Carroll along with Gary Calvert managed the reserve team. At start of the year it was the clubs objective to fulfill all our reserve team fixtures. The success of this team knew no bounds. They were the outright winners of the Reserve Division 4 League after beating Toome under lights in Inniskeen.

#### PLAYERS REPRESENTATIVE

Anthony Tate was the player's representative on the committee and provided updates from the team at our meetings. I would like to thank Anthony for taking up the role and for his openness and honesty when came to matters involving the team.

#### UNDER 21 COMPETITION

A decision was taken to withdraw from this competition due to lack of numbers and all player's that were available were competing in other grades of football.

#### UNDERAGE STRUCTURE

While there were no honours on the field of play for our juveniles, the U10 team won the Div 3 final in the Aughnamulen blitz and the U8's got to the final of their group. There were a lot of new faces involved at the younger age groups this year, which was great to see from a club perspective.

#### MINOR TEAM

The minor team reached the final of the League and Championship playing Emyvale in both. Unfortunately we were runners up on both occasions, but the manner in which the final played in Aghabog where they lost out by a point, due to bad refereeing was a disgrace. This is an age group where it is widely recognised that

the GAA are struggling to keep players enthusiastic about our national game. The dismay on the faces of players, management and supporters said it all. From a club perspective it is equally disappointing that the officers of Monaghan County Board failed to respond to a letter sent to them, to look at how such a poor display of refereeing could be prevented in the future.

The youth officer will give a full report on the juvenile affairs later in the meeting, which just leaves me to thank all those involved with football in Rockcorry during 2010 – players, mentors, parents, first-Aiders and those who lined out the field before games, turned on showers, lifted at gates and provided refreshments after training.

I would also like to thank and congratulate all those who attended and succeeded the development squads. I would also like to thank Martina and Karren Mc Keown, for administering the juvenile affairs during the year and congratulate Martina on receiving the Youth Officer of the Year award for 2009. A special thank you to the committee of St Mary's hall for its use all year for training and coaching sessions, when needed.

For the incoming committee the problems surrounding the U13 – U18 needs to be addressed early in the year, taking into account numbers available and those available to coach this age group.

#### **CODE OF CONDUCT and A.S.O.P. POLICY**

All clubs are expected to have a code of conduct, an ASOP policy and an ASOP Officer in place, to ensure that affairs of the club are being run as outlined by the Central Council. In recent times this has fallen by the wayside but is something that should be implemented by the incoming committee. Thomas Mc Cormick was appointed ASOP officer, but the role was never implemented.

On behalf of the club I would like to thank Paschal Smith, who updated the club code of conduct and launched it at the Juvenile presentation early in 2010. We need to extend this to all players, committee and managers for the coming year.

#### **FINANCIAL AFFAIRS**

Raising funds still remains one of our biggest challenges. With affiliating fees, insurances costs, registrations, physiotherapy treatments, transportation costs and not to mention the day to day costs of running a club, they are all increasing year after year. Tina Rooney will give a detailed report on the clubs finances and fund raising efforts next. 2010 saw a number of new departures on the fund raising front, and with the great facility of St Mary's hall, the club hosted some very memorable fund raising activities. Along side the revenue generated from our TOP 4 Lotto draw, the club held its annual function in St Mary's hall, which generated revenue for the club. The mentors and parents of the juveniles ran two successful "Guess the Score" competitions. A very successful auction and subsequent raffle provided fruitful for the club finances. Tom Daly proposed that the club run a vintage day and incorporate it with a mini weekend festival. The current team played the 1996 team, and on the day, the 96 team were worthy winners of the Aidan Coyle Cup, although some may disagree. This was followed by a bar-b-Que and disco in St Mary's hall. On a fine July Sunday, the club hosted its first ever vintage day, and what a day that proved to be. From early dawn to late that night club members worked tirelessly to make the day a great success. This was a great occasion for all members of the community and involved members from the community in its planning and preparation, and yet again the foundation has been laid for bigger and better in the coming years.

"The Hunt for a Hunk" compeered by Adrian Logan. Who will forget it? One of the best nights crack ever seen in St Mary's Hall. When Lads became Coleen's, boys became men, a new generation of Rock stars and singers, some requiring the accompaniment of body guards, and newly found reciters and singers, but there could only be one hunk – Cathal Sheridan was crowned Hunk and now goes on to represent Rockcorry in the County final in December.

The combined effort of our club and the local community has helped pay our bills and leave the club in a better financial position for the coming year.

On behalf of the club I would like to thank everyone who, helped, contributed to and supported our fund raising efforts over the year.

I would like to take this opportunity to compliment all our Top 4 ticket sellers who have worked tirelessly throughout the year, particularly, Mickey Friary, Bridie & Aidan Sheridan, Noreen Calvert and Seamus Tate. I hope you all will continue your good work for the year ahead. I would like to thank Tina Rooney and Seamus Tae for the hard work they put in all year looking after the clubs finances and to all those who helped out at the LOTTO throughout the year.

#### **PUBLIC RELATIONS**

Michael Carroll took on the role of PRO for 2010. Michael put a lot of hard work into the role, with his weekly updates in the newspaper and on the Rockcorry GAA web site. His roving eye behind the lens has provided entertainment for those at home and abroad. I know Micky has a booklet prepared on facts and

figures for the current year, which is available to all here. Thank you Michael for all your hard work and help to me throughout the year.

### **COUNTY PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER**

Siobhan Mc Quillan took up her role as County Public Relations Officer and has completed another year in charge. Siobhan was given due recognition by the Ulster writers association when she received the award for PRO of the year. On behalf of the club I would like to congratulate her on a job well done and wish her the best for the future.

### **FIELD DEVELOPMENT**

At the start of the year due to inclement weather conditions we saw teams at all age levels in a position where the pitch was unusable for training, and we were dependant on Cloghan, Ballybay and Dartrey to facilitate this. Something will have to be done to improve conditions for players at all age groups, to ensure that a week's rain, does not mean we have to give in to the elements. A development committee was put in place and did come up with some plans for improvements, which will be discussed in the coming year.

### **ADMINISTRATION**

A committee was elected at the Annual General Meeting last year, with Club meetings reasonably well attended although there were a couple of meetings towards the end of the year that could have been better attended. People are the club's number one resource, but interest in club affairs at committee level, is a must to ensure that everyone is taking a fair share of responsibility.

### **OUTGOING OFFICERS NOT SEEKING RE-ELECTION**

Martina McKeown, Seamus Tate, Stephen Lynch and I are not seeking re-election to our posts for the incoming year. I am sure you will agree with me that they have all made significant contributions towards the club. I know everyone deserves a break, but I hope they will still be around to lend a hand if needed.

### **CLUB MEMBERSHIP**

The job of registrar is primarily involved with recruiting new members and collecting the membership fee due. The man in the hot seat this year was Stephen Lynch. Stephen has done a wonderful job this year, considering we increased the membership at last year's Annual General Meeting. I would like to thank Stephen for his efforts. There are some registered members who have not paid their membership for 2010. This is something that will need to be looked at by the incoming committee.

### **SCOR COMPETITIONS**

A great tradition of the Gaelic Athletic Association is the Scor competitions, which was set up to promote the cultural aspects of the association. Its purpose is to give kids and adults an opportunity to develop and display their musical, dancing and dramatic talents. There were no representatives in Scor Spraoi or Scor Na nOg this year, which is something we must improve on in the year to come, with Senior Scor starting, in the New Year. The fact that the position of Irish and Cultural Officer remained unfilled for 2010 needs to be looked at by the incoming committee.

### **SPONSORSHIP**

On behalf of the club I would like to sincerely thank the management of the Fitzpatricks Bar who generously sponsored bags for our senior team and Raymond Treanor for the sponsorship of a Bedroom suite for our raffle and Kieran Fitzpatrick for his sponsorship for the Hunt for a Hunk. To all those who gave sponsorship in any form over the year, thank you

### **REFEREES**

At the end of a match, there will always be someone giving out about the referee. Every year we are looking for people to carry out this role but never seem to get many people to take on the job. Thanks to, Nicky Calvert and Anthony Tate the club have two very capable referees. I would like to thank these two for carrying out a most demanding and thankless job.

Again this year the lads secured the clubs quota of having refereed twenty-five games ensuring by the end of August, we would get our allocation of All Ireland tickets.

Under the new proposed structures for juveniles, in 2010, each club has to host blitz games at every age level and provide referees for the blitzes. Fergal Mc Geough stepped into the breach on this front. Thank you.

## **BEREAVEMENTS**

On behalf of the club I would like to extend our deepest sympathy to all our members who have suffered bereavements during the last year. May they rest in peace.

On behalf of the McKeown family I would like to thank the club for the Guard of Honour and all those who took part in it, at Granda's funeral. It was really appreciated.

## **FINALLY**

There are many club members who work hard and have made important contributions to help the club at one stage or another; - lining out the field for games, doing the gate, acting as umpires and lines men, helping out with the LOTO, carrying out jobs on the football field and providing meals after games.

A special thanks to the committee's of St Mary's hall and the Resource Centre for the use of their facilities during the year.

On behalf of the club I would like to congratulate all our members who got married, engaged or had recent additions to the family during the year.

Finally i would to thank everyone who helped me during the year with special thanks to Jimmy Mc Geough, Martina Mc Keown and Mickey Carroll who many a time assisted me.

Is Mise

Pol Mac Eoghain  
Runaigh Cumann Buiochar