Portlaoise GAA Club Newsletter

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### Vol 4 Issue 10

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### **INSIDE THIS MONTH**

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Senior County Final Photos.		Portlaoise GAA Club and the Joe McDonagh Foundation 2024/2025
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Welcome to the October Edition of the Town Tattler!		generation.
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As we draw to the close of a busy season, this edition brings together some remarkable moments, both from the past and the present, that remind us of the rich legacy and bright future of our club.

In this issue, we take a nostalgic journey back to the unforgettable "1984 Double Double"—a year that remains etched in the annals of Portlaoise GAA history. Relive the glory of that exceptional year with a look at how the club secured double championships in both senior and minor football and hurling.

On a more recent note, this edition features some incredible photos from the latest Laois County finals. While the senior footballers may have faced heartbreak in their final, our teams had plenty of success to celebrate.

You'll find photos capturing the joy of our victorious Senior camogie side, who lifted the Junior county trophy with a performance to be proud of. We also shine a spotlight on the Minor footballers who secured title number 26, the LGFA U16s, and the camogie U13s, both of whom brought silverware back to the club this month.

For our youngest stars, we have a special feature from the final training session of the U5 Town Tigers, where the victorious minor footballers brought in their trophy to inspire the next

Even though the games are coming to an end for the year we do have a ladies Minor football final to look forward to, our camogs will be taking an adventure into Leinster and our U20 men compete in their respective hurling and football championships.

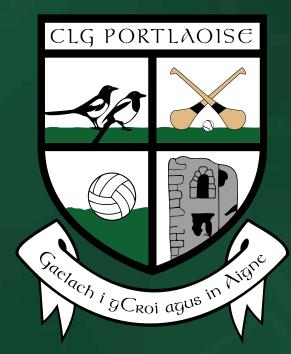
The club received excellent news recently having secured a Sports Capital Grant for €182K. We would like to say well done to the guys who worked on this application especially Shane Keane, Jason Lalor, Paul O'Connell, Philip Scully and Dermot Costelloe. Thanks for your hard and important work on this.

We hope you enjoy this month's edition, packed with stories of past glories and present triumphs. Here's to our dedicated players, coaches, and supporters who make this club truly special





# CLUB AGM



### MONDAY NOV 25TH 7.30PM PARISH CENTRE



#### Remembering 1984 The "Double Double"

Football

Forty years ago, in 1984, Portlaoise GAA achieved one of the most remarkable feats in Laois sporting history—the legendary "Double Double". Winning the "Double Double" is a feat so rare that it stands as one of the crown jewels in Portlaoise GAA's illustrious history. Achieving senior and minor championship titles in both hurling and football within the same year was a testament to the club's strength at every level.

While the senior teams made history on one front, the future stars of Portlaoise GAA were making waves of their own. The Minor Football and Minor Hurling teams, filled with raw talent and youthful energy, mirrored the achievements of their senior counterparts. Both minor teams played with incredible heart and skill, capturing the Laois Minor Football and Hurling Championship titles. Their success was a promise of the bright future that lay ahead for the club, with many of these young players going on to become key figures in Portlaoise GAA's continued success in the years and decades that followed.

It took replays in the senior hurling, senior football and minor football to complete the "Double Double".

In the minor hurling final Portlaoise were always in control against Borris-in-Ossory, and claimed their first title since 1980 by 2-10 to 1-5. Paul Bergin was the star of the show with a sensational performance – he accounted for all but two of the Town scores.

The minor football saw Graiguecullen trying to win their first minor title since 1949 while Portlaoise were hoping to bridge a much shorter three year gap. In the end it took a last minute goal from Paul Bergin to save the day for Portlaoise – one week after his brother Liam had saved the senior hurlers bacon against the Harps.

Graiguecullen had the game won until Pat Dalton gained possession and he passed to Paul Bergin who finished to the net to secure a reprieve for Portlaoise and left the final score at 3-6 apiece.

In the replay Portlaoise upped their game and with James Fahy leading the scoring with 5 points, a goal from Paul Bergin and a succession of unanswered points from Liam Duggan, Ronan O'Connell, and Tom Fitzpatrick ensured the Corcoran Cup would rest in the county town for 1984.

Final Score 1-8 to 1-2.

Portlaoise faced up to new Laois club, The Harps in the senior hurling final and in the drawn game were lucky to come away with a draw. After the fright of the drawn game, Portlaoise were happy to have a second bite at the cherry and this time they were in much more clinical form. They raced out of the blocks and had seven points on the board before the Harps could muster a response. With players like Mathew Keegan (1-2), Billy Bohane (0-5) and Mickey Bohane (1-1) on scoring form Portlaoise ran out comfortable winners with a scoreline of 2-14 to 1-7.

This was Portlaoise hurlers sixth title in total and fourth on the trot. Amazingly the four finals were won at four different venues and John Joe Ging was captain on all four occasions.

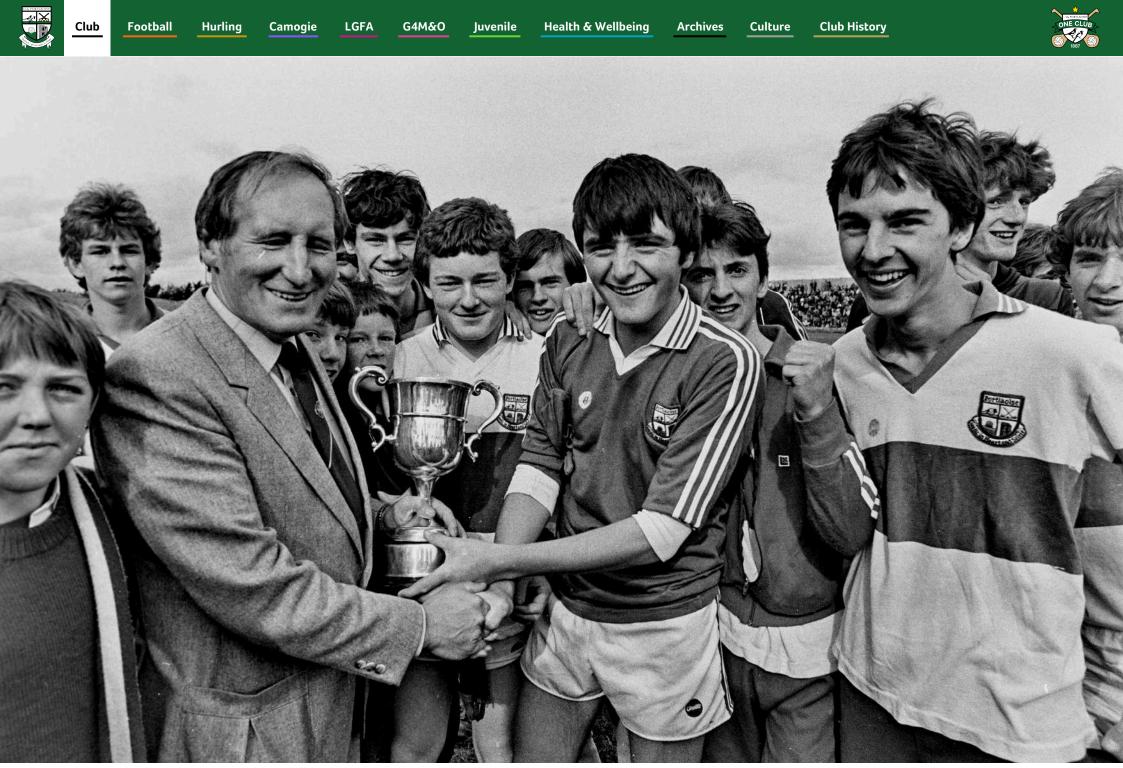
The senior football final was remarkably similar to its hurling counterpart the previous Sunday and also ended in a draw. There was great expectation in the lead-up to the final and Portlaoise were understandable favourites as a result of their recent All-Ireland success. They were chasing a record 15th Laois football title but Ballyroan had a number of stars in their ranks too like Liam Irwin, Mick Drennan, Pat Dunne, Pat McWey, Jim Whelan and county goalkeeper Martin Conroy. The game never lived up to expectations, though, and it was only in the closing stages as Portlaoise fought to retrieve a bleak situation that there was some excitement for the large attendance at the game. The game ended in a stalemate and Portlaoise were again lucky to fight another day. Final score: Portlaoise 0-9 v 1-6 Ballyroan.

Much like the hurling replay Portlaoise grabbed their second opportunity with both hands and won for the club a record breaking 15th football county title. They completely dominated the game and the fact that Ballyroan had to wait until the second minute of the second half to score tells its own story. In the end the game was even more comfortable



than the 2-8 to 0-4 scoreline suggests. The legacy of the "Double Double" still resonates through Portlaoise GAA today. The achievements of that unforgettable year set a standard of excellence that has inspired generations of players to strive for greatness. As we reflect on that historic season, we honour the men who wore the Portlaoise jersey with pride and made history in both

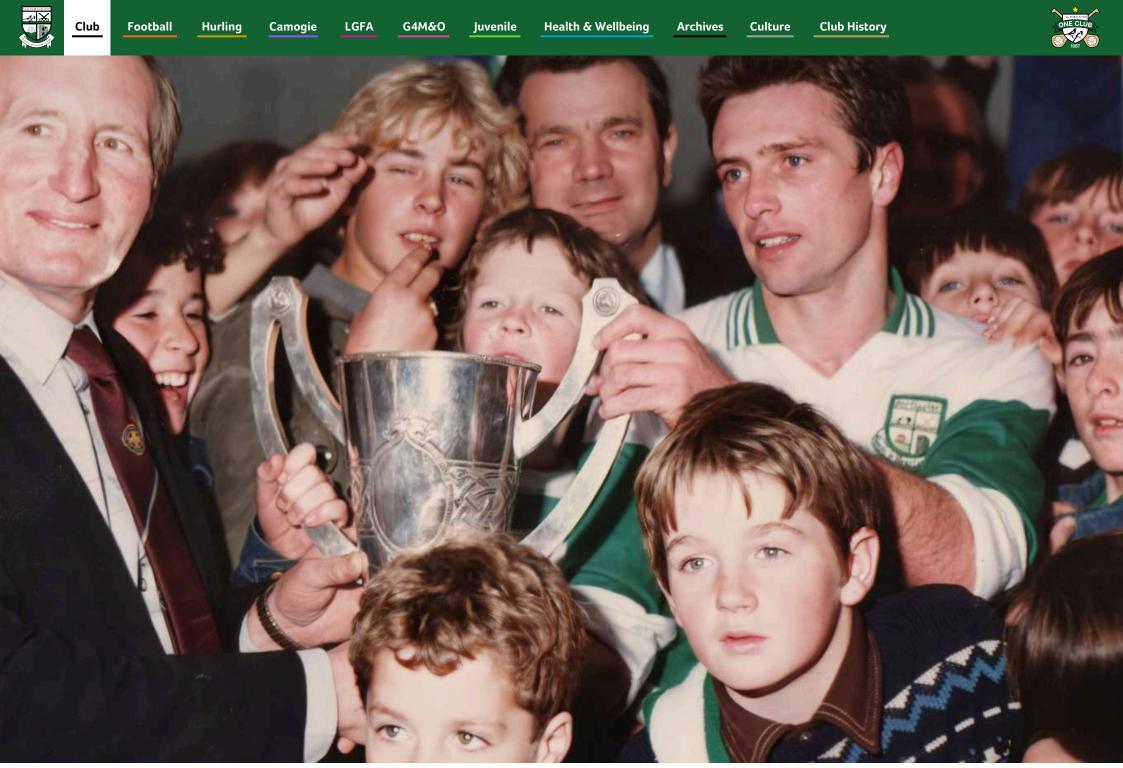
football and hurling. Their achievements continue to inspire those who follow in their footsteps, ensuring that the spirit of 1984 lives on in every game played in O'Moore Park and beyond.



Captain, Eddie Brennan receives the Minor Football trophy from County Chairman, Sean Ramsbottom



Billy Bohane receives the Senior Hurling trophy from County Chairman, Sean Ramsbottom on behalf of captain John Joe Ging who was injured



Captain Colm Browne, receives the Senior Football trophy from County Chairman, Sean Ramsbottom



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### PORTLAOISC

LAOIS SENIOR HURLING CHAMPIONS 1984



#### Portlaoise 2-14 v 1-7 The Harps

Sunday 30th September 1984 (Replay) O'Moore Park

Back Row (left to right): Seamus Plunkett, Sean Dunne, Martin Cashin, Sean Bergin, Jimmy Harding, Philip Rochford, Jimmy Keenan, Pat Critchley, John Bohane; Front Row (left to right): Matthew Keegan, Joe Keenan, Liam Bergin, Billy Bohane, Mickey Bohane, John Taylor;



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### PORTLAOISC

LAOIS MINOR 'A' HURLING CHAMPIONS 1984



#### Portlaoise 2-10 v 1-5 Borris-In-Ossory

Sunday 9th Spetember 1984 O'Moore Park



Back Row (left to right): Sheldon Norton (supporter), Paul Bergin, Johnny Lawless, Matthew McDonald, John Bosco Scully, Ronan O'Connell, Tommy Fitzpatrick, Jim Coss, James O'Sullivan, James Fahy, Paddy Dalton, Noel O'Reilly, Ollie Bartley, Cyril Duggan; Front Row (left to right): Michael Mulhall, Anthony Dunne, Paddy Gavin, Philip Harrington, John Hanniffy, David Coughlan (Capt.), Eddie Brennan, Donal Conroy;



### PORTLAOISC

#### LAOIS SENIOR FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS 1984



#### Portlaoise 2-8 v 0-4 Ballyroan

Sunday 7th October 1984 (Replay) O'Moore Park

Back Row (left to right): Colm Browne (Capt.), Jimmy Bergin, Mick Dooley, Mick Mulhall, Eamon Whelan, John Bohane, Mick Lillis, Bernie Conroy; Front Row (left to right): Brian Colgan, Gerry Browne, Joe Keenan, Tom Prendergast, Noel Prendergast, Liam Scully, Pat Critchley;



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LAOIS MINOR 'A' FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS 1984

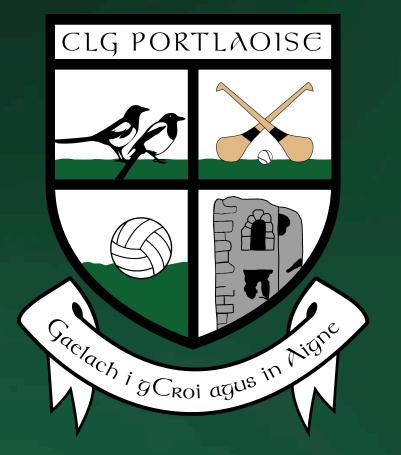


#### Portlaoise 1-8 v 1-2 Graiguecullen

Sunday 30th Spetember 1984 (Replay) O'Moore Park



Panel: Eddie Brennan, James O'Sullivan, Tommy Conroy, Cyril Duggan, Pat Norton, Matt McDonald, David Coughlan, Ronan Carroll, Liam Duggan, James Fahy, Pat Dalton, Pat Gavin, Pat Bergin, Ronan O'Connell, Tommy Fitzpatrick, Johnny Lawless;





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#### **Laois Junior Camogie Champions**

Portlaoise stormed to Laois Junior Camogie Championship glory this month with a dominant display over St Lazerian's at Laois Hire O'Moore Park winning 1-10 to 1-3.

Star of the show was Susie Delaney, who delivered a masterclass up front, racking up nine points in a stunning attacking performance that kept the scoreboard ticking over. She was deservedly awarded the Player of the Match honour. The Town's defence was rock solid as well, giving St Lazerian's little to work with, and at the heart of that effort was Ciara Crowley, who was simply immense at centre-back.

It was St Lazerian's who struck first, with Niamh O'Shea opening the scoring after just three minutes to give them a brief lead. But it didn't last long—Susie Delaney levelled matters moments later, slotting over from the right-hand side. She followed up with another fine point to edge Portlaoise ahead, and nearly found the net herself after 12 minutes, only for a brilliant save by Abbeyleix keeper to deny her. She coolly converted the resulting 45, and it was Portlaoise in control.

Their advantage grew when Grainne O'Reilly launched a high ball towards Savannah Lawless, who expertly guided it into the net for the game's first goal after 17 minutes. It was a hammer blow to St Lazerien's, who had been hanging in there until that point. Susie added another free, stretching the lead to six, but St Lazerian's roared back when they scored a goal to breathe life into their challenge.

However, Portlaoise responded with real composure, finishing the half strongly. Amy Byrne chipped in with a tidy point, and another Susie Delaney free left the half-time score at 1-6 to 1-1 in favour of Portlaoise.

St Lazerian's came out for the second half with the wind at their backs and quickly cut the deficit with two quick points. But that would be as close as they'd get.

With their shooting letting them down, St Lazerian's couldn't find the target, and Delaney

punished them once again, popping over a vital score after a fierce scramble for possession inside the 45. She wasn't done yet, adding two more points from frees, and when she split the posts from the left wing with a superb strike—despite being harried by several defenders—the result was all but sealed.

St Lazerian's chased a goal late on, but Portlaoise's defence held firm, with Crowley once again leading the charge at the back, ensuring there would be no late drama.

In the end, it was Portlaoise's day, and they lifted the trophy with pride after a hard-fought campaign.

Delaney, Crowley, and the entire team can be proud of a performance worthy of champions.

**Portlaoise:** Cara Phelan; Aileen O'Neill, Aoife Morris, Aisling McAuley; Emily Stack, Ciara Crowley (Co-Capt.), Aoife Flynn; Grainne O'Reilly, Ruby Doyle; Chloe Norton, Niamh Crowley (Co-Capt.), Susie Delaney 0-9 (four frees, one 45); Savannah Lawless 1-0, Amy Byrne 0-1, Rebecca Reddin.

Subs: Faye Byrne for Chloe Norton (38), Tyrah Duff for Savannah Lawless;

**St Lazerians:** Grace Foxe; Emma Cass, Rachel Cass, Sasha O'Keeffe; Caragh Concannon, Claire Daly, Niamh Scully; Molly Finlay, Jill Gaughan; Niamh O'Shea, Kaylee O'Keeffe, Katie Dunican; Katie Doyle, Kaylah O'Meara, Emma Carney;

**Subs:** Laoise Dunne for Emma Carney, Clodagh Gee for Claire Daly, Lilly Finlay for Katie Doyle, Finola Kehoe for Jill Gaughan;

Referee: Anthony Stapleton (Rathdowney-Errill);

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#### Portlaoise 1-10 v 1-3 St. Lazerians

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Saturday 19th October 2024 O'Moore Park



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Back Row (left to right): Lily Gavin, Ailbhe Carroll, Ashlinn Lalor, Cara Phelan, Katie Cahill, Aoife Morris, Faye Byrne, Savannah Lawless, Chloe Norton, Ruby Doyle, Tyra Duff, Ellen Peacock, Aileen O'Neill; Front Row (left to right): Ciara Crowley (Co-Capt.), Niamh Crowley (Co-Capt.), Emily Conroy, Emma Skehan, Emily Stack, Rebecca Reddin, Ashling McAuley, Aoife Flynn, Amy Byrne, Grainne O'Reilly, Susie Delaney; Inset (left to right): Shauna Dooley, Jasmine Burke, Sarah Fleming; Health & Wellbeing

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#### Laois Junior Championship Final - Portlaoise 1-11 v 1-3 St Lazerians







Photos: Carmel Dunne

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**Photos: Carmel Dunne** 

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Photos: Carmel Dunne



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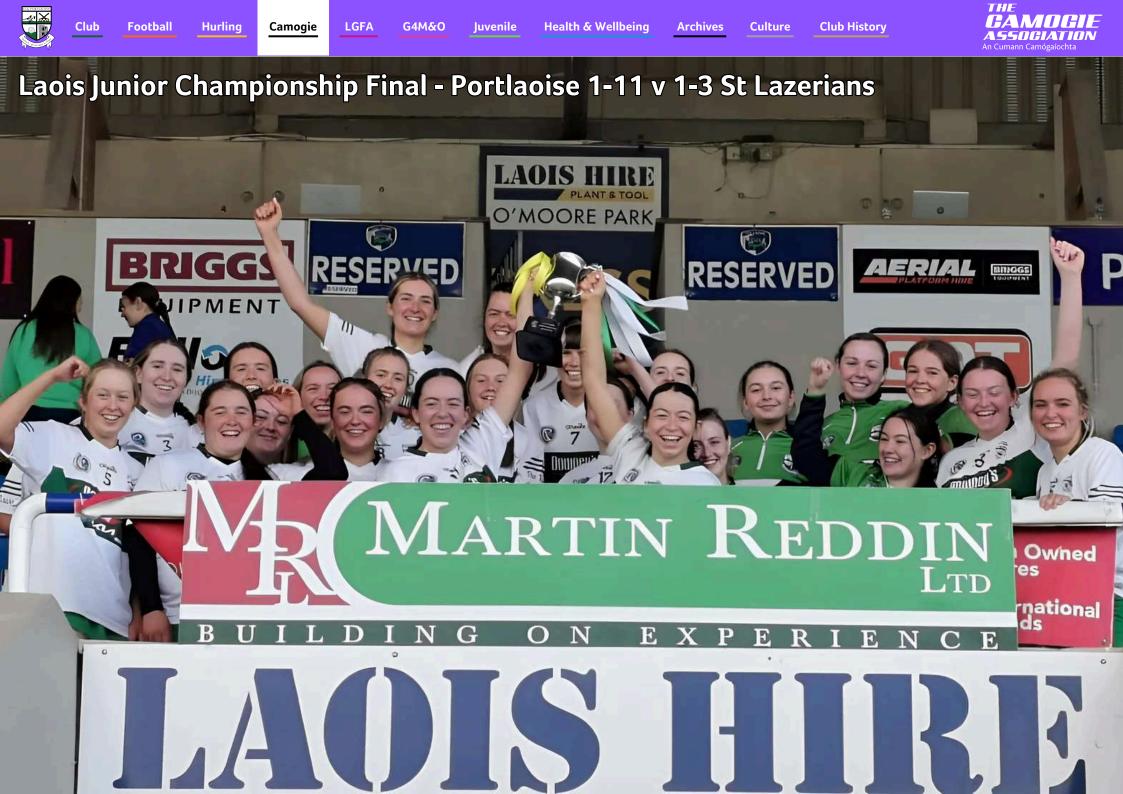
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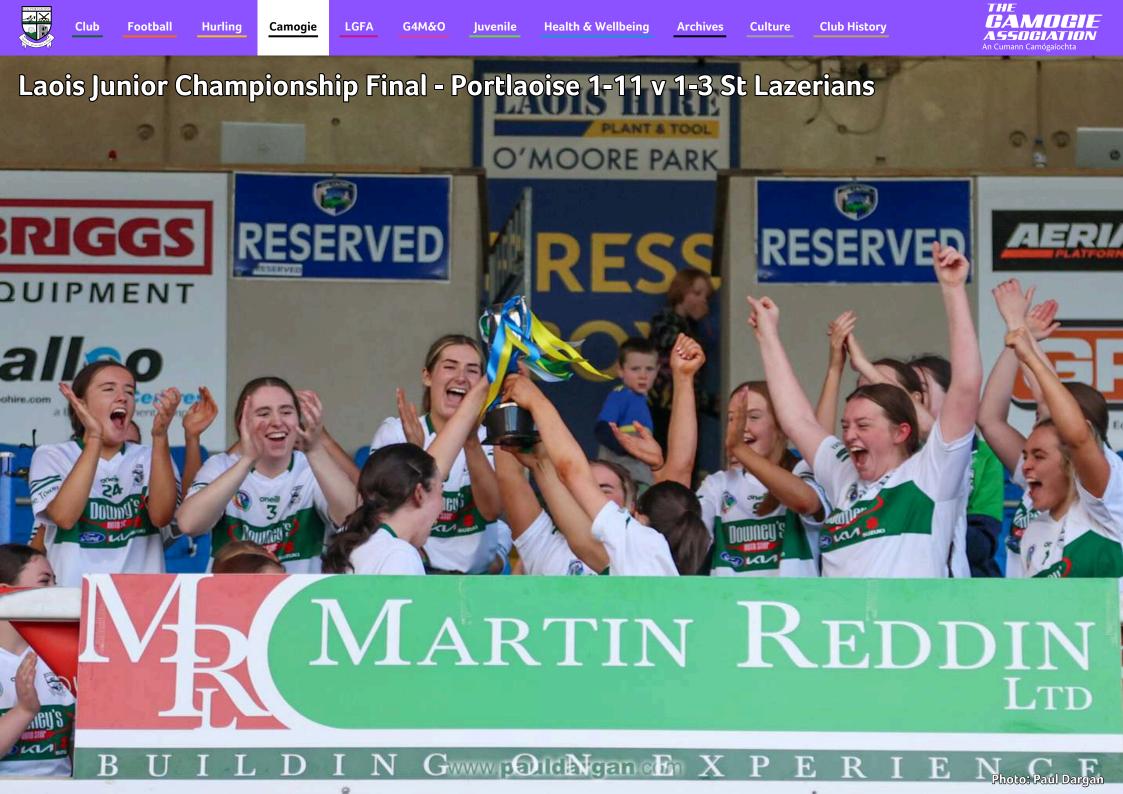
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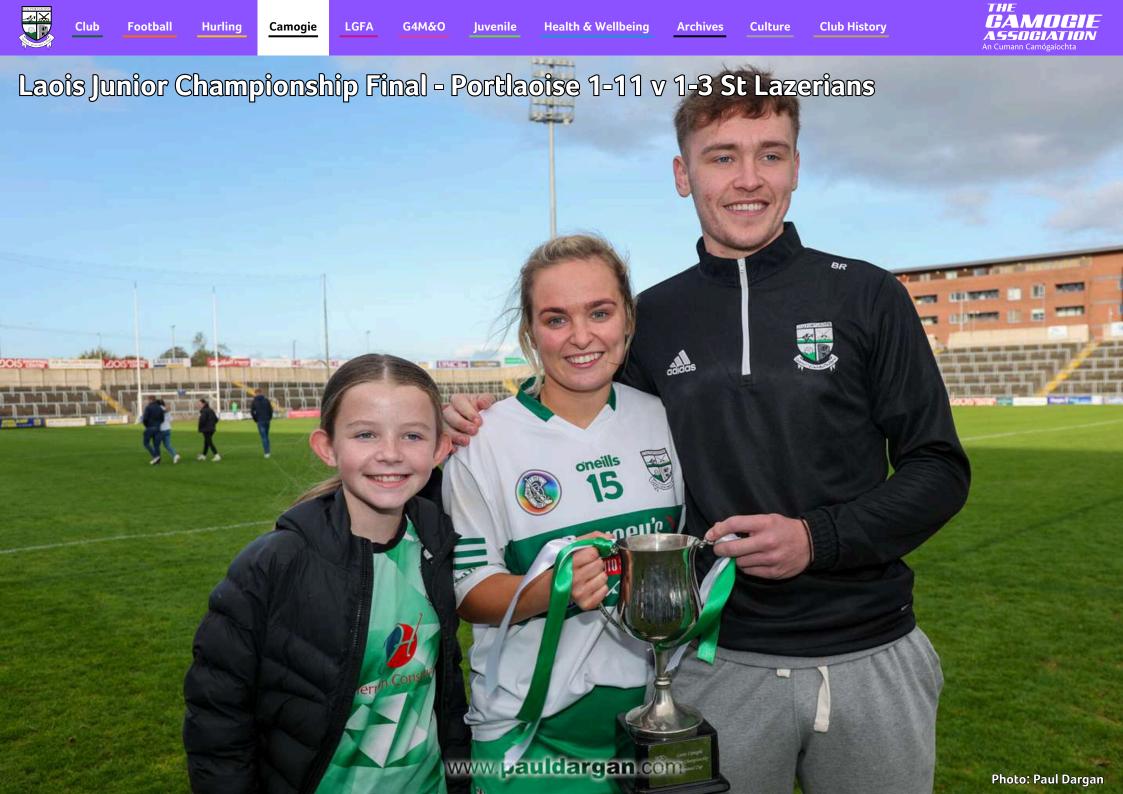
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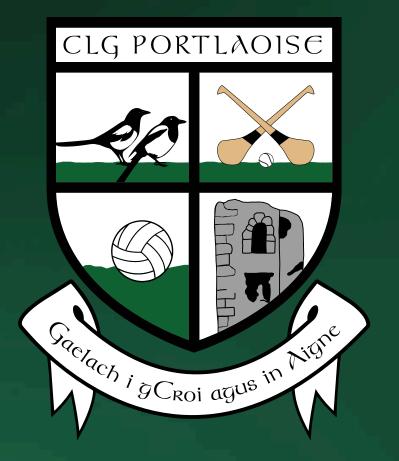
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# HOLLYB®OOK Contractions of the second second

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Back Row (left to right): Grainne Coleman, Hayley McCormack, Katie Moore, Emma Scully, Molly-Jane Dempsey, Leah Brophy, Kara Powders, Kate Scully, Ellen Fitzpatrick, Tilly O'Donnell, Lara Culleton, Leah Hanlon, Leah Brennan, Ruby Doyle; Front Row (left to right): Abigail Lewis, Chloe McCormack, Alix Culleton, Ashling Dowling, Emily Abrama, Kayleigh Dunne, Rebecca Cahill, Amarachi Obi, Sarah McDonald (Capt.), Ellen Bergin, Roisin Murphy;

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#### Laois LGFA U16 'A' Championship Final - Portlaoise 1-6 v 1-4 Ballyroan









Photos: Crocky Maher

Crocky Maher PHOTOGRAPHY

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#### Laois LGFA U16 'A' Championship Final - Portlaoise 1-6 v 1-4 Ballyroan





Football













# Laois LGFA U16 'A' Championship Final - Portlaoise 1-6 v 1-4 Ballyroan

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Back Row (left to right): Ger McEvoy (Coach) Amelia Knowles, Freya Byrne, Grace Maguire, Aoibhe O'Shea, Sasha Lawless (Capt.), Kate Hynes, Emma Moran, Allayna Bradley, Leah O'Sullivan, Emily McEvoy (Capt.), Eve O'Gorman, Hanna Dojilko, Sofia Murphy, Norah O'Sullivan (Coach), Jenny McEvoy (Coach); Front Row (left to right): Sonja Bratosova, Sarah Cully, Darcie Carroll, Sarah Skeehan, Leah Kavanagh, Lily Walsh, Saoirse Kavanagh, Aimee Conlon, Olivia Canavan;

# PORTLAOIS MINOR 'A' FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS 2024

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#### Portlaoise 4-7 v 0-11 Portarlington Sunday 13th October 2024

O'Moore Park



Back Row (left to right): Conor O'Callaghan, Oisín McRedmond, Cormac Walsh, David Whelan, Josh Finn, Ryan Morrin, Mark Walsh, Finn Dawson, Odhran Maher, Rio Lacumber, Fergal Naughton, Shane O'Sullivan, Rhys Lawless, Liam Conroy, Séan Powders, Darren Brennan, David Reddin, Mark O'Connor, Ryan Scully, Cian Fitzpatrick, Conor Stack, Charlie O'Dwyer, Ben Malone;

Front Row (left to right): Aidan Byrne, Tiernan Lawless, Ross Dunne, Ryan Haslam, David Timmons, Conor Dunne, Davy Delaney, Ben O'Connor (Capt.), Danny Rooney, Robbie Brophy, Eoin Carey, Aaron McCormack, Danny Gavin, Ryan Doran, Ryan Dalton, Aidan Fitzpatrick, Jamie Gorman, Ben Boachie;



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# **Minor County Champions**

Football

Our minors won the Corcoran Cup for the club for a record 26th time this month after a stunning second-half display saw them power past Portarlington on a scoreline of 4-7 to 0-11 at Laois Hire O'Moore Park.

LGFA

The atmosphere drummed up by our supporters was electric throughout. Three quick-fire goals in the space of nine minutes after the break paved the way for a memorable victory. The sides had gone into the second half level, but Portlaoise's ruthless finishing would ultimately make the difference.

This was our first Minor county title since 2012. It was Portarlington, however, started the brighter of the two, notching the first two scores of the contest. Portlaoise got off the mark through a Darren Brennan free from just inside the Portarlington 45, but Port were quick to respond, adding another point from play

As Portlaoise began to grow into the game, the breakthrough came. A blistering run down the sideline from Aaron McCormack led to a dangerous ball into the Portarlington square. His attempted pass bounced into the path of Liam Conroy, who calmly slotted into an empty net. Brennan then added his second free of the half to edge Brian Dunne's side in front.

Portarlington continued to fight back scoring a free to bring them within touching distance. But Portlaoise hit back with two points without reply—Josh Finn sending over from distance before Conor O'Callaghan popped his first over.

Portarlington finished the half strongly, scoring two quick points in succession. At half-time, Portlaoise held a slender one-point lead, 1-4 to 0-6.

O'Callaghan kicked the opening score of the second half, but Portarlington quickly drew level with two points in quick succession.

Then came Portlaoise's decisive purple patch. Darren Brennan took centre stage, finding the

net twice with clinical finishes that left Portarlington's keeper with no chance. McCormack added a point before Finn Dawson blasted the ball into the top corner, extending the lead to a commanding 10 points. Brennan continued his superb form, adding another score from a 45' to take his personal tally to 2-3.

Portarlington added a couple of points but it was too little too late and in the end, Portlaoise were deserving winners with a performance that will be remembered for years to come.

**Portlaoise:** Fergal Naughton; Robbie Brophy, Shane Walsh, Sean Powders; Finn Dawson 1-0, Ben O'Connor, David Delaney; Darren Brennan 2-3 (0-2 frees, 0-1 '45), Ryan Morrin; Mark O'Connor, Josh Finn 0-1, Danny Rooney; Conor O'Callaghan 0-2, Liam Conroy 1-0, Aaron McCormack 0-1; Sub: Ryan Doran for Robbie Brophy, Ryan Scully for Liam Conroy, Aidan Fitzpatrick for Danny Rooney, Ross Dunne for Ryan Morrin, Cian Fitzpatrick for Aaron McCormack;

**Portarlington:** Calum Doody; Cian Kelly, Tom Corcoran, Cathal Ward; Paddy Murray, Conor Moran, Hugh Connolly; Sean Michael Ward, Sean Moran, Michael Luttrell; Ben McCann, Alex Dunne, Lucas Coleman;

Referee: Des Cooney (St Joseph's);



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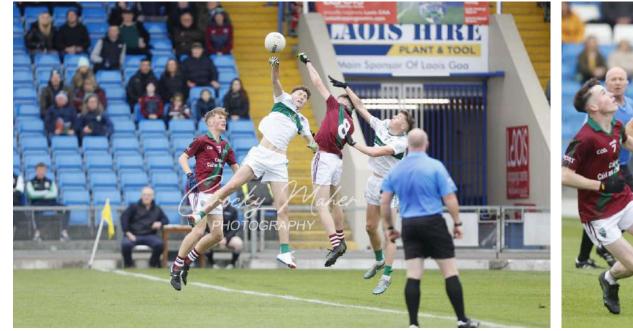
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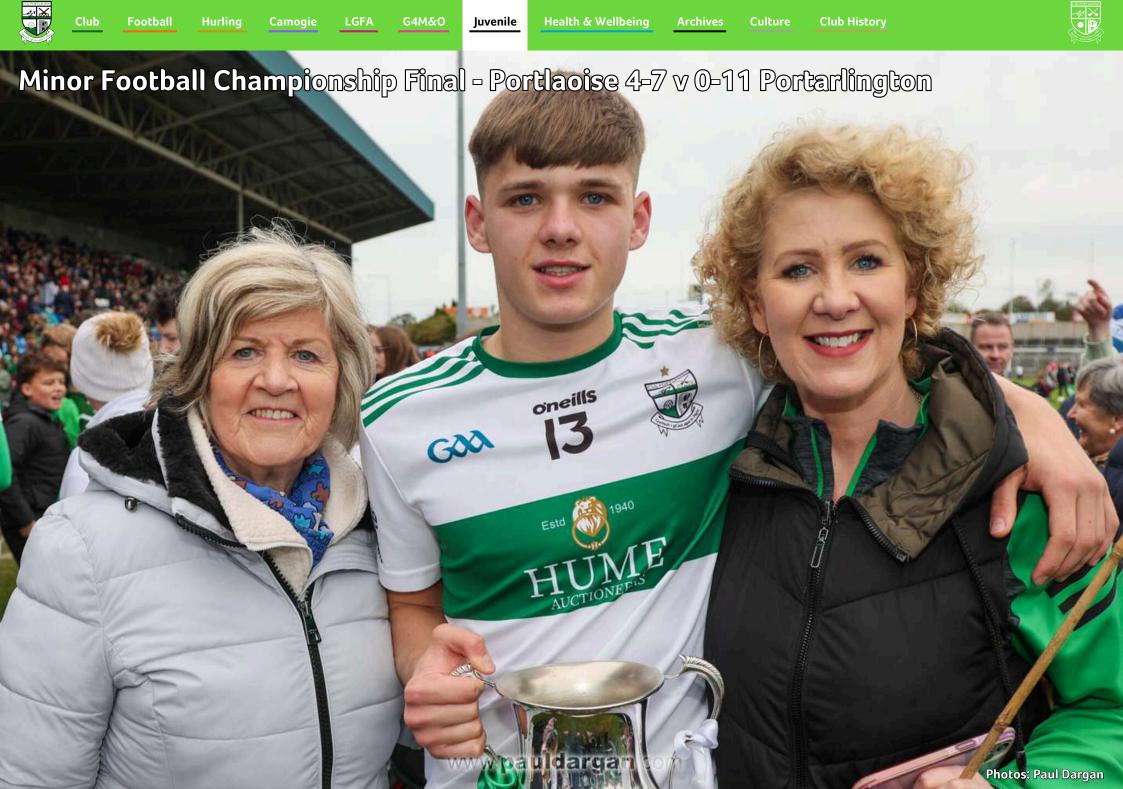
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#### Minor Football Championship Final - Portlaoise 4-7 v 0-11 Portarlington

**Photos: Paul Dargan** 

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#### **Our Minor Miracles**

Football

Hurling

by Dennis Tynan

Club

October 13th, 2024. A chance to add a new chapter to Portlaoise GAA clubs already rich history. For the first time since 1981, our Minor and Senior footballers would play in their own respective county finals on the same day, and at the same venue. 43 years in the making, it was a magnificent achievement for the club, no matter the potential outcome in either game.

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For the minor footballers, reaching this year's county decider ended a 12-year wait for possible minor football glory. Considering the rich success of our underage teams down through the years, 12 years seemed like a lifetime. Then again, it also went to show that minor football championships are hard won, and each victory should be treasured. After a tough season, that saw its fair share of highs and lows for the minor footballers, spirits were high in the build-up to the final. There was a togetherness about the group that one doesn't often see. This had been born from many factors. As a team, they had reached incredible heights, winning county titles at under-13 and under-15 level, as well as an under-15 Feiletitle. Unfortunately, they had also experienced harrowing lows. The loss of their friend and teammate David Brown had left an indelible mark on the group. How they responded to his tragic loss really showed just what they were made of. Overcoming early set-backs in the championship, they went on a five game winning streak, before securing their place in the final through a hard-fought victory over Killeshin/Crettyard/Spink.

Character is an often treasured resource; but these young men had shown they had bundles of it. In their first training session after the semi-final win, Coach Paul Cahillane set out what the next 2 weeks would entail from a preparation point of view. No stone would be left unturned; and as he told the boys himself, "If you trust yourselves and do what we're asking of you, you will be county champions". Training itself progressed well, and having had a front-row view of the lads' preparation, I could see myself that they were locked in. They were ready for battle. The day of the county final was treated like any other game, with the players meeting roughly an hour before throw-in. Warm-up schedules were maintained as always, as was the approach from mentors Brian Dunne, Charlie Fitzpatrick, Paul Cahillane, Kevin Gorman and John Delaney. The routine was to be maintained as always. Preparation had been meticulous. It was now up to the players themselves to get the job done.

O'Moore Park was a hive of excitement prior to throw-in. Fans from both Portlaoise and Portarlington made their way to their seats early, such was the excitement and anticipation around seeing both minor and senior footballers from both clubs playing in both games. In the dressing room beforehand, Paul and Brian spoke calmly and concisely to the players. They re-iterated a few keys points around tactics and the general game-plan. Most importantly though, they urged the lads to trust in their own ability. "If you trust in yourselves and in what you're being asked to do, you will be county champions". As they left the dressing room, there was a very definite sense that these boys were ready to reach the promised-land.

Team photos and warm-ups completed, it was time for battle. The early innings of the game were very much even, with both teams playing well within themselves. An early 2 point lead for Port was quickly pulled back by Portlaoise. The first major incident of the game was the first goal. After a brilliant run from Aaron 'Bruno' McCormack, the ball made its way across the face of the goal, where Liam Conroy was there to dispatch it to the net.

Goal secured, the game returned to an even keel, with Port answering back with scores of their own. A 4-point lead late in the first half for Portlaoise was quickly brought back to a point by Port; and that was to be all that separated the sides at the interval. Portlaoise, as had been their custom, had certainly played within themselves in the first half, and this was a point that was touched upon straight away once the team were back within the confines of the dressing room.

There was no need for panic though, as both Brian and Paul evoked calm within the group, once again reminding the lads that "if you trust in yourselves and what you're being asked to do, you WILL be county champions". Nods of approval spoke volumes, and as we made our way back out to the field, positivity and belief flew on our shoulders.

In the second half, Portlaoise were a different beast. The shackles were thrown off, and Portlaoise football took over. 3 goals in 9 minutes, 2 from the indomitable Darren Brennan, along with an exquisite finish from Finn Dawson broke the spirits of the Port team.





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Portlaoise now began to win all the 'dirty' ball, as bodies were put on the line. Ben O'Connor, as he had done all year, led by example, putting in a man-of-the-match display that was no more than deserved. Port cried out for mercy, but he had long-since abandoned them. Goals win games, and a final score-line of 4-07 to 0-11 paid homage to that. Portlaoise were once again county Minor 'A' football champions. The scenes of joy and celebration at the end of the game will live long in the memory.

Years of hard work and graft finally coming to fruition. As Ben O'Connor made his winning captains speech, he spoke with an elegance and composure that was far beyond his years. He finished by remembering David Brown, dedicating the win to his memory, and emphasising that the players had won this title for him. There's not a doubt in my mind that he was there on the field of battle with them. '*David Brown, Forever Young*' rested proudly on the sleeves of the lads jerseys.

Portlaoise, Minor 'A' football Champions 2024 now rests proudly on the Corcoran Cup.

C'mon the Town.

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#### **U5 Town Tigers End of Year**

Our Town Tigers, the Under 5 boys and girls, wrapped up their final training session of the year this month with a special celebration. Our victorious minor footballers made a surprise visit, bringing along the Corcoran Cup for the young players to admire and take photos with. It was a memorable day for the future stars of our club!





#### **U5 Town Tigers End of Year**



#### **Club GPO Corner**

Football

Hurling

**October Highlights** 

Club

Schools Update:

**Gaelscoil:** The first term of schools Senior infants and 2nd class got the opportunity to learn and develop their GAA skills. During the few weeks the classes got a chance to work on a mix of skills in Hurling/Camogie and also football as well. The basic skills and matches were the prime focus for these classes along with fun activities too.

Camogie

LGFA

**Educate Together:** The four week block involved the brand new junior infants groups and also the 1st class group. Junior infants began with some fundamental movement games progressing each week where they made huge improvements over their block of coaching. 1st class group worked on basic skills along with some challenges too over the few weeks in which they passed with flying colours.

Holy Family Junior School: Senior infants and 1st class have been working on some challenges of their own over the past term with them working on some control work and hand eye coordination games as well. These kids have been very impressive over the term with some very fast improvements.

Holy Family Senior School: The 3rd class got the first opportunity to work on some coaching over a couple of weeks in preparation for their 3rd class street league. Each class will be playing matches over a period of weeks competing against their fellow 3rd class groups. This will be a great time for these students to get used to playing in matches and test their skills.

**Portlaoise CBS:** Over the course of the year coaching the 1st years in CBS will be another big part of schools coaching. The 1st year football team at the moment are working on some gameplay development along with working the ball under pressure. These students will working hard every week for upcoming competitions over the course of the year.

**Town Tigers:** The Portlaoise Nursery finished up Friday last with a brilliant ending to the year. Over the year these kids have been excellent. They have learned and developed with the help of the coaches and also T.Y. students. The future is very bright with all the new Town Tigers coming through. Thanks very much for all the help from parents bringing their kids and helping out on the day too. We cant wait to get up an running again in the new year.

**Club History** 

Contact for information, Jamie Moriarty - 086 669 0548 Portlaoise GAA Club GPO

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#### Portlaoise GAA Club and the Joe McDonagh Foundation 2024/2025

Portlaoise GAA Club are currently taking part in the Joe McDonagh Foundation programme.

Fondúireacht Sheosamh Mhic Dhonnacha is a support scheme provided by Glór na nGael and the Gaelic Athletic Association to GAA clubs wishing to promote the Irish Language in their community.

Tá Club Cumann Lúthchleas Gael Phortlaoise ag glacadh páirte l Fondúireacht Sheosaimh Mhic Dhonncha l láthair na huaire.Is scéim tacaíochta de chuid Glór na nGael agus de chuid an Cumann Lúthchleas Gael í Fondúireacht Sheosaimh Mhic Dhonncha, atá dírithe ar chlubanna ar mhaith leo ról a chinntiú don Ghaeilge i saol an chlub.

A grant scheme provides funding to assist with the implementation of that plan,and clubs are awarded medals based on the amount of language based targets they can reach within a given year.

Trí scéim deontais, cuirtear tacaíocht airgid at fáil le tacú leis an phlean sin a chur i bhfeidhm, agus bronntar boinn ar chlubanna de réir mar a bhaineann siad spriocanna na fondúireachta amach.

#### If you would like to be part of a committee to set about making the Irish Language more central in club life please contact Tommy on <u>087 293 9077</u>.

Má bhíonn suim ort a bheidh páirt den coiste chun gaeilge a spreagadh agus a chur chun cinn sa chlub déan teagmháil le Tomás ar <u>087 293 9077</u>.

# Fondúireacht Beosalm Mhic Dhonncha







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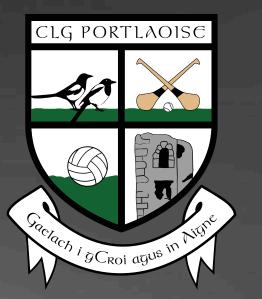




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PROSPORT

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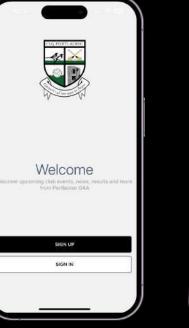


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ALL FUNDS FROM TOWN LOTTO GO TOWARDS DAY TO DAY RUNNING OF THE CLUB

Jackpot €20,000!! Go to fundraising section on our club app to play.

Thanks to everyone who supports our fundraising efforts through the Town Lotto (day to day running costs), and Club Bingo (development). It is greatly appreciated.

If you have any feedback in relation to the newsletter, or if you would like to contribute to it, please contact info@portlaoisegaa.ie

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