

TOWN TATTTLER

Vol 6 - Issue 2

It's giving
Town **Goal** bitch X





James 'Skinny' Fahy

This month, our own Laura Bergin caught up with James Fahy aka Skinny. This is their interview.

Where are you based now James?

I'm living in Youghal, Co Cork now. I met up with Dick Sides (RIP) here on the beach a few years ago

Getting started?

I went to the Primary CBS, Tower Till, and Brother Guing was the main man there for GAA and he got me started on the road shall we say. Then I went to the CBS secondary school Tower Hill, where dual sports was a big thing there. I started playing U12 in both codes in 1977.

Club?

In the Club we were blessed back then with people like Bill Phelan, Peter Carroll, Ollie Byrne and Peter Fennell, all great Portlaoise men, who gave up their time to look after us. We had a lot of success as underage. Our U12 team in the hurling went the whole way to U21 and won every championship without being beaten in any of those years, and that was a great achievement in itself.

Best Underage Hurler?

Paul Bergin, an absolute incredible player, he was miles ahead of us all.

Best Underage Footballer?

Matt McDonald God Rest him, taken too soon from us. Actually aside, myself and Matty, Liam Duggan and Tom Conroy were on the Laois U21 football team, we were beaten in an All Ireland Semi-Final by Donegal by one point in 1987 and Matty got a kick in the head and had to be stretchered off, and we had to change the team around. Definitely I'm convinced we would have went ahead and won the All Ireland, as it happened Donegal went on and won it, I think they won it by 10 points and eight of that team

went on to win a Senior All Ireland in 1992, so you just never know but unfortunately it wasn't to be.

Best Memories?

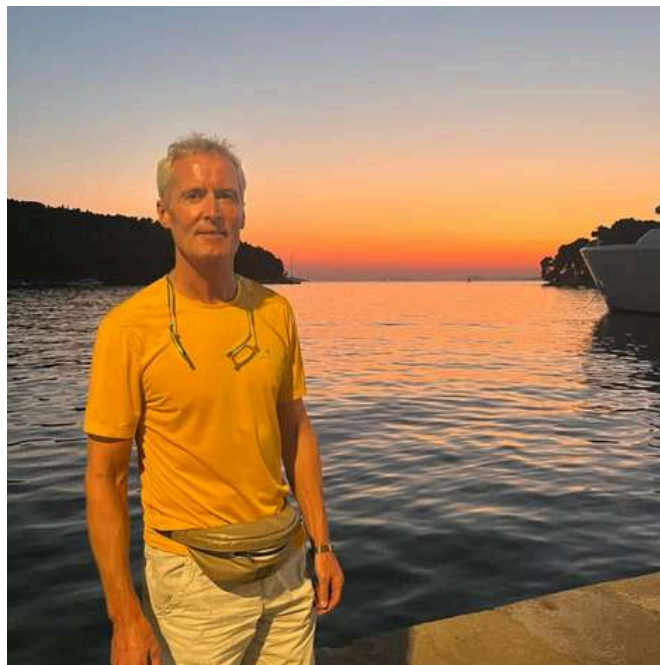
I suppose the double, double in the Centenary year in 1984 when we won the two seniors and two minors, that was an incredible achievement for the club, obviously I don't think that will ever be done again, unless we do it. Hopefully we will.

Senior Players?

I only played one senior hurling match, that was due to, do you remember back when there was a big row between Portlaoise and Clara, I think there were about ten lads sent off, so the junior hurlers had to step up.

Best Hurler?

In hurling I mean John Taylor was the absolute stand out player, My God, he was a pleasure to watch and what a player.



Best footballer?

When I was starting out like where do you start, I had Curly, Colm and Gerry Browne and Atch Whelan, they just made my life so easy and they were all phenomenal players. My first game outside underage. I played a Junior Football match in Mountmellick, I played corner forward, I can't remember who we played but playing at No 14 was Brian Rigney, he made my life easy that day as well. He broke the ball and I did the easy stuff.

Your time as captain...

I was Captain in 1990(beating Ballyroan 1-9 v 0-8 (James won't say it but he scored 1-3), we played Fербane in the club championship and we were 13 points down at half time and we drew and what comes next, it was the biggest regret and mistake that I've ever made as regards football . I went on my holidays for the replay instead of staying back with the team and it's something I'll take with me but if I had it back obviously, I would have changed things, but then as it transpired I had to give up the game in 1991 because I have monocular vision. I'm basically blind in my left eye and the doctors told me in fear of something happening to the good eye that I needed to stop, so that was a premature end but that was the way it was to be.

Most Enjoyable match?

I think the most enjoyable team one I ever played was when we won a Junior 'A' in 1977, we beat Timahoe and I just remember the fact Jimmy Wrest was our Captain and Jimmy , he had never won a medal before and I just remember the craic and the gallery we had, it was absolutely brilliant, I was delighted for him.

Keeping it in the family...

I must mention my grandson Lee McStay, he's playing dual there U14 with Portlaoise and he's doing very well and as it happens today he's playing his first game for the County with the U15 footballers so I'm so proud of him and I hope to God someday he lifts the County Senior Cup like I did in 1990.



CLG PHORT LAOISE



ALL-IRELAND FÉILE NA NGAEL DIV 2 CHAMPIONS - 1980

Sunday, 6 July 1980 - Galway



Portlaoise 1-6 v0-2 St. Dungarvan (Waterford)

Back (l. to r.): Bill Phelan (Club Sec.), Liam Duggan, Paul Bergin, Paddy Norton, Kevin Kavanagh, David Coughlan, Mossy Moran, Niall O'Connell, Ray Carroll, Tom Conroy, Billy Fitzpatrick, Ollie Byrne (mentor);
Front (l. to r.): James Fahy, Tommy Fitzpatrick, Joe Walsh, Paddy Dalton, Jim Coss, Greg Norton, Eddie Brennan, Matthew McDonald, Cyril Duggan, Joe Gallagher.;



CLG PHORT LAOISE

LAOIS MINOR 'A' HURLING CHAMPIONS - 1984

Sunday, 9 September 1984 - O'Moore Park



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

Back (l. to r.): 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 (l. to r.): Michael Mulhall, Anthony Dunne, Paddy Gavin, Philip Harrington, John Hanniffy, David Coughlan (Capt.), Eddie Brennan, Donal Conroy;



CLG PHORT LAOISE



LAOIS MINOR 'A' FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS - 1984

Replay - Sunday, 30 September 1984 - O'Moore Park



Portlaoise 1-8 v 1-2 Graiguecullen

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;



CLG PHORT LAOISE

LAOIS SENIOR FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS - 1987

Sunday, 27 September 1987 - O'Moore Park



Portlaoise 3-16 v0-5 Ballylinan

*Back (l. to r.): Tom Conroy, Bernie Conroy, Mark Kavanagh, Brian Colgan, Carl Lenihan, Liam Duggan, Mick Mulhall, Jas. O'Reilly,
Tommy Keogh, John Bohane, Colm Browne, Pat Critchley, Dick Sides, Gerry Browne;*

Front (l. to r.): John Hanniffy, Billy Dargan, Joe Keenan, Noel Prendergast (Capt.), James Fahy, Seamus Lalor, Tom Prendergast, Mick McDonald;



CLG PHORT LAOISE

LAOIS JUNIOR 'A' HURLING CHAMPIONS - 1987

Sunday, 23 August 1987 - O'Moore Park



Portlaoise 3-12 v 1-7 Timahoe

*Back (l. to r.): Niall Rigney, Pat Menton, Ollie Dunne, Matthew McDonald, Christy Dunne, Hugh Rochford, Paddy Norton, Willie Fitzpatrick;
Front (l. to r.): Matthew Keegan, Martin Conroy, Jimmy Wrest (Capt.), Philip Rochford, Paddy Harding, James Fahy, Tom Fitzpatrick,
Brian Murphy.;*



CLG PHORT LAOISE



LAOIS U21 'A' HURLING CHAMPIONS - 1988

Saturday, 24 September 1988 - O'Moore Park



Portlaoise 4-16 v 3-9 Camross/Clonaslee/Kyle

*Back (l. to r.): John Keenan, Cyril Duggan, Pat Fitzpatrick, John Hanniffy, Marcus Ging, Damien O'Sullivan, James Fahy, Paddy Norton.;
Front (l. to r.): Des Killeen, Johnny Lawless, Tommy Fitzpatrick, Niall Rigney, Ray Carroll, Paul Bergin, David Griffey;*



CLG PHORT LAOISE

LAOIS SENIOR FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS - 1990

Sunday, 23 September 1990 - O'Moore Park



Portlaoise 1-9 v0-8 Ballyroan

Panel: Paul McEvoy, Michael Dalton, Tom Conroy, Kevin Kavanagh, Colm Browne, Liam Duggan, Mick Lillis, Carl Lenihan, John Keenan, Seamus Lalor, Tony Dunne (0-5) Jimmy Lewis, Noel Prendergast (0-1), Gerry Browne, James Fahy (Capt. 1-3), Des Rigney, Bernard Travers, John Taylor, John Hanniffy, John Lawless, Donal Rigney, Paul Bergin, Liam Bergin, Declan Critchley, Tom Fitzpatrick, Liam Scully;



Ecstasy for Portlaoise Captain, James Fahy after receiving the 1990 S.F.C. Trophy from Tom Hassett, County Board Chairman



James and Dick Sides (RIP) at Youghal



James pursues Seamus Hunt in a championship match over in Mountmellick



2026



CLG PHORT LAOISE MEMBERSHIP



FULL ADULT
MEMBERSHIP
INCLUDES
ENTRY TO



Membership 2026

As we gear up for another year of Gaelic games, we want to ensure that every member is fully covered.

Our 2026 Club Membership options for Adults, Juveniles and Families are now live and available for purchase through the club app.

Search 'Portlaoise GAA' wherever you get your apps or download from the Apple App Store [here](#) or the Google play store [here](#)

In the app go to the "Menu" at the bottom of the screen and from there select "Memberships". Then choose the membership option which applies to you.

When choosing your membership make sure to select the association which applies to you.

What your membership gets you:

Play and Train: Your membership covers you to play and train with CLG Phort Laoise, giving you access to our facilities at Rathleague including our new walking track.
Laois GAA All County Club Draws: All Full Adult club memberships automatically includes you in the 4 Laois GAA County Board Monster Draws valued at €130. It's your chance to be part of something big and potentially win fantastic prizes! Over €125k total prize money and €31.5k in Cash prizes to be won every 4 weeks.

Your support through membership directly contributes to the success and growth of our club.

If you would prefer to purchase through Foireann the link is [here](#).



LGFA - Under 16 & Minor Medal Presentation Night





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LGFA - Under 16 & Minor Medal Presentation Night



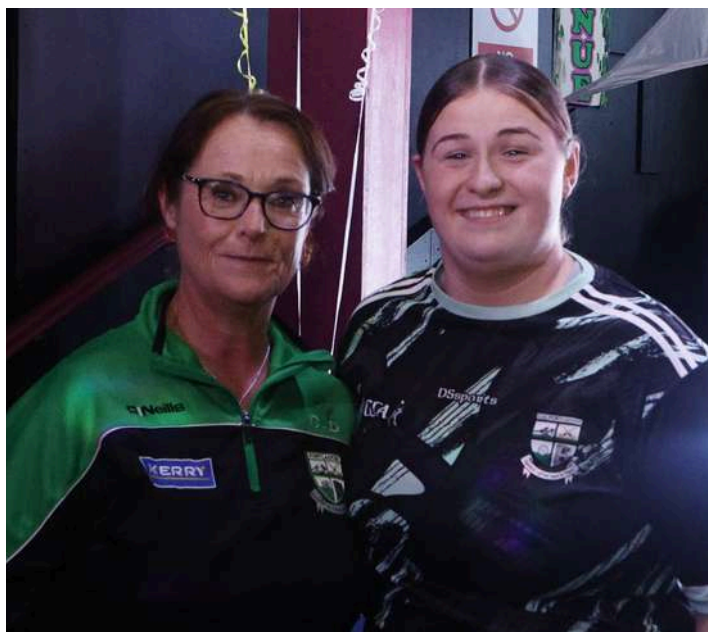


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LGFA - Under 16 & Minor Medal Presentation Night





LGFA - Under 16 & Minor Medal Presentation Night





LGFA - Under 16 & Minor Medal Presentation Night



GAA

LGFA

CAMOGIE ASSOCIATION

AMERICAN GAELIC FOOTBALL

TOWN CLUSTERS

Town Tigers

Town Tigers

Town Tigers

CLG PORTLAOISE

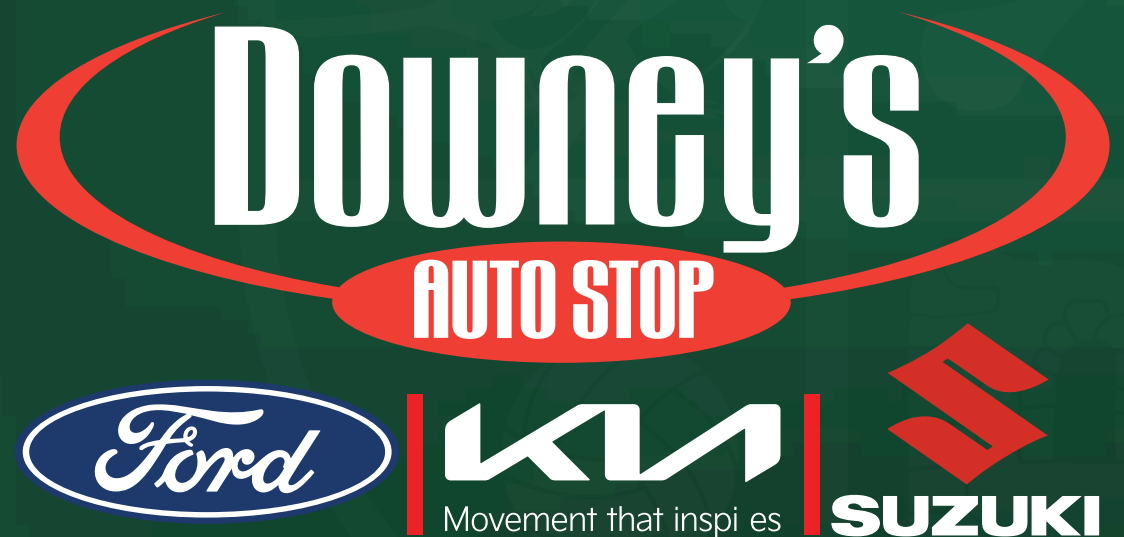
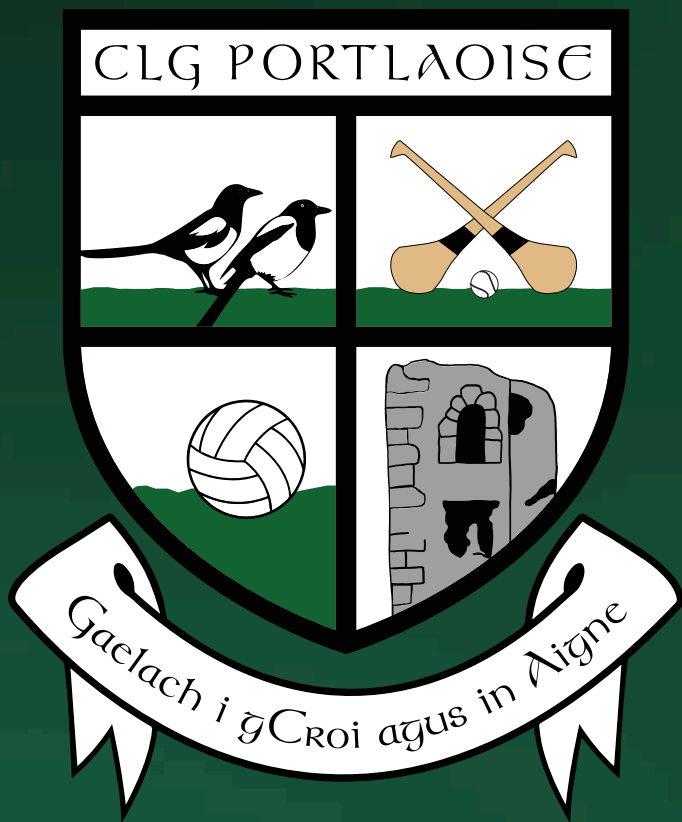
It's giving Red bitch X





LGFA - Under 16 & Minor Medal Presentation Night





Adult Section Title Sponsors of CLG Phort Laoise for 2026



**JACKPOT
THIS WEEK**

€20,000

Your support makes a real difference.
Go [here](#) to play and support the club.



HUME
AUCTIONEERS

HOLLYBROOK



Juvenile Title Sponsors of CLG Phort Laoise for 2026

GAA INJURY

Logging Through Foireann

As of **1 June 2025**, all players who sustain an injury while playing or training must self-report the injury through **Foireann**. This is a change from the previous system, which was managed by the **Club Injuries Officer**.

Important: It is the **responsibility** of the **injured player** to start the process on **Foireann**. For **underage players**, the **parent** or **guardian** must start the process. The **club cannot log injuries** anymore unless the player or the parent/guardian has begun the report in Foireann.

The **GAA** has published an in-depth **guide** showing how to complete this. The guide can be found **[here](#)**.

If you are struggling to find your Foireann login details, email the Club Secretary at **secretary.portlaoise.laois@gaa.ie**



Club GPO Corner

Reminder again that our aim in all schools is to try and progress each child's skills in football and hurling while making the sessions as enjoyable as possible for all the children involved.

January Update

Scoil Bhríde: With the hurling Cumann na mBunscoil around the corner 6th and junior infants have started into their hurling blocks.

Gaelscoil: 5th class completed their hurling and football block along with 6th class. Junior infants and senior infants have just started into their football blocks.

Educate Together: Junior infants, 1st class and 3rd class have started into their hurling blocks the last few weeks after the midterm. All classes have completed their football block.

Holy Family Senior School: 4th class have started into their football block. Friday morning sessions for hurling cumann na mbunscoil students are getting going now too.

Holy Family Junior School: The Junior infants and 2nd class have just finished their football block. All the classes have now completed their football block.

St. Mary's CBS Portlaoise: Both our first year footballers and second year footballers are into Leinster finals. The 1st year hurling has recently started too.

Coming in February

Scoil Bhríde: 6th class and Junior infants will finish out their hurling blocks over the next few weeks.

Gaelscoil: The Juniors and senior infants will finish out their football blocks.

Educate Together: Juniors, 1st and 3rd class will finish out their hurling blocks before moving onto the other classes.

Holy Family Senior School: 4th class will continue with their football block. The hurling sessions on Friday mornings for cumman na mbunscoil students will continue.

Holy Family Junior School: Junior infants and 2nd class will finish their hurling blocks.

St. Mary's CBS Portlaoise: The 1st and 2nd year footballers will be finishing out their seasons with their finals over the next few weeks. 1st year hurlers are also getting into the thick of their season with a number of games over the coming month.

Other Updates

Nursery : Our u5 and u6 Town Tigers are kicking off over the next few weeks. The u6s are in the hall at St. Mary's CBS on Wednesday evening from 6pm -7pm. Our u5s are starting on Fridays the 6th of March from 6pm - 7pm in the hall at St. Mary's CBS too. Anyone that would like to get their child involved in all the fun can sign them up using this form:

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=AOggqYW4302xGWi-ynfwdR_RChVD2GZJuwwAwwXHfzFVUNDRYMDBOTIZSTUw5NE1QUURFUDNWQ1FIQIQICNjPTEu

Juvenile Teams: All of our underage boys and girls teams are starting back over the next few weeks. It'll be a busy period for the club.

As always, I can be reached by phone at **083 194 0412** or by email at **Josh.Hogan.po.laois@gaa.ie**. If any coach or parent needs a hand with anything, no matter how big or small, please don't hesitate to let me know. I'd be happy to help.

Josh Hogan

CLG Phort Laoise GPO





Join Aclaí Fitness

Looking to get fitter, feel stronger and enjoy it while you're at it? Aclaí Fitness is up and running and it's open to all members who want to improve their health in a relaxed, supportive setting.

Whether you're starting from scratch, getting back into it after a break, or simply looking for a bit of structure and motivation, Aclaí is the ideal place to begin. There's no pressure, no egos, just a good group of people encouraging one another to be that little bit better each week.

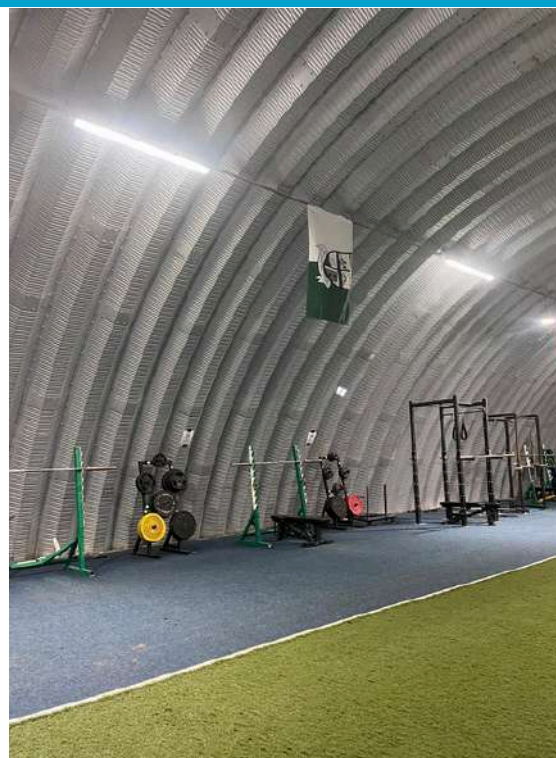
This isn't just about workouts. It's about confidence, connection and consistency. It's about turning up, having the craic, putting in the effort and leaving feeling better than when you arrived.

We're very fortunate to have experienced club members leading sessions, all of whom understand the value of creating a positive, welcoming environment. They're there to guide, encourage and make sure everyone feels comfortable, no matter their level. And the value? It's exceptional. For club members, Aclaí offers structured, coached fitness sessions at a fraction of what you'd pay elsewhere. You're getting quality training, community spirit and top class facilities, all within your own club.

The feedback so far has been brilliant. Strong numbers, great energy and real progress being made.

If you've been thinking about joining, take this as your sign. Come along, give it a go and see what Aclaí is all about. All it takes is one message. Reach out to any of the organisers (Karen Monaghan [087 636 8712](tel:0876368712), Claire O'Gorman [086 352 9806](tel:0863529806) or Ed O'Dwyer [087 653 6144](tel:0876536144)) or someone you know in the group and we'll add you to the WhatsApp list.

You won't regret it.





CIORCAL COMHRÁ FEABHRA

FEBRUARY USEFUL PHRASES

Tá craobh nua Conradh na Gaeilge bunaithe I gContae Laoise

A new Conradh na Gaeilge branch has been formed in Laois

Beidh ‘Caife agus Comhrá’ ar siúl gach dara maidin Sathairn san Amharclann Dhún Másc

A coffee and chat morning will take place every second Saturday morning in Dunamais Theatre

Beidh oíche sheolta ar siúl I dTigh de Brún ar Aoine 6ú lá de Mhárta

A launch night will take place in De Brúns on the 6th March

Beidh tráth na gceist, seisiún traidisiúnta agus pop up Gaeltacht ar siúl ar an oíche

A table quiz, trad session and pop up Gaeltacht will take place on the night

Tá fáilte roimh chách, cibé leibhéal Gaeilge atá agat

Everybody is welcome, whatever level of Irish you have

Seachtain na Gaeilge sona duit!
Happy Irish week!

Déanamais iarracht Gaeilge a labhairt
We make an effort to speak Irish

Labhair Gaeilge liom
Speak Irish to me

Is breá liom an Gheilge
I love Irish

Feicfidh mé thú arís
I'll see you again

Lá Fhéile Pádraig sona duit
Happy St.Patrick's Day



Club

Football

Hurling

Camogie

LGFA

G4M&O

Juvenile

Health & Wellbeing

Archives

Culture

Club History



Oíche Sheolta CHUMAINN GHAELAIGH CHONTAE LAOISE Launch Night



Aoine 6ú Márta 2026

Friday 6th March 2026

8 - 11.00 pm

De Brúns @ Humes,
Portlaoise. R32 Y585



8 pm Fáilte 7 Tráth na gCeist ~ Welcome & Table Quiz

Pop-up 7 Seisiún Traidisiúnta ~ Pop-up & Trad Session

Fáilte roimh gach leibhéal Gaeilge ~ All levels of Irish welcome

€5 an duine
(airgead tirim)
~ €5 per person
(cash only)
Max 4 an bord
~Max 4 per table



Crannchur &
Duaiseanna
~ Raffle &
Prizes
(airgead tirm/cash only)

Bí linn don chraic agus don cheol!

cumanngaelachlaoise@cnag.ie

cnag_laoise Cumann Gaelach Chontae Laoise



Dáta don Dialann ~ 6.3.2026 ~ Date for the Diary

8-11pm

De Brúns @ Humes, Portlaoise. R32 Y585

? Tráth na gCeist agus seisiún traidisiúnta ~ table quiz & trad session

Fáilte roimh gach leibhéal Gaeilge ~ All levels of Irish welcome.

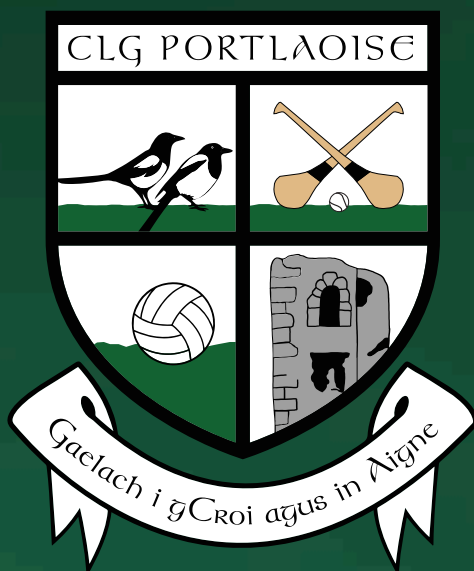
Beidh duaiseanna urraithe ag gnóthaí áitúla ar an oíche. ~
There will be prizes sponsored by local businesses on the night.

Bí linn don chraic agus don cheol



CLG PHORT LAOISE

COLGAN SPORTS - ONLINE AND SHOP



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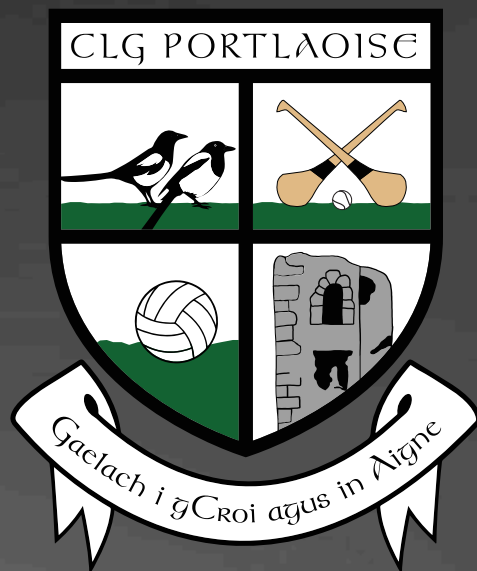


"Portlaoise GAA"

CLG PHORT LAOISE

DS SPORTS - ONLINE

SUPPLYING PORTLAOISE LGFA & CAMOGIE

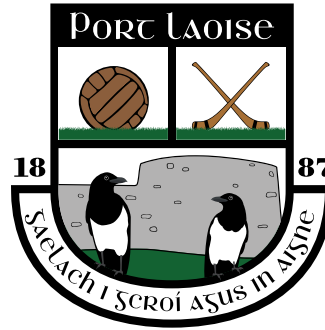


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DOWNLOAD THE OFFICIAL CLG PHORT LAOISE APP NOW!



**Keep up to date with all Town news
including fixtures and results by
registering for the CLG Phort Laoise
App today !!!!**



Search 'Portlaoise GAA':





**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.**

**Search
'Portlaoise GAA'**



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