



June 19th-21st 2015

FÉILE
NEWSLETTER



CAMOGIE

OUR GAME OUR PASSION



The excitement was next to impossible to describe as McElligott's bus left the car park of our GAA Club on Friday morning last, as our team of fine young ladies (Warriors) left to represent us in this year's Féile Na nGael in Maghera, Co Derry. The mentors over the last number of weeks had worked extremely hard to prepare our team for this festival of Camogie and their philosophy was simple: this weekend was all about the three P's Performance, Participation & Play (fun). The Féile competition remains one of the most prestigious events in the Camogie calendar and Mungret St Pauls Camogie were mighty proud to be participating.

June 2015

FEILE NEWSLETTER



MAKING FRIENDS

@ FEILE



June 2015

FEILE NEWSLETTER



OUR FEILE ADVENTURE BEGINS



FUN ON THE BUS

After the long bus journey all were happy to reach our final destination, Watty Graham's GAA Club where we began preparations for our first match against our Clare neighbours, Inagh-Kilnamona. Despite our efforts, the ladies from Clare were just too strong but as always we fought to the end and never gave up. Once off the field we had to get our heads back in the game as we prepared for our next duel against local team Lavey. This time we started stronger and got a couple of scores on the board early, both teams had opportunities for scores before the half time whistle but we struggled to convert ours and Lavey went in at half time two points up. A rallying halftime pep-talk from their mentors had the intended effect of galvanising our girls and we certainly started the second half with more ambition. Right up to the last five minutes the game could have gone in any direction but the enormity of the journey began to take its toll on our legs and despite all our efforts we couldn't prevent Lavey from getting for a few late scores to win the game. Despite visible disappointment our girls rallied and headed to the location for the Féile Parade. Looking splendid in their gear our girls and mentors were given one of the loudest cheers of the night as they passed the large assembled crowd of supporters, parents and siblings. After a very long day our team were glad to meet up with their host families for some rest, recuperation & Ulster hospitality

GREAT SUPPORT



June 2015

FEILE NEWSLETTER



COACHES CORNER



Our players safely deposited, the real adventure commenced for a small group of supporters, mentors and their families as we headed out towards Ardboe to our accommodation. No expense spared, our accommodation was best described as vintage. Once settled, a group of trustworthy souls (Sinead, Mike, Isobel & Dermot) were sent out in search of pizza and were lucky to stumble across an establishment, that sold the finest Guinness, who happily ordered our pizza, as we reflected on the events of the day. Back at the ranch John was left in charge of beverages, ensuring they were at an optimum temperature for our return, whilst a forward thinking Carol was already in breakfast mode laying out the finest porcelain available to her on our magnificent dining room table. Jean, Sharon & Irene were left in charge of sleeping arrangements and food display which totally captured the ethos of our healthy club project. Meanwhile Batman, Robin, Batgirl and Noel, our bus driver, made their way with our local tour guide Fergie, to their accommodation where they enjoyed a very special brand of hospitality.

Coaching & mentoring is all about helping players improve their skills, perform to the best of their ability and promoting a sense of team whilst ensuring the well-being of every player. I would like to acknowledge the energy, effort & commitment of our coaching team led by Mike Lynch and ably assisted by Dermot Morrissey, John Mac Mahon, Jean Costello & Denis O' Brien (Tipperary's No 1 supporter). They have instilled these qualities into our group of players and this was on display both on and off the field of play over the weekend.



June 2015

FÉILE

NEWSLETTER



THE BATTLE OF BELLAGHY



Up and at it early the next morning we were all back in Watty Graham's to meet up with our players who all reported that they had slept well and were ready for the first match of the day against our host club. As we took to the field the excitement was palpable. With great support from the sideline our girls got off to a flying start with an early goal as a result of some fine team work. However, Watty Graham's battled back and 10 minutes in they were level with us. Both teams were fairly closely matched for the whole encounter, exchanging score for score. However at the final whistle unfortunately we were behind by a couple of points which was disappointing as we certainly had our chances to win the match.



Conditions were perfect as we headed for the Shield quarter final which was to be held in Bellaghy against the Wexford team Cranford. Despite our losses, our team of mentors led by Mike Lynch had huge confidence in this bunch of girls and used the time wisely to pick them up and prepare them for what will live in the minds of those in attendance for a long time as the Battle of Bellaghy. It is fair to say that as Chairperson of this great club it is days and performances like this that make me extremely proud to be involved. It is hard to put into words the level of performance our girls displayed. Each and every single girl who took to the field put their bodies on the line for each other and their mentors. Their team work and inter-play was impeccable and this was rewarded by the best performance this team has given, not just in this year's Féile Competition but all year. In the end we were beaten by one solitary point but days like this aren't always about winning; they are about seizing the moment, making memories and most of all friendships, proving that when we give our best we never regret it no matter what the outcome.

FEILE

NEWSLETTER



FEILE GALLERY



June 2015

FÉILE

NEWSLETTER

BUIOCHAS



Organising Féile is a large undertaking for any club and does not happen without significant support which I would like to acknowledge. Firstly thanks to Anne Hayes, Féile Co-ordinator who, despite not been able to travel with us, had all of the important preparatory work completed.; our club secretary, Isobel Madden, for the trojan work undertaken on our behalf both in the lead up to Féile and over the weekend, acting as club liaison with our host club; to all those who supported our fundraising efforts namely:

- Our U14 team members/mentors & their families
- Pat Tiernan Nissan Motors for our Féile training tops
- The students & staff of St Nessan's National school
- Dunnes Stores, Childers Road for our bag packing day
- Body Roc Fitness for our new club banner
- Ryan's Centra for their continued support of Mungret St Pauls Juvenile teams
- Fitzgerald Spar, Raheen



Thank you to all parents, siblings and family members who travelled the long distance to support the team and act as our 16th man over the weekend. I know that your support meant a huge amount to your daughters and spurred them on when they most needed it. Whilst in Maghera our girls were hosted by families from Watty Graham's GAA club. On behalf of each and every girl I wish to thank them for the kindness & hospitality shown to our players. Not every Camogie team travels with their own photographer but Mungret Camogie is especially lucky to have the support of Wanda Dwane who only took a couple of thousand pictures over the weekend as a pictorial account of our adventure.



Last but by no means least, to the real stars those who represented Mungret St Pauls Camogie at this year's Féile competition on the field of play. Each and every one of you deserve enormous credit, not only for your individual performances, but for realising that in order to achieve you must be encouraging & supportive of your team members, which was very evident throughout the weekend. I hope that this weekend will not only have inspired you to stay playing Camogie but most importantly have afforded you the opportunity to forge new friendships.

So on behalf of all associated with Mungret St Pauls Camogie I want to say a BIG THANK YOU TO: Niamh Browne (Captain), Jenny Lynch, Fiona Meehan, Molly Mac Mahon, Eve Nealon, Emer O Keeffe, Ailbhe Larkin, Lauren Esson, Aisling O Grady, Sarah Fitzgibbon, Alannah Mc Donagh, Fiona O Brien, Jordan Mc Sweeney, Casey O Brien, Ciara Reidy, Kathlyn Costello, Aoife Morrissey, Ciara Flahive, Rachael Wyse, Niamh Herbert, Nicole Esson, Sophie O Brien.

Sinead Hickey, Chairperson, Mungret St Pauls Camogie