

Dick is Elected South Board Chairman

When he bought his young son “a real leather football” from “cheap (chape) Jack” at a fair in Callan in the very early 1960’s, little did the late Mikey Egan of Kilvemnon think that one day his young son would be elected to the highest office in the GAA in South Tipperary.

This incident was recalled on Sunday night in the GAA centre in Clonmel, as the young Dick Egan accepted the office of Chairman of the South Tipperary. A few minutes previously, Dick had been elected unopposed to the office, when the other Vice-Chairman of the board, Joe Brennan, Grangemockler had withdrawn from the election.

Dick was proposed for the office by Tommy O Sullivan of the Mullinahone club and seconded by Jimmy Bolger of the Grangemockler/ Ballyneale club. Later in the convention, Joe Brennan had a very impressive win in the election for Vice-Chairman. Dick Egan becomes the first ever Chairman of the board from the local Mullinahone club in over a century of the board’s existence.

As he accepted, the office and the challenge Dick spoke of others who had inspired him along the way. He spoke of the Sergeant in his army days in Naas, who told all the young men in his care to join the GAA and to be proud of their membership of that organisation. He told of the late John Costello who had invited him to become part of the administration of the Mullinahone club.

Dick was to serve the Mullinahone club well as both Chairman and Secretary during the rise to glory days and was also Chairman of the juvenile club. Dick was brought into divisional and county administration by another Mullinahone man at Bord na nOg level. Dick soon picked up the beliefs of his mentor Ricky Sheehan that officers were the servants of their clubs and boards and that every member of the GAA community deserved to be listened to.

This raised an echo of a previous generation when the late Mikey Egan spoke colourfully on behalf of the little man many times at GAA or local creamery suppliers level. Once at a GAA annual general meeting, he queried the spending of €150 on hurling in the club. This figure

included affiliation fees, hurleys, sliothars. Mikey was not impressed. “Even the shamrocks of Ballyhale, wouldn’t spend that much and they are All Ireland Champions” he declared.

The wheel seems to have turned full circle again. The election has brought great honour to Dick and his family as well as to the Mullinahone club. Dick is extremely well known in the extended local area, where he is the face of Mullinahone Oil. Since he completed his stint in the army, Dick has been employed by Mullinahone Co-Op.

In his new GAA role, Dick is expected to be a steady pair of hands with a strong bias towards traditional values. We wish him every success in his new office. Present at his election in the GAA centre on Sunday night from Mullinahone were, Jackie Bolger, Kathleen McNamara and Rickie Sheehan as well as Tommy O Sullivan and Sean O Meara who were delegates from the Mullinahone club to the convention.

Well done Dick. Go mairfidh tu i bhfad.

Where Are We?

“And the man that was never in Mullinahone shouldn’t say he had travelled at all”. So runs the final lines of the old poem “The Two Travellers”. Now those people entering the village from the Thurles/ Urlingford direction might not realise where they are entering as the Mullinahone sign on road seems to have disappeared.

Locals who know where they are going may not even have noticed that the sign is missing but the stranger looking for Mullinahone is at a distinct disadvantage. Could he/she ever miss the chance to say “I was in Mullinahone” because of the missing sign. All this raises the question “what happened to the Mullinahone sign”?

Parish News

Congratulations and best wishes to Liam Dalton, Poulacapple and Elaine Barry, Callan who were married recently in St Michaels Church, Mullinahone.

Sympathy to Pat O Connor, Carrick Road on the sudden death in Kerry of his father John Jack O Connor.

The two candelabras at the back of the Church are away for repair. No doubt, a visit to the Church and a prayer will still bring a blessing even if the candle can't be lit.

Anniversary Masses Next Weekend

Saturday December 13th 8pm:

Anniversary Mass Elizabeth and John O Meara, Jamestown

Pattie and Mick O Meara, London

Sunday December 14th 9.30am:

Anniversary Brigid and James Keating, Ballinacloyhy

And William Dunphy

11.30am Anniversary:

Bill and Margaret Cantwell, Graigue and their son John Cantwell late of Fethard Street.

Preparations have been made for the Christmas Penitential Service which will take place in St. Michael's Church on Sunday December 21st at 7pm.

Community Council Draw

The results of the November community council draw were as follows:

€150: Eileen O Meara, Killaghy

€70: Willie Kennedy, Poulacapple

€25: Liam Tobin, Mullinoly

€25: Laurence Phelan, Bawnavrona

€20: John Foxe, Ballycullen

Just Men Barbers

Just men will close on December 16th and re-open December 20th at 9.30am.

The salon will remain open until Wednesday, December 24th at 5pm, when it closes for Christmas.

The salon opens again on December 29th, 30th & 31st, when it will re-open on January 2nd 2009.

Just men would like to thank people for their business and support in 2008 and wish all a lovely Christmas and New Year.

Local Lotto

The last local lotto draw took place on December 1st.

The winning numbers were:

6, 10, 11, 18

We had no jackpot winners but six people shared a match 3 prize of €150.

Congratulations to:

Marie Lawlor

Mickie Keating

Niall Curran

Ash & Ber

Johnny K

Ned Keating

Next draw will be on Monday December 15th, when the Jackpot could be worth €11,900.

However, if you are not in, you won't win.

Mullinahone Schools Boys Soccer

Congratulations to Sean Bermingham who has been selected on the south Tipperary under 21 soccer team following a series of trials. Sean is the first player from the Mullinahone club to receive this honour. He will become part of an emerging talent programme where the players receive expert coaching to develop soccer skills.

The squad will commence training shortly in preparation for a National Inter League Competition. Sean has already represented Tipperary in Gaelic Football and played against Limerick earlier this year in the primary school games. It is a great honour for a small club like Mullinahone to have a player chosen in this elite group as the majority of the team came from the soccer strongholds of Clonmel, Thurles and Tipperary town.

Mullinahone have a very important game at the weekend as they take on Vee Rovers at home in their final group game. A win would almost guarantee Mullinahone second place after the first series of games.

Mullinahone GAA Club

Historic Moment

In the GAA centre in Clonmel last Sunday night history was made as Dick Egan became the first member of our club to be elected Chairman of the Senior South Board. This is a tremendous honour for Dick and our club. We congratulate Dick on his high office and look forward to working with him in the future. We also congratulate his wife Bridget whose support made this possible. I'm leaving the privilege of a more detailed report to his long time friend Rickie Sheehan in his weekly column.

U21B Hurling County Final

Our U 21 hurlers will play Killadangan in the county final next Saturday in Templemore at a time to be arranged. I would appeal to everybody to come and support this team in their attempt to win this final. Your support at their fund raising car wash last Saturday was much appreciated by everybody involved in the team. We wish Sean O Meara and his selectors Alan Curran and Eugene O Brien and above all the players the very best of luck.

For credit of the little village.

Juvenile Club

We would like to thank everybody who supported our table quiz last Thursday night. While the turnout was small it doesn't take from the people who turned up on the night and the many people who sponsored prizes and made sandwiches. Thanks also to Rickie for setting the questions and to the quiz master on the night Toddy Mac who made it very enjoyable for everybody.

Club AGM

Our annual general meeting will be held next Friday night at 9pm. All are welcome.

It's an opportunity for members to have their say in the running of their club for the coming year.