

Focus on Clubs

FROM 1904 camogie was spreading in popularity throughout Ireland, but particularly in urban areas. By 1907 it seemed camogie was yet to have an impact amongst Lilywhite women. In November 1907 the Leinster Leader's GAA columnist observed that: *...In the whole county there is not even one colleen's hurling club.*¹

Two years later in 1909, progress was noted as Athy Ladies Hurling Club advertised a reunion on 24th July. Miss Campbell was listed as the club captain and Miss Tierney as secretary.

By June 1921, Newbridge, Naas, Blacktrench, Prosperous and Ballymore applied to the GAA County Board for affiliation.

THE 1930s

In 1933 Castledermot won the first camogie championship in the county and Carbury won the junior championship. Ellistown also won a county championship in the 1930s. Ciss Corcoran, the well-known "Queen of Kildare Camogie" recalls playing in the 1930s in Sallins. There were two clubs then, St. Anne's and St. Bernadette's, known as the Wasps as they wore black and amber striped blouses. St. Anne's wore pink blouses.

In 1934 the Kildare County Board was established. At junior level, results for games in 1938 recall Kilmeade winning the county championship beating Kildare 3-1 to 0-0 and beating Rathangan 3-0 to 0-0 in the county final. Players on the Kilmeade side at that time were J. Deering right full back, Sally Dempsey at centrefield, Nollie Moore, N. Carroll, W. Carroll, O. Neill and K. King.

Stratford-on-Slaney, a Wicklow team competing in the Kildare senior championship arrived at the top rung of the ladder in 1938 when they won the Kildare senior championship by beating Carbury in the final at Kill. Baby Parke the Stratford player, captain and corner forward, pointed a free in the last minute to pip Carbury for the title.

The Slaneysiders team was: Dora Philips (in goal), Irene Wade, Baby Parke, Annie Parke (Osbourne) and Sheila Parke, Dora Dwyer, Kathleen Deering, Margaret Deering, Eileen Farrell, Maggie Brady, Molly and Agnes Murray, Bride O'Neill and Essie Bollard.

The rivalry with Carbury was a feature of this time. In 1937 senior league Carbury beat Stratford 5-1 to 0-1; in 1938 Stratford beat Carbury 2-0 to 1-0 while in 1939 Carbury again won 4-1 to 3-0.

A listing of clubs for 1939 shows 13 active teams:

- Carbury,
- Stratford (see Stratford-on-Slaney below)
- Kilmeade
- Ellistown
- Kill
- Mountmellick
- Straffan
- Celbridge
- Prosperous
- Ballitore
- Rhone
- Rathangan
- Moone.

WORLD WAR II

During World War II, camogie generally disbanded or was precarious. Kilmeade, Ellistown, Suncroft, the Curragh, Naas, Rathangan and Castledermot fielded teams during World War Two and played competitively during the emergency despite the difficulties. Camogie in Kildare fully revived again in 1954.

This chapter draw together:

- anecdotes from the past,
- summary histories of Kildare camogie clubs, and
- a Kildare champions roll of honour.

1. *The History of the GAA 1984*. The Female Lily-Whites, 1908-1983. Chapter 14. Kildare GAA Board.

THE WAY WE WERE

A number of anecdotes from the past are recalled below

Travelling 1940s style

LILLIE WHELEHAN (nee Kennedy) Rathangan talks about playing camogie in the 1940s

One outing that stands out in my mind was the Sunday we travelled to Dublin to play Grange-gorman ladies. We won the game and afterwards they treated us to a lovely tea. We danced the night away and it was early Monday morning when we arrived back in Rathangan. We hired a private bus and had no bother filling it. Those years if you owned a bicycle it was good. Most people walked everywhere.

Putting together a camogie uniform in the 1950s

P. Meade (chairman) collected patterns of navy material for the making of the gym-frocks. On examining the patterns, which ranged price from 5/11 to 21/6 per yard, the club decided to purchase the navy materials at 5/11 per yard and allowing say three quarters of a yard for each frock. It is hoped that 12 uniforms will be sufficient.

With regard to the blouse material, it was estimated at about 3/11 per yard for one and a half yards of powder blue material for each blouse. 15 blouses are to be made as some members of the club already have gym-frocks.

(extract from Naas camogie club minutes 31st March 1953)

Man undercover!

One Sunday in the 1940s, Suncroft were to play a match in Hollywood, Co. Wicklow, but they were short a player. They were at their wits end. There was only one thing for it – dress Hugh Coogan up as a player. Hugh was dressed in black stockings with a good pair of red garters, lots of powder, red lipstick and a turban on his head. Hugh's opponent at the match was a fairly famous player from Dublin. She had her work cut out

trying to mark Hugh. When the final whistle blew Hugh ran for cover. He had seen one of the linesmen eyeing him up – they had smelled a rat. 'That player had the hairiest arms ever seen on a woman!' Well done Hugh – sure when you are stuck you would try anything.

[The Leather's Edge a history of Wicklow GAA 1884-1984 records a similar story but credits the game to be a Kildare v Dublin inter county game on the 27 July 1946. At a subsequent Leinster Council meeting Kildare were supposedly deemed a 'disgrace'. However, no action was taken against the County Board for fielding a man as it was considered a joke. There was speculation that the event took place for a bet. Others say Kildare were suspended for three months].

Another man undercover !!

In the mid 1950s Leixlip reached a final in Clane against Prosperous. Nearing the final, they found themselves short of a few players. The powers in charge decided that the only answer was to sign on a "hurler" for the match.

A volunteer was found and on the evening of the final, great care was taken in dressing Eugene "Boysie" Malone in suitable attire for the game. The team lined out in Clane with a hefty "lady" in the goals who had a powerful puck- out. Boysie was playing well and as Leixlip were two points ahead, he decided to play out field. Out he came. In went a goal against Leixlip just before the final whistle.

The action didn't end there. There are various stories as to how the team was found out. Some say that a bout of "unladylike" language gave Boysie away! More say that the opposition began to wonder why Boysie went off on his own to get dressed after the match!

THE WICKLOW WAY!

Whitestown, Co. Wicklow, above the main Blessington to Baltinglass road, is the home of three Kildare senior championship medals won in 1938 by the Parke sisters, Annie (Osbourne), Sheila and Babe. One fine summer's day in June 2004, the three sisters recalled their Kildare days, playing with Stratford-on-Slaney in the Kildare senior championship; playing with Ballitore for a season when Stratford folded and Babe donning the then Kildare colours of navy and white in Leinster championships. They recalled practicing twice a week in Fay's field and remembered Harold Kincaid and Jim Fay, local men who made and provided them with hurleys. Annie lined out at half back, Sheila at half forward and Babe at corner forward when Stratford pipped Carbury by a point for the county senior championship. Some time later Sheila and Annie cycled the ten miles or so to Ballitore to play with them for a season after Stratford ceased. They recalled Ballitore teammates Peg Lee (Dea) and Mary and Patsy Casey. Babe also represented Kildare in 1939 along with four other Slaneysiders Essie Bollard, Kathleen Deering and Bride O'Neill. The household also has a 1943 Feis Chill Dara medal and the sisters recalled many occasions to play camogie such as field days, Feiseanna, Easter or St. Patrick's Day celebrations.



The three Parke sisters, l to r, Anne, Sheila and Babe, at their Wicklow home in Stratford-on-Slaney 2004. They played in the Kildare championship in the 1930s and Babe Parke (on right) played with the Kildare county team that reached the 1939 Leinster final at Kill.

KILDARE CAMOGIE CLUBS

Early in 2004, clubs were issued with guidelines to document their histories. Some of the club vignettes are written by people who were previously or are currently involved with their club. Their contribution is noted in the Editor's Acknowledgements section to the front of this publication.

Over the years records show that there were many teams/clubs that once played camogie but are no longer in existence. Unfortunately, many club records are incomplete and documentary evidence was not always possible to obtain or easily available. Nonetheless it is considered important, to list clubs that appear in various documentary sources such as minute books of the Kildare County Camogie Board and The Leinster Leader. It has not always been possible to verify all details in the club histories. They are published in good faith as the best available knowledge, given time and resource constraints.

In 2004, there are 18 registered camogie clubs in Kildare. These are:

- | | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| ★ Ardclough | ★ Leixlip |
| ★ Broadford | ★ Maynooth |
| ★ Cappagh | ★ Moorefield |
| ★ Celbridge | ★ Naas |
| ★ Clane | ★ Nurney |
| ★ Confey | ★ Rathcoffey |
| ★ Johnstownbridge | ★ Sarsfields |
| ★ Kilcock | ★ Straffan |
| ★ Kill | ★ St. Laurence's |

Broadford and St. Laurence's club histories are offered in more detail here. This is in acknowledgement of their dominance of Kildare camogie, particularly at senior club level, during the 1980s, 1990s and into 2000s.

Allenwood

Founded in 1956 and later in 1984. Club colours: blue and white

Allenwood was re-formed in 1984 as a result of an initiative by Paud and Miriam Malone. At that time Prosperous post-primary school had a very successful senior camogie team with many of the players coming from the Allenwood and Coill Dubh area. The first general meeting was held in May 1984 and the following committee was elected: Chairperson Peg Regan; Vice-Chairperson Ann O'Connell; Secretary Noeleen Moore; Assistant Secretary MaryAnn Wright; Treasurer Máireád McCormack; Assistant Treasurer Edel Swords. Committee: Siobhán O'Callaghan, Miriam Malone, Ann Marie Doyle, Alice Cross, Monica Cross, June Dunne, Annette Connolly and Ann Cross.

Allenwood reached the Junior Final in its first competitive year, but were beaten on the day by a more experienced Johnstown Bridge team. The team again reached the Junior County Final in 1987

but were defeated by Carbury in a very exciting game.

The club, backboned by Nuala O'Connell and Mary O'Neill continued to flourish and in 1990 were runners-up in both the league and championship with Leixlip being the winners in both games. In the Junior league that year Allenwood were drawn with teams from Broadford, Straffan, Leixlip, Moorefield, Rathcoffey, Sarsfield and Kildare. In the Championship that year Allenwood defeated Broadford, then defeated Straffan (playing their best game of the season) but unfortunately Leixlip proved too strong in a most compelling final.

Unfortunately the interest in the post-primary school waned and the club suffered as a result. Ladies football began to take a foothold in the area, and the Club was finally disbanded in 1994.

Ardclough

Founded 1962. Club colours: brown and yellow (originally) now black, red and yellow.

Ardclough Camogie Senior Champions 1968



Back row (l to r): B. Cullen, M. Harrington, A. Knox, B. O'Toole, S. Murphy, C. Burke, A. Brady, D. Dunne, K. Higgins, S. Harte. Second row: A. McCormack, A. Cullen, H. Cullen, J. O'Connor (captain), M. Molloy, B. Johnson, R. Delahunt. Front row: E. Kenny, P. Kenny. Children: L. Canton, K. Meeney, E. Meeney, D. Houlihan, P. Houlihan, O. Harrington.

Mick Houlihan, Patrick O'Connor and Ann Johnson founded the club in 1962. The first officers were: Chairperson Margaret Christian; Secretary Ann Johnson; Treasurer Breeda Johnson. There was great support for camogie at the time in Ardclough. The greatest victory the club had was winning the 1968 Senior Championship. Josie O'Connor captained the team. In 1967, 1969 and 1971 Ardclough were runners up in the Senior League. Mary Maguire won an award for the most sporting player in 1966.

Margaret Molloy, Breeda Cullen, Ann Dunne, Margaret Christian, Mary Maguire, Bridget Cushen, Kathleen Higgins, Loreto Cullen, Maria Christian, Melissa Finneran, Eimear O'Neill were amongst the players who represented Kildare during the years.

Other players who won medals with the Naas Vocational School were Carol Molloy, Loreto Cullen, Jacinta Butler and Bernadette Farrell.

Twenty years after its foundation, Ardclough won the Junior Championship in 1983 and again in 2000. In 1988 Ardclough secured the Intermediate league and championship double.

Camogie ceased in Ardclough for a few years but reformed in 1996 and is going well since.

2004 Officers: Club President Nan Molloy; Chairperson Liz Graham; Secretary Phyllis Finneran; Treasurer Sonny O'Connor. There is a strong under age section and in 2004 a Junior team is competing again in the Ardclough colours.

Athy

There is a long history of camogie in Athy, continued today in the performances of Scoil Mhichíl Naofa.

One of the earliest Kildare camogie references is associated with Athy. In 1909, Athy Ladies Hurling Club advertised a reunion on 24th July. Miss Campbell was listed as the club captain and Miss Tierney as secretary. The 1935 Kildare Camogie Convention lists two Athy clubs as being in attendance; from Clan Bridge Athy, Ms. Malone/Ms. Gannon were delegates. A Mr. Malone and Ms. Gorman were St. Patrick's Athy delegates.

Athy beat neighbours Ballitore in 1940 to claim

ATHY circa 1930: They wore navy pinafore with yellow blouse



Included in this photograph are: Kathleen (Squire) Gannon, Alice Mulhall, Pearl May, Sadie Gannon, Birdie Doyle, Nancy Doyle, Nellie Fox, Bridie Fox, May Fox, Breda Malone (grandmother of the Treacys, St. Laurence's), Kathleen Gibbon, Brigid Doyle, Bobby Dooley, Mary E. Malone.

the junior county title. There is some record of Athy reforming in 1953. It is also noted that Athy played in Co. Laois camogie competitions in the early 1950s. This was prior to the organisation of games by the Kildare Camogie Board from mid-1950s onwards. A more comprehensive club history was not available at the time of going to print.

Ballitore *see also St. Laurence's*

Founded 1958. Club colours: navy and red.

Joseph Brennan approached the Kildare Camogie Board in June 1958 regarding the re-establishment of a Ballitore camogie club.

Ballymore Eastace

Club colours: maroon (originally) then green and white.

Revived in 1980 after a few years absence but ceased again.

Ballyroe (St. Anne's)

Founded 1959.

A camogie club was founded in 1959 in the south Kildare area of Ballyroe, Grangemellon and Levittstown. Previous to this a group of Levittstown girls practised regularly in the Barracks field. In Ballyroe another group were playing in Moran's field. Often they played each other in challenge games. Separately neither group had enough numbers to go it alone but it became obvious that if the combined talents of both sides could be harnessed, a team of considerable quality and strength could be fielded.

This occurred in late 1959 and under the name of St. Anne's, Ballyroe entered Kildare competitions in 1960. The first medals won were in a tournament game against Tullow, played in Moone in July 1960. In that year's championship St. Anne's lost by a goal to Naas. Jean Carolan, Brigid Moran and Ann Kirwan were noted as playing outstanding games. St. Anne's reached the league final in 1960 v Naas but due to poor weather conditions the game was deferred to 1961 at Fr. Brennan Memorial Park in Naas. St. Anne's secured a great victory on a scoreline of 7-2 to 2-2. Schoolgirl Kathleen Moran, Kathleen Carolan, Ann Kirwan, Eileen O'Brien, Jean Carolan, Maura Fingleton, Bridie O'Connor, Ann Moran, Brigid Moran, Pauline Murphy Dolly Collins and thirteen year old Camilla Carolan were all outstanding in this first county title. Their skill and teamwork was observed as follows: *St. Anne's played a lovely game, being fast, fit and very quick on the draw. There was not one weak member of the team, and indeed their combination was a treat.* The Mitchell Cup was presented to team captain Jean Carolan by the donor Miss May Mithcell from Naas.

St. Anne's also reached the 1961 Championship final in the same year and again Naas provided the opposition. St. Anne's emerged victorious and the press accounts noted: *St. Anne's came to life, and with characteristic dash and vigour the south Kildare girls went into action and for the remainder of the*

ST. ANNE'S BALLYROE 1960s

Won the County Championship 4 years in a row



Back row: Martha Carolan, Anna Kirwan, Jean Carolan, Bridie Moran, Eileen Brien, Mrs. Duignan, Mrs. Carolan, Jimmy Fingleton.

Front row: Camilla Carolan, Dolly Collins, Kathleen Moran, Pauline Murphy, Ann Moran, Maura Fingleton, Birdie O'Connor.

hour it was all theirs. ... St. Anne's scores were entirely a family affair with Brigid Moran accounting for seven goals and Ann Moran two goals. The winning team was: Mary Bolger, Martha Carolan, Kathleen Moran, Kathleen Carolan, Bridie O'Connor, Jean Carolan, Maura Fingleton, Camilla Carolan, Ann Moran, Pauline Murphy, Claire Behan, Christine Clarke and Anne Kirwan. St. Anne's secured the 1961 county league, played in Kilcullen in 1962 v Sallins on a score of 8-1 to 1-3. The rivalry with Naas continued up to the 1963 county championship final where both sides played in Athy. Before a large home attendance, St. Anne's secured the title with Brigid Moran scoring 3-1 and Jean Carolan 1-1. St. Anne's continued their winning ways in the league, reaching the 1962 league final but losing to Clane.

In 1963 Brigid Moran was appointed Kildare captain at the County Kildare Camogie Convention at the Royal Hotel in Naas. Naas were again the opponents in the 1963 championship decider and once again St. Anne's were victorious. For the third year in a row Ballyroe had won the county championship and the Leinster Leader Cup which went to it. The double was also again completed as the 1963 league title was won by St. Anne's.

1964 witnessed a Caragh v Ballyroe championship final in front of a large, enthusiastic and vociferous crowd in Naas. In a rip-roaring barnstorming display of fine camogie, Jean Carolan tore into the opposition and hammered home a match-winning goal. League final opposition in 1964 came from Celbridge but the league/championship double went to south Kildare one more time.

The club was comprised of about twenty players from the same area with the addition of Teresa Connolly, Ann Kavanagh and Mary Mannion from Grangenolvin. These girls gradually drifted away either to work, emigrate or marry. It was decided not to affiliate a team after the 1964 season.

The backroom people behind Ballyroe's success included Pat Moran, Joe Carolan, Jack Murphy, Jimmy Fingleton, Jimmy Hickey (coach and trainer), Pat Stynes, Noel and Elsie Behan and many more.

Broadford

Founded 1967. Club colours: red and white.

I am sure your team will go far, wrote Pat Meade, the then County Board Treasurer in a letter to the newly founded Broadford Camogie Club in 1967.

If Pat was a visionary, then she was truly a brilliant one. The Broadford club was to dominate the camogie scene in Kildare for many years, winning 16 senior and two junior championships, four Leinster junior championship titles.

In Miriam Malone (nee Miggin), the club was to produce arguably the county's greatest ever player.

A newspaper report refers to a Broadford team beating Edenderry on a sports day in 1933 to raise monies for the local branch of the St Vincent De Paul Society. Pat Meade, in her letter to Josie Miggin wrote on 9th April 1967: *Some years ago we had a grand team from Clogherinkoe, and I remember Annie Murray with pleasure, she was a grand player and served her county with great credit and distinction.*

There was a sense of excitement in that letter, which is now a battered, but treasured document.

Dermot Bourke

To find the source of Broadford's good fortune in camogie, most would start with the local schoolmaster, Dermot Bourke who spent his lunch breaks teaching the boys and girls the skills of gaelic football and hurling.

In his school, the girls would compete with the boys for his attention in the playground. When a club began to take shape in 1966 and affiliated early the next year, Noel Sutton came forward as team trainer. He ran a tough regime that enforced regular, disciplined training and match practice in McKeever's field.

Sibling rivalry

Miriam Miggin was not long attending the vocational school in nearby Longwood, County Meath when her ability as a camogie player was recognised.

In 1966, she was playing senior camogie with Longwood and on the strength of one challenge game against the home team in Enfield, she was selected to play for Meath. Aged 14 and still living at home in Moyvalley, Miriam lined out for the Royal County against Kildare in Naas.

Kildare won that game, but a greater prize was being lost that day, and it took the formation of the Broadford Camogie Club to recover that loss.

The story goes that elder sister, Josie was put out by the fact that Miriam was getting to play camogie and she wasn't. So with help from Bridget Kane, she went off and formed the new club.

Once that was done, Miriam quickly transferred to the new club. In 1967 she was playing for Kildare, along with Josie and one of Broadford's best players in those days, Phyllis Hurst.

A committee was appointed to steer the club through its first year and it consisted of the following: Brigid Egan (chairman) who was later to marry Noel Sutton; Josie Miggin (Secretary/Treasurer); Bernadette Murray; Noel Sutton (trainer); Mary Loughrey; Tessie Kavanagh; Marian Mangan and Bernadette Malone.

The club adopted the maroon and white of the local hurling club. This decision was abandoned



Broadford Camogie Team 1933

Front (l to r): C. Quinn, M. Miggin, P. Hughes, J. Beegan, K. Quinn, J. Flood, T. Flood, M. Duignan.

Back (l to r): R. Miggin, M. Loughney, T. Hickey, B. Malone, M. Foran, M. Farrelly.

when it was learnt that Naas was already playing in these colours. Instead, they opted for the nearest colour to their preferred choice, red and went with that. Un-worn maroon gym slips, bought from JJ Callagy's of Moyvalley, were returned and exchanged for those in red. These gymslips were complemented with white shirts, black tights and canvas ankle boots, the favoured fashion in camogie at the time.

A practice game was organised and played against Staplestown in Thomastown. For most, it was a first time experience wearing team colours. The match ended in a draw.

By the end of that first year, the Fr McCarthy Cup for the junior championship was won and resting in Broadford and the club was on its way to the senior grade.

Highs and lows

Broadford, with a band of teenagers and young women, won the 1968 league and reached the championship final.

In 1969 the club retained the league, but went a step further by winning the senior championship title for the very first time. For team captain, Mary Loughrey it was a moment in history.

Phyllis Hurst, Anne Leonard, Marion and Phyllis

Mangan, Rose Reynolds, Tessie Kavanagh, Bernie Malone, Betty Houghton, Teresa Kavanagh, Kate Boland and the Miggin sisters had closed the decade as the hurlers had opened it, crowning Broadford champions of Kildare.

Broadford also rejoiced that same year when Dermot Bourke's school won the under 14 championship. The story is that 13 players and the referee, Josie Miggin travelled in one car, driven by Mrs Corrigan of Enfield. Dermot had a great welcome for them when they got home with the cup. Anna Miggin captained the Broadford school team that won the under 14 championship. With her on that team were Bernie Farrell, Dolores Mangan,

Marie Kavanagh, Mary Mulligan, Geraldine Killeen, Celine and Joan Moore, Marie Farrell and Deirdre Callaghy.

The Mangans, Marion and Phyllis were on the Kilcock Presentation Convent team that won the under-16 colleges title in Croke Park in 1969.

The under 14 title was retained in 1970 while the senior championship and league crowns were retained in 1970 and 1971.

In 1972 the young Broadford women lost their championship crown in a tough game to Prosperous. The club, now with the likes of Marie Farrell and Eileen Ryan in the team, retained the league title and the next year saw it win back its senior championship crown.

In this year too the team changed out of their gymslips for the last time, opting instead for the lighter skirts and jerseys.

Broadford retained the league for a sixth successive time and did the unimaginable. They added the 1973 Leinster Junior Championship title.

Hard to imagine it that within a few years the club's very existence would come under threat. Its fortunes went into decline, losing certain players along with its league and championship titles in 1974.

Prosperous, who had beaten Broadford by 2-1 to 0-0 in an early league tie, put them out of the

Broadford 1973–Leinster Junior Club Champions, Kildare Senior Championship and League Winners



Back (l to r): G. Killeen, B. Cusack, M. Mangan, Nora Sutton, Noel Sutton (trainer), P. Mangan, D. Mangan, M. Loughrey, M. Miggin.

Front (l to r): E. Ryan, M. Farrell, A. Miggin, T. Kavanagh, J. Miggin, A. O'Donnell, M. Kavanagh.

Missing from photograph: T. Kavanagh and B. Malone.

championship in the first round, Broadford losing 1-0 to 2-3. Broadford did qualify for the league final that year and got to the final the following year too. And they added an underage title the under-13s championship of 1975.

However, the camogie players began a dalliance with gaelic football and camogie training fell by the wayside. Anna Miggin became the Kildare football team's goalkeeper while her sister Miriam lined out at full-forward. However, in those days ladies football was dominated by Offaly and Kildare made little headway.

By 1978 fortunes had reached a low ebb. Although Marion Graven (nee Mangan) received the Kildare Sports Star award for that year, little was achieved on the field.

In 1976, Miriam Miggin captained Leinster to win the Gael Linn Cup and she continued to hold her place on the team the following years.

Nora Sutton, the Miggin sisters Anna, Miriam and Irene, Tessie Kavanagh, Marion Graven and Olivia Dargan, joined the Kildare panels in 1977 and 1978, though these were not the most successful years for the county.

Second coming

The seniors, now trained by Christy Myles, beat Prosperous and Cappagh on their way to regaining the senior championship title of 1979.

Mick and Maureen O'Brien along with Irene Miggin guided the Balyna parish's under-14s to the Kildare title after which they represented the county in Kilkenny that year. The O'Briens were to play a committed role in the running of underage camogie in the parish for many years, as did the Conways, Seán and Annie.

Balyna also won the Kildare community games title in 1979; a success that was repeated in 1980

and followed by a good run in the national series.

Meanwhile, the Broadford seniors got to the final of the 1979 Leinster junior championship.

In 1980, Broadford re-entered the junior grade for the first time since 1967, by forming a second team. This B-squad under the guidance of trainer, Seán Conway reached the league and championship finals at the first attempt. However, the team was not entered in the 1981 competition.

Christy Myles, an ex-Broadford hurler, guided the senior team to a league title in 1980, taking it from a formidable defending champion, St Patrick's College, Maynooth.

Anna Miggin, Marion Graven, Phyllis Ryan, Miriam Malone, Joan Brennan, Mary Bourke and Tina McGinty played for the defeated Kildare team in the national junior league final and Leinster finals.

Only three of the 1969 winning squad were still playing by now. Marion Graven and the Miggins, Anna and Miriam, although some were to return later. These three, plus Phyllis Bambury (nee Ryan) were on the Kildare team that won the Leinster Junior title in 1981. Miriam scored all but one goal of the county's 2-6 to 1-6 win over Dublin in the final.

This year, also marked the departure of Della Donegan (to Enfield) and Joan Brennan (to soccer in Dublin), and the club's senior championship hopes at the first round to Prosperous.

Record run begins

Tessie Mullally (nee Kavanagh) returned for the 1982 season and in one game, against St. Laurence's, scored six goals before being substituted because of injury.

By the end of the year, Broadford won both the senior championship and league, and trounced old rivals Prosperous on three occasions during the year, including an 8-9 to 0-0 win in the league and a 7-6 to 3-2 win in the championship final.

In the panel then were Breda, Ita and Geraldine Cusack, Marian Graven, Bridget, Claire and Margaret Kane, Anna Dargan (nee Miggin), Mary Bourke, Nora Egan (nee Sutton), Tina McGinty,

Miriam Malone, Majella Mallen, Irene Miggin, Tessie Kavanagh, Riona Flanagan, Elaine McGovern, Dymphna Doran, Elizabeth Conway and Ann Cooney.

The team got to the Leinster junior club final but could only score 1-5 to St Anne's of Louth's 5-1.

Balyna went all the way to the national final of Féile na nGael in Dublin, after winning the one day county event in Cappagh, plus the Kildare championship and league crowns that year. Bernie and Therese Farrelly, Liz Doran, Elizabeth and Kathleen Conway, Sheelin Flanagan and Marcella Gorman were on this time.

Balyna's Kildare Community Games winning team of that year included Gemma Thornton and Jennifer Walsh.

Balyna's Under-14s continued to dominate camogie at their level in Kildare and got to the Féile na nGael final again in 1983 with a team led by Sheelin Flanagan and featuring among others, Claire Kerrigan and Louise Daly.

Broadford retained the league and championship in 1983. Miriam won the Kildare All-Star award for camogie in this year, and she, along with her sister, Anna played again for Leinster. The following year Anna would captain the province.

In 1984, Broadford beat Prosperous to retain the county championship, but lost their league crown to Prosperous. However, Broadford won the third major competition in the county that year, the Centenary Cup, by again beating Prosperous in the final. There was no cup put up for the competition however, and the winners went home empty-handed. Tina McGinty scored all seven of Broadford's points in that final while Therese Farrelly and Irene Miggin netted the goals. With Marion Graven playing brilliantly as goalkeeper, Broadford came from behind to win 2-7 to 2-5.

Broadford was joined in 1985 by Patricia Keatley from St. Laurence's, a young woman who was to make her presence felt as chairman on the County Board and more importantly on the field for Kildare. She joined many new recruits coming through the underage ranks into a senior squad that quite simply was going from strength under the guidance of

Broadford, Centenary Cup Champions 1984 (Broadford 2-7, Prosperous 2-5)



*Back (l to r): Elizabeth Doran, K. Conway, G. Thornton, M. Gorman, T. Farrelly, Anna Dargan, Noran Egan.
Front (l to r): I. Miggin, T. Mullally, M. Malone, B. Farrelly, P. Keatley, Majella Mallon, Elizabeth Conway.*

Christy Myles and Seán Conway.

Some were already on the fringes of the squad. One in 1985 was the under-14 team captain, Bernie Farrelly.

The club made history in this year by winning the under-21 championship crown for the first time, adding it to the senior championship and league, under-18 league plus under-14 and 13 titles.

The team that defeated Cappagh by 3-2 to 1-1 in the under-21 final was: Elizabeth Doran, Gemma Thornton, Regina Flanagan, Bridget Kane, Majella Mallon, Bernadette Farrelly, Riona Flanagan, Louise Daly, Karen O'Toole, Therese Farrelly, Kathleen Conway, Elizabeth Conway. Subs: Sheelin Flanagan, Jean Kelly, Geraldine Cusack, Jennifer Walsh, Marcella Gorman, Veronica Flynn, Claire Kane and Siobhan O'Grady.

In 1986, the club won the senior championship, the under-18 winter league, and in fielding a junior team, enjoyed league success.

The senior league was lost to the Prosperous women, who twice beat Broadford by a goal. Broad-

ford's run in the Leinster Junior Championship was ended by Myshall, 1-4 to 1-3 in the semi-final in Carlow.

Miriam Malone, Anna Dargan, Patricia Keatley and Nora Egan played on the 1986 Kildare side won the National League. Bernadette Farrelly and Liz Conway were substitutes. Phyllis Bambury (nee Ryan) was another Broadford player to remain a regular on this team and remained so into the mid 1990s.

The Johnstown Bridge player, Nuala Kerrigan was a substitute in 1986 and a regular by 1987 when Kildare won the Leinster title and All-Ireland final with six Broadford players in the team. Bernadette Farrelly, Elizabeth Conway, Miriam Malone, Tessie Mullaly, Anna Dargan and Patricia Keatley were in the team that made history by beating Armagh.

Malone scored 1-6 in the final and Farrelly played through it despite nursing a fractured ankle.

Elsewhere in 1986, Broadford's Alma Cooney was placed tenth in the Féile na nGael skills competition.

Broadford successes further afield

With four consecutive county championships under their belt, Broadford's senior camogie players began to look further afield for success in 1987.

They went to Croydon, London and won a tournament there and six of the squad: Miriam Malone, Anna Dargan, Patricia Keatley, Elizabeth Conway, Therese and Bernadette Farrelly were on the Kildare team that went all the way to winning the All-Ireland junior championship of 1987.

Bernadette, aged 16, was the captain of the Kildare team that returned to win the All-Ireland championship and league of 1989.

The championship was won in a replayed final against Galway with Malone (1-9), Farrelly (1-2) scoring all but one goal of Kildare's tally that day.

Farrelly finished the year by being selected as Kildare's Camogie Player of the Year.

A year later, it was Miriam Malone's turn to captain the side to league and championship glory.

In the All-Ireland junior championship final against Tipperary at Croke Park, she scored 1-7. Earlier that year, in the league final against Kilkenny in Nowlan Park, Bernadette Farrelly was the chief scorer with 0-10. Bernadette won the All-Ireland camogie superstars competition of 1987, beating Kilkenny player, Claire Jones in the process.

Gemma Thornton and Liz Doran were in the county panel in 1989. Doran played in the 1990 semi-final against Roscommon.

Miriam Malone, who was hospitalised following a facial injury incurred while playing for Leinster, received the 1987 Kildare Camogie Player of the Year award.

In July, 1987 the death of former team trainer, Noel Sutton took place suddenly. He had guided the team through its first six years, setting the standard for others to follow.

And this was done at the end of August that year when Broadford won the Leinster Junior title with a 2-5 to 0-8 win over St. Anne's (Louth) in Cadams-

town. It was the second time for the club to capture the title and it was done in its 21st year with two goals from Bernadette Farrelly making the difference in the final.



Nora Egan collects a Leinster Junior Club Championship Cup for Broadford.

Broadford went on to retain the county senior and provincial junior titles in 1988, '89 and '90 along with winning the Under-21 county championship for a fifth consecutive year in '89.

In the Leinster finals Camross of Laois fell in 1988 (Broadford 2-9 Camross 2-1) and St. Anne's of Louth in 1989 (Broadford 3-6, St Annes 1-2) and 1990 (Broadford 2-14, St. Annes 1-7).

Nuala and Claire Kerrigan joined the club from Johnstownbridge in '88 and the former quickly became a first team regular, lining out in the number 12 shirt in that year's championship.

In 1991, 25 years on since Pat Meade's letter, Broadford celebrated the winning of a tenth-in-a-row championship victory with Anna Dargan the captain on this occasion. It was done despite the departure of some players from the squad, but a comprehensive 10-15 to 0-0 victory over a young, inexperienced Carbury might not have been the way they would have wished to do it.

The Broadford lineout that day was: Nora Egan, Anna Dargan, Phylis Bambury, Dawn O'Neill, Liz Conway, Riona Flanagan, Miriam Malone, Celine Farrell, Patricia Keatley, Gemma Thornton, Geraldine McCabe, Jennifer Walsh. Subs: Rose Conway for Walsh; Phyllis Quinn (nee Hurst) for O'Neill; Samantha Conway for McCabe. Malone scored 4-6 that day.

Girls interrupted

Broadford's grip on the senior championship was lost the following year, 1992, with the title going to St. Laurence's for the first time. The new champions beat Broadford by a single point in the final.

The departure of the Farrelly sisters to Dublin club, Crumlin hadn't helped Broadford. Bernie's loss was severely felt as by now she was the team's most prolific forward. Still, Broadford, now captained by Phyllis Bambury managed to win the senior league, beating Clane by 2-11 to 0-2 in the final

The seniors, led by Liz Doran, bounced back to defeat St. Laurence's in the 1993 championship final by 16 points. The club went on to retain the league and beat Clane in a seven-a-side tournament.

In 1994, Broadford won an under-13 championship, but lost their senior crown in a first round defeat by Clane.

This was the first time since 1978 that Broadford failed to reach the senior camogie championship final.

Una Cusack was by now the latest bright young thing in the squad, and among other new faces were Annemarie and Bernie Miggin.

The year was also marked by the death of Mick O'Brien who had been looking after underage camogie teams for many years.

Broadford's seniors, now being trained by Seán Corrigan and Maureen O'Brien, failed to get beyond St. Laurence's in the championship semi-final of 1995. In this year however, the club's under-14s won the right to represent Kildare in Féile na nGael in Limerick. They beat Cappagh in the Kildare final and in the national event lost out to the Carlow champions in the semi-final.

Nuala Kerrigan, Liz Doran, Claire Kerrigan, Therese Farrelly and Miriam Malone helped Kildare to another Leinster junior title in 1996.

Glow of the evening sun

With Frank Hynes training them, the Broadford seniors reached the 1997 league final but St. Laurence's proved superior. This was the team's same fate in the championship.

The following year many of the team's players paid their own way to New York in August to play in a six-team, seven-a-side tournament in Vancourtland Park.

Broadford, playing alongside a team of players from Cork, represented Ireland against an American selection for the Mary O'Callaghan Cup. The Irish won 8-10 to USA's 2-9. Possession of the cup was shared with the Cork side, Éire Óg. The club had it for six months before it was returned to the States. On the day of the seven-a-side matches, the temperatures were so hot that the Broadford players used 65lbs of ice, 15 gallons of water, 10 large bottles of Isotonic Lucozade, a large quantity of fruit and at least six bottles of sunblock. Another first for the club.

Miriam Malone was award best player of the tournament and Anna Dargan won the longest puck contest at the same event.

At home, Broadford lost the championship final to St Laurence's after leading by nine points at half-time. Nuala Kerrigan, who played with club, county and province in this year, received the Kildare Camogie Player of the Year award for 1998.

Camogie went from a 12-a-side to a 15-a-side game. In 1999, the club left the small pitch at Cadamstown and began playing its games on the Broadford HC/Clogherinkoe GFC owned grounds at Balrennett.

In 2000 there was bad news with the death of Phyllis Quinn (nee Hurst), one of those young



Broadford at Van Courtland Park, New York, 1998.

Broadford and Éire Óg, under the banner of Ireland, share the Mary O'Callaghan Cup having beaten U.S.A., New York, 1998



camogie players who started it all for Broadford back in the mid-1960s. Phyllis had lived in Dublin for several years where she continued to play camogie, but rejoined Broadford when she returned to the area in the late 1980s and figured on championship winning teams. Her passing was a bad blow for the club. Phyllis was selected on the Kildare Team of the Century in 2004.

The senior players did make it back to Croydon in London, in 2000, to win a tournament there. The glow from that was hardly enough to hold off the depression creeping into the Broadford game however. In 2001, the club failed to field a team in the first round of the senior championship against St. Laurence's.

The absence of juvenile teams did not augur well for the club. Nuala Kerrigan and Liz Conway took it upon themselves to visit schools during the winter and attempt to revive interest at this level.

The seniors continued to win matches, beating the likes of Moorefield, Celbridge and Clane, but

Cappagh defeated them in 2002 and of course St. Laurence's continued to be too strong for them.

Faced with an ageing team, and young players struggling to reach the standard, the club regraded to junior in 2003.

A new beginning

Now playing in the junior grade, Broadford struggled to field a team and could only muster 12 players in most league games.

Still they reached the 2003 junior championship final where they put it up to a young, but talented Johnstown Bridge side. Victory again eluded Broadford, as it did in most of the league games.

The club won a seven-a-side tournament in Clane, by beating a Wexford side in the final. The winning team consisted of Liz Doran (Player of the Tournament), Anna Dargan, Claire Kerrigan, Annmarie Miggin, Bernie Kennedy (nee Farrelly), Miriam Malone, Nuala Kerrigan, Nora Egan and Elizabeth Roche.

More importantly, under-age camogie was revived. Nuala and Claire Kerrigan entered an under-14 team in the 2003 Féile na nGael competition, which was hosted jointly by counties Kildare, Meath and Westmeath. The club fielded under-11 and under-13 teams and Broadford got to two schools finals with girls who were playing camogie for the very first time.

There was now hope of a new beginning, but players such as Anna Dargan, Miriam Malone, Nora Egan and Geraldine McCabe, were now seriously considering retiring as others had already done.

The fact that 2004 was Centenary Year for the camogie association, and a lingering love for the game, encouraged them to stay another year.

The year began with the deaths of both Christy Myles and Seán Conway, the two men who had been their trainers throughout the golden decade of the 1980s. Both had borne illness in latter years with great courage, and their passing was greatly mourned not alone in Broadford, but in camogie circles throughout the county.

Nuala and Claire Kerrigan's work with the club's newly gathered juveniles continues and a second appearance was made in Féile na nGael in 2004.

Young stars are emerging in the likes of Niamh Jones (team captain), Blaithín Kenny, Natasha

McCann and Rhona Bergin. They joined others to form a panel of 24 in Féile na nGael this year. The others were Caoimhe Connolly, Grace Coyne, Crista O'Gorman, Grace Cusack, Natalie France, Niamh Flynn, Georgina McCann, Denise Cusack, Michelle Kelly, Linda Haslem, Amy and Niamh Sutton, Lisa Gorry, Rachel Knowles, Jessica O'Neill, Caoimhe Langan, Sinéad Griffin, Jessica Hickey and Shauna Callaghy (see Photo Gallery).

Good work that brings to mind Pat Meade's letter and words she wrote in it to Broadford: *You are certainly starting off in a grand manner and I wish you much success and enjoyment in all your efforts.*

Words as true today as they were when first written all those years ago.

Brownstown

Founded 1965. Club colours: brown gymslip; blue, cream and pink sash; pink blouse.

Following a lapse, Brownstown affiliated to the County Board in 1965. Maggie Coy and Dolly Flynn were involved in leading the revival. It took part in competition until 1968 when it no longer fielded teams.

The players at that time were Nancy Lynch, Maureen Lynch, Kathleen Duggan, Marcella Deering, Margaret Deering, Betty Murphy, Maureen Murphy, Maureen Carey, Marian Howard, Marie Cummins, Maura O'Byrne, Mary Dowling, Eithne Dowling, Mary Keogh, Nancy Hamill, Kitty Dunne, Mrs. Dunne, Winnie Burke, Maureen McBride, Francis Burke, Marie Flynn and Kathleen Byrne.

Maureen Carey, Nancy Lynch and Margaret Deering won medals with the Leinster Gael Linn team in 1967.

Team trainers were Paul Casey and Hugh Champion. The club ran céilí dances in Brownstown Hall to raise funds for the club. The players travelled to their matches in Hal Conway's bus.

Earlier players from the 1950s included Dolly Coy, Maggie Coy, Ciss Mearns and Mary Howard (the latter two from Suncroft). Suncroft joined up with

LEINSTER CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP IN CADAMSTOWN



Miriam O'Callaghan, now National President of Camogie Association in Centenary Year 2004 (referee) and Miriam Malone (Broadford) before a Leinster club championship game.

Brownstown in the late 1940s. Some scores from that period included Brownstown 1-0 Newbridge 4-1; Brownstown 3-0 Curragh 4-0.

Cappagh

Founded in 1972. Club colours: grey and white (originally), now red, white and grey.

Cappagh camogie club was founded on 5th March 1972 by Molly O'Donoghue and Lena Downey who are the club Presidents today.

The club covers Cappagh, Newtown, Hortland, Tiernohan, Kilbrook, Cloncurry, Kilcock, Donadea and Grange. At the outset the club colours were grey skirts and white tops. As the football club was well established and red and white was synonymous with Cappagh, permission was granted to change to camogie club colours to red and white tops with grey skirts.

Cappagh's winning achievements are:

- 1975 junior league and championship.
- 1978 junior and senior championship (first time in Kildare for one club to do senior and junior double).
- 1982-83 under 21 championship.
- 1987 junior league and championship winners.
- 1995 junior championship; under 14 community games; under 13 league; under 11 blitz.
- 1996 under 13, 15 and 16 leagues; under 14 community games; and Féile finalists.
- 1997 junior league and championship; senior 'B' league; under 15 and 16 league; under 14 championship and Leinster runners-up; under 18 championship.
- 1998 under 16, 18 and 21 championships.
- 1999 under 18 and 21 championships.
- 2000 under 18 and 21 championships.
- 2001 under 21 championship.
- 2002 senior 'B' league.
- 2004 under 16 'B' league.

Thirteen Cappagh players have been represented on Kildare winning teams. Phyllis Bambury played from 1986-1996 (3 All Ireland junior medals; 3 junior national league medals and 4 Leinster junior

medals). Orla Bambury plays currently and has won a Gael Linn medal with Leinster juniors in 2001 and a National League junior medal with Kildare in 2004. Maeve Gorman won a Leinster junior medal in 1996. Her sisters Regina and Breda Gorman won National League junior medals with Kildare in 2004 along with Hazel Mulligan. Catríona Hopkins won Leinster junior in 1996. Debbie Walsh, Regina Gorman, Eimear Flanagan and Claire Doran won Leinster U14 B medals in 1997. Megan Daly, Jackie O'Rourke and Laura Downey won Leinster U14 B medals in 2003.

In 1978 Pat Nealon represented Cappagh and Kildare in Kilkenny in the Féile skills competition. In 1996 Cappagh were winners of the Kildare Féile competition and reached the All Ireland final. Other honours achieved by club players include:

Alice Cronin (nee Kelly): President's Sporting Award in 1983;

Orla Bambury: Ashbourne Shield 2002, Ashbourne Cup 2004 and Ashbourne Combined Team 2003, all with University of Limerick; Kildare Camogie Ambassador in Centenary Year 2004;

Aoife Wynne: Fr. Maher Cup 2003 and Purcell Shield 2004 with NUI Maynooth;

Breda Gorman: Purcell Cup 2002 and Division 2 League with Institute of Technology Carlow;

Geraldine Mooney (nee Downey): Referee of the Year early 1980s.

Cappagh were proud to host the All Ireland National Junior League Final on 11th May 1980.

Maeve Gorman served as PRO of the Kildare County Board from 1999-2002.

At schools level successes with Scoil Dara Kilcock included:

- 1996 1st and 2nd year;
- 1997 and 1998 Leinster 7 a side;
- 1997 Leinster Senior B;
- 1997 Leinster Minor B;
- 1997 Kildare minors;
- 1998 Kildare junior;
- 2000 Kildare senior.

2004 Officers: Chairperson Cathal Daly; Secretary Phyllis Bambury; Treasurer Rosie Duff.

***The Cappagh
teams that
achieved
the senior
and junior
championship
double
in 1978***



***Cappagh
camogie
double***

Up Cappagh way this season the sporting spotlight is on its camogie players who brought off a remarkable double – the county senior championship by the team above and the county junior championship by the team at left.

CAPPAGH– Junior championship winners 1987



CARAGH – County championship winners 1965



Caragh

Founded 1955. Club colours: grey and red.

The first Caragh camogie team was established in 1955. They immediately became a force in Kildare camogie and had many epic games, particularly with Naas. Caragh won the county championship in 1958 but with the loss of a number of players were unable to field a team again until 1962. While the skills of girls like the Byrnes and Malones (Raheens) were missed, the newcomers were admirable substitutes. Those early 1960s teams saw other hurling sisters like the Magees, Malones (Ladytown) and Tierneys wearing the Caragh gymslips with distinction.

A winning effort was made in 1964 resulting in a senior championship final place against Ballyroe who won by a single point. Caragh however secured the senior league title against Ardclough, the winning margin again a single point. Anne Dunne was captain and the scorers in the final were Betty Murphy 2-0; B. Garry 1-0; B. Magee 1-0; P. Magee 1-0.

Caragh continued their winning run in 1965 by winning the senior county championship and again defeating Ardclough in the final. The credit for the re-organisation of that team of the early sixties goes to Betty Garry and Anne Dunne who provided links with the previous winning combination.

Carbury

Founded 1930s. Club colours: yellow and blue.

The Carbury camogie team from the 1930s to 1945 blazed a trail in Kildare. They won senior and junior championships of Kildare in 1933, 1934, 1935, 1936, 1937, 1940 and 1941.

1934 Officers: President Ms. N. Hynan; Vice Pres. L. Brennan, Secretary Ms. M. Leech; Treasurer Ms. S. Cummins, Capt. Ms. S. Bourke, Vice Capt. Ms. A. Mangan, Stóirín Burke (one of Ireland's best players to date) captained Dominican College team Eccles St., Dublin. (Quote taken from Leinster Leader April 1934)

Carbury 1934 team: Jennie Commons, E. Burke, Katie Balf, Nellie Hynan, Frances Fitzsimons, Stóirín Burke, Ita Malone, Annie Cully, Mary Leech, Lizzie Brennan, Annie Holt, Annie Leech.

Carbury AGM 1935: President Ms. L. Brennan, Vice Pres. Ms. K. Balfe, Capt. Stóirín Burke, Vice Capt. Ms. Nan Mangan, Treasurer Ms. J. Cummins, Sec. Ms. Ann Cully. Motion: A resolution proposed by Ms. Burke that Irish only be spoken on the playing field was passed unanimously.

The club folded in 1945 but reignited again in the 1950s with Ticknevin and Carbury both fielding teams.

Camogie lapsed until the 1980s when schools'

CARBURY – 1988 Kildare Junior champions



Back (l to r): Philomena Carey, Teresa Hanley, Patrica Garrigan, Clodagh Gill, Caroline Garrigan, Anne Marie Nally, Amanda Carey.

Front (l to r): Patricia Daly, Martina Garrigan, Anne Jessop, Samantha Feely (captain), Fiona Feely, Fiona Garrigan, Louise Brierty.

CARBURY: 1985 Féile All Ireland under 14 champions Division 2 celebrating their win



Back (l to r): Breda Garry, Miriam Logan, Clodagh Gill, Teresa Hanley, Fiona Feely, Anne Jessop, Nora Duggan, Linda Kenna, Teresa Reilly.

Front (l to r): Amanda Carey, Patricia Daly, Louise Brierty, Fiona Garrigan, Linda Lenehan (captain), Martina Garrigan, Tarca Kenna, Evelyn Moore

camogie commenced. Vincent Hanley, Helen Griffen and Caroline Manny promoted camogie in the schools for Community Games. Vincent Hanley decided it would be a good idea to extend camogie to club level.

Around 1983 a club was established. The Committee was: Chairperson Maureen Daly (a former player), Vice Chairperson Myra Hynes, Secretary Doreen Kenna (later replaced by Betty Feely) and Treasurer May Garrigan. Betty Feely worked very hard in the promotion of camogie until the club folded in 2000. Caroline O'Donoghue, the late Paddy Garrigan and John Pender trained various club teams.

During the club's existence, Carbury won under 13, 14, 15, 16, 18, junior league and championship and intermediate league and championship titles. Carbury won the under 13 and under 14 titles several times. One of the biggest achievements was

winning the Division 2 Féile na nGael All Ireland title at under 14 in Wexford in 1985. This was the first underage All Ireland title in camogie won by a Kildare team.

Carbury players were represented on Kildare under 14, under 16 and Junior teams. Teresa Hanley and Linda Lenehan played with the Kildare junior team. Teresa Hanley won an under 14 All Ireland medal and All Ireland junior medal.

Castledermot

Founded 1932.

In 1932 the success of the Castledermot footballers brought interest in Gaelic games in the area to an all time high. The ladies of Castledermot, led by Cork woman Bridie McCarthy, who was a teacher in the girls' school formed a camogie club. Their first match, against Athy, ended in a draw.

Castledermot had mixed luck in further challenge games but they were gaining experience all the time.

On the 24th September 1933 Castledermot participated in their first Kildare camogie championship against the Curragh. Starting as underdogs, Castledermot upset the odds when they ran out convincing winners. In the next game against Athy, victory was secured by an excellent display from founder member Bridie McCarthy. The final of the 1933 championship was played in February 1934 and Castledermot secured their historic first title, against Athy.

Most of the Castledermot team wore the Kildare colours the following season. One such game was on 4th August 1934 when Kildare lost against Wicklow. Teams played eleven players then and nine Castledermot girls fielded for Kildare as follows: P. Cummins, D. Lawlor, K. Gannon, B. Malone, E. Byrne, K. O'Connell, J. Lawlor, M. Corcoran, J. Corcoran and K. Kelly.

A large crowd attended the Castledermot v Athy first round championship match on 7th October 1934. Eileen Byrne opened the scoring with a goal after a constant supply of ball from the Castledermot midfield. Athy equalised almost immediately but Mary Butler, who was having the game of her life, hit the crossbar with a shot. The rebound went straight to Brid Corcoran who flashed the ball to the net. Castledermot scored again from the puck out and were leading 3-1 to 1-0 at half time. Athy staged a revival in the second half but Castledermot held on to win 4-1 to 3-1.

Carbury were Castledermot's opponents in the county final. Carbury took an early lead in the game and had Castledermot on the rack for long periods of the first half. A solitary Castledermot attack late in the first half yielded a goal which left them in the lead at the interval. Carbury re-started the second half attacking all the way. The Castledermot defence weathered the worst of the storm but a freak score

The Castledermot camogie team, winners of the County Championships in 1932 and 1933



Back row, married names in brackets: Agnes Byrne, May Kelly (O'Shea), Dolly Lawlor, Bridie Bolger (Martin), Martin Bolger (Trainer), Mary Anne Corcoran (Doyle), Mary Butler, Mona Germaine, Mary Frances Cummins.

Front row: Brid Corcoran (Moran), Nellie Wall, Bridie McCarthy (Cahill) captain, Alice Bolger, Kitty O'Connell (O'Shea). Kneeling: Eileen Byrne, Kathleen Kelly.

from Carbury saw them in front. During a Carbury attack Castledermot player Dolly Lawlor was injured. The Castledermot goalie left the goals to tell the referee and the Carbury forwards lobbed the ball in the back of the net. Castledermot girls pressed on. Time was running out when they attacked and after a movement between Kathleen Kelly and Brid Corcoran, Eileen Byrne was left unmarked and she made no mistake to score a fine goal, the final score of the game. Castledermot were county champions for the second year in a row.

No other records of the Castledermot camogie team are available. It is likely that the club disbanded in late 1934.

Celbridge

Founded 1953. Club colours: maroon and white (originally), now blue and white.

Celbridge camogie club was founded by Fr. Val Martin in 1953. In 1961 Celbridge joined with Straffan and this team won the county junior championship in 1962 beating Ballyroe by two goals. Players included Mossy Donovan, Gerty Cribben, Margaret Darlington, Bridget Cushen, Peggy Rice and the Cavanagh sisters.

Bridget Cushen and Ann Dunne were on the

Kildare 1967 team that won a Leinster title. Bridget Cushen also represented Kildare and Celbridge on the 1967 Leinster team. Esther Byrne was on the 1990 Kildare panel that won national league, Leinster and All-Ireland championships.

By 1972 the club had ceased, following the departure of Fr. Martin. 1977 saw a revival and the team won the league title in 1978 after their first year in competition. Celbridge were league runners-up three times over the next seven years.

An underage team was started by Bridget Cushen (now Maloney) in 1977. In 1984 this team were runners up in the county under 14 championship and won community games silver. Teams were fielded at under 13, under 14, under 15, under 18, under 21 and junior level. Celbridge secured the junior league and championship double in 1985.

Bridget Maloney retired in 1989 after a dedicated career playing for club, county and province. Bridget also served as County Registrar for a long number of years. Her departure marked the end of camogie for six years.

In 1995, camogie was revived. Fiona Magee started an under 11 camogie team. In 1997 this team won the under 13 league under Garvan Whelan's management; they won the County Féile final in 1998 and represented Kildare in the All Ireland Féile

CELBRIDGE – Junior league and championship winners 2001



Back (l to r): Damian Scallan, Niall Lanigan, Anne Feehan, Sarah Kelly, Catherine Dowling, Trish Begley, Lorraine McIntyre, Sharon Carty, Aoife Magee, Kate Murtagh, Ciara Rice, Brigid Kirwin, Joan O'Flynn, John Magee.
Front (l to r): Catriona Bermingham, Niamh Concannon, Angela Lyons, Ann Glennon, Aisling Maher, Niamh Murphy, Fiona Magee, Ann Lynch (captain) Martina O'Toole and Elaine Maher.

in Enniscorthy (see Photo Gallery). They progressed to county under 15 and under 16 honours in 1999 under John Magee and Mick O'Keeffe and won under 16 and under 18 county titles in 2000. In 2001 Celbridge were under 16 and under 18 county champions and the under 14 team won the County Féile. They again represented Kildare in the All Ireland Féile, progressing to the All Ireland Féile semi final of their grade.

In 2003 Celbridge won the under 16, under 18 and under 21 county titles. The under 16 side secured the Pan Celtic under 16 B title in Kilkenny, managed by Gerry Ryan and Eddie O'Carroll.

The club's junior team was also re-established in the late 1990s and secured the county junior league title in 2000 under Johnny McGrath and Kay Byrne. Greater success followed in 2001 when the junior side achieved the county junior league and championship double. Following this the junior team was upgraded to senior status. In 2003 the senior side secured the senior 'B' competition, a milestone as it was the first senior camogie title for the club. Celbridge were runners-up to St. Laurence's in the senior championship final in Centenary Year 2004, reaching their first senior final.

Celbridge players have represented Kildare at all levels. In recent times, on winning Kildare teams these have included Orla McGrath (won a Leinster junior medal with Kildare in 1996); Ann Glennon, Angela Lyons, Helena Lynn, Susan O'Carroll and Niamh Concannon who won junior National League titles in 2004. A number of players were on the 1997 and 2003 Kildare teams that won the u14 Leinster B titles and the u16 Leinster B title for the first time in 2003 (see Photo Gallery).

Recently a number of players have represented Leinster in the Gael-Linn inter-provincial competition in 2003 and 2004.

Sarah Kelly won a Purcell Shield medal with NUI Maynooth in 2004.

Johnny McGrath and Garvan Whelan have served as county selectors to the county junior team and under 14 and under 16 teams. Niall Lanigan and Eddie O'Carroll currently serve as selectors to

the county junior team. Bridget Maloney served as County Board Vice Chairperson and Registrar. Joan O'Flynn has served as County Secretary and is the current County Chairperson.

Celbridge players have also played with local community school St. Wolstan's and won a number of Dublin Colleges camogie titles.

Clane

Founded 1930/1. Club colours: green blouse, black gymslip and socks.

One of the earliest references to camogie in Clane was the Clane tournament played on 24th September 1931. Clane played Sallins in a camogie game. One of the earliest meetings in connection with the foundation of the club was held in the old Clane Hall. Angela (Gerlie) Maguire, Bill Merriman, Tom Sammon and June Fennell were in attendance along with others who mainly comprised those who formed the first team and trainer. Bessie Delaney was one of the first secretaries. June Fennell was the team captain and goalkeeper. Joe and Peter Delaney and Sergeants Tom Armstrong and P. Farrelly provided tremendous assistance to the fledgling club.

Training was held in Ned Shortt's field in Richardstown. Sergeant Armstrong, Bill Merriman, Larry 'Hussey' Cribbin and Mick Archer provided the coaching and Tommy Sammon was a regular referee.

One of the first matches was against Naas which Clane won. Matches against Carbury were regular and Clane played in many local carnivals especially in Naas and Celbridge. In general, players cycled to their matches. Kith Walsh's lorry and Pat Dunne's hackney (mini-cab) or Hutton's side cars provided transport other times.

Bridie Ennis was one of the greatest Clane and county camogie players of the 1930s. Bridie played on the 1938 and 1939 Kildare teams.

Clane won the county championship in 1939 but within a year the team began to disintegrate as girls got married or moved away from the locality. Some

Clane Camogie Team Mid 1930's



Back (l to r): Alice Brien (Mrs. Christy Walsh), Margaret Shortt, Ciss Brien (Mrs. John Dwyer), Madeline Kenny (Mrs. Myles Ennis), Maisie Rourke, Claire Whyte (Mrs. C. Ferris), Kathleen Fennell (Mrs. McNally), Bessie Delaney (Mrs. J. Connolly), Nellie Cercher, Billy Merriman, Sarah McCormack, Katie Losty (Mrs. B. Merriman).

Front (l to r): Gertie Maguire, Julia Ennis, Brigie Ennis (Mrs. S. Kane), Sheila Merriman (Mrs. McCendrew), June Fennell (Mrs. O'Haran), May Wallace (Mrs. F. Flanagan), Lena Houlihan (Mrs. Doyle), Nellie Ennis (Mrs. Sanders).

remaining players continued to play with neighbours Sallins, including Bridie Ennis who also continued playing with the county into the mid 1940s.

Camogie revived in Clane in the 1950s. Seán Healy, Patricia Woods, Sheila Hughes and Mrs. Crosby were prominent in this and Clane quickly became an active and powerful team. Training was held in Manzor's field or in T. Doyle's field known as

lime-kiln field, close to the top entrance to Lough-bollard today. Nancy Byrne was the first-aid lady. Ned Coughlan, a Wexford man working in Paddy Wood's garage was the team manager. Stories are told by the players of the time about having to arrive well before the starting time for the match as they would have to put up the goal posts. It was customary to provide tea and biscuits for the visiting team. Marie O'Rourke and Ina Behan were secretary and treasurer in the 1950s.

Clane won the 1953 county league and championship beating Naas, Rathangan, Straffan and Prosperous. Clane was back in action again in 1962 with some faces from the past and new faces. The team was: Patty and Josie Doyle, Molly Delaney, Maura and Breda Kenny, Anne Byrne, Chris Coady, Rose Healy, Nellie Farrell, Agnes and Mary Halligan, Mary Jo Farrell, Lily Casey, Mary McMahon, Mary Devine, Peggie and Esther Devine. Clane won the 1962 senior league by defeating Sallins on a wet November day on the score of 1-1 to 0-2. Clane



Camogie players in Clane 1950s.
Players used the road as no field was available.
Extreme right is Molly Lavan (Delaney).

Clane Juniors: Winners of Championship and League 1977



*Back (l to r): Mary Connolly, G. Langan, M. Cribbin, A. Connolly, B. Tutty, M. McCormack, C. Langan, J. Langan, B. McCormack.
Front (l to r): R. Merriman, M. Cusack, S. Duffy, M. Delaney, M. Campbell, L. McGarr, A. Larkin.*

played on until 1966 but lapsed for 10 years until 1976. In 1966 Scoil Mhuire, the local convent secondary school commenced playing camogie.

A casual conversation between Breda Connolly and Gretta Merriman was the ignition for the revival of camogie in Clane in 1976. Both parents were concerned that their daughters could get involved in something and decided to give camogie a try. Mollie Delaney joined in their efforts and the club played in green gymslips and white blouses. In their first year Clane won the junior league and won the championship and league in 1977.

Clane were then graded senior in 1978 but also fielded a junior side. Clane reached the 1979 junior championship final. Regraded to junior in 1980 Clane won the junior league and championship. The Clane Community Council presented it with a Merit Award for this achievement. Clane, regarded to senior in 1981, reached and were defeated in the county final following walk-overs from Kilcock and Cappagh in earlier rounds. By 1983 the club disbanded and four players, Rose, Antoinette and Therese Merriman and Mary Cullen joined neighbours Prosperous. Meanwhile Scoil Mhuire kept the Clane flag flying in Leinster and Kildare colleges

competitions (see chapter Mol an Óige).

The focus moved to starting an underage structure in Clane in 1984. Sr. Raphael, Principal of the local girls national school and Rita Breen were key in establishing this. Teams participated in friendly games against other schools and also participated in the Bord na nÓg under competitions. Camogie mania hit Clane when the girls reached and won the Bord na nÓg Division II final against a gallant Leixlip. Lorraine Maloney collected the trophy on behalf of the team, schools and village.

In 1989 Prosperous decided to re-join Clane and in the mid 1990s success returned to the club. Clane won under 13, under 15, under 16 and under 18B competitions in 1994.

In 1995 Clane commenced hosting the annual 7 a side competition which continues today.

Some Clane players who represented Kildare:

1930s/40s: Bridie Ennis

1953: M. Marron, Molly Delaney, J. Doyle, K. Craughwell

1962: Josie Connolly, Molly Delaney

1966: Mary Jo Farrell

Clane 1994 Team



1979: Susan Chapman, Sandra Dalton and Breda Cribbin (under 14); Mary Rose Merriman and Marie Cusack (minor); Mary Cribbin (junior)

1980: Mary Rose Merriman, Marie Cusack and Mary Cribbin (junior)

Áine O'Reilly, Antoinette Merriman, Breda Cribbin and Paula Mc Dermott (minor 1980)

Therese Merriman, Mary Heslin and Susan Chapman (under 14 1980)

1981+: Rose and Antoinette Merriman, Mary Byrne and Marie Cusack

1997: Helena Healy, Emma Reidy, Lisa Woods (under 14)

2003/4: Louise Conlon, Áine McCormack, Shona Nolan, Christine O'Reilly, Karen O'Reilly (junior).

Clogherinkoe

Founded 1955. Club colours: black and amber (agreed in 1956).

Clogherinkoe, after a short period of participation in competitions, appears to have lapsed by 1957. Some of their players then transferred to Carbury.

Confey

Founded 1994. Club colours: green and white.

Following the 1993 AGM, Róisín Feeney and Liam Gately were given the task of developing camogie in Confey. By April 1994 the first camogie side, at under 13 level, was fielded. They got underway on a successful note against Prosperous. Soon sides were being fielded at every juvenile age group. Trainers Róisín Feeney, Teresa Dennehy, Fredrica Denton, Anna Lyons and Nora O'Neill, drilled the teams, initially with equipment borrowed from the juvenile hurlers.

The adult mentors now decided to "give it a go" and entered a team in the junior league in 1995. They were trained by Richie and Tom Murphy and Des Quinlan.

In 1996 under the leadership of Pat Doherty, they won the junior league in fine style and were pipped for the championship title by Rathcoffey. In 1997 they reached the senior B league final, but were again edged out this time by Cappagh, on a score of 0-6 to 1-2.

Confey then participated in the John Curtin Cup

and finished runners up, but went on the following year to lift this cup.

The club then got involved in fundraising for the new facility at Cope Bridge, which was officially opened on May 16th, 1998.

In 2003 Confey played host to Clonduff (Co. Down) for Féile na nGael competition and also participated in the 2004 Féile.

The under-age game continues to thrive. In Camogie Centenary Year, Confey collected its first Kildare under-age title when Emma Coffey captained the under 14 team to victory in the 'C' league against Straffan. Confey also secured the under 15 'B' blitz title against Cappagh in 2004.

Camogie in Confey is ten years old this year. A lot of work, time and energy has gone into the past 10 years to ensure that camogie runs smoothly and all players get to participate in the different competitions organised for them. Attention is now being paid to developing camogie in the local primary school, where Paddy Keegan has had a major input. It would be important for the success of the club that girls continue to progress from the primary school.

Confey have had a number of players involved with both under 14 and under 16 county teams.

In 2002, Niamh Doherty, Niamh O'Sullivan, Lorna Whitson and Oonagh Comerford were with the Kildare under 14 county team.

In 2003, Emma Coffey was with the under 14 Kildare county team.

In 2004 Niamh Doherty was with the under 16 Kildare county team.

2004 Officers: Chairperson Eddie Ryan; Assistant Chairperson Martin O'Sullivan; Secretary Anna Lyons; Assistant Secretary Barbara O'Connor; Joint Treasurers Teresa Dennehy and Tina Melia; PROs Fiona O'Neill and Niamh Doherty; Féile Na nGael Chair: Nora O'Neill.

2004 team mentors: Under 14 and under 16: Eddie Ryan and Martin O'Sullivan.

Under 9 to under 12: Barbara O'Connor, Niamh O'Sullivan, Niamh Doherty and Edel Kavanagh.

Edenderry

Participated in Kildare games 1955. Club colours: red and white.

Offaly club, Edenderry, participated in camogie competitions in the 1950s. However, during 1956 the club was deemed ineligible to compete in the Kildare county championship. Around this time the

CONFHEY – Under 14 'C' Winners 2004



Confey team and mentors celebrate their historic first under age county title, won in June 2004 in the under 14 'C' county league. They defeated Straffan who contested their first ever underage county final.

club lapsed. Some Edenderry players subsequently transferred to the neighbouring Kildare club, Clogherinkoe.

In 1987 St. Mary's Edenderry were granted permission to play in Kildare schools' competitions.

Ellistown

(see *St. Philomena's Ellistown*)

Founded 1969. Club colours: navy and lemon.

No further history available at time of going to print. The 1969 club was preceded by a club in the 1930s.

Geraldines

(see *Two-Mile-House*)

Irish Ropes Droichead Nua

Founded 1956. Club colours: kingfisher (or turquoise) blue and white.

No history details available at time of going to print.

Johnstown Bridge

Founded 1969. Club colours: navy and pale blue (originally) now blue, green and white.

The club's colours and uniform in 1969 were a navy blue gym-slip with a pale blue blouse. Between 1969 and 1985 the colours changed to a wine coloured skirt and a pink top. The present club colours are the traditional Johnstown Bridge GAA club colours of blue, green and white jerseys with green skirts and white socks.

The Johnstown Bridge club is located in North Kildare on the border of two parishes Balyna and Carbury. Players come from the townlands of Johnstown Bridge, Dunfierth, Coolrea, Kilmurray, Kilshanroe, Thomastown, Cadamstown, Kilmore and Martinstown.

The first committee in 1969 of Imelda Doran, Sadie Ryan, Maureen Mulligan and Mona O'Brien along with Tom Hassett as trainer set high standards. The club's first success came in 1970 when the club won both the junior league and the

JOHNSTOWN BRIDGE 1969



Back (l to r): Billy Haslam, Mary Ann O'Brien, Felicitas Farrell, Anne Farrell, Irene McManus, Roseann Hassett, Mick Ryan, Anne Byrne, Carmel Langan, Gerry O'Keeffe, Ena Langan, Theresa Farrell, Mick Brien.

Front (l to r): Dymphna Doran (child), Ann Ryan, Tina McManus, Martina Cummins, May Ryan, Margaret O'Brien, Carmel McNally.

Johnstownbridge – 2003 League and Championship Winners



Front (l to r): Sara Gormley, Rioghnagh O'Kiely, Aoife Gannon, Niamh Dixon, Ciara Mooney, Rebecca Keown, Clodagh Flanagan, Siobhán Hurley, Yvonne Bergin, Jane O'Donoghue.

Back (l to r): Lorraine Keown (captain), Eimear Hurley, Sinéad Dixon, Niamh Keogh, Paula Holton, Lorna McNeaney, Elana Gannon, Áine Hurley, Ciara Monaghan, Mairéad Murphy, Aoife Tiant, Lorraine Sheegar, Ann Dempsey, Nicola Sheegar.

junior championship. In the championship final Naas were defeated by 1-1 to 0-1. Between 1970 and 1984 the club won two junior league and championship doubles and one intermediate championship. The club disbanded in 1987.

In September 1994 following a successful meeting in the GAA Club the following committee was elected: Chairperson Geraldine Mooney; Secretary Caroline McNally; Treasurer Ann Dixon. A decision was taken to concentrate on underage levels. In 1995 teams entered the under 13 league, under 14 championship and under 15 league. The club waited until 1998 for our first title when Johnstown Bridge narrowly defeated Celbridge in the North Kildare U/13 League Final.

In 1999 Johnstownbridge represented Kildare in Féile na nGael in Oylegate in Co. Wexford.

Our crowning glory came in 2000 when Johnstown Bridge Camogie Club became All Ireland Champions in Division 4 of Féile na nGael in Casement Park Belfast (see Photo Gallery). The under 11 team won the inaugural under 11 county league

in 2000 and made history by winning the same competition in 2001 and 2002 making it three in a row.

In 2003 Johnstown Bridge won the junior league and championship double for the third time. The club presently plays intermediate camogie and hopes that it will not be too long before the outstanding grades the club have yet to win in Kildare, under 18, under 21 and senior are added to its collection.

Geraldine Mooney currently serves as Assistant County Secretary in the County Board and was Secretary in 2003.

Three Johnstown Bridge players have been the Kildare Camogie Player of the Year as follows:

1970	Rosanne Hassett
1978	May Ryan
2003	Clodagh Flanagan.

Club Honours

1970	Junior league
	Junior championship
1984	Junior league
	Junior championship

- 1987 Intermediate championship
- 1998 Under 13 North Kildare league
- 1999 Under 13 North Kildare league
Under 14 championship
Under 14 league
- 2000 Under 11 league
Under 14 championship
Under 14 league
Under 14 Féile na nGael All Ireland Div. 4
- 2001 Under 11 league
Under 13 league
- 2002 Under 11 league
Under 14 B championship
Under 15 league
Under 16 league
- 2003 Under 14 A league
Under 15 A league
Junior league
Junior championship

School Honours

- 1996 Under 11 Cumann na Bunscol
- 1997 INTO 7-a-side – Eimear Hurley selected to play in Croke Park at interval of Tipperary v Wexford All Ireland hurling semi final.
- 1998 INTO 7-a-side – Ciara Mooney selected to play in Croke Park at interval of Kilkenny v Waterford All Ireland hurling semi final – Clodagh Flanagan selected to play at the interval of All Ireland hurling final.
- 1999 Under 13 Cumann na Bunscol
- 2000 Under 11 Cumann na Bunscol
- 2002 Under 11 Cumann na Bunscol
- 2003 INTO 7-a-side – Jenna Murphy selected to play in Croke Park at the interval of the hurling All Ireland semi final; Careen Farrell elected to play in Croke Park at the interval of the All Ireland hurling final.

Players representing Kildare on winning teams

- 1997 Under 14 B Leinster Championship: Zoe Walsh, Jenny Maguire
- 2003 Under 14 B Leinster Championship: Siobhán Hurley (captain), Shona Farrell, Leanne Farrell, Jane O' Donoghue

Under 16 B Leinster Championship: Siobhán Hurley, Ciara Mooney, Paula Holton.

2004 Junior National League: Clodagh Flanagan.

2004 Committee: Chairman Bernard Doran; Vice-chairman Michael Murphy; Secretary Mary Flanagan; Asst. Secretary Geraldine Mooney; Treasurer Mary Murphy; Asst. Treasurer Marian Keogh; PRO Mary Flanagan; Registrar Kathleen Dempsey.

Kilcock (also known as St. Conleth's)

Founded 1934. Club colours: navy with white spots (originally) now green and gold

In 1955 Eilish Murphy wrote to Kildare County Board for information on the formation of a club. In November 1955 the Secretary of the Muintir na Tíre Guild in Kilcock invited the County Board to meet interested people in Kilcock and the County Board minute records that the County Secretary *had gone there.. and had informed the small group present of the position in the county today. Two former county players were present and would do all in their power to organise a team once again. They chose the name St. Conleth's and the old Kildare colours navy gyms and navy blouses with large white spots.*

Some time later Kilcock dropped the name St. Conleth's and competed under Kilcock. In 1979 they were junior champions and In 1980 they won the first intermediate league competition in Kildare. After a lapse, the club revived again in 2004 and competed this year in the green and yellow colours of Kilcock G.A.A.

Kilcullen

Founded 1957. Club colours: navy and yellow.

In 1957 the Kilcullen club consisted of school girls between the ages of 14 and 16. The club appears to have been active, on and off. No further history available at time of going to print.

Kildangan

Founded 1934. Club colours: cream and scarlet.

Kildangan camogie club adopted the same colours as Moore O'Farrells, Kildangan Stud Racing Stables. Camogie games were played at the Lennox Field in Richardstown.

There was great rivalry in the 1930s with Kildoon. A match report of 1 June 1935 shows that Kildangan beat Kildoon 1-5 to 1-3. E. Stynes and F. Weller were Kildangan scorers while Ms Lawlor and Ms Delaney scored for Kildoon.

The Committee in the 1930s was Chairperson Tommy Stynes; Secretary Eileen Stynes; Treasurer Mary Murphy. Tommy Stynes and Mick Lyons were the team's trainers.

The players at the time were Francis (Tot) Weller, Eileen Stynes, Mary, Nancy and Joan Murphy Kildangan PO, Peg and Chrissie McGann Richardstown, Nora and Theresa Tierney Harrisstown, Cissie Scott, Memie Whelan Monasterevan,

Mary Kelly, Kitt Mahon, Molly Houligha, Mary Delaney. Nancy and Nellie Carroll transferred from Kildoon in 1937. It seems the club lapsed in 1939.

Kildare (see St. Conleth's)

No history available at time of going to print.

Kildoon

Founded early 1930s. Club colours: green gym frocks and green spotted blouse.

The club took part in both league and championship in the 1930s. They also took part in sports days against local teams. Matches were played at the Balkinstown Road pitch.

In the mid 1930s the Kildoon camogie club disbanded with most of the players joining local teams such as Kildangan, Suncroft and Kilmeade.

A Mrs. Hennessy played with both Kildoon and Kildare. The current Nurney club is from the same area.

Kildoon team September 1935



Back (l to r): Mary Brennan, Maisie Howard, Rita Breen, Nelli, Carrol, Mary Delaney (Balkinstown), Nancy Nolan, Mary Delaney (Kildoon), Annie Beck, Rosie Howard.

Middle (l to r): Nan Whelan, May Cahill, Bridge Kelly, Sarah Carroll Front (l to r): Nancy Carroll, Brendan Martin, May Bell.

KILL – Winners of the 1957 senior camogie championship



Kill

Club colours: Green and yellow.

Early county camogie records suggest that camogie in Kill was active in the 1930s. The 1939 Leinster final involving Kildare was played in Kill and the 1939 Annual Convention of Kildare Camogie Board also lists Kill as an active club.

The 1950s records show that Kill were still playing, at senior level in the county, and won the senior championship in 1957. Thereafter, some time, the club ceased. No further history on the earlier periods of Kill camogie were available at the time of going to print.

The revival of camogie in Kill occurred much later in the 21st century. Kill commenced again in 2001/2.

In 2004, Kill compete in Féile na nGael and won best banner for a camogie club from the host counties, Kildare, Meath and Westmeath.

Kilmeade

Founded 1938. Club colours: brown and white.

Kilmeade was revived by Misses K. O'Neill, J. Deering and T. Freeney. K. O'Neill acted as club secretary. The camogie pitch was on Joe Masterson's land at Youngtown. Bill Miley Fontstown, Joe Masterson, Youngtown and PJ Kelly, Kilmeade were the committee.

In 1939 S. Dempsey, B. Dempsey and M. Bell played for Kildare in the Leinster final when Kildare lost to Dublin 2-2 to 3-2.

Kilmeade had some county success winning the championship in 1938, beating Prosperous in the final. Some match reports from that period show Kilmeade beat Kildare 3-1 to nil with S. Dempsey at centrefield and J. Deering in defence. Scorers for Kilmeade were N. Moore 2-1 and K. O'Neill 1-0.

The 1938 team was: Mary Bell Gaul, Booleigh; Bessie Bell, Booleigh; Julie Ann Deering, Booleigh; Eileen Masterson, Kilmeade; Norah Bruce, Kilmeade; Marie Blanchfield, Kilmeade; Sally Dempsey, Kilmeade; Brigid Dempsey, Kilmeade; Nellie Moore, Moatfield; Nannt Moore, Moatfield; Bridie Moore, Moatefield; Kathy O'Neill (Louth, worked at shop) (captain); Nellie Carroll, Nurney; Nancy Carroll, Nurney; Sarah Carroll, Nurney; Kathy King, Rathgrumbly – in Moate; May Mahon, Sherries; May Kelly, Kilmeade shop; Rose Keegan, Springhill, May Bell (see Photo Gallery for picture of 1939 Kilmeade medal won by Julie Ann Deering).

The trainer was Paddy Dooley, Athy who worked at Jackson Bros.

Sally Dempsey, Brigid Dempsey and Mary Bell played with Kildare in 1939. The cost of hurley in Frazers at this time was 3 shillings.

Kingswear Naas

Founded 1964.

Kingswear Naas affiliated to Kildare County Camogie Board in October 1964. No further history available at time of going to print.

Leixlip

Founded 1930s. Club colours: navy tunic, white blouse and light blue tie (originally) changed to maroon and white in 1956.

In the 1930s, the first match was against Kilcock. Transportation was by lorry at a cost of 1/- (one shilling) per head. Camogie continued in Leixlip during the 1940s and 1950s without any silverware.

In 1960 Leixlip camogie was re-instated and participated in competitions until 1967.

After a lapse, the club was re-established in 1975 playing in Dublin competitions, winning intermediate

Leixlip – 1988 under 15 league winners



Leixlip 1988 under 15 league winners team who beat St Laurence's in the final. Leixlip previously played in Dublin competitions and in this photo wear the blue of the Dubs. On returning to Kildare competitions, Leixlip eventually changed to their well know maroon and white.

A league and junior C championship. Transition to Kildare County Board took place in 1984. The county honours won by Leixlip are:

1986 Under 15 league

1988 Under 15 league

1990 Junior championship and league and under 13 league

1992 Intermediate championship and under 16 league

1998 Junior championship

Recent years have been lean in terms of titles won but hopefully with the hard work at underage level and the re-establishment of the junior team this year will eventually pay dividends.

Leixlip has been represented at county level over

Leixlip – 1990 Junior championship and league winners



the years at all grades. Niamh Leahy was part of the winning Kildare All Ireland junior panel in 1990.

At County Board level, Loretta Shinnors has officiated as Rúnaí, Vice Chairperson, and Registrar for a number of years as did Mary Kennedy as Leinster Council Delegate and County Vice-Chairperson.

Local schools have had success at all levels. Scoil Uí Dhálaigh is active and successful over many years in Cumann na mBunscol competitions. Leixlip post-primary school, Coláiste Chiaráin, recently won Dublin Colleges under 16 'B' Division.

Maynooth

Founded 1961. Club colours: black and white.

A camogie team was formed in Maynooth in 1961 under the expert tuition of Joe Murphy, still hale and hearty in his 95th year, and Michael Kelly, who happily is still active in the club. Initially the team was quite successful and competed well in the various competitions within the county. However, due to lack of support from the male membership of the GAA club camogie went into decline and had ceased completely by 1970.

The pioneering players in Maynooth were: Eva Burke, Maureen Fay, Mary Richardson, Monica Malone, Anne Murphy, Rosemary Murphy, Roven Walsh, Anne Monaghan, Elizabeth Dowling, Kay Dowling, Ronnie Farrell, Mary Graham, Evelyn Curran, Josephine Kelly and Teresa Breen (RIP).

Maynooth – Under 11 'B' league championships 2004



Maynooth – Under-14 'B' Winners 2004



In 1995 camogie was re-established in the club with a mixture of experienced players who had moved into the community and local talent. Unlike their sisters in the 1960s this time camogie received full backing from the GAA club and happily does so to this day. At the adult level rapid progress was made and in 1999 Maynooth won the County Junior Championship and thus became the first team in the club in recent history to achieve senior status.

The team competed well at senior level in 2000 but without any tangible reward. Subsequently Maynooth reverted to junior and at present are doing quite well at that level.

Since 1995 considerable effort has been put into the promotion of underage camogie in Maynooth. Initially success was slow to come but this year the efforts of the large number of dedicated workers who have laboured long and hard to re-establish camogie in Maynooth were rewarded. In Centenary Camogie Year 2004, Maynooth won the under 14 'B' league and the under 11 'B' league, having lost the previous two finals. This success followed the club's win in 2003 in the under 15 B county blitz.

Monasterevan

Founded 1966. Club colours: navy and white.

The July 1966 County Board meeting welcomed the affiliation of Monasterevan. No further history available at time of going to print.

Moone

Founded in 1957.

No further history available at time of going to print.

Moorefield

Founded 1986. Club colours: green and white.

Mary McMullen, her sister in law Winifred Murray, Helen Durney, Ann McDermott and Nancy Cahill founded Moorefield camogie club in 1986. The club initially fielded at underage level, entering their first adult team at junior level in 1989.

Moorefield is in Newbridge parish. The camogie colours and crest are that of the Moorefield GAA club, founded in 1884 by a family of brothers known as the O'Kelly brothers. It is not possible to call a club after a family name and the townland name of Moorefield was adopted. The county honours won by the club are as follows:

- 1991 Junior league
- 1992 Under 13 'B' championship
- 1993 Junior championship and under 21 championship
- 1994 Intermediate championship
- 1998 Intermediate championship; senior 'B' championship
- 1999 Senior 'B' championship
- 2002 Junior league and championship
- 2003 Under 14 'B' championship.

The following played on the Kildare Junior team: Eileen Kavanagh, Patricia Dunne, Geraldine Browne, Bernie McSweeney, Veronica Donnelly, Serena Donnelly, Ellen Ryan. Eileen Kavanagh and Bernie McSweeney won a Leinster title with the county in 1996. Serena Donnelly, Lorraine Kemmy, Susan O'Connor, Sharon Coffey, Kim Nevin won



Mary Hurley, Moorefield captain, receives the 2002 junior championship cup from Joan O'Flynn, County Board Secretary.

under 14 and under 16 Leinster titles with Kildare in teams managed by Ernie McMullen and trained by Jimmy Donnelly. In 2003 Jimmy Donnelly was the Kildare under 14 and under 16 team manager when Kildare completed the double by securing two Leinster B titles at these levels.

Moorefield was represented at the County Board for many years by our founding member and Chairperson Mary McMullen. Mary held several positions on the Board, serving both her club and county with great distinction and honour. Her sad passing is a great loss to her family, club and county.

Jimmy Donnelly, the club's Intermediate team trainer is the current Moorefield County Board delegate. Jimmy also previously served as trainer to the county junior team. Jim McMullen serves as the current county junior team manager and led Kildare to the National League junior title in Nowlan Park, Kilkenny in 2004.

At schools level, Scoil Mhuire has won several underage titles and in 2003 won a senior title. At

community games, a combined team of Moorefield and Sarsfields won the under 14 camogie final in 1994.

Moorefield have competed in numerous tournaments such as the Milk Cup, reaching the final; played in the St. Peregrines tournament in Dublin and further afield in Glasgow in 1996.

2004 Officers: Chairperson Veronica Donnelly; Secretary Bernie McSweeney; Treasurer Nancy McDonnell; PRO Serena Donnelly.

Naas

Founded 1921. Club colours: blue and white.

The first mention of camogie in Naas was in 1921. Naas and Newbridge drew one goal each in a camogie game in Newbridge in 1921. It is not known if this was in a competition that there were efforts to organise in 1921 through the GAA County Board (see Chapter 3, *Trying to get started in the 1920s*).

The next mention of camogie in Naas was a game

Naas – 1959 County Champions



Front (l to r): Mary Sheridan, Mona Burke.

Second row (l to r): Pat Higgins, Annette Ryan, Maureen Prendergast, Geta Ryan, Carol Corcoran, Ann Hartigan, Ann O'Shea, Josie Byrne, Pat Allison.

Back row (l to r): Mrs. C. Higgins (vice president), Rosaleen Dempsey, Kathleen Kelly, Mrs. Mangan, Claire McGovern, Gloria Lee (captain), Dolores Wheeler, Mary O'Shea, Mrs. M. Corcoran (president).

between Naas and Broadford in 1931. Naas won three goals to nil. This was reported in the *Leinster Leader* of 25 July 1931. In 1932 Naas defeated Newbridge eleven goals to two goals. Naas also had a junior team at this time. In 1933 Naas, known then as St. Brigid's defeated Clane in the county championship and it was reported in the *Leinster Leader* that they were *the pioneers of camogie in Kildare*. Naas met their match in 1933 when Newbridge defeated them by six goals to one goal. The goal scorer on the day was Cissy Creaney, later known as Cissy Corcoran who was responsible for camogie in second level schools in Kildare.

In 1935 Naas and Sallins met in the Horan Cup final which ended in a draw. There were juvenile teams from both sides who played on that occasion. In 1936 Naas won a silver cup by defeating Hollywood in Ballymore. That year Carbury defeated Naas in the championship. Naas had twenty five playing members at the time. In 1937 Carbury defeated Naas again in the county final. Three Naas players, K. Lowe, S. Gorry and C. Hanlon played on the Kildare camogie team that year.

Camogie was reinstated in Naas in 1942 and the following year the club won the championship for the first time, beating Sallins in the final. They also won the new county league. In 1944 Naas were in the final of the President's Cup, won by Sallins. They were also beaten in the championship semi final. In 1945 they were beaten by Broadford and had Molly Kissane on the Kildare team.

Naas won the senior league in 1955. In 1959 and 1960 Naas were county senior champions. In 1961, for the second time in its history Naas supplied the Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer to the County Board. There were seven Naas players on the Kildare team that won the Leinster championship. This was captained by Naas player Gloria Lee. Gloria also refereed the All-Ireland senior camogie and the All Ireland colleges finals in Croke Park in 1961. Naas lost to Ballyroe in the senior championship final. St. Mary's College made its debut in the Leinster Colleges and were defeated by Callan.

Mrs. Ciss Corcoran was Chairperson of the

County Board in 1962 and also that year, played with her daughter on the winning county championship team. In 1964 Naas lost to Ardclough in the championship.

In 1965 the Convent of Mercy secondary school won the Farrington Cup and in 1967 won the Kildare Camogie Cup, trained by Mrs. Corcoran and John Farrell.

In 1975 St. Mary's College won the under 16 championship.

In 1993 camogie started in the primary school and it has done very well since in Cumann na mBunscol. In March 2004 it won the mini-sevens for the first time, its latest victory and trophy.

The Naas under 11 team won the county league in 2003 and Naas won the Camogie Centenary under 12 blitz in 2004.

Nurney

Founded 1970. Club colours: green and white.

The original committee was: President Fr Hughes; Chairman Lillie Sexton; Vice Chairman Betty Kelly; Treasurer Mrs M Deering; Secretary Julie Deering. Captain Margaret Deering; Vice Captain: Joyce Sexton. Trainer Eddie Molloy.

The club colours are those of the local GAA club whose premises is used by the camogie club.

In 1970, its first year, Nurney were runners up in the junior league. Nurney won the junior league in 1971 and in 1972 they won the championship and the junior league. In 1973, they reached the championship final, which they lost to Broadford.

Below is a list of the players that played in the 1970s: Margaret Deering, Maura Deering, Julie Deering, Moira Sexton, Lillie Sexton, Ario Sexton, Pascal Molloy, Breda Molloy, Dolores Molloy, Pat Molloy, Mary Teresa Styne, Mary Broughall, Ann Fulham, Maura Breen, Perry Merrins, Mary Sexton, Aileen Sexton, Celia Simmons, Marcella Howard, Joan Hughes, Ann Hughes, Kathleen Houlihan, Clare Molloy, Betty Kelly, Kathleen Burke, Marie Burke, Eileen O'Driscoll, Sheila O'Driscoll & Anna Carroll.

Nurney 1970



The re-formation of Nurney Camogie club happened in March 2001 when a few people got together to try and create a sporting outlet for the girls in the Nurney/Kildangan area. The response was tremendous with 70 girls registered. These ranged in the age group of 5 to 17 years. Training commenced on 2nd May 2001.

2003 has been the club's most successful year since the club was reformed with Nurney National School reaching the final of the senior and U/11 Cumann na mBunscol Camogie Finals. This was a

great achievement for a small country school.

The present officers and committee are as follows: Chairperson Marcella Switzer; Secretary Anna May Merrins; Assistant Secretary Fiona O'Brien; Treasurer Siobhán Fahey. Delegate to County Board: Marcella Switzer.

2004 Committee: Natalie Kennedy, Geraldine Berns, Liz Fleming, Josephine Whelan, Linda Bracken, Rose Marie Stynes, Niamh Kavanagh, Marie Merrins, Michelle Switzer, Noleen Higginbotham, Bernie Conway, Claire Merrins, Trish Lambert and Kathleen Casey.

Prosperous

Founded approx 1925. Club colours: green and black and then maroon and white.

Fr. O'Brien, the local Parish Priest at the time, started a camogie team sometime in the 1920s. The exact date is not known but it was approximately 1925. It is said that Prosperous was one of the oldest camogie clubs in the County.

Some members of the Prosperous team were

PROSPEROUS 1985



Back (l to r): Threase Kane, Dolores Quinn, Antoinette Merriman, Mary Dempsey, Barbara Johnson, Mary Cullen, Rose Merriman, Jackie Maher, Celine Galvin.

Front (l to r): Carmel Kindregan, Marianne Johnson, Catherine Johnson, Kathleen Elliot, Geraldine Dwyer, Gemma Kane.

Molly Gordon, Clare Curry, Josie Donaghue, Bridget, Teresa, Phil and Kathy Geraghty, May Treacy, Bridget Ennis, Annie Ward, Sheila Merriman, Nancy Quinn, Kitty Weld, Rosie Daly, Chrissie Daly, Lizzie Curley, Gret Dempsey, Mary Graham, Bridget Kenny, Maisie Kenny, Irene Welds, Nan Kelly, Peg Nevin, Bridget Nevin, Peg Condrón, Maureen Condrón, Molly McGoon, Bridget Murphy, Angela Dunne and Concepta Hannigan.

They won a few competitions which were held mainly at carnivals. Prosperous won the 1954 championship, beating Naas in the final.

Mr. Ray O'Malley, the then headmaster of the Vocational School in Prosperous, revived the club in 1971. When Rathcoffey club disbanded, some of the players joined Prosperous. They wore green jerseys and socks, and black skirts. Prosperous was then one of the most successful teams in the county along with Broadford. Between the two clubs, they dominated the senior championship in the 1970s and 1980s. Prosperous won the senior championship and league in 1974, '75, '76 and '77. In 1980 Prosperous won the Senior Championship and were runners up to Maynooth in the league and won both league and championship in 1981. They also won the Leinster junior club championship in 1974 and 1975, and were the only team from a junior graded county to beat a team from a senior graded county, Austin Stacks, Dublin in the semi final of the Leinster senior club championship in 1975. They were beaten by Buffers Alley, Wexford in the final.

Members of the 1974-1980 teams: Phil McCormack, Marie Reilly, Eileen Reilly, Gemma Kane, Marianne Johnson, Gaye Dowling, Bernadette Dowling, Teresa Lynch, Mary McAndrew, Nuala Malone, Mary Malone, Mary Dempsey, Liz Dempsey, Alicia Flynn, Jennifer Butterfield, Threase Kane, Geraldine Deering, Dolores Deering, Rosario O'Connell, Angie O'Connell, Eileen Costello, Bridget Johnson, Mary Ryan, Eileen O'Brien and Carmel Kindregan.

1981 was the last senior championship Prosperous won, they contested the final at least three times in the '80s but were beaten by Broadford. They

were beaten by Broadford in the Centenary Final in 1984. They won the senior league in 1984, '85 and '86.

Due to a shortage of players, Prosperous disbanded in 1988 and joined up with Clane who were having similar problems. Clane continued to wear the old Prosperous colours, green and black.

Prosperous started up again in 1994 in junior grade, but had little success – their numbers fell also and they disbanded in 1999 when 15 a side came in. They wore white and maroon. The honours won by the club are:

- 1974 Senior championship and league, Leinster junior club championship
- 1975 Senior championship and league, Leinster junior club championship
- 1976 Senior championship and league
- 1977 Senior championship and league
- 1980 Senior championship
- 1981 Senior championship and league
- 1984 Senior league
- 1985 Senior league
- 1986 Senior league

Prosperous recipients of Kildare Camogie Player of the Year

- 1973 Eileen Reilly
- 1974 Teresa Lynch
- 1975 Nuala Malone
- 1978 Marianne Johnson
- 1979 Gemma Kane
- 1980 Elizabeth Dempsey
- 1981 Nuala Malone
- 1986 Kathleen Elliot

Rathangan

Founded 1940. Club colours: blue and white.

1934 Officers: President Ms. M. Murphy, Sec. Rose Mulpeter.

1934 team: Mrs. Carroll, Ms. L. Pringle, B. Riordan, R. Mulpeter, M. Hickey, B. Mangan, B. Reddin, J. Riordan, K. Brough, C. Carroll, R. Comerford, K. Reilly.

Bridget Quigley, a teacher in the Girls National

School, reformed the club in the early 1970s. Bridget was the first President and Trainer. Goretti Melody succeeded Bridget as President and Trainer bringing the club to victory by winning the junior championship in 1974.

Club Members: Catherine O'Connell, Angela O'Connell, Róisín O'Connell, Caroline O'Connell, Katie Kelly, Ann Gorry, Eileen Costello, Claire Melody, Goretti Melody, Bernadette Melody, Bernadette Feeney, Teresa Fullam, Berga Fullam, Catherine Fullam, Johanna Riordan, Geraldine Riordan, Joan Burke, Caroline Birch.

Bridget Quigley, Caroline O'Connell and Eileen Costello represented Kildare on the junior team over a few years. Caroline O'Connell was on the winning Leinster junior championship team in 1980.

In the secondary school, Paddy Donovan coached the team for several years.



Eileen Reilly, Rathcoffey, Prosperous, Kildare, Leinster and Kildare Team of the Century in action in the 1960s.

(captain) and Sheila Kennedy. In 1973 Eileen Reilly was presented with the Philips Trophy for the most sporting player of the year. A number of changes led to the discontinuation of the club. However Teresa Lynch, Theresa Walshe and the Reilly sisters went on to play for Kildare county team and had the honour of playing with this team in a Leinster Final.

In 1983 the club started again and in 1987 was beaten in a junior semi-final and had a team in the under 14 final. In 1992 Eamon Cunningham trained the junior team that won the junior championship

Rathcoffey

Founded 1966. Club colours: blue and white.

Rathcoffey won their first junior league and championship in 1968 and again 1969. The team included Mary McAndrew, Teresa Lynch, Essie Walshe, Teresa Walshe, Eileen Reilly, Marie Reilly

Rathcoffey Under 14 Finalists in 1987, wearing their original colours of white and green



and runner-up in the junior league. Lloyd Bracken was trainer in 1995 when Cappagh beat Rathcoffey in the final but they won the junior league. 1996 Rathcoffey won the junior championship beating Confey (see Photo Gallery).

In 2001 Rathcoffey reached the final of the Féile under 14 competition, in which Celbridge beat them after extra time. Rathcoffey being the beaten finalists then went on to the Féile finals in Cork as Kildare's second representative team.

In 1998, Gaye Smullen and Mary McCabe introduced camogie to Rathcoffey National School. It won the under 11 competition three years in a row and also won the under 13 competition. In 2002 it won the Mini 7s. Katie Murtagh and Laura Heslin were picked to play in Croke Park during the All-Ireland hurling semi-final.

In community games Rathcoffey and Clane parish represented Kildare and reached the Leinster semi-final in 2001.

The club today fields teams under 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 and 16 and this year for the first time u/18 as well as junior.

On the social side Rathcoffey Camogie under the guidance of Helen Berns, Maude Mallon and Dymphna Brilly for the last 20 years have held their

annual Christmas Party for the senior citizens of the area.

2004 Committee: Chairperson, Helen Berns; Vice-chairperson, Maud Mallon; Secretary, Mary McCabe; Vice-Secretary, Mary Heslin; Treasurer, Gaye Smullen.

Sallins (St. Anne's)

1935 Officers: President Nora O'Brien, Vice Pres. Ms. Molly Vance, Treasurer Ms. Annie McDonald, Sec. Ms. H. Houlihan, Capt. Mary McCreavey, Vice Capt Ms. J. Dalton. Ciss Corcoran, the well-known "Queen of Kildare Camogie" recalls playing in the 1930s in Sallins. There were two clubs then, St. Anne's and St. Bernadette's, known as the Wasps as they wore black and amber striped blouses. St. Anne's wore pink blouses. No further history was available at time of going to print.

Sarsfields

The inaugural meeting of Sarsfields Camogie Club took place in the club house on the 29th June 1987. The officers elected were Chairperson Deirdre O'Sullivan, Secretary Stephanie Bergin. A junior team was formed and the team uniform was agreed

Sarsfields team in their first official game played 24th April 1988 in Sarsfields against Milltown



Back (l to r): Nora Egan, Tina O'Leary, Marie Byrne, Angie Byrne, Aileen Maher, Siobhán Mullins, Sharon Dignam, Diane Conlon, Fiona Corrigan, Aileen Keogh, Joan Gorman, Jillian Browne, Phil Browne.

Front (l to r): Karen Carroll, Denise McGann, Linda Whitely, Deirdre O'Sullivan, Anne Nolan, Shirley Brennan, Stephanie Bergin, Valerie Keogh, Meabh Dempsey.

as the GAA club colours, green jersey with white sash and white skirt.

The honours won by club are:

- 1991 Junior championship
- 1993 Intermediate championship
- 1997 Junior league
- 1997 Under 21
- 1996 Under 18
- 1997 Under 16
- 1998 Under 15
- 1997 Under 14
- 1995/96/97 Under 13.

Several Sarsfields players have represented Kildare. They are: Deirdre O'Sullivan, Jackie Moran, Siobhán Mullins, Deirdre Feeney, Breda O'Brien, Sharon Dignam, Liz Dempsey, Aimee Butler, Sinéad Donagh, Paula Earley, Noelle Earley, Aileen O'Callaghan, Pauline O'Callaghan, Deirdre O'Callaghan, Eibhlín Smith, Ciara Cash and Róisín Cash.

Seán O'Sullivan and Deirdre Feeney were manager and captain of the Kildare junior camogie team that won the Leinster championship in 1996.

Pauline O'Callaghan was the captain of the first ever under 14 team to win a Leinster 'B' championship title in 1997.

The Sarsfields under 14 team that won the 1997 county title went on to represent Kildare at Féile in



Mary McMullen, Chairperson County Board (and Moorefield), presents the junior championship cup to her daughter Deirdre O'Sullivan, Sarsfields, in 1991.

Waterford. The team and mentors were looked after by hosts Rower/Inistigoe, Kilkenny, and they made a return visit to Sarsfields in October of the same year.

Margaret Murray served as County Board Treasurer for many years

Sarsfields fields teams at under age and adult levels and Noelle Earley is currently on the county junior team that won the junior national league title in 2004. Sarsfields reached the county junior league final in 2004 v St. Laurence's

Staplestown

Founded 1967. Club colours: black and green.

The club ceased in 1969. No further history was available at time of going to print.

St. Anne's (see Ballyroe)

Founded 1959.

St. Brigid's (see Suncroft)

St. Conleth's (Kildare)

Founded 1956.

Within a short period, St. Conleth's appears to have lapsed. On 18th June 1957 M. Costello the club secretary notified the Kildare County Camogie Board that the team had broken up due to lack of playing members and lack of interest. St. Conleth's withdrew from competition in 1957. It re-affiliated to the County Board again in 1971. Kildare featured in county competitions thereafter but no history was available at time of going to print.

St. Eithne's (The Curragh)

Founded 1931

1933 Officers: President: Sgt. Bree, Treasurer Corp. L. Dunne, Secretary and Captain Ms. C. Doyle. Committee Ms. B. Whelan, C. Dowling, J. O'Brien. No further history was available at time of going to print.

St. Laurence's

Founded early 1930s. Club colours: black and amber (originally) now red and yellow.

The origins of Ballitore can probably be traced to a letter from Mrs. Mary Kealy, proprietor of Kealy's shop to Sheila Norton, Bricanna, Johnstown, Co. Kilkenny on August 30, 1930 regarding an interview for the position of shop assistant.

Shortly afterwards, Sheila Norton took up post in Kealy's shop. When the first camogie club was formed in Ballitore, Sheila was captain and the club colours were the black and amber of Kilkenny. A Leinster Leader report dated 31 March 1934 states that a camogie club had been formed and that on the previous Sunday over twenty girls had taken part in the first practice in a field given free by Mr. E. Kelly. This appears to have been the first official

outing of the club, although Leinster Leader reports on the 1933 county championship include Ballitore amongst the contenders along with Clane, Straffan, Castledermot (eventual winners).

July 1934 the club travelled to Skerries for a friendly and were beaten 5-1 to 1-0. It appears there were two camogie teams in the parish at the time. Friendly matches were the most common activity and it seems some players transferred to the Moone club for a while. In 1939 the Leinster Leader reported the revival of Ballitore club through Misses S. Norton and T. Farrell and other local ladies. A general meeting was held and Sheila Norton was elected captain; Dottie Keatley Secretary and K. Kealy Treasurer. The panel of players then was:

Molly Rooney, Mary Casey, Pat Leigh, Liz Mackey, Mary Mackey, Patsy Casey, Katy Daly, Nina Whelan, Liz Daly, Masie Bolger, Kitty McCann,

BALLITORE CAMOGIE TEAM LATE 1930s



Back (l to r): Kitty McCann, Liz Daly, Masie Bolger, Theresa Farrell, Margaret Keatley.
Middle (l to r): Liz Mackey, Mary Mackey, Patsy Casey, Kathy Daly, Nina Whelan.
Front (l to r): Molly Rooney, Mary Casey, Peg Leigh.

St. Laurence's 11 in a row four



When St Laurences camogie team won a historic 11 in a row county senior championships in 2004 by beating Celbridge, four girls who played in all 11 finals were Aisling and Ruth Treacy, Róisín Walsh and Elaine Miley. Photo: Adrian Mella

Teresa Keatley, Margaret Keatley and Sheila Norton. The Kirwan sisters, Moone; the Dempsey sisters, Kilmeade; the Brady sisters, Sheila Park, Dunlavin and many other were active in the club those days.

In 1940 Ballitore reached the junior final against Athy which ended in a draw, two goals each. The replay was at Joseph Masterson's field in Kilmeade. The pitch was water logged after heavy rain. The Athy team were the heavier and stronger side, an advantage that contributed to their victory. The play was not of a high standard but this was made up for by the determination of the players. Ballitore had a fair share of the game but the forwards missed several opportunities. Best for Ballitore were Mary Casey in goal; K. Dowling at full back, Sheila Norton in defence; Josie Cogan at midfield against strong opposition; Nan Cogan, Peg Leigh and Dotie Keatley. Dotie scored Ballitore's only goal in a scoreline of 1-0 to Athy's 3-0. Dotie Keatley, Kathleen Mackey and Elizabeth Daly all wore the county jersey in the early 1940s and were involved when Kildare reached the Leinster final in 1943. (See Photo Gallery for picture of 1940s Ballitore medal).

Girls got married in the 1940s and in those days that ended one's camogie

career. The club was reformed in February 1980 in the Ballitore/Kilmead area by Mrs. Margaret Timmons and Mrs. Celia White. The officers then were Chairperson Kate Treacy; Vice Chair Mrs. Celia White; Secretary Patricia Keatley; Asst. Secretary Deirdre Keatley; Treasurer Mrs. Margaret Timmons; Fund-raising organisers Ann May Miley, Mrs. Margaret Timmins. Team captain Kate Treacy; team trainer Mrs. Celia White.

Training was held in St. Laurence's GAA grounds at Old Grange. Girls walked, jogged and cycled to attend. The colours chosen were the St. Laurence's GAA colours: red/yellow culotte skirts and jerseys and red socks. Myra O'Brien and Margaret Blanchfield made the skirts. Camogie was one of the few outdoor sports for girls in the parish. There were sufficient numbers in the first year to field two teams, one of which reached the county league final. In 1981 St. Laurence's won the junior championship and league. The team that brought these honours home was: Dolores Corcoran, Bridget Corcoran, Della Killeen, Rose Killeen, Martina Dempsey, Lil Byrne, Margaret Blanchfield, Patricia Keatley, Deirdre Keatley, Helen Fitzharris, Lily Lynham, Anna Lynham, Lucy King, Ann May Miley and Michelle Deegan.

In 1989 St. Laurence's won its first intermediate title when they defeated Carbury 1-8 to 2-3.

St. Laurence's U14s – Féile Representatives, Belfast 2002



Back (l to r): Laura Dunne, Caoimhe O'Halloran, Pamela Lavins, Laura Clifford, Rhona Mulhall, Lydia Byrne, Laura Whelan, Emma Dunne, Colma Reynolds, Serena Kelly, Louise Keatley.

Front (l to r): Margaret O'Neill, Helen Mooney, Orla Lawlor, Lorraine Bowes (captain), Deirdre Burke, Ann Marie Kearney, Sarah Delahunt, Aisling Russell, Emma Doyle.

First ever Senior Championship Winners by St. Laurence's 1992



Back (l to r): Ruth Treacy, Deirdre O'Connor, Róisín Walsh, Martina Miley, Noelle O'Connor, Rochelle Blanchfield, Margaret Blanchfield, Aisling Treacy, Gillian O'Brien, Naomi Treacy.
Front (l to r): Elaine Miley, Lilian Blanchfield, Liz O'Donoghue, Lucy O'Neill (captain), Sharon Browne, Deirdre Keatley, Ciara Tallon.

St. Laurence's 2004 – 11-in-a-row Senior Championship Winners



The St. Laurence's team who won a historic 11 in a row county senior championships by beating Celbridge. Four of the team played in all 11 finals: Aisling and Ruth Treacy, Róisín Walsh and Elaine Miley.

Photo: Adrian Melia

The early 1990s was the start of the club's golden years which continue to the present day. 1992 Broadford were aiming for their 11th county senior title, only to be beaten by a young Larry's team. Liz O'Donoghue was outstanding at full back; 14 year old twins Ruth and Naomi Treacy alongside their sister Aisling played a major role in the team's victory. Eight of the Larry's team were aged under 18. This was the club's first senior title, having made a clean sweep of under age titles in 1991. Scorers for the Larry's were: Aisling Treacy 1-1; Martina Miley 1-0; Sharon Browne 0-2. Lucy O'Neill was team captain and goalkeeper. The senior team has now won 12 championship, of which 11 were in a row 1994-2004.

As Kildare champions, St. Laurence's won their first ever Leinster junior club title when they defeated Laois champions Camross on home ground on 4th August 1996. This was a closely contested game with St. Laurence's outscoring their opponents 1-10 to 1-8. The team was Lucy O'Neill, Roisin Walsh, Kate Treacy, Melanie Treacy, Naomi Treacy, Patricia Doyle, Aisling Treacy, Ruth Treacy, Elaine Miley,

Michelle Aspell, Sharon Browne and Margaret Butterfield. Subs: Deirdre McDonald, Ciara Tallon, Suzanne Keatley, Pamela Donovan and Patricia Aspell. The team trainer was Bernard Higgins, Ballitore.

The club has also enjoyed considerable success at underage level. It has won under 13, 14, 15, 16, 18 and 21 county titles. Carol Nolan captained Kildare to the under 16 B Leinster title in 2003.

Camogie was introduced to Crookstown National School in the early 1990s and the school has been a nursery for the club. The school has won several titles, including the famous three in a row mini-sevens titles in 1999, 2000 and 2001. As a result of the competition, Crookstown National School has provided several players for the mini games that take place at half time Leinster and All Ireland hurling final days. Lousie Keatley, Sharon Doyle, Helen Mooney, Lydia Byrne and Laura Mooney have all played before a full house at Croke Park while still under 14.

Camogie was introduced to Scoil Mhichíl Naofa, Athy by St. Laurence's club member Lily Bowden.

St. Laurence's Under-18 County Champions 1994



Back (l to r): Laura Guidera, Mary Stapleton, Paula Stapleton, Ruth Treacy, Ciara Tallon, Naomi Treacy, Noelle O'Connor, Deirdre O'Connor, Louise Thorne, Emma Grufferk, Deirdre Keatley.
Front (l to r): Carol Doyle, Suzanne Keatley, Emma Jane Lawlor, Lilian Blanchfield (captain), Ann Stapleton, Claire Stapleton, Debbie Hickey, Louise Browne, Lorraine O'Brien.

As a result of her dedication and commitment to the school, the club now has a number of Athy players.

St. Laurence's has always been well represented at county level and a large number of players have Leinster medals: Melanie Treacy (3), Patricia Keatley (3), Aisling Treacy (2), Liz O'Donoghue (2), Sharon Browne (1), Reiltin Treacy (1). All also hold All Ireland Junior Camogie Championship medals.

In 2004 Ciara Tallon captained Kildare to the Junior National League title in Nowlan Park, Kilkenny against Laois. Ciara was joined by Larry's club players Dolores Brown (goalkeeper), Melanie Treacy, Réiltín Treacy, Liz O'Donoghue-Byrne (sub-goalkeeper) and Larry's native Naomi Treacy. Ciara Tallon was also appointed Kildare Camogie Ambassador in the Centenary Year 2004.

St. Laurence's now field teams at all levels and the club is recognised as one of the top in the county. Barry Kelly has been the club's main sponsor over the past decade. Other fundraising has included auctions of promise, fancy dress, walks, raffles etc. The club is lucky to have the use of the GAA's excellent facilities at Old Grange, for without them, camogie locally would struggle to survive.

2004 Committee: Chairperson Deirdre McDonald; Vice-Chair Patricia Doyle; Secretary Aisling Treacy; Asst. Secretary Debherail Owens; Assistant Treasurer Ruth Treacy; PRO Dermot Breen.

Thanks to all those who made this brief history of St. Laurence's camogie possible. To Nina Darcy (RIP) who sadly died since the interviews for the history took place, Peg Deay and Theresa Doran surviving members of the first team for the memories.

St. Margaret's

Founded 1934.

1934 Officers: Chairperson, Rev. Fr. McDonald, Secretary, Ms. J. Beehan

1935 Officers: President, John Healy, Secretary, M. Beehan, Treasurer, P. O'Connor. Captain, M. Quinn, Vice Captain, M. Quinn.

St. Patrick's College, Magnooth

The college made a little bit of history when it became the first college team to register with Kildare County Camogie Board. It won the senior league in 1979. The team did not compete in the championship due to student holidays. The club no longer competes within Kildare county.

St. Philomena's, Ellistown

(see Ellistown)

1934 Officers: President : Mrs Murphy, Secretary/ Treasurer Ms. Maureen Heffernan, Captain Margaret McCormack, Vice Captain Mrs. M. Beehan.

Committee: Patrick McCormack, Richard Purcell, Joseph Cullen, John Tully.

1935 Officers: President: Mrs Behan; Vice President M. Cullen; Secretary M. Beehan; Captain/ Treasurer K. Colgan; Vice Captain N. Davey and E. Archibold.

No further details available at time of going to print. (See photos opposite page).

Straffan

Founded 1984. Club colours: tangerine and black.

Some time in the 1950s camogie was played in Straffan. The County Secretary's annual report for 1955 notes the *loss of Straffan* as being keenly felt. She notes two main reasons for the club falling through – *one good, that is marriage and one to be deplored, emigration.*

In 1984 Anne Hughes (nee Kearney) and Fiona Farrell reformed the club. The club colours of tangerine and black were chosen as the blue and white colours of Straffan footballers were already the colours of camogie neighbours Celbridge. Over the years Straffan Camogie Club has had members from Celbridge, Clane, Rathcoffey, Sallins, Prosperous, Allenwood, as well as Straffan itself.

Initially the team struggled in the junior league but improved all the time. Eventually Straffan

ELLISTOWN – Junior championship winners 1936



Back (l to r): Cathy Bagnall, Mary Jane Cullen, Bridie Gray, Gertie Archbold, Annie D'Arcy, Josie Cullen, Lizzie Duffy, Sadie Behan.

Front (l to r): May Behan, Eileen Archbold, Katie Colgan, Wooly Behan, Polly D'Arcy. Sitting: Nan Kenny.

1936 County Championship medal won by Ellistown



STRAFFAN – 1994 junior league and championship winners



Back (l to r): Maura Reidy, Karon Kane, Jean Kane, Carmel Walsh, Maryann Farrell, Mary Smyth, Martina Farrell, Sinéad McInerney, Trudy Stafford, Matty Poynton.

Front (l to r): Una Healy, Tessy Byrne, Yvonne Farrell, Fiona Farrell (captain), Monica Cross, Patricia Jack???, Liz Kane.

achieved the following titles:

- 1993 Kildare junior league champions;
- 1994 Kildare junior league and junior championship winners.

Three players of the 1994 panel, Liz Kane, Patricia O'Brien and Yvonne Farrell, also played at county level. Bernie Shinnors (teacher) and Una Healy (club player) started camogie at school level in 1990.

Una was also Kildare County Board Secretary from 1992-1993. Straffan school has had a fruitful history bringing home many titles and helped develop camogie at underage level for the club.

Having entered Cumann na mBunscol competition the school reached its first camogie final in 1993. In 1995 the first under 11 title and the first senior title was won. In 1996 the two in a row for the senior was completed. 2002 saw the under 11 achieved its second title and the seniors were again to the fore with a Division 3 title. Amazingly this was followed by the Division 2 crown in 2003.

Since it commenced in 2000, underage camogie in Straffan as gone from strength to strength. While no silverware has come there are motivated and enthusiastic players. This year teams are playing at under 11, under 13 and under 14 level and in Féile 2004.

Current team mentors are Carmel Walsh and Fiona Farrell, both involved in camogie in Straffan for the last number of years.

Stratford-on-Slaney (Co. Wicklow)

Founded 1933. Club colours: royal blue and cream.

Come under the banner of Camóguidheacht which was first set flying by Mr. Martin Gleeson of Stratford. Now he can proudly state he organised in West Wicklow one of the best camogie teams in Leinster. So wrote a camogie follower in the Wicklow People in February 1937. He also lauded Frank O'Neill, Tom Wade and Bridie O'Neill who were among the first organisers of the great teams that brought a lot of honour to the Slaney village in the hungry 1930s.

The great Stratford teams however had to display their wares in Kildare rather than Wicklow for a long period. As the man said in Knockananna – they made those bloody mountains so high! The mode of transport in those days was not suitable for long journeys across the hills. Stratford came into existence in 1933 and Fr. A.G. Byrne of Baltinglass presented the club with its first camogie ball. They affiliated to Kildare and travelled to places like Ballitore, Kilmeade and Kill in Co. Kildare. Jimmy Cullen of Whitestown provided the transport. He had a canvas-covered lorry with seats, which was counted a luxury in those days.

Stratford had plenty of players including the Parke sisters, Fay sisters, Byrne sisters, B. O'Neill, I. Wade, M. Brady, B. Keogh, D. Philips, M. Doyle, Essie Bollard, R. Doyle, D. Dwyer, C. Dwyer, N. Fleming and E. Farrell.

After a number of years competing against teams that included Wicklow sides Hollywood and Donard, Dublin side St. Dymphna's, the Slaneysiders hit the top rung of the ladder in 1938 when they won the Kildare senior championship by beating Carbury in the final at Kill. In 1938 five Stratford players, Bridie O'Neill, Baby Parke, Essie Bollard, Anna and Kathleen Deering got their place on the Kildare team that was pipped by Dublin in the Leinster final at Kill.

The Stratford story ended shortly afterwards. Girls got married, moved off to jobs or entered the convent. Stratford were due to play Carbury on a Sunday; Carbury obligingly said they would come a play the match mid-week to give the girls a send-



Stratford-on-Slaney girls in Kilmeade in the early 1930s.

off prior to two Stratford players, Maggie and Baby Parke, leaving for the convent on the following Sunday.

The glorious era passed but the happy days are still recalled in West Wicklow from Whitestown to Tuckmill Cross and from Ballyhook to Eadestown.

Suncroft

(known as St. Bridget's)

Founded 1943. Club colours: saffron and white.

The Suncroft Bridget's camogie team had their inaugural meeting in Brownstown Gaelic League Hall. The original club officers were:

President Rev. J. O'Gorman, Brownstown; Vice-President James Delaney, Brownstown; Chairperson Mr. V. Purcell, Brownstown; Vice-Chair D. Doyle, Brownstown; Secretary, Mrs. J. McDonald, Curragh Camp; Asst. Secretary, Kathleen McDonagh, Suncroft and Treasurer Mick Delaney, Bravistown. The Committee were Misses W. Evans, M. Dowling, J. Stapleton, K. Parkinson, Betty Kelly and N. O'Connor.

The team trainer was Dick Cahill and assistant trainer Hugh Coogan. The team got their camogie sticks through the welfare and some from the Army.

The team trained in Johnny Reidy's field in Brownstown and in later years trained in McGlynn's field, Brownstown. The ladies on the team mostly cycled to matches or went in the back of a lorry. St. Bridget's Suncroft were runners up in the 1943 county league (see photo for team members).

Three Suncroft players were on county teams in the 1940s. These were Dina Parkinson (centrefield), Rose Hunter (goalkeeper) and Silvia Barrett.

Ticknevin

Participated in Kildare League 1955. Club colours: emerald green and gold.

No further history available at time of going to print.

Two Mile House

(known also as Geraldines)

Founded 1969.

Geraldines won the senior championship final in 1967, beating Caragh 5-0 to 4-2. At the September 1967 County Board meeting, the referee's report (Mrs. O'Duffy, Dublin) commented on the high standard of play saying *it was good as any All Ireland Final. A very high standard of camogie emerged from this game and good sportsmanship prevailed all through.* At the same meeting Caragh passed on their congratulations saying *it was time Caragh were beaten and after Geraldines' great try last year they deserved to win. They were the better team on the night it mattered and they had Caragh's best wishes.*

Geraldines also played under the name Two Mile House. After a lapse of some years, Two Mile House revived in 1991 with an under 13 team but lapsed again.

No further history available at time of going to print.

SUNCROFT – 1943 league runners up



Back row: Rose Howard, Kathleen Parkinson, Vi Black, Teenie Parkinson, Mrs. Purcell, Dina Parkinson, Bridie McCarthy, Lila Doyle, Marcella Howard.

Front row: Kathleen O'Toole, Silivo Barrett, Nancy Dowling, Rose Hunter, Maureen Cahill, Kathleen McDonagh, Aggie Ging, Josie Ging. In front Hugh Coogan and Matt Howard. Missing from photo Betty Kelly (now Hartnett)

Kildare Champions Roll of Honour

Efforts have been undertaken to ensure that the records below are as complete as possible. Omissions or inaccuracies, if they arise, may be due to incomplete record keeping, unavailability of records or constraints to full verification of the details below.

Senior Championship

1933 Castledermot
 1934 Castledermot
 1935-37 Carbury
 1938 Stratford-on-Slaney
 1940-41 Carbury
 1942 Naas
 1953 Clane
 1954 Prosperous
 1956 Unfinished, dispute
 1957 Kill
 1958 Caragh
 1959-60 Naas
 1961-1964 Ballyroe
 1965 Caragh
 1966 Caragh
 1967 Geraldines
 1968 Ardclough
 1969-71 Broadford
 1972 Prosperous
 1973 Broadford
 1974-77 Prosperous
 1978 Cappagh
 1979 Broadford
 1980-81 Prosperous
 1982-91 Broadford
 1992 St. Laurence's
 1993 Broadford
 1994-2004 St. Laurence's

Intermediate Championship

1987 Johnstown Bridge
 1988 Ardclough
 1989 St. Laurence's
 1992 Leixlip
 1993 Sarsfields
 1994 Moorefield
 1998 Moorefield

Junior Championship

1933 Carbury
 1934 Carbury
 1938 Kilmeade
 1939 Prosperous
 1940 Athy
 1942 Kilmeade
 1962 Straffan/Celbridge
 (combined)
 1966 Kildare
 1967 Broadford
 1968-69 Rathcoffey
 1970 Johnstown Bridge
 1971 St. Conleth's, Kildare
 1972 Nurney
 1973 St. Mary's
 1974 Rathangan
 1975 Cappagh
 1976 Rathangan
 1977 Clane
 1978 Cappagh
 1979 Kilcock
 1980 Clane
 1981 St. Laurence's
 1982 St. Conleth's Kildare
 1983 Ardclough
 1984 Johnstownbridge
 1985 Celbridge
 1986 Athy
 1987 Cappagh
 1988 Carbury
 1990 Leixlip
 1991 Sarsfields
 1992 Rathcoffey
 1993 Moorefield
 1994 Straffan
 1995 Cappagh
 1996 Rathcoffey
 1997 Cappagh
 1998 Leixlip
 1999 Maynooth

2000 Ardclough
 2001 Celbridge
 2002 Moorefield
 2003 Johnstownbridge

Senior League

1937 Carbury
 1938 Stratford-on-Slayney
 1939 Carbury
 1942 Naas
 1953 Clane
 1955 Naas
 1956 Unfinished, dispute
 1957 Naas
 1960-61 Ballyroe
 1962 Clane
 1963 Ballyroe
 1964-67 Caragh
 1968-73 Broadford
 1974-77 Prosperous
 1979 St. Patrick's College,
 Maynooth
 1980 Broadford
 1981 Prosperous
 1982-83 Broadford
 1984-86 Prosperous
 1987-88 Broadford
 1992-93 Broadford
 1996-97 St. Laurence's
 1997 'B' Cappagh
 1998 league null and void
 1998-99 'B' Moorefield
 1999-2003 St. Laurence's
 2002 'B' Cappagh
 2003 'B' Celbridge

Intermediate League

1980 Kilcock
 1987 Johnstown Bridge
 1988 Ardclough
 1993 Moorefield

Junior League

1967 Broadford
1968 Rathcoffey
1969 Rathcoffey
1970 Johnstown Bridge
1971 Nurney
1972 Nurney
1974 Athy
1976 Clane
1978 Celbridge
1979 Kilcock
1980 Clane
1981 St. Laurence's
1982 St. Conleth's Kildare
1984 Johnstownbridge
1985 Celbridge
1986 Broadford
1990 Leixlip
1991 Moorefield
1992 Allenwood
1993-94 Straffan
1995 Rathcoffey
1996 Confey
1998 Sarsfields
1999 Maynooth
2000-01 Celbridge
2002 Moorefield
2003 Johnstown Bridge
2004 St. Laurence's

Under-21 Champions¹

1982 Cappagh
1983 Cappagh
1984 St. Laurence's
1985-89 Broadford
1991-92 St. Laurence's
1993 Moorefield
1997 Sarsfields
1998-2001 Cappagh
2002-03 Celbridge

Under 18 Champions

1985 Broadford
1988 Broadford
1990 Carbury
1992 St. Laurence's
1994 Clane
1996 Sarsfields
1997-2000 Cappagh
2001-03 Celbridge

Under 16 Champions

1970 Kilcock
1991 Carbury
1992 Leixlip
1993 St. Laurence's
1994 Clane
1997 Sarsfields
2001 Celbridge
2002 Johnstownbridge
2003 Celbridge
2004 St. Laurence's
2004 'B' Cappagh (competition inaugurated for Camogie Centenary year)

Under 15 Champions

1982-83 Balyna
1986 Leixlip
1988 Leixlip (league)
1988-90 Carbury
1992 St. Laurence's
1993 Carbury
1994-95 Clane
1996-97 Cappagh
1998 Sarsfields
1998 Celbridge (league)
1999 Celbridge
2000-01 not run due to clash with under 16 league
2002-03 'A' Johnstownbridge
2003 'B' Maynooth
2004 'B' Confey

Under 14 Champions

1970 Mercy Convent, Naas
1982 Balyna
1983 Balyna
1984 Ardclough
1985 Broadford

1985-88 Carbury
1991 Kilcullen
1992-93 Carbury
1994 St. Laurence's
1997 Sarsfields
1998 Johnstownbridge
2001 Celbridge (championship)
2001 'B' Rathcoffey (championship)
2001 Celbridge (league)
2002 St. Laurence's (championship)
2002 'B' Johnstownbridge (championship)
2002 Celbridge (league)
2003 'A' Johnstownbridge
2003 'B' Moorefield
2004 'B' Maynooth
2004 'C' Confey

Under 13 Champions

1975 Broadford
1984 Carbury
1985 Carbury
1987 'A' Carbury
1987 'B' Kilcullen
1988 'A' Carbury (Div 1 league)
1990 Leixlip (league)
1992 'A' Carbury
1992 'B' Moorefield
1993-94 Broadford
1995-97 Sarsfields
1998 'North' League, Johnstown Bridge
1998 'South' League, St. Laurence's
1998 Johnstown Bridge
2001 Johnstown Bridge
2002 St. Laurence's

Under 11 Champions

1997 Moorefield (county blitz organised by Leixlip)
2001-02 Johnstownbridge
2003 Naas
2004 'A' Rathcoffey
2004 'B' Maynooth
2004 'C' Moorefield

1. Competitions from U21 level down to U11 have been variously run in league or championship formats. Some years both were run. It has not been always possible to distinguish whether underage winners were league and/or championship winners