

10k Road Race Championship of Ireland & Fun Run

Sunday April 20th 2008 Start: 2 p.m.

Hosted by

ATHENRY Athletic Club

race programme



AAI President's Address

www.athleticsireland.ie

On behalf of the Athletic Association of Ireland I would like to extend a warm welcome to Competitors, Officials and Athletic Supporters to Athenry for the Woodie's DIY 10k Road Race Championships of Ireland.



Road racing is always exciting and today we can look forward to excellent competition with many of our middle and long distance athletes competing for the honour of winning a National Title or being a member of a successful team.

I would like to thank Athenry Athletic Club for hosting these Championships, Presentation College for the use of their facilities, our sponsors Woodie's DIY, also local sponsors The Connemara Marathon, www.RunIreland.com, Supermac's, Athenry Credit Union and Mark Flannery for their support.

May I also take this opportunity to acknowledge the hard work of our officials and in particular the Chairman and members of the Competition Committee and to extend to them my sincere thanks.

Finally, I wish all the athletes every success.

Yours in Sport, Michael Heery, President Cover: Paul McNamara on the home straight in Bilboa 2005 and (inset) with his winnner's medal in Tinryland 2006.



www.athenry.net



runireland.com

connemarathon.com

Athenry AC Chairman's Address

www.athenryac.com



Fáilte go Baile Átha an Rí for the 2008 Woodie's National 10k championships of Ireland.

Athenry AC's senior section was rejuvenated only a few years ago, and it is a matter of great pride that we have been chosen by the AAI to host this event.

Road racing is the bread and butter for many of our senior athletes, and we look forward to this event as one of the first major road races of the year. Our own Paul McNamara has picked up this title on two occasions recently, in Bilboa ('05) and Tinryland ('06), and hopes to make it a hat-trick today.

He will be backed up by a team of over 50 athletes as we field our biggest team to any event ever. We're proud that this team will include athletes of all speeds and ages, as we continue to expand the reach of the club within the local community.

We extend our gratitude to the AAI organising committee, our sponsors and especially the volunteers who make this whole event possible.

I'd like to take this opportunity to wish all athletes from near and far the best of luck, and hope that you enjoy your day here in Athenry.

Regards, Alan Burke

Officials

Meeting Director: Paddy Marley
Local Co-Ordinator: Mick Rice
Referee: Tom Mc Cormack
Starter: Oliver Geraghty
Marksman: Harry Gorman

Results: Michael Quinlan
Bernie Dunne

Check In: Georgina Drum

Presentations: Noreen Keane
Michael Heery
Chief Finish Area: Ronnie Quiglev

Chief Finish Area: Ronnie Quigley
Chief Time Keeper: Jimmy Monaghan
Declan Curtan

Timekeepers: Padraig Keane
Officials: Pay Flynn

Ray Flynn Brendan Mc Daid Brian Dowling Patricia Griffin Antoinette Holland Neil Martin

Mary Burgoyne

Patsy Kelly Photography: John O'Connor

First Aid: Red Cross

Stewards: Athenry Club Members

Going The Distance Measuring the National 10k Course



The National 10k is not being run on the same course as the club's Fields of Athenry 10k race. There is one simple reason for this: we couldn't guarantee that the level-crossing would be free for the duration of the event, especially considering that it comes into play only at 9.5k on the existing course. No such problems are encountered on the day of the Fields race as it is St Stephen's Day and no trains run! This meant that we had to go searching for an alternative route. After much soul-searching, and many suggestions from Athenry AC members, we decided to go with a route that keeps very close to the traditional path but avoids traversing the Galway/Dublin line at any stage: level-crossing or bridge.

Once an outline route had been decided and the finish line set – the start line of the existing Fields race! – we were in a position to call on International-class course measurer, neighbour and good friend of the club, TJ Beatty (Loughrea AC) to do the honours. This he duly did, with the help of fellow-Loughrea AC-clubman, Colm Moorehead in early March.

They were met by Mick Rice, Seamus Gilhooley and myself one cold Sunday afternoon to help with this vitally important job.

We first adjourned to Park (around the 4k marker), to obtain a straight stretch of quiet side road to allow TJ to calibrate his Jones Counter. The required 400 metres was measured out in 50 metres stretches using a special steel tape. Once the 8 times 50 metres were marked out, a few centimetres were added on, as per specific instructions regarding the

current air temperature at the time and how this affected the metal tape. TJ then got on his bike and cycled up and down the measured distance twice for calculation purposes. He got an average reading for the 400 metres from the Jones Counter, which looks very like the little instrument which was very popular in the 1980s in Ireland to measure miles travelled on a push bike.

course from the finish line back, the bike is always going against other traffic, especially when seeking the shortest path, which is usually always the line road runners will take during a race. This assumes that the course route is anti-clockwise. TJ would be cycling into traffic, something that only a brave man does in today's Celtic Tiger Ireland when the 4x4 is king of the



The calculator was then taken out and the numbers crunched to allow TJ to come up with the necessary coefficients, which would then be used to arrive at the exact k markers along our proposed course and thereafter the 10k distance, from finish to start lines.

Usually TJ will measure a course from the start to the finish but we imposed on him to do this measurement assignment backwards as we had a very particular finish line in mind. He agreed, but not without reservations, and I very soon fully understood exactly why. When measuring a

road and very little else matters. We tagged along to protect TJ in our cars but could only offer token resistance, as we had to stay on our side of the road, for most of the route.

After some initial scares, we quickly got into our stride and ticked over the k's quickly enough. TJ was on the bike, monitoring his Jones Counter, while Colm was on the clipboard, taking notes at the k markers, which would later form the course measurement notes that make up part of the certification process. Mick and I were their protection, Mick at the front with Seamus; Colm and myself, taking

up duties at the back of this strange little procession. I also took digital images of the k markers, which were also marked in paint and whose features were noted in Colm's notebook

Almost three hours after we started, we arrived back over the proposed finish line and further up the road another 400+ metres to arrive at the measured start line. Our holy grail that afternoon!

This was the third time that TJ had measured a route around this part of Athenry, all for 10k distances. The first route started and finished out near St. Mary's GAA Club grounds in Carnaun (around the 6k marker), while the other occasion was for the measuring of the course which finishes under the one remaining medieval arch in the town of Athenry itself – both these measurements were for the Fields race over the last 6 years.

The measurement that TJ most recently undertook will be unlikely to be used again, unless larnród Éireann decides to run trains on the traditional day of our Fields race in the future.

Two weeks afterwards, we received TJ's official course measurement certificate along with five pages of notes to back up the work.

We in Athenry AC are very grateful for the work that TJ and Colm performed that Sunday. The results of their labours will hopefully be benign and will result in you posting the time for the distance that you hope for today.

As TJ is known to say: the distance is guaranteed to be at least 10k, nothing more nothing less. Finally, we hope that you enjoy your day and that we might see you back for our club race on the day after Christmas.



Athletic Association of Ineland

Road Course Measurement Centificate Name of Race NATIONAL 10K Certificate No. 1/08 Distance of Race 10 KILOMETRES Date of Race 20/4/08 Type of Course Loop Point to Point Multi Lap Local Course Measurer T. J. Beatty, Address Cross Street, Loughrea, Co. Galway Jones Counter Method of Measuring. Race Director______ Phone_____ Address This is to certify that the course described above has been measured and approved for certification. The measured distance of the race is not less than

the stated distance.

The course measurement complies with IAAF rules for Road Course Measurement

AIMS/IAAF Measurer (b)

Date 16/3/08

10k Road Race Championship Entrants

CLUB TEAMS - Senior Men

Athenry A.C. 'A'

482 Maguire, Niall

483 Noone, Frank

Mc Laughlin, Cathal 484

485 Lowney, Peter Strange, Peter 486

487 Feeney, Cathal

Athenry A.C. 'B'

Clarke, Maurice 476

477 Corbett, James

478 Duane, Michael

479 Mc Cann, Donal

480 Griffin, Conor

481 Burke, Alan

Athenry A.C. 'C'

Bruton, Brian 472

Mc Namara, Paul 473 Gilhooley, Seamus

O'Connor, Brian 474

475 Staunton, Robert

City of Derry

229 Roberts, Greg

230 Mc Ginty, Emmet 231 Colhoun, Eamon

Donore Harriers A.C.

Crean, Danny 401 Keogh, Gavin

402 Mc Greal, Padraig

Brady, George 403

Galway City Harriers A.C.

333 Geraghty, Rudhairi

334 Egan, Walter 335

Keane, Gerard

336 Greaney, Dave

Letterkenny A.C.

234 Crossan, Gary V1

235 Doherty, Ciaran

Thursby-Pelham, Brian V1 236

237 Faulkner, Neil V2

Ferry, Kevin V1 238

Toner, Ivan

240 Mc Fadden, Sean

Letterkenny A.C. 'B'

270 Sweeney, Eddie

271 O'Sullivan, Ciaran

272 Campbell, Gregory

Limerick A.C.

224 O'Donnell, Ruairi 225 Carev. Tom

226 Ryan, Keith V2

227 Doody, Martin

228 Turner, Colm

337 Devaney, Anthony

Byrne, John 338

Glavev. Timmie 339

Golvin, Gerry

341 Mc Nulty, Joe

Sligo A.C.

414 Connor, Rory

Kilgannon, Brian 433

434 Mc Master, Ultan

435 Higgins, Gary

436 Clilber, Bruno

Sportsworld A.C.

416 Kilgannon, Phil

417 O'Connell, Paul

418 Merrick, Ronan

Mc Entee, Ed 420

Enright, Packie

421 Cunningham, Michael

422 Duffy, Paul

Greensmith, Will 423

Tullamore Harriers A.C.

Lambe, Barry 327

328 Murphy, Mike

O'Reilly, Jodie 329

330 Wrafter, Joe

331 Curley, Adrian

332 O'Connell, John

Tinryland A.C.

217 Byrne, Pat V1 218 Farrell, Dwyane

219 O'Neill, Eddie

220 Payne, Thomas V4

221 Walsh, Eddie V4

Murphy, JJ V5

CLUB TEAMS - Senior Women

Athenry A.C.

447

Feeney, Assumpta 448

Glynn, Emer Mc Namara, Aileen

450 Walsh, Elaine

Tullamore Harriers A.C. Curley, Pauline

Keane, Maire-Triona 349

350 Lambe, Pauline

351 Vance, Katie

352 Leonard, Sharon

355 Sheridan, Marian

Ennis Track A.C.

Carey, Marie

248 O'Brien, Patricia 240 Lennon, Siobhan V1

Troy, Deirdre

251 Daly, Deirdre

Galway City Harriers A.C.

342 Casev. Regina

Ni Mhuircheartaigh, Orla 343

344 Deacy, Nicola

345 Dalv. Eve

De Paor, Aideen

347 Lynch, Marguerite

Mavo A.C.

353 Conway, Catherine

354 Gleason, Marv

Byrne, Yoyann

Sportsworld A.C. 424 Finn, Mary

425 Martin, Eimear

Brady, Aoife

CLUB TEAMS - Master Men

Athenry A.C. 'A'(V)

Delmer, Peter V2 451

452 O'Connor, John V1

453 Curran, Owen V1

454 Dunne, David V1

Mc Shane, Darragh V1 455 456 Rice, Mick V2

Athenry A.C. 'B'(V)

457 Rooney, Michael V1

458 Burke, Frank V1

459 Doherty, Gary V1

Forde, Patrick V1

461 Lundon, James V1

Athenry A.C. 'C'(V)

Mycroft, Liam Bernard V4

Breen, Mark V2 462

463 Egan, Edward V1

Daley, Tony V2 464

Reilly, Bob V2

Athenry A.C. 'D'(V)

Magnier, Philip V5 466

Glynn, Michael V6 467

Nugent, Peadar V6 468 460 Keane, Martin V6

470 Mc Guinness, Aonghus V1

Donore Harriers A.C. (V)

Moore, Colin V1 381

382 Mc Sweeney, Tom V2 Mc Donald, Gerry V1 383

City of Derry (V)

258 Mc Aneanev. Sammy V4

Mc Carthy, Declan V3 259

Mc Cafferty, Paul V2

Galway City Harriers A.C. 'A'(V)

357 Moloney, Conor V1

Egan, Ian V2

Carr, Danny V3 359

360 Mc Evilly, Martin V5

Quinn, Gearóid V3 361 362 O'Brien, John V2

Galway City Harriers A.C. 'B'(V)

282 Geraghty, Brian V7

363 Porter, Tomas V4

364 Devlin, John V2

365 O'Dwyer, Pat V2 366 Deacy, Don V5

367 O'Neill, Joseph V1

Letterkenny A.C. 'A'(V) 261 Gormlev, Martin V2

262

Callaghan, Adrian V1 263 O'Donnell, Ciaran V1

264 Daly, John V1

Mc Collum, Neil V1 265

Gallagher, Hugh V4 266 Rvan, Danny V1

Letterkenny A.C. 'B'(V)

268 Mc Ginley, Charlie Joe V1 269 Lynch, Noel V1

Mayo A.C. (V)

379

406

376 Hunt, Tom V6

377 O'Malley, Christy V2

Murray, Paddy V2

Hvnes, Peter V2

378 O'Connell, C V4

Sli Cualann A.C. (V)

Conroy, Cormac V1 404

405 Clifford, Sean V6 Rice, Paul V1

407 Byrne, Mick V3

CLUB TEAMS - Master Women

Athenry A.C. 'A'(V)

437 Carter Ann V2

438 Hehir, Maria V1

439 Murray, Pauline V1

440 Noone, Maeve V1 Breen, Grainne V2

Athenry A.C. 'B'(V)

441

Mc Grath, Breege V2

443 Moran, Brid V2

444 Wall, Miriam V2

Walsh, Bridget Anne V3 446 Flynn, Debbie V1

Mayo A.C. (V)

O'Connor, Angela V2 384

Mc Manamon, Noreen V2

385

Murray, Anne V2 Ruddy, Deirdre V2

Sligo A.C. (V)

409 Feeney, Olivia V

Mc Carthy, Cindy V 410

411 Connor, Jill V 412 Sherlock, Martina V

Ennis Track A.C. (V)

O'Flaherty, Antoinette V

O'Loughlin, Marion V3

Hanrahan, Ita V2 292 293 O'Connor, Hilda V2

Power, Aisling V2

Galway City Harriers A.C. (V)

Sheridan, Margaret V2 389 390 Walsh, Ann Marie V1

Walsh, Adrienne V4 391

392 Brannigan, Carmel V3

393 Kelly, Hanna V3

Kelly, Bernie V4

Sligo A.C. (V)

409 Feeney, Olivia 410 Mc Carthy, Cindy

411 Connor, Jill

Martina, Sherlock

413 O'Flaherty, Antoinette

Sportsworld A.C. (V)

427 Darcy, Lucy V1 428 White, Helen V2

O'Callaghan, Kathleen V1 429 Morgan, Rachel

Tír Chonaill A.C. (V)

288

287 Rooney, Marie V3

Gallagher, Philomena V1

Ward, Linda V2 Mc Gowan, Sharon V2

Tullamore Harriers A.C. (V)

396 Lambe, Deirdre V2

397 Mullen, Una V2

395 Dalv. Mary V2

Cuskelly, Liz V1 398



Chasing down Gary Thornton - Fields of Athenry '07



Derrydonnell AC after their famous win in Athenry in the NACA Cross Country 50 years ago

INDIVIDUAL COMPETITORS

Byrne, PJ (T'land A.C.)
O'Shea, Alan (Bantry A.C.)
Hamilton, Patrick (A'dale St'rs A.C.)
Healy, Gearoid (Tuam A.C.)

Heary, Geardin (Tdain A.C.)
Mc Grath, Sean East Cork A.C.)
O'Brien, Darragh (L'rea A.C.)
Murphy, Cian (Iveragh A.C.)

Beirne, Barry (L'rea A.C.)
O'Callaghan, Donal (Riocht A.C.)
Doherty, Siobhain (B'kane A.C.)

Fahy, Tracey (Athenry A.C.)
Corbett, Laura (L'kenny A.C.)
O'Brien, Eimear (L'kenny A.C.)

256 Ganiel, Gladys (Abbey A.C.)
257 Waldron, Rosalie (GCH A.C.)
273 Brennan, Ben V4 (St. Abbans A.C.)

274 Curran, Kenny V1 (Ballynonty A.C.)
 275 Langan, Jim V7 (T'more H'iers A.C.)

276 Murphy, Peter V6 (Tinryland A.C.) 277 Talbot, Andy V5 (CRH A.C.)

278 Mc Mullin, Sean V6 (Mullingar H'iers A.C.) 279 O'Shea, Patrick V5 (Iveragh A.C.) 280 O'Shea, Michael V3 (Iveragh A.C.)

280 O'Shea, Michael V3 (Iveragh A.C.) 283 Cronin, Mary V6 (Limerick A.C.) 284 Murphy, Humphrey V2 (Riocht A.C.) 285 Shanahan, Tom V3 (Riocht A.C.)

286 Burke, Colm V2 (St. Abbans A.C.) 295 Kelly, Maire V4 (Galway Meet & Train) 296 Ryan, Bernie V3 (Foyle Valley)

297 Guest, Karen V1 (Craughwell A.C.) 298 Burke, Anne V3 (Ballinasloe & District)

311 Blake, Cian (Individual) 312 Conlon, Orla (Individual) 313 Conlon, Jacinta (Individual)

314 Moriarty, Ronan (Individual) 315 Keir, Derek

316 Collins, Catriona

317 Campbell, Richard

318 O'Donnell, Sinead 319 Ryan, Sean 320 Joyce, Colin 321 Mc Mahon, Michael

322 Hassett, Deirdre 323 Colleran, Alan 324 Mahon, Niamh 325 Foley, Patricia V1

326 Fahy, John 368 Kavanagh, Gerry V2 (T'more H'iers A.C.) 375 O'Grady, Andy V4 (T'more H'iers A.C.) 388 Crossan, Helena V2 (Inishowen A.C.)

388 Crossan, Helena V2 (Inishowen A.C.) 399 Hackett, Julia V1 (Donore H'iers A.C.) 408 Kennedy, Eamonn

415 Canning, John V1 (N'bridge A.C.) 431 Doherty, Elizabeth

431 Donerty, Elizabet 432 Burke, Annette

Previous Winners

Date	Location	Men's Winner	Club	lime	Woman's Winner	Club	lime	Finishers
09/4/00	Dundalk	Gerry Ryan	GCH	29:58	Ursula McGloin	Finn Valley AC	35:21	169
22/4/01	Ballybofey	Gerry Ryan	GCH	30:19	Anne Lennon	Mayo AC	35:39	104
14/4/02	Navan	Gerry Ryan	GCH	30:29	Noleen Porter	Finn Valley AC	36:36	159
13/4/03	Stranorlar	Gerry Ryan	GCH	30:27	Maria McCambridge	DSD AC	33:55	115
18/4/04	Sligo	Patrick Byrne	Tinryland AC	30:46	Sandra Gowran	Sportsworld AC	35:47	170
24/4/05	Bilboa	Paul McNamara	Athenry AC	30:56	Rosemary Ryan	Bilboa AC	34:21	255
23/4/06	Tinryland	Paul McNamara	Athenry AC	30:08	Pauline Curley	Tullamore Harriers	34:16	188
22/4/07	Navan	Alan O'Shea	Bantry AC	30:54	Orla O'Mahony	Raheny Shamrocks	34:53	262



1975 Irish National Marathon

Some Personal Memories

Andrew Talbot (Clare River Harriers and formerly Pearse AC)



t was mighty hot in Galway that day in May 1975, 75 degrees Fahrenheit. Forty seven runners faced the starter.

The race began in Woodquay and headed out the Curragh Line to within two miles of Headford, a straight out-and-back course. The course was relatively flat and conducive to fast times. The weather, however, had a large part to play in the race and its outcome.

Favourite going into the race was local man Mick Molloy from Oughterard, who would always be depended upon to put in a strong challenge. Dick Hodgins from Cork had shown recent good form and was well fancied, as was Jim McNamara of Donore Harriers and Danny McDaid from Donegal. An outsider on the day, but strongly fancied locally, was Joe Scanlon of GCH – eventually 13 times Galway senior cross country champion and 9 times winner of the local Pearse Athletic Club's 'Round the Houses' road race in Galway City.

The race set off at a pretty brisk pace, going through 5k at Ballindooley Castle in 16:17. All the main contenders were still well in contention. 10k was

reached in 32:41 with 12 athletes running strongly - Hodgins, McDaid, McNamara, Molloy, Paddy Coyle and Matt Murphy all in the pack. A few seconds further back, Joe Scanlon and Gerry Staunton were giving chase and trying not to let the gap get too big.

On to 20k and McNamara had opened up a 30 second lead but had now been joined by Scanlon. The pack was down to 6. At the 30k mark, McNamara was still holding his lead with the chasers down to three, Scanlon, Hodgins and Coyle. Molloy was going through a bad patch and was over a minute adrift, but working hard to hold onto Murphy a few seconds ahead.

With the hot day now beginning to take its toll, the lead changed dramatically over the next 5k.

McNamara was now paying a big price for his earlier brave bid to get clear and was now passed by Hodgins and also joined by Scanlon who was making a brave bid to give chase.

Coyle was the only other athlete in contention at this time.

The rest of the field were now becoming also-rans and the drop-out rate was increasing with every mile.

Just before the 40k mark. Scanlon had

reeled in Hodgins and both were having a great battle back in the Curragh Line with no guarter been asked or given on either side. Hodgins looked the stronger at this point. Scanlon cracked and after a short distance threw in the towel. Meanwhile, further back Molloy got a new lease of life and began to claw back ground on the leader but as Woodguay and the finish line came into view Hodgins maintained his pace and took the title with Mollov just 43 seconds adrift at the finish. Molloy fell to the ground and needed a few minutes to get his strength back.

Over a minute later, McNamara crossed the line having made steady progress in the last few kilometres. Coyle finished fourth with Murphy one minute further back.

In all 30 of the starters got to the finish line with only the first five home breaking two and a half hours. Back at the Rowing Club after the race Murt Hynes was carrying out various tests on some of the finishers, checking their weight, salt loss etc.

Thereafter tea and sandwiches were the order of the day for those capable. The hot weather took a toll on the race with 35% of the starters failing to finish, this writer included. The event was well organized and traffic was light.

There were the standard water stations on the course, which were badly needed given the day that was in it. P.S. As my first venture into marathon running, it was a big learning curve,

the primary lesson of which is to drink water and plenty of it. I got to 34k before wilting and must thank Iggy O'Muirchearthaigh and Brendan Foreman for the lift to the finish from there. Along the way, I recall many athletes in various stages of exhaustion and cramp but still they plugged away and fair play to all who got to the finish line and to those who

didn't: there was always the next one to look forward to. It would be another three years before I tried my luck at the marathon distance again – the 1979 Galway Marathon Championships held in Corofin!

Marathon Magazine

BORD LUTHCHLEAS NA hEIREANN

OMEGA NATIONAL MARATHON 1975

Official Times

D. Hodg M. Molld J. McNa P. Coyle M. Murp J. Murp V. Rega D. McD W. Dun M. Cole R. Duff C. Trea	by 16:17 16:17 16:17 by 16:17 by 16:17 in 16:3 in 16:3 in 17:3 in 17:3 in 17:3	7 32:41 7 32:41 7 32:41 7 32:41 7 32:41 7 32:41 7 32:41 7 32:41 66 33:18 7 32:41 61 35:26 13 35:26 17 36:20	49:34 1:0 49:34 1:0 49:02 1:0 49:03 1:0 49:34 1:0 50:00 1:0 51:53 1:0 52:53 1:0 55:13 1:0 55:16 1:0	14:58 1:0 14:58 1:0 14:58 1:0 14:58 1:0 14:58 1:0 14:58 1:0 14:58 1:0 15:58 1:0 16:19 1:0 11:20 1:0 11:20 1:0 12:27 1:0 12:27 1:0 12:58 1:0	08:36 1 08:10 1 08:34 1 08:35 1 09:55 1 13:12 1 10:17 1 15:18 1 15:20 1 16:23 1 17:00 14:12	:21:05 :20:44 :21:09 :21:15 :23:12 :26:45	1:38:45 1:37:19 1:37:39 1:38:32 1:40:34 1:44:45	1:56:28 1:55:29 1:55:40 1:57:22 1:58:58 2:03:53 2:02:20	2:11:50 2:12:50 2:13:29 2:14:30 2:15:10 2:16:44 2:22:03 2:23:14	Finish 2: 19:45.6 2: 19:45.6 2: 20:28.2 2: 21:44.6 2: 25:32.6 2: 24:46.4 2: 30:09.4 2: 30:09.4 2: 35:55.1.6 2: 36:09.6 2: 37:05.0 2: 40:08.0 2: 42:52.4	
M. 0'! P. J. 1 S. Kee F. Mit P. Do G. W: J. Sca G. Sta E. Da A. Ta P. Do L. IT K. Ti	an 18: omey 18: omey 18: th 18 thwood 18 Neill 18 cheldy 16 arns 19 ichell 18 iruin 19 ilsh 18 inlan 16 iunton 16 iberty 1 ive 19 iberty 1 ireacy 1	17 37:13 145 38:00 145 37:53 141 37:36 151 33:50 152 39:42	57:20 58:21 58:14 57:48 52:06 61:10 60:34 61:10 59:16 49:34 49:34 57:48 57:48 60:34 60:34 60:34 60:34 60:34	1:16:53 1:18:11 1:17:30 1:17:37 1:09:08 1:22:32 1:21:47	1:15:45 1:21:28 1:22:52 1:21:57 1:22:52 1:21:57 1:27:26 1:26:40 1:25:43 1:25:00 1:08:35 1:09:34 1:21:57 1:23:36 1:26:40 1:27:19 1:27:19 1:13:17	1:36:39 1:39:29 1:36:37 1:38:52 1:27:23 1:45:03 1:43:47 1:41:28 1:43:21 1:21:09 1:23:01 1:43:47 1:45:03 1:45:03 1:28:22 1:29:1	2:06:46 2:15:00 1:37:39 1:42:33 7 1:58:24 2:06:46 7 2:06:46 3 2:08:50	2:02:59	2:45:45 2:48:52 2:51:59 2:57:14 2:57:14 2:58:53 2:59:23	3:09:32.0	
B. Ko J. Cr B. O' H. R J. Po M. O	abtree labtree	7:53 35:1 17:31 35:3 16:17 32:4 16:29 33:1 17:10 35:1 18:19 36:2 18:45 38:0	8 54:25 7 49:34 18 54:54 10 54:54 27 56:27 03 59:08	1:12:59 1:07:00 1:15:31 1:15:31 1:17:17 1:19:38 1:20:33	1:17:17 1:11:43 1:19:57 1:20:07 1:21:54 1:24:29 1:26:00	1:32:2	6	-		aken from	

18:41 37:36 58:06 1:20:33 1:26:00

19:22 39:10 60:34 1:25:00 1:30:06

M. Guilfoyle 19:32 40:00 61:50 1:24:08 1:29:17

P. O'Brien

Athenry AC A Growing Club

built.



Mick Rice

thenry is a town with a rich Athletic tradition and a distinct tendency to produce talented individual athletes. Fifty years ago Willie Morris, Tommy Madden and the rest of the Derrydonnell AC heroes led the charge at the NACA National Cross Country Championships which was held in the grounds of Mellows College, Athenry. This weekend a new generation of Athenry athletes clad in maroon and white will represent the town with pride and determination. This long-standing local appetite for athletics has most recently manifested itself in the rejuvenated senior section of Athenry AC.

A small number of crusty road runners gathered together back in 2002 and decided that they would make the effort necessary to reestablish an active senior club in the town. Of course Athenry AC already had a small number of registered senior athletes, most notably our star

sprinter Paul Hession, but there had been no active senior club structure for quite a while. There were also a small group of experienced, dedicated and talented coaches who had kept the athletic flame alive in the town for many years. The Athenry AC juvenile section had been, and remains, a shining example of all that is good about underage athletics. Given that the re-organising group contained no world-beaters it was clear that if a senior club was to be viable it would have to cater, in the main, for people who wanted to run for fun and fitness. Unburdened by any great knowledge of athletics or even indeed how to organise a club. the concept of a senior athletics club gradually took hold and membership started to grow. There were mistakes. misunderstandings and even some false starts but people kept on turning up for training and a momentum was

Six years down the line from those humble beginnings under the watchful eyes of some experienced campaigners the club has grown significantly in terms of its membership and its range of activities. With over one-hundred active senior athletes, half of whom are women, Athenry AC can claim to be one of the busiest in the West. Our annual 10k race attracts a healthy field each St. Stephen's day and we endeavour to field our strongest teams in every AAI event that we can.

Hosting the Woodie's AAI National 10k Championship of Ireland is the high point of all of our efforts in recent years. All of the members of Athenry AC are immensely proud to be able to provide the stage for such a prestigious race. Although it's been fifty years since Athenry last hosted such an important race, we certainly hope it won't be so long again.



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