

THE MILWAUKEE HURLING CLUB

Best from the Fest-Irish Fest Edition

DISH FROM THE PITCH



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COUNTY GALWAY MAYOR LIAM CARROLL DELIGHTED TO WELCOME MHC



Councillor Liam Carroll, Galway County Mayor, chats with MHC reporters at Irish Fest

by Aislinn Leonard

In just a few short weeks our MHC men's travel team will be off on their biggest road trip ever to participate in the Aer Lingus International Hurling Festival in County Galway, Ireland. It's an honor to be included in this grand event along with 15 teams from around the world, and it may be the closest thing we'll ever have to a hurling Olympics!

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It just so happens that I was lucky enough to meet Councillor Liam Carroll, Galway County Mayor, at Irish Fest this year. Mr. Carroll will be welcoming the team to Loughrea and will be watching them play. He said, "I'd be delighted as mayor to welcome the MHC. I've googled you! I met Dave Olson on Thursday and I'm delighted to host this great club. We know you'll have a fantastic time. It is the opportunity of a lifetime."

The MHC members traveling to Ireland will be hosted by the town of Loughrea, which is about twenty miles from Galway City. According to Mr. Carroll, The festival will consist of matches against some serious competition, appearances by guest stars like Galway's own Canning clan, and plenty of fine entertainment and food. The Mayor also added that Loughrea has a very strong team and although Galway is a dual football and hurling county, Loughrea concentrates on hurling. A hurling champion himself, Mr. Carroll said hurling is the "best and most skillful sport in the world" and this festival will be a chance to celebrate our love of hurling and extend a hand of friendship to so many different clubs.

With the over 10,000 visitors joining the MHC for the festival, Galway, and all of the clubs in the area have pulled together to help make the festival a success. Mr. Carroll says that all of the staff for the festival are volunteers for the GAA organization, just like Irish Fest and the MHC. Be sure to thank the volunteers and everyone you meet in Galway.

Mr. Carroll mentioned before getting back to his post at the Galway booth, "When I look around I can't remember if I'm back in Galway or if I'm in Milwaukee because everyone here is so kind." We feel the same about you, Mr. Carroll, and look forward to gathering with you soon!

See next page for sneak peek of Loughrea!



The picturesque town of Loughrea is located in east County Galway, approximately 30km southeast of Galway City. Situated along the northern shore of Lough Rea, the thriving 'town of the grey lake', has a rich medieval history, and is regarded to date back to the 13th century, when the Anglo-Norman, Richard de Burgo, is reputed to have built Loughrea Castle.

The picturesque town of Loughrea is located in east County Galway, approximately 30km southeast of Galway City. Situated along the northern shore of Lough Rea, the thriving 'town of the grey lake', has a rich medieval history, and is regarded to date back to the 13th century, when the Anglo-Norman, Richard de Burgo, is reputed to have built Loughrea Castle.

Loughrea is perfect walking and cycling country, a great place for nature lovers. For sporting aficionados there are challenging golf courses, horse riding and karting. The Long Point swimming area on the Lake Road, a popular venue with locals and visitors, is equipped with changing rooms, ample parking and picnic areas. Lough Rea is one of the few inland lakes to receive European Blue Flag Status. Those who would prefer to stay on the water, rather than in it, can hire boats, while angling enthusiasts can avail of permits and fish for trout, perch and pike, stocked by the local Angling Association.

G.A.A. has a long history in Loughrea, dating back to the Association's conception on August 15th 1884 when Michael Cusack, the founder of the G.A.A., met with a group of nationalists in John Sweeney's house on Dunkellin Street, Loughrea (now the Ireland Reaching Out HQ) to discuss the foundation of a sporting and cultural organisation to protect and nurture Gaelic games and traditions.

Special thanks to Mary Hanniffy Walsh, Michelle Mitchell, Keith Spain, and Mattie Kenny.

For this page and more on the Aer Lingus International Hurling Festival visit

<http://www.aerlingushurling.com/location/about-the-4-host-towns/loughrea.html>

Aer Lingus International Hurling Festival Schedule

Loughrea Festival Itinerary

- **WEDNESDAY 18TH SEPTEMBER:** Welcoming ceremony and Irish cultural event at the Lough Rea Hotel & Spa from 9:00 pm, featuring local traditional music and dance
- **THURSDAY 19TH SEPTEMBER:**
 - Hurling Division Matches as outline below
 - International Hurling Festival Opening Ceremony from 7pm in Loughrea Town
 - Night: Local pubs will host Irish cultural events with barbeques and live traditional music and dance
- **FRIDAY 20TH SEPTEMBER:**
 - Hurling Division Matches as outline below
 - Night: Loughrea Gathering BBQ featuring live traditional music and dance at Charlie's Bar, Main Street, Loughrea

SATURDAY 21st SEPTEMBER: Finals Day of the Aer Lingus and Etihad International Hurling Festival held at Pearse Stadium, Galway from 10am.

Thursday 19th September - Round 1 Friday 20th September - Round 2 Friday 20th September - Round 3

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Division 2 - Loughrea Location Time • Canada V Middle East Loughrea 15:30 • Milwaukee V Europe Irish Kinadeema 15:30 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Division 2 - Loughrea Location Time • Canada V Milwaukee Loughrea 15:30 • Middle East V Europe Irish Kinadeema 15:30 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Division 2 - Loughrea Location Time • Canada V Europe Loughrea 18:30 • Middle East V Milwaukee Kinadeema 18:30 |
|--|--|--|
- Loughrea matches will be played at St. Brendan's G.A.A. Pitch, Dublin Road, Loughrea
 - Kinadeema matches will be played at Kinadeema G.A.A. Pitch, Kinadeema, Loughrea

Tickets are now available for the Finals Day of the Aer Lingus and Etihad International Hurling Festival held at Pearse Stadium, Galway.

Entry to all qualifying matches, including those played in Loughrea, is free of charge.

- Adult tickets, priced at just €5, are now on sale from tickets.ie, Croke Park, Pearse Stadium and participating Centra and Supervalu Stores
- Free entry for all U18's

All proceeds will go to the Galway Hospice.

Get your ticket here: <http://bit.ly/15RBRXv>

Where will we be playing?



Kilnadeema GAA Pitch



St. Brendan's GAA Pitch

For this schedule and more information on Loughrea visit <http://www.loughreaonline.com/international-hurling-festival.php>

Photos courtesy of Loughrea and Kilnadeema/Leitrim GAA

MHCers at the Fest: Volunteers Make a Difference

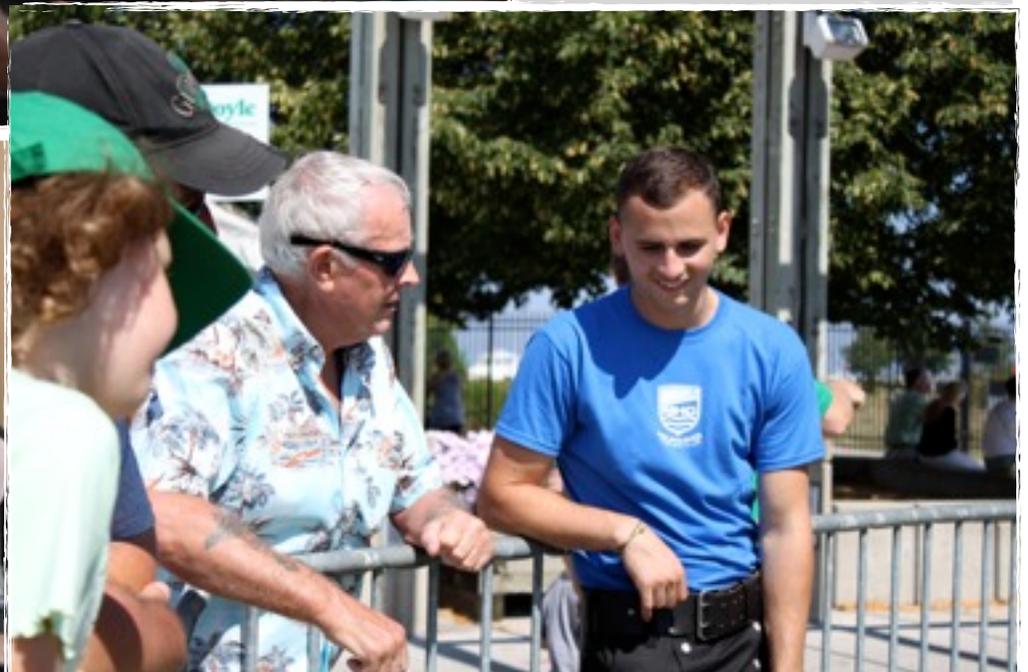


photo credit: Ellen Burmeister, Kerry Leonard, and Darci Neuenschwander



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Run/Walk to Irish Fest 5K



From left to right: Katie McGuire, Andrea Duncan, Nathan Brunner, John Clifford, Todd Saul, Suzanne Szydowski, Cheryl Moran, Jacqi Akert, Aislinn Leonard, Molly Schissler, Connor Kilp, Kit Slawski, Brian Marsolek
Not pictured: Deborah Conklyn, Jerry Miksch, Rebecca Sigmon



by Cheryl Moran

The Milwaukee Hurling Club assembled a team for the Run/Walk to Irishfest benefitting the Arthritis Foundation. Our team had some impressive highlights. Connor Kilp was the fastest hurler of the day posting a time of 20:35. Two of our women had top ten finishes; Aislinn Leonard placed 4th and Deborah Conklyn placed 10th in their respective categories. Nice job, ladies!! Brian Marsolek, running his first 5k, posted a respectable time of 30:51. Cheryl Moran's 36:02 was a personal best. Jacqi Akert walked her 5k only a week after completing a triathlon; an inspiration to us all. There were smiles all around for all participants.

photo credit: Paula Marsolek



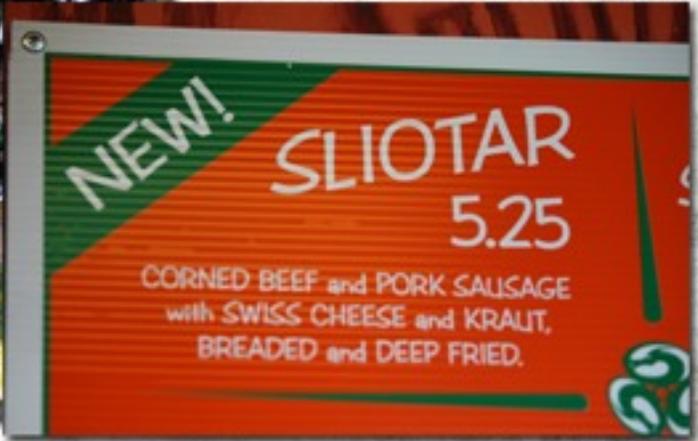


photo credit: Andy McKee



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Be a Real Winner and Join Cailinn's Crusaders at the Briggs and Al's Run/Walk

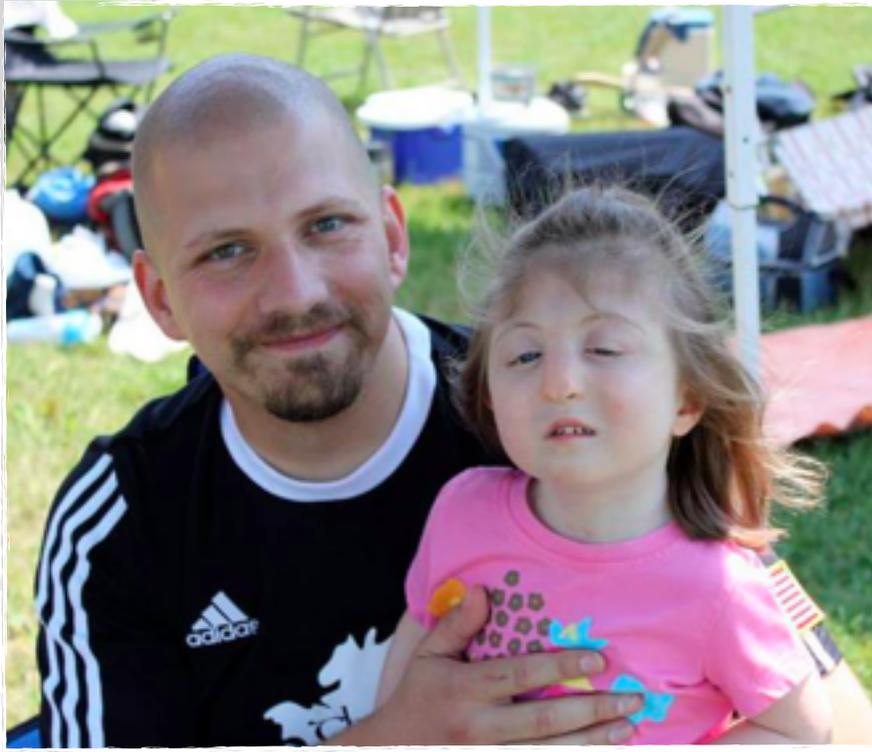
To all our friends and family, I would like to officially invite you to join and support our team, Cailinn's Crusaders, for our 5th year walking for Children's Hospital of WI on Saturday, September 14th at 10AM.

You all know how important CHW has been to our family, and now is a great opportunity to help us say thank you! Brian and I look forward to doing the walk every year for many reasons. First of all, it's a wonderful cause. Every year, the money that Team Cailinn's Crusaders raises, goes directly to the Special Needs Program at the hospital. I like to let people know where their donations are going to help you understand that it's not just going to a random pot at the hospital. The Special Needs Program has been a life line for our family. They are available 24/7 to help us when we need it. They are experts at medically complicated children (ie. Cailinn) and are the reason that we have had the coordination of care that we do. They bring all of her 22 specialist together to think as one team, rather than individual specialties. The other reason we do the walk every year is that it's FUN! We have a blast every year. It's not like we just walk down the street and then go home... that would be boring. Instead, we get to see live music, different characters (last year we saw Chewbacca and other Star Wars characters that I do not know... sorry Brian), and the year before that we saw the characters from Pirates of the Caribbean.).

So, I am asking for your support again this year. Join our team and walk with us if you can (or run). If you can not, please consider making a donation on behalf of our team. Every little bit helps, even if it's \$5. Honestly!! We have set our goal high again this year at \$3000. Seems like a lot, but we manage to hit the mark every year thanks to all of the very generous family, friends, and even strangers. The last few years we have been averaging 20-25 team members. I would love to see us hit 30 members this year! Don't forget that if

you register for our team, you get a one of a kind T-Shirt that shows you supported Team Cailinn's Crusaders. Your friends will be so jealous!

Pass this on to people you know, and check with your employer to see if they will match donations. Again, every bit helps.



Something new that we are trying this year is advertising sponsorship. We currently have 3 ads that we will be including on the back of our T-shirts, and have plenty of space available yet. If you or someone you know would like to have their group or company name added, it only cost \$50.

I would like to thank the Milwaukee Hurling Club for being our very first ad sponsor this year. When

asked, they did not even hesitate and told me to make sure that we ask again next year. Thank you MHC!

Sign Up:

Go To <http://events.chw.org/goto/Cailinn>

Click "Register Now" on the left side

Join a Team

Enter Cailinn's Crusaders as the team name and then when you see the team listed, click "Join" all the way to the right.

Enter your information, and you are set.

**Please make any donations after you have registered under your name or the team, rather than on the registration page as it will not go to our team goal.

Donations:

Click "Donate Now" on the left side

Enter Team Name "Cailinn's Crusaders" This will take you to our team page. On the far right side is a link that says "Make a Gift" Click to make a donation. Do not worry about assigning an area for the donation to go to, as I will take care of that.

Thank you,

Kelly, Brian, and Cailinn Lynch



U7s Run the Show at Irish Fest



by Aislinn Leonard

photo credit: Shannon Meller

The U7s were the stars of Irish Fest as they played for a major crowd inside the gates at the Lilliput Children's area. It was a test of focus due to the field being surrounded by the pot of gold, mini golf, and a parade! Guests of Irish Fest stopped by to watch our littlest players and were cheering them on through battles and goals. Hannah Fortier was lighting up the net with rocket shots and moving to get her body in between her opponent and the sliothar. In one play she dribbled past two opponents to break free from the pack and scored a goal with perfect form. Eva Kane is a force to be reckoned with on defense and was clearing the sliothar down the entire length of the field! The highlight of the match was having our two youngest players, Natalie Meller and Ivan Baker, in the goals. They both made some impressive saves and fantastic passes.

It was great to have the kids playing inside the gates and reeling in some new recruits. One little boy stood on the sidelines asking if he could start playing right then and there!



photo credit: Kerry Leonard and Shannon Meller

U11s Storm the Gates of the Fest



photo credit: Ellen Burmeister

U15s Capture the Essence of MHC Spirit



photo credit: Ellen Burmeister

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