

Milltown GAA 2015 AGM

Friday 15th of January 2016

Milltown Community Centre 19:15

Agenda

- 1. Adoption of Standing Orders
- 2. Minutes of 2014 A.G.M
- 3. Secretary's Report
- 4. Treasurer's Report
- 5. Chairman's Address
- 6. Election of Tellers
- 7. Election of the Club Executive for 2016
- 8. Motions & Recommendations
- 9. A.O.B
- 10. Prayer for deceased members of the club and past players

Club President

Rev. Fr. William Fitzsimons P.P

Honorary Life Presidents

Eamonn Doolin

Michael Dalton

John Dillon

Johnny Geraghty

Sean Molloy

Stephen Cahalin

Sean Flanagan

Milltown GAA Executive 2015

Chairman Eddie Somers

Vice-Chairman: Paul Mulvaney

Secretary: Paul Heduan

Ass Secretary: Brendan Lynn

Treasurer: Donal Whelan

Ass Treasurer: Conor O'Farrell

PRO: Carmel Somers

Youth Officer: Alan Geraghty

Irish Language: Joe Kenny

Health and Wellbeing Officer Brendan Lynn

Co Board Representatives Paddy Gavigan, Jim Dalton

Co Convention Delegates Paddy Gavigan, Jim Dalton

Management:

Team manager and trainer – Louis Ennis

Selectors - Michael Kiernan, Michael Dillon

Physio – Stacey Egan, Gerry Somers

Review of the 2014 AGM Minutes

The 2014 AGM occurred on 8th November 2014 started at 19:35. The previous year's meeting minutes (2013) were proposed by **Eddie Somers**, seconded by **Michael Kiernan**.

The secretary's report was read by **Paul Heduan**, which was proposed by **David Geraghty** and seconded by **Gerry Somers**. PH also read letter of thanks written by **Gerard Byrne** thanking the club for the guard of honor for their recent bereavement. Treasurer's report, read by **Donal Whelan**. Donal expressed gratitude to **Jim Dalton** for all his work and for sponsoring first prize in the golf tournament. Donal expressed thanks to everyone involved in helping the club, without this help the club wouldn't run as well. Donal was asked from the floor on the exact money left in the account, Donal said that there was money still coming in, hard to give an exact figure, but we should be approx 4000euro in the black. Donal thanked **Willie Fallon** for help on the finance side. Report was adopted, proposed by **Paddy Gavigan**, seconded by **Michael Connell.**

Chairman's address from **Eddie Somers** thanked all the executive for the help they had given through the year. Thanked all the **Management and selectors** involved for all teams. Thanked all the **ladies** in all areas of the club for their help during the year. General thanks was given by Eddie for any and all help that was given to the club during the year. Eddie also thanked **Fr. Fitzsimons** and all involved in the organising of the training pitch. Election of tellers, **Joe Kenny** proposed by **Carmel Somers** seconded by **Mick Kiernan**. **Conor Farrell** proposed by **Paddy Gavigan** seconded by **David Geraghty**

Chairman Eddie Somers encouraged the floor to voice their comments on the secretary's/ treasurer's report and on the past season

There was contributions from the floor from

Paddy Gavigan (Snr.) re. the use of subs during matches,

Paul Mahon re. game time for players in 2014, and the importance of the second team in this regard,

Carmel Somers re. difficulties getting challenge games as a lot of teams did not want to play us,

Gerry Somers re. the master fixture list for players to plan holidays

Chairman: ES outgoing. Eddie Somers *Proposed: Paddy Gavigan Seconded: David Geraghty*Vice Chairman: PM outgoing. Paul Mulvaney *Proposed: Gerry Somers Seconded: Brendan Lynn*Secretary: PH outgoing. Paul Heduan *Proposed: Carmel Somers Seconded: David Geraghty*

Ass Secretary: Conor O'Reilly outgoing. Brendan Lynn Proposed: Carmel Somers Seconded: Willie Keegan

Treasurer: DW outgoing. Donal Whelan Proposed: Steven Cahalin Seconded: Mick Dalton

Ass Treasurer: Paul Mahon outgoing. Conor O'Farrell Proposed: Paul Mahon Seconded: Stephen Cahalin

PRO: CS outgoing. Carmel Somers Proposed: Mick Dalton Seconded: Gerry Somers

Youth Officer: AG outgoing. Alan Geraghty Proposed: Eddie Somers Seconded: Michael Connell

Irish Language: Brendan Lynn outgoing. Joe Kenny Proposed: Conor O'Farrell Seconded: Brendan Lynn

Health And Wellbeing Officer: Ciaran Byrne outgoing ASAP officer. Brendan Lynn Proposed: Eddie Somers

Seconded: Paddy Gavigan

Co Board Rep: Jim Dalton and Mick Kiernan outgoing. Paddy Gavigan **Proposed:** Michael Geragty **Seconded:** David Geraghty. Jim Dalton also **Proposed but not present at the meeting - Exec to discuss with Jim after AGM.**

Motions and Recommendations/ AOB

Team Management for the adult teams Eddie Somers stated that we should come back to this at a later date at an executive meeting to be discuss this. Eddie also stated that a players meeting should be organised from the floor a players meeting was decided and organised.

Eddie Somers stated that all players will have their opportunity to voice their opinion at this meeting Eddie stated that the adult team management of 2014 were very generous to the club and thanked them for all their efforts and commitments during the year.

Honourary Club Presidents

Proposals – Sean Flanagan and Stephen Cahalin – proposed by Donal Whelan, seconded by Michael Kiernan

Paul Heduan stated that we needed a proper management and registration positions for the ongoing management of the gym facilities. **Sean Somers** and **Louis Fagan** were proposed by **Michael Geraghty**, and 2nd by **Paddy Gavigan**. Sean and Louis elected as registers.

A possible swipe card fob 'system needs to be organised for a gym door

Issues with players paying membership before the **31st March deadline** was raised by **Paul Heduan**, if it is not paid players are not insured and cannot play competitive games. **Stephen Cahalin** stated that this was an issue that needed to be talked about at a players meeting

Ladies use of the gym was also discussed

Milltown entering the National Club draw this year, books of tickets to be sold by players - raised by **Paul Heduan**

Mick Dalton from the floor thanked all people involved in the helping of running the club and thanked all the people involved in helping with gate collections

Player transfers in and out, to be dealt with as ongoing business of the club - raised by Eddie Somers

Ann Somers thanked the executive all the people involved in any and all help given to Milltown Ladies GAA

Presentations were given to players who got married during 2014 – Frank McLoughlin, Michael Connell, Paul Mahon and Brendan Lynn, all present encouraged them to get started on getting the next generation of footballers ready for the club!

Meeting ended at 21:10

End of 2014 AGM Minutes

Thanks to **Paul Mulvaney** for compiling meeting minutes

Secretary's Report for 2015

Challenge games

The team travelled to Rochfortbridge for first game of the year on cold, wet day on the 7th February, and started the year with an away win. We also played a challenge against Dubliners Ranelagh Gaels in Milltown on 18th April, Kenagh in Kenagh on 26th April and against Legan in Milltown on 9th July, all of which saw us run out winners on the day!

Junior Championship

Our first outing in the championship was against Kilbeggan in Cusack park on 23rd May, a game which we won 4-10 to 3-5. We then went on to beat Ballycomoyle (2-12 to 0-9) on 29th May in Springfield and draw with Multyfarnham on 13th June in Cusack park (0-12 to 2-6). We followed that game with a facile 5-20 to 0-1 win over Loughnavalley in Cusack park on 24th July. We then went on to beat Delvin 0-9 to 2-17 in Springfield on the 1st of August. The last meaningful game we were to play before the knockout stages was a 2-10 to 2-15 hard fought win over St Paul's in Kinnegad on 15th August. When St. Joseph's conceded the fixture on 12th August, we were forced to play against Multyfarnham in Cusack park on 23rd August to decide top spot. Multyfarnham just scraped the win by 2.11 to 2.10 to top the group.



Milltown squad to play Ballycomoyle in the JFC Semi Final

In the semi final of the championship, we played Ballycomoyle, this time in our happy hunting ground of Cusack Park on 13th September. It was a tough battle, but we came out on top, 3-12 to 1-10, which set us up for a final date against Multyfarnham on the 4th October. On a hugely historic and important day for the club, Milltown did the business and came out with a 1-13 to 2-9 win.

Leinster Junior Championship

We went on to play Castlemitchell in the first round in the Leinster Championship on 24th October at their pitch in county Kildare. It was a fantastic day for the club, travelling to and from the game with our supporters on a bus with a rousing reception from both sets of supporters. We went on to win the game 1-7 to 4-10 with Ja Boyce in fantastic goalscoring form.

The next round in the Leinster Championship was at home to the Kilkenny champions, Danesford on 8th November. The All Stars of **Richie Hogan and Paul Murphy** and the other tenacious Kilkenny men couldn't stop the run of the boys in green, and we ran out 1-11 to 1-7 winners in Cusack Park. Special mention to **Frank McLoughlin and Bernard Kiernan** who never let the Kilkenny Hurling All Stars out of their sight on the day!

The end of our Leinster campaign was in the semi final against Killashee in Pearse Park in Longford on the 22nd of November. The final scoreline of 4-4 to 2-6 was a disappointing reflection of the effort and commitment of the lads in the game, but overall it was a fantastic run in the championship for the club and a great start for new clubman **John Kelly** and the young guns who joined the Senior panel in 2015.



(L - R - Ian Burke, Conor Dillon, Leon and Daire Hynes, some of our Young guns!)

Division 3

The first game of Division 3 was against Tyrrellspass at home on the 21st February, which we won 2-8 to 0-9 but at the expense of a very serious knee injury to our 2014 team captain **Paul Mahon** after he scored a vital goal. We then lost to Kilbeggan on the 8th of March at their pitch after having very much underperformed. Our second successive defeat was against Moate in Moate on the 15th March, where we lost 0-6 to 1-8. We lost by the narrowest of margins against St. Lomans under lights on their 3G pitch on the 27th March, 1-8 to 1-9, in a game that we let slip through our fingers. After that, we bounced back with a much needed win over Castletown Finea Coole Whitehall with a 3-10 to 1-8 win on the 1st of May at home. We then went on to lose 2-9 to 2-12 to Killucan in Milltown. Our final outing in Division 3 was an away fixture against a spirited Downs side on the 5th of July, and was a game that we performed well and dug deep to win 1-11 to 3-12 with the help of players who had travelled back from Gaeltacht duties in West Connemara! We finished the season without having played Mullingar Shamrocks or Ballymore, but we are relatively comfortable in the table and should have avoided relegation again this year. **Paul Mahon** is continuing with his rehabilitation and we look forward to seeing him back in green for 2016.

Junior 'B' Championship

The first game for our second team was against Garrycastle away on a lovely summers evening on 7th May. In a very experimental side, we were second best on the day and lost the game. Our second fixture was against a very strong Mullingar Shamrocks side in Milltown on the 14th May, and was a game where we were always up against it, final score 2.7 to 3.20. Our last outing in the Junior B championship was against St. Lomans in Milltown on 16th June. We struggled throughout the park that day and lost the game 1.9 to 1.12.

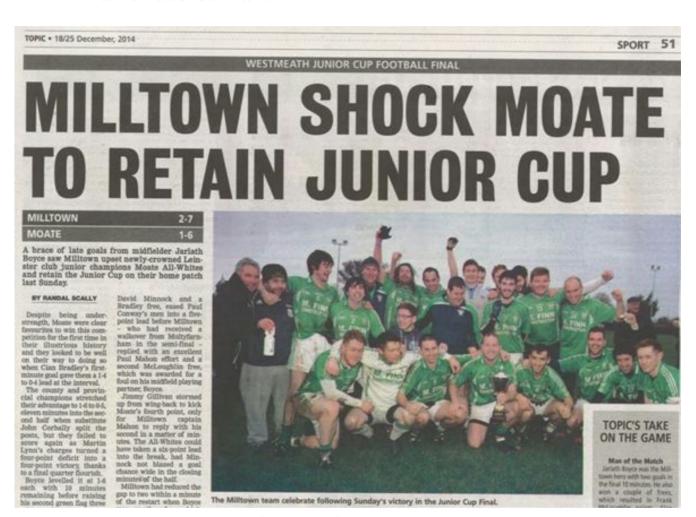
Division 7

We played a lively Bunbrosna side in the first game in Division 7 at home on a wet Saturday on the 28th February. Having played well in patches throughout the game, we lost the match 1.5 to 1.8. Our next outing was against Rosemount away on the 22nd of March. We lost the game 1.4 to 1.16. Even wearing the **mandatory** gumshield protection, **Paul Heduan** suffered a very nasty dental injury from an opposing player's elbow to add insult to the result. The next outing in Division 7 was a hugely impressive 3.15 to 1.11 win against a tough Tang side at their pitch, a game where newcomer **Conor Dillon** made his mark known in the Milltown Senior's ranks. Our next outing was against Milltownpass away on a typically 'soft' Irish day on 28th of April. Although we were probably the better team on the day and had a few decisions given against us, the game ended in a draw 0.10 to 1.7. The final outing in this competition was on a lovely summers evening on the 9th of June against Rochfortbridge on

their old pitch. The game was evenly poised for the majority of the game, but Rochfortbridge got a couple of scores near the end of the game to clinch victory on a scoreline of 3-13 to 2.12. Again, it was a game where a Milltown man suffered a very severe injury, with **Mark Geraghty** sustaining damage to his knee. Mark is recuperating well, and we look forward to seeing him tog out in the Green and White again in 2016 all going well!

Junior Cup

There was no Cup competition in 2015 as our run in Leinster and bad weather put paid to the fixtures being scheduled within the calendar year. As the last AGM was run off prior to the 2014 Cup final, I wanted to mention the result from the 14th December 2014 where the boys in green overcame the Leinster champions Moate in Milltown on a scoreline of 2-7 to 1-6.

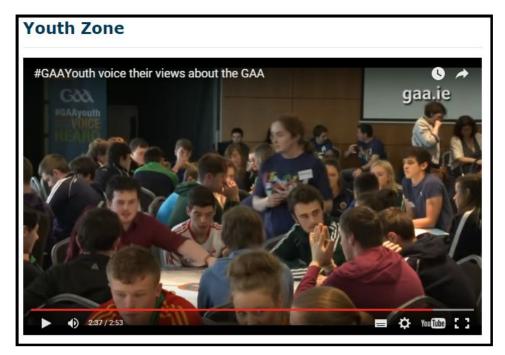


Making all the right headlines - a victorious squad in December 2014

Some other notable events that happened throughout the year

The club hosted a number of important Championship matches at **Sean Doolin park** during the year, including a SFC clash between **St. Lomans and Malachys**. There was a huge amount of work put in from numerous volunteers, thanks to all who made these great days for the club. We received exceptional praise from Westmeath County Board and the Westmeath Senior football manager, **Tom Cribbin** (which is where he first laid eyes on **Ja Boyce** i'm told)

Daire Hynes and Joe Halligan were our club delegates for the National GAA Youth Forum held in Croke Park on the 24th of October. The lads learned from the experts about Strength and Conditioning, Nutrition and helped contribute to the future development of the GAA after having been picked out of thousands of applications. We hope that other clubmates can take tips and pointers from what they learned on the day. See www.gaa.ie/youthzone for more



YouTube video screenshot of some of the delegates at the 2015 GAA Youth Forum

Congratulations to **Ian Burke and Conor Dillon** who won the All Ireland Schools tournament with Ballymahon back in March, this is an exceptional achievement, well done lads.

The club supported some good causes during the year, including the **Trek for Belnaleck GAA in Co. Fermanagh**, who cycled to every club in the 32 counties to raise money to develop their club's grounds. We also entered the Mental Health Awareness 7s tournament in Shandonagh GAA in October for www.good2talk.ie and the lads gave a good account of themselves in a tournament run for a very good cause.



Milltown team that competed in the 7s tournament

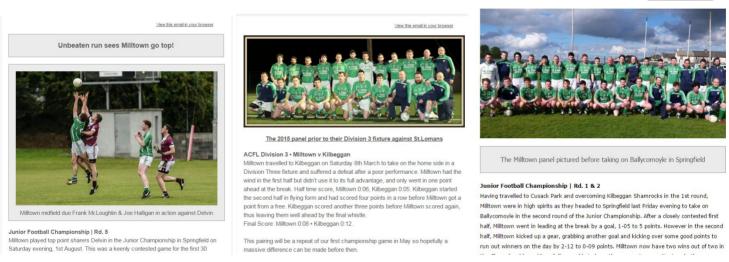
The club organised supporters **buses to Castlemitchell** for our Leinster outing, and two trips to Croker to watch Westmeath. The trip for the fans to watch the historic victory of the **Lake County against the Royals** on June 28th was a very special day for all to savour!



Milltown on tour to support the Lake County!

Club Newsletter

We also launched a new supporters monthly e-newsletter in 2015. This excellently presented publication combines the fastidious PRO match notes with images and other news from the parish and is emailed to our club supporters at home and abroad. Special thanks to **Gary Byrne and Carmel Somers** for the huge work in getting these around each month. If you don't get the e-newsletter, or know someone who would like to get it, be sure to give us their email address!



Snippets from the March, May and July issues of the club newsletter

Club Website

The club are in the process of developing our new website and hope to have this ready for launch early in 2016. We won't ruin the surprise here, but we definitely think you'll like what it has to offer!

Milltown Ladies

It cannot go without saying about the massive achievements of Milltown Ladies football club. Without a doubt, they have done themselves, their families, club and parish proud of the fantastic achievements in 2015. We would wholeheartedly like to thank **Cathy Dillon** for always having the jersey's clean and fresh for the lads for each and every game we play, thanks so much Cathy.

On behalf of all involved with Milltown GAA we would like to congratulate the team players, management and all involved with Milltown Ladies and wish them all the best for 2016.



The victorious Ladies team are on the up!

Underage Report

Our U8 squad took part in a number of blitzes throughout the season, two of which were hosted by Millmore and travelled away to the rest. They had 2 big days out where in June they attended a blitz in Cusack park where 2 teams took to the field and performed well and in July a squad of 21 and their mentors travelled to Croke Park to take part in national blitz. They really enjoyed the experience, a great day and season was had by all involved.







The U8s playing on the hallowed turf of Croke Park in July!

Our U10 squad were very competitive in all their blitz games and won nearly all of them. They entered a tournament hosted by St Lomans which had 20 teams from all over Leinster taking part. Millmore were beaten in the semi final which was a huge achievement amidst stiff competition. Finally they capped off a great year by retaining the CORMAC MC GAHON SHIELD in fine style on a blustery October bank holiday Monday afternoon.

U12 - We struggled for numbers at this grade, but even so we still fulfilled all fixtures with the help of the strong u10s which lifted the whole squad. Some great battles were played out on the pitch and even though they all played with great heart and spirit they were very unlucky to come out the wrong side of some tight games. This said, after leaving it all on the field the lads came off the field smiling and enjoyed themselves and that's what it's all about.

Our U14 squad competed in division 1b for the league and after some brilliant games and well deserved victories they ended up competing in division 1a for the championship which was a huge achievement for a country club. After some very competitive games in the earlier rounds of the championship they came up against a very formidable downs team in the semi final which proved a step too far on the day. Incidentally Millmore had beaten the Downs in one of the earlier rounds so it proved to themselves that they could mix it with the top teams in the county.

Our u16 panel contested the league in Div. 2. We were tight for numbers in this age group throughout the year but fielded in all games with the help of the u14 panel. Suffered a couple of heavy defeats in the league but when we had a full panel they enjoyed some good victories. Contested the championship in div. 2 and after the group stage Millmore faced a Moate side in a cracking quarter final which Millmore won by a point. In the semi-final we came up against Coralstown/Kinnegad and by the end of the 60 minutes on the day they proved to be just that little bit stronger and Millmore lost out.

Our **minor panel** contested the league also in div.2. After coming third in the league the lads played in a round robin between div. 1 and 2 for the champ. As a result of this they contested the div. 2 champ. At quarter final stage Millmore faced Shannon Gaels and after an exhibition of football from both teams it was honours even at full time. Millmore were 6 points down with ten minutes to go and came back to tie up the game so extra time beckoned. Millmore pulled away for a deserved victory in extra time. They beat Mullingar Shamrocks in the semi-final and Milltownpass in the div.2 co. final. Back to back minor titles for that panel and should be well proud of what they achieved.

U21 - Things are looking bright for this panel, although for the last couple of years Millmore did not enter a team in this competition but did so in 2015 with a somewhat young but very talented squad. Beat Coralstown/Kinnegad in a tough encounter in the first round of championship and then lost out to a very strong Caulry outfit. Our lads were just a little on the young side but a very brave effort

Overall it was a successful year at underage, all panels achieving well, while other clubs were struggling to field teams, Millmore fielded in all games in all grades, so a big well done to all players, trainers and selectors for making this possible and best of luck to everyone on and off the pitch for 2016.

On behalf of Milltown GAA I would like to thank all the **Milltown, Emper and Moyvore N.S. staff** for their work during the year with our school teams. I would also like to thank and acknowledge the efforts of all our under-age mentors, I don't want to name them all but you know who you are!

Credit to Seamus Kennedy for putting together the summary of the underage notes

Membership

The annual subscriptions can now be paid for the 2016 season and must be paid by the end of March 2016. We had 3 major injuries in 2015, and because each player was paid up, they were covered by Players Injury Fund to recoup their medical expenses. We would like to thank non playing members for their membership in 2015.

Fundraising and Facility Developments in 2015/2016

The Milltown Executive committee continued to drive our fundraising activities in 2015 and already have plans afoot for running our golf classic in early 2016. We have a number of club sponsors to be thanked, including **Jim** and Sally Dalton, Finn Contracting and Murtagh Bros. Thanks to a number of sponsors who made donations for our run in the JFC final and for donating equipment for work on the grounds through the year.

The club has major debt of gratitude to the special few people who are running the weekly Lotto draw. In 2015, this continued to be the main financial arm of the club and takes serious dedicated personnel to keep it running. Assistance in selling tickets and running the draw would be greatly appreciated so please let us know if you would like to get involved. The next club draw is on Monday 18tH January, with a jackpot of over €10,000, you'd be mad not to get involved.

For the second consecutive year Milltown are availing of the GAA National Club Draw. Information is gone to all players on this initiative, and with fantastic prizes up for grab and 100% of the money going back to the club, it is well worth buying a ticket. For the 2016 draw, we've decided to ringfence all the money generated from the draw to upgrade the bulbs to cost effective LEDs for the floodlights on the main pitch. If you would like a ticket or a book to sell, please let me know. All tickets need to be returned by the end of January to be entered into the draw

We would like to thank **Mick McCawley** who was very obliging last year for the use of his premises for club events and we hope this continues again in 2016.

We've recently issued an official letter of support to **Longford County Council** on behalf of the **Centre Parcs Longford Forest** development. In my opinion, we need to develop a strategic development plan for the club, fully costed with specific and realistic timeframes, that we **should** present to the executives of Centre Parcs Ireland. If we set our stall out well, and they are agreeable, we could look forward to the significant potential of working with Centre Parcs should everything go to plan in the future. The first step toward this is setting up a specific finance subcommittee to drive this plan, volunteers will be needed!

Referees

If there is anybody interested in becoming a referee in 2016, please contact myself or any member of the Executive committee. We would like to thank **Paul McCaughey** and **Martin Lynn** for representing the Milltown club as an Official Referees, and we wish them the best of luck as a match officials in 2016.

Sympathy

I would like to extend my deepest sympathy on behalf of the Club, to all officers, players, members and friends who have suffered bereavements during the last year.

Special Thanks

The club executive would like to thank our management team of **Louis Ennis, Mike Dillon and Mick Kiernan** for all their hard work in what was one of the most successful year in Milltown Men's Football history. The fresh and varied training methods coupled with the training involving **Jack Cooney** throughout the year, the pre match analysis of opposition teams and team bonding sessions in the Bloomfield, played a major role in the team's success in 2015 and the lads are raring to go again in 2016.

The club executive would also like to thank **Jim Dalton and Mick Wilson** for their hard work in keeping the grounds in great shape throughout the year. The club executive would also like to thank our physios **Gerry Somers and Stacey Egan** for their contributions all year, they always had the lads in flying form going out onto the pitch.

Thanks to our **PRO Carmel Somers** for her excellent weekly match reports published in the local paper, keeping our supporters informed of each of the match proceedings. Also thanks to **Breda Ballesty** who circulated our supporters texts before all our competitive fixtures. Also thanks to the people who gave freely of their time to collect on the gate at all our home fixtures. Also, thanks to all the ladies who helped out with the tea and sandwiches after our challenge matches during the year, and for selling the club gear in the lead up to the final. Thanks also to my dad **Noel Heduan**, who volunteered driving the supporters to the games throughout the year.

Finally, I would like to thank my family, especially my fiancée **Niamh O'Dowd**, for their support, assistance and patience with me in my time as Secretary over the last three years, she has the patience of a saint thank God!

A chaire go léir, go raibh mile maith agat.

Is Mise Le Meas,

Pól O hEadamhain