



John Lynch

A great old Gaelic Games enthusiast player, administrator and coach to both his club division and county. Jimmy Stapleton, Granagh, died on Thursday 2nd September. Jimmy Stapleton's name has been synonymous with the GAA in Granagh/Ballingarry West Limerick and at inter-county level in a career that has seen him play for his home clubs, Granagh and Granagh/Ballingarry, Western Gaels and his county.



When his playing career ended in 1974 the father of seven sons, all of whom lined out at different times for Granagh, turned his hand very successfully to coaching in hurling, football and camogie and to administration at club and divisional level. The late Jimmy started his hurling career with Granagh in the mid-1950s with the local minor hurling team and those who saw him play quickly identified him as a player with special talent. That talent was developed over the years as he left his mark on the playing fields of Limerick and beyond. It was an era of hard hurling often on tight pitches when strong defenders thought quickly and acted quickly, something Jimmy could do better than most when Granagh and Ballingarry amalgamated he played a big part in the winning of two West Junior A Hurling Championship titles in 1957 and '58 narrowly losing to Pallasgreen in the '58 county final.

Jimmy's class shone through and when the West Junior hurling clubs came together to form Western Gaels he was selected as half forward and gave many exhibitions on the way to winning two County Senior Hurling Championship titles in 1961/62. He was very versatile and could play in any position because he could read the game well on a breaking ball and could score from any angle. In 1962 when playing against Patrickswell he scored six points from play later that year in a game against Kilmallock. The first half was close so Jimmy dropped back to join his brother, now deceased, and Kevin Long also deceased in the half back line. Very little passed them in the second half and the Gaels ran out easy winners. A song about the great team includes the line, "Jim Stapleton was our hero who could swing them over the bar". 1969 was an unlucky year for Jimmy as he was part of the Granagh side on their own that lost the West Junior A Hurling Championship Final to Knockaderry and the Limerick team that lost to Cork in the Munster Junior Hurling Championship Final undeterred he didn't give up and helped Granagh reach the West Junior A Hurling Championship Final again in 1973 only to lose to Monagea by a goal.

Determined to see Granagh win a West Junior A Hurling Championship title on their own for the first time since 1942 he gave it another year and was in the full back line when the boys in black and white held out bravely against great rivals Knockaderry in '74 to take the title before going out to Caherline in the County Semi Final. A fitting end to a great hurling career. He will always be remembered as a hurling hero in Granagh/Baslingarry and throughout West Limerick. Jimmy was selected to captain Limerick in a league game in Enniscorthy against Wexford in 1962 but was unable to play due to injury. When his playing career ended, he quickly took to coaching first at underage level with Granagh/Ballingarry and guided the U12s to West and County honours in 1985. He also guided the U14, 15 and 16 hurlers and footballers to various titles. The natural progression was to be the minor team and again west and county success came their way in 1988 and '89. The adult club of Granagh/Ballingarry soon came calling and Jimmy responded with the late Gerry Molyneaux as trainer. They guided the club to win the West and County Junior A Hurling Championship honours in 1998 for the first time since Granagh won in 1976 when Jimmy was coach to that side that defeated Ballingarry in the West and Staker Wallace in the County Final. Jimmy has also given long and dedicated service to his county as a member of different backroom teams starting with the County U14 team that won the prestigious Tony Forrester Hurling Tournament in 1984.

The Granagh/Ballingarry parish priest Fr. Tommy Carroll was the manager and Jimmy was a selector of a team that included Ciarán Carey and Pat Heffernan among others who went on to star for Limerick at senior level. He also acted as a selector with the Limerick minors for two years when P.J. O'Grady was manager and later as U21 selector under the manager Bill Reidy. Health issues forced him to pull out but a return to some backroom teams was inevitable and it came

via the intermediate hurling manager, the late Frank Costello. It was the start of a long association with the county intermediate hurling team that was to continue for 12 years, six as a selector with Frank Costello before taking over from him as manager for another three. On deciding to step down he was prevailed upon by the now intermediate hurling manager Gerry Molyneaux to stay on for another spell as selector which he did for three years during which time Limerick won the Munster Intermediate Hurling Championship in 2008 defeated Tipperary in the final with Denis O'Connor of Granagh/Ballingarry fiving a man-of-the-match performance before losing the All Ireland Final to Kilkenny when Limerick were hit with a huge blow when they were forced to line out minus Denis O'Connor due to injury.

Camogie Jimmy Stapleton also had a long association with Granagh/Ballingarry camogie and first became involved in 1979. During his time with the club, he helped the girls to 12 underage on a junior and one senior county championship title.

#### Administration

Jimmy Stapleton served as treasurer and chairman of the Granagh club and chairman of Granagh/Ballingarry Bord na nÓg, a position held at present by his son Stephen and appointed joint treasurer of the West Board in 1980/81 with Jim Quaid RIP and served on the board's disciplinary committee where he was to serve for 14 years and was the Board's life president.

#### Lifelong service awards

Jimmy received lifelong service awards from both the West Limerick GAA Board and Granagh/Ballingarry GAA Club in 2015. Sons Jimmy's seven sons Kieran, Seamus, Peter, Niall, David, Stephen and Noel lined out for Granagh/Ballingarry but never played on the same team. The nearest was 6 at the one time. Seamus like his father had the honour of playing intermediate hurling for Limerick and also played in a number of tournament games for the senior team. Jimmy Stapleton will always be remembered as a hurling hero in Granagh/Ballingarry and throughout West and County Limerick. His death is sincerely regretted by all in Granagh/Ballingarry GAA Club, to his wife Nuala, Kieran, Seamus, Peter, Niall, David, Stephen, Noel, daughters-in-law, sister-in-law, relatives and many friends. Jimmy's requiem Mass was celebrated by Fr. Tom Carroll in St. Joseph's Church, Granagh on Sunday and he was laid to rest in the local cemetery.

*Ar dheis Dé to raibh a anam.*

#### County Intermediate Hurling Championship Group 1 Round 2

Granagh/Ballingarry travel to Paire Caoimh Uí Luíng, Feenagh on this Sunday 12th September to play Tournafulla in Round 2 of Group 1 in the Limerick County Intermediate Hurling Championship at 1pm. In the opening series of games on Saturday 4th September Granagh/Ballingarry received a bye while the Tournafulla boys suffered a six point 2-19 to 1-16 defeat at the hands of Bruree at Knockaderry. A win for the Granagh/Ballingarry on Sunday afternoon will see them through to the quarter final from the Group 1 with the neighbours while a draw or a win for the Tournafulla boys is a must after Saturday's five-point defeat to Bruree to stay in contention for a quarter final spot.

#### Support

A proverbial mouth-watering clash awaits with neither side fearing the other and both confident of victory to stay in contention for a quarter final spot. Son on this Sunday at 1pm at Paire Caoimh Uí Luíng, Feenagh is the place for all Granagh/Ballingarry fans to cheer on our boys and their management team of Eoin Kennedy, Michael Clancy, Bobby Houlihan and Pat O'Connor to victory.

#### Tickets

Tickets for the Granagh/Ballingarry v Tournafulla County Intermediate Hurling Championship, Group 1, Round 2 game in Paire Caoimh Uí Luíng, Feenagh on Sunday 12th September at 1pm can now be purchased on [www.universe.com](http://www.universe.com) and search for Granagh/Ballingarry Club. The link to purchase tickets is also posted on the Granagh/Ballingarry on Facebook or Twitter pages. €10 per adult, €6 per student, €2 for U6s. No tickets will be on sale at the gate.

#### Dinny Cup Final on Sunday

The final of the Granagh/Ballingarry Junior B Hurling Tournament for the Dinny Cup and a set of 28 engraved medals postponed on Sunday last as a mark of respect to the late Jimmy Stapleton, Granagh/Ballingarry GAA Club and West Board life president is now rescheduled for this Sunday 12th September in Ballingarry at 4pm when holders

Granagh/Ballingarry clash with Camogie Rovers who are hoping to inscribe their name on the base of the cup for the first time since 2018.

#### 2020 Dinny Cup Final

Granagh/Ballingarry Junior B hurlers claimed their third Dinny Cup title, a first since 2012, with a hard fought three-point victory over hat-trick seeking Camogie Rovers at sunny Ballingarry on Sunday 20th September. **Granagh/Ballingarry:** Conor Mulqueen, Mickie O'Keeffe, Donagh McCarthy, Mike Carroll, Mark Tierney 0-1, Colm Noonan 1-2 (frees), Marcus Moore, Seán Murphy 0-1, Mark Snow, Brian Noonan, Jim O'Keeffe (captain) 0-1, Brian Mulqueen, Jimmy Shiels, John O'Grady 0-1 (frees), Richie O'Keeffe 0-3 (1 free 1 lineball). Subs: Kevin Mulcahy, Kevin O'Kelly, Niall Carroll and Brendan Lynch. **Camogie Rovers scorers:** Mike O'Donnell 0-3, Evan Mulcahy 0-3, Anthony Neylon 0-2 frees. Referee: John McGrath, Monagea. The 2021 Dinny Cup Final should draw a large crowd to the garden town in venue this Sunday at 4pm to see if Granagh/Ballingarry win for the second year in a row or if Granagh/Ballingarry win for the second year in a row or if Camogie Rovers can inscribe their name on the base of the cup for the first time since 2018. The game will be refereed by Martin O'Doherty of Rathkeale and the proceeds of a bucket collection will be held to support the Granagh/Ballingarry Field and Clubhouse Development Fund. Your contribution for the Dinny Cup Final and Field and Clubhouse Development Final would be appreciated.

#### Granagh/Ballingarry through to Junior B Semi Final

Granagh/Ballingarry have finished top of Group 2 in the West Junior B Football Championship on six points, two ahead of Knockaderry to qualify for a semi final meeting with league winners Athea in a couple of weeks' time. Granagh Ballingarry GAA Jackie

#### Historic Minor Hurling crown for Ballingarry 50 years on

County Premier Minor Hurling Championship final 1971 A new name was inscribed in the Limerick County Minor hurling trophy 50 years ago at Paire na nGael on Sunday 12th September 1971 where Ballingarry beat Kilmallock by 4-5 to 1-8 in a thrilling and exciting decider. An hour of swaying fortunes with the lead alternating several times and the issue always in doubt. Kilmallock dominated the first half but were only ahead by three points 1-4 to 1-1 at the interval. The Ballingarry boys resumed in a whirlwind fashion and edged ahead with scores from Michael John Hourigan 1-0, and Joe Fitzgerald 0-2. Kilmallock regained the lead with 9 minutes remaining, and were two points ahead. Ballingarry, winners of the County juvenile title in 1969 staged an all out rally and the spark they needed came in the 21st minute of the second half when Michael Healy soloed his way through the Kilmallock defence before passing to John Cagney for a great goal. Then points from Joe Fitzgerald and Mike Chawke plus a late goal from Peter Dunworth clinched the issue in Ballingarry's favour for a thrilling six point 4-5 to 1-8 victory for the boys in green and gold to claim a first ever Limerick County Minor hurling championship title to add to the county juvenile title won in 1969 by the same panel of players. After the game Ballingarry winning captain Davy Clifford received the Limerick County minor hurling championship cup amid great scenes of jubilation. **Ballingarry:** Jack Kelly, Bobby Reidy, Maurice Daly, Liam Fitzgerald, Billy O'Connor, Davy Clifford, captain, Davy O'Keeffe, Sean Kennedy, Mike Chawke, Mike Healy, Joe Fitzgerald, Peter Dunworth, Michael John Hourigan, John Cagney, Dick Kelly, David Fitzgerald, John Chawke, Conor O'Keeffe, Paddy Dunworth and Paddy Hennessy.

#### County U19B Hurling Championship Group 2 Round 2

The meeting of Granagh/Ballingarry and St. Kierans in Round 2 of Group 2 in the County U10 B Hurling Championship postponed on Thursday evening as a mark of respect to the late Jimmy Stapleton is now rescheduled for Tuesday 14th September in Coolcappa at 6.30pm. In the opening series of games on Friday 13th August St. Kierans received a bye while the Granagh/Ballingarry boys were impressive 4-22 to 0-9 winners over a gallant Dromcollogher/Broadford. The winning Granagh/Ballingarry side was Philip Byrnes, Padraig McKenna, Eoin Enright, Mark O'Shea, Eoin Lynch, Eoin Herlihy, Brian Sheehy, Darragh Casey 1-2, Sean Murphy 0-3, Paudie Murphy 2-0, Michael Russell 1-12 (0-7 frees), TJ Tierney 6-1, Eoin Horgan 0-1, Eoin Lynch 0-3, Cian McCoy. Sub used Tim O'Donoghue. A tight match is expected in Coolcappa on Tuesday with hopefully a full strength side. Your support would be appreciated for the boys in black and green, their manager Graham Russell and his selectors, to cheer them on in their bid to qualify for the quarter final of the County U-19 B hurling championship.

#### September County Club Draw

The next Limerick County GAA Clubs draw is on Saturday 25th September with a top prize of €10,000. There are a host of others prizes to be won, 2nd prize €3,000, 3rd €2,000, 4th €1,000, 5th exclusive prize of a 128 gb Ipad, 6th to 9th €500, 10th to 13th €250, 14th to 30th €100. Entry to the draw is just €10 per week with the option to join our ten monthly draw which commences on Saturday 11th September and County Club draw for €150. Granagh/Ballingarry has two winners to date Nora Farragher who won €100 in March and Paul McCarthy won €100 in May and Teresa McCarthy won the exclusive star prize in August. If you would like to renew your membership please follow the link **HERE**. You may also contact the Granagh/Ballingarry club draw co-ordinator **Stephen Stapleton on 086-1960301.**

**Note** all new names to be included in the September 25th draw must be in by Wednesday 22nd September at 12 noon. **All Ireland Football Ball Tickets Given the drastically reduced number of tickets being provided to the Limerick County Board for the Mayo v Tyrone All Ireland senior football final on Saturday 11th in Croke Park unfortunately the Limerick club will receive no tickets for this year's final.**

#### Club Diary

##### Thursday 9th September:

County Junior A Hurling Championship Group 3 Round 2 Crecora v Templeglantine in Mick Neville Park Rathkeale at 8pm.

##### Friday 10th September:

County Senior Hurling Championship Section B Group 2 Round 2: Kildimo/Pallaskenry v Monaleen in Paire na nGael at 7.30p.m. County Premier Intermediate Hurling Championship Group 2 Round 2: Glenroe v Newcastle West in Kilbreedy at 7.30pm.

##### Saturday 11th September:

County Senior Hurling Championship Section A Group 1 Round 2: Ballybrown v Kilmallock in Paire na nGael at 7.30p.m.

County Premier Intermediate Hurling Championship Group 1 Round 2: Murroe/Boher v Knockainey in Caherconlish at 6pm. Cappamore v Mungret/St. Pauls in Cloughaun at 6p.m. County Intermediate Hurling Championship Group 2 Round 2: Hospital/Herbertstown v Croom in Bruff at 5.30pm.

County Junior A Hurling Championship Group 3 Round 2: Caherline v Old Christians ion Caherdavin at 6pm.

County Junior A Hurling Championship Group 4 Round 2: Staker Wallace v Rathkeale in Feenagh at 6p.m.

County Junior A Hurling Championship Group 1 Round 2: Feenagh/Kilmeedy v Askeaton in Knockaderry at 6pm.

County Junior A Hurling Championship Group 4 Round 2: Castletown/Ballyagran v Cloughaun in Clarina at 6p.m.

County Junior A Hurling Championship Group 3 Round 2: Ballybricken/Bohermore v Drom/Broadford at Croom at 6pm.

All Ireland Senior Football Championship Final: Mayo v Tyrone in Croke Park at 5pm.

##### Sunday 12th September:

All Ireland Premier Junior Camogie Championship Final: Armagh v Wexford in Croke Park at 12 noon. All Ireland Intermediate Camogie Championship Final: Antrim v Kilkenny in Croke Park at 2pm. All Ireland Senior Camogie Championship Final: Cork v Galway in Croke Park at 4.15pm. West Junior B Hurling Championship Group 4 Round 1: Feohangh/Castlemahon v Tournafulla in Newcastle west at 6pm. Feenagh/Kilmeedy v Newcastle West in Dromcollogher at 12 noon.

West Junior B Hurling Championship Group 2 Round 1: Monagea v Drom/Broadford in Quaid Park, Coolyroe at 3pm. West Junior B Hurling Championship Group 3 Round 1: Adare v Askeaton in Ballingarry at 12 noon. County Senior Hurling Championship Section A Group 2 Round 2: Ahane v Patrickswell in Paire na nGael at 4.45pm. County Senior Hurling Championship Section B Group 1 Round 2: Garryspillane v Blackrock in Paire na nGael at 1.30pm.

County Premier Intermediate Hurling Championship Group 2 Round 2: Dromin/Athlaca v Bruff in Kilmallock at 1p.m. County Intermediate Hurling Championship Group 1 Round 2: Granagh/Ballingarry v Tournafulla in Feenagh at 1pm. County Intermediate Hurling Championship Group 3 Round 2: Knockaderry v Feohanagh/Castlemahon in Sean Finn Park, Rathkeale at 1pm.

County Intermediate Hurling Championship Group 4 Round 2: Kilmallock v Na Piarsaigh in Croom at 1pm County Junior A Hurling Championship Group 4 Round 2: Ballybrown v Killeedy in Askeaton at 1pm

County Junior A Hurling Championship Group 2 Round 2: Garryspillane v Killeely/Dromkeen in Hospital at 6pm Monagea v Ahane at Mick Neville Park, Rathkeale at 8.15pm St. Kierans v St. Patricks in Croagh at 1pm.



Friday 10th Sept  
2021

County Junior A Hurling Championship Group 1 Round 2: Mungret St. Pauls v Doon in Caherally at 6pm Monaleen v Patrickswell in Caherdavin at 6pm

##### Tuesday 14th September:

County U-19 B Hurling Championship Group 2 Round 2: Granagh/Ballingarry v St. Kierans in Coolcappa at 6.30pm County U19B Hurling Championship Group 2 Round 2

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**The winning Granagh/Ballingarry side** was Philip Byrnes, Padraig McKenna, Eoin Enright, Mark O'Shea, Eoin Lynch, Eoin Herlihy, Brian Sheehy, Darragh Casey 1-2, Sean Murphy 0-3, Paudie Murphy 2-0, Michael Russell 1-12 (0-7 frees), TJ Tierney 6-1, Eoin Horgan 0-1, Eoin Lynch 0-3, Cian McCoy. Sub used Tim O'Donoghue.

**Granagh-Ballingarry GAA**  
**WEEKLY LOTTO DRAW**  
4th September 2021

9

10

23

26

**No Winner**

**Lucky Dips @ €20 Each**  
Graham Russell Online  
Anthony & Jack Cregan Snakes Shop  
Shane Mulqueen Con O'Keeffe/Denis O'Connor  
Jerry Seannell Dinny A

**Next Draw 11th September**  
**JACKPOT**  
**€14,800**

**Buy Ticket HERE**

