



Ollie Nolan-Sydney

So, where are you living now and what are you up to?

I am currently living in Bondi, Sydney Australia. I am working as a formworker/converter/steel fixer. Not what I had originally intended but anything to pay the bills over here when ma and da are not around.

When did you play for the club and which teams were you on?

I played for the club from a very young age I'm guessing from the age of 6 until I was about 20 when I stopped. Most famously on the first Éire Óg team to take back the minor football championship to the club. I captained that team much like my uncle Mick who captained the intermediates to the senior championship if I'm not mistaken.

Did you have much or any success?

I was lucky to take home many medals and trophies through the years. When you had Pheilam Byrne playing midfield for your team growing up there wasn't much we couldn't win in the hurling. Lifting the cup for the minor football championship was my greatest success in the club.

Is there a particular match that stands out in your memory?

Yes!! The final of the minor football championship against Rathnew. We were up against it playing them, three points down with nothing on the clock. A ball gets kicked high into Emmet Bollard and he incredibly sticks the ball into the back of the net forcing a replay. It was nail biting stuff.

What mentors stand out who had a big impact on you?

Every mentor I had down in the club stand out in their own way. Each took the time out of their lives to be part of the club and teach us along the way. Brendan Cuddihy, Colm and Mossy Gaskin, Ciaran Goff, Ronan Sweeney, Barry O'Reilly, Philip Smullen, Paul Hayden, Mick Kenrick, Fergus O'Brien all of them are due a thanks and a well done for the work and most importantly the time they gave us all. One memory sticks out from Fergus O'Brien years ago. It was a scorcher of an evening during the summer and we had training. Out comes Fergus with two buckets of water and he soaked every ball we had as in his words "it won't be sunny come game day."

Any funny or amusing story from your time with the club?

One memory comes to mind from years ago. It was after a hurling match can't remember where we were. But I do remember there was a lot of sheep and with sheep comes "shit". I just remember Colm Gaskin washing Martin Joyce down with a hose and freezing water because Shaun Byrne had smeared some sheep shit on him after the game. We got some laugh watching from the bus.

Have you played or been involved in Gaelic games at all since leaving the club?

No haven't played since I left. Done one training with a team in Sydney but that was it.

Favourite teammate?

As a kid it was Pheilam Byrne for sure. We were best friends in school and he made hurling look easy back then. He could do anything with the ball and every team we played knew who he was.

Any possibility of returning to Greystones and maybe evening wearing the jersey or getting involved in some capacity again?

Yes, I will be home to live in the future and I would never rule out toggging out in the blue and white again.