



# MARCH 2014

## WATERGRASSHILL UNITED NEWSLETTER

In this March edition of our newsletter we highlight the events over the last 3 months, the development within the club, our progress in the CSL & AUL and look forward to the Fashion Show and the Family Fun Weekend fundraisers. We have changed the frequency of the newsletter to once a quarter. March, June, September and December. Newsletters can be downloaded from our website and will be emailed to our distribution list. Enjoy the read.



Great turnout at the Fermoy's St. Patrick's Day Parade. Watergrasshill Utd boys and girls wore their hill colours proudly! We could hear their singing back in the Hill. More photos can be found on our website.

From all of us at the club we would thank all families, coaches & club members for their support in our second St Patrick's Day parade!



Our first annual Family Bowling Night at The Planet on March 7th was a great success and a hugely enjoyable night was had by all! Some of our members seem to be undiscovered talents at this game as there were some unbelievable shots throughout the night - especially among the younger players in the first hour who managed to get several strikes!

We had 16 teams in total over the course of the night and there was a real buzz around the place as the friendly rivalries developed as the games progressed. There were some great prizes given out including Bluetooth speakers, WGH Beanie Hats, Easter Eggs and vouchers for free bowling!

We would just like to thank our sponsors Moynihan's Pharmacy Watergrasshill, Terry's Hair Studio Watergrasshill and McAfee Sports & Social Club for their generosity and contributions towards this event and thanks to the staff at The Planet for their professionalism and assistance on the night. Most importantly, a big thank you to all our Coaches, Members, Parents, Family Members and Friends for their support on the night!





## Tom Stavrou – Always a Watergrasshill United Man!

Tom's life in the USA has been mostly about soccer and a some fun outside the game. He has certainly enjoyed his time since moving from Ireland almost three years ago. Soccer is much bigger in the USA than we had imagined and although at a national level it does not compete with the more established sports like American Football, Baseball and Basketball, at schools there are more boys and girls playing soccer than any other sport.

The soccer season is divided into two halves, with the school leagues running from August through to November and the club leagues from December through to June; although at the National Level the season runs from August through to June, which is pretty much where Tom is.



During his first year at Walter Johnson High School, he played for the Junior Varsity Team, which is only for boys in the first two years of high school, before being promoted, at the end of the season, to the Varsity Team (School First Team). For his second and third years of high school he has played for the Varsity Team, topping the charts both years for the most assists and this year as the top goal scorer as well.

The standard of soccer at his school and in Montgomery County, where we live, is high and since Tom has been at this school a number of kids have become U18 internationals (USA and Germany) and quite a few signed professional forms in Europe and elsewhere (one of them has an Arsenal squad number). The ultimate award for schools soccer is being selected as a member of the All-State Team, which is chosen by coaches from players in over 450 high schools teams in Maryland State. This is more like a Hall of Fame rather than an actual team. However, during 2012, he did represent the State of Maryland at the U17 level and helped them reach the semi-finals of the Eastern Conference Cup.

Tom joined the local Bethesda Soccer Club and first played for the Bethesda Cosmos U16 and then Bethesda United U17. This season, he was invited to trials for the USA National Development Academy U18, of which there are 80 squads around the USA which feed directly into the National Team USA U18 team. Indeed, there are a couple of players from his academy who are in the National Squad. This is part of the USA National soccer set up and the standard is very high, with Tom yet to break into the team, but as one of five still U17's in the squad of 23, he should have a chance next season.

The training is brutal, 2 ½ hours for six days a week, and between August and November, there is an overlap with the School season, therefore he trains twice a day for over 5 hours in total. With the average length of homework being a further two hours daily and school starting at 07:20, his days are full.



Weekends are grand though and with many friends there is always something to do. He has been dating Sammi, who herself is a pretty top level gymnast competing all over the USA, for over a year now, and so we only get to see him for a few minutes over breakfast and occasionally on weekends in-between doing something. And to finish off, it should be said that in the exercise room, hangs a red shirt with his name and the Watergrasshill United badge, making sure that this great club is not forgotten.







# GIRLS ACADEMY



## Girls Jenkinson Sponsorship

Many thanks to all the parents and U-12 squad members who attended our Club sponsored jacket presentation recently in The First Fruits Arts Centre Watergrasshill. Derek O'Kelly Lynch, Director of Jenkinson Logistics, based in Glanmire presented individually all our U-12 squad with quality Club crested jackets.

## Congratulations to Gwen Conroy & Deirdre Doyle!

Congratulations to Gwen Conroy and Deirdre Doyle who completed FAI Kick Start 1 yesterday in the Sports Village in the Model Farm Road. Watergrasshill United is committed to providing the best facilities possible to our members and we now have over 20 coaches qualified at a minimum of FAI Introductory Level Coaching!

## A First For WGH Utd Girls!

Lisa O Keeffe has been called up by the Cork Women's & Schoolgirls Soccer League (C.W.S.S.L.) for their Cork Development Academy (Players born in 2001/2002) who train at Mayfield Community College's astro facilities. Lisa is the first girl member from Watergrasshill United, since our formation back in 2004, to represent the Club at this age category and level. Congratulations Lisa, a proud moment for us ALL...!





### **Ross's Centra Continue Summer Camp Sponsorship!**

We are delighted to announce that Ken Ross of Ross's Centra Watergrasshill has once again shown his support to Watergrasshill United and will be sponsoring our Summer Camp next Summer. The camp will run from Monday 30th June through Friday July 4th inclusive 9.30am-2.30pm. More details to follow. Thanks Ken!!!

# **WATERGRASSHILL UNITED SUMMER CAMP**



### **Team Thomas Supporting Ross's Centra Summer Camp 2014!**

We are delighted to announce that Jennifer Thomas & Staff at Team Thomas Fitness Centre will once again partner us in this year's Summer Camp, facilitating, as in previous years, our participants to their fitness facilities at Annacarton Bridge, Watergrasshill and of course promoting healthy lifestyles & fitness training.

Check out the wide range & variety of classes on [www.teamthomasfitness.com](http://www.teamthomasfitness.com) and also on Facebook CHEERS JENNIFER.....





## Underage Academy Boys Easter Tournament!

Our U7/U8/U9/U10 boys academy teams will be taking part in Ringmahon's annual Easter Tournament on Good Friday April 18th. We will play multiple games against Wilton United, Carrigaline United, Douglas Hall, Mallow United, Cobh Ramblers and host Ringmahon. Tournament registration will start around 9 and we finish around 3. We are looking for parents to help out on the day, please let rob know on 086-6050603 if you can lend a hand. More details to follow closer to the date.



## U11's Progress Report

The U11's have reached the half-way point of the season and we find ourselves well placed in league and cups. We remain unbeaten at the top of division 2 but with 14 games left to play. We are in the quarter finals of the Kevin Dillon cup and in the last 16 of The Local Cup

We have also played some quality teams in friendlies and Corinthians only got their winner in an outstanding match in the last minute of that game. An away win at 1st division Innisvilla was a sign of our will to succeed and see how far we can go in the Local Cup. We have reached a point where we now have the respect of premier and 1st division teams and have got some nice reviews from the Echo.

We continue to keep a low profile and rather than praise particular players on an ongoing basis we remain of the view that if you can get 22 or more 10 year olds training every week, then it is the 22 who take the credit for where we are and not just the few. So if you are looking for weather conditions on match days and what flowers are growing in the fields while games take place, you won't find them with us I'm afraid, you'll have to try Gerald Fleming or Jean Byrne for the weather and Gerry Daly for the Nature



## U14's in a Nine Goal Thriller

A game that had it all, not just nine goals. The one twos, the overlaps, the support play, the give and go's, the nudges, the square up's, the nutmegs, the physicality, the speed, the confidence, the long range goals, the wind, the coming of age. A truly enjoyable game started off with us playing into the wind. After watching a previous game before us, where the wind played a big part we were expecting to be up against it in the first half.

Within 6 minutes, we were one up when Padraig broke from our penalty area, from their corner and ran the full length of the pitch to score. Padraig was on fire and giving their right back a torrid time. Captain Christy was solid in midfield breaking up Passages play and with 20 minutes gone scored his first goal of the season after another run from Padraig. Lee and Tom was solid at the back, clearing all before them, when 2 minutes later against the run of play Passage pulled a goal back with the assistance of the wind to make the score 2-1. Three minutes later Padraig scored another goal to leave us with a 3-1 lead going into the break.



Not taking anything for granted we approached the second half with caution as we expected Passage to come at us strongly. Passage had suffered only 1 defeat this season. After an evenly contested first 14 minutes we increased our lead with Desmond scoring from outside the box. 5 minutes later Evan increased our lead from a scramble in the box. Poachers goal.

Within a minutes Passage pulled one back to 5-2. They scored next to make it 5-3. With 3 minutes to go Evan scored his second after a fine run from Sean who shot at goal got stuck on the line and Evan was there to tap it in.

The most pleasing aspect was the lads starting to believe in themselves and also in each other as a team. Final Score: Passage 3 - Watergrasshill Utd 6 Thanks to all parents who travelled for your continued support and commitment.





## **U16 St Patrick's day league game v Blarney Wgh utd 3 .1 Blarney**

While our underage academy were in singing form at the Fermoy Parade, our u16 lads we're lining out against Blarney who are mid table like ourselves.

This game started with Blarney in control, but we capitalized on a mistake in the Blarney defense where Neill stepped up and slotted the ball home from close range. The rest of the 1st half it was all Blarney in which they got there goal after endless pressure on our goal. Only for our back 4 who were outstanding during the match along with Kieran in goal they could have been 3.1 up. The 5 lads in midfield worked really hard to make life as hard as possible for Blarney who owned the ball in this half. A lot of tired bodies at half time with a few words of encouragement from Noel and a few tactical switches. It saw us take to the field in the second half and put the ball down and play our passing game. It wasn't long before we got our second from some great work by James and Cathal in midfield to set Arron up to score our second. From here on we ran the show with our 3rd goal coming from a great clearance by Sean setting Pearse up to score the goal of the game ..3.1. We saw out this game very professionally with all the lads sticking to there jobs and frustrating Blarney with our excellent work rate.

Squad Kieran, Andrew, Sean, Jack, Calum, Greg, Cathal, Pearse, Neill, Arron, James Seamus, Connor

A special word of thanks to the players and parent's for your continued support.  
Noel and Derry

## **U15's Kick Start Their Season with a 3-1 Win!**

Avondale were the opponents two weeks ago and having lost 4-3 to them in the opening game of the season we knew it would be a close game.

Watergrasshill started the match reasonably well and it was one way-traffic for most of the first half with the lads having several shots on goal. However it was Avondale who struck first on the break, converting their only clear chance in the first half.

The second half saw Watergrasshill up the tempo with some much better performances around the pitch and we were rewarded with our first goal through James. Having drawn level we pressed high up the pitch and our efforts were rewarded as James curled a beautiful shot into the top corner from outside the box.

Moments later after some more good play, Karol emerged with the ball at his feet from the box and slotted it into the bottom corner to give us a two goal cushion.

Avondale pressed for the last 15 minutes of the match but the defense held with Kieran making several fine saves and a dominating performance from Andrew in midfield. We saw out the game and it ended 3-1 to Watergrasshill.



# CSL TABLES

Umbro U11 Leagues **Umbro U11 Division 2** Division table

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
Watergrasshill United	6	6	0	0	36	9	27	18
Bandon	6	5	0	1	29	15	14	15
Crosshaven	7	5	0	2	25	13	12	15
Ballincollig	6	5	0	1	19	11	8	15
Carrigaline Hibernians	6	2	2	2	18	19	-1	8
Castleview	5	2	0	3	13	13	0	6
Greenwood	4	1	1	2	7	7	0	4
Corkbeg	6	1	1	4	23	25	-2	4
Fermoy	5	1	1	3	11	16	-5	4
Macroom	7	1	1	5	16	38	-22	4
Tramore Athletic	6	0	0	6	2	33	-31	0

Umbro U12 Leagues **Umbro U12 Division 4** Division table

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
Park United	6	6	0	0	32	9	23	18
Bandon	7	6	0	1	33	15	18	18
Watergrasshill United	5	5	0	0	26	11	15	15
Corkbeg	6	4	0	2	24	18	6	12
Innishvilla	6	3	0	3	16	9	7	9
Passage United	6	1	1	4	17	30	-13	4
Leeside	5	1	0	4	10	22	-12	3
Grenagh United	5	1	0	4	9	25	-16	3
Ballinhassig	7	0	2	5	18	32	-14	2
Richmond	5	0	1	4	9	23	-14	1

Umbro U13 Leagues **Umbro U13 Division 2** Division table

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
Macroom	7	6	0	1	33	20	13	18
Everton	5	4	1	0	16	7	9	13
Carrigaline Hibernians	6	4	1	1	11	6	5	13
Watergrasshill United	5	2	1	2	10	17	-7	7
Leeds	6	2	0	4	16	16	0	6
Springfield Ramblers A	5	1	2	2	12	13	-1	5
Crosshaven	6	1	2	3	14	18	-4	5
Mayfield United	6	1	0	5	12	20	-8	3
St. Mary's	4	0	1	3	7	14	-7	1

Umbro U14 Leagues **Umbro U14 Division 3** Division table

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
Park United	6	5	0	1	18	7	11	15
Passage United	5	3	0	2	17	14	3	9
Watergrasshill United	6	3	0	3	16	14	2	9
Carrigtwohill United	6	3	0	3	14	15	-1	9
Buttevant	8	3	0	5	16	22	-6	9
Kinsale	5	2	0	3	10	14	-4	6
Macroom	6	2	0	4	12	17	-5	6

Umbro U15 Leagues **Umbro U15 Division 2** Division table

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
Kilreen Celtic	7	5	1	1	28	14	14	16
Macroom	6	5	0	1	29	12	17	15
Carrigaline Hibernians	7	5	0	2	21	15	6	15
Riverstown	6	4	1	1	21	12	9	13
Everton	6	2	0	4	18	23	-5	6
Avondale United	7	2	0	5	17	23	-6	6
Strand United	6	1	0	5	11	28	-17	3
Watergrasshill United	7	1	0	6	13	31	-18	3

Umbro U16 Leagues **Umbro U16 Division 3** Division table

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
Bandon	8	7	0	1	48	22	26	21
Youghal United	8	7	0	1	39	18	21	21
Watergrasshill United	7	4	0	3	27	24	3	12
Blarney United A	8	3	2	3	10	13	-3	11
Lakewood Athletic A	8	3	2	3	10	13	-3	11
Midleton A	8	3	1	4	11	22	-11	10
Evergreen	9	2	2	5	14	24	-10	8
Carrigaline United A	7	2	1	4	13	21	-8	7
Churchvillia	7	1	3	3	12	18	-6	6
St. Mary's	8	1	1	6	13	22	-9	4





# FASHION SHOW

**APRIL 4<sup>th</sup> 8PM**

**CORRIN EVENT CENTRE**  
FERMOY

*MAD HATTER THEME*

*Prize for the most  
Original, unusual, creative,  
imaginative, unique HAT  
on the night*

COMPLIMENTARY WINE & CHEESE RECEPTION  
INTERVAL ENTERTAINMENT BY

**NIAMH BARRETT  
& CORK CIRCUS**

€3 BUS LEAVES VILLAGE @ 7.15 PM

TICKETS **€15** AVAILABLE FROM SCHOOL,  
LOCAL SHOPS & COMMITTEE MEMBERS

PRESENTED TO YOU BY THE WATERGRASSHILL NATIONAL SCHOOL PARENTS  
ASSOCIATION IN COOPERATION WITH WATERGRASSHILL UNITED

INFO [eWATERGRASSHILLUNITED.COM](http://watergrasshillunited.com)

 **WGHPARENTS**

WATERGRASSHILL NATIONAL SCHOOL PARENTS ASSOCIATION in cooperation with the WATERGRASSHILL UNITED FOOTBALL CLUB are organizing a Fashion Show fundraiser again this year. This years FASHION SHOW will be held on APRIL 4TH @ 8PM at the CORRIN EVENTS CENTRE in FERMOY.

This year we have a "Mad Hatters" theme and a great Prize for THE MOST ORIGINAL (unusual, creative, imaginative, unique) Hat on the night. Many Watergrasshill United players and parents will be modeling again at this event.

Tickets (€15) can be purchased soon from the school, local shops, committee members and from Watergrasshill United. Complementary wine and cheese reception on arrival.

Interval entertainment by Niamh Barrett and Cork Circus clowns/jugglers/fire breathers

A bus (€3) will leave the village at 7:15pm



# BIGGER, BETTER, MORE FUN



WATERGRASSHILL UNITED in cooperation with the WATERGRASSHILL NATIONAL SCHOOL PARENTS ASSOCIATION are organizing the June Bank Holiday Family Fun Weekend fundraiser again this year. This years Fun Weekend promises to be even bigger, better and more fun as last years. Highlights of the weekend will be the pig races and off course the battle for the wooden spoon at the over 35s tournament. More details will be posted on our website and Facebook page soon.



Crested Beanie hats now available in the online club shop. €7

<http://watergrasshillunited.com/shop>





Our re-stocked Watergrasshill United Online Club Shop is available on <http://watergrasshillunited.com/shop/>. Have a look and order your favorite Watergrasshill United Crested Club gear.



T-Shirts / Polo's



Shorts



Kits & Jerseys



Jackets



Training Gear



Tracksuits



Socks



Accessories



Gift Vouchers