

NAOMH ÓLAF  
1981



## Cumann Peile agus Iomána Naomh Ólaf, Áth an Ghainimh Naomh Ólaf GAA Club



Baile Mhic Amhlaoibh ("Olaf's Town") was the Irish name given to the local area now known as Balally. The Olaf in question is Sigtrygg "Silkbeard" Olafsson who was a Hiberno-Norse King, one of the first Viking Kings of Dublin.



Following a trip to Rome he instigated the building of Christ Church Cathedral, the oldest building in Dublin, around the year 1028. It was originally made of wood. Sigtrygg was married to Brian Boru's daughter, Sláine. He ruled a thriving Dublin for 42 years. In Norwegian, Olav and Olaf are traditionally used when referring to Norwegian royalty of that name.

Naomh Ólaf GAA Club came into being in 1981. It was founded to cater for the parishes of Sandyford and Balally and was named in honour of Olaf. Mick Brown, formerly of Naomh Fionnbarra, Cabra, an able hurler and committed GAA man, is credited with being the founding father of the club. He was ably assisted by a group of Balally residents who had the foresight to see the need and potential of Gaelic games in the area.

The first AGM of Naomh Ólaf GAA Club took place on Thursday, 26 November 1981, in Queen of Angels' school. The use of playing fields was kindly granted to Naomh Ólaf GAA Club by St. Benildus College, Dundrum/Churchtown GAA Club amalgated with Naomh Ólaf GAA Club in 1999.

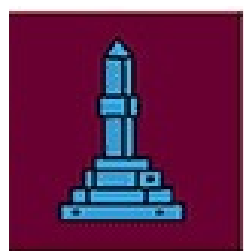
The Naomh Ólaf GAA Club crest now has elements of both the Naomh Ólaf club on a blue background and the Dundrum/Churchtown club mounted on a claret field.



The Viking ship was part of the family crest of Olaf (Amhlaoibh) and therefore acknowledges the Balally region of the club's catchment area. Dublin GAA also has a Viking Ship on its crest. Naomh Ólaf GAA Club is a Viking club in a Viking City.



This element of the crest represents the raven in the Naomh Ólaf coat of arms and represents the Sandyford catchment. It is derived from the Raven's Rock on the Wicklow Way, a large rock which overlooks Dublin and Wicklow. In Norse mythology, a valkyrie (from Old Norse valkyrja "chooser of the slain") are female figures who choose who lives or dies in battle. The valkyries, sometimes depicted as ravens, escorted their chosen to the afterlife hall, Valhalla, ruled by the god Odin.



The Usher monument represents the Dundrum area and celebrates Dr. Isaac Usher, a resident of the town, who was renowned for his work in support of the locality. Dr. Usher was one of the first motoring fatalities in Ireland in 1917 and the stone obelisk was erected in his memory.



The Bottle Tower is an iconic structure in Churchtown representing that region of the club's catchment area. It was constructed as famine relief work during the winter of 1741 - 42 and paid for by Major Hall, a notable resident of Churchtown.

*Naomh Ólaf GAA Club, a Viking Club in a Viking City*



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Tugadh Baile Mhic Amhlaoibh ar an mbaile fearainn atá suite díreach ó dheas de Dhún Droma agus is i ndiaidh Amhlaoibh (Ólaf) a ainmníodh é. Rí Gael-Lochlannach ar Bhaile Átha Cliath ab ea Sitric Mac Amhlaoibh agus is in ómós dó a ainmníodh Baile Mhic Amhlaoibh. Ba dhuine de na ríthe Lochlannacha ba thúisce ar Bhaile Átha Cliath é.



Tar éis dó turas a thabhairt ar an Róimh, chuir sé tús le tógáil Ardeaglais Chríost, an foirgneamh is ársa i mBaile Átha Cliath, thart ar an mbliain 1928. Is as adhmhad a tógadh an eaglais ar dtús. Pósadh Sitric agus Sláine, iníon Bhrian Bóroimhe, agus bhí sé i gceannas ar chathair a bhí faoi bhláth ar feadh 42 bliain.

Bunaíodh Cumann Naomh Ólaf CLG sa bhliain 1981 chun freastal ar pharóistí Áth an Ghainimh agus Bhaile Amhlaoibh agus is in ómós d'Ólaf a ainmníodh é. Tugtar an chreidiúint do Mhícheál de Brún, iar-imreoir Naomh Fionnbarra, Cabrach, iománaí cumasach agus fear a bhí tiomanta do Chumann Lúthchleas Gael, gur bh é bunaitheoir Chumann Naomh Ólaf. Níl dabht dá laghad ann, áfach, ná go bhfuair sé cúnamh thar na bearta ó bhuíon áitritheoirí fadradharcacha eile i mBaile Amhlaoibh a thuig an gá a bhí ann cumann a bhunú chun teacht i dtír ar an tsuim a bhí sna cluichí Gaelacha sa cheantar.

Is i mBunscoil Bhanríon na n-Aingeal a tionóladh an chéad chruinniú de Chumann Naomh Ólaf ar an Déardaoin, 26 Samhain, 1981. Thug Coláiste Naomh Benildus cead úsáide pháirc imeartha na scoile do Chumann Naomh Ólaf. Rinneadh Cumann Dhún Droma / Bhaile an Teampaill agus Cumann Naomh Ólaf a chónascadh sa bhliain 1999.

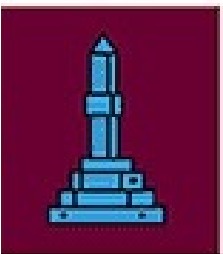
Tá suaitheantas Chumann Naomh Ólaf comhdhéanta de dhá mhír ar chúbra gorm a bhain le cumann Naomh Ólaf agus dhá mhír a bhain le Cumann Dhún Droma / Bhaile an Teampaill ar chúbra marúin.



Tá an long Lochlannach le feiceáil ar armas chlann Amhlaoibh agus seasann sé do cheantar Bhaile Amhlaoibh in abhantracht Chumann Naomh Ólaf. Tá long Lochlannach le feiceáil freisin ar shuaitheantas Átha Cliath.



Seasann an chuid seo den suaitheantas don fhiach dubh ar armas Amhlaoibh. Is nasc é le paróiste Áth an Ghainimh toisc go bhfuil sé bunaithe ar Charraig an Fhiaich Dhuibh atá suite ar Shlí Cualainn, carraig mhór a léiríonn radharc fhairsing ar Chontaetha Átha Cliath agus Chill Mhantáin.



Is léiriú é séadchomhartha Usher do cheantar Dhún Droma agus tugann sé aitheantas don Dochtúir Isacc Usher, fear a chónaigh ar an mbaile agus a rinne an-chuid ar son an phobail. Bhí sé ar dhuine dóibh siúd ba thúisce a maraíodh i dtimpiste bhóthair in Éirinn sa bhliain 1917 agus leagadh oibilisc ar an mbaile i gcuimhne air.



Is foirgneamh íocónach ar thaobh Bhaile an Teampaill d'abhantracht an chumainn é Túr an Bhuidéil. Clár oibre fóirithinte do dhaoine bochta le linn gheimhreadh crua na bliana 1741-42 a bhí i dtógáil an túir agus d'íoc an Maor de Hál, áitritheoir mór le rá, as.

**Cumann Naomh Ólaf, Cumann Lochlannach i gCathair Lochlannach.**