

IRELAND

Ciaran Coyne & Donal MacAonghusa

Ciaran started playing bridge a few months before his final year university exams in Galway when there was no money left for poker. He has played in the Camrose three times, all in partnership with David Walsh, and once in the European Championships in partnership with Donal MacAonghusa. He lives in Cork and is married with three sons aged six, three and two. He works in software development for an American multi-national company.

Donal, born Dublin, based in Galway, played bridge without much success for over 30 years. He represented Ireland in 2004 European Bridge Championships in Malmo in partnership with Ciaran and despite that, they are still playing together.

He has been a professional poker player for 20 years, and now works in the poker industry. With very little supporting evidence, he maintains that his playing style is "very conservative"! Donal is married, with two children.

Enda Glynn & David Walsh

Enda Glynn is a native of Lahinch, Co. Clare. Prior to taking up bridge he was a keen golfer playing off 2 handicap for many years. In 1992 he wrote "A Century of Golf at Lahinch" and there is a free copy for everyone if you call to the Office. He is extremely grateful to his Bridge partners - Irish Internationals Gay Keaveney (his tutor), Paul Scannell and Joan Kenny who all played for Ireland.

This is Enda's second Camrose. He partnered Gay Keaveney in 2013. Prior to that he partnered Paul Scannell on three occasions in the Senior Camrose.

David too, hails from Galway. This is his third time to play in the Camrose (??? See Ciaran's above)) although it has been over 10 years since he last played. The arrival of his wife, Orla, and 4 children put paid to that.

He started playing bridge a little over 20 years ago as most of his family were very keen players. Cards as an alternative to study, well, there was always going to be one winner. He is self-employed with a computer shop in Galway for close to 13 years. An avid sports fan with a particular interest in hurling, rugby and football, he think Connacht will join the big boys this year!.

Tom Hanlon & Hugh McGann

Born in 1967 and originally from Rochfortbridge, Co. Westmeath, Tom (aka "Kinder"), now living in Dublin, has been playing bridge since 1981. He will explain how he got the sobriquet "Kinder"! In 2004 he became Ireland's youngest Grand Master. Kinder moved straight from the Irish Junior Team to the Irish Open Team in 1994, following which he regularly represented Ireland in International events. Having 28 National titles under his belt he has won the Camrose (6 times), and the Lederer (twice).

When not playing bridge Tom is fond of the odd game of poker!

Also born in 1967 (but older than Tom) from Fermoy, Co. Cork now living in Leeds, Hugh works as a doctor in Leeds General Hospital. He formed a partnership with Tom Hanlon in 1991 and won a silver medal in the E.U. Junior Pairs in 1993. He has shared Tom's recent successes with the Irish Open Team. Hugh reached Grand Master rank in 2008.

With Tom, Hugh was part of the European Team that took part in the first two stagings of the Warren Buffett Cup. Europe beat USA in September 2008 in Louisville, Kentucky having lost in Dublin in 2006.

Gay Keaveney

Gay is a Doctor of Chemistry in GMIT and is the holder of the highest number of Irish National Points (equivalent of Gold Points). He has played international bridge in many European and World Events with the late Paddy Walsh, recently with Rory Timlin and even more recently with Pat McDevitt, with whom he played on the winning Teltscher Trophy team last May. He achieved European Grand Master level in 1999 and was part of the CBAI Camrose winning team in 2000. He will captain this year's CBAI team in the Lady Milne and is part of the CBAI team that will retain the Teltscher Trophy!