



0 are (from l to r): Derek Dolan, Fáilte Ireland; Ray O'Dwyer, County Manager, Waterford County Council; John Treacy, CEO, Irish Sports Council; Mel Shanley, Quantum Life; Denis McCarthy, WSP Coordinator, Waterford Sports Partnership.

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Derry City, was the venue for the prestigious All-Ireland Championships, with thousands of spectators and athletes alike taking to the grounds.

Laura Behan showed just exactly how much she has improved over the last 3 months when she scooped 3rd place in the very competitive junior women's race. With the country's best U18, U19 and U20 girls in the race, Laura took to the line in very snowy underfoot conditions. Over the opening stages Laura settled with the leading group and at the half way stages moved her way into a top 5 position. World junior medallist Ciara Mageean decided to put the foot down with over 2km to go and began to open a gap. The chasing pack had to respond and began to motor. With 800m to go, Laura moved into 2nd place and pushed

for the line, lodged in a great battle with Dublin's Fiona Mckenna and Down's Emma Mitchell. The closing 400m proved extremely tight with Laura grabbing 3rd place, just 3 seconds behind Emma Mitchell. With this super result ment automatic selection onto the Irish team for Laura, for the upcoming European Cross Country Championships. She will be a member of the squad of 6 junior girls. This is a great achievement and a big well done from all at the club!

### EXCELLENT RACE BY GARY CANTWELL AND JOHNNY SKEHAN

Gary Cantwell and Johnny Skehan took to the line in the boys U18 6k race. This race was run with the junior men as the distance was the same. Gary continued to show improvement with every race and

put in a mighty performance in Derry. After a good start Gary powered his way through the arctic like conditions, and came home in 16th place, an excellent result. Full results from the provincial competition were not at hand at time of print. Johnny Skehan, once again put in a very strong performance as he showed great pace over the 6000m race, coming home in a very good position.

### FINE PERFORMANCE FROM HANNAH POWER

During what were the worst conditions of the whole day, Hannah Power lined up in the girls U12 race. With snow coming down very heavily, all athletes found it very difficult to even see ahead of them and all bravely made their way around the course. In what was her first All-Ireland race, Hannah showed great determination when she came home in an excellent 30th place, well done.

Congratulations to the athletes who participated in what was a unique, snow covered All-Ireland Championships. A big thank you to the parents who made the long journey up to Derry, especially considering the hazardous conditions.

### EUROPEANS CHAMPIONSHIPS

With just under two weeks to go to the European Championships (Albufeira, Portugal), Athletics Ireland have finalised the Irish team. Full details next week.

### BREEN BROADENS HIS HORIZONS

BY TREVOR MCGRATH

After his great result on Rally Great Britain, Craig Breen is still working hard in the off-season as he prepares for 2011. The Irish driver who turns twenty one in February is delighted to announce that former British navigator, Mike Broad will join the team and act as Mentor as Craig takes on the world's best young talent in the inaugural running of the World Rally Championship Academy.

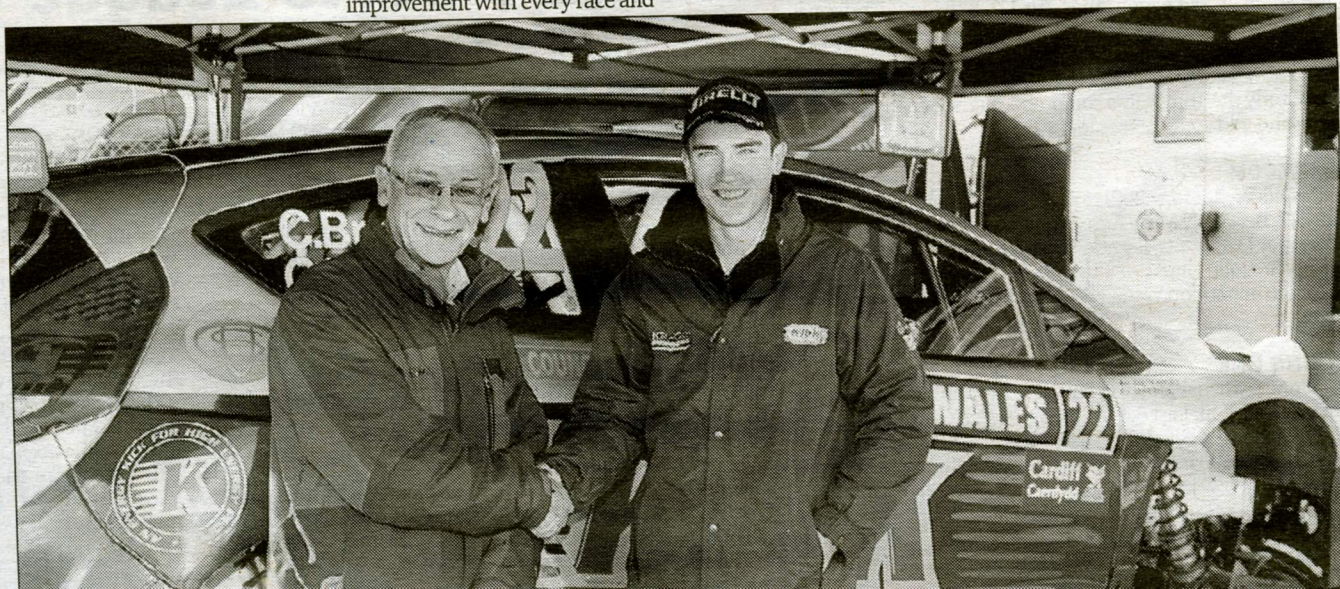
Former co driver, Broad has over

thirty years of experience in British and World Rallying and will be best remembered for being in the hot seat with ex British Champion Russell Brookes, but Mike's CV also has the names of Tony Fall, Walter Röhrl and the late British World Champion Colin McRae that he has shared a cockpit with.

The appointment comes on the back of Craig's win at the Pirelli Star Driver Shootout in Spain and best WRC result on Rally GB. As Craig took on the second half of his 2010 season Craig's dad, Ray began to see the need for another voice other than a parent or family member to advise Craig and advance his career. Ray states, "After deliberating Craig's future over the past three to six months, I determined that Craig needs a different voice and perspective other than mine to advise him. Next season Craig will be in the World Rally limelight as he takes part in the Junior World Rally Championship. He is still growing as a driver and will require advise inside and outside the car, plus he also needs a person that he respects and looks up to. After seeking advice on the correct person to appoint, I'm delighted to welcome Mike on board as Craig's Mentor. Mike has a long history in the sport, his knowledge and contacts can only help further Craig's career. I contacted Mike before the Global Shootout in Spain and invited him to come with us to Salou, where we discussed coming onboard to mentor Craig, we then spoke at rally GB and I'm now delighted to announce that Mike will play a vital roll next season in the team."

Craig was also delighted to release the news, "It's great to have Mike in my corner for next season and looking ahead to the future. I'm young to remember his days with Russell Brookes in the Manta but his reputation precedes him. His history in the sport, knowledge and contacts will be important as I take the next steps in my career."

Mike has been watching the Waterford driver for some time and said "Craig has only been rallying for two year's and has made a big impact. I'm very much looking forward to helping advance the career of young Craig, who could yet be an exceptional talent."



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