

# Cumann Chluain Daimh

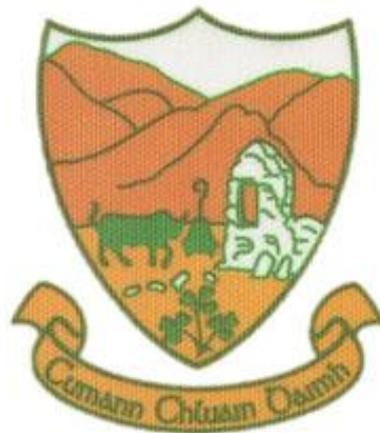


Crinniú Cinn Cliaana 2014  
(Annual General Meeting 2014)

TUAIRISCIGH AN RUNAÍ  
(Secretary's Report)

26<sup>u</sup> Mí na Samhain 2014)  
(26<sup>th</sup> November 2014)

í Ceannáras Chluain Daimh





Cumann Lúthchleas Gael  
**CUMANN CHLUAIN DAIMH**  
Clonduff Gaelic Athletic Club



*Affiliated since 1887*

*Hon President:  
Dean A Davies*

*Hon Chairman:  
Brendan Murray*

*Hon Secretary:  
Anita Brannigan  
59 Rostrevor Road  
Hilltown  
Co Down BT34 5TZ*

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of CLONDUFF GAA Club will be held on  
WEDNESDAY 26<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2014 at 7 PM in Ceannaras Chluain Daimh  
All members are invited to discuss the following:

**CLÁR OBIBRE/AGENDA**

- Minutes of 2013 AGM
- Adoption of Standing Orders
- Secretary's Report
- Camogie Report
- Treasurer's Report
- Football Review Update
- Chairman's Address
- President's Address
- Election of Officers
- Motions to AG
- Any other notified business

Is mise

*Anita Brannigan*

Anita Brannigan  
Runai (Secretary)  
Cumann Chluain Daimh (Clonduff GAA Club)





Cumann Lúthchleas Gael  
**CUMANN CHLUAIN DAIMH**  
Clonduff Gaelic Athletic Club  
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(Annual General Meeting 2014)

## GNÁTHRIALACHA/STANDING ORDERS

1. The Proposer of a motion or Amendment may speak for five minutes, and not more than five minutes.
2. A Delegate speaking to a resolution or an amendment must not exceed three minutes.
3. The proposer of a Resolution or an Amendment may speak for a second time for three minutes, before a vote is taken, but no other delegate may speak for a second time to the same Resolution or Amendment.
4. The Chairman, may at any time, he considers a matter has been sufficiently discussed, call on the proposer for a reply and when that has been given A VOTE MUST BE TAKEN.
5. A Delegate may, with the consent of the Chairman move that THE QUESTION BE NOW PUT, after which, when the Proposer has spoken, A VOTE HAS TO BE TAKEN.
6. Standing Orders shall not be suspended for the purpose of considering any matter not on the Agenda, except by the consent of the equal to TWO-THIRDS OF THOSE PRESENT AND VOTING.

## **SECRETARY'S REPORT 2014**

2014 was a memorable year in many respects starting with the launch of the Football Development Plan, the first of such plan for Clonduff field sports. This was followed by the resurrection of The Parish Scór which saw upward on 150 of our adults strut their stuff simply for bragging rights! In May Jason Brown kicked his way to the All Ireland Cic Saor title, earning himself €5,000, and 'Yours Truly' was selected as the Irish News 'Volunteer of the Year'. Throughout the summer the Down Camogs and Ladies Footballers, both managed by Clonduff men, thrilled us with their performances especially in Croke Park in September. And in the meantime the Clonduff Camogs collected their 4<sup>th</sup> County title and went on to collect Clonduff's first ever Ulster title at the end of October on the day after Fionnuala Carr, one of seven Clonduff girls on the successful Down Camogie team, collected her 3<sup>rd</sup> Soaring Star Award. Earlier this month we received word that we had been awarded our second Platinum Club Maith, almost two years after submitting the portfolio and was the basis for Clonduff being presented with Ulster GAA President's Award for Club Governance.

Membership this year came in at 825 – slightly up on last year and not only do we continue to hold our place as the largest rural club in Down but we have moved into second place overall.

In the early part of the year we were fielding 14 Football, 8 Camogie, 4 Hurling and 3 Ladies Football teams. Later in the season there was also U21 Football, U11 (2 teams) and U13 (2 teams) – a total of 34 field teams. It is my belief and also that of many others in Clonduff that the GAA playing season is far too short. A number of the juvenile leagues were completed by the end of July meaning that some of our children were playing our games at club level for about three months of the year! What do they do for the other nine months of the year?

Our juveniles earned four handball titles with Erin Rafferty and Clara Cowan created their own bit of history by becoming the first Clonduff females to win a county Handball title (U14 Doubles) and progressing to the Ulster Final.

As usual we were well represented in Scór with our Instrumental Musicians retaining their Scór Sinsir title. Once again our Club was well represented on County and Schools teams with both players and management personnel and we are continuing with the Social Initiative Programme.

With regard to the developments around the grounds, the car park spaces have been marked out for Health and Safety reasons and we particularly appeal to our own people to use the spaces as they should be used.

### **RÉITEORÍ (REFEREES)**

We had two Hurling, two Football, two Ladies Football and four Camogie adult referees active during the past year. In addition, Paula Cairns and Sarah Bloomfield trained as linespersons for LGFA. We need to encourage the County Boards to reintroduce 'Young Referee' and 'Young Whistler' programmes and hopefully, some of those who have previously qualified at this level will forge ahead and convert this qualification to full referee status. We need more adult referees, as a club the size of ours warrants.

### **TACAIOCHT CLUICHI (ADULT GAMES)**

The remit of this Sub Committee was to look after the needs of Football, Hurling and Ladies Football. It tended to concentrate on Adult Football as the Hurling and Ladies presented few problems and Camogie looked after themselves. We need to ensure this subcommittee embraces all the codes in relation to seeking and appointing linesmen, umpires, medical assistants score keeper and gate collectors for home games in all codes as envisioned in Our Five Year Plan.

To Chairperson John Anthony Gribben and his team we say 'Thank You'.

### **PEIL (FOOTBALL)**

#### **FOIRANN SINSIR PEIL (SENIOR FOOTBALL TEAM)**

Mouthguards and black cards were introduced at the beginning of the season for all footballers at all levels. Unfortunately some of our adult players felt mouthguards were not necessary but when the referee exercised his authority and asked players to leave the field of play they quickly learned. To drive this home, in a couple of recent Insurance claims for leg injuries I was asked to send in letter stating that the players WERE using mouthguards when they injured their legs! It sounds ridiculous but that is a 'get out' clause for the Insurance Company not to pay. This applies to training as well as games.

Unfortunately we were the club that received the first black card in Down but we didn't seem to learn from it but

more on that later.

Our Senior team finished 7<sup>th</sup> in the 16-team league having won 8 and lost 7 games. They finished 2<sup>nd</sup> in their Championship group but fell to eventual winners Kilcoo in the quarter final. The Seniors went to Kilmacud in September and performed very well reaching the semi final where they fell to eventual winners St Galls. There are plans afoot to once again change the format of the League and Championship – league MAY change to home and away 10 or 12 team format and Championship MAY change to knockout with one backdoor chance. The changes will be discussed/implemented by CCC following feedback from clubs and may not come into force until 2016.

Aidan Carr and Darren O’Hagan were members of the Down Senior Football team.

Thanks to the joint managers Keith Kelly and Brendan Loughran; Trainer Rowan Kearns, Stats Ciarán McGreevy and team Nurse Sarah Grant.

#### ***FOIREANN DHÁ (PREMIER RESERVE TEAM)***

The Seconds, who train with the Seniors also retained their Div 1 Premier Reserve League status finishing 6<sup>th</sup> in their 10-team league winning 8 and losing 10 games. As in last year there was difficulty on occasion fielding a team as some players failed to make themselves available. This is not satisfactory as at times at the Friday night Senior games there was up to 40 players turning up – all of them except those named in the Top 13 are eligible to play for the Seconds – again one must question the commitment and discipline of our players. They were beaten by Kilcoo in the first round of Premier Reserve Championship.

Thanks to Louis Brown and Hugh Grant who looked after the Seconds.

#### ***FOIREANN TRIUR (THIRDS [RESERVE] TEAM)***

The Thirds Team consisting of mainly Thirds players with some Seconds and Minors had a very successful season retaining the Felix Darby Cup, winning the Reserve Football League and taking the Championship to a replay – perhaps a wee bit more discipline in the drawn game could have prevented the opposition scoring the equalizer with the last kick of the game. The FRC recommended that all teams should do some preparation/training and I believe this is what brought success to this group of lads – perhaps some of them should be pushing for a place in Senior ranks never mind the Seconds.

Thanks to Eamon Crothers, Connor Maginn and Ciarán McGreevy for taking charge of the team.

#### ***PEIL FAOI 21 (U21 FOOTBALL)***

Once again the format has changed back to a true U21 competition for the current season. There were two seasons when a particular group of boys totally missed out on playing with and against their peers. We like to think that our recommendation to County Board had some bearing on this issue and hopefully this format is here to stay!

The team won the B Championship last year and the same group would have been available to play again except that three of them went to San Francisco and two to Australia. This year they are grouped with Mayobridge, Rostrevor, Newry Shamrocks, Downpatrick and Darragh Cross. They lost the first game by a point to Mayobridge but performed well in their other games except the final one. At the time of writing, they are sitting joint 2<sup>nd</sup> with Rostrevor and Shamrocks with a much superior score difference. They now have to go into a play-off with these teams for the right to play in B Championship knockout stages.

Thanks to Ross Carr, Keith Farrell, Francis Quinn, Mark Trainor and Andrew Carr for taking charge of the team.

#### ***PEIL MIONÚR (MINOR FOOTBALL)***

Our Minor Footballers were in a very competitive ten team league and finished in 6<sup>th</sup> place – is nine games enough for this level? They had a great run in the Championship reaching the semi finals for the first time in 17 years! Some of the boys supplemented the Seconds and Thirds panels, played in the Felix Darby Final and are now playing for the U21s.

Stephen McConville played for the Down Minors.

Thanks to P J McGreevy, Arty Noel McConville, John O’Hagan and Arty Quinn for looking after the Minors.

### **IOMANA**

#### ***IOMANA SINSIR (SENIOR HURLING)***

There was no Down Hurling Leagues as such in 2014 with teams playing in Ulster League. Clonduff played in Division 2 which was perhaps just out of their depth but they did retain that status and if they are to improve they need to be playing against stronger opposition. They also played in the Joe McCrickard Cup against Seconds teams

from the Ards Clubs when they would previously played against Thirds teams and finished second last in group. They lost in the first round of the Championship to Liatroim.

Ríán Branagan became the first Clonduff person ever to captain the Down U21 team that reached the Ulster Final. He also secured a place on the Down Senior team and regularly lined out at corner back.

Thanks to the management of Damian Farnon, Brian Canavan and Alistair McGilligan.

### **IOMANA MIONÚIR (MINOR HURLING)**

Clonduff fielded a Minor Hurling team for the first time in a few years. This team was made up of the U16 Div 2 League and Championship winners of last year. The boys had a great run in their league winning 7 of their eight games and won the title. They reached the Championship final which was played under lights in Downpatrick but they failed to get their game going against Carryduff whom they had defeated twice in the league. Most of the boys are available again next year and we wish them luck.

Many thanks to John and Paddy Murphy for managing the team

### **PEIL na mBAN (LADIES FOOTBALL)**

The Senior team finished joint bottom of the league having lost a number of their games by the narrowest of margins. There should have been a relegation play-off but the other team was unable to field so by default they have retained their Intermediate status for next year. They reached the semi final of the championship but fell to a strong Burren team in Mayobridge. Unfortunately one of the players took ill and it was distressing for all concerned that an ambulance would not attend and the young girl had to be transported to hospital in a van – she spent almost two weeks in hospital. Thank God she is now well and raring to go again but we have to question what our Health Service has come to. There were a number of nurses and a Nursing Officer present who assisted the young girl and tried to inform the ambulance controller of the seriousness of the situation. Many thanks to Megan Brown, Eileen Carvill and Michael O'Rourke for their assistance pitch-side.

Paula Gribben was originally on the County team managed by Mark Copeland and Ryan McShane but felt she couldn't give full commitment to both Football and Camogie at County and Club level.

Thanks to Gary Haughian assisted by Niall Brown for managing the team – their first year in such a role.

### **CAMÓGAÍOCHT (CAMOGIE)**

The Senior Camogie Team provided us with the highlight of the year, not only regaining the County title but also on winning the Club's first ever Ulster title in any field sport! Congratulations to all involved particularly Robert Wilson and Eileen Hamill who managed the team.

We had seven players – Fionnuala and Sara Louise Carr, Karen Haughey, Paula Gribben, Lisa McPolin, Nicola O'Hagan, Clare McGilligan – and the manager, Alastair McGilligan, on the All Ireland winning team.

Congratulations to Fionnuala on winning her third Soaring Star and on Alastair being nominated for Manager of the Year. Personally I believe a couple more of our girls at least deserved a nomination but perhaps I am just biased.

The Camogs will present their report and answer any questions arising. Thanks to Guinevra McGilligan and all the Camogie mentors for their co-operation over the past year and to Guinevra for the Report.

### **LIATHRÓID LÁIMHE (HANDBALL)**

There were no senior titles for the Club this year and for the first time in many years the Club did not enter a team in the Ulster League.

### **NA FÓIRNE ÓIGE (YOUTH TEAMS)**

The Youth Committee is responsible for activities for the younger members of Clonduff from Under 16 downwards and the youth football teams were the basis for the Football Review Plan which will be adapted and rolled out to all the field codes.

One of the changes they recommended and has been implemented is the abolition of 'Player of Year' Awards for youth players. There will still be end of season function and all the children will benefit from subsidized trips to Croke Park or other activities where all the players are treated as equals.

The Children's Welfare Officer ensured all the youth mentors were AccessNI approved, had up-to-date Child Protection Certificate and someone from each mentoring team attended the Club's Pitch-side First Aid and Defibrillator Course which has now become an annual event in the pre or early season calendar.

The Fundamentals programme for U6-U18 year olds was held every Sunday Morning from April to September under the direction Pdraig Matthews and Paul McConville and the programme is continuing in the Youth Club on Friday nights. The programme is generally run by the parents and often there were 30 children in attendance. 170 youngsters attended the Kellogs Cúl Camp in Clonduff Park in August and 30 girls attended the Newry & Mourne sponsored Camogie Camp the following week and for the first time ever we ran a Hurling Camp which was attended by 16 boys from age 5-12. This is something we hope to make a permanent fixture in the calendar. The coaches gave their time voluntarily this year but we hope to get them on to the Newry & Mourne Coaching programme for the future.

The three boys' football tournaments again ran very successfully in June but unfortunately we ran out of a date to field the U12 girls' tournament. The Camogs as usual ran their Parish League very successfully.

Clonduff Park hosted the annual Connor McConville Primary Schools Blitz in June – thanks to the McConville Family for organizing this now well-established fixture in the calendar of the Co Down Primary Schools. We also hosted a number of Go Games Blitzes at each age level, the South Down and County U14 Finals and the inter-county U14 blitz.

### ***Peil (Football)***

The U8, U10 and U12 Footballers all took part in Go Games blitzes and tournaments. At the end of the season we fielded two teams in each of the U11 and U13 leagues – the first time an U13 league has been run for many years. This did keep some of our children playing our games for a bit longer but again this is harping back to the issue of the short season which the GAA provides for its members.

A number of our boys are on their respective schools teams in their year groups.

A debt of gratitude is owed to all the mentors who attended the pre-season training provided by the FRC and the one-day sessions by outside coaches provided during the season.

### ***Iomana (Hurling)***

We only fielded at U14 level in 2014 – they played all their league games but due to miscommunication the Championship Shield game was missed.

The Primary Schools Hurling team and the Summer Hurling Camp showed that there is the potential and appetite for youth hurling in the parish. We must now look at the Hurling Review Plan and roll it out – we should be encouraging all our children to play both codes at this lower age level. The Dual Senior Hurling and Football teams in Slaughtneil (Derry) and Cratloe (Clare) this year and St Galls (Belfast) from a few years ago have proved that one does not adversely affect the other if the will is there and if all the young people get the chance.

Darragh McAlinden and Pdraig Clancy on the St Colman's team that reached the McGreevy Cup Final recently. Thanks to Paul McCusker for looking after the U14 team.

### ***Peil na mBan (Ladies Football)***

The Juvenile Ladies games continues to flourish in Clonduff – we fielded teams at U14 and U12 level. The U14s won 7 of the ten league games finishing 3<sup>rd</sup> in the League, reached the Semi Final of Championship and won the St Gall's Tournament. Thanks to John Anthony Gribben, Sean Cowan and Joeleen Branagan for managing the team. The U12s won 8 of their 12 league games finishing joint top with Ballymartin and they won the Burren Hospice Shield. Thanks to Paddy McCumiskey, Kieran Kelly, Sarah Bloomfield and Kelly Fitzpatrick for managing the team. There are representatives on the U13, U14 and U15 County Development squads of which Sean Cowan is part of the management and Bronagh O'Reilly a supervisor.

### ***Camógaíocht (Camogie)***

Many congratulations to the U14 team and their mentors that won the County Championship Shield. This and other Camogie news will be dealt with in detail in the Camogie Report which will be presented by Guinevra Carr.

### ***Liathróid Láimhe (Handball)***

Clonduff had a decent year on the handball courts in 2014 with four underage winners including the first ever Girls' county Champions. Our champions are Patrick Cowan (U12), Lyndon Brown (U15), Lee Murnin (U16) and Clara and Erin (U14 Doubles).

Girls U13 and U10 coaching is currently taking place each Saturday morning.

We hope to have coaching for U13 boys up and running in next two weeks but more help is needed for supervision and basic coaching if the boys are to reap the full benefit from a winter-time activity.

The Club shop now stocks a full range of handball equipment.

Thanks to Eddie Clancy, Sean Cowan and Colin Shields for coaching and to Colin for the Report.

## **DISCIPLÍN (DISCIPLINE)**

We had a very poor record of discipline on the field of play particularly among our adult male players. The fact that disciplinary issues do not carry over from one competition to another kind of masks the number of red and black cards issued to Clonduff players during 2014. The normal suspension for a first time red-card offender is that he misses the next game in that particular competition. We had a player red-carded in three different competitions and was still able to take the field most of the time.

Discipline was not only an issue with players – a number of our mentors/managers were guilty of deliberately flouting the rules and of poor side-line behavior. Once again I implore that we continue to impose the **'Give Respect, Get Respect'** campaign across the Club. As I've said in previous years when we complain about certain referees 'giving Clonduff nothing' perhaps it's time we looked at ourselves – when did you ever see a decision overturned by shouting (even swearing) at the referee!

## **SCÓR (SCÓR)**

Our adult musicians retained their county title in 2014 competitions and the Ballad Group won South Down. Our juvenile Set Dancers and Solo Singer (Ellen Kelly) won South Down.

Thanks to Joe Farrell, Wendy Branagan, Ursula and Maura Quinn, Lisa Gribben, Paul and Marie Kelly, Ann Murray and Eileen McCusker in preparing the teams for both Scór Sinsir and Scór na nÓg.

After a 10-year break the Parish Scór was resurrected and what a great night it was with 150 adults from all areas of the Parish. It is hoped to run it on a regular basis but perhaps not annually.

The pantomime that took place last December will be followed up this year but will be in early January.

Joe Farrell's Juvenile Set Dancing continues to flourish Thursday nights in the Parochial Hall. The Nolan School of Irish Dancing continues in Parochial Hall on Monday nights but unfortunately not many local children attend it – they tend to travel to other areas for classes. Ciarán Dunbar's Adult Irish Conversation class for beginners continues every Tuesday night in Clubrooms – there's plenty of room for more students!

We organized another very successful Community 'Easter Egg Hunt' and are assisting with the upcoming Christmas Fayre.

South Down Scór na nÓg 2015 is drawing to a close with Clonduff being the only Club for many years with a full complement of participants, and we are represented in all but one competition in the South Down Final. Many thanks to Jimmie and his hard-working committee to which Mary Grant has been co-opted for the new Leírúí. Jimmie hopes to repeat this feat for Scór Sinsir which starts at the end of January.

Three teams of juveniles will be taking part in the South Down Scór na nÓg Table Quiz on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> November in Clonduff Clubrooms.

Thanks again Jimmie and your committee for all your hard work and thanks for the Report Jimmie.

## **NA SCOILA (THE SCHOOLS)**

We are blessed with the personnel in our local Primary Schools for promoting and coaching our national games – Vincent Devlin in St Paul's, Plunkett McConville, Kitty Fegan and Meave McNeill in St Patrick's all back up the great work that is being done at juvenile level in the club in all our field sports.

On Club Day in St. Patrick's PS all the children from P5-P7 get at least a 4 week 'taster' of handball coached by Des McNeill, which can only bode well for the game at local level. They won four county Schools titles!

The Children all get to sample Irish Dancing among their Thursday Club activities.

Our Secondary and Grammar Schools are also reaping the benefits of our young people as representatives on schools teams in all Gaelic sports including Handball at St Colman's College. Our current and former players continue to promote and coach the games as teachers/lecturers in schools, colleges and third level education.

## **NA PÁIRCEANNA (THE FIELDS)**

Team mentors, as usual, cooperate fully in adhering to the Pitch Schedule and are flexible in sharing or moving their slots to accommodate others – this should be less of a problem in 2015 now that the back pitch has been extended in length and breadth to conform to minimum adult playing size.

Despite our own busy schedule we still managed to host Hurling, Ladies Football, juvenile, intermediate and junior championship games – it is disappointing that we didn't host any senior football championship games in 2014. We provided facilities for juvenile inter county blitz, county training in all codes, and schools games.

Thanks to P J and his team (Brendan McGarry, Leo Bloomfield, Sean Cairns, Sean Milligan, Ciarán McGreevy) and

the grass cutters (Aidan Brown, Felix McKernan, Eamon Murray, Kevin Campbell) for keeping the pitches in such pristine condition throughout the season. Sean Cairns' availability continues to be a Godsend for the hosting of schools games! PJ on behalf of the Club also sends his thanks to Murtagh Walls, (fertilizer), Mickey Fegan, Johnny McPolin, Brendan Carvill (electrical repairs), Tommy Kelly, Peter Hamill, Paddy McCumiskey (joinery repairs). Thanks to Gerry McGreevy, Hugh Grant and Martin Lynch for provision of machinery and equipment free of charge when needed; to Arty Quinn who continues to plant and prune the banks throughout the season and to Bernard Branagan who helped spray the banks.

The Club once again has taken advantage of the 'Back to Work' Scheme with two workmen whose contributions are invaluable in keeping the dressing rooms spotless and carrying out other works around the club which because of it's would take the volunteers a long time if it ever got done.

Thanks PJ and your team for the year-round hard work. At a recent inter-county blitz held in Clonduff a Monaghan mentor asked if this was the county Centre of Excellence! Thanks PJ for the report.

#### **SLÁINTE AGUS SÁBH.AILTEACHT (HEALTH & SAFETY)**

At our club, we aim to keep our environment a safer place for our community and visitors. Regular safety audits are carried out on the premises and all noted for inspection. Many Health and Safety issues arise each year but these have to be prioritised. This year we installed hand rails for the concrete steps from the new pitch with the edge of the steps being painted. The emergency external stairs have had the steps re-painted with non-slip paint. We marked out the car park and put in safe crossing areas but this will only work if everyone adheres to the rules and treats our car park as they would a public car park. There are designated areas for less-abled drivers and their passengers and we appeal to our members to respect this, the crossing areas and the space directly in front of the shop to ensure the safety of pedestrians at all time.

We met with a Council Official prior to the Marquee Weekend to seek advice and guidance and agreed to comply with their recommendations.

Thanks to Sean Milligan for the report

#### **SÓISIALTA (SOCIAL)**

Martin and his hard-working team ran a number of fundraising events in conjunction with Friends of Clonduff. The big one was undoubtedly the highly successful Marquee Weekend concluding with Clonduff Come Dancing. There was also the Cowpatition and our second Christmas Fayre is planned for next month. The clubrooms, as always, held a number of family and community events throughout the year.

We were disappointed that the Family Fun Day that was so successful in 2013 didn't happen again in 2014 but the Boley Fair Committee organized a Fun Day in the Square and we didn't wish to run against that.

Thanks Martin and committee and thanks for the Report.

#### **TIONSCNAMH SÓISIALTA (SOCIAL INITIATIVE)**

Clonduff's Social Initiative project continued during 2014 with an outing to the Giant's Causeway and Carrick-a-Rede Rope Bridge for the young and not-so-young. Many thanks to Marie Milligan for keeping the project running for non-players and thanks also to Marie for the Report.

#### **FORBAIRT (DEVELOPMENT)**

Development is always a 'work in progress'. This year's project was the marking/lining out of the car park. The community Play Park and building are still in the pipeline. It is planned to tidy up the entrance in the near future.

#### **CAIRDREAMH POIBLÍ AGUS CUMARSÁIDI (PUBLIC RELATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS)**

The Yellow Gold has now reached its one-year anniversary and had generally been well received.

As per usual the weekly notes in local papers and The Clonduff Post and on occasion 'Club Call' in Irish News, the website, Facebook and Twitter are continually updated. It is important for members to realise that with the exception of The Clonduff Post, a newspaper chooses what to print and what headline to highlight. As there is no Down Year Book this year we have compiled a CD of Club Photographs of events throughout the year.

A programme for senior football home games continues to be produced showing names of both teams players in both Irish and English.

Thanks to Francis Quinn and his team for keeping the 'show on the road'.

#### **STAIR (HISTORY)**

The 'Milestones' page on the Club's website [www.clonduffgac.net](http://www.clonduffgac.net) records the significant events of the year and

the CD of Club Photographs records it pictorially.

### **UIMHIR CHLÁRAITHE AGUS RÁCHAS (REGISTRATIONS AND INSURANCE)**

Overall numbers have gone up slightly and we are now the second largest club in Down just behind Carryduff and have overtaken the other city club Bredagh. Our registrar sees a big problem with players waiting until the last day of March before paying their registration fee. He has been informed by Willis the GAA Insurance Company that if a player is injured during a training session or a challenge game and has not been registered then they do not have insurance cover.

As mentioned earlier, the Insurance Company recently required written confirmation that players who sustained injured legs during training were actually wearing mouth guards at the time. Our registrar sees this as just one more excuse for the Insurers to avoid paying out claims so he is appealing to mentors to ensure that those in their charge not only pay their fees at the first training session but also complete the membership form and sign the relevant Code of Conduct.

Thanks to Alastair for the Report

### **RIARACHÁN (ADMINISTRATION)**

The Club has just invested in a fire proof filing cabinet to store the Club's documents and records. This is now organized and we appeal to all of you who may have any such documents in your home to bring them along to the club for filing. This is vital for future historical reference.

This subcommittee had the remit of collating records of meetings by all other subcommittees. A simple template was distributed but unfortunately again very few were returned.

### **CLUB MAITH**

Twenty-two months after submission of the portfolio we eventually had our visit in October. We were supposed to have had two facilitators but one of the called 45 mins before the allotted time saying it was off as he had a family crisis. We were extremely disappointed but those who had gathered for the on-field activities decided to do a session anyway and the rest of us started dismantling the displays. An hour later the female facilitator appeared and was obviously suitably impressed as she confirmed the Platinum status of club which was communicated to us earlier this month. The club has also been accredited with SportNI Club Mark Award without which club cannot claim funding from SportNI.

On the back of our Club Maith portfolio we were shortlisted for Ulster President's Award for Governance and were presented with this at a Gala Dinner in The Hilton Hotel, Templepatrick on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> November.

In conjunction with the SportNI accreditation there is a 'Club Mark' Award for young volunteers aged 16-25 who can obtain their award simply by sending an email to the Ulster Council and keeping a diary of work done within the club. This is an excellent achievement to show on a CV.

### **CUNTAS AIRGID (FINANCE)**

The Financial report comprehensively covers the sources of finance throughout the year. We have spent quite a bit of money but we are still in a healthy financial state.

Thanks to the Lotto sellers and the checkers who attend every Monday night – 52 nights per year! This is a constant source of valuable income for the Club.

A continued immense source of turnover is the club shop which stocks and sells club merchandise as well as tuck, teas and coffee.

The financial figures will be presented at the AGM.

### **PLEAN CÚIG BLIANA (FIVE YEAR PLAN)**

We are now two years into our 'Five Year Plan' and we are well on target although this has to be tweaked from time to time. It is monitored and appraised throughout its lifespan. Now that we have rolled out the Football Development Plan to the Juvenile Footballers it will be extended through the adult football and the other field codes and should be well established when the current 5-year plan expires. Cathal will give us an update.

### **COMHGHAIRDEAS (CONGRATULATIONS) To**

- Our Senior Camogie team and their mentors on winning the County and Ulster Club titles – we wish them well in the All Ireland Semi Final which doesn't take place until February 2015.

- The seven girls – Fionnuala & Sara Louise Carr, Karen Haughey, Paula Gribben, Lisa McPolin, Nicola O’Hagan and Clare McGilligan – and their manager Alistair McGilligan on winning All Ireland Camogie team and to Fionnuala Carr on her third ‘Soaring Star’ Award – Alistair was nominated for ‘Manager of the Year’
- Mark Copeland and Ryan McShane on leading the Down Ladies to their All Ireland title. We wish Mark every success in his new role with the Down Senior Football Management team and Ryan in whatever role he chooses
- Jason Brown on winning the All Ireland Cic Saor (Free Kick) competition and bagging himself €5,000
- Darren O’Hagan on his nomination for Down All Star
- The three boys – Patrick Cowan, Lynden Brown, Lee Murnin – and two girls – Clara Cowan, Erin Rafferty – who won County Handball titles; and the children who won Primary Schools titles - Aidan Quinn, Padraig Clancy, Patrick Cowan, Shane Close, Jayme McDonald
- The Instrumental Musicians who retained their County Scór Sinsir title
- The Minor Hurlers who won their League
- The Minor Footballers who won the Silverbridge Sevens
- The Thirds Footballers who won the Reserve League and retained the Felix Darby Cup
- Our U8, U10 and U12 Football teams that participated in tournaments
- The U12 Ladies who were joint winners of their League and the U14 Ladies who won St Gall’s Tournament
- The Club on being awarded back-to-back Platinum Club Maith and on receiving the Ulster GAA President’s Award for Governance worth €1,300

#### **BUÍOCHAS (THANKS) To:**

- Marie Milligan and Jimmie Cousins who, on behalf of The Club nominated me for the Irish News Volunteer of the Year Award
- I would like to thank the very many players involved in Clonduff GAA Club – without you there would be no club. The players of all codes at all levels gave so much of their time to train and play for Clonduff
- The mentors who freely gave their time to their teams and for their co-operation throughout the year
- All our active referees in all codes
- The Gate Collectors, lines people and umpires and those who washed Jerseys
- The Executive and subcommittees members for their contributions and cooperation
- All our volunteers – the GAA is built on volunteerism and without you there would be no games, no activities and no club ‘Volunteers don’t get paid, not because they’re worthless, but because **THEY’RE PRICELESS**
- All those who took part in Scór competitions or helped prepare competitors
- All our players who represented our county at any level and those who gave their time to manage or mentor county teams
- All the boys and girls who represented their schools or colleges and our adult members who were mentors or administrators of Gaelic Games in their schools
- The Club sponsors and all who helped financially
- The Lotto sellers and checkers and the Pub owners for hosting the Club Lotto
- The Clonduff Post and local newspapers for publishing reports and club adverts
- Fr Cushenan for making the Parochial Rooms available for meetings and courses when the clubrooms were unavailable
- The Primary and Secondary schools for their continued support and promotion of Gaelic Games
- Goretta and Noleen Cairns for running the shop
- Those who cooked ‘Big Breakfasts’, Burgers, Hot Dogs, etc throughout the year and/or provided sandwiches – tournaments, U14 Inter-county Football Blitz, Juvenile Awards Night
- The helpers/stewards during the Club Tournaments and the Marquee weekend
- The dancers who gave so much time and entertainment in our first Come Dancing weekend
- Friends of Clonduff for their continued support and assistance with fundraising
- Everybody who has given their time, effort, expertise, money, money’s worth or other commitment, to help Clonduff GAA Club in any way
- All the Clonduff people who are members of County or Divisional Boards

Personally I would like to thank the outgoing Chairman and Committee members including sub committees for their co-operation and commitment over the past year and wish the incoming committee a successful and rewarding year in office.

I particularly offer my grateful thanks to the Assistant Secretary, Niamh Murray whose help has been invaluable over the year.

### **COMHBHRÓN (SYMPATHY)**

On behalf of Cumann Chluain Daimh, I would like to express my sincere sympathy to the Gaels of Clonduff who lost loved ones, inside or outside the Parish during the past year. They will all be included in the Mass of Remembrance on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> November, along with all the past deceased members of our Club.

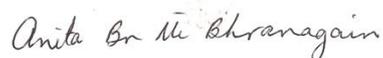
Ar dheis lámh Dé go raibh a n-anamnacha uasal

### **DEIREADH (CONCLUSION)**

Outgoing Uachtarán CLG Liam O'Neill has been responsible for bringing the various branches of the GAA Family under the one umbrella – it may take another year to have it completely finalised but already all organisations are working on the same online registration system. In the year gone by some of our female players required to be registered three times, an immense duplication of work. Hopefully this is one area where duplication will be eliminated.

Under our Five Year Plan we are putting the structures in place to ensure on-field success but unless the powers that be restructure the length of the playing season we are going to lose many of our youngsters to other sports. There was a time when we in Clonduff were not bothered about competition from Soccer and such sports for the young people because they were not in the village. However it has become an issue in the recent past with parents transporting the children to Rathfriland, Warrenpoint, Newry, Killowen, etc. We were short of numbers at U10 level for the first series of Go Games as many of the boys were involved in Soccer finals on that day. Many of our U12 and U14 boys are currently playing Soccer and we cannot blame the parents for trying to keep their children active! However to end on a positive note, it was an increase in juvenile membership over the last few years that has seen our overall membership increase year on year and long may this trend continue.

Is mise le meas



An Rúnai

Cumann Chluain Daimh