

Cumann Chluain Daimh



Crinniú Bliantúil 2023
(Annual General Meeting 2023)

TUARASCÁIL AN RÚNAÍ
(Secretary's Report)

15^u Mí na Samhain 2023)
(15th November 2023)



Cumann Lúthchleas Gael
CUMANN CHLUAIN DAIMH



Clonduff Gaelic Athletic Club

Affiliated since 1887

Hon President:

Dean A Davies

Hon Chairman:

Jimmie Cousins

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 15th NOVEMBER 2023 at 7 PM in Clonduff Club

All members are invited to discuss the following:

CLÁR OBIBRE/AGENDA

Re-affirm Commitment of Clonduff GAA Club to GAA Constitution

Re-affirm our confidence in our Trustees

Adopt the Standing Orders

Minutes of 2022 AGM

Secretary's Report 2023

Camogie Report 2023

Treasurer's Report 2023

Chairperson's Address

President's Address

Election of Officers

Proposals and Recommendations to AGM/Co Boards

Any Other Notified Business

Open Forum

Is mise

Anita Brannigan

Rúnaí (Secretary)

Cumann Chluain Daimh (Clonduff GAA Club)



Cumann Lúthchleas Gael



CUMANN CHLUAIN DAIMH

Clonduff Gaelic Athletic Club

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Crinniú Cinn Cliana 2023

(Annual General Meeting 2023)

GNÁTHRIALACHA/STANDING ORDERS

In order that the proceedings of the Annual General Meeting be carried out without delay, the following standing orders will be observed:

1. The Proposer of a Motion, Amendment or Resolution 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. Where the AGM considers it appropriate, a vote may be by secret ballot.
7. Any motion seeking additions or amendments to the Constitution or Rules must have a majority equal to two-thirds of those present, entitled to vote and voting.
8. 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.
9. The Chairman may change the order of items on the agenda with the support of a simple majority of those present, entitled to vote and voting.

SECRETARY'S REPORT 2023

We may not have acquired many pieces of silverware on the field of play and the big one still evades us but if winning cups and trophies is all Clonduff GAA Club is about then it's time many of us put our hands into our pockets and sat back!

Since our last AGM, the Senior Camogs annexed the Ulster and All Ireland Intermediate Club titles – the second time they have achieved that! In the current year the U16 Camogs retained their League and Championship titles, U14 Camogs, U13 and U15 Footballers also collected League titles – but more importantly, we've retained and grown our numbers particularly among our young people – we fielded a Minor Hurling team for first time in 15 years, will have 3 x U14 Boys Football teams – another first in Clonduff. Our female participation continues to grow with many of the younger girls and some of the adult ones playing both LGFA and Camogie – We just need the Boards all to communicate and cooperate with setting the fixtures!

During the year we joined the 'GAA Green Club' initiative to look at ways of conserving energy and sustainability; and in the same vein we became part of the '100milliontreesproject.ie' giving over a small area of 'Brown's Field' to accommodate up to 2,000 native Irish trees.

Away back in 2007 Clonduff was one of the Ulster Club that piloted the Club Maith Initiative – now 15 years later, as the programme is being rolled out across the country and being administered from Croke Park, Clonduff is one of clubs involved in the final Ulster programme – the portfolio has been submitted and we are awaiting the outcome.

A very comprehensive Coaching Strategy was rolled out across all the codes earlier in the year and it will be rigorously implemented in the coming season. The aim of this Strategy is to give every child the chance to play our games and to develop their skills and attributes. For our younger players, these early years should be about development and not necessarily about winning trophies.

All our adult players were involved in a comprehensive Strength and Conditioning programme provided by Ian Jones who has now been drafted into the Cork GAA set-up. Ian also provided an 'Athletic Development' programme. These programmes will become much more accessible to our players when our new gym is completed, hopefully before the beginning of next season.

Clonduff has also undertaken the development of a 5-year Strategy – this is currently a work in progress but it is hoped that it will be rolled out early into the next term.

The long-awaited refurbishment of the dressing rooms is currently taking place and should be completed pre-Christmas; a new gym should be up and running for the start of next season and work on the new ball-wall should be commencing within a matter of weeks.

It would be remiss of me here not to mention the considerable bequest Clonduff Club received during the year from our late President Dean Anthony Davies – the current development of the Ball Wall will forever keep his memory alive in our club!

BALLRAÍOCHT (MEMBERSHIP)

The Club membership in 2023 was again one of the largest in the County Total with a total membership of 940

- Adult Non-Playing - 281
- Adult Playing - 187 (108 male and 79 female)
- Juvenile - 472 (258 male and 214 female)

Our Registrar Damian Fearon does a tremendous job coordinating all the memberships and getting most people to register themselves on the Foireann system; players and coaches are not insured if they are not registered. Again, it is essential to stress that all injuries need to be reported to the Club's Insurance Officer as soon as they happen so that all systems are in place if the claim progresses and there is no harm done if it does not progress.

We have a new Insurance Officer in place – many thanks to Clare McGilligan who, after some initial shadowing of her predecessor, Denise Close, took over the role with very few teething troubles.

Damian and Clare have carried out their roles for our members to a very high standard and we thank them sincerely. Thanks to Damian for the updated figures.

COSAINT (SAFEGUARDING/CHILD PROTECTION)

The safety and welfare of our young members is always to the forefront of our minds. Clonduff Club will continue to provide a safe and enjoyable environment where all children feel appreciated when playing our Games. The Club continues to follow the updated GAA Codes of Behaviour as a guidance for all our Policies and Procedures. Our Children's Officer continues to strive for 100% compliance in AccessNI, Safeguarding 1 and Foundation Coaching Award – not quite there just yet but this will be prioritised before the start of the 2024 season. It is of paramount importance that everyone is safeguarded and this includes the coaches just as much as the players. There were some minor issues during the year but these were able to be resolved in-house. Thanks to Safeguarding Officer Geraldine McPolin for the attached report.

SLAINTIÚIL AGUS PHOBAL (HEALTHY CLUB AND COMMUNITY)

We had very active Community and Healthy Club Officers in place during the year, and as a result when we realized that we had completed all the elements of a Healthy Club Award it was easy to collate the evidence and re-join the programme – Clonduff was one of the very first clubs to join the Healthy Club Initiative back in 2011 and two members of that team spoke at various conferences – I'm absolutely delighted that this is back on track again even though we had to start right back at the Foundation level. See [Appendix 1](#) and [Appendix 2](#) for full programme.

Just as the playing season was drawing to a close our Club was approached by The Confederation of Community Groups about facilitating 'Good Morning' Service providing a phone call to older isolated people in our locality. The response for volunteers has been immense and will be rolled out as soon as the training of volunteers has taken place.

A few days ago, we received word that Clonduff was selected as the preferred site for a new walking trail in the NMDDC – it may take a little bit of time but there will be no excuses for not taking up the challenge!

RÉITEORÍÍ REFEREES

We are now one on the better equipped clubs with refereeing personnel – Many thanks to Dane Devlin, Ciarán Branagan, Eddie Clancy, Kevin McGrath, and Paddy Branagan (Sen). We wish Keving and Paddy well as they recover from injury.

Thanks also to our mentors and anyone else who has helped out with refereeing in Ladies Football, Hurling and/or Camogie Games and to our young people for taking up the whistle at tournaments and Go games. Keep up the good work! It's not an easy task but if we don't have referees, we won't have games.

TEANGA AGUS CULTÚR (LANGUAGE AND CULTURE)

The aims of the GAA include actively promoting, fostering and supporting all aspects of our Cultural Heritage, our Language and our Games. Clonduff very much fulfills those aims, even though we didn't have a dedicated Language and/or Cultural Officer in place.

Early in the year we joined the Joe MacDonagh Foundation and later applied for funding to run Irish classes – we received the maximum amount and this is now funding the running of 3 x 10-week Irish classes in the clubrooms organized by Rory Donnan, the Mourne Coordinator for Conradh na Gaeilge. Hopefully by the end of these classes we will be able to engage and active Language Officer!

Clonduff had 45 youngsters participating in Scór Na nÓg in 2023. The Novelty Act won the South Down title and it along with one of the Instrumental Music Groups and one of the Recitations qualified for the county finals.

In Scór Sinsir our Set Dancers, who had only got together a couple of weeks earlier, and Eileen McCusker in Recitation won their respective County titles.

At the time of writing, the dancers are excitedly preparing for The All-Ireland Final in Killarney on 18th November! We wish them well, but above all enjoy the occasion!

Thankfully for the good of Scór, particularly at senior level, from 2024 Scór Sinsir is returning to its original late Winter/early Spring slot in the calendar where it will not be affected by the on-field County Finals and the Scór na nÓg will return to Autumn.

We had numerous Scór singers performing Amhrán na bhFiann at various County events and our Instrumental Musicians entertained at the LGFA Fundraiser in the Canal Court prior to their successful All-Ireland final appearance.

Many of those who participated in the Golden Jubilee celebration of Clonduff Youth Club have at one time or another represented Clonduff in Scór. And we will look forward to the fruits of the 'Comhaltás Chluain Daimh'. For Full Report see [Appendix 3](#).

TRAENÁLAÍ AGUS CLUICHÍ (COACHING AND GAMES)

The hard-working Coaching Committee devised the 'Clonduff Player Pathway' to give every child, their parents and coaches a clear-cut sign post to the young person's personal development as a player and well-rounded young person.

They also attempted to implement a strategy whereby young players did not 'play up' an age group unless there were insufficient numbers at the higher age level. Those who 'play up' should be rotated and the coach of the younger age group should be the one to nominate the players.

For the full report see [Appendix 4](#).

Thanks to Coaching Officer Shane Quinn for the Report.

PÁIRCEANNA AGUS ÁISEANNA (PLAYING FIELDS AND FACILITIES)

Brendan outlined all the work/improvements that had been carried out at the beginning and the end of 2023. He apologised to teams and mentors for the inconvenience caused but was hopeful that as the work was carried out in good time this year, the fields will be more than ready for the start of the new season.

Brendan wished to thank a lot of people for all of their help throughout the year and keeping the fields in such pristine condition. He specifically singled out Alastair for his 'Daily Usage Schedule' that kept everybody happy and maintained the playing surfaces. Lining out and marking the pitches was another constant along with the grass-cutting.

In his report he apologised if he omitted any of his invaluable helpers. See [Appendix 5](#).

Like all in Clonduff, Brendan was delighted to see the refurbishment of the dressing rooms – he appealed to mentors and players to respect our facilities by removing water bottles from the pitches and leaving the dressing rooms in a fit state.

Many thanks to the great band of volunteers who are ever-willing to lend a hand. And thanks too to Brendan for the report.

TACAIOCHT CLUICHI PEIL (ADULT FOOTBALL GAMES)

The Club fielded adult teams in Senior, Seconds, Thirds, U20, U19 in Football, Senior Hurling, Senior Camogie and Ladies Football. All are currently finished for the year with the exception of the U20 Footballers who have won all their group games and will now play a 2nd place finisher in another group in the quarter finals.

Thanks to Paul McConville, Anthony Grimes and James Kane for looking after this year's U20s.

The Senior Football Championship has been well documented, so I won't go into any more detail at this time.

Many thanks to Adrian Cush and James Slater who have stepped away and we are now in pursuit of replacement.

The PRFC only afforded the players one actual championship game, the first one having been conceded. In my opinion, these lads deserve the same treatment as other adult teams ie, round-robin or back-door! Thanks to Finbarr McConville and Eugene Branagan who looked after the PR games.

The Reserves/Thirds Footballers in Clonduff operate as a separate entity – unused players from PR are not involved. They got to semi-Finals of League and then beaten by Burren in the Preliminary round of RFC after extra time. It was most disappointing that when Championship started, some clubs chose to use PR players as their championship did not start until a month later. Going forward we will be urging that these competitions begin simultaneously as they did in previous years. In the Fr Davies Shield games at the end of the season, a similar situation arose in that players who played their Club senior championship were 'allowed' to play in the competition.

Thanks to PJ McGreevy and Conor Maginn for once again looking after the Thirds.

It is my honest opinion that if we are to keep lads playing Football, we must have a proper structured season for U19/20 – our U19s effectively got a 4-week season February/March. The season for U20s is tagged on in October/November. This scenario is certainly not conducive to player retention. Many thanks to Jamie Fegan and Tony Wilson for looking after the U19s in 2023.

NA FÓIRNE PEIL ÓIGE (YOUTH TEAMS)

In his report Football Youth Officer, Damian Fearon reported that around 230 boys were involved in Youth Football from the beginning to the end of the season.

A new strategy will be implemented in 2024 to help bring about even more development for years to come in Clonduff.

Well done to U15 players who secured Div II League title; at U13 x 2 teams the Div I team were runners up in their League and the Div 4 team won their league – in my opinion it is very unfair system that U15 Div II winners had to play in the A championship and the U13 Div 4 winners had to play in the B Championship. Surely if they had been of that standard they would have been playing in higher leagues.

We continued to attract and retain vast numbers of youngsters from P1 age up to and including P7.

With the age grades reverting to even-age groups, it looks like there will be 3 x U14 Clonduff teams in 2024.

Damian thanked all the manager across the age ranges – see [Appendix 6](#). Many thanks to Damian for the report.

PEIL NA MBÁN (LADIES GAELIC FOOTBALL)

Ladies Gaelic Football in Clonduff continues to grow at a fantastic rate with the club fielding groups at U6 and U8 for the first time ever – up on 60 little girls turned up – previously when combined with the boys there may have been a total of 9/10. This augurs very well for the future.

All the youngsters up to and including U10 participate in blitzes, with U10s, taking part every two weeks. U12s play in a league with no winners – they are ‘placed’ in preparation for grading two years hence.

All teams competed well throughout their leagues with U16s and Minors finishing top of their league – the Minors involved in League final on Sunday 5th November. Senior Ladies finished 3rd in their league.

U14 Ladies reached the semifinal of their championship which was a surprise to some but not to their mentors; There was a good Feile team that reached the A final – first time ever but just failed by a single point to Burren in the final. The U16s were in the A League and Championship and more than held their own. Many of the girls will be remaining in the age group next year.

The Minor Ladies are the only group to get one bite at the cherry – all other groups play round robin with at least 3 Championship games. The Clonduff girls recovered after a very poor first half but just left themselves too much to do. Having played their last league game on 20th July to go joint top of the group they have League play-off on Sunday 5th November – an incredible 16 weeks later. It is very difficult to keep players at this age group interested but this certainly does not give them any encouragement.

The Senior Ladies, following a decent league were hopeful of a good run in the championship – which they had but just fell short in the semifinal after a poor first half, taking the game back to a draw but lost by a very late point. Gaelic for Mothers and Others (G4MO) continues to gain a foothold in Clonduff and is indeed drawing in newcomers to the parish who may or may not have been previously involved in Ladies Gaelic Football – that is the glory about this aspect of the LGFA – it’s all about a bit of craic and the exercise of course – which is the more important I’m not too sure!

Many congratulations to the young achievers – Laura Close on her Young Leadership Award and Emily Bingham-Abbot on here Colleges All Star.

Thanks to the Mooney Family for providing a new cup for competition in the Ladies Games.

Very many thanks to all those who coached the LGFA teams in 2023 – see [Appendix 7](#) for those involved. Special word of thanks to the Senior and Minor players who were involved in coaching the youngsters and thanks to Shereen for the report.

IOMÁNAÍOCHT (HURLING)

Juvenile Hurling in Clonduff continues to go from strength to strength in Clonduff with up on 100 children from P1-P7 age playing the ancient game and this can only augur well for the future. The U13 Hurlers became the first Clonduff team to play in Div 1 competing and more than holding their own with the Ards teams; the U15s finished their league joint top but lost out on head-to-head count with other joint leaders. And for the first time in 15 years Clonduff fielded an U17 team.

Clonduff once again hosted the Regional Feile with teams from Antrim, Meath, Dublin Derry, Kildare and Down taking part – a great occasion at the club.

Unfortunately, the senior team was relegated from Senior League at the end of the season but no doubt, with the talent coming through, they will bounce back at the earliest opportunity.

The Annual Páircé Branagan Memorial Poc Fada was again a resounding success but we must encourage more of our extremely talented Camogs to take part, some of whom could undoubtedly give the men a run for their money!

The undoubted highlight of the year was the Annual Sean Cairns Coaching Day and this year the Guest coach was none other than the Great Sean Óg Ó hAlpín who endeared himself to everyone who attended this outstanding event in Clonduff.

In his report, Shane thanked the coaches – for full report see [Appendix 8](#). Many thanks to Shane Quinn for the Report.

CAMÓGAÍOCHT (CAMOGIE)

Guinevra will deliver the Camogie Report [Appendix 9](#). Speedy and full recovery to Paula following her horrendous injury just before the Senior Semi Final. Congratulations to the U16 girls on retaining the League and Championship Double and to the U14s on winning the Shield.

LIATHRÓID LÁIMHE (HANDBALL)

With some issues still existing re the local Handball Alley, some of juveniles travelled to Newry for practice but it wasn't in vain – Therese Cowan collected the County and Ulster U15 titles whilst her brother Sean Óg just fell short in the U13 Ulster after winning the Down title. After collecting the County title, Clodagh Kelly was runner up in the Ulster U17 competition. P7 pupil Oisín McConville reached the final of the Cumann na mBunscoil championship. Well done boys and girls and to your coaches Sean and Colin.

Clonduff GAA continues to pay rental for the Handball Alley to Newry, Mourne and Down District Council and if this issue was clarified we would be able to take advantage of our local facility.

Handball would be a wonderful indoor winter activity and could easily be developed across the entire club but additional coaches would be required.

SCOILEANNA, COLÁISTÍ AGUS OLLSCOILEANNA (SCHOOLS, COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES)

The Club grounds are always made available to the local primary schools as their needs required. Our grounds are also used to host Colleges games when possible. Thanks to our local primary and secondary schools for continuing to promote our national games and culture.

On the reverse side, St Patrick's Primary School is available to us for hosting specific events such as Scór and F2F Seminars.

DISCIPLÍN (DISCIPLINE)

We all need to be disciplined in our attitude towards the Club and Officials who visit the club. Discipline towards the Club means using the Club facilities for your own enjoyment and leaving the facilities ready for the next group to use. All team mentors should ensure all bottles, clothes and equipment is gathered from the pitches and club premises after each training session or game – this is an important life skill for our players to acquire and is a culture which must be instilled from a very early age.

CLUB SÓISIALTA (SOCIAL CLUB)

There were various events, both social and educational held in the clubrooms throughout the year. One of

highlights, and not something that happens too often was the hosting of the celebration for our former player and Scór participant Mary Catherine Murray when she took her first vows into the religious life.

A number of regular and new events, many of which are outlined in Shauna's report in **Appendix 2** were facilitated.

There was also a number of other private functions, ie christenings and funerals.

We would like to thank everyone who helped out with the cleaning, setting up, catering and everything else that kept things running smoothly.

SIOPA na gCLUB (THE CLUB SHOP)

The Club shop has now been in existence for over 10 years and continues to provide merchandise to members as well as refreshments to visitors.

Whilst the Christmas Club has gone online this year, many people still like the idea of 'paying-in' over the couple of months up to Christmas. There were 46 orders placed via the shop and 138 directly online with O'Neills – a wonderful response to the first year of the online Shop (there were 170 Christmas Orders in 2022). Merchandise ordered online will be delivered to Club Shop and customers will be advised of their availability for collection.

During the year advice was given by Conor Milligan (Sports Nutritionist) about the stocking of Healthier alternatives in the Tuck Shop. This will continue to be developed.

Once again, many thanks to Goretta, Noleen and Shane Cairns and to Lorraine Bloomfield for all the hours they spent in the Club shop and to Andrea Morgan and Grainne Fearon for looking after the online Merchandise orders and to everyone else who has helped out in any way. It should be noted that during lockdown Clonduff ran an in-house online Christmas Club organised and administered by Lorraine.

The shop will be moving into a dedicated area in the new gym facility, which will be open throughout the day – perhaps we should look into making refreshments available throughout the day either via vending machines or tea/coffee machine.

FORBAIRT (DEVELOPMENT)

At the beginning of 2023, Ross put together a steering group with the aim of developing a 5-year Strategy Plan for the next 5 years under the guidance of Grainne Killen. They were asked to focus on six specific areas - Community and Culture, Coaching and Games, Health and Wellbeing, Facilities Development, Governance and Finance and Communication. This is still a work in progress but it is hoped the draft plan will be launched early 2024. See [Appendix 10](#) for update from Grainne.

By and large, a lot of that work is already underway with the following physical development currently taking place:

- Dressing rooms and toilets are being refurbished and will be completed well before the commencement of the 2024 season.
- The new gym facility will also be completed pre-2024 – logistics of this have yet to be finalized.
- Work will commence shortly on the Ball Wall.

DEONTAIS (GRANTS)

Thankfully we have a small group of knowledgeable members looking after club grant applications on a voluntary and regular basis. Many thanks to Aveen McShane and Ciarán Crosbie, who along with Ross, are constantly on the lookout for grants to help fulfil the needs of our club.

CAIDREAMH POIBLÍ AGUS CUMARSÁID (PUBLIC RELATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS)

Shereen Lyness-Feenan does a great job keeping the Club in the public eye with the weekly Club Notes. Sheenagh Walsh has the mammoth task of keeping Clonduff's Social Media channels updated, current and safe. Clonduff has FaceBook, Twitter and Instagram accounts. Many thanks Shereen and Sheenagh for this very public picture of our club. The Club website continues to provide an up-to-date picture of Fixtures and Results and a very detailed historical record of happenings in the club.

RIARACHÁN (ADMINISTRATION)

Our games are the public face of our club and we are highly appreciative of the mentors and managers who take on these roles – there would be no point in having a club if this wasn't happening! However, the people behind the scenes are equally important and a club could not operate without the administrators, ie The Executive Committee and the Sub Committees! This to a large extent is the unseen aspect of running a Club – it would be wrong to single out one person because each member of the Executive has an important role to play as well as many other people whom we can call upon when required for record-keeping (financial and narrative), correspondence, Minutes of meetings, social media, grant applications, match and other reports, registrations, insurance, team entries, safeguarding, orders, organising field and facilities maintenance, recruiting/appointing management teams, etc, etc. Apart from the designated personnel for these tasks I would personally like to thank my saviour in the form of Jimmie Cousins (not just the other JC) for sharing the onerous task of Secretary to this very busy and vibrant club, Tommy Kelly for looking after the Challenge Games applications and Niamh Murray for the continual production of Club Minutes which is not only a statutory requirement but also provides a written record of our club's existence and growth.

TUAIRISC AN CHISTEORA (TREASURER'S REPORT)

Fiona McCusker, Club Treasurer will provide the Financial Reports for the year. Personally, I wish to thank Fiona and Assistant Treasurer for their efficiency throughout the year.

COMHBHRÓN (SYMPATHIES)

Condolences to all Club members who lost loved ones during the year. May they rest in peace. Ár dheis Dé go raibh a h-amamacha! Our Mass of Remembrance will take place in the Clubrooms, tomorrow night, Thursday 17th

COMHGHAIRDEAS (CONGRATULATIONS) TO:

- Massive congratulations to our Adult Set Dancers who lifted the County and Ulster titles in 2023 and we wish them well in the All Ireland Final on Saturday 18th November!
- Sara Louise Carr on winning an Ulster All Star Camogie Award
- Emily Bingham-Abbot on winning Ulster Colleges LGFA All Star
- Laura Close on her Young Leadership Award
- Therese Cowan on winning County and Ulster U15 Handball Singles title; Sean Óg Cowan (U13 Singles) and Clodagh Kelly (U17S Singles) on winning their respective County titles and reaching Ulster finals
- U16 Camogs on retaining League and Championship; and U14 Camogs on winning Shield
- U15 Boys Footballers on winning their League and Div 2 Feile
- U13B Boys who won Div 4
- To all our members who played our games at club, school/college/university/county level or took part in Handball and Scór – you are what makes our Club the very best!
- To the very many volunteers involved in Clonduff GAA Club – without you there would be no club
- To our Club and Community Officers for their engagement with wider public and helping The Club to be recognised as 'A Healthy Club'

BUÍOCHAS (THANKS) TO:

- Our Sponsors for your help and support – it is greatly appreciated. It is good to see so many new team sponsors coming on board as well as all our long-standing ones
- All our players who give their time to train and play for our Club
- The Managers, Mentors, Coaches and other Volunteers who give so much time to our Club and for their cooperation, these people are too numerous to mention and I won't try in case I leave somebody out
- Our club membership in general
- All our active referees in all codes – without you there couldn't be any games
- Friends of Clonduff Lotto Sellers, Checkers, Poster Printers and Local Publicans for selling and hosting the draws and to those who bought the weekly 'Friends of Clonduff Lotto'
- To the Gate Collectors, Umpires, Linesmen and Medical Attendants
- The Executive, Subcommittees and Trustees for their invaluable contributions and unfailing cooperation

- The local newspapers for publishing Club Notes, photographs, reports and club adverts
- The Primary and Secondary schools for their continued support and promotion of Gaelic Games and to St Patrick's for the use of their premises for Scór and other club activities
- Those who cooked 'Big Breakfasts', Burgers, Hot Dogs, etc throughout the year and/or provided sandwiches for tournaments, Fun Days, Juvenile Awards and Celebrations
- Friends of Clonduff for their continued support and assistance with fundraising
- All those who helped sell or who bought the Down Clubs' Draw tickets and helped with other fundraising such as The Carnival, Golf Classic and other events
- 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 – the South Down Board, along with the East Down Board will cease to exist after The County Convention
- The County and Divisional Boards in all codes for their continued support and direction
- Sinead McKeown for checking Defibrillators on a weekly basis including the one outside the Spar and to Damian Fearon for having them registered for use by life-saving organisations, if and when required

COMHBHRÓN DEIREADH (CONCLUSION)

To conclude this report, I would like to thank everybody who assisted me during the year as secretary of this great Club – it's a very busy and demanding post but it is rewarding. I would also like to thank all those who helped out around the pitches with maintenance work, again too numerous to mention but you know who you are. Before I finish, I want to wish the incoming committee all the best going forward. I wish the entire club every success in 2024 and who knows what lies ahead.

#UpTheYellas

Is mise le meas

Anita Bn Úi Bhranagáin

Anita Bn Úi Bhranagáin
Runai, Cumann Chluain Daimh

Appendix 1 – Children, Health and Well-Being Officer Report

Children and Welfare

Since commencing my post as Children's Officer together with Health and Well Being Officer my priority was to ensure that all coaches and mentors had completed their Access NI together with their Child Protection level 1 and all those who required refresher courses completed these prior to the training season commencement. I have co-ordinated with the Ulster Council to ensure several face-to-face trainings were provided for Club volunteers and online links were provided.

There has been a significant increase in compliance with both mandatory trainings for all coaches, mentors and volunteers for children within Clonduff Club however we still have not achieved 100% compliance.

Future Action- Moving forward next year it is of imperative importance that EVERY Coach, Mentor and volunteer provide evidence of compliance prior to taking up volunteering position. This is to ensure each, and every adult and child is safeguarded in the year ahead. Without our volunteers and their expertise, we as a club could not operate however it is of paramount importance that everyone is safeguarded.

In total I have received 5 concerns within Hurling, LGFA and GAC which all have been resolved with no further issues.

Health and Well-Being

The year commenced in co-ordination with Irish Life and 'Light up Ireland'. We hosted a walk and talk in January and facilitated tea, coffee and hot chocolate for all walkers supporting a local community business.

Future Action– Current walking track unsafe for older people, prams, and kids on balance bikes – options to host this next year?

With the support from the Ulster council, we hosted an information night for coaches, mentors, volunteers and parents focusing on Autism awareness.

Future Action – Plan ahead and ensure minimal training occurring at the time, possible save the dates? Additional SEN Inclusive awareness evenings for coaches, mentors and volunteers creating an awareness and achieve INCLUSIVE CLUB status. Establish links with neighbouring clubs, initiatives and work collectively.

Future Action- Prior to the season commencing host a night for Parents, Coaches, mentors and volunteers promoting and sharing best practice. Sharing code of conduct and establishing a baseline for best practice as a club.

Future Action – Provide a Bullying workshop for coaches, mentors, volunteers and players. Establish Anti Bullying policy.

Health and wellbeing Foundation Award presented to Clonduff this year. I have attended training and worked collaboratively with the secretary of Clonduff in submitting our application and ensuring all criteria was met.

This would not have been possible without the commitment of our Community Officer who provided information evenings on Eating well, Vaping, Drugs awareness and death by suicide cycling awareness initiatives.

Future Action- Establish future and continued links with neighbouring clubs in relation to making Health and well-being part of our club.

Geraldine McPolin – Children's Officer/Health & Well-Being Officer

Appendix 2 – Community Officer Report

Community Events & Annual Underage Football Tournaments

Community Events

Jan 23 – walk & talk

20th Feb – Childrens mid-term disco

Easter Tuesday 11th April – Easter Family Fun Day

18th April – Living with Marty O’Conor for 4 weeks

20th April – Lunch & Learn for 6wks in conjunction with the primary schools

7th June – Eat well/Nutrition with Plant Life by Lorraine

2nd August – Vaping talk

04th August – Uniform swap

20th Sep & 25th Sep – Drug Awareness information evenings

27th Sep – Dean Davis Memorial Fun Day – postponed because of bad weather – re-scheduled until Sunday 5th May.

28th – 30th Oct – multi-sports camp

31st Oct – Fireworks display & children’s fancy dress/live music

01st Nov – Lego Camp

Annual Underage football tournaments

27th May - Gary Murray Tournament – 1st year competition – 8 teams attended

10th June – Brian McGreevy festival of football – U7.5 -22 teams attended

01 October – Dalsey Mooney Tournament – U13 – 21 teams attended

Mark Mooney LGFA – has been agreed this tournament will take place next year as an U14 Ladies tournament. (U14 are competing in Championship final 20th October.

Shauna Carvill – Community Officer

Appendix 3 – Cultural Activities in Clonduff 2023

Cultural Activities in Clonduff 2023

On the Cultural front Clonduff had 45 youngsters participating in Scór Na nÓg across six of the eight disciplines in Down. The new and novel Novelty Act (penned by Caroline McGreevy) won the South Down title but just lost out in the County Final to a very 'un-new' one, one of the Instrumental Music Groups and one of the Recitations also qualified for the county finals.

Scór Sinsir has suffered right across the country with the change from late winter/early spring to Autumn over the last 5 years or so and 2023 was no different. However, Clonduff was one of the better represented clubs.

Sean Hillen, who along with Joe Farrell, introduced Set Dancing to Clonduff around the mid-1980s, and won All Ireland Scór na nÓg titles in 1991 and 1993, passed away at the end of August 2023. Many of the former pupils turned up for his wake and funeral they decided to they would give the upcoming Scór Sinsir a go. With just a couple of weeks to the Down programme they got together, put their best foot forward and won the County title, with four of those original 1991 winners still doing it with aplomb! They qualified for the Ulster final and lo and behold they just went and won that too! I guess Sean was looking down on them from above! At the time of writing, they are excitedly getting ready for The All-Ireland Final in Killarney on 18th November! We wish them well, but above all enjoy the occasion!

Not to be outdone by the dancers, when Stalwart Eileen McCusker learned there were no Recitation entries in the whole of Down she said 'OMG (or words to that effect) we can't have that'. So up she gets on the stage in Mayobridge and walks away with another County title under her belt! Her performance in the Ulster Semi Final was impeccable but she just missed out on qualification.

The good news about the timings of Scór is that from 2024 Scór Sinsir is returning to its original spot in the calendar where it will not be affected by the on-field County Finals and the Scór na nÓg will return to Autumn. So, it will really only be a couple of months until these people are back on stage again! Half the preparation is already done!

Our Scór singers who competed Amhrán na bhFiann workshops with the last three years were often call upon to perform at various County events including County Championships in all codes. When Down Ladies reached the All-Ireland Final back in August, our Instrumental Musicians were called upon to supply the entertainment for patrons arriving at the Afternoon Tea Party Fundraiser in the Canal Court!

The Clonduff Youth Club ran a major concert in the INF Hall in October to celebrate their Golden Jubilee – onstage was a 26-piece Trad Orchestra, numerous singers and others entertainers, most of whom had represented Clonduff in Scór at some time in their lives. The orchestra was co-ordinated and conducted by our own Siobhan Doyle and the Fear an Tí and Musical Director was none other than Matt McGinn, that well-known folk singer, who himself had competed in Ulster Scór Finals in a Ballad Group.

Wonderful news on the cultural front in the Parish of Clonduff is the birth of 'Comhaltas Chluain Daimh' offering lessons in Banjo, Guitar, Bodhrán, Tin Whistle, Accordion, Fiddle, Grúpa Ceol' – more exciting news for the future of Scór in Clonduff!

Anita Brannigan – Acting Cultural Officer

Appendix 4 – Coaching and Youth Games in Clonduff

Coaching and Youth Games in Clonduff

The Coaching Committee sat down at the start of the 2023 season with the aim of compiling a ‘Player Pathway’ process across all of our four Codes.

The objective was to develop a ‘Step’ process for the 6-year-old child that first comes down to Clonduff Park to Kick a Ball or Strike a Sliothar for the first time and show them the Pathway that will make them competent in the Skills of our Games and Develop them as they go through their Juvenile Careers and leave them ready to step up to Senior Grade when they finish at Minor level.

The Committee reviewed different examples of Player Pathways that have been compiled by Dublin GAA, Wexford GAA, Antrim GAA and Leinster GAA.

Common themes were:

- Age-appropriate challenges
- a Player-centred approach
- Skills Development
- Small-sided Games and
- Player enjoyment

The Committee used these successful programmes to develop a Player Pathway Template for our own four Codes to utilise.

There were several Coach Education days organised throughout the year with Guest Coaches Micheal Gerard Doherty and Philip Kerr imparting their knowledge on different aspects of Coaching.

The Coaching sub-committee also developed a strategy to give every child the chance to develop and play at their own age grade.

The premise is that, up to and including U15 boys/U16 girls, if there are enough players in the age group panel, players will not be brought up from a lower level unless there is a shortage of numbers. If there is a shortage of numbers, the lower-age coach should be asked to provide players on a rotational basis.

A big thank you to the Coaching sub-committee of Orla Gribben, Kitty Fegan, Onagh McClorey, Mark Devlin, Jamie Fegan, Arron Graffin and Shane Quinn for the sterling work that they have undertaken over the last year

Shane Quinn – Coaching Officer

Appendix 5 – Field and Facilities Report

Field & Facilities sub-committee Report 2023

At the beginning of the year Prunty Pitches verti-drained the three pitches and sanded the main pitch. The goal areas of all pitches were all re-sodded along with some outfield areas also on main and top pitches. We had hoped to do this work in December 2022 but due to the weather it wasn't able to be completed until early February 2023 which unfortunately was an inconvenience for teams starting pre-season training. To facilitate this the lights on back pitch were fixed - thank you to McGreevy Construction for covering the cost of this and to Gregory O'Hagan who carried out the work voluntarily.

Scullion Ballstop erected a new ball stop in the back pitch which was much needed. To facilitate this, work had to be carried out on the ditch and a new fence erected - thank you to Jamie Carvill and Damien Canning for overseeing and carrying out this work assisted also by Stephen Branagan, James Kane, PJ McGinn and Glynn McPolin.

Thank you to all those who helped with grass- cutting and cleaning around the fields and facilities - Damien Canning, Jamie Carville, Colm Grant, Barney McConville, Paul McConville, Glynn McPolin and Anthony Morgan.

Thank you also to the volunteers involved in the cleanup days which took place during the year - this work really made a difference.

Thanks to PJ McGreevy for ordering the fertiliser for the fields and Murtagh Walls for spreading twice per year.

Thanks to Alistair McGilligan for his work in facilitating the pitch schedule and accommodating with limited pitch availability.

Thank you to Tommy Kelly, Alistair McGilligan and Anthony Morgan for lining the pitches.

Many thanks to Tommy who helped me to cut the grass on a regular basis throughout the year.

It is fantastic to see that work has commenced on the refurbishment of our dressing rooms due to be completed in advance of the new playing season - thanks to all who made this possible.

Prunty was back in October and carried out the necessary work on the pitches so it's good to have it done early - the three pitches are verti-drained; main pitch and top pitch (also re-seeded) has been sanded and re-sodded. Apologies for the inconvenience caused to the teams still playing in competitions at this time.

Could all teams and mentors please ensure the pitches and dressing rooms are left appropriately, ie: no bottles left etc. - it would be great if we could create this culture in our club. In the word of our Former President Dean Davies, 'the strength of our faith, is the strength of our church'. Therefore, the strength of our club is the way we keep our facilities.

Thanks again to everyone who had assisted with the field and facilities in anyway in 2023. Apologies if I have omitted anyone, it wasn't intentional.

Brendan Murray – Field and Facilities Officer

Appendix 6– LGFA Report

LGFA 2023

For first time Clonduff fielded separate U6 and U8 teams which was necessary with the age differential with the boys – encouraged more little girls to come along – around 30 @ U6 and much the same @ U8. Previously we would have been lucky to have 9/10 young girls at this age. Many thanks to Louise, Mark, Angeline, Jackie and Kathy Ann for organising the training and blitzes for U6 and to Seamie, Lorraine, Ciaran, Kelly, Paul, Keavy and Leann for doing same for U8.

The 2 x U10 teams comprising 27 girls played in home/away blitzes every 2 weeks and they were sometimes accompanied by our U8s if the other team had girls at that age. Many thanks to Joeleen and Christine, as part of the management team, who have greater things to look forward to in the near future – girls we wish you and your families all the best. Also involved in U10 was Jayme, Eugene, and young coaches Lily and Blaithín.

The U12s, with a panel of 20, competed in a league but because competition is not encouraged at this age, they were given league placings but no winners – apparently this determines what league they are entered into @ U14 in 2 years' time. Many thanks to management team of Louis, Paul, Nuala and Paula.

In LGFA in the Championships across all age groups a team of players has to be drawn up and submitted to the County Board before the Championship begins – there is no leeway for rotating players from lower age grade. In the Leagues all players can be run-on/off with no limitation to the number of subs. However, in the Championships, only 5 subs are allowed.

Our U14 girls had a very small panel and drew on the U12s to supplement the numbers and allow for subs. They found the going tough in the league and unfortunately some girls drifted away because they weren't winning many games. Come Championship time, the girls, plus 4 x U12s gelled into a superb little team and actually reached the Championship Semi Final! Many thanks to Damien, Kieran, Gary, Conan and Aisling for managing the U14s.

The Feile team consisted of players from both U16 and U14 – they played in Div 1 and reached the final only to lose by a single point. The team was jointly managed by U16 and U14 managements.

The U16 team had a bit of a turbulent start but eventually settled down and played some great football, winning the Summer League and competing very well in their Championship group just missing out on the play-offs. Many thanks to Marie, Niall, Charlene and Gary for managing the team.

Perhaps the team that can feel the hardest done-by in the LGFA competitions are the Minors – they are in the Summer League Final on Sunday 5th November, having played their last league game on 20th July. Having sat all summer without a competitive game, they played their one and only championship game on Sunday 8th October. This is the only age group that is not given an opportunity to play championship in a round-robin format! Where does equality come into this equation? Thanks to Damien, Shereen and Jackie for managing the Minors.

Seniors – The Senior Ladies played 14 league games, winning 9 and drawing 1; finished in 3rd place and went on to reach the semi final of the championship. They played some exciting football but in a number of cases were slow out of the blocks in the first half and left themselves an awful lot to do in the second half. This was particularly true in the semi final where they were 10 points down at half time, put in a tremendous second half and actually took the lead but succumbed to two late points from Annaclone who were playing at home. Many thanks to Brian, Marc and Shereen who have now completed their 3-year team.

The recreational of the LGFA is Gaelic for Mothers and Other (G4MO) which got off the ground just last year. Numbers have remained in around 18 with new faces and new people to the parish coming along and getting involved not only for the exercise but also the craic, which there was plenty of! Well done to Louise for the last couple of years.

Earlier in the year Minor player Laura Close undertook the Young Leadership programme (BUA) delivered through the LGFA. She gained invaluable experience and hopes to implement what she learned, not only on the field of play but also in her every-day life. Well done Laura – a great role model for other young girls!

Quite a number of our young LGFA players were also on County teams and County Development squads – thanks for representing your club and county with pride. U16 Coach Marie Grant was also involved in the County set up – thanks Marie.

Emily Bingham-Abbot was one such young representatives and following her exploits with Down Minors was drafted into the Senior Squad and had the privilege of collecting an All-Ireland medal in Croke Park when Down Seniors won the All-Ireland Junior title when they defeated Limerick in mid-August. But that did not stop Our Emily – she was selected for Colleges All Star trails through St Mark's Warrenpoint, as following the second trial came away with the All Star under her belt! Well done Emily – such wonderful achievements at age 17!

Shereen Lyness – Clonduff LGFA

Appendix 7 – Juvenile/Youth Football

Juvenile Football Report

U17

Jamie Fegan, Tony Wilson & Shane Ward coach this group of 23 boys. The players competed in Division one and have worked hard throughout the season to improve. They continue to work hard in the off season.

U15

Mark Devlin & Daniel McPolin lead the group assisted by Micheal Murtagh, Ciaran Crosby & Ciaran McLogan. A panel of 29 which was entered into the second division and whilst it was difficult, efforts were made to give the entire group game time throughout the league. The boys won the division 2 title and entered the top level of the championship. The championship was a learning curve which will hold them good stead for moving up to division one football next season, a step in the right direction.

U13

Paudie Matthews lead the group of 30 boys assisted by Stephen McConville, Stephen Brannigan, Jayme Carville, Conal Gribben, Colin Shields and Mark Copeland. One team was entered in Division 1 and finished runner up, a second team was entered in Division 4 and won the league. The championship was difficult for the Division 4 team as they were forced to play division 2 teams, having won their Division 4 league convincingly. The Division 1 team didn't quite reach the performance levels they had earlier in the season. Overall a good group of boys with lots of potential.

U11

Damian Fearon, Eugene Brannigan, Conan Power, Gavin McCann, Plunkett McConville, Gerard Morgan, Damien Rooney and Stephen Brannigan coached this group of 40 boys. 3 teams were entered in 3 separate development leagues. Development of skills remained the focus throughout the year, and progress was seen in this regard. All players enjoyed significant match time throughout the season.

U9

Anthony Grimes and a large team of coaches took this group of 54 boys. The boys played in the Down development leagues and skills development remained the focus throughout the year, with good progress throughout the year. All players enjoyed significant match time throughout the season.

U7 & (P1s)

Anthony Donnan and a large team of coaches took this large group of 60 boys. Skills development is the core focus and development throughout the year was very evident. Development matches were played throughout the season to allow the boys to showcase their skills. All players enjoyed significant match time throughout the season.

Summary

Around 230 boys remain involved in Juvenile football from the beginning to the end of the season. We are seeing large numbers continuing to play year on year, and hope to implement a new strategy in 2024 which will help bring significant improvements to football in the club for generations to come.

Damian Fearon – Juvenile Football Officer

Appendix 8 – Hurling Report 2023

Hurling Report 2023

The 2023 season saw a number of notable land marks for Hurling within our Club. For the first time in 15 years, we fielded a Minor Hurling team. This means that Clonduff are the only South Down Club that field at all age Grades under our own Jersey. This is testament to the ongoing coaching that is taking place at Juvenile Level.

Our U13 Hurlers made history this year becoming the first Clonduff Hurling team to compete in an All-County Division 1 Hurling League and Championship.

The Undoubted highlight of the year was the presence of Sean Óg Ó hAlpín at our annual Sean Cairns Memorial Coaching Camp. It was a fantastic experience for the kids and members of our Club to meet and engage with an icon of our Association. A big thank you to Goretta, Noleen and Shane for allowing us to facilitate what is always a highlight in the Club calendar.

As ever, the sun shone, as we made our annual pilgrimage to the Hen Mountain for the Poc Fada. This fantastic event has grown in popularity as young and old take on the challenge of the mountain. Congratulations to John Murphy who won the Senior Men's competition and lifted the Péarse Branagan Memorial Cup. Thanks to the Branagan Family for their continued support and allowing us to host this most enjoyable event in our club calendar.

U7 Hurling

The wee hurlers continue to make improvements from last year. We had 11 x Nursery and P1 kids training with us and 38 P2s, P3s and P4s playing throughout the year.

The nursery and P1s led by Tom Murphy, Noel Murray and Niall Quinn provided a fun platform to introduce our youngest lads to hurling. The lads actually fielded an exhibition game at the last day of the Parish League which was testament to the coaches' work during the year to keep these lads wanting to come back.

The P2s P3s and P4s started the year at the annual indoor blitz in Dundalk where they were well able for all opponents. This proved to be a great slingshot to start the year off.

The older lads then competed in the regional and county blitzes throughout the season and progress from the beginning to end of year was evident. Training during the year concentrated on fundamental movements and basic skills as well as maintaining core skills like agility, teamwork and coordination.

The visit of Sean Óg Ó hAlpín was certainly a highlight of the year and all the lads got time for photographs and craic with Sean Óg, he even completed a push-up challenge for them!!

The coaching team of Tom Murphy, Noel Murray, Niall Quinn, Ciaran Smyth, Fionnbharr Murphy, Francis Quinn, Niall Donnan, Paul Keenan, Ciaran Kearney, Ken O'Brien and parents who helped out during the year were key to keeping the spirit within this great group.

U9 Hurling

The U9 Hurling squad had another continued year of growth in participation and development with 23 lads looking to striking a sliothar throughout 2023. The season started off with indoor activity in the Youth Club and indoor blitzes in Dundalk before the outdoor activity started with blitzes at Red High, Downpatrick. Go Games Blitz were organised by Clubs throughout the Summer months for the lads to participate and challenge in. The continued growth of numbers ensured that Clonduff had the largest U9 squad in the whole of Down with 4 teams participating in blitzes in Pairc Esler and Red High on occasions. This ensured that all players were provided with the same opportunities to play games. Many thanks to mentors Kathy McConville, Lorraine Carville, Stephen McNally and Paddy Brannigan Snr

U11 Hurling

Our U11 Hurling Team went from strength to strength over the 2023 season with 22 lads looking to play the Ancient Game at this Grade. The 2023 Season commenced with the indoor programme hosted in the DKIT Dundalk through January and February, this gave the lads the opportunity to compete against teams from Louth and Armagh. As the evenings lengthened and the weather improved, we progressed to outdoor training and the start

of the Go Games programme. The structured games bases were enjoyable and fun allowing the lads to take on and challenge teams from the Ards, Carryduff and Bredagh. The Go Games principle of Development was to the fore in all games and allowed the lads to progress their Skill set and to continue to enjoy the Clash of the Ash. A big thank you to the Coaching Team of Gary Coffey, Brian Ó Ceannubhain and Shane Quinn

U13 Hurling

Clonduff U13 hurlers broke new ground in 2023 as, for the first time in the club's history, a hurling team secured and held a place in division 1 of the all-county league and reached the semifinal of the all-county championship. These competitions included the main Ards teams, rather than the reserve Ards teams which Clonduff have traditionally played in the past, and resulted in a very strong year where they beat Ballycran three times and Ballygalget twice, as well as going unbeaten in the league against Bredagh and Carryduff, before they eventually fell to Portaferry in a hard-fought championship semi-final. The hurling committee and team management would like to thank the players' parents for their fantastic help and support throughout the whole year, without which a great 2023 season would not have been possible. A big thank you to our Senior Hurler, John Murphy, who has been a driving force with this Group through the 2023 season

U15 Hurling

Our U15s had a strong campaign which begun with the Féile. The lads played against Division 1 sides and were narrowly defeated by Ballycran and Carryduff before beating Bredagh on a great day in Portaferry. The boys also competed well against top level sides in the Regional Féile, hosted by Clonduff, against clubs from Antrim, Meath, Dublin, Derry and Kildare. The lads were unlucky not to win their league as they were pipped to the title on points difference on a Head-to-Head against Ballela/ Ballyvarley combination of St Patricks. Unfortunately, the boys were defeated in the Championship Final against St Patricks having beaten them in the group stages. Despite having no silverware, it was a very productive year with serious strides made. Thanks to management team of Michéal Murtagh, Liam Boyle and Ciaran Kearney.

U17 Hurling

This was a landmark year for the club as it was the first time in 15 years Clonduff entered an U17 team on our own. Whilst it was a learning curve for this young group mostly made up of U16 players, their attitude and commitment was very impressive. After some tough results, the lads capped off the year with a superb Championship victory against Iveagh Gaels (Warrenpoint/ Craobh Rua). The further development of players across the pathway was a huge boost for the club. Thanks to management team of Ciaran Kearney, Anthony Binks and Shane Quinn.

Senior Hurling

The early part of the season proved to be a difficult one for the Senior Hurlers due to a small squad facing challenges through injuries. Unfortunately, we have been relegated to Division 2 for 2024. Thankfully momentum did pick up for Championship and despite a defeat to Carryduff, the lads had a strong display to win comfortably against Ballela. A very physical battle against Warrenpoint ensued with the game going right down to the wire. Unfortunately, Warrenpoint prevailed with a goal in the dying moments of the game to deny the boys an Intermediate Championship Semi-Final place. Thanks to the management team of Barry Armstrong, Anthony Tinnelly and Francis Quinn.

This year a new Championship structure was introduced without any meaningful consultation with the club which resulted in two sides dropping down to the Intermediate Championship having played 5 group games in the Senior grade. It is clear that structures across all hurling grades require meaningful consultation with clubs.

Shane Quinn – Hurling Sub Committee

Appendix 9 – Camogie Report

Clonduff Camogie AGM 2023 - Friday 10th November

Secretary report

A successful year for Clonduff camogie to date with 219 registered members for 2023 (10 non-playing and 209 playing). Teams fielded for all age groups from P1 up to Senior including a Feile team (u15), Junior team and U20 team for individual tournament. The Senior team concluded the 2022 season with a second historic All-Ireland Intermediate win.

Playing Teams

P1 Managers: Kitty Fegan and Pauline McConville

- This year we had 20 P1s playing. From the start of the year to the end of the year you could see the progression weekly in the basic skills. They were also introduced to the basic fundamentals of playing a game and as the weeks progressed you could see them developing as a great wee team. Unfortunately, a lot of teams wouldn't have the same numbers at this age group so we were limited in getting matches. However, we did travel to Attical where the girls got their first taste of a competitive match in a yella Jersey. Thanks to Pauline McConville who helped with the coaching up until her knee operation and thanks to the parents for all their support. Excellent wee girls and I look forward to seeing them develop into fantastic Clonduff players in years to come.

P2/3 Managers: Edel Lennon, Andrea, Niamh Murphy and Eileen Hamill

5th April 2023

P3s started their season with games to Creanmore (Armagh) who travelled to us. We had 8 girls – and played 7 a - side, The girls had 10-minute games and positions were rotated at half time. Tea and coffee for provided to parents and the children received crisps and minerals in the club after the games, there was a short speech thanking Creanmore for visiting. Our Senior Captain Jenna Boden presented with the All-Ireland O Duffy Cup, this was an opportunity for our own girls and Creanmore to have a photo taken with the cup. Jenna reinforced the message to the girls with respect of continuing to play camogie with their friends and having fun. It was agreed we would travel to Creanmore for some games in the near future.

22nd April 2023

Following the ferry strike to the Ards Peninsula, Attical hosted the first Primary School blitz, we had nine P2s/P3s who travelled to Mourne, they played in horrible conditions, it was wet and cold however they each had plenty of game time and displayed excellent skills - striking first time and tackling. Parents were all asked to complete the future development of the club.

24th April (Training)

The girls commenced on The Clonduff Way – Youth Player Pathway. Andrea made out a list of the girl's names and the skills to be checked. These skills need to be recorded before the beginning/end of May.

The week before we had already checked each girl's stick was the correct size - appropriate to their height. The ready position - lock/correct grip were also checked. It was a matter of repeating these skills tonight and updating the data. Eileen introduced and demonstrated each skill. The skills covered at training tonight were – Dribble the ball 10m / or 0.5m. Solo a bean bag and back 5 m and back - Strike of both sides. The P3 girls finished off training with 4v4 match. We can't let them go home without a match!

7th May 2023

The P4/P5s had arranged their own blitz with other local clubs which was held in Kilcoo - We then contacted Kilcoo and arranged for our P2/P3s to have some games with their girls, we had a really good response from parents for these games, (17 girls). In addition to this we plan to have more local games in the coming months alongside the county blitzes.

5th June

An Riocht travelled to us on our training sessions for some games, it was a beautiful sunny evening. We had 21 girls and An Riocht had 12, we had four teams each, Clonduff girls got to play An Riocht once, and each team ended up with three games each. All girls received sweets and ice pops.

12 June – Warrenpoint travelled to us on our training session for some games with 8 girls - Clonduff had all our girls in attendance, an additional training session was organised and we rotated the girls, so everyone had adequate game time.

5th August 2023 – Carryduff hosted this Primary School blitz – we had a great response and were able to enter two teams. It started off as a very wet morning but thankfully by early afternoon it was clear skies for the girls to play. The teams played to a hooter with 12 minutes duration of each game and 3 minutes between games. It was a well organised event, all parents were thanked for their continued support, encouragement and travelling to Carryduff.

An Riocht Blitz 9th September 2023

The final county blitz of 2023 was held in An Riocht, we had two teams entered this blitz. The girls worked really hard and played really well in very hot day. Mentors were grateful to parents who helped out with managing teams on the day. There were 'Clonduff Cupcakes' made especially for Graces birthday and Happy Birthday was sung by all the young Camogs - A great way to end the county blitz's.

Parish League 17th September 2023

The Big Breakfast was on prior to the Parish League, which gave everyone time to get a wee bite before the games. The historic Parish League concluded the P2s and P3s season, the girls were divided into teams of four and five, played 3 games each, and the top two teams played in a final. The work rate and all the skills developed throughout the year were displayed by all of the girls within the games. A presentation of medals were given to all girls along with crisps and juice.

P4/5: Carrie Webster, Caellagh Byrne, Shauna Carville, Valerie McGowan, Shane O'Hagan

- 20 Players
- We started training in the youth club on the 25th Feb with a squad of 31 girls made up with Primary 4 & 5 girls.
- We went to the football pitch for our first session on 3rd April and we welcomed Greamore, Co Armagh for a friendly on 15th April.
- On the 22nd April, Attical GAC held the monthly primary school blitz and we had 2 teams entered on a cold & wet day. On the 05th May we went to Kilcoo to a mini-Blitz, again we entered 2 teams. We competed very well on both days.
- The next primary school blitz was held in Bendearg, on the same day as hold communion and we couldn't field a team.
- On the 22 May we played at half-time at the Clonduff V An Roicht senior game.
- Clonduff held the next mini-Blitz on 28 May, we hosted teams Shamrocks, Kilcoo, Attical, An Roicht & Warrenpoint, we entered 3 teams on the day and completed very well.
- On Monday 12th June we hosted Warrenpoint. On the 15th July we attended the Mourne Blitz and entered two teams and on the 22nd July we attended a blitz in Warrenpoint. We played teams from Ballyholland, Mayobridge, Killeavy, Newry Shamrocks, An Ríocht, Warrenpoint, Ballela and Carryduff. We competed very well in all the games.
- The annual Camogie Camp ran from 7-11 August, all the girls attended and thoroughly enjoyed this from the feedback we received.
- On the 6th August we held a team bonding trip to the All-Ireland Camogie finals. We attended St Vincents early that morning and competed in a mini blitz. We played teams from St Vincents Dublin, Boardsmill Co Meath, Kilmessan Co Meath, Gort Na Mona Belfast & Castleblaney Co Monaghan. We entered 2 teams and competed very well. We really enjoyed the opposition and learnt a lot from playing teams from other counties. We then had a quick bite of lunch and an ice cream and headed to Croke park. A great day was had by all, ended off with a singsong on the bus.
- On the 12th August we travelled up to An Riocht as they hosted the last mini blitz, again we entered 2 teams, and the girls got a lot of camogie. The girls played at half-time in Liatroim at the senior match.

- The last primary school blitz was held in An Riocht on the 9th September. A great day and camogie for all.
- The season finished on Sunday 17th September, with the annual parish League. A great day for young & old and a great display of camogie.
- We finished the season with 29 girls. These girls have been a great bunch of girls to work with. I believe the progress these girls have made this season is down to the excellent coaching they have received and the matches they have attended this year.
- A massive thanks to the coaches: Carrie Webster, Valerie Magowan, Ceallagh Byrne, Orla Morgan. A special word of thanks to Shane O’Hagan, who helped out our group and fell ill in July, continued thoughts and prayers are with him.

P6/7, U12 Managers - Niomhi Murray, Pat Murphy, Sinead O’Hare, Brian Webster

21no Camogs for U12/P7 and 8no for P6 for 2023. Strong attendance numbers were seen throughout the season and thru summer. Good attendance to U12 league games with full team and subs being available.

U12/P7/P6 2023

Child/Player's Name.	Age group	Child/Player's Name.	Age group	Child/Player's Name.	Age group
Ella Lynch	U12	Aimee Kenny	P7	Caitlin McColgan	P6
Niamh Morgan	U12	Grace Boyle	P7	Mairéad Shannon	P6
Saoirse Kelly	U12	Anna Murphy	P7	Caoimhe McAlinden	P6
Aoibh Byrne	U12	Lily McPolin	P7	Michaela McSloy	P6
Síofra Hegarty	U12	Kelsey Quinn	P7	Abí Donnan	P6
Jessie Maginn	U12	Bella Kelly	P7	Megan McGeeney	P6
Calli Kearney	U12	Madeline Bye	P7	Eva O’Hare	P6
		Niamh Farrell	P7	Annie McGinn	P6
		Emily Read	P7		
		Meabh Shields	P7		
		Caoimhe Greenan	P7		
		Grace Gribben	P7		
		Georgia McGinn	P7		
		Molly Carvill	P7		

Training – Attendance/Session Focus,

U12/P7/P6 – Monday training had reasonable numbers, experiencing the usual drop in attendance for months of July- August. Coaches attending Niomhi, Pat, Sinead & Brian Webster.

Games & Blitzes P6/P7,

Overview attendance by P7/P6 averaged at 35% over the course of the season. Numbers taken from WhatsApp polls.

- 22nd April - BALLYCRAN BLITZ PRIMARY SCHOOL AGE GROUPS ONLY – 0 put forward to attend.
- Primary Blitz Sat 22nd - 10.30 @Attical – 11 put forward to attend.
- Primary school blitz Sat 20th May – 2 put forward to attend.
- Liatroim for a p6 p7 game for 5pm on Sat 3rd June – 4 put forward to attend.
- P6/7 Blitz Sat 10th in Ballygalget 10am start. – 3 put forward to attend.
- Monday 17th Available for a game vs Ballyholland @home – 11 put forward to attend.
- U10 blitz in Dublin on Sunday 6th August – P6, 6 put forward to attend.

- P6s available to go to Liatroim to play them 15 mins before senior League game then again at half time – O put forward to attend.
- Primary School Level Only Blitz P7 & P6 @ An Riocht. Sat 9th Sept. 10am start – 13 in attendance.

Games & Blitzes U12/P7,

Overview attendance by P7/P6 averaged at 63% over the course of the season. Numbers taken from WhatsApp polls.

- P7/Yr 8 Saturday 19th Athletic Development Session 5pm – 6 in attendance.
- U12 Camogie Blitz - Sat 6th May - Liatroim - 12 to 2pm. – 16 put forward to attend.
- U12 Blitz (p7-yr8) Sat 13th in Warrenpoint 10-12 – 13 put forward to attend.
- U12 (p7/yr8) Saturday in Mayobridge for 10:30am – 13 put forward to attend.
- U12/P7 - 2023 Down Camogie Grp2 Saturday 17th Jun 2023, 11:00 AM @ Cherryvale, BREDAGH vs CLONDUFF – 17 put forward to attend.
- U12 League game Vs Portaferry Saturday 29th Jul 2023 – 6 in attendance.
- U12/P7 Blitz Sat 26th August, 11am at Attical – 14 in attendance.

U12/P7 league was well attended and competed reasonably well. Held a mid-table position and could have made top 3 slot. Stand out was attendance to 2no Ards games played during the working week – much appreciated by management/coaches for parent's efforts in making sure Camog's were there to line out.

U12/P7/P6 Team Outings,

P6 & under Blitz and All Ireland Finals @ Croke Park.

Teams participated in blitzes against teams from across the country @ St.Vincents GAA club, Dublin.

2no teams entered and were competitive during their games in changeable weather conditions.

Attendance of All Ireland was enjoyed by young Camogs and coaches alike.

Also:

- Clonduff Camogie U12/P7 Half time of Down v Galway senior match on Sat 1st July in Parc Esler @ 3pm – 11 put forward to attend.
- Camogie Summer camp – P6 4no, P7 10no, 1st Yr 2no.
- Annual Juvenile Parish League - Sunday 17th September.

Lastly,

Thanks to the U12/P7/P6 players, parents, for their support this year.

U14 Managers- Orla Gribben and Patrice Maginn

The Under 14 Camogie team had triumphant finish to their year as Down Under 14 Shield Champions. There was a fresh addition of last years Under 12's to the team this year and this give the experience of playing in league and championship to all of the girls on the panel. The team was managed by Senior player Orla Gribben and Patrice Maginn.

The girls played league games against all the top clubs at under 14 level with some excellent performances against teams such as Mayobridge, Castlewellan, Carryduff, Darragh Cross and An Riocht. There was a big gap between us and the other top four teams at Under 14, they seemed to have a large amount of the older players at under 14. This resulted in us playing in the shield and not in the cup based on where we finished in the league.

The season finished on a high as the girls won all their group matches in the championship to set up a County Final V Castlewellan. The girls give it their all and put in a serious effort to finish the game strong and be worthy winners.

We had 16 girls on the Under 15 Feile team who won the Co. Down Feile and then went on to represent the county at the All Ireland Feile in Caltra Galway. The girls were a credit to their families and reached the final but were unlucky not to come away as winners.

Thanks very much to all the parents who were a great support throughout the year.

Feile Team - Managers Lizzie Wilson, Sara-Louise Graffin, Orla Gribben

- Division 1 Winners in Down
- All Ireland Feile - Played in Caltra North East Galway with oppositions from Naomh Brid Carlow, St. Dominics Roscommon and Ardahan Galway overcome to progress to the cup semi final against Cillard County Kerry.

- In the Final v Raharney (Westmeath) Clonduff were behind 0-3 to 0-1 at the break but put on a gallant fight in the second half to send the game into extra time, only to lose that by 2 points – Final Score 0-6 to 0-4
- Prior to travelling the fundraising efforts allowed the club to purchase new Kit for the travelling team

U16 - Managers Lizzie Wilson, Sara-Louise Graffin

The U16s again had a very successful season, winning the Championship and League competitions. There was also a large proportion of this group involved in the county winning Feile team.

We had a panel of 20 girls.

After the first round of League fixtures the girls qualified for the top half of the League group after finishing second in the table after tough draws with Liatroim and a defeat to Bredagh. After winning each of our second-round league games comfortably we played Liatroim in our last group game at home knowing that a win would see us crowned League Champions. In a tough physical game at home to Liatroim the girls stayed composed and played fantastic Camogie to win the league on a 4-16 to 1-4 scoreline.

After being drawn away to Castlewellan for the A semifinal, the girls prepared and trained hard for the championship. The semifinal was a close match and the girls worked extremely hard against a good Castlewellan team. We qualified for the Final on a scoreline of 7-3 to 0-4

The girls were drawn away to Bredagh in the championship 1/4 final. Bredagh had some fantastic players but when Clonduff found their feet and started playing together they won comfortably to set up a semifinal away to Liatroim. In a wet windy day in Liatroim the girls again stayed focused on their job and after a slow start finished the first half strongly giving them a good lead at half time. In a physical second half battle the girls again stuck to their task and ran out 4-7 to 2-2 winners qualifying for the Final against Ballygalget.

On another wet miserable day in Teconnaught the girls dug in and produced some fantastic Camogie. Despite a second half downpour the girls delivered a complete performance from every player, displaying hard work, tackling, high fielding and passing the girls defeated Ballygalget 7-9 to 2-7, retaining their u16 crown. The scoreline not reflecting the highly competitive nature of the game, every player and sub made a huge contribution to this fantastic win captained by Niamh McConville. The girls also attended the Bronagh Kelly memorial sevens tournament in Gort Na Mona and qualified for the final narrowly getting beat by Swatragh by 1 point in a brilliant contest. This Swatragh team would have backboned Derry's U16 All Ireland winning team so the girls can take great confidence that if they put their mind to it they can compete with the best.

This was a hugely successful year for this team. More importantly they are a fantastic bunch of wellmannered, pleasant girls and it was a pleasure for the coaches to be involved with them. There are many in this group who I hope will go on to represent Clonduff at senior level and some who have already made their Senior debut. It is also great to see a strong representation from this group on county teams. Thanks to everyone who helped out at different times this year with the girls as there were many clashes due to county training / games.

U18 Managers Lizzie Wilson, Sara-Louise Graffin

The minors again had a very successful season winning the Championship and minor blitzes ran by the county. There was also a large proportion of this group involved with the county minors including Cellagh Byrne who was the captain.

We had a panel of 20 girls.

It was decided that the minors would not have a league this year instead the minors would compete in a number of blitzes around the county. Clonduff girls competed in two blitzes, one at home and one in Laitroim. The girls were successful in both these blitzes and won all of their matches.

In the quarter final of the championship the girls played Bredagh at home winning comfortably and then Castlewellan with super individual performances from Cellagh and Therese Cowan. In the final the girls met Ballygalget and retained the minor championship with a score line of 5.16 to 0.5. This was a physical game and every girl stepped up on the day.

This was a hugely successful year for this team. More importantly they are a fantastic bunch of well mannered, pleasant girls and it was a pleasure for the coaches to be involved with them. There are many in this group who I would hope will go on to represent Clonduff at senior level and some who have already made their Senior debut.

It is also great to see a strong representation from this group on county teams. Thanks to everyone who helped out at different times this year with the girls as there were many clashes due to county training / games.

Senior - Managers Alistair McGilligan, Oisín McManus, Guinevra McGilligan, Aaron Graffin.

- 2022 Season concluded with an All Ireland Intermediate win against James Stephens Camogie Club (Kilkenny) in Croke Park after overcoming Clanmaurice (Kerry) in the Semi-final.
- Kilmacud 7s entered
- The 2023 season saw the club enter the Fr Davies Shield without their county players. A number of senior players had retired at county level, so Clonduff probably entered this stage of the season stronger than in previous years. The team had a decent run in the league with a narrow defeat to Liatroim at home. The second half of the league was also very competitive but again the team suffered a defeat to Liatroim who went on to claim the league title.
- In the championship we topped the group and played Liatroim in the semi-final at Clonduff Park – but it wasn't our day; injuries finally took their toll and the serious injury to Paula O'Hagan in the week leading up to the semi-final was probably one injury too many. We wish all our players Katie, Cassie, Paula and Fionnuala continued recovery.

Junior: Manager Shauna Carvill

- A number of camogs returned to the field and trained at the start of the season. They entered a second's competition, however due to other teams being unable to field there were no competitive matches.

County Representation

- Clonduff players were represented in Senior County Sara Louise Graffin, Clare McGilligan, Beth Fitzpatrick, Erin Rafferty, Isabella O'Hare, Katie McGilligan.
- Minor - Ceallagh Byrne (Capt), Amy Morgan, Grace Clancy, Cara Savage, Niamh McConville
- U16 - Caoimhe McConville, Niamh McConville, Lily Rafferty, Grace Kelly, Zara Kelly, Hannah Shields, Therese Cowan, Cara Savage
- U14 - Aislinn Byrne, Hannah brown, Niamh McEvoy, Ellen Webster, Ciara McPolin

Schools

- Our Lady's Grammar School, Newry win Ulster Senior Schools Camogie Championship with 10 Clonduff girls on the team – Ella Beth Rooney, Hannah Shields, Blaithín Shields, Ceallagh Byrne, Katie Morgan, Amy Morgan, Ellen Shields, Lily Rafferty, Cara Savage and Niamh McConville. Niohmi Murray (member of Clonduff Senior Camogie team), a teacher in the school was joint coach.
- 8 Clonduff girls and their Clonduff coach steer St Mark's to the Year 9/10 Ulster Camogie Championship – Sophie Fitzpatrick, Therese Cowan (joint captain), Abi Hannaway, Anna Rose Carvill, Katie McAlinden, Blaithin Kelly, Katie Farrell and Annie Fegan. The team coach is Lorraine Maginn.
- Seven Clonduff girls on Sacred Heart Grammar School team that won their Ulster title in May – Mary-Kate McPolin, Ruby Binks, Amy McEvoy, Niamh McEvoy, Blaithnaid Kelly, Mya Burns and Ellen Webster.
- Niamh Morgan (4) and Síofra Hegarty (8) were playing members of the Sacred Heart Grammar School Camogie team that won the 24 team Celine McAteer Ulster Schools tournament on 28th October 2023

Awards

- Orla Morgan - Camogie Association Volunteer of the Year Award 2022
- Sara Louise Graffin selected as Ulster Intermediate Club Player of the Year.
- Erin McAlinden on Ulster University Camogie team that won Aisling Murphy Memorial Cup.
- NMD Sports Awards hosted in Canal Court seen the following awards for Clonduff Camogie o Orla Morgan - Senior Sport Volunteer of the year 2022
 - Senior Club Team of the Year 2022 accepted by Orla Gribben and Niohmi Murray on behalf of the Senior Team

- Senior Club Coach of the Year 2022 accepted by Guinevra McGilligan
- Gaelic Life Awards 10th March
 - All Star awards for Paula O’Hagan, Sara-Louise Graffin, Katie Morgan, Jenna Boden and Fionnuala Carr
 - Merit award for the manager of the year collected by Alistair on behalf of the management team for 2022
- QUB Future Stars Award for Camogie for Niamh McConville and Cara Savage
- Cara Savage received Camogie Award for Our Ladies Grammar School
- Irish News All Star Camogie team included Sara Lousie Graffin, with Nominations also for Beth Fitzpatrick and Clare McGilligan

Social

- Mystery flight March - 2-night Trip to Santa Ponsa to celebrate the 2022 All Ireland Winning Camogie Team
- Clonduff Hosted Feile - a successful day for the team and club, reintroduced the parade and awards for best banner and best turned-out team.
- Easter Cake Sale
- May Ball Saturday 6th May was a celebration of the Clubs achievements hosted in the Whistledown Hotel with Guests including Clonduff Club Chairman Ross Carr, Down Camogie Chairperson Teresa Carr, Ulster Chairperson Deirdre McGrath, Camogie President Hilda Breslin and the 2022 Intermediate All Ireland winning team who were presented on the night with their medals. A wonderful evening including a surprise dance from a number of club members.
- When Clonduff Camogs won their first County title in 2007 they presented the Club President the late Dean Davies with a signed hurl. In June 2023, 2 years after the Dean’s passing some members of that team and committee members presented the hurl to Club Chair Ross Carr to put in pride of place in the clubrooms.
- Big Breakfasts on Sunday 11th June to raise funds for the Feile team along with a Raffle of Outdoor furniture including heater and BBQ
- U15 Camogie team travelled to All Ireland Feile on 24th June, a stopover in Carrick-on-Shannon then off to Caltra in Galway.
- Bus run to the All-Ireland Camogie finals on Sunday 6th August which was enjoyed by all who travelled, the day began with a U10 tournament in St. Vincents
- Big Breakfast Sunday 17th September for general club funds
- Halloween Fancy Dress with the Druth playing

Training

- Clonduff host Foundation Coaching Awards – 6 Clonduff coaches participated
- Elizabeth Wilson began the Hurl with Me initiative following on from Orla Morgan last year
- Coaching Clinic - Michael Gerard Doherty
- August - Workshop with Senior players from Naoise Waldron from Dublin GAA ahead of Championship

Members in Additional Roles in 2023

- Teresa Carr holds Chairperson role for Down Camogie
- Eileen Hamill sits on the Down Camogie THDC
- Ursula Kearney holds Vice Chair role for Ulster Camogie

Executive – 2023 Members:

1. Chairperson - Guinevra McGilligan
2. Secretary - Ciara Murphy
3. Treasurer – Cassie & Cathy Fitzpatrick
4. PRO - Kitty Fegan

5. Children's Safeguarding Officer - Orla Morgan
6. Development Officer - Orla Morgan
7. Additional members - Eileen Hamill, Maura Quinn, Brian Webster, Teresa Carr, Laurine Harper

Meetings: 2x January, 1st March, 22nd March, 20th April, 12th September, 4th October. Other ad-hoc meetings took place throughout the year and committee arranged teas and snacks for the senior team after some trainings and matches.

Thanks

A big thank you to all members of the Club who have contributed to a successful year including Player, Coaches, Parents, Sponsors and Supporters.

Special mention to all the Coaches and helpers of our events who have given up their time to ensure our club is able to operate and provide Camogie opportunities.

We were very lucky to have support from our sponsors for the year with a special mention to Mackins, Cleomack, Hugh Murray, Brendan Murray, McPolin Eggs, TeamKit and McGreevy's.

Appendix 10 – 5-Year Strategy Plan

In March 2023 Ross invited a number of people to form a steering group, with the aim of developing a new five-year strategy for the club.

The steering group was made up as follows;

Ross Carr

Grainne Killen

Rory Grant

PJ Quinn

Ken O'Brien

Ciaran Kearney

Nigel McPolin

From the very beginning we were clear that this could not be our plan, could not be what we thought should be done but that it had to come from the members, volunteers, players, mentors, coaches, parents and supporters.

That is why a survey was carried out and it was really positive and really useful in pointing to six Key areas the club would need to focus on. These were:

Community and Culture

Coaching and Games

Health and Wellbeing

Facilities development

Governance and Finance

Communication

But a survey can only give a snapshot at a point of time – so in accordance with the advice from the GAA, we organised a workshop to give everyone the opportunity to have their say and to discuss in more detail the key issues coming out of the survey. The workshop, was in July and was open to all members. The Group is grateful for the input of the following people who expertly facilitated the discussions:

Ciaran Dunbar

Nigel McPolin

Ken O'Brien

Elaine Hillen

Shane Quinn

Geraldine McPolin

The discussions focused on the six areas identified above and all issues raised and suggestions were recorded. It was hoped to have further such workshops over the summer however difficulties with scheduling and availability meant that these did not take place. It is hoped that these will be scheduled before the end of the year and that a draft plan will be launched early in 2024.

Grainne Killen – 5-Year Strategy Group