



Wicklow GAA NEWSLETTER



Wicklow Camogie



All Ireland U16D Champions

After a comprehensive win over Mayo in Kingspan Breffni Park on Sunday 18th July.

It's important to acknowledge that this was not a single year campaign but one which has been building since the majority of the squad wore a Wicklow county jersey for the first time at age 13 when joining the County Development Squads. Most had by then played 6 or 7 years of Camogie in their Clubs.

The many Club and County coaches and team mates they met along the way along with Club, County, Provincial and National administrators, all contributed to their development as Camogie players. Without the support of their parents and families, they could not avail of the opportunities presented to them.

When all the various elements work together productively and in harmony, that is when we see progress and very happy faces that you see in the photograph!

As adults, we can only offer opportunities and encouragement to our young people. It is they who decide to partake and do the work. We are full of admiration for the effort put in by all our players who got involved and managed to achieve this incredible result, so a massive well done from all of us in Wicklow, to this incredibly talented bunch of girls!!



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The Lightning Protection Ireland Senior Hurling Championship

throws in on the weekend of August 7/8.

First up on Saturday 7th sees Glenealy take on Eire Óg Greystones in the County Grounds Aughrim at 7:00pm

Sunday we have three more games beginning with Avondale v Kilcoole at 12:00 noon

Carnew Emmets v Bray Emmets at 4:00pm

Kiltegan v St. Patrick's Wicklow Town from 6:00pm

GA A WHERE WE ALL BELONG

LPI Lightning Protection Ireland Senior Hurling Championship



Avondale

V

Kilcoole

Sun 8th Aug @ 12 noon
County Grounds, Aughrim



GA A WHERE WE ALL BELONG

LPI Lightning Protection Ireland Senior Hurling Championship



Glenealy

V



Eire Óg Greystones

Sat 7th Aug @ 7pm
County Grounds, Aughrim



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Kiltegan

V

St. Patrick's

Sun 8th Aug @ 6pm
County Grounds, Aughrim



GA A WHERE WE ALL BELONG

LPI Lightning Protection Ireland Senior Hurling Championship



Carnew Emmets

V

Bray Emmets

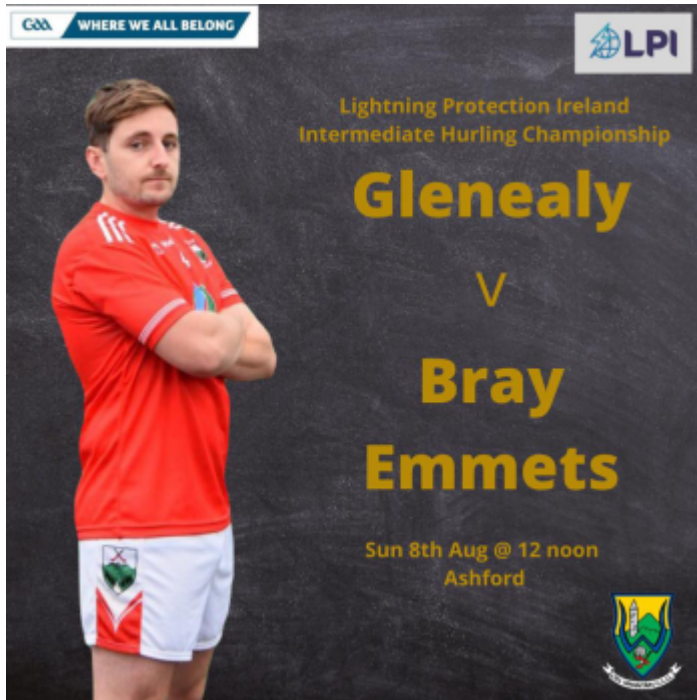
Sat 7th Aug @ 4pm
County Grounds, Aughrim



The Lightning Protection Ireland Intermediate Hurling Championship

This is followed later in the day when Arklow Rock Parnells take on Barndarrig in Pearses Park Arklow at 5:30pm.

Ashford is the place to be at noon on Sunday 8h when Glenealy take on Bray Emmets.



Wicklow GAA Season Ticket still available

Adults €100, OAP's €75. Contact COE Ballinakill (0404) 43401 to purchase.



Wicklow GAA Season Ticket 2021

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An Tóchar GAA 2020 Junior C Champions

Well done to our Junior C men's team on their win on Saturday 31st in Aughrim against Blessington. A closely fought game with only a few points separating the teams during the game.

Final Score An Tóchar 0-13 Blessington 1-7.

The team received very generous sponsorship from local businesses for gear - The Coach House provided a set of jerseys, Roundwood Pharmacy sponsored zip tops, and Keith Grant Butcher's & Adrianos Take-Away sponsored training tops. As always, thanks to our sponsors for their continued support of our teams and our Club, and we encourage everyone to support our sponsors in return and shop local. Many thanks to Robert Power Electrical, ADF Pumps and John at JB Roofing for sponsoring the livestream. Thank you to Eugene, East Coast Video Productions, and thanks also to Conor Short and Bill Halligan for the excellent commentary.

50/50 Club Draw: Our 50/50 Club Draw took place on Saturday July 31st. Congratulations to Matt

Nolan the lucky winner of €925. Thank you to everyone who bought tickets and supported our fundraising draw. Our next draw takes place on Saturday August 28th with 50% of the pot going to the lucky winner, and the other 50% going to Club. Tickets are available at www.klubfunder.com/Clubs/An_Tochar/TicketSales or from any committee member who can enter your tickets for you.

A reminder to all players, supporters and visiting Clubs to An Tóchar GAA: all Government guidelines regarding social distancing, hand hygiene and face coverings must be adhered to; the grounds, sidelines and stand are strictly no-Smoking; note our No Dogs policy (with the exception of Assistance/Guide Dogs). This is in the interest of the comfort and safety of all. Please do not bring your pets to the grounds; No unauthorised Photography /Video recording

Follow us on Social Media to keep up to date with fixtures, results and events; Facebook: AnTocharGAA Instagram: antochargaa; Twitter: @antochargaa.



Arklow Geraldines Ballymoney

Down Memory Lane

Arklow Geraldines Bridge 48 Year Gap. On Saturday 31st of July AGB we meet Bray Emmets in the Junior "B" final of 2020. 32 years ago Geraldines won the championship when they defeated Dunlavin. It was in October 1989 Geraldines bridged a 48-year gap when they won their first adult football

championship since 1941. They defeated a strong and resolute Dunlavin side in thrilling final 1-7 to 1-5. In the opening 30 minutes of the game Geraldines enjoyed the greater share of the play but some very bad shooting by the forwards left them leading at the break only by a goal 1-3 to 0-3. After the resumption Dunlavin made some positional changes and started to pile on the pressure. This period of Dunlavin domination coincided with the time Billy Manley who was having a blinder at midfield was recuperating



after a heavy tackle. With Dunlavin getting the upper hand at mid field Jimmy Whittle sent over a point to narrow the gap. However Billy returned to his position at midfield and his effect on the team performance was very evident. Michael Mourdant, Thomas Werder, Johnny O' Neill and Reggie Gaffney scored a succession of points to put the team back in the driving seat. However Dunlavin were not finished. Vincent Cronin with a pass from Tommy Foley sent the green flag flying. Another blazer of a shot from Foley was saved by Michael Cox . In the end it was Arklow's day. Billy Manley received the Man of the Match award from Paddy Leonard from Arklow Pottery.

Team: Michael Cox, Marcus O' Toole, Kenneth O' Neill, Eamonn Gough, James Kavanagh, Liam Reilly, David Walker, Billy Manley, Stuart Gleeson, Thomas Werder (0-2), Reggie Gaffney (0-1), Michael Mourdant (0-1), Thomas Breen (1-0), Thomas Roche (0-1), Johnny O' Neill (0-2) Subs : Conor Byrne C.J. Gaffney.

AGB will face Bray Emmets for a second time in the Junior B Championship. After an exciting game where AGB held their place in the first half and lead, Bray Emmets came quickly back and a level score of 1-07 to both teams saw the long awaited Junior B Championship Final go to a replay.

Both AGB and Bray had finished top of their groups in 2020 with AGB notching up four wins, and a draw to secure their place in the Championship Final. Both teams will now play it out one more time this August in anticipation of the long sought after Junuor B Champions title.

AGB's Summer Camp has been a huge success once again this July and we are delighted to announce that it will run once again in August, on the 18/19/20th. We look forward to another few days of GAA, skills and fun with our AGB superstars.

Dogs are not allowed at pitches at Arklow Geraldines Ballymoney. We thank you for your cooperation and understanding when attending our grounds.



Ashford GAA

It has been a busy period for all involved in Ashford GAA Club as we saw a return to play for all players from under 7's right up to our senior sides. It has been great to see our underage sides in particular getting a chance to show off their skills at GoGames and we

thank the coaches for their continued efforts with them.

We have great numbers and are fielding two teams at most GoGames which is great to see.

Again we would like to thank all of the volunteers and coaches who have mad the return to play possible.

It is great to see the pitch full most evenings of the week.

Another success story has been the launch of our Gaelic 4 Mother's and Other's.

We have been blown away with the response and have had over 40 women at some of the sessions. The craic has been great and the overall feedback is hugely positive. A special thanks to the lads coaching for giving up their time to make sure it has all ran so smoothly to date.

Our Lotto jackpot is currently 2500 euro and you can play online at:



Gaelic 4 Mothers and Others



Under 8 Girls



Under 14 Girls



Under 11 Boys



Under 10 Girls





Avondale GAA

Our club has been a hub of activity throughout the month of July between Hurling, Football and Camogie there has been a game nearly every evening in the field either at Adult or Juvenile level.

Our senior hurlers have continued to improve and were unfortunate this month not to make the league final when they lost out to Eire Og in their last league game. The championship for our hurlers is just around the corner so stay tuned to our social media platforms for details of fixtures.

Our Senior footballers had 2 great wins in July over Blessington and Baltinglass with the win over Baltinglass coming on away soil for the first time in our history it was a big statement. Unfortunately we lost out to St.Pats in our most recent league encounter and David Burke's charges will be hoping to redeem themselves in their final two league games against Tinahely and Rathnew.

Our Junior Footballers have continued their impressive start to the league and are now 6/6 with each of their victories coming in a very comprehensive manner. This group need to be playing division 3 football in 2022 to hopefully take our club to the next level.

Our Junior Hurlers have continued with a good start to 2021 with some convincing wins over Aughrim and ARP in July. Most notably our junior hurlers were crowned Junior C Hurling Champions for 2020 after



they beat Eire Og in a sun drenched Ballinakil in Mid-July.... The captain Seamus McGraynor at 53 years of age lifted the cup on behalf of the Dales and was a great victory for Avondale hurling which has struggled in recent years.

Our juveniles have continued with some impressive results across all grades and the club would like to thank all our volunteers parents and sponsors for their continuous support that allow our GAA grounds to constantly be a hive of activity....

Some pictured below of our 4 Adult teams for 2021 and Seamus McGraynor lifting the 2020 Junior C Hurling trophy







Blessington GAA Club

Good evening everyone on this glorious Sunday. We hope that you are all enjoying this beautiful weather. Just remember to stay well hydrated and we have an outside tap located at the blue

container with fresh water available.

We started off the week with miserable wet weather for our Cúl camps but by Tuesday evening we had the healthiest looking children all red faced after their fill of well earned Vitamin D. And what better way to round off the week with Trevor, Karen and Lisa arriving with ice pops for the 170+ children and coaches. Check out our social media pages to see the photos.

A little bit of housekeeping guys.

If you are not going to use the pitch for training you have to let us know. We had cancelled matches during the week as we had expected to have all pitches full with teams training but a few teams cancelled without any notice and pitches were sitting free!!

Also remember that goal posts must be removed from the pitches when finished.

It has been suggested to obtain new portable posts , maybe something with wheels and this is a great idea and is definitely something that is being looked into but in the meantime we have to work with what's available so if everyone can respect the equipment available while we shop around.

For ALL challenge matches notice must be given to club secretaries at least 48 hrs notice (Fri 3pm if Mon challenge). Name of opposition ,Where match is being played,Time,

Team *inclusive seniors to juvenile ages groups*

Most importantly a refs name.

Clubs are not naming their referee for Club Challenge Games, from 19th July if the Referee is not included permission will not be granted.

Failure to get permission for these games means there is no insurance cover for any injuries. Please contact Noreen club secretary, Gillian / Susan juvenile secretary.

Our car park has a reverse in drive out one way system in operation. This is for the safety of everyone as a lot of children are coming and going between drop off and collecting times. Please respect the car park attendants.

Also we have a strict No Dog Policy on our grounds. There are signs at the gate stating this but we've noticed lately that this is not being adhered to. We understand that this might offend some dog owners but again it's for the health and safety of everyone, It's mainly from visiting teams who aren't aware of our policy so if coaches and admin are conversing with visiting teams it's something that you should make them aware of. Again please respect the car park attendants as this is a Club policy and not a personal issue.

Our shop has opened back up recently serving tea/ coffee a selection of cold drinks and snacks. This is a small venture with all proceeds going straight back into the club. Thanks to everyone for your support.

Senior Men

Played St Pat's at home in Rd4 of the league. Again the team are hampered with injury and while everyone else stepped up to the plate and gave it everything on a roasting hot evening unfortunately they were beaten on a score line of 1-12 to 1-08. Next up is away to Rathnew this coming Friday @7.30pm. Junior A are at home this Friday to Aughrim in Rd 4 of the league @7.30pm
Junior C away to Stratford on Thursday @7.30Pm.

U17 Minor Boys

Training Monday 7:30, Sunday 10 am

Wed 21st Friendly V An Tochar 8pm TBC.

The minors played Baltinglass on Monday 12th is first round of the Championship a close Game and one Blessington left behind. Blessington started very strong and took an early lead and were 2 points up at half time and should have been well ahead but didn't convert the chances created. The 2nd half remained close with both sides cancelling each other scores, Blessington again created chances but poor decisions at vital times allowed Baltinglass into the game. Game was level in last 5 minutes and Baltinglass got the winning point in the last few minutes. A game we left behind and could have won with some very good play but things still to work on in the coming weeks. Thanks to Cormac O'Loughlin for helping with the academy on Saturday.

U15 Lads

Div 03 White Squad

We played AGB at home Wednesday night in Champ and despite a bad start and AGB superior over all size and scored 3 early goals lads worked their way back

into game and played some fantastic Moving football and created great scores.

We lost in the end but lads gave it there all all way to final whistle.

Well done lads from Management.Next up.is An Tochar at home Friday July 23rd.Great to see few injured players back and couple still out.

Div 01 Blue Squad

Lads were away to Bray in rescheduled date (Thanks to Bray for facilitating)and on an extremely warm evening the Lads picked up where the left off from Nicks game and started really well and worked ball through hands very well up pitch but unfortunately some of our taking of scoring chances was Poor and trying for Goals instead of Points the Bray Keeper was busy and made a lot of saves. But lads settled down and worked very hard and took scores better in second Quarter.

Management had good chat with Lads at half time and re focused. But with very warm temperatures it was hard for lads to get intensity up to where we wanted it to be. We worked well specifically in last Quarter and closed out game strong. Lads came away with a win and we move on to next Round at home to St Pats Wednesday July 28th. Great to get two teams out @ u15 level.

U14 (2007 lads)

Player pathway game on Sunday July 25th Away to St Kevin's.

U13 White squad (U12's)

The latest gamesaw them travel away to play Arklow Geraldines, the current League leaders and a team that have lost only once in the last two and a half years.

After a week of Cul camps and in sweltering heat the Blessington boys put in a phenomenal performance to stun the home side with a score line of 5-8 to 7-10.

Blessington started brightly with an early goal from Conor Fitzgerald that was quickly cancelled out by Arklow. The next two points went to Rian Keogh and Dylan Callaghan before Arklow rattled the net with a goal to take the lead. Another goal from midfielder Fiacha Duffy saw Blessington retake the lead before the first water break.

The second quarter saw Arklow crank up the pressure and score 2-2 which could have been more only for the heroics of new Blessington shot stopper Sean Metcalf. The Blessington boys were not done

though and points from forwards Ryan Sergeant and Luke Deniffe kept us in touch before three unanswered scores from Dylan Callaghan, two frees and a goal, saw Blessington draw level at half time, 4-3 to 3-6.

What followed in the second half was remarkable. A goal apiece for Ryan Sergeant and Conor Fitzgerald saw Blessington take the lead before Arklow responded with two points of their own. The work rate of the boys in blue was upped again with huge performances from our backs Oisin Quigley, Callum Dempsey, Sam Byrne, Oisin Kelly and Alfie McDonald all of who fought and battled throughout.

The fourth quarter saw Blessington out on their feet but as a team each and every one stayed going. Despite Arklow tagging on points and one more goal and despite the travel, the heat, the Cul camps, the asthma and the hayfever Blessington not only managed to defend their lead but added to it with midfielder and tireless worker James Mc Carney scoring 1-1, Rian Keogh with another goal and points from Callum Dempsey and Dylan Callaghan wrapping up an epic win.

A fantastic performance from each and every one of them which ended AGB 5-8 Blessington 7-10.

Proud coaches of the super young team

U12

travelled away to Baltinglass in the player pathway league this evening . The lads played some great stuff coming away with a big win. Everyone did well and lads played a great brand of football mixing hand passing with long range kick passing. Special mention to Sean Metcalf who has stepped up to goal keeper and was outstanding both tonight and against St Nicks during week. His kick outs are a huge plus to the team. The lads are now 2 from 2 in the league and play An Tochar next .Final score Blesso 8-13 to Baltinglass 2-4

U11 white team

Played Eire Og at home tonight in Div3 of the league and it's now 3/3 wins for the lads. Put the disappointment of Monday night behind them and after a tight first half they came out and played some brilliant football in the 2nd half to win 48-14. Some brilliant performances and 20 players togged out everyone played their part. A big thank you to Martin O Driscoll who had new tops for kids & coaches sponsored by MKM Networks

U10's

Were away to Baltinglass tonight in the Player Pathway league. We started off slowly but came back into the game after the first water break. Against a very good Baltinglass team we battled very hard and fought our way back into the game. Some standout performances which was great to see. Unfortunately we couldn't pull the lead back but it wasn't for the want of trying. Well done to all and thanks to all parents who travelled to Baltinglass

U10 played Cappagh away today in NKL. In very warm conditions the 2 team's put in one of the best displays so far this year. Special mention to Olly Eoghan & Jack who came up from U9's to help us out and put in great performances. Thanks to Alan Ellis who provided kids with cold drinks & ice creams after the match.

U8 NKL

on Saturday afternoon travelled down to Leixlip. Great day and great performance, well done everyone. Training Monday and go games next Saturday morning. Keep eye on texts.

U9s

Trained in the Saturday heat. Good turn out and lads are really starting to take on board everything we are trying to improve on.

Training Monday.

U9 NKL game next Saturday afternoon at home. Keep eye on the texts

U8 boys

Played two games in the NKL under the mid afternoon sun, on Saturday afternoon away to Leixlip. Both teams were very competitive in their respective games and there was some very good phases of play. Well done to everyone. Training Monday go games next Sat morning at home.

Ladies

Our Ladies played Tinahely on Saturday evening but unfortunately lost out on a score line of Blessos 3:05 to Tinahely 2:18

Super performance this morning from our u10 white team away against Ashford. We were very unlucky not to come away with a win. With the temperature of 27 degrees it was very tough on the girls but they tackled, passed and defended really well. It is hard to pick a player of the match as they were all so good. Special mention to Erin Long, Megan Mulhall, Abby McCarthy and Caitlin Reddy. Well done girls.

Well done to our U10 girls this morning. Playing at home against St Marks. We had 2 teams playing. Very tough going in that heat. Great teamwork throughout and they never gave up. Big thanks to the Healthy Club Team for the fruit afterwards

Under 8 girls

Hosted their first home match of the season against Bray on Saturday. The heat was tough going but the girls were brilliant. Their team spirit was super.

Hurling

Congratulations to 3 Blessos lads Oisín Brogan, Jamie O'Toole and Jake O'Kelly who's team Western Gaels beat Aughrim in the Junior B championship final. Well done everyone.

Academy

Another fantastic morning at our academy. We had 26 children attending and thanks as always to our helpers. Cormac O'Laughlin, Sarah Murphy, Sadhbh Cotter and Hannah Byrne.

Dare I say it but it was too hot to do anything other than have ice pops at our All Stars this morning. Thanks to all he turned up.

Club logo facemasks and snoods are available to buy now by contacting Lisa or Michelle.

Remember you can keep up to date with all our news across all social media platforms. If you have anything that you would like included in future notes of posted on social media contact

Pro.blessington.wicklow@gaa.ie

Ailis Mac Siacas (Lisa Jackson) 086 376 7534

Alainnabh Mathuna (Alana McMahon) 087 676 9142





In conjunction with Wicklow local sports partnership <https://wicklowlsp.ie/> a 2 day inclusion camp was held on Tuesday & Wednesday in nearby Russborough House with the CP adventure center, we had land activities on day 1 that included archery, rock climbing and zip lines and out on the beautiful lakes in Blessington on day 2 for kayaking. Some of our All Stars attended along with new volunteers for Cara sports inclusion Ireland Lisa Jackson & Mallaidh Behan.

U16 Ladies

Huge congrats to our girls U16 blue team who won the Division 1 title tonight with a final game away to Tinahely, making it 6 wins from 6.

Final score Blessos 5-17 - 1-3 Tinahely. We are very proud of the girls who were fantastic throughout and played immense for the whole league. Some wonderful observations and comments from opposing teams and spectators on our team play, unity and polished performances

These amazing young ladies made history two seasons ago when they claimed a treble of titles bringing home our first A champ & Div 1 league in over 20 years, plus an all Ireland Feile honour. Now they've just gone and done it again claiming our first U16 Div 1 cup over the same time frame We look forward to much more to come from these stars



Donard-Glen Club

"on-track" in Support of the Local Community

Donard-Glen GAA club was always at the heart of the local community but, during the pandemic, this relationship was raised to a whole new level. The club's newly laid walking track around Jim Mills Park was literally a life-saver for hard-pressed locals who were confined within their 5km limits. Not only was the track a much safer option than the narrow roads around the village but the addition of lighting all the way around meant that

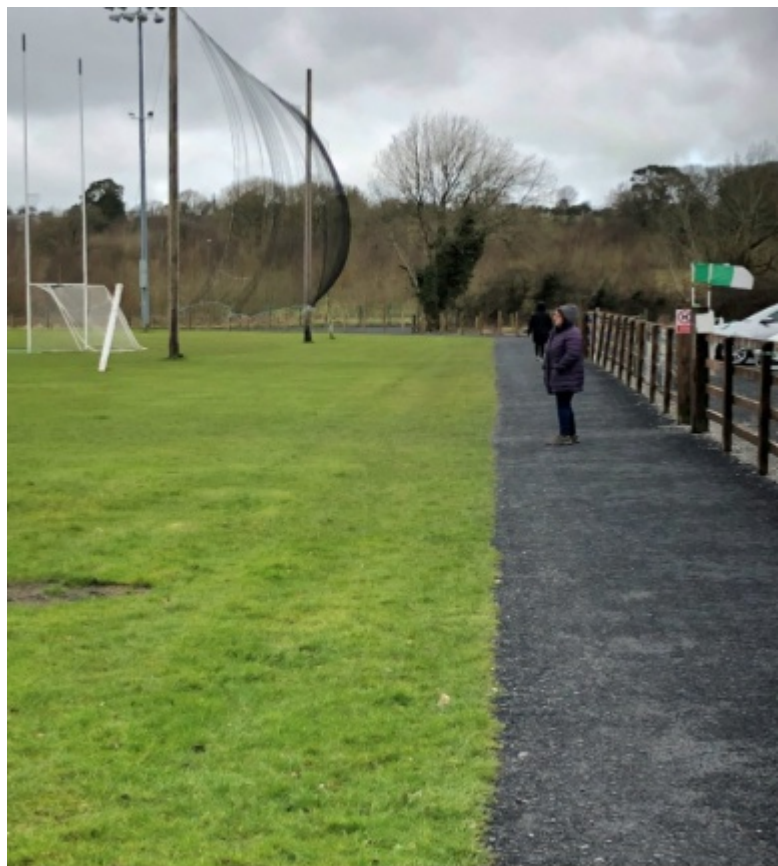
it could be used right up to 10pm every night winter and summer.

Grateful locals were very supportive of the project, which is heavily used by both young and old, and many of them took part in a sponsored walk to help fund-raise for the lights.

As a result of this initiative, which is just one of several being undertaken to improve club facilities, we have enjoyed a great influx of new social members which has brought overall club participation to an all-time high. Hopefully this influx of new blood

will help generate the footballers and administrators of the future! Meantime, the clubs walking track has been, and continues to be, central to maintaining the

physical and mental wellbeing of the Donard-Glen community over these challenging months.



Newtown GAA

Newtown GAA Summer Camp- Monday the 5th of July saw our club hold our first ever club summer camp! A brilliant week of fun and games was enjoyed by over 120 kids and 15 coaches!! We definitely unearthed a few superstars during the week, so watch this space!!!

The kids were coached by our amazing coaches who did an unbelievable job in making the week fun and enjoyable. The coaches were Cian Walsh, Darragh Heffernan, Ryan Clarke, Shane Synnott, Matthew Doyle, Stephen Kelly, Ella Doyle, Matthew Cooley, Sonya McGuirl, Rachel Byrne, Aisling Kearns, Rachel Bayle, Keelin Dodds and Ellie McCabe. A big thank you too Jackie Kinch who oversaw the camp and the coaching for the week along with help from Emma. A big thank you to Dominic for all his work organising the event.

Our camp wouldn't have been possible without the support of LulaRose (a Clancy Group Company), a company run by local man Liam Clancy. The Clancy family have been ingrained in Newtown GAA for decades, whether it has been through playing, coaching or supporting, Liams family are Newtown GAA through and through. Liam, Karl and Lauren have supported the summer camp from day one and the club is beyond grateful for the help and support that they have provided.

A massive thanks to Shane Mooney our Juvenile Club secretary who took on the lead role in organising our first ever Club Camp. These camps take hours of planning and organising to ensure that everything is set up, we have enough coaches, there is enough gear and that we had a sponsor to help reduce the cost of the camp. He put his heart and soul in to this and with over 120 local kids catered for from 4-12 years of age!



St Patrick's GAA Club Wicklow Town

July has been a great month in the club with plenty happening across all our adult and juvenile teams.

Our summer camp will be taking place from the 16th to the 18th of August. It will run from 10am-1pm. You can register for a place on any Saturday between 10-12 at the clubhouse, registration is €50. The camp is perfect for kids between the ages of 4 to 10 years old. There will be both female and male qualified coaches. Registration on the day of the camp will be €55. It should be a great few days.

Don't forget Monday night is Lotto night. All links and details can be found online. All tickets can be purchased online or from our online Mobile Lotto Sellers Eddie Leonard 086 8349272, Don Griffin 086 8281808 and John Smith 086 8130477. We are currently recruiting Online Mobile Lotto Sellers. If interested in assisting with the Online Mobile Lotto Selling, please contact us. The St Patrick's GAA Club Fundraising Lotto draws which runs on a weekly basis play a huge part in the clubs fundraising efforts. You can now offer your support by playing online.

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Times Past, 90 Years Ago, July 1931. WICKLOW GAEL'S MEMORY HONOURED



In 2001 Wicklow County Board and Tinahely GAA club erected a memorial stone at the birthplace of Luke O' Toole. Pictured on the day were; Donal McGillcuddy, Pat Doyle, Seamus Aldridge, Peter Keogh, Jim Whelan, Jimmy Dunne, Jim Hogan, Andy O'Brien, Tommy Redmond, Liam O'Maolmbicil, Eamonn O'Byrne, Tom Kenny & Pdraig O'Toole.

The unveiling of the memorial (a Celtic cross of Carlow limestone) in memory of the late Luke O' Toole, for 29 years secretary of the G.A.A., which took place at Killaveney cemetery on Sunday, was attended by a large gathering of Gaels from Dublin and County Wicklow, besides a big concourse of people from Killaveney parish. The Killaveney Confraternity Brass and reed Band attended at the railway station, and on the arrival of the Dublin contingent a procession was formed, and the band played "joyous Greetings" and a fine selection of National and other stirring airs. On arrival at the cemetery the processionists were met by the Rev J. O' Donovan, B.D., P.P., who expressed pride at sharing in the common feeling which went out from all Ireland that day, and especially from Garden Ireland, and Gaelic athletic Ireland.

Preaching at last Mass, celebrated for the repose of the soul of the late Mr O' Toole, Rev J. Somers, C.C., said that not had the Gaels erected a monument to Luke O' Toole. In building the character of Irish youth, and in continuing its great work, the association was only living up to its traditions. Not only had the association much to give the youth of Ireland an Irish outlook, but it had done much in the cause of temperance, and had made itself felt in all fields of Irish endeavour.

Special Sunday opening of Licensed Premises
The association, he said was certainly not to be held responsible that the honouring of a great man should have been made the excuse for getting a special drinking licence. It was too bad that such a commemoration could not have been held on a Sunday without someone taking advantage of the association.

The Unveiling Ceremony

The ceremony in the church was concluded and the congregation then filed from the church to the cemetery adjoining and Fr. O' Donovan, P.P., called on Séan Ryan Dublin to unveil the memorial. Mr Ryan believed no man devoted a great a period of his life to achieve participation in and furtherance no uplifting of their organisation as the man they were honouring to day. Since his election as secretary ,thirty years ago, until he died ,he had the utmost confidence of the Gaels of Ireland, who were proud of him because of the monument he had left behind him in the G.A.A., which in itself would be sufficient without any stone monument. Mr Ryan then formally unveiled the monument.

Subsequently, the procession was re-formed and headed by the Confraternity band, over 500 people marched to Ballinglen. The sports and tournament which were held at Ballinglen proved to be a great success. A splendid filed was placed at the disposal of the L.J.O' Toole Memorial committee by Mr P. Walsh. The Tinahely Confraternity Band present played very nice selections. The two football matches were a good exhibition, the first between Ballinglen and Croke Park United, the second game between the Billy Byrne of Ballymanus and Tom Keogh's Dublin was also most interesting. Mr James O' Néill Ballinglen was thanked for catering for the visitors, over 500 teas and luncheons being served most successfully. The special train left Ballinglen station for the city at 7.30 pm. All visitors will long remember the enjoyable day spent in the nicest scenery in Wicklow.

Details of the Great Southern Railways' special train arrangements for the big day at Tinahely and Ballinglen on Sunday 9th July 1931.

O'Toole Memorial at Tinahely: Tournament and Sports at Ballinglen:- Day trip Excursion Tickets, 3rd class, at fares as per Posters may be issued to Ballinglen and Tinahely from Harcourt St by 9.30 am. Westland Row 9.0 am. Also from Bray, Shillelagh and intermediate stations. Auxiliary to be in readiness at Harcourt Street to run to Woodenbridge from 9.25 if necessary. Day trip Excursion Tickets , 3rd Class , may also be issued to Wexford and Rosslare Strand from Shillelagh, Tinahely, Ballinglen and Aughrim stations. Shillelagh Branch: Excursion Trains giving connections with 9.30 A.M -ex Harcourt Street Dublin and 6.20 -ex Wexford, will run as under;-

	DEP. A.M	DEP. P.M.
Shillelagh	10.40	7.15
Tinahely	10.50	7.25
Ballinglen	10.56	7.31
Aughrim	11.05	7.40
	DEP. A.M	DEP. P.M
Woodenbridge	11.36	8.00
Aughrim	11.46	8.11
Ballinglen	11.55	8.20
Tinahely	12.01	8.26
Shillelagh	12.13	8.38

Wicklow GAA are very grateful to Jimmy Dunne who submitted this historic article for us this month. If you our your club have other historical GAA articles you would like shared please let us know.



Liam Muilribill, Director General of the GAA and Seamus Aldridge, Chairman of the Leinster Council, unavailing the stone at the birthplace of Luke O'Toole in 2001.