



# 2023



**Clubs**

**Éire Óg Greystones**

**Newtown**

**St. Patrick's Wicklow Town**







## Junior LGFA Team

The team won the Junior C Championship in 2022 and made great strides in 2023 in the Junior B Championship.

The team worked well together and had a strong finish to the season with a great run in the Championship. After making it out of the group the team qualified for the Junior A Championship.

The Ladies team had narrow wins in knockout football



Junior C County Champions

against An Tochar and an extra time win against Bray Emmett's to reach the Junior A Final. The ladies team played Kilcoole in the final. Although they lost, they proved to themselves they had great belief, character, and fight to get to the final.

## U8 LGFA

Training on Saturdays with an average on 20 girls attending each session, with several parents volunteering to help. With emphasis on fun and participation, its safe to say a lot of fun was had. We also played several U8 blitzes at home and away. An enjoyable season throughout.

U10 LGFA

## U12 (2012) LGFA

The team played in the U12 Div 3 league. The team performed very well throughout.

Training sessions were with the U12 group. Average attendance was 40 - 50 players out of about 80 registered players.

Great bond within the group which is great to see a team develop together.

New players joining throughout the season especially following the inter-schools blitzes towards the end of the season.

The team will perform well in Div 1 next season. 34 players attended the finals day at Ballinakil.

## U12 LGFA

This group as last year split into an U11 (2012) and U12 (2011) teams. The 2011 girls had 27 girls signed up and a core group of 20 or 21 that trained and played most of the



Under 8's





Under 10's

matches. The girls really rose to the challenge in Division 1 finishing what is a noncompetitive league ranked No. 2 Blessington finished ranked No. 1 which meant we played Blessington in the Festival of Football and in a fantastic match with our entire group getting game time we came from four points behind to win by two. In total we played 12 games (one friendly) won 9 drew 1 and lost 2. The girls enjoyed a day out in Splash Valley for the entire U12 group which went great. The fact that all of the 2011 girls played with this team while only very few of them and only occasionally played up to U14 was unquestionably a factor in success as was the attitude of the group and the huge improvements across the board every girl who played made a material positive impact in the final game and across the season they are a great group with quite a few girls with huge potential going forward.

## U14 LGFA

We started the year with 62 registered players. This gave us the opportunity to split the girls into 2 teams. The teams were predominantly made up of Team 1 – Blue Team 2009 girls and Team 2 – White team 2010 girls. We started the year with a lot of games in our league. This gave the girls game time helping them develop their skills. Our training days always had big numbers never falling below 30 players.

We also had great input from Sean o Sullivan our new GPO, who supported us with training drills and attending games.

The championship teams were entered into 2 divisions, Blue team Division B and White team Division C. Both very competitive divisions. Our blue team made it to the county semifinal where they narrowly missed out to a strong Kilcoole team. Our white team were successful in their campaign and are now Division C County champions, beating Clara in their final which was held in Ashford. Our blue team move onto u16 level next season, and we wish them every success. Our white team who will play another year at u14 start their season in a very strong position, having played and developed together this season. Having the opportunity to enter two teams in this competition has been fantastic and proven a very successful year for the girls.

We end our season on November 18th with a trip to Jumpzone in Sandyford for some fun and pizza, with a medal presentation for the Div C winners.

## U16 LGFA

2023 has been a good year for the clubs U 16 ladies football team. With a panel of over 30 girls we trained 3 days a week from the start of March with a good turnout for each session.

The team has played 16 matches this year as well as competing in Feile. Having won the U 16 B championship



Under 12's





Under 12's (2012)

last year we competed in the A division this year – league and championship. The team won the A shield championship final. A lot of the girls were involved in the U 14 team last year who won the U 14 A championship and it is great to see them playing at U 16 level this year. Most of our U 16 panel played in the Wicklow Feile this year where they put up a great show only being beaten by AGB in the semifinal by 2 points. AGB went on to win the final to represent Wicklow at national Feile. A number of our current panel have also progressed to play with our ladies adult team who went all the way to the Junior A final. It is hoped that next year many more will progress to play with the adult team as they leave the U 16 grade.

### G4MOs

Our G4MOs season started off with 51 registered ladies. After 2 years that is a great number to see. We trained on Tuesday nights from 8.15pm to 9.15pm, but with Shays watch not a great timekeeper and the fun being had, this normally went on past the hour. We travelled to Bray, Kilcoole and An Tochar for some friendly games throughout the season and have held a mini blitz last month to celebrate the 25 years of LGFA in the club. We also honoured our 2nd birthday on that day.

Unfortunately, this year we were not chosen for the National blitz held each year in Portlarnock. As this is a

lottery system, we will keep our fingers crossed for next year. So instead of the blitz we decided to take G4MOs on tour and headed west. We organised to play a team in Mayo. Parke Keellogues Crimlin hosted 17 of us for a fun day of football in the rain, followed by soup and sandwiches in the parish centre. We finished the night off with a trip to Matt Molloy's in Westport and maybe a little dance into the wee hours. Our season comes to an end on November 14th, with talks of next season already. 20 of the ladies are heading on a Christmas night out in the Parkview in December. Another successful year of fun, friendships, and football.



Gaelic 4 Mothers & Others



Under 14 White





Under 14 Blue Div C County Champions



Under 16's





## Ladies

Newtown Ladies football team set out on Friday, 24th February to represent our club in Comortas Peile Paidi O'Se in the kingdom town of Dingle. The Comortas, now in its 34th year has always been about celebration and enjoyment with the emphasis on participation and comradeship rather than competition and glory. After the long journey down, negotiated by our driver, David Murray, we settled into the Marina lodge. Onwards to Paidis for light refreshments and entertainment before an early retirement to prepare for the following days matches. An early rise on the Saturday and our first game saw us taking on a strong local Dingle side. Defensively Newtown's Emma Walsh and Kaitlyn Butler were strong while in the forwards Shelby McDonald was always available to take on the Dingle defence but the strength of the home side was evident to all. Despite this Newtown fought hard and scores by Shelby McDonald and Shona Odlum kept them in touch but the young Magpies had eventually to give way to the Dingle side who went on to win the competition outright. In the



Newtown Ladies at Comortas Peile Paidi O'Se

second of the games Newtown competed well against another local side Annascaul but again found the Kerry side too strong on the day. However, there were strong showings by Kim Mooney, Emma Walsh, Becky Martin and Ava McGlynn in Newtown's defence marshalled once again by goalkeeper Sophie Lacey who all strived to keep us in the game while midfield competed strongly with Sinead Keogh and Farrah Doyle showing well. Our forwards, though struggling, had fine displays from Laragh Davis, Lynda-Lucy Elliott and team captain Dawn McKenna. However, the day belonged to Annascaul's but Newtown's young side should be proud of their efforts as were their management of Dominic Leech, Kirsty and Amy Mooney together with injured players Aisling McDonald and April McKenna.

The post-match celebrations at Paidi O'Se's included the girls first experience of a wonderful Super Ceili and the craic was mighty as we were joined by all the other sides from LGFA to GAA in dancing and singing into the night – a few talented singers were unearthed that night. When the night finally ended the team retired in preparation for Sunday's journey home. A wonderful experience for everyone on the trip and one which will not be forgotten for a long time.

We would like to thank our driver David Murray of Murray Cabs for his tolerance over the weekend and special gratitude to our kind sponsor Kirsty Mooney of Salon H for the lovely gear. Also, many thanks to our own Newtown club for their help and support in what was a wonderful experience and a mighty weekend for everyone who attended.

Congratulations to everyone who travelled down

to Dingle and who represented our club and community so well.

The Wicklow football season launched in early April with the Wicklow Cup and League held during the early months before the launch of the championship in August. Whilst the cup and league may not have gone as we had hoped it was ideal preparation for the upcoming championship. The Junior A championship started with an away match against Blessington and a fine victory was recorded with Nicola Fitzsimons. Tara Carey, Emma Byrne, Louise Corrigan together with Sinead Keogh, and Doireann Smyth featuring prominently. We then faced a strong An Tochar team and despite the efforts of Rachel Bayle, Kaitlyn Butler, Una Power, Aisling Van der Does, Laragh Davis and Becky Heffernan we ended up on the wrong side of the scoreline.

Despite this setback we qualified for the quarter final of the Junior A championship and an away joust with Bray Emmets loomed. On a windy night in Bray our girls fought hard but came up just short in a great game of football which was nip and tuck throughout with team captain Ava McGlynn, Hannah McDonald, Sophie Lacey, Alyssia Larkin, Emma Walsh, Izabel King very much to the fore.

Overall the management team of Dominic Leech, Kirsty Mooney, April and Dawn McKenna along with our able administrator Amy Mooney were pleased with the progress shown during the year especially as Newtown were in transition fielding a young side with the likes of Naoise Lowe, Rachel Bayle, Farrah Doyle, Hannah McDonald, Aisling Van der Does, Shona Odlum Lynda Lucy Elliott and Izabel King moving out of Under 16 ranks to join the older players. We wish both Christina Martin and Claudia Keogh, a speedy recovery from their injuries picked up early in the year.

At our club Dinner dance our player and players player of the year awards were announced and it

indeed came as no shock when our star forward Sinead Keogh was named as the worthy recipient of both awards while at the same event the squad made a lovely presentation of a jersey signed by the entire squad to their outgoing manager Dominic – a gesture for which he was truly grateful.

Congratulations to everyone who played for the adult ladies side during the last year and certainly as the squad matures the side will become stronger – also thanks to the management team for all the hard work they put in during the year.

Comhghairdeas also to two of our current players – midfielder Aisling McDonald on the birth of her baby boy Rian while ace forward Melanie Clarke gave birth to twin sons Theo and Harry. We hope to see both mums back in our club colours in the new year.

Newtown Ladies 2023 squad (including Paidi O'Se tournament); Aisling Van der Does, Alyssia Larkin, Ava McGlynn, Becky Heffernan, Christina Martin, Claudia Keogh, Rachel Bayle, Doireann

Smyth, Emma Byrne, Emma Walsh, Tara Carey, Hannah McDonald, Izabell King, Kaitlyn Butler, Keely Merriman, Kirsty Mooney, Laragh Davis, Louise Corrigan, Naoise Lowe, Farrah Doyle, Kim Mooney, Lynda Lucy Elliott, Shona Odlum, Nicola Fitzsimons, Shelby McDonald, Sinead Keogh, Sophie Lacey, Una Power.

## Gaelic 4 Mothers & Others

Newtown Gaelic for Mothers & Others, aka Newtown Maggie's, was set up in November 2022 by Nicola Fitzsimons and Margaret Synnott as a Healthy Club Physical Activity Initiative. The G4MO's programme is run by the LGFA to introduce mothers and other women to playing Ladies Gaelic Football in a fun non-competitive and social environment. It provides an opportunity for women to get their recommended weekly exercise in a fun way while meeting other women in the area. Newtown Maggie's has proved hugely popular with in excess of 30 women registered, most of whom have never played football before. We were delighted to be



Gaelic 4 Mothers & Others





Under 14's

chosen to take part in the South Leinster Blitz in Celbridge GAA in June '23 and subsequently the National Blitz in Naomh Mearnog and Sylvesters GAA Club in Malahide in September '23 where the Ladies played some lovely football with great passing, support play and point taking on show. Plenty of craic and the usual laughter was had in what proved to be such memorable occasions for all. Special thanks to our sponsors Henry & Rose, Newtown, Wicklow Wolf and Gerry Davis from GSD Supplies NY for kitting out these wonderful ladies with a full set of jerseys, half zips, training tops, shorts and socks, their support has been overwhelming. We were also lucky enough to win footballs as part of a competition run by Supervalu, supporting Pride month whereby the Newtown Maggie's wore pride laces in their football boots at the Leinster blitz. The ladies were kept busy throughout the year enjoying further games and blitzes with our neighbouring clubs. We at Newtown GAA are very proud of our

Maggie's who are always smiling, welcoming and having fun while learning the skills of Gaelic Football, epitomising the ethos of the G4MO's programme.



Under 12's

throughout the year, consisting of 5 very exciting U10's girls coming through the ranks. Thankfully with such high numbers & 14 games under their belts everyone had plenty of game time this season. Each game was played to an extremely high standard which only excelled as the months went on. Coming up against some tough opposition on occasion these girls held their own & are a credit to their club. Their show of skill, determination & most importantly team work was always the most discussed topic on the sidelines. By far our best year for this great bunch of young girls. With Kirsty Mooney, Emma Walsh & Sophie Lacey mentoring them all the way we can be very excited about what's to come.

### U8/10 Girls

U8/10 girls are finished for the 2023 season. The girls have impressed all year. The standard of football throughout the year was excellent. We will all enjoy our time off over the winter and hope to see many new faces next year.





Under 8's & Under 10's





## Under 8 Girls

The Under 8 girls made great progress from the start of the year! Each session focused on one or two key skills of the game with having fun and making friends key ingredients of a successful year!

The girls made new friends, learned the basic rules of the game and had great fun playing in blitzes and organised friendly games against our near neighbours! It was an action packed itinerary and a very enjoyable experience for coaches and players alike! Well done girls!



Under 8's

## Under 10 Girls

The U10 footballers had a great year full of fun & development. Playing as many games as possible allowed the girls to make great strides in terms of their skill levels and confidence.

The highlight of the year was attending the Fingallians GAA Feile where we played Kilmacud Crokes, Colmcilles & O'Dwyers.

Many thanks to all the girls, parents & especially coaches Gary, Liz, Sean and Daragh. Best of luck to all the girls in the coming season.

## Under 12 Girls

Coaching team for this season was John McGettigan, Ronan Monahan, Bosco Guinan and Pat Harris. Team administrators were Emma Czwalina and Carol Byrne. We had good attendance at our training sessions and averaged 25-30 players at most sessions. We had a good intake of new players who joined our team this season and were a very welcome addition. Some of these girls were trying GAA for the first time and really enjoyed the experience.

We entered two teams into the league this year with our older under 12 girls playing in Division 1 and our younger under 11 girls playing in Division 3. Several of the younger girls also helped out in the Division 1 games when needed and showed great ability and skill playing with the older girls.



Under 10's

There was plenty of gametime this year with matches approximately every second weekend. Having this regular game time helped the girls put their skills from training into practice and helped them develop throughout the season.

Once again this year we participated in the Under 12 festival of Football organised by Wicklow LGFA. This took place in the Wicklow GAA Centre of Excellence in Ballinakill on Sunday 10th September. The girls put in fantastic performances in two games against Valleymount and Bray Emmets. They demonstrated great skill throughout and most importantly had a very enjoyable afternoon.

Thank you to all the parents for their continued support throughout the season and for helping out when required along the way.

## Under 14 Girls

U14 ladies had a fantastic 2023 season. The season began in March with an impressive turnout, this just grew and new members joined St Pats over the next few weeks. This meant that on average there were 35-40 girls at every Tuesday evening and Saturday morning training session. Due to the impressive numbers the mentors entered two teams into both the league and the championship.

Their dedication, hard work and determination was second to none. They worked hard developing their skills under the watchful eye of their mentors. This determination led to a very successful league and Championship campaign for both teams reaching the semi-final in Championship A and the final of Championship C. On this occasion they did not walk away with silverware but the season had its own successes skills, friendships and teamwork were all developed.





Under 12's



The girls had their last training session in Kilruddery, in a team challenge taking on Hell & Back and Ireland's Fittest Family obstacles. St Patrick's GAA's future is bright with these young stars. Well done to players, mentors and their families, looking forward to seeing these ladies continue to grow and develop.

Big congratulations to Emma Lalor, Meg Carey, Reece Hughes and Rose Donohoe who were part of the Under 14 county squad which won an All-Ireland title this year. And also to Mark Donohoe who was part of the coaching team.

## Under 16 Girls

Our U16s started back training in February. With over 30 girls in the squad we entered 2 teams into the league, with one team in Division 1 and the other in Division 2. Both teams performed well and our Div 2 team were unlucky to miss out on winning on their division. There were some notable victories by both teams along the way.

When it came to championship we struggled with player numbers due to holidays, Gaeltacht and injuries. This meant we had to take the tough decision to only field one team. Unfortunately we were drawn in the "Group of Death" with



Under 14's







Under 16's



the top 2 in our group, Tinahely and AGB, going on to contest the A Championship final.

In our Shield semi final we performed well but unfortunately lost to some late goals from Eire Og, who went on to comfortably win the Shield final.

All in all, it was a good year with lots of application, teamwork and skills improvement and we hope that we have good numbers progressing to adult football next year, with the other girls continuing on at u16.

Congratulations to Amy Lalor and Hannah Lawless from our

squad who represented the county U16s with distinction this year.

We also competed in the Feile (U15) county qualifiers. We were in the A section and after an exciting day in Blessington we made it through to the final. We were very unlucky to lose out by a single point in the final, but it was a great day and the girls performed outstandingly.

Thanks to everyone who helped and to all the parents/guardians for their support.

Team Management: Rob Greene, Amy Kavanagh, Ian O'Callaghan, Jason Carey.

#### Minor Ladies

##### League

We started training at the start of February in preparation for a Minor League group containing Vallemount, Kilcoole, Rathnew, and Coolkenno. We played four games in the league, winning two and losing two.

##### Championship

Championship started with a last 16 round against Clara on 30th October. A 1-14 to 0-1 win put us into a quarter-final against Carnew which we won on a scoreline of 6-05 to 3-08. Unfortunately we lost out in the Championship semi-final against AGB, 0-05 to 5-06.

##### Junior Ladies

We were entered into the Division 3B league with just 3 other teams: Blessington 2, Baltinglass 2 and Vallemount. However soon after the league start Vallemount pulled out of the competition so just leaving us with two games – a 4-14 to 2-06 win over Blessington and a 3-13 to 1-01 win over Baltinglass.

We had a couple of challenge games before the Cup league competition was due to commence later in June.

Low player numbers were a challenge for the Division 2 Cup League competition and this continued into the Championship where it was decided after long consideration to pull the team from the competition due to insufficient numbers.

## Senior Ladies

The senior ladies started their Div1 league campaign on St Patrick's Day with a victory over AGB, followed by a draw with Tinahely and a home win over Bray. Unfortunately in league decider, we lost out to Blessington, who were much fitter and deserving winners on the day.

This brought us on to the cup competition where we struggled greatly due to player availability. As we were



unable to play our county players and with work commitments, holiday's, concerts. etc., we were unable to field v Tinahely and lost to AGB, Blessington, and Bray.

A heavy defeat to Tinahely in the opening game of the Senior championship cost us dearly. Our performance improved every match after. A draw with Blessington and victories over AGB and Bray were not enough to reach the final, missing out on a score difference of 4 points.

However, the year ended on high note with a victory over Tinahely 2 in the Senior B semi-final and, after a tight battle, a win against Bray in the final by 4-11 to 5-06.

### Team:

Ellen Griffin, Molly Callery, Sarah Evans, Isabel Ladesma, Éadaoin O'Keane, Fiona Trant, Lucy Dunne, Amy Lalor, Rioghna McGettigan (0-01), Molly Sweeney, Niamh Caffery (2-06), Hannah Lawless, Niamh O'Brien (1-02), Sinead McGettigan (0-01), Erynn O'Brien (0-01), Holly McSorley, Millie Phelan (1-01), Sophie Porter, Nicole Cawley, Marie Galligan, Sinead Burke, Katie O'Shea, Edel Drury

Overall, it was a pleasing year, especially with the number of players that had departed the panel at the end of the 2022 season. We were delighted with the contribution that the young players made, not alone to the squad, but to the starting 15, they truly excelled. We would be hopeful to keep the momentum going into 2024.

Congratulations to Amy Lalor, Hannah Lawless, Eadaoin O'Keane, Isabel Ledesma, Ellen Griffin, Lucy Dunne, and Sarah Evans who represented Wicklow at various levles. Well done all.

Management, Lorraine O'Reilly, Willie Carey, Peter Porter, Joe Crawley, Don Griffin, Brian McSorley



Minors

### Gaelic for Mothers and Others

The G4MO had a great season. We started out with brilliant numbers with 36 ladies participating. As expected numbers fell throughout the season but we continued to have a good turnout.

We participated in the Kilcoole birthday blitz which saw 7 other teams also taking part. We played another few

matches including hosting Roundwood ourselves in Dunbur.

We look forward to next season and hopefully we can host a few more games or maybe even a Blitz.

Thanks to Louise and Lyndsay for all the admin and organising and the team would like to give a massive thanks to Peadar for coaching the team and hope he continues next year. Thanks to Stephen for stepping in to coach also.



Gaelic for Mothers and Others