

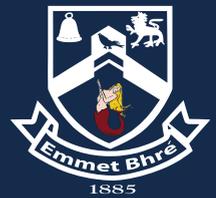


Bray Emmets GAA Club



Year in Review
2021

Chairman's Report



2021 unfortunately again has been an extraordinary and challenging year with continued restrictions and amended games program for all teams, the club house and changing rooms have remained closed for the whole year.

The ability of the club and our members to adapt and deal with the uncertainty, concentrated games program and restrictions on the use of facilities was again first class and commendable.

Club activities were all but closed until June and then it seemed a full year of activity was shoehorned into just 5 months. It was not possible that such a schedule would not cause serious difficulties. Bray Emmets is the only club that fields adult and Juvenile teams in all codes at all ages without combining with other clubs this means Bray has unique difficulties that are not experienced by other clubs, unfortunately these difficulties does not get accommodated by games scheduling in Wicklow.

This year we had a very unfair and unnecessary dispute with the Fixtures committee in Wicklow, correctly our position was supported by Leinster Council. I would like to acknowledge and express the clubs thanks to Cormac O 'Dulachain for all his work on the appeal.

The year has been a year of progress and growth more teams, more players, more matches and more success on the field of play. We have more adults playing our games and more juvenile teams playing in Wicklow and Dublin. We fielded a third adult hurling team for the very first time which is a great credit to the work of the club over many years.

Well done to every team in the club, you did the club and the players proud the club appeared in so many finals and won many championships in all codes and at all ages. I want to express special thanks to all involved in the maintenance and operation of the club grounds the club's management committee, all team managers and selectors and all the players. Especial thanks to our hard working Runai Joe Barnes and Vice Chairman Gary Prunty without their support the club would not be able to provide what it does for its members and the community.

I am looking forward optimistically to 2022, the club will continue to grow and develop and with a number of exciting projects being progressed for the benefit of the club.

2021 Executive Committee



Jackie Napier
Uachtarán



Paul Cunningham
Cathaoirleach



Gary Prunty
Leas Cathaoirleach



Dermot O'Brien
Treasurer



Joe Barns
Runai



Pat Wogan
Registrar



PJ Cunningham
Communications



John McMahon
Adult Games



John Butler
Ladies Chairperson



John McCarthy
Juvenile Chairperson



Marie Curran
Children's Officer



Brenda Donohoe
Academy Rep

Senior Football



Plans for our senior panel started with a Zoom meeting on Monday 16th November 2020 and at the time of this report, we await the final of the 2021 Keating Cup V Kiltegan. Like all other sports, our training and coaching schedules for 2021 were put to one side for six months to fight the Covid Pandemic.

The senior panel for 2021 was missing eight players from the previous year's panel because they could not commit in 2021 for various reasons. However we did have the welcome addition of experienced players in Daragh O hAnnaidh, Arran Murphy and recent minor players Jack Treacy and Gavin Rochford.

All Wicklow leagues were played with no promotion or relegation and initially on a localised basis. In our first game in the league we played Dunlavin in Bray on Sunday 4th July and after a poor performance, were deservedly beaten by 9pts to 1.15.

On Sunday 11th July we travelled to Kiltegan, for a league game at 11am, only to arrive there and be informed that Kiltegan had notified the CCC that they did not have a team.

On Sunday 20th July we played Hollywood in Bray, winning on a score line of 2.23 to 8pts.

On Friday 23 July we received a walk-over from Eire Og. On Tuesday 27th July, we gave Carnew a walkover because we couldn't get the panel to Carnew for 7.30pm.

On Sunday the 15th August we received a walk-over from Kilcoole.

With no promotion or relegation in the leagues, the games were in effect challenge games.

We ended up in the bottom four of our league and played Hollywood in Hollywood on Sunday 5th September 2021 in the final of the West Wicklow Cup.

We won by 3.12 to 10pts where captalin Des Kelly accepted the Cup.

For that game, because of a clash with the hurling championship, we had the assistance four of our junior panel, Niall Mc Graynor, Mark Linahan, Cormac Martin and Jack Treacy (Jack later became a valued member of the senior panel and Niall helped us out in other games).



Senior Football

In the Senior Football Championship of 2021, there would be two teams relegated from Senior to Intermediate due to no team being relegated in 2020 because of the Covid pandemic. We were drawn in a four team preliminary group with Blessington, St. Patrick's and Eire Og.

We played Blessington in our first game on 28th August, and lead at half time by two points. 1.05 to 6pts. A really poor start to the second half, saw us concede 1.06 before the second water-break. We were left chasing the game, eventually losing by 1.16 to 1.08 (Blessington went on to be crowned County Champions).

We played Eire Og in our next game, on Sunday 19th July, which we won after a tight battle, 3.10 to 1.13, to qualify for the championship proper. We played Rathnew in our next game on Saturday, 25th September, and lost that game after extra time and a penalty shoot-out. We had many chances to win that game before it went to the penalty shoot-out.

Final score 2.17 to 3.14 and 4 to 3 on penalties. Our next game was against AGB on Sat 9th October, where we had to win to stay in the championship. We were behind 1.02 to 7pts at half time but eventually lost by 1.04 to 14pts.

A very disappointing display where we were never going to win any game with only scoring 2 points in the second half.

We were then in a five team relegation group with Eire Og, Kiltegan, Newtown and Tinahely. Our first game was at home to Kiltegan on 17th October. The game was lost in a first half where we conceded 4.06 and scored 1.06. A better second half saw the final score 1.13 to 5.12. A good honest team meeting on the following Tuesday seemed to have the desired result.



Senior Football

Our second game was another difficult task away to Tinahely, last year's county finalists, on Sunday 24th October. A terrible start to that game had the team down by 1.04 to 1pt at the first water break. An improved showing up to half time narrowed the margin to 1.08 to 7pts, and a great second half battle saw us win by 2.13 to 1.14. This was a massive two points in our fight for survival. We then played Eire Og on Sunday 7th November on Pitch 4, in the knowledge that a win would secure our senior status for 2022 season. This was a very tight game all through, with the winning score coming from Ben Mc Cormack just two minutes from the final whistle, final score 11pts to 10pts. A big sigh of relief from the players, management and supporters present. Thanks to all of our supporters for making their presence felt, especially in the closing minutes.

We then played Newtown in the final group game and despite being unable to play our dual players, won the game by one point, 16pts to 1.12.

We had a total of eight from our junior panel playing in that game and they all acquitted themselves very well. At the time of writing we are in the final of the Keating Cup, where we play Kiltegan. It is hoped that this game will be played before the end of this year. So at the end of 2021, after another disjointed year through Covid restrictions, a bit more progress has been made.

The younger players have gained more exposure at senior level and the more experienced players are back playing to their true potential. We would hope that some of the players that could not commit in 2021 will be able to do so in 2022.

Unfortunately our manager, Ger Brennan, will be moving on after two years with us and we want to take this opportunity to thank Ger for his contribution to the development of our players and the implementation of a game plan. Other members of the management team were Paddy Moynihan, Tom Kearney, Liam Mc Graynor, Patrick Wogan with Jack Lawrence (S-C), Cameron McKeever (Physio).

Top Scorers 2021: Des Kelly 2-25, Darragh Rochford 5-08, Paul Cunningham 0-20, Cathal McGee 1-09, Dara O' hAnnaidh 2-01, Mark Cullen 0-07, Arran Murphy 1-03, Ben McCormack 1-03, Darie Lohan 1-03

The panel: Paul O' Keefe, Tadgh Dornan, Sam Kearney, Adam Benson, David Martin, Cathal O' Dúalacháin, Daire Lohan, Shane Lohan, Dara O' hAnnaidh, Ben McCormack, Arron Murphy, Ben Kearney, Rory Breslin, Mark Cullen, Eoin Mc Cormack, Darragh Rochford, Des Kelly, Cathal Mc Gee, Gavin Rochford, Cian Lohan, Paul Cunningham, Andrew Conway, Brian Nesbitt, John Henderson, Jack Treacy.

Senior Hurling



The Senior Hurling Team's 2021 journey took many dramatic twists and turns before finally winning the O'Donoghue Cup for a magnificent three in a row by 5 points over Glenealy on a great day on the 12th September 2021 in Aughrim.

With the COVID-19 pandemic lurking in the background the GAA decided to run the County competitions off first. We had several players on the Senior Hurling Panel and once again John Henderson had the honour of being the County Senior Hurling Captain. Bray entered the Wicklow Senior Hurling League as well as the Dublin Senior Hurling League (Division 4) in preparation for the Senior Hurling Championship. Furthermore, with the popularity of hurling in the club and the need to provide games for the players we also decided to enter a third team having won the 2020 Junior Hurling Championship. Unfortunately, however the first dramatic act occurred not on the playing fields but in a committee room when the Wicklow County Board decided to punish the hurling teams by denying permission to play in the Dublin Hurling League. This was done following a decision by the Senior Football management to mitigate the COVID risk by not travelling to the furthest part of the county for their first league game. Arguments to the county board for common-sense fell on deaf ears. However, thanks to the hard work and many hours of preparation by Club members Cormac Ó Dúlacháin, Joe Barnes, Liam McGraynor and Dermot O'Brien the appeal to the Leinster Council was upheld. It was unfortunate that so much time and effort was required to be expended by volunteers to fight a decision by the County Board in the first place.

As a result of the legal wrangling, our Dublin League started late as permission to enter the league had been delayed requiring giving a walk-over in our first fixture. We drew one game against our neighbours Cuala and won games against Commercials, St Judes and Ballinteer St John's.

With a condensed season, matches were coming thick and fast and it was an opportunity



Senior Hurling

for all squad members to get game time as we had a number of players training with the County Hurling and Football teams. Results were mixed with losses away to St. Patrick's Wicklow, home to Carnew and Éire Óg and wins at home to Avondale and away to Kiltegan in a game where Michael Boland scored 1-16 in a remarkable performance. We drew an exciting game against Glenealy on their home ground after coming back from a slow start. With such a hectic schedule of at least one match a week there was little time for training ground preparation for the Championship. We had been drawn in a 3-team group with Avondale, Kilcoole and Carnew and came out group winners after a tight win against Carnew and an easy win against Avondale. Unfortunately, Kilcoole withdrew and we were awarded a walk-over.

Onto the knockout stages and we took on Kiltegan on the 5th September. Kiltegan had come through the stronger side of the draw with impressive performances and proved to be a difficult hurdle. However our discipline and work rate prevailed along with some classy attacking play by Diarmuid Masterson, Christy Moorehouse, Eoin Mc Cormack and Mark Lennon. Indeed, this semi-final was excellent preparation for the final against Glenealy.

Having won easily the previous year it could have been assumed that we were in for an easy ride. However although we started well with a very efficient first half lead of 9 point, Glenealy worked their way back in to the game. With great determination and no shortage of skill we prevailed by 5 points. Davy Maloney who had come back from a bad injury sustained with the County Hurling team won the man of the match award. As ever the panel's commitment to training was strong and the togetherness was evident. We welcomed Dara O hAnnaidh into the fold following time spent hurling in the US, Arran Murphy returned from Canada and Mikey Lee returned to the Bray Emmet's colours after time spent in Tipperary. Importantly we were delighted to welcome some of last year's minor team Nathan Prunty and Jamie Ryan to train with us and hopefully more younger players will make their way into the squad.

Following the county final, our attention turned to preparation for the Leinster Intermediate Hurling championship. A nine week wait was required until the first round. This was a chance to regroup and a number of challenge games were crucial. The strength of the panel was tested with two visits to Ballyboden and further competitive challenges against Celbridge, Kildalkey, Ratoath and UCD Freshers.

The most dramatic twist came before the first round of the Leinster Intermediate Championship when due to injuries and positive COVID tests we were short 12 panel members. Other clubs may have been tempted to look for a postponement but it was testament to our talent, resilience, strength in depth and team spirit that we travelled to Aughrim and overcame the Carlow Champions Naomh Bríd.

At time of writing we are looking forward to meeting the Wexford Champions Oylegate away to Enniscorthy.



Senior Hurling

In summary 2021 has been a busy and successful year for this talented panel of players with completion of a three in a row as Wicklow Senior Champions.

As a management team we can only be proud of their on-field performances.

However, we are equally proud and encouraged to see our panel members such as Mark Lennon, Nathan Prunty, Rory Lambe, Peter Walsh and Liam Kenny helping at juvenile level. Indeed it is important that hurling continues to develop and we welcome younger members from underage into the Bray Emmet's adult teams.

We would like to again thank all Club members and the Club Executive for all their support and encouragement throughout the year.

Our sights are now set higher with challenging for Leinster honours.

Panel:

Conor McNally, Peter Kiely, Karl Lacey, Sean Maloney, Cian Lohan, John Henderson, Daire Henderson, Luke Maloney, Diarmuid Masterson, Michael Boland, Marc Lennon, Christy Moorehouse Davy Maloney, Eoin McCormack, Mikey Lee. Daire Lohan, Shane Lohan, Arran Murphy, Dara Maloney, Ben McCormack, Peter Walsh, Liam Benville, Cathal O Dúlacháin. Rory Lambe, Andy Conway, Ronan McMahan, Paul Cunningham, James Anders, Joe Phelan, Peter O Reilly, Liam Kenny, Michael Walsh, Mikey Timmons, Brian McCann, Sean McDonagh, Dara O hAinmhidh, Ben Kearney, Ciaran McKay, Jim Doyle, Gavin Henderson, Jamie Ryan, Nathan Prunty

Manager: Paul Carley.

Selectors: Ronan O'Brien & Brian Duggan.

Physio: Cameron McKeever

Strength and Conditioning: Jack Lawrence

Stats: Tadhg Dornan.

Logistics Manager: Colm 'Skipper' McDonagh.

Team Liaison: Ciarán Barnes.

COVID-19 Supervisor: Larry Timmons



Senior Camogie



The Senior Camogie team like everyone else, had a challenging season.

We trained in pairs, with zoom calls at the beginning of the year. It was a novelty at the start, though the novelty did wear off.

It was great to get back to training together in May.

The league started in June. It was disappointing that it was 12 aside due to COVID restrictions on county players. However, we competed well and it was great to be back together as a team, travelling around the county.

Championship started late again, due to the COVID constraints.

We played 3 championship matches in 3 weeks. Similar to 2020 we competed well, but as ever there is always room for improvement !

We are very hopeful that 2022 will enable us to get back to a full pre-season, competing in the Dublin league which has always been a great preparation for the Bray Emmets Camogie teams.

We have had good numbers at training this year and it is great the U16 players have done so well in their championship as they will be a great addition, to the team next year.

We are really looking forward to 2022 .

Ladies Adult Football



I would like to thank the management committee of the club, especially Paul Cunningham, Liam McGraynor and Gary Prunty for their continued support and encouragement throughout the year.

Again, a massive thank you to Paddy, for his help, assistance, and patience over the last year. We also would like to say a huge thank you to our main sponsor Metec, for their continued support of the Ladies section.

This is the fourth year that Bray have had two adult ladies teams, competing this year at both intermediate and junior levels. The two teams are vital to strengthen and create competition for further success in the future.

A big thank you also to the U16 girls who supported the ladies squads this year at both junior and intermediate level. They have and will be a great addition to the BEL squads for the seasons ahead.

Wicklow Intermediate Champions 2021

The Senior ladies performed to a very high standard all year, particularly during the championship, showcasing a fast efficient brand of football, bringing the ladies to their second final in two years.

On 6th November 2021, the ladies togged out for the intermediate final in Baltinglass against An Tochar in very wet and windy conditions. This was a game that the ladies were well-prepared for, with Alanna Conroy putting up the first score in the first minute, calming any nerves. The ladies settled into the game from then on, presenting their skill, fitness, and experience, with the forwards taking their chances well. Similarly, the strong, determined, and relentless combination of the defence and midfield, ensured that the An Tochar attack was put at bay.

The balance of hard work, grit and desire ensured our ladies came out victorious against a hard-working unrelenting An Tochar team. BEL will now play in the senior championship next year and will continue to represent Wicklow in the Leinster Intermediate club championship this year.



Ladies Adult Football

The ladies have gone on to win the first round of the Leinster Championship against Clara in Offaly, again showcasing their talent, passion, and determination. They will now head up to Westmeath to play in the quarter final.

A thank you must go to our fabulous captain Una O'Grady, who has led the team by example for the last two years and displayed her passion and integrity throughout. A special mention to our Wicklow players, who have won the Junior All Ireland this year. Bray Emmet Ladies was represented by Alanna Conroy, Aoife Gillen, Mikaela Shelley, and Catherine Corbertt. Congratulations to the ladies for their All-Ireland win, we are so proud of you and your achievement.

I would also like to thank the management team of Anne Longmore, Paul Ryan, and Dave Barry together with Eugene Canavan and Neal O'Doherty.

Their drive, dedication and commitment to the squad and the ladies' section is greatly appreciated and is reflected in our success this year.

Lastly, there are three individuals who also deserve a particular mention, with the Covid measures continuing this year. A very special thank you to our three amazing Covid Supervisors, Sandra Fitzgerald, Niamh Butler and Florence O'Keefe, who all endured all types of weather to be there to support and ensure the safety of the ladies.

Once again, it has been a total pleasure to work with all the ladies throughout the year and we look forward to next year, where we continue to improve, develop, and progress our skills and compete at all levels.

We look forward to the integration of our ladies team with the u16s moving up and can see our ladies section expanding and displaying more fabulous football next year.

As Una our captain said "the girls really enjoyed their football this year" which shows how the ladies have really come into their own and created a unified outfit which will expand and grow in the coming years.

John Butler



2nd Adult Football Team



2021 2nd Adult Football Team

Gerry Morgan, Tony Denver, Johnny Kinch, Peter Quinlan, Liam Morgan, Rob Walsh, David Nesbit, Art Whittle, Eoin Fitzsimons, Niall McGraynor, Mark Cussack, Matt Thompson, Ronan Twohig, Nathan Prunty, John McCarthy, Liam Benville, Jamie Quiney, Brendan Snow, Evan Barry, Michael Healy, Fionn Clancy Molloy, Oisín Drury, Tim Harrington, Mark Linehan, Declan Snow, Cormack Martin, Ross Masterson.

A season like no other, is a cliché thrown out all too often in the past two years but damn it is the best phrase I could think of for 2021. You could probably divide the season into four timelines:
A: the Lockdown that just went on and on, B: 2021 League squad, C: 2020 Championship final squad and D: 2021 championship squad:

A: Lockdown Three- January to April

With Brian O'Keeffe having to step down from the manager role for work commitments at the end of 2020 and with the 2020 county final still to be paid, it was a usual start for the new management. We kicked off in January for some Zoom calls to give out some of training programme as the plan at the time was lockdown would be over at the end of February and we would play the final in March. The guys got to work and could be seen out doing their mass runs in ballywaltrim, shanganagh and down Bray promenade. The first 6-week programme went well and with a couple of social Zoom calls, you could see that the lads needed the routine for their mental health. It soon became obvious that with the lockdown being extended again, the final would be pushed out even further, so we decided to give out the second programme but this time we gave the lads to the option to do what they felt up to doing. With a relaxing of the covid rules, the lads started training in 2 and 3 and tried to look after each other over the next couple of months and keep an eye out for each other.

B: League Squad 2021: The entire squad were delighted to get back training just like everyone else and we had an unusual mix at training. We had those lads who played in the 2020 championship who played with the first team in 2021 but they also wanted to continue playing with the second in preparation for the final. We also had some of the 2020 minors who were a breath of fresh air to the squad. We started our league campaign with an impressive win in Newtown with the stars of the show being the backs (keeping Newtown scoreless in the first half) and Tim Harrington being feed by Gavin Rochford ran riot. We did get a rude awakening in the next match at home at Avondale, we had a depleted squad but still went in with confidence, but the game was over at half time with Avondale opening up our defence way too easily. We did steady the ship in the second half but suffered a heavy defeat.

With the 2020 final being pushed back until early August, it allowed the mix of the enlarged squad to put some good wins against Newcastle, Ashford and the home fixture against Newtown.



2nd Adult Football Team

One of the highlights of the year was the ever-young John McCarthy coming on and scoring a thunderbolt in front of his young who was behind the goals watch if he could do as he preached. We travelled to Avondale with 14 fit players and with two injured olde lads. Despite having a dodgy calf, Jamie Quiney took to an outfield role and helped the lads put in a solid shift in the first half to lead the table toppers by 2 points. As Gerry had left his boots at home (Conveniently I might add), Tony Denver took to the pitch to ensure we had 15 lads out there. Maybe Avondale thought it was a good idea as they also brought on their manager with a few minutes as well Thankfully our younger and older lads worked hard for each other to the very end and we handed Avondale their first defeat of the season. We finished joint top of the table with Avondale and were drawn against Baltinglass in the Quarter final of the league but we never showed up on the evening and lost to the better team.

C: Junior B 2020 Final Squad.

After winning the semi final in November 2020, the build up to the final would last nearly 9 months, we lost a few of the semi final players during the long break but we were able to add a couple of players to the squad. We eventually line up behind the band and our captain Mark Lenihan in early August. We faced a young Arklow team who had 5 players who were part of the U20 team the month previous. We did not start the game well and thing went from bad to worse after 15 minutes when we were 1-4 to 1 down. We lost John O'Keeffe to a straight red and up to that point John had been our best player on the pitch. We were able to regroup during the water break and battled all the way up to the half time whistle and scored two late points to reduce the deficit.

This gave great belief in the unit and what looks impossible earlier on was now probable, despite also losing the experienced half forward Ishy Mnenda following a dangerous shoulder to the chest tackle. The third quarter of matches is often referred to as the championship quarter and it was so true on Saturday. Bray continued to grow in confidence, and the pressure they put on the Arklow team saw scores come at a vital time. The goal for Bray was a contender for goal of the season. A long ball by Dara O'Hannaidh was contested by Bray's man of the match Masterson. When the ball broke, it was Brian Nesbitt who excellently secured possession and laid it off to his follow Leaving Cert student Mark Cullen. This impressive young starlet advanced through the Arklow defence to power the ball into the top corner via the fingers tips of the 'keeper.

Bray then cemented their new lead with a stunning strike from the ever young and former Wicklow Captain Dara O'Hannaidh. We now had a three-point lead going into the last quarter but unfortunately, we missed a few scoreable changes and Arklow started to rally. Our boys kept battling and every Bray supporter should be proud of the lad's commitment and desire to try to get over the line. Heartbreakingly, it wasn't meant to be as Arklow equalised in the fourth minute of extra time but not surprisingly the lads worked it down the pitch to set up a chance for keeper Paul O'Keeffe to equal his Kick Fada record of 62 metres to win it. Against the wind it was too big an ask and the ball dropped short and fell to Mark Cullen who was surrounded by four Arklow lads and was blocked down. The final whistle brought an epic encounter to a close and we will have to do it all over again.

The Replay was played a couple of weeks later and once again there was nothing between to the two teams. The only difference was the fact that the Emmets had the upper hand in the first half and if they had taken their scores, they should have held a healthier lead that 4 points at half time. Arklow fought back in the third quarter and coming to the final couple of minutes, it was score for score between both teams and going into injury time it was level. Arklow won the breaking ball in the middle of the pitch and drove forward to go one ahead. Michael Jordon quoted, that he never felt "he never lost a game, he just ran out of time", this was how the lads felt as their next adventure up the pitch ended with the ball dropping short and the final whistle going. If only, if only.....
6 of the starting team from the final, would go on to play for the first in the senior championship in 2021.



2nd Adult Football Team

(Keego, David Martin, Dara O'Hannaidh, Jack Tracey, Mark Cullen and Brian Nesbitt).

Without doubt the best player on the pitch over the two games was Diarmuid Masterson.

The dual player who stepped away from Senior football panel a couple of years ago showed his class throughout and once he recovers from his ankle injury suffered in the Hurling final, we hope he picks up the larger ball in 2022.

D: Junior B Championship:

With the loss of several players to the first squad and with injuries to players like Ross Masterson and Cormack Martin before the start of the 2021 championship, we really needed to younger lads in the squad to come to the fore. We started our championship in early October with a nice victory over Newcastle which we then followed up with a win away to Newtown where Jamie Quiney suffered a bad hand injury.

Both ourselves and Kilbride/Lacken faced each other with the winner finishing top of the table.

The game was played under the lights in Old Connaught, the lads showed maturity throughout the game which started to show they were playing as a unit. Some of the balls played by veteran Niall McGraynor into full forward Tim Harrington were a joy to watch. Even though we won the game we lost Declan Snow to a bad injury which came from a poor challenge from their keeper.

(Somehow deemed a fair contest by the official)

We prepared well for the quarter final against Dunlavin away in Blessington but lost the ever-improving Art Whittle in the first few minutes through an injury he suffered during the week. We welcome back Johnny Kinch to the squad and he helped us get passed Dunlavin by a scoreline of 4.10 to 1.11

We were back in the Junior B semi-final and we faced a well drilled Knockananna team. It was only 3 months since the 2020 Final played in August but we only had Mark Lenihan, Ronan Twohig and Liam Benville who would start in the semi-final in November. During the week one of most consistent players Midfielder Eoin Fitzsimons had to be ruled out after an eye socket injury ruled him out of the match. The game was played under light on the first Thursday of November. It was the first time the players were in a changing room all year and sometimes its those little things that can put lads off.

Even though we started well and were 4 points to 1 up after 10 minutes, we were not focused and soon Knockananna opened us up down the middle. They scored 2 goals and if it was not for Jamie (Buffon) Quiney in goals who used every part of his body to keep the score line down. Somehow, we were only 3 points down at half time and still believed we could turn it around. However, another goal 5 minutes after the restart when Matt Thompson had just suffered an injury left us with an uphill battle.

Once again, the lads never gave up and battled back, we rarely missed in front of goals when we did get opportunities and we had two late change. The first from player of the year Tim Harrington was one that he was scoring all year but scuffed it wide. The second was a long-range effort from Niall McGraynor somehow found the back of the net. We never really had another more opportunities and lost by 2 points to the eventually Junior B 2021 champions.

Summary:

We always had a core bunch of lads at training from Ronan, Tropper, David Nesbitt, Dec, Chopper, Eoin, Rob Walsh, Peter, Liam Morgan, Mat, Oisin, Nat, John Mc, Fin etc. We welcomed back Niall McGraynor, Rob Walsh and Johnny Kinch back to the second's squad. We were able to bring up numerous minors up to adult level including Art Whittle, Fionn Clancy Molloy, Evan Barry, Jamie Ryan, Mark Cusack, Tim Harrington, Michael Healy, Nathan Prunty, Oscar Harty. If you add Gavin Rochford who jumped straight up the seniors these are the numbers, we need to continue coming through from minors each year. Not only will it improve the seconds squad, but it will also improve the competition for places on the first team and hopefully in 2023 allows us to have a third football team in the club.

I would like to thank Gerry Morgan for his tireless work during the year. He is always there, always willing to help and has some great insights into the game that is always welcome. Thanks to Brian O'Keeffe and Donal O'Connor for also helping out at various points during the year when we needed them.

Ladies Junior Football



The club's decision to field two Ladies adult teams (Intermediate and Junior) for the 4th year in a row continues to be an important and successful step forward for ladies football in the club. The hope was that the Junior team would provide a pathway to adult competition for aspiring U16 and Minor footballers, as well as adult Camogie players interested in trying their hand at the big ball game. In this respect alone, the 2021 season has been a success, with a number of underage and Camogie players starting on the Junior panel but working their way on to the Intermediate team which won the Wicklow Championship and, at time of writing, has won their first Leinster Club knock-out game. On the pitch, the Junior team were mostly very competitive in the League, although fielding during the early summer months was an ongoing challenge.

That said, we were competitive in all games and progress was evident in successive matches, including an excellent victory over neighbours Clan na Gael. Our Junior B Championship first round game was away to Newtown and it went to extra-time but we just came up short in a very exciting game. Our next outing was against St Pats in a winner take all game to qualify for a quarter-final game. In our best game of the season, the Bray full-forward line scored 10 goals between them, and the rest of the team were superb, to clinch a comprehensive victory and a quarter-final away to Carnew.

Despite a brave performance by a very young Bray team, Carnew were too strong for us on the day and went on to win the Championship in some style. It is a small consolation that Bray kept Carnew to their lowest score in a championship game this year.

Encouraging signs for next year.

Thanks to John, Dave and Paul for organising training and to Anne for all her support during the season. Thanks also to Niamh, Sandra and Florence for Covid supervision and support. Also, thanks to the management committee of the club, especially Paul Cunningham, Liam McGraynor and Gary Prunty for their continued support and encouragement throughout the year, and a massive thank you to Paddy for his help and assistance over the past year.

We also would like to thank Sherry Fitzgerald for their continued support of the Ladies section and in particular the Junior team.

Most of all, thanks to the players for their hard work, enthusiasm, patience, and commitment, and for making Junior football such great fun.

Eugene and Neal

Junior Hurling



We started back training when covid restrictions were lifted on wednesday the 12th may. Attendance was high as after 9 months we had the (2020) junior A final to look forward to which would be played in the county grounds on friday the 11th of june, Training was intense with all players desperate to be involved in the final. Come the final the players were in top shape thanks to the fitness training Graham Bushe put the players through and the fact we had them doing runs during lockdown and posting their stats on the whats app group .

The final showed just what this squad of players were all about, passion ,commitment , togetherness and skill. Having to tell 15 players that they did not make the 25 man squad was the hardest part .After a slow start we would show all the skill and passion to make us worthy champions beating st pats 3-17 to 2-03.

With the starting 15 now intermediate players it was down to the remaining squad to make up the junior team.

Our first junior match would be away to st pats on the 11th of august. We traveled with 22 players and had the beating of pats till we lost jack fitzgerald who was running midfield to a bad injury which would keep him out for the rest of the year. st pats would beat us 2-12 to 2-07. We would go on to beat Kiltegan 3-13 to 1-8 and Knockananna 0-7 to 3-13. With a walk over from western gaels (B) in our last group game meant we would play western gaels (A) in the junior A S/f . Western gaels were the favorites to win junior and they showed why by beating us 3-23 to 0-07 . This would put us in the junior B final where we would play Avondale.

THE CRAZINESS that is wicklow gaa had us play the FINAL JUST 4 DAYS AFTER THE S/F and would leave us missing 8 players who would off started the final due to work, injury and other commitments . Avondale would run out comfortable winners beating us 3-17 to 0-7 So from the highs of winning the junior A championship to losing the junior B final in just 3 short months ,the intermediate losing the intermediate final by 2 points and the senior hurlers doing another 3 in a row adult hurling is in good shape.



Junior Hurling

In total 27 players played junior hurling with Nathan Prunty , Michael Healy, Oscar Harty, Rory Mulcahy and Jamie Ryan all making adult hurling look so easy we are hoping more minors will play hurling and make next year a championship treble winning year. As always its a pleasure to be involved with these players as they are a credit to bray emmets and i thank everyone of them for their continued commitment to hurling .

I have to thank all the mentors of the 3 adult teams as commutation between junior to senior was the reason we could feild 3 teams. With Ronan O'Brien and Brian Duggan being our link with Paul Carly. Thanks to Graham Bushe Paul Hunt and paddy lee for all their help and thinking of the junior team when picking the 2nd team.

To Paul O'Neill and Michael Roddy and the ever dependable Jackie Napier Thanks for all the help on the line and advice during games.

A massive thanks to Graham Bushe from myself and all the players for doing the fitness training with the 2nd and 3rd teams and getting them as fit as they were.

Finally to our secretary Joe Barns who was always there for advice and despite his fears re feilding 3 adult hurling teams he supported us no end Thanks,



Junior A Hurling Champions 2020



Blast from the past



Mothers&Others



The Gaelic4Mothers & Others initiative sees ladies playing Gaelic Football in a fun, non-competitive and social environment that embraces all skill levels whether you were a county star, child prodigy and if you never kicked a ball! It provides an opportunity for women to exercise in a fun way while meeting others in the local community.

In Bray Emmets the G4M&O team train on Mondays and Wednesdays from 8:30 to 9:30, with Dave Barry and Sheena Smith at the helm, and new members are always welcome. The first outing for the G4M&O in 2021 was in June with Cuala providing the opposition. Great numbers turned up so there was enough for two matches to be played simultaneously. It was entertaining viewing with some fantastic skills and scores on show, all played in an atmosphere of fun and encouragement. The best part was at the end when Dave Barry, having refereed one of the games, produced a cooler bag full of cornettos for everyone including the opposition! Who wouldn't want to join this team?!

In September we hosted a blitz where the visiting teams included Foxrock Cabinteely, Lucan Sarsfields, Celbridge and O'Dwyers. The girls played some lovely skillful football, Dave and Sheena's hard work paying off! Best of all was the teamwork, comradery, shouts of encouragement and the atmosphere of fun. After four matches all were ready for the refreshments (that the Bray Emmets crew provided, multitalented!) and a chat, which is what G4M&O is all about.

October saw another visit from Cuala and those looking on were served a feast of fast moving football, some great blocks and score taking. Laughter and words of encouragement could be heard between both teams and the atmosphere was one of sporting enjoyment.

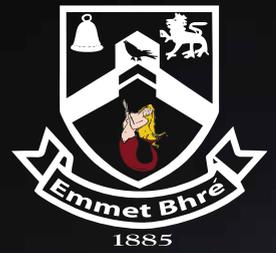
In November the first night of winter saw temperatures drop but this did not deter the G4M&O ladies from taking to the field. A great turnout meant two teams were formed to play against the ladies from St Pat's, Wicklow. As usual shouts of encouragement and laughter could be heard during two exciting matches.

The ladies are hoping to finish the year with a blitz in Greystones at the end of November.

The Bray Emmets G4M&O are a super group of ladies that enjoy the sport of Gaelic football in a welcoming and inclusive atmosphere. You may have seen their recent video on social media titled #MyReasonWhy, which speaks for itself. Thanks to Dave and Sheena for their dedication and commitment in facilitating this initiative.

Special mention from 2021 has to go to the newer members of the squad who have grown in both skill level and confidence. The team is a real mix of ladies who have played and those who have never played. The important thing and ethos of the G4M&O initiative is the mix of exercise, craic and sense of belonging to a team in the local community.

Should you be interested contact Dave (0861208083) or Pam (086 8622551), you won't regret it!



This was the year that we got our last pitch 4 fully lit up. With a huge thanks to all the committee for their hard work and dedication to get this across the line. A special word of thanks to Dermot O'Brien, Gary Prunty, Paul Cunningham, Denis McCaughey and Bernard Denver from Metec.



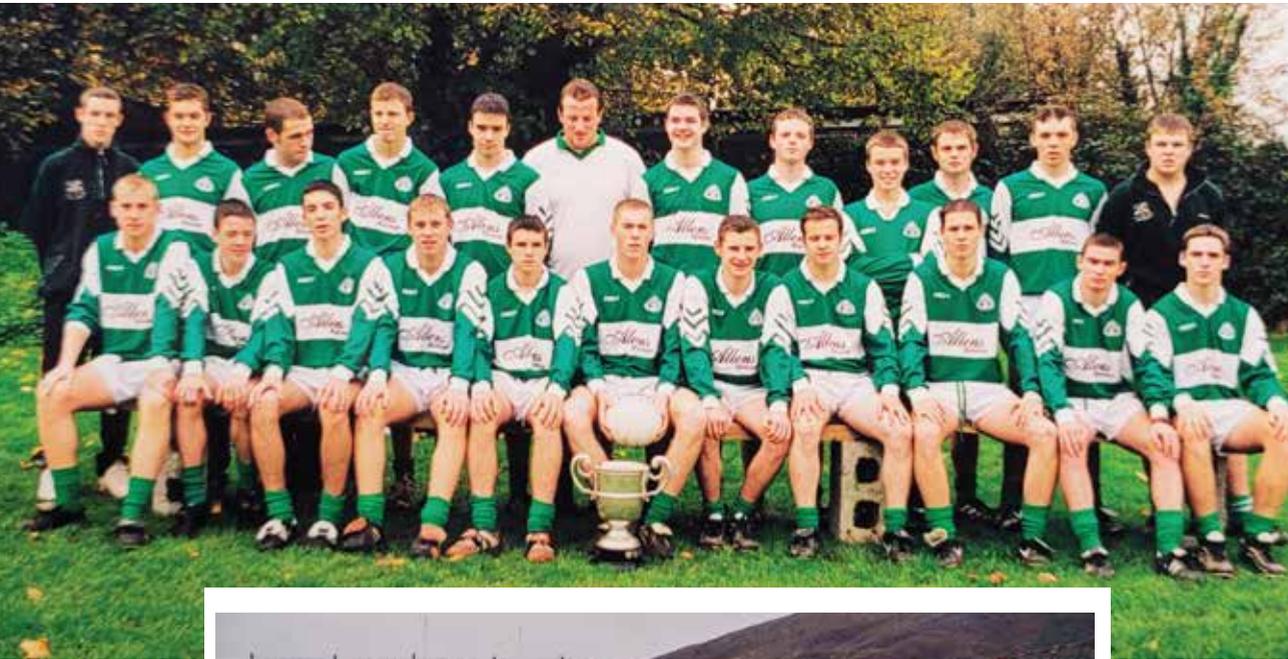
WHAT COULD WE DO HERE???

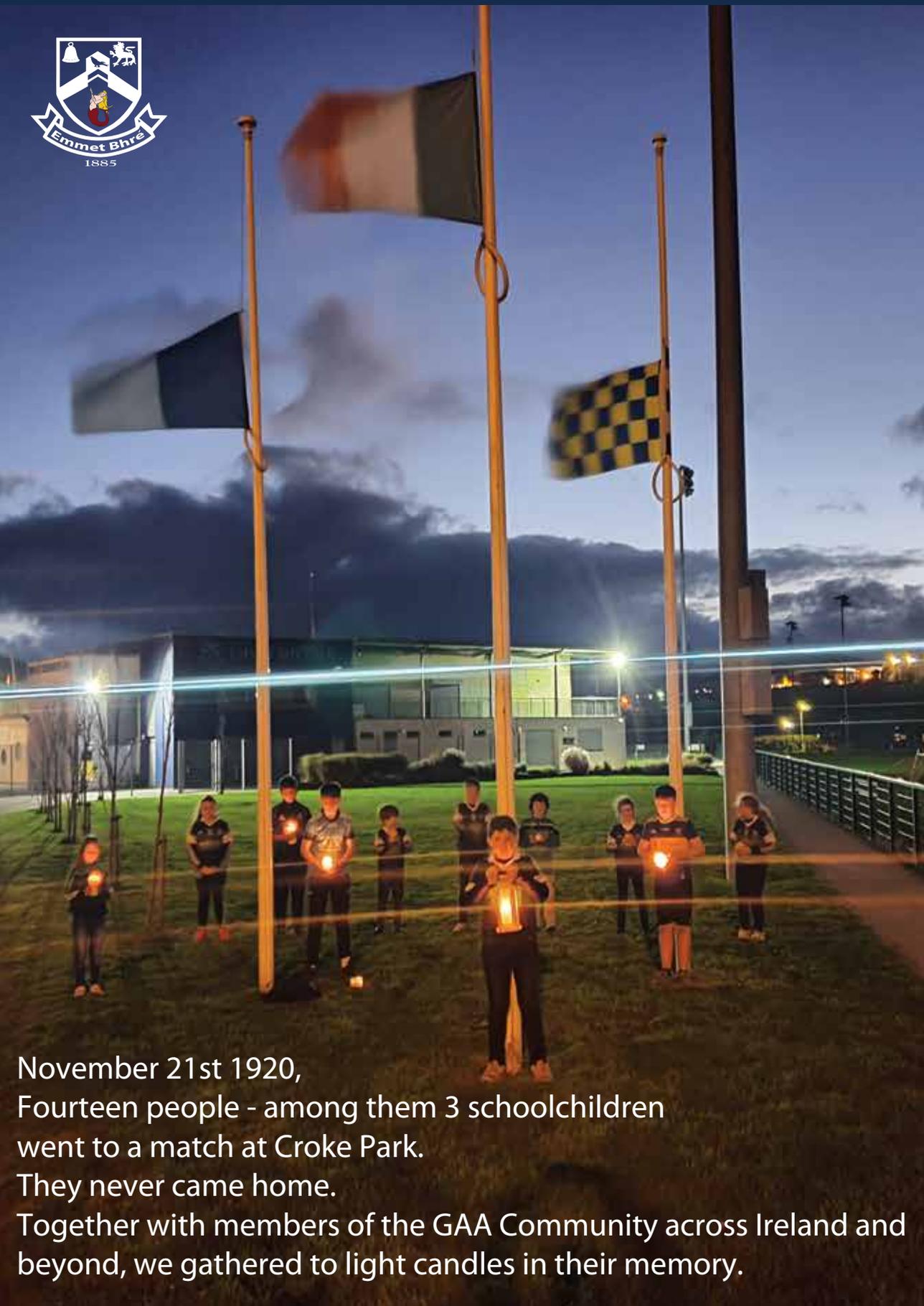
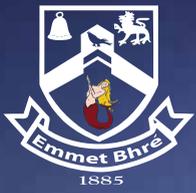


**I KNOW
3 FULL SIZE GRASS FLOOD LIT PITCHES
1 FULL SIZE FLOOD LIT ALL WEATHER PITCH
CLUBHOUSE AND 8 CHANGING ROOMS**



A few years back





November 21st 1920,
Fourteen people - among them 3 schoolchildren
went to a match at Croke Park.
They never came home.
Together with members of the GAA Community across Ireland and
beyond, we gathered to light candles in their memory.

Covid Supervisors

We speak for every single player, coach, mentor, parent & guardian when we say **THANK YOU** so much to our amazing covid supervisors whom without you we would not of been able to get back to doing what we love to do. So many new and old faces stepped up when we needed help in keeping all our players safe and sanitised. Also a big shout out to all those who helped out with the covid declaration forms which had to be checked nightly. Here's Hoping next year will get easier for us all.



Juvenile Report



2021 will be a year that won't be forgotten and I don't think there was a time like it since the establishment of the GAA in 1884. The last competitive juvenile GAA match in 2020 was in September and who would have guessed that it wouldn't be until June 2021 that the next game was to be played. To use the old sporting cliché, 2021 was a game off two halves. The first 6 months of the year was spent without matches, non-contact training, and virtual training through zoom and the second half was filled with a busy season of matches and fun.

The juvenile section and academy is thriving at the moment with record numbers attending and it was refreshing to see when restrictions were eased that there was a full return of players with some groups increasing their numbers. We have close to 750 juveniles playing either LGFA, Camogie, Gaelic Football and hurling on circa 60 juvenile teams ranging from under 7 to under 17. There was some notable team successes during the year and you can read them in the yearbook but the biggest win was getting back on the pitches in June and playing the games we love. Covid reminded us all of the importance of team sport in the lives of our young people. The physical and mental well-being, the friendships formed far outweighs winning any trophies.

We all know the huge amount of effort both on and off the field that goes into being able to put the teams out every day of the week. Firstly, just a big thanks to all the coaches and mentors who show up every week with great energy and enthusiasm. They showed great determination during the time of the restrictions in keeping engaged with their teams and making sure everyone was okay. All the coaches deserve huge credit in remaining positive and adapting their training sessions around the non-contact and keeping the sessions fun albeit without any matches.

Secondly a huge thanks to the covid supervisors whom without we would not have been able to open up the club. We had over 70 people volunteer for the role. The club's priority was to ensure that juveniles could continue to train and play matches in a safe environment and the covid supervisors deserve huge credit ensuring this happened.

Also, a big thanks to all the volunteers that unselfishly devote their time in assisting the juveniles section. Whether it be opening the club, running the shop, helping with Santa Claus, raising sponsorship for jerseys/kit, delivering essentials to people in need during lockdown, helping with events, maintaining the grounds, the list is endless and they are great ambassadors for the club in our community and the club would not be a club without them.

Finally, I hope in 2022 we can see a full return to a normal GAA season and a life of less restrictions and whatever the challenges present that as a club we adapt and overcome.

John McCarthy

U17 Minor Football



Team: Finn Treacey, James Healy, Adam Prunty, Patrick O'Connor, Ryan Harrison, Conall Butler, Eoin Khann, Fiachra O'Dhunai, Jack Kearney, James Byrne, Adam Egan, Jamie Healy, Conor Murphy, Robert Evans, Ciaran Kelly, Jamie Cunnane, Ross, Sean Kenny, Cathal McMaolin, Conor Broderick, Robbie Murphy, Finn Redmond, Tadght Treacy.
Mentors: Gary Prunty, Kevin Healy, Mossie Kelly, Willie Braine

The start of the year looked like we would be struggling to get games or face to face training but thankfully we were allowed to get back out on the pitch training. While we were all in lock down at the beginning of the year the lads had a weekly zoom call where we had a fitness program in place and we had full attendance most weeks.

We had a fantastic start to the year with great enthusiasm from the lads and they were all geared up to face the challenge of Division 1 Football.

We had a great bunch of players on the squad this year with a lot of them the younger age who will play minor again next year.

We had some great matches throughout the year and there is no doubt that the lads were in the right division for their skill level, however the games program that was put in place by Wicklow was taking its toll on our lads as the year went on. With most weeks right throughout championship the lads were being asked to play 2 and 3 matches per week as we are a team with 90% of the lads being dual players, it seemed Wicklow wanted to play as many games as possible never taking into account the welfare of the players in dual clubs.

All that being said the lads went on to have a very enjoyable season losing out on a few matches by the narrowest of margins to see themselves end up in a plate final in Ballinakill. They played Blessington in the championship plate final who they had played twice already in championship being beaten by 1 point in the first game and a draw in the second we knew this would be a very tight game.

The lads played a fantastic game of football on the day to come away with the win. These lads have been a pleasure to be around this year and all other years, it is now time for some of these to leave juvenile and head towards the adult section of the club where they are sure to be a huge asset to any team lucky enough to have them play on.

U17 Minor Hurling



2021 started very well for the younger half of the panel with a hurling shield victory over St.Pats/Kilcoole in Ballinakill in June to finish the pandemic-delayed 2020 season. However, it got much tougher when the County Minor Championship started in July. Bray were competing as the only club team in Wicklow and were up against it when competing with a series a multi-club amalgamations in all of their fixtures. Coupled with the fact that Bray were not allocated a home fixture until Round 7 in September, it was proving difficult to build momentum - although our minors were very competitive in the majority of their matches. The highlight of the season was a thrilling last-minute victory against North Wicklow Gaels in Kilcoole which resulted in a well-deserved A Championship semi-final place.

Huge credit goes to all of the players and their parents for the enthusiasm and commitment that was shown throughout the season.

We wish the older part of the panel all the very best as they move on to adult competitions.

Squad: Jack Kearney, Patrick O'Connor, Fiachra O'Dúnaí, Darragh Ward, James Byrne, Cillían Ryder, Adam Prunty, Cathal MacMaoláin, Finn Tracey, Tadgh Tracey, Seán Kenny, Kyle Plunkett, Ciarán Kelly, Finn Redmond, Conor Broderick, Senan Croke, Joseph Ahern, Tristan Doherty, Adam Windsor, James Healy, Daniel Moraghan, Joshua Butler, Shane Baguley, Liam Egan, Josh Mahon.

Management team: Peter Walsh, Liam Kenny, Caoimhín MacMaoláin.

U16 Girls Football



Like all our juvenile teams, our U16 Ladies team began their year online! We kicked off the year in March with a team session “It’s Time to Start Talking” with Adam Burke from Jigsaw Wicklow and later in March began an online Strength and Conditioning programme with Orlagh O’Kane from the senior camogie team.

The sessions got girls together virtually and also prepared us to get back training. The shortened league ran during June and July and, as was the case throughout the year for this U16 group, it was between ourselves and Carnew by the end of the league but we were very happy to finish on top on points difference.

The Championship began in early August with our group including Tinahely, Baltinglass, St Nicks and Rathnew. It was a demanding time with the majority of the team playing in the camogie league, with matches on consecutive nights. Our only loss in the football championship was to Tinahely in a very tight game but we had some excellent performances and results home and away. We reached the shield final against Carnew and after a great game, the team won the shield for the second year in a row.

We would like to say a special thanks to our Covid Supervisors Catherine, Dani, Deirdre and Edele for all their help throughout the year.

Team: Ailbhe Whittle, Aimee McGlashen, Anna Craig, Aoibhe Traynor, Arrianna Zeller, April Harty, Cara Mahony, Clodagh O’Keefe, Ella Cummins, Emma Nesbitt, Emily Ryan, Grace Redmond, Katie Quinn, Kimberly Kennedy, Katie Curran, Katrina Smyth, Laura Doyle, Martha Lackey, Rachel O’Brien, Robyn Lynch, Rosa Lordan, Rosa Lackey.

Mentors: Ian Nesbitt, Tony Doyle and Lisa Mahony

U16 Girls Camogie



It has been a very successful year for the U16's camogie team. The league competition started in late July with 7 teams taking part. It was a very demanding time on the team as the majority were also taking part in the football championship (which ran early August to early September) with camogie league and football championship matches taking place on consecutive nights.

We also had a number of our players involved in county U15 and U16 teams during this time. Despite this, the team showed great dedication to training and match fixtures and went unbeaten in the league with some excellent performances home and away.

It was decided a league final would be played between the top two teams, ourselves and Carnew Emmets. Again it was a very difficult timing of fixtures for us, with the camogie league final set for the night after the football shield final (in which the team took part and went on to win).

Despite showing incredible resolve and fitness, we lost the camogie league final by one point to Carnew in the dying minutes of the game. It was a difficult loss for the team to face but they can be so proud of the great respect they showed to their opponents that night.

The team have also had a very successful run in the Championship and have gone unbeaten in the round robin stage with some excellent performances and results. The championship comes to a climax on Saturday 13th November with the final again between ourselves and Carnew Emmets.

We would like to congratulate the players from the U16 team, Arrianna Zeller, April Harty, Aoibhe Traynor, Emma Nesbitt, Laura Doyle and Martha Lackey who were all part of the Wicklow U16 team who won the All Ireland D Championship this year.

We would also like to thank the U14 mentors and U14 players who helped boost our squad numbers during the year.

Team: Ailbhe Whittle, Anna Craig, Aoibhe Traynor, Arrianna Zeller, April Harty, Cara Mahony, Ella Cummins, Emma Nesbitt, Emily Ryan, Grace Redmond, Katie Quinn, Kimberly Kennedy, Katie Curran, Katrina Smyth, Laura Doyle, Martha Lackey, Rachel O'Brien, Robyn Lynch, Rosa Lordan, Rosa Lackey.

Mentors: Ian Nesbitt, Tony Doyle and Lisa Mahony

U15 Boys Football



The boys U15 football team competed very well in Division 1 of the Wicklow League. Their record of beating or drawing with all the other teams in this very competitive division reflects all the good football they played this year. The team displayed excellent work rate, a high level of football skills and determination as they continued to learn the game and showed a desire to become the best footballers they can be.

This culminated in the team winning the U15 Division one Plate.

Training sessions were well attended and with great input from Willie Braine and Brian O'Keefe there was a major improvement in the players core skills and ability.

Both brought a real freshness and enthusiasm to the training sessions and there was clear evidence that the boys really enjoyed having them about as they applied themselves fully and worked hard during the training sessions.

A special mention goes to the 2008 lads that on several occasions came to our rescue in making themselves available for games during the busy summer period.

They were more than able to compete at this else and made significant contributions to a number of our successes.

Three of the U15 boys played a significant role with the minor (U17) team where they integrated seamlessly and were delighted to be involved as it challenged them to become better players. With the extra games and training sessions they had a very hectic schedule for a couple of months, but they proved they possessed the required skills and ability to play at this higher level.

The 2006 boys have now moved forward to U17 level for their final 2 years as juvenile players while the 2007 lads become the senior members of the U15 football team for 2022. We hope to see a renewed effort in training and increased personal development in terms of improving their own fitness and football skills.

A big thanks to Pat Windsor and Brian Kiernan who helped out as Covid supervisors ensuring we had a safe environment allowing training and matches to go ahead.

Thanks to all the parents for their efforts in getting the U15 boys to training and matches and for their support of the team during a very busy and condensed 2021 season.

Mentors: John Broderick, Stephen Ebbs, Willie Braine and Brian O'Keefe

Panel: Tadhg Treacy, Conor Broderick, Ryan Harrison, Lee Williams, Liam Egan, Max Delahunty, Charlie Patterson, Joshua Mahon, Leon O' Connor, Adam Windsor, Ryan Flynn, Eanna Hayes, Tristan Doherty, Oisín Denver, Robert Munro, Donnacha Macmaolain, Adam Butler, Andrew Kiernan, Cillian O'Neill, Conor Dwyer, Eoin Croysdill, Jack Ebbs, Luke Cotter, Matthew McGovern, Ronan Hardiman, Senan Croke, Enna Quinn, Sean Traynor, Sean Craig, Conor O'Sullivan and John McCarthy

U15 Boys Hurling



For the u15 Hurlers it was a year of two halves. We started out with a delayed kickoff on June 23rd. The rustiness of the long layoff and our opener being Éire Óg didn't help. Éire Óg would go on to win the championship, and we were put to the sword. It was a sober reminder that we were way off the pace.

We followed this up with games against Carnew and St Pats, both again reminding us that we had much work to do. Indeed, all three teams turned out to top the table at the end. With three back-to-back defeats, the mood in the camp was downbeat. But glimmers of hope were evident, and our stickwork and teamwork was improving.

Next up was Kilcoole on August 18th. We ground out our first victory by a couple of goals, with fine performances from mid and half forward line. Next up were a fancied Micheal Dwyers team at home. Marc Lennon's influence in training showed. We had an emphatic victory. We were beginning to play like a team with strong trust and fluency.

Simple hurling, and simple scoring ruled the day. That Wednesday evening, the lads came off the pitch with a real pep in their step. The spirit was back.

We then had a nasty 2 day turn around, before a refixed away game to Western Gaels. As we trogged down to Blessington, we felt we could now compete. This was an epic encounter with the game see-sawing back and forth. In the end we lost by a narrow margin, and it could have been anyone's. Even in defeat, this was progress.

We were competing well, fighting for each other.

On we went to play Luke O'Tooles, Glenealy and ARP. Winning some, losing some, narrow margins all. But always competing well. We finished the season on a high with a wide winning margin over Luke O Toole's to take the shield. A team we had drawn with just 3 weeks before.

This was a season of two halves and the 2nd half was fantastic. Our lads developed hugely over the course of this compressed campaign, and the future looks bright.

Big thanks as ever to all who helped this year. Huge kudos to our senior captain Marc Lennon who gave so much of his time and energy during the year.

Even when we had training sessions with only a handful showing.

He stuck with us through thick and thin with good humour. The lads look up to the senior players, and this is great to see at u15 level. Marc is an excellent role model.

Thanks also to Barry Hogan who stepped in to give a much-needed digout during the year. As well as our COVID supervisors, Pat Windsor & Brian Kiernan.

Onwards & Upwards, Fergal.

U14 Girls Football & Camogie



The U14 girls (2007 / 2008) had a tough year as we were put into Division 1 in football. We found the standard too high and struggled to compete in many of the matches. We finished on a high with the Plate final v St. Pats which was a great match and we nearly won it in extra time but it wasn't to be and was just great to play a team of a similar standard and for a competitive match.

Unfortunately it was a similar situation with Camogie, which has no divisions. Again the top teams were too strong but we had great matches against Arklow and Eire Og and we shared the results with each team winning their home fixtures. Several of the girls also played for the Wicklow U14 development team and did us proud with a number of stand out performances.

Regards
Alan

U13 Boys Football



Overall an amazing season was had by the Bray Emmets 2008 football team which have an active panel of 29 players. Our main focus in 2021 was to make sure equal game time for all players. We entered 1 team in div 1 in Wicklow and a hybrid team in Dublin.

In all we played 18 games of football between Dublin and Wicklow in 21 weeks. The majority of the panel were dual players so they were doing the same thing in hurling. It was an intense season.

The first few months of 2021, we were off the pitch. Covid lockdown meant no matches or no training allowed. As a result, we entered the world of virtual training. A big thanks to James Healy and James Byrne from the minor team for helping the lads keep fit with the zoom home training classes. A big thanks also to Willie Braine for providing regular videos on how to train at home.

In April with the aid of the covid questionnaire we got back on the pitch and trained in a non contact manner after an eight month absence. The lads quickly got back in to it and shifted the covid pounds soon after. Training sessions were followed by dips in the sea and a bag of chips which was great at restoring some of the lost friendships.

As restrictions eased, matches recommenced in June. It was an exceptionally condensed season and with playing in both counties, there were very intense periods and on occasion 4 matches in 6 days for some players. The players stood tall and showed great spirit. The highlight of the year was getting to the county final in Div 1 football in Wicklow against St Nicks .Unfortunately we came up short on the day but the lads were a credit to their club ,their parents and their coaches. The disappointment was soon forgotten as the same team went on to win the div 1 u13 hurling county final.

Overall this group of lads put a huge amount of effort in to training, rain, hail, sleet or snow and are all close both on and off the field . At the end of the year we had 11 go through for county trials in November and hopefully some of these will kick on and play for their county in 2022.

U13 Boys Hurling

County Champions



What a crazy and busy year it has been. It started with a lock down and burst into one of the busiest seasons to date

During the initial lock down to keep the boys moving they were tasked to get out and walk/jog/crawl 20 KM each over two weeks.

Recording the distances covered on the fit bits/phones as proof .This task was a huge success with the lads collectively getting 602KM and over 20 of the panel completing the distance. Special mention to Lorcan, Odhran B, Sean D who put in huge distances and to Odhran Mac who ran some very impressive 10km times.

(I know I owe a few prizes, I am still working on it!!

We also held ZOOM HIIT sessions courtesy of the TY students, "the two James" (thanks lads!) until we got back out on the pitches. Playing in both Wicklow and Dublin we knew it was going to be a busy time ahead.

In total we played 19 hurling games (not to mention Football) over 5 months with many bumps and triumphs along the way.

We played 9 games in Dublin Division 3, finishing 5th in a 10-team league
10 games in Wicklow, which included the A Championship final.

The final was against Carnew Emmets who were very strong side and who during the league had beaten us well and everyone else to that matter. The lads knew if we could keep working hard as a team we were in with a chance. And to the lad's credit, they ran, hooked, blocked, pressurized every possession, forcing Carnew in the wayward shooting, while always keeping in touch during the initial parts of the game.

We exploded to life after the last water break to score 2 goals - dispatched by Sean Craig to lead by a point. And the incredible fight to hold onto the lead was a sight to behold, putting their bodies on the line to secure amazing victory.

A great result for an amazing bunch of players. The entire panel contributed to the victory as each match during the season threw up different challenges, requiring different players to come to the fore to overcome teams like St.Pats, Micheal Dwyers x 2, Greystones etc. It was a great season from all the team. Thanks to all the boys, parents who committed to and supported each game for what was, a championship to remember!!

U12 Boys Football / Hurling



2020 robbed our boys of finals against AGB (football) and Carnew (hurling) BUT coming out of a long lock down our guys kicked off 2021 in emphatic style.

Battling hard but with plenty of skill, the boys had a week to never forget in early June when they finally got revenge over AGB and Carnew.

The 'Double' was delivered in tremendous style, both wins hard fought tense affairs but also played with some superb skill and fantastic teamwork. Each win brought tears of joy on the pitch and on the side line - I swear I even saw a sniffle and tear from Coach Gar Crowley!!!

What made each win more special was being able to again have our fantastic supporters on the side lines who did an amazing job roaring on the lads. Each block was roared at and celebrated like a score!!

Super fans and support.

The heady highs of those few days in June could never be maintained as we got stuck into a busy schedule in Wicklow and Dublin leagues.

The rest of 2021 was a bit of a rollercoaster with a mixed bag of results across both codes. After a good start in the leagues some heavy defeats followed... requiring the coaches to question the effort and workrate of the team and individually.

A tough time for the boys to reflect on and figure out how to respond.



U12 Boys Football / Hurling

Fair play to the lads...their response was one we expect of our Double Champions and they upped many facets of their game to record some good wins and unlucky losses.

This concluded in mid November with hard fought wins against Cuala (hurling) and Castleknock (football).

The win against Cuala was particularly enjoyable given our previous poor performance away to them.

Also our last football match against Castleknock near matched the Cup game for excitement with penalty saves and last gasp punched goal winner.

Well done to all the boys in 2021...

As they mature it's super to see them continue to develop while more importantly they bond and strengthen as a team...and with their friendships.

They are learning to fight for each other and this will be the foundation for future success.

A final word of thanks to our Coaches and mentors....

Our sponsors Downey's Pharmacy and Bank of Ireland.

And very importantly our parents and guardians...

Your continued support is greatly appreciated towards the boys and the team.



U12 Girls Camogie & Football

Still laughing five years later.....



It's been a busy season with our group growing to over thirty players. It's great to see all the new players join the gang above that are still laughing and having fun.

The coaches are extremely proud of the group with great team performances every weekend and great dedication to training on Monday and Friday nights (we do a lot of dancing and laughing in between learning our skills). We were delighted to welcome a number of great new players during the season. Any 2009 born girls looking to join a great bunch of players are welcome to any of our training sessions.

The team are developing really great skills and having fun at the same time.

Our players have great support from their parents, and we wish to acknowledge the parents help in developing such an awesome group. A word of thanks to our coaching team, Jean, Ronan, Mark, Jono, Catherine, Caitriona, Brian, Stephen and Conor.

We're super lucky to have such a dedicated coaches for the team.



The team had some tough games against Rathnew, Carnew, Roundwood, Kilcoole and AGB and were awesome. A big highlight from the season was the Camán Camogie festival in October. It was a great road trip, fun, games, treats and we played our socks off!!

U12 Camogie show great team spirit in camán festival

The excitement was palpable. The preparation was done, the pitches were lined and the sun shown as Bray entered two equal teams in the Wicklow Camán Festival of Camogie in Pearse Park in Arklow. Over 300 under 12 girls lined out and it was evident that Bray were well able to compete with whatever came their way. The first group saw Bray take on Eire Og, Avondale and Carnew and it was clear from the off that Bray meant business. Cristina led from the back and her determination and skill was matched by the concentration and effectiveness of Alannah and the work ethic of Lily.

Ciara's athleticism allied to the no-nonsense go-forward approach of Iseult and Elizabeth provided a platform for the equally hard working and determined Nessa. As ever Annie's ability to get on the ball ensured plenty of headaches for the opposition. In Lucy and Lustina Bray has players that show a never say die attitude that all coaches crave for. Leyna is developing her skills and is making great progress.

Young Sadie Croke has all the skills and the opposition were quaking in their boots when the ball was in her hand. Someone pointed out that this was one of Eva's first camogie matches - from this vantage point there is no doubting this girl's potential. The group finished with one win against their near neighbours, a loss against Carnew and a draw against Avondale.

In the following group Bray took on Eire Óg and Aughrim in two very entertaining matches. This saw debuts for Amelia and Belle and wow what a career start. Occasionally players take their time breaking into a team but these debutantes demonstrated no lack of determination to take the game to the opposition. There is no doubt that leadership of the excellent Roisin Hayes or the absolute determination and drive of Sophie Murray spurred them on. While Roisin B. led from the front, Louise was a calming influence in the back and mopped up ball and cleared her lines. The Eire Og forwards found it hard to breach the defending of Naoise and Hollie and Lauren demonstrated a masterclass in hooking and blocking and energy around the middle third. Anna who rushed back from a football match earlier showed excellent striking and a cool head in possession.

Olivia who started in midfield has really developed as a player to watch out for and was unlucky not to have capitalised on a move that would have competed for goal of the season. Meabh showed amazing drive and tormented the Aughrim backs and with more practice will definitely feature as a stand out player in the future. Áine O'Brien started in goals and when moved outfield really showed great determination with some blocks and was dreadfully unlucky that her rasper of a shot was waved wide. A win and a loss was the outcome of two keenly contested games.

All in all I have no doubt that the Bray mentors will be delighted to see the development of this panel of players. Having watched them earlier in the season their movement and striking has improved and the team spirit was unstoppable.





U11 Boys Football & Hurling



U10 Boys Football & Hurling



As with a lot of teams, there is no doubt this was a strange year for the U10's (2011) considering the Covid restrictions that were put in place.

That's said, once training and games resumed we averaged around 25 players at each training session out of a total panel of 36 players.

We entered 3 teams in Dublin in both Hurling and Football, while we entered 1 team in Wicklow in both hurling and Football at u10 level. Special thanks goes to Wicklow for running an u10 league as it was the first time this was done. In general, we had some good results across the board in both competitions but there is no doubt that the 3 team competitions in Dublin bring a higher level of opponents. While this can make for tough going at times it's a massive opportunity to learn and these games certainly influenced the resultant training sessions.

From a coaching perspective a big push in the latter half of the season was made to incorporate game awareness and movement into the teaching of the basic skills\techniques in both codes. This has started to impact our games in a positive way and more of the same will continue next year.

A massive shout out and thanks to all the coaches for their dedication and commitment. We must also mention the support and commitment shown by the parents which was just phenomenal and especially considering the Covid 19 restrictions.

Moving to the Clubforce App for all games and training attendance certainly made an onerous task a lot easier for all involved. We look forward to your continued support in the years to come. This year we got our fair share of long distance travelling so hopefully we get some games nearer home next year.

Lastly, a massive shout out to the Covid team\management within the club and those Covid supervisors directly involved with our team. Their work has enabled the club and our team to continue under real though circumstances and not enough can be said to thank these people.

2013 Boys Football & Hurling



The boys kicked off 2021 training in the Academy and then the boys and girls graduated from the Academy in June. The first big move was to commence training on weekday evenings in Bray Emmets. This was followed shortly by the hugely anticipated commencement of their first ever Hurling and Football Go Games. Having missed out on the Go Games last year due to restrictions this was very exciting.

The hugely popular Go Games took off with our first fixture in Eire Óg in June and finished up in November. During the season the boys played a total of 29 official Go Games in both Wicklow and Dublin leagues. This included 15 football and 14 hurling Go Games fixtures.

The Go Games were quickly followed by the November Blitz Series consisting of 1 football and 2 hurling practice matches, which started off brilliantly with a friendly mixed football blitz with Bray Emmets 2014 (U7) Boys. It was great to see 6 mixed boys teams line out under different county names to play 3 rounds in Bray Emmets. We would like to thank Sharon Sheerin and Oisín O' hAnnaigh for their support and assistance in making this a hugely successful and enjoyable encounter for all

The boys played in the U9 Go Games in Wicklow and in U8 Go Games in Dublin and not having played in the U7 Go Games last year, this might have seemed to be a real challenge, however from the first day the boys showed tremendous determination and teamwork each week and it was amazing to see how they developed their skills and team spirit during the season and to see them enjoy taking part in the games.

It was fantastic to combine and play together with the 2012 (U9) Boys in the Wicklow Go Games and we would like to thank all of the 2012 boys and their coaches and mentors for their huge welcome when we combined for games and for their support in helping us along the way during the year.

In October we introduced skills sessions at the wall and these have proven to be hugely popular sessions, which provide another opportunity to learn new skills and have lots of fun.

The 2013 boys are a fantastic group of boys and it has been really amazing to see how they have developed their friendships and built a great team spirit. They were quick to introduce a hugely popular new team mascot "Bowie", who was spotted in many of the team photos after games. We would like to thank all of the boys for all of their hard work during the year and their parents for their support and assistance during the year, which is hugely appreciated. We would like to thank our lead football and hurling coaches (Gerry and Paul) and all of the coaches, Covid supervisors and helpers (Kevin, Barry, Darren, Ronan, Fred, Catherine, Sarah, Maoilíosa, Leah, Camille, Darragh and Danny) who have done a brilliant job to help keep everything going during the year. We would like to thank the Club and in particular John McCarthy, Brenda Donohoe and Willie Braine for their endless support and assistance during the year also.

Looking forward to another adventure next year!

John

U11 Girls Football & Camogie



Unfortunately, we had another very disrupted year as a result of the ongoing Covid pandemic. There was no football training or matches at all for the early part of the year and we were all absolutely delighted when we eventually got the go ahead to return back to training.

The girls clearly missed each other during the lockdowns but were quick to get back to their usual Monday night and Friday night routine. It was very difficult to get regular matches throughout the year on account of not being allowed play in the Dublin league but we did manage to organise a few friendly blitzes against decent opposition which enabled the girls to put into practice some of the new skills they were working on in training.

Having had so much disruption at the beginning of the year, we decided to carry on right through the summer with our training sessions and although the numbers at training were obviously a bit lower, it was lovely to make the most of the beautiful weather and bright evenings.

As is now customary, we also organised two social outings early on in the year for the girls and we hiked up Bray Head and Carrickgollogan and were blessed with two exceptionally beautiful evenings.

One of the big positives we can take from this year was the arrival of some new girls to the team. They brought with them a lovely blend of enthusiasm and determination and have gelled in exceptionally well with the rest of the squad.

There is no doubt in my mind that these girls were working overtime on their skills outside of our training sessions and this enabled them to quickly blend in and compete with the other girls that have been playing for many years.

This goes to show that it is never too late to start playing GAA and will hopefully inspire more girls their age to either pick it up entirely or indeed return to training having missed some time playing.

Wishing everyone a very enjoyable Christmas break and looking forward to seeing you all in 2022.

U9 Girls Football & Camogie



2021 started a little bit unusually this year with our first training sessions being done through Microsoft Teams. We were very fortunate to have Laura & Aoibhe, from the U16 Girls Camogie & Football team, help facilitate this and we are very grateful for the time they put in over the four weeks that we ran it. The two girls are brilliant role models to our young team, helping show what true club spirit can be.

Monday 26th of April marked our official return to training on pitches.

There was a lot of energy to be spent on the pitches in those first few weeks of training. Coaches and Covid supervisors did a lot of work preparing for this return. Thank you.

June marked the birth of our Social Committee.

As coaches, a lot of our time is focused on preparing and implementing training plans, organising groups and blitzes....but we wanted a bit more than just training and matches for the U9 girls, we wanted to help make memories, build a stronger connection with each other, a real team spirit where everyone is included regardless of their football/camogie abilities. To help achieve this we reached out to our amazing parents. We expected to have maybe one or two volunteers but we now have an impressive 18 parents on the group willing to help. The plan is that, with a small donation from each house, we would do 3-4 small social activities throughout the year to help the girls bond as a team.

26th of June marked the girls' first blitz of the season. An amazing 38 girls showed up, making 4 teams. With blitzes running throughout the summer and right up until the end of November, I would like to say a special thanks to the coaching team for giving up their time during the summer and autumn months helping to facilitate these blitzes. The girls held their own within the Wicklow U10 groups and didn't shy away from the older girls. We were also very fortunate to be able to organise some U9 only games with Eire Óg, Shankill and Cula. It has been an amazing year watching our girls' confidence grow and be there to witness and applaud the first goal, first successful lift of the sliotar, first strike, and first successful block down and then watch them be able to celebrate this with a new friend they met through their team.

We have had a few broken hurls along the way, a few mouth guards and shin guards put to the test, even accusations from the girls that coaches were cutting their training time short some evenings as they couldn't believe how quick the time went. Ice pops and cake that didn't quite make it all the way to the mouth. Dodgy dance moves on the pitch. Bags of sliotars going missing....bags of jellies being devoured....all in all a fairly busy year was had.

Well done to this amazing bunch of girls and thank you to their parents for their support and getting the girls to the training sessions and matches

U9 Boys Football & Hurling



The U9 boys of 2021 have been great ambassadors for their club throughout the year, playing more matches than perhaps we thought possible throughout the shortened season. They travelled far and wide throughout the County in the Wicklow Go Games football and hurling fixtures along with our U7 and U8 teams, visiting Aughrim, Avoca, Enniskerry, Glenealy, Greystones, Newcastle and Western Gaels and also welcoming those teams to Old Conna alongside Arklow, Ashford, Avondale, Kilcoole, Rathnew, and Wicklow. They finished the season with a great performance in a challenge match against Kilmacanogue.

The boys also held their own in many of their Dublin Southside CCC1 U9 matches, again in both football and hurling, against many teams including Faught's, St. Finian's, St. Mark's, St. James Gaels/An Caislean, Westmanstown, Naomh Olaf and Good Counsel/Liffey Gaels.

We ended our competitive season this year with a night of fun games for the boys and finished it off with a football match against the coaches and mentors.

Half a dozen out of shape forty somethings trying to outmanoeuvre and outplay 24 nine year olds on a third of a pitch is a sight to behold!

Like many squads, we lost some players throughout the year but we also picked up some new players along the way too and we have a strong squad of almost 30 players.

Our boys put in an impressive effort at all of their training sessions as we moved from skills in pods to non-contact matches and on to blitzes.

Their journey this year has been long and testing, coming from not having played any competitive matches at all in their previous year at U8, through a blaze of back to back blitzes in Wicklow and matches in Dublin, to end 2021 as a confident and skilful panel of boys moving to U10.

We are very grateful to Bray Credit Union for sponsoring our match jerseys for this season, to our parents who tirelessly bring the boys to training and matches, and none of our training sessions or matches would have been possible without the dedication of our wonderful Covid Supervisors Dan Laffan, Dervla Mulcahy and Niamh Butler – thank you so much for giving up your own time to help make it all happen!

U9 Coaches and Mentors:

Andy Redmond, James McCrory, Michael Fitzpatrick, Nathan Prunty, Phil Fleming & Stephen Brieron

U8 Girls Football / Camogie



This was the year our 2013 girls graduated from the academy to join the Juvenile section of the club. It was a cautious step in the middle of the COVID pandemic. We started out with a handful of coaches and a lot of cartwheels. I'm delighted to say that within a couple of weeks we had a surge of parents sign up to coach and mentor our girls. I'm equally delighted that our girls still perform a lot of cartwheels. The girls arrive to training with smiles on their faces and lots of excitement at seeing their friends and as long as this continues we know we are doing something right. They have rapidly improved their basic skillset in camogie and football even creating some technical terms themselves – 'the skellibone' – this is a technical position of your arms as you strike the sliothar in camogie, and as you can probably guess was termed around Halloween. As the summer arrived we began playing in regular blitzes and by summers end we had been to no fewer than 10 tournaments from Blessington to Ballinacor dotted with many camogie tussles in Eire Óg in between. Thanks to all the parents for their support in driving to blitzes and indeed to our weekly training sessions. We now look forward to 2022 where we plan to continue developing our technical skills in a fun way and we won't be forgetting our cartwheels too.

Mentors: Annemarie Buckley, Maeve Taylor, Ciara Duncan, Val Hughes, Maddison & Lee McKeown, Zuza Moylan, Vinnie Ormonde, Derek Noonan, Bart Doyle, Ronan Flynn, Brian Codyre, Gary Thoresen, Michel Mravinac, James O'Dowd, Michael McGrath, Philip Gallagher, Cathal Reddin

Child Welfare and Safeguarding 2021

I would like to say a massive thank you and well done to all of the coaches and covid supervisors who helped our club through yet another year living with covid. Big well done also to our juvenile players who played a very important part in helping our younger players stay connected by helping with weekly online training early in the year. Without your commitment and the unbelievably generous gift of your time, our kids would not have had their training continue. The ability to return to training is obviously important for their physical wellbeing but more importantly it has provided invaluable for their mental wellbeing. This past year has proved, more than anything, how important the community of Bray Emmets is for our kids.

Bray Emmets GAA Club is fully committed to safeguarding the wellbeing of its members. We encourage 'best practice' in the playing of our games and we are committed to providing an environment and ethos which will at all times, shows respect and understanding for members rights, safety and welfare.

Young players in particular, deserve to be given enjoyable, safe sporting opportunities, free of abuse in any form. These players have rights which must be respected, and rules that as members, they must accept.

Bray Emmets is founded on the core values of mutual respect, valuing each person, and support and encouragement among team members, managers, coaches, mentors and other members of the club.

Our coaching resources and activities are firmly rooted in the local community. We are committed to providing an environment that promotes a 'sense of belonging' in our club and an ethos that will allow players to perform to the best of their ability, free from bullying and intimidation. Inappropriate behaviour (as laid out in our Code of Conduct and Best Practice) by any member of the club (or any person/persons associated with the club) that undermines these values is unacceptable and will be considered a breach of the club's Code of Conduct. Such behaviour will be subject to the disciplinary procedures of the club (as outlined in in the Code of Conduct Committee Guidelines).

The Code of Conduct and Best Practice forms part of our clubs constitution and ethos, and as such, it is part of the rules and regulations that bind the operation of the club and its members.

All persons associated with Bray Emmets are expected to uphold and promote this ethos in all roles that they undertake on behalf of Bray Emmets.

We have continued to make great strides in making our club fully compliant with the aforementioned legislation and regulations. It is a legal requirement that all of our coaches are Garda vetted, have attended child safeguarding training and hold an age appropriate coaching qualification. We are very lucky to have Willie Braine (G.D.O.) with his outstanding tutoring and coaching skills to help us achieve our coaching and legislation requirements.

While covid has brought allot of 'stop and start' to our kids matches and training, it did not stop our dedicated coaches continuing to use online resources over the lockdown period to continue to maintain our clubs compliance and improve coaching qualifications. Many thanks to Joe Barnes and Frances Stephenson for their invaluable support, guidance and knowledge throughout this year.

Marie Curran

Academy Report 2021



Once again, we have had a different and challenging year in the Academy due to the pandemic.

We embraced the challenge, and we took our super academy online in January with weekly fun sessions which was a great success. The Academy has continued to grow from strength to strength with 264 children born between 2014 and 2017 and new members joining weekly. Once we were allowed to reopen throngs of children returned to play in Old Conna.

With such enthusiasm we decided not to take our usual break for the summer months and continued training throughout.

Halloween in the Academy was a great success again this year with the children, coaches and parents dressing up for training.

With Christmas just around the corner we are already planning and looking forward to our annual academy visit from Santa, which is always a very special day for the children. With winter fast approaching we're moving indoors to Colaiste Raithin and Ravenswell schools on Saturday 6th November for our two youngest age groups.

This was a great success last year and much welcomed by children, parents and coaches. Parent participation is such an integral and invaluable part of the Academy and this has been second to none this year.

Since September we have welcomed some amazing parents who have really stepped up and taken on Covid supervision, sanitizing hands, helping at the sign in desk, parking supervision and coaching roles.

With such commitment our kids can only excel ...and while a massive thanks to those who help there is always room for more!!

We cannot forget the young coaches from the club who give up their time on a Saturday morning to help out at the Academy. They are amazing young men and women and wonderful role models for the children to aspire to.

Special mention must go to Willie Braine whose endless work in the local schools and throughout the Academy continues to increase our numbers and build a massive future for the club.

Also a special mention to "Mr. Academy" Dave Barry, a wonderful mentor and coach to our young coaches and the children.

Lastly, a sincere thank you to all the children and their parents who have continued to support us. Without you we would not be where we are today and we look forward to another great year (hopefully Covid free) next year.

Brenda Donohoe

Academy 2014



We have a wonderful group of children who are very committed and so happy and come to training every week. They are an extremely focused and energetic group. They have come on so much since last year in their development of their skills and in their behaviour. The long months we missed due to Covid only heightened their enthusiasm for their training. They listen to their coaches who use the player pathway and they do their best every week.

We started playing matches in the GAA Go Games Fixtures in June.

They kicked off in Éire Óg Greystones with an incredible 42 players from our group. We had big numbers every week and the children played so well. They learned so much from these matches and there was big progression in their skills over this time.

We were playing all over Wicklow until the end of September and met some incredible competition. Their team spirit and courage were just awesome. Our parents became mentors every week and encouraged and supported them through every match.

They drove them to the matches and made sure the children had everything they required. We are so grateful to them for this support!

Since September the boys and girls are now training in separate groups and are very happy. Many parents have now become coaches and have undertaken training themselves for this. They have been absolutely brilliant running their stations every week and explaining the skills to the children.

They are incredibly committed and generous to give up their time to do this.

This group of children and parents is simply such a joy to be part of.

Sharon Sheerin

Academy 2015



The 2015 academy group are a fantastic group of boys and girls. Each Saturday you can see their skills grow and the love for the sport also. They show up each week excited to learn new skills and to show us how they have progressed with the ones they have learned. I look forward to watching these boys and girls grow into fantastic Bray Emmets players.

Laura Mooney.

Academy 2016/17



Isn't it great to be back! We know there's nothing like meeting up with our friends and kicking or striking a ball around up at the club. The temporary postponement of our games and coaching sessions impacted on many of us. Our club was out of bounds. Covid had struck but our coaching officer Willie Braine and Brenda with the assistance of the talented Nathan, James and Áine decided to deliver weekly live online exercises and coaching challenges for all our young stars. These were a big hit and it was very gratifying to hear and see the positive responses from parents and children. Once we were allowed to open, the numbers in the academy grew. Parents wanted their children to be active and healthy in a safe environment. Children wanted to get out and meet their friends and have fun. Brenda and her team of volunteers put in place the GAA Health and Safety Guidelines. Health questionnaires had to be filled out before attending, hands and equipment were sanitised and children were put into pods of 8. With the help of volunteers and transition year students we were able to introduce our young future stars to Gaelic Games in a fun, safe and relaxed environment. Our sessions are fun based exercises to develop movement and motor skills. These skills form the basis for the later development of the specific skills of Hurling and Gaelic Football. The ABC element of the programme focuses on fundamental movement skills such as Agility, Balance, Coordination, Running and Jumping.

Academy 2016/17

While the Have a Ball element of the programme focuses on basic motor skills like Throwing, Catching, Passing, Kicking and Striking.

All our sessions begin with a fun warm up activity. Then we rotate from station to station every 6 minutes and eventually end up with a tag game.

Finally, we gather round in a semi-circle to congratulate those who get presented with a Player of the Week Certificate. Mol an óige agus tiocfaidh síad!.

Dave Barry.



Coaching Report



What a year with Covid and the effect it has had on our games but the best club in Ireland rallied and grew in players, volunteers and Covid Supervisors, everyone should be proud of themselves. From coaching point of view we are not going to talk about success on the pitch but success in our club and how we support and help each other by senior players volunteering to coach younger teams, our amazing Minor young men, women and super TY group who help Dave Barry, Brenda, Sharon, Oisin, Aoife, Laura and Gary, who just does everything, to run the academy every Saturday as well as reffing and coaching other teams Nathan Prunty take a bow. Our four floodlit pitches as the envy of the country and it takes a small army to keep them looking so good like the club grounds.

While we complained about matches in last year's report we probably had to many this year and you cannot improve in training if you have too many matches ideally 1 match to 2 training sessions is ideal. The Coaching section have just designed a Booklet of Skills testing for each age group that should be done 4 times a year Halloween, Christmas, Easter and before the Summer Camps – this lets us know where we are in the players development and the players perform the skills laid down in the Player Pathway. The national Player Pathway is 3 years per age but to help with 6 week planning session and then skills assessment we have designed a new Player Pathway which will be released after Christmas – Hopefully at our own National Coaching Conference in January – Covid permitting. Dates TBC.

We recently had 24 coaches complete the Foundation Course and while writing this report had to postpone the Award 1 Child and Youth course again because of Covid but are recommending in January – we had 24 signed up to progress their coaching journey.

Before we go back playing we would like to have a coaching review in January concluded in four meetings – No1 Academy, No 2 U7 to U9, No 3 U1 to 12, and No 4 U13 to minor. This is to see where we are, what we have to do and how we are going to do it.

We thank sincerely all our Bray feeder schools for the support and access they give us week in and out to support the club. This year we have entered combined secondary schools teams in football and hurling and super girls teams in Camogie and football, but next year with the numbers growing and Colaiste Raithin taking in 90 1st years we aim to have a stand alone teams at Junior in all codes and continue this going forward.

Lastly from a coaching support point of view I am amazed at this super club and the volunteers, parents, players and committee with the tireless work they keep doing to make Bray Emmets what is it today and becoming into the future. The young adults from U14 to 18 are a leading light and example of what our future is and seeing them grow into adults in front of your eyes is a privilege and a pleasure.

Willie Braine

Girls Feile 2021



As the U14 Feile was postponed in 2020 they ran an U15 instead this year. The Camogie was played in Carnew and was great for the girls to be able to participate even if it was a reduced format. Bray got to the A final where we lost to the hosts but thoroughly enjoyed the day. The football was hosted in Bray and as usual the club did a great job as hosts. Bray were in Division 1 again so progress was not expected and unfortunately there was no Plate this time. The event was deservedly won by Blessington who beat Carnew in the final.

The Hunt FOR EMMET the Leprechaun



The Hunt FOR EMMET the Leprechaun





Minors and u15s go paintballing after minors win Div 1 football plate final



Halloween 2021

This years Halloween was not our usual year as you can imagine. We had our amazing academy volunteers run a training session in the afternoon on Halloween day where all the kids dressed up and also some of our bigger kids (coaches) tried to out do the younger ones. It was great to see such a huge turn out for the day and to all volunteers and coaches who helped make this happen all whilst keeping within the covid guidelines. Well done to all involved



Halloween 2021





SANTA'S GROTO 2020

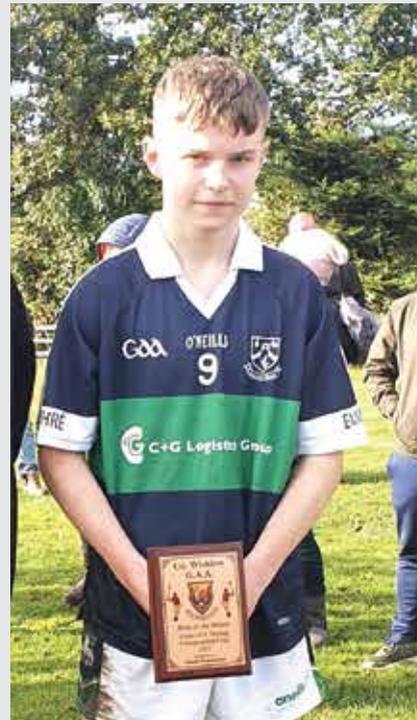




Academy sponsor hand over of new kit



Young Achiever in sport recognition from
Bray Chamber of commerce



Man of the match
U13A Championship Hurling

Bray Emmets would like to sincerely thank all of our members and people right across Ireland who have been working right throughout the Covid 19 Pandemic of 2021 to keep us safe.



We thank you from the bottom of our hearts.



THANK YOU

Bray Emmets would like to thank all its sponsors whose donations have helped us deliver the best service possible to the players in our club.

We encourage our members in turn to support our local sponsors by giving them their custom.

Aside from our main sponsors, there is plenty of room for new sponsorship recruits... if you are interested in getting Pitch Signage, Website Presence or jersey penetration with your name, please get in touch with any club member for details.

In Bray Emmet's we try to make sponsorship a two-way street - good for the club, good for the sponsor.



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