

# Bray Emmets GAA Club Year in Review



# Chairman's Report



This is my final chairman's report after six very enjoyable years as chairman. I would like to think the past year has been one of progress with the club producing more teams, more players and more games.

All this activity brings challenges, some unique to our club because we participate in both Dublin and Wicklow while also fielding teams in all codes.

Well done to every team for what they achieved; the club appeared in so many finals and won many championships across all codes and at all ages.

Change is the only constant in life and our club strive to grow and improve for the all our members. The club is much more inclusive and broader in how it offers more to such groups as Mothers & Others, Dads & Lads and Bray Emmets All Stars, which has been such a fantastic addition to the club.

There is an army of volunteers that makes the club work and nothing is possible without all those people who give their time, expertise and energy for the love of Bray Emmets.

Our facilities are the envy of every other club, but the management and maintenance of the facilities is never ending. I'd like to acknowledge the work of, in particular, Liam, Paddy, Gerry and Pat in the maintenance of the grounds and ensuring that all our teams and visitors have the very best experience when at our Old Conna facilities. Special thanks to our hard-working Runai, Annemarie Buckley, Vice Chairman Gary Prunty, Treasurer Maria Cotter, Juvenile Chairman Brenda Donoghue and Club Coach Willie Braine.

Without their support the club would not be able to provide what it does for its members and for the community. Every member of the club committee has been great with their support as well and allowed us to achieve so much in the year.

I have had the great pleasure of being involved with Liam McGraynor for nearly 30 years. I am delighted that Liam will be appointed as a club joint president at this year AGM, which is so well deserved.

I am looking forward optimistically to 2025, when the club will continue to grow and develop and with a number of exciting projects being progressed that will enhance the club's current facilities.

Our best days are ahead of us; we can be confident of overcoming every challenge because of the support and endeavors of all our exceptional members.

*Paul Cunningham*

# 2024 Executive Committee



Jackie Napier  
Uachtarán



Paul Cunningham  
Cathaoirleach



Gary Prunty  
Leas Cathaoirleach



Maria Cotter  
Treasurer



AnneMarie Buckley  
Rúnaí



Pat Wogan  
Registrar



PJ Cunningham  
Communications



Tony Denver  
Adult Games



Gerard Murphy  
Development



Marie Curran  
Juvenile Girls



Suzanne Byrne  
Children's Officer



Brenda Donohoe  
Juvenile Boys

# Senior Hurling



The history making continued for this amazing group of players when Five became Six on a sunny Sixth of October 2024. Diarmuid Masterson lifted the O' Donoghue Cup for his first time as captain in front of a jubilant crowd of Bray Emmets Supporters after a hard-fought win over a Carnew Team. The score line of Bray Emmets 0-23 Carnew Emmets 4-8 indicated a close result and at times there were fears that the south Wicklow men may sneak it. However a powerful second half performance allayed those fears. Having achieved "Five in a row" in 2023, people outside the camp may have felt that Bray were vulnerable. Following the loss to Thomastown in the 2023 Leinster Intermediate final, Paul Carley, the inspirational manager who had guided this group since 2017 decided to step away. Furthermore two stalwarts Ben McCormack and Michael Boland had moved to Australia. Pdraig Doyle and Daire Henderson had moved to England. Talk around the county was that Bray would not reach the heights of 2023 again. There was a scramble in early 2024 to find a manager. After an exhaustive but ultimately fruitless search for an outside manager, John Henderson and Ronan O'Brien agreed to take on the role as joint managers. Peter Walsh joined management as selector and Alan Malone joined as S&C coach working across the Senior Hurling and Senior Football teams.



# Senior Hurling

Senior players stepped up to lead the group from within and Diarmuid Masterson was announced as captain with Seánie Maloney was vice-captain.

As usual we competed in the Wicklow Senior Hurling League, Dublin Hurling League and the Wicklow Senior Hurling championship. Conor McNally, Ben Kearney, Cian Lohan, Davy Maloney, Ronan Mc Mahon, Sean Kenny, Eoin McCormack and Luke Maloney played with the Wicklow county team. Brian Nesbitt played with the Senior Football Panel. James Byrne, Fiachra Ó Dunaí, Cillian Ryder, Tristan Doherty and Seán Kenny played with county under 20 panel. The initial target was to consolidate our position in Division 3 of the Dublin league and the 25th February saw victory at home against Ballyboden, followed by wins away against Na Fianna and Round towers. Our first loss came away to Naomh Mearnóg where an impressive opposition were searching for some revenge having lost to us in the 2023 Leinster championship campaign.

As the season progressed, we found ourselves unbeaten in the Wicklow Hurling League and we were in line for promotion in Dublin after wins against St Vincent's and a memorable win recovering from an 8 point deficit at half time against O' Tooles – Ciaran Kelly with his senior debut and young Tristan Doherty finishing up with 1-01. Promotion was not achieved however after a disappointing loss away to St Maur's in Rush. Wins against Naomh Olaf and Commercials and Naomh Fionnbarra were interrupted by a loss against a very impressive Clontarf in Bray.

With some of the experienced players unavailable due to injury or with the County panels, these games provided excellent opportunities for new players to get senior hurling exposure.

The Wicklow Senior Hurling League saw us unbeaten, and we were drawn to meet Carnew in the Final of the League on 23th June. The result did not go our way after a pedestrian performance saw us go down by 3-08 to 0-11 points. The by-line on the Bray People read "Improvements needed by both sides ahead of championship" – never a truer word!

# Senior Hurling

Onto the Senior hurling championship which started in Mid-July. Following a win away to Éire Óg we took on a determined Kiltegan team who have been our toughest opponents over the last 3 years. Kiltegan brought huge work-rate and physicality to the county grounds but a determined Bray team held on to win by a goal in what was the closest game of the year. Easier wins over Glenealy, St Pat's and Carnew got us back into the county semi-final. Despite a big difference on the scoreboard, neither players nor management were fully happy with the performance.

County Final day was the 6th October 2024 against Carnew. The biggest Bray crowd in years made their way to Aughrim. Talk in the press had centred around the team's loss to Carnew in the League final. As is expected, Carnew came out determined to raise doubts in the Bray team and they caused havoc in the Bray full-back line for a time, rifling home two goals in the opening half. However powerful display from the Bray Emmets half-back line and superb displays from Diarmuid Masterson, Eoin McCormack, Marc Lennon and Ronan McMahon helped Bray gain a foothold in the game where it looked in danger of slipping away.

This Bray team has become known for their third quarter scoring performances. Hence few were surprised in Echelon Park Aughrim when Bray turned around to play with the wind and register five points on the bounce from a rejuvenated Christy Moorehouse (one from play and two frees), Eoin McCormack and Marc Lennon who booted the ball inches over the opposition crossbar. Carnew struck back with a goal and a point to cut the lead by one. Brian Nesbitt and Arran Murphy came off the bench to steady the ship. Despite another goal going in from a free, Bray held on and captain Masterson lifted the cup while Christy Moorehouse was voted Man of the Match. Indeed the talk was that he will need a bigger mantlepiece to carry the many man of the match awards won in county finals.

At time of writing, we are now preparing for a Leinster Intermediate Hurling Championship where we will take on the Meath Champions Ratoath. As ever the panel's commitment to training is strong and the togetherness has been evident.

# Senior Hurling

In summary, 2024 has been a hugely successful year for this large panel of players. Competition for places on the team and panel has been fierce. We continue to be proud of their leadership and commitment to the club. We had players returning to play and train despite working abroad. Marc Lennon recently guided the Minor team to the county final. Other panel members also helped out with underage teams, while Brian McCann was a selector with the Wicklow Under 20 team.

Over the last number of years we have recognised the need to help the transition from underage to adult and we continue to welcome younger members to train with us. Our aim continues to represent the club to the highest standards and develop hurling in Bray. As always, we would like to again thank all Club members and the Club Executive for all their support and encouragement throughout the year.

We thank our sponsors for their generous sponsorship.

Our sights are now set to challenge again for Leinster honours.



County final Team and Panel:

Conor McNally; Cian Lohan, Karl Lacey, Seanie Maloney; Luke Maloney, John Henderson, Daire Henderson; Pádraig Doyle, Diarmuid Masterson (0-4, 1f); Ronan McMahon (0-1), Christy Moorehouse (0-12, 10f), Marc Lennon (0-1); Eoin McCormack (0-2), Andy Conway (0-1), Davy Maloney. Subs: Brian Nesbitt (0-2), Arran Murphy, Shane Lohan, Conor Broderick, Daire Lohan Peter O Reilly, James Anders, Ben Kearney, Cathal O Dúlacháin, Rory Lambe, James Byrne, Gavin Henderson, Mikey Timmons, Oscar Harty, Alex Binley, Ciaran Kelly, Cillian Ryder, Sean Kenny, Tim Harrington, Fiachra O Dunai, Tristan Doherty

Manager: Ronan O'Brien and John Henderson.

Selector: Peter Walsh.

Physio: Cameron McKeever

S&C: Alan Malone

Logistics: Pádraig Lohan, Dermot Conway

Team Liaison: Larry Timmons

# Adult Camogie

2024 was a mixed year for the adult camogie teams. At the beginning of the year, we fielded two teams at senior and junior level.

The juniors got to the league final and were unfortunate to lose it in a tight battler. It was hopeful to see that such a young team could hold their own against adult players. The real breakthrough for adult camogie will be when we can field junior and senior at league and championship.

The seniors had their most challenging league campaign in three years, having reached the final in 2022 and 2023. In 2024, we did not challenge the league to any extent.

Unfortunately, we could field only a senior team at championship which was challenging as we were hit by the absence of players on J1 and travelling. This is a feature each year due to the young age profile of the senior camogie team. The positive of this is that many senior camogie debutantes proved that they could hold their own when called upon. Once players returned, momentum was restored, and things began to improve. Numbers at training increased, as did intensity which meant that we could enter our relegation battle confident that we could win. We won the match to maintain our status at senior level for a fifth year. The last time we had a relegation battle, our following year was our most successful, hopefully we will replicate this in 2025. Thank you to our sponsor passive dynamics who supported us for another year.



# Senior Football

The Division 1 Senior Football League commenced on 24th February with a trip to Roundwood for an untried Bray Emmets team. It proved a difficult assignment as an experienced An Tóchar side ran out deserved winners 2-17 to 2-5. A week later in a much improved display we put 4-9 on the scoreboard against a weakened Avondale side.

This was followed by a trip to Rathnew and despite losing a very close tough contest, nevertheless we were in this game right to the end. It was a very pleasing performance as we fielded a number of our young players making their senior debut in Wicklow senior football.

A home defeat in another tight game to local rivals Eire Óg was disappointing, but we showed great spirit and never gave up. In our three remaining games we lost narrowly to both AGB and Tinahely, but showed great character in holding Blessington the reigning County Champions to a draw in Bray. Unfortunately we found ourselves in a bottom 4 playoff and were subsequently relegated to the Division 1A League just finishing behind Blessington on points difference.

The draw for the Championship we felt gave rise to opportunity where we found ourselves in a tough group with Barndarrig, Dunlavin, Eire Óg Greystones, AGB and Rathnew.

We played Barndarrig in our first match of the Championship and needed to be patient after finding ourselves level at half-time despite having the majority of possession. However, we pulled away in the second half and finished the game with an impressive score of 4-07 to 0-10.

# Senior Football

Next up was AGB a team that has been knocking on the Championship door for the last number of years. We got off to a great start with two early goals but faltered badly just before halftime conceding two goals ourselves. It proved to be a difficult day for us as AGB ran out comfortable winners at the end.

We renewed our rivalry with Rathnew in Arklow in our third match of the Championship. Much similar to our previous league encounter we matched them point for point, but a dangerous tackle on the impressive James Healy was a turning point with James having to be withdrawn. To compound the unfortunate, the Referee took no disciplinary action against the Rathnew player which was surprising. A pivotal game for us to remain in contention in the group was the Eire Óg match on a tight pitch in Ashford. The improvement in our performance was impressive as both teams swapped points throughout the match. On the day it was our defensive stubbornness that laid the foundation for our second win in the group 0-11 to 0-10. With all teams beating each other we were in with a great chance to qualify to the knockout stages. Our final group match was against Dunlavin where we knew a win would give us a place in the quarterfinals. The concession of two goals in the second half proved the difference, although credit must go to the players who dragged themselves back into the game but just fell short by one point at the end.

Adding insult to injury was a general belief that we had a perfectly good goal disallowed at a crucial period in the second half of the game. This year's Championship was one of the most competitive in many years with every team on their day capable of winning it. Tinahely lost three matches in the group stages this year but still believed in themselves and are now the newly crowned County Champions.

*Perhaps an example to be heeded by us all next year.*



# Bray Emmets Adult Ladies Football



The Bray Ladies section has run two adult teams once again this year representing the club at both Senior and Junior levels. We hope that in the years to come we will be able to add another team to grow the Ladies side further as the numbers coming through to Adults continue to increase. A big thank you, to all the U16/Minor girls and their management for supporting the adult section this year.

## Wicklow Senior Ladies 2024

The Senior Ladies squad had a busy and productive year, with an admirable display of dedication, commitment and attitude at every session and match. As far as training is concerned, they have continued to respond to the higher standards and commitment levels required throughout the year, braving early Saturday mornings and all sorts of weather!! The progression of this team is evident over the last number of years as seen through their league and championship campaigns. Each year closing the margin between the other teams and this year looked to book a place in the A final. The Ladies were unlucky to have just missed out on a semi-final spot by the narrowest of margins, which was disappointing, but still, they persevered. They deserve huge credit and applause for the way they picked themselves up to win the B Final away against Blessington in a fiercely contested game.



# Bray Emmets Adult Ladies Football

This show of character will truly stand to the Ladies next season when they compete to win the Senior Championship. A huge thank you to our Captain Catherine Corbett for her outstanding drive and leadership throughout the year. Catherine has led her team by example with an unrivalled attitude both on and off the pitch. A massive congratulations to our Senior Player of the Year Juliette Fortune who showed a high level of commitment, skill, and passion throughout the year. This award voted by her peers is thoroughly deserved!!

I would also like to thank the Senior management team who continuously show huge dedication, drive and commitment to both the senior squad and the ladies' section as a whole. We were lucky to continue to have our coaching led by Brian O'Keeffe, ensuring that the Ladies are put through their paces and raising the standard of football in the team. This year, Sean O'Neill joined the management team. Sean is bringing his expertise in Strength and Conditioning together with his extensive experience and knowledge into coaching. With both Brian and Sean, we have ensured that the standards at training and games have increased. The progression of the Senior Ladies is a testament to this. Anne Longmore is again working away in the background, she is the rock that the Ladies Section has been built on. A thank you is never enough and her work does not go unnoticed or unappreciated!

We are extremely grateful to our sponsors, Metec Consulting Engineers, and especially Bernard Denver, for their generous and continued sponsorship of the Senior Ladies team. They have been committed to the Ladies Section for the last number of years and we are very appreciative of their help to develop and grow the Ladies section.

# Bray Emmets Adult Ladies Football

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

I would also like to mention and thank Paddy. His work, assistance, and support greatly appreciated by all of our squad. Thank you Paddy!

As always, it has been a total pleasure to work with all the Ladies throughout the year and we look forward to next season, where we will continue to improve and develop our skills and look to compete and win at all levels. We welcome to the integration of our Ladies teams with the u16s moving up and see our Ladies section expanding further and displaying more high quality, super fabulous football next year.

John Butler



# BRAY EMMETS ACADEMY

GAA



Hurling - Football - Camogie



4 - 7 YEAR OLDS  
EVERY SATURDAY MORNING  
FROM 10 - 11.30



# Academy Report 2024

This year has been truly remarkable for our Academy, as we've continued to thrive and expand. With the addition of 190 children born between 2017 and 2020, our Academy is thriving more than ever. This surge in enrolment underscores the trust parents place in us to nurture and coach their children in a supportive and dynamic environment.

Our vibrant community grows weekly, and the excitement was palpable when we returned to training on August 27<sup>th</sup> after the summer break. The three weeks of open days that followed introduced many young boys and girls to the fun and skills we offer, with 60 to 70 experiencing Bray Emmets for the first time. Our ethos centres on fun and development, ensuring children enjoy themselves, make friends, and learn valuable skills in a safe environment, laying the groundwork for future success in Hurling and Gaelic Football.

October was bustling in activity, starting with the U15 boys visiting with their championship cup on October 2<sup>nd</sup>, inspiring the children with their achievements. The excitement continued as the Senior Hurling team visited on October 5<sup>th</sup> before their County Hurling Final, returning the following week as champions for a historic sixth win in a row. The support from senior teams has been unparalleled, providing role models for our young members.

Our Halloween festivities, including a dress-up day and festive delights in the coffee shop, brought joy to all, and we're eagerly anticipating our annual visit from Santa, a highlight of the year.

The involvement of parents has been invaluable, with many stepping up to assist with various roles. We are incredibly grateful for the dedication of our young coaches, who serve as inspiring role models. A heartfelt thankyou to all the children and parents for their unwavering support, making our success possible. As we look to the future we remain committed to maintaining this upward trajectory, ensuring that each child's journey is enriching and inspiring.

Brenda Donohoe









# Bray Emmets All Stars

Bray Emmets All Stars, our team for children and young adults with additional needs, has continued to thrive this year. At our weekly sessions on Saturday mornings, we are delighted to welcome members ranging in ability and age, from approx. 5 to 19 yrs. The session offers all the benefits our main stream academy provides - opportunity to have fun through exercise; to develop gross and fine motor skills; also developing social skills and friendships in a warm and welcoming environment. Refreshments in the clubhouse after each session also gives the team members and their parents the opportunity to socialise and feel part of our Bray Emmets community.

This year saw the team welcome Éire Óg All Stars and Blessington All Stars to Bray for joint training sessions, while an away trip took us on our now annual return visit to Blessington All Stars. Fundraising last year saw us raise over €3,000 and we were also delighted to make an donation to Lakers Sports and Recreational Club on behalf of Bray Emmets.

As with all teams, we could not function without the wonderful support of our weekly volunteers. It should be a huge source of pride for the club that our volunteers come from so many areas - minor, junior, senior LGFA/football, camogie/hurling teams, also club coaches and executives (and their extended families!). We are always on the look out for more volunteers, as often the more helping hands we have, the more involved our team members can become. For more information, please contact Jenny Lackey.



# Bray Emmets All Stars



# The Dermot Earley Youth Leadership Initiative

The Dermot Earley Youth Leadership Initiative has been a remarkable addition to our club, offering teenagers aged 15- 18, especially Transition Year students, a unique opportunity to develop their leadership skills.

Accredited by the National University of Ireland, Galway, as a Foundation Certificate in Youth Leadership and Community Action, the program spanned the academic year and was designed to nurture young leaders through a blend of facilitated and self-directed learning. With 19 enthusiastic participants guided by four trained facilitators – Nathan Prunty, Brenda Donohoe, Jenny Lackey and Claire Brennan- the program was divided into three modules. The first module concentrated on personal leadership skills and self-awareness, while the second focused on team leadership. The final module required participants to implement 20- hour community action project, allowing them to apply their skills in real – world contexts.

Impressively, 16 participants completed all three modules and will be awarded a Level 6 Foundation Certificate from National University of Ireland, Galway on November 23<sup>rd</sup> , an accomplishment that also contributes to the Gaisce Awards program requirements. This initiative not only fostered leadership but also empowered young individuals to make a positive impact in their communities.

We're excited about the upcoming programme in 2025 and are eager to welcome passionate individuals over the age of 21yrs to join us as facilitators. If you are interested in contributing to this rewarding initiative, please reach out to Brenda Donohoe, Nathan Prunty or Willie Braine. They will provide you with all the necessary information and guidance to become a valued member of our team. We look forward to the possibility of working together to create another successful and impactful programme





# Intermediate Hurling

The intermediate team had 7 matches this year, winning 5 and losing 2. 4 challenge games and 3 championship. Half the squad got game time in the junior league and the other half got some game time in the Dublin league with the seniors. We would have liked to get more matches together as a team through the year but we still had hope of getting back to a county final, unfortunately we didn't progress from the group due to a head to head rule.

We beat Carnew in the first round with 14 men, a great battle and nobody took a backwards step. Oscar Harty nearly lost an ear but went on to have a mighty game along with Tom Cash and Shane Anders.

The next game was against Aughrim and we had hopes of another victory. We played ok in the first half and lead by 3 points at half time. Unfortunately we didn't play well at all in the second half and everything Aughrim touched turned to gold. A big learning curve for management. Despite the defeat Rory Lambe and Dan Kennedy were outstanding.

The final group game was against Barndarrig. We had to win and hope Aughrim beat Carnew. We scored heavily and played some excellent hurling. Sean Kenny, Ciaran Kelly, James Byrne and Andy Conway were on fire and Brian McCann scored a wonder goal. It was a great display of hurling but unfortunately Carnew beat Aughrim and we couldn't progress.

Every year 1 or 2 intermediate hurlers push on and break into the senior team so it was great to see Andy Conway start in the senior final later in the year and show his skills. He's a hardy buck and deserves his place with the seniors. Hopefully more of the lads keep pushing to get up to the senior team.

Thanks to Michael Roddy for his excellent training sessions, the legendary Mick O Byrne for all his hurling insight and player/manager Eoin Mason who could still play for the county if he wanted but has a lot to offer in management.

Squad - Dan Kennedy(captain), Tristan Doherty (VC), Adam Bushe, Alex Binley, Andy Conway, Craig Brack Synnott, Brian McCann, Ciaran Kelly, Cillian Ryder, Conor Broderick, Eanna Hayes, Ed Keating, Fiachra O Dúnaí, Gavin Henderson, James Byrne, Joe Phelan, Josh Mahon, Liam Kenny, Peter Kiely, Liam Benville, Macdara Ó Midheach, Eoin Mason, Mikey Timmons, Oscar Harty, Paddy Lee, Sean Kenny, Seanie McDonagh, Shane Anders, Shane Slattery, Tom Cash, Rory Lambe, Tim Harrington, Ross Binley

Hurling is the greatest game in the world. Keep playing as long as you can.  
Paul Barry

# Junior Hurling

We started back training in late February with a healthy squad of 50 odd players agreeing to play junior/ intermediate Hurling. As the month went on players who would eventually go on to play intermediate hurling were training with the senior panel. Which meant we had about 20 players training at junior sessions. As the weeks went on numbers would fall between a hard core group of 12 to 15 players as more players were called to train with the seniors

When the league started, we had some good results with the players who had been training standing out and kept us in games, but we were prone to some silly mistakes that would cost us as the league went on. We played eight games in the league we won 3 lost 4 and drew 1.

We finished 5th in the league which meant we would be in the junior B championship. At this stage the intermediate championship had started which meant we would lose players to the intermediate team Which cost us dearly. With Wicklow County board insisting on playing junior hurling and junior football in the same week and changing games from a Wednesday to a Tuesday night meant numbers were very tight. We would play three games in the championship losing 2 and drawing one.

So overall it was a disappointing year for the junior hurlers with the only plus being a strong group of players moving up to intermediates and some of last year's juniors being involved in the senior league in Dublin.

Thanks to the intermediate mentors Michael Roddy for all his help on the line and Eoin Mason and Paul Barry for not only doing the line but showing the lads how to play.

To all the players who trained and togged Out a massive thank you.

Finally, to Graham Bushe a massive thank you for doing all the admin work and helping out on the line it's massively appreciated.



# Minor Football

The footballers born in 2007 and 2008 joined up to form the minor team for this year. We started training on the 22nd of Feb, but with other commitments and a fairly small panel it would be fair to say that we got off to a slow start. Our first session was a 3 on 3 (3 coaches and 3 players) but we kept going and things got better from there.

Between the PPL and the Championship we had 15 matches of which we won 7 and lost 8 (I am claiming the win away to Newtown, as we were winning when the lights failed at half time)

The highlights of the year would be the win at home to St. Kevins, the away win in Baltinglass and most importantly was our final game v Aughrim. Just two weeks before the final we played Aughrim and they beat us by 16 pts. But for the final we upped our effort and performance and we were unlucky to lose by a single point

I would like to thank all the players including the lads who normally only hurl, the u15 lads and the new players who joined the squad this year. Also many thanks to the parents and the other coaches who helped out.

Wishing the 07 lads good luck with their adult careers and to the 08 lads best of luck with next years minor campaign.

Cheers all. Ste.



# Minor Hurling



In the annals of Bray Emmets GAA club's minor hurling history, 2024 will be remembered for its high drama, valiant comebacks, and an unyielding spirit that echoed throughout the season.

## The Opening Salvo

Our campaign kicked off with a resounding victory over Arklow. The lads set their stall out early, showing composure and skill beyond their years. It was a statement of intent from the off, signaling that this was no ordinary minor side.

## A Season of Wins

As the months rolled by, we faced off against some formidable foes. But our boys were undeterred, meeting each challenge head-on. They weathered storms and emerged victorious, their resilience growing with every match. By the time the business-end of the championship rolled around, they were battle-hardened and ready.



# Minor Hurling

## The County Final: A Tale of Two Halves

The county final saw us square up against our bitter rivals Carnew, a repeat of last year's final. We had a poor first half with few of the lads playing to their potential. We found ourselves adrift at the interval chasing a massive margin, a seemingly insurmountable deficit, Carnew 3-11 vs. Bray 0-5.

But this team is no stranger to adversity. After a rousing half time pep talk from the great Marc Lennon and senior legend Christy Moorehouse, they regrouped, refocused, and came roaring back in the second half. The sliotar was barely touching the ground as we launched wave after wave of attack. The crowd was electric, belief was growing. But alas, fortune favored our opponents by a single point when the final whistle blew. To put up 1-14 vs 0-4 in the second half was a huge achievement. But like last year's narrow loss, it wasn't to be our day.

## Our Heroes

The heartache of defeat can't mask the heroics of this incredible team. Each player deserves their own medal for the blood, sweat, and tears they poured into every match. A final massive word of thanks to Marc Lennon for his tireless help coaching this group over the last four years. That kind of help from a senior player was the making of this team. Marc not only taught these lads how to hurl but also how to be men.

## Looking Ahead

So, while 2024 ends in a narrow loss, our heads are held high.

In hurling, as in life, setbacks only serve to strengthen us. Our lads have shown they're made of stern stuff. And that's something worth celebrating, regardless of the final score

# U15/16 Girls Football & Camogie

It's been a busy season for the U15 Girls and U16 Girls.

The U15 Squad finished second in the Dublin LGFA League, narrowly beaten by Man O War to the League title.

The U16 Camogie Squad won the Division 2 League and Shield and the U16 LGFA Squad were beaten in the Division 2 C'Ship Final.

Lots of new friendships made with many players playing with their own team and playing up with older teams including the Minor team for the first time.

Well done to all the players that represented Wicklow in LGFA and Camogie this season. It's also been great to see new players join the gang and have fun.

They are a fantastic group with great team performances every weekend and great dedication to training on Monday and Wednesday nights. 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. Social events are hugely popular with the group and the trip to the beach and Croke Park being a highlight as well as a huge amount of road trips to our away games.

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, Yvonne, JP, Stephen, Jean, Catherine, Brian, and Conor.

We're super lucky to have such dedicated coaches and administrator for the team. Special word of thanks to Sophie for organising the trip to Croke Park.

The U16 Squad won the Division 2 Camogie League beating Aughrim in the Final.

The U16 Squad won the Division 2 Camogie Shield Final beating Avondale after a tense encounter that went to extra time.

# U15/16 Girls Football & Camogie



U16 Camogie Squad that won the Wicklow Shield



U16 LGFA Squad beaten in the Final of the Wicklow C'Ship



# U15/16 Girls Football & Camogie



Celebrate after winning league final

# U15/16 Girls Football & Camogie



*U15 Squad new hoodies sponsored by Kingspan*



Special mention and thanks to Brendan Dunne of Dunedin Construction Company for his kind sponsorship of U15/16 Squad

# Development and Facilities Report

2024 was a busy year in terms of maintaining and upgrading the facilities as well as seeking new funding for development. We have been successful in securing €153000 from the Community Sports Facilities Fund which was applied for in 2023. This funding will enable us to upgrade our flood lighting in pitch 1 and all weather pitch to more energy efficient systems, thereby making savings on fuel costs. It will also enable us to invest in technology on pitch markings. Planning has already started on this work. We were unsuccessful for another grant of €120,000 to improve access around our grounds but we are hopeful to resubmit this application next year.

The major area of development in 2024 was in the planning for a new walkway around the club that will improve access for all as well as providing exercise opportunities for walkers. The closed loop walkway, when complete, will be approximately 1.2km in length. The funding for the walkway is through the JP McManus Fund provided to all GAA clubs in Ireland which we gratefully acknowledge. Work will have commenced on the walkway by the time of the AGM.

We also initiated work on developing a vision for the next major step in development, ie a sports hall and gym. Survey work was carried out in terms of location and size as well as creating a prototype of the sports hall.

The purchase of the land from the County Board has not moved forward and appears to be stalled on the County Board's legal side in registering the land. We will continue to push to close the purchase. It has been a very frustrating experience for all concerned.

Borg Developments are selling their lands adjacent to our grounds and we are in discussions with them and the new prospective owner to ensure our interests in the Right of Way we have over those lands are maintained.

We also continue to trial new technologies that will reduce our maintenance costs. The Robotic mower on pitch 1 was a particular machine of interest not only to our members but to the resident seagulls!

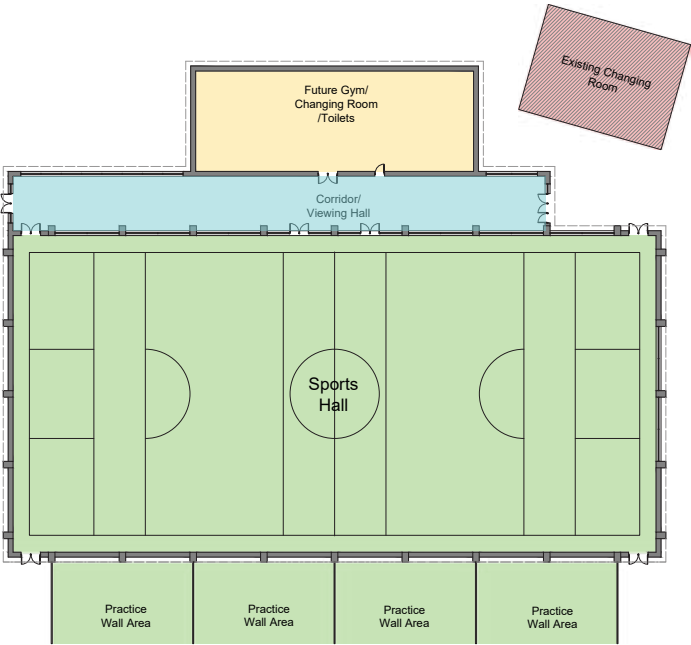
There is a lot of hidden work carried out in maintaining our club ground to the high standards that often people take as a given. Sincere thanks to Liam, Paddy, Billy, Ger, Niall and all the volunteers who give their time. We are very reliant on a small number of people in managing our facilities which is a key risk. We are in the process of building greater resilience in this area which we hope to update the club in the new year.


Members of Development Committee


Paul Cunningham, Liam McGraynor, Gary Prunty, Denis McGague, Joe Barnes, Gerard Murphy (Chair)



# Bray Emmets Sports Hall Proposal

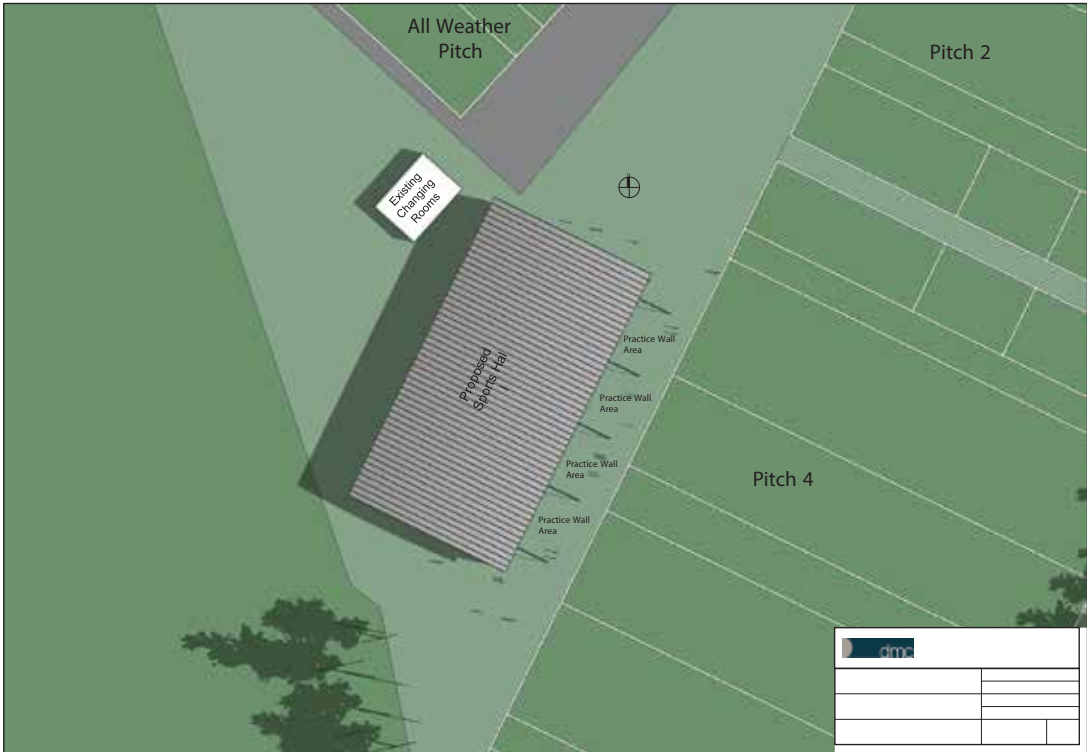


 Proposed Ground Floor Plan  
Scale 1:250

|  |  |                       |      |
|--|--|-----------------------|------|
|  Denis McCague Architects<br>Architectural & Design Consultants<br>100 Keshmulla Park, Bray, Co. Wick.<br>Tel: 01853 810000 |  | Date August 2024      |      |
| Client   |  | Scale at A3 1:250     |      |
| Job Bray Emmets  |  | Drawn VA              |      |
| Title Proposed Plan  |  | Checked DM            |      |
|  |  | Drawing no. 85-SK-0.2 | Rev. |



# Bray Emmets Sports Hall Proposal



# Children's Officer report 2024

The Gaelic Games Associations are committed to creating and maintaining the safest possible environment for all young people who wish to participate in our Gaelic Games and activities. An important part of this is the mandatory appointment of a Children's Officer to each club. The role of the Children's Officer is central to maintaining the safeguarding of children and young people in our Gaelic Games Associations and to the implementation of the Code of Behaviour (Underage).

Throughout this year I aimed to get to know the many members of our Club and in particular team mentors, players and parents - hopefully at this stage most of the teams are familiar with who I am! It is always interesting to get to know all those involved with our many club teams from Academy right through to Adult, and to give our juvenile players the opportunity to give feedback where possible, which helps to inform us on future planning for the needs of our club.

From an administrative perspective my role involves ensuring that all club members working with children and young people are garda vetted, have attended child safeguarding training and have coaching qualifications relevant to their role. Garda vetting and Safeguarding must be updated every three years for all coaches and mentors of teams with players under 18 years of age. We are very fortunate to have the support of Willie Braine to deliver safeguarding and coach training on a regular basis, and to be on hand to provide guidance to the teams whenever it is needed.

Promoting the Give Respect – Get Respect initiative amongst club members of all ages is central to maintaining a positive experience for everyone in Bray Emmets. It underpins the Code of Behaviour which is followed by all of our teams at training, matches and other club events. Sincere thanks to all the coaches and mentors in the club who always strive to give all players an enjoyable sporting experience in Bray Emmets.

Huge thanks to the club committees for their support this year and especially to Brenda Donohue (juvenile boys chairperson and DLP) and Marie Curran (juvenile girls chairperson) for their advice and guidance throughout the year.

Suzanne

# Mini All -Ireland and Family Funday

Our club's annual Mini All-Ireland and Family Funday in June was a resounding success, with over 346 children participating in a day filled with excitement and camaraderie.

The festivities began with a vibrant parade onto the main pitch, led by a bagpiper and spearheaded by the U15 boys, followed by the academy children and the rest of the juvenile teams, all proudly wearing eight different county colours. This sea of colour culminated in a poignant moment as participants faced the tricolour and sang the national anthem, beautifully accompanied by the bagpiper. The cheer that followed signalled the start of the finals, featuring teams from 2012 to 2017 for both boys and girls.

The event was blessed with sunshine, making for an enjoyable day filled with thrilling games, delicious food, and engaging activities in the paddock. Special thanks go to the U15 boys Féile team, who graciously presented medals, serving as inspiring role models for the younger teams.

The events success was made possible by the dedication of our wonderful volunteers, whose tireless efforts behind the scenes and on the day ensured everything ran smoothly. Their commitment to the club is invaluable, and we are deeply grateful for their contributions.











# Gaelic 4 Mothers & Others

G4M&O is about ladies playing Gaelic football in a social and non-competitive environment whatever their skill level. The current Bray Emmets team has a mix of complete beginners, people from other countries, those who played as children and some who have starred for their county. No matter the skill level, there is always exercise, great comradery and encouragement but most importantly laughs and craic to be had.

The team played various local teams this year, namely Éire Óg Greystones, Newtown, Kilcoole, St. Pat's Wicklow and AGB. The ladies always serve up entertaining games with great teamwork and skills on show.

Undoubtedly one of the highlights of the year was the club being asked to host the South Leinster G4M&O blitz. The 22nd June saw over 30 clubs from all over South Leinster represented across 10 pitches. The day began with an energetic and fun group warm-up with Rosemary O'Grady and Rachel Cunningham. Some exciting matches followed where supporters witnessed lots of great link-up play and plenty of scores. After all teams completed their games, the players were well fed with a delicious barbeque before enjoying drinks and dancing in the clubhouse. The day would not have possible without our incredible club volunteers. Too many to mention by name but they were led from the front by Dave Barry and our fantastic ladies senior football team and their management Brian, John and Sean and their families. Special thanks also to Anne Longmore whose efforts on the LGFA side of the house continue to be immense.

# Gaelic 4 Mothers & Others

On Saturday 7th September the Bray Emmets Ladies G4M&O team joined 3000 mothers and others from every corner of the country who came to represent their clubs at the National Blitz in Naomh Mearnóg and St. Sylvester's GAA Clubs in Portmarnock. Such was the impression made at the South Leinster blitz that none other than Rosemary O'Grady, Rachel Cunningham and Roisín Mooney again were asked to lead the group warm-up which was great craic and set the scene for the day. The Bray Emmets team displayed fantastic teamwork, skilful football, and most importantly high spirits of positivity, encouragement and fun. Fancy footwork was not only witnessed on the pitch but on the dancefloor afterwards as well. A super day out was had by all!

If you are interested in exercising in a fun way while meeting others in the local community the Bray Emmets G4M&O team are currently training on Mondays from 8:30 – 9:30 p.m. Contact Dave (0861208083) or Pam (0868622551) for more information.

"I'm too old" - We promise you you're not!

"I've never played GAA" - Welcome to the club, loads of us hadn't at the start. You'll love it.

"I'm not very fit" - That's a great reason to come along to the sessions. There is no better time to start getting fit, work at your own pace.

"I'm not always free" Welcome to our world! Come when you can (but try!)

There are 100 excuses.... But there is only one YOU!!

Whether you have joined us in the past OR if you are interested in joining a great group and learning a little Gaelic football along the way, then this is the group for you! We promise you won't regret it! Training on Mondays 8:30 to 9:30 on the Astro, all are welcome!



# Gaelic 4 Mothers & Others





# Dads & Lads



## A Remarkable Year of Progress for the Dads & Lads

Our Dads & Lads group, affectionately known as the "Grey Emmets," has gone from strength to strength in 2024, building on the momentum of their inaugural year in 2023. This group embodies the spirit of the GAA as a community for everyone, where the joy of the game takes centre stage in a relaxed, friendly, and welcoming environment.

Training every Thursday evening, the lads have made tremendous strides in their skills, teamwork and scoring ability over the past 12 months and have become a force to be reckoned with in both the local and national Dads & Lads scene!

The team includes players new to the club, those from abroad, complete beginners, and even former county stars. Yet, no matter the ability, the focus remains on having a laugh, sharing the pitch, and staying fit.

# Dads & Lads

With many members also coaching elsewhere in the club, training and games have provided valuable insights into coaching, with ideas shared and perspectives broadened on both sides.

Throughout the year, we hosted friendly matches with local neighbours like Éire Óg, Newtown, Naomh Olafs, St. Anne's and Geraldine Morans. While we don't keep score, rumour has it we've remained undefeated all year on home turf in Bray!

A highlight of the season was the National Dads & Lads Blitz in late September, held at the impressive GAA National Development Centre in Abbotstown. Facing off against top teams from across the country, we acquitted ourselves exceptionally well and left with a renewed sense of pride and progress, setting the standard for future games. Of course, most importantly, the post mortem drinks after was key to recovery, with 'Sweet Caroline' officially announced as the group's anthem!

Another milestone was our victory at the St. Anne's Invitational Blitz in October. Once again, the lads faced off against tough local teams, ultimately securing the win and the cup by defeating Geraldine Morans in the final. A friendly rivalry with Geraldine's has developed over the year, promising more exciting games in 2025.

The group always welcomes new players, regardless of experience or skill level. Inclusion and camaraderie are at the heart of what we do, so if you're keen to lace up your boots and join a Thursday evening kickabout, just head to the 3G pitch and jump in. Age is just a number here - our members range from their 30s to their 50s, proving you're never too old to play!

Here's to more progress and craic in 2025!

John, Mark and John Mc

# Dads & Lads





# Juvenile boys report

The success of the Juvenile section this year in Wicklow and Dublin is a testament to the dedicated efforts of our coaches, volunteers, and club supporters. With a busy schedule of fixtures, the young players, supported by an enthusiastic team of coaches have thrived both on and off the field.

The Academy's indoor training during the colder Winter months has proven invaluable, made possible through the collective support of coaches, parents, and volunteers. This year has been truly remarkable for our Academy, as we have continued to thrive and expand, welcoming 190 children born between 2017 and 2020 with our numbers growing continuously.

Our Minor football team competed very well in Division 1 of the Wicklow League. This was a very competitive division and the team was challenged in most games where they developed and built momentum as the season progressed. The Minor hurlers grew from strength to strength this year and as the season came to a close they came up against strong competition against Carnew in the U17A Hurling Championship. Hopes were high that this group of Bray players could go on and win out the Minor championship but unfortunately it wasn't their day, losing by just 1 point on the day.

The U15 hurlers had a particularly notable year, winning the Wicklow A Hurling Championship and excelling in Féile competitions reaching the Finals in the National Féile na nGael where they won the Shield Final and in the John West Féile Peil na nóg where they marginally missed out on a win. They have created great bonds and friendships and have demonstrated remarkable commitment and teamwork, respect and dedication to their team, club and mentors.

With around 313 boys playing 353 matches, the steady growth of the Juvenile section highlights the high –quality coaching, nurturing of friendships, and the promotion of Gaelic games in local Primary schools and signals a bright future for the club. Special; acknowledgement goes to Willie Braine, the Clubs GDO, for his relentless dedication to fostering talent and promoting the club in local schools. His mentorship and passion continue to inspire both our young players and coaches alike.

Brenda Donohoe



# U15 Boys Football & Hurling

2024 was a fantastic year for the U15 Boys, a very busy but successful year that kicked off with us starting our training in January and the season only wrapping up in early November in the Dublin hurling league. The U14 Boys also joined the sessions and played their part in supporting the team throughout the season.

Take a deep breath before continuing to read the U15 lads palmarés for the 2024 season...

- Wicklow's 'A' Hurling Féile Champions
- Wicklow's 'B' Football Féile Champions
- National Hurling Division 3 Féile Shield Winners
- Wicklow Division 1 Hurling League Winners
- Wicklow Division 1 Hurling Championship Winners
- Dublin Division 6 Hurling League Winners
- 

With this being our Féile year, the lads were fired up early in the season having heard great stories from the Senior Mens teams and that support and word of encouragement fed into our first success as the team won the right to represent Wicklow in the 2024 Féile na nGael in Wexford. The lads did so through winning all their short but intense matches against Western Gaels, Michael Dwyers (the real key game and the start of a season battle between the two clubs), Luke O'Tooles and Tomacork.

The team travelled to Dunlavin for the Division 2 Wicklow Football Féile and left lifting the trophy with wins against An Tochar (3-3 to 0-2), St Nicholas (1-3 to 0-3) and Tomnafinogue (4-3 to 0-0).

# U15 Boys Football & Hurling

In late June the team enjoyed some success in the regional football Féile, winning the group but coming up short in the semi-final.

The team then travelled to Wexford in June for the National Division 3 Hurling Féile, most making the short trip but 5 of the lads having to be collected from Connemara to ensure full squad strength. And it was needed. With hard fast games, the lads slow start cost them the first match but rallied and went unbeaten all the way to win and become the Shield Winners, beating Cloughbawn (Wexford) by 6 points to 1 point.

Wicklow kept the team busy on both hurling and football fronts as they contested the leagues, a mixed effort in the football but the team again winning the hurling league. A third of the team were also busy representing the club with their efforts on the Wicklow County team.

With the Wicklow Hurling Championship kicking off with an opening and harrowing defeat to Michael Dwyers, the team took a lesson on complacency and what teamwork really means. It was a lesson that later in the Championship, the lads would show they had learnt from! Progressing with wins in the rest of the rounds, the team found themselves in the Wicklow U15 Hurling final (24th September, Echelon Park, Aughrim) against the team that had proved the most challenging during previous meetings, Michael Dwyers. An absolute belter of a game played out with great support from the club, the lads took the lead early and never gave it up to win out 4-8 to 1-15.

# U15 Boys Football & Hurling

A fantastic year was finished off by winning the Dublin Division 6 hurling league.

The progress of the lads in both codes couldn't be achieved without the dedication and time put in by our coaches and mentors. Well done on a great year with this special team of lads.

Finally, a very special message of thanks to our sponsors, Downey's Pharmacy, Buckley's School of Motoring (Bray) and all our parents and guardians, your continued support is always greatly appreciated towards the lads and the team.



***Wicklow Division 1 Hurling Championship Winners***

# U15 Boys Football & Hurling



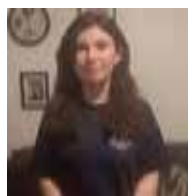
*Wicklow's 'B' Football Féile Champions*



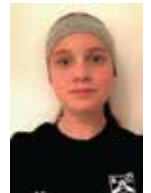
*National Hurling Division 3 Féile Shield Winners*



# 2012 LGFA & CAMOGIE



# 2012 LGFA & CAMOGIE



# U11 Boys football & Hurling

Thanks to :

All the parents for bringing the boys and for responding to polls and all of your support without which we could not do everything. Nothing is ever too much, anytime we ask for help someone is there to lend a hand. This is appreciated so much. Thanks specifically to Camille who has played a major part managing the team kits and team sheets during the year

Thanks to all the parents for taking the jerseys and thanks to Sarah, Camille, Leah, Nora, Aisling, Grainne who have helped so much with social events and Clifton for arranging the hugely popular Kilrudery orienteering and Puc Cruninn and for taking some breath taking photos.

Thanks to Andy, Garreth and Danny for doing so much on match days. Thanks to the boys who have developed so much in terms of skills and teamwork and who have represented themselves and the team so well. They are an absolute pleasure to have and they are so dedicated. They have wonderful talent and are great fun and I hope they are making true friends for life.

Thanks to the coaches: Paul Sweeney, Gerry Scollan, Ronan Shanley, Kevin Maguire, Maoilíosa O' Culachain who have worked so hard during the year.

Thanks to all the club and all the groundsmen Billy and Paddy and in particular Gary, Brenda and Willie who do so much for the boys in the club and in the schools.

Thanks to Willie for doing so much in the schools which is really amazing.

**2013 (U11) Boys Highlights: Croke Park – Play and Stay 6<sup>th</sup> August 2024**





# U11 Boys football & Hurling

Spring Hurling Mini League: 2013 and 2010 Boys



Mini All Ireland: 2013 and 2012 Boys





# U11 Boys football & Hurling

**Bauformat Sponsorship of Half Zip Tops:**

Thanks to Adam Presch from Bauformat Part of the Kitchen Family



part of the kitchen family

# U10 Girls Football & Camogie



Our under-10 girls GAA team has had an incredible year of dedication and growth. Training twice a week on Mondays and Wednesdays, the girls showed up ready to work on their football and camogie skills, improving with each session. Throughout the year, they took part in nonstop games and various blitzes, showing true team spirit and determination. The progression we've seen is truly impressive, a testament to their hard work and passion.

Our numbers keep growing, and we can't wait to kick off the new year with even more friends and players joining us.

From all the coaches and everyone invested in the team, we couldn't be prouder of their achievements and commitment!





# U10 Girls Football & Camogie



# U10 Boys Football & Hurling

The boys played in Dublin and Wicklow this year with great dedication from parents and boys alike which saw our numbers grow again to 31 consistent players

The lads skills and attitude has been second to none and more than that Simon Oisin and all the coaches can see a real team ethos growing through the team which is incredible

Highlights of the year would be going pretty much unbeaten all year in Dublin in hurling and football, Playing hurling in Donnybrook stadium & two tournaments down in Wexford against some of the top club teams in the country

The many outings and blitzes, Sam Maguire visit to the club

But the biggest highlight for us coaches is the mannerly hardworking and brilliant young men these boys are turning into

Massive thanks to our dedicated parents who are there always for training and matches and are always ready to help out when needed we really couldn't do it without you all.

There are great things ahead for these boys





# U9 Girls



The 2015 Girls have had a fantastic season. Not only have skills improved but the girls have created a real team spirit, always watching out for each other, having fun and creating real connections. Activities this season included movie nights both in the Clubhouse and at the Movies on the beach. Training sessions also moved to the seafront during the good weather and great fun was had participating in the Dublin league and taking part in blitzes in Greystones hosted by Eire Og. Huge thanks as always to our amazing coaches for their time and commitment.



# U9 Boys Football & Hurling

We have a group of 37 boys who are very committed and so happy and come to training every week and love their matches. They are an extremely focused and energetic group. They have come on so much since last year in their development of their skills and team play in their matches. They listen to their coaches who are so dedicated to the boys and are a complete pleasure to work with. They have been so welcoming and helpful to a couple of new members who are now completely part of the team.

We kicked off the start of the year at the Ball Wall for a fun football session and pancakes in the lounge. It is so amazing to have this facility and we have used it throughout the year. The boys love heading up for pancakes and a bit of fun or a quiz. We met our parents for a meeting at the start of the year to go through what our aims would be. We had given out a feedback survey to see how we could improve.

Our wonderful and talented coach Catalina Gallan competed in the much loved Strictly Bray Emmets and the whole team were behind her at every step.

We played a lot of rounders at the start of the year which were so enjoyable before our Dublin matches commenced in February. The boys quickly adjusted to the bigger pitch and new positions and enjoyed the longer game. Our Wicklow matches began in April every Friday evening and were hugely enjoyable with great attendance. The boys got so much from all these matches and increased their skill level and intensity.

# U9 Boys Football & Hurling

We ran our Spring Hurling League with the 2016, 2014 and 2013 boys. It was a huge highlight of the year ran over three Thursdays and ended with a great night in the Clubhouse with burgers and medals.

We had many outings over the year with hikes in Kilruddery a favourite, trips to Croke Park on the dart including the memorable All Ireland Semi Final, away blitzes, swim at the beach and an end of year outing to Explorium. We were so proud to represent our Club at half time and provide a guard of honour for our brilliant Senior Hurling Champions who won their 6-in-a-row title.

We have a couple of Players of the Week every week and they win a packet of Cúlcards and at our matches we present a well deserved player with a trophy they keep for the week. The boys look forward to these. Our parents encouraged the boys 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 and for coming to our Parents and Coaches night. We couldn't do it all without the support of Brenda Donohoe and Willie their dedication and help and advice is invaluable and we would be really lost without them. We are so grateful to Gary who organises so much for us all and the incredible Luke Cotter for organising referees every week for us without fail. I get huge support for which I am so grateful from John Furlong and Simon Byrne who help with session planning advice and blitzes and setting up pitches for the matches. Thanks you so much to our amazing coaches who never fail us every week training the children and coaching them through the matches and supporting them. We are very lucky.

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



# U9 Boys Football & Hurling





# U8 Boys Football & Hurling



## A Brilliant Year for the 2016 U8 Boys Group

What a year it has been for the 2016 U8 boys group! The team has made incredible strides over the past 12 months, taking on some of Dublin's best, including Cuala, Kilmacud Crokes, and St. Jude's. Competing against such strong opponents sharpened their skills and gave them the chance to showcase their talents across both hurling and football throughout the season.

A key turning point came in the Spring during our hurling mini All-Ireland tournament, where we teamed up with the U9 boys. The older players took our group under their wing, sharing skills and offering encouragement every step of the way. This support was invaluable, setting a benchmark for our lads, who have been motivated and driven ever since.

The football mini All-Ireland was another highlight, this time joining up with the 2017 group. The week was filled with superb matches, culminating in some brilliant showdowns on finals day - it's undoubtedly the highlight of the year.

The boys were thrilled when the Sam Maguire Cup made a special appearance at training one evening.

# U8 Boys Football & Hurling

Hopefully one day they'll have an opportunity to walk the steps of the Hogan Stand to lift it aloft. However, with a few of them mistaking it for the Champions League trophy, it seems we still have some work to do on building their GAA knowledge!

Thanks to our brilliant team of coaches once again this year, the dedication each week is the cornerstone to the continued growth of the team. We also expanded the group this year, welcoming fresh energy and ideas, with most coaches now achieving their Award 1 level. This commitment and expertise bode well for the future of the group.

A heartfelt thank you to all the parents who have supported us this year - washing jerseys, setting up pitches, providing first aid, and cheering from the sidelines. Your contributions have been invaluable.

There is no doubt that a strong team bond has been forged among these boys, with friendship and fun at the heart of everything we do. This group is the future of our club, and it's clear that we're nurturing future county champions each week. Here's to an even bigger 2025!

With thanks - John, Mark, and the 2016 Coaching Team



# U8 Girls Football & Camogie

In January 2024, the 2016 girls began their journey as an U8 girls team! We started off with a strong squad of twenty enthusiastic girls, with numbers growing every month.

There is always a great turnout for our Monday and Wednesday training sessions, which are always full of fun, energy, chats and even the odd cartwheel or two!

The Dublin LGFA matches started in April, and with the Wicklow LGFA and Camogie fixtures added for the Summer season, the team were very busy travelling to plenty of different pitches for matches throughout the year.

The coaches and mentors Eric, Brendan, Gráinne, Claire and Suzanne have really enjoyed working with the girls this year and it has been fantastic to see their football and camogie skills develop, and also to see them grow as a team throughout the year. We are looking forward to 2025 already!





# U8 Girls Football & Camogie





# U7 Boys

From Ravenswell, to the 3g, and more recently to the grass pitches, our 2017 kids have come on leaps and bounds this year.

Through our coaching volunteers, and the group of really supportive and encouraging parents, we have a great environment for our kids to develop their skills.

Over the summer we played challenge matches and Go Games fixtures at home, away and at Ballinakill. We had strong participation across the summer and that's now continued into school term.

It's fantastic to see the skills that we work on at training translate to games and matches.



# U7 Girls Football & Camogie



The 2017 girls started playing Go Games in April of this year and loved playing both codes throughout the summer. It has been amazing to see the girls' skills and friendships develop in recent months.

They train on Monday evenings and Saturday mornings and are a joy to coach.

Our aim as coaches is to have the girls looking forward to training so we focus on having fun while learning the key skills of football and camogie.











# Mini All Ireland





# Mini All Ireland





# Mini All Ireland



# U13 Boys Football & Hurling

Another year passes for our under 13 Boys' Team. It's been a year filled with growth, learning, and numerous moments of pride, both on and off the field. Each player contributed to the team's success in unique ways, and together we achieved some great milestones.

We took part in both the Dublin and the Wicklow U13 leagues which comprised of 28 football matches and 28 hurling matches.

We stepped up our intensity in our training sessions and it is showing on match day.

Our main goal has always been to keep our numbers constant and ending the year on 29 has been a fantastic achievement.

A big thank you to all the parents who have supported us this year traveling the length and breadth of Wicklow and into Diublin too.

As we close out the year, we're excited to continue building on the foundation we've laid.

We will be joining the 2010 boys to form the U15 team next season and we are very excited as to what lies ahead





# U11 Girls Football & Camogie

Here we are at the end of another year where the girls have flourished and grown both on the field and off. We have played in the Dublin football league and also participated in both hurling and football blitzes throughout the year. Each girl has brought something special to the team, and we are so proud of the hard work and spirit that every girl has shown throughout the year.

One of the highlights of the year was seeing the girls form friendships and support each other both on and off the field. Their positive attitude and team spirit have been inspiring, and they always showed respect to each other, the opponents, and referees.

A heartfelt thank you to all the parents for your dedication and support. From getting the girls to training and games to cheering them on from the sidelines. Your support has created a positive environment that allows the girls to learn, grow, and have fun.

Roll on next season..





# Summer Camp sponsor Druid



















# Blast From the past

1987



Back row  
Gerry Walsh, Philly Dutton, Matt Thompson, Des Kelly, Paudi McDonagh, Alan Gorman, Denis McCague, John Lyons, Donal McKay, Fran (Herbie) Murray  
Front row  
Robert Earls, Marc Phelan, Mick Byrne, Franky Ryan, Marty Cullen, Jimmy Ganley, Martin Loughman





# Blast From the past



Pitch 1 under construction

# Blast From the past





# Blast From the past



**ACADEMY 2010**



**SPORTS LUNCH 2018**



# Strictly 2024

This year's main fundraiser for Bray Emmets, Strictly Come Dancing, was a fantastic success. It was an unforgettable night featuring a host of emerging stars—novice dancers who took to the floor to raise funds and support our club.

Their dedication helps us maintain our facilities in top condition and keep membership rates affordable, ensuring our club continues to thrive.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to all our dancers, as well as to the many generous sponsors who contributed to the event.

Fundraisers like these are only possible with a strong team behind the scenes, and we're especially grateful to Grainne, Dee, Lorraine, and Gary for their incredible effort.

Thanks, too, to all the volunteers who made the night run smoothly.

















# 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.







THANK YOU





THANK YOU

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