

# The 'BODEN News

Ballyboden St. Endas G.A.A., Camogie & Ladies Football Club  
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IRISLEABHAR BAILE BUADÁIN NAOMH ÉANNA  
Edition 2016

## All-Ireland Club Senior Football Champions 2016



Yearly reviews in • Football • Hurling • Camogie  
• Ladies Football and much much more...



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## Focal ón gCathaoirleach

### Games Summary

There can be no doubt that 2016 was an historic and successful year in the history of our club, with the highlight of the year being the success of our senior football team winning the All Ireland Club Football Championship on St Patrick's Day in Croke Park over Castlebar Mitchels. Apart from the win itself, what will be etched in my memory forever is the magnificent support that the team received from all our club members and supporters, especially from the juvenile section not only on St Patrick's Day but for all games in the Leinster campaign including the hard fought victory in the All Ireland semi final against Clonmel Commercials. As if the All Ireland win was not enough, our senior footballers succeeded in winning the AFL Division 1 title by defeating our close neighbours St.Judes by a single point, in an epic final on December 13th in Parnell Park. This match turned out to be Andy McEntee's last match in charge of our senior football team and I would like to thank him for all his efforts in obtaining these historic achievements for our club.

Staying with the adult football section, it was pleasing to see that our Intermediate football team consolidated their position in AFL3, having gained promotion the year before and our Junior A footballers just missed out on promotion from Division 5, having lost so narrowly to Thomas Davis, after extra time in the Division 5 play-off. However our Junior B team (our 4th adult team) succeeded in gaining promotion from AFL Division 9 to Division 8 after a brilliant and hard fought victory away to Round Towers Lusk in the play-off final.

We fielded 3 minor football teams this year and while they did not achieve success in their respective competitions, they competed well and will provide a big boost to our various adult teams going forward into 2017. Our U21 football team lost out to a very good Kilmacud Crokes team in the championship semi final but again many of these players will play important roles in the future of our adult teams.

On the hurling front, it proved to be a difficult year, notwithstanding the fact that our senior hurling team won the Leinster League title defeating Rathnure in the final. In the Championship the senior hurling team were beaten only after extra time by Cuala who went on to become Dublin and Leinster champions. However our Senior B team as well as our Intermediate and Junior teams were all relegated from their respective divisions. In many cases all 4 of our adult teams were playing on the same day in different venues and because of injuries and county players being unavailable, it caused a litany of problems for the mentors and players of our adult teams.

On the positive side our Minor hurling A team won the Dublin league title beating Na Fianna (county championship winners) in the final and our Minor C team won their championship beating St.Sylvesters in the final in great style. So hopefully all our minor teams will prove a valuable addition to the club when they join the adult ranks.

Turning to our camogie teams, again the season didn't live up to the expectations we had at the beginning of the year. However our Senior A team did win both the cup and Shield competitions and the Senior B team finished 3rd in their league campaign. However pride of place goes to the Minor camogie team who won the Minor A championship beating St.Vincents in the final. Hopefully many of these minor ladies will make their presence felt in adult camogie games in the years ahead.

On the ladies football front, our Senior A team exceeded all expectations by reaching the semi final of the championship, losing out to St.Brigids after extra time. With better planning and some players returning from long term injuries, the expectations for this

team will be higher in 2017. The Senior B team competed very well in their league and even better in the championship and cup competitions, reaching the semi final in the championship and final in the cup. Our Minor A team had a great league campaign but were a little disappointed with their championship campaign.

So far in my report, I have just made comment on the success and general state of play regarding our adult teams from minor & upwards. It is now time to turn to the juvenile section (the club's life blood for the future). The clubs consistent emphasis at juvenile level is to achieve the twin aims of "improvement & enjoyment" rather than going overboard with success at juvenile level. We have over 100 teams in total at juvenile level and it is our great desire to see teams at all levels improve and make their mark eventually at adult level. Nonetheless, it is wonderful to achieve success at Juvenile level and especially so, if the boys and girls continue to improve their playing skills. Pride of place among the success stories must go to our U16 ladies football team, who won the A championship beating Kilmacud Crokes in great style. This team had never won a league or championship trophy until now and are a great example of what "improvement & enjoyment" really means. Our U15 boys team won both the league & championship in hurling and the quality of play by this group of players was a sight to behold. Many of this team also competed in football where they reached the final in the championship. You can read in more detail in this edition of the Boden News, the performance of other juvenile teams.

Finally I would like to thank all the mentors of every team in our club for their never ending commitment to the cause of Ballyboden St.Enda's. Without your support it would be impossible to field as many teams as we do.

### Success at County Level

In 2016 Dublin won the treble which included the League, Leinster and All Ireland Championships and just like last year our very own Michael Darragh Mcauley was very much to the fore especially when needed in the later stages of the competition. However this year was different and thanks to the club's All Ireland success in March, the following players were added to the Dublin squad, Robbie McDaid, Colm Basquel, Shane Clayton and Aran Waters. With the experience gained by these players by being in the Dublin squad, it will be no surprise in 2017 to see more Ballyboden players on the Dublin team.

In the hurling competitions, Dublin comfortably retained their Division 1 status which included the following club players, Gary Maguire, Conor Dooley, Shane Durkin, Niall McMorro, James Madden and Paul Ryan. However the team as a whole, under-performed when it came to the championship matches. However at U21 level Dublin won both the football and hurling Leinster titles and our club were represented by Colm Basquel and Shane Clayton in football and Collie O'Neill and James Madden in hurling. Dublins minor hurlers and ladies footballers also won Leinster titles and I wish to express my thanks to all the representatives of our club who formed part of these squads. We had 5 players in the hurling squad and 2 ladies in the football squad. Once again the Dublin senior ladies reached the All Ireland final, only to suffer another narrow defeat to Cork and our own Ciara Ruddy was part of this squad of players. Better luck next year Ciara!

### Social

The social activities in our club continue to grow from strength to strength. The Boden Drama Society gave 3 excellent performances during the year with "A Terrible Beauty is Born" followed by "Saipan Summer" and then "Christmas Unwrapped". Such is the reputation of our drama players and supporting cast, that full houses for every night in each of their productions is now the norm. The Boden Sessions led by Joe Johnson continue to provide nights to remember with their excellent variety of music. The attendance for the Tuesday night's bingo sessions continue to be well supported. Likewise the pool section with their new "champions league" structure continue to attract growing numbers.

However, bearing in mind the 100th anniversary of the Easter Rising of 1916 and our club's close association with Pádraig Pearse, the cultural event of the year (or should I say events) belonged to Coiste an Chéid for the extraordinary work that this committee under the chairmanship of John Kirwan did, in putting together Clár Comórtha Céad Bliain. In total this committee organised some 30 events, involving concerts, drama, seminars, walks and gaelic games which involved many members of our club both young and old. It was good to see many former chairmen of the club plus support from many others coming together for this unique occasion. Our club should be very grateful for the imagination and dedication that this committee of 22 people did over the course of the year.

The members of Siultóirí Buadáin had another active year and this unique group of active walkers continues to grow both in numbers and activity. I would like to express my thanks for the support that the club receives from the lotto committee members and the important work that they do. My thanks also to the Céile committee for organising the Saturday night event on the first Saturday of every month and at Christmas time a big thank you to Barbara Mahon and all her volunteers for organizing the children's Santa party and not forgetting Tommy Clinton and his team for the Christmas senior citizens party. The academy Saturday mornings which attract such huge numbers of our juveniles are indebted to Jackie, Peter, Kathleen, Liam & Mary for the teas/coffee and scones, which provide a welcome relief for the parents.

Finally I cannot let this opportunity pass without thanking Sinéad Ryan, Neil Buckingham and all the members of the communications team for their sterling work in keeping our web site updated and the weekly task of producing the Boden newsletter.

A special thanks also to Cathy Murray, who left the communications team in December and who has been involved in the production of nearly every issue of the Boden newsletter (all 205 editions). Her support has been invaluable.

### Facilities Development

During 2016, the club continued to invest in the future by upgrading our main pitch at Páirc Ui Murchú, although the benefits of this upgrade will not be seen to good effect until summer 2017. The new pitch while it looks immaculate to the eye right now, must be given time to mature. However the gymnasium has been upgraded and is currently being utilised by teams as part of the fitness programmes in preparation for games in 2017. In addition the Executive are considering ideas for the development of a physiotherapy unit in Sancta Maria. If, and it is only at discussion stage, it comes about it will assist greatly the quality and cost of getting injured players back on the field of play.

A great deal of our facilities development occurs under the stewardship of John Ryan and he has been ably assisted by club members including Frank Moran, Noel Madden, Martin Durkin, James McGarry, Danny Griffin, Brian O'Regan, Ciaran Maguire and Cormac Smyth. The club owes these people a great debt for everything that they do.

### Fundraising

The club is highly dependent on the support that we receive from the sponsors of our many teams and I would like to express my appreciation to every individual and organisation who have contributed to the club. I would especially like to thank David Bobbett of H&K International who has provided so much support as the club's main sponsor.

Internally, we still rely heavily on the fundraising activities that members engage in. This year our main fundraiser was the greyhound racing night in Shelbourne Park and the club are indebted to Stephen Campbell and his team of volunteers for making this event both a financially successful and enjoyable night out. The golf classic under the stewardship of Jack Nolan again proved to be a successful venture. Common to the volunteers on both committees were Helen Deignan and Grainne Nolan.

These ladies, over many years, have been at the forefront of our fundraising activities. Our sponsorship Executive member Danny Griffin also deserves a special mention as our club has more pitch signs than any county ground in Ireland including Croke Park!

However our reliance on a small number of dedicated people giving so much of their time and energy for the club's cause is a matter of concern and it will be necessary to review our funding structures in the future.

### The Executive & Section Committees & Staff

As this year will be my final year as your Chairman, I would like to express my sincere thanks to all the members of the Executive and committee members of the various sections. It would be impossible for me (or any chairperson) to assist with the development of our club without the valuable support of every section. I can truly say that I have always received such support from every member of the Executive and section committee members, which has made my task so much easier.

I believe too that our club has greatly benefited from the dedicated work that our staff of Noel Sheridan and Michael Farrell and his part-time staff have continued to provide. My thanks also to Brian O'Regan & Paul McLoughlin who provide a quality coaching service for the academy and indeed to many teams. On countless occasions our staff, when asked, have gone the "extra mile" in providing assistance to me even if it was outside of their job specification.

Finally I hope that 2017 will prove to be another successful year in the evolution of our club and I wish every member a very prosperous and successful new year.

Brendan Moran  
Cathaoirleach



2016 was our most successful year yet. Over 50 members are signed up and all played in at least five out of seven outings. The big day out was the Captain's (Pat Doyle) prize played in Mount Juliet Golf Club in Kilkenny. The Captain was the chief organiser of the day and what a day it was, the winner being Shay Devlin with 38 points.

The standard of golf was very good, we had six different winners plus we had seven turkey winners in Beech Park. At the AGM the incoming Captain was announced - Paul Magaharn is the man! I am pleased to say Paul has been in the society since it began in 2000.

Many thanks to Pat Doyle in his role as Captain, thanks also to Pat McGrath, Kevin Murray and Mick Fletcher for their help and guidance in 2016. The player of the year was our Club chairman, Brendan Moran, a wonderful year all round for our chairman. See you all in 2017

Yours in golf,  
Ned Slattery.



## Online Membership Payment System



2015 saw the introduction of a totally new system for membership payment using the Smartclub Solutions cloud based system. The system has been a great success with over 90% of 2015 and 2016 membership payments processed through the system. Sincere thanks to all for their support and use of the new system. The introduction of the new Membership Card is part of the Smartclub system and has been enthusiastically embraced by members. We would ask that members remember the following for the payment of their 2017 membership fees:

- The 2017 invoices will be available early in January with the fees based on the motions passed at the 2015 AGM.
- Due to the significant annual outgoing payments from the club in January/February, prompt payment of memberships would be greatly appreciated.
- Member's Usernames and Passwords remain the same as for 2016 when logging in to the Smartclub account as per the link on the club website.
- The club has no access to the passwords used by members.
- The invoices are based on the 2016 status of members unless otherwise notified. If an incorrect invoice has been issued, please contact the registrar at [registrar@bodengaa.ie](mailto:registrar@bodengaa.ie)
- Members cannot change the invoice amount on their account as this must be done on the central database
- The existing membership cards are valid for 2016. Cards are no longer renewed annually.
- A charge of €5 will be made for all replacement cards to cover the costs incurred.
- Please note that all membership fees must be paid online. Any difficulty with this should be communicated to the registrar.

We look forward to the continued success of the Smartclub system in 2017 and ask that all members continue to give their full support to the Executive in the implementation of the system.

Liam Carter.

## An Ciorcal Cainte



Bhí árd bhliain ag Baile Bhuadáin sa chlub i mbliana agus bhí ana bhliain againn sa Chiorcal Cainte. Is é seo an chéad bliain iomlán atá curtha isteach againn, Bliain Chomóradh an Chéid is an bhliain a bhuamar Craobh na hÉireann sa chlub.

Bíonn idir deichniúr is cúigear déag sa chiorcal go minic oíche Dé Céadaoin idir a naoi is a deich a chlog. Ní bhíonn aon chosc ar an ábhar comhrá a bhíonn againn. Bímid ag cur cúrsaí an tsaoil trí chéile agus is mó scéal seoigh is aisteach a bhí againn le bliain anuas. Guímid Nollaig Mhór mhaith ar gach éinne agus beannachtaí na hAth Bhliana oraibh go léir. Buail isteach sa Bhliain Nua agus beidh bús tae is craic againn. Beimid ag tosú ar an 11ú Eanáir. Bí ann is déan do chuid ar son na cúise. Gach eolas ó 0879086100.



**Memory Lane quick quiz - Name these teams and the competitions they won**

Answers on page 41



## OPERATION TRANSFORMATION 2016



After an absence of a year, Operation Transformation Bodén Style returned with a bang on Monday 4th January. Private weigh-ins on Mondays were followed by a walk and the group also walked from the club on Wednesdays and Fridays at 7pm with 3 routes to choose from ....3km, 5km or 7kms.

Some of the Senior B Ladies came on board to help and to motivate and this year Bodén had it's very own LEADERS Louise Butler Byrne and David Spain, who live locally, were shortlisted for the TV show but unfortunately didn't make the final 5 so joined the group to share their journey.

There was a small registration fee of €10 and for this there were 22 evening walks, 8 'weigh-ins', 3 motivational talks, 1 Sunday morning walk with coffee and a very, very entertaining grand finale evening in the club. The €10 also contributed to a new set of jerseys for the Senior B Ladies Football Team.

At its height there were 180 registered and a total of over 62st was lost over the 8 weeks. The success of the group and 'super loser' Gabby caught the attention of the RTE OT team and a camera crew came to meet the leaders and participants. They visited training at Sancta Maria on the Thursday and came out again to join in on the Sunday Walk. Bodén had a feature piece on the TV show as a result .



Many thanks to Ballyboden St.Endas GAA Club, Noel Sheridan, Mick Farrell and his staff, Road Safety Ireland, South Dublin County Council Sports Office and Sports Partnership, Athletics Ireland, Irish Heart Foundation, Fiona Nea, Frank Fahy, Killian Byrne, Supervalu Templeogue and the sponsors of Finale spot prizes and finally it could not have happened without the dedicated organising group so a very big thanks to them.



*The big reveal*

## BAR REPORT 2016 by Mick Farrell

**BALLYBODEN ST. ENDAS GAA CLUB**  
**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

**55+ CLUB**  
 OPEN DAILY FROM 10AM - 2PM  
 OPEN TO ANYONE 55 OR OVER

Meet New Friends - Keep Healthy & Have Fun  
 ACTIVITIES INCLUDE: EXERCISE CLASSES \* TABLE TENNIS  
 \* LINE DANCING \* MEDITATION \* BOWLING \* KNITTING/  
 CROCHET - CONTACT SIOBHAN ON 087 627 0941

**IRISH DANCING CLASSES**  
 FROM AGE 4+ WITH SCOL RINCE SEIOGE.  
 W: WWW.SRS.IRISH  
 T: 087 671 3601 OR 085 819 8241

**SLIMMING WORLD**  
 GROUP ON MONDAY AT 7.30PM  
 PLEASE CONTACT  
 DEIRDRE ON 086 846 6807

**KATE BUCKLEY DANCE SCHOOL**  
 CLASSES FROM AGE 3+ UPWARD.  
 BALLET | HOP | JAZZ  
 CONTACT KATE ON 085 778 4128

**MARIA KEANE PILATES**  
 CLASSES TUESDAYS 7.30PM + 8.30PM  
 CONTACT MARIA  
 ON 086 865 7150

**BINGO**  
 EVERY TUESDAY AT 8.30PM IN THE BAR

**CLUB LOTTO EVERY SUNDAY NIGHT IN BAR@ 9PM**

Another year over and one that won't be forgotten for a long time in the "Boden Bar" The highlights of the year was of course the many memories & late nights of singsong, craic & celebrations after the victorious All Ireland win. (May it be the first of many!)

Our Monthly Monday Bodén Trad Session has gone from strength to strength under the stewardship of our very own Joe Johnston and has maintained a loyal and appreciative fan base to enjoy an unrivalled array of talented musicians, poets, dancers, singers and comedians. Thank you Joe and all your fellow entertainers.

Our Bingo sessions continue every Tuesday night under the watchful eye of Connor 'Cats' Farrelly, Threasa Kilduff and Annette Sheehan and the club appreciates all the effort and time afforded by all concerned.

The weekly Lotto now takes place on Sunday nights @ 9.30pm and afterwards, at no extra charge, customers can enjoy the now infamous jokes from Sean 'Leitrim' Flynn.

Our newly renovated pool room is a hive of activity at the moment with in-house competitions throughout the year and is open for all club members to enjoy. Don O'Neill is the current 2016 champion but won't have it so easy in 2017 as there are a few up and coming stars just waiting to knock him off his perch! Thank you to all the committee members for all your hard work.

Our Drama group continued their fabulous work in 2016 with 3 very successful productions. The first was a commemorative play of 1916 which was called "A terrible Beauty is born" and it received standing ovations every night. The second "Saipan Summer" is a crowd favourite and the third, a light hearted production aptly named "Xmas unwrapped". This was staged in December and had the audience in stitches for the whole night. The Drama group have a major production planned for 2017 from John B Keane THE FIELD and no doubt it will be a stunning success.

Our Club Hall now offers a range of activities and classes on a daily basis and everybody is welcome to join. **Please see above for details**

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Noel, Brendan, Gerry and all the staff for their continued support in 2016 and not forgetting Sinéad Ryan and Neil Buckingham for their help in promoting the various events in the club throughout the year. Wishing all our customers health and happiness as we look forward to another eventful year in 2017.



## Ladies Football Report 2016

Cathal O'Toole



were great, with six stations (3 camogie and 3 football) in operation each Saturday morning for 1½ hours. Given the attendances at training and matches and the great performances put in by all teams, all augers well for under 10 next year.



**Under 10:** With 76 girls registered and 16 mentors things are in good shape. We were delighted to welcome former Dublin star Ray Cosgrove on board as a new mentor since September. In March, Kilmacud, to celebrate 20 years of ladies football, invited us to their blitz. It was a great day, a celebration of ladies football. For the first time, we played in the club Mini All Ireland in June on what was a very wet evening. There was full attendance and remarkable skill and ability shown despite the weather. We participated in the Leinster LGFA Under10 'Game On' Club Blitz in Bray Emmets G.A.A. Club again in June. Despite the rain, again, we enjoyed a great day of matches where the girls got to play teams they don't normally meet. We have seen huge improvement in skill level and our numbers are the envy of many clubs.



**Under 11:** The Under 11 girls started their season with 69 girls playing between 4 teams. The teams we played were St Jude's, Ballinteer St Johns, Clanna Gael, Templeogue Synge Street and Cuala. We had good numbers at training and matches, with all teams progressing well during the season, winning most matches. All girls showed great determination, competing well together in good spirit. When matches started back after the summer break we played Crumlin, St James Gaels, Star of Erin, Kilmacud Crokes, Foxrock Cabinteely and we ventured over the North side for the first time to play Na Fianna, St Oliver Plunketts and Clontarf.



**Under 12:** We finished the year with 68 girls actively involved, 53 of those being dual players. The alternating weekends have been instrumental in enabling such a high number of dual players and we are hoping that this format continues next year at U13. After the Summer break the Co.Board organised grading matches (15 a side) to get an idea of what divisions our teams would play in next year. Once again our 3 teams fared very well. Seven of our girls represented Dublin this year in various different events (Aisling Duffy, Ciara Molloy, Kate Donaghy, Kate Lennon, Sophia Nulty, Alice Rudden & Caoimhe O'Sullivan). In June 51 girls set off on our annual trip "down the country", to play football and camogie against St. Martin's located outside Wexford town. On the return we stopped off at Curracloe beach where the most fun was had. A pit stop in Mickey D's rounded off the trip perfectly.



**Under 13A:** We finished as League winners having gone unbeaten. Our girls finished top of their championship group winning all 4 matches. We won our semi-final against Na Fianna setting up a County Final against Foxrock Cabinteely. Losing by a point with seconds remaining the girls did not panic and they worked the ball forward and managed to win a free which was scored to send this epic contest to extra time. The girls promised each other that they would leave every ounce of energy on the pitch in the extra 20 minutes. They didn't disappoint their large following as they went on to reach new heights of endeavour and deservedly won the match on a score line of BBSE 1-13, Fox-Cab 0-12. What a year, unbeaten in League and Championship!



**Under 13B:** After the summer break, the girls competed in Div.3B of the cup competition. In the group games we were undefeated. In the semi-final we defeated Foxrock Cabinteely. In the final we played Fingallians. We had beaten them earlier in the group by a point and a tough game was expected. While they had new faces, we stuck to our original panel and the girls performed really well. However a couple of goals late in the second half put the game beyond us. Final score Ballyboden 2-8 v Fingallians 6-9. Overall the year was a great success and the football and skills of the girls have grown as the year progressed. The mentors would like to thank all of the girls and their parents for their commitment to the team.





**Under 13C:** The 13C's started the league with a panel of 16. This was a new experience playing on a bigger pitch and full rules. We finished 4th in the league. The cup competition started at end of August and with an enlarged panel of 18 the girls were in a very tough group with 3 single team clubs. After two defeats and a bye the girls beat Ballinteer by a point in a very exciting game which put



them into a shield semi-final. However due to some odd calculations we were promoted to a cup semi-final V Lucan Sarsfields B's. This was our last game in the cup losing 4-6 to 0-3.

Overall it was a great year for the girls with good numbers for both training and games and improvement in skills and commitment.

**Under 14A:** Despite some early league setbacks the heads were lifted with the anticipation of Féile weekend in early April. Decked out in new gear we headed out to Silver Park. On a very wet and miserable day, the Boden girls competed admirably but were unfortunate not to get to a semi-final. A special word of thanks to Peter Doyle and his scouting skills, who set up a huge tent on the side line where our girls sought shelter and comfort on the day. After the summer break we regrouped and some comprehensive wins saw us through to a championship semi-final against O'Dwyers. Despite leading with 5 mins to go the referee abandoned the match much to the disappointment of the Boden girls. Thankfully the result was resolved and on 6th November our girls finally took on Beann Eadair in a thrilling Final, resulting in a win by 4-7 to 2-8. The Boden girls deserved to bring home the Silver.



**Under 14B:** Despite some uphill challenges in the league, the performances were always heroic. Some hard won victories made for a very competitive league campaign. April and mid-term was Féile. Several families anxiously ran to the calendar to check conflicts with holiday plans. For one family, the flights home were too late. That didn't matter, mother and daughter flew home early. You can go on holidays every year! Through torrential rain the soaked jerseys were replaced by fresh ones, the fresh ones, now soaked, were replaced by the original ones that Derval Edwards had somehow managed to get into her dryer in between games. You'll win very little without luck and a drawn game that saw us hit the post three times and a one point defeat where we just missed a last minute goal best describes our luck on the day. Regrouping for the championship after the summer saw some tough group games. The team qualified for the Shield semi-final. Unfortunately, Na Fianna were just that bit stronger on the day and we bowed out.



**Under 14C:** The U14 C Team put in a number of very good league performances but Féile was the real highlight. Qualifying for the semi-final against St.Finian's who we had already beaten in the first group match. We held a slender lead throughout until Finian's scored a last minute goal to win by a point. Club chairman Brendan Moran provided very kind words of praise and consolation for the girls and the mentors. We came back rejuvenated after the summer for the championship. We secured a place in the shield final against St. James Gaels.

We got off to a flying start and were 4-1 to 1-2 up at half time. All was going to plan until a controversial black card 10 minutes into the second half.

The opposition took advantage of the extra player and went ahead. We were unable to get the goal that would have forced the match to extra time and ended up losing by 4-6 to 4-3. A great year all the same.



**Under 16A:** The amalgamation of both the 2000's and 2001's was a pretty seamless transition for this group of players with one objective, to win the championship for the first time.

We finished runners up in Division 1 and were probably unlucky not to force a playoff with the winners, Foxrock/Cabinteely.

We went into the championship completely focused on our goal. Players worked so hard and training sessions were very intense. Competition for places was the driving factor that helped so many players improve and realise their potential.

We played 5 matches in the championship ultimately winning all. Beating Foxcab in the semi and the other stalwart, Crokes in the final, at home, will live long in our memories. Playing both of these key games in front of a home crowd urging us on was a big helping factor in the results.



**Under 16B:** Playing in a strong Division 2, the girls exceeded expectations with 5 victories leaving the girls in 4th place and level on points with the runners-up. Come the autumn, the Division 2 championship was always going to be a big ask with 4 of the panel promoted to the A squad. Unfortunately due to injuries and a couple of retirements, the round-robin games were difficult with the team qualifying for the shield. The girls played their best game of the year in the semi-final beating Templeogue Synge Street. The heroics and pure commitment shown in this game were a credit to every one of them. The final was against Castleknock, who had scored a total of 22 goals in their previous 3 matches. A defensive, plan was executed to near perfection, conceding no goals in the final. Unfortunately with a couple of our goals disallowed, we came up short losing by 2 points.





**Under 16C:** Thanks to an excellent league campaign the team finished joint second and only just a point behind winners Man O' War. This was an excellent result for the girls, the majority coming up from U14. Even more remarkable was that a lot of the girls had played U14 Division 5 the previous year. Late August saw the commencement of the Championship. Following two good wins, the team qualified for the Div.4 semi-final against Thomas Davis who ran out winners and went on to win the championship outright. Well done to all the girls who played and we hope you enjoyed your training and matches. It was a pleasure to be part of your year.



**Under 16D:** We worked with a panel of 24 for the season which included 6 previous years' U14s. All girls gelled well together and had a lot of fun along the way. Finishing 3rd in the League was excellent and we were beaten in the Championship Semi Final to a very strong St Jude's team who went on to win outright. Great fun during the year with the U16 Blitz in May and our usual end of year trip this time to Roosky adventure centre in Roscommon being the highlight.



**Minor A:** Overall our League Campaign was very successful given the injuries to key players at crucial times in the season. Losing all our championship matches was a bitter pill to swallow though. It certainly wasn't due to lack of commitment from the girls. They gave 100%. The mentors wish them all the best of luck in their playing careers as we know many of them will go on the play at a high level with Ballyboden. A very special thanks to Helen Gogan who worked hard for the team very week, washing jerseys, checking players availability and attending every training session ensuring the girls had everything they needed. Thanks also to Darragh Gogan who took the training sessions for Championship. His experience coming from senior men's football was a great addition.



**Minor B:** Despite some heavy defeats in the league the girls never let their heads stay down. Attendance at training was excellent all season. For the Championship we were more accurately graded and the girls really had a go narrowly losing by a couple of points in two hard fought defeats. A good victory away to Ballymun proved enough to get us through to the Shield final where we faced Beann Eadair away on the side of the hill in Howth. We narrowly lost out on the day. We would like wish our second year minors girls the best of luck as they move to adult ladies football.



**Senior A:** A new management team was appointed in spring 2016 comprised of Brian O'Regan and Declan O'Reilly as coaches, and Aisling Farrelly, SORCHA Farrelly, Fiona Corcoran and Claire Butterly as management/selectors. Bobby O'Sullivan also provided support as needed. We finished the League and Cup in 6th place. Championship however, was different. We won all four matches in Group 1. In particular, victories over strong Kilmacud and Fingallians



teams were real indicators of the kind of success that is available to this panel. The Championship Semi Final was the peak of our season. With significant personnel issues, caused by the late start to the season and pre-existing holiday arrangements and

despite a depleted team, we fell just short, losing to St Brigid's by two points, cruelly by a goal scored at the very end of the injury time played at the end of extra time. This loss represented significant progress for this team, not just because we had suffered a very substantial loss in the same fixture in 2015, but because St. Brigid's went on to lose to Foxrock Cabinteely by a single point in the final. Fox-Cab have since become Leinster champions.

Our goals for 2017 are clear and simple. The ambition for this team is substantial and the resources and energy committed already for 2017 are significant.

**Senior B:** The squad, many of whom were with us in 2015, was added to by both experienced players and by a number of players from the minor and underage ranks. Thanks to all the minor girls without whom we would not have been able to compete so well. While we had a very encouraging performance in the League (finishing mid-table) we performed even better in the Cup and Championship. In the Championship we met Naomh Barrog in the semi-final losing to them in a very tight game. After winning all 7 cup games we qualified for the cup final against St. Peregrines a fine team who were a little too good for us on the night. While there was no silverware for us this year the season overall was a great success. One of the great characteristics of this group of players is the team spirit between the young and the "not so young". This was shown at training and games and also through the activities they organised to raise funds for the team. Special mention to SORCHA Farrelly for her absolute dedication during the season. Her commitment to the cause and her organisational skills contributed hugely to a very successful and enjoyable season.







# BINGO!

Every Tuesday 8.30pm in the Club  
All welcome. Great fun

This year the bingo has been just as successful as other years. We have retained our numbers and the continued support from our bingo goers has made the bingo a fun night for all. The bingo has created great social interaction amongst a lot of bingo goers and many friendships have developed from the continued support. The average weekly attendance is between 55-65. The jackpot game is also very much appreciated. Because the prize money increases each week it encourages bingo goers to continue to come and when won, it creates great excitement. The weekly raffle has proven to be a great success. The Halloween night and other themed nights have also been wonderful and fully appreciated by all our bingo followers. Thanks to Conor, Iomair and all the committee for their continued commitment. A special Thanks to Teresa who has taken on a huge amount of additional work since September. The success of the bingo has been down to the commitment of the team who have been there from year 1 and our bingo followers who continue to come, rain hail or snow. New members welcome so please tell your friends!

.....The TV monitor has proven to be a great source of information for those members passing through reception to go to the Club bar, hall or office. This does not happen automatically.

I want to take this opportunity to thank Deirdre O'Donovan for her continued commitment in updating the monitor on a weekly basis.

Conor Sheehan

## Set Dancing and Ceile Year 2016

The Céile which is supported by set dancers across Dublin and from as far away as Wexford was started by Séan Flynn and his wife Myra over 35 years ago and is still going strong.

The sets are called by Ann O'Donnell who has been doing it for over 35 years with great enthusiasm. The Céile team is comprised of Joe Purcell, Dan Brown Barry Hines and myself. Séan Bonner and Fintan

McMahon help out when needed too. Eileen O'Brien, Ann McNulty and Ann Hogan do the tea at the interval, thanks to them.

The set dancers would like to wish Joe Purcell a speedy recovery from his recent illness and hope to see him back soon. I would like to thank Mick Farrell our bar manager and his staff for all their help during the year.

Tommy O'Brien.

The Club Lotto is an integral part of the Club finances and we really need every member to support it where possible. Unfortunately subscriber numbers have fallen this year despite the best efforts of the lotto committee. We would like to appeal to all club members to join in 2017, it really is great value and the jackpot prizes can be substantial. There are also prizes for matching 3 numbers.

The biggest plus though is knowing that your contribution will help put teams on pitches and enable our great club to continue to provide an unequalled platform for your friends and families to enjoy Gaelic Games in a safe and rewarding environment. Lotto can be played online, by direct debit, or by using the envelopes that are always available in the club bar.

The current lotto started up this year in early July. Currently we have 440 members and we would like to sincerely thank all of you for your support. Come down to the club any Sunday night (except bank holidays), sign up and help support the main fundraising efforts of the club.

We would like to thank Joe McCall from Byrne & McCall Accountants and Tax Advisers for their generous sponsorship again this year.

## Lotto Report 2016



Pictured is one of our 2016 Jackpot winners Ann Quinn who won €3,000!

Sponsored by

**Byrne & McCall**  
Accountants and Tax Advisers



## Boden went to the dogs...



**Thanks for your support.**



## Communications Report

Sinéad Ryan



2016 was a great year for Ballyboden St.Enda's GAA club and an especially busy one for the communications team! Heading into 2016 - it was certainly different to any other normal year as we had to prepare for the All Ireland Club Football Semi Finals for our Senior Men's Footballers. The communications team, along with the football management, organised player profiles, statistics from each of the games in the lead up to the All Ireland Semi finals, professional photographs of the team & an overview of how the Senior Footballers have reached the All Ireland Semi Finals. There was a lot of correspondence to the many different areas within the media, the main All Ireland Club sponsors, Ballyboden St.Enda's sponsors, the GAA and most of all the Ballyboden St.Enda's players. When our Senior Footballers reached the All Ireland Club Finals, the media presence increased and the communications team organised a media night in the club house for all the national media. This was a great success and a great way to advertise the club. A big thank you to all the footballers, the management, to Mick Farrell and all the staff in the club for their help. St.Patrick's Day was a great day for Ballyboden St.Enda's. Fans arrived in Croke Park dressed in blue, crested Boden hats, scarves and flags were in abundance and when the footballers overcame Castlebar Mitchels all the hard work put in by everyone in the club paid off... We celebrated this historic occasion with a medal ceremony in the club in June which was a great success.



The senior footballers weren't the only successful team in the club this year, the minor and senior hurlers were successful in the hurling league and the Leinster league, the camogie ladies won the shield and the Minor championship, our ladies football section triumphed with the U16 Championship and the U15 hurlers and footballers continued their success in both the league and the Championship. All of the above are only some of the victories from Ballyboden St.Enda's in 2016. Each match/event is documented by the relevant PRO of the particular section with reports and photographs and each Sunday night this information is mailed to media across the county and country. This is a huge task by all the team and is greatly appreciated by the different journalists that receive all the match reports, photographs and event details.

With over 120 teams in the club it is also important that we continue our weekly newsletter. Our newsletter is distributed to over 3,200 people with many of our overseas members loving an update on what is happening at home. From our academy section with Brian and Paul each week to Santa recently visiting the club ahead of Christmas - everything is in our newsletter. Cathy Murray has recently stepped down from the editors position on the communications committee and we thank her for all her work over the last number of years. Ballyboden St.Enda's also has Facebook, twitter and Youtube pages. Over the last year with the different successes in the club - our social media pages have become very important to members, media and players.

Subscribe to our newsletter at [newsletter@bodengaa.ie](mailto:newsletter@bodengaa.ie)

Check out our website at [www.bodengaa.ie](http://www.bodengaa.ie)

Facebook at [www.facebook.com/BodenGAA](http://www.facebook.com/BodenGAA)

Twitter page at [www.twitter.com/Bodengaa](http://www.twitter.com/Bodengaa)

#bodengaa

We do hope you have picked up your copy of the Ballyboden St.Enda's Club Calendar 2017, a special club publication, like the Boden News, which the communications team puts a lot of work into and produces for you, our club members.



Finally, thank you to everyone on the communications committee, Cliona Mellet, Neil Buckingham, Eamonn Treacy, Ronan Feely, Cathal O'Toole, Alan Kinsella, Cathy Murray, Shane O'Brien, Gerry Mahon & of course Chairman Brendan Moran. Thanks to all our match reporters and photographers who have worked with us throughout the year, your input is invaluable and greatly appreciated.



## Senior Citizens Christmas Party

Tommy Clinton

Another great success and 16 years a winner! Our annual Senior Citizens Christmas party was again very well attended in 2016.



Many thanks to Mick Farrell and his staff and all helpers on the day, in particular those who donated and supported events in the fundraising for this event throughout the year. Many thanks to our A team, Dan Browne & John Fair.

Last, but not least, a very special thanks to Paddy Brady for his excellent food on the day.



Gerry Hogan, Tommy Clinton & Dan Browne



John & Iris Kirwan



Peter Rodgers, Danny Griffin & Pat Walsh



## Camogie Report 2016

Ronan Feely



### Senior

The year did not turn out as planned for the A Team although they still succeeded in winning the Cup and Shield against Lucan and Ballinteer respectively. A tough draw in the Championship left us in a group with St.Vincents, Lucan and St. Brigid's which led to an early exit after a narrow defeat in the 2nd match v St.Vincents. The effort and application was immense in this defeat and was carried through to the Shield Final.

2016 was a learning curve for the B team. They performed consistently throughout the Division 3 League and the Cup, finishing in 3rd position in both. However with a smaller number of U16's moving to the adult ranks than in previous years and also some girls playing up with the A team, this meant that numbers were tight throughout the year. The season ended with a relegation play-off where they defeated Good Counsel to maintain their Divisional status.

The C and D teams also found it tough between getting numbers out and also facing very strong opposition. They fought hard, improved their skills and will hope for a better 2017.

### Minor

The Camogie year finished in great style with an historic win for the Minor A Girls in the Division 1 final against a strong and skilful St.Vincents side on a crisp December morning. The core of this talented group completed a clean sweep of juvenile victories - following up a Feile title at under 14 with the U16 division 1 Championship and now they have brought the Division 1 Minor Championship title to Ballyboden for the first time in our history. Maith sibh. A great sign for the future of the club and hopefully an inspiration for the younger players coming behind them.

At the end of an enthralling final as players from both sides gathered, thoughts turned to the real 'family' nature of Dublin Camogie. The Minor A Championship trophy is named after Orla Quill, a young Cuala player who tragically passed away last year. Orla's father Fintan spoke very well and movingly before presenting the Cup to the Boden captain Ciara O'Neill. At such times the real value of friendships born through sport are clear.



### Under 15 & 16

Having won the Dublin Championship and Feile in 2015, most of the "2001" girls moved straight to U16, where they were joined by a small number of "2000" girls. We fielded two U16 teams and an U15D team.

The 16A team just missed out on qualification for the Division 1 league semi-final. Then in the Championship they narrowly missed out on a final place by a point against a highly fancied Faugh's. The 16B team consisted almost exclusively of U15 players and they performed admirably throughout the year. The league was tough, as they adjusted to competing against older girls, but they improved as the year went on, and did well in the Championship to qualify for the Shield final.

The U15 team competed in Division 4 of the league and in the D championship. The league performances were mixed, but the team was improving steadily and in the championship they overcame Raheny, Faugh's, Ballinteer and Fingallians, thus topping the group and qualifying for the final.

In the final, they faced a determined Faugh's team in Blanchardstown, but the girls played exceptionally well on the day to emerge victorious.



U16A Team



U15 Team



### **Under 14**

2016 was a very busy and enjoyable year for the U14 squad. Some new mentors came on board and their primary focus was on player improvement and to build upon the great structure and foundation work put in place by Tony in previous seasons.

Some highlights of the year included the Feile which was hosted by Ballyboden, it was great to see large crowds out to support the girls and really show the strength behind the current camogie section. A final league victory away to Lucan was the team's highlight on the field with a great performance full of heart, determination and team effort.

The year ended without silverware and lots of 'what might have been' but the group improved massively over the course of the year and they have lots more to offer the club in the coming years. Always respectful, they represented their team and the club extremely well and every game was both enjoyable and competitive which was the ultimate aim.



### **Under 13**

2016 was the first year of competitive camogie for our 2003 girls, and it proved to be a very enjoyable and successful year for all of the girls. We fielded 2 teams in both league and championship with some help from the 2004 girls.

The A team operated in Division 1 of the league and also were in the A championship. The girls managed to turn around narrow defeats by Kilmacud Crokes and Na Fianna in the league to victories in the Championship leading eventually to a victory in the Championship Final against St.Judes.

The B team operated in Division 4 of the league and in the D championship. The team endured some hard matches throughout the league, but regrouped for Championship and did brilliantly to reach the final. In the final, they were pipped by a strong Brigids team. Nevertheless, they can be so proud of what was a brilliant culmination to their year.



### **Under 12**

We finished the year with 55 girls actively involved which, whilst down 6 on 2015, meant we managed to compete with 4, 11 a-side teams all year.

Highlights of the year included the Mini All Ireland Blitz in June at the clubhouse, and our participation in the Club's 1916 Commemoration celebrations. This included an opportunity in April to take part in a Centenary Blitz in St.Enda's Park against other invited clubs including Raheny, Kilmacud Crokes and Faugh's. We were also delighted that 14 of our girls got to play in Croke Park during the summer against clubs from Antrim, Cork and Galway. Hopefully not the last time some of our girls grace the hallowed turf!

### **Under 11**

The Under 11 camogie team continue to improve and develop. The early season Blitzes were followed by the 3 team league format games later in the year. Each of these games provided a good test for the Boden girls but they acquitted themselves very well.

The first game against St Olaf's is worthy of mention as it was played in St.Enda's as part of the 1916 commemoration day, this was a special occasion with all players and mentors receiving a special memento of the occasion. It was great to be part of a unique occasion with a distinct Rathfarnham connection.



### **Under 10**

We started back in January and our numbers were generally high at training every Monday night, regardless of the weather conditions. We had 4 teams competing each week in Go Games and had a number of very competitive matches against Lucan, Plunketts, Ballinteer and Good Council etc. They were extremely competitive & the girls showed exceptional skills during all of the blitzes.

After the summer break we settled back into our routine of training & matches, with some competitive fixtures, the girls again excelling in all the Go Game blitzes. After the summer break we recruited an additional 12-14 girls which boosted our numbers to 62 girls & we have managed to average 55 girls at training since September. The new arrivals have injected an additional energy into training & also boosted our four Go Games teams.

### **Under 9**

This year's under 9 group took their first steps beyond the academy in January of this year, and are well on their journey along the pathway through the juvenile ranks.

We began the year with 70 girls and we are delighted to say that we have gained a few since then so we will close out the year with 74. Training for this group took place every Saturday morning on the hockey pitch at Sancta Maria, and each week we had over 50 girls turning up, come rain or shine. Training sessions followed the "games based" model which has proven to be very popular with the group and judging by the progress being made in our matches, it is proving to be a very effective approach as well. All in all, our 6 teams played 28 go games blitzes as well as numerous challenges and internal blitzes during the year where every girl got to play.



## Away Days!

Aside from all of the commitment that our girls show to their sport during the year, there is another part of the year that is always looked back on with fondness, as a highlight by both girls and mentors alike – the trips away. These trips are great opportunities for the girls to bond by doing something different together, meet different people, see different places and have a bit of fun along the way.

This year the trips included a day out in Greystones for the U15/16s where a training session and long walks were followed by much appreciated ice creams by the seaside. These girls had another excursion into the Phoenix Park later in the summer where some fitness training was punctuated by a picnic in the sunshine and a bike ride around the park. This just proves that the trip doesn't need to be a long distance away to be enjoyed by all. Both U13s and U11s separately visited Kilkenny. The U13s played matches and then attended a motivational presentation by famous Kilkenny hurler Michael Rice.

The U11s also played matches and they then paid a visit to Kilkenny Castle where a tour of the castle was followed by an opportunity for all the players and mentors to hold the Liam McCarthy Cup. Needless to say, both groups received great local hospitality from their hosts which is always something to look forward to on these trips. To be fair, this hospitality is always matched when the tables are turned and we are the hosts. This year the U15/16s, U13s and U10s all welcomed visiting teams to Ballyboden.

For the U12s, it was a trip to St. Martins GAA Club just outside Wexford town where Football and Camogie matches were followed by a stop off at Curracloe beach (pictured) where, truth be told, the girls had the most fun of the day, splashing in the sea and racing each other up and down the sand dunes.

In late September, many of the girls across the age groups headed into Croke Park to support the Dublin Ladies Football team. Then the final bonding sessions of the year were the Christmas parties with the most adventurous being the U10's and U11's who combined to bring 100+ girls to Jumpzone in Sandyford.

All in all a great year was had by all on these excursions. Special thanks to the mentors who organised the days out with everything from bus hire to opposition, local attractions to food stops along with the obligatory quiz questions and prizes. Also thanks to the extra parents for helping out on the away days.

***We look forward to many more "Away Days" in 2017!***



## Final Note

For all teams, a special mention to the mentors who help through the year and in particular to the Senior, Minor and U16 girls who help out at training across various age groups. Any message or tip given out by one of these girls is far more important to the juveniles than wisdom imparted by the elderly mentors!

Off the pitch 2017 will have a new look to it for Boden Camogie. After countless years of hard work and utter dedication Gerry White has finally escaped 'Committee life'. Gerry's contribution to Ballyboden Camogie has been immense. No one was ever quite sure what hat he wore – Chairman, Secretary or Treasurer – in reality he covered all three at once in recent years!



Words can scarcely do justice to Gerry's contribution – he went about his task quietly (except pitchside) and he kept a low profile but anyone connected with the camogie section knows well what a talented, hardworking and sincere clubman he is. He will be sorely missed from the section management – we wish him well as he gets to know his family again!!



## Cian Durkin 10th Year Tournament

### The Third Policeman

The Cian Durkin U15 Hurling Tournament has been played for the last 10 years at Ballyboden St Endas to honour the memory of a great corner forward.

*What better way to honour a hurler but by hurling!*

More than 100 hurlers gathered from Ballyboden, Athenry, Castlecomer, Naas and Mallow. James Stephen's had to pull out at the last minute so Ballyboden divided their resources and played two even teams. The hurling was of a high standard and at times heated, red & yellow cards, rows on the line but no hard feelings ..and so it should be. Hurling needs to be hot and passionate.

Naas beat the loyal and gallant Mallow in the plate final. Ballyboden managed to draw with themselves in the shield final in a match that will be remembered for the friendly flaking and hitting off the ball. Athenry beat Erin's Own in the Cup Final in a high quality game with the magnificent Quirke of Athenry awarded Player of the Tournament.

Cian was much more than just a hurler, he was also part of a loving family, a friend of many and a member of a great club and community. May Bank Holiday Monday, a community gathered to honour Cian's memory, by hurling, nurturing with tea and sandwiches and buns and cake, volunteering as linesmen, umpires and car park attendants, making speeches and drinking pints. As always the day was tinged with sadness and perhaps so it should be. But there was also joy and fun and craic and laughter.

Cian's mother Tara was absent from this years tournament as the family delightfully welcomed a beautiful healthy baby Danny as little brother to Cian and Avalilly. Maybe this is what life is all about...

remembering and honouring hurlers who've left us for what they've given us and for what we've learnt from them, hurling as hard as we can in the present, within the arms of a community, hurling now as a gift to the hurlers of the future. It is the duty of the living to remember and honour those who've past.

On May Bank Holiday Monday 2016 in Ballyboden, Naas, Athenry, Castlecomer and Mallow, Cian Durkin was remembered and honoured.





## Hannah Hyland – Dual Player

**Name** - Hannah Hyland

**Age** - 18

**Position** - I'll play anywhere but goals

**Occupation** - Student

**Childhood Sports memory** - An U10 championship final in the lashing rain. We were hammered, our only score came from a dodgy kick that lobbed their goalie!

**Favourite Sportsperson** - Henry Shefflin

**Who's the poser on the Boden Team** - The Nagles (they love a nice picture at brunch)

**Who's the messer on the Boden Team** - Eve O'Donoghue

**Describe the 2016 season in three words** - Ups and downs

**Who do you think is a star to watch in Boden** - Michaela Fitzpatrick

**Any tips for young up and coming stars** - Practice, practice, practice and don't forget to enjoy it all. The memories from sport are hard to replicate anywhere else.

**What would you like to be remembered as** - As someone who gave it their all for the team and played a part in winning a Camogie and Ladies Football Club All Ireland medal



## Matty Weldon - Senior Hurler

**Name** - Matty Weldon

**Age** - 27

**Position** - Midfield

**Occupation** - Jeweller

**Childhood Sports memory** - Playing the Feile final V Vincents in Parnell Park

**Favourite Sportsperson** - Gary Maguire

**Who's the poser on the Boden Team** - Finn McGarry, though Kenny Wigglesworth gets an honourable mention!

**Who's the messer on the Boden Team** - Paul Ryan. Where do you start.....

**Describe the 2016 season in three words** - Better to come

**Who do you think is a star to watch in Boden** - James Holland and Malachy Codd

**Any tips for young up and coming stars** - Master the basic skills and be a specialist in at least one other skill. Working hard goes without saying!

**What would you like to be remembered as** - Part of the first BBSE hurling team to win an All Ireland.



# Boden Player Profiles

## James Rusk - 2005 Dual Player

**Name** - James Rusk

**Team** - 2005 Football and Hurling

**Age** - 11

**Favourite food** - Pizza

**Favourite music** - Panda

**Favourite book** - Cherub Class A

**Favourite grounds** - Croke Park

**Greatest sporting moment of 2016** - Playing for Dublin hurlers in Friendship Games

**Biggest disappointment** - School not making it to Croke Park in 2016

**Favourite Footballer / Hurler** - Michael Darragh MacAuley / Stephen Hiney

**Favourite Other Sportsman** - Russell Wilson, Seattle Seahawks QB

**Toughest opponents** - Crokes

**Hobbies** - Fishing, hanging with my friends, Reading, American Football

**Pet hates** - Players giving out to the ref



## Sarah Buckingham - Ladies Football

**Name** - Sarah Buckingham

**Age** - 18

**Position** - Forward

**Occupation** - Student

**Childhood Sports memory** - Winning the Under 13 championship, we grew up that day!

**Favourite Sportsperson** - Andy Murray

**Who's the poser on the Boden Team** - Jenny Flaherty

**Who's the messer on the Boden Team** - Avril Flood

**Describe the 2016 season in three words** - Didn't meet expectations

**Who do you think is a star to watch in Boden** - Emily Flanagan / Beth Molloy

**Any tips for young up and coming stars** - Work hard, it will pay off in the end and there's no excuse for not training!

**What would you like to be remembered as** - As a good solid club player who always gave her all





## The Boden Sessions 2016

Owen McLoughlin

The Seisiún Ceoil in Ballyboden St. Endas is a terrific addition to the area. The choice of the last Monday of the month is inspired as, invariably, that's a free night for many people otherwise busily engaged. To watch its steady growth has been amazing, from a low key night in the early days to a full house last Monday! It is extremely sociable and I have gotten to know many people from all areas of the club and community. The variety of the performances are fantastic, from amhráin as gaeilge to traditional ballad-singing to original poetry/drama to the amazing 'saw' playing of John Gearty. From seanchaí storytelling to modern Irish dance to traditional set-dancing! Musicians include recorded artists and beginners playing fiddles, accordions, guitars, whistles, recorders, clarinet, keyboard and the odd 'saw'! With Joe Johnston as maestro there is a great cohesion to the event. Joe keeps it going regardless of numbers present and always has a full list of performers. It is not 'purist' and all levels of ability are encouraged. The Boden Balladeers are ever present and there are links to the Boden Theatre Group, Ballinteer Male Voice Choir and the Ballyroan Community Centre team and a very slick troupe of local set dancers. The event is growing exponentially with 2017 bound to be just as tremendously successful. Kick off is 9:30pm which allows people to drop in as late as suits and 'on the night' performers are welcome to participate.

All in all a monthly event to be looked forward to.



Calling singers and dancers, musicians and chancers,  
And all those who just want to hear,  
With Annette's dancing lessons and Joe's Boden Sessions,  
Sure the craic'll be mighty next year.

Eddie Comerford



## Easter Schools of Excellence

Paul McLoughlin & Brian O'Regan



Once again Ballyboden St. Enda's Easter Schools of Excellence took place in 2016 over the Easter Holidays for players from our U12-U14 teams. Brilliantly attended once more, there were over 150 boys and girls from our Camogie, Hurling, Ladies Football, & Football teams who took part over the course of 4 days.

The School of Excellence was overseen by Club Coaches Brian O'Regan & Paul McLoughlin and with great support from over 12 of our top young adult coaches all of whom have vast experience and are active coaches with teams in the club. A huge thanks to all the team mentors who promoted it so well and to the players that attended!!



## Boden Theatre Group Review 2016

Carol Fitzmaurice

2016 has been another busy and successful year for the Boden Theatre Group. We were delighted to be involved with the club's 1916 Centenary Programme and worked on an original production called "A Terrible Beauty Is Born". The production was a culmination of many weeks of planning and writing by a small committee within the group as well as months of rehearsals by the group as a whole. The original scenes written by group members were interspersed with famous speeches, songs and poetry about the 1916 Rising and we were lucky to have so many talented musicians come on board to really bring the show to life with live music.

The play focused on the 7 signatories who played a pivotal role in The Rising and it also explored the effect that The Rising had on ordinary people living in Dublin. The play was a sell out for 3 nights in April and due to popular demand, returned for another night in June.





The Boden Theatre Group performed Declan O'Brien's much loved "Sapien Summer" just before the European Championships in June. We would like to sincerely thank all who came to see the show and gave so generously towards the raffle for an Ireland jersey. There was €690 raised on the night and all the proceeds went to South Dublin Special Olympics.



This year we also had the pleasure of honouring Sean Flynn and the contribution he has made to our group since we were founded over 10 years ago. Sean has been involved in amateur dramatics for over 60 years and we have been lucky to have such an experienced and professional player in our group. Sean took on the role of reading the iconic Yeats poem "A Terrible Beauty Is Born" during our 1916 production and we look forward to his continued involvement for many years to come.



Our third production of 2016 was the second original production by the group which contained a lot of live music. This has been an amazing development and has showcased the depth of creative talent within our group. Once again, a small committee met to plan a show that gave a flavour of Christmas through drama, poetry, song and comedy. The shows on the 7th and 8th December were both sell-outs, and got us all in the mood for Christmas! And in true festive spirit, all proceeds from the show went directly to The Capuchin Day Centre For Homeless People.



We would like to thank all the people who work behind the stage. The success of each production depends on them as they are an integral part of our group. Thank you to the musicians who joined us for the spring and winter productions. Their talent has really brought our shows to life this year. Thank you to Scoil Treasa who provided us with rehearsal space throughout the year. Thank you to the club executive and bar management for their continued support. Most importantly, we would like to thank our loyal audiences because without an audience there is no show.







**CMRF**  
**CRUMLIN**



Every sick child deserves every chance

## CMRF CHRISTMAS APPEAL

Martin O'Donnell

The O'Donnell family would like to thank all who helped make this such a special day for the children on the Heart Unit in Crumlin Childrens Hospital. The generosity from all in such an amazing club like Ballyboden St Endas has blown us away. Santa was arranged to be there to help with the passing out of the presents.

From newborn babies in critical condition up to early teens, it is indeed a very special unit. Both children and their parents were so grateful for all the kind gifts. There was even time for some friendly banter when our Boden tops were spotted. We met parents from the wider Gaelic community, Ballinteer St John's, Plunketts and Lucan Sarsfields. We really do have very little to complain about when you see what they are going through, knowing that their sick child will be spending Christmas in hospital. Santa was very generous with his time and spent time with each family and child.

I'd like to give a special thanks to Paul McLoughlin who raised the huge sum of €615 through the Academy section within the club. An official presentation was made by myself on behalf of Ballyboden St Endas and was gratefully received by the Heart Unit. It will go to a very special cause. Thanks also to Neil Buckingham for his help in the advertising and his design work. Thanks to Mick Farrell for all his work around the club, a great help.

Finally, a big thanks to Sinead Ryan and the Executive Committee for their support in getting this off the ground. Maybe this could be an annual event going forward. Every little helps. Go raibh míle, míle maith agaibh.





# The Academy

Paul McLoughlin & Brian O'Regan

2016 was another brilliant year for all those involved in Ballyboden St. Enda's Academy. The Academy is where our 6 & 7 year olds are introduced to the club for the first time and are given an opportunity to play Gaelic Games in a fun and safe environment. This year, thanks to a combination of hugely dedicated coaches and lots of fun activities, the number of children playing in Ballyboden's academy has never been bigger!!

There were so many highlights during the year - Fun Days, Blitz matches, Senior Player visits and a super Santa Fun Run at the end of the year which raised over €600 for Crumlin Children's Hospital. The main highlight though is hearing the noise levels of kids having fun and seeing the number of children with smiles on their faces after playing in St. Enda's Pk (Hermitage), Knocklyon Pk (Ballycullen) and Cherryfield (Clubhouse) every Saturday morning!!

Huge thanks to our Academy coaches with special mention to our head coaches in each Academy - Mary Hyland (Hermitage), Brendan Ryan (Ballycullen), Sean O'Toole (PUM Girls), Seamus Vaughan & Aidan Hore (PUM 2010 Boys) and Brendan Ryan (PUM 2009 Boys). Also thanks to all those who help in any way on Saturday mornings, be it making tea and scones, or putting helmets on kids!!

A special thanks to Sean Moran & Cathy Orr of TJ O'Mahony for their continued sponsorship of Ballyboden's Academy. Your help is greatly appreciated.

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Again we have been very lucky to have the continued use of the excellent Indoor Facilities in St Colmcilles N.S, so huge thanks as usual to the schools for their assistance here.

A final thanks to all the Academy Parents for encouraging your children to be active and to play for Ballyboden St Endas. We hope they all are enjoying the experience of being part of a special club!!





# Summer Camp 2016

Paul McLoughlin & Brian O'Regan



Just when we thought that Ballyboden St.Enda's Academy couldn't be bettered Summer Camp 2016 arrived!! The biggest number of children ever attended this year's camp and the combination of super weather and brilliant coaching staff made this year's camp one of the most enjoyable ever. Every child received Ballyboden Kit, a bag and a wristband, but most of all they got to play GAA for the Summer, got to make new friends and have an amazing time in a safe and fun environment!

Great memories were created for all the children with Raffles, Player Visits, Skill Games, Fun Games, Mini league matches, Day Trips, Fancy Dress matches, Water Fights and superb coaching from our excellent staff!! Over 70 of our young coaches were employed during the 5 weeks of Camp. All of the activities were co-ordinated by our full time coaches Paul McLoughlin & Brian O'Regan.

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A huge thanks to Eoin O'Riordan of Leahy & Co. Accountants and Jack Nolan of Cruinn Diagnostics for their sponsorship of the Summer Camp, and of course to all the parents and children who helped make the camp so successful.

Ballyboden Summer Camp continues to be a special place for our local children to have Fun and Craic during the Summer months of July & August each year!!





## Coaching & Games Executive Report

Brian O'Regan & Paul McLoughlin

A busy Coaching & Games year was kicked off with an excellent seminar led by former GAA Hurling Director Paudie Butler. The title of Paudie's presentation was "Developing Confident & Competent Children". There was a great attendance from across the four sections at the presentation and everyone who coaches Children, Youth or Adults was able to take away something to improve their coaching methods. A similar presentation can be found on the link below.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NYZ56CJsTRw>



Paudie Butler with Brian, Paul and Terry O'Neill

Increasing numbers joining the club has seen an increase in parents and young players getting involved in coaching. During the year there were two very well attended Foundation Award Courses & Child Protection courses for new mentors and also an Award One Child Course for those involved in mentoring Go-Games teams. It is vital that coaches take the time out to upskill themselves and work their way up along the coaching ladder as set out by the GAA.



Award One Child Course 2016

Along with the standard Coaching Courses there were numerous coaching workshops held both in the club and around the county by the County Boards Coaching & Games department. Well done to all the coaches who took the time out to attend these courses.

The "Coaching the Boden Way" programme, a games based approach to coaching, is now up and running with all Go-Games teams across the four codes. The Mentors of these teams are the ones driving this along with gusto. Giving children the opportunity to play games both at training and on match days really adds to the enjoyment levels for the children and leads to improvement in skills and game sense. A really good clip to emphasise this can be found on the link below from New Zealand Rugby

<http://www.the42.ie/brent-anderson-new-zealand-rugby-kids-3035464-Oct2016/>

This year we carried out Athletic Development workshops with the minor boys teams as well as screening and monitoring their individual workloads during the peak part of the season. Intermediate Footballer and Sports Surgery Clinic Physio Eamon O'Reilly led this pilot project. It is hoped the results from the load monitoring programme can be used to assist other teams in 2017. Also in January an Athletic Development Coaching workshop took place with all our U13-U16 mentors which gave them the skills to implement programmes within their respective teams.

Finally the Coaching & Games Development Plan will be issued at the start of 2017 which will outline all the major projects and events coming up during the year. The plan will be made available to all the sections and will be accessible on the Club website in January.

Many thanks to all the coaches who attended the various club workshops and county board workshops during the past year and to all our club mentors for their continued commitment to player development and for all their efforts during 2016.



Minor Boys Athletic Workshop 2016



Foundation Course 2016



## Football Report 2016

Eoin Dunne



2016 was a fantastic year for football in Ballyboden. Pride of place must, of course, go to the Senior footballers who after a very successful Dublin and Leinster campaign went all the way to All Ireland glory on St.Patrick's Day. But it was also an excellent year for our Intermediate footballers, as well as our two

Junior teams, who were in the mix right up until the final day of their respective league campaigns. Our minor teams also performed very well, and will help to provide the next generation of players and hopefully more success.

Our All Ireland win was a tremendous achievement for the Senior team and the Club and was an occasion which will last long in our memories. The build up to the final was truly wonderful and showed the true spirit of Ballyboden. The commitment and effort of all sections helped to make it a wonderful occasion and thanks is due to everybody from the Executive down and across all sections in what was huge club effort. Thanks must also go to the many sponsors whose generosity ensured that the team was well prepared for the Leinster and All Ireland campaigns. Thanks also to the many people who contributed to the fundraising through the Lotto promotion.

### Senior Football - AFL 1

After a fantastic end to 2015 which saw us win the Dublin Senior Championship for the third time and the Leinster title for the first time, the focus switched to Clonmel Commercials in the All Ireland semi-final. With just three minutes remaining, we were down to 14 men and trailed by three points but the team refused to give up and managed to take the game to extra time with three unanswered scores in the remaining minutes, the last being an inspirational point from Captain Darragh Nelson. With a huge impact from the subs, Ballyboden completely dominated extra time to qualify for the All Ireland Final.

On the biggest day of the year for club footballers, Boden blew the hot favourites Castlebar Mitchels away with a display of breathless football. Nine points up inside 15 minutes, Boden never eased up and won by 2-14 to 0-7 to capture the club's first Senior Men's All Ireland Title. It was a perfect performance in the sunshine in Croke Park. Those days and the few weeks that followed will live long in the memories of the players and supporters.

There are a number of notable things that stand out about the 2016 squad

- All of the 15 who started in the final except "Big Papa" in goals came through the Ballyboden Juvenile system
- 34 out of 38 of the squad in the final came through the Ballyboden Juvenile system
- 11 of the 20 who played in the final were 25 or under

This is a great credit to the many volunteers, mentors and local teachers who gave their time for many years to develop these players. It was also fantastic to see many players who had given over 15 years service to the club win an All-Ireland title together. The defence of the title started in April with a win over St.Olafs. Unfortunately, it ended in early October when the team lost to Kilmacud Crokes who were the better team on the day.

However the year ended on a high as the team that simply refused to be beaten in the All Ireland campaign, dug deep once again to finish the League out as Division 1 champions, after great wins over Kilmacud and St.Judes.

**A great way to finish a magnificent year for the club..!!**

### 2016 Football Managers

Senior	Andy McEntee
Intermediate	Shane Brooks
Junior A	Noel Madden
Junior B	Martin O'Donnell
Minor A	Dan O'Sullivan
Minor B	Peter Shovlin
Minor C	Cathal O'Toole
Under 21	Noel Madden

The team reports below will give a good indication of the performances across all our football teams during the year, and I would like to acknowledge the huge commitment and effort made by all of the teams managers listed above, their coaches, mentors, supporters and of course the players for their efforts during the year.

The AFL1 league win in early December marked the end of Andy McEntee's reign as Senior football manager, as he takes up the Meath senior job. Andy will always have the thanks and best wishes of every member of Ballyboden St.Enda's for what he has helped us to achieve. But life goes on, and in Andy's successor, John O'Brien, we believe that have the person with the right skills, qualities and ambition to help us achieve our next goal – to build upon our recent successes to further strengthen and develop football in Ballyboden St. Enda's.





## Intermediate Football - AFL3

The Intermediate footballers 2016 season started in January in the middle of the Seniors drive for All Ireland victory. With a big crossover of players between both teams, this was a fantastic time for all of the players involved.

The fitness and strength gained by the players during this period gave us a huge initial boost. Our aims for the season after promotion last year was to consolidate in AFL3 while still continuing to blood young players and to compete to win the Inter Championship when the full squad was available. AFL3, a very strong league, presented this young squad with good hard challenges. With player unavailability a key issue, the management of player resources proved challenging but the team targeted specific games along the way and picked up the necessary points to keep far away from trouble and continue to provide a platform for good young players to develop. A good number of these young lads pushed on to get some senior game time which showed the value of both teams working together in a structured way.

Our main aim was to win the Inter championship. With returning players and a much stronger squad available we had high hopes. A very good 2nd round win v St. Brigids set us up for a quarter final in September v Naomh Fionnbarra. However despite some good performances and no lack of desire we lost out to a strong team. Luck went missing on the day, losing players to injury and missing some chances that lads would normally take. Disappointed yes, but proud of the players efforts. With a very young squad, improvement will come and no doubt other chances to go further.



## Junior B Football - AFL9

The Junior B's had an excellent season culminating in promotion to AFL8. Our targets were to get promotion and go all the way in the Championship...we aim high you know! We made it as far as the semi final in the championship and played a very strong Naomh Olafs team. The team gave it their all, played some excellent football but unfortunately lost on the day.

Our season could have ended there but we still had a job to do in the league. At the start of our league campaign we were unlucky to lose three of our first four games. The team responded in the proper manner and went on a long run of wins, losing only once in the final run in – a testament to their mental strength. Our semi-final playoff was away to St. Oliver Plunketts. A very tough encounter for us but the lads were excellent and we got our win. We were drawn to play away against Round Towers of Lusk in the final. It was a cracking encounter with great football from both sides. Our defence was going to be key for us, the work rate was going to have to be high from all. We ran out winners 1-8 to 0-9. Promotion is just reward for all the panels' hard work since January last.

We now look forward to our season in AFL8 and will look to keep the momentum going in 2017. Pre-season is already set for early January and I know that the panel are raring to go.

## Junior A Football - AFL5

A successful year for the Junior A footballers. The management team of Noel Madden, Neil Brennan, and Don Carolan shared a common objective of bringing through younger players in the club while at the same time remaining competitive in league Division 5 with older experienced players adding their value. As a squad, we set an ambitious goal of gaining promotion.

The early stages of the Conlon cup in February was also used to maximise squad participation. The league proper started at the end of February in which we secured 7 wins and 2 draws. We also beat Nh. Mearnog and Man O'War in the Junior A championship to qualify for the semi-final.

Things were really going well but then issue of player availability hit the panel hard. 3 losses in the next 4 league games and losing to a Div. 4 Kilmacud Crokes team in the semi-final of the championship (a winnable game) and suddenly all the great work and progress in the season was starting to unravel.

But this squad is made of stern stuff, and a renewed focus and energy returned to training sessions and a pivotal game in the league against Ballinteer went our way 0-18 to 0-14. We were now in the league promotion playoffs and a fantastic performance against a strong Templeogue Synge Street 2-12 to 2-9 in Dolphins Barn meant we qualified for the league playoff final against Thomas Davis. In a fantastic game of football, the younger Ballyboden team stood up to the challenge and led for most of the game but when Thomas Davis landed a point with the last kick of the game, it came down to extra-time where we were edged out by 2 points. On balance, over the year, the clear majority of our players have developed their abilities and their attitude in training and games has been excellent. A couple of players will move up to the Intermediate/Senior football panel in 2017, which is success in itself, and we look forward to a new crop of minor footballers coming through from 2016.





## Minor A football

In the year that we became All Ireland Club Champions we started the year with high hopes of doing well, even of winning the Championship. Unfortunately results did not turn out that way and we again see that winning Championships is "a game of inches". We were beaten in two championship games where the score difference was minus 3 points against us, two games where we kicked 24 wides! Our opponents in one of those games were Clontarf, the eventual winners. We were beaten by them by one point on their home ground. So close and yet so far..!!

In the League campaign, the core issues of unavailability of key players due to County commitments, injuries and the demands of playing both codes came very much to the fore. We had a good start and finish to the League campaign, with some notable wins, but a run of 6 losses in the middle of the year put paid to our hopes of silverware. However we had a squad of very talented and committed young men, who will provide a significant addition to the adult ranks in the months and years to come.



## Minor B Football

The team competed in Division 3 and performed really well considering the team was mainly comprised of U17's with only 4/5 U18's. A slow start to the league saw us lose four of the first five league games, but then things began to come together as player availability improved and we won five league games on the trot beating Na Fianna, Temp/Synge St, Crokes, St Anne's & Parnells and put up very impressive scores of 4-17, 3-18, 2-14, 0-13 & 3-17. We finished mid-table in the league.

So come Championship time the team were flying and they showed it in three really tight games beating Craobh Chiaran by 1 pt, losing to Na Fianna by 2 pts and in a final play-off game v Erin's Isle were extremely unlucky to lose by just the minimum after a stormer of a game in which the lads gave their all.

This team will form the nucleus of next year's Minor A team and it is safe to say we can look forward to some great games.

## Minor C Football

Warm up games in January prepared us well for the league and what a start! Three wins on the bounce absolutely instilled a belief in the team of their ability. The standard of football in Division 5 was impressive and competitive. Hopes were high as the league went on but some narrow losses followed by a significant setback against St.Catherines meant we headed into the summer break in mid-table. For reasons best known to the CCC the league fizzled out as what was originally intended to be a 14 game league (8 teams playing each other twice) ended up as a single round.

Still we waited for the championship draw in the knowledge that in a round robin group of 4 we stood a good chance of coming out as either first or second. In our group of 4 was St.Catherines (a single team made up Erin go Bragh and Westmanstown Gaels) with only one team to go through. A disappointing decision by the CCC but nonetheless we set ourselves up for success.

The first game in the round robin was against St.Catherines and boy did we rattle them! Leading by 2 points with 10 minutes to play the unthinkable became thinkable! But alas it was not to be as late goals and stamina won it for St.Catherines in the end.

The team were devastated but coaches and management pointed out how this was an excellent base on which to work.

Next game (a must win) against St.Pats Donabate. What a cracking game. Dominant for periods in possession but on the scoreboard the lead changed hands many times until Pats led by a single point with 5 minutes to go. We literally camped in the Pats half for these last 5 minutes and 2 goal chances went by. Utter devastation but in some respects this group of lads have not come this close to success so valuable lessons learned for the future. The final game actually turned into a must win as results elsewhere (combined with our score difference) meant we still stood a chance of getting 2nd place. The game against Balinteer St Johns was simply the best! The team played a brand of free flowing football that even the neutrals were impressed by. The win was secured in impressive fashion but results elsewhere meant that the 1 point loss to St.Pats would come back to haunt us. Still, a good year from a great team!



## Under 21

As the year came to an end, our U21 team put in some serious preparation in an attempt to regain the Under 21 A championship last won in 2014. Our opening match vs Na Fianna gave grounds for hope after an impressive win, but unfortunately in the semi-Final we came up against a well-drilled Kilmacud Crokes team who were deserving winners on the day.



Finally, I would like to wish all the members of Ballyboden St. Enda's a successful and prosperous 2017.



## Robbie McDaid Profile

Sinéad Ryan

At only 23 years of age Ballyboden St.Enda's senior footballer Robbie McDaid has a lot of accolades under his belt.

2016 was a special year for McDaid. He won the All-Ireland Club Final and AFL1 league with Ballyboden St.Enda's, Sigerson Cup with UCD and the National League, Leinster and All-Ireland with Dublin.



**Did Robbie think 2016 would be as successful as it was?**

"To be honest, winning six out of seven competitions in a year is something you can normally only dream of! I knew we had a chance with each of the teams I was involved with but you need a bit of luck at the same time, and this year, we got that bit of luck when it was needed!"

The 2015/2016 Dublin Football Championship was a difficult one as always but when Ballyboden St.Enda's overcame St Vincent's in the County Final the senior team were only starting their journey.

"Beating Vincent's was brilliant, the Dublin Championship is one of the hardest championships to win in Ireland and St.Vincent's are renowned for their skill and competitiveness so we were delighted to get over that hurdle. The next step was the Leinster Club Championship so we just kept looking at the next game and no further".

Ballyboden St.Enda's won the Leinster Club Final after overcoming Portlaoise GAA and progressed to the All Ireland Club Semi Final against Clonmel Commercials.

"When we won Leinster- we knew we had to continue the way we were playing, everyone was playing well together, training was going great and the excitement was building around the community and the clubhouse".

Even though Clonmel Commercials reside in the home of hurling they are also known for their football skills. In recent years Tipp Football has been on a high and Clonmel proved that by winning the Munster Club title.

"The Clonmel game was a difficult one but one I will always remember, we started off well but in the 2nd half Clonmel came out all guns blazing and we were down a few points after a few minutes. I'm not sure what came over us but I remember all the supporters shouting from the sidelines. We played the game of our lives in the last 10 mins and, thankfully, we won!"

The win over Clonmel meant a place in the All Ireland Club Finals against Castlebar Mitchels on St.Patrick's Day. Our two Ladies All Ireland Club victories were great days for the club so it was time for our Senior Footballers to prove they had what it takes to claim an All Ireland title. So how were the nerves heading into the final?

"The nerves were there I won't lie but running out on to Croke Park in the blue and white of Boden with the Ballyboden community and supporters cheering us on is something I had always imagined doing". Nerves or not we still had a job to do...

The game didn't go as expected for Castlebar Mitchels. Our lads stormed on the pitch with only one thing in their minds and that was to be crowned All Ireland Club Champions. The footballers did just that and the scoreline ended 2-14 to 0-7 to Boden.

"It was the greatest feeling ever! The All Ireland Club title is the top prize and the toughest to win, and so much work went into it from January 2015 straight through to St.Patrick's Day 2016. For us to achieve the ultimate goal was an exhilarating experience! I'll never forget stepping off the bus at the clubhouse and seeing so many people with smiles on their faces, applauding and cheering us. Walking through the club onto the stage in the hall with everyone singing...well it was a night never to forget!

The celebrations lasted a few weeks in Ballyboden St.Enda's, with the Andy Merrigan Cup visiting local schools, community halls and local pubs around the area. The All Ireland win also gave Dublin GAA manager Jim Gavin some food for thought as he installed a few of the Boden lads on the Dublin panel- McDaid being one of them. Robbie's first game was against Roscommon in the National League. "It was a testing game, the conditions were bad but we came through in the end with a win. Being on the Dublin panel is a great experience. Training with some of the best players in the country week in, week out has helped me learn so much as a player and as a person. Winning the National League, Leinster and All Ireland was an incredible experience, especially on the back of the club All Ireland run. I hope to build on last year and push for more game time in 2017".

**Robbie comes from a big family- three sisters and one brother. He is also a cousin of Paul Durcan- Ballyboden St.Enda's goalkeeper.**

"It was great to win with Paul, he is such an experienced player from being on the Donegal team and I learned a good bit from him too. It was great for all our family!" Robbie was seven years of age when he joined Ballyboden St.Enda's and his football career is getting bigger and better. So what's the best thing about playing with Ballyboden St.Enda's? "Definitely playing with your friends, seeing the support and pure joy the community get from watching their club play, at any level! Seeing all of the young members of the club rush the pitch at the end of extra time in our semi final v Clonmel Commercials is my highlight from our campaign".

GAA fans know the intense rivalry between Dublin and Meath (the 1991 Leinster Championship will always be remembered for sure!) but Ballyboden St.Enda's welcomed Meath man Andy McEntee to the club with open arms. He managed our footballers to All Ireland Club glory and we will always be grateful for that. Dublin man John O'Brien has a hard act to follow but the team are confident that they will stick together and produce the best they can.

"The plan is to meet in January and set out our stall. Andy McEntee was phenomenal for us, gave us everything he had and for that I can safely say on behalf of each member of the senior team that we are truly grateful to him! I'm looking forward to our new campaign under John and I'm excited to see what he has in store for us. I'm sure both John and the team will have the Dublin championship in mind for 2017 and we'll give it our best to win it back."

So as the Christmas festivities and the team holidays finish up it's time to get back to training, Robbie thanks all of the supporters throughout the year and gives advice to any young players.

"Thanks to everyone who helped us win the All Ireland Club Final and especially the Boden supporters, it was an unbelievable feeling to see everyone in the stands at all the games. My advice to the young players in Ballyboden St.Enda's is always to work hard on your strengths and harder still on your weaknesses. Listen to your coaches, be a positive team player and enjoy playing for such a great club".







H&K In



## Ballyboden St. Enda's S Dublin, Leinster and All-Ireland



Back Row L-R: Daniel Grimes, Cian Mellett, Stephen O'Connor, Ciaran Archibald, Paul Durcan, Darragh Gogan, Donagh McCabe, Conal Keaney, Shane Clayton, Andy McEntee

Mid Row L-R: Finian Hyland (Selector), Paul Waters (GK Coach), Conor Dooley, Colm Breen, Andy McEntee (Manager), Shane Durkin, Andrew Kerin, Daniel Davey, Barra McGarry

Front Row L-R: Pat Nash (Club Secretary), Liam Deane (Executive Committee), Brendan Moran (Club Chairman), Darren O'Reilly, Kevin Griffin (Club President), Ger Flaherty (Football Chairman), Ryan Basquel, Alan Flood, Colm Durkin



# International



## International Senior Football Team Ireland Champions 2015/2016

Archbold, Seán Gibbons, Séamus Keane, Declan O'Mahony, Robbie McDaid,  
Aran Waters, Bob Dwan, Tom Hanifin, Graham Heavey, Shane Brooks (Mentor)

Basquel, Stephen Ward, Cathal Flaherty, Michael Darragh Macauley, Simon Lambert  
Harry, Stephen Hiney, Seán Prendergast, Seán Crowley (Mentor), Eugene Duffy (Coach)

(Committee), Danny Griffin (Sponsorship Manager), Brian Bobbett, Sam Molony,  
(President), Darragh Nelson (Captain), David Bobbett (H&K - Major Sponsor)  
Dunne, Frank Basquel (Trubake - Sponsor), Noel Basquel (Selector)





## Ger Flaherty reflects on an adventure never to forget

In 2014 the post mortem came back from the championship semi-final v St.Vincent's – progress was made but we lacked conditioning. And so the journey began. The disappointment of the loss was going to be the platform that would launch the teams campaign. John Coghlan was added to the management team to ensure the team were in the best condition possible. People will have their own memories along the way. Here are some of mine...

**The final 5 minutes in games** – the teams resolve was proven in the games against Crokes and Plunketts. Going into the final minutes of these matches down by a few points, the team dug deep and managed to turn results in their favour. This was something we'd see time and time again. We knew this team had something special and more importantly the team believed it themselves. The first half of the 2015 final – Probably the greatest 30 minutes of Senior football we have witnessed. We had to pinch ourselves as Boden dominated Vincent's in every position. The pace, power and accuracy of the game plan was executed with precision. Vincent's were never allowed settle and this gave us the platform to secure our third ever county championship. And so the journey outside Dublin began – 5 games down 5 to go.

**Bus Trips** – We remember the Leinster trips to Drogheda, Mullingar and then Tullamore. The craic was mighty. The support grew in numbers. The number of buses likewise. The Boden roar could be heard especially when the team needed a boost. The support from all sections across the club was evident. The younger club members wore the club colours and represented the club with pride. Buses grew from 2 for the Dublin final to 32 for the Leinster Final. Peter Wall had everything under control.

**Pitch invasions** – What a sight the, blue & white, after the end of the Leinster Final. We had finally conquered Leinster. The players were surrounded centre field. We thought this feeling couldn't be matched. However, the pitch invasion at the end of the All-Ireland semi-final (extra time) by the younger Boden members will always be remembered. This was captured perfectly on the RTE sports news both on the six one and the nine o'clock sports round up. We were a very recognisable force. Portlaoise was taken over. However, there was more to come.

**Press Nights** – We didn't realise how big a media spectacle the Leinster Final, All-Ireland semi-final and All-Ireland final were going to be. The media swarmed the club in advance looking for insights into the team. Newspaper, radio and TV personnel were busy trying to get stories from the players and management. We weren't accustomed to this side of events. However, Sinéad Ryan came to the rescue and guided us through the process. We managed these events well in advance of the games themselves to allow the team the necessary time to focus on their match preparations.



**Awards** – One of the fallouts from the teams success was the recognition received by many of the players as a result of the success of the team. Ordinary guys were doing extraordinary things on the field of play. We were awarded team of the year by the Tallaght Echo. The evening herald voted Andrew Kerin overall Club player of the year, a number of other lads made it into the club team of the year and Collie Basquel, Shane Clayton and Robbie McDaid received call ups to the Dublin squad. However, these awards were secondary to our primary goal – All-Ireland success. It was now in sight.

**Fundraising** – The football committee are always up for a challenge and so the greatest fundraiser to take place in the shortest space of time was launched at Xmas and the target set. Within 6 weeks the target was exceeded and achieved within the lotto structure already there. It was said this couldn't be done. Spearheaded by Tony Basquel, Liam Dean and Ken Giles, the impossible was realised. Contributions came from as far away as Australia and Dubai.

**All-Ireland semi-final** – If ever a game was pulled from the jaws of defeat, this was the one. Cometh the hour, cometh the man and up stepped captain fantastic, Darragh Nelson. With 20 seconds left on the clock and a point required to equalise, Darragh stepped into the breach. Coming off the shoulder of Aran Waters he received the pass, then took 8 baby steps and curled the ball from right to left over the bar. The stand erupted and we headed into extra time with renewed vigour. The dream was alive and the momentum with us. Once again we proved our resolve in the games closing minutes. We won out comfortably in extra time.



**All-Ireland tickets sales** – We didn't know what to expect in terms of demand for tickets for the All-Ireland final. Tradition has it that there is a night devoted to ticket sales in each of the participating clubs. What transpired was remarkable. Croke park had never experienced a night like it in any of the clubs they had visited before. Over 4,500 in sales! The community were right behind us. It was a sign of things to come.

**Memorabilia** – Hats, flags, scarves, bunting. Shop sales went through the roof. The blue & white was everywhere to be seen in the locality. The Blue Haven, The Yellow House and The Orchard all displayed their support for the team. The cleaners down in the Shopping Centre, George King & Rathfarnham Credit Union were also amongst the local business to openly display their support. You were left in no doubt that a special event was about to take place.

**The Night before the Final** – The club brought their own version of 'Up for the Match' to Firhouse Road. Hosted by Darren Frehill, it was a night to remember. Guests included Paul McGinley who played football from underage right up to senior, the Doherty brothers who entertained us with their stories of the past and former county players with a tale or two! The buzz around the club was palpable. We couldn't wait for the next day to arrive.



**Pre-match** – Paul McGinley spoke to the team before they departed adjacent to the ‘Jim Stynes’ plaque in Sancta Maria. You could hear a pin drop. His words were simple – win your individual battles and play to the end. The bus departed. At Malahide we were met by a Garda escort which took us all the way in to Croke Park. We were on schedule. Everyone was relaxed and focused. No hype, just a steely calm in anticipation of the game of their lives.

**The Match** – We wanted a good start and boy did we start well! The younger Basquel stepped up with a finish beyond his years. Boden meant business. Castlebar were never allowed settle. Man of the match Bob Dwan capped another grand performance with a hat-trick of points from corner back. And of course the coolest man on the pitch, Andrew Kerin who calmly slotted home the spot kick. One half over, 30 minutes away from glory...

If Castlebar thought we would ease up they were mistaken. This was one of the most complete displays with dominance in all sectors of the pitch. If there was a threat on goal, they had the ‘Big Man’ to contend with, Paul Durcan. We kicked on and when the final whistle blew, the score line read 2-14 to 0-7. The dream had just become a reality. All-Ireland club champions! We didn’t want to go home. The scenes were memorable – Darragh Nelson didn’t just lift the Cup, he threw the lid high into the air in a picture perfect moment, Dave Bobbett was on his knees kissing the hallowed turf and the many pictures which would make the newspapers the next day. From the rising in 1916 with Pádraig Pearse to 2016 and All-Ireland success with Ballyboden – maybe it was fate...



**The return home** – with a few beers on board we headed back for Firhouse Road. We knew there would be a crowd. However, nobody was prepared for the scenes we were about to witness. The bus barely got into the carpark. There was a line of people marking the path to the Hall, filled to capacity. Darragh Nelson led the players & management in. Brendan Moran introduced the team. The roof lifted with the roar. Many former players were present – this was not just a victory for the current crop of players but for all that had gone before. Everyone was part of the celebration. There were so many people to thank – a great team effort off the pitch complimented the team effort on the pitch. We had never witnessed a reception like it. 160 training/match sessions, 34 out of 38 panelists coming through the juvenile ranks and 10 wins on route to lifting the trophy are among some of the statistics. A proud day for the club and the community. A long night ahead. Memories of the day and aspects of the game were relived time and time again. The party went on till daylight the next morning. Mike and the bar staff were immense. Thank you to everyone for all your support throughout the campaign.



**Afterwards** – Visiting the local hostelrys with the cup, not to mention the local schools, fairs and so on. Everyone wanted to show their appreciation for the teams achievement. The party went on and on and on. Paul Durcan picked up his gear left behind after the final and handed it out unexpectedly to a few lucky kids attending the Saturday morning academy in the club. That evening the Boden Legends got their opportunity to mix and to thank some of the players and it ended with an impromptu sing song in the club that lasted well into the night.

And then there was the medal presentation hosted by Darren Frehill in the Club. It was another night to remember with over 500 guests. The event was a resounding success with Ken Giles spearheading the organizing committee.

These are just some of my memories from many. Let me finish by saying thank you to the players and team management for the joy you brought to us. You have given us memories that we will cherish forever and while we will never take this achievement for granted, the hope is that we can repeat this success. This is now the new challenge for us.





## Darragh Nelson - Senior Footballer

**Name** - Darragh Nelson

**Age** - 26

**Position** - Centre Back

**Childhood Sports memory** - Training on the old Sancta Maria grit hockey pitch with awful floodlights.



**Favourite Sportsperson** - The Rock

**Who's the poser on the Boden Team** - A few could be picked for this one... Shane Durkin winning most handsome GAA player has to be a contender on that alone. Ste O'Connor, Darren O'Reilly, Bob Dwan, Darragh Gogan...

**Who's the messer on the Boden Team** - Again, a few messers but Cathal Flaherty and Daniel Grimes are my winners

**Describe the 2016 season in three words** - Unforgettable, incredible, emotional

**What did it mean to win the All Ireland Club Championship** - It meant everything. To create those moments and memories for this team, our families, friends and the members of Ballyboden is what it's all about.

**Who do you think is a star to watch in Boden** - A lot of youth coming through which is great. Barra McGarry, James Holland, James Madden, Warren Egan just to name a few. Trust me, there are more!

**Any tips for young up and coming stars** - Always believe in your ability and work hard to improve. Hard work doesn't lie so if you put in the tough hours, you'll see results

**What would you like to be remembered as** - The player with the bloody chin!

## Darren O'Reilly - Senior Footballer

**Name** - Darren O'Reilly

**Age** - 26 **Position** - Half Forward

**Occupation** - Transport Scheduler at Keelings Logistics Solutions

**Childhood Sports memory** - The 1999 Champions League Final

**Favourite Sportsperson** - Ronda Rousey



**Who's the poser on the Boden Team** - Durks looks after himself

**Who's the messer on the Boden Team** - You always have to be abit wary around Cathal Flaherty and Ronan Cleary

**Describe the 2016 season in three words** - Slightly disappointing ending

**Who do you think is a star to watch in Boden** - James Holland and Ross McGarry have bright futures

**Any tips for young up and coming stars** - The toughest person on yourself should be yourself!

**What would you like to be remembered as** - Someone who worked hard to get the most out of his talent

## Ryan Basquel - Senior Footballer

**Name** - Ryan Basquel

**Age** - 24

**Position** - Centre Forward

**Childhood Sports memory** - Going to the All Ireland final with my Dad

**Favourite Sportsperson** - Padraig Harrington

**Who's the poser on the Boden Team** - Stephen O'Connor

**Who's the messer on the Boden Team** - Cathal "Off it" Flaherty

**Describe the 2016 season in three words** - All Ireland Champions.

**What did it mean to win the All Ireland Club Championship** - It was an unbelievable feeling to win with your mates and family and the best moment I've ever had in sport.

**Who do you think is a star to watch in Boden** - Barra McGarry if he keeps working hard

**Any tips for young up and coming stars** - Practice hard but practice smart - work on things you're weak at and which are key to performance

**What would you like to be remembered as** - Someone who always performed on the big day





## Andy McEntee - thanks for the memories

Shane O'Brien

When the dust settles, and people begin to reflect in earnest on Meath-bound Andy McEntee's tenure as manager of Ballyboden St. Enda's, he will surely go down as one of the most influential appointments in club management. McEntee's first year in charge saw Ballyboden St. Enda's fall to St. Vincent's in the semi-finals for the second year in a row and although Boden put up a good fight, they ultimately succumbed to the class of Vincent's, and in particular Diarmuid Connolly. "If we were 100% honest with ourselves I don't think we ready to beat a team like Vincent's in 2014," reflected McEntee. So when the sides prepared to face off in the 2015 Dublin Senior Football final, the vast majority of pundits expected St. Vincent's to break Boden hearts for the third year running. What transpired was an emphatic Ballyboden victory. The four point winning margin flattered St. Vincent's, who didn't look like winning at any stage. So what changed in a year?

McEntee modestly downplays his own role and puts it down to an influx of new players. A simple analysis of the teamsheets from each year shows that Paul Durcan, Shane Clayton, Michael Darragh Macauley and Colm Basquel were all absentees in 2014. All four players made it into AIB club team of the year this year. But even with a strengthened line up, the task of dismantling a Vincent's team that had claimed five of the six trophies on offer to them over the past two years remained an unenviable one. That task fell to McEntee and he rose to the challenge magnificently. If they were to win, Boden had to do something to nullify Diarmuid Connolly. Connolly had run riot in 2014 scoring 1-06 from play to almost single-handedly win the game, yet in 2015 Connolly didn't score once. McEntee had got his match ups absolutely spot on. "We put Bob Dwan on Connolly and he did a job on him. Physically you've got to be able to put it up to someone like Connolly and Bob was able to do that. He held him scoreless and actually looked more like scoring than Connolly did," said McEntee. Credit also must go to Andy for the way he transformed Ballyboden defensively in the space of a year. Boden had shipped 5-29 in the two previous semi-finals against Vincent's, yet conceded a mere ten points in the 2015 Dublin final. In fact, Ballyboden only conceded two goals in ten games throughout the championship, a simply remarkable statistic. McEntee puts this down to a heavy defeat in a league game against St. Oliver Plunkett's. "We got a bit of a lesson off them (Plunkett's) and we conceded four or five goals. After that we had to take stock and maybe not commit so many bodies forward. I don't think we went ultra defensive, but something had to change," said McEntee.

After taking Dublin the hard way by beating Kilmacud Croke's, Oliver Plunkett's and St. Vincent's, McEntee was now faced with a new challenge in the form of the Leinster Championship. On both occasions when Ballyboden St. Enda's had previously won the Dublin Championship, they had fallen at the first hurdle in Leinster. A seemingly favourable draw against St. Patrick's of Louth, however, meant that many expected Boden to banish that particular ghost. McEntee thought differently and the task fell to him to keep complacency out of his squad and keep his players grounded. "Arguably our most difficult game was St. Pat's. It was only six days after we had won the Dublin championship for the first time in quite a while so you couldn't deny players the chance to celebrate. The game itself was scrappy and played in tough conditions. We were delighted to just get over that particular hurdle," claimed McEntee.

After Pat's, came St. Loman's of Westmeath and a much more straightforward victory, pitting Boden against Portlaoise in the club's first ever Leinster football final. The game was on a knife edge for large parts, and when Aran Waters put Ballyboden in the lead with just a minute of normal time to give Boden the lead, no one expected it to be the last score of the game. That is exactly what transpired, however, when Portlaoise missed a guilt edged chance in the form of a 20-yard free to bring the game to extra time. Despite the high level of drama, McEntee wasn't overly worried. "I was comfortable enough that if it did go to extra time, we'd have too much for Portlaoise. I looked at our bench and I looked at their bench and I just felt we had the more depth," said McEntee.

With a first Leinster title under their belts, Ballyboden now faced a battle with Clonmel Commercials in the uncharted territory of the All Ireland semi-final. Boden were made heavy favourites to advance to the final, something McEntee admits they did not deal all too well with. "The evidence would appear to suggest that we struggled with the favourites tag. We struggled with it against Clontarf and we certainly struggled with it against Clonmel," said McEntee. Ballyboden came within a whisker of exiting the championship that day. With just three minutes remaining they were down to 14 men and trailed by three points when scores were few and far between. McEntee and his troops kept the head, however, managed to take the game to extra time with three unanswered scores in the remaining minutes, the last of which being an inspirational point from Captain Darragh Nelson who picked a good time to register his first score of the campaign. "Nelson's score was an incredible point and the roar from the crowd when that ball went over the bar is something I'll remember for a long time," said a smiling McEntee. With all the momentum with Boden, there was only ever going to be one winner in extra time and Ballyboden, quite amazingly, had advanced to the All Ireland final with Castlebar Mitchels. Similar to the Vincent's game in the county final, Castlebar Mitchels were made heavy favourites, and similar to that Vincent's game, Ballyboden completely blew Mitchels away before they had a chance to get going. A combination of ruthless finishing and tireless defending had Boden nine points up inside 15 minutes and the result already seemed beyond doubt. "I think any manager would like a fast start," said McEntee, "but it was something we targeted. Of course we never expected to be nine points up so early in the game. Croke Park was probably just ideal for us and maybe not so ideal for them." Under McEntee's tutelage, Boden had gone from perennial Dublin semi-finalists to kings of Ireland in the space of two years. He deserves a huge amount of credit for the way he developed a system that left Ballyboden watertight at that back, whilst also maintaining the ability to post competitive scores, a notoriously difficult feat.

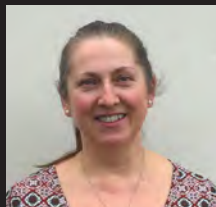
October's defeat to Kilmacud Croke's brought an end to a repeat of their heroics but the team rallied to claim the AFL1 League title in December in what was McEntee's last game with the club. He now prepares to begin life as Meath intercounty manager and the task falls to McEntee to dethrone the Dubs in the Leinster Championship. I'm sure you'd agree there is no better man for the job.

While Andy insists that his three years with Ballyboden were 'as good a three years as he has had with any team.' we'd just like to say Thanks for the memories Andy...



# Juvenile round-up

**Cliona Mellett & Jerry Corcoran**



Boys Juvenile Section Round Up – Hurling & Football 2016

2016 has once again been a very successful year for the Ballyboden St. Endas Juvenile Boys Section. In excess of 600 boys registered again with the club this year. Such numbers demand huge commitment from coaches, mentors and parents alike. On behalf of the club, I would like to express my sincere thanks to all those who gave their time on a voluntary basis, week in, week out to assist in the development of our young players.

A special word of thanks to our Executive and to our Directors of Coaching, Brian O'Regan and Paul McLoughlin for their great support throughout the year.

**2007 Boys Football - Under 9's:** After three years in the Academy 90, U9 boys entered the Go Games for the first time in February. With training every Friday night, the boys were ready to



demonstrate their skills on the field and did so with gusto. In April, they played in a demonstration game at half time when our Senior Footballers hosted St. Vincents. This year the boys played Naomh Olaf and Ballinteer St. Johns in a home Blitz and travelled to Blitzes in Saggart, Kilmacud and Blessington.

**2006 Boys Football - Under 10's:** Training on Wednesday evenings, the U10's have 8 teams entered in the Go Games and with 90+ boys involved field, at a minimum, their full complement each week. There has been a noticeable improvement in all the boys and this is reflected in the performances on the field. Highlights include the successful Boden Mini All-Ireland before the summer break and a Tournament success in Blessington. The boys have also enjoyed playing St Colmcilles in Meath and welcomed teams to Sancta Maria from Ardara in Donegal.



The outstanding club facilities, such as the All Weather pitches and the skills walls continue to be of huge benefit in the training and development of the boys' skills and we look forward to the re-opening of our main club pitch at Páirc Uí Mhurchú in mid 2017. Well done to all the boys who competed in the various competitions throughout 2016 and we look forward to 2017 with great confidence.

Finally, I would like to welcome our new Juvenile Chairman, Mark Brady and wish him and his committee well for the season ahead.

Jerry Corcoran,  
Outgoing Chairman, Juvenile Boys Section.

**Juvenile Roll of Honour 2016**  
(Taken from Coiste na nÓg Átha Cliath)

## FOOTBALL:

**U13B: Division 4 League Runners Up**

## HURLING:

**U12A: Division 1 League Winners**

**U12C: Division 7 League Winners**

**U13A&B: PJ Troy Winners**

**U15A: Division 1 League Winners and 'A' C'ship Winners**

**U16A: Division 1 League Runners up**

**2005 Boys Football - Under 11's:** With 74 boys training and playing every week, each boy played approximately 20 Go Games' matches in 2016. Highlights included a commemorative football game on the playing fields of Scoil Éanna, 100 years to the day of the outbreak of the Easter Rising and the very successful internal 'Mini All Ireland' In schools' competition, our lads excelled representing their schools in Cumann na mBunscoil competitions with Ballyroan, Terenure JS and Gaelscoil Cnoc Liamhna all reaching Croke Park. There are been a noticeable leap forward in skills and results across all levels and all look forward to 2017 with the move into League competition for the first time.



**2004 Boys Football - Under 12's:** 89 boys played across 5 teams in Divisions 1,3,5,7 and 11. The boys competed in 6 different tournaments including the Go Games Exhibition Game at half time in Croke Park at the Club Final on St. Patrick's Day. The lads hosted and won the 1916 BBSE Commemorative Tournament held in St. Enda's Park and travelled to Tournaments in Killeel Co. Down, Cooley Kickhams Co. Louth, Clan naGael in Roscommon and Mullingar. In October, the U12's hosted a Feile Peil Tournament, fielding 5 teams and over 280 boys played took part from all over the country.





## 2003 Boys Football - Under 13's

**U13A:** With all teams having the capacity to beat each other in a very competitive Division 1 Ballyboden showed their ability to compete and finished a creditable 4th (5 points separated the top 4 teams). The lads have improved immeasurably since the start of the year and were beaten finalists to a very good host team when they travelled to Tralee to the Annual U13 Austin Stacks Football Tournament.



**U13B Division 4 League Runners Up:** Facing strong competition as the only B team in Division 4, the team had a very successful season with some great performances notably against St. Anne's and Cuala. After 9 wins and 1 draw from 14 games, the boys finished as runners-up to Erin's Isle. The players have shown great commitment throughout the year and have continued to develop their skills and broader team play.

**U13C:** There were eight teams in Division 7, an A team, five B teams and another C team so overall a challenging group for our U13C's. The shape of the team evolved in the latter part of the season, as players moved up and down. A number of players stepped up to fill the gaps from the players we lost, with our new additions adding to our strength. On balance we competed well throughout the year and we adopted well to the changing squad.

## 2002 Boys Football - Under 14's

**U14A:** Between challenge matches, invitations to Tournaments, League and Féile, over 30 lads played for the 'A' team during the year. The season started in December 2015 with the "Fun Run" to raise 'a few bob' for the upcoming Féile, the focus of which was to be participation and enjoyment. Although the team lost by a solitary point in the final group game missing a place in the semi-final, the lads had a great day and, for all the right reasons, will remember the event forever.

The boys had a great run in Division 1 League, only narrowly missing out by a single point for a place in the League final. The most pleasing aspect of the 14 League matches was the footballing progress and development of individual players and the team collectively.

The sporting year culminated with a trip to Donegal Adventure Centre where the players, coaches and parents got a chance to bond and have the craic away from the side lines of Cherryfield.



**U14B:** Our U14B footballers played in Division 4, the only B group playing at such a high level at this age group. The team had a mixed year in the League with some excellent performances and some a little below standard.

However the talent and ability of the group did come to the fore over the Féile weekend when they put in a superb performance. Playing in Silverpark in a group with St Marks, Erins Isle and Crokes, two wins meant they topped the group, earning a place in the semi-final against Ballymun Kickhams, a Division 3 team, Roared on by a huge Boden support, they started the game really well and led by a goal at the break. Alas a place in the final proved elusive as Ballymun prevailed. Overall the group is very strong with most of the B group well able to make the step up to the A group which is a very strong position heading into U15.



**U14C:** This year saw the amalgamation of last year's C and D teams. Both teams had performed well in 2015 and were looking at moving up a Division. The team was put into Division 6 which was a tall order given that most boys had played Division 9 in 2015. With 27 players, the year started well, narrowly losing the first couple of matches with high numbers at training, a testament to the great attitude of the boys.

Ballyboden hosted Féile and the boys played all their matches in PUM and had some great duels and a huge home support cheering them on. The boys battled bravely but alas progression was not to be. They all enjoyed the Féile experience. The great thing about this bunch of boys is they keep trying to the end, heads held high and respect for their jersey. They're a credit to their parents and a joy to train as they always constantly strive to get better.



## 2001 Boys Football - Under 15's

**U15A:** In February, plans and goals for the year ahead were outlined and included aims such as enjoyment, effort, improve as players and maintain the recently acquired top Division status. The standard of Division 1 was high and the first weeks of the campaign were challenging. Through plenty of hard work and commitment to training and no shortage of effort in games, things began to turn for the better. With a game to spare, the team had as planned ensured they would be playing Division 1 football in 2017.



As League was ongoing, the Championship was looking good as the boys marched on to the County Final against St.Sylvester's, after good wins over Ballinteer, Crokes and St.Margaret's along the way. Unfortunately, the final game was just a bridge too far as the Malahide outfit ran out winners in a tight affair in O'Toole Park in early November.

Despite this defeat, this was a great year for an exceptional group of players who should be complimented on their years work. As well as the favourable results, the improvement in the players as individuals and the team as a whole was extremely encouraging.



U15A's trip to Bundoran



**U15B:** With U15 football matches moving to Sunday, last year's U14B and C squads merged into one as a result of losing some lads due to clashes with other sports and lads advancing to the A team. Drawn in Division 5, it was a tough task competing against smaller clubs who only have one team in the League but have players who would not be out of place in higher divisions. The lads soldiered on through the league regardless and competed well in most games. It was most satisfying that the lads showed great character and stayed strong and learned from mistakes from previous encounters.

In Championship, the opening game was away to Craobh Chiarain and after conceding an early goal, the team had their most complete and satisfying performance of the season with an impressive 15 point win. Unfortunately they fell at the semi-final stage to eventual winners St.Peters. All in all, it was a tough year with some lows, but there were some good days out too and a number of players have come on very strongly towards the end of the season and in recent training sessions, which bodes well for U16 next year.



## 2000 Boys Football - Under 16's

**U16A:** As their Juvenile careers come to an end, this group will cherish their memories and the friends they have made since joining the Nursery back in 2006. They have enjoyed their Juvenile years footballing together and playing Tournaments all around Ireland, in places such as Newry as U12's in 2012 and Tralee in 2013. They won the Dublin Division 1 Féile in 2014 and later in the year travelled to Castlebar Co Mayo where they reached the All Ireland Semi Final.

Following a relatively quiet year in 2015 at U15, they enjoyed a great run this year in Division 1, reaching the U16 'A' Championship Final going down to an excellent Whitehall outfit. They will contribute handsomely to Ballyboden's adult teams in the future. Well done to all the boys, their parents and their mentors.



**U16B:** The U16B team for 2016 was a merger of the U15B and C teams from 2015. The team competed in Division 5 following the Division 4 relegation of the 2015 U15B team. There was quite a bit of movement in the squad over the course of the season as some players left to pursue other things and some new faces arrived. Despite an average of 19 – 21 players in the squad at any given time, the inability to field a full strength team on a consistent basis due to weekly absences and some long term injuries, had an adverse impact on the results. The team got great support from the U15B's. The high point of the season was a good win in the first round of the 'C' Championship. With a full squad available, the lads played really well and fully deserved their win. Unfortunately they were unable to build on the result and went out in the second round. The boys showed great character and togetherness all year and we wish them luck as they advance to minor and adult football within the club.





**2007 Boys Hurling- Under 9's:** In the boys first year of Go Games, circa 75 boys played hurling and the club is fielding 7 Go Games teams. Attendance at training on Tuesday nights has been excellent and there has been a remarkable progression in the boys hurling. Boden hosted a very successful Feile in June with visiting teams from other clubs attending. On the day Ballyboden reached the final of one competition and won the other. Mentors, parents and boys all contributed to make it a great day.



**2006 Boys Hurling- Under 10's:** On match weekends, the U10's have approximately 60 boys playing, and field 6 Go Games teams who are competing very well against teams from all over the county. Highlights of the year included the Internal Mini-All Ireland which culminated in a Finals night in Pairc Uí Mhurchú, an away trip to Ballygunner before attending the Dublin V Waterford game and tournaments in Naas and Clonmel. The annual Hurling Féile in June was also a great success with teams from O'Toole's, Thomas Davis, Na Fianna & Naas attending.



**2005 Boys Hurling- Under 11's:** The U11's played on 26 alternate week-ends this season, competing in Go Games, tournaments at Na Fianna, Celbridge (Co.Kildare), Ballyragget (Co.Kilkenny), Féile Iomána (Ballyboden), Ballincollig (Co.Cork) and 5 x Camaint Hurling blitzes in the Summer culminating in Finals day at Parnell Park, The November Cup (Kevins Hurling Club) and Boden's own internal Mini-All Ireland.

This year the boys worked hard in training trying to master the core skills of hurling and putting these skills into practice in their various outings. Next year the boys embark in the final leg of CCC1 and will have 4 teams competing in 13-a-side leagues for the first time.



### 2004 Boys Hurling- Under 12's:

U12A: Division 1 League Winners

U12C: Division 7 League Winners

The 2004 boys fielded 4 U12 teams in 2016. The Group fielded teams in Division 1, 2, 7 & 9.

Div.1 won their League after a Final playoff against Castleknock. Div.2 consolidated their position at this very high grade including excellent wins over Cuala A, Faughs A & Plunketts A.

Div.7 won their League winning all games including two very determined performances against Round Towers Lusk and Round Towers Clondalkin first teams.

Div. 9 Team played most of their matches against 2nd Teams from other clubs and despite tough seeding showed great attitude, performance and skills.

The Group hosted two tournaments, The Annual Féile Iomana (U9 to U12) and The 1916 Commemoration Tournament in St.Enda's Park. Teams also competed in the Mark Downey Tournament in Castleknock GAA, The O'Tooles Conditioned Game Blitz, The Leinster Blitz in Abbotstown, Summer Camaint programme and O'Tooles Wall Ball Tournament.

Various Challenge Games were played during the year including visits to St.Patrick's Ballyragget (Kilkenny) and Ballygunner (Waterford) en route to watch the Dublin hurlers. Ballyboden hosted Sixmilebridge (Clare) and Emeralds (Kilkenny) on their travels to Croke Park. 58 players completed the season, with average attendances exceeding 50 for matches and training.



U12 Div.1 League Winners



U12 Hurlers travel to Ballygunnar

**2003 Boys Hurling- Under 13's:** Our U13 Hurlers performed well in Division 1 with some exceptional individual displays as well as some great team work. They finished 3rd in the League behind Crokes and winners, Faughs. This year also saw 6 of the team take part in the Dublin Development squad.

The U13B team played in Division 3 after winning last year's Division 4 and was made up of last year's B and C teams. Pitted against first teams in their clubs (with the exception of Crokes) the season was always going to be a challenge. Thanks to the U12's who were a valuable help to the team.





U13B Hurlers 2016

### PJ Troy Tournament Winners

During the summer a team made up of both A and B players competed in the PJ Troy Tournament and had a great win in the Final against a very strong Faughs side.

### William Phelan Cup

The William Phelan Trophy returned to Ballyboden for the first time since 2013 as Boden hosted Waterford's Ballygunner GAA in this Annual Tournament.

### Tournament in Craughwell GAA, Galway

Many of the boys took part in a Tournament in Craughwell beating Ballinasloe and Crokes in what was a great day out.



### 2002 Boys Hurling- Under 14's

**U14A:** Early season preparations began in St.Mary's Boxing Club in Tallaght for both squads with 6 sessions of strength and conditioning and a few bouts in the ring which brought out the competitive edge of the boys. In the League, the boys had a number of close games throughout the season and were very unlucky not to be on the right side of a few of the defeats.

Ballyboden hosted Division 1 Feile and had the home advantage of Pairc Uí Mhurchú and a great home crowd. An entertaining draw vs Kilmacud and a big win vs Fingallians set them up against Castleknock. However a narrow defeat to eventual winners Castleknock in the 3rd game meant the boys did not progress beyond the group stage.



**U14B:** The U14B Hurlers moved from 3 teams in 2015 to 2 this year and as a result of the previous U13B's winning Division 5, the new merged team competed in Division 4. A challenge lay ahead but this group of lads take on every challenge with enthusiasm and a determination to get better every time they take to the field and despite a very tough start to their League campaign, they headed into Féile Division 5 full of confidence.

Hosted by St.Peregrines, the lads delivered the complete team performance with every member of the squad playing their part and qualified for the Semi-Final where they faced overall winners Whitehall Colmcilles. Despite the loss, the boys had a fantastic Féile experience.

The boys showed consistent improvement throughout the rest of the year recording some good wins in the very strong Division which will stand in good stead as they head to U15.

55 boys rounded off the year from the overall U14 group with a weekend away at the Bundoran Adventure Centre where a fantastic weekend was had by all, looked after very well by Collie MacPhaidin (a Boden native).

### U15A Championship and Div 1 League Winners... see overleaf

**U15B:** The decision to field 2 Hurling teams at under 16 led to an amalgamation with the 16B hurlers to ensure a full U16B squad. Many of the also lads lined out with success for the U15A's and played U15 'C' Championship,

The U15B's reached the Semi Final of the 'C' Hurling Championship beating Parnells and Kilmacud Crokes along the way. Unfortunately the boys fell to O'Tooles in St.Anne's Park in a tight contest in the Semi Final.





# U15A Division 1 League Winners and 'A' Championship Winners



And this year the journey surely did continue!!! In October last year's U14 Division 1, Feile and Regional Feile winners bagged more titles when they were crowned Dublin U15HC 'A' County Champions and Dublin Division 1 Hurling League Winners. The boys defeated St.Vincents in the Championship final on a scoreline of 3-15 to 2-13 in a pulsating decider at Parnell Park. Boden got off to the brighter start but Vincent's responded well and with ten minutes to play the Marino men drew level. This is where all the year's coaching, training and practice paid off and the boys dug deep when it was most needed to pull away in the critical closing stages to claim a terrific win.

A week later, with a repeated line up, the teams faced each other again in the Division 1 League Final. This time the Marino lads travelled south of the Liffey to the Prunty Pitch in Sancta Maria but our boys had eyes on the double and ran out comfortable winners.

The challenge for these talented boys at the beginning of the year was to continue to improve and back up their successes of 2015 and they did so, guided by the steady hands of Brendan Ryan and Brian Kelleher. This group of lads are very lucky to have coaches committed to the well-being, enjoyment and development of each and every player with no exceptions.

## Fergal Ryan – U15A Captain interview with The Third Policeman

**The Third Policeman:** well?

**Fergal Ryan:** well yourself...

**The Third Policeman:** Jaysus, this is going to be some quare interview.

**Fergal:** Ask me a feckin question and I'll consider answering.

**The Third Policeman:** Right we'll start again. Hurling or football?

**Fergal:** Hurling every time and then football.

**The Third Policeman:** So which do you prefer?

**Fergal:** Both games are equal but some games are more equal than others.

**The Third Policeman:** Jaysus... Give me a few highlights of your sporting year.

**Fergal:** Winning the U15A Hurling Championship in Parnell Park and winning Division 1 League.

One of the best days the team had was swimming on the beach in Portmarnock.

**The Third Policeman:** Any low points?

**Fergal:** I had a bad injury which kept me out for much of the year but also losing in the Football Championship Final was tough to take.

**The Third Policeman:** Who has had the biggest influence on you and your hurling and football.

**Fergal:** I dunno.

**The Third Policeman:** For Gods sake you'll have to do better than that.

**Fergal:** I suppose it must be my family.

**The Third Policeman:** Are you sure?

**Fergal:** I think so.

**The Third Policeman:** Favorite player?

**Fergal Ryan:** Noel McGrath or Morgan Ryan.

**The Third Policeman:** Well which one is it?

**Fergal Ryan:** Noel McGrath.

**The Third Policeman:** What's the best part of being involved with Boden.

**Fergal:** hurling and football.

**The Third Policeman:** what about all the friends you have made?

**Fergal:** Oh yeah, and all the friends I have made.

**The Third Policeman:** Any advice for young players?

**Fergal:** Go pucking every day.

**The Third Policeman:** They'll never ask me to do an interview again.

**Fergal:** Yeah, probably not.





## 2000 Boys Hurling- Under 16's

**U16A:** The U16A hurlers can be very proud of their efforts this year as they conclude their time as Juveniles. To keep two teams in play, the A team had a very tight panel of just 18 players. There was little room for injuries or player absences. It is important to acknowledge the contribution of several U15's who made themselves available when required to ensure that the club competed well and fulfilled all fixtures. There was disappointment with our lack of success in the Championship. Meeting Kilmacud Crokes in the Semi-final was always going to be a huge challenge. This Crokes team have won every competition as Juveniles.

The team finished as very commendable runners-up in the League, winning nine out of fourteen games, once again pipped by Crokes. This was a notable improvement in the team's ranking from the U15 league last year.

Five of the squad have represented Dublin at U16 level this year, and two are currently part of the Dublin Senior Colleges team in the Leinster Colleges 'A' Division. Ten of the squad played at all minor levels this year, three who were part of the victorious Minor D team which won the county title.



**U16B:** An eventful season that started with a number of the U16B hurlers being promoted to the 'A' panel which in turn led to an amalgamation with the 15B hurlers to ensure a full squad. The season started with a narrow single point loss to Thomas Davis, followed by a number of close games which could have gone either way.

In Championship, the lads lost out to eventual winners St.Patricks Palmerstown in the opening round. The boys qualified for the Shield Final where in front of a big crowd in Sancta Maria they were beaten by Na Fianna B.

Many of the lads lined out with success for the U15A's and played U15 'C' Championship, others got their first taste of Minor playing for the Minor C team that won the Minor D Championship while others played for the 16A hurlers.

Best wishes to all the lads stepping up to Minor next year and for the lads who will be playing U16 next year also.

It's been a pleasure for the mentors to have helped the lads to this stage of their careers and hopefully our time with them will stand them in good stead in the future.



## **Hurley Holders Success** Difig Fiontair Áitiúil Local Enterprise Office

Minor Hurlers Ciaran Cashman, Daniel O'Riordan and Ben Kelly, and Nicky Tannem represented Colaiste Eanna in the Student Enterprise Awards National Final in April, in Croke Park, with their very successful Hurley Holders storage unit.

Of the 22,000 students from 620 secondary schools that took part this year, only 300 pupils made it through to the National Final and students from every county across Ireland will be demonstrating their businesses and inventions for the judging panels. They will set-up enterprise exhibition displays before taking part in a series of judging interviews. As well as gaining substantial business experience, there is an impressive prize-fund on offer for the young entrepreneurs.

The lads got a great response in the club on Féile weekend when they set up stall selling the Hurley Holder. The club was awash with people as Ballyboden hosted Division 1, Group A Feile na nGael.

Recently retired Dublin County Hurler and Boden Senior Hurler and Footballer Conal Keaney checked the product out when he met with the lads earlier this year.





# Just your average year in Boden...take a look at who dropped in



WWE Stars Becky Lynch and the Uso brothers don the famous Bodan jersey



Mick really had to win this ball vs the Usos...did he?

Phew...!



'Up for the match' Bodan style with Colin Moran, Darren Homan and Ray Cosgrove



Two great leaders, Jim Gavin and Paul McGinley



Andrew Kerin and Meath Legend Sean Boylan at the Medal Presentation night



RTE's Darren Frehill with Galway Hurling great Joe Cooney



# Together...with a little help from our friends



Ballyboden St. Enda's Ladies Gaelic Football were one of the many winners of the Lidl Club Competition Promotion



Euro Gas and Susan Creed sponsoring jerseys for our 3 Minor Hurling Squads 2016

## Ballyboden St. Enda's 2016 Main Sponsors



T.J O'Mahony • TruBake • Knocklyon Parish • SuperValu  
Just Maths.ie • Cruinn Diagnostics • Leehy & Kennedy  
Grafton Lounge • Rathfarnham & District Credit Union



Morans Pharmacy sponsoring the 1916 Centenary Commemorative Wood Carving



Topaz Energy Ltd. sponsoring our U15 Hurlers Jerseys



Cruinn Diagnostics sponsoring the Summer Camp



Leahy O'Riordan sponsoring the Summer Camp

## Pitch signs 2016

Guest Hardware  
Oak Haulage  
Injury Solutions  
Home Care  
Pizza Hut  
Stephen Hannon  
Just Maths.ie  
Kingsbury Furniture  
SuperValu  
Sherry Fitzgerald  
Kennedy Lowe  
Peoples Landscaping  
Dry Cleaning Co.  
TimberTrove  
Frank Brooks  
Ballyroan Developments  
G.W.H Tony Wallace  
E.L.M Electric  
Tom Maher  
Rathfarnham Credit Union  
Michael Sheehan Car Sales  
Spawell Barbers  
Knocklyon Creche  
Redmond Lettings  
Templeogue Windows  
Just Maths.ie  
Tom Donaghy  
Mezzo Music  
Hogan Estates  
DarGolf



## Club Development Activities 2016

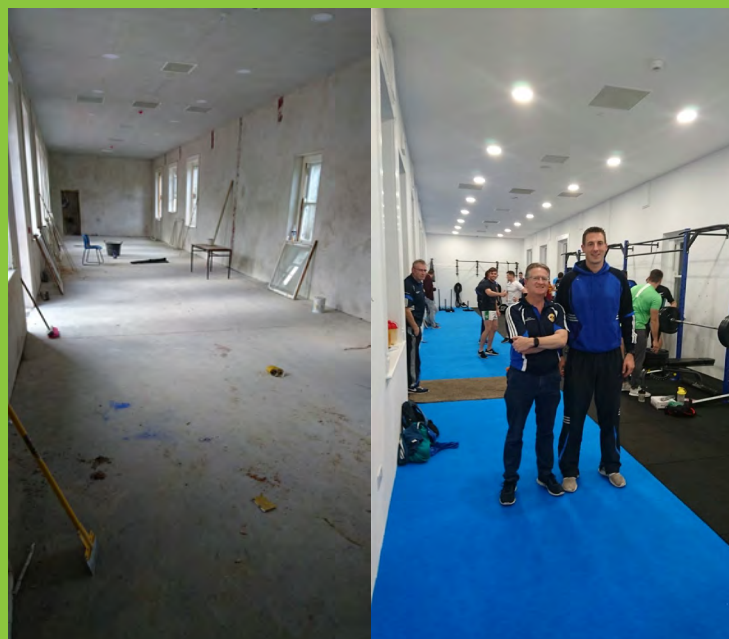
John Ryan

2016 has been quite an eventful year for the committee with the completion of the gym and the re-development of PUM now in its latter stages.

The gym, as you are all aware, is now up and running and is something we can all be very proud of. Two gentlemen, in particular, punched in excessive hours to give us this state of the art gym, Noel Madden and Brian O'Regan, and the club owes a huge debt of gratitude to both of them. The level of commitment they had and the attention to detail they showed is evident in the quality of the finished building. I can assure you we had a lot of hurdles to jump along the way but I believe the final product justifies the exceptional effort made by Noel and Brian.

Player representative Cormac Smyth has now come on board and will bring his invaluable experience to ensure standards are maintained and players understand the expectations.

PUM re-alignment, levelling and re-seeding is now complete. Certainly all those Novenas paid off as the weather was very kind to us throughout. The final work will be completed this year where we will erect a new scoreboard, dugouts and goalposts. This concept began under the stewardship of Terry O'Neill and the Strategic Review Committee and continued under the direction and leadership of our present Chairman Brendan Moran. I'd like to pay a special thanks to all who worked extremely hard to make this happen within a tight time frame. Our principle contractor DarGolf together with consultant Richard Hayden worked many a long evening with Frank Moran and myself to ensure all aspects of project were professionally delivered. We are very fortunate to have a person of Franks expertise working on these projects. His years of experience and his incredible knowledge has been invaluable in all aspects of the build. Two other key contractors, ACE Fencing and Connacht Sportsnets worked within very specific deadlines to deliver a very high standard of finish on both boundary fencing and netting. Evergreen Landscapes came on board on short notice to complete the planting on Westborne side to honour our previous commitments. Other committee members have given their considerable expertise to specific parts of the project i.e James McGarry (Scoreboard) , Martin Durkan (Dugouts/Goalposts) and of course the man himself Danny Griffin who has done an excellent job on the new signage. Each and every person has played a significant role to hopefully deliver a pitch we can be very proud of.



However I cannot let this opportunity pass without mentioning the excellent goodwill and support from our neighbours both in Westbourne and Cremorne. Without their full support this project could not have happened and, for that, the club will be forever grateful. On behalf Ballyboden St Enda's and the wider community can I say a big 'Thank You'.

It's now up to all our members to respect this very valuable resource. With seeding now complete we would hope to re-open the pitch in summertime 2017. It's critical to allow growth to fully develop over next few months undisturbed. It will benefit us all in the long term.

Other activities include the development of a 'Computer Room ' in Sancta Maria. This is in the early stages and is being chaired by Ciaran Maguire on how best to utilize these facilities. We continue to work with SDCC to ensure our interests in the various local developments are maintained. Good relationships with the local schools are critical and we work together to the best of our abilities and offer assistance with pitches and facilities where possible. The work Liam Deane carried out on the pitch in Colaiste Éanna is a fine example. Both parties worked together to ensure a better standard of pitch and the result is of benefit to all.

Thanking you for your support and patience with the various projects.







## Report by Ger McGovern

### Siúltóirí Búdáin Trip to Mayrhofen

On a typically gloomy September morning a group of 40 intrepid walkers from Siúltóirí Búdáin headed out from Dublin Airport for a week's walking tour of some of the Tyrolean Alps in Austria. We were based in the well-known ski village of Mayrhofen. This is at the centre of the Zillertal valley, with over 1400 km of hiking trails laid out over the mountains and valleys that feed into Mayrhofen. Siúltóirí Búdáin are a walking group formed only six years ago from within the GAA community of the Ballyboden St Enda's Club in Dublin. We now number over 60 within the club. Over the last 6 years we have walked all around our local hinterland of Dublin and Wicklow, allowing time for our walking skills and stamina to develop. This was, for most people in the group, their first ever experience of walking the hills. On four or so occasions a year we have been travelling as far south as the Galtee Mountains and as far north as the Mourne on day trips. On certain long weekends we have travelled to West Cork, Kerry, Connemara and Donegal. Apart from that, once a year we have ventured abroad to cover a large section of the Camino Way in Spain, and the Via Francigena in Tuscany, Italy. This year the group's wise committee chose Tyrolean village of Mayrhofen, given that a few of our members had been there both summer and winter in the past, and thus had known its advantages.

We stayed in the 4 star Strass Hotel right in the heart of the village, which proved to be an enlightened choice. The time of the year (3rd to 10th September) was the valley season for tourism in the area, and a group of 40 people would have been most welcome anywhere! An excellent value for money deal was negotiated with the hotel.

The facilities of the hotel were top class. Superb rooms, food, and very friendly service, and it became our centralised base for the week. There were swimming pools and sauna facilities which proved to be excellent for the weary traveller after a long day trekking the mountains. The village itself was an eye-opener. Set at the heart of what the valley has to offer in terms of its services, it was magical in its beauty and general practicality. Traditional Tyrolean décor on all the houses, shop fronts and hotels set off the village. The transport links were second to none, with two major ski lifts centred there (the Penkenbahn and the Ahornbahn) and bus routes to the 5 feeder valleys in this area starting in the village as well. A narrow gauge train facilitated visits to the region's capital of Innsbruck. A single Zillertal ticket covered our transport needs for the week at amazing cost of €61 per head.

There was a lot of excitement within the group about the scale of the walks we were scheduled to do, but any initial concerns proved groundless, because we found that there was something to suit everybody's level of ability. Given the ski background of the area, we had two excellent ski gondola lifts which carried us from the village at 650 meters to the walking areas at 2000+ meters on both sides of the valley, the Ahorn area and the Penken mountain areas.

A feature of the Austrian Tyrol is the proliferation of over 150 mountain huts ("Huttes") which allows walkers to spend a comfortable overnight in the mountains, or indeed if the weather turns unexpectedly bad, they can take emergency refuge. Snow can fall at any time of the year in the Tyrol.

Our first trek took us up the Ahorn lift, and from there we embarked on a 3 hour round trip to the Edelhutte restaurant at 2200 meters; day one and we had bright sunshine and 20 degrees temperatures even at this height, a far cry from the gloom at home! The Alps absolutely looked at their best. The Edelhutte is a staging post for the onward trek to the Ahornspitze Mountain at an elevation of 2973 meters. This being day one we just aimed to achieve the Edelhutte level, and one third of the group took the round trip walk from the Ahornbahn. The rest chose to continue a tough 1600 meter downhill push back to the village. This group landed back 4 hours after the others! A bonus though was to sit out a 30 minute typically sudden Alpine downpour in the comfort of another hutte, where Apple Strudel and coffee were consumed in quantities to sustain the balance of the downward slog.

This proved to be the theme for the week. Depending on abilities our very large group could split and indulge in whatever activities took their fancy. This included a six hour trek from the top of the Penken lift to the village of Lanersbach, interrupting the idyllic rest of certain cows en route! Another day a group undertook a 60km round trip cycling the length of the valley. Some had not been on a bicycle in 40 years!

On our scheduled "down day" mid-week another part of the group took a day trip to Innsbruck, the capital of the Tyrol, and walked around in shorts and t-shirts. While at the same time a further group took a 40 minute bus ride to the top of the valley to visit the Hintertux Glacier, and indulge in snowball fights!

The highlight of the week was the "Circuit of the Zillertal" on the Thursday. This walk is part of the Berlin High Trail, a must do for high Alpine walkers. Again very fine weather met us as we disembarked at the picturesque Schlegeis Reservoir, having enjoyed another 40 minute bus journey through towering scenery. We then started our ascent from an elevation of 1800 metres and meandered our way through striking Alpine beauty up to a rest stop at the Friesenberghaus Hutte at 2500 meters. The first half of the climb had taken its toll on more than half of the walking group. They turned back after a short stop at the Hutte, while the rest of us embarked on the last 150 meter scramble/walk in rarefied air to the highest point at 2620 meters. However there were still tough sections to complete, including a 2km traverse of a rock/scree field, and two areas where the path had fallen away due to rock falls. We finally arrived at the Olpererhutte two hours later at 2390 meters, and then descended steeply to the 1800 meter level to take the bus back to the hotel. This was a seven hour trek overall.

Despite the size and various ability levels of the group, everyone thoroughly enjoyed the week. It has definitely been one of the highlights of our six year existence. The major problem facing the hard-working committee is to come up with a destination next year that can top this year's adventure!





About to depart for the walking trails  
at the top of the Penken mountain



The group about to head up to the Circuit of the Zillertal



Beara Way, Co.Cork



## Ballyboden St.Enda's Schools Report

Brian O'Regan & Paul McLoughlin

Ballyboden St.Endas' excellent relationships with our local primary & secondary schools continues. 2016 was another great year which included Schools Coaching, Primary School Blitzes, Sam Maguire Visits, Ballyboden Senior All Ireland Champions Visits, Transition Year Programmes and much more.

Our School Blitzes are an exciting day out for the boys and girls with 500+ students taking part over the course of 4 days. Our Transition Year programme in St.Colmcilles Community School, allows the club to expand the level of coaching in our local primary schools and to allow more children the opportunity to play Football, Hurling, Ladies Football & Camogie.

The School visits from our Senior Football All Ireland Club Football Champions and also from members of the Dublin team with Sam Maguire were huge events in all our local schools. Many of our local schools were lucky enough to get to the Cumann na mBunscol Finals too. Well done to all!

We would, once again, like to thank all our local schools for their continued support in promoting GAA in the locality.



Collie Basquel in Loreto

**SAM**  
...went to school



Ballyroan Boy's Senior Football Cumann na mBunscol Winners 2016, with Dublin Players and the Sam Maguire & Andy Merrigan Trophies



TY Students from Ballybodens TY Coaching Programme in St Colmcilles Community School with the Sam Maguire and the 2nd Class Footballers from St Colmcilles Junior National School







Gaelcoil Chnoc Liamhna's Senior Ladies Football Girls Finalists 2016



Gaelcoil Chnoc Liamhna's Senior Football Boys Finalists 2016



Ballybodens Dublin Stars are welcomed in Scoil Noamh Pádraig





## FAMILY DAY 2016

The club's annual Family Fun Day was held on Sunday 1st of May. With Fun events such as Live Music performances, Inflatable Games, Woolly Farm Animal Exhibition, Balloon Artists, Coaches &

Kids Matches, BBQ, Dog Show and much much more. It proved to be a brilliant day out for Young and Old alike! Many thanks to all the volunteers who helped make this day a huge success and we look forward to hosting it again in 2017.





## Hurling Report 2016

Dave Conway



2015 was an extremely successful year and following it was always going to be difficult and not surprisingly 2016 has proven to have been a very tough year for the Hurling Section. We had limited success in terms of trophies and unfortunately three of our four adult teams were relegated from their League

Divisions. On a more positive note overall our minors have done well in their Leagues, with the Minor A's securing the Division 1 League title and our Minor C team providing us with our only Championship victory this season. See features later in this report. The Senior team also won the Leinster League.



Leinster League Winners 2016

We entered four teams in Adult Leagues and five in Adult Championships. We were unfortunate to meet Cuala in the A Championship when we did and lost a terrific game to them after extra time in the quarter-final. It's often said and proven that...

### *Small Margins make Big Differences*

Cuala have since gone on to, not only win Dublin but, become the Leinster Club Champions. We congratulate them and wish them the best of luck as they now prepare for the All Ireland Semi Final in February.

We also entered 3 Minor Teams and won the Minor D Championship by beating St.Sylvesters on a score line of 3-06 to 1-11 after extra time. Congratulations to the players and management alike for their never say die attitude.

While this has been a difficult year, the one area we cannot fault anyone for is the lack of effort. The management and players of the various teams strove to do their upmost for Ballyboden St.Endas. Overall the level of co-operation between the various teams was very good but there is always room for improvement. To quote Steve Hansen, All Blacks Head Coach, following their recent defeat to Ireland, "WE must all look at ourselves to see how WE can improve".

Congrats also to Collie O'Neill and James Madden on their Leinster U21 Championship success this year.





We had a team in each of the top 4 Adult divisions in 2016. This was unique and clearly our playing resources were stretched to, and in some cases beyond, the limits. There were a number of issues that contributed to the relegation of three of our four teams and these included the impact of having to regularly play 4 league games at the same time, not just without our inter-county players, but also without quite a number of dual players who were “busy” winning the All Ireland. Injuries were also a huge issue as was the retirement/unavailability of some players due to personal and professional reasons. Perhaps we had overstretched our resources and paid the price. Clearly the pressures associated with trying to field and play at the levels we strived to was beyond our available resources and the enjoyment was lost.

We had three Minor teams in 2016 and all competed very well in both league and championship. It is however a source of worry that, while we had five representatives on the county Minor squad, the numbers playing competitively at this level remains low and this is an area that needs to be looked at. We have high expectations that the Minors will bring their own brand of success to 2017 but we must be sure that they are afforded every opportunity to be coached and play at the highest level.



Dublin Minors: Conor O'Donoghue, Cillian Byrne, Aidan Mellett, Luke Corcoran, Shane Kennedy

Perhaps we now need to look at how best we can re-introduce fun and enjoyment back into hurling. The pressure to win is huge and it is very demanding on players at all levels. We must recognise and respect the fact that all players can't give the same level of commitment to training etc. It is also very demanding on the managers and mentors who give of their time for “the cause”.



1916 Commemorations - Junior D team stands to attention

Regretfully there has been very little, if any, progress made this year in the area of access to club players who are “away” with the various Dublin squads. Indeed, if anything it could possibly become worse as Dublin now enter teams in the U17 competitions.

The recent setting up of a Club Players Association may help address some of the issues we and many other clubs experience on an ongoing basis.

Finally, we'd like to wish all club members a healthy and prosperous new year as we look forward to new opportunities and new challenges with renewed vigour in 2017.





## Minor A League Champions

Le Fear Bog reports...

Just as it was looking like the hurling year was about to end on a damp note, unexpectedly Santa Claus arrived early to Sancta Maria to present the Division 1 Cup to Ballybodens Minor A squad.

This was a victory that brought out the undoubted talent in this team and a performance that was anticipated all year was finally delivered to defeat the recently crowned county champions.

The foundations for the victory were laid down in the first ten minutes as Boden raced in to a 1-3 to 0-0 lead. Aaron Coffey at corner forward was on fire as he accounted for 1-2 of this total. His goal in the 3rd minute was a brilliant piece of opportunism as he grasped a diagonal delivery from defence, turned his marker and sprinted 20 meters to deliver a bullet to the net. Shane Kennedy embellished the lead with some fine scores from play and frees. Aidan Mellett was also prominent in this period and he would finish the match with 4 fine points from play.

By half time Ballyboden had established a lead of 2-7 to 0-1. Boden's second goal was a flick of a high delivery by the towering Eoghan Monahan just on the cusp of half time.

Na Fianna demonstrated that they are worthy county champions in the second half and aided by a freshening breeze, they cut the lead down to 4 points with as many minutes left to the final whistle. The Na Fianna goal came in the 20th minute of the half from a penalty, the second one awarded to them on the day. Nervous times but Ballyboden showed tremendous resilience and character to finish off the job and once again Shane Kennedy was the finisher in chief. In addition, points from captain James Holland and substitute Mikey Dunne put the result beyond the reach of the Mobhi Road side.



## Minor C 'D' Championship Winners

An extract from the Limrick Layder report...

The final score - BBSE 3-8 St.Sylvesters 1-11.  
(full match report on [bodengaa.ie](http://bodengaa.ie))

The Boden crowd swarmed onto the pitch with unbridled joy... there was great rejoicing .... like a Tinkers wedding they'd come from far and wide. Our Debonair Chairman, Mr Moran led the way, the 3rd Policeman was there - with that contented look on his face, Chief O'Neill was there from the A's, the genial M. Garvey from the B's with his sidekick 'The Fiery' General O'Donoghue were there, Mick from the NRA, who showed the way with last years' team was there with his good lady - adorned in white and well contrasted by the Captains mother in blue, Gerry the Juvenile Chairman who drove back from Cork (after drinking one glass of Poitin the night before with his father in law) was there, our Newsletter Editor & Photographer Cathy was there, Long John Ryan was there - having just flown in from Dubai to survey the progress of the grass on the

clubhouse pitch, check out his hacienda up on the hills and head back out again, the goalies grandmother 'Geraldine' was there ...and in fairness to most of them they were in their Sunday best and nicely tipped up!

We thanked our hosts at Trinity Gaels for their hospitality, bought a few of their lotto tickets and headed towards the Dublin mountains.

We regrouped at 7.00pm in the clubhouse – Mick had laid on a lavish dinner – Chicken Curry 'Leitrim Style' (his grandmother picked up the recipe at an ICA meeting in Aghwillan after the war-when meat was scarce) – finding a bit chicken was similar to finding the ring in a barmbrack! Having said that the Coach, Frank 'the baker' and mé féin levelled a few re-heated plates of the said curry at a late hour and strolled home most contented.

It was a glorious night...  
the sky was only majestic...  
studded with stars...  
Glory Glory God in Heaven!







# Booden babies



Danny Durkin 29-04-16  
Son of Tara and Paul Durkin



Hugo Hiney 25-10-16  
Son of Stephen Hiney and Elaine Hickey



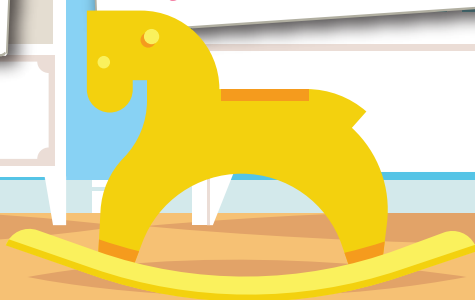
Dan Fitzgerald 12-6-16  
Son of Aisling Farrelly & Mark Fitzgerald



Eva Kerin 11-3-16  
Daughter of Andrew and Lynn Kerin



Bobby Masterson 21-11-16  
Son of Marty Masterson & Fiona Hughes







# Boden Wedding bells



*Amy Keane and Graham Ward  
who were married on August 5th  
in Kilmainhamwood Church Co. Meath*



*Shane Durkin and his bride Sinéad Allen  
who were married on 16th of September  
in Church San Antonio Frigiliana Spain*



*Emma & Chris Gaulfield  
June 23rd, Calpe Spain*



*Club PRO Sinéad Ryan & Derek O'Dea  
5th March 2016  
The Heritage Killenard, Co. Laois*



## Comóradh an Chéid 1916-2016

Gearóid Ó Súilleabháin



I mí na Samhna seo caite ag cruinniú den Chiorcal Cainte, a bhunaigh Seán Ó Conchúir seo chlub, thosaigh comhrá mar gheall ar Chomóradh 1916 agus ár gClub. Bhraitheamar gur ceart don Chlub a bheith lár an aonaigh. Scríobh Tomás Ó Reachtabhra síos na smaointe a bhí ag na baill agus bhí dosaen smaointe ar an liosta roimh lár mí na Nollaig. The next port of call was Chairman Brendan Moran and he gave his blessing with a special admonition... *"ok you're in charge agus rith sé an doras amach!"*

Little did they realise that before 2016 had expired, two clubs with names inspired by the events of 100 years ago – Ballyboden St Endas and Na Píarsaigh of Limerick- would be All-Ireland club football and hurling champions.

### Launch

John Kirwan was appointed Chair and with Tomás, Seán and Gerry O'Sullivan formed the core group of a much larger Club effort that sought to involve as many people and sections as possible. The Government had set seven themes for the centenary commemorations- State Ceremonial, Historical Reflection, An Teanga Bheo, Youth and Imagination, Cultural Expression, Community Participation and Global and Diaspora – and the club programme of events largely followed that template. The outcomes went beyond everyone's expectations. While some projects remain to be finalised, the impact has been significant and the club can be proud of the enthusiastic and positive way members rose to the challenge.

Following a widespread consultation in the club, an impressive programme of events was compiled, all very neatly captured in a brochure designed by Mariana Reis de Almeida from São Paulo in Brazil and produced by Gerry O'Sullivan. Bhí Áras an Club lán go doras chun an Clár Comóradh a lainseáil and once launched by Club Chairman Brendan Moran in February, members and friends rowed in behind the events in impressive fashion. The success of the senior football team provided an excellent backdrop and provided a very tangible testament of how far the club has come. The All-Ireland win vindicated those that established the club in that 1966-1969 period. But the impact went beyond that and there was justifiable national pride at the way the country marked the Centenary Year.



### Clár na Bliana

The calendar was rich in its diversity – Brendan Moran remarked that there "were over 24 events listed in the brochure". There was diversity too in the implementation with all sections of the club and the wider community involved. Emer Kennedy-Gannon mobilised the social media forces and in no time the word was out.

Bhí imeachtaí ar siúl beagnach gach seachtain- Léachtanna, Ceol, Drámaíocht, Ócadí Searmanais, Siúlóidí, Cluichí agus an Teanga. Events took place at the club, in Rathfarnham and in other parts of the city. These included –

- A visit to the Abbey Theatre to see Sean O'Casey's play "The Plough and the Stars" led by Fintan Walsh and the Age Action group.
- Guided tours led by Seán O'Gorman from Dún Laoghaire to Mount Street and on another occasion through the city centre streets, the Garden of Remembrance and Arbour Hill. Another walk covered the route that local volunteers took in Rathfarnham and concluded with a visit to Scoil Éanna – the school founded by Padraig Pearse. On the first walk at Mount Street Bridge d'fhág Fintan Walsh bláthfhleasc "I gcuimhne ar na hÓglaigh chróga a fuair bás ar son Saoirse na hÉireann agus orthu siúd a fuair bás gar don droichead seo i lár Seachtain na Cásca 1916, ó mhuintir Bhaile Buadáin Naomh Éanna."



### Seisiún

The monthly Seisiúns organised by Joe Johnston brought forth often hidden talent within the club and kept the momentum going. Song, tunes, stories, poetry, dancing agus go leor eile. The following sums up one such night...

"Ó Chill Aodán go dtí n Poc ar Buille: ó Níl na Lá go dtí Sean Dún nGall: ó Chúinla go Beidh Aonach Amárach. Na deirfiúracha Hogan, Cáit is Rós ag canadh go binn. Amhrán breá ón Iodáil in onóir cuairt a bhfoireann rugbaí le John Ó Cearúil. Amhrán ó Albain is Beir Mí Ó ó Peter is Eileen agus iad ag aithris Óró Sé do Bheatha Abhaile le Pádraig Uasal Mac Piarais. Ó Deirdre, Hannah is Sinéad, ó na beirt Johns go dtí ár sean chara Fiontán le Trasna na dTonnta go dtí Seán Ó Duibhir an Ghleanna. Ó Phríosún Chluain Meala go hOileán Dhún an Óir is mórán mórán eile a mba liosta iad a lua idir mhná agus fir, óg is aosta. Bhí an-chraic againn go deo, filíocht ceol is rince – go mbeirimid beo ar an am seo arís! Baile Buadáin Naomh Éanna Abú."

### Féile na nÓg

The Under 12 Boys and Girls Centenary Féiles took place in St Enda's Park where the spirit of the Pearse Brothers could almost be felt. Thanks to the staff in St. Enda's Park, the Pearse Museum and to the OPW. Emmet Pullan, Seamie O'Neill and the Juvenile Committee did a great job. The club was not on its own at the Féiles with teams from Ballinteer St. Johns, Raheny, Kilmacud Crokes, St. Vincents and Faughs-Celtic joining the fun.



## Walks

Walking has become a very popular activity in the club since Conor Sheehan formed Na Siúltóirí Buadáin. Therese Keville led the charge with members taking to the road, many in period costume, to commemorate the men from the local area (E company 4th Dublin Battalion) who took part in the Easter Rising. Gerry Hogan was instrumental in organising this event and John Kirwan reported "Along the route we visited the graves of and stopped outside the homes of a number of the men from our locality that fought in the GPO in Easter Week. Our first stop was at Templeogue cemetery, where one hundred and twenty one participants passed through the narrow stile. There we laid wreaths on the graves of Commander Michael Boland and Private Tomas Corbally. We then walked back along Butterfield Avenue where we were greeted by many of the householders as we passed. Just after the Garda Station on the same side of the road we stood outside the cottage where two brothers, Patrick and James Sweeney, who were volunteers, lived. In Rathfarnham village we stopped outside the former homes of: Henry Gannon, James Kenny, Francis Sheridan and Patrick O'Connor and laid a wreath outside the home of Frank Mackin who was killed in action in Easter week. At the end of the village we saw the spot where the men boarded the tram on Easter Monday and listened to part of the witness statement of Frank Burke who was subsequently headmaster in Scoil Éanna and holder of five All Ireland medals. Heading back through the village we stopped at Rathfarnham RC Church where the men first assembled on the Easter Monday morning. Our journey then took us along Grange Road with many more interesting locations to see and hear about. We saw where Commandant Michael Boland and other volunteers, James Wardick and Matt Caffrey lived. The area was known as The Pond and is now Loreto Cottages. James Wardick was the great uncle of Philip Wardick who won a senior football championship with Ballyboden St. Endas in 1995. We saw where the former home of Kevin O'Carroll, the instigator of the restoration of Kilmainham was. We then moved on to St. Patrick's Cottages where a special highlight was a stop outside the home of Rathfarnham and other Volunteers from the surrounding area."

## From walks to talks

Through the good auspices of Tomás Ó Reachtabhra, the club was able to attract renowned historian Professor Diarmaid Ferriter of UCD. A packed audience hung on his every word.

In a lively Question and Answers session which followed the lecture, when pressed by Ben McGrath, a very alert school boy, he conceded that Thomas Clarke probably should have been accorded the leadership of the Provisional Government and not P.H. Pearse since he was the oldest of the seven signatories and could trace his involvement in separatist activities back to the Fenians. He had also spent the best part of 15 years in jail for his efforts unlike any of the others. Gerry Hogan has expended a lot of hours in tracing the local story and at his presentation, accompanied by Tony Duffy of the Rathfarnham Historical Society, descendents of volunteers attended along with 1916 medals, copies of letters written at the time, photographs and other memorabilia. To the delight of the attendance a recently discovered Autograph Book from Frongoch was unveiled.

"These volunteers, heroes of 1916 were no longer forgotten".



## Oíche Siamsaíochta le scoileanna an Cheantair

Mar chuid de clár bhí an halla sa lán go doras nuair a chuir scoileanna áitiúla "Seó" iontach ar stáitse.

Do ghlac seacht scoil páirt (faoi stiúr Séamus Ó Néill) agus chuireadar clár éagsúil bríomhar i láthair. Bhí poirt á sheinm, amhráin á gcanadh, dánta á naithris agus drámaí á léiriú go hiontach sciúil snasta le hard chaighdeán. Bhain an slua mór ana thaitneamh as an oíche. Seo leannas na scoileanna a glac páirt:

- Scoil Naomh Pádraig
- Ballyroan Boys National School
- Scoil Carmel
- Chnoc Liamsha
- Rathfarnham Parish School
- Gaelcholáiste an Phiarsaigh
- St.Colmcille's Senior National School

## Céilí Mór and Proclamation

No part of a 1916 Commemorative Programme would be complete without a reading of the Proclamation. This task was ably accomplished by Commandant Jody Moran at a Céilí Mór in the Clubhouse. The music of the aptly named Brian Boru Céilí Band, a dancing performance by Scoil Rince Seoige and the contribution of Piper Jimmy Quirke made it a night to remember.



## On Stage

Given that the Rising is often referred to as the "Poets Rebellion", it was fitting that the Boden Theatre Group should contribute and four sell-out performances of a "A Terrible Beauty Is Born" won huge accolades. A team led by John Joe O'Sullivan, Carol Fitzmaurice, Pat Egan, Mick Keville, Joe Kearney and Mary Cleary and their able allies did the club proud.

## Le Teacht

So full is the programme of events that some spilled over to 2017. A Commemorative Tree, Stone and Plaque was installed and unveiled by Micheál Ó Muirheartaigh and a Time Capsule with contributions from local schools will be buried in a suitable location. There is a very real possibility that a Handball Section will be established very soon – thus completing the entire Gaelic games offer.

A wonderful programme was richly enjoyed by literally thousands of members young and old. The experience drew deserved praise. Coiste Chair John Kirwan commented "We are very proud to have been involved in remembering and celebrating the people and events of 1916. The success of our endeavours is due to the engagement, commitment and enthusiasm of our members supported by our committees, local schools and other bodies. It was an inspirational journey. Míle buíochas daoibh go léir".

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