

The 'BODEN News

Ballyboden St. Endas G.A.A., Camogie & Ladies Football Club
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IRISLEABHAR BAILE BUADÁIN NAOMH ÉANNA
Nollaig 2014

Senior Camogie Championship Winners 5-in-a-row!



U16 Football Championship



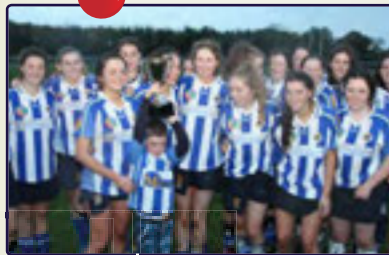
U16 Ladies Football League & Championship



U15 Hurling Championship



U16 Hurling Championship



U16 Camogie Championship



U14 Feile Football Championship



H&K International

BALLYBODEN ST. ENDA'S MAIN CLUB SPONSOR

Focal ón gCathaoirleach



At the time of writing it has been yet again a very successful year on the playing fields for our Club. It might not appear so at first glance, but let us take a closer look. The Senior A Camogie team won the Dublin County Championship for the 5th year in a row, beating a gallant St. Vincent's team by a solitary goal. This team of wonderful ladies led by their captain Rachel Ruddy together with

the mentors led by Ritchie Sweetman have brought great honour and glory to our Club. The result of this win means that since 1999 Ballyboden have won at least 1 senior championship every year to the present time. This means that our Club has been successful as senior championship winners in each of the last 16 years. What an achievement. Our Senior Hurlers (county champions in 6 of the last 7 years) reached the semi-final this year where they lost to Kilmacud Crokes. Similarly our Senior Footballers also reached the semi-final of the county championship losing out to St. Vincents. In both cases we were beaten by the eventual champions, so we are very close. Our senior ladies football team performed well but bowed out in the group stages to very strong opposition.

More detailed reports can be read in other articles in this edition of the Boden News, concerning our other adult teams, but for now I would like to concentrate on the juvenile section and comment on the "young blood" coming through. Read on and the following is a list of teams who have won titles during 2014.

- (1) Under 13B Hurling League Division 4 winners**
- (2) Under 14A Division 1 Football Feile Champions**
- (3) Under 15B Football League Division 4 winners**
- (4) Under 15B Hurling League Division 3 winners.**
- (5) Under 15A Hurling Championship winners**
- (6) Under 16A Hurling Championship winners**
- (7) Under 16A Football Championship winners.**
- (8) Under 16A Camogie Championship winners.**
- (9) Under 16A Ladies Football League & Championship winners.**

If you look closely at the list you will see an incredible "clean sweep" for our club at the U16 level which bodes well for the Club's future. However I must sound a note of caution here, as past experience has shown that success at juvenile level does not always translate into successful adult teams. However likewise it is also true that boys and girls playing on B C or D teams during their teenage years, often make the best adult player eventually. The goal that the Club faces is to retain and support our young players of all ages in their sporting & social career so that they regard Ballyboden St.Enda's as their club FOR LIFE.

Success at County Level

Success at county level this year was more of a case this year of nearly made it. In senior football there can be no denying that on the day Donegal were the better team in the All Ireland semi-final. For that reason it was not a great year of celebration for the Dublin trio of Michael, Declan & Darragh. Yet they won Leinster and National League, a feat that players from any other county would be thrilled to win, but for the Dubs....well more is expected. Still the three guys gave their all and did the Club proud. However Ballyboden club players did obtain All-Ireland success when both Robbie McDaid and Sam Molony were part of the successful Dublin U21 team that beat Roscommon in the All-Ireland football final last May. Well done to both players. In addition the Dublin Minor football team were crowned Leinster Champions this year and the Club had four representatives on the team and these were, Shane Clayton, Colm Basquel, Barra McGarry & Warren Egan. This team were expertly coached by our very own Mark Fee. So well done to all concerned.

Who can forget the heart breaking experience that our two Ballyboden Ladies Rachel Ruddy and Natalia Hyland felt in the All Ireland Ladies Football Final against Cork. It was an absorbing encounter, but to get beaten by a single point was hard to take. However both ladies did the Club proud and they bounced back with renewed vigour and helped the Club win the county camogie championship. True sportspeople.

Challenges Ahead

As you know 2014 saw the full operation of the ball wall come into effect. The feedback received from the coaching staff of all teams shows the ball wall has helped enormously to improve the skills levels of all our players especially at juvenile level, as evidenced by the success of so many of our juvenile teams. Still more needs to be done and detailed plans are in place that will see a complete change to both the composition and layout of the gymnasium in Sancta Maria. We recognise, especially for our adult teams, that the Club must make improvements on this front. We anticipate that this program of works will start early in 2015.

Off the field

In 2013 the Club made a commitment to furnish the hall, which had become quite dilapidated. As a result of this investment the Club has seen an increase in the level of social activities taking place, which is very welcome. It was especially pleasing to see the hall full of juveniles and young children watching the All-Ireland Finals on the big screen. On many other occasions as well, it was especially pleasing to witness various adult teams utilizing the Club's facilities after games. It had become a practise that teams whether successful or otherwise were not coming back to the Club after games. I am delighted to see that this practise is now reversed and that the players, both men & women identify more clearly with the ethos of the Club.

The Céili dancing which takes place every month has had a very successful year with an increase in numbers attending thanks in no small measure to the improvements made to the hall. The Boden Drama Society continues to go from strength to strength and the recent production of "Many Young Men of Twenty" had full houses on each of the four nights that the show took place, which is a testament to the quality of our Drama Society. The pool room is undergoing a face lift with a new pool table being installed in the month of November with both Roger and "Cats" giving the pool room a badly needed facelift. We also like to believe that the Friday night card school people enjoy coming to the Club and Tuesday nights continue to be popular with the regular attendees of the bingo sessions. Speaking of the bingo sessions, we all would like to pay tribute to Iomair Tracey for his outstanding work as MC of the bingo sessions for many years and to wish him well in his recovery.

I would like also to pay tribute to Annette, Teresa & Linda for their support as well. The true ethos of our Club manifests itself in many ways, but none better than the tea/coffee and scones that are on offer to all parents & guardians attending the academy on Saturday mornings in the Club. This service is provided by Jackie, Kathleen, Mary, Peter & Liam. It is much appreciated by everyone who avails of the refreshments. My thanks also to Tommy Clinton and his faithful senior citizen crew for all the fundraising that they do during the year, to provide support for the eagerly awaited Christmas Party. I believe that we now have 45 active walkers in Siúltóirí Buadáin, and this group (all club members) contribute so much to the fabric of the Club. I would like to thank everyone who contributes to the weekly Boden Newsletter, especially Cathy Murray who brings all the news stories together.

Of course the change in Bar Manager has made a difference as well. After 20 years of great service to the Club, Ned Slattery decided that it was time for him to say goodbye and on behalf of all members I would like to thank Ned for the great service he gave to the Club. After engaging in a process of seeking a successor, the Club appointed Michael (Mick) Farrell as the new bar manager. I think it's fair to say that Mick has brought his own unique style to the club and the changes we have seen in the operation of the bar have been welcomed by members and guests alike.

I cannot let this opportunity pass without thanking your hard working Executive for all the support & work that they do for the Club and most especially to our General Manager Noel Sheridan. I wish every member & friend of Baile Buadáin Naomh Éanna a very Happy Christmas & a Prosperous New Year.

Let 2015 roll on, C'mon Boden!

Brendan Moran
Cathaoirleach

Sean Flynn - Profile

Name:
Age:
Club:
Position:

Favourite Food:
Favourite book:
Favourite Film:

Who is your sporting hero:

Hero outside of the sporting world:

What is your favourite saying:

What does Ballyboden mean to you:



Sean Flynn
80
Ballyboden St. Endas GAA
Lotto Committee and many roles in Ballyboden GAA over the years
Steak & Onions
The God Delusion by Richard Dawkins
Christine Noble
Conal Keaney
Nelson Mandela
Murphy's Law "If it can happen it Will"
My Second Family

Credits: Eagarthóir: Sinead Ryan, **Contributors:** Sinead Ryan, Neil Buckingham, Dave Conway, Mary Hyland, Nuala Dundon, Thérèse Keville, Gerry White, Ger Flaherty, Carol Fitzmaurice, Brian O'Regan, Paul McLoughlin, Andrew Coffey, Cathy Murray & Grainne Leach.

Photographers: Mark Magahran, Liam Cunningham, Vincent Keogh, John Galvin, Eamonn O Sullivan, Sean Gilheaney, Cliona Mellett, John Kirwan, Declan O'Brien, Kevin Maguire, Eleanor Ruddy & Mick Gorman.

Design & Print Production: Neil Buckingham.

David Bobbett Feature by Sinéad Ryan



The organisation and day to day running of any sports club is a big commitment and with Ballyboden St. Enda's in the larger bracket regarding GAA clubs in Ireland sponsorship is key to help the club achieve its potential .

This year – Ballyboden St.Enda's were delighted to have H&K International agree to become the club's main sponsor and businessman David Bobbett is the brains behind this successful worldwide company. Born in Rathfarnham , David is the CEO of H&K International which is a leading global supplier of stainless steel kitchen equipment to the food service industry. The H&K Group now employs over 1,300 people, based at locations across the globe. Some of their biggest customers are a few familiar names that we would all know, McDonalds, Subway, Ikea and many more.

David is married to Anne and has six children, four boys and two girls. All the boys have played football with Ballyboden St.Enda's. Being such a successful business man, how does he keep grounded? "My family and the simple things in life keep me grounded - I love going to a game and watching the kids play – win lose or draw". Although H&K is Bobbett's main focus another passion in his life is promoting IHDA – Irish Heart Disease Awareness www.lhda.ie, a charity which he has founded as a result of being diagnosed, through a Calcification test three years ago, as having the arteries of a 90 year old. Since he was diagnosed David has actively promoted awareness of the Calcification test which identifies whether a person has heart disease and, if so, how it can be managed. His charity has recently funded a new film highlighting this health issue called the Widowmaker (www.widowmakethemovie.ie) which recently won the main award at the Boston Film Festival So as you can see David Bobbett has many strings to his bow but does he have any advice to our young entrepreneurs in Ballyboden? "Do your best, keep it simple, never be afraid of trying out something new and always remember that it is all about the team and not the individual". As you can see David's approach has worked for him and to any Ballyboden St. Enda's player his advice can also be used on the pitch.

From all in Ballyboden St.Enda's – thanks for your support David.



H&K Sponsorship Launch

Cian Durkin Tournament 2014

The 8th Annual Cian Durkin Tournament was held in the club on Monday May 5th. In a novel twist given the strength of the 1999 hurling group, with 40 boys hurling week in, week out, the club entered two even teams. Group A was made up of Ballyboden 1, Durlas Óg (Tipperary) and Naas (Kildare). In Group B, Boden 2 were paired with Kimacud Crokes our local rivals, and Na Piarasaigh (Cork) with Na Piarasaigh emerging to face Ballyboden 1 in the final. 2 Shield finals yielded winners in Boden 2 and Kilmacud.

In the Cup final, a superb Na Piarasaigh side ran out winners. Shane Durkin handed the cup to the winning captain Dessie O'Rourke, after all the competitors and supporters had been fed by Paul O'Brien and Tara Durkin, in a packed clubhouse. We look forward to seeing Na Piarasaigh return to defend the trophy in 2015.



Skills Wall Opening

On the 18th of May 2014 the official opening took place of the Wall ball at Sancta Maria. This latest development is a great addition to the already impressive playing and training facilities at these grounds. Main club sponsor H&K's David Bobbet, BBSE Chairman Brendan Moran, club dignitaries and a large crowd were in attendance at the launch. The wall ball was opened by Uachtarán CLG Liam O'Neill along with the Mayor of South Dublin County Council Dermot Looney. There was a skills demonstration by the U16 boys and girls as well as a hand ball exhibition game as part of the opening ceremony. Following the formal proceedings those present were treated to two high quality inter-county matches. Firstly, the Dublin U21 Ladies Footballers took on Louth in Aishling McGinn championship and this game was followed by an inter-county hurling challenge game between Dublin and Offaly.

Dara Ward - My GAA journey



U14 Footballer and Colaiste Eanna student Dara Ward launched his second publication on Wed, 22nd October, in the clubhouse. The evening was well attended by Dara's proud family, team mates, club members and some Boden and Dublin senior players. Endorsed by the GAA, it includes a message from GAA President Liam O'Neill and words of wisdom and advice from GAA greats such as Brian Cody, Henry Shefflin and our very own Michael Darragh Macauley as well as snippets from each mentor from U9 up to U15. The memory book, which is in a workbook format, enables Juveniles to record and track their progress from Academy to U15. The layout allows the players to record skills learnt, highlights of the year, league results e.t.c which enables children to hold onto the memories that are dear to them as they journey through the GAA experience.



Alan Flood - Senior Football

Name: Alan Flood
Age: 20
Team: SENIORS
Position(s): Centre / wing forward
Fave Food / Music: popcorn / 80's & 90's
Fave TV / Movie: Wolf of Wall street
Favourite Grounds: Pairc Ui Mhurchu
Greatest moment in sport: Minor Champions 2010
Toughest opponent: Vincent's
What are your hobbies: GAA, Football & hurling
Nominate the laziest: The Molony's
GAA Gripes: Too Many unfit Referee's
Childhood heroes: Roy Keane
Pre-match superstitions: Berocca Boost
High point to date: Getting Selected for Boden Seniors
Biggest Disappointment: Constant groin trouble
Promising club players: Colm Basquel & Cathal Flaherty (if he stays away from Entourage)
Ways of improving GAA: More underage coaching
Favourite Personal Saying: Mike Tyson: "everyone has a plan until they get punched in the face"
Pet Hates: Noisy eaters!
Best advice received: Don't let the game pass you by



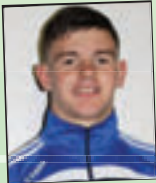
Mattie O'Sullivan - Junior A Hurling

Name: Mattie O'Sullivan
Age: 29
Team: Junior A Hurlers
Position: Midfield
Fav Food: Lamb Chops
Fav book: Confederacy of Dunces
Fav Film: Stepbrothers
Sporting hero: Johnny McCormack – A real Pro
Deco Keating – sometimes he plays hurling too
Change you would make to the GAA: Wouldn't be playing County Finals in Winter
What is your superstition as a player: Have to wrap my boots with insulating tape before every game
Shut up Collie!
What is your fave saying: It means a lot to still be a part of the club after 20 years and still playing with the same lads. It's good to have something to look forward to after Christmas every year.
What does Ballyboden mean to you:



Boden Player Profiles

James Holland - U16 Dual



Name: James Holland
Section: U16 A Dual player
Position: Midfield, Centre back
Fave Food: Steak and pasta
Fave Band: Artic Monkeys
Fave Ground: PUM

Best Sport Moment: Winning U16 A Football C/ship May 2014
Toughest Opponent: St Bridigs
High point to date: Captaining the Dublin Colleges Hurling in Leinster
Hobbies: Music
GAA Gripes: New hurling penalty rules
Laziest teammate: Rob Byrne

Any other sports: Golf
Promising Players: Aidan Mellett, Luke Corcoran, Cillian Byrne & Aaron Coffey
Advice you'd give: Work hard, keep at it and keep practicing
How would you like to be remembered: As Captain of the Boden Senior All Ireland winning team

Emily Flanagan - U16 Football

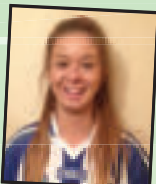


Name: Emily Flanagan
Section: U16 A Football
Position: Wing back/forward
Fave Food: Chicken curry
Fave Book: The Fault in our Stars
Fave TV: Prison Break

Sporting Heroes: Joanne O'Sullivan BBSE & Henry Shefflin
Hero outside sport: My Granny, sure she is still travelling the world at 91!!
Change GAA how? To allow contact in ladies football, its very soft!
Superstition? Wearing a pair of ankle socks under football socks.

Fave saying? "Get up, you'll be down long enough!!"
What does Boden mean to you? I have met a lot of friends through Boden, I have had the opportunity to have fun on and off the field. Ballyboden has given me a lot of sporting opportunities which I am very thankful for.

Orlagh Tevlin - U16 Camogie



Name: Orlagh Tevlin
Section: U16 A Camogie
Position: Wing back/forward
Fave Food: Mashed potato
Fave Music: Pop
Fave TV: TOWIE

Fave Ground: PUM
Toughest Opponent: Lucan
Sporting Heroes: Henry Shefflin
Change GAA how? It's perfect as it is
Superstition? Nope!
High point: When we won Dublin feile
Low point: Lost All Ireland feile S/Final
Laziest team-mate? Jodie White

Other sports? Football
Promising Players: Claire kirwan
Pet Hates: People are giving out from the sideline
How would you like to be remembered? For being a good team player
How do you think you will be remembered? For not bending my knees to pick up he ball

Danny Griffin - Profile



Name: Daniel Griffin
Position: Executive committee member and sponsorship manager
Favourite food: Steak and chips
Favourite book: Alex Ferguson autobiography
Favourite film: Mrs Doubtfire
Sporting hero/ non sporting hero: Jack O'Shea / JFK
Changes you would make to GAA: Better referees and introduce white spray to mark free positions
Favourite saying: Will you sponsor a team and/or take a pitch sign?
What does BBSE mean to you: I first came to BBSE in 1981 and knew there was something special about the place. And til this day it continues to be like that..

They always say there is one Kerry rogue within a GAA Club - we have a few in Ballyboden St Enda's but there's one man that everyone knows in the club and that's Danny Griffin. Hailing from Cahersiveen, in Co Kerry, Danny has never lost that Kerry accent - "I moved to Dublin in 1974 so I'm nearly in Dublin longer than I ever was in Kerry. I joined Ballyboden St.Enda's in 1981 and from there the journey continued"

Danny is a very important part of Ballyboden St Enda's - he's part of the furniture now and to this day he still comes up trumps when it comes to sponsorship within the club. He recalls his first sponsorship for Ballyboden. "It was back in 1995 when we won the Dublin Senior Football Championship. We had Paul Bealin, Paul Curran and Brian Stynes playing for us and we beat Erin's Isle in the final. Ferguson TV and Video came on board. It was one of the first big GAA club sponsorships in the country"

Married to Cavan woman Josephine - the Griffins are the modern day Waltons - they all hailed from Knocklyon Green - only a stone throw away from the clubhouse and have all been involved in Boden in some way " Sheamus played football until Minor , Donal played football until Under 21 and has a few county medals under his belt. Paul and Pdraig played until minor in Football and hurling, Kieran won a Junior Football Championship medal and then Michael and Anne are still playing with the club. Both Michael and Anne have an array of county winner's medals.

Danny has been to many a game in Ballyboden St Enda's but if he had to choose his favourite game what would it be? "There have been many great games down the years and it would be unfair to pick just one. But now that I have to choose, it would be either the 2007 Dublin Senior Hurling Championship final or 2012 Dublin Senior Camogie Championship final - both were brilliant games for Ballyboden St.Enda's and for our family.

As sponsorship manager within Ballyboden St.Enda's it has been tough especially throughout the recession but Danny kept plugging away and getting sponsorship for numerous teams across the 4 codes within the club, which is a great achievement. Having joined the club in 1981 does he think the club has changed and for the better or worse? "Yes definitely it has changed and for the better. It has grown to be the biggest GAA club in the country with the best facilities, outstanding coaches, some of the best players in Ireland and the social scene in Ballyboden St Enda's is the best around' So as another season comes to a close, there is no doubt that Danny will be searching for more sponsorship for Ballyboden St.Enda's for the 2015 season... There are no excuses when Mr Griffin is around but for now it's time to relax for Christmas with his family and friends and look back at a great year.

Pool report -

Our teams had a good year in the Dodder Valley pool league this year, with our Red team runners up to the Badminton Blue and our Blue team in third place. The league is a local competition between four clubs sporting two team each, Ballyboden St Endas, Leinster Badminton Club, Templeogue Utd and Glenville Pitch and Putt.

Red Team - J.Nolan (cap) D.Coffey. C.Smith. I.Tracey. H.Cunnins. D.Foley. D.Moody.

Blue Team - R.Healey (cap) D.O'Neill. S.Doherty. D.Naughton. D.O'Carroll. P.Coffey.

C.Young. T.Seery.

The Don Hits Form!

Don O'Neill has had an exceptional year, starting in January by winning the 2013 Club Championship against Paul Coffey in the final. He also had a very good average throughout the league tournament. But the icing on the cake was teaming up with Roger Healey in the League Singles/Doubles Tournament to romp home in the final without dropping a frame and he also won player of the tournament having lost the least number of frames! Well done Don.



Ballyboden St. Enda's Senior Camogie Team 2014



5 in a row!

Dublin Senior Camogie Champions 2014

Back: Jodie White, Hannah Hyland, Fiona Corcoran, Laura Burns, Jane Edwards, Grace Walsh, Danielle White, Susan Kennedy, Aoife Tobin, Laura Nagle, Sarah Nagle, Natalia Hyland, Jill Horan, Ann Griffin, Mairead Luttrell, Roisin Walsh, Ciara Lucey

Front: Zenouska Murphy, Rebeka Kamvar, Julie McGrath, Aoife O'Neill, Emer Lucey, Orla Smith, Denise McGrath, Paula McGrath, Rachel Ruddy (Captain), Martha O'Donoghue, Aisling O'Leary, Maria McGrath, Sile Nic Coitir

Camogie Report 2014 by Gerry White



2104 was a fantastic year for the Camogie Section in the Club.

The Senior A's completed a remarkable 5 Championships in a row. In the Group Stage we began with comfortable wins over Naomh

Mearnog and St Brigids, and in our final game we had an easier than expected win over Na Fianna. This gave us a home semi-final against Lucan Sarsfields. This was going to be an enormous step up in intensity from our group games, and it took us a while to settle. After a slow start 2 quick goals before half time from Denise McGrath & Paula McGrath gave us a cushion which we never relinquished. Lucan were never able to get within touching distance, and Ann Griffin was exceptional from placed balls on the day. In the end the margin was 7 points, final score 2-13 to 1-9.

In the Final we faced St.Vincent's for the third successive year, the venue O'Toole Park. The Final will be remembered more for the physicality and work rate of both teams than anything else. Boden held a narrow lead for most of the first half, with Vincent's going down to 14 players early in the game. Mid-way through the second half Boden were a point behind, facing a stiff breeze and struggling to find any fluidity in their play. Then came a fortunate goal from a deflected free from Ann Griffin quickly followed by a fine point from Mairead Luttrell which gave us a 3 point lead. Hard as they tried, St.Vincent's could not make any goal chance despite some late pressure. Final score Boden 1-7 St Vincent's 0-7.

The following Sunday we faced the might of Oulart the Ballagh of Wexford in the Leinster semi-final. In truth we struggled in most areas of the field, and Oulart were clinical in their finishing and ran out comfortable and well deserved winners.

The County Championship is our 10th since 1999. Sile Nic Coitir, Fiona Corcoran & Orla Smith (pictured) have been involved in ALL TEN, a great achievement. The achievement of 5-in-a-row has only been achieved once previously, so we must be greedy and aim for 6 to establish a new record! Many congratulations on a fine year to Rachel and the girls, and the management team of Richie, Phil, Peter, Nuala & Bernard.



The Senior B's also had a great 2014. In recent years we have struggled in the bottom half of Division 3, but this year, all this changed. After a poor first outing resulting in defeat at neighbours Faughs, we went on a winning run with most of the wins being comprehensive. We then had the return fixture with Faughs in August when we had a comfortable victory. A few weeks later we were crowned League Champions and now look forward to Division 2 next year. We were a little inconsistent in the Championship, following up a great win over Na Fianna with a defeat to Crumlin. We made it to the semi-final where we were pipped by Portobello by 1 point, despite dominating much of the game. While this defeat was difficult to take, it does not take anything away from what has been a fine year. Well done to Gráinne and the girls, and management team Rob & Dolores.

After gaining promotion as a result of last years Division 6 League win, we expected Division 5 to be a difficult proposition for our Senior C team. However, we need not have worried as the girls acquitted themselves more than adequately and comfortably held their own in this League. In the Championship we excelled in the Group games winning them all by large margins, and accounted for Good Counsel in the semi-final. In the Final we faced Castleknock's first team. At half time we trailed by 3 points, but were confident as we would have the assistance of a strong breeze in the second half. However Castleknock scored a goal with 15 minutes to go which made our task more difficult. We cut the deficit to just 1 point but unfortunately time ran out. Again a disappointing end to the year, but Mary and the girls, and management Trish, Gerry & Deirdre should be proud of themselves.

On the juvenile front we fielded many teams from U16 down to U9. Our numbers are growing each year which is a great sign for the future. We also thank Brian, Paul and everybody involved in the Academy and also the many teachers in our local schools who continue to coach our young girls the skills of our game which will stand to them for many years.



U13 Captain Hannah Leddy with Tommy Walsh

Pride of place in the Juvenile teams goes to our U16A's. They performed well in the League in coming 2nd, and had a great run in the Championship winning their semi-final away to Lucan before overcoming St. Brigids by 11 points in the Final. The U13A's & U13B's were unfortunate in losing their Championship semi-finals, while the U16B's were defeated in their Shield Final. The U14's won the League and were unlucky to lose in the Feile Final to Oliver Plunketts by 1 point.



U16A Championship Winners

We had a number of other notable occasions during the year:

On the May Bank Holiday Monday we hosted our second U16 Invitation Tournament, with visiting teams from Cranford (Wexford), Athenry (Galway) and 2013 winners St Martins (Wexford). The day was once again a huge success thanks mainly to the wonderful organisation of Catherine, with Cranford getting the better of Boden in a well fought final.

In June we held our annual Mini All Ireland blitz for girls from U9 to U13. This year Rathfarnham & District Credit Union came on board as the sponsor of the blitz. This year we had a record number of girls playing in the blitz, over 210. The weather was great and the barbecue, ice-cream and shop did great business. The 16 teams were each kitted out in magnificent top provided by our generous Sponsor.



Mini All-Ireland Blitz

Representative honours

The following girls represented Dublin this year:

Minors: Sarah Nagle, Aisling O'Leary, Doireann Mullany, Martha O' Donoghue & Zenouska Murphy.

U16's: Sarah Lambert was with the U16's.

U15's: Emer O'Leary, Cora Ryan, Eve O'Donoghue, Áine O'Brien & Sarah Mulvey.

U14's: Aisling Gargan & Aoife Durkin

We must thank a number of people without who our success this year would not have been possible: To Club Chairman Brendan and everybody on the Club Executive who work tirelessly on all of our behalf. The Club Manager Noel Sheridan for his time and assistance throughout the year.

To Club Sponsor H&K, and our Camogie Sponsors Knocklyon Parish and Rathfarnham & District Credit Union for their generosity, and to Danny Griffin for his great work on our behalf.

To the Dublin Camogie Board for their work in continuing to develop Camogie.

To everybody involved in the Camogie section in whatever capacity that may be, as a player, mentor, coach, first-aid, etc. Without your help we could not have enjoyed this successful year.

To the many other people involved in the Club for their work on our behalf during the year, Vivian and his Maintenance Committee, Ned & Mick and their staff in the Bar, Liam and his Registration group, Sinead and the Communication group and to everybody involved in making the weekly Newsletter such a great production. To anyone who has been omitted please accept our apologies, no offence intended!

To Catherine, Orla & Gerry who have been a huge part of the Camogie section over the last number of years. At time of going to press they insist that they will be stepping aside. The work that they have done as a team over these years gives a great platform to the incoming Officers.

2014 was a historic year for Camogie in our Club, we hope 2015 brings us continued success and good health.



Ciara Lucey Feature

by Sinéad Ryan



When Camogie is mentioned in Ballyboden St Enda's – one surname always creeps up and that's the Lucey family. Now although Ciara Lucey has settled down – is married and mum of one – over the last twenty years Ciara has and still is a huge part of the Camogie section in Ballyboden St Enda's.

Growing up within a GAA background it was inevitable that Ciara was going to play some form of GAA . She started in the club at the age of eight and the rest is history as they say "I started in the camogie nursery when I was about eight or nine I think. Mr Sweeney was my coach up in the primary school at the time. It was great fun and it's great to think that I am still friends with some of the girls I met back then "

As mentioned before, the Lucey Family are heavily involved within Ballyboden St Enda's – living only a stones throw away from the club so there was no excuse being late for club home games or training. "As of this year every member of the Lucey Family have been involved in the club since we have joined – everyone knows my sister Emer aka " Lil Luce" , my brother Shane played hurling years back as a corner back and when the helmets were the big ugly round ones... My mum would have been the "mammy" for my sisters team in the early years – then as coach, mentor and minder. Dad has been involved for years but this year especially he came on board to coach alongside Richie, Philly , Bernard and Nuala and the tradition is spreading quickly. I have already decked out my little one Alannah in the Ballyboden St Enda's jersey as she celebrated our previous two county final wins and finally my soon to be sister in law and myself played senior camogie together under the management of P.J. O'Donoghue. So let's just say – it's a family affair.

Having mentioned that Ciara is recently a new mum – has Alannah changed her life? " Alannah has obviously changed our life – but for the better - well apart from the fact that my skort will never actually fit me again, she's totally changed our lives in a great way. She's lively, bubbly, extremely social and absolutely wild!! She definitely keeps me on my toes. She has been on the move in her new shoes so there's no stopping her now. She must have got her speed from her daddy's side or her aunty coz she's a little flyer. She's been a regular at games and in the dressing room this season. She even sported her oversized Boden t-shirt for the county final. She was 6 days old in 2013 when she first set hands on "Maura" the cup, and got a chance to have a two in a row picture earlier this month..."



Looking back over the years what are Ciara's highlights? "God, it's difficult to pick one highlight, so I have chosen a few – In club fixtures it would be the Feile final U14 – 1999 Division 2 final win, the Leinster Final vs Rathnure 2008 game and the County Final vs Erin's Isle in 2010 – officially the fittest I ever was in my life!! For county it is playing in Croke park in 2005 All-Ireland Junior final with Clare.

Although Ciara's playing career has wound down over the last two years - she is always keen to be part of Ballyboden St. Enda's. "Having played in the club for over 20 years now, it's fair to say the club, the coaches, my teammates throughout the years have had a massive influence on me. All positive! Its very clichéd but I've made some great friends through the club. It's given me the opportunity to play alongside my sister, cousin, future sister in law and, more recently, coached by dad. The club was the platform for me to progress onto the county scene too, so I've a huge amount to be thankful for. It's one of the top clubs in the country which is something I'm proud to be a part of."

Fact File - Ciara Lucey

What do you work at? I work for Titan Marketing, a sports marketing and event management company. My role as Director of Client Services is to oversee all the live projects and events, working closely with our account managers and marketing executives to deliver best in class marketing for clients. It's extremely varied, challenging and we get to work with some of Ireland top players and companies. I love it!!

What do you think needs to be changed about the GAA? – I'd like to see more of the money invested by the big sponsors in the game filter down in a more tangible way to clubs.

Who is your sporting idol? Hard to say – Dad has always played a big part in my playing and sporting career – I've a lot of time and respect for Paul O'Connell aswell. Great sports ambassador and a dream to work with.

What sports are you interested in outside of GAA? Rugby and Hockey (Hockey to support Emer mainly and her Railway teammates)

Do you have any superstitions? Not a superstition more of a routine – It'd be rare to see me on a pitch without tan (and yes I'd say Niamh Horan of the Irish Indo would have a field day with that answer)

What was the last book you read? Probably one for Alannah – so I'd say Peppa Pig related!

What's your favourite TV programme? The Good Wife

Boden's 1st Minor Hurling Championship '94

by Paul Daly Just over 20 years ago on 25/9/94 Ballyboden St.Enda's won their first Minor A Hurling Championship. To celebrate that day Ciaran Reilly a member of that team organised a re-union in the clubhouse on the 11th October with a few pints and watched a DVD of the match from that day. Ballyboden overcame reigning champions, and massive favourites to regain their title, O'Tooles on a scoreline of 3.11 to 0.7. Looking back at the match nearly all present mentioned the great ground hurling played by Boden which was a joy to watch and wouldn't have been out of place with the "masters of ground hurling" the Offaly hurling team who had won the All-Ireland two weeks previously. The skill of ground hurling is seen very little in today's game, maybe one day we will get it back. Captain from that day was the great David Sweeney who not long after the Minor game was on the Dublin Senior Team and eventually went on to captain them. Dave also won 6 Dublin senior hurling championships with Ballyboden St Enda's and trained this year's current minor hurling team. The team was managed by Paudie O'Neill (who trained this year's Tipp team that lost narrowly to Kilkenny in this year's All Ireland Hurling Replay).

His selectors were Mal Daly and Gerry Maher R.I.P (a massive character on and off the field who we lost this year). Gerry in his early 40s and Mal just 50 won a Junior Hurling Championship in 1996 with members of that 94 team, Paul Keary and Mick Keville. Three members of that panel that day John Butler, Martin Kenny and Emmet Carroll (scored 1-3 from play that day) were still under 16.

Today - most of the lads are still living around the Ballyboden area with a few notable exceptions. Dermot "Basher" Maguire (brother of Dublin All-Star Gary) is living in Newbridge and played many years for Dublin and Ballyboden in goal. Basher's biggest disappointment was losing a Kildare Junior Hurling Championship with Sarsfields. Ciaran "Dicey" Reilly is back in his northside roots in Malahide and managed St. Sylvesters to gain promotion to Senior Hurling this year. Páraic "Pudser" Ó'Corcoráin (brother to club stalwarts of camogie and ladies football Gráinne and Fiona) owns a pub in An Daingean with Tommy Griffin former All-Ireland winner with Kerry. Páraic was part of the backroom staff to this year's All-Ireland champions Kerry.

1994 Panel

Martin Kenny, Paul Coughlan, Cathal Ryan, Des Smyth, Darragh "Coco" Kerrigan, Páraic Ó'Corcoráin, James Matthews, Declan Walsh, Keith Ó'Donnell, Kevin Walsh, John Healy, Shane O'Neill, Ciaran Reilly, Emmet Carroll, John Butler, Aidan Cremin, Dermot Maguire, David Sweeney, Dermot Daly, Donagh Molloy, Jack Quinn, Mick Keville, David Loane, Stephen Maher, Paul Keary, John Paul Grey.



ART SOCIETY

The Ballyboden Art Society will not be holding an art exhibition this year. This is most regrettable as it had become a highlight on the club calendar coming up to Christmas. A strong support base had been built up and the event itself was always very enjoyable. The number of artists exhibiting was considered too small by the art committee and a break was decided upon. The art group would like to recruit some new

members for next year and anyone interested should contact Neil Brennan or Katie Daly through the club at any time. The art group meet once per week on Wednesday evenings in Santa Maria for free tuition and a bit of craic. Everyone is welcome to join the Art Society regardless of ability.

**For further information please contact
Neil Brennan
087 7386458**

Hurling Report 2014 by Dave Conway



2014 has been a year of change and transition in many ways. If winning is the sole criteria for success then perhaps it has not been a successful season for most of our teams but taking a more holistic view there have been many successes. We reached the playoffs in all Championships we entered. Our

teams were expertly prepared by our managers and selectors, and played at all times to the best of their ability with the passion and skill that we have come to expect from our players. They have at all times been very respectful and disciplined, both on and off the pitch, and this is reflected in only a single player receiving a Red Card (for two cautionable offences).



We entered the Senior A Hurling Championship as defending champions and exited it at the semi-final stage. We lost to a very good Kilmacud Crokes team (1-16 to 0-12), but walked away with our heads held high. We had beaten them in 2013 at the same stage of the Championship after a wonderful battle and this year the game was similar, apart from the result. We wish them well in their quest for honours in the Leinster Club Championship and look forward to another clash next season.

Our Senior Bs also exited the Championship at the semi-final stage, (1-16 to 1-13), as they came up just short against a very determined and skilful Setanta team. The loss of a number of regulars to the A team proved costly as we just lacked that little extra bit of guile on occasions. The outcome of the game was in doubt right up to the last puck of the ball and for this the players can be proud. The result put Setanta up to the Senior A Championship for the first time in their history. While disappointed with not winning the game we welcome them to the Top Table in 2015.

Our Junior A team played in the Junior A Championship and after a long campaign reached the final against our near neighbours St Judes. We started this game in great fashion but Judes battled back, as we knew they would, to finally prevail on a scoreline of 2-13 to 2-8.

UPDATE: Congratulations to our Junior A Hurlers in getting promotion to the Intermediate ranks. They overcame St. Brigids to win the Junior A league title with a scoreline of 2-13 to 0-13. Congratulations to all the management team and all the squad, promotion is now an annual event!

The Junior B team competed in the C Championship and reached the quarter final stage before losing out narrowly (1 – 13 to 1 -11) to Liffey Gaels. Again this team fought well and were unlucky with a few decisions that ultimately cost them the game.

This year was a first as we entered a Fifth Adult hurling team in Championship. This team played in the Junior E Championship. The main aim of this team was to provide an opportunity for younger lads and some not so young men to play Adult Championship. They managed to blend youth and experience and reached the quarter final of the Championship. Some will say that more importantly all involved thoroughly enjoyed their short season.

Our Minor A team reached the semi-final of the A Championship and fell to an excellent Kilmacud Crokes team. This team is a good mix of U18s and U17s and many of these lads will surely progress through the ranks to Senior level over the next few years.



Junior A team

Our Minor B team were unlucky to go down by a single point in their Minor C Championship semi-final game against Erins Isles. This team is made up mainly of U17s plus some U16s and will benefit from their work this season when they step up to Minor A next season.

In a review of this season we can look back on it as one where we have managed to compete at a high level in all grades and have brought through a crop of new young players to help fill the gaps left by the loss of so many players over the past few years. The future looks bright but only if we continue to work and play hard.



Conor Dooley Dublin Poc Fada Winner & Cormac Ryan – Whitehall Colmcilles



Senior hurlers Car Wash Fundraiser

The Third Policeman has often wondered why we play sport and more especially why do we hurl? Hurling is dangerous, big hairy men with sticks, flaking, swiping, thundering around a field colliding into each other, and "don't we all have to get up in the morning and go to work"??

Why do we hurl? You might as well ask why do we fall in love, why do we sing, why do we dance and why do we write poetry? Because it's the best of us!!

Read the full "message" on the Bodengaa.ie web site.

Thanks to everyone who contributed in any way to the 2014 Hurling Season - managers, selectors and mentors, coaches and trainers, back up crews, tea makers, sponsors, wives, girlfriends, families, advisors, committee members, referees and umpires, supporters and most of all the Players.

**Nothing beats being there...
We look forward to seeing you all again next season.**

SECTION UPDATE:

We entered two U21 teams and at the time of writing the U21A's have reached the A Championship final against Lucan after wins over Kilmacud Crokes (quarter-final) and St.Vincent's (semi-final)

Our U21B's are competing in the C Championship are in the semi-final against O'Tooles after defeating Skerries Harps in the quarter final.

Best of luck to both teams.



U21A Hurling team

Brian Kelleher Feature

by Sinéad Ryan



Growing Up in Rathfarnham, it's no wonder that the Kelleher family was heavily involved within Ballyboden St. Enda's. A young Brian Kelleher joined St. Enda's as a Juvenile in 1976 and from there an obsession with the hurling game and a successful hurling career started. "I'm from Rathfarnham, so GAA was the first option when it came to sport in our house. My Dad, from Cork, and Fintan Walsh, a Laois man, were always around when I was growing up and both of them showed me the basic skills of hurling. The first hurling game I remember playing in was Under 10 against Kilmacud Crokes in the Hermitage. We won by a point in the last minute – it's gas when I think back and there would be 10 of us packed into a small car to go to the game! – how times have changed!!"

It wasn't long before Brian was making a name for himself on the hurling and football field and this brought him to the notice of selectors in both codes. He even played on the international stage. "I was lucky enough to represent Ireland in 1983 at schoolboy level and played Australian Rules in the MCG in Melbourne and also in the Sydney cricket grounds where we won the series. So, the GAA has given me many opportunities. Playing for Dublin will always be a highlight. To wear one's county colours is something every child wants to do and for me it is always something I will cherish." "What was my favourite Game? – It was without a doubt in 1991. We beat Offaly in the Leinster Hurling Semi Final and Offaly were All Ireland Champions – my own personal highlight of the game was keeping Michael Duignan scoreless!!"

Different traditions continue in families and the Kellehers are no different – they were and still are a huge part of the club "All our family were and some are still members of Ballyboden St. Enda's. My brother Martin is now helping with Naas GAA, my brother Seán is in Maynooth and my sister Julie is still a member of Ballyboden and helping to look after underage boys. My dad Denis managed teams in the club from 1978-1993. He was also our Juvenile Hurling Board delegate for many years and was a hurley repair man for the club, so we are all very

involved. My son Adam plays under 13 in both codes and loves it. It's great though – the GAA and Ballyboden St Enda's have been very good to us and it's great to be able to give a small effort back."

Looking back at the Senior Hurling Championship both with Dublin and Ballyboden St Enda's, it wasn't a good year but what does Kelleher think about next season? "In Dublin, Ger Cunningham has a difficult task taking over after Anthony Daly. Daly did a brilliant job over the last several years so hopefully he will be able to maximise the potential talent of the superb pool of hurlers that Dublin has. With Ballyboden - Our Senior Hurlers were unlucky in this year's campaign. Boden has been fortunate to have had a talented group of players in recent years to win 5 senior hurling championships in a row. Seeing the ongoing work and dedication I am sure it won't be too long before it happens again."

So as the season comes to a close - will Kelleher hang up his boots? "God no, thankfully I am still playing and relatively injury free over the years and I am proud to be playing with the Junior E hurling team. It's a great mixture of "has beens" (like myself) and young fellows who do most of the work. It started out as a social team but, having a great Manager in Brendan Ryan, we started winning a few games and we were only recently knocked out of the Championship in a quarter final play-off against Setanta. I never give up hope that someday I might win a Hurling Championship medal. I am a big fitness fanatic and recently started back cycling so my predication/hopes for next year is to continue playing Hurling, Boden to claim back the Hurling title, Dubs to do well under Cunningham and to attempt the Ring of Kerry !! God loves a trier!

Fact file: Brian Kelleher. **Age:** 48 but I act about 25
Team: Junior E Hurling **Fav Book:** Steve Jobs Autobiography
Fav Food: Chinese food **Work:** I work for Pfizer
Any superstitions - Before big games, I had to sit in the corner part of the dressing room.
What needs to be changed about GAA? The GAA could actively encourage Clubs and County Boards to give better support to parents and their families who want to promote/play hurling.
What would you like to be remembered as? I would like to be remembered as someone who contributed positively to the development of hurling in the club and someone who saw the positive side of things.
What sporting fact might people not realise about you?
 In my entire hurling career, I only ever had my name taken once and that was under age. Not sure what that says about me (windy or skilful)
Random Fact: Every 90 days I give a pint of blood. I am on pint 42 at the moment.
What's your top tip for a young hurler starting off? Pick up the hurl every day. Listen to your coaches and enjoy every moment.
What are your most treasured possessions? My Wife Janet, Son Adam and Daughter Ciara.
Favourite Television programme? During the summer it's the Sunday Game and in the Winter its Love/Hate
Who was your toughest opponent? Gary Kirby(Limerick)
What County players past and present do you admire?
 John Fenton (Cork), DJ Carey (Kilkenny) were two past favourites of mine, but currently I really admire all the current Ballyboden lads playing senior hurling for Dublin. The commitment and sacrifice is huge and winning the league Final against Kilkenny in 2011 was our proudest moment supporting Dublin as a family.

Ned Slattery Retires after 20 years service as bar manager



Nedzer leaving his post from behind the bar was a bit like Bertie's departure, it seemed to last forever. Between golf outings and nights in the club we certainly milked it to the fullest extent.

Ned, having made his fortune in London in the butcher trade in the 70's, decided to return home in early 80's and apply his skills in Colm Leavy's establishment at the foothills of the Dublin mountains. He charmed all the local ladies with every chosen word and turnover quadrupled in the following years. His reputation as a smooth operator became the news of the parish and the surrounding hinterland. Fortunately we had a very shrewd executive at the time and wasted no time in securing his services to run the BBSE bar. After protracted negotiations to include share options and a very defined exit strategy he finally decided to come on board in '95. Ned had the ability to entertain young and old from behind the bar and was equally friendly to all his staff. However on the odd occasion he strayed and one particular bright summer's evening a very well presented lady from a North side club (shall remain nameless) requested a rather exotic drink, Sea Breeze. Ned retorted with: "if you want a 'Sea Breeze' you can f..ck off out to Portmarnknock "

Not alone was Ned a very accomplished bar manager he was also a very respected team manager. Actually before it ever became popular Ned was the very first Player /manager of Junior C's from '82-'90. Ned was the first man to coin the phrase 'A full Load'. Back in the 80's having Physio's or a medical team on the sideline was unheard of and Ned was always double jobbing. During one of his first games in charge an 'incident' occurred on the field and the ambulance was called. Just as the injured player was being tended to another player got a 'skelp' and Nedzer shouted to Ambulance men "you may wait for a full load". It's also alleged that Jimmy Galavan became his confidant and adviser. However time was limited for Jimmy as he had a high pressure job with SDCC turning on and off the water valves and Nedzer gave many a morning with him and together they became known as the 'waterbabes'.

Good fortune always followed Ned and this was especially true when he met his lovely lady wife Francis. She has been a rock for Ned throughout his managerial career and they were both blessed with two lovely daughters Ciara and Eimear. However pride of place now of course goes to his grandson, Roan. He has a very special place in Ned's heart.

Ned has been our Bar Manager for almost 20 years and throughout this time it has been an absolute pleasure to be associated with him. Whether you were a mentor on a team or just down for a drink or two Ned would always raise your spirits with a story or a joke. He was famous for his one liner's but only Nedzer would get away with it. Like the lady who once said 'The pint doesn't look great tonight' and quick as a flash Nedzer said " You're no oil painting yourself".

On behalf of all club members can we say a big 'Thank You' to Ned for all the great nights in the club and in particular his ability to make everyone feel comfortable especially our visiting teams. On many occasions the club would be full with young kids swinging hurleys or kicking ball but this is when Ned was at his best and loved the buzz and activity that young kids brought to the club. He now has the time to improve his Golf handicap (or maybe not) and he is especially looking forward to having more time with his family.

Thanks for all the good times Ned and enjoy retirement. No-one deserves it more.

For and on behalf of all
Club members:
John Ryan



Mick Farrell

The club would like to welcome Mick Farrell in his new role behind the Bar. Mick has already started to put his own stamp on the bar and his 'free finger food at half time' is quickly turning into a catchphrase!



Club Social Report by Grainne Leach

ACTIVE RETIREMENT GROUP - The Ballyboden Active Retirement Group are delighted to again report that we had a very successful 2014. The committee have worked very hard in running and arranging 7 successful engagements throughout the year. There were four day trips and three theatre outings which all involved enjoyed immensely.

The secretary has always ensured that we get the best value for money and helps keep expenses to a minimum. 87 members were enrolled in 2014 and the committee will make every effort to further enhance coming activities during 2015. We regret that membership fees will be increased to €15 due to affiliation with A.R.A who cover our insurance and other expenses.

The Group had a great day-trip in September travelling by bus to Arigna Coalmines in Co.Leitrim, and then took to sailing on the Moon River Cruiser on the River Shannon, in Carrick-on-Shannon. Dinner was held in the evening on the return to Dublin in Mullingar followed by great entertainment. Great fun was had by all.



BINGO - This is the third year of the bingo and it has gone from strength to strength with average weekly numbers at 55-60. What has been nice about it is that we retained our regular group all year and acquired a few new friends. This highlights the importance of the bingo and the social aspect of it as people will come to bingo in all weather conditions. The jackpot has been won on two occasions and both were delighted with the win. The weekly raffle has proven to be a great success again, many winners here and lots of satisfied customers. Our once-off Easter Egg night and Turkey and Ham night were also very successful. Thanks to Iomair and all the committee for their continued commitment as without it the bingo would not happen and many a bingo follower would be disappointed as they so look forward to the night. New members always welcome. **Annette Sheehan**

CEILI - Set Dancing classes were started in the club in 1982 by our former Secretary and Club President Mr. Sean Flynn and his wife Myra. The ceili followed shortly after. Ann O'Donnell has been the teacher at the classes and had called the sets at the ceilis for most of that time. We now run our own ceilis on the first Saturday of every month. They are currently organised by Tommy O'Brien, Joe Purcell, Dan Browne and Barry Hynes. We provide refreshments at the interval which are organised by Eileen O'Brien, Ann Hogan and Ann McNulty. 2014 was another great year for us. We would like to thank the people who come to the ceiles every month, the people who support us from other GAA clubs. We are very grateful and wish to thank the people who travel long distances to support us. Finally, we would like to thank the bar staff for all their help at the ceilis. New members always welcome.

BBSE Operation Transformation 2014 - Operation Transformation hit our screens at the start of 2014 and Ballyboden St.Enda's joined the rest of the country. 132 people weighed in the start of January after a very good Christmas. Ballyboden's first serious weigh in occurred the following Monday and everyone was delighted to have lost 22st 3lbs, a fantastic result. The Ballyboden St.Enda's Operation Transformation Group walked 3 nights a week on planned routes of 3k, 4k & 5k to suit all levels. One of the walks was in Corkagh Park with RTE presenter John Murray and despite the wind and rain everyone had a great day. The Final Weigh was Monday 24th February and Ballyboden St.Enda's lost an overall weight of 70 stone and 8lbs. Thirteen people lost a stone or more. Members of the group gathered in the club on Wednesday 26th Feb to watch the Grand Finale of the TV program. Thanks to Ballyboden St.Endas, South Dublin County Council Sports Office and Sports Partnership for all their help and support. Organised by Anne Devlin, Maretta Byrne and Nuala Dundon.



SENIOR CITIZENS - We wish to thank all those who helped and supported our fund raising events throughout the year. A very special thanks to all our helpers on the day and over the years. We appreciate the support of the club chairman Brendan Moran.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all.

Tommy Clinton (chairperson)
Dan Browne
John Fair
Paul Carroll



Senior citizens Christmas Party



by **Therese Keville**



Howth Walk

What is so wonderful about Na Siúltóirí is the diversity of our walks, and the challenges the weather and terrain pose for us, the scorching sunshine along the Camino route in the La Rioja region of Spain, the blustering gales on Sliabh Donard and Djouce, the snow covered and frosted trails of the Wicklow hills and the warm gentle breezes of the Kerry Way. 2014 had all of that for Na Siúltóirí. It was another wonderful year filled with great walks, personal achievements and social events.

Every Saturday we head for the hills, two groups of us, one group to challenge moderate to difficult terrains and the other to enjoy the more gentle tracks and trails of our local hills.

Highlights of the year on Irish soil were the Carlingford Greenway, the Galtees and Mourne Mountains and a trip across Dublin Bay to a wonderful day on Lambay Island. In September we spent a week walking the Kerry Way. This walk has so much to offer, the unspoiled beauty of the Black Valley, the magnificent coastal trail from Waterville to Castlecove and the historic old Famine Walk from Kenmare to Killarney. We were blessed with a week of beautiful sunshine ensuring 'The Kingdom' reigned in its full glory.

On the International front, The Spanish Tourist Board took Thérèse to the Canary Islands of Tenerife, La Palma and La Gomera to tempt us to walk on their terrain in the future. Sean Cahill and his brother Shay travelled to Nepal and took on the challenge of Everest Base Camp. We are very proud of their achievement. Brian and Anne Scallan explored treks in Sierra Nevada, Sean and Teresa went backpacking in Cambodia and Vietnam and trekked the beautiful Duoro Valley in Portugal. No shortage of ideas for walks for the future.

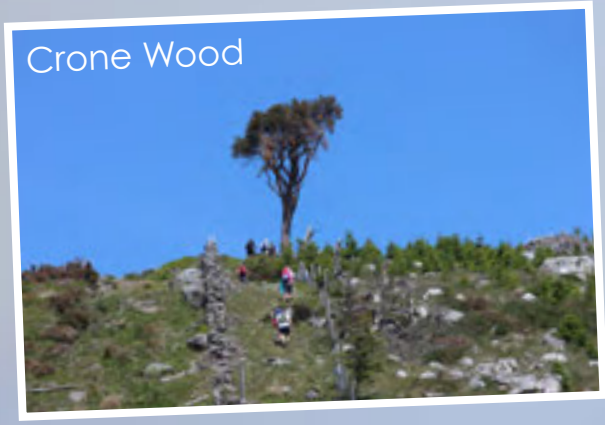
Thirty six of us continued our Camino journey from Logrono to Burgos, a wonderful week of great walking, fine food and fun. We celebrated Bloomsday in full costume in Burgos, captured the attention of the local media and appeared in the Burgos Gazette the following morning. Apparently Pat McGrath was seen in the Square in Burgos, distributing copies of the Gazette to bewildered passersby.

At a recent walkers gathering in Ballyboden, Eamonn O'Sullivan presented a fantastic slideshow of Camino 2014. Eamonn, ably assisted by Shay Devlin recaptured for us wonderful memories of our journey along the Pilgrim Route.

Na Siúltóirí continues to grow from strength to strength and new members are always welcome. An important part of our treks are the quaint coffee shops and tea rooms we visit after our Saturday walks. We enjoy chat and banter as we reward our challenges with good coffee, pots of tea and freshly baked scones.

Conor, little did you know that when you took that first step in February 2011, how deep and embedded our footprints would become on the tracks and trails on hills near and far, on home soil and abroad.

Na Siúltóirí



Boden Theatre Group Review 2014

by Carol Fitzmaurice



2014 has been the Boden Theatre Group's busiest year so far with 4 productions taking place in the club hall and participation in the hugely successful club fundraiser "Strictly Come Dancing". Our two main productions took place in March and November and saw John Joe O'Sullivan's directorial debut with John Murphy's "The Country Boy" and John B. Keane's "Many Young Men Of Twenty". While both plays had the same theme of emigration running throughout, each took a different angle on the issue. "The Country Boy" explored the pain experienced by those left behind in Ireland and the misconceptions people had of the life they led when they went abroad. "Many Young Men Of Twenty" looked at the pain and anguish of those who had to and also wanted to leave Ireland.

While there were many similarities between the two plays including the rural setting and time in which they were set, the writing style and characterisation by both playwrights ensured that two very different and entertaining plays were produced for our loyal audiences. "Many Young Men Of Twenty" was a musical play that required musicians, singing and a lot of energy to carry the dramatic and comical interactions of the actors in the back room bar. It was also our largest cast to date with 17 cast members involved in the acting singing and dancing. With such a big cast there was wide range of ages and characters needed. Finding younger actors proved challenging but young cousins Robert and Sarah Lambert stepped into the limelight and took to the stage like pros.

The ever popular "Laughter In The Lounge" returned in May due to popular demand. Writer and director Declan O'Brien compiled a wonderful show by choosing some of the best sketches performed by the group over the past 4 years.



The Country Boy - Cast & Director



Laughter in the Lounge Cast

That was quickly followed by "Saipan Summer" which is Declan's comedy about the Roy Keane/ Saipan saga from the 2002 World Cup. The group perform this play as a staged reading, which means the cast read off scripts during the play. We were invited to perform it at Buglers Pub as a fundraiser for Barretstown which was hugely successful. It then returned to the club in September to a packed audience. It continues to draw a big crowd even though it has been staged on numerous occasions in the club.....at this rate you'd think the cast should be able to put their scripts down now and act without them!



Many Young Men of Twenty - Cast & Director

February saw the arrival of the "Strictly Come Dancing" event and the drama group were very well represented with no less than 5 members taking part – Cathy Lane, Ger Reynolds, Carol Fitzmaurice, Ross Maguire and twinkle toes himself – Darby Timbs. Between them they helped to put on a superb show and performed the Charleston, Disco and the Quickstep. The group were delighted to have the winner in their midst with Darby and his partner Roisin Walsh dancing their way to the top prize!



The group lost a member earlier in the year when Xavier Goodwin passed away. Xavier and his wife Eileen directed the group for a number of our earlier productions and raised our standard of performance from a lifetime of directing experience. Ar dheis De go raibh a anam.

The group is growing from strength to strength and there is a real sense of team spirit amongst everyone. People don't just learn lines and act, they are also involved with stage building, scenery decoration, stage management, lights, sound and tea making! Stage building for the big productions is no easy job and lots of hours of planning, constructing and decorating go into making each set. We have been borrowing the stage from Knocklyon Community School for the past two years. But we are delighted that the executive have agreed to assist us in purchasing our own stage. There has been a lot of money raised by the group from the large audiences in attendance at our productions over the years and we look forward to that continuing in the future. So we know that those funds will be well spent on a stage that will prove to be a great investment not only for the drama group but also for our club's facilities.

A huge thank you to everyone who attended our productions in 2014. Without an audience there is no show. So we are looking forward to bringing you another packed programme of productions in 2015 and we hope to see you in March as we kick start the year with "Dancing at Lughnasa".



The Strictly Dancing Experience

The Strictly Dancing Experience took place on Friday 28th February, in Citywest Hotel, kindly sponsored by Kia Motors and Healthcare Screening Ireland. 16 couples took part in a spectacular night of glitz, glamour and all round entertainment. There was a good representation from all sections of the club, Hurling, Football, Ladies Football, Camogie, Drama Group and Na Sultoiri. The show opened with a marvellous group dance that involved all the dancers which gave the audience a taste of the thrilling nights entertainment yet to come. Each couple then went on to perform their individual dance where each and every one got tremendous applause and support from the crowd. There were 4 judges - Michael Darragh MacAuley, Declan O'Brien, Flo McSweeney and Roisin Curran. They gave their professional criticism at the end of each dance and voted accordingly, needless to say it was all very positive and taken in good spirits. The night culminated in a fantastic win by Darby Timbs and Roisin Walsh who danced the Quickstep. It was a wonderful night and was enjoyed by all who both attended and took part. The atmosphere was electric from start to finish and all in all was a brilliant night for the club. We look forward to repeating the experience again in February 2015. KEN GILES



Gala Evenings 2014



Rachel Ruddy & Brendan Moran



Fintan Walsh receives an award from Chairman Brendan Moran



Declan O'Mahony, Darragh Nelson & Michael-Darragh Macauley



Sandra & Peter Wall



Paddy & Yvonne Corrigan



Richie Sweetman - Senior Camogie Manager



Ladies Football All-Ireland Winners 2004



Fiona Corcorain - winner of ten senior camogie Championship medals





Football Report 2014 by Ger Flaherty



Firstly I would like to thank the many volunteers who help prepare our teams in the Adult football section for the field of play. In particular, I would like to thank all the management teams of our Adult and Minor teams. You continue to put in a lot of your own valuable time and effort with the

players, and we are very appreciative of this. This year we saw the addition of Andy McEntee as Manager of the Senior Football Team. Andy has brought his immense experience to the management team at a time where we are seeing the standard of Dublin Football and, in particular, Senior football rise year upon year. It is also great to see former club players involved in the running of teams. Andy Gardiner, Aaron O'Reilly and Joey Marrinan have settled in well in their respective positions and are role models for the younger players to aspire to. In the minor ranks it was also good to see Ciaran Doyle and Neil Brennan pass on their knowledge to the next generation of players. It is important that we continue to ensure that our experienced former players don't slip away without passing on some of their knowledge. With the support of the volunteers and the effort of the players the teams continue to bring entertainment to so many that watch our games week in week out. Keep up the good work.

Activity on the pitches

Seniors: We have consolidated our position in the top half of Division 1. A number of young players have been blooded and it is good to see some of our under-age players coming more to the fore – Darragh Gogan, Dan Buckingham, Cathal Flaherty, Tom Hanifin, Aran Waters, Sam Molony and Alan Flood. The mixture of youth and the experience of stalwarts such as Daire Walsh, Kenny Naughton, Andy Kerin, Cormac Smyth and Mark O'Sullivan has enabled us to transition and develop our panel of players.

In the championship we came up short to St. Vincents who retained their Dublin title. On the league front, we will finish just outside the play-off position where consistency remains a key requirement at this level.



Andrew Kerin in action against Ballymun

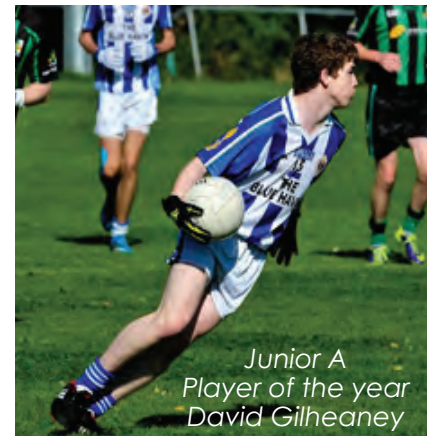
Inters: While it was disappointing to be relegated from Division 3 this year, a number of their original panel at the start of the year were brought up into the senior ranks due to the many injuries at the start of the season. Outside of the league, the team bowed out in extra time in the Intermediate championship semi-final, and reached the final of the Loving Cup final coming up short to the Naul.

We do need to examine how we can best manage the resources between Senior and Inter teams and to ensure we put a structure in place that supports both teams.



Intermediate Team - Loving Cup final

Junior A: A much improved season for the team. It was disappointing to exit in the first round of the championship especially in the manner in which they did – losing to a last minute goal. However the team performed well in the league especially in the closing rounds which saw them finish just outside the playoffs. This team will provide the initial step for our Minors transitioning to Adult football.



Junior A
Player of the year
David Gilheaney

Junior B: A mixed of youth and experience, the team has had a very good year. Narrowly beaten in the Cup semi-final, they also came up short in the C/ship semi-final to St. Oliver Plunketts losing out in the final five minutes by three points. On the league front the team finished just outside the league playoffs. The management team have worked very hard over the year to improve standards and provided many of the young minor lads with their first taste of adult football. This was handled in a structured manner with the co-operation of Liam Deane and Don Carolan. The lads certainly enjoyed the experience.



Junior B Team - 2014

Minors: Like last year we managed to field 3 minor teams thanks to the cooperation of the management teams and our counterparts in the hurling. Minor A's were disappointed with their league performance but finished on a high with a good win over Ballymun in their final outing. Minor B's made the league final and the Minor C's held their own in their league finishing top half of their table. The Minor A finished their c/ship campaign a little disappointingly after dramatically qualifying for the semi-final. There will be better days ahead lads. The Minor B's punched well above their weight but went out to St. Oliver Plunketts in their semi-final. The Minor C's similarly did very well to get out of the Group stages losing to St. Vincents in the Quarter finals of their c/ship. In addition many of the players have sampled adult football throughout the campaign which will hopefully enable their transition next year into the adult ranks much easier. You have a long career ahead of you!!

U21's:



At the time of writing our U21 team have reached the semi-finals of the Championship after an emphatic away win to the 2012 & 2013 winners Na Fianna. It was a performance remarked upon as one of the best seen for many a year. The team now look forward to another heavyweight clash against local rivals Kilmacud Crokes.

Representative honours

While we had hoped the Dublin Senior team would retain Sam, our Kerry country relatives had other ideas. However, not to come away empty handed, there was Under 21 All-Ireland success for Dublin and we were proudly represented by both Robbie McDaid and Sam Molony.



Later in the year, there was Senior League success for Dublin and we were represented by Michael Darragh MacAuley, Declan O'Mahony and Darragh Nelson. We had a very strong representation at minor level with four of our players selected - Collie Basquel, Shane Clayton, Warren Egan and Barra McGarry. They won out Leinster only to be beaten narrowly in the All-Ireland semi-final by Donegal.



In addition, I would like to acknowledge the contribution this year of Mark Fee as selector and coach to the Dublin Minor team.

Fund-Raising:

I would like to acknowledge the significant contribution of our main sponsor, Dave Bobbett (H&K) for his generous financial support. In addition we also received significant support from the Blue Haven, Rathfarnham & District Credit Union, TJ O'Mahonys and George King. We would ask all to continue to support fundraising as best you can. In addition revenue was secured through Strictly Come Dancing, the Minor Quiz night and the Golf Classic. I would especially like to thank Liam Deane and Danny Griffin in this regard. We also thank you, the members, for all your support.

South African Gaels:

Who will forget the singing and chanting of the South African Gaels as the Junior B team hosted their visit to Sancta Maria back in March. The result of the game was incidental. Their enthusiasm athleticism and skill level was well worth being present on the night. Former stalwart, Greg Heraty managed to broker the game even though I still haven't managed to figure out how they managed to visit Ireland on their way to Dubai! I hear the Juniors are busy planning their return visit to South Africa!!!



Paul Curran:

October saw the passing of Paul Curran, one of our 1995 senior football championship winning team. Paul lost his long and brave fight with cancer. Originally from Valentia Island in Kerry, Paul joined the club in 1994. He was a fantastic team mate as well as being an unbelievable footballer. High fielding and soaring points both left and right footed being the norm. He enjoyed the craic and after the match activities to the full. Sean Fitzmaurice, Ger Flaherty and I attended the funeral in Valentia Island on a glorious day in a stunning setting. St Olaf's, who Paul also played for, were well represented. Paul is survived by his wife Karen and daughters Sara, Clodagh and Caoimhe. **(Ben Molloy)**

Mile Buiochas

On behalf of the Football Section, I would like to formally thank all of those who contributed in a big or small way to the running of the section. Keep up the good work and don't be shy in putting yourself forward for 2015!

A special thanks to the Executive, Games Executive, my fellow Section Heads, Bar Staff (we wish Ned every good wish in his retirement and Mick every good wish in his new role), the many volunteers on match days, the players and you the supporters. Happy Christmas, enjoy a deserved rest to recharge the batteries and best wishes for 2015.

Andy McEntee profile by Sinéad Ryan



The rivalry between Dublin and Meath started many years ago but that didn't stop Andy McEntee travelling from Dunboyne a few times a week to train Ballyboden St Enda's Senior Football team for the 2014 club season.

Growing up in a little village called Nobber – football was always on the cards and to this day McEntee has a national league medal, Leinster medal and an All Ireland winner's medal whilst playing for Meath all under his belt.

GAA history is recognised with Andy and his family "My family is very much a GAA family. My uncle on my father's side played county for Louth (through his school) and my mother's family were the famous O'Brien / Dillon clan where numerous of them played for Meath, and captained UCD to win The Sigerson cup. My brother Gerry is the most noted of the family with All-Ireland winning medals and a selection of All-Stars. Then the cup for the Senior Championship in Meath is the Keegan cup which is named after Tom Keegan- my mother's godfather, so GAA was one of the only options for us growing up as a family as everyone was involved."

When Andy looks back at his career he highlights that his favourite game that he has played in was the Senior Club Final in 1998 and he was the first member of the McEntee's to win the Keegan Cup. "It was great that day and it is always a game I will remember especially lifting a cup named after a family member". As a supporter it's no wonder Andy chose his favourite moment as the fourth replay between Dublin and Meath in 1991. "What a day – fourth game – a scramble for tickets, the atmosphere was brilliant and then my close friend Kevin Foley scored the greatest goal ever. It's a day as a supporter I will never forget".

Outside of coaching, Andy works with Davy Stockbrokers but is currently studying a masters in sports management in UCD. "I've always had a love for sport so this course (although time consuming) is very interesting. Married to Catherine and a father of three children - McEntee is a busy man but this hasn't stopped him coaching the Senior Football Team in Ballyboden St. Enda's. So what was his first impression of Ballyboden St. Enda's "I joined Boden in 2014. I wasn't aware until I joined just how big the club is. Having done a bit of homework I became aware of the high regard that the club is held both within Dublin and further afield. Boden have a very strong reputation which is hard to earn. I was delighted to jump on board and although this year wasn't to be – next year we hope to do better".

Looking at the Dublin Championship from a Meath perspective "The Dublin championship is very competitive. There are probably five or six teams who would have genuine chance of winning which is different to Meath where realistically it's usually down to Navan and perhaps one or two others. The overall standard is much higher but at the same time I would think that there are too many teams in Dublin Senior Championship - a lot of which are probably intermediate standard at best"

Looking at next year's championship and season what are the plans for one of Ireland's most successful clubs "I'm not so sure what went wrong this year but I guess we just came up a bit short against Vincent's. I think we had a real opportunity – two points down with eight minutes to go and good momentum behind us. Unfortunately we didn't push on from there, perhaps we weren't experienced enough in tight games against good opposition to actually recognise that the door was slightly open. Bottom line is that we weren't good enough to win. Looking ahead to next year I would like to think that a lot of the work that we did this year in the gym with NADA will stand to us, our reserves of fitness will be better (Vincent's are three to four years further on in their level of preparation) and also we need to have a little bit more luck in terms of injuries to senior players. Ultimately our goal is to win Dublin championships and more!"

So although the rivalry between Meath and Dublin will always continue – McEntee is definitely a man with plans and with the calibre of players Ballyboden has to offer – let's hope it won't be long before we are celebrating a county final Championship win.

Fact File – Andy McEntee

Club – Dunboyne / Meath - Ballyboden St. Enda's/ Dublin
Fave Book – Richie McCaw's autobiography

What needs to change in the GAA?

I think the GAA calendar needs to change. The intercounty c/ship could be condensed into much shorter time frame. Otherwise the club scene will continue to suffer which in the longer term will impact on the intercounty scene itself.

Sporting idol - Richie McCaw.

Other sporting interest includes rugby, boxing, athletics, American football and basketball.

How would you like to be remembered?

Never really thought about how I would like to be remembered!
 As a player - someone who performed when it really mattered.
 As a manager - someone that provided lads with the best opportunity / environment in which they could perform.

Ladies football Report 2014 by Mary Hyland



2014 was a full and active year for all in the Ladies Football Section. The year started off with a new committee at the helm chaired by Pat Conway with Paul Manning replacing Nuala Dundon as secretary. Donagh Farrell later took up the position as Vice Chairman. On the second weekend of the year a meeting of hard working volunteers took part in the Christmas Tree Collection which was organised by Gerry White and supported by the Ladies Section and the Boys Feile group. January also saw the Launch of the Strictly Boden Event for Ballyboden. There was a great air of excitement on the weekend of the Launch as dancers were named and paired off with their partners. After weeks of fundraising and dance practise the culmination of all the hard work gave a spectacular night out in City West in late February. The Ladies Football Section were well represented on the night with a total of 10 dancers involved. This inaugural event proved to be a great success and was a great Club night. Meanwhile back on the playing fields Ballyboden Ladies had 28 teams from under 9 up to Minor with two Senior teams entered in Competition for 2014. We also had good representation on the Dublin Teams from Under 14 up to Senior. Well done to all the following girls who were on Dublin teams in 2014.

Unlike the previous 3 years where Naomh Mearnog and St Sylvesters had hosted all the competitions, 2014 saw the return of Clubs throughout the County getting a chance to host the competition. Ballyboden St.Endas hosted Division 1 with a total of eight teams competing on the Day. Our Division 3 team under the Management of Mick McDonald and Dave Mc Myler was the one that brought home the Silver for Boden on the Sunday evening. A great weekend of football and all our under 14 teams celebrated the victory of the winners.



U14 Div.3 Feile Winners

Representative honours

Dublin Senior Team: Rachel Ruddy, Natalia Hyland, Ciara Ruddy, Claire King.

Dublin Under 21: Maria McGrath, Aoife O'Brien

Dublin Minor Team: Katie Murphy, Doireann Mullaney

Dublin Under 16: Emily Flanagan

Dublin Under 14: Laura Smithers, Ellen Dunleavy, Aoife O'Dwyer, Fergal Brennan – Manager

Three of the above girls Ciara Ruddy, Claire King, and Doireann Mullaney were all so unfortunate to sustain injuries early in the season and were unable to play for the remainder of the year, we hope to see all three back fit for 2015.

The main highlight for the month of April in the Juvenile section was Feile weekend. Ballyboden entered three teams this year, Division 1 Division 3 and Division 5.



Natalia Hyland & Rachel Ruddy

May and June saw all the Juvenile teams progress through their League campaign while our Senior teams were kept busy with Championship and League Games. Mick Fitzpatrick, Ciaran McCarthy and Pat Reynolds entered an Under 12 Team in the Dublin Community Games. This team enjoyed a great campaign throughout the competition which included winning the Dublin title, but were eventually knocked out by Kilcullen in the Leinster Quarter Final. Back in May one of our U16 Dual players, Kellie McLoughlin, who could be Boden's answer to Katie Taylor reached the All Ireland Girls Boxing Semi Final only to be defeated by the eventual winner. This talented young girl is also a member of the Dublin Under 16 Camogie team. On the last weekend in May, Fergal Brennans' Under 14 team were victorious in capturing the Leinster Title beating Meath. In July, Fergals team also won the Under 14 Blitz title for 2014. On the Senior Dublin Team Rachel Ruddy and Natalia Hyland were happy to win another Leinster Title overcoming Laois. Their Dublin Campaign continued all the way to an All-Ireland Final in September but unfortunately were beaten by a formidable Cork side.

In mid-August the Club was very saddened on hearing the news of the passing of Bill Daly R.I.P. Bill who was the founder of Ladies Football in Ballyboden St.Enda's has left a great legacy behind. Many glowing tributes flowed in and a large Funeral service in his local Parish Church Ballyroan was well attended. Bill played a monumental role in the development of Ladies Gaelic football at this club. He was also very involved at County and provincial level and he will be greatly missed by us all.

September saw the return of the Juvenile Ladies Football fixtures after the long summer break for U13's up to Minor. The competitive edge that Championship season awakes was very evident as the early qualifying matches took place. The highlight of September and indeed the year so far was the weekend of the Ladies Football All-Ireland. It started off on the Saturday with the Boden Ladies Juvenile 7-a-side Football tournament and the Senior Ladies team taking part in the All-Ireland 7's in Naomh Mearnog. The Senior Ladies had a great days football and did really well on the day, getting out of their group and being beaten in the quarter final by the eventual winners Kilerarin.



Senior Ladies Football 2014

The Ladies Football tournament was a great success this year. There was a total of 26 teams competing in the 7-a-side competition which kicked off at 10am in the morning and ran right up to 5pm. As part of the day's activities a "Legends game" combining players from the winning Club All Ireland back in 2004 was played out. This Legends game marked the 10th anniversary of those girls' great achievement. On the day the legends team entered the pitch in Cherryfield through a Guard of Honour made up of the 250 young Juvenile players.



2004 Senior Ladies receive a guard of honour

Afterwards the girls were again presented with the original All-Ireland Cup which indeed evoked some great memories. A huge thank you to Ken O'Toole from SuperValu and Denis Daly from Rathfarnham Dental Practice who were our sponsors on the Day. The following day, All-Ireland Ladies Day, a fleet of buses buzzing with excited young Boden Girls decked out in Blue travelled off to Croke Park to cheer on The Dubs and their own Boden Girls Rachel and Natalia. One can see from the photo here that this was a great weekend for all these young Boden Girls even though the Dubs chance of victory slipped away from them on the day.



U10's visit to Croke Park

As the championship season came to an end we had eight teams competing in Finals of which 4 were shield finals. The mild October weather allowed all those games to be played out as scheduled. The U13's had two teams that reached the Cup Finals. The 13A's were unbeaten in the League but bowed out with a hard fought game against Cuala in the Cup Final. The 13C Cup Final was an even tougher battle against a very motivated Trinity Gaels side with the Boden girls defeated on the day. The under 16's won the Div 1 league and championship (see page 40) and finished runners up in the Div 2 & 5 championships with the Div 3 team finishing runners up in the shield final. The minor A team lost out to Crokes in a terrific championship final while the B team won the Shield final overcoming Skerries Harps on their own turf.



U16 Ladies Div.2

At the Club Gala which was held in late November the Senior Ladies All-Ireland Champions of 2004 were honoured on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of this great achievement. The acknowledgement and tribute to this amazing panel of players was very well received by all present. This group of players went on to win yet another Senior Club All-Ireland in 2005. Acknowledging these Ladies past achievements should be a huge inspiration for our younger teams coming through. The Ladies Football Committee would like to thank everyone involved with Ladies Football for all the hard work and commitment they have put in over the year. Thanks to Liam Cunningham for the excellent photos he has taken over the year. A special word of thanks and huge appreciation to the many sponsors who supported us in The Strictly Dancing event, The Feile Fundraising and the 7-a-side tournament. This support is vital as it enables the growth and development of all our teams which continues to give enjoyment for some many playing Ladies Football in our Club.

LOOKBACK AT 2004 - CLAIRE BUTTERLY

"Is this training, or more of a social gathering?"

A memorable quote from Bobby O'Sullivan, selector of the Ballyboden Ladies All Ireland winning team, when in early 2004, he first came to watch pre-season training. While we sprinted after tennis balls on a freezing hockey pitch, he was baffled by the general hum of chatter that accompanied our play. What Bobby quickly realised that he was dealing with, not only a passionate and committed group of athletes, but a group of people who really liked spending time together, even if that time was spent running until we were sick.

Surprisingly, the most vivid memories from that time aren't of lifting trophies, or celebrating wins. What stands out now are the nights spent in Old Court, pouring blood sweat and tears into the training sessions. Swampy Old Court gradually became our home away from home, soaking up evening after evening of our lives. Halloween night 2004 summed it up; we were running drills under a canopy of fireworks, knowing our friends were out doing much more normal things. You put the ball down for two minutes that night and it froze over. Coaches' reactions? Slippery ball, good preparation. We were so focused on our goal that we didn't mind a bit. Episodes like that contributed to our firm belief that we were in the midst of something special.

The group had an easy balance to it, an ideal blend of youth and experience, strong leaders, plenty of personality and bundles of commitment. We also had a huge amount of fun, and for a team with more than its fair share of talent, a remarkable lack of ego.

Bill Daly was the glue that had held it all together, it is not an overstatement to say that without him, none of it would have happened. Easily half the team kicked their first football in Bill's company, a fact which was never lost on us, not least on the sad occasion of his funeral earlier this year. That day, we wore our jerseys proudly, in memory of the gifts he had given us. Bill's approach was simple to sum up: You try your hardest, and you do it with respect. The professionalism displayed by every member of that panel of players and management team was remarkable, and a testament to Bill.

The first All-Ireland was won by one kick of the ball. The Monday after, one newspaper quoted that "Ni Chorcorain kept her nerve when every other forward seemed suffocated by the tension. For that alone, Ballyboden deserved their All-Ireland". Nothing worth doing ever came easy, and for it all to come down to the last minute of play that day made it all the sweeter.

It could never be perfect, but in hindsight, those years were as close as a team could get.

In truth, it felt like magic...



Back Row: Martina Farrell, Louise Kelly, Jennifer Walsh, Diane Spillane, Sarah Denvir, Carol Ryan, Claire Butterly, Ceara Nic Coitir, Eveleen Keogh, Susan Hughes, Noelle Comyn, Amy Keane, Suzanne Hughes, Fiona Ni Chorcoráin.

Front Row: Gemma Fay, Lisa Smith, Sorcha Farrelly, Aisling Farrelly, Joanne Cummins, Orla Scolard, Joanne O'Sullivan, Karen Hopkins (Capt.), Tonya Allen, Sorcha Timmins.

Coaching & Games Report 2014

by **Brian O'Regan & Paul McLoughlin**

It was again an action packed year on the Coaching & Games front. The year began with the publication of The Coaching & Games Development Plan 2014 (can be found on club website). This set out the objectives and targets for the year ahead.

During the year there were a lot of Coach Education workshops and courses. We ran two Foundation Award courses in Football and Hurling/Camogie, along with an Award One Child football course and an Award One Adult hurling course. There were plenty of workshops during the year including First-Aid / Defibrillator course, Academy coaches workshops, football goalkeeping workshop with Gary Mathews, Wall ball workshop, Running Mechanics workshop with Neil Welch from the Sports Surgery Clinic and more.

A lot of progress was made during the year with regards to getting players working on an Athletic Development Plan that takes them from the end of the Juvenile cycle into the Minor/Adult cycle.

We enlisted the services of the National Athletic Development Association (NADA) who worked with our Minor players throughout the whole season. It is hoped to develop this programme further in 2015.

An exciting new initiative called the Forbairt Programme was launched in 2014. The programme was headed up by Paudie O'Neill, Brian and Paul. It saw twenty young coaches from across the four codes come together on seven occasions during the year and discuss their role within the club as youth coaches and how we as a club can get more young people from the club involved in all aspects of club life.

Six coaches from the group attended the GAA Youth Ambassador weekend in Croke Park last May and three of the group will be presenting at the Youth Ambassador Day before the end of the year. They will be discussing their role in the club and how the Forbairt Programme has been developed.

Many thanks to all of the coaches who attended the various club workshops and other workshops which were held around the county during the year.

“What We Learn With Pleasure We Never Forget”

The Academy

2014 was another brilliant year for Ballyboden St. Endas Academy. The academy is where our 6 & 7 year olds are introduced to the club for the first time and are shown the basic movement skills & skills of the game, which are necessary to develop to the best of their ability. The academy combines Blitzes, Fun Days, Visits from Club & County Players, and of course practice every Saturday morning in Pairc Uí Mhurchu, St Endas Pk (Hermitage) & Knocklyon Pk (Ballycullen) and is attended by hundreds of local boys & girls.

This year we have been lucky enough to start availing of the excellent Indoor Facilities in St Colmcilles N.S, so huge thanks must go to them for their continued support of the club. As always we are extremely thankful to our generous Academy Sponsor, TJ O'MAHONY and to all those who contributed to the running of the academy during the year!

Massive enthusiasm has been shown by parents, players and coaches alike throughout the year and especially the support shown of our Academy Coaching Workshops & our Academy Parents Night! A big thanks to all our Head Coordinators who put in such hard work, and help to make the Academy a Fun & Safe environment for our young kids to learn Gaelic Games!



Academy Coaches & Kids enjoying their end of session game of Bulldog!!

EASTER SCHOOLS OF EXCELLENCE



Back in April Ballyboden St. Endas Easter School of Excellence took place for all club players on the U12-U15 teams. It was once again a huge success and provided a great opportunity for the players to develop & improve various aspects of their game. The School of Excellence was overseen by Club Coaches Brian O'Regan & Paul McLoughlin and with great support from some of our top young coaches. Over 170 players attended, and this is a credit to those players' willingness and desire to progress in their playing careers. As mentioned Paul & Brian were assisted by 12 of our current young 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!!



Football/Ladies Football Participants and Coaches at this year's Easter School of Excellence



Hurling/Camogie Participants and Coaches at this year's Easter School of Excellence

Schools - Top Class partnerships

As always Ballyboden St Endas are very appreciative of the huge contribution our Primary & Secondary School's make to the club, and their extremely important support can never be underestimated.

The important relationships between Ballyboden and its now ten Primary and five Secondary schools are vital to the success of the club and we would like once again to thank them for their continued support.



3rd Class boys taking part in the Yearly School Blitzes in Ballyboden, with teachers, coaches and the referees on the day!!



With 2013 being one of the biggest and most enjoyable summer camps in years, Ballyboden Summer Camp 2014 turned out to be even bigger & better!! Over 1,000 children participated in this year's Camp and School of Excellence and as usual enjoyed a host of activities that went on during the camp. The main attraction of the camp is that the children receive brilliant coaching & care and are allowed to enjoy themselves with their friends in a safe & friendly environment. This year every child that attended the camp received a Ballyboden Kit, Bag, & Wristband as well as expert coaching. The camp provides the opportunity to give Summer work to many of our top young coaches with over 70 employed during the 5 weeks of Camp. Ballyboden Summer Camp continues to be not only the biggest and most successful Summer Camp in Dublin, but also the biggest in the country!

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



Summer Camp 2014



Lá Na gClub

Juvenile round-up

By Andrew Coffey & Cliona Mellett

2014 has been a fantastic year for Ballyboden St. Endas in it's juvenile ranks. Our numbers continue to grow with in excess of 600 boys registered with the club this year. The tremendous efforts made by all our coaches, mentors and parents are essential to the success of the juvenile teams alongside the expert stewardship of our coaching executive, under the Directors of Coaching Brian O'Regan and Paul McLoughlin.

The boys Juvenile Committee would like to sincerely thank all those who have contributed by assisting with teams during the course of the season. The outstanding facilities available to the players continues to be of huge benefit to the developing and tuning of their skills, including the all weather pitch and the skills walls. Well done to all the boys who competed in the various competitions from U9 to U16 inclusive.

UNDER 9 Football

91 boys have come through from the 3 Academies. 7 teams were entered into Go Games competition, the lads' first outings against other clubs. Tournaments included Kilmacud Crokes U9 Invitational in May, when they were beaten finalists, and The Ger Canavan at O'Tooles in July, in which they were beaten semi-finalists. The boys are NOT streamed for Go Games as a Club policy.

UNDER 10 Football

U10's fielded 8 teams on footballing Saturdays, 120 games in all! All 10 coaches are delighted with their progress. In a tournament in Mullingar in September, we won the Shield Final. We hosted a football tournament in October and our 4 teams reached the final with 3 teams winning outright. Michael Darragh MacAuley also visited the boys, talking about the importance of practising and listening.

UNDER 11 FOOTBALL and Hurling

The U11 footballers and hurlers have been very competitive in their Go Game matches. The lads have improved their skills levels considerably. Attendance at weekly training has been high. The U11's won football tournaments in Lurgan, Co Armagh and Laytown, Co Meath. A large number of the boys played with their local schools in their Cumann na mBunscol competitions in both codes.



UNDER 12 Football

In our 1st 'Competitive' season, away from mixed ability teams, we faced teams that were streamed over the last four years. The coaching philosophy of teaching the skills of the game and playing in a 'Free flowing' style meant the boys competed well in the leagues finishing 3rd in Div 1, 7 & 9 + 4th in Div. 4. At a time when there is much pressure from other sports, we ended the year with 83 boys.



UNDER 13B Football

The Under 13B Footballers had a good year and despite a tough opening game against local rivals St. Anne's, we rallied well with some good victories both home and away, with a purple patch of five straight wins from June through to September. We only lost one home game in the Hermitage all season, which was to a strong Naomh Olaf side.

Our hard fought, five point win in Sancta Maria against the eventual league winners, Round Towers Lusk, in Sancta Maria on the 21st of June gave us great confidence for the rest of the league.

One of the highlights of the year was reversing the early season result against St. Anne's with a 21 point win in the Hermitage on the 3rd of July. All of the lads have come well on throughout the season both individually and more importantly, as a team unit.

UNDER 13C Football

Exciting and challenging times for the team this season. With some new faces in, initially the inexperience of the coaches and the changes in the squad were reflected in the results. However we all worked hard and since the summer our performances have improved, resulting in us winning our last 3 games and finishing mid table. There is a noticeable improvement in the skill levels and performance shown by the boys on the pitch and this is testament to the application and effort made by each boy. A big thank you to the U12D team, for being so flexible in providing players when asked. In summary, the parents and coaches are very proud of the boys.

UNDER 14B Football

The boys played in Division 4, the highest ranking B team alongside Crokes. They had a mixed year just falling short in Feile but finished with a win against Clann Na Gael to keep their Division 4 status. They also defeated another TOP 4 finisher, Geraldine P Moran's, in the league. When all were available, these boys more than held their own. 4 boys have now progressed to the A panel.





U14A, Div.1, Féile Peil na nÓg, Dublin Winners

U14A, Div.1, Féile Peil na nÓg, Dublin Winners

Last January as we collected Christmas Trees in a Feile fundraiser, little did we know of the adventure the U14 footballers were to have... an emotional rollercoaster and an experience that will stay with the boys for the rest of their lives.

On a Saturday morning in May, we welcomed Na Fianna, St Vincents and Whitehall Colmcilles to Firhouse Road. Ballyboden got Feile off to a flying start with 3 group stage wins.

The boys played Castleknock in the Semi-final on Sunday morning in front of a large crowd at Pairc Uí Mhurchú and came back from behind to win a wonderful contest.

Parnell Park was the venue for the final against Whitehall Colmcilles and what a heart stopping contest it was. At half time Ballyboden led 0-06 to 0-05 and came out winners with a two point win. Captain Kevin Desmond led the team up the steps as the boys were presented with their medals. The victorious convoy was given a Garda Escort back to the club, where La na gClub had been taking place, and were met with a tumultuous homecoming.

In July The National Féile Peile Na nÓg was held in Mayo. We were warmly welcomed by our hosts Castlebar Mitchels and won 2 out of our 3 group games and met Westport (unbeaten since they were under 8) in the Quarter finals. In an epic battle, Boden won 2-3 to 1-5. It took a late winner from John McGinn to get Boden over the line. The fantastic win illustrated the grit, skill and determination of the Ballyboden team. Sunday morning, a Boden 20 car convoy set off to the Connaught GAA Centre of Excellence near Knock for the All-Ireland Semi Final against Nemo Rangers. Level at half time at 2:2 apiece, Ballyboden chased a winning goal in the dying minutes but it wasn't to be as Nemo ran out 3-5 to 3-3 winners and so ended the campaign.

Thanks to the boys for the pleasure, pride and joy you gave us during our Feile adventure. The team are a credit to the club and their families. Thanks to our hosts Castlebar Mitchels, the mentors, the families, Carina Cashman, Ted Dalton and the Fundraising Committee, the Juvenile Committee, and all those who helped out over the weekends and in the preparations and, of course, the club itself.

UNDER 14C Football

After a poor year at U13, the boys showed huge improvement this year finishing 6th in Division 8. This was due to the commitment of the boys and the team spirit that developed this year. We competed well in Féile in Clondalkin, winning 2 and losing 2 narrowly. Player Dara Ward launched his book "My GAA Journey" in the club with a pizza evening for his family, sponsors and team mates.



UNDER 15A Football

After their Féile win in 2013, the U15s found they were the team everybody wanted to beat this year. In a very competitive league, the boys finished third, improving on last year's fourth position. In Championship, the boys were in a very difficult group beating Crokes away in the first round but losing to Lucan Sarsfields by a narrow margin of two points.



UNDER 15B Football - Division 4 League Winners

Having gained promotion to Division 4, the U15B's were full of confidence going into this year's campaign. After a good start against St.Pats, by June Boden were unbeaten dropping only one point away to St.Peregrines. They had some great victories over Templeogue, Lusk, St Annes, Oliver Plunketts, O'Tooles and Kilmacud. In the top six playoff, the league was won with good wins over O'Tooles and Plunketts despite an early slip up at home to Lusk.



Championship began in September. Beating St Annes and Fingal Ravens, the semi-final was away to Division two and eventual winners Castleknock. The game proved to be an epic battle. 6 points down midway through the 2nd half and one man down, with two minutes remaining, we found ourselves two points up. Alas a high ball into the square ended in a goal and a few quick points saw Castleknock run out winners by 4 points. And so ended a great journey. Overall it was a brilliant year to win the league so convincingly and to come so close in Championship.

UNDER 16A Football - See page 41

UNDER 15C Football

Our league games were mixed with some great football being played and a few not so great games but the lads never gave up turning up for training and games in any weather. The lads enjoyed the football, being part of a Boden team and the friendships that team sports bring. The panel showed determination and grit all year with training, games and just enjoying playing football each week.

UNDER 16B Football

We have finished 4th in the league due to the team showing real character week in, week out and picking themselves up after some bad results. It's an great achievement considering 7 of the teams in our Division are one team clubs and 2 clubs have a number of Dublin Development squad players. As the lads move onto the Adult section, on reflection, it has been an amazing journey from 6 yr old kids calling us "Sir" to 16 year old men calling us things we can't print! There have been some great highs, a few lows but always we've had a laugh.

UNDER 16C Football

With a panel of 23 (3 u/15s) the lads again showed real commitment with every match fulfilled with a full team (and subs) and gave it their all in a competitive division. The standard of football at Division 7 level was very good. As the only C team in the division it was going to be a big ask to compete for honours but every match was approached as a fresh start. While some heavy defeats were shipped the lads also participated in some really competitive battles with the opposition. The championship gods did not shine upon us and we were drawn against the eventual winners in the first round. Despite this setback the team got to the shield semi-final and again went down to the eventual winners.

UNDER 9 Hurling

2014 was the boys first year of Go Games Hurling. We ended with 81 hurlers, more than we started with. In May, we hosted the Annual U9 Feile Iomana in Pairc Ui Murchu and Cherryfield with the lads running out victors in one group and narrowly beaten finalists in another. We pioneered "Coaching the Boden Way". In April & May, we held the fun "Couch to 5 Skills" programme with great success.

UNDER 10 Hurling

The U10's hurlers fielded 6 teams numbering 60+ boys and played over 90 Go Games in the All County 3 Team Division. Tournaments included our own Féile Iomána, the Annual Naas Tournament and the Frank Maher Tournament in Clonmel. In October the boys won the 8th Annual Dermot McNulty Tournament in Na Fianna and were runners up in the shield final. In July, we hosted 150 boys in the Opel Kit for Clubs event with coaching from Kilkenny's Jackie Tyrrell and Kerry's "Gooch".



UNDER 12 Hurling

The hurling season got under way with a series of grading games to organise our 55 'mixed ability' players into 3 teams which competing well in Divisions 1, 4 & 7. As well as the weekly training, there was extra "Ball Wall" sessions for those that wanted to improve their skills or get advice from the coaches. Highlight of the year was our win in the Camaint tournament final in Parnell Park in August.

UNDER 13A Hurling,

A great year for U13A hurlers ended in mid November with a challenge match against 22 lads from Ballincollig, Cork who came to Boden, played football on the Saturday and hurled on the Sunday. In April, they hosted Ballygunner in the 2nd year of The William Phelan (now U13) Cup. In October, the boys travelled to a tournament in Naas where they beat Moycarkry-Borris of Tipp in the final.



**UNDER 13B Hurling,
Division 4 League Winners**

Comhghairdeas d'Fhoireann Iomána Faoi 13B Buaiteoirí an tSraithchomórtais
 Congratulations to the U13B hurlers on winning their league in emphatic style. This team battled fiercely throughout the year and only dropped two points along the way. We would like to thank all the parents for their commitment during the year and to the boys especially, for their passion, energy and drive. A special word of thanks to Brian, Noel, Michael and Daire for their time and all the training sessions during the year. We would also like to thank the other boys and especially Fergal, Cian, Jonathan, Seán and Patrick for stepping up to the mark when the numbers were tight.

UNDER 14A Hurling

Despite a slow start to the league, we ended the year in 3rd position. Hosting Division 1 Feile in May, our hurlers made it out of their group with Crokes, Lucan and Cuala, only to lose narrowly to Whitehall in the semi final on Sunday morning. The boys headed to Portlaoise for the Regional Feile Competition in June and following big wins over Liam Mellows (Galway) and Bishopstown (Cork), reached a high drama final against James Stephen's of Kilkenny conceding some late scores to finish runners-up. Over the year some trips were arranged for challenge games, the most notable were against O'Loughlin Gaels (Kilkenny) and Clarenbridge (Galway).

UNDER 14B Hurling

The U14 B Hurlers had another eventful and enjoyable season. Playing in a very competitive Division 4, the boys developed their skills and improved over the year leading to some excellent performances and results.

UNDER 15A Hurling

U15A hurlers set about our 2014 season with ambition to continue to develop and to give our best as individuals and as a squad. The bar had been set particularly high in 2014 with success in both Dublin and National Féile na nGael events. Perhaps this would be the year, however, when an as yet elusive Div. 1 League title might be secured.

Having completed our nine league matches with eight wins, we shared top spot with Lucan. As I write we look forward to the final on Nov 23rd against Lucan. Perhaps 2014 will be the year for league success after all. A victorious Championship campaign began in late August following an extended summer break. The luck of the draw was on our side with home games at both quarter and semi- final stages where Nh. Barróg and Lucan were conquered. The final in Parnell Park in early October was another great day for this group of exceptional hurlers as a further County title was won in some style against Whitehall Colmcille. A large crowd of excited Mammys, Daddys and club supporters came along to support, which was most appreciated. We were delighted to bring the U15A Hurling Championship trophy back to Ballyboden for the first time since 2004. A further highlight of the year was our hosting of the

The Feile Campaign came too soon for us and was short lived with two agonizingly narrow defeats meaning it was over by lunchtime. Hoping for better fortunes as the progress to U15. Thanks to the parents and Feile Committee for the support over the year.

UNDER 15B Hurling - Division 3 League Winners



Having wintered well and with a new manager, the amiable M. Garvey, coach - the young turk G. Duff, selector & veteran handballer F. Ryan and A.N Other – the U15B hurling team were determined to grab some of the glory bestowed on our illustrious all conquering A hurlers. After a tentative start to the season, we gathered momentum as the championship approached and were narrowly beaten by 2 pts in the semi's. However our skill set was to blossom. We finished 4th in the 3rd Division and qualified for the top 4 play-off. We beat Thomas Davis away by 1 point in a torrid encounter in the semi's and proceeded to meet Rialto Gaels in the fortress of Dolphin Park in the final. 'When boys became men'...what a glorious day....the lads battled hard to win a great encounter and beat Rialto by 4 pts. Chief O'Neill and his Merry-men had won the day! We'll hibernate for the winter and come back roaring in the Spring! There'll be no stopping us now!

annual Cian Durkin Tournament, which featured all current U15 hurlers split between two separate teams of mixed As and Bs.



UNDER 16B Hurling

Our 16B hurling team have also performed admirably, and the assistance provided by the U15 group in supplementing numbers throughout the season was greatly appreciated. The hard work of mentors Des O'Reilly, Paul Kelly and Tony Mealy cannot be underestimated and a testimony to this is the good numbers moving forward into minor from this group.

Boden's SUPER U16's

*The reward of a job well done
is having done it. R. W. Emerson*



UNDER 16 Ladies Football

The Under 16 Ladies Group 1 Squad which formed the Div.1 & 2 League and Championship teams for 2014 find themselves in that enviable position of being able to stand back and reflect on an incredible season and a job well done. Just rewards for all their hard work included two championship finals, a Div.1 league title and a Championship winners cup. This achievement should not be underestimated as this squad of girls only came together for the first time in January of this year. However their determination and dedication to developing as individuals and as a squad was clear from the earliest moments and it is hard to believe that these young people set a target of achieving a playoff place in the League and a place in the Championship finals back in February!! They set their bar to the highest point and let no challenge or obstacle stop them from getting there.

It has been a pleasure for the U16 coaching team to work with these girls and we have said it throughout the year that we have probably learned more from them than they from us. The 1998 girls will now move up to play more senior age football whilst the 1999 girls will prepare to challenge in the U16 Divisions again this year. However, one thing is for sure, all girls have it in them to continue developing and improving and we are sure that they will meet the challenges of 2015 with equal vigour and determination. Ballyboden Ladies Football has an exciting and talent filled future.

All that remains is to firstly thank the girls for all the fun and excitement (and heart stopping moments!!) they gave us this year. Thanks to the parents and supporters. A big thank you to Mick and the bar staff for their patience and hospitality. To Pat Conway and the ladies football committee and to Brian O'Regan for their continued advice and support.

The achievement of our U16 players in all codes this year is truly remarkable. To win one Championship is no mean feat and takes an incredible amount of talent, determination, guts, grit and desire, so for us here in Ballyboden to have won four Championships at this age level is something to be extremely proud of. The co-operation between the codes this year has been crucial to this success and great credit goes to all the mentors for always putting the players first. To the players... enjoy the very special accolade of being the first teams to win all 4 in the same year and we hope to see you all flourishing in the minor and adult ranks in the years to come.



UNDER 16 Camogie

After a satisfactory League campaign which saw every girl get maximum playing time, the Championship began in August. In early August we lost Ava & Aobheann to serious injury which unfortunately ruled them out for the remainder of the year. A tough draw saw us begin with a home game against Cuala which we won convincingly. Next up was a trip to Marley to face local rivals Ballinteer. Cora excelled in goal and we won a difficult game. The last group game was away to St.Vincents, when we started slowly and couldn't recover, going down by 2 points. This resulted in a semi final away to Lucan. Cora joined the casualty list, replaced in goal by Ciara O'Neill. A scoring burst before half time saw us in a strong position which we never relinquished to get a deserved win.

The final pitted us against League winners St Brigids. They opened the scoring in the first minute with a point, but this was to be their only score. Every Boden girl brought a great level of intensity to the battle, and the 11 point winning margin was a fair reflection of their level of dominance.

UNDER 16A Football

They say all good things come to those who wait and this team has waited a long time to bring home a cup – the U16 Division 1 Championship was definitely a good trophy to start with.

It is nice to write about potential realised having written about the potential of this group of players in reports since U9. I'm sure anyone who saw the team in their successful championship run would agree that as well as having many very talented players, it was their work-rate and support play that distinguished the team from all the opposition they faced.

The key to the success has been the player's commitment to improving their football over the years and their willingness to listen to the excellent coaching the club has provided for them.

The team has also been lucky to have mentors of the calibre of Brian Weldon, John Byrne, Donal Monaghan and Liam Carter. This year the addition of Coach, Paul Shields, was a hugely significant factor in instilling the mental belief that made these players winners.

The hope now is that this will be the start of successes for these players as they move into the Minor and Adult section.



Combined U16A Football and Hurling Teams

UNDER 16A Hurling

2014 was without doubt the year when this group of players put an edge of steel to their undoubted hurling talent and delivered in silverware to cap the end of their time in the juvenile ranks with a Championship victory to follow on from their success earlier in the season at the Carlow Town All Ireland tournament. The masterful combination of Seamie O'Neill alongside Conor McCormack, Jamie Desmond, Kenny Wigglesworth and Alan McGrath helped bring the very best out the players.

A sunny Saturday in June was the day this team realised the full potential within their ranks. Heading to Carlow that day for the Annual Carlow Town All Ireland U16 tournament some expected an early return, but group game successes against Cuala and Camross of Laois were followed up by great wins against Clare champions Kilmaley and then Clarecastle to set up a final against Kilmallock from Limerick.

A tough, uncompromising final saw Ballyboden come out victors by 2 points. The win set the foundations in the player's minds that they had the ability to achieve success and that they also had the desire and work rate necessary to deliver that success.

Championship saw Ballyboden face local opposition, Kilmacud and Cuala and despite scares in both games the lads came through to face St Brigids in the championship final. To deliver your best performance of the year on the biggest day is a huge challenge, but that is exactly what these boys did, and the championship was delivered on a score line of 2-10 to 2-08 on a blustery day in O'Toole Park in front of a very vocal Boden crowd.

Team Mentors: Seamie O'Neill, Jerry Corcoran, Conor McCormack, Jamie Desmond, Kenny Wigglesworth, Alan McGrath, Andrew Coffey.

We wish all the boys every success as they move into the Minor ranks!!

Bill Daly A Tribute by Gerry O'Sullivan

In 1994, Bill Daly made his move. He drafted a proposal to the Club Executive requesting that a Ladies Football Section be established. He left in the knowledge that he was pushing an open door and in no time the Ladies Section was formed with Bill as its first Chair and guiding light.

Bill's association with Ladies Football was rather fortuitous. The Ladies Football Association was formed in 1974 but had made little impression on the mind-set of the club. Kathleen O'Sullivan who has played such a leading role in the development of camogie asked Bill if he would help with some football coaching in Loreto Girls National School. Bill obliged and the team made it to the Cumann na mBunscol final in Croke Park. The seeds had now been sown and because many of the girls were camogie players with the club, the natural next step was for the club to offer the game to its female members. Throughout the 1980s and 1990s Bill was part and parcel of the underage football scene in the club with comrades like Padraig McManus, Greg Heraty and others. He was part of big breakthroughs in 1993 when the club won its second Minor Football championship and in 1995 when the first U21 championship was captured.

That love for the big ball was nurtured in his native Mullagh near Bailieborough in County Cavan where Bill was born and raised. He played for Cavan in the 1956 Ulster final losing by two points to Armagh. Bill was a proud member of An Garda Síochána. In that capacity he worked in Scotstown (Monaghan) and Callan (Kilkenny) and spent many periods in Dublin on Ministerial Detail looking after the transport and other needs of former Taoiseach Sean Lemass, former Parliamentary Secretary Noel Lemass and especially Tánaiste John Wilson. Whatever Bill did in the club, his able lieutenant was his wife Nuala who died in 2013 after a difficult battle with illness. Nuala shared in all the joys and celebrations associated with those days when the club began to make rapid strides forward. There were many highlights – the first senior ladies championship in 2000, the trip to Paris in 2002 with the senior championship winning camogie team, the first Leinster Club title in the club's history in 2001 and the crowning glory – the All-Ireland title win in St Brendan's Park, Birr in 2004. Bill served at Dublin County Board, Leinster Provincial Council and national levels in many capacities. He was a national figure – respected and acknowledged for the great work that he did. He managed the Leinster Ladies Football team, was a Dublin Ladies Football Board Hall of Fame recipient in 2005, and lots more.

His name is commemorated in the Bill Daly Perpetual Cup which goes to the winners of the Leinster Senior Club title. But Bill Daly's memory will last longer than any material thing. He was a man of the highest integrity, soft spoken but firm in his views. He was meticulous in the way he led the Ladies Football section but he was first and foremost a committed Boden clubman.

To Liam, Peter, Caitríona and Dáire and his wider circle of family and friends – Solas na bhFhlaitheas Síoraí ar a anam uasal.



Bill Daly – By Aisling Farrelly

Bill Daly was a true gentleman. A phrase often said but for Bill, it couldn't be more accurate. Bill was a kind and generous man and much loved by many. Loreto National School Grange Road was where it all began over 20 years ago when Bill started the very first Ladies football team. His commitment to the game and his unrelenting insistence on players making every training session is something that I will always be grateful for. Not only did Bill create my love for the game but he created memories and friendships which I will have for life. He built a community of players, parents, helpers, sandwich makers, supporters and friends. A friend said when we heard of the sad passing of Bill that "he's the one who got me my friends for life". Bill, along with his kind and supportive wife Nuala, who only recently passed away, guided us through the early days of underage football, to our first adult ladies team, promotion to senior level, senior county titles and eventually on to our first All Ireland success in 2004. I, and all the ladies footballers, who are lucky enough to have known Bill through the years cannot speak more highly of this man.

A true gentleman who will never be forgotten.

Ar dheis De go raibh a anam.

Gerry Maher A Tribute by Ultan Mac Mathúna

On the afternoon of Tuesday, April 8th the word started to filter around the club of the sudden death of one of our own – Gerry Maher. The shock of Gerry's untimely death shook us all as we tried to get our heads around the unfathomable. Indeed that evening Pat Conway summed it all up in a tweet that said "Sincere condolences to the Maher family on the passing of Gerry this morning. A real gent and a great clubman. Will be sadly missed. RIP". We can imagine Gerry's eyes cast upwards with a wry smile at the thought of a tweet!

Gerry moved to Dublin from Oylegate in Wexford and played hurling initially with Oliver Plunketts/Eoin Ruadh but soon found his way with his brother Brendan to the southside where they threw in their lot with Ballyboden St. Enda's. Gerry was very involved in the club. He was first and foremost a hurler, playing for many years in the blue and white. He also mentored our first Dublin Féile winning team in 1991. The team went on to win many juvenile honours including the Minor Championship in 1995. Latter years saw Gerry play music in the club (an accomplished guitarist with a sweet voice) and also an active involvement in the Boden Drama Society. Gerry was also our Hurlley Salesman for two years keeping us all in quality ash both juvenile and adult.

Gerry played for many years with the club initially in the full back line and then moved into the role for which he was most famous – our goalkeeper. This was a position fitting with Gerry – solid, dependable and always there. Gerry was the "man in the gap" for our club and represented Ballyboden with dignity and pride. Gerry's finest hour came in the '96 county final when he pulled off save after save putting his body on the line enabling Boden to win the day against a very strong Naomh Olafs outfit in O'Toole Park. Gerry was awarded Man Of The Match in the Herald for that sterling performance! Indeed that was the performance that inspired the chant which lasted many years – "Gerry Maher is unbelievable!" That year was a special one for Gerry as it was also the year that his beloved Purple and Gold won the All-Ireland.

Gerry had recently taken early retirement with the intention of moving home to Oylegate. He had spent more and more time down home in recent years helping his siblings (Anne, Maudie, Brendan and Alan) to look after his ailing mother, Bridie. Sadly, Bride passed away before Christmas. Little did we think that we would be visiting Oylegate again so soon for another funeral. Gerry's funeral was incredibly sad.

However, as his body was brought into Oylegate the men who had hurled with Gerry from Ballyboden gave him a Guard of Honour befitting such a great club man. It was important that the people of Oylegate could see how much he meant to Ballyboden St. Enda's and Gerry surely smiled down from above on a sunny spring evening in Wexford. Gerry was methodical and careful. He took his time with all that he did ensuring that it was done well. That Gerry was taken so fast from us was a terrible shock.

We will all miss him – a real gent and a great clubman.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam uasal.



Lotto Report by Ken Giles

"2014 was another very successful year for our club lotto and big thanks are due to all of our supporters. While the jackpot struggled to reach the magic €10,000 figure we did have a number of smaller jackpot winners. Many thanks to Joe McCall from "Byrne & McCall" Accountants and Tax Advisors for their sponsorship throughout the year. As in past years the lotto contributed in excess of 20K to assist in the running of the club helping to provide facilities that we all enjoy, particularly the guys who partake in the 4 codes in the club. Our lotto is an integral part of the club finances and we really need every section to support it. The 2015 lotto is due to commence early next year and we look forward to your ongoing support for what is a key contributor for our club going forward.

PLEASE WATCH OUT FOR 2015 BROCHURE EARLY IN THE NEW YEAR... THANKS AGAIN!!"

JACKPOT WINNERS!



Communications Report by Sinéad Ryan



As part of the 2014 communication section within Ballyboden St.Enda's – a Communications Committee headed by PRO Sinéad Ryan was formed in Jan 2014 with a representative from each section. On a daily basis our Facebook/ Twitter page is updated with Boden news, fixtures, results or any events that are occurring within the club. On a weekly basis we produce the newsletter and we also target many newspapers, TV and Radio stations if we have a news story within the club. This year, in addition, we have set up a separate photography committee where each section in the club has their own photographer.

Keeping everything up to date is a very important and busy job and this is why the communications committee is such a success. Throughout the year there have been a few changes within the committee – Patrick Bates stepped down as editor of www.bodengaa.ie and Neil Buckingham has taken over this busy task. Grainne Leach has also stepped in for Conor Sheehan as part of the Social section. The 2014 season has provided many highlights – our underage section, Camogie girls five in a row, our intercounty stars in all codes, Strictly Come Dancing night and Ryder Cup Captain Paul McGinley reminiscing about his good auld days in Ballyboden St Enda's.

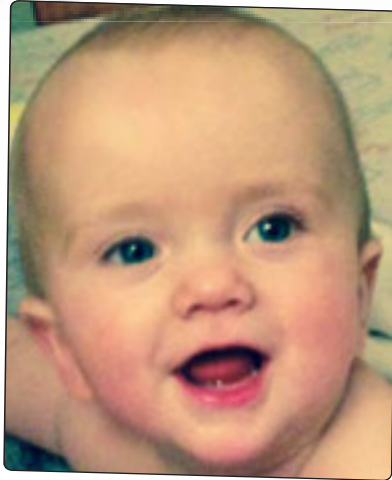
As the 2014 draws to a close I would like to thank everyone involved with the Communications Committee for all their hard work and commitment throughout the year. Thanks to our Chairman Brendan Moran for all his support throughout the year.

Happy Christmas and a healthy and prosperous New Year. Nollaig Shona Daoibh.

Newsletter Report - Cathy Murray: We are now in our second year of publication and recently we published our 100th edition. This year we saw the introduction of the Juvenile Section Reports which has created more attraction as parents register to the Ballyboden St.Enda's newsletter to see their children. We would like to thank Paddy Bates who has been at the helm of the Newsletter since its conception in 2012. Paddy's patience, commitment and expertise has been the driving force behind the development and support of the Newsletter and Social Media. Paddy has since moved from his role with the Newsletter and Media Communications to new projects within the club and we wish him continued success. We hope you enjoy the Newsletter and if you are not already signed up you can do so on the website or email us at: newsletter@bodengaa.ie

Communications Committee: PRO – Sinéad Ryan, Football – Neil Buckingham, Camogie – Catherine Nagle, Gerry White, Hurling – Eamon Treacy, Ladies Football – Mary Hyland, Juvenile Section – Cliona Mellett, Social – Grainne Leach, Newsletter – Cathy Murray

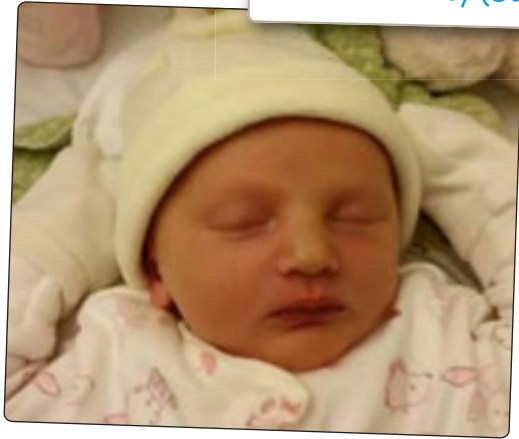
Boden babies



Shay Sweeney 31/01/14 son of Anne Hogan (Senior Camogie) & Tim Sweeney (Senior Hurling)



Willow Hiney 3/5/14, daughter of senior hurler Stephen Hiney and Elaine Hickey



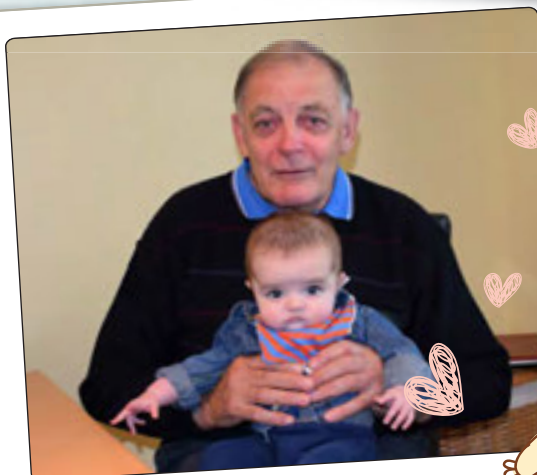
Adeline Smyth - daughter of senior footballer Cormac Smyth & wife Emer



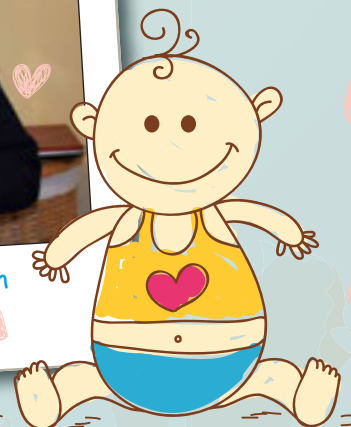
Jamie Buckingham 31/5/14
Son of Neil Buckingham - Adult Football PRO



Oisín and Luke O'Regan
sons of Brian & Joanne



Ned Slattery with grandson Roan



Boden Wedding bells



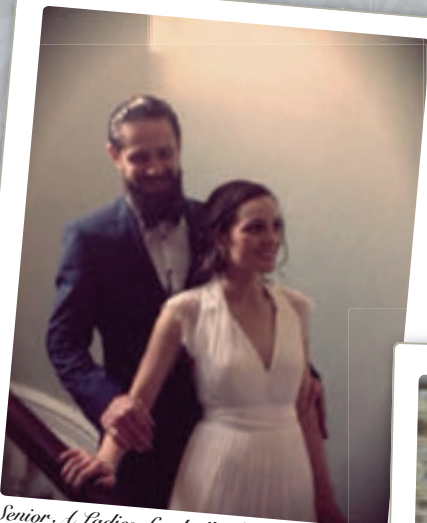
*Senior B. ladies footballer
Daire Farrelly and Oliver Allen
who were married recently in
Knocklyon Church.*



*Former Senior footballer Darragh Kiernan
and his Bride Niamh O'Neill,
married in St. Lucia, on the 18th June*



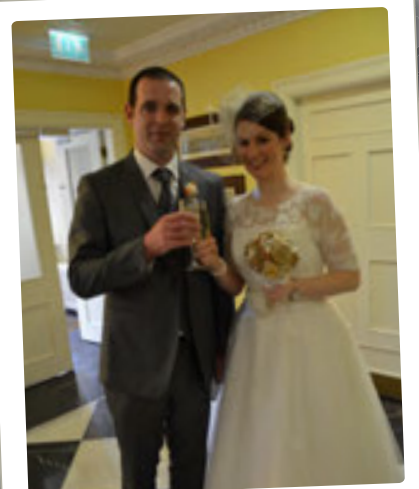
*Junior footballer Stephen Goughlan and
Julianne Pike, married in Amber Springs Hotel,
Gorey on the 18th September*



*Senior A Ladies footballer Grainne O'Malley
& Ben Riekey, married in
Beaufort Co. Kerry.*



*Senior Camogie player Fiona Ni Shuilleabhain
who married Adrian Sinnott
in Monageer Co. Wexford*



*Anthony Curran and Clare Fitzmaurice
(daughter of Sean & Noreen Fitzmaurice)
married in Roganstown Golf Club
on 27th October 2014.*

Pat Conway Profile

by **Sinéad Ryan**

Name:
Favourite food:
Favourite film:
Favourite Music:
Occupation:
Last book you read:



Pat Conway
Steak and onions with mushrooms
(cooked by Deirdre)
Gandhi, 1982 film with Ben Kingsley
Folk & ballads and currently a band
called Keywest
Bank Employee
Dan Browns "Inferno"

If you are a regular to the club – there is one man who is always around helping out and that's Pat Conway – Pat joined Ballyboden St Enda's in 1975 and he has played many roles in the club's progression and the club has played a huge role in Pat's life " I played senior football for a number of years before a serious knee injury put a stop to it. I also played junior hurling for the club and even managed a few senior hurling matches along the way. As a young lad I worked behind the bar for a number of years which was a great way to meet people. I became involved with the social committee and bar committee for a time as well as being junior football board delegate for a few years before moving on to senior football board and senior hurling board for a spell. Over the years I have been involved at committee level in football and latterly Ladies football. I was involved at senior football level for a number of years and was honoured to be involved with our senior footballers during the fantastic years of 1994/95 when we won the AIB, VdeP, SFL Div1 and our first SFC. From 1978/79 I was a member of the executive and served as Chairman for a couple of years around 1987/88"

From Churchtown - GAA was always a huge part of Pat's life "my dad, a Limerick man, was a founder member of the now defunct GAA Club "Churchtown" aka "Baile an Clochain" so GAA was always going to be my sporting passion "

Pat has always involved his family in Ballyboden – he gives credit for meeting his wife there! "I met Deirdre there so Ballyboden St Enda's has given me a lot throughout the years including three amazing daughters who are all involved in the club.. Hannah plays camogie but is currently taking a break, Megan plays football and Molly plays both codes. My brother David is currently secretary of the hurling section and one of our sisters, Mary, was a mentor with a boys football team for a few seasons. My dad, Bill also worked in the club bar for a number of years."

Pat is now involved with the Ladies section in the club which is growing all the time. "The Ladies section is going well, the numbers involved are unreal and it is fantastic the work being done by all our coaches, the results of which I am confident will soon see us back at the top table as senior county champions. The number of people that give freely of their time is amazing and we would be no-where without them . However, I would love to see more parents getting involved. The door is always open, just push it"

So how does Pat think Ballyboden and the GAA have changed throughout the year and what needs to be done to improve GAA? " GAA has become so professional - the time and dedication required to even get to the top at club level is unreal. However, there are times that I feel the players don't enjoy the same craic as the social element seems to be gone. The care and treatment of injuries has certainly improved. One only has to look at our own club facilities to see how professional things have become. As a whole within the GAA I feel there should be less emphasis on county teams. All these development squads drive me mad as they are purely aimed at the players for future county teams to the detriment of club teams. So many players lose sight of their clubs once they see a county jersey."

Pat is a true Dub – so what's his favourite game? "Without a doubt Dublin V Kerry 2nd Sept 2013 when the hand of God (MDMA) set Dublin on the road to victory and in Ballyboden it is the Dublin SFC semi-final in Croke Park when Boden beat St Vincents to get to our first senior football final. It was a fantastic game."

So as Pat has another year of Ballyboden St.Enda's under his belt and looks ahead to the 2015 season what would he like to be remembered as? "Well I would love to be remembered as a great footballer/hurler! But, as that's not likely to happen I'll settle for a proud clubman."

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Andrew McGrane, Helen Gogan, Ned Flood, Neil Buckingham, Liam Cunningham, Danny Griffin, Paula Flaherty, Brendan Young & U16 Football girls Sarah, Rachel, Jenny, Amy, Aoife, Avril & Aoife



Evan Flanagan, John Mulligan (Junior A Manager), Brian Burns (Capt), Gavin Jones Manager The Blue Haven, Sean Mulligan, Noel Madden (Mentor), Paddy O'Connell.



Brendan Moran, Jack Nolan CEO Cruinn Diagnostics, Brian O'Regan, Danny Griffin & Paul McLoughlin



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Ballyboden St. Enda's
One Life - One club



Christmas 2014 at

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grafon
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