



Bunaithe 1906

CLG Chloigthishe Lusca

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10ú Nollaig 2023

Cloigthishe Lusca- Tuarascáil na Rúnaí 2023 - Cruinniú Ginearálta Bliantúil - Dé Céadoin 13ú Nollaig 2023
Round Towers Lusk- Secretary's Report for 2023 - Annual General Meeting- Wednesday 13th December 2023

Introduction

Where we all belong. The motto of Cumann Lúthchleas Gael. A celebration of shared values for all those involved in GAA, for all those in involved with CLG Chloigthishe Lusca; we hope these shared values resonate among you.

Ní neart go cur le chéile. Unity is strength.

We need to continue this strength and unity. We need to be one Club. With the continued discussions about an amalgamation with Cumann Lúthchleas Gael, Peil na mBan agus Camogie; this unity in years will prove to be a defining moment in Gaelic Games and our Club.

As with any report, I try to include and mention as many people as possible. If there is an omission, I apologise, but please know that without your support and dedication, the Club cannot function, thank you. I hope this will not to cross over to the other reports of 2023.

As members, myself included, we are all too aware of the challenges we face coming as ever increasing heavy rain and pitches that are un-playable. The lack of all weather facilities in our community is clear, which I can expand on further in my report.

I would like to begin by registering my thanks to the many people in the Dublin GAA County Board, Dublin LGFA and the Dublin Camogie County Board who provide us with the platform, supports and opportunities to develop as a club and a community. Congratulations to our players and members who linked up with Dublin squads across all codes throughout the year. I would also like to extend my best wishes to John Costello as he steps down and to welcome Finbarr O'Mahony.

I would also like to thank our many locals; sponsors and members who provide the club and our teams with crucial support. As well as Fingal County Council, Department of Tourism, Culture and Sport, Sport Ireland and Fingal Leader for grant supports throughout the year. Our thanks to Dermot Mc Namara & Co for their advice and assistance during the year.

Thanks also to the outgoing Executive Committee for their work and contributions throughout the year. No GAA Club can function without volunteers, and this is essential for the Club to function. To those who are stepping down this year, thank you for all your contributions throughout this year and previous years.

Our Club would not be a Club if there were no coaches to develop our teams that take to the field and proudly don the jersey every week. Thanks to all the coaches and those who help with jerseys, goals and lifts to and from games.

Without our playing pitches, Round Towers Lusk would not be fielding the players who each week want to play with their heart and soul to play at the best they can at every game. Thank you to Kevin O'Neill and his team for marking out the pitches and keeping the grass and surrounds in excellent condition.

Our post games chats, craic agus ceol along with our tea, coffee and mi-wadi would not be possible without the bar staff. Thanks to those behind the bar.

I am actively asking for anyone who is interested in helping with our GAA Club, please reach out to myself.

Gaelic Games (in no particular order)

Ladies Section

Ladies games continue to go from strength to strength in 2023 with strong membership numbers across both Adult and Juveniles. Our juvenile teams have continued to perform brilliantly on the field. The continued growth in the number of girls participating at nursery and the addition of an under 8s squad on the field this year bodes well for the future.

In 2023 the club put forward a team at Féile in both Football and Camogie under the guidance of the U16's management, players from the U16's supported by players from both the under 14 and under 13 squads. The players from all three squads worked brilliantly together recording a historic double in bringing home the title in both Féile competitions. An outstanding performance from the players and a glimpse at the future of Ladies Football and Camogie at the club.

In 2023 no fewer than eight juvenile players had the opportunity to represent Dublin at Inter-County Football or as part of Development Programmes. Players from the U16's and U14's teams lining out for Dublin at their respective ages at Inter-County. Whilst we also had players from the U13's & U16's lining out for Dublin as part of the Development Program. RTL was also well represented at County level in Camogie with players out from both the U14's and U16's taking part in the Camogie Development Program.

Our minors had a challenging year with player numbers but with the support of the U16s had a strong year reaching the Division 5 championship semi-final. The under 16's had an excellent year in both League and Championship, they were successful in the Camogie Championship Shield Final, unfortunately progress in the championship was hampered by injuries to key players.

Our under 14's had an excellent year, having performed well in League in both codes, they went on to win the Camogie division 4 Championship and their Football Championship Shield final. Our U13's also had a strong year, winning their Championship Camogie Shield Final and reaching the Football Championship Final losing out in the final despite a strong performance on the day.

Our U10's squad had the fantastic opportunity to take to the hallowed turf of Croke Park as they played in the Go Games half time challenge. What a wonderful experience for these young players and their coaches. As an extra bonus the team were asked to nominate a player from their club to referee at the games. They nominated a member of the U13 squad who had the opportunity to referee at those games, to make it more special she was invited back to officiate again at the Ladies All Ireland Final half time games.

In 2023 our Senior teams struggled with low player turn out due to players on J1 and Interrailing, but with the support of the minors they ensured that both our first and second teams were able to field in both the League and Championship seasons, with the first team reaching the quarter final in the D Championship and finishing mid table in division 5 League and Cup. While the second team won the Shield final with the support of players from the Minors and U16 panels. With some strong performance on show we now have an opportunity to regroup and move forward into 2024.

It was confirmed in late 2023 due to our Executive re-aligning management structure's across the Club and all sections, the current ladies 1st team management were not going forward with the team in 2024. Having had many years of on field success taking the team from division 11 to division 5, I would like to extend our sincere thanks to David Neary, Paul O'Hara, John Kiely, Sarah O'Hara, Vivienne Teeling and Ciara Smyth for their commitment and dedication over the years.

Edit: First line re-worded

Adult Men's Football

A summary from our Adult Men's as their end of year report will contain more details.

A big thank you to all the efforts of your committee for all the work and time put in in 2023 and huge thanks to the AMFC main sponsor Mr. Liam Fitzgerald LocalSolicitor.ie. Round Towers Lusk fielded 5 teams which were funded from within the Adult Men's Football Committee. In AFL2,6,10, U21 and an independent team with Man O'War Cú Chulainn. All teams had management appointed by their committee, on behalf of the Club I'd like to thank AFL2: Conor Mortimer, Noel O'Brien, Richard Kelly, Padraig Howley, Declan Smyth, Dave McGinley; AFL 6: Noel Shields, Colm Fogarty, AFL10N: Neal Sheppard, Eoin Hoey, Bernie Diaz, Ciarán O'Connor; Minor 5 (RTL members) Martin Doyle, Adam Burns; U21: Adam Burns and Luke Caul. The structure of the AMFC is in its second year and it has provided positive. All coaches have qualifications from Foundation to Award 2.

As part of the AMFC initiative to welcome back members who played throughout the years and the Club to introduce traditional music, a retired members night was brought together. The AMFC provided some very tasty home baked good along with sandwiches while Andrea and her friends provided fantastic traditional music in the bar. This has proved to be a great success.

Keeping with community, AMFC organised an evening with all Ireland and Leinster winning cups for all to come and take a picture. A gambling and addiction awareness night was also organised.

A Christmas Dinner was held for our retired members with the support of the AMFC.

As a follow on from the successful retired members night, a "roll of honour" board was presented to the Club with all Men's Football Championship winning captains presented that evening. There are plans to do the same for our Ladies Football, Camogie and Hurling.

Closing the season, our AFL2 footballers made history as the first Round Towers team to gain promotion to Division 1 where only 8 years short years the team was Division 5. Comhghairdeas.

Adult Hurling

There is a deep-rooted and proud tradition of hurling in Lusk. Adult hurling was reformed in the club in 2015 and a Round Towers Lusk team took to the hurling field that year for the first time in over 30 years. In the intervening period the club has been promoted twice in the league and three times in the championship, winning two of those championships. The ultimate ambition, however, has always been the establishment of hurling in the club at all levels from juvenile to adult. That project continued in 2023 and will continue in 2024.

In 2023 our adult hurlers competed in Division 7 of the adult hurling league and the Junior C hurling championship. A number of hurlers had their first experience of adult hurling and competed valiantly. Despite their best efforts and those of a group of more experienced players, relegation was confirmed in both league and championship play-offs. Thanks to Graham Barrett, Pat Codd, Mark Condren and Seán McGarry for guiding the adult hurlers throughout in 2023 and for having guaranteed excellent levels of training. Thanks to the players who represented the club in difficult circumstances and will continue to step up to ensure the long-term development of hurling in the club. As we look to 2024, the sentiments expressed in the club secretary's report in 2015 hold true in many ways: "We have some very talented juvenile hurlers in our club.

Without an established adult hurling team, it is inevitable that they will leave us or quit hurling when they get to minor". Our challenge as a club is now to ensure that the foundations are in place at adult hurling to harness and encourage the exceptional emerging talents already present at under-age levels.

Juvenile Games

I'd like to thank John Mc Kenna as he officially steps down from Juvenile Chair. Welcome to Padraig Sheerin as Juvenile Chair. A large re-structure in the Juvenile Section has occurred in 2023 and I'd like to welcome all those who have come forward. As an Executive, we will continue to support the new Juvenile Committee and members within our Club and to support the development of those cohorts moving up through the age groups.

During the year Selena Kavanagh organised Child Safeguarding for our coaches. Many thanks to Selena and Michael for their work in our Safeguarding. I'd like to wish Selena all the best as she steps down from one of our Child Protection positions.

Well done to the U11 Boys and their fundraising for the Lusk Community Unit. The boys ran, bounced and soloed around TAP2 and covered the distance from Dublin to Tipperary, raising over €4,000.

As the above report mentions, well done to the ladies in their Féile wins and to our boys in their Féile campaign and to those in 2024 who will be starting their Féile journey, go n-éirí libh.

Well done to those mentioned in the Juvenile County Board Roll of Honour for 2023.

U12 Boys Football Division 8 runners up.

U13 Boys Hurling Division 4 runners up.

U14 Boys Football Shield Division 4 runners up.

U16 Boys Football Division 6 winners.

Our Nursey is growing and those beginning their GAA journey we hope will continue to do so.

Gerry is involved within Adult games and Juvenile games, providing assistance in coaching and development.

As part of the GAA National Coaching and Games Committee, its Official Guide update and with support of the AMFC; a Coaching Officer has been incorporated to the Club's structure and thanks to Robert Naughton in taking this role as Round Towers Lusk Coaching Officer.

As noted by GAA's National Coaching and Games meeting this week, Chair John Tobin notes this role is pivotal and "should work in harmony and cooperation with all the other stakeholders – the club executive, the managers and coaches of all the club's teams, and even the players if you want to be truly holistic".

GAA Director General, Tom Ryan, acknowledged in his annual report this year that 'creeping competitiveness' is a danger to juvenile player retention in Gaelic Games.

One of the six key principles of the Gaelic Games Player Pathway is 'As many as possible for as long as possible,' and led by their coaching officer, clubs have a duty to live up to this ethos.

I would like to extend my thanks on behalf of the Juvenile Section to Bord na nÓg and Runaí, Damian Ó Murchú. I would like to thank all our Go Games referees and referee co-ordinator Eimear Wylie, without whom games could not have taken place. In Damian's report, Dublin GAA CCC1 saw a 1.5% increase in Football and 2% decrease in hurling. At Round Towers Lusk we hope to grow our numbers for 2024. CCC1 and CCC2 games continued until December 2nd with back games resuming in January due to unplayable pitches, thus highlighting the need for better all weather facilities.

Games Promotion Officer

We have been very fortunate to have Gerry Seaver to continue in 2023. Gerry brings a wealth of experience and energy to our juvenile section. The Nursery has grown from strength to strength and Gerry has a great presence in the local schools. A big go raibh mile to Gerry for the Summer, Easter and Cúl Camps and to all the coaches that assisted.

Gerry has been involved with many aspects not just Nursery, Gerry has worked with the re-structure of the Juvenile Committee, coaching workshops and coaches development, development of a coaching repository and running certificate coaching in the Club. Our GAA All Stars this year has proved a fantastic initiative as part of Where we all belong campaign from the GAA, thank you for your support.

Our final nursery of the year featured a very special and important guest. It was the universally acclaimed visit from Daidí na Nollag.

My thanks also go to Kevin Niall, Ayleen Sweeney, Noel Shields, Claire Myers and the wider team of juvenile coaches and parents who provided the organization and fun for our youngest members on Saturday mornings.

We look forward to working with Gerry in 2024.

Fingal County Council

Our cooperation with Fingal County Council is long-established and has brought many benefits to our club. Fingal County Council offers us crucial support in terms of playing facilities and grant support. Our thanks also go to Fingal County Council for grant support under Communities Activities Funding.

We will continue to work with Fingal County Council to develop first-class sporting and recreational facilities for the community of Lusk, including a full size all weather floodlit facility. This is badly needed in Lusk and other wards in Fingal have been provided all weather facilities. As noted in 2023 Dublin's GAA report by Chief Executive Finbarr O'Mahony, under the 2018-2027 National Sports Policy, each of the local authorities are committed to developing a local sports plan. The report notes that South Dublin County Council is the first to launch such a plan.

We will similarly continue to work with our partner organisations, previously known as Lusk 2020, now Lusk Sports Group, in the development of shared sporting and recreational facilities that benefit multiple sporting organisations as well as the wider community. The current proposal does not align with the needs of Round Towers Lusk. The project at "The Hub" has been delayed due to an environmental screening to be submitted to An Bord Pleanála in 2024. Further planning submissions are also required by Fingal. On closing this item, Finbarr O'Mahoney notes to which I whole heartily agree with; *"I would like to acknowledge the support and assistance that we have historically received from all 4 local authorities in terms of provision of playing facilities. I expect and hope that this support will continue and indeed lead to further opportunities to partner on provision of facilities within Dublin, resources our clubs are crying out for. Clubs need these facilities to be available within the communities they serve."*

"As a society we want to move towards a more sustainable way of living and yet the provision of amenities especially sporting amenities within communities has long been overlooked as part of the planning process for new large-scale developments. I hope that we will see this improve in the coming years".

The proposed projects with Dublin GAA within the Fingal area at Hollystown is an exciting development with Dublin GAA. The Hollystown project is expected to commence shortly as they are currently in the tendering phase. This is expected to have 3 sand based pitches and an all weather, all of which are floodlit, along side an indoor facility for training.

Facilities and Pitches

There is massive commitment within the club in terms of the maintenance and improvement of our facilities and pitches. We are all aware and very thankful of the many volunteers who give up their time and energy to develop and improve our pitches and facilities. The work is so extensive and varied that it is close to impossible to keep track of all the people involved. I would like to sincerely thank the team of volunteers of John Flood, John Bohan, Dermot Clarke, Frank Kiernan, Joe Sullivan, Gerry O'Connor and Séamus Murphy, Matt Kelly, Barry Griffin, Paul Neville who line our pitches and maintain the grounds to such good condition, ensuring that our teams have such fine playing facilities. With that in mind, I would like to pay special tribute to the names of those members and volunteers who do not appear in this report.

TAP1 continues to provide an exceptional playing surface when the weather is dry. There is a discussion on how TAP1 can be used and developed for the future. This is part of our development on development.

Improvements in the playing surface of TAP2 can be attributed to top-dressing with sand, fertiliser and shock-waving of the pitch that have taken place this year, at a not so insignificant cost of circa €10,000 this year alone. I would like to thank our mentors and players for their cooperation in ensuring that it is not overused or used in unsuitable conditions as this top dressing and fertilizer needs time for the grass to strengthen roots and to establish the playing surface long term.

I would like to mention Kevin O'Neill and Neil Hanlon for their crucial role in these improvements and excellent grass facilities at Páirc Thomáis Ághais.

The club's application for a Sports Capital Grant, with the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport for our Artificial Surface came to fruition. Our upgraded facility thanks to Colm Coyle and Al Read lighting was opened on September 16th 2023. Present was Deputy Mayor Gráinne Maguire, along with and Minister Darragh O'Brien TD, Minister of State Joe O'Brien TD, Senators Lorraine Clifford-Lee, Regina Doherty and Councillors Brian Dennehy, Robert O'Donoghue, Tony Murphy to whom we expressed the immediate need for improved community facilities within Lusk, a full size all weather flood lit GAA pitch. Projects within Fingal similar to Braemore, Ballymastone to name two, should be put forward for the community of Lusk

The improvements in reducing energy within the Club in conjunction with Fingal Leader is an ongoing project that we hope to revisit. Many thanks also to all who contributed to the on-going renovations and improvements within our club house.

Our Club's development discussions were held on November 7th and November 25th, with the help of Leinster Council and facilitator Clare O'Sullivan, we can help provide a clear plan. We had approx. 25 people for both. While the feedback was positive and thanks to those attending, a larger basis of opinions would have been encouraging to see.

Sincere thanks to the Gym team under Rob Naughton, for their work in development of our club gym has shown great progression with the squads S&C. This is a fantastic facility and is been utilised by our squads in the evenings and in the mornings by Aaron Howley and his MoveStrong business.

Volunteers will be central to all future developments, not just on the pitch but in our surrounds and buildings. The next grant supported project include Floodlighting for the training area and TAP2, for which we have submitted a Sports Capital Grant. A ball wall, needed across both codes is also at the initial stages.

Our Club bar looks festive as always this Christmas season and thanks to those who have made it look so well. As noted above, the Club bar provides an outlet for members playing and not playing to chat and discuss the topics of the day. A word of thanks to the bar staff throughout the year. The Club bar provides much needed revenue to the Club's accounts as the accounts will show.

Health and Well-Being

As in 2022, 2023 is no different as mental health and self-welfare continues to be part of our lives. The awareness around the importance of health and well-being grows. As a club we are in a privileged position to support our members. I would like to thank our Healthy Club Officer Joan Ward in this role and wish Joan well as she steps down from this role.

Is anyone wishes to learn more, support is also available on
<https://www.gaa.ie/my-gaa/community-and-health/mental-fitness/safe-talks>
<https://ladiesgaelic.ie/lgfa-hub/clubs/lgfa-talk-project/>
<https://camogie.ie/player-information/player-welfare/health-well-being/>

If anyone needs to talk, please reach out, there is support <https://www2.hse.ie/mental-health/>

Fundraising

Fundraising is an important part of club life. The club needs to fundraise so that the club can meet its desire for club development.

The club still needs to find money to keep the lights on, maintain the grounds and develop players as well as secure and enhance the facilities.

The club does have a bar which is contributing to the running costs such as the lights and facilities however the bar revenue is insufficient to cover the entire costs of the day-to-day financial requirements of running the club. The Club should be self sufficient in covering it's base costs.

Extra revenue is an important part of club life for development, fund raising is important for the club however the members of the club are even more important for fund raising. Fund raising is returning after the impact of Covid, the club has run the national club draw, the club lotto and table quizzes thanks to the commitment and dedication of club members.

My thanks to Nuala O'Neill and Joan Ward who helped to organise the National Club Draw tickets. Where there can be opportunity to raise €30,000 through selling tickets we raised €6,000 in 2023. All funds go directly to the Club.

The Club also held their Golf Classic this year, held at Beaverstown Golf Club, many thanks to Beaverstown and also John Bohan, David Neary, Gerry O'Connor, John Flood, Nuala O'Neill, Claire Myers and Naoise Mac Fheorais

I'd like to thank those running the Lotto Committee for their time and commitment each week.

It is never easy to run a fund-raising event. Fundraising events start with an idea and sometimes it can be difficult to come up with that idea. When somebody does come up with an idea it can be even more difficult to execute that idea as it may not appeal to all. Fundraising can be difficult to execute because it requires the effort of the club members.

Looking ahead, we are looking for a small group for fund raising. We should aim for a Club wide large scale fund raiser.
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Finance

Many thanks to our Treasurer Enda McKenna for his excellent work in this crucial role this year as in 2022. Enda brought further structure and fiscal guidance to our finances. The importance of this work cannot be underestimated and is only visible when absent.

I would like to thank Enda for his time and effort as Treasurer as he steps down from this role after two years. I would also like to thank Garret Bates in supporting the Club accounts.

As mentioned in the minutes of meeting past and will be in meetings going forward, the club could not continue to function without a Treasurer. We require a Treasurer and an Assistant Treasurer, I am asking for volunteers to please help. Our Treasurer's report notes that we need ensure our income covers our day to day running costs.

The refurbishing of the Artificial Surface was €117,813 while grant currently supports this to €78,820; of which we expect a further payment of €22,417. Accounting for depreciation, the Club deficit was €54,234

The bar turnover increased 10% on 2022. There have been supplier price increases during 2023. The light and heat also increased due to the fluctuation in global energy prices. Government support grants also ceased for 2023. Overall gross profit is down versus 2022. Additionally, accounting for depreciation, the bar made a loss of €3,157.

Public Relations

Our Club and the use of social media is becoming ever present and we all digest more social media channels and media output. I'd like to thank Ciarán O'Connor and Ruairí de Stanlaigh for their work as PRO. With a structure now within our sections, we have a PRO in Adult Mens (Karen O'Brien) and Ladies (Ciara Smyth). Our new Juvenile Committee has Claire Myers and Mary Power.

This year we have seen strong growth across all our social media platforms. Our total following across the three main platforms is now above 3.40k with an estimated audience of between 3.1M – 3.6M across all platforms, with Facebook still being our most engaged platform.

Facebook Insights:

Followers: 3,400

Page reach of 272.1K since start of the year 1st January 2023 – to date - **+502% higher than same period last year**

Page Visits of 115.2K this year to date **+ 168% same period last year.**

We recognise the huge part our Social Media campaigns have had in maintaining a connection with our members. The popularity and engagement of our social media is a testament to our members who contributed so much over the year. The current initiative of submitting club updates and achievements across the different teams and sections to recognise excellent efforts and achievements on the playing field with the Lusk Local, a community magazine where local businesses and politicians would provide updates.

In addition to this from a club perspective to keep our members more engaged on the different activities in the club is an update to our members on a monthly/bi-monthly basis by email. This initiative when launched should spread the word to new members of the community to visit the club and possibly enrol as a member or volunteer.

Membership

Many thanks to Audrey for the envious role of Club Registrar. Audrey has been excellent in her role as always and has helped us all with our Foireann queries. As Audrey steps down, I'd like to thank Audrey for the previous 5 years.

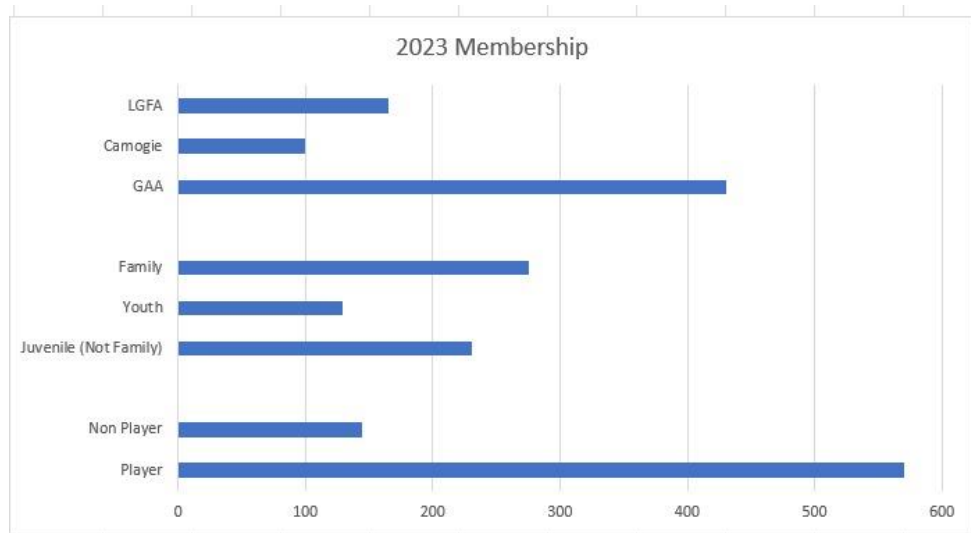
To note, membership is paid via Foireann and general Foireann queries go the Foireann support helpdesk gmssupport@gaa.ie.

Our hope was that our membership would grow and there was a slight increase. With that the role of the Registrar is still important even with the Foireann database, the role is assisted in previous incarnations as Foireann is the online Membership platform and Adult Football and Ladies sections monitor their player registration.

This is not a one-person role. In 2022, the Adult Men's Football appointed a Registrar, however each section within the club will be required to supply Assistant Registrars who will work closely under the supervision of the Club's Registrar. As I noted in my 2022 report, this was and is the last year with Audrey as Registrar and we are looking for a volunteer as Registrar to come forward as soon as possible for 2024.

In 2023 our registration fees and insurance to county boards exceeded what our revenue was from membership. There was no increase in our membership for 2023, 2022 saw a modest increase on average of €10 and 2021 due to Covid, rates were done on a pro-rata basis. To cover the insurance, registration and fees unfortunately, there is a need to increase our membership for 2024. Details in which are an agenda item.

As in previous years, **each member** has a very real responsibility to pay their annual subscription as quickly as possible. A member playing without membership is not covered under GAA Player Injury Fund. Below we have some graphs for the membership for 2023 showing the distribution of the membership types.



Gaelic for Mothers and Others and GAA for Dads and Lads

While Gaelic for Mothers and Others (G4MO) is established, I hope this can continue to grow and involve more women in a fun and non competitive, social environment. With a Blitz organised each year, come join them on Wednesdays at 8pm.

Not to be left out, GAA Dad and Lads was launched here in September. A social hurling and football session, for those still keen to enjoy Gaelic games without the competitive structures and is about keeping fun and participation at the fore. Come join us Friday evenings at 7:45pm.

An Ghaeilge

A Chairde,

Anuraidh bhronnadh an bonn cré-umha fondúireacht Sheosaimh Mhic Dhonncha orainn tar éis dúinn an Ghaeilge a chur chun cinn timpeall an clubteach agus ar líne. I mbliana lean muid leis an obair iontach. Tá seisiún ceoil againn so clubteach gach mí atá tar éis lucht leanúna mór a mealladh. Bhí pop up Gaeltacht againn le linn Seachtain na Gaeilge chomh maith. Tá mórán oibre déanta ag an gclub go dtí seo agus to obair mór le déanamh againn chun bonn airgid FSMD a buacaint. Ba mhaith liom buíochas a ghabháil le baill Chloigthishe Lusca as ucht bhur tacaíocht!

Lusca abú
Ruairi de Stanlaigh
Oifigeach na Gaeilge

Community

As a GAA Club, our community should always be at our centre. We would not be here without the communities and parish that we represent. Diversity and Inclusion among us should offer a sense of belonging to everyone, irrespective of who we are. This year our own GAA All Stars was launched. Thanks to Gerry Seaver, Rob Naughton, Claire Myers, Joe Sullivan. It is great to see such energy on a Friday evening and all enjoying themselves and expressing themselves in a safe and supporting environment.

At our Artificial Surface opening in September, Round Towers Lusk and Lusk Autism Awareness signed up as Autism Friendly Champion. We will be rolling out some awareness and training to our coaches in the new year.

We hosted the Martin Finnegan Cup, in its 8th year. A blitz format of football played in great spirits . A big thank you to all schools who took part, their teachers, coaches and parents and the Finnegan family for their support and contribution to the running of this fantastic cup competition each year.

We also have welcomed Sisters Shed, who offer a safe space for all women providing workshops, a cup of tea and a chat, promoting mental and physical well-being.

The Adult Men's Football and volunteers held the last of our retired members night for 2023. It was a Christmas dinner superbly hosted. Many thanks to Howleys Butchers, Thomas Kerrigan, Costcutter and Local Solicitor for their support on the evening. The evening was opened by our Chairperson Naoise followed by guest speakers Pat Kelly, Aidan Arnold and Eileen Sweetman. We also had some lovely baked treats from Ellen and Karen O'Brien. It was a true evening of community; full of chat, ceol agus damhsa.

Executive Committee

The Executive Committee met 18 times in 2023. This does not include meetings by some with sections, meeting with other Clubs and development meetings. I acknowledge it does take away time from our day to day lives.

I would like to sincerely thank each and every member of the Executive Committee for their dedication and hard work in 2023. Many are fulfilling multiple roles within the club – without even mentioning the multiple roles they fulfil outside of the club. The Executive is strengthened by difference of opinion, however once agreed we can discuss our next agenda item. As a Club, we are striving towards a common goal - CLG Chloighithe Lusca.

A number of Officers and members of the Executive are stepping down this year and I'd like to thank those for serving on our Executive and contributing their precious time. Thank to Nuala O'Neill as Vice-Chairperson and previous roles with the Ladies section. At the time of writing this report, there are many vital vacant positions on the Executive with no nominations for a replacement. Registrar, Treasurer and Assistant, Vice-Chairperson, Assistant Secretary. All of which are necessary roles.

I might add that our members not only need to recognise the work of the Executive members but also their families for taking time away from their personal lives. We also need to recognise that there are limits as to what a volunteer or a group of volunteers can be expected to take on.

Our achievements and progress as a club have been made possible thanks to the collective work of generations of members and volunteers. This year like last, I firmly believe in the power of the collective and draw inspiration from the people who built this club and other GAA clubs throughout the country.

On behalf of the Executive, I'd like to express our utmost gratitude to all and their families for the selfless and unstinting work contributing to our Club. It is my intention that 2024 will be my last year as Secretary as I look forward to working with all of our members during the year.

Conclusion

I would like us all to take a moment to pause and reflect on those whom we've lost since the last report by An Rúnaí. Our thoughts are with you and your families during this time of grieving, reflection and memories. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a (h)anam.

I would like to conclude with a simple, sincere and profound thank you to all the members, volunteers and friends of the club who contributed to its continuing growth and successes in 2023 and for many years to come.

Nollaig shona faoi shéán is faoi mhaise daoibh go léir.

Aindriú de Barra.
Rúnaí.