



Secretary's Report 2021

I would like to welcome all our Members to the 2021 Annual General Meeting.

Football

As 2021 draws to a close we can look back on the football season with a great deal of satisfaction tinged with a little regret. In a year which once again was badly disrupted with Covid we must commend firstly the CCC of the Meath Co. Board on successfully staging a full championship for all grades and seeing them all through to a successful conclusion. Secondly the football committee would like to acknowledge the role of the club's executive in ensuring all teams were adequately supported throughout the season with sufficient resources and facilities to compete in their respective championships.

We entered 4 adult teams in 2021, Senior, Premier 1, Premier 2 and Premier 6. The Premier 1 and Premier 6 titles were annexed with some outstanding performances from both teams and huge credit to both for delivering these titles. Our senior team came up just short in the Senior Final losing narrowly to Wolfe Tones. The little regret we had this year is that we felt this group had prepared so well and given so much but injuries to key players and some bad luck had deprived them of final success. That said all credit to Wolfe Tones who were the better team on the day. In hindsight our 3rd team (Premier 2) were graded incorrectly and we must learn from that as we struggled with numbers for this group. A special mention to all those players who went above and beyond to play with this team so as to avoid expulsion from championship. To all the players and the management of all 4 teams we would like to place on record our sincere thanks for your trojan efforts throughout 2021 season. Honourable mention to Conor Scully and David Gallagher for delivering Premier 1 and 6 championships. The development squad (Prem 6) proved to be an outstanding success and hugely important for the club going forward in preparing our young footballers for the adult grade.

Juvenile – Minors had another great year culminating in a narrow semi-final defeat to Ashbourne in Div. 1 championship while the Minor B's (U16's) won their championship final Div. 6. Again thanks to Conor Hayes and his management for the 1st team and to Adrian Carolan and his crew for the "B" team. Honourable mention to our own Jack Kinlough for his All-Ireland success with Meath in 2021. We look forward to this crop making their journey to adult football next season.

Our U15's (2006) had a brilliant season also coming up just short in the Div.1 final against O'Mahony's. Another exciting crop of young footballers with a very bright future. A huge thanks to Fergus McNulty and his management team for their work throughout the year with this group. Our second U15s (2007) entered a Div 6 and Div 8 championship. Unfortunately a number of teams dropped out of Div 8 which resulted in only playing 2 games. The Div 6 team played 5 competitive games but lost out to Na Fianna in a semi final. Many thanks to Brendan Cregan and his management team for their dedication to these boys throughout the year.

Hurling

After a very unsteady 2020 as a result of Covid, it was great to finally get back to the playing fields in 2021.

Buoyed by the addition of a number of guys from last year's minor squad, it was great to see 3 hurling teams fielding and so many players getting to see competitive action. Our third team were in contention for the knock-out stages up until their final group game against eventual winners Drumree, while our second team had some great games most notably their semi-final win over Kiltale in an end to end battle, however they were unlucky to lose the final to Kilmessan in a very tight game. This was the first year of adult hurling for several of this squad it was great for them to get to a final in their first year so hopefully this bodes well for the future.

In terms of the Senior team, the Brendan Davis cup served this year in a league type format, and provided great games during the year. Unfortunately a loss to Kiltale and Trim, we did not qualify for the semi final of the competition by the narrowest of margins. In the championship, we played once more in the Senior B, where wins over Clann na nGael, Killyon, Blackhall Gaels, Wolfe Tones and Kilmessan saw us top the group and secure Senior A status once more in 2022. It also placed us in the quarter finals of the Championship where unfortunately we suffered a heavy defeat to Trim. the manner of the defeat in the Senior Quarter final was disappointing, but overall we should be optimistic about the future of hurling in the club. It was great to see Niall Smyth's U21 squad win the county title in December and the Minor Victory earlier in the year, shows plenty of green shoots.

Sean Callanan's assistance in coaching was so vital in the running of things, particularly with the large number. We were also lucky to have the input of Sean Boylan over the two years, who took time to speak to the lads and offer any support to myself when required. All teams trained together but the man-power behind this task was great and we always had the assistance of Damian Cunningham, John Gilmartin, Peter Moran, Ray Mitchell and Johnny O'Connor to assist as well as Tom "Dipper" Watters and Fergal O'Neill. A special thanks to two great Dunboyne men, Colm Brennan and Declan Finley, two stalwarts and great hurling minds.

The Hurling committee would like to thank Paul Reilly for all the work and effort that he has put in over the last two years. Hurling in the village has definitely received a major lift during Paul's time at the helm, with greater numbers at training, a record first of 3 adult teams being fielded, all of which were competitive and a long overdue return to the knockout end of the senior championship.

We would also like to thank Ray Mitchell of Dunboyne Oil for his continued support during the year and also to Cormac Dunne in Dunboyne Sports and Leisure for always having gear on hand for us during the year.

We had some good success at underage and the pipe-line coming through to Adult hurling seems very strong for the first time in a number of years and long may this continue.

Ladies Football

It has been an incredible year for the club with our Senior Ladies becoming Leinster Senior Club Champions and are now preparing for their All Ireland Semi Final this Sunday in Cork. As a club, we are privileged to have a group of Ladies who demonstrate great commitment, skill, leadership, teamwork, work rate, attitude. In addition to being successful on the pitch, they are amazing role models for all of our young girls and boys.

At county level, our representatives have won the Division 2 League and Senior All Ireland Ladies titles. The senior final against Dublin will remain in the memory for a long time as an incredible display and victory. Outside of the team themselves, I sincerely doubt that anybody thought this was possible 12 months ago.

I'm sure it's unprecedented for a club to have 2 of the 3 players nominated for National Senior Player of the Year. Vikki and Emma have performed at an incredible level on the pitch and represented club and county with pride over the last number of years. Again, it's not just on the pitch, their articulate nature means that they are both in high demand from the media. Two All Stars and Player of the Year.

This success did not happen overnight – much credit is due to everybody involved in coaching, fundraising, managing teams and all the unseen work in the background through the years that has built the foundations for these incredible achievements.

There have been plenty of other achievements on and off the pitch this year – we fielded 3 adult teams in League and Championship. At underage level, we continue to be competitive in nearly all competitions and there has been a significant rise in numbers at all levels – which is the real measure of success. It's really important to acknowledge the commitment and professionalism shown by the coaching teams – they make massive commitment to develop our teams and individuals. They deserve enormous credit and thanks for this and their time and effort commitment is phenomenal across all teams.

Camogie

Our Senior Camogie team competed in B championship in 2021 and were extremely competitive losing out to Clan na Gael in the semi-final. Numbers continue to grow and its very encouraging to see a number of younger players coming through. We are looking forward to the 2022 season and hopefully will also be fielding a second Adult team in the junior grade. Thanks to Teresa, Gillian and Des for all your efforts and we wish the incoming management team all the best for 2022.

Our underage section continues to grow, fielding teams at all ages from 7 to 16. Our u13's and u14's reached finals and our u15's won their county title. A huge amount of work is being done at underage level and a big thank you to Matt Dwyer, Evelyn Mc Govern, Sinead Clince, Edel Boyce, Paul Brady, Con McCormack, Aidan Harrington and all the coaches and parents who give their time every week. A big shout out also to the work being done a nursery level led by Sean Murphy.

We also acknowledge the achievement of our Senior County representatives, Maeve Clince, Ellen Burke and Sinéad Hackett, in reaching the All-Ireland Intermediate Semi Final only to lose out to Kilkenny.

We would also like to thank our sponsors during the year especially Andrew Fagan and All Aspect Tree Care for the sponsorship of our underage teams.

Juvenile

I would firstly like to thank all our coaches within the juvenile section for your immense work, help, and your persistent endeavours to keep our children engaged in our games, both through the first five months when we were in lock down and in the return to play. This year again can only be described as an extraordinary and difficult year. However, despite the challenges Covid 19 served up, our coaches and players responded in a very positive manner resuming training and games in June. As we resumed our training and games our Covid Supervisors resumed their role overseeing health questionnaires for their respective teams. A special word of thanks to each and everyone of you.

Once the games resumed, they came thick and heavy. We competed well in our competitive competitions in both football and hurling, reaching semi-final and final stages in all competitions with our U13 boys winning their final. Another important success of our club is our player retention and this year has seen an increase in juveniles playing our games.

We ran 2 Cúl Camps and our own club camp all of which were very successful. Unfortunately, due to covid 19 we were unable to run our annual mini leagues. This was the second year that our mini leagues were abandoned, hopefully 2022 will see the resumption of our mini leagues

Lastly I would like to give a mention to June Boyle, our Childrens Welfare Officer who is responsible for ensuring that all of our coaches are garda vetted and have received their safeguarding training. June keeps on top of all areas of this role and it is a mammoth task and most appreciated by us all.

Academy

Our Academy is where our club starts, it is the entry point for our future players and indeed coaches. St Peters is very fortunate that we have someone with the experience and love for our Gaelic games as Sean Murphy does, to oversee the organisation and development of young players and future coaches. In 2021 we had 170 children U5/U6 attend our combined nursery on a Sunday morning. Between the kids and at least a parent each in attendance Sean and his team did an amazing job in organising in excess of 350 people each week. A massive thank you to all the parents, coaches and our COVID-19 supervisors for their help throughout the year.

GPO

Teresa Molohan is continuing her outstanding work in promoting our games. She is now providing coaching to over 600 children in all codes through our local schools. There has been an increase of 3% in our numbers despite the challenges we were faced with throughout 2021 by covid 19. Teresa was busy with the following courses – Foundation, Award 1 child, go games referees, TURAS aswell as hurling/camogie workshops. It is very important that all our coaches engage in upskilling their coach education for the benefit of our players.

We launched our GAA Player Pathway, this is a guide to bring our players from Nursery through to adult. We are making great strides under the guidance of our GPO.

County Representatives

St Peters have a number of players who represent the club at county level across all codes from Senior to underage. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate them on their achievements in 2021 and I wish them every success in 2022.

Jack Kinlough and the Meath Minors overcame Tyrone to win the All Ireland Minor Championship, a feat not achieved for 29 years. Jack's teammate Josh Harford also plays hurling with St Peter's Minor team.

Our Meath Senior Football reps of Shane McEntee, Gavin McCoy, Seamus Lavin, Ronan Jones and Donal Lenihan reached the Leinster Senior Football Semi-final.

Ellen Burke, Maeve Cline and Sinead Hackett reached the Meath Ladies All Ireland Camogie Intermediate Semi Final but unfortunately narrowly lost out to Kilkenny.

In Hurling we are represented at Senior by Ger Murphy and Adam O'Connor won the Under 20B Hurling Championship with Meath.

The Club also wishes to extend our congratulations to our 5 representatives who became All Ireland Senior Ladies Football Champions just 12 months after winning the Intermediate Championship. Well done to Vikki Wall, Sarah Wall, Emma Duggan, Shelly Melia and Alison O'Sullivan. Both Emma and Vikki went on to win All Stars and Vikki also received Senior Ladies Player of the Year award. The club are most proud of your achievements.

GAA for Mothers & Others and Dads & Lads

A new addition this year was the Mothers & Others / GAA for Mas. This was put together by Joanne Devlin and Garbhán Blake and they were ably assisted by Seán Murphy & coaches. I believe convincing coaches to assist was never an issue with the promise of a pint or two afterwards in the Club bar. GAA for Lads & Dads began in the latter part of the year and there has been great interest in it so it is looking positive for this year.

Fundraising

2020 ended with the Car Draw fundraiser run by Brian Howlin and Kevin McKeon and it also opened up 2021. The Car Draw brought in a whopping €28000.

The Cyclothon fundraiser run by our Ladies Section proved to be immensely successful. 130 kids and adults jumped on the bikes outside Supervalu on a beautiful sunny Saturday in September. Representatives from all areas of the club took part and a total of €10400 was raised.

The annual Golf Classic took place in September and was run once again by the one and only John Geraghty. He puts a tremendous amount of effort into this fundraiser and his effort never wanes. The Golf Classic took in over €10000.

The Lotto continues to go from strength to strength due to the hard work of Peter Moran. With the bar back open we were able to have the draw in the bar for a time. Much thanks also to Ann Gallagher and PJ Conway with the running of the Lotto. This fundraiser cannot continue without the support of our members and wider community and I would invite all our members to sign up and continue to support the Lotto. We are adding to the fund again and this Saturday it will be €12100!!

The Bingo was finally allowed to return in September and our fantastic committee consisting of Peter Moran, Caroline Dunne, Joe Reilly, Patricia Reilly, Teresa Gannon, Bernard Reilly and Mary Grindan welcomed back our regular Friday night visitors. Unfortunately the bingo has been halted once again but we hope to see it returning soon.

The Annual Christmas Tree Sale was in full steam again in December. Many thanks to Peter Moran and PJ Conway for their time on this fundraiser. These men spend every weekend of the month of December at the club selling Christmas trees. So I am planning in advance and am already looking for volunteers for December 2022!

We also launched our Signage Scheme this year and it has been headed up by Brian Howlin and Kevin McKeon. The signs on the Rooske pitch look fantastic and we are hoping to add many more this year. Anyone interested in advertising their business please contact Brian.

Due to the changing regulations any other planned fundraisers have been pushed out to 2022.

Development

2021 saw the completion of phase 1 of our development plan with the delivery of our All-weather pitch, and general enhancement works to the Rooske pitch. This significant and much needed development will make a major impact to our playing facilities.

The work to deliver our development involves many, many individuals from across the Club working across a number of teams to progress different aspects of our project, including fundraising, corporate sponsorships, marketing, the management of our tax rebate programme and 'buy a brick' schemes.

While too many to name all individually, we would like to specifically acknowledge Niall O'Connor, Matt Dwyer, John Harkin, Terence McGovern, Niall McNulty, Joe Murray, Billy Jones, Linda Kane, Gillian Reilly and Pat Thoma for their work and professional expertise in supporting the design and delivery of our new facilities, including liaison with the county council, coordination with our pitch contractor, and the management of our finances.

We anticipate the commencement of works on phase 2 of our plan - our Academy Centre - in April 2022 which will see the delivery of three juvenile pitches. Once completed, we can truly look forward to show casing 'best in class facilities' which will benefit our club and community for many years to come.

However, in order to deliver this phase of our plan, we will need to reactivate our fund raising efforts given a remaining target of €150,000 to secure this project. To date, we have been supported by 170 families in our plan and we would again ask all members who have not yet done so to engage with and support this plan as we relaunch our fund raising campaign.

The Green Team was an initiative that was introduced this year in conjunction with the development. They have been assigned the task of reducing waste, promoting sustainability for example encouraging kids and parents to walk/cycle to the clubhouse and there is plenty more to come in 2022.

PRO

Our PRO group's performance grew in strength this year. The score reports from all games in all codes has meant that those that could not attend games were kept in the know the whole way through a game. Scores were updated point by point and goal by goal regardless of whether they were in our favour or not. Many thanks the PROs for all sections for time taken to keep everyone in the loop.

Membership

Membership is crucial for the club to operate. We were again challenged this year for membership as we did not know when we would return to play. Our membership team also had to contend with the move over to Foireann for our membership which initially caused more problems than solutions but with hours of work our membership team managed to make the changeover. Huge work went into this and therefore many thanks to Sandra Dunbar, Roisin O'Doherty and Ronan O'Doherty. Due to the ever-increasing costs in the club we envisage that there will be an increase in membership fees in 2022.

Gym

Our gym remains a great resource for our players and for those with a gym membership. Gavin McCoy has continued to maintain the gym to a very high standard and we are sincerely grateful to him for that. Once again this year due to Covid, there were a huge amount of restrictions around our gym and we appreciate everyone adhering to the rules.

Covid

I look forward to Covid no longer appearing on a Secretary's report. We were hampered from returning to training at the beginning of the year and it took until April before the season kick started where we had to train in pods of 15 and then eventually games returned in June. We still required a Covid Supervisor for each team and I wish to thank every single one of them for taking up the role again and ensuring that our teams could train and play games. No one was happier than me when the Health Questionnaire was abandoned in October.

Facilities

Our legendary crew were out again in force this year maintaining our pitches, dressing rooms, gym, indoor facilities and all outside areas. The work involved is a full time job and we are very lucky to have such dedicated clubmates. They also added a new container to the Castle Pitch eliminating the job of having to bring down the nets and flags from the clubhouse. This has been well received by our coaches. On behalf of the club and executive I wish to thank Martin Craig, Joe Murray, PJ Conway, Peter Moran, Tony Dunne, Brendan McNamee, John Geraghty, Terence McGovern, John Blaney, Brendan Sweeney, Ned Dowdall, Damien Egan and Niall McNulty.

Our club bar was able to open again in June for outdoor socialising and then people were allowed indoors again late July. Opening up again meant that further adjustments had to be made to our facilities and our bar staff stepped up to the plate once more. The club are most grateful to Tom Dermody, Ronan O'Doherty, Teresa Tobin, Gillian Reilly and the rest of our bar staff. They worked tirelessly to ensure the bar operated under the guidelines.

Sympathy

Many families both involved in the club and in the community have suffered a loss through bereavement and we wish to extend our deepest sympathy to them. In particular to our clubmen Mick Kenny, Michael "Sport" Kelly, Myles Fahey and his daughter Karen.

Ar dhéis Dé go raibh a n-anamacha dhílse

We would also like to extend our best wishes to families who are fighting or recovering from illness.

Thank you

Lastly I wish to thank all of our coaches, mentors, selectors etc for the time and dedication that you show every year. In particular I wish to thank our outgoing Senior managers, Conor O'Donoghue, Paul Reilly and Ronan O'Doherty. Thank you for the time you have given over the last number of years.

In order for games to be played a referee is essential requirement and we thank our Club referees Derick Murphy, Dave Finlay & Johnathan Pearl and to all of our young whistlers. We would like to encourage more people to step forward for this role in 2022.

2021 brought the changeover from our own trustees to a Corporate Trust. Without our trustees we wouldn't be where we are now and we wish to thank John Reilly, Sean Boylan and Sean McManus for everything they have done for the club.

I would like to thank Ronan and Gillian for their hard work, support, guidance and friendship and together we would like to extend our thanks to our Club Sponsors whose support is vital to the running of our teams. Dominos (Mens Football), Supervalu (Ladies Football), All Tree Aspect (Camogie), Hurling (Dunboyne Oil), Kepak (Academy), Triton, Sidewalk Catering, Gecko Catering, Hanley's Clean Meals, Dunboyne Sports & Leisure and everyone else who has helped out through the year.

Ronan, the executive wish to thank you for your 3 years at the helm. The role of Chairman is never an easy one, but you also had a pandemic thrown into the mix. You took it all in your stride. Although some may not believe me you have a calming nature and have had to use that skill with me on more than one occasion. You have been a great leader in the club and have been a wonderful support and friend to myself and Gillian. We have really enjoyed working with you.

Míle Buíochas

Andrea Ní Loingsigh

Runaí

List of Achievements

Leinster Ladies Senior Football Championship

Meath Ladies Senior Football Championship

Premier 1 Football Championship

Premier 6 Football Championship

Under 21 Hurling Championship

Minor Hurling Div 2 Championship

Minor Football Div 6 Championship

Minor Hurling League Div 2 Shield

Under 15 Hurling Div 3 Shield

Under 15 Div 2 Camogie Championship

Under 13 Football Roinn I

Under 12 Ladies Championship

Under 12 Ladies Championship