



Provincial Council of Britain

2023

NEWSLETTER



**GAELIC GAMES COUNCIL
OF BRITAIN**

It has been another brilliant year for Gaelic Games here in Britain. The continued development of our games is thanks to all our volunteers for their hard work and passion to promote our sports.

If you would be interested in becoming a sponsor for one of our upcoming Events or Competitions across Britain, please get in contact.

For More Information, please contact:

stephen.lavery.britain@gaa.ie

OR

secretary.britain@gaa.ie

LANCASHIRE



Congratulations to all the clubs who came away with silverware in 2023:

- Junior Hurling Championship- Liverpool Wolfe Tones
- Junior Hurling League- Fullen Gaels
- Senior Hurling League & Championship- Cenn Creige
- Wolfe Tone Cup- St Peters
- Junior B Cup- St Brendans
- Junior Football League & Championship- John Mitchells
- Senior Football League & Championship- John Mitchells

Our Underage sector was flying this year with an abundance of activity from U7 through to U15.

In July our Under 15 County Team headed to the Regional Feile in Carlow, winning the shield! A huge achievement!

GLOUCESTERSHIRE

It's been a busy year in Gloucestershire with foundations being laid for future developments. Great to see Underage football being launched by St Judes, covering Bournemouth, Southampton and Portsmouth and Siobhan Fitchett also brought the games to her Primary School in Swansea. It was great to see a few of the Swansea kids now grown up and completing their coaching badges and ready to put something back into their local club and the Universities that they are now attending.

Congratulations to St Jude's for claiming the Men's League Championship and League and St Colmcilles Cardiff for reaching the All Britain Final after winning the GloHerts League and Championship Titles.





HERTFORDSHIRE

It's been a busy and exciting year in Hertfordshire. The creation of the All-Hertfordshire Competition was a huge highlight for both our clubs and schools, with the 3-day event bringing both sectors together to compete to become all Hertfordshire Champions.

It was great to see Silverware go to 7 different clubs with Eire Og winning the Senior Championship, the Senior League and Fr. O'Hanlon Cup going to St. Joseph's, U17 Championship – St. Dymrna's, U15 Championship – St. Colmcilles, U13 Championship – St Vincents/St Dympnas, U13 League – St Vincents/St Dympnas, Claddagh Gaels winning the Glo-Herts League Shield and our hurlers, St Delcans, winning the Mick Houlihan cup.

Congratulations to our county squads, our Under 15's put on a great display at this year's Feile Competition, Our Under 17's retained the All Britain Shield, and our Seniors achieved promotion to Division 1!

A great year for Hertfordshire GAA!



YORKSHIRE



It's been a great year for GAA here in Yorkshire. It was brilliant to see a new underage sector being set up in Newcastle, looking very promising for years to come. It was a strong year for the Youth section of JFK in Leeds, taking 60 children to the Northern Games, and winning the Under 17 boys cup! It was also fantastic to see their Under 9 team travel down to London for this year's ABCs.

We had an Under 17 boys team represent the county at this year's All British Feile Competition in Birmingham- a great experience for the boys.

Congratulations to Hugh O'Neills who won this year's Championship against St Benedict's Harps in extra time. A great game by both teams, that could have gone either way.



SCOTLAND

it's safe to say 2023 has been one of the most active years to date for Scottish youth players of all ages with over 40 tournaments across 36 weekends. In addition, young hurlers, through Ceann Creige, are traveling far and wide to put their skills into action.



It was a great season for Glasgow Gaels Ladies, who made it to the All Ireland Club Quatre Final after being crowned Junior All Britain Champions!

Glasgow Gaels men also claimed the Scottish Senior Championship, beating Dunedin Connollys in this year's final.

The Scottish teams well represented at this year's Northern Community Games in Manchester. Congratulations to our teams that came away with silverware:

U13 Boys Football Shield: Tir Conaill Harps GAC

U16 LGFA Cup: Dunedin Connollys

U14 LGFA Shield: Coatbridge Davits

Year 6 Cup: St Patricks Coatbridge



LONDON

GAA activity in the capital has been booming!

Congratulations to Wandsworth Gaels and Sean Treacys on their All Britain Title wins—brilliant achievements for both clubs.

It was great to see Fulham Irish launch their underage this March have been a great addition to the county.

Our U15 County teams once again travelled to Ireland to compete at Feile. We would like to thank the management teams of each squad as well as the parents for their dedication and commitment throughout the year. We would also like to thank all the players who represented the county with pride. We hope to see many of these young players represent our senior Hurling and Football teams in the years ahead.

Congratulations to all our clubs on another successful year—here's to 2024!



WARWICKSHIRE



Gaelic games in Warwickshire have continued to go from strength to strength in 2023! It is very exciting to see the developments of our new state-of-the-art facility at Pairc na hEireann move into the latter stages. This is a little glimpse into the future of Warwickshire GAA where our facilities will match the developments of our ever-growing, predominantly home-grown membership.

Congratulations to our Senior county footballers who were crowned All Britain Champions and congratulations to Sean McDermotts who won the World Games with their homegrown team. This year we have had several strong county squads at U14, U15, and U17, and our Under 15's competed again at this year's Feile Competition.



Government of Ireland
Emigrant Support Programme



An Roinn Gnóthaí Eachtracha
Department of Foreign Affairs



Thank you to our grant funders for their ongoing support and guidance towards the development of Gaelic Games in Britain



ALL BRITAIN ROLL OF HONOUR 2023

Men's Inter-County Junior Football Champions

London and Warwickshire met in the Inter-County Junior Final for the third successive year with Warwickshire regaining the title in extra time following a great game between the sides.



All Britain Club Winners

Congratulations to Sean Treacy's of London who claimed the 2023 Mens Junior Hurling Club Championship following a victory against Warwickshire champions St Finbarrs. The London Men sadly missed out in extra time of the Ulster Twinning Junior Hurling Championship!



And congratulations to Londons Wandsworth Gaels for winning this year's Mens Junior Football Club Championship, defeating Warwickshires Sean McDermotts in the final. They will now take on Arva of Cavan in the Ulster Twinning Junior Football Championship and we wish them the best of luck!

Club Provincial All Britain Winners

Congratulations
to our Under 15
Winners Tara
and
Under 17
Winners North
London
Shamrocks

County Provincial All Britain Winners

Congratulations
to London on
being victorious
in both the
Under 15 & Under
17 County All
Britain
Competitions



Sean McDermotts

WORLD CHAMPIONS!

In May, Sean McDermotts won the Britain Homegrown Football Competition, going on to represent Britain at the World Games in Derry in July.

The Warwickshire men had some brilliant results throughout the week, before beating France in the Final.

A huge congratulations to everyone involved- what an achievement for the club!



University Competitions

In January, Liverpool John Moores won the British Corn na Mac Leinn Qualifiers meaning they were heading to Waterford to compete, unfortunately missing out in the semi-finals to a strong team from MIC Thurles.

It was another Liverpool derby for our men's championship final with Liverpool John Moores defeating the University of Liverpool in extra in what was a great game. It was a good weekend for Lancashire, with the University of Manchester claiming the shield.

In the Ladies Championship, it was the reverse of the men's with the University of Liverpool overcoming Liverpool John Moores to bring home the cup, with Glasgow Caledonian claiming the shield.





ALL BRITAIN COMPETITION

Thursday 6th July 2023- Sunday 9th July 2023

This July the All Britain Competition was back for its 11th installment. Due to the development of Gaelic Games across Britain, the ABCs outgrew it's previous format, meaning that this year's event was held across two venues- McGovern Park, Ruislip and Tir Chonaill Gaels, Greenford.

Well done to the committee on organising a fantastic event!



THANK YOU TO ALL OUR SPONSORS



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ALL BRITAIN COMPETITION

Thursday 6th July 2023- Sunday 9th July 2023

STATISTICS

CLUB PLAYERS

2878

TEAM ENTRIES

324

**HURLING & CAMOGIE
PLAYERS**

298

CLUB GAMES

802

**LADIES FOOTBALL
PLAYERS**

770

SCHOOLS PLAYERS

550





NORTHERN COMMUNITY GAELIC GAMES 2023



This May the Northern Community Gaelic Games returned! Due to the growth of Gaelic Games in the North, it was extended to a 2-day event with the schools on the Friday and the clubs following on the Sunday.



It was brilliant festival of Gaelic Games bringing together schools and clubs from across Lancashire, Warwickshire, Yorkshire and Scotland.

With 24 Schools teams on the Friday and over 70 Club teams on the Saturday the atmosphere was absolutely electric.



We would like to thank all our volunteers for their hard work with this event. Thank you to Andy Burnham the Mayor of Manchester for his ongoing support with the event- even having a go at Hurling! It was great to have Alan Keegan 'The Voice of Old Trafford' for attending again this year and giving our players that special feeling, having their name read out before the finals.



A HUGE THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

O'Neills	Thermal Road Repairs	Conway
Bethells	Renaker	JPB Utilities
PP O'Connor	Easy Access	Pink Skips
Dowhigh	Zenith Management	Walsh



We look forward to the return of the event in 2024!

COACH EDUCATION

The 2023/2024 Coach Education Programme commenced in October and has been off to a flying start with Introduction to Gaelic Games Courses and Safeguarding Courses taking place across the Province.



UPCOMING COURSES



»» SCOTLAND

14.01.24- GAA Referee Foundation Course @ Clydebank, Glasgow.

03.02.24- Coaching Children Workshop @ Wardie Playing Fields, Edinburgh

10.02.24- Introduction to Coaching Gaelic Games Course @ Whitton Park, Broughtly Athletic Ground, Dundee,

»» YORKSHIRE

27.01.24- Introduction to Coaching Gaelic Games @ Killingworth Young Peoples Club, Newcastle

03.02.24 Coaching Children Workshop @ Leeds Irish Centre

»» LANCASHIRE

03.02.24 - Introduction to Coaching Gaelic Games Course @ St Anne's Primary School, Liverpool

09.02.24 & 10.02.24 - Level One Child Award @ Old Bedians Sports Centre, Manchester



»» WARWICKSHIRE

13.1.24- Introduction to Coaching Gaelic Games @ The Emerald Centre, Leicester

17.02.24- GAA Referee Foundation Course @ Páirc na hÉireann, Birmingham

02.03.24- Coaching Children Workshop @ Páirc na hÉireann, Birmingham

»» GLOUCESTERSHIRE

10.02.24 - Introduction to Coaching Gaelic Games Course @ Southampton Rugby Club, Southampton

24.02.24 - Coaching Children Workshop @ Pride of Erin, Newport, Sarecens RFC,

»» HERTFORDSHIRE

09.02.24 & 10.02.24 - Level One Child Award @ McGovern Park, Ruislip, HA4 6QX

17.02.24 - Coaching Children Workshop @ Glen Rovers, Watford

»» LONDON

03.02.24 - Introduction to Coaching Gaelic Games Course @ McGovern Park, Ruislip,

09.02.24 & 10.02.24 - Level One Child Award @ McGovern Park, Ruislip, HA4 6QX

THANK YOU TO YOU!

We would like to say a huge thank you to all our fantastic volunteers across Britain. Being part of the GAA in Britain means being part of a support structure that provides not only an invaluable link to our culture and sport back home, but it also enables us to introduce our games to those who traditionally would not be familiar with them and provides an opportunity for our children and their friends to enjoy them. We cannot thank you all, our Coaches, Administrators, Officials, Players, and Sponsors, for everything you do for the development of Gaelic Games in Britain.



UPCOMING REFEREE COURSES

With the growth in popularity of Gaelic Games, the demand for match officials is increasing. The development in our Games would not be possible without the contribution from our Referees and Match Officials and it is impossible to overlook their importance.

All our upcoming courses are listed, if you are interested or would like information, please contact:

secretary.britain@gaa.ie

GLASGOW

Sunday 14.01.24,
9:30am-3:30pm
Clydebank Community Sport Hub,
Clydebank, Glasgow, G81 1RH

BIRMINGHAM

Saturday 17.02.24
9:30am-3:30pm
Páirc na hÉireann, Birmingham, B92 0DB

LONDON

Saturday 17.02.24
9:30am-3:30pm
McGovern Park, Ruislip, HA4 6QX

LEEDS

Saturday 24.02.24
9:30am-3:30pm
Leeds Irish Centre, Leeds LS9 9NT





IN MEMORY OF

JOHN GORMLEY

This July we very sadly lost a great servant of Britain GAA, John Gormley. The former President of the Provincial Council of Britain, current Central Council Delegate, and current vice chairperson of Hertfordshire GAA was a huge supporter of underage development. He was one of the founding members of the All Britain Competition, making it poignant that he passed away on the Sunday of this year's competition. Nothing made John happier than to be at the ABCs, driving around in his Golf Buggy overseeing the event, watching thousands of children, including his own grandchild playing Gaelic Games. The event will now be his legacy.

John arrived in Luton from Cloon Co Leitrim in August of 1974, aged just 16. Within a week of arriving, a new neighbour, Bill Barrett, had him out playing his first game for St Dymnas against Dr. Crokes in Harrow. For the next 49 years, he would be a loyal member of the St Dymnas Club, holding the role of Chairperson for many years and having a 25-year playing career for them, becoming well known for his famously long kickout. John represented Hertfordshire at Junior, Under 21, and Minor Level, also taking on the role of County Manager in 2000, guiding Hertfordshire to their last All Britain Junior Football Championship Title. He wore many hats in Hertfordshire from his first county board meeting in 1980, including Chairperson, Vice Chairperson and Development Officer.

John lived and breathed the GAA. We are bereft of his expertise, his knowledge, his passion, his personality and his love. There are not enough words to describe everything he did for the development of our games across Britain but we thank John for his dedication and passion and we again offer our sympathies to his wife Bernadette, son, Kieran, and daughters, Katherine and Louise.

His loss has been felt by so many across the GAA but his legacy will live on.