

# Piercing the Darkness scairteadh sa dorchadas



# WHAT, WHY, HOW, WHEN, WHERE, WHO?

## Cad é, Cad chuige, Cén chaoi, Cathain, Cén áit, Cé

**Our lives need structure, focus, support and a clear sense of Who we are and Where we're from: Club Tyrone responds to those needs by celebrating, promoting and developing the games, language, history, heritage and culture of Gaelic Tyrone.**

- Our main contribution to that is by raising money, which we place under the full control of the elected Tyrone GAA County Committee
- We also organise/deliver events, seminars, talks and publications to deepen people's understanding of our place, our heritage and our Tyrone common bonds

- We're here as volunteers, drawing no salaries and claiming no expenses, simply because we cherish our Tyrone heritages, people and communities
- We work wholly and unequivocally within the Tyrone GAA governance structure
- We report annually to our donors, welcoming the positive involvement of and feedback from all

# PUBLIC BENEFIT

## tairbhe don pobal

**Public benefit has always driven both the GAA and Club Tyrone. Despite the ravages of COVID, in 2020 Club Tyrone created significant public benefit by supporting Tyrone GAA to:**

- Provide and manage Gaelic sporting, cultural and heritage activities for 55 GAA Clubs and 550 teams across Tyrone
- Prepare, organise and field amateur adult and underage Football and Hurling teams to represent our County and its 182,000 people
- Manage and maintain the Garvaghey Centre, our multi-layered facility which has now attracted well over a third-of-a-million users since it opened

- Deliver a range of initiatives to support and develop individual and community health and well-being
- Tackle many of Tyrone's chronic service and facility deficits
- Build pride and contentment in self, in community and in place and help us all to better understand and appreciate our people, history, culture and heritage





# TO START WITH...

## Réamhrá



A year ago our 2019 Annual Report very deliberately made this point:

**'Kindness and selflessness have maybe become old-fashioned virtues. But they lie at the heart of what Club Tyrone is about. And we intend to keep them there.'**

Then came 2020. It certainly put those notions to the test. It equally showed how important they are. And it proved that they do lie at the heart of the GAA and Club Tyrone.

COVID-19 impacted on every part and aspect of Tyrone life, damaging people, families, businesses and communities. But through all of it our Club Tyrone people refused to falter. This Report celebrates what you have done and delivered.

**Your 2020 contribution of £254,168 to the Tyrone Gaelic cause would be remarkable at any time. But to deliver this in the 'pandemic year' is the clearest of statements as to your belief in and commitment to what we are trying to do here.**

Our face-to-face activity was severely constrained this year. But our core business of raising money for Tyrone GAA never faltered. Nor did your support for us.

We've always seen ourselves as being blessed to be part of Club Tyrone, to work with people like yourselves, our Members and Patrons. After the 'year of the virus' we know even more how special this group is. **Let's keep it like that.**

Go bhfága Dia bhur shláinte agaibh agus ar bhur mhuintir | May God protect the health of you and yours.

Mairc Mac Conmidhe

Cathaoirleach, 21 Eanáir 2021

## Delivered by Club Tyrone in 2020:



# PATSY FORBES

Uachtaran CLG Thír Eoghain



Although it was made after our 2019/20 year-end, we rejoiced in Tyrone GAA's wonderful choice of our own Patsy Forbes to serve as our County's third GAA President. Our first Club Tyrone Chair, Jimmy Treacy, was also of course Tyrone GAA's first President.

Patsy's contributions to Tyrone and beyond, on the Gaelic and many other fronts, are unrivalled. Without Patsy, Club Tyrone would just not be what it has become. Tyrone GAA is now honoring someone who has honored it for decades. It remains our great good fortune and delight to have Patsy at the heart of what we do.

**Fear agus a cheird is deacair a scaradh  
A man is known by his deeds**



# A REVOLUTIONARY

réabhlíodí

*Mickey Harte*

Technically it too happened after this Report's year-end, but Mickey Harte's stepping down as Tyrone Senior Manager in late 2020 can't be let pass.

When we started out on our Club Tyrone journey over a quarter of a century ago, Mickey had already four years completed as a Tyrone team manager. He went on to revolutionise our game and our County. And across all that time he's been a relentless supporter of and ally in what we've been trying to do in Club Tyrone. A friend, an ally, a confidante and an inspiration.



## The HEART of the MATTER

### Croí na Ceiste

**Club Tyrone** Club Tyrone Members gift £500 a year to help develop and sustain Tyrone's GAA vigour



**Hub Patrons** Hub Patrons donate £5,000, usually over five years, to core fund Tyrone GAA's leading-edge Performance Hub facility at Garvaghey





# CLUB TYRONE AT WORK IN 2020

**tuarascáil 2020**

Achieved a net cash contribution of **£254,168** to Tyrone GAA

Secured a 'gift aid' tax repayment of just over **£10,000** from HMRC



Produced and circulated to every school in Tyrone 18,000 copies of the Red Hand Fanzine for our 'six-to-sixteen-year-old' population and developed and delivered a digital on-line version

Hosted at Garvaghey, a GAA Community/Club Fund-Raising seminar (20 November 2019, 42 people), a Nollaig na mBan ('Women's Christmas') event (6 January, 54 people) and a workshop on St Brigid's Cross-Making (31 January, 15 people)

Launched a new digital celebration of our Members at Garvaghey

Contributed to Tyrone GAA's Red Hand View match programmes



Met formally as a Committee 4 times



Reported to the Tyrone County Committee and to the 2020 County Convention

Published the 2019 Club Tyrone Annual Report and circulated it to Members, Patrons, others and The Charity Commission



Developed our partnerships with Gaels from Derry, Louth and Mayo



Newly appointed Tyrone joint managers Brian Doohar and Feargal Logan.

## GOOD ANCESTORS

### sinsir chríonna

One of our motivations across life should be to be 'good ancestors' to the generations who will follow us. That in a nutshell is what Club Tyrone is about.

Club Tyrone invests for the long-term and in things that will secure and improve life here for those who come after us.

That's why we believe in looking at what needs to be done, coming up with responses, being focused and business-like in what we do and being true to Tyrone, the GAA and ourselves.

**Maireann an chraobh ar an bhfál ach ní mhaireann an lámh do chuir**

**The branch lives on in the hedge but the hand that planted it may be gone**

## BEYOND THE BUSHES

### thall ó na toim

Whilst our strong Club Tyrone presences persist in New York and Philadelphia, COVID-19 put an end to our plans for any engagement there in 2020.

But when it's the right time, our work there will start again. In the meantime, those communities have other priorities.



# FINANCIAL MATTERS

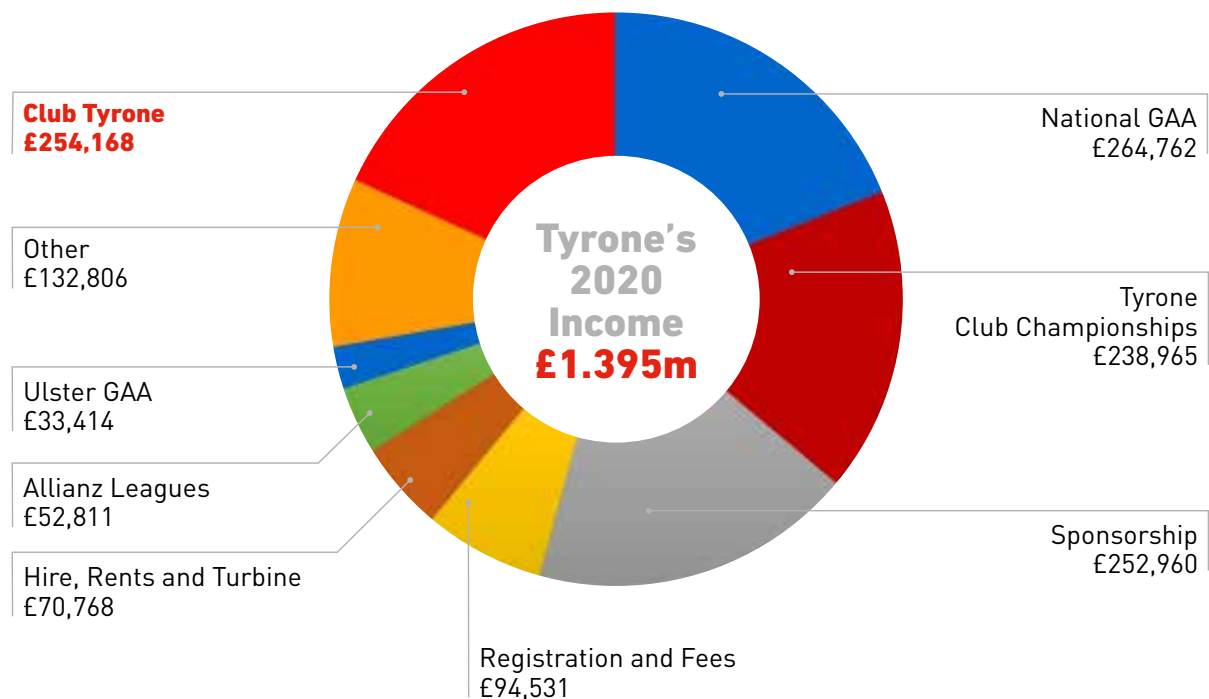
## cúrsaí airgeadais

**Yet again Tyrone GAA has managed its finances outstandingly well. At the end of 2020 we posted a surplus of £253,309, more-or-less accounted for by your Club Tyrone contributions. Club Tyrone is what gives Tyrone GAA ‘room to breathe’.**

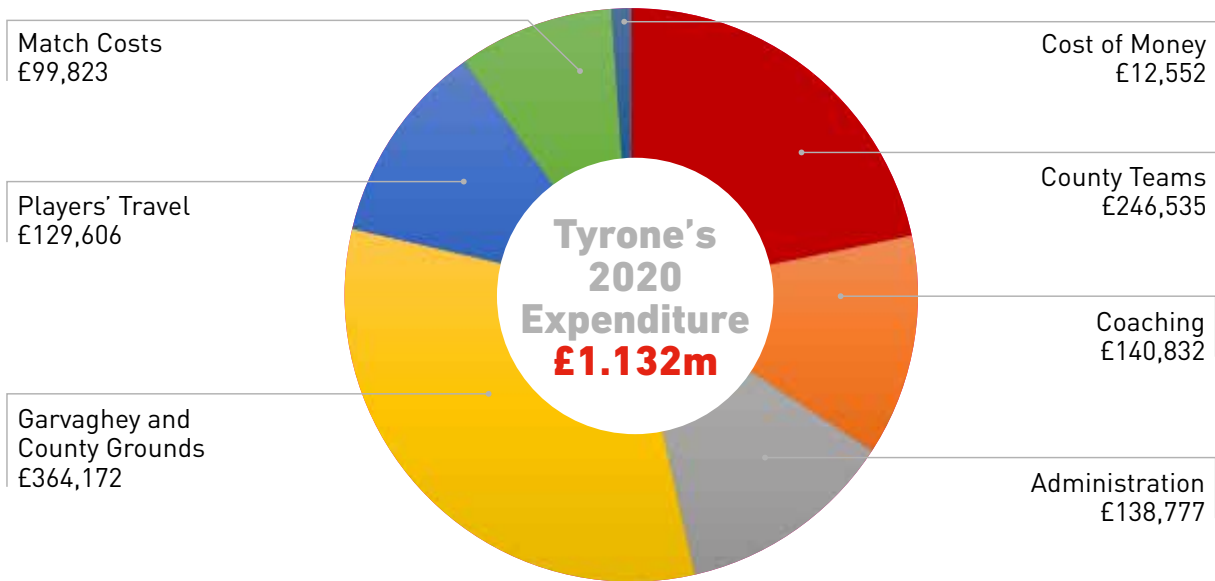
Tyrone’s eye-catching financial achievements of 2020 were to weather the COVID storm and complete the Garvaghey Performance Hub to plan, on budget and without resorting to borrowings.

But we still have borrowings of £460,897 against Garvaghey, albeit paid down from £599,923 a year ago.

Your Club Tyrone contributions remain central to Tyrone GAA’s financial health, delivering almost one-pound-in-five of the County’s 2020 income:







But like society and business generally, the real financial impact of COVID-19 has still to hit the GAA. At Club and County levels virtually every traditional source of GAA income is going to be compromised in 2021, and probably on into 2022 and beyond. Yet many costs remain and a hard-won asset base has to be protected.

**There will be difficult financial times ahead. That's why Club Tyrone is going to be needed more than ever to sustain our County's well-being.**

## GETTING OFF THE HOOK?

### éalú as sáinn

**Club Tyrone is now closing in on having donated £6m to Tyrone GAA. Nothing like this has happened or is happening anywhere else.**

But it's concerning that our hard, hard work and commitment are used as a 'get out' by those who should be investing in Tyrone. We're told that 'It's easy for Tyrone' or 'Tyrone is wealthy, has plenty of money' or 'Tyrone doesn't need help.'

Tyrone is neither a big nor a wealthy County. It's heavily disadvantaged across most government measures. And it knows all about the struggles of life in rural Ireland.

But its people work hard and its GAA people run the tightest of tight ships. And those should be reasons for supporting things here. Not for turning away from us.

Tyrone GAA, at Club and County level, just can't keep making up for the shortcomings of others.

# THE BIG STORY OF 2020

## an scéal mór 2020

In 2020 Tyrone GAA passed another landmark with the completion of our Performance Hub at Garvaghey. It's been designed and fitted out to meet all the strength and conditioning needs of the modern Gaelic player.

- 'Best-in-class' multi-use strength and conditioning work stations
  - A sprinting/testing track
  - Multi-use spaces, including audio-visual facilities and supports
  - A nutrition station, rest/relaxation area, locker area and accessible toilet
- It's also been designed flexibly, so that over time, as demands and needs change, we can turn its 3500 sq ft to different uses.

# TYRONE PERFORMANCE





**But the telling thing about the Hub is that it's been '95%-funded' by Tyrone GAA.** With the honourable exception of £20,000 from the Fermanagh and Omagh Council, there's been no outside help for a project which tackles some of Tyrone's many deficits. No GAA support. And nothing from regional government/civic society here.

What there has been is yet another 'stepping up to the plate' by Gaelic Tyrone. Over 100 people are with us as Hub Patrons, each committing £5,000 to make our Hub project happen. The project has also been completed without resorting to borrowings.

That says a great deal for those charged with our County's financial management and with the management of Garvaghey.

Until COVID is resolved, our Hub will remain in lockdown. That's something we can't control. So we don't agonise about it. But when 'the light returns', as it will, our young people will have a Tyrone Gaelic facility available to them that's as good as anything anywhere else in Ireland.

But without Club Tyrone it wouldn't be there. Don't ever forget that. We certainly won't.







# 2016

- Planning team visits & other projects in Belfast, Derry, Dublin and Tyrone
- Needs assessment carried out
- Initial concept plans drafted

# 2017

- Planning Permission obtained
- Grant application submitted to Fermanagh and Omagh District Council
- Funding presentation to Ulster GAA

# 2018

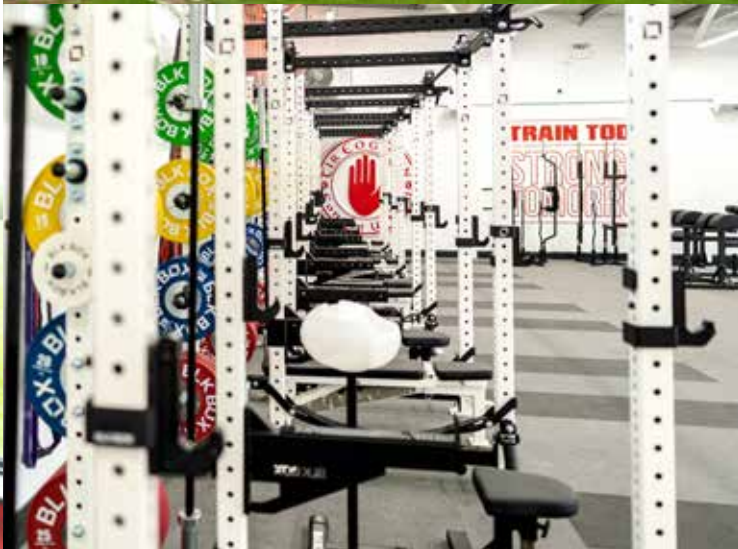
- Fermanagh and Omagh Council offers a £20,000 grant
- Funding presentation to Croke Park







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# 2019

- Building Control approval obtained
- Club Tyrone Hub Patrons initiative launched
- Hub tender process rolled out
- Noel McQuaid & Son start work on site
- 90 Patrons on board at year-end

# 2020

- 100 Hub Patron mark passed
- GAA COVID lockdown
- Blk Box and NIAVAC complete the internal fit-out
- Project's Practical Completion Certificate is issued



# NEED TEACHES A PLAN: 2021 AND BEYOND

## múineann gá seift

It is inevitable that 2021 will be shaped by COVID-19.

Until that picture becomes clearer, in Club Tyrone we can't and won't be planning any events or activities that involve face-to-face contact. We won't put our people's health and well-being at risk, nor do anything that could contribute to damaging Tyrone's economy.

What does seem clear is that we will have to come to terms with a world where face-to-face contact won't be what it was. And since face-to-face interaction has been so central to our business model, we may well have to re-shape how we do our work.

We also need to work on Club Tyrone succession and renewal.

Those are all jobs we will take on. And, as always, we'll need your help to do them.

# OUR PEOPLE ÁR DAOINE

Honoured and delighted to work at helping take Club Tyrone forward in 20 were:

Mark Conway*, Chair, Kildress	077 1082 1711	Patrick Harte, Pomeroy	028 9064 0544
Declan Devlin, Secretary, Omagh	077 9518 2257	Damian Harvey*, Cookstown	077 1709 5852
Roisin Dooher*, Treasurer, Owen Roes	077 3441 3993	Martin Haughey, Gortin	079 7790 1103
Adrian Colton, Dromore	028 9069 1065	Eugene McConnell, Clogher	077 7553 2917
Eileen Connolly, Newtownstewart	079 0446 0870	Jackie Duffy*, Moy	028 9062 0700
Michael Winters, Trillick	075 4250 3145	Patsy Forbes, Ardboe	028 8673 7348

\*Club Tyrone Charity Trustees

We've also been bolstered with precious advice and input from Niall Laird (Omagh), Hugh McAleer (Beragh), and Jimmy Treacy (Carrickmore) as well as from the Tyrone County Committee, its officers and its other Sub-Committees. And in New York and Philadelphia we're very thankful for the work put in by Mickey Coleman (Ardboe), Fay Devlin (Pomeroy), Dermot McCartan (Loughmacrory), Brian McGarrity (Cookstown) and Bill McInerney (New York).

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[www.clubtyrone.com](http://www.clubtyrone.com)





**ní dhéanfaidh smaoineamh  
an treabhadh duit**

**You'll never plough a field  
turning it over in your mind**



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