



Culture Officer Report

2023 was another busy year for Culture in the Club

Firstly we had Scór na nóg whereby we had 5 sections representing the Club in Ceol Uirlise, Aithriseoireacht, Amhránaíocht Aonair, Rince Seit and Tráth na gCeist. The Ceol Uirlise got through to the semi finals but narrowly missed out in a place in the final. However, our Rince Seit team progressed to win the County Final and represented the Club and County with great pride at the Ulster Final on 15Th April held in Treemilehouse in Monaghan which was a great experience for all involved. Many thanks Mairead Hurson, Nuala Donnelly and Michael Kerr who helped mentor our participants.

St Patricks Day began with Mass said by Fr McGuckin. I take this opportunity to thank everyone that took part in the Mass from the Piper who played beautifully at the door of the Chapel, all the readers, those in the offertory procession, Eucharistic Ministers, to Danny Kerr the Club President for presenting the bowl of Shamrock and to our little St Patrick as

well as the wonderful musicians, choir and splendid team of dancers.

This was followed by our annual Big Breakfast where we all celebrated with great food, craic and music provided by our talented youth and adults from the Sunday Sessions group and we also had a few visitors who also graced the stage to entertain.

Our Scór na nóg representatives also took part in dancing, instrumental group, recitation and solo singing. There was plenty of toe tapping and clapping. Once again this turned out to be a very successful day. Many thanks to those who helped make this happen, our volunteers, Committee and in particular the Culture Sub Committee, food sponsors and suppliers and the marvellous Tea Ladies.

On 26th March and 3rd April we held Ciorcal Comhrá mornings which were very enjoyable and were followed up with An Irish Taster Night, there was plenty of fun had at this one.

In June the Culture Sub Committee attended a pop up Gaeltacht in Carrickmore which was without doubt a very well organised outdoor event.

In September Senior Scór took place and the Club as represented in the Amhránaíocht aonair and Bailead-Ghrúpa section, both advance to the County Final but unfortunately we had no winners this time.

Prior to every Home game we had a Club member to sing Amhrán na Bhfainn, some new faces introduced to this group. The group also helped with match day announcements for other games that we had the pleasure of hosting.

We also got new Bilingual signage displayed around the grounds which was down to the work of the Culture Sub Committee and helped by Kevin McVeigh, great work folks.

On 5th November all the deceased members of the Club were included on prayer at Sunday morning Mass.

On the night of the Youth Presentation we lit our memory Tree but as the weather was unkind that evening we had to have the School Choir come into the hall to sing. Thanks to Mr Martin, Mrs Quinn and Lavina for preparing the children, voices of angels. The singing was lovely and they surprised us all by finishing with Jingle Bells in Gaelige. Many thanks again to Mr Martin and the teachers in the Primary School for the terrific work they do with promoting and teaching of Gaelige.

Lastly we held a Nollaig na mban night on 6th January in Tallys Bar, what a memorable night that that was. Everyone including the regulars had a hoot. As this as such a success there are plans to make it an annual event.

I would like to take this opportunity firstly to thank all the Culture Sub Committee for the help and work they have done throughout the year. Secondly the outgoing Committee for their unwavering support and help all year.

As from the AGM on 21st January 2024 I will handing the role of Culture Officer over to Mrs Martina Jordan. Best wishes Martina.

Go raibh maith agat,

Pauline Bowman

