



# Clonliffe Harriers 136<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting

## Ladies Captain's Report

25<sup>th</sup> March 2024

It is with great pleasure to report on the activity of the ladies' section of Clonliffe Harriers AC from late March 2023 up to 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2024.

***Firstly, "Thank you" – to my vice captain's, Laura Tuite (to July 2023), Leah Bergin and Ciara Peelo, Club captain Noel Guiden, President Mick Kearney and all the committee, coaches, athletes and volunteers for all your support, hard work and enthusiasm throughout the year, it is so much appreciated.***

In 2023 Clonliffe Harriers celebrated 60 years of women members and we enjoyed huge individual and team success over the past 12 months. Sadly, we also remember the passing of Clonliffe's first woman Olympian Claire Walsh, 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2023. RIP.

The 2023 individual Club Prize winners - Master athlete of the year, Edel Maguire, Women's track and field athlete of the year, Jessica Tappin and Women's road and cross country athlete of the year, Yuliya Taravosa all excelled throughout the year in their categories.

Edel Maguire set multiple national records and a British championship record and was awarded an outstanding performance award by Leinster Athletics and recognized by Athletics Ireland in the Master Athlete of the Year category.



Individual and team highlights include:

- World Indoors Championship Gold '23 (Edel Maguire W60 High jump)
- European Masters Indoors Gold '24 (Edel Maguire W60 400)
- National Masters Indoors Gold '24 (Snezana Bechtina W40 60 & 200, Edel Maguire W60 High Jump & W60 400)
- National Senior T&F Gold '23 (Jessica Tappin 400mh & Grace Casey Javelin)
- National Senior T&F Finalists '23 (Leah Bergin, Clodagh Dunbar, Laura Tuite, Greta Streimyte)
- National League Final bronze '23 (Outdoor)
- European Masters Outdoors Gold '23 (Edel Maguire W60 high jump)
- National Masters T& F Gold '23 (Edel Maguire W60 400, Frances Mansfield W75 hammer)
- British Masters T&F Gold '23 (Edel Maguire W60 200 & W60 High Jump)
- European team Championships selection '23 (Grace Casey)
- National Intermediate cross country silver '24
- National Novice cross country bronze '23
- National Marathon W35 Champion (Yuliya Tarasova) '23
- World Mountain and Trail Championships 85km ultra trail selection (Yuliya Tarasova) '23



On Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2023 we celebrated 60 years of women's athletics at Clonliffe Harriers with a **Gala ball** in the Hilton Hotel.

The event was attended by a huge gathering of current and past members of the club. Our special guests of honour were the Mayor of Fingal Counsellor Adrian Henchy, the president of Athletics Ireland John Cronin and pioneering women members: Frances Mansfield, Jean O'Neill, Pdraigin O'Dwyer, Kay Guy (O'Heir), Anne Cummins (O'Brien), Anne Manners, Patricia O'Cleirigh, in memory of Claire Walsh, RIP, and Johnny O'Leary representing Noreen O'Leary, RIP .

MC for the night was Liam Moggan who introduced the speakers: the Mayor of Fingal Cllr. Henchy. Jenny Johnston and Clonliffe president Mick Kearney. An amazing, and emotional video presentation, edited by Cillian Sheeran highlighting 60 years of endeavour, achievement and friendship, drew a standing ovation. There was also a standing ovation for the original Morton Marvels. Thank you to all who supported this event, the club committee, organising committee and all who attended. We received kind sponsorship totalling just under €4k from Dublin City Sports & Wellbeing Partnership, Acumen Resources and Enterprise Evolution which made the event possible.



In other events Clonliffe ladies were once again out in force at **Poppintree Parkrun** to mark 'Women in Sport Week'. Two very successful Cross Country squad days were held during the Autumn.

During the last 12 months ladies have enjoyed overseas trips including warm weather training in Albuferia and Estopona, racing the 10k Loop Den Haag 2024, and a development squad travelled to the Euro Clubs in Albuferia.

There was a great turnout of club members for a talk by sports and performance psychologist Vanessa McCann attended by junior, senior and master athletes and club coaches.

The report that follows highlights key achievements at National and regional events as well as team success across Indoor, Outdoor Track & Field, Cross country and Road Racing competitions.

Jenny Johnston (Ladies Captain) ❤️💗

## Indoor



In the **World Indoor Championships** held in Torun, Poland at end of March 2023, Edel Maguire won gold in the W60 High jump with a jump of 1.39m, silver in the W60 400m with a PB of 65.95 seconds and 4<sup>th</sup> in W60 200m in 29.56 seconds, a new PB also. Edel also took bronze in W55 200m relay. Snezana Bechtina competed in the Pentathlon and won bronze medal in W40 4x200m. At the **European Indoor Masters championships** in March 2024, Edel Maguire added European W60 400 gold and W60 200 bronze to her collection. Katherine Markey finished in 6<sup>th</sup> place in the W55 200m final and Snezana Bechtina was 4<sup>th</sup> in her W40 200m heat.

In the 2024 **National Indoor league** final the women's team unfortunately finished just out of the medals in 4<sup>th</sup> place. The team had finished 10<sup>th</sup> after round 1 and after a fighting display in round 2 secured qualification to the final.

Event	Round 1	Round 2	Final
60m Hurdles	Snezana Bechtina		Jessica Tappin - 1st 8.63 CR
60m		Jessica Tappin	Molly Haslam
200m	Emily Jachna		Snezana Bechtina
400m		Jessica Tappin - 1st 55.12 CR	Jessica Tappin - 1st 54.95
800m	Jenny Johnston		Sarah Bateson
1500m		Sarah Bateson	Greta Streimyte
3000m	Julie Larkin		Julie Larkin
1500m Walk		Aisling Kililea	Aisling Kililea
Shot		Jessica Tappin 1st 10.72 CR	Jessica Tappin - 1st 10.77 CR
Weight for Dist	Ciara O'Regan		Anna Heavey - 2nd 5.26
Long Jump		Caoimhe Del Bello	Molly Haslam
Triple Jump	Snezana Bechtina		Molly Haslam
High Jump		Edel Maguire	Snezana Bechtina
Pole Vault	Snezana Bechtina		Snezana Bechtina
4x400m Relay A1	Rebecca Walsh		Leah Bergin
4x400m Relay A2	Snezana Bechtina		Naoise Cullen
4x400m Relay A3	Sarah McDonnell		Anna Heavey
4x400m Relay A4	Emily Jachna		Snezana Bechtina
4x200m Relay A1		Snezana Bechtina - 3rd 1.45.08	
4x200m Relay A2		Jessica Tappin	
4x200m Relay A3		Lauren Carr	
4x200m Relay A4		Leah Bergin	

In the **National Masters Indoors**, Snezana Bechtina took W40 National double winning the 60 in 8.28 and the 200 national in 27.25. Likewise Edel Maguire did a National double, the W60 High Jump with a 1.35m best and W60 400 (70.47). Katherine Markey took W55 60 bronze (9.16) and later placing 4<sup>th</sup> in the 200 (30.78). Ciara O'Regan picked up W40 WFD bronze (3.79). The W35 4 x 200 relay team of Snezana Bechtina, Edel Maguire, Katherine Markey, Ciara O'Regan placed 5<sup>th</sup> (2.03.22).

In the **National Indoor Senior championships** in the 1500, Niamh Kelly ran 4.35.77 to finish 7<sup>th</sup>, only a fraction off qualifying for the final, Sarah also ran a PB of 4.47.08 in placing 9<sup>th</sup>. In the National U/23 championships Sarah Bateson placed 10<sup>th</sup> place in 4.52.79.

Clonliffe ladies supported the **NIA Live events** held throughout December to February. A notable performance by Niamh Kelly in the 80 of 2.15.89 puts Niamh into the Clonliffe all-time top 20 in 19<sup>th</sup> spot.

## Outdoor Track & Field



In a very successful ***National Senior Championships*** Grace Casey won women's javelin with a best throw of 41.83. Jess Tappin won national 400 hurdles gold and set a new club record, 57.20. Leah Bergin qualified for the women's 400 final finishing 6th in a time of 55.84. Clodagh Dunbar qualified for the 200m final, running a PB of 25.96 into a minus 2 headwind to finish 7<sup>th</sup> in the final. Laura Tuite finishing 7th in her 1500 heat (4.48.30) and record a PB of 4.41.42 in placing 11<sup>th</sup> in the final. In the women's 5000 Greta Streimyte was 13th in 16.51.11. Anna Heavey was 6th in her 400m heat. In the 4x400m, the women's team of Rebecca Walsh, Jenny Johnston, Ava Usanova and Clodagh Dunbar finished in 5th place in 4.05.63. In the ***U/23s National Championships*** in Tullamore Sarah Bateson was 10th in the 1500 in 4.50.80

In the ***National League preliminary round*** the team took 4th place with the top 8 qualifying. On 13th August after a fantastic day of competition the women's team captured bronze in the ***National League Final*** held in Tullamore, the team's best ever showing in the Premier division.

Event	Preliminary round	Final
100m	Anna Heavey	Lauren Carr
200m	Clodagh Dunbar	Clodagh Dunbar
400m	Leah Bergin - 1st 52.21	Leah Bergin - 1st 55.44
800m	Jenny Johnston	Hazel Kenny
1500m	Sarah Bateson	Orna McGinley
3000m	Laura Tuite - 2nd 10.21.08	Sarah Bateson
100m Hurdles (0.838m)	Emily Le Vaslot	Jessica Tapin - 1st 14.02 CR
400m Hurdles (0.792m)	Snezhana Bechtina	Jessica Tapin - 1st 58.58
2000m SC (0.762m)		Sorcha O'Connor
1500m Walk	Niamh Whyte	Aisling Kililea - 2nd 9.19.63
High Jump	Shannon Sheehy	Edel Maguire
Long Jump	Shannon Sheehy	Caoimhe de Bello
Triple Jump	Molly Haslam	Snezana Bechtina
Pole Vault	Snezana Bechtina	Snezana Bechtina - 2nd 1.90
Weight Throw (28lb)	Anna Heavey	Anna Heavey - 3rd 5.21
Shot Putt (4kg)	Denise Byrne	Jessica Tapin - 1st 11.30
Discus (1kg)	Jenny Johnston	Jenny Johnston
Javelin (600g)	Denise Byrne	Grace Casey - 1st 42.20
Hammer (4kg)	Kate Connell	Kate Connell
4x100m Relay A1	Emily Jachna	Anna Heavey
4x100m Relay A2	Molly Haslam	Lauren Carr
4x100m Relay A3	Rebecca Walsh	Sarah McDonnell
4x100m Relay A4	Ava Usanova	Ava Usanova
4x400m Relay A1	Anna Heavey - 2nd 3.53.77	Jessica Tapin - 1st 3.51.70
4x400m Relay A2	Clodagh Dunbar	Clodagh Dunbar
4x400m Relay A3	Leah Bergin	Leah Bergin
4x400m Relay A4	Snezana Bechtina	Anna Heavey

Edel Maguire, Katherine Markey and Snezana Bechtina travelled to Pescara, Italy for the ***European Masters***. Edel Maguire took gold in the W60 high jump with a 1.42 jump and earned 4 silver medals in W60 100 (in a time of 14.18 which was not only a PB but an Irish Masters record), in the 200 recording a time of 29.16, in 400 in 67sec and in the 4 x 100 relay. Katherine Markey placed 14th place overall in the 100 and also completed in the 200. Snezana Bechtina won W40 4 x 100 silver and placed 5th in the High jump with a 1.45m best.



At the **National Masters track and field** championships held in Tullamore, Gold for Edel Maguire O60 400 in 66.53, likewise gold for Frances Mansfield O75 hammer (17.56).



At the **British Masters Track & Field** in Derby, Edel took double gold, 200 in 28.55, an Irish record, which Edel held at 28.78, and a championship record. Edel also bagged High Jump gold 1.43m, bettering her previous record of 1.40, and W60 400 silver in 66.25, a new Irish Masters record, bettering the previous record of 66.53, also held by Edel herself.

In the **Northern Ireland championships** Leah Bergin took 2nd place over 400 in a time of 55.82.

Grace Casey was selected for the **European team Championships** and finished 5th in the javelin competition with a throw of 42.04. Grace Casey also competed in the **Morton Games** Javelin event.

At the **Leinster track and field championships** held in Carlow, Grace Casey took senior javelin gold (42.74). Anna Heavey ran a 400 PB of 59.28 and 27.96 in the 200 to grab double Leinster senior bronze. Clodagh Dunbar was 8th in that 400 in a time of 63.70. Snezana Bechtina won W40 100 (13.30) and 400 (60.83) and added the 200 (27.97) and the 400 H (1.15.80). In the field events Edel Maguire, won W60 high jump gold with a fine 1.40m, Frances Mansfield took yet another Leinster title in the W75 hammer (17.89).

Jess Tappin ran a 400 PB of 53.37, and a new Clonliffe club record, at the **Watford open meet in London**. Jess bettering Clonliffe legend Claire Walsh's 1973 mark of 53.70. Leah Bergin ran a 400 PB of 54.30 at the 26th **Moore-Guldensporen Meet** in Kortrijk, Belgium to finish 2nd in her race. Anna Heavey took 4th place in her 400 in 60.54. At the **IFAM Oordegem** in Belgium, Leah Bergin clocked a time of 55.41 in the 400.

**At the DSD Games** at the DSD sports complex, Edel Maguire clocked 28.78 in the 200, a massive Irish Masters W60 record, bettering her own previous 30.15 record!



At the **AAI games** Greta Streimyte was 3rd in the 1500 in 4.34.83. Clonliffe ladies competed across Miler meets in Manchester, **Belfast and UCD** Clonliffe ladies competed in Dublin Graded meets in Tallaght, Morton Stadium, UCD and Lucan throughout April to August.

In the **Spring Throws** held in Tullamore Grace Casey won the javelin with a best of 39.97. In the Masters category Frances Mansfield won the W 75 hammer (18.63). At the Swiss U/20 **Winter Throwing Championships** at the Allmed Stadium, Luzern, Switzerland, thrower Megan Comiskey set two new club records in winning gold in the discus with a best of 43.09 and silver in the hammer (46.08). The weights for both implements are the same in U/20 and senior competition. Both throws now replace Caoimhe Morris' records, 35.67 and 45.22.

In the **Club Championships**, the 100, 200 and 400 were won by Leah Bergin. Laura Tuite took both 800 and 1500 titles. The 5000 was won by Ciara Peelo and Meghan O'Keeffe took the 10,000 crown.

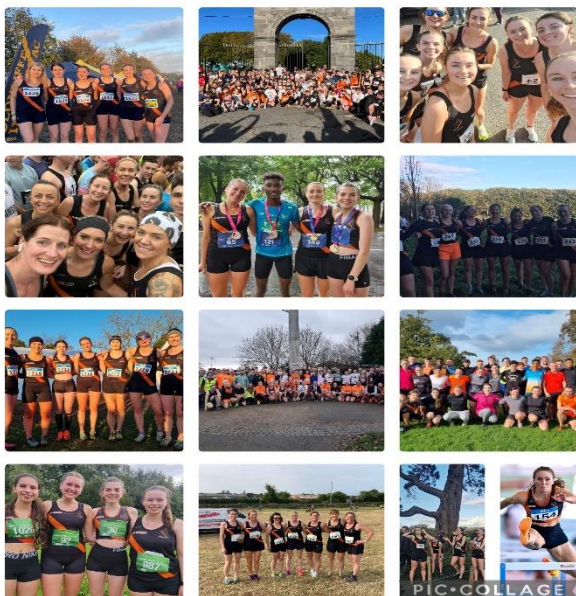


## Cross country

At the **National Senior Cross Country** hosted by Gowran AC in Kilkenny a Junior (U20) team and a Senior team ran bravely in very tough conditions. In the senior race over 9000m Yuliya Tarasova 45th, followed by Julie Larkin 49th, Hannah Browne 50th, Sarah Bateson 52nd, Jools Hughes 58th and Sarah Hawkshaw 60th for a final team placing of 6th. In the Junior (U20) race over 5000m, Hazel Kenny 84th, SORCHA O'CONNOR 87<sup>th</sup>, Ciara Sheedy 101st, Chloe Heaslip 132nd and Mya O'Reilly 138th rounded out the scoring for a 9th place finish in the team standings. Hazel collected U/18 inter county gold for Dublin.

In the **National Intermediate Cross Country** the team took silver medals with Sarah Bateson in 8th place, Hannah Browne 10<sup>th</sup>, Clodagh Galvin 11th and Yuliya Taravosa 12th. Also Jools Hughes 16th, Sarah Hawkshaw 19th and Aisling Killelea 26th. Both Sarah and Hannah took intercounty gold for the Dublin team.

In the **National Novice Cross Country Championships** the senior women took bronze medals. Julie Larkin led the team home in 23rd, Hannah Browne 33rd, Sarah Bateson 35th and Jenny Johnston 44th. Also Aisling Killelea 53rd, Jools Hughes 56th and Sarah Hawkshaw 61st. Julie Larkin also took Dublin intercounty silver.



In the **Dublin Senior Cross Country**, the senior women's team over 9k was led home in 16th by Sarah Bateson, Julie Larkin was 18th, Hannah Browne 19th and Sarah Hawkshaw 21st, the scoring 4 unfortunately finishing out of the medals in 4th position. Also Aoife O'Reilly 23rd and Aisling Killilea in 24th.

In the **Dublin Intermediate Cross country**, a small team of 5 athletes competed over the 5km course at Tymon Park. The team of Aisling Killilea 16<sup>th</sup>, Aoife Kinehan 39<sup>th</sup>, Ines Pinto 43<sup>rd</sup>, Pamela Kavanagh 45<sup>th</sup> and Yvonne McDonough 46<sup>th</sup> placed 7<sup>th</sup>.

In **Dublin Novice Cross Country**, 15 ladies toed the line for the 4km course with a team of Julie Larkin, Hannah Browne, Aisling Killilea and Jools Hughes taking 3<sup>rd</sup> place.

In **Autumn International Cross Country**, Niamh Kelly, Jack Maughan, Jenny Johnston and Fintan Kerins in the 1st ever senior 4 x 1500 cross country mixed relay placed in 6th position. In the senior race 6k race, Sarah Bateson was 30th, Hannah Browne 31st, Sarah Hawkshaw 32nd and Jools Hughes 53rd.

At the **Dublin Masters Cross Country** in St Anne's Raheny, The W50 team placed in 6<sup>th</sup> position, Aimee Ahern 11<sup>th</sup>, Orla Deignan 24th and with Siobhan McCarthy 24<sup>th</sup>. The W35 team placed 7<sup>th</sup> with Ciara Peelo 17<sup>th</sup>, Aoife O'Sullivan 40th, Elaine McLaughlin 44th, Eimear Griffin 46th.

A U20 development squad (SORCHA O'CONNOR, Hazel Kenny, Mya O'Reilly, Ciara Sheedy, Hannah Walsh and Sarah McDonnell) competed in **The Campeonato Regional De Corta Mato Longo** after the European Clubs Cross Country event in Albuferia.

## Road Racing



In the **National Road Relay Championships** held in Raheny, 4 Senior teams and 3 Masters teams took to the start line. The A team of Orna McGinley, Laura Tuite and Sarah Bateson finished in 9th place. The B team placed 19th, Rachel McFadden, Meghan O'Keeffe, Aisling Killilea. In 21st the C team of Rebecca Walsh, Aoife O'Reilly and Caoimhe O'Reilly. With a junior D team in 22nd Ciara Sheehy, Hazel Kenny and Mya O'Reilly. The master women fielded 3 teams in the W35 category, the A team finishing in 7th: Jenny Johnston Ailish Malone and Aisling Andrews. The B team of Elaine McLaughlin, Emma Cooper and Emma Byrne finished 13th and the C team 15th, Orla Deighnan, Claire Roche and Siobhan McCarthy.

In the **National Dublin Marathon**, Yuliya Tarasova ran 2.57.27 (national W35 champion). The women's team of Yuliya Tarasova, Meghan O'Keeffe and Rachel McFadden placed 7<sup>th</sup>.

At the **National 5k** held in Phoenix Park, the women's team were led home by Laura Tuite 17.58 as the team of Laura, Sarah Bateson and Aisling Killilea placing 6th. The W35 team of Aisling Andrews, a fine 19.51, Orla Deignan and Aine McCann placed 7th. At the **Rathfarnham 5k**, Orla picked up Dublin W50 bronze.

In the **National 10-mile championships** in the Phoenix Park the team of Ann Lyons, Orla Deignan and Aine McCann finished 4th W50.

In the **Fingal 10k/Dublin 10k** in Swords, O35 team of Yulia Tarasova, Ciara Peelo, Joyce O'Hare and Claire Smith won Dublin gold.

In the **Frank Duffy 10-mile / Dublin 10-mile**, Yuliya Tarasova was 3rd woman and 1st W35 in 64.51. Yuliya was senior women's champion in the Dublin 10-mile championships and silver for the women's team of Yuliya, Meghan O'Keeffe, Claire Smith and Mary Ketteter. Mary Ketterer won W45 gold, Orla Deignan W50 bronze, Aine McCann W55 bronze. In the **Leinster 10-mile championship**, Orla Deignan 77:52 and Anne Lyons 80:10.

Yuliya Tarasova was 1st woman in a time of 2:59.15 in the **Limerick marathon**, 6th woman in the **Cork Marathon** in 3:04.46 and 2nd woman in the **Killarney half marathon**, in 1:24.36. In the **Irish Life Dublin half** marathon Yuliya Tarasova was 3rd woman in 84.27.

At the **Bohermeen 5k** the senior ladies team of Sarah Bateson, Meghan O'Keeffe, Clodagh Galvin and Emma Campbell placed in 3<sup>rd</sup> place. In the **Clonliffe 2 mile**, Emma Mitchell was 3rd woman in 11.03.

In the **10 Mile Club Championship** Rachel McFadden took first in the Women's event in a time of 67 minutes and 4 seconds. Tom Monks presented the Agathe Monks Trophy (a new cup in memory for Tom's late mother) to Rachel McFadden. In the **Clonliffe Cake race** over 3 laps of the 1.1k lap, Sarah Bateson fastest woman, Ciara O'Regan 1<sup>st</sup> woman home, Sorcha O'Connor 1st junior, Joanne McCabe 1<sup>st</sup> master.

Clonliffe ladies also completed in the:

- St Cocas 5k, Rathfarnham 5K, Portmarnock beach 5k, RiverRock Queens 5k, Bob Heffernan 5K, Carrig Na Bhfear 5k, Athboy 5k, Jingle Bells 5k, Tallaght 5k, Streets of Portlaoise 5K
- Sportsworld 5 Mile in Terenure, Raheny 5 mile, Corkagh Park 5 mile
- Clonee 10k, Parkwest 10k, Lisburn 10k, Fields of Athenry 10K, Women's Mini Marathon, Dunboyne 10k, Limerick 6 mile, Trim 10 mile
- Clonliffe 2 mile, Griffith Avenue mile
- The Wicklow Gaol Half, Kilkenny half marathon, Amsterdam half marathon, Berlin Half Marathon, Fast Lane Three Quarter marathon
- BHAA, Meet & Train and parkrun races