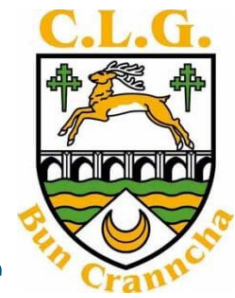




## CASE STUDY:

# C.L.G. BUN CRANNCHA, CO. DÚN NA NGALL



## How we started

The first step for C.L.G. Bun Cranncha Green Club was to sit down and identify what, where and how we could make a difference within our club and our community. We first conducted an audit on our premises and grounds.

Secondly, we made contact with the local schools and local community groups (Donegal County Council, Rivers Trust Group, Mill River Association, the town gardener, Bunrana Tidy Towns and Boomtree Bees).

We decided that we would get together with the local schools and these local groups to form partnerships on projects for now and for the future.

## The actions we took:

- At the very outset we decided that our main project would be upgrading our floodlighting on our pitches to LEDs and in February 2023 the lights will be installed. This has taken a lot of work and time and will be partly funded from the Sports Capital Grant Programme.
- We have solar panels fitted to the roof to provide us with hot water
- We looked at our waste management and now have all our waste separated correctly, to maximise recycling, and we are currently making plans to reduce waste within the club.
- We have a number of community projects with local schools and our underage teams, especially on bees, biodiversity and beach cleans

## The Impact – Community and Intergenerational Projects

### BUNCRANA BEACH CLEANS

- Our first project is one that has continued over the years. We collaborate with Bunrana Tidy Towns on a beach clean-up. On a number of occasions during the year some of our underage teams meet up with the Tidy Towns members and do a full walk and clean of the beaches. We have noticed that by involving the kids more, they take ownership and even around club grounds littering has almost totally disappeared.

### BUNCRANA BEE GARDENS

- One of the most enjoyable projects is our Bee Gardens Project run with the local school. This project is now an annual event. Local kids in second class now have eight gardens around the school, two more at the club ground and a further sixteen in various locations around our

parish. Club members work with the children in building, painting and maintaining the gardens, with materials sponsored by local businesses.

- During the year we also arrange for Mick from Boomtree Bees and George McDermott the Bunrana town gardener to visit the class and club to run workshops and give talks on various themes. It started off with the bees but it now much more.



## The Impact – Our River Project

Another project ongoing is the improvement to our river walk. This year we have planted almost five hundred trees from Native Tree Planting Project with support from Easy Treesie, Coillte and Tree Council of Ireland. These trees are already making a difference along the river.

With the help of Rivers Trust and Mill River Association to improve the walk, things have never looked better. This will be a long project but, in the end, should add to our community. With some small changes life is returning. The king fisher has now returned along with the ducks and crane that have been absent for a number of years. The river was once full of eels and it would be nice to see them increase their numbers. We hope in 2023 to run a competition within the schools to design a mascot for our Green Club based on this.



## Who we partnered with:

- Donegal County Council
- Rivers Trust Group
- Mill River Association
- The Buncrana Town Gardener
- Buncrana Tidy Towns
- Boomtree Bees
- Local schools

## Funding we received :

- Part-funding from the Sports Capital Grant Programme for our LED floodlight upgrade
- LAWPro Community Water funding through the GAA Green Club programme
- Native trees from Easy Treesie, Coillte and Tree Council of Ireland
- Local business support for material for our Bee Gardens Project run

## Top Tips from C.L.G. Bun Cranncha

- Start by sitting down to assess what and where the club can make a difference and carry out an initial audit to identify the best actions for the club and community
- Get young people involved, through club teams and local schools. They will take ownership and start leading for the future
- Build partnerships in the community – there are great local groups to work with on projects that benefit the club and community



Read more about GAA Green Club Projects at: [gaa.ie/greenclub](https://gaa.ie/greenclub)