



# St Clarets GFC Hayes

Est. 1975



## About us

- St Clarets Gaelic Football Club was established in 1975 to provide the opportunity for members of the local community to learn to play Gaelic football from grass roots level through to senior level.
- St Clarets GFC has trained at Hayes Rugby Club since 1984 and undertaken the social club activities at Botwell Social Club and the Hillingdon Irish Club.
- St Clarets GFC provides a source of cultural, sporting and social activity for hundreds of young Irish, second and third generation Irish and also people with no particular connection to Ireland around the local community. The club is now truly multi-national.
- The club is operated through the voluntary commitment from members with many of the current coaches having been ex-players with the club themselves.
- The clubs success over the years has been founded on the principles of sporting success alongside community support, teamwork and fun.
- St Clarets is a self funded club operating through the subscriptions, membership fees, donations and fundraising of the players and supporters.

## Our achievements

- Over the years the club has had some major achievements in Gaelic Football for the local community
  - Reigning London and British Under 16 Champions 2013 / 2014
  - In early 2014 the first of our “next” generation of young players, Shane Buckley, was invited to train with the London senior team for the first time.
  - Committed to developing Gaelic Football players from grass roots level. The senior team currently boasts 13 locally born players playing division 3 adult football in the London league. This is an unprecedented achievement in London Gaelic football.
  - Recognised throughout the Gaelic Athletic association in London for our commitment to a youth development programme with teams representing the under 10s, 12s and 16's
- 2003 Won the first senior trophy (Tipperary Cup)
- 2002 reached the Senior Championship Final in 2002
- 1989 won the first intermediate title with 9 locally born players on the starting team
- 1983 reached the first county final with 13 locally born players in the starting team



# Ethos and ambitions

- The ethos of the club is to ensure that the players developed at youth level have the opportunity to progress to play adult football with the club and ultimately be regular starters in their senior teams.
- St Clarets want to ensure that our players return and coach the youth teams. Two of the key figures running our youth teams at present are second generation Irish who developed through the ranks of St Clarets, represented St Clarets and the London county team at adult level. These people, along with our other coaches, are striving to ensure that their path can be followed by others.
- We are currently exploring the opportunity to start our own ladies section in the club, as we already have several young girls playing on our youth teams (mixed teams are only permitted up to the age of 14).



St Clarets Under 10 and Under 12 players



St Clarets U-16s: London and All-Britain Champions 2013

# Community involvement

- We have a very proud family & community focused tradition and for many years the Botwell Catholic Church and the Botwell Social Club have been the hub of many of our social and community activities.
- Many of our players have been recruited through the family & community networks created through associations with schools like Botwell Primary and Douay Martyrs.
- All social events are totally inclusive with communications offered to all members of the club, regardless of whether they are exclusively attached to either the youth or adult sector.
- St Clarets is a welcoming and inclusive club. Regrettably our social outlets such as Botwell Social Club and previously the Hillingdon Irish are no longer part of the community. Therefore, we need to try and create a new location to centre the St Clarets club and facilitate our future growth.

## Ambitions

- St Clarets recognise that in order to progress and secure the future for the club it is essential that we secure a permanent base for the club.
- St Clarets would like to secure a dedicated Gaelic Football pitch with a meeting room and secure storage for our training equipment off Kingshill Avenue. The identified land is adjacent to Hayes Rugby Club and would be an ideal location to continue the evolution of the club.
- The club would request that the facility will be maintained by the council with the club paying a reasonable rent for the use of the facility.



Map showing location of proposed site in relation to GAA pitch in Kingshill Ave.