

Co. Tipperary Senior Hurling Final
Match Programme
2000

Credit Unions Tipperary County
**MINOR AND SENIOR
HURLING FINALS**



**Stáid Semple, Dúrlas
15ú Deireadh Fómhair,
2000**



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Fáilte rómhaibh a chárde, go dtí cluichí cheannais sinsear agus mionúir Thiobraid Árann anseo inniú . . . Fáilte roimh na fóirne agus na réiteoirí. Tá súil agam go mbeidh sár lá iománaíochta againn.

The senior final today is one for the traditionalists, famed Toomevara and renowned Thurles Sarsfields . . . both have contributed richly to Tipperary and to the game of hurling. Who hasn't heard of "Wedger Meagher" and his Greyhounds or Tom Semple and the Thurles Blues. Anyone who enjoys fast and skillful hurling will want to see this final. Both teams play a most attractive game, so we are in for a treat.

Thurles Sarsfields defend their minor crown against Killenaule. Killenaule contested the U-21 final also, losing out to Drom in a replay. It is encouraging to see so much work paying dividends at underage level.

While today's games are the showpiece of the Credit Unions Tipperary senior and minor hurling championship respectively, I take this opportunity to acknowledge all the teams which took part, at Divisional and County stage. Mile buíochas to all the players, team mentors, referees, club and divisional officials.

The Credit Unions Tipperary sponsored all our championships this year. A fitting partnership, as Cumann Luthchleas Gael and the Credit Unions play an important rôle in the community. This sponsorship is much appreciated.

John Quirke, once again sponsors the 'Man of the Match' award for both the minor and senior games, as he did last Sunday for the football finals. Our thanks to John for his support.

The club playing year comes to a close shortly, congratulations to those who have won county honours. To those who had hoped for better things, you won't feel next year coming around.

A word of appreciation to the media, print, radio and TV for their continuous coverage of our games. Finally, our thanks to you our spectators, who support our games so well.

Enjoy the games.

Conchuir Ó hÓgáin



Clár an Iae

2 p.m. **Credit Unions Tipperary County Minor Hurling Final**
KILLENAULE v. THURLES SARFIELDS

Reiteoir: John Collins (Templederry).

3.30 p.m. **Credit Unions Tipperary County Senior Hurling Final**
THURLES SARFIELDS v. TOOMEVARA

Reiteoir: Willie Barrett (Ardfinnan).



Buíochas: Mile buíochas to Ger Corbett, Eddie Friend, Pat Shelley, Liam Ó Donnchú, Noel Dundon, Sean Ryan and Liz Howard, County P.R.O., for their assistance. *Photos:* Brendan O'Connor (Thurles) and John Kelly (Clonmel).

John McCormack (Programme Editor)



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MINOR FINAL - A SPECIAL OCCASION

Today's minor decider is a game which has been eagerly awaited by hurling lovers from all over the county for some time indeed. The Killenaule men clashed with Dúrlas Óg in a fantastic game of hurling in Littleton two years ago in the U-16 county semi-final - a game that Dúrlas Óg won and then went on to win the county final.

Now, two years later, they are back again and ready for the fray on the big stage in county Tipperary.

In any county throughout the country, the minor final is a special occasion one that is filled with great colour and pageantry. Add to this the fact that so many of the players in action today will have hurled alongside each other on school teams, on county teams etc. and you have a really intriguing and special tie.

For most players the chance to win a minor title comes around only once. For many of the Sarsfields lads taking to Semple Stadium today, it is their second bite at a minor county final winning medal. The defending champions, despite losing quite a number of last years stars (some of whom are playing in the senior team today) have won their way back into the final again and are a force to be reckoned with.

Interestingly enough, Sarsfields minors are unique for the simple fact that they have not won the divisional title this year, yet. They were to play Loughmore/Castleiney in the Mid Final but that game was postponed due to Loughmore injuries and has not been played yet. Sarsfields went on to contest the county semi-final against North champions Ballina and beat them by three points.

It could be a day of double worries for a number of Sarsfields men. Four of those who are lin-

ing out in the minor decider are in the senior set-up as well. You can be sure though, that Patrick McCormack, John Lillis, Tony Connolly and Tony Ruth will be keeping their eyes firmly focussed on Killenaule before thinking about anything else.

The South champions have been impressive this year so far. They have come through the South championship - no mean achievement in itself and beat old rivals Mullinahone in the decider. That game was a real shot in the arm to them and it gave them great confidence as they went into the county semi-final against Cashel King Cormacks. Victory again, saw them into the county final and now that they are there, they won't want to give up the chance of a minor medal without a real battle.

Semple stadium is a familiar setting for Killenaule these days. They were here just a few weeks ago for the U-21 'A' hurling drawn game and replay which they lost at the hands of Drom/Inch. The Killenaule men will be hoping that this time round they emerge with the cup rather than going home empty handed.

For a club like Killenaule which is steeped in hurling history, victory in today's minor final would be a major boost. Many of the players in action today for them were also on the U-21 team and wouldn't it be nice to see them earning their county medal at the second attempt. Sarsfields might not think so!

Today's final is certain to be a real hurling one and let's hope it lives up to expectation. Watch out for some of the stars of tomorrow. It's on County Final Day that you see the real talent emerging.

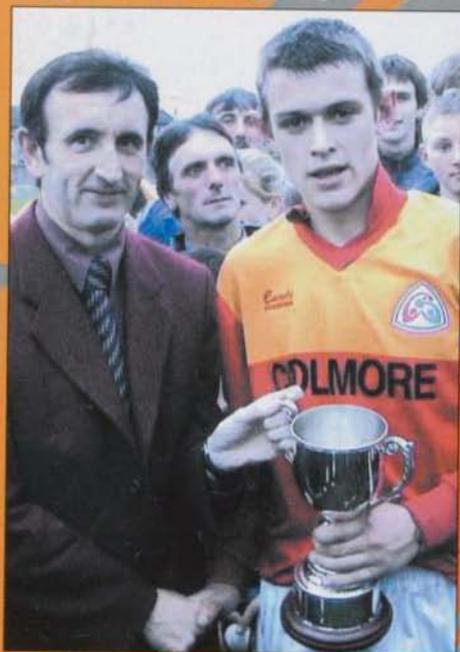
Enjoy the games.

TWO-MILE-BORRIS ALL-IRELAND HURLING WINNERS 1900

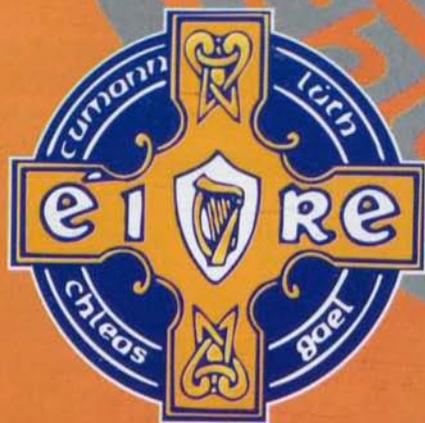
Two-Mile-Borris (Co. Tipperary) All-Ireland Hurling Winners 1900 were honoured on Saturday, 26th of August this year when Seán McCague, Uachtaráin C.L.G., unveiled a memorial in the mid-Tipperary village with Liam Hennessy, Chairman, Two-Mile-Borris Centenary Committee. In the final of one hundred years ago they defeated a London-Irish selection, following a victory over Ardrahan (Galway) in the home final. A souvenir history has been published and can be obtained from Liam Hackett or Enda Bourke, Two-Mile-Borris, Thurles, Co. Tipperary for £6.00 (post free).



Killenaule



Willie Barrett presents Joe Ceasar, captain of Killenaule minor hurling team with the South Trophy



PATH TO FINAL

Killenaule v Kilsheelan - 5th July

8-17 to 1-3

Scorers: Pat Kerwick 4-1; Tony Doyle 2-6; Michael Farrell 1-3; Dara Blake 0-3; Joe Ceasar 0-2; Martin Shelley 0-1; Simon McMenamin 1-0.

Killenaule v Mullinahone

10th July

2-20 to 0-7

Scorers: Tony Doyle 1-5; Pat Kerwick 0-7; Stephen Healy 1-0; Michael Farrell 0-2; Philip Webster 0-2; Martin Hayes 0-2; Dara Blake 0-1; Brendan Bergin 0-1.

South Semi-Final 18th August

Killenaule v Newcastle

4-12 to 1-16

Scorers: Tony Doyle 3-4; Pat Kerwick 1-7; Joe Ceasar 0-1.

South Final 16th September

Killenaule v Mullinahone

2-16 to 1-18

Scorers: Pat Kerwick 1-5; Philip Webster 1-2; Michael Farrell 0-5; Tony Doyle 0-1; Martin Hayes 0-1; Jonathan Gleeson 0-1.

County Semi-final 30th September

Killenaule v Cashel

0-11 to 0-9

Scorers: Pat Kerwick 0-5; Tony Doyle 0-3; Philip Webster 0-1; Joe Ceasar 0-1; Dara Blake 0-1.

COUNTY MINOR HURLING FINALISTS 2000



THE KILLENAULE MINOR HURLING TEAM WHO WON THE SOUTH TIPP TITLE: Back Row (l. to r.): Johnny Grace, David Shelley, Martin Hayes, Martin Shelley, Pat Kerwick, Richard Meagher, Michael O'Connor, Brian Hanrahan, Aidan Walsh, Brendan Fanning, Philip Webster. Front Row (l. to r.): Keith Kennedy, Mark Bannon, Vinny Hannigan, Gerry Kennedy, Joe Ceaser (Capt), Tony Doyle, Jimmy Hayes, Dara Blake, Michael Farrell, Simon McMenamin, Jonathan Gleeson. Missing from photo: Niall Berry, Brendan Bergin, David McGuire, Stephen Brennan, Jonathan O'Dwyer.

Killenaule is among the oldest G.A.A. clubs in County Tipperary. It was founded in 1885. In 1886 five Tipperary clubs, Moycarkey, Holycross, Thurles, Fethard and Killenaule visited Leeside for a great festival of hurling. Killenaule captained by John Morris (grandfather of the late Archbishop T. Morris) played and lost to the Cork side Aghabulloge on that fateful day. Ever since, the name of Killenaule has been synonymous with hurling in South Tipperary. Fifteen times they have been South Tipperary Senior Champions, the last time in 1991. Unfortunately, they have never won the County Senior Championship, though they were beaten in two finals. In 1932 they lost to Moycarkey and in 1942 to Thurles Sarsfields. They have however, won two county junior titles, in 1927 when they beat Killea and in 1951 when they beat Knockavilla/Donaskeigh. A dual club, Killenaule have also won County titles in

football, junior and under-21 (B) level. As a matter of fact they are the first Tipperary champions of the new millennium having won the County under-21 (B) football title early this year.

Things are looking up for Killenaule. Already this year they have contested the County under-21 Hurling final losing narrowly to Drom and Inch in a replay. This is the first time they have reached a county final at minor level. Could these young men succeed where the under-21's so narrowly failed. They have fine young players in hurlers like Joe Ceaser, Tony Doyle, Patrick Kerwick, Michael Farrell, Keith Kennedy, Philip Webster and others. These are surely the ones to take over from the great players of the past, men like Tom Ryan, Donie O'Connell and Joe O'Dwyer. Could these be the ones to eventually lead Killenaule to the promised land of a County Senior Championship. Like Martin Luther King said, "I have a dream". Best of luck lads!

Liam Ó Gráda



Fir Ionaid:

- (16) Simon McMenamin
- (17) Richard Meagher
- (18) Brendan Fanning
- (19) Niall Berry
- (20) Johnny Grace
- (21) Brendan Bergin
- (22) Vinny Hannigan
- (23) Aidan Walsh
- (24) David McGuire
- (25) Brian Hanrahan
- (26) Mark Bannon
- (27) Stephen Brennan
- (28) Jonathan O'Dwyer

Cill NÁILE

Colours: Red & Yellow

MINORS

(1)

G. O'Cinnéide
GERRY KENNEDY

(2)

D. Ó Sealbhaigh
DAVID SHELLEY

(3)

M. Ó Sealbhaigh
MARTIN SHELLEY

(4)

M. Ó Conchúr
MICHAEL O'CONNOR

(5)

S. Ó hÉili
STEPHEN HEALY

(6)

S. Ceaser
JOE CEASER (Capt)

(7)

C. Ó Cinnéide
KEITH KENNEDY

(8)

A. Ó Dúghaill
TONY DOYLE

(9)

S. Ó hAodha
JIMMY HAYES

(10)

D. de Bláca
DARA BLAKE

(11)

M. Ó Fearail
MICHAEL FARRELL

(12)

M. Ó hAodha
MARTIN HAYES

(13)

S. Ó Gliasáin
JONATHAN GLEESON

(14)

P. Ó Ciarmhaic
PAT KERWICK

(15)

P. Webster
PHILIP WEBSTER

ROGHNÓIRÍ – Joe O'Dwyer, Tom Hayes, Pat Cleary

| Killenaule | Cúil | Cúilíní | Seachaí | 65m | Saor Pocanna |
|---------------|------|---------|---------|-----|--------------|
| 1adh leath | | | | | |
| 2adh leath | | | | | |
| IOMLAN | 1 | 5 | | | |

Na Sairlealaigh

Colours: Blue and White

(1)

P. MacCormaic
PATRICK McCORMACK

MINORS



Fir Ionaid:

- (16) James O'Riordan
- (17) Conor Lyons
- (18) Eamon gleeson
- (19) Tristan O'Gorman
- (20) Philip Hayes
- (21) Paul Dwyer Darcy
- (22) Matty Ryan
- (23) Paudie Duggan
- (24) David Kennedy
- (25) James Kennedy

(2)

L. Ó Coileáin
WILLIE COLLINS

(3)

T. Ó Ceallanáin
TOM CALLANAN

(4)

S. Ó Duibhir
SEAN DWYER

(5)

R. Ó Duibhir
BARRY DWYER

(6)

Á Ó Conghaile
TONY CONNOLLY (CAPT)

(7)

L. Ó Seancháin
LEE SHANAHAN

(8)

P. Ó Gréachain
PETER GRAYDON

(9)

S. Laighléis
JOHN LILLIS

(10)

E. MacCoisteala
EIN COSTELLO

(11)

A. Dondún
AIDAN DUNDON

(12)

E. Ó Tuathaigh
EAMON TUOHY

(13)

D. Ó Duibhir
DAVID DWYER

(14)

L. Ó hÍcí
LIAM HICKEY

(15)

A. Rút
TONY RUTH

Roghnóiri – Denis Maher, Johnny Enright, Sean Ryan, Lenny Phillips

| THURLES SARSFIELDS | Cúil | Cúilíní | Seachaí | 65m | Saor Pocanna |
|--------------------|------|---------|---------|-----|--------------|
| 1adh leath | | | | | |
| 2adh leath | | | | | |
| IOMLAN | 2 | 16 | | | |

THURLES Sarsfields



Thurles Sarsfields Minor Hurling Selectors: (l. to r.): Denis Maher, Sean Ryan, Leonard Phillips, Ger Corbett (club secretary) and Johnny Enright.

PATH TO FINAL

Thurles Sarsfield 3-12 , Moyne Templetuohy 3-14

Thurles Sarsfields 2-13, Loughmore Castlewey 0-11

Thurles Sarsfields 3-12, Drom & Inch 2-6

Thurles Sarsfields 2-15, J. K. Brackens 1-7

Thurles Sarsfields 6-16, Moycarkey Borris 1-6

Thurles Sarsfields 2-15, J. K. Brackens 1-7

Thurles Sarsfields 1-19, Ballina 3-10

SARSFIELDS SCORERS 2000 CAMPAIGN

| | | | |
|---------------|------|------------------|------|
| Aidan Dundon | 7-25 | David Dwyer | 2-23 |
| Eoin Costello | 2-22 | Tony Ruth | 2-16 |
| Liam Hickey | 4-9 | Tristan O'Gorman | 2-1 |
| Eamon Tuohy | 0-5 | Peter Graydon | 0-1 |

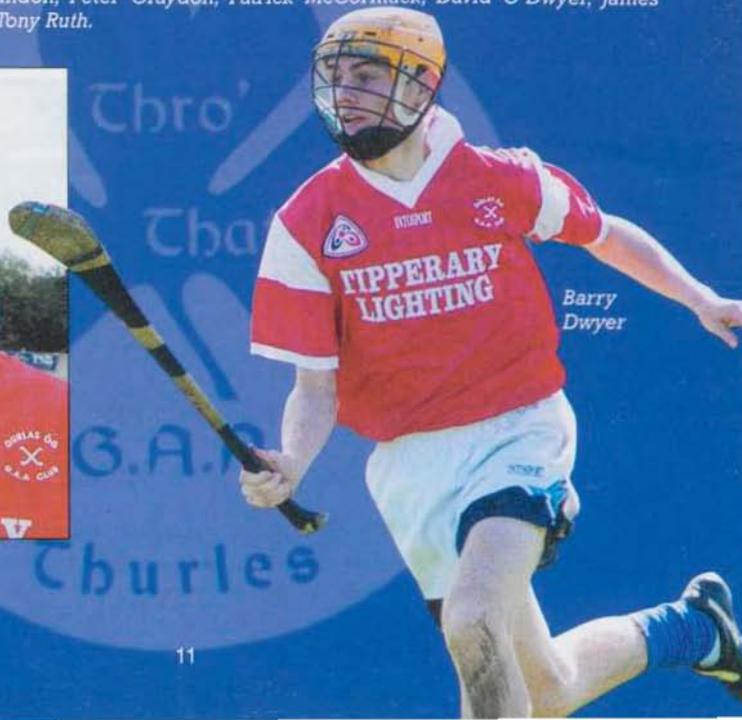
COUNTY MINOR HURLING FINALISTS 2000



THE THURLES SARSFIELDS TEAM THAT QUALIFIED FOR THE COUNTY MHC FINAL BY DEFEATING BALLINA IN THE SEMI-FINAL AT NENAGH: Back Row (l. to r.): Sean O'Dwyer, Conor Lyons, Barry Dwyer, Liam Hickey, Eamonn Tuohy, Eoin Costello, Tony Connolly (captain), John Lillis. Front row (l. to r.): Aidan Dundon, Peter Graydon, Patrick McCormack, David O'Dwyer, James O'Riordan, Thomas Callanan, Tony Ruth.



*Thurles Sarsfields
minor hurling captain,
Tony Connolly*

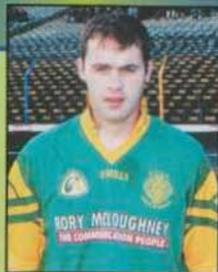


*Barry
Dwyer*

Profile of a Captain

Terry Dunne (Toomevara)

By Liz Howard



Age: 25. Height: 6.1 $\frac{1}{2}$. Weight: 14.0.

One of the most consistent club hurlers in the county, Terry Dunne has shown impressive leadership as captain of the 'Greyhounds' this year. The rôle of captain suits him, he has an air of maturity and quiet authority about him.

Second in a family of six – brothers Thomas, Barry, Ken and Brendan are all members of the senior squad today. Litter sister, Triona played at U-14 for Tipperary this year. The feats of the skillful Thomas are well chronicled, while Brendan won Harty Cup and All-Ireland Colleges honours with St. Flannan's. The Dunne's were born to hurl, their father Tony lives and breathes the game. Recie, their Mum, provides well grounded support. Another person who played a major rôle in fine-tuning the skills of the Dunne's and all present day Toomevara players was Neil Williams. His contribution to Toome is immense.

Terry captained Toomevara at U-14, winning the Urban/Rural U-14 competition in 1989, playing at centre-back and scored three points from play. He won Tony Forrestal medals, a Munster U-16 championship in 1990. Terry playing at centreback Thomas lined

out at wing forward. In 1995, Toome defeated Thurles Sarsfields in the County Final at U-21 level. Thomas captained that side. Terry holds five senior county championships – 1992, '93, '94, '98 and '99. The only final in which he didn't start was in '93. He played minor hurling for Tipperary and with Thomas won an All-Ireland U-21 medal in 1995.

Thomas has been very impressed by the leadership shown by Terry. He demands the best from his team. This squad is a very close, cohesive group – while training is tough, there are many moments of fun. Terry has a droll sense of humour.

I know Terry Dunne as a friend and hurler. A warm, kind and happy young man who has a great sense of family. Two special women (apart from mother and sister) girlfriend Lisa and daughter Eva take precedence over hurling. Hurling takes a close second!!

Today's final promises to be a classic, both teams play lovely hurling, fast and open. Who will lift the Dan Breen – will it be Terry Dunne or Brendan Carroll? They may well be marking each other – two fine exponents of the game. The Dan Breen Cup will be in good hands with either.

NOEL REMEMBERED

+++

We remember Noel Lane, formerly Lorrha and Tipperary hurler, who went to his untimely eternal reward on Wednesday last. His brother Jack and sister Deirdre also wore the Blue and Gold. *Ar dheis Dé go raibh a h-ainm.*

Odds and Ends

Séamus O'Doherty

All One Way

In the five seasons, 1992 to 1996, Toomevara and Thurles Sarsfields met on five occasions in the Co S.H.C. Amazingly the Mid men failed to record a victory in that series. The details were:

1992 Co SHC Final Nov. 1st at Semple Stadium. Toomevara 0-11, Thurles Sars 1-8 (draw).

1992 Co SHC Final Nov. 8th at Semple Stadium. Toomevara 0-12, Thurles Sars 1-6 (replay).

1993 Co. SHC Semi Final Sept. 26th at Semple Stadium. Toomevara 0-18, Thurles Sars 0-9.

1994 Co. SHC Quarter Final Aug 27th at Templemore. Toomevara 2-16, Thurles Sars 0-9.

1996 Co. SHC Semi Final Oct 13th at Semple Stadium. Toomevara 1-17, Thurles Sars 0-6.

Last Championship Meeting

Oct. 13th 1996

Toomevara: Jody Grace / Pat Maher, Rory Brislane, Aidan Maxwell / George Friend, Michael O'Meara, Philip Shanahan / Tony Delaney (0.1), Pat King (0.1) / Terry Dunne (0.1), Thomas Dunne (0.4), Ken Dunne (0.4) / Michael Bevens (0.2), Kevin McCormack (0.4), Liam Nolan (1.0) / Subs Michael Murphy for P. Shanahan, Declan O'Meara for T. Delaney.

Thurles Sars: Ciarán Carroll / Pat Treacy, Tommy Maher, Michael Sparrow / Gary Mernagh, Séamus O'Shea, Jim Moloney / Tommy Kennedy, Brendan Carroll / Matthew O'Dowd, Eddie Enright (0.1), Eamon Walsh / Séamus Quinn, John Enright (0.3), Connie Maher (0.1). Subs: Jack Griffin for E. Walsh, Mark Wade for S. Quinn.

Referee: Tommy Lonergan (Kilsheelan).

North v Mid

In the past twelve seasons that Toomevara have been everpresent in the Co. Championship, they have encountered Mid teams on ten occasions. They recorded wins against Thurles Sarsfields (4), Moycarkey Borris (1) and Holycross Ballycahill (1). There was one draw v Sarsfields and three losses in consecutive seasons to Boherlahan Dualla (1995 / '96 / '97).

Captains

The last Co. final winning Sarsfields captain was Jimmy Doyle (1974), while Toome's most recent successful leader was Thomas Dunne (1999).

The Famous Day

The game most frequently recalled in Toome / Sars rivalry is the 1960 decider, when the North men stopped their Mid opponents from winning six Co. titles in succession.

The Co. Final was played at Templemore on October 16th and the result was a comprehensive 3-15 to 2-8 victory for 'The Greyhounds'.

Sarsfields had their revenge a year later, on a 3-4 to 0-9 scoreline.

Coincidence

When Thurles Sars played Toome in the 1992 Senior Co Final they followed the club's minor team, which played in the curtain raiser against Nenagh Éire Óg. This year the club has also qualified for both deciders.

It doesn't happen very often but Toomevara achieved the feat in 1994. The last time the double was won was in 1957, when Sars beat Borrisokane in the minor decider and Na Piarasaigh (South) in the Senior final. Sars defend the minor title this year.

Last Time

Thurles Sarsfields' last championship victory over Toomevara was recorded on September 15th, 1974, when they won a Co SHC Semi Final on a 3-15 to 2-9 scoreline at Nenagh. "The Blues" went on to win their 28th and last Co title.

1992 Captains

When the clubs met in the 1992 Co Final, their respective captains were Michael O'Meara (T), and Jim Moloney (Sars). Both clubs still have many of the names from that season active involved.

On the Toome side Rory Brislane, Michael O'Meara, George Friend, Philip Shanahan, Tony Delaney, Terry Dunne, Thomas Dunne and Tommy Carroll will be toggled out, while coach P.J. Whelehan has returned to the role this season.

On the Sarsfields side Tommy Maher, Seamus O'Shea, Brendan Carroll, Eamon Walsh, Connie Maher and Ciaran Carroll are still active. Their goalkeeper then, Paddy McCormack, is now the coach while Tom Barry, coach in 1992, is now a selector.

Long Gap

Cathal McIntyre returns to Co Final action at the age of 36. He was wearing the Lorrha blue when last involved against Moycarkey Borris in 1984. He has also linked up again with Paddy Doyle, who had a spell with Lorrha a few seasons ago.

Drawn Finals

There have been draws in the senior deciders of 1899, 1945, 1965, 1975, 1977, 1982, 1988 and 1992 respectively.

The only contest which featured today's rivals was that of 1992. The last drawn minor final in 1989 features Nenagh Éire Óg and Cashel K.C. The Westerners won the replay (3.10 to 2.6) after a 2-11 all draw.

Moycarkey Borris was the last club to play in drawn Senior (1982) and Minor (1983) finals. They beat Roscrea in both replays.

The Jolly Roger

Twenty years ago Roger Ryan's late goal won the Co SHC title for Roscrea. Last Sunday he watched the Thurles blitz of Cappawhite from Section H of the covered stand Aidán Uí Riain. Today he will be much closer to the action as one of the Toomevara selectors a position he also filled last year.

Venue

Semple Stadium had been the automatic venue for the Co SHC finals for many years now. The last decider played elsewhere was the 1983 clash of Borrisoleigh and Loughmore Castleiney. Moycarkey Borris and Roscrea provided the curtain raiser for the day at Leahy Park, Cashel.

County Senior Hurling

Cathal McIntyre



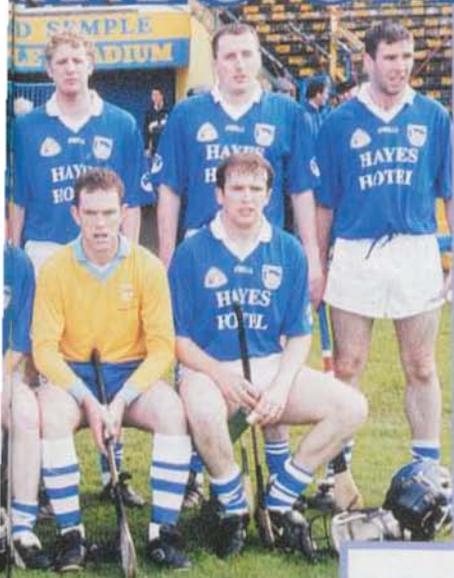
The Thurles Sarsfields team that qualified for the county SHC final replay at Semple Stadium. Back row (l. to r.): Thomas Ryan, Lar Corbett, Seamus O'Shea, Eddie Enright, Tommy Kennedy, Gary Mernagh. Front row (l. to r.): Paul Mason, Tommy Maher, Brendan Carroll (captain), Johnny Enright, Cian...



Thurles Sarsfields captain, Brendan Carroll

Finalists 2000

THURLES SRSFIELDS



...y defeating Cappawhite after a
...ett, Brian O'Grady, Ger O'Grady,
...t row: Cathal McIntrye, Stephen
... Carroll, Matthew O'Dowd.

Path to the Final

1st Round: Sarsfields 1-10 : Holy Cross/Ballycahill 1-10

Scorers: J. Enright 0-4, E. Enright, G. O'Grady 0-3 each, L. Corbett 1-0.

Replay: Sarsfields 2-10 : Holy Cross/Ballycahill 2-9

Scorers: J. Enright 0-4, L. Corbett, B. Carroll 1-1 each, C. McIntrye 0-2, M. O'Dowd, T. Kennedy 0-1 each.

Mid semi-final: Sarsfields 3-13 : Holy Cross/Ballycahill 0-7

Scorers: J. Enright 1-8, M. O'Dowd 1-2, G. O'Grady 1-0, L. Corbett 0-2, T. Ryan 0-1.

Mid Final: Sarsfields 1-20 : Loughmore/Castleiney 3-11

Scorers: G. O'Grady 0-8, J. Enright 0-7, L. Corbett 1-3, C. Maher, E. Enright 0-1 each.

County quarter-final: Sarsfields 1-19 : Moneygall 0-16

Scorers: J. Enright 0-9, G. O'Grady 1-4, L. Corbett 0-3, M. O'Dowd 0-2, C. Maher 0-1.

County semi-final: Sarsfields 1-10 : Cappawhite 0-13

Scorers: M. O'Dowd 1-1, J. Enright 0-4, L. Corbett, E. Enright 0-2 each, G. O'Grady 0-1.

Replay: Sarsfields 1-24 : Cappawhite 1-13

Scorers: J. Enright 0-10, G. O'Grady 1-4, E. Enright 0-4, B. Carroll, L. Corbett 0-2 each, M. O'Dowd, T. Ryan 0-1 each.



Thurles Sarsfields senior hurling selectors (l. to r.): Tom Barry, Paddy McCormack and Paddy Doyle.



Roll of Honour

County S.H. Titles (28): 1887, 1904, 1906, 1907, 1908, 1909, 1911, 1929, 1935, 1936, 1938, 1939, 1942, 1944, 1945, 1946, 1952, 1955, 1956, 1957, 1958, 1959, 1961, 1962, 1963, 1964, 1965, 1974.

County M.H. Titles (7): 1954, 1955, 1956, 1957, 1975, 1985, 1999.

County U-21 H. Titles (1): 1988.

County J.H. Titles (5): 1955, 1956, 1958, 1987, 1995.

County J.F. Titles (1): 1989.

All-Ireland Champions Club Selection (6): 1887, 1906, 1908, 1930, 1937, 1945.

TUAIM UÍ MHEÁRA

Colours: Green & Gold

(1) J. de Cotreil
JUSTIN COTTRELL
Templedowney

(2) G. Frend
GEORGE FREND
Barnagrotty

(3) R. Ó Brisleáin
RORY BRISLANE
Ashgrove

(4) B. Ó Doinn
BRENDAN DUNNE
Curraheen

(5) O. Ó Brisleáin
OWEN BRISLANE
Ashgrove

(6) T. Ó Dúlainigh
TONY DELANEY
Toomevara

(7) B. Ó Duibh
BRIAN DUFF
Ballinalick

(8) T. Ó Doinn (Capt)
TERRY DUNNE
Curraheen

(9) P. Ó Haicéid
PÁDRAIG HACKETT
Castlequarter

(10) K. Ó Doinn
KEN DUNNE
Curraheen

(11) C. Ó Comáin
KEVIN CUMMINS
Curraheen

(12) P. Ó Briain
PADDY O'BRIEN
Fortwilliam

(13) T. Ó Doinn
TOMÁS DUNNE
Curraheen

(14) S. Ó Briain
JOHN O'BRIEN
Fortwilliam

(15) M. Bevans
MICHAEL BEVANS
Ballymackey

ROGHNOIRÍ – Pa Joe Whelehan (Coach), Bertie Sherlock (Trainer);
Denis Haverty, Roger Ryan

Fir Ionaid:

- (16) **Tomás O'Meara**
Loughisle
- (17) **Willie Ryan**
Ballinlough
- (18) **Philip Shanahan**
Coolderry
- (19) **Michael O'Meara**
Ballintotty
- (20) **Brian McGrath**
Knockinglass
- (21) **Denis Kelly**
Borrisofarney
- (22) **Tommy Carroll**
Blean
- (23) **Barry Dunne**
Curraheen
- (24) **Aiden Maxwell**
Glenaguile
- (25) **Dermot Brislane**
Coolegue
- (26) **Andrew Ryan**
Ballinlough
- (27) **Tomás Ryan**
Knockaghanna
- (28) **Bill Duff**
Ballinahick
- (29) **Damien O'Meara**
Woodlands
- (30) **Paul McGrath**
Castlequarter

| TOOMEVARA | Cúil | Cúilíní | Seachaí | 65m | Saor Pocanna |
|------------|------|---------|---------|-----|--------------|
| 1adh leath | | | | | |
| 2adh leath | | | | | |
| IOMLAN | | | | | |

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CIARÁN CARROLL
Clongour

(2) B. Ó Gráda
BRIAN O'GRADY
Willowmere Drive

(3) T. Ó Meachair
TOMMY MAHER
Bohernamona Road

(4) G. Meirtneach
GARY MERNAGH
Matthew Avenue

(5) P. Ó Treasaigh
PAT TREACY
Cabra Road

(6) S. Ó Sé
SEAMUS O'SHEA
Park View Drive

(7) C. Mac an tSaoir
CATHAL McINTYRE
Ard Carraig

(8) B. Ó Cearúill (Capt)
BRENDAN CARROLL
Clongour

(9) T. Ó Riain
TOM RYAN
Abbey Road

(10) L. Ó Coirbín
LARRY CORBETT
Willowmere Drive

(11) E. Mac Ionnrachtaigh
EDDIE ENRIGHT
Dublin Road

(12) M. Ó Dúda
MATTHEW O'DOWD
Bellevue

(13) S. Mac Ionnrachtaigh
JOHNNY ENRIGHT
Dublin Road

(14) C. Ó Meachair
CONNIE MAHER
Mullaun Breac

(15) G. Ó Gráda
GER O'GRADY
Childers Park

ROGHNOIRÍ – Paddy Doyle (Manager), Paddy McCormack (Coach),
Tom Barry.



Fir Ionaid:

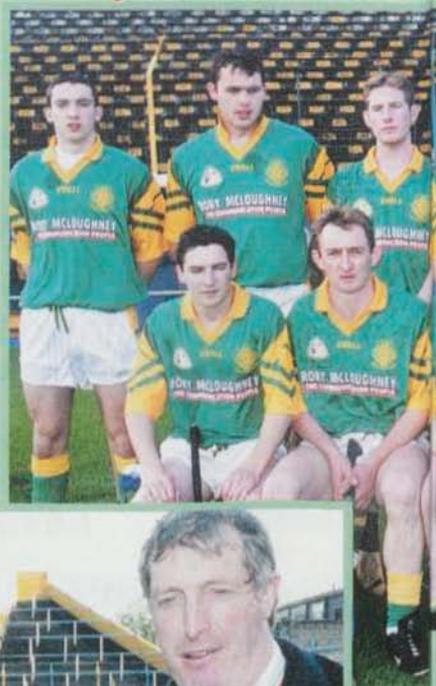
- (16) **Patrick McCormack**
Tonagha
- (17) **Stephen Mason**
Killinan
- (18) **Tommy Kennedy**
Pearse Ice
- (19) **Tony Ruth**
Bawntameena
- (20) **Noel Skehan**
Monakeeba
- (21) **Tommy Collins**
Colmyard (Friar St)
- (22) **Eamonn Walsh**
Tarmon Close
- (23) **Tony Connolly**
Cabra
- (24) **Jack Griffin**
Clongour
- (25) **Lenny Phillips**
Childers Park
- (26) **Jamie Murphy**
Monadereen
- (27) **Barry McLoughlin**
Kickham Street
- (28) **John Hussey**
Rosemount
- (29) **Jamie Barrett**
Collins Park
- (30) **Brian O'Loughlin**
Bawntameena
- (31) **Peter Broderick**
Monahen

| THURLES SARSFIELDS | Cúil | Cúilíní | Seachái | 65m | Saor Pocanna |
|--------------------|------|---------|---------|-----|--------------|
| 1adh leath | | | | | |
| 2adh leath | | | | | |
| IOMLAN | | | | | |

County Senior Hurling

Path to the Final

- 16 June: Toomevara 2-27 : Roscrea 0-5
 08 July: Toomevara 1-15 : Kilruane McDonaghs 1-13
 30 July: Toomevara 2-15 : Moneygall 0-12
 06 August: Toomevara 2-26 : Silvermines 0-8
 02 Sept.: Toomevara 1-15 : Éire Óg Nenagh 1-14
 North semi-final
 10 Sept.: Toomevara 3-13 : Moneygall 1-10
 North final
 16 Sept.: Toomevara 3-12 : Loughmore-Castleiney 2-7
 County quarter-final
 01 October: Toomevara 1-17 : Knockavilla Kickhams 2-6
 County semi-final
 Toomevara - : Thurles Sarsfields -
 County final



Toomevara senior hurling selectors (l. to r.): Pa Joe Whelehan, Denis Haverty and Roger Ryan.

Roll of Honour

Senior North Champions: (28) 1910, 1911, 1912, 1913, 1916, 1917, 1918, 1919, 1922, 1923, 1925, 1926, 1927, 1928, 1929, 1930, 1931, 1946, 1958, 1960, 1961, 1962, 1991, 1994, 1995, 1997, 1999, 2000.

Senior County Champions: (15) 1890, 1910, 1912, 1913, 1914, 1919, 1923, 1930, 1931, 1960, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1998, 1999.

Senior North Tipp League: (7) 1990, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1996, 1997, 1998.

Senior County League: (1) 2000.

Intermediate North: (3) 1944, 1955, 1984. County: (1) 1984.

Junior Hurling North: (5) 1913, 1914, 1958, 1991, 1997.

Junior County: (2) 1913, 1997.

Under-21 North: (9) 1967, 1985, 1986, 1990, 1995, 1996, 1998, 1999, 2000.

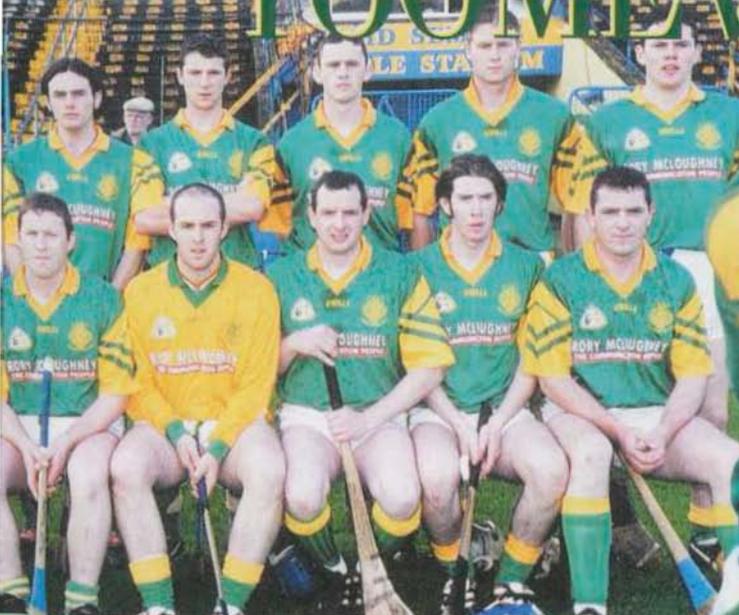
Under-21 County: (4) 1985, 1990, 1995.

Minor North: (15) 1932, 1937, 1956, 1981, 1982, 1985, 1987, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1999 (1979B).

Minor County: (3) 1986, 1987, 1999.

Finalists 2000

TOOMEVARA



Toomevara, winners over Knockavilla-Donaskeigh Kickhams in the semi-final at Semple Stadium. Back row (l. to r.): Brendan Dunne, Terry Dunne (captain), Paddy O'Brien, Paul McGrath, Brian Duff, Ken Dunne, Kevin Cummins, Eoin Brislane. Front: Michael Bevans, Geroge Frend, Philip Shanahan, Justin Cottrell, Michael O'Meara, John O'Brien, Rory Brislane.



Toomevara captain, Terry Dunne

Club Officers

- Life President: Rody Nolan
- President: Matt Hassett
- Vice-President: Tom Shanahan
- Chairmen: Tom Troy
Billy Delaney
- Vice-Chairmen: Tom Troy
Billy Delaney
- Secretary: Eddie Frend
- Treasurer: Bernard O'Neill
- Registrar: Neill Williams
- P.R.O.: John Tynan

K. Cummins

1986,
1984,
1987,
1998
97.

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Snippets from Liz Howard

- Thurles Sarsfields hold 28 county titles, between 1955 and 1865 they won ten. In 1960 Toomevara defeated them, breaking their winning sequence. The score was 3-15 to 2-8. The following year Sarsfields reversed the result.

- Former county secretary, Tommy Barrett was Thurles Sarsfields secretary from 1952 to 1963.

- Thurles Sarsfields and Toomevara met in the 1992 Final, Toome won in a replay.

- Between 1958 and 1965, Thurles Sarsfields provided five All-Ireland winning Tipperary captains, Tony Wall (twice), Jimmy Doyle (twice) and Michael Murphy.

- Brendan and Ciaran Carroll are nephews of the late Ted Carroll, former Kilkenny hurler and county secretary. Until he moved to work in Scotland, Brendan managed the UCD team, which won the county final last Sunday against St. Vincent's. Paddy O'Brien was UCD's scorer-in-chief, he registered 2-8 (0-3 from frees).

- Patrick McCormack, Thurles Sarsfields sub goalkeeper, played for Dúrlas Óg in the U-16 county final this year. He was also sub goalkeeper for Tipperary minors. He plays in goals for Sarsfields in the minor final.

- Cathal McIntyre, a native of Lorrha, is brother to former Tipperary hurler and Offaly manager, John.

- There are five sets of brothers on the Toomevara panel: Thomas, Terry, Brendan, Ken and Barry Dunne; Eoin and Rory Brislane; Paddy and John O'Brien; Bill and Brian Duff; Andrew and William Ryan.

- Toomevara won the three-in-a-row in 1992, '93 and '94. Today they bid for another three-in-a-row.

- Philip Shanahan is nephew of Phil Shanahan who won All-Irelands with Tipp. His father Tom also played with Tipp.

- George Frend captained Tipperary to National League honours in 1994.

- Stephen Mason is first cousin to Bobby and Aidan Ryan.

- Mickey "the Rattler" Byrne holds a Tipperary record number of senior county medals, 14 in total.



Willie Barrett

Na Reiteoirí

SENIOR FINAL:Willie Barrett (Ardfinnan)

LINESMEN:John Ryan, Seamus Roche

UMPIRES:Richie Boyle, Michael O'Mahoney,
Sean Barrett, Dinny Whelan

MINOR FINAL:John Collins (Templederry)

LINESMEN:Dinny McGrath, John Kennedy

UMPIRES:James Collins, Matt Kennedy,
Richard Collins, Seamus Kennedy



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**To both
Teams**



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Club-School Coaching

A New Initiative by the Games Development Committee and the County G.A.A. Board

A new initiative is underway in County Tipperary which is seeking to promote and develop Gaelic Games in the primary and national schools of The Premier County.

The initiative which is the brainchild of the Games Development Committee in the county and the Tipperary County G.A.A. Board has been up and running since Mid-September and is reporting fantastic success throughout the length and breadth of the county.

The skills of the games of hurling, football, camogie and ladies' football

are promoted by the coaches which are drawn from the adult clubs in the parishes of Tipperary.

Each club was asked to nominate a person to coach the skills in the local schools and the response from the clubs has been very enthusiastic indeed.

In each primary or national school, the coaches will attend once a week and spend between one and two hours with the pupils, teaching them the skills of the games, improv-

ing techniques and pointing out mistakes which are being made.

The coaching is co-ordinated by the Games Promotion Officers in the county, Dinny Maher (Thurles), Johnny Cummins (Ardfinnan) and Paddy Williams (Cloughjordan) and they ensure that the

initiative and are delighted to have competent coaches taking on the rôles.

The scheme was launched in Thurles, Nenagh and Clonmel, in September and the Co. Board pledged £20,000 to it. Clubs were also asked to contribute and were expected to support the schools in the provision of all necessary coaching materials.

Clubs have been very supportive of the venture.

The aim of the programme is to develop young hurlers, footballers, camogie players and lady footballers who enjoy playing our national pastimes and to instill in them a love for Gaelic Games.

The youngsters of today are the Brendan Cummins / Declan Brownes / Ciara Gaynor's and Marie Staunton's of tomorrow.

In the past Tipperary have been to the forefront in producing some of the finest stars ever to grace the playing fields of Ireland. The club-school coaching initiative is striving to continue this and is hoping to ensure that Tipperary returns to be the Premier County once again in Ireland.



At a presentation ceremony to national school principals in Thurles parish were (Back L-R) Ger Corbett (Sarsfields), Flan Quigley (Scoil Ailbhe), Michael Quinlan (Rahealy N.S.), Sean Ryan (Sarsfields), Denis Maher (Games Promotion Officer), Jimmy Duggan (Gael Scoil), John Cahill (Leagh N.S.).

programmes of coaching are followed and are adhered to in each school.

The coaching programmes have been carefully established to ensure that each pupil in the schools have the opportunity to avail of coaching and are welcome to take part.

The club - school coaching initiative has been met with great enthusiasm by the teachers in the schools and the Principals who have been very co-opera-

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The Late Jim Cahill, Leugh, Thurles



It was with great regret that we learned of the passing of our Vice-President and long-time member Jim Cahill in September.

Rarely do men of Jim's enthusiasm, energy and stature come along and we in Thurles Sarsfields were fortunate and indeed privileged that Jim decided to plough his considerable talents into our club. Jim led a very full life and his interests were very wide ranging. He rarely missed a match that Sarsfields were involved in and yet he worked his farm at Leugh, maintained his interest in Muintir na Tire and kept abreast of the political scene and Fine Gael all at once. Add to this, his dedication to his wife Peggy and their family and you have the very complete life of a special man.

Jim will be remembered by all in Sarsfields as the man who worked so hard on big match days in Thurles. He was an institution in the new stand where he was involved in the selling of the programmes for many years. To this day people still recall Jim standing at the table, selling programmes and overseeing the whole operation.

Jim was a member of the club committee for many years where he brought his experience to bear on many occasions. His contributions were always noteworthy and Jim had a subtle wit which was second to none.

Following his illness, Jim maintained his interest in the club and it never waned until the day he died. He was a regular visitor to Árus na Sairsealaigh with Peggy, and was always on hand to offer words of encouragement to players,

mentors and club officials alike – encouragement that everyone needs to hear from time to time. Jim was at home in our clubhouse and he valued his time there very highly indeed. His firm and warm handshake epitomised the man – it was extended freely to all who knew him.

Perhaps the greatest expression of Jim's love for the club came after we had won the Mid senior hurling final this year. From his hospital bed he phoned one of our officials to pass on his congratulations to all concerned. That was testimony to Jim's regard for Sarsfields.

Testimony of Sarsfields regard for Jim was the large number who wanted to form the Guard of Honour as his remains were being taken to Bohernanave Church, a stones throw from Árus na Sairsealaigh and Semple Stadium. The club flag was draped on Jim's coffin as he made his final journey to Ballycahill cemetery where he was laid to rest.

We loved Jim Cahill dearly and we miss him terribly. We miss his smile, his charm, his wit and his love for Sarsfields. However, much we miss him though, is only a shadow of the huge loss that Peggy, Cáit, Mairéad and Seán have suffered. We remember you all in our prayers as well as Jim's brothers Mick and Anthony and his sisters Annie, Aileen and Sister Margaret.

Life gives few privileges, but we were privileged to know and love Jim Cahill.

May he rest in the peace and happiness of Heaven.

Na Sairséalaigh, Dúrlas

TOOMEVARA DOWN THE YEARS

Since their earliest days in competition, Toomevara hurlers have been known, far and wide, as The Greyhounds. Their speed and dash particularly in the era of Patrick "Wedger" Meagher, made The Greyhounds title most apt. Brother Joseph Perkins, Thurles C.B.S., penned this poem in the early 1980's when many of Toome's brightest stars were showing great promise in their juvenile hurling day. (L. O'D.)

1.

You have heard of "Wedger" Meagher
And the O'Meara's, too, of old
And many another hurler brave
Who wore the green and gold.
Their names rang out through Ireland
On numerous hurling grounds,
And "Wedger's" men were known even then
As Toomevara's famed "Greyhounds".

2.

Long, long before 1884
Their hurlers could be seen
Round Carraway and Clonalea,
Stuick, Coole and Blakefield green.
By Ballinveny, Bunacum
Park, Ballybeg and Clash,
Garnafarna, Greanstown;
They heard the sound of ash.

3.

In 1910, arose those men
with "Wedger" in command;
Like Greyhounds dashing o'er the sod
They won fame throughout the land.
In 1913 their worth was seen,
The "Greyhounds" did not yield;
They won the Croke Memorial Cup
In famed Dan Fraher's Field.

4.

In 1915 and '16 too
Further honours did they seek;
They won once more and armlets wore
In memory of Easter Week.
The Gaelic League gave the Thomond Shield
To have it as their own;
Twice they shone, and twice they won
Against Cork, Clare and Garryowen.

5.

From 1912 to '23
Boherlahan felt their steel;
Five times they won, five times each shone,
Their (true) worth they did reveal.
In '27 "Wedger" sailed
To the shores of Americay;
He said: "I always loved old Tipp.,
For her honour did I play".

6.

Tipperary's great full-forward
Martin Kennedy of renown
In 1930 led great Toom.
To win the County Crown.
With Jack Donovan, Tom O'Meara
Who in the All-Ireland Cup had shone
They beat Moycarkey-Borris
in 1931.

7.

1960 was the historic year
We saw Toom, come again
To take the Dan Breen Trophy
From the Sarsfield's stylish men
Matt Hassett took the McCarthy Cup
From the Dubs, in '61.
And with him Matt O'Gara
John Hough and Mounsey Shone.

8.

And still great Toom. goes marching on
Their juveniles to the fore;
It won't be long, they'll be as strong
And as powerful as of yore.
Come! raise the Green and Gold again
And let us proudly say:
"Three cheers for the Gallant Greyhounds,
Toomevara boys, hurrah!"

BITS IN BRIEF

By Tim O'Connor

- Tommy Doyle and his nephew Jimmy (Thurles Sarsfields) won All-Ireland senior hurling medals in three different decades. Tommy 1937, 1945, 1949, 1950, 1951. Jimmy 1958, 1961, 1962, 1964, 1965, 1971.

- The late Tom Ryan and his brother Roger (Toomevara) won All-Ireland senior hurling medals with Tipperary.

- Matt Hassett (Toomevara) captained Tipperary to win the 1961 All-Ireland senior hurling title.

- Thurles Sarsfields players who have captained Tipperary to win All-Ireland senior hurling titles include: Jim Stapleton 1887, Tom Semple 1906/08, J.J. Callanan 1930, Jim Lanigan 1937, John Maher 1945, Tony Wall 1958, Jimmy Doyle 1962/65, Michael Murphy 1964.

- In Munster Club Hurling Championship Thurles Sarsfields or Toomevara will play the Limerick champions Patrickswell.

- In 1949 Tipperary defeated Cork in extra time of re-play in Munster senior hurling championship. Substitute Tommy Ryan (Thurles Sarsfields) was outstanding in extra time period. On a personal note the writer was at these two great games.

- One of the all-time greats of Toomevara was "Wedger" Meagher.

- Mickey ("Rattler") Byrne and his son Paul won All-Ireland senior hurling medals with Tipperary.

- The chairman of Thurles Sarsfields Tom Barry was a member of the Tipperary minor hurling team that won the 1973 Munster Championship.

- Phil Shanahan (Toomevara) won three All-Ireland senior hurling medals with Tipperary playing in same position, centrefield - 1949, 1950, 1951. His centrefield partner in the 1951 final was the late John Hough (Toomevara).

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Tom Ryan, Eddie Enright and Matty O'Dowd combine to ensure that the sliothar does not pass them during the semi-final victory over Cappawhite.





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- 1** You spend all winter on the beer speculating on who will be brought in to manage the junior hurling team next year.
- 2** The hardest tackle you will make all year is in an indoor soccer match in January.
- 3** When you break your brother-in-law's leg.
- 4** There are 35 training under lights on a bitter February night (unfit but enthusiastic) – the average for August is 7 (unfit, sick of training and making silage).
- 5** The club treasurer spends some time at the AGM lamenting the yearly cost of running a club and especially the bill for hurleys; months later the team is being urged to 'give 'em timber, lads – we have plenty of hurleys on the sideline ...'.
- 6** When you go for a pick-up, you tap the ball at least twice on the hurley before you fumble it.
- 7** Ground hurling is for juveniles and camogie players.
- 8** The full-forward has his son and grand-nephew in the corners.
- 9** The grand-nephew is two years older.
- 10** For a 2.30 throw-in you start packing your gearbag at 2.40 and still manage to be on the field before the referee even arrives.
- 11** You can get the match called off because your star player is playing divisional under-16 the following week.
- 12** Your tight-marking corner back never gives an inch, except, of course, when the ball gets inside his own 50 and he charges out after it with all the other backs, forgetting that the other team are even on the field.
- 13** Your goalie lets in a sitter every second game – this usually happens after you have scored five points from play to reel in a difficult half-time deficit
- 14** Or, in the first minute, if it's a final.
- 15** Your full-forward can't score but 'he's a good man to bust up the play'.
- 16** Your centre-forward can't score either but 'he'll stop a good man from hurling'.
- 17** Your championship is either a round robin that requires you to play six league games to eliminate one team, or a knockout starting in October.
- 18** Any members of your panel that claim to have back injuries are either lazy or completely daft – unless you can see blood, bruises or bandages, they're making it up.
- 19** Before every match the forwards are told to stay wide and not bunch but this is not what happens. The only time any forward goes wide is to take a sideline cut or to look for water.
- 20** Your backs play from behind waving a hurley with one hand whilst resting the other on the forward's back – which is why all your scores, and all their scores, come from frees.
- 21** You can't field a team during the fortnight of the Leaving Cert.
- 22** Your star player always has one other brother 'that was even better but he couldn't stay off the drink'.
- 23** Your left corner-back plays at number 4 because he can only strike off his left side. Ditto number 7.
- 24** The more people instruct you to 'let fly', if you don't get it up the first time, the more you ignore them.

I am indebted to an e-mail for the above. Apparently it's taking the internet by storm.

Seamus J. King

Thro' the Thatch

The sports gear worn by members of Thurles Sarsfields G.A.A. Club has, for some time now, included a crest containing the legend "Thro' the Thatch" and the words G.A.A., Thurles.

The origin of the legend dates back to the eighteenth century, a time when hurling in the mid-Tipperary area was flourishing mainly due to its association with the landed gentry. They were openly and actively involved in the hurling as players, team captains, trainers and powerful patrons. The newspapers of the time leave us in no doubt as to the influence of the landlords and the popularity of hurling, with several references to games played at Brittas, Thurles, Galbertstown, Loughmore etc.

Baron Purcell of Loughmore had his own private team with their hurling field beside his castle. In Thurles Lord Mathew, Earl of Llandaff, whose residence was in the town, also had his own celebrated team of hurlers of which he was justifiably proud. In a hurling match between teams of both of these great hurling patrons, one of the most famous of the Thurles team struck the ball with such force that it went clean through the thatch of a nearby cottage and broke several of the kitchen utensils inside. Ever since then "Thro' the Thatch" has been a rallying cry for many a Thurles team.

As a crest it was to be seen on the jerseys of the old Thurles "Blues" captained so successfully by Tom Semple in the first decade of the last century. Large numbers of supporters also wore a printed cardboard badge similar to the crest. Luckily a few of these badges have survived to the present day and are treasured memorabilia of that bygone era. Principal designer of the crest was Sars-

fields club secretary of that time - J.M. Kennedy. He was Thurles Town Clerk and he later compiled - *A Chronology of Thurles* (1945).

The Shamrock, with its traditional Christian and Irish symbolism, acts as a background to the crest. G.A.A. founder Michael Cusack, who always held Thurles in high regard,

added an extra dimension to the significance of the three leafed shamrock. At the G.A.A. foundation meeting in Hayes' Hotel in 1884, he sought to place the new association under the patronage of Archbishop Thomas Croke, Charles Stewart Parnell and Michael Davitt. As Cusack put it: *Three names, as the three leafed shamrock, that go to the heart of every true son of the Green Isle.*

Recalling the era of the Thurles "Blues", old hands remember that, during a game, whenever the tan (hurling ball) reached the forwards the cry would go up - *Now lads, thro' the thatch.* It was invariably the signal for an all out Thurles onslaught.

Liam Ó Donnchú



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