

Co. Tipperary Senior Hurling Final  
Match Programme  
2005

# CLUICHÍ CHEANNAIS

# IOMÁNA THIOBRAID ÁRANN

## Sinsear agus Mionúir



Stáid Semple, Dúrlas Éile  
16ú Deireadh Fómhair, 2005



Tiobraid Árann



Cl. 1889  
Ó. 2. 1889 agus 1890

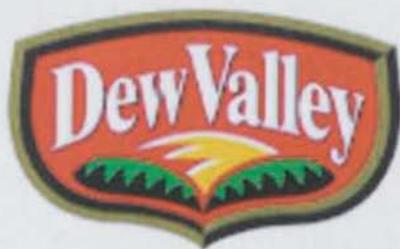
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Teastaoinn uaim faille a chur roimh gach einne go Staid Semple inniu i gcoir craobhacha an Chontae san iomaint sinsear agus mionuir(a). Tá suil agam go mbeidh la mor iomanaíochta againn. Guim rath agus sean ar na foirne ata ag glacadh pairte san ocaid agus go mbeidh an bua ag na foirne is fearr.

Once again County Final day has arrived and it is my great pleasure to welcome you all to Semple Stadium for what is always a great occasion. The senior final has a unique pairing with Drom & Inch appearing in their first ever County Senior Hurling Final while Thurles Sarsfields are looking for their first title in 31 years. Best of luck to both teams and I look forward to a sterling contest that will see both sides striving might and main for supremacy.

The minor final brings together two teams that have turned in some powerful displays in the championship in 2004. Carrick Swans will be looking to put back to back title and are appearing in their third consecutive County Minor "A" Hurling final. Their opponents Kilruane MacDonaghs have put in some impressive performances also to get to this stage. This game promises to be a rousing contest.

Cidona, Ireland are in their second year as sponsoring our championships and I want to thank them for their generosity and interest and I hope that they will have a long and fruitful association with Gaelic games in Tipperary.

Today we honour the Moneygall team that won the 1975

# Fáilte



and 1976 County Senior Hurling championship. I would like to extend a special welcome to all members of the Moneygall panel and to thank the sponsors Tipperary Star and Youngs of the Ragg. I would also like to thank Seamus King and his committee for organising this very worthwhile event.

I congratulate the referees that have been appointed for today's finals and I wish you and your officials every success. I would like to thank all referees for the huge contribution that this group of people make to the staging of our games and it is my hope that new people can be recruited throughout the County so that we can have a good supply of well trained referees to help in getting through the huge volume of games that are now being played in each year in the County.

I am delighted to welcome the new Tipperary Senior Hurling manager Michael "Babs" Keating to Semple Stadium today along with his selectors John Leahy and Tom Barry. I am sure the new management team will leave no stone unturned in their efforts to bring success to the Premier County.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity in thanking all my fellow officers for their support and co-operation and to all the various sub-committees that undertake so much work to ensure that Gaelic games are promoted to the fullest throughout the county.

**DONAL Ó SEANACHÁIN**  
Cathaoirleach

## CLÁR AN LAE

- 1.20 Kilruane Mac Donaghs Minor Hurling Team onto field
- 1.21 Carrick Swans Minor Hurling team on to field

### 1.30 THROW-IN FOR CIDONA COUNTY MINOR HURLING FINAL CARRICK SWANS v KILRUANE MACDONAGHS

- 2.01 Half-time in Minor Hurling Final
- 2.11 Second half of Minor Hurling final commences
- 2.43 End of Minor Hurling Final
- 2.48 Presentation of Trophy to victorious Minor Hurling team
- 2.52 Presentation of the Man-of-the-Match award.
- 2.55 Presentation of Moneygall 1975/76 teams
- 3.10 Drom/Inch Team onto field
- 3.11 Thurles Sarsfields team on to field
- 3.23 Parade of teams
- 3.28 Amhrán na bhFiann performed by Siobhan Casey (Shannon Rovers), winner of the 2001 All-Ireland Scor Sinsear Solo Song and the 2002 All-Ireland Scor Sinsear Ballad Group.

Réiteoir: Johnny Ryan  
(Boherlahan/Dualla)

### 3.30 THROW-IN FOR CIDONA COUNTY SENIOR HURLING FINAL THURLES SARSFIELDS v DROM INCH

- 4.01 Half-time in Senior Hurling Final
- 4.02 Special Presentation
- 4.11 Second half of Senior Hurling final commences
- 4.43 End of County Senior Hurling Final
- 4.45 Presentation of Dan Breen Cup to victorious Senior Hurling team
- 4:48 Presentation of the Man-of-the-Match award

Réiteoir: Brian White  
(Clonmel Commercial)

## BUÍOCHAS

Thanks to the officers in all four clubs who assisted in the provision of material for today's programme. Special thanks to Ed Donnelly, P.R.O. Tipperary County Board and to Brigid Delaney and Jerry Ring for their photographs.

**Ger Corbett**  
Editor

## MAN OF THE MATCH

The Tipperary County GAA Board would like to thank Cidona for their sponsorship of the Man of the Match awards for today's Minor and Senior Finals.



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# Tipp Needs a Cracking Final

By Noel Dundon (Tipperary Star)

## AND THEN THERE WERE TWO

IT'S DOWN to the wire this afternoon in Semple Stadium – the last game of the senior hurling championship. After dozens of games, hundreds of points, scores of goals, tonnes of broken hurleys, plenty of stitches and broken bones, and many many hours of entertainment, Thurles Sarsfields and Drom-Inch have earned the honour of competing for the Dan Breen Cup. This is The Premier County's showcase – the Mid champions against the Mid challengers – and for both clubs and parishes, it feels great to be involved.

This is a real Mid Tipperary affair – how proud the former Secretary of the Mid Board, the late Mattie Connolly would have been today. It would have been a real joy for him to see two Mid Tipperary teams competing in the County Final – the last time was 1964 when his great friend and colleague Mikey Ryan of Holycross did his utmost to stop Sarsfields winning another title. Mikey will be watching with great interest this afternoon and no doubt he will think of Mattie when a Mid team lifts the Dan Breen Cup. Everywhere hurling men and women met in Tipperary over the last few weeks, the talk was of two issues – the new management team and the County Final. Well, the management team has been sorted out and Babs Keating, Tom Barry and John Leahy are wished well in their positions. The other issue will be sorted out this afternoon (barring a draw of course) and when the final whistle sounds there will be an outpouring of unbridled joy for one or the other of these fine teams.

Sarsfields are the favourites, whether they like it or not. But, they know what faces them in the Drom-Inch challenge and they will be very focused in their bid to claim their 29th title. It's hard to believe that it's 31 years since Sarsfields hands touched the Dan Breen. Many people feel this is Sarsfields year – they have failed to scale the final hurdle all too often in recent times, but they have left no stone unturned this time round. Perhaps this will be their year.

Drom-Inch enter the final without a care in the world. They are well aware that all the pressure is on Sarsfields and they will seek to turn up the temperature considerably. They are the last team to have beaten Sarsfields – in last years championship – and are the last team to have drawn

with the Blues as well. Going on this evidence, they will fancy their chances greatly. Of

course they also realise that Sarsfields are the only team to have beaten them this year in the championship and they will want to make amends for the Mid Final replay – they came within a hare's breath of claiming the Mid trophy.

County Final day is all about families and tradition – today is no exception. The Butlers, Costelloes, Kennedy's, Cantwell's, Woodlocks and Ryan's will all feel the tension of the day this afternoon from the Drom-Inch camp while in Thurles, although they have more experience of this big day, the Lawlor's, Enright's, Corbett's, Carroll's, McCormack's, Collins and Mernagh's will sense the butterflies in the tummy. County Final day can leave you emotionally drained. Win, and your emotions hit overdrive. Lose, and it's a long way to February training again. For whichever team wins this afternoon, it will be well deserved. Let's hope it's a cracking final worthy of the occasion. Tipperary needs it.

Enjoy the games.





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# New Tipperary Senior Hurling Management Team

*At a meeting of Tipperary County Board in the Thurles Sarsfields Clubhouse on Monday, October 10th, Michael "Babs" Keating of the Ballybacon-Grange club was ratified as the Tipperary Senior Hurling Manager for a 2-year term.*

*The selectors will be John Leahy of Mullinahone and Tom Barry of Thurles Sarsfields. See below some information on the new Tipperary Senior Hurling management team*

## **MICHAEL "BABS" KEATING**



"Babs" is from the Ballybacon-Grange club. He has won 3 All-Ireland Senior medals and 5 Munster Senior medals. Babs won an All-Star award at centre-forward in 1971, winning the Texaco Hurler of the Year in the same season. He won 3 Munster Minor Hurling medals from 1960 to 1962, captaining the team in 1962. "Babs" won an All-Ireland Under 21 Hurling medal in 1964. He was also a noted footballer, representing Munster in 11 different seasons, winning 1 Railway Cup Football medal in 1972. "Babs" represented the Munster hurlers in 5 different seasons, winning Railway Cup Hurling medals in 1968 and 1970.

When he retired as a player, it was inevitable he would take up team management. "Babs" managed Galway to the 1979 All-Ireland Senior Hurling final before

taking on the Tipperary Senior Hurling manager job in the autumn of 1986. When he stepped down after the 1994 Championship defeat to Clare, "Babs" had won 2 All-Ireland titles, 5 Munster titles and 2 National League titles. "Babs" also had managerial stints with Laois and Offaly and most recently, has been manager of the UCD team which won the 2004 Dublin County Final and lost the 2004 Leinster Club Senior Hurling final to James Stephens by a point.

## **JOHN LEAHY**

John who is 36 is from the Mullinahone club. He has won 2 All-Ireland Senior medals, 4 Munster Senior medals, 4 National League medals, an



All-Ireland Under-21 medal and a Munster minor medal. John won 3 All-Star awards in 1991, 1994 and 1997 and was recently selected on the Guinness Hurling Legends team from 1995 to 2005. At club level, John has won a County U-21 "A" medal and a County Junior medal, both in 1989 while he was player-manager on the Mullinahone team

which won the County Senior Hurling final in 2002. John, who has also played football for the county, was the first Mullinahone man to play hurling for Tipperary.

## **TOM BARRY**



Tom is from the Thurles Sarsfields club. Tom won a Munster Minor Hurling medal with Tipperary in 1973 at

wing-back and hurled for Tipperary in the 1981 Munster Senior Hurling Championship in the same position. Tom hurled with Thurles Sarsfields from 1974 to 1987, winning a County title in his first year. When Tom retired as a player, he became Senior team manager from 1992 to 1994, losing the 1992 County Final after a replay. Tom was a selector on the Thurles Sarsfields team from 2000 to 2002, qualifying for the County Final in each season. Tom was Chairman of Thurles Sarsfields from 2000 to 2004 and is a current Vice-President of the club.

Best of luck to the new selection team in the quest to bring success to the Premier County in 2006.

## County Minor Hurling Finalists 2005



Back Row (l to r): Keith O'Dwyer, Wayne Cullen, Kieran Reade, Kevin Lanigan, Danny O'Hanlon, Colm O'Sullivan, Stephen Hahessy, William Lonergan, Martin Russell, Stephen Kearns, Daryl Whitty, Darren Waters. Front row: Craig Walsh, Jimmy Dignam, Paul Regan, Dwaine Fogarty, Dean Clery, Adrian Ryan, Shane Hogan, David Walsh, John Flynn, Andrew Diffily.



Selectors (l to r): Thomas Waters, Martin Walsh, Larry Reade, John Fleming.

# Carrick Swan



Stephen Haheesy, Captain

## Paths to Final

Carrick Swan	0-23	Killenaule	1-09
Carrick Swan	1-21	St Patricks	1-13
Carrick Swan	1-14	Moyle Rovers	1-09
Carrick Swan	4-20	Mullinahone	0-08
Carrick Swan	0-06	Ballingarry	0-11

### South Championship played on league basis

#### South Final

Carrick Swan	2-12	Ballingarry (after extra time)	1-12
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#### County Semi-Final

Carrick Swan	3-11	Moycarkey	0-10
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na hEalaí

**Fir Ionaid:**

- (16) S. Ó Ciaráin  
**STEPHEN KEARNS**  
(*Dunbane*)
- (17) C. Ó Duibhir  
**KEITH O'DWYER**  
(*Ballyrichard*)
- (18) C. Breathnach  
**CRAIG WALSH**  
(*Ballylynch*)
- (19) D. Ó Cleirigh  
**DEAN CLEARY**  
(*Clairin*)
- (20) A. Ó Duifholla  
**ANDREW DIFFILY**  
(*Clairin*)
- (21) S. Ó Floinn  
**JOHN FLYNN**  
(*Orchard Crescent*)
- (22) A. Ó Riain  
**ADRIAN RYAN**  
(*Ballylynch*)
- (23) S. Ó Dignam  
**JIMMY DIGNAM**  
(*Faugheen*)
- (24) E. Ó Duinn  
**EOIN DUNNE**  
(*Clairin*)
- (25) D. Ó Murchú  
**DARREN MURPHY**  
(*Ballyrichard*)
- (26) S. Ó Baróid  
**SEAN BARRETT**  
(*Ard Mhuire*)
- (27) D. de Róiste  
**DAMIEN ROCHE**  
(*Tracy Park*)

# Carrick Swan

Colours: Black and White

- (1)  
C. Ó Suilleabháin  
**COLM O'SULLIVAN**  
(*Ballylynch*)
- (2)  
L. Ó Lonargáin  
**WILLIAM LONERGAN**  
(*Kickham Street*)
- (3)  
S. Ó Haitheasa (Capt)  
**STEPHEN HAHESSY**  
(*Ballyrichard*)
- (4)  
P. Ó Regan  
**PAUL REGAN**  
(*Faugheen*)
- (5)  
D. Whitty  
**DARYL WHITTY**  
(*Collins Park*)
- (6)  
C. Ó Lanagáin  
**KEVIN LANIGAN**  
(*Faugheen*)
- (7)  
M. Ó Ruiseal  
**MARTIN RUSSELL**  
(*Dunbane*)
- (8)  
S. Ó Hógáin  
**SHANE HOGAN**  
(*Ballyrichard*)
- (9)  
D. Breathnach  
**DAVID WALSH**  
(*St Nicholas Park*)
- (10)  
W. Ó Cuilinn  
**WAYNE CULLEN**  
(*Deerpark Close*)
- (11)  
C. Ó Reade  
**KIERAN READE**  
(*Collins Park*)
- (12)  
D. Ó Fógheartaigh  
**DWAINÉ FOGARTY**  
(*Faugheen*)
- (13)  
D. Ó Túairisc  
**DARREN WATERS**  
(*Tracy Park*)
- (14)  
D. Ó hAnluain  
**DANNY O'HANLON**  
(*Ballyrichard*)
- (15)  
B. Breathnach  
**BARRY WALSH**  
(*Ballylynch*)

 Manager: **Larry Reade**

 Selectors: **Thomas Waters, John Fleming, Martin Walsh**

 Coach: **T.J. Connolly** Physio: **Johnny Grace** First Aid: **Sinead O'Dwyer**

<b>CARRICK SWAN</b>	Cúil	Cúilíní	Seachaí	65m	Saor Pocanna
1adh leath					
2adh leath					
<b>IOMLAN</b>					

# Kilruane MacDonaghs

Colours: Black and White



- (1)  
G. Ó Corcoráin  
**GERARD CORCORAN**  
(Derrinclare)
- (2)  
F. MacUilliam  
**FREDDIE WILLIAMS**  
(Townfields)
- (3)  
M. Ó Breathnach  
**MARTIN WALSH**  
(Lisgarode)
- (4)  
P. Ó Ceallaigh  
**PADRAIG KELLY**  
(Ballymagree)
- (5)  
L. Ó Giobsuin  
**LIAM GIBSON**  
(Bantiss)
- (6)  
E. Ó hÓgáin  
**EINOI HOGAN**  
(Modreeny)
- (7)  
C. MacDubhinse  
**GAVIN McAVINCHEY**  
(Lisgarode)
- (8)  
C. Ó Riain  
**KEVIN RYAN**  
(Newtown)
- (9)  
S. Ó hAonghusa  
**SEAMUS HENNESSY**  
(Knocknacree)
- (10)  
T. MacUilliam  
**THOMAS WILLIAMS**  
(Deerpark)
- (11)  
S. Ó Cathaill  
**JONATHAN CAHILL**  
(Ardcroney)
- (12)  
M. Ó Coisteala  
**MICHAEL COSTELLO**  
(Templemore Road)
- (13)  
C. De Prut  
**KEVIN PROUT**  
(Ardcroney)
- (14)  
R. Ó Maolfhachtna  
**RAYMOND McLOUGHNEY**  
(Merton Hall)
- (15)  
S. Ó Caoineáin  
**SHANE QUINLAN**  
(Clermont)

## Fir Ionaid:

- (16) S. MacConmhíde  
**JIM CONWAY**  
(Beechwood)
- (17) P. MacConmhíde  
**PAT CONWAY**  
(Beechwood)
- (18) D. Ó Baroid  
**DECLAN BARRETT**  
(Modreeny)
- (19) L. MacUilliam  
**LUKE WILLIAMS**  
(Kilrea)
- (20) T. Ó Breathnach  
**TIMMY WALSH**  
(Lisgarode)
- (21) C. MacUilliam  
**CIAN WILLIAMS**  
(Stoneyacre)
- (22) B. Ó Meara  
**BRIAN O'MEARA**  
(Ardcroney)
- (23) S. Ó Hoistichin  
**SHANE HODGINS**  
(Behamore)
- (24) C. Ó Baoill  
**CIARAN BOYLE**  
(Coolagarna)
- (25) N. Ó Murchu  
**NIALL MURPHY**  
(Main Street)

Roghnoiri: Dinny Cahill (Manager), Michael Hogan,  
Denis O'Meara, Pat Quinlan, Brian Gaynor.  
First Aid: Denis Reddan

KILRUANE MacDONAGHS	Cúil	Cúillíní	Seachai	65m	Saor Pocanna
1adh leath					
2adh leath					
IOMLAN					

# County Minor 'A' Hurling Finalists 2005

# Kilruane



*Kilruane MacDonaghs Minor Hurling Panel.*



*Kilruane MacDonogh selectors: (l to r): Brian Gaynor, Denis O'Meara, Dinny Cahill (manager), Pat Quinlan, Michael Hogan.*

# Kilruane MacDonaghs



*Captain Martin Walsh receiving cup from North Tipperary Chairman Jimmy Minogue.*

## Paths to Final

Kilruane MacDonaghs	3-18	Nenagh Éire Óg	1-06
Kilruane MacDonaghs	2-19	Borrisoleigh	0-09
Kilruane MacDonaghs	2-16	Toomevara	2-09
Kilruane MacDonaghs	1-22	Moneygall	2-07

### North Semi-Final

Kilruane MacDonaghs	2-19	Roscrea	1-09
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### North Final

Kilruane MacDonaghs	3-16	Lorrha/Dorrha	2-04
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### County Semi-Final

Kilruane MacDonaghs	1-10	Clonoulty/Rossmore	1-04
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# Kilruane MacDonaghs

Since Kilruane MacDonaghs last contested a County Minor Final against Moycarkey in 1972 a lot of water has flowed under the bridge. The halcyon days of the seventies saw the Club amass a string of Divisional and County titles including capturing the Dan Breen trophy three years in a row 1977 – 1979. The eighties were no less successful, culminating in the historic All-Ireland Club Final triumph against Buffers Alley in 1986. The fortunes of the Club dipped in the nineties and appearances in the winner's enclosure were less frequent. The Club lost its senior status in 2000, fourteen years after Kilruane MacDonaghs were crowned champions of Ireland in Croke Park.

As the club struggled to make an impact on the playing field steps were already being taken to lay solid foundations for the future. In 1994 the Club opened its impressive new stand in Thomas MacDonagh Park. In 1997 the Club began the building of the magnificent new complex incorporating sports hall, dressing rooms, meeting room and Referees room. The complex is now used by the Club and many local organisations. On the playing side, the Juvenile Club went through a process of reorganisation and rejuvenation in the late nineties. A core group of committed and competent coaches were recruited and trained. Great emphasis was placed on skill development and discipline which have always been the hallmarks of successful MacDonaghs sides.

Standards rose and success inevitably followed. Since 1997 the Juvenile Club has won seventeen divisional and five County titles. The Club worked in close co-operation with the parish schools which also enjoyed outstanding success, winning ten North Championships and five County titles in the same period. Success at juvenile level had a positive impact on the Club in general. Senior status was regained in 2003 and in 2004 the Club won its first divisional Minor title in thirty one years.

Today's minor team first hit the headlines as U/12's, when managed by Joe Whelan, they won North and County B titles. Moving up to the A grade as U/14's Barney Naughnane guided them to win the North Championship and the divisional Feile title. They had an impressive campaign as u/16's but just failed narrowly to take divisional honours.

Eighteen of today's panel were on last year's squad which defeated Roscrea in the North Final but lost out to Carrick Swans in the County semi-final. This year they are undefeated in North Tipperary overcoming Nenagh, Borrisoleigh, Toomevara, Moneygall and Roscrea before accounting for Lorrha in the final. They had a hard struggle against West Champions Clonoulty in the County semi-final. Under the watchful eye of Dinny Cahill they have prepared well and improved steadily throughout the year. Familiar names from Club teams of the past such as Hennessy, Hogan, Williams, Cahill and Quinlan reappear on the programme. Win, lose or draw, today is a significant step in the Club's development as the MacDonaghs Minors try to bring the 37th County title to our parish against an accomplished Carrick Swans side.

# Carrick Swan

Today our Club is contesting the County Minor 'A' Hurling Final for the third year in a row. Successful in last years final where we defeated Drom and Inch and beaten in replay by Moycarkey Borris the previous year, it is a great achievement by all concerned to be back again in Thurles today bidding to put back to back titles together. Last years success was the first ever in this grade for our club and these players and their mentors are to be complimented on their dedication and determination.

Today's panel of players have all enjoyed considerable under age success with our club. Nine members of today's starting fifteen played on last years winning team and in all sixteen of today's panel were involved last year. The success we are now enjoying in the minor grade is the product of the hard work that has been put in with our underage teams for the past 10 years or so and we must compliment the mentors and officers of the juvenile section of our club for the work and effort they diligently put in.

Our opponents today, Kilruane MacDonaghs<sup>\*</sup> crossed our path last year at the semi-final stage where we came out on top after a close and exciting game. Very little separated the teams then and that is likely to be the case again today as both sets of players aim to bring home this much coveted title.

Today is a proud day for our club and we remember some club stalwarts who passed to their eternal rewards during the year. Tom Wall one of our most famous players who was a member of our County Senior Hurling winning team of 1947 and a member of Tipperary's All-Ireland winning team in 1945. Ned Hahessy long serving officer at juvenile level whose grandson Stephen captains our minor team and Dan O'Meara who would love to be with us today to see his native Kilruane MacDonaghs in action against his beloved Carrick Swan. How ironic it is that in the year of Dan's passing the two clubs that were dear to him should today be meeting here in Thurles.

Finally we thank all our players, mentors, committee members, supporters and sponsors and we hope you all enjoy today's game.

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# referee profiles



## Senior

**BRIAN WHITE** (Clonmel Commercials)



Brian will take charge of his first County Senior Hurling final in Tipperary today. Brian has previously refereed a County Senior Football final in the Premier County. A native of Wexford, Brian has refereed 8 County

finals in the Model County, 4 in each code. At inter-county level, he has had a long and distinguished career as a referee, taking charge of finals at all levels including 3 All-Ireland Senior Football finals in 1997, 2000 and 2003. Brian is married to Helen and they have 3 children, Aislinn, Niamh and Padraig. An employee of Bulmers in Clonmel, he has been living in Tipperary for 18 years and is the current Chairman of the Juvenile club in Clonmel Commercials.

**Linesman** John Cleary (Knockshegowna)  
Noel Cosgrove (Marlfield)

**Umpires** Tommy Lonergan  
Johnny O'Callaghan  
Johnny O'Loughlin  
John Maher

## Minor

**JOHNNY RYAN** (Boherlahan-Dualla)



Johnny will referee the County Minor "A" Hurling final this afternoon. John has had a busy year in 2005, taking charge of the Munster Minor Hurling final in June between Cork and Limerick. This is John's third County

final in total after previously refereeing hurling finals at County Junior "A" Hurling and County Junior "B" Hurling. John is a sales representative for Corbett Concrete products in Cahir and is also involved in farming. He is married to Sinead and they have two children, Kate and Emma.

**Linesman** Dinny Curtis  
(Rahealty-Kickhams)  
John Kelly  
(Rahealty-Kickhams)

**Umpires** Tony Lacey  
Garrett McLoughlin  
Albert Maher  
Michael O'Dwyer  
(all Boherlahan-Dualla)

# Sars to deliver at last

~ by Séamus Ó Doherty ~

The first county final I attended was the 1966 decider, which was contested by one club, which didn't win its semi-final! It is not necessary to explain the circumstances now!! The result was a clearout victory for Carrick Davins, who won their first ever title on that November day. The ment from the South nearly dethroned the champions the previous year, but Sarsfields prevailed in the replay, in what was truly the end of an era.

Even Toomevara's impressive haul of nine county titles in thirteen seasons (1992 to 2004), including a three-in-a-row and a four-in-a-row looks modest by compassion with the achievements of the Blues, in the period 1955 to 1965, when they won two fives-in-a-row! Incredible! Since then only Jimmy Doyle has lifted the Dan Breen Cup on behalf of the famous club and that was back in 1974 – the year the Dubs returned to power with Kevin Heffernan.

The problem for many Sarsfields teams since then was that comparisons with 'previous greats' tended to unnerve and undermine the current players. After all how could you compare any club hurler of the past thirty years, with Jimmy Doyle or Tony Wall? That was pressure!

In recent years, the club has nearly written a new chapter in history, but they couldn't get the one victory on the big day, which would have liberated them for this generation. Today they have another change but with it comes that huge obstacle of favouritism. It is easier to win when unfancied than it is to deliver, when all of the media neutrals and your own supporters insist on telling you

that the cup is won!

Despite the closeness of the mid final exchanges two months ago, Sarsfields will be most people's fancy today.

Once they had beaten Toomevara it couldn't be any other way. Subsequent victory over Loughmore Castleiney, which ultimately was not as easy as it looked like being, raised the stakes and when you look at some of Sars scoring totals in recent games, 1-17, 1-20 and 2-19, it is easy to see where the expectation arises.

That brings us to Drom Inch. I wrote previously about the excellence of their coaching, their selection of the correct options and ability to discharge them. Tactically they are also highly neat and a couple of switches changed the course of their semi-final victory over Nenagh, Éire Óg. The club has been thriving since beating Cahir in the Minor 'B' County final a decade ago.

For such a young team their capacity to think correctly, especially under pressure, is an amazing trait and one of the reasons they make history by appearing in the county final for the first time. There is always excitement when a new or 'young' team appears on the scene and Drom have captured that sense of interest.

Drom may not have the level of historical achievement that their opponents have in terms of honours won – but the sweetest is always the first! People have been talking of the hunger in Sarsfields to win the title but methinks Drom's desire for a bite of success is even more acute. They have worked hard to produce the players with special emphasis on minor and under-21

grades. The high scoring of the Blues has caught the eye but Drom had their own highpoints too!

The 1-8 to 1-4 win over Borris-Ileigh may have been a greater advantage that it seemed at the time, as winning a tight game when scores are scarce confirms the solidity of the defence. Remember Thurles equalised in the mid final through their goalkeeper and Nenagh, Éire Óg didn't score any goals in the semi-final. It was down to a structured defence, which knew how to foil and spoil, the attacker's options.

So coming to the crunch – who will win? Sarsfields have more players who can score points from long distances and Johnny Enright will land the frees until nightfall. Even with the possibility of only scoring one goal Sars will secure a significant number of points.

Drom have plenty of know how on the pitch and if they start better than Loughmore Castleiney did in the semi-final they will probably be in contention, when the game enters the last ten minutes.

Seamus Butler led the way last time out and got plenty of help in securing an impressive total of 2-17.

The improving blend of the Sarsfields midfield is significant, in view of James Woodlock's man of the match performance in the Mid and his subsequent good form.

Sarsfields look more likely to succeed, but Drom's progress will ensure that the outcome will be much closer than the last time an all Mid pairing reached the County Final.

# Those Yellow Cards!!!!

Seamus Gardiner (Spokesman for Referees)

Players who commit fouls which merit a caution are shown a Yellow Card. The purpose of the cards was to make clear to everybody – players, officials, spectators – that a player had been cautioned and another such offence merited sending off. Some of our followers have never liked the cards but in themselves they are only a means of communication.

Referees were told at the beginning of these championships – and this directive comes from the highest authority in the Association – that the rules on Aggressive Fouls were to be implemented. So here are the fouls which by



rule merit a Caution and a Yellow Card:

- 5.8** To pull down an opponent
- 5.9** To trip an opponent with hand(s), foot or hurley
- 5.10** To jump at an opponent
- 5.11** To threaten or use abusive or provocative language or gestures to an opponent
- 5.12** To engage in any form of rough play
- 5.13** To make a pull with the hurley from behind and around the body of an opponent that is not consistent with an attempt to play the ball
- 5.14** To use the hurley in a dangerous manner
- 5.15** To throw a hurley in a manner which constitutes a danger to another player(s)
- 5.16** To pull with the hurley before the ball arrives
- 5.17** To pull or take hold of a faceguard, or any other part of an opponent's helmet
- 5.18** To attempt to achieve an advantage by feigning a foul or injury
- 5.19** To threaten or use abusive or provocative language or gestures to a team mate

**NOTE:** Whether we like them or not, these are the rules the referees are asked to implement. Referees did not write them – they are expected to enforce them.

# Drom Inch Club

## Recent History of the Senior Club



Whilst success at Senior level has been limited to two Mid Senior titles in 1974 and 1984 the club is now beginning to see the fruits of work carried out at Underage level since the early 1990's which was made possible through the dedication of club volunteers in developing an underage coaching structure and the opening of its Official grounds in 1990 which allowed the juvenile players to reach their full potential.

Drom-Inch started to become a major force in the Juvenile grades from 1995 when they won a Minor County 'B' Final. This was quickly followed up with three Mid Minor 'A' titles in a Row 1996-98, County Minor 'A' Final 1998, two County U-21 titles in 2000 & 2001 and most recently a Mid Minor title in 2004.

All of the current Senior



Action pics show Drom Inch v Nengah Éire Óg in semi-final

players have been on successful underage teams.

The club continues to go from strength to strength with 2004 been a remarkable year. On the field we won the Cahill Cup, Co Senior Division 3 League, Mid Junior 'A' Hurling Championship and League, Mid Junior 'B' Hurling Championship and League, Mid Junior 'A' Football Championship, and

Mid Minor 'A' Hurling and Football Championships.

Off the field the club undertook a major upgrading of its official grounds to cope with the increasing demands building extra dressing rooms, a kitchen and a meeting area.

Not content with resting on our laurels the club has continued to build on its success; in 2005 the Senior team is contesting its first ever Senior County final in its history.

Both Junior teams have retained their Mid League and Championship titles whilst our U21 are expected to put in a strong showing in this years championship.

As the championship runs seem to get longer every year, 2005 saw the Ragg pitch get its first major upgrade since the field was opened in 1990 along with extra floodlighting to cope with the increasing demands placed on it.



# Juvenile GAA Club



**Paudie Butler, Coach**  
*Tús maith leath na hoibre*

The appearance on Drom and Inch in their first ever county final is in no small way due to the underage success in the 1990's.

In 1992 Drom-Inch captured their first ever U-12 'A' county championship. This was followed by an U-14 county title in 1995. In that year Drom-Inch also qualified for the 'A' final at Féile na nGael. After an epic match against Sixmilebridge, extra time having failed to separate the teams, it was decided that both clubs should share

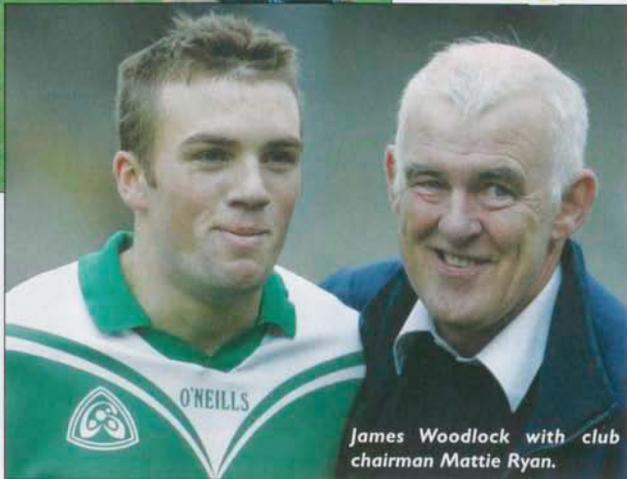
the Christy Ring trophy.

Our first county championship at U-16 was captured in 1997 and this was along with county final wins in 'B' minor in 1995 and 2003 and 'A' minor in 1998.

Another U-12 championship success was achieved in 1995. Many of the players taking part in today's final have figured on the above teams.

**Officers**

- Chairman – John Hassett
- Secretary – Sally Young
- Treasurer – Breda Bergin



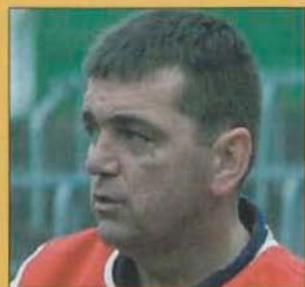
James Woodlock with club chairman Mattie Ryan.

## County Senior Hurling Finalists 2005



*Drom Inch Senior Hurling Panel.*

*Drom Inch have played six games and their average score is 1-15 per game with 1-12 conceded. They scored 9-81 and conceded 5-77 in total.*

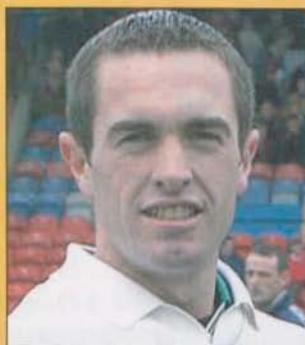


*Martin Everard, Manager*



*Management team (l to r): Paudie Butler (Coach), Martin Everard (Manager), Martin Fohey, Matt McGrath.*

# Drom Inch



Damien Young, Captain

## Paths to Final

### Mid Semi-Final

11th June at Drombane Beat J.K. Brackens \* 2-12 to 0-14

### Mid Final

7th August at Holycross Drew Thurles Sarsfields 2-14 to 1-17 (D)  
 21st August at Holycross Lost Thurles Sarsfields 0-13 to 1-17 (R)

### Qualifier

10th Sept at Semple Stadium Beat Moneygall 2-17 to 2-11

### Co Quarter Final

24th Sept at Semple Stadium Beat Borrisoleigh 1-8 to 1-4

### County Semi Final

2nd Oct at Semple Stadium Beat Nenagh Éire Óg 2-17 to 0-14

### Scorers

Seamus Butler 2-41, Seamus Callanan 3-6, Macdara Butler 0-10, Kevin Butler 2-2, Frankie McGrath 2-1, Michael Butler 0-6, James Woodlock 0-5, Martin Ryan 0-5, Paul Collins 0-2, Liam Brett, Damian Young, Eamon Buckley 0-1 each.



# Drom / Inch

Colours: Green and White

## Fir Ionaid:

- (16) S. Ó Riain  
**JOHNNY RYAN**  
*(Drom)*
- (18) M. De Buitléar  
**MARTIN BUTLER**  
*(Cleakile)*
- (19) P. Ó Coileáin  
**PAUL COLLINS**  
*(Knocka)*
- (20) L. De Brett  
**LIAM BRETT**  
*(Bouladuff)*
- (21) P. MacCraith  
**FRANKIE McGRATH**  
*(Pallashill)*
- (22) S. Ó Cinnéide  
**JAMES KENNEDY**  
*(Annfield)*
- (23) P. Ó Cinnéide  
**PADDY KENNEDY**  
*(Annfield)*
- (24) E. Ó Uadlaigh  
**ERIC WOODLOCK**  
*(Cottage)*
- (25) L. Ó Cinnéide  
**LIAM KENNEDY**  
*(Castle Avenue, Thurles)*
- (26) E. Ó Cuinneáin  
**EDWARD KINANE**  
*(Fishmayne)*
- (27) P. Mac an Ghiall  
**PAUL STAPLETON**  
*(Lisaraon)*
- (28) S. Ó Cathail  
**SEAMUS CAHILL**  
*(Pallashill)*
- (29) D. Ó Riain  
**DECLAN RYAN**  
*(Ballinlonty)*
- (30) S. Ó Conchubhair  
**JONATHAN O'CONNOR**  
*(Knocka)*
- (31) B. Ó Coistealbha  
**BRIAN COSTELLO**  
*(Dovea)*
- (32) M. De Cantual  
**MICHAEL CANTWELL**  
*(Ballypatrick)*

- (1) D. De Siún  
**DAMIEN YOUNG**  
*(Cleakile)*
- (2) M. Ó Coistealbha  
**MICHAEL COSTELLO**  
*(Dovea)*
- (3) D. Ó Cinnéide  
**DONNACHA KENNEDY**  
*(Annfield)*
- (4) E. Ó Buachalla  
**EAMON BUCKLEY**  
*(Goldengrove)*
- (5) P. Ó Riain  
**PAUL RYAN**  
*(Drom)*
- (6) T. De Cantual  
**THOMAS CANTWELL**  
*(Ballypatrick)*
- (7) S. Ó Cinnéide  
**JAMES KENNEDY**  
*(Annfield)*
- (8) P. De Buitléar  
**PÁDRAIG BUTLER**  
*(Goldengrove)*
- (9) S. Uadlaigh  
**JAMES WOODLOCK**  
*(Cottage)*
- (10) M. de Buitléar  
**MICHEÁL BUTLER**  
*(Ballypatrick)*
- (11) M. De Buitléar  
**MACDARA BUTLER**  
*(Goldengrove)*
- (12) M. Ó Riain  
**MATTHEW RYAN**  
*(Drom)*
- (13) C. De Buitléar  
**KEVIN BUTLER**  
*(Ballypatrick)*
- (14) S. De Buitléar  
**SEAMUS BUTLER**  
*(Ballypatrick)*
- (15) S. Ó Callanáin  
**SEAMUS CALLANAN**  
*(Bouladuff)*

Manager: **Martin Everard**  
Selectors: **Matt McGrath, Martin Fahy**  
Physio: **Michael Tynan**

Coach: **Paudie Butler**  
First Aid: **Catherine Kennedy**

<b>DROM/INCH</b>	Cúil	Cúilíní	Seachaí	65m	Saor Pocanna
1adh leath					
2adh leath					
<b>IOMLAN</b>					



# Thurles Sarsfields

Colours: Blue and White

(1)

P. MacCormaic  
**PATRICK McCORMAIC**  
(Tonagha)

(2)

B. Ó Suilleabháin  
**BRENDAN O'SULLIVAN**  
(Moyné Road)

(3)

G. Ó Meirtneach  
**GARY MERNAGH**  
(Cluain Glas)

(4)

T. MacOnraoi  
**TOM KING**  
(Beechwood Lawns)

(5)

S. Laighléis  
**STEPHEN LILLIS**  
(Killinan)

(6)

B. Ó Cearbhaill  
**BRENDAN CARROLL**  
(Clongour)

(7)

S. Ó Leathlobhair  
**JOHN LAWLOR**  
(Childers Pk)

(8)

E. Maclonnraichtaigh  
**EDDIE ENRIGHT**  
(Dublin Rd)

(9)

W. Ó Colla  
**WAYNE CULLY**  
(Collins Pk)

(10)

S. Maclonnraichtaigh  
**JOHNNY ENRIGHT**  
(Dublin Road)

(11)

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

(12)

S. Ó Corbáid  
**JIM CORBETT**  
(Inisfallen Ave)

(13)

R. Rút  
**RICHIE RUTH**  
(Bawntameena)

(14)

L. Ó Corbáid  
**LAR CORBETT**  
(Willomere Drive)

(15)

P. Ó Leathlobhair  
**PAT LAWLOR**  
(Childers Pk)

Coach: Ger Cunningham  
Masseur: Mick Clohessy  
Team Doctor: Paul Ryan

Selectors: Tommy Maher, Ger Corbett  
Equipment Manager: Andy Rossiter



## Fir Ionaid:

- Sub Goalies
- S. Ó Moca  
**JIM MACKEY** (Bohernanave)
  - C. Ó Concháir  
**KIERAN O'CONNOR**  
(Killinan)
- (17) S. Ó Riala  
**SHANE RYAN**  
(Bohernanave Road)
  - (18) E. Ó Coistealbha  
**EOIN COSTELLO**  
(Bohernanave Road)
  - (19) S. Masún  
**STEPHEN MASON**  
(Killinan)
  - (20) P. de Búrca  
**PATRICK BOURKE**  
(Moyné Road)
  - (21) A. Dondán  
**AIDAN DUNDON**  
(Beekstown)
  - (22) E. Breathnach  
**EAMON WALSH**  
(Ballyhead)
  - (23) T. Ó Colleáin  
**TOMMY COLLINS**  
(Colmyard)
  - (24) D. Ó Duibhair  
**DAVID O'DWYER**  
(Cabra)
  - (26) L. Ó Seanacháin  
**LEE SHANAHAN**  
(Childers Pk)
  - (28) A. Ó Conghaile  
**TONY CONNOLLY**  
(Cabra)
  - (29) S. Ó Concháir  
**JOHN CONNORS**  
(Childers Pk)
  - (30) E. Ruiséil  
**EOIN RUSSELL**  
(Brittas Rd)
  - (31) M. Ó Colleáin  
**MICKEY COLLINS**  
(Colmyard)
  - (32) B. Graydon  
**BRIAN GRAYDON**  
(Manadreen)
  - (33) S. Ó Murchú  
**JAMIE MURPHY**  
(Manadreen)
  - (34) D. Ó Claráin  
**DAVID KEARNS**  
(Killinan)
  - (35) B. Ó Duibhair  
**BARRY O'DWYER**  
(Bawntameena)

SARSFIELDS	Cúil	Cúillíní	Seachai	65m	Saor Pocanna
1adh leath					
2adh leath					
IOMLAN					

# County Senior Hurling Finalists 2005

# Thu



Thurles Sarsfields Senior Hurling Panel.  
Inset: Kieran O'Connor

Thurles Sarsfields played six games and their average score is 1-19 per game, with 1-15 conceded. They scored a total of 7-113 and conceded 7-88.



Ger Cunningham, Coach



Management team: Ger Cunningham (Coach), Ger Corbett, Tommy Maher

# Charles Sarsfields



Ger "Redser" O'Grady, Captain

## Paths to Final

### Mid Quarter-Final

12th June at Holycross Beat Boherlahan Dualla 2-17 to 1-13

### Mid Semi-Final

10th July at Boherlahan Beat Loughmore Castleiney 0-23 to 1-18

### Mid Final

7th August at Holycross Draw Drom Inch 1-17 to 2-14 (D)  
 21st August at Holycross Beat Drom Inch 1-17 to 0-13 (R)

### County Quarter Final

17th Sept at Semple Stadium Beat Toomevara 1-20 to 1-16

### County Semi Final

2nd Oct at Semple Stadium Beat Loughmore Castleiney 2-19 to 2-14

### Scorers

Johnny Enright 0-47, Ger O'Grady 2-15, Pat Lawlor 1-13, Wayne Cully 0-12, Richie Ruth 1-8, Lar Corbett 1-4, Stephen Lillis 1-3, Eddie Enright 0-3, Patrick McCormack 1-0, Jim Corbett 0-2, Stephen Mason, Eoin Russell, Brendan Carroll, Eoin Costello, David O'Dwyer and Shane Ryan 0-1 each

# County Final Day



It is County Final day again and it is a great honour for Thurles Sarsfields to be involved.

The fact that we are involved is due to the painstaking hard work and dedicated attention to detail of the management team of Ger Cunningham, Ger Corbett and Tommy Maher, the technical and supporting staff of Andy Rossiter, Michael Clohessy, Dr Paul Ryan, Eamon Stakelum, Lenny Philips, Aidan McCormack, Connie Maher, Connie's son Denis and John McCormack's son Bill.

As an urban rural club going forward we are fortunate to have a young and enthusiastic Runaí and Cisteoir in Thomas Callanan and Patrick Kenny respectively.

It is our aim to serve Thurles Parish and to achieve our aim we need the support of all.

The historic formation of Thurles Sarsfields Supporters Club under Andy Fogarty, Noel Bourke, John Hayes and Philip Leahy has brought us much closer to the people and has brought many new friends into our clubhouse.

We greatly appreciate the sponsorship of Mr Jack Blake's Dew Valley Foods under the management team of Mr Pat Smith, and Mr John O'Halloran. The fact that they are a local based industry makes them an ideal partner for Thurles Sarsfields. We appreciate their generosity and hope that they will benefit from their association with us. It is a unique sponsorship; it is not only financial but also has a major social element.

Organised by Thurles Sarsfields in conjunction with Dew Valley a very successful Family Day was enjoyed by all last June and our clubhouse hosts other sporting activities for Dew Valley.

Thurles Sarsfields greatly appreciates the success of the Supporters Club draw

whose prizes were sponsored by Larry Fogarty's Bar and Lounge, Glasheen's Bus Hire, Stakelums Hardware, First Active and Allied Irish Bank. The Anner and Hayes Hotel sponsored the Super Prize.

The newly formed Blues Club will hopefully cement the relationship between sponsors, supporters and Thurles Sarsfields GAA Club.

Finally thanks to all, club members and the wider community, for your support, here's to success, up the Blues!

**John Enright**  
Chairman  
Thurles Sarsfields

## Best Wishes

*Unfortunately, illness has side-lined our sub goalie Kieran O'Connor today.*

*We wish him a speedy return to the playing field.*



# Successful Year for Durlas Óg



Durlas Óg panel that won the County Feile na nGael and Under 14 'A' hurling titles this year. Back Row L-R: Declan Ryan, Aidan Loughnane, Shane Dempsey, Stephen Maher, Aidan McCormack, Michael Russell, Rory O'Shea, Denis Maher, Robert Murphy, David Maher, Niall Bohan, Philip Purcell, Aidan Barrett, Ciaran Stapleton, James Morrissey, Sean Moroney, Colin Shorley, Brian Keane, James Lyons. Front Row L-R: Darragh Ronayne, Cian Treacy, Padraic Crone, Patrick Dunne, Tommy Doyle, Donal O'Gorman, J.P. Dempsey, Ross Kealy, Kevin Smith, Mark Lanigan, Mark Shannon, Kyle Loughman, Paul Morrissey.

The year 2005 was a most successful one for Durlas Óg. They completed a notable county double by winning the Feile na nGael and Under 14 'A' hurling titles. Their Under 16's retained their Mid hurling and football titles and have qualified for the county hurling final next weekend. Added to these successes was the achievement of Thurles in winning the All Ireland Under 11 Community Games hurling title for the first time.

The Feile na nGael was the first competition of the year and Durlas Óg following victories over Drom-Inch and Moyne-Templetuohy faced their great rivals Loughmore-Castleiney in the Mid final. Durlas Óg gave a very solid performance to clinch victory and retain their Mid Feile na nGael title. Nenagh Eire Óg were defeated in the county semi final and Clonoulty-Rossmore provided the opposition in the county final in Boherlahan. Two first half goals were to prove crucial and Durlas Óg led by eight points at the interval. Despite the best efforts of Clonoulty-Rossmore in the

second half the Thurles defence was outstanding and they went on to record a deserving victory (3-5 to 0-4) and go on to represent Tipperary in the All Ireland finals in Cork on 17th, 18th and 19th June. Durlas Óg failed to make the semi finals losing narrowly to Cork teams Glen Rovers and Na Piarasaigh and defeating Limerick's Na Piarasaigh in their group matches.

After the Feile it was back to preparations for the Mid championship. Durlas Óg went through the league rounds unbeaten and they were paired with Moycarkey-Borris in the semi final. This was a match that Moycarkey should have won but Durlas Óg somehow came out on top by a four point winning margin. This set the stage for another meeting with Loughmore-Castleiney in the Mid final. The final was played in wet conditions in The Ragg and after a cracking contest Durlas Óg had one point to spare (1-6 to 1-5) at the final whistle. Like the Feile na nGael Nenagh Eire Óg were again defeated in the county semi final. Clonmel Óg emerged victorious from the other semi final. The final

played in Semple Stadium on Sunday 25th September saw Durlas Óg score a convincing win to bring the county title back to Thurles for the first time since 1998. Final score Durlas Óg 4-12 Clonmel Óg 0-4.

Well done to the players and selectors, Martin Doyle, Michael Maher and Michael Russell for their dedication and efforts throughout a long season.

Durlas Óg also recently retained their Mid Under 16 'A' hurling title following victory over J.K. Brackens. They scored a great win over arch rivals Nenagh Eire Óg in the county semi final last Saturday to qualify for the county final for the fourth year in row. The county final against Arravale Rovers or Moyle Rovers will be played next weekend.

Thurles won a historic first ever All Ireland Under 11 Community Games hurling title in Mosney last August. This very talented group and their mentors are all members of Durlas Óg. It was a magnificent achievement and well deserved.

A most successful and memorable year for Durlas Óg.



# Remembering Rocky



**M**icheál 'Rocky' McElgunn, Thurles, who passed away in August at the age of 72, was a life-long GAA enthusiast whose commitment to Cumann Luthchleas Gael came second only to his devotion to his family and his deeply held religious convictions.

Born across the road from Semple Stadium, it was inevitable that hurling would figure largely in his life. And so it did. The exceptional promise shown as a youngster was nurtured in the great Sarsfields hurling academy of the '50s and '60s as Micheál developed into an outstanding defender in the all-conquering 'Blues' sides

which won ten County Senior Hurling Titles between '55 and '65, during which time he also wore the county jersey on many occasions.

Best known as a teak-tough backman, he was a versatile performer who could play anywhere and he was also a very useful footballer. In 1960, he was on the Thurles Crokes football side which brought county senior honours to the Cathedral Town for the first and only time.

His playing career at an end, Micheál continued his service to the GAA as a referee and selector at county minor and club level. Indeed when Sarsfields last won the County Senior Hurling title in 1974, Micheál was a selector.

At the same time he was active in the administration of Sarsfields Club. At his death he was an Honourary Vice President, an honour bestowed on him in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the club. He was also known far and wide as a 'gateman' at venues throughout the county and indeed, Munster.

As a player, Micheál never gave less than 100% and thus it was in his many roles in the GAA. With his passing, the association has lost a great friend and ambassador but is much the richer for having had a man of his integrity to lead and inspire those around him.

Fittingly, he was accorded a warm and generous GAA 'send-off' with hundreds turning out to say farewell. His coffin, draped in Sarsfields blue, was escorted by club and county colleagues on its journey to its final resting place in St Patrick's Cemetery where team-mate and former county secretary, Tomás Ó Baróid, delivered a moving and eloquent oration, bidding slán to a very special GAA man.

As Sarsfields today bid for County honours, we fondly remember Micheál.

Our sympathy to Kitty, his sons, daughters, grandchildren and sister Mary on their great loss. Ar dheis De a anam.

M.D.



# Paddy Finucane of Tipp FM

*"It just went hop, hop, hop"*

*"The flag is up and the score is up!",*

*"all on his own-e-o",*

*"in around the houses",*

*"old-time religion".*

If you cannot recognise those snippets from golden Sunday afternoons on the radio, you certainly weren't living in Tipperary for the last sixteen years. Those are the hallmarks of one Paddy Finucane from Carrickbeg, Carrick on Suir, who has brought the magic of G.A.A. into the homes of Tipperary on Sunday after Sunday via TippFM Radio.



No stranger to the field of play himself, Paddy is steeped in G.A.A. lore, a fact that is easily proved by his contacts and interviews with all leading sports commentators.

You cannot commentate on a game properly unless you have a passion for it. It is easy to be there on balmy Summer Munster Championship days, but the true sportsman and aficionado is also there on wet February afternoons, when ground conditions make hurling or football a relentless

slog. How many times have you decided that the day was too bad to bother turning up at a match, and instead settled down to the TippFM commentary, with Paddy Finucane and Tom McGrath?

How many times too, have you watched a game on television, turned down the sound and marvelled at Paddy and Tom's uncanny ability to be a second ahead of the action?

They have never let us down.

## Familiar faces at the Stadium



Eamon Stakelum (left) and Ger Donnelly



Padjoe Hewitt,



John Moloughney, (Chief Steward).

# Odds and Ends

TODAY'S Co Final is the first all Mid decider since 1964. On that occasion Thurles Sarsfields defeated Holycross Ballycahill by 5-13 to 1-4 in the decider played at Thurles on November 15.

\*\*\*

Thurles Sarsfields and Drom Inch have already met on two occasions in this year's championship. In the first meeting it took a goal from a penalty by the goalkeeper Patrick McCormack to earn a draw for 'The Blues'. In the replay, victory went to the Cathedral town on a 1-17 to 0-13 scoreline.

The highly impressive James Woodlock (Drom Inch) won the Man of the Match award.

\*\*\*

In 1974, Drom Inch beat Thurles Sarsfields at Semple Stadium to win their first ever Mid senior hurling title on a 3-9 to 3-6 scoreline. Thurles Sarsfields went on to win the Co Senior title beating Toomevara in the semi-final and Silvermines in the final. For the Mid champions their historic success was followed by thoughts of what might have been! The winning Sarsfields team was honoured at last year's Co final.

\*\*\*

One of the eye catching aspects of the year's Co semi-finals was the high scoring feats by both teams.

Sarsfields scored 2-19 and Drom Inch scored 2-17. Within those totals the marksmanship of Johnny Enright (0-10) and Seamus Butler (1-10) was particularly impressive.

## SEAMUS O'DOHERTY

\*\*\*

Drom Inch won their first ever Co semi-final a fortnight ago and so today they play in their maiden Co final. Sarsfields by contrast have won 28 Co titles, 39 Mid titles and they have played in all, but one (2004), of the Co finals since 2000.

\*\*\*

Damian Young leads Drom Inch in today's final. No doubt he will have received advice from his cousin David Young (Toomevara) on how to handle the big day. Waterford IT has also helped no doubt. Damian was the Tipp minor captain in 1999, when he led the county to the Munster title. His biggest regret was losing the subsequent All-Ireland final to Galway, on a day when neither the minor nor senior game produced a goal. Damian also won a Munster under-21 medal that year and has served as understudy to Brendan Cummins on many occasions.

\*\*\*

Ger 'Redser' O'Grady is the Thurles Sarsfield captain. His NHL performance against Kilkenny in Nowlan Park in 2003 is often recalled by his fans. He has played well for Sarsfields this year and was in top form for their quarter final win over Toomevara when he scored 1-4 and led by example.

His aftermatch speech following this year's Mid final victory was widely regarded as excellent and very appropriate. A victory today would make him one of the most popular Sarsfields captains ever.

\*\*\*

On this day in 1960, Toomevara defeated Thurles Sarsfields in the Co SHC final at Templemore on a 3-15 to 2-8 scoreline. Toomevara led by 2-6 to 1-5 at half time and in front of a crowd of 10,681 they won their first title since 1931. Thurles Sarsfield had been seeking a sixth title in a row. The Toomevara captain was Willie Donovan. This is the first time since 1960 that the Co SHC final has been played on October 16.

\*\*\*

Thurles Sarsfields have played in the last two drawn Co finals 1992 v Toomevara and 2002 v Mulinahone. In view of the recent history with Drom Inch there is probably a good chance of another draw today. Statisticians will note that thirty years ago, Moneygall drew with Kilruane and three decades earlier Thurles Sarsfields drew with Roscrea.

\*\*\*

One of Sarsfield's loyal servants is Brendan Carroll who played in his first Co SHC final in 1992. He has played in total of seven including replays and is still awaiting his first win. A nephew of Ted Carroll (RIP) (Texaco hurler of the year 1969), Brendan was born the following year and has represented Tipperary at all grades in hurling. He played at centre forward, midfield, centre back and left half back in his Co final appearances. He was captain in 2000 when they lost to Toomevara. He scored a point in the 2001 final from left half back.

\*\*\*

Tommy Butler (Drom Inch)

won an All Star award in 1978, but is probably best remembered for his RTE 'Goal of the Year' in the NHL game at Thurles on February 24, 1980. Tipperary beat Kilkenny on that occasion and the goal lives on in the memory of those privileged to have seen it.



If Thurles Sarsfield win this year's Co title they will have performed some unusual feats by beating two clubs from their own division twice in the same season, both internally and in the county championship. They will also have played one team – Drom Inch three times in the one season.

Drom Inch by contrast would be one of the youngest teams ever to win the Co title and to achieve that distinction at the first attempt would be amazing. Over the past forty years the only club's which won a first Co title without ever having lost a final previously were Moyne Templetuohy (1971), Moneygall (1975) and Cappawhite (1987).



Thurles Sarsfields have beaten clubs from all four divisions in winning Co finals. Their 28 wins were achieved at the expense of North 18, South 6, Mid 3 and West 1.



The last time Thurles Sarsfield failed to score a goal in the Co final was in 2002 drawn game. They scored one in the replay but Mullinahone prevailed by two points. This was also the last occasion that there wasn't a goal scored in the Co final.



The two men who led Drom

Inch to their Mid titles were John Dwyer (1974) and Martin Fahey (1984). Jimmy Doyle led Sarsfields to their first Co title in 1974. These days he can be seen encouraging his club from the sideline in front of Ardán Uí Riain.



The Thurles Sarsfields coach Ger Cunningham is well known from his involvement with Limerick and Newtownshandrum. Tommy Maher was full back for many years and had his share of Co final activity between 1992 and 2003 when he was captain. Ger Corbett the third selector played for Sarsfields in the 1980 Co Minor final when they were beaten by Cashel. Nowadays Ger, who was club secretary for many years, is also the match programme editor at Semple Stadium.



Paudie Butler is the best known of the Drom Inch backroom team and he recently stepped down as manager of the Laois senior team. He made a lot of progress in the county even if results didn't reflect the work done at senior level.



The late Donal O'Gorman refereed the Co SHC final in 1985 when Kilruane beat Roscrea. He was the last Thurles Sarsfield man to have this honour. Willie Cohessy was the last Drom Inch man to referee the showpiece Co final. He was the man in charge of the 2004 decider between Toomevara and Éire Óg/Golden.



Damian Young is the Drom Inch goalkeeper and captain. He will be aware that the most recent player who successfully carried

this responsibility was Justin Cottrell of Toomevara who led his club to the Co title in 2001.



In the past twenty years, Tony Sheppard (Kilruane MacDonagh) 1985, Jody Grace (Toomevara) 1993 and Philip Ryan (Boherlahan Dualla) 1996 have also been successful goalkeeping captains. Interesting both goalkeepers today have scored once in this year's championship.



Last year Paddy O'Brien scored an impressive treble in Co final day. Hew as the winning captain, top scorer and man of the match! A Co final without Toomevara has been unusual over the past thirteen years but Paddy's achievement is unique!



For the winners of the Dan Breen Cup the next outing will be a Home Munster Club championship fixture against the Kerry champions on November 6. The winners (presumably Tipp champions) will then be away to the Cork winners in the semi-final on November 20. The final is fixed for December 4.

## PROGRAMME COLLECTOR ?

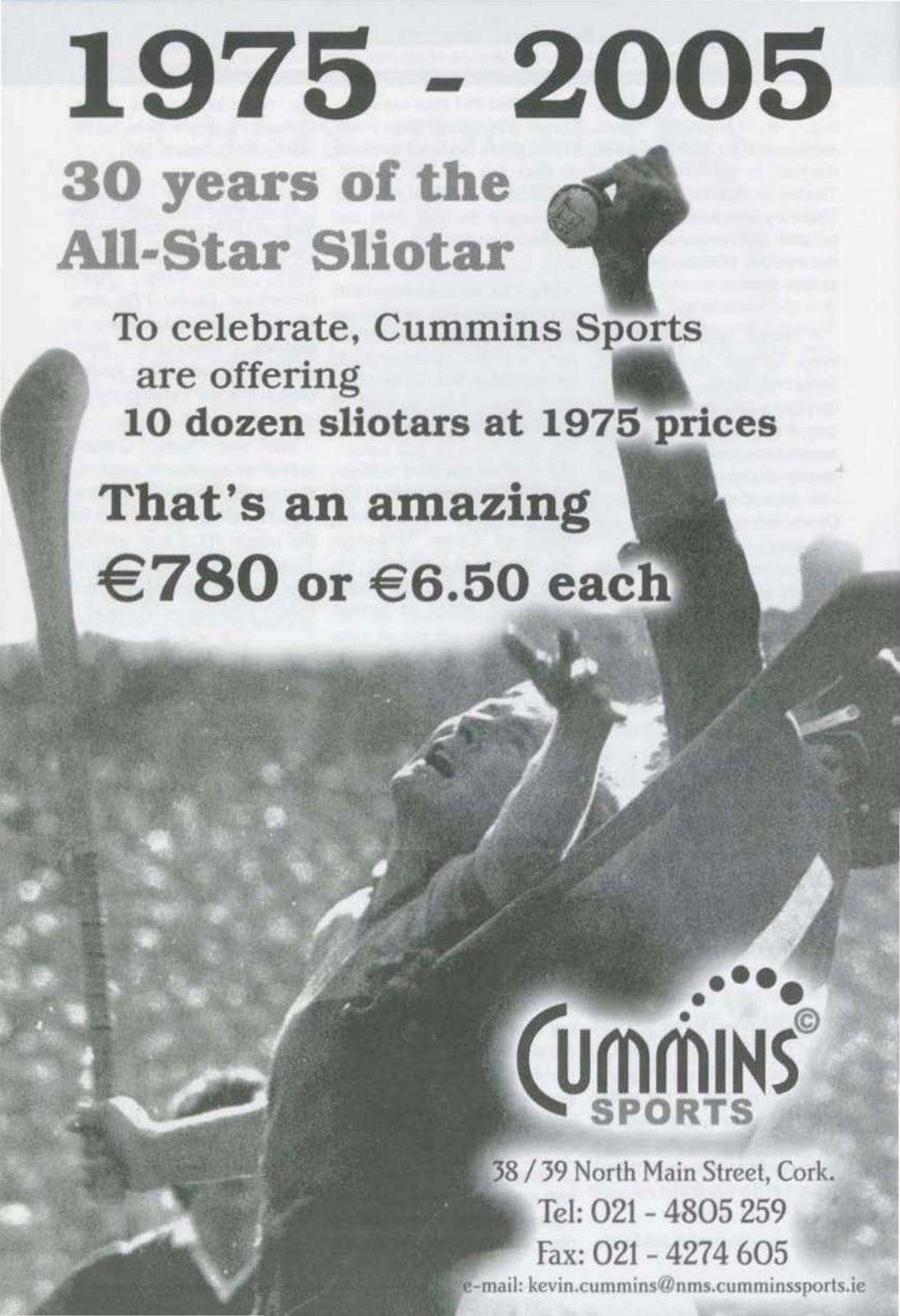
Do you wish to make contact with other collectors with a view to swap, buy or sell programmes? If you have a 'want list' or have a gap to fill in your collection then give me a ring as I always have a few spares. Please ring **Paddy 087-2601858** preferably between 7pm-9pm any evening.

# 1975 - 2005

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# The Black and Red Years

The Moneygall team, which won the Co SHC titles of 1975 and 1976 is being honoured here today. That team brings back memories for some of us, who played in the Minor finals at Division and County levels, before Moneygall went into battle for the big prizes.

The names of the club stalwarts are as clear in my head today as they were then.

The four Ryans – Eugene the long range free taker; Jack the industrious midfielder; Séamus the freescoring wing forward and Philip the genius at full forward.

The Fannings – Billy who died tragically in 1977 and Philip the forceful and hard running midfielder.

by Séamus Ó Doherty

Pat Sheedy, the quick as a flash corner forward and 1975 captain.

Billy McLeish the supreme terror of corner backs and sadly no longer with us.

Séan Doughan whose work was so unselfish and created opportunities for others.

'Spike' Nolan or Mick as he was then, a tower of strength in defence. Mick Doherty the 1976 captain and a tidy corner back.

John Gleeson a tenacious defender at full back.

The list goes on but for me the abiding memory is of the overall commitment given to the club by their men. Tales are plentiful of the input they had

to the development of the club centre in the mid 'seventies, when players 'lived' on the site until it was complete.

The other issue concerned their players 'in exile' who travelled enormous distances from work places to training on a regular basis. Players came from Leitrim, Westmeath and Cork to give some examples. This was bonding and commitment, years before their time. Their success is the story of a club with the vision and wisdom to believe in the beauty of their dreams. The wisest of them all was Séamus Ó Riain (pictured below), the former GAA president, who led and oversaw the coming of his beloved club from a modest base to greatness.



Congress 2005 – Three Lár Uachtaráin CLG seated at historic Congress, left to right: Pat Fanning, Paddy McFlynn and Seamus Ó Riain.

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# Tipperary Camogie Supporters Club

Since Tipperary made the breakthrough by winning their first All-Ireland senior title in 1999 they have changed the face of camogie and indeed by the standard to which they play, have changed the way ladies sport is viewed around the country.

Although defeated in the All-Ireland final on September 18 they put in a great effort and were narrowly pipped in the dying moments. It was their seventh final in a row and this is a reflection of the huge effort, time and commitment put in by so many players over the years, a year that commences with training in early February and concludes in mid-September with the All-

Ireland final.

It takes a special and very committed bunch of girls to continue training two and three occasions weekly over a thirty-week period and when you allow for travelling from places as far as Cork, Kerry, Dublin, Waterford and Limerick one gets a picture of the enormous effort and commitment that these players freely put in, the sole reward required being to keep Tipperary at the top of the camogie world.

It was as a result of the team's achievements and to ensure that the players deservedly get support and rewards and are adequately

looked after that the Tipperary Camogie Supporters Club was formed in 2002.

In three short years we have made great progress and continue to grow from strength to strength to meet our main objective of providing financial support necessary to ensure the continued success of our senior camogie team.

We have financially helped out other Tipperary camogie teams at all levels and today we are appealing to the people of Tipperary to support us by way of subscribing to the bucket collection during half time in the senior game.

Your generous support would be much appreciated.



Pictured at the launch of the Tipperary Camogie Supporters Club Membership Scheme in May by RTE Sports Commentator Michéal Ó Muirceartaigh are, back Row, from left – Martin Bourke (PRO), Tom Egan (Treasurer), Sean Fogarty (Munster Council Chairman), Jean Hayden (Treasurer), Donie Shanahan (Chairman Tipperary GAA), Stephen Fitzgerald (Tipperary Camogie Chairperson), Martin O'Dwyer. Front row, from left – Michael Cleary (Chairman), Meadhbh Stokes (Secretary), Deirdre Hughes (Senior Captain), Miriam O Callaghan (Camogie President), Michéal Ó Muirceartaigh.



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## County Senior Hurling Final

# Referees

SEAMUS O'DOHERTY

1980	Martin O'Grady	(Moyne Templetuohy)
1981	Billy Carroll	(St Mary's Clonmel)
1982	George Ryan	(Lattin) – Draw & Replay
1983	John Moloney	(Galtee Rovers)
1984	Willie Barrett	(Ardfinnan)
1985	Donal O'Gorman	(Thurles Sarsfields)
1986	John Maher	(Boherlahan)
1987	Gerry Long	(Knockshegowna)
1988	Willie Barrett	(Ardfinnan)
1989	John Moloney	(Galtee Rovers)
1990	Willie Barrett	(Ardfinnan)
1991	Johnny McDonnell	(Roscrea)
1992	Tommy Lonergan	(Kilsheelan) Draw & Replay
1993	Paddy Lonergan	(Galtee Rovers)
1994	Michael Doyle	(Hollycross Ballycahill)
1995	T.J. Corby	(St Mary's)
1996	Willie Barrett	(Ardfinnan)
1997	Michael Cahill	(Kilruane MacDonagh)
1998	Willie Barrett	(Ardfinnan)
1999	Johnny McDonnell	(Roscrea)
2000	Willie Barrett	(Ardfinnan)
2001	Seamus Roche	(Kilsheelan)
2002	Paddy Russell	(Emly) Draw
	John McDonnell	(Roscrea) Replay
2003	Seamus Roche	(Kilsheelan)
2004	Willie Clohessey	(Drom Inch)

# Man of the Match awards

*This award scheme was introduced in 1981 and sponsored originally by Frost (Nenagh). John Quirke (Jeweller) Chair has been the sponsor for many years past. The list of winners is impressive.*

1981	Noel O'Dwyer	Borrisoleigh
1982	Dickie Quigley	Moycarkey Borris
1983	Noel O'Dwyer	Borrisoleigh
1984	Eamonn Darmody	Moycarkey Borris
1985	Eamonn O'Shea	Kilruane MacDonaghs
1986	Philip Kenny	Borrisoleigh
1987	Pa O'Neill	Cappawhite
1988	Pat McGrath	Loughmore-Castleiney
1989	Michael Doyle	Hollycross Ballycahill
1990	Stephen Dwan	Hollycross
1991	Raymie Ryan	Cashel KC
1992	Philip Shanahan	Toomevara
1993	Michael Cleary	Nenagh Éire Óg
1994	Pat King	Toomevara
1995	Eddie Tucker	Nenagh Éire Óg
1996	David Ryan	Boherlahan Dualla
1997	Michael Shiner	Heffernan Clonoulty Rossmore
1998	Tony Delaney	Toomevara
1999	Paddy O'Brien	Toomevara
2000	John O'Brien	Toomevara
2001	John O'Brien	Toomevara
2002	Eoin Kelly	Mullinahone
2003	Ken Dunne	Toomevara
2004	Paddy O'Brien	Toomevara

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# the **voluntary worker...** **backbone** of the **GAA**

During the year we have seen an escalation of the pay for play debate. It was indeed ironic that this issue should raise its head in what was one of the busiest weeks for juvenile GAA summer camps throughout the country.

These camps are organised and run almost exclusively by voluntary people who not only don't get travelling or other expenses, but willingly give up a week of their holidays to supervise these events.

## **Seán Ó Fogartaigh,** **Cathaoirleach,** **Comhairle na Mumhan**

Without such people there won't be any arguments in the future about pay for play as the GAA would quickly become a minority sport. We should also remember thousands of players and officials who contribute so much, week in week out, to maintain the very fabric of the Association at Club level. Indeed we should also appreciate the efforts of

the players here this afternoon who were prepared to put in the long hours at training just to have the honour to represent their club.

We must all be vigilant not to destruct a framework that has taken 120 years to put in place. If we need advice on the detrimental effect of professionalism on sport at club level we would do well to consult our friends in the rugby fraternity.

## County Final Hot Shots 1980-2004

*Séamus O'Doherty*

*The top scorers in each of the past 25 deciders*

1980 Francis Loughnane (Roscrea)	1-7	1993 Michael Cleary (Nenagh Éire Óg)	0-9
1981 Noel O'Dwyer (Borrisoleigh)	0-8	1994 Tommy Dunne (Toomevara)	1-4
1982 John Flanagan (Moycarkey Borris)	0-7 (D)	1995 Michael Cleary (Nenagh Éire Óg)	0-8
John Flanagan (Moycarkey Borris)	1-5 (R)	1996 Philip O'Dwyer (Boherlahan Dualla)	1-3
1983 Pat McGrath (Loughmore Castleiney)	0-8	Aodán Flanagan (Boherlahan Dualla)	0-6
1984 John Flanagan (Moycarkey Borris)	1-3	Kevin Kennedy (Toomevara)	2-0
1985 Eamonn O'Shea (Kilruane MacDonagh)	1-4	1997 Michael Kennedy (Clonoulty Ross)	
1986 Philip Kenny (Borrisoleigh)	0-6	John Leahy (Mullinahone)	0-7 each
1987 Pat McGrath (Loughmore Castleiney)	1-8	1998 Michael Kennedy (Clonoulty R)	0-6
1988 Noel O'Dwyer (Borrisoleigh)	0-4 (D)	1999 Tommy Dunne (Toomevara)	1-7
Noel O'Dwyer	0-4	2000 John O'Brien (Toomevara)	2-2
Seamus Devaney (Borrisoleigh)	0-4 (R)	2001 John Enright (Thurles Sarsfields)	1-9
1989 Kevin Ryan (Clonoulty Rossmore)		2002 Eoin Kelly (Mullinahone)	0-4 (D)
Stephen Dwan (Hollycross B)	0-4 each	Eoin Kelly (Mullinahone)	2-7 (R)
1990 Tommy Grogan (Cashel KC)	0-6	2003 Lar Corbett (Thurles Sarsfields)	2-1
1991 Tommy Grogan (Cashel KC)	1-4	2004 Paddy O'Brien (Toomevara)	2-3
1992 Seamus Quinn (Thurles Sarsfields)	1-2 (D)		
Connie Maher (Thurles Sarsfields)	1-5 (R)		

# Moneygall Hurling Club

In keeping with the tradition of recent years, today's County Senior Hurling final day will include a tribute to a team of the past. The Moneygall team which won the 1975 and 1976 County Senior Hurling finals will be honoured this afternoon. The team met in the Thurles Greyhound Stadium before the match and will be introduced to the crowd after the presentation of the Sean Treacy Cup to the winning Minor captain.

After the matches today, the Moneygall panel will travel to Young's of the Ragg for dinner and a night of reminiscing about the achievements of the mid-1970's. I am sure you will give the team your full support today. The entire event is being sponsored jointly by the *Tipperary Star* and Young's of the Ragg.



County Final 1975 – Back: Jimmy Treacy, Joe McCormack, Bill Fanning, Seamus Ryan, Sean Doughan, Donal Kennedy, Noel Whyte, Donal Fanning, Michael 'Spike' Nolan, Phil Sheedy, Philip Ryan, Jim Guilfoyle, Mick Minogue. Front: J.J. Comerford, Seamus Doherty, Dan Guilfoyle, John Gleeson, Billy McLeish, Mick Doherty, Pat Sheedy, Philip Fanning, Eugene Ryan, Jack Ryan, Bobby Jones, Paddy Cleary.



County Final replay team 1975

In the early years of the Association the team was known as 'The Honeymounts' who had a reputation as 'Holy Terrors' on the field. A strong challenge was issued to them in 1889 by a combined team from Ballingarry and Shinrone. The game was played in 'The Big Park' in Cooraclevin and the following verse composed to commemorate the event gives some indication of the mettle of the Honeymount men:

In the summertime of '89  
 All in that pleasant year  
 When Ballingarry and Shinrone  
 Came to hurl the mountaineers  
 From Honeymount the word went round  
 As to what would be their doom  
 They would win the day  
 Or men they would say  
 Before they would go home.

In the early years of the 20th century Moneygall contested three North Finals in a row in 1915, '16 and '17 but were narrowly beaten on each occasion. In 1916, Darby Collison made history when he became the first North Tipperary player to win an All-Ireland Senior medal, playing at wing forward in the victory over Kilkenny. Following this, Moneygall players played with Toomevara in the senior championship and many of them featured in Toomevara successes until the early '30's when the parish rule was introduced.

During the '30's the hurling field was acquired and it soon became a popular venue for championship games in North Tipperary.

Following this, Moneygall returned to Intermediate ranks with some success but it wasn't until 1949 that they succeeded in winning the County Junior Championship and returned to the senior grade. Since then, Moneygall have played in the senior championship except for two years in the early '60's and again in 1990 and '91. The glory

years of the '70's were achieved following gallant efforts in the '60's when only the powerful Roscrea stood between Moneygall and victory. Some thought the chance would never come, but great perseverance by the players and mentors guaranteed that success would be finally achieved. To crown a glorious period for the club, they also won the County Under-12 A hurling in 1976.

Since then, Moneygall has regularly been in contention for honours at various levels. Some success has been achieved with victory in various grades. In the past few years, Moneygall has returned to the closing stages of the County Senior Championship on a number of occasions. The hope is that the present group of players will make the breakthrough again and bring back County honours to Moneygall in the near future.

### COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP 1975

Moneygall . . . . . 2-14	Toomevara . . . . . 1-09
Moneygall . . . . . 2-11	Ballingarry . . . . . 1-07
Moneygall . . . . . 1-13	Lorrha . . . . . 3-06
Moneygall . . . . . 2-09	Moycarkey . . . . . 1-08
Moneygall . . . . . 3-09	Kilruane . . . . . 3-09 (final)
Moneygall . . . . . 3-13	Kilruane . . . . . 0-05 (replay)

### COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP 1976

Moneygall . . . . . 3-16	Moyne-Templetuohy . . . 3-07
Moneygall . . . . . 3-10	Silvermines . . . . . 2-06
Moneygall . . . . . 1-13	Thurles Sarsfields . . . 1-06
Moneygall . . . . . 1-09	Roscrea . . . . . 2-05 (final)



County Final 1976 – Back: Seamus Ryan, John Gleeson, Billy Fanning, Pat Sheedy, Philip Ryan, Michael 'Spike' Nolan, Donal Kennedy, Sean Doughtan. Front: John Ivers, Jim Guilfoyle, Jack Ryan, Bobby Jones, Mick Doherty, Eugene Ryan, Philip Fanning, Noel Whyte.

## Moneygall Senior Hurling Team 1975-'76

**Pat Sheedy** – Captain 1975. Pat was a real opportunist corner forward in both years. He regularly got his name on the scoresheet and his intelligent use of the ball set up many other scores. He first played senior in 1968 and gave many years of service to the club.

**Mick Doherty** – Captain 1976. Played consistently at corner back for the two years and was very efficient at closing down the opposing forward line. He was rarely beaten and his intelligent clearances set up many attacks.

**Noel Whyte** – He played senior championship as goalkeeper for about ten years for Moneygall. His consistent play was a huge asset to the team and his coolness under pressure saw him pull off many vital saves.

**Joe McCormack** – Corner back in 1975 but he missed the 1976 County Final through injury. Joe gave many fine displays for Moneygall and his tight marking was a feature of his play.

**Michael 'Spike' Nolan** – Corner back in 1976, he played half back for most games in 1975. A strong,

forceful player, his long clearances and his ability under a high ball were a feature of his play. He won an All-Ireland Under-21 medal in 1967 and in recent years has acted as excellent treasurer of both North and County Boards.

**John Gleeson** – Probably the most well known of the team, he played for Tipperary from 1966 to 1973 winning an All-Ireland senior medal in 1971. John was a real leader in defence and his tenacious tackling along with much skilful play upset many fine forward lines. He also won an All-Ireland Minor medal in 1959.

**Dan Guilfoyle** – Wing back in 1975, he was a versatile player who also played many games in attack. His display in the 1975 County Final contributed greatly to the win. He missed the 1976 final through injury.

**Billy Fanning** – Outstanding centre back in the two years, his performances caught the eye of the county selectors and he captained Tipperary in the Munster Championship in 1976. Billy was tragically killed in a car accident in May 1977 and it is widely accepted that the team never recovered from this huge loss.

**Eugene Ryan** – Youngest of four brothers on the team – all sons of Seamus Ó Riain. His long clearances were a feature of his play and he was also the long range free taker.

**Jim Guilfoyle** – He gave an outstanding performance at wing back in the 1976 final and went on to play for many years, eventually captaining Moneygall to County Intermediate success in 1991. He also won a National League medal with Tipperary in 1979.

**Jack Ryan** – Played County Minor, Under-21 and Senior and he won All-Ireland Senior in 1971 and Under-21 in 1967. He recovered from serious injury in 1974 to play a leading role in the winning years and his speed and determination, combined with outstanding skill were admired by all. His honours also include a National Football League medal with Tipperary as well as Fitzgibbon Cup and Dublin Championship with UCD.

**Philip Fanning** – A powerful, strong player, he also played Senior hurling and football with Tipperary. His strong running from midfield opened up many defences and set up chances for the forwards. He was feared by many opponents and never gave less than 100%.

**Donal Kennedy** – A strong, skilful player, he played at wing forward and regular name on the scoreboard. He played minor hurling for Tipperary in 1965 and had a number of outings with Tipperary in the National League.

**Sean Doughan** – At home in either defence or attack, he played at centre forward and made life very difficult for many centre backs. His clever distribution of the ball set up many scores.



Parade before the 1975 North Final.

**Seamus Ryan** – Left half forward in both years, he also scored regularly. His speed and skill made life difficult for many defences. In 1977, he captained Tipperary in the Munster Senior Championship against Clare. He also played Under-21 Hurling and Senior Football for Tipperary.

**Philip Ryan** – Operated at full forward and was widely regarded as the brains behind many attacking moves. Won a Munster Under-21 Hurling

medal in 1965, he also played a number of National Hurling League games for Tipperary.

**Billy McLeish** – A real character on the team, his magnificent point from near the corner flag in the 1975 final will never be forgotten. Billy also won an All-Ireland medal with Roscrea Bacon Factory and was feared by many defenders. Sadly he died in 2004 following a long illness.

**Bobby Jones** – He played corner forward in the 1976 final and was a tireless worker on the field. He also played at mid-field or in defence.

**John Joe Comerford** – A tight-marking backman, he came on in the drawn County Final in 1975. He gave many years service to the club.

**Seamus Doherty** – He was deadly accurate from play or from fees and first played senior for Moneygall in the mid 'sixties. He continued to give great service to the club up to the '80's.

**Jim Treacy** – He was a regular member of the panel in the '70's and operated mostly at full back. He also won an All-Ireland medal with Roscrea Bacon Factory in 1971.

**Phil Sheedy** – A brother of Pat he also played his first senior game in the '60's. He operated mostly on the full back line and was also a selector on the team.

**Donal Fanning** – A very promising juvenile, he played in the first Féile na nGael in 1971. He went on to give many years playing for Moneygall.

**Tim O'Connor** – Another young player who played in Féile na nGael, he made his debut on the panel in 1976.

**Kieran Costello** – Kieran gave many years service to the club and came on to the panel in 1976 following good performances with the junior team.

**Philip O'Meara** – Philip missed a number of years hurling in the early '70's because of injury and joined the panel in 1976.

**Paddy Hogan** – Paddy gave long service to the club and joined the senior panel in 1976 following fine performances as captain of the junior team.



1975 County Final – Captain Pat Sheedy holds aloft the Dan Breen Cup.

# The Moneygall men of Seventy Five

BY DIARMUID RYAN, MONEYGALL

*Through countless days without much praise, our gallant lads hurled on,  
Each played his part and showed great heart in matches lost and won.  
Year in year out you'd hear them shout, 'you'll never win', they said,  
They should have seen how sharp and keen were the men in black and red.*

*'Twas clear to all in Moneygall these lads could match the best,  
The time was ripe and full of fight, they faced the opening test,  
Kiladangan felt we beat them well with speed and combination:  
With brilliant play we beat Roscrea - a cause for celebration.*

*As spirit grew the players knew the cup was now in sight,  
The Lorrha Blues were next to lose but gave us quite a fight,  
And then to Clough the crowds did flock and loudly did we cheer,  
The Mines went down we took their crown in the shoupiece of the year.*

*We had our eyes on the biggest prize and aiming for the double,  
With final day not far away, we found ourselves in trouble,  
The County Board was given word, we told them of our plight  
But sad to say we had to play our prospects far from bright.*

*But fighting heart now played its part we readied for the fray,  
Though some were ill they had the will to live out on the day,  
When things looked bleak though legs were weak and muscles ached with pain,  
Each gallant lad gave all he had and lived to fight again.*

*The second day I'm glad to say we had a fit fifteen  
With skill and style and craft and guile they played it hard but clean,  
With every score we cheered them more and when the hour had passed  
The job was done, the cup was won and Kilruane outclassed.*

*Let's hail with pride this champion side and drink their health to night:  
There's none so brave to make a save as goalie Noel White,  
He's shown his style since juvenile - a cut above the rest,  
He's made his name and staked his claim to rank among the best.*

*To guard the square and take good care of any team's attack,  
In give and take there's none can shake, John Gleeson at fullback,  
And on his right so full of fight is Joe McCormack bold  
And at left full, Mick Doherty's pull is in the classic mould.*

*The steel and style of Dan Guilfoyle shone brightly on the wing  
There's many a foe who feared a blow from Billy Fanning's swing,  
And Eugene Ryan completes the line, so good to clear, a ball,  
Mick Nolan too was brave and true each time he got the ball.*

*Our centre-field would never yield, they held the upperhand,  
They won new fame in every game, the finest in the land,  
Jack Ryan so fast from first to last, no foe did him surpass;  
For power and flair none could compare with Philip Fanning's class.*

*Our forwards all were on the ball and took each chance they got,  
In every clash Sean Doughan's dash set up a scoring shot,  
And Seamus Ryan with skill so fine, none better on his day;  
And on his right the sheer delight of Donal Kennedy's play.*

*There cannot be another three to match our inside line,  
For ball control in front of goal, there's none like Philip Ryan,  
Pat Sheedy's stick was sure and quick, he played a captain's role  
And none could reach the bould McLeish when Billy capped for goal.*

*And let's hail too the faithful few, the men behind the scene  
The selectors and the mentors, the finest we have seen  
And let's salute each substitute - the trainer most of all:  
All won renown and brought the crown to gallant Moneygall.*



Victory Dinner 1975 - Seán Ó Siócháin, Director General of GAA and Séamus Ó Riain, Club Chairman.

Moneygall won the 1975 Tipperary Senior Hurling County Final. This was their first victory in the competition. Moneygall 3-13, Kilruane MacDonagh 0-5 (replay).

**Moneygall Panel 1975** - Pat Sheedy (capt), Jimmy Treacy, Billy Fanning, Seamus Ryan, Joe McCormack, Sean Doughan, Donal Kennedy, Noel White, Donal Fanning, Mike Nolan, Phil Sheedy, Philip Ryan, Jim Guilfoyle, John Joe Comerford, Seamus Doherty, Dan Guilfoyle, John Gleeson, Billy McLeish, Mick Doherty, Philip Fanning, Eugene Ryan, Jack Ryan, Bobby Jones.

Trainer - Mick Minogue, Masseur - Pat Cleary.

The championships in Tipperary have been conducted on different lines from time to time. In the '70's the county championship was an open draw among the senior clubs in the county and was entirely divorced from the divisional championships. The ballad deals almost exclusively with the divisional championship of North Tipperary for the Frank McGrath Cup. The four games played by Moneygall to win the championship were against Kiladangan, Roscrea, Lorrha, and the final v Silvermines (the holders). In the meantime the open draw county championship was progressing. Moneygall defeated the following on the way to the county final for the Dan Breen Cup - Ballingarry South, Toomevara, Lorrha and Moycarkey-Borris. Kilruane MacDonagh also won their way to the county final which was fixed for Thurles on the second Sunday after the North final. The North Board dinner after the final caused a crisis for Moneygall club (verse 5) as many of those attending suffered food poisoning and the appeal for postponement of the county final for a week was turned down. So, they had to play and the game ended in a draw. In the replay, Moneygall won easily. The mention of a double (verse 4) refers to the North final and later the county final.

# POBAL IOMÁNAÍOCHTA

Séamus Ó Dubhagáin

**N**í féidir a shéanadh ach tá an úire agus an nuaíocht i gcluiche ceannais an chontae i mbliana ag cothú sceitimíni i ngach aon bhalldream amháin nach n-aithneódh Corn Dan Breen fiú, tá sé chomh fada sin ó leagadar lámh air agus dream eile nar thug an corn camchuairt orthu riamh. Ach fós táid beirt ar an bhfaiche inniu mar gur fhanadar dilis don iománaíocht i gcónaí, nár chailleadar misneach riamh agus go raibh daoine acu thar na mblianta nár shéan an íobairt agus a lean leis an snámh in aghaidh easa in ainneoin an tsaoil.

Nuair a bhreathnaím siar anois ar breis is triocha bliain agus cé nach raibh lá de na laethanta uilig nártháinig leid éigin den lá clúiteach sin isteach i mo aigne 'sé an cuimhne is saibhre ná aghaidheanna na bpáistí ar chuairt chun na scoile an lá dar gcionn. Is mar sin atá le cluichí pobail-fágaimid buartha an tsaoil ar leataobh, fillimid ar ár n-óige agus sroichimid arís gliondar is iontas na h-óige. Is iomaí captaen a bheadh ar aon fhocal liom agus is amhlaidh a bheidh i mbliana-pobal millteanach mór ag druidim go mall ó chrosbóthar na hInseí dtreo na scoile nó slua páistí gléasta ó bhonn go baithis i ngorm agus bán ag stánadh ar an gclog i seomraí ranga Scoil Ailbhe, na Gealscoile is na gClochar ag fanacht go foighneach leis an gáir molta a chuirfeadh in iúl go bhfuil na laochra ag an doras.

Má's iad laochra an lae inniu a bheidh ag bogadh thar táirseach tá seal fada caite ag beirt laoch eile laistigh de sheomraí ranga. Amuigh sa Bhuaille Dhubh le breis is triocha bliain tá Páidí de Buitléir ag saothrú na talún.

De chlann a bhfuil gach uile ball dóibh chomh gafa ag an iománaíocht ó Micheál nach maireann go Tommy a ghnóthaigh an gradam All Star sna seachtóidí ní féidir a mheas an méid atá bronn-ta aige i leith na hiománaíochta ar phobal Inse is Droma. Lá i ndiaidh lae, i soineann is doineann bhí Páidí agus na daltaí ag lascadh camán agus aisling acu go mbeidís lá i Staid Semle san iomaíocht do Chorn Dan Breen. B'amhlaidh an scéal siar i sráidbhaile Droma ar an bpáirc imeartha gleoite sin trasna an bhóthair ó'n scoil náisiúnta.

I nDurlas bhí fear eile as Luimneach a chaith a shaol ag iarraidh mórtas cine a spreagadh i measc daltaí trí mheán na hiománaíochta. Cé go raibh an t-iománaíocht go smior i cuid acu d'éalaigh an aisling uathu le breis is glúin ach níor thréigh an muinín, an misneach ná an dóchas Daithí mac Gearailt. Ag buaileadh liathroide i gcoinne an fhalla, ag tochailt ar an tarmac ar chúl na scoile nó ag imirt cluichí ceannais dá gcuid féin i bPáirc Ailbhe gach uile tráthnóna i ndiaidh scoile tá rian a chuid oibre soiléir inniu ar gach uile imreoir a chaitheann gorm agus bán. Ar ndóigh fuair sé cuidiú is cúnamh ó Fintan nach maireann, Pól Ó Broin, Flan agus go leor eile. Ciathfidh go raibh díomá an domhain air le cúpla bliain anuas ach b'fheidir go bhfeicfidh sé luach a shaothair inniu Pé scéal é táimid uile faoi chomaoin aige.

Sea, beir greim an fhir bháite ar do bhrat, druid do shúile, fill ar laethanta d'óige, tabhair chun cuimhne gach éinne a d'imir romhat agus glac chughat saibhreas agus réun diamhair na h-ocáide.



Wishing the  
very best to  
**Thurles Sarsfields**  
in today's county  
senior final



Eamonn Walsh,  
First Active Thurles

Best Wishes from Eamonn Walsh and the team  
First Active, 60 Liberty Square, Thurles. Tel: (0504) 21255



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