

Co. Tipperary Senior Hurling Final

Match Programme

2018

# Craobh Chluichí Iomána Thiobraid Árann 2018



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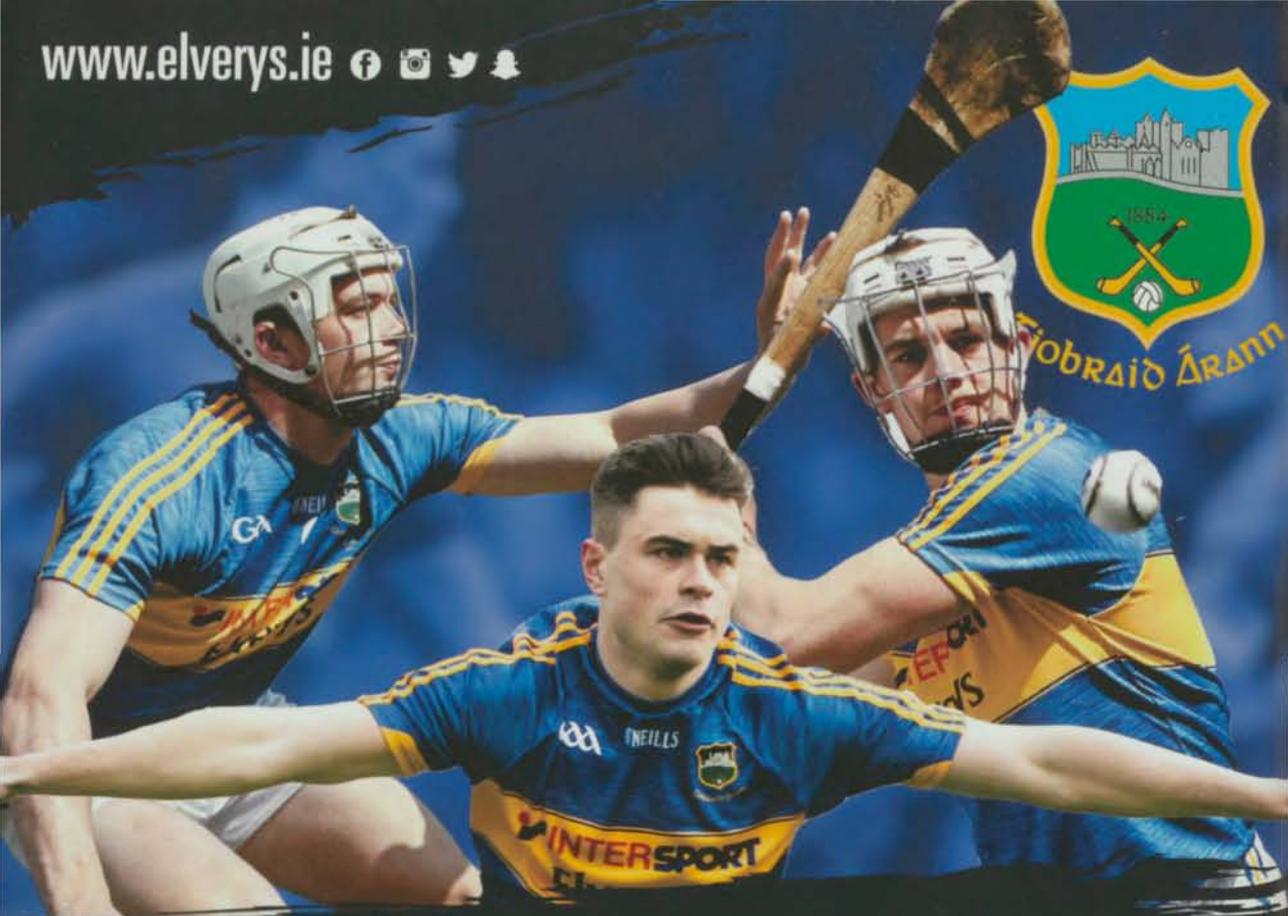
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## Clár an Lae

- 12.57** **BURGESS** amach ar an bpáirc
- 1.00** **Moycarkey-Borris** amach ar an bpáirc
- 1.15** Tús an chluiche – **Tipperary Water Séamus Ó Riain Cup Final:**  
**BURGESS** v **MOYCARKEY-BORRIS**
- 1.47** Leath-am
- 1.57** Tús an dara leath
- 2.30** Críoch an chluiche
- 2.40** Presentation of the **Séamus Ó Rian Cup** to the winning captain by Seosamh Ó Cinnéide, Leas Cathaoirleach an Chontae, followed by the presentation of the 'Man of the Match' award (sponsored by John Quirke Jewellers, Cahir)
- 2.50** Presentation of the **BURGESS** County Intermediate Hurling Champions 1993
- 3.07** **Clonoulty-Rossmore** amach ar an bpáirc
- 3.10** **Nenagh Éire Óg** amach ar an bpáirc
- 3.25** Pre-Match Parade lead by the Moycarkey-Borris Pipe Band
- 3.29** Amhrán na bhFiann  
Singer **Joe Boyle** (Borris-Ileigh)
- 3.30** Tús an chluiche – **Tipperary Water Senior Hurling Championship Final:**  
**CLONOULTY-ROSSMORE**  
v **NENAGH ÉIRE ÓG**
- 4.03** Leath-am
- 4.13** Tús an dara leath
- 4.45** Críoch an chluiche
- 4.55** Presentation of the **Dan Breen Cup** to the winning captain by Seán Ó Dubháin, Cathaoirleach an Chontae, followed by the presentation of the 'Man of the Match' award (sponsored by John Quirke Jewellers, Cahir)

### Buiochas

We hope you enjoy reading today's programme. It has been compiled with the assistance of Tom Maher (Assistant County Secretary), Tim Floyd (County Secretary), Jemma Flynn (Burgess), Michelle McKelvey (Moycarkey-Borris), Kathleen Ryan (Clonoulty-Rossmore) and Anne Kennedy (Nenagh Éire Óg). Many thanks to all those who contributed material – Seamus O'Doherty, Noel Dundon, Christy O'Connor, James Hayden, Seamus J. King, Liam Ó Donnchú, Seamus Ó Dubhagáin, Donie Nealon, Josephine Cahill. A special thanks to our photographers who capture the moments so well – Bridget Delaney, Eamonn McGee, Sportsfile and the *Nenagh Guardian* for the use of their archive material.

GER CORBETT, Programme Editor

Programme Cover – Michael Heffernan, Nenagh Éire Óg's captain moves away from the challenge of Clonoulty-Rossmore's Michael Ryan in the group stages of the championship. [Photo: Eamonn McGee]



# Fáilte ón gCathaoirleach



**I**S É MO phriobhléid mar Cathaoirleach ar an Coiste Chóntae, fáilte mór a chur roimh gach éinne chuig Stáid Semple inniu í gcóir Craobh Chluiche Iomána agus Craobh Chluiche Corn Séamus Ó Riain.

It is my privilege as Chairman of Tipperary County Board to welcome everyone to Semple Stadium today for our Senior Hurling and Seamus Ó Riain Cup finals.

County Senior Hurling Final day is one of the great days on the Tipperary GAA calendar. Many great games have been played and many great players have graced the final – and many a previously unheralded player played the game of his life to bring glory to his club.

Today we have two clubs, Clonoulty-Rossmore and Nenagh Éire Óg, who are hoping to bridge gaps of over twenty years since their last success. Both qualified from the same group, Nenagh narrow victors in the meeting between the clubs. Clonoulty-Rossmore followed up with impressive victories over Kiladangan and Toomevara, while Nenagh Éire Óg were equally impressive in defeating Loughmore-Castleiney and champions Thurles Sarsfields. Clonoulty-Rossmore are also West Divisional champions while their opponents were defeated at semi-final stage in the North Division after a replay. Both have been regulars at the latter stages

of this competition over the years. So a keenly fought contest is anticipated with both clubs anxious to bring the Dan Breen Cup home.

Both Moycarkey-Borris and Burgess are most deserving of contesting the Seamus Ó Riain Cup final as both are the only teams to have won all three of their group games before fine victories over JK Brackens and Templederry Kenyons in the semi-finals. Both are now promoted to Roinn I and direct access to the Dan Breen Cup next year. Victory today will crown their successful year.

May I congratulate both parishes on successes last weekend. Moycarkey-Borris winning the County Minor Hurling A final and Burgess-Duharra winning a remarkable seventh in-a-row County Senior Camogie title.

Today is also a special day for the Burgess Intermediate team of 1993 who won the County Championship. Due to a break in the sequence as Toomevara 3 in-a-row team were honoured last year, the organising committee have decided to honour the Intermediate team of 1993. We are grateful to this committee who continue to honour champion teams from the past and our thanks also to sponsors The Tipperary Star.

2018 had many ups and downs on the inter-county front, but no doubt the highlight was the U21

success. From the low of the Munster final in Cork to the amazing scenes in Limerick on the last Sunday in August. Liam Cahill and his team showed what sheer grit and determination, allied to exceptional skill, can achieve. We sincerely thank all involved for restoring the Tipperary name to All-Ireland honours.

Our minor hurlers came through a tough round-robin campaign to win the Munster crown. The management deserve huge credit for the work put in with these young players and no doubt many will be seen at higher levels in the future.

At senior level, the inaugural round-robin format was keenly contested but unfortunately success eluded us and we could only look on as neighbours, Limerick, followed up victory over us with All-Ireland success in August after a gap of 45 years. We thank Michael Ryan and his selectors for their efforts both this year and last number as well – all dedicated Tipperary men.

We wish Liam Sheedy and his team every success in his new role as Senior Hurling Manager. A man with unbelievable pride and passion in his native county, we have no doubt he will strive to bring All-Ireland glory back to Tipperary.

2019 sees the fiftieth anniversary of Scór and what better way to celebrate this milestone

than for more clubs to take part in this great cultural showpiece. Tipperary has achieved much success in this over many years but mostly it's down to a few clubs and a few dedicated people. Maybe 2019 will see a revival.

I wish both referees and their officials best of luck in today's games. A special thanks to the County and Divisional CCCs for their work in progressing our championships to this stage. It is no easy thing with the various demands from many different sources.

I express my thanks and appreciation to our competition sponsors, Tipperary Water, for their continued support and also to our overall sponsors, Elverys, who are loyal and understanding. Also our appreciation to John Quirke who has sponsored the 'Man of the Match' award for many years.

Finally, I wish to thank you, our loyal supporters, who have been coming in great numbers to our games this year. We are extremely grateful for your support and we hope you enjoy the games.

Tá súil agam go mbeidh lá den scoth ag gach éinne agus go mbeidh an bua ag na foirne a tuill é.

**SÉAN Ó DUBHÁN**

Cathaoirleach

Coiste Chóntae Thiobrad Árann



Burgess 1993 Intermediate County Championship winning team are the Jubilee Team that are being honoured at today's game, sponsored by Tipperary Star/Reidys of Newtown in conjunction with the County Board. Present at the launch in Reidy's of Newtown are (from left): Michael Carroll (Chairman), Tony Gregan, John Darcy (both players), John Costigan (County Board), Donie Nealon (Burgess President and Team Manager), Bobby Reidy (Reidys of Newtown), Pat Carey (Tipperary Star), Sean Nealon (Team Captain) and Darrel Tucker (player).

[See pages 60-65]

(Photo: Bridget Delaney)

# Meet the Match Officials

## Senior Final Referee

## KEVIN JORDAN

**T**HURLES man Kevin Jordan becomes the second successive former goalkeeper to referee the county senior hurling final in Tipperary, following in the footsteps of Knockavilla Kickhams man Fergal Horgan.

Similar to Fergal, Kevin's rise in the refereeing stakes has been swift, having only taken up the whistle in 2013. He had retired from the game, having played with Thurles Sarsfields and Thurles Fennelly's, and had also played with New York and Boston during his six years in the USA. Kevin had also been in goals with the Tipperary intermediate hurlers prior to emigrating and the draw of the ancient game encouraged him to seek out the ex-pats team, which he did and really enjoyed the experience of hurling overseas.

Kevin has progressed to the provincial and national referees panel and has been very prominent, having refereed the Munster minor hurling final last year. He is delighted to be getting the chance to officiate at the county senior hurling final and is quick to pay tribute to his team of umpires who have been loyal and faithful to him throughout his refereeing career.

Kevin was encouraged to referee by his late father, and he encourages anyone who feels they might like to try it out, to do so. With a severe shortage of referees in the game, people would be welcomed with open arms, especially former players – Kevin regards it as a big advantage to have played the game when it comes to refereeing.

We wish Kevin and his officials well for this afternoon's game and for his future career as a knight of the whistle.

### OFFICIALS

*Standby Referee:* Johnny Ryan

*Linesman:* Sean Everard

*4th Official:* Mark Dunne

*Umpires:* Martin Fitzpatrick, Dermot Ryan, Christy Moore, Paul Stapleton.



## Seamus Ó Riain Final Referee

## FERGAL HORGAN

**K**NOCKAVILLA Kickhams man Fergal Horgan returns to County Final Day in Semple Stadium to referee the Seamus Ó Riain Cup, a year after he had the distinction of being the man in the middle for the Dan Breen Cup Final.

This time last year he had refereed the All-Ireland senior hurling final too and had received many compliments for the manner in which he handled proceedings. One of the county's most experienced referees, Fergal does not confine his involvement with the GAA to blowing the whistle – he was Manager of his native Knockavilla Donaskeigh Kickhams intermediate hurling team as well as being heavily involved in the club in general.

One of the top men in the land, having refereed extensively at all levels, Fergal also refereed the All-Ireland Club Final on St Patrick's Day in Croke Park between Cualla and Ballyea in 2016. He is very widely regarded as a referee, not just by the referees committee at county, provincial and national level, but by the players themselves.

They understand, and are well aware of, his style and of what he will tolerate and what he will not. His common sense approach to the game and his willingness to let the play unfold makes him one of the finest referees in the game.

Fergal is really looking forward to this afternoon's clash between Moycarkey-Borris and Burgess and will be doing all in his power to keep the play flowing as much as possible in the curtain raiser.

We wish Fergal and his officials all the best for the big game.

### OFFICIALS

*Standby Referee:* John McCormack

*Linesman:* Davy Ryan

*4th Official:* P. Skellington

*Umpires:* John Bob Ryan, Mick Butler, Sean Bradshaw, Christy Ryan



# The Legends Return

FORMER Tipperary hurling greats will roll back the years and take to the field on Sunday November 3rd in Borrisoleigh village in a benefit match, the proceeds which will be in aid of local lady Amanda Stapleton.

Daughter of John and Patricia Stapleton, Cross of Pallas, Borrisoleigh, well known Patricia is a 31-year-old teacher, who is now living in London – her four brothers include former Tipperary hurler Paddy Stapleton and national sports journalist Shane Stapleton.

Amanda was recently diagnosed with an inoperable brain tumour and the news came as a major shock to her and to her family members and many many friends including those in the Borris-Ileigh GAA club who are now all doing their part to ensure that the evening will be a huge success.

A local committee is currently involved in a fundraising drive to help raise funds to assist Amanda and allow her to focus on her health. She has a very difficult road to journey but the hope is that with the support of friends and family she can be helped on each step of that journey.

There has been a wonderful response from across the community to the call for help from the Stapleton family. Not only have people and organisations offered their assistance – especially the GAA – but there has also been tremendous support and kindness directed towards Amanda who celebrated her birthday at the weekend.

And, many of the big names from the Tipperary and Kilkenny rivalry from the past decade will be toting out on the evening including the likes of Seamus Callanan, Eoin Kelly, Lar Corbett, Henry Shefflin, Tommy Walsh to name just a few. Of course most of these crossed swords with Amanda's brother Paddy on the field of play at both club and county level and they didn't hesitate to lend their assistance, when called upon – a measure of the men involved surely.

The counties met in three All-Ireland finals between 2009 and 2011, and again in the two classic finals of 2014. They say to keep your



friends close, but your enemies even closer – but this time the great hurling folk on both sides are coming together for a fantastic cause.

Amanda's brother Paddy, known affectionately as 'The Saint' – a moniker also used for his father John – hurled for Tipperary between 2008 and 2016, is part of the committee organising 'Tipperary v Kilkenny: The Legends Return'. Paddy teaches in Coláiste Mhuire in Thurles and is still hurling for his native Borris-Ileigh, playing a key role in them capturing the north senior hurling championship title in 2017 and reaching the county final, only to fall to the mighty Thurles Sarsfields in the decider in Semple Stadium.

His brother Shane has won the All-Ireland club senior hurling title with Cuala of Dublin on two occasions and is a very well known sports journalist.

It is the hope of the committee that this event will make things better for Amanda, and an open invitation is extended to all to get involved in any way possible.

So please, mark the date in your diary and come along to Borris'to support this event and many others too. There is also a Club Colours 5km Fun Run at 11am at the Track Attack course in Borrisoleigh on the same day. We would encourage everyone to make an effort to support this worthy cause.

# A new champion for Tipp and

By: NOEL DUNDON  
(Tipperary Star)



**T**HE Tipperary Water County Senior Hurling Championship has given us many great days of entertainment this season so far, and as we approach the ultimate game this afternoon in the Field of Legends, the hope is that we will have a decider worthy of the occasion.

You would have got great odds on a Nenagh Éire Óg vs Clonoulty-Rossmore final at the start of the year – especially since they were both in the same group in

the county championship. In fact, you would probably have got decent odds on either one of them being in the final too. But, the twists and turns of the championship road have brought us to this spot, with the clash of the north and the west men doing much to whet the hurling appetite of Premier patrons.

Both sides are here on merit – of that, there can be no doubt. Nenagh Éire Óg dethroned the four-in-a-row champions Thurles Sarsfields who had designs on equaling the feats of their great '50's and '60's forefathers in the famed blue and white jersey.

But, alas it was not to be for them, even if they went out with their fighting gloves on.

Clonoulty-Rossmore too have had to fight on their backs to get to this stage – Toomevara and Kiladangan falling hard against them in recent weeks as they picked up momentum on the championship journey. They arrive in Semple Stadium this afternoon confident that they can bridge a gap going back to 1997 – they have been in three finals since then but lost them all.

Nenagh Éire Óg have to go back a little further again for their sole title in 1994, but they have lost four finals



Semi-final action . . . Killian Gleeson comes away with the ball for Nenagh Éire Óg with Barry Heffernan and Paddy Murphy supporting while Thurles players Ronan Maher and John Maher are fast approaching.

(Photo: Bridget Delaney)

# an exciting game in prospect



Semi-final action . . . Clonoulty-Rossmore's Ronan Heffernan moves in to block the clearance by Toomevara's Kevin McCarthy.

(Photo: Eamonn McGee)

since, having been knocking on the door in recent years as well.

So, what we have here this afternoon are two sides who have been around the block, close to the top, but perhaps existing at a time when a great Thurles Sarsfields were at their pomp – Clonoulty-Rossmore fell to them in the final of 2010 while Nenagh Éire Óg had to give best in the 2015 decider by a single point.

In one camp this evening – barring a draw of course – there will be great elation at finally having gotten over the

line again. Heroes will be created, legends feted and the parish will be in seventh heaven.

In the other camp, there will be much soul searching, heartbreak and regret. The contrasting fortunes of sport will be laid bare on the pitch at the final whistle when the destination of the Dan Breen Cup is decided.

Whatever way it goes this evening, Nenagh Éire Óg and Clonoulty-Rossmore have contributed enormously to a very competitive and entertaining championship. In fact, all the teams have

and some of the game played out have been right out of the top drawer. How fortunate we have been to have witnessed the unfolding events of championship 2018, especially after the disappointment of the inter-county scene and Tipperary's early exit.

So, it's the biggest day in the local hurling calendar – let's hope the day holds up, the teams hurl up, and the occasion lives up to the billing.

Enjoy the games.

Up Tipp.

# What might have been

By: CHRISTY O'CONNOR



**F**INE MARGINS, as fine as the width of a post, can define games. And a season. Clare were exposed to both extremes this summer. In their All-Ireland semi-final replay against Galway in Thurles in August, Aaron Shanagher's late goal shot, which was initially saved by James Skehill, came back off the post, and effectively ended Clare's season. In June, Jake Morris' goal shot, which would have put Tipperary six points up and effectively out of sight, hit the post and Clare came up the field to score an Ian Galvin goal, which transformed their season. Fine margins. Agony and ecstasy.

Prior to the Munster final, Gerry O'Connor, Clare's joint-manager, spoke about what would probably have transpired for him and Donal

Moloney, if that shot from Morris had hit the back of the net. "There's no point in saying we weren't under pressure coming into that Tipperary game," said O'Connor. "I think it's fair to say that (if Clare had lost that day) Donal and myself would have faded into the background because we had a two-year contract and I couldn't see that being renewed. And I couldn't see an appetite within us to continue either."

If Tipperary had won that afternoon, Michael Ryan would more than likely still be Tipperary manager. It's probable that Tipp would have been in that All-Ireland semi-final. Tipp wouldn't have been slanted to meet Galway but, if they had, they certainly wouldn't have feared playing them. So, it's not beyond reason to think that the width of a post potentially denied Tipperary a place in an All-Ireland final this season. Fine margins.

Tipperary still largely got what they deserved. They didn't win a championship



Tipperary's Jake Morris and Clare goalkeeper Donal Tuohy watch as Morris' shot hits a post during the Munster GAA Hurling Senior Championship Round 4 match between Tipperary and Clare at Semple Stadium on 10th June 2018.

(Photo: Ray McManus Sportsfile)

match after playing four games. They showed admirable bravery and spirit against Cork and Waterford but some of the hurling they played in the opening halves of those matches was the poorest played by a Tipp team in years. There is a lack of pace in key areas of the side while Tipp never racked up the kind of high scoring totals consistently clocked by other sides.

The quality of Tipp's play in Munster didn't suggest they could win an All-Ireland but a win against Clare would have bought them an invaluable five-week window for recovery. Tipp wouldn't have qualified for a Munster final – they didn't need to – but securing that third spot would have given the players the opportunity to rest, to physically and mentally recharge, and to get injuries cleared up. As the third team, they would have had the same pathway as Limerick (who would have automatically qualified for the Munster final if Tipp had beaten Clare); a preliminary quarter-final against Carlow, followed by a quarter-final against Kilkenny.

Would Tipp have beaten Kilkenny? Whatever about Tipp's style and lack of quality, one of the biggest mistakes Michael Ryan made this season was not burying Kilkenny when his team had a chance. When they met in Round 4 of the league, Ryan pointedly kept some of his biggest names on the bench as the outcome was in the balance late on. A Kilkenny one-point win gave air to a team struggling for oxygen, along with maintaining their decade-long record against Tipp in Nowlan Park. Another defeat at that stage of the season would have plunged Kilkenny into a potential relegation battle in Round 5 against Wexford. In any case, Tipp lived to regret that afternoon in late February when Kilkenny beat them again in Nowlan Park in the league final in April.

Puckouts, especially the lack of movement on them, was a huge issue that afternoon, which continued into the summer. Recently, the hurlingtalk Twitter handle produced some



*Ian Galvin of Clare on his way to scoring his side's first goal during the Munster GAA Hurling Senior Championship Round 4 match between Tipperary and Clare at Semple Stadium in Thurles on 10th June 2018.*

(Photo: David Fitzgerald/Sportsfile)

revealing statistics; Tipp had just a 41.9% retention rate on their own puckout over the summer; of 113 clearances hit past their opponents 65-yard line during play in four championship games, Tipp only had a 29.2% retention rate.

Tweaking Tipp's playing style, especially in how they use the ball, will be a key starting point for Liam Sheedy. Facilitating that style change will come from good coaching, and assembling an impressive backroom team, but finding new players and freshening up the squad will be just as important in making Tipp a more cohesive and threatening unit.

Sheedy will also seek to address other areas outside the confines of the team. Having to play four games in 21 days this summer was unforgiving but maintaining freshness was even harder for Tipperary with a heavy club schedule in April in such a condensed time-frame. Sheedy recently indicated that he would be against Tipperary arranging as many club championship fixtures in April 2019 as they did this year.

Sheedy's return is a huge boost for Tipperary. He is clearly excited by new challenges and, while the Tipp job certainly provides him with plenty, it also provides Sheedy with plenty of opportunity. And the chance to turn fine margins into huge gains.

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# BE THERE, EVERY STEP OF THE WAY!



*BE THERE.  
ALL THE WAY.*

## SEAMUS Ó RIAIN CUP FINAL PREVIEW

By: JAMES HAYDEN

# An historic day for both teams

**T**ODAY marks a historic day for both Burgess and Moycarkey-Borris as they face-off in their respective bids to lift the Seamus Ó Riain Cup for the very first time.

Both sides have come through impressive campaigns to date and remain unbeaten at group and knock-out stages and many anticipate a ding-dong battle today between the sides.

For Burgess it also marks a historic occasion, with the last side from the club to capture silverware on the hallowed Semple Stadium, the 1993 County Intermediate winning side, honoured today as part the silver jubilee celebrations.

Those halcyon days will be recalled by many in attendance as the present crop of players in the famed green and gold hoops take on a fancied Moycarkey-Borris side that are without doubt an emerging force on both the Mid and County stages.

Standing in the path of Pat Gibson's charges is a Moycarkey outfit guided by Brian Lonergan and gunning for their first county championship title at senior grade since that famous side led by Jack Bergin lifted the Dan Breen Cup way back in 1984.

Both sides finished their respective county championship campaigns unbeaten with Burgess accounting for JK Brackens, St. Mary's Clonmel and Ballingarry in the group stages before a hard fought 2-17 to 1-14 victory over Templederry in the semi-final propelled them into a date with destiny here today. Moycarkey-Borris on the other hand also remain unbeaten, overcoming Holycross-Ballycahill, Ballina and Lorrha in the group stages before ousting JK Brackens by a solitary goal, 1-18 to 0-18, in a hard-fought semi-final encounter.

Given the nature of the results to date and the fact that both sides are automatically promoted to Roinn 1 having reached the final, today's outcome is distinctly difficult to predict.



Pat Carey and Kevin Moran – joint captains of Moycarkey-Borris.



Noel Gleson, Burgess Captain.  
(Photo: Bridget Delaney)

No doubt, Burgess appear to be coming on strong in the past couple of weeks with Stephen Murray, Jonathan Mulqueen, Shane Maher Donagh Maher and Keith Nealon to the fore. Add in the experienced Niall McGrath, Noel Gleeson, Eoin Hogan and Brian Hogan together with Danny and Willie Ryan, Jack O'Flaherty, Conor Gill, Pat Woods and Stephen Kirwan and you have a well-balanced side fully capable of landing the spoils.

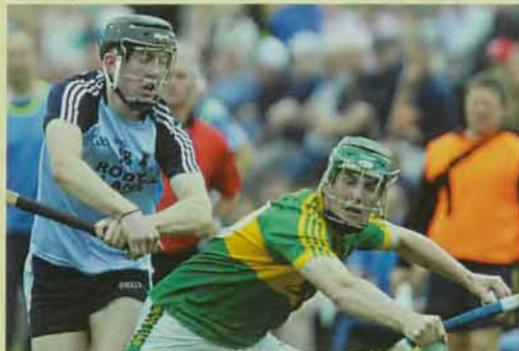
Moycarkey will rely on a potent blend of youth and experience and look to Kieran Morris, Niall Heffernan, Pat Molloy, John Bergin and the in-form Anthony McKelvey to guide them to victory today while Pat Carey and Tom Hayes are also surely to be to the fore.

Both sides physicality has been a notable factor in their victories to date and with Moycarkey-Borris fresh from a County Minor 'A' hurling final victory last weekend over Clonoulty-Rossmore they will be undoubtedly be seeking to add the coveted Seamus Ó Riain Cup to their burgeoning trophy cabinet.

Whatever transpires we are unquestionably in for a treat in today's Seamus Ó Riain final with very little to separate the sides!

## Historic final

THERE has not been a previous final meeting between Clonoulty-Rossmore and Nenagh Éire Óg. However, there has been a keen rivalry in the knock-out stages of the county championship.



Cathal Bourke holds possession for Clonoulty-Rossmore with Nenagh Éire Óg's Conor McCarthy challenging during the County SHC at the Ragg earlier this year.

(Photo: Bridget Delaney)

The clubs have met in one semi-final and two quarter-finals, while they emerged from the same group in this year's Roinn 1, with the Northerners having two points to spare, 1-20 to 1-18, in their Round two meeting on August 12th. The previous results were:

Semi-final – 18/10/1998 at Semple Stadium, Clonoulty-Rossmore (holders) 3-11, Nenagh Éire Óg 1-16.

Quarter-final – 14/10/2001 at Semple Stadium, Clonoulty-Rossmore 4-20, Nenagh Éire Óg 3-18 (after extra time).

Quarter-final – 24/9/2011 at Semple Stadium, Clonoulty-Rossmore 3-18, Nenagh Éire Óg 0-14

This will be the first North v West county senior final since Toomevara beat the Golden/Éire Óg combination in 2004.

## Helping officials

THE North Tipperary Convention in 1934 – the Golden Jubilee year of the GAA's foundation – heard a suggestion from the long serving Secretary Michael Moylan that instruction courses should be started for referees and umpires in order to give them the necessary information about their duties. He was a man ahead of his time!

## County Final Moments

By: SEAMUS O'DOHERTY

### Last six

THE last six county final appearances by today's opponents produced the following results:



Mike Costello, Drom & Inch, in action against Timmy Hammersley (left) and John O'Neill, Clonoulty-Rossmore during the 2011 Tipperary Senior Hurling Championship Final.

(Photo: Diarmuid Greene/Sportsfile)

#### CLONOULTY-ROSSMORE:

- 2011 lost to Drom Inch 1-19 to 2-14
- 2010 lost to Thurles Sarsfields 1-16 to 1-7
- 1998 lost to Toomevara 0-16 to 1-10
- 1997 beat Mullinahone 0-17 to 1-12
- 1989 beat Holycross Ballycahill 1-11 to 1-9
- 1951 lost to Holycross Ballycahill 5-15 to 1-4

#### NENAGH ÉIRE ÓG:

- 2015 lost to Thurles Sarsfields 1-18 to 3-11
- 2013 lost to Loughmore-Castleiney 1-17 to 1-16
- 2006 lost to Toomevara 1-21 to 2-14
- 1999 lost to Toomevara 1-17 to 0-13
- 1995 beat Boherlahan Dualla 2-25 to 2-8
- 1993 lost to Toomevara 1-14 to 1-13



Hugh Maloney, Nenagh Éire Óg, in action against David Kennedy, Loughmore-Castleiney during the 2013 County Hurling Championship Final.

(Photo: Ray McManus/Sportsfile)

# Old Friends

By: SEAMUS O'DOHERTY



ONE OF the most anticipated Under-21 county finals ever played was that between Éire Óg, Nenagh (before the name change) and Clonoulty-Rossmore at Semple Stadium in 1982.

The background was that Éire Óg had beaten the West Champions in the 1981 final 3-9 to 2-9 (Clonoulty-Rossmore had the consolation of winning the Minor Final against Toomevara). The North champions were also on the quest of four consecutive county titles, but it wasn't going to be easy.

The teams met at Semple Stadium on October 31st and produced a cracker of a game. Clonoulty-Rossmore led by 1-4 to 0-5 at half-time, but second half goals from Paul Whelan and Michael Cleary, along with several points from Conor O'Donovan, ensured that Éire Óg held a four point lead, as the game headed towards a conclusion. Andrew Fryday's brilliant save from Phil Hennessy's shot had kept Clonoulty-Rossmore in the game. A point by Joe Fitzgerald reduced the deficit to a goal and just before the end, T.J. Ryan fired a free to the net to level it, at 2-7 each, as Willie Barrett blew the whistle for full time.

One newspaper report opined – "Clonoulty-Rossmore dramatically denied Éire Óg the cherished honour with a sensational goal in the closing minute of an electrifying encounter".

The scorers for Éire Óg were – Conor O'Donovan 0-5, Paul Whelan 1-0, Michael Cleary 1-0 John Heffernan 0-1 Noel Coffey 0-1.

Clonoulty-Rossmore's marksmen were – T.J. Ryan 1-1, Pat Hayes 1-0, Pádraig Ryan 0-2, David Ryan, Michael Heffernan and Joe Fitzgerald 0-1 each.

The replay was back at Semple Stadium on November 14th – a bitterly cold day with the wind blowing into the town goal. Clonoulty-Rossmore won the toss and decided to play against it. Things were going well for them until Noel Coffey and Conor O'Donovan fired home goals in the last five minutes of the half,



Michael Frawley, Chairman of the Tipperary County GAA Board, presents the Hugh Burke Cup to Pat Lee after Éire Óg Nenagh had equalled Kilruane MacDonagh's record (1973-1976) of four Tipperary Under-21 hurling titles in-a-row with success over Clonoulty-Rossmore in the 1982 final after a replay.

to give Éire Óg a lead of 2-4 to 0-1 at the break. There was a comeback and midway through the half Pat Hayes hit the net and Pádraig Ryan pointed, so it was now 2-5 to 1-4. It could have been closer but for a super save by Seamus Kennedy from John Kennedy's shot. A Conor O'Donovan point steadied Éire Óg, John Heffernan hurled defiance at the enemy. T.J. Ryan scored a goal from a free just before time and Willie Barrett ended an absorbing contest with Éire Óg achieving the four in-a-row on a 2-6 to 2-4 scoreline.

The *Nenagh Guardian* report included this summary – "Clonoulty-Rossmore fought like Spartans to prove there was enough chemistry yet to provide the firepower which would blow Éire Óg title hopes apart and take their first title in the grade".

The teams and scorers in the memorable replay, thirty six years ago were –

**Éire Óg Nenagh** – S. Kennedy, M. Hynes, J. Flannery, M. Ryan, J. Nagle, D. Finnerty (0-2), Paul Kennedy, C. O'Donovan (1-3) P. Farrell, M. Cleary, J. Heffernan, P. Lee (Capt.), P. Power, P. Hennessy (0-1), N. Coffey (1-0) Sub: D. O'Brien for P. Power.

**Clonoulty-Rossmore** – A. Fryday, N. Ryan, M. Keane, P. Kearney, P. Ryan (0-3), David Ryan, S. Slatery, S. Hammersley, J. Hayes, M. Heffernan, J. Kennedy (0-1), J. Fitzgerald, T.J. Ryan (1-0), P. Hayes (1-0), P. Kennedy.

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## County Final Moments

By: SEAMUS O'DOHERTY

### Final top scorers by ten

*Final top scorers by ten:*

- 1938 Danny Doyle (Thurles Sarsfields) 3-1
- 1948 Philip Maher (Holycross Ballycahill) 2-1
- 1958 Jimmy Doyle (Thurles Sarsfields) 1-3
- 1968 Francis Loughnane (Roscrea) 0-7
- 1978 Francis Loughnane (Roscrea) 1-11
- 1988 Noel O'Dwyer (Borris-Ileigh) 0-4 (draw)  
Noel O'Dwyer and Seamus Devaney (Borris-Ileigh) 0-4 each (replay)
- 1998 Michael Kennedy (Clonoulty-Rossmore) 0-6
- 2008 John Enright (Thurles Sarsfields) 0-13.

## Divisional pride

THIS year the North Division provided four of the quarter-finalists and two reached the semi-finals. Their hopes are with Nenagh Éire Óg today that the Dan Breen cup will return for the first time since Toomevara's victory over Thurles Sarsfields in 2008.

In the meantime, only Nenagh Éire Óg (2013 and 2015), Kildangan (2016) and Borris-Ileigh (2017) have represented the Division on county final day.

By contrast, the Mid has won all nine titles and set a new record for county title monopoly by one Division.

## IN THE MIDDLE

THE only referee from either of today's Dan Breen clubs who has refereed a county final since the Dan Breen cup was first presented to the winners (1931) was Clonoulty-Rossmore's Timmy Hammersley, who took charge of the 1955 decider between Thurles Sarsfields and Borris-Ileigh. It is interesting to see that referees from Limerick, Kilkenny, Cork and Waterford have taken charge of Tipperary deciders.

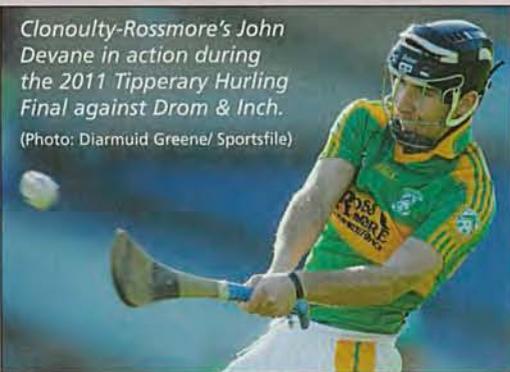
## Another chance

THE Clonoulty-Rossmore Manager John Devane will be hoping his county final day luck improves. The former Tipperary player was on the losing team in the 2010 and 2011 finals, with the latter more disappointing because he was captain.

The other unsuccessful modern era club captains were – Andrew Fryday (1998) and Tom Butler (2010). John isn't the only player from

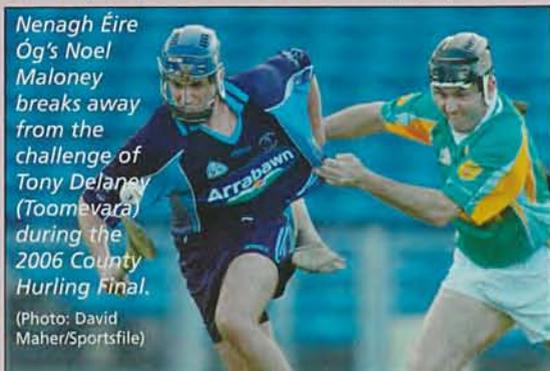
*Clonoulty-Rossmore's John Devane in action during the 2011 Tipperary Hurling Final against Drom & Inch.*

(Photo: Diarmuid Greene/ Sportsfile)



*Nenagh Éire Óg's Noel Maloney breaks away from the challenge of Tony Delaney (Toomevara) during the 2006 County Hurling Final.*

(Photo: David Maher/Sportsfile)



those disappointments who is still involved and surviving players from those years will be delighted to have another chance of winning a county championship medal.

The Nenagh Éire Óg county final captains, who finished on the losing side were – John Heffernan (1993), Con Howard (1999), Richie Flannery (2006), Noel Maloney (2013), Paddy Murphy/Noel Maloney (2015).

*Wishing Burgess the  
Best of Luck*

BAR J. BARRY LOUNGE

*From*

**Jim, Geraldine and all the  
BARRY Family**

*Best wishes to  
Burgess GAA in the  
Seamus Ó Riain Final*



*From*

**Bobby and the team at**

**REIDY'S**

**NEWTOWN**

# A DAY OF HISTORY FOR Burgess GAA

**A**S WE step out onto the turf of the 'Home of Hurling' Semple Stadium today, this team will mark a piece of history for Burgess GAA as we contest our first ever County Senior Hurling Championship final. This year saw the introduction of a new management team of Paul Keane, Pat Gibson, Paul Hogan and Hughie Ryan with one primary goal for the year which was set last January – to regain Roinn 1 status. Now that this has been achieved, it is with great hope and anticipation that we will go one step further and bring the Seamus Ó Riain Cup back to the parish.

This day is extra special for the club as our Intermediate County Champions of 1993 are being honoured by Tipperary County Board to mark the 25 year anniversary of their victory against Upperchurch-Drombane. Our thanks to Tipperary County Board, *Tipperary Star* and Bobby Reidy for their sponsorship of this tribute.

Whilst we are a small club in North Tipperary, we are a very proud one and have plenty of aspirations for the future. We have a thriving juvenile club and are very lucky to have many volunteers who lay the foundations for our future players. We are delighted to have enjoyed on-field success in 2018 with our U12 hurlers winning a North Title while the U16s and U12s both won North Football

titles early in the year too.

We are also home to the current Munster Camogie champions Burgess-Duharra, who have just won their 7th Senior County title in-a- row last Saturday, 14th October and wish them every success in the upcoming Munster Championship.

## PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

This year the club has undertaken the development of an AstroTurf playing surface with a bordering hurling wall on its grounds in Kilcolman. This ambitious project will not only allow for training and games to take place over the winter months and into night time hours but will also be made available to wider community groups in the area.

Patrons will be aware that the first-ever 'The Chaser' event in association with Pallas Marketing, took place in The Abbey Court Nenagh on Friday, 19th October, where we raised a substantial percentage of the funding needed for the project. The generous contribution of many local businesses in the Nenagh area and beyond, made this event a huge success and is truly appreciated by the Club.

We are hoping that the club's successes of today will spur on our future hurlers to one day winning a Frank McGrath or Dan Breen Cup.

On that note, I would like to wish the best of luck to all teams competing today and I hope all supporters in attendance enjoy what promises to be two exciting contests.

**Gemma Flynn**  
Club Secretary

*Some of our Primary Sponsors of 'The Chaser' event – Back row (l.-r.): David Kyne (Committee), Mike Carroll (Club Chairman), Paudie Grace (Committee), Derek Sharkey (Juvenile Chairman), John Fanning (Drain Power). Front row (l.-r.): Bobby Reidy, Donie Nealon (Club President), Pat O'Flaherty (Youghal Glass), Dr. Muiris O'Keeffe, Cian McDonnell (Gold Standard Physio).*



# Burgess



Burgess Senior Hurlers and Mentors – Back row (l.-r.): Hughie Ryan (Selector), Steven Murray, Bill O'Flaherty, Ronan Tucker, Shane Maher, Pat Woods, Noel Gleeson (Capt.), Brian Hogan, Stephen Kirwan, Jonathan Mulqueen, John O'Brien, Jack O'Flaherty, Tony Hogan, Pat Gibson (Selector). Front row (l.-r.): Paul Keane (Coach), Paddy Hogan, Eoin Hogan, Eoin 'Leahy' Hogan, Danny Ryan, Niall McGrath, Ben Cooney, Keith Nealon, Drew Boland, Donagh Maher, Conor Gill, Willie Ryan, Paul Hogan (Selector). Absent from photo: David Seymour and Paul Carroll.

(Photo: Bridget Delaney)

## PLAYER PROFILES

Niall McGrath	36	Insurance Rep	Stephen Kirwan	18	Student
Jack O'Flaherty	24	Electrician	Ronan Tucker	19	Student
Shane Maher	37	Stryker Limerick	Ben Cooney	18	Student
Pat Woods	23	Farmer	Daniel Ryan	25	Primary School Teacher
Jonathan Mulqueen	26	Process Engineer	Eoin 'Tossy' Hogan	35	Laboratory Technician
Donagh Maher	30	Sales Manager	Paddy Hogan	33	Garda
Noel Gleeson	34	Product Design Engineer	John O'Brien	26	Customer Service
Conor Gill	21	Student	Will Fogarty	20	Apprentice Electrician
William Ryan	25	Physiotherapist	Tony Hogan	25	Business Development Manager
Eoin 'Leahy' Hogan	26	Primary School Teacher	David Seymour	27	Youghal Glass
Stephen Murray	26	Garda	Drew Boland	20	Student
Brian Hogan	38	Warehouse & Logistics Manager	J.P. Grace	26	Student
Keith Nealon	20	Student	Paul Carroll	21	Student
Bill O'Flaherty	23	Primary School Teacher	Kieran Ryan	25	Project Estimator



Burgess Senior Hurling Management (from left): Paul Keane (Coach), Paul Hogan, Pat Gibson and Hughie Ryan (all Selectors).

(Photo: Bridget Delaney)

## PATH TO THE FINAL

- Round 1: 15/04/2018 – Burgess 1-14, JK Brackens 1-13
- Round 2: 12/08/2018 – Burgess 2-23, Ballingarry 1-13
- Round 3: 25/08/2018 – Burgess 2-17, St. Mary's Clonmel 1-15
- Semi-Final: 06/10/2018 – Burgess 2-17, Templederry 2-14

# Moycarkey-Borris



Back row (l.-r.): Rhys Shelly, James Power, Eoghan Hayes, Rory Ryan, David Morris, Kevin Moran, Joe Doran, Pa Carey, Anthony McKelvey, John Bergin, Eric Fanning, Rory Darmody, Jack Fallon, Brian Moran, Mikey Bergin. Front row (l.-r.): Paul Dempsey, Kevin O'Regan, Pat Molloy, Ger Carey, Christopher McCullagh, James Bourke, Kieran Morris, Niall Heffernan, Tom Hayes. Missing from the photo: Brian Maher, Niall O'Sullivan, David Ryan, Matty Ryan, Timmy Ryan.

## PLAYER PROFILES

Rhys Shelly	17	Student	Brian Moran	31	Teacher
David Morris	29	Accountant	Mikey Bergin	21	Agriculture Student
Rory Ryan	28	Electrical Site Supervisor	James Power	27	Electrician
James Bourke	24	Teacher	Eric fanning	21	Carpenter
Eoghan Hayes	19	Student	Ger Carey	32	Secondary Teacher
Pat Molloy	27	Primary Teacher	Jack Fallon	18	Student
Kevin Moran	30	Primary Teacher	Kevin O'Regan	20	Electrician ESB
Chris McCullagh	21	Student	Paul Dempsey	36	Facilities Engineering Manager
Niall Heffernan	22	Student Mary I	Rory Darmody	18	Electrician Apprentice
Pa Carey	36	Business Development Manager	Niall O'Sullivan	25	Software Engineer
Tom Hayes	20	Student at WIT	Brian Maher	21	Student
John Bergin	26	Agricultural Advisor	David Ryan	23	Student
Kieran Morris	28	Accountant	Timmy Ryan	25	Farmer
Anthony McKelvey	19	Apprentice Electrician	Matty Ryan	22	Account
Joe Doran	21	Electrician	Brian Moran	31	Teacher



Moycarkey-Borris Management Team (l.-r.): Sean Prendergast (Coach), Christy Clancy (Selector), Brian Lonergan (Manager), Noel McKelvey and Kevin O'Regan (Selectors). In front: Darragh Lonergan.

## PATH TO THE FINAL

Round 1 (April 15th):

Moycarkey-Borris 1-22, Lorrha Dorrha 3-10

Round 2 (August 12th):

Moycarkey-Borris 3-34, Ballina 0-10

Round 3 (September 1st):

Moycarkey-Borris 2-19, Holycross-Ballycahill 1-17  
Moycarkey top the table with 6 points and went straight to a semi-final

Semi-Final (October 6th):

Moycarkey Borris 1-18, JK Brackens 0-18

# Burgess

Dathanna: Glas agus Ór

Seamus Ó Riain Cup



C.L.G. Buirgheas

	1 <sup>st</sup> LEATH	2 <sup>nd</sup> LEATH	HUHLÁN
CUIL			
CUILÍNÍ			
SEACHAÍ			
ES			
SABR			
POCAINNA			



16. P. Ó Cearúill  
**PAUL CARROLL**

20. E. Ó hÓgáin  
**EOIN 'TOSSY' HOGAN**

24. L. Ó Fógartaigh  
**WILL FOGARTY**

28. S.P. de Grás  
**J.P. GRACE**

17. R. Ó Tuachair  
**RONAN TUCKER**

21. C. Ó Riain  
**KIERAN RYAN**

25. T. Ó hÓgáin  
**TONY HOGAN**

28. S. Ó Beolláin  
**JACK BOLAND**

18. B. Ó Cuana  
**BEN COONEY**

22. P. Ó hÓgáin  
**PADDY HOGAN**

26. D. Saomar  
**DAVID SEYMOUR**

19. B. Ó Flaitheartaigh  
**BILL O'FLAHERTY**

23. S. Ó Briain  
**JOHN O'BRIEN**

27. D. Ó Beolláin  
**DREW BOLAND**

Selectors: Pat Gibson, Paul Hogan, Hughie Ryan    Coach: Paul Keane  
Doctor: Dr. Muiris O'Keeffe    Physio: Cian McDonnell

	1mh LEATH	2mh LEATH	3mh LEATH
CUIL			
CUILÍNÍ			
SEACHAÍ			
BUI			
SAGH POCAINNA			



# Moycarkey-Borris

Dathanna: Dearg agus Ór

Seamus Ó Riain Cup



R. Ó Sealbhaigh  
Rhys Shelly



D. Ó Muiris  
David Morris



R. Ó Riain  
Rory Ryan



J. de Búrca  
James Bourke



E. Ó hAodha  
Eoghan Hayes



P. Ó Maolmhuaidh  
Pat Molloy



C. Ó Móráin (Joint Capt.)  
Kevin Moran



C. Mac Cú Uladh  
Christopher McCullagh



N. Ó hIfeárnáin  
Niall Heffernan



P. Ó Ciara (Joint Capt.)  
Pat Carey



T. Ó hAodha  
Tom Hayes



S. Ó Beirgin  
John Bergin



C. Ó Muiris  
Kieran Morris



A. Mac Calbhaigh  
Anthony McKelvey



S. Ó Deoráin  
Joe Doran

16. B. Ó Moráin  
BRIAN MORAN

20. G. Ó Ciara  
GER CAREY

24. R. Ó Diarmada  
RORY DARMODY

28. T. Ó Riain  
TIMMY RYAN

17. M. Ó Beirgin  
MIKIE BERGIN

21. S. Ó Fallúin  
JACK FALLON

25. N. Ó Súilleabháin  
NIALL O'SULLIVAN

29. M. Ó Riain  
MATTY RYAN

18. S. de Paor  
JAMES POWER

22. C. Ó Riagáin  
KEVIN O'REGAN

26. B. Ó Meachair  
BRIAN MAHER

30. B. Ó Moráin  
BRIAN MORAN

19. E. Ó Fainín  
ERIC FANNING

23. P. Ó Díomasaigh  
PAUL DEMPSEY

27. D. Ó Riain  
DAVID RYAN

Manager: Brian Lonergan    Selectors: Christy Clancy, Noel McKelvey, Kevin O'Regan

Coach: Sean Prendergast    Physio: George Ryall    First Aid: Jim Fanning    Kitman: Paddy Shanahan

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## A new sense of optimism for

# MOYCARKEY-BORRIS

**W**HEN one hears the name Moycarkey-Borris it speaks proudly of a club deep rooted in tradition and sense of place. Always a stronghold in the GAA from its foundation, the club has served the local community with pride for 134 years and is now building on that tradition to guarantee its standing into the future.

Not unaccustomed to famine spells either, the glory days of the 30's up to 1940 were laid to rest with the success of the club in the 80's, when the Dan Breen Cup last visited the parish. Intermittent success at underage level over the years however failed to deliver at senior grade as many bright dawns fell short of a glorious sunset.

But things are changing again and a new sense of optimism is permeating the red and gold as seeds of hope sown over many years by staunch and loyal club stalwarts are showing true signs of rich promise.

Moycarkey-Borris are delighted to be back in Semple Stadium on county final day and the club's presence in today's Seamus Ó Riain Final is the next development in the growth cycle on what we hope is a road to greater and sustained success.

With a solid mix of experience and youth throughout the side, the collective now is to harness today's experience and channel that through determination and perseverance in the years ahead where many challenges will invariably lie.

Success at U21 level last year, coupled with our minor team winning last week's county final, has ensured the conveyor belt for player

development and growth is functioning strongly. Our juvenile club has been to the forefront of success in the past decade and as it always has been. With that comes expectation. Therefore, without getting ahead of oneself the goal now will be to sustain a proper balance between that expectation and on-field success and also to maintain the stream-flow of talent coming through.

With grateful thanks to all supporters and sponsors who contribute financially and support our ground facilities upgrade, the new clubhouse should be finished before the end of the year while the main pitch is fully redeveloped and ready for action.

As part of our 5-year-plan 2015-2020, structures are in place where players and coaches can come to learn and grow in the mould and tradition of the club. Perhaps too, it's time for the current crop of players and the club to lay down a fresh marker, one which will be the yardstick for teams of the future to look up to and embellish. A marker where they can also look back and see that 2018 was a turning-page in the chapter of success that has so long been the goal and purpose of generations of superb club men and women the length and breadth of the parish. The future is bright and today is the first step on that new journey, Magh Coirce-Buirgheas abú.

On the social front, our next club fundraiser is *Lip Sync*, with rehearsals already at an advanced stage, on Saturday, October 27th, (Bank Holiday weekend) in the Dome. Please come along and support what promises to be a great night.

*The victorious Moycarkey-Borris Minor Panel following victory in the County Final over Cappawhite/ Solohead by 2-12 to 1-12 – played at Clonoulty on Saturday, 13th October, 2018.*



# A spring IN THE STEP

By: NOEL DUNDON (*Tipperary Star*)



**O**N THE face of it you'd wonder why it should be the case, but there is a real spring in the step of Tipperary hurling right now.

The seniors bowed out of the Munster championship so early, the evenings were still getting longer; there was practically no hurling at all during June, July and August; and then Michael Ryan and his management team departed the scene to leave the whole place in a big quandry.

Granted the success of the minors in the Munster Final and the Lazarus-like resurrection of the U-21's to win that stirring All-Ireland title in the Gaelic Grounds, have given much cause for optimism. But, the air is filled with more than just optimism at the moment – there is a belief that the top table might be beckoning again, albeit with a hell of a lot of hard work to be done.

It's not just the Sheedy factor that is generating the excitement down Premier ways, although, let's be honest, Liam's appointment has come as a major boost. Well, it would have taken a great man to jump to the top of the queue over the likes of All-Ireland winning minor and U-21 Manager Liam Cahill. And,

once Sheedy was in the frame, Sheedy was going to get the job.

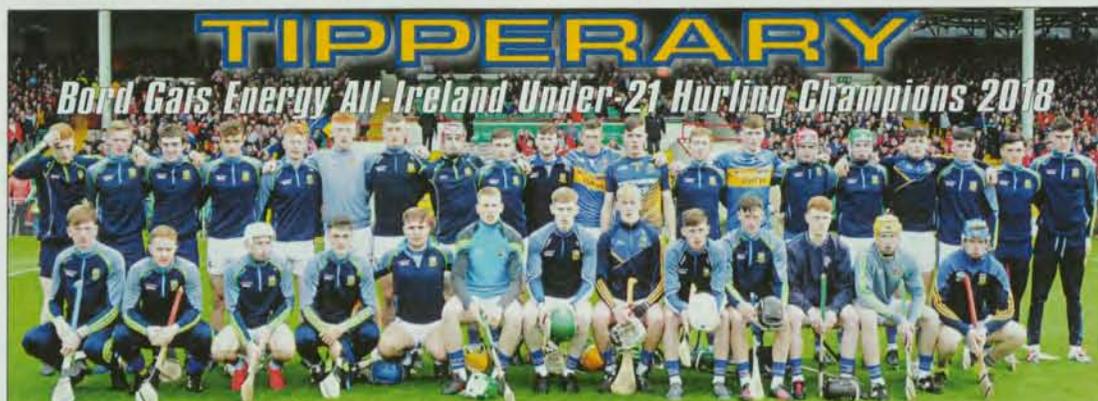
So, he brings a massive confidence with him to the role and that confidence will rub off on the players who will feast on it. You just know that Tipp will be ready for combat when the new year turns over and that he will have learned much from the 2018 season – how unlucky were the players and management this year that the structures turned completely against them and that they turned out to be the guinea pigs.

The other factor of course, is that the majority of the Tipperary players will have had a decent rest by the time they don the boots again. They might not have wanted a rest, but they are getting it, and that can only be good for them, their clubs and for Tipp. Ultimately, it will help them to be the best they can be, and for those entering the third trimester of their careers, that will be vital.

The quality of the hurling in the club championship has also been extremely positive and this gives the new management plenty to mull over and chew upon. New players are emerging to challenge the old guard and more options are cropping up all the time. Hurling is alive and in rude good health in Tipp at present – the gables are being hammered; the windows broken; the Cúl Camps were heaving with youngsters wanting to play.

The ancient game with its modern twists, still has the capacity to enthrall – just reference the All-Ireland Final, the county quarter and semi-finals, the north and mid finals, if in any doubt.

Bord na nÓg presided over more games than ever – the youngsters are swinging the ash, and the composite hurleys too – yes, there is a spring in the step alright.



**The Tipperary team that defeated Cork by 3-13 to 1-16 at the Gaelic Grounds Limerick**

Back row (l.-r.): Kieran Barrett, Shane Neville, Diarmuid Ryan, Michael Purcell, Jimmy Ryan, Robert Byrne, Mark Kehoe, Cian Flanagan, Killian O'Dwyer, Cian Darcy, Podge Campion, Barry Hogan, Tommy Nolan, Dillon Quirke, Conor Stakelum, Paddy Cadell, Craig Morgan, Dylan Walsh, Kieran Breen, Mikey Whelan. Front row (l.-r.): Rian Doody, Shane Hennessy, Lyndon Fairbrother, Cathal Moloney, David Gleeson, Brian McGrath, Paudie Feehan, Eoghan Connolly, Ger Browne, Colin English (Capt), Jerome Cahill, Jake Morris, Ray McCormack.

(Photo: Eamonn McGeen)

## JOHN O'KEEFFE

CLONOLTY-ROSSMORE

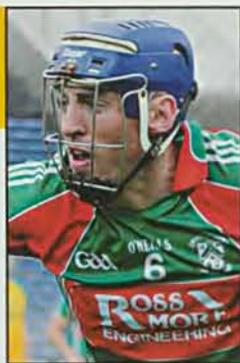
**C**LONOULTY-ROSSMORE Captain John O'Keeffe, a Garda based in Portlaoise, was rostered to work on Sunday next and had to juggle his schedule in order to make the Tipperary showcase. In his previous profession he coached Nenagh Éire Óg star Jake Morris – now he will be chasing him around Semple Stadium in the county final on Sunday.

*"It's amazing to think that you are coaching these lads one day and the next you are coming up against them in a county final. That will be a good battle and I'm sure I'll bump into him along the way."*

*"Did we expect to meet Nenagh again? Maybe not. It was a good performance from us and we have been improving alright. Nenagh came back at us and we failed to score in the last 15 minutes, so we know that they will bring to the table. We went back to the training pitch on the Tuesday night after that game and worked hard and I suppose the Kiladangan game and then getting Toomevara under our belt – we are looking forward to the challenge now of the big game."*

*"This is big for us, but we are not getting carried away. It has been back to the field for the last few days and try to get some work into us. We will prepare to the best of our ability and if that is good enough it will take us there."*

*"I have certainly enjoyed the club scene. It is gone so professional now that it is not too much off the county scene. It was a change for me to be back there fully having been with Tipp, but taking the break during the season was hugely important because you have no date or anything to train for. It is very hard to stay going over and over again. Luckily enough, we have got going again and it has worked out for us and taken us all the way to the final."*



## MICHAEL HEFFERNAN

NENAGH ÉIRE ÓG

**S**ECONDARY school teacher in Nenagh College, Michael Heffernan has been a real leader on the field of play for Nenagh Éire Óg for many years. But, his eye catching display and scoring exploits in the semi-final against Thurles Sarsfields ensured that he was the talk of Tipperary. His pace, accuracy and incisive play put the champions to the sword and now Michael is out to savor each minute of Sunday's County Final.

*"You are not guaranteed to get to a county final every year so when you are there you want to try and win it. There is no great panic in our group. It is a young group, apart from the two Moloneys. Do we have to win it now? – we don't have to win it now, but it would be nice alright. I was five when they won the county final and my father was involved as a selector. He's probably still involved even."*

*"It is going to be a great day on Sunday but you have to perform. That is the main thing. From the previous final, we bring a bit of experience. We didn't win the previous finals but we feel that if we come and perform we will be there or thereabouts on Sunday."*

*"People from all over Ireland want to come to play in Semple Stadium. We like coming over to Thurles too. We like Dolla and Borrisoleigh, we like Templederry also strangely enough, but the County Final in Thurles is where everybody wants to play. We are really looking forward to it."*



Photo of the Year . . . Blue skies in Templetohy as Loughmore-Castleiney and Thurles Sarsfields follow the Moycarkey Pipe Band for the pre match parade for the Mid Senior Hurling Final. Both teams were deadlocked after 90 minutes of hurling in a game that swung both ways and even saw an injured Noel McGrath take on goal keeping duties in extra time. Hopefully the replay will be as enjoyable a game as the first.

[Photo: Eamonn McGee]

*“My Photograph of the Year”*



**By: EAMONN MCGEE**  
(Photographer)



# TRYING to

By: SEAMUS O'DOHERTY



# rationalise it all!

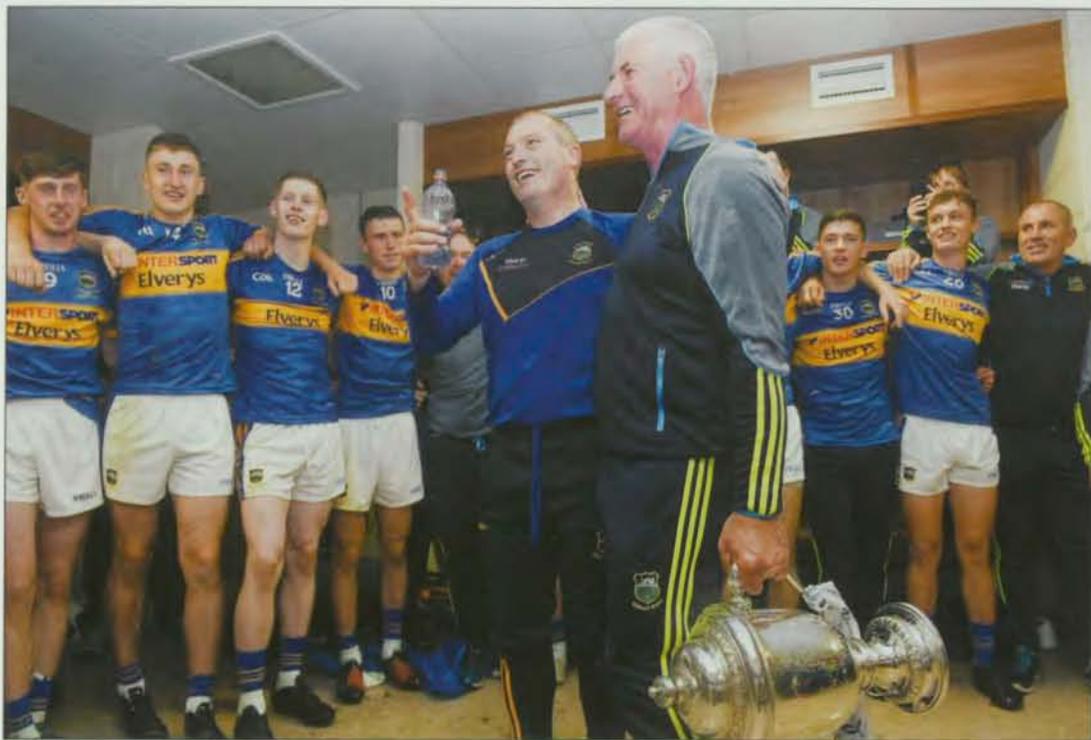
COUNTY FINAL day seems to come around faster every year and here we are again hoping to see a memorable contest between worthy opponents. When I reflect on 2018, my memories are of weather extremes and an inter-county season which kept coming at us, with something better than before. The

weather caused problems in Spring with the early starting and condensed National Hurling League needing a change of final date, a quarter-final decided by frees, a semi-final by extra time and the final itself played on a Sunday afternoon, rather than the intended Saturday night. It all seemed a bit hectic, but was nothing compared to the Championship, which saw



Barry Murphy of Limerick in action against Sean O'Brien of Tipperary during the Munster GAA Hurling Senior Championship Round 1 match between Limerick and Tipperary at the Gaelic Grounds on 20th May 2018.

(Photo: Ray McManus/Sportsfile)



Tipperary manager Liam Cahill (left) and selector John Sheedy celebrate with the the James Nowlan Cup with their players in the dressing room after the Bord Gais Energy GAA Hurling All-Ireland Under-21 Championship Final match between Cork and Tipperary at the Gaelic Grounds in Limerick on 26th August 2018.

[Photo: Piaras Ó Midheach/Sportsfile]

Tipperary and Waterford fail to qualify for the All-Ireland series after a severe schedule, which required them to play on four consecutive week ends.

## CONCERNS

While this was all unfolding, clubs which had a brief stir in April became more unhappy as their competitive seasons were put on ice! This system will run again – it was given an initial three year trial – with some timely breaks for teams. However, a question for Munster based hurling people is raising its head as a key issue. It now takes five games to win the Munster title – and a drawn final will add another – so is it worth putting in a big effort to win?

This year's All-Ireland win by Limerick was achieved from a 3rd place Provincial finish, which meant that a young team avoided all the media glare of a new finalist. As the championship unfolded, they were fresher than Kilkenny, Cork and Galway. In the 10 seasons, 2009 to 2018, only Tipperary have played in the All-Ireland Final as Munster champions – 2009, 2011 and 2016. The runners-up have only appeared once – Cork in 2013.

The under-17 Minor championship was also a long running saga, with players also being asked to play more frequently than heretofore and minimum recovery time.

The clubs have been promised a National Forum to discuss their concerns about a reasonable games schedule and without one, where will they be in a few years time? The GAA President John Horan, Ard Stiurthóir Tom Ryan and CCC Chairman Ned Quinn are well placed to understand the situation, which is the beginning of the solution.

The ESRI report into the modern demands on inter-county players, which was published last month, will also be a significant reference point. Most worrying from the results is that over 83% of those surveyed dedicated almost 31 hours a week to playing commitments. Other issues included not getting any break from activity, not having time for wives, partners, friends and family, while a lack of the recommended sleep to help recovery was also a challenge. Clearly there are difficulties at every level of the playing field and the intense 2018 season has not yet been assessed !

## UNIQUE AND UNUSUAL

On the inter-county scene two unexpected fixtures were hosted at Semple Stadium. The Leinster Final replay between Galway and Kilkenny was a first for the Field of Legends, while the Galway v Clare All-Ireland semi-final replay was the first fixture at this stage of the championship since the final instalment of Clare v Offaly in 1998. The atmosphere on both days was tremendous, as it was on Munster Final and All-Ireland quarter-final day.

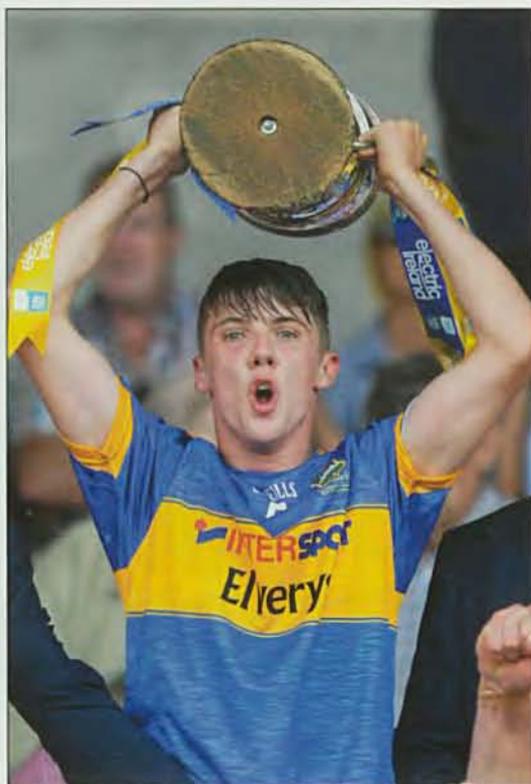
## PREMIER HIGHLIGHTS

On the inter-county scene, Tipperary had a mixed season. At Senior level, we topped Division 1A for the third time in five years and duly reached another final after wins over Dublin and Limerick. Our chance to take the cup from Kilkenny at Nowlan Park fell short mainly due to the concession of frees in the first half and a lack of readiness for the home team's surge immediately after half-time. It was an anti climax but could so easily have been won and given the team a boost for the upcoming Munster campaign.

One item for mention is that Jason Forde – our only All-Star nomination – scored an impressive 9-81 in eight League games and set a new record for a final with a 2-12 contribution.

In view of the new structures, one wonders what future the League has now. Cork's 1990 All-Ireland winning captain, Tomás Mulcahy, shared his fears on that point during our conversation at Semple Stadium last June. He wondered if Tipp, Cork, Clare and Limerick are already in Division 1A and Waterford should probably return, will any of them put much into the competition, if other peaks are to be reached and the probability of several repeat meetings becomes more likely. Interestingly, the GAA has recently suggested having two 'equal' groups and scrapping the 1B division in the next few seasons. The bottom team in each might be equals, but both will be a long way off the top two in the groups

The Tipp championship saga is well known, flashes of brilliance here and there but not sustained and only for a wrong umpiring decision against Waterford, we would have finished fifth in Munster. I met a Limerick senior hurler three weeks after Tipp had finished their campaign and he told me that they believed the Tipperary team announced for the first game was a dummy!! There were many in



*Johnny Ryan of Tipperary lifts the trophy after the Electric Ireland Munster GAA Hurling Minor Championship Final match between Limerick and Tipperary at Semple Stadium on 1st July 2018.*

[Photo: Ray McManus/Sportsfile]

this county, who held the same view.

## AGAINST ALL ODDS

The Under-21 All-Ireland final victory at Limerick was the highlight of the year, particularly in the manner it was achieved. Tipperary's Munster semi-final win over Limerick was based on a formula which was not repeated against Cork on Munster final night and the result was inevitable. The work done by the management after that was superb. Several fresh faces were introduced and the team ethic was restored.

A morale boosting win over Galway was huge for Tipp, but probably dismissed by others, who misread Cork's easy win against Wexford as proof they were the best. Indeed the GAA media stopped just short of ordering a civic reception for the All-Ireland champions in waiting! The spirit of Knocknagow had been forgotten and the determination with which players worked that Sunday night in Limerick demonstrated how much victory was needed. Players chased hopeless cases, they were brave,



RTÉ analysts Cyril Farrell (left) and Liam Sheedy during the 2018 GAA Championship Draw at RTÉ Studios in Donnybrook on 19th October 2017.

[Photo: Piaras Ó Midheach/Sportsfile]

bold and unyielding. Liam Cahill and his confreres produced a winning hand from a bad deal! This win meant that Tipp became the only county to win All-Ireland titles at Minor, Under 21 and Senior having been beaten earlier in the Provincial championship. Eight days after the final, I met a Cork player in Limerick City and he couldn't figure out how they had lost! My answer was that when you are unbackable... beware!

## MINOR HEARTBREAK

The Minor team had a learning experience under the Management of former All-Ireland winning senior captain Thomas Dunne. The form in Munster was up and down, as it was with the other counties. On the last weekend Tipp needed results to go their way and fortunately they did. The Munster final saw victory achieved over Limerick – and a first day loss avenged. Unfortunately, the All-Ireland semi-final defeat by Kilkenny left many regrets. Injury problems weakened the defence particularly and unfortunately my club mate at St. Patrick's, Ballyragget, Jack Morrissey, popped over four points to help Kilkenny home.

The biggest regret among the players afterwards was that they knew they could have played better. For all of them it was a learning experience, which hopefully will benefit the

county in the years ahead. Congratulations to Galway's talented full forward and Electric Ireland player of the championship Donal O'Shea, who emulated his father Eamon by winning a Minor All-Ireland title against Kilkenny. The Kilruane MacDonaghs man lined out at right half forward and scored 1-1 in that 1976 Premier county success.

## POWER SHIFT

After Michael Ryan's resignation as Senior Hurling Team Manager in August, there was much discussion about who should/would fill the vacancy. The Co. Board Officers kept the process tight and while word emerged of the people who had been spoken to, it didn't become a media saga. Other high profile vacancies around the country proved helpful in that regard. One lesson learned is that it is as important to have gradual replacement of the backroom team in the same way as players come and go, so that a state of 'comfort' is avoided. Players come to training not to show what they can do, but to work at getting better than they are now.

Best of luck to the returning boss Liam Sheedy and his cabinet. I have no doubt he will let everyone know from the start what is expected of them. Successful management is about adapting to change rapidly and effec-

tively, cultivating the leadership group, and remembering that the really successful Managers are also leaders – they inspire and motivate, encourage and energise. It is probably fair to say that Tipperary stand in 6th place at present behind Limerick, Galway, Cork, Clare and Kilkenny. There may not be a lot covering them but Liam inherits a team which many counties would fancy their chances of beating. Previously Kilkenny set the standard and that didn't change. In his *Sunday Times* article on September 23rd – the day before Liam Sheedy was endorsed by the County Board – Christy O'Connor offered the opinion that the appointment "has been universally welcomed within the county".

The Clare man added that "one of Sheedy's biggest challenges will be trying to change the culture, something he managed when he first took over Tipp".

The 2019 All-Ireland title will be hard won with a minimum of seven games to be played. We need to be honest about our chances and not set unrealistic expectations. It will not be easy!

## CLUB RULE

I was very disappointed earlier this year when news of the decision to retain a link of Divisional winners to the county championship emerged. Those who campaigned for it were overjoyed, but it made a mockery of our merit based county championship. The Roinn 1 four group system is sound in itself because it offers promotion from the Seamus Ó Riain competition and relegation from top flight, but not directly out of senior.

We note that last year's promoted teams Toomevara and Roscrea did not find themselves in any difficulty, holding their places in Roinn 1. The decision means that potentially you could have another four clubs joining the eight, which have earned the right to a quarter-final place. Whatever argument there might be in

facilitating the North or Mid winners, who will play at least three games to win the title, there is none is giving assurance to the winner of a one game competition. This link needs to be ended and the integrity of the county championship protected.

The plight of Killenaule was also a warning. They moved from being participants in the Preliminary quarter-final to a relegation play off in a matter of weeks. We need to simplify things!

In recent weeks, we had play-offs and a preliminary quarter-finals played on week nights. The Thurles Sarsfields/Drom Inch/Upperchurch-Drombane play-off could have been eliminated by the addition of a codicil to the competition regulations which allows a mini table to be compiled, based on the games played involving the three teams which finish level on points. If that had been the case, the running order would have been as it was after the play-offs.

Today's test should produce worthy county champions, who hopefully will make progress on the Provincial scene, despite a difficult opening game in Limerick. It will be thirty two years next St. Patrick's day since a Tipperary club claimed the Tommy Moore Cup.

## FINALLY

On the morning of the opening round, Tipp v Limerick on May 20th last, I popped into the Woodfield House Hotel near the Gaelic Grounds for a cup of coffee before the Minor game. There I met Jimmy Morris from Nenagh Éire Óg enjoying his breakfast and looking forward to a double header of Munster championship hurling. He told me he goes to as many games as he can, be they juvenile, under-age and adult grades.

I met him again two weeks ago at Sempie Stadium and as one of the Club Presidents, he was thrilled with Nenagh Éire Óg's win over Thurles Sarsfields. After the game he gave me a big smile and promised he would be back today!! Jimmy is a true blue!

## Róisín Donnelly (Moycarkey-Borris)

I spent three weeks in Coláiste na Rinne, County Waterford as part of the Gaeltacht Scholarship in June 2017 along with some of my friends from the Presentation Secondary School in Thurles. I improved my Irish while having fun and made new friends. Bhain mé taitneamh as cultúr, ceol agus damhsa na Gaeltachta. Finally, congratulations to Moycarkey-Borris on winning the County Minor A Hurling title last weekend and best wishes to the club in today's Seamus O'Riain Cup Final.



# ROSS RMORE

Learn from the past - look to the future



Best wishes to

Clonoulty Rossmore

From...

# ROSS RMORE

Clonoulty, Cashel,

Co. Tipperary.

0504 - 42230

# TOMMY DWYER

1940 - 2017

**T**OMMY DWYER (Drombane) died in The Hermitage Hospital on 12/12/2017. It was difficult to believe that a life full of energy and activity was over. Tommy was well known not just in Tipperary but further afield as well. His work with *The Star Newspaper* and *The Farmer's Journal* made him a familiar face in every village and town throughout the country.



He was born in Clonealy, in the parish of Clonoulty-Rossmore and was a staunch supporter of the GAA club all his life. While working in Dublin with Johnston Mooney & O'Brien, Tommy played hurling with the Young Ireland's Club.

He won a League title, the Boland Cup and a prestigious County Senior Hurling Final in 1965. Shortly afterwards he returned to his native club, winning a Crosco Cup and a County Junior Football final in 1969. In the twilight of his career he won a West junior hurling championship in 1983.

Tommy continued to tog out and play in many positions despite some lean years in the club. His work commitments negated against his involvement in Club administration but he remained a loyal follower, helping with fundraising efforts in recent years to upgrade the Club's facilities. He as a promoter for The Tipperary Supporters Club for many years.

Tommy was an excellent set dancer. He and his fellow dancers were very successful in the early years of Scór, winning a number of West Titles. There was great excitement when the Clonoulty Rossmore set-dancers won the County Final in 1984. Tommy was an important and influential member of that set. That group of dancers performed at various venues – the highlight being a performance



*Tommy Dwyer, in an exciting state, jumping on Michael Ryan's back after our county final win in 1989. May they both R.I.P.*

at a Tipperary Association fund raising concert in Dublin in the late '80s.

Tommy rarely missed important Club and County games. In his last year as his health deteriorated he was regularly driven by his partner Mary to watch his beloved Clonoulty-Rossmore take to the field. He was determined to be present at the opening of the New Páirc Uí Chaoimh for the Tipp v Clare match. He also found the strength to travel with his match friends for the semi-final v Galway last year.

His funeral in Rossmore was a fitting tribute to Tommy's interests and passions. Clonoulty-Rossmore GAA and his set dancing friends formed a guard of honour as he was brought to the Church. He was laid to rest to the sounds of the much loved and cherished *Slievenamon*.

There is no doubt that Tommy is with us today as we take to the field in Semple Stadium for the 2018 County Senior Hurling Final.

# Clonoulty-Rossmore

**T**HE parish of Clonoulty-Rossmore is very proud of its headquarters in Corbally. Since 2005, Clonoulty-Rossmore GAA have embarked on an ambitious development project of updating the club facilities with a new clubhouse, two new pitches, a covered stand, a digital scoreboard and a walkway around both pitches.

This year we have erected a small stand on our top field and have redeveloped our bottom field. The two pitches are as good as any in the county and are certainly being well used.

Rarely a night goes by without some activity. The walking track on the perimeter of the complex is another development that has been a great success. The addition of lights has made it a popular and safe place for our walkers and runners.

We are currently awaiting funding for an astro turf training area with hurling wall. The club has very good coaching structures in place from Under-6 up and is very grateful for the trojan work done by all our volunteers in this regard and also to our committee members, who work tirelessly for what it takes to run our great club.

In the past couple of years, we have made great strides on bringing our club to the world stage. You can find us on Facebook and Twitter. Our weekly Lotto continues every Monday night with the Jackpot increasing by €200 every week. Tickets can now be bought online

## Interesting facts

- Timmy Hammersley is the highest scorer with 37 points to date.
- John Devane captained Clonoulty-Rossmore on our last appearance in the final in 2011. He now manages the team and his brother Liam is on the panel.
- Cathal Bourke is a son of Paddy, who is on the management team.
- Joey, John and Fiachra O'Keeffe are all brothers.
- Ciaran Quirke is a brother to Odhran and a cousin of Dillon.
- Conor, Timmy and James Hammersley are all brothers and are cousins to David Egan.
- Enda and Ronan Heffernan are brothers and are cousins to James and Padraig.

from our website. Support from all is much appreciated.

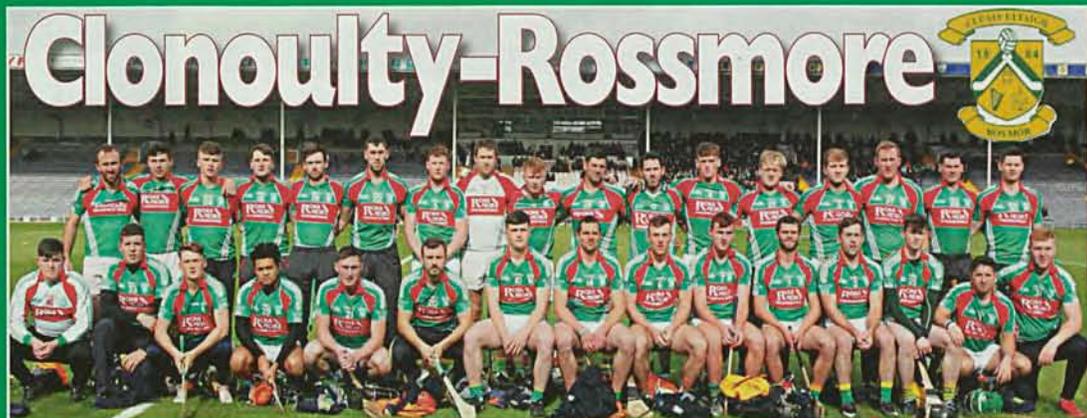
Our main fundraiser is an open air concert which is held the first weekend in June each year and has been a huge success to date.

As a Club we are exceptionally grateful for the support of members and parishioners who constantly contribute to the running of our organisation. Yes, much has been achieved but of course there is much more to do – both on and off the pitch!



Clonoulty-Rossmore backroom team: Kieran Ryan, Michael Ryan, Con O'Keeffe, P.J. O'Sullivan and Andy O'Connor.

[Photo: Eamonn McGee]



Back row (l.-r.): Niall Shanahan, Ronan Heffernan, Aidan Loughman, Padraig Carew, Kieran Carroll, Paudie Heffernan, Sean O'Connor, Declan O'Dwyer, James Ryan (Con), Tom Butler, Paudie White, Dillon Quirke, Patrick Ryan, Ciaran Quirke, Thomas Butler, Aaron Ryan, Aidan White. Front row (l.-r.): David Egan, Paul Hayes, Denis Murphy, Nathan Slattery, James Heffernan, Liam Devane, Cathal Bourke, Timmy Hammersley, John O'Keefe (Capt) Enda Heffernan, Conor Hammersely, Joey O'Keefe, Donnchadh Quirke, Fiachra O'Keefe, Odhran Quirke. (Photo: Bridget Delaney)

## PATH TO THE FINAL

### Group Stages:

Clonoulty-Rossmore 1-14, Mullinahone 0-11  
 Clonoulty-Rossmore 1-18, Nenagh Éire Óg 1-20  
 Clonoulty-Rossmore 1-22, Roscrea 2-8

### West Final:

Clonoulty-Rossmore 0-20, Éire Óg Annacarty 1-15

### Quarter-Final:

Clonoulty-Rossmore 1-19, Kiladangan 1-15

### Semi-Final:

Clonoulty-Rossmore 0-19, Toomevara 1-10

## PLAYER PROFILES

Cathal Bourke	19	Student	Sean O'Connor	28	Electrician
Thomas Butler	27	Teacher	Declan O'Dwyer	35	Guard
Tom Butler	37	Farm Manager	Fiachra O'Keefe	33	Sales Wurth Ireland
Padraig Carew	20	Student	Joey O'Keefe	31	Guard
Kieran Carroll	26	Financial Services	John O'Keefe	29	Guard
Liam Devane	31	Accountant	Ciaran Quirke	25	Electrician
David Egan	22	Student	Dillion Quirke	20	Apprentice
Conor Hammersley	25	Student	Donnchadh Quirke	19	Student
James Hammersley	21	Student	Odhran Quirke	20	Student
Timmy Hammersley	31	Participation Officer	Aaron Ryan	26	Butcher
Enda Heffernan	21	Student	Michael Ryan	21	Student
James Heffernan	31	Team Tus Leader	Patrick Ryan	30	Plumber
Padraig Heffernan	27	Personal Lines Executive	James Ryan (Con)	20	Student
Ronan Heffernan	22	Student	Niall Shanahan	27	Farmer
Patrick Hennessy	23	Procurement Associate	Nathan Slattery	19	Student
Aidan Loughman	19	Student	Aidan White	27	Windwill Technician
Denis Murphy	23	Apple employee	Padraig White	29	Farmer



Clonoulty-Rossmore Management Team  
 John Devane (Manager), Paddy Bourke and Jason Forrestal.

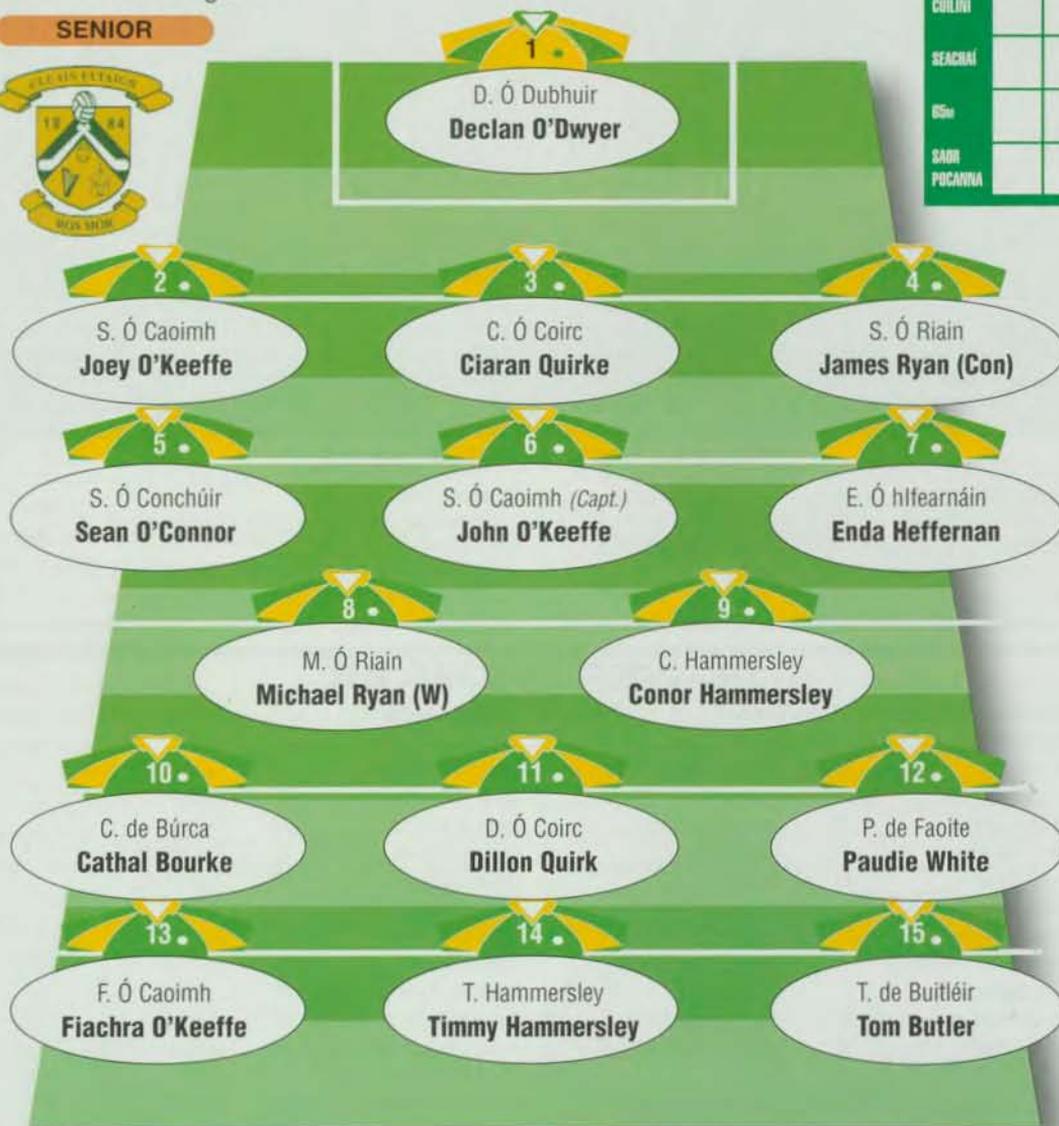
# Clonoulty-Rossmore

Dathanna: Glas agus Ór

**SENIOR**



	1st LEATH	2nd LEATH	NOILÁN
COIL			
COILÍNÍ			
SEACHAÍ			
DS			
SABH POCAIRIA			



16. D. Mac Aogáin <b>DAVID EGAN</b>	20. S. Hammersley <b>JAMES HAMMERSLEY</b>	24. A. Ó Leocháin <b>AIDAN LOUGHMAN</b>	28. P. Ó Riain <b>PATRICK RYAN</b>
17. T. de Buitléir <b>THOMAS BUTLER</b>	21. P. de hAodha <b>PAUL HAYES</b>	25. D. Ó Murchú <b>DENIS MURPHY</b>	29. N. Ó Seancháin <b>NIALL SHANAHAN</b>
18. P. Carrún <b>PADRAIG CAREW</b>	22. S. Ó hIfeárnáin <b>JAMES HEFFERNAN</b>	26. D. Ó Coirc <b>DONNCHADH QUIRKE</b>	30. A. de Faoite <b>AIDAN WHITE</b>
19. L. Ó Dubháin <b>LIAM DEVANE</b>	23. R. Ó hIfeárnáin <b>RONAN HEFFERNAN</b>	27. A. Ó Riain <b>AARON RYAN</b>	

Manager: John Devane    Selectors: Paddy Bourke, Jason Forrester  
 Doctor: Jerry O'Sullivan    Physio: Emily Hayden    Logistics: Con O'Keeffe, P.J. O'Sullivan

# Nenagh Éire Óg

Dathanna: Gorm agus Dubhgorm

SENIOR



	1am LEATH	2am LEATH	IDIRMÁN
COIL			
COILÍNÍ			
SEACHAÍ			
OSÚ			
SAGB			
POCANNA			

**S. Ó hAonasa  
Shane Hennessy**

**2**  
**C. Ó Riain  
Conor Ryan**

**3**  
**N. Ó Maolomhnaigh  
Noel Maloney**

**4**  
**C. Mac Cárthaigh  
Conor McCarthy**

**5**  
**D. Ó Coinn  
Dáire Quinn**

**6**  
**A. Maolomhnaigh  
Hugh Maloney**

**7**  
**B. Ó hIfeárnáin  
Barry Heffernan**

**8**  
**P. Ó Muiris  
Pearse Morris**

**9**  
**C. Ó Gliasáin  
Killian Gleeson**

**10**  
**P. Ó hÍcí  
Philip Hickey**

**11**  
**M. Ó hIfeárnáin (Capt)  
Michael Heffernan**

**12**  
**T. Ó hIfeárnáin  
Tommy Heffernan**

**13**  
**S. Ó Muiris  
Jake Morris**

**14**  
**P. Ó Murchú  
Paddy Murphy**

**15**  
**A. Ó Cofaigh  
Andrew Coffey**

16. M. Mac Conmara <b>MICHAEL McNAMARA</b>	20. S. Ó Maca <b>JAMES MACKEY</b>	24. C. Hilmi <b>CRAIG HILMI</b>	28. N. Mac Eochaidh <b>NIALL McKEOGH</b>
17. S. Ó Braonáin <b>JOHN BRENNAN</b>	21. N. Ó Madáin <b>NIALL MADDEN</b>	25. M. Ó Fearail <b>MARK O'FARRELL</b>	29. D. Ó Donnabháin <b>DAN O'DONOVAN</b>
18. A. Mag Reachtain <b>ADAM GRATTON</b>	22. A. Ó Ciara <b>ADAM CAREY</b>	26. C. Ó Maoilleoin <b>KILLIAN MALONE</b>	30. M. Tiúit <b>MARK TUIITE</b>
19. M. Ó Flannabhra <b>MARK FLANNERY</b>	23. A. Ó hÉilí <b>ADAM HEALY</b>	27. C. Ó Riain <b>CHRISTOPHER RYAN</b>	

Manager: John Fitzgerald

Selectors: John Phelan, Paul Ryan, Brian McDonnell

Coach: Darragh Droog

Kit Man: Matt Lillis

Physio: Paul Ryan

First Aid: Noreen Ryan, Liam Quinn

Doctor: Paul O'Farrell

# Pitch expansion on the way for Nenagh Éire Óg

**N**ENAGH Éire Óg GAA club was formed in 1947, arising from an amalgamation of two existing Nenagh clubs – Sarsfields and Éire Óg. Our senior club has won nine North senior hurling titles and one county senior hurling title in 1995.

We have an extremely hard working Juvenile Club and in more recent times, a growing and successful camogie club. One of our most popular innovations in recent times was in introduction of the young Nenagh 'Ogres' – a Saturday morning innovation of fun and frolics for a large group of highly charged 6 year old boys and girls. It is a great way of introducing our club to these children and their parents.

Slightly further up the age bracket, we have recently formed a sporting partner-



ship with Nenagh College with the creation of an academy for our under-10s up to under-16s. We are fortunate to have the use of their excellent hurling ball wall, pitches and gym.

In MacDonagh Park, we have two excellent playing fields, four dressing rooms, a sports hall and meeting rooms. There is always a hive of activity as outside of

hurling and football there is a newly formed walking club, bingo on Sunday nights and many other groups availing of the facilities. We are proud of the relationship we have with all the other sporting bodies in Nenagh and enjoy each other's successes.

We have recently completed the negotiations to purchase 10 acres of land adjoining MacDonagh Park from Tipperary Council where we hope to start soon the development of a badly needed third playing field. The goodwill from the local council and politicians to help this project over the line was very heartening.

Nenagh Éire Óg is famed as a welcoming club to all visitors and strangers and long may this continue into the future.

Éire Óg Abú.



*Nenagh Éire Óg's Hugh Moloney in possession during the Tipperary Senior County semi-final clash against defending champions Thurles Sarsfields.*

[Photo: Eamonn McGee]

# Nenagh Éire Óg



Back row: (from left) Niall McKeogh, Killian Gleeson, Pearse Morris, Adam Healy, Killian Malone, Paddy Murphy, Andrew Coffey, Barry Heffernan, Noel Maloney, Mark O'Farrell, Niall Madden, Craig Hilmi, Hugh Maloney, Tommy Heffernan, Philip Hickey. Front row (l.-r.): Michael McNamara, Conor Ryan, Adam Gratton, Mark Flannery, James Mackey, John Brennan, Michael Heffernan (Capt), Conor McCarthy, Jake Morris, Shane Hennessy, Daire Quinn.

(Photo: Bridget Delaney)

## PLAYER PROFILES

Shane Hennessy	21	Student	Michael McNamara	38	Warehouse Worker
Conor Ryan	22	Business Executive	John Brennan	35	Teacher
Noel Maloney	37	Accountant	Adam Gratton	23	Teacher
Conor McCarthy	19	Student	Mark Flannery	28	Admin Officer
Dáire Quinn	26	Teacher	James Mackey	23	Teacher
Hugh Maloney	35	Accountant	Niall Madden	28	Insurance Executive
Barry Heffernan	23	Student	Adam Carey	20	Student
Pearse Morris	28	Personal Trainer	Adam Healy	20	Student
Killian Gleeson	22	Student	Craig Hilmi	20	Student
Philip Hickey	22	Student	Mark O'Farrell	19	Student
Michael Heffernan	28	Teacher	Killian Malone	19	Student
Tommy Heffernan	26	Teacher	Christopher Ryan	23	Electrical Engineer
Jake Morris	19	Student	Niall McKeogh	20	Student
Paddy Murphy	28	Solicitor	Dan O'Donovan	19	Student
Andrew Coffey	22	Student	Mark Tuite	25	Electrician



Nenagh Éire Óg Management (from left): Brian McDonnell (Selector), Paul Ryan (Selector), John Phelan (Selector) and John Fitzgerald (Manager).

(Photo: Bridget Delaney)

## PATH TO THE FINAL

Round 1:

Nenagh Éire Óg 2-24, Roscrea 0-11

Round 2:

Nenagh Éire Óg 1-20,  
Clonoulty-Rossmore 1-18

Round 3:

Nenagh Éire Óg 2-22, Mullinahone 1-15

Quarter-Final:

Nenagh Éire Óg 2-17,  
Loughmore-Castleiney 0-18

Semi-Final:

Nenagh Éire Óg 2-18,  
Thurles Sarsfields 2-15

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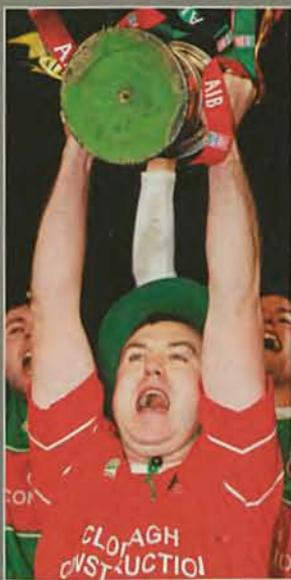
*Propreitors:* KIERAN & BRIAN O'MEARA

## On this date

OCTOBER 21st has been a rare date for the senior county final through the decades. Since the Dan Breen Cup was first presented in 1931 – the final was played in February 1932 – there have only been two previous finals on this date. The first was in 1984, when Moycarkey-Borris, captained by Jack Bergin, beat Lorrha by 2-8 to 0-9 in a game which was deferred for a week due to a number of injuries incurred by the North champions. Lorrha were seeking a first title, but this was their last county final appearance.

The second occasion was in 2007 when Loughmore-Castleiney foiled another club seeking a first title – Drom & Inch. The red and green won by 0-22 to 0-13 under the captaincy of goalkeeper Johnny Gleeson.

Drom & Inch claimed the title in 2011, but they were disappointed with their performance in 2007 especially after losing to Thurles Sarsfields two years earlier.



Loughmore-Castleiney captain Johnny Gleeson lifts the cup after victory over Tulla (Clare) in the AIB Munster Club Hurling Final at the Gaelic Grounds, Limerick on 2nd December 2007.

(Photo: Brendan Moran/Sportsfile)

## County Final Moments

By: SEAMUS O'DOHERTY

### Firm grip

THE Dan Breen Cup has been won for five consecutive five years on two occasions. Thurles Sarsfields achieved the feat twice – 1955, '56, '57, '58, '59 and in 1961, '62, '63, '64, '65. Their current team won four 2014, '15, '16, '17, as did Toomevara 1998, '99, '00, '01.

The three in-a-row has been claimed by Moycarkey-Borris 1932, '33, '34, Thurles Sarsfields 1944, '45, '46, Toomevara 1992, '93, '94, Roscrea 1968, '69, '70 and Kilruane MacDonaghs 1977, '78, '79. Back in time, Toomevara won a trio of titles in 1912/13/14 and immediately afterwards Boherlahan trumped it with four.

## IN DAYS OF OLD

GENERALLY after the county final presentation ends, supporters meet up around the Stadium for a discussion on the day's events or head towards the car hoping the traffic is moving in their favour. Fifty five years ago, the county final between Thurles Sarsfields (4-10) and Roscrea (2-10) was played at MacDonagh Park, Nenagh, but there was more action to savour after the big game.

A report on Bord na nOg affairs in the *Nenagh Guardian* (9/11/1963) ran as follows-

*"On October 27th after the excitement of the county final had died down and while many were trying to get their cars out of the ground, Moneygall and Éire Óg under-12 teams took the field and many of them tried to emulate the feats of the senior finalists. Éire Óg won by 9-3 to 3-0.*

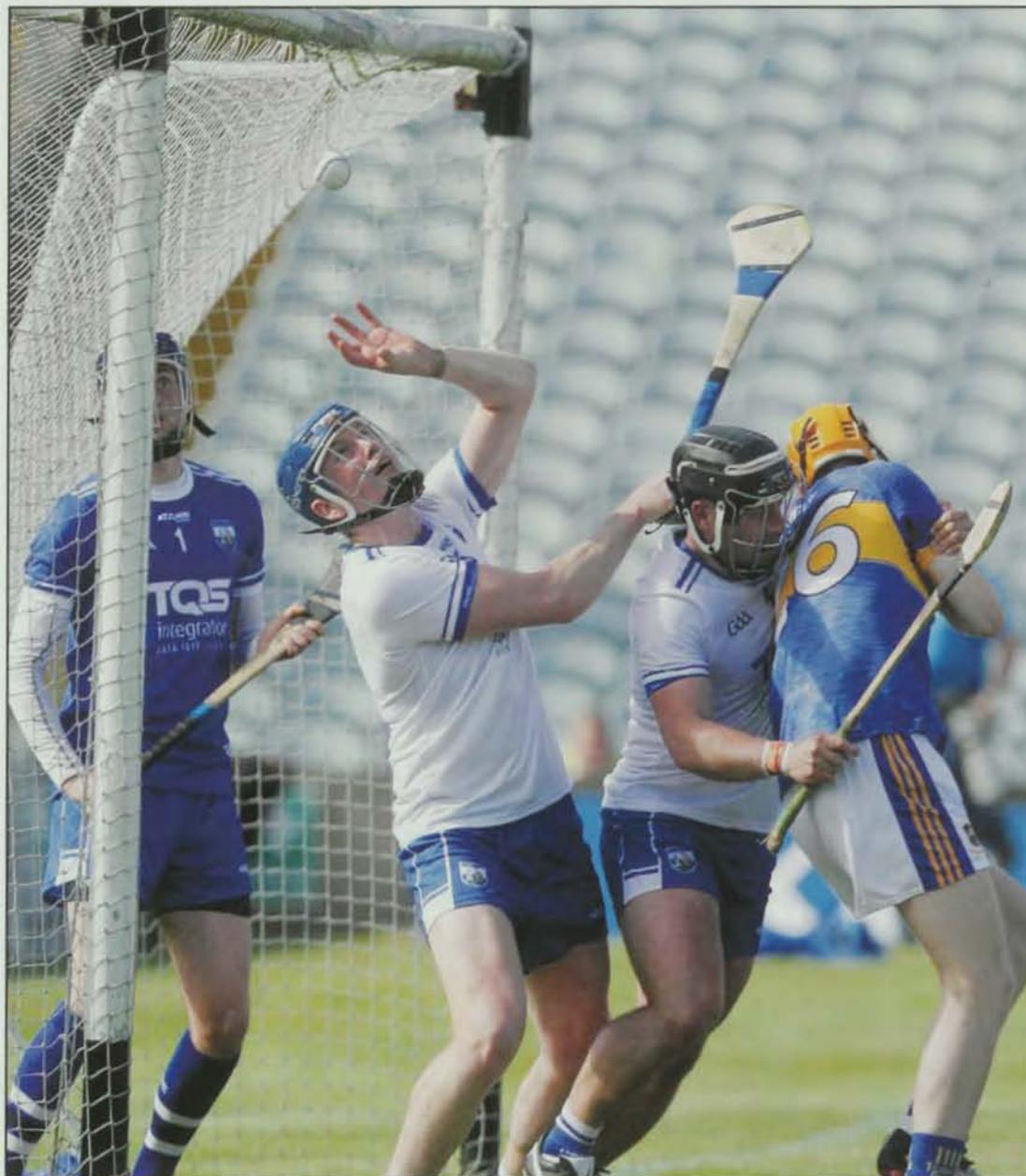
*Best for Nenagh were M. Maguire, S. Grace, M. O'Meara, while Moneygall had good triers in P. Fanning, P. Meara, E. Ryan and P. Sheedy. Mr. D. Nealon NT refereed."*

Moneygall certainly emulated the 1963 seniors with some of their team involved in the club's 1975/76 county final winning teams.



Steward Tommy Connors enjoys a cup of tea during half-time of the 2013 Waterford Crystal Cup quarter-final between Tipperary and Limerick at MacDonagh Park, Nenagh.

(Photo: Diarmuid Greene/Sportsfile)

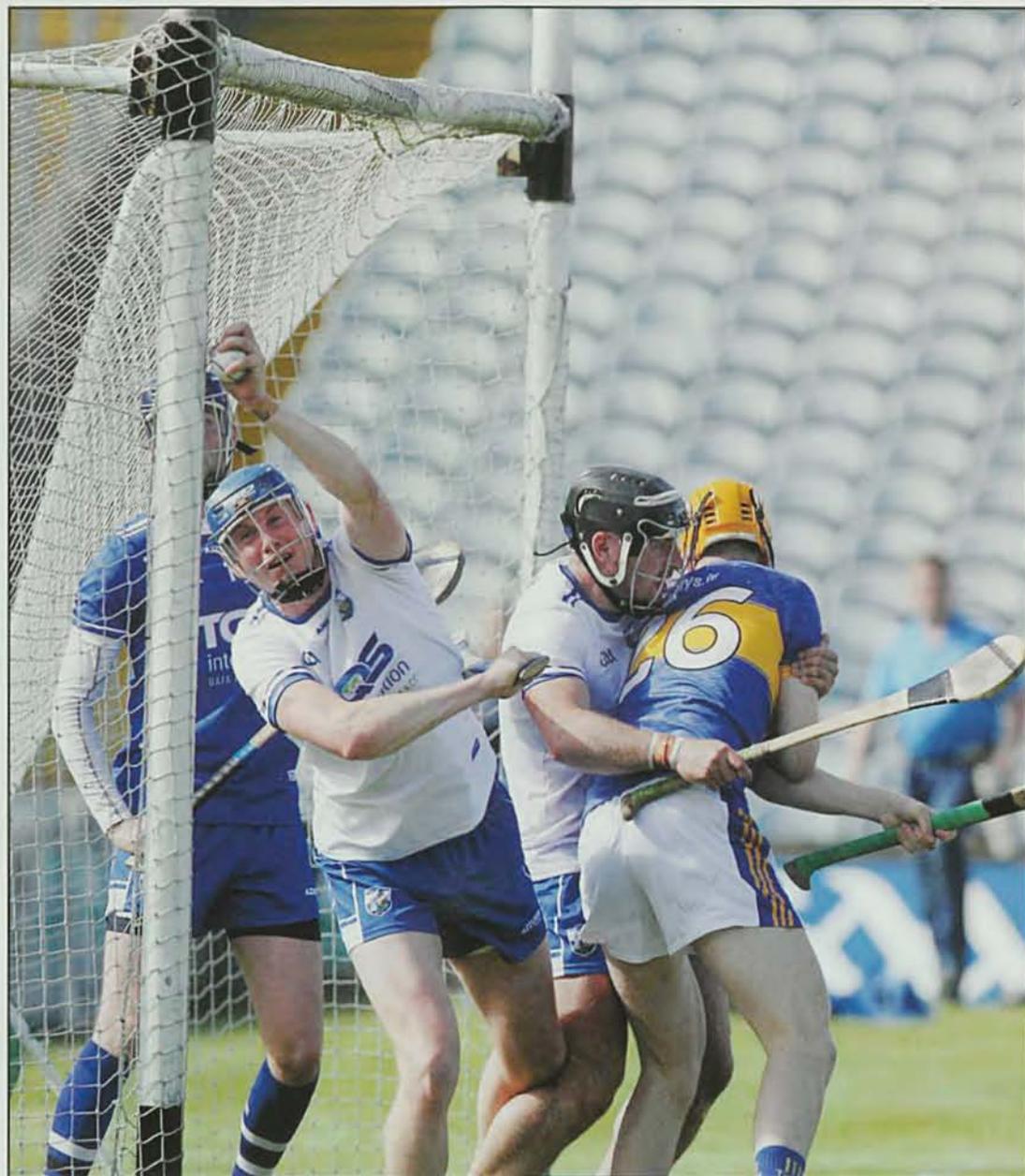


*My Photograph of the Year*



By: **BRIDGET DELANEY**  
(Photographer)

**1 GHOST GOAL** – Austin Gleeson about to grab the ball but the umpire deemed it over the line and Tipperary's Jason Forde's effort was registered a goal which at the time kept the Premier cause alive in the SHC as the score snatched a draw. Nenagh Éire Óg clubman Jake Morris is held from advancing.



**2 GHOST GOAL** – This is the follow up shot with Austin Gleeson grabbing the ball on the line or was he inside the line? The green flag was raised for a Tipperary goal by Jason Forde and had Tipperary advancing in the SHC. This sequence would be talking point of the Hurling Championship Year.

[Photos: Bridget Delaney]

*“My Photograph of the Year”*



By: **BRIDGET DELANEY**  
(Photographer)

Best wishes to Clonoulty Rossmore G.A.A.  
from Clonoulty N.S.

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**Sunday  
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2018  
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Clonoulty N.S. 0504 42029; Carmels Shop, Clonoulty; Rossmore P.O.  
and also from 087 2961367

# Divisional senior final programmes to go online

By: PAT BRACKEN

**F**URTHER to the success of the digitisation of Tipperary County Final match programmes online on the Tipperary Studies website, a decision was taken by the digitisation team to make freely available the back catalogue of senior divisional finals from across Co Tipperary.

Over the past number of months, my colleague, Donal Lillis (Roscrea Library) and I, have been working on scanning, digitising and making available online this collection of programmes. This could not happen without the grateful and continuing support and permission of Tipperary GAA Co. Board. Also very supportive of the whole process and without whom the initiative could not initially proceed without their permission are the four divisional Boards, Mid, North, South and West and their respective board officers.

Mindful that some finals were played as double headers, there are 164 final programmes now digitised across the four divisions. From Mid-Tipperary there are 44 hurling finals and 1 football final digitised. From North Tipperary there are 35 senior hurling final programmes; from South Tipperary there are 28 senior hurling finals and 25 football finals digitised, while from the West Tipperary division there are 30 senior hurling finals and 1 football final programme digitised.

The fact that so many programmes are available for scanning is due principally to Lár na Pairce, from where many of the programmes originated and to the many individuals across the county and further afield who donated copies of programmes so that the collection could continue to grow and be preserved in Tipperary Studies.

To add to the online experience, Donal and I, also added contemporary match reports for these and



Comhairle Contae Thiobraid Árann  
Tipperary County Council

many other finals, where no programme exists in our collection, from the wonderful collection of the local Tipperary press, also in the archive of Tipperary Studies. With the kind permission of the respective editors and sports editors of the *Nationalist*, *Nenagh Guardian* and *Tipperary Star* we were able to proceed with this aspect of the digitisation programme. We hope that it adds greatly to the reading experience of all GAA patrons, and also people researching family history, as the match programme and newspaper reports are released online.

While there are 164 match programmes scanned and digitised, as noted, there are 300 match final reports in the collection, so there are lots of clubs included from all over the county. While everything has been scanned and digitised, each division will be released over the next few weeks, with the Mid Tipperary match programmes and press reports available this week. News of future release dates will be carried on the Tipperary GAA Scene notes in the local press and online.

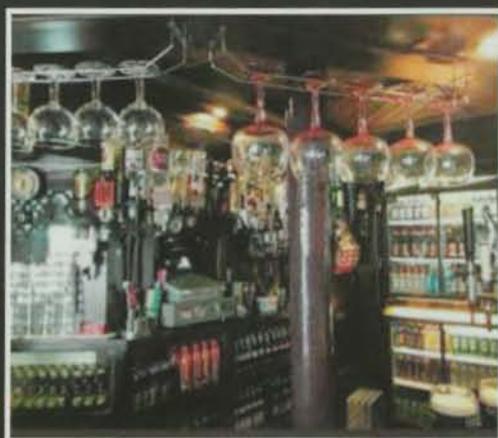
With the full back catalogue of Tipperary GAA yearbooks already online, along with 67 Co Hurling finals, from 2017-1949 and 49 Co Football finals from 2017-1971, there is much information there for all patrons of Tipperary GAA. This new material greatly adds to the collection. All items may be viewed at [www.tipperarystudies.ie](http://www.tipperarystudies.ie) and follow the relevant links under 'digital archive'. As ever, if anyone has any copies of programmes which are missing from the collection and would like to donate or loan a copy for scanning purposes, we would be delighted to hear from you.



*Best of luck to  
Clonoulty-Rossmore GAA Club  
in today's County Hurling Final  
from*

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## Club Stalwart

# Andrew FRYDAY

CLONOLTY-ROSSMORE

By: NOEL DUNDON (Tipperary Star)



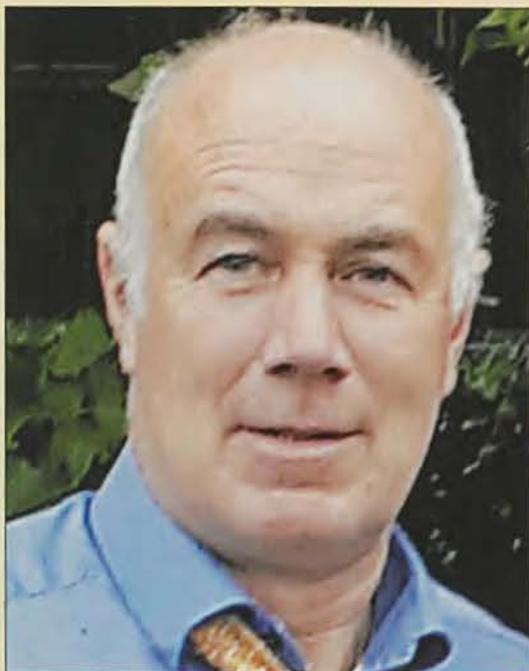
**T**HE number of residents in the parish of Clonoulty-Rossmore who hold two county senior hurling titles are few and far between, but club stalwart **Andrew Fryday** is one of those.

Goalkeeper on the victorious side of 1989 against Holycross-Ballycahill, Andrew was still the custodian eight years later when the West men defeated Mullinahone in the decider of 1997. Throw in a hatfull of West senior hurling titles and it's clear that Andrew had a good innings on the field of play. But, when the day came to throw the gear into the corner and hang up the boots, he didn't walk away from the club.

"I played outfield most of the time up to about 16 or 17 and then I was asked to go in goals. Soon, I was on the senior team and I suppose we enjoyed some great days winning those two senior finals. I always say, when you get the chance to play in a county final, you should enjoy it and make the most of it, because they don't come around easy, or too often," Andrew says.

Following his retirement from between the sticks, Andrew remained involved with the club – it was the natural thing for him to do. He acted as Chairman for five years, during which time a lot of development took place at the fantastic grounds on the outskirts of the village. But, he swats away suggestions that he was a driving force behind the work, even though others would claim he was, and still is.

"There has been a lot of development over the last 10/15 years at our grounds and a lot of people have played their part. I was Chairman for five years but others have driven the whole thing on as well. You cannot achieve progress with projects unless you have the support and



Andrew Fryday

assistance of a lot of people and we are fortunate in Clonoulty-Rossmore to have great people who are prepared to put their shoulder to the wheel," he says.

The club now has two pitches – one fully floodlit; a covered stand for each pitch; spacious dressingrooms and gym; and a walkway around their grounds which is used by so many across the community. The GAA grounds have become a real community focal point with the magnificent playground also attracting many people.

Success on the field helps to drive success off the field too, and Andrew is hoping that the club can enjoy the bounce received from having reached today's county final.

"Getting to the final is a huge lift to everyone because we probably didn't see it happening this year for a long time. But, the lads have really got on a run and they will have a right cut off winning this game this afternoon. If we do it, it will be brilliant but if we don't have enough we'll clap our lads on the back and say well done on a great year.

I have to say this season has been very well managed by our management team because we had the juniors and seniors going all through the summer with 35/40 lads in the field all the time. It was great to see and we'd love to see them getting rewarded for that at the final whistle today," Andrew says.

# O'Dwyer and Clonoulty-Rossmore eyeing the ultimate

By: CHRISTY O'CONNOR



**W**HEN Declan O'Dwyer first joined the Clonoulty-Rossmore senior panel in 2001, the good times were slowly segueing into the bad times. Clonoulty had been senior champions in 1997. They narrowly lost the 1998 final to Toomevara but then the slope caught them and Clonoulty struggled to stop sliding.

In 2003, Clonoulty had to beat Moycarkey-Borris in a



Clonoulty-Rossmore's goalkeeper Declan O'Dwyer goes high to gain possession. [Photo: Bridget Delaney]

relegation final to stave off Intermediate. The following season was another black year. When O'Dwyer played his first senior championship match in 2005, his debut was a relegation semi-final against Holycross-Ballycahill. "It was a fair baptism," says O'Dwyer. "A real pressure game."

The bad times were all O'Dwyer really knew but Clonoulty still always had a habit of finding a way. They lost a West Tipperary final in 2006 before going on to win six Divisional finals in a row. A new team was slowly forming, gradually making their way up the gradient, learning as they went. They lost a quarter-final to Drom-Inch by two points in 2007. The following year, Clonoulty took Thurles to extra-time in a replay. By 2010 they were back in a final for the first time in 12 years but Thurles beat them by nine points. Within 12 months, they had turned over Thurles in a semi-final. They went into the final as favourites but they lost to Drom-Inch by two points. "It was devastating," says O'Dwyer. "It was even harder to take when we got so close and just couldn't get over the line."

Clonoulty's fortunes oscillated wildly again over the following years. They finally made it back to a semi-final again in 2016 but

Sars buried them by ten points. "I was really questioning everything after that defeat," says O'Dwyer. "We were trying hard but we just weren't closing the gap. We were having some big losses in knockout championship matches. You're thinking, 'Are we making progress, or are we just delusional?'"

"You're also kinda thinking that you're the victim of just being around at a time when a great team is dominating. We'd never go into a match against Sars afraid of them. But when you're facing a team which has won as much as they have, they're going to have the experience to get over the line in a tight match. And when we lost that 2016 semi-final to Sars by so much, you were wondering if we would ever get back to a final."

Clonoulty went out at the quarter-final stage last year. They wouldn't have been considered serious contenders at the outset of this season but Clonoulty turned a significant corner in their group game against Nenagh. "They were flying it at the time, blowing teams away," says O'Dwyer. "Nobody expected us to get near them but we came away from that match disappointed that we didn't win it. Things really picked up for us afterwards. We realised that we weren't



Clonoulty-Rossmore's goalkeeper Declan O'Dwyer feels the sting as he makes a save from Toomevara's Mark McCarthy's close range shot.

(Photo: Eamonn McGee)

that far away. It reinforced our belief and we found some good form.

"Training was going well. It's the first time that I can remember where we don't have lads injured. I won't say it was unexpected to get back to a final but if you were to base our form on our performances over the past two or three years in knockout games, you wouldn't have expected it."

O'Dwyer is one of seven players who played in the 2010 and 2011 finals still on the current starting team. This is his 14th year as first

choice goalkeeper. O'Dwyer is 35 now. He knows he may not get too many more opportunities to win that precious county medal but being based as a Garda in Dublin, now working with the cyber-crime unit in Harcourt Square in the city centre, and having to face the long trek out of the city before pointing the car home for training, has made O'Dwyer cherish the good days even more.

"I was only thinking about this recently," he says. "I've been knocking around this panel since 2001 and, bar

just six months, I've been travelling from either Limerick, Kildare or Dublin. If I was living at home, I'd have no fear of hurling away for a good few more years yet. The travelling is a killer. They're long days. You often leave for work early and you're not back home until 12.30 or 1 in the morning. It's hard to know how long more I can keep that going."

It's been a long journey for O'Dwyer, and Clonoulty-Rossmore, over the last two decades. But the finishing line is finally within sight again.

# 'The hurlers'

A RECENTLY published book by accomplished Offaly historian, Paul Rouse, has been attracting praise from readers. The book's emphasis is on a key period in the mid 1880s, when hurling was saved from the margins of Irish life.



Michael Cusack played a central role in the salvation of the game, along with his involvement in the foundation of the GAA in 1884. Paul Rouse researched extensively and the depth of detail included proves that the work was done. The speed at which the GAA took off around the country, ensured that difficulties encountered in running the first All-Ireland hurling championship would not arise again.

Cusack travelled far and wide to watch hurling games and his newspaper match reports were effusive. The book itself is a great read but the highlight for me, in this era of buzz words, jargon and banal comments in match analysis is Cusack's definition of a good hurling match. It was likened to – "a city on fire, where the crackling of burning timber and the hissing of the flames swell into the roar of conflagration".



Offaly manager Paul Rouse laughs with Referee Paddy Neilan during the 2018 GAA Football All-Ireland Senior Championship Round 2 match between Offaly and Clare at Bord Na Mona O'Connor Park in Tullamore. (Photo: Harry Murphy/Sportsfile)

## Amhrán na bhFiann

Canfaidh Seosamh Ó Baoill as Buiríos Ó Luigheach Amhrán na bhFiann dúinn inniu. Tá Seosamh ag freastal ar Ollscoil Bhaile Átha Cliath agus céim sa Dlí á bhaint amach aige faoi láthair. Tá suim an mhór ag Seosamh i gcursaí cultúrtha agus is amhránaí agus ceoltóir den scoth é. Ghlac sé part i gcomórtaisí Scór thar na blianta agus tá Craobh an Chontae agus Craobh na Mumhan bainte amach aige. Is duine deisbhéalach é agus is Fear an tí iontach é ar an stáitse.

Guimid gach rath ar Seosamh agus é i mbun staidéir.



*Club stalwart***Matt  
LILLIS**

NENAGH ÉIRE ÓG

By: NOEL DUNDON (Tipperary Star)



**T**HE job of looking after all the gear for any team has become a serious operation. No longer will a few sliothars, a bag of jerseys and a couple of bottles of water do in the modern set-up.

With this in mind Nenagh Éire Óg are very fortunate to be able to call on the services, year after year, of **Matt Lillis**, who has almost two decades of service under his belt at this stage.

Although he didn't hurl himself, Matt, a long time member of the club, got involved with the senior team nineteen years ago when Michael Doyle of Holycross-Ballycahill was coach to the side. Since then, Matt has seen plenty of coaches and management teams coming and going, but he is still there, still looking after the needs of the players and still ensuring that absolutely everything required is available.

"The biggest feat is that you might forget something on the day of a game. You have all the usual things with the bags of jerseys, the sliothars, cones, bottles and all the other gear – it has grown and grown over the years and you have to ensure that you have spare everything in the bag, just in case," he says.

Matt has watched the current Nenagh Éire Óg side grow into the fine team they are and says that the backroom has worked as hard as any other during his time involved. He also points to the excitement which has built up in the town over the last few weeks, with the Nenagh Éire Óg



Matt Lillis

colours emerging on the streets to offer encouragement to the players.

"The lads got a great lift from that and it was nice to see people getting their colours out in support. It's different in a town to a country team like Clonoulty-Rossmore and the players appreciate the effort people have gone to. We're looking forward to a great game with Clonoulty-Rossmore – there has never been anything more than a puck of the ball between us and we have had some great battles with them, even this year. It's great to be in the final and there is something different about it this year with two different teams involved. I think the new Tipp management team has brought a bit of excitement to the county as well and hurling is being spoken about a lot. That's a great thing to have and hopefully after today people will be speaking about it even more," Matt says.

If clubs are the backbone of the Association, men like Matt Lillis who give of their time selflessly, are the backbone of the clubs. On this County Final day – Matt Lillis and his likes, deserve to take a well earned bow.

# Murphy and Nenagh

By: CHRISTY O'CONNOR



**O**N THE day of the county semi-final two weeks ago, Paddy Murphy's girlfriend, Serena Moloney, was running a race in Dublin. When she had finished, Serena jumped on a train and made it to Semple Stadium in time for the second half. She sat in beside her father, Jim Moloney, who used to play for Thurles Sarsfields to cheer on her brother, Cathal, who was playing for Sarsfields. When the final whistle blew, she was the first person Murphy met on the field afterwards. "It was a great moment," he says.

“After all the disappointments, a win now would be brilliant for the club”

Stopping Sars' bid for five-in-a-row was a huge moment for Éire Óg, especially Murphy, because he had seen them up close and personal throughout that odyssey. Along with trying to beat them with Nenagh, Murphy had travelled with Serena to watch most of Sars' Munster championship matches over the last four years.

During that time, Sars had laid waste to most teams in Tipp. During that four-in-a-row, they won three of those finals by an aggregate margin of 33 points. The only time they were really pushed to the wire was against Nenagh in the 2015 final, which Sars won by one point.

Nenagh don't have the medals but they still pushed Thurles harder than anyone else in Tipperary. Éire Óg knocked them out of the 2013 championship while Sars needed extra-time to get over the line by one point against Nenagh in the 2014 quarter-final.

Sars did take them to school last year but Nenagh never had the same psychological hang-ups with Thurles that spooked most other teams in Tipperary. "They were the best team but we always felt we had a chance against them," says Murphy. "Any time we have played them, we've either beaten them or run them close. We believed that we had a good enough team to go toe-to-toe with them. We felt that if we got ourselves right that we'd have a fair shot against whoever we came up against."



Paddy Murphy celebrates his goal against Thurles Sarsfields. (Photo: Bridget Delaney)

# trying to make up for lost time

Nenagh have invariably had good teams over the last two decades. The side that won their only county title in 1995 was unfortunate to be around at the same time as a brilliant Toomevara team, which won five county titles in the 1990s. When Toome's dominance extended into the next decade, winning six more titles between 2000-'08, Nenagh felt their wrath at various stages, including the 2006 county final. When Toomevara's iron grip on the championship loosened after 2008, Sars grabbed it by the throat, going on to



win seven of the next nine titles.

Despite suffering at the hands of two brilliant teams during those decades, Éire Óg were still often accused of underachievement, of failing to fulfil the immense potential they showed at underage. "There may be that perception outside the club, especially when we have lost (four) finals over the last 20 years," says Murphy. "But we've met good teams. Even when Toomevara and Thurles didn't win it, we lost to good Loughmore sides (in a semi-final in 2007, and a final in 2013).

"We may have had chances to win some of those games but the other sides played really well too. We don't look into it too much. If anything, we'd look at the two recent county finals (2013 and 2015) as a plus because a lot of our team now have that county final experience."

Those two defeats, to Loughmore in 2013, and Sars two years later, were lost in harrowing circumstances, both by one point. All the chastening experiences in the meantime have hardened the players even more but Murphy knows all about trying to make up for lost opportunity.

An All-Ireland U-21 winner in 2010, Murphy was on the Tipp senior panel the following year when they lost the All-Ireland final to Kilkenny. He was part of the squad again in 2013 before an Achilles tendon injury effectively ended his senior inter-county senior career. "I had a fair few chances at it but things didn't go my way for a few years afterwards," he says. "And the same opportunities didn't arise again."

Murphy continued to chase the dream with Nenagh and now, the dream is within touching distance once more. "After all the disappointments, a win now would be brilliant for the club," he says. "A lot of people have worked really hard to try and make it happen. You could see how much beating Sars meant to family and friends the last day."

And ending a 23-year famine now would unleash a whole different level of emotion.



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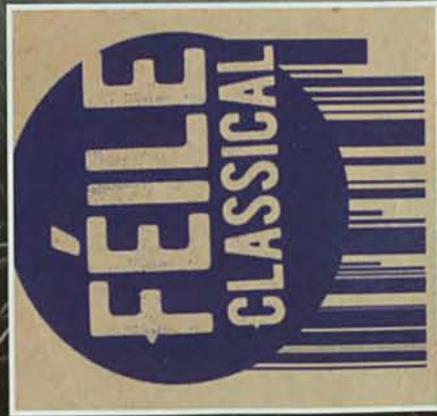
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"Everything has been quite positive since the event took place and we are quite optimistic that when all the financial implications hit, it will have been a success. We tried to offer an enhanced and extended audience experience and we would like for the whole thing to develop organically if possible from here on.

"We would love to see further engagement from the businesses and try to develop a more natural infrastructure and ecosystem to allow the event to develop. We have had many challenges with the pitch and with the orchestra in particular – each song had to be restructured for the orchestra but I think we hit on something which really captured the imagination.

"The County Board and Semple Stadium have been amazingly supportive and progressive and we have worked very well as a partnership."

– PAUL BOLAND

"There's a multiplier which is used by Ticketmaster and it is probably a little less than what Bord Fáilte uses. But nevertheless it is a multiplier of about 6.2. So that means that Féile, with the tickets sales and money spent, was probably worth between €6.1 to €8.5 million Euro to the local economy, which is massive for the local economy."

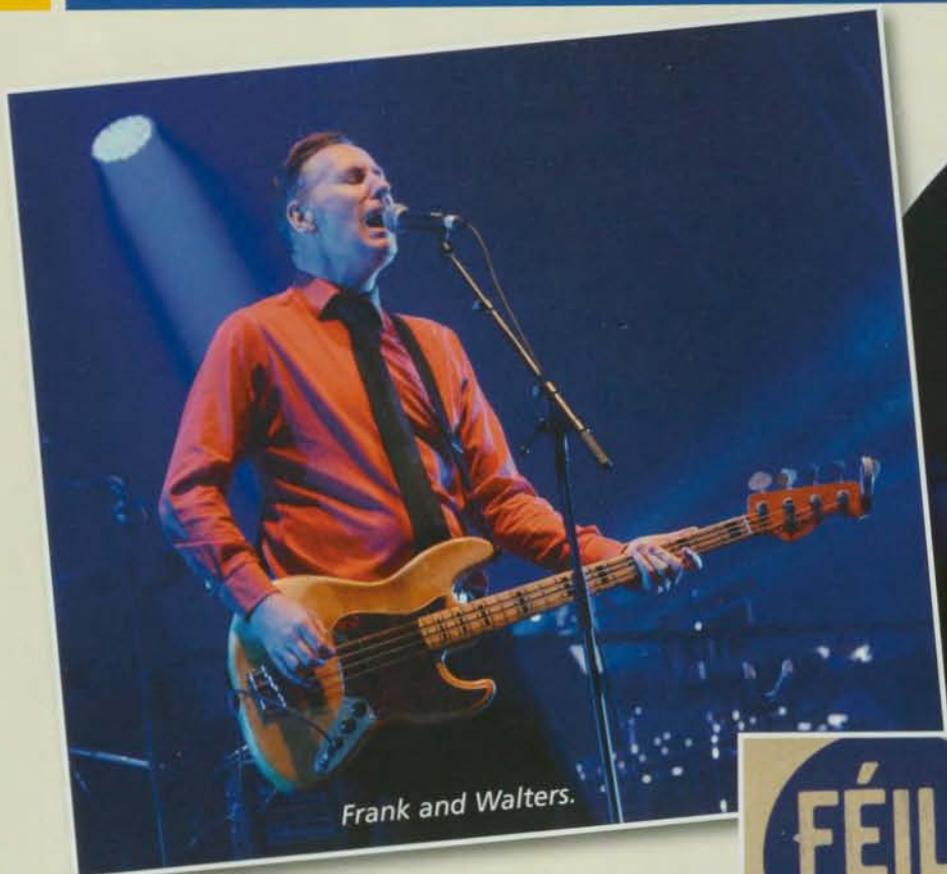
– DAVE MORGA  
(Stadium Director)

"What we discovered about this was that it was a high cost operation. It was very complex, staging wise, putting in the stage, lighting, very high tech and very well done, but also very costly. To be honest with you, the bills aren't all in yet and we certainly won't make a loss and what profit we made remains to be seen, but more importantly I think we have established a concept now."

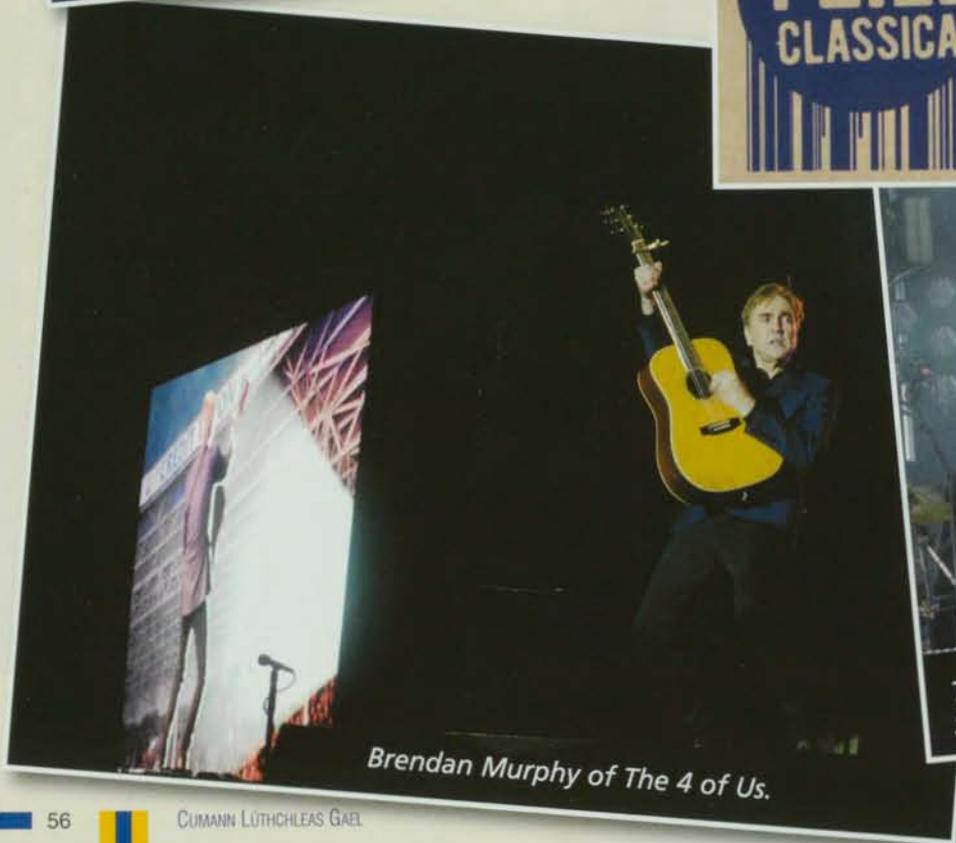
– CON HOGAN (Chairman of the Semple Stadium Management Committee)



The Hot Flowers in action during Féile Classical 2018



Frank and Walters.



Brendan Murphy of The 4 of Us.



Tom Dunne of Smething Happens



*Dustin the Turkey.*



*Steve Wall  
of The Stunning*



*Jerry Fish of An Emotional Fish.*  
[Photos: Eamonn McGee]

# Brewing Up A Storm

Steve Wall of the  
Stunning leaping in  
the air during Féile  
Classical last month  
in Semple Stadium.

[Photo: Eamonn McGee]



# Nominations sought for Tipperary Sports Awards

**T**HE Tipperary United Sports Panel is seeking nominations for the Annerville Awards, which the panel presents each year to the Tipperary amateur Sports Stars of the Year.

The panel welcomes nominations for outstanding sporting achievements since the beginning of this year. Sports stars from these sports were honoured last year: Angling, Athletics, Basketball, Camogie, Cricket, Gaelic Football, Handball, Hockey, Hurling, Ladies Football, Pitch & Putt, Powerlifting, Rowing, Rugby, Sailing, Soccer, Sports Executive and Tennis.

Nominations may be sent to any member of the panel as soon as possible. The recently-elected chairman is Muiris Walsh, Clonmel. The secretary is Seamus J. King, Boherclough, Cashel and the treasurer is Ken Conway, Clonmel.

Committee – Liam Ó Donchu, Thurles; Johnny O'Loughlin, Eamonn Wynne, Richie Blanche, Davy Hallinan, Connie Carroll and Tommy Looby (all Clonmel), and Seamus McCarthy (Bansha).

Last year's winners included Tipperary hurling captain Padraic Maher, Tipperary Gaelic footballer Brian Fox, Ladies footballer Aisling McCarthy and camogie star Amy Kennedy.

You are also invited to nomi-



Donie Nealon – the 2017 Knocknagow Award winner – with John Costigan, President Tipperary GAA and GAA Trustee.

nate a recipient for the *Lifetime Achievement Award*. This award celebrates an individual who has shown a consistent lifetime commitment to their chosen sport in County Tipperary. Recent recipients of this award include Jim Kennedy (Clonmel) and Eileen Boland (Moyle Rovers).

The *Knocknagow Award*, which each year is presented to

an outstanding sportsperson of the past, was presented last year to legendary GAA figure Donie Nealon.

The winners will be announced in early December and the awards, which are sponsored by Bulmers, will be presented at the Panel's annual function at the Clonmel Park Hotel on Saturday, January 26.

## CLONOULTY-ROSSMORE

*Additional panel members of Clonoulty-Rossmore:*

Nicky Kearns, Kieran Carroll, Shaun Coffey, Pdraig Heffernan, Patrick Hennessy, Kevin Horan, Anthony Kearney, Dylan Kennedy, Stephen Quinn, Odhran Quirke, Jack Ryan, Nathan Slattery.

# 1993

## Burgess capture County Intermediate Title

By: SEAMUS J. KING



**B**URGESS won the county intermediate title in 1993 when they defeated Upperchurch-Drombane in the final at Templederry on November 7. It was their first victory since 1976, when they beat Éire Óg, Annacarty in a replay. The previous year, 1992, they had reached the final but were beaten by Kickhams.

Five teams affiliated in the 1993 North intermediate championship, Templederry, Shannon Rovers, Kildangan and Silvermines, as well as Burgess. The championship was played on a league basis with the top three to qualify for the knockout stage.

Burgess began their campaign against

Templederry at Nenagh on July 3. Against a strong breeze they trailed by 2-10 to 0-5 at the break but put up a good second-half performance to draw by 1-17 to 2-14.

Their next game was against Shannon Rovers on July 16 and they came through this contest by 0-19 to 2-10. A week later they defeated Silvermines by 2-13 to 1-9 at Nenagh. This was a tough encounter, which saw both sides reduced to thirteen players during the game. On August 22, Burgess cleared the final hurdle when they defeated Kildangan by 3-14 to 3-8 at Cloughjordan.

They emerged top of the group with seven points and qualified for the final. The second and third teams, Templederry and Shannon Rovers, qualified for a semi-final, which was won by Templederry at Nenagh on September 29 by 1-10 to 1-8.



The stage was now set for the final, which was fixed for MacDonagh Park, Nenagh on October 3. Burgess retained their title by accounting for Templederry by 3-12 to 1-9. *The Guardian* reported the match thus: "Weather conditions were atrocious, but credit to both sides for their efforts to provide a splendid game. The scoreline is a bit hard on Templederry, who lived with their opponents for the first half, but when Burgess turned on the power in the second half, they were unable to withstand it. But they battled gamely to the end. The opening five minutes of the second half were critical in deciding the game, as Burgess hit a goal and two points that put them in a commanding position. This Burgess team shows promise of future greatness. The foundation of victory was laid on a solid half-back line."

The North intermediate champions were: David Ryan, Shane Ryan, John Flannery, Kevin Cooney, John McKenna (0-3), Colm McDonnell, Tony Gregan, John Joe Ryan, John Darcy (0-3),

Denis Darcy, Liam McGrath (0-1), John Grace (1-0), Michael Kearns, Sean Nealon (1-5), Darrell Tucker (1-0). Subs: Eugene Hogan, Aidan McGrath.

John Darcy won the *Guardian* 'Player of the Week' for his display in the final.

Referee: Michael Cahill (Kilruane Mac Donaghs).

## THE COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP

Burgess's opponents in the county semi-final were West champions, Arravale Rovers. This game was played at Templederry on October 20 and the North champions came through by 1-13 to 0-13 in an absorbing encounter. Burgess were in disarray in the first half and appeared to be chasing the game, while Arravale were on top and led at the interval by 0-10 to 1-4. However, Burgess were a transformed side in the second half and served up an impressive performance to emerge impressive winners. Outstanding for the winners were Dinny Darcy

### *Burgess Intermediate Team with Mentors – 1993 County Champions*

Back row (l.-r.): Seamus Slattery, John Ryan (Coach), Donal Nealon, John Maher, John Joe Ryan, Denis Darcy, Timmy Maher, Kevin Cooney, Liam McGrath, Eugene O'Brien, John Flannery, Colm McDonnell, Darrel Tucker, John Murray, Aidan McGrath, John Ryan, Michael Kearns, Patrick Cooney. Front row (l.-r.): David Ryan, Eugene Hogan, Tony Gregan, Shane Ryan, Sean Nealon (Captain with mascot Sean Darcy), John Grace, John Darcy, John McKenna, Donie Nealon (Manager), Dave McAuliffe, Darren Meaney.

[Photo: Bridget Delaney]



and Sean Nealon, whose accuracy accounted for 10 points of the winners' total.

The county final between Burgess and Upperchurch-Drombane was arranged for Temple-derry on November 7 at 12 noon. The heavens opened for the entire game and the conditions for playing hurling were as adverse as they could possibly be. However, the conditions failed to dampen the enthusiasm of the Burgess players, who overcame the stern challenge of the opposition by 0-11 to 0-7.

According to the match report in *The Guardian* "There were many reasons why Burgess won this thrilling game. They won because of the character and pride instilled in the side by trainer, Donie Nealon, and his selectors. They won because they had men like Liam McGrath and Dinny Darcy, who were prepared to run themselves to a standstill for the honour of the green and gold on their backs. They won because they had a set of backs and a goal-keeper, who blocked, hooked, chased and harried their opponents in an attempt to stave off wave after wave of Upperchurch attacks. But, most importantly, they won because they had fifteen men on the field who played as a team



Respective Captains Sean Nealon (Burgess) and Michael Ryan (Upperchurch/Drombane) shake hands with Referee Willie Barrett the man in the middle prior to the start of the County Intermediate Final.

and were prepared to cross the pain barrier to satisfy the great hunger for success that had plagued the club for so many years at adult level. This victory, and the subsequent promotion to senior level for the 1994 season, is a just



WE ARE THE CHAMPIONS – Celebrating the County Intermediate Final win at the Five Alley Bar (from left): Patricia Bourke (Gibson), Donal Nealon, Mairéad Hogan (Gilmore), David McAuliffe, Nuala Nealon, Orla Hogan (Corcoran), Dolores Gelston (Nealon) and Sheila Cleary (Gregan). [Photo: Bridget Delaney]



*Burgess Manager Donie Nealon gives instructions in the dressing room.*

reward for the many months of toil and effort put in on the training field and if ever a side deserves its moment in the limelight, then surely this Burgess side does."

The champions were: David Ryan, Shane Ryan, John Flannery, Kevin Cooney, John McKenna, Colm McDonnell, Tony Gre-

gan, John Joe Ryan, John Darcy (0-2), Liam McGrath (0-2), Dinny Darcy, John Grace (0-1), Eugene Hogan, Sean Nealon (0-4), Darrell Tucker (0-2). Subs: Michael Kearns. Also: Aidan McGrath, John Maher, John Murray, Patrick Cooney, Darren Meaney, David McAuliffe, Donal Nealon, Timmy Maher, Eugene O'Brien, John Ryan, -Seamus Slattery.

Team management: Donie Nealon (manager), John Ryan (trainer), Kieran Hogan, Jack Maher, Mortimer Hogan.



*Burgess Captain Sean Nealon receives the Cup from County Board Chairman Michael Maguire following the 1993 County Intermediate Final win at Kenyon Park Templederry.*

**Statistics:** The team remained undefeated in their seven intermediate hurling championship matches. They scored 10 goals 99 points and conceded 8 goals and 70 points. Eighteen players took part, the starting fifteen plus Michael Kearns, John Maher and Aidan McGrath. Ten players scored in the campaign, Sean Nealon 4-43, Darrell Tucker 1-14, John Darcy 2-10, Liam McGrath 1-10, Michael Kearns 0-12, Denis Darcy 1-4, John Grace 1-1, Eugene Hogan 0-2, John McKenna 0-2, Shane Ryan 0-1. Burgess played all their seven game in their own division.



*Sadie McGrath and Kit Cooney celebrating the 1993 County Intermediate Final win at Kenyon Park, Templederry.*

[Photos: Bridget Delaney]

# BURGESS

## PLAYER PROFILES

**David Ryan:** At nineteen a very safe and dependable goalkeeper. Winner of two County Intermediate and three north Tipp intermediate medals, as well as a north and County U16B and minor B honours. Won North U12B as a wing forward where he often showed great pace and scoring ability before moving to goals at adult level.

**Shane Ryan:** A strong no-nonsense right corner back of only nineteen years. Winner of two county and four north Tipp intermediate medals as well as junior A and B North titles. Played with Tipperary team in New York, winning three senior titles there.

**John Flannery:** A very strong and experienced full-back who also won many honours with Kiladangan and Nenagh Éire Óg clubs before transferring to Burgess. Winner of All-Ireland minor, U.21 and junior medals. He also won two North Tipp and one county intermediate medal as well as numerous honours at underage and junior hurling and football level plus five county U21 titles.

**Kevin Cooney:** A top class left corner back, skilful and fast to the ball, who showed great promise when captaining the minor B county championship team from the centre back position. Other honours won were two north and one county intermediate, three north junior A's. Also won Munster hurling and football inter-firms with Shannon Aerospace and with Nenagh C.B.S. won Kinane and Fitzgerald competitions.

**John McKenna:** A stylish and very competent right wing back, winner of many underage titles from U12 to Minor B county successes as well as Rice Cup and Dean Ryan medals with Nenagh C.B.S. and one Munster U.16 medal. Another young player

of nineteen years who won North Tipp junior and two North Tipp intermediate honours and one county intermediate medal.

**Colm McDonnell:** A rock solid, hard tackling centre back in the old style, who commanded his area with great determination. Very successful at under age grades and was centre-field on the county winning minor B team of 1990. Represented Nenagh C.B.S. on Dean Ryan and Harty Cup teams. Winner of two North Tipp intermediate and one county intermediate medals. A never say die player.

**Tony Gregan:** A tough tackling fast and courageous left wing back, cool under pressure and part of an excellent halfback line. Won one county intermediate and two North intermediates, U16 B, junior B, U21B hurling medals, as well as intermediate football.

**John Darcy:** A great all-rounder and the first Burgess player to win a Munster and All-Ireland medal. John was an outstanding centre field player, equally strong on right or left sides and very capable of taking scoring opportunities when needed. Other honours won were north Tipp U13, minor B, two intermediates, junior A and centenary cup medals in hurling. Munster U21 and All-Ireland inter-firm in hurling also. In football he won north intermediate and junior titles. At county Tipp level he won junior B and intermediate honours.

**John Joe Ryan:** Midfield partner to John Darcy on the 1993 team, John Joe was a great grafter on the field and always gave every ounce of energy and commitment to the cause. He won two north intermediate, two junior B and a centenary cup in hurling as well as one inter-

mediate football medal. At schools level he won a U16 Munster medal and in county Tipp championships his honours were junior B and intermediate medals.

**John Grace:** Fast, skilful and tenacious, John could play in defence or attack, where he functioned as an excellent left wing forward on the 1993 team. He won Munster and All-Ireland Colleges B with Nenagh CBS. In north Tipp championships he won two intermediate, two junior B, U21B, U16B in hurling as well as minor B, Junior B and intermediate football. At county Tipp level he won intermediate and junior titles in hurling and junior B football.

**Liam McGrath:** Strong, powerful and fearless, Liam won the 'player of the match' award for his outstanding display in the '93 county final. Liam won several underage north Tipp honours in both hurling and football from U12 upwards. He won north and county in U16 B and minor B in 1990 as well as U16 Munster. He represented Tipperary at U14, U16 and minor before winning U21 Munster and All-Ireland medals in 1995. He also won a national league medal in 1994 but was unlucky to lose to Clare by a point in the '97 All-Ireland final. Liam's departure to the USA a few years later was a huge loss to the club.

**Denis Darcy:** A very experienced and long-serving player who had a great ability in wisely distributing the ball from centre forward to the best advantage of the other forwards as well as taking vital scores himself. His physical strength and all round intelligent play made marking him very difficult for his opponents. Honours won were North minor B, two intermediate titles and a centenary cup, as well as one county intermediate medal. He played in eleven north Tipp semi-finals before winning one. He also played county junior with Tipperary, winning a Munster medal in 1995 but losing out to Kilkenny in the All-Ireland final.

**Sean Nealon:** Captain and top scorer, excellent free taker, skilful and a very powerful striker of the

ball. Winner of one senior and two junior Munster and All-Ireland medals plus an Oireachtas medal. He also won U16B, two junior B, U21B and two intermediate north Tipp titles as well as All-Ireland senior A schools with Nenagh vocational school before he won county Tipp intermediate and junior B medals. In football he also won north Tipp minor B and intermediate medals.

**Darrell Tucker:** Extremely fast and a very impressive free scoring corner forward on the '93 team. Excelled at under age winning U12 north, U16B, minor B championships north and county in 1990. Holder of one County intermediate, three north intermediate as well as three north junior A's and one junior B honours. Won under age football competitions as well as a north minor B in football. Outstanding record in recent years as manager of Burgess/Duharra senior camogie.

**Eugene Hogan:** A very speedy and capable forward, Eugene won all grades at underage north level, i.e. U12B, two U14B, U16B, minor B, U21B in hurling. As a very excellent footballer he won North junior and intermediate medals and represented Tipperary at minor football for two years. With Nenagh CBS he won Kinane Cup (U16½B) and he also won Peadar Cummins (U14 hurling) and Garda Cup (U16 hurling) with North Tipp selections. In addition, he won two north and one county intermediate medals.

**Michael Kearns:** Right corner forward for most of the '93 campaign, Michael was a talented and most capable player who contributed to the scoring in all games. Injured prior to the final but came on as a sub in the final quarter. Winner of two north and one county intermediate medals as well as a U21B north in hurling and two north U16B. Wing forward on the Nenagh Vocational Schools All-Ireland winning team and also won north minor B and intermediate football medals. Also winner of All-Ireland inter-firms with Rorer-Carey team.

**Aidan McGrath:** Very fast and powerfully strong player who won quite

a number of underage honours, i.e. north Tipp U12B, U14B, two U16B, minor B and U21B in hurling as well as minor B in football. Also won All-Ireland Colleges B with Nenagh CBS team. At adult level he won north and county intermediate medals. In athletics he won numerous national titles in sprints and hurdles and represented Ireland at international schools and junior level.

**John Maher:** Won his first county final in 1976 as a young wing back and was still a most reliable and very competent substitute when called into action in 1993. Winner of two north and two county intermediate medals as well as a north centenary cup as captain in 1984. He was captain of the first ever victorious juvenile U13 team that beat Borrisoleigh in the 1971 final. Gave great service to the club as a player and mentor over many years.

**John Murray:** John served the club very well for a number of years as a skilful half forward, winning north minor B and centenary cup medals in hurling as well as north junior and intermediate football honours. He also won two north and one county intermediate medals.

**Donal Nealon:** Very successful as a corner forward at underage, winning north U12, U16B twice, minor B as captain, U21B and junior B in hurling and minor B and intermediate in football. Reverting to defence, he won three north Tipp junior As well as a county Tipp junior B as captain and one intermediate medal. He was also a member of the Nenagh vocational school's team All-Ireland success.

**David McAuliffe:** A close-tackling and determined corner back, who transferred to Burgess from Nenagh Éire Óg. Honours won: U12 north hurling and football, north U14 hurling, U16 football, minor hurling (x3) and one county minor hurling; north minor football and U21 football (x2), one county U21A football; north and county intermediate medals in '93 as well as Croke Cup and Fitzgerald Cup medals with Nenagh CBS.

**Timmy Maher:** Normally a solid and dependable defender, but on occasions also played in goal. Won north Tipp medals in many underage grades, U14B, U16B, U18B as well as junior A and junior B levels. Was full back on the Nenagh Vocational Schools senior All-Ireland winning team and later won two north and one county intermediate medals.

**Paddy Cooney:** A very committed corner back, Paddy won north minor B and junior B hurling medals. He also won two north and one county intermediate hurling honours. Served as club juvenile committee chairman for a number of years.

**Eugene O'Brien:** A third member of the O'Brien family of Dromin who served the club very well as a smart forward, particularly at underage level, winning north and county minor B hurling as well as north minor and U21B football. In addition to north junior football, he also won north and county intermediate hurling.

**Séamus Slattery:** Séamus played in goal for hurling and outfield for football. Won north U12B as well as U16B and minor B, north and county in hurling. In football he won U14, minor and U21B as a forward. Was sub goalkeeper in '93 on the victorious north and county intermediate hurling team. Later he emigrated to Chicago where he played for Erin's Own Club.

**John Ryan:** Strong, hard-tackling and very determined player, who won many underage honours in both hurling and football. Played at centre field on the victorious north and county minor B team of 1990. He also won two north and one county intermediate medals.

**Darren Meaney:** As a capable forward and like many of his generation, Darren first won north U12B and north and county U16B and minor B in hurling as well as north minor B and U21 football. With Nenagh Vocational School he won a Fitzgerald Shield medal followed by north and county intermediate honours.



Wishing Nenagh, Clonoulty, Moycarkey and Burgess all  
the best for the County Finals.

*A special mention for "our own" Niall McGrath  
and the Burgess Team.*

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# Annual Memorabilia Fair

Sunday,  
November 25th 2018

12 noon - 4.00pm

Thurles Sarsfields  
Social Centre

(beside Semple Stadium)

**T**HIS G.A.A. Memorabilia Fair will give you a chance to browse and search a large selection of match programmes, club histories, hurling, football, camogie and handball publications as well as other

G.A.A. material in the pleasant and spacious surroundings of the Thurles Sarsfields G.A.A. Centre, Thurles, Co. Tipperary.

Collectors and sellers are cordially invited to



attend this event, where it is hoped they will find plenty of material to interest them.

Stands will be available for renting and anybody so interested should contact the organisers before November 20th.

Admission will be €3 with accompanied children free. The venue will have disabled access, bar facilities and teas and coffees. It is located within a five minute walk from Thurles Railway Station.



For further information contact:- Seamus J. King 087-2246245, [seamusjking@gmail.com](mailto:seamusjking@gmail.com) or Liam Ó Donnchú 086-6036547, [liam.odonnchu.oifigeach@gaa.ie](mailto:liam.odonnchu.oifigeach@gaa.ie)

Lár na Páirce G.A.A. Museum, Slievenamon Road, Thurles, Co. Tipperary.  
Tel: 0504 22702. Email: [larnapaircemuseum@gmail.com](mailto:larnapaircemuseum@gmail.com)

# Ársa is Úrnua

By: SÉAMUS Ó DUBHAGÁIN

**A** LEITHÉID de shamhradh agus Staid Semple I lár an aonaigh! seanmhana Dúrlas Éile, Fleadh agus Fáilte in ard réime. Cuireadh iománaíocht na mblianta órga sna triochaird agus daicheadaí i gcuimhne dúinn agus caithfidh gur sháraigh 2018 na blianta gleoite uile. Ag an am, b'iad na laochra Ring agus Mackey agus an géar choimhlint idir Corcaigh agus Luimneach a

mheall na mílte go Dúrlas go háirithe ar na rothair. I mbliana freisin, i gcaobh tapa nua aimseartha, tháinig na sluaite athuair agus bhaineadar ard taitneamh as cluichí nach raibh faic na fríde idir na fóirne agus narbh fhéidir a thuar go dtí an nóiméad deiridh san am breise. Is féidir Corcaigh agus Luimneach a ríomh arís ar fóirne cumhactacha na hiománaíochta faoi láthair agus comhghairdeas le

Luimneach a shroich barr spuaice. Is é seo ré órga nua na hiománaíochta. Ar ndóigh, tá foclóir nua ag baint leis, seachadadh géar ó'n gcúlbaire, scuabadóir nó dhó, líon mór imreoirí ar fáil, staitiscicí, neart agus beathú agus go leor eile ach nuair a ardaíonn an sliotar an eangach ar Chúl Cill Eidhneáin is ionann an mórtas cine agus an gliondar croí is a bhí riamh.

Rud nach raibh úrnua ach mar sin féin, thar a bheith taitneamhnach agus atá molta go hard na spéire ag lucht siamsaíochta na tíre ná fillleadh na Féile ar Stáid Semple. Ag súil le deireadh seachtaine de ragairne, ionaid champála lán plódaithe, scuainí lasmuigh d'ollmhargaidh, oilithreach leath ólta mór thimpeall an bhaile mhóir, b'iontach an scéal go raibh gach éinne ar aon intinn gurab é seo an luach ab fhéarr a fuarthas le fada ó thaobh siamsaíochta de ag aon láthair ceoil. Agus b'é scéal mór na deireadh seachtaine ná na háiseanna iontacha a bhí ar fáil i Stáid Semple. B'é an chéad fhéile sna nóchaidí a tharraing na seascaidí go Dúrlas agus a chuir ionad iománaíochta den chead scoth ar fáil don ré nua iománaíochta. Las The Stunning, James, The Four of Us, An Emotional Fish agus réimse mór bannaí ceoil eile spéartha na hoiche tráthnóntaí fómhair i Stáid Semple.

Inniu agus sinn ag failtiú roimh fóirne nua go Stáid Semple, tá cuma na maitheasa ar áit atá ag éirí láirneach ní hamháin do shaol an spóirt in Éirinn ach do shaol an phobail i gcoiteann timpeall na tíre.

*Jerry Fish of An Emotional Fish performing at Féile Classical 2018.*  
(Photo: Eamonn McGee)



# A new old stadium

By: SÉAMUS Ó DUBHAGÁIN

**W**HAT a summer for Semple Stadium – it certainly lived up to the old Thurles motto of Fleadh and Fáilte. The hurling brought back memories of the golden era of the old sportsfield when the 30's and 40's clashes of Cork and Limerick, the eras of Ring and Mackey, which brought a new excitement to the thousands who made Thurles the hurling capital of Ireland.

Likewise, this summer of the quickfire staccato championship of huge crowds, games that were for the most part decided by the puck of a ball even after periods of extra time and indeed the resurgence of Cork and Limerick to the list of top flight teams and Limerick reaching the zenith

in a summer that surely saw hurling surpass the heights reached in any other era.

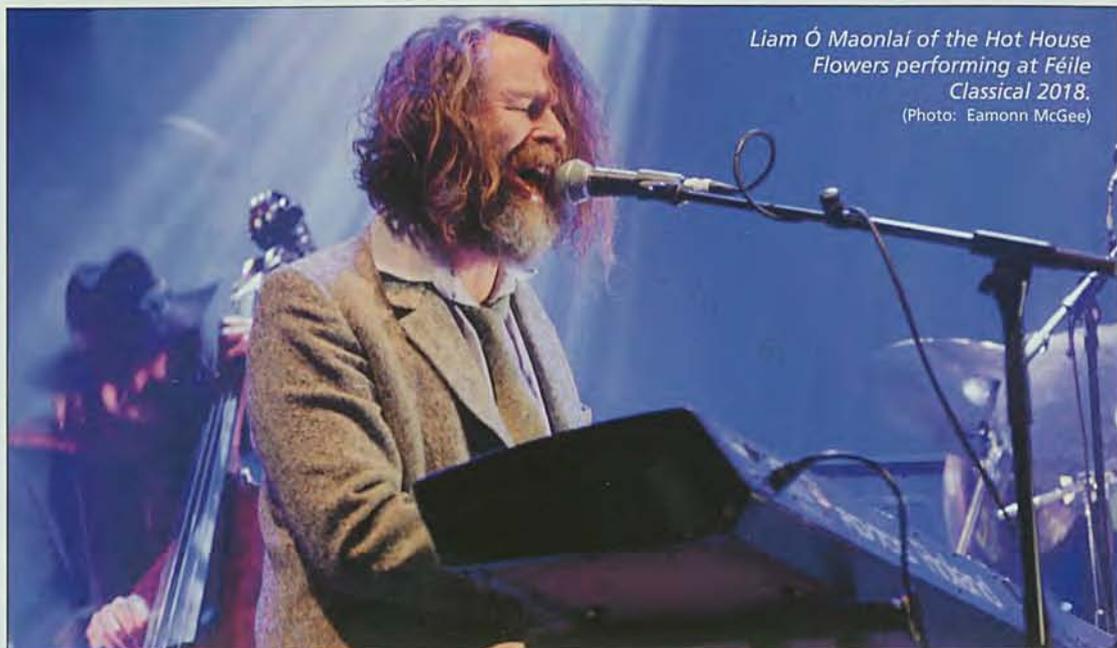
The short puck outs, the sweeper or double sweeper, the extended panel, statistics, strength and conditioning etc etc. have introduced a new vocabulary to this game of hurling but when that ball rocks the net at the Killinan end, the pride and ecstasy are unchanged and unchangeable.

What was quite new but very enjoyable and has the entertainment world singing its praises has been the return of the Féile to the Stadium. Anticipating a riotous weekend of crowded campsites, queues outside supermarkets, semi comatose wanderings around the town, it was such a pleasant surprise to see total agreement on the quality and the entertainment value

of two of the best nights music enjoyed at any music venue. And the talk of the town were the facilities at Semple Stadium and the sheer enjoyment of the whole occasion.

The original Féile as the nineties blew in the sixties to Thurles provided all the facilities in the prime setting for the contests of the new hurling age. The Stunning, James, the Four of Us, An Emotional Fish and a plethora of Irish bands lit up these September evenings.

Today, as a new pairing comes to Semple Stadium, the future looks bright for a venue that is becoming not only central to hurling but to so many aspects of Irish life for young and old-from the old Showgrounds and Sportsfield of bygone days to one of Europe's great venues.



*Liam Ó Maonlaí of the Hot House Flowers performing at Féile Classical 2018.*

(Photo: Eamonn McGee)



# Scór an Óir

*“Déan do rogha and take to the stage”*

An extra effort is being asked of every club in the county to show your colours on the stage.

The passion on the pitch, on the sideline, in the clubhouse can surely extend to the cultural aspect of GAA that is *Scór*.

This year, 2018/2019, *Scór* celebrates its 50th birthday. We have a proud tradition here in Tipperary of participation in the three *Scór* competitions

- *Scór na bPáistí*
- *Scór na nÓg*
- *Scór Sinsir*



# 50!

## Caoga Bliain

# Scoláireachtaí 2018

D'éirigh le níos mó ná 50 dalta scoile ó na clubana i dTiobraid Árann scoláireachtaí a bhaint amach í mbliana agus tréaslaíonn Coiste an Chontae leo uile. Over 50 students from clubs all over the county travelled to Coláiste na Rinne agus Corca Dhuibhine Gaeltachtaí and all thoroughly enjoyed the experience. Gan amhras bhain said idir taitneamh is tairbhe as an tréimhse sna coláisti agus tá súil acu go léir filleadh amach anseo. All clubs will be circulated with application forms early in 2019 and the forms will also be available to download on the Tipperary GAA website.

**“DON'T MISS OUT ON THIS OPPORTUNITY!!!!!!”**

## Tom Ó Cinnéide



Mise Tom O'Cinnéide. Tá mé sa 3ú bliain i Meánscoil na mBráithre Críostaí san Aonach. Chaith mé trí seachtain i nGaeltacht na Rinne le linn an tSamhraidh. D'imir mé a lán spóirt, iománaíocht ach go háirithe. Rinne mé a lán cairde nua ó chontaetha eile. Tháinig feabhas ar mo chuid Ghaeilge freisin agus bhain mé ard taitneamh as. Imríom iománaíocht le Club Éire Óg agus le Meánscoil na mBráithre Críostaí. Is é Mikey Heffernan an t-iománaí is fearr liom ar fhoireann Éire Óg agus bronnadh an gradam Laoch na hImeartha air agus é ag imirt in aghaidh na Sáirséalaigh sa Chluiche Leathcheannais. Dar liom beidh an bua ag an Aonach inniu. Éire Óg Abú!

## Abbey Sharkey



Mise Abbey Sharkey. I am a third year student in St Mary's Nenagh agus imríom camógaíocht le Club Camógaíochta Burgess Duharra. I attended Coláistí Chorca Dhuibne i rith an tsamhraidh agus bhain mé sár taitneamh as na himeachtaí éagsúla ach go háirithe an céilí a bhí againn gach oíche. Bhí ranganna againn gach maidin ach anuas ar sin ghlac mé páirt sna cluichí Gaelacha. Chuaigh mé ar turasanna agus d'imir mé cluichí ar an trá. Tá an-chuid cairde nua agam agus bíom ag caint is ag comhrá leo go minic. Tá feabhas tagtha ar mo chuid Gaeilge anois and I hope the benefits will show when I do my Junior Cert. Ádh mhór ar Burgess inniu. Slán!

## REGULATIONS Stáid Semple

1. All persons entering this ground are admitted only subject to the Following Rules (which are designated to protect the Health and Safety of all entrants to the ground). Entry to the ground shall be deemed to constitute unqualified acceptance of all of these Rules.
2. The management reserves the right of admission.
3. The instructions of the stewards must be obeyed at all times.
4. All persons entering the ground agree to be searched by a member of the Garda Síochána.
5. Every person (including infants) entering the ground must have a ticket.
6. The Following are not permitted:
  - 6.1 Entry upon the pitch or engaging in conduct that causes or is likely to cause injury or harm to, or otherwise interferes with, disrupts, hinders, or distracts a person playing in, refereeing or otherwise having a role in a match at this ground.
  - 6.2 Any unauthorised contact with the boundary wall surrounding the pitch or incursion on to the pitch. Any such unauthorised contact or incursion constitutes a trespass to property.
  - 6.3 The climbing of floodlights or other pylons, stands or other buildings. Such behavior constitutes a trespass to property.
  - 6.4 Throwing of objects onto the pitch.
  - 6.5 Remaining or loitering in any gangway or aisle.
  - 6.6 Behaving in an offensive or indecent manner.
  - 6.7 Bringing of alcohol into the ground.
  - 6.8 Bringing into the ground of fireworks, smoke canisters, bottles, glasses, cans, flags, banners, poles, distress signals, laser pointers and similar articles or containers, including anything which could or might be used as a weapon.
  - 6.9 Excessive noise such as that from use of radio sets, air horns, vuvuzelas or other appliances and behaviour likely to cause confusion or nuisance of any kind including foul or abusive language.
7. If a person commits a trespass, reasonable force may be used to prevent, restrain or terminate any trespass.
8. Where a person is in breach of any of these rules, or where the management believes that a person constitutes a source of danger to others, or to the ground, such person may be refused entry or ejected from the ground, and reasonable force may be used for that purpose.

## Safety and General Information

**Supporters are asked to respect the fact that they are entering and leaving the stadium through residential areas.**

### Safety Notice



**In the interests of safety, patrons will not be allowed to enter the playing area after the games.**

The policy to prohibit such encroachment in the future has been taken to avoid injuries and possible fatality and has been taken on the advice and promptings of the safety authorities, namely the Gardai, Fire Brigade and the HSE.

The full co-operation of supporters is requested to avoid serious injury and to ensure that games can be enjoyed without resource to fencing or avoidable obstructions to seeing action from all vantage points.

Together we can ensure that the Stáid Semple experience is both enjoyable and safe, particularly for the young and vulnerable.

### Smoking Policy

**Stáid Semple operates a No Smoking policy except in designated areas of the ground.**



### Medical Assistance

**First Aid Centres are located at the four corners of the pitch and at the centre on both sides.**

**Should you require assistance please enquire which is the nearest to you from a member of An Garda Síochána or official steward.**



### Lost Children

**Lost children should be brought to Stewards at the Centre of the Pitch on either side.**





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