Co. Tipperary G.A.A.

Year Book



1983



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TIPPERARY G.A.A. YEAR BOOK 1983

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF TIPPERARY COUNTY BOARD G.A.A.

CONTENTS

A Message from County Chairman	The late Dan O'Connor, N.T.,
Tipperary Minor Hurlers Regain Munster &	The late Michael O'Donnell, Ballingarry67
All Ireland Titles5	The Glorious Year of '49
Senior Season of '82	All Ireland 'Sevens' title for Fethard Juvenile Footballers . 70
Moycarkey-Borris: Hurling Champions of '82	Clonmel Commercials proved Tipp can do it
Fire and Flair of John Flanagan	Commercials Bridge an Eleven Year Gap
John Maher: Memories of Mackey	A Historic Year for St Augustines
The Greatness of Mick Mackey	The Western Highlights74
Obituary	A Juvenile Bonanza for Kickhams
The New Selection Committee	The Man with the Whistle
The Spirit of Kickham	Arravale Rovers' Juvenile Successes
Can Eighty-Three Alter Luckless Litany?29	Scor '8284
Maurice Davin, The First President	Review of the Clubs in North Tipperary
Tipperary Football	A Great Year for Roscrea C.B.S93
Ordination of Fr Liam Ryan	Roscrea are North Tipperary Junior Hurling Champions . 99
Mid-Tipperary Board— Club Review 1982	'Foster the Juveniles' Theory Pays for Borrisokane 103
A Tipperary Stalwart—Michael F. Cronin	Gaelic Games in North Tipperary Vocational Schools 107
Camogie in Tipperary46	County Bord na n-Og- Review of 1982109
The Late Martin Healy, Coolcroo, Two-Mile-Borris 46	A County Title for Newport
Gaelic Games in the Post-Primary Schools of Tipperary .47	Eire Og Under 21s
Michael Tobin	Eire Og, Resurgence
The Wearers of the Green	Re-Introduction of the Inter County Junior Hurling 119
The Boherlahan Story	Emly's '82 Story
Co. Minor Football Affairs 1982	Some Thoughts— from the County P.R.O 123
The Dunne Brothers—Hurling's Minstrels 54	"For the Credit of the Little Village"
Bunscoileanna Thiobraid Arann, C.L.G	Commission Labor Visualis Time Mills
County Senior Football Activities 198257	Cover pictures: John Kennedy, Tipp. Minor captain, hoisted aloft by delighted teammates. Bottom (left): Jack
Around the Clubs in South Tipperary	Bergin, Moycarkey-Borris captain, with county hurling Cup.
St Mary's Juveniles Clonmel	(right): Paudie O'Neill, Commercials receiving the County
Carrick Swans— a Busy Year	Senior Football Championships Trophy from MI Frawley,
Brian O'Callaghan— an appreciation	Chairman County Board.

Send any queries regarding the Yearbook to:

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Le gach deá-ghuí agus Comhgháirdeachas do Coiste Cho. Thiobraid Arann Chomhairle na Mumhan C.L.G.

Senior Championship Fixtures 1983

IOMAINT

Semi-final

1st Round 29th May

12th June

Semi-final 19th June

3rd July

Tiobraid Arann v An Clár

Corcaigh v Luimneach

Portláirge v Tiobraid Arann nó An Clár

Cluiche Ceannais Iomána.

PEIL

1st Round Luimneach v Tiobraid Arann

1st Round An Clár v Portláirge

McGrath Cup final:

Luimneach nó Tiobraid Arann

An Clár nó Portláirge

17th July Ceannais Peile

Guimid gach rath ar obair C.L.G. i Tiobraid Arann.

A MESSAGE **FROM** COUNTY CHAIRMAN



Yearbook Committee: (back) S. O'Doherty, P. O'Dwyer, G. Long, MI Maguire, J. J. Kennedy, (front) S. Nugent, J. O'Grady (editor), MI McCarthy (chairman), Liam O Donnchu (secretary), Absent: P. McLoughlin.

Thanks to the efforts of that small but dedicated group of people who comprise our year book committee. I acknowledge with great satisfaction that the events of the year 1982 are again chronicled, not alone for the enjoyment that we may derive from reading them but more importantly for posterity.

By comparison with our own high standards of former years it may be argued that the year under review was uneventful in some respects. That may be true to some degree. But we must also readily admit that in many ways it was an historic year. It was the year that our minor hurlers won for us our fifteenth All-Ireland crown thereby placing us in the role of undisputed leaders in this field. It was the year that saw the reemergence of Moycarkey-Borris as a powerful hurling force culminating in the winning of a county senior title after an absence of forty two years. It was also the year that saw the minor hurlers of Holycross-Ballycahill and likewise the minor footballers of Emly-Lattin return triumphantly to their respective parishes for the first time as the proud holders of the Sean Treacy and Michael Hogan trophies. The natural progression of our County Intermediate hurling champions Borrisokane we will follow with interest. As I write all of our County Championships are not complete. The indications are that this welcome trend to which I have referred could well be emulated by other clubs before the conclusion of our playing season. The emergence from within our various divisions of new and in many cases first time champions we readily applaud.

Down through the years we have often been reminded by both the spoken and the written word of the importance of giving nothing less than our fullest attention to our games at all times. We have been similarly reminded that regardless of whatever other calls or demands we may have to contend with, the games must always remain our priority. That is a viewpoint with which I readily concur. Never can we allow ourselves to become in any way complacent as regards this aspect of our work. Despite the fact that many of our clubs are doing trojan work in this regard there are others unfortunately who give us serious cause

to have to state that this applies to a number of hurling and football clubs with a very strong traditional background. This decline must be arrested. I appeal in particular to such clubs to study carefully and put into practice, at least a few of the suggestions contained in the Club Manual which you recently received. With the centenary less than two short years away it is imperative that steps are taken immediately to eradicate any weaknesses we may have at this level.

The Centenary

Mention of the centenary immediately reminds us of another very important milestone in the associations history. This very special occasion will be celebrated not alone in every club in the thirty two counties of Ireland, but also in many areas all over the globe where the G.A.A. is firmly and deeply rooted. For all of us here in Tipperary the coming centenary celebrations will mark for us a very significant period in the history of the Association. As we know it was in Thurles that it all began on that November day away back in 1884. Consequently it is understandable that a great deal of thought and no small amount of effort has been expended to date, in order to ensure that Tipperary and Thurles in particular are identified with and realistically involved in celebrating the happenings of a centuary ago. The County's request to congress in Killarney two years ago for permission to stage the All-Ireland hurling finals of 1984 in Semple Stadium which was overwhelmingly approved and re-affirmed at this years congress in Kilkenny by a similar majority, will be for us the highlight of our contribution to the forthcoming celebrations. While we are very appreciative of the signal honour that has been bestowed upon us, we are likewise aware of the enormity of the task that confronts us.

Never in our long history of playing hosts on the occasion of big games have we come up against the demands that are going to be made on us both before and after this historic event. Despite the fact that the task is a very big one, however given the full support of every Tipperary man and woman, I have no

for concern. It is even more worrying doubt but that our people will prove that the trust and responsibility placed upon them was not in vain. The preparations have already begun and will go on unabated until this event is brought to a successful and happy conclusion. Our immediate priority is the completion of the development of Semple Stadium. Taking into account the work undertaken to date plus what remains to be completed we are talking in monetary terms of an expenditure in excess of three quarters of a million pounds. In this connection I wish to acknowledge in a very special way the magnificent response to our fund raising efforts. The generous contributions to date to our "Double Your Money Investment Scheme" both from within our own county and from the thirty one other counties is a clear indication of the goodwill that exists and the very high esteem which our people hold for the association. The very positive manner in which the vast majority of our clubs identified themselves with the scheme was a revelation. Likewise when we extended our efforts to the greater Dublin area, Brock House which was our base for the fortnight was a hive of activity. The great contributions made in so many ways by our Tipperary natives based in the capital city and indeed by non-natives of the county was a heart warming experience. In this the year of Charles J. Kickham's death, it is very appropriate that the undying spirit of Knocknagow was manifest in a way that the great Matt The Thrasher himself would have been proud of.

> Finally to our esteemed Editor, his fellow officers and committee members, we extend our unstinted thanks for this publication. Due to their deep involvement in other areas of our affairs, we were not able to avail of the services of two very distinguished members of our yearbook committee. Both Seamus O Riain and Martin O'Connor have played a noble part in the publication of every annual since the initial one away back in 1970. To both of them we sincerely say Go raibh mile maith agaibh de bharr na hoibre a rinne siad.

Micheal O Freaghaile, Cathaoirleach

Coisde Cho. Thiobraid Arann, C.L.G. Samhain 1982.



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TIPPERARY MINOR HURLERS REGAIN MUNSTER AND ALL IRELAND TITLES

THE ONLY INTER COUNTY HIGHLIGHTS OF 1982

by "An Sliotar" of "The Guardian"

Amid the disappointment on the Inter-County fields during 1982, the memorable performances of our under 18 hurling squad gave premier supporters some satisfaction, and indeed quite a

deal of hope for the future.

I do not believe that the team, or indeed the selectors got anything like the credit they deserved for winning back both Provincial and National honours, after a year's lapse. Accordingly it gives me great pleasure to recall the events and matches of the year, which led eventually to the winning of our fifteenth All Ireland title in the grade.

Problems

At the beginning of the year there were several difficulties facing the Tipp Minors and their preparations for the season's activities. Briefly, the following problems existed.

1. There was stalemate for a long while in relation to the appointment of selectors. This situation was a direct result of internal difficulties, which existed since before the 1981 Munster decider, in which we surrendered our Munster title to Clare. It was quite obvious to all that these "difficulties" could not be tolerated without suffering the consequences.

2. The second problem- a direct result of the first one- was that the divisional trials had been held up, thereby leaving the eventually appointed selectors with the onus of achieving more in a shorter

space of time.

3. Tipperary had only a handful of survivors from 1981, which rendered team building a most soul searching

operation

4. Probably the most acute problem of all was the draw for the championship. In round 1 Tipperary was paired with Cork. In view of the dominance of the Cork colleges in the Munster Colleges' 'A' Hurling this year, vis a vis the Tipp Schools, the task ahead looked enormous. A further potential hazard (Clare, with several survivors from 1981) awaited the winners in the semi final. To reach the Munster final alone, looked a major assignment.

However, when problems exist they must be tackled and so they were! Thanks to the sincere efforts of many people and the willingness of others to put the county first, the first and most delicate problem of appointing selectors, was solved.

The First Steps

At the County Board meeting on 18th January the following selectors were appointed.

Willie Stokes and Donal Shanahan, more when we lost John Flannery from tried to the finish Tipperary's place in

Immediately they set about organising trials within their own divisions to have a team ready for the inter divisional series, which served, as team trials,

Just five weeks later two trials were held in Templetuohy. After that the selectors were in a position to pick their 'really' final trial teams. By Mid March and after two superbly contested trials in Littleton, (one of which ended in a draw 2-6 each, and the other 0-13 to 1-9) the selectors made their minds up. The panel of players would have one last trial before the final selection was made. Gortnahoe was the venue for this game which would see the composition of our side determined. By the end of March training had started and the twenty-four members of the panel had everything to play for. There were no stars and every player had an opportunity of claiming his place on the starting fifteen. Only six and a half weeks remained now to the Cork game. The question was would Tipperary be ready?

An unforseen difficulty arose around this time, that of the involvement of several of the panel in Colleges and Vocational schools hurling. This dual involvement upset some training sessions, but for all that it was good to see our lads doing well. Winning would give them confidence, and against Cork everyone would need confidence.

The winning of Munster Vocational Schools' medals by Donal Kealy and Michael Scully (Roscrea), a Munster Colleges' medal by Michael Kelly (Ballina), (who subsequently won an All Ireland medal too) and the Munster and All Ireland 'B' wins by Cashel C.B.S. who included John Leamy (Golden), Colm Bonnar (Cashel), Sean Slattery (Cashel) and John Kennedy (Clonoulty) had brought an air of confidence to the

The Munster Campaign

The days slipped by and very soon it was time to meet Cork. We had played practice games against Limerick, Waterford, Clare and Kilkenny and everyone hoped we were prepared well enough to repel the rebels. The venue for the game was changed from Limerick to the rather far off land of Dungarvan. It was the first minor meeting between the sides at this venue since the 1974 minor final replay, which Cork won!

Sean Slattery had been injured in the Colleges 'B' final three days earlier and would be an absentee. This was a big blow to Tipp's hopes but "the spirit of Knocknagow" which was to serve us so well as the year moved on was not to Bro. J. Perkins, Mick Quinn, T. J. Dwyer, be ignored. The spirit was needed even

the inner defence. Our only survivors now from 1981 were John Bergin (Moyne /Templetuohy) at fullback, John Ryan (Upperchurch) at left full back and Noel Sheehy (Silvermines) at centre forward. There were two good omens though. In 1980 when last we won the Provincial and All Ireland titles Cork had been our first victims, and our captain on that occasion hailed from a rural club. John Kennedy (Clonoulty) had the honour of captaining this year's side, as they set out on the hoped for road to glory.

Cork had recorded a twelve point win over Limerick in a practice game and had to be respected. They also had several six footers in their ranks, and to cap it all they had an outing against Waterford in Dungarvan just a few days before facing us. In one of the hardest fought minor games for many years, Tipperary emerged victorious by the minimum margin, on a 2-5 to 0-10 scoreline. Liam Stokes' (Kilsheelan) goal helped Tipperary to lead by 1-3 to 0-3 at the half time break. A long shot from team captain John Kennedy ended in the Cork net and Tipp led by seven points 2-4 to 0-3, early in the second half. Cork then turned on the style, and in a superb twenty minute effort they held us scoreless and scored seven points themselves, to level the scoring at 2-4 to 0-10. With Tipperary supporters in a state of near despair, as Cork sought the winner a quick upfield break ended delightfully for the Blue and Gold, Corner forward Michael Scully got possession forty yards from the Cork goal. As he headed towards the goal he struck a 'sweet' point which brought joy, delight, and ultimate victory. The great spirit of the team was clearly seen on that wet Wednesday evening and it was clear at that stage that it would take a really good side to topple them. In the victory over Cork the performances of John Bergin, Brendan Everard, (Moyne Templetuohy) Donal Kealy, John Kennedy, Liam Stokes and Michael Scully were first class. Even after such a hard earned win there was no break. Just one week later Tipperary travelled to play Clare, in the Munster semi final, at Limerick. Tipperary had two aims: (1) to avenge the 1981 final defeat and (2) to reach the 1982 Munster final. These twin targets were the motivation for this game.

Tipperary went at Clare from the very start and rocked them with goals by Michael Scully and Liam Stokes. Tipp led by seven points at half time, 2-5 to 1-1 and while Clare did rally after the break, Tipperary were always in command. John Cormack's (Loughmore) goal put us beyond reach and although Clare



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Tipp full back John Bergin and goalie John Leary have Galway's penalty under control.

their third successive Munster minor final was assured, long before the end. Against Clare John Flannery returned to corner back in place of Colm Bonnar, Particularly good displays in this game came from Brendan Everard, Donal Kealy, William Hayes (Knockavilla), Michael Kelly and "the deadly duo" in the front line Liam Stokes and Michael Scully. It was particularly ironic that John Flannery who had been injured for the Cork game and was replaced by Colm Bonnar, returned for the Clare Game in place of the then injured Bonnar, but had to retire injured himself just before half time!

Tipperary had booked their Munster final place for 18th July on 19th May! There was a long break then before training resumed for the big day. Before that of course, many players had other matters on their minds. An even more searching 'examination' than Cork awaited many of them.

Tipperary resumed training at the end of June. On the other side of the draw, Limerick would meet Waterford in the second semi final, on the eighth of July. The venue for that game was Semple Stadium and this would give us an excellent chance to view the opposition.

On the evening before the semi-final Tipperary played Galway in a practice game in Nenagh. We won by 0-14 to 1-7 but several below par performances gave cause for much concern. We now had even more reason to study our opponents!

That game proved particularly informative from our point of view. Limerick played great hurling in the first half and at the break they had scored 2-9 to Waterfords 0-4. But the second half told us something else about Limerick. As Waterford rallied, Limerick didn't score for twenty minutes. In the end Limerick "made it" to the final, by three points.

Limerick had some very useful performers, most notably goalkeeper John Quaid, Brian Finn at midfield and the two corner forwards, Michael McSweeney and Donal O'Sullivan. We also knew that Limerick had been understrength but that for the final they would have some of the absentees in action again. Clearly it would be no pushover.

In training Tipperary concentrated more on the skills than on physical fitness, as the big day approached. The return of Sean Slattery, after injury, was a great morale booster to the Tipp lads. The psychological advantage was with Tipperary for the final, as they had twice beaten Limerick in early season practice games.

At last the big day arrived. Everyone hoped for an exciting final— a final which would be more memorable than Tiii's runaway win over the same opposition two years ago. Its an accurate statement that the game was close but alas the quality of the decider left much to be desired, from the purists point of view.

The game was very poor as a contest. Bad striking, picking and poking, disjointed play, and missed chances just about sums up the final.

Perhaps the big occasion was too much for the youngsters? Maybe it was the fierce heat which sapped their energy? or could it just have been that both sides lacked real hurling ability? On reflection, bearing in mind both teams earlier performances, it could not have been a shortage of hurling ability.

Limerick led by 1-4 to 0-6 at half time and Tipperary knew they had a match on their hands. If Tipperary had not been so prodigal with all their first half chances they would have been comfortably ahead at half time. This failure to translate chances into scores remained obvious for much of the second half. Tipperary were still trailing (1-6 to 0-7) and in serious difficulty when the selectors introduced Ger Bradley (Newport). His impact was phenomenal. He scored a point. Noel Sheehy hit another and the teams were level. John Quaid then made a brilliant save from Michael Scully. Bradley then scored another vital point before Liam Stokes got the clincher, a goal, with just two minutes to go. Limerick added a point before the end but it was Tipp's day. 1-10 to 1-7 was the final score, and so John Kennedy had the pleasure of accepting the T.W.A. Cup on behalf of his team. It wasn't a display of vintage hurling and this may have ben the cause of much post match cynicism. Tipperary



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did not set the credit they deserved for regaining the Provincial crown. As so often happens the actual final fell short of the quality of another game en route. Most impressive players on the Premier side on final day were Donal Kealy, William Hayes, John Flannery, Ger Bradley and Liam Stokes.

It was now a case of wait and see with regard to All Ireland final opposition. Kilkenny had come easily through Leinster and they would play Galway on 8th August in the All Ireland semi final, which was a repeat of the previous year's decider. Both sides had some survivors from their previous meeting but Kilkenny as holders were slightly fancied to advance.

After a mediocre first half, an exciting second half saw Galway emerge winners by 2-6 to 1-8.

It had been three weeks since the Munster final and four more weeks remained to the All Ireland final. We wondered if the long wait would have the same effect for the All Ireland decider as it had for the Munster final.

Preparations for the Final

Team training was suspended for three weeks after the Munster final to enable divisional boards to clear their backlog of games, particularly at minor and under 21 level. It helped preparations enormously too, to clear distractions of local games from players minds, and to get their entire concentration on the All Ireland.

A mood of determination descended upon the Tipp camp. All players were determined (and they proved it in training) to challenge for a place. The selectors were equally keen to select the best side. Training went well for the last three weeks before the final. A last practice game was played and won. Clearly Tipp were ready.

passed fit to play.

Sizing up Galway

The time came then to analyse Galway. They had several advantages.

- 1. Galway had six of their 1981 final panel again.
- 2. They had played in Croke Park in the semi final and knew the ground.
- 3. Their confidence was high after dethroning Kilkenny.
- 4. Many of their players had won All Ireland Vocational Schools medals earlier in the year and knew what success tasted
- 5. Galway were also most peoples favourites to lift their first title in this grade.

On the debit side though Tipperary Summing Up had beaten them earlier in the season. Tipperary had beaten Galway in the three of the hard work put in over an eight previous final meetings between the sides. But this Tipperary side had beaten three good sides, had great spirit, and feared no one. Galway played well against Kilkenny - it was unlikely they would play as well again. We hoped not at least. Yet in the final analysis the leading writers all 'tipped' Galway to succees- all except 'an sliotar' of course who pointed out that our defence would contain Galway's attack and so allow our attack to get just enough scores to win.

The All Ireland

failed to live up to expectation. Galway missed three chances of goals in the first do happen from time to time and this another enjoyable "Tale of the Gaels!"

The only injury worry concerned was one of them. Tipperary actually led corner forward and leading scorer Michael at the break despite having been hurled Scully, who sustained a broken finger in out of it for long periods. Sean Slattery's a club game a little while before the Goal and Michael Scully and John decider. Much to everyone's delight he Kennedy's points making up the 1-3 passed some late fitness tests and was to 0-4 half time lead. The second half as a contest was utterly onesided. Galway hit the Tipp upright twice just after the break, but couldn't score the all important goal. Half way through the second half Michael Cunningham (Emly) slammed in Tipp's second goal and that indeed was that! The final whistle eventually came with the scoreboard showing Tipperary 2-7, Galway 0-4. Yet again because of a poor quality game Tipperary did not get all the credit they deserved. After all the All Ireland had just been won. Tipperary's best in this decider were John Flannery, John Bergin, Donal Kealy, William Hayes, John Kennedy and the deadly accurate Michael Scully.

This team became champions because month period by players and selectors. Discipline was demanded and got, from all panel members. The lads played to their strengths with great unity of purpose and spirit. Even as the 'big guns' toppled the players remained level headed remembering that until the task is fully completed there is nothing to shout about.

I salute everyone involved in the successful campaign. All played their parts and gave hurling supporters in the county plenty to cheer about. Despite what many others would say, I forecast Yet again this was a game which a good future for many of the team in senior ranks in the coming years. My reason for forecasting this stems from half from play, and two more when the fact that we produced the 'right penalties were saved by the Tipp defence. type' of players this year. With all the And don't forget that Galway also had problems at the start, the finish looms a "goal" disallowed! But strange things like a fairy tale. It isn't of course-it's just



MI Frawley, Chairman County Board performing the official opening of Fethard G.A.A. Park on Easter Sunday 11th April 1982. Left to right: P. Browne, Vice Chairman South Board; Rev. Bro. Stephen, Very Rev. Fr Noonan, P.P., Dick Cummins, Dean Lee, P.P., Ned Sheehan, M. Cuddihy, Dick Fitzgerald, P. Fitzgerald, M. McCormack.

Photo-Boland Clonmel

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SENIOR SEASON OF '82

by Michael Dundon- "Tipperary Star"

Outside of Semple Stadium, Cork's Páirc Uí Caoimh, is to my mind, the venue with the most stirring hurling atmosphere about it. On a Munster championship day, there is an electricity in the air there, that has the gathering vibrating with a hurling emotion and passion that one never experiences elsewhere, Croke Park included.

Obviously, Cork's great tradition in the game has a lot to do with it, enkindling an awareness of the part the many major encounters at the venue have played in giving the association its distinctive gaelic flavour. The walk out from the city along the tree-lined avenue is shortened by the repartee between the gathering supporters. You are proud to be a Tipperary man, and no matter how lowly you rate your chances on a particular occasion, there is a spring in your step in anticipation of the contest to follow.

This year, as we made our way "neath its green leafy shade" to the "Banks of My Own Lovely Lee" there was time to reflect on the status of Tipperary in Munster hurling circles. With three All-Ireland under 21 hurling titles behind us we had every right to consider ourselves as having the greatest potential of all the counties in Munster, but we readily acknowledged that realising that potential will be an entirely different matter.

Different Standard

With out successful under 21 selectors installed as the new senior committee the league campaign was undertaken with, appropriately, a youthful exhuberance but the difference in standards between under 21 fare and senior competition was brought home rudely to our young and inexperienced team when they lost to a fourteen-man Waterford squad at Semple Stadium. Ten of those that played on that day were on the under 21 team which had completed the hat-trick of All-Ireland titles a few short weeks previously, and more than half of the team in the remaining league games came from the squad.

The selectors kept faith with their men and were rewarded with a smashing win over All-Ireland finalists Galway at Ballinasloe, where courage, endeavour and speed were the hallmarks of the Tipperary performance. Tipperary appeared to be maturing with each outing and Clare's scalp was added in a keen encounter at Semple Stadium. To leave the county sitting pretty, All-Ireland champions, Offaly, fell to the "young lions" at Tullamore before Christmas, and Tipperary went into the winter recess with much to smile about.

But there our satisfaction ended. The challenge of Laois was successfully overcome after Cork had dented our pride with a win at Semple Stadium in the first game of the new year, but in any case we were through to a play-off again with Cork to decide whether we played in the quarter-final or the semi-final. Once more Cork took the honours, and so we went to Waterford's Walsh Park, scene of so many triumphs at under 21 level, to face Wexford in the quarter-final of the league.

On a quagmire pitch, Wexford's physique and stamina wore down Tipperary in the second half of a dour struggle and by a sixteen points to eleven margin, our interest in the league ended in March.

But we had the championship to look forward to and were convinced that the drier sod and livelier ball would be to Tipperary's advantage. However, as the day of reckoning drew near and Cork at Páirc Uí Caoimh became more and more a reality, doubts about Tipperary's ability to produce at senior level the quality and fire of under 21 performances grew. Outings against Offaly and Wexford in challenges were less than convincing.

Call on Experience

Tadhg O'Connor and Noel O'Dwyer were introduced in defence and attack respectively to add much-needed experience in these departments but preparations for the vital game were stricken by a spate of injuries that sidelined Pat Fitzell and Alan Kinsella, and saw such as Noel O'Dwyer, Bobby Ryan and Nick English take the field less than fully fit for such an encounter.

These thoughts, along with the recurring "thorn" that Cork had twice defeated us in the league, occupied our minds as we watched the club match that preceded the big game. Before the start, the public address confirmed that Seamus Bourke was not playing because of illness and Noel O'Dwyer, hamstring and all, was lining out at corner forward.

Tipperary were gambling heavily. Pat Fox was brought from corner back to midfield to curb John Fenton; Brian Carroll was moved in to half-forward to counter Dermot McCurtain; Bobby Ryan's pace was to pull Martin Doherty, just back from the U.S., out the field, and Donie O'Connell's bustling was to open up the middle of the Cork defence.

Favourites Cork started in very hesitant fashion as a Tipperary tide swept into the city goal and in a blistering open quarter, the Blue and Gold ran up four points against what appeared to be a bewildered Cork side. But then, inexplicably,

the tide turned. Tony O'Sullivan, to be rather flatteringly hailed as the new Christy Ring, was getting the scope to parade his undoubted talents; Martin Doherty and Johnny Crowley began to close off the middle; and Jimmy Barry-Murphy started to show Timmy Stapleton a clean pair of heels, and in a very short time, Cork were level. With Tipp now visibly struggling in several departments, the home county moved into a nine points to six lead at the interval.

The third quarter was nothing short of painful as Cork delighted their supporters in the 29,000 attendance by taking Tipperary apart, and though we made a brief rally near the finish, we were most flattered to be only seven points adrift, 2-8 to 1-19 when time was called.

Long Walk Back

Our return to the city was marked by frustration among supporters at the poor quality of our performance but it should be acknowledged that few teams in the country suffered as badly as did Tipperary in the matter of injuries coming up to the game, and fewer still, either, at county or club level, fielded such a young side in senior competition, seven of the team and one sub having played in the under 21 final in 1981.

In all truth, the outcome was really no worse than we feared going down, admittedly scant consolation for supporters starved of success at senior level.

And so a new campaign has begun with all the hope and enthusiasm of a new beginning. Will 1983 bring the long-awaited breakthrough at senior level? Last year did nothing to enhance our prospects but perhaps we expected too much too soon. Time will tell.



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LOTS OF LUCK TO ALL OUR TEAMS FOR 1983

MOYCARKEY-BORRIS: HURLING CHAMPIONS OF '82

by Jimmy Fogarty

Moycarkey-Borris is a proud parish where hurling has become something of a folklore for a hundred years or more. The names of the gladiators of the dim past are still revered and such names as Purcell, Hayes, Ryan, O'Keeffe etc have a ring of hurling colossus about them. But for most of those born in the last half century something very important was missing, the seniors despite valiant efforts could not climb the Tipperary hurling, Everest, the winning of the county crown. Few could remember 1940 and Tom Kennedy's winning

Each decade brought new hope and renewed optimism but the coup de grace was missing and the dream was becoming something of a nightmare with each passing season. Frustration and despair set in but hope was never lost. Now after Sunday 3rd October all that has changed as Jack Bergin grasped that important piece of silverware, the Dan Breen Cup. The old hurling stronghold is back and hurling in Tipperary must benefit. Hundreds in the years ahead can say I was there on that historic day.

Success stories do not mushroom over night and in Moycarkey's case it goes back to 5th August, 1979 and the Mid final against Sarsfields in Boherlahan's new sportsfield. But a drubbing by the Blues that afternoon was an unlikely starting place. Yet, in a way it was. 1980 saw the transitional period continue and the side was gaining in experience but the confidence was lacking. Officials and mentors persevered with the same crew give or take a few gains and losses in personnel. The Mid title was regained in 1981 after a ten years interval. Carrick Swan were toppled in the county 'quarter' and the greatest injection of all came when Borrisoleigh won by the minimum of margins in the 'semi', and afterwards took the county title. Now Moycarkey-Borris at last believed in themselves. The start of the current campaign saw all systems go- it was now or never. In Littleton field one could feel that businesslike approach and commitment.

A Hesitant Start

But the new season did not open all that pleasantly as Sarsfields beat Moycarkey in the 1981 Cahill Cup final. Spirits flagged a trifle and the morale booster came a couple of short weeks later when the tables were turned on Sarsfields in the '82 league but the final against Loughmore saw the latter triumph. It was back to the grinding stone again and more training. The Mid champion-ship draw was not too kind— as stiff an opener as one could wish for v Drom-Inch.

How the Mid Was Won

After a hard contest Moycarkey-Borris emerged victors by three goals but in the process were to lose two of their players who were sidelined during the game. The divisional board subsequently meted out a three months suspension to the big midfielder-cumdefender Jim Flanagan while Matty Bourke received one month. But the show went on. Holycross was the setting for the next two games- in a spellbound encounter with Sarsfields the "old enemy" looked set for a late win but the champions dramatically won with goals by John Flanagan and David Fogarty. Another Mid final beckoned and a repeat tilt with Loughmore but this time the holders chalked up their second title in a row, a feat last achieved by the great side of 1934. Goals at critical periods by the Quigley brothers, Dick and Tommy and John Flanagan clinching the Leahy Cup decider.

Len Appears

But before that final a new face was to appear on the Littleton training ground that of former county and Kilruane defender, Len Gaynor. He was appointed coach/trainer and from his first introduction to the panel he left no one in doubt as to his requirements for success. Discipline, commitment and the will to ooze out that last ounce of energy was his basic recipe. The lads responded to him immediately and Gaynor extracted the maximum from his charges. A player missing a training session was sought out and was sure to be there for the next session- the hard slog started last February went on and on- the ultimate aim to win a county final.

Those not connected with the training camp could not realise what effort went into the preparation. Club officers spared nothing in looking after the needs as they arose, selectors seldom missed a training spell and the onlookers grew in numbers as the nights sped on. For the players a lot of the old "joire de vivre" had goneit was a job of work- for most after a hard day's toil. But the players thrived on it and the family spirit started twelve months before under Paddy Doyle's guidance was back in evidence. Great club veteran player and administrator Paddy Ryan (Sweeper) compared the training and enthusiasm of '82 with what he had witnessed under the great leader of old, Phil Purcell.

Darmody's Golden Point

If the Mid draw was difficult the county one was no soft touch either. The young whippets of Eire Og, Nenagh Gooney was out through injury and Jim being quarter final opponents. Chances Flanagan got the call back to midfield

on both sides were wasted in the vast expanses of Semple Stadium as the game moved on evenly and with five minutes to go the Ormond crew 0-11 to 1-7 ahead defended definitely. Dick Quigley and Bill Gooney hit wides, John Flanagan hit a post, Jack Bergin shot another wideit was near heartbreaking- would time defy us. Then when all seemed lost Tommy Quigley swooped the sliothar to Eamonn Darmody who levelledsurely Moycarkey's most important point of '82. Into North territory and Cloughjordan for the replay, a game of similar pattern but with the breeze behind them in the second half and a fine midfield display by sub, Liam Bergin saw the visitors from the Mid emerge winners by four points.

From the West came the Knockavilla for a semi final joust but Moycarkey's new found maturity won the day by 3-8 to 0-5, and a county final berth, the first since 1962 beckoned against experienced Roscrea. The build up to the final was on and Len Gaynor left no illusions about the increase in tempo and effort he wanted. The response was spontaneous. Hurling fever gripped the parish and there was only one topic of conversation- the county final.

The County Final

"D" day arrived and brought a touch of winter with it. The boys were naturally a little tense in the dressingroom as could be expected. Into the fray at last and with the breeze favouring them they fumbled through a first half which saw Ros leading by 0-11 to 1-7. Eddie Clancy and his replacement John Hackett both left the fray through injury. Len Gaynor in his interval pep talk laid down the law. But Roscrea went further ahead from the throw-in when Joe Butler finished a Francis Loughnane pass to the net. Ten minutes elapsed and no Moycarkey resurgence. Old warrior John Flanagan moved to the "forty" and soon the challangers took the game by the scruff of the neck. Flanagan had a penalty saved but Tommy Quigley rose the green flag from the rebound and Moycarkey hopes. Flanagan and Queally exchanged points and that supreme opportunist Dick Quigley scored a goal. Moycarkey a point ahead at last. A dramatic close saw Roscrea awarded a penalty which Francis Loughnane shot for the crossbar but Tom Doran deflected over the lath and the day was saved. Another hour in prospect.

Back at Semple Stadium a week later and more wintery conditions. Moycarkey-Borris were a different side although Bill

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Hip to Hip: The ball is in and the game is on. Liam Bergin (Moycarkey) and Purdy Loughnane (Roscrea) are ready for action as Referee George Ryan sets the ball rolling.

Bill Gooney and Richard Dunne await developments.

after a long lay off. Injuries there were but were kept discreetly quiet. Eamonn Darmody and Jim Flanagan being doubtful up to a late stage, young Jimmy Leahy was drafted into defence. The nerves of the first day were gone and it was down to battle in earnest. With Moycarkey striking on all cylinders with the more established men and their younger colleagues playing their best hurling in their finest hour. History will show that Moycarkey won decisively by 2-12 to 0-11. The skies opened as the final seconds ticked away but the elements did not deter the success-starved followers from the Mid as they swarmed onto the park to congratulate their heroes.

The tranquility of the rural parish was temporarily disrupted that night of 3rd October as the shrill of the local Sean Treacy Pipe Band could be heard and despite the downpour massive bonfires blazed at every cross road. It was an occasion for young and old to

celebrate and honour the men of '82.

The Hard Road

The road to success could not have been harder— three Mid and five county games, hundreds of hours training, numerous challenge games at all venues and all times. Sacrifices made by both men and womenfolk. But it was worth it all at the end, the seemingly impossible had happened and hurling in Moycarkey would never be the same again.

Nineteen Heroes

What an occasion it was for everyone but for especially John Flanagan, winners of every other honour on the hurling circuit, great full back Willie Ryan and outstanding goalkeeper Tom Doran, who only conceded one goal in five county games; and for Jack Bergin the man who captained the side and gave a rousing display in the replay. With their other

team-mates they gave the parish something to celebrate for a long time. The dedicated clubmen, officers and selectors, trainers who by their professional approach all contributed to the realisation of the great dream.

Whatever else will be remembered about 1982 it will long be recalled as the year Moycarkey came in from the cold and the wet.

Through the arduous campaign nineteen players only were called into action to share the many triumphs and to them go our thanks. Ye will be remembered lads as will the other panel members. That nineteen we salute as champions of Tipperary— Tom Doran, Tom Mullins, Eddie Clancy, John Hackett, Willie Ryan, Robert Hayes, Eamonn Darmody, Jimmy Leahy, Jack Bergin (captain), Bill Gooney, Matty Bourke, Jim Flanagan, Liam Bergin, Tommy Quigley, John McCormack, David Fogarty, Jack Caesar, Dick Quigley and John Flanagan.



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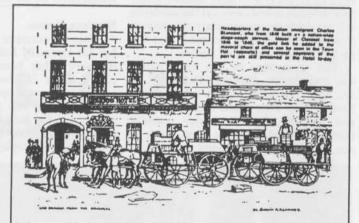
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FIRE AND FLAIR OF JOHN FLANAGAN

by John O'Grady

A betting story went the rounds before the county final. Somebody, in the course of hurling argument, backed up a personal opinion with a tenner. His opponent had offered— as a figure of speech or a mathematically-intended number— one hundred to one against the following proposition: John Flanagan to captain Tipp. in 1983. Presumably in the championship against Clare!

If John were in possession on the field of play, he'd have second thoughts about as long a shot as that; but it's a compliment to him that anybody should invest on it. Since Moycarkey-Borris won the championship, and Flanagan, in his mid-thirties, was vital to it, maybe that punter's vision was inspired. The selectors, newly installed, will very likely try many younger men first in their quest for a useful attack; but if the youth fall short, who knows but spring-time could induce a desire for the colourful veteran's know-how around the square?

John has not hurled in a Munster championship since the 1976 season and the defeat by Cork and Jimmy Barry-Murphy at Limerick. Even that day, at less than fully fit form, he passed the ball to Jack Ryan which led to Grogan's equaliser off the free won by the Moneygall man. His very last appearance in blue and gold was in Cork in a league game; he came on as a sub and wasn't left there till the end. He didn't very much like the removal, said so in his blunt-spoken way— and fell out of favour.

A Popular Figure

He's always been a mixture of talent and devilment— and he's always been popular with the followers; and with opponents, too, which may surprise some people. Philly Bennis of Limerick summed up a general feeling among opponents: "I have great time for Flanagan; he'll go into you hard but he'll be the first to shake hands and have a drink with you afterwards." One of the first and oftenest-heard reactions among people at the end of the county final was pleasure at seeing Flanagan and Willie Ryan, gaining such an honour after long careers with the club.

John had buckled down to training in a way that lifted club morale all through the campaign. Among the first in the Littleton field night by night under Len Gaynor's eye and voice, he did all the exercises with zest—and he retained the benefits. In years past, years when he had more youth on his side, it was not always so. One recalls such days of opportunity as the semi-final of 1975 against Moneygall at Nenagh, and an untypical showing from him.



This photograph from the 1971 All-Ireland final depicts John Flanagan winning an ariel dual with Kilkenny's Ollie Walsh.

A Complete Player

At his best he should have been consistently among the top six forwards in Ireland. He had, as they say, everythingcontrol of the ball; a great eye for a double; powerful ground strokes; accuracy off either hand; judgment and generosity with a pass; physical hardness in the ruck a low centre of gravity in the mould of a Ring. He could survive a tackle, take a score when surrounded- he did it delightfully in the first half of the county final's first edition. Not too many men could have shaken off two tackles to strike the winning point in the Killarney final of 1971. But for that point, we might now be mourning an even longer run of failure than we are. His sharp ground shot had shaved Paddy Barry's left-hand upright a year earlier against Cork- a fraction the other way and Tipp, were winners. It was a towering point of his into the Killinan end that forced Richie Bennis to point his historic last stroke seventy in the 1973 provincial final for the cruel winner. Such episodes prove that Flanagan was the kind of fighter who had the will and the nerve to do it when needed, when the strain of tension was tightest.

Colourful is often a mild term for controversial. This he has been, too. As recently as the county final you had people— many with Roscrea accents—arguing that he should have been sent

off, with or without Kevin Brady, just as much as Tadhg O'Connor in the company of John McCormack. And the partisans of the winners would amend "should" to "could", knowing how vital it was that he did not. In fierier days, he would not have settled down to cool hurling after such early heat; days like the affair with Ollie Walsh in the 1968 League final; like the episode with Eamonn Cregan after being wrestled to the ground on a break-through at Limerick — or the local difference with Sarsfields Pat Leane at Littleton.

A Recall?

At this hour of his career, it does seem indefensible to argue for a recall- until you reflect what extremely "senior" hurlers have achieved; we need to back no further than September and Frank Cummins, playing much further outfield than Flanagan would be expected to. And if it goes to that, John proved more than able to come out to centreforward for quite a spell against Roscrea on both days, and to deliver several useful centres from there. This writer would enjoy seeing what a combination of Flanagan, Loughnane and O'Dwyer would do against younger backmen in a final trial about May of 1983. Foolish, sentimental, retrograde? Maybe so- but look where the wise, realistic and progressive policy has got us in recent years!



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JOHN MAHER: MEMORIES OF MACKEY

by John O'Grady

The cheerful glow in the parlour grate acknowledged the nip in the late October air- and evidenced the courtesy of John and Mrs Maher of Killinan. There we sat and chatted, John and myself. "I'm not so good at this sort of thing", John said modestly; but not very truly, for as he warmed to the subject of the talk, recollection came freely, with humour and affection and some sadness, too. We were remembering Mick Mackey.

"The very first time I met him? That would be, I think, late in '31 or so. A tournament in Kilmallock, the Jimmy Riordan memorial- he was a brother of Paddy Riordan, the famous Drombane hurler. At half-time someone said to me: that fellow you're marking, he'd be a son of Tyler Mackey. Well, that was good pedigree, anyhow. I recall his appearance - a fine, hardy, determined cut of a youngster."

"The last time I met Mick was when Jim Devitt, Johnny and Mutt Ryan and myself went to see him during his illness. 'Tis a pity the honest old shouldercharge is gone out of hurling, said Mick in the course of our chat; and I thought to myself- a lot of backmen could be glad you're not around to do the charging!"

"He is often associated with a direct, headlong charge straight through", I remarked, "but was it really his regular method?" "Oh, no, Mick had a great side-step. Once he took possession, he was fast on his feet; he'd run in a crouched position; you couldn't shift him with a tackle. If the occasion required, then he was prepared to take you on, go straight for you.

Parallel Careers

John Maher's career quite closely paralelled Mackey's; he started a year or so before Mick, in 1929, and retired a year before him, 1946. "You did the wise thing, John, he said to me in Thurles in '46, the evening of the Munster final—you gave it up, I should have, too." John played on him in practically all the Tipp-Limerick games of their time, and in some Sarsfields-Ahane matches too, particularly a wonderful one in a Borrisoleigh tournament. Mackey was surely correct in his praise of Maher's timing of farewell- John captained the 1945 All-Ireland team and said a prompt goodbye. In a neat, well filled display case on the parlour wall hang the three broadlyspaced All-Ireland medals of 1930, 1937, 1945, and the four Munster ones, the "extra" being the "Foot-and-Mouth" trophy of 1941; and a host of others, Railway Cup, County, Mid.

'Tis hard to put in words how I felt the day I heard Mick was dead. When it



John Maher

shell, though I knew how bad he was. It was so final, to realise he was gone. We were very close always, great friends. He always had great time for the Tipp. lads, often travelled with O'Donnell, Gorman, Johnny and myself; a tremendous mixer, grand company. And on the field, no matter how hard the hurling he'd never niggle at you with the tongue, snap at you- he expected you to take it and hurl away, fair and strong.

The Play-actor

Of course, he was a great play-actor and could carry the crowd with him. I remember in the 1940 Munster final, 'twas a very hot day and, during a stop, Mick took a sip from the ambulance man's bottle- and then turned it up on his head and shoulders to cool himself; that raised a great laugh.

One year we were playing Connacht in Galway. Jim Barry was the manager, as usual. No sign of Mackey or the Limerick lads 'til, with ten minutes to go, they strolled in. "Where were ye at all, do ye get up at all in Limerick", Barry was giving out; "come on, get togged". Our usual blue jerseys hadn't arrived, so Barry started handing out the Cork ones he'd brought along. Mick looked at his-"are these Galway jerseys?" he asked, pretending not to recognise the colours of Cork.'

Scoring Feat in '36

"They always talk of his display against Tipp. in 1936", I ventured to remark. "They do indeed", answered John a shade ruefully; "at the graveside when Paddy Buggy mentioned his five goals and three points I was going to say to John Quirke, beside me, that 'twas I was on him that day- but I thought better of it: silence is golden. Yes, he did score that much. Not to be making

excuses, but Phil Purcell only lasted ten minutes on the wing against John Mackey - the knee he hurt in the Railway Cup was never right again- and you can imagine what it was like being up against the two Mackeys, with our defence upset. So Mick really went to town, tearing in on every break round the square and riddling the net. We did get a great kick out of it the next year, 1937, when we showed we could hold them; Willie Wall had a wonderful game on John Mackey that day in Cork." Not once in our conversation did John Maher talk of his own performances with personal pride; the theme was firmly on the greatness of his famed contemporary and rival- a generosity and affection proving how much the cameraderie of hurling means came over the radio, it was still a bomb- to these older men. Fine men, and gentlemen, I reflected as John Maher motioned me courteously onto the Killinan road.



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THE GREATNESS OF MICK MACKEY

by Raymont Smith- "Irish Independent"

The men of Tipperary- some of its greatest hurling sons- were at the graveside in Castleconnell cemetery the day in September last that Mick Mackey was laid to rest.

That was as it should be. They came too from all the other great hurling strongholds and they gathered afterwards in the hostelries in the Village (home of Ahane Club) to reminisce about the deeds of the man who was undisputed kingpin of the hurling scene before Christy Ring had ever donned the Red and White of Cork in senior grade.

There are moments shared by hurling men on such occasions that cannot really be captured on paper. They are the private moments of knowledge of the game that surpass such immaterial happenings as to who was top scorer in a given season or who won the most Railway Cup medals- or the agonising in these times about All-Star nominations and awards.

As if one as great as Mick Mackey could be judged on how he fared in any one single match or by the records that can mean so much to ordinary mortals.

The President of the G.A.A., Mr Paddy Buggy, a former Kilkenny All-Ireland hurler himself, made a mistake, I am afraid, when in an otherwise fine graveside oration he recalled a day in Clonmel when Mick Mackey was held by John Keane of Waterford- a feat that Mackey readily acknowledged.

The famous hurlers gathered at the graveside in Castleconnell were not contemplating individual matches or individual duels in a career that stretched from the early thirties to the latter part of the forties. They were conscious of just one overall fact- that the man who had made the greatest impact on the national game of any player, before the arrival of Christy Ring, was gone from our midst. Yes, the King was dead.

I doubt if any hurler will ever show the same crowd-pulling appeal as Mick Mackey in the thirties and early forties or Christy Ring in the fifties and first seasons of the sixties.

They were the two incomparables of hurling- and with Mick Mackey's passing in September 1982, the era of the incomparables is ended.

Now we are in an era of lesser mortals, gifted but not born to be undisputed "King" of their generation.

What did this man Mackey mean to us when all the world was young and we looked at the game and its big names with eves of wonder and hero-worship back in those school days in Thurles in the forties?

He meant I suppose what Elvis Presley meant to a subsequent generation of in Green and White, walking with that



Mick Mackey

young people- when he was "King" of the pop scene.

We got our hurleys from Kilkenny, precious pieces of ash with a fine grain at 4/6d a time (old money) and we all wanted to be "Mick Mackey" as we went on solo runs

And then a day at Thurles Sportsfield in 1945 (it had not yet been named Semple Stadium).

Mick Mackey in the twilight of his career playing against Tipperary in the Munster final, the old dash blunted now, no longer able to tear opposing defences to ribbons as he did in 1936 when he captained one of the greatest Limerick combinations of all time to Munster and All-Ireland honours, but still causing the crowd to hum with expectation every time he gained possession.

The same as when the ageing Ring, gone for speed, used gain possession close in it's not easy to forget the moments of sheer magic the incomparables create. . . the aura of true greatness never really evaporates.

Now in the village of Castleconnell, as the crowds pour in for the last tribute to Mick Mackey, first in the little Church and then in the cemetery itself, it all flows back to me. . . what I learned of Mick Mackey's achievements in the thirties from men who played with and against him.

Outside the Church I talked momentarily to John Maher, who played such a notable part in Tipperary's All-Ireland triumph in 1945 and I talked also to Dr Jim Young of Cork.

"Mackey" was the name on the lips of eager followers thronging to Thurles and Clonmel, to Killarney and Croke Park from 1933 onwards.

In 1936 he stood on a pedestal apart. At the head of his peerless band of players

nonchalant air of his in the parade, he made the spectators hum like bees in the

"Never prior to 1936 or subsequently did we have as combined or as stream-lined a side", said Mick Mackey's great team-mate, Jackie Power. "In 1936 all the pieces fitted in perfectly. There was no team in the land that could have lived with us that golden season".

Tipp. Humbled

Tipperary were humbled in the Munster championship, Mackey scoring a then record five goals and three points (and even making allowances for injuries in the Tipperary defence and a palpable weakness in goal, it was certainly some feat).

It was an era of dashing forwards and big, powerful defenders. Tipperary produced big defenders in this era, mostly sixfooters, to counter the Mackey threat - as did other counties also. But Mackey could not really be halted when in full cry. The names of the Limerick boys of 1936 live for all who were privileged to see them in action. . . . hurlers like Tipperary-born Mick Kennedy. . . Paddy Clohessy. . . Garret Howard. . . Timmy Ryan. . . Mick Mackey's brother, John. . . Jim Roche. . . Paddy McMahon. . . Paddy Scanlan. . . and, of course, Jackie Power.

Records I have said mean nothing really but when we assess why Limerick did not win more than three All-Irelands (1934, 1936 and 1940) in this period of dominance, let us never forget that they won five National League titles off the reel from 1934 to 1938 and they helped in tournament games to build more churches than any team in Ireland. Jackie Power would say to Mackey: "There must surely be a bed in heaven for us, Mick!"

Came 1940 and Mick Mackey was still Captain of Limerick. This was to be the season when the golden era of winning titles ended for the Shannonsiders. But what hurling Mick Mackey and the men in Green and White provided that year, what hours of glory....

Some will tell you there was never anything to compare with the intensity of the hurling produced by Limerick and Cork in the drawn game and replay in 1940 and they produced other memorable contests in 1944.

Perhaps it is true that the 1940 season was the last great fling of Mick Mackey's proud team. They had two wonderful games with Waterford- one at Killarney and the other in Clonmel- and a really tough battle with Galway at Ennis. But Thurles dwarfed everything-before Limerick finally overcame Kilkenny in the All-Ireland final. No wonder Mick Mackey once told me that the 1940 title was one of the hardest ever won by any county.

Men cycled long distances to see those 1940 games between Limerick and Cork and again in 1944- the War years of no petrol and rationing.

They came to see Mackey. By 1944

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Christy Ring was a rising star but not yet the Ring who became uncrowned King in 1954 and held that crown in undisputed fashion until his retirement.

In Jim's Place

I have written it before and now I recall again how Mick Mackey used come down into Jim Maher's pub, haunt of hurling aficionados. He would peel off his jersey and show the scrar of battle. And then the singing— with the Cork hurlers joining in with the Limerick men. A wonderful spirit of camaraderie. Home then through Borrisoleigh and other villages.

Mackey was returning to Castleconnell
... It was all recalled the day in Castleconnell when they buried the "King" of

Limerick hurling. . .

Mackey gloried even more in the cut and thrust of battle, in throwing down the gauntlet to Cork and Kilkenny than he did in what it meant to win another League or All-Ireland medal.

The courage of Mick Mackey in the closing stages of perhaps one of the finest "ordinary" League games in G.A.A. history when Limerick beat Kilkenny by 1-6 to 104 at Nowland Park on 12 May, 1935. And the same year in the Munster semi-final against Cork, Limerick reduced to 14 men- Paddy Clohessy being sent off- but Mick Mackey goes to midfield to partner Timmy Ryan and the blonde head of Mick's brother, John is everywhere as Cork are hammered to a twelve points defeat, "Mick Mackey gave one of the most brilliant and spectacular individual displays of hurling ever seen." wrote the G.A.A. correspondent of the "Irish Independent."

Dr Jim Young concurs as we chat in Castleconnell. He regrets that the Cork team of 1982 did not produce in the second half against Kilkenny the fierce fire and determination and never-say-die spirit that marked the Cork v Limerick confrontations in the forties.

Sean Kenny of Tipperary had produced courage like that against Cork in the Munster battles of 1949 and 1950. He was at the graveside as they buried Mackey. He would understand better than most what moved Mackey— what made him such an inspiration to his

team-mates.

Tommy Doyle was there also— the man who had held Ring through the drawn and marathon replay of 1949. No one had greater admiration for Mackey than Tommy Doyle.

I think of Mickey Byrne behind Jimmy Finn as Christy Ring was on the rampage in the last emotionally-charged moments of the 1958 Munster semi-final, John Doyle and Tony Wall battling fiercely also with the others to try and contain the Cork attack— we died a thousand deaths and lived again as Tipperary came through.

Mick Roche in the rain at Killarney in 1971— testing the grain of his stick as he bends the ash on his appearance on the pitch, exchanging a glance with "Babs"

Keating, a hero in victory that day, before the parade. As if to say— "this is it". Roche's last truly great display in the Blue and Gold, Limerick's day it should have been, yes— but Roche dug hurling out of the depths of his being of a class and sheer majesty that I have not often seen in the decades after the sixties.

It was the kind of hurling Mick Mackey produced in his heyday and created the legends that would never die....

The No. II jerseys of Ahane and Limerick drape Mick Mackey's coffin as we join the cortege on the long walk from the Church to the cemetery. The hearse passes the swans on the Shannon—a peaceful scene. Up a hill then and into the cemetery where Paddy Scanlan is buried. Memories again of battles long ago in the sun in Thurles. . .

They crowd around John Mackey at the graveside. It's as if by talking to John, they are living again those golden

days in the thirties and forties.

The famous hurlers disperse. Back to the hostelries in the Village. The men of Glen Rovers have come from Cork in a coach in the Club colours.

Ball Flying

I gather with Mickey Byrne, Jim Devitt and Mick Herbert in Mick Hickey's establishment. Jackie Power is there also. So also Dr Jim Young. The hurling balls are flying through the long afternoon. "The Rattler" in the kind of mood Mick Mackey himself would have loved. Memories flow again of Mackey's times . . . of cavalier days that can never be repeated.

In moments like that you wanted Tipperary to again produce a team like the 1949/51 or 1964—65 side with hurlers in it of real talent and lasting class. In Cork in 1982 I concluded that courage is not enough if real talent and skill is missing in the overall— and Cork as subsequent events proved were no world-beaters, yet they had it all so easy.

Mick Mackey had been at the graveside in Cloyne the day they buried Christy Ring in March, 1979. Mackey only smiled when hurling men tried to broach to him the question about his thoughts on Ring—and what he felt about the Great Debate on which of them was greatest?

He knew where he stood. He had experienced again and again what it was like to walk up the sideline in Thurles after he had retired. Invariably a great buzz arose from the crowds and you would hear men say to their children—"There goes Mick Mackey".

I heard it said through the evolving seasons when Ring was still playing: "There goes Mick Mackey...."

The retired "King" walking among his people. Not upset that they had crowned a new "King".

There was only one Mick Mackey, as there was only one Babe Ruth in the world of baseball.

As there was only one Christy Ring. We shall not see their kind again.

OBITUARY

Tom Hill: Clonmel St Mary's suffered a cruel blow early in the year with the death of its Vice-Chairman, Tom Hill. For many years Tom had been a key figure in the club's activities, ever at the service of its players and officials. He was prodigal in his expenditure of time, energy and money on the game of hurling he loved so much. Minor and juvenile teams were his special interest and a touching feature of his huge funeral was the number of young players obviously deeply affected by the loss of a father-figure.

Tom McCall: Tom McCall was a Wicklowman who was a member of the Commercials club since his coming to live in Clonmel over forty years ago. First as a player and later as a club official, he gave herculean service to his club. He was a founder member of Clonmel's G.A.A. Social Centre and as a member of its Management Committee up to the time of his death he took a particular interest in functions of a purely Gaelic nature.

Ar dheis láimh Dé go raibh a nanamacha.

S. Leahy

Bill Fitzgerald: Among a group of Semple Stadium stilesmen and supervisors to help out at Croke Park for the 1982 All-Ireland hurling final was Bill Fitzgerald; within a short couple of weeks he was dead. The late and lamented Bill was a native of Heathview, Horse and Jockey and a member of a popular local family. In recent years he had worked at Erin Foods Thurles plant from which he retired. A regular on the Stadium staff, he was always courteous and considerate in his approach to patrons; a hurling chat with Bill was an entertaining experience. May he rest in peace.

Dick Buckley: Just one day after Moycarkey-Borris had realised their great ambition in winning the county championships, a member of their last victorious team of 1940 died in Yeavil, Somerset. He was Dick Buckley, late of Cloughmartin, and uncle of the two Quigley brothers in the champions' forward lines, Dick and Tommy. A nippy, slightly-built opportunist, Dick Buckley featured in many hectic Mid and county struggles for his parish at a time of strong hurling. Ar dheis Dé go raibh sé.

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THE NEW SELECTION COMMITTEE

by John Guiton 'Tipperary Star'

With so much publicity in recent times regarding the state of hurling in the county- indeed hardly a month passed by without somebody outlining their views in the local papers- it is not surprising that the appointment of the new Senior selectors in October attracted much interest not alone in Tipperary hurling circles, but indeed outside of the county too.

Nobody has to be reminded of the relatively barren period that Tipperary Senior hurling has experienced since 1971, with the exception of the winning of the league in 1979. It is difficult to comprehend that a County which has been to the forefront in the native game since the foundation of the Association in Thurles in 1884, has failed to collect a championship title over a decade. Lest it be thought that reflecting on the gloomy period behind us indicates a lack of appreciation for former players and selectors, it must be stressed that all did everything possible to achieve success and undoubtedly deserved better, for their efforts. However the reality of the matter is that we are starving for success at Senior grade, and though endless theories have been put forward as to how to improve the standard of club hurling, and consequently field a strong County outfit, at the end of the day the real task of choosing the most capable side rests with the five current selectorsall former players- Pat Stakelum (Holycross-Ballycahill); Len Gaynor (Kilruane MacDonagh); John Kelly (Cappawhite); Fr Ray Reidy (Kilsheelan) and Liam Hennessy (Moycarkey-Borris).

Undoubtedly the 'big five' as we might collectively call them face an onerous task, but at the time of writing their charges have not yet been seen in the current league campaign, so no assessment can be made of their work to date. Adding further interest to the appointment of the new Committee is the fact that the changes come at a time when one of the traditional strongholds of Tipperary hurling, Moycarkey-Borris have come back into the limelight after a lapse of 42 years. Their achievements in 1982 is a story in itself but hopefully it might just herald a major breakthrough for County hurling too. There are those who believe for whatever reason, that Mid Tipperary at the top in the Senior County championship, inevitably means success at County level. Now by virtue of Moycarkey's success the division has regained lost inspire greater things.

Youth Policy



NEW TIPP. SENIOR HURLING SELECTORS-John Kelly, Liam Hennessy, Len Gaynor, Pat Stakelum, Rev. Ray Reidy.

the previous selectors who it must be said made a major contribution to under-age hurling in the County with their history of success at u-21 grade. Yet, the new committee can only do so much and are content to work in a sincere manner with the players, taking the job step by step, without making any ambitious plans or setting out major objectives.

If experience of the big-time is needed to revive Tipperary hurling fortunes then the present Committee are adequately prepared for the job in hand. Pat Stakelum now living in Thurles, but a native of Holycross-Ballycahill, needs only a minimum introduction as most hurling followers are well aware of his achievements. An excellent clubman for Holycross-Ballycahill he played for Tipperary with distinction having captained the team which won the All-Ireland in 1949 and was an outstanding centre-back on the team which won the three in a row. He has had experience too of the administrative side of GAA affairs having served as County Board Secretary. In recent years he had been extremely busy working among the Durlas Og club catering for juveniles.

John Kelly (Cappawhite) has the additional experience of having served as a selector in the past, but also re-enters the scene with the distinction of having played at full-back in 1971 for the County team. Principal of Cappawhite Vocational School he has worked increasingly hard with young players too in recent times and still plays for his club at Junior level.

The resurgence of Kilruane Mac-Donagh in the late seventies was due in no small way to former great Len Gaynor who like Kelly has previous experience as a selector. Len captured All-Ireland pride, and it remains to be seen if it can medals in 1965 and 1971, and was a member of the team beaten in the 67 and 68 finals. His part Coach in Moy-Clearly the selectors will want to carkey's great victory made him an continue on the Youth policy adopted by obvious choice of the County champions

in their nominations to the Board. Indeed it is their way of paying tribute to the former wing-back for his help in achieving their ultimate aim.

Kilsheelan Curate

Speaking of Fr Ray Reidy in County hurling circles, and his name is immediately linked with the development and revival of hurling fortunes in Kilsheelan. where he is now a Curate. A substitute on the 1958 team he was a brilliant minor in his day, and later was a prominent member of the Thurles Sarsfields club. A brother-in-law of John Doyle, Fr Ray ministered in Africa for many years.

In their year of glory Moycarkey have nominated their club Chairman Mr Liam Hennessy as selector. Liam is no stranger either to the hurling field having played with his club in championship over the years, and wore the jersey in the last County final appearance in 1962 against Sarsfields. A brilliant player then, and now an excellent clubman his contribution to the hurling revival in Moycarkey-Borris cannot be emphasised enough. A farmer near Two-Mile-Borris, naturally enough Liams greatest wish would be to achieve success at County level in such a glorious year for his club. I hope that the success of Moycarkey and the restoration of hurling in Mid Tipperary to greater heights, might be the sort of inspiration needed to motivate the County to greater things, he told me. There is a great unity among the selectors and players and we will certainly be doing everything possible to get together a capable and competent team unit, he added.

All in all, it is clear that great goodwill and harmony exists among the new committee and it is our sincere wish, like that of all hurling followers in the County, that they will be immensely successful. Doubtless, they carry everybody's good wishes with them on their mission.

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THE SPIRIT OF KICKHAM

by Br. Joseph Perkins

To be asked to write a few lines on C. J. Kickham is indeed an honour on this the centenary year of his death. Much have I written already on Tipperary's "truest patriot". Of all our patriots Charles Joseph Kickham has been my favourite and Knocknagow is the book I have read oftenest—except the Bible.

Ever since I first saw, when a very young boy, the play, "Knocknagow", in Drombane Hall, I have loved Kickham, Knocknagow and "the homes of Tipperary" with its great characters and its noble

people.

Kickham loved his native place, with its mountains, hills and valleys and wrote about all these places, in prose and poetry. He has given us a picture of rural life in Tipperary and indeed in Ireland in the late nineteenth century. He has portrayed for us a people happy and good-living even when times were turbulent and poverty ravished the land. God endowed him with a mind that could see it all clearly and he was able to retain that picture even when his eyes were unable to see any more because of a serious accident when drying gun powder in his home.

His little nieces, Josie and Annie Cleary, became his eyes and ears. Kickham had the time to get to know the people of Mullinahone and Tipperary and well and truly did he immortalise them in "Matt the Thresher", Norah Lahy, Billy Heffernan, Barney "Wattletoes", Phil Lahy, (Ned O'Shea), Honor Lahy and Fr Hannigan, etc. etc.

Hero Down the Years

Down the years Matt the Thresher has been my hero. He is the typical Tipperaryman of my dreams — and indeed of everyday life. I saw him in the hard-working "servant boy", the busy farmer capable of doing a hundred different jobs. I could see him as he went around, cutting hay, making ditches thatching, sewing corn with his hand, saving hay, threshing etc.— and all the time he was happy, singing as he followed the plough or milked the cows, or on Sundays and late evenings threw off his coat to "hit a few pucks" with the neighbours in the "hurling field".

Every time I read "Knocknagow", and that is about once a year, a surge of pride wells up in my soul, and even a tear falls from my eye when Matt the Thresher beats Captain Ffrench when he throws

the sledge.

"Turning round quickly the thatched roof of the hamlet caught his eye. And strange to say, those old mud walls and thatched roofs roused him as nothing



1882–1982 Charles Kickham Centenary

else could. His breast heaved, as with glistening eyes, and that soft plaintive smile of his, he uttered the words 'For the credit of the little village' in a tone of deepest tenderness."

The striking of the Parish Drum spurred him on to greater heights and gave him greater energy. On the day of the County Hurling final I heard the sound of a drum too, as Moycarkey/ Borris swept on to victory after forty two years. This time it was the Sean Treacy Band. How proud they, too, were of their sturdy "Matt the Threshers" who were playing for the credit of the little village", for the honour of their parish.

Local Pride

This idea of 'local pride' and County patriotism was not at all prevalent before the time of Kickham or even in Kickham's lifetime. Kickham saw the great need for this. He tried to impress this love of the small community on our people and to spread this new idea of his- "for the credit of the little village." Two years after his death in 1882, a new association was born in Hayes Hotel, Thurles (1884) which would have delighted the heart of Kickham. How pleased he would be to be sitting in the Hogan Stand (called after his neighbour Mick Hogan of Grangemockler), looking at an All-Ireland hurling final in Croke Park. This was the kind of Nationalism Kickham worked for, in his life-time and in his books. He knew full well the significance of organised sport. The idea of bringing people together as a community, in friendly rivalry, playing their native game and pastimes appealed very much to Kickham. He wrote in an article in the "Irish People" in 1964 entitled 'National Sports':

"Our fathers and grandfathers hurled and leaped and danced, and we cannot see why we should not do the same." Kickham, as part of his Fenian activities, organised pastimes and sporting "gettogethers" in the Mullinahone area in the 1960s, which were frowned on by

those in authority and by some of the clergy. Br. O Caithnia in his great book "Scéal na hIomána" gives us the reason for the "fall-off" in hurling matches in the nineteenth century. He did not mention however, that our C. J. Kickham was one of those responsible for the foundation of the G.A.A. and that Michael Cusack must have learned much from him.

Croke's Sympathy

Dr Croke, of course, was a great admirer of Kickham. He was out of the country at the time of Kickham's death. Father James Cantwell, the administrator of the parish, stated that he could not give permission, in the absence of the Archbishop, to honour the remains of Kickham in the Cathedral. Dr Croke wrote later to Alexander Kickham offering his sympathy, and saying that if he had been at home he would have paid the remains, all due honour. Dr Croke also wrote the following about Kickham:

"I can safely say that, apart altogether from, and independent of his attractions, as an Irish poet, scholar and patriot, I take him to be of all men that I have ever met, about the gentlest, the most amiable, the most truthful, and the most sorely and searchingly tried, at the same time, that I believe our most holy mother the church, has few more dutiful sons than he, and none more thoroughly devoted to her interests, or more resolutely and reasonably faithful."

Is it any wonder then that so many Gaelic Clubs honour the name of Kickham and parks and streets and bands have kept his name before the Irish

people who love him so well.

In 1844, when Charles Joseph Kickham was only sixteen years of age, Father Mathew, the Apostle of Temperance, a native of Thomastown, Golden Co. Tipperary, visited Mullinahone. Kickham took the pledge from him and was able to write towards the end of his life: "I have been a faithful and proud disciple of that greatest of Tipperarymen, Theobald Mathew, since before I reached my teens". He kept his pledge all his life.

The Mullinahone Spirit

I have been a keen admirer of Charles Joseph Kickham all my life. His patriotism, his love of country, his writings, prose and poetry I love and try to copy. The more one studies the real Kickham the more he is to be admired. Not many Tipperary people know, honour and respect him enough. The people of Mullinahone are to be praised for what they have achieved on this year, the Centenary of his death. Mullinahone should be a place of pilgrimage. Not only are his bones there in a beautiful grave beneath the Celtic Cross beside the sacred Church- but the spirit of Kickham is in the hearts of the people of this little village. May that same spirit spread out into the 'homes of Tipperary' and live for ever among our people "for as long as Slievenamon holds memory of Knocknagow".



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CAN EIGHTY-THREE ALTER LUCKLESS LITANY?

by John O'Grady

listed years of Tipperary's senior hurling All-Irelands at the back of one of Raymond Smith's books, I noticed an odd feature— Tipp have won on the nought (1900, 1930, 1950); the one (1951, conceded defeat. The team: "Wedger" 1961, 1971); the two (1962); the four Meagher, F. McGrath, J. McGrath, J. (1964); the five (1895, 1925, 1945, O'Meara, E. Gilmartin, S. Hackett, W. (1964); the five (1895, 1925, 1945, 1965); the six (1896, 1906, 1916); the seven (1887, 1937); the eight (1898, 1908, 1958); the nine (1899, 1949). Every figure, barring the allegedly lucky number three; and you know what next it- some slight extra impulse might, all the same, be generated in an effort to round out the complete roll of digits.

It strikes me that it may be of interest, slightly morbid interest, to investigate the sequence, decade by decade; to go back to the early days and follow the line up to Richie Bennis and his Tippdefeating seventy of 1973. We will be recalling many great names, seen on a luckless day- and jogging memories of hurlings various periods; defeats that stung at the time but can be looked on now as the frowns of fortune and as the making of an odd statistical fact.

No Entry

To lead off, with 1893; Tipperary had good sound reason for winning no All-Ireland to make their total twothe county took no part in the championship, "The year opened with the Association completely disorganised", wrote Canon Fogarty. In Tipp the "re-surrection trumpet" had to be sounded, but it didn't sound effectively enough to get us into a championship won by Blackrock over Tullaroan. No entry, no defeat; who would have forecast then that this would be Tipp's best result on the number three?

Into the twentieth century and 1903: Lahorna de Wets, "with no assistance from the Mid Division", lost to Cork (Blackrock- St Finbarr's- Dungourney selection) at Market's Field, Limerick (4-6 v 1-10). Team: Jack Dwan (capt.), Tom and Dan Ryan, Mick Moloughney, Jim and Martin Darcy, Din Whelan, Pat Williams, Jack Meara, Mick Conway, Pat Starr, Rody Nolan, Din Kelly, Neil Moloney, Con Brewer, Tim Carr, Frank Devaney.

All-Ireland Slump

On to 1913 and an Ireland agitated by the political issue of Home Rule and the formation of Volunteers North and South, on the eve of World War. It was the year when teams were reduced to fifteen-a-side. Tipp went all the way to the All-Ireland final. The team was back-Waterford were demolished at home, summer was quite sweet.

Glancing, in an idle moment, at the 6-0 to 2-2. Clare were next, beaten 3-2 to 2-0. The final was in Dungarvan, Cork the opposition and beaten well, Kelly, E. Cawley, J. Harty, H. Shelly, P. Brolan, J. Murphy, B. Mockler, T. Gleeson, E. O'Keeffe, J. Raleigh; Subs: M. Ryan, W. Dwan, J. Kennedy, J. Kenna

Into the "roaring twenties" and an year is! Superstition doesn't enter into atmosphere soured by civil war, with Munster and All-Ireland finals delayed 'til 1924. A powerful Tipp team, with much of its strength from Boherlahan, Moycarkey and Toomevara, beat Clare easily, but failed in Cork against Limerick Illness, according to Canon Fogarty, caused some important absences, including captain Johnny Leahy- one wonders if some of the "illnesses" had political aspects? Team: J. O'Meara, J. Kennedy, J. Conway, T. Duffy, P. Dwyer, P. Power, H. Shelly, W. Dwan, J. Power, M. Kennedy, J. J. Hayes, M. Mockler, W. Prop. P. Carilland, Th. Mockler, W. Ryan, P. Spillane. The actual fifteen in the final is not clear from the good Canon's account.

Depression Days

The economically depressed days of the thirties came along on times inexorable course. Limerick began their regime of tremendous Munster success in 1933; they won it successively till 1937 and Tipp's revival. In 1933 a Moycarkeychosen Tipp team went to tackle the Erin's Own- of the Wares- Waterford selection. A draw was played. The replay came into Tipp territory, marginally, in the borden town of Carrick, but the result was calamitous, 5-5 against 502. The losing team: Phil Purcell, J. Heaney, W. Kennedy, P. Cahill, J. Stapleton, J. Maher, J. Lanigan, T. O'Meara, M. Kennedy, M. Cronin, J. Coffey, E. Walsh, M. Daniels, T. Treacy, T. Teehan, T. Leahy. Res. T. Kelly, J. O'Loughlin, T. Butler, J. Ryan, T. Harty.

Ten years more, into "Emergency" days. Tom Semple died in April 1943; Tipp. travelled to Dungarvan and slumped at the seaside, 4-5 to our wretched 1-2. Team: J. Maher (Boherlahan); D. Maher (do); G. Cornally (Sars.); W. Wall (Carrick); M. Murphy (Sars.); J. Maher (do); T. Doyle (do); D. Mackey (do); E. O'Brien (Dublin); T. Mason (Sars.); T. Coffey (Boherlahan); M. Heffernon (Kilruane); P. Flanagan (Dublin); S. Maher (Boherlahan); M. Maher (Sars.); Subs. T. Wall (Carrick); J. Delahunty (Sars.). With nobody on from Moycarkey-Borris, that boned by Toomevara "Greyhounds". club's Mid victory at Gaile later in the

A Month For John

In 1953 Cork had taken over from Tipp's three-in-a-row and we were trying desperately to get back to the pinnacle. The opening win at Cork over Waterford was featured by John Doyle's dismissal for a foul on Jim Fives. Heated Munster Council debate followed, with Cork spokesman keen on severity-Murphy had refereed- but John got only a month and lined out in the final before 46,000 people. They saw Cork win by 3-10 to 1-11. Ring goaled a quick free off Jimmy Finn's boot; Con Keane of Sarsfields marked Christy and did creditably- the master moved out to midfield. Bannon had cruel luck after rounding Creedon in goal, the ball slipping wide. Team: A Reddan; M. Byrne, A. Brennan, J. Doyle, C. Keane, J. Finn, T. Doyle, P. Stakelum, I. Hough, N. Ryan, P. Shanahan, S. Bannon, Tim Ryan, P. Kenny, Phil Maher. Subs: G. Doyle, F. Coffey, Tommy Ryan.

Goal-less Gloom

Sixty-three! Oh dear, what a useful thing victory would have been, setting up a possible unprecedented five-in-a-row: but Waterford got in the way. We had hammered Cork, 4-7 to 1-11, and confidence was high for a revival of league final form against Waterford. Tony Wall did a definite individual recovery against Tom Cheasty, but hopeless shooting, silly frees and the disallowing of Mc-Loughlin's palmed goal led to galling defeat in the no-goal final, 0-11 to 0-8. Team: R. Mounsey, J. Doyle, M. Maher, K. Carey, M. Burns, A. Wall, Pat Ryan, T. English, D. Nealon, I. Doyle, L. Kiely, Tom Ryan, J. McKenna, L. Devaney, S. McLoughlin. Subs: L. Connolly, M. Murphy.

The name of Richie Bennis will never be separated from 1973 in Tipp. memory. We beat Waterford 1-16 to 1-8 in the opener, with the surprise presence of Jimmy Doyle in goal. And we beat Cork, 5-4 to 1-10, with the remarkable spate of four goals in seven minutes against Paddy Barry; our last Munster win to date, as everybody knows too well. But Limerick spoiled it, Ned Rea tumbling goalie Tadhg Murphy repeatedly without response from the Clare referee, and upsetting our defensive composure 6-7 to 2-18. The line out: T. Murphy, J. Fogarty, J. Kelly, J. Gleeson, J. Crampton, T. O'Connor, L. Gaynor, S. Hogan, P. J. Ryan, F. Loughnane, M. Roche, N. P'Dwyer, J. Flanagan, R. Ryan, M. Keating. Subs: Jack Ryan, Dinny Ryan. All boiled down ultimately to the nerve and the luck of Richie Bennis. To this day, some swear the ball was wide-Gaynor visibly and vigorously challenged the umpire- but the record books say different.



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AGENTS
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MAURICE DAVIN, THE FIRST PRESIDENT

by Seamus O Riain

Cusack, Croke and Davin are the three big names associated with the foundation of the Gaelic Athletic Association. Cusack is acknowledged as the originator and founder of the Association and the Archbishop in identifying enthusiastically with the new movement made a vital contribution to its success, while Davin has been given less credit than he deserved. Yet he had an important role in setting up the Association and even more so in steering its early years and attracting support to it. By his outstanding achievements on the athletic fields he gained popularity and respect while he was recognised as a man of high principles and integrity which won the confidence of the public.

The eldest of five brothers, Maurice Davin was born in Deer Park, Carrickon-Suir in 1842. He was educated in the O'Shea Academy in the town and being naturally studious he extended his knowledge through wide reading. When he was eighteen his father died and he had to take on the responsibility of running the farm and looking after a business connected with river traffic. He was powerfully built, being tall and strong with a physique ideally fitted for athletics and sports which were traditional to the area in which he lived, and he took part in all the local pastimes proving adept at them. Living close to the river Suir he was naturally interested in rowing and he concentrated on this sport for a number of years, building his own boats and competing successfully in the regattas which were popular at the time.

He was in his late twenties when he began to take a serious interest in running, jumping and weight throwing but he quickly rose to the top rank especially in hammer throwing and apart from many successes in Irish championships he crossed over to England and won titles in the hammer and shot putting.

It grieved him that there was no Irish code of rules for athletics, hurling and football and sports of native origin and that sport in Ireland was conducted in accordance with English rules which did not give prominance to many events that were generally popular in Ireland.

When Cusack published his appear in 'United Ireland' Davin was the first to come out publicly supporting him in a letter to the paper, stating that football was a great game and many old people thought that only hurling exceeded it as a trial of men, but that definite rules were needed for these games. The final paragraph of his letter was the one that pleased Cusack and committed Davin to the task ahead. He wrote: "If a move-



ment such as you advise is made for the purpose of reviving and encouraging Irish games and drafting rules etc. I will gladly lend a hand if I can be of any use".

The significance of this letter should not be lost. There was no certainty that the idea would be a success or that it would gain popular support, for there was bound to be opposition. Yet Davin took up the challenge and committed himself to a new and momentous move in Irish sport. It was a decision not lightly made but out of conviction.

Cusack did not delay until the following week to show his pleasure at Davin's response but wrote in the same issue of 'United Ireland': 'My friend Maurice Davin has spoken, I am very glad he has. Through him a leader who is spotless in the midst of the speckled has spoken.'

Thurles Meeting

The historic circular sent out on Monday, 27th October was signed jointly by Cusack and Davin, and when the meeting assembled in Hayes' Hotel on 1st November Davin was the unanimous choice to take the chair. In his address he pointed out that the only athletic laws in force in Ireland were designed for the guidance of Englishmen for the sports of their own country but they did not deal at all with the sports and pastimes characteristic of the Gaelic race. He explained the object of the meeting was to form an association to draft laws for the guidance of those who were patriotic enough to devise schemes of recreation for the bulk of the people.

He was elected President and straightaway he entered his duties with great energy, attending sports fixtures at many venues, acting as judge at competitions and presiding at regular meetings of the executive council. Marcus de Burca in 'The G.A.A. A History' comments: "For a man who, Cusack had intended, would play a more formal or passive role, Davin must have surprised many of his associates by his energy and enthusiasm".

Davin was his own man and he was to show this very clearly over the next few important years. From the beginning he saw the need for a constitution and a code of rules for the games which would be strictly enforced, otherwise confusion would reign with groups going their own independent ways. It would appear that the other members of the executive accepted Davin as an expert in this area.

On 17th December an organising meeting was held in the Victoria Hotel in Cork and Davin with the two Honorary Secretaries, Cusack and M'Kay, were asked to draft rules under which the work of the Association was to be conducted. These rules were adopted at the following meeting in Thurles on 17th January.

When what Cusack termed 'the foreign faction' voiced opposition to the new movement and proceeded to form a rival association Davin adopted a conciliatory attitude to them, and wrote to their secretary Beatty informing him that he had asked Michael Cusack to attend their meeting so that he could clarify the G.A.A. position and avoid misunderstanding. In this Davin displayed his leadership qualities; he was prepared to be reasonable and conciliatory in the interests of unity, but when the opponents proved to be rigid and prejudiced he showed clearly where he stood and supported Cusack in his spirited stand against the non-nationalist group.

Great Progress

The first year of the Association was marked by extraordinary advances in organisation and support. When the first Annual Convention was held in Thurles on 31st October, 1885, Davin, in his presidential address, reviewed the progress and set out the firm basis on which the G.A.A. was established, saying that they in Ireland had not been conquered as far as athletics went and so the G.A.A. had been formed to govern national pastimes.

During 1886 the Executive made further progress in formulating rules and setting out a comprehensive constitution. At a meeting in Thurles on 5th June Davin explained the affiliations could be accepted only from hurling, football, handball and athletic clubs, but football clubs not playing Gaelic could not be affiliated. He also submitted a draft of

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revised rules which were adopted and it was decided to print them and have them circulated.

By this time dissatisfaction with Cusack was mounting and came to a head at a meeting in Thurles on 4th July, when in the absence of Davin the chair was occupied by F. R. Moloney of Nenagh, one of the Vice-Presidents. By 47 votes to 13 it was decided to dispense with Cusack's services as secretary on the grounds that he had not been discharging his duties satisfactorily. One must ask why Davin was not present particularly since the meeting was called specially to consider the secretaryship. But at this remove in time one can only resort to conjecture.

A full meeting of the Association was called for 27th September with Davin in the chair when a new secretary, J. B. O'Reilly of Dublin, was elected. A further revision of rules was made and Davin declared that they were determined in accordance with the spirit that had prompted the start of the Association that the games should be played under Irish rules

The second Annual Convention which was well attended adopted a revised comprehensive constitution setting up a structure for the whole association from the Central Committee through County Committees down to clubs. The General Committee representative of each affiliated club was to be the supreme authority. It was to meet annually and elect an Executive Committee to deal with the day-to-day business. County Committees were to be elected annually by the clubs and each club was to appoint a small management committee to take charge of its affairs. Revised rules for hurling, football and handball were also adopted.

Reading through the constitution and rules one is struck by their scope and the way the framers grasped what was needed for proper control and discipline. It was a blue print for the future and it amazes one to find how some clauses have endured over the years even with almost

identical phraseology.

It is reasonable to assume that this was in the main the work of Davin. From the beginning he was strong on the need for a constitution and rules as disciplinary measures. Only Wise-Power and Bracken of the original group were still active and subsequent events were to prove that the other members of the executive showed little respect for the constitution which had been adopted.

Davin Resigns

When the executive met in Dublin on 27th February following, Bracken presided in the absence of Davin and they proceeded to adopt new rules in contravention of article 14 of the recently adopted constitution which laid down 'that no new rule shall be introduced, nor any of the foregoing altered, except at a meeting of the general committee called for that purpose'. Davin saw this action as a move by the executive to take over supreme control and at the next meeting which was held in Limerick on 11th April he contended that the executive had no power to do as they had done. When the executive refused to agree Davin left the meeting and later he wrote resigning his position as president.

In an interview Davin stated that he was not concerned with the question as to the necessity of the rules introduced by the executive; some he would support, others he would not. His objection was to the violation of the constitution and he could not agree with the other members of the executive on the present system of managing the association. Many appeals and resolutions were put forward asking Davin to withdraw his

resignation but he stood firm.

Without his restraining influence disputes and disagreements followed which reached a crisis in the squabble at the Annual Convention of 1887 which has been well publicised. To bring about a resolution of the troubles Dr Croke stepped in and held a conference with Michael Davitt and Davin to reconstruct the Association, and arising out of their discussions Davin, Frewen, O'Riordan and Wyse-Power were appointed to make

arrangements for a new Convention. This was held in Thurles on 4th January 1888. Davin was again elected President and a new constitution drafted by him was approved. For a time peace reigned.

Money Problems

The new year was marked by financial difficulties and the American 'Invasion', which, it was hoped, would extend the Association to the States, bring about international contests and assist the funds at home. Davin was the most active promoter of the 'Invasion' and travelled as manager of the group. But hopes were not realised and to the great disappointment of Davin it was a financial failure, and disputes continued over the funds. Davin carried out investigations into the accounts and was surprised to find debts of which he had been unaware. At the Annual Convention on 23rd January 1889 he made a long statement on the financial position which was vigorously questioned. Davin, a proud and upright man, felt that his integrity was being questioned and left the meeting. Any suggestion that he was personally responsible for the indebtedness of the Association was repudiated by the delegates and efforts were made to persuade him to return to the Convention but he refused. Thus ended his active connection with the Association.

Maurice Davin lived to a vigorous old age and was never ill up to his last year. He died in January, 1926, in his 85th year.

It is doubtful if his work in those early and vital years has been fully recognised by the Association which he helped to establish and set on a disciplined course. However it is pleasing to see that, coming up to the centenary year, the new Ceannaras at Croke Park has been named 'Aras Daimhin', giving him a well-deserved place of honour with Croke and Cusack in our National Stadium.

Perhaps too, someone may be prompted to research deeper into his life and times and produce a more complete study of Maurice Davin from Carrick-on-Suir.



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TIPPERARY FOOTBALL

By Seamus O'Donoghue (selector)

Tipperary is known far and wide as the Premier county. Its deeds on the hurling field are treasured by hurling supporters who earnestly hope for a quick recovery to its rightful place as the Premier hurling county.

These same supporters do not realise that for decades Tipperary footballers could also hold their own in all grades, Minor, Junior and Senior with the traditional football giants. Each year has brought hope and anxiety among the genuine football supporters for the sign of a revival to those good old days.

The formation of the County minor football Board proved a blessing, with a very dedicated band of men trying might and main through coaching to start this revival. Though they may not have a championship to show for their endeavours the standard of football at minor level has improved considerably and their excellent display in Clonmel in May 1980 against Kerry when the biggest following to follow Tipperary for decades where loud in their praise of the minors and mentors even in defeat. The same year our under 21 footballers really shook Cork in Clonmel when only the woodwork deprived them of victory. This was by far the closest game Cork had in their route to winning the All-Ireland crown.

Our under 21 side of this year gave mighty Kerry a right good game in Killarney despite havint fo field without one of their best players. For forty five minutes we held sway until a lucky Kerry score swung the game in their favour.

I honestly believe that if a breakthrough could be made at any level we have the footballers and officials to fan the flame to former glory. The standard of under age football is on a par with the top football counties as was proved emphatically this year when we had Clonmel Commercials winning an All-Ireland at under 14 level and Fethard proving that they had no equals at under 15 level.

Players seem to lose interest and spirit once they leave the minor ranks which is hard to understand- surely a blue and gold jersey should have the same meaning to both a senior hurler or footballer. There are thousands of young players who dream for the day when they can pull on a county singlet and give sixty minutes of their ability and sweat to show that they were worthy to wear the jersey.

Our senior footballers are going through an indifferent period despite favourable results over the last league campaign. Their performance against Laois in Portarlington when only a 31st minute point deprived them victory and a two point loss to Wicklow in Aughrim who headed the group, plus victories over Westmeath and Donegal showed that Tipperary has a rightful place in Division 2 of the current National League and not in Division 4 where it finds itself.

It is a source of regret when I hear of a player who is asked go on the football panel but opts out. Nevertheless I respect these wishes as some players are happy in club football and may think that they may have more to offer their club than county.

Having just completed a very successful coaching course in Cork under the leadership of Michael O'Sullivan in the company of six other Tipperary men, it was brought home to me that Cork and Kerry have their problems with coaching and training, but also they are prepared to work longer hours with players and consequently get more return from them. Surely there is a question to Tipperary footballers (myself included) for the coming season in this.

Finally it is my hope that the foot-ballers of Tipperary will realise that the wearing of the county jersey is a tremendous honour and that they will raise their game and battle out of Division 4 and forge towards the top immediately. We have the talent and hopeful John McNamara, Sean Mockler, Michael Darcy, James O'Shea and myself will have the pleasure of witnessing a Tipperary captain being presented with the McGrath Cup in 1983.



TIPP SENIOR FOOTBALL TEAM THAT DEFEATED WATERFORD IN THE 1st ROUND OF THE MUNSTER CHAMPIONSHIP. Back row (I. to r.): S. Sherlock, G. McGrath, M. Hanley, J. Dunne, M. Maher, O. Maher, Jim McLoughney, B. Conway. Front row (I. to r.): S. O'Neill, P. Dooley, E. O'Dwyer, Pat Bergin (captain), Tom McGrath, D. Foley, F. Kelly. Fhoto-Boland Clonmel

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Ordination of Fr Liam Ryan

by Michael Maher

It is only on rare occasions that a full parish community responds with impressive enthusiasm in admiring and paying tribute to one of its sons. I remember it to happen when Cardinal M. Browne returned to Grangemocker, having been elevated to sacred ministry in Rome. In June of '82 this feeling of joy, gladness and pride enveloped the whole parish of Holycross-Ballycahill on the occasion of the ordination of Liam Rvan.

Liam had been known to everyone in the parish for his voluntary work and for his winning way in getting others involved. Reared at Glenbane he grew up where hurling was practically a religion. It was talked of and played all day everyday. Like all others of his time he played the game and went to all the club and County matches but Liam continued to help in refereeing and administration.

He assisted Holycross first before taking on the more demanding task of Secretary to Mid Tipp G.A.A. Board. He pleased practically everyone and had a pleasant way of refusing or disagreeing with others.

For any voluntary work Liam was not alone a willing helper but was a real leader inspiring by example. The work of the Legion of Mary was particularly dear to him. The Restoration of the Abbey, the Tidy Village, the Cleaning of the Graveyard were all a challenge to him.



Fr Liam Ryan and Liz Howard, Tipp. Co Board P.R.O. snapped in cheerful mood at Semple Stadium.

He gave countless hours to maintaining and developing Holycross G.A.A. grounds and was a central figure in the development of Semple Stadium. He worked at both ends of Holycross parish for the G.A.A. His last effort was in the building of dressing rooms on Ballycahill.

Liam also had the gift of being able to handle, humour and even reprimand the ladies as well. He worked voluntarily with everyone and they all worked with him.

His ordination day was wonderful. The weather could not have been better and as he entered the Cathedral in procession with his fellow students, a sense of emotion, joy and pride gripped us all. We were happy for Liam and his family. We thought of his late father, Michael, himself an All-Ireland hurler, and one of the finest men ever to live in Holycross. We joined in the celebrations at the Abbey and Community Hall and probably the most touching moment was when he laid his hands on us individually and gave us his ordination blessing.

Father Liam is now serving as a priest in Waterford city. He is very happy in his work, much of which is similar to the work he was doing for the G.A.A. but now with a greater meaning and with nobler ideals. We look forward to his return to the diocese of Cashel in a few short years to live and work with us again. He has much to offer yet in his new way of life.



championship under-14, Lar Cleary from Cappawhite emerged as Munster and all-Ireland champion. After winning his way through the divisional and county competitions the Cappawhite youth went on to represent Tipperary in the intercounty series. In the preliminary round of the Munster championship at Páirc Uí Chaoimh on the day that Tipp played Cork in the Munster championship senior hurling first round Lar gained a place in the Munster decider by coming second to Cork's Paudie O'Shea. But in that Munster final which was in Thurles during the Waterford v Limerick senior hurling semi-final he was second to none as he took the Munster title to gain a place in the all-Ireland final. In Croke Park on the day of the first rounds of the Leinster senior hurling championship the final took place with the all-Ireland title being brought back to Tipp and the village of Cappawhite.

Lar, who is a student at Cappawhite Vocational School, is a prominent member of the Cappa' under age teams. Indeed his skill is by no means confined to long pucks but covers all skills of the game. He was the backbone of the Cappawhite under 14 team despite their brilliance just failed to bring a West title to Cappawhite. A worthy champion and an exciting prospect for the future.





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Mid Tipperary G.A.A. Board

The Board wishes to thank all followers of Gaelic Games in the division for their continued support and encouragement during the year.

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MID TIPPERARY BOARD— CLUB REVIEW 1982

Boherlahan-Dualla

Following their great win in the 1981 County Intermediate hurling championship Boherlahan-Dualla were back once more in the Premier competition. In the first round they were drawn against Loughmore-Castleiney and after falling well in arrears in the first half of this game they put in a great finish to lose by only 2 points. In the first round of the losers group they were beaten by neighbours Holycross-Ballycahill. In the senior hurling league (Cahill Cup) they reached the semi-final where they lost to MoycarkeyBorris.

The junior hurling team were beaten in the losers group final by Holycross. The under 21 team lost narrowly to Sarsfields in the semi-final and the minor hurling team reached the final of the "B" section losing by two points to Loughmore-Castleiney.

In football as Suir View the junior team reached the semi-final where they lost by only one point to Clonakenny and the minor team won through to the final where they were beaten by Temple-

On the administrative side former Mid Chairman Tim Maher is a Mid representative on County Board and Liam O'Dwyer is Mid trustee on Co. Board. A member of senior team Pat Power was on county panel for 1982 champion-

Seamas Miley and John Maher are on Mid Referees panel. John had charge of 1981 Mid Senior final and 1982 County Intermediate Hurling final.

Clonakenny

Affiliated teams in Intermediate hurling and junior football and with almost the same panel of players succeeded in reaching the Mid final in both competitions. The Intermediate hurling team beat Sarsfields in losers group final, then beat Gortnahoe in an exciting semi-final to qualify for the final against Moyne-Templetuohy. This was a sporting and well contested game with Moyne pulling away in the final quarter for a deserved victory and Clonakenny were on the losing end in the final of this competition for the second successive year.

In junior football Clonakenny put in some great displays before failing to Holycross in a keenly contested final. It was a disappointing ending to a year that had promised much for the club. The club has now purchased its own playing field and are in the process of developing same at the moment.

Clonmore-Killea



Mlid Tipp. Officers past and present with newly-ordained former Mid-Secretary Rev. Liam Ryan: (Back) Tim Maher, Tom O'Hara. (Front) Paddy Ryan, MI Lowry, MI Small.

Senior hurling championship v Sarsfields almost caused the sensation of the year when deprived of victory by a last minute goal. In the losers group in this competition against Drom-Inch they again lost by a narrow margin. The Junior hurlers lost to Boherlahan and the Under 21 team were beaten by Moycarkey in first round and by Moyne-Templetuohy in the losers group. The highlight of the year for the club was the performance of the Minor hurling team. In one of the best championships for a number of years Clonmore qualified for the final against Holycross. Played at Semple Stadium in bad weather conditions it was a thrilling game and although defeated Clonmore can be proud of their contribution to a great game of hurling.

Club represented on County Senior hurling team by Seamus Bourke.

Affiliated teams in Senior, Junior and Minor hurling and Junior football. After disappointing display against Movcarkey in the first round scored a narrow win over Clonmore in first round of the losers group. After this win the team seemed to recover their true form and qualified for the losers' group final with decisive victories over Holycross and Sarsfields. They beat Loughmore in the losers final to earn a County quarter final place against Roscrea. After a disastrous start they never produced their true form in this game and were well beaten at the end. The Junior hurlers were beaten by Gortnahoe in the first round and lost to Knock in the losers' group. The Minor hurlers were Affiliated in Senior, Junior, Under 21 in the "B" section beating Fennellys and

and Minor hurling. In first round of losing to Loughmore and Boherlahan. In Junior footballers lost to Suir View in second round.

Club member Martin Dwan is paid representative on County Board and also a member of Mid Fixtures committee. Club represented on County Senior hurling team by Pat Looby.

Fennellys

One of three Thurles clubs affiliated to Mid Board. Played in Minor and Junior hurling championships and Minor and Junior football. The Junior hurling team beat Killea in first round but lost to fellow townsmen Kickhams in the next round. The Minor team competed in the "B" section and fulfilled all their engagements in this competition despite lack of success in any outing. The Junior football team were beaten in third round by Clonakenny and the Minor footballers lost to Holycross. The club again organised the annual junior hurling tournament for the Hayes Cup and the event was again very successful.

Gortnahoe-Glengoole

Affiliated teams in Intermediate and Junior hurling and Junior football. The Intermediate hurlers after a good win over Sarsfields lost to Clonakenny in a keenly contested Mid semi-final. The Junior hurlers had a good win over Drom in the first round but made their exit next time out against Upperchurch-Drombane. After losing to Drom in first round of the junior football championship they beat Upperchurch in the first round of the losers group but lost to Holycross next time out. The club staged its annual Intermediate hurling tournament which was again a great

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Referee Donal O'Gorman with Tom McGrath of Loughmore and Jack Bergin, Moycarkey prior to this year's Mid final.

success. Adding to the success of the venture was the fact that the club themselves emerged as winners. They were alas successful in a number of other tournaments during the year.

Holycross-Ballycahill

The highlight of the year for the club was the success of the Minor hurlers who brought Divisional and County honours to the parish for the first time ever. In one of the best Mid Championships for many years Holycross beat Clonmore in a great final and then showed the stuff of which champions are made when they pipped Toomevara in a great County semi-final. The final against Swans was another great game with the Mid boys finishing the stronger to take their first title in the grade.

In Senior hurling the team played well below last years form, were beaten by Upperchurch in the first round and after beating Boherlahan failed to Drom in second round of losers' group. The Junior hurlers reached the semi-final where they lost to Moycarkey. The Under 21 hurling team played a draw with Loughmore in the semi-final but were well beaten in the replay.

The Minor football team were beaten in a replay in the second round by Templemore. The Junior football team completed a great year for the club when taking Divisional and County honours. Beaten in the first round by Suir View they came back via the losers group to reach the Mid final where they beat Clonakenny in a well contested sporting game. They beat Toomevara in the semi final and accounted for Killenaule in the County final to bring this championship to the parish for the first time.

Club member Michael Lowry is present Mid Chairman and a Vice Chairman of County Board, and his brother Phil is Chairman of Mid Bord na nOg.

Phil Lowry and Michael Doyle are members of Mid Referees' panel. Phil had charge of 1982 Mid Intermediate

success. Adding to the success of the Hurling final and County Junior hurling venture was the fact that the club them-

Michael Doyle is a member of County Senior hurling team.

Knock

One of the smallest clubs affiliated to the Board has enjoyed very little success but continue to function against all the odds. Affiliated in junior hurling they lost narrowly to Upperchurch in the first round beat Drom in the losers group and in their next outing were beaten by Boherlahan in the losers group semi-final.

Killea

Second hurling club in Templemore parish affiliated in Junior and Under 21 hurling. Lost narrowly to Fennellys in the first round of junior hurling championship and made their exit when failing to Holycross in the first round of the losers' group. In Under 21 hurling had a first round walkover from Kickhams and gave a good display when losing to Boherlahan in the second round.

Kickhams

Affiliated teams in Junior, Under 21 and Minor in hurling and football but only took part in the junior competition in both codes. The junior hurlers beat Holycross in the first round and then had a great win over Fennellys in a keenly contested local derby. In the third round against Loughmore-Castleiney they failed to produce the form of the earlier rounds and made their exit from 1982 championship.

In the junior football championship Kickhams beat Moycarkey in the first round and lost narrowly in their next outing to Loughmore. Club member John Ryan is a Mid representative on County Board.

Loughmore-Castleiney

1982 was again a very successful year for the Club affiliated teams in all grades of football and all grades in hurling with the exception of Intermediate. The senior hurlers got off to a great start to the season when winning the Cahill Cup. In the final they had a great win over their Mid final conquerors of the previous year Moycarkey-Borris.

In the championship they continued their good run with narrow wins over Boherlahan and Upperchurch to reach the final against Moycarkey for the second successive year. Moycarkey reversed league final form here to take the Leahy Cup for second successive year. The junior hurlers again reached the Mid final where they were again beaten by Moycarkey. The Under 21 hurling team retained their title with a good win over old rivals Sarsfields in the final and failed narrowly to Nenagh in a well contested County semi final. The minor hurlers also tasted success when winning the "B" section of the competition to qualify for a semi final shot in the championship where they lost to neighbours Clonmore-Killea. The senior footballers reached the County Open Draw semifinal and after a drawn game with Commercials lost narrowly in the replay.



County Chairman MI Frawley, presents the County Minor Hurling Cup to Holycross-Ballycahill captain P. J. Ryan.



LOUGHMORE CASTLEINEY & MOYCARKEY BORRIS IN ACTION.

The Intermediate football team were and a number of Munster championship beaten in the Mid final by Templemore. In junior football they lost to Holycross in the semi-final and the minors were beaten at the same stage by Suir View. The Under 21 football team are in the final against Templetuohy (yet to be played). Sean Mockler Club Chairman is Minor Board representative on County Senior Board, also County Senior Football selector Pat Cullen, Eamonn Brennan are on County Senior hurling panel. John Treacy and Rd Stapleton are on County Senior Football panel.

Moyne Templetuohy

Affiliated teams in Intermediate, Junior, Under 21 and Minor hurling. Club did not field a team in the junior competition. The Intermediate hurlers had a good win over Clonakenny in the Mid final. This game was close enough coming up to the final quarter when Moyne pulled away with some well taken scores to run out deserving winners. They met the North standard bearers and last years Junior champions Borrisokane in the semi final. After a thrilling hours hurling at Roscrea the teams ended all square. The replay was at Thurles and again the teams served up a tremendous game which the Mid man lost by three points after conceding a rather soft goal in the opening minutes. In Under 21 hurling lost to Loughmore in the first round, beat Clonmore in first round of the losers group and lost by a point to Sarsfields in losers group final. The minor hurlers put up some great performances in the "A" section. They beat Moycarkey and Sarsfields and lost narrowly to Clonmore and Holycross and were beaten in a play off for a semi final spot by Moycarkey.

Club members Martin and Billy O'Grady are members of Mid Referees' panel. Both have refereed Divisional finals in various grades. Martin has by Suir View. A year to remember and refereed County Senior hurling final cherish by all associated with the club.

games.

Moycarkey-Borris

1982 will certainly be remembered as one of the greatest in the history of the club. The senior hurlers after winning the Mid championship for the second successive year went on to bridge a forty two year gap when bringing the Dan Breen Cup to the parish for the first time since 1940. This was a well deserved victory, a fitting reward for the dedication and commitment shown by all concerned. Having had a close call from old rivals Sarsfields in the Mid semi final they beat Loughmore in the final to take the title for the second successive year. In the quarter final against Nenagh they earned a draw with a last minute point and in the replay put in a great third quarter and ran out deserving winners.

In the County final against Roscrea they again had to settle for a draw but in the replay showing all the fire of some of the great Moycarkey teams of the past they left no doubt about their ability and ran out deserving winners of a good final. The junior hurling team made it a Mid double when beating Loughmore in the final. In the County semi final they failed to Roscrea. The Under 21 hurling team beat Clonmore in first round but lost to Loughmore next time out. In minor hurling the team reached the semi-final where they were beaten by Holycross.

The senior football team lost to Fethard in County open draw. The Intermediate football team were beaten by Loughmore in a replay and then lost Templemore in the losers group. to In Junior football lost to Kickhams in first round and to Holycross in the losers group.

The minor football team were beaten

Club Secretary Conor Kennedy is son of the 1940 team captain the late Tom Kennedy. Conor is also a member of Mid Referees panel and had charge of this years under 21 hurling final. Club member and selector Gus Ryan is Mid Board Treasurer, Club Chairman Liam Hennessy is now County senior hurling selector. Tom Doran, Jack Bergin, Jack Ceasar, David Fogarty are County Senior hurling panel.

Sarsfields

For this once famous club it was a disappointing year. The Senior hurlers showed great promise when they had a great victory over Moycarkey in the final of 1981 Cahill Cup. However in the first round of the 1982 competition a couple of weeks later they failed to reproduce the same form and Moycarkey had a narrow but deserved victory. In the first round of the championship against Clonmore Sarsfields gave one of their worst displays for years and were only saved from defeat by a last minute goal. Pitted against old rivals Moycarkey-Borris in the semi-final they gave a much improved display and were only beaten by a point in a well contested game. In the losers group they beat Upperchurch but in the semi-final suffered a heavy defeat when drawn against Dromand Inch. The Intermediate hurling team were beaten by Gortnahoe in the first round and by Clonakenny in the losers group. The junior hurling team beat Clonmore in first round and lost to Moycarkey in second round. The Under 21 hurling team were beaten by Boherlahan in the first round but came back via the losers group to reach the final where they were beaten by Loughmore.

The Minor hurlers played in the "A" section and lost all their games. The junior football team were beaten by Clonakenny and the Minor football team by Suir View. Donie O'Gorman is on Mid Referees panel. He had charge of this years Mid Senior hurling final. Refereed last years County Minor hurling final. Has refereed many other Mid finals in various grades, and also a number of County semi-finals.

Liam O'Donoghue is County Youth Officer.

Templetuohy Moyne

Affiliated teams in Senior, Junior, Under 21 and Minor Football Senior team were beaten in first round of County open draw by Moyle Rovers. Under 21 team draw with Sarsfields in first round and won the replay and have qualified for Mid final with a victory over Templemore in the semi-final. They will play near neighbours Loughmore-Castleiney in the final. The Minor football team beat Loughmore in the first round and were beaten by Templemore in the semi-final.

The junior football team did not take part in the championship senior football still in contention for Mid championship which has yet to be completed.

Templemore Eire Og

The club had no senior football team 1982 championship affiliated in Intermediate, Junior, Under 21 and Minor football. The Intermediate team beat Moycarkey to qualify for Mid final against Loughmore. This was a very keenly contested game with Templemore finishing the stronger to score a deserved victory. In the County semi-final they were beaten by the North champions Borrisokane. The junior team were beaten by Loughmore in a replay and then lost to Holycross in the losers group. The Under 21 football team were beaten by Templetuohy in the semi-final. The minors football beat Holycross in a replay had a good win over Templetuohy in the semi-final and were too strong for Suir View in the final. In the County semi-final had a great victory over North combination Erins Hope and were beaten in County final by a very strong Lattin-Emly combination.

Upperchurch-Drombane

Affiliated teams in Senior, Junior, Minor hurling and Junior football. The senior hurlers got off to a great start to the championship with a great win over Holycross in a very competitive game. They played Loughmore in the semi-final and after missing a few good scoring chances were only a goal in arrears at the final whistle. They next met Sarsfields in the losers group and lost by five points in a game that failed to come up to expectations.

The junior hurlers beat Knock in first round, accounted for Gortnahoe next time out and lost to Moycarkey in their third outing. The minor hurlers competed in the "B" section and lost to Boherlahan and Loughmore. The junior football team lost to Clonakenny in first round and to Gortnahoe in losers

Former Club Chairman, Rev. P. Duggan is County Development Officer and Chairman of Semple Stadium Centenary Committee.

Present Club Chairman is a member of Mid Referees' Panel.

Cumann Luth Chleas Gael Thiobrad-Arann Meánach.

Seo leanas buaitheoirí agus néasoirí na gcomórtaisí éagsúla agus na scóranna ins na cluichí cheannais.

Iomáint na Sinnsear:

Magh Coirce-Buirgeas 4-10; Luch Magh-Caisleán Aoibhne 2-9

Iomáint Idirmeanach:

Maighean-Teampall Tuaithe 2-13; Cluain an Choinnigh 1-6.

Iomáint na Sóisir:

Magh Coirce-Buirgeas 3-6; Luch-Magh-Caisleán Aoibhne 1-8.

Iomáint Fé 21:

Luch Magh-Caisleán Aoibhne 2-12; Na Sáirséalaigh 2-5

Iomáint na Mionúir:

Mainistir na Croise-Baile Cathail 2-7;



THE HOLYCROSS MINORS— TIPPERARY COUNTY CHAMPIONS

Back row, I. to r.: Cristoir Croke, Michael Dwan, Jim Butler, John O'Brien, Phil Dwyer,

Declan Carr, Jim Ryan, P. J. Ryan (captain)

Front row, I. to r.: Jody Ryan, Anthony McGrath, Stephen Dwan, P. J. Lanigan,

Paul Fleming, Enda Dwyer, Michael Fleming.



Front, I. to r.: Jim Fitzpatrick, Tony Stakelum, Michael McGrath, Robert Stakelum, Michael Doyle, Brendan O'Meara, Michael Kennedy, Tim Stakelum, Martin Butler, Francis Maher. Back, I. to r.: Phil Lowry, Jimmy Burke, Tommy Carr, Liam O'Gorman, Kevin Darmody, Pat Leahy, Danny O'Keeffe, Johnny Doyle, Matt Quinlan, Tommy Lanigan, P. J. Butler.

Cluain Mór-Cill Aodh 1-2.

Iomáint na Mionúir Specialta:

Luch Magh-Caisleán Aoibhne 1-5; Bothar Leathan-Duichealla 1-3.

Peil Idirmeanach:

Teampall Mór Eire Og 1-8; Luch Magh-Caisleán Aoibhne 1-4.

Peil Sóisir:

Mainistir na Croise Baile Cathail 1-5; Cluain an Choinnigh 1-1.

Peil na Mionúir:

Teampall Mór Eir Og 4-8; Radharc na Siúire 1-0.

Corn Ui Cathail 1981:

Sarsfields 2-13; Moycarkey-Borris 1-4;

Corn Ui Cathail 1982:

Loughmore Castleiney 1-9; Moycarkey Borris 1-7.



County Chairman MI Frawley presents the County Junior Football Trophy to Holycross-Ballycahill captain Robert Stakelum.

A TIPPERARY STALWART- MICHAEL F. CRONIN

by Seamus J. King

One of the stalwarts of the Tipperary All-Ireland Hurling team of 1930 was Mick Cronin of Lorrha, who died on 11 January, 1982 after a short illness. He was eighty years of age having been born in Lorrha on 26 September 1982. Seventeen years previously his father, Felix, had come to the parish as a National Teacher, all the way from Kilgarvan, Co. Kerry, where his parents had the Post Office. Three years after arriving at Lorrha Felix married a girl called Mary Daly from Kenmare and they had ten children, eight boys and two girls. Mick was the seventh son. One of his brothers, Felix, became a Major General in the Irish Army. Another brother, Tom, lost his life in a shooting accident while out fowling. Two other brothers made their names on the hurling field: Gerard hurled for Clare and played against Mick; Phil played for Dublin.

Mick was educated in his father's school and went to secondary at De La Salle, Waterford. After completing the secondary course he transferred to the Teacher Training College. He got a fine gold medal in recognition of his position as De La Salle Hurling Team Captain, 1922. (Incidentally, Rody Nealon holds a similar medal for occupying the same position four years previously). On completing his teacher training he got a job at Lorrha and succeeded his father, almost immediately, as Principal. This was a controversial appointment as the practise was for a teacher to need five years teaching experience before he could become Principal. At any rate the Manager ignored the controversy, claiming that Mick was the best man for the job. The result was that when Mick Cronin retired in 1969 he must have been the longest serving National School Principal in the country. Later, he studied for his B.A. by driving to Galway after work with, among others, Jack O'Donovan of Toomevara. He was conferred in 1932 and received his Higher Diploma in Education the following year. He received an M.A. in 1935. He was also a fluent Irish speaker.

Hurling Career

Mick Cronin doesn't seem to have hit the headlines in hurling until 1926. After the disruptions of the War of Independence a reorganisation meeting was called in Nenagh in March 1922 and he was in attendance. He appears on the Lorrha team in 1923, captained by Tom Duffy, and they give the 'Greyhounds' an annoying hour before being defeated by a goal. The following year Lorrha won the North final by a large margin over Neangh but Cronin's name does not appear nor on the North selec-



tion that took part in the Divisional Championship that year. Similarly, in 1925, his name does not appear on either the Tipperary Junior or Senior teams.

His name appears on the selection for the All-Ireland Junior Hurling semifinal at New Ross on 12 December 1926. When the team arrived for the match the previous day they were given a civic reception and, after beating Wexford 5-3 to 1-1, they were entertained to dinner on Sunday evening when the guest speaker was Alderman Corish, T.D. Tipperary played Galway in the final at Thurles the following March. The selectors met the previous month to select the team and, among other things, heard the Rev. Chairman draw attention "to the rule which prohibited betting on the field and it was decided with the cooperation of the civic guards to take drastic action against offenders". Because of the similarity of colours Tipperary changed jerseys for the match, which they won 6-2 to 2-3. Galway supporters for the game came by motor-buses which were a novelty in Thurles at the time.

League Winner

In the following year Mick Cronin graduated to the senior ranks and we read of him playing in the League campaign. (The League began the previous year and it was played over the year with the first games in Spring and the remainder after the championship was completed. There was no knockout section like there is today). Tipperary beat Kilkenny, Limerick, Cork and Clare

in the opening rounds. In June we read about Cronin travelling to London with Tipperary to play Cork. In the same month, in the first round of the County League, Lorrha beat De Wets by 13 points to 5 and the mainstays of the victors are Tom Duffy and Mick Cronin. This run of successes came to a halt in the first round of the championship when Tipperary went down to Limerick, 3-4 to 3-1. Cronin played centre-forward.

Tipperary won the League that year by beating Offaly and drawing with Dublin, who were also in the running and were All-Ireland champions. This match was regarded as the 'final' even though Tipperary still had to play Galway and Laoise. The match against Dublin on 16 October created great excitement. In a preview to the game the 'Tipperary Star' had the following to say about Cronin: 'M. F. Cronin, Lorrha: plays on the 40 yard mark, a position which he filled with credit in all National League and other games during the past season. A fast and accurate striker he is always safe for a record when in possession'. A week after the game with Dublin. Lorrha had a great victory over Roscrea in the North Championship, 7-2 to 2-3. According to the report: 'Cronin got down to play a good game (second half) and his continuous appearances from nowhere saw him score goal after goal for Lorrha'. In that year 1927 Mick Cronin also won a Great Southern Railway Cup medal with Munster.

In 1928 Tipperary won the first round of the championship against Limerick, getting four goals 'in a dash' in the second-half. Mick Cronin got Tipperary's final goal which gave them a victory of two points. In a poor display in the second round at Thurles they were beaten by Clare. In the following year Tipperary reversed the verdict in the first round against Clare but went down to Cork at Cork in the semi-final, According to "Carbery": 'The hurling was fierce but not foul, a struggle without poisoned gas. Men crashed into one another. One, two, three, four men went down in sequence. Virile manhood was manifested in all its power and glory. Willie Gleeson, the referee, knew his men well and let them flake away. . . . ' Some of the greatest tussles then and again were between Mick Cronin and Jim Regan, (also recently deceased, R.I.P.)

All-Ireland

1930 was the highpoint of Mick Cronin's hurling career when he won an All-Ireland medal. While his Junior Hurling All-Ireland medal was won on 13 March the first round of the championship in 1930 was on 13 July against

Waterford at Dungarvan. Tipperary lead at halftime and early in the second half a scuffle took place between the two captains and referee, Sean Oeg Murphy, sent both off. The Waterford captain refused to go and the crowd invaded the pitch. After order was restored the game was about to restart when Waterford suddenly left the field. According to the report on the game 'Cronin was also in fine fettle and, up to the time when he was forced, through an injury, to retire, was responsible for much of Tipperary's lead'. Tipperary were awarded the game. Clare were favourites for the Munster final, having disposed of Cork but Tipperary were triumphant by 6-4 to 2-8 on a day that Cronin had a particularly fine game especially in the second half. It was a victory for 'the old dash of Tipperary'. In the All-Ireland semi-final against Galway at Birr there was a continuous downpour. Tipperary won well and Cronin, who had a good game throughout, 'scored a beautiful goal from an awkward angle'. The final was against Dublin with John Joe Callanan captain. Before 22,000 people 'it was a fiercely contested struggle, grim and determined hurling rather than brilliant or classic'. "The forward line had a stiff proposition to tackle. Kennedy, Callanan and Cronin were well marked and the result was that a considerable number of their efforts went wide." Tipperary won 2-7 to 1-3.

There was great and widespread jubilation. The team got an invitation to visit the United States. Cashel poet, Francis Phillips, composed a poem for the occasion, the last stanza of which went

Some thought that Knocknagow was gone And ashen handles stout and strong, That brawn and bone lived but in song, Like tales of Ghost and Fairy. 'Me Sowl' we're there like Slievenamon, 'Magnificent Tipperary'.

Contemporary Portrait

The Tipperary team eventually went to the U.S. on 8 September, 1931. Mick Cronin played in the League games at the end of 1930 and the beginning of 1931. We find him playing with the National University selection against the All-Ireland champions in April 1931. He played in a tournament in London in May and had 'a rattling good game' against Cork in the League on 31 May. He won the first round of the championship against Limerick. Early in June he won a Thomond Feis medal against Cork. (This was his third medal in this competition, the other two having been won in 1927 and 1930). Before the semi-final of the championship against Cork on 26 July, the following portrait of Cronin appeared in the 'Tipperary Star'. It gives a good picture of the man at his prime. 'Michael is the son of a Kerryman and a cousin of Jerry Beckett, Cork, the famous sprinter. Michael first made his appearance on the 1926 Junior All-Ireland team and since then his head of bushy black hair has been conspicuous in all Tipperary's outings. He played

with the inter-provincial team in 1927. Michael's position is centre-forward behind Kennedy. He is noted as a tough hurler and has probably broken more enemy hurleys than any other man on the Tipperary team.' Sadly for Michael Tipperary were beaten 3-5 to 2-3 before a record crowd.

Mick Cronin was one of the panel of twenty players, Captain Johnny Leahy, County Chairman, Fr Meagher and Diocesan Examiner Fr Lee, who made up the Tipperary party for the U.S. Tour, which was to last almost nine weeks. All efforts to secure permission from the Department of Education to travel failed but he went anyway. Thirty-five thousand people saw the first game in New York and, for the second, before twenty thousand 'On the Irish (sic) forward line Cronin and Callanan were well in the spotlight'. At Chicago 'Michael Cronin had the scoring honours for the visitors registering two goals'. And in the final game at New York 'Leahy, Treacy, Kennedy and Cronin were dominant'.

Mick Cronin continued to play for Tipperary until 1935, with the exception of 1932 when Toomevara had the selection and picked eleven of their own team, excluding Cronin among others. In 1933 Tipperary were beaten by Waterford in the championship and by Cork in 1934. He continued to play for Lorrha until 1938.

Handballer

He was also an outstanding handballer. In fact all the eight boys of the Cronins were keen exponents of the game. They had fierce contests at the local alley before large crowds. There is mention of his name at a meeting held during the second half of 1921 to revive and reorganise handball in North Tipperary. Rody Nealon told me that whenever he met Cronin at Nenagh it was always to the alley they went where they spent hours at play.

Mick was also a delegate from Lorrha for many years in the twenties and thirties to Divisional and County Conventions. In 1932 he was appointed a delegate to the All-Ireland Congress. In the voting at the County Convention he got the sixth highest vote and was elected. At the North Convention in 1930 he was appointed a referee though I'm not sure if he used this new qualification too often.

Many times he was requested to become a selector in his club but all requests were in vain. He went to matches, formed his opinions and recognised what talent was available and was always willing to share his point of view if he were asked for it.

After his playing days were over he continued to attend matches. But as time went on his attendances were fewer, not because of any declining interest but because of his new interest in politics. He was one of the early members of Clann na Poblachta and fought two elections on their behalf. He did very

well in 1948 coming close to election and less well in 1954. He was first elected to the County Council in September 1950 and remained a member until 1967. He was well got by all who knew him in politics and was noted for his loyalty. He was a member of the Library Committee and the Vocational Education Committee. His family- he married Madge Hoctor of Sharragh in 1938 and had three children, Clare, Felix and Mairead, who was tragically drowned in 1954- relate how avid a reader he was and how he enjoyed his membership of the Library Committee. He was a great racing enthusiast with a day at the races his idea of relaxation.

Outspoken

Mick Cronin was a man we all looked up to. He was an outspoken man who feared neither friend or foe. He was also a well-informed man whose opinion was respected not only on the subject of hurling but on a wide variety of subjects. Two incidents are related of his outspokenness on the American Tour. One related to Fr Lee, who was inclined to upbraid the players occasionally about their behaviour in public places. He was taken to task by Mick Cronin. On another occasion a cup, won in Chicago was presented to Phil Cahill because it had been sponsored by his brother. When the team got back to their hotel Cronin called them together and had the cup presented to the rightful man. He was a very strong hurler who gave his all to the game. Whenever Lorrha were in trouble with G.A.A. officialdom or had an objection to make Mick Cronin was called in to present their case. We were all aware that it would be presented well because he was a very able man. We all believed, and rightly, that he could hold his own with anyone and that, if anything was to be gained, he would get it. May he rest in peace.



CAMOGIE IN TIPPERARY

by Paddy Corrigan

I am grateful for this opportunity to Emily. In the final between St Beredneavour to highlight the situation of Camogie in Tipperary.

While not having any honours to show for our efforts, never the less there are individual officials in each club and many girls playing the game who would dearly love to be able to do something more to alter this situation in the county. Players like Siobhan McDonald and Sheila Delaney Drum and Inch, Deirdre Lane, who this year captained Celtic to win the All-Ireland seven-a-side in Kilmacud, and was also selected to play for Munster as was Máire Hackett Portroe.

Preparation for our first round game in the All-Ireland open draw championship included two games v Limerick, two games v Clare and one v Galway, yet our lot was to be heavily defeated at the hands of Cork in Cork.

Our Junior team came to within four points of Clare in Emly, who in turn lost the Munster final to Cork by only two points. Well done girls. Both our Senior and Junior teams did well in the Winter League Competition.

Our Under 16 County team also went down to Cork, while in 1981 they were Munster champions in this grade and were unlucky to loose the All-Ireland semifinal to Antrim in Randalstown by only three points. These girls still await our under 18 championship this year and we are hopeful of success.

Seven teams contested the Senior championship this year. Cashel, St Bernadettes (Roscrea), St Cuallains (Drum and Inch), Moycarkey, Portroe, St Marys (Newport Kilcommon) and nadettes and St Marys, St Marys emerged the winners, a title they last held in 1978 and 1979.

Ann Fraser Cup

This competition was run on a league system, in addition to our Senior teams Templederry and Cappawhite took part. In the final Cashel (holders) were winners over St Bernadettes.

In the Junior championship the honours went to Cappawhite when Templederry found themselves unable to field a team.

In our under 16 championship Cashel. Portroe, St Bernadettes and Templederry played on a league basis, with Portroe and St Bernadettes reaching the final, in which Portroe emerged County champions. In a divisional final Portroe v St Bernadettes, St Bers reversed the result to become Divisional champions. There is also an under 14 competition not completed to date. Teams expected to take part are St Bernadettes, Portroe and Emly.

As Sunday 10th October was set aside as National Camogie day each County was expected to do something to promote the game. Tipperary County Board organised a seven-a-side competition with the help of the Moycarkey Camogie Club and the Littleton Park Committee. The following eight teams took part.

Division A: Moycarkey, St Ber., Portroe and Emly.

Division B: Cappawhite, St Cuallains, Cashel and St Marys. Emly defeating St Marys in the final were presented by

the Chairperson with a set of trophies. St Marys also received a set of medals as runners up, kindly donated by Peter O'Sullivan, Cashel, former County Tipp. goalie. May I also take this opportunity on behalf of Tipperary County Camogie Board to express our sincere thanks and gratitude to each and every person and organisation who contributed to our appeal for funds to bring our under 16s to Antrim for the 1981 All Ireland semi-final. Also to all the G.A.A. clubs who so willingly gave us the use of their pitches during the year.

In conclusion I would like to express the hope that a camogie club would exist in every parish in Tipperary and I would suggest to anyone interested in forming such a club to come along to our Annual General Meeting in Inch Hall on Saturday 11th December at 7.30 pm. or contact any member of the Board.

Congratulations to all our teams who won our championships during the year and may 1983 be even more successful.

Our thanks and appreciation to Mary Lowe, former Chairperson for the past number of years, who due to pressure of other business was forced to resign during the year.

Finally, ladies, camogie is your game, be proud of it, join a club and be part of

Officers of the Board in 1982.

Chairperson . . . Paddy Corrigan, St Marys Vice " . . . Mary O'Connell, Portroe Secretary . . . Sheila Delaney, St Cuallains Treasurer . Jimmy Carroll, St Bernadettes

THE LATE MARTIN HEALY TWO-MILE-BORRIS

Just a month before his beloved Moycarkey-Borris appeared in the county senior hurling final the Great Reaper called home Martin Healy. One of the famous Coolcroo brothers of athletic and hurling fame Martin was a most enthusiastic supporter of sport in the parish and county.

Affectionately known as "Paul" he was midfielder on the last team in 1940 to bring home the county honours. Also winner of a county medal in 1937 he was there again in 1943 on the side beaten by Eire Og, Anacarty. During his hurling days he used his speed to great advantage, a characteristic he developed during his cross-county and track career, A sphere in which he con-



tributed much to the success of the Coolcroo athletic club powered by his other brothers, Mick, Tom, Phil and

Leading up to the county final of '82 build-up Martin was as keen as everyone else to see Moycarkey-Borris regain the senior hurling championship. But fate was to decree that he would not be there on the day of glory. But we are sure that with many of his old colleagues he was with Moycarkey-Borris in spirit from their heavenly grandstand. There too no doubt they had their own celebration and perhaps 'Paul' enticed them to play another "rubber"!

Go ndeanadh Dia trocaire ar a anam

GAELIC GAMES IN THE POST-PRIMARY SCHOOLS OF TIPPERARY

by Seán O Costagáin

To those of us involved in the promotion and development of the ancient game of hurling in the post-primary schools "Yearbook Time" gives us a chance to examine and assess the progress made in that sphere over the preceding twelve months. It is a source of great pleasure to relate that the standard of hurling over the past year has been very high with many fine sporting games having taken place between the various schools.

While the main aim of our work is the promotion of hurling we as educators have an obligation to see that the involvement of the numerous boys in playing the game will help them to develop the many fine qualities which will be beneficial to them in life afterwards. With that in mind we must be careful to ensure that sportmanship manliness and the acceptance of vicotry or defeat is taken in the proper manner and in that context I must say that the spirit of sportsmanship between the various schools is such that all participators are to be heartily congratulated. It is my fervent wish that this will continue to be so and if such be the case the real winners can only be the young men who participate.

Fitzgerald Cup

The prestige competition amongst the post-primary schools in Tipperary is the Canon Fitzgerald Trophy. This competition is now in being for twelve years and it is my pleasure to relate that it has gone from strength and that the competition for the trophy and plaques is very keen indeed. Also it is a great help to the county minor hurling selectors in moulding players for the following years County minor team. I think it is significant that the progress made by the schools in the advancement of the game has coincided with the recent successes of our underage County teams. Most of the playing members of the recently successful County minor and u-21 teams were blooded in the Fitzgerald Cup competition.

This years competition will go down as one of the most exciting since its inception. Heretofore it had been dominated by teams from Cashel C.B.S., Thurles C.B.S. and Templemore C.B.S. but when the semi-finals of the 1982 competition were reached the pairings consisted of Tipperary C.B.S. and old rivals Cashel C.B.S., with Templemore V.S. and Borrisokane V.S. being contestants in the second semi-final.

The Tipperary C.B.S. Cashel C.B.S. confrontation lasted three hours before The Abbey C.B.S. boys emerged to contest their first final. It is most encouraging from a Tipperary point of view to see Tipperary C.B.S. emerging once again as a hurling stronghold and indeed it brings back memories of that famous Harty Cup victory in the late fifties with a team that included such fine players as John O'Donoghue, Fr Christy O'Dwyer and Fonsie Condon, When one considers of course that the fortunes of their teams are in the able hands of Star Limerick forward Paddy Kelly with willing and able assistance being given by Br Moloughney, Br Bourke and high ranking West Tipperary G.A.A. personalities Gerry Ring, Michael Ryan and Tom O'Donoghue, it is indeed not surprising.

The second semi-final saw Templemore V.S. and Borrisokane V.S. provide an epic encounter which ended all square so a replay was necessary before the Lower Ormond boy emerged to contest their second final on the score 2-12 to 1-9. We must not forget the gallant part played by Templemore V.S. in the success of this years competition when one considers the seige of their school it was indeed a great achievement to get so far and it shows what commitment and dedication can achieve. At this juncture I think the hard work of their gamesmaster MI Keeley should be complimented and it should provide both inspiration and encouragement to some of our bigger educational establishments within the county who do not participate in this excellent competition.

Over the years the committee have tried to present the final of the Fitzgerald as a curtain raiser to some important game in Semple Stadium and this year fortunately we were successful in raising the curtain to the All Ireland Club final on 16th May. The final between Borrisokane and Tipperary C.B.S. was a keenly contested affair with the Borrisokane boys emerging victors on the score 0-12 to 2-5. Thus Borrisokane put their name on the Trophy for the second time having been previously successful in the inaugural year of the competition. The hard work of gamesmasters Tom Moriarty and T. J. Egan are reaping their awards in this Lower Ormond school and for such we must heartily congratulate them and also notice how that school is providing many fine players to that very successful club Borrisokane who this year won back Senior status with a thrilling victory in the County Intermediate championship, While Tipperary C.B.S. lost the Cup they gained many admirers with their fine display and I dare say that the day is not far away when Paddy Kelly and his "men" will take the prestige trophy back to the "Abbey".

Croke Cup (u-16) Hurling

Heretofore the Croke Cup was an (u-16) hurling competition for Christian Brothers Schools but in keeping with a directive from Croke Park which encourages integration between all postprimary schools for competitive purposes we in 1981 opened the Croke Cup competition to all post-primary schools. Since that step was taken the competition has taken on added interest and now almost rivals the Fitzgerald in interest and competitiveness.

The semi-finals of the (1981-82) competition were very interesting affairs with Templemore C.B.S. defeating Cashel C.B.S. by one point and Borrisokane V.S. defeating old and respected rivals Nenagh C.B.S. The final was played in Moneygall on 22nd May and once again it provided a well deserved victory for Borrisokane over Templemore C.B.S. on the score 4-8 to 2-4. It emerged loud and clear that the standard of hurling in the Lower Ormond school is very high and during the coming school year the aim of all the other post-primary schools will be to lower the colours of the Borrisokane boys which can only provide greater competitiveness and more interesting and sporting games. Once again on behalf of the schools of the County I would like to sincerely congratulate Borrisokane on their great achievement.

Apart from the schools involvement in their local championships the real test of our schools talent is discovered when they take on the other Munster schools in the Munster championships. The past year was quite successful from a Tipperary

point of view.

Undoubtedly the most prestigious competition in Munster is "Harty" Usually at the beginning of each school year we all conjure up ideas of perhaps this might be our year. The past year I must confess was disappointing as only Tipperary schools participated-Nenagh C.B.S. and Templemore C.B.S. As Nenagh had done so well in 1981 having reached the semi-final, much was expected this year but in terrible conditions they were defeated by Farranferris, Cork in the quarter-final.

Jubilee Hope

Templemore C.B.S. in this their Golden Jubilee year would dearly love to have done well in the competition that they won so dramatically in 1978 but despite a thorough and intensive preparation they were beaten by famed North man, from Cork by 1-11 to 2-5 at the quarter final stage. It was a game that the Templemore boys could have won as during the opening thirty minutes they dominated the game but by half vantage to show for it.

The extra strength of North Mon proved too much for them in the second half and we are happy that the experience and training gained by the boys helped four of them Brendan Everard, Andrew Ryan, John Ryan and Noel McDonnell to gain All Ireland minor medals last September on the Br Perkins coached minor team.

In the Munster Senior B competition one of our County representatives Cashel C.B.S. proved worthy winners. In the All-Ireland final of that competition Cashel struck another blow for the Premier County when they overwhelmed Callan C.B.S. from neighbouring Kilkenny with a 2-12 to 2-2 victory at Semple Stadium on the first Sunday of May. In that game Sean Slattery was an outstanding marksman for Cashel. He landed 1-6 in the final to finish top scorer overall in that game, despite having to retire late in the game with an injury. That Cashel team provided, captain John Kennedy, Colm Bonner, John Leamy and Sean Slattery to the All Ireland winning Tipperary team in September. All in all a good years work by the Cashel boys and their enthusiastic and dedicated trainers Matt Finnerty and John Gleeson.

Cashel C.B.S. were also successful in the Kinnane Cup Munster u-161/2 hurling competition thus completing a good year for the school on the hurling fields.

Roscrea Successes

year on the hurling fields of Munster was

time they only had a two points ad- Roscrea C.B.S. thus bringing back memo ries of the many successes they enjoyed in the sixties when one of their shining lights was none other than Tadhg O'Connor. They captured the Corn Mhic Ruairí u-18 Munster Championship and also the Corn Solo (u-15) hurling with a hard earned victory over Dungarvan C.B.S. in a tense encounter at Cashel. It was a great year for the North Tipp school but not surprising considering the strength of the game in the Roscreas catchment area. It was ample reward for former Thurles C.B.S. Harty Cup trainer Br Devaney, MI Mounsell and Larry Ruane. While it is difficult to predict I would not be surprised to see a major breakthrough from the Roscrea school in other Munster Colleges competitions in the not too distant future.

Rice Cup

One of the most interesting competitions on the post-primary calendar is the Rice Cup hurling competition for the u-14 hurlers. Once the first year boys arrive in the secondary the general conversation amongst them is "will I make the team"? How may of the second year lads are under age? The enthusiasm amongst those young lads is like a breath of fresh air which yearly encourage gamesmasters to dedicate their spare time in endeavouring to put the best team on the field. Here for the first time the boys from Loughmore, Borrisoleigh, Templemore etc or Holycross, Moycarkey and Sarsfields join together to form a schools team. It is a new experience for those young boys and Another school to have a very good they give of their all- a great experience for gamesmasters.

Last years competition for all C.B.S. schools in Munster and South Leinster provided some memorable encounters and after many fine games the two finalists transpired to be Roscrea C.B.S. and Thurles C.B.S. The final was a hectic game with Thurles C.B.S. emerging victors over the Roscrea boys by 7-2 to 3-9 amidst great excitement. Both teams are to be congratulated in providing a memorable encounter in which the real winner was the worlds greatest field game-hurling.

It gives me great pleasure before I conclude to relate that we here in Tipperary involved in post-primary games owe a deep debt of gratitude to the clubs who make their fields available to participating schools. I know from my experience with schools in other counties how fortunate we are here and this surely goes to prove the strength of the Association in the Premier County.

Another factor that has contributed to the wellbeing of post-primary games in Tipperary is the number of fine referees we have who are willing to come midweek and referee our games free of charge. One of the coming young referees in our county namely Gerry Long has almost become a full time referee to our schools and no words of mine could adequately express our thanks for his dedicated unselfish and competent handling of our post-primary games. He has many friends to whom we owe a deep debt of gratitude namely Gerry Ring, John Moloney, Martin O'Grady, George Ryan, Sean O'Meara, Pat Lonergan and Donie Nealon.

"Ad multos annos".

1982 COUNTY FINALS - Roll of Honour

Senior Hurling:

Moycarkey Borris 3-9;

Roscrea 1-15 draw

0-11 replay

Senior Football:

Clonmel Commercials 2-3;

Fethard 1-2

Intermediate Hurling

Golden Kilfeakle 1-5

Intermediate Football

Golden Kilfeakle 3-5;

Borrisokane 3-17;

Borrisokane 1-5

Junior Hurling:

Roscrea 1-5:

Cappawhite 0-3

Junior Football:

Holycross Ballycahill 3-6;

Killenaule 3-2

Under 21 Hurling: Eire Og, Nenagh 2-8;

Clonoulty Rossmore 2-8 draw

2-6

2-4 replay

Minor Hurling:

Holycross Ballycahill 2-9;

Carrick Swans 1-5

Minor Football:

Lattin - Emly 2-13

Templemore, Eire Og 1-3

MICHAEL TOBIN

Michael Tobin of Grangemockler was the recipient of the footballer of the past award at the South Tipperary Board's Annual Social held in February last. A surviving member of the last Tipperary team to win an All-Ireland senior football title Michael Tobin had a long and distinguished career of which he spoke recently to South Board Chairman Mick Egan, Munster Council Representative Mick McCarthy and South Board Secretary Michael O'Meara who spent a very pleasant evening in his company.

Having played a number of Junior challenge games Michael Tobin played his first Senior game for his native Grange-mockler against Clogheen in Clonmel in April 1915. He joined the Tipperary team in 1919 shortly after Tipp had been beaten in the 1918 All-Ireland final by Wexford by a single point. Michael recalls that Wexford were recording a four-in-arow on that occasion and have not won a Senior All-Ireland since.

He vividly remembers his "first day out" with the Tipp team. The occasion was the first round of the Munster Championship of 1919 against Kerry and the game was played in April just a few months after the All-Ireland defeat at the hands of Wexford. Accordingly Tipp were hot favourites but they were beaten and Michael admits that he was glad that he was only a sub at the time.

Tipp were in great demand that year and played Wexford on several occasions including games at Enniscorthy and Clonmel. Ironically Tipp won all the games except the all important one.

In 1920 Tipp played Clare twice in Limerick and the game was drawn on both occasions. Indeed Tipp were quite lucky to draw the second day as the equaliser came with the last kick of the game. Clare were brought to Clonmel for the third tie and Tipp won very easy. Michael recalls that the game was played on the 15th August and the final score was 3-7 to 0-1.

Mick was selected to travel to Dublin for the game against Dublin in November. The team was to travel on the Saturday morning but Michael's father took ill on the evening before and he informed Jerry Shelley that he would not be able to travel. Jerry brought along Michael's clubmate Dick Lanigan as he was afraid that others might also be unable to get to Dublin. As it turned out some of the Templemore players including goalie Arthur Carroll missed the game and 'Scout' Butler of Fethard was put in goal.

A crowd of some thousands assembled in Croke Park for the game and during the play crown forces arrived on the field and opened fire indiscriminately



Mr Sean Boland Managing Director Nationalist Newspaper Co. Ltd, Sponsors, presenting the Footballer of the Past Award to Michael Tobin, Grangemockler at the South Board's Annual Social in February 1982.

on players and spectators. Among the first to be shot down was Michael Tobin's clubmate Michael Hogan. As the late Canon Fogarty related 'Bloody Sunday' will not be easily forgotten in Tipperary.

Michael Tobin clearly remembers the shock and confusion of the time. There were no papers and rumours abounded. The first rumour was that Michael Tobin himself was dead. Michael Hogan's remains arrived in Clonmel on the Wednesday and thousands joined in the funeral procession to Grangemockler.

'Bloody Sunday' marked the end of football for quite some time and indeed Tipperary's next game was a year later on the anniversary. Tipp won that game and

'Bloody Sunday' marked the end of football for quite some time and indeed Tipperary's next game was a year later on the anniversary. Tipp won that game and indeed beat Dublin on several occasions in later months.

The Munster championship campaign resumed in 1922 and Tipp beat Waterford and Kerry and then went on to defeat Mayo in the All-Ireland semi-final.

The All-Irelanf inal against Dublin was scheduled for June and Michael recalls that Tipp beat Kildare prior to that game. The Kildare lineout on that occasion included the peerless Larry Stanley. Tipp had great hopes of winning the

All-Ireland and they duly succeeded by 1-6 to 1-2.

The "Old Horse"

Asked about the preparations made for the game Michael Tobin spoke of a fortnight's collective training in Mullinahone under the direction of Joe O'Neill, popularly known as 'the old horse'. The training was, he says, terribly hard. Asked about the homecoming and the after the All-Ireland celebrations, Michael remembers coming home with Jerry Shelley by train on the evening of the match. There were no bonfires or anything like that.

Michael continued to play with the County until 1928 but further All-Ireland honours were not to follow. Asked to recall the players of his time who made the greatest impression on him Michael spoke of Larry Stanley, Bob Stack, John Joe Sheehy, Tim O'Donnell, Joe Barrett and Jack Walsh. He says that the football of the time was very different to that of the present day. It was a much tougher game and more strength was required. It was not all catch and kick however. It was very interesting to hear Michael tell of the team tactics of the Tipp team at the time. Michael and Jim Ryan (Loughmore) were the mid fielders and when Michael got the ball he was



Tipperary All-Ireland Senior Football Champions 1920

Back row, I. to r.: J. Gregg white sweater, Bill Ryan, Castleiney, Bill Barrett, Mullinahone, Bill Grant, Templemore, A. Carroll, Mullinahone, Ned Callaghan, Cahir, Ned Cummins, Fethard, Tommy Ryan, Castlegrace.

Middle row, I. to r.: A. Carew, County Secretary, Mick Nolan, Mullinahone, Vincent Vaughan, Mullinahone, Dan Breen, T.D.,
Jerry Shelley, Grangemockler, Dick Lanigan, Grangemockler, Mick Tobin, Grangemockler, T. Ryan, Sec. South Board, D. P. Walshe, Fethard.
Front row, Jim Ryan, Loughmore, Jim Doran, Mullinahone, Jimmy McNamara, Cahir, Tommy Powell, Clonmel.
Joe O'Neill, trainer, Mick Arrigan, Grangemockler, Ned Shea, captain, Fethard, Gus McCarthy, Fethard.

expected to deliver it low to Mick Arrigan at right full forward. On the other hand when Jim was in possession the ball was to be sent in the same manner to the left wing where Gus Carthy and Jimmy Doran would be ready and waiting.

Michael recalls that the backs at the time were always taller than the forwards and the ball had to be kicked in low. "If I kicked in a big high ball", he says "I'd be killed". Jimmy Doran was he said one of the smallest senior footballers ever but he could take on the biggest of them and would be out in front every time.

Asked for his ideas on the decline of Tipperary football down the years Michael felt that it was hard to answer but he did emphasise that in his day players trained every night after a hard days work. They did not smoke or drink. Nowadays players did not train

but smoke and drank. Perhaps, he said with a laugh the pints do not do them any harm but he hardly thought they did any good either. He said that he did not take a drink until he was thirty one and he had plenty of time to smoke and drink when his football career was over.

Michael Tobin's career was spent at midfield except on the rare occasion when as he put it the midfield man was moved in full-forward when not going so well. He regrets that in his long career with his club Grangemockler that he failed to win a County Championship. Indeed Grangemockler won the title in 1931 shortly after Michael's retirement.

He has fond memories of the club games against Mullinahone and Fethard down the years and spoke of ten of the Egan family with whom he often came in contact.

Michael's memory of games, dates and scores is really phenomenal. He went on past his own career to speak of the heartbreak of 1935 and the disappointment of the minors loss to Dublin in 1955. Indeed on that occasion Michael's son Philly followed in his father's footsteps by playing in midfield. Michael feels that a win for Tipperary in 1955 would have been a tremendous boost for the county as the team contained some great young players.

Michael is still hale and hearty and indeed left us following our chat to go to Clonmel to play Bingo.

We wish him many more happy years and would express the hope that the deeds and example of this genial Grange-mockler man will be a source of inspiration to the young Tipperary footballers of the present day.

Go maire tú, a Mhichil.

Like all amateur historians it is only when asked to write an article it is realised the amount of information lost because we did not listen to the oldtimers. What a pity that their stories and reminiscences were not recorded.

It is fair to say that I have been involved with hurling for most of my life and my love for hurling and especially Holycross-Ballycahill hurling is matched by my lack of knowledge about the Club's history. No doubt people will find fault with this article and I honestly would welcome correction.

My first real memory of hurling concerns the 1930 All-Ireland final. At that time newspapers apart from the "Star" rarely reached the ordinary country home and radios hardly existed. I can still remember the exact spot where Tommy Purcell— the Postman— told me that Tipp had won. By some means or other I got hold of an "Independent" and I still recall a photograph of Tom O'Meara saving a point. The score is still etched in my memory, 2-7 to 1-3. Shortly afterwards the 1930 song was composed and the lines that we sang were:

"A foul on the right brought Tipperary a free,

And the ball it was placed by the good Referee,

Phil Cahill rose and struck it, Lord, how it did soar,

To cross o'er the bar for Tipperary's

first score."

Phil Cahill was our hero and in our minds he was next to God. How proud We were when he stopped to talk to the Master, Willie Tuohy, at lunch time as we aspiring young hurlers strove might and main on the Fair Green. We hoped we would impress him and that he would say, you'll make a fine hurler yet.

Local Hero

Of course the early 30s also brought us our own special favourite Dinny O'Gorman. He lived just down the road and was playing Minor for Tipperary. I remember him captaining the Tipp. Minor team in 1932 Munster final when the star of the team was Paddy Leahy from Thurles, who as, Dr Paddy Leahy, has at times been involved in controversial discussions on Television.

I now dip into what can be regarded as history and for much of what appears here I must thank the late Canon Philip Fogarty- a Holycross man and therefore

one of our own.

Holycross first appear in G.A.A. history in 1886 when, Moycarkey, Holycross, Thurles and Killenaule hurlers together with Fethard footballers travelled to Cork to take on local teams in a monster tournament. Killenaule lost, Moycarkey and Holycross won, Thurles got no game and Fethards game with Glanmire was called off. As Canon Fogarty says "lest humanity should too far forget itself. St Finbarr's were Holycross's opponents on that day and the team was captained by the Writers Grandfather, Mike Ryan-Cleary.

THE WEARERS OF THE GREEN

by Bob Stakelum

Folklore has a tale about a big tournament around the same time and Holycross were favourites to win. The final apparently was played against Silvermines and most of the parish travelled by common car or on foot to the game. Alas the hot favourites were beaten and I know that forty years later that defeat still rankled. Silvermines, I believe, still have a song that records that famous

In 1887 Holycross reached the County semi-final without playing a game but were defeated by North Tipperary at Borrisoleigh. On the Holycross team that day were Mike Ryan (Cleary), Ned Butler, Ger Leahy, Jim Gleeson, James Doyle, Bill Gorman, Danny Feehan, Will Meara, Jim Cahill, Patsy Hayes and the

Kielys of Cormackstown.

In 1889 Holycross defeated Golden in the first round and then met Drombane at Ballycahill. The struggle was of uncommon vigour, and it was a good thing the priests told the ladies of both sides to stay away. And I thought Womens' Lib was of comparatively recent origin. Despite the segregation of the sexes Holycross won and were drawn against Toomevara in the semi-final.

Tipp. Game in Dublin

What follows should be in the Guinness Book of Records- a Tipperary semifinal played in Dublin. A train was hired by the teams but the Holycross star declined and they were defeated. I wonder if the women of the parish were kept at home that day. Knowing Holy-

cross ladies it is very unlikely.

We have to go to 1908 before Holycross-Ballycahill again come to prominence. Joined with Drombane they beat Rossmore in the first round and so to Thurles to play Cashel. Holycross won 6-6 to 1-8- a fairly big margin considering Cashel were helped by such stars as Johnny Leahy, Dick Walsh and Arthur Donnelly and had a pick from Tullamaine to Tobberadora. Cashel objected and Holycross lost in the Boardroom- we rarely won there. The team that day was Tom Cummins, Pat and Mat. Butler, Phil Dwyer, Tom Dwan, Pat Ryan, Jim Mullaney, Mick Dwyer, Phil Fogarty, Paddy Stakelum, Ned and Frank Meara and from Drombane Tim Gleeson, Paddy Corbett, Thady Brien, Matt and Martin Gleeson and Tom Dunne.

We often were in hard luck and 1909 was no exception. Thurles were our opponents in the Mid-final and won by 3-12 to 2-6 but Holycross were below strength because some of their best players were guests of the British Government because of the Clarke Agitation.

Strange indeed- championships lost in successive years; - one because of a decision in a Gaelic Boardroom and the other because of verdicts handed down by a Court that could hardly be described as belonging to Gaelic Ireland.

Apparently the Holycross tendency towards the unorthodox ceased after 1909. They re-appeared as Clodiagh Rangers in 1913 but do not appear to have been very successful even though two of their players, Joe Bannon and Tom Barry, subsequently played in all-Ireland championships with Dublin. First Mid Win

In 1922 came the first Holycross-Ballycahill success when they captured the Mid Junior title and the following from the club were selected on the Mid team to contest the Interdivisional Championship: Bill Leahy, Mick Ryan, Con Hayes, Tom Doyle, Pake Hennessy, Phil Purcell and Jack Reilly. The Mid selection was defeated by Tipperary O'Learys in the final.

In 1924 Holycross-Ballycahill participated in the South Senior Hurling Championship. Their venture into foreign territory became unstuck when Coolmoyne put them out in the first round. They apparently returned to the fold on the following year and it is recorded for 1927 that the only game of note in the Mid-Championship was that between Holycross-Drombane and Clonoultywon by the latter.

Apparently some players on both sides did not believe in turning the other cheek and the clergy had to intervene to make peace. The team was Phil Cahill, Rody, Tom and Willie Dwan, John Ryan (A), Pake Hennessy, Jack Reilly, Pat and Nick Ryan, Jim Dwyer, Paddy McGrath, Pat McGlynn, Tim Lowry, Wm Maher, Jack Hayes, John and Denis Ryan, Pat Finn and Jas Kennedy.

A defeat by Killea on 1929 was unexpected and unwelcome. According to the cynics, Tommy Treacy beat our lads on his own and I have seen tempers lost and heard angry voices raised years later when comments were made on the teams failure to get stuck in. Tommy Treacy, by the way, attended school for some time in Holycross and I suppose he was well aware of our weaknesses.

It would appear that from 1930 on we were in junior ranks and played without any great distinction. I remember 1935, 1936 and 1937 and we made one appearance each year, always in Gaile against Moycarkey and always losing. Great Era Dawns

1941 signalled the beginning of our great era. The County Junior Championship was won in that year, and in the 1942 Mid Championship were beaten by reigning county champions- Boherlahan on the score 3-2 to 3-0. Opinion is somewhat divided on the composition of the 1941 winning team and I am not prepared to stick my neck out until I have researched the subject properly.

From 1943 to 1946 the Club struggled valiantly but unsuccessfully. Sarsfields

beat us by 7-7 to 2-2 in the 1945 Mid final and the Holy Grail of a Senior Championship seemed as far away as ever. Sarsfields were regarded as invincible and so it came as a major surprise when on a wet September day in 1947 we defeated Sarsfields to win our first Senior Mid-title.

As usual we were regarded as lambs being led to slaughter. Indeed the first ten minutes gave evidence of our lamblike innocence. Sarsfields just toyed with us and we felt like sheep without a shepherd, as Sarsfields went into a 0-5 to 0-0 lead.

John Doyle scored a point from a seventy and in our hearts we thanked God we would not be beaten scoreless. A ball dropped towards Sarsfields square; Ned Gorman grabbed the ball, turned and hand passed it to the net past an astounded Gerry Doyle. Within five minutes Ned has two further goals and Sarsfields must have felt that the sky had fallen on them. We suddenly discovered that we were better than we thought. In a finish that was far too close for comfort we held on to win by a point. The impossible had happened. The lamb had put the lion to flight and we found it hard to credit.

Carrick Swans were not long about deflating our egos when they gave us a lesson in hurling in the County semifinal in Cashel. But we had tasted success and no longer considered ourselves as second raters.

When the draw for 1948 was announced we learned that if we wished to win the Mid title we would have to defeat Sarsfields, Moycarkey and Boherlahan in that order. After a thriller, we defeated Sarsfields by four points and the game with Moycarkey was fixed for Gaile- never a happy hunting ground for

Long Count

To this day there are Moycarkey men who maintain that this game lasted for an hour and a half. On that I cannot venture an opinion, as I was playing, and was far too busy engaged in evading the attentions of Matty Bannon to worry about such a detail. At the end we had a goal to spare and like Gene Tunney after the "long count" in his fight with Jack Dempsey we were glad to have survived.

That was one hard game and I can assure our Moycarkey friends that we felt sore long after we appeared to have fully recovered.

Boherlahan were our opponents for the final and we played with the breeze in the first half. At that time when a player dropped down play stopped and extra time was added at the end of each half. Boherlahan used the tactic in the first half and we attempted to outmaster the masters in the second. According to the "Star" a boring game was the result but again we held on to win.

Boherlahan felt that Mikie Ferncombe was not quite legal and lodged an objection. Everyone knew that Mikie was a Holycross man, born and reared, but the question of his domicile at the beginning of the Championship was the They felt somewhat aggrieved because basis for the objection. On this occasion we came victorious from the Board Room- an unusual result for us.

The 1947 defeat by Swans was avenged in Clonmel. Lorrha had defeated Cashel in the other semi-final and the final was set for Nenagh on 3rd October.

We trained hard in Loughaun under the eyes of Rody Dwan, Tim Crowe and Dr MI Russell, now Bishop of Waterford. I would mention that the Moloney family always put Loughaun at our disposal and the Club should ever be grateful to them for their generosity.

The game was won by 12 points and after our battles in the Mid was almost an anti-climax. We were County champions just imagine, County Senior Champions. Most of the people of the parish travelled to the game, by car, train or bicycle and it is known that some cyclists arrived home safe and sound, without lights on the bikes, but apparently well lit-up otherwise. Many were the blessings called down on the Guards in Borrisoleigh for their tolerance.

Tipp won the 1949 National League. Championship, All-Ireland, Munster Oireachtas, Thomond Feis and Monaghan Cup with Pat Stakelum as Captain. John Doyle won the first of his eight All-Irelands that year.

We won two further County Senior titles in 1951 and 1954 and according to many of our supporters threw away a few more.

Year of Woe

1953 was an especial year of woe. Sarsfields had been well beaten in a suit lengths final and perhaps we regarded them as a pushover for the first round of the Championship. All indications up to ten minutes from the end were that Holycross were skating home. Then we got a twenty-one yard free and went for a goal. The ball was cleared and Sarsfields scored a goal. Five more followed in quick succession. You can rest assured that very few from Holycross-Ballycahill ventured down town for a drink that evening. 'Twas a black night in the village and Boherna was like a morgue.

Sarsfields commenced their long run of successes in 1955 when they defeated us in the Mid-final in Gaile in front of what must have been a record crowd. Three goals down after ten minutes, we rallied in style and were almost on terms by half-time. The game lacked little in fire and incident. Early in the second half John Doyle was put off and indeed, our supporters and many neutrals, felt that he was as much sinned against as sinning. We lost by a couple of points and the sun had set on our day of glory. From 1955 to 1965 we often fought gallantly against the brilliant Sarsfield teams of that era but were always unsuccessful.

The early defeat of Sarsfields in 1966 roused the other Mid-Clubs and we won the title by defeating Moyne-Templetuohy in the final. In the County semifinal we defeated Lorrha by one point. they missed an easy twenty one yard free in the last minute. Naturally they claimed it was a point but Referee John Moloney told me afterwards that the ball went wide and he was standing near the free taken.

Lorrha Object

In an effort to obtain what they considered a redress, Lorrha objected to the composition of the Holycross-Ballycahill team. At this stage in time I must admit that there were some doubts about the absolute legality of the named player, but he had played with us for years.

We won the objection at County Board level but lost at a Munster Council hearing. Many Holycross people were not too enamoured of the evidence given by some Thurles men on Lorrha's behalf. Suggestions were made that thirty pieces of silver were involved- that I do not believe. We admire their integritynaturally they wished justice to triumph. The gentlemen in question did not belong to any Thurles club and I believe that their contribution to the G.A.A. began and ended with the objection.

Naturally we were not too displeased when Carrick Davins trounced Lorrha in the County final.

The result had an adverse effect on the club and within a few years we were back in Junior ranks and stayed there until 1974 when the County Junior title was won. Since then we have remained in Senior ranks and have been as good as the best in the Mid-winning the Championship in 1978- but never quite making the grade in the County Championships.

Since 1970 our under-age teams have been doing very well and we have won Mid titles in under-12, under-13, under-14, under-16, Minor and under-21.

County titles were won in under-16- 1973, under-21- 1978, under-14 football and Minor hurling in 1982.

Perhaps I will be criticised for devoting so much space to times past but I feel that this Minor team is the basis for teams of the future and will have much written about them in the years to come. They have many of the attributes that made a typical Tipperary team; the spirit of comradeship; ground hurling ability; dedication, discipline and the courage to fight back when all seems lost. It is hard not to be proud of such a team and I feel that they are one of the big hopes for the future of Tipperary

They won against the odds and perhaps against better hurlers but when it came to that vital factor- "guts" they were out in front.

And so I must conclude this article. I have left many important things unsaid but I do hope you will appreciate that it is my first venture into the world of letters and hope that my effort will not compare too unfavourably with contributions from established contributors like Culbaire and Seamus Leahy.

THE BOHERLAHAN STORY

by Pilib O Riain, O.S.

O God spare you Boherlahan Long may men like you remain To uphold Tipperary's honour Free from blemish and from stain Give one ringing cheer of victory On the mountain, in the glen You're the pride of Tipperary Gallant Boherlahan men.

Right in the heart of Tipperary, half way between royal Cashel and historic Holycross lies the picturesque little village of Boherlahan. Our latter day historians may wish to think on the village as the burial place of Charles Bianconi whose transport system was known the country over in the last century. Most Tipperary people, however, and indeed all hurling lovers from the four corners of Ireland prefer to remember it as the home of Tipperary hurling.

Today the village boasts a modern five-teacher school but up to a dozen years ago it just had, like most Irish country villages an old-fashioned two-teacher school with none of the modern day physical or educational amenities. Yet, for all its primitiveness that old school had a proud and singular boast which set it apart from all the others. For, the register of that school records the names of no less than forty five pupils who in later life were to accumulate between them the massive total of a hundred All-Ireland medals.

The Beginnings

This unique success story began in the dying years of the last century in the years 1895, 1896 and 1895, when sixteen young men all past pupils of the school and living almost within shouting distance of each other in that "Golden Square mile" spanning parts of the townslands of Nodstown, Tubberadora and Gaile, brought home a total of thirty nine All Ireland medals. These were the invincible stalwarts of Tubberadora, e.g. Mikey Maher, captain, Nodstown; Wm Devane, Nodstown; Jim Flanagan, Tubberadora; Ed. Maher, Tubberadora; John Maher, Nodstown; Thos Ryan, Tubberadora; John Ryan, Tubberadora; Johnny Connolly, Tubberadora; Johnny Walsh, Tubberadora; Ed. Ryan, Nodstown; John Maher ("Fields") Gaile;



Boherlahan-Dualla, winners of Mid Tipperary U-16 Hurling and Football Championships.
Front row (I. to r.): Jo O'Reilly, Dan O'Dwyer, MI O'Dwyer, D. Coffey, Jimmy Ryan,
Austin White, Wm Troy, Philly Ryan, M. Doyle, Tommy O'Dwyer.
Back row (I. to r.): Jn O'Brien, S. Ryan, R. Wade, Pat Connolly, Jn Wardick, Canon Morrissey, P.P.,
Michael Dolan, C. Murphy, D. Delaney, T. J. Donnelly, J. Donnelly.

The first decade of this century was a period of relative inactivity in Boherlahan area. Then in the Spring of 1912 in a candle-lit barn in Nodstown a new Boherlahan was born from the ashes of Tubberadora, Suir View and Ballytarsna. So began the second glorious phase which might be described as the Johnny Leahy era, and the club brought home two further All-Irelands in 1916 and 1925.

How the old school must have preened itself with pride as a further fifteen "old boys"— now grown strong and hurling-talented brought home to the little village a further sixteen medals. These young and not-so-young stalwarts were Denis Walsh, who had already won four medals prior to 1900; Johnny Leahy; Paddy Leahy; Johnny Power; Dick Walsh; Arthur O'Donnell; Willie O'Dwyer; Joe Nagle; Mick Leahy; Paddy Power; Paddy O'Dwyer and Martin Flanagan. Meanwhile Mick Leahy added two further medals in the Cork colours in 1928 and 1931. The grand total has now reached sixty five.

By the early years of the clubs re-birth the junior competition had already been initiated and Tipperary won All-Ireland victories in that grade in 1913, 1915, 1924 and 1926. No less than twelve All-Ireland medals were won by eight of our past pupils. They were Paddy Leahy, Dick Walsh, Jack Power, Arthur O'Donnell and W. O'Dwyer in 1913 and 1915 and Martin Flanagan in 1924 with Mikey Ryan and Thos Leahy being successful in 1926.

Greatest Year

Then came what many people consider Tipperary's most glorious year, Denis Walsh, Tubberadora; Thady Flanagan, Tubberadora; Phil Scanlan, Gaile; Ed. Brennan, Glenbane and John Maher, Nodstown.

The pity is that though still at the zenith of their power they then decided to call it a day since, in the words of a contemporary writer, "they had no more worlds to conquer". This fact is evident as no less than five of that number Mikey Maher, Johnny Walsh, Thos Ryan, Ed. Maher and Denis Walsh went on to win a further eight medals with the 'Jockey and 'Borris in 1899 and 1900. That brought the grand total of medals to 47.

1930 the year of the Triple Corwn and our pupils in all three grades were again to the fore. Thos Leahy and Mikey Ryan were in the senior string; John Connolly, Tom Power and Jimmy Ryan (G.) were among the juniors; while Ed. Maher and Peter Flanagan were part of the minor squad. The total was now eighty four.

Jack Devane and Dave Looby collected junior medals in 1933 while Jimmy Maher and Jer. Looby in 1932; Paddy Farrell 1933 and Philly O'Dwyer in 1933 and 1934 got minor medals. By the close of the thirties the grand total had now reached ninety one.

Jimmy Maher, that prince of goalies, collected a senior medal in 1945. Sonny Maher had three more in 1949, 1950, 1951 as did T. Kevin and Jn Walsh in that latter year.

Patrick O'Dwyer, son of Wm O'Dwyer Nodstown picked up two Intermediate medals for London-Irish in 1959 and 1960 and then Jim Keane brought that number to the "magical" one hundred when playing with the victorious Intermediate team in 1972.

As I have been dealing with the players who attended school in Boherlahan I have made no mention of fifteen other of our players who went to school elsewhere in the parish and who added a further thirty three medals to give a grand total for the parish of 133 medals.

Proud Record

Today the old school is no more, but the register lives on as a proud proof of a record unequalled. A beautifully laid-out playing field and a magnificent sports centre- now almost complete-stand just a stones' throw away from where it stood. We, the men and women, boys and girls of our generation dedicate this complex- not to forty five men or sixty nine men but to every young man who has worn the distinctive hooped colours of the parish with pride and distinction down through the years, not only in recorded victory but also in gallant defeat. Let us always heed the words written in a time of greater success by the late Phil O'Neill- "Slieverua"

Up the boys from Boherlahan, Gallant hurlers every man, Ireland's choice and Ireland's champions Are the boys from Boherlahan.

CO. MINOR FOOTBALL AFFAIRS 1982

by Willie Barrett (Secretary)

The year just ended was yet another disappointing year for underage football at county level when failed to reach a Munster final in either minor or u-21 football.

Minor

Trials were held in October '81 from which a panel was selected. Training commenced in February and continued right up to date of game with also four challenges being played versus Dublin, Limerick twice, and Kerry. Attendance at training was excellent and all were quietly confident when we faced Cork reigning All Ireland champions in Fermoy on 23rd April. After only ten minutes it was painfully obvious that Cork were in a different class and ran out the easiest of winners on the score 3-15 to 2 points. The team which played Cork was:

T. Hubbard (Cahir); E. O'Meara (Grange-mockler; E. Heenan (Borrisokane); P. Gorman (Ballylooby); P. Devaney (Newcastle); W. Hayes (Knockavilla); P. Croke (Killenaule); MI Cunningham (Emly) capt.; M. Sheehan (Borrisokane); A. Healy (Newcastle); T. Carew (Aherlow); L. Stokes (Kilsheelan); M. Fitzgerald (Fethard); G. Ryan (Ardfinnan); M. Corcoran (Emly). Subs: J. Butler

(Killenaule), F. Howlin (Cahir); A. McCarthy (Commercials); S. O'Brien (Emly); P. Hackett (Ardfinnan); K. Farrelly (Templemore); G. Costeloe (Templemore); S. Healy (Newcastle); P. Murphy (Fr Sheehy's);

Minor's Selectors: H. Kennedy, J. Phelan, M. Darcy, P. Savage. P. Moroney, Coach/Selector.

U-21 Football

The u-21 selection held trials in February and picked a panel which commenced training in March '82. Fourteen sessions were held and a series of challenge games were played namely against Cork, Clare, Laois, Longford and Galway. The game with Kerry was originally fixed for Kenmare on 21st July, but when Munster Council offered us the chance of playing as a curtain raiser to the Munster football final replay in Killarney on 1st August we agreed.

On a glorious first Sunday in August a fine attendance was treated to an exciting game and when we lead by one point after forty six minutes play, and our goalkeeper having saved a penalty it seemed we were going to do it but

Kerry got a break and the ball ended in our net. From that on they controlled the game to win rather flatteringly on the score 2-10 to 7 points. Looking back on the year it was most disappointing especially at minor level. At the time of writing serious efforts are being made by County Minor and Senior Board to arrest the decline of football in the county. Club football standards will have to improve otherwise the county team will be poor. The following was the team which played Kerry. J. McKenna (Borrisokane); D. Foley (Moyle Rovers); G. Irwin (Cashel); M. O'Connell (Commercials); N. English (Lattin-Cullen) J. Lyons (Grangemockler); N. Kelly (Borrisokane); R. Lanigan (Grangemockler); M. Beston (Fr Sheehys); J. Darcy (Borrisokane); I. Conroy (Borrisokane calt;); E. Dwyer (Rockwell Rovers); Kelly (Commercials); S. Lonergan (Commercials); W. Peters (Commercials); Subs: S. McMahon (Commercials); L. Corcoran (Kilsheelan); G. Carroll (Borrisokane). M. Dromonle (Kilsheelan); O'Donnell (Rockwell Rovers); D. Sheehan (Borrisokane); P. Bowe (Temple-

U-21 selection were: P. Savage, P. Morris, S. McCarthy, P. Moroney. Coach/Selector.

THE DUNNE BROTHERS— Hurling's Minstrels

by Paddy Doherty

Munster final day in Thurles is reckoned to be a very special occasion for many thousands of hurling fans throughout the length and breath of Ireland. The atmosphere of the day is dependant on many contributing factors, if it is to have that air of enchantment or magic about it—as it is so often described.

One of the highlights of the Munster final day for me is the Dunne Brothers music, which is to be heard at the top of Parnell Street. This traditional music entertains many thousands of fans who make their way up from Liberty Square. Playing a lively selection of jigs, reels and ballads, they spread an old coat on the ground to collect the coins donated so readily by the merry supporters that drift towards Semple Stadium.

Many people enjoy their music but know little or nothing about them. I had the pleasure of being entertained by them on the eve of this years Munster final. Before playing they filled me in on some biographical details. They were born in Cashel and lived in Gooldscross for a while. Their father passed on to them all his music and they have been playing since they were seven years old. Their names are Christy and Michael



Michael & Christy Dunne after this years Munster final.

and a third brother who was blind, played with them until his death seven years ago. The brothers now live in Cork

When asked about the good old days, they related many of their past experiences. When they were living in Tipperary long ago they used to play at "thrashing dances", "house dances" and "platform dances" which are all but extinct today. A touch of nostalgia came across as they reminisced on the days before T.V. and motor cars. They recall "people were kinder then, now

they haven't the time to talk to you or listen to you. In the good old days, if you had a couple of pounds you were happy— a little would keep you going. People were more homely and good natured then."

They expressed a great love for music and sport, especially traditional Irish music and Gaelic games. They have not missed a Munster final in 36 years. No matter what corner of Ireland they would be in, they would head for Thurles when they heard tell of the final. They have a special love for Thurles when it comes to a match, in preference to Limerick or Cork venues.

It was a great experience for me to chat with these two brothers gifted with musical talent. Shy and retiring, they carry with them a history of Munster hurling. It saddened me to hear of the diminishing hospitality they are experiencing in recent years. It is indeed a reflection on our changing values.

They have contributed a great deal to the atmosphere of the Munster final day in Thurles. They have enhanced many a heart with their jovial and warm music. And for that Christy and Michael we thank you!

BUNSCOILEANNA THIOBRAID ARANN, C.L.G.

Ag breathnu dom ar staid na hiomána sa chontae le blianta beaga anuas feictear dom gur jigsaw mór é atá tar éis titim as a chéile. I rith na seascaidí leagadh ar an bord é dlúth ghreamaithe san iomlán. Tháinig oilithrigh ó chian 's ó chomhgar chun ómós a thabhairt dó agus chun moladh a dháileadh ar 'chuile dhuine a raibh baint ar bith leis. Ach oíche mór scléipe timpeall deireadh na seascaidí iompaíodh an bord bun os cionn agus scaipeadh na píosaí le gaoith. I measc an ghrinn agus an ruaille buaille níor thug éinne faoi deara é agus lean an féasta faoi 'lán seol' go lár na seachtóidí. D'fhill na sluaite ar an áit bheannaithe ach bhí na píosaí ar iarraidh. Cliú dá laghad ní raibh ag coiste ná cathaoirleach, roghnóir nó imreoir ar modh a hathtógála. De réir a chéile tuigeadh nach fás aon oíche éanobair mhór tógála seo agus 'sé atá ar siúl anois ná carnadh na bpíosaí ar an mbord arís agus uaidh sin an jigsaw a chur le chéile agus é a ghreamú do daingean docht.

Bro. Perkins' Role

When the story of the most recent revival in Tipperary hurling is being written in the mid nineties, the helmeted figure of a lone Christian Brother touring the highways and byways of his native county will stand out bold and clear. Sooner than most and far clearer than others he saw what constituted the individual threads that are the fabric of Tipperary hurling. Not alone was the loom silent but the individual threads were scarce and of diminishing quality. Every summer in the late seventies Brother Perkins toured the national schools of each division, organised coaching courses, arranged for visits by county players and through his weekly newspaper column gave pride of place to the work being done with youth. He urged teachers to become involved in the monumental task of restoring hurling in the school lives of the pupils whom they served.

Within the school walls new developments were also taking place. With an increased freedom in the implementation of a new curriculum and conscious of the growing sense of alienation among young people, schools were beginning to focus on those cultural aspects of environment that gave children a sense of place, tradition and stability. Everywhere boys and girls were willing to play the game but teachers like Donie Nealon seemed to be ploughing a lone furrow. School grounds were unsuitable, liaison with local clubs was at an all time low and suitable hurleys and sliotars were in short supply. To rub salt into the wound our neighbouring counties were well on



MICHAEL JONES & TOM SPARROW OF TIPP, ASSOCIATION CORK. Presenting the Knockgow Cup to Ger Harty – North Tipp. Captain.
Also present is Bord na mBunscoileanna P. R.O., Bro. J. Perkins.

children involved in Gaelic games. Kilkenny and Cork had learned the lessons of the sixties while Clare's new found confidence at senior level was reflected in a highly organised schools programme in which many current inter county players played a key role.

Early this year, at the behest of Donie Nealon, Brother Perkins and Liam O Donnchú the principals of the Clare Primary Schools League John Hanly and Brendan Vaughan travelled to address a large gathering of rural school teachers at Hayes' Hotel. Donie Nealon outlined the objectives and Liam O Donnchú spoke on his experience of introducing hurling within a typical rural school. Subsequently Bord na mBunscholeanna was formed.

This organisation will complement the

the way to having all national school wonderful work of Bord na nOg within the school there will be little or no emphasis on competition. Participation is the keynote and playing the game in the spirit of fun and enjoyment is the all important aspect of its work. Teachers will bring to hurling within the school the set of values they impart in all other school activities. We feel that in the absence of competition pressure and in a most suitable teaching situation the basic skills of hurling can be imparted and nurtured to an extent not seen heretofore.

> In its first year of operation the Bord was structured thus: The Youth Officer, Liam O Donnchú acted as Chairman with Jimmy Duggan as Secretary. Each division was represented. Denis Floyd spoke for the north while Danny Morrissey represented the west. Ricky Sheehan



SOUTH TIPPERARY RURAL PRIMARY SCHOOLS 1982



NORTH TIPPERARY RURAL PRIMARY SCHOOLS 1982



MID TIPPERARY RURAL PRIMARY SCHOOLS 1982



WEST TIPPERARY RURAL PRIMARY SCHOOLS 1982

looked after affairs in the south while Jimmy Duggan dealt with mid fixtures. Brother Perkins acted as P.R.O. Each divisional officer then promoted the games within the division. In a very short last term co-ordinators were appointed, schools played off in groups of four and blitz competitions were arranged. Hurleys were carried by the hedgerows all over Tipperary as lunchbreaks were permeated by the clash of the ash.

La na nOg

The public aspect of this work was seen to best effect in the presentation of Lá na nOg on the 23rd June at Semple Stadium. Seven matches were played between representative teams from each division. The Knocknagow Cup, donated by the Tipperary Association in Cork, was presented by Michael Jones from Latteragh and Tom Sparrow from Ballingarry who travelled from Cork for the occasion. The outright winners were the North Division who with their combination and high level of skill showed a depth of preparation and bode well for the future. Bord na Scol deeply appreciates and thanks all who contributed to making the day enjoyable: Phil O'Meara who refereed all the matches, Tommy Barrett and Jim Hickey for their help and encouragement, Dwan Menerals and Valley Ice Cream who were extremely generous and co-operative; Pierce Murphy of the Knights of Malta who remained on hand all day in case of injury and of course all the teachers and helpers who had done so much work at such short notice.

The local club has a vital role to play if Bord na mBunscoileanna is to be successful. Without contact with the club the school is working in a vacuum. The individual teacher dealing with the pupils in his professional capacity may have different methods and aims than the local juvenile committee endeavouring to win a county title. Nevertheless he will appreciate the care taken with the school field, transport to school games, supplies of helmets, jersies, tans and hurleys. In most other counties, clubs have appointed schools liaison officers with sole responsibility for supplyint the local national schools with their playing needs. Not alone will expenditure be repaid with interest on the playing field but the values and attitudes learned will translate into healthy community spirit in the years ahead.

Táimid ag iarraidh oraibhse, a thuismitheoirí agus a chumainn, lámh cúnta a thabhairt dúinn chun cuid bunúsach d'oidhreacht na bpáistí a chur faoina mbráid sa tslí 's go mbeidh bród acu as a n-áitdhúchais. Má's rud é go gcabhraíonn sé le gluaiseacht na hiomána i dTiobraid Arann, sin mar is fearr. Go dtage méadú agus neart ar ghluaiseacht na hiomána i mbunscoileanna na tuaithe sna blianta atá romhainn.

Séamus O Dugáin, O.S.

COUNTY SENIOR FOOTBALL ACTIVITIES 1982

by J. McNamara

No great progress was made at Inter County level during the year 1982.

A sterling display was put up against Laois at Portarlington but a point from a free scored in overtime by Laois denied us 2 points- score Tipperary 2-4, Laois

Training sessions were held and a challenge was played with Cork at Fermoy after the Christmas break, but two very lifeless displays saw us being defeated by Antrim and Louth- both games played at Clonmel, and as a result relegation to Division 4 was the outcome. This was a very big disappointment to all concerned after a very bright start.

With challenge games against Limerick (twice) and Clare under our belt, we faced Waterford at Clonmel on Sunday 9th May and survived strong Waterford pressure to win 0-11 to 0-9. With the various club activities going we found it very hard to hold proper training sessions, nevertheless we faced Clare at Limerick in the McGrath Cup on Sunday 23rd May with confidence. At half time it looked as if we were at last on our way to a long overdue success in this competition. Alas, chances went a begging and despite having dominated the play we were unable to break down a very stubborn Clare defence and were defeated 2-9 to 1-7; a last minute Clare score board.

Cork at Fermoy

Thus we faced Cork at Fermoy on Sunday 6th June with morale at a low ebb. For 35 minutes we gave as good as we got but eventually succumbed to Cork pressure and were beaten.

The following team did duty in Fermoy: Michael Hanly, J. McLoughney, P. McCormack, S. Sherlock, D. Foley, N. Meagher, S. O'Neill, G. McGrath, J. Dunne, T. McGrath, O. Maher, M. Beston, S. McCarthy, captain, J. Conroy, E. O'Dwyer. Subs: P. Dooley for S. Sherlock; K. Barron for G. McGrath, Tom Ryan, P. McGrath, M. McGrath.

Congratulations are in order to Gene McGrath who was on the Munster Football panel that won Railway Cup honours by defeating Ulster and Leinster.

Club commitments prevented us from travelling to participate in Na Fianna Inter County 7-a-side.

Our first league game of Division 4 was an away game with Sligo at Tubbercurry. Alas, the unavailability of quite a number of players due to various reasons club commitments lack of interest etc. We were beaten 1-9 to 1-4.

A resounding win over Kilkenny at Clonmel 0-12 to 0-2, promised hopes which were dashed by a defeat by Leitrim at Carrick-on-Shannon 0-9 to 0-6, leaving us with 2 points after 3 games.

Our remaining fixture before the break is against Limerick at Clonmel and then after the break we are away to Westmeath and home to Waterford and Carlow.

The Problem

Lack of forward power is our problem goal putting a bad reflection on the as our defence continues to contain the opposition to a reasonable score-line. Clubs within the county seem to have a similiar problem so the talent available to the selectors is very limited.

The build-up throughout the league must be geared towards the Munster Championship and the McGrath Cup which should be within our scope.

On the home front Commercials overcome a very determined challenge by Fethard in the County final played at Kilsheelan with George Ryan, Lattin a very competent referee.

The County Senior draws and results as follows:

1st Round

Cashel v Ardfinnan Lattin Cullen v Fethard Movle Rovers v Movne-Templetuohy Mullinahone v Mulcaire Rovers Solohead v Newport-Ballinahinch Cappawhite.

Following clubs received byes: Commercials, Kilsheelan, Loughmore, Kilruane, Arravale Rovers, Galtee Rovers, Moycarkey, Golden/Rockwell, St Flannan's.

) St Ruan Cahir.

2nd Round

Fethard v Moycarkey-Borris. St Flannan's v Galtee Rovers St Ruan v Arravale Rovers Cappawhite v Golden/Rockwell Ardfinnan v Kilruane Cahir v Commercials Mullinahone v Moyle Rovers Kilsheelan v Loughmore.

3rd Round

Fethard v Galtee Rovers Arravale Rovers v Cappawhite Ardfinnan v Commercials Mullinahone v Loughmore.

Semi finals

Fethard v Arravale Rovers; Commercials v Loughmore.

Commercials 2-3 v Fethard 1-2 at Kilsheelan, Referee: A. Ryan,



COMMERCIALS COUNTY SENIOR FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS Back row (I. to r.): D. O'Keeffe, MI Friedberg, T. O'Neill, G. McGrath, M. Hanley, M. Boland, B. Keane, S. Lonergan, F. Farrell, F. Kelly, F. Kavanagh.

Front row (I. to r.): S. McMahon, W. Peters, S. O'Neill, M. O'Connell, J. McNamara, M. Lynch, H. Daly, P. O'Neill (captain), E. Synott.

Photo-Boland Clonmel

AROUND THE CLUBS IN S. TIPP.

by Michael O'Meara

Thirty seven clubs affiliated to the South Board for 1982 and they met with varying degrees of success. The following is a club by club account of the year in the Division:

CARRICK SWANS (Hurling & Football)

Swan have very strong claims for the title of club of the year. They fielded in eight grades and their teams made their presence felt in all competitions winning three titles and suffering narrow defeats at the concluding stages of many other championships. They brought off the double in minor and under 21 hurling whilst their seniors lost only by a very narrow margin to holders St Marys in a thrilling championship seni-final. The juniors failed narrowly to Ballyneale whilst in football their Intermediate side were impressive winners over Grangemockler in the final and their minor team lost narrowly to St Augustines in a great minor decider. All in all it was a very satisfactory year for the men in black, the only disappointing feature being their failure to take a county title although their minor hurlers made a bold bid before going under to Holycross in the final. Over the year players like the Fitzpatrick brothers Sean and Tony, Pat Kirby, Dick Lonergan, Thomas and Anthony Waters, Paul Walsh and Tommy Dunne stood out on the playing fields of the Division.

CARRICK DAVINS (Hurling & football)

This club had rather a lean year although there was a lot to like about some of their performances in the Senior Hurling Championship and in particular their defeat of St Marys. Although they failed to make the concluding stages Davins showed that they have many promising young players and it will not be too long before they are again a major force in the grade. The club's Intermediate footballers had a good campaign and reached the championship semifinal at which stage they went under to Grangemockler. Thomas Foran, Ralph O'Callaghan, Joe Kennedy and Sean Power were the players from the club that caught the eye most frequently during the year.

NEWCASTLE (Hurling & Football)

The club began the year with high hopes but met with little luck. The minor footballers had a great run in the League stages of the championship and advanced. to the semi-finals where they lost narrowly to Swan after a very fine game. Newcastle had a very talented side that included the Healys and the Devaneys. The club's Intermediate side failed to qualify for the semi-finals although well



Group of South Board Referees pictured with their awards at South Board's Annual Social-Front row, I. to r.: Tom Keating, Joe Keane, Mick Egan, Board Chairman; Eddie Maher, Mossy Walsh, Willie Barrett. Back row, I. to r.: Jimmy McCarthy, Tommy Lonergan, Arthur Daly, Billy Carroll, Mossy Hyland, William Robinson.

Photo- Boland Clonmel



Group of Award winners and Officers, past and present, pictured at South Board Annual Social Front row (I. to r.): Phil O'Shea, Past Chairman; Mr Sean Boland, Managing Director, Nationalist Newspaper Co. Ltd; Michael Tobin (Footballer of Past); Paddy Kenny (Special Award); Mick Egan, Chairman; John Fieming, Past Chairman.

Back row (I. to r.): Michael O'Meara, Secretary; Mark O'Connell (Young Footballer of Year);

Mossey Carroll (Hurler of Year); Mick McCarthy (Past Chairman). Mick Egan, Chairman; John Fleming, Past Chairman.

Photo-Boland Clonmel

went under to eventual champions Moyle Rovers.

ARDFINNAN (Football)

For Ardfinnan the high point of the year to date was the victory of the senior team over Fethard in the South championship. This win, in a replay, showed clearly that the fortunes of the club are on a very definite rise and that the future looks especially bright more especially since many of the players who had leading roles in the success over

fancied to do so whilst the junior hurlers Fethard are young and comparatively inexperienced.

Lads like Ger Walsh, Mick Hally, John McNamara, Pat Hackett, Ger Condon, Anthony Power and Stan Barlow made a big impression whilst experienced men like Eamon O'Gorman, Aidan O'Mahoney, Liam Myles and John Cummins showed that they can still hold their own with the best. At the time of writing Ardfinnan are scheduled to face South holders and County champions Commercials and this promises to be one of the games of the year. The Ardfinnan minors acquitted themselves well in the league stages of the championship but failed to reach the last four.

BALLYBACON-GRANGE (Hurling)

The club had rather a quiet year. They defeated Skeheenarinka to reach the Intermediate semi-final but they proved no match at all for a rampant Fethard. The minors and the juniors met with little success.

SKEHEENARINKA (Hurling

They were promoted to the Intermediate Grade for the first time following their success in the 1981 Junior Championship but they found the rise in grade a little beyond them and suffered defeats at the hands of Kilsheelan and Ballybacon-Grange.

BALLYPOREEN (Football)

Yet another club that was success starved during the year. They failed to make the semi-finals of the Intermediate championship and did not distinguish themselves in the minor or junior grades.

BALLYLOOBY/CASTLEGRACE (Hurling and Football

It was a very disappointing 1982 for this club which had high hopes of figuring in the final stages of the Intermediate Football and Junior Hurling Championships. However the footballers never really played up to their full potential and could not reach the last four whilst the hurlers ran into problems and were finally unable to field against Swan.

CAHIR (Hurling & Football)

Neither the footballers or Hurlers gave the club's faithful followers much to shout about during the past year. The hurlers were once again a disappointment and failed to reach the semi-finals whilst the senior footballers were well beaten by Kilsheelan in the South and by Commercials in the County championship. The juniors in both codes also met with early defeats whilst it was left to a young minor football side to give some hope for the future with a number of promising displays.

FR SHEEHY'S (Football & Hurling)

The Clogheen side reached the closing stages of both the Junior Hurling and Intermediate Football championships but failed to take a title. The hurlers scored a fine win over Marlfield in the semi-final in a replay but were forced to field somewhat understrength in the final and were well beaten by Moyle Rovers. The footballers showed useful form in qualifying for the semi-final but on the day they found Swan too strong for them. Michael Beston, Arthur Browne, Mick Pyne, Seamus Conway and Frank O'Brien were consistent performers for the club in both codes during the year.

MOYLE ROVERS (Football & Hurling)

The winning of the Junior Hurling championship crowned a good year for



FETHARD HURLING TEAM

Back row, David Morrissey captain, Jim McGrath, Michael Fitzgerald, Peter O'Dwyer, Stephen Fitzgerald, Davy Fitzgerald, Stephen McCormack, Denis O'Meara, Liam McCarthy, Maurice Harrington, Gerry Lawless, Joe Corbett, Noel Byrne, Martin Cuddihy. Front row, Michael McCormack, Paddy Kenrick, Michael Healy, Pat Looby, A. B. Kennedy, Pakie Harrington, Jimmy Downes, Noel Sharpe, Dinny Burke, Donal Ryan, Louis Coen, Seated: William Connolly, Liam Connolly.

Photo-Boland Clonmel



KILLENAULE JUNIOR FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS
Back row (I. to r.): John Hayes, Selector; W. Guiry, P. Croke, M. Teehan, M. Leahy, M. Hassett,
D. O'Connell, M. Healy, J. Butler, C. Healy, T. Walsh, S. O'Connor, J. O'Connell, Selector.
Front row (I. to r.): M. Mullins, T. Fanning, M. Gleeson, L. O'Connor, D. McGettigan, G. Crotie,
T. Brennan, M. Tynan, B. Tynan, Selector.

Photo- Boland Clonmel



SOUTH MOYLE ROVERS JUNIOR HURLING CHAMPIONS 1982

Back row (I. to r.): J. Russell, D. Foley, P. McCormack, H. McCarthy, M. Boland,
T. Acheson, P. Fahey, B. Foley, A. Cahill, D. Looby.

Front row (I. to r.): T. McGrath, T. Harvey, P. Foley, M. Looby, J. Phelan, P. Boyle,
C. Darcy, J. McGrath, J. Boyle, J. Purcell, M. Hurley.



John Phelan, Moyle Rovers receiving the Junior Hurling Trophy from MI Egan, Chairman South Tipp. Board. Photo—Boland Clonmel



Tony Fitzpatrick captain Swan Intermediate Football team receiving the championship trophy from MI Egan, Chairman South Tipp Board.

Photo— Boland Clonmel



MI Fitzgerald, St Augustines receiving the Minor Football Championship Trophy from MI Egan, South Board Chairman. Photo—Boland Clonmel



Davy Morrissey, Fethard receiving the Intermediate Hurling Championship Trophy from MI Egan, South Board Chairman. Photo—Boland Clonmel



Pat Larkin St Augustines receiving the Senior Hurling Trophy from MI Egan, Chairman South Tipp Board.

Photo-Boland Clonmel



MI Russell, Swan receiving the u-21 Hurling Championship Trophy from MI Egan, South Board Chairman.

Photo-Boland Clonmel

the club. The team started the year as outsiders but they showed tremendous spirit and commitment and upset the odds on more than one occasion during the year. Successes over Newcastle and Ballyneale were followed by an impressive final win over Fr Sheehys but regret ably the team failed to rise to the occasion against Cappawhite in the County semi-final and suffered a four points defeat. Mick Looby, Donal Foley, Pat Foley, who scored five goals in the final, John Phelan and Tommy Harvey proved the key players throughout the campaign. The year was less successful for the club's footballers who lost to Commercials in the South championship and to Mullinahone in the County championship.

GRANGEMOCKLER (Football)

The Intermediate footballers scored a good win over Davins in a replay to qualify for the final against Swan in which however they were forced to field understrength and were comprehensively defeated. However they gave a number of useful performances during the year and should again be a force to be reckoned in future years. Michael Murphy, Timmy Bolger, Jim Lyons, Richie and David Lanigan and Eamon O'Meara were the players to catch the eye during the campaign.

BALLYNEALE (Hurling)

The sister club of Grangemockler, Ballyneale, lost to Marlfield in the final of the 1981 league at the beginning of the year, and had a good championship run before going under to Moyle Rovers in a semi-final that was classed as one of the best games played in the grade during 1982.

MULLINAHONE (Hurling & Football)

The Intermediate hurlers were fancied by many to make their presence felt but failed to reach the semi-finals whilst the senior footballers qualified for the quarter-finals of the County championship following a hard earned win over Moyle Rovers. Pitted against Loughmore they gave a splendid account of themselves to run the highly rated Mid men very close. That promise was not fulfilled in the South championship however and the team suffered a very heavy defeat at the hands of Kilsheelan.

BALLINGARRY (Hurling & Football)

This club was a potent force in all competitions during the year but unluckily failed to take a title. Both the minor and under 21 hurlers were defeated by Swan in the championship finals Whilst the senior hurlers went out to St Augustines in the semi-final. The Junior hurlers only succumbed to Marlfield in a replay whilst in football the under 21 side had a fine run before going out to Commercials in the semifinal. There is no doubting the fact that there is considerable talent in the club and honours can be expected to come Ballingarry's way in more than one competition in 1983.

COMMERCIALS (Football)

The winning of the County Senior Football crown was the highlight of the year to date for the Clonmel club. Following a win over Loughmore in the replayed semi-final Commercials ousted Fethard in a rather disappointing County decider at Kilsheelan, Paudie and Seamus O'Neill, MI Hanly, Franny Kelly, Gene McGrath, Mick Boland, Ben Keane and Sean Lonergan were the men who played leading roles in that success and all won their places on the County panel for the N.F.L. In the Munster club championship the club scored a fine win over Stradbally and they now await the Kerry winners in the semi-final. Another key game to come is the meeting with Ardfinnan in the South semi-final. In under 21 the club has qualified to meet Brian Borus in the final whilst the Juniors reached the final at which stage they went under to Killenaule. The minors however had a disappointing campaign and failed to reach the semi-finals.

ST MARY'S (Hurling)

Following the successes of the previous year the past campaign proved disappointing for the Clonmel club. They lost their Senior Hurling crown to St Augustines who scored a surprise win in the decider whilst in the minor and under 21 grade the teams suffered defeat at the hands of Swan.

However 1981 would seem to be only a temporary reverse in the fortunes of St Mary's and the Clonmel club should certainly be back in the honours lists in the coming year.

KICKHAMS (Football)

This Army based Intermediate football side had a good run in the championship turning in a number of useful displays without however reaching the semifinal stages.

ST JOSEPHS (Hurling)

A sister club of Kickhams who fielded in junior hurling, St Joseph's, made little show in league or championship.

MARLFIELD (Hurling)

The junior hurlers had a good run up to the semi-final when they played a draw with Fr Sheehys but lost out in the replay. At the start of the year the club captured the League title by defeating Ballyneale at Grangemockler.

ST MARTINS (Football)

A sister club to Marlfield, St Martins, competed in the Junior Football championship and progressed to the last four where they lost to the eventual champions Killenaule.

KILLENAULE (Hurling & Football)

The success of the Killenaule club in winning the South Junior football title for the first time was a notable achievement and players like Donal McGettigan, Donie O'Connell, Thomas Fanning, Liam O'Connor and Tony Walsh played leading roles. The clubs Intermediate hurlers reached the South semi-final but lost out to Kilsheelan in a fine game.

KILSHEELAN (Hurling & Football)

Although the club failed narrowly in a replay to retain the Intermediate Hurling crown the past year was nonetheless very pleasing more particularly since the Kilsheelan/Fethard grouping, St Augustines, captured both the Senior Hurling and Minor Football Championships. The club's senior footballers are through to the final of the South Senior Football championship following clear cut wins over Cahir and Mullinahone, Over the year the displays of James and John Kehoe (up to the time of their unfortunate injuries), Gerry Kehoe, Michael Kehoe, Pat Larkin, Sean Nugent and Liam Stokes (who crowned a great year by winning a minor All-Ireland medal) were impressive and augur well for the future prospects of the club.

FETHARD (Hurling & Football)

Apart from the fine contributions made to the successes of the St Augustines team already referred to Fethard had great reason to rejoice when their Intermediate hurlers defeated Kilsheelan in fine style in a replay to regain the championship after a lapse of a few years. The footballers had a fine run of successes but met with little luck losing out to Commercials in the County final and to Ardfinnan in a replay in the South competition.

In hurling Stephen McCormack, Liam McCarthy, A. B. Kennedy, the Harrington brothers, Pakie and Maurice and Jim Downes were the club's most impressive performers over the year whilst in football A. B. Kennedy, Michael Fitzgerald, Joe Keane and the Harrington brothers all had a very successful year.

ST PATRICKS (Football)

The club participated in the minor and junior football competitions with some success. A very young minor side gave hope for the future whilst the juniors reached the championship semifinal but lost heavily to Commercials.

ST LUKES (Football)

This Clonmel team played in the junior football league and championship with little success.

SOUTH TIPPERARY HONOURS LIST 1982

Senior Hurling final

St Augustines 4-12; St Marys 2-7 Intermediate Hurling final replay

Fethard 2-14; Kilsheelan 2-9 Junior Hurling final

Moyle Rovers 6-11; Sheehys 2-7

Under 21 Hurling final Carrick Swans 2-10; Ballingarry 1-10

Minor Hurling final
Carrick Swans 4-13; Ballingarry 3-5

Carrick Swans 4-13; Ballingarry 3-5 Senior Football to be played Kilsheelan v Commercials or Ardfinnan

Intermediate Football

Carrick Swans 3-5; Grangemockler 0-1 Junior Football final

Killenaule 2-5; Commercials 1-2

Minor Football final St Augustines 0-11; Carrick Swans 1-7 Under 21 Football final to be played

Commercials v Brian Borus.



MOYCARKEY-BORRIS - COUNTY TIPPERARY SENIOR CHAMPIONS 1982

Back row, left to right: W. Ryan, Jim Flanagan, R. Hayes, J. Leahy, T. Doran, T. Mullins, D. Fogarty, J. McCormack. Front row, left to right: L. Bergin, John Flanagan, J. Ceaser, E. Darmody, J. Bergin (captain), T. Quigley, D. Quigley.



1982 ALL-IRELAND MINOR CHAMPIONS

Photo-Sportsfile Back row— Michael Kelly, Noel McDonnell, Michael Scully, Kevin Bourke, John Ryan, Noel Sheehy, Michael Cunningham, John Flannery, Sean Slattery, John Bergin, Seamus Collison, Joe Hill, Liam Stokes. Front row— Michael Corcoran, John Cormack, Donal Kealy, John Leamy, Brendan Everard, John Kennedy (captain), Bill Hayes, Colm Bonnar, Gerry Ryan, Ger Bradley, Aidan Ryan.

ST MARY'S JUVENILES CLONMEL

by Michael Ford

Like the celebrated curates egg, 1982 for St Marys was good in spots. Looking back the high point of the year must be the retention of the u-14 County Hurling title.

First in the field were our u-12s in the clubs juvenile tournament. Participating teams this year came from Piarsaigh Cork, Mt Sion and Castlegar the winners of the Jubilee Cup. The quality of all these teams is impeccable. Our young charges covered themselves in glory and we really thought we were on a winner for the coming championship. What a rude awakening we received from Ballingarry in south championship. We were odds on but the "Wasps" were on song and we were defeated. Never the less this panel of lads are right good hurlers and their future looks good.

Pride of place again goes to the 14s. The grand slam was theirs. Early in the year we had the Feile Competition. Cappawhite were our first victims and then Durlas Og stood between us and representing Tipp in the Feile finals in Dublin. After a humdinger of a game we were victorious and were worthy reps of the Premier County. On the same day Ger Deeley in Holycross won the County skills competition, a great day for Clonmel hurling. First weekend of July we headed for Dublin full of confidence. Our first game against Crumlin our host club was a tough one. We took some hard knocks which subsequently, proved detrimental to us in our game against Thomastown. In the second game nothing went right for us and we made our exit from the Feile. Our trip to Dublin would not have been possible but for our generous sponsors and friends. Indeed a valuable lesson learned from the Feileits a costly experience.

Poor Outlook

In the earlier games of the championship our prospects for a county looked anything but rosy. Our games against lesser lights were very drap affairs. The south title was duly won and slightly apprehensive we took the field against Roscrea in the County semi-final. Eventually we got on top of our opponents and earned our place in the county final. Our opponents were old friends Durlas Og. I say old friends for one thing that is lasting of each game is friendship. However for the final there was no need to motivate the team. With Durlas Og between us and county honours we were more than determined to take the title. So it was after a close and exciting game. History was made that night in Dundrum. St Marys won the title for the second year in a row. As always Durlas



St Mary's Clonmel, u-14 team

Back row, I. to r.: Dick Ryan, Denis Fennessy, Malcolm Gearon, Padraig Kavanagh, John McCarthy, Brett McGrath, Ger O'Mahony, Ger Deeley, George Burke. Front row, I. to r.: John Coyne, Jimmy Ryan, Barry Condon, Frank Fennessy, D. J. O'Connell, Declan Ryan, David Hickey, D. J. Dwyer, David O'Donnell, Matthew Ryan, Derek Doyle. Missing from photo: John Dempsey.

played the game as it should be played no rancour and gracious in defeat.

One last hurdle remained to cross to complete the grand slam- The Turas. Late in August we played Toomevara in Holycross. At the end both teams were level after a bitter encounter. The replay was not much better and looking back hurling was not the winner. The two games produced some splendid hurling but alas because of sideline "advice" we witnessed some uncalled exhibitions of unsavoury hurling. In the replay we managed to surmount all obstacles and duly won the Turas to the hurling final in Croke Park. More important than the tickets was the fact that St Marys were no longer a push over for intimidating

Our u-16s did not go very far in the South Championship. No fault of these lads, most of them were on the 14 panel and because of pressure of games we were not able to fulfill a fixture— so exit St Marys. But the future looks good for these lads and we relish the prospect of next years u-16 championship.

Alive and Well

As can be seen from the above hurling is very much alive in Clonmel. We have the skill and have in latter years beaten the best in Tipp. Not only that we have

travelled further afield into other counties and claimed many notable scalps in our forays. All this is only possible through sheer hard work and lots of time. Down here there is no close season. To make this possible we need help. Those of you in Clonmel who read this give some of your time in promoting hurling. Think of all the enjoyment you have received in the past and give a fraction back in the promotion. The harvest is great, the reapers are few. The following have laboured in the cause-Martin Deeley, Dan Kavanagh, Mick Ryan, Paddy Coyne, Seamas Leahy, Tom Hill, Mick Forde, Br Cahill and Br Devitt. Along with the above we have those behind the scenes who help us bringing the teams to the games and our various sponsors.

Lastly it is with deep sorrow I refer to a dear friend of mine who went to his eternal reward during the year, Tom Hill. Tom was natures gentleman and one great worker in fostering the game of hurling. He was a tragic loss to all who knew him. Knowing Tom he is still on our side and putting in a good word for us with the man above.

The royal blue of St Mary's is being worn with pride and please God in the years ahead it will be to forefront of Tipp hurling. Cluain Meala Abú.

CARRICK SWANS-A BUSY YEAR

by John Hahessy, P.R.O.

Having affiliated fourteen teams to the various grades in the South, Swan had one of their most successful years to date. The Senior hurlers were defeated in the semi-final by two points, by St Marys for the second year in succession and there was much gloom around the club but this defeat only served to light the spark and the club blazed a trail of glory throughout the South capturing three titles in the process. August '82 will be the month to remember by Swan for years to come as it was during this month that they took the honours in the u-21 hurling on one Sunday and followed with the minor hurling the following Sunday. Three days later the minors had earned their place in their first ever County final with a thrilling 3-6 to 3-5 win over Clonoulty. Both teams were beaten in subsequent games, our minors by Holy-cross and our u-21 by Clonoulty. Then it was the turn of the Intermediate footballers, who took the title in convincing fashion beating old rivals Grangemockler in the final and eventually losing out to Golden at the county semi-final stage by one goal. There was narrow championship defeats for our junior hurlers, footballers and minor footballers all losing by the single point, in a manner which gives rise to great hope for 1983.

Off the playing fields it was also a very busy year in which our clubrooms were renovated and extended to a luxurious level and the encouraging aspect of this venture is that all the work at the club was carried out on a voluntary basis both by skilled tradesmen and ordinary members who gave their time and efforts willingly. Much thanks is also due to local business people who have supported the club and its teams with generous donations during this hectic year and in the past and to the people of Carrick who have made a huge success of our financial appeals. Largely to thank all these people the club is now in the process of running a trip to London at Easter at very reasonable rates and it all goes to show that a go-ahead club like the Swan has tremendous support from the people of Carrickfor which it is most grateful.



CARRICK SWANS U-21 HURLING TEAM.

Back row (I. to r.): Sean Lonergan, Joe Walsh, Joe Grace, John Waters, Jim Cleary, Michael J. Russell, Bobby Lonergan, Paul Walsh, Michael Faulkner, Bernard Waters, Thomas Waters, Seamus O'Shea. Front row (I. to r.): Kevin Nugent, Michael Roche, Tony Roche, Anthony Waters, Brendan White, Tom Torpey, Tom Dunne, Willie Hahessy, Kenny Shortiss, Photo—Halloway Carrick



CARRICK SWANS MINOR HURLING TEAM

Back row (I. to r.): Seamus Lonergan, Paul Woods, John G. Waters, Michael Hogan, Paul Walsh, William Barrett, Sean Keyes, Nick Daniels, Declan Hahessy, Jim Hogan, Steve Torpey.
Front row (I. to r.): Tom Dunne, Pierce Keane, Kevin O'Shea, Tony O'Neill, Kevin Waters, John Grace, Bobby Lonergan, John Ryan, Paschal McCormack, Martin Walsh, Paschal O'Brien.
Photo—Halloway Carrick



CARRICK SWANS INTERMEDIATE FOOTBALL TEAM

Back row (I. to r.): Dick Lonergan, Pat Kirby, Tony Fitzpatrick, Thomas Waters, Sean Fitzpatrick, Pat Cooney, Paul Walsh, Anthony Waters, Brendan White, David Power, Willie Hahessy.

Front row (I. to r.): John O'Neill, Michael Walsh, Maurice Walsh, Tom Dunne, Gerry Hickey, Gerry Walsh, Tony Roche, Jim Cleary.

Photo-Halloway Carrick

BRIAN O'CALLAGHAN-

An Appreciation

Brian O'Callaghan is dead, that was the simple but dreaded message nobody wanted to hear but everybody especially his family and friends knew was inevitable. The end had come after a prolonged illness borne with the same dignity and determination which was characteristic of him both as a player and friend of our club and in his everyday work in his own profession as a dentist. He was born forty one years ago in Clonmel the town and its people he loved. Son of the famous Hammer throwing Champion Dr Pat who himself had put Ireland on the map as a small nation both at Amsterdam and Los Angeles when he became Olympic Champion on both occasions.

It was little wonder that Brian showed at an early age when attending Clonmel High School his prowess and distinct promise and qualities of leadership both as an athlete and Gaelic footballer. This promise was vindicated at a later stage with his outstanding displays for University College Cork, the Combined Universities, Cork and Tipperary County teams and last but not least his beloved Clonmel Commercials whom he moulded and developed into a winning unit. He developed as Captain a very personal and familylike relationship with each member of the team. He captained U.C.C. to two Cork County titles. He was on the Cork team defeated by Kerry in the Munster final after a replay in 1961 and represented the Combined Universities when they defeated Ireland in a representative game in 1962. He played no less a man than the great Brian Morgan of Down completely out of the game.

Brian qualified as a Dentist in 1963 and returned to play for Tipperary and captained them to many notable victories He then took a greater interest in our Club and was elected Captain in 1964. He was responsible for developing our Senior team into one of the best and most successful senior teams ever to represent our Club winning five County titles in seven years. He guided the Club to two Munster Championship Club finals only to be defeated narrowly on each occasion. He won every other honour available at Club level including a County minor championship in 1955 and nine South Senior Football Championship medals. He was an inspiration to all of us as Captain and was held in high esteem by both players and administrators within the Club. He was a demanding captain, his principles being to obtain a high degree of fitness among players thus ensuring success at an early stage. He was equally adept at athletics and was a former Munster 100 yards schoolboy champion. He secured placings on several occasions in the National



Athletic Championships. He represented Ireland at the Catholic Student games in Louvaine, Belgium in 1958. He was second in the Hammer throwing and third in the shot. Brian also had the distinction of being National Junior Hammer throwing champion but probably his greatest feat was the winning of five events at the U.C.C. Championships in 1962. He won the 100 yards, shot, discus, javelin and long jump, no mean achievement in such exalted company. He was a versatile performer and won an Irish title at Midheavy in the weightlifting championships and was a staunch member of the Clonmel Weightlifting Club for many years.

He was a very simple and practical man in everyday life. This was obvious by the many people who attended his practice at the Clinic and later at Western Road. His personality completely abolished the fear of the dentists chair especially among children and he was always available and willing to help people in need. Brian was a friend of everybody's which was clearly demonstrated by the volume of enquiries for his wellbeing during his illness and also the great number of people who visited him at his home. This, he related to me, was very touching and he deeply appreciated their concern, for him, especially players and people he played hard games against and had hard words

The attendance at the removal of his remains from his house to St Peter and Pauls Church and to his interment in Powerstown bore testimony to the popularity of this great sportsman. He was carried shoulder high to his last resting place by the people he would have wanted, his former team-mates. They also formed a guard of honour on each occasion and the coffin was draped in the Club colours. It was particularly sad to lay to rest such a young man, a great sportsman, a great friend and especially a great family man. We tender sincere sympathy to his father, brothers and sister and to his devoted wife Mary who bore her cross with dignity and patience, something Brian would have been very proud of and to his four young children whose loss to them is incalculable.

Go ndeanad Dia trocaire an a h-anam.

Mick Egan

LATE DAN O'CONNOR, N.T. A Tribu

Just a few months ago the people of Slieveardagh gathered to honour their retiring Principal Teacher, Dan O'Connor, They knew that this man, their leader in so many aspects of life was not well but like his many friends who gathered to honour him that night we little realised that today we would be mourning his passing and noting only too clearly the unbridgeable void left in our midst. Two short weeks of retirement for one who spent his total working life in the service of others, seemed to defy our earthly interpretation of the Lord's ways.

If his classroom days were over, the seeds of education set over the past thirty-two years are still maturing and ever spreading their influence and from the character training and civic example to generations of his pupils and young friends new community leaders will surely rise to follow the footsteps of a

man of Dan's rare calibre.

His life spanned many spheres of influence. Canon Noonan jokingly re-ferred to the other Dan O'Connor he saw at a football match when the Kerry blood in his veins showed us some of the fighting spirit and the will to win and yet enjoy the game that he toiled to instil into his youthful G.A.A. players. It was surely this strength which brought him through the last months of his illness and where many lesser mortals would have "hung up their boots", Dan played

the game to the final whistle. Dan was always a builder of bridges of friendship and an innovator. To the young G.A.A. players under his tutelage he tried to imbue some of the skills of Kerry football and the fire of Tipperary hurling. Only too well he realised the necessity of education for life and so many of his endeavours were connected with the parish organisations that he considered furthered these aims. So many rural parishes can be divided into "little republics" but no man realised the importance of parish unity more than Dan and helped to care for the boys and girls from the four quarters of a large parish like Ballingarry. If he had a fault it was that he didn't know how to say "no" when, as happens in so many organisations, volunteers are slow in coming forward to accept their res-ponsibilities, he always offered his services to ensure the continuity of a

Dan enjoyed rural life and loved to chat with the many characters whose wit enlivens many a dull situation. While always a keen card player, in his later days he took up bridge and with the local experts, he replayed many a game during the following week. He also took up golf late in life and while he won

club or organisation.

MICHAEL O'DONNELL, BALLINGARRY

A Tribute



quite a few competitions he would surely have been, like the natural sportsman he was, a very successful player had he started earlier in life. Dan's tastes in sports were all-embracing and while he took an active interest in other games like the Wasps Rugby Club, his first love was always "hurling and football"

For a man who devoted himself so unsparingly to so many parish and charitable activities we can often overlook his other priorities and if we like to remember him as a sportsman, or a great parish organiser, we must remember him for what he was above all- a wonderful and devoted family man whose life revolved around his wife and children. Parish organisations can select new officers to replace him, however inadequately, but in his family there will always be an unfillable void left by a man whose memories they above all will cherish and relate all their days. To his wife, Sheila, his children Marian, Veronica, Ita, Brendan, Donal and Michael we can only tender our deepest and heartfelt sympathy.

The removal of his remains and his funeral were occasions when the whole parish paid their last and proud tribute to him. The juvenile hurlers honoured him with a guard of honour for the cortege and the pupils of Slieveardagh N.S. lined the churchyard to greet the remains. His surviving teammates from the Ballingarry team of 1951 who won County Honours shouldered his coffin to the church which was thronged to capacity for both ceremonies. Suitable musical tributes were added to the Masses for a man whose life was spent instilling Christian values in the young.

From the Kingdom of Kerry he came to us in Tipperary and it is now our fervent wish and prayer that he is now enjoying the Kingdom prepared for men like him. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam dhilis.

The untimely death of Michael O'Donnell, Ballingarry leaves a void in our midst that only a man of Michael's calibre could fill. Michael was one of the gentle giants of this world whose example gave us all food for thought and new perspectives on living.

Michael met many crosses in life. Most of them would have daunted stronger men and many would have succumbed to self-pity. A brilliant career as a school boy was abruptly ended by illness in his teens which resulted in a long period of hospitalisation and being unable to walk unaided again. Even during those quiet years when Michael was housebound his skills in leatherwork produced many beautiful items such as missal covers with an artistic beauty to match their contents. Behind the frail exterior lay a brilliant mind and a charming personality and if ever one needed an example of courage for the handicapped that surely was Michael O'Donnell.

For one who no longer was able to swing a caman or kick a football, Michael's great love was the promotion of our Gaelic games especially for the juveniles. Many a cold Saturday morning Michael spent on the sideline watching for talent among the young hopefuls and later organising teams and transport and attending to the many unseen duties required for the smooth running of such a programme. With the late Dan O'Connor he combined to help Ballingarry juveniles to weld together many winning combinations from what often seemed unpromising material at the beginning of the season and to instil in these youngsters the true spirit of participation and 'playing the game.'

Michael also gave many years of dedicated service to Ballingarry Senior G.A.A. Club as their Secretary and in this capacity he again worked in his own quiet fashion to promote the interests of his club. One could almost call him a 'non-playing captain' in his work for the teams and it was draped in the colours of this same club that his remains were proudly borne by his colleagues in a fitting tribute to a selfless worker last

Michael's organisational skills were long recognised and he had what would be for many a very late start in regular rapidly progressing to become Office eavement.



Manager of Carroll System Buildings where again his talents and meticulous attention to detail proved a valuable asset to his employers.

Michael lived a full life and enjoyed so many different facets of it. He loved a game of cards and his skill as a Bridge player was widely acknowledged. As with all his other interests he enhanced the game for all he met.

I would like to remember Michael as the quiet Christian who was asked early in life to carry his cross and this he did with a cheerfullness and courage which would shame so many of us who complain over trivialities. His faith meant much to him and he must surely be now reaping the rewards of the faith of those asked to 'Take up your Cross and follow Me'. His helpfullness to so many parish organisations in which he was so actively involved will be sorely missed. It was my privilege and that of all who came into contact with him to know a true Christian, a cheerful giver and above all a shining example of courage. We would like to think that Michael's memory and in-

fluence will long live on in the high ideals he set for all of us in Ballingarry.

To his sisters and brothers we offer employment. This did not stop him from our deepest sympathy in their sad ber-

THE GLORIOUS YEAR OF '49

by Seamus Leahy

Do any of ye remember the year of beating them in the championship. '49? asked the man with the Large Bottle and the Small Glass. Now there was a year for hurling! From county and from clubs we saw hurling the like of which was never seen before and never again. Tipp hurled Cork for two and a half hours only to get through the first round of the Munster championship. Borrisoleigh hurled Holycross for two hours and then had to turn round and do the same against Boherlahan- and that was only getting them out of Mid-Tipp. We had to beat Clare and we had to beat Limerick and by the time we played Laois in the All-Ireland we had the most seasoned set of hurlers in the country. Little wonder that in the next dozen years we won six All-Irelands and nine National Leagues. Them were the days!

Mind you, (he continued) I felt at the start of the year that there were great things in store for us. That's why I decided to put a few pounds together and buy an old Ford Ten that was going cheap- I knew we would have a lot of travelling to do. Holycross had won the county championship the year before and everybody was saying that if we could only give Cork a shake in the League we'd stand a right chance of

After that there would be no stopping of

But we didn't meet them until the League final and we didn't have to travel far to see that because it was played in Thurles— in the month of February. To tell the truth, we didn't have much hope of winning but the word was around that the players themselves were sort of confident and that gave us a bit of confidence too.

By half-time in Thurles the confidence was gone out of us again. Tony Reddan in the goals was stopping bullets and the backs were doing great ground hurling but we had only raised a solitary point against Cork's 1-2. Still, we consoled ourselves with thinking that we would have the wind in the second half and we might do better then.

That's exactly what Tommy Purcell hung onto Christy Ring like a leech and when Sonny Maher lashed the ball to the net our lads began to move like they would move so often afterwards. From that until the end they never let up, but neither did Cork and in the heel of the hunt we were glad to hear the full-time whistle when we were two points ahead.

We were to meet them again in the first round of the championship and things weren't a bit promising. Tommy Purcell was in hospital in Dublin with an illness from which he would never recover and the question was who was going to hold Christy Ring this time. Still, there was fierce hurling among the clubs and some of the old fellows were saving that if the club hurling was that good, the county team would have to be good too: it was only a matter of picking the right

The right men were picked alright and when we saw Tommy Doyle holding Christy Ring scoreless by keeping the ball away from him we knew that this crowd would never die easily. It was a draw that day- that is if you don't count the point that Sonny Maher sent over the bar as the ref was blowing the whistle for a free- and for the next couple of weeks it was nothing only will Tommy Doyle hold Ringey the next day, will Jimmy Kennedy be as accurate again and what sort of eejits were they in Galway that they never made use of Tony Reddan all these years. Every field in the county was full of young lads trying to solo-run like Sean Kenny and take frees like



Winners of the 1949 All-Ireland.

Front Row: P. Leahy, Tommy Ryan, Mick Ryan, Mick Byrnes, Pat Stakelum (Capt., with P. Caplis, mascot),

T. Doyle, Jimmy Kennedy, Jack Ryan. Back Row: Phil Purcell, Flor Coffey, Sean Kenny, Tony Reddan, Phil Shanahan, In. Doyle, Tim Dwyer,

Sonny Maher, Seamus Bannon, Tony Brennan, J. J. Callanan, Gerry Doyle.

Jimmy Kennedy and every pub was full of old fellows trying to steady their nerves for the replay.

It was a blistering hot summer that year. Week followed week with the sun blazing down, rivers dried up, the hay was saved and the spuds and turnips were crying out for rain.

And the hottest day of the lot was the day of the replay. Without a cloud in the sky the sun blazed down all the day long and there was many a one of us sitting under it from eleven in the morning till just six in the evening. "I'll never say a bad word again about that oul paper", I heard a fellow near me saying as he took his sandwiches out of a page of the 'Star' and put the paper over his head.

We all needed more than headgear before the day was out. We baked in the heat like sausages while the lads out on field did their best but couldn't quite catch the Cork fellows. At actual fulltime Cork were ahead and then it was into injury-time and hundreds of Cork supporters were on their way in along the Ennis Road, singing 'The Banks', when Jimmy Kennedy slammed home the equalising goal. And while I'm on the subject let me say that Jimmy Kennedy's display that day was one of the greatest single performances ever seen in a Tipp jersey. Someone said that his hands had been blessed- and they must have been.

Well, we sat in the sun and hoped that the lads wouldn't come out to play extra time. We'd had enough of it for one day and we thought we were doing well to draw. But while we were eating what was left of the sandwiches and wishing the bottles of lemonade were bigger, the Blakes of Coolquill were working a

miracle in the Tipp dressing-room. Nothing had been left to chance, churns of cold water had been brought along, and now the lads were sponged down with water and given a right rubbing with coarse towels.

All this time the Cork team were sitting outside on the grass, their energy draining away in the sunshine, and when our lads came out after the sponging and the rest they were two different teams. Now Cork couldn't hold us and when the ref called it a day just before the Angelus bell rang we were two points ahead. By that time the heat was taking its toll of us all but we still roared ourselves hoarse and when some Corkmen came up to us with a queer story about Tony Reddan's having caught a ball on the rebound from the wooden net-support we didn't bother arguing with them. We could afford to let them complain; we had won where it counted- on the scoreboard.

We were all exhausted physically and mentally and we were thinking of maybe a month's rest before we took to the road again but the very next Sunday we had to play Clare. 'Twas a good job the players were fitter than we were but they beat Clare by seven points and then it was down to Cork to play Limerick in the Munster final.

I remember thinking to myself that day in Cork that it was a good job we had got it so tough in the first round or we wouldn't be able to stand up to Limerick at all. Jackie Power and Dick Stokes and the Cregans— they were terrific and it was a shame we had to beat them. We nearly didn't. Jackie Power— the best man after Christy Ring ever to line out

against the Blue and Gold— was everywhere. One minute he was in his own half and the next he was down in ours like a human tornado. He caught a ball near the middle of the field and he burst up towards our goals until he had only Reddan to beat and he crashed it past him. It's all up, said I to myself, but decency prevailed and Con Murphy disallowed the score because the Limerickman had gone too far with the ball.

Dick Stokes was deadly on the frees but he missed two at a vital time and they were costly misses. Jimmy Kennedy missed nothing for Tipp and with ten points to his credit he was— with Tony Reddan— the hero of the day. I can see Reddan still in the march-round before the match and one of the lads, overcome by the excitement, tearing out to hand him a horse-shoe for luck. Tony took it and from that day onwards he carried the horse-shoe with him. He carried it to three All-Irelands.

The All-Ireland itself after the terrible Munster games was a bit of an anti-climax — if winning an All-Ireland can ever be an anti-climax. Laois may have been handy enough but they were facing a team that had come out of four and a half hours of the toughest hurling seen in Munster for many a year. Styles and Bohane were no match for Sean Kenny and Phil Shanahan at centre-field and Reddan and Jimmy Kennedy were as brilliant as we expected them to be.

We had begun the day by winning the Minor final and when Pat Stakelum held up the McCarthy Cup to give us a good look at it we all knew without a shadow of doubt that we would be seeing a lot of it in the next few years. And we were right. Them were the days!



Michael Frawley cutting the tape at the official opening of Ballina G.A.A. Clubs New grounds accompanied by Club Chairman J. J. McKeogh.

ALL IRELAND 'SEVENS' TITLE FOR FETHARD JUVENILE FOOTBALLERS

August 1982 will be remembered for many a long day in Fethard because in one glorious four days our under 15 juvenile footballers met (and 'bet') the best young players from nearly all the counties in Ireland. The occasion was the New Ireland sponsored All Ireland 7-a-side held yearly in Gormanston College in County Meath. The champions of each county are invited (Fethard qualified by beating a very good Golden team in the Tipp final). The camp also offers coaching and social activities but from the beginning nobody could doubt but that the competing teams looked on the 'sevens' as the main item of the week. Some early wins by Fethard over the Westmeath, Galway and Kildare champions prompted Dublin star Brian Mullins one of the coaches- to more or less 'adopt' the Fethard lads and his encouragement played a great part in raising confidence in the players. Further wins over Limerick and Antrim and a saw the Blues advance to the knockout stages. The key game here was the semi-final against the Kerry boys from famed Dr Crokes Killarney. With typical Kerry confidence the Killarney lads presented Fethard with their greatest possible test. Their goalie was so good that Manager Pat Sheehan gave very early instructions that only the white flag route was to be followed. It was the only game where Fethard failed to score a goal. With only minutes left Fethard had edged two points clear-10 points to Killarneys 2 goals 2 points. The Kerry lads stormed forward in search of the winning third goal. They were met with stern defence and Brian Burkes soaring catch under the crossbar in the dying seconds had the spectators gasping their appreciation. Seconds later Fethard were in the final.

The Artane boys band led the boys from Fethard and their opponents from Kildare in the pre-match parade and morale was high because they had already beaten their opponents in the league section— "a final could be a different kettle of fish though" was the thought in all the supporters minds. Early in the game the Kildare lads pressed forward and an early goal rocked the Tipp lads. Gradually however Brian Burke gained midfield control and Willie O'Mearas 2 goals knocked the heart out of the Kildare boys. Long before the end it



bruising draw with the Down side The Fethard team who won the All-Ireland sevens tournament at the National Finals of Og Sport Gael.

Attical— who literally tried to kick the Back row (left to right): Paddy O'Shea, Assistant Team Manager; Willie O'Meara, Michael O'Riordan, Brian Bourke, Paul Hayes and Pat Sheehan, Team Manager.

Saw the Blues advance to the knock
Front row (left to right): Liam Ryan, Gerry Murphy, Colm Kehoe, Chris Coen, Dermot Hacket and Paul Mullins.

was over as a contest and 14 points separated the teams when the long whistle proclaimed the Fethard boys as All Ireland champions. The presentations by the Minister of Defence and the President of the G.A.A. to the Fethard team provided perhaps the proudest moments in the lives of the small bunch of Fethard supporters who had arrived to support Manager Pat Sheehan and Selector Micky O'Shea. The town of Fethard blazed when these ten young men arrived home with the title. The bonfire welcome marked the seventh title brought to the town by the same players- 2 South titles and 2 County titles at under 14 and the Tipperary and Munster schools championship under 15 when representing their school-Patrician Brothers- truly a memorable feat.

Goalie Michael Riordan, the tall lad had a great tournament particularly with the high ball.

Backs Paul Hayes and Willie O'Meara, both impressive in every game— O'Mearas scoring a vital factor. Midfield Brian Burkes catching and passing, superb all through and Dermot Hacketts hard no nonsense work rate—vital to the team.

Forwards— the smooth running Chris Coen and the hard working Colm Kehoe posed problems for every defence. Colm captained the team.

Paul Mullins came on in a variety of positions and was good in every one. Liam Ryan picked off some neat scores and sub-goalie Gerard Murphy didn't let down the team either.

Their school, parish and club are rightly proud of these lads and when one considers that Clonmel Commercials won a fifteen a side tournament in Cavan this year (under 14) and that Cahir under 16s won a club tournament featuring teams from Offaly and also when one considers the constant good showing of High School Clonmel teams in Munster Colleges championships, one has to say that with proper handling maybe Tipp footballers will be a side to be reckoned with in the not-too-distant future.

CLONMEL COMMERCIALS PROVED TIPP CAN DO IT

by Eamonn Wynne

Clonmel Commercials disproved the claim of one Wicklow mentor that Tipperary could only hurl when they convincingly beat his team to win the group A/B final of the first-ever Féile na nOg u-14 national football tournament at Devlin Park, Killeshandra, on Sunday 11th July. Selected along with twenty one other teams in their group Commercials played six matches to win the trophy, winning five and drawing one, scoring a fabulous total of fourteen goals and twenty nine points in the process and conceding just two goals and sixteen points.

Tipperary football, which had long been considered the poor relation in comparison to the achievements of the county's hurlers, could derive great satisfaction from winning this all-Ireland title. The side won many admirers for its fast exciting and effective football and the sporting manner in which they

achieved victory.

Having won a play-off against Longford to reach the semi-final they beat Ballyshannon (Co. Donegal) by a point at that penultimate stage before going on to the final to defeat a fancied Wicklow

team by ten points.

Commercials, who won the right to take part in the finals by beating Borrisokane in the county decider in June, was one of fifty teams representing twenty one counties in the two day competition. Twenty eight teams took part in the other section, group A/A. Four of their matches were played in the north Cavan village of Bawnboy, where everybody was accorded tremendous and warm hospitality. The semifinal and final were played in Cavan town and Killeshandra respectively, and the trophy and medals were presented to the winning captain, D. J. O'Connell, by the President of the GAA, Mr Paddy

The team had a fairly easy passage in the South division before meeting Thurles on Saturday 19th June in the county semi-final at Boherlahan, where they won quite convincingly. On the same day they travelled to Holycross to take on Borrisokane in the final, and won by 3-5 to 1-1. Once again the team never got the tough game they expected and ran out fairly easy winners in the end. The following is the panel of players which was on duty on that day- Criostóir McGrath, Ger Kinsella, Stephen O'Flynn, John McCarthy, Jim Harvey, Pádraig Kavanagh, Ger O'Mahoney, D. J. O'Connell, Stefan Foley, Ger Deeley, David O'Donnell, David Gerrard, Niall Crotty, Declan Ryan, David Hickey, Kevin Blanche, Gary Gunne, John Coyne, Eddie Anderson, Ger English, Michael Walsh and Seamus Lonergan.



Clonmel Commercials U-14s who won the group A/B final of the Feile na nOg National Football Tournament in Cavan last July.

Back row, I. to r.: Brett McGrath, Padraig Kavanagh, Jim Harvey, Criostoir McGrath, D. J. O'Connell, John McCarthy, Michael Walsh.

Middle row, I. to r.: Stephen O'Flynn, John Coyne, Declan Ryan, Michael Connellan, Ger O'Mahoney, Ger Hall. Front, I. to r.: Timmy Hally, Niall Crotty, Ger Deeley, David Gerrard. Absent from photo. were Ger Kinsella, Stefan Foley, David O'Donnell and David Hickey.

Photo-Boland Clonmel

The victory trail in Cavan began in Bawnboy where Commercials defeated the local side representing the parish of Templeport by 4-6 to 0-1. In a close and exciting second match they drew with Longford on the score of 1-3 all, then with the prospect looming of a play-off match against that county they beat another Cavan team, Kildallon, by the exact same scoreline which had carried them through their first game. In that play-off against Longford the team played well to win by 1-6 to 0-5 with David Hickey, D. J. O'Connell, Ger Kinsella and David O'Donnell standing out.

The Clonmel group left Bawnboy on Sunday morning for Cavan, where a youth mass was attended by all fifty one teams in the Cathedral of Saints Patrick and Felim. After the mass, celebrated by the Bishop of Kilmore, Most Rev. Dr F. J. McKiernan, the teams and various youth bands from all over the country paraded through the streets of the town to Breffni Park, where all the teams assembled on the pitch.

President's Address

In his address the President of the Association, Mr Paddy Buggy, said that the Féile na nOg competition was more important than the senior championship matches taking place on the same day,

as the future of the sport lay in this sort of competition. He hoped that the better and more positive aspects of youth, as represented in the Féile would be publicised instead of the usual long line of complaints and problems synonymous with young people.

It was then onto Tyrconnell Park. a mile or so from Breffni Park, to play Ballyshannon in the semi-final. The team turned in its most sluggish performance of the tournament in this match, and were grateful to scrape through by a point against a lively and very well balanced Donegal team. The final score was 1-4 to 1-3.

The final was played at Devlin Park, Killeshandra, the town famed in song by the Wolfe Tones, after the senior football tournament tie between Cavan and Longford, which the home side won rather easily. In the u-14 final Wicklow settled more quickly than the Clonmel team and raced into a two point lead, a healthy start in a match of just a half an hour's duration. Commercials fought back well, however, and stunned the many supporters for the Leinster team with two quick goals. In the second half they decided that defence was the best form of attack, and gave a footballing display of a very high standard to further stretch their lead.

D. J. O'Connell played a real captain's role, driving forward strongly from centre field, while Ger O'Mahoney, Pádraig Kavanagh, Niall Crotty, Ger Deeley and Jim Harvey also played their part. Then Declan Ryan tied it up for Commercials with a fine goal towards the end, and the final score was 3-4 to

The jubilant Clonmel team returned to Bawnboy and were given a fantastic reception. The cup was filled, songs were sung and in general a great time was had by all. They left for home that night and arrived in Clonmel in the

early hours of the morning, maybe a O'Flynn, Michael Connellan, Jim Harvey, little tired and drained, but more especially with an overwhelming feeling of sheer delight.

The strength in depth of the panel was a major reason why the team won the competition, as they had six capable substitutes on the sideline who would not have taken from the overall strength of the team had they been introduced. The following was the complete panel of players which travelled to Cavan-Criostoir McGrath, Ger Kinsella, Stephen

John McCarthy, Ger O'Mahoney, Michael Walsh, Brett McGrath, John Coyne, Stefan Foley, Pádraig Kavanagh, David O'Donnell, Ger Deeley, D. J. O'Connell, Ger Hall, Niall Crotty, Declan Ryan, Timmy Hally, David Hickey and David Gerrard.

George Pyke, Joe Mac Namara and Eamonn Wynne travelled to Cavan with the team.

COMMERCIALS BRIDGE AN ELEVEN YEAR GAP

by John McNamara

To followers of the G.A.A. in Tipperary _stage of the County Championship. the year 1971 has a special significance. This was the year that Tipperary last won the senior hurling All Ireland, To the followers of the Commercials Football Club it was also the last year the club had won the County Senior Championship.

Now, thanks to a very dedicated bunch of young men the threatened breakthrough of the last few years was achieved. Most of the present panel are too young to remember such stalwarths as the late Brian O'Callaghan, Mick Egan, Tom Pollard, Michael O'Connell, Jimmy Hewitt and Pat O'Sullivan when the 1971 county title was achieved over our then arch rivals, Ardfinnan, in a hectic game at Clonmel sportsfield.

Enough of the past and so to 1982. Hopes were high before the draw was made that the semi-final defeats of recent years would not, once again, be one downfall. Having received a bye to the last sixteen, we were drawn against Cahir- played at Kilsheelan we won handsomely on a score line 1-14 to 1-5.

Ardfinnan, as usual, proved tough opposition at quarter final stage. We suffered a big blow when Seamie O'Neill was unable to field for the 2nd half, but nevertheless ran out convincing winners by 1-9 to 0-6.

A semi-final date with Loughmore now awaited us. Too often in recent and not so recent years we had suffered defeat at the hands of Loughmore at this

Determination was the key word when we turned out against them at Thurles on Sunday 29th August, Missing captain Paudie O'Neill and in weather conditions that were unsuited to our footballing team, we were happy, as were Loughmore, to come away with a draw on a score line Commercials 1-3 v Loughmore 0-6. Neither side were given time to draw their breath with the replay being re-fixed against the wishes of both clubs for Saturday 4th September- again at Thurles. Unfortunately on this occasion we were short the services of Gene Mc-Grath, however this was offset by the return of Paudie O'Neill. In a cliffhanger we made all the running and despite the fact that Loughmore came back and drew level with about 10 minutes to go we pulled away and eventually won: 0-8 to 0-6.

Thus we qualified for our 1st final in eleven years against our defeated opponents of last years South final-Fethard, played in Kilsheelan on Sunday 12th September before a large crowd of football followers. Referee: George Ryan, Lattin.

A Perfect Day

Conditions were perfect- sunshine, slight wind, the pitch in tip top shape. and the atmosphere alive with excitement. We opened as if we would win convincingly leading at half time 1-2 to 0-1, having played against the fresh

wind. It seemed as if the 2nd half would be a formality.

The Fethard fifteen had other ideas and rallied to draw level mid way through the 2nd half. Once again the fighting qualities of our players came through and we won 2-3 to 1-2.

All our players were heroes but special tribute must be paid to Paudie O'Neill who indeed played a captains role. At long last we had achieved our goal, the challenge games, training and sacrifices made throught the year had

A County title at any time is very welcome but for such a young team as ours to come through augurs well for the future of the Club.

We have at the time of writing a Munster Club Championship engagement with Stradbally (Waterford) at Stradbally and if successful a home meeting with the Kerry County Champions. Thus we have every possible incentive to play for. The successful County final team:

MI Hanly, Hugh Daly, Paudie O'Neill, Mark O'Connell, Ben Kane, Seamie O'Neill, Michael Lynch, MI Boland, Sean Lonergan, Donal O'Keeffe, Owen Sinnott, Philip Johnson, Felix Kavanagh, Gene McGrath, Franny Kelly.

Subs: Willie Peters for P. Johnson, Joe McNamara for F. Kavanagh, also Pat Redmond, Frank Farrell, Tari O'Neill, Michael Friday and Sean Mc-Mahon.

A HISTORIC YEAR FOR ST AUGUSTINES

by Sean O Nuinseain

1982 will long be remembered by the hurlers of Fethard and Kilsheelan as the year of the big breakthrough in Senior hurling. The winning of the South senior hurling title was the culmination of many years of dedicated effort by both clubs and was a reward richly deserved by both the players and team mentors alike.

Over the past 20 years a tradition of amalgamation between Fethard and Kilsheelan in minor and under 21 football and hurling and senior hurling had been built up. And while success had been achieved at under age football level, the winning of the senior hurling title was the one championship that seemed to elude us. There was no reason to expect that 1982 was going to be any better, in the early part of the year there was a doubt about whether the group team would go ahead. Those problems were overcome and the first game against Carrick Davins gave promise of what was to come with a 4 point victory. The next game against 1981 champions St Marys was a shattering blow to morale.

St Marys inflicted a heavy defeat and the team was shown up in nearly every quarter. Picking up the pieces was not easy but this St Augustines did. A win over Cahir/Fr Sheehys a loss to Eire Og a draw with Carrick Swan and a narrow victory over Ballingarry all combined to put St Augustines through to the South semi final.

The semi final was to provide the real test of St Augustines worth, with Ballingarry providing the opposition and a final spot at stake, the hurling was fast and furious and scores were level at half time, playing brilliant hurling in the second half St Augustines went on to a fine victory. St Marys had won the other semi final beating Carrick Swan and so the scene was set for a final meeting between the 1981 champions St Marys and St Augustines bidding to make history.

The venue for the final was that home of hurling in South Tipperary — Carrick. Very few gave St Augustines a chance of causing a surprise, but what a day of surprises it was to be. St Augustines took

the initiative from an early stage and went on to a resounding victory and when team captain Pat Larkin accepted the Cup from South Board Chairman Mick Egan the scenes of joy and jubilation witnessed, will live long in the memory of players and supporters alike. A triumph indeed for dedication by all the players on the panel and a just reward for the 5 selectors who masterminded this historic victory. The selectorswere Rev Fr Ray Reidy, Joe Ahearne, John Keyes, John Donovan and Michael Keane.

Minor Football Champions

To put the icing on the cake for St Augustines the minor footballers captured the South title with a wonderful victory over Carrick Swan in what was one of the best minor finals in the division for years. This fine win was also the result of great commitment from the players all through the championship plus the excellent work of the selectors in keeping the players organised and on their toes throughout the campaign.



ST AUGUSTINES SOUTH SENIOR HURLING CHAMPIONS

Front row, left to right: Liam McCarthy, Peter Moore, Jim Downes, A. B. Kennedy, Pat Larkin (captain), Sean Nugent, Pat O'Neill, Dave Morrissey, Pakie Harrington, John Larkin, Liam Corcoran, Michael Keane (Selector).

Back row, left to right: Joe Ahearne (selector), John Kehoe, Noel Byrne, Mutt Cahill, Jim McGrath, Maurice Harrington, Davy Fitzgerald, Gerry Kehoe, Stephen McCormick, Jim Kehoe, Cyril Robinson, William Robinson, Michael Kehoe, Liam Stokes, John Donovan (selector); Mascot: Liam Robinson.

THE WESTERN HIGHLIGHTS

by J. J. Kennedy

when we adopt a certain philosophic outlook and ponder over the events of the past, sometimes with relish, sometimes with distaste, and muse over the highlights, the valleys and peaks, the have-beens and the might have beens etc. and take a certain pleasure in reflection. So it is with the G.A.A. that we once again remember the fast declining year and highlight its events of note. Each club in the West had its memorable and its forgettable events and incidents over the past twelve months and we hope that this review will contain something of interest for all as we assign to history the year 1982.

The year just gone heralded some notable changes for the West division. Out went secretary of five years Roger Kennedy and chairman for the previous three years George Ryan; the one at the dictate of the bye-law and the other as a result of personal choice. In came the Arravale Rovers duo of Jerry Ring as secretary and Michael Ryan as chairman and with little other alteration the work of another year began.

Senior Hurling

The prestige championship is always the senior hurling and for 1982 a total of eight teams challenged for Eire Og's title; the combo's of Solohead/Lattin and Golden/Arravale joining the more usual entries of Cashel, Sean Treacys, Eire Og, Kickhams, Cappawhite and Clonoulty. With Eire Og and Sean Treacys emerging as finalists we concentrate our review on their respective passages to the ultimate stage. For champions Eire Og the draw favourably set them against the

The end of a year is always a time combined forces of Golden and Arravale rovers in the initial round. However it proved anything but an easy passage and it took second half goals by Pat Fox to settle the issue and give the defending champions an eight point victory in a midweek game played at Dundrum, For Sean Treacys the draw once again set them against Cappawhite in the first round. They had met so often in previous years that interest was keen and expectations high at Sean Treacy Park on the 9th May. Cappa' were probably slightly favourites on this occasion and with Theo English directing training operations they looked set to repeat their previous years defeat of the men from the Mountains. But once again in typical fashion the Treacys introduced Dinny Ryan for the second half to strengthen their defence and the Careyinspired attack did the trick at the other end but only by the smallest of margins.

> So to the semi-finals Treacys versus Cashel and Eire Og versus Kickhams. First on the list in late June was the Treacy-Cashel game which was to test the real quality of Treacys revival after the previous years difficulties. Even in their glory days of the seventies Treacys could never claim to have beaten Cashel and the memory of the '80 final was still fresh enough to elicit Herculean efforts on this occasion. Well, for much of the hour the game tottered on the brink of indecision and Cashel, with a very youthful team, had their chances but it was the old dog for the hard road and Treacys survived by a point to qualify for another West final. Eire Og meanwhile had their annual tilt with Kickhams in the other semi. It proved

as close as all previous encounters but it also maintained the trend which kept Eire Og dominance and booked their place in the final by a three point margin.

The final itself was probably not the

most memorable but it remained close enough for the hour. Treacys were prematch favourites but few were in any doubt as to the fighting quality of Eire Og- they had also been underdogs the previous year but had emerged victorious. Would the Eire Og defence be able to cope with a formidable Treacy attack that had John Carey back to his best, Donie Carey of known ability, Dickie Browne a useful stylist and Pat Quigley to convert all frees? Similarly would the Annacarty attack be of adequate quality and steel to pierce a stubborn Treacy defence?- their scoring to date had been unimpressive. Well, it all started very rosy for Eire Og with a quick goal from a Gerry O'Dwyer free but as the dust began to settle so did Treacys and John Carey and company begin to wear a path to the Eire Og goal, By half time they were six up and looking excellent value for it but thankfully for the sake of the game they never waltzed away with victory. Eire Og kept to the task as any team of value would but the goal they needed just would not come and the title was surrendered by a three point margin.

Old Vintage

It was vintage Treacy stuff. The old spark of passion had been rekindled. the zest and fury had returned, victory had sharpened confidence and appetite and the Careys, Quigleys, Ryans and company were back in business. St Marys



Michael Ryan presents the Tony Brennan Cup to T. J. Ryan, Clonoulty.



Michael Ryan presents West Senior Hurling Trophy to Pat Quigly.

Photo-O'Brien Tipperary



THE CAPPAWHITE TEAM WHICH WERE DEFEATED IN THE COUNTY JUNIOR FINAL



CLONOULTY MINOR HURLING TEAM



CLONOULTY-ROSSMORE WEST TIPPERARY U-21 CHAMPIONS AND COUNTY FINALISTS Photo-Meehan Cashel



KNOCKAVILLA KICKHAMS 1982 TEAM



SEAN TREACY'S 1982 TEAM

from the South discovered just how much they had recovered as Treacys ended any ambition the Southern runners-up might have of advancing to a county title and indeed Roscrea were lucky to escape victorious from the Treacy onslought. A memorable year for the people of Hollyford, Kiocommon, Rearcross and surrounds and who would have the folly to dismiss them for the future.

Minor Hurling

For the previous two years the West had produced the county champions at minor level and not surprisingly therefore this championship again attracted much interest. As in previous years it was organised on a two group basis with the 'B' winners joining the top three of group 'A' in the semi-finals. Kickhams qualified as champions of the lesser group and found themselves faced with county champions Clonoulty in the semi. There was little love lost between these two during the year and this game proved a close dour affair to the end with the champions just edging out the challengers by two points in a hectic finish. The other semi-final brought together county champions of two years ago, Cashel, and Lattin/Emly at Bansha in July. The previous year at the same stage the combo' had been most unlucky to go under to Cashel and on this occasion they were in no mood for a repeat. With Michael 'Toddler' Corcoran lording it at centre back and Cashel with goalie problems the Lattin/Emly lads swept to a memorable victory by six points.

The final, as is proper for a minor final, was the curtain raiser to the senior final at Emly on 25th July. Clonoulty as county champions were favourites and when it became known that 'Toddler' was out following a midweek accident they became strong favourites. However there was a theory that the champions were a far cry from the force of the previous year and indeed thus it proved. The game was far short of the excellence of the two previous finals and had it not been for a hectic finish would have been decidedly dull. Fortunes swayed and the goals came with the challengers putting up one whale of a battle and very nearly snatching a dramatic winner. It was Clonoulty substitute Tom Kennedy who got the winning point and it was their goalie Paddy Burke who made the save of the game in the last seconds to ensure victory. Many scores had come softly to both sides and those who argue that a

draw was more justified have a legitimate point. However Clonoulty were probably the more balanced team overall and would have been unlouky to lose.

In the county semi-final they met Southern champions Carrick Swans and went under by a single point. However the past two years have been glorious ones for Clonoulty at minor level and such success is sure to transfer itself to higher grades in the years ahead.

Intermediate Hurling

The story of the West's Intermediate hurling championship of 1982 is a story of one game- there being only two Intermediate teams in the division. Even in the past when there were more teams to contest the championship the final invariably ended up between Golden and Solohead. And as often as the two have met so often has the title changed hands; '82 was no exception. Played at Dundrum in September Golden ousted defending champions Solohead by a very comfortable six point margin to regain the title they had dramatically lost a year previously by a single point to the same opposition. The game itself was unimpressive. Golden led by a mere three points at the break after playing with the wind but two quick goals in the second half finished the game as a contest. Solohead did get two goals back but apart from the sharp-shooting of T. J. Riordan they were never really in it. The county semi-final saw Golden bring off a fine victory against Southern representatives Fethard but the county final is so very forgettable from a Western point of view. Borrisokane proved a class apart and Golden were on the receiving end of a terrible trouncing. What of the future of this championship in the West? One is unsure but it can hardly remain in its present format and we may have seen the last Intermediate final for some time.

Junior Hurling

No fewer than fourteen teams affiliated for the West Junior hurling championship and it being a league competition they were divided into three groups- two with five teams and one with four. Group C with four teams was eventually reduced to three with the suspension of Rosegreen. Group B winners got a bye to the final with A and C winners contesting a semi. Arravale rovers got through to the semi without much difficulty as group C winners in the absence of Rosegreen but the other groups were less decisive. In group B Kickhams and Cashel had to meet the second time before the former emerged as group winners to contest the final. Group A provided a real tangle for some time; Treacys, Cappa' and Emly all ended level on points before Cappa' finally got through to the semi-final after the play-off. There they met Arravale rovers and after an initial draw won their way to the final against Kickhams.

Kickhams were probably favourites to

retain the title in a game that was played in Clonoulty but John Kelly and his men had other ideas and with the boost of Austin Buckley- eligible for regrading because he did not play senior this yearthey pulled off a memorable victory. And they will hardly complain that any good fortune on the day fell their way; it had been a victory against the odds and a fully deserved one at that. As a club Cappa' usually have more than their fair share of hard luck stories and for that reason this title must have been a sweet one indeed. They had many heroes throughout the campaign from the Buckleys in defence- Michael and Noel - to their namesakes Austin and Paul further afield to the Barrys, Eddie Costello, the Coughlans and of course exinter county player John Kelly. It had been a tough campaign from their initial defeat by Treacys way back in April through to their sweet revenge in September in the play-off and culminating in their fine win in the decider.

to lower the colours of Moyle rovers from the South and at printing time are awaiting their county final opponents.

Fine U-21 Fare

Traditionally the U-21 hurling championship has provided some of the finest fare not just in the West but in the county in general. With Tipperary's remarkable record in this championship in recent years not surprisingly much interest has been focussed on the competition within the county. The year just past in the West will certainly be remembered for the fine games played in the U-21 grade with the likes of Clonoulty v Cashel, Clonoulty v Cappa' Eire Og and Clonoulty v Kickhams being the highlights. Clonoulty/Rossmore had been surprise champions the previous year but all were aware that it was going to take their best to retain the title this time. Kickhams as minor champions of three years previous had a strong claim

Since then they went on of course and few were prepared to dismiss Cappa' Eire Og either, Add in Cashel to the list, since they are always a strong presence in these competitions, and you had the making of a top class championship. That exactly was how it emerged. Back in early July the first real test of Clonoulty dominance was seen at Golden when Cashel were the opposition. As minor county champions of two years previous the King Cormacs had every right to feel confident that they could match the title holders. In retrospect it proved Clonoulty's sternest challenge and was a tribute to the standard of this competition in the division. In the end after a mighty struggle the champs nosed ahead by a single point and were indeed relieved to hear the final blast of the refs whistle. But it was a tough draw all the way for Clonoulty who now had to combat the united forces of Cappawhite and Eire Og before reaching the final. In a somewhat rushed game to meet county deadlines this pair met at



GOLDEN/KILFEAKLE WINNERS OF THE COUNTY INTERMEDIATE FOOTBALL TITLE FOR THE FIRST TIME.



LATTIN-CULLEN WEST SENIOR FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS 1982 Front row (I. to r.): Pat Greene, Pa O'Halloran, Tom Morrissey, Nichlaus English, Jody Morrissey captain, Eamonn Buckley, N. Hassett, M. Martin, B. O'Brien, MI McGuire selector.

Back row, I. to r.: T. Burns selector, T. Crotty, A. Byrnes, J. Glasheen, S. O'Donoghue, N. Ryan, J. Moloney, E. Byrnes, Phil Ryan, M. Burns, E. Daly, T. Heffernan, G. Ryan selector. Sitting on ground: T. O'Halloran, G. McGuire, P. McGuire,



GOLDEN/KILFEACLE U-16 FOOTBALLERS— WEST CHAMPIONS

Back (I. to r.): P. J. Collins (trainer), Niall Williams, P. J. McLoughlin, Tony Cooney, Tomas Leamy, Brian Leamy, Kevin Ryan, Niall Fogarty, Paul Kennedy, Kevin Landy, John McLoughlin.

Front row (I. to r.): John O'Connell, David Fogarty, Philip McLoughlin, James Hallissey, Frankie Ryan (captain), Donie Crosse, Brendan Ryan, Andy Moloney, J. J. Fogarty.

Photo— Meehan Cashel



GOLDEN/KILFEACLE WEST & COUNTY INTERMEDIATE FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS

Back row: Ger Cooney, Jimmy O'Donnell, Billy Touhy, P. J. Collins, John Byrnes, Seamus Currivan, Morty O'Connell,
Pat Bargary, Liam O'Sullivan, Eoin Ryan, John Ryan, Michael O'Donnell, Jimmy Wade, Thos Wade.

Front row: Jim O'Connell, Eamonn O'Donnell, John Leamy, Liam Walsh (captain), John Cooney, David Williams,
Philip Bargary, Tom O'Donnell. Absent from photo: Willie Bargary and Johnny Looby.

Dundrum at midweek and if a six point win for the champions looks comfortable it does little justice to the combo. It was a rip-roaring game with scores galore and a late second half surge by the challengers very nearly yielding dividends.

So to the final where Kickhams after a relatively easy passage provided the opposition. This mid-August game in Golden proved all it had promised with a hectic game of thrills and drama for the patrons to relish. A memorable start by Kickhams laid the basis for their half time lead of one goal but in the second half their hopes were dashed by a Clonoulty blitz which yielded three goals and one point. T. J. Ryan was the man to launch the offensive from centre forward and after scoring two of the goals he was also at the centre of the third and thereafter Kickhams struggled to remain in contention. From defence out Clonoulty proved a superior outfit and will long delight in what was a memorable and brilliant victory.

The county semi-final also saw Clonoulty produce something special to reach the final. This time they slipped behind by twelve points before staging a remarkable recovery to snatch victory. And in the final against Eire Og, Nenagh, the dramatic was also part of their game. Again that man T. J. Ryan was the player to crash home a surprise goal in the last seconds to grab a draw when the kingpins looked safe with another title. And that is as far the story has come at printing time with the replay still to come and Clonoulty no doubt hoping to go one better.

Crosco Cup

Rounding off our review of the hurling year in the division is a word on the Crosco Cup. This league competition qualifies the winners for a place in the county quarter finals which gives it added prestige. Well Kickhams and Cappawhite won their respective

ways through to the decider as winners of their groups and both were seeking some compensation for championship failure. However as so often with Cappa' things just fell to pieces on the big day.

They trailed by ten points to nil at half time after facing the wind but in the second half they did only marginally better and ended up thirteen points to five losers after a lifeless drab one-sided game. Kickhams to their credit had recovered from their championship elimination in very short time and showed the type of commitment that would have seen them fare better against Eire Og if they had played like that. They had patiently taken their points in the first half and defended stoutly in the second to deprive Cappa'. To crown Kickhams achievement they went on to eliminate Southern champions St Augustines in the county quarter final only to bow out in the semi to eventual county champions Moycarkey.

FOOTBALL

Senior Football

The state of football in the county may be low and the big ball may be the poor relation with officialdom and patrons alike but for some clubs it represents their primary interest and recognition is due for their achievements during the year just past. The West's senior football championship to decide the successors to Arravale rovers' crown attracted seven teams last year. Way back on the 18th April the first rounds saw Cappa', Solohead, and Golden/Rockwell advance to the semi-final stage. Cappa' had made a dramatic second half recovery to oust Cashel by one point; Solohead had sweet revenge in dethroning Arravale- their victors in the final the previous year- by a two point margin; and Golden/Rockwell with surprising ease eliminated county champions of the previous years Galtee rovers. Together with Lattin/Cullen who had a bye in the first round, these made up the semifinal quartet. In the first semi Lattin/ Cullen faced Solohead and taking maximum advantage of the oppositions inability to score they booked their place in the final by a five point margin. The other semi-final was a real ding-dong affair between Cappawhite and Golden/ Rockwell which took two and a half hours to sort out. In the end Cappa' perseverance paid off and they edged out the combo' by a mere two points after a marathon struggle. The final was played at Bansha in late August and provided quite an entertaining hours football for the small attendance. The game may have been low scoring but for all that had plenty of excitement right to the last second. In fact the issue was only decided in those last moments. Cappa' had won the half territorially but could merely manage to draw level and were caught in the final seconds by a Lattin counter attack. First Nicklaus English pointed a '45' and then to clinch the issue Jody Morrissey cracked in a goal to send a stunned Cappa' home bewildered. It was a victory that owed much to perseverance and in bridging an eleven year gap by taking this title Lattin/ Cullen proved themselves to be still a major football force. Alas for Cappa'another final, another frustrating defeat.

Intermediate Football

Few I am sure will quibble if I list the Intermediate Football championship of the division as one of the best in any grade. What other grade can boast so many fine games, so many close results and in the end a table that needed the very last game to decide the finalists. Surely one important component of any great competition is that no one team races ahead of the rest and that any of a number of teams have a very real chance of reaching the final. It would have taken a wise man indeed to predict who the finalists of this c'ship were going to be at any particular time. To emphasise the fact Golden got to the final with three

draws and a win in a play-off with Aherlow- indeed the play-off had to go to a replay also to decide who would qualify. One can remember a list of fine games from this competition as teams of the calibre of Aherlow, Rockwell, Golden and Emly vied for final places. In the end outgoing champions Rockwell failed to make it and Emly and Golden it was who faced each other in the final showdown. If it had been a hectic championship the weather showed little appreciation and that the final was played at all on 3rd October is something approaching the miraculous. Conditions were the worst that have been seen for any game for some time but yet the two teams went out and actually succeeded in playing football. Golden's position might not have appeared too healthy at half time but a second half Eoin Ryan goal set them on their way to recording a truly memorable double in the Intermediate Grade. Quite fittingly the veteran of the bunch Liam Walsh was the captain who collected the trophy at the end of a dour struggle in the mud and mire.

In the inter-divisional series Golden went on to oust Carrick Swans in the semi-final and at writing time await their final opponents.

Junior Football

To contest Kickhams title in junior football there was a large entry of teams in the West- the competition being run on a knock-out basis. Arravale rovers and Cashel finally made it to the decider in late September. The journey to the final had been easier for Cashel- in fact they only won one game to reach the decider. Their first round match had been against their 'other half' Rosegreen and even though it ended in a five point apiece draw the Rosegreen suspension gave Cashel the game. They had a bye in the second round and made the final by beating Cappawhite in the semi. For Arravale the draw was much less kind. Solohead, Galtee rovers and Clonoulty had all to be beaten before they emerged as finalists. The final itself is a tale of missed chances by Arravale rovers and good defence by Cashel which gave them a four point win. It represents compensation in yet another bleak year for the Cashel club who are finding the hurling field a barren place in latter years. Success did not follow outside the division with elimination at the hands of Killenaule in the semi-final.

U-21 Football

The u-21 football championship had nine entries to contest the title which Cappa' Eire Og captured the previous year. Kickhams with wins over Galtee rovers and Golden/Rockwell and Lattin/ Emly with victories over Solohead/ Aherlow and Cappa' Eire Og were the ultimate finalists. Played in unattractive conditions at Lisvernane the game produced its own form of the unattractive and will be remembered for reasons less laudable than its football. The Combo' had already captured the county minor title and made it a divisional double by a very comprehensive thirteen point margin. The football may have been understandably low but there was little disputing the merits of the Lattin/Emly victory. At printing time they have not played in the inter-divisional series.

Conclusion

The other major championship of the division was the minor football in which Lattin/Emly took not just the divisional but also the county title. Their praises will be written elsewhere and so we make no comment here. Of the lesser championships in the division two still await completion at writing time. In the O'Donoghue Cup (S.F. League) Arravale rovers and Golden/Rockwell must play a semi-final with the winners meeting Cappawhite in the final. While in the Junior football league Emly and Kickhams must play in a semi-final with the winners meeting Rockwell rovers in the decider

WEST TIPPERARY CHAMPIONSHIP **RESULTS FOR 1982**

Senior Hurling: Sean Treacys 1-15 Eire Og 1-12.

Referee Paddy Lonergan (Bansha) Senior Football: Lattin/Cullen 2-3

Cappawhite 0-5.

Referee Sammy Ryan (Golden). Intermediate Hurling: Golden 2-13

Solohead 2-7.

Referee Willie Morrissey (Kickhams) Intermediate Football: Golden 1-5

Emly 0-3.

Referee John Moloney (Bansha)

Junior Hurling: Cappawhite 2-12

Kickhams 1-12.

Referee Paddy Russell (Emly)

Junior Football: Cashel K.C. 0-8

Arravale rovers 1-1.

Referee Paddy Russell (Emly)

Minor Hurling: Clonoulty/Rossmore 3-7,

Lattin/Emly 3-6,

Referee John Moloney (Bansha)

Minor Football: Lattin/Emly 3-18,

Solohead/Aherlow 0-2,

Referee Martin Quinn (Bansha)

U-21 Hurling: Clonoulty/Rossmore 4-10,

Kickhams 3-6

Referee George Ryan (Lattin).

U-21 Football: Lattin/Emly 3-10,

Kickhams 1-3,

Referee Tom Meehan (Cashel).

Crosco Cup: Kickhams 0-13,

Cappawhite 0-5,

Referee Liam O'Dwyer (Eire Og).

The O'Donoghue Cup (S.F. League) and Junior Football League competitions are not completed as we go to press.

A JUVENILE BONANZA FOR KICKHAMS

by J. J. Kennedy

If Juvenile success is ever a gauge of a clubs future prospects then the Knockavilla-Donaskeigh Kickham club in West Tipperary must surely have bright things ahead. For a club that has a very proud past 1982 will go down in its annals as the year in which its Juveniles 'swept the boards' in a hurling sense in the West division with all the divisions Bord na nOg titles in hurling returning to the parish. Champions in u-12 hurling, champions in u-14 hurling (rural and urban/ rural), champions in u-16 hurling, plus for good measure champions in u-14 football (rural) and 'B' champions in u-12 football; a proud and enviable record and a truly notable tribute to one of the countys most dynamic clubs at Juvenile level.

But behind the litany of titles lies a tale of dedication and commitment, of nights of hard slog at training and games, of valuable time and effort gratefully given, of many precious gallons of petrol willingly sacrificed, of frustration and anxiety endured, but always at the end the prize that made the effort worthwhile. Few clubs can boast a comparable organisation and commitment at Juvenile level which begins at primary school and is continued by the officers and selectors of the Juvenile club. Theirs is a story of merited success and like the image of spring following winter with such a pool of emerging talent can greater success be far behind? Senior success may be eluding the club as it has for over twenty years but with such a "Mol an Oige. . motto the future seems assured and merely awaits time to see such efforts come to fruition.

The u-16s

As the 'seniors' of the Juvenile section the u-16 victory was in some ways the most valuable and therefore the most cherished. Starting their campaign in late July these lads swept to the divisional decider within a month without a major hitch. Cappawhite, Cashel, Golden, Arravale Rovers and Clonoulty all fell to heavy defeats with Golden coming off best with a ten point defeat in this league competition. With all opposition ruthlessly demolished and an incredible total of 36 goals and 40 points notched up in the process their final scheduled game against Emly was unnecessary because both clubs were already safely in the final. The final show-down to decide the Western champions was played at Sean Treacy Park in late August and what an encounter it proved to be. If Kickhams had strolled to the final then Emly were certainly in no mood to surrender easily at the last stage and fittingly this was the

made all the sweeter by its manner of accomplishment and it would be cruel to praise some and exclude others because truly it was a team effort with all having their moments of individual glory.

A total panel of 25 players embarked on the campaign and significatnly virtually all played at some stage. Significantly also 14 of that panel are members of Cashel C.B.S. teams and central to the present prominance of that school in hurling circles. The team played friendly games with the likes of James Stephens (Kilkenny), Doon C.B.S. and Cashel C.B.S. during the season and at the time we go to press they have qualified for the county decider after a memorable victory over Carrick Davins in the semi-final. Whatever their fortune against Nenagh in the final they have made '82 memorable and will no doubt go on to achieve greater things in the years ahead.

The U-14s

Most people associated with Bord na nOg games in West Tipperary if asked about the greatest moments in 1982 would undoubtedly include the two u-14 hurling finals- Rural and Urban/ Rural, Kickhams and Cappawhite contested both and while the records will merely show that Kickhams won the two they will tell little of the excitement and brilliance of these games. For weeks after people raved about these games; the overall and obviously decisive balance of Kickhams against the determination of a Cappawhite spearheaded by the brilliance of a youngster called Lar Clearywho won the Juvenile All Ireland poc fada competition. These were games to overshadow all else with the pure silky skills displayed at their uninhibited best.

The finals were the culmination of a first class competition in which Kickhams were paired with the likes of Clonoulty, Golden and Cashel and had to fight some rare old battles to get to both deciders. Regrettably perhaps success did not follow outside the division but who can say they let anyone down. In the rural county semi-final they bowed out to a very strong Toomevara team and in the urban/rural an equally powerful Durlas Og team put them out.

But these lads did not confine their talent to hurling and could so easily have won both football titles also. In the urban/rural competition they were beaten by eventual county champions Arravale Rovers but in the rural they made amends and proved better than Clonoulty in the divisional decider. Came the county semifinal and luck was certainly not on their side as they bowed out to Moyle Rovers by a one point margin. But who will quibble with three divisional titles from a

panel which played football and hurling with equal fluency. We can scarcely have heard the last of them.

toughest game they had in the division. In fact with a mere ten minutes remaining in the game Emly had retrieved a four point half time deficit to shoot into a two point lead and with Kickhams down to fourteen men the cause looked lost. This was the first experience the team had of such a difficulty and the first time in the competition that they had to come from behind. It was a real test; would they crumble in the face of staring defeat? or would they show real championship mettle and display ability when most needed? The answer is of course now history. Walter Carroll had been their prolific scorer throughout the championship and he it was who now came to the rescue with a goal and two points in the final 5 minutes to see them through. It had been a pulsating victory

The U-12s

Not to be outdone by their more illustrious seniors the young lads who have yet to enter their teens had their share of success in a glorious year for the club. Starting way back in the month of May the hurlers got off to a flier with a fine win over Cashel and followed it shortly with a similiar result over the boys from the other town, Arravale Rovers. This championship was run on a knock out basis with a losers group and it was through that losers group that Cashel managed to reach the West final against Kickhams. The result was as in the first round although by a reduced margin-2-4 to 1-3. Toomevara provided the opposition in the county semi and after a great performance the Northerners won by nine points.

The footballers of this grade were competing in the 'B' competition and after a league campaign in which they beat Clonoulty, Rockwell Rovers, and Golden they played Arravale Rovers in the decider. Against what admittedly was the Arravale 'B' team they emerged victorious by four points to crown a tremendous year for the club.

The work-load that such Juvenile prominance brings is enormous and Kickhams can feel proud to possess the men with the will to forfeit hours of labour for the promotion of the games. The moral for others is obvious; talented players do not grow on trees, they emerge after years of promotion and nurturing. So while we salute the Juveniles and their mentors of Knockavilla-Donaskeigh Kickhams we urge the thought that others can do the same with the will and personnel to work.



U-12 Team— West Hurling title and 'B' Football title.

Back row (I. to r.): Tommy Kelly (selector), John O'Dwyer, John Farrell, John McCormack, Michael Slattery,
Paul Hayes, Tomas Ryan, Michael O'Dwyer, Tomas Farrell, Barry Ryan, Michael Whyte, Christy Ryan and Gerry Cahill (selectors);
Middle row (I. to r.): Kevin Farrell, Kevin Horgan, Richard English, Tomas Buckley, Johnny Butler, Patrick Kearins (captain),
Ger Crosse (captain of football), Raymond Heaney, Patrick Morrissey, John Morrissey, Oliver Cussen, Aiden O'Dwyer, Pat Butler.
Front row (I. to r.): Seamus Ryan, Ger Butler, Tim O'Dwyer, Ger Browne, Christopher Ryan, Vincent Kelly. Eugene Quinn missing from photo.



U-14 team— West Hurling titles (rural and urban/rural) and rural Football West title.

Back row (I. to r.): Eamonn Browne (selector), Kieran Cussen, Tommy Hanly, Pierce Butler, Dermot Keating (Football captain), Frank Alley, Michael O'Brien, Gerard Breen, Tom Butler, Peter Alley and Brendan Cussen (selectors).

Middle row (I. to r.): Robert Hanly, Kieran Slattery, Pat McCormack, Michael Furlong, John O'Dwyer (Hurling capt.), Pat Cleary, Francis Hennessy, Michael O'Dwyer, John Ryan.

Front row (I. to r.): Ger Crosse, Raymond Heaney, Joe Butler, Patrick Kearins. Frank Hayes and Sean Taylor missing from photo.



U-16 team- West Hurling title.

Back (I. to r.): Dominic Morrissey and Peter Alley (selectors), Seamus O'Dwyer, Dan Ryan, John O'Dwyer, Johnny Butler, Seamus Furlong, D. J. Butler, Sean Alley (captain), Roger Kennedy (selector).

Middle row (I. to r.): Frank Ryan, Tom Butler, Pat Farrell, Francis Buckley, Joe Farrell, Joe Cahill, Paul Hennessy, Michael Browne.

Front row (I. to r.): Joe Browne, Robert Hanly, Dermot Keating, Frank Alley. Missing from photo is Pat Fitzgerald.

THE MAN WITH THE WHISTLE

by George Ryan

Something to think about for the Referee

The referee is one of the most important elements in the administration and promotion of our games. Without him there cannot be a game. So somebody has to take the whistle. This person has to have almost divine qualities. He is often the "so called" cause put forward for a team's cause to win, he is often the butt of unfair accusations and the derision of the partisans. He is the loneliest man on the field, nobodys friendyet he carries on. What makes the man do such a thankless job- nobody knows.

A. Some characteristics of the good referee

- 1. Thorough knowledge of the playing rules.
- 2. He must be physically fit.
- 3. He must be mentally alert.
- 4. His decisions and signals must be clear and decisive.
- 5. Plenty practice at refereeing games.
- 6. Control at all times is vital.
- 7. He must discriminate between dangerous play and rough play.
- 8. Fairness and consistency is expected at all times.
- 9. He must consider the well being and the protection of all players.
- B. The referee is entitled to respect, but that respect must be earned by:-
- 1. Being neatly dressed.
- 2. Showing fairness in his decisions, and consistency.
- 3. Firmness in not accepting behaviour on the field which is not consistent with good sportsmanship.
- 4. Not refereeing for the home crowd or the majority at a game.
- 5. Taking action when turning a "blind eye" might be more expedient.
- 6. Having good communication between his team of umpires and linesmen.
- 7. Being able to admit genuine mistakes and taking action to rectify them.
- 8. Not accepting or condoning foul or unproper language from anybody.

C. What do the Players expect

- 1. To be put at ease and helped to play the game in accordance with the rules.
- 2. Players want respect- they do not want to be lectured, belittled or "taught manners" on the field.
 3. Proper, fair and consistent application
- of the rules.
- 4. They would like their genuine queries to be answered.
- 5. The majority of players abhor vehe-ment, violent language even in tense situations.
- 6. They do not like ostantatious gestures from referees- finger wagging and the waving of arms, etc.
- 7. To try to ignore the hotheads and those who continually "mouth".



GEORGE RYAN, BEFORE THIS YEARS COUNTY FINAL

- D. Attitude of Clubs and Club Officials The attitude of some clubs and officials and especially supporters in supporting their own side, even at times when they know in their hearts that their stand is wrong, can discourage the younger inexperienced referees.
- 1. For the winners of a game the referee was excellent. For the losers he was a disaster. This attitude towards referees is not uncommon.
- 2. The only good decisions that the referee makes are those in favour of their particular team.
- 3. Unfortunately most club officials and supporters have not got an accurate knowledge of the rules.
- The referees would like a change of attitudes here but they certainly should not have to endure hostility from any quarter.

E. Looking at Ourselves-the Referees

- 1. Common sense should be our greatest attribute.
- 2. We must have a feeling for the players.
- 3. Inexperienced referees should refrain from the application of the so called advantage rule.
- 4. We should have regard for the level of fitness of the players we are dealing
- The referee must look out for the "needler", the sneaky player, the bully boy and the "cute ould stager" often they feel the wrong man is punished especially in cases involving retaliatory action.
- Most players acknowledge that they often take out their many frustrations on the referee. Unfortunately, they cannot expect the referee to have to put up with this.

- with and the conditions under which the game is played.
- 5. We must adhere strictly to the rule book.
- 6. We should be aware of tense situations and should never over react.
- 7. We must never accept publicly, abuse which is disrespective and demeaning during or after games.
- 8. We must accept constructive well meaning criticism from the press or other referees.
- 9. We must be prepared to correct our mistakes.
- 10. We must be willing as referees to have our progress mentioned by experienced fellow referees.

F. Duties and responsibilities to the Committee in Charge.

These are outlined in the Treoir Oifigiuil

However, here are some observations which should also be considered.

- 1. It is most important to send in promptly your referees report. It should be clear, concise and factual.
- 2. Reports should not be written in the heat of the moment without giving proper consideration to all the circumstances involved, especially if a player is being reported for an alleged grievous offense. However dangerous or violent incidents which occur should not be watered down. This is in the interests of fair play and justice.

Finally we should as part of a great organisation use the powers vested in us to raise the standards of the game, to make our job enjoyable and to make the games a pleasant experience for both players and spectators alike.

ARRAVALE ROVERS' JUVENILE SUCCESSES

by Bro. May (Tipperary C.B.S.)

added a new page to the history of the club when winning the u-12 and u-14 County Football Championships. It has often been said that these under age competitions are among the most enjoyable to watch because of the enthusiasm, commitment and sportsmanship of the players. If this be so the u-12 final was no exception. From the outset it was an end to end affair, and though Rovers had the greater percentage of play, they trailed Durlas Og by 0-2 to 0-1 at the interval. However playing a fluent style of football in the second period, and due in no small measure to trojan work by Richard English in the centre of the field and Mark Browne in defence, the Tipp lads began to assert themselves. Seamas O'Halloran cracked home a great goal after 10 minutes and followed it with a neatly taken point. Durlas, as is their tradition fought gamely to the end, applying terrific pressure on occasions but points from Colm Bresnan, Richard English and Jason Tynan 0-2 saw Arravale

The Juveniles of Arravale Rovers through, deserving of their 1-5 to 0-4 ded a new page to the history of the victory.

The u-14 final in Bansha was a truly memorable game both for the sheer excitement of the encounter and the astonishingly high standard of football displayed by two really fine teams. Clonmel Commercials came with the proud title of All-Ireland Champions in the Feile na nGael competition. Arravale not having entered that competition felt they had something to prove. The stage was set and we were not disappointed. Rovers pressed eagerly forward in the opening minutes. The black and amber seemed to be everywhere yet all they could manage for their troubles were a point from Michael Cussen, a pile-driver against the crossbar from Gerry Haslam and several wides. When, in their first attack, Commercials grabbed an opportunist goal and while the defence was in disarray added another. Things looked grim for the Tipp town lads. However trailing now by six points they clawed their way back into the

game. They seemed destined never to get the breakthrough as two shots came back off the woodwork from John Lowry and Adrian Buckley. But lady luck smiled just on half time when a 40 yards free from Michael Foley went all the way to the back of the Clonmel net, to leave the score 2-1 to 1-2.

Three minutes into the second half Ger Haslam capped a fine solo-run with a crashing shot which went in off the upright to give Rovers the lead for the

first time since those opening minutes. It was a lead they would never relinquish. Amid a welter of excitement, in a gripping contest, further points by John Lowry, Frank Nolan and Michael Cussen saw the Rovers lift the title by 2-5 to 2-2.

After years of frustration and knocking on the door, the joyous scenes and jubilation amongst players, mentors and the numerous loyal supporters was easily understandable.



Arravale Rovers-County Under 12 Football Champions

Back row, I. to r.: Colm O'Donnell, Mark O'Dwyer, Peter Gleeson, Feargal Gallagher, Mark Browne, Michael Ryan, Danny Foley, John Quirke.

Front row, I. to r.: Colm Bresnan, Alan Quirke, Willie Collins, Richard English (capt.), Michael McCarthy, Michael Flynn, Niall Foley, Kneeling, L. to r.: Robbie Quinlan, Kyran Myers, Raymond Barlow, Shamie O'Halloran.



Arravale Rovers- u-14 County Football Champions

Back row, I. to r.: Richard O'Halloran, Tom Hayes, Alex English, Michael Foley, Pat Delaney, John Lowry (captain),
Frank Nolan, Adrian Buckley, Gerard Haslam, Sean McCarthy, Donal Ryan, Mark Browne.
Front row, I. to r.: Kieran Myers, Paul McCormack, Cormac Lonergan, Michael Cussen, Joe Lonergan, Dermot Barlow,
Justin Quinlan, Richard English, Aidan Bresnan, Brendan Myers, Liam Moloney, Niall Rochford.

by Mary Kenny

Tipperary Winners, Scór na nOg

Rince Fóirne: Upperchurch-Drombane Aithriseoireacht: Rachel Cahill, Fr

Sheehy's

Amhránaíocht Aonair: Eddie Sheehan, Fethard.

Nua-Chleas: Clonoulty-Rossmore. Tráth na gCeist: Arravale Rovers.

Ceol Uirlise: Webster Family, Loughmore-Castleinev

Bailéad Ghrúpa: Upperchurch-Drombane Rince Seit: Gortnahoe-Glengoole.

While all our representatives performed with distinction in Munster, only the Webster Sisters from Loughmore-Castleiney emerged winners. They later went on to take All-Ireland honours in the Ceol Uirlise competition.

Comhgháirdeachas dóibh agus dos na h-iomathóirí go léir a ghlac páirt sna comórtaisí Scór ag gach leibhéal i rith na bliana.

Scór Sinsear

Rince Fóirne: Cashel.

Aithriseoireacht: Nuala Carroll, Roscrea. Amhránaíocht Aonair: Eileen Briscoe, Newport.

Nua-Chleas: Mullinahone.

Tráth na gCeist: Moycarkey-Borris.

Ceol Uirlise: Portroe.

Bailéad Ghrúpa: Toomevara. Rince Seit: Moneygall.

Tipperary winners in Munster final.

Nuala Carroll, Eileen Briscoe, Portroe Ceol Uirlise Group.

We congratulate all these winners on their wonderful achievement, and look forward to having many of them on the All-Ireland honours list in Scór '83, le cúnamh Dé.

An Coiste Scór

During the past year, a County Scór Committee was set up with a view to improving the standard of Scór within the county.

The following are the members of the committee.

Chairman: Denis Floyd (Co. Board representative).

Secretary: Mary Kenny (Borrisoleigh) Treasurer: Séamus McGrath (Newcastle)

Committee

Bórd na nOg: Fr O'Rourke, John Tierney Denis Hogan.

North: Seán Creamer (Portroe) Paddy Maher (Moneygall).

Mid: Rita Clohessy (Moycarkey-Borris), Susan Hoare (Drom-Inch). Seán Mockler (Loughmore).



Moneygall Set Dancers- North Tipperary Champions Tipperary County Champions (Cooney Trophy) Munster Finalists Scor '82. Back row: Davy Brereton John Greene, Eugene Ryan, Brendan Ryan, Noel Ryan, Andrew Larkin, Michael Greene. Front row: Anne Larkin, Mary Ryan, Brid O'Meara, Anne Ryan.

West: Denis Ryan (Clonoulty-Rossmore) Eamonn Browne (Knockavilla) Michael Fogarty (Golden). South: John Hennessy (Killenaule), Rickie Sheehan (Mullinahone).

It is generally felt that the present decline in Scór in some areas is mainly due to lack of efficient organisation, An Coiste Scór strongly recommends (a) that each club should form a Scór committee comprised of people who are interested in Scór,

(b) that this committee should have the responsibility of organising Scór competitions at juvenile and senior level, (c) that all clubs should hold a parish final, and

(d) that prizes should be awarded to the winners at parish level.

A panel of competent adjudicators from within the county has been compiled with a view to providing efficient adjudication in future competitions.

Gaels everywhere were saddened at the news of the untimely death in a traffic accident of Michael Creamer, Portroe. Michael was a member of the Portroe Instrumental Music Group which took part in the All-Ireland finals of Scór '82. An Coiste Scór extends deep and sincere sympathy to the Creamer family on their sad bereavement. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam agus anamacha na nGael go léir a fuair bás i rith na mbliana.

	B1 - F 1 - 5	A late of an alternative	Dailand Annals	Nuachleas	Tráth na gCeist	Ceol Uirlise	Bailéad Grúpa	Rince Set
MID	Rince Foirne Thurles Sarsfields	Aithriseoireacht Evelyn Brennan (Eire Og T/more)	Michael	Upperchurch Drombane	Moycarkey Borris	Templemore Eire Og	Gortnahoe Glengoole	Thurles Sarsfields
WEST	Cashel	Liam Ryan (Lattin Cullen)	Patsy McGurk (Rockwell R.)	Arravale Rovers	Arravale Rovers	Cashel	Clonoulty	Clonoulty
NORTH	Toomevara	Nuala Carroll (Roscrea)	Eileen Briscoe (Newport)	Kilruane Mac Donagh	Newport	Portroe	Toomevara	Moneygall
SOUTH	Newcastle	Thomas Walsh (Kilsheelan)	Michael Hennessy (Mullinahone)	Mullinahone	Ardfinnan	St Patricks	Kilsheelan	Newcastle
SCÓR na nÓG	Set Dancing	Ballad Group	Instrumental	Questiontime	Novelty Act	Solo Singing	Recitation	Figure Dancing
Mid champions	Gortnahoe Glengoole	Upperchurch Drombane	Loughmore Castleiney	Gortnahoe Glengoole	Loughmore Castleiney	Drom Inch	Upperchurch Drombane	Upperchurch Drombane
West champions	Sean Treacy's	Lattin Cullen	Lattin Cullen	Arravale R.	Clonoulty Rossmore	Golden Kilfeakle	Eire Og Annacarty	Golden Kilfeakle
South champions	Newcastle	Fethard	Ardfinnan	Kilsheelan	Ardfinnan	Fethard Eddie Sheehan	Fr Sheehy's Rachael Cahill	Newcastle
North champions	Rinnce Foirne	Aithriseoireacht	Bailéad Aonair	Nuachleas	Tráth na gCeist	Ceol Uirlise	Bailéad Grupa	Rince Set
	Borrisoleigh	Donal Ducie Shannon R,	Michael Dunne Borrisikane	Moneygall	Portroe	Ballina	Templederry	Portroe



Photo shows Geraldine, Sarah & Kay Webster, Loughmore-Castleiney with former President, Padraig Mac Floinn. They had been presented with trophies as instrumental Music winners in Juvenile Scor All-Ireland final.





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REVIEW OF THE CLUBS IN NORTH TIPPERARY

BALLINA

1982 will be remembered in Ballina as a year in which they returned to the limelight after a long absence. While they didn't gain any honours they displayed fine character and dedication in reaching the junior hurling final. They lost no honour in going down to Roscrea and one feels sure that a continuation of the same commitment will bring success before long. Ballina combined with Ballinahinch at Minor and Under 21 level but met with little success. Their Junior footballers were beaten by Templederry and Newport.

One of the highlights of the Ballina Club in 1982 was the staging of an intercounty tournament game between Tipp and Limerick, to mark the official opening of their new field. The picturesque venue was shown up in great light for the occasion and has since catered for quite a few North Tipp championship games. The completion of dressing rooms and indoor games facilities presently under construction should add greatly to Ballina's attraction as a venue for major games in the future.

BALLINAHINCH

In their second year back in Inter hurling ranks, Ballinahinch looked early in the year as if they would be strong contenders for the championship. However, after impressive displays against Newport, Kilruane, Portroe and Burgess, their good run came to a halt when they met defending champions Portroe in the semi final. In Inter football they had to bow to both Borrisoleigh and Borrisokane and their under age amalgamation with Ballina did not enjoy any success. The club is presently making plans to commence building on its spacious grounds at Shallee to provide amenities to cater for the needs of the parish and facilities Which would be suitable for many games in the Division.

BORRISOKANE

1982 has been a most successful year for Borrisokane, maintaining their great run of the previous year. Having come from Junior hurling ranks they immediately made their presence felt in the Inter grade and went on to take the Hewitt Cup. They put the icing on the cake by going on to annex the County title. While their victory in the County final over Golden was a facile one, they had to struggle to get through in some of their earlier games, notably against Shannon Rovers and Moyne Templetuohy, both of whom they overcame only at the second attempt. Borrisokane's Junior hurlers also took the Junior B title in its inaugural year, defeating Templederry in the final. While their hurlers have been hitting the highspots, their footballers have not been out of the limelight. They took the Minor title, overcoming Newport in the final and retained the Inter crown at Lorrha's expense. They still remain in the U-21 championship in which they are reigning County champions.

BORRISOLEIGH

After the heady heights of the previous year, 1982 must have been a big disappointment to Borrisoleigh. They made a promising start to the Senior hurling campaign when overcoming Lorrha but they then suffered defeats at the hands of Eire Og and Silvermines and thus made their exit from the North and County championship, Borris had a fine U-21 hurling team and having beaten a fancied Borrisokane side they eventually had to surrender to Roscrea in the semifinal after a replay. In minor hurling they made little impression and their Inter football team having defeated Ballinahinch was beaten by Newport in the second round. Major changes have taken place in the Borrisoleigh field over the past two years and it should be a most suitable venue when it becomes available for games in 1983.

BURGESS

1982 was an active year for Burgess on the playing field and on the Development front. Their building complex is now complete and with the playing field improved they have one of the best venues in the county. For the second successive year Burgess reached the Junior football final but they had to surrender their crown to Toomevara in a closely fought game. Their Under-21 footballers were beaten in the semifinal by Newport while both Minor hurlers and footballers had little success. The Burgess Inter hurling team looked promising early in the season with a victory over Newport and a draw with Ballinahinch but they were eventually pipped for a quarter final place by neighbours Portroe. Burgess also figured prominently in the early stages of the Junior B hurling championship but they were defeated by Borrisokane in a play off for a place in the semi-final.

EIRE OG

A year in which any club runs its 4th U-21 hurling title in a row and reaches the Senior Hurling final must be regarded as successful. Such was the achievement of Eire Og in 1982. They created a surprise by defeating reigning County champions Borrisoleigh in the first round of the Senior Hurling cham-

pionship, but it was only when they defeated Silvermines in the semi-final did people begin to realise that at last the promise of their under age days might be fulfilled. That promise was maintained in the drawn North final against Roscrea but as history now shows the game was not replayed. Eire Og's fourth successive title take in the Under-21 grade is certainly a record to be proud of and speaks well of the future. They defeated Toomevara and Lorrha en route to the final in which they overcame Roscrea's stiff challenge. The Club also reached the Minor hurling semifinal in which they were defeated by Roscrea and were defeated in the second round of the Minor Football by Erin's

KILDANGAN

Fortune has not smiled too kindly on Kildangan since their successful I. H. run in 1980. The loss of many prominent players has prevented them making a serious impression in the championships of the past two years. Their junior hurlers started well this year with a victory over Portroe, but they subsequently lost to Borrisokane and Burgess. Kildangan competed in Junior, Under 21 and Minor football and while they did not enjoy any success, one is delighted to note their interest in promoting football. However their Minor hurlers did bring glory to the club this year when they took the Nealon Trophy at the expense of Lorrha. This victory was surely the fruits of the attention devoted to Juveniles down through the years and augurs well for the future of the club.

KILRUANE

1982 was not one of Kilruane's most successful years judging by their own high standards. Their senior hurlers were impressive early in the year when they qualified with ease for the final of the senior hurling league. This impression was strengthened when they defeated Silvermines in the first round of the championship but they then lost to Roscrea in a well contested semi-final. Their Inter hurlers had victories over Burgess and Newport to qualify for the quarter final where they were defeated by Shannon Rovers. Their Junior hurlers did not figure in the knock-out stages having lost their final qualification game against Knockshegowna. In football Kilruane reached the semi-final stage of the Minor championship where they were beaten by the eventual winners Erins Hope, while their Under 21s failed at the first hurdle to Burgess. They are the reigning champions in Senior football and should make a strong bid to retain

CUMANN LUTH-CHLEAS GAEL COISTE THIOBRAID ARANN THUAIDH



AR MBUIOCHAS DOS NA CLUBANNA,
NA h-IMREOIRI I NGACH UILE GRAD,
NA REITEOIRI, NA MAOIR AGUS
DON PHOBAL A BHAIN TAITHNEAMH
AS AR GCLUICHI SA BHLIAIN 1982.

NOLLAIG SHONA DHIBH UILE—
GO N-EIRI LIBH SAN AITH-BHLIAIN.

Donncha de Floid Cathaoirleach Pádraig O Meachair Rúnaí



THE EIRE OG, NENAGH TEAM WHICH DREW WITH ROSCREA IN THIS YEAR'S NORTH FINAL.

Final team: S. Kennedy, J. Flannery, J. Tucker, M. Ryan, L. Heffernan, B. Heffernan, C. Tucker, P. Kennedy (captain),
R. Coffey, J. O'Sullivan, G. O'Donovan, M. Kennedy, P. Hennessy, M. Griffin, J. Heffernan.

the title to be played in November. The highlight of Kilruane's year was their trip to the U.S.A. in October. Over seventy club members made the historic journey much proved to be most enjoyable, educational and rewarding.

KNOCKSHEGOWNA

Knockshe, the club that claims to be "only half a parish" is one of the few solely junior clubs in the division. Although one of the most consistently strong junior teams in the county they have failed to win a championship since the early seventies. They failed this year in the semi-final to Roscrea, the eventual champions, after a close hard fought game. They have been figuring prominently in recent years in the J.F.C. and this

year they went down to Newport in the losers' group final. Knockshe also form the Erin's Hope amalgamation along with Borrisokane and have been supplying a number of players to this very successful combination. At present Knockshe is the only club in the Division without a field but negotiations are well advanced and fund riasing is currently in progress to ensure that this situation is remedied in the new year.

LORRHA

After a great run in the S.H.C. of 1981 much was expected of Lorrha in 1982. This was given further credence when they won the 1981/82 Senior hurling league. However they failed to

live up to these expectations when having recorded only one victory they succumbed to Silvermines in the losers' group final. Their under 21 hurlers lost out in the semi final to the eventual winners Eire Og. Lorrha's minor hurlers had a great run in the championship beating many fancied sides on their way to the Nealon Trophy final, where they had to give best to Kildangan in a close game. On football, Lorrha's underage teams did not figure prominently but their Intermediate team reached the final for the second successive year only to lose once again to a superior Borrisokane outfit. While rivals in many competitions, Lorrha and Borrisokane amalgamated in S. F. They looked a very formidable outfit but failed to make any



THE ROSCREA TEAM 1982

Back row: (players only): Eddie Hogan, Brendan Maher, Liam Spooner, Richard Dunne, Joe Roland, Jody Spooner, Purdy Loughnane.

Front row: Tadhg O'Connor, Ger O'Connor, Kevin Brady, Peadar Quealy captain, Joe Butler,

Kevin O'Connor, Paul O'Connor, Francis Loughnane.

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impression in the County S.F.C. They in that they reached every hurling final in still remain in contention in the North the division. They lost an exciting minor Championship.

MONEYGALL

Moneygall have been more or less out of the limelight since their halcyon days of the mid seventies. Beset by injuries this year they lost both their games in the S.H.C. (to Roscrea and Lorrha). Their Under 21 hurlers were beaten in the first round by Templederry, but their minors did seem early in the year as if they were a team with a good deal of potential. However a good start to the league, they failed to live up this promise and suffered defeats at the hands of Newport and Lorrha to make their exit from the championship. Moneygall have been competing with distinction in the J.H.C. and have invariably figured in the final shake-up in recent years. This year they went down by a narrow margin to Knockshe in the quarter final. Moneygall did not participate in any football championship in 1982.

NEWPORT

It is now three years since Newport returned to Inter hurling ranks but they have yet to qualify for the knock-out stages. It did seem that when they beat reigning champions Portroe, that this might be their year. This was not to b be as they failed to Kilruane in their last game of the League and so missed a quarter final place. Similarly their Junior hurlers looked impressive early in the year but they eventually lost to Borrisokane in the Junior B semi final. Their minors improved as the season went on but had to give best to Lorrha in the Nealon Trophy semi final, while their under 21s failed at the first hurdle to Shannon Rovers. Newport competed prominently in all football championships reaching the semi finals of both Inter and Junior losing to Borrisokane and Toomevara respectively. They reached the Minor final to be beaten by Erins Hope and are also in the Under 21 final. They also amalgamated with Ballinahinch in the S.F.C.

PORTROE

After a very successful year in 1981 which merited an A.I.B. Award, Portroe made a very tentative start to the current season's I.H.C. However they soon regained their old form with convincing Wins over Toomevara and Ballinahinch to reach another final. Conditions were atrocious for the final and Borrisokane adapting better, proved the superior team on the day. Port did make amends when their under 21 hurlers took the Walsh Cup defeating Templederry in the final. In Inter football they lost the semi final by a point to Lorrha while their minors did not enjoy much good fortune. Portroe have now provided very spacious dressing rooms on their field at Ardarra.

ROSCREA

1982 was a historical year for Roscrea

the division. They lost an exciting minor final to Toomevar. The under 21s went down to Eire Og in another closely fought game. The seniors drew with Eire Og in the final but did not have the opportunity of replaying the game. Their Junior hurlers made up for these disappointments when they took the O'Keeffe Cup after a lapse of 36 years. Ballina were the victims in this final play in most unfavourable conditions. Roscrea, through its sister club, Inane, have not been as prominent in football this year as of yore. Their only team to make any showing was the under 21 football which reached the semi-final. Roscrea's excellent field and facilities has been in much demand this year for County championship games.

SHANNON ROVERS

Having qualified for the final of the 1981 senior hurling league which they were unlucky to lose to Lorrha after a replay, it seemed as if Shannon Rovers would be a force to be reckoned with in the 1982 I.H.C. After a slow start they eventually got through to the semi-finals where they had to give best to Borrisokane after two pulsating games. Their minor hurlers also started well with a victory over Lorrha, but they failed to win any further games in their group. Being holders of the Walsh Cup it was expected that the Rovers U-21 hurlers would again be the team to beat in 1982 but they were surprised by Portroe in the semi final. Inter football was the only in which S Rovers participated in the bigger ball code but they lost their games to Portroe and Borrisokane.

SILVERMINES

One of the few clubs in the county to field three adult teams in hurling, Silvermines main achievement was in reaching the Senior semi final. After some impressive displays against Kilruane Borrisoleigh and Lorrha they looked like a team with immense potential but they failed to Eire Og at the penultimate stage. Elsewhere the Mines teams made little impact in either hurling or football. As well as very spacious dressing rooms the club has modern ball alleys catering for men and women, built on the playing field at Dolla.

TEMPLEDERRY

Templederry's greatest achievement in 1982 were in reaching the finals of the Walsh Trophy and the Dan Gleeson Cup. Their under 21 hurlers were beaten by Portroe in the final of the Walsh Trophy. Nothing would have pleased Templederry more than to take the Dan Gleeson Cup (presented by Templederry to honour their long serving chairman) in its inaugural year, but Borrisokane proved far too strong for them in the final. Their minors chalked some good victories in their group but finally lost to Kiladangan in a play off for a place in the semi final of the Nealon Trophy.

Templederry's Inter hurling team didn't fair very well in their group although they did put up a fighting display in their final game against Shannon Rovers.

Templederry's only participation in football was in the J.F.C. where they were beaten by Toomevara, having won their first game over Ballina. Templederry have been very active on the Development front over the past few years. They now have a fine playing field and a magnificent social centre and this development work merited them an A.I.B. award early in 1982.

TOOMEVARA

One of the most successful clubs at under age level over the past few years, Toomevara have yet to reach the same high standards among their adult teams. They retained their minor hurling crown this year after a great final against Roscrea. However they went down by a single point to Holycross in the County semi final. Toome's Inter hurling team gave some encouraging displays before eventually losing to Portroe in the quarter final while their under 21s lost to Eire Og in the first round. Not all of Toomevara's energies were devoted to hurling, however, as they figured prominently in the football competitions this year. They did well in the Minor before going down to Newport and they went all the way in the J.F.C. defeating last years winners, Burgess, in the final.

North Tipp Championship Finalists Sen. Hurling: Eire Og v Roscrea, a draw

Referee: Sean O'Meara

Winners first

Inter. Hurling
Borrisokane v Portroe
Junior Hurling
Roscrea v Ballina
Shay Donnelly
Junior Hurling B.
Borrisokane v Templederry MI Griffin

Minor Hurling
Toomevara v Roscrea Gerry Long
U-21 Hurling

Eire Og v Roscrea MI Cahill
U-21 Special Hurling
Portroe v Templederry Gerry Long

Nealon Trophy Hurling
Kildangan v Lorrha Seamus O'Doherty

Intermediate Football
Borrisokane v Lorrha MI Cahill
Junior Football

Toomevara v Burgess MI Nolan Senior Football

Not completed. U-21 Football Not completed.

Among the many gaels who died in North Tipperary during 1982 were:

Fr Joe Hayes, Cloughjordan, Ed. O'Donnell, Nenagh, Vivienne Harte, Borrisokane, MI Murphy (sen.) Latteragh, Paddy (Bowler) Williams (sen) Cloughjordan, Philip Cleary, Nenagh, Joe McKenna, Borrisokane, Paddy Mulcahy, Ballywilliam, MI Nealon, Newtown.



CUMANN LUTHCHLEAS GAEL TIOBRAID ARANN THEAS

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A GREAT YEAR FOR ROSCREA C.B.S. Two Munster Titles come to the School in its 21st Year

Seamus O'Doherty

recalled with great satisfaction by players mentors, teachers and supporters of Roscrea C.B.S. Apart from being one of the busiest years on the Gaelic fields it was also one of the most successful for

many years.

Roscrea C.B.S. won their last Munster Schools Hurling Championship in 1970 but for the following eleven years they hit on a very barren spell indeed. Two losing appearances in Rice Cup finals 1971, when Cashel C.B.S. won and 1980 when Limerick C.B.S. won, were the nearest the school had gone to outright victory in any major schools' competition. True enough the u-18s had been unlucky in 1981 but with a few survivors hopes were high of a successful campaign in the 1981/82 season.

The arrival of Bro. Donovan and Bro. Madigan in September of 1978 had injected a new spirit of hurling to the school, Bro. McArdle carried it on after Bro. Madigan was appointed Superior in Nenagh. The most significant happening of all though was the arrival of Bro. Devaney in September of 1981. Here was a man with a great record behind him in schools hurling. Could he lead Roscrea C.B.S. back to their rightful place at the top of the hurling world? Of all the teams Roscrea C.B.S. affiliated to various competitions, three in particular the u-14s, the u-15s and the u-18s were expected to do very well. It's to those teams then and their campaigns that we concentrate on in this article.

The under 18 team were the leaders in the school in more ways than one. Bro. Devaney and Mr Michael Maunsell were the two men who took charge of this age group. In the early season as the side trained, and trained, efforts were being made to find the best position for each player on the side. Numerous practice matches were played. Mount St Joseph's College, Templemore C.B.S., Thurles C.B.S., Birr Community School, Limerick C.B.S., North Tipp. Vocational Schools, Nenagh C.B.S. and Nenagh Vocational School were all opposed at some stage or other during the season and by the time the championship started Roscrea were ready.

The first match was against Tipperary C.B.S. and the venue was Clonoulty. Roscrea C.B.S. had a comfortable win here but dispite having an age advantage over their opponents their performance was not convincing. Still a win guaranteed them a place in the quarter final where the opposition was in the shape of Lismore C.B.S. from Waterford.

Lismore's team was built around quite a few of their 1981 successful under 15

The year of 1982 will surely be squad and as such were much younger than Roscrea C.B.S. Roscrea also had a great advantage in size and it was no surprise that Roscrea won easily. John Larkin's broken finger ruled him out of this game. The main memory of the one sided encounter was that of Gerry Dooley's goalscoring exploits. He scored seven goals and had three more disallowed!

Training was stepped up now for the semi final against Bandon High School. This game, played in atrocious conditions at Kilbeheny, was a major triumph. Gerry Dooley was an absentee through injury. John Larkin's finger still hadn't healed and Tommy Moran and David Brophy were also out of action. Eamon England came in at corner back and had an excellent game, while team captain Tony Maher switched from full back to centre forward. All switches worked and with Niall Fagin unbeatable at centre back Roscrea's greater determination and commitment saw them through on a 1-9 to 1-3 scoreline.

The stage was set then for the final. The venue was Semple Stadium Thurles; the referee was John Moloney and the opposition was De La Salle College Hospital, who had been beaten in the previous year's decider. The prize for the winners was the Dr Rogers Cup and the title of Munster Colleges 'C' cham-

Roscrea again suffered ill luck before the final. Ger Fitzpatrick the left wing forward was taken ill the day before the final and on the day of the final he was in Hospital!

Roscrea had Tony Maher at wing back for the game with Paul Dolan coming into the forward line to replace Ger Fitzpatrick. Roscrea had first use of the breeze but coming towards half time they trailed by a point. Two good points through by Tony Maher just before the break enabled Roscrea to lead by 0-5 to 0-4 at half time. Scores were rather scarce in the opening ten minutes of the second half, as Hospital laid siege to the Roscrea goal. The turning point of the game came in the twelfth minute of the second half when Gerry Dooley collected a pass from David 'Red' Brophy and put the ball in the net. From then on there was no going back and try as Hospital might they just could not get through for the goal they so badly needed. Roscrea finished well with fourteen year old Michael Nolan, who had come on as a sub, scoring a wonderful point in the dying moments. The final score was 1-8 to 0-6. Scenes of great delight followed as Bro. Donovan, superior of Roscrea C.B.S., had the delightful pleasure of presenting the Dr Rogers Cup to a great captain Tony Maher.

A Team Effort

The winning of the Cup was undoubtedly a team effort but the performances on final day of Paul Maher, Niall Fagin, Tony Maher, Pierce Higgins, Tommy Moran, David Brophy and Dan O'Donnell will long be remembered. Wednesday 24th March was the date. With victory secure everyone now looked to the under 15 team to win the Corn Solo, Munster 'C' Competition. This was a team of great potential and backboned by Michael Hanrahan, Michael Nolan and captain Paul Dolan of the Schools u-18 team, much was expected from

The first round of the competition was played in Toomevara v Ard Scoil Rís Limerick in Mid March and after an uncertain start, Roscrea did what they liked, and ran out winners by 14-15 to nil. Paul Dolan playing at centre forward scored 4-2.

The next round was a much more difficult assignment. The opposition here was provided by Tipperary C.B.S. who had the great advantage of home venue for the game. Limerick hurler Paddy Kelly was in charge of them. Roscrea led narrowly at half time and had to survive enormous second half pressure before breaking down field for Paul Hogan and Seán Delaney to get the vital scores. The final score was 4-4 to 3-3 and among Roscrea's best were Kevin Loughnane, Brian England, Tony Hoctor and Jimmy O'Dwyer. This win brought Roscrea to a semi final meeting with Doon C.B.S. at Nenagh.

On a beautiful May Friday, in perfect hurling conditions, we had a very enjoyable semi final. Scoring was low in the first half and Roscrea really had a big job on their hands. The second half was superbly contested and a feature of the game was the quality of ground hurling by both teams. Paul Dolan's three points and P. J. Delaney's goals eventually decided the game in Roscrea's favour, 3-5 to 1-3. Excellent displays came from Declan Fitzpatrick, Brian England, Michael Hanrahan, Paul Dolan and Michael Nolan. So the target of reaching the final had been reached. All the practice matches had paid off. Now all that remained between the double was Lismore C.B.S. The date for this final was 12th May, the venue was Cashel and the referee Tommy Grogan, former All-Ireland medal winner at Minor and Under 21.

Lismore Rally

Roscrea seemed to have the game won at half time when they enjoyed a sizeable lead. Lismore were not beaten though, and a great comeback saw them overtake a seven point lead and go one point



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ahead with time running out. It was left to Michael Nolan to equalise for Roscrea. A draw was the outcome. Roscrea C.B.S. 5-4, Lismore C.B.S. 4-7. Sean Delaney had scored three goals for Roscrea but it hadn't been enough. Many people wondered if Roscrea had let the title slip. To add to our tale of woe Brian England had been injured and would miss the replay. But Roscrea were made of stern stuff. The team was rearranged much to several players' delight. John Kenny who had been injured for the drawn game came back to wing back. Michael Hanrahan went to full back. Tony Hoctor to centre forward and team captain Paul Dolan back to his favourite centre back position. Between the draw and replay Bro. Devaney worked hard with the team rectifying faults which had been obvious in the drawn game. The players were determined to win it this time.

Yet again the venue was Cashel, just a week later but Mr John Gleeson of Cashel C.B.S. was referee this time.

Lismore made the early running and at half time led by 2-1 to 1-1. They got another goal after half time and Roscrea seemed to be beaten. The cry of 'no surrender' went up around the ground and the come back started! Two points from MI Nolan and one from Paul Dolan narrowed the gap, P. J. Delaney's goal

with six minutes to go levelled the scoring at 2-4 to 3-1. The crowd went wild. Lismore struck again, two minutes later, with a goal. Sean Delaney sent the Roscrea supporters delirious when he deflected a dropping ball into the Lismore goal to level it up again- 4-1 to 3-4. Only four minutes remained and anything could happen. With two minutes to go Sean Delaney put Roscrea ahead. Lismore came again but missed a chance. Eventually the referee blew for full time and Roscrea were champions on a 3-5 to 4-1 scoreline. This game will live forever in the minds of those privileged to see it. Roscrea's joy knew no bounds. In this replay everyone was a hero, players, subs and Bro. Devaney, even Bro. O'Callaghan's specially written Irish Lyrics sounded well in the rain. It was that kind of day!

Rice Cup

With two cups on the sideboard the pressure was really on the U-14s to do well in the Rice Cup. This team backboned by MI Nolan, P. J. Delaney (captain), Jimmy O'Dwyer, Declan Fitzpatrick, Kevin Loughnane and John Larkin of the under 15 team could reasonably expect a good run in the Bro. Rice Cup and that is exactly what they got. In their qualifying group were Thurles C.B.S., Tipperary C.B.S., Temple-

more C.B.S. and Cashel C.B.S.

The first match was against Thurles C.B.S. in Thurles and while Roscrea scored three goals in the last five minutes Thurles won easily by 9-6 to 6-3. Following this defeat Mr Larry Ruane and Bro. Devaney made some changes which were of tremendous benefit in the successful run through to the final. Michael Nolan came back to centre back and John Larkin went to full back. Tipperary C.B.S. were well beaten in Roscrea and the morale improved. Declan Fitzpatrick at midfield and Michael Nolan in defence were in great form as Templemore fell in the next round. The last match of the group was away to Cashel and while Cashel played well they couldn't match a rampant Roscrea forward line in which Jimmy O'Dwyer, David McCoy and P. J. Delaney shone.

The famed Sexton St Limerick provided the opposition in the quarter final at Nenagh. A great win for Roscrea, whose direct first time approach paid off. Top class displays came from Michael Nolan, Declan Fitzpatrick and Seamus Feehan. A great team effort this, to eliminate one of the favourites for the Cup.

The semi final at Durrow against Callan C.B.S. turned out to be a runaway win. Roscrea led all the way and with



ROSCREA C.B.S. CORN SOLO WINNERS 1982, MUNSTER U-15 COLLEGES 'C'
Back row, I. to r.: Bro. M. Devaney (trainer), Noel Doran, Declan Fitzpatrick, John Kenny, Barnard Sands, Brendan Higgins, John Larkin,
Peter Meagher, Michael Hanrahan, Brian England, Nicholas Bergin, Martin Maher, Martin Kennedy.
Front row, I. tl r.: Colm Jones, Sean Delaney, Gerard Dooley, Michael Nolan, Paul Hogan, Paul Dolan (captain), P. J. Delaney, Jimmy Daly,
Tony Hoctor, Seamus Feehan, Jimmy O'Dwyer. Missing from photo is Kevin Loughnane.

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ROSCREA C.B.S. U-18 MUNSTER COLLEGES 'C' DR ROGERS CUP WINNERS 1982
Back row, I. to r.: Pierce Higgins, Paul Maher, Val Treacy, Ber Fitzpatrick, Brendan Connolly,
Brian Moss, Aidan Minogue, Michael Nolan.
Middle row, I. to r.: Mr Michael Maunsell, Dan O'Donnell, John Larkin, P. J. Quinlan,
Michael Hanrahan, Paul Dolan, Declan Costello, Sean Gleeson, Niall Fagin,
Gerry Dooley, Bro. M. Devaney.
Front row, I. to r.: Conor Dooley, Tommy Horan, P. J. Cleary, Tony Maher, David Brophy,
Eamon England, Brendan Toohey.

Séamus Feehan blotting out danger man Liam Egan it was no surprise that Roscrea won by 3-12 to 1-2, having led by 2-7 to 1-2 at half time. So the scene was set for an All Tipperary final. Thurles C.B.S. had come through their half of the draw in great style. Neutral Templemore was the venue, Tuesday 25th May the date and Moyne-Templetuohy's Martin Grady was referee.

The pressure on the Roscrea lads was enormous. Thurles had a great team and were favourites. Roscrea had won two cups and this would be the third. Many of the players were tired after a long

season but one last effort was called for.

Playing against a very strong breeze Roscrea led after twelve minutes but then the Thurles attack got moving. With a minute to go to half time Roscrea were fourteen points down! Some half time dressing room encouragement saw Roscrea come out in more determined fashion. Scores by Paul Burke, Michael Nolan, Kevin Loughnane, David McCoy and Jimmy O'Dwyer had the gap down to five points (7-1 to 3-8) with ten minutes to go. Alas Roscrea could get no closer and as the last seven minutes went scorelessly by our hopes died, although

every player gave all he had to the very end. If ever a team earned honour in defeat, it was this team. The final score of 7-2 to 3-9 does not reflect the superb second half effort. But the treble was not to be—not in 1982 anyway!

It was a great year for the school. Great for people like Bro. Donovan, Bro. Devaney, Mr M. Maunsell, Mr L. Ruane, Mr J. Dunphy and all the other teachers who have done so much for the school teams over the years. The players brought much joy to all who saw them in action during the season— I was particularly pleased to have been there.



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ROSCREA ARE NORTH TIPPERARY JUNIOR **HURLING CHAMPIONS**

Title regained after 36 years

While Roscrea hurling club has a reasonably high rate of success on the games fields, in recent years, one competition in particular had proved to be an elusive target. The competition in question is the North Tipperary Junior Hurling

Championship.

In the earlier years of the championship, Roscrea had been one of the more prominent clubs, and indeed won the divisional title in 1930, 1942 and 1946. Undoubtedly the appearance of the clubs' senior team in the County finals of 1936 and 1945 had its origin in the two earlier junior wins. With the break-through of the clubs senior side to the big time in the fifties and sixties, the junior grade alas seemed to lose much of its appeal to the club. The emergence then of a whole range of excellent minor teams in the 1958-1968 era, during which time Roscrea won ten divisional titles, served also to distract effort and attention from the juniors.

Revival

The first signs of a revival were seen in 1970 when the club reached the North Tipp final. That particular decider, alas, turned out rather badly from Roscrea's point of view, as Templederry emerged easy winners. This big defeat, coupled with the present air of three time senior county champions in the club meant that once again the clubs "second team" slipped into the background.

The next upsurge came in 1976 when a Roscrea side, which included Mick Minogue, among others, reached yet another North final. Yet again Roscrea's luck was out as Templederry emerged winners yet again, although this time there was only the minimum margin between the sides, 3-7 to 4-3 was the score.

In 1978 and 1979 Roscrea reached the North semi-final, but defeat was their lot in both cases at the hands of Borrisoleigh and Silvermines respectively. Both sides subsequently added to Roscrea's disappointment by lifting county honours.

It was 1981 before Roscrea reached another North final. On this occasion Borrisokane provided the opposition. Roscrea did very well for a long time but in the end were forced to concede on a 3-12 to 3-8 scoreline. Yet again their conjurors won County honours.

The 1982 Campaign

The Roscrea club then was very keen to make yet another serious effort to annex honours this year, and with most of last years panel available they seemed to have a reasonable chance. The League section had Roscrea in the strong group with Knockshegowna, Kil- heavy first half downpour, but Roscrea's vara. With three teams to qualify, Roscrea had every reason to feel confident of advancing to the knock out stages.

had Roscrea meeting Kilruane at Money- Borrisokane in last year's Divisional gall, at the end of May. The team's semi-final. This game was played at

preparation had been thorough. Three challenge games v Kilcotton (Laois) v Kildangan (Tipp.) v Killavilla (Offalv) had all been played and won.

Kilruane were rather under strength for the encounter. Roscrea didn't play particularly well in the first half but did manage to lead by 0-6 to 0-2 at half time. The second half turned into an absolute runaway, and with Roscrea eventually finding the range, the game ended in a 2-18 to 1-2 scoreline. The great memory of the game was of the "close encounter of a different kind" between new Roscrea captain Jackie Shanahan and Kilruane great Len Gaynor.

There was little rest after the Kilruane game, and two weeks later Roscrea were back in Moneygall again, this time to face Silvermines. The 'Mines had several Intermediate players regraded from the previous season so a close game was anticipated. Two Jackie Shanahan goals ensured that Roscrea led narrowly at the break 2-2 to 0-4. Silvermines tried to rally after half time but excellent defensive work by Roscrea kept them ahead. The final score was 2-5 to 0-7. It had been a terrible night for hurling, due to a ruane, Eire Og, Silvermines and Toome- mission had been completed. Two more points were collected and the future looked good.

Roscrea's next opponents were Knock-The first round of the championship shegowna, who had been beaten by



ROSCREA JUNIOR CHAMPIONS 1982

Back row, I. to r.: Paul Minogue, Aidan Guilfoyle, John Carey, Seamus O'Doherty, Martin Walsh, Paddy Tierney, Tom Ryan, Rody Ryan, Brendan Wright, Johnny McDonnell, Martin Wright, Jimmy Brady, Martin Ryan. Front row, I. to r.: Philip Bergin, David Minogue, 'Purdy' McMahon, Micheal Scully, Donie Moloney, Sean Hogan, Aidan Shanahan, Jackie Shanahan (captain), Joe Hogan, Austin O'Meara, Val Ryan.

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Cloughjordan at the end of June and once more the rain came.

A two goal first half scoring burst by David (Daithi) Minogue helped Roscrea to a three goal half time lead. Roscrea's rate of scoring eased off considerably during the second half, as Knockshe' came in search of the vital scores. Patrick ('Purdy') McMahon kept Roscrea comfortable though, with a goal and a point, and despite Knockshe's best efforts it was Roscrea's night. The final score was 6-3 to 3-6. While Roscrea's first half performance had been first class, the poverty of their second half display left no room for complacency.

The fourth round against Eire Og was the crunch game. It was the clash of the two unbeaten sides in the group, and whoever won was likely to avoid all the hidden pitfalls of a quarter final, by going directly to the semi finals. This game played at Moneygall towards the end of July had many good challenges and Roscrea were forced to make several changes, before play flowed as they wanted it to. In the end Roscrea were winners by 4-10 to 3-4. A most pleasing feature was that seven players scored with team captain Jackie Shanahan leading the way with 1-2.

The last game of the group proved to be a "no contest" affair in a very real sense. Toomevara— being out of the running- conceded a walk over to Roscrea. This gesture saved Roscrea some fixture clashes but at the same time consigned the team to a long wait before

their next game. As winners of the group Roscrea went directly to the semi-final. After several important games, Knockshegowna eventually qualified to meet Moneygall in one quarter final. The winners here would meet Roscrea in the other side of the draw. Shannon Rovers beat Eire Og before going under to Ballina in the semi-final.

Knockshegowna beat Moneygall in their meeting at Borrisokane, and so cleared the way for yet another meeting of the Roscrea and Knockshegowna men. Many people looked forward with a great sense of anticipation. They were not disappointed.

The sides met in Cloughjordan at the beginning of September. Roscrea got away to a great start but two Knockshegowna goals, which might have been prevented brought them back into contention. Roscrea led at half time by 2-5 to 2-1 thanks mainly to Joe Hogan and Tom Ryan's goals. Knockshe' eventually levelled up in the second half and Roscrea had to raise their game enormously as Knockshe' surged at them. A classic final ten minutes saw a few near misses, before Philip Bergin got what proved the winner for Roscrea. 2-10 to 2-9 was the final score. It couldn't have been any closer! The first half injury to Jackie Shanahan had a disruptive effect on the forward line. Neverlheless it was a good win, a win over Knockshe' is always something good!



Michael Lowry, Vice-Chairman County Board presents the County Junior Hurling Trophy to Roscrea captain, Jackie Shanahan.

North Final

Only one step remained now, but what a big one! The North final was fixed for Nenagh on Saturday evening 25th September. Alas it was yet another wet evening, but there was important business to be done, the weather was irrelevant. Ballina's only adult team provided the opposition, and with only one defeat in their campaign, they had to be respected. The crowd got plenty to cheer about too, as both sides gave all they had despite the atrocious conditions.

J. McDonnell, B. Wright, J. Carey.

The selectors were (1) Jimmy Brady

from placed balls. Jackie Shanahan scored few points from frees, while Joe Hogan (2) and Aidan Shanahan (1) scored from play. Ballina's three points in reply had come from 2 '65s' and 1 free. Roscrea seemed to be in control at half time but you never have a game won until the final whistle. Ballina's early second half point suggested a comeback. Roscrea's reply was swift. Joe Hogan and 'Purdy' McMahon both raised green flags and Roscrea were now most certainly in the driver's seat. Ballina did rally and brought the lead back to four points, at 2-9 to 2-5. As ever Roscrea replied quickly as Joe Hogan and Jackie Shanahan added points to leave Roscrea clear winners by six points.

Scenes of great joy were witnessed as Mr Denis Hogan North Chairman presented the O'Keeffe Cup to Roscrea's captain Jackie Shanahan. For the old timers in particular this win brought back many happy memories. Willie J. Wright especially must have been very pleased with the outcome. He captained Roscrea in 1946, when last they were champions, and now in 1982 he had two sons on the panel.

Those who Matter

The names of the entire panel deserve to be recorded, so great an achievement was this. The twenty five players were: P. Tierney, J. Brady, V. Ryan, R. Ryan, S. Hogan, M. Wright, P. Minogue, A. Shanahan, A. O'Meara, D. Moloney, J. Shanahan (captain), J. Hogan, D. Minogue, T. Ryan, P. McMahon, P. Bergin, P. J. Deane, S. O'Doherty, M. Walsh, A. Guilfoyle, M. Scully, M. Ryan,

Most of the first half scores came who curtained the team in their unsuccessful 1981 North final appearance and who played a key role in the defence throughout 1982.

> (2) Paddy Tierney who played at corner back in last season's North final but reverted to the goalkeeping position for 1982.

> (3) Dickie O'Brien who gave tremendous service to Roscrea Junior teams for a long number of years up to 1980.

> Willie O'Reilly acted as trainer and team manager and proved that he hasn't lost his knack of being associated with winning teams.

> This Roscrea team which had a nice blend of youth and experience added yet another notable victory to the famous club's long line of success at the levels of competition.

One thing is certain- Roscrea will always have hurlers, be they seniors, juniors, minors or juveniles. They can approach the future with confidence. Ar aghaidh leo.

Addendum: Roscrea juniors went all the way to county honours, beating Moycarkey-Borris in the semi-final and Cappawhite in the final.

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'FOSTER THE JUVENILES' THEORY PAYS FOR BORRISOKANE

by Gerry Slevin

Few, if any, would disagree that the Borrisokane senior team of the early sixties deserved to be named as one of the best not to have won a title. Players like Tom McGarry, Vince Duffe, Ronnie Slevin, Son Fogarty, Tony and Mackey McKenna, Seanie Phelan, Vivien Harte, all left an indellible mark on hurling in North Tipperary but the title which their efforts deserved eluded them. Came the end of their hurling days and Borrisokane immediately slumped. There were none to take their place and a wilderness era began with frustrations and disappointments the lot of the Lower Ormond town.

The reason of course was simple enough. The prominence which the seniors received and the concentration on their achievements saw a total lack of interest in juvenile arfairs and it was realised, if somewhat late, that no success could be envisaged until such time as the long hard road through juvenile ranks was traversed.

It was at the club's annual general meeting in 1971 that Noel Morris asked how they could hope to have a minor team or any other team, when the juvenwhatever attention was given to the players of tomorrow, came from the senior club. However things changed, A juvenile club was formed in 1972 and ten years later, as Borrisokane reflects on what has been the greatest season in the history of the club, the decision taken on 8th January 1972, to form that juvenile club, must rank as the most vital step in achieving what Borrisokane now boasts.

The then curate, Fr Charles Navin with assistance from Noel Morris and a few others organised a parish juvenile league in 1972. Young lads like lan Conroy, Vivien Dooley, Paul Dooley, Ger Carroll, John Moran, Denis Kelly, Nial Kelly- all prominent in the achievements of '82- came to the fore in this league and lan's side won the honours. Side by side with hurling, football attracted the attention of these lads and it was a football title that first came their way when crowned North Tipp rural champions (under 14) in '74. A year later the major breakthrough in juvenile ranks came with titles in under 12, 14 and 16 in both hurling and football. The seeds sown just a few years before iles were so poorly neglected. Up to then that were blossoming magnificently. Fr

Navin was proud, so too were Fr Tom Seymour (juvenile club secretary), Michael J. Hough, Bill Brennan, Michael Donnelly, Peter Morris, Paddy Murphy, Denis Gardiner, Frank Kelly John Darcy and others.

In '73 the Intermediate side took divisional honours, failing to Ballingarry in the county final. Still there from the 'old days' were Paul Whyte, Mackey and Tony McKenna, Noel Morris, Jimmy Cahill, Seanie Phelan and Mick Morris but even they could not go on forever and a downhill trend soon began resulting in a decision taken in '79, to move into junior ranks and concentrate on building from that base. A few games were won, the spirit began to resurrect itself and without really realising it, Borris were in the final against Silvermines. The sides ended level and on their second meeting. the 'Mines won handsomely. A year later, they reached the semi final, to be beaten by Ballinahinch and, extraordinarily, that was the last defeat this promising side was to suffer. 1980 saw the divisional and county titles won. resulting in a step up to Inter grade this



BORRISOKANE INTERMEDIATE CHAMPIONS 1982 Back row, I. to r.: Ned Fogarty (Masseur), F. Tierney, T. Donnelly, I. Conroy, S. Hogan, S. Donnelly, J. Moran, D. Kelly, J. Reddan. Front, I. to r.: G. Brennan, N. Comerford, E. Brennan, N. Kelly, P. Dooley, G. Carroll, V. Dooley.

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Terrific Year

And what a year '82 has been for Borrisokane. In a grade that provided a standard of hurling, that could well be emulated by the senior sides, the Borris Intermediate team beacme the side to be watched, right from the start of the season. Portroe, the reigning champions, were still there and it promised to be a really enthralling competition. Borris sailed through their league section, scarcely troubled and old rivals and neighbours, Shannon Rovers stood between them and a place in the divisional final. As the game moved into its closing minutes, it seemed that Borris's long run had come to an end. Two goals in arrears. A seemingly insurmountable task but the character of this Borris side surfaced and in two glorious minutes the lead was cancelled out. It would take a second day to separate them. There was no doubting the issue in the replay. Borris had all the answers and their place in the final against Portroe was assured. The triumphant road continued with the title coming back to the Lower Ormond club for the first time since 1973. A nine point win, 2-10 to 1-4, left no doubt as to the worthiness of the success.

To St Cronan's Park in Roscrea came Moyne-Templetuohy and Borrisokane for the county semi-final. A good game, with Borris playing below their best and fortunate enough, with a late point, to earn a replay. A week later it was on to Semple Stadium in Thurles and that character which Borris had shown against the Rovers made its presence felt in a 2-13 to 3-7 victory. The adrenelin was flowing and it continued to flow when county final day came and back in Semple Stadium, Borris had the easiest of victories over West champions, Golden, 3-17 to 1-5. The road back had been

traversed in style. To add to this historic win, there were divisional titles in minor and intermediate football while the inaugural junior 'B' title— a novice competition— was also won. The under 21 football competition of which Borris are divisional and county champions for the past two years has still to be completed and while the emergence of the club as a major footballing force was very welcome, there is no denying that a return to the top in hurling, was the achievement, dearly sought and cherished. Selectors Mick Murphy, Willie Starr and Michael Comerford gathered around them a Willing bunch, a group that believed in themselves and in their ability to recover lost ground for Borris. Those juvenile successes of the early and mid seventies matured into the kind of success so many had hoped for. Seamus Hogan, one of the stars of Tipp's last All Ireland senior victories in '71, lent his valuable experience and craft both as a centre back

Back to Senior

It's now back to senior grade for from juvenile grade up.

and trainer with Donie Nealon also

playing a noble part in the latter stages.



The Borrisokane Intermediate team that brought the first County title to the Club 1940.

This team was honoured by the club at their dinner dance in 1981.

Front row: Jack Gleeson, Paddy McKenna, D. Hayes, D. Doorley (captain), M. Morris,
P. Reddan, P. Brennan, Fr Paul Sullivan.

Back row: B. Gavin, J. Kelly, J. Carroll, M. Darcy, J. Treacy, W. Starr, T. J. Foley.



Fine action photo of Jack Moran, Borrisokane.

Borrisokane. The ground work has been laid and in addition, Paul Hogan and his juvenile committee are continuing the good work began a decade ago. The future for Borrisokane must be bright and it is due to hard work all the way from juvenile grade up.

Perhaps those disappointing days in the early '60s will be atoned for in this the great centenary decade of the Association. For a club that was founded in 1885, who is to say that its own centenary will not be celebrated in fitting manner with a championship win?

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GAELIC GAMES IN NORTH TIPPERARY VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS

by J. J. Egan

Record Breaking Year for Borrisokane Vocational School

Looking back on the School Year just ended my first impressions are that Gaelic games are on a sound footing, and satisfactory progress is being made in all our schools to promote our national

Results of Competitions 1981/82

	Winners	Runners u
Senior Hurling	Borrisokane	Nenagh
Senior Football	Borrisokane	Thurles
Junior Hurling	Borrisokane	Newport
Junior Football	Borrisokane	Nenagh
1st Yr Hurling	Borrisokane	Nenagh

POST PRIMARY COMPETITIONS

Canon Fitzgerald Cup U-17 Hurling

Winners: Borrisokane Vocational School Runners Up: Tipperary C.B.S.

Croke Cup U-16 Hurling

Once again as can be seen from the results it was another historic year for Borrisokane Vocational School, Winning seven major titles including the two Post primary competitions must surely go down in the history books as the greatest year for the School. Borrisokane have had phenominal success in the past but I am sure they will agree this was their finest achievement to date. The highlight of the year was undoubtedly the winning of the Canon Fitzgerald Cup after a lapse of eleven years. The final Which was played as a curtain raiser to the All Ireland Club Championship final in Semple Stadium, Thurles had everything one would wish to see. Excitement from start to finish- man to man hurling and sportsmanship of the highest order. Those who were fortunate to see this game all agree that it was one of the finest games played in this competition to date. As winners of the Croke Cup also the future for hurling in the School and surrounding clubs must be very bright indeed.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Michael Scully and Donal Kealey (Roscrea) on winning Munster and All Ireland medals with Tipp, minors.

To Nenagh Vocational School on reaching the Munster final of the individual schools competition for the second year in succession, only to be narrowly beaten by Bandon in a thrilling replay.

After many years in the wilderness Templemore Vocational School finally



BORRISOKANE V.S. CANON FITZGERALD CUP WINNERS 1982

Winners: Borrisokane Vocational School
Runners Up: Templemore C.B.S.

Once again as can be seen from the

Front row, I. to r.: Tony Carroll, Martin Tooher, Tom Killackey, Padraig Hogan, Joe Burns,
Tony Boyle, John Slattery, Liam O'Meara, Paddy Burke, Martin McLoughney, Declan Morris (captain)
Back row: Christy Hayes, Sean Morris, John Fogarty, Paul Corcoran, Ned Darcy, Paul Molloy,
Paul Mulcahy, Tomas Quigley, David Moran, Michael Holland, Paul Ryan, Mr T. J. Egan (trainer).

made the breakthrough on reaching the Canon Fitzgerald Cup semi-final for the first time in their history. Had lady luck been on their side they would surely have beaten the eventual winners Borrisokane in a marvellous drawn semi-final. Well done Mick Keely and Co.

To the other schools that I have not mentioned Thurles and Newport I say keep up the good work your efforts are not going unnoticed and I feel sure your turn will come in the near future.

Inter County Hurling

Out of the honours list since 1977 North Tipp senior hurlers recaptured the Munster title with a great win over arch rivals Cork in a fine game played in Limerick. In the All-Ireland semi-final played in Borrisokane North Tipp. failed to halt Galway from going on to win their third All Ireland title in a row.

As most of last years team are available again this year expectations are high that the All-Ireland trophy will be back in North Tipp in the coming year.

Camogie

Lest the ladies feel they are being left out heartiest congratulations to Nenagh Vocational School on reaching the All Ireland senior final for the first time at the first attempt: But for a serious bus accident on their way to the final victory might have been theirs.

Thanks

Our sincere thanks to all Park Committees who freely and willingly make their pitches available to us in all weathers. To our gallant band of referees and in particular to Gerry Long (Knockshegowna) who make themselves available to us for games at very inconvenient times and venues throughout the yeara sincere thank you.

To the County and North board for their continued financial assistance- go raibh mile maith agaibh.

Conclusion

The success of any school team is dependent on a number of factors.

- Number of students attending the school.
- The goodwill and co-operation of (b) school staff.
- Encouragement and co-operation of Headmaster.
- Interest and assistance from local clubs.
- Dedication of players to training and willingness to work in best interest of team.

If Gaelic games are strong and progressing in any particular school- so also will success be achieved in the surrounding clubs.

To all clubs- please rally around your schools, give them your assistance and encouragement. A few hurleys or some hurling balls would be appreciated. The future of Gaelic games is in their hands. If it fails in our schools it will fail everywhere.

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COUNTY BORD NA n-OG- REVIEW OF 1982

bt Seán O Tiarnaí (Runaí)

County Champions & Runners-up 1982

U-12 Hurling

Champions- Dúrlas Og; Runners-up-Toomevara u-12 football.

Champions- Arravale Rovers; Runnersup- Durlas Og u-14 rural hurling.

Champions- Toomevara; Runners-up-Moycarkey-Borris u-14 Urban/rural hurling.

Champions-St Mary's Clonmel; Runnersup- Durlas Og u-14 rural football. Champions- Holycross; Runners-up-Moyle Rovers u-14 urban/rural football

Champions- Arravele Rovers; Runnersup- Clonmel Commercials u-16 hurling Eire Og; Runners-up-Knocka-

Finalists- Eire Og Nenagh and Knockavilla Kickhams u-16 football.

Champions-Newport; Runners-up-Cahir

At the time of writing all our competitions have been completed in good time. The following is a brief summary of the various competitions and how they went during the year.

Hurling: under 12

The under 12 hurling semi-finals were fought out between Toomevara and Knockavilla Kickhams in Templemore with Ballingarry taking on Durlas Og in Golden with Toomevara and Durlas Og emerging for a repeat of last years final. We all hoped for a repeat of those thrilling drawn and replayed matches and we were not disappointed when in a very exciting game Durlas Og turned the tables on Toomevara and captured the title.

Under 14, Féile na nGael

v Durlas Og were the semi final pairings. St Mary's overcame Cappawhite fairly comfortably but Roscrea and Durlas Og U-14 Rural Football had a cracker in Ballycahill with Durlas having to rely on a last minute goal in extra time to snatch victory. In the final St Marys came out on top however and represented us in the All-Ireland finals in Dublin. Gerard Deely of St Marys won the skills competition but due to the rules of Feile, as his club were the County representatives he had to forego the skills competition so runner up Laurence Cleary of Cappawhite was our representative.

While neither St Marys nor Laurence were outright winners in Dublin by their displays they were worthy representatives of the County.

Rural Hurling

Toomevara defeated Knockavilla Kickhams and Moycarkey-Borris defeated very high standard.

Ballingarry in their respective semifinals. As in the u-12 hurling this was a repeat of last years decider however Toomevara were determined not to be denied after their u-12 defeat and confined last years superiority in a fine game in Templemore Urban-Rural Hurling.

As predicted by Liam McGrath last year St Mary's maintained their position as No. 1 u-14 team in the County. Having overcome Roscrea in the semi-final they were faced by their Feile opponents Durlas Og in the final, Durlas having accounted for Knockavilla Kickhams in their semi-final. In another excellent game between these two teams St Marys once again emerged victorious.

U-16 Hurling

To date in this competition Knockavilla Kickhams accounted for Carrick Davins in their semi-final and Eire Og Nenagh defeated Templemore in a fine match in Cloughjordan. In the final Eire Og defeated Knockavilla by 2-6 to 1-7 in Holycross. Eire Og centre back Michael Cleary gave an exhibition of long range free taking and scored six great points.

FOOTBALL

U-12 Football

Durlas Og defeated Kilruane in very bad weather in Ballycahill but the football served up by both teams was a credit to them in the conditions. In the other semi-final Arravale Rovers defeated Ardfinnan in a fine match between two traditional strongholds of the game. The final played in Dundrum saw Arravale deny Durlas the u-12 double, and Cappawhite v St Marys and Roscrea complete the first half of a double they themselves were later to achieve.

This competition provided some of the most exciting football of the year. In a great game in Holycross, Holycross themselves overcame Borrisokane. In the other semi-final Moyle Rovers defeated Knockavilla Kickhams. In probably the most exciting final in this code for years Holycross achieved a great victory over a gallant Moyle Rovers.

U-14 Urban Rural Football

Arravale Rovers (defeated) received a walk-over from a Borrisokane team depleted by injuries and in the other pairing Clonmel Commercials defeated Durlas Og. This competition provided Arravale with the second leg of their double when they defeated Commercials in a final which was full of football of a

U-16 Football

Newport accounted for Golden and Cahir defeated Templemore in their respective semi-finals. This set the scene for the final which was played in Ballycahill. Cahir were warm favourites but Newport upset all the odds by achieving a one point victory in a thrilling encounter, and in doing so they gave football in the North a great boost.

NEW COMPETITIONS

U-14 Long Puck

In the inaugural year of this competition a young man from Cappawhite Laurence Cleary became Tipperary champion and he proved himself a real champion by winning both Munster and All-Ireland titles in impressive fashion. This was a tremendous feat by Laurence and doubtless we will be hearing a lot more about him in the future.

Féile na n-Og

This competition was introduced in Cavan as the football answer to Féile na nGael. Clonmel Commercials were our representatives and they also did the County proud winning their section outright in the finals.

Mid Tipp fared best of the Tipperary divisions this year and were unfortunate to have been beaten by eventual winners West Waterford in the semi-final.

Congratulations to North Tipperary referee Gerry Long who officiated at the Munster final of this competition and an excellent job he did too.



Gerry Long

Garda Cup

This is a divisional u-16 hurling competition for which the Gardaí have sponsored a cup and Bord na nOg are very grateful for this. Mid Tipp, have already qualified for the final having accounted for South Tipp and are at the time of writing awaiting the winners of North Tipp v West Tipp.



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Scór: The 1982 competition once again DIVISIONAL CHAMPIONS 1982 showed the healthy state Scór is in at Juvenile level in the county. Special mention must be given to the Websters of Loughmore who took the All-Ireland title.

Conclusion

The Bord would sincerely like to thank all those who helped in any way during the year particularly referees, park committees, team officials and especially our patrons who turned out in such good numbers at our games, which is a tribute in itself to the fine games they witnessed in return. May we wish You all a Happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Scór na nOg County Champions 1982

Rince Foirne- Upperchurch-Drombane Aithriseoireacht-Clogheen-Rachel Cahill Amhranalocht Aonair- Fethard- Eddie Sheehan

Tráth na gCeist- Arravale Rovers Nua-Chleas- Clonoulty-Rossmore Ceol Uirlise- Loughmore-Castleiney Bailéad Grúpa- Upperchurch-Drombane Rince Seit-Gortnahoe-Glengoole.

County Final Referees

- outily I man Hotoroos				
U-12 Football	Patsy O'Halloran			
U-12 Hurling	John Moloney			
U-14 Rural Hurling	Sammy Ryan			
U-14 U/R Hurling	Sammy Ryan			
U-14 Rural Football	Sammy Ryan			
U-14 U/R Football	Liam McGrath			
U-16 Football	Liam McGrath			
U-16 Hurling	Liam McGrath			

	North	South	Mid		West		
U-12 Hurling	Toomevara	Ballingarry	Durlas Og	Knoc	kavilla	Kickhams	
U-12 Football	Kilruane	Ardfinnan	Durlas Og	Arravale Rovers			
U-14 Rural Hurling	Toomevara	Ballingarry	Moycarkey Bo	loycarkey Borris K		Knockavilla	
U-14 U/R Hurling	Roscrea	St Mary's	Durlas Og		Knockavilla		
U-14 Rural Football	Borrisokane	Moyle Rovers	Holycross		Knockavilla		
U-14U/R Football	Borrisokane	Clonmel Commercials Durlas Og		Og	Arravale Rovers		
U-16 Hurling	Eire Og	Carrick Davins	Templemo	re	Knock	avilla	
U-16 Football	Newport	Cahir	Templemo	re	Golder	1	



John Lowry Arravale Rovers receiving the U-14 W/R Football Championship Trophy from Rev. Fr John O'Rourke, C.C., Chairman of County Bord na nOg, after their victory Photo-Boland Clonmel over Commercials in the final.



CAHIR U-16 FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS Back row, I. to r.: R. Quirke, P. Hubbard, Phil Kiely, F. Howlin, G. Enright, P. Shelley, Pat O'Brien, Joe Devereaux, Ml Kelly. Middle row, I. to r.: T. Shine, J. Costello, B. Condon, L. Enright, D. McInerney, S. Condon, P. Costello, G. Gilligan. Front row, I. to r.: B. Halpin, J. Kelly, J. McInerney, D. O'Brien.

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A COUNTY TITLE FOR NEWPORT

It is not often that a team from North Tipp wins a County Football title, therefore there was great rejoicing in Newport when their under 16 team won the County final. Ironically it was in the hurling championship that most hopes rested with this team at the start of the year. However, having registered a few impressive victories they came a cropper in the semi-final against Eire Og, when the absence of a key player upset the morale and effectiveness of the team. Having been eliminated from the hurling all concentration was then on the football.

In the opening round against Eire Og at Dolla on 23rd April Newport should signs that they were a team with a fair amount of ability and potential. Nonetheless, consisting of players ranging in age from 13 to 16 and varying greatly in size and stature, little did one think that there would be a county title in them. They overcame Shannon Rovers in the second round and so earned a semifinal place against Kildangan. The game ended in controversial circumstances but the refixture was well contested and

closely fought. Thanks mainly to some well taken scores from diminutive corner forward Denis Ryan, Newport finished two points ahead. Kilruane provided the opposition in the North final. Newport started with a flourish with Eamon Ryan and Denis Ryan in tremendous form, and ran into an early lead. However they allowed Kilruane back into the game with a goal from a penalty and points from frees. However they rallied again to finish a point in front. It was noticeable throughout all the North Championship that different players played well in various games. Everyone looked forward and hoped for the day

when they might all shine together.

The scene was set for the County semi-final against Golden at Holycross. Venturing into the unknown, the team went out more in hope than confidence. They started tentatively and but for trojan work by Frankie Shinnors and Anthony McBride in defence they would have found themselves in serious trouble. However the pattern changed just on half time when Eamon Ryan banged in a great goal. The second half was very even with never much between the sides and Newport just held on to win by a point.

The County final was fixed for Sunday 10th October with Cahir the opponents. Cahir took the field, a big strong looking side and in some instances dwarfed the Newport players, particularly corner forward, Denis Ryan and Liam Jones. Cahir went on the attack straught away and but for a magnificent save by Richard Ryan, Newport would have been in

arrears from an early stage. Gradually Newport settled down and began to give as good as they got, with the half forward line in particular doing a lot of probing and running at the defence. Eamon Ryan got a point from play and one from a free and near half time Colm Moran fielded well in front of goals turned and shot a good point to leave the half time score three points to two. One of the many highlights of the first half was a magnificent catch by Pat Keating in his own square just on the stroke of half time.

On the resumption Eamon Ryan shot a great long range point from out on the sideline but then Cahir began to take over. They dominated midfield and their half forwards looked menacing, However their shooting was wild and many scores were missed. Finally after a lot of pressure Cahir got through for a goal and when they went three points ahead it all seemed over. The advent of Colm Moran to midfield and Pat Keating to centre back steadied Newport and they settled down and began to exert pressure on Cahir. The scores were levelled when Peter Coleman blocked an attempted clearance into the Cahir net and the stage was set for a nail biting final ten minutes. Neither side succeeded in scoring until about four minutes from the end when Eamon Ryan was fouled in front of goal and he pointed the resultant free himself. Cahir went on the attack again but the Newport backs held their heads and withstood all onslaughts. The final whistle came with Newport that solitary point ahead- a margin which favoured them in many of their games during the year. Eamon Ryan received the Trophy from the Treasurer of County Board na nOg Denis Hogan, amid scenes of great jubila-

All members of the panel played their parts in bringing this title to Newport. Richard Ryan proved himself to be a very capable goalie and conceded very few scores. Pat Keating was always safe at full back and corner men Tom McCabe and John Collins were close markers and gave little scope to attackers. The half back line was probably the most consistent line through the year. Frankie Shinnors used his strength and height to great effect and he was ably assisted by John Ryan and Anthony McBride. Indeed as well as doing their defensive job well, this trio often came forward to set up scores or take scores themselves. At centrefield Connie McGrath broke up a lot of play and got many vital scores from long range. His partner Declan O'Brien, full of energy and always on the move picked up a lot of

opponents. Centre forward Colm Moran, though of tender years is a very promising player. His ability to field and take scores combined with his pace are great attributes. At wing forward the Ryan brothers Eamon and Timmy stood out not alone because of their red hair but also for their ability to carry the ball, to round an opponent and to shoot accurately. Indeed if one was to select the player who contributed most to Newport's victory run, it must be Eamon Ryan who played a captain's part through the year. The full forward line epitomised the phrase that the best of goods come in small parcels. Denis Ryan has the uncanny knack of being able to get possession in all sorts of situations and his ability to take scores with either foot is invaluable. Liam Jones in the other corner is an ardent trier with many skilful touches. At full forward Peter Coleman has an amazing work-rate and has also got many a vital score. Michael Carey the most regular replacement in the panel made many appearances and though young in years, his bustling aggressive style was a useful contribution. The other subs-Liam Moynihan, Stephen Sharkey, Noel Murray, Michael Ryan, Denis Kennedy and Denis Collins all played at various stages of the championship and played their part in achieving victory.

Overall it was a victory, not just for skill and ability but for commitment and determination. They showed great enthusiasm and dedication through the year and they got their reward. Especially in the County final the team displayed remarkable spirit against what looked like superior opposition. As well as being a boost to the Newport club the victory should be a boost for football in North Tipperary. There was little difference between Newport and the teams they met in the North Championship. Many other clubs can emulate this achievement.

If these Newport players continue their interest and maintain the same spirit they will ensure that the football tradition established in the parish down through the years will be strengthened and who knows perhaps further honours will come their way.



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Eire Og Under 21s— A Dynamic Force for How Long?

by Peter Gleeson (Nenagh Guardian)

The year 1979 was to mark the beginning of Eire Og's regal reign as supreme Under 21s team in the Premier County. Come to think of it that was the vear they won their third North Minor final in succession and took the Under 16 honours at North and County level.

No wonder then, they were awarded North Tipperary Club of the Year for 1979. Some felt that Kilruane MacDonagh should have got the award considering they were the top notches at senior level in the county for three years running. However Nenagh's ocean of juvenile successes did not go unnoticed and they got the final preference.

The 70s was a period of prestigious juvenile successes for 'The Blues'. Players of the calibre of Jim Sullivan, Phil Kennedy, Brian Heffernan and Paddy Power, plus a host of others have North and County medals for u-12, u-14, u-16, Minor and u-21 level. It was the juvenile successes of this era that formed the backbone and muscle to one of the most dynamic spate of u-21 successes ever to dawn in the county.

Between 1979-81 Eire Og were to take honours in all North and County finals at under 21 level. Without doubt, the club are breaking new ground. The successful youngsters of the 70s were coming of age and they brought with them the first u-21 County title in December 1979 when they annihilated

Killenaule/Mullinahone on the score of 6-15 to 2-4.

Three years on, Nenagh are bidding for their fourth County title in succession but unfottunately the press deadline happens to be three days prior to the replay of the County final. Undoubtedly, Eire Og u-21s have come up against their most troublesome obstacle to date in their three years of success. Considering that Clonoulty-Rossmore held them to a draw in the County final on 31st October last, the replay of this encounter will be the most precarious obstacle ever encountered by the Northern Capital. But to put it rather curtly: I favour Eire Og to win. Now the Yearbook is published, the final is over; was I right or was I wrong? Grave apologies to the Mid men if I am mistaken. You see I know this Nenagh team as well as any expert. I know they play with a hunger for glory when their backs are to the

Second County Final

Anyway, enough of this fortune telling and lets get back to a bit of history. With the Eire Og minors winning their third title in a row in 1979 and the under 16s winning the North and County in the same year there was a lavish crop of young hurlers who could yield Eire Og with future under 21 wins. And so came 1980 and Nenagh under 21s found themselves contesting the County final for the second year running. After defeating Lorrha in the North final by 3-13 to 1-7 and coming good to Eire Og/ Annacarty in the County semi-final by 4-9 to 4-7 they were back defending their County title again. Killenaule/Mullinahone discovered that 'The Blues' were as insurerable and had lost none of the devastating zest which won them the '79 final. The '80 decider was a plundering affair by the Northereners when they took the title by the gaping score margin of 6-8 to 109.

I will always remember the 1981 County decider as the 'Orange Juice final'. Eire Og had their annual dinner dance in the Ormond Hotel the night before the contest. Chairman of the Club, Tommy Mulcahy, addressed the attendance and I remember quoting him on that occasion. To the under 21 team he said: . . 'You are playing in the County final tomorrow. I would like you to enjoy yourselves tonight, but at the same time mind yourselves'. The team knew exactly what he meant and orange juice and minerals were the order for "the famous fifteen". Dancing and the fair sex were also kept at a low ebb and the lads were sent home early. Next morning it was off to Semple Stadium and with hard honest work and endeavour they overcame the relentless pressure from an impressive Clonoulty Rossmore side to win their three-in-a-row on the score of 3-9 to 2-9.



EIRE OG U-21

Back, I. to r.: Donie O'Brien, Paul Kennedy, John Flannery, MI Ryan, Pat Power, Connor O'Donovan, Martin Hynes, John Heffernan. Front, I. to r.: Paul Whelan, MI Cleary, Denis Finnerty, Pat Lee (captain), Phil Hennessy, Noel Coffey, Seamie Kennedy.

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Contribution to County

But not only were Eire Og flirting their supremacy at club level during their three years of glory (and maybe four), but the cream of those victorious u-21 teams represented their county and played a part in bringing glory back to the Premier in the past few years at minor and u-21 level. Significant it is that Tipperary u-21s have run parallel to Eire Og u-21s over the past three years. Tipperary won their three in a row All Ireland in 1981 while Eire Og won their third County final in succession the same year. Nenagh's Brian Heffernan played on the County team that beat Cork in the Munster final that year. He was a member of the panel for the All Ireland final victory against Galway in the u-21 final.

In 1980 Denis Finnerty was a stable Number 6 when Tipp minors came good over Wexford in the All Ireland final. At the same time Tipperary u-21s beat Kilkenny in the All Ireland final at Walsh Park Waterford, Representing Eire Og that day were Brian Heffernan at wing back; Phil Kennedy captained the team; his brother Michael played at wing forward and P. J. Maxwell who played earlier in the championship was forced to the subs bench with an injury.

In the 1981 All Ireland under 21 final Eire Og were represented by Phil Kennedy (captain); Jim Sullivan (sub) and Brian Heffernan who played earlier in the championship was in America for the victory in that match.

Eire Og's full back, John Flannery,

played at corner back for the Tipp minors who won the 1982 All Ireland final against Galway.

So to round off: As a Nenagh man it's good to note that Eire Og are still doing their fair share for hurling in Tipperary. But I wonder now will the home team of superb under 21 players graduate to a successful senior team. More importantly for all of us Tipperary men: Will the Under 21 County team that won three All Irelands in a row during the same period blossom to a senior team capable of putting the premier county back in its proper position in Inter County hurling.

Addendum: Eire Og did indeed achieve their fourth u-21 in-a-row, defeating Clonoulty-Rossmore 2-6 to 2-4 in the replay.

EIRE OG, RESURGENCE

Under 16 Hurling

After demoralising defeats in u-14 competition two years previous, Eire Og u-16 hurlers put matters right this

From early in the year the panel came together, trained and practiced for long periods. Defeats in the earlier rounds by Kilruane and Roscrea foiled to dampen their enthusiasm and when the semi-final and final stages of the North competition was reached, Eire Og gave their utmost particularly against Roscrea in the final. After a long six-week period the County semi-final was played and Eire Og came out on top after a tough struggle with a gallant Templemore team.

The County final was played in early November after a months wait and in conditions not suitable got good under age hurling.

A gigantic struggle took place with Knockavilla-Dromaskeigh in Holycross. Eire Og opened with a few good scoring chances going to waste and giving Knockavilla time to recover and take a two point lead, before Eire Og opened their account with a point from captain Mike Cleary. The Knockavilla team dictated terms in the first half until the last five minutes, when the Nenagh lads came back with ground hurling and so at half time had cut the lead to one point.

The Eire Og followers were on their toes early in the second half with a well taken goal from Joe Gilmartin, but their lead and joy was short lived as Knockavilla replied with a goal and a point to put pressure on again.

Eire Og were not to be denied and when Mike Cleary failed to rise a free, his cut sailed 60 yards to the Knockavilla square. Noel O'Meara connected to tackle and gain possession. Coffeys



EIRE OG U-16 COUNTY CHAMPIONS

which subsequently Eire Og never lost.

Stout Defence

Hard as the opponents tried they failed to penetrate the Nenagh back division, Enda Costelloe in goals, made a number of fine saves fronted by a tenacious full line of Bob Hogan, Tom Mulqueen and John Cadell nothing was given soft. Half backs Ger Morris and Gerry Hynes gave solid displays, with captain Mike Cleary once again showing his skill and ability to control all danger and turn it to attack. Centrefields Noel Coffey and John Coonan never ceased

and put in the ball in the net, for a lead, second half was excellent and Coonan showed touches of still better to come. The half forwards Niall O'Shea, Noel O'Meara and Michael Moylan never gave up and were great assistance, falling back when pressure was on O'Meara's strength was a vital factor all through and O'Shea and Moylan capitalised on any chances given. The full line was a real waster for backs with all three Johnny Ryan, Joe Gilmartin and Paul Delaney keeping up constant pressure. They all had their moments of glory with well taken goals throughout the campaign. All in all this was Eire Og's u-16s year and they got what they gave.

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RE-INTRODUCTION OF THE INTER COUNTY JUNIOR HURLING

by Donie Nealon

After many years of narrow failure at various congresses, a motion to re-introduce the Junior hurling and football All-Ireland championships was successfully steered through Congress at Kilkenny last spring when it received the almost impossible and forbidden two thirds majority. Like many others who were present on the occasion I was glad to see the return of the junior hurling in particular as its demise over the past decade did not help County or club hurling in Tipperary, particularly as we were the kingpins of this grade in its final years having been All-Ireland champions in 1971 and again in 1972, with a completely new team, before opting for u-21, in 1973 when Kilkenny now the last Intermediate championship played. The Championship was then known as Intermediate but it will revert back to its former name of junior for the coming years. Perhaps I always had a special 'grá' for the junior grade as my father won an All-Ireland junior medal with Tipperary in 1924. I was on the junior team myself in 1956 and 1957 without success and many others from my club including my two brothers also play junior for the County.

With the departure of the Intermediate grade something really traditional went out of hurling for Tipperary and especially for the lesser lights in the county, i.e. The Intermediate and junior clubs, who provided the bulk of the players and for whom there was very little real chance of county representation in senior grade. Here it may be of interest to mention that Tipp hold the record in All-Irelands won in Intermediate hurling, having annexed four in all in the years 1963, 1966, 1971 and 1972. Wexford and London have two each while Carlow, Cork, Kildare, Antrim and Kilkenny have one each.

Having been associated with the Tipperary teams of 1966, 1971 and 1972 as a selection in 1966 and as trainer cum selector in 1971 and 1972 I know at first hand the great interest taken in this grade by the Inter and Junior club. It was their opportunity to have a man or two wear the famed blue and gold and places were rigorously fought for at fiercely contested and well attended county trials that contained all the "legitimate devil" that the late J. D. Hickey (go ndeanai Dia trocaire air) so often referred to in his write-ups on Mondays Independent.

Once selected the players trained with an intensity and fervour to match any senior County team and because of this great commitment and determination successive titles came to Tipp. in 1971 and 1972. Looking back on some of the more notable games in those

years who can ever forget the defeat of a very fancied and talented Kerry team at Tralee in early 1971 when 10 points down at half-time we stormed back Phoenix-like in the second half to win by three points. Likewise in the All-Ireland final that year in Kilkenny we had a man sent off after twenty minutes against a very strong and physical Wicklow side that scored two goals against us in the first five minutes but our fourteen heroes hurled magnificently using every ball cleverly in the forwards in the second half to take the honours. In 1972 when backboned by a strong Kildangan contingent we surprisingly defeated a very fancied Cork team in the first round at Tipperary town before accounting for Kerry at Emly in the Munster final. Dublin were beaten in the semi-final at Kilkenny but for the All-Ireland we were very badly shaken by injuries which necessitated at least four changes in personnel. Nevertheless we overcame the strong challenge of Galway despite all our misfortunes with injuries and this victory saw Matt Ruth (later of Limerick and Kilkenny senior fame) win his first All-Ireland medal.

And now for a return to the scene in 1983. Allready speculation is rife in the county as to who will gain places on next years team. Having witnessed so many games in Inter and Junior in the North division and especially the very high standard evidenced in the County I. H. semi-final and replay between Borrisokane and Moyne, I think it should augur well for a splendid Tipp team in the coming year.

Despite rumours to the contrary it now seems definite that the junior championships will take place in 1983 and a recent directive from Padraig O Bogaigh that the competitions in hurling and football will be confined to junior and Intermediate players has dispelled any doubts of an early death for successful Congress motion. I'm glad too that he has seen fit to confine selection to players of Junior and Intermediate standard only, as this will once again give prominence and county representation to players from less well known clubs, which in its own way does a great deal for the promotion of hurling in these clubs. In its own way selection on the County Juniors or Intermediates was very often the stepping stone to Senior fame in later years.

Many of the 1966, 1971 and 1972 teams later played senior Inter-county at league and championship level and a nostalgic lookback at those All-Ireland winning teams (hereunder published) proves this point and is my cue to say 'Well done' to old friends of yesteryear and to re-echo the words of County



Chairman Micheal O Freaghaile to Paul Dooley, Borrisokane captain, at the presentation of this year's County Intermediate hurling final cup that he hoped he would lead Tipperary to victory in 1983 so that the county would once again take up where we left off ten years ago.

1966 team

Tipp. 4-11; Dublin 2-12 at Enniscorthy.

Seamus Shinnors (Newport); P. Kennedy (Knockshegowna); Ned Ryan (Newport); Aldie Burke (Shamrock Rovers); Jimmie Drohan (Carrick-on-Suir); Noel O'Gorman (Newport); Patsy Dawson (Emly); W. O'Grady (Moyne); Jim Fogarty (Golden); Seamus Kenny (Carrick Davins) MI O'Grady (Moyne); MI Jones (Newport); Liam Connolly (Fethard); Stephen Noonan (Knockshe); Tommy Brennan (Ballingarry). Subs: Dinny Dunne (Moyne) for P. Dawson; P. McLoughlin (Sean Treacys) for MI O'Grady.

1971 team

On 19/9/82 defeated Wicklow at Kilkenny by 3-16 to 3-13.

Willie Barnaville (Killenaule); Jack Dunlea (Silvermines); Pat Kennedy (Knockshegowna); Gerry Keogh (Ballina); Denis Crowe (Templederry); Pat Quinlan (Silvermines); Brendan Teehan (0-1) (Gortnahoe); Oliver Quinn (Drom-Inch); J. P. McDonnell (0-1) (Burgess); Seamus (Boherlahan); Power (1-3)Jimmy Noonan (0-2) (Knockshegowna); Martin Brennan (Ballingarry); Eamon Butler, captain (Drom-Inch); Phil Lowry (2-6) (Upperchurch); Ian Barry (0-1) (Burgess); Subs: Sean Cahalan (Sh. Rovers), Jim Carey (Burgess); Pakie Hogan (Burgess); Seamus Butler (Drom); Donal Ryan (Moycarkey).

1972 team

On 17/9/72 defeated Galway at Birr by 2-13 to 1-9.

Sean Cahalan (Sh. Rovers); John Costigan (Clonakenny); Jim Keogh (Silvermines); Sean Fitzpatrick (Carrick Swans); MI Fitzgibbon (Silvermines); Noel Seymour (Captain) (Kiladangan); Jim Keane (Boherlahan); Billy Berncombe (Boherlahan); Terry Moloney (0-1) (Kiladangan) Joe Connors (o-1) (Thurles Kickhams); John Kennedy (1-2) (Silvermines); Matt Ruth (0-3) (St Mary's Clonmel); Ollie Killeen (1-1) (Kiladangan); Jack Seymour (Portroe); Seamas Mackey (0-5) (Holycross). Subs: Paddy Kelly (Kiladangan); Willie Moloney (Kiladangan); Jim Kehoe (Kilsheelan); Micky Flannery (Kiladangan); John Darcy (Kiladangan); Jim Egan (Kiladangan); Pat Coffey (Bansha).

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EMLY'S '82 STORY

As we travelled the road to Kilsheelan on Sunday 12th September our thoughts were naturally on the last Sunday of August of the previous year when we travelled, in confidence, the same road to play Clonmel Commercials in the 1981 County Minor final. On that occasion we were unsuccessful— what of today?

The omens were good. We had overcome our bogey team, Cashel, in the West. In our own parish we were completing our Solemn Novena during which the Redemptorist Fathers had prayed for our success. On the previous Sunday two of our players Mike Cunningham and Mike Corcoran had won All-Ireland Minor hurling medals in Croke Park. The "Irish Press" Cup was on display in the Church.

Consequently we felt confident as we faced the Mid Champions in the final. Our confidence was not misplaced as we went on to win our first Minor football title.

Our path to the title started last March when we had our first outing against Arravale Rovers, which we won. We finished our league games before the summer exams and had qualified for the semi-finals. With practically the same fifteen we had qualified for the hurling semi-finals as well.

Exams over, we now faced old rivals Cashel in the semi-final. After drawing the first game we scraped home in the replay. This victory over Cashel was a great morale-booster for us as this particular Cashel team had beaten us at u-12, u-14 and u-16 level in previous years. We now had our eyes firmly set on the County title.

In the Divisional final we proved far too strong for Solohead Aherlow. Despite a gallant recovery early in the second half we overcame St Augustines to qualify for the county final against Templemore. Playing with a strong breeze we completely dominated play but due to inaccurate shooting we had not a great lead at half-time so Templemore appeared to be in with a chance. However, it was when facing the breeze we played our best football and won convincingly.

Naturally there was great excitement among our players and our large band of enthusiastic supporters gave full vent to their feelings when the final whistle sounded. It made up for last year's failure. This was essentially a team victory. We had some good players in key positions but overall every player contributed his part to our victory.

We would like to compliment our own West Board on the excellent way they ran off the Minor championships. Trainers of teams were able to plan ahead because they knew exactly when they would be



John McGrath Lattin/Emly receiving the County Minor Football Championships Trophy from Hugh Kennedy, Chairman of the Minor Football Board.

Photo- Boland Clonmel



LATTIN-EMLY MINOR FOOTBALL TEAM 1982 CO. CHAMPIONS.

Front row, I. to r.: A. Bourke, J. O'Meara, P. Bourke, S. Dunne, M. Corcoran, J. Russell
J. McGrath (captain), P. O'Halloran, M. O'Dwyer, F. Cunningham.

Back row, I. to r.: J. Buckley, G. Howe, F. Condon, P. Lonergan, Joe Buckley, L. Bourke,
S. O'Brien, A. English, P. Creamer, M. Cunningham, L. Casey, John Buckley,
S. McManus, Selector.

Photo-Boland Clonmel

playing and whether hurling or football. Other Divisions could copy.

The playing year has not yet finished for some of the minor teams as our u-21 team have qualified for the County semi-final.

We also qualified for the Divisional hurling final against Clonoulty Rossmore and after beating Cashel in the semi-final our hopes were high. However, five days before the final our County minor Mike Corcoran received a severe hand injury which ruled him out. We went down by

the narrowest of margins. Practically the same fifteen play hurling and football.

Molaim na fir óga go léir ó Imleach, Laitin-Cuileann, a ghlac páirt sna comórtaisí mionúir. Thug siad an-áthas don lucht féachana trén caighdeán árd a shrois siad san pheil agus san iománaíocht. Má leanann siad ag feabhsú tá mé cinnte go mbeidh roinnt eile acu ag imirt do Thiobrad Arann amach anseo mar a bhí Micheál O Cuinneagáin, Micheál O Corcram, Seán O Bhriain agus Nioclás Ingleis ag imirt i mbliana.

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SOME THOUGHTS- FROM THE COUNTY P.R.O.

by Liz Howard

In recent times we read about the F.A.I. inviting Liam Mulvihill and Paddy Buggy to attend an International. Unfortunately it reached the papers before the official invitation was extended. Some of the papers made a big song and dance about it- it lead to all kinds of speculation. Was there an ulterior motive behind the invitation? Was Croke Park to be asked for as a venue for future Soccer Internationals. I feel it was a pity that such publicity ruined what was a very genuine hand of friendship extended by John Farrell, President of the F.A.I. John Farrell isn't interested in cheap publicity, he is very interested in good relations between all sporting organisations. He is an honest and sincere man who loves sport. In this small country of ours we talk about peace and co-operation between North and South- why not start with sport?

What has one association to fear from another? I am committed to our national games but surely there is room for soccer, rugby and other sports. We must appreciate that not everyone wants to play hurling or football. We do not have a divine right to monololy in the G.A.A. but we do have a responsibility to those who play our game- proper facilities and good referees. We might well learn from other associations and they in turn benefit from our expertise. Sport is good in itself. Friendship and cordial relations with the F.A.I. and the I.R.F.U. would improve the image of the G.A.A. There are people who think that we are a narrow-minded group. There are "die hards" in our ranks who are afraid to give an inch. In a democratic society they are entitled to their views provided they do not express them as being gospel for the entire G.A.A. Unfortunately they are all too often the ones who make the headlines. The majority of members are lovers of sport in general while still being very loyal to our own games. The G.A.A. is a strong vibrant association and should be a leader in building bridges not barriers.

There is room for useful discussion with the F.A.I. and the I.R.F.U. on various issues, such as admission prices, crowd control at turnstiles, dealing with violence, protection of referees, etc. The stewarding at G.A.A. matches is generally poor. I say this without apology. All too often it's the free admission which is the attraction. The "maor" badge merely adorns the lapel. I have observed the stewarding at Lansdowne Road at Internationals- it's equally poor. I have come to the conclusion that many stewards visit a hostelry on the way or maybe it's the "Hip Flask" which gives off the whiff of malt!! In the



Liz Howard, P.R.O. Tipp. Co. Board

job of stewarding the F.A.I. is far and away the best. Easily recognisable in their specially provided garb they are familiar with the particular area they cover, directing patrons quickly to their seats. They "man" their station right to the end of the game, exits are kept clear. The so-called patrons who like to watch the last ten minutes blocking the exits and the views of those who remain seated are quickly sent on their way.

There must be a better system than the manually operated turn stile. Turnstiles in general are a menace— apart from the fact that they are usually stiff and rusty they are much too slow on big match days. Why not an entrance similar to the subways in the main European cities. You push your ticket into a machine, if valid, it automatically activates a barrier and admits you, the ticket is picked up on the inside. It takes a matter of seconds.

Violence is something we are still relatively free of in the G.A.A. But let's not fool ourselves, it does exist. I have witnessed it at G.A.A. games. It tends to surface when certain city teams play. Also, a small section of "gurriers" follow some of the Northern teams. I do not condone violence but some excuse must be made for a people who are victims of violence every day in the North. Violence is more prevalent at soccer games, particularly when a local Derby is played- a small section can cause havoc. Some psychologists have carried out an indepth study of violence in sport, hopefully we in the G.A.A. will not provide them with much material.

These are but a few of the issues which could bring the three major sporting organisations together. We are not squabbling political parties— we are all involved in the promotion of sport. Perhaps the way forward (to borrow from a well-known political party) is through sport. Let the G.A.A. show itself to be a leader— meet the F.A.I. and the I.R.F.U.

Back to home ground- Tipperary. With 1984 looming nearer, how are things in our patch? Our new selectors have a mammoth task- to win a Senior All-Ireland soon. I'm convinced that had we overcome Cork, we would have gone a long way in 1982. Our lads lacked experience- remember they got lots of possession early on but failed to use it wisely. There is talent in Tipperaryas much as there is in any other county. It's a case of "tapping it". Our physical training needs to be much tougher. Being physically fit is three quarters of the battle- I haven't seen a really fit Tipperary senior team in years. The present selectors know a lot about winning- hopefully they can inject pride and spirit into our hurlers. I'm the supreme optimist- perhaps 1983 will see the tide turning in our favour.

Off the playing fields, the completion of Semple Stadium is top priority, followed closely by the planning of the 1984 All-Ireland. In 1984 Tipperary will be the focus of attention— don't we all want things to go well and be able to hold our heads high. Let us all work together and I mean together. Together we can achieve a glorious 1984 that will rightly establish Tipperary as the Premier County.

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"FOR THE CREDIT OF THE LITTLE VILLAGE"

An Br. S. O Páircín

Charles Joseph Kickham's famous book "Knocknagow" or "the Homes of Tipperary. It was Matt the Thresher who uttered them when he was about to give the final throw of the sledge against Captain Ffrench. He drew such spirit and inspiration from these words that he beat the captain, one of the best Hammer throwers in the land, by several feet.

What Tipperary man or woman has not heard these inspiring words, the war-cry and watch-word of Tipperary: "For the credit of the little village". How often have these same words been repeated in Tipperary dressing rooms before an important hurling or football match? They were meant to unite the team together and to bring out the best in them, as the words and sentiments did to Matt the Thresher, the most typical Tipperaryman of them all.

Spirit is Vital

The spirit of the little village", the parish, the county are more important to a hurler than all the skills and nineties of the game. No matter how well teams are coached, if they have not the will, the desire, the determination to bring credit and honour to their own community they will fail because of lack of commitment, lack of enthusiasm, inspiration to do battle for a cause that is dear to the heart and springs from the soul.

Many Tipperary people have still to understand the greatness of Kickham, his patriotic soul, his high idealism, what he tried to achieve and what he has succeeded in doing for this county and this country through his poetry and his prose. Even the Fenianism of Kickham has yet to be appreciated. Mr R. C. Comerford the biographer of Charles J. Kickham says:

"Under his (Kickham's) direction Fenian activity in Mullinahone in the mid 1860s seem to have consisted largely of organised pastimes The assimilation of the G.A.A. by the parish

The above quotation is taken from that took place- after much tension of the neighbourliness and community and conflict- in the generation after his death, was at least the partial fulfilment of one of Kickham's dreams. The GAA is, even more than the I.R.B. was, an organisation after Kickham's heart. . . . Indeed, the nearest approach to the incarnation of Kickham's idea of nationality is not any institution of government or administration, but All-Ireland hurling or football day at the Association's significantly-named headquarters, Croke Park."

> Dr Thomas Morris, Archbishop of Cashel and Emly, (like his predecessor Dr Thomas Croke) understands the doctrines which Charles Kickham wanted to make known. At Mullinahone, on Sunday 22nd August 1982, Dr Morris said, in his homily to the people, who had gathered in the Church, on the occasion of the Centenary of Kickham's death:

> "Knocknagow is a vision of joys and times that are gone, of times so hard that we to-day doubt if there could have been any joy. An united community which holds values and attitudes in common, is better able to weather its trials than a collection of individuals living side by side for their own interests

> > An Br. S. O Páircín

- a community made up of neighbours, that is. The quality of neighbourliness binds up a community, so that shared joy is more memorable and shared Only last month it was stated, on good authority apparently, that "the day is gone when youngsters will continue to play hurling and football for the glory of the little village." Very well, so Knocknagow is gone once again, but it can reappear in another form. The invitation which brought us together to-day came from the Kickham Centenary Committee which is doing something 'for the credit of the little village.' As we pray for Charles Kickham we pray for the survival

spirit which he admired. It is better to light one candle than to curse the darkness "

The "Knocknagow" Badge

Acting on the advice given by his Grace, Dr Thomas, I decided to light one little candle. Seeing so many foreign and alien emblems and signs around me I decided to design and get out a badge embodying the spirit of Kickham and Knocknagow. The badge may now be got from me. It is a cloth badge in Blue and Gold, 31/2 inches by 21/2 inches. On it are two crossed hurleys, the map of the county, two sliotars, with the words "For the credit of the little village", "Knocknagow", "Tiobraid Arann".

I hope those wearing it will be imbued with the spirit of Kickham, of Knocknagow and of Tipperary. Our strength lies not in individuals alone but in the community, not in seeking selfglory but in the glory of the team. Their thoughts must not be what their club and county can do for them but what they can do for the club, parish or county. My thoughts, especially go out to our hurlers and footballers who are proud to wear the Blue and Gold. To minors and seniors alike I say: Come forward and work together earnestly. eagerly and unselfishly. Be loyal to one another. Take inspiration from the past, have confidence for the future. Train to be fit, and be fit to train. Show team spirit, discipline, dedication and determination. Do all 'ad majorem Dei gloriam'. Go forward with spirit "with God as your leader, Mary as your guide and your hurley ready in your hand, "for the credit of the little village", for the honour of Knocknagow and for the homes of Tipperary.

"Then forward famed Tipperary boys! Be steadfast, never bow. For the credit of the village And the honour of Knocknagow."

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