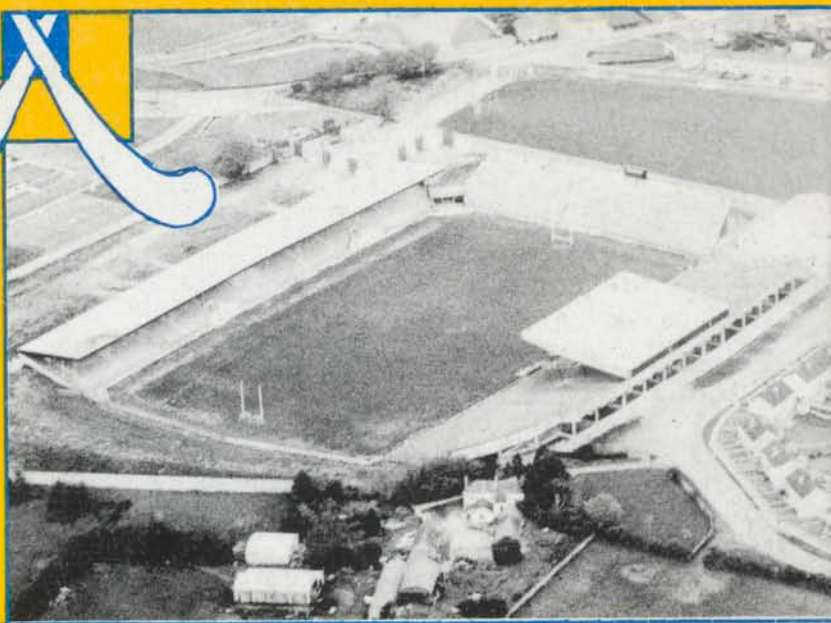
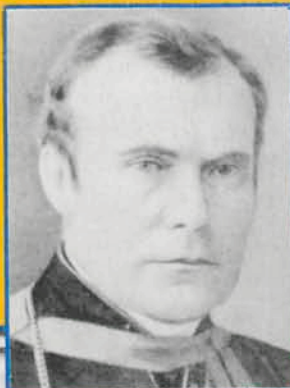


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TIPPERARY G.A.A. YEAR BOOK 1984



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

CONTENTS

Message from the County Chairman	3	Main Centenary Events	76
One Step Ahead for Tipperary	5	Killenaule	77
Under 21 Hurling	9	Cashel K.C. Under 14 County Hurling Champs.	78
Camogie 1982 Review	11	1984 An Bhliain Mhor Comoradh	79
Almost A Great Year . . . But.	13	Another Great Year for Roscrea CBS Hurlers	80
Borrisoleigh Can Lead Tipp Revival.	17	1933 Minor & Junior All Ireland Victories for Tipp Hurlers.	81
Football Board Affairs 1983	19	The Way Forward for Tipperary	82
Programme Award for Tipperary	21	Johnny Ryan Memories of Kennedy and Quirke	83
Tipperary Senior Football.	23	The Gardai Siochana Cup	84
Bord na nOg Tiobraid Arann Thiar	25	Gairm Scoil Buirios Ui Chein 1983	85
How the Clubs Performed in North Tipp.	27	Handball—Tom Ryan's Greatest Year; Tom Morrissey Top Ace Champion 1983	86
County Bord na nOg Review of 1983	31	Durlas Og, The Turning Point for Thurles Hurling	87
Third County Title for Moycarkey-Borris Minor Hurlers	35	Over the Post is Wide	88
Bord na nOg North Tipperary Review	37	Co. Tipperary GAA Centenary Museum	89
La na nOg at Semple Stadium 1983	39	South Tipperary Round Up.	90
Michael Murphy Tipp Captain 1964	40	Rev. A.B. Kennedy: Fethard All-Rounder	95
A Journey Through South West Tipperary	41	Maurice Davin.	97
Club School Liaison.	42	1983: Memorable Year for Roscrea.	99
Mid Tipperary G.A.A. Affairs	43	Coiste Iomana Fas Suggestions for Clubs for 1984	107
Golden Jubilee of Thurles First Harty Cup Win	45	Toomevara— Another Successful Year.	109
Good Work Being Done in Urban Schools	46	Portroe Camogie Club 1983.	111
Post Primary Games in Tipp.	47	Eire Og Juniors Make Club History	113
Interesting Facts from Mick Egan	48	Moyne-Templetuohy Intermediate Triumph	115
A Review of 1983 with the Western Clubs	49	Review of North Tipp Affairs	117
Are We Prepared to Pay the Price?	56	First Title for Cistercian College.	119
South Bord na nOg Review	57	Programme of the Match.	121
Gaelic Games in Tipperary Vocational Schools	59	Football Memories of Kilsheelan	123
The Genius of Tony Reddin	61	Scor County Winners 1982: Scor na nOg	125
Abbey C.B.S. Harty Cup Campaign 1958—59	64	Obituaries	127
Hurling in Tipp Before the GAA.	65		
100 Years of Headlines.	68		
My First Train Journeys	69		
All Ireland Hurling Title for Nenagh CBS	70		
Borris Success a Boost for Philly.	71		
Loughmore-Castleiney A Versatile Parish	72		
A Year to Remember for Moyle Rovers 14s	73		
A Silver Jubilee with a Difference.	74		
A First for Knockavilla/Donaskeigh Kickhams, County u-12 Champions	75		

Our covers shows: Most Rev. Dr Croke, Michael Cusack, Maurice Davin; Hayes' Hotel; Hugh Kennedy Chairman Football Board presenting the County Senior Football Trophy to Loughmore-Castleiney captain, Tom Ryan; Frank Spillane captain Borrisoleigh Senior Hurlers receiving the Dan Breen Cup from County Chairman Michael Frawley; and an aerial view of Semple Stadium.

Send any queries regarding the Yearbook to:

Liam O Donnchú, Secretary Tipperary G.A.A. Yearbook,
Baile Beag, Dúrlas Eile, Co. Thiobraid Árann.

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

Senior Championship Fixtures 1984

Iomáint Sinsir—

27th May	An Clár v. Portláirge	at Thurles or Cork (if replay 3rd June)
3rd June	Corcaigh v Luimneach	at Limerick (if replay 10th June)
17th June	Tiobraid Arann v An Clár nó Portláirge	at Limerick or Cork (if replay 24th June)
15th July	Cluiche Ceannais Iomána	(if replay 5th August)

Peil Sinsir—

20th May	Tiobraid Arann v Portláirge	at Dungarvan
27th May	An Clár v Luimneach	at Thurles or Cork
3rd June	McGrath Cup Senior Football B Final	
10th June	Ciarraí v Tiobraid Aran nó Portláirge	
17th June	Corcaigh v An Clár nó Luimneach	
1st July	Cluichí Ceannais Peil	

GUIMÍD GACH RATH AR OBAIR C.L.G. I TIOBRAID ÁRANN

Message from Co. Chairman



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

For most of us each morning after having done justice to ourselves at the breakfast table our next greatest desire is to get as quickly as possible a cursory glance at the daily paper. Despite the fact that we have been fortified by a hearty meal our appetite is not fully satisfied until such time as we lay hands on that paper. Why the hurry and what is the reason for that early morning read we may well ask ourselves? No doubt depending on our interests the answers are many and varied. For those of us involved in and interested in sport the reason is very obvious. Our anxiety to fully update ourselves as regards the latest happenings on the sporting front at both local and national level.

As the Christmas season approaches a somewhat similar hunger and thirst for information is experienced by those of us whose priority in sport is given to Gaelic games and who for many years now have enjoyed reading our County G.A.A. annual year book. Despite our successes or failures this yearly publication never fails to provide us with a host of enjoyable and interesting reading material. In addition to recording the years happenings on the gaelic scene, it revives for us many stirring and glorious memories of days, games and regrettably some great players and characters who unfortunately are no longer with us.

It is with great pleasure that I welcome once again the official year book of the Tipperary County Board of the Gaelic Athletic Association for the year 1984. The book maintains the very high standards of previous productions and it contains an abundance of material which will appeal to young and old alike. Events of the past year are covered in detail and there are pictorial highlights of many games and various teams plus the joyous occasions that followed the winning of different championships in many grades.

While the year under review at one stage showed a distinct promise that Tipperary's overall collection of All-Ireland titles would be further increased, our ambitions in this regard were not realised. Our minor hurlers All-Ireland champions of the previous year and who displayed very promising form in retaining their Munster championship crown, had to give best to Galway by a very narrow margin in the replayed All-Ireland semi-final. Galway incidentally went on to record their

first All-Ireland victory at minor hurling level and we here in Tipperary offer them our heartiest congratulations.

After an absence of one year from the penultimate stages of the championship, our under twenty one hurlers comprised of many experienced players again qualified for the All-Ireland final. In this contest our opponents were again none other than the maroon clad boys from the West, and again on the day we had to give best to a superior team.



Micheal O'Feaighaile

For longer than we care to remember the displays of our senior hurlers has been a matter of grave concern to all connected with the team and likewise to our supporters. However, 1983 saw us record our first championship victory in a number of years. With a little bit of luck and possibly a shade more experience, I have no doubt but that we would have qualified for the Munster Hurling final. That goal which is the target of every Tipperary man and woman can and will be reached. But let us remember that the collective and constructive support of each and every one of us not alone is absolutely necessary, but is a vital factor if that longed for ambition is to be achieved.

This years county convention saw control of all of our county teams being given over to a separate county football Board. The vast amount of effort and time by those in charge was clearly evident in the magnificent displays of our minor and under twenty one team. With a continuation of this effort and the full and unstinted support of all of

us, that longed for success must be within the throes of accomplishment.

Much has already been said and written of the centenary of the Association which we shall be celebrating in the coming year. Because of Tipperarys involvement and identification with the formation of the Association, our input in this regard will be greater than most other counties and this is only as it should be.

It is with a sense of joy and satisfaction that I am able to state that the Semple Stadium development given favourable weather conditions will be completed in a matter of weeks. Likewise our "Double Your Money Investment Scheme" for which a target of £500,000 was set, will very shortly be realised. All of this is not an accidental happening, but due to the trojan efforts of the many people involved in this work for a long period of time, and likewise our investors not forgetting the vast amount of goodwill which has been very significant throughout all of this campaign.

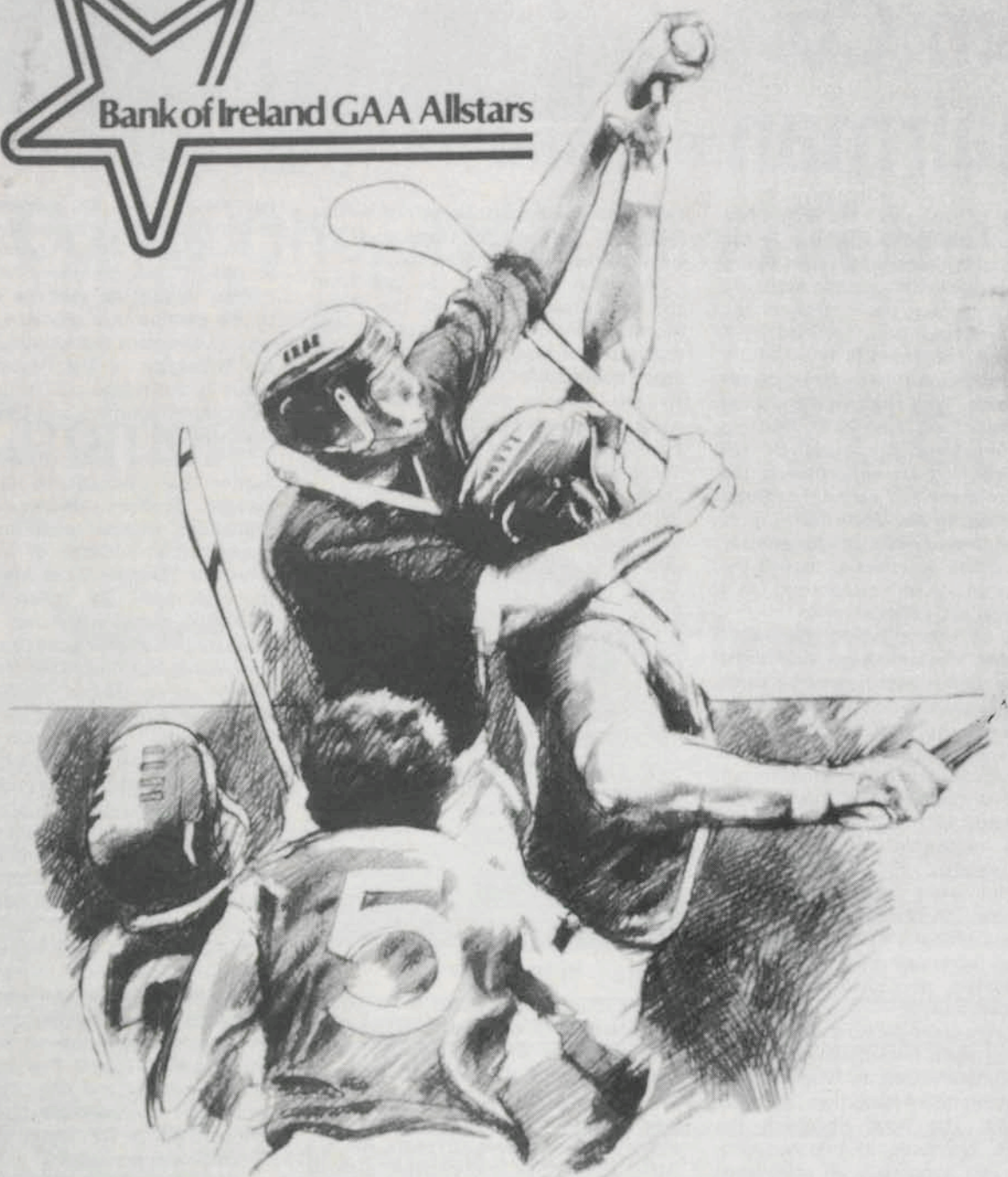
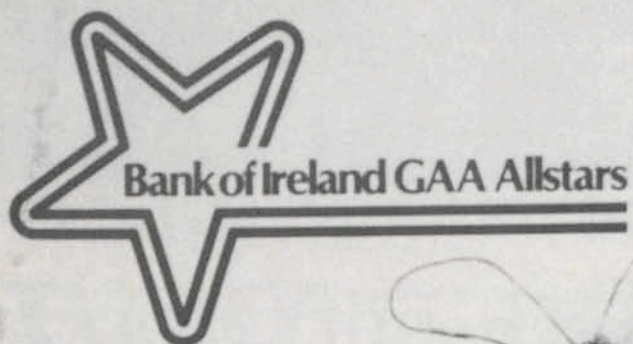
As of now many sub-committees have been formed and are working on specific areas in connection with the running of the 1984 All-Ireland. Apart from the All-Ireland Sunday many other aspects are receiving very special attention. The various attractions which are contemplated will make it an occasion to be remembered with pride. In passing may I say on behalf of all the people involved that we welcome all the support and suggestions we can get. Your co-operation is needed, we know it will be forthcoming and will be very much appreciated.

Communications play an increasing role in the affairs of our Association and productions such as this Year Book help to keep our members and supporters up to date with our affairs.

Finally on behalf of the Gaels of the county, I wish to express to our Editor, his fellow officers and committee members our unstinted thanks for this publication. The great work which they have accomplished to date, not forgetting the joy and happiness which they have brought to so many people at home and abroad is much more than my inept words can convey.

Arís go raibh míle maith agaibh go léir de bharr na h-oibre a rinne siad.

**Micheál O'Feaighaile, Cathaoirleach
Coisde Cho. Thiobraid Arann, C.L.G.
Samhain 1983**



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ONE STEP AHEAD FOR TIPPERARY

The state of Tipperary hurling is a perennial topic; a target for jokes that can be as sick as the patient itself. We debate it among ourselves, are asked solicitously about it by outsiders—even by Corkmen who didn't much like it when it was in full health. Exiles write home about it. Signs of recovery are closely looked for and announced with hopeful haste, only to be soon modified.

The year now ending is, as everybody knows except isolated hermits, the preliminary to centennial eighty four. Tipperary's presence in the next All-Ireland is regarded as very desirable, especially by ourselves. Superstitious people persuade themselves that the fates surely won't let us down: Tipp were in the first final and must be in this one. What has '83 done by way of pointing in that direction? Let's see what it was like, by glancing backwards.

Main features: we got a new selection committee (what's new?); we got relegated in the League; we beat Clare in the first Munster round; we lost to Waterford, who lost to Cork (heavily, again), who lost to Kilkenny. At time of writing, in late November, the same selectors have been re-appointed in the cause of continuity. Borrisoleigh's

county win has been rumoured liable to shake things up, but this begins to seem less likely. Maybe they see more problems than credit in being involved at a time of uncertain prospects.

Happiest Day

Happiest day out of 365 was undeniably in Limerick on 29th May. If the string of championship exits in the first round was ever to end, it couldn't have picked a more fitting venue or opposition. For it was in the summer of 1974 that it began, in Limerick, and against Clare. "Thank God" was on many a lip when the last whistle blew; eyes shone. John Sheedy was chaired to the dressingroom—very likely by Portroe hands, but many would have liked to lend one to lift the debutant for excellent steadiness in the tension of the finish. As that finish drew near we heard the chant—unusual in our phlegmatic county—of "Tipp Tipp." to carry the players on a tide of ardent support. By 2-11 to 1-11, they did it. The starting team: Sheedy, Hogan (ed.), Ryan, Hogan (Enda), Fitzelle, McIntyre, Bobby Ryan, Bergin, Callaghan, Doyle, Maher, Dooley, English, Grogan, Waters. Subs: Bonnar, Cahill, Burke. It was Grogan's hopping

shot past Durack that put the first signs of success on the game. Waters drive for the second—on a ball-hopping solo emanating from a Bonnar block and a Doyle pass—made success quite likely. Clare's goal disturbed us but the spirit had been kindled, personally led by Fitzelle more than anyone. Liam Bergin had captained a winner; he and Boherlahan's Liam Maher were the two late recruits to the panel. Liam got there because of Moycarkey-Borris' title win and his good u-21 game against Limerick, Maher because of his display for the Mid in the unfinished Millar Shield.

A wave of euphoria swept Tipperary. It had been a positive advance, indeed, just to win a match; it removed the most hurtful blotch on the county's good name and nobody can take it away from the selectors. Some observers were inclined to suggest that, welcome as it was, the win owed something also to one of Clare's poorest fifteens in several years.

Square One

Before going on to Cork on a warm June 19th the first real indications of the prolonged summer heat-wave—it would be as well to revert to square



Tipperary Senior Hurling team v Clare

Back row, l. to r.: E. Hogan, J. Ryan, P. Fitzelle, J. Grogan, J. McIntyre, Enda Hogan, B. Ryan, MI Doyle, T. Waters.
Front row, l. to r.: R. Callaghan, N. English, P. Dooley, L. Bergin, captain, L. Maher, J. Sheedy.

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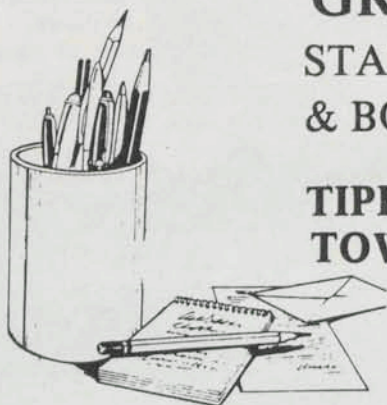


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one, the start of the story and of the new regime. Moycarkey-Borris beat Roscrea in the county replay. The repercussion for Tipperary Co. Board gave the new champions carte blanche to nominate the five selectors. After quiet contacts, in which the old All-Irelander Paddy (Sweeper) Ryan had an advisory role, four acceptors were located, all with very fine personal records; Pat Stakelum, needless of detailed history; Rev. Ray Reidy, great minor, senior career curtailed by missionary vocation; John Kelly, bearing the prestige of an All-Ireland in receding '71; Len Gaynor, hardy wing-back from earlier and even better times. To these was added, as of champion right, club chairman Liam Hennessy. All in all, a fair accumulation of proven success. If these can't find the best in the county 'tis "all a matter"—so a lot of people were heard to react. They themselves made no promises, but wisely stressed the need for time and patience.

The League began. We got relegated. On the face of it, the worst possible outcome, though the need to experiment and try a wide spectrum of players was obvious in a situation where there were very few undisputable nominees. The Carroll brothers were available at the start. One of the first novelties from the new regime was to convert Mossie into a full-back in the opener against Waterford. We won, 2-13 to 2-7, and the good omen was noted. A lot who hurled that day were gone by next summer—goalie Farrell, a hero in '82; Jack Bergin, Heffernan, Ceaser, Carey, Burke, Looby. This illustrates the large turn-over. Mossie's full-back career did not survive the trip to Ballinasloe. Next he was said to be resting. Rumour extended this to a possible return to Limerick. This was denied, but time confirmed it.

Many Defeats

The loss to Galway was not to be unique; it had four-fold company, as represented by Cork and Clare (away), Kilkenny and Wexford (home). The security of John Farrell's tenancy of the posts was questioned after Cork and again after Galway and Kilkenny—in the last game John Flanagan made a comeback that exposed loss of timing and of pace. Tom Doran got the goal-keeping for the Wexford match, had no great chance on the goals as we lost badly, 3-15 to 0-6. John Ryan (Holy-cross) came in as full back, Dooley arrived at wing-forward after Borrisokane's Intermediate win. Doran retained the number one when play resumed in '83 for the visit to Ennis. We went close but got beaten near the finish, with forward play particularly to be groaned over. Doran then yielded to John Sheedy, at writing time still first choice. The Portroe player was not well-known round the county, but was chosen for a



Liam Maher delivers against Clare in Tipp's welcome championship victory at Limerick.

tournament in Newcastle and did well. He did better in the last league game, against Offaly—his last-minute save won the game. It did not avert relegation. That became a fact on the same day when Michael Walsh pointed a "65", with time just up, to leave Waterford drawing at home to Cork. Peter Brennan and Joe Dwyer had by then come onto our defensive roster; Ralph Callaghan, Paul Dooley, John Grogan and Tom Waters arrived also.

The long quiet interim before the championship had its usual tournaments. It also had the abortive Millar Shield—this got no further than the Mid's win over West at Littleton. North were to meet South, but "never the twain did meet." It was suspected in some quarters that the selectors had no high regard for these interdivisional affairs but felt they might complicate the national panel already more or less decided upon. As it happened, Liam Maher did impress enough to be added. Eddie Hogan (Roscrea) was another rather late recruit, partly upon a display against Limerick at the opening of the Cappawhite field. From all these sources League and tournament, emerged the team that ended the ten-year jinx by beating Clare.

New Full-back

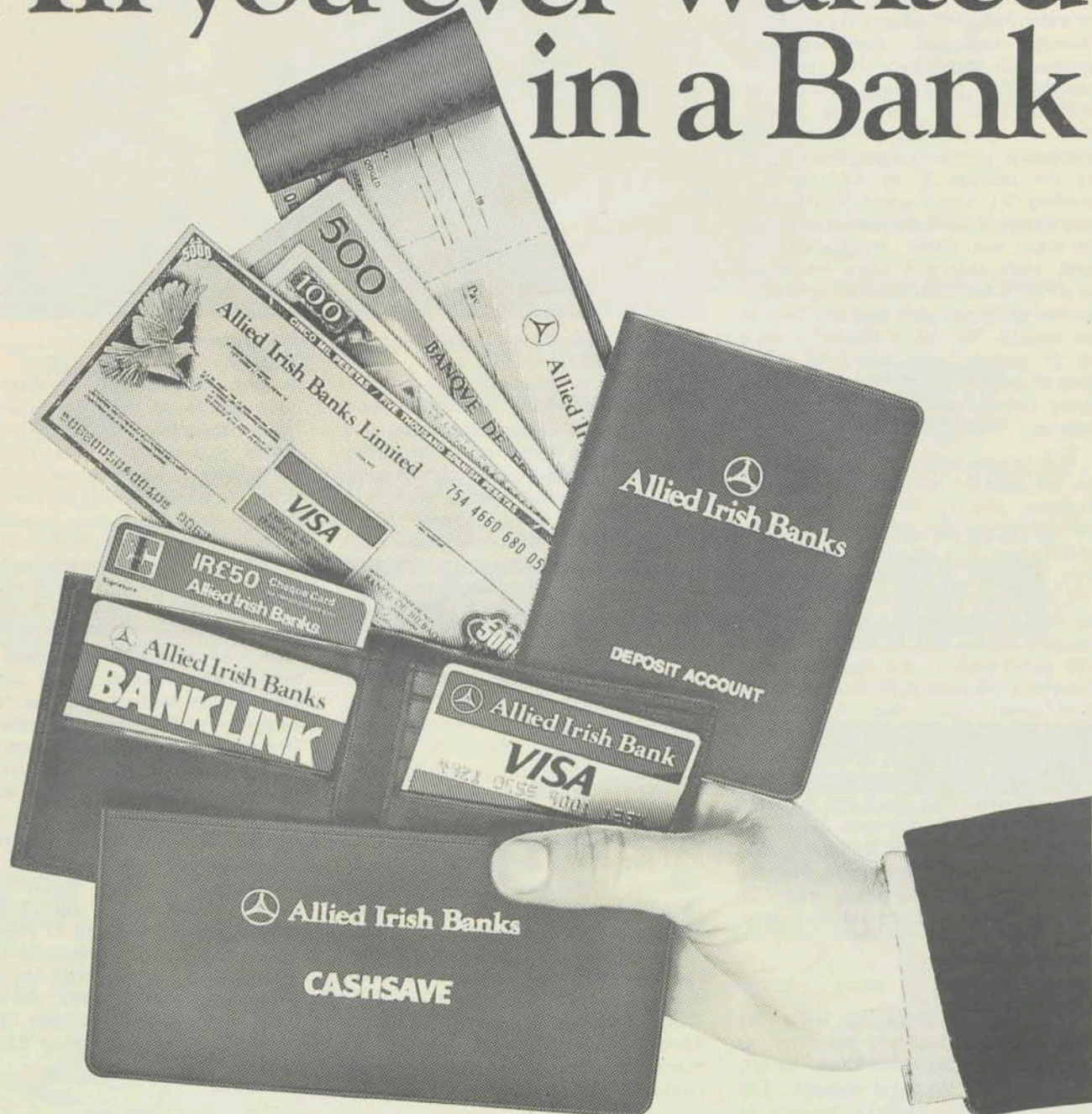
John Ryan lost his full-back place to Peter Brennan for the Munster semi-final. Nioclás English remained inside at corner-forward; this was a controversial use of the West forward, especially as he had come outfield beneficially against Clare. Morale in the camp was good—after all, they had achieved something already. Waterford were respected, but they were not Cork or Limerick. They might be vulnerable, especially after their terrible hammering by Cork in '82. As it transpired, that memory did the Decies no harm, and Tipp no good. It inspired Waterford to intense effort. They played it hard. Mossie Walsh, three times warned, and Pat McGrath set the severe pattern of

tackling. "Bewildered, confused and frustrated"—so the "Star" described Tipp's supporters. A game we could and should have won . . . Had apparently won, indeed, for long periods. Three times Tipp recovered to lead. Tom Casey's early goal was answered by Callaghan and Waters. McIntyre was again removed but Fitzelle could not repeat Clare form. The inner defence lacked craft and covering and fell to Breen, Rockett and Greene goals. Even then we might have saved it, but two of the chances called gilt-edged were lost by lack of coolness. It was a long way to Tipperary from the Pairc. The Clare win became an item in the records; the inevitable barrage of criticism fell on the selectors; some of the "fall-out" still lingers.

The 1984 championship draw could not be kinder—short of a bye to the All-Ireland. We meet the winners of Clare v Waterford. The provincial winners have no Galway in their path. But such luck must be co-operated with, if we are to be more than the smiling hosts to the Centenary All-Ireland. Still, Tipp will start at least one step ahead of where she started in '83.



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Under 21 Hurling

by 'An Sliotar', Nenagh Guardian

Munster title regained but the big one lost. At the start of the year the one intercounty hurling team which was expected to make a big impression in championship hurling was the under 21 squad. The reasoning behind such opinion was that this team had been All-Ireland minor champions in 1980, while in 1981 the county minor team had reached the provincial final and of course the minors had gone all the way to All-Ireland honours again last year. Such recent results indicated that a first class squad should be available to the selectors. As many of the players had senior intercounty experience it seemed certain that the blue and gold would be difficult to beat.

Cork were defending Munster and All-Ireland champions, following Tipperary's early exit in 1982, at the hands and hurleys of Limerick. It was a great source of joy then to Tipperary when the draw was made for this year's Munster campaign. In the opening round Tipperary were paired with Limerick and given a home venue as well. It was a quick opportunity to avenge 1982.

The game was played in Thurles on 20th April and resulted in a sixteen point win for the home team. The exact scoreline was 4-15 to 2-5. It was a

devastating performance by Tipperary, perhaps their peak performance? It was a lively and free scoring first half, at the end of which Tipperary led by 3-9 to 2-3. The only goal of the second half was scored by Martin McGrath from a penalty. It was a wonderful team performance. Seven Tipperary players scored with Martin McGrath leading the way on 1-8. Other good performances came from Ian Conroy, Paddy Maher, Philip Kenny and Willie Peters. Coach Mick Minogue and the selectors had reason to be happy with this performance, and looked forward to the semi-final meeting with Kerry. This game was played in Ardfer, in early May, and resulted in another easy win the Tipperary by 2-20 to 0-2. Again the scoring returns were well divided, eight players got their names on the board with Conor Donovan leading the way on 6 points. Jim Meagher replaced John Flannery at corner back. Colm Bonner replaced Nioclas English (on all star duty) at half back while Vivian Dooley got in for Martin McGrath in attack.

So the team had booked its place in the Munster final in early May. They had to wait nearly 3 months before it was played. Final opposition was Clare, conquerors of Cork in their

semi-final replay. Clare's team was based largely on its successful minor team of 1981 (they beat Tipperary 3-13 to 3-11 in the Munster final) and they had a home venue. It was a difficult assignment for Tipperary but the seniors' win over Clare, along with the minor success over 'The Banner' were great confidence boosters. Victory was achieved on a 2-17 to 3-8 scoreline, but it was a hard earned title. The Tipperary defence was surprisingly indecisive in the tackle and the clearance and even worse in the marking stakes. Clare's attack missed too many chances in the circumstances to achieve victory. Tipperary led by 2-8 to 2-4 at half time (goals from Arthur Browne and Ger O'Neill) absorbed fierce Clare pressure for twenty minutes of the second half, before pulling away and scoring five points in the last ten minutes to win in the end by six. Ian Conroy again played well with Nioclas English and Colm Bonner also doing well in defence. Martin McGrath, Ger O'Neill and Willie Peters did most of the Tipperary scoring. Denis Finnerty of Eire Og had the honour then of captaining the team to its fifth Munster title in six years. Hopes were high now it would be a fourth All Ireland in five years!



Tipperary 21 Hurling team defeated by Galway in the All-Ireland final

Back row, l. to r.: E. Hogan, C. Bonnar, P. Maher, K. Hogan, P. Kenny, C. Donovan, J. Conroy, J. Hayes.
Front row, l. to r.: M. McGrath, L. Bergin, N. English, D. Finnerty, A. Browne, G. O'Neill, W. Peters.

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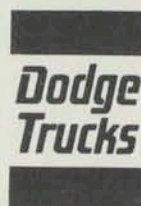


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Only four days later the team was out again, this time in the All Ireland semi final, against Down. The game was fixed for Athy, but Down very sportingly offered Tipp a weekend in the North and all the hospitality they could give. Tipp accepted and very nearly came home with nothing more than memories of the weekend! Undoubtedly the Northern challenge was underestimated. Short Eddie Hogan, Arthur Browne and Ger O'Neill of the Munster final team Tipperary had to work harder than expected to ensure a win and a final place. After holding a five point lead at the break the final margin of victory was just 3 points on a 1-16 to 3-7 scoreline. Such a performance left little room for complacency as preparations began for the decider. Three weeks after Tipp beat Down, Galway qualified for the final by beating Laois, at Ennis, in their semi-final. The Galway challenge was not one to be taken lightly as their side contained senior players Tommy Coen, Ollie Kilkenney and Aidan Staunton while most of their other players played in the 1981 or 1982 minor All Ireland finals. The game was fixed for Tullamore on September 11th and what a day it turned out to be. It was the day of the strong wind, the day Tipperary played for 30 minutes with-

out scoring, were only two points behind with 29 minutes to go and the breeze to help them and still failed to overhaul Galway. It was a day when Galway were much too determined and rugged for Tipp to manage. It was a day too when Tipperary's hitherto freescoring attack was properly played by a well drilled defence which made life very difficult for all the Tipp attackers. Galway's half time lead of 0-5 to nil (after Tipp had sportingly given them first use of the wind) didn't seem unbeatable— but it was worrying that Tipp didn't score even once against it. Put another way Galway scored more against it than they did with it and ended up winners by 0-12 to 1-6. It was a most disappointing day for Tipperary. So many players failed to get going (Ian Conroy and Paddy Maher being the exceptions). Indeed some of the early season stars were substituted. Questions were raised about the selection of Nioclás English at centreback and it was felt that he would have been of more use in attack. But really so many players failed to play to their potential on the day that its doubtful if the positioning of one player would have been so decisive.

So the year ended on a disappointing note after a promising start. Still regaining the Munster title made the year

worthwhile and perhaps the experience gained in defeat will be of benefit to these players in the years ahead. One invariably learns from defeat. My views on why the team lost the All Ireland are two-fold: Firstly! I don't believe its possible to keep a team at this level "on the boil" for five months to win the All Ireland. Galway's u-21 season lasted only three weeks— no wonder they were hungry for hurling on All Ireland day.

Secondly! too many of the Tipperary players were doubly tired after a long season at club and county level. For most there wasn't even a rest after the All Ireland. Many of the team were still hurling into late October and early November.

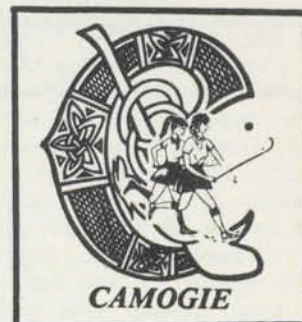
Looking to the future at this level I think Tipperary will be challenging again for honours in 1984. Our draw is a difficult one— we are in the same half of the draw as Cork and Clare— but with so many of this year's team eligible for next year's side and the best of the 1982 minor talent also coming into the picture our chances of making a successful defence of our Munster title (as a starting point) are reasonably good.

We all look forward then with optimism to 1984.

Camogie

1983 REVIEW

by Sheila Delaney



Camogie in Tipperary has had a firm foothold down the years, and indeed, is held in high esteem among the counties of Munster.

Although the county team hasn't found success of the high levels enjoyed by other counties; there are clubs in Tipperary that can be proud of their efforts to promote camogie. In a county with such strong hurling tradition as Tipperary, I suppose it's inevitable that comparisons would be made between the two games. The public in general who follow Tipperary's hurling fortunes may understandably tend to regard camogie with perhaps a less than serious attitude. This may be the reason for the lack of support that our game finds within the county.

For some strange reason also G.A.A. clubs within various parishes tend to "steer clear" of the promotion of camogie within their parishes. This of course is camogies loss, since the active support of well known players etc, would do much to advance the skills of the game among our camogie players. I feel that if a more enlightened and less conservative attitude could be

fostered in this regard there could be many mutual benefits for both organisations and certainly the standard of camogie would be elevated.

However, let me at this juncture hasten to express the gratitude of the Tipp County Camogie Board to the many wonderful people in Tipperary involved in promoting the game. Schools such as Presentation Convent Cashel and Nenagh Convent School are continuing to do creditable work. It is most encouraging that educationalists of such renowned esteem recognise the virtues of camogie as an integral part of the educational upbringing of our girls. Nár laige Dia a misnigh. Perhaps our Primary Schools could strive to help us also in this regard.

Tosach maith— leath na hoibre

Maybe our u-14 competitions could be run in conjunction with Primary Schools Camogie. I realise Primary Schools have already an overloaded curriculum— but if teachers, as an enlightened body, could see their way to offer us suggestions— the possibilities would be boundless.

There are 10 camogie clubs presently in Tipperary. This number would at least need to be doubled if we were to adequately cater for camogie in our county. Let us hope that in the near future steps will be taken towards this goal. It would be inappropriate if camogie during 1983 in Tipperary were to overlook without reference to the wonderful achievements of the Portroe Club. They have to their credit the enviable honour of being Co. Senior Champions, winners of the Anne Frazer Cup and National Camogie Day 7 a-side champions. They are a credit to those in charge of them, and indeed they are now reaping the benefits of sustained efforts down the years.

I know that the state of camogie in our county could be stronger. We need active support to prosper— Tipperary wake up to the challenge and keep the game the women of Tipperary love alive and well.



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TIPPERARY MINOR HURLERS

Almost a Great Year ... But

by 'An Sliotar', Nenagh Guardian

It is said it's difficult to win an All Ireland title any year, which is true. It is also said it's twice as difficult to retain the title, which is also true. As All Ireland minor hurling champions of 1982 the pressure was on Tipperary to retain their title in 1983. Not since 1957 had Tipperary retained the minor All Ireland title but with seven of the 1982 squad eligible again for the grade, there was a good base on which to build the 1983 team. Before attempting to retain the All Ireland the Provincial trail had firstly to be blazed.

The Munster championship draw for this year had Tipperary down to meet Clare in the first round. Waterford awaited the winners. The selectors in charge of the side were Bro. J. Perkins (coach), Phil Lowry, Bill Stokes, Donal Shanahan and T. J. Dwyer.

The trials started very early this year. Sessions had been held in the Mid, South, North and West divisions before January was out. By Mid February the Inter division trials were on their way. These trials continued for three weeks which brought us to the end of February. After this series of trials two teams were picked for the final trial which was played in Mid March. After this trial a panel of 24 players went into training at Boherlahan for the game against Clare, which was fixed for 27th April.

Most of the panelists had some club championship games before this game v Clare. There was little fear of over-confidence in the Tipp camp as the day approached. Clare had beaten Tipp in the 1981 Munster minor final and had been only narrowly beaten by Tipp in the 1982 meeting of the sides. The absence of the injured Dick Quirke (Cappawhite) was unfortunate especially as he was in such good form with St Flannan's Ennis around this time.

The game was played in Bruff Co. Limerick and after a close first half Tipp retired with a 1.10 to 1.5 advantage. It was Murty Bryan's (Sarsfields) goal 3 minutes before half time which cushioned Tipp for the second half. Bryan struck another goal half way through the second half which put the blue and gold out of reach. The final score was 2.15 to 1.6. Michael Cunningham (Emly) was Tipp's outstanding player on the night. His solo runs and point scoring destroyed Clare time and time again. Murty

Bryan was top scorer with 2-2 while John Ryan (Upperchurch Drombane) Donal Kealy (Roscrea) and Aidan Ryan (Borrisileigh) also contributed well to this fine win. Although there was a 12 point winning margin and 7 players scored, there were still some problems apparent in the team. They would have to be remedied before the Munster semi-final against Waterford two weeks later.

This game played in Fermoy on 11th May marked the return of Dick Quirke to action. His return was timely and his form sharp following St Flannan's All Ireland win 3 days previously. He came on at corner forward for Paudie Ryan (S. Treacys).

It was another wet night. It was a close game. Tipperary led by 0-4 to 0-3 at half time but had to withstand a great Waterford rally late in the game before Michael Murphy (Toomevara) scored the winning point just 17 minutes from the end. The score was 0-11 to 1-7. It was not a good performance by Tipperary. Eight of the eleven points were scored by Dick Quirke. Problems arose in many sectors, midfield being a major problem. Indeed both midfielders were replaced during the game as the three subs rule was utilised to the full. Dick Quirke and Michael Cunningham were taken from the attack to steady midfield. This steadiness was achieved but forward penetration was considerably reduced. The attack missed "two sitters" in the first half at least. Tipp's best on the night were Michael Corcoran (Emly), John Ryan, Michael Cleary (Eire Og), Dick Quirke and Aidan Ryan. It was far from a satisfactory performance. I feel that Tipperary approached this game in a lackadaisical fashion. Waterford however proved they were no push over.

In the other semi final Limerick beat Cork by one point and so for the 3rd time in 4 years the minor final would be between Tipperary and Limerick.

Between beating Waterford and facing Limerick, Tipperary played some challenge games. Galway beat us in Ballinasloe soon after the Waterford game, but neither side was at full strength. In Mid June Wexford were narrowly beaten at Kilsheelan. Dublin were well beaten in another outing at Monasterevan as Tipperary tried out

some of their reserve strength. The Munster final was fixed for Limerick on 10th July. Limerick were many people's fancy after beating Cork. In an effort to improve midfield Aidan Ryan came out of the attack. Dick Quirke lined out at No. 12 while Paudie Ryan came in again at No. 15. The boost of an early season challenge win over Limerick was a help to Tipperary.

The switches made for the game worked well. Tipperary led by 1.8 to 1.3 at half time. P. Ryan scored the goal. This lead secured when aided by the strong wind was put into perspective by the 14 wides Tipp shot in that same half hour. Limerick's second half challenge was bried. They narrowed the gap to 3 points but another Ryan goal set Tipp away again. Liam Nolan's (Toomevara) goal late in the game put Tipp 13 points up, but unlike the seniors of 1981 this lead was not lost. Limerick's second goal hardly raised a cheer as Tipp ran out winners by 3-15 to 2-8. P. J. Lanigan (Hollycross-Ballycahill) had the pleasure of captaining the team. Seven players scored with P. Ryan (2.1) and D. Quirke (0.7) leading the way. It seemed that the team had put its mediocre form behind it at last and the August semi final meeting with Galway could now be approached more confidently. There was a two week break from training after the Munster final. When it resumed at Hollycross there were some absentees due to injury and club commitments. These 'absentees' returned as training continued. Injured and out of consideration for the Croke Park semi-final meeting with Galway was Tom Leamy (Golden-Kilfeacle) who created a good impression when introduced in the Munster final. The team which beat Limerick in the Munster final was picked again for the western challenge. Few could quibble with this choice. After an eventful first half Galway led by 1.7 to 2.3. Tipp's goal scorers were P. Ryan and L. Nolan. Three early second half points by Dick Quirke had Tipp well in command before Galway struck a purple patch. This patch was featured by two Anthony Cunningham goals as Galway built up a 6 point lead with only 10 minutes left to play. A 'fortuitous' Liam Nolan goal and a superb Aidan Ryan point eventually brought the teams level. Excitement



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Tipperary Minor Hurlers—Munster Champions

Back row, l. to r.: MI Cleary, Eire Og Nenagh; Ger Ryan, Ballybacon & Grange; P. Dwyer (Holycross-Ballycahill); Pat O'Donoghue (Cashel K.C.) David Fogarty (Golden); Brendan Everard (Moyneltempletuohy); Padie Ryan (Sean Treacy's); John Ryan (Upperchurch-Drombane); James Seymour (Portroe); Bill Hayes (Knockavilla-Donaskeigh); MI Cunningham (Emly); Tom Leamy (Golden); Murty Bryan (Thurles Sarsfields). Front row, l. to r.: Declan Morris (Borrisokane); MI McKenna (Moynacarkey-Borris); Aiden Ryan (Borrisoleigh); Kevin Leahy (St Mary's); Liam Enright (Cahir); Rd Quirke (Cappawhite); MI Murphy (Toomevara); P. J. Lanigan, captain (Holycross-Ballycahill); MI Corcoran (Emly); MI Fleming (Holycross-Ballycahill); Donal Kealy (Roscrea); Liam Nolan (Toomevara).

was at fever pitch as Joe Cooney (Galway) and Michael Cunningham (Tipp) missed a chance to snatch a late win. Tipp were very lucky to get away from here with a 3.10 all draw. Problems were everywhere. Midfield and attack were the really serious problem spots.

It was necessary to switch MI Corcoran from corner back to midfield to try and stem the tide. He made a big impression here. Michael Cleary and Aidan Ryan also contributed much. The replay was fixed for Ennis 2 weeks later. In the interim Aidan Ryan got injured playing a non essential under 21 club game. This injury prevented him from lining out in the replay. The loss of this energetic worker was incalculable. Into his place at midfield came Brendan Everard (Moyneltempletuohy) a 1982 regular but a 1983 irregular.

Scoring was low in this replay. The only goal of the game was scored by Joe Cooney for Galway after 7 minutes.

Galway led by 1.5 to 0.4 at half time after playing with the wind. Murty Bryan and Dick Quirke had the lead down to 2 points early in the second half. Michael Cunningham was withdrawn to bolster midfield yet again and again the attack suffered. With just 1 point in it and 9 minutes to play Tipp should have been able to overhaul Galway but their lack of power in attack cost them dearly. Galway got the last score of the game and won by 2 points 1.7 to 0.8. On the days play Galway deserved their win. Best performers on the Tipp side were: M. Corcoran, M. Cunningham, J. Seymour and Michael McKenna (Moynacarkey-Borris) who captained the team. Galway's subsequent All Ireland final win did not make defeat any easier to accept. So the provincial title was regained but like the u-21s the "big one" was lost and its this defeat which will be remembered rather than an impressive Munster final performance.

Some of the main reasons for eventual failure were: A. The failure of some players to reach the level of performance expected.

B. The need to regularly switch forwards to midfield to steady things. C. The ability of some players in the sound must also be questioned judging on later seasons club performances. This latter point raises questions about the "Trials System" generally. While the year ended on a disappointing note it was a worthwhile one all the same.

For 1984 we hope Tipperary will again make a bold bid for provincial and All Ireland honours.

Clare and Waterford meet in round 1 with Tipperary meeting the winners in the semi-final.

It would be most appropriate for the Premier County to reach next year's All Ireland minor final. To all who are entrusted with the task of ensuring this happens the best of luck.



Newcastle South Intermediate Football Champions

Back row, l. to r.: E. Makem, P. Sweeney, W. Devaney, J. Devaney, P. Devaney, T. Sweeney, M. Goonan, F. Hickey, M. Purcell, M. Keating, N. Grant, J. O'Loughlin, G. O'Shea. Front row, l. to r.: M. Hallinan, N. Power, C. Healy, J. Browne, S. Healy, A. Healy, T. Lonergan, P. Healy, P. Lonergan.



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Borrisoleigh can lead

by Michael Dundon, *Tipperary Star*

Tipp Revival

Tipperary's failure to make an impression at senior hurling level on the national scene is regarded throughout the country in much the same way as the economists look on our balance of payments— bad, likely to get worse, and with little sign of this famous "light at the end of the tunnel" we are all looking for. Garret Fitzgerald or Alan Dukes may cut rashes off public spending to balance the books and get us back into line, but unfortunately, it is not quite as simple to sort out Tipperary's hurling problems— other counties aren't inclined to oblige, you see— they want to keep winning and pay lip service only to the plight of downtrodden Tipperary.

In such a situation, it sometimes falls to scribes like yours truly, who can very often be accused of being prophets of gloom, to lift county morale by highlighting some development which suggests that all is not lost and that there is positive signs of a return to power for Tipperary.

Positive signs of a return to glory may be stretching things a bit as yet, but the re-emergence of Borrisoleigh as a hurling force in the county is to put it mildly encouraging. As a member of Thurles Sarsfields Club, I have been more than gratified to hear it said on many occasions that until such time as "The Blues" are back on the crest of the wave, Tipperary will never be the Premier County for hurling again— a tribute certainly to the men who went before us, rather than to my generation.

However, while Tipperary's most recent successful spell was in the sixties when Sarsfields ruled supreme, it should not be forgotten that previous to that, the most successful era, which included the three-in-a-row senior All-Irelands, '49, '50 and '51 came at a time when Borrisoleigh were setting the headlines on the club scene in Tipperary through the Kennys, Jimmy Finn, Timmy Ryan and company. It is this which prompts the thought that perhaps, Borrisoleigh leadership may be the inspiration Tipperary needs to get us out of the doldrums. To win a county hurling championship any year is indeed an achievement, even in these times of mediocrity; to win two in three years indicates quality in the side, and who will suggest that this Borrisoleigh contingent will not emulate, if not indeed surpass, the great side of the '47-'55 period which won three titles in five years, '49, '50 and '53, and appeared in three other finals, '47, '52 and '55.



County Chairman Michael Frawley presents the Dan Breen Cup to Borrisoleigh captain Frank Spillane.

Economical Style

Having watched Borris in many of their games I have always been struck by the economy of their hurling. They seldom do a lot more than they have to; they can appear amazingly indifferent and sluggish against moderate opposition, but when the chips are down, the quality and character of the team comes to the fore. They respond to a challenge and are never more vulnerable than when too hotly fancied.

Their failure to come up to scratch last year was typical of the enigma that is Borrisoleigh, after surging to a great championship win over Roscrea in '81 and I am sure many in the Borrisoleigh camp will feel that they might well have made it three-on-the-trot this year, had there been more attention to detail at the start of '82. But there were no slips this year as Borrisoleigh— without a pitch of their own to train on for much of the campaign, sailed impressively through the North championship, accounting for Lorrha in the final.

The Killenale-Mullinahone combination, Eire Og, scarcely troubled them in the quarter-final but their greatest test awaited them in the semi-final when the county and Munster champions, Moycarkey-Borris fought tooth and nail to retain their pennant. Borrisoleigh's character was severely tested in that struggle in Cashel, but not found wanting.

Then came the county final and the engagement with Loughmore-Castleiney chasing an unique county senior double. Many held that Loughmore's resilience and their tremendous spirit would carry them through, but yours truly can honestly claim to have fancied Borrisoleigh from beyond the quarter-final stage. And so it transpired— Borriso-

leigh had all the aces in the final, and should have won far more comprehensively than the three point margin of 0-17 to 1-11, but again, Borris had done enough for the day and their fifth title was theirs.

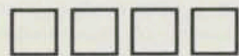
Can they do it again next year? One hesitates to make long-term predictions where Borrisoleigh are concerned but one can safely say that they have the material at their disposal to do so. Veterans such as Noel O'Dwyer, Mick Coen, Timmy Delaney and F. F. Stapleton still have lots of hurling left in them, and who could seriously question the quality of a side that carries such players as Tommy O'Dwyer, Brendan Kenny, Francis Spillane and Pat Kavanagh among their subs.

The Right Mixture

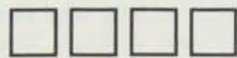
While some might be tempted to argue that Borrisoleigh have too many veterans, it is my opinion that they have the right blend of youth and experience, with the younger lads like Aidan and Bobby Ryan, Richard Stakelum, Philip Kenny, Mick Ryan and John McGrath taking a lot of the pressure off those senior to them. Indeed their team simply bristles with talent, Gerry Stapleton, Timmy Stapleton, Timmy Ryan and Noel Maher and Owen Walshe completing a line-up that is as good as there is in any club in the country.

The 1984 county championship will be a really special championship and Borrisoleigh can expect that every senior club in the county will be making a special effort to win the Dan Breen Cup in the Centenary year. It's the kind of challenge that should bring out the best in Borris, and if it does, the team that can beat them will deserve to win it.

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FOOTBALL BOARD AFFAIRS 1983

by Michael Power (Secretary)

The year just ended was very encouraging for underage football at county level when we reached the Munster Minor Football final against Cork for the first time in twenty eight years.

Minor

Trials were held in February and March 1983 from which a panel was selected. Training commenced in April 1983 under coach Seamus McCarthy. Challenge games were arranged against Clare, Galway, Laois twice, Fethard, and the county u-21 team. Attendance at training and the dedication and conduct of players was exemplary. The 1st July 1983 arrived and everybody was quietly confident when we faced Waterford in the Munster semi-final at Dungarvan. After an excellent first half performance and a sluggish second half we ran out winners on the score 2-7 to 6 points. On the 17th July 1983 we faced Cork at Pairc Ui Caoimh against a team which was regarded as one of Cork's best team. We put up a creditable performance and were beaten on the score 1-11 to 1-5. The improvement in the standard of minor football was due in no small way to the introduction of an under 17 football league which was run very successfully in particular in the South Division with Cahir winners.

The coach, Seamus McCarthy and selectors Hugh Kennedy, Ned Sheehan Colm O'Flaherty and Tommy Lonergan gave earnestly of their time in preparation of this team and they deserved the success they achieved. For 1984 it is hoped that we can go one better considering that eight of the team, fourteen of the panel, are available for selection for the coming year.

Finally we would like to thank the Cahir club for the continuous use of their field and dressing rooms for training.

We would also like to thank the Fethard club for their hospitality when three of the county teams played there during the year in practice matches.

Other clubs we would like to thank for the use of their fields are Cashel, Kilsheelan and Newcastle.

U-21 Team

The u-21 selectors held trials in April 1983, after which a panel of twenty two players was selected. The high point for the u-21 was the winning of the Dr Morris Cup v The Garda. It was impossible for the coach, Pat Moroney to set a pattern for training due to



Tipperary Under 21 Football team.

Front row, l. to r.: John McKenna (Borrisokane), MI Lynch (Commercials), MI Joy (Emly), Mark O'Connell (Commercials), Liam Corcoran (Kilsheelan), Nicholas English, captain (Lattin), Anthony Power (Ardfinnan), Andrew Healy (Newcastle), Willie Peters (Commercials), Eamonn O'Meara (Grangemockler).
Back row, l. to r.: Sean Lonergan (Commercials), Ian Conroy (Borrisokane), Adrian McNamara (Cashel), Gabriel Irwin (Cashel), Tony Maher (Arravale Rovers), Jim O'Donnell (Rockwell Rovers), Sean McMahon (Commercials), MI Beston (Fr Sheehy's), Franny Kelly (Commercials), Tom Carr (Holycross-Ballycahill), MI Ahearne (Mullinahone), MI Fitzgerald (Fethard), Brian Stokes (Kilsheelan).

players being involved in other county panels. Challenge matches were played against Arravale Rovers, Waterford, Clare, Fethard, Galtee Rovers, Cork and Kildare.

On the 3rd August 1983 we met Kerry in the Munster championship at Tipperary town. After a bad start we went in at half time leading by two points, however we were beaten on the score 4-10 to 10 points.

The board would like to thank Rockwell College for the use of their facilities. The selectors were: Coach Pat Moroney, Pete Savage, Jimmy O'Shea, Paul Dillon and Seamus McCarthy. The team is listed.

Junior Team

The junior championship was re-introduced in 1983 but unfortunately for Tipperary we were allowed only to pick from junior and intermediate clubs. It would be more fitting if we were allowed to pick the second best team in the county.

After trials at Ballycahill, Golden and a challenge match against Fethard the team was selected to play Waterford at Carrick-on-Suir on the 8/6/83 which we won on the score 2-8 to 6 points.

In the semi-final we played Kerry at Clogheen from the word go and we were defeated on the score 5-14 to 2-4. At this point in time we have requested from the appropriate councils to be allowed to field the second best team in 1984. The selectors were: Brendan O'Meara, Michael O'Connell, Michael Nolan, Michael Byrnes and William Robinson.

The team and subs that played Kerry were as follows:

John McKenna (Borrisokane); John O'Brien (Newport); MI O'Donnell (Golden); Jim O'Connell (Golden); Eamonn O'Meara (Grangemockler); Jim Lyons (Grangemockler); Patrick Maher (Fr Sheehy's); Paddy Morrissey (Galtee Rovers); Paul Walsh (Swans); Andrew Healy (Newcastle); Tim Floyd (Newport); Brendan White (Swan); Robert Stakelum, capt. (Holycross); Jim O'Donnell (Rockwell Rovers); P. J. Moloney (Ballylooby).

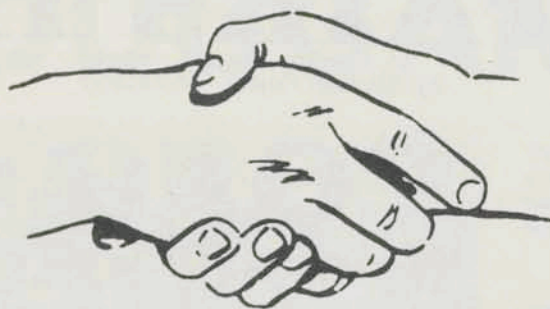
Subs: Tomas Sweeney (Newcastle); Tom Lonergan (Newcastle); Ernie Makem (Newcastle); Denis Maher (Fr Sheehy's); Jim Sheehy (Newport); Bill Hayes (Thurles Fennellys); Terry O'Neill (Commercials); Tony Stakelum (Holycross).

Tipperary Minor Team v Cork in Munster Football final

Liam Enright (Cahir); David Williams (Golden); Richie Quirke (Cahir); Sean Healy (Newcastle); Bill Hayes (Knockavilla Kickhams); Frank Howlin (Cahir); Jim Hackett (Fethard); Brian Burke (Fethard); Gerry Ryan (Ardfinane); Michael Cunningham (Emly); Tom Sheehan (Fethard); Peter Healy (Newcastle); Pat Hackett (Ardfinane); Joe Lambert (Ardfinane); Michael Corcoran (Emly).

Subs: Jimmy Butler (Killenaule); Declan Hennessy (Carrick Swans); Liam Connolly (Fethard); James Connolly

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Tipp County Minor Football team.

Front row, l. to r.: Liam Connolly (Fethard), Jim O'Meara (Grangemockler), James Connolly (Swans), John Hackett (Fethard), MI Cunningham (Emly), Peter Healy (Newcastle), MI Corcoran, captain (Emly), Joe Lambert (Ardfinnan), Pat Hackett (Ardfinnan), Pascal O'Brien (Swans), Frank Howlin (Cahir).

*Back row, l. to r.: Jimmy Butler (Killenaule), Declan Hahessy (Swans), Anthony Crosse (Eire Og Annacarty), Soren Healy (Newcastle), Gerry Ryan (Ardfinnan), Brian Burke (Fethard), Thomas Sheehan (Fethard), Ger Enright (Cahir), Dermot O'Shea (Commercials), Willie Hayes (Kickhams), David Williams (Golden) and Richie Quirke (Cahir).
Liam Enright (Cahir) missing from photograph due to illness.*

(Carrick Swans); Paschal O'Brien (Carrick Swans); Jim O'Meara (Grangemockler); Dermot O'Shea (Clonmel Commercials); Anthony Crosse (Eire Og Annacarty); Liam English (Cahir).

Senior Football Championship—

Tipperary v Kerry at Clonmel 26/6/83

John McKenna (Borrisokane); Pat Larkin (Kilsheelan); Michael Meagher (Loughmore); Aidan O'Mahoney (Ardfinnan); Ben Keane (Commercials); Shamie O'Neill (Commercials); Ian Conroy (Borrisokane); Jim Dunne (Moyne-Templetuohy); Gene McGrath

(Commercials); Michael Beston (Fr Sheehys); Ollie Maher (Mullinahone); Mick O'Riordan (Fethard); Benny Conway (Fr Sheehys); John Treacy (Loughmore); Franny Kelly (Commercials).

Subs: Michael Joy (Emly); Seamus Hennessy (Cappawhite); Tom Carr (Holycross); Eamonn O'Dwyer (Rockwell Rovers); Kevin Barron (Rockwell Rovers); A. B. Kennedy (Fethard); Anthony Colville (Fethard).

Tipp U-21 Football v Kerry

Sean MacMahon (Commercials); Michael Joy (Emly); Gabriel Irwin (Cashel); Mark O'Connell (Commercials); Andrew Healy (Newcastle); Nicholas English (Latin/Cullen); Liam Corcoran (Kilsheelan); Michael Beston (Fr Sheehy's); Tom Carr (Holycross); Adrian MacNamara (Cashel); Tony Meagher (Arravale Rvs); Ian Conroy (Borrisokane); Anthony Power (Ardfinnan); Jim O'Donnell (Rockwell Rvs); Franny Kelly (Commercials).

Subs: John McKenna (Borrisokane); Eamon O'Meara (Grangemockler); Michael Lynch (Commercials); Willie Peters (Commercials); Liam Stokes (Kilsheelan); Sean Lonergan (Commercials); Michael Ahern (Mullinahone); Michael Fitzgerald (Fethard).

Programme Award for Tipperary

In 1982 the Munster Council decided to present an award for the best County Final Programme produced in the province. This Annual Award is intended to stimulate greater interest in the production of programmes and to recognise high standards, where they are achieved.

The first winners of this competition were Thurles Sarsfields Communications Committee with their 1982 County Hurling Final Programme. This Committee have traditionally produced programmes for all games played at Semple Stadium and over the years have continued to produce interesting good quality programmes for games of all levels.

A plaque and cheque valued £100 was presented by Munster Council Chairman Donal O'Sullivan to Programme Editor Liam O'Donnchú, who accepted the award on behalf of his committee. Other members of Sarsfields Communications Committee include: Conor O'Dwyer, James Duggan, Timmy Grace, John Lanigan, Bro. M. Keane and Tomás O Baróid.



Liam O'Donnchú being presented with the Munster Programme Award by Donal O'Sullivan, Munster Council Chairman.

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TIPPERARY SENIOR FOOTBALL

by
Seamus O'Donoghue

As the year 1983 draws to a close Tipperary football will look back on a year when our minor footballers were beaten in a Munster final by a few points, our senior footballers beaten in McGrath Cup final by one point by Clare, Under 21 footballers well beaten in the end by Kerry, after a very even first half and our Junior footballers beaten by Kerry who went on to win All-Ireland honours.

At the start of the year Michael Babs Keating was appointed coach to the senior football team and he pointed out his chief aim was to win the McGrath Cup and form a panel of players to take Tipperary out of Division 4 of the National League.

A number of trials were held in Clogheen in the end of January and early February and a panel of some 25 players was formed. After losing our opening league games against Sligo, Leitrim and Westmeath we had no hope of promotion but nevertheless the players responded to Babs Keating and a number of very good sessions were held in Boherlahan. As the weather improved and the evenings stretched

training was changed to twice weekly in Clonmel where Babs never missed a session and brought the Dublin based players with him to training. These sessions usually lasted for one and a half hours after which they had to travel back to Dublin. In all these sessions Paudie O'Neill the captain displayed his leading qualities by never missing a session. Perhaps if some of the Tipperary based players had been as committed the McGrath Cup would have been won.

Challenge games were played against Waterford home and away and also against Kildare in Newbridge. We also played the county under 21 team on a number of occasions. It was very disappointing to find that the refusal of counties to play us in challenge games brought home very forcibly to us our standing in the football world.

Our first round championship game was against Limerick in Limerick on the same day as our county senior hurlers played Clare in Munster championship. The players mindful of the big following Tipperary would have on day responded and played very good

football in the second half to defeat Limerick easily and set up a McGrath Cup final against Clare who annihilated Waterford. As Clare were playing in division three and only narrowly missed out promotion to division two the players realised that a very big effort was needed. The loss of Donal Foley our efficient and effective centre back in a club game changed our plans as Donal had the natural qualities required for that position. He suffered a very bad injury to his jaw which has kept him out of football up to the present and into 1984.

The McGrath Cup final was fixed for Cork again to be followed by Tipperary versus Waterford in Munster hurling semi-final. After a close first half in which Tipperary had seventy per cent of the play our failure to apply the finishing touches to some well executed movements was to prove our downfall in the end. The post also came to the rescue of the Clare men on three occasions, yet with three minutes to go we had gone two points clear and pressing forward. We failed with two forty five metre kicks and from one of them Clare broke up field to catch our



Tipperary Senior Football Team.

Front row, l. to r.: MI Riordan, Fethard; Seamie O'Neill, Commercials; Tom Corr, Holycross/Ballycahill; Paudie O'Neill, captain, Commercials; Aidan O'Mahoney, Ardfinnan; John Treacy, Loughmore; Franny Kelly, Commercials.

Back row, l. to r.: MI Beston, Fr Sheehy's; Ben Keane, Commercials; Benny Conway, Fr Sheehy's; Gene McGrath, Commercials; MI Hanley, Commercials; Jimmy Dunne, Moyne/Templetuohy; Donal Foley, Moyle Rovers; MI Boland, Commercials.



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defence in an attacking set up and scored the goal which brought Clare back from defeat and secured for them a trip to London to play the McGrath Cup final proper.

In defeat Tipperary footballers had shown that the ability was there and if the proper commitment was given Tipperary could as easily be in division two of the league. The players trained on the following Wednesday night in Ferryhouse before we tackled Kerry in Clonmel in the Munster championship. Despite outside pressure to have the game played in Cork Tipperary selectors decided to play the game in Clonmel. On the day Kerry played very well and despite early promise Kerry ran out easy winners in the end. The first half was close and a goal before half time kept us in the hunt but early second half scores finally killed off the Tipperary challenge.

The county championships were run on the old system with two teams coming forward from each division. This replaced the open draw which was defeated at county convention. The finalists were Loughmore and Fethard and it took a replay to see Loughmore crowned county champions. Our coach Michael Babs Keating stepped down as coach to be replaced by Pat Moroney who had charge of the minor and under 21 players for some years back. The senior selectors for 1984 are Pat Moroney coach and selector, Michael Darcy, Sean Connolly, Paul Dillon and Seamus O'Donoghue.

The league games to date have brought no improvement with defeats by Sligo and Leitrim proving that promotion from division 4 is not as easy as it looks. The loss of key players through injury and club games has proved to be too much and will probably mean that Tipperary will have to linger in division four for another season. As we prepare to play Limerick in the National League we find that nine first team players will not be available through injury and club games. Surely this is a blow that even Kerry could not hope to win a league game in their section not to mind Tipperary who would not have the same number of players available.

On the brighter side the home based players are training in Clogheen under lights and we would like to thank the Clogheen club for their facilities and the Dublin players are being trained by Babs Keating who has promised to stay in touch and be of any assistance in relation to these players. Perhaps in the darkest hour Tipperary will rise above adversity and win the McGrath Cup in 1984 and with Loughmore having won their first round Munster club championship go on and provide us with a club championship in 1984.

Thanks to Boherlahan, Clonmel and Ferryhouse for the use of their facilities in the training of the team.

BORD NA nOG

TIOBRAID ARANN THJAR

The 1983 season opened on the 11th April with u-12 football competition. This competition was played in three grades A, B & C. The finals of these three competitions were played in Golden on Sunday 5th June. The grade A final between Arravale Rovers and Cashel was very keenly contested with victory going to Arravele Rovers who went on to beat Roscrea in county semi final and were beaten in the county final by a good Durlas Og team.

The grade B competition final was between Galtee Rovers and Knockavilla Kickhams with victory going to Galtee Rovers. The grade C competition final was between Aherlow and Rosegreen with Aherlow proving too good for their opponents.

The u-12 hurling competition commenced on 6th June and was played in two grades A & B. In the grade A final Knockavilla Kickhams beat Cashel and went on to beat St Marys Clonmel in county semi-final. In the county final their opponents were Toomevara and what a final this was. After a great game it ended in a draw. The replay was a thriller and ended in another draw. The second replay was another thrilling game with Knockavilla Kickhams becoming county champions by a one point margin. The grade B final was played between Eire Og Annacarty and Rosegreen with Eire Og gaining victory over a gallant Rosegreen team.

The u-14 football competition started on 6th May. The u/r final was played on 25th July in Bansha between Cashel and Arravale Rovers, with Cashel snatching victory in the last minutes of the game. Cashel were beaten in the county semi final by a great Moyle Rovers team. The rural final was contested by Golden Kilfeacle and Knockavilla Kickhams with Golden Kilfeacle emerging victorious. They went on to play Moyle Rovers in county semi final which ended in a draw. In the replay Moyle Rovers were victorious.

The u-14 football B competition was played on 24th July between

Rockwell Rovers and Rosegreen with victory going to Rockwell Rovers.

The u-14 hurling competition started on 10th June. The u/r final was played in Golden on Monday 11th July between Cashel and Arravale Rovers with victory going to Cashel who beat Durlas Og in county semi final and became county champions by beating Toomevara in county final. The rural final was played in Golden on Friday 15th July between Knockavilla Kickhams and Clonoulty-Rossmore and after a great game Kickhams were victorious and went on afterwards to be beaten in county semi final by their old rivals Toomevara.

The u-16 hurling competition was played in two grades A & B. The A final was played in Cashel between Knockavilla Kickhams and Clonoulty Rossmore. After a great contest Kickhams were victorious and went on afterwards to contest the county final to be beaten this time by a superb Roscrea team. The B final was played in Dundrum between Galtee Rovers and Sean Treacys with Galtee Rovers emerging victorious. The u-16 football competition was also played in two grades A & B. The A final was played in Golden between Galtee Rovers and Clonoulty Rossmore. This game was won by Galtee Rovers who lost the match afterwards in the Board room. Clonoulty-Rossmore played Holycross in the county semi final which ended in a draw. In the replay Clonoulty-Rossmore were victorious and went on to the county final to be beaten by a great team from Fethard. The B final was played in S.T.P. between Solohead and Rockwell Rovers with victory going to Solohead. All in all a great year for our games with two county titles coming to the division.

Scor na nOg has this year proved to be an outstanding success with every club in the division partaking and wonderful entertainment assured for everybody.

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How the Clubs performed in North Tipp

Pádraig O Meachair (Rúnaí)

1. **Borrisoleigh:** had a good year in senior and under 21 hurling. Their successes no doubt, are inspired by the late Peadar Cummins, who gave of his time and energy to the club. Both himself and the late Mick Prior will live on for ever in the memories of Borrisoleigh people. Suanas síorraí dóibh.

2. **Eire Og:** The Eire Og senior hurlers who promised so much only to come a cropper to the champions Borrisoleigh, were outstepped by their very skillful and accomplished junior hurlers, who won North and County titles in convincing fashion. After four years supremacy in the Under 21 hurling grade they surrendered their title. In Intermediate football they lost to Lorrha. Their minor footballers captured the North title.

3. **Roscrea:** Roscrea have won "club of the year 1983". To achieve such a success over the likes of Eire Og, they had to be good. In underage— at Bord na nOg level— they had almost a clean sweep in hurling, while they were beaten in the County Under 16 football final by Fethard, who had earlier in the year captured the Ogsport title.

They captured Minor hurling under 21 hurling titles and no doubt will be a force in senior hurling in a year or two. They won the under 17 football league and they are in Junior football final against Moneygall.

4. **Borrisokane:** Their first year in senior hurling ranks was not very successful but they will admit they did not achieve their potential in this grade. They won the Nealon Trophy and they ran the champions Roscrea to one point in the championship proper. Their Juvenile teams are in safe hands and they have had a considerable amount of success here.

In football they have a niche all their own. They contest the under 21 football title against Eire Og while their exit from the senior grade was a surprise. They are in my opinion, the up and coming senior football champions.

5. **Silvermines:** Here is a club that should have more success. The senior hurlers, many in the twilight of their careers, promised well early on, while their junior hurlers who were so impressive, lost out to Toomevara in their third engagement. Their footballers

slumped somewhat this year, but there are lots of players available.

Great advances were made in the handball club and a new glass back wall was erected. It is now one of the foremost in the country— big membership and well-run leagues. Mícheál O Briain, O.S., is looking after affairs here.

6. **Knockshewanna:** During the year Knockshewanna bought their field at Ballingarry. It is very well situated beside the main road, in the heart of beautiful countryside, under the shadow of the "fairy hill". They would welcome a fairy godmother to help them in fund-raising. It will be a great acquisition to the Board.

In Junior hurling they had not the same amount of success as in previous years. They joined ranks with B'kane as Erins Hope, in under age. Gerry Long the active energetic member, is their inspiration.

7. **Kilruane:** With such reserves of material they will be back. Their club is run as efficiently as ever with Tomás O Ciarba, as Rúnaí, and Jim Casey, their very pleasant chairman. The Fr Niall O'Meara, G.A.A. Centre is a hive of activity each night of the week. Len Gaynor who has done so much for the club at all levels, is "coach" to the Tipperary Senior hurlers.

8. **Shannon Rovers:** This club has enjoyed a fair amount of success at under-age level over the years. I feel it is in capable hands and will produce teams of note in the years ahead.

9. **Lorrha:** This club has been on the threshold of the great breakthrough. Some people think Lorrha have missed their chance. I don't agree. They are looking after under-age teams well and will no doubt make a big impact yet. Their senior hurlers contested the North final with distinction, while their under 21 hurlers did not achieve their early promise but still captured the Walsh Trophy. Their footballers won senior honours with the help of Shannon Rovers, while they have added the Intermediate title also to their laurels.

Early in the year Lorrha lost one of its most distinguished members in the person of Hubie Hogan. Hubie endeared himself to all. He promoted everything Gaelic in music, song and games. His was a distinguished career at club level, at divisional level and at

county level. His funeral on both days was immense. Sympathy to his good wife Mary and family. Solas na bhFlaitheas dó.

10. **Kiladangan:** Great work is being done for this club by club members. The juvenile section is most successful while the intermediate team is passing through a transition. It is hard to replace dedicated hurlers. At Scór level Kiladangan are always to the forefront.

The peerless Martin Kennedy passed to his eternal reward during the year, after a lifetime of dedicated service to the G.A.A. He was a simple, unassuming man, but at the same time, one of outstanding character. Séamus O'Riain, former President, paid a glowing tribute in his graveside oration. Seamus Hogan, the efficient club secretary, had every arrangement first class for that sad occasion. I leaba Dé go raibh anam Máirtín.

11. **Baile na hInse:** This beautifully situated club nestling among the hills, is developing its pitch at Shallee into a first class one. The sod is perfect and the dressing rooms all under construction.

Games wise the club participated in every competition. While not having the same success as in former years the games are in a strong position. The club is in safe hands, and the future looks bright.

12. **Tulach Seasta:** Just a few short weeks ago the club lost one of its most promising stars, Eamonn Ryan, at the early age of 17 years, passed to his eternal reward. On the North Tipp under 16 team, Eamon was a star. He starred for his club at minor, under 21 and even as an intermediate player. His illness and death had a stunning effect on the rest of his club mates. His loss is irreparable both to his parents and family and to the club of which he was so loyal.

Newport hurlers won the Dan Gleeson Cup. They contested the intermediate championship with fervour and dedication. While they have a very good minor and under 21 hurling team.

Football wise they had a measure of success. Their senior amalgamation did well, while their under 21 footballers were unlucky to make their exit. Their under 17 team were beaten by Inane Rovers in the final.

Scór is in a healthy position in Newport. The club hosted a very

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successful North final and they have had their share of winners also.

The club is in safe hands and their officials are always ready to co-operate with the Board in every way.

13. Burgess: I hope Burgess will get due recognition this year by A.I.B. for the wonderful complex they now have at Kilcoleman. The games are in a safe position and I feel it will be only a short time until they win success. Their club officials are most energetic and the club is in no danger.

14. Ballina: Ballina club is looking after its juveniles and their success this year over Portroe underage augurs well for the future.

Their pitch is worthy of full praise by all and since its opening it has been used effectively by the Board.

The club officials are most earnest in promoting everything Gaelic.

15. Templederry: Templederry Kenyons are a good club. Their secretary James O'Leary, does an enormous amount of voluntary work on behalf of the club.

At intermediate level they got to the North final, only to be pipped by Portroe. At underage level the games

are in a strong position.

The Templederry Scór final is one of the highlights of the year, with good healthy rivalry the order of the night.

The Kenyon Centre is the club of excitement, with handball, squash and other activities going on.

16. Toomevara: Once again Toomevara are very strong at juvenile level. The juvenile committee in the club is the strongest on the division. The intermediate team did not live up to their early promise, while a very good junior hurling team was overrun by Eire Og in the 2nd half of the North final. The minor hurlers got to the North final once again, and suffered defeat at the hands of their great rivals Roscrea.

Scór is in a healthy position, and all scór competitors are determined to win for the sake of "the little parish." Club officials are very earnest and no doubt in the near future the teams will have success at adult level.

17. Moneygall: In senior hurling Moneygall ousted B'kane, convincingly. They had hard luck against Eire Og at Cloughjordan. Against Kilruane at Roscrea they were well beaten. The under 21 hurlers were very promising and many

of them are again young enough. The minor hurlers benefited from the many games and they put up stern resistance to Erins Hope in a great game.

The footballers are through to the North final in the junior grade against Inane.

During the year the club rose to the occasion when at the 11th hour the Dublin v Tipp N.H.L. game was staged there. All arrangements were first-class, so much so that a later N.H.L. game Tipp v Kildare was also staged there.

Official-wise the club is well looked after. Scór is very strong in the parish and it is going from strength to strength. The Centre is used to great effect by many organisations and it is very well run and controlled.

Conclusion

All in all most of our clubs are in a very healthy position. It would be good to see an injection of youthful enthusiasm and dedication into some of the club committees.

I would like to thank all clubs for their wonderful co-operation during the year and always. It is a pleasure to work with all of the club officials.



Killenaule South Intermediate Hurling Champions

Back row, l. to r.: T. Fanning, D. Aherne, A. O'Dwyer, T. Walsh, M. Hassett, C. Cooke, J. Butler, D. O'Connell, M. Kelly, Jim Tierney, R. Butler, T. J. Leahy, Ed. Cooke (mentor), P. Butler, M. Gleeson.

Front row, l. to r.: K. Shelley, M. Shanahan, M. McGettigan captain, J. O'Dwyer, J. Kirby, Tom Shelley.

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County Bord na nOg Review of 1983

by Seán O Tiarnaí (Rúnaí)

County Champions 1983

Under 12 hurling—Knockavilla Kickhams
Under 12 football—Dúrlas Og
Under 14 rural hurling—Moycarkey-B.
Under 14 urban/rural hurling—Cashel KC
Under 14 rural football—Moyle Rovers
Under 14 urban/rural football—Moyle R
Under 16 hurling—Roscrea
Under 16 football—Fethard
Féile na nGael—Toomevara
Féile na nOg—Fethard
Ogsport—Arravale Rovers

1983 was a good year for Bord na nOg in that the standard of play in both hurling and football was as good if not better than ever. Knockavilla Kickhams in hurling and Moyle Rovers in football took their first ever county juvenile titles making it quite a year for them. Our county u-14 hurling team did us proud by winning the Tony Forrestal Memorial tournament in Waterford. However more about that later. The following is a short summary of the competitions:—

Hurling: Under 12

Toomevara defeated Dúrlas Og in one semi-final while Knockavilla defeated St Marys in the other. Very few people realised what was to follow. It took three games to find a winner with each game in itself a classic in terms of skill, excitement and sheer honest endeavour. All you had to do was go to Templemore on any of the three evenings and for 50p you had real entertainment. Knockavilla emerged to take their first ever title and not even a vanquished Toomevara begrudged them that. There was no loser however and Toomevara can be proud of their contribution to the competition.

Under 14 Rural

Moycarkey-Borris emerged from the Mid to defeat the South standard bearers Fethard in one semi-final, while Toomevara exacted some revenge for their u-12 defeat by ousting Knockavilla. In the final pre-match favourites Toomevara came unstuck, after a long year, which had begun with Féile began to take its toll. However that is not to take from a sweet victory for a hungry and well prepared Moycarkey-Borris team. It should be said however that some players and indeed mentors were over-enthusiastic on a couple of occasions and their behaviour did not add to the final.

U-14 Urban-rural

Cashel King Cormacs took the West



Roscrea— Divisional and County Under 16 Hurling Champions 1983

Back row, l. to r.: Paul Dolan, Paul Phelan, Michael Nolan, Peter Meagher, Bernard Sands, Declan Fitzpatrick, Brendan Carey, Michael Moloney, David Fitzpatrick, John Larkin, Seamus Feehan, Paul Moloney.

Middle row, l. to r.: Stephen Nugent, Kevin Loughnane, Gerard Dooley, Mark Landy, Brian England, captain, Michael Fletcher, Tony Hoctor, Johnny Wright.

Front row, l. to r.: Peter Gleeson, Murty Kennedy, Liam England, Paul Hogan, Damian Regan.

title and knocked out Durlas Og in an exciting semi-final. South Champions St Marys had to give best to Toomevara. In the final however Toomevara had no answer to a Cashel side who were brilliant to say the least. If this Cashel team is held together they are going to take a lot of beating when it comes to under 16 and minor.

U-16 hurling

Roscrea broke Toomevara's Northern dominance and then defeated Durlas Og in a thrilling semi-final in Templemore. Knockavilla surprised a fancied St Marys team in the other semi-final. As with Cashel in the u-14, Roscrea were a class apart in U-16, easily overcoming a gallant Knockavilla in the final with one of the most clinical performances you are likely to see in juvenile hurling.

Football— Under 12

Durlas Og ousted Clonmel Commercial at Cashel in one semi-final while Arravale Rovers defeated Roscrea in the other. Durlas Og upset pre-match predictions when accounting for the Rovers in an excellent final.

Under 14 Rural

Moyle Rovers got the better of Holycross while Golden accounted Newport in the semi-finals. It took a replay before Moyle Rovers took the title.

Under 14 Urban-Rural

Moyle Rovers accounted for Cashel in Fethard after a tremendous tussle and then met Dúrlas Og who had defeated Roscrea in the other semi-final. The result of the final— another draw. On the evening of the replay Moyle Rovers were not to be denied and after a tenacious struggle deprived Dúrlas Og of the U-12 and U-14 double. So what a year for Moyle Rovers— having never won a county juvenile title previously it took a lot of courage and skill to not only take the double but after replays in both as well.

Under 16 Football

Fethard accounted for Roscrea in one semi-final, the other semi-final between Clonoulty and Holycross ended in a draw. The replay was won by Clonoulty who were subsequently beaten by Fethard in the county final.

Féile na nGael

Toomevara the North champions, defeated Mid representatives Dúrlas Og in a keenly contested semi-final at Holycross. Over in Boherlahan, Arravale Rovers disposed of St Marys. The final was a tremendous affair with both sides giving it everything. When the final whistle sounded the sides were level and so faced extra time. A fresher Toomevara team barely got through and great credit is due to Arravale considering this was their third game having played the West final earlier in the day.

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Toomevara went to Dublin and defeated St Monicas of Dublin in the first round before being defeated by eventual champions St Patricks of Kilkenny. Toome gave a great display considering they had a number of injured players after the first round.

Our skills representative was Billy Lanigan of Moycarkey-Borris.

County Under 14 Hurling Team

This year we were invited to enter a county under 14 hurling team in the Tony Forrester Memorial Tournament in Waterford. In the semi-final our fine young team devastated Wexford 10-14 to 0-0 in one of the finest exhibitions of hurling you are ever likely to see. In the final which was played in a down-pour our lads had to face Leinster champions Kilkenny, who were pre tournament favourites. Tipperary proved themselves an excellent team by coasting home on a scoreline of 2-15 to 1-5. Selectors Paudie Butler, Connie Grace John Hayes, Tommy Kelly and Fr O'Rourke deserve great credit for putting such a fine team together. However their task was made easier by the tremendous response from all the team.

Panel: Liam O'Connor (Mullinahone), John Gleeson (Drom-Inch), Arthur Fitzelle (Cashel), Billy Lanigan (Moycarkey-Borris), Seamus Feehan (Roscrea), Michael O'Meara (Toomevara), Conal Bonner (Cashel), Bill Mullaney (Durlas Og), Nicholas Mockler (Durlas Og), Joe McGrath (Cashel), Colm Egan (Kiladangan), Gerard Deeley (St Marys), George O'Leary (Kilruane), Brian Maher (Moycarkey-Borris), Michael Perdue

(Cashel), Brian Morrissey (Marlfield), Donal Lyons (Ballingarry), Paul Madden (Kilruane), Mark Shoughnessy (Dúrlas Og), Brett McGrath (St Marys), Paudie Delaney (Durlas Og).

Other Competitions

Ogspórt

This is an under 15 seven-a-side competition which goes on the All-Ireland stages at a summer camp in Gormanston. In the semi-finals of our competition Arravale Rovers and Moyle Rovers overcame Borrisokane and Holy-cross respectively. In the final Arravale Rovers came out on top and later gave a good account of themselves in Gormanston.

Féile na nOg U-14 Football

Fethard defeated Arravale Rovers and Dúrlas Og defeated Roscrea in the semi-finals. Fethard proved too good for Dúrlas Og in the final and represented us in the All-Ireland Féile in Cavan and they also gave a good account of themselves.

Munster u-16 Competition

The South and West division bit the dust in the first round. North defeated East Clare in the first round but had to bow to eventual champions Limerick City in the second round. Mid Tipp went as far as the semi-final but they too ran into the excellent Limerick City team.

Referees— County finals

U. 12 hurling—	Donie O'Gorman
U. 12 football—	Willie Robinson
U. 14 rural hurling—	Sammy Ryan

U. 14 urban/rural hurling—	Paudie Butler
U. 14 rural football—	Phil Lowry
U. 14 urban/rural football—	Sammy Ryan
U. 16 hurling—	Liam McGrath
U. 16 football—	John Maher

Our thanks to all the above referees and to all the referees who officiated at the semi-finals. Theirs is a thankless job but their efficient handling of the games ensured the minimum of criticism

Scór na nOg 1983— County Winners

Rince Foirne	—Solohead
Amhránaíocht Aonair—	Bernadett Ryan,
	Toomevara

Tráth na gCeist— Newport
Nuachleas— Upperchurch-Drombane
Bailéad Grúpa— Lattin-Cullen
Ceol Uirlise— The Nesbitts Loughmore
Rince Set— Templemore/Clonmore

Scór was as popular as ever and continues to thrive in most Juvenile clubs. 1983 featured a major breakthrough for Solohead in the Figure Dancing and Templemore/Clonmore in the Set Dancing. However special mention is merited by the Novelty Act of Upperchurch Drombane and Bernadette Ryan of Toomevara in the solo singing who reached the All-Ireland finals, a tremendous achievement in itself.

Conclusion

Finally the board wishes to thank everyone who helped in any way during the year— park committees, referees, team officials and many others. We wish you all a Happy Christmas and please God 1984 will be a bright New Year for Tipperary.



The Arravale Rovers team which represented Tipperary in the 7-a-side Og Sport Gael competition during the Summer at Gormanston. In the back row (second from the right) is Michael Foley who won the award for the best goalie in the competition. Back row, l. to r.: Tommy Toomey (coach), Aidan Buckley, Frankie Nolan, Richard O'Halloran captain, Gerry Haslem, Michael Foley, Seamus O'Donoghue (manager).

Front row, l. to r.: Pat Ryan, Aidan Bresnan, Dermot Barlow, Pat Delaney, John Lowry.

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THIRD COUNTY TITLE FOR MOYCARKEY-BORRIS MINOR HURLERS

by Jimmy Fogarty

The success of Moycarkey-Borris minor hurlers in the 1983 county championship shows what dedication and tons of hard work can do. At the outset of the Mid campaign few would have thought that this side had the potential to reach the pinnacle of success. Few bar their mentors and the panel of players themselves. The club had seen other teams considered to be of better quality fail in the immediate past. But the bunch of u-18s of 1983 defied all the odds and critics to complete the Mid and county double.

Right from their first outing against Thurles Sarsfields the side somehow managed to keep winning and with each game showed improvement. But their main ingredient for success was their unflagging spirit even in the greatest adversity. Moycarkey-Borris has always been a stronghold of juvenile hurling but somehow it never seemed to continue up the scale. A few divisional titles and county crowns in 1968 and 1972 were the only imprint on the Tipperary u-18 roll of honour.

This year could the gap be bridged? The panel was brought together early in spring and training and challenge games arranged. All the time a great spirit was built up; a spirit to manifest itself through the complete innings.

The Mid championship beckoned and it was a winning run to the final. Defeats were inflicted on Sarsfields 3-2 to 1-4; Clonmore 6-5 to 1-7; Holycross (holders) 2-5 to 1-5; Boherlahan 5-11 to 2-5. The Mid final played as a curtain raiser to the senior finale in Templemore saw Moycarkey-Borris matched once more with Sarsfields. The results a draw 0-8 each in a game that never reached any great standard.

The replay at Holycross saw those well balanced sides again in close contention. It was touch and go all the way, level scoring at half time 1-5 each. In an exciting finish the blues forged ahead by three points. Moycarkey rallied as if inspired. Phil Cahill shot a point and in a last grasp rally Tommy Noonan's effort went all the way to the net. In a dramatic finish Sarsfields disputed the goal alleging that a Moycarkey forward was in the "square" but the score was allowed and Moycarkey had regained the Mid championship. In all their victories they showed an unflinching determination and knew only one warcry "victory". Defeat was not recognised by this side. Their defence played heroically in all the games and the forwards though often lacking penetration always managed the all important scores.

Semi-final Victory

Their next outing was in Fethard on a wet evening and Carrick Swan the opposition. In a high flying first thirty minutes Moycarkey put paid to the challengers from the South and emerged winners by 2-8 to 2-2.

Now it was county final day and by a coincidence Roscrea the opposition in Cashel; a repetition of the senior decider between the same clubs of twelve months previously. The coincidence did not end there for the minors finished level too. Playing against the stiff breeze in the first half Moycarkey were led 1-4 to 0-1. But corner forward Milo Cleary left his indelible mark on the second half with three goals. Victory was in sight as time ebbed away but when Moycarkey looked champions Roscrea got the all important equalising point.



MI McKenna, Moycarkey-Borris receiving the County Minor Hurling Championship Trophy from MI Frawley, County Chairman.

Final Replay

November 13th proved a luck day for the Mid champions as they faced Roscrea again in Cashel. But on this occasion there was no denying the Moycarkey-Borris outfit. With Declan Byrnes scoring an early goal his team rose to the occasion and the defence in particular led by captain and county minor Michael McKenna played like men inspired. They had cantered into a 2-3 to 0-3 interval lead, Byrnes also getting the second goal. The second half was one of great endeavour by both sides. But as it progressed the eventual winners scented victory and true to their performances all through the season they held on for victory despite a late Roscrea goal after unrelenting pressure. Perhaps the "Cork Examiner" report on the game sums it up best of all— "it was real vintage stuff throughout featured by the winners first time pulling tactics, reminiscent of the great days of Tipperary hurling."

The underdogs had defied the odds and etched their name on the honours list.

The victory gave Moycarkey-Borris club the notable under-age double minor and u-14 and indeed should provide a reservoir of talent for the years ahead. Just as such players as Jack Bergin, Tom Doran, Eamonn Darmody and Dick Quigley emerged from the 1972 minor squad no doubt some of the 1983 winning side will hope to bring further honours at higher level to the club in the years ahead.

So congratulations to a great team and their dedicated mentors— Tom Harold (trainer), Paddy Maher, Billy Ryan and Eddie Ryan. Their splendid performances throughout 1983 has made it another year to remember for the wearers of the red and gold.



Moycarkey-Borris— County Minor Champions 1983

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BORD NA nÓG

NORTH TIPPERARY REVIEW

by *Connie Grace, Divisional Juvenile Secretary*

1983 proved once again to be a very successful year for Bord na nÓg in North Tipperary. Each championship was divided into strong and weak sections giving a total of thirteen competitions in all. The honours were shared among six clubs with Roscrea collecting four and Toomevara three.

Under 12 Hurling

In the strong section Roscrea accounted for Moneygall and Toomevara defeated Eire Og in the semi-finals. In a thrilling final Toomevara captured their fourth title in a row. In section 2 Ballina/Ballinahinch overcame Kiladangan and Portroe proved too good for Borrisoleigh in the semi-finals with the combination team taking the title.

Under 12 Football

Roscrea beat Eire Og and Kilruane McDonaghs overcame Borrisokane in the section 1 semi-finals. In the final a very skillful Roscrea side proved too good for Kilruane. In section two Shannon Rovers gained their title at the expense of Eire Og 'B'.

U-14 Hurling

Toomevara once again proved to be kingpins in this grade. They captured both the urban-rural and the rural titles, defeating their arch rivals Kilruane McDonaghs in both finals. Toomevara owed much of their success to the brilliance of their centre back Michael O'Meara. In section 2 Ballina/Ballinahinch collected their second title of the year with Portroe again being their victims.

U-14 Football

In section 1 Roscrea continued their dominance and added another title in this grade at the expense of Newport. In section 2 Kiladangan

earned their title with a victory over Shannon Rovers.

U-16 Hurling

A very skillful Roscrea outfit emerged winners in section 1 after a thrilling confrontation with Toomevara. Temple-derry got among the honours in section 2 with a victory over Kiladangan.

U-16 Football

Roscrea made it a hat-trick of football titles when they added the u-16 crown to the u-14 and u-12 titles. Newport were their opponents in the final. Shannon Rovers collected their second title in section 2 with Burgess filling the runners-up spot.

Féile na nGael

Six teams took part in Féile na nGael which was held in Ballinderry. Toomevara emerged victorious over Roscrea in the final and later went on to represent Tipperary in the All-Ireland Féile.

Garda Cup

North Tipp won the inaugural Garda Cup u-16 hurling competition. In a thrilling semi-final North Tipp defeated West Tipp by a point and in the final Jody Grace led his men to victory over Mid Tipp.

Scór na nÓg Winners 1983

Rínne Foirne—Borrisoleigh
Aithriseoireach—Shannon Rovers
(Donal Duice)

Bailéad Aonair—Borrisokane (Michael Dunne)

Nuachleas—Moneygall

Tráth na gCeist—Portroe

Ceol Uirlise—Ballina

Bailéad Grupa—Temple-derry

Rince Set—Portroe

RESULTS 1983

	Section 1	Section 2
Under 12 Hurling	Toomevara	Ballina/Ballinahinch
Under 12 Football	Roscrea	Shannon Rovers
Under 14 Rural Hurling	Toomevara	Ballina-Ballinahinch
Under 14 Urban-rural Hurling	Toomevara	—
Under 14 Football	Roscrea	Kiladangan
Under 16 Hurling	Roscrea	Temple-derry
Under 16 Football	Roscrea	Shannon Rovers
Féile na nGael—	Toomevara	

Peadar Cummins

All the gael's of the division were saddened by the untimely passing of Peadar Cummins, Borrisoleigh. Peadar gave a lifetime in the service of his own club with most of the time being spent looking after juveniles. He had a deep love of all things gaelic and he had a special affection for Scór. He served on the Board with great distinction. He was a man admired by all who knew him. Ar dheis láimh Dé go raibh a anam uasal.

Thanks

The Board would like to thank all who helped in the promotion of Juvenile games during the year especially the team officials, referees and park committees. We hope that in the centenary year all clubs will make great efforts in the promotion of Juvenile games.

1983 COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL RESULTS ROLL OF HONOUR

Senior Hurling: Borrisoleigh 0-17,
Loughmore/Castleiney 1-11.
Senior Football: Loughmore/Castleiney
3-3, Fethard 2-6.
replay—Loughmore/Castleiney 0-8,
Fethard 0-7.
Minor Hurling: Moycarkey/Borris 3-3,
Roscrea 2-6
replay—Moycarkey/Borris 2-5,
Roscrea 1-5
Minor Football: Lattin/Emly 0-12,
St Augustines 1-3
Junior Hurling: Eire Og Nenagh 4-8,
Gortnahoe/Glengoose 2-9
Junior Football: Thurles Sarsfields
Intermediate Hurling: Moyne/Temple-
tuohy 4-10, Portroe 2-7
Intermediate Football: Emly 1-11;
Newcastle 0-6.
Under 21 Hurling:
Under 21 Football:
Note: Some of the championships have not
been completed at time of going to press.

Photographs by:

Ned O'Shea, Thurles
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LÁ NA n ÓG

AT SEMPLE STADIUM 1983

For many weeks, despite the adverse weather, the joyful sounds of young boys hurling had re-echoed across the lush countryside. Many young boys clutching hurley and helmet had hurried along the country roads to their local schools in sharp contrast to the weary trudging of the winter morning. Animated talk of school leagues, class rivalry and individual duels had filled the small classrooms. The time for rural schools hurling had come round again and with it the climax of the season. Semple Stadium Day or Lá na nÓg celebrated this year on Wednesday, 15th June.

This day, on which representative games are played annually on a divisional basis, had been eagerly awaited by each rural school hurler and they look forward to it with anticipation of the delights of sharing with the Joe McKennas and the Noel Skehans the thrill of running the ball around the back of the net on the Killinan end or diving full length to bring off the save of the century in the town goal.

Tuesday evening sees hundreds of eyes glued to the television screen as we search for the "high" on the weather chart. In a year of almost continual rainfall, we are blessed with blue skies and warm sunshine. The day is set in motion when the secretary pins Clár na Lae to the gate of the Stadium. Jim Hickey, stadium groundsman, has done a wonderful job in preparing the dressingrooms. Tommy Max has ensured that all exits and entrances are secure and safe and Dick Maher has given of his time to set up the dining facilities for teachers and pupils.

At 11.30 the first car load arrives. The children clamber up the steps of the old stand and gaze on the green billiard

table often seen on television but never before witnessed at close quarters. Over the dressing room doors the team names of Limerick, Cork and Kilkenny conjure up great teams and great names and inside the dressing rooms the smell of Wintergreen from a previous training session heightens the sense of entering the holy of holies for the first time. Little by little small groups of boys filter in with their teachers unusually silent now as the scale of the stadium and the atmosphere of the terraces reaches them. Shyly, they place their gear on the dressing room floor and gaze round them while outside the chatter and laughter of teachers can be heard as they renew acquaintances and engage in friendly banter on the outcome of today's games.

As high noon approaches there are children everywhere. Danny Morrissey and Timmy Delaney, no strangers to the Stadium, have arrived with the determined men of the West; Ricky Sheehan has brought the boys from the county of Charles Kickham while Phil Dwyer and Liam O'Donoghue marshal their charges from the famed hurling areas of Boherlahan and Moycarkey to the security of the end dressing room. P. J. Harrington and Ailbe Caplis have already arrived and Johnny Collins of Holycross arrives just as the contingent from the North under the dedicated leadership of Denis Floyd and Donie Nealon enter the stadium, bearing the Knocknagow Cup which has been kindly presented by the Tipperary Association in Cork. Mrs Small and Mr Collins tell me they intend to hold on to it but Jimmy Duggan, Ricky Sheehan and Danny Morrissey have other ideas.

One familiar face is missing. Brother

Perkins, whose brainchild this whole occasion it, has been confined to bed but another trojan worker for youth and hurling, Father O'Rourke, has arrived to lend a hand. Pierce Murphy who has departed for Lourdes, earlier this morning has sent two able Knights of Malta cadets and Phil O'Meara and his son, Tony, are landed with the unenviable task of refereeing the day's proceedings.

Back in the dressing rooms, chatter and exhortation, stern words and friendly encouragement prepare the boys from the North and Mid for their first foray into the big time. Tommy Barrett waits at the field entrance to formally welcome the teams onto the pitch and the photographers bench to be framed by Ned O'Shea. At last the dressing room door is opened and the cool shade of the tunnel gives way to the merciless heat. Each boy in his mind's eye is greeted not with the empty expanse of the new stand but with the rapturous roars of terraced thousands as he sprints onto the field, takes a few practice swipes and sends imaginary sliotars soaring at both ends.

There is nothing imaginary about the North's play. Extremely well coached and finely balanced, they gradually wear down the Mid opposition. Young Dillon from the extreme north of the county is beginning to open his shoulders in the Pat Stakelum mould and it is obvious that unless he is curbed the half time gap of four points will be widened considerably. Try as they will the Mid boys cannot match the truly wonderful skill and dash of a north team representing fourteen different schools and they run out easy winners at the end.

After the handshakes, the North



Mid Tipperary Rural Schools 1983

Back row— Tony Lacy, Andrew Maher, J. J. McGrath, John Ryan, Kevin Ryan, Gearoid Ryan, Jason Meeney.
Front row— Ger Tuohy, Pat Buckley, Pat Morrissey, Sean Maher, Ken Ralph, John Ryan, John McCormack, Colm Harrington.



West Tipperary Rural Schools 1983

Back row: Sean Moloney, Jim Joe Maher, Michael Brennan, Thomas O'Donnell, Willie Heffernan, John Landers, Patrick Hallissey, Ken O'Connell, Oliver Cussen, Thomas Ryan, Liam Ryan, Seamus Coen, Tim Dwyer.
Front row: John McCormack, Michael Browne, Con Harding, Michael Kelly, John Dwyer, Brendan McGrath, Michael O'Dwyer, Ivan Hickey, Francis Quinn, Seamus Ryan, Patrick Morrissey, William Tierney.



North Tipperary Rural Schools 1983

Back row— B. O'Driscoll, Jim McGrath, Owen Maher, Joe Kennedy, Mark Dillon, Der Healy, Francis Darcy, Tony Fanning, Cathal Egan. Front row— Kieran Murphy, Declan Kearns, Brendan Hogan, William O'Donnell, Padraig O'Brien, David Spillane, Brendan Murphy, Owen Ryan, Paul Kenneally, Padraig O'Meara.



David Spillane, captain of North Tipperary team, receives the Knocknagow Cup from Fr J. J. O'Rourke, Chairman of Bord na nOg, following his side's victory in the La na nOg, Rural Schools hurling final at Semple Stadium. Also included is Liam O'Donnchú, Chairman of the Rural Schools Committee.

retire for a rest before the final as the south and west take the field. This is a far more balanced affair with plenty of skill in evidence. The West forge ahead but exhorted by their mentor, Ricky Sheehan, two fine goals bring the South back into the game.

However, lacking a little in size they eventually have to succumb to a more balanced and powerful West whose deft flicks and neat touches promise to trouble the North in an eagerly awaited final. The depth of talent in the rural schools has seen some divisions bring second teams and while the finalists rest all are given an opportunity to hurl on the Semple Stadium sod and retain the memory of a unique occasion, P. J. Harrington and Michael Small, Sarsfields Hon. Secretary for

many years, supervise and encourage in the afternoon sunshine.

The final produced some excellent hurling. For long periods, the skill of the west was more than a match for the north, but as often happens when children hurl, a few goals are very disheartening and as the game wore on there was no denying the north's superiority. The west battled on and when Phil O'Meara sounded the final whistle, every child was obviously delighted for the wonderful experience. The Knocknagow Cup was presented by Fr O'Rourke amid great scenes of jubilation. Medals were presented by Liam O'Donnchu, the county youth officer. Perhaps the most popular presentation of the day was that of crates of minerals kindly donated by

Gleeson's of Borrisoleigh and cakes and sandwiches kindly sponsored by the Boards of each division.

All in all, a wonderful day for rural schools hurling. We hope that the memory of this day will live with all the boys for many a year and that the spirit of Tipperary hurling will continue to be renewed and that the wonderful work of the rural schools will bear fruit in abundance. Gabhaim buíochas le gach duine a chuidigh linn chun cursaí an lae a reachtáil is má fhág mé éinne as an áireamh maith dhom é. Is fada an aistear atá le taisteal againn fós ach siulaimid romhainn le chéile le neart is dochas as buachaillí óga na tuaithe agus a múinteoirí duthracha.

James Duggan

MICHAEL MURPHY

TIPP CAPTAIN 1964

Michael Murphy was the man who captained Tipperary to the 1964 All Ireland S.H. title. The Premier County ousted Kilkenny to take the championship for the 20th time. An attendance of 71,282 saw Tipperary overwhelm their neighbours on the score 5-13 to 2-8. The fourteen point win etched Murphys name in the glorious list of winning Tipperary captains, the greatest honour any Tipp hurler can earn. The Thurles Sarsfields clubman wore the No. 7 jersey in that great triumph over the Noresiders.

The 1964 Tipp team was a team of all talents. It must rank as Tipps best ever. The title was captured again the following year when Wexford were beaten by twelve points, 2-16 to 0-10.

Michael Murphy served his hurling apprenticeship in the famed Thurles C.B.S. where he won Rice Cup and Croke medals in the Colleges Competitions. His two uncles John and Flor Coffey of Boherlahan fame wore the "blue and gold". The Sarsfields wing back wore the county junior



hurling jersey in 1958 and 1959. Michael was elevated to senior status and in 1962 was a substitute in Tipp's victory over Wexford (3-10 to 2-11).

The greatest moment in his career came in 1964 when he led the Premier County to All Ireland senior honours.

He was captain of a team which included so many illustrious names — John Doyle, Tony Wall, Theo English, Mick Roche, Jimmy Doyle, Sean McLoughlin. Names that will live forever in hurling history.

The '64 final saw "Babs" give a brilliant display in his first senior final. Mick Maher had to come off with a leg injury. Kieran Carey moved into full back and Mick Lonergan came on in the corner. Larry Kiely went off to be replaced by Liam Devaney. Donie Nealon had three goals to his credit. Sean McLoughlin palmed to the net as he had so often done. This great victory earned a U.S. trip for the Tipp men and Michael Murphy had the distinction of leading the hurling ambassadors of Tipp to New York. The Murphy medal collection is quiet impressive and includes 10 county senior medals, 3 minor hurling and 3 junior hurling, 2 national hurling league and several other awards won with club and county.

Seán O'Driscoll

A Journey through South west Tipperary

by Br Joseph Perkins

Between the Galtees, the Knockmealdown and the Kilworth Mountains there lies a lovely valley west of the Suir and south west of the fortress of Cahir. 'Twas not so long ago the Irish language was spoken there and we have that famed book "An Gleann is a raibh ann" by Séamus O Maolcathaigh to remind us, for all time, of the type of Irish spoken there and the wonderful people who lived in that rich valley. Tubrid, where Seathrún Ceitinn lived, and is buried, is a reminder of the learning and way of life of these great people. The cloud over Clonmel, as Kickham mentions in Knocknagow, reminds us of that patriot priest of Clogheen and the lonely Duag and Tar rivers. A beautiful and patriotic land no doubt. Two years ago I had made a lone journey round this grand place from Cahir to the Nire Valley and from Ardfinnan to the Mitchelstown Caves.

To find out for ourselves and to see how hurling was prospering since my last visit there, Liam O Donnchú, County Youth Officer, and myself set off on our long journey. Having saluted J. J. O'Brien, that artistic hurley maker, we crossed the Suir at Cahir and journeyed southwards along the banks of the Suir towards Ardfinnan, where we saw the pleasant Gaelic field bordering the Suir and the main road. Across from it is the Primary School with its 260 pupils. Mathew O'Sullivan is principal here and he was pleased to see us. Hurling and football is played in Ardfinnan. Crossing the public road is a problem at lunch-time. They hope, however, to have a pitch of their own in the near future as the school is being extended and more games can be played. A new Nuri ball will help the boys and John English of Ballytrehy, to put more interest into the hurling there.

I had been to Newcastle, five miles away, a short time ago and saw the teacher there, Pat Bourke, in the hurling field beside the school with the boys and their hurleys in action. Tipp and Cork were playing there some time ago.

Grange National School is where Michael 'Babs' Keating was first taught his hurling by Mr O'Shea (now retired) and Grange/Ballybacon won an underage County title. Hurling is going well there at present Gerry Ryan was sub on the 1983 Tipp minor hurling team.

We crossed the Tar River on our way to Clogheen where we often played College matches in their well-developed tree-surrounded park with their new dressing rooms. The new school there is

beautifully laid out and the principal is Pádraig O Máille who was very satisfied with the work of the school and the Fr Sheehy Club. John Fleming and Bertie Sweeney, I know to be good workers and really helpful.

We followed the Duagh river, past the cemetery of Shanrahan, where Fr Sheehy is buried, on towards Templetenny where O'Reagan's ancestors lie sleeping peacefully. This is an historical graveyard as the name will tell you: Templetenny or Teampall Tine, church of fire. It is worth a visit. Note its position on a height and it can be seen by other churches far, far away.

The school in Ballyporeen is an old one, very homely as is the gaelic speaking Nioclás O Duinín, the principal. An old hurley lay in the yard showing the signs of much use on a hard surface. Inside the door were more hurleys neatly stacked there and an odd helmet on the window. It told its own story. All was well here. The new Nuri ball would not wear out on the yard even if the hurleys did. Brian Roche (6th class) got a hurley to finish off with a spokeshave, sand-paper or glass.

Burncourt is north of Ballyporeen, only four miles away and just a half mile from the Mitchelstown Caves (which are in County Tipperary). The three sets of goalposts at the back and side of the school show that Pádraig O Ceallacháin's pupils learn more than the 3 Rs and hurling is not new to them.

Nearly Lost!

We nearly lost our way as we hit back towards Ballylooby where Donal McCarthy and his pupils were out playing. Another lover of the Gaelic language he invited us into their well-equipped gymnasium where the boys were interested in the promotional material given out. Just outside the

school wall is the Ballylooby field, broad, well-trimmed and inviting to young lads with plenty of energy and a new sliotar.

It was lunch-time too at Cahir when we arrived. Here games are well-organised and this large school has hurling and football leagues in progress the whole year round. Colm O'Flaharta helps out also at the football and is doing tremendous work for the games. Seán Horan, the industrious principal, loves the game of hurling and is quite a good coach and able organiser. We saw a fine young footballer there called John Murphy and Colm O'Flaharta's son is a genius with the camán.

We hit cross-country towards Ballyclerihan, as I was not there before. Betty Nugent, the principal, had a very large class. She would welcome help and felt more could be done for the boys and girls. Mrs Condon teaches here too. She is a sister of Tommy O'Brien, that all-round sportsman, Féile and handball organiser from Kilkenny. Mrs Condon now lives in Clonmel. She attended some hurling coaching courses and is very interested in hurling.

Rosegreen, I suppose is in the West Division. Mr Liam Stapleton is in charge of this lovely new school. The boys are well catered for and are very keen at hurling, their club also giving every help.

A Busy Priest

We couldn't finish our itinerary without paying a visit to our friend Fr James Meehan in New Inn. He was as busy as ever and he spoke highly of the new principal there, Liam Heffernan, whom we met. The Dualla man needed no introduction to hurling and two sliotars and a Nuri ball on the window were not there for their artistic value but for sporting purposes.

We faced the Rock of Cashel; the



South Tipperary Rural Schools 1983

Back row— P. White (Kilvemnon), K. Morrissey (Kilvemnon), A. Martin (Commons N.S.), M. Lahart (Ballinure N.S.), M. Kelly (Killenale), P. Nugent (Killarney), D. O'Brien (Mullinahone), T. Maguire (Poulacapple), J. Loneran (Kilsheelan), J. Horan (Moyglass).
Front row— J. McGarry (Killenale), E. Duggan (Mullinahone), S. Scott (Ballingarry), P. Ivors (Ballingarry), J. O'Leary (Ballinure), M. O'Dwyer (Ballinure), P. Skehan (Mullinahone), H. Cormack (Commons), P. Walsh (Newman Anner).

children were going home from school, some with the hurleys swinging, or attached to schoolbags on their shoulders. It was a long day. We had seen much. We were happy. There was much hope for the future.

All the principals and interested teachers in the schools in South Tipperary were invited to a lunch in the Hotel Minella on 17th November 1983. A seminar and discussions followed. Much was learned of the problems of promoting hurling. Much help, thank God, was given to those enthusiastic, conscientious and Gaelic-minded people. Much more has to be done. It will be done. The Munster Council, through

its sub-committee, Coiste Iomána na Mumhan, and with the help of the South Senior Board, Bord na nOg, Bord na mBunscoileanna and other interested people, will do everything they can, to further, foster and promote hurling in a land which Cromwell himself when looking across this fertile plain said "This is a land worth fighting for"—a lovely land indeed—inis aoibhinn ealga.

Its people are worth working for, and they in turn are worthy to be taught how to play properly with skill and true sportsmanship—the greatest game in the world.

Let us conclude with the words of

the great Canon Hayes, founder of Muintir na Tíre.

"The organisation of Muintir na Tíre aims at retaining our Irish rural life and reviving what we have lost of it. **The greatest factors in the retention of Irish rural traditions are the national games.** If ever our national games should die, then in truth, it may be said that Knocknagow would be no more, and the spirit of Phil Lahy would have gone. Any attempt to keep our rural life vigorous, healthy and attractive must first of all take count of the grand traditions crystallised in the national games."

CLUB SCHOOL LIAISON

Br Joseph Perkins

"Ar scáth a chéile a mhaireann na daoine." No man is an island! No club is an island! No school is an island. We all help each other. Clubs today are working very hard to improve themselves. A special effort is being made for Centenary Year (1984). The whole parish must be involved. The whole parish is needed so that the spirit of the movement will be felt in every home.

The family is an important cell—the most important in the parish. The school is another and one that must be nurtured and developed. Too often in the past clubs have forgotten about the school. How could they? Did they expect the school to provide playing fields, cut the grass, put up goal posts, provide financial aid for jerseys, helmets, footballs, hurleys, sliotars etc? Did they not know that by helping the school they were first of all helping the club? Did they expect young lads to be born with hurleys in their hands as others outside this county supposed? Did they not know that the wind of change and alien influence was blowing across this sheltered Gaelic land from the continent, England and America? Parents now were providing valuable toys like aeroplanes, trains, lorries, bull-dozers, machine guns and other computerised extravagances. Gone was the humble sod of turf and nice neat stones and mud with which we built castles and enjoyed ourselves.

Gone too was the hurley, the ball, and the simple goalposts. Foreign games and "battered bogies" which cost hard-earned money took their place. I was in a house lately where a young boy, about a year old, was playing with an educated father, who believed a child must crawl before it can walk. The child had a wooden spoon (the right size for him) and a ball, and did he enjoy himself striking that ball around the kitchen floor? The roaring, the laughter and the screaming of father and son—and myself, could be heard in Tobberadora.



Small hurleys should be given to young lads, light enough to be held in one hand, left or right (like the wooden spoon). Clubs must act "Daddy Santa" at times and bring these to the schools. Its worth the price and the club will profit by it, later.

Hurling at Home

Now I do *not* believe in keen competition up to fourteen or even sixteen years of age but I do believe in giving young lads plenty of hurling around the home and around the school yard. (Let the club pay for the windows broken or at least help to put in that pane of glass). Teachers can tell their pupils how to catch the hurley or how to swing it properly, how to hook or strike an overhead ball without letting the hurley continue downwards on to an opponents head. Accidents should not happen and will not if the skills of the game are practised properly and every precaution taken by children who are disciplined by parent, teacher or club coach. Why cannot a member of the local club visit their local school for just one half hour once a month to show them how to avoid accidents? Now, I believe a good teacher, having been told what to do, shown what to do, at some seminar or gathering, can impart that knowledge to the pupils more efficiently than a well-bedecked,

proud All-Ireland hurler. Lady teachers can do this excellently and this is what I mean by coaching the very young. It is more the work of the educator than "your man" with all the medals. This needs patience and repetition, confidence and love for the game. "A skill taught every year will keep the doctor clear" from giving stitches and "practice each day keeps the doctor away" also.

Many schools I've visited think that they must have fifteen a-side for a team. A team can be as few as four a-side and a playing field as small as the area behind the school. One car load may suffice to stir up interest in hurling in the school and games of skill may take the place of team games.

All boys playing G.A.A. games can now be insured against injury and clubs should see to it that those playing in school are covered by Insurance.

High Costs

Post Primary Schools are badly hit by the price of hurleys. No grant or subsidy is given by the Department of Education. Over one pound in V.A.T. is given to the Government every time a hurley is purchased. Where does the money come from? Would not the local clubs give a hand or a "hand-out"? There must be more close liaison between club and school. The club is there to foster and promote Gaelic games. The school has plenty of other commitments and most schools have debts on their heads already. Government cut-backs are affecting the whole running of the school.

A little help can do an amount of good, and cultivate good-will towards all concerned. Make sure that those Gaelic cells prosper and that the custodians of our noble heritage and ancient culture survive and prosper so that we can hand on to our children the ancient games of the Gael, the faith of our fathers and the great traditions of the past. A Phádraig, Aspal Eireann, coimeád sinn slán!

MID TIPPERARY GAA AFFAIRS

by Tom O'Hara, Mid Board Secretary

1983 proved yet another very successful year for the Mid Division highlighted by the wonderful achievements of the Loughmore-Castleiney club.

Competition was keen in all grades with a splendid spirit of sportsmanship in all games and a fine all round co-operation from the clubs.

The sincere thanks of the division is due to the referees, umpires, linesmen, gate checkers, ticket sellers, club officials and players for their dedication and service during the year.

CLUB REVIEW 1983

Loughmore-Castleiney— Teams senior, junior, under 21 and minor hurling; senior, intermediate, junior, under 21 and minor football. The club goes from success to success and 1983 must surely rank as one of the greatest in its history.

The senior hurlers reached the Mid final for the third successive year and against Co. Champions Moycarkey who had defeated them in two successive finals. This time the "Babes" of the senior championship were not to be denied and at the end of an entertaining final Moycarkey had lost their Mid title. Loughmore accounted for Cashel in the quarter final had a decisive win over Swans in the semi-final before losing narrowly to Borrisoleigh in the Co. final. A splendid achievement for a team just three seasons in senior ranks.

The senior footballers made it a Mid double when retaining their title and again at the expense of Moycarkey and went on to take County honours when beating Fethard in the County final after two exacting games. The club are also strong in contention for an under 21 double with both teams through to the Mid finals which still have to be played. In the special minor hurling competition and intermediate football championship Loughmore reached the finals.

Moycarkey-Borris affiliated in senior, inter, junior, under 21 and minor hurling; senior, junior and minor football. Although losing the Mid and County senior titles it was nevertheless a good year for the club. After losing the Mid final to Loughmore they went on to reach the county semi-final and were beaten by only one point by the eventual champions Borrisoleigh. This was a keenly contested game that could have gone either way. The club had some consolation when the minor



Mid Champions and County Finalists Loughmore-Castleiney

hurlers went on to take county honours after a thrilling draw and replay with Roscrea.

Moyne-Templetuohy— Teams in intermediate, junior, under 21 and minor hurling. The intermediate hurlers retained their Mid title with a clear cut victory over Clonmore in the final. Despite a long wait for the Co. semi-final they qualified for the final with a well merited win over South champions Killenaule and now face Portroe in the Co. final.

Sarsfields— Teams in senior, junior, under 21 and minor hurling and junior under 21 and minor football. The club will remember 1983 as the year the senior hurlers failed to win a game in Mid competitions, losing to Clonmore in the Cahill Cup, to Upperchurch in the first round of the championship and to Moycarkey in losers group of same competition. In all other grades it was a satisfactory year for the club. The minor hurlers lost narrowly to Moycarkey in the Mid final after a drawn game and replay. The junior hurlers were beaten by Gortnahoe in the semi-final and the minor and junior footballers won Mid titles, with the juniors through to the final.

Upperchurch-Drombane— Teams in senior, junior, under 21 and minor hurling and junior football.

The senior hurlers had one of their best years in senior ranks. Scored a great win over Sarsfields in the first round in a well contested game at Boherlahan. Drawn against reigning Mid and County champions Moycarkey in the semi-final they proved that their first round defeat of the "Blues"

was no flash in the pan when they made the champions fight all the way to qualify for the final. The club fulfilled all their engagements in the other competitions.

Holycross-Ballycahill— Teams in senior, junior, under 21 and minor hurling; intermediate, under 21 and minor football. After a great win over Boherlahan in first round the senior hurlers failed to Loughmore in the semi-final at Templemore. The minor hurlers lost Mid and County crowns when they rather surprisingly failed to qualify for the closing stages of the Mid championships. The junior hurlers failed narrowly to Gortnahoe in an exciting final and the under 21 team played a draw with Sarsfields in the semi-final and await the replay. The intermediate football team won the Mid final and lost narrowly to South champions Newcastle in county semi-final. They also won the Mid u-21 hurling final.

Boherlahan-Duala— Teams in senior, junior, under 21 and minor hurling; junior, under 21 and minor football. The senior hurlers gave promise of better things to come when scoring a thrilling win over Loughmore in the Cahill Cup final. Drawn against Holycross in the first round of the championship much was expected from them but in this game they never showed the form of the Cahill Cup final and went down to their near neighbours. In the losers group they were narrowly beaten by Drom. The minor hurlers won the special competition and in minor football lost narrowly to Sarsfields in the Mid final.

Clonmore-Killea— Teams in intermediate junior, under 21 and minor hurling.



Mid Junior Hurling Champions Gortnahoe-Glengoole

Having stepped down from senior ranks and with a victory over Sarsfields in the Cahill Cup much was expected from Clonmore in the intermediate grade. They had a good win over Moyne in the first round and by virtue of this win qualified for the final. Moyne also qualified for this stage with victory over Moycarkey in the losers group and a win over Clonakenny in the semi-final. In the final Clonmore were a big disappointment and were well beaten by their first round victims who ended their championship aspirations for 1983. In minor hurling they were beaten in the Mid semi-final by Sarsfields.

Gortnahoe-Glengoole— Teams in junior, minor hurling and junior football.

The junior hurlers had good wins over Boherlahan and Kickhams to meet Sarsfields in the semi-final. This was a well contested game with Gortnahoe emerging narrow winners and a place in the final against Holycross. This was a highly exciting game and at the end of a sporting contest Gortnahoe were worthy if narrow winners of the Treacy Cup.

The team had an easy win over Marlfield in the county semi-final and lost narrowly to Nenagh in a thrilling county final.

Templemore— Teams in senior, junior, under 21 and minor football. Not a great year for this once famous football stronghold. The senior footballers lost to Templetuohy in losers group semi final and the minors were beaten by Suir View in the second round. The under 21 team however kept the flag flying and qualified for the final against old rivals Loughmore. This game is yet to be played.

Drom and Inch— Teams in senior, junior, under 21 and minor hurling and junior football. The senior hurlers played a draw with eventual champions Loughmore in the first round and lost narrowly in the replay. They beat Boherlahan by a point in the losers group but were well beaten by Moycarkey in the final. After losing narrowly to Sarsfields in the first round of the junior football championship the team came back via

the losers group to qualify for the final against their first round conquerors. This was an entertaining final with Drom again finishing on the losing end.

Thurles Kickhams— Teams in minor and junior hurling and minor and junior football. Junior hurlers were beaten in quarter final by Gortnahoe and the junior footballers lost to Drom in a well contested Mid semi-final.

Thurles Fennellys— Teams in junior and minor hurling and minor football.

The junior hurlers were involved in drawn games in first round of championship— first round of losers group. Lost to Sarsfields in replay of first round after two exciting games, and to Upperchurch in the losers group again in a replay.

Clonakenny— Teams in intermediate hurling and junior football. Both teams beaten by eventual champions in their respective grades. Hurlers beat Moycarkey in first round and lost to Moyne in a well contested semi-final. After receiving a bye and walk over the junior footballers lost to Sarsfields in third round of championship.

Knock— Teams junior hurling. Had a good win over Gortnahoe "B" in first round and lost narrowly to Kickhams in next outing Killea. Teams in junior and minor hurling. Had a great win over Moyne in first round of junior hurling before failing to Sarsfields in next outing. The minor hurlers

showed good form in the "B" competition and had a win over Loughmore and a draw with Gortnahoe.

Templetuohy-Moyne— Teams in senior, junior, under 21 and minor football. A disappointing year for the club. Senior football team won the losers group to qualify for a semi-final against Moycarkey but were narrowly beaten in this game. Under age and junior teams also failed to bring any titles to the club in 1983.

Board officials

Chairman: Michael Lowry (Holycross)
Secretary: Tom O'Hara (Gortnahoe)
Treasurer: Gus Ryan (Moycarkey)

Co. Board members: Pat Cullen (Loughmore), Conor Kennedy (Moycarkey), Martin Dwan (Drom), John Ryan (Kickhams).

Co. Board Trustee: Liam O'Dwyer (Boherlahan),

Central Council Rep.: John Doyle (Holycross),

Munster Council Rep.: Tim Maher (Boherlahan),

Co. Youth Officer: Liam O'Donoghue (Sarsfields),

Co. Development Officer: Rev. P. Duggan (Upperchurch),

Bord na nOg Rep.: Bro. J. Perkins (Thurles C.B.S.),

Football Board Rep.: Sean Mockler (Loughmore).

Mid Final Results 1983

Senior Hurling: Loughmore 0-15, Moycarkey 0-11

Intermediate Hurling: Moyne 2-7, Clonmore 0-3

Junior Hurling: Gortnahoe 0-10, Holycross 0-9

Minor Hurling: Moycarkey 3-8, Sarsfields 1-11 (replay)

Minor Hurling Special: Boherlahan 4-5, Loughmore 1-2

Senior Football: Loughmore 4-11, Moycarkey 2-2

Intermediate Football: Holycross 1-5, Loughmore 1-2

Junior Football: Sarsfields 1-7, Drom 1-1.

Minor Football: Sarsfields 2-8, Suir View 2-6

Cahill Cup Senior (H.): Boherlahan 3-7, Loughmore 1-9



Thurles Sarsfields— Mid Junior Football Champions and County Finalists 1983

GOLDEN JUBILEE OF THURLES FIRST HARTY CUP WIN

Fifty years ago Thurles CBS won its first Harty Cup with a splendid and glorious win over the famous Cork North Monastery in Charleville, Co. Cork.

The road to this famous victory began on a winterish 10th of December 1932, when Thurles CBS met Doon CBS in friendly rivalry at Thurles Sportsfield and won a resounding victory by 8-1 to 1-1.

Having been defeated in the 1932 final it was felt that here at last was a team which was capable of bringing the Harty Cup back to the "Cradle" for the first time. On the 15th March the first hurdle was overcome when at Tipperary Town the CBS defeated the same opposition in the first round by 5-3 to 3-2. On this occasion Thurles did not find the opposition as easy and had to fight all the way for every one of the sixty minutes. Doon led by two points at halftime but in the second half Thurles reproduced something of the old-time dash and eventually ran out winners by seven points and thus qualified for the semi-final against Mount Sion (Waterford).

Prior to the semi-final there was much speculation as to the outcome since Mount Sion had an unexpected and sensational victory over Limerick CBS, holders of the cup and winners on three other occasions. While both schools were famous in hurling circles it was felt that both had produced what was perhaps their best team for many years. This eagerly awaited encounter took place at Tipperary Town on Easter Monday before a very large crowd. The game was fast and hurling reached a very high standard so that the spectators never had a dull moment. Though halftime saw Thurles with a lead of three goals, Mount Sion quickly took the offensive and scored two goals in quick succession. At this stage, there was tremendous tension and excitement for things were looking positively dangerous for the Thurles boys. But with O'Gorman and Bowe again taking control at midfield, and O'Keeffe, Lanigan and Spittle reasserting their superiority in the forward line they eventually ran out safe winners on the score 6-4 to 2-6, and thus qualified to meet North Monastery in the final at Charleville.

The contest was looked forward to with much interest by hurling enthusiasts all over Munster. The Thurles team was: Patrick O'Gorman (captain),



Front row, l. to r.: Tom Purcell, Tom Prior, Phil O'Dwyer, Jackie Moloney.
Second row, l. to r.: Jackie Noonan (R.I.P.), Paddy Bowe (R.I.P.), Paddy O'Gorman captain, Tom O'Keeffe, Con Maher, Tom Lanigan.
Third row, l. to r.: Mick Spittle, Tom Leahy (R.I.P.), Mick Mockler, Anthony Brennan, (R.I.P.), Johnny O'Dwyer (R.I.P.), Mick Condon.
Top row, l. to r.: Jimmy Hackett, Dan Hayes, Tom Healy.

P. Bowe, Con Maher, Jackie Moloney, Jackie Noonan, Tom Lanigan, M. Spittle, all of Thurles. A. Brennan, Clonoulty; Phil Dwyer, Boherlahan; Phil Purcell, Tom O'Keeffe and Tom Healy, Moycarkey; Tom Prior and Tom Leahy, of Borrisoleigh; M. Condon, Ballinure.

The game was fast and furious from beginning to end. Thurles were a splendid team with fine combination and brilliant understanding. Their placing was just perfect, there were no weak spots and no trace of selfishness. The will-to-win spirit, Tipperary dash and courage, the indomitable rush of the Premier County, brilliant tackling, fine judgment, quick delivery and unerring sense of direction and finally Thurles' optimism which simply refused to think seriously of defeat— all contributed to the great win.

Very noticeable was the understanding amongst the Thurles forwards. O'Keeffe at the left corner of the forward group was the hero, scoring two goals and one point, but Lanigan as full and Prior at right, and Healy, Spittle, and Noonan in the halves were magnificent and lost few chances. Midfield work by O'Gorman (captain) and Bowe was brilliant; no forwards were ever fed better. Time after time

by well directed drives they placed the ball before the Cork lines and were it not for an outstanding Cork backline and a great goalie, Thurles would have done even better. Bowe's judgment in "frees" was much admired, whilst O'Gorman in true leader's style was everywhere and helping in every department.

Thurles backs covered themselves with glory. Brennan of Clonoulty as "full" displayed his usual efficiency, coolness and resource. He was ably assisted by Phil Dwyer and M. Condon on either side, whilst Con Maher, Leahy and Phil Purcell, whom many considered the most stylish and the most efficient hurler on the field, did great work to stem the Cork onrush. The Thurles "goalie" the redoubtable Jack Moloney was above and beyond all praise— over and over again he brought off brilliant saves.

The Cork team was a heavier lot and promised well at the beginning. The forwards were a bit weak and slow to take advantage— the midfields were very good and the backs were excellent. At the opening of the second half Cork forced the play and made several attempts to get their forwards through, but they broke against the Tipperary stone wall. Final result:

Thurles 3-3; Cork 1-3.

The Home Coming

As the train bearing the winning team steamed into Thurles the station was crowded with old and young. Tar barrels blazed, fog signals exploded and a ringing, deafening cheer of welcome rent the air. Many of the "Old Blues" of Thurles grouped around Tom Semple thought of other days and literally wept tears of joy at the thought that the honour of Thurles and the honour of Tipperary on the hurling field would be in safe keeping with those "Young Blues" who had fought such a splendid battle for their school, town, and county, not in a friendly

venue but within "enemy" territory in Cork's own county. It was a royal welcome worthy of Thurles. The whole town was there, rich and poor, young and old, enthusiasm was unbounded and you felt you were in big-hearted, enthusiastic Tipperary—Tipperary of the Welcomes, Tipperary of the Gaels.

A procession being quickly formed the captain was carried shoulder high followed by the team and the cheering crowd. Thurles Brass Band played National Airs. Addressing the large crowd in the school ground, Rev. Brother Lynam thanked the people for

their great reception and the band for their thoughtfulness and said he attributed the great victory to three things. In the first place His Grace who had presented the cup put it up to the boys that this year they should bring his cup home to Thurles. They then and there determined they would. In the second place they worked hard and they had a great captain. Again they had an enthusiastic and efficient trainer and lastly they had the co-operation of the Gaels of Thurles.

Donal O'Gorman

GOOD WORK BEING DONE IN URBAN SCHOOLS

by Br M. Keane

1983 saw good work being done for our games in the larger schools in urban areas. Schools from Clonmel, Carrick-on-Suir, Cashel, Tipperary, Fethard, Thurles, Templemore and Nenagh took part in hurling, football and cross-country competitions.

The football competitions were held early on in the year and competition was very keen throughout with only a point or two separating teams at the final whistles. Carrick-on-Suir C.B.S. made a welcome return to the scene and capped a good year by winning the Under 11 Football Cup after a thrilling final against St Peter and Pauls Clonmel. Both these were former football kingpins of School competitions and the future looks bright for them after their exploits of 1983.

Scoil Ailbhe, Thurles won the under 13 football cup for the very first time defeating Nenagh C.B.S. in a thrilling decider. Indeed this Thurles C.B.S. team went on to complete a double by easily winning the hurling competition to remain unbeaten throughout the year.

The under 11 hurling competition will always be remembered for the three great matches between Scoil Ailbhe and Nenagh C.B.S. While Nenagh finally took home the Cup I'm sure the Thurles boys will always believe there should never have been a replay. It is obvious that great work was done for these two great teams and it is fitting that both teams should count themselves winners as there are no losers when hurling is played like these two teams played it.

While St Mary's Clonmel and Tipperary C.B.S. won no trophies this year it is obvious that the work is going on in these schools and they could be the surprise packets of 1984. Cashel C.B.S. also had a good standard



Scoil Ailbhe Durlas Under 13 Hurling team who won the County Tipperary Primary Schools League to complete a notable double.

Back row, l. to r.: Martin McElgunn, S. Mullaney, E. Coman, P. Purcell, P. Jordan, G. Coffey, D. Gleeson, R. Corcoran, P. Dundon, G. Rafter, D. O'Rourke, N. Dunne, K. O'Doherty. Front row, l. to r.: D. O'Shea, G. O'Connor, T. Ryan, S. Fitzpatrick, S. Quinn, T. Cooke, B. Carroll, captain, G. Purcell, Thomas Hayes, C. Hanrahan, J. McCarthy, S. Quinn, M. Jordan.

of hurling at under 11 and more will be heard of this team.

Thurles C.B.S. dominated the cross-country scene winning all three trophies. Cork were our hosts in Semple Stadium in June for hurling, football and handball and it was fitting that all three games should end in draws. Well done to all involved as there was a very high standard displayed. The following boys represented Tipperary that day.

TIOBRAID ARANN Iomaint

D. Kavanagh (Tipp), W. Kennedy (Nenagh), M. Cleere (Nenagh), A. Wall (St Mary's) R. Corcoran (Thurles), P. Jordan (Thurles), D. O'Shea (Thurles) S. Kennedy (Inch), B. Carroll (Thurles) B. O'Brien (Nenagh), W. Walsh (Carrick), K. Ralph (Littleton), P. Purcell (Thurles), M. McGrath (P. & Ps), M. Flynn (Tipp).
Fir Ionaid: 16. A. Bonner (Cashel); 17. D. Gleeson (Thurles); 18. K. Myers

(Tipp); 19. D. J. O'Dwyer (St Mary's); 20. J. O'Shea (Carrick); 21. G. Bergin (St Mary's).

TIOBRAID ARANN Peil

P. Gleeson (Tipp); P. Lyons (Peter & Pauls); M. Broderick (Fethard); C. Tonge (St Marys); G. Purcell (Thurles); C. Hanrahan (Thurles); L. Foley (Carrick); D. Kane (Fethard); C. Brennan (St Marys); R. Burns (Nenagh); S. Mulvaney (Carrick); J. Bourke (Carrick); K. Doherty (Thurles); K. Hickey (St Marys); P. O'Keeffe (P. & Ps).

Fir Ionaid: 16. A. Quirke (Tipp); 17. G. O'Gorman (Thurles); 18. S. Quinn (Thurles); 19. D. Pollard (St Marys); 20. R. Barlow (Tipp); 21. P. Higgins (P. & Ps).

Handball

J. Meagher, P. Teehan, S. Hayes, J. D. Spearman, all from Cashel.

POST PRIMARY GAMES IN TIPP

by John Costigan



Annually as the leaves begin to fall a message arrives at my door that time has arrived again to chronicle the sporting events of the past year in our post-primary schools. Well indeed its my pleasure to recall many memorable games over the past twelve months.

At the moment within the county our standing in the hurling world is a cause of much concern and while accepting the fact that things could be much better a lot of the idle chatter and hysterical utterances might be better replaced by good honest to goodness effort by all G.A.A. men within the county in promoting and improving our games either at club level or in our schools. While our senior hurling team is not having much success the standing of our schools in Munster hurling circles is very high and it is only a few weeks ago Fr Denis Kelleher, St Coleman's Fermoy, who trained Midleton to its historic success in the Cork senior championship, mentioned to me of the high standard of hurling being produced by such schools as Thurles C.B.S., Cashel C.B.S., Templemore C.B.S., Roscrea C.B.S. and Nenagh C.B.S. and Clonmel C.B.S.

Much of the success enjoyed by the schools is due to the good organisation and structure that the post primary hurling enjoy and in this context much credit must go to our County Board and its secretary Tomás O Baróid who initiated the Canon Fitzgerald Cup (u-17 post primary hurling) in 1971.

We in Tipperary are the envy of other counties in the manner which our post-primary games are organised. The committee organise two hurling competitions annually, one for (u-16) hurling with the winners receiving the prized Croke Cup and the second for (u-17) hurling with the Fitzgerald Cup here being the ultimate reward.

In last years Croke Cup competition fourteen schools competed and following a series of well contested games the semi-finalists were Roscrea C.B.S. versus Thurles C.B.S. and Borrisokane V.S. versus Templemore C.B.S. The Thurles v Roscrea semi-final was played in Templemore in miserable conditions and following a well contested game Thurles emerged victors on the score 2-4 to 0-2. The second semi-final between Borrisokane V.S. and Templemore C.B.S. ended in a draw 1-3 all at Roscrea. In the replay at Templemore the local boys emerged victors by a two point margin. The final was played in Thurles on a dry November afternoon

and after a very exciting hours hurling Thurles C.B.S. defeated their neighbours Templemore C.B.S. by 3-6 to 1-5. The standard of hurling was of a very high order and even former star Mickey Byrne who was at the game expressed his satisfaction of the high standard of skill and commitment that was in evidence. Following the contest Gerry Long who so skillfully refereed the contest, representing the County Board presented the trophy which is a replica of the Ardagh Chalice to the Thurles captain and he also was high in his praise of the standard of hurling that was displayed.

The Canon Fitzgerald Cup (u-17 hurling) is really the prized competition in the post-primary calendar of our post primary schools as the winners can justifiably claim to be the champion school of the Premier County.

As we have come to expect last year's competition was of a very high standard. Twelve of our post-primary schools participated. This competition divides the schools into two sections with the smaller schools having a subsidiary competition for the Canon Fitzgerald Shield before the winners and runners up enter the competition proper. The finalists in last years Shield were Roscrea C.B.S. and Carrick-on-Suir C.B.S. with Roscrea capturing the Shield. Both Roscrea and Carrick entered the competition proper at semi-final stage joining Cashel C.B.S. and Borrisokane V.S. Borrisokane V.S. qualified for the final as a result of a four point victory over Roscrea C.B.S. They were joined by Cashel C.B.S. who were victorious over Carrick-on-Suir.

A Great Final



Thurles C.B.S. Croke Cup Winners 1983

Front row: l to r.: Gerry Doyle, Seamas O'Shea, Pat Cahill, Ciaran Carroll, Philip Cahill (capt.), Dara Purcell, Donncha Cullagh, Alan O'Dwyer, Andy Ryan.
Back row: l. to r.: Tom O'Sullivan, Bill Mullaney, Nicholas Mockler, Seamas Devenay, Pat Slattery, Andy Rossiter, Lar. Mullaney, Tom Dwyer, Garry Loughnane, Brian Maher, Martin Power.

The final played in Semple Stadium produced a very well contested hours hurling with Borrisokane V.S. enjoying early territorial advantage and looking the more accomplished team but Cashel C.B.S. over the years do not give in too easy and eventually emerged victorious by 2-11 to 3-4. The standard of hurling over the hour was of a high order and surely some of the fine young players will help during the Centenary year to keep our county minor team in the forefront in Munster Championships. While both the above hurling competitions have gone from strength to strength over the years we the committee will not be satisfied until all post-primary schools, 23 in number participate. I would like to appeal to you all to answer the call as the competitions will be the better of your participation.

During the last year many Tipperary schools enjoyed success in Munster Colleges competitions and I would like to say a sincere word of congratulations to Clonmel High School who in 1983 captured a Munster (u-15) Corn Solo competition for the first time in the schools history. It is a source of pleasure to all hurling men in the county that hurling is being fostered in that nursery as Tipperary needs all of you if the high standard of underaged teams being presently produced by the Premier County is to be maintained. Much of the credit for that historic success is due to two very dedicated teachers namely Tony Gleeson and Boherlahan's Pat Power, a young man who having enjoyed the marvellous coaching system being implemented at Cashel C.B.S. is now parting some of his knowledge to the young boys of the Clonmel catch-



The Cashel C.B.S. team which won the Fitzgerald Cup for the fifth occasion when they defeated Borrisokane V.S. in the final at Semple Stadium Thurles last May.

Back row, l. to r.: Mr John Gleeson (team coach), Niall Fitzgerald (Clonoulty), Sean Alley, Knockavilla), Dan Quirke (Clonoulty), Francis Ryan (Golden), Philly Ryan (Boherlahan), John Wardick (Boherlahan), Seamus O'Dwyer (Knockavilla), Thomas Leamy (Golden), Walter O'Carroll (Knockavilla), Mr Mattie Finnerty (team Manager).
Middle row, l. to r.: Andrew O'Dwyer (Knockavilla), Tommy O'Dwyer (Boherlahan), Michael Moloney (Cashel), Bro. McGrath (Principal), Pat O'Donoghue (Cashel) captain, Austin Whyte (Boherlahan), Alex Davern (Cashel), David Delaney (Boherlahan).
Front row, l. to r.: Phil Shanahan (Clonoulty), Seamus Furlong (Knockavilla), Declan Ryan (Clonoulty), Paul Hennessey (Knockavilla), Jimmy Ryan (Boherlahan).

ment area. To give further evidence of the Clonmel C.B.S. success story only a few weeks ago Thurles C.B.S. were fortunate to beat the High School boys by one point in this years Croke Cup (1-16 hurling) competition while a last minute goal deprived them of victory against Tipperary C.B.S. in Canon Fitzgerald Shield. I am sure those setbacks are only temporary and we are all looking forward to your progress in the hurling scene over the next few years. Br Malone a name very familiar in the Cashel area and who for two years was Superior in Clonmel High

School deserves a sincere word of thanks for his contribution to the Clonmel success story.

As has become customary over the past few years other Tipp schools enjoyed great success. Nenagh C.B.S. emerged winners of the Corn Pádraig (Munster Senior B) competition and also captured the All Ireland title defeating Callan C.B.S. in the final.

Roscrea C.B.S. were winners of Corn Mhic Ruairí and also Kinnane Cup u-16½ hurling championship after a series of hectic games with Cashel C.B.S.

Cashel C.B.S. also captured a Munster title when winning the Corn an Phiar-saig (u-15) hurling championship.

No Harty Glory

The Harty Cup being the prestige competition in Munster Colleges circle did not see any Tipp school figure very prominently except for Cashel C.B.S. who reached quarter final stage but had to give way to eventual All Ireland champions St Flannan's of Ennis.

Now approaching the Centenary year 1984, a great effort is being made by four of our schools to annex the Harty and how fitting it would be that the trophy should come to Tipperary in this historic year.

To conclude I would like to express my satisfaction at the high standard of sportsmanship and skill being displayed in our post-primary games in Tipperary and I would like to thank those clubs who make their fields available to us to play our games and request those who are not so forthcoming to think again when refusing your fields as we are only an extension of your clubs whose aim is to develop and further educate your young players in the skills of our ancient game of hurling and football. Many thanks to our referees who make themselves available at the shortest of notice and at the most inconvenient of times to officiate at our games without I may add anything to cover their expenses. "Gura fada buan sibh go léir."

INTERESTING FACTS FROM MICK EGAN

The G.A.A. was founded in Hayes' Hotel Thurles, on 1st November 1884. The following were the founder members: Mí Davin (Carrick), J. McKay (Cork), J. K. Bracken (Templemore), G. McCarthy (Templemore), P. J. Ryan (Thurles & Callan), Mí Cusack (Dublin & Clare), J. W. Power (Naas). Clonmel people will be interested to know that the "98 Man" monument outside the Town Hall was sculptured by the late James K. Bracken a Templemore building contractor, who was a member of the Fenian Brotherhood and a founder member of the G.A.A. He was father of the late Brendan Bracken who was Minister for Information in Winston Churchill's War Cabinet. The monument was erected in 1904 by the Nationalists of Clonmel in memory of the men of '98.

In 1895 there were five football teams in Clonmel but only the Clonmel Emmets entered a team in the championships.

The first admission charge to a G.A.A. match in Co. Tipperary was in 1895. The occasion was the county hurling final between Tubberadora and

Suir View played at Cashel before a record crowd. The admission charge was two pence and brought in receipts of £40. The match ended in a draw at 1-6. An additional half-hour was played. Tubberadora won with the score 3-9 to 2-7. At that time 5 points were equal to a goal and the teams consisted of 17 players.

County senior football final 1900. Two Clonmel teams met in the final which was played in Deerpark Carrick-on-Suir. Clonmel Shamrocks beat Clonmel Commercials on the score 1-8 to 4 pts.

1912

Tipperary won the inaugural 1912 All Ireland Junior Football Championship which was played in Jones Rd Dublin. They beat Louth in the final by 1-5 to 1-4. Tipperary selection: Ned and John O'Shea, Lar Gorman, Mick O'Meara, Ned Delahunty, Fethard; Frank O'Brien, Ned and Paddy Egan, Nicholas Vaughan, Mullinahone; Tom Connors, Mick Devill, Cashel; Hugh Kennedy, Jim Quinn, Rick Burke, Bansha; Davy Stapleton, Dick Heffer-

nan, Clonmel; Pat Dwyer, Tom Rodgers, Tipperary; Jerry Shelly, Bill Scally, Grangemockler.

All Ireland Senior Football Championships 1900.

Clonmel Shamrocks were opposed by Slate Quarries (Kilkenny) in the semi-final played at Deerpark Carrick-on-Suir. Beaten on the score 8 pts to 9 pts Shamrocks objected to the composition of the Kilkenny team which included some Tipperary players. A replay was fixed but Slate Quarry failed to turn up. Clonmel Shamrocks were awarded the match and won the All Ireland football title of 1900 by beating London Irish in the final which was played in Jones Road Dublin. Pat Wall assisted Clonmel in the final and he had already played with Slate Quarry in the semi-final. He was father of Willie Wall Carrick Swan who won an All Ireland senior hurling medal with Tipperary in 1937 and of Tom Wall who won a Celtic Cross in 1945.

Mick Egan

A REVIEW OF 1983

with the Western Clubs

by J. J. Kennedy

Every issue of the Tipperary Yearbook contains an account of the club scene within each of the four divisions in the county—on some occasions this is done on a club by club basis, and on others through a focus on the divisional championships. The latter method highlights the winners and most prominent clubs but makes little reference to the more obscure teams, whom success has eluded in the past year. In an effort to give all a mention in this publication we concentrate on the fifteen clubs within West Tipperary who affiliated in the divisions championships in 1983. For some the year was bleak, for others there may be a desire to simply forget, and for yet others 1983 had its moments of glory. We hope that the following treatment of the clubs, in alphabetical order, will contain something for all and provide an accurate record of the past years activity in West Tipperary.

Aherlow

An account of the year's activity in the West could exclude the Aherlow club without leaving too many gaps in the records. It would in fact not be unfair to say that they were the least prominent club in the division in 1983 and I state this not to downgrade but merely to be factual. They affiliated on their own at just two levels—junior and intermediate football—and joined with Sologhead in u-21 hurling and football and minor football. On its own the club played a mere eight games during the entire year—winning just one—and they contributed to the Sologhead combination in a further six games—winning just two of them. Putting all the statistics together it represents a pretty bleak year for the men from the Glen.

Reaching the junior football semi-final was probably the high-point of the year. To do so they defeated Clonoulty/Rossmore but in that semi-final after a reasonable first half they were well beaten by eventual champions, Multeen Rovers in the end. Their intermediate footballers were a big disappointment, losing twice and giving a walk-over and even though they reached the minor football semi-final with Sologhead, they were well beaten by Arravale Rovers.

For a club with a strong football reputation the past year was as barren as has been experienced for a long time. In the Lisvernane pitch they have a facility which others envy, with a

surface that remains playable when most others are swamped. While their performance in the past year has hardly matched the much acclaimed scenery of the Glen, the tradition is there and with proper organisation surely '84 must have better things.

Arravale Rovers

For the Arravale Rovers club 1983 was a fruitless one at senior level. They affiliated in eight competitions, reached the junior and minor football finals, contested the senior football semi-final, but in the end failed to collect a trophy.

Football remains the number one game for the Rovers and not surprisingly their best efforts were seen in the past year in this code. Their senior footballers are always strong contenders for the West crown—a title they last held in 1981. On this occasion they had a good two point victory over Cappawhite in the first round but fell to Sologhead in the semi-final. It was a disappointing exit from the West championship, with the Rovers failing to produce their best football against rugged opposition. However, through the losers group they went on to avenge that defeat by Sologhead and qualify for the county quarter finals. Their opponents here were Loughmore/Castleiney and it was certainly no disgrace for the Tipp men to go down to the team which was later to take the county title.

In junior football the Rovers contested the West final for the second year in succession but failed once again to take the crown. In the first round they accounted for last year's champions, Cashel K.C., they then had an easy win over Sologhead, and followed this with a facile win over Lattin/Cullen in the semi-final. Multeen Rovers were their fancied opponents in the final and even though they lost by six points in the end there was little between the teams.

In minor football the club was also represented in the divisional final. They qualified for the semi-final with a win over Sologhead/Aherlow and walk-overs from Cashel and Cappa/Eire Og. The semi-final draw favoured them when they were again pitted against the Sologhead/Aherlow combination and they duly repeated their earlier victory. However in the final they faced the might of Emly/Lattin and like when they met earlier in the competition the combo' had an easy win. By proceeding

to take the county title however Emly/Lattin put that defeat of Arravale Rovers in a better perspective.

In U-21 football the Rovers again fell victim to the power of Emly/Lattin in the semi-final after they had easily defeated Cappa/Eire Og in the first round. In the other competitions in which they affiliated the Rovers failed to make any real impression.

On the development side Arravale Rovers remains one of the most progressive clubs in the division with the clybrooms and new dressing rooms being completed in the past year. At the moment they are developing a second pitch at Sean Treacy Park and look like making it one of the best venues in the division. With such organisation success on the field of play should not be far off.

Cappawhite

Pride of place in West Tipp for 1983 must go to Cappawhite. On Dunday 21st August at Golden, the most cherished prize in the division, the senior hurling crown, went undisputedly to the village, where a night of celebrating awaited the men in white. Not since the very early sixties had the O'Dwyer Cup made an appearance in Cappawhite and the wait that had seemed unending was at last over and after all the frustration of twenty long years they had at last written their names into the history books once again.

The final victory over Cashel was something of an anti-climax. The build up had anticipated a close exciting tie in which Cashel were favoured but the reality emerged as a thirteen point win for the outsiders. It is perhaps unfair to label Cappawhite as outsiders because in the recent past they had challenged sternly for the title but somehow the potential always got stifled at a crucial moment. Even diehard supporters must have queried the idea that the hoo-doo could be breached and as the years passed and frustrations mounted pessimism must have taken root. To have then dispelled the gathering clouds and silenced the doubters must have given a special satisfaction to the players who had given so much with no reward.

The first obstacle in their championship quest was neighbours Eire Og—themselves no slouches at this level. In retrospect it was to be Cappawhite's toughest hour in the division and the perfect launch for what was to follow.



Cashel K. C. West U-21 Hurling Champions 1983.

Back row, l. to r.: Willie Fitzell, John Barry, Pat O'Donoghue, Jimmy Ryan, Pat Walsh, Ger Slattery, Donal Fanning, Joe Moloney.

Front row, l. to r.: Colm Bonner, Sean Slattery, Gabriel Irwin captain, Michael Fanning, Eddie Ryan, Eddie Wallace, J. J. Murphy.

The game was played in Clonoulty and two points was all that kept Cappa' ahead at the long whistle. Eire Og, after a poor spring had rallied in style for the big championship outing and Cappa' needed some judicious replacements in the second half to weather the storm. Martin McDermott and Danny Ryan showed their worth in testing circumstances when introduced and gave their team mates that vital edge which saw them through.

The semi-final saw Cappawhite at their most fluent against the unfortunate Clonoulty men who had at last defeated Kickhams. The Cappa' attack worked like a well-oiled machine, Austin Buckley struck some beauties, and Clonoulty were sent reeling in dismay to a heavy defeat. Cashel, after their problems with the Treacy challenge, finally booked their place as Cappa's opponents in the final and all looked set for one of the best ever.

That day in Golden however turned very sour for Cashel almost from the throw-in; they were rapidly reduced to fourteen men and it became clear that the precision that had swamped Sean Treacys in the replayed semi-final was not being recaptured. Cappa' got the message, the tide gradually turned more and more in their favour, and in the end they were clear masters, and the cup was heading Cappawhite-way in the grasp of Conor Ryan. It was a popular win among neutrals—those who have seldom achieved always elicit extra sympathy when pitted against those high on the roll of honour. For a player like Martin McDermott it was nothing more than what was justly deserved after years of solid, unrewarded effort in the white of his club. For the entire team, whose style is always attractive it was a splendid triumph and one that all can cherish. The final may not have been the type of thriller that faerytales are made of—Cappa' ensured that with a top-rate display—but the winners themselves know best how difficult it is to take this title and therefore will not doubt its value. From Dan O'Neill in goal to Pa O'Neill at corner forward, to Theo English on the sideline, it was a fine

team achievement and those who say they got it easy would need to bear in mind the litany of disappointments in the past. It was a victory that justifies perseverance and long may its memory be cherished.

In other championships it was not a vintage year for Cappawhite but when you have taken the big one you worry little about who takes the lesser ones. It was also the year in which Cappawhite finally opened their fine new pitch, excellently developed with dressing rooms and spectator accommodation. The big occasion was marked by a tournament between Tipp and Limerick back in May and it must have been inspired planning to coincide so perfectly with the year they were to take the West senior hurling title. Certainly a year to be remembered in Cappawhite.

Cashel K.C.

Mixed fortune is I suppose the best phrase to summarise the year just gone for Cashel K.C. Their senior hurlers took the Crosco Cup and their U-21 hurlers have just taken the West crown from Clonoulty as we go to press. For other clubs that would represent a memorable year but for Cashel it is something a little short of what they promised at one stage.

The Crosco and championship are the twin peaks of senior hurling achievement in the West—Cashel scaled the first without hinderance but floundered

at the final summit of the second. The Crosco Cup was an almost effortless stroll for the King Cormacs—Golden, Eire Og and Cappawhite all fell before their power in the initial games and Clonoulty came close in the final but just failed to get ahead. That Crosco victory put Cashel in the county quarter finals against Loughmore and it is here that they will have one of their greatest reasons to regret. The record shows that Loughmore won by a single point on their way to the county final against Borrisoleigh but it was a win that Cashel will long term 'robbery'. The kindest way to treat it is to say that the South referee miscalculated and played excessive extra time in an effort to secure a draw. When he blew immediately after Pat McGrath's point from a questionable '65' he discovered that instead of a draw he had just given the Mid team a most controversial win. A sickening result for Cashel but of course there is no guarantee that they would have emulated Loughmore's subsequent achievement had they got a second chance.

The defeat by Cappawhite in the West final must be a more regrettable event by far for Cashel when they review '83. They came to the final as favourites, and deservedly so, but left all their better form behind on the day and seldom made a serious challenge. The dismissal of Patsy O'Connor was the beginning of the end and the entire game must remain something of a nightmare for the entire team. Patsy O'Connor had come out of retirement for the replay against Treacys and the Crosco final and his contribution had been well acclaimed. His uncharacteristically physical approach against Treacys was continued against Cappawhite and even extended beyond the legal limit to lead ultimately to the stroke which caused his sending off by the referee. It was not the type of Last hurrah that a veteran would have wished for and while it was inexcusable one has to add that it was not typical of the man. One assumes it may have been his last game and if so, then it is regrettable because his many years of service to Cashel marked him as a player



Clonoulty/Rossmore, West Tipp Junior Hurling Champions 1983.

Back row, l. to r.: Thomas Heffernan, selector, Tommy O'Dwyer, Pat Ryan, Richard Heffernan, Seamus Fennessy, Seamus Heffernan, Richard Keane, Joe Quirke, Dominic Ryan, P. J. Shanahan, Willie Devane, P. J. Ryan, Liam Shanahan, Michael Ryan, selector.

Front row, l. to r.: Richard Martin, John Fitzgerald, Thomas Mahony, Liam Maher, Neil Ryan, Niall O'Dwyer, Sean Slattery, captain, Jerry Kennedy, Liam O'Dwyer.

both stylish and sporting and it will be a pity if one final misdeed overshadowed all else that went before.

The Cashel U-21 hurlers grabbed their share of the spotlight when they finally ended Clonoulty's tenure as West champions in the replay of the final. In the draw they were thwarted by a late equaliser but at the second attempt they made no mistake against a depleted opposition. They certainly had to earn everything the hard way in the final and in the end it took considerable resolve to go through to the inter-divisionals as West champions. In football the King Cormacs made it to both the O'Donoghue Cup and U-21 finals but on both occasions were second best— to Rockwell Rovers in the former and Lattin/Emly in the latter.

The Cashel sportsfield will long be remembered in connection with 1983. The committee to run Leahy Park was re-organised, trojan work was put in and they successfully housed the county senior hurling semi-finals and final and also the county senior football final. A memorable year for a fine pitch and venue and not a bad year for the club either.

Clonoulty/Rossmore

For the Clonoulty/Rossmore club the major achievement in 1983 was the winning of the West junior hurling championship. This however may be cancelled somewhat by the surrendering of the minor and U-21 hurling titles and the failure of their senior team to make a greater impression after much promise.

The junior hurling title was perhaps one that Clonoulty had not anticipated at the beginning of the season but it was very welcome nevertheless. In this league competition Clonoulty were the only club to remain unbeaten— in fact the only point they dropped was when drawing with Sean Treacys. Significantly it was Treacys they had to face in the final in late September at Dundrum. It was a dour, typically robust junior final with a relatively young Clonoulty team facing a more veteran-type Treacy outfit. It remained very tight throughout, Treacys put in a strong dogged



Cappawhite— West Senior Hurling Champions

Back row, l. to r.: Fr Egan, Theo English, coach, Dick Quirke, Bill Barry, Conor Ryan, captain, Simon Ryan, Noel Buckley, Johnny Ryan, (P), Ger Ryan (B), John O'Neill, Eugene Maguire, Mike Ryan (P), Sean Hennessy.
Front row, l. to r.: Anthony O'Neill, Pa O'Neill, Eamonn Ryan (B), Ger O'Neill, Brendan Hennessy, Danny Ryan (P), Martin McDermott, Dan O'Neill, Michael McDermott, Dasun Hennessy, Austin Buckley.

last quarter, but with two points to spare, Sean Slattery gratefully accepted the trophy from his fellow club man and West Board chairman, Brendan Ryan. It was a gritty achievement by the Clonoulty man and one that removes the barrenness from '83 for the club.

Elsewhere the year had its disappointments for the club which had developed a remarkable underage record in recent years. The U-12s had made bold bids for county honours in the previous two years and were this time going for a hat-trick of West titles. They had an easy enough passage to the final with a walk-over from Soloh-head/Aherlow and a semi-final victory over Golden but Cashel were always going to be tough in the final. The outgoing champions will however remember '83 as the year they were dogged with injuries— Michael Hefferan missed the first game in which his presence might have eliminated the need for a replay— he was also absent for the replay, as were three others. In the circumstances Clonoulty put up a tremendous display and there was never a stage in either game in which Cashel were comfortable. In the end the inevitable had to be faced and the Tony Brennan Cup significantly left Clonoulty for the City of the Kings. However on the basis of minor achievements Clonoulty should have their strongest year in '84 at U-21 level—

they won the county minor title in '81. So disappointment will surely be short lived with anticipation of what lies ahead.

The Clonoulty minor hurlers also surrendered their West crown in the year just past. They reached the semi-final stage but were stopped by Kick-hams. The senior hurlers made good progress from previous years and even though in the end they failed in both championship and Crosco they have much to admire. Their victories over Treacys in the Crosco Cup represent something of a coming of age and in the final of that competition they could so easily have toppled Cashel. Then the victories over Kick-hams were especially pleasing to them after being frustrated by the same opposition in previous years. All in all the hurling progress is continuing in Clonoulty and Centenary year is sure to see them as a major force in the division.

Eire Og

For the Eire Og, Annacarty club 1983 will have more pleasing football memories than hurling ones. While the hurlers were having a pretty lean time the junior footballers captured the divisional championship and also took the league competition to make it a very good double.

As footballers they call themselves Multeen Rovers and even before the championship began they were being tipped not just to take the West junior title but in fact to make a strong bid for the county crown. At writing time the West is safely won and they await the inter-divisionals. Their path to the junior final met its toughest obstacle in the first round back in late May. Cappawhite provided the opposition and Multeen got through by that frail one point margin on the score 0-9 to 2-2. They had to wait until September for their next game when after a number of postponements they finally played Sean Treacys and kept them scoreless, scoring 1-2 themselves. Next on the list was the semi-final against Aherlow in October. The final margin here was most comfortable again with Aherlow



Rockwell Rovers— O'Donoghue Cup Winners (Senior Football League) 1983.

Back row, l. to r.: Jimmy O'Donnell, John Hickey, Andrew English, Billy Smith, Jim Kelly, P. J. Boland, John O'Connor, Bernard Barron, Ger Hyland, Michael Butler.
Front row, l. to r.: Eamonn Barron, Jim Joe Dudley, Brian Ryan, Johnny Ryan, Eamonn O'Dwyer, Kevin Barron, John Halley, Ger English, Pat O'Dwyer, James Lovett.
Missing from photograph is team captain MI Ryan.



Emly/Lattin Minor Football Team— West and County Champions for 1983.

Back row, l. to r.: Gerard Kelly, Liam Burke, Mike Cunningham, Paudie Lonergan, John O'Meara, Sean Dunne, Mike O'Dwyer, John Burke, Joe Kelly.

Front row, l. to r.: Pat Burke, Fran Cunningham, Pat O'Halloran captain, Brendan Corcoran, Roger English, Jimmy Russell, Joe Buckley, Mike Corcoran, Damien Hannon, Mike Hennessy, Denis Healon, Joseph Healon.

finding them too hot to handle and going under on the score 3-9 to 0-3. Arravale Rovers once again made it through on the other side of the draw to provide the final opposition. Two fine football teams were expected to produce some attractive football and so it emerged. It took strong defensive play from a pressurised back line and some neat attacking at the other end for Multeen to overcome the town lads and the issue was closer than the final score line of 2-8 to 105 would suggest. It was nevertheless a most deserved win and their progress will be watched with interest in the inter-divisionals. To complete the junior double Multeen also took the junior football league title. In group two of the competition they had to go to a play-off with Lattin/Cullen to reach the final proper against Sologhead. Once in the decider however they were not to be deprived and took the title on the score 1-8 to 0-2.

On the hurling side it was not the best of years for Annacarty. They had a very poor run in the Crosco Cup early in the year and even though they raised their game greatly for the championship outing against Cappawhite it was not enough to earn a win. In combination with neighbours Cappawhite at minor and U-21 level they failed to make a major impression and so must be satisfied with junior football achievements for this year.

With a limited pool of available players the Eire Og record in the recent past is a very good one. They are in the process of developing their pitch which should shortly be staging West games to provide some welcome relief for the many over used venues. While senior hurling success was not theirs in '83 they are sure to be very strong contenders again next year.

Emly

One is tempted to treat Emly and Lattin/C. together as one unit because most of their success last year was in combination, but it would hardly be fair to the individual merits of each club. On their own Emly took the Intermediate Football title in '83 and with Lattin/Cullen won the minor

hurling and football double and the U-21 football. At writing time they have added the minor county football title which all in all must represent a considerable achievement.

Emly would possibly deserve the title of most promising club in West Tipperary. They have in the past few years produced some fine underage teams and in players like Mike Cunningham and Mike Corcoran they have ambassadors that any club would be proud of. If the progress continues then it should go all the way to the senior ranks in the near future.

Intermediate football was the one they took on their own, without help from neighbours Lattin/Cullen, and therefore in some ways the most meritorious. In this four team, league competition Emly had an unbeaten record throughout. They easily beat Kickhams in the first round, had a two point win over Rockwell Rovers in the second, and then got a walk-over from Aherlow. Predictably enough Rockwell Rovers were the ones to join them in the divisional final which was played in Golden in Mid October. The end margin was four points on the score 2-4 to 0-6 but all were agreed that Rockwell should have done much better. It was Mike Cunningham goals which sealed it for Emly with Rockwell failing to capitalise on outfield superiority.

At minor level, in combination with Lattin/Cullen, they had the distinction

of taking the double and then adding the county football title. They in fact retained the county title which they also took the previous year and will be mentioned elsewhere so that we concentrate here on the hurling. In '82 they had reached the West minor hurling final and were by general admission unlucky to lose to Clonoulty. In '83 however they were determined to make no mistake and duly made up for the previous years miss. They reached the semi-finals with wins over Cashel and Cappa/Eire Og and a draw with Clonoulty and for the semi-final were drawn against group B winners, Golden. It was anything but easy in the semi and in fact four points was the final margin of victory. In the final they met Kickhams and in a hectic game they just got the verdict with a very late goal.

The Emly/Lattin combination are also defending county champions at U-21 football level and at writing time have retained their West title with a very close win over Cashel. To reach the West final they had wins over Galtee Rovers and Arravale Rovers and got a walk-over from Kickhams. Cashel morale was high after their hurling victory and they came very close to making it a memorable double. It took a great display by Nicklaus English to get the combo' through by just two points.

In summary Emly are striking it rich at the moment at minor and U-21 level and if the present progress continues then surely they will be a major senior force very shortly in the division. Football has traditionally been their major game and while the greater part of their present success is with the larger ball they are also making major advances at hurling as evidenced by the minor win. Long may it continue.

Galtee Rovers

The Galtee Rovers club will hardly forget 1983 easily, and not all the memories will be happy ones. Their major achievement was to regain the West senior football title but the infamy of the final will tend to overshadow the football achievement.

As footballers the Bansha club is one



Galtee Rovers— West Tipp Senior Football Champions 1983

Back row, l. to r.: Seamus McCarthy, Michael O'Brien, Paddy Morrissey, Michael McCarthy, Jimmy Ferris, Richard Grogan, Sean Quinn, Michael Hickey, Michael McCarthy, Hugh Kennedy.

Front row, l. to r.: Michael S. O'Connell, Ian Murphy, Pat Bergin, Seamus Grogan, captain, Declan Hickey, Michael Grace, Jim Phelan, Billy Whelan.

of the strongest in the county and their record in the recent past is ample proof of that. In the '83 West championship they were drawn against Lattin/Cullen in the first round and had to endure an almighty struggle to overcome the defending champions. It took two games to sort out who was superior and no doubt both teams would admit that they were not the most attractive games to watch. It wasn't that there was anything unsavoury, rather it was the dull defence-dominated, low scoring games that gave few thrills. At the second attempt the Rovers made it to the next round on the score 0-5 to 0-3. Next on the list was a semi-final date with Golden. It was by far the more attractive of the two semi-finals and it was won comfortably by the Bansha men on the score 1-9 to 0-5. So, to the final against Sologhead that was to hit the headlines so regrettably.

Enough has been said about the events of that day at Sean Treacy Park without repeating them here. Suffice to say that the Rovers won the football handsomely on the score 0-9 to 0-2. In the Board room deliberations that followed the game Galtee Rovers escaped very lightly, reflecting where the bulk of the blame for what happened was being laid. In the county series the Rovers went on to defeat Moycarkey in the quarter final and then bow out to Fethard in the semi-final.

In other competitions Galtee Rovers fared badly enough. Their main hurling team were affiliated at Intermediate level and after some good wins just failed to make the final. In U-21 and minor hurling they joined with Rockwell Rovers but failed to make an impression. In the underage football competitions they affiliated on their own but likewise failed to reach the final stages.

In summary I suppose they will be happy to have taken the major prize in football and will look upon '83 as being satisfactory enough. They remain a very strong football force within the county and while their underage teams do not appear to be having a very successful time their seniors seem to have a rock-like resilience.



Multeen Rovers— West Junior Football Championship Winners & West Junior Football League Winners.

Back row, l. to r.: Tom Crosse, Seamus Hanley, Anthony Crosse, Jacko Breen, Matt Ryan captain, Liam Dwyer, Francis Quinn, John Ryan, Bill Burke, Michael Ryan, Liam Quinlan.

Front row, l. to r.: Liam White, Sean Breen, Kevin Fox, James Griffin, Seamus Fox, Leo Ryan, Jerry Dwyer, Tom Gleeson, John Aherne.

Golden/Kilfeacle

It was a fruitless year for the Golden/Kilfeacle club. They took part in most of the division's competitions but in the end failed to take a single honour. At the beginning of the year Golden opted to go senior in hurling— their footballers had to go senior after winning the county intermediate title the previous year. It was a courageous move and now in retrospect it may be one they will review.

Their senior hurlers played just three games in all, which may in a sense be an indictment of the system within the division. They had just one championship game in which Cashel put an end to their hopes, albeit by a slender enough six point margin. In the Crosco they were again defeated by Cashel in the first round but they subsequently went on to record a four point win over Cappawhite. Eventhough Eire Og gave them a walk-over in the final game their defeat by Cashel was enough to ensure they would not make the final.

In senior football Golden began their first year in the grade on their own in great form. They defeated Sologhead in the O'Donoghue Cup first round and went on to oust Cashel in the first round of the championship. However thereafter things went a little astray when Galtee Rovers put them out of the championship and Cashel avenged their defeat by beating them in the O'Donoghue Cup.

At minor level Golden won group B

in both hurling and football but in the semi-finals of both competitions they were put out by Emly/Lattin. However in both semis they acquitted themselves very well and were only beaten by four points in the hurling and eight points in the football.

At U-21 level the hurlers also made the semi-final stage and indeed gave Clonoulty a few worrying moments before they were eventually defeated by ten points. In U-21 football Cashel were the team to put an end to their hopes. In the other competitions Golden failed to make any significant impression.

On the development side the club ran a very successful raffle and are at present developing the pitch and providing much needed dressing rooms and showers. On the county side players like the Leamys, John and Thomas, and David Fogarty, are keeping Golden represented on county minor panels. So while success on the field of play was absent the club remains very active and in time it should bring its due reward.

Kickhams

For the Knockavilla/Donaskeigh Kickham club 1983 was the bleakest for some time. Their seniors merely won a single game and I suppose the highest point of the year was provided by the minors reaching the divisional decider.

In the past Kickhams had somehow maintained the edge over Clonoulty fairly consistently but the year just gone was the one to see that dominance broken. The year began as if Clonoulty were still unable to gain the edge when Kickhams had the better of their Crosco Cup tie. However the championship was to set the record straight for Clonoulty when they put Kickhams out by a five point margin that if anything should have been greater. Kickhams went on to lose to Treacys in the Crosco, get a walk-over from Sologhead, and then in the play-off Clonoulty consolidated their position with a ten point defeat of their arch-rivals. However the club will point to the loss of Martin McGrath and Dominic Hayes as a major reason for the poor showing of the seniors and with justification.

The club's minors did best in '83.



Lattin /Cullen— West Intermediate Hurling Champions 1983.

Back row, l. to r.: Mick Hanly, Eamonn Buckley, Jody Morrissey, Bernie Buckley, Michael Maguire, Ned Burns, Tommy Morrissey, Eddie Morrissey, John Moloney, Eamonn Daly. Front row, l. to r.: Nicklaus English, Sean Dunne, Tony Heffernan, Pat O'Halloran, Philly Ryan captain, Pat Greene, Enda Heffernan.



Cashel K. C.— Croscó Cup Champions 1983.

Back row, l. to r.: Ger Slattery, Sean Slattery, Patsy O'Connor, Colm Bonner, Tony Smith, Steven O'Brien, Francis Gleeson.

Front row, l. to r.: Brendan Bonner, Mickey Byrnes, Joe Minogue, Pa Fitzell, John Walsh, Tommy Grogan captain, Cormac Bonner, Jerry Mulligan.

They weren't too impressive early on when they drew with both Cashel and Clonoulty and defeated Cappa/Eire Og. However they had done enough to make the semi-final stage and were drawn against Clonoulty once again. The game was a pretty tough one with as usual strong rivalry between the teams but Kickhams got the most impressive scores and emerged with a ten point win. So to the final against a very fancied Emly/Lattin team at Sean Treacy Park. It was a fine performance by Kickhams and one that would have deserved a replay but Emly/Lattin snatched a very late winning goal in extra time to take the title.

That was the nearest Kickhams came to taking a championship in '83 with the other teams really failing to make an impression in their competitions. However the juvenile section of the club was again doing well so that the future would seem to be less bleak than the year just gone.

Lattin/Cullen

Being part of the combination with Emly, Lattin/Cullen naturally share in the glories at minor and U-21 level. However Lattin/Cullen had their own taste of triumph in the Intermediate hurling championship when significantly it was their neighbours, Emly they defeated in the final.

This Intermediate Hurling championship was last year organised for clubs without senior teams and the level of competition was thereby increased from former years. Lattin/Cullen and Emly emerged as the two top teams out of the seven taking part and thereby entered the final. Both teams had lost just one game on the way to the final but perhaps significantly Emly's loss was to Lattin/Cullen. The pattern was maintained in the final with a score of 3-5 to 0-11 in Lattin/Cullen's favour. The victory was in some way a compensation for the loss of the senior football title earlier to Galtee Rovers and Lattin/Cullen will be glad to have overcome their neighbours and sometime partners.

The Lattin contribution to the 'combo' is smaller than that of Emly

but in some cases it is most significant. The contribution of Nicklaus English to the U-21 football win over Cashel is a case in point— his strong midfield play was a decisive factor in that two point win. At senior hurling level the Lattin club joined with Sologhead and played in both the championship and Croscó Cup. In the championship they were drawn against Sean Treacys and the might of the defending champions was simply too much and the 'combo' was on the receiving end of something of a trouncing. In the Croscó Cup they again lost to Treacys, as well as Clonoulty before they gave Kickhams a walk-over.

In junior football Lattin/Cullen reached the divisional semi-final after a good win over Golden but in the semi Arravale Rovers proved much too strong.

In general it has been a reasonably successful year for the Lattin/Cullen club. They have been a party to good minor and under 21 successes, Nicklaus English has been a successful representative with the county team, and with limited resources they have maintained a strong prominence.

Rockwell Rovers

Football is the main interest of the men in the New Inn club and in reviewing '83 they can celebrate one trophy, the O'Donoghue Cup. However I suspect the loss to Emly in the Intermediate championship is one they will

long regret and bemoan the fact that they let slip a championship which should have been won.

Since Golden went senior in the football code, Rockwell Rovers had to confine their activity to the Intermediate grade, not feeling strong enough to risk going senior themselves. In the Intermediate championship they defeated Aherlow and Kickhams and even though they lost to Emly they still qualified for the final against the same opposition. They were well prepared for the game after training hard and despite their earlier defeat by the same opposition they must have been slight favourites to take the title. However on the day they played well in many areas, seemed to have the stronger team, but somehow the scores didn't come. Emly used their opportunities better and earned a fully deserved win as a result.

However as compensation for their loss Rockwell rallied remarkably for the following Sunday's clash with Cashel in the O'Donoghue Cup final and duly made amends with a fine victory. Still I have no doubt they would swop it for the Intermediate title and a crack at the county crown which Golden captured last year.

Hurling is not one of the stronger points in the club and they failed to complete their programme at Intermediate level when they withdrew after two defeats. In minor and U-21 hurling they joined with Galtee Rovers but without any success. On their own they played three games in the minor football championship and then withdrew, while the U-21 football they were defeated by Kickhams.

Still they remain a strong Intermediate football team, capable of defeating many senior teams and no doubt their ambition in '84 will once again be to take this title and hopefully add the county one.

Rosegreen

The Rosegreen club were back in business last year after the suspensions of the previous year. Their main interest was in the Intermediate hurling championship but they also affiliated a



Emly— West Intermediate Football Champions 1983.

Back row, l. to r.: Eamonn O'Meara, club secretary; Gerard Moloney, Joe Buckley, John McGrath, Seanie O'Brien, Denis Connolly, Paddy Creamer, Martin Corcoran, Timmy Burke, Patsy Walsh.

Front row, l. to r.: Paddy Russell, Tom Joe O'Brien, Mike Corcoran, Mike Joy, Frank Corcoran, Mike Cunningham, Seamus Walsh, Mike O'Brien, Mike Burke, Liam Burke.

junior football team. In the Intermediate hurling championship their form was somewhat erratic. They began with a great win over championship favourites Sologhead but then lost narrowly to Galtee Rovers and heavily to Emly. Those two defeats were enough to exclude them from the final stages of the competition and the pity is that they were the only team to defeat eventual champions Lattin/Cullen and did it by a seven point margin. They also had wins over Rockwell Rovers and Arravale Rovers so that their overall performance was very creditable and they proved themselves as good as the best in the competition. The problem was lack of consistency.

In the junior football championship they lost by four points to Lattin/Cullen while in the junior football league they drew with Emly, defeated Aherlow, lost heavily to Lattin/Cullen and lost by just one point to eventual champions Multeen Rovers.

Being a small club with limited resources their record in the past year is nonetheless superior to others and they can certainly claim to have justified their existence.

Sean Treacys

1983 will not rank among the better years for the Sean Treacy club. They lost their senior hurling crown and the closest they came to gaining compensation was when they were narrowly defeated in the junior hurling final by Clonoulty.

I suppose after the success that Sean Treacy's seniors have enjoyed in the past ten or so years it is inevitable that a lull was going to come. They made their exit from the championship courtesy of Cashel K.C. However in the type of form that we have come to expect from the men from the hills they didn't die easily and gave Cashel one almighty battle. They looked defeated in the drawn game but put in a gutsy late rally to snatch a draw and a second chance. Even if things went badly astray in that replay for Treacys they certainly could not be accused of dying easily.

Their juniors came very close to taking the West title in late September when they pressurised Clonoulty all the way but just could not get their heads in front. On their way to that final they had lost just one game— to Kickhams— and had drawn with Clonoulty. In the final they lined out with a number of ex-seniors and gave total commitment but victory was not to be theirs.

They affiliated in a number of other competitions but failed to reach the final stages in any of them. Still come next year the Treacys are bound to be a major force in senior hurling once again because with the spirit they possess they have yet to learn the meaning of defeat.

Sologhead

When starting this review one of the



Emly/Lattin— West Tipp Minor Hurling Champions for 1983.

Back row, l. to r.: Mike McGrath, Gerard Kelly, John Burke, Joe Buckley, Liam Burke, Joe Healon, Fran Cunningham, Paudie Lonergan, Sean Dunne, Shane McManus, Denis Healon. Front row, l. to r.: Mike Hennessy, Pat Burke, Jimmy Russell, Mike Corcoran, Pat O'Halloran, Mike O'Dwyer, Mike Cunningham, captain, Roger English, Brendan Corcoran, John O'Meara, Damien Hannon.

foremost questions in my mind was what can I possibly say about Sologhead's performance in '83, without opening old wounds and repeating what has been said before. The facts are simply that they contested a senior football final against Galtee Rovers which will long remain unsurpassed for its infamy; they were later identified as the main culprits and received heavy suspensions— including three life terms — and they added another unprecedented element when some of their members later picketed a game in the division.

On the playing side senior football and intermediate hurling would be generally considered their strongest teams. In senior football they had a bye to the semi-final in which they defeated Arravale Rovers and then came the final which has done enormous damage to the club. In intermediate hurling they began badly with a defeat by Rosegreen and never quite recovered so that despite being championship favourites they ended the championship with just two wins to their credit and a long way behind the leading teams.

In the junior football league they managed to reach the final when they won out their group of the competition. Multeen Rovers provided the opposition in that final and although they lost Sologhead acquitted themselves very well.

In general however it was a black year for Sologhead and one that it will take a long time to recover from. The truth which they may not like to hear, but which must be faced, is that their tactics were heading for disaster for some time, and what happened in the football final was merely the culmination of a build up. To argue that it was isolated is to ignore the facts. What is now needed is a bit of common sense and leadership to reorganise a more disciplined club and build for the future. They have a long and good tradition within the division and with the right

approach they can regain some past glories and create a strong club.

West Tipperary Championship Results for 1983

Senior Hurling— Cappawhite 4-10, Cashel K.C. 1-6. Ref. Liam O'Dwyer Eire Og.

Crosco Cup (S.H.L.)— Cashel K.C. 1-10 Clonoulty/Rossmore 0-10. Ref. S. O'Riain, Golden/Kilfeacle

Minor Hurling— Emly/Lattin 3-8, Kickhams 2-9. Ref. J. Moloney, Galtee Rovers.

Intermediate Hurling— Lattin/Cullen 3-5 Emly 0-11. Ref. P. Lonergan, Galtee Rovers.

Junior Hurling— Clonoulty/Rossmore 2-5 Sean Treacys 2-3. Ref. J. Ring Arravale Rovers

U-21 Hurling— Cashel K.C. 2-8; Clonoulty/Rossmore 1-7. Ref. W. Morrissey, Kickhams.

Senior Football— Galtee Rovers 0-9, Sologhead 0-2. Ref. P. Russell Emly O'Donoghue Cup (S.F.L.)— Rockwell Rovers 2-8, Cashel K.C. 1-3. Ref. P. Lonergan, Galtee Rovers.

Minor Football— Emly/Lattin 2-14, Arravale Rovers 0-2. Ref. T. Meehan Cashel

Intermediate Football— Emly 2-4, Rockwell Rovers 0-6. Ref. J. Moloney Galtee Rovers.

Junior Football— Multeen Rovers 2-8, Arravale Rovers 1-5. Ref. J. Moloney Galtee Rovers.

Junior Football— Multeen Rovers 2-8, Arravale Rovers 1-5. Ref. J. Moloney Galtee Rovers

Junior Football League— Multeen Rovers 1-8, Sologhead 0-2. Ref. T. Hennessy, Arravale Rovers.

U-21 Football— Lattin/Emly 1-6. Cashel K.C. 1-4. Ref. P. Lonergan, Galtee Rovers.

West Tipp Scor na nOg Winners 1983

Novelty Act: Aherlow— John Ivory,

Martina Ryan, David Grogan, Una McGrath, Valerie Lewis and Larry Ryan.

Figure dancing: Sologhead.

Solo singing: Aherlow—Maurice Clancy.

Instrumental music: Sean Treacys—Carmel O'Dwyer, Claire O'Dwyer, Patrick Ryan.

Question time: Arravale Rovers—John Cremins, John Delany, Declan Marnane.

Ballad group: Lattin/C.—Carmel Barlow Maurice, Pat, Aileen and Josephine Clancy.

Sean Treacys: Set dancing.

West Tipp senior Scor winners 1983

Instrumental music: Clonoulty/R.—Tom Ryan, Thady Ryan and Tom Meehan.

Figure dancing: Clonoulty/R.—Mary Slattery, Noreen Ryan, Catherine Guilfoyle, Mary Ryan, Malachy Ryan, Richard Ryan, T. J. Ryan, Michael O'Donnell.

Novelty Act: Golden/K.—MI Fogarty,



Rival captains: Pat Hadnett, Sologhead (on left) and Seanie Grogan, Galtee Rovers (on right) watch as referee Paddy Russell tosses the coin prior to the infamous West Senior Football final of 1983

Marcella Collins, Jim Keane, Eddie Fitzgerald, Martina O'Keeffe, Tommy Browne.

Question Time: Golden/K. — John Leamy, John Keaty, Thomas O'Donnell.

Ballad group: Arravale Rovers—Br May,

Daisy Hughes, Bridie Withero, Carol O'Dwyer, Peter Columb.

Set dance: Clonoulty/R.—Tom O'Dwyer, Malachy O'Dwyer, John O'Dwyer, Richard Ryan, Lena Kennedy, Patricia Kennedy, Mairead Hayes, Margaret Ryan.

ARE WE PREPARED TO PAY THE PRICE ?

by Gerry Long, County P.R.O.

Any success achieved in this life will cost you a price. When I talk about price I don't just mean the finance involved, and God knows that is big enough these days. No, there is an even greater price that must be paid. It is the price we have to pay in time, effort, self-sacrifice and above all the price of total commitment. Without those ingredients we cannot be successful in any walk of life or in any challenge that may be put to us.

In Tipperary we have been crying out for success with our senior hurling team for far too long. It is now time to take whatever action it necessitates to achieve this success. Let no one have any doubts about the ability and commitment of the people who are given the unenviable task of achieving this success. But without the help of all gaelis in Tipperary they cannot be successful. The G.A.A. in Tipperary is like a big wheel. We are all spokes in that wheel. If one spoke isn't working properly the wheel weakens and comes under pressure. In no time at all you will have another spoke breaking until finally the wheel shatters and is worthless. The strength of the G.A.A. depends on having all the spokes working properly.

To date in our national league campaign we have not been able to call on a full strength panel for any of our games. Is this the correct way to blend a team together for 1984? In my view it certainly is not. I realise that Borrisoleigh and Loughmore-Castleiney are still involved in Munster club championships and their players are not yet



Gerry Long, County P.R.O.

available for the league but this is not what is causing the problem. Either we run our championships inefficiently or else we have too many competitions. I would suggest to you that the latter is the main problem.

I will go a step further and say that the competition which either gets held up or holds up other competitions is the under 21. Why you might ask does this happen? The answer is very simple. Under 21 players in all clubs are also involved in either junior, intermediate or senior hurling. So the result if we play under 21 this weekend we cannot play senior because we have u-21 players on our senior team. The same criteria would apply to junior, or intermediate teams with the end

result that either the u-21 championship is held up or the others are. Either way we find that our championships can never be finished at a reasonable time to allow our selectors a fair chance of team building during the league campaign.

So what do I suggest we do? My answer is not one which will please everybody, but as I pointed out at the start sacrifice will have to be made if we want to have a successful inter county senior team. Would we for one year abandon the u-21 hurling championship in Tipperary. No players will suffer because of this as they are well catered for in all the other grades. You might say that there are players just over minor age who would not be fit to play in adult competitions. Well, let me tell you that if this is true I would go a step further which I believe would solve this problem. I would raise the age of our minor championship from under eighteen years to under nineteen. I believe this would take care of that problem.

I know that everyone in Tipperary wants to see our senior hurling team back in its rightful position as one of the great forces in hurling in this country. To do this we must all work as a unit. Our energies must be harnessed not towards criticism and derision but rather towards encouragement and by encouraging our players we will give them confidence in themselves and pride in their county. A man who is proud of his county will give that county of his best and the best will always succeed.

South Bord na nOg

Review

by R. Sheehan

The year began with some changes in Bord na nOg circles in South Tipp. The board itself conscious of the need to publicise and glamourise our own games decided to appoint a new official to the board for this purpose. As a result a P.R.O. was elected and some progress was made during the year with a new column appearing in the principal local weekly newspaper dealing with young gael and their games. A new chairman also came into office when Andy Fox of Fethard was replaced by Jimmy McCarthy of Moyle Rovers, Secretary/Treasurer of the Board, Patsy O'Halloran remained on at his honourous post. The new team took up the reins of office and the work of promoting gaelic games began in earnest with the coming of Spring which was long delayed. Though nothing of a controversial nature occurred during the year it became apparent that the appointment of a registrar with responsibility for ensuring that all players on all underage teams would occur in the future. This would also lessen the heavy work load and responsibility of the secretary.

On the playing fields the under 12 football competition swing into action. Seventeen clubs played in four league sections and eight qualified for the quarter finals. In the quarter finals Commercials beat St Patricks. Fethard beat Moyle Rovers. Ardfinnan beat Davins and Cahir beat Marlfield. In the semi-finals Commercials accounted for Cahir while Ardfinnan saw off Fethard. On a lovely June evening in Cahir before a large crowd Commercials beat Ardfinnan by a very narrow margin. Later

in the county championship Commercials failed in the semi-final to Durlas Og. A special competition was later organised for the nine clubs— Ballingarry, Killenaule, Swan, Newcastle, Kilsheelan, Fr Sheehys, Ballyporeen, Shamrocks and Mullinahone. This was a knockout competition and in a September final Swan defeated Killenaule.

Under 12 hurling was harder to organise due to weather problems. Fourteen clubs took part in three sections and St Marys, Ballybacon/Grange, Killenaule and Ballingarry reached the semi-finals. St Marys and Killenaule were the victors. In the final in Fethard St Marys were worthy winners over an improving Killenaule. In the county semi-final St Marys were beaten by Knockavilla Kickhams. Again a special competition was organised among the weaker clubs and Cahir emerged as winners.

The under fourteen competitions were knockout competitions with urban/rural and rural competitions being staged. In urban rural hurling Fr Sheehy's and Skeheenarinky emerged to join Swan Ballybacon, Cahir, St Marys, Davins and Ballingarry. Marlfield and Mullinahone had been eliminated. In round one Swan beat Ballybacon. Cahir beat Skeheenarinky. St Marys beat Davins and Ballingarry beat Fr Sheehys. In the series Swan beat Cahir and St Marys defeated Ballingarry. In the final despite a great Swan comeback St Marys were the victors. Later St Marys lost to Toomevara in the county semi-final. In the rural hurling Kilsheelan and Skeheenarinky joined Fethard, Killenaule, Fr Sheehys, Ballin-

garry, Cahir and Ballybacon/Grange in round one. Mullinahone and Marlfield had gone out at this stage. Fethard, Fr Sheehys, Ballingarry and Kilsheelan were the winners respectively over Killenaule, Skeheenarinky, Cahir and Ballybacon. In the semi-final Fethard beat Fr Sheehys and Ballingarry took care of Kilsheelan. In a grand and exciting final played in Kickham Park Mullinahone, Fethard held on for an exciting win. Once more it was Knockavilla Kickhams who put the southern reps out of the county championship.

In under fourteen urban/rural football fifteen teams set out with Cahir getting the bye. In round one Fr Sheehys beat Davins. Swan overcame Marlfield. Shamrocks saw off Mullinahone. Ballingarry eliminated Grangemockler. Ardfinnan were victorious over St Patricks. Commercials sent Ballyporeen packing and Moyle Rovers served notice when Fethard fell before them. In the quarter finals Fr Sheehys upset Cahir. Swan beat Shamrocks. Ardfinnan were too good for Ballingarry after a replay and Moyle Rovers fancied Commercials. In the semi-finals Swan beat Fr Sheehys and Moyle Rovers overcame Ardfinnan. In the final it was Moyle Rovers who came out on top. In rural football St Pats, Ardfinnan and Fr Sheehys got byes while Cahir, Marlfield, Kilsheelan, Killenaule and Grangemockler were the first round losers. In the quarter finals Moyle Rovers once more beat Fethard. Ballingarry eliminated Ballyporeen. Mullinahone beat Ardfinnan in a great game and Fr Sheehys beat St Patricks. In the semi-finals Moyle Rovers and Fr Sheehys were too good for Ballingarry and Mullinahone. In the final the Fr Sheehys were not strong enough. Moyle Rovers had done the double.

Faced with a daunting programme Moyle Rovers made their bid for a county title. In the rural semi-final they beat Holy Cross and played a draw with Golden in the county final. In the urban/rural they defeated Cashel in the County semi-final and in the final they played a draw with Durlas Og. Two county final replays; two titanic struggles and two superb victories as winners of a double, the Moyle Rovers side qualified for a trip to the All-Ireland Football final. They had probably played better football than they saw in Croke Park. Certainly they were for this writer the underage team of the year.



St Mary's Under 16 South Hurling Champions

Back row, l. to r.: R. Hogan, B. McGrath, J. McCarthy, L. O'Donnell, D. J. O'Connell, S. Hickey, M. Gearon, J. Dempsey, P. Kavanagh, L. O'Duibher.
Front row, l. to r.: D. Ryan, G. Burke, B. Condon, D. O'Donnell, D. Ryan, D. Hickey, J. J. Keyes, J. Dunphy, G. Deeley, J. Ryan.

In under 16 football eight teams qualified for the play off stages from seventeen starters. In the quarter finals Commercials beat Mullinahone. Cahir beat Shamrocks. Fethard beat Moyle Rovers and Davins beat Ardfinnan. The semi-finals saw Commercials and Fethard too good for Cahir and Davins and in the final Fethard beat Commercials. In the county semi-final Fethard beat Roscrea and their year was crowned when in the county final they were too good for Clonoulty Rossmore. In under 16 hurling the semi-finalists emerged as Fethard who beat the Davins and St Marys who beat Ballybacon Grange. In the final St Marys made it a treble of South hurling titles when they overcame Fethard. In the county semi-final St Marys were ousted by Knockavilla Kickhams.

Some individual skills competitions were also organised by the board during the year. In the hurling skills competition under 14 Sean Nugent of Kilsheelan emerged as the Southern representative in the county feile skills competition. In the long puck under 14 the southern representative was Law-

rence Walsh of Kilsheelan. In the under 14 football competition for the Cavan Feile Fethard emerged as winners in the South and also in the county. In Cavan they did Tipperary proud with their displays. On the Tipp under 14 team which won out the Tony Forristal

memorial tournament organised by Waterford Glass were Ger Deely of St Marys and Liam O'Connor of Mullinahone. The other teams to compete were Wexford, Waterford and Kilkenny whom Tipp beat in the final. That was the scene in Gaelic games.

South Tipp Bord-na-nOg

Grade	Winners	Runners-up	No. entered
-12 ur/rural Football	Commercials	Ardfinnan	18
-14 rural Football	Moyle Rovers	Fr Sheehys	13
-14 ur/rural Football	Moyle Rovers	Swan	15
-16 ur/rural Football	Fethard	Commercials	18
-12 ur/rural Hurling	St Marys	Killenaule	12
-14 rural Hurling	Fethard	Ballingarry	10
-14 ur/rural Hurling	St Marys	Swan	10
-16 ur/rural Hurling	St Marys	Fethard	13

Score-na-nOg '83

Céilí dancing	Newcastle
Solo Singing	Moyle Rovers (Máiréad Boland)
Instrumental Music	Ballybacon/Grange (Claire and Naoimh English)
Novelty Act	Ballybacon/Grange
Question Time	St.Patricks (Padraig (Duggan, Paul Clancy, James Ryan)
Group Singing	Ballyporeen (The O'Donovans)
Set Dancing	Newcastle



Knockavilla-Donaskeigh Kickhams— West u-16 Hurling Champions.

Back row, l. to r.: Danny Morrissey, selector, Kieran Cussen, Frank Alley, Frank Ryan, John O'Dwyer, Pierce Butler, Robert Hanly, Pat Farrell, Seamus Furlong, Enda Brady. Middle row, l. to r.: Peter Alley, selector, Joe Cahill, Frank Hayes, Dermot Keating, Sean Alley, captain, Tom Hanly, Pat Cleary, Kieran Slattery, J. J. Kennedy, selector. Front row, l. to r.: Finbar Hayes, Raymond Heaney, Michael O'Dwyer, Patrick Kearins, Joe Browne.



Arravale Rovers— West U-12 Football Champions 1983

Back row, l. to r.: D. O'Dwyer, A. Quinaln, R. Quinaln, B. Ryan, A. Quirke, C. Stapleton, R. Barlow, W. Collins, W. McEvoy.

Front row, l. to r.: J. Roche, T. O'Reilly, P. Gleeson, S. O'Halloran, C. Bresnan captain, Michael Ryan, D. Nugent, P. McCarthy.

GAELIC GAMES IN TIPPERARY VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS

by T. J. Egan

All Ireland title and five Munster titles for Tipperary Schools

Once again it is my pleasant duty to report that gaelic games are on a sound footing in all our schools in the county and that great progress is being made to promote our games in the weaker schools. This year I am pleased to be able to report on all our activities throughout the county— thanks mainly to the help to me by Colm O'Flaherty (Cahir) who will be reporting on the events in South Tipp.

Pride and place this year must go to Borrisokane V.S. u-15 hurlers on winning their first ever All Ireland title for the school and Tipp town u-15 footballers who were narrowly defeated in the All Ireland final.

North Tipp Vocational Schools

As already mentioned Borrisokane V.S. captured their first ever All Ireland title when they defeated Loughrea V.S. (Galway) in a thrilling All Ireland final replay played in Killimor.

In the Munster individual schools u-18 hurling two North Tipp teams— Borrisokane and Nenagh contested a historic and unique final pairing when they met in the final on St Patrick's Day in Moneygall.

On the intercounty scene North Tipp senior hurlers retained their Munster crown but were later defeated by Kilkenny in the All Ireland semi-final in a controversial game played in Nowlan Park Kilkenny.

Results of competitions

Competition	Winners	Runners up
Senior Hurling	Borrisokane	Nenagh
Senior Football	Nenagh	Borrisokane
Junior Hurling	Borrisokane	Nenagh
Junior Football	Borrisokane	Roscrea
1st yr hurling	Nenagh	Newport
Munster u-18 H.	Borrisokane	Nenagh
Munster u-15 H.	Borrisokane	Ennis
Canon Fitzgerald	Cashel C.B.S.	Borrisokane

As in previous years Borrisokane and Nenagh schools were to the forefront as far as winning titles were concerned with both schools taking three titles each with Borrisokane advancing to take two Munster titles and winning the u-16 All Ireland. In the Canon Fitzgerald u-17 Post Primary Schools final injury hit Borrisokane were narrowly defeated by Cashel C.B.S. in a marvellous sporting game of hurling played in Semple Stadium. This competition has been making consistent progress over the years and

is now the most coveted trophy on offer to all post primary schools in the county.

Our thanks for the success of this competition are due mainly to the trojan work done by its secretary John Costigan (Templemore) and the generosity and help of the county and divisional boards. Well done to all concerned and long may it continue.

Munster u-18 Individual Schools Hurling

This competition has been going from strength to strength over the years and is now on a par with the Harty Cup. In this years final two North Tipp teams Borrisokane and Nenagh advanced to the final at the expense of Cork, Clare and Limerick opposition.

In the final played at Moneygall both teams played magnificent hurling before an enthusiastic crowd with Borrisokane emerging victors by three points. To the many neutral observers who were attending their first vocational schools game— the most common verdict after the game was of the very high level of skills displayed by both teams.

Borrisokane V.S.

E. O'Donovan (Shinrone), D. Ryan (Borrisokane), J. Burns (Kilruane) capt., J. J. Costello (Shannon Rovers), P. Molloy (Borrisokane), P. Mulcahy (Kilruane), D. Morris (Borrisokane), P. Corcoran (Borrisokane), J. Fogarty (Knockshegowna), Ned Darcy (Kilruane), C. Hayes (Kildangan), M. Holland (Kildangan), S. Morris (Borrisokane), T. Byrne (Kilruane), T. Killackey (Kilruane).

Nenagh V.S.

G. Haverty (Toomevara), T. Maher (Burgess), D. O'Brien (Eire Og), M. Helebert (Portroe), D. O'Meara (Eire Og), D. Cahill (Kilruane), T. J. Browne (Toomevara), J. Connolly (Toomevara), N. Coffey (Eire Og), M. Cunneen (Silvermines), K. O'Brien (Eire Og), D. Collins (Burgess), M. Hallinan (Eire Og).

In the All Ireland semi-final Borrisokane were defeated by the reigning all champions Johnstown (Kilkenny) in a great game played in Rath.

Inter County Hurling

On the inter county scene North Tipp senior hurlers defeated Clare in the semi-final and accounted for Cork county in the Munster final in a great game played in Holycross.

In the All-Ireland semi-final North Tipp were defeated by Kilkenny by 1-7 to 0-10 in a controversial game played in Kilkenny. Prior to the game Kilkenny County board officials refused permission for the game to be played in Nowlan Park. The game was delayed for over three hours while negotiations took place between representatives of both teams and Kilkenny Co. Board members attending annual G.A.A. Congress in Galway. This incident left very bad feelings between all concerned and is further evidence of the growing trend of major grounds in the country refusing to make their grounds available for schools matches. Without pitches school games cannot be played— without school games the G.A.A. cannot survive.

South Tipperary Vocational School Gaelic Games '82-'83

Last year was a good year for Gaelic Games in the Vocational Schools of South Tipperary. While South Tipperary have never experienced, at county of individual schools level, the success or North Tipp, there has always been a full programme of games. However, last year there were some notable successes.

Inter-County Football

Having beaten Cork city and Co. Waterford, South Tipp. were most unlucky to lose to Cork County by a late point in a good game played at Fermoy. However, in the special football final, South Tipp defeated Clare, who had been narrowly beaten in the All-Ireland final. The strength of the team maybe gauged by the fact that 9 of the team made the final panel of county minor footballers. The team was G. Enright, Cahir; D. Mc Iniry, Cahir; R. Quirke, Cahir; S. Fitzgerald Cashel; S. Mooney Cashel; F. Howlin Cahir; J. Connolly Carrick; P. Croke captain, Killenaule; P. Kiely, Cahir; P. Redigan, Tipp Town; L. Enright, Cahir; J. Costello, Cahir; M. Grace, Tipp Town; J. Lambert, Cahir; J. Ryan, Tipp Town.

Subs: J. O'Connell, Cashel.

Munster u-15 Football Champions

Tipp Town's u-15 footballers had a great win when taking the Munster for a second time. In the process they defeated schools from Kerry, Cork city and Cork county, to demonstrate that when properly prepared Tipp footballers are as good as the rest. In the All-Ireland semi-final they defeated



Tipperary Town Vocational School, Munster Under 15 champions and South Tipp Under 16 champions and Under 14 Football champions 1983

Carrick-on-Shannon. However, in the All-Ireland final they had to give way to a very good Clare team from Co. Offaly. Their coach Pat Moroney, present coach to the county senior footballers, deserves a lot of praise for the manner in which he has brought this team to the fore.

South Tipp Competitions

The committee runs 5 competitions each year. The results of the 1982-83 games were as follows:

Winners	Runners-up
U-18 F. St Joseph's Cahir	Tipp Town
U-16 F. Tipp Town	Carrick-on-Suir
U-16 H. Cashel	Clonmel
U-14 F. Tipp Town	Cashel
U-14 H. Cappawhite	Cashel

All competitions were keenly contested by all the 8 schools. For Cappawhite it was 3-in-a-row at u-14 hurling when they defeated Cashel in Cappawhite in a game that was played at 9.30 in the morning. In Cappawhite great work for hurling is being done by Tom Hickey and John Kelly former Tipp hurler. The G.A.A. should be thankful that in all our schools we have men and women who are willing to take gaelic games i.e. Mick Kelly and Pat Callanan in Carrick, Mathew O'Keeffe and Eleanor Carroll in Clonmel; Liam Rice and Mick Hassett in Killenaule and John Scully in Cashel. However, the G.A.A. should realise that the time

may be soon here when there is no one to take gaelic games in our schools. If that day arrives then G.A.A. will rue its neglect of the schools. While some clubs and field committees have been very helpful to the schools who have no fields of their own. There are others who do not recognise the existence of the schools. One field committees priority appears to be the staging of "big games" while the local schools must travel to play all their games. Schools are also experiencing financial difficulties and may in the future limit the playing of gaelic games. Here again it is amazing to compare the millions of pounds being spent on fields with the paltry sums being granted to schools. In fact South Tipp receives no financial assistance from the County Board. However, there now appears to be some awareness at County Board level of the Vocational Schools and we can only hope that a clear communication between Boards, County and Divisional clubs and schools will lead to the further development of gaelic games in the Vocational Schools.

In South Tipp the committee that has the running of our games is as follows:

Chairman: Liam Rice, Killenaule
Vice-Chairman: John Kelly, Cappawhite
Secretary: Colm O'Flaherty, Cashel
Treasurer: John Scully, Cashel

Each school has a representative on the committee.

Thanks

To the many park committees who willingly and freely make their pitches available to us at all times of the year—our sincere thanks; to the park committees who consistently refuse to do so we express our grave disappointment.

A meeting was held recently between representatives of North and South Tipp V.E.Cs and officials of Tipperary County Board in an effort to alleviate some of the problems now confronting the schools. It is to be hoped that following this meeting a more positive and co-operative approach will be adopted by all park committees in the future.

Conclusion

To our gallant band of referees who make themselves available to us at all times in all types of weather — our heartfelt thanks.

The dedication of all our teachers in the preparation of teams is clearly reflected in the rising standards as is evident over the past few years. I know that our teachers will "rise above" the adverse of the cut backs in education and continue to show their great commitment to promoting gaelic games in our schools.

Finally I would urge everyone to make our centenary year one to remember in each of our schools.

Wishing all concerned a very sporting and successful '84.

THE GENIUS OF TONY REDDIN

BY SEAMUS KING

To write about Tony Reddin is no easy task. Not because his exploits are few—they are indeed many—but because of the difficulty of describing adequately the greatness of the man and the multitudes he inspired. I have a friend from Westmeath from whom Tony Reddin was a childhood hero who blazed across the horizon of his young years and left an impression that is still indelible thirty years later. He is one of many whom Tony inspired by his goal-keeping brilliance inside and outside Tipperary and far and wide in the world.

Who was this man that made the name of Lorrha a household word the length and breadth of Ireland? The parish of Lorrha became the kingdom of Tony and to say one was from there was sure to bring the response: "Oh! Tony Reddin's country." But Tony wasn't from Lorrha but was born on the other side of the Shannon in Mullagh, Co. Galway about fifteen miles as the crow flies from the parish of his adoption. It was in February 1947 that Tony cycled across the bridge of Portumna to start a new chapter in his life.

A Galway Career

Some people are of the impression that Tony had no pre 1947 hurling existence. This is to miss a chapter of his life that is important. He has many hurling medals in his possession but one that he cherishes and has a special place for is a county juvenile medal he won with Mullagh in 1933. It is the only county medal he won and he is immensely proud of it. He played centre-field. He won a divisional junior medal with Mullagh in the late thirties and found his place on the Galway junior team of 1940. They beat Roscommon in the Connaght final but went down narrowly to Cork 3-3 to 3-1 in the All-Ireland at Limerick. In 1941 he was promoted to senior ranks and played with Galway against Dublin at Roscrea. On that day Lorrha man, Christy Forde, played a blinder in the Dublin goal. In the same year he made the Connaght Railway Cup team that was trounced by Munster.

An impressive if not spectacular record. For the next few years he lost interest in the game and doesn't appear again until 1946 when he played full-forward with Galway in the Monaghan Cup game at London against Tipperary. Tony scored a point and Galway lost by a narrow margin. At the opposite end of the field for Tipperary

that day was Tony Brennan, who was later to form such a harmony with Reddin. Later that year we find Tony sub-goalie on the Galway team that went down to Cork in the All-Ireland semi-final at Birr.

The man who crossed the Shannon the following year has been variously known. Programmes and newspapers have called him Tony or Anthony and Reddan, Reddin and even Redden. Probably, the most common usage has been Tony Reddan. How did a man, who was christened Martin Charles Reddington end up with the name of Tony Reddan? Despite what his birth certificate states the family were always known as Reddins. Tony's father, Mick, was never known as anything except Mick Reddin. Tony had a pet name, 'Thaudy', and when he came to Lorrha people thought it was 'Tony' and they began to call him by that name. As Tony himself says: 'Nobody ever asked me what I was called: they just called me "Tony Reddan" and the name stuck'. Tony is known by his birth certificate name on his first passport, got in 1950. On his current one he signs himself 'Tony Reddin', the name by which everybody knows him. And this clarifies the second point: his name is Reddin, nothing else. It's the name of his wife and children.

First Games in Tipperary

Tony's reputation as a goalkeeper had preceded him and he got his first opportunity to show his prowess when Fr O'Meara went to him in Holy Week and asked him to play on Easter Sunday. St Vincents of Dublin were coming to Rathcabbin to play Lorrha in a challenge game that was to be the beginning of a long friendship between the two clubs. Tony turned up, had a good game and Lorrha were beaten by a point. It is interesting to record that this was his first match in Tipperary, in the quiet backwater of Rathcabbin. His last match for Tipperary was to be in the bustling city of New York in October ten years later.

Tony won his first medal in Tipperary when Lorrha won a tournament against Kilruane in May of that year. The Lorrha team had just gone senior, having been intermediate for the previous six years. Tony played in the championship, had some fine saves in the first round against Borrisokane and against Roscrea 'brought off some wonderful close clearances'. In the

semi-final against Borrisileigh, Reddin had a poor game and was taken out to centre-field in the second-half. Lorrha lost and that put an end to activity for that year.

1948 was a memorable year for Lorrha. After twenty-one years they won the North final and the man who led the revival was none other than Tony Reddin. They beat Borrisokane, Roscrea and Kiladangan on the way to the final. Against Kiladangan Reddin was 'man of the match.'

However, it was in the North final against Borrisileigh on 22 August at Nenagh that Reddin became famous. With a gale force wind in the first-half Lorrha ran up a lead of 4-3 to 0-4. In the second-half Borrisileigh had a downpour behind them and they attacked the Lorrha goal with everything in their arsenal in an attempt to get back on top. They tried for goals again and again, when points went abegging, and Reddin stopped the ball with mechanical ease and flung it back in their face. Borrisileigh scored twice, early and late in the half, but it wasn't enough. Lorrha had won, scoring 1-1 on top of their half-time tally, and the parish and further afield sung the praises of a new goalkeeping star. Lorrha won the semi-final against Cashel but went down heavily to Holycross in the final. In both games Reddin's contribution was way above that of average men.

His Genius

Why was Reddin so brilliant? It may be a good place to analyse the quality of his greatness. Many people remember Reddin as a big man going high for the ball, catching it securely and bursting out amid a welter of hurleys, to clear well up the field. It will come as a surprise to learn that Tony is not a big man. He stands 5'9" and, at the height of his career in the early fifties he never weighed more than eleven and a half stone! He was a very fit man. He trained for the position as keenly as another might train for centre-field. Running crosscountry, jumping over hedges and ditches and building up his arms made him the strong player he was. He had the eye of a hawk, some might even say of compensatory quality, for defects in his oral and aural senses. Neighbours have commented on how sharp that eyesight was and is in spotting someone at a distance. He was no mere ball stopper but a player who completed the act by clearing the ball down the



Tipperary Team— League final v Cork at Croke Park, October 1948

Back row, l. to r.: Phil Purcell, P. Kenny, Pat Stakelum, Tom Wall, Paddy Furlong, Paddy Fleming, W. Wall, W. Nugent, Mick Ryan, Johnny Ryan, Tommy Purcell.

Front row, l. to r.: Billy Hogan, Jim Devitt, Tony Reddan, Bob Stakelum, Tommy Doyle, Jack Ryan, Paddy Madden, Paddy Fahy.

field. He was equally good on the right or the left side and this again came from constant practice. He sharpened his reflexes by belting a ball against a rough stone wall from short distances and catching the ball in his hand as it rebounded in different directions. Probably his greatest ability was a sensitive touch allied with the tilting of the hurley's face at an angle which enabled him to kill even the fastest ball dead so that it rolled down the hurley into his hand as if by the genius of a master magician. Finally, Tony used no 'half-door' of a hurley to stop the ball. His was of ordinary size and he had the same stick for most of his hurling career, a heavy, many hooped, ugly-looking affair.

Reddin's proven ability in the championship won him his place on the county team. His first appearance was at Birr (significantly the last place he played with Galway) against Offaly in the league. He had a fine debut. He played the delayed 1947-48 league final against Cork on 31 October and Tipperary lost but one of the redeeming features of the game was 'the splendid goalkeeping of Reddin'. The report on his next match against Clare stated that 'Reddin has a quick eye, a keen sense of anticipation and he is very lively on his feet'. Tipperary played Limerick on 21 November and we read: "Very soon they (Limerick) got a taste of the excellence of Tony Reddin in our goal. A loose forward picked up a ball fifteen yards out and let fly. Believe it or not Reddin trapped down the ball and cleared it to the left. Not since a historic

day in Thurles long ago when Pat Scanlan saved point blank from Tommie Treacy had I seen a save like that'. The last match of the year was against his native Galway and again the reports sang his praises. 'Reddin has certainly captured the popular imagination. His saves are all of a colourful variety. It was not an uncommon thing to see the Lorrha man emerge from a crowded goalmouth to clear well outfield or to stop a point blank shot that seemed to be going all the way for the back of the net'. And, in his column in the 'Tipperary Star' Winter Green wrote: 'In Tony Reddin we have a smashing goalie. On Sunday he lived up to all the nice things I have been writing about him of late. He is coolness personified, has the eye of a hawk and has a hefty clearance'. Opposite him Sean Duggan looked moderate by comparison and Duggan was the best goalie in the game until now! The League final was on 27 February and it was Tony's first outing at Croke Park. It was also the first day that Tony Brennan played in front of him at full-back, the beginning of a great partnership. Tipperary won by two points and Tony won his first medal for Tipperary. The victory ended Tipperary's four years in the hurling wilderness.

His Achievements

Reddin was to win five more league medals with Tipperary plus two in the American series against New York. He travelled to the U.S. in 1950 and, to play his last match, in October 1957.

On both occasions mechanical troubles interrupted their take-off from Shannon. He won three Munster and three All-Ireland medals. And, they might have been six but for Cork! He was picked for Ireland on five occasions, which was the equivalent of Carroll's All-Stars and won four cups. He won two divisional medals. In the context of the present barren period of Tipperary hurling a veritable treasure trove of achievement.

Reddin's first championship match with Tipperary was against Cork at Limerick on 29 May 1948. Tony was then thirty years of age and many another sportsman would be retiring. It is interesting to mention that Mick Roche retired at twenty-nine! In Tony's case the most brilliant chapter in his career was just beginning. The game was barely started when Tony was awakened to the realities of Munster championship hurling when Gerry Murphy found the net from a Christy Ring centre. He recovered as did Tipperary and went on to draw the game. The replay was a month later and 'Winter Green' reported: "It was the roughest and toughest exhibition of unclean hurling that has been seen for many a long day'. It has been referred to as the 'Match of the Bandages', so many were wrapped in white headgear by the end of the game. And, at that end, it was another draw! Extra time had to be played and it was the only time that Tipperary outwitted Cork! Paddy Leahy ushered the Tipperary players into the dressingroom to await the resumption. There they were

washed, refreshed, redressed and re-bandaged and returned to the field after twenty minutes reasonably refreshed men. In contrast the Cork players had remained on the field in the blazing sunshine and were now wilting from exhaustion. One Tipperary man was also wilting: Reddin. He got a knee injury at the end of the first-half and was barely able to walk. He spent the half-time trying to keep the knee from stiffening up. He wanted a substitute to replace him but he was persuaded to resume and had the satisfaction of helping Tipperary to win by a mere two points. In that replay John Doyle made his senior debut for Tipperary and completed the last line of defence which was to be such a solid phalanx for a number of years.

Some Highlights

It is not the intention of this article to trace the fortunes of Tony over the next seven years but to mention a few of the high points. He remembers the Munster final on 23 July 1950 against Cork at Killarney as the toughest match he ever played. The last ten minutes are vivid in his memory when the game hung in the balance. The overflow crowd of 55,000 had encroached on to the pitch so much that referee, Bill O'Donoghue of Limerick had to stop the game for ten minutes until the pitch was cleared. No sooner had the game restarted than the encroachment resumed around Tony's goal and became so bad that, as he looked left and right, he found himself in the horn of a half moon. Bottles, cans and sods were raining on his goals. Anytime a ball came in he was teased, barracked and even pushed. He remembers in particular one spectator, whom he refers to as 'Black Coat', catching him by the jersey as he ran out to clear a ball. He drew back with his hurley and contacted. He got away from the grip and cleared up the field. Ring appealed to the crowd to relent but they ignored him. He flattened Lynch during one clearance and a little later, as Tony was clearing, Lynch ran at him. At the final moment before contact Tony swerved and saw Lynch crashing into the goalpost.

Still another time as he was saving a ball a topcoat was thrown at him. He cleared the ball and then began to belt the coat on the ground with his hurley in an attempt to cut it to ribbons. He regrets that the instrument wasn't sharp enough for the job and the coat escaped. The final attack on him was to collapse the net from which Tony escaped in the nick of time. Tony had one satisfaction during the whole unruly period. A Cork forward sent in a high ball. It was close to the post. As a result of pressure from the crowd the goalpost had been loosened. Tony swung on the post and in pulling it towards himself made the ball wide. When the final whistle sounded to a

Tipperary victory. Tony found himself under the protection of a number of priests. Fr O'Meara gave him a hat and a short coat and covered him up as best he could but he was unable to leave the field until well after the game. As fitting a tribute as there could be to the quality of his play!

It is at the end of his career that the next match was played, 6 May 1956 at Dublin and the opponents Wexford. Tipperary were leading by 2-10 to 0-2 at half-time with a gale in their backs. Nobody believed Wexford could get back into the game but they did and crashed home five goals in the second-half, the first from Nicky Rackard within three minutes of resumption. Tony remembers the day only too well. He wasn't in good shape, his back was at him. He didn't have the power or the agility that were usual for him. The newspapers said he was gone. In the 'Tipperary Star', the reporter said: 'Now the sad fact must be faced that Reddin is not as good as he was. In his best form he would have saved at least three, if not the whole five, of the shots that beat him on Sunday. He was at fault for two of the goals and the second miss proved disastrous'. A big change from the glowing notices he had been accustomed to! However, everyone did not agree. In the same paper 'Winter Green' was of this opinion: 'Others blame Tony Reddin. True he was beaten five times in the second half but what goalie could have saved any of the five balls which beat him'. Regardless of this defence the selectors believed that Tony had gone over the top and gave expression to that belief when they dropped him for the Monaghan Cup two weeks later in favour of Blackie Keane. The latter had a good game and was chosen for the championship match against Cork. Tipperary lost this game in which Keane wasn't really tested.

Indian Summer

However, Tony was not gone. In that Summer of 1956 he played some of the finest hurling of his career and confounded his critics. Toomevara and Borrisleigh in the semi-final and final respectively. The scores in these games are revealing. Against Toomevara it was 5-1 to 1-10 and against Borrisleigh it was 4-8 to 0-18. Both games were a tribute to Tony's brilliance and they have become part of the folklore of the parish.

This Indian Summer brilliance was enough to get Reddin back on the Tipperary team. He played in the league against Galway on 14 October but wasn't tested. The only shot that beat him was doubled on overhead from close range. In the next match against Antrim he had a mediocre game and let in one easy shot. He was adequate against Westmeath the following February but was dropped again, in favour of Blackie Keane, for the match against

Clare on 31 March. Tipperary won the league in May 1957 with Keane in goal. It was Tony's sixth league medal and won him a trip to New York the following October. He played one game in the U.S. and this was his last match with Tipperary. In the Munster championship the previous Summer Tony wasn't even a substitute on the Tipperary team that was beaten 5-2 to 1-11. Blackie Keane let in three goals in the first-half and was replaced by Eddie Moloughney at half-time. In the course of his account on the Tipperary Star the reporter stated: "How the Tipperary supporters longed on Sunday for a goalkeeper of Tony Reddin's calibre."

1957 was the last year that Tony appeared in a hurling jersey. He was already a legend. The previous year, after the North final, he had married Maura Smyth of Lelagh, Rathcabbir and had settled down to live at the Pike, where he farmed a little, continued to make hurleys and provided a hackney service in a car. ARI 791, that was known far and wide. In 1960 he got a job with Boar na Mona and he has been with the company since.

In 1963 the Reddins moved to Banagher and built a house in Cuba Street where they live to this day. In the early seventies Tony offered his services to the local St Rynagh's club and under his tutelage the club has had tremendous success. Since his involvement began the club has won eight county finals and is a household name in the club championship competition.

Tony is still a fresh man and has worn his years well. He is an enthusiastic talker on hurling and can recall with vividness highlights of his career. He is an unassuming man who hasn't been changed by his high place in the pantheon of great hurlers. Was he the greatest goalkeeper of all time? Without a doubt he towered above all others in his own time and it is difficult to imagine anyone better at any other time. His natural ability allied to his professional preparedness made him unique. It is probably this memory of his own training habits that makes him put coaching first in his priorities for building up a team. But, whether he was the greatest or not doesn't matter. What does matter is the entertainment he gave people, the magic he flashed before their eyes as he stopped impossible shots and charged like a whirlwind through backs and forwards to send the ball back into enemy territory. We were all immensely proud of Reddin. He put our remote parish firmly on the map of hurling. He helped us to win two divisional finals. He gave us a pride in where we belong. In the wider arena he was foremost in the long battle with Cork for supremacy in Munster hurling. It is difficult to leave the man because memories keep flashing and they are the most brilliant we have known.

ABBAY CBS

HARTY CUP CAMPAIGN 1958—59

by Tom O'Donoghue

This Autumn, 25 years ago, began the extraordinary series of hurling games that led to the Abbey C.B.S. winning its first and only Harty Cup championship. Having no record of previous success in this, the senior hurling championship of Munster, there seemed little chance for such a small school among the elite of Flannans, North Monastery or Limerick C.B.S. However Rev. Br O'Donnell instilled a tremendous spirit into his charges and a thrilling campaign through the Winter of 1958 and the Spring of 1959 concluded with victory for the Abbey, in a 'heart-attack' final at Limerick Gaelic Grounds.

Ennis C.B.S. provided fancied opposition for the opening encounter, played at the Limerick Gaelic Grounds. Strict training during September and October had the team in good shape and the Abbey boys ran Ennis into the ground to lead by 2-3 to nil long before half time was reached. In the second half however Ennis C.B.S. rallied and half way through that period the score stood at 2-3 to 1-3— just one goal separating the sides. The training sessions paid rich dividends at this stage and the Abbey scoring machine got moving, leaving the final score, Abbey C.B.S. 6-3; Ennis C.B.S. 2-6.

Versus Limerick C.B.S. 13—11/'58.

Followers of the team were delighted to see the Abbey in the quarter final of the Munster senior colleges championship, but with a strong Sexton St team from Limerick — they had five members of the All Ireland winning Limerick minor side— as opponents, hopes were muted enough. The very worst fears seemed well founded when the Limerick boys led by 4-1 to 0-1 after twenty minutes play. Two goals by Frankie Condon steadied the Abbey team and the short whistle saw Limerick ahead by 4-3 to 2-1.

In the second period the Abbey seemed to be a completely different team and with Frankie Condon playing a captain's part the whole forward division ran riot, scoring five goals and six points. Limerick C.B.S. were completely overwhelmed and failed to raise a flag during the final thirty minutes. Final score, Abbey C.B.S. 7-7, Limerick C.B.S. 4-3.

The Training

Now that the team had reached the Munster semi-final, hopes were springing of a possible Harty success, but if the training was strict during the Autumn months, the Winter sessions proved even more severe. With the original

Sean Treacy Park at Scallagheen sold and the new pitch at the barracks not yet developed, the panel had no full sized pitch to train on. However, though the Monastery field was just a little small its excellent dry, sandy surface was ideal for Winter hurling and Br O'Donnell saw to it that hours of training went on.

The Abbey C.B.S. closed for the Christmas holidays as usual in 1958, but the hurling stints went on all through the vacation. Players lost pounds weight and gained speed and agility, strength and timing. Each panel member had to drink his portion of milk under the trainers watchful eye.

The semi-final 1/3/'59.

"In blazing sunshine I sat beneath the shadow of the old military barracks in Fermoy last Sunday evening and watched history being made."

So wrote DIVOT— the late Bill O'Donnell— G.A.A. correspondent for the 'Nationalist', about the Abbey's victory over Mount Sion of Waterford, in the Harty semi-final on the score, Abbey C.B.S. 5-7; Mount Sion 1-5.

Mount Sion C.B.S. had defeated Thurles, famed in former Harty tussles, and the Waterford boys were a much fancied outfit. Physically stronger than



Abbey CBS Harty Cup Champions 1958/'59

Back row, l. to r.: A. O'Dwyer, M. McCormack, C. O'Dwyer, P. Griffin, J. Blake, B. O'Sullivan, T. Rafferty, J. O'Donoghue, B. Beary, S. O'Donoghue.

Middle row, l. to r.: J. Cummins, M. Cleary, P. O'Dwyer, A. Hueston, F. Condon, M. Kirby, L. Ryan, Wm Greene, S. O'Reilly.

Front row, l. to r.: T. Naughton, J. McCarthy, J. Condon, J. Finnan, D. O'Dwyer, M. Walsh.

the Tipp players, the Mount Sion team looked a handful, until a three minute scoring spree by the Abbey midway through the first moiety put the green-shirted brigade in the driving seat. Outstanding once more at centre forward Frankie Condon it was who secured these three vital scores. At half time the Abbey led by 3-3 to 1-2.

Early in the second half Mount Sion rallied to reduce the deficit, but once more the superior fitness and spirit of the Abbey team were turned into scores and the Tipp town school found itself in its first Harty final, by a margin of no less than fourteen points at the last whistle.

Harty final 21/3/59

The build up to the big game during the days before brought the town of Tipperary almost to a standstill. All games in West Tipp were called off on the big day to allow the whole division to support the team. With players from Tipperary, Bansha, Aherlow-Gal-

bally, Lattin-Cullen, Annacarty, Donaskeigh, Oola and Dromkeen parishes involved, droves of followers made their way by train, coach and motor car to the Limerick Gaelic Grounds for the encounter.

Flannans were going for their third Harty win in a row; they had the added incentive of achieving a notable double if they could defeat the Abbey boys, as the Ennis College won the Munster Colleges senior football trophy on the previous Sunday, 14th March.

The final was a marvellous game, brimful of skill and excitement. Though Flannans were undoubtedly the favourites, the game proved to be a cliff-hanger from start to finish. At half time the favourites led by 1-3 to 0-5 and when they went into a three point lead midway through the second half, things looked bleak for the Tipp C.B.S. The Flannans team were looking good and led by two clear points with only minutes remaining for play, but a palmed goal from Abbey Captain Frankie Condon put the challengers ahead and

when the Tipp team added a further point, a fairytale had indeed come through.

If Tipperary town was deserted on the March afternoon it was packed that night. The team and their trainer Br O'Donnell were paraded through the town and the excitement of the occasion knew few bounds.

"Divot" in his "Nationalist" report summed up the achievement of this exceptional team when he wrote that in "conquering Flannans they proved themselves a team of exceptional merit and a credit to themselves and to all who, in any way, contributed to their preparation for this great trial of strength."

The team that won the day in Limerick was: John O'Donoghue (goal), Wm Greene, Paudie Griffin, Christy O'Dwyer, Ml McCormack, Ml Cleary, Seamus O'Donoghue, Sean O'Reilly, Jim Blake, Leo Ryan, Frank Condon (capt.), Ailbe Hueston, Petey O'Dwyer, Bobby Sullivan, Ml Kirby.

HURLING IN TIPP BEFORE THE GAA

"Many's the Sunday and holiday evening I stole away with my hurly under my arm to join the invigorating game . . . Now national pastimes are fast dying out; we seem to get ashamed of everything national."

The author goes on to lay the blame for the decline on the famine years and on the landlord dominated government of the day. Later he goes on to describe the game.

"The place selected was generally some broad level green field. Old and young, matrons and maidens, all brimful of anticipated enjoyment, collect to the trysting place.

All preliminaries being arranged by the elders, twenty one young men at a side were selected. The spectators then retired to the ditches, and the ball was thrown up among the rival parties.

The ball was struck here and there, often pucked up in the air, then hit again before it reached the ground. Such lucky hits were acknowledged by cheers from the spectators. Then, by tumbling, tossing, feint blows, and the like, at length one party succeeded in driving it to the goal, amidst a peal of shouts and hurrahs from the friends of the victors."

Later, he describes an old man speaking of the game in his own time—"When the priest and the gentlemen used to head us, and we were all dressed out like jockeys in jackets and caps, and the green was all roped; them

were the times when we used to have the fun."

All this was written in Tipperary some twenty five years before the foundation of the G.A.A. in 1884. It is taken from "The O'Donnells of Glen Cottage" by D. P. Conyngham, of which the first version was published in 1859. Most likely that game was played in or near the author's native place, Crohane, Killenaule.

But Conyngham was by no means the only one to lament the passing of the game of hurling in Tipperary. In 1883, the year in which Conyngham died, an essay appeared in a magazine called "The Messenger of St Joseph" published by Fr Prosper Goepfert, President of Rockwell College, and printed in Thurles. The author was P. F. O'Brien of Dublin. In the course of his essay on "Perishing Irish Customs" he remarked, "Hurling was a good old game. I myself remember when hurling had not wholly died out; and when the boys of a parish, after Sunday Mass had many a tussle and "puck". The most of the hurlers are now beyond the Atlantic Wave, and the remainder go whistling vacantly about the roads at home. Our school-boys have permanently settled down to cricket, but our farmers sons no longer interest themselves in the rounding of a boss or the "feel" of a hockey."

This was published only a few months before the G.A.A. was founded in Hayes Hotel on 1st November 1884.

The sentiments are practically identical with those expressed by Dr Croke in the letter in which he consented to become a patron of the new Association.

"Ball-playing, hurling, football-kicking, according to Irish rules, casting, leaping in various ways, wrestling, handy-grips, top-pegging, leapfrog, rounders, tip-in-the-hat, and all such favourite exercises and amusements, amongst men and boys may now be said to be not only dead and buried, but in several localities to be entirely forgotten and unknown."

No doubt His Grace would now be astonished to learn that some of the games he mentioned have even their names forgotten a century later, and even more so that one of them has, across the Atlantic, with some changes, developed into the American national game of baseball.

The great definitive history of hurling is, beyond doubt, "Scéal na Iomána" by Liam P. O Caithnia. Included in this work are details of the history of the game in each county. Only in Tipperary itself is there a shortage of this. Yet there is evidence the game was not quite dead in 1884.

The first rules seem to have been written by Maurice Davin; but he may have adapted them from some existing set of rules, now lost. Certainly the game as described by Conyngham does appear to have had similar rules to those written by Davin.



BORRISOLEIGH—COUNTY SENIOR HURLING CHAMPIONS 1983

Back row, l. to r.: Timmy Stapleton, T. F. Stapleton, Gerry Stapleton, Rd Stakelum, Philip Kenny, John McGrath, Bobby Ryan, Timmy Ryan.
 Front row, l. to r.: Noel Maher, Owen Walsh, Mick Ryan, Noel O'Dwyer, Michael Coan, Timmy Delaney, Aidan Ryan.



LOUGHMORE-CASTLEINEY—COUNTY SENIOR FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS 1983

Back row, l. to r.: P. Cahill, J. Treacy, P. Lynch, J. Geehan, T. Connolly, J. Kiely, G. Stapleton, M. Kiely, J. Cornack,
S. Fogarty, M. Meagher, P. Treacy.
Front row, l. to r.: T. Connolly, J. Healy, M. Walshe, M. McGrath, P. Brennan, T. Ryan, captain, E. Brennan, P. McGrath,
T. McGrath, F. McGrath, R. Egan.

THE PREMIER COUNTY

100 Years of Headlines

1884— G.A.A. founded in Thurles on 1/11/1884.

Maurice Davin Carrick-on-Suir elected first President of the Association. The Davin Brothers were responsible for drawing up the first rules; Maurice the football and Pat the hurling.

1886— In December the first County Board was formed at a meeting held in the Nenagh Literary Institute.

1887— Tipp beat Galway 1-1 to 0-0 to win the first All Ireland Senior Hurling final.

1888— Maurice Davin elected as President for the second time.



1889— W. J. Spain of Tipp was the first man to win dual All Ireland Senior medals. Senior Football (1887) Limerick Commercials and Senior Hurling with Dublin Kickhams (1889)

1895— Tipp win the All Ireland Senior double— first county to do so.

1898— First man to captain three All Ireland Senior Hurling winning teams Mickey Maher of Tubberadora 1895, 1896, 1898.

1900— The Premier County achieve the Senior double for the second time.

1906— Senior (h.) final played in Carrick-on-Suir on 24th June. Kilkenny beat Cork 1-9 to 1-6 to take the 1904 title.

1910— County Senior hurlers went on continental tour to Brussels and Fontenoy.

1911— A team of Irish American hurlers visited their native land.

1912— Tipp beat Louth 1-5 to 1-4 to take the inaugural Junior Football Championship.

1918— Rockwell College brought the Harty Cup to Tipp in the first year of the competition.

1920— On 17th March Archbishop Harty laid the foundation stone of the Croke Memorial in Thurles. Sunday 20th November is long remembered in Tipperary history. A day when crown forces sprayed Croke Park with a hail of bullets during the Dublin v Tipp Senior Football challenge game. Tipperary's Mick Hogan of Grangemockler was one of 15 people shot, sixty were wounded.

1926— Tipp travelled to the U.S.A. as All Ireland champions. The party sailed in May and returned in July. They were unbeaten in games played in New York, Boston, Chicago, San Francisco, Buffalo.

1930— A Triple Crown of All Ireland titles for Tipp Minor Hurling, Junior Hurling and Senior Hurling.

1934— 50th Anniversary of the Association Congress held in Thurles. Three minor hurling titles in a row were completed in 1934 and the minor football was added to Tipp's record.

1937— The only all Senior Hurling final in modern times played outside Croke Park was in Killarney. Tipp ousted Kilkenny 3-11 to 0-3.

1941— The "Foot and Mouth" year. Tipp won Munster but Cork took the All Ireland.

1949— Minor Hurling and Senior Hurling titles won. The Irish Press Cup was presented for the first time and once again Tipp had another "first".

1950— Jimmy Kennedy scored 3-6 v Limerick in the Munster Championship.

1951— The All Ireland Senior Hurling title was captured for the third year in succession.

1956— The National Hurling League final at Croke Park drew a record attendance of 45,902. Wexford beat Tipp 5-9 to 2-14.

1957— Three more All Ireland Minor (H.) titles in a row for Tipp. Jimmy Doyle played in his fourth final in succession and gained his third medal in the grade.

1958— Tony Wall captained Tipp to the Senior Hurling title and also became the first man to win the "Hurler of the Year Award" presented by Caltex.

1961— Liam Devaney won the "Caltex Award".

1962— Tom Moloughney is credited with scoring the fastest goal in a Senior Hurling final. He had the ball in the Wexford net after 80 seconds. Tipp 3-10, Wexford 2-11.



1964— Another double in hurling u-21 and Senior Hurling. Inaugural year of u-21 (h.) grade. John Doyle won the "Caltex Award".

1965— Tipp won the Senior Hurling title for the 21st time. John Doyle won his eighth senior medal. Jimmy Doyle won the "Caltex Award".

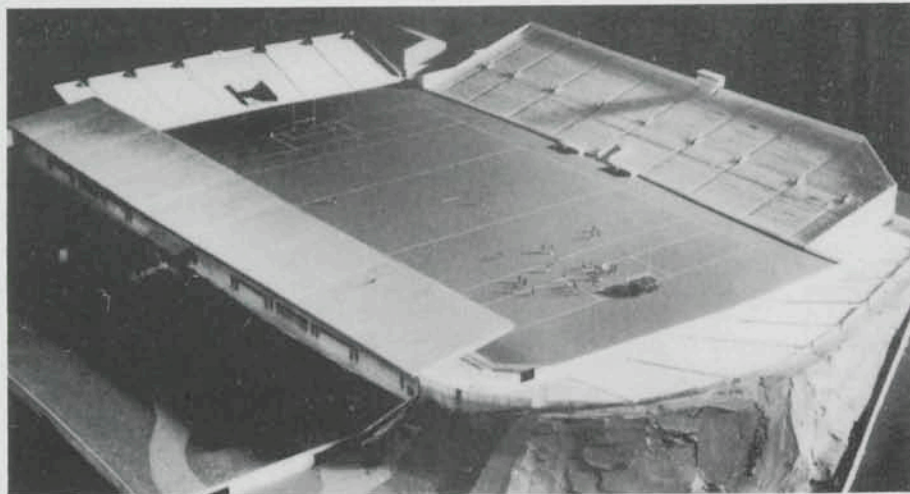
1971— Féile na nGael was founded in Thurles and also held there in 1972. Roscrea won the first All Ireland club title by beating St Rynagh's Offaly 4-5 to 2-5. Michael "Babs" Keating won the "Caltex Award."

1972— Michael Keating added a Railway Cup (F.) medal to his (H.) awards of 1968, 1970.

1980— All Ireland double for Tipp Minor Hurling and u-21 (Hurling).

1981— The All Ireland u-21 (H.) title was captured for the third year in succession and the Munster title for the fourth year.

Seán O'Driscoll



MY FIRST TRAIN JOURNEYS

Pilib O Duibhir

No county finals were played in 1920 or 1921, owing to "The Troubles." When the games resumed again, the finals for 1922, 1923 and 1924 were played on a divisional basis for senior hurling, while the senior football titles were won by Fethard for those years. Mid had won the '22 Senior Hurling title, but North Tipp reversed that decision for '23.

I was present at the 1924 Senior Hurling final in Fethard and that was the occasion of my first train journey. My father drove the pony and trap from Tubberadora to Horse & Jockey to catch the train for Fethard. The old branch-line, long since gone, from Thurles to Clonmel had intermediate stations at Horse & Jockey, Laffansbridge, Farnaleen and Fethard. Jim Flanagan and Johnny Connolly, two of the old Tubberadora stalwarts came with us in the trap, as well as Jim's son, Peter, my bosom pal.

Mid had beaten North Tipp in the Co. semi-final and faced South Tipp in the final. There was no West Division at the time, not until 1930. Boherlahan had affiliated in the South for 1924 where they remained for eleven years. Holy Cross was also in South Tipp, for 1924 only. Boherlahan supplied nine of the South team in Johnny Leahy (capt.), Paddy Leahy, Arthur O'Donnell, Jack Power, Paddy Power, Paddy O'Dwyer, Joe Nagle, Mick Ryan and Martin Flanagan. Cashel had Jimmy Hickey and George O'Connell: Solohead, Stephen Moloney and Bill Gorman (goalie). Cappawhite was represented by Tim Kearns and Holy Cross by the inimitable Phil Cahill. South Tipp won easily on the score of 803 to 1 goal. I have not many memories of the game but I'll never forget the great exhibition given by Phil Cahill.

Second Outing

I had my second train journey the following year (1925). Tipp were playing Cork in the Munster semi-final at the Markets' Field Limerick. I had seen Cork beat Limerick in Thurles in the first round. It was a Boherlahan selection. The local players and supporters boarded the train at Ardmoyle (in Boherlahan parish), the only station on the old branch line, from Gould's Cross to Cashel. We had to travel in cattle-wagons from Ardmoyle to Goulds Cross. Talk of your first class, or even third class. Johnny Leahy was with the team but was unable to play, due



Boherlahan Selection (South) County Champions 1924

*Back row: Martin Flanagan, Wm Gorman, George O'Connell, Stephen Moloney, Arthur O'Donnell, Jim Hickey, Mick Ryan (father of Rev. Liam), Joe Nagle, Paddy Power, Dick Grace, Johnny Maher (uncle of Jim, ex-chairman Mid).
Front row: Tim Kearns, Ned Browne, Phil Cahill, Paddy Leahy, John Leahy, Jack Power, Paddy O'Dwyer.*

to sickness. I felt very proud, because the captain for the day was Jack Power, who was working with us, in Tubberadora. It was the first Cork-Tipp encounter I ever saw and was a great game. Tipp led at half-time by 4-2 to one goal, but Cork showed their mettle in the second half and Tipp had only two points to spare at the finish on the score of 5-3 to 5-1. Sean Og Murphy led the Rockies selection. Mickey Leahy had played for them against Limerick, but did not line-out against his old comrades from Tipp. Phil Cahill starred in the blue and gold. He was marking Dannix Ring of the 'Barrs, one of the greatest ball players ever produced in Cork, who had been a member of the Irish team in the Tailteann Games of the previous year. He never appeared on a Cork championship team again. That speaks volumes for the display of Phil Cahill. Martin Kennedy was in his best form that day also although marked by the great Seán Og himself. The Tipp team was Jack Power (captain), Paddy Leahy, Arthur O'Donnell (goal), Paddy O'Dwyer, Paddy Power (Boherlahan); John Joe

Hayes, Bill Ryan, Martin Mockler (Moycarkey-Borris), Martin Kennedy, Stephen Hackett (Toomevara), Mick Darcy, Jack Darcy (Nenagh); Tom Duffy, Lorrha; Phil Cahill, Holy Cross and Billex Quinn (Thurles). Time has dimmed some of my memories of that great game, but not the display of Mick Darcy at centre-field which had to be seen to be believed.

Blue and Gold

This was probably the first time that our present county jersey was worn. I say 'probably' because Tipp had beaten Kerry in the first round and I do not know if the team wore the new jerseys in that game. The jersey itself was a thick, woollen one with "Tiobraid Arann" over the gold band and a large blue Shamrock also. The only white was at the back where the numbers were in black. It was a lucky change, because the Premier County went on to win the All Ireland, and Johnny Leahy received the McCarthy Cup to bring it home to Knocknagow for the first time.

ALL IRELAND HURLING TITLE FOR NENAGH CBS

Following many years of narrow and bitter disappointments, Nenagh's cup of joy finally overflowed when, at Semple Stadium on Sunday 8th May, the C.B.S. boys collected their first Senior All Ireland Colleges 'B' title.

After relatively easy victories in their Munster campaign over Scariff and Dungarvan C.B.S., they overcame a fiery Loughrea outfit in the All Ireland semi-final.

With Callan C.B.S., Kilkenny as the opposition in the All Ireland final, the Nenagh boys knew they had a stern test on their hands as Callan lost last year's final to Cashel C.B.S.

From the outset Callan showed their true mettle and after an exciting first half led 1-4 to 0-6. The second half saw all the hurling skills of Tipp. and Kilkenny at their best. The home-side with a "never say die attitude" finally won the day with a two point margin 1-11 to 1-9. The shouts from the stand from their many followers were deafening as Captain, Martin

Hynes, collected the O'Keeffe Cup from Br Malone, formerly of Nenagh.

Congratulations and thanks to the entire panel and their Mentors, Mr V. Kyne and Mr M. Slattery. Thanks too to their families and clubs. The following made up the panel for this magnificent and historic win: Enda Costelloe, John Delaney, Thomas Mulqueen, Michael Reidy, Gerard Gleeson, Martin Hynes (captain), Gerry Hynes, Michael Cleary, Noel O'Meara, James Seymour, Brendan Spillane, Jody Grace, John Donovan, Michael Harty, John Ryan, Andrew Boland, Joseph Quirke, Eamon Spillane, Edmund Ryan, John Cadell, Brian Bergin, Martin Hogan, Patrick Meagher, Noel Cahill, John Grace, Joseph Gilmartin, Michael Minihan, Thomas Kelly and Declan Murray.

A special word of thanks to John Spillane (team manager).

The performance of our under-age teams gives great hope for the coming year. Very good class leagues have been completed for the different age groups this year.

The school took part in the following competitions: Munster: Corn Phádraig—under 18 (winners over Dungarvan C.B.S.); The Dean Ryan Cup under 16 (narrowly defeated by Sexton Street); Pearse Cup under 15 (narrowly defeated by Templemore C.B.S.).

At County level the school put up good performances (although beaten) in the Fitzgerald Cup under 17 and Croke Cup under 16— both games against Borrisokane.

The Rice Cup competition (under 14 hurling for C.B.S. schools) was very good too. It gave our younger players a great start.

Football: The under 15 footballers took part in the McGrath Cup— the Munster competition— although beaten by St Nessen's Comprehensive School, Limerick, they gave a very creditable performance.

Thanks to all the students, teachers and parents who helped in any way.



Nenagh CBS, Munster and All-Ireland Colleges' Senior Hurling 'B' Champions 1983

Back row, l. to r.: Noel O'Meara (Eire Og), Michael Harty (Toomevara), Michael Reidy (Burgess), Ger Gleeson (Silvermines), Jody Grace (Toomevara), John Delaney (Toomevara), Tom Mulqueen (Eire Og), Brendan Spillane (Toomevara).
Front row, l. to r.: Michael Cleary (Eire Og), Enda Costelloe (Eire Og), Martin Hynes (Eire Og) captain, James Seymour (Portroe), Johnny Ryan (Eire Og), Gerry Hynes (Eire Og), John Dinnan (Moneygall).

Borris Success a Boost for Philly

by
John
O'Grady



Philly Ryan Borrisoleigh with Mick Blake, Ballincurry.

Mick was the Borris and Tipp.
"Rub-man" in the 40s and 50s.

Philly Ryan held court in Cashel of the Kings on county final day. The wheel-chair served as throne. Well-wishers flocked round the man who had personified the Borrisoleigh club. Sympathetic hands reached out to him—later in the day the hands were congratulatory; everybody knew how much the victory meant for a man who'd had a year to test the spirit of the most resilient.

He would never have considered missing such an occasion. "I lived for it, it's a treat to go"—so did he sum up what hurling has meant to him, when I chatted with him in Thurles hospital during the celebrations week. Our hurling talks had been numerous over the years—he behind the counter of his shop, serving the locals as they arrived, getting back to some topical theme of the game when they'd gone their way. And his comments always had point to them, often pungently expressed, with years of playing, refereeing and secretarial experience to back them up.

It was a moving thing to hear the old warrior review his career—you could appreciate how much more than a casual interest hurling is to such men as he—"maybe that's why I never married," he joked, with twinkle in his eye. He loved to have visitors. "They've all been great," he said, "the Board officials, the clubs I played against—all the Sarsfields have been in; the Ryans, Johnny, "Sweeper", Mutt—I couldn't name half the people who have been in for a chat . . . Pat Stake-lum, maybe the best I've seen at centre-back . . . old Boherlahan opponents like Andy Fogarty . . ."

Hurling Background

He could never have escaped being a hurler. Tom Delaney of the Forge who won a Junior All-Ireland, was an uncle—and Philly has a second-cousin relationship to 1983s "Man of the Match" Noel O'Dwyer. His beginnings feature two All-Ireland minor wins, 1933 and '34, in company like Niall Condon, Rev. Phil Purcell, "Mutt" Ryan. He won a county junior as a lad, remembering a match against a team with the surprising name of Thurles St Patrick's, who had Paddy "Whitehead" Maher among them.

Statistics can be boring but they are necessary to give Philly his proper due. Six North championships between 1947 and 1955—and the "odd one

in" the Mid. Tipp of 1949. Six county finals, half of them won, in the seasons 1949, 1950, 1953, and half of them lost (to Sarsfields in 1947, 1952 and 1955). He won four Millar Shields with North—the famous old interdivisional series in which North regularly beat Mid teams of near intercounty background. Mention of the suitlengths tournament against Boherlahan brings a glow of satisfaction—"we were four points down, seven minutes to go. The Kennys were in their prime. We had Finn, Crowley and Stapleton at half-back. Raphael Ryan scored two goals.

"How did ye come to play in the Mid?" I asked. "Well, it was Father J. C. Ryan—his now P.P. in Loughmore—who did most to unite the two sections, Borris and Ileigh. We agreed to play in the North in 1948 and to spend the next year in Mid—a compromise to get us together. We lost to Lorrha in '48—Tony Reddan's first year in Tipp hurling. We beat Knockavilla badly in the 1949 county final." A flash of parochial pride surfaced: "we were the first club to bring the McCarthy Cup to the North Division, with Sean Kenny in 1950 and Jimmy Finn in 1951. We've stayed in the North ever since." He nearly began to tell me about a Co. Limerick junior championship with Bruff, but we agreed to say no more about such matters. . . .

Playing for Tipp

But, naturally, it was his experiences with the county seniors that I most wanted to hear about. I knew already that he had the remarkable record of being a reserve on the 1937 Killarney All-Ireland team—and also fourteen years later, on the 1951 team. "Phil Purcell tried to rule that I could not be both a selector and a member of the panel," he recalled with a laugh. He played for his medal in '37, marking the lately deceased great Cork player John Quirke in the semi-final, because Tommy Treacy was playing in a Dublin final along with Jimmy Cooney. Mention of Cooney just had to advance our talk another year, to 1938 and the famous "Case." The issue was put to the team in Sadlier's Hotel, Limerick, before they lined out against Clare. "They all said to play him and, of course, Clare objected and took the match—it was a terrible blow to Tipp. hurling." He played against Cork in the 1944 semi-final, on the Anacarty, Eire Og selection.

Knowing how prominent he had been as a referee I asked him how he'd got into that department. "Mick Moylan pressed me about 1946, as the North was short of referees. 'The peaks of his career with the whistle were to ref. championship games like Clare v Limerick at Thurles, Kilkenny v Clare in Croke Park; two Tipp finals—Carrick Davins v Sarsfields, draw and replay in 1966, Sarsfields v Holycross in 1965; five North finals, games in Limerick and Clare. 'I arrived in Tulla one day to referee Sixmilebridge and O'Callaghan's Mills, found trenches dug in the goal-mouths—some trouble about an objection.' At the most active period of his refereeing 'we were on the road every Sunday.' He remembers little episodes—"Sarsfields were running away with the 1965 final. Holycross hadn't scored a goal. Doyle said to me—give us an oul' free till I have a belt at a goal. Well, I did. Wall looked at me and said—there wasn't much of a foul in that. There's not much time left either, said I—and Doyle crashed it in."

Views on Game

Philly has seen all the finest hurlers of half a century or more, seen the changes in style and rules. "I don't think it had to be refined to that extent," he commented; "this automatic free out of the square stops the excitement building up. In our time"—he played both full back and full forward—"things were a lot harder." An under-statement indeed! Men he admired? "The best sportsman I met in North Tipperary was John Joe Maher of Roscrea; and the best official was Mick Moylan, who was North secretary for years, in a modest simple way, for forty pounds a year."

The bell tinkled for visitors to think about departing. "I'll be getting the limbs fitted fairly soon," he said, matter-of-factly, to a neighbour who came by. He manoeuvred the wheel-chair deftly round to return to the main ward to watch television. "Oh, by the way," he asked, as I stood up to leave, "what's the best road to Kilmallock?" Borrisoleigh were to meet Patrickswell in the club champions tie on Sunday—and it wouldn't be the same without Philly, that indestructible crag of a "Borris" man.

LOUGHMORE CASTLEINEY

A Versatile Parish

by Michael Dundon

Nothing, they say, succeeds like success, and no group more emphatically establish the truth of this adage than Loughmore-Castleiney club this year. While many have marvelled at the consistency and all round ability of the club's senior players in their pursuit of an unique senior hurling and football county championship double, those in the know are well aware that the quest for honours in both codes at the one time is nothing new to the Mid Tipp stronghold.

Traditionally, Loughmore-Castleiney is a football parish, a bastion of the game in a division not particularly noted for its contributions to football in the county, but back at the start of the seventies hurling began to gain momentum there through the inspiration of Father J. J. O'Rourke who was then curate in the parish. His organisation and commitment to the promotion of the games saw Loughmore-Castleiney sweep all before them in juvenile ranks and from these successes have stemmed the subsequent Loughmore-Castleiney triumphs.

The club won its first ever Mid minor hurling championship in '74 and followed it with successes in '76, '77, '78 and '79, winning the county title in '76 and '79.

But in 1976 and 1979, the club also won the county minor football title, so that in those years they brought off a county double in their grade, and in 1977 when they were beaten in the county minor hurling final, they won the county minor football crown thus being pipped of the double yet again. On top of that, in '78 they figured in both county minor finals, only to lose both.

From this it can be seen that the pursuit of county doubles in the same year, in the same grade, is nothing new

to Loughmore-Castleiney and the boys who came so close to making history at senior level this year, have all collected medals at under-age level, and know all there is to know about the pressures of trying to win championships.

Their big break-through in adult hurling competition came in 1980 when they won the county intermediate title by beating Kildangan, and it is largely that team which represented the club this year. Of course, sight must not be lost of the fact that Loughmore-Castleiney have all the while been a force in football and in the last decade they have won the county senior title on four occasions, '73, '77, '79 and '83, to add to the parish's wins in '55, '46, '40 and '14.



Tom Ryan, Loughmore; referee P. Russell Ailbe Kennedy, Fethard, prior to County Football final.

Fantastic Rally

This year's victory in football had a fairytale ring to it. In the drawn final against Fethard, Loughmore were trailing by seven points with four minutes to play and many of their supporters had left the ground when they staged a fantastic rally which produced two goals and a point to bring the tie to a second game. On the second day Fethard again appeared to have the winning of the game but Loughmore-Castleiney's tremendous spirit and character again came to the surface as they surged to victory.

It was this spirit and character which many felt would enable them to complete the senior double when pitted against Borrisoleigh in the hurling final. En route they had won their first Mid senior hurling championship, when, having suffered defeat at the hands of Moycarkey-Borris the two previous years, they finally got their hands on the trophy for the first time with a memorable win over the then Munster



John Treacy of Loughmore scoring the only goal of the county final, despite T. F. Stapleton's effort.

and county champions at Templemore. Cashel presented more than their share of problems in the quarter-final before Loughmore advanced and it is fair to say at this stage, that while the odds were shortening on the Mid men, not too many as yet viewed them as possible county senior hurling champions.

The manner in which they trounced Carrick Swan in the semi-final won them many admirers, particularly in view of the fact that Swan had ousted a highly regarded Lorrha in their quarter final.

Thus, Loughmore-Castleiney stood on the threshold of the historic double. In previous years, two other clubs had been in the same position but failed. In 1975, Kilruane McDonagh won the football title, defeating by coincidence, Loughmore-Castleiney, but they lost the hurling decider to Moneygall. Back in '62 Sarsfields won the hurling championship, but lost, as Thurles Crokes, to Ardinnan in the football final, and two years previous to that, when they lost the hurling final to Toomevara, they pulled off the football title at the expense of Commercials.

But Borrisoleigh were to be a considerable stumbling block to Loughmore ambition. Predictions that Loughmore's super-fit team would prove too hot a handful for the Borrs men, many of whom are very seasoned campaigners, were unfounded, and in the long run it transpired that Borrisoleigh's vast experience and their strength in depth, were the decisive factors. Had Loughmore-Castleiney had Pat Treacy available for the hour, it would have helped their cause, as Treacy's versatility would have increased the options open to the selectors, but his absence through an injury sustained in the football final replay, was a setback they could ill afford.

Borrisoleigh's three point win in the final was not as indicative of their superiority as one would have expected, but Loughmore-Castleiney lost no cast in this defeat, and as players and supporters reflect on 1983, they have every reason for satisfaction at what was achieved, and bearing in mind that they twice lost the mid final before eventually taking honours, they can look forward with optimism to the coming years. With such a young side, that first ever county senior hurling title cannot be too far off.



Bloody Sunday Survivor Billy Ryan, Laha was at the county final to support his native Loughmore-Castleiney.

A Year to Remember for **Moyle Rovers** **14s**

by Anthony Lonergan

Gaelic games have been played at all levels in the parish of Powerstown and Lisonagh for many years, indeed records show that the first team affiliated was in 1885. The present club was formed in 1928 and has been affiliated almost continuously since then, there being a dormant period in the early fifties.



Jimmy McCarthy, Chairman South Tipp Bord na nOg presenting the "Bill Lafford Memorial Trophy" to John McGrath, captain after the 14 Urban/Rural final v Swan at Kilsheelan.

The club had some successes at adult level, with only one success at underage level in 1965 in the form of A division— 15 hurling championship. In 1976 a committee with responsibility for Juvenile affairs was selected at a special club meeting and the hard work of this dedicated committee in the ensuing years is now beginning to bear fruit. The first south— 14 rural football championship was won in 1982 and failed to Holycross in the county final. The disappointment of that defeat was intense and many felt that with the loss of several key players to the 1983 panel the county title had slipped away. The committee made an early start to this year's campaign with challenge games and training the team began to take shape. Fr Christy Mc Elwee was appointed coach. The draw for the South u-14 football looked formidable to say the least. The team got off to a good start and went from strength to strength accounting for Fethard, Commercials, Ardfinnan and Swan to win the urban/rural championship for the first time. In retaining the rural championship they defeated Cahir, Fethard, Ballingarry and Fr Sheehy's and achieved a notable South double. The neutral followers have no hesitation in voting the urban-rural W. semi-final versus Cashel as the football game of the year, played at a cracking pace

throughout we won by a point. Holycross provided stiff opposition in the rural semi-final, failing in the end to a flurry of scores. We had reached two county finals, the support for the team was incredible, Durlas Og and Golden were our opponents in the urban/rural and rural championships. It was remarkable that both finals ended in draws and only good defensive play in the closing minutes of both games gave us a chance to fight another day. Both replays took place at Boherlahan, the urban-rural game was first and on a very stormy and showery afternoon we again faced Durlas Og. Playing against the elements the team played tremendously to lead at half-time and ran out convincing winners in the end. The first county— 14 football title had been won.

Jubilant Scenes

There were scenes of great jubilation as Fr J. O'Rourke, C.C. presented the Cup to the captain John McGrath. Golden again were worthy opponents in the rural replay and kept our team at full stretch for most of the hour. The clinching scores only coming near the end. The final whistle in this game was indeed sweet music to the team and its mentors, it was at last time to relax. Fr O'Rourke again did the honours amidst scenes of great excitement. The second county title had been won, a truly historic occasion for our club and parish. All club mentors and parishioners are justifiably proud of the achievements of this group of lads during 1983 when they played a total of fourteen games to win both championships. These victories were just reward for a dedicated panel, their



Fr J. O'Rourke, C.C. Channan County Bord na nOg presenting the Fr Meagher Cup to John McGrath, captain Moyle Rovers after County Rural 14 Football final replay v Golden at Boherlahan.

behaviour at all times exemplary bringing credit to themselves, their families and their mentors. We thank the families for their help during the year especially during the holiday period.

Turas to Dublin

An added bonus to this outright win was the Turas na nOg trip to Croke Park on All-Ireland football final day. Bord na nOg had arrangements made for trip, transport, tickets, and meals. The day was thoroughly enjoyed by the team and adults alike. The weather conditions were bad, over enthusiastic Dub supporters did not help the viewing during the senior game. The game itself left a lot to be desired. A tired but happy party arrived home at 10 o'clock from a very pleasant trip. We look forward to these lads making a big contribution to the club in the years ahead. The committee feels that they helped in the development of these lads which will help them to accept the discipline to cope with life generally thus paving the way to making them good citizens.

The purchase of our own playing pitch has become a reality too in 1983. Work is progressing on the site and in the not too distant future the club will have its own pitch and facilities for the youth of the parish.

We hope that the achievements of 1983 will be the springboard to further successes in the future.

"Mol an óige is tiocfaidh sí."



Moyle Rovers— Uunder 14 County Champions 1983

Back row: l. to r.: A. O'Byrne, F. Fennessey, N. Sibley, K. O'Connor, J. Carey, P. Mulhall, J. J. O'Donnell, Paul O'Connor.
Middle row: John Burke, Anthony Lonergan (Sec.), l. to r.: L. Chanke, P. Norris, K. O'Dwyer, N. Darcy, J. O'Brien, M. McGrath, E. McCormack, P. Casey, C. Darcy (Chairman), Fr S. Walsh, Pat O'Connor.
Front row: l. to r. D. Bates, P. McCarthy, B. Boland, R. Boland, J. McGrath (captain), M. Browne, J. Fennessey, A. O'Dwyer.

A Silver Jubilee with a difference

by
Michael
Maher

Unique it was in that it gave recognition to a team of twenty players and two of its selectors who had brought All Ireland honours to Tipperary in Senior Hurling in 1958.

Two of its selectors had passed away. Paddy Leahy the Doyen of them all died in 1966 while Martin Kennedy had only been called to his reward some two months previous to our celebrating the Jubilee. Paddy Kenny of Carrick-on-Suir could not be with us for health reasons while Jim Stapleton and Philly O'Dwyer were in attendance hail and hearty and ever so interested and keen on all hurling lore pertaining to this event. Phil is a mine of information on G.A.A. events. Its a pity they are not on record and Jim while not as involved is as big hearted and honest as ever.

Nationwide

The Nationwide Building Society has come to recognise annually All Ireland winners of twenty five years vintage. This year it was Tipperary's turn in Senior Hurling. All such events when first mooted bring an air of indifference with them as well as enthusiasm. For Tipperary, however, it brought back a host of memories and recreated the personalities of the day. Personality number one of this team was Mickey Byrne and in 1983 he is just as acceptable and infectious as ever. He is still bubbling over with wit and most original at that. Dony Nealon was now Secretary of Munster Council, John O'Grady was writing for

the G.A.A. with a strong "Tipperary Star" readership. Tony Wall was still the disciplinarian analysing in a factual way and as forthright as ever. Jimmy Doyle was the Baby of the team in 1958 and in 1983 still looked extremely young and fit. John Doyle had done a term as Senator and was not Tipperary Central Council representative. At least six members had served as County Senior Hurling Selectors and practically all had helped with their clubs, while one loner had gone through the demanding role of being County Chairman.

Reflections

The immediate reaction was to reflect on the year 1958 when Tipperary had not won a similar championship for seven years. The three-in-a-row ended in 1951 and while in the intervening years there were some very good Munster Championship engagements with Tipperary and Cork the latter with Christy Ring more than enough for Tipperary to cope with.

Tony Wall in returning thanks at the Nationwide Function recalled how 1958 started with Tipperary versus Limerick at Cork. Tipperary's team was doubtful enough but worse still it had many injuries. Kieran Carey arrived to play full back and played right well so well that he retained his place on the team for the next ten years. Liam Devaney was injured too but he came on in the last ten minutes and effectively turned the game in Tipperary's favour. Paddy Leahy always held that on the day if Devaney were fully fit he would not have parted with the

ball so quickly and on a number of occasions by doing so the inside forwards scored the fast moving ball.

The 1958 team was unique in that there were thirteen clubs, as far as I remember represented in that team and scattered right through the county from Nenagh to Kilsheelan and from Arravale to Moycarkey. Tony Wall was of course Captain.

Limerick were beaten in the first round but Cork was yet the big challenge. A golden goal from Larry Keane made the difference in this match. Waterford were easily beaten in the Munster final but the game of the year was against Kilkenny in the All Ireland semi-final. It was a very wet day and Jimmy Doyle scored accurately having a field-day on Paddy Buggy our present President. Galway were easily beaten in the final.

Nationwide Building Society did us well with its celebrations starting with a reception at the Burlington on eve of the final night and an overnight stay. Notables from Nationwide attended including Michael Fingleton, Managing Director. The Sports Writers and T.V. personalities were also present as were President P. Buggy and Ard-Stiurthóir L. Mulvihill. A Jubilee award which consisted of a plaque incorporating a photo of the 1958 team was presented to each member of the team.

On All Ireland Day the party were presented with tickets to the All Ireland final well positioned on the Hogan Stand. The introduction of the team to the attendance at Croke Park at half time of the Minor final seemed well received and for many Tipperary followers it was a strole down Memory Lane, fulfilling, enjoyable and for many somewhat emotional.

Many would have preferred to see a "real" Tipperary team playing in Croke Park on that day and better still a Senior Hurling team. However, they arrived there in 1958 with a team at the time of little not at the start of the year but one which not only won that year but gave a start to the great teams of the sixties when they were to win five All Ireland Senior Hurling titles and reach the final of nearly as many more. A critical win for our present team could easily bring them along a similar road of progress. We have the hurlers and the tradition but we need determination, discipline and dedication from them. We need support and tolerance from the public and leadership from those who have it to give.



"Jubilee" picture of 1958 All-Ireland Winners who received Irish Nationwide Building Society Awards at Burlington Hotel.

Back row, l. to r.: Phil O'Dwyer, selector; Noel Murphy, MI Maher, Kieran Carey, Larry Keane, John Doyle, Jimmy Finn, Mick Burns, Fr Ray Reidy, Jim Stapleton, selector.
Front row, l. to r.: Martin Maher, Liam Connolly, Jimmy Doyle, Theo English, Tony Wall, capt., Paddy Buggy, President G.A.A.; Michael Fingleton, Irish Nationwide; John O'Grady, Mickey Byrne, Donie Nealon, Terry Moloney.

A FIRST FOR KNOCKAVILLA/DONASKEIGH KICKHAMS

County U-12 Hurling Champions

by Christy Ryan

When the u-12 selectors, Tommy Kelly and Christy Ryan, first called their charges together in early March to prepare for the 1983 championship, first impressions were that they would not be good enough to win any trophies. But before the year was out those players had gone from strength to strength and ended up with the u-12 county championship— the first ever county title at juvenile level for the club.

First game in their quest for the title was on an early summers evening in Golden against old enemies and friends Arravale Rovers, where first fears seemed well founded and they finished the game without a score to their credit— Arravale having scored 4-1. However both men in charge felt that eventhough well beaten their team did not play anywhere near their best, bearing in mind that they had been beaten the previous evening in the 'B' Football final, which could have led to their bad form. The selectors now secretly believed that they could do it after all.

Against Arravale again

Their next game should have been against Emly, but they withdrew leaving the way open for another crack at the Rovers. Again the game was fixed for the very popular and well prepared Golden pitch. This game was a thriller from start to finish. Arravale drew first blood with a goal in the early minutes but Thomas Ryan kept Kickhams in touch with two points from frees, followed by another from play by Aidan O'Dwyer, who, with John McCormack was playing very well. A close-in free by Thomas Ryan yielded a goal, but a defensive blunder led to a goal for the Tipp town side and brought the sides level with all to play for in the second half.

Both teams matched each other stroke for stroke in the second period and with this type of commitment it was not surprising that scores were hard to come by. A point scored by Thomas Ryan from a '65' in the closing minutes was the only score of this half, and under fierce pressure from Arravale the final whistle sounded relief all round.

The West Final

The West final was against Cashel K.C. whom we beat in last years final and had a proud record in this com-



Knockavilla/Donaskeigh Kickhams— County U-12 Hurling Champions

Back row, l. to r.: Tommy Kelly, selector; Oliver Cussen, John Morrissey, Thomas Farrell, John McCormack, Kevin Farrell, Paul Ryan, Declan Blake, Kevin Horgan, Christy Ryan, selector. Middle row, l. to r.: Vincent Kelly, Eamonn Bradshaw, Patrick Morrissey, Michael O'Dwyer, Thomas Ryan, captain; Seamus Farrell, Aidan O'Dwyer, Liam Hourigan, Declan Crosse. Front row, l. to r.: Gerard Browne, Pat Butler, Aidan Slattery, Christy Ryan, Gerard Butler, Tommy Murphy, Pat Ryan.

petition. The game was played in Dundrum and with a complete team effort of first time hurling the game was won on the score 3-2 to 1-0. Aidan O'Dwyer, Ger Browne, Ger Butler—one goal each— and Thomas Ryan—two points (one from a free)— were the scorers. Credit to the West Board and Cashel here for having a piper on hand to parade the teams, adding a sense of occasion to the proceedings.

Versus St Marys

And so to Boherlahan and the County semi-final versus St Marys, Clonmel— always a hard team to beat. After a slow start John McCormack opened the scoring with a point, to be followed by another, a spectacular effort from Ger Browne when he first timed a long delivery between the posts. With Patrick Morrissey and Michael O'Dwyer beginning to dominate at midfield Ger Butler added three goals, Oliver Cussen two goals, and Aidan O'Dwyer one goal, to leave the final score 6-2 to 1-2.

County final v Toomevara

Toomevara had often been a big stumbling block to Kickhams in their quest for a first juvenile title in previous years. Well, Toomevara it was again this year and the venue was Templemore. So on an absolutely beautiful evening and with a big crowd in support, we came away with a draw— the opposition having levelled in the final moments. Kevin Horgan and Kevin Farrell in the backs played well, plus the eager-beaver

efforts of Vincent Kelly in the forwards, who had come back from a broken wrist early in the season. John McCormack, two goals— one a great overhead effort from a dropping '65', and Thomas Ryan, a point, were the scorers.

The Replay

Back to Templemore again for the replay, where full back Kevin Farrell turned out in spite of the fact that he had been confined to bed all week with jaundice. Falling two goals behind in the first half all seemed lost but in a great second half fight back in which Tom Farrell excelled, a goal of classic proportions by Ger Butler and another by John Morrissey— now operating at full forward having been switched from half back— brought us level. In this game also Oliver Cussen played well at wing back.

Second Replay

For the third time we travelled to Templemore where great credit is due to the local club for having the pitch in top class order every evening plus a scoreboard in operation. The game opened in whirlwind fashion— Aidan O'Dwyer scoring a goal in the early stages. Toomevara equalised shortly afterwards and Ger Browne, now coming into his own at corner forward gave Kickhams the lead with another goal. Again the Toome boys drew level and it looked as if these two young teams were inseparable. Thomas Ryan, playing a captain's part at centre back drove a well struck '65' direct to the net to give Kickhams a goal lead at half time.

Vincent Kelly opened the second half scoring with a point, followed by another by Ger Browne and we were five points clear. But Toomevara were made of stern stuff and gave it everything in the last ten minutes, during which time goalkeeper Pat Butler covered himself in glory with a string of brilliant saves and Christopher Ryan at corner back with some timely interceptions and clearances also did very well. A goal and a point to Toomevara in the last two minutes and our hearts missed more than one beat. Came the final whistle and all hell broke loose— Kickhams having at last

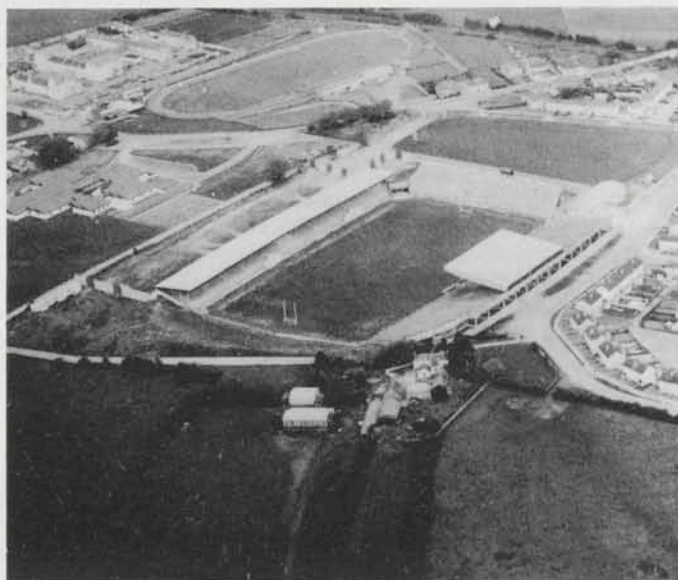
made the big breakthrough. A feature of all three games was the size of the crowd which seemed to get bigger with each passing game and must surely have broken all records for attendances at juvenile games. The substitutes who also played their part and by their dedication to training kept the first fifteen on their toes thereby ensuring a steady improvement were: Liam Hourigan, Paul Ryan, Pat Ryan, Eamonn Bradshaw and Jimmy Farrell.

No piece written about this history making team would be complete with-

out mentioning the part played by the parents, who gave every assistance with transport, not alone to matches but to every training session as well. And when the cup was proudly brought home to the joint parishes of Knockavilla and Donaskeigh those same parents and supporters financed a well deserved celebration for their young heroes. An appreciation also to Tommy Kelly who was practically fully employed repairing hurleys, looking after first aid materials and jerseys, as well as his selectorial duties— no job was too big and no journey too far, he just took it all in his stride.

Main Centenary Events

Márta 9	Bank of Ireland G.A.A. Allstars function Baile Atha Cliath.
Márta 16/17	Centenary Handball 40 x 30 and 60 x 30 championships Clare venues.
Márta 17	Handball Congress— Inis
Márta 18	Official opening of Centenary Year and Railway Cup finals— Inis
Márta 24	Scór na nOg finals— Corcaigh
Aibreán 8	National Hurling League final. Special Centenary championships begin.
Aibreán 15	National Football League final.
Aibreán 21/23	Congress— Béal Feirste
Aibreán 28	Scór Sinsir finals— Baile Atha Cliath.
Aibreán 30	AIB— GAA Club of the Year Awards Provincial function.
Bealtaine 4	World Masters Handball Championships— Clare venues.
Bealtaine 5	AIB— GAA Club of the Year Awards provincial function
Bealtaine 5—12	World Open Handball Championships— Páirc an Chrocaigh
Bealtaine 12	AIB— GAA Club of the Year Awards provincial function
Bealtaine 13	International Top Ace Handball Com- petition— Páirc an Chrocaigh.
Bealtaine 16—20	GAA Exhibition— RDS
Bealtaine 19	Anniversary of Dr Croke's birthday. AIB— GAA Club of the Year Awards provincial function.
Bealtaine 20	Centenary Cup finals.
Bealtaine 26	AIB— GAA Club of the Year Awards National function.
Meitheamh 24	Féile na nGael finals— Loch Garman.
Iúil 29	Lá na gClub.
Lúnasa 11—19	Welcome Home Week
Lúnasa 12	All-Ireland Football Semi-finals An Mhumhan v Connacht.
Lúnasa 12—16	Ogsport Gael
Lúnasa 15	Anniversary of Loughrea meeting
Lúnasa 19	All-Ireland Football semi-finals Laighean v Ulaidh.
Lúnasa 26	Lá na nOg— Ath Luain
Meán Fomhair 2	Under 21 Hurling and Football finals.
Meán Fomhair 20	All-Ireland Hurling finals— Dúrlas Eile Anniversary of Cusack's birthday.



Aerial View of Semple Stadium 1983

Meán Fomhair 23	All-Ireland Football finals— Páirc an Chrocaigh.
Deire Fomhair 5—7	Centenary Seminar— University College Cork
Samhain 1	Centenary Day— Comoradh i nDúrlas Eile
Munster Fixtures	
May 20	Senior Football, Tipp v Waterford (replay 27/5/83) Dungarvan.
May 27	Football, Clare v Limerick Thurles Hurling, Clare v Waterford (R. 10th June)
June 3	Hurling, Cork v Limerick Limerick, Football, McGrath Cup final (r. 10th June)
June 10	Senior Football, Kerry v Tipp or Waterford
June 17	Senior Football, Cork v Clare or Waterford Senior Hurling, Tipp v Clare or Waterford Tipp v Waterford, Cork Replays 24th June Tipp v Clare, Limerick (unless toss.)
July 1	If Tipp v Waterford replay — Limerick Senior and Minor Football finals, Killarney (if Cork v Kerry)
July 15	Senior and Minor Hurling finals.

KILLENAULE

THE OFTEN FORGOTTEN CLUB

by John Guiton, Tipperary Star

In my Gaelic games Yearbook or similar annual publication, it is only natural and appropriate that the achievements of the top teams which captured the great sporting headlines in that year, be reflected upon, and memories revived of their many glorious feats. For some clubs the pattern is repeated almost every year, such is the rate and regularity of their accomplishments. Human nature being what it is, everybody wants to read about, talk of, analyse, and perhaps criticise the role(s) of the 'big guns' in the county. The success of these teams is blatant and obvious, but very often the success of other clubs, however minimal it may be, regrettably becomes somewhat overshadowed in the general scheme of things. Undoubtedly, the capturing of titles in perhaps under-age, junior and intermediate grades are as equally prestigious for the club's involved, as the taking of the Premier Senior prize is to the top senior team in the county. In this county there are many examples of clubs in all divisions who would not be classed in the 'most formidable' category but who to date have attained a moderate share of success that may not be instantly apparent, or help to constitute major talking points.

In this respect the Killenaule club is just one example and this year they have captured the South Intermediate title, to compensate for the loss of the senior final, when combined with Mullinahone, they lost to Carrick Swans

In penning this article which not surprising will reflect upon the Intermediate success, I do not wish it to be seen as just solely a public relations exercise for the sake of my own club, but more importantly to highlight the often forgotten but significant role of the many lesser acclaimed clubs, such as Killenaule, in the County Tipperary GAA scene.

It was hardly surprising that with twelve of the Eire Og (Killenaule-Mullinahone) senior combination helping to comprise the Killenaule Intermediate team that success came their way in this grade, even though they did suffer a major disappointment in the county semi-final when they failed to Moyne-Templetuohy — still a much talked about game in the parish. In their South efforts at senior level the combination faded to Carrick Swans after a promising campaign, and their efforts in the County Cham-

pionship were put paid to by Borrisholeigh, in spite of a courageous effort by the combo.

Not that it was all smooth sailing in the Inter grade, but Killenaule did have a slight edge over the rest of the division throughout the campaign, that enabled them to eventually take the coveted title—an achievement in which all associated with the club savoured.

Helped in their preparation by the advice of former Tipperary Senior hurler Phil Shanahan, a native of Toomevara, who now resides in Killenaule they cleared the first hurdle in the championship which was run on a league basis when they easily accounted for Moyle Rovers. At this stage of the campaign they were building up a successful unit, but as the championship progressed they were soon to discover the more stiffer opposition along the way. They were held to a draw by a game Fethard side, but subsequently had the measure of Skeheenarinka. This brought them to the semi-final stages and now a dicey hurdle faced them in this race.

Things were hotting up now, and as expected Kilsheelan provided tough opposition, in Clonmel grounds. Having the best of the weather and ground conditions, both sides served up a cracking game, and the issue was in doubt to the last puck. In the early stages of this game Killenaule were in command but somehow failed to register the scores, and had only a four point lead at the interval on the scoreline 1-4 to 0-3.

Killenaule got a fright on the resumption when Kilsheelan had a goal and two points to take the lead. In a tit for tat struggle, Killenaule fought back however, and took the two point lead coming towards the end of the hour, at which stage their defence stood firm with Joe O'Dwyer in tremendous form. The final score was Killenaule 1-9; Kilsheelan 1-7.

South Decider

Meanwhile Cahir had defeated Fethard by the narrowest of margins but the nature of their display left Killenaule in no doubt as to the challenge now facing them in the decider. There was little rest for both sides as the following Sunday in harsh October weather, they battled out the final at Clonmel. Five points was between the sides at the end of the day, and there was a lot to like about

Killenaule's performance. They found themselves nine points in arrears after a quarter of an hour, but with courage they plucked away the deficit until Michael Hassett brought them level with little over a quarter of an hour remaining. It was Hassett who effectively hammered the final nail in Cahir's coffin when he then crashed home a goal, and points quickly followed from a Kevin Shelly and Liam O'Connor to put the issue beyond doubt.

The title rightly belonged to Killenaule even if one had to sympathise with Cahir who had battled gamely. There was nothing spectacular or over impressive in Killenaule's make-up but they had the knack of winning matches, allied to plenty of 'guts' and spirit.

The busy schedule for the champions did not allow them an over-generous amount of time to celebrate and on the following Sunday they were out again, this time in Leahy Park Cashel. This county semi-final will be remembered from a Killenaule point of view, for all the wrong reasons, as their side gave way to the Moyne-Templetuohy challenge—only clocking up a meagre three points over the entire hour. Their wastage of match-winning possession is still much talked about in the parish and while everybody can still bask in the glory of the South success, it was an extremely disappointing outcome to another bid for much sought honours at county level.

In a none too successful but positive way the club with Mullinahone in certain grades have made a significant contribution to GAA affairs in the county in recent years, having figured in the county junior football championship final last year, and the county u-21 hurling championship in 1976, '78, '79 and '80. Almost every year it has added a divisional title to its collection, capturing both u-21 titles in hurling and football in the South in '78. Yet, remarkably it still awaits a county title, but in times of modern counter-attractions for players it is an indication of the level of interest in the games, in the parish, and that cannot be bad. That they should be the hurling kingpins, especially at senior level in the South division, there is no doubt, given the fair distribution of talent at their disposal, and the presence of players such as Joe O'Dwyer and Donie O'Connell who have tasted senior fare at Inter-county level, but for

various reasons this has not been the case. Like in all clubs the standard of hurling continues to fluctuate but there is a bright ray of hope for the future of the games in Killenaule, if the undivided attention paid to juveniles by a dedicated group of people is anything to go by. The club has made a favourable impact in the juvenile championship scene in recent times and this is most encouraging. In addition the many local primary schools and Scoil Ruain Secondary school continue to play a significant role in the promotion of the games and in a wider sports context, the club will undoubtedly also benefit from the elaborate sports complex which is currently being built.

A Fine Tradition

Contrary to what many young followers of Gaelic games in the county may think, Killenaule figured prominently in the activities of yesteryear, and had a much respected tradition in the county. A glance at old files of local newspapers of the 40s, 50s, and 60s which contain match reports bear ample testimony of the high regard in which they were held. While the much referred to tradition in the modern games is not everything, the club can boast of a little of same, and the names of former club greats, too numerous to mention indicate that the club was never short of talent.

Many of these former players continue to be associated with the behind the scenes efforts of the club. As one who in the past figured, if every so harmlessly, and modestly I hasten to add, on Killenaule juvenile and under age teams, I can vouch for the virtual total commitment of a small group of men in both Killenaule and Mullinahone (it would be unfair to single out anybody for special mention) who in addition to the players, have worked unsparingly over the years for the betterment of the club.

When one pens an article on his own club, its only natural to outline the positive aspects, but one must also be objective, and it has to be stressed that like many other clubs Killenaule have a lot of work ahead of them in the effort to improve the standard of hurling and football in the parish. The task is not always easy but must continue to be met, no matter what adversities are encountered along the way. Killenaule is just another example of a club that have not blazed major victory headlines in County Tipperary, but nonetheless like many others have enjoyed moderate but well deserved success.

Cashel KC

Under 14 County Hurling Champs

by Brendan Bonner



Cashel King Cormacks Under 14 Hurling Champs 1983; also West U/R. Football Champs.
Back row, l. to r.: A. Bonnar, E. Thornton, B. Murphy, B. O'Shea, B. Moloney, C. Bonnar, S. Morrissey, J. O'Neill, A. King.
Middle row, l. to r.: M. Brosnan, A. Fitzelle, J. Irwin, J. McGrath captain, M. Perdue, M. Minogue, T. J. Connolly.
Front row, l. to r.: M. Delahunty, J. O'Donoghue, D. McGrath, G. Myers, P. McNerney, J. Barry.

King Cormac's started the year well when they beat Clonoulty in Cashel in their first match in Feile na Gael, but two hard games were to follow— both against the same team— Arravale Rovers in the West final of Feile na Gael. The first game was played in Tipperary town and was a draw. The re-play was played in Boherlahan, which was a draw at full time and extra time had to be played— Arravale coming out the victorious side by a two point margin.

The Cashel team had six weeks until the U-14 league and they trained hard to get the better of a good Arravale Rovers side. League time came and the first obstacle was Cappawhite which Cashel won easily enough.

Next was Clonoulty which presented no big challenge either. Golden, next who were concentrating on the football and the Kings ran out easy winners.

Kickhams were dark horses— Cashel had not played them since the U-12s and then Cashel were very lucky to beat them. This time Cashel deserved to win, but made hard work of it. Kickhams were up three goals in as many minutes, but when the Cashel lads settled down they eventually won by nine points.

Then came the West final which was against old rivals Arravale Rovers. The U-14 West Cup was named after one of Cashel's true gael— Monto Carrie R.I.P. The Cashel mentors and supporters wanted this cup back in the City of the King's. The Cashel lads

from the word go, played as they never played before. Within the first ten minutes the Cashel boys were up two goals and two points to no score and Arravale never looked like catching up. The final score was 5 goals 10 points to 1 goal and 4 points.

Still savouring the taste of victory Cashel played Durlas Og at Boherlahan in the county semi-finals. This was by far our toughest game. Our back line was under pressure throughout the game, but held out with our forwards scoring vital scores. We won the game by 8 points, but there wasn't that much between the teams. Then on the county final day we met Toomevara at Templemore— another hard game. Cashel took the lead early and were strong enough to hold on to it. Toomevara had some very strong players, but, had not a very balanced team and Cashel ran out easy winners in the end with a score of 5 goals and 3 points to 1 goal and 4 points. The Cashel team was G. Myers, T. J. Connolly, A. Fitzell, M. Minogue, B. O'Shea, C. Bonnar, S. Hayes, M. Perdue, S. Morrissey, A. Bonnar, J. McGrath (captain), B. Murphy, D. McGrath, M. Brosnan, J. O'Donoghue, J. O'Neill, B. Maloney, J. P. O'Dwyer, C. Kinnane, J. Irwin, E. Thornton, J. Barry, P. McNerney, A. King, M. Delahunty.

Chairman of CKC na nOg: Br Ryan. Selectors U-14: Joe Moloney and Brendan Bonner.

1984

An Bhliain Mhor Comoradh

I dócha go bhfuil tuairmí fé leith ag gach éinne i dtaobh comóradh chéad bhliain de Chumann Lúthchleas Gael agus ní nach ionadh go gcuirfeadh daoine áirithe, béim difriúil ar ócáidí éagsúla. Ar shlí tá sé sin iontuigthe toisc gur gluaiseacht mhór leathan í, Cumann Lúthchleas Gael, agus toisc na mílte daoine ar gach leibhéal a bheith páirteach ann. Dá bhrí sin— tá sé de cheart ag gach éinne an comoradh iomlán a shamhlú, sa tslí ina oireann sé dó féin. Dár ndóighe, cheana féin tá clár cuimsitheach curtha le chéile, faoi choimirce na hArd Comhairle a bhaineann le chuid mhaith d'imeachtaí na bliana— ach is ócáidí náisiúnta iad seo, ag tosnú le hOscailt Oifigiúil in Inis, Co. An Chláir ar 18 Márta, agus ag críochnú go hoifigiúil le féasta i mBláth Cliath ar an 23 Samhain '84.

Tá bearna fada eadar an dá dáta atá mór thabachtach, do Thiobrad Arann. Is í an ócáid is mó riamh sa Chontae í, ó thaobh sport de, agus beidh súile na tíre agus súile an domhain sport orainn, le linn an chomórtha— seadh ní raibh agus is éigin a bheidh a leithéid de ócáid arís, sa Chontae. Dá bhrí sin— sé is mó an dubhshlán atá romhainn, len a chinntiú go mbeidh ullmhú ceart déanta le héifeacht, agus gan moill, chomh maith. Sa chás seo ní bheidh an tarna deis againn, arís.

Faoi choimirce na gcoistí éagsúla atá bunaithe ag an mBord Chontae i.e. Lóistín, Lonadóireacht, Cuirmeacha Cheoil, Caidreamh, Iompar, Siamsaíocht & rí, tá neart oibre le déanamh. Ach tá foireann maith de Cheannairí le taithí agus fuinneamh, roghnaithe ag an mBord chomh maith, agus tá na Coistí seo i mbun oibre cheana féin. Le gach dubhshlán bíonn gá le spreagadh, agus ba chóir don Comóradh daoine a spreagadh chun iarrachtaí breise a dhéanamh ar son na hócáide. Ar slí cuireann an Comóradh Cuairt An Pháa 1979 i gcuimhne dhom— An Fógra go raibh an Pápa chun teacht— an dáta deimhnithe— an roghnú ar na hionaid agus an tatmasféar iontach céiliúradh a bhí sa tír an tseachtain roimh ré, ach go háirithe.

Ghlac an tír ar fad le spiorad na cuairte an uair sin, agus is léir go mbeidh buan chuimhne againn uilig ar an gcuairt. Samhlaím chomh maith go mbeidh buan-chuimhne againn uilig ar Chomóradh C.L.G.— agus dos na cúiseanna cearta.

Níl an comóradh teoranta do Cho. Thiobraid Arann, dár ndóighe mar tá

ócáidí náisiúnta beartaithe do Bhaile Atha Cliath, Corcaigh, Baile Locha Riach, Gaillimh, Inis, agus Cúige Uladh (Comhthionol 1984). Mar sin féin is ar Thiobrad Arann, agus ar Dhúrlas Eile go speisialta a bheidh meon an phobaill ag díriú. Tá dhá cúis le seo:— (a) Is i nDúrlas Eile a bunaíodh Cumann Lúthchleas Gael ar Lá Shamhna 1884, agus (b) Tionólfar Craobh Chluiche Ceannais Iomána ar an 2 Meán Fomhair 1984 i nDúrlas Eile. Maidir leis an gcluiche féin is é seo an ghné is tábhachtaí ó thaobh éileamh ama agus éileamh eagrúcháin, gan trácht ar an £500,000 a bheidh caite ar Stáid Sempil roimhe sin. Ag glacadh leis go mbeidh seasca míle duine i láthair ag an gcluiche, is mó ar fad na himpleachtaí don ócáid seo— impleachtaí ar lóistín, lonadoireacht, eolas, treorú, smacht slua, agus na géar-háiseanna sa bpáirc féin— maor-seoireacht, leithris, cláracha, fógraíocht (a bheidh i ngaeilge tá súil agam) bannaí cheoil, ticéidí, suíocháin & rí. Ach le pleanáil agus le hullmhú ceart, táim dóchasach go mbeidh an lá gan locht.

Seaschas an Craobh Chluiche Ceannais, beidh go leor imeachtaí eile ar siúl le linn an Chomórtha, agus bheinn ag súil, mar atá molta, go ndéanfadh gach club iarracht speisialta chun an comóradh a chéiliúradh i bhfoirm oiriúnach. Beidh Lá Na gClub ar siúl ar an 29 Iúil '84, agus ba chóir don gach club ócáid fé leith a eagrú ina pharóiste féin ar an lá san, nó i gcásanna b'fhéidir, b'fhearr go dtiocfadh dhá club le chéile d'fhonn clár fiúntach a eagrú. B'fhearr freisin go mbeadh ceangailt staire ag an ócáid le Cumann Lúthchleas Gael. Táthar a' súil go mór go mbeidh daoine óga páirteach ann. Is cuma cé comh-mór— nó cé comh-beag 's a mbeidh an ócáid— ní chóir ligint don lá imeacht gan rud éigin fiúntach a eagrú.

Mír éile ar an gClár Náisiúnta isea "Seachtain Fáilte Abhaile" a bheidh ar siúl ón 11—19 Lúnasa '84. Is é atá beartaithe anseo ná, na Gaeil atá scaipithe timpeall an domhain, a ghríosadh agus a spreagadh chun teacht "abhaile" don tréimhse sin ar a laighead. Bheinn ag súil leis na mílte breise, don chomóradh, dá bharr san. Ba chóir don eagraíocht, ócáidí speisialta a eagrú dos na cuairteoirí chomh maith, i dtreo is go mbainfidh siad lán taitneamh as a gcuairt chugainn. Do mhol-fainn go neagrófaí turasanna bus, chuig áiteacha stairiúla a bhaineann le C.L.G., An Carn, sa Bhoireann, i gCo. An Chláir mar shampla— áit 'nar rugadh



*Eamonn De Stafort
Oifigeach na Gaeilge*

Micheál O Cíosóg. Sa tslí seo bheadh tuiscint níos fearr acu ar stair na hEagraíochta.

Mar eolas do muintir Dhúrlas Eile, ach go háirithe, is í mí Bealtaine 18—20 a reachtálfear Cuimhneachán Chois tSiúire le téama Cumann Lúthchleas Gael, agus tuigim go bhfuil sraith de léachtóirí roghnaithe cheana féin. Tá an tábhacht ag baint leis an deire seachtaine seo, agus tá súil agam go mbeidh freastail maith ar gach gné de, agus go dtabharfaidh lucht C.L.E. lán-tacaíocht don Fhéile— mar ba deis iontach é seo, chun eolas thar an gná, d'fháil ar stair an Chumainn.

Ag féachaint romhainn mar sin, is léir go mbeidh bliain an gnóthach ag muintir C.L.G. i 1984, agus gur mór an tarraingt a bheidh ar ár gcuid ama ar go leor slíte— ar bhealaí náisiúnta— agus ar gnéithe chontaetha agus áitiúla. Tá sé tábhachtach, mar sin go mbeidh plean iomlán ag soiléiriú na gníomhaíochtaí éagsúla, don gComóradh, i dtreo is nach mbeidh ócáidí ag treasnú a chéile. Thar rud ar bith eile, tá gá le cúlradh, stair, tuiscint agus fealsúnacht na heagraíochta a bheith meascaithe tríd gComóradh agus ba chóir, aon ghné, nó aon ócáid a tharraingeódh droch mheas nó a thógfadh ó mhórgacht an chomórtha, a sheachaint.

Mar Oifigeach Na Gaeilge, tá sé d'fhiacha orm, achaint a dhéanamh faoin nGaeilge. Tugann an Comóradh deis mór eile dúinn, An Ghaeilge a chur ar aghaidh sa ghluaiseacht. Impím ar na ceannairí, ach go háirithe, tacaíocht phraicticiúil a thabhairt d'úsáid na teanga, le linn an Chomórtha. Beidh na mílte deiseanna ann chun aitheantas breise a thabhairt di, agus má tugtar cúl ar an nGaeilge le linn an chomórtha seo, is í an ghluaiseacht a bheidh thíos leis sa deire. Tá dualgas orainn, timpeallacht oiriúnach a chruthú, d'fhonn úsáid na Gaeilge a fhorbairt. Mar sin bíodh sé sin le feiscint agus bíodh an Ghaeilge le cloisint i ngach gné de Chomóradh Céad Bhliain Cumann Lúthchleas Gael.

ANOTHER GREAT YEAR FOR ROSCREA CBS HURLERS

The breakthrough achieved by Roscrea C.B.S. in Munster Colleges hurling the previous year engendered a new spirit of enthusiasm for the game in the school and pupils and mentors alike were looking forward eagerly to an exciting year's hurling when the schools reopened in September '82. They were not to be disappointed as it turned out to be the busiest and most successful to date in the history of the school. First evidence of an increased interest was the involvement of four more teachers with the school teams: Mr Malone joined Mr Maunsell in looking after the under 17s and under 18s; Mr Dunphy joined Br Devaney with the under 15s, under 16s and under 16½ while Mr Costelloe and Mr Martin took charge of the Rice Cup (under 14) panel.

Munster Colleges Competitions

The school moved up to Division B at under 15 and under 16½ level but the seniors opted to stay in Division C although holders of the Dr Rodgers Cup. They held on to this beautiful trophy rather easily with good wins over High School, Clonmel and Mount Sion in the early rounds before having a field day against Doon C.B.S. in the semi-final, winning on the score of 5-14 to 3-3. The final against Hamilton High School, Bandon was a dour affair played in atrocious weather conditions at Shanballymore, Co. Cork. Roscrea were held to a draw at 1-3 each at the interval but with wind advantage they ran out convincing winners in the second period on the score Roscrea 5-7, Bandon 1-4. Captain of the team was Dan O'Donnell, hero of the 1982 historic breakthrough.

In the Dr Kinnane Cup (under 16½) Roscrea had a rather easy passage to the final; getting a bye in the first round and having good wins over Midleton C.B.S. and Ballincollig Community School in the quarter and semi-finals. The final, however, was a different matter as it took three epic encounters against old rivals Cashel C.B.S. before Roscrea emerged worthy champions on the score Roscrea 3-6, Cashel C.B.S. 1-6. John Miller was an inspiring captain and the school previously won the trophy in 1969 and 1970.

Roscrea now had visions of making a clean sweep in Munster as they prepared for the Corn an Phiarsaigh (under 15) competition. They had a narrow escape against Templemore C.B.S. be-



Roscrea C.B.S.— winners of Corn an Chuinneánaigh 1983 (Munster Colleges under 16½ hurling)
Front row: l. to r.: M. Hanrahan, D. Fitzpatrick, S. Delaney, P. Dolan, J. Miller captain, A. Minogue, P. Hogan, T. Hooctor, J. O'Dwyer, C. Cleary.
2nd row: Br M. Devaney, P. Meagher, S. McLoughlin, M. Nolan, B. England, B. Sands, P. Delaney, J. Costigan, J. Kenny, P. J. Delaney, S. Byrne, J. Dunphy.
3rd row: B. Bergin, T. Grimes, M. Maher, J. Larkin, G. Dooley, J. Daly, M. Kennedy, C. Jones, N. Doran, F. Kealy.



Roscrea C.B.S., winners of Corn Mhic Ruairi (Munster Colleges under 18) in 1983.
They also won it in 1982.

Front row, l. to r.: D. Fitzpatrick, J. Miller, Paul Dolan, D. O'Donnell, Rev. Br. Donovan, L. Carson, E. England.
2nd row: Mr M. Maunsell, M. Nolan, P. Meagher, P. Quinlan, L. Butler, P. Maher, T. Hooctor, S. Delaney, C. Dooley, Mr M. Malone.
3rd row: M. Hanrahan, S. PHehan, S. Mac Loughlin, P. J. Quinlan, P. J. Butler, B. Connolly, B. England, A. Minogue, P. Higgins, P. Hogan.

fore reaching the final where their opponents once again proved to be Cashel C.B.S. Writing of this match in the *Tipperary Star* John Guiton said: "One could hardly have witnessed a better game of hurling at this level, played with absolute commitment by the thirty youngsters . . ." This time however Cashel came out on top 4-6 to 2-10 in a game that will not soon be forgotten by victor and vanquished alike.

Tipperary Schools Competitions

Roscrea C.B.S. won the Dr Fitzgerald Shield (smaller schools under 17 hurling) for the second time in three years. They defeated Newport V.S. in the opening round, Roscrea V.S. in a replay in the semi-final and Carrick-on-Suir C.B.S. in the final. The fine set of hurleys presented to the winning team by Co. Board Sec. Mr T. O Baroid were much appreciated! In the semi-final of the Dr Fitzgerald Cup Roscrea

failed to master the weather or under-foot conditions and lost narrowly to a depleted Borrisokane side.

On a day equally unsuited to hurling they were defeated in the semi-final of the Croke Cup (under 16) by a fine Thurles team who went on to win the trophy. It was unfortunate that so many matches had to be played in such dreadful conditions.

Rice Cup Competition

This is an under 14 competition for Christian Brothers Schools in Munster and South Leinster. About twenty schools take part and it has proved invaluable as a training ground for future school teams. This year Roscrea C.B.S. narrowly failed to qualify for the knock-out stages of the competition as they went down unluckily to Thurles and Cashel, having defeated Templemore and Tipperary. They gained plenty of experience from these matches as well as from friendlies against other schools. A novel touch was introduced by their mentor, Seamas O Coistealbha, who brought them on a week-end to Rath Chairn Gaeltacht (Co. na Mi). The preservation and promotion of the Irish language is one of the most neglected of the aims and objectives of Cumann Luthchleas Gael in our schools and colleges and Mr O Coistealbha has given a practical and worthwhile lead to all. Bhain gach éinne, idir mhúinteoirí agus bhuachaillí, antait-neamh as an deire seachtaine.

Conclusion

The large measure of success achieved by our pupils with their clubs is a source of great satisfaction to the Brothers and teachers in the school. We are indebted to all those voluntary workers at Primary School and club level who have coached the boys in the skills of the game and more importantly who have instilled in them a love for the greatest field game in the world. A word of appreciation too for the cooperation and encouragement received from the parents. Go mbuanai Dia iad.

A Hurler's Prayer

Grant me, O Lord, a hurler's skill
With strength of arm and speed of limb,
Unerring eye for the flying ball
And courage to match them whate'er befall.
May my aim be steady, my stroke be true,
My actions manly, my misses few;
And no matter what way the game may go
May I part in friendship with every foe.
When the final whistle for me is blown
And I stand at last at God's judgement Throne,
May the Great Referee when he calls my name,
Say, "you hurled like a man; you played the game."

An Bráthair M. A. O Duibheannaigh



1933

MINOR AND JUNIOR ALL IRELAND VICTORIES FOR TIPP HURLERS

Juniors' Path to Glory

at Mitchelstown: Tipp 5-8; Waterford 1-3

Munster final at Tralee:

Tipp 4-2; Cork 1-2

at Roscrea: Tipp 7-1; Leix 3-2

Home final at Portumna:

Tipp 8-3; Galway 1-3

All Ireland final at Croke Park:

Tipp 10-1; London 1-4

Team against Galway

Pat Mahony (goal) Swans

Dan Roche (Davins)	Wm Roche (Davins)	Joe Duggan (Glengoole)
Jim Tynan (Moyglass)	Denis Gorman (Holycross)	Wm Ryan (Ileigh)

Jim Cooney Martin O'Toole
(both Davins)

Dave Looby (Boherlahan)	Paddy O'Keeffe (Boherlahan)	Eddie Eade (Capt. Swans)
Dan Gleeson (Nenagh)	Dick Hayes (Moyglass)	Denis Murphy (Sarsfields)

The "Star" account of this game said The outstanding player was Cooney. Last Sunday he stood out as the best of the whole 30. Willie Ryan ran second to Cooney. In the full-forward position Dick Hayes gave us a display which promises to make his native Moyglass famous. The 2 Roches with Duggan held the last line so well that Mahony in goal had little to do. Eade, captain of the team, on the left wing raked balls from nowhere and showered them into the forward line.

Minor Results

at Waterford: Tipp 4-1; Waterford 3-4.

Replay at Carrick:

Tipp 4-1; Waterford 2-1.

Munster final at Cork: Tipp 3-1; Cork 2-2

at Roscrea: Tipp 11-6, Kilkenny 4-2

All Ireland final at Portumna:

Tipp 4-6; Galway 2-3

Canon Fogarty in his History states: "Cork was the real obstacle, but Michael Condon of Ballinure scored a memorable goal that gave us the Munster Championship for the fourth year in succession." Michael is now a priest in the U.S.

The "Star" in its report of the final v Galway states: Duggan was brilliant for Tipp. Brennan towering in the defence was a big obstacle to the Galway forwards. Condon in the front line repeated all the zest he had shown at Roscrea in the semi-final. Burke on the left wing pivoted to the right or left with equal ease. Moloney in goal was as reliable as ever.

Subject to correction the Minor team in the final v Galway at Portumna was:

Jack Moloney (goal, Thurles)

Pakie Farrell (Boherlahan)	Anthony Brennan (Clonoulty)	Con Maher (Thurles)
Joe Fletcher (Roscrea)	Pat Callaghan (Davins)	Mick Everard (Templetuohy)

Jim Mooney (Thurles)	Pat Duggan (Glengoole)
Tim Maher (Roscrea)	Tommy Doyle (Thurles)
J. J. O'Dwyer (Cappawhite)	Mick Condon (Killenaule)
	Mat Ryan (Moycarkey)

Very Rev. Tom O'Keeffe (captain now P.P. Newport and Very Rev. Phil Purcell New Zealand, both Moycarkey, played in all games until the final, which they missed on account of being gone to their priestly studies in St Patrick's College.

There were changes in the team from game to game. Phil Ryan (Borrisoleigh), J. Egan (Nenagh), Mick Mockler (Clonmore) are listed for the game against Kilkenny. Jim Travers (Moyne) played in nearly all games up to the final.

Pilib O Duibhir

THE WAY FORWARD FOR TIPPERARY

by Cyril Darcy

It must be accepted that we are still in that questioning period in Tipperary as regards our Senior hurling team and one wonders if we will ever see them win a championship game again.

Just to reflect on the past I remember my boyhood days when it was usual for Tipperary teams to be not only winning championship games but also Munster and All-Ireland championships. Being involved with juveniles at club level now I feel saddened when I look at boys of twelve and fourteen years old and know that they have never seen Tipperary win a championship game.

What has gone wrong? What has happened in Tipperary? Well, prior to putting pen to paper I reflected on the writings in our year books over the past ten years and I felt some progress has been made but not enough. As far back as 1971 when Tipperary won their last senior All-Ireland, Paddy Maher in his article in the bear book asked when Tipperary were going to win another Minor title, because at that time the writing was on the wall for many of the senior team and replacements were not readily available.

In fact Tipperary's last Minor title was in 1959. Mr Maher blamed poor preparation of team's lack of dedication and felt that because Thurles C.B.S. no longer dominate the Colleges scene, Tipperary hurling suffered the consequences. The necessity of a long term policy was also stressed by Mr Maher. To follow on these remarks it took a couple of more years before Tipperary came to grips with the realization that a lot of thinking and hard work had to be done to win another Minor All-Ireland.

This All-Ireland came in 1976 and much credit was due to the team who in my opinion were one of the finest Minor teams ever to wear the Blue and Gold. Of course great credit was also due to the County Board selectors and coach Brother M. V. O'Grady whose motivation was so evident in this team. At that time Brother O'Grady stated that he saw great prospects in the future for Tipp. hurling and felt with good organisation that we could look to the future with confidence.

This Minor title set the flame alight again in Tipperary in Under age hurling and with a great deal of hard work this team continued to be successful by going on to bring Under 21 All-Irelands at a later stage. Now six years later in 1982 we can be proud to say that Tipperary have won six Underage All-Irelands between 1976 and 1981 and this must surely smash the argument that

Tipperary have not the talent to produce a first class senior team in the near future.

To follow on with the pool of talent available to Tipperary at present to provide a good Senior team the question must be asked what has gone wrong. Having listened to many arguments over the past years and also drawing from my own conclusions I feel that there is many areas that should be examined with the hope of getting down to the main task of winning another Senior All-Ireland title.

The areas that I feel should be examined are:

(a) The provision of a co-ordinated plan over a specific period of time with the view of winning a Senior All-Ireland title. At present there is no such plan in existence if one is to have a good look at the present policy. Great aspirations are expressed each year selectors are appointed etc. and when results are not forthcoming in that year they are sacked and new selectors are appointed and the vicious circle starts again.

I cannot understand why the County Board cannot realise the many pit-falls in the system and get down to draw up a plan for a 3 to 5 year period appointing selectors and coach and then agree on the methodology to achieve results. (b) The next area I feel should be examined is the appointment of a Team Manager. To me this appointment is vital. We need look no further than Dublin, Kerry, Galway and of course Offaly to see how effective such appointments have been.

A "Boss" Required

It may be said that the selectors and coach will fulfill this role but I have to disagree because in any walk of life you have got to have a boss who makes the final decision and I fail to understand how Tipperary are now missing out on this concept. It may also be said that Tipperary did very well in the past without such an appointment, this was not totally true because although such an appointment was not evident leaders usually emerged. I specifically refer to the period from 1949 to 1966 when the late Paddy Leahy was the lord and master of Tipperary hurling—in fact he was involved in winning no less than 8 All-Irelands in that period. One great Tipperary hurler of that period once said to me "that from the moment Paddy Leahy appeared at a training session every player responded by giving more than his best, because nothing less was accepted".

I hope I have made my point for the

necessity of such an appointment as I see this man as a motivator who would physically and psychologically instill confidence, dedication, enthusiasm and commitment into players.

In spite of the many skills that are necessary to become a County Senior player I feel that commitment and belief in oneself is vital. I now refer to that great Olympic Champion of the past Dr Pat O'Callaghan who recently appeared on a television programme presented by Brendan O'Reilly. When asked the most important quality in any athlete he replied, "You have got to have belief in yourself especially when things are going wrong". He claimed that this was the real test of an athlete (that bit extra when required).

The Manager's job is to instill this belief into his players and be able to bring out the bit extra that Dr Pat mentioned. There are plenty of people eligible in our own county to assume this managerial role and many of them I feel have been involved with Tipperary Senior teams in the past but in a limited capacity.

(c) I feel it is also important for selectors to work together in harmony, their sincerity must be unquestionable and they must put their County before their clubs or division. The County Board must also show confidence in the men they select. It is important to select a large panel to give players every chance to prove themselves. There is nothing so disheartening as half trying out players and pitching them aside.

At senior level coaching is very important and it builds up a comradeship and commitment for players to improve their skills. A coach's job also is to motivate players and give them some targets to strive for and it primarily improves skill which will be automatically reinforced by plenty of hurling practice. The size of the panel should be 24-30 and they should be kept training together for a long period of time as it takes some players a considerable period of time to gain sufficient confidence.

To sum up I feel that there is an abundance of talent in the County at present to build up a good Senior hurling team but it has got to be appreciated that it will not be achieved overnight but over a period of time and by careful planning and selecting of the right team to take charge of coaching selecting and managing operations.

This team need not be large in number but dedicated to the job and there must be one of the team in charge.

JOHNNY RYAN

MEMORIES OF KENNEDY AND QUIRKE

by John O'Grady

Who could ask finer? A bright fire, a comfortable chair, Johnny Ryan sitting opposite, talking hurling with humour and relish— and, at the appropriate time, his good wife appearing with something appetising to keep us going. The welcome blaze in the grate was fuelled, aptly enough, with material from not far away from Littleton. If anyone should have lots of sound turf it is Johnny— he gave from 1941 (of "Foot-and-Mouth notoriety") till 1979 working with Bord na Mona. The great backman, of club, county and provincial fame; winner of Tipp championships, All-Irelands, and Rail-



way Cups, admired as a defensive craftsman— who better qualified to remember and to assess his fellow-hurlers? If he has a hobby in retirement it might just be that — discussing hurling, recalling men and matches.

My errand was, in a sense, a melancholy one. The year then ending had removed from among the living some very famous players— Tipp hurlers like Martin Kennedy, Dan Mackey, Mick Maher; Cork star Johnny Quirke, Waterford goalkeeper Jim Ware. Sad, certainly but Johnny's appreciation struck a positive note; they had lived and played and gone to their rest.

Jubilee Final

"I had the privilege of playing on Kennedy in my first senior year— that was the Jubilee year of 1934. I was left corner back in the county final which completed the three-in-a-row. Kennedy switched out from full-forward in the second half— he'd been on Joe Maher of Killlough the first half. It was a thrill for me— Martin was a veteran of ten years with Tipp, the most

famous full-forward of all time— I suppose he still is. How did I go about minding him? Well, the only policy was — get there first. I ought to have more speed than him, so 'twould be foolish to stay behind him and let him get the first move. We beat Kilbarron-Kildangan fairly well in that final, so I was happy to come through the test.

What struck Johnny about Kennedy's methods? "Oh, he had a brilliant brain, great ball-control, fast stickwork— and you could expect all sorts of cleverness from him; he varied his tactics from one ball to the next— never kept doing the same thing. He might to out to a ball, crouch as if to stop it, then suddenly step aside and let fly; or he would get possession and go outwards for room to strike a point. Another dodge of his was to make a decoy run to get you to follow him out, and leave room for another forward to take advantage in the open space. And he'd create a free for himself if he could: at the least touch he'd fall out on his face and hands— in the finish the referees would often blow against him because they suspected he was play-acting."

Thurles Replay

"You'd seen him a lot when you were going to the matches as a youngster?" Yes, I remember walking in to Thurles in 1926 for the third match with Cork— the day Martin Mockler was put off for striking "Gah" Aherne. Dinny Lanigan of Limerick was the ref. and I think he didn't like Mockler, ever since Martin knocked him out in 1922. Kennedy was on Sean Oge Murphy that day, of course— their tussles were famous. Martin's first All-Ireland medal was two years before that— the junior of 1924 with Phil Purcell as captain. They went on to win the senior of 1925 and 1930, go to America and become "World Champions"— Johnny Leahy liked to joke with the Cork lads about that title.

"Kennedy was on a team that prevented Moycarkey-Borris from winning four county finals in a row," he recalled. "If they'd beaten Toomevara in 1931 they'd have been champions in 1931–34; but they didn't— Toomevara beat them badly. Martin was back with Kilbarron-Kildangan, of course, when we met in '34; and he was with Kildangan as late as '43'. Did he stay hurling all the years in between, I wondered. "No, he missed a year or two with ill-health in the late thirties;

he made a come-back for that semi-final in Borrisoleigh and got a great goal off Tommy Hayes above at the far end with a quick double. He was well over forty at that stage— he'd won a county as early as 1919 against Boherlahan." What was he like as a person to meet? "Quiet— he wouldn't push himself or talk about his own achievements, but he was always friendly with old comrades and opponents. And though he was quite, he could be got to sing a song when he had a few jars. His favourite was "The Toomevara Greyhounds"— I remember him at it one night in Young's of Latteragh when we were on



Mick Maher

the way home from a game in Portumna. He used to be with Tom Duffy of Lorrha a good bit— Duffy was a great wit. Of course, he's still going strong. Last time I met them together was at John Joe Hayes' funeral— we were in Corcoran's afterwards and had a great trace. People would come up to shake Kennedy's hand— Martin would smile away at them, not saying too much. Tommy Hayes came in and they started talking about '43— 'you didn't treat me too kindly', Martin joked to him. But Martin was a friend to all that he played with or against. 'Twas sad to see him near the finish. 'Sweeper' and myself went in. He knew us all right— God rest him, a wonderful man."

"Mick Maher of Killinan was another great forward," said Johnny, "a real live-wire on the wing, a brilliant clubman with Sarsfields. Himself and Bill Kennedy used to have great battles in those years in the 30s. He could have been on that 1937 team— we beat Kilkenny bad in Killarney with Jim Lanigan as captain. Dan Mackey was a sub that day— I was shocked to hear of

Dan's death, he always looked so well whenever I saw him. A sound midfield player for the Sarsfields along with Paddy Bermingham or Tom Mason—and a very fair hurler, too, though we used to have hard tussles. And Jim Ware of Waterford—he was in the goal the day Tipp. got beaten in Carrick in 1933 — Kennedy was playing of course—after they drew in Waterford. 'Twas wonderful to see Jim Ware there fifteen years afterwards to win the 1948 All-Ireland, himself and a great friend of mine and a marvellous player, John Keane."

Playing Cork

So we came as hurling conversation naturally must, to Cork. "John Quirke—the first day I saw him must have been in Dungarvan in 1934 in a junior match; he was right corner-forward and he wore a black cap—himself and Micka Brennan went in for that kind of a cap. We played Cork twice in '36—the opening

of the Fitzgerald Stadium in Killarney; I remember the Tralee pipers, with two big wolfhounds leading the parade. Dinny McLoughlin of Portroe, Dinny Gorman, Jim Lanigan, John Maher, Willie Wall, Tom Butler of Boherlahan—they were the backs, I think. We met Cork again in the Thomond Feis; "Fox" Collins, George Garrett, Jack Barrett, Johnny Kenneally, Quirke. I was on Connie Buckley of the Glen.

Quirke was one of Cork's best of all time, one of the grandest forwards—he'd educate you to play on him. And I saw him play on Mick Mackey one day in Tipp town; they had it hot and heavy. John was well-built, a lovely cut of a player — he and Brennan were deadly on the smallest chance. I remember Ring being interviewed before the 1940 Munster final— we can't lose while we have Quirky, he said.

"We always got along very well—he entertained me right well if I met him at a match in Cork, at the Southern or the Queen's— he owned the two of them." "What about the Foot-and-

Mouth year?" I enquired, knowing that it would not be Johnny's happiest recollection. He smiled. "Well" he said "I was a bit amused the way Quirke's memory seemed to go blank in the interview on television not long before he died—and, mind you, Ring couldn't seem to remember '41 either, when he was interviewed. But I remember it! The Department of Agriculture wouldn't let us play Cork in Limerick— movement was restricted for fear of spreading the disease. So Cork were let go ahead and beat Dublin in the first of their famous four— but they have no Munster medals to show for '41; we beat them in October for the Munster title— I could never understand why any official All-Ireland was recognised for that year. And it was we that finally beat Cork to stop their run in 1945. Flor Coffey of Boherlahan had a blinder on Quirke in Thurles in that semi-final— I was delighted for Flor because Quirke had the better of him in '44 at Limerick. Quirke was a master hurler, God be good to him."

THE GARDAI SIOCHANA CUP

by S. O Páircín

At under twelve and fourteen years

Great hurlers we have seen;

*But then we saw that they had been
Neglected at sixteen.*

I must confess that our young hurlers have too much *competition* at under twelve, and maybe a little too much, under fourteen. Now, I am *not* saying that they have too much hurling— but too much competition at too early an age. The more hurling they do at home, in the school, going for the cows, in the "haggard", and elsewhere, the better. Hurling is such a skilful game, they need "tons of time" to practise all the skills. Nowadays, young lads do not practise *all* the skills. They practise only some of them— and the one that's usually left out, is striking the ball on the ground. Old hurlers and interested people do not tell them what they should do and what they should avoid. A little word here and a little correction there at an opportune moment *is* coaching— a dirty word to some, mind you, who never bother watching young lads hurling among themselves. "We didn't need coaching" they say. Indeed you did. Not only did old hurlers, who loved the game, correct you but you saw them in action as well. So get out there, you hurlers on the ditch. You're not too old yet. I saw Pat Stakelum pucking around with the seniors a few weeks ago in Littleton and I can tell you they could all learn a lot from the same Pat by just watching the wrist-work and foot-work of the man. Now Pat is a few years— not many—

older than myself. I had seen him in the C.B.S. forty years ago when I was in second year and he was on the Harty Cup and I still have a picture in my mind of the over-head play, and the sweet ground stroke of the great Pat Stakelum who has inspired Dúrlas Og and we know will inspire our seniors to practise the skills of the game— even at this late age— and keep themselves fit to train.

The above has been written to show that our under sixteens needed and still need correct training— in mind and body — at this most important age of their life. Hurling is only one of the Gaelic ways we use in order to develop our youth and make them better Irishmen and better Christians.

There had to be better organisation for the under sixteens. A start was made a few years ago. Grading was introduced and the league system gave more matches to these young men. The Tipperary delegates, among others, on Coiste Iomána na Mumhan backed Kerry when they looked for an under sixteen special hurling competition. That is history now. This, no longer "Special" competition, has the full approval of the Munster Council and the final is played before the minor match on Munster final day.

Incentive provided

Tipperary entered a hurling team from each of the four divisions, North, South, Mid, West— with great success. Trials were held in each division before the final panel was selected. This involved many under sixteen players who had never been given the incentive to wear

the Blue and Gold. He could now be picked on his divisional team and there were hopes for the future of doing better with commitment, discipline, dedication and determination.

Bord na nOg i dTiobraid Atann, a very competent, energetic and far-seeing body of men, thought it would be a good idea if they had a Cup for competition among the four divisions in County Tipperary. It would be very important that this Cup should come from the proper people, who had an interest in the good training and proper behaviour of our youth. My good friend, Chief Superintendent, Eamonn O Cinnéide, Ard-Cheannfoirt na nGardaí i gContae Thiobraid Arann, was approached and the matter was discussed by him and his confreres. The result was, what we had expected from this great body of men, who are doing so much for the good of the country, for youth and for Gaelic games.

Corn na nGardai

A valuable Cup, worth £150 and a cheque for £50 for Badges was handed over to Bord na nOg. The Cup will be known as "Corn na nGardaí Síochána", Contae Tiobraid Arann.

Rath Dé ar an obair iontach, uasal, álainn atá ar siúl don aos óg i gContae Thiobraid Arann.

*They need the help of healthy games,
Those youths of manly mien;
Our noblest prize— our County's hopes
— The hurlers of sixteen.*

GAIRM SCOIL BUIRÍOS UÍ CHÉIN 1983

by Seamus Hogan

Over the years, under-age hurling at both schools and club level has been considered by many as the most exciting and attractive hurling from the spectator viewpoint. For those who attend these games, and sadly the numbers are noticeably declining, this viewpoint is still valid. The reasons for under-age hurling being a greater spectacle are varied but the following aspects we would consider to be relevant. Young people in the twelve to eighteen year age group still take tremendous pride in being given a jersey that makes them official representatives of a school or a parish. That pride is reflected by commitment and enthusiasm on the field of play. It is further reflected by attendance and attention at training and coaching sessions. A second factor that contributes to the spectacle is the fact that these young people, from the skills point of view, are still learning, and even if they have mastered the skills are not physically mature enough to use them all in a competitive game. These young people tend to play to their

strengths and to recognise their weaknesses by not trying the impossible. This leads to a much more honest and straight forward approach to the game of hurling than one tends to witness from the older players.

I have used the introductory paragraph as a means of highlighting the enjoyment and satisfaction that we as a staff have witnessed as a result of our teams participation and success in competitions during 1983. There were many games and particular incidents during those games that will remain special to individuals for the remainder of their lives but the pinnacle of achievement for any player or supporter is when ones team wins an All-Ireland. This pinnacle was reached by our under sixteen hurling team in Killimor, Co. Galway in April. During a long campaign the school defeated Cork and Clare opposition to take the Munster title and Banagher V.S., Co. Offaly in the All-Ireland semi-final. Loughrea V.S. Co. Galway emerged from the other half of the draw as our final opponents. The first meeting ended level after

Loughrea scored a fortuitous but well deserved goal in the final minute of the game. In the replay Borrisokane after a tentative start emerged winners by six points. It would be most inappropriate for me to select certain players for special mention because to win an All-Ireland at any level one must have a panel of players who have that capability. Our panel of players were as follows: E. Donovan (Shinrone); M. Cahalan (Kilruane); G. Leenane (Shannon Rovers); G. Brennan (Knockshegowna); S. Gardiner (Borrisokane); M. Hogan capt. (Shannon Rovers); A. Boyle (Shannon Rovers); M. Tooher (Kilruane); M. Heenan (Borrisokane); P. Hogan (Borrisokane); B. Leenane (Shannon Rovers); D. Quinlan (Kilruane); S. Cleary (Borrisokane); T. Killackey (Kilruane); E. Ryan (Moneygall); A. Fogarty (Knockshegowna); Joe Murphy (do); E. Kelly (Kildangan); A. Tooher (Shinrone); J. Mulvihill (Shannon Rovers); M. McKenna (Borrisokane); P. Houlihan (Lorrha); C. Slattery (Shannon Rovers).

Our senior hurlers also had a success-



Borrisokane— All-Ireland Under-15 Hurling Champions

ful year. In the North Tipp Vocational Schools Competition we had a final victory over Nenagh V.S. as did our junior team. The senior final, however, played in Moneygall, was of major importance as it was also a Munster final. It is significant that both Nenagh and Borrisokane came through their respective sections of the Munster Competition defeating the best that the other Munster counties could produce. Among those victories was a win by Borrisokane over Bandon V.S. who were the reigning All-Ireland champions. The final was of a very high standard and many who attended the game were of the opinion that the two finalists had a number of players who would gain selection on the County Minor team. The observers were wrong but perhaps its not too late to make the point for future years that County Minor selectors might attend schools games and assess potential minors in match situations rather than in trials that can, at times, be misleading. In the All-Ireland semi-final Borrisokane were drawn against Johnstown V.S. and victory went to the Kilkenny team who in turn were defeated by a

single point in the final. Among the players who excelled in this competition were Declan Morris and Paul Corcoran (Borrisokane), Joe Burns (Kilruane) and Michael Holland (Kildangan). These along with others will, we feel, become household names in the future in homes where Tipperary hurling is discussed.

Our teams reached the semi-final and final of the Croke and Fitzgerald Cups respectively being defeated by Templemore C.B.S. by a single point in the former after a replay and falling to arch rivals Cashel C.B.S. in the Fitzgerald final. Overall it was a most successful year. It would be a major achievement to win all the competitions in which one enters teams but too much success may not always be the best result. Participation we feel is most important along with the physical and social development of the young person that participating engenders.

A significant point relating to 1983 was the fact that the teams were coached by a Kerryman. Mr Tom Moriarty, an accomplished footballer, who has no background in hurling—which I consider to be worth noting—performed a most professional job in

presenting teams. They were superbly fit, well motivated, disciplined and always working to a plan. Tom was assisted by Mr T. J. Egan who was also in charge of the North Tipp. inter county team on which Borrisokane was well represented.

A final point. I have mentioned earlier that the highlight of the year for me was success at All-Ireland level. That satisfaction was almost matched by the expression on the faces of some first year students when they learned that they had gained selection on the First Year "B" team. The demand was so great for places on the First Year panel that the school felt obliged to enter a second team. The enthusiasm was great and the anxiety such during the games with substitutes continuously asking "Sir, Sir can I go in now?" that it posed further questions. Are we as a sporting organisation catering for "All" of those who wish to play our games? Are we in any way responsible for driving those who are not so good at hurling or football to the "Street Corners" and to the results that that position can create?



**HANDBALL—
TOM RYAN'S GREATEST YEAR**

Over the past decade Tipperary's Tony Ryan has established himself as one of the all time greats of Irish Handball, with a record of successes that is now virtually impossible to equal. Winner of the under 14 Singles National Title in 1974 and the under 16 title in 1976 and in 1977-78 the young Tipperary lad won a total of 9 All-Ireland and

Minor titles. Even in those early years it was very evident that Ryan possessed many attributes that made him a natural for the game. These attributes coupled with an excellent National Coaching programme, gave Ryan excellent credentials on graduating to the higher grades.

Ryans successes in (under 21) Junior and (under 23) senior grades are too numerous to mention therefore I hope it will be sufficient to say that he has won a total of 24 All-Ireland titles and five under twenty three National titles. His three main attributes are dedication, natural ability and the will to win. It is these that have brought him from the brink of defeat in 1983 when he brought the two National Senior singles titles to the Premier County. The only other player to achieve such a feat was the great Pat Kirby of Clare, and for good measure Ryan also won the Leinster open singles and the 40 x 20 under twenty three international trials. This grand total undoubtedly makes 1983 Tony Ryan's greatest year in Handball. To conclude this is an amazing list of achievements that one may attribute to a veteran of the game, but perhaps more amazing still is the fact that Tipperary's greatest ambassador of Handball is unyielding in his determination to bring further glory to Tipperary in the years that lie ahead. A player who sets the ideal guideline by his honesty on court, this couples with his natural modesty on even the greatest occasions makes him one of the most popular players throughout the Nation.



**TOM MORRISSEY
TOP ACE CHAMPION 1983**

Tom Morrissey's record in Handball goes back to 1975 when he and Eddie Farrell were winners of the 40 x 20 Junior All Ireland Championship. Morrissey's a player that can play in both grades and on to 1978 where he partnered Noel O'Brien they were winners of the 60 x 30 Junior All Ireland doubles and in 1983 Top Ace, Morrissey took on the best there was in Ireland when he came out the winner after beating Ollie Harold in the final. This was the first time that Top Ace trophy came to Tipperary. Tom Morrissey has proven to be an excellent sportsman and a credit to Handball in Tipperary.

DURLAS ÓG

THE TURNING POINT FOR THURLES HURLING

by Michael Dundon

There are many people well versed in hurling lore who attribute Tipperary's present "hurling recession" to the fall from grace of Thurles Sarsfields, who dominated the club scene in the county in the fifties and sixties, and who were always prominent whenever Tipperary were doing well.

The Thurles club could always be relied upon for four to five good county men but this has not been the case for more than a decade now, a period that corresponds intriguingly with the barren spell being experienced by the Premier County.

Not surprisingly then, when people are looking for signs of a revival in Tipperary hurling fortunes, they also ponder the possibility of a return to power of Thurles, taking the view that both go hand in hand.

What may yet prove to be the turning point for Thurles hurling was taken five years ago with the formation of Durlas Og, a juvenile club for the town which had the blessing of the three adult clubs, Sarsfields, Fennellys and Kickhams. Since its inception, this club has gone from strength to strength and is now rightly regarded as the club to beat in all grades.

This year alone, six titles were won in the Mid division, the only championship eluding them being the under 16 football which they lost to Holycross-Ballycahill, having earlier defeated the Holycross boys by a big margin. Indeed,

at under 12 level, not alone did Durlas Og win the hurling and football A titles, but their B hurling team also emerged victorious over the first strings of almost all the other clubs. In all they fielded three u-12 teams.

Such strength in depth of the playing panels augurs well for the future of the club. Oddly enough despite their success in the division, Durlas Og captured only one county title this year, the under 12 football crown, in which they overcame Clonmel in the semi-final with a superlative display, and then accounted for Arravale Rovers in a thrilling county final at Dundrum.

Lack of success in the other grades at county level was attributed largely to the absence of a number of key players on holidays for vital games, a problem which hits the town clubs more than the rural ones.

If success is the criterion by which achievement is measured, it can be seen from the above that Durlas Og's accomplishments are considerable, but even more important than the winning of the championships, which are really only a reflection of the work being done on the ground, is the tremendous revival of interest in hurling and football in the "Cradle Town". Where before the games were at a low ebb, youngsters are now seen everywhere carrying their hurleys, and the abundance of leagues run by the club for the various age groups, have really unearthed a wealth of young talent.

Another factor in the club's success has been the very active under 10 section which meets on Saturday mornings with over one hundred kids enjoying hurling and football at Scoil Ailbe.

Mention of Scoil Ailbe reminds one of what surely must be the greatest asset of Durlas Og, the interest and support of the local Christian Brothers, whose contribution to the club's success since its formation has been outstanding. This is personified at present by school principle, Bro. Michael Keane, a Clare man, who in his few years in Thurles, has done much to carry on the great work initiated by his predecessors Brothers Lombard and Higgins.

Durlas Og have also been fortunate in the quality of its club leaders with men of calibre of county selector, Pat Stakelum (President), Mick Carroll a Kilkennyman (Chairman), John Dunphy, from Laois (Secretary) and Sgt Phil O'Meara (Treasurer). Two local men, Gerard Spain and Jimmy Coppinger are vice-chairmen, while Denis McGrath from Tipperary town is Assistant Secretary.

So with the Centenary Year upon us, we look to the future of Durlas Og, hoping that their success will continue and that in a short space of time, it will be reflected at adult level, with Thurles and Tipperary once more reclaiming their places at the centre of their respective hurling stages.



Durlas Og Under 12 Football County Champions 1983

Back row, l. to r.: Liam Hanrahan, selector; J. Corbett, C. Hanrahan, G. Rafter, S. Quinn, D. Macken, P. Dundon, R. Corbett, Gerry Spain, selector, S. Quinn, A. Claffey, A. Coman, N. Dunne, K. Doherty, Larry O'Connor, selector.
Front row, l. to r.: R. Cotter, L. Barrett, J. Chute, D. O'Grady, G. O'Connor, captain, G. Purcell, T. Ryan, B. O'Dowd, D. Long, S. Mullaney.

Over the post is wide

If you didn't mind all the war news in the papers, the bad summers and the long winters, the wet turf and the Ballingarry coal that wouldn't burn in a turf-range, the short holidays and the long sermons, the gloom that hung in the air for the seven weeks of Lent, Cork's winning four All-Irelands in a row, the scarcity of this, that and the other, and the fact that you couldn't get a bicycle-tyre for love or money—even if you *had* a bicycle—the War Years weren't a bad time to grow up.

Being young and not knowing any better, you thought it was a great time to be alive. Despite all the subsequent talk of food shortages, nobody was hungry. The spuds were plentiful and cheap and of a sight better quality than they are now. Meat was for half nothing, milk was cheap, if often not so clean, and only if you had a sweet tooth did you feel deprived. Life was simple, you made your own entertainment, travel was restricted and what you never knew you didn't miss. And, of course, you only had to look at the morning paper to be reminded that there were worse places than Ireland to live.

But looking back now on the War Years, what I remember most was the freedom we enjoyed on the roads. Motor traffic was almost non-existent and a car was rare enough to be stared at until it was out of sight. The road was a friendly spot, not as it is now, a place of danger, of which children have to be constantly warned and of which parents are constantly fearful. It was a playground and a place of relaxation, a hurling-field, a handball-alley, a rounders diamond and a cricket-green. And we made the most of it, though we were too young to realise that once the war was over it would never be ours again.

The hurling-field was on the far side of town and, except to watch a match on a Sunday, it wouldn't be visited all that often by lads of our age. For a ten-year-old the other side of town was a long way off when you could enjoy yourself just as well on the road without any walking to get there. Coats were taken off and thrown on the ground to serve as goalposts and you didn't have to worry about going home—you would be called as soon as the tea was ready. There might be a match or it might be a game of 'Three Goals' and, except for the Dublin bus or the occasional horse and cart going



by
Seamus Leahy

in the direction of Toomevara, no interruption was expected. The 'goal-posts' seldom had to be moved.

On winter evenings, with premature darkness, only one coat was needed. The electric light pole outside Kavanaghs served not just as the second goal-post but as a provider of floodlighting so that a game of 'Three Goals' could last until someone at home remembered that young lads shouldn't be out so late.

'Three Goals' had its own very definite rules and everyone knew that if the ball went over even a sleeve of the jacket serving as goalpost, it was wide. The rule was unequivocal and every few minutes the shout went up—"Over the post is wide!" Sometimes I think that if some of our rules today were enforced half as stringently as that, there wouldn't be half the trouble there is at matches.

The ball, of course, was often a problem. Rubber was one of the vital commodities which the Japanese had a grip on and the western world wasn't exactly using all its supplies to make balls for young fellows to play with on the road. A tennis ball or a sponge ball couldn't be got anywhere and when one went into the nettles in Hodgin's field or the high grass in the Well Field you didn't just leave it there—you might spend the rest of the day looking for it. Mick McGrath in Pound Street made 'shoeleathers', as we called sliotars but they cost four-and-sixpence and that was a lot of money at a time when two pounds a week was a good wage.

Tin Can Hurling

No, as often as not, what we used for hurling on the road was a tin can—an empty Bachelors tin did fine until it was belted entirely out of shape. And, if it wasn't altogether to our liking, it taught us one thing—to hurl the ball on the ground. There wasn't much point in trying to pick up an old pea-tin after it had lost its shape.

Hurleys were scarce then, too, and one of the best ways of getting one was to attend faithfully at the hurling field on a Sunday and, when you saw one broken in a match, tear in and retrieve the parts. Mind you, that could be a risky operation at times as, with lots of other fellows having the same idea as yourself, you had to be quick off the mark. I remember one day during a match between Kilruane and Kildangan in which there was more than the usual quota of broken ash, the referee had to halt the proceedings to rid the field of a few young lads in a heap fighting over a broken stick. It didn't stop them flying in for the next one that was broken, either.

Seeing that our family was more interested in hurling than most, we were better provided than most in the matter of hurleys. But with hurleys, as with suits of clothes, in big families there is a tradition of hand-me-downs and when you're near the end of the line, as I was, your hurley tended to be much mended and heavy with hoop and nails. Townies didn't have access to a 'makings' as country fellows did and there was the height of contempt for the kind of hurleys sold in shops—'makeboxes' we called them. But anyway money was too scarce to be spent on a commodity that should be out of a ditch.

I was nearly eleven when I got the first hurley that was completely and entirely and utterly my own—untouched by another hand until I swung it myself. During the summer of 1945—that most exciting of all exciting summers, when John Maher and his men stopped Cork's gallop towards five All-Ireland in a row—I, being as usual on holidays in Tubberadors, went one afternoon into the barn to find my brother Rory studying a 'makings' which had been seasoning in the left for a long time past. It had no doubt, been out from somebody's ditch on a dark night but something had gone wrong) it was not ash, but elm. "Do you want it?" he asked me.

Did I want it? Before the words

were well out of his mouth I had the 'makings' tied with binder-twine to the handlebars of my Uncle Johnny's big bike and was pedalling furiously underbar, saddle under my oxters, down to Jim Kennedy's in Glenbane. "I'm in a hurry!" I shouted to Martin Connolly when he tried to flag me down below the cross and not all the potholes that the Council men had left behind them on the road could slow me down.

But Jim Kennedy was less than enthusiastic about the whole proposition. "Had they nothing else to give you down there only an owl lump of elm?" he asked with heavy contempt. And he threw the 'makings' inside the door with such apparent disdain that for a minute I thought he couldn't bear the thought of looking at it again. Still, his last word was reassuring—"Come in and wee me tomorrow and I'll have something made out of it." The implication was that the 'something' wouldn't necessarily be a hurley.

Virtues of Elm

Being so near to my Uncle Paddy's place in Holycross, I thought I would continue on and tell him my tale and find out what he thought of an elm 'makings'. The finest stuff at all, he assured me, every bit as good as ash; and as he saw me rising to the praise of

elm he began to reel off the names of the great men who never used anything else but elm hurleys. All the real stylists, he told me, from Lory Meagher to Phil Cahill to Dinny Barry Murphy used elm sticks and, though I knew he was coddling me, I felt reassured that anyway there was nothing really wrong with elm.

I drank the tea and set off back for Tubberadora but when I got near to Glenbane the longing to have another look at the 'makings' took hold of me and I decided that, even though I had left him only an hour ago, I would call on Jim Kennedy on the pretext of wanting to find out what time I should call next day. He was watching me coming and when he stepped out of the workshop what was he carrying only a white, lovely, slim, shiny, smooth-finished hurley! And even though I couldn't take my eyes off it, I was conscious that Jim himself was pleased with the end product.

Life has held many glorious moments but I doubt if any ever quite surpassed for me my first feel of that elm hurley. Like Phil O'Neill's 'ould Fenian gun'—"I fondled it with love and pride, I looked it o'er and o'er," and a dozen times between Glenbane and Tubberadora I got off the bike to score imaginary points over the ditch. My brother afterwards maintained that before I had reached the Mill he could

hear me shouting, "I got it! He made it! I have it!"

I learned a lot about hurleys from that stick. It was lighter by far than ash and as a result it was less effective on the ground. But it had a tremendous spring and consequently you could put great distance in a ball out of your hand. Years afterwards Mansie Ryan in Nenagh told me that when he was young he used play in the goals and he always kept an elm hurley for pucking out the ball. It gave great length to the puckout.

It doesn't seem all that long ago, but the world has changed a lot since. They don't hurl on Nenagh's Dublin Road anymore, though Joey's supermarket would give them grand light on a winter's evening. Jim Kennedy's workshop is no more and Jim himself is long since gone to make hurleys where the elm is even better than the ash. But when I'm driving nowadays from Clonmel to Nenagh, I seldom pass along the road between Tubberadora and Holycross without seeing in my mind's eye a young fellow tearing along under the bar of a big bicycle, eyes shining like the elm hurley tied across the handlebars. And I seldom drive down the Dublin Road in wintertime without seeing in memory a crowd of young lads hurling under the lamplight outside Kavanaghs—and always one of them shouts, "Over the post is wide!"

**CO. TIPPERARY G.A.A.
CENTENARY MUSEUM**

Amongst the sub-committees of the centenary commemoration committee is one charged with the task of organising a museum of G.A.A. interest.

This committee is under the chairmanship of William Corbett, Drombane who organised the first Feile na nGael museum in Thurles in 1971.

The centenary museum must be a tangible display of the history of the G.A.A. within the county over the past century—an expression of appreciation and of gratitude, of pride and of joy in one hundred years of achievement.

The museum is being organised at county and divisional level and in addition each club is requested to put on its own exhibition locally. The county museum will be in Thurles and will be open on a number of suitable occasions during 1984. Each division



William Corbett

will make its own arrangements with regard to dates and venues.

There is within each club a wealth of valuable material; all that is required is that it be collected, possibly reproduced or copied and suitably displayed.

Visitors to any museum instinctively seek out the items from their home area. Hence the organising committee relies on each club to see that it is represented at divisional and county level. Each club has had its great men, its hours of glory. Far too often these are forgotten. In the centenary year we cannot afford to forget.

We appeal, therefore, to all who have suitable museum material—old photographs, trophies, medals, hurleys, hurling balls, programmes etc. to immediately contact their club officials or the county museum director—William Corbett, Drombane, Thurles.

South Tipperary Round Up

by Michael O'Meara, South Board Secretary

Whilst the overall standards might have left something to be desired the 1983 Championship campaign in the South Division will be remembered for some great competition, outstanding finals and increased attendances. Only three clubs succeeded in retaining their crowns and the most successful club was Carrick Swan who brought off a unique hat trick of hurling titles. The successful return of Old Bridge to the junior football ranks, the long awaited junior hurling triumph of Marlfield, the surprise but well merited success of Kilsheelan in senior football and Killenale's intermediate hurling crown were other highlights of an eventful year during which upwards of 200 games were played in generally sporting and incident free manner.

With Centenary Year now upon us it might be revealing to give a club by club account of the progress of the leading clubs in the division during 1983 and their prospects for the year ahead.

Carrick Swan

Swan competed in nine of the ten championships organised by the Board (Senior Football was the exception) and for the first time ever in the Division they succeeded in winning three hurling titles— minor, under 21 and senior. The senior success was of course the sweetest but the men in black and white had to fight extremely hard to overcome the brave challenge of Eire Og in a well contested and exciting final. Swan went on to defeat Lorrha in the Co. quarter-final but failed to do themselves justice in the semi-final when beaten comprehensively by Loughmore-Castleiney. The minors, following a good semi-final



Kilsheelan— South Senior Football Champions 1983.

Front row, l. to r.: J. Larkin, J. Fitzpatrick, C. Robinson, B. Sexton, M. Ormonde, P. Larkin captain, L. Corcoran, B. Ahearne, M. Nolan, S. Kennedy, S. Nugent, J. Ormonde, S. Connolly, selector.

Back row, l. to r.: T. Larkin, selector; E. Larkin, J. Kehoe, T. O'Connor, K. Geraghty, G. Kehoe, L. Murphy, T. Loneragan, W. Robinson, W. Smith, M. Kehoe, S. Whelan, L. Stokes. Mascot: L. Robinson.

success over St Marys proved too strong for Eire Og in the South final and gave a great account of themselves in running eventual champions Moycarkey/Borris close in the county semi-final. The under 21 side brought off the hat trick in comfortably accounting for Cahir/Ballybacon and they await a meeting with the Mid champions with confidence. All the other teams fielded by the club acquitted themselves extremely well and mention must be made of the junior teams in both grades who besides having a good championship run have qualified for both league finals.

The club enjoys a deep wealth of talent and it is certain that when the 1984 honours lists are compiled that the name of Swan will be well to the fore.

Carrick Davins

1983 was again a barren year for this once so successful club but there were indications that Centenary year might prove more rewarding. The senior

hurlers did well to reach the Divisional semi-final in which they went under to Swan but the underage standards were somewhat disappointing. The minor footballers showed some promise however whilst the intermediates enjoyed a good run in the championship before going under to Newcastle in the decider.

Kilsheelan

Success in the senior football final was the highlight of the year for this club and that success was all the more sweet as the defeated finalists were neighbours Fethard who had started hot favourites. Kilsheelan owed much to the fine displays of Gerry Kehoe, Kevin Geraghty, Pat Larkin, Liam Murphy and Liam Stokes but their hopes of bringing off the double by taking the county crown were dashed by injury and they lost narrowly to Loughmore/Castleiney in the semi-final. On the hurling front the club battled bravely against eventual champions Killenale in the semi-final before losing narrowly and they joined with Fethard to retain the minor football crown. The club is well organised and very competitive and looks set for a rewarding year in 1984.

Fethard

Following two great wins over Ardfinnan and holders Commercials Fethard were very hot favourites to take the senior football title but in an exciting second half they failed to contain a late great effort from Kilsheelan and lost narrowly. At county level their luck did not improve. Having ousted Galtee Rovers in the semi-final they led Loughmore/Castleiney by seven points with only two minutes remaining in the final only to concede



Carrick Swans— South Senior Hurling Champions

Back row, l. to r.: D. O'Meara, selector; W. Loneragan, selector; J. Hahessy, W. Barrett, P. Kirby, J. Fitzpatrick, S. Fitzpatrick, M. Grace, M. J. Russell, P. Walsh, D. Loneragan, M. Faulkner, T. Fitzpatrick, B. Loneragan, T. Waters, J. Hogan, selector.

Front row, l. to r.: T. O'Neill, selector; G. Walsh, captain; M. Walsh, B. White, T. Russell, S. O'Shea, M. Roche, M. Walsh, W. Hahessy, D. Power, B. O'Neill, trainer, Mascots: S. Fitzpatrick, K. Walsh.



Fethard beaten finalists— County Senior Football Championship

Back row, l. to r.: P. Harrington, P. Hanrahan, L. Connolly, J. Morrissey, A. O'Riordan, A. Coleville, M. O'Riordan, B. Burke, R. Hayes, Jim Butler, D. Burke, Joe Allen.
Front row, l. to r.: D. Williams, N. Sharpe, M. Healy, M. Harrington, A. B. Kennedy, J. Hackett, M. Fitzgerald, P. Kerwick, Joe Keane, T. Sheehan.



Commercials— South 21 Football Champions

Back row, l. to r.: D. O'Keeffe, S. Lonergan, E. Cusack, S. McMahon, L. Fahey, D. O'Shea, R. Gaffey, E. Wynne, J. Fanning, J. Hill, A. O'Dwyer.
Front row, l. to r.: W. Peters, T. O'Neill, M. O'Connell, J. McNamara, F. Kelly, S. Walzer, M. Lynch, P. Mac Gabhann, A. McCarthy.



Old Bridge, Clonmel, South Tipp. Junior Football Champions

Back row, l. to r.: Bunny Lambe (mentor), Patsy Lambe, Cyril Murphy, John Lonergan, Tony Cronin, T. J. Corby, Walter Ryan, Tony Hogan, Tom Lambe, Paddy Reilly, Seamus Moroney, Jimmy Ryan, Danny Wynne (mentor).
Front row, l. to r.: Philip Fahey, Tony Boyle, John Devitt, John Fraher, Billy Lambe (captain), Kevin Sloey, John Joe Wynne, Seamie Shannon, Michael Sullivan, Jimmy Quinn (mentor).

two goals and a point and finish level. In the replay they again looked likely winners but again lost out to a late rally from Loughmore and went under by the narrowest of margins. In Intermediate hurling the club lost to Cahir at the semi-final stage and the only joy in a rather unlucky year came when St Augustines retained the minor football title.

The club however has some splendid young talent and players like Brian Burke, Tommy Sheehan, the Hacketts, Liam Connolly and company should insure that the blues should be to the forefront in the coming year.

Commercials

Following on the great senior successes of the previous year it came as a major disappointment to players and supporters alike that both south and county titles were lost when Fethard came out on top in the South semi-final. To be fair Commercials were troubled by injury on that occasion but an otherwise poor year was compensated for to some degree when the under 21 side showed great skill and ability to overcome a highly rated Ardfinnan fifteen in the South final. The county championship is awaited with some optimism but whatever the outcome here Commercials should have at title or two to collect in Centenary Year.

Ardfinnan

The past year was again barren for Ardfinnan but as Chairman Pete Savage said in his address to the club's Annual Convention 'there is much hope for the future'. The seniors gave some splendid displays before going under to Fethard whilst the minors reached the South semi-final and the under 17 team were defeated finalists in the League. The club had great hopes for the under 21 side which fielded nine players of senior experience. However, they never really played up to their true potential and were well defeated by Commercials. The junior team also had a good championship run but were no match for the Old Bridge in the final. With plenty of good young talent to call on however it can only be a matter of time before Ardfinnan are back at the top in Tip. football.

Ballingarry

This progressive club contested eight championships during the year and although they failed to win a title they gave a good account of themselves. The senior hurlers proved a major disappointment however going out of the championship at an early stage whilst the under age teams did not look as strong as usual. It would be folly however to write off Ballingarry's future prospects and I have a feeling that with the right approach and preparation the men in maroon will make a bold bid for senior honours in '84. The club's most success-

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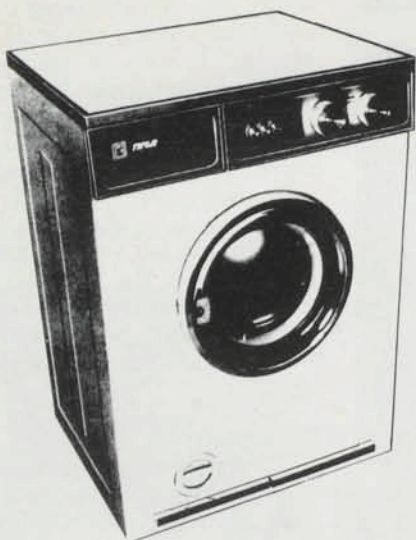
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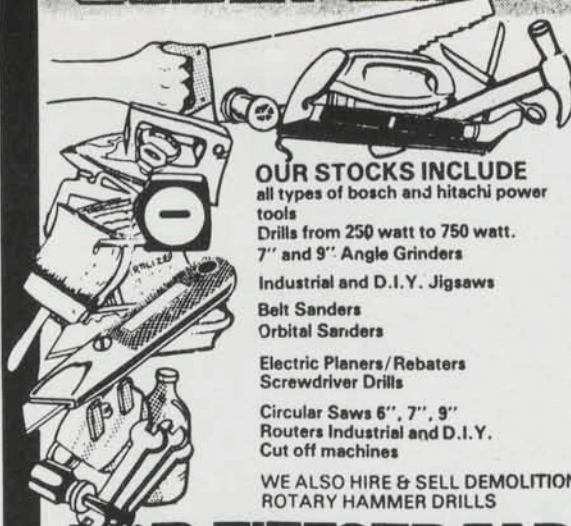


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ful side in the past year was the junior side which fought two tremendous tussles with Marlfield before losing the South final replay by a single point.

Cahir

The club's intermediate hurlers had a good run of success up to the final where after a great start they failed to stay the pace and were defeated by Killenaule after a fine game. The senior footballers met with little success but there was a lot to like about the efforts of the club's minor footballers who won the league and went under to eventual winners St Augustines in the championship semi-final. The under 21 hurlers in combination with Ballybacon-Grange advanced to the final but were no match for Swan. However the great effort being made at minor level in the club is sure to bring dividends in the immediate future.

Moyle Rovers

The club met with little success on the field during the past year at senior Board level but the provision of a playing field proved a major milestone in the history of the club. Mention must also be made of the club's juvenile effort which culminated in winning Turas na n-Og and both county under 14 titles.

These successes combined with the promising efforts of the underage group team Slievenamon have shown that the club has an extremely bright future and much should be heard of Moyle Rovers in the years ahead.

Newcastle

The winning of the Intermediate football crown was the highlight of the year for the club and at the time of writing hopes are high that a county title will be on its way for one of the smallest parishes in the county. The intermediate success was achieved in style for Newcastle were unbeaten right through the championship, run on a league basis, and had a comfortable win over Carrick Davins in the final. The club has a wealth of good young footballing talent and its future looks extremely secure. In hurling the juniors were extremely unlucky to go under by a single point to eventual champions Marlfield in the final and they must have a bright chance of gaining compensation in Centenary year.

Killenaule

After many years of knocking on the door in the Intermediate grade Killenaule finally came good and deservedly took the championship by defeating Cahir in one of the best finals of the year. The team disappointed by losing to Moyne in the county semi-final but there is a wealth of talent in Killenaule and this defeat is seen as but a temporary blow. The majority of the side are young and hopes are high that county honours will be achieved in



St Augustines, South Minor Football Champions

Back row, l. to r.: K. Cahill, J. Geraghty, P. Sullivan, J. Sheehan, P. Hayes, L. Connolly, T. Sheehan, T. Ryan, B. Burke, P. Ryan, C. Coen, M. Riordan, E. Larkin.
Front row, l. to r.: F. McCormack, J. Ormonde, P. Mullins, G. Murphy, D. Ryan, J. Woodcock, J. Hackett, M. O'Meara, D. Hackett, B. Higgins, W. O'Meara, W. Connolly.



Swan, Minor Hurling South Champions

Back row, l. to r.: J. Hogan, D. Hahessy, K. Waters, J. Waters, P. McCormack, W. Barrett, M. Hogan, S. Keyes, S. Loneragan, D. Hogan.
Middle row, l. to r.: J. Ryan, P. O'Brien, K. O'Shea, J. Connolly, N. Daniels, M. Walsh, M. Phelan, P. Woods, S. Torpy.
Front row, l. to r.: P. Houlihan, P. Quinlan, T. O'Neill, D. Hogan.



Pictured after South Convention 1983— John Kehoe, Co. Board, T. Murphy, County Board, M. Walsh, Vice Chairman, M. Egan, Chairman, M. O'Meara, Chairman, P. Browne, Vice Chairman, Phil O'Shea, County Board.

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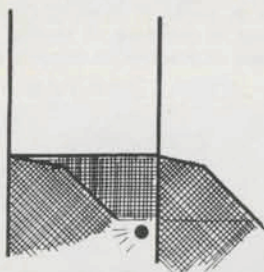
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Dony O'Dwyer presenting the Jerome O'Dwyer Cup to perpetuate the memory of his late father former Coolmoynne and county hurler to MI Egan, South Board Chairman. Present also is MI O'Meara, South Board Secretary and Ita O'Dwyer, daughter.

'84. The Eire Og combination confounded the critics by advancing to the senior hurling final and put up a splendid performance before losing narrowly to Swan.

Old Bridge

The club returned to the fold this year and brought new life to the junior football championship. Impressive wins in early rounds saw the Bridge through to the final against Ardfinnan and this game drew a record junior final attendance to Cahir. Inspired by the efforts of Cyril Murphy and Billy Lambe Old Bridge were full value for a comfortable success and there were some tremendous scenes of enthusiasm as the championship trophy was presented. Unfortunately the Bridge failed to play up to their best form in the county semifinal and went under to Thurles Sarsfields. However they showed a lot

of talent and should be a major force in the Intermediate grade next year.

St Marys

1983 will be remembered as a most unlucky year by the Clonmel club who lost to Swan in both senior and under 21 grade in controversial fashion. The minors also went under to the Carrick side whilst the juniors had a useful championship run before losing to Marlfield. However there is no doubt at all but that St Marys have the talent and the enthusiasm to put their 1983 reverses behind them and it will be a surprise if they fail to get their name among the titles in Centenary year.

The remainder of the 39 clubs affiliated in the division made relatively little impact on the championship scene. For some the lack of success over the past year was just a passing phase and we can expect to see teams like Fr Sheehys, Mullinahone, Bally-

poreen, Ballybacon-Grange and Grange-mockler back in contention for championship honours in the near future. Other clubs however have their problems and it will take much effort and enthusiasm before they can be regarded as viable units of the Association. Our wish for Centenary Year is that these clubs will make a genuine effort to improve their standards and play a full part in ensuring that 1984 will not merely be remembered as Centenary year but will be a year that will be recalled as a particular milestone in the history of each club in the South Division.

Honours List 1983

Senior Hurling final— Carrick Swan 3-11
Eire Og 1-11. Ref. Willie Barrett.
Senior Football final— Kilsheelan 1-11,
Fethard 1-10. Ref. Jimmy McCarthy.
Intermediate Hurling final— Killenaule
2-12, Cahir 2-7. Ref. Mosey Walsh.
Intermediate Football final— Newcastle
3-6, Carrick Davins 0-3. Ref. Willie
Robinson.
Junior Hurling final— Marlfield 1-12,
Ballingarry 2-9. Ref. Joe Keane.
Replay Marlfield Ballingarry
Ref. Willie Barrett.
Junior Football final— Old Bridge 1-10,
Ardfinnan 0-2. Ref. Tommy Lonergan
21 Hurling final— Carrick Swan 2-11,
Cahir/Ballybacon 0-3. Ref. Joe Keane
21 Football final— Commercials 3-7,
Ardfinnan 1-6. Ref. Jimmy McCarthy
Minor Hurling final— Carrick Swan 4-9,
Eire Og 1-2. Ref. Arthur Daly.
Minor Football final— St Augustines 2-6;
Commercials 0-5. Ref. Maurice Hyland

REV. A. B. KENNEDY: FETHARD ALL-ROUNDER

This year on 11th June A. B. Kennedy captain of Fethard Senior Football team was ordained a priest at Thurles Cathedral. Son of Mr and Mrs Sean Kennedy Burke St, Fr A. B. grew up in the shadow of Fethard's Augustinian Abbey, where perhaps the first seeds of his vocation were sown.

During his school days at Fethard Patrician Brothers Primary and Secondary schools Fr A. B. first showed his natural aptitude for all games but especially for his beloved football and hurling. He 'made' the Fethard Senior Football team while still a teenager and gave great service through the years both to his native parish and to St Luke's Clonmel with whom he played for a term during his psychiatric nursing career. Fr A. B. excelled at football and hurling on which he concentrated, but had he so wished he could have been equally successful at any game of his choice. As a teenager he was a top class badminton player and one season alone he played — Tipperary, Waterford District and Munster under age championships,



winning eight and being runner up in the other event.

During the course of his 'homily' preached at his first Mass at Fethard parish church on 12th June Fr A. B. said that he often wondered if the Holy Spirit had made a mistake in picking him. Those of us in Fethard who know him and were team mates

of his can assure him that anyone who picked Fr A. B. never made a mistake as he always gives more than 100%.

Fr A. B. ministers in the Diocese of Clonfert. We wish him God's blessing in his sacred ministry. We will remember him in our prayers as he will the people of Fethard in his.

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MAURICE DAVIN

Part 2



by Seamus O Riain

Last year I wrote a short article for the Year Book on Maurice Davin, the first President of the Gaelic Athletic Association and one of its founders. It was an attempt to assess the part which Davin played in the foundation of the association and to redress in some way the neglect of the years in giving him due credit for the manner in which he served in the early difficult years in imposing discipline and regulation on the infant body.

Since then additional material has come to light which enforces the opinions expressed in that article, and which adds considerably to Davin's stature as a leader and which emphasises his role both in the lead up to the foundation meeting on 1st November 1884, and in the following years. It has sometimes been assumed that Davin's first show of interest in a new association was on 18th October 1884 when he replied to Cusack's article of the previous week in "United Ireland" and the "Irishman" supporting the idea put forward by Cusack, for a new association. Marcus de Burca in "The G.A.A. A History" has pointed out that Davin had supported earlier attempts to form a governing body for athletics.

There is now in existence definite evidence that Davin and Cusack were in communication some months prior to October with a view to setting up an association. Plans were under consideration as early as August for a meeting to be held on 1st November at some central venue in Tipperary. It appears that Davin was thinking of Dublin as a possible venue but Cusack advised not to bother his head about Dublin and that it would be better to go to the provinces initially. Even the advisability of gaining the support of national leaders as patrons was discussed at that stage.

Drafts of rules for the Association made by Davin in the early days emphasise the leading role which he played in preparing the material for the first Official Guide. He was very strong on strict application of rules and regulations. He was a man of very strong and upright character who could not endure lack of discipline and order and his final resignation was the result of what he considered to be breaches of regulations and the absence of strict adherence to proper procedures.

Davin with Archbishop Croke and Michael Davitt made the vital moves for

reconstructing the Association in 1887 after the disastrous split earlier in the year. It is not too much to claim that the whole process for reunion centred on the unifying personality of Davin. His statement setting forth what was needed to set the Association on a proper course and his appeal for unified effort is as relevant in 1984 as it was in 1887:

"It is a pity that men who have worked so hard before this for the benefit of the Association should now disagree so much about the manner of governing it. Ill feeling has spread and bad motives have been attributed in many cases where there is only mis-



understanding of the rules or the position of some of the parties. All bickerings should cease. They have done no good.

I would say to the hurlers, football players and athletes generally: one of the objects of the founders of the Gaelic Athletic Association was to put down factions and make you good friends with one-another. Do not allow your Association to be split up in parties by anyone. There is no reason why it should. Union amongst Irishmen was never more wanted than at the present time."

These are the words of a deep-thinking man who possessed the qualities of leadership. Conscious of his responsibility as the man chosen to bring the association back on course Davin rose above all the pettiness and bickering, called for an end to personal animosities which had threatened to destroy the Association, and pointed firmly to the way ahead. They were words not to be read and forgotten, but to be taken to heart and acted upon. It was the Association's loss that this was not so.

After his final resignation from the presidency Davin took no further part in the central administration of the

Association, but that is not to say that he did not retain a deep interest in its proceedings. There is evidence that he kept in close touch with all the activities and that he kept records of its progress. He continued to play an active role in the organisation of local games and athletics in Carrick-on-Suir and it is important to remember that the All-Ireland hurling final of 1904 postponed to 1906, was played on his land in Deerpark, in the field where he and his famous athletic brothers Pat and Tom trained for the many athletic contests in which the three of them became world-beaters.

Being disciplined in every activity he engaged in, he had no place for foul tactics or rowdiness on the field of play. Whenever a newspaper report told of fighting in any of our games he made a short comment: "Some of the new Gaels". We have much to learn from Maurice Davin and it should not be too much to ask that in the Centenary year that is upon us with the All-Ireland hurling final being staged in Thurles, his memory should be perpetuated in Semple Stadium in a tangible and lasting way as a memorial to the honourable part he played in laying the foundation of the Gaelic Athletic Association. After all, he is the foremost of all Tipperary's G.A.A. persons.

MID BORD NA n-OG RESULTS 1983- TORTHAI

- U. 12 Hurling- Dúrlas Og
- U. 12 Football- Dúrlas Og
- U. 14 rural hurling- Moycarkey-Borris
- U. 14 urban rural hurling- Dúrlas Og
- U. 14 rural football- Holycross-Ballycahill
- U. 14 urban/rural football- Dúrlas Og
- U. 16 hurling- Dúrlas Og
- U. 16 football- Holycross-Ballycahill
- U. 12 "B" hurling- Dúrlas Og
- U. 12 "B" football- Templetuohy-Moyne
- U. 14 "B" hurling- Upperchurch-Drombane
- U. 14 "B" football- Boherlahan-Dualla
- U. 16 "B" hurling- Upperchurch-Drombane
- U. 16 "B" football- Loughmore-Castleiney

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 1983

NOLLAIG SHONA DHIBH UILE—
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1983: Memorable Year for Roscrea

Amazing Rate of Success at Under Age Level

by Seamus O'Doherty, Roscrea Juvenile G.A.A. Secretary

The year just ending will be remembered for a long time by Roscrea, as it was a year in which unrivalled success was achieved at several levels.

Divisional and county titles were amassed in hurling; a Community Games All Ireland hurling title added for good measure, while on the football scene divisional titles were won at four juvenile grades.

This success was most welcome particularly in view of the temporary fall from grace of our senior hurlers—the usual standard bearers, at top level.

Let's recall now the main happenings at the different grades in both codes which resulted in the enjoyment of the season.

Under 13½ Hurlers—

All Ireland Champions

This was the clubs all conquering side of 1983; the team which won North Tipperary, County Tipperary, Munster and All Ireland titles. It was a team which worked hard throughout the season, played wonderful hurling, thrilled many people and brought honour to themselves, their families and their club. All Ireland victory seemed a long way off when this team opened its campaign against local rivals St Flannan's back in May. Victory was achieved readily enough and a meeting with our other local rivals Toomevara was next on the programme. After an exciting encounter Roscrea emerged winners on a 2-3 to 1-3 scoreline and at last people began to take sight of this team. The county finals against Cashel played in Semple Stadium was most

exciting and with ten goals scored you can gauge the excitement. Roscrea's margin of victory was perhaps greater than it should have been as Cashel played very well also.

Roscrea were preparing for the Munster championship, to be held in Cork on 16th July. David Fitzpatrick was captain and people generally got to hear the names of the other stars. In Cork an easy 6-8 to 3-1 win over Kilfinane from Limerick was followed by a very tough Munster semi final against Brian Dillon's of Cork. It was a thrilling game however, and Roscrea proved their worth by holding on to a three point lead for the last ten minutes, despite endless pressure from the Cork boys. The score here was 2-4 to 2-1. Scores came from Michael Hogan 1-2, Colm Phelan 1-0, David Kruse 0-2. There was a break of one week before the Munster final, which was against Kenmare of Kerry and was fixed for Ballyphilbin near Mitchelstown. Roscrea played some good hurling here and after leading by 2-1 to 0-1 at half time, the game was clinched by Colm Phelan's second half goal. The final score was 3-4 to 1-2. Michael Hogan was again outstanding, scoring 2-3. A great welcome was given to the team on its return to Roscrea that evening. It showed the goodwill of the townspeople towards the young hurlers and gave those in charge the necessary incentive to carry on. The team had now qualified to represent Tipperary and Munster in the All Ireland Community Games finals in Mosney Holiday Centre Co. Meath September.

Serious training for Mosney started in Mid August, under Dan Kennedy and Hugh McDonnell. Soon we heard the draw for the semi-finals. Roscrea v Athenry of Galway—the reigning champions! It was a tough draw. In all probability the winners would meet Birr from Offaly in the All Ireland final. The time passed quickly and soon we were in Mosney. It was time for our game with Athenry. The Taoiseach Dr Fitzgerald, T.D. was introduced to both teams by their respective captains. It was a fiercely contested game. Roscrea led at half time by 1-3 to 1-1. Athenry did come back to level in the second half, but Roscrea finished in style with goals from Michael Hogan and Colm Phelan to clinch it by 3-5 to 2-2. Colm Phelan scored 2-1 in the semi-final, while David Kruse, Liam Fallon, Denis Kennedy, Philip O'Rourke and Michael Hogan were also excellent.

Birr duly won their semi-final and so the stage was set for the final on Sunday 11th September. From early morning the supporters from both towns were arriving at the centre. All of Roscrea seemed to be present. It was a great day for hurling, the pitch was beautiful, the crowd large and the day dry. Brother James of Laois was referee and what a start there was. Birr scored a goal in the first minute. Were Roscrea in trouble? Michael Hogan replied swiftly with the equaliser. Brendan Dooley scored a goal and a point to enable Roscrea to lead by 2-1 to 1-0 at half time. Birr tried all they knew in the second half to overhaul Roscrea but a very well organised goalkeeper and defence kept them out, while the midfielders and forwards took their chances. Brendan Dooley scored another goal in the second half and Denis Kennedy pointed. The final score was 3-2 to 1-1. Wonderful scenes of joy and enthusiasm followed the final whistle. It was even better when the team ascended the rostrum to receive the All-Ireland trophy and gold medals. The photographs, the final parade, the congratulations. The welcome home on the following evening was even better than the Munster final welcome. It was a night for hurling—it was a year for hurling! The congratulations of all who love the game of hurling in Roscrea are offered to team trainer Hugh McDonnell and Dan Kennedy and all who helped them during the year. But its the players, names which must be recorded, the first team ever to bring



Roscrea— Tipperary, Munster and All-Ireland Community Games Under 13½ Hurling Champions 1983

Back row, l. to r.: Dan Kennedy, selector; Damian Woods, Denis Kennedy, Colm Phelan, David Fitzpatrick, captain, Padraig Nugent, Eoin Maher, Paul Cordial, David Kruse, Fabian Jones, T. F. Barrett, Chairman Roscrea Juvenile G.A.A., Hugh McDonnell, selector.
Middle row, l. to r.: Michael Hogan, Trevor Dynan, Donal Hogan, Aonghus O'Connor, Philip O'Rourke, Liam Fallon, Brendan Dooley, Noel Aherne.
Front row, l. to r.: Gerry Kennedy, Paul Moloney, Aidan Connelly.

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Roscrea— North and County finalists in minor hurling 1983.

Back row, l. to r.: Murt Deane (selector), Joe Mullally, Seamus McLoughlin, Brendan Carey, Michael Nolan, Sean Gleeson, Mick Hogan (selector), Liam Carson, Paul Delaney, Brian England, Paul Dolan, John Pyne, Barry Barrett (Manager),
Front row, l. to r.: Eamon England, David Cummins, Brendan Connolly, Fergus Hearn, Tommy Grimes, Mark Fletcher captain, Tony Hctor, Dan O'Donnell, Johnny Wright, Donnacha Ryan, Aidan Minogue. Photo "Tipperary Star"

All Ireland gold medals to Roscrea: David Fitzpatrick (captain), D. Woods, P. Moloney, A. O'Connor, D. Kruse, L. Fallon, D. Kennedy, P. Nugent, M. Hogan, P. O'Rourke, F. Jones, E. Maher, C. Phelan, B. Dooley, P. Cordial, T. Dynan, G. Kennedy, Donal Hogan, N. Ahearne, D. O'Sullivan, Damien Hogan, M. Mullally, E. Killoran, M. McLoughlin, M. England.

Under 16s. North and County Hurling Champions— North Football Champions

For the under 16s 1983 was a glorious year, when the North and County titles were annexed in hurling and the North title was taken in football for good measure.

What made the great success of the hurlers so sweet was that for all of the players it was their first County Tipperary Bord na nOg title, while for the club, it was its first County Bord na nOg title since the under 16 hurling title was last won in 1978. For the supporters there was the satisfaction of seeing one of the best ever under 16 teams seen in Tipperary, a team which reached its peak on county final day to give a devastating display of team work, which drew gasps of admiration from all.

It was a long season for the under 16 hurlers. Training started on Sunday 6th March in St Cronan's Park, when a hardy bunch of 23 players and 4 selectors braved the elements to start the season. On that day the great spirit which served so well throughout the season was seen for the first time. On that Sunday too, Brian England was selected by his fellow players to lead them in the 1983 championship. Peter Gleeson was elected vice captain. The early season sessions were light and when we faced Eire Og Nenagh in our first championship game at the end of April, our performance surprised ourselves. Missing from our panel were Stephen Nugent, Johnny Wright and John Larkin, but last year's North and county champions provided little opposition as Roscrea won by 13-15 to 1-1. Seven players scored and the big success was the experiment of playing Brendan Carey at full forward— he scored 3-2! Training continued through May and June, although the exams ensured no

games would be played. Our next fixture was against Kilruane in early July. Again we expected a close game, but were surprised with another easy win this time by 7-8 to 1-2. Michael Nolan and Brendan Carey did most of the scoring. This game marked the appearance of Nugent, Wright and Larkin and after this game 22 players had played championship hurling. Already the race was on for places. We didn't play again until Mid August, when we met Borrisokane in the divisional semi final at Nenagh. Pdraig Hogan had an early goal for Borris', but four minutes later Roscrea were ahead per Paul Hogan's point and Peter Meagher's goal. By half time Roscrea were well in command leading by 2-4 to 1-0. In the end victory was ours by 6-10 to 2-1.

Most of the scoring was done by Michael Nolan, Mark Landy, Brendan Carey and Paul Hogan. So as we neared the end of August training started for the North final, where our great rivals, Toomevara, were to be opponents. Moneygall was fixed as the venue, a great crowd turned up to see a cracker and they were not disappointed. Scores were quickly taken and exchanged. By the quarter hour Roscrea led 1-3 to 1-1. Brendan Carey's goal and Michael Nolan's points left Roscrea leading by 2-6 to 1-3 at half time. Paul Dolan had retired injured. Peter Meagher replaced him. Mark Landy's early second half goal gave Roscrea great encouragement. Toomevara hit back again but Roscrea steadied with a goal from Paul Hogan and late points from Tony Hctor, Michael Moloney (who replaced the injured Peter Gleeson) and Michael Nolan made it safe for Roscrea. The final score was 4-11 to 3-5. Brian England accepted the Cup and we all hoped it was only the start! The county semi-final was fixed for Templemore one week later and we were drawn against Durlas Og. We trailed at half time by 1-5 to 0-5. Early in the second half Roscrea got moving, with a three goal scoring burst from Paul Hogan, Brendan Carey and Paul Hogan again.

Durlas Og recovered from all this to level the scoring again at 3-5 to 2-8. Mark Landy then struck for a goal and a

point to regain the lead. Brendan Carey increased it. Durlas Og goaled again. Roscrea's superb defence held out however, and Mark Landy made it safe with a point, 4-8 to 3-8 after one of the finest games witnessed at this level for many years. It was suggested by some people that Roscrea were lucky to win. That may well be so, but when you consider that Durlas Og were an excellent team, that Paul Dolan and Peter Meagher were injured and couldn't be considered and that the game was played so soon after the North final you will realise how well deserved the victory was.

Now only one game stood between us and the county title. The expected opposition of St Mary's Clonmel fell in their semi final to Knockavilla Kick-hams, who had been beaten in the 1982 county final at this level. We took a two week break from training after the Durlas Og game to get our appetite back for the game. Knockavilla's team was researched, the information required was got and back went our panel to training. The game was fixed for Templemore on 2nd October. Our training went well, our panel was at full strength for the first time all season. There could be no slip up. It was a fiercely determined team which was led onto the pitch then on county final day by team captain Brian England and Mascot Liam England. Knockavilla had first use of the wind but Roscrea had a goal in the first minute from Mark Landy. Paul Hogan struck twice in a minute and Roscrea led by 2-1 to nil after five minutes. Knockavilla were held scoreless for twelve minutes. Hogan and Landy goaled again and by half time Roscrea led by 4-3 to 0-3. The second half as expected was a mere formality. Michael Nolan, Paul Hogan and Paul Dolan put on the scores. Tony Hctor got another Roscrea goal. Knockavilla snatched a late goal but Roscrea finished with Landy and Peter Gleeson putting further scores on the board. There was little Knockavilla could do to stop the avalanche. It was almost a perfect performance by Roscrea. The final score of 9-7 to 1-6 told it all. When Brian England received the Ciste na Banban Cup from county juvenile chairman, Fr O'Rourke, it brought a great year to an end. All players in the twenty four man squad played their parts in this victory. Each player too had at least one "blinder" along the way and all worked hard for the team and for success. The squad was K. Loughnane, G. Dooley, B. England (captain), B. Sands, S. Nugent, Declan Fitzpatrick, S. Feehan, M. Nolan, J. Wright, P. Dolan, T. Hctor, P. Gleeson, M. Landy, B. Carey, P. Hogan, M. Moloney, P. Meagher, J. Larkin, D. Regan, P. Moloney, M. Kennedy, David Fitzpatrick, M. Fletcher, P. Phelan. The team was trained by Seamus O'Doherty who had as his fellow selectors, Bro. M. Devaney, Bertie Fitzpatrick and

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Michael Phelan.

On the football scene the under 16s had a short season but not one without success. In the North championship a bye and a walk over put the team into the final without kicking a football. The North final against Newport was played in early September and Peter Gleeson's boys brought another Cup to Roscrea following a 1-9 to 0-4 victory. The team which did duty in this game was S. Feehan, B. Sands, B. England, G. Dooley, S. Nugent, T. Hoctor, P. Gleeson, M. Nolan, P. Dolan, J. Hoolan, B. Carey, D. Regan, M. Landy, M. Moloney, P. Hogan. Sub C. Jones.

The team was very capably trained by P. J. Deane. Other members of the squad were D. Fitzpatrick, P. Meagher, P. Phelan, M. Coffey, M. Fletcher, N. Doran, J. Hickey, K. Robinson, P. Lynch, P. Moloney. Fethard proved too strong for us in the county semi final played at Holycross in late October. Perhaps a few more competitive games might have made the difference?

On the representative under 16 scene B. England, D. Fitzpatrick, B. Sands, P. Hogan, P. Dolan and M. Nolan played for North Tipp in the Munster under 16 hurling championship. Michael Nolan captained the team— the first Roscrea player to do so.

Minors— Divisional Champions and County Hurling Finalists

For our minor hurlers it was a very long championship season. The first game was against Eire Og on 16th April and a good win was recorded here by 4-12 to 2-5. An interesting selection was that of Donal Kealy at centre forward, but it was a superb first half goal by Michael Nolan which will be the great memory of this game. Within a week we were out again this time against Kilruane, whom we defeated very comfortably indeed. Unbelievably this team did not play another championship game until 27th August. In the interim however they stayed in trim by playing Thurles Sarsfields, James Stephens and Bennettsbridge in challenge games. Come the semi final versus Erins Hope in late August and not surprisingly Roscrea were very rusty. At half time the teams were level 1-4 to 0-7. Erins Hope were leading with only a few minutes to go, but alas for them they missed two good scoring chances. Roscrea levelled up and with the referee checking his watch, Michael Nolan shot a superb winning point from the sideline. 0-12 to 1-8 was the final score.

It was a night when few Roscrea players performed well. Brian England, Paul Delaney and Michael Nolan were about the best but John Pyne's accuracy was also vital. Many people perhaps underestimated Erins Hope— it nearly proved fatal! After the narrow let off, few people expected Roscrea to beat Toomevara in the North final, but beat them they did with a wonderful display

of determination all round and some excellent individual performances. 2-6 to 2-4 was the score and no praise is too high for the Roscrea defence in particular.

Lattin/Emly put up a reasonable show for half an hour in the county semi-final before Roscrea got moving and wiped them out after the break. 5-11 to 1-7 was the scoreline here with Paul Dolan, Liam Carson, Michael Nolan and John Pyne being the main flag raisers. This win was achieved at a very high price however, as centre back, Donal Kealy, sustained a broken thumb. Joe Mullally had missed this game because of a broken finger he had sustained in the North final. He was to return for the county final but Donal Kealy wasn't. His absence was a major blow to the club, as they sought to win the county minor title for the first time since 1967. Final opponents were Moycarkey/Borris, who had beaten Roscrea in their only county final meeting in minor hurling, back in 1968. Could this Roscrea team bridge the gap this time we wondered, as team captain Mark Fletcher led them out onto Leahy Park Cashel on 30th October?

After a good start and a half time lead of six points we ran into major second half difficulties as Moycarkey aided by the breeze, came at us and took the lead. All seemed to be lost as time ran out but the spirit which has served the side so well in times of crisis this season manifested itself in Roscrea's last attack. A late tackle on Paul Delaney allowed one final chance of an equaliser. John Pyne struck it high and accurately from 45 yards out to give us another chance. The score was 3-3 to 2-6 (for Roscrea).

Too many of our players didn't produce their best form on the day. There were the missed chances in the first half and the defensive errors in the second. All things considered Roscrea were well satisfied with a draw and

another opportunity of doing themselves justice. The replay was fixed for Cashel again on 13th November. This was a close hard-fought contest with an exceptional high standard in "first time" play by both teams. However many Roscrea players did not take full advantage of the opportunities that came their way and in the end Moycarkey-Borris were to the fore winning by 2-5 to Roscrea's 1-5.

In charge of the minor hurling team were Barry Barrett (Manager), Mick Hogan and Murt Deane (selectors), while Tadhg O'Connor helped out too, with his great experience proving most beneficial to the young hurlers. On the representative scene Donal Kealy won another Munster minor hurling medal playing with Tipperary. He was centre back in the team as he was in 1982, but this time Galway beat Tipperary. Paul Delaney and John Pyne won Munster championship medals with North Tipperary Vocational School hurlers.

Under 21s— North Tipperary Hurling Champions

After a fifteen year lapse the North Tipp title was at last regained by Roscrea in 1983. To win the title only three games were played, with a four month gap between the first and second games. The opening championship encounter was against Eire Og Nenagh, reigning divisional and county champions and on their way to a five timer in both. The game was played in Moneygall in Mid June and after a well contested game Roscrea were victorious on a 1-8 to 0-6 scoreline. Both sides were short some regulars but Roscrea were happy to win and earn a place in the semi-finals. As most of these players had won North championships at under 12, 14, 16 and minor it was not unreasonable to expect further progress. The next game was the semi final against Borriso-



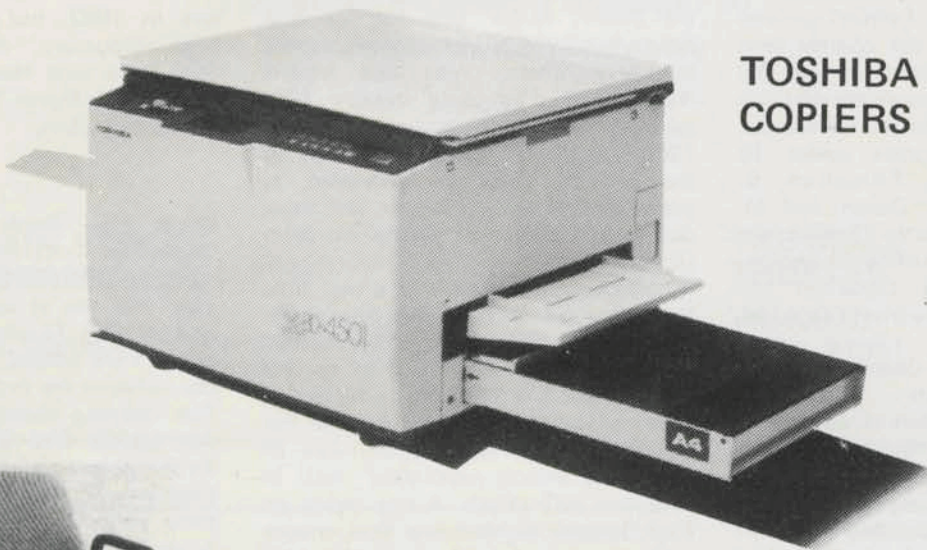
Roscrea— North Tipperary Under 21 Hurling Champions 1983

Back row, l. to r.: Kevin Brady (selector), Eddie Hogan, Gerry Ryan, P. J. Deane, Paul Minogue, David Minogue, Joe Treacy, Kevin Moloney, Paul Delaney, John Pyne, Donie Moloney, (selector)
Front row, l. to r.: Eamonn Bergin, Aidan Shanahan, captain, Michael Scully, Jimmy McMahon, Tony Maher, Philip Bergin.

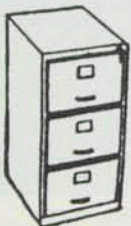
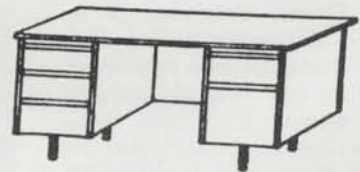
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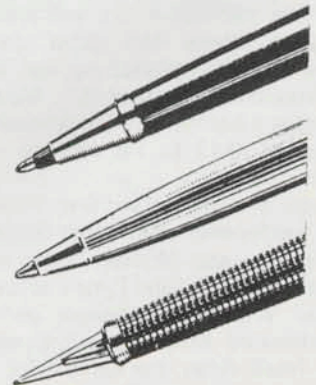
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leigh in early October at Cloughjordan. Roscrea led well at half time 3-5 to 0-3 thanks mainly to the scoring of Joe Treacy, Michael Scully and Aidan Shanahan. Borrisoleigh came back well in the second half and narrowed the gap to two points before Roscrea pulled away and clinched it with scores from Scully and Treacy to win in the end by 5-9 to 4-6. It was a satisfactory win, earned as it was on a day when weather conditions were atrocious. Old rivals Toomevara qualified for the final by beating the champs Eire Og in their semi final.

The final was played at Cloughjordan on 16th October. Again there was a strong breeze. Roscrea had first advantage of it but were slow to settle. Eventually they got moving and helped by Michael Scully's "fortuitous" goal they moved into a twelve point lead. Sean Nolan's goal for Toom just in the break was discouraging for Roscrea. Less than half way through the second half Toom had narrowed the gap to 4 points. Roscrea made the break then which made all the difference. John Pyne's fabulous goal was followed by a Micheal Scully point and Roscrea took over again going on to win by 3-10 to 2-6.

It was a marvellous team victory with the experience of Eddie Hogan, P. J. Deane, Michael Scully and Joe Treacy helping team captain Aidan Shanahan to keep his team hurling at their most determined best. A lot of good work too was done by young Paul Delaney (only 16 when the final was played), Austin O'Meara, Gerry Ryan and Eamon Bergin while John Pyne's final goal will be remembered for a long time to come. The final winning team was: K. Koloney, J. McMahon, E. Hogan, P. Minogue, A. Shanahan, P. Delaney, P. J. Deane, G. Ryan, T. Maher, M. Scully, J. Pyne, P. Bergin, E. Bergin, J. Treacy. Subs: A. O'Meara, M. Fletcher, B. Wright, M. Rowan, T. O'Reilly, D. Kealy, T. Deane. In the county semi final Roscrea met the West champions Cashel on 20 November. There was a great tradition of meetings between these players going back to the under 12 county final of 1974—narrowly won by Cashel. This years meeting in the county semi-final proved a very close encounter ending in a draw. At the time of writing this article the replay has not taken place. The team was under the management of Ned Treacy, Donie Moloney and Kevin Brady, who are complimented on winning back a title which was absent from the club for too long.

On the representative side Eddie Hogan at corner back and Austin O'Meara in reserve won provincial medals with Tipperary under 21 hurlers.

Under 12s Divisional Football Champions

Our youngest teams too were well looked after by their mentors. They had

plenty of games and had their own bit of success. This success was the regaining of the North Tipp under 12 football title, after a one year lapse. Under the watchful eyes of team coach Pat Dynan and the selectors Tadhg O'Connor, Tom McCarthy, N.T., Ciaran Mac Nioclais and Paddy McLoughlin a fine team was built.

In the first round of the championship in April Newport were beaten by 3-6 to 1-0. Liam Fallon's accuracy was the important feature of the game. After a very exciting semi final Eire Og Nenagh fell by 3-2 to 2-3. This was a very satisfactory performance and one which augured well for the North final, where our opponents were reigning champions Kilruane McDonaghs. Victory however went to the Roscrea boys on this occasion on a 3-4 to 0-1 scoreline. It was a very good performance and hopes were high that the county title could be won. Arravale Rovers were our semi final opponents, at Holycross in early July and although we led by 1-2 to 1-1 at half time, Arravale got on top in the second half and won by 3-2 to 2-2 after a fine game of football. Still it was pleasing to win the North title for the fifth time in six years. The team was captained by Damien Hogan and the other members of the squad were: D. O'Reilly, E. Hartnett, R. Ryan, T. Moloney, L. Fallon, M. England, E. Killoran, Donal Hogan, M. Mullally, D. Maher, E. Moloney, T. Cummins, P. Neville, P. Kennedy, E. Ryan, B. Keeshan, C. Seacy, D. Pyne, E. O'Connor, R. O'Brien, C. McLoughlin, P. Hoolan, P. Wright, C. O'Connor, J. Adams, J. Hoolan, M. Deane, T. Morrissey.

Our under 12½ footballers took part in the Community Games competition but were beaten early on by Thurles.

Our under 12 hurlers had a good campaign too beating Kilruane 5-3 to 4-1, Eire Og 4-3 to 1-1, Toomevara 5-1 to 4-2 and Moneygall 5-2 to 3-2, to reach the North final for the fifth year in a row at the level. After a thrilling night's hurling at Moneygall where the atmosphere was superb, Toomevara retained their title, winning by 4-1 to 0-3 after the teams had been level at half time at 0-1 each. Many people will tell you that the first half of this game produced the most exciting hurling seen in North Tipperary this year. Having witnessed it for myself I'll have to agree with these sentiments.

Under 14s Divisional Football Champions

Success at under 14 level came in the shape of the North Tipperary Football title. It was welcome back too, after a year's lapse and was our third win in the last four years. To win the title two victories were recorded, Over Eire Og by 4-11 to 2-1 in the semi final, and even more convincingly a 4-10 to nil win over Newport in the North final

played at Nenagh in early June. After a two month wait our county semi final with Durlas Og was played but here we were well beaten by a better team on a 1-8 to 1-1 scoreline. Seamus Feehan captained our team to success in the North, while the team was trained and managed by Sean Hogan. The panel included P. Nugent, D. Woods, D. Kennedy, D. Kruse, E. Hartnett, A. Tynan, P. O'Rourke, D. McCoy, D. Fitzpatrick, E. Maher, F. Greene, M. Hogan, C. Phelan, C. Neville, B. Dooley, P. Cordial, T. Dynan, F. Jones, B. Jones, M. McLoughlin, A. O'Connor, N. Aherne, O. McNicholas, M. Delaney, D. O'Sullivan, J. Tynan.

The under 14 hurlers had a bad season and failed to reach the North final. In their earlier games they were beaten by Toomevara 2-10 to 1-5 in a thriller in Cloughjordan, while they beat Eire Og 7-7 to nil, and Kilruane 4-12 to 5-3. In the divisional semi final Roscrea, Kilruane reversed the verdict and won by 5-6 to 4-6 after an exciting night's hurling. Denis Kennedy captained the hurling team.

Seamus Feehan was later picked on the Tipperary under 14 hurling team which won a four county tournament in Waterford, thereby bringing further honour to himself and his club.

Under 17s Divisional Football League Winners

Activity at this level centred around the North Tipp Football League for 1982/83 and here again the honours came to Roscrea. Having beaten Borrisokane narrowly (1-6 to 0-7) Newport provided the opposition to our team in the decider, played at Toomevara, in late June. Newport led narrowly at half time, but in the end victory was with us on a 2-8 to 0-5 scoreline. Eamon England was top scorer in the final with 1-3. The team was captained by Donal Kealy who was presented with the Hartnett Cup at the end of the final by Mr D. Floyd, Chairman of the divisional Senior Board. The other members of the panel were L. Carson, M. Fletcher, B. England, B. Carey, P. Delaney, F. Hearn, M. Nolan, J. Pyne, E. England, A. Minogue, P. Dolan, P. Meagher, S. McLoughlin, A. Delaney, T. Hoctor, B. Sands, G. Dooley, P. Hogan, M. Moloney, P. Gleeson, D. Cordial. The team was trained for the final by Willie O'Reilly.

Thanks are extended to all the people who helped us during the season. Our sponsors are particularly thanked as are the selectors, club committee and supporters. The help given to us too by the clubs on whose pitches we played, the referees and officials was also appreciated. The sportsmanship shown by our opponents throughout the season was first class and we thank all our opponents for it. We look forward with confidence to 1984 and if it is half as successful as 1983 we will be well satisfied.

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Coiste Iomána

FAS & SUGGESTIONS FOR CLUB FOR 1984

The Club, the basic unit of the G.A.A. is the link between the Member and the various ruling Bodies of the Association; it is also the link between the Association and the people of Ireland. Changes and development at the top or at any other level will be of little benefit if the base of the Association is not sound and healthy and capable of growth.

For that reason, the present FAS training programme to encourage the development of leadership qualities in club officers and to assist in improving club organisation which will be vital to the strength of the G.A.A. in the future.

Objectives

The purposes of FAS are:

- To Inspire and motivate (by assistance and meetings)
- To Give information (Club Manual)
- To train Administrators and Club Management (Leadership & Workshop Seminar)
- To make more effective use of the "committee" system (Delegation of duties and functions)
- To improve standards of organisation (especially our games)

In particular, it was hoped to create an awareness of the need for each club to develop a plan for its own area, to improve its service to members, provide amenities and increase community involvement.

In speaking at the launch of the Manual— October 1982— An tUachtarán said it is significant that the manual is sub-titled "Centenary Challenge" as it puts the onus on every club to ensure that by 1984 it is better organised, active and providing an adequate sporting programme for its community. "However" he added "the value of the manual will depend on the extent to which it is put into effective use.

Now, I appeal to all club workers to study it and act on it."

Each Development/Fas Committee should, therefore, work as follows:

- Review FAS in the context of the Club Manual.
- Review the FAS programme in general.
- Promote club visitation by the County FAS Committee.
- Outline a format for training and development workshops, for club officers.

The proposed new duties for the Development Officer will be of benefit

to all Clubs in carrying out the foregoing as it is intended that this Officer will be involved in both physical and administrative work.

Club manual properly used together with County Development Officer and Fás Committee will ensure that clubs will be strong to meet the modern and varied challenges that lie ahead for the Association.

So much planning can be done at Central level, but if goodwill and co-operation does not exist throughout all units, then our clubs, the basis of our very existence will become disinterested and disenchanted.

It is, therefore, recommended for 1984 and future years, clubs in this county should pay particular attention to their structures and to ensure especially that they are catering for games in the best possible manner. Are we ensuring that we have regular games for our young players? If other codes are making progress, are there gaps and deficiencies in our promotion of Gaelic games.

With regard to equipment and hurleys in particular, the cost of hurleys at the present time are very expensive. This is due principally to two factors outside of our control i.e. (1) price of ash from the Department of Forestry and Fisheries and (2) imposing of high rate of VAT by Department of Finance.

It is suggested that clubs can make four positive contributions to cut down cost of hurleys as follows:

1. **Longterm:** Planting of ash in club property.
2. **Short-term:** (a) Hurley making classes through V.E.C. (b) Hurley banding course and (c) clubs to cut their own ash and supply to the hurley makers.

Coiste Iomána na Mumhan are presently involved in Hurling Promotion in priority areas in Munster. South Tipperary's application was accepted as one of these areas. A very successful Seminar was held recently, which was attended by approx. 80 delegates representing the Boards and School games Committees in the area. There will be a follow-up to this Seminar by way of intensive coaching, teachers coaching course, school visitation and issue of promotional material.

School/Club liaison is essential for the promotion of our games in our schools and the responsibility should be placed on each club to ensure that where teachers are willing to promote

our games, the club should ensure that the school have an adequate supply of hurleys and sliotars and also to give access to club facilities.

The recently published Hurling No. 1 Booklet is an ideal Coaching Manual for the teaching of skills in National Schools and each club should ensure that the schools in their parish have at least two copies of this publication.

Coiste Iomána na Mumhain are presently examining the structure of under age Hurling Competitions in Munster both at school level and club level, as it feels that there may be perhaps too much competition at Juvenile level especially in the u-12 age group.

The Coiste also promote the u-16 Munster Inter-Divisional Hurling Competition. This has been very successful and Tipperary have performed with distinction since its commencement. However, divisions should remember that the competition is designed to create the maximum amount of activity within the county to select the Divisional Team.

It is accepted that in the age group 16-21 that a number of players are being lost from our Association.

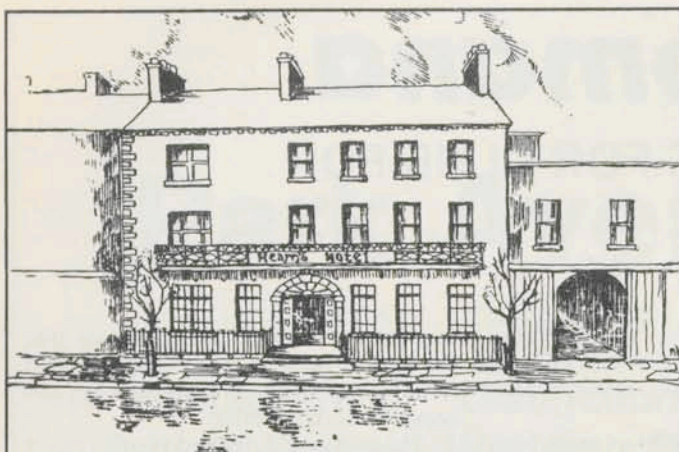
The Coiste involves itself in the organisation of Coaching Courses in conjunction with Munster Council Committee and in this regard the Munster Hurling Officer, Derry Mannix, is available to each county in Munster to give assistance where necessary.

Coiste Iomána na Mumhain is also responsible to ensure that there is an adequate supply of good quality hurleys available.

Representatives on Coiste Iomána na Mumhain from Tipperary are Rev. Brother Perkins and John Tierney and I would like to pay tribute to both of them and also to Liam O'Donoghue, County Youth Officer and Denis Hogan, Hurley Intake Officer for their good will and co-operation to Coiste Iomána na Mumhain.

From the foregoing, therefore, Coiste Iomána is involved in the promotion of hurling through schools and clubs but will require the full co-operation of Board and Clubs to ensure that hurling will always be the priority game in this county.

Tomás O Ciarba,
Cathaoirleach, Coiste Forbartha agus
Pleanála,
Páirc an Crocaigh,
Rúnaí: Coiste Iomána na Mumhain.



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DURING 1983.

Nollaig Shona agus Ath-Bhliain faoi shéan.

Mícheál Mac Aogáin
Cathaoirleach

Mícheál O Meara
Rúnaí

Toomevara

—ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL YEAR

Toomevara club has had many successes in hurling at juvenile level for the past ten years. This is due to the hard, dedicated work of the juvenile committee of the club, which spares no effort in seeking out young hurlers and moulding them into skillful dedicated players.

Success does not come easily but is only attained through dedication, patience and sheer hard work. The players are coached, encouraged to enjoy hurling, and treated very well and they respond in a very positive manner, giving truth to the proverb—'Mol an óige agus tiocfaidh sí.'

This year has again been a very successful one for the club at juvenile level. The under-16 hurlers reached the North Tipperary final, beating Kilruane in the semi-final. Roscrea were hot favourites to win the final, having won all their previous matches easily. The final was hard-fought, producing top brand hurling. Roscrea were the better balanced team, but Toomevara fought splendidly going down only to the superior craft of a fine Roscrea fifteen. Joe McGrath did splendid work preparing the Toome boys and his dedication and that of the other mentors deserves acclaim.

Our under-14 hurlers performed great feats during the year. They won the right to represent Tipperary at the Féile na nGael finals in Dublin. Roscrea gave them a hard game in the North final. In the county semi-final Dúrlas Og were overcome after a hard struggle. The surprise packet of the competition was Arravale Rovers, who proved formidable opponents, only going down in the final in extra time.

Hopes were high that Toomevara would do well in the Féile finals. Our hosts in Dublin were St Monica's, Raheny, who gave the boys a royal welcome and a wonderful weekend. We beat them in the first round, but they put up a great fight. Our next opponents were St Patrick's Kilkenny whom we faced without one of our best players. In a titanic struggle Toomevara were shaping like winners, but disaster struck tragically for them. An awkward bounce of the ball brought a goal for St Patrick's and galvanised them into all-out action.

Toomevara were unable to stem the tide and lost by a narrow margin. Disappointment in losing so unluckily was deepened when St Patrick's won the division one final easily. However the boys were proud standard bearers for Tipperary and were thrilled to take



part in the parade to Croke Park on the Sunday. The weekend in Dublin was a wonderful experience for them and they are very grateful to St Monica's club for their warm hospitality.

The under-14 hurling team then turned its attention to the championships and won the North Division rural championship rather easily. They also won the urban-rural championship but had to overcome stiff challenges from Roscrea and Kilruane McDonagh. They easily reached both county finals but Cashel defeated them in a thrilling urban-rural final.

There was then a very long delay before Toomevara took on Moycarkey-Borris in the rural final. The Toome boys were confident of beating their great rivals for the third successive year. Moycarkey had other ideas and, in very inclement conditions, a battle royal ensued. Our boys tired after a very long campaign, succumbed to the never-say-die spirit of Moycarkey. They deserved their victory and we heartily congratulate them.

The under-12 hurlers captured the hearts of their supporters by their marvellous hurling feats. They won the North Division title for a record fourth time in succession. Their opponents in the final were Roscrea who had beaten them in an earlier round. Roscrea made no secret of their confidence but Toome had learned from their defeat. This was a game of gripping intensity, won by Toomevara in sterling fashion, but Roscrea lost no caste in defeat.

In the county semi-final Dúrlas Og provided the opposition and the age-old

rivalry between the two clubs produced a splendid exhibition of hurling. Toome gradually got the upperhand, to finish worthy winners over a gallant Dúrlas Og

Now for the county final against Knockavilla Kickhams, and what a marathon this proved to be. It took three games to determine the eventual winners. The first game was a classic exhibition of hurling skills and ended on a score of 2-1 each. In the second game both teams scored two goals each, serving up another feast to savour, but causing many heart-stopping moments in the final agonising minutes. The third game surpassed the first two for sheer drama, excitement and the intensity and fervour of the exchanges, Knockavilla got the upperhand for a period in the second half but Toomevara rallied magnificently, cut the deficit to the minimum and were only denied victory by an inspired display by the Knockavilla goalkeeper. At the final whistle Knockavilla were the victors on a score of 3-2 to 3-1 for Toomevara. Scenes of great jubilation in victory contrasted with deep disappointment in defeat. One must congratulate both teams on their herculean deeds in three wonderful games.

It has been a great year for the boys, made possible by their commitment, the work of the juvenile committee and the encouragement and support of the people of the parish. It is to be hoped for that these boys will bring further honours to the club in the near future. They have made a great start in their hurling careers. "Tús maith leath na h-oibre."

BORD CHONTAE THIOBRAID ARANN CUMANN LUTHCHLEAS GAEL Tipperary G.A.A. County Board



The Board acknowledges the immense work done
in all aspects of our Association during 1983
and confidently looks forward to continued support and dedication
in a very challenging future.

Nollaig shona agus Ath Bhliain faoi mhaise dhíbh uile.

Mícheál O Fearghaile
Cathaoirleach

Tomás O Baróid
Rúnaí

Máirtín O Conchubhair
Cisteoir

PORTROE CAMOGIE CLUB 1983

Chairperson: Mary O'Connell;
Secretary: Perry Seymour;
Treasurer: Mary Sheedy;
Captain: Margaret Madden.

1983 was certainly a most successful year in the history of Portroe Camogie. We started our campaign back in March with the first round of the Ann Frazer League and had victories here over St Culains, Cashel, Moycarkey before taking on St Bernadettes (Roscrea) in the semi-final. We can count ourselves a little fortunate to have overcome St Bernadettes on this occasion and it was two late goals in the last eight minutes secured victory. We met old rivals, Cashel, in the final and had four points to spare at the final whistle. Player of the day here must be Breda Kennedy who saved what must have looked like four certain goals for the Cashel girls. This was the first time the team won the Ann Frazer Cup and was a very sweet victory.

In the Senior championship, run on a knock out system, we drew with Cashel in the first round but had a convincing win in the replay. We defeated Moycarkey and were through to meet St Bernadettes (Roscrea) in the final.

Portroe faced a number of problems for this final. Margaret O'Brien, who received a broken finger during county training, was missing. Norah Hickey, about to be married on the following Saturday, could not play. Two more

on holidays brought the panel to a minimum. However, we thank Mary Moloney and Liz Ryan for returning to us for this game. The final took place in Borrisoleigh with Sheila Delany in charge. Two very early goals for Portroe settled the team and gave them the determination that proved so vital right through this lively game with both sides showing determination and skill. St Bernadettes, despite the efforts of Rosie Ryan and Mona Quigley, found it almost impossible to penetrate the solid defence of Breda Kennedy, in goals, Margaret Minogue, Una O'Brien, Máire Hackett who kept Mona 'under her wing' and Mary Sheedy who had a magnificent game at centre back. Centre fielders Mary Moloney, Margaret Madden and Susan Hickey, who picked off some nice points, supplied plenty of ball to the forwards who made little mistakes on the day. The two early goals by Mary O'Connell and Liz Ryan settled the forwards and Collette Madden and Una Hickey also added to the score board. There was plenty of excitement as the trophy was presented to Margaret Madden and the girls paid tribute to John O'Connell, Trainer/Selector who spent so much time with the girls during the year. In the first round of the Munster Club Championship, however the girls went down to Croagh/Kilfinney in a game that lacked the excitement and determination which they had displayed during the year.

Lets hope girls that the title comes to our little village again in 1984 and that you will rise to the occasion of Munster Club camogie.

Portroe also won the Dunkerrin Senior Tournament, Kilcommon Senior Tournament, the 7-a-side on National Camogie Day. Here also Breda Kennedy won the Long Puck competition and Mary O'Connell took the trophy for the free taking competition.

Port were represented on the County Tipperary Senior team by: Breda Kennedy, Máire Hackett, Susan Hickey and Mary O'Connell. This team reached the All Ireland semi-final and were defeated by Dublin. Perry Seymour, Freda Kennedy, Martina Morris, Josephine Fennessy, Tina Madden and Josephine Freeman were on the Tipperary under 16 panel. This team lost to Cork in the Munster final.

Breda Kennedy and Margaret Madden were two key players on the Tipperary minor team who also went down to Cork by 1 pt. Cork eventually won the All Ireland final.

Again on the home front, the Junior team are still in the Junior Championship which is at the closing stages. The under 16 team have a chance of reaching the county final if they overcome the challenge of St Bernadettes. Unfortunately the under 14 team hadn't much luck this season but they are very young players and it is hoped they will put it together for next year. Keep up the good work, girls!



Standing, l. to r.: Collette Madden, Liz Ryan, Una Hickey, Susan Hickey, Celine McLoughlin, Tina Madden, Breda Kennedy, Mary Sheedy, John O'Connell, trainer/selector.

Seated, l. to r.: Josephine Freeman, Una O'Brien, Máire Hackett, Margaret Madden, Mary O'Connell, Margaret O'Brien, Perry Seymour. Missing: Margaret Minogue, Norah Hickey, Una Hogan, Mary Moloney.

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EIRE OG JUNIORS MAKE CLUB HISTORY

by Jerry Quinlan

To Boherlahan's grounds in late October came Eire Og, Nenagh's supporters still bearing the remorse of their senior's disappointing demise from the championship, and after a thrilling hour of skill and sheer grit, carried away with them the club's first junior hurling championship— St Mary's Nenagh had previously been victorious in 1947.

It was nothing short of a team victory built on determination, power, skill and a sheer will to win. As one non-partisan observer was to comment, this was an untypical type of a Nenagh side which carried strength down the middle, well supported on both sides by the other necessary qualities of a good team.

It was a long and arduous campaign with no room for "Tip and let out" type of hurling. Twenty six of a panel, all of whom contributed at one stage or other played eight games and ran up an impressive score of 35 goals and 92 points before their exemplary captain, Sean Minogue, proudly stood forward to accept the D.P. Walshe Trophy. At last an unquenchable thirst had been quenched and the break through had been made at higher grades.

The North title proved to be as competitive as it is long known for. Victories over Borrisoleigh (will one

ever forget the rival supporters' jovial side line comments in Dolla that evening!) Ballina (a side with a lot of merit), Kilruane and Shannon Rovers saw them through to the semi-final. Victory over Ballina pitched them against old rivals Toomevara in the North final. On this occasion, an unique Nenagh side came "out of the blues" and, with all seeming lost, having been depleted to thirteen men, dished up a wonderful second half display of all the crafts of that wonderful game of hurling. At last, a 21-year gap had been bridged.

Eire Og now crossed "the bridge at Ballaroan" for the teams first occasion and, without the nerves shown in the first half of the North final, quickly disposed of a Clonoulty side who also had similar ambitions.

The final against Gortnahoe-Glen-goole is now history but Eire Og supporters will always look back and cherish some of its finer moments, though Paddy Kenny's stalwarts also inflicted some anxious ones. How nice to savour Sean Minogue's well taken four goals— an opportunist to his fingertips— Michael McGrath's oozing confidence between the posts— surely a man with a great deal to offer the game, that stone wall of Hayes (Templeberry Abu) Ryan (in from the cold) and Donie O'Brien; that classic half back

line of Kennedy (Dad also won such a medal) Brereton and Hackett; that great old warrior, cum marathon runner Christy Tucker at centre field supported by a youthful and great deliverer in Michael Manning; that crack half forward line of Ashman, Darcy (a tower of strength) and Lee and finally those thirsty goal getters Ger Tucker (another of that great hurling family) Niall Corbert (of North final fame) and the splendid captain Sean Minogue himself. It was a team effort and we must not forget the contribution of Michael Cleary (a Ringie in the making) Sean Holier, Ger O'Brien, Chris O'Halloran, Michael Ryan, Gerry O'Rourke, Patsy Farrell, Noel Coffey, Sean Tracy, Con & Seamie Morris and Enda Costelloe. Let us not overlook the fine efforts of our selectors Jimmy Tucker, Ollie Quinlan and Paddy Ryan (both on and off the field!) and what a fine coach Billy Flannery proved to be— his knowledge of the game ability to see and make a quick switch, respect from the players, and overall commanding influence, were indispensable.

Eire Og, with four recent under 21 county titles to its credit, has now built up an impressive pool of talented players. Surely, with the right blend and the right personnel in charge, that elusive senior title will shortly come to Nenagh ("Wherever I wander").



EIRE OG, NENAGH— COUNTY JUNIOR CHAMPIONS 1983

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Moyne - Templetuohy

INTERMEDIATE TRIUMPH

The senior scene reopens a missing and missed element in 1984; Moyne-Templetuohy are back. They never did seem at home in a lower grade and, indeed, came very near escaping from it in 1981— their first year down— beaten by county winners Boherlahan. In 1982 it was a parallel experience—beaten by county winners Borrisokane on a replay. The logical outcome arrived at Boherlahan on 20th Nov. this year, when Moyne-Templetuohy defeated Portroe by 4-10 to 2-7.

The decision to drop down cannot have been an easy one, back at the end of 1980; it was prompted by failing to win a senior championship match in three years. The parish had long been regarded as one of the hardest nuts to crack at senior level, even if actual solid success took a long time to come.

People talk reminiscently of fiercely hard tussles with all the stronger Mid clubs, but specifically with Thurles Sarsfields— in the forties, above all.

It took a younger and cooler generation to reach the heights of Mid and county success. The golden year is, of course, 1971. Just after Tipperary's All-Ireland and Tadhg O'Connor's acquisition of the McCarthy Cup, Roscrea were defeated by an inspired Moyne-Templetuohy, striking great, irresistible form on the day that mattered. One can still see in memory the defiance of goalie Russell and his backs, with Esmonde, Fogarty and Coen a powerful half-back trio; the two Grady's at midfield— Martin's rasper really sealed the win; an attack that had two of the current team in Martin Troy and Willie Fogarty and was spearheaded by the drive of Billy Grady.

This year's campaign had a bad start; they lost to Clonmore in round one. The existence of a losers group saved the day, and the year— they beat Clonakenny to reach the Mid final; and there they reversed the Clonmore

result by a clear margin. County semi-final opponents were Killenaule from the South; dangerous opponents, with most having senior experience; but Mid holders won by 0-8 to 0-3. Into the final they got down to training under coach Martin Esmonde and his fellow selectors Mick Troy and wing-back Patsy Henneberry. Though pressed hard by Portroe they came through to gain the championship by nine points, 4-10 to 2-7. Perhaps their "man of the match" was full-back Dinny Kelly.

The goal-scorers were James Dunne, Eamonn Kelly, Dinny Kelly and, at a vital time, Paudie Everard; but it was a co-operative effort by all fifteen. Moyne-Templetuohy hurling has always had pace and urgency. In young players like Taylor and Bergin they have lads off recent Tipperary minor selections. They can certainly make a senior impact in Centenary Year and beyond.



County Intermediate Hurling Champions, Moyne-Templetuohy.

Front row, l. to r.: Dinny Kelly, Eamon Kelly, Willie Fogarty, Martin Kelly, Toddy Sweeney, Michael Taylor, Patsy Henneberry, Martin Troy. Back row, l. to r.: Martin Esmonde (coach), Paudie Everard, Liam Duggan, Dinny Kelly, James Dunne, Phil Bowe, Michael Clarke, John Bergin.

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Ba mhór againn bhúr dtachaíocht agus bhúr ndílseacht.

Guímid só, sonas agus sláinte chúgaibh irith na bliana atá rómhainn.



Review of North Tipp Affairs

le Padraig O Meachair, Runai

The year 1983 was a quiet one. Our chairman Donncha de Flóid, was very busy and dedicated to the promotion of our games, Scór and he deputised on many occasions for our County Chairman Mr MI Frawley, during his illness. Our Treasurer Tomás O Ciarba was as efficient as ever, despite the many calls on his talents.

The Board meetings were harmonious and well-conducted. The Co. Board members did their duty and were ever mindful of the welfare of clubs and players.

With the approach of Centenary Year more demands were made on people and a Centenary Committee and Museum Committee were formed. Plans to celebrate 1984 in a fitting manner are well advanced and will be published shortly.

Games: The various competitions provided the usual thrills and spills. The standard of sportsmanship was high, generally speaking, while sorry to say, the games themselves did not reach a very high standard.

Senior Hurling: The premier competition was unsatisfactory— teams had to wait for long periods between games. Borrisoleigh were victorious over a gallant Lorrha team. They have proved their worth by adding the Dan Breen trophy to their collection. They were within an hour of adding the Munster club championship to their achievements. It has been a great year for them.

Intermediate Hurling: Portroe have once again captured the North title in a competition that produced entertaining top-class hurling. They failed to Moyne-Templetuohy in the county final.

Junior Hurling: Eire Og have won for themselves a special place in capturing North and County titles. This competition is also well-run and it is very successful.

In the Junior hurling "B" competition an opportunity was provided for weaker teams. Newport, with Ned Ryan spanning 30 years of hurling, won the Dan Gleeson Cup.

Under 21 Hurling: Eire Og who had four titles to their name, were in search of the elusive fifth. They were unsuccessful and their great rivals, Roscrea beat Toomevara in a memorable final



at Cloughjordan. They have beaten Cashel in the county semi-final.

Minor Hurling: This was the most unsatisfactory run competition of all. With only "four strong teams" they had to wait for weeks until the other teams had played out. Roscrea and Toomevara (two strong teams) met for the fourth year in succession and Roscrea were victors at Moneygall with Gerry Long as referee for the third year, also. They lost in a replay to Moycarkey in some of the finest hurling seen for many a day. Borrisokane won the Nealon Trophy competition.

S.H.L.: 1983 is still in progress— very unsatisfactory.

Football

Football competitions in North Tipp are long-drawn out. Clubs are not willing to play earlier in the year, as it might interfere with their hurling preparation.

Senior Football: The combined team of Lorrha and Shannon Rovers beat Kilruane after a replay.

Intermediate Football: Lorrha beat Eire Og in a competition that should have been finished weeks ago, but Borrisoleighs successful run necessitated delay. Finally it had to be played without their participation.

Junior Football: Moneygall beat Inane Rovers in the final.

Under 21 Football: Erins Hope and Eire Og have qualified for the final.

Minor Football: Eire Og defeated Inane Rovers in a good game at Cloughjordan.

Under 17 Football League 1982: Inane Rovers beat Newport in the final.

North Tipperary Finals 1983

Senior Hurling: Borrisoleigh 1-11; Lorrha 2-6.

Intermediate Hurling: Portroe 2-8, Templederry 2-6.

Junior Hurling: Eire Og Nenagh 5-8, Toomevara 1-9.

Junior Hurling 'B': Newport 3-10, Burgess 2-6.

Under 21 Hurling: Roscrea 3-10, Toomevara 2-6.

Minor Hurling: Roscrea 2-6, Toomevara 2-4.

Under 16 Hurling: Roscrea 4-11, Toomevara 3-5.

Under 14 Hurling Urban/Rural: Toomevara 5-3, Kilruane 2-6.

Under 12 Hurling: Toomevara 4-1, Roscrea 0-3.

Munster Under 16 Hurling Championship: Round 1. North Tipperary 6-7, East Clare 2-2.

Round 2. Limerick City 3-7, North Tipp 0-9.

Senior Football: St Ruan 1-7, Kilruane 1-2.

Intermediate Football: Eire Og 0-5, Lorrha 2-2.

Junior Football: Moneygall 1-8; Inane Rovers 0-5.

Under 21 Football: Eire Og v Erins Hope. Minor Football: Eire Og Nenagh 1-4, Inane Rovers 0-3 (replay).

Under 16 Football: Inane Rovers 1-9, Newport 0-4.

Under 14 Football urban/rural: Inane Rovers 4-11, Newport 0-0.

Under 12 Football: Inane Rovers 3-4, Kilruane 0-1.

TIPPERARY CENTENARY PUBLICATION

A special Tipperary Centenary Publication will be issued in July-August 1984. This publication will be a fitting souvenir of Centenary Year and a tribute to 100 years of G.A.A. endeavour in our premier county. Anyone who has material, photographs, etc. relevant to such a production are invited to contact— Liam O Donnchú, Secretary of Tipp. Yearbook Committee, as soon as possible.

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First Title for Cistercian College

by Pat Sheedy

Cistercian College Roscrea, won their first ever Leinster Colleges Juvenile "B" hurling final, when they defeated Ard Scoil Rís, Dublin in the final in May. In Leinster Colleges competitions a peculiar system operates in that the South Leinster "B" Division winners must play the Dublin Division "A" winners in the Leinster "B" final. For that reason a South Leinster School rarely captures a Leinster title in this grade.

As so often happens, our first game was the toughest when we scraped past Ballyfin College, 3-2 to 2-2. Portlaoise CBS were then easily defeated. In the third round against Castlecomer we were behind by four points with twenty minutes to go but we eventually ran out easy winners. Borris, from Carlow, proved easy opposition

in the quarter-final. We approached the semi-final game with Wexford CBS with apprehension. Their team was coached by Br Whistler, formerly of Thurles CBS and Br Gibson, formerly of North Monastery, Cork. Our display in the first half of that game will not be easily forgotten by the lads. Wexford proved vulnerable against our direct ground hurling and we led at half-time, 5-3 to 1-0. Though our backs were under much pressure for most of the second half we held out easily enough for a five points win.

In 1982 we lost to the Dublin winners in the Leinster final and we had only one survivor, captain Oliver Byrne. We were underdogs for the final. The Athy pitch was not mowed and this, we feared, would prove to be our downfall against the heavier Dublin lads. At

half-time we were only a point ahead after playing with the wind. The sides were level for most of the second but five minutes from time John Bates scored a memorable winning goal, soloing through and cracking home a bullet off his weaker side. The final score was 3-6 to 3-3.

There were some memorable individual performances during the campaign. Oliver Byrne, from Callan, pointed a seventy in every round, a remarkable feat for a fourteen year old. John Bates son of former Laois star Paddy Bates, scored fifteen goals during the competition. Pat Gleeson (Drangan), Michael O'Grady (Killenaule) David Kruse and Ciaran Coughlan (both Roscrea) also starred. Indeed, Michael O'Grady was considered by most neutrals to be the man of the match in the final.



Cistercian College Roscrea 1982/83 Leinster Juvenile Colleges' Hurling Champions

Back row: J. McCormack, A. Kelly, P. Gleeson, E. Dunne, A. Murphy, C. O'Neill, S. Crehan, J. Bates, D. Berry.
Middle row, D. Poole, C. Coughlan, C. Dunne, E. Fennelly, M. O'Grady, E. Kiernan, R. Liffey, J. Quinn, M. Cantwell.
Front row, B. Cahill, D. Kruse, A. Delahunty, Mr Pat Sheedy, O. Byrne, captain, L. Slevin, T. Finlay.



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PROGRAMME OF THE MATCH

Collecting GAA match programmes has become one of the fastest growing hobbies in Ireland in recent years. The demand for programmes led to the setting up a few years ago of a special programme collectors club which operates from Croke Park. Membership runs into hundreds with members in Ireland, Britain and Europe. For a membership fee of only £4 members receive free copies of the programmes of the top games played during the year.

The Croke Park collectors club provides a useful service particularly to youngsters seeking knowledge of the Association and its star players, past and present. Nevertheless I feel that more could be done particularly with regard to the distribution of All-Ireland final programmes.



Since 1970 the official programme for the English F.A. Cup final at Wembley has been available each year through newsagents all over England and Wales up to a week before the final. Stocks are sold out in a few days. I have long held the view that, given the nationwide appeal of the games, the official programmes for the All-Ireland hurling and football finals should be similarly available through newsagents throughout Ireland. I understand that since 1980 the programmes have been available in the contesting counties a day or two before the finals. I hope they will be more widely distributed in 1983.

Programmes carry detailed statistical information which make it possible to build up a fascinating picture of how our national games have evolved over the years. They are in effect mini-histories of the GAA. Checking through old programmes can stir up many memories and settle a score of arguments.

Many modern GAA programmes are excellent publications and are a credit to those who produce them. Some, such as

the award winning Westmeath county final programmes of the seventies, the 1980 and 1981 SFC final programmes and those for the Leinster and Connacht finals of recent years are in many ways superior to the top British soccer programmes. The 1980 Leinster hurling final programme is my own favourite. One marvels at the amount of research done by Paddy Flanagan to produce such a magnificent publication.

The 1982 Munster SHC final programme was a big improvement on those of previous years. The Thurles Sarsfield Communications Committee did a tremendous job in producing an excellent programme which should get a high rating in the "best programme" awards for 1982.

It usually takes some years before collectors interest produces a genuine scarcity, but already there is a scarcity of some comparatively recent programmes. In the Spring of 1980 Cork became the first county to achieve the national hurling and football league double in one season. The programmes of the 1980 N.F.L. final and N.H.L. final (draw and replay) are now collectors items. Also in 1980 Offaly won the Leinster hurling title for the first time and made their first appearance in an All-Ireland hurling semi-final. In September 1981 the Midlanders won their first senior All-Ireland hurling title in their first appearance in the final. The 1981 Connacht final programme was sold out on the day. Copies are now difficult to obtain.

Also in 1981 Mayo defeated London at Ruislip in the Connacht championship. The programme of this game commemorates the first senior provincial championship game to be played outside Ireland and is much sought after.

All-Ireland hurling and football final programmes form the cornerstone of most collections. These, together with the semi-final programmes of the last six years or so are relatively easy to acquire. Those before 1975 are more difficult to get.

On 14 September, 1947, the only All-Ireland final to be played outside Ireland took place at the Polo Grounds, New York. Cavan beat Kerry by 2-11 to 2-7. The programme of this match is one of the most sought after by collectors and a good price could be expected for it. The programme of the 1960 final in which Down beat Kerry is also valuable as it commemorates the first occasion the Sam Maguire trophy crossed the border.

Top of the wants list of a Tipperary collector would be the programme of every All-Ireland final Tipperary's hurlers

and footballers have contested. Chief among these would be the 1920 football final and the 1949, 1950 and 1951 hurling finals. Because of their extreme rarity those of finals played in the 'fifties and earlier would be almost impossible to obtain now.

The great thing about collecting programmes is that one can have collection within a collection. Some collectors specialise in programmes commemorating official openings of new grounds. Others like to collect programmes of county finals in each of the thirty two counties. It is my personal ambition to one day acquire a complete set of the programmes of every game Cork's hurlers and footballers played when they achieved the historic National League double in 1979-80. The best method of obtaining programmes is to join the collectors club at Croke Park.

Jack Mahons "Junior Desk" in the excellent magazine "Gaelic Sport" often contains requests from readers wishing to swap or buy programmes. Collectors place their own value on programmes they require. Those with programmes for



which they have no further need can find a ready market at a reasonable and fair price. They would have the satisfaction of knowing their programmes have formed part of a cherished collection of a keen and loyal supporter of a particular team.

Collectors will find the following points worth bearing in mind. Never write on a programme, especially on the programme. A newspaper cut-out giving team changes, substitutions, scores and scorers can be inserted in the programme. Never punch holes in them to bind them. Avoid damp and sunlight.

Beware of pirate programme sellers. Collectors should be on their guard and make sure they are purchasing the official match programme before handing over their money.

Sadly the majority of people who attend matches discard the programme after the game. I appeal to non-collectors: please do not destroy the programme. It would make an ideal gift for a young GAA fan in your neighbourhood.

Dermot McCarthy

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FOOTBALL MEMORIES OF KILSHEELAN

Full twenty years my thoughts go back to times of long ago
When as a boy carefree I roved where Suir and Anner flow,
And clear against the skyline stands our lordly Slievenamon,
To guard with pride a valley fair as ere the sun shone on.

Where often in the evening when the days hard work was done,
We gathered into Christy's for a chat or bit of fun,
We played fifteen or twenty-five to help to pass the night,
And trees we felled and cut in logs to keep the homefires bright,

'Twas here the plot was first discussed to have a football club,
So we talked and talked in Christy's and sometimes in the pub,
Bill Cummins, Andy, Christy, The Bunk and Michaleen Burke,
Jim Fleming and Jack Larkin, Codys all helped in the good work.

A team we strung together and to Ballyneal we went,
A victory to our credit, for honours we were bent,
At Clonmel, Fethard, Carrick, Cloneen and Templemore
The "Blues" raised high their standard and added to their score.

Mick Doyle, a man of judgment stood then between the sticks,
He saved our bacon often this little man of tricks,
And then in front stood Michael Streppo, a stonewall, stout and strong,
His fifties saved us time again and seldom he did wrong.

Pat Larkin and Billy Reilly then flanked him on each side
Their speed and clever footwork oft filled our hearts with pride,
Tom Kennedy from Ballydine at centre-half was game,
He caught and kicked some lengthy balls, and always played the same.

Jack Cummins and Bill Larkin were dashing stringy men,
Faith you wouldn't find their equal in mountain home or glen,
The Cahills, Will and Tommy who inches perhaps did lack,
But then when knocks came good and hard, Tom always gave one back.

Jack Cullinan and brave Ebby, were men to do and dare,
And when the ball came high to Jack he fisted in the air,
Jim Fleming and Jim Mitten were swift and clean and neat,
They drove the leather smoothly on, for both had lovely feet.

Sticky Reilly was a trier and when the game was done,
Looked as fresh as a new-born daisy as it opened to the sun,
The Rajah for his cuteness was famous far and wide,

As the goalman sought the leather Rajah slipped it by his side.

The lad from Toor was hard to beat, he feared not friend or foe,
And as he rose to field the ball the boys cried "Style Kehoe",
The Keeffe's who led the vanguard were quick and crafty too,
And Jerry's left was deadly as he banged the leather through.

The Mot was then a nipper, not big and then not small,
In later years he proved to be the Daddy of them all,
Con Lonergan, God rest him, was as good a man and bold,
As ere travelled with the village to don the Blue and Gold.

We didn't travel swanky in those golden far off days,
We had just Jack Culley's lorry with rough seats and wooden stays,
Dick Cahill was proud to take the wheel, and as we rode along,
We talked about our prospects or broke in to rousing song.

My thoughts rove now to training days when nights were dark and chill
As we cantered past Jack Daniels cross, and home the Chapel Hill,
Then later on we sprinted down a stretch of Dick Burke's land,
With two carbide lamps to guide us for you couldn't see your hand.

Now Shakleton, our trainer, kept us fit as men could be,
And he prided in our conquests for a sterling Gael was he,
The Chairman too, Jim Coffey, kept a strict and careful watch,
And Bill Toole with Holy Water blessed the boys before the match.

I feel I must remember these men of older days,
Who never failed to give support and cheer us on our ways,
Mark Cahill with his merry laugh, John Cody and Jim Strappe,
The Doc from old Kilsheelan, Tommy Kelly in his trap.

We won the County Championship and Father Synott's League,
We played matches oft in mid-week, but ne'er suffered from fatigue,
I think of all the teams we met to combat in those days,
The gallant men from Powerstown were our worthiest foes always.

Now some of those old stalwards ne'er left their native home,
While some have wandered far away, and others crossed the foam,
Some, too, have found an early grave in Mother Erin's breast,
May God have mercy on their souls and grant Eternal Rest.

Bill O'Keefe



Back row, l. to r.: J. Coffey, Chairman, R.I.P., C. Ryan, E. Lonergan, R.I.P., M. Morrissey, J. Lonergan, R.I.P., J. Kehoe, J. Fleming, trainer, R.I.P.
Middle row, W. Purcell, M. Ryan, D. Cortty, R.I.P., T. O'Keefe, P. J. Marron, M. Kehoe, R.I.P. J. Cummins, R.I.P.
Front row, M. Dempsey, R.I.P., L. Kehoe, R.I.P., P. Larkin, R.I.P., P. J. O'Sullivan, M. Lonergan, R.I.P.

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SCÓR

by Mrs Mary Kenny

COUNTY WINNERS 1983 : SCOR NA nOG

Rince Fóirne: Solohead.

Runners-up: Borrisoleigh, Templemore/Clonmore, Newcastle.

Amhránaíocht Aonair: Bernadette Ryan Toomevara.

Runners-up: Lattin-Cullen, Dúrlas Og, Moyle Rovers.

Ceol Uirlise: Loughmore-Castleiney.

Runners-up: Ballina, Seán Treacy's, Ballybacon/Grange.

Nua Chleas: Upperchurch-Drombane.

Runners-up: Ballybacon-Grange, Aherlow.

Tráth na gCeist: Newport.

Runners-up: Drom-Inch, St Patrick's, Arravale-Rovers.

Bailéad Ghrúpa: Lattin-Cullen.

Runners-up: Upperchurch-Drombane Ballyporeen, Burgess.

Rince Seit: Templemore-Clonmore.

Runners-up: Newcastle, Borrisoleigh, Sepan Treacy's.

Scór Sinsear

Rince Fóirne: Eire Og, Nenagh.

Runners-up: Clonoulty-Rossmore, Newcastle, Moycarkey-Borris.

Amhránaíocht Aonair: Michael Hennessy Mullinahone.

Runners-up: Clonoulty-Rossmore, Upperchurch-Drombane, Borrisokane

Ceol Uirlise: Clonmel, Kickhams.

Runners-up: Clonoulty-Rossmore, Thurles-Kickhams, Eire Og Nenagh

Nuachleas: Golden-Kilfeacle.

Runners-up: Upperchurch-Drombane Killenaule.

Tráth na gCeist: Fr Sheehy's Clogheen.

Runners-up: Golden-Kilfeacle, Newport, Moycarkey-Borris.

Bailéad Ghrúpa: Arravale-Rovers.

Runners-up: Kiladangan, Mullinahone Gortnahoe-Glengooile.

Rince Seit: Newcastle.

Runners-up: Gortnahoe-Glengooile, Toomevara, Clonoulty-Rossmore.

Of the above, Bernadette Ryan Toomevara and the Upperchurch Novelty Act won their way to the All Ireland finals, and in Scór Sinsear the Golden-Kilfeacle Novelty Act Group were our sole standard-bearers. While national honours did not come our way, they were worthy representatives of our county, and they certainly upheld the high standard which has always been the hallmark of all Tipperary participants.

Comhgháirdeachas do gach duine a ghlac páirt ins na comórtaisí uilig. Tá Scór '84 ag druidim linn anois agus 'sé ár nguí go mbeidh caighdeán níos airde fós imeasc na n-iomaitheoirí, i scór Sinsear go háirithe.

The whole concept of Scór embraces participation at local level, but in recent years, while showing excellent results at juvenile level, interest among the seniors has waned. The County Scór Committee appeals to all clubs to make a special effort during Centenary Year to revitalise Scór at local level. We emphasise that an enthusiastic Scór committee is a must in every parish. This committee should make every effort to motivate people to take part in the parish final. In addition to this, it might help if contact could be maintained with competitors during the year by holding an occasional Irish Night when artistes from other clubs could perform at leisure, free from the strain of competition. If Scór is to survive at senior level, we must make a greater effort to encourage our young people to continue to

compete when they advance to senior stage.

During 1983 An Coiste Cultúir at Páirc an Chrócaigh decided that set dances traditional to each county should be written down and recorded in booklet form for Scór '84. In this way it is hoped to revive and preserve the traditional form of the various sets. In most counties a beginning has been made but much remains to be done and while most sets are written down and are being used for Scór '84, all are not complete and many must be re-written. It is intended to have the booklet published during the year and the publication date has been set for 1st Nov. 1984—the exact centenary date of the first meeting at Thurles.

The return of Recitation to the list of competitions for Scór '84 has been widely welcomed. At the All Ireland Scór Congress in July it was decided that the rules for Scór '84 will also apply for '85 and '86.

Sincere regret was felt in Scór and hurling circles during the year at the untimely death of Peadar Cummins of Borrololeigh. Scór will never be the same without Peadar, who in his shy retiring manner did more to advance the Gaelic ideals embodied in Scór than can be accounted for here. For as long as Scór and set dancing survive, Peadar will be missed. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam dhílis. Deep sympathy is also extended to the family of Kathleen Croke of Laffansbridge who made many valuable contributions to Scór down through the years. Solas na bhFlaitheas dá hanam uasal agus d'anamnacha na nGael go léir a fuair bás i rith na bliana.

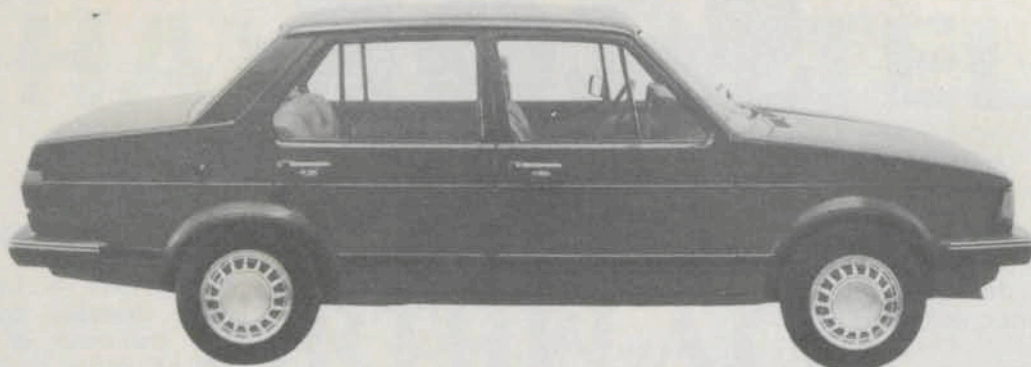


Abbey C.B.S. Tipperary— winners of Cusack Cup (Tipp post-primary U-15 Football Championship) 1983.

Back row, l. to r.: Michael Foley, Gerry Haslem, Tom McGrath, John O'Dwyer, Jim McGrath, John Barry, Aidan Buckley, Frank Nolan, Edwin Ryan.

Middle row, l. to r.: James Donovan, Paul McCormack, Denis O'Dwyer, Sean McCarthy, Johnny Lowry captain, James Halley, Dermot Barlow, Michael Cussen, Alex English.

Front row, l. to r.: Richard English, Tomas Kelly, Brendan Myers, Justin Quinlan.



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OBITUARIES

Tribute to late EAMONN RYAN

By "An Sliotar"

The death recently of 17 year old Eamonn Ryan of Newport was a source of great sadness to gaelic throughout North Tipperary. Indeed, as the news spread of his death it seems that everyone shared the great sorrow of his parents and family.

Born on 3rd March 1966, Eamonn Ryan had in recent years developed into a gaelic games man of outstanding ability and enormous potential. In school games he acquitted himself with great distinction but it was at club and representative level that he really showed his class.

1982 was undoubtedly his greatest year on the gaelic fields. He captained Newport to North and County titles in the under 16 football grade. His performances throughout at wing forward were superb and his leadership qualities were exceptional in one so young. He was a leading light too in North Tipperary's Garda Cup (interdivisional u-16 hurling) win last year. He scored the winning point in the semi-final against West Tipperary and was the North's leading marksman in the decider against Mid Tipperary. He also played Munster championship hurling in the u-16 grade with North Tipperary.

Eamonn was a coming star and there is little doubt he was heading for a place in the Tipperary minor team for the Centenary championship.

Early this year Eamonn sustained a head injury in a minor game. For many months past he was in a coma in Cork and Limerick hospitals as the medical people did all they could to save him.

Tragically, Eamonn is no longer with us. He is a major loss to his family to whom all hurling lovers offer their most sincere sympathy. His loss too will be felt by his many friends, his teachers and above all by his own club Newport. I had the great pleasure of seeing Eamonn in action on a few occasions and he was one of these young players I noted as a future star and a player to watch.

Sadly, now, these dreams are only dreams. Eamonn is gone home and when "the great Referee" checked Eamonn's card above I'm sure he admitted him at once and said:

"It matters not who won or lost

But how the game was played."

Eamonn surely played the game well and fairly.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh an óg fhear seo.



HUBIE- LORRHA'S GENTLE GIANT

by Gerry Slevin

To be referred to in conversation by one's Christian name and that there be immediate

realisation as to the subject in question, is an accolade not given to many.

Mention the word 'Hubie' and there was need to go no further. Throughout Tipperary it could only refer to one man and when on a cold Sunday afternoon last January I answered the telephone to hear from Paddy Maher the words 'Hubie is dead', my thoughts and emotions underwent that indescribable frenzy that invariably accompanies the passing of a fine friend.

Hubie Hogan, hurler, referee, official, administrator, the gentle giant from Lorrha, in a comparatively short life time dedicated all of it to an organisation in which he found such satisfaction. The latter years of his life saw him afflicted with arthritic pains and it was difficult to reconcile this with that fine figure of a man who in the '40s and 50s bestrode the playing fields of Tipperary like a hurling colossus.

To him fell the distinction of captaining Lorrha in their '48 North Final victory over Borrisoleigh. Their bid to add the county title was foiled later by Holycross but it was a great Lorrha side featuring such players as Mick Brophy, Tom Ryan, Eugene O'Meara, Mick O'Meara, Hubie and his brother Billy and that prince of goalkeepers, Tony Reddan. Hubie's ceaseless endeavours on the playing field epitomised his intense interest in the welfare of his club. It was a characteristic that was to accompany him in everything he did for the GAA because nothing was dearer to him than to see the Association thriving. He was to play many important roles in its onward march, culminating in his election as chairman of the County Board in 1976. This distinction came his way just after he had led the North Board through seven glorious years as chairman, during which time he set up something of a record in having never missed a meeting.

A dedicated Chairman

When one realises the long distance he had to travel to Nenagh for meetings and couples it with the fact that the Board met twice monthly, Hubie's commitment was indeed something special. His farming life didn't help the situation either but that was Hubie. Dedication and efficiency, all in the interests of the GAA took pride of place and he saw his role as one that could not be skipped in any way.

While still actively involved as a hurler, Hubie took up the whistle and several divisional and county finals came his way while his services were in much demand too in neighbouring counties. In 1952 he refereed the All Ireland senior semi final between Cork and Galway in Limerick.

He was also club secretary and Board delegate for many years so that when the office of North Board chairman eventually fell to him, he could accept it having been well schooled in the workings of the Board. That he should be returned to office for seven years spoke volumes for the relationship he built up with all the clubs in North Tipperary and but for the passing of a bye law limiting office holders to a three year term, the probability is that he would have continued to lead the North Board for an even longer period.

But the North's loss was the county's gain and he took his new office in his stride, ever conscious of the duties his office imposed on him and tempering justice with a strong sense of fair play and never letting anything other than common sense and the dictates of his conscience be his guiding star.

It was a proud day for him when the Tipp minors took the '76 All Ireland title. I well remember how proud he was that night at the celebrations out in Malahide. Nor could he conceal his joy some years later when his son Ken lined out at full back

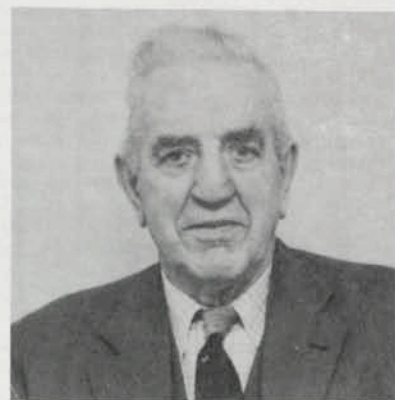
for Birr Presentation Brothers in their unsuccessful All Ireland colleges final bid against St Flannan's, Ennis. Ken dropped back one pace to goals and won an All Ireland medal in that position when Tipp next took minor honours in 1980.

Love of Music

The advent of Scór on the GAA scene was something Hubie welcomed with open arms. He loved traditional music, song and dance and his light tenor voice saw him in much demand at concerts. He did everything possible to promote Scór at club and other levels and was a regular attendee at competition right up to just a very short time before his death.

When called to his eternal reward, Hubie left behind him monuments, not of stone but of so many fine qualities which endeared him to so many people. Sincerity, gentleness, sense of duty, dedication, commitment, these and many more traits were part and parcel of the life of Hubie Hogan. His beloved wife Mary, always by his side at matches and at functions, lost a devoted husband and father to a grand family, and the huge assembly of GAA people led by President Paddy Buggy, at the funeral, must have brought home to her, if indeed such were necessary, the place Hubie held in the hearts of GAA people not just in Tipperary but much farther afield.

Regretably the Lord and Master of all took him to his eternal home just a year short of the GAA's centenary celebrations. People like Hubie Hogan have given unstintingly in the cause of the GAA and when the achievements of those who built up the Association are recounted during centenary year, there will be a place for Hubie too. He will not be forgotten and one can easily visualise him looking on approvingly as the great year unfolds.



THE LATE MICHAEL KELLY

The late Michael Kelly of Greenfield, Cappawhite, who died some months ago, was a founder member of the West Tipperary GAA Board, which was formed back in 1930. Indeed, in those early years Michael was a very efficient acting secretary to the Board.

He is also remembered for his exploits on the field of play as a staunch full back with his native Cappawhite. He hurled in the company of such as Anthony Doherty (late ex-chairman of the West Board) and the Furlongs. In 1932 he was a member of the victorious Cappawhite-Donohill side which won the first ever Junior Hurling title.

Later in the senior grade he and his teammates posed a very real threat to the supremacy of Clonoulty.

Indeed it is true to record that West Tipperary have lost a capable administrator and loyal friend of our Association.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh sé.

OBITUARIES



**LATE JIM TIERNEY
BORRISOKANE**

It's fifty years exactly since the one and only divisional senior title came to Borrisokane. The famed Toomevara Greyhounds fell before their might in the '33 decider and while in the intervening years—especially in the early sixties—the break back was almost achieved, the Lower Ormond club has had to make do with successes in lower grades with several divisional and county titles coming their way in Intermediate, Junior and Under 21 grades.

Links with the '33 team are understandably becoming more and more weak and the death during the past year of Jim Tierney evoked fond memories, not just of a great player who did his club proud over a lengthy period, but continued long after his playing days had ended, to inspire those who succeeded him.

Jim was a postman and as such a welcome figure in all households. He knew his hurling as intimately as those with whom he came in contact each day and he derived immense pleasure from discussing the game with all-comers.

He continued playing into the early 50s and his long erect figure standing between the posts was to dash the aspirations of many an opposing forward.

Some years ago the Borrisokane club decided to honour the survivors of the '33 team. Jim was there, hale and hearty, enjoying every minute of the celebrations and providing for the present generation an example in dedication that could be imitated with beneficial effects to all.

PAKIE FARRELL, BOHERLAHAN R.I.P.

Pakie, a native of Castlemoyle, helped Tipp to All Ireland honours in minor hurling in 1933. A very promising player, he moved to Mayo soon after and played for that county. In fact he was selected on an Irish team of junior hurlers who travelled to London in the late thirties. He finally settled down in Oldcastle (Co. Meath) where he was a Monumental Sculptor, like his father before him. He passed to his eternal reward on 17 October.

PADDY O'DWYER, BOHERLAHAN

A native of Bawnmore, Paddy assisted Boherlahan at junior and senior levels before he emigrated to London while still a young man. A sterling forward, of the hard-hitting style, typical of his native club, he spent the rest of his life in London, where he died in October. Peace to his soul.

TIMMY COFFEY, BOHERLAHAN

October brought the death of another player from this club. Timmy Coffey, in the prime of life died unexpectedly, while on a weekend visit to his parents in Ballinree, from Middleton where he was Manager of Chadwicks Hardware business.

A member of the team which brought Boherlahan its only county minor hurling title in 1970, he helped the club at junior, intermediate and senior levels.

His father Jerry, uncles John and Flor Coffey and Danny Maher were all members of the last team to bring senior honours to the club in 1941. All four helped Tipp at senior level, both John and Flor being on the victorious Tipp team of 1945. Flor was there again in 1949. John also won minor honours in 1934. Jerry captained Tipp seniors in 1942, while Danny Maher helped the seniors in 1940. Timmy's father-in-law, Paddy Hickey of Derricknew, was one of Killenaules greatest hurlers ever.

We tender deepest sympathy to his wife and family, his parents, brothers and sisters and all his relatives. R.I.P.

JIMMY TYNAN, MOYGLASS

Jim was probably the most stylish stickman of the grand Moyglass team which came to the front in the early thirties—first as juniors and later in the senior grade. He played a prominent part in the senior grade. He played a prominent part in bringing All Ireland honours to Tipp in the junior grade in 1933. Ar dheis láimh Dé go raibh a anam.

PEADAR CUMMINS

During the year Borris-Ileigh lost a man in Peadar Cummins whose influence on the young hurlers of the parish was of immeasurable consequence.

Death laid its icy hands on this kindly and most amicable of Gaels and snatched untimely from our midst the very soul of our juvenile club. Such a blow will resound for many a long day among the hurling fraternity of North Tipperary.

Peadar passed away on a glorious Sunday evening in the quietness of the local doctor's surgery. He had been in Nenagh earlier as his beloved Borris played in the North Senior Championship.

His gentle soul must surely have soared over 'The Park' that evening on its journey to his celestial abode. He died as he lived, entrenched at the very core of his club's activities. No more his nimble feet would beat out a 'set' or thread the green sod with his juveniles at his side.

But his memory is evergreen in Borris, and the fruits of his labours will be seen in the 'Maroon and White' for many years to come. Peadar has gone to his eternal reward; and the remains of his legacy will be forever treasured by the Borris-Ileigh GAA Club. "Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam séimh."

THE LATE DENIS McGRATH MOYLE ROVERS

It was with deep regret that we learned on Wednesday morning the 17th August of the death of Denis McGrath of Powerstown.

Denis was a very popular figure in our parish where he farmed extensively, a good neighbour, always anxious to learn and develop, but at the same time found time to help others in need. He had varied sporting interests including horse-racing and breeding, greyhound racing and card playing. He was a



life long member of Moyle Rovers G.A.A. club whom he served with distinction always feeling proud to wear the skyblue jersey in hurling and football and was a member of the 1959 county junior football championship winning team. He was honoured by county senior football selectors on numerous occasions. He played the games hard and honest and his commitment was astounding.

Denis was always keen that the club should acquire its own playing field and it now seems fitting that this was achieved earlier this year, much to his delight and satisfaction.

He bore his illness patiently to the end and the esteem in which he was held in the parish and surrounding districts was evident by the large crowds at the removal of his remains to Powerstown Church from his home and at his funeral Mass and burial. His nephews shouldered his remains draped in club colours flanked his former club members and as we laid him to rest in his native Powerstown one could not help but spare a thought for the many times he roamed this area as a boy, a youth and later as a man. We are sure that he has reaped his reward with the Lord. Go ndéanaí Dia trócaire ar a n-anam dílis.



MICK NOLAN—A TRIBUTE

Tipperary Gaeldom and the Gaelic Athletic Association in general was robbed of one of its most colourful personalities with the death of Mick Nolan of Mullinahone. He was born in a parish deeply rooted in the ideals and aspirations of our Association and it was little wonder that he showed at an early age ability and promise as a young footballer, that he fulfilled and brought to fruition in later years.

He was a member of the Tipperary team that played an infamous bloody Sunday. He was also a member of the team that brought the last senior All Ireland football title to the county, the 1920 final played in '22.

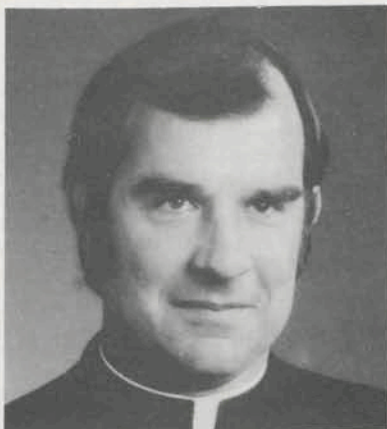
He represented the county at all times with honour and distinction, whenever selected to play at any level.

He was a life long member of the C. J. Kickham Club both as a player and administrator and was esteemed President at the time of his death. He played a leading role as a player in bringing two county senior football titles to the parish in 1926-9. He won many other honours with the club and represented them in many official capacities.

Mick Nolan is dead, but the memories live on of a famous son, from a parish that gave many famous sons to Irish manhood. Go ndéanaí Dia trócaire ar a anam.

Mick Egan

OBITUARIES



Rev. Fr John Egan, C.C.
Ballinakill & Derrybrien, Co. Galway
and a native of Cloneen, Fethard, R.I.P.

A Tribute by Patrick Power

Fellow Gaels, no words can express the sorrow I felt, as I try to pen those few short lines about my former colleague Fr John Egan.

It is hard to imagine that just one short year ago, we were all rejoicing on that glorious day in Thurles when he was ordained to the Priesthood, and now we are so saddened by his passing, at such a comparatively young age. They say that only the good die young and surely that is true in this case, for there was good in everything John did.

All through his life he was committed to the ideals of the G.A.A. both as a player and an administrator. He had the distinction of representing his county at minor and u-21 level in football, but it would only be right to say that he was possibly seen at his greatest when in charge of the under age teams, which were his pride and joy. When the lone piper from Ballinakill played the lament as we lowered him into the grave, in his beloved Cloneen something seemed to inspire us and say "Keep up the good work" John is gone but Knocknagow lives on.

'Twas as a child I saw him first as he played around the yard, in that hollowed spot called Garranguile, just down from Ballinakill. As the sun still beams, on those lovely streams, round the foot of Slievenamon though he's now at rest, among the best, we'll remember Fr John.



PADDY BOURKE, ROSCREA, R.I.P.

In early February of this year one of the best known hackney men in the county died. He was Paddy Bourke from Roscrea.

For many years Paddy had been the official driver of Roscrea players who were involved with Tipperary teams and his driving of those hurlers and footballers ensured his widespread renown and popularity. He was

known throughout the county. He had of course been an outstanding hurler in his own playing days and stories are still told of some of his first class displays and high scoring returns in important games. In "Tales of the Gaels" in the "Tipperary Star" of 12th February 1983 tribute was paid in verse to Paddy— (not the late Paddy, because Paddy was never late).

"In songs and tales I've told of Gaels
 Who have spent their lives at work
 Who shirked great fame but oved the game
 — Men like Paddy Bourke

From Lorrha down to Carrick Town
 From Roscrea to Clonmel
 This honest hardy hackneyman
 Has served Tipperary well.

The minors loved to hear him tell
 Of those hurling men of old,
 Whom he carried to the hurling ground
 Or to play for the Blue and Gold.

You could depend on Paddy's word
 No one had to wait
 There was never need of excessive speed
 — Paddy Bourke was never late.

He sits now at his golden wheel,
 Cruising merrily along
 The winding, never ending ways
 Mummung some old hurling song.

He has driven to his last great game
 Up by the golden gate
 The lights are green thanks to Mary his Queen
 He has reached his heavenly state."

"He was one of the old timers and he loved the old things of the country and loved to speak of them. Paddy Bourke personified the very best of men. The amount of extra work and time spent by men like Paddy Bourke must never be forgotten either. Men like Paddy Bourke have been a great help to our teams and the spirit of the game."

Tributes to Paddy were paid by two of his contemporaries in Roscrea. Joe Fletcher who captained Tipperary to All Ireland minor hurling success in 1933 and who hurled with Paddy for many years at club level remembers Paddy as "A very cute and tricky forward who always gave of his best. He was a loyal and devoted club man with a keen interest in the playing of our Gaelic games. His car was used by the club at every level over many years as he drove the Roscrea men to their game." Joe who is still very interested in the games recalled the great clashes between Roscrea and Moneygall in thirties and the individual duel between little Paddy Bourke and Big "Baby" Sutton, who was about twice the size of Paddy. These duels are often recalled by the older generation when they talk of the olden days.

John Joe Maher the most famous hurling man in Roscrea and secretary of the club for 47 years has his own memories of Paddy Bourke. J. J. remembers him as "a very effective and free scoring full forward who played for Tipp minors in 1931 and won a Munster medal before losing the All Ireland to Kilkenny. Paddy also played senior club hurling for Roscrea and won several North Tipp S.H. Championship medals with the club. One of his best days was the North Tipp S.H. semi-final of 1935 at Borrisokane against Lorrha when Paddy scored 3 goals and 6 points."

John Joe recalls too the great clashes he had with "Baby" Sutton and stressed that in all the tussles Paddy was never knocked down by "Baby." Paddy's car was at the disposal of the club for 50 years as he undertook various assignments. He was often better known than the players he carried in his car! J. J. concluded by remarking on Paddy's great integrity and punctuality.

Paddy Bourke was never late— Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam uasal.



JAMES GLEESON, DRANGAN, R.I.P.

A Tribute by Thomas O'Connor

The death of Jim Gleeson was widely mourned in Co. Tipp. on the 25th of March 1983 at a great age of 92 years.

Jim was born and reared in Cloron Cloneen where he lived until he got married. Together they ran a grocery store in Drangan and in later years with the help of his own family they had the Post Office. Jim was sadly missed by all his family and friends but above all by his wife Molly to whom he gave great assistance especially for the last few years. He was a very active man up to a very short time before he died. He was well known in Munster for his contribution to Irish Music. He played the violin at many a dance, at Feis's and at many a house dance.

Jim was a life long supporter of the National Games. He was involved at an early age at administrative level. He was a referee for many years and was also a gate checker. He rendered his services in every way possible especially when we had young players from his own club going for trials and games for the county. In later years Jim was made Chairman of the South Board for a total of 14 years. After his retirement he attended many board meetings and a regular spectator at matches and was no stranger to Croke Park. He also rendered his services at the time when some men would like to be second. He was first during the troubled times. Jim was also a member of Cashel Rural District Council in the twenties.

'Twas by those lovely Anner Banks, that Jim first saw the light, and when Ireland's sons took up their guns he was foremost in the fight. With the GAA, that gallane band, he then threw in his lot, and when ever help was needed, he was always on the spot. To chair a meeting straight and fair was his most solemn vow. May the Lord have mercy on his soul. A great son of Knocknagow.



THE LATE LARRY MOLOUGHNEY

"As a man lives to shall he die". These words are very appropriate when we write a few lines on the untimely death of Larry Moloughney. Larry— a native of Dualla came to

OBITUARIES

Thurles in the early forties where he took up employment with the Irish Sugar Company, whom he served diligently for 40 years. Recently retired he enjoyed good health until the Lord said "Your time is up" and that day was none other than the evening of the All Ireland Hurling final.

In the company of his fellow Thurles gatekeepers, when returning from the All Ireland he took seriously ill in a restaurant in Newbridge and died in the arms of his comrades with Dr W. Herlihy also in attendance.

A man of many talents, he boasted of having played hurling with Boherlahan/Dualla, Moycarkey/Borris and Sarsfields and in his later years served the Association as a gatekeeper in Thurles, throughout Munster and at Croke Park.

Honest and most dependable he had many many friends both in the GAA and in the horse and doggie world and served also as a helper in St Brigid's and St Joseph's Church in Thurles.

A man of strong national aspirations, he spoke freely in Gaelic and in his moments of acclaim for his native Dualla, the names of Pierce McCann, The Loobys and Andy Fogarty, T.D. were his greatest heroes. His contribution to a night of song would not be complete without a short rendering of "Amber Wave" or "She Lived Beside The Anner."

To his many relatives and friends we say "Ní bheidh a leithéid ann arís." Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam.

T. O Baróid



TOMMY BUTLER, R.I.P.

On the 22nd of April Tommy Butler died peacefully in his sleep. A few short weeks previously I had accompanied him to the funeral of Dan Mackey who was being laid to rest in Tipperary Town. The survivors of a great 1937 All Ireland team in which Tommy was the last link in the defence were there to pay tribute. Nobody anticipated that within a short time the survivors of 1937 would have to do similar honour to another comrade, one who dedicated his entire life to the furtherance of the games in his native county and especially with Thurles Sarsfields with both of whom he shared in many successes as a player and later as a mentor.

Tommy first came to prominence during the course of the 1926 junior All Ireland Hurling Championship, won by his native county. His performances in goal lead to promotion to senior ranks and his feats during the 1927-28 National Hurling League are still recalled. Having disposed of Cork in which game he thrilled thousands with his uncanny feats it was next to the semi-final against the great Dublin Garda selection of happy memory. Again Tommy defied the best efforts of Mick Gill, Matty Power and Co. and the game ended in a draw. Sufficient points earned put Tipp in the final against Galway and they won the day.

At this time Sarsfields hurlers were years without winning a senior hurling championship but the advent of 1929 saw the rise of a young team in the hands of Tom Semple. Their epic clash with Boherlahan in Littleton is now history. They went on to win county honours and Tommy Butler his first county medal. A Sarsfield selection in 1930 brought All Ireland honours but on this occasion Tommy had to give best to a young talented goalkeeper from Toomevara—Tom O'Meara though he retained his place on the selection. The great tour of United States followed in 1931 and on his return he decided to take a rest. Tommy was practically inactive for a few years until the advent of Thurles Kickhams in 1935. Transfers weakened Sarsfields in numbers and Tommy was again called to the colours. He was in goal for the successes of 1935 and 1936 which culminated in he again joining the County team and starring in that memorable All Ireland played in Killarney in 1937. This must surely deserve a place in any Tipperary G.A.A. history. The record is all the greater as Tommy was at this time getting on in years. One last appearance in his club colours heralded the end of his playing days. He was succeeded by talented sons in Patsy, Thomas, Dermot and Michael. The latter was a particularly talented player and his untimely death was a severe blow to Tommy and his family.

Playing days over Tommy Butler devoted his great interest to refereeing and was a notable contributor to Mid Board debates and was of course President of Sarsfields Club up to the time of his death. Sad to relate that Tommy participated in the celebrations commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the founding of the G.A.A. in 1934. He was looking forward to 1984 but God ordained otherwise. Tommy Butlers association with the G.A.A. and lifelong membership of Thurles Coursing Club made him a national figure. I will conclude with a few lines of Tommys party piece.

I know young fellows always hate
To hear an old man brag.
But those you now deem up-to-date
Will soon begin to lag.
Oh! once I could with Semple vie
Or emulate Bob Quane—
For I could make the leather fly
When I was twenty one.

John Lanigan



THOMAS RYAN, R.I.P.
Rossane, Cloneen.

A Tribute by Thomas O'Connor

"You know not the time, the place or the hour."

1983 has been a very sad year for the parish of Drangan—Cloneen and for the St Patrick's G.A.A. Club. In March we lost the ex-Chairman of the South Board Mr Jim Gleeson at the great age of 92 years. Just five months later we were saddened at the death of Fr John Egan at only 40 years of age, one of our senior players. But on Saturday 12th November after a very short illness

we heard of the death of Tom Ryan at only 16 years of age. A big loss to his club his school friends but above all to his family. On Saturday the 5th Nov. he played in goal for his club. On Wednesday 9th Nov. he played hurling for the school. On Saturday 12th Nov. he was dead, a very quick call.

Tom played under age hurling with Ballingarry. He played 12, 14, 16, 17 football with St Patricks. He also played 17 football this year with St Patricks, Killenaule as well as playing for the Vocational School Killenaule where he was a pupil.

His club and Ballingarry Club formed a guard of honour in Cloneen on Saturday night and his friends in Fethard gave him a guard of honour through the town. On Monday Killenaule School and Club together with Cloneen School and St Patrick's Club formed a guard of honour from Church to graveyard. It was very sad to see boys and girls, men and women openly crying for their young colleague.

Go ndeanaigh Dia trochaire ar a anam.



MEMORIES OF TOM AND DAN

by John O'Grady

They were so often together, it seems right to link them here. Tom and Dan gravitated towards each other, drawn by old acquaintance and shared sporting outlook. In the later years you felt there was something wrong about Lahinch at "South of Ireland" time if those regulars, Cahill and Mackey, weren't in the groups chatting around the results sheet, or sitting at the back of the ninth or one of the other popular spots for spectating and commenting. In the mellow seaside nights they'd be talking over leisurely pints at Kenny's or Atlantic. It was an annual ritual, that Clare holiday.

The way these coincidences go, I associate the first instant of awful awareness of their deaths with their prime sporting interest. Gaelic games—a hurling league match, to be exact, in our last campaign. On a Sunday night in November 1982 I heard the door bell ring. It more or less had to be Tom Cahill. Sure enough, it was he on the doorstep. "Well" he said "did you go?" "I did of course". Almost apologetically, despite our long friendship, he came in to hear about Ballinasloe. I wasn't able to report anything too heartening about Tipp's showing against Galway. "Mossie Carroll is hardly suited by putting him at full-back," he remarked among other comments. "I'm just going down to the club for a while, are you going?" "No, I'm a bit tired from the driving. Good luck," I said at the door. The last words I ever said to him. On Monday evening about tea-time the 'phone rang, with the last news I wanted to hear.

The months rolled on to February; the league resumed. We were not long sitting down in the stand at Ennis when the public address made a request. It's a frequent experience—"patrons are requested to observe a minute's silence . . . Mostly the name that completes the announcement does not make a hurtful impact . . . for the late Dan Mackey, Tipperary town." Good God, no—but the reflex mental negative could not alter the unwelcome fact. I'd met him at Tom's funeral, as stunned as everyone else, maybe more than most. His own fitness was constantly remarked. One had only to look at Dan's fresh features or at his golf cards; he maintained a low single figure handicap to the

OBITUARIES

end, had won major competitions with a sweet, natural, rounded swing. He played the day before the fated Sunday but didn't play out the full round—unusually but, with hindsight, significantly.

Different Codes

Tom was strictly a footballer, Dan a hurler, in their days of practical participation; but in retirement they'd talk of both codes. Tom was inclined to be extremely disillusioned with what he called "basketball". When he was kicking with Mullinahone, or Tipp or Cavan, his bank job took him to many counties—they caught and kicked promptly, never dreaming of modern possession play with its stress on run and hand-pass. He was a very useful, determined wing-back on Tipp teams good enough to be unlucky against Cork and Kerry in the 40s.

One year the half-back line was Walter, Mick and Tom from Mullinahone. He won an Ulster medal with Cavan. Only the Friday before he died he was at the Durlas Og function attended by Ger Henderson with the All-Ireland Cup. Tom had done fine work with the Thurles juveniles, giving up many a Sunday or mid-week day in the cause of training, coaching and transport. An earnest man, and a straight one. In golf, he fought a long, losing battle with a "slice"; but he was a steady performer, capable of winning. With some pride, I reflect that in foursomes partnership we once shot 67 gross and an unbelievable sub-sixty nett in a Thurles "Open Week."

The Gaile Arena

Dan Mackey I can visualise best in a Gaile, Boherlahan setting. War-time Mid championships, Sarsfields against one of the local rivals; probably wet—it tended to do that in Gaile; people pushing against the wire fencing even hanging out of trees over at the road side. Sharp pulling prevailed, and strong partisan emotion; no place for the timid, the middle—or any other spot—of the field. Dan would be there, holding his own at midfield, partnering the ground—devouring Tom Mason; a respected hurler and placid sportsman, good enough to be on the All-Ireland panel of 1937 and play a part along the road to Killarney and, at home, to take several titles with Sarsfields. A native of Borrisoleigh, closely related to the Kenny's, he worked a good many years at J. D. Fitzpatrick's hardware business. He moved to his own premises in Tipp. town after getting married, and became the most popular of arrivals in that friendly town.

To be writing about these men in the past tense requires, after so many months, an effort to grasp that they're gone. But we're glad to have known them, and to pray for their rest.



TED LANDERS, GOLDEN
A TRIBUTE

It was with great regret that the committee of the Tipperary G.A.A. Yearbook realised a year ago that in the busy weeks prior to going to print, a tribute to the late Ted Landers

had been overlooked. It was an unfortunate omission because the Golden man who had just passed from our presence had maintained a most prominent profile in G.A.A. circles right throughout his life and fully deserved the minimal recognition of a tribute in this annual publication. It was thus decided that in our next publication—this present one—the man who had graced both field and boardroom over many decades of service to the Association would be given a belated but most deserved word of appreciation.

The late Ted Landers—affectionately Teddy to his friends—was nothing if not active—in fact his prominence went far beyond G.A.A. affairs to areas such as politics business and drama. On the playing side his hurling is often remembered by older generations who played with and against him—memories that are liberally mixed with praise. Even to more recent generations who had never seen him in action with the caman, it was not difficult to visualise that tall muscular frame presenting problems for the best of his opponents in the forties and fifties. His was a playing career which saw him play both at minor and junior level for Tipperary and then become a central member of Golden senior teams. It was in the very early forties that he emerged as a strong minor and in '43 he lined out in the forwards for the Golden junior team which took the West final against Glengar. In '44/'45 Ted played with the Ballyhurst juniors and in '46 when the twin parishes of Golden and Kilfeacle united he was a member of their senior team. By the late forties he had emigrated to England but was back again in the early fifties to once more lend his assistance to his native parish.

It was during the fifties that Ted was part of many heart-stirring battles with his club against the best in the division—most notably Kickhams, who were then ruling the roost in senior hurling in the West. The memories of some of those games were the ones he relished most in later life. In '58 he was full back on the Golden team which lost to Kickhams in the West final and the following year was to be his last one as a player.

On the administrative side he was at different times secretary, vice-chairman and selector in his native club. On West and County Boards he is well remembered as an expert on all aspects of the rules—when Ted started debating different points of law in the G.A.A. few could contradict him. He was for a number of years a member of the West Tipp appeals committee and it was his idea—and proposed by him at County convention—that the present county appeals committee be set up. Significantly he then became a member of that same committee.

In other areas Ted was a very active member of the local Fianna Fail Cumann and took part in many productions of the local dramatic society, in fact on the night of his very sudden death he had been in action with the local group. On the business side Ted was a very prominent beet contractor.

Not surprisingly a man with the energy and enthusiasm of the late Ted Landers will always be missed by those whose activities brought him in contact with them. The Boardroom is duller without his knowledgeable and witty remarks. The games have lost through his absence, and his club is poorer with his passing. To all who knew him his passing was a sad occasion and his family, in whose affections he held a special place, will always be joined in their remembrance of him by the many friends who were bereaved by his death.



JOHN CURRIVAN, GOLDEN
A Tribute

At the beginning of last year the West Board, Golden club, and the G.A.A. lost one of its most dedicated servants when the Almighty called from our presence the late John Currivan from Golden. John's association with the G.A.A. and its activities started with his playing days and continued through his years as a referee and Board officer right up to his death.

John's playing days were mainly the thirties and forties and he had a reputation among those who saw him play as a strong and reliable back-man in days when rules were more liberal and it took men of mettle to match strides with the best. His last major game was in 1949 when he played centre back on the Golden team which lost to Kickhams in the West final—John had to retire injured in that game. Thereafter his activities moved to the area of refereeing where he took charge of many games including a West senior hurling final between Cashel and Kickhams.

In later years John was treasurer of the local club and a very hard working groundsman for years who ensured that all arrangements went smoothly for big games. Then as gatechecker near the end of his days he gave invaluable service to the West Board—regardless of weather or the unimportance of the game John was an ever present sight at games in the division with the bag on his shoulder to carry out his duty.

Of John Currivan I suppose it could be said that his G.A.A. activity was not of the glamorous type. The Boardroom antics held little attraction for this quiet and most unassuming individual—his preference was to be where the work was taking place. His type are generally labelled the unsung heroes of the Association and anyone involved in the working of the organisation at ground level will fully appreciate their importance. His virtues were many and his loss is great. After years of employment at O'Dwyer Steel Dundrum, his retirement was brief and his death although coming after a period of sickness was sudden. If honesty gains its reward then he rests in peace with God.

BISHOP THOMAS RYAN

A personal memoir

by V. Rev. Gus O'Donnell,
President St Patrick's College, Thurles

It is easy for a Tipperaryman to write with affection of Bishop Thomas Ryan. It is right, too, that he should be remembered in these pages. It is only the repayment of a debt for the life-long support of, and interest in, Tipperary hurling and hurlers, and there was no doubting where his special loyalties lay. I visited him one Sunday evening in July; we both knew that he was on his death-bed and yet one of his first questions was: "How

OBITUARIES



Late Dr Tom Ryan, Bishop of Clonfert, pictured with Very Rev. Gus O'Donnell and friends in Rome.

do you think the boys will do today?" The Treacys were playing Cashel in the West Championship and he said: "I must make sure to listen to Seán Og to-night."

Even to the very end there was this youthfulness about his enthusiasm, the same characteristic that caused a vehement reaction in Rome in the mid-fifties when he heard that Clare had beaten Tipperary in the Munster championship. His heart was in it, totally. On the way to the funeral in Loughrea we were delayed at the bridge at Portumna and while we waited I was joined by Dinny Ryan. I recalled for Dinny the moment of his goal in the 1971 All-Ireland: the Bishop, all trace of episcopal restraint cast aside, was out of his seat immediately, delighted by the triumph of the man from his native Kilcommon. And no visitor to his house in Loughrea could miss it either: in his hallstand stood a hurley signed by Liam Devaney, with the dates of Liam's All-Ireland victories carefully and proudly noted.

Requiem Tribute

All of this was an integral part of the lovable naturalness of Bishop Ryan, the quality singled out and closely observed by his successor in Clonfert, Bishop Joseph Cassidy, when he spoke at the Requiem: "Indeed, I suppose what endeared Bishop Ryan in the first instance to the people of this diocese was his unassuming naturalness. Although he was uncomfortably shy before audiences or even at meetings, and although he could falter at times in private conversation, he had a marvellous gift for identifying with ordinary people in their everyday lives. This had something to do, not just with his love of people, but with his sense of place. Despite his experience at international level, he never became a cosmopolitan. He remained essentially a local man, close to the earth, with a profound sense of pietas, always in tune with the traditions, aspirations and preoccupations of his people. He talked to them on the streets, mingled easily with them at Confirmations, exulted and lamented with them on the sidelines, walked knowingly with them on the land. He came to us from Cashel but he was a native Bishop nonetheless. He was in a very basic sense a people's Bishop, in that despite his doctorates from the Lateran University, he never lost the common touch."

As in all truly big men there was a tenderness about Bishop Ryan's remembrance of friends. I have many memories of his kindness, one of which is worth recalling here. The Christmas after Bill died I had a letter from him and in it was a newspaper cutting that he had kept for nearly forty years. It was the account of the 1941 'Foot and Mouth' Munster final, one of Bill's better days, with the simple note: "I thought you might like to have this." That was Bishop Thomas Ryan, signalling his regard for a Tipperary hurler whom he immensely admired.



Carrick Swans Under 21 South Champions

Back row, l. to r.: B. Lonergan, S. Lonergan, J. Cleary, L. Barrett, M. Faulkner, K. Nugent, Joe Grace, John Grace, W. Hahessy, M. Collins, S. O'Shea, M. Waters.
Front row, l. to r.: S. Fitzpatrick, P. Murphy, B. Waters, captain, P. Walsh, J. Walsh, J. O'Neill, J. Waters, R. Flynn, M. Roche, K. Waters.



Pictured before the start of the senior hurling quarter final Lorrha v Swan at Holycross. Rev. Bro. Perkins, minor hurling coach; Pat Stakelum, senior hurling selector; Rev. Fr R. Reidy, C.C., senior hurling selector.



Marlfield South Junior Hurling Champions

Back row, l. to r.: T. English, P. Cleere, G. Chawke, P. J. O'Meara, S. Hennessey, J. Maxwell, A. English, L. Hallinan, D. Williams, P. O'Connor, M. Lambe, S. O'Keefe, M. Dunne, C. Hogan, (secretary).
Front row, l. to r.: J. O'Donoghue, P. Hayde, P. Kelly, Jim Hennebry, M. Mullane, M. McCarthy, captain, C. Browne, P. J. Hassett, M. Kennedy.

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