

# TIPPERARY G.A.A. YEAR BOOK 1987



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## CHAMPIONSHIP FIXTURES 1987

### **IOMÁINT SINSEAR**

|         |                                    |                          |
|---------|------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 24/5/87 | Tiobrad Árann v. Ciarraí           | <b>Replay</b><br>31/5/87 |
|         | Luimneach v. Portláirge            |                          |
| 7/6/87  | Clár v. Tiobraid Árann nó Ciarraí  | 21/6/87                  |
| 14/6/87 | Corcaig v. Luimneach nó Portláirge | 21/6/87                  |
| 5/7/87  | An Cluiche Ceannais                | 12/7/87                  |

### **PEIL SINSIR**

|            |                                       |         |
|------------|---------------------------------------|---------|
| 17/5/87    | Tiobraid Árann v. Luimneach           | 24/5 or |
|            | Clár v. Portláirge                    | 31/5/87 |
| 31/5/87 or | McGrath Cup final (Home)              |         |
| 7/6/87     | with Senior Hurling Championship      |         |
| 21/6/87    | Corcaig v. Tiobrad Árann nó Luimneach | 28/6    |
| 21/6/87    | Ciarraí v. Clár nó Portláirge         | 28/6    |
| 19/7/87    | An Cluiche Ceannais                   | 2/8     |

### **IOMÁNA FÉ 21**

|         |  |                       |
|---------|--|-----------------------|
| 22/4/87 | Tiobrad Áran v. Luimneac nó Portláirge | <b>Replay</b><br>29/4 |
|---------|--|-----------------------|

### **PEIL FÉ 21**

|         |  |                         |
|---------|--|-------------------------|
| 29/4/87 | Tiobraid Árann v. Corcaigh nó Portláirge | 6/5<br><b>or 7/5/87</b> |
|---------|--|-------------------------|

### **IOMÁINT NA MIONÚR**

|        |   |      |
|--------|---|------|
| 7/5/87 | Tiobrad Árann v. Luimneac nó Portláirge | 14/5 |
|--------|---|------|

### **PEIL NA MIONÚR**

|         |                                  |         |
|---------|----------------------------------|---------|
| 30/4/87 | Tiobrad Árann v. Clár            | 8/5/87  |
| 15/5/87 | Corcaig v. Tiobrad Árann nó Clár | 22/5/87 |

### **IOMÁINT SOISIR**

|         |                              |             |
|---------|------------------------------|-------------|
| 27/5 nó | Tiobraid Árann v. Pórtlairge | Extra time  |
| 28/5/87 | Tiobrad Árann v. Portláirge  | Extra time. |



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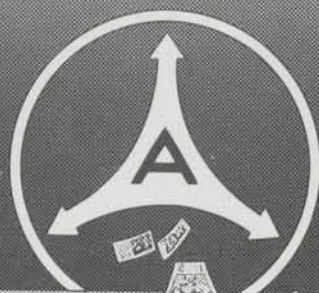
# TIPPERARY G.A.A. YEARBOOK 1987



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*Over the years my function as Patron has brought me in contact with county officers from all parts of Ireland. From time to time it has been a real pleasure to congratulate those who won All Ireland honours for the first time or after a long interval.*

*The taste of victory is sweet indeed. I was always impressed though by the people who showed that waiting for victory is not simply a waste of time, people who believed that Cumann Luth-chleas Gael has more to offer than winning the gold.*

*Time was when in the course of ten miles or so on a summer's evening one would be sure to see several groups pucking or kicking the ball in somebody's field, or more dangerously in the street. Clubs can now offer better facilities to players; there are better spectacles and better accommodation for spectators. But with more competition for the allegiance of young people, we need to offer a development which is both Gaelic and athletic.*

*Mar sin, gúim tuiscint agus misneach ar na ceannairí ar fud an Chontae. Bimid go léir ag tnúth le bua, gan amhras, ach is mó is fiú an imirt ná an bhua. Minic aduradh san cheana, ach bheith ag eisteacht le "glámhán Thiobrad Árann" dearfá nár glacadh leis an chomhairle san. Ní mor dúinn dul i muinín smacht agus cur le chéile.*

*Rath Dé ar an obair.*

**# TOMÁS O MUIRIS**  
**Árdeaspag Chaisil agus Imlí**

## Nollaig Shona agus Ath-bhliain faoi Mhaise dár léitheoirí uile

## We must look to the future with confidence



**T**HAR Ceann Coisde Thiobraid Árann C.L.G. chuirim fáilte roimh an Bhliainirís seo. Chun Bliainirís mar seo a fhoillsiú táimid ag brath ar thacaíocht na scribhneoirí is lucht fógraíochta. Tugaim ard mholadh do gach einne a bhí pairteach san obair seo. agus tá súil agam go mbainfidh a lán daoine taitheamh mór as an scealtha atá curtha romhainn sa leabhrán seo.

Once again it gives me great pleasure to welcome the Tipperary year book which this year is in keeping with the extraordinary high standard attained over the years, and which is truly a work of which the year book committee can feel proud.

Publications such as this fill a gaping void in the activities of the Gaelic Athletic Association, and while it is regrettable that the Association does not indulge in more of this type of publication, we can console ourselves that we in Tipperary are playing our part in such important promotional work.

The year gone by was not marked with great success for Tipperary. Indeed we won only one Munster title — the minor football league, but the achievement of Kilruane McDonagh in winning in 1986 the '85 All-Ireland club hurling title did much to restore Tipperary hurling pride, and clearly indicated that with the proper spirit and commitment Tipperary hurlers are as good as the best — and better.

By now the failure of the county's senior hurlers in Ennis history, and while thanking the selectors, trainer, coach and all concerned for their great effort, we must look to the future and hope that our new management team will bring the much desired and longed for success. It is appropriate here to stress the importance of having everyone behind the team — we have too many knockers waiting to have 'a go' when things go wrong.

Let there be no mistake about it — our achievements in under age competition shows that Tipperary is producing young players of quality. What is now needed is a proper structure for those young players to mature into fully fledged seniors, and it is this we must strive to attain in the years ahead. Thought should be given as to whether the structure of our club championships — our system of running them, the timing of games etc., is conducive to producing what is best for Tipperary. This applies as much to football as hurling, for which we have also been making great strides forward in football, due in large measure to the great work of the Co. Football Board, again the results are not being seen at senior level.

However, while success at Inter-County level may have evaded us in the year gone by, a glance through this year book will readily indicate on what a sound footing the Association is, in the county. The accounts of the achievements of the various clubs and divisions, along with the reports on the activities of the county teams, and other articles make this a very valuable publication and one worthy of a county of the stature of Tipperary.

I offer my sincerest thanks to all who have contributed their time, talents and energy to its publication. I thank our advertisers without whose help the book would be financially impossible, and I thank especially our supporters whose patronage is much appreciated.

Hopefully, at this time next year, we will be recording in glowing print, the return of the McCarthy Cup to Tipperary, and the restoration of the Premier County to the premier position in the hurling world.

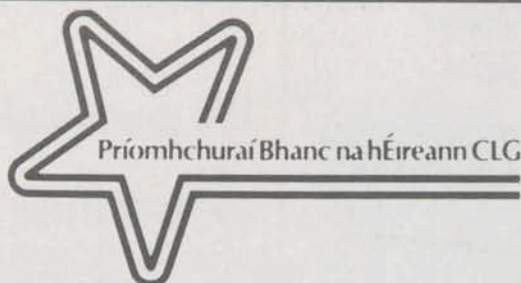
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**Michael O Labhráil**  
Cathaoirleach,

Coisde Thiodraid Árann C.L.G.

Tipperary G.A.A. Year Book — 3





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# **Bank of Ireland**



# Tipp '86: Anatomy of another failure

---

Much water has gone down the Suir, and many a Yearbook has come off the printing press, since a reviewer of our senior year has had congenial material to work on. The English poet Laureate who versified a royal illness in Victorian times put our situation into a neat, if uninspired couplet:

*"Swift o'er the wire the fateful message came — he is not better, he is just the same".*  
Yes, indeed, just the same.

---

THE year afforded two chances of recovery — League and Championship (the Ford Open was not retained on the rota); we fluffed both, and badly. The League saw us fail to gain promotion and quarter final place; to championship began and ended at Ennis in late June. The other aspects of interest were the choice of selectors and the belated arrival of Tony Wall for a brief military take-over which had its repercussions in vagueness about relative responsibilities between him and Len Gaynor. And in the Autumn of '86 came a new and dramatic change in the management; Babs Keating gained primacy, with the Theo English and Donie Nealon as his choice of helpers.

To revert to square one: in late Sept., 1985 Co. Board met to select four selectors. It had already asked the divisions to pick two candidates each. From the total of eight, exactly half would gain acceptance. No formal entitlement was given to each division but things graduated in a proportional way. The fifth selector would be the nominee of the eventual county champions. The Mid had named Pat Stakelum and Rev. Ray Reidy, the latter based in Kilsheelan, the pair were elected to office on the very first ballot, with 28 and 26 from the "valid poll" of 45. Gaynor was first to be eliminated. Liam King of Lorrha got in on the fourth count, after English had been eliminated. Jimmy Hennessy beat Keating and Phil Shanahan for the fourth berth. Babs had survived 'till the final count, though he and Gaynor had jointly shared last place on the first reckoning, with 10 supporters. Ironical indeed, in view of what was to happen in the next Autumn's revolution. The question of who would coach the team was, said Chairman Lowry at the outset, a completely separate issue. Separate



John O'Grady

indeed it proved to be — no appointment was made until Tipp had played five of the seven League rounds and were about to visit Wexford for a survival battle. This was early in February '86.

Len Gaynor became the fifth selector with Kilruane's county triumph. It was an open secret that not all his colleagues had been hoping for this to happen; not all the Board, if those 10 votes out of 45 were anything to go by. The ordinary followers have no way of judging these personalised and abstract issues. Gaynor's handling of club teams, and not only his own, has produced outstanding results. He was busy with Kilruane's bid for Munster and All-Ireland honours for quite a while after becoming a Tipp selector.

The League began. We won at Roscommon, scoring a goal — seventeen points against nine, fielding nine changes on the Munster final team: Hogan, Bergin, Brophy, Fox, Sheehy, Hayes, McIntyre, Mannion, Kennedy, English, Maher, Aidan Ryan, O'Neill, Power, Russell. Kilruane players were excused.

Antrim came to Thurles fielding the following, we won by 1-18 to 1-10.

Hogan; Bobby Ryan, Brophy, Fox, Sheehy, Hayes, Stapleton; Kennedy, Aidan Ryan; English, McGrath, Maher, O'Neill, Power, Mannion. Absent in the U.S. was Bergin. O'Connell was playing for Killenaule. McIntyre was off. Again, nobody from Kilruane. The win was uninspired. Antrim were the livelier for long spells, forcing Hogan into some smart saves in the second half. Scully and Kealy of Roscrea came on as subs.

Two games, four League points. Next came a more serious test, as we know in advance it would be, against Westmeath at Mullingar, where we'd lost, expensively, two years earlier. We did the same again, by seven points (1-18 to 1-11). The starting formation on the fatal day: Hogan; Bergin, Brophy, Fox; Sheehy, Kealy, Bobby Ryan; Aidan Ryan, Stapleton; English, McGrath, O'Shea; O'Neill, Mannion, Scully. Philip Kennedy could not line out. We lost Kealy with an injured hand. Mannion went midfield, Power coming on at full-forward. The course of events ran badly from the start with our sluggish defence beaten for eleven points before half-time, while we had scored 1-2. A desperate rally got Tipp within just two points before D. Kilcoyne goaled a free to finish us off and leave our League position decidedly unsafe, despite the pre-Christmas win over Kerry in Thurles (3-21 to 2-8). Tipp team: Hogan; Bergin, Larkin, Bonner; Delaney, Sheehy, Bobby Ryan; P. Kennedy, J. Kennedy; English, Mannion, Maher, P. Power, S. Power, M. Scully.

The fullback outing for Larkin (Kilsheelan) arose out of the unavailability of Pat O'Donoghue (Cashel). Noel McDonnell (Toomevara), Aidan Ryan and Paudie Everard (Moyness) replaced Bobby Ryan, Philip Kennedy and Mannion during a game won quite easily, as it ought to be.





**FOR A  
MAN-MADE  
THIRST**



Action resumed for the new year when Meath came to Nenagh on a viciously cold day in February. Snow on the pitch at Trim caused the switch of venue. Our team: Sheppard; Bergin, O'Donoghue, Cahill; Sheehy, Rd. Stakelum, Bobby Ryan; P. Kennedy, E. Hogan; English, Maher, O'Shea; Fox, Power, Scully. The personnel showed a marked Kilruane influx, as may be seen from their four reps. The victory by 2-16 to 0-5 was without stress and also without reliable evidence of individual merit from the trialists.

Two rounds remained, Wexford and Down, but the second would mean nothing if the first was not won. The "Star" of January 4th revived the almost dormant matter of the coach. It was announced at Co. Board that the "Executive" would choose one, with the "advice" of the selectors. When the choice was eventually made, it had a novel and exciting sound: Tony Wall had consented. The great centre-back had been out of contact with Tipp hurling for many years but as the author of a book on the game, and particularly of qualities needed in each position, to say nothing of an Army man's acquaintance with discipline and fitness, he might have a lot to contribute.

Tony's impressions of what he saw at Wexford Park could not have left him with any illusions. Tipp needed a special effort and they did nothing special in going down by an embarrassingly decisive margin to the well-built home side. Followers had not travelled optimistically, but this was a poor effort indeed. Young O'Donoghue lacked the experience at full-back to cope with Houlihan; nor had Richard Stakelum the solidity in close play to command centre-back. An angled goal

by Dempsey past Sheppard for Wexford's third left Tipp without a hope. The backline was tormented towards the end; Wexford eased home by 4-13 to 0-11. Seven of that eleven were scored by Scully from frees. Our selection: Sheppard; Bergin, O'Donoghue, Cahill, Sheehy, Stakelum, Bobby Ryan; P. Kennedy, E. Hogan; English, Maher, O'Shea; Fox, O'Connell, Scully. Subs: Power, McIntyre.

After that the Down game — an unfortunately apt name for it — could only be a vexing finale. We won by 5-12 to 1-5, fielding Hogan; Stakelum, Brennan, Bonnar; Sheehy, Kealy, Bobby Ryan; John Kennedy, McIntyre; English, O'Connell, P. Kennedy, O'Neill, O'Connell, Scully. Kilruane were involved in their All-Ireland final around the same period. McIntyre was unfortunately sent off.

The interim before the championship was long and dull. The usual quota of challenges and tournaments was utilised while work was being done privately in the training camp under Wall's strengthened command. The matches played could not be very informative, lacking "bite" and with opposition far below full strength as at Boherlahan, where Cork were recognisable only by their jerseys. We'd have been as well off holding domestic trials but commitments had been made to various club projects.

Came finally, the game at Ennis in June. We'd drawn there a year and won the Thurles replay, but this time Clare were determined to reverse the result on home ground. They'd gone well in the League. Tipp chose Sheppard (captain); Bonnar, Brennan, Gibson; Kealy, Sheehy, Bobby Ryan; McGrath, Callaghan; Stokes, O'Connell, P.

Kennedy; O'Neill, Power, Maher. Notable was the return of Callaghan from the U.S. and the luckless absence of English through injury.

Home "pressure" failed to inspire a nervous Clare from the start. Tipp gained urgency from being up against it. The first half was all our way, with Tipp going into it in pleasing fashion. Seven up at the break, followers could apparently forget the ten wides that confirmed our monopoly of attack. Two Stokes points indicated no adverse trend on resuming. Nine up was marvellously promising. But Clare moved Shanahan onto McGrath and took Jim McInerney to the "forty". Our midfield flagged, and was not repaired. Sheehy came under pressure at centre-back and Kealy moved in. Still Clare's rally was not bringing scores; even easy frees were missed.

Then came a much-debated episode. Sheppard turned backwards in possession and was "blown" by referee Murray for over-holding. Tipp were far from agreeing, of course, but Gerry McInerney goaled the free, Lyons and Fitzpatrick pointed; Guilfoyle netted after Maher's Tipp point. Fitzpatrick and Guilfoyle were the clinching scorers as the home crowd went wild. Tipp followers trudged out, stunned at the 2-10 to 1-11 defeat. Was it a stamina failure? A technical matter of too many ball-playing forwards? Sheer bad luck in the Sheppard incident? Would English have made the difference? Questions abounded and so did the usual fault-finding on selectors, coach, players — not forgetting the referee! Had we but known it, the defeat was to be the end of the selection committee and of Tony Wall's term, latest casualties in a lengthening line.



Tipp senior hurling team which lost to Clare in Ennis. Front (l to r) Colm Bonnar, Seamus Gibson, Tony Sheppard, Seamus Power, Ger O'Neill, Donie Kealy, Liam Maher, Phil Kennedy. Back: John McGrath, Bobby Ryan, Peter Brennan, Donie O'Connell, Noel Sheehy, Ralph Callaghan, Liam Stokes.



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NOLLAIG SHONA DHIBH UILE—

GO N-EIRI LIBH SAN AITH-BHLIAIN.

Nollaig O Muiris  
Cathaoirleach

Pádraig O Meachair  
Rúnaí



# County Junior Hurling Review

By MICHAEL DUNDON, *Tipperary Star*

**O**PINIONS on the relevance of the junior hurling championship at inter-county level are varied — and there are strong indications that the 1986 campaign may have been the last staging of the competition — but at a time when inter-county competition is being created for players from as young as the under fourteen age group, right through to under sixteen, eighteen and under twenty-one, it is hard to fathom why the junior hurlers should be deprived of the opportunity to represent their county.

The argument is sometimes put forward that the junior competition does nothing for the overall standard of hurling — that it was not the proving ground for potential seniors that some had hoped, but one has to ask, was it ever intended that it should be such? Surely the object was to provide an opportunity for players who might never get the chance to represent their county otherwise to do so and, in the process, hasn't the junior championship produced as many fine games as any of the grades, senior included.

This year's Munster competition is a case in point. As Munster champions in '85, Tipperary had to field a completely new side this time, which meant a fairly demanding search by the selectors to produce a side which could challenge for honours, yet their encounter with Cork at Ballygiblin was a most competitive and entertaining affair, which had as much to offer in terms of hurling and commitment as any game in the other grades this year.

It was a bit unfortunate that Tipperary in their opening game in defence of their Munster crown should have drawn Cork, as it was quite possible that had Tipp got an easier start to the campaign, they might well have made a lot of progress. However, the luck of the draw ordained otherwise, and Tipperary travelled to the Cork venue just outside Kilbehenny, more in hope than confidence.

A fair bit of preparation had been put into the side, with two friendlies against Kilkenny, another against the county under twenty-one team and a game against a Moycarkey selection, and the team chosen had a generous sprinkling of young



Relatives of founder members of Moycarkey-Borris Club at the club's centenary function. Front (l. to r.): Eddie Flanagan, Bro. Cormac, Willie Fogarty, Billie Molumby, Mrs. Mary Fahey. Back (l. to r.): Paddy Bourke, Michael Shanahan, Mrs. S. Leahy, Donie Wilson, Tom Molloy.

players like Jimmy Bergin (Moycarkey), Bill Hayes (Knockavilla Kickhams) and Michael Cunningham (Emly) also being involved at under-21 level, while Ackie Browne (Fr. Sheehy's) was a former under-21 man, and such as Ger Bradley (Newport), Phil Cahill (Moycarkey), Michael Kelly (Ballina) and John Dorney (Fennellys) were also still eligible for under-age competition.

Tipperary's victory in '85 had broken Cork dominance of the grade but Cork were back in force and in a ding-dong struggle played on a quagmire pitch they got the vital break two minutes from the end, a goal, that enabled them to emerge victorious on a 1-8 to 0-7 scoreline.

The most disappointing feature of the game from a Tipperary point of view was that before Cork got the goal, Tipp were leading by a point, and had let a number of possible chances of increasing the lead slip, and in the process left themselves vulnerable to the Cork sucker-punch when it came. The conditions favoured defences, and the backs dominated in a low-scoring but hard-fought encounter which, after a rather dour opening half, really came to life after the break.

Tipperary's problem lay in an attack which never really troubled a solid Cork backline, but yet, Tipp held the initiative for much of the second half with Cork always pulling them back with timely points. Tipp were out by a point with five minutes to play, and subjected Cork to

sustained pressure at that stage, forcing a number of sixty-five, but they yielded nothing and Cork, in a break, surged upfield for an equaliser. Then former Cork senior, Pdraig Crowley, got inside the Tipp defence two minutes from the end for a match-winning goal, to which they added a further point right on time.

Thus ended Tipperary's defence of their crown but hopefully it will not have been the end of the competition and that wiser counsel will prevail when decisions have to be made.

Tipperary are at a great disadvantage in this competition in that because of the multiplicity of senior clubs in the county there is a limited selection of players eligible for the junior grade. Yet the county has done reasonably well since the revival of the competition, going to the final twice previously before finally lifting the trophy last year.

The team which played against Cork was: L. Enright (Cahir); B. Hayes (Knockavilla), P. Hayes (Kilruane), P. Bergin (Galtee Rovers), P. Cahill (Moycarkey), J. Bergin (Moycarkey), N. Harrington (Temple-derry), M. Riordan (Fethard), M. Kelly (Ballina), M. Cunningham (Emly), J. Dorney (Thurles Fennellys), D. Kirwan (Moycarkey), G. Bradley (Newport), A. Browne (Fr. Sheehys), T. J. Riordan (Solo-head). Sub.: J. Hannigan (Shannon Rovers).





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# *U-21 hopes ended by Limerick*

**In any sport they'll tell you it's tough at the top, and while Tipperary's senior hurlers may not be in a very good position to offer comment on the matter, and will probably confirm that it is just as hard when you're trying to get to the top, Tipperary's under-21 hurlers are fully qualified to pass judgement on the demands of staying supreme in their grade.**

**A**FTER all, Tipperary were this year the reigning All-Ireland champions, chasing their fourth Munster title in a row, their eighth in nine years, and their twelfth in all. By any standard, that record represents success — lots of it — but because Tipperary are kingpins at this level, they face opposition who are always prepared to put a little extra into their game in an effort to take the scalp of the top-notchers. That's human nature.

Because Tipperary have done so well in this grade, without following it through at senior level, Tipperary followers have tended to look on the competition with a somewhat jaundiced eye and, nowadays, we do not attribute as much importance to titles won in it as we would have in the late 'Sixties or early 'Seventies, when they were not nearly as plentiful.

No matter what anyone says, it is obviously better to keep winning at under-21 level and the breakthrough must come, even if it is to be later rather than sooner. In any event, against such a background, it was not surprising that the visit of Kerry to Nenagh for the opening game of this year's championship created very little stir in the county. Kerry were under the guidance of Cork star of yesteryear, Con Roche, who had the doubtful distinction of having his name taken by the referee, and the caused Tipperary some sticky moments before the Blue and Gold emerged triumphant on a 2-13 to 0-9 scoreline.

Tipperary were without the suspended Michael Murphy of Toomevara and Walter Carroll of Knockavilla, who was ill, for the encounter and, not surprisingly, the selectors were not too happy with the opening performance and showed their displeasure in the shape of four new faces for the semi-final against

Limerick two weeks later — Bill Hayes (Knockavilla), Ned Darcy (Kilruane), Michael Murphy (Toomevara) and Michael Fleming (Holycross). Liam Nolan of Toome could not play because of a hand injury sustained in a challenge against the county junior side.

Limerick came to Thurles with a fine reputation and Tipperary apprehension was well-founded as the Shannonsiders, in the opening ten minutes, tore the Tipp defence to shreds to run up 1-3 without reply. The Tipp mentors moved Aidan Ryan to midfield, and this brought about an improvement to the extent that by the interval, Tipperary had fought their way back to level terms at 0-8 to 1-5. They also let two great chances of goals slip in that half — misses that were to be rued later on.

Everything was there to be played for, as they say, in the second half but Tipperary's shortcomings in attack, which could be seen against Kerry, and which prompted the selectors to take the unusual step of moving centre-back Donie Kelly to lead the forward line, again manifested themselves, and though they enjoyed considerable possession, Tipperary scored only one point in this half.

Not that Limerick were setting the scene alight either as they sought their first title in the grade, but the accuracy of free-taker Liam Dooley nosed them clear, and when there were only two points between the sides, Tipp missed a clear-cut chance of a goal which might have rejuvenated them. Instead, the longer the game went on the more pronounced became Limerick's superiority, and by the finish they were the undisputed masters and through to the final against Clare.

Tipperary's performance was better than that against Kerry, considerably better — but it was still



By MICHAEL DUNDON,  
*Tipperary Star*

short of what was required to retain the championship, though full credit must be given for a battling display against a Limerick side that went on to win its first Munster championship at this level.

Aidan Ryan of Borrisoleigh, Pat O'Donoghue of Cashel and Upperchurch's John Ryan were the pick of the Tipp team on the night in a game which Tipperary might well have won, but in which Limerick's entitlement to victory could not be disputed.



The Tipperary team which played against Limerick was: P. Ryan (Boherlahan); R. Brislane (Toomevara), P. O'Donoghue (Cashel), J. Ryan (Upperchurch); B. Hayes (Knockavilla), P. Delaney (Roscrea), N. Darcy (Kilruane); M. Murphy (Toomevara), D. Quinlan (Kilruane); M. Cunningham (Emly), D. Kealy (Roscrea), A. Ryan (Borrisoleigh); A. Crosse (Anacarthy), M. Fleming (Holycross), M. Cleary (Nenagh). Subs. were E. Long (Drom-Inch), D. Fogarty (Golden) and W. Carroll (Knockavilla).



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**T**HE County's recent failures in the grade have provoked great disappointment as various reasons are sought for our eclipse. The last 3 provincial minor deciders have come and gone, leaving us without a title to add to our last Munster win of 1983. The fact that so little separated Tipp from Limerick in 1984 (3-6 to 2-7) from Cork in 1985 (1-13 to 1-8) and Cork again after a replay in 1986 (2-11 to 1-11) suggests that a small thing would have swung these games our way.

Certainly unsatisfactory refereeing in 1984 and 1986 did not help Tipp's cause, but this does not account for the failure of highly regarded players to give their best on the days which mattered, over the past three seasons. Indeed it is a disappointing feature of Tipp selections that following a long trial



**BY SEAMUS O'DOHERTY**

and training process, the team has not been playing well as a unit and the number of times a player has been a 'let down' has given cause for concern. I wonder are we placing too much emphasis on schools' games and the early season trials, which invariably take place in the most unsuitable weather conditions for hurling? Players who shine in this part of the year are often found wanting when pitch conditions and the pace of the game change.

Another point to consider is that after all these school's game and trials these players are often exhausted, especially if they have reached the concluding stages of their competitions.

## TRIALS QUESTIONABLE

Personally I don't favour the trial system at all. It merely acts as an instrument for giving players a run, but how often have players failed to turn up and how often have you seen many players arriving for trials who are clearly not of the quality required for inter-county standard? I have always felt that the county minor selectors should be familiar enough with players from their own division and possibly from another as well, to 'know' which ten or twelve players should be considered. In this way up to 45 players could be brought together on the days set aside for trials and be coached and trained in



**TIPPERARY MINOR HURLING TEAM 1986**

Back Row: Pádraig Hayes, Derek Hogan, Tony Lanigan, Gary Loughnane, Pádraig Hogan, Eamonn Kelly, Dan Quirke, Declan Ryan, John Madden, Seamus Feehan, Noel Keane, Conor Stakelum, Colm Egan. Front Row: Conal Boner, Michael Nolan, Denis Ryan, Lar Cleary, Michael O'Meara, Declan Ryan, Seamus Maher (captain), James Cahill, Justin Quinlan, Joe Cahill.





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advance of the selection of the panel. When these players have proved their commitment and ability a meaningful trial game could then be staged with the prize — a place on the Tipp minor panel.

The Divisional Boards could also play their parts in helping the Co. preparations by reducing the number of games to be played by teams to win their Minor Championship. This would greatly help to avoid "burn out". Two of this years Tipp Minors Michael Nolan and Michael O'Meara come to mind as prime example of players who have been exposed to too much competition this year. Their tiredness may not be visible yet but will surely be next year. At a conservative estimate O'Meara has played about 45 games this year — with Nenagh V.S., North Tipp V.S., Tipp Minors, Toomevara Minors, Under-21s and Seniors. I reckon he must also have attended about 75 training sessions. The startling statistic is that Toomevara played twelve games to win the Co. Minor Hurling title. Cork only played four games to win the Senior Hurling All-Ireland.

#### THE 1986 CAMPAIGN

With John Madden (Lorrha), Laurence Cleary (Cappawhite), Tony Lanigan (Holycross-Ballycahill), Jim Cahill (Templemore) and Dan Quirke (Clonalty-Rossmore) of the 1985 Munster Final team still eligible this year, Tipperary entered the 1986 championship race with a lot of confidence. When the team to play Clare was announced it was widely hailed as an excellent team, which would hardly be beaten.

Clare had pushed Tipp very close in 1985, so no chances were taken this time, particularly as Clare already had the benefit of a successful outing over Limerick. To the Gaelic Grounds then on July 4th.

The game itself was a great disappointment. The Clare lads had no answer to the devastating power play of the Blue and Gold. It took only seconds for Dan Quirke to score a goal. Some excellent saves by Declan Ryan (St. Mary's, Clonmel) inspired Tipp further and when Michael Nolan (Toomevara) buried a penalty in the twelfth minute that was really that. By half time Tipp led by 2-7 to 0-2 and even though they would have to face the breeze in the second half victory looked assured at this stage. A superbly worked goal finished by Conor Stakelum early in the half finished the game as a contest with the remainder of the

half used merely by the Tipp lads for target practice. The final score was 3-14 to 0-3 and there was no argument.

Tipperary played superbly well with Declan Ryan in goal, Declan Ryan (Clonoulty/Rossmore) at centreback Pádraig Hogan (Borrisokane) at midfield and Michael Nolan (who scored 1-6) at No. 12 especially prominent in this win. Kevin Walsh (the Limerick referee of whom we were to see more later on the year) was beside me at the game and he rated John Madden's (Lorrha) full-back performance very highly indeed.

With just two weeks to go the final, there was a lot of hope this type of display could be reproduced. Those who saw Cork beat Waterford by 4-12 to 0-8 in the other semi-final knew the challenge would be a huge one, particularly as Cork were defending provincial and All-Ireland titles.

#### UNUSUAL FINAL VENUE

Killarney was the somewhat unusual venue for the Munster Final on July 20th and because of its distance away most of the Tipp followers made the journey by train. Tipp selectors chose the same starting team as beat Clare for this decider at the magnificent Kerry headquarters.

Tipp had first use of the breeze but a succession of early wides looked worrying. However a superb goal by Dan Quirke, following a brilliant pass by Mr. Nolan, opened the scoring and Nolan's quick point afterwards settled the Tipp lads. Main incidents of the first half were Nolan's pointing of four 65s, two good saves by Declan Ryan in the Tipp goal and by Paddy Barry in the Cork goal and of a defensive error which enabled Dan O'Connell to smash in a Cork goal, which greatly improved their standing. At half time Tipp led by 1-6 to 1-4. While Tipp had been sound in some sectors (Ryan, Madden, O'Meara, Hogan, Lanigan and Nolan) they had other problem areas, the most critical of which were midfield and the full forward line.

During the break the selectors introduced Colm Egan (Kildangan) at corner forward. His display when introduced v Clare was satisfactory and we hoped for a repeat. In fact he opened the second half scoring with a point to give Tipp a three point lead. scoring became too close for comfort with equality reached after 10 minutes. Nolan restored Tipp's lead before Ml. Mullins crashed a penalty to the Tipp net to give Cork the lead for the first time in the game.

Cork certainly had the initiative now, but Nolan's accuracy kept Tipp in touch until Colm Egan slammed in a goal when Dan Quirke's shot rebounded off the crossbar. Nolan added a point to put Tipp three points up and looking safe with three minutes to go.

Cork got a let-off before the inside Tipp defence got caught out of position by Brian Cunningham's lob which John Corcoran steered to the net to tie the score at 2-13 to 3-10 (C). Even then Tipp kept looking for another score and before the end Pádraig Hogan, Conor Stakelum and Tony Lanigan went close but failed. So we had the first drawn Munster Minor Final since 1974 when Tipp and Cork also finished level. Cork won that replay and also the All-Ireland.

#### REPLAY DATE

After a lot of negotiating Kilmallock was eventually selected as the venue for the replay, which was fixed for July 31st. Tipp's starting line-up this time showed some changes from the side which started in the drawn game. Joe Cahill (Kilruane MacD.) was at wing back with Michael O'Meara at midfield, while Colm Egan was selected at right corner in place of the suspended Dinny Ryan (Newport), with Lar Cleary switching to the left corner.

Tipp again started with the advantage of the elements and thanks mainly to the brilliance of wing forwards Michael Nolan and Tony Lanigan, a half time lead of 0-10 to 0-3 was established. Cork's full forward line had looked dangerous in the first half and only alert goalkeeping kept the Tipp net intact. The half time feeling was that if Tipp could avoid conceding a goal for ten minutes they would probably win. Sadly the defence fell twice in the opening three minutes as Dan O'Connell and Ronan Sheehan both got through for easy goals. After that it was all downhill. Tipp collapsed totally. Nolan came to midfield and was later joined by Lanigan but the tide was against them and Cork got further and further ahead. Even the introduction of Seamus Feehan (Roscrea), Justin Quinlan (Arravale Rovers) and Eamon Kelly could not save Tipp and a late consolation goal by Egan was merely that.

So defeat ended another disappointingly Minor season which looked so promising early on. The displays of Nolan and Lanigan (until he became ill) were memorable and over the campaign this duo along with the two Declan Ryans and Conal Bonnar, were Tipp's most consistent



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players. The (Clonoulty/Rossmore) Declan Ryan displayed one of the greatest instances of youthful courage I have ever seen in that game when he returned to the action after receiving treatment for a nasty facial injury received when he was on the ground in the second half. Why the referee (Kevin Walsh, Limerick), didn't dispatch the culprit to the line I don't know. It was only in hospital later that night that it became obvious how severe Ryan's injuries were, therefore to return to action was worthy of commendation. The spirit of Ballymore!

## THE FUTURE

Looking ahead to 1987 Tipp are favourably drawn with Limerick and Waterford. Neither side should present the same obstacle as Cork or Clare, who are in the other half of the draw. Cork will have about 10 of their panel next year and must be respected but Clare teams have won the Munster under-16 championships for the last two years.

The Tipperary panel for 1986 was: D. Ryan, S. Maher (captain), J. Madden, Jim Cahill, Joe Cahill, D. Ryan, C. Bonnar, M. O'Meara, P. Hogan, T. Lanigan, C. Stakelum, M.

Nolan, C. Egan, D. Quirke, L. Cleary, D. Ryan, E. Kelly, S. Feehan, P. Hayes, J. Quinlan, G. Loughnane, D. Hogan, N. Keane.

The selectors were: Phil Lowry (Holycross), Donal Shanahan (Toomevara), Joe Fogarty (Golden), Mick McElgunn (Thurles Sars.), Dick Goldsboro (Ballingarry), with Bro. J. Perkins (Thurles C.B.S.) team coach for the ninth consecutive year.

Tipperary scored 6-38 and conceded 5-24. The scorers were: M. Nolan 1-22, C. Egan 2-2, D. Quirke 2-1, T. Lanigan 0-6, C. Stakelum 1-1, L. Cleary 0-2, D. Ryan 0-1, Dec. Ryan 0-1, C. Bonner 0-1, P. Hogan 0-1.

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Some trophies won in 1986. Left to right - J. O'Connell (Rúnai), J. Lowry (captain M.F. team), M. Ryan (Chairman), B. Power (captain J.F.C. team), E. Dwyer (captain I.H.C. team).



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By MICHAEL POWER (Secretary)

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## MINOR

Trials were held in January and February, 1986, and training commenced with a panel of forty players on the 15th February, 1986. We participated in the Munster Minor Football League and defeated Waterford on aggregate scores 4-13 to 0-5 after games in Clonmel and Dungarvan to reach the final against Kerry. On Saturday, 29th March, 1986, we defeated Kerry easily on the score 1-10 to 0-6 at Ennis to capture the league title to the delight of everybody. Training continued and a further practice match was played against Limerick prior to the championship outing with Kerry in Clonmel on Friday, 25th April, 1986.

John Cummins (Ardfinnan) took over from Seamus McCarthy and did a good job in preparing the team and with the Munster League win under his belt he was able to approach the Kerry game with a certain degree of optimism. Kerry now had the St. Brendan's College players, which they had not had in the league game. It was a game which Tipperary should have won but were defeated on the score 1-4 to 0-5.

John Cummins continued the good work done by Seamus McCarthy and it was unfortunate that Kerry were not defeated. The selectors with John were Hugh Kennedy, Tommy Lonergan, Tom Maher and Michael Darcy. Thank you for your great efforts. Again, thanks to Cahir for the continuous use of facilities and to clubs who made their pitches available for trials.

The team which played Kerry in the championship was as follows: Philip Ryan (Commercials), John Lowry (Arravale Rovers), Brian



Tipperary U-21 Football team 1986 (v. Waterford)

Lawlor, capt. (Templemore), Padraigh Kavanagh (Commercials), Seamus Maher (Thurles Sarsfields), Declan Ryan (Clonoulty), Jim Cahill (Templemore), Colm Moran (Newport), Dan Quirke (Clonoulty), Brendan Corcoran (Emly), Christopher McGrath (Commercials), Colm Duggan (St. Patrick's), Peter Lambert (Ardfinnan), Colm Egan (Kildangan), Pat Redican (Solohead).

**Subs.:** Michael Mulcahy, Kildangan; Paul Norris, Moyle Rovers; Eamonn Kelly, Kiladangan; Seamus Butler, Ballingarry; Roger English, Emly; Liam Cronin, Moyle Rovers; Padraig Hogan, Borrisokane.

## U-21 TEAM

The U-21 selectors held trials cum training sessions from 12th January, 1986, to the end of February, 1986. After the trials a panel of 32 was selected and training commenced in Ferryhouse under coach Seamus McCarthy. A further five training sessions were held and after matches with the seniors, Westmeath, Wexford and Limerick, everything was

in readiness for the first championship match versus Clare in Clonmel on 6th April, 1986. It was a game we were expected to win but made hard work of it. Finally, we won the game on the score 0-6 to 1-2.

Our next engagement was against Waterford in the Munster semi-final at Dungarvan. Prior to this game the panel had a further two sessions and a game against Carlow. On 30th April, 1986, we defeated Waterford on the score 1-10 to 0-8 and we now had reached the Munster U-21 final after a lapse of more than 20 years. Prior to the Munster final three more training sessions took place and coach Seamus McCarthy had the team in the best possible mental and physical condition for the biggest game of their lives.

The final was played in Clonmel on 14th May before an enthusiastic crowd with hopes high of a victory. We were defeated on the score 0-8 to 0-7 in a close and sporting game. This was a great performance by the team who had shown poor form in the previous two championship matches. It is

worth noting that this game was the hardest Cork received during the entire campaign and they ran out easy winners in the All-Ireland championship.

Once more Seamus McCarthy (coach) did a great job and again he proved that he can get the best out of a team for the big occasion. He got good support from selectors Ned Sheehan, Jimmy O'Shea, Pete Savage and Michael Power. Finally, thanks to the Galtee Rovers club and the Rosminian Fathers for the continuous use of facilities for training.

The team which played Cork in the Munster final was: Ger Enright (Cahir), David Walsh (Arravale Rovers), Richie Quirke (Cahir), Frank Howlin (Cahir), John Owens (Moyle Rovers), Jerry Ryan, capt. (Ardfinnan), Michael Holland (Kiladangan), Brian Burke (Fethard), Chris Coen (Fethard), Pat Hackett (Ardfinnan), Jim O'Meara (Grangemockler), Michael Goonan (Newcastle), Tommy Sheehan (Fethard), Anthony Crosse (Éire Óg, Anacorthy), John Costelloe (Cahir).

**Subs.:** Paul Kendrick



Tipperary Junior Football team beaten by Cork in Munster final.



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Tipperary Minor Football team 1986 v. Kerry

(Ardfinnan), Brian Lawlor (Templemore), Paul O'Donoghue (Cashel), Niall Fogarty (Golden), Philip Quirke (Galtee Rovers), Joe Lambert (Ardfinnan), Dermot O'Shea (Commercials), John Hackett (Fethard).

### JUNIOR FOOTBALL

After a county trial and practice matches against the seniors and Wexford juniors, the team was selected to play Waterford in Dungarvan in the first round of the Munster junior championship and defeated them on the score 2-7 to 2-6. This was a great achievement considering the selectors had only six days to put a team together. This situation arose because we were no longer entitled to pick our second best team but our selection was confined to junior and intermediat football clubs.

On 11th June they met Limerick in the Munster semi-final in Bansha and defeated them on the score 1-8 to 0-4. We now had qualified for the Munster final for the second year in succession and our opponents on this occasion were Cork. Coach William Robinson had three useful training sessions prior to the Munster final and the response from the panel was very good.

On Thursday, 26th June, Cork defeated us on the score 1-12 to 1-6 and the team lost no face in defeat. Thanks to the coach, William Robinson, and his fellow-selectors, Tom Cusack, Richie Boyle, Michael Burns and John Bourke for the great effort they put in. Finally, thanks to Clonmel Sportsfield committee for putting their facilities at our disposal. The junior competition is a competition we have done well in and let's hope it is maintained as it serves a purpose to players who will never wear a county jersey.

The team which played Cork in the Munster Final: Billy Macken (Ballyporeen); Ben Keane (Commercials); Jim McLoughney (Shannon Rovers), Michael Ahearne (Mullinahone), Paul McKevitt (Loughmore), Eamonn O'Meara (Grangemockler), Michael Holland (Kiladangan), Declan Hahessy (Grangemockler), Gerry Collins (Loughmore), Sean Cronin (Carrick Swans), Paul Walsh (Carrick Swans), Kevin Fox (Éire Óg, Anacarthy): Seán O'Brien, capt. (Newport), Don Ryan (Templemore), Brendan White (Carrick Swans).

Subs.: Gerry Carroll, Borrisokane; John O'Loughlin (Newcastle), John O'Brien (Newport), P. J. O'Brien (Newport), Seán Brett (Mullinahone), Tom Macken, (Ballyporeen), Bill Guiry (Killenale).

### SENIOR FOOTBALL TEAM

The seniors had a long campaign commencing in October '85 with the League and finishing with the Munster semi-final in June '86. They had seven games in the League, winning three, drawing one and losing three. Spirited performances were given in all games and indications are that a bright future is ahead.

Preparation for the championship commenced in February with a training session once a week. The coach to the team, John Mulvihill, produced a physically fit team. In preparation for the championship match against Limerick challenge matches were played against U.C.D., Carlow, Wexford and Waterford. On Sunday, 18th May, Tipperary defeated Limerick in the first round of the championship on the score 2-14 to 1-4.

Training continued for the McGrath Cup final and we

take time and people will have to be patient and not expect miracles to happen overnight. Finally, thanks to Arravale Rovers, Semple Stadium, Cahir and Clonmel Sportsfield for making their facilities available to us during the year.

The team which played Kerry in the Munster semi-final: Tommy Toomey, capt., (Arravale Rovers), Michael Fitzgerald (Fethard), Pat McCormack (Arravale Rovers), Mark O'Connell (Commercials), Donal Foley (Moyle Rovers), Jerry Ryan (Ardfinnan), Andrew Healy (Newcastle), Gene McGrath



Tipperary v. Kerry. Left to right: T. Toomey, captain, Tipperary senior football team; P. Lane, referee; P. O'Shea, captain, Kerry S.F. team.

faced Clare on the 1st June, 1986 and were defeated once more on the score 0-10 to 0-5. However, despite losing to Clare, the players and management continued to give the same commitment as heretofore.

On Sunday, 15th June, '86 we faced Kerry in the Munster senior football semi-final in Clonmel and were defeated on the score 5-9 to 0-12. The performance of the team in the second half was outstanding and the eventual objective must be to get the senior team to perform competitively over a full hour against opposition like Kerry.

The coach, John Mulvihill, and all the selectors are to be thanked for a great effort. In September '86 the coach, John Mulvihill, and selectors Seán Mockler, Noel Byrnes, Colm O'Flaherty, D. J. Gleeson were appointed for the coming season, 1986-87. As the team is young the Youth Policy will

(Commercials), Michael Leahy (Kilmacud Crokes), Jim O'Meara (Grangemockler), Michael Goonan (Newcastle), Pat McGrath (Loughmore), Franny Kelly (Commercials), Liam Stokes (Kilsheelan), John Owens (Moyle Rovers).

Subs.: Ger Enright (Cahir), Ger Carroll (Borrisokane), Frank Howlin (Cahir), Brendan Fogarty (Arravale Rovers), Joe MacNamara (Commercials), Paul Dooley (Borrisokane).

### COACHING SCHEME

Eamon Young returned to the county during the period February/March '86. The following clubs together with schools, primary and post-primary, have benefited from his expertise: Killenale, Ballingarry, Loughmore, Rathealy, Moycarkey, Rockwell Rovers, Ardfinnan, Commercials, Templemore and Kiladangan. Great co-operation was received from clubs and schools and there is



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no doubt that all derived great benefit from the scheme. There is no doubt that the scheme will be a success because of the man's enthusiasm together with the clubs' enthusiasm.

Due to personal reasons, Eamonn Young has resigned from his position and the Munster Council have now appointed Eoin Liston to take over where Eamonn left off. He is at present in the county and is visiting schools in the club areas of Emly, Lattin-Cullen, Solohead, Newport, Rockwell Rovers, Cahir, Clogheen, Innane Rovers, Killenaule and Kilsheelan. With the high profile Eoin Liston enjoys there is little doubt that the scheme will have a major impact on football within the county. Finally, all concerned are to be thanked for their co-operation.

## COUNTY LEAGUE

The league for 1985/86 was a great success. Twenty-seven teams participated and they were divided into four groups based on their records. The winners and runners-up were as follows:

*Division I:* Loughmore, Galtee Rovers.

*Division II:* Cahir, Newcastle.

*Division III:* Newport, Templemore.

*Division IV:* Galtee Gaels, Drom and Inch.

Divisions I and II played for the Tipperaryman's Cup and semi-finals produced victories for Loughmore and Newcastle. The final will be played on Sunday, 23rd November, at Boherlahan. Divisions III and IV played for the Tipperaryman's Shield. The semi-final resulted in victories for Newport and Templemore.

Templemore defeated



**CLONOULTY/ROSSMORE — WEST AND COUNTY INTERMEDIATE FOOTBALL WINNERS 1986**

Back row (l. to r.): O. Ryan (R), D. Ryan (R), P. Ryan (B), A. Fryday, T. Kennedy, S. Heaney, J. Hayes, P. Hayes, D. Quirke, N. Keane, T. Ryan, D. Ryan, D. Ryan (H). Front row (l. to r.): M. Ryan, L. O'Dwyer, J. Kennedy, A. O'Dwyer, M. Heffernan, T. J. Ryan (R), N. Ryan (R), S. Slattery, M. Murphy, P. Maher.



**TIPPERARY SENIOR FOOTBALL TEAM 1986**

Back row (l. to r.): P. McCormack, G. McGrath, M. Leahy, T. O'Meara, F. Kelly, L. Stokes. Front row (l. to r.): P. Dooley, M. O'Connell, G. Ryan, T. Twomey (capt.), J. Owens, M. Fitzgerald, A. Healy, P. McGrath.

Newport in the final. However, the continued success in the league depends on the co-operation of the clubs, which to-date has been very good. the Board wishes to encourage the host club to continue providing the cup of tea, etc. to the

visiting team, referee and umpires. Also, an important factor for the continuance of the league is an adequate amount of referees. It is hoped that each club would put up a referee. the 1986-87 season has just recently commenced and

the number of teams has increased to 32. The primary objective of the Board is to provide more competition, a greater mingling of clubs, improving standards and I think we are achieving our objective.



**MUNSTER COUNCIL 1986**

Front row (l. to r.): Rev. S. Gardiner, T. Crowley (treasurer), M. Maher (vice-chairman), M. O'Connor (chairman), D. Nealon (secretary), B. Vaughan, M. O'Rourke. Standing (l. to r.): T. Boland, C. Murphy, N. Walshe, P. Ryan, G. Whyte, R. Kiely, M. McCarthy, P. Lane, T. Maher, L. McInerney, C. Jones, D. Conroy, S. Power, T. Cunningham.



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# Kilruane MacDonaghs — All-Ireland Club Hurling Champions 1985

BY REV. E. J. WHYTE P.P.

**Kilruane MacDonaghs won their fourth Tipperary senior hurling championship by defeating Roscrea on the score 2-11 to 0-10 in Semple Stadium, Thurles, on October 13th, 1985. This game, described by many as the best final for years, was witnessed by 10,000 spectators.**



**KILRUANE MacDONAGHS - ALL-IRELAND CLUB HURLING CHAMPIONS**

Front row (l to r): Eamon Kirby; David Quinlan; Gilbert Williams; Jim O'Meara; Denis Cahill; Tony Sheppard (captain); Gerry Williams; Jim O'Meara; Denis Cahill; Tony Sheppard (captain); Gerry Williams; Seamus Gibson; Pat Quinlan; Seamus Hennessy; Ned Darcy; Ned Fogarty (masseur). Back row (l to r): Jack Darcy; Thomas Killackey; John Quinlan; Philip Quinlan; John Cahill; Enda Hogan; Joe Banaghan; Denis O'Meara; Eamon O'Shea; Jim Williams; Eamon Gaynor; Paddy Williams; Michael Hogan; Paul Mulcahy; Seán Williams.

**T**HE average age of the Kilruane players was 30 years and thus very few G.A.A. followers in Tipperary gave the Cloughjordan men any chance of winning out in Tipperary much less winning the Munster and All-Ireland club championship.

All roads led to Tallow, County Waterford, on 27th October for the first round of the Munster club championship between the champions of Waterford, Tallow, and the standard bearers of Tipperary, Kilruane MacDonaghs. This was a game of hurling which enthralled a huge gathering. The atmosphere was electric for sixty memorable minutes which saw MacDonaghs snatch victory from the jaws of defeat in a never-to-be-forgotten last five

minutes. Down five points at half-time and still trailing by four points with time almost up, Kilruane staged a dramatic come-back, culminating with a winning point by Gilbert Williams in the last puck of the game. Score: Kilruane 1-18; Tallow 1-17. Next day this match was described by several journalists as one of the most exciting games ever played in the Munster club championship.

## **MUNSTER FINAL**

Sunday, November 24, was a cold frosty day for a big crowd at Limerick Gaelic Grounds when the famous Blackrock team of Cork met Kilruane in the Munster Club Championship Final. The Cork men were firm favourites and rightly so for they had in their line-out Dermot McCurtain,

Eamon O'Donoghue, Jim Cashman, Pat Moylan, Frank Cummins and others who had worn the Cork jersey with distinction. It was not a great game of hurling — conditions were against fast ground play. For long periods Kilruane appeared to be superior in many departments and yet the scores did not come. With a last minute controversial 21 yards free Blackrock drew level — 1-8 for each team.

The replay was fixed for the Gaelic grounds the following Sunday, December 1, with the same referee, Terence Murray of Limerick in charge. Here we saw a very different Kilruane outfit in action. Right from the throw-in they got down to the business in hand. Raw courage, character, discipline which was sadly lacking in



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the drawn game, fast ground hurling a will to win were in evidence as the Cork men were simply brushed aside in the second half. The final score was 12pts. to 6pts. in Kilruane's favour. On the day the Tipperary men were deserving winners. Few Cloughjordan people will forget the rousing reception given to the team that cold December night in 'the little village'.

After a few weeks rest the MacDonaghs were once again called into training by Len Gaynor. Desmonds of London were unknown. Rumour had it that several inter-county hurlers were playing with them — so Gaynor was taking no chances. It was a home venue for Kilruane on 19th January, 1986. The pitch was waterlogged and possibly the game should not have been played. It turned out to be a test of courage and endurance rather than a display of hurling skills. Although not playing up to their full potential the Munster Champions won easily by 2-9 to 0-4, Pat Delaney of Laois, was a capable referee.

### ALL-IRELAND SEMI-FINAL

On 2nd February Turloughmore of Galway came to Nenagh to play Kilruane MacDonaghs in the All-Ireland semi-final. A small crowd, estimated at 1,500, on a bitterly cold day, witnessed a game of hurling which lacked real bite and excitement. The result, a win for the Munster champions, was on the cards long before Paschal Long of Kilkenny sounded the final whistle. The Kilruane men were satisfied with just winning and this they did on the score 3-9 to 0-9. A feature of the game was that Ger Bourke of Turloughmore got all his team's scores.

### THE ALL-IRELAND FINAL

The railway station in Cloughjordan is nearly 150 years old. Never in its long history did it cater for such a huge crowd as it did on 16th March. Three special trains were put on by C.I.E. to ferry all the people, young and old, to Dublin for the All-Ireland club championship final. Black and white flags, scarves, dresses, hats, shirts and umbrellas were everywhere in evidence. The banter, the crack, the excitement was great. Buffer's Alley of Wexford and Kilruane MacDonaghs of Tipperary had come through to meet in the final. In 1984 Kilruane had beaten their opponents of today in the All-Ireland 7-a-side championship and everyone knew that they were out for revenge this time.

From the very beginning it was a thrilling encounter. The legendary Tony Doran put panic into the Kilruane back line every time play was



*A jubilant Len Gaynor, celebrates Kilruane's All-Ireland victory with daughter Sinéad.*

(Photo: P. Ó Flannabhra)

in that sector and he duly scored two goals. However as the game progressed Denis O'Meara got the upper hand and Doran was a danger no longer, even though Mick Butler was a menace to the final whistle.

10,176 spectators were thrilled by a breath-taking second half performance by Kilruane who were

four points behind at half-time. All the sixteen Kilruane men were heroes — Denis Cahill, Jim, Gerry and Gilbert Williams, Tony Sheppard and Pat Quinlan were the pick of the lot. It was a famous victory. Kilruane 1-15 to 2-10 for Buffer's Alley. Many neutrals have said that a draw would have been a fairer result — and maybe they are right.



*President Hillery made a presentation of Waterford Glass Crystal to Seamus Ó Riain to mark his retirement as Chairman of the National Executive of Féile na nGael. The presentation was made at Áras an Uachtarán and members of the National Executive were in attendance as were Dr. Loftus, President of G.A.A. and the Ard Stiurthóir Liam Ó Maolmichil. The President, Dr. Hillery in his address spoke of the great contribution Seamus Ó Riain had made to the G.A.A. and to the youth of the country. He spoke of Seamus as "a man of action". Photo shows President Hillery making the presentation. In the centre is Seamus' wife, Mary.*



# County Senior Hurling Championship



Seamus J. King

**K**ILRUANE - MACDONAGHS went into the 1986 senior hurling final as favourites to a Borrisoleigh team which had given too many indifferent performances during the year and, in fact, since they previously won the championship in 1983. As well, Kilruane had beaten them twice during the year, in the north league final by 0-14 to 2-6 and in the championship by 1-15 to 0-7. Many saw the latter performance as one of the worst by Borrisoleigh for a long time. On the other hand, Kilruane came to the final with an impressive record. In twenty-seven matches they had lost only once, by a point to Lorrha in the 1986 league, and they had won seven finals in a trot: the All-Ireland 7-a-side in 1984, north and county finals, Munster and All-Ireland club finals in 1985 and the north league and championship in 1986.

But there were straws in the wind. Some of Kilruane's victories were not very impressive. They just got there against Toomevara and they were unimpressive against Loughmore-Castleiney in the county semi-final at Cashel. Len Gaynor was worried at the prolonged pressure on the team. The intensive championship and league programme was beginning to take its toll on the side. And there was the loss of Dinny Cahill through injury. On the other hand, Borrisoleigh were growing in confidence. They impressed in the north play-off against Toomevara. They gave a slick performance against Carrick Swans in the county quarter' and they pushed Holycross-Ballycahill aside easily in the county semi'. Their trainer, Paddy Doyle, had established a good rapport with the players and they were giving a tremendous response.

## NORTH FINAL

Kilruane-MacDonaghs had taken their ninth north title at Nenagh on August 17. They met a tough match in Toomevara, who were seeking their twenty-third title but their first since 1962. Not until the last five minutes did Kilruane clinch it. Toomevara had a young team, over half of whom were twenty-one or less, and would have won but for inexperience and wasted chances. They were unlucky to lose two players — Michael O'Meara and Pat King — through injury in the first twenty minutes. At half-time Toomevara led by 1-5 to 0-4 but in the end Kilruane had a three-point advantage in a scoreline of 1-12 to 2-6. On a sunny Sunday afternoon a good attendance saw the

ball thrown in by John Joe Maher of Roscrea.

## SOUTH FINAL

On the same day Carrick Swans and Éire Óg were fighting it out in the south. Both teams had easy victories in the semi-finals. The Swans overwhelmed Ballingarry by 5-13 to 2-7 and the Killenaule/Mullinahone combination were equally impressive against Carrick Davins by 5-11 to 2-8. The final was played at Clonmel and never reached great heights. The closeness of the scoring kept the crowd interested. The Swans had three points to spare at the finish, 0-13 to 2-4, having led 0-6 to 1-2 at the interval. It was the Swans' fourth title in a row and their nineteenth in all.

## MID FINAL

The third final to be played on August 17 was the Mid at Littleton. The contestants were Loughmore-Castleiney and Holycross-Ballycahill. This was a most extraordinary game. Loughmore started like an express train and had 1-6 on the scoreboard within nine minutes without reply. Holycross then came into the game and at half-time Loughmore had a seven-point lead, 1-10 to 0-6. During the second half Holycross whittled away at the lead and were only a point behind with a couple of minutes left. Then, in the twenty-ninth minute, Loughmore got their only score, a point from a line ball. This was the final score, to leave Loughmore ahead by 1-11 to 0-12 and give them their second Mid title.

## WEST FINAL

As usual, the West had its final played at an earlier date, July 27 at Dundrum. It was an unusual pairing, Éire Óg and Golden-Kilfeacle. None would have predicted this clash in the beginning of

the year when Cappawhite and Cashel were hot favourites to meet in the decider. Éire Óg were seeking their eighth title while Golden were looking for their third. There was a good crowd to see a ding-dong struggle in which Golden got off to a flying start with four points. However, Éire Óg got into their stride and led 2-4 to 0-4 at the interval. Good defensive play in the second half and some flying movements by corner forward John Quinn kept Éire Óg in the hunt and they had two points to spare in the end, 2-9 to 1-10.

## COUNTY QUARTER-FINALS

Three quarter-finals were decided on August 24. The Mid teams were drawn against the West and the venue was Cashel. Loughmore-Castleiney had an easy victory over Golden-Kilfeacle. For the first fifteen minutes the contest was close enough but the Mid champions then went on a scoring rampage and impressed everyone with the accuracy of their shooting. At half-time they led by 2-13 to 0-4 and were ahead 3-23 to 1-7 when the final whistle sounded.

In the second game Holycross-Ballycahill had an equally impressive victory over the West champions, Éire Óg. In a reasonably close first half the Mid men were ahead 1-7 to 1-3 at half-time. Éire Óg had a point within a minute of the resumption but it was to be their last score. Holycross went on to dominate the game and emerge victors by 2-16 to 1-4.

Kilruane had little difficulty in overcoming the South runners-up at Holycross on the same day. Two goals in the first quarter put the North champions firmly in control and their dominance was further increased when Éire Óg's Joe Dwyer was sent to the line midway through the first half. At half-



Boherlahan officials at the county senior hurling final (left to right): P. J. Maher, Mattie Connolly, Liam Connolly, John Maher (referee), Billy Maher, Michael Maher, Tommy Gleeson.





Kilruane MacDonaghs - Tony Sheppard, John Cahill, Dinny O'Meara, Seamus Gibson, Michael Hogan, Jim O'Meara, Gilbert Williams, Joe Banaghan, Enda Hogan, Jerry Williams, Jim Williams, Eamon O'Shea, Pat Quinlan, Paddy Williams, Philip Quinlan.

time the score was 2-6 to 1-4 in favour of Kilruane and they went on to win by 4-13 to 1-6.

The fourth quarter-final wasn't played until the following Sunday because of the necessity of a play-off in the North to decide the second team. Borrisoleigh, as runners-up in the league, and Toomevara, as runners-up in the championship, played off at Roscrea on August 24. In a smooth performance Borrisoleigh had thirteen points to spare in a score of 3-19 to 2-9. Borrisoleigh met the South champions at Boherlahan and showed by their performance that they were firmly back on the road to county honours. Carrick put up a good show in the opening half but Borrisoleigh took their chances better and led 2-7 to 1-3 at the interval. Three goals by Carrick in the third quarter kept Swan interest alive but Borrisoleigh were able to come back after each goal with fluent scores. In the end they had eight points to spare in a scoreline of 3-17 to 5-3.

### COUNTY SEMI-FINALS

Because the All-Ireland under-21 finals were fixed for Thurles on September 14, the county semi-finals had to be refixed. In a solution that wasn't welcomed by anyone the games were split to separate venues on separate evenings. Kilruane and Loughmore played at Cashel on Saturday evening, September 13. During the first half Kilruane dominated and led by 1-10 to 0-2 at the interval.

Loughmore seemed totally out of their depth and they had the misfortune to lose one of their players, Pat Treacy, who was sent to the line just before half-time. At that stage there was hardly anyone present who gave the Mid men a chance. But Loughmore came out in the second half and gave a determined and aggressive performance that made them a totally changed side from what they were in the first half. They fought for every ball and harried Kilruane and in the end almost overcame the handicap of being a man short. The final score was 1-14 to 2-8 in favour of Kilruane and some question marks about their performance.

The second semi-final was played at Templemore on the evening of September 14. Borrisoleigh had a comfortable nine points victory over a

very disappointing Holycross. The North men were in control from the beginning and showed far greater sharpness than the Holycross men. The latter had the wind in the first half but squandered chance after chance and were behind 0-4 to 0-6 at the interval. Within five minutes of the restart Borrisoleigh had two goals to their credit and they killed whatever hope Holycross had. In the end, Borrisoleigh were victorious by 3-10 to 1-7.

## THE COUNTY FINAL

About ten thousand spectators attended the county final at Thurles on September 28. Brilliant sunshine made it the warmest day for a county final for years. A month's dry weather had the Thurles pitch at its liveliest. The clergy had the V.I.P. section to themselves as the politicians weren't invited as part of the G.A.A. protest against V.A.T. on hurleys and D.I.R.T. on the Association's deposits. The mascot of the Borrisoleigh team, a cock, was in attendance, under the charge of Shane Tierney.

The game was too tense to be a classic but was gripping all through. Right up to the final minutes one had the feeling that Kilruane would smash home a couple of goals and just get there as they had done so many times during the year. But such was not to be the case. As time wore on and Borrisoleigh gained in confidence the likelihood grew less and less. By the end it was obvious that Kilruane had nothing left and Borrisoleigh were undoubtedly champions.

In such a closely-fought encounter the scoring was low. Borrisoleigh had the breeze in the first half and led by 0-7 to 0-4 at the interval. It didn't seem enough. However, they scored first in the second half and as time progressed certain things became obvious. The Borrisoleigh backs were not giving anything away. The North men had the pull at centrefield and Philip Kenny was giving veteran Dinny O'Meara a most unhappy hour.

The dry sod and the hot day didn't suit the defending champions. Especially at centrefield Enda Hogan was caught again and again for pace. Neither side

scored a goal, which made it the first goal-less final since 1887. Paddy Williams, who had done so much for the team in the past, never got going and was replaced by David Quinlan. Borrisoleigh were the faster, hungrier and more determined team and well-deserved their seven-point victory in a scoreline of 0-14 to 0-7. County chairman Mick Lowry presented the Dan Breen cup to winning captain Mick Ryan. Philip Kenny was presented with the Man of the Match award by Donie Shanahan, representing Frost's Garage, Nenagh.

The Borrisoleigh team was: Noel Maher, Francis Spillane, Timmy Stapleton, Mick Ryan (capt.), Richard Stakelum, Gerry Stapleton, Bobby Ryan, Timmy Ryan, Francis Collins, Aidan Ryan, Noel O'Dwyer, Conor Stakelum, Mick Coen, Philip Kenny, John McGrath. Trainer: Paddy Doyle.

The Kilruane MacDonagh team was: Tony Sheppard (capt.), John Cahill, Dinny O'Meara, Seamus Gibson, Michael Hogan, Jim O'Meara, Gilbert Williams, Joe Banaghan, Enda Hogan, Gerry Williams, Jim Williams, Philip Quinlan, Pat Quinlan, Paddy Williams, Eamon O'Shea. Subs.: Seamus Hennessy for Banaghan, Dave Quinlan for P. Williams. Trainer-coach: Len Gaynor.

Referee: John Maher, Boherlahan.

## RESULTS AT A GLANCE

### DIVISIONAL FINALS

**West:** Dundrum, July 27 — Éire Óg 2-9, Golden-Kilfeacle 1-10.

**Mid:** LITTLETON, August 17 — Loughmore-Castleiney 1-11, Holycross-Ballycahill 0-12.

**South:** Clonmel, August 17 — Carrick Swans 0-13, Éire Óg 2-4.

**North:** Nenagh, August 17 — Kilruane MacDonaghs 1-12, Toomevara 2-6.

**Play-off:** Roscrea, August 24 — Borrisoleigh 3-19; Toomevara 2-9.

### COUNTY QUARTER-FINALS

**Cashel:** August 24 — Loughmore-Castleiney 3-23; Golden-Kilfeacle 1-7.

**Cashel:** August 24 — Holycross-Ballycahill 2-16; Éire Óg 1-4.

**Holycross:** August 24 — Kilruane MacDonaghs 4-13, Éire Óg 1-6.

**Boherlahan:** August 31 — Borrisoleigh 3-17; Carrick Swans 5-3.

### COUNTY SEMI-FINALS

**Cashel:** September 13 — Kilruane MacDonaghs 1-14; Loughmore-Castleiney 2-8.

**Templemore:** September 14 — Borrisoleigh 3-10; Holycross-Ballycahill 1-7.

### COUNTY FINAL

**Thurles:** September 28 — Borrisoleigh 0-14, Kilruane-MacDonaghs 0-7.



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# The "Tony Forristal" Under-14 Inter-county Tournament

*Risteárd Ó Siocháin*

## Selectors:

John Breen (Cappawhite), Paudie Butler (Drom and Inch), John Collison (Nenagh), Rickie Sheehan (Mullinahone), John Ivors (Templemore), coach, and Dinny Hogan Bórd na nÓg.

## Selection of Panel

The Peadar Cummins Memorial inter-divisional tournament held in Borrisoleigh on Saturday, August 9th, was used as a trial to select two teams for a final trial. A panel of 32 players was selected and these came to another coaching trial in Holycross on Thursday, August 14th, after which the following panel of 20 players was selected:

1 Seán Collum (Templemore); 2 Christy Devitt (Killenaule); 3 Derek Conroy (Nenagh); 4 Brian O'Donnell (Arravale Rovers); 5 Tomás Gleeson (Gortnahoe); 6 Vincent Ryan (Anacahy); 7 Kevin Farrell (Knockavilla); 8 John Hadnett (Solohead); 9 Fergal Hynes (Nenagh); 10 Owen Cleary (Borrisokane); 11 Alan Bartley (Gortnahoe); 12 Vincent Kelly (Knockavilla); 13 Tony Coman (Dúrlas Óg); 14 Gearóid Cleary (Nenagh); 15 John Collison (Nenagh); 16 Michael Skehan (Mullinahone); 17 John Ivors (Templemore); 18 Ger Collins (Dúrlas Óg); 19 Tom Farrell (Knockavilla); 20 Stephen Napier (Clonmel).

The rules governing the tournament limited teams to 20 players. Because of this restriction on numbers and the possibility of players having to play



**TIPPERARY UNDER-14 HURLING TEAM, 1986**

Back row (l. to r.): Tom Farrell, Ger Collins, Henry Reid, John Ivors, Kevin Farrell, Brian O'Donnell, Tony Coman, Stephen Napier, Alan Bartley, John Hadnett, John Collison. Front row (l. to r.): Vincent Kelly, Christy Devitt, Fergal Hynes, Vincent Ryan, Gearóid Cleary, Owen Cleary, Seán Collum, Derek Conroy, Tomás Gleeson, Micael Skehan.

three games on the Saturday, four factors were taken into account in selecting a player for the panel, namely, age, versatility, physique and ability.

Because of exceptional circumstances two other players, Henry Reid (Borrisokane) and Andy Bourke (Drom & Inch) were brought to Waterford. All players without exception conducted themselves in an exemplary manner and were a credit at all times to their homes, their clubs and their county.

## Preparation

Numerous efforts were made to bring the squad to a central venue for coaching but only one full training session took place. Our coach in particular was hampered in his efforts to prepare the team by three factors: (a) our own under-14 hurling and football championships still in progress with players still engaged being drained by an excess of games at under-14 and under-16 level; (b) unavailability on a regular basis of a training pitch; (c) no chance of building up a team due to no challenge or practice game. Lack of preparation militated against our prospects in the tournament.

## The Games

We were drawn in a group containing Meath, Galway and Antrim. We defeated Meath 2-10 to 0-0 in our

first game without our forwards being impressive. Galway beat Antrim so we faced Galway in our group final.

In a hard-fought and closely contested game Galway were victorious by 0-7 to 0-4. A lack of scoring ability among our forwards was the decisive difference. Our defence didn't concede a goal, the only team of the 16 not to do so. In the two games each player of the 20 got a chance to play for his county.

Galway went on to defeat Cork in the semi-final and were only narrowly beaten by a very well prepared Clare team in the final. Antrim won out the "B" championship so our group was not an easy one. The selectors worked well together and all played a part in trying to select teams which would be a credit to the county.

Parochialism and Divisionalism were absent. On the question of selectors and selecting, most of us feel that a return to the older system of each division sending nine players to a county trial would be better than the one used this year. It would allow more time to prepare the team. Only three selectors or officials are recognised by the tournament authorities. If Bórd na nÓg sees fit to nominate a coach to the side then that coach should be responsible for the party to the board and not some other person. So, to next year, and the experience gained in 1986 should benefit our preparation next time round.

Tipperary G.A.A. Year Book — 31



M. Skehan (Mullinahone), left, and C. Devitt (Killenaule), right, wait with two young supporters in Carrick.





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# County Bórd na nÓg Review 1986

By: JAMES GLEESON

**T**HE emergence of Borrisokane as a force in Juvenile hurling; the formation of Clonmel Óg; Éire Óg's achievement in winning Féile na nÓg; Durlas Óg's first under-16 hurling championship; Knockavilla Kickhams' 'rural double' and Mid Tipperary's great run in the Munster U-16 hurling championship were some of the highlights of the Bórd na nÓg calendar for 1986.

In addition, Clonmel Commercials bring the U-12 football trophy south; Arravale Rovers' total domination in U-16 football; a memorial Rural hurling final and replay between Gortnahoe-Glengoole and Knockavilla; a cracking Urban-Rural football final and a full 150 minutes' play in the Garda Cup final helped to make this a year worth recalling for a long time to come.

## U-12 FOOTBALL

Clonmel Commercials had to fight hard in Golden to beat the Mid champions Holycross in one semi-final. Arravale Rovers put in a storming second half performance to defeat Éire Óg, Nenagh, in the other semi-final. The decider took place in Bansha with Commercials emerging victorious over the West champions in an exciting see-saw battle on the score of 2-5 to 2-1. This was the only championship title to go South this year.

## U-12 HURLING

Old rivals Durlas Óg and Toomevara clashed in one semi-final in Borrisoleigh. Skill was at a high level and a large crowd was entertained with a memorable encounter. The outcome was in doubt till the final minute when Toomevara cracked home the all-important goal to win by 2-6 to 2-1.

In the other semi-final St. Mary's, Clonmel, produced some good ground hurling for a fine victory over West champions Knockavilla Kickhams. The final was a mis-match with Toomevara overwhelming the South champions by a large score and in so doing continued to dominate the U-12 competitions.

## U-14 URBAN/RURAL HURLING

In a surprise result over Éire Óg, Nenagh, in the North Tipperary decider, Borrisokane went on to represent the Northern Division with honour and distinction in the county championships. They beat Clonmel Óg in the semi-final in Holycross. Meanwhile, Durlas Óg, Thurles, had an easy victory over Knockavilla Kickhams in the other semi-final. The final was fixed for Borrisoleigh and the North champions scaled heights only previously imagined to defeat Thurles by the narrowest of margins in a tense, exciting struggle.

## U-14 RURAL HURLING

Knockavilla Kickhams represented the

West in this competition. Their opponents in the first semi-final were newly crowned North champions Borrisokane. The latter produced the greater skill and expertise to have the West champions seriously worried at half-time. In the second half superior strength and experience saw Knockavilla safely through to the final.

In the other semi-final, the exciting new Mid champions, Gortnahoe-Glengoole, had an easy victory over Mullinahone.

The final was fixed for Boherlahan and in a memorable game Gortnahoe came back from the dead to force a replay in the closing minutes. The replay took place the following Friday on a cold, windy evening. Kickhams were fresher this time and made no mistake in winning by a comfortable margin.

## TURAS NA N-ÓG PLAY-OFF

Champions Borrisokane faced Rural champions Knockavilla Kickhams in the Turas final play-off. The game took place in Holycross. Knockavilla showed signs of tiredness after a long summer's hurling. Borrisokane, on the other hand, were enjoying every minute of their new-found glory and duly went on to win and represent Tipperary in the trip to Croke Park on All-Ireland day.

## U-14 URBAN-RURAL FOOTBALL

Éire Óg, Nenagh, the newly-crowned Féile na nÓg champions, beat Templemore in one semi-final. Clonmel Óg defeated Arravale Rovers in the other semi-final. The final took place in Holycross on Wednesday, 3rd September. It was a very good advertisement for Gaelic football with skill, courage, tension and excitement present in abundance.

After a ding-dong battle, with fortunes swaying back and forth, Nenagh emerged victorious by four points.

## RURAL FOOTBALL

North Tipperary were not represented in this competition this year. Thus Knockavilla Kickhams got a bye into the final. In the other semi-final South champions Fethard had an easy victory over Boherlahan, the Mid champions. The final took place in Cashel with Paddy Hogan in charge of the whistle.

In the early exchanges it appeared that Fethard's skill and ability would pay dividends. However, As the game progressed it was clear that Knockavilla's strength and dedication would be decisive. In the end they won by a clear 8 points and thus won the hurling and football rural double.

## U-16 HURLING

Toomevara faced Durlas Óg in one semi-final in Templemore. The Mid champions were sharper and more determined on the evening — winning by a

comfortable four points. In the other semi-final Arravale Rovers had a comprehensive victory over South champions St. Mary's of Clonmel.

In a tough, well-contested final in Boherlahan, Durlas Óg edged out the West champions on the score of 3-8 to 3-5. This is the first time in the history of their club that Durlas Óg have won the U-16 hurling championship.

## U-16 FOOTBALL

Durlas Óg and Arravale Rovers met again, this time in the semi-final of the U-16 football championship. In a one-sided encounter the West champions emerged easy winners by 3-8 to 0-4.

The other semi-final between South champions Fethard and North champions Roscrea was a far more even affair. After a tense, evenly contested game, with some nice bouts of free-flowing football, Fethard reached the final by one solitary point, 1-10 to 2-6. What promised to be a thrilling final never lived up to expectations and Annavale Rovers clinched the title by easily defeating Fethard 4-7 to 1-4 in Boherlahan.

## FÉILE NA nGAEL

Éire Óg, Nenagh, defeated Durlas Óg by 3-4 to 2-3 in one semi-final in Ballycahill. Meanwhile, in Holycross, Knockavilla Kickhams had six points to spare over St. Mary's, Clonmel, after a hard-fought struggle. The final between Éire Óg and Knockavilla was a repeat of 1984's county U-12 decider.

The North champions had a little in reserve all the way through, but were stunned by a last-minute Vincent Kelly goal to leave Knockavilla Féile champions for 1986 by just one point.

The West champions represented Tipperary with pride and distinction in the All-Ireland finals in Clare in June. After impressive victories over St. Rynagh's of Offaly, Clarecastle, the host club, and Éire Óg of Ennis they went down to the Kilkenny champions, Piltown, in the semi-final of Section A.

## FÉILE NA nÓG

This competition is the football equivalent of Féile na nGael. Durlas Óg and Éire Óg, Nenagh, played in one semi-final in Borrisoleigh. Éire Óg qualified for the final on the score of 4-3 to 2-2. Meanwhile, in Holycross, Knockavilla Clonmel Óg, got a bye into the final (West didn't participate).

The final was played two night later and Nenagh qualified to represent Tipperary in the All-Ireland finals in Cork. After a string of victories Nenagh won Division IV of Féile na nÓg.

## U-16 INTER-DIVISIONAL FOOTBALL

The first competition to be organised by Tipperary G.A.A. Year Book — 33



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the Board this year was the County U-16 Inter-Divisional football championship. Thankfully, the other competitions were much more easily organised than this one. In the semi-finals South defeated Mid in Golden while West defeated North in Ballycahill.

The final was played in Bansha and South had a three points victory over West by 1-10 to 1-7. This competition will now be run on an annual basis and the Football Board kindly donated a perpetual trophy to Bórd na nÓg towards this end.

### U-16 HURLING INTER-DIVISIONAL

In the semi-finals North defeated Mid while West accounted for the South. The final was fixed for Semple Stadium on Sunday, October 26, before the Tipp—Laois match. After an exciting hour's hurling the sides were level — North Tipp 3-5, West Tipp 1-11. The replay was played in Boherlahan on Sunday, 16th November. At the end of ordinary time the sides were still level: N. Tipp 5-3, W. Tipp 4-6.

After the first period of extra time the issue was still deadlocked with N. Tipp 7-4 and W. Tipp 6-7. However, the North lads found that extra bit of skill and energy in the final ten minutes or so to win by 9-6 to 6-7. Our sincerest thanks to the Gardai for their continued sponsorship of this competition.

### U-14 INTER-DIVISIONAL HURLING

During the year Borrisoleigh G.A.A. presented a trophy to Co. Tipperary Bórd na nÓg in honour of the late Peadar Cummins. It will be played for each year as

an U-14 Inter-Divisional hurling blitz. The first such blitz in this new competition was played in Borrisoleigh on August 9th.

West defeated South and North accounted for Mid in the semi-finals. In the final North had a runaway victory over West by 6-0 to 0-3. Derek Conroy of Éire Óg, Nenagh, was selected as player of the tournament. Our thanks to Borrisoleigh for the catering and excellent arrangements.

### TONY FORRISTAL TOURNAMENTS

As usual, Tipperary participated in the Tony Forristal Memorial Tournament which is held annually in Waterford for county under-14 hurling teams. The Borrisoleigh tournament served as a basis for the selectors — John Collison (North), Richard Sheehan (South), Johnny Breen (West), Paudie Butler (Mid), Denis Hogan (Bórd na nÓg) and John Ivors (trainer) to try and pick a team.

Tipperary had an easy victory over Meath in the first round by 2-10 to 0-0.

Unfortunately, the Premier County bowed out to Galway in the second round by 0-7 to 0-4. Our thanks to Waterford Glass G.A.A. club for inviting us and to Butlerstown, our host club.

### MUNSTER-U-16 HURLING

South Tipperary were defeated by Limerick City in the first round. West Tipperary defeated a Waterford side in the first round but went down to East Cork by 2-8 to 1-1 in the next round. North Tipperary beat Mid Clare by 2-5 to 1-3 in the opening round before going down to Avondhu, Cork, by one point, 4-2 to 1-10 in the second round.

Mid Tipperary had first and second round victories over the two Cork city teams. They had a great victory over Avondhu in the semi-final by 3-12 to 1-4 before going down to East Clare in the final in Killarney on Munster Final day.

### LONG PUCK

The county final of the Long Puck competition was held in Thurles Railway field on Wednesday, 14th May. The winner was Tony Coman, Durlas Óg. James Bourke, Carrick-on-Suir, was runner-up. In third place was Adrian Harding, Lorrha, while Brian O'Donnell was in fourth place.

### SKILLS

The skills competition in conjunction with Féile na nGael was held in Holycross on Saturday, 31st May. Aidan Quirke, Ballybacon-Grange, was the winner with 56 points. In joint second place were Pat Maguire, Lattin-Cullen, and Lar Barret, Durlas Óg, with 48 points each. Declan Costello, Knockshegowna, was in fourth position with 38 points.

### CONCLUSION

I take this opportunity to thank all those who helped out in the running of our juvenile games this year. In particular chairman Donal Shanahan, treasurer Denis Hogan, County Bórd na nÓg members, our referees, park committees, the various team members, the paying public, the County Board and you boys who played our games with honour, pride and enthusiasm throughout the year and long may you continue to do so.

A peaceful Christmas and a happy New Year to one and all.

## COUNTY BÓRD NA N-ÓG CHAMPIONS 1986

|                           | Winners              | Runners-up          | Date    | Venue        | Referee      |
|---------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|---------|--------------|--------------|
| U-12 Hurling              | Toomevara            | St. Mary's, Clonmel | 27-7-86 | Holycross    | L. McGrath   |
| U-12 Football             | Clonmel Commercial   | Arravale Rovers     | 18-7-86 | Bansha       | P. Hogan     |
| U-14 Urban-Rural Hurling  | Borrisokane          | Durlas Óg           | 22-8-86 | Borrisoleigh | S. Ryan      |
| U-14 Rural Hurling        | Knockavilla Kickhams | Gortnahoe-Glengoole | 27-7-86 | Boherlahan   | J. Maher     |
|                           |                      |                     | 1-8-86  |              |              |
| U-14 Urban-Rural Football | Éire Óg, Nenagh      | Clonmel Óg          | 3-9-86  | Holycross    | L. Quirke    |
| U-14 Rural Football       | Knockavilla Kickhams | Fethard             | 1-9-86  | Cashel       | P. Hogan     |
| U-16 Hurling              | Durlas Óg            | Arravale Rovers     | 13-9-86 | Boherlahan   | S. O'Doherty |
| U-16 Football             | Arravale Rovers      | Fethard             | 27-9-86 | Boherlahan   | P. Sheedy    |

## OTHER COMPETITIONS

|                  |                      |                      |            |                |            |
|------------------|----------------------|----------------------|------------|----------------|------------|
| Féile na nGael   | Knockavilla Kickhams | Éire Óg, Nenagh      | 31-5-86    | Holycross      | L. McGrath |
| Féile na nÓg     | Éire Óg, Nenagh      | Clonmel Óg           | 9-6-86     | Borrisoleigh   | S. Ryan    |
| U-16 Hurling     | North                | West                 | 26-10-86   | Semple Stadium | P. Lowry   |
| Inter-Divisional |                      | 16-11-86             | Boherlahan | L. McGrath     |            |
| U-16 Football    | South                | West                 | 23-5-86    | Bansha         | L. McGrath |
| Inter-Divisional |                      |                      |            |                |            |
| U-14-Hurling     | North                | West                 | 9-8-86     | Borrisoleigh   | S. Ryan    |
| Inter-Divisional |                      |                      |            |                |            |
| Long Puck        | T. Coman (Mid)       | J. Bourke (South)    | 14-5-86    | Thurles        |            |
| Skills           | A. Quirke (South)    | P. Maguire (West)    | 31-5-86    | Holycross      |            |
|                  |                      | L. Barrett (Mid)     |            |                |            |
| Turas na nÓg     | Borrisokane          | Knockavilla Kickhams | 27-8-86    | Holycross      | P. Hogan   |



# Coiste Camogaíochta Tiobraid Árann

By CATHERINE FOGARTY (Secretary)

1986 was a year of change and development within camogie in Tipperary. This year many new championships were added to the calendar. In addition to the existing championships, i.e. U-14, U-16, Senior and Junior, the Board ran U-12, U-18 and Intermediate championships. The existing league competition in which all grades took part was reorganised — in the new format Senior and Intermediate clubs compete for the Kitty O'Flaherty Cup. This Cup was presented to the Board by the family of the late Kitty O'Flaherty as a memorial to her work for camogie over the years. The seven-a-side competitions were also extended from the traditional competition for senior and junior clubs to cover U-14, U-16 and U-18 age groups.

U-12 championship — Burgess-Youghalarrá.

U-14 championship — Burgess-Youghalarrá.

U-16 championship — Knockavilla-Kickhams.

Junior championship — Borrisokane.  
Intermediate championship — St. Bernadette's.

Senior championship — Cashel.

The U-12 championship had only five entries — the number of entries should be greater in 1987. Templederry-Toomevara, Lorrha, Burgess-Youghalarrá from the North, with Upperchurch-Drombane and Moycarkey-Borris from the South made up 1986's participants. Moycarkey-Borris-Killenaule and Burgess-Youghalarrá contested the final. This was a great year for Burgess-Youghalarrá, not only did they win the U-12 but they also added the U-14 title.

The U-14 championship was divided into two divisions — North and South

with two sections in each division. Participants were:

## **SOUTH**

**Section A:** Upperchurch-Drombane, Thurles, Moycarkey-Killenaule, Knockavilla Kickhams.

**Section B:** St. Cuilan's, St. Brigid's, Drom, Cashel.

Divisional finalists — Cashel v. Moycarkey-Killenaule.

## **NORTH**

**Section A:** Templederry-Toomevara, St. Bernadette's, Lorrha, Kildangan.

**Section B:** Burgess-Youghalarrá, Dunkerrin, Shannon Rovers, Portroe.

Divisional finalists — Burgess-Youghalarrá v. Templetuohy.

County final — Cashel v. Burgess-Youghalarrá.

Burgess-Youghalarrá, as already stated, won the U-14 championship, U-12 championship and the U-14 seven-a-side competition. Few clubs win all the championships they enter in — this club can look forward to a bright future, having good players and dedicated officers.

The U-16 championship had a similar pattern to the U-14 championship in that the winners of the seven-a-side competition also emerged as winners of the overall championship. The club in question — Knockavilla Kickhams — started 1986 as U-16 champions and succeeded in retaining their title despite a very determined display from Templederry-Toomevara in the county final. The final score: Knockavilla-Kickhams 2-2, Templederry-Toomevara 1-2. The U-16 championships had 10 entries split evenly between North and South.

**South:** Carrick Rangers, Knockavilla Kickhams, Moycarkey-

Killenaule, Thurles, Upperchurch-Drombane.

**North:** Portroe, Templederry-Toomevara, Dunkerrin, Shannon Rovers, McDonagh's.

Tipperary Camogie Board attempts to run its championships on a divisional basis with either one or two teams qualifying for the county semi-finals or final, as the case may be.

Although the U-18 championship was another new competition in 1986 it attracted nine entries.

**South:** Cashel, Carrick Rangers, St. Cuilan's, Knockavilla Kickhams, Moycarkey-Killenaule.

**North:** Portroe, St. Bernadette's, Shannon Rovers, Dunkerrin.

This competition is only at semi-final stage and will probably not be completed until 1987. Having extra championships highlights the need to plan these more carefully — this should be somewhat easier to do in 1987 as clubs now know that eight championships exist and once the number of entries are known fixtures can be made accordingly.

The junior championship had 15 entries in 1986. Again the championship had two divisions — with a weak and strong section in each division.

**North:** Strong — McDonagh's A, Borrisokane, St. Bernadette's, Portroe.

**Weak** — Kildangan, Shannon Rovers, Dunkerrin, Lorrha.

**South:** Strong — Carrick Rangers, Kitty O'Flaherty, Thurles.

**Weak** — St. Brigid's, St. Cuilan's, Golden, Knockavilla-Kickhams.

County semi-finals — Thurles v. Borrisokane A.

The county final between Borrisokane and McDonagh's A will not



**ST. BERNADETTE'S, ROSCREA,  
INTERMEDIATE CAMOGIE  
CHAMPIONS 1986**

**BACK ROW** (left to right) — Vera Connors, Violet Ault, Ann Keeshaw, Elizabeth McCormack, Rosie Ryan, Bernie Feehan, Brid Treacy, Geraldine O'Donovan, Betty Ryan, Jean Kirwan. **FRONT ROW** (left to right) — Aileen O'Hara, Martina Moloney, Breda Moloney, Sylvia Dunne, Mary Moloney, Elizabeth Shanahan, Dolores Feehan (captain), Maura Cleary, Edel O'Donnell (missing from photograph, Bernie Nugent). Trainer, Des Hogan; selectors, Des Hogan, Jimmy Carroll.





#### LORRHA — COUNTY TIPPERARY JUNIOR CAMOGIE CHAMPIONS 1985

*This team beat Borrisokane, Dunkerrin, Templederry, Roscrea, Ardcroney and Cahir in the competition. BACK ROW (left to right): Nuala O'Meara, Bernadette Sullivan, Bernadette Houlihan, Ann Reddish, Siobhán Clancy, John Cleary (trainer), Dymphna MacEntyre, Pauline O'Sullivan, Collette Lambe, Martin Cleary, Catherine Cleary, Carmel Hough, Martina Bourke. FRONT ROW (left to right): Sheila Carroll, Martina Houlihan, Tina Lewis, Julie Sullivan (mascot), Michelle O'Meara, Agnes Brophy (captain), Esther Houlihan, Angela Lambe, Bridget Houlihan, Mary Deely, John Cooper (selector). Mary Lane also selector but not present.*

be played before this article is submitted. Borrisokane were beaten finalists in 1985 when Lorrha took the title, they were also runners-up in 1984. Even so this writer has a feeling that McDonagh's will emerge victorious. The McDonaghs club was formed this year with players from the Ardcroney club which no longer exists and several players who had previously played with Portroe who won senior championships in 1983, '84, '85. Perhaps Borrisokane will prove me wrong.

Another of the new championships was the Intermediate competition. The participants in this were Cappawhite, St. Bernadette's and Templederry-Toomevara (all regraded from senior), Lorrha, 1985 junior, champions and Moycarkey-Killenaule.

Perhaps I should explain the geographic monster that Moycarkey-Borris-Killenaule is. There is a strong juvenile club in Moycarkey-Borris — divisional finalists in U-14 and county finalists in U-12. The Killenaule club has some very promising young players but not enough to make up a full team. County Board gave permission for the combination and the grade decided upon was intermediate.

The championship turned into somewhat of a two-horse race with St. Bernadette's and Cappawhite contesting the final. The Roscrea club emerged victorious with the final score — St. Bernadette's 1-8, Cappawhite 0-4. The St. Bernadette club is 21 years old in 1986 and came of age in style. Having been defeated in numerous senior finals victory was finally theirs, although it means that the club is promoted to senior status in 1987.

Which brings us to the senior championship. Another piece of history was written in this championship. The victorious team in 1986, for the first time ever, was Cashel. The victory will, I'm sure, have delighted Sr. Frances Murphy in the Convent in Cashel as many of the players previously played on the Convent team. Sr. Frances is also secretary of the Cashel club. Cashel

narrowly missed a county championship double as their U-14s were defeated in the county final by Burgess-Youghallarra.

The defeated senior finalists, St. Mary's, were naturally disappointed but they could still collect a cup this year. They are playing Portroe in the Ann Frazer Cup semi-final which will be played after this article is submitted. The winners of this semi-final play Cappawhite in the final. The Ann Frazer Cup competition is contested by senior and intermediate clubs. Portroe and St. Mary's are also due to meet in the final of the seven-a-side competition. The seven-a-side competitions are held annually in Littleton. The junior competition had four entries: Knockavilla Kickhams, Borrisokane, McDonaghs A, Shannon Rovers, with Borrisokane emerging victorious.

The senior/intermediate competition had five entries: Portroe, St. Cuilan's, St. Mary's, Moycarkey-Killenaule, Templederry-Toomevara.

The final competition remaining is the Kitty O'Flaherty Cup. This is the first year that this Cup has been played for — who will be the first to have their names inscribed? Through to the final already are McDonaghs A and the second semi-final is between Borrisokane and Knockavilla-Kickhams or Kitty O'Flaherty's.

A review of inter-county performances does not yield a multitude of medals or titles. Rather each player and selector in each grade can look back and say 'I did my best and hopefully what I learned this year will be of benefit next year.' This applies particularly to the selectors of the under-age teams, U-16 and U-18, men like Seamus Barry and Eamonn Browne and their fellow-selector, Sheila Delaney.

The U-16 county team were defeated by Cork and the U-18 team by Limerick. But in getting to know the players at this level, panels can be formed for U-18 and Junior next year and we can build a platform to work on which will lead to that elusive senior title. It can't be done in a year, but if the same selectors

remain over a few years then provincial and national honours will come our way.

Let's not forget the junior and senior selectors, Pat Foote, Ann Ralph, Willie Walsh, Michael O'Donoghue and Paddy Corrigan. the trainer was Neil Dwyer.

The senior team lost in the All-Ireland championship (which is run on an open draw basis) to Dublin by a margin of four points. In the Munster championship Tipperary defeated Limerick but were subsequently defeated by Cork in the Munster final. The senior panel has felt the cruel hand of emigration with several players in America and England who would be automatic choices. Four of the players on the Tipperary panel were selected on the Munster team for the Gael Linn competitions, namely, Geraldine Ryan (Cappawhite), Rosie Ryan (St. Bernadette's), Ann Gleeson (Templederry-Toomevara) and Maura Hackett (Portroe). Victorious against Ulster in the first match, Munster was defeated by Leinster in the Gael Linn final.

On the administration side of operations, the County Board held a very successful fund-raising draw for which thanks are due to all who supported. At this year's convention the Board intend to approve a set of bye laws with the aim of making our duties easier to fulfil. The Board is at present in the throes of compiling a history of camogie in Tipperary from 1934 onwards. Anyone wishing to help with this or having photographs, etc. which they would be prepared to loan are asked to contact any club member or officer of the Board.

In 1986 23 clubs affiliated to the County Board. I would like to thank all of these players and officials for their help and co-operation throughout the year. A special word also for all the players who came to county trials, training and matches — hopefully we will see you again in 1987. Thanks are also due to all the G.A.A. clubs throughout the county for the use of their pitches and facilities. Finally, I would like to thank Tipperary County G.A.A. Board in the persons of Liam O'Donnochu and Seamus King for the opportunity of writing this article.

**Officers for 1986:** Chairman, Paddy Corrigan; vice-chairman/P.R.O., Eamonn Browne; treasurer, Marion Graham; secretary, Catherine Fogarty.

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# Ciba Geigy Clubman of the year

LIAM HENNESSY (Moycarkey-Borris)

**W**ITH a county senior hurling title missing for thirty nine years Liam Hennessy of Coolcroo took on a rather onerous task when he became chairman of Moycarkey-Borris in 1979, to endeavour to eradicate that omission. Like so many of his predecessors the start of his regime was not encouraging. But he coaxed, cajoled and instilled a will to unite, co-operate and a sense of pride in his workers and players. When he opted out of the chair seven years later his greatest expectations and ambitions were achieved and even surpassed. The list of honours won by the club proved that: two county senior; one Munster senior, one county intermediate, one county minor and seven Mid titles in hurling; one county intermediate and four Mid titles in football. An imposing list by any standard. During Liam's chairmanship further development and drainage works were carried out in Littleton field; A.I.B. and Mid club of the year awards were also amassed. Moycarkey-Borris was once again a vibrant force in Tipperary G.A.A. affairs.

It came then as no surprise that in 1986 Liam was honoured as Tipperary Clubman of the Year in the nationwide contest sponsored by Ciba Geigy. It was an accolade richly and deservedly won by the Two-Mile-Borris farmer.

Liam Hennessy's dedication and



Mr. Liam Hennessy, Moycarkey-Borris G.A.A. Chairman (1979-1985) is presented with his Ciba Geigy Tipperary Clubman of the Year award by Dr. Mick Loftus, President of the G.A.A. On the right is Mr. Dick Hickey, Managing Director of the sponsors.

leadership has been an inspiration to all during his seven years in charge of affairs. His association with the club began in the 1960's when he was a player member being on the team as full forward in the 1962 county final defeat by Sarsfields. He won Mid under-21 hurling medals in 1962, Mid senior in 1965 and 1967, junior in 1978 and was a player on the 1963 Mid junior football side, the first time that a divisional title in this code came to Moycarkey-Borris. He was county S.H. selector 1983-'85, a club selector too. Prior to his association with the G.A.A. he competed with the Coolcroo A.C. in athletics and was secretary of that club for a period too. He was a driving force behind the

publication of the club's G.A.A. history in 1984.

Despite the many calls on his time he took a special interest in the club juvenile affairs and in fact was readily available day or night to further the interests of Moycarkey-Borris. A leader with great qualities and a willing spirit to match Liam Hennessy can look back with pride on his contribution to the success of the club in the 1980's. After a well deserved respite there is no doubt but Liam will be back to lead the fortunes of Moycarkey-Borris for another term. A most worthy recipient of Tipperary's highest individual sporting award for the past year.

J.F.

## THURLES SARSFIELDS — 1958 JUNIOR COUNTY CHAMPIONS

Back row (l. to r.): M. Stapleton, T. Callanan, S. Larkins, M. Lucy, M. Connors, D. Butler, D. Callanan, P. Butler, J. Connors, T. Butler. Front row (l. to r.): J. O'Brien, P. Doyle, S. Murphy, P. Maher, M. Murphy, J. Gaynor, E. Maher, T. Butler.





# The 1887 All-Ireland

**O**N Easter Sunday, 1888, Thurles, representing Tipperary, had the proud distinction of winning the first All-Ireland hurling championship. A remarkable achievement in itself, but all the more so because of the fact that the club was originally formed as a football club and did not take up hurling until 1887.

In the famed Gaelic Tournament of 1886, which was organised by the club, it was a football team that played against Bray and indeed in the championship of '87 the club first affiliated in football and were drawn against Loughmore. Following a dispute over a forfeit point in an unfinished first round game and a defeat in the replay at Borrisoleigh, Thurles gave up football for hurling.

Following its controversial short sojourn in football circles, the club affiliated a team in the hurling championship.

## First Hurling Draws

### First Round:

North Tipperary v Carrigatohar. Moycarkey a bye. Killea v Upperchurch. Borrisoleigh a bye. Thurles v Two-Mile-Borris.

### Second Round:

Moycarkey v North Tipperary; Borrisoleigh v Upperchurch.

### Semi-Finals:

Thurles v Borrisoleigh; North Tipperary v Holycross.

### Final:

Thurles v North Tipperary.

In their struggle to win the county preliminaries Thurles first defeated Two-Mile-Borris at Holycross.

The *Celtic Times* gave an exhilarating version of the game:

"The players swept along with the speed and dash of the Fianna of ancient Ireland. No shoes were worn by either side! Dozens were knocked out! 'Tis easily seen why Kickham never described the match in 'Knocknagow'; for no imagination, not even that of the genius of Mullinahone, could picture what Tipperary hurling is like".

The second round game against Borrisoleigh was played at what was known as the "Stone Jug Field" with Thurles, the winners by a forfeit point. North Tipperary's defeat of Moycarkey left Thurles as favourites for county honours.

Borrisoleigh was the venue for the semi-final and final on the same day. North Tipperary defeated Holycross by a forfeit point and after a short respite lined out against Thurles in the final. The



By Donal O'Gorman

teams were scoreless at half time but in the second period the North began to weaken and had to give way to a "fresher" Thurles team. The score was three points and two forfeit points to nil. It is interesting to note that Thurles who were also known as "Thurles Blues" and now Thurles Sarsfields, originally wore green and gold jerseys as they did on this occasion.

**Team:** Denis Maher (captain), Andy, Tom and Matty Maher, Jim Stapleton, Ned Murphy, Jer Dwyer, Jack, Dinny, Ned and Matty Maher, Con Callanan, Tom Burke, Dan Davern, Jim Sullivan, Pat Ryan, Stephen Purcell, Dick Butler, Ned Flanagan, Martin McNamara ("Mack"), and Jack Bannon.

Five counties contested the first national championship in the native pastime — Galway, Wexford, Clare, Tipperary and Kilkenny. Galway beat Wexford, and went into the final. Thurles representing Tipperary met no opposition from Dublin. Their first game was in the second round at Nenagh against the Clare "Smith O'Brien's". The score was Tipp. 1-8 to Clare 4 points. The Tipperary - Kilkenny (Tullaroan) match was played at Urlingford on a Friday, and was refereed with much difficulty by Frank Moloney. Tipperary won by 4-7 to nil.

The following is a description of the game taken from the *Freeman's Journal* of 28th Oct., 1887:

"The inter-county hurling tie between Kilkenny and Tipperary was played off to-day, Thursday, at Urlingford. Thurles represented Tipperary, and Urlingford, Kilkenny. Mr. F. Moloney, V.P., G.A.A., acted as referee. The weather in the morning showed very bad as heavy showers fell. Before noon the rain, however, ceased, and during the time of play not a drop descended. When the hurlers lined up the Tullaroan captain objected to some of the Thurles hurlers on the grounds that they belonged to the parish of Two-Mile-Borris. Though it was explained they lived on the outskirts

of Thurles parish they were disqualified. Their places were, however, readily filled up by some hurlers from the town who had gone out to witness the match. Precisely at two o'clock the play commenced, and in the first five minutes Thurles placed a goal to its credit. At the end of full time the following extraordinary result was announced for Thurles. 4 goals 6 points, and one forfeit point to nil for Tullaroan. The victory for the Thurles hurlers is unprecedented in inter-county competitions. A large crowd of people was on the field, and the order maintained was excellent".

All-Ireland final against Meelick of Galway was played on Easter Sunday, 1888 and the following is a report gain taken from the *Freeman's Journal*.

Birr, Monday: At last the hurling championship for 1887 has been decided, and the result will hardly create any surprise in Gaelic circles, for it has been anticipated for many a day. Six months ago the inter-county ties were reduced to the final, and after an inexplicable delay, this was played off at Birr yesterday. The town was central as well as neutral for both Meelick and Thurles, the champions hurling teams of Galway and Tipperary, respectively and which have earned great fame in the Gaelic world, Thurles having played over twenty matches to come to the final.

There were good grounds, superb weather, orderly spectators and an efficient referee. Special trains carried crowds of people from Tipperary, Kings County and Queens County into Birr, and East Galway seemed to have turned out to a man to escort the Meelick hurlers to the scene of strife. The Thurles hurlers travelled by special train, and they were met at Birr Railway Station by a large crowd including Mr. P. White, Hon. Secretary, King's County G.A.A., Mr. Patrick Ryan, Vice-President, etc. When they made their appearance, they were warmly cheered by the Tipperary men. From the time the Thurles and Meelick men met, their intercourse was characterised by the utmost good feeling and good humour, and the defeat of the latter did not in the least change that, for they accepted it in the same spirit as they would victory. After a short delay the members of both teams dressed themselves in the Gaelic costume. They were then marshalled by Captain Lynam, Meelick, who in military fashion ordered them into line, the Tipperary men in front and the Galway

The 1887 team, winners of the first All-Ireland hurling championship (photographed about 1910). Back row: D. Maher, J. Sullivan, E. Murphy, J. Ryan, M. Maher, E. Leamy, T. Burke, C. Callanan, D. Davoren, M. Maher. Centre row: P. Ryan, D. Maher, J. Stapleton (captain), T. Maher, G. Leamy, J. Ryan, J. Dwyer. Front row: M. Carroll, M. McNamara, T. Butler. (See Front Cover)



men behind. He then gave "right about", and they were formed two deep, every Tipp man standing shoulder to shoulder with a Galway man. In this order, they marched through the town to the field. Messrs. Hugh Ryan, Andrew Callanan and Capt. Lynam being in front. As they passed through the town, they were roundly cheered. Arrived at their field, which is at the outskirts of the town and which was well selected. Arriving at their field, they found several thousand people there. The crowd, enormous though it was, kept as scrupulously outside the players territory as if they had been guarded by a line of bayonets and not, as it was, by a primitive chalk line.

At three o'clock, the teams lined up and the ball was thrown up by Mr. Patrick White, Birr, and for eleven minutes, it was whizzing up and down the field now threatening one goal, now another. At that time, Thurles made the first score, one of the whips scoring a point. During a scrimmage, one of the Thurles men received an accidental stroke of the hurley on the nose, giving that organ so severe a battering that he had to give up playing. A Galwayman had to be put out at seventeen minutes past for tripping. From fifteen minutes past to half-time, the play was simply fierce. At a crucial point of the play, just before half-time, and when the Thurles whips were carrying the ball towards the Galway posts, the Galway hurler who had been put out, rushed in and struck the ball to one of his colleagues. The referee remonstrated, and said he had observed him doing that before also; if it occurred again, he would award the match to Tipperary. There was no person admitted to replace the Thurles player who was injured.

Shortly after the change of sides, the Thurles forwards carried the ball close to the Galway posts, and here, after a long struggle, during which it was several times in close to the goal, a Galway hurler touched it over the sideline, giving Thurles a forfeit point. Thurles succeeded soon after in placing a goal to their credit scored by Tommy Healy, Borris, and at the call of time, the play stood thus: For Thurles, 1 goal, 1 point and 1 forfeit point; to Galway nil. The enthusiasm of the Tipps seems to be unbounded when play was declared.

They took the plucky captain of the brave Thurles team on their shoulders and carried him through the field in triumph. Thurles and Galway when the enthusiasm had partly subsided, lined up on the field again and cheered for each other alternatively in the most fraternal and cordial manner.

Both teams were again marshalled by Captain Lynam and marched back as before in the midst of a cheering multitude, to Cunningham's Hotel, where dinner was served. In Thurles and every town in the county, the news was received with the greatest enthusiasm.



*Jim Stapleton, Tipperary Captain 1887*

The winning selection was: Jim Stapleton (captain), Matty Maher, Andy Maher, Tom Bourke, Ned Murphy, Tom Stapleton, Ger Dwyer, Mick Carroll, Tom Carroll, Tom Maher, John Leamy, Ned Lambe, Martin McNamara, Johnny Mockler, Ger Ryan, Danny Ryan, Tom Dwyer, Ned Bowe, Tommy Healy, Jim Leahy and Johnny Dunne.

The absence of the Thurles captain, Denis Maher and six other members of the team, is explained by him in the following letter to the *Tipperary Star* in January 1913:

"Dear Sir. In your second last issue I read the names of the men who played in the '87 All-Ireland hurling final; of these men I have nothing to say, but as captain of the old hurling team of Thurles from 1887 to 1894, I think it is my duty to explain our absence in the final. After winning the county championship we were drawn against Clare in the first inter-county match. The match was

fixed for Limerick, but as Clare did not travel it was refixed for Nenagh. Our selection to meet Clare was: six men from Borris, one from the Ragg and fourteen from Thurles, and though I cannot remember the exact score we won by a big majority. Kilkenny was our next match for the semi-final and it was fixed for Clonmel and we relied on the team that beat Clare with one change.

"Both Tipperary and Kilkenny were on the ground but owing to an infringement of the rules, the match was declared off, and had to be refixed for the following Thursday in Urlingford, Co. Kilkenny. The teams travelled as selected, but Kilkenny objected to five of the Borris players, and we had to play nineteen from Thurles and two from Borris who were legal, namely John Mockler and Tom Stapleton. We beat Kilkenny by a big score to nil, although they were long odds against us, and everyone who saw the match witnessed how Thurles played with, what I might say, an individual team. Our next and final match was against Galway which was fixed for Birr. The old six from Borris and fifteen from Thurles were selected. Their names were as far as I can remember; Tom Healy, D. Ryan, J. Ryan, Tim Dwyer, J. Mockler and Ned Bowe, Two-Mile-Borris; Pat Ryan, Mallaunbrack; Con Callanan, Ardbawn; Dan Daveron, Ballycahill; D. Maher (Red), Matt Maher, Jack Maher (Black), Tom Maher, Matty Maher (Little), Ned Maher, Andy Maher and D. Maher (Killinan); Jim Stapleton. Tom Bourke (Rossestown), Ned Murphy, Martin McNamara, Dick Butler, J. Doran (Thurles), Jer Dwyer (Cassestown).

I was on the selection committee and my instructions from the Killinan players were that the railway fares should be paid out of club funds, as they had already travelled against Clare and Galway at a good deal of expense. The meeting was on the Friday night before the match and the team above selected, but the committee were not unanimous to pay the fares.

In the meantime, owing to some misleading rumours, and though I or any of the men left behind were aware of any change, there were men from Gortnahoe, Drombane and Moyne called in and their expenses paid and seven of the old hurlers left standing on the platform, namely: D. Maher, Jack Maher, Con Callanan, Pat Ryan, Matty Maher, Ned Maher and myself. These were the backbone of the club at the time, and who kept Tipperary to the front rank of the hurling field for years after. These are the circumstances which I think it my duty to ventilate. I may also add that for my part I do not expect or seek to get a medal, but I feel satisfied in explaining, as far as memory helps me, the cause of our absence from the 1887 Final".

Excerpt taken from "Through the Thatch" — The Story of the Blues".



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**R**EMEMBER Killarney, 1971, the wonderfully exciting Munster Final, which made the huge crowd almost forget the torrential rain. I rate that game as one of the greatest games of hurling I have seen. For skill, courage and excitement, it could scarcely be surpassed. Every player gave of his best. It was hurling at its greatest. Played as it was that day, it has no equal. Undoubtedly the best field game in the world. Tipperary had many heroes, but two players stood head and shoulders above the rest, Michael "Babs" Keating and Mick Roche.

Playing at centre back, Roche gave a magnificent display, while the goals scored by Michael Keating would demoralise any opposition. He blasted home three great goals. Tipperary won by the narrowest of margins, a point. Tipp. went on to win the all-Ireland, defeating Kilkenny in that game. "Babs" scored seven points. That victory brought joy and delight to the supporters as Tadgh O'Connor stepped up to receive the McCarthy Cup. Later that year "Babs" was the recipient of the Caltex Award for hurling. He was also selected on the Carroll all-Star team that was the inaugural year of awards.

Little did any of us think that victory of '71 would be Tipperary's last. "Babs" played until 1975, but by then we were in the hurling wilderness. A wilderness which is still with us.

Since then, selectors have come and gone with unseemingly haste. Tipperary folk were used to success and selectors who failed to bring success were disposed of quicker than the wives of Henry VIII. In 1984 it looked as if Tipperary hurling was set to re-emerge. The Munster Final in Semple Stadium was reminiscent of former days of glory. Leading with a few minutes to go, a pass was intercepted and Cork hit back to snatch victory. Jubilation turned to shock, defeat demoralised players and supporters alike. In 1985 Tipp. and Cork met again in the Munster Final. Despite what many supporters said at the time, I thought it was all over for Tipp. with fifteen minutes left to play. The switches made didn't work out.

Moreover we ran out of steam. Selectors were blamed, and criticised. Who'd be a selector? It isn't a job for the thin skinned or ultra sensitive

# "Babs" can do it

By Liz Howard



*Pictured at the 1970 "Bloody Sunday" commemoration game at Croke Park are: John O'Donoghue, Tom Ryan (Castlegrace, "Bloody Sunday" player) and Michael Keating.*

soul. The Championship of 1986 was a nightmare, Tipp. lost a nine point lead to Clare. It was scarcely the selectors fault, but questions were asked why were players like Richard Stakelum, Aidan Ryan, Gerry Stapleton, John Kennedy and Michael Scully spectators instead of participants.

The winds of change were blowing in Tipperary. It was decided to appoint a team manager who in turn could appoint two selectors of his own choosing. After much discussion, speculation and rumour Michael "Babs" Keating was appointed to the job. He chose two former teammates, Donie Nealon and Theo English as selectors. All three were part of the great team of the mid-60's. As expected there was the odd voice of dissent, but overall the appointment was met with approval. Some thought they were mad to take on such a task.

However, maybe I'm mad too, but I feel that Babs and co. will bring glory to Tipperary. They have a fine group of hurlers who are hungry for success. All they need is positive leadership, a high degree of commitment, and some coaching, plus a little luck.

"Babs" Keating was born in Grange, outside Clonmel, one of a family of five, three brothers, Joe, Jimmy and Donie and one sister Peggy. His late father Dan played football and his mother is still a keen supporter whom I meet at nearly all the matches. His paternal grand uncle, footballer Colonel Tommy Ryan of Bloody Sunday fame was a fine player and won an all-Ireland

with Tipperary. It was Tommy who carried the dying Michael Hogan into the dug-out that day. While football was natural to "Babs" he was introduced to hurling by a Kerry man Paud O'Shea, a teacher in the local school.

When "Babs" started his secondary education in the High School, Clonmel, he held his hurley in the unorthodox grip, right hand below left. He was made change to the orthodox method. He represented the High School in both hurling and football. Team mates of that era included Michael O'Connor, now Fr. Michael, President of St. John's in Waterford, Paddy O'Connell who played with Tipp. and later won a Junior all-Ireland with Carlow, also Eddie Halpin who wore the Blue and White of the Decies.

Intercounty recognition came quickly and "Babs" donned the Blue and Gold in both hurling and football. He played in three minor all-Ireland Finals. Unfortunately Tipperary lost all three. In 1961 his direct opponent was Pat Henderson, now Team Manager with Kilkenny. In 1963 Tipp. won the Intermediate all-Ireland. "Babs", Mick Roche and Peter O'Sullivan were part of that team. In the League campaign of '63/'64 Babs was drafted onto the senior panel, so too was Mick Roche, both talented players. The 1964/65 team is rated as one of the greatest ever, compared to the great Limerick team of the 30's. Every player was a star and the subs were equally good. The loss of two all-Irelands in '67

and '68 are defeats which still rankle with Babs, particularly the final of '68. The winning of the League that year was little consolation.

Many claim that "Babs" was a better footballer than he was a hurler, high praise indeed. He played for many years for Tipp. and also for Munster. He won Railway Cup medals in both codes. Munster footballing team mates included Mick O'Connell, Mick O'Dwyer and that other great dual player Ray Cummins. He rates Seamus Cleere of Kilkenny as the best back he met, he claims that Seamus never hit a ball astray, every stroke counted. "Babs" has a great loyalty to his former team mates, but refuses to name any particular player. He praises Tony Wall for the time he took to help players like himself, Len Gaynor and Mick Roche fit into the team of the mid 60's.

He is happy now to have two men who played with him as co. selectors, all three have an understanding of what is required; success and how to achieve it. No stone will be left unturned in an effort to recapture the McCarthy Cup, and restore Tipperary hurling to it's rightful place. The more immediate task is to get back to Division One. The defeat by Laois was a set-back, particularly before the home crowd in Semple Stadium. Thankfully panic didn't set in.

What manner of man is Babs? Sociable, easy going, genial, brown eyes twinkling, but don't be fooled, he's also shrewd, incisive, possessing a cold analytical hurling brain and a fierce determination. He's used to success both on the field of play and in business, and sets high targets. The players know what is expected already. In today's jargon he is termed as a good communicator, he has a good way with people. He breaks down the barriers easily, no one player is left out. When he took on the job of team manager he had the full backing of his wife Nancy, daughter Orla and son Mike. He said "he'd give it a go", but "a go" meant success in real terms, an all-Ireland title.

Loyal Tipperary supporters are tired of the long wait. Children are growing up never knowing the joy of their heroes, winning a Munster or all-Ireland title. An 1987 All-Ireland win would be a nice way of celebrating the first ever all-Ireland success, won in Birr in 1887. We look to "Babs and his Babes" to do that. Good luck.



# Five All-Irelands for Tipp

**J**OHN O'DONOGHUE was one player who had a great year, winning no less than four All-Ireland titles: U-21, 40 x 20 doubles and junior hardball singles and doubles titles. Of course, his failure to win a fifth title was a disappointment to all handball followers within the county when he failed to defeat an ex-Tipperary handballer, Pierce O'Keeffe of Kilkenny. Had O'Donoghue won this U-21 singles title it would have been a wonderful year for himself and Tipperary handball.

Edward Corbett from the Ballyporeen club, who partners John O'Donoghue in U-21 doubles and junior hardball doubles, was disappointed to pick up an injury from the U-21 60 x 30 doubles after the provincial final, but before that the young Ballyporeen player had collected two All-Ireland titles.

At U-21 40 x 20 doubles and junior hardball doubles, we can only commiserate with Corbett on losing out on a third All-Ireland when John

**Handball has a proud tradition in Tipperary, a tradition that continues to be enriched by the performance of the standard-bearers of to-day. The county was represented by such notable players as John O'Donoghue, Edward Corbett, Billy McCarthy, Frank Scully, Michael Carrie, Joseph English, just to mention a few.**

Fitzell replaced him in the All-Ireland 60 x 30 final stages.

Billy McCarthy, a native of Clogheen now residing in Clonmel, won a provincial title at Junior 60 x 20 singles and while having reached both All-Ireland Junior grades singles and doubles, being partnered by Frank Scully, they failed to win an All-Ireland title but, having failed, McCarthy gave a fine performance in both finals of which he can be proud.

Michael Carrie and Joseph English can be proud of themselves, winning the only under-age competition for the county in 1986 when they won the U-13 60 x 20 doubles. A magnificent performance from both players. We hope

that this victory will be the first of many.

Both players have talent and with plenty of training and coaching they can go a long way in the years ahead.

Particularly rewarding this year was the good performance of our representatives in the Provincial Division 2 juvenile competitions finals which were staged in Ballyporeen and it must have been very pleasing for clubs such as Silvermines and Newport who had the honour of winning titles. Great credit to people like Michael O'Brien and Peter Metcalfe for the work they have put into juvenile handball in their clubs. What of the future for Tipperary handball? Where



*Michael Tyrell, Clonmel Handball Club, President-Elect of Handball Association; Secretary of Munster Council, chairman of the Activities Committee at Croke Park, Secretary of the County Board.*

can it go from here? It can keep winning All-Ireland titles for years to come but it needs more drive and dedication from clubs and especially officials for its future success.



*Members of Thurles Handball Club with some young members following a tournament.*



# North Tipperary Handball Board

## 60 x 30 CHAMPIONSHIP WINNERS 1986

**Collins Shield:** (Ballina) — Jim Darcy, Alan Deans, Connie Collins, Paddy Collins, Paddy Coleman, Alf Monaghan.

**Shamrock Trophy:** (Ballina) — Jim Darcy, Alan Deane, Connie Collins, Paddy Collins, Paddy Coleman. Alf Monaghan.

**Open Team of Six:** (Joughalarra) — Tony and Pat Flaherty, Garry Howard, Christy, Paul and Pat Griffin.

**Junior Singles:** (Ballina) — Michael Fitzpatrick.

**Junior Doubles:** (Silvermines) — Tom Kennedy, Jim Ryan.

**Novice Singles:** (Ballina) — Alf Monaghan.

**Novice Doubles:** (Horse & Jockey) — John Hartnett, Pat Costello.

**Golden Masters Singles:** (Ballina) — Jerome Riordan.

**Golden Masters Doubles:** (Ballina) — Con Lynch, Jim Darcy.

**Open Singles:** (Horse & Jockey) — Michael McGrath.

**Open Doubles:** (Lahorna) — Martin Maher, Tadhg Brennan.

**Under 10's:** (Silvermines) — Kevin Timmons.

**Under 10 D:** (Silvermines) — Michael O'Brien, Brian O'Brien.



Pat McKenna

**Under 12 S:** (Ballina) — Tony McInerney.

**Under 12 D:** (Silvermines) — Joseph Ryan, Finbarr Ryan.

**Under 14 S:** (Ballina) — Christy Carey.

**Under 14 D:** (Horse & Jockey) — Declan Hogan, Declan O'Dwyer.

**Under 16 S:** (Ballina) — Martin McInerney.

**Under 16 D:** (Horse & Jockey) — Adrian Delahunty, Dennis Rayle.

## 40 x 20 WINNERS 1986

**Div. 1:** (Silvermines) — Jim Ryan, Tom Kennedy, Jim O'Brien, Joe McCullough.

**Div. 2:** (Thurles) — Kevin Croke, Phil Lowry, Willie Kelly, Martin Ryan.

**Div. 3:** (Silvermines) — Colm O'Brien.

**Under 11 S:** (Silvermines) — Colm O'Brien.

**Under 11 D:** (Ballina) — Dessie Nevin, Trevor Hogan.

**Under 13 S:** (Horse & Jockey) — Liam McGrath.

**Under 13 D:** (Silvermines) — Joseph Ryan, Finbarr Ryan.

**Under 15 S:** (Horse & Jockey) — Ken Costelloe.

**Under 15 D:** (Ballina) — David Darcy, Sean McCarthy.

## COUNTY BOARD OFFICERS 1986

*Chairman*, Ken Conway; *Vice-Chairman*, Pat McKenna; *Secretary*, Michael Tyrrell; *Co. GAA Board Rep.*, Pat McKenna; *County PRO South*, Eamonn Corbett; *Do. Mid*, Danny Butler; *Do. North*, John Gleeson.



## CUMANN LUTHCHLEAS GAEL Tiobraid Arann Mean

Mid Tipperary G.A.A. Board

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

Pádraig O Cuilinn  
Cathaoirleach

Tomás O h-Eadhra  
Rúnaí

Tadhg de Grás  
Cisteoir



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# Home Thoughts from Rome

## The Clash of the Ash in Rome

—By Bro. Joseph Perkins

'Tis only when one is far from the green fields of Ireland that one fully appreciates the game of hurling. It means so much to the emigrant whose yearning for the feel of the hurley and the games of the Gael has to be tasted before that longing can be fully understood.



Brother Joseph Perkins meets Pope John Paul II. On the left of Pope is Br. John Burke, Borrisoleigh.

IRELAND can be truly proud of its great game of hurling. It has a heritage and a culture second to none. Even the Romans, for all their greatness in Wars, Art, Architecture and Classical learning cannot boast of a field game to equal the clash of the ash.

Such was the longing of a group of Christian Brothers stationed in Rome during 1986 that a consignment of hurleys and sliotars were sent out to them by Br. Lynam (a native of Streamstown, Co. Westmeath) at the request of Br. Charlie Gallagher (a native of Derry city) with the compliments of St. Mary's, Christian Brothers Grammar School, Belfast.

The clash of the ash daily reverberated from the Seven Hills of Rome. Taking part, with yours truly, in those memorable clashes were: Br. John Bourke, Fishmoyne, Borrisoleigh; Br. Colm Moloughney, Tipperary C.B.S. and Clonmel; Br. Nesson Flannery and Br. Ollie Cleary, Nenagh; Tony and Pat White (Australia) whose grandfather, Jack

White of Clonmel, compiled and edited "My Clonmel Scrap-Book"; Br. Ambrose Purcell (Australia), whose grandfather came from Loughmore. (He will be seeking his "roots" there in January); Br. Peter Hester (Australia) who can trace his ancestors back to 1649 and is a descendant of a Ryan/Maher family from Knockahorna, Borrisoleigh; Br. Nicholas O'Brien from Buenos Aires, formerly from Cappamore, whose mother is an O'Connell from the Milestone, across the hills from Doon C.B.S. where he attended school. Br. Joe Emmanuel from India showed himself to be an excellent wielder of the caman and hopes to teach the game in the "City of Joy" in Calcutta when he returns to that interesting land in 1987.

Who knows, but a team may play the pick of the 32 Counties of Ireland when players from India and Australia and the Argentine line up for a game, that will thrill the hearts of the Gaels of Ireland, and the new enthusiasts of our Gaelic Pastime.

### FOREIGNERS AMAZED

Those looking at the game of hurling for the first time, Australians, New Zealanders, Argentinians, Americans, Zambians, Englishmen, too, and young bronzed Romans and Italians, were amazed at the speed, the skills and fearlessness seen in the game (although played by men now past the bloom of youth, whose feet once bounded o'er the emerald sward and whose spirit was just as free as the pure clear winds that swept down from the Galtees ridge or from the slopes of that romantic mountain — fair and homely, lovely Slievenamon).

\* \* \* \* \*

Visiting Rome recently were Mr. Paddy Grace of Lisobhyane, Emly, and his two sisters, Maisie and Margaret. They called to see their cousin Br. Johnnie Carroll, who is, for the last sixteen years, a member of the staff of the International Tertianship of the Christian Brothers in Rome. Br. John's mother was born in the Glen of Aherlow, and was a fluent Gaelic speaker. Br. Carroll inherited that love of the language and of the rural settings and of all things religious and Gaelic from that grand Irish mother, who now rests in peaceful sleep in an Irish grave in Mount Jerome cemetery, Dublin.

Br. John Carroll or An Br. Seán E. Ó Cearbhaill, as he always signs himself, is well known in literary circles, and is the author of two books of poetry in Irish: *An t-Ár sa Mhainistir* and *Crosgan Teampall*.

\* \* \* \* \*

Lighting up the lives each week of our exiled brethren was the *Tipperary Star*. How we looked forward to its coming, for the news of the homeland, for deaths and marriages, for parish gleanings and rural happenings and above all, for the results of the matches and the "Tales of the Gael".

"Beir beannacht óm' chroí go tir na h-Éireann

Bán-chnoic Éireann Ó'

Chun a maireann de shíolra Ír is

Éibhear

Bán.chnoic Éireann Ó.

An áit úd in an b'aibhinn binn-ghuth éan

Mar shámh-chruit chaoín ag caoineadh Gael;

'Sé mo chás a bheith míle i gcéin Ó Bhán-Chnoic Éireann Ó'

Tipperary G.A.A. Year Book — 47



# Scór 1986 in Tipperary

By: RICHIE SHEEHAN

**I**T was in July, 1982, that an Coiste Scór first met and since then we have tried by way of an article in the Tipperary Year Book to justify our existence. Sometimes we have succeeded; more often we have failed. This year the task of producing an informative and interesting article falls to myself. I have little doubt that I shall fail on both counts.

Scór is one of the better ideas to come from within the G.A.A. in the last twenty years. Yours truly appeared in a Co. Dublin final in Scór '70. It doesn't seem so long; time flies. The fact that I have enjoyed my association with Scór as a competitor, official, or even as an adjudicator over the last twenty years almost bears testimony to the popularity of the "get togethers". I say get-togethers rather than competitors because I believe very much in the Olympic motto of taking part and showing the flag on behalf of the club rather than in winning all before us.

My club colleagues and myself would, of course, like to win all we could but things seldom turn out that way. At least in our efforts we have met all the characters of Scór including talented but temperamental artistes, chancers, bad judges in plenty; in fact, the lot. Of all, bad judges are the very worst. I should know, I have been one and appeared before many more. Finding these judges is an art in itself and a function of An Coiste Scór.

I must tell you one or two things about An Coiste. I'll probably get into a scrape or two about doing so but that will be nothing new. First of all the members of An Coiste are all keenly interested in Scór and its concept of winter entertainment of a Gaelic character within the clubs of the county. Each division is represented by three delegates. Those attending during 1986 were Denis Floyd, Mary Kenny, Seamus McGrath, Eamon Browne, Denis Ryan, Michael Fogarty, John Hennessy, Richie Sheehan, Rita Clohessy, P.J. Harrington, Joe O'Halloran, Nora Troy, Nan Kelly and John McDonnell.

Since its inception, Denis Floyd was a most competent and gracious chairman. He was succeeded in the rôle by another gentleman, the urbane P.J. Harrington. Seamus McGrath is treasurer of An Coiste Scór. Mary Kenny has been secretary of An Coiste also since its inception. She is about to leave the office and the void will be virtually impossible to fill. Without her detailed notes of meetings this article would be impossible to write. But enough of these faceless individuals. What did they do for the last twelve months and did they justify their big salaries? The answer, of course, is that they did. Each year they organise divisional semi-finals, finals, and county finals in little halls from Ballyneale to Ballina and from Golden to Gortnahoe.

## GRADUAL BUILD-UP

"Scór" is like an old steam engine: it takes a while to build up a head of steam. In the early stages the crowds are small and it's hard to get teams to turn up. By the time the competitors reach a divisional final they have built up a following and all the divisional finals are well patronised. Many people all around the county who enjoy good music, singing and Irish dancing attend these finals. They are there year after year just to hear or see the wealth of talent on show. I take this opportunity to thank them for their support. The county final of Scór rotates around the divisions if there is a hall capable of holding the crowd. Cashel's Halla na Féile was the mecca for hopefuls in 1986.

The winners of the eight competitions were as follows: *Rince Foirne*, Thurles Kickhams; *Aithriseoireacht*, Lil O'Grady



*Eileen O'Donnell of St. Mary's hurling club, Clonmel, was the winner of the 1986 Scór solo singing All-Ireland title. She won the south semi-final and final in Clonmel in February. She took the county title in Cashel in March. Later in the month she came through the Munster semi-final in Banteer, Co. Cork, and won Munster honours in Limerick. When she took the All-Ireland title in the National Stadium, Dublin, in April, her victory brought the only All-Ireland title of any kind in 1986 to the county. Her winning song was 'She Moved Through the Fair'. Eileen is a housewife in Clonmel and has five children. The previous All-Ireland winner for Tipperary was the Newcastle Set team in 1985. One has to go back to the mid seventies for the last individual winner, Mahon O'Keefe, who was also from the St. Mary's club.*

of Newport; *Solo Sining*, Eileen O'Donnell, St. Mary's, Clonmel; *Nuachleas*, Golden/Kilfeacle; *Tráth na gCeist*, Templederry; *Instrumental Music*, Cappawhite; *Ballad Singing*, Arravale Rovers; *Set Dancing*, Moycarkey/Borris. The Tipp champions all travelled to Banteer for the Munster semi-finals with the Cork and Kerry winners and those who qualified went to the Savoy in Limerick for the Munster finals.

In Limerick, Eileen O'Donnell and Thurles Kickhams won two Munster titles while Golden/Kilfeacle, Templederry and Moycarkey/Borris were all outstanding runners-up. The all-Ireland Final in Dublin proved to be the end of the road for the Kickhams but to Eileen O'Donnell it was the accolade of all-Ireland victory on behalf of the Premier County. Well done, Eileen, but to all those who took part in even the humblest competition in a parish, Scór thank you, too. Without the likes of you all, there would not be all-Ireland finals.

## PARISH FOUNDATION

All that leads me back to the foundation — the local parish. There are in every parish in the county talented people who can entertain and who might like to do so with a little encouragement. Clubs can fall down in rounding up these people. Overburdened club secretaries would be only too happy to hand over Scór affairs to a committee of interested people. If anyone wants some advice for Scór '87, which will begin in the new year, any member of An Coiste Scór or the divisional secretary will help. Rules state that a club may participate in Scór if the club takes part in 3 of the 8 competitions. How about it this year those clubs who haven't taken part in recent years? Make a comeback!

In conclusion, one of the most important events of 1986 was the County Scór convention held on 24/3/1986. Fourteen clubs and Bord na nÓg were represented. The purpose of the convention was to debate the motions forwarded from the divisions concerning the running and rules of Scór. There were 23 motions on the agenda. Nine motions were accepted to go forward to the Munster Scór Convention and thence to the All-Ireland convention. Arising out of the All-Ireland Convention, two rule changes came to mind. A new Scór booklet is available @ 50p from Croke Park and also from An Coiste Scór. The marking system for novelty acts has been changed somewhat. In question time Scór na nÓg, the team question on Gaelic Games now only goes back to 1975 but check out the rules in the new booklet before entering.

Thank you for staying with me. See you all on "the night of the bad judges". Keep Gaelic culture strong, support Scór '87.



# 1986 Scór

## Mid Tipp Scór Results

*Rince Foirne:* **Thurles Kickhams** (Annette Loughman, Michelle Turner, Caroline O'Brien, Ann Mason, Ann Webster, Kay Mockler, Patricia McElgunn, Ursula Boyle).

*Aithriseoireacht:* **Upperchurch - Drombane** (Thomas F. Ryan).

*Amhránaíocht Aonair:* **Moycarkey-Borris** (Paddy Cooney).

*Nuachleas:* **Upperchurch-Drombane** (Mary Harrington, Rena Clancy, Rita Grant, Tom Ryan (M), Thomas F. Ryan, P.J. Harrington).

*Trath na gCeist:* **Thurles Kickhams** (Larry O'Sullivan, Philly Kennedy, Conor Ryan).

*Ceol Uirlise:* **Drom-Inch** (Mary Collins, Brendan Collins, John Collins).

*Bailead Chrupa:* **Thurles Sarsfields** (Susan Hogan, Ailish Dunphy, Aengus Dunphy, Gerard O'Brien, Padraig Barry).

*Rince Set:* **Moycarkey-Borris** (Rita Clohessy, Josephine Kenny, Catherine Cooney, Catherine Tyan, Seamus Cooney, Sean Hayes, Liam Troy, Martin Cooney).

## North Division

*Figure Dancing:* Burgess. *Recitation:* Lil O'Grady, Newport. *Solo Song:* Mary Ryan, Silvermines. *Novelty Act:* Portroe. *Question Time:* Templederry. *Instrumental Music:* Portroe. *Ballad Group:* Burgess. *Set Dancing:* Eire Óg, Nenagh. *Slevin Trophy for best club:* Portroe.

## South Tipp Scór Results

*Rince Foirne:* **Newcastle** (Geraldine O'Gorman, Michael O'Keeffe, Brigid McGrath, Noel Grant, Dolores Hallinan, Tommy Coleman, Martha Coleman, Patrick Kelly).

*Aithriseoireacht:* **Ballingarry** (Thomas Croke).

*Amhránaíocht Aonair:* **St. Mary's, Clonmel** (Eileen O'Donnell).

*Nuachleas:* **Newcastle** (Seamus McGrath, Brigid McGrath, P.J. Cullinan, Dolores Hallinan, Matty McGrath, Noel Grant).

*Trath na gCeist:* **Fr. Sheehy's** (Denis Lonergan, John Clohessy, Jackie Condon).

*Ceol Uirlise:* **Moyle Rovers** (Geraldine Boyle, Denis Hartigan, Frank Owens).

*Bailead Ghrupa:* **St. Mary's, Clonmel** (Declan Doyle, McDermott sisters).

*Rince Set:* **Newcastle** (Bernard O'Gorman, Miriam O'Shea, John Corbett, Majella Carrigan, Joseph Corbett, Cathleen McGrath, Bernard Hackett, Ann Hackett).

## West Winners

*Amhránaíocht Aonair:* Carol O'Dwyer, Arravale Rovers.

*Rince Foirne:* Cappawhite.

*Aithriseoireacht:* Eileen Heffernan, Cappawhite.

*Nuachleas:* Golden/Kilfeacle (County).

*Trath na gCeist:* Golden/Kilfeacle.

*Ceol Uirlise:* Cappawhite (County).

*Bailead Ghrupa:* Arravale Rovers (County).

*Rince Set:* Clonoulty/Rossmore.



Golden - Novelty Act - cast winners of County Scór Sinsir (l. to r.) M. Fogarty, J. Keane, M. O'Dwyer, M. Browne, M. Collins.



Arravale Rovers - Ballad Group winners of County Scór 1986 (l. to r.) C. O'Dwyer, B. Whitero, J. Withero, D. Hughes, P. Colum.



Thurles Kickhams Figure Dancing Team - Munster champions "Rince Foirne" section of Scór '86. Back row (l. to r.): Michelle Turner, Caroline O'Brien, Kay Mockler, Ursula Boyle. Front row (l. to r.): Annette Loughman, Patricia McElgunn, Anne Mason, Anne Webster.



# Scór na nÓg 1986

Divisinal Champions and County Champions



Holycross Ballycahill Scór na nÓg '86 Question Time team - County Champions. Left to right: Donal Ryan, Tomás M. McGrath, Thomas O'Gorman.

## TRATH na gCEIST — (Question Time):-

1. **KICKHAMS:** Ger Crosse, Miriam Brown, Sharon Brown.
2. **ROSCREA:** David McCoy, David Fitzpatrick, Denis Kennedy.
3. **BALLINA:** Pat Fennessy, Derek Collins, Keith Hogan.
4. **HOLYCROSS/BALLYCAHILL:** Tom Gorman, Donal Ryan, Tomás McGrath (County Champions).
5. **BALLINGARRY:** G. Scott, S. Vaughan, E. Ryan.

## CEOL UIRLISE — (Instrumental Music):-

1. **SEAN TREACY'S:** Seamus Coen, Micéal Coen, Liam Coen.
2. **NEWPORT:** Martin Ryan, Breda Ryan, Jim Coleman.
3. **MOYCARKEY/BORRIS:** T.J. Flanagan, B. Flanagan (County Champion).
4. **BALLYBACON/GRANGE:** Claire and Niamh English.

## BAILEAD GHRUPA — (Ballad Group):-

1. **LATTIN/CULLEN:** Aine Landers, Brid Landers, Mairead Landers, Anne Marie Clancy, Aileen Clancy.
2. **SHANNON ROVERS:** Siobhain O'Dwyer, Ann Starr, Bernie Leenane, Siobhain Quinlan (County Champions).
3. **DURLAS ÓG:** L. McCormack, L. Dunphy, R. O'Gorman, G. Scanlon, S. Brennan.
4. **BALLYBACON/GRANGE:** C. English, N. English, T. Lonergan, I. Quirke, C. Hanrahan.

## RINCE SET (Set Dancing):-

1. **CLONOLTY/ROSSMORE:** T. Flanagan, A. Loughman, N. Ryan, M. Loram, M. Loughman, M. Ryan, C. Brennan, M. Ryan.
2. **EIRE ÓG NENAGH:** T. Carmody, C. Hodgins, B. Connolly, J. Kennedy, S. Ryan, S. Connolly, J. Myles, M. Carmody.
3. **TEMPLEMORE/CLONMORE:** A. Moran, C. Nolan, B. Allen, F. Bourke, J. Bergin, M. Delahunty, L. Bergin, J. Martin.

4. **NEWCASTLE:** T. Keating, S. Mason, N. Aird, M. Corbett, M. Nugent, M. Lonergan, M. Walsh, S. Walsh (County Champions).

## RINCE FOIRNE — (Figure Dancing):-

1. **ARRAVAL ROVERS:** Caroline O'Callaghan, Delia Kirby, Miriam Nolan, Cliona O'Dwyer, Marion Carey, Fiona Maguire, Michelle Tobin, Laura Coffey.
2. **BALLINA:** Marisa McKeogh, Patricia Frawley, Mary Frawley, Bernadette Slevin, Fiona Scanlon, Roisin Scanlon, Deirdre Scanlon, Fiona Collins.
3. **DROM/INCH:** Ann Cahill, Patricia Cahill, Una Ryan, Monica Ryan, Timmie Ryan, Denis Maher, Joseph Hoare, Brian Hoare (County Champions).
4. **NEWCASTLE:** M. Lonergan, A. Kennedy, A. Nugent, M. Devaney, S. O'Dwyer, S. Walsh, M. Nugent, H. Walsh.

## AITHRISOIREACHT — (Recitation):-

1. **SEAN TREACY'S:** Myra Nolan.
2. **KILLADANGAN:** Brid Cleary.
3. **LOUGHMORE/CASTLEINEY:** Richard Brennan (County Champion).
4. **FR. SHEEHY'S:** Breda Quinlan.

## AMHRANAIOCHT AONAIR — (Solo Singing):-

1. **ROSEGREEN:** Josephine Moloney (County Champion).
2. **TEMPLEDERRY:** Clare Hogan.
3. **DURLAS OG:** Ruth O'Gorman.
4. **KILSHEELAN:** Maeve Stokes.

## NUACHLEAS — (Novelty Act):-

1. **AHERLOW:** Brid Donovan, Emily O'Sullivan, Mary Conway, Don Walsh, Conor O'Shea.
2. **BORRISOLEIGH:** Joe Kenny, Paul Connell, Michael Maher, Valerie Kenny, Gina Kenny, Irene Kenny (County Champions).
3. **HOLYCROSS/BALLYCAHILL:** D. Ryan, Declan Ryan, T. Fogarty, P. Fogarty, W. Ryan, Ciaran O'Connor.
4. **FR. SHEEHY'S:** The Condon Family.



# North Tipperary Review

Padraig Ó Meachair, Runai

**A**S you can see by the results the year 1986 was a packed programme of championships and other secondary competitions. The standard was high in many of the games played.

## SENIOR HURLING

The S.H.L. was a good preparation for the championship and it was the first successful league that was run in North Tipp. There were no walk-overs and the 8 senior teams participated Sunday after Sunday. Besides, the league was a financial success. The final between Cill Ruáin and Borrisoleigh was a thriller and was won by Cill Ruáin.

The S.H.C. was played on a knock-out with first round losers' group. Cill Ruáin came through to be pitted against the 'Greyhounds'. It was a Titanic struggle of experience versus youthful exuberance. The game was a tough one and the large crowd were thrilled by the old-time traditional hurling.

A North Board meeting held on Monday, 17th November, '86, decided that our Senior Hurling structure be continued for 1987.

## INTERMEDIATE HURLING

This was a very good championship as always and my greatest memory of 1986 were the two wonderful games between Shannon Rovers and Portroe; the marvellous saves of Pat McLoughney (the Shannon Rovers' goalkeeper) and herculean efforts of John Sheedy (the Portroe full-forward). They were the two outstanding hurlers, in my opinion, of 1986.

Shannon Rovers have won the North title twice in a row — '85 and '86 — and they have capped their entry into senior ranks by winning the County Intermediate title by beating Clonmore. Tá fáilte rómpa i measc na sinnsear.

## JUNIOR HURLING

Roscrea won the North and County titles. They had a poor start to the championship, but amazed themselves as they progressed.

In the Junior B competition Shannon Rovers await the winners of Cill Ruáin and Tuaim Uí Mhéara. The meeting to review our competitions felt **change** in the format of running **Junior Hurling** is very necessary. I agree.

## UNDER 21 HURLING CHAMPIONSHIP

Tuaim Uí Mhéara retained their North Under 21 championship, by beating a gallant Cill Ruáin team, who are all eligible for the coming year. With less than a minute to go, Cill Ruáin were leading by a point, but a quick goal by John Ryan saw Toom ahead. Before the final whistle they had another goal scored. Roscrea, with a good team, drew with Toomevara in the early rounds.

The recent Board meeting had mixed feelings about this championship. Lorrha,

## NORTH TIPPERARY FINALS 1986

### HURLING

#### Senior Intermediate Junior

#### Junior 'B'

#### Under 21

#### Under 21 'B'

#### Minor

#### Minor 'B'

#### Under 16

#### Under 16 (Section 2)

#### Under 14 U/R

#### Under 14 Rural

#### Under 14 (Section 2)

#### Under 12

#### Under 12 (Section 2)

|   |                          |
|---|--------------------------|
| Kilruane MacDonaghs 1-12                | Toomevara 2-6            |
| Shannon Rovers 1-12                     | Newport 0-7              |
| Roscrea 1-13                            | Burgess 1-3              |
| Shannon Rovers v. Toomevara or Kilruane |                          |
| Toomevara 3-11                          | Kilruane MacDonaghs 2-9  |
| Shannon Rovers 3-9                      | Portroe 2-2              |
| Toomevara 0-13                          | Kilvenane MacDonaghs 1-9 |
| Burgess 4-5                             | Erin's Hope 1-1 (replay) |
| Toomevara 1-9                           | Kilruane MacDonaghs 1-3  |
| Sean Treacys (Ballina/Ballinahinch) 4-7 | Newport 0-0              |
| Borrisokane 3-5                         | Éire Óg 2-6              |
| Borrisokane 1-4                         | Toomevara 0-4            |
| Shannon Rovers 3-5                      | Borrisoleigh 1-4         |
| Toomevara 4-3                           | Éire Óg 2-1              |
| Burgess 4-1                             | Kildangan 0-1            |

### FOOTBALL

#### Senior Intermediate Junior

#### Under 21

#### Minor

#### Under 16

#### Under 16 (Section 2)

#### Under 14

#### Under 14 (Section 2)

#### Under 12

#### Under 12 (Section 2)

|                    |                    |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| Newport 3-13       | Lorrha 0-1         |
| Borrisokane 1-8    | Moneygall 0-2      |
| Éire Óg 1-6        | Burgess 1-3        |
| Newport 1-5        | Inane Rovers 1-7   |
| Éire Óg 4-10       | Inane Rovers 1-7   |
| Roscrea 3-4        | Éire Óg Nenagh 0-4 |
| Éire Óg Nenagh 4-6 | Roscrea 0-1        |
| Shannon Rovers 5-3 | Burgess 0-0        |
| Éire Óg Nenagh 5-2 | Borrisokane 2-0    |
| Kildangan 4-2      | Sean Treacys 1-0   |

### MUNSTER UNDER 16 HURLING CHAMPIONSHIP

North Tipp 2-5; Mid Clare 1-3 — First Round.  
North Cork 4-2; North Tipp 1-10 — Quarter Final.

away back in 1965, were the club that got it introduced. Many delegates felt it had not provided them with the **hurlers** into senior ranks.

In the under 21 B competition, Shannon Rovers beat Portroe in the final on Sunday, 24th November.

## MINOR HURLING

While we had lots of 'hot air' and good hurling in the final between Tuaim Uí Mhéara and Cill Ruáin, the championship as run was not successful. Tuaim Uí Mhéara emerged as winners but greater care will have to be paid to grading teams at the adjourned Convention of 1987.

The B competition here provided a very interesting final and replay between Burgess and Sean Treacy's. Burgess were narrowly beaten in the County final by Gortnahoe.

## ULSTER BANK CUP COMPETITION

One semi-final between Newport and Tuaim Uí Mhéara was played on Sunday, 16th November, while the second semi-final between Shannon Rovers and Templederry will be played again at Kilcoleman was played again at Kilcoleman on Sunday, 23rd November. In my opinion this is too late, and it should be run in conjunction with S.H.L. as a preparation for the Intermediate championships.

## PEIL

The running of our football competitions — senior, intermediate, junior, under 21 and minor — leave a lot to be desired. As a result of this year's competitions, Newport seemed to be the only club who took the football competitions seriously.

**Kilruane MacDonagh:** It would be a big omission on my part not to say a word of thanks to Kilruane for the many happy hours of hurling they provided. In March '86 they reached their zenith when they defeated Buffers Alley (Wexford) in a rousing All-Ireland final at Croke Park. We were proud to be Tipperary people that day and we were pleased that Tipp. hurling was alive and well. Kilruane may be down, but they are not out. Len Gaynor, their coach, can be justly proud of his charges' achievements over the past few seasons.

**Borrisoleigh:** Following in the footsteps of Kilruane MacDonagh are their great rivals Borrisoleigh. They are in the Munster Club final against Clarecastle, having disposed of Cloughan (Limerick champions). People have said Borrisoleigh came in the back door, having been beaten in S.H.L. and in North semi-final. Be that as it may, they have won County honours and they are next door to winning Munster honours. We wish them well.



# Another step nearer to the top of the ladder

## Toomevara's Great Season

**I**T is not terribly long ago since those who followed the fortunes of our club worked away at the bottom of the ladder of success. The past decade has seen tremendous work being done which is now being realised in success at many grades! 1986 will be looked back upon as one of the most successful in recent times with the acquisition of three county titles and four divisional titles. It would be wrong to single out any one of these successes as being the more significant one as young and old are supported by all with equal enthusiasm.

### Unique U-12 Record

These young hurlers of the future maintained a tremendous record in this grade in the North having now won six out of the last seven titles. This year's campaign was particularly satisfying, as Eire Óg, who had beaten us in an earlier round were our victims in a great final in Cloughjordan; Dúrlas Óg provided the traditionally tough opposition in the Co. Semi Final before Philip Shanahan led his team to ultimate victory over St. Mary's, Clonmel in the Co. Final.

### U-14s

This group proved to be the unlucky under-age group as they came up against a strong Erin's Hope outfit in the North Final. They had the satisfaction however, of beating them in our own u-14 tournament later on in the year.

### U-16s

Having had the easiest of runs up to the North Final they had to pull out all the stops to overcome a fiercely determined Kilruane outfit in the divisional final in one of the better matches of the year played before a fine crowd in Moneygall. Dúrlas Óg again provided the opposition in the Co. Semi-Final and despite a tremendous display by centreback and captain, Joe Kennedy, defeat was their lot to the eventual county winners.

### Minor

Of all championships this has proved to be the most



George Frend receiving Under-16 North Final Cup

elusive of all as we haven't won it in our long history despite some near misses. This year didn't seem to indicate anything different as we started the year with an 8 point thrashing from Roscrea. Eventually this team survived to the knock-out stages of the championship with a fortuitous draw against Borrisokane. It was from here that they began to show their true metal and improve with every outing. Two cliff hangers against Roscrea in the semi-final and another in the final against Kilruane saw the Hamilton Cup successfully defended. An easier than expected victory over Clonoulty in the semi-final brought us to Thurles to face Moycarkey/Borris in the final. After a tremendous start we were lucky to survive to fight another day. Despite the loss of the injured Martin Brislane in the replay the team responded with tremendous character and commitment to oust the boys from the Mid in a classic game which warmed the cockles of the hearts of those who witnessed it. Michael Nolan who had played a true captain's rôle all year was the proud captain

long round to retaining their Co. title with a lucky draw against Roscrea in the first round in early summer. The long wait for the replay did us no harm at all as victory was secured and a place in the final was achieved without any great problem. As ever, Kilruane provided the stiffest of opposition and looked like winners with time running out and having a two point lead. The old maxim that a game is never over until the final whistle was never more relevant as the champions ran in two goals in the last throes of the game for a tremendous victory. Knockavilla Kickhams provided very weak opposition in the semi-final and though St. Mary's played with great commitment in the final they could not compete with the strength and hurling craft of the Toom boys. Pat King, who had missed out on the North Final, lifted the Dwan Cup for the second year in succession.



Michael Nolan receiving County Minor Cup

who lifted the Seán Treacy cup and return with it triumphantly to the village for the first time ever amid great excitement.

### U-21s

This panel set out on the

### Seniors

Playing in only their second year in the senior ranks since winning the Intermediate championship this team deserves great credit in reaching the North Final for the first time since 1966. Their

**Green and Golden Years**  
**History of Toomevara G.A.A.**

Available from Club Sec.





#### UNDER-21 HURLING TEAM

Front row (l. to r.): Kenneth McDonnell, Pat Maher, Michael O'Meara, Michael Nolan, Jody Grace, Brendan Spillane, Michael Murphy, John Ryan, T. J. Browne. Back row (l. to r.): James Connolly, Eamon Spillane, P. J. Brisbane, Noel Cahill, John Delaney, Rory Brisbane, Pat King, Martin Hogan, Liam Nolan, Kevin McCormack, Martin Brisbane.

victory over Eire Og in the semi-final and the manner of their performance in the final against All-Ireland club champions, Kilruane, must be indicative of greater things to come for this group of young committed hurlers. Though disappointed initially at being pipped at the post they lost nothing in defeat, only what they gained in experience in a memorable game which will hopefully stand to them in years to come.

#### Juniors

Having played well all year with some fine victories over Silvermines and Nenagh they eventually bowed out of the championship at the semi-final stage to Roscrea who went on to win the championship. The Ulster Cup still beckons for these players as does the Junior 'B' championship which is still in progress.

#### Selectors/Managers

None of the success of our teams would have been possible without the dedicated work of numerous "die hards" in the parish. Now that the year has ended

successfully the long days and evenings spent on the "bank under the palm trees" seems all worthwhile. As there are so many involved it would be wrong to single out any individual. The club would like to take this opportunity of thanking each and everyone.

#### Finance Committee

The long and successful year again has put a great burden on our finances. To those who put in so much effort in the behind the scenes in less spectacular surroundings and to our supporters, the players extend their heartfelt appreciation to them.

#### Representative scene

Michael Murphy; Liam Nolan; Rory Brisbane played with Tipp U-21s in Munster Championship.

Michael Nolan; Michael O'Meara played with Tipp minors in Munster final.

Joe Kennedy; Declan O'Meara, George Frend and Kevin McCormack played with North Tipp U-16 team.

Michilín Delaney; Joe Kennedy and Joe Guerin won



Pat King receiving County Final Under-21 Cup

All-Ireland Colleges B medal with Nenagh C.B.S.

Jim McDonnell and Donal Shanahan acted as Co. Selectors for the Co. U-21 and Minor teams respectively.

top. Their will not be a proper celebration in the village again until either or both the "Frank McGrath" or Dan Breen are resting peacefully with us again.



#### UNDER-16 TEAM

FRONT ROW (left to right) - Paul Mullina, Paul Kenneally, Paul Delaney, George Frend, Tony Delaney, Francie Kennedy, Joe Ryan. BACK ROW (left to right) - Joe Kennedy, Declan O'Meara, Kevin Kennedy, Brian Brisbane, Tommy Carroll, Kevin McCormack, Arthur Dwyer, Joe Ryan, Vincent Kennedy, David Spillane.



#### MINOR HURLING TEAM

FRONT ROW (left to right) - Johnnie Galvin, Joe Kennedy, Michael O'Meara, Michael Ryan, George Frend, Declan O'Meara, Tommy Carroll. BACK ROW (left to right) - Michael Nolan (captain), Kevin Delaney, Joe Guiran, Kevin McCormack, Seamus Brisbane, Paul Delaney, Michilín Delaney, George Haverly.



# Shannon Rovers 1986 County Intermediate Champions



Shannon Rovers' captain, Tom Bourke, receives the cup from County Chairman, Michael Lowry.

**A**FTER the disappointment of 1985, when we were defeated in the County semi-final, we had one aim for 1986 and that was to go the whole way and bring back that County title. We had previously only won that title twice — 1939 and 1968 — indeed they are the only county titles the club has ever won in any grade. Aims and dreams are one thing but making reality out of them is quite another.

Training commenced last March and we were reasonably well prepared for the first round game with Burgess on 25th May. However, we played poorly and were very lucky to win by 0-13 to 3-3. A much improved performance in the second round against Portroe saw us come through by 2-12 to 1-12 a few weeks later. In our final match of the league section we easily accounted for Ballina in Kilcoleman by 4-6 to 0-3.

We had now qualified for the semi-final by finishing at the top

of our group. Portroe were to be the opposition and little did anyone realise what was in store for them. The first game in Nenagh, on 14th September, ended in a draw — and what a thriller it was. After a magnificent hour's hurling the game had just gone into injury time and we were a point down when Jim McLoughney went to take a sideline puck, and with a beautiful piece of skill he struck it straight and true. We had lived to fight another day. Remarkably, the replay surpassed the drawn game for drama. We were 2-9 to 1-2 in arrears at half-time and prospects looked bleak but we fought back to level at 1-12 to 2-9 at full time. Extra time here we come! At half-time we were five points down but again we rallied and eventually came through by 3-15 to 3-12. After these epic games the final against Newport was always going to be an anti-climax. In a moderate game, we came home winners on a scoreline of 1-12 to 0-7.

And so it was on the County championship. Arravale Rovers provided the opposition in the semi-final. After an evenly contested first half, we gained control in the second period and ended up comfortable winners on a scoreline of 4-12 to 0-7.

Sunday, November 16, was D-Day. Clonmore, the Mid champions, who had defeated Killenale of the South in the other semi-final, started favourites on the day. At the end of the first half this favouritism was justified as they only trailed by one point (0-5 to 0-4), having played against the breeze.

We were worried but determined and the lads didn't let us down. We were still a point to the good (0-9 to 0-9) with fifteen minutes to go. Unbelievably, there was no further score and despite repeated attacks from Clonmore, our lads held firm and at last the dream had become a reality, and the men that made it possible were Pat

McLoughney, Ger Leenane, Tom Burke (Capt) Sean Darcy, Liam Hogan, Seamus Sullivan, Jim McLoughney, Timmy Carroll, Joe Hannigan, Sean O'Meara, Mike Burke, Ger Darcy, Gerry O'Meara, Timmy Tierney, Noel Ducie, Pat Hogan, John J. Costelloe, Raymond Costelloe, Tomás Hogan, Johnny Slattery and Tomás Costello. The selectors were Tommy Slattery, John Tierney, Jack O'Meara, Pat McLoughney and Joe Hannigan, and Trainer/Coach the one and only Len Gaynor — the man who more than anyone else helped us to realise our potential.

It has been a good year for the club all round; we have won the North U/14 B in hurling and football and at the time of writing we have qualified for both the U/21 and Junior B North hurling finals as well. With many good young players coming on we hope to make a respectable return to Senior ranks in 1987.

**Seán Ó Tiarnaí - Runáí**





# Junior victory keeps Roscrea happy

SÉAMUS O'DOHERTY

**T**HERE is no doubt that the winning of the County Junior Hurling Championship was the highlight of the year for the famous Roscrea club. The success was welcome because of its unexpected nature and was particularly welcome in view of the failure of all other club teams to annex a Divisional title this year.

With its tremendous playing resources, Roscrea are always able to mount a serious challenge for both adult competitions in which they compete. It wasn't until 1982, however, that the club succeeded in lifting the County J.H.C. title (D. P. Walsh trophy) for the first time. That success was a great boost to club hurling but the follow-on never materialised because of the need to use so many players as replacements after the Seniors' county final defeat in 1982.

Recent seasons have not been great for the Juniors but teams were always fielded and hopes were always high. For the 1986 campaign Roscrea were included in a qualifying group with Lorrha, Ballinahinch and Moneygall. An early victory over Lorrha was spoiled by a five-point defeat by Ballinahinch so the clincher was the final group game v. Moneygall which was fixed for St. Cronan's Park. The stakes were high for both teams as the winner qualified for the North quarter-finals with the loser eliminated. After a closely-contested game Roscrea scraped home by 0-11 to 1-7. Some great saves by Jimmy Cunningham were crucial. Despite some good displays by many of the younger players, particularly Michael Nolan and Paul Dolan, it was the introduction

of the opportunistic Eamon Cunningham which swung the game. The next encounter was against Borrisoleigh in the quarter-final at Moneygall. An unexciting game ended with Roscrea clear winners by 3-9 to 2-7.

Toomevara had qualified for the semi-final and Roscrea looked forward to ending that club's dominance over 'the Reds' in 1986. Despite the loss of John Pyne, Roscrea dealt with a determined Toomevara and reached the final for the first time in four years with three points to spare: 3-6 to 1-9.

Meanwhile, in the other half of the draw there had been a few surprises. Burgess beat Éire Óg by a point and followed up with a narrow win over Ballinahinch to earn their final place. Victory over the Ballinahinch men ensured they would be treated with respect on final day which was at McDonagh Park, Nenagh, on October 5th.

Roscrea had first use of the breeze and opened well with a sideline point by minor star Stephen Nugent. A brief Burgess flurry was quelled and by the end of the first quarter Roscrea led by 0-6 to 0-2. Another Burgess raid was answered with some nice points and by half-time Roscrea led by 0-10 to 1-2. Burgess failed to make any appreciable effort to reduce the leeway as the scoring rate dropped dramatically with only a late burst of an Eamon Cunningham goal and a magnificent Eamon England point making the scoreline clear-cut at 1-13 to 1-3.

Much of the credit for this, the club's fifth North title, went to an excellent half-back line of Dermot

Collison, Frannie Fletcher and Martin 'Muddy' Wright. Others worthy of mention were Mark Fletcher who scored a point, although playing at corner-back, the elegant Tony Noctor, the industrious Stephen Nugent and the score-grabbing full-forward line of Dermot Moloney, Eamon Cunningham and Johnny Fitzgerald.

Cashel were the county semi-final opponents at Thurles two weeks later but an early goal-scoring burst by E. Cunningham (2), Dermot Moloney and Liam Carson ensured that Ros led easily at the break, 4-1 to 0-3. Like the second half of the North final, the scoring dropped enormously in the second half with both the unkind weather and the huge gap between the teams giving little incentive to either to maintain their efforts. Late in the game Dermot Moloney and Michael Perdue exchanged points — the first scored since Cunningham's brace a quarter of an hour earlier. So, with victory secure training commenced for the county final. Roscrea's county final record is excellent so no major worry existed when Ballingarry qualified for the decider. The only possible advantage they had was of playing two games since Roscrea had last played. Roscrea opened well and early goals by Dermot Moloney and John Pyne from a free sent waves of optimism through the Stadium. Ballingarry recovered well but by half-time Ros had built up a handsome lead. A period of Ballingarry pressure was repelled, a handy lead opened up and despite a late Ballingarry goal it was Roscrea's day on a 2-10 to 1-7 scoreline.

My outstanding memory of the game will always be the beautiful point-taking by corner-forward Johnny Fitzgerald, who notched several scores from play and won the praise of all present.

Jimmy Brady at full-back played to his best form, reminiscent of 1982, with his corner men tight and resolute throughout. The highly-rated half-back line added to its reputation while Joe Mullally and Tony Mactor contributed much for their youth. Up front Fitzgerald stood out as the star but his colleagues aided and abetted his every move with John Pyne at centre-forward and Eamonn Cunningham always on the alert.

A lot of credit for this victory is due to Liam Carson, Mickey Phelan and Jack Pyne who selected the team and managed it to maximum advantage. Liam Carson was extra busy because he also acted as the team trainer.

So where does this win lead to? Hopefully it's the first step on the road back to senior greatness, but only time and much effort will tell. The club's county final wins since the last senior title in 1980 have been impressive — U/16, U/21 in 1983, minor and U/21 in 1984 and now a second junior to add to the 1982 win. It looks like good times are in store for the club again and we all look forward to that.

*Winning panel:* J. Cunningham, J. McMahon, J. Brady, M. Fletcher, D. Collison, F. Fletcher, M. Wright, J. Mullally, T. Noctor, S. Nugent, J. Pyne, L. Carson, D. Moloney, E. Cunningham, J. Fitzgerald, E. England, M. Nolan, P. Dolan, P. Conlon, C. McNicholas, S. McLoughlin, J. Wright, P. Gleeson.



ROSCREA — JUNIOR HURLING COUNTY CHAMPIONS



# BORRISOILEIGH

*Tipperary Senior Hurling Champions 1986*



BACK ROW (l. to r.): J. Harkin, P. Delaney, J. Glasheen, T. Stapleton, T. O'Dwyer, P. Kenny, R. Stakelum, N. O'Dwyer, G. Stapleton, J. McGrath, T. Ryan, B. Ryan, T. Delaney, B. Kenny.  
FRONT ROW (l. to r.): Tommy Tierney, J. Ryan, M. Coen, B. Kenny, C. Stakelum, M. Ryan (capt.), F. Spillane, F. Collins, A. Ryan, N. Maher, J. J. Maher.  
MASCOT: Aidan Coen. (Photo: N. O'Shea)



# COMMERCIALS

## *County Senior Football Champions 1986*



BACK ROW (l. to r.): T. Smith, J. McNamara, S. Lonergan, G. McGrath, B. Keane, S. O'Keefe, P. Kilkenny,  
P. Kavanagh, F. Kelly, G. Condon, D. O'Keefe.  
FRONT ROW (l. to r.): S. Flynn, D. Pyke, M. Lynch, H. Daly, P. Ryan, M. O'Connell (capt.), S. O'Neill, W. Peters, P. Burke.



# SOUTH BOARD REVIEW 1986

By: MICHAEL O'MEARA

**A**LTHOUGH Slievenamon, St. Mary's and Brian Borus all recorded under-age Championship doubles in South Tipperary in 1986, a total of twelve clubs figure on the honours list at the end of a year of keen competition that provided many memorable moments.

## SENIOR HURLING

Convention decided to revert to a knockout competition and this format proved successful. There was an entry of six teams and the first round draw resulted:

St. Augustine's v Carrick Davins.

Carrick Swan v St. Mary's.

Eire Og v Ballingarry.

It was agreed that the three losers would play-off to provide the fourth semi-finalist. The first games were played on a Kilsheelan double bill on May 4th, one of the worst days of the year. Despite the conditions patrons were treated to some fine fare with Davins and St. Augustine's playing a draw and St. Mary's ousting Swan by a two points margin. Eire Óg readily overcame Ballingarry at Fethard and the stage was not set for the losers group play-offs. St. Mary's trounced a disappointing St. Augustine's by a wide margin but rather disappointingly went under by the narrowest of margins to Ballingarry in a high scoring game.

Circumstances dictated that both semi-finals be played on a Saturday evening in Fethard but whilst the programme looked extremely attractive the games proved disappointingly one-sided with Eire Óg accounting for Davins and Swan impressing against a poor Ballingarry fifteen. The final drew a large gathering to Clonmel and Swan confirmed their rôle as favourites by once again capturing the title at the expense of a luckless Eire Óg. Centre back Gerry Walsh had an outstanding game for the winners who were also well served by Maurice Walsh, Thomas Waters the Fitzpatrick brothers and Maurice Grace.

## SENIOR FOOTBALL

This championship was played under a two group league system and after a number of indifferent games Fethard, Ardinnan, Commercial and Fr. Sheehy's won their way to the last four. Fr. Sheehy's proved the surprise packets by defeating a promising Moyle Rovers fifteen at Clonmel. Fethard and Ardinnan met in the first semi-final at Clonmel and after a hard fought game "The Blues" triumphed by 1-11 to 2-6. The second semi-final at Cahir proved 58 — Tipperary G.A.A. Year Book

most disappointing as Fr. Sheehy's failed completely against a rampant Commercial who had fourteen points to spare at the end of the hour.

The final was played in Kilsheelan on Sunday evening, 24th August, before a fine attendance but after an even opening half Commercial got completely on top to trounce the disappointing holders by a whopping twelve points margin.

The absence of Brian Burke proved a setback to Fethard but on the night it was one way traffic for Commercial for whom captain Mark O'Connell, Donal and John O'Keefe, Joe McNamara, Peter Kilkenny and Franny Kelly were in outstanding form.

## INTERMEDIATE HURLING

This championship attracted eight teams and was contested on a knockout basis. The opening round saw successes for Cahir/Killenaule, Kilsheelan and Ballybacon-Grange over Marlfield, Fethard, Moyle Rovers and Swan respectively.

Cahir overcame Ballybacon-Grange whilst Killenaule ousted Kilsheelan in the semi-finals and the stage was set for an attractive decider.

The game was played as a curtain raiser to the County Football Finals in Clonmel and produced a rousing tussle. At the end of the hour Killenaule held sway by a goal but Cahir won many friends for a spirited challenge. Killenaule now graduate to senior ranks but Cahir won many friends for a spirited challenge. Killenaule now graduate to senior ranks but Cahir's winning turn cannot be long delayed.

## INTERMEDIATE FOOTBALL

This championship is proving extremely hard to win and 1986 saw another most competitive competition with many hard fought and exciting games. As in 1985 Mullinahone, Grangemockler, Swan and Newcastle were the semi-final qualifiers. However, the draw ordained that holders Swan faced Grangemockler whilst Newcastle tackled Mullinahone. Both games were played in Kilsheelan in perfect conditions. Grangemockler gained revenge for their defeat the previous year by overcoming Swan in a gripping finish whilst Newcastle proved too good for Mullinahone. The final proved a major attraction and resulted in a fine win for Newcastle over gallant opposition.

## JUNIOR HURLING

In recent years this championship has provided some of the best games and 1986 was no exception. Ballingarry were early finalists having defeated Fr. Sheehy's in the semi-final back in August. The other end of the draw saw holders Mullinahone overcome Cahir and so the scene was set for a tremendous decider between neighbours. After an exciting and see-saw struggle in Fethard a draw proved an equitable result and the replay was staged in Clonmel together with the junior football decider. Once again patrons were treated to high excitement and some great hurling before Ballingarry finishing the stronger, and, inspired by some great scores from Tommy Brennan, carried the day.

## JUNIOR FOOTBALL

Holders Ballyporeen were the pre-championship favourites here and they duly saw off the challenges of Old Bridge, Ballingarry and Moyle Rovers to reach the decider. Meanwhile St. Patrick's, beaten finalists in 1985 had taken the league title and were again shaping up as Ballyporeen's chief rivals.

After clear cut wins over Killenaule and Ballylooby, St. Patrick's received a semi-final win over Commercial and the final that everyone wanted duly came to pass.

Ballyporeen started well but an unfortunate injury to Eddie Cahill upset their rhythm as St. Patrick's, reduced to fourteen men, went on a goal scoring spree that saw them with a seemingly insurmountable interval lead. Ballyporeen regained their composure in the second period however and some fine scores reduced the leeway. With minutes remaining only a single point separated the teams but Ballyporeen's efforts at an equaliser proved dismal and St. Patrick's held out for a long overdue success that no one begrudged them least of all their gallant opponents.

## U-21 HURLING

St. Mary's started favourites to retain this crown but they received an early shock as they were regarded as lucky to draw with Eire Og in the opening round. They made no mistake in the replay winning by a large margin however and they went on to face Swan in the final in Kilsheelan. This game was regarded by many as the best seen in the Division during the year and the only regret was that it did not end in a draw. Both sides played their hearts out in a thrill a minute encounter and whilst St. Mary's proved



worthy winners by the narrowest of margins Swan won the hearts of all for a tremendous performance that deserved a better fate.

## U-21 FOOTBALL

The early rounds were played in March and Ardfinnan caused an upset by holding fancied Fethard to a draw. Fethard won the replay comfortably however, and won their way to the semi-finals where they were joined by Cahir, Slievenamon and Commercial's. Cahir surprised Fethard in a fine game at Clonmel, but Commercial's proved no match for a rampant Slievenamon in Fethard. The final was played as a curtain raiser to the senior hurling decider and proved rather disappointing as Cahir never played up to their best form and were soundly beaten by a well balanced combination that had fine players in John Owens, Jim O'Meara, Eddie Hewitt, Gerry Ryan, Paul O'Connor and Declan Hahessy.

## MINOR HURLING

Sporting many of the side that won the championship in 1985 St. Mary's were strong favourites to retain this crown. It was a largely disappointing competition redeemed by a great final. St. Mary's won their way to the decider without difficulty and were joined by Ballingarry/St. Patrick's who prepared well and were determined to put up a good show. The combination gave their all but on the night the craft and experience of the Clonmel men just proved decisive. All credit to Ballingarry/St. Patrick's for a great effort and sincere congratulations to St. Mary's whose underage efforts in recent years must surely point the way for a great future in senior ranks.

## MINOR FOOTBALL

This was again a most disappointing competition with only five teams competing. A number of walk-overs did not help and the competition in the end

rested with three teams Ballingarry/St. Patrick's, Commercial's and Slievenamon.

Both Commercial's and Slievenamon succeeded in defeating Ballingarry/St. Patrick's by narrow margins and advanced to the final. This produced a close fought and entertaining game at Kilsheelan with Slievenamon proving superior by a one goal margin. The winners were taking their second title — a just reward for the great efforts made by dedicated personnel in recent years.

## MINOR B COMPETITIONS

Brian Borus, (Fr. Sheehy's/Ballyporeen) carried all before them in the minor B competitions and succeeded in bringing off the double, a notable achievement indeed. The hurling final was staged in Marlfield and those present were pleasantly surprised at the high standard of play. Although Brian Borus won a clear margin in the end their opponents Fethard never stopped trying and the final scoreline failed to do justice to their efforts. The Brian Borus success was all the more meritorious as it is only in very recent years that hurling has been promoted in the area at underage level and every credit must go

to the backroom boys who paved their way for victory.

In football the semi-finals saw Ardfinnan defeat Eire Óg by a point and Brian Borus over come Swan rather comfortably. The final between Ardfinnan and Brian Borus was staged in Clonmel and proved one of the year's most entertaining games. Ardfinnan fought splendidly all the way and only gave best in the final moments of a gripping contest. The competition in both minor B championships was keen with many fine games and these championships are certainly here to stay.

Chairman: Patrick Browne, Killenaule; Vice-Chairmen: Con Hogan, Marlfield; Mee Walsh, Ballylooby/Castlegrace; Secretary: Michael O'Meara; Treasurer: Ed. O'Shea, St. Mary's; Co. Board Trustee: Michael Egan, Commercial's; Co. Board members: John Kehoe, Kilsheelan; Tommy Murphy, Davins; Willie Barrett, Ardfinnan; Dick Goldsboro, Ballingarry.

For the statistically minded the following table shows the destination of the various Championship and League titles decided during the year:

## South Tipperary Championships 1986

|                               |                               |                               |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>Senior Hurling</b>         | Carrick Swans 0-13            | Eire Óg 2-4                   |
| <b>Senior Football</b>        | Clonmel Commercial's 1-15     | Fethard 0-6                   |
| <b>Intermediate Hurling</b>   | Killenaule 2-6                | Cahir 1-6                     |
| <b>Intermediate Football</b>  | Newcastle 3-4                 | Grangemockler 1-6             |
| <b>Junior Hurling</b>         | Ballingarry 0-8               | Mullinahone 1-5               |
| <b>Replay:</b>                | Ballingarry 3-10              | Mullinahone 3-5               |
| <b>Junior Football</b>        | St. Patrick's 4-5             | Ballyporeen 3-7               |
| <b>Minor Hurling</b>          | St. Mary's 0-14               | Ballingarry/St. Patrick's 2-3 |
| <b>Minor Football</b>         | Slievenamon 2-7               | Clonmel Commercial's 1-7      |
| <b>Minor Hurling (B)</b>      | Brian Borus 5-8               | Fethard 1-6                   |
| <b>Minor Football (B)</b>     | Brian Borus 1-9               | Ardfinnan 1-4                 |
| <b>U-21 Hurling</b>           | St. Mary's 2-10               | Carrick Swans 2-9             |
| <b>U-21 Football</b>          | Slievenamon 0-14              | Cahir 0-4                     |
| <b>Minor Football League</b>  | Ballingarry/St. Patrick's 3-5 | Slievenamon 0-6               |
| <b>M. Football League (B)</b> | St. Martin's 1-5              | Carrick Swans 0-5             |
| <b>J. Football League</b>     | St. Patrick's 1-9             | Carrick Davins 0-5            |
| <b>J. Hurling League</b>      | Ballyneale 1-6                | Killenaule 2-1                |

## SLIEVENAMON — SOUTH MINOR FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS

BACK ROW (left to right) — N. Darcy, J. O'Meara, J. O'Brien, D. Fennessy, L. Cronin, J. Carey, A. O'Meara, M. McGrath, P. Norris, K. O'Connor, J. McGrath, M. Freaney, E. Flynn. FRONT ROW (left to right) — G. Crawford, T. O'Dwyer, P. Lyons, P. McCarthy, P. Bustin, Ger O'Meara (captain), P. O'Connor, J. Maher, T. Hewitt, Boland.







**CARRICK SWANS — SOUTH SENIOR HURLING CHAMPIONS**

BACK ROW (left to right) — K. Nugent, G. Kehoe, M. Grace, S. Fitzpatrick, W. Barrett, S. Cronin, P. Walsh, B. Lonergan, T. Waters. FRONT ROW (left to right) — M. J. Russell, D. Lonergan, B. White, S. O'Shea, G. Walsh (capt.), P. Murphy, M. Walsh, T. Cleary.



**NEWCASTLE — SOUTH INTERMEDIATE FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS**

M. Ryan, M. Purcell, E. Makem, N. Power, N. Grant, G. O'Shea, F. Hickey, M. Halley, M. Hallinan, J. Lonergan, M. Coonan, P. Sweeney, T. Lonergan, J. Egan, J. Sweeney, B. O'Gorman, C. Healy, P. Lonergan, S. Healy, P. Healy, T. Sweeney, A. Healy, A. Condon, A. Cullinan, J. O'Loughlin.



**CLONMEL COMMERCIALS — U-12 Football County Champions 1986.**





**ST. MARY'S — SOUTH UNDER-21 HURLING CHAMPIONS**

FRONT ROW — P. Ryan, G. Maunsell, L. Ó Duibhir, T. Power, M. Hally, D. Ryan, A. Moynihan, K. Leahy, G. Burke, J. Dunphy, D. O'Donnell, (E. Leahy).  
BACK ROW — G. Deeley, D. Hickey, J. Loneragan, J. Hill, M. O'Reilly, J. McCarthy, J. Harvey, A. Johnson, D. J. O'Connell, F. McGrath, J. Dempsey, P. Kavanagh, M. O'Loughlin, P. Ryan, (B. Mullins).



**KILLENAULE — SOUTH INTERMEDIATE HURLING CHAMPIONS**

BACK ROW — Daniel Fogarty (selector), Michael Brennan, Liam Kelly, Donie McEttigan, Michael Hassett, Joe O'Dwyer, Christy Healy, Davy Ahearne, Tom Shelly, Billy Perry (selector). FRONT ROW — John Lyons, Martin Shanahan, Willie Gleeson, Donie O'Connell, Thomas Mullins, Michael Gleeson, Jimmy Butler.



**BALLINGARRY — SOUTH JUNIOR HURLING CHAMPIONS**

FRONT (left to right) — Don Lyons, Sean Lyons, Tommy Brennan, Christy Dalton, Brian Duggan, Jim Molloy, Liam Fitzgerald, Willie Hayes, Jimmy Maher, Pat Ivors, T. P. Maher. BACK ROW — Paddy Ivors, Tom Hayes, George Ivors, Eamonn Purcell, James Ivors, Kevin Scott, Seamus O'Connell, John Hanrahan, George Ivors, Roy Cashin, Thomas Kerwick, Paul Martin, Paddy O'Connell, Martin Brennan, Jim O'Rourke, Michael Ivors.



# Clonmel Hurling and Football Club

**C** LONMEL, capital of the county, and with a population of just short of 15,000, welcomed the birth of a new G.A.A. club, now in existence for just over a year. In the last few years interest in playing Gaelic Games among the youth of the town had declined noticeably. It seemed that a great many skilful youngsters would be lost to other sports, and that a generation would never know what it was to represent their town on the GAA fields of Tipperary.

However, the signs of change were just around the corner. In centenary year a very slick and skilful S.S. Peter's & Paul's C.B.S. team succeeded in winning the U/13 schools' football cup, beating Nenagh in a thrilling final in the stadium. Their trainer, Brother Somers, a native of Callan, felt that if the squad could be kept together as a unit, many of the players would eventually distinguish themselves at adult level.

To this end, he convened a meeting in November '85, at which it was decided to form the club. The club colours of gold with a blue sash were selected, and trainers assigned to the various teams. Such was the popularity of the club, and the enthusiasm among the youngsters for the games, that within a few months of its inception, additional manpower and facilities were needed to cater for the renewed interest and unforeseen demand. Eventu-

ally two U/12 football teams, two U/12 hurling teams, an U/14 and an U/16 team in both codes were affiliated. At present the club has almost 200 members from 9 to 16 years of age.

The club's first competitive outing resulted in a win over neighbours Marlfield in U/12 B football. The team played many fine games, entertained their followers royally, and were eventually beaten at the semi-final stage of the competition.

The panel's more prominent players were: Paul McGarry, Paul Williams, Anthony Buck, Sean Denn, Anthony O'Loughlin, John Crotty, Terry Kearns, David Parker and Trevor Creed. These were ably assisted by Stephen Aylward, Ivan McMenamin, Brian Gentles, Graham Cantwell, David Lennon, Ciaran Forristal, Keith Anderson, Richard O'Donoghue, Aengus McGrath and Sean Timoney.

The U/12 A team reached the semi-finals of both the hurling and football competitions. The players involved were David O'Donoghue, Paul Lucey, Marcus Russell, Niall Murphy, Seamus Halpin, Colm O'mahony, Mark Ryan, Brendan Walsh, John Conway, Ken Flaherty, Stephen Hally, Ben Hannigan, Martin O'Donoghue, Paul Scully, Keith Hopkins, Graham Creed, Mark O'Farrell, David Hayes, Denis Powell, Thomas Corcoran, Brian Pollard,

Tony Bourke and Lorcan Ryan.

Pride of place in the club's achievements to date must go to the U/14s. They captured the South hurling cup from St. Mary's whom they beat by a single point in the final, and made eventual county champions, Borrisokane, fight all the way for their three-point victory in the county semi-.

The same group of boys took South football honours with some resounding victories en route, to complete unique double. They met old rivals Nenagh in the county final played in Holycross, and were narrowly beaten in a titanic struggle. The entire squad visited Croke Park on football final day as a reward for their year's work. Indeed, many of them have the ability to play there themselves against the best of all other counties, and it is only a matter of time before they begin to make their mark on Tipperary teams at the various age levels.

Stephen Napier, Padraig O'Keeffe, Kevin Maher, Michael Hogan, Terry Fraher, Bill Bourke, Anthony Hally, Jonathan O'Connor, Hugh O'Meara and John Hall were consistently outstanding in their games, while David Lavin, Paul English, Thomas and Maurice Foley, Derek Landy, Darren Cockburn, Vincent O'Meara, Anthony Brew, Gavin O'Loughlin, Raymond Bates and Joseph O'Donoghue were never

found wanting. Great credit is due to these lads for their total dedication to training, the club, and each other.

The U/16's are still in both competitions at the time of writing. The entire squad with the exception of two players is young enough for next year. The team is backboneed by Noel Peters, Pat O'Donnell, Brian Halley, Michael Clarke, Declan Pollard, Paul Perry, Noel Lynch and M. Landers, with Niall Hassett, Michael Kavanagh, Joe Barrett, Ivan Barlow, Ian Fennessy and a number of the U/14's completing the team.

Much of the credit for the club's successes must go to its hard-working trainers, officials and committee. Seán O'Keeffe, Johnny O'Loughlin, Eileen Sheehan and Freda McGrath have done trojan work for the U/12's, while Bill Peter, with Michael Hogan, Gus Napier, Michael Lavin and Eddie Kearney can take the credit for the U/14's and U/16's.

The club has had some notable off-the-field successes. Cyril Darmody's sponsored marathon run and a concert free of charge by Frank Patterson provided the club with funds for the year.

The club has been very well received in the town by the genuine G.A.A. supporters and would like to thank parents, players, supporters, workers and sponsors. It looks forward to the future with great confidence.

**CLONMEL U/12 A TEAM**







**SLIEVENAMON — South and County U-21 Football Champions**

Back row (l. to r.): D. Hahessy, L. Cronin, R. Lyons, M. Drohan, S. Delahunty, K. Delahunty, G. Ryan, E. Hewitt. Front row (l. to r.): G. O'Meara, J. McGrath, A. O'Meara, P. O'Connor, J. Owens (capt.), J. O'Meara, P. Norris.



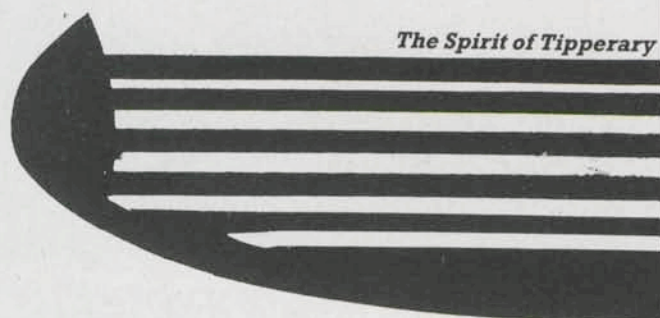
**ST. PATRICK'S (Drangan-Cloneen) — South Junior Football Champions**

Back row (l. to r.): Noel O'Halloran, Eugene McCormack, Henry Meagher, Paul Anglim, John Noonan, Colm Duggan, Liam O'Connor, Thomas McCormack, Eamon Hall, Martin Heffernan, Peter Hogan, Michael O'Dwyer, James Ryan. Front row (l. to r.): Jim McGrath, John Keane, Maurice Lyons, Sean Holohan, Billy Brett (capt.), Thomas Anglim, Davie Hogan, Liam O'Dwyer, Michael Mulally, Jeremiah Hogan.

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# The Hurler's Dream

*An analysis of the development of hurling and its current state in Mullinahone*

**M**ULLINAHONE'S contribution to the hurling history of Tipperary in its first century could best be described as minimal. True, down here in the shadow of Slievenamon, we always had an interest in the game. Didn't Matt the Trasher himself take part in a hurling match in historic Knocknagow. We supported our county hurling teams from the sidelines, down through the ages, but if any of us aspired to represent the county that seemed but the vision of a dreamer. The few always "played at" the game. I say "played at" rather than played because we didn't field teams on inter-parish level until the late 1930's. We then managed to put a fifteen together which won a South Tipp. junior title in 1940 and so we struggled along until the 1970's with just that solitary success.

We saw our neighbours Ballingarry turn from being a football power in the 50's to become essentially a hurling club by the 70's. We ourselves had contributed to their progress in the early 60's when joined as Knocknagow we reached 3 county minor finals to be thwarted of glory by Roscrea. However, the seeds may have been sown. In the mid 70's Timmy O'Connor assembled a fine band of under 14 hurlers who contested and lost two South Tipp under 14 finals. A number of these players developed and playing with Killenaule's Éire Óg there was some success at minor level.

In 1979 came a second breakthrough.

We reached a south Junior Final and were declared champions without a contest. We proved our right to the championship by going on to defeat Lattin Cullen in the county semi-final and contested our first Tipperary hurling final. We lost to Silvermines but once again it was a "First" and after 39 years in the wilderness success was welcome. This team could well be referred to as Tommy Hearn's as Tommy then was one of the principal officers of the club and one of the team mentors.

We moved up to Intermediate grade and had limited success including one memorable victory over Killenaule but we didn't make a breakthrough. The number of hurlers as distinct from those who play hurling available to the club has always been limited and the loss of 3 "hurlers" in quick succession sent us falling downwards again. This time, however, we didn't fall quite so far. Back in junior grade and with the return of some of our "exports" we again captured in 1985 the Junior Hurling title, this time after a lapse of only 6 years.

By now "Mr. Hurling" in Mullinahone had become John Croke. We lost the 1985 County semi-final to Cappawhite and a spell in Intermediate grade stared us in the face. Remembering the lessons of the '79 team and reckoning that time was needed for consolidation, we sought a change of Board rule at Convention to enable us to stay junior. Wisdom prevailed and the chance was given.

Early games in the south Tipp hurling league proved that we weren't too far off Intermediate standard and later victories proved good training for the championship. Victories were won over Carrick Davins and Ballyneale to obtain a semi-final place against Cahir. We came to Clonmel, saw Cahir and conquered them. The stage was set for a fabulous final in Fethard against near neighbours Ballingarry. Whoever won the day, certainly the South Board did with a gate of over £1100. Back to Clonmel for an epic replay. We lost a great game, while trying to win it with just two minutes to go. A breakaway goal from former county player Tommy Brennan pulled the trap-door from under us. Defeated, but not dismayed we look on the loss of our title as a stumble along the road to hurling success. We'll be back next year more determined and, hopefully, more successful.

A keener awareness of hurling and of hurlers now seems to exist in our parish. The hurling coaches came to our schools at the right time and they seem to have struck oil. The number of youngsters who now play hurling in Mullinahone has increased enormously and success on the playing field has fast followed. During 1986 our under 12 hurling team, an unheard of thing, some years ago, reached the south Tipp. under 12 C hurling final. They lost to Fr. Sheehy's but they showed great promise for the future. Our under 16 side are in the division C final and have hopes of championship victory. Until 1986, we never ever yielded an under 16 hurling side.

But it was at under 14 level this year that we made history. Our under 14 hurlers took Mullinahone's first ever under age hurling title when in July in the Commons they held off red hot favourites Killenaule to win the South Tipp. Rural Hurling Championship. Carve their names with pride. What matter that they lost the County semi-final! They had scaled the mountain and looked beyond. Never again would they be satisfied just to be masters in their own valley. They have tasted the addictive sweetness of success and suddenly the valley is colourful with hurling flowers.

What is the hurler's dream? To stand in Croke Park and collect the McCarthy Cup or even a golden celtic cross. Can the dream become reality for one of Kickham's children? Not so remote now the vision as in days of yore. Of course, lesser honours must come first. Davy

*Continued* ▷



## THE HISTORY MAKERS

*C.J. Kickham's, Mullinahone, South Tipp. Rural Champions 1986.*

*Back Row (l. to r.): B. O'Meara, T. McNamara, D. McGrath, P. Lynch, M. Skehan, J. Hennessy, P. Skehan (Capt.), J. O'Brien.*

*Middle Row (l. to r.): P. Croke, G. Dalton, K. Vaughan, K. Sheehan, D. McNamara, A. Foxe, J. O'Brien, T. Gunn.*

*Front Row (l. to r.): T. Cahill, S. O'Brien, T. Dalton, B. Vaughan, E. Power, M. Keating, L. Crowley.*



# Commercials' triumphant progress through the county championship

By S. Mac CONMARA

**T**HOSE who felt that we were unlucky not to have won the 1985 Senior Championship were proved right when our team marched triumphantly through the South and went on to capture the county title. In 1982, when we last won the county title, we also won the south championship. In the years since 1982 the open draw had been abolished and

it was back to the league system in the South. We were drawn in a group with Kilsheelan, Ardfinnan and Cahir.

In our opening game against Kilsheelan at Kilsheelan, on Sunday, 6th April, we won by 2-11 to 0-6. Ardfinnan, a fortnight later, were our next opponents and we overcame them at Clonmel by 2-12 to 1-6. Cahir

conceded and thus we were through to the south semi-final.

Drawn against Fr. Sheehy's, Clogheen, this game was fixed for Sunday, July 13th, at Cahir. Held to two points at half-time 0-7 to 0-5, we came good in the second half to win 3-15 to 1-7. Thus we qualified to meet Fethard in the south final. Since our success of 1982 Fethard had beaten us in the 1983 south semi-final, the south and county finals of 1984, and the south final of 1985. So our hopes of beating them when we lined out at Kilsheelan on Sunday evening, 24th August, were rather slim. The first half went fairly even and Fethard led 0-5 to 0-4. Similar to our semi-final game, we produced our best football in the second half and at the finish had twelve points to spare winning by 1-15 to 0-6.

In the county quarter final we received a walk-over from Lorrha. Our semi-final meeting with Loughmore we knew would prove a big obstacle. Played at Boherlahan on Sunday, 5th October, we struggled to hold our worthy opponents and survived to win by two points 1-6 to 0-7. We had to wait to see who our County Final opponents would be, Fethard beating Arravale Rovers in a replay.

The final was fixed for Sunday, 19th October, at Clonmel, under referee William Barrett (Ardfinnan). Playing with a wind advantage we led by 0-7 to 0-1 at half time having missed several goal chances, and one wondered if our six point lead would be enough. Our display in the second half was probably the best given by any club team, as we well and truly crushed the Fethard challenge to win by 1-12 to 0-2. All our fifteen players were heroes on the day, and much to our surprise outplayed Fethard in all positions. Fethard players and officials were quick to offer their congratulations and agreed that, on the day, their team had no answer to our superlative display.

Amidst great jubilation, and to the delight of our supporters, the chairman of the Football Board, Mr. Hugh Kennedy, presented the county trophy to our very worthy captain, Mark O'Connell. This climaxed a year in which our major objective was the winning of the county senior title. Congratulations to all concerned especially the team and substitutes, the selectors, Martin Conran, Paul Dillon, Michael Forristal, Michael O'Connell and John McNamara on a job well done.

Tipperary G.A.A. Year Book — 65



Mr. Hugh Kennedy, Chairman, Co. Football Board, presenting the county championship trophy to Mark O'Connell, captain of the victorious Commercials senior team.

The following was the team and substitutes:

|                    |                    |                     |
|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
|                    | <b>P. Ryan</b>     |                     |
| <b>Ml. Lynch</b>   | <b>H. Daly</b>     | <b>M. O'Connell</b> |
| <b>D. Pyke</b>     | <b>S. O'Neill</b>  | <b>S. O'Keeffe</b>  |
|                    | <b>B. Keane</b>    | <b>D. O'Keeffe</b>  |
| <b>P. Kilkenny</b> | <b>G. McGrath</b>  | <b>J. McNamara</b>  |
| <b>E. Kelly</b>    | <b>S. Lonergan</b> | <b>W. Peters</b>    |

Subs: P. Kavanagh, S. Flynn, P. Burke, T. Smith, G. Condon, C. McGrath.

## THE HURLER'S DREAM

*Continued*

Hearne just failed to become our first All-Ireland hurling medal winner a few years ago when Wexford beat our county juniors. Davy, of course, hurls with Killenale. Liam O'Connor played minor championship with New York but alas not yet for the blue and gold. We have never had a county minor hurler in our club. 1987 should see that change. John Leahy has emerged as one of the most outstanding hurling prospects, if not the most outstanding in South Tipp. during 1986. Our goalie Liam O'Connor was the Tipp. under 14 'keeper in 1983 when they captured the Waterford Glass tournament. His skill, too, has developed since then. Jim O'Neill also was a fine minor and under 21 player

with Éire Óg in 1986. The St. Kieran's student will also be a minor with the other two in 1987. Sean Brett, if he continues to maintain his improvement, could yet become a county under 21 hurler in 1987 or 1988.

A number of our young players have also represented South Tipp. in recent years including Michael Skehan, rock solid full-back on this year's Tipp. under 14 side. For those unused to floods, a veritable tidal wave of talent seems to be building up. This raw material will, of course, have to be nourished and developed but once it arrives hopefully it will be welcomed rather than ignored. Their day must soon dawn for the hurlers of Mullinahone.



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# BRIAN BORU'S

BY ED. FOGARTY

**1986** will be remembered by Fr. Sheehy's and Ballyporeen Clubs for the successes of their Minor football combination Brian Boru's, in winning the South and County minor football 'B' titles. Also the same team won the South Minor 'B' hurling championship.

On their path to the final they had a 2-8 to 2-4 victory over Carrick Swan. In the second round they had a very close game with Kilsheelan and were lucky to draw on the score of 2-4 to 1-7. In the semi-final they had a re-match with Carrick Swan, winning by 1-10 to 0-3.

The final was against Ardfinnan in Clonmel on Sept. 14th, which was one of the best games played for many a day. The team settled down to play very good football to lead at the break by 0-5 to 0-3.

Ardfinnan got into the game very quickly with a well-taken goal. Brian Boru's settled and hit back with some great points and a well-taken goal to seal the issue. The final score was 1-9 to 1-5. Mr. Michael O'Meara, secretary of the South Board, presented the trophy to John Wyse, captain of Brian Boru's. There were great scenes of jubilation following this great victory.

The county semi-finals were fixed for Boherlahan, the team facing Rahealty who were a very strong side. Brian Boru's winning a closely contested game 0-9 to 1-3. Eire Óg Solohead winning the other semi-final.



**BRIAN BORU MINORS B**

Brian Boru, Skeheenarinky/Fr. Sheehy's South Minor Hurling B Champions 1986. Back row: (l to r) Michael Pyne (selector), Thomas Maher, Niall O'Brien, Pat O'Gorman, John Geary, Noel Pyne, John Maher (captain), John Wyse, Frank O'Brien, Michael McGrath, Richard Vaughan, Eddie Maher (selector), John Feeney, selectors. Front row: (l to r) Michael Fleming, Brian Murray, Dessie Fitzgerald, Eamonn Maher, Michael Geary, Kevin Dowling, John Fox, Rory McLoughlin, Ger O'Gorman. Missing from photo - John Keating.

The county final was played at Cashel on the 12th of October as a curtain raiser to the county senior football semi-final replay. Brian Boru's played against the wind in the first half and settled down very quickly. However, the defence had to

pair were now in control and the forwards took their points. The team were playing like champions. At the final whistle the score was Brian Boru's 2-10, Eire Óg Solohead 0-7.

This great victory was a deserving reward for a very dedicated panel,



Brian Boru's. South County Minor B. Football Champions. Back row (l to r), T. Maher, Michael Geary, K. Dowling, S. Mackin, J. Wyse (captain), R. Vaughan, G. O'Gorman, N. O'Brien, E. Maher, M. Fleming, J. Geary, N. Pyne. Front row (l to r) F. O'Brien, P. O'Gorman, J. Keating, D. Fitzgerald, R. McLoughlin, J. Maher, B. Murray, K. Normoyle, Michael McGrath.



Presentation of McNamee Awards in Clarence Hotel, Dublin to Roscrea Hurling Club who were joint second in Ireland for publication of "Red Years" - the Club's G.A.A. History. Left to right: J. McDonnell (Secretary, Roscrea H.C.), Dr. Michael Loftus (President, G.A.A.), Seamus O'Doherty (Editor) and Martin Kennedy (Secretary, Publications Committee).

who responded admirably to the coaching and training of Frank O'Brien and Eddie O'Gorman, who with John Callaghan and Michael Maher who selected the team, and all the other back-up people who helped in making this a resounding success.

**Team lineout South Final:** E. Maher, M. Fleming, N. Pyne, P. O'Gorman, R. McLoughlin, T. Maher, J. Wyse, K. Dowling, M. Geary, R. Vaughan, J. Maher (captain), N. O'Brien, F. O'Brien, J. Geary, M. McGrath. Subs: B. Murray, G. O'Gorman, J. Fox, D. Fitzgerald, J. Keating.



# Mick Tobin, R.I.P.

By Mick Egan

**T**IPPERARY Gaeldom this year lost one of its most illustrious and famous sons with the passing of Mick Tobin of Grangemockler. He was a prince of midfielders when the last senior All-Ireland football title came to the county. He gave sterling and loyal service as a player to his native Grangemockler and to his beloved blue and gold. He took a keen interest in the fortunes of all Tipperary teams, and especially his first love football, up to the time of his death. His passing leaves a void that can never be filled and it removes from our midst one of the great footballers from the greatest era ever in the big ball code in the county. He was an unassuming and gentle person, a great family man who took life in his stride and yet possessed a vivid memory of games and teams, and famous opponents of his youthful era. Some years ago he did an interview for this Year Book. We re-publish that interview as a tribute to a great, much loved, and lamented Tipperary man.

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

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

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

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

Mick was selected to travel to Dublin for the game against Dublin in November. The team was to travel on

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

A crowd of some thousands assembled in Croke Park for the game and during the play crown forces arrived on the field and opened fire indiscriminately on players and spectators. Among the first to be shot down was Michael Tobin's clubmate Michael Hogan. As the late Canon Fogarty related, 'Bloody Sunday' will not be easily forgotten in Tipperary.

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

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

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

The All-Ireland final against Dublin was scheduled for June and Michael recalls that Tipp beat Kildare prior to that game. The Kildare lineout on that occasion included the peerless Larry Stanley. Tipp had great hopes of winning the All-Ireland and they duly succeeded by 1-6 to 1-2.

## The "Old Horse"

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

Michael continued to play with the county until 1928 but further All-Ireland honours were not to follow.



Asked to recall the players of his time who made the greatest impression on him Michael spoke of Larry Stanley, Bob Stack, John Joe Sheehy, Tim O'Donnell, Joe Barrett and Jack Walsh. He says that the football of the time was very different to that of the present day. It was a much tougher game and more strength was required. It was not all catch and kick however. It was very interesting to hear Michael tell of the team tactics of the Tipp team at the time. Michael and Jim Ryan (Loughmore) were the midfielders and when Michael got the ball he was expected to deliver it low to Mick Arrigan at right full forward. On the other hand when Jim was in possession the ball was to be sent in the same manner to the left wing where Gus McCarthy and Jimmy Doran would be ready and waiting.

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

Asked for his ideas on the decline of Tipperary football down the years Michael felt that it was hard to answer but he did emphasise that in his day players trained every night after a hard day's work. They did not smoke or drink. Nowadays players did not train but smoke and drink. Perhaps, he said with a laugh the pints do not do them any harm but he hardly thought they did any good either. He said that he did not take a drink until he was thirty one and he had plenty of time to smoke and drink when his football career was over.

Michael Tobin's career was spent at midfield except on the rare occasion when as he put it the midfield man



was moved in full-forward when not going to well. He regrets that in his long career with his club Grangemockler that he failed to win a county championship. Indeed Grangemockler won the title in 1931 shortly after Michael's retirement.

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

Michael's memory of games, dates and scores is really phenomenal. He went on past his own career to speak

of the heartbreak of 1935 and the disappointment of the minors loss to Dublin in 1955. Indeed on that occasion Michael's son Philly followed in his father's footsteps by playing in midfield. Michael feels that a win for Tipperary in 1955 would have been a tremendous boost for the county as the team contained some great young players.

We express the hope that the deeds and example of this genial Grangemockler man will be a source of inspiration to the young Tipperary footballers of the present day.

The attendance at the removal of his remains and at the burial bore testimony of the esteem and popularity of this great sportsman. In the very representative gathering there was Bill Ryan of Laha a team-mate of Mick in 1920 and the sole surviving member of the infamous Bloody Sunday team, who came to pay his last respects.

"There may be some true men, but we'll never know better".

We tender sincere sympathy to his family, relatives and friends.

Go ndeanad Dia trocaire ar a anam.

# South Tipperary Bord na nÓg

By Patsy O'Halloran (Secretary) and Liam Burke (P.R.O.)

**T**HIS year we introduced the grading system in under-12 and under-16 in both hurling and football and it proved to be a great success. It gave a new meaning to the weaker clubs as they were competing against teams of their own standard and 1986 marked a new era for some clubs in

the division by making the breakthrough due to the new system. We had three grades A, B, and C. The winners of the A group would go forward to the county series with the other two grades finishing at divisional level.

Details of the various competitions are listed here under:

team played well and with better preparation for this game we could have reversed that result.

## Thanks

With the new competitions being introduced this year it meant that new trophies would have to be provided. We would like on behalf of the Board to thank most sincerely the sponsors who provided us with the trophies. Our appreciation to the following:

Eamonn Keating (Clogheen); Ballingarry Club (Dan O'Connor trophy); Three Rivers Oil Co., Clonmel Oil Co. and to Gus Danagher (former Fethard and Tipperary footballer).

**Scór na nÓg** (winners at Clonmel 8/12/85)

*Ceili Dancing:* Newcastle; *Recitation:* Fr. Sheehy's (Breda Quinlan); *Solo Singing:* Kilsheelan (Maeve Stokes); *Novelty Act:* Fr. Sheehy's; *Question Time:* Ballingarry (C. Scott, S. Vaughan, E. Ryan); *Instrumental Music:* Ballybacon/Grange (Claire and Naoimh English); *Group Singing:* Ballybacon/Grange; *Set Dance:* Newcastle.

## Present Officers of the Board

*Chairman:* Patrick Nagle (Swan); *Vice-Chairmen:* Jim Lynch (Cahir) and Richie Sheehan (Mullinahone); *Secretary/Treasurer:* Patsy O'Halloran (Kilsheelan); *Co. Board Rep. (Rural):* John Hayes (Killenaule); *Co. Board Rep. (U/Rural):* Patrick Forristal (St. Mary's); *South Senior Board Rep.:* James McCarthy (Moyle Rovers); *P.R.O.:* Liam Burke (St. Mary's).

## Fixtures Committee:

Billy Martin (Ballingarry).  
Jim Lynch (Cahir).  
Michael Lonergan (Ardfinnan).  
Benny O'Connell (Marlfield).  
Patrick Nagle (Chairman).  
Patsy O'Halloran (Secretary).

Tipperary G.A.A. Year Book — 69

| Grade             | Winners                    | Runners-up        | No. Entered |
|-------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|-------------|
| u-12 Football (A) | Commercials                | Swan              | 7           |
| u-12 Football (C) | St. Patrick's              | Clonmel (B)       | 6           |
| u-12 Hurling (A)  | St. Mary's                 | Ballybacon/Grange | 4           |
| u-12 Hurling (B)  | Killenaule                 | Ballingarry       | 5           |
| u-12 Hurling (C)  | Fr. Sheehy's               | Mullinahone       | 10          |
| u-14 R/Hurling    | Mullinahone                | Killenaule        | 13          |
| u-14 R/Football   | Fethard                    | Mullinahone       | 15          |
| u-R/Hurling       | Clonmel                    | St. Mary's        | 10          |
| u-14 u/R/Football | Clonmel                    | Ardfinnan         | 14          |
| u-16 Football (A) | Fethard                    | Commercials       | 5           |
| u-16 Football (B) | (not finished as we write) |                   | 7           |
| u-16 Football (C) | Kilsheelan                 | Marlfield         | 6           |
| u-16 Hurling (A)  | St. Mary's                 | Swan              | 4           |
| u-16 Hurling (B)  | (Not finished as we write) |                   | 5           |
| u-16 Hurling (C)  | (Not finished as we write) |                   | 7           |

## How we fared in the county

### u-12 Football (A)

Commercials beat Holycross in Co. semi-final and went on to take the only county title to this division this year by beating Arravale Rovers in the final at Bansha.

### u-12 Hurling (A)

St. Mary's were defeated by Knockavilla in semi-final at Cahir.

### u-14 Rural Football

Fethard defeated Boherlahan in semi-final but lost the final to Knockavilla at Golden.

### u-14 Rural Hurling

Mullinahone defeated by Gortnahoe in semi-final at Ballingarry.

### u-14 Urban/Rural Football

Clonmel beat Arravale Rovers in semi-final but were defeated in the final by Nenagh at Holycross.

### u-14 Urban/Rural Hurling

Clonmel were defeated by Borrisokane in semi-final at Holycross.

### u-16 Football (A)

Fethard beat Nenagh in semi-final but were defeated by Arravale Rovers in the final at Boherlahan.

### u-16 Hurling (A)

St. Mary's were defeated by Arravale Rovers in the semi-final at Cashel.

We did have one good result in a rather dismal year as far as county honours were concerned when a very talented u-16 football team won the inter-divisional competition beating the Mid in the semi-final and defeating the West in the final at Bansha.

Our u-16 hurlers gave a very good display against Limerick City in the Coisde Iomána competition which was played in Clonmel. Though defeated the



# Jerry O'Keeffe

**I**N his Clonmel home Jerry O'Keeffe looks across the Suir at the mountains beyond with the satisfaction of a man who sees his life's work well done. The Association which he served for all his adult life has prospered beyond his most earnest dreams. Few can match his experience in G.A.A. affairs. Few are still living who can recall some of the events of G.A.A. history in which he participated. At eighty-six, he talks with authority and great eloquence on matters which arose long before most of us were born.

When he was born in 1900 in the village of Kilsheelan the G.A.A. was still in its infancy, struggling for survival. But national feeling was strong in the O'Keeffe family and, if never attracted to the G.A.A. for reasons of sport, they would have gravitated towards it because of its national aspirations. Jerry's father, William P. O'Keeffe, was a man of firm purpose. A law-clerk, he had spent a month in jail arising out of Land League resistance to an eviction in Ballyneale. He was a close friend of Maurice Davin and was association with the great athlete and administrator right from the foundation of the Association. Jerry's mother, Johanna Fitzgerald from Carrick, had been sacked from her post as teacher at Ballyneale school as a result of her stout Land League sympathies. But she found a job in Kilsheelan and there she married, reared her family of five girls and four boys — one of whom died in infancy — and taught for forty-two years.

At seventeen Jerry joined the Irish Volunteers at Kilsheelan where his Company Captain was Pat Stokes, granduncle of present-day dual player Liam, and when later in the year, having

won second place in Ireland in the Great Southern Railway clerkship examination, he was assigned to then-Kingsbridge Station, he joined the Volunteers in Dublin. During his two-year period in Dublin he played for Geraldines and he vividly recalls being with the Tipperary team at Croke Park when they were beaten by Wexford in the 1918 All-Ireland Football Final. Many of his old friends from South Tipp were playing that day, including Tommy Powell of Clonmel, Dick Heffernan, Tom Quinlan, Davy Tobin and Jack Skinner. Mick Hogan of Grangemockler — whose blood would redden the green of Croke Park two years later — was a sub.



By Seamus Leahy

In May, 1920, he was transferred to Buttevant. The Black and Tan War was at its height and, as a member of the Cork No. 1 Brigade under Liam Lynch, he came under the notice of the local garrison. He was not long there when he was taken from his bed in the small

hours of the morning by men of the 17th Lancers, brought to the military barracks, questioned and beaten up. Finally he was told to "run for it" but, fearful that he was about to be shot "while trying to escape", he walked slowly away until he was ready to make a dash into the darkness. Next morning he found a note under his door giving him twenty-four hours to be gone from Buttevant. Never again did he sleep in his usual 'digs' and henceforth he kept a wary eye on soldiers and policemen.

When he moved on to Cobh some months later he began playing football with the local club and he became increasingly active with the I.R.A. It was at this time he narrowly missed being present in Cork Park on Bloody Sunday. Ned O'Shea, the Tipperary captain, was to travel from Bandon where he was working and was to meet him at Cork on the day before the game. They missed each other at the station, so Jerry boarded the train alone. At Buttevant, while the train was briefly stopped, a railway worker, Mick Burke of Gooldscross, who was the local I.R.A. commanding officer, pressed him to stay and assist his old Buttevant comrades who were to carry out a sniping action against the local barracks that night. He stayed, the train went on, and next day the bloodiest event in the history of the G.A.A. occurred at Croke Park. What a story he would have had to tell, had he remained with the train!

He was still stationed at Cobh when the end came to hostilities with the British but when the Civil War commenced he was actively involved as Intelligence Officer with the Cobh Battalion of the Republican forces. He recalls vividly how he was walking

*This photograph was taken in New York in 1959 and shows the presentation of the cup to Tony Wall by the President of the New York G.A.A. Jerry O'Keeffe, at far left, was acting as secretary in place of Phil Purcell. At back is Mike Flannery of Shinrone and New York. At right is Dean C. Lee and Hugh Byrne of the Central Council.*





home from an opera in Cork when he saw the boat sailing in with the Free State troops who were to carry out the assault on Cork. He sprinted to relay the news to the Republican positions in Cork only to find that the wires had been cut. It was the beginning of the end of the short-lived Munster Republic and, with Cork in Free State hands, he faced for Tipperary.

He had many narrow escapes as he cycled home and he was in Clonmel before he fell into the hands of government troops. Luckily, Tommy Ryan of Castlegrace, who had played on Bloody Sunday, was in charge and he was given a permit to travel on to Kilsheelin. There he was arrested in a roundup some weeks later and was sent on a tour of jails which ended with his being interned in the Curragh. Seán Lemass was his prison O/C there and by the time he was released in 1924 he had made many firm friends among men whose names would afterwards be well known in the political life of the country. The closest of these friendships was with Robert Barton, cousin of Erskine Childers senior, who had been one of the signatories of the Anglo-Irish Treaty but who had fought on the Republican side. The two maintained the connection all their lives and Jerry has happy memories of visits to the Barton home at Roundwood.

It is worth recording too that while in the Curragh he acted as secretary of a committee which organised inter-club and inter-county football games among the prisoners and among those who were prominent in these games were the legendary Joe Barret and Jackie Ryan of Kerry, and Jim Hurley of Cork.

In the lean years after coming out of prison he threw himself into G.A.A. affairs in Kilsheelan and over a period of years won junior and senior championships; he also fielded with a Tipperary junior team which was narrowly beaten in the championship by Kerry. He moved into Clonmel, where he married in 1932, the year after he had become secretary of the South Tipp Board for the first time and for the next forty years he held the position of secretary, an achievement which was probably only topped by his great friend Mick Moylan who was secretary in North Tipp for forty-three years. The contribution of these two men to the growth of the G.A.A. in the county is all too easily overlooked. It is easy to praise our heroes of the playing field, but it would be a pity if the vital rôle of these two were forgotten.

When Jerry O'Keeffe retired from active participation in G.A.A. affairs in 1971 he had been a member of the County Board for forty-four years. As secretary of his division he had enjoyed a reputation for efficiency and attention



1955 Minor Football Selection Committee with Munster Cup after victory over Kerry in the replayed final at Thurles on August 21. The final score was 0-9 to 1-5 in favour of Tipperary. The teams had drawn at Killarney on July 24 when Tipperary had scored the same amount and Kerry 1-6. Left to right: Phil Purcell; Bro. Scully, Templemore; Brother Small, Fethard; Seán Hayes, Tipperary; Bro. Barry, Clonmel; Jim Looney, Cahir; Bro. Carr, Tipperary; Jerry O'Keeffe.

to detail which went far beyond the confines of the county. It is not often that a Divisional Secretary is a key member of his Provincial Council, but Jerry's command of affairs in South Tipperary was such that he could spare time to be, over a long period of years, a much respected member of the Munster Council, whose opinion was often sought by his friend Pádraig Ó Caoimh at Croke Park.

He first became a member of the Munster Council in 1937 and was consistently a member until 1949 when he became its vice-chairman. When Vincent O'Donoghue became President of the Association in 1952, Jerry succeeded to the chair in Munster which the Waterfordman had vacated, and in the following year he was elected to a further three-year term. By the time he ended his period as Chairman of the Council in 1956 he had nearly twenty solid years of experience behind him and was known throughout the Association for his judgment and administrative expertise.

Looking back on this period he recalls with a great deal of nostalgia his partnership with such outstanding men as Seán Óg Murphy and Seán McCarthy of Cork, Dinny Lanigan and Willie Hough of Limerick, Johnny Leahy of Tipp, John Joe Sheehy and Dr. Eamon O'Sullivan of Kerry, Canon Hamilton of Clare and many others. County rivalries were there, he says, but they were all G.A.A. men first — many of them had been stars of the playing field. There was no such thing as chairman-baiting and all were conscious of a duty to the Association which over-rode all other loyalties. And friendships among them were deep.

Looking back over his forty-four years as a member of the Co. Board and forty years as South Secretary, he

finds much to be pleased about and just a little to be dissatisfied about. Like everyone else, he is at loss to understand Tipp's absence from Croke Park in recent times and a particular cause of regret with him is the decline of our football fortunes. The Fethard team of the 1917 to 1928 period he regards as the best side to come out of the county and he regards Ned O'Shea as the best footballer the county produced over his lifetime. Of the men of younger vintage he had a special admiration for Pakie Brennan, Bunny Lambe and Jim Williams — though with typical modesty he neglects to mention his brother, Tommy, who is regarded by many as having been Tipperary's best footballer of the Thirties. The modern slotar, he maintains, is much too lively, tending to cut down on midfield play — Willie Murphy of Cork would drive it into the full-forward line with every puckout, he says.

As he looks back over his years of service to the G.A.A. and to the games he has seen — they include no less than 104 All-Irelands — Jerry O'Keeffe simply bubbles with reminiscences of men and events. His tall-burly form striding along Irishtown at a fast pace is a challenge to men half his age already feeling the weight of years. When I spoke to him on his 86th birthday he had just got back from a four-mile walk which he takes every day, come rain or shine. The same freshness of outlook and sharpness of intellect which made him an outstanding administrator are immediately evident in even the most casual conversation. Tipperary is fortunate in having such a link with times long past. May his step never shorten and may he long survive as a reminder to us all of the humble beginnings of the great organisation, which he did so much to shape.





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# Mid-Tipperary Review 1986



Jim Maher, Loughmore's captain, has reason to smile as he is presented with the cup by clubmate, Pat Cullen, chairman of the Mid Board.



BY TOM O'HARA (Rúnaí)

**Ninety teams representing eighteen clubs affiliated for the 1986 championships. At time of writing all the championships have been completed with the exception of the Under-21 Football.**

## CLUB BY CLUB REVIEW

### Loughmore-Castleiney:

Affiliated in senior, junior, under-21 and minor B hurling, senior, intermediate, junior, under-21 and minor B football.

It was a very successful year for the club with wins in the senior hurling championship and the Cahill Cup senior hurling league. They also contested finals in senior and intermediate football and in minor hurling B and are also through to the final of the under-21 hurling 'B' league. In senior hurling and senior football the club reached the county semi-finals and lost narrowly in both. The club also completed the erection of up-to-date modern dressingrooms at the sportsfield in Castleiney. By any standards a very satisfactory year for the club and one they can look back on with a sense of pride and

satisfaction.

### Holycross-Ballycahill:

Affiliated in senior, junior, under-21 and minor hurling and senior, under-21 and minor football. Whilst probably disappointed at losing their senior hurling title it nevertheless was a good year for the club. Having lost narrowly to Loughmore in the senior final they were caught on the post in the junior hurling final by Gortnahoe who deprived them of honours with a last minute goal. The club are still involved in the under-21 football championship — a title they have held for the past two years.

This progressive club continued with improvements in their sportsfield

during the year with the erection of a stand which will accommodate 2,500 spectators. The club are to be congratulated on their initiative in providing this amenity which is much appreciated by the supporters of our games.

**Sarsfields:** Affiliated in senior, intermediate, junior, under-21 and minor hurling, and intermediate, under-21 and minor football.

The senior hurlers beat Loughmore in the first round but lost to Moycarkey next time out. The continued failure of this once famous club at senior hurling level is certainly a cause for concern. In minor hurling the club reached the Mid Final where they lost to old rivals Moycarkey. The minor footballers also reached the Mid Final where they were beaten by Templemore. The intermediate hurlers beat Kickhams and drew with Fennellys and in under-21 hurling they were beaten in the semi-final by Boherlahan. In junior hurling the club failed to field a team. Beaten in the Cahill cup final by Loughmore — a rather disappointing year for one of our oldest and most successful clubs.

**G**AMES at all levels were keenly and sportingly contested but in many cases and especially in some of the senior hurling games fell well below the standard for long associated with games in this Division.

At Inter Divisional level it was certainly a very lean year for our representatives. Of the eleven county finals played only one team from the division was successful. The honour fell to Gortnahoe-Glengooole, who won the Minor hurling 'B' final to bring the first ever county title to the parish.

Only junior football remains to be played and our representatives here are Moycarkey-Borris, we wish them well in their efforts to bring a second title to the Division.

## Championship winners and runners-up:

| Grade            | Winner      | Runner-Up   |
|------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Senior Hurling   | Loughmore   | Holycross   |
| Inter Hurling    | Clonmore    | Moycarkey   |
| Junior Hurling   | Gortnahoe   | Holycross   |
| Under-21 Hurling | Boherlahan  | Drom        |
| Minor Hurling A  | Moycarkey   | Sarsfields  |
| Minor Hurling B  | Gortnahoe   | Loughmore   |
| Senior Football  | Templetuohy | Loughmore   |
| Inter Football   | Moycarkey   | Loughmore   |
| Junior Football  | Moycarkey   | Upperchurch |
| Minor Football A | Templemore  | Sarsfields  |
| Minor Football B | Rahealty    | Upperchurch |
| Cahill Cup       | Loughmore   | Sarsfields  |



### MID BOARD G.A.A. OFFICERS 1986

**Chairman:** Pat Cullen, Loughmore/Castleiney.

**Secretary:** Tom O'Hara, Gortnahoe/Glengoole.

**Treasurer:** Jimmy Grace, Sarsfields.

**Co. Board Trustee:** Liam O'Dwyer, Boherlahan/Dualla.

**Co. Board members:** John Ryan, Holycross-Ballycahill; Harry Ryan, Moycarkey-Borris; John Harkin, Drom/Inch; John Ryan, Kickhams.

**Gate checker:** Seán Mockler, Loughmore-Castleiney.

**Thurles sportsfield Rep.:** Tommy Max, Sarsfields.

**Templemore sportsfield Rep.:** Mick Cahill, Templemore.

**Co. Appeals Committee:** Seán Mockler, Loughmore-Castleiney; Mick Troy, Moyne-Templetuohy.

**Mid Appeals Committee:** Joe Dufficey, Gortnahoe-Glengoole; Willie Crampton, Clonekenney; Thos. Hayes, Rahealty; Phil Lowry, Upperchurch; Conor O'Dwyer, Sarsfields; Larry O'Doherty, Drom; Seán Russell, Fennellys; Mick Troy, Moyne; Harry Ryan, Moycarkey.

#### Moycarkey-Borris:

Affiliated teams in senior, intermediate, junior, under-21 and minor hurling and intermediate, junior, under-21 and minor football. A good year for the club with victories in minor hurling, intermediate and junior football. The minor hurlers lost on a replay to Toomevara in the county final after two memorable games. In intermediate hurling they lost divisional and county titles when losing to Clonmore in a mid-final replay. The club is still involved in the closing stages of the under-21 football championship.

Moycarkey also hosted the senior hurling final at Littleton and are to be congratulated on the excellent arrangements made for the game.

#### Boherlahan/Dualla:

Affiliated teams in senior, junior, under-21 and minor hurling and junior, under-21 and minor football. The highlight of the year for the club was the clear-cut victory of the under-21 hurlers in the mid championships and although later losing narrowly

to St. Mary's in the county semi-final their performance during the year augurs well for the future of the game in this famous stronghold. The club are still in contention in the under-21 football championship.

With a splendid playing pitch with first class amenities and ideally situated, the club can certainly look to the future with confidence.

**Drom/Inch:** Affiliated teams in senior, junior, under-21 and minor hurling and intermediate, junior, under-21 and minor football. Although no titles came their way on the playing fields the club nevertheless made a very worthwhile contribution in many of the competitions. Certainly they can feel very pleased with the display of the under-21 hurling team who contested the mid-final against Boherlahan. This team is comprised of most of the players who won the county minor hurling B final two years ago. With this crop of promising young players the club can look to the future with confidence. Presently

Drom-Inch club are in the process of purchasing and developing a playing field and are to be complimented on their efforts to provide first class amenities for their players.

#### Upperchurch/Drombane:

Affiliated teams in senior, junior, under-21 and minor hurling and hurling, under-21 and minor football. Whilst no championship victories were achieved the club made a valuable contribution to our games during the year. Particularly satisfactory must be the display of the minor hurlers in the 'A' section. This young team gave some great displays to reach the semi final of the competition. In the under-21 'B' league the team has qualified for the final and the junior football team after a great win over Templemore A in the semi-final lost narrowly to Moycarkey in the final.

#### Moyne/Templetuohy:

Affiliated teams in senior, junior, under-21 and minor in hurling and football. The senior hurlers reached the mid semi-final where they lost narrowly to Loughmore. The highlight of the year in the parish was undoubtedly the victory in the senior football final when beating Loughmore who had held the title for twenty one consecutive years. This was one of the best finals in the division for a number of years. In the county quarter final the club was unlucky to lose to Arravale Rovers. in the under age and junior competitions, the club did not fare too well in hurling or football.

#### Templemore Eire Óg:

Affiliated teams in senior, junior, under-21 and minor football. The senior

footballers once again disappointed in the championship. The minors again won mid honours and after a great win over south champions in the county semi-final hopes were high that the elusive county final would be achieved. However, the team did not play to its full potential in the county final and lost narrowly to Arravale Rovers. The club beat Holycross in a play-off to decide our representatives in the under-21 football semi-final and here they lost to old rivals Slievenamon. The club fielded two teams in the junior competition where they reached the semi-finals to lose to Moycarkey and Upperchurch respectively.

The under-21 team are still involved in the mid championship and have qualified for the final of same.

#### Gortnahoe/Glengoole:

Affiliated in junior and minor hurling and junior football. Amalgamated with Moyne-Templetuohy in under-21 grade. This was the best ever year for the club. The minor hurlers won the B championship and went on to take the county title in this grade to bring the first ever county championship to the parish. The junior hurlers also won mid honours when beating Holycross in an exciting final but then lost narrowly to Ballingarry in the county semi-final.

During the year the club completed the erection of modern dressingrooms at the sportsfield and these were officially opened on Saturday, October 4th, by the county chairman Michael Lowry. To mark the occasion county champions Borrisoleigh played the Fenians in a very entertaining hurling tourna-



CLONMORE INTERMEDIATE HURLING  
Mid-Tipperary champions 1986.





**MOYCARKEY/BORRIS MID M.H. CHAMPIONS**

Back: Tom Ryan, Brian Maher, Michael Burke, Dermot Maher, J. J. Maher, Philip Dwyer, Andrew Burke, Mark Ryan, Martin Power, Billy Lanigan, John Cass. Front: Ed. Donnelly, Ken Ralph, Michael Hayes, Henry Burke, Eamon Donnelly, Paul Moore, Pat Cahill, Thomas Flanagan, Ken Higgins, Michael Buckley.



**Boherlahan/Dualla. Mid-Tipp. Under-21 champions '86.**

ment. A very successful ending to a historic year for the club.

**Clonmore:** Affiliated teams in intermediate, junior, under-21 and minor hurling. The intermediate hurlers reached the mid final where they met the reigning mid and county champions Moycarkey. The game played in Holycross ended in a draw. The replay was in Thurles and this time Clonmore made no mistake when winning convincingly. In the county semi-final they scored an exciting win over Killenaule to qualify for a county final meeting with Shannon Rovers. This game was played in Thurles and was one of the best finals for years. However at the end of a great hours hurling

Clonmore were a point in arrears and could be deemed most unlucky losers.

In junior and under-age competitions the club did not fare too well during the year.

**Clonakenny:** Affiliated teams in junior hurling and football. After an easy win over Kickhams the hurlers lost to Upperchurch in the second round and lost to the same opposition in the quarter final of the junior football competition in a replay.

**Killea:** Affiliated in junior hurling and had one of their best years for a while. Losing by a point to Drom in the opening round they went on to win the losers' group and qualify for a semi-final meeting with Holycross. This was a low scoring game and Killea having missed a few

good scoring chances were considered a bit unlucky to lose.

**Kickhams:** Affiliated in intermediate and junior hurling and junior football, amalgamed with Fennellys in under-21 competitions. Beat Fennellys in first game in the intermediate championship league but lost in remaining games. Lost to Templemore in second round of junior football and to Clonakenny in junior hurling. No success at under-age level.

**Fennellys:** Affiliated in inter hurling and junior football. Amalgamated with Kickhams in under-age competitions. Lost rather unluckily to Moycarkey-Kickhams in intermediate hurling and drew with Sarsfields. Lost to Moycarkey in junior football. No

success with Kickhams at under-age level.

**Rahealty:** Affiliated in junior, under-21 and minor in hurling and football. The club was reformed two years ago and the past year was very successful for them. They won the minor football B final and lost narrowly in the county semi-final.

The junior hurlers after two drawn games with Boherlahan went on to reach the semi-final where they lost to eventual winners Gortnahoe. A satisfactory year for the club.

**Knock:** Affiliated in junior hurling and football. Had difficulty in fielding teams. Lost to Gortnahoe in junior hurling and gave walk-over to Clonakenny in junior football. It would seem there is a loss of interest in club affairs.



**MID-TIPP MINOR FOOTBALL B WINNERS**

Rahealty Mid-Tipperary Minor B Football Champions (1986) - Back row (left to right) S. Brolan (selector), B. McLoughlin, C. Jordan, P. O'Sullivan, S. Gleeson, P. Fitzgerald, D. Tynan, J. Stapleton, J. Commings, J. Felle, Joe Ryan, J. O'Neill, P. Guilfoyle, S. Felle (selector). Front row (left to right): M. O'Connell, S. Mullaney, N. Dunne, Joe Ryan, J. J. O'Dwyer, E. Heaney, John Ryan, J. Flynn, S. Quinn, James Ryan, C. Ryan, K. Ryan, P. J. Quinn (selector).



Loughmore-Castleiney, Mid senior hurling champions. Front (left to right) Liam Cormack, John Treacy, Ml. McGrath, Frankie McGrath, Eamonn Brennan, Tom Larkin, Tom McGrath. Back: Ned Ryan, Rd. Stapleton, Pat McGrath, Jim Maher, Peter Brennan, John Cormack, Rd. Egan, Pat Treacy.

*Play the Game - Buy Irish*



# Mid Bord na nÓg 1986

EOIN Ó BRAONÁIN (P.R.O.)

**O**NCE again the major 'take' of titles went to Dúrlas Óg club, the town's teams being successful in Under-12 (A) hurling, Under-12 (B) football, Under-14 (A) hurling and finally bringing off the double in the Under-16 (A) grade.

They ended Moycarkey's two-year grip on the hurling title and relieved Templemore of an Under-16 football championship they have dominated for so long. To crown a great year for them their hurlers have broken the county barrier by their victory over Arravale Rovers, to capture their first title in this grade and a welcome "county" for the Mid division.

The other urban club,

Templemore, made amends for their Under-16 defeat in football when their Under-14s took 'A' football honours, adding the Under-12 (B) hurling championship for good measure.

A football "relevation" seems to be about to surface in the "tradition steeped" hurling parishes of Holycross-Ballycahill and Boherlahan-Dualla. Both club's 1986 successes — Holycross in Under-12 (A) football and Boherlahan's treble in Under-14 and Under-16 B, is "hard evidence" that the bigger ball is no obstacle to their young players.

A club whose great efforts in recent years deserved better success is Drom-Inch. It must therefore have

## Mid-Tipperary Bord na nÓg Officers 1986

|                                  |                  |                         |
|----------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>President:</b>                | Fr. O'Rourke     |                         |
| <b>Chairman:</b>                 | Liam McGrath     | (Holycross-Ballycahill) |
| <b>Vice-Chairman:</b>            | Paddy McLoughlin | (Éire Óg, Templemore)   |
| <b>Secretary:</b>                | Batt O'Meara     |                         |
| <b>Treasurer:</b>                | Denis Hogan      |                         |
| <b>P.R.O.</b>                    | Eoin Ó Braonáin  | (Moycarkey-Borris)      |
| <b>Co. Bord na nÓg officers:</b> | Paddy Ryan       | (Upperchurch-Drombane)  |
|                                  | Paddy McLoughlin | (Templemore)            |
|                                  | Pat Ryan         | (Holycross-Ballycahill) |

given Paudie Butler immense satisfaction when his young Under-14 side made the championship breakthrough in Under-14 (B) hurling this year. We feel sure every club in the division will join with us in congratulating them.

One of the season's highlights however, was the spectacular rise to hurling prominence of Gortnahoe-Glengoole. Not since the great Larry Kiely's time has the parish been so alive to the clash of the ash as in 1986. The club followed up their 1985 rural hurling success by retaining their title after some exciting early round games, particularly against Holycross in the semi-final, and marched into the county final where they gave their finest display of the season in coming from way behind to draw with West champions Knockavilla in a thriller. The replay, won by the West boys, was spoiled by torrential rain and gale force winds. In urban-rural

Under-14 hurling, the boys from Kilcooley Wall put on another tremendous show in losing gallantly to Dúrlas Óg in a great Mid Final.

Even though more successful with their footballers in recent times, Moyne-Templetuohy's Under-16 hurlers gave some skillful displays to win the Under-16 B championship. Their Under-16 footballers put up a great performance in the A Final when failing gallantly to a strong Dúrlas Óg side.

Notable omissions from the winners rostrum this year are two clubs who between them dominated the 1970's, Loughmore-Castleiney and Moycarkey-Borris, who seem to be at the end of their talent supply line — at least temporarily.

Neither did Clonakenny or Upperchurch-Drombane live up to the promise shown by their teams in 1985, but expectations will be high for the coming season. All in all a very exciting year on the playing fields.

*Jimmy Doyle, the former Tipperary hurling star, now manager of the Laois team and "Babs" Keating, the Tipperary manager, exchange greetings before the Tipperary and Laois game in Thurles.*



## Bord na nÓg Tiobraid Árann Méanach Torthaí na Bliana

| <b>Under-12 hurling</b>              | <b>Winners</b>            | <b>Runners-up</b>     |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| Section A                            | Dúrlas Óg                 | Holycross-Ballycahill |
| Section B                            | Templemore                | Gortnahoe-Glengoole   |
| <b>Under-12 football</b>             |                           |                       |
| Section A                            | Holycross-Ballycahill     | Templemore            |
| Section B                            | Dúrlas Óg B               | Drom-Inch             |
| <b>Under-14 rural hurling</b>        | Gortnahoe                 | Drom-Inch             |
| <b>Under-14 Rural football</b>       | Boherlahan-Dualla         | Holycross-Ballycahill |
| <b>Under-14 Urban/Rural hurling</b>  |                           |                       |
| Section A                            | Dúrlas Óg                 | Gortnahoe-Glengoole   |
| Section B                            | Drom-Inch                 | Dúrlas Óg B           |
| <b>Under-14 Urban Rural football</b> |                           |                       |
| Section A                            | Templemore                | Holycross-Ballycahill |
| Section B                            | Boherlahan                | Loughmore-Castleiney  |
| <b>Under-16 hurling</b>              | <b>Winners</b>            | <b>Runners-up</b>     |
| Section A                            | Dúrlas Óg (Co. Champions) | Dualla-Boherlahan     |
| Section B                            | Moyne-Templetuohy         | Templemore            |
| <b>Under-16 football</b>             |                           |                       |
| Section A                            | Dúrlas Óg                 | Moyne-Templetuohy     |
| Section B                            | Boherlahan-Dualla         | Loughmore-Castleiney  |



# Boherlahan's New Sportsfield

**T**HOUGH Boherlahan G.A.A. Club was originally formed in 1912 and though the period of its greatest glory and success was from 1915 to 1928 when the club won no less than nine Co. Tipperary senior hurling championships and two All-Irelands it is interesting to note that during all that time the club, like so many other clubs of its time had no playing field of its own.

Then in 1933, due mainly through the tireless efforts of the late Johnny Leahy the club procured a playing field at Gaile. On April 29th, 1933, that field was blessed and opened by V. Rev. J. J. Meagher who was then chairman of Tipperary County Board and in the decades that followed the older Gaels of Tipperary can recall the many wonderful Mid Tipp and Co. Tipp encounters which were staged in Gaile involving, not only the local club but other such great teams as Sarsfields, Moycarkey, Holycross and Cashel to mention but a few.

With the passing of the years the local club began to see the need for a more central club grounds and so in 1974 through the co-operation of the parish priest Canon Morrissey and the landowner Mrs. Coman the club succeeded in purchasing the present grounds.

A Sportsfield Committee

was then elected for the purpose of developing the grounds, and within a short space of time the playing grounds were laid out, the bank constructed and the playing area enclosed.

Then in 1980 work on the Sports Centre was initiated and work proceeded as finances became available. Today we can proudly boast a modern building which contains a handball court, a squash court, modern heated dressingrooms and club-rooms and we are no doubt the envy of many other G.A.A. clubs.

On June 1st, 1986, the

grounds and centre were officially opened and blessed. The blessing ceremony was performed by Canon Morrissey who had been involved with the project since the very outset and the official opening was performed by the vice-chairman of the Munster Council Mr. Michael Maher, which was followed by a Tipp versus Cork senior hurling tournament.

Over recent years many Mid and County Tipperage games have taken place on the grounds and the committee also endeavour to accommodate a very

important section of our organisation — the schools and colleges whose games are such a vital part of the activities of the organisation. The present officers of the sportsfield committee are President, Canon Morrissey; chairman, Phil Coman; treasurer, Tim Maher and secretary Philip Ryan. Former committee chairman, Tim Maher and Liam Ó Maoldhomhúigh. Deceased members who worked on the committee: Philip Heffernan, Synone; Lar O'Dwyer, Thurlesbeg; Leonard Meskell, Ardmayle; Brian O'Dwyer, Nodstown.



*Boherlahan Sportsfield Committee: (Front row, left to right) P. Wardick, P. Ryan (Sportsfield secretary), T. Maher (Sportsfield treasurer), P. Coman (Sportsfield Committee chairman), C. Maher, (club chairman), J. Devane (club secretary), T. Patterson and Ed. Ryan (back row, left to right) J. Maher, D. Ryan, P. J. Maher, B. Maher, W. Dwyer, W. O'Brien, T. Flanagan, M. Connolly and P. Fogarty.*



*At the opening of Boherlahan Sportsfield were from left, Kieran Maher (club chairman), Fr. Liam Ryan, Fr. James Feehan, Michael Lowry (county chairman), Michael Maher (vice-chairman of Munster Council), Philip Coman (chairman Sportsfield committee), Canon Morrissey, Philip Ryan, Tommy Barrett (county sec.), Tom O'Hara (Mid sec.), Tim Maher, Boherlahan.*



*Opening of Boherlahan/Dualla G.A.A. Sports Centre. Happy faces on Tipp selectors, substitutes etc.*



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**C**HILDHOOD days invariably leave many indelible memories in the mind. As a garsún in the early sixties, and older and some might even say bolder (my mother included!) with the arrival of the seventies hurling played a big part in my life. Memories are vivid of the time I spent trying to wield the camán, in my own humble way, with my brother, friends, and next door neighbour Joe O'Dwyer, who, unlike the rest of us, went on to reach greater heights in the hurling world.

Our activities then were centred in my Grandfather's field — what we then titled "Lanespark GAA Stadium!" The field or "Stadium" was barely a stonethrow from the neighbouring parish of Gortnahoe-Glenagoole, and from it one could see clearly Glenagoole village. Tipperary senior star of the time, Larry Kiely, from Glenagoole, was our idol and even in later years when most of us made our modest attempt at playing a bit for our parish, Killenaule, we held a special affinity for Gortnahoe-Glenagoole. Interest was always keen in how they would fare out in the Mid championship, and I held a particular interest in Gortnahoe-Glenagoole as an earlier generation of the Guiton family, Billy and Tommy (RIP), had thrown in their lot with the parish.

However, the longer you live the more you learn, and the truth of that saying was brought home to me recently when the Gortnahoe club reached a milestone in its history. I had falsely assumed that up to then that the parish, steeped in the lore of the GAA since its foundation, had a number of county titles to its credit. It was therefore a major, but nonetheless, pleasant surprise to learn that the club's minors, by taking the county minor B crown with a 3.7 to 3.5 win over Burgess, brought the first county honour to the parish.

How fitting in this day and age that the younger members of the club should create history. At a time when even more prominent clubs are drained of their resources with players concentrating on other sports, how encouraging it must be for Gortnahoe-Glenagoole to see the youngsters promise a bright

Ireland team who beat Dublin in a replay of the 1908 final. Glenagoole were deprived of the title by a Boardroom decision on the matter.

Despite appearing in county finals in many other grades, success eluded them but the minors of '86 have more than compensated for the diligent efforts of the clubmen of the past.

Down through the years more than adequate attention has been paid to fostering juvenile hurling, and sooner

U/14 hurling side took the Mid title for the second successive season, at the expense of Drom-Inch, only to lose the County final to Knockavilla.

The U/12 side reached the Mid final only to lose to Templemore. Eamonn Lanigan, Murt Gleeson, and Michael Lanigan guided the fortunes of the U/14 side with Michael Lanigan, Trainer/coach, while the U/12's were in the capable hands of Fr. Fogarty C.C., Gerry Walsh and Pádraig Mullins.

But, of course, the club has been progressive not just on the field of play but also at administrative level, too, with its development project. With its new dressing-rooms and modern GAA grounds it is not alone thinking of the present generation but also catering for the players and officials of tomorrow. Success on the field of play by the youngsters of the parish calls for better facilities for them to avail of and the £15,000 development bears testimony to the hard work of the officers and committee of recent years. The new development, carried out under an AnCO scheme, commenced last May and work on the two 40 x 30 dressing-rooms, six showers, indoor and outdoor toilets and kitchen was completed in September. Most of the finance for the project was raised through a Ciste Gael draw, serving as further proof of the spirit and enterprise of the club.

Evidently, therefore, there is a lot to recommend about the Gortnahoe-Glenagoole club and it carries the best wishes of all Gaelic games followers in its quest for further success.

Gortnahoe-Glenagoole GAA officers: President, Fr. James Fogarty C.C.; Chairman, Jimmy Meighan; Secretary, Joe Dufficey; Treasurer and Assistant Secretary, Michael O'Brien.

## Historic Year for Gortnahoe-Glenagoole

From JOHN GUITON (Tipperary Star)

future. In adhering to the Editor's deadline, I am writing this article at a time when the fate for the club's junior hurlers has not been decided, and with a Mid crown under their belt they now have a chance of making it a glorious county double for the club. They are guided by selectors Billy Barnaville, Tommy Stokes, and Andy Gorman, and trained by Bobby Barnaville.

The minor B success brought to an end a great hoodoo surrounding Gortnahoe-Glenagoole's efforts down through the des at bringing a county title to the parish. That hoodoo originated as far back as 1908 when a Glenagoole side took the South Tipperary title and defeated Thurles Blues in the County final on a 4-2 to 2-6 scoreline. Thurles objected, however, on the grounds that the late Pat and John Fitzgerald played for two clubs in the one year's championship. Pat and John were on the All-

or later the club had to reap the rewards of that work. The club's ultimate goal was to capture that elusive county crown and it is significant that it should arrive at under-age level. Because of the involvement of so many hard-working people at juvenile level in recent years, it is impossible to acknowledge each individual contribution in this article. However, deserving of special mention is the unstinted dedication of Fr. James Fogarty C.C. With the juvenile committee he has guided the youngsters to many divisional successes and has now attained his ultimate goal. He was assisted in his expert coaching and training of the victorious 'B' side by selectors Pádraig Mullins, Principal of Ballysloe N.S., and George Webster.

The minor side is the proof of the good work done at juvenile level but the people involved in this area of the club continue to reap the rewards and this year the

### GORTNAHOE-LENAGOOLE — B MINOR COUNTY CHAMPIONS

Front (l. to r.): M. Lanigan, A. Bartley, T. Gleeson, R. Doherty, S. Webster, A. Webster, J. Lanigan, C. Egan. Back (l. to r.): G. Webster, Rev. J. Fogarty, G. Stapleton, M. Lyons, D. Heffernan, J. Webster, D. Laffan, J. McBride, L. Duggan, M. Lanigan, P. Mullins. Miss from picture: J. Norton, T. Watson, M. Cleary.





# Mid Tipperary U-16 Hurling Team

By Frank Morris

## So near and yet so far . . .

**T**HE campaign began as usual with trials at Ballycahill in the cold and damp of Spring. A considerable number of players came for trial but because of the short amount of time available it is not always possible to assess all players on the evidence of perhaps one hours hurling. Some players may give a far better account of themselves on a faster drier sod. Still this is the problem that confronts all sets of selectors and decisions have to be made. Eventually a panel of twenty three players were chosen and went into training.

Our first match was a challenge against our old friends and near neighbours West Tipp. Our performance in Boherlahan on a numbingly cold evening was extremely poor and doubts were expressed about our potential as a hurling force. Following more training sessions we began to get a bit more co-ordination into the team. Another challenge match was arranged against North Tipp in Borrisoleigh. This proved to be a much better performance by the Mid boys who eventually came out on top by three points.

The scene was now set for the championship proper which began in Boherlahan against Cork City North. It was a wet and blustery day and having had the benefit of the wind in the first half Mid Tipp had run up what proved to be an insurmountable lead of twenty points at half time and ran out easy winners eventually on the score 5-10 to 1-5.

Scorers: Ken Ralph 3-2, Martin Mortimer 1-1, Graham O'Connor 1-0, T. J. Dwyer 0-2, Paul Slattery 0-3 (one free), Eamonn Donnelly 0-1 and Eddie Coman 0-1.

Our next opponents were Cork City South and Mitchelstown was the venue. Again conditions were very poor with water lying on the surface of the pitch in places.

This was a completely different game to the first round as the Cork boys went into a four point lead at the start. Thanks to a superb display by our goalkeeper, backline and centrefield we eventually fought our way back into the game and by full time had built up a score of 5-6 to Cork City South's 1-8. The forwards took some time to settle down but once they got the bit between their teeth converted almost every chance that came their way.

Scorers: Paul Slattery 2-2, Graham O'Connor 2-0, Eddie Coman 1-0, Brian Dwyer 0-2, Eamonn Donnelly 0-1 and Martin Mortimer 0-1.

There was then a considerable delay before the next round which was the Munster semi-final. This delay necessitated by examinations such as the Intermediate Certificate. It also affects training schedules because of the risk of injury especially to fingers and hands.

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During this time fate took a hand in the form of the Tipp senior teams defeat in Ennis. It was only on the way home the full implications of that loss became known when it was announced that the Munster Final had been fixed for Killarney.

This was not the immediate problem as we now faced Avondhu (North Cork), conquerors of North Tipperary, in the semi-final. This match was fixed for Kilmallock on 5/7/1986. Again as in keeping with our "summer" there was a downpour as we took the field.

There was a torrid encounter as Avondhu were a very strong team physically. By half time Mid Tipp had built up a 1-3 to 0-1 lead. As the clouds broke in the second half so did the resistance of the Cork boys and two goals from Paul Slattery eventually decided the issue. The final score was Mid Tipp 3-12 Avondhu 1-4.

The scorers in this game were Paul Slattery 2-3, Ken Ralph 1-2, Eddie Coman 0-3, Eamon Donnelly 0-2, Seamus Quinn 0-1 and Ken Higgins 0-1.

### Into Munster Final

We were now into the Munster Final against East Clare whom we had seen defeat Limerick City in Kilmallock. Their best players appeared to be their goalkeeper and half back line.

Our game against East Clare in Killarney was timed for 12.15. This early start immediately caused problems as we estimated a three hour coach journey plus time taken for eating and limbering up before the game.



MID-TIPPERARY UNDER-16 MUNSTER FINALISTS 1986

Back row (l to r) Tony Lacey, Clive Hanrahan, Eddie Coman, Tom Maher, Brian Dwyer, Colm Harrington, Ken Higgins, Pat O'Connor, T. J. Dwyer, Pádraig Delaney, Larry Broderick, Martin Mortimer, Richie Corcoran, Brendan Carroll. From row (l to r): Seamus Quinn, Eamon Donnelly, Henry Bourke, Michael Ryan, Paul Slattery, Graham O'Connor, Ken Ralph, Seamus Delaney, Ailbe Quinlan. Fr. Ivers can be seen in the background between Tony Lacey and Clive Hanrahan.



## Mid Tipperary U-16 Hurling Team - Continued

Eventually it was decided to travel the night before to the Feohnagh club in West Limerick. They had very graciously volunteered to accommodate us on the Saturday night.

We took the field in Killarney in what was to us strange conditions, it was dry. This was the first match of the year which was played on a dry pitch. The match is history and I still have nightmares about what went wrong. Having pressed in the first six or seven minutes and been thwarted by the goalkeeper and the woodwork as well as shooting three wides we conceded a goal to Clare on their very first attack. Things deteriorated from there, with the half-time score being 2-4 to 0-4 in favour of East CLare and the breeze to assist Clare in the second half. For seven or eight minutes before half time Mid Tipp hurled with some of the fire which they were capable of. Alas the scores did not come and the introduction of three substitutes in the second half plus numerous switches failed to achieve the winning formula. Eventually the final whistle sounded with the final score being 2-11 to 0-5 in favour of East Clare.

**Scorers:** Eamonn Donnelly 0-1, Seamus Quinn 0-1, Graham O'Connor 0-1, Ken Ralph 0-1 and Paul Slattery 0-1 (free).

There was now a long delay until the Garda Cup semi-final against North Tipp which was played in Templemore on October 11th.

This game was disrupted to some extent because of the drawn minor

hurling final. It was eventually agreed that North Tipp would field without the Toomevara representatives and Mid Tipp fielded without the Moycarkey/Borris players.

On a beautiful afternoon, far better than the "summer" which had gone before, Mid Tipp again lost out on a score of 2-7 to 3-6.

**Scorers:** Paul Slattery 1-2 (1-1 free), Seamus Quinn 1-2 (0-1, free), Graham O'Connor 0-2 and Michael Ryan 0-1.

In charge of the team were:

John Ivers, Templemore, trainer/coach; Dinny Hogan, Dúrlas Óg; Liam Hanrahan, Dúrlas Óg; Jack O'Brien, Holycross/Ballycahill; Frank Morris, Templemore.

And so a year which had begun with so much promise ended with nothing to show for the efforts of a dedicated bunch of players. Many of these players will be seen at higher levels with, we hope, more tangible results.

Alan Wade, Boherlahan-Dualla, had

dropped out before the Munster Final and was replaced on the panel by Brendan Carroll. This was the only change to the panel during the entire campaign.

With four of the panel, Colm Harrington, Clive Hanrahan, Seamus Quinn and Graham O'Connor eligible for next year let's hope that the long awaited Munster title will come to Mid Tipperary.

In conclusion sincere thanks are tendered to anybody who in any way helped with the team. Special mention must be made of the following:

Tom Collum, The Feohnagh Club, Limerick; Paddy Bourke, Moycarkey; Mick Delaney, Templemore; Dinny Hogan (socks); The clubs of Mid Tipperary (jerseys).

My own very special thanks to Michael Quinlan of Glown, without whose statistical help this article would be very barren indeed.

The panel of players which took Mid Tipp. to their first Munster Final at this age

**Henry Bourke** (capt.)  
(Moycarkey/Borris)

**Colm Harrington**  
(Upperchurch-Drombane)

**Tom Maher**  
(Dúrlas Óg)

**Seamus Delaney**  
(Templemore Eire Óg)

**Michael Ryan**  
(Upperchurch-Drombane)

**Clive Hanrahan**  
(Dúrlas Óg)

**Brian Dwyer**  
(Boherlahan-Dualla)

**T. J. Dwyer** **Eamon Donnelly**  
(Boherlahan-Dualla) (Moycarkey-Borris)

**Seamus Quinn**  
(Dúrlas Óg)

**Ken Higgins**  
(Moycarkey-Borris)

**Graham O'Connor**  
(Dúrlas Óg)

**Ken Ralph**  
(Moycarkey-Borris)

**Eddie Coman**  
(Dúrlas Óg)

**Paul Slattery**  
(Holycross-Ballycahill)

**Subs:** Pat O'Connor, Moyne-Templetuohy (sub goalie); Pádraig Delaney, Dúrlas Óg; Larry Broderick, Templemore Eire Óg; Martin Mortimer, Clonakenny; Tony Lacey, Boherlahan-Dualla; Ailbe Quinlan, Upperchurch-Drombane; Richard Corcoran, Dúrlas Óg; Brendan Carroll, Dúrlas Óg.

### SAINTS PETER AND PAUL'S C.B.S., CLONMEL, CO. TIPPERARY UNDER-13 FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS 1986

Back row: (l to r) John Kennedy, Mark Tucker, John Conway, Brian Morris, Paul Scully, Anthony Burke, David Lennon. Richard O'Donoghue, Brendan Boyle. Middle row: Liam White, Kenneth O'Flaherty, Jonathan Dowling, Paul Lucey, Stephen Hally, David O'Donoghue, Seán Denn, Martin O'Donoghue, Liam Phelan, James O'Sullivan. Front row: Stephen Granville, Ciarán Forristal, Nigel O'Brien, Eamon Hally, Brendan Walsh, Seamus Halpin (captain), Fergal O'Callaghan, Mark Ryan, Keith Hopkins, John McNamara, Kevin Walsh.





# Dúrlas Óg – Another Milestone

**FEW clubs have made such an impact on juvenile games in Tipperary in its short history than Dúrlas Óg, the under-age club in Thurles which has the blessing of all four adult clubs in the town – Sarsfields, Fennellys, Kickhams and Rahealty. Since its inception six years ago, the club has been blessed with success after success, and the story still goes on.**

**B**UT 1986 will be especially remembered by members of Dúrlas Óg, and not just for the many fine achievements on the field of play. It will be remembered in particular for one event off the field of play that is likely to stand as a monument for many, many years to come. We refer of course to the club's purchasing of its own playing field at Garryvicleheen.

Dúrlas Óg has always been fortunate in the calibre of the people on its committee and this was never more evident than this year as the men at the helm in the club, led by esteemed President Pat Stakelum and dynamic chairman, Gerry Spain, grasped the opportunity to acquire a valuable site in the town which will meet its playing needs for many years.

When the opportunity arose, they did not balk at the asking price, but knowing the importance of such a move to ensure the future of the club, stepped in straight away, and got a massive fund-raising campaign underway to meet the cost — a campaign that will be continued in the coming year.

And support for the project, which between purchase price and development costs will reach the £40,000 mark, has been outstanding with the people of Thurles initially, and the various G.A.A. bodies and local groups also, putting their shoulders to the wheel to assist in this vital project for the youth of Thurles who want to play Gaelic games.

What a pity that to date the response from the higher echelons of the association — to be precise Croke Park, has not been more encouraging for if ever a project deserved

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**DÚRLAS ÓG — MID. U-14 HURLING CHAMPIONS**

Front row (l. to r.): P. Lanigan, McAree, J. Corbett, T. Coman (capt.), L. Barrett, T. Tierney, M. Murphy, D. Moore. Back row (l. to r.): M. Cleary, J. Callanan, J. McCarthy, M. Campion, G. Collins, A. Claffey, G. Grogan.



**DÚRLAS ÓG — UNDER-12B TEAM**

Winners of Division II Mid. Tipperary Football League. Front row (l. to r.): T. Larkin, S. Maher, L. Phillips, R. Carew, M. Cleary, D. Connolly, G. Mernagh, P. Barrett, J. Enright, M. Ryan. Back row (l. to r.): G. Purcell, L. Mockler, J. Callanan, P. Broderick, M. McCarthy, A. Nolan (capt.), P. Murray, M. Brennan, B. Maher.



**DÚRLAS ÓG — MID. U-12 HURLING CHAMPIONS**

Front row (l. to r.): G. Spain, R. O'Dowd, M. Larkin, D. Keher (capt.), N. Dundon, C. Ryan. Back row (l. to r.): D. O'Dwyer, S. Ryan, M. Bowe, D. Shanahan, T. Kennedy, E. Enright, E. Ryan.



support, this does, offering the "sins" of others as an excuse for not helping, cuts no ice, but perhaps they will see the light before it is yet too late.

One would be forgiven for thinking that with so much activity going on behind the scenes, and so much energy being devoted to the raising of funds for the purchase of the field, that other aspects of the club's activities, namely the playing of the games, would be neglected. Not so however, and once again the club has

had outstanding success in both hurling and football.

Indeed, another milestone was reached in the club's history by the victory of the under-16 hurlers over Arravale Rovers in the county final — the first time this title has come the club's way. And it was members of this team which backboned the Mid Tipp selection which reached the Munster final of the inter-divisional competition, losing out to a Clare selection in

Killarney.

It is also worth noting that Dúrlas Óg won the Mid under 12, 14 and 16 hurling titles, losing narrowly to a very fine Borrisokane in a thrilling under-14 county final at Borrisoleigh due to a disallowed goal in the last minute, and going under to the eventual winners, Toomevara, in the under-12 semi-final.

In football too, honours continue to come Dúrlas Óg

way, and even their B team are getting into the honours list — an indication of the great work being done for the games by this hard-working committee in all age groups and with a huge array of talent.

And so as the curtain comes down on 1986 and aspirations for '87 are being formed, the seeds for continued success have been sown in Thurles, and are bearing a rich abundance of fruit. Long may it continue to be so.

## What a year for Borrisoleigh — to win

Timmy Delaney

**The eighties have been kind to Borris; in six years the club has claimed three senior county titles. In many ways this 'mini resurgence' makes up for the misfortunes and disappointments of the seventies.**

**T**HE '81 victory, the first since '53, was arguably the most significant, bridging a 28 years gap of lean times, heart breaks, great hours and failures, hard luck stories and chances squandered. Two years later, '83 brought us the Kilmallock epics. But perhaps for many the '86 Co. Final was the 'sweetest' of them all.

The well known and much talked about "rivalry" between Borris and Kilruane was underlined in the North Semi Final. Both teams had already met twice in the League, a draw, and a narrow Kilruane victory in the

League Final. Were Kilruane only using the League as a launching pad for the championship? Were Borris on the way back to the top again? The North semi final would answer it all! Indeed that evening the most loyal of Borris followers were "rattled", as Kilruane dished out an emphatic lesson to their long standing rivals, and announced to all a resounding reminder that they were the best club team in Ireland.

However, this "humiliation" by Kilruane sowed the seeds of their own downfall. This defeat proved to be the catalyst that was to

'drive' Borris all the way to the Co. Final.

The Borris chairman decided that "heads would have to roll". Tom Tierney approached Paddy Doyle — and this proved to be the 'key'. Devaney came back and "shook the place" the Tuesday evening after this defeat. Brendan Kenny was back in training — to beat Kilruane.

Timmy Delaney badly injured against Kilruane in the semi final, would be "out for the year", and this inspired the players to even greater effort and sacrifice. Paddy Doyle set high

standards and placed high demands on everyone. Punctuality and attendance at training improved. The level of "temperance" improved and gradually known "socialisers" began to move out of "circulation". The team was now training as they had never trained before. Paddy placed total emphasis on physical fitness, being confident that the natural hurling talents of the players would withstand them. Devaney brought back "direct hurling", the fast low ball into the forwards.

Toomevara met one of the fittest and most determined



Marching to victory — Mick Ryan leads Borrisoleigh in the pre-match parade followed by Noel Maher, Timmy Stapleton, Francis Spillane, Richard Stakelum, Gerry Stapleton, Bobby Ryan, Aidan Ryan, Francis Collins, Philip Kenny, Noel O'Dwyer, Conor Stakelum, Timmy Ryan, John McGrath, Michael Coen.



Borris teams that left the parish for many days. They were totally overpowered on the day.

Carrick Swans in Boherlahan, despite a late flurry, were out of their depth. The semi final against Holycross in Templemore was crucial. Borris were extremely wary of this opposition since a previous tournament encounter this year in Borrisoleigh. The preparation for this game was extremely thorough and painstaking, and on the day, Holycross had to yield to a powerpacked Borris performance.

Already Kilruane had placed themselves in the final and now the scene was set. The chance to again meet Kilruane had come. Now we would see who were the "masters".

The dry ball, the open field, and the particular opposition, brought the best out of Borris. The supporters were there; they already had shown how they felt with their financial support. The rest is history!

Borris knew going out that they were going to win. They knew how well they had prepared, and they knew what they could do.

Philip Kenny at full forward proved a masterstroke. Timmy Ryan brought back at midfield was also a key factor. On the day the team was brilliant. Undoubtedly there were shining individual performances that will long be remembered.

The "cock" and the "cup" were brought home that night amid bonfires, revelry, and all that makes up such a night in Borris.

The All-Ireland club champions were beaten. Amends were made for that evening earlier in the year in the North semi final. Another page, another chapter was written, but what a year to have it written. A century ago the club was founded, this year the club's history is to be launched. A milestone has been set, long may it remain an inspiration to future hurlers in the parish, to continue the ups and downs of a hundred years.



**ARRAVAL ROVERS — WINNERS OF COUNTY UNDER-16 FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP 1986**  
BACK — A. Quinlan, C. Bresnan, C. O'Donnell, M. Ryan, N. Foley, R. English, P. Gleeson, J. Tynan, D. Quirke (trainer).  
FRONT — J. O'Reilly, S. O'Halloran, J. Murphy, F. Gallagher, A. Quirke, M. Flynn, D. Nugent, J. Quirke.



**ST. MARY'S — SOUTH MINOR HURLING CHAMPIONS**  
BACK ROW — M. Ryan (selector), D. Ryan, D. J. O'Connell, E. Anderson, G. Burke, P. Ryan, P. Kavanagh, J. Collins Snr. (selector). FRONT ROW — D. O'Donnell, D. Hickey, M. Gearon, D. Ryan, G. Deeley, A. Wall, S. Flynn, J. Collins Jnr.



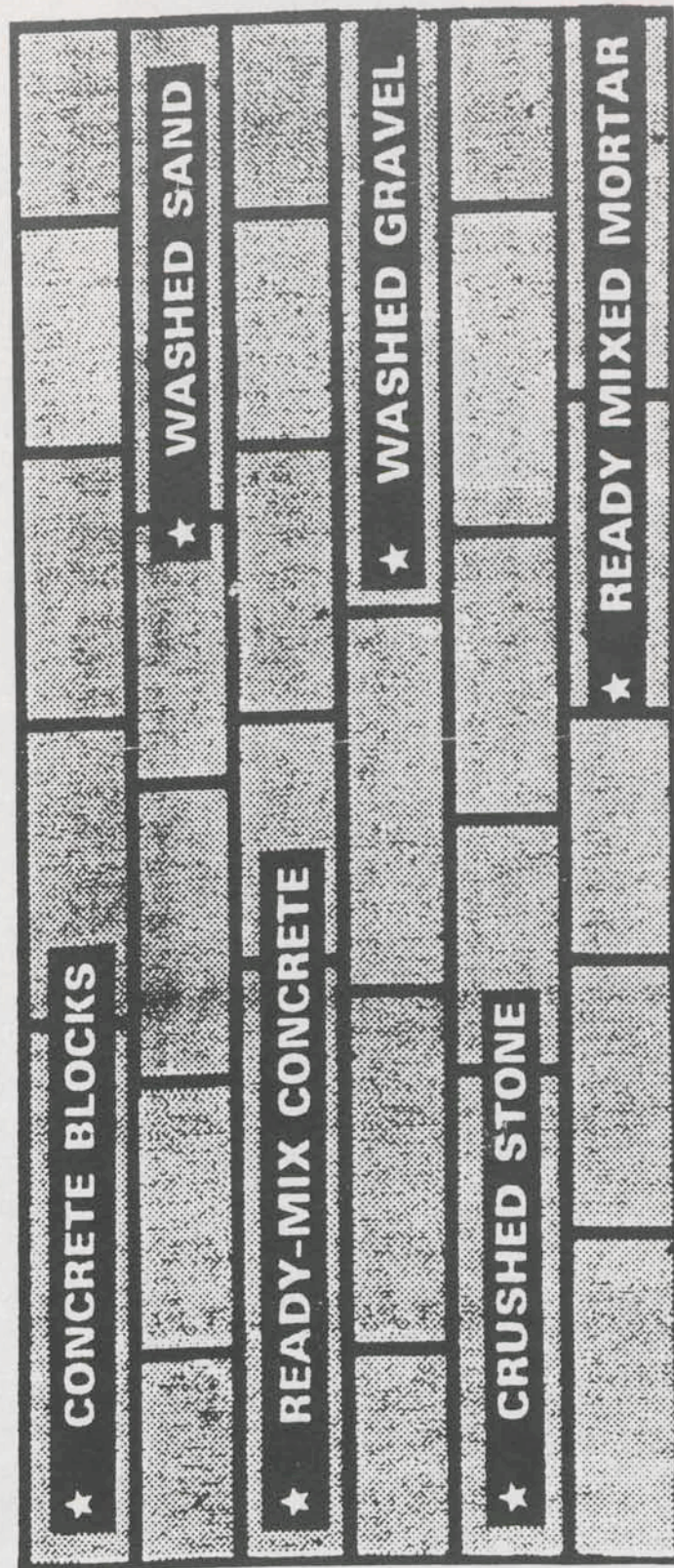
**ST. PATRICK'S (DRANGAN-CLONEEN) — SOUTH JUNIOR FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS**  
Noel O'Halloran, Eugene McCormack, Henry Meagher, Paul Anglim, John Noonan, Colm Duggan, Liam O'Connor, Thomas McCormack, Eamon Hall, Martin Heffernan, Peter Hogan, Michael O'Dwyer, James Ryan. FRONT (left to right) — Jim McGrath, John Keane, Maurice Lyons, Seán Holohan, Billy Brett (captain), Thomas Anglim, Davie Hogan, Liam O'Dwyer, Michael Mulally, Jeremiah Hogan.



**SLIEVENAMON — SOUTH AND COUNTY UNDER-21 FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS**  
BACK ROW (left to right) — D. Hahessy, L. Cronin, R. Lyons, M. Drohan, S. Delahunty, K. Delahunty, G. Ryan, E. Hewitt. FRONT ROW (left to right) — G. O'Meara, J. McGrath, A. O'Meara, P. O'Connor, J. Owens (captain), J. O'Meara, P. Norris.



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# SNIPPETS BY THE DECADE

## 1887—100 Years Ago

Jim Stapleton led Tipperary to the first All-Ireland senior hurling title. The game was played at Birr, Co. Offaly on Easter Sunday, 1888. Thurles represented Tipp and their Galway opponents were drawn from the Mellick club. The score was one goal and one point and one forfeit point; Galway failed to score. Tommy Healy scored Tipp's goal. Mr. P. White was referee.

The victorious team: Jim Stapleton (captain), Tom Burke, Ned Murphy, Pat Leahy, Jack Dunne, Andy Maher, Matty Maher, Ned Bowe, John Mockler, Tom Stapleton, Jer Dwyer, Tom Carroll, Mick Carroll, Tom Maher, Dan Ryan, Ger Ryan, John Leahy, Tommy Healy, Tim Dwyer, Ned Lamb, Martin McNamara.

130 clubs were affiliated to the Tipperary Co. Board. Mr. J. K. Bracken of Templemore was Board President.

## 1897 — 90 Years Ago

The County Convention was held in Tipperary Town. Suirview represented Tipperary in the Munster senior hurling championship but paid the price at Cork when the home team won well 4-16 to 0-0.

Suirview lined out with the following team: John Fogarty, Dan Morrissey, Pat Morrissey, Con Maher, Peter Maher, Simon Moloney, Tim Heaney, James Heaney, Ned Pennefether, Willie Dwyer, Tom Dwyer, Con Dwyer, Tom Ryan, Pat Ryan. Three Thurlesmen were included, Bill Ryan, Tom Semple and Jim Sullivan.

## 1907 — 80 Years Ago

Thurles was the venue selected for the County Convention. Mr. Frank Moloney of Nenagh was the county chairman. The South Tipperary Board was formed at a meeting in Clonmel on 8th June.

The county S.H. title was captured by Thurles De Wets from the North Division were ousted by 3-13 to 1-6 at the Cashel venue. Mikey Maher of Tubberadora was referee.

## 1917 — 70 Years Ago

Tipperary won the Munster S.H. title when they defeated Limerick in a



replay at the Cork Athletic Grounds 6-4 to 3-1.

The first game ended at 3-4 each.

Tipperary: J. Leahy (captain); J. Doherty, W. O'Dwyer, J. Power, R. Walsh, P. Leahy, J. Nagle, J. O'Meara, J. Collison, S. Hackett, H. Shelly, M. Leahy, T. Shanahan, N. O'Dwyer, J. Fitzpatrick.

Dublin Collegians defeated the Boherlahan men in the All-Ireland final by 5-4 to 4-2. The Hackett brothers of Tipperary opposed each other in that game. Stephen played with Tipp and Martin collected his coveted medal in the Dublin colours. Canon M. K. Ryan of Thurles was elected County Chairman (At that time he was a curate). He held the chairman's post until December, 1924.

## 1927 — 60 Years Ago

Denis Lanigan of Gortnahoe, was the referee appointed for the All-Ireland senior hurling final (Dublin 4-8; Cork 1-3). Four Tipperary hurlers were selected for the Munster team in the inaugural Railway Cup competition. There was no joy for J. Leahy, M. D'Arcy, P. Cahill and M. Kennedy in the final as Leinster held out for victory. Leinster 1-11, Munster 2-6.

Three Railway Cup football medals came to Tipp when Munster defeated Connaught 2-3 to 0-5. Selected from the Premier County were W. Grant, M. Shanahan, J. Doran.

The Association was all the poorer with Maurice Davin's death on January 19th, 1927, aged 83 years. Boherlahan won the county senior hurling title when they beat

Toomevara in the final at Thurles. They had nine points in hand when referee J. J. Callanan blew full time. Boherlahan 4-1, Toomevara 1-1.

## 1937 — 50 Years Ago

Tipperary had another historic victory when the All-Ireland S.H. championship was won. The game was played at Fitzgerald Stadium, Killarney on Sunday, Sept. 5th. The game was arranged for Killarney due to the closure of Croke Park where major development works were in progress.

Tipperary were leading 2-8 to 0-2 at half-time and ran out easy winners by 3-11 to 0-3. Thurles Sarsfields supplied the proud captain in Jim Lanigan. Mr. Pádraig O'Caomh was the President of the Association and presented the Cup to the winners. A crowd of 43,260 witnessed a disappointing game.

Tipperary: T. Butler, D. O'Gorman, J. Cornally, Jim Lanigan (captain), J. Ryan, J. Maher, W. Wall, J. Gleeson, J. Coffey, T. Treacy, W. O'Donnell, D. Murphy, T. Doyle, P. Ryan.

Four footballers from the Premier County were honoured with Munster selection. Two players were on the team beaten by Connaught in the final (2-4 to 0-5). They were W. Scott and R. Power. Included in the subs were R. Allen and T. O'Keeffe.

The Munster Junior Football trophy was won for the fifth time. At Fermoy on August 1st, Limerick were defeated by 3-6 to 0-6 in the final. Waterford were defeated in the first round 4-6 to 0-4 played at Dungarvan. In the semi-final which was decided at the Waterford venue also Tipp edged out Kerry on the score 1-3 to 0-5.

Tipperary: T. Power, J. Condon, P. Power, T. Kenny, E. Smith, H. McGrath, W. Connors, E. O'Meara, P. Donoghue, W. Treacy, J. Hickey, W. Donoghue, J. Quirke, J. Dunne, B. Kissane.

## 1947 — 50 Years Ago

Harry Gouldsbrough, the Tipperary hurling star won a Cork senior hurling medal with St. Finbarr's. Mr. J. Leahy was county secretary. Willie Wall led the Carrick Swans to the County S.H. title. The game was fixed for Clonmel. The Swans defeated their north opponents Borrisoleigh by 5-4 to 2-2.



M. Maher, Tommy Doyle, Jim Devitt and Flor Coffey wore the Munster 'Blue' but won no medals as Connaught won the day 2-5 to 1-1.

Jim Williams and Mick Cahill were included in the Munster football selection but they were also on the losing side to the Ulstermen 0-11 to 1-3.

The Munster minor hurling crown was won at Thurles with a 2-4 to 1-2 victory over Waterford. The team went on the defeat Galway in the All-Ireland final.

## 1957 — 30 Years Ago

Munster won the Railway Cup hurling competition with a convincing victory over Leinster 5-7 to 2-5. Tipperarymen in that victory were Pat Stakelum, Mick Ryan, Jimmy Finn and Paddy Kenny.

Jimmy Finn and Paddy Kenny were selected to play for Ireland. The Rest of Ireland selection included Pat Stakelum and Mick Ryan. Another trophy was added to the impressive Tipperary collection when the St. Brendan's Cup was captured at the expense of New York. The Premier County triumphed by 2-15 to 4-4.

A splendid victory over Kilkenny brought the National League title to the Premier County for the seventh time. Tipperary 3-11; Kilkenny 2-7.

Munster and All-Ireland minor hurling titles were won. Munster final: Tipperary 3-8; Limerick 1-4. All-Ireland Final: Tipperary 4-7; Kilkenny 3-7.

## 1967 — 20 Years Ago

Tipperary star Tony Wall won an All-Army hurling medal with the Southern Command team.

Seamus O'Riain was elected President of the G.A.A. (1967-1970). Carrick Davins brought the Munster Club Hurling Trophy to Tipperary when they defeated Ballygunner of Waterford by 2-17 to 1-11 in the final which was played in Clonmel on August 20th, 1967.

North Tipperary won their fourth successive All-Ireland Vocational Schools Hurling Championship.

On July 30th Tipperary beat Clare 4-12 to 2-6 at Limerick to take another Munster S.H. Championship.

Tipperary: John O'Donoghue, John Doyle, Kieran Carey, Noel O'Gorman, Mick Burns, Tony Wall, Len Gaynor, Theo English, Mick Roche, Donie Nealon. Larry Kiely, Liam Devaney, Mick Keating, John McKenna, Seán McLoughlin. H.T. Tipperary 2-6; Clare 2-4. Attendance: 34,940.

Dublin were defeated by 1-8 to 1-7 in the All-Ireland U-21 (H) Final.

## 1977 — 10 Years Ago

Mick Frawley of Emly was elected chairman of the Munster Council and served his three year term of office until 1980. Thurles Sarsfields held the official opening of their G.A.A. Centre on 30/10/1977.

Leinster took the Railway Cup hurling honours when they beat Munster 2-17 to 1-13. Tipperary had three players in the Munster panel — James Kehoe, Tadgh O'Connor and Noel O'Dwyer.

Kilruane McDonagh's captured the county senior hurling title when they defeated Borrisoleigh 1-5 to 0-5 after a replay.

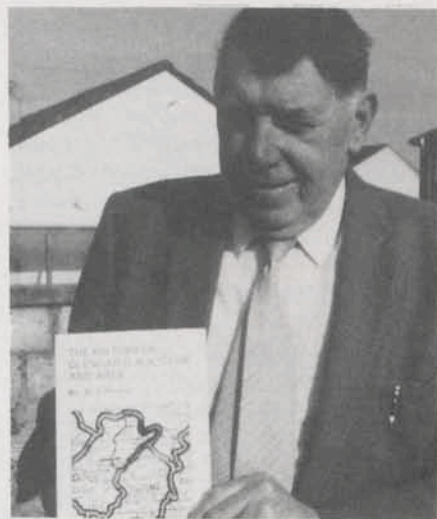
Eire Óg, Nenagh were winners of the minor championship when they scored 2-5 to Loughmore/Castle-inney's 0-10.

Clonoulty-Rossmore won the county U-14 Rural (H) title with seven points to spare over Toomevara 5-9 to 5-2. Willie Peters of St. Mary's, Clonmel, was the winner of the All-Ireland hurling skills competition at Féile na nGael. Willie scored full marks for outright victory.

Seán O'Driscoll

## History of Glengar G.A.A.

*D. J. Treacy with a copy of his book, "The History of Glengar G.A.A. club and area."*



*Dr. Dermot Clifford being given a presentation of Hon. Life President of Arravale Rovers by chairman M. Ryan. Also included are M. Haslam, treasurer; J. O'Donoghue, president; J. O'Connell, Secretary.*



**CASHEL — CROSCÓ, CUP WINNERS 1986**

*BACK ROW: Ger Slattery, Peter Fitzell, Joe Minogue, Tony Slattery, Tony Smith, Jimmy Ryan (J), Sean Slattery, Pat O'Donoghue. FRONT ROW: Tommy Grogan, Don Higgins, Pat Fitzell, Joe Delaney, Willie Fitzell (captain), Brendan Bonnar, Cormac Bonnar.*



# West Board Review — 1986

**A**LL championships were completed in time for the County deadlines except the I.H.C. The delay in playing this championship was due in part to the participation of Arravale Rovers in the Co. Minor and Senior Football championships where replays were involved. We can be reasonably happy with the running off of all the championships although the I.H.C. fixtures were not played as planned. Generally there is an urgent need to raise playing standards at club level. While all our games were played in a competitive sporting manner there were instances during the year when players accidentally received serious injuries. It will be one of the Board's priorities in the coming year to ensure that all clubs have an increased awareness of the importance of having facilities and basic equipment to cater for these emergencies and also the personnel in each club with some basic first aid training. Also during the year a very successful Referee's refresher course was held. The time has now come when each club will have to provide the Board with officials.

**Chairman:** Michael Maguire  
**Runai:** Jerry Ring  
**Treasurer:** Brendan Ryan  
**P.R.O.:** J. J. Kennedy  
**Vice-Chairmen:** John Treacy, Eamon Browne.  
**Co. Board Reps.:** D. J. Gleeson, John Treacy, George Ryan, Roger Kennedy, Mick Frawley (nom.)  
**Gate Checkers:** Richard Meagher, John Currivan.



BY JERRY RING

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## Senior Hurling Championship — Knockout

Eight teams affiliated and seven games were played. 1986 saw the emergence of Emly in this championship. However, they went down rather easily to Golden/Kilfeacle in the first round. Cashel made a surprising exit at the hands of Seán Treacys. The holders Cappawhite had yet another close call from Clonoulty/Rossmore while Eire Óg accounted for their neighbours and old rivals, Kickhams.

In the semi-final Cappawhite went down rather easily to Eire Óg while Golden/Kilfeacle disposed of the Treacy's. the final was played in Dundrum on July 7, before a large attendance and in a very enjoyable and close game Eire Óg had two points to spare over Golden/Kilfeacle at the final whistle.

Loughmore had an easy win over Golden/Kilfeacle in the Co. Quarter Final while Holycross disposed of Eire Óg in the other Quarter Final.

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Eire Óg. Winners of West S.H.C. 1986. Back (l to r) A. O'Brien (selector), T. Ryan (L), K. Fox, S. Hanly, Matt Ryan, J. Hanly, J. Quinn, B. Burke, L. O'Dwyer, Ml. Ryan, J. Ryan. Front (l to r) S. Breen, T. Coughlan, P. P. O'Dwyer, A. Crosse, L. White, J. Breen, P. Fox, T. Gleeson (captain), S. Fox, T. O'Rourke, M. Quinn, P. J. Doherty.



Mick Maguire takes over as chairman. (l to r) J. J. Kennedy, P.R.O.; Mick Frawley; J. Ring, Runai; M. Maguire, chairman; B. Ryan, treasurer; R. Kennedy, W. Ryan, Fr. A. O'Donnell.



Kickhams U-21 Hurlers — Winners of West U-21 Championship, 1986. Back row (l. to r.): S. Bradshaw, A. O'Dwyer, D. Keating, E. Butler, J. O'Dwyer, D. Ryan, C. Cussen, R. Hanly, S. Furlong, M. Walsh, P. Farrell, F. Buckley. Front row (l. to r.): P. Butler, D. J. Butler, J. Butler, P. Kearins, J. Hogan, P. Ryan, T. Farrell, B. Hayes, M. Browne, W. Carroll.



## Crosco Cup — S.H. League

Nine teams entered the league. Solohead was the only non Senior team to compete. Fifteen games were played between the 30th of March and the final on April 18th. Cappawhite won Division A and Cashel came through from Division B to contest the final. After a fine game Cashel made amends for their defeat in 1985, by Clonoulty, when they had victory over a fancied Cappawhite side.

## Junior Hurling Championships — League

Seven teams affiliated and were divided into two groups. Four teams in Group I and three teams in Group II. The two top teams in each group contested the semi-finals. Kickhams defeated Clonoulty/Rossmore and Cashel defeated Eire Óg in the Semi-Finals. Cashel had a meritorious victory over Clonoulty in the final. The League began on June 28th, fifteen games were played up to the final which was played on October 5th. In the Co. Semi-Final Cashel were defeated by Roscrea.

## U-21 Hurling Championship Knockout

Nine teams affiliated and ten games were played. The Championship was begun on the first Sunday of April in order to avoid clashes later on. However the involvement of the Co. Minor Hurling team led to some of the semi-finals being re-scheduled and going on late. To comply with County deadlines the final was played on August 23rd. Arravale Rovers were a surprise package in the Championship and took the holders Clonoulty/Rossmore to a replay before giving best. In the other semi-final Kickhams defeated Emly/Lattin. The final between Kickhams and Clonoulty/Rossmore aroused much interest and after a great game Kickhams came back from the jaws of defeat to score a one point win over a fancied Clonoulty/Rossmore side.

In the Co. Semi-Final Toomevara proved more than a match for the Kickhams.

## "A" Minor Hurling Championship-League

Five teams affiliated and thirteen games were played. The four top teams in the League contested the Semi-finals.

Cappawhite did not reach the Semi's. Arravale Rovers defeated



*Referees Course in West Tipperary. Pictured on completion of referees course in February '86. Included are: M. Frawley, J. Moloney, G. Ryan, N. Dalton, P. Lane, M. Maguire, J. Mulvihill.*

Kickhams in one Semi while Clonoulty/Rossmore defeated Cashel in the other. The Championship began on April 12th and the final was played between Clonoulty/Rossmore and Arravale Rovers on August 30th. Clonoulty/Rossmore were too good for a spirited Rovers fifteen and took the Championship.

In the Co. Semi-Final Toomevara defeated Clonoulty/Rossmore.

## "B" Minor Hurling Championship-League

Six teams affiliated and played in two groups, Emly and Galtee Rovers won through Group 1 while Seán Treacy's and Golden/Kilfeacle came out of Group II. In the semi-final Seán Treacy's defeated Galtee Rovers while Golden/Kilfeacle defeated Emly. Golden/Kilfeacle were too good for Seán Treacy's in the final.

In the Co. Semi-Final Burgess defeated Golden/Kilfeacle.

## Senior Football Championship Knockout, with Losers' Group

The winners of the Losers' Group re-entered the Championship at the Semi-Final stage. First round games were played on May 4th. This competition was complicated in that it took thirteen games to decide the Championship. Galtee Rovers, Arravale Rovers, Latin/Cullen and Golden/Kilfeacle won their first round games. Golden and Galtee Rovers went into one semi-final. Arravale Rovers and Latin/Cullen played a second round and Arravale Rovers won giving them the right to play the winners of the losers group. In the losers group the Solohead-Cappawhite game and the Emly-Cashel games both went to replays. Solohead and Emly contested the final with Solohead winning and playing

Arravale Rovers in the semi-final proper. Golden/Kilfeacle defeated Galtee Rovers and Arravale Rovers defeated Solohead in the semis. The final was played on August 17th. Golden/Kilfeacle had a historic win to capture the Hennessy Cup for the first time.

In the County Quarter Finals Arravale Rovers accounted for Moyne/Templetuohy while Loughmore/C defeated Golden/Kilfeacle. Arravale Rovers surrendered their county crown when they were defeated in the county semi replay by Fethard.

## O'Donoghue Cup — Senior Football League

Ten teams affiliated involving twenty one games. The League was run in two sections with five teams in each. Oola and Galbally participated in this competition. Galbally won Group I while Emly came through Group II. Galbally v. Emly in the final has yet to be played.

## Junior Football Championship-Knockout

Thirteen teams affiliated in the championship. Rosegreen were defeated by Aherlow in one semi-final while Arravale Rovers pipped Galtee Rovers in the other. Aherlow who were regraded from Intermediate status were clear favourites to take the title but Arravale Rovers secured a merited victory over this fancied Aherlow side in the final. Arravale Rovers were beaten by Eire Óg, Nenagh, in the Co. semi-final on November 16th.

## Junior Football League

Nine teams affiliated and it was played in two groups. Five teams in Tipperary G.A.A. Year Book — 89



Group A and four teams in Group B.

It was not as successful as in previous years. Too many clubs did not take the League seriously enough. Aherlow were undefeated in Group A and Rosegreen were undefeated in Group B. These met in the final and Rosegreen took the newly presented O'Sullivan trophy.

### **U-21 Football Championship-Knockout**

Ten teams affiliated. Golden/Kilfeacle defeated Galtee Rovers in one semi-final while Latin/Emly disposed of Arravale Rovers in the other. In the final Lattin/Emly had a rather easy victory over Golden/Kilfeacle to take the West title for their fifth successive year. They went on to the Co. Final to meet Slievenamon after defeating Newport in the Co. Semi-Final. In the County Final they surrendered the crown which they had captured in 1985.

### **"A" Minor Football Championship-League**

Six teams affiliated. The League was played in two groups with three teams in each. The two top teams on points in each group contested the Semi-Finals. Arravale Rovers defeated Cashel in the Semi-Final and Golden/Kilfeacle in the final. They were taken to a replay in the Co. Semi-Final by an excellent Eire Og/Nenagh team. In the Co. Final Arravale Rovers were too good for Eire Og/Templemore. Arravale Rovers last won the Minor Co. Championship in 1986.

## **JAMES HENNESSY DUNDRUM, TIPPERARY**

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### **"B" Minor Football Championship-League**

Five teams affiliated and the championship was played on a full round League basis. In the semi-finals Solohead/Eire Og had the better of Cappawhite while Rockwell Rovers defeated Kickhams. In an excellent final the combo proved too good for a very fine Rockwell Rovers side. Solohead/Eire Og defeated Moneygall in the Co. Semi-final but were not 90 — Tipperary G.A.A. Year Book

good enough for the South "Combo" Brian Borus in the Co. Final. I feel it would be a good idea if the "B" championship were confined to club teams.

### **Intermediate Football Championship-League**

This competition had four teams and was played on a League basis. The two top teams in the League, Eire Og and Clonoulty/Rossmore contested the final and the 1985 Co. Junior Champions Clonoulty/Rossmore won the Championship for the first time. They had a deserved victory over Borrisokane in the county semi-final. They then had a historic win over Newcastle in the final to take the title for the first time ever.

### **Championship Winners and Runners-Up 1986 Football**

S.F.C. Bro. Hennessy Cup.  
17/8/'86. Golden/Kilfeacle 0-12;  
Arravale Rovers 0-8. Ref. T. Meehan.

S.F.L. O'Donoghue Cup. Emly w.o.  
Galbally; Ref. J. Moloney.

I.F.C. The Hennessy Trophy.  
5/10/'86. Clonoulty/Rossmore 2-7;  
Eire Og 1-5. Ref. T. Hennessy.

J.F.C. Rev. A. Tobin Cup. 28/9/'86.  
Arravale Rovers 0-4; Aherlow 0-1.  
Referee: P. Russell.

J.F.L. O'Sullivan Cup. 5/10/'86.  
Rosegreen 3-4; Aherlow 1-8. Ref. L.  
Quirke.

U-21 F.C. J. J. Kenneally Cup.  
14/9/'86. Lattin/Emly 2-10;  
Golden/Kilfeacle 0-6. Ref. T.  
Hennessy.

M.F.C. Willie Dwyer Cup 6/9/'86.  
Arravale Rovers 4-4; Golden/Kilfeacle  
0-6. Ref. E. Buckley.

"B" M.F.C. Ryan Shield 6/9/'86.  
Solohead/Eire Og 3-9; Rockwell  
Rovers 2-7. Ref. C. O'Sullivan.

### **Hurling**

S.H.C. Willie O'Dwyer Cup  
27/7/'86. Eire Og 2-9; Golden/Kil-  
feacle 1-10. Ref. G. Ryan.

S.H.L. Crosco Cup 18/5/'86.  
Cashel 1-10; Cappawhite 0-6. Ref. C.  
O'Sullivan.

I.H.C. Johnny Leahy Cup  
26/10/'86. Arravale Rovers 2-6;  
Solohead 0-3. Ref. P. Lonergan.

J.H.C. Dr. Hickey Cup 5/10/'86.  
Cashel 3-10; Kickhams 2-2. Ref. S. O.  
Riain.

U-21 H.C. Tony Brennan Cup  
23/8/'86. Kickhams 2-6; Clonoulty/Rossmore 2-5. Ref. A. Ryan.

M.H.C. Liam O'Duibhir Cup  
30/8/'86. Clonoulty/Rossmore 3-12;  
Arravale Rovers 1-7. Ref. E. Browne.,

"B" M.H.C. Loughman Centenary  
Cup 16/9/'86. Golden/Kilfeacle 1-7;  
Seán Treacy's 0-5. Ref. P. Russell.

# **Thurles Handball Club**



**T**HE year 1980 was a good year for handball in Thurles whilst not commanding large volumes of spectators it really was a most satisfying year from a promotion of the game for the committee. With a usage of approx. 80% of nights throughout the year involving players from many areas in the county playing in practice games and in competitions the booking schedule was always well written up for game times.

During the year the Shamrock Trophy; The Golden Masters, Inter Club contests, were played at various stages of sequence from first rounds to finals.

The committee were favoured during the year with a trophy presented to them by Mr. John Carew and family, Leugh. This competition drew all the top class handball players in Ireland, after a weekend of what was really an inter-county contest. The eventual winners were: Michael "Ducksie" Walsh and Eugene Downey, both of Kilkenny.

The Co. Intermediate singles was played in the court, again it was a most satisfactory contest.

The ladies' all-Ireland series in: Senior, Junior, Novice, Over-30 and Over-40 categories in both singles and doubles were played here in October; again visiting teams from many counties took part all of which were lured in their praise of the ball court. A competition for juveniles was played during the year. 30 boys competed and a high standard of play was enjoyed by both contestants and spectators. This competition was most satisfying for the committee as it augurs well for a revival of the game in Thurles.

The committee sincerely thank all the Co. Board and Divisional Board members for help during the year. A deep and sincere thanks to all donors and sponsors and to the public who came and watched. Looking forward to 1987.

We would love to see more of the young people of Thurles coming to our new alley and enjoying its most-modern facilities. They will be very welcome.



# WEST TIPPERARY BORD NA N-ÓG

By Lou Reardon

- Under 12 Hurling: A. Kickhams.  
B. Aherlow.
- Under 12 Football: A. Arravale Rovers.  
C. Rockwell.
- Under 14 R. Hurling: Kickhams,  
Co. Champions
- U/R Hurling: Kickhams
- U/R Hurling: B. Eire Óg
- Under 14 R. Football: Kickhams,  
Co. Champions.
- U/R Football: Arravale Rovers,
- Under 14 Football: B. Lattin.
- Under 16 Hurling: Arravale Rovers.
- B. Cappawhite.
- Under 16 Football: Arravale Rovers,  
Co. Champions.
- B. Aherlow.

- Under 13 Hurling,  
Garda Cup: Lattin
- Under 15 Football  
Garda Cup: Lattin

Competition commenced with the under-12 football competition in April and finished with the Garda Cup competition in October. In spite of a very bad Summer competition went as scheduled and all county deadlines were met.

Our under-16 footballers beat the North in the first round of the inter-divisional football but lost by a goal to the South in the final.

In the Munster inter-divisional U-16 hurling competition we won our first round match but were beaten by North Cork in the second round. Five players from the division were on the under-14 county hurling team who took part in the Waterford Glass tournament.

It was a year when three county titles came to the west but at year end the Board held a special meeting to discuss all aspects of juvenile games and coaching for club members involved with juveniles.

During the Winter it is intended that there will be courses in hurling and football coaching.

Congratulations to Knockavilla Kickhams under-14 hurlers who won the county Féile and went to the semi-final of the All-Ireland Féile. Also Miss M. Moloney (New Inn) who won the county final solo singing in the Scór '85. A special word of thanks to J. J. Kennedy for his co-operation during the year.



**LATTIN/CULLEN, U.13 GARDA CUP HURLING WINNERS 1986**

FRONT: Pat Murray, John Breen, Maurice Crowe, Kevin O'Dwyer, Shane Quinlan, Donal Leahy, Aidan Kiely, Ollie O'Neill, John Burns, James Burns. BACK: J. P. Kenny, Aidan O'Dwyer, John Kiely, Damien Moloney, Gerard Maguire, Tony O'Neill, Michael Kenny, Kevin Quirke, John Landers, Tim Hourigan, James Cunningham. Missing from photo: David Cunningham.



**LATTIN/CULLEN, U.14B WEST FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS 1986**

FRONT ROW: Ollie O'Neill, Donie Leahy, Art Barlow, Aidan O'Dwyer, John Landers, Kevin Quirke, Pat Maguire, John Kiely, Adian Kiely, Tom Ryan, James Cunningham, Damien Moloney, Tom Bradshaw. BACK ROW: Eamonn Buckley, Michael Butler, Pdraig Burns, Tim Burns, David Cunningham, Declan McGrath, Gerard Maguire, Kevin Kiely, Tony O'Neill, Tom Purcell, Michael Howe, Donal Ryan, John Ryan, Tim Hourigan.



**ARRAVAL ROVERS U.12 F. WEST CHAMPIONS**

BACK (l. to r.): M. Gleeson, D. Lynch, G. Lonergan, K. O'Sullivan, D. Donovan, D. Ryan, David Donovan, A. Quinlan, R. Kinane, B. Lacey, K. O'Sullivan. FRONT: D. Cleary, K. Jones, S. Maguire, D. Cremins, O. Bresnan, C. Brett, D. Ryan, D. J. Lynch, S. Lynch.

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# A GREAT YEAR FOR ARRAVALE ROVERS

By J. O'CONNELL

*Two county titles, seven divisional titles and a few near misses, reflect the level of participation and success of our teams as we began our second century.*

**T**HE juveniles again led the way as they have been doing for a number of years now. A clean sweep of West Football titles at U/21, U/14 and U/16 was achieved, culminating with 16's annexing the County Title. The U/12's defeated Cashel in the West final and after giving a tremendous display lost by a narrow margin to Clonmel Commercials in the Co. Final.

The U/14's also won the Divisional title at the expense of Aherlow after a close game. A County Final appearance was denied, however, when Clonmel Óg overcame them in the Semi-final.

If there had been disappointment with the above-mentioned teams, the U-16's showed the way to others in the club. After a slow start in the early rounds of the West Championship they improved immensely to record a fine win over Cashel in the final. A County Final place was secured with a victory over Durlas Óg. A superb performance in the County Final saw them defeat Fethard to bring to the club a championship we had not won before.

The U/14 hurlers again reached the Divisional final only to lose to a fine Knockavilla Kickhams in an exciting game. Looking ahead to '87, this is an age group in which we should have a lot to look forward to.

After the defeat already mentioned we looked to the U/16 hurlers to bring a long-awaited hurling title to the club. We were not to be disappointed and after giving a display full of skill, character and determination they were crowned Divisional Champions after defeating Cashel in a great final. St. Mary's, Clonmel, were defeated in the Co. Semi-final to qualify the club for their first ever final appearance in this grade. However, despite all their efforts they lost narrowly to Durlas Óg in a game which was in the melting pot until the final minutes.

On the representative side, Tom Toomey captained the County Senior



Presentation from Arravale Rovers Chairman M. Ryan (left) to Bro. Moloughney (right) on his departure to Rome. Front row includes Fr. O'Neill, J. O'Donoghue (President), J. O'Connell (Secretary).

football team and was joined on the side by Pat McCormack and Brendan Fogarty. David Walsh again represented the county, this time at U/21 level and John Lowry and Justin

Quinlan wore the Blue and Gold proudly on the Minor football and hurling teams respectively.

Looking back, '86 was a year of immense activity and achievement,



**1941 COUNTY SENIOR FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP WINNERS**

Presentation to some surviving members of Arravale Rovers 1941 S.F. Champions. Front row (l. to r.): J. Hogan (R.I.P.), J. Byrnes, H. Greensmith, B. O'Donoghue, L. Hayes (R.I.P.). Back row (l. to r.): J. Daly, B. McCarthy, T. Crowley, T. Kinane, E. Daly.



none of which would have been possible without all the marvellous people who acted as team trainers, selectors and committee members. The parents who drove many miles during the year are also due the special thanks of the club. Finally, to all our supporters who travelled faithfully to all venues the thanks of the club is due.

## Minor success

The Minor footballers also had a great year which was highlighted by their County title triumph. In the Divisional final they had a great win over old rivals Golden/Kilfeacle and Éire Óg. Nenagh were overcome in the County Semi-final after a replay. In the final, played in wet conditions, a fancied Templemore team was defeated to win a title we had not won for six years. This victory and the U/16 F. win, we all hope, will ensure a steady stream of players to the Senior grades during the coming years.

The minor hurlers also reached their divisional final, for the second successive year, with victories over Cappawhite and Knockavilla Kickhams. In the final they gave a great account of themselves before losing to a strong Clonoulty outfit. We also had good results in the U/21



*Arravale Rovers' Committee, Officers and members at recent meeting in the Club Rooms in Seán Treacy Park.*

football and hurling Divisional Championships, losing at the semi-final stage in both competitions.

In the adult grades, the loss of the Senior county title was softened somewhat by the Divisional Championship wins of the Junior footballers and the Intermediate hurlers. The Seniors again reached the Co. Semi-final stage only to lose to old rivals Fethard.

The Junior footballers at last won a Divisional title after some near misses over the last few years. Aherlow were defeated in the final and this success was a fitting reward for a number of

players who had experienced defeat in the three previous finals.

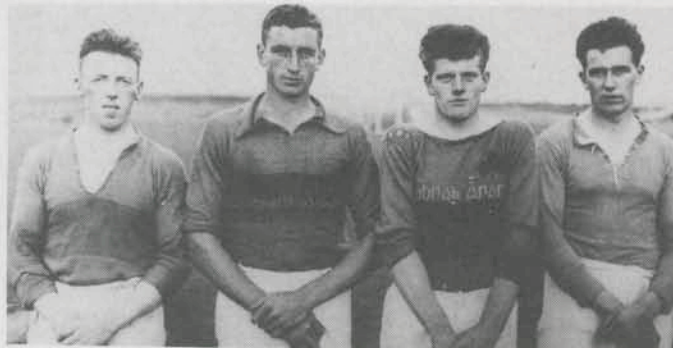
The Intermediate hurlers had been showing promise over the last few years and hopes were high that they could bring the first adult hurling title to the club since 1970. Having come through a championship which was run on a league system they defeated Solohead in the final to bring to an end a long barren period without success. Although they were defeated in the County Semi-final by Shannon Rovers, it is hoped that the experience gained and the lessons learned will be of benefit to them in the future.

## 50 YEARS AGO

*1937 Tipperary S.H. team in training before the All-Ireland Final in Killarney. Tipperary 3-11; Kilkenny 0-3.*



*Gerry Doyle, 'Sweeper' Ryan, Tommy Butler, Dan Mackey.*



*Bunny Murphy, Willie Wall, Philly Ryan, Bill O'Donnell.*



*Ger Cornally, John Maher, Jim Lanigan, Dinny Gorman.*



*Fr. Phil Purcell, Paddy Maher, Tom Kennedy, Martin Maher.*



# Knockavilla-Donaskeigh Kickhams Juvenile G.A.A.

BY CHRISTY RYAN



## KICKHAMS UNDER-14 WEST AND COUNTY CHAMPIONS

Front row (l. to r.): Tommy Riordan, Donal O'Brien, Tom Farrell, Declan Hogan (captain), Declan Crosse, Vincent Kelly, Christopher Ryan, Christopher Ryan. Middle row (l. to r.): Tommy Kelly (selector), Kevin Farrell, Sean Buckley, Clive Morrissey, Paul Ryan, Gerard Browne, Tim O'Brien, Laurence Dwyer, Gerry Cahill (selector). Back row: Seamus Farrell, Seamus Cussen, Kevin Ryan, Gerard Butler, Aodhain Slattery, Frank Dwyer, Liam Hourigan. Missing from photo: Allen Hogan.



## KICKHAMS U-12 HURLING CHAMPIONS

Front row (l. to r.): Peter Farrell, Paul Morrissey, Bobby Alley, Clive Morrissey (captain), Brian Morgan, Finbarr O'Brien, P. J. Horgan. Middle row (l. to r.): Tommy Kelly (selector), Declan Buckley, Kieran Dwyer, Declan Dwyer, Seamus Hennessy, Aodhain Dwyer, James McCormack, Jerry Cahill (selector). Back row: Seán McGrath, Michael O'Brien, Gerard Farrell, David Hourigan.

**A**ND so the curtain comes down on what has been a very successful and eventful 1986 for our juvenile club.

Once again most of the glory has fallen to our U-14 hurlers and footballers who were first into action in the Féile na nGael competition. Having first won out in the West division they went on to defeat old rivals St. Mary's and Éige Óg, Nenagh, to go through for the first time to represent Tipperary in the National Finals in Clare, Clarecastle were our hosts for the weekend, and what fantastic hosts they proved to be, as they did the people of Clare proud with their hospitality and generosity, our very sincere thanks to the families and officials of Clarecastle G.A.A. club.

On the playing front we beat Clarecastle and Banagher of Offaly to qualify for the Group Final v Eire Óg, Ennis whom we beat to go on and contest the semi-final where we were beaten by what appears to have been an illegal team, the investigation of which is still going on.

No respite for players or officials as they headed straight into local championships on the following week, Urban-Rural hurling was the first competition here, and we beat Cashel and Arravale Rovers to retain the title. The rural hurling title was won without playing a game as there was no opposition, which was probably a

relief to our hard pressed players who played a total of twenty-three games before the season was out. On to the County Rural semi-final where our opponents were Borrisokane whom we defeated by four points to go on and play Gortnahoe-Glengoose in the final. This game was played in Boherlahan and ended in a draw in the replay at the same venue on a very wet and windy evening the boys gave an improved performance and ran out worthy winners. In the County Urban Rural semi-final we were defeated by Dúrlas Óg who in turn were defeated by Borrisokane in the final.

This necessitated a play-off between ourselves and Borrisokane for the Turas na nOg but defeat was to be our lot here as we gave away some easy shots and missed a number of "sitters" but full credit to Borris for taking their chances we congratulate them on winning and hope they had a great outing to the All-Ireland. In between these games we had to fit some football matches and in the process qualified for the Rural football final v Aherlow and in a titanic struggle secured a draw. In the replay in which we had to field without two half backs and a midfielder the boys rose to the



## KNOCKAVILLA/DONASKEIGH KICKHAMS

Under-14 hurling team: Winners: West and County Rural Finals. Urban/Rural West Final. County Féile na nGael and All-Ireland semi-finalists in Féile na Gael. Front row (l to r): Tommy Riordan, Donal O'Brien, Tom Farrell, Kevin Farrell, Declan Crosse, Vincent Kelly, Christopher Ryan, Christopher Ryan. Middle row (l to r) Tommy Kelly (selector), Declan Hogan, Seán Buckley, Clive Morrissey, Paul Ryan, Gerard Browne, Tim O'Brien, Laurence Dwyer, Jerry Cahill (selector). Back row: Seamus Farrell, Seamus Cussen, Kevin Ryan, Gerard Butler, Aodhain Slattery, Frank Dwyer, Liam Hourigan.



occasion in style and got the vital match winning scores in the last three minutes. Having received a walk-over in the county semi-final it was on to play Fethard in the final, which was also won, the boys seemingly enjoying the change of game.

In U-12 grade the footballers reached the B final where they were defeated by a fine Aherlow team. Amends we made in hurling, beating Cashel and Arravale to win the championship and go on to play St. Mary's in the semi-final which was lost.

The U-16 grade was a big disappointment, with a team capable of winning the county title we went out very tamely due mostly to a lack of preparation which is understandable due to the U-14s taking up so much time plus a certain amount of indifference by some of the players. However, a few defeats will do these players no harm at all, as they have to learn to lose as well as win.

On the credit side here we have fine players still involved with the West Under-16 team, who at the time of

writing have still to replay the Inter-Divisional Garda Cup Final.

At this stage I would like to congratulate our friends in the camogie club who retained their Under-16 county title. In conclusion I would like to thank the players in all grades for their efforts, and can assure them they are appreciated. Also I would like to thank the selectors who did trojan work during the year and anybody who helped out with transport or in any other way.

# Knockavilla-Donaskeigh Camogie Club

BY ÉAMONN de BRÚN

**T**HE past year has seen the great strides made by the club, since its founding, continued, and the ladies have had a very successful year in '86.

The campaign started with the Kitty O'Flaherty Cup game against St. Brigid's (Moyne) on a successful note, the girls proving too strong for the opposition. This competition is on a league basis, and has yet to be concluded. We are fixed to play Cahir for a place in the county semi-final at the moment, with great hopes of reaching the final.

Next we had the U-16, U-18 7-a-side county competitions which were held in the outside field at the stadium. Having had three wins in the U-16 competition that day, we had reached the U-16 final. The weather in the end determined that the competition would not be finished, and at the stage our opponents in the final were not known. Later on Templederry-Toomevara won their way through to the final. This game was played late in the year in Toomevara, on a beautiful day, lovely well prepared pitch and the standard of camogie matched both.

This was a thrilling game with the girls just getting their heads in front at the finish.

The U-18 competition, was not finished either on that day in Thurles, and it was intended to finish it in conjunction with the U-16 final in Toomevara, but unfortunately circumstances determined that it could not be decided on the day. Eventually St. Bernadette's (Roscrea) and our own girls reached the decider. Breaches of the rules by St. Bernadette's, will probably mean the game being awarded to the girls. A



most unsatisfactory way to win it, but the only consolation would be that we have beaten them already with the illegal players.

In the U-16 county competition which the girls won the previous year, and were determined not to relinquish easily, our first round opponents were Moycarkey-Killenaule, this was a tough game and the girls had to call on all our resources, to overcome the opposition. Thurles were our next opponents in Thurles, and a mixup in travelling arrangements found us in

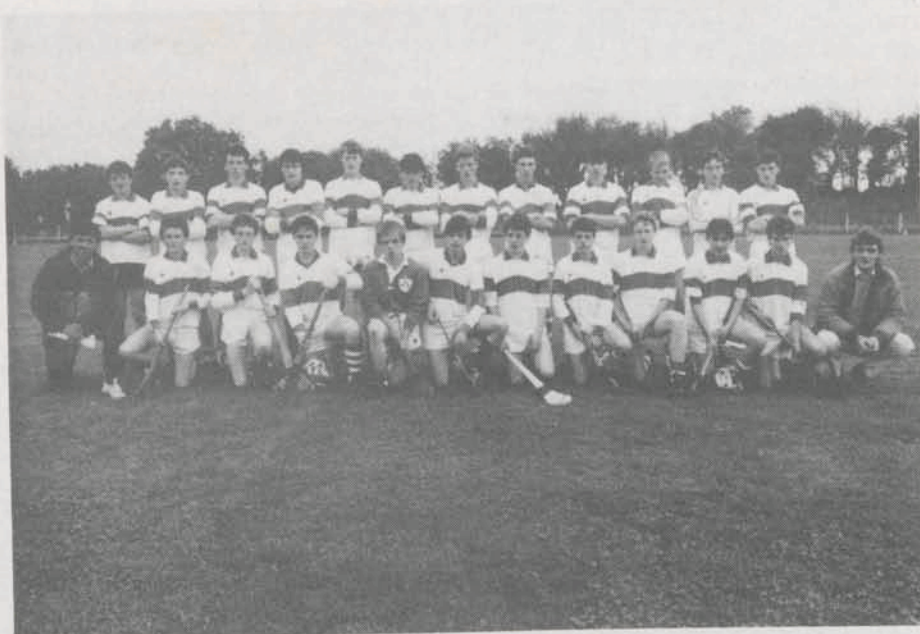
Thurles and short a player, despite frantic efforts we were unable to get any other girl to the game and were forced to field with eleven players.

A very good Thurles team pushed us all the way and only some first class displays from the girls ensured our victory. The competition being on a league system and some teams having lost a game or two, walk-overs were awarded and as only one team from each division North and South were going through to the final.



We were joined from the North division by the team we beat in the 7-a-side Templederry-Toomevara. The game was played in a beautifully prepared pitch in Drombane. This game had everything you could wish for — a great advertisement for the game. The opposition under the guidance of one of Tipp's famous sons Roger Mounsey were a different kettle of fish altogether to the previous year when we proved too strong for them. This time they were very well prepared and contested and challenged for every ball as if their lives depended on it. Our girls got the fright of their lives and only in the last few minutes did they get the score necessary to win. Their dedication, commitment and discipline shone out on that day, and it was all badly needed.

The U-18 competition has yet to be completed and we are hopeful of doing very well in this, we are in the county semi-final. The Junior Championship was a competition we entered to get match practice for the girls, but as the competition progressed we realised we had a chance of lifting the title. Having reached the county semi-final against Cahir, and not really expecting to win, on the first evening the girls surprised everyone with their display, and opened up a good lead, only to be hauled back in the end to level terms. In the replay, the girls realising it was possible to beat the opposition, hurled better than ever before, with every girl giving one hundred per cent, and winning easily in the end. Kilruane McDonaghs were our opponents in the final and again on this occasion, the girls exceeded our expectations with their display, taking the game to the stronger, more experienced



*The Abbey C.B.S. — winners of the Dean Ryan Cup for the first time in the school's history. Back (l. to r.): Pakie Roche, Andrew Quinlan, Colm O'Donnell, Michael Kelly, John Ryan, Paul Hayes, David Burke, Colm Bresnan (capt.), Brian O'Donnell, Brendan Ryan, Alan Quirke, Peter Gleeson. Front (l. to r.): Paddy Kelly (coach), Robbie Quinlan, Declan Crosse, Seamie O'Halloran, Donncha Moran, Cyril Stapleton, Lorcan Roche, Denis O'Shea, Michael O'Dwyer, Vinny Ryan, Paul McCarthy, Nicholas English (coach). Not in photo: Liam Ryan and Raymond Barlow.*

opposition, having scant regard for reputations. Unfortunately having led all the way up to the last 2 or 3 minutes when Kilruane scored the winning goal to put two points between the teams at the finish. This game we played without one of our stronger players.

Our U-14 team were beaten in the South semi-final by Moycarkey after putting up a great performance.

In conjunction with a festival being held in the parish, an U-16 and U-18 tournament was held and the girls were successful in both.

The county Junior and Senior 7-a-side competitions held towards the end of the year in Littleton saw the girls reach the final of the Junior competition, having beaten Shannon rovers, and Borrisokane, only to lose out again very unluckily to Kilruane in the final.

All in all a great year once again for the club, on the camogie fields, with great hope and expectations for the future. The panel of girls throughout the year included Angela O'Brien, Ger Kelly, Marian Bishop, Yvonne Bishop, Clare, Rita and Angela Farrell, Brid Farrell, Joan Breen, Celia Ryan, Margaret Gallagher, Michelle Morrissey, Patricia, Teresa, Caroline and Katherine Horgan, Madeleine and Sharon Browne. Marie and Roberta Barron, Eileen Kearns, Theresa Horgan, Helen and Sinead Carew, Yvonne and Una O'Dwyer, Mary Ryan, Miriam Browne, Margaret Hayes, Jean and Helen Lonergan, Mary Hourigan, Noreen Tobin, Geraldine Browne, Patricia Maher, Patricia Cussen, Breda O'Neill, Jackie Ryan, Breda Ryan, Mary Ita Buckley.

Players honoured with county jerseys during the year Yvonne O'Dwyer, Patricia Cussen, Sharon Browne at U-16. Madeleine Browne, Helen Carew, Mary Hourigan, Breda O'Neill, Noreen Tobin and Mary Ita Buckley (U-18), Madeleine Browne (Senior). Committee — Margaret Hayes, Miriam Browne, Tommy Hayes, Joe Lonergan, Noreen Browne, Mary Heney, Eamonn Browne.



**BURGESS/YOUGHALARRA — U.14 COUNTY CAMOGIE CHAMPIONS 1986**  
STANDING (left to right): Orla Hogan, Maria Hogan, Emer Nealon, Patricia Carmody, Deirdre Cooney, Treacy Meaney, Catherine Slattery, Anne-Marie Ryan, Elizabeth Sheehan. KNEELING (left to right): Elaine Quilan, Carol Quinlan, Nuala Nealon, Sinead Nealon, Norma Slattery, Sheila Brophy, Aine Hogan, Mairead Hogan. (Missing from photo: Valerie Tynan).



**THE tour to Australia by an All-Ireland Gaelic football team to play full International games against All-Australian football sides was an ideal opportunity for a group of supporters to travel to lend support to the national team and to see the sights of Australia in the process.**

## **The Australian Tour**

### **A TRIP OF A LIFETIME**

A supporters' tour was organised by Joe Walsh Tours and was availed of by 150 supporters. For Kilsheelan clubman James Holohan this was a trip that was specially tailored for him, a dedicated player and follower of our games, with a keen interest in all sports plus an appetite for facts and figures and information, here was a man who would make the most of this opportunity to be part of this historic trip. For the Tipperary Yearbook, he recalls the memories of this trip of a lifetime.

Dublin Airport was the departure point and for James it was a little awkward at this point as he knew no-one who was travelling in the party. This soon ceased to be a problem and shortly they were winging their way to the land downunder. First stop London, then Bombay, where the heat was 92 degrees. They were happy to lift off from here for the last leg of the journey, to Perth, where they arrived at 11.45 p.m. local time, after completing a 23-hour journey. In an hour the party were in their hotel and for the night and following day were able to relax and shake off the effects of the long journey.

On Monday the party went by coach to Bunbury, which is situated 100 miles south of Perth. There was a nice bit of farmland to be seen on the way as the area around Bunbury is a fertile region with extensive wheat farms and cattle ranches. On that evening a Mayoral reception for the Irish and supporters was given and this was the first opportunity to see and meet the Australian players. This was a very enjoyable function. On the Tuesday it was a great novelty to see the trial game played at Bunbury Oval and attended by a crowd of approx. 5,000. It was obvious at this stage that the Australian crowd loved the physical side of the game and wanted to see more of it.

On Wednesday, the party headed back to Perth via Freemantle and the next few days were spent seeing the sights of Perth — and they were many. Saturday was to be the big day with the first International and the priority for the Irish supporters on

Saturday morning was to get flag poles, green, white, gold material and someone to stick it together; this they managed to good effect. For most of the Irish party it was the first occasion to see a game under lights and what magnificent lights, newly installed at the W.A.C.A. Oval at a cost of over £4 million dollars. It was a memorable and proud moment for the Irish supporters when the Irish team, led by captain Jack O'Shea, came onto the field before an attendance of 24,000. The account of this game is well known and for the supporters at the game it caused them to have a doubt about the future of the games when they saw the tackles the Irish players had to endure. It seemed obvious the Australians wanted a very physical game and they loved every minute of the tough stuff.



*James Holohan pictured with Jack O'Shea.*

On Sunday the party departed for Adelaide and at this stage the spirit was beginning to build up, after a week together. There was a great sing-song on the coach going to the airport at 7 a.m. in the morning. The heat in Adelaide was lovely at 82 degrees and in the afternoon many of the party went to the Klemzig grounds, 6 miles outside Adelaide, for the Australising G.A.A. finals. This is a competition which is played off from Thursday to Sunday with teams from several states coming together to play off the championship. The games were very competitive with the standard quite high. The attendance was approx. 3,000 and support for the teams intense, reminding you of home. When the finals were over there was a celebration and presentation ceremony, with man of

the match awards etc. On Monday then, which was a Bank Holiday there, the Irish team played a selection from the Australian clubs.

On Tuesday the party left for Melbourne, where they were to spend the longest part of the tour. The weather in Melbourne was mixed and there is a saying there that you can get the four seasons in the one day — and it's true. Melbourne was an opportunity to visit many places of interest — the stadium where Ron Delany won his Gold medal in 1956, the jail where the famous Ned Kelly was incarcerated and hanged (now a museum), Captain Cook's cottage in Fitzroy Gardens, to mention a few. There was a tour to the town of Bullyrat, 70 miles from Melbourne, where nearby is situated the village of Sovereign Hill, the scene of a famous goldrush in 1831, where many Irish emigrants went to seek their fortune. This village was restored 16 years ago to exactly the same state it was in 1831 and the people who live and work there wear the dress of those days and cook and live in the same style. It is a popular tourist attraction in the area.

On the Sunday the highpoint was the second test played at the Victoria football league grounds. Melbourne is the home of the Australian rules game and there was concern in the Irish party the Aussies would be going all out for a win. However, the spirit in the Irish camp was very high and all were very pleased with the Irish performance. The injury to Jack O'Shea caused a bit of a scare in the Irish camp for a while but things settled down and the team had a fine win. While in Melbourne, the party also visited Barossa Valley, 60 miles from Melbourne, which is recognised as producing the finest wines in Australia. A feature of the transport system in Melbourne city is the Tram. The trams there take 100 passengers and move rather slowly; they also look rather old fashioned.

On the Tuesday, the party returned to Adelaide, where the Grand Prix motor racing event was taking place, and members of the party took the



opportunity of visiting the track. The 3rd and final test was arousing great interest and this game was to be played under lights at a venue 5 miles outside Adelaide. Before the game commenced, 3 parachutists jumped from a plane circling the field, two came down on the field, but one was blown off course and landed in the terraces and, sadly, died from his injuries. The game itself was the highlight of the tour. It was less physical than the other game, and when the Irish were allowed use their skill they proved superior. What a tremendous feeling when the final whistle blew and Jack O'Shea went up to receive the Cup. There were renderings of "Molly Malone", "The Banks", "The Rose of Tralee", etc.

On the Saturday morning the party left for Sydney, where the weather was very warm on arrival. On the Sunday the Irish team played New South Wales in a challenge game. David Lanigan from Grangemockler featured on the New South Wales' team. After the game there was a function attended by about 800, which was very enjoyable, and the party met many Irish emigrants and friends from home there. On the Monday, as the tour was drawing to a close, players and supporters availed of a cruise arranged by Phil Gannon, whose father was a former secretary of Roscommon Co. Board. This was a cruise on Sydney Harbour. There were many memorable sights to see including the famous Opera House. At this point, as the tour was coming to an end, one tended to look back on several aspects of the trip. The splendid accommodation and service in the hotels, how well the supporters' trip was organised by Joe Walsh tour. How helpful the Australian people were in every way.

In spite of earlier doubts about the compromise games, one felt the G.A.A. were perfectly correct to go ahead with them and to continue with them in the future. The admiration one felt for the Irish emigrants who are keeping our National games alive and well so far from home.

And so on Tuesday it was a time to say goodbye, goodbye to a land that probably most of the party would not see again, but would retain an everlasting memory of a wonderful and historic trip. The long journey homewards and the truly wonderful welcome at Dublin Airport, with the Artane Boys' band to play the party home.

All these plus many more will be the abiding memories of a trip of a lifetime.

**JAMES HOLOHAN**

*(In an interview with Sean Nugent)*



*Durlas Óg U-16 County and Mid Champions hurling and Mid football champions. Front (l. to r.): R. O'Dowd, J. Ryan, G. O'Connor, R. Corcoran, D. O'Shea, G. Purcell, M. Jordan, C. Hanrahan, P. Kennedy. Back (l. to r.): S. Quinn, P. Dundon, S. Callanan, S. Scanlon, M. McElgunn, T. Cooke, E. Coman, T. Maher (captain), B. Carroll.*



*Shane Tierney takes charge of the Borrisoleigh mascot - a bantam cock - before the final.*

*Donie Nealon, Matt Hassett and Eamonn Cregan in discussion at the Silver Jubilee.*







**SENIOR HURLING PANEL, WINNERS OF THE MUNSTER AND ALL-IRELAND 'B' CHAMPIONSHIP**

BACK ROW (l. to r.): Br. Madigan (Principal), Mr. Martin Slattery (trainer), Kieran Bourke, Stephen Shanahan, Aidan McGrath, Martin Hogan, Robbie Clear, Matthew Fogarty, Joe Guerin, George O'Leary, Gerry Gavin, Michael Burns, John Sheehy, Vincent Kyne (trainer). FRONT ROW (l. to r.): Eamonn Gaynor, Michael Mulcahy, Joe Kennedy, Declan Kelly, Dermot Hogan, Michael Gaynor (captain), Liam Sheedy, Eamonn Kirby, Seán O'Meara, Denis Ryan.

# NENAGH C.B.S.

**In 1983 Nenagh C.B.S. won an historic first ever All-Ireland hurling title when the B Championship was captured after a thrilling final in Thurles. A few years in the Harty Cup followed without too much success but in 1986 we were back challenging for All-Ireland honours again, and very much in earnest about it.**

**T**HE campaign began with a win over Charleville and this was followed by a rare fright against Clonmel when a late goal by team captain Michael Gaynor brought Nenagh from the brink. Shannon were overcome in the Munster semi-final and

Roscrea C.B.S. had to give best to a rampant Nenagh side in the second half of the Munster Final at Moneygall, after a very evenly contested first half.

A long trip to Trim followed for the All-Ireland semi-final and while the boys from Magheragh in Derry never

posed a serious threat, the victory was marred somewhat by a serious injury sustained by centre-back Michilín Delaney. A broken leg ended his involvement in the campaign but hopes were still high and the excitement at fever pitch as the squad travelled to Thurles for a historic all-Tipperary All-Ireland with Cistercian College, Roscrea, providing the opposition. When a decision was taken to postpone the match shortly before throw-in time acute disappointment was felt all round, but the memories of all disappointments were well and truly buried at

Cloughjordan on the following Sunday, May 11th, when a second All-Ireland was claimed in the most dramatic fashion imaginable. For long periods Roscrea seemed to be cruising to victory but inspired goalkeeping by Liam Sheedy and uncompromising defensive work in the face of relentless pressure kept Nenagh in the race. With the seconds ticking towards the final whistle and Nenagh trailing by two points, a last desperate attack was launched and Robbie Cleere struck a memorable goal to salvage victory from the jaws of defeat.



**NENAGH C.B.S. SENIOR FOOTBALL PANEL, WINNERS OF CORN AN RÚNAÍ (MUNSTER SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIP)**

BACK ROW (l. to r.): Br. Madigan (Principal), Mr. Tom Sheehy (trainer), Gerry Gavin, Michael Clear, Willie Kennedy, Michael Foley, Joe Delaney, George O'Leary, John Tierney, Robbie Clear, Matthew Fogarty, Michael Burns, Martin Hogan, Brendan Rochford, M. William Stankard (trainer). FRONT ROW (l. to r.): Aidan McGrath, Stephen Shanahan, Michael Mulcahy, Christy O'Connor, John Hassett, Kevin O'Carroll (captain), John O'Shea, Peter Fennelly, Eamonn Kirby, John Naughton. SITTING: Dermot Murphy, Diarmuid Hogan, Denis Ryan, Seán O'Meara.



# Champions from the Primary Schools of Tiobraid Árann



**C.L.G. NA mBUNSCOILEANNA — BALLYCAHILL N.S.: WINNERS OF ROINN C.**

FRONT ROW: L. O'Dwyer, N. Ryan, L. Carroll, D. Cullagh, B. Treacy (capt.), D. Delahunty, E. Cullagh, K. Loughnane, L. Cullagh. BACK ROW: R. Ryan, J. Bourke, B. Bannon, D. Finn, E. Delahunty, S. Ryan, M. Crowe, P. Finn, P. Kilbane, P. Maher. THIRD ROW: M. Loughnane and J. Daly (trainers).

(Photo: G. Willoughby)

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*St. Oliver's, Clonmel. Winners of Division II Primary School Football League.*





Scoil Ailbhe, under-13 hurling county champions. Front row - T. O'Dwyer, A. Moloney, N. Hanrahan, T. Tierney (captain), D. Keher, T. Kennedy. Second row - T. O'Connor, P. Walshe, L. Barrett, M. Murphy, D. Kennedy, E. McAree. Back row - E. Enright, J. Curry, K. Hegney. (Missing from photo: A. Lynch).



Scoil Ailbhe, under-13 B county hurling champions. Front row - D. O'Dwyer, N. Dundon, J. Doyle, D. Moore, P. McGrath. Centre - T. Cummins, C. Ryan, D. Shanahan, S. Ryan, M. Bowe, R. Doyle. Back row - L. Phillips, P. Barry, P. Purcell, C. Dunne, D. Burke, F. Loughnane, Miss P. Burke (captain), M. Larkin, P. Delahunty.



Scoil Ailbhe Under-11 footballers who retained the Tipperary primary schools league. Front row (l to r) J. Bowe, M. Kennedy, D. Martin, G. Mernagh (captain), B. Long, D. Dunne, J. Enright, C. Callanan. Back row (l to r) M. King, P. Lawlor, B. Lamphier, A. Kirby, B. Maher, P. Ryan, N. Murphy, S. Ryan. Missing from photo T. Connors.



Scoil Ailbhe under-11 hurlers, winners of the Tipperary Primary Schools league. Front (left to right) - G. Purcell, J. Enright, G. Monahan, M. Ryan, M. Brennan, P. Gleeson, M. Cleary, G. Mernagh, R. Carew. Back (left to right) - E. Ryan, J. Callanan, T. Gooney, M. McCarthy, P. Broderick, G. Spain, M. Lee, P. Murray, J. Campbell, B. Lamphier, T. Larkin.



Inch N.S., winners of Division III Primary Schools League, with Paudie Butler. Back row - John Costello, John Gormley, Timmy Ryan, Michael Jordan, M. Cahill, L. Looby, R. Kennedy, T. Cantwell. Front row - S. Ryan, P. Egan, P. J. Brett, N. Holland, J. Egan, P. Holland, M. Mordan, F. McGrath.



# Historic double for Abbey C.B.S.

Abbey C.B.S. bring off historic double by capturing Munster U-15b Championships in both hurling and football.

BY JERRY RING

**A**FTER many years of effort and much disappointment it was only a fitting reward for a dedicated bunch of players and teachers that Corn na Banndan and Corn an Phiarsaigh should find a home in the Abbey C.B.S. in 1986.

Hopes were high that the U-16½ hurlers could win the Munster Championship earlier in the year. However, they were beaten in the Munster Final by St. Munchin's. More effort and greater determination was surely needed and the U-15 panels had decided to avenge the defeat of the U-16½ hurlers.

The U-15 footballers had victories over St. Colman's, Limerick C.B.S. and St. Flannan's. They met De La Salle, Skibbereen, in the final. The game was played in Carriagnavar on a bitterly cold and windy day in February. The Abbey had wind advantage in the first half and led by 1-7 to 0-1 at half time. Some judicious changes were made at half time for the second half in which the Abbey would have to face the strong wind. The Abbey boys raised their game and added a further goal and two points while the backs managed to limit the Skibbereen forwards to just three points during the half. Peter Gleeson (captain) received Corn na Banndan after the game on behalf of the victorious team.

Abbey team: D. Horan (Eire Óg), B. Ryan (Arrav. Rvs.), B. O'Donnell (Arrav. Rvs.), W. Maher (Oola); V. Ryan (Eire Óg), P. Nugent (captain) (Arrav. Rvs.), D. Gleeson (Arrav. Rvs.); C. Bresnan (Arrav. Rvs.); M.



**ABBEY C.B.S. U-15 FOOTBALL TEAM**

Winners of Corn na Banndan 1986. Back (l. to r.): A. Quinlan, J. Ivory, C. Clifford, B. O'Donnell, J. Ryan, C. Bresnan, D. Burke. Middle (l. to r.): C. Stapleton, R. Quinlan, D. Quirke, M. Gleeson, D. Horan, B. Ryan, M. O'Dwyer, W. Meagher. Front (l. to r.): R. Barlow, E. Fahy, V. Ryan, P. Gleeson (capt.), D. O'Shea, S. O'Halloran, D. Nugent.

O'Dwyer, 0-1 (Kickhams); C. Clifford (Aherlow), S. O'Halloran, 1-6 (Arrav. Rvs.), A. Quirke, 0-1 (Arrav. Rvs.); E. Fahy 1-0 (Galtee Rvs.), D. Burke (Oola), D. O'Shea, (0-1) (Aherlow); Subs: R. Quinlan (Arrav. Rvs.) for V. Ryan; M. Gleeson (Arrav. Rvs.); J. Ivory (Arrav. Rvs.); R. Barlow, A. Quinlan, C. Stapleton, J. Ryan (all Arrav. Rvs.).

The U-15 hurlers with early round victories over Carraignavar, Ard Scoil Rís, and Nenagh faced their final against Shannon Comprehensive School in Croom with high hopes and the determination to bring off the

elusive double. Many of them already had been on the U-15 football campaign. The double had only been achieved twice previously. The final was also dominated by the strong wind. Abbey C.B.S. wind aided in the first half scored 3-1 and Shannon managed a solitary point. Heroic defensive work in the second half allied to a heroic performance by captain Michael O'Dwyer, contained the continuous Shannon onslaughts. The Abbey failed to raise a flag but Shannon managed only 1-1 with the wind so the Abbey held out and indeed the panel, mentors and numerous supporters were relieved to hear the final long whistle. Michael O'Dwyer received the trophy after the game amid scenes of jubilation.

Abbey team: D. Horan (Eire Óg); R. Barlow (Arrav. Rvs.), B. O'Donnell (Arrav. Rvs.), V. Ryan (Eire Óg); C. Stapleton (Arrav. Rvs.), B. Ryan (Arrav. Rvs.), R. Quinlan (Arrav. Rvs.); M. O'Dwyer (Kickhams), C. Bresnan (Arrav. Rvs.); A. Quirke (Arrav. Rvs.), P. Gleeson (Arrav. Rvs.), D. O'Shea (Aherlow); L. Ryan (Eire Óg), J. Ryan (Arrav. Rvs.), S. O'Halloran (Arrav. Rvs.); Subs: P. McCarthy (Arrav. Rvs.), for R. Barlow and L. Ryan (Oola) for L. Ryan.

The success of the Abbey is due to the dedication of teachers like Paddy



**ABBEY C.B.S. U-15 HURLING TEAM**

Winners of Munster Colleges - Corn na Phiarsaigh. Back (l. to r.): P. Roche, E. Fahy, M. Kelly, W. Collins, B. O'Donnell, J. Ryan, B. Ryan, P. Gleeson, L. Ryan, R. Barlow, D. Crosse, A. Quinlan, C. Bresnan. Front (l. to r.): J. Kiely, R. Quinlan, P. McCarthy, S. O'Halloran, L. Ryan, D. Horan, M. O'Dwyer (captain), A. Quirke, L. Stapleton, V. Ryan, D. O'Shea.



Kelly, Nioclás English, Michael Ryan, Tom O'Donoghue, J. J. Kennedy and Jerry Ring and also the recent resurgence of juvenile teams in the clubs in the schools catchment area. These compliment one another and the benefits in the end are mutual. The help of parents, supporters and local club members is also beneficial and long may this spirit continue. Of

course also the work of Br. Moloughney in the Primary School has also been of immense value.

Let's hope that the successes of 1986 will be carried forward by the teams of '87.

The U-14 footballers reached the

final of the county competition. The U-15 footballers were defeated by Carrick-on-Suir in the County Final. The U-14 hurlers reached the semi-final of the Rice Cup competition. The senior footballers defeated Hospital in the first round of the Munster Colleges competition. Because of crowding of fixtures the U-17 hurlers had to withdraw from the Croke Cup.

## The Hurling Coaching Course



### TEACHERS HURLING COACHING COURSE

Photograph taken in Semple Stadium, Thurles, during this year's summer course. Included are coaches Donie Nealon and Timmy Delaney and Liam O'Donoghue, who organised the course.

**T**HE first week of the summer holidays is a week when many Primary School Teachers attend various courses on the many aspects of their work. For some years now such a course has been conducted in Scoil Ailbe, Thurles, under the guidance of Liam O'Donnchú. This course has grown in popularity and increased numbers of teachers have been applying for to do the course. It concentrates on an aspect of the Schools Curriculum that

is growing in stature in Tipperary — namely hurling coaching.

This year's course was given by Donie Nealon, Timmy Delaney, Bro. J. Perkins and received enthusiastic acclaim from the wide cross-section of male and female teachers who took part. It was a basic course in the rudiments of the basic skills. It aimed itself at teachers who may have themselves never actually played competitively, but who wish to place their

teaching skills in the area of hurling coaching.

They were shown the correct methods, techniques, etc. . . . and developed an eye for identifying basic "bad habits" in young players.

These mistakes once identified can be corrected at an early stage. The teacher like the parent has his/her finger on the pulse of youth. The teacher is the motivator, the instructor, the source of encouragement to so many areas of the child's life.

Clubs should give those teachers who are promoting hurling more help. Visit them, approach them formally, and involve them in your club. Sponsor schools competitions, and help out with transport. Don't regard their efforts as a right or an entitlement, be with them and help them to help you. Long may this wonderful course continue, and long may we have teachers willing and able to promote hurling in the Primary Schools of Tipperary.

Some Tipperary delegates at Congress 1986 in Limerick (l. to r.): Jerry Ring, Mick Frawley, Tom O'Hara, John Doyle, Mick Egan, Mick Maguire, Martin O'Connor, Oliver O'Donnell, Rosegreen/New York; Mick Lowry, Paddy Browne, Paddy Maher, Pat Cullen, Tommy Barrett.





# 1986: A successful year for Cashel C.B.S. hurling

**C**ASHEL C.B.S. who have become renowned for their successes on the hurling scene over the years have succeeded in 1986 in becoming truly the Kings of County Tipperary Post-Primary Schools Hurling. During 1986 they won the Canon Fitzgerald Cup (county U-17 years hurling championship), Dr. Croke Cup (county U-16 years hurling championship), and the Dr. Kinane Cup (Munster Colleges U-16½ years hurling competition).

During the year the school lost only one competitive match out of thirteen at senior grade and that was in the first round of the Dr. Harty Cup. In this match played at Kilsheelin on the 5th February, Cashel who fielded a very young side were easily accounted for by the De La Salle Collge, Waterford.

## Canon Fitzgerald Cup

Cashel C.B.S. won the County Tipperary School Hurling Championship for a record seventh time when they defeated Roscrea C.B.S. after a replay at Semple Stadium on 21st May last. Cashel C.B.S. previously were winners in 1972, 1973, 1976, 1981, 1983, and 1984.

### PATH TO TITLE

**8th Nov., 1985:** 1st round — beat Borrisokane V.S. 3-7 to 2-2 at Borrisoleigh.

**22nd Nov., 1985:** Quarter final — beat Roscrea C.B.S. 3-6 to 3-3 at Holycross.

**28th April, 1986:** Semi-final — beat Clonmel C.B.S. 3-11 to 1-8 at Clogheen.

**14th May, 1986:** Final drew with Roscrea C.B.S. 3-5 to 2-8 at Semple Stadium.

**21st May, 1986:** Replay — beat Roscrea C.B.S. 3-5 to 2-8 at Semple Stadium.

Both games in the final were superb, with plenty of incident and drama and were a credit to both teams and mentors. Cashel C.B.S. were lucky to force a draw on the first day when Noel Keane pointed in the dying seconds. In the replay Cashel C.B.S. playing with the aid of a strong breeze



**CANON FITZGERALD CUP CHAMPIONS 1986**

The Victorious Cashel C.B.S. team. Back row (l. to r.): Brian Leamy, Philip Quirke, Michael Minogue, Brendan Ryan, Noel Keane, Kieran Cussen, Michael Brosnan, T. J. O'Dwyer, Kieran Slattery, Mitchell Heffernan, T. J. Connolly, Michael Perdue, Alan Wade, John Maher. Seated (l. to r.): Mr. John Gleeson (team coach), Adrian Ryan, Francis Hennessey, James O'Donoghue, Tim Shanahan (captain), Patrick Kearns, Raymond Heney, Conal Bonnar, Jimmy O'Neill, Mr. Mattie Finnerty (team manager), Br. K. A. Treacy (Principal). In front: Tony Crosse.

in the opening half squandered many chances. However, before the interval the Cashel mentors played their trump card. The gamble of bringing their star-goalie Patrick Kearns to left half-forward was to prove decisive as he scored one goal and one point in the three minutes he was outfield. Cashel led at the interval 1-9 to 1-1 but incredibly failed to score in the second half, and yet they held on for a single point victory.

Both teams and referee Gerry Long (Knockshegowna) were entertained to meals after both matches by the County Board.

Cashel C.B.S. lined out as follows: Patrick Kearns (Knockavilla), P. Quirke (Clonoulty), A. Wade (Boherlahan); J. Maher (Cashel), T. Shanahan (Clonoulty), captain, N. Keane (Clonoulty), M. Heffernan (Clonoulty), K. Cussen (Knockavilla), B. Leamy (Golden), T. J. O'Dwyer (Boherlahan), M. Minogue (Cashel), J. O'Donoghue (Cashel), M. Perdue (Cashel), C. Bonnar (Cashel), B. Ryan (Golden).

Subs: A. Ryan (Cashel) for Quirke; R. Heney (Knockavilla) for O'Dwyer.

Subs not used: K. Slattery (Knockavilla), M. Brosnan (Cashel), J. O'Neill (Cashel), T. Crosse (Cashel), T. J. Connolly (Cashel), F. Hennessey (Knockavilla).

Team manager: Mr. Mattie Finnerty. Team coach: Mr. John Gleeson.

## Dr. Croke Cup

When Cashel C.B.S. won the County Tipperary Post-Primary Schools U-16 years hurling title they were completing a three-in-a-row in this competition. This was Cashel's seventh success, having previously won it in 1959, 1962, 1973, 1980, 1984, and 1985.

### PATH TO TITLE

**24th April, 1986:** Quarter final: Beat Carrick-on-Suir C.B.S. 5-5 to 0-5 at Marlfield.

**5th May, 1986:** Semi-final: Beat Roscrea C.B.S. 4-6 to 1-6 at Ballycahill.

**26th May, 1986:** Final: Beat Thurles C.B.S. 4-9 to 4-4 at Holycross.

In the final a tremendous fightback in the last quarter, in which substitute Raymond Ryan play a major rôle, saw Cashel C.B.S. come from eight points down to snatch a five points victory over Thurles C.B.S. Thurles led at the interval by 2-4 to 0-3. Cashel's success was due mainly to a fine team effort in the second half.

Cashel C.B.S. lined out as follows: T. O'Dwyer (Knockavilla), T. J. Connolly (Cashel), A. Wade (Boherlahan), captain, J. Maher (Cashel), T. Crosse (Cashel), P. Kearns (Knockavilla), M. Heffernan (Clonoulty), T. J. O'Dwyer (Boherlahan), T. Buckley (Knockavilla), B. Murphy (Cashel), M. Quirke

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#### THE VICTORIOUS CASHEL C.B.S. TEAM.

Back row (l. to r.): John O'Dwyer, T. J. Connolly, Thomas Buckley, Patrick Dalton, Tim O'Dwyer, Mitchell Heffernan, T. J. O'Dwyer, J. J. McGrath, Eddie Golden, Raymond Ryan, Tony Crosse, Maurice Quirke, Cyril O'Gorman. Front row (l. to r.): Mr. John Gleeson (team coach), John Maher, James O'Donoghue, Patrick Kearns, Br. K. A. Treacy (Principal), Alan Wade (captain), Brendan Murphy, Raymond Heaney, Bryan Fogarty, Andrew Courtney, Mr. Mattie Finnerty (team manager).

(Clonoulty), B. Fogarty (Cashel), R. Heaney (Knockavilla), J. O'Dwyer (Knockavilla), J. O'Donoghue (Cashel).

Subs: R. Ryan (Cashel) for T. O'Dwyer. J. J. McGrath (Boherlahan) for B. Fogarty.

Subs not used: A. Courtney (Cashel), C. O'Gorman (Rockwell), E. Golden (Rockwell), P. Dalton (Golden), L. Burke (Killenale).

Team manager: Mr. Mattie Finnerty. Team coach: Mr. John Gleeson.

### Dr. Kinnane Cup

Cashel C.B.S. won the Dr. Kinnane Cup (Munster Colleges U.16½ years Hurling Championship) for the 5th occasion when they defeated Mayfield Community School (Cork) in the final. Cashel had previously being victorious in 1973, 1976, 1977 and 1982.

#### PATH TO TITLE

**21st October, 1985:** Beat Shannon Comprehensive School (Clare) 3-12 to 3-4 at Emly.

**13th Nov., 1985:** Quarter final: Beat Templemore C.B.S. 5-13 to 2-8 at Holycross.

**26th Nov., 1985:** Semi-final: Beat Col. Nessain (Limerick) 2-13 to 2-3 at Tipperary.

**29th Jan., 1986:** Final: Beat Mayfield Comm. School (Cork) 1-11 to 0-2 at Mitchelstown.

Cashel C.B.S. dominated this final throughout but it took a goal from Brendan Murphy entering the last quarter to put the issue beyond doubt.

Cashel C.B.S. lined out as follows:

T. J. Connolly (Cashel), J. Maher (Cashel), A. Wade (Boherlahan), R. Heaney (Knockavilla), M. Heffernan (Clonoulty), N. Keane (Clonoulty), T. Crosse (Cashel), T. J. O'Dwyer (Boherlahan), C. Bonnar (Cashel), captain, M. Perdue (Cashel), P. Kearns (Knockavilla), B. Murphy (Cashel), T. J. McGrath (Boherlahan), M. Quirke (Clonoulty), J. O'Donoghue (Cashel).

Subs: B. Fogarty (Cashel) for McGrath; M. Furlong (Knockavilla) for Quirke; S. Morrissey (Cashel) for Murphy.

Subs not used: J. O'Neill (Cashel), J. Ryan (Boherlahan), R. Ryan (Cashel), J. O'Dwyer (Knockavilla), T. O'Dwyer (Knockavilla); A. Bonnar (Cashel).

**Team manager:** Mr. Mattie Finnerty. **Team coach:** Mr. John Gleeson.

### Cashel C.B.S.— MacGabhann Cup Champions 1986

Cashel C.B.S. rounded off the year in fine style when their senior football side won the MacGabhann Cup (Co. Tipperary Post Primary Schools U-17 years Football Championship) by defeating Rockwell College in the final. This was the third time for Cashel C.B.S. to win the title, having previously won it in 1981 and 1982.

The victorious team was: Eddie Golden (Rosegreen), Alan Wade (Boherlahan), Desmond Bell (Rockwell Rovers), Mitchell Heffernan (Clonoulty), Patrick Kearns (Knockavilla), Michael Perdue (Cashel), Tim Shanahan (Clonoulty), Noel Keane (Clonoulty), Conal Bonnar (Cashel), Martin Gallagher (Rosegreen), Brendan Ryan (Golden), Jimmy O'Neill (Cashel), Philip Quirke (Clonoulty), Brian Leamy (Golden) captain, Richard Delahunty (Rosegreen).

Subs: Francis Hennessey (Knockavilla) for Delahunty.

Subs not used: Adrian Ryan (Cashel), Brendan Murphy (Cashel), Cyril O'Gorman (Rockwell Rovers), Raymond Heaney (Knockavilla), James O'Donoghue (Cashel), Kieran Cussen (Knockavilla).

**Team mentors:** Mr. Dick Lowney. Mr. Seán Ryan.

**Postscript:** Pat Kearns and Alan Wade won their third Croke Cup medals, having been on the victorious 1984 and 1985 teams also. Five players — Mitchell Heffernan, Raymond Heney, Pat Kearns, James O'Donoghue and Alan Wade were on all four successful panels.

At the Bank of Ireland All-Stars Banquet on Friday, 31st January 1986 (left to right): John Doyle, G.A.A. Management Committee; Catherine Lowry; Vincent Hogan, Independent Newspapers; Michael Lowry, Tipperary Co. Chairman; Anne Cooke; Nicholas English, hurling All-Star; Liz Howard; Tommy Barrett, Tipperary Co. Secretary.





# Post-Primary Football

TONY SMITH



**ROCKWELL COLLEGE - WINNERS UNDER-14 FOOTBALL BLITZ**

*Seated: K. Farrell, B. Joyce, D. Foley, C. Hayes (captain), F. Fitzgerald, J. Jackman, F. Gildea. Standing: D. Redmond, N. Griffin, M. Cronin, R. Quirke, P. McGuire, M. Davern, R. O'Leary, B. McGloughlin, Mr. T. Smith (trainer). (Photo: B.D.)*

**T**HERE are three post-primary football competitions in the county, under-17 which commences in November, under-15 which begins in February and under-14, which is run off in a day in May.

Eleven teams entered the under-17 competition in 1985-'86 and were divided into four groups. Group 1 included Clonmel High School, Nenagh C.B.S. and Mercy Convent, Newport. Group 2 had Cashel C.B.S., Rockwell College and Templemore C.B.S. Group 3 had Presentation Convent, Ballingarry, St. Joseph's, Cahir and Carrick-on-Suir C.B.S. There were two teams, Tipperary C.B.S. and Fethard P.B.S., in Group 4.

The top two from each group qualified for the quarter-finals. In the semi-finals Rockwell College defeated St. Joseph's and Cashel C.B.S. defeated Clonmel High School. In the final at Cashel the local school was too good for Rockwell and won by 2-10 to 2-4. Cashel C.B.S. captain, Brian Leamy, was presented with the McGabhann Cup by Colm O'Flaherty.

## UNDER-15

Twelve teams entered the Under-15 competition, which was run on a knockout system. The twelve teams were Clonmel High School, Nenagh C.B.S., Mercy Convent, Newport, Cashel C.B.S., Rockwell College, 106 — Tipperary G.A.A. Year Book

Presentation Convent, Ballingarry, St. Joseph's, Cahir, Carrick-on-Suir C.B.S., Tipperary C.B.S., Fethard P.B.S., Cashel V.S., Tipperary V.S.

In the semi-finals Tipperary C.B.S. were easy winners against Fethard P.B.S. and Carrick-on-Suir C.B.S. had a narrow victory over Rockwell College. In the final Carrick-on-Suir C.B.S. were the surprise winners over Tipperary C.B.S. on a score of 2-8 to 2-7. Carrick got a goal in the last minute to snatch a dynamic victory. The match was played at Cahir on May 27th, 1986.

## UNDER-14

On 8th May, the schools under-14 football championship was played as a one-day blitz in Rockwell College. The following twelve schools participated: Carrick-on-Suir C.B.S., Cashel C.B.S., Cashel V.S., St. Joseph's, Cahir, Presentation Convent, Ballingarry; Mercy Convent, Newport; Fethard P.B.S.; Nenagh C.B.S.; Templemore C.B.S.; Tipperary C.B.S.; Tipperary V.S., and Rockwell College.

The twelve teams were divided into four groups, with the top two teams in each group qualifying for the quarter-finals of the championship and the remaining teams playing for the shield (presented by John Quirke, jeweller, Cahir).

After a very exciting and entertaining morning session, Templemore C.B.S., Carrick C.B.S., Tipperary C.B.S. and Rockwell College won their way through to the semi-finals. In the semi-finals, Carrick C.B.S. defeated Templemore C.B.S. by 2-2 to 0-4 and Rockwell College defeated Tipperary C.B.S. by 1-2 to 0-2 in the best game of the day. In the final, Carrick C.B.S. scored first but Rockwell took the lead just on half-time when Barry Joyce goaled from the penalty spot. In the second half, Rockwell added four points to Carrick's one and emerged deserving winners on the score 1-4 to 0-2. Outstanding for Rockwell were Dara Foley, Kevin Farrell (Knockavilla Kickhams) and Pat Maguire (Lattin-Cullen), while best for Carrick C.B.S. were Jim Burke and Aidan Hahessy.

After the final, Mr. Hugh Kennedy, Chairman of the football board, presented the cup to Colm Hayes (Midleton), captain of the victorious Rockwell team. In his speech, Mr. Kennedy thanked Fr. Holohan and the community in Rockwell for the use of their excellent facilities, the sponsors, the referees and in particular Colm O'Flaherty, and Tony Smith who organised the competition.

In the shield final, Presentation Convent, Ballingarry defeated Tipperary V.S.



# G.A.A. PUBLICATIONS

BY SEAMUS J. KING



**T**HE past year hasn't been the greatest for publications relating to the county. Leading the field by a long shot must be *The Story of the G.A.A. in the Parish of Newport: by the Mulcaire Banks* by Michael Collins and Denis Floyd. This is an excellent production of 528 pages printed by *The Clare Champion* and sells for £10. It contains an introduction outlining the history of Newport at the time of the foundation of the G.A.A., continues with accounts of the many teams that represented the parish and concludes with a number of appendices that give a completion of the work. It is a model of what a club history ought to be.

Of a totally different nature is *The History of Glengar G.A.A. Club and Area* by D. J. Treacy. This 36 page production costs £2 and the first print of 400 copies sold out very quickly. A second print of 200 is now available and anyone interested should get his copy quickly. Glengar was a club from 1933 to 1979 and represented the area of Doon parish that exists in County Tipperary. The book is a short record of the club and contains a few interesting photographs, particularly one of a 1929 St. Louis team which included five of the Ryan-Coyleys from the area.

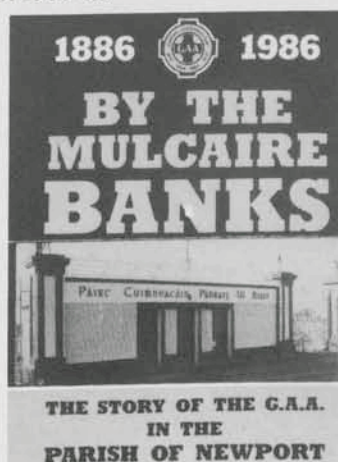
Another production of great interest to Tipperary G.A.A. followers is the *Munster G.A.A. Story* by Jim Cronin, with special assistance from Seamus O'Ceallaigh and Patrick C. Walsh. As well as giving a history of Munster championships and affairs since the beginning it contains a number of appendices of outstanding value. Appendix A contains the results of all championship results in every grade, a task of mammoth proportions and a record of inestimable value. Appendix B contains the winning teams in every grade and Appendix C the members of every Railway Cup team from 1927 to 1984. This work is a 'must' for every follower of hurling or football and great value at £10.

## PROGRAMMES

Nearer home the divisional and county convention handbooks for 1986 are valuable records of events during the previous year. The annual report of the football committee is also

valuable and a credit to the work of Michael Power. All four divisions produced programmes for their divisional hurling finals. The north and mid productions contained forty-eight pages but over half the space was covered in advertisements. The west final programme was a very fine production and carried the results of all the senior finals since the west was formed in 1930.

The Cashel club produced programmes for the county quarter-finals between the mid and the west teams and for the county semi-final between Kilruane and Loughmore-Castleiney. The former carried the results of all quarter-final games since the Open Draw was scrapped in 1977 and the latter, the semi-final results from 1968-85.



The Thurles Sarsfields club were responsible for the county senior hurling final programme. This carries the minor hurling results from 1931-85 and an interesting piece on the Borrisoleigh mascot entitled 'The Cocks of the North Rule the Roost'. This twenty-four page production also included pen pictures of the Kilruane and Borrisoleigh teams.

Other programmes of interest to Tipperary people include one produced in Ennis for our Munster championship game with Clare and the Munster final programme in Killarney where the minors drew with Cork. Fermoy produced a commemorative programme for the official re-opening of Pairc Mhic Gearailt on May 18 where Tipperary and Cork played in a tournament game.

Team sheets were produced for the inter-county hurling challenge at

Littleton on February 2 and for our under-21 hurling semi-final game against Limerick at Thurles in July. There was a team sheet for the Tipperary-Down game at Thurles on March 9 and for the All-Ireland junior hurling final between Limerick and Kilkenny at the same venue on August 24.

## MAJOR GAMES

There were four major games at Thurles during the year for which programmes were produced, the Ford National League hurling semi-finals on April 27, the final on May 11, the All-Ireland hurling semi-final on August 10 and the Under-21 hurling and football finals on September 14.

At the football level there was much less on offer. Michael O'Meara produced a programme for the county senior football final at Clonmel on October 19. There was an interesting programme for the Tipperary-Kerry Munster senior football championship game at Clonmel on June 6. It contains all the facts and figures from previous meetings between the sides. There was also a programme for the Tipperary-Cork under-21 football championship game at Clonmel on May 5.

Two other publications deserve mention. The first is a new magazine on coaching published at Croke Park. Entitled 'Coaching News' it costs fifty pence and will appear on a regular basis.

The second publication is now defunct and more's the pity. The 'Book of Gaelic Games', to appear in twenty-four instalments, was launched with great hype in 1984. Published by Berkeley Publications, Kilkenny, in association with RTE, it was to be a comprehensive account of Gaelic Games from earliest times to the present day. A very scholarly production with many fine photographs and illustrations, it ceased appearing after seven issues. There was no reason given for the cessation though it was suggested that costs and lower sales than expected were accountable. Whatever the reason it is still possible to get the seven issues that appeared in an attractive binder for the same price as the magazines originally cost. The set makes an attractive addition to one's G.A.A. library.



# Celebrating another Twenty-Fifth

BY MICHAEL MAHER

**W**E talked of Mackey McKenna's pass to Tom Ryan of Killenaule for a delightful goal in 1962. Tom Moloughney's and Seán McLoughlin's scores in the first minutes of the same game were also rehearsed. The Boothman's, Billy Jackson, Des Foley, Snitchy Ferguson and Noel Drumgoole came to mind as stalwarts of the Dublin finalists of 1961. In sadness we thought of big Tom Ryan of Toomevara who had since died. Donie O'Brien's displays in goal were recalled, but he could not attend being domiciled in New York. John Hough and Liam Connolly were not in attendance but the rest were there hale and hearty, greyed a bit and scarcer in head covering. Brows were a bit more furrowed from twenty five years wear and tear, toiling with living and becoming wiser and hardened in the process. The two captains, Matt Hassett and Jimmy Doyle looked boyishly fresh.

The Irish Nationwide Building Society had invited us to celebrate the silver jubilee of the 1961 and 1962 All-Ireland Hurling Finals. The venue was Hayes Hotel, Thurles, and the host was Michael Fingleton, their Managing Director.

Willie Rackard, captain of the 1962 defeated Wexford side was at the hotel when I arrived. Mick Dunne, R.T.E., was chatting him up on his attitude to present day G.A.A. Willie, though admittedly away from the centre of hurling activities now, had strong views on the rôle of the G.A.A. in certain areas, particularly sponsorship. Good humouredly, an engaging discussion took place. Later, we were joined by Donie Nealon, John Doyle, Jimmy Doyle and Matt Hassett.

A recording for Radio Eireann took place, to be broadcast on the week-end of All-Ireland Final. This was a relaxed chat, in no way inhibited, entirely spontaneous and without any formal structure. How entertaining it was to listeners I do not know, but from feed back, I now realise that sports programmes on radio have a very wide listenership.

Assembly of guests for dinner took place and after appropriate aperitifs were served, a delightful meal was enjoyed by team members, wives, friends and a large

number of guests, including the President of the Association. Videos of both hurling finals were shown and certainly technology in this area has improved considerably over those years. Black and White were the only colours then, but with whatever technology was available, Jimmy Doyle's artistry was portrayed as supreme. His well taken scores from play and from frees were a joy to see. Presentations of a Silver Salver were made to team members and Michael Fingleton's address, while lauding the recipients, had a special place for V.A.T. and D.I.R.T. Tax

Exemption. To conclude the night all players were issued with two invitations by Central Council G.A.A. to be their guests at the All-Ireland Hurling Final and this was to be a very enjoyable occasion.

"Twenty Five Years is a Mighty Long Time". Some players had not met in the intervening period and it was with a searching gaze that some recognised each other. Stories were told, friendships re-kindled and however the years had gone in between, one common bond was again re-established — a commitment to and great respect for a game and organisation which helped greatly to mould lives for the better.



At the re-union of the 1961-62 Tipperary All-Ireland hurling champions for the presentation of the Irish Nationwide Building Society G.A.A. Jubilee Awards in Hayes Hotel, Thurles. Back row (from left): captain 1961, Tony Wall, Mick Burns, Kieran Carey, Seán McLoughlin, Christy Hartigan, Michael Murphy, Pat Ryan, Tom McLoughney. Middle row (from left): John Doyle, John McKenna, Billy McLoughney, Jimmy Doyle (captain 1962), Michael Fingleton, Managing Director Irish Nationwide Building Society; Dr. Michael Loftus, President, G.A.A.; Donie Nealon, Roger Mounsey, Michael Maher. Front row (from left): Matt O'Gara, Theo English, Liam Devaney, Tom Ryan (Killenaule).



Some of the stars of 25 years ago: Tony Wall, Jimmy Doyle, Mick Burns, Donie Nealon, Michael Maher, Liam Devaney, John Doyle, Tom Moloughney, Liam Connolly, Theo English.



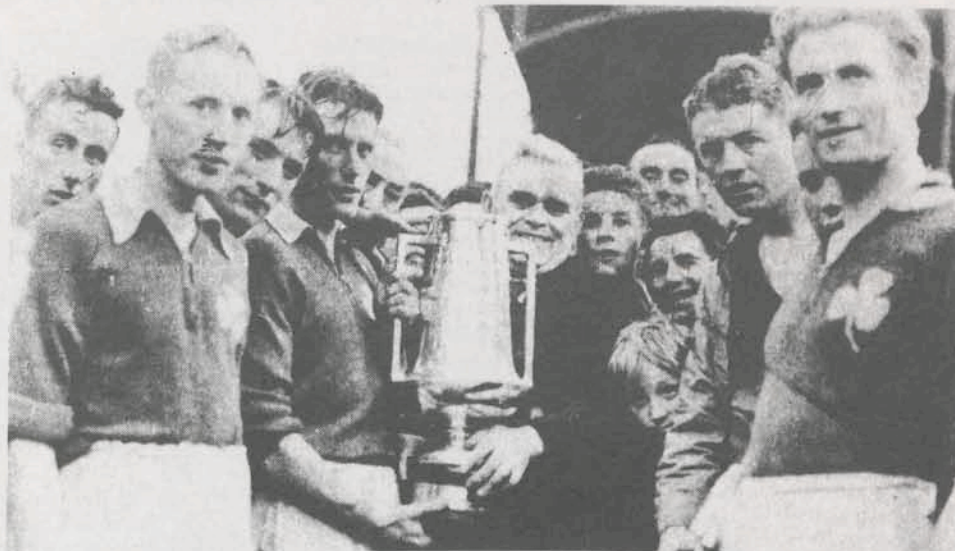
## OBITUARIES

### TOMMY RYAN (C), Annacarty

**M**EMORIES of the Eire Óg, Annacarty team of the early forties, and especially the '43 county champion side, were revived with sadness with the passing of Tommy Ryan (Castle) at the age of 69. He had captained the '43 team, the only West Tipp side ever to take county honours in senior hurling since the foundation of the division in 1930 and thus held a distinction that still stands unique.

On the Eire Óg side with a number of brothers Tommy was one of three from the Ryan (C) family to bring county honours to the parish, the others being Mick and Philly. As a representative of the county champions Philly captained the Tipp side in '44 and later won fame in Dublin, getting a Leinster medal with his adopted county in 1952; and fully earning the reward by keeping no less a man than Nicky Rackard scoreless.

Tommy played much of his hurling at centrefield but in '43 was at wing-back beside his brother Philly, his centrefield spot being filled by the late Bill O'Donnell who played such a crucial part in the final defeat of Moycarkey. The early forties were the halcyon days of Annacarty hurling and Tommy Ryan (C) was central to the side,



Tommy Ryan (C) receiving the trophy from Dan Breen after Eire Óg, Annacarty had beaten Moycarkey in the 1943 county final. Also in the photo are: Rev. J. J. Meagher, Chairman of the County Board; Jack Dwyer (S), Chairman of the West Board, and players Denis Condon, Jerry Ryan, George Ryan, Philly Ryan (C), Jim Hanly and Tom Burke.

which took four-in-a-row West championships from 1941-44, as well as that county crown in '43. At a time when hurling had fewer frills Tommy was tougher than most as any opponent will only too readily testify.

At his passing it seems

appropriate to remember the other members of the '43 side who carved for themselves a special place in history and gave Annacarty a special position among the elite of the county: Jimmy O'Donnell, Jack Dee (R.I.P.), Jim Hanly (R.I.P.), Johnny Ryan (W), Georgie Ryan,

Philly Ryan (C), Tom Ryan (C) (R.I.P.), Tom Burke, Bill O'Donnell (R.I.P.), Mick Ryan (C), Denis Condon (R.I.P.), Jerry Ryan (R.I.P.), Jerry Ryan (W) (R.I.P.), Jack Cooney and Tom Joyce.

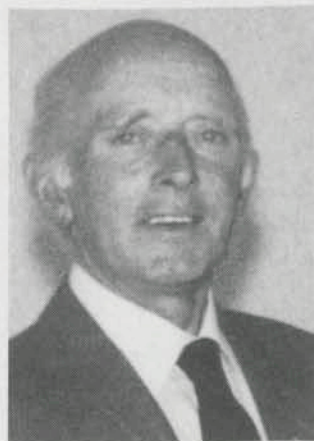
May Tommy and all the other deceased members rest peacefully.

### EDDIE RYAN

#### Ardmayle

**O**N the 8th June, 1986, Boherlahan and Tipperary lost a great Gael with the death of Eddie Ryan, Ardmoyle. Eddie was a native of Rossmore but came to live in Ardmoyle all of thirty years ago. Eddie's main interest was always in the very important area of "The Juveniles" and for many years worked tirelessly with the local juvenile committee. His reward for his work in this field came in March 1978, when at the County Juvenile Convention of that year Eddie was elected chairman of the County Juvenile Board, a position to which he was re-elected for a number of years.

Eddie's interest in G.A.A. affairs, however, was not confined to juveniles and for many years he was a loyal member and tireless worker on the local G.A.A. senior committee right up to the time of his death. Eddie was also a member of the local sportsfield committee since its inception in 1974 with the acquittal by the club of its new sportsfield at Boherlahan. Sadly



Eddie's last job at the time of his unexpected death was at the local sports centre.

Eddie's wife Lucy (nee Stakelum) came from a well-known Ballycahill G.A.A. family. She is sister of former Tipperary star Pat Stakelum and aunt of Bobby and Aidan Ryan and present Tipperary captain Richard Stakelum. May he rest in peace.

### Michael Norton

**1986** saw the passing of one of Mullinahone's most respected citizens. Michael Norton was not only a great Mullinahone man but a great Tipperaryman and a boyal Gael also. Michael was a fine footballer in his young days, and won a county championship with the local club in 1926. He was a dedicated follower of the Tipperary hurling team all his life.

Distance was no object to him nor did any inconvenience worry him as he attended all their games even into his eightieth year.

The discussion before and after each game was his joy and he was as a shrewd judge of a hurler and loved to compare teams of the past with those of the present. To his



son, daughter and sister, indeed to the Gaels of Knocknagow we extend our deepest sympathy.

*Play the game —  
Buy Irish*



## Gus Ryan

(Two-Mile-Borris)



**T**HE passing of Gus Ryan, its tragedy heightened by Christmas and always to be revived by the recurrence of the season, leaves me keenly aware of the weakness of merely words, of either tribute or sympathy. Not since the death of his neighbour down the road, Fr. Bobby Harkin, has a parish or a community been so affected — and the two were the closest of neighbours and friends. The size and the sincerity of funeral attendance were the visible signs of deep respect in each sad case, one of them all too well expected, the other of stunning suddenness. To those of us who were in Gus' pleasant company the previous night, the Sunday morning's message came forcefully indeed; the hearts of many went out to Kathleen and the children, to his sister Monica and all those bereaved by the loss of so good a man.

Gus' rôles in the G.A.A. were multiple and prolonged — player from boyhood, developing into whole-hearted defender on local Two-Mile-Borris junior and then into parish senior full-back for many years; committee man, chairman, selector — he was one of those who chose the breakthrough team of 1982; Mid and County Board delegate, county minor selector; Mid treasurer before the recently deceased Gerry McEntee. His period as a club official saw the purchase and development of the Littleton field to its present state.

All that is formal record but it's the man, the human personality — the voice, the smile, his tenacity in discussion, his absolute earnestness, his unpretentious work in all aspects — that his friends are mourning. As a goalkeeper I formed a bond of mutual dependence with him as fullback — I doing the more defending, in those days when the "full" had to stand very firm against the inward push and rush; and Gus was fiercely loyal to the man behind him; he was never one to flinch. I suppose his displays in 1962, holding Toomevara's veteran Phil Shanahan in the semi-final and Seán McLoughlin in the final, did a great deal to bring Moycarkey-Borris within a point of drawing for the county title. That link formed on the playing field and strengthened in later committee work always kept us close. God rest you, Gus, and comfort those who miss you most.

*Culbaire "Tipp Star"*

## PADDY FLEMING

**T**HE death of Paddy Fleming of Carrick-on-Suir, Co. Tipperary, recently, shocked his friends and Gaels, not only in his native town but all over the county of Tipperary and, indeed, in America. He died at St. Brigid's Hospital in Carrick-on-Suir.

Paddy was one of the finest players that the great hurling town of Carrick ever produced and in 1984 he was selected as the South Tipperary hurler of the past award winner, following in the steps of his former Swan comrades, Tom and Willie Wall. This was an honour he proudly cherished.

A goalkeeper supreme, he was probably the finest ever, never to get a regular place on a county team. The incomparable Tony Reddan was Tipp's first choice then and he could not be dropped. Paddy's talents did not get the recognition they deserved until he emigrated to New York in the mid-Fifties. He starred with New York on many occasions in the St. Brendan's Cup games and also had the honour of captaining the team.

A member of Tipperary's All-Ireland winning selection in 1951, he played with Tipperary in the Thomond Feis tournament and in the National League.

He was, of course, a great Carrick Swans club man and he was on the side which won county honours in 1947. He won a total of seven South senior medals as well as numerous trophies won with the county.

When he arrived in New York in 1953 he immediately became the backbone of Tipperary's New York senior team for over ten years and helped the team win seven senior



hurling titles. He was also a member and captain of the New York team a number of years.

He won New York championship medals with Tipperary in 1953, '54, '56 and 1962.

Paddy died after a short illness. He was 59. He came to New York in 1953. His wife, the former Bridget Finn, of Co. Waterford, predeceased him in 1963.

He is survived by his daughter, Mary, residing in Clonmel; a son, James, residing in New York; a brother, Michael, residing in Carrick-on-Suir, and a sister, Mary, who lives in London. Many nieces and nephews in England and Ireland and his nephew, Percy Fleming, in New York also mourn his death.

The large attendance at the wake and funeral testified to the esteem in which he was so rightly held.

He was a most popular and unassuming personality who had many friends. His many friends in New York are saddened by his death.

To his family and all those who were so close to him, we extend our deepest sympathy.

*Go ndeanai Dia trócaire ar a anam dílis.*

## The late Jack Quinlan



**O**N Friday, October 17, 1986, Jack Quinlan, Fussough Dualla, died unexpectedly. Jack was one of Boherlahan's finest exponents of hurling back in the Thirties and Forties and though somewhat small in stature his steely and fiery character made him a dread of some of the finest and biggest players of his time. There are many stars of Sarsfields, Moycarkey and other top clubs of the time who will speak most highly of Jack's prowess and ability. Searching the records I find that Jack's first recorded game was with a Dualla-Ballytarsna junior team which defeated Boherlahan juniors in a friendly way back in May, 1928. He was then but a young teenager. 1929 saw Jack a member of that self-same junior squad which went on to win the South Junior hurling final defeating Gortnahoe in February, 1930.

Later that year 1930, Jack was a member of the Tipperary minor hurling team which took All-Ireland honours in probably one of the most glorious years for Tipp hurling, "the Triple Crown" year.

Though turning out with Boherlahan seniors in many tournaments and challenge games Jack, however, continued in the junior code through the Thirties and had a host of further successes. He collected a further South junior hurling title in 1933 and then went on to collect county junior hurling titles in 1934, 1935 and 1936.

Many players including Jack graduated to senior status and Jack went on to add a senior county title to his many other successes in 1941. Alas, that is the last Co. title to come to the parish of Boherlahan and Jack was wont in recent years when chatting with his old compatriots to express the wish that he might somehow see the club capture some of its former glory.

*"Ar dheis lámn Dé go raibh a anam".*

## WILLIE POWER

**T**HE death during 1986 of Willie Power removed from our midst one of Carrick Davins' longest-serving officers. In the early 1940 Willie took on the onerous task of club secretary, a position he held for some 20 years. He later served as club chairman for a number of years and on the death of P. J. Kenny (R.I.P.), Willie became club president.

A quiet and unassuming individual, he was a most dedicated worker for his club. Although no significant honours came to the club during Willie's years as secretary, he carried out his duties year after year with the same zeal and commitment.

In his younger days Willie was a more than average athlete. In local and county meetings he was first through the tape on numerous occasions during his many years on the circuit.



The Power name is still very much associated with the club as Willie's son, Seán, is one of our foremost hurlers.

A true Gael, Willie always held the ideals and aspiration of the Association at heart. He will be missed by a lot of people.

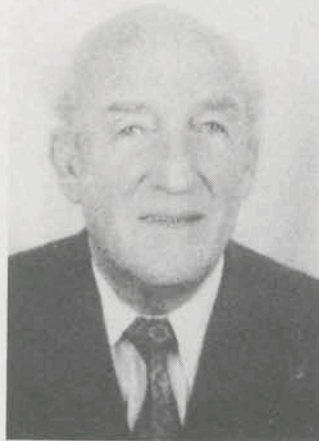
*Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam.*



## TADGH Ó MEACHAIR

**I**T was appropriate perhaps that Tadgh Ó Meachair should be called to his eternal reward on a sporting arena, Thurles golf course, on Wednesday, November 19th, for his life was dedicated to the pursuit of another sport, Gaelic games. A native of Holycross, Timmy, as he was affectionately known, was manager of the Moycarkey-Borris rural schools' hurling and football teams from 1955 to 1969 and nurtured there some of the greatest players the club has known. He was the juvenile supremo in those years and saw his charges win Mid hurling titles in 1957, '58, '60, '61, '62 and '69 and the county finals of 1961 and '69. Football titles were also won under his tutorage.

His talents as an administrator were recognised and in the 1960's he was appointed secretary of



County Bord na nÓg. He was chairman of the Moycarkey-Borris senior club in 1962, '63 and '64 — a

period that saw a great upsurge in senior hurling in the club, even if lady luck failed to smile on their fortunes.

Timmy Maher was appointed to Gaile N.S. as Principal in 1931 and was transferred as Principal to Pouldine N.S. in 1944, where he taught until his retirement. Of a quiet disposition he had a way with young hurlers and footballers and enkindled in them a great love of the game and taught them the basic skills.

As a juvenile administrator he did an amount of work to transform the running of the various competitions and was instrumental in the foundation of skills, Lá na nÓg and such other ventures that are now so common to juvenile competitions and organisation. A most efficient worker and official, Timmy has left a legacy for those

who follow in his footsteps at juvenile level to emulate.

One of his last tasks was in 1984 to compile the greater part of the juvenile games section for the Moycarkey-Borris GAA history and in that chapter, too, he showed his great love for the schools and our native pastimes. Some years ago he was appointed a vice-president of the Moycarkey-Borris club.

Gaels from his native Holycross, his adopted Moycarkey-Borris and Tipperary gaeldom attended his obsequies and showed their respect for a great and beloved teacher and G.A.A. official. Thanks, Timmy, for so much work, time and effort put into the promotion of hurling and football.

To his wife, son, daughter and relatives, sincere sympathy. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam.

(S.O.F.)

## M. J. COSTELLO



When Lieutenant Gen. M. J. Costello was General Manager of the Irish Sugar Company he invited a number of overseas businessmen to Thurles to see how the local sugar factory was progressing. While they were here Lt. Gen. Costello organised a special exhibition hurling game at Thurles Sportsfield to entertain them. He is photographed here with the late Archbishop Kinnane on that day in 1955 prior to the start of the game and the teams on either side, directly in front of the old stand which existed prior to the building of the Kinane stand in honour of the Archbishop in 1967.

**T**HE unexpected death of Lieutenant M.J. Costello in mid-October severed an important link with happier days of Tipperary hurling.

Year after year when the time came for distribution of Croke Park tickets his name figured on a list of privileged people about whose right to preference there could be absolutely no argument. Apart from being a lifelong follower of Tipperary hurling, he made a vital contribution to the county's successes during his period as General Manager of Comhlucht Siuca Éireann by providing jobs at home for hurlers. A word in his ear after a match on more than one occasion ensured that a player did not have to take the emigrant boat.

The debt of the country at large to the GAA was one of his favourite topics of conversation and about a

year ago he talked to me of the part played by the GAA in healing the wounds of the Civil War. Himself a veteran of the War of Independence and of the Civil War, he told me that he wished to put on record a tribute to Tipperary's GAA and in particular to the Leahys of Boherlahan for their part in healing the bitterness of the War of Brothers — a conflict in which he and they had been on opposite sides.

Some time later he sent me the following statement:

"Historians do not so far appear to have studied — at least it can be said they have failed to appreciate what is probably the most remarkable aspect of our history. This is how the memory of a bitter Civil War, which gave rise to many blood feuds, came to be sublimated in 1940 in a national unity that was

arguably unique in history . . . This miracle of national unity could not have occurred if the way had not been paved for it by the GAA. It succeeded in putting the ideals and interests of the Association above and superior to the divisions wrought by civil war.

"When this phase of history comes to be dealt with adequately, Tipperary will have reason to be proud of the story. Other counties, no doubt, have also cause for pride, but I think it fair and true to say that Tipperary led the way.

"That it did so was largely due to the exceptional qualities of the Leahys. They united to the prestige they earned as outstanding hurlers the pre-eminence they had shown as pioneers and leaders in the War of Independence and their anti-Treaty stand did not prevent them

from seeking and finding common ground with their Civil War opponents. When the history of the period comes to be written, Tipperary can take pride in being the birthplace of the GAA, in its many hours of glory in Croke Park, but not least in the part played and the leadership given in diluting or sublimating the bitterness of the Civil War."

During his years of retirement, General Costello never lost his keen interest in events in his native county and he continued to follow the fortunes of its sportsmen. He was an outstanding son of an outstanding generation and in time to come he may well be regarded as the most outstanding Tipperaryman of his time.

Go ndeanfhaidh Dia trocaire ar a anam.

Seamus Leahy





*"The ball is in and the game is on." referee John Maher throws in the ball to start the 1986 Co. Senior Hurling Final.*



*Dr. Dermot Clifford among Tipperary supporters in Ennis at Senior Hurling Champions game between Tipperary and Clare.*



**ST. MARY'S — SOUTH MINOR HURLING CHAMPIONS**

*Back row: M. Ryan (selector), D. Ryan, D. J. O'Connell, E. Anderson, G. Burke, P. Ryan, P. Kavanagh, J. Harvey, J. McCarthy, J. Collins snr. (selector).  
Front row: D. O'Donnell, D. Hickey, M. Gearon, D. Ryan, G. Deeley, A. Wall, S. Flynn, J. Collins jnr.*





### ARRAVALLE ROVERS U.16A HURLING, WEST CHAMPIONS 1986

BACK (l. to r.): C. Bresnan, B. O'Donnell, J. Ryan, M. Flynn, P. Gleeson, C. O'Donnell, R. English, B. Ryan, R. Barlow, M. Ryan. FRONT (l. to r.): J. Cummins, P. McCarthy, P. Delaney, W. Collins, G. O'Halloran, C. Stapleton, J. Quirke, R. Quinlan, A. Quirke.



### ARRAVALLE ROVERS, WINNERS OF WEST U.14 FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP, 1986

BACK (l. to r.): B. Brett (trainer), G. Quinlan, J. Quinlan, T. Donnelly, K. O'Donnell, P. Maher, M. Kinane, C. O'Sullivan, B. O'Donnell, M. Gleeson, J. O'Sullivan, J. Murray, C. Ryan, P. Tedford (trainer). FRONT (l. to r.): F. O'Dwyer, J. Lacey, M. Quirke, K. Flynn, M. Morrissey, P. Roche, M. Waldron, A. Flynn, N. Brett, A. Tedford, I. Foley, T. O'Sullivan, B. Moore.



### ÉIRE ÓG, WEST U.14B HURLING CHAMPIONS, 1986

BACK ROW (l. to r.): G. McGrath, T. O'Rourke, P. Butler, P. Aherne, T. Heffernan, D. O'Mahony, R. Quinn, B. White, M. Heffernan, T. O'Brien, D. White, G. Quinn, J. Lee. FRONT ROW (l. to r.): F. Glennon, D. Kelly, N. Griffin, M. Heffernan, V. Ryan (capt.), D. Quinn, L. Horan, G. Griffin, T. Dwyer, O. Kelly, S. Hennessy. Missing from photo: T. Sullivan, D. Keane, A. Collins.

## ALL THE RESULTS 1986

Compiled by  
Seamus O'Doherty

**All-Ireland Club  
Senior Hurling Final**  
Kilruane MacDonaghs 1-15  
Burrer's Alley (Wex'd) 2-10

### COUNTY FINALS HURLING

|                           |      |
|---------------------------|------|
| <b>Senior:</b>            |      |
| Borrisoleigh .....        | 0-14 |
| Kilruane MacDonaghs ..... | 0-7  |
| <b>Intermediate:</b>      |      |
| Shannon Rovers .....      | 0-9  |
| Clonmore .....            | 0-8  |
| <b>Junior:</b>            |      |
| Roscrea .....             | 2-10 |
| Ballingarry .....         | 1-7  |
| <b>Under-21:</b>          |      |
| Toomevara .....           | 3-9  |
| St. Mary's, Clonmel ..... | 2-4  |
| <b>Minor:</b>             |      |
| Toomevara .....           | 2-12 |
| Moycarkey-Borris .....    | 1-8  |
| (Replay)                  |      |
| <b>Minor 'B':</b>         |      |
| Gortnahoe-Glengoose ..... | 3-7  |
| Burgess .....             | 3-5  |
| <b>Under 16:</b>          |      |
| Dúrlas Óg .....           | 3-8  |
| Arravale Rovers .....     | 3-5  |
| <b>Under 14:</b>          |      |
| Borrisokane .....         | 2-7  |
| Dúrlas Óg .....           | 2-6  |
| <b>Under 12:</b>          |      |
| Toomevara .....           | 7-3  |
| St. Mary's, Clonmel ..... | 0-1  |

### FOOTBALL

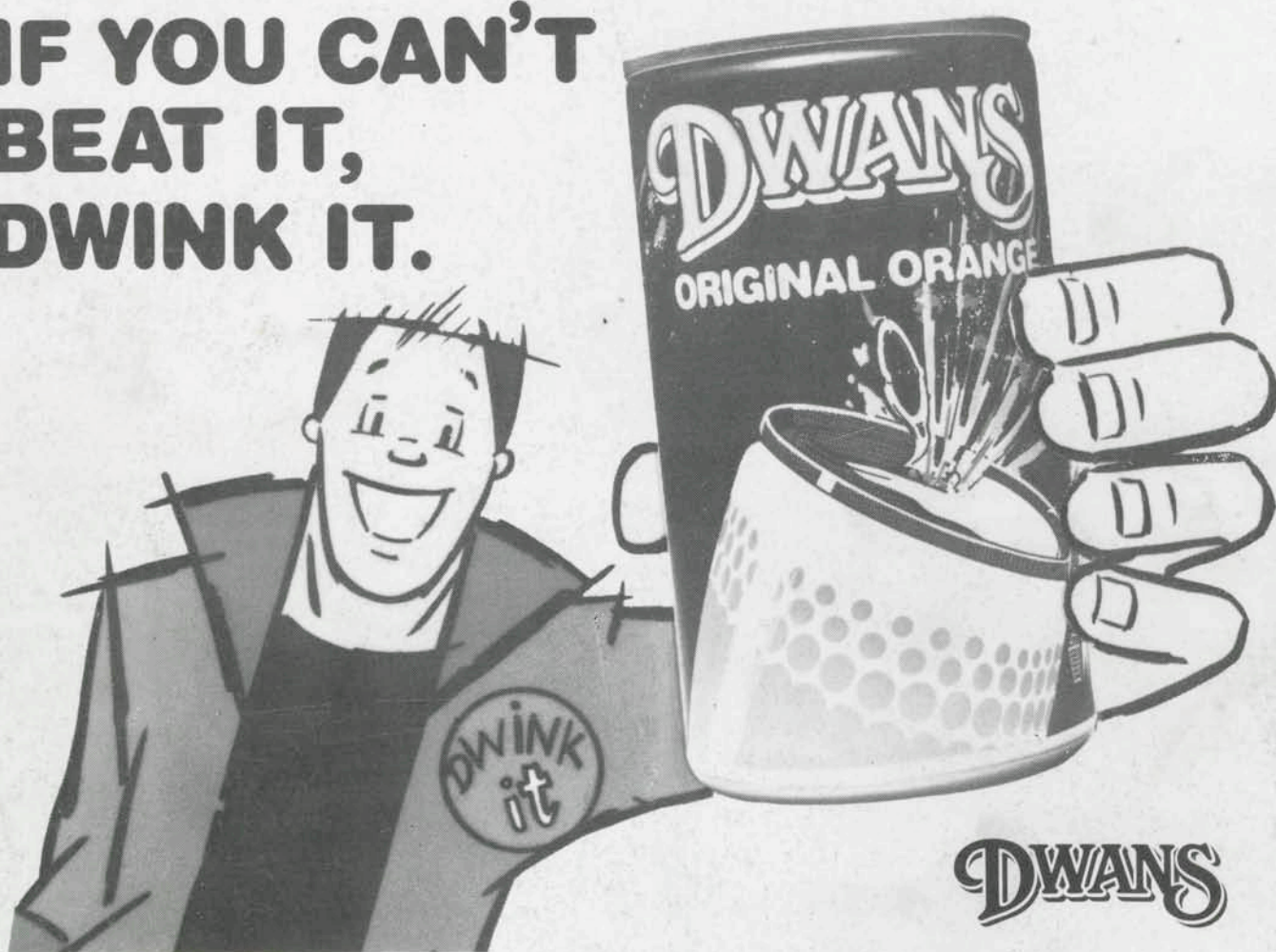
|   |      |
|---|------|
| <b>Senior:</b>                          |      |
| Clonmel Commercials .....               | 1-12 |
| Fethard .....                           | 0-2  |
| <b>Intermediate:</b>                    |      |
| Clonoulty-Rossmore .....                | 1-8  |
| Newcastle .....                         | 0-8  |
| <b>Junior:</b>                          |      |
| Eire Óg, Nenagh .....                   | 2-8  |
| St. Patrick's .....                     | 0-4  |
| <b>Under-21:</b>                        |      |
| Slievenamon .....                       | 2-9  |
| Lattin-Emly .....                       | 1-6  |
| <b>Minor:</b>                           |      |
| Arravale Rovers .....                   | 2-3  |
| Templemore .....                        | 1-2  |
| <b>Minor 'B':</b>                       |      |
| Brian Boru (Clogheen-Ballyporeen) ..... | 2-10 |
| Solohead/Eire Óg .....                  | 0-7  |
| <b>Under 16:</b>                        |      |
| Arravale Rovers .....                   | 4-7  |
| Fethard .....                           | 1-4  |
| <b>Under 14:</b>                        |      |
| Eire Óg, Nenagh .....                   | 3-5  |
| Clonmel Commercials .....               | 0-10 |
| <b>Under 12:</b>                        |      |
| Clonmel Commercials .....               | 2-5  |
| Arravale Rovers .....                   | 2-1  |

### INTER-COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP RESULTS 1986

|                           |      |
|---------------------------|------|
| <b>Senior Hurling:</b>    |      |
| Clare .....               | 2-10 |
| Tipperary .....           | 1-11 |
| <b>Junior Hurling:</b>    |      |
| Cork .....                | 1-8  |
| Tipperary .....           | 0-7  |
| <b>Under-21 Hurling:</b>  |      |
| Tipperary .....           | 2-13 |
| Kerry .....               | 0-9  |
| Limerick .....            | 1-11 |
| Tipperary .....           | 0-9  |
| <b>Minor Hurling:</b>     |      |
| Tipperary .....           | 3-14 |
| Clare .....               | 0-3  |
| Tipperary .....           | 2-13 |
| Cork .....                | 3-10 |
| Tipperary .....           | 1-11 |
| Cork .....                | 2-11 |
| <b>Senior Football:</b>   |      |
| Tipperary .....           | 2-14 |
| Limerick .....            | 1-4  |
| Kerry .....               | 5-9  |
| Tipperary .....           | 0-12 |
| <b>Junior Football:</b>   |      |
| Tipperary .....           | 2-7  |
| Waterford .....           | 2-6  |
| Limerick .....            | 1-8  |
| Limerick .....            | 0-4  |
| Cork .....                | 1-12 |
| Tipperary .....           | 1-6  |
| <b>Under 21 Football:</b> |      |
| Tipperary .....           | 0-6  |
| Clare .....               | 1-2  |
| Tipperary .....           | 1-10 |
| Waterford .....           | 0-8  |
| Cork .....                | 0-8  |
| Tipperary .....           | 0-7  |
| <b>Minor Football:</b>    |      |
| Kerry .....               | 1-4  |
| Tipperary .....           | 0-5  |



**IF YOU CAN'T  
BEAT IT,  
DWINK IT.**



**DWANS**