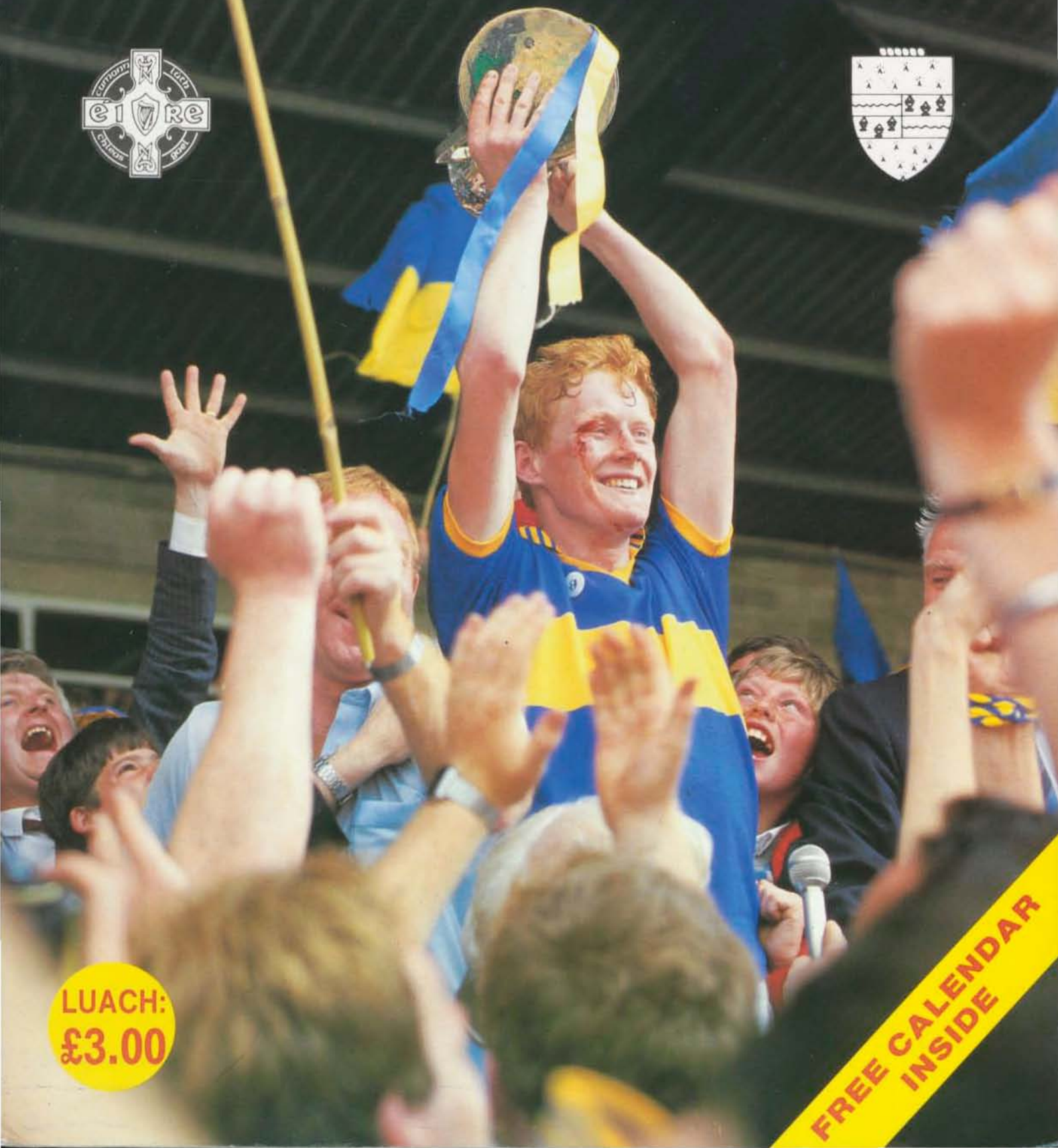


# TIPPERARY G.A.A. YEAR BOOK 1988

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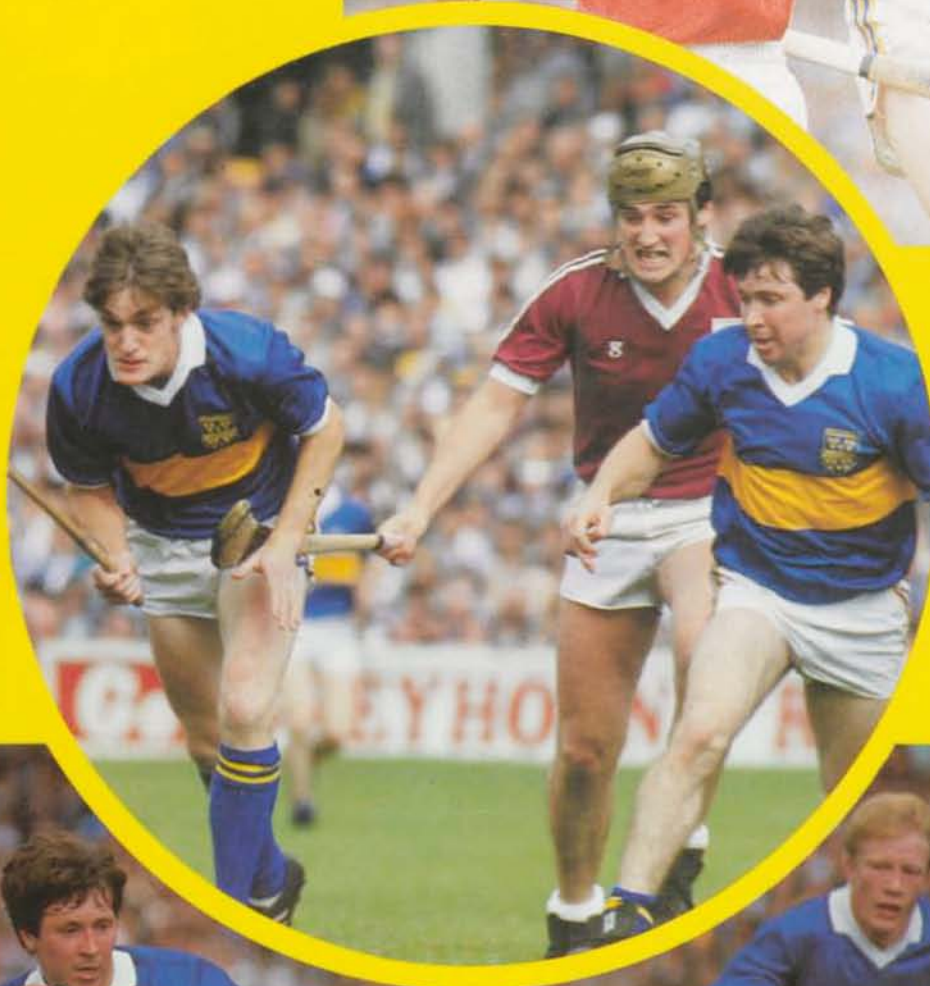


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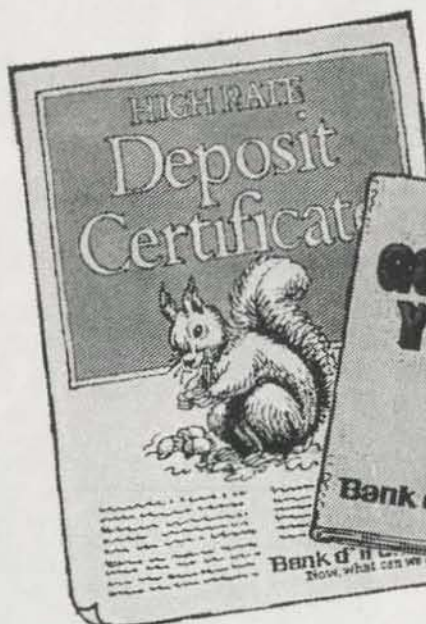
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Pope John Paul II greets Most Reverend Dr Thomas Morris, Archbishop of Cashel and Emly.

I wish well to **Bliainiris Thiobrad Árann** I take the opportunity to compliment the Yearbook Committee on the service which they give to Cumann Luithchleas Gael in the county. It is not enough to present an accurate record of the year's results; more than tabulation is needed to meet different tastes. And patience with reluctant contributors is a quality which I appreciate! There are others like them who together provide the stage on which the athletes can perform and at which the spectators can reward their heroes. There is a band of faithful people who guard the GAA tradition at different levels from club to county board. Among them are some of the top players of other days but there are also those who are distinguished more by loyalty than by skill in the game.

The attempt to make up a list of those who give service only illustrates the kinds of service which are needed. I think of those who provide and maintain grounds and premises, those responsible for training, stewarding, refereeing, finance, programming and fixtures. The Association needs many services in modern times when comparisons with professional sport cannot be avoided.

Cabhair De chugainn i gcomhnaí agus comhar na gcomharsan!

+ **Tomás Ó Muiris**  
Ardeaspag Chaisil agus Imli

## Fond Memories of '87



**T**Á BLIAIN eile ag teacht cun deire agus is cúis mór áthais dom buíochas a thabhairt do gach éinne a cabraigh linn i rith na bliana. Bliain an-mhaith a bhí againn agus nuair a léann sibh an bliainiris seo feicfidh sibh go bhuil an-bhroid orainn tóisc an phairt a glacamar in iomachtaí Cumann luthchleas Gael i rith 1987.

Cuirim failte roimh an bliainiris seo agus cuireann sé áthas croí orm traosú le gach uile duine a raibh baint ar bith aige leis an Iris seo a chuir amach.

The year under review will certainly be one to remember for the Gaels of the Premier County, although once again that long awaited and much desired return of the McCarthy Cup eluded us, our senior hurlers under the new management of Babs Keating, Donie Nealon and Theo English gave us many hours of enjoyment and some fond memories to cherish.

Having won division two of the National league they gave signs of better things to come when overcoming Limerick after extra time in a nail biting finish to the League Quarter final. Then then lost no caste in defeat when going down narrowly to Clare in the semi final. An unimpressive performance against Kerry in the first round left them through for a semi-final and again Clare provided the opposition. A last minute goal by Clare earned them a replay but Tipperary made no mistake on this occasion and a convincing victory put them through to a Munster final meeting with age old rivals Cork at Semple Stadium. A capacity crowd witnessed a game well in keeping with the tradition of both counties and Tipperary showed their worth when coming from behind to force a draw in the closing minutes. The replay in Killarney was again a cliff hanger and at the end of seventy minutes the sides were again all square. The first period of extra time again showed the teams to be evenly matched but in the closing minutes of the second half the youthful exuberance and "never say die" of a gallant Tipperary team, won the day.

The All-Ireland semi-final against Galway was a disappointment to our followers after such a thrilling Munster final victory but nevertheless the team did the county proud and made a valuable contribution to a wonderful game. Overall hurling was the real winner in 1987 and we can feel proud of our contribution.

Our minors also did the county proud with a great victory

over Cork in a thrilling Munster final and after accounting for Galway lost narrowly to Offaly in the All-Ireland final.

Borrisoleigh also played their part in a memorable year when bringing the club title to the county for a second successive year with a brilliant victory over Leinster and Wexford champions Rathnure in an excellent All-Ireland final.

Whilst no honours came our way on the football field the performance of the minors and under-21 teams gave much hope for the future. The under-21 team were unlucky to lose to Kerry in a replay of the Munster final.

On the home front we had a novel pairing for the senior hurling final with two teams Cappawhite and Loughmore seeking to take the honour for the first time. After a thrilling hour's hurling Cappawhite became holders of the Dan Breen Cup by a one point margin. We congratulate them on this their first victory and wish them well in the Munster and All-Ireland championships. Loughmore are also to be congratulated on their performance and since the defeat in the hurling final they have gone on to win the football final.

Coming to the end of my term as County Chairman I am left with many happy memories and especially of those of the year under review. The task of a County Chairman is an onerous one, however, I have enjoyed every moment of it and the amount of goodwill shown by so many people towards me and towards the Association in Tipperary and the many friendships made have more than compensated me for any work done. here even more than success on the playing fields is the realisation of what the Gaelic Athletic Association is all about. Long may it continue to be so.

In conclusion I wish to thank my fellow officers, Board members, players, selectors and trainers for their kind co-operation and help at all times. With our present approach, dedication and commitment the future is exceedingly bright and we will be celebrating many victories in the not too distant future.

le súil go sroisfidh an chontae arda nua sa bhliain atá romhainn agus go mbeidh sportúilacht agus smacht iréim ag ár gluichí, agus go mbeidh dea thoradh ar ár saotha sa Chondae.

Is mise le meas,

**Micheál Ó Labhráí,**  
Cathaoirleach Coisde An Chondae.





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# Reviewing the year of Tipp's rebirth

By JOHN O'GRADY

**T**HE annual obituary notice on Tipp hurling can be moved to the re-birth column. Sure, the year did end in a sort of decrease in August against Galway, but the loss of a semi-final was relatively tolerable — it could not, did not, eclipse what had gone before, in Munster's marathon, marvellous series of matches. They enriched both the Munster Council and Tipp memories. At the close, in sharp November, the changed character of our hurling men was further demonstrated in their admirable refusal to give Cork a League victory at Pairc Ui Chaoimh. In previous years we'd certainly have been caught and passed. So, as Christmas '87 nears, we may anticipate '88 with excellent hopes. For all of which deeply felt thanks to the men, on field and on the bench, who lifted the pall of gloom and put a spring back into every Tipperary step and a squarer set to our shoulders.

## NEW CABINET

The story is a long one but makes basically pleasant telling, even if it is a story of an ascent to just below the summit of ambition. It goes back to the early autumn of '86 and the choice of "Babs" Keating, who then chose Donie Nealon and Theo English. Keating had been a candidate a year earlier, in electoral language, he lost his deposit when Co. Board balloted, coming very near the tail of the list. The reasons are inscrutable because the electors did not talk very much but one heard of something like a disparagement grapevine working against him. Perhaps it was his sporting image, ranging from hurling to horses, his reported readiness to have a flutter and to enjoy the company that goes with it — he was known to back his considerable golfing skill with currency too. Anyhow, people more staid in personality got there before the personality ebullient "Babs". Even in the process of choice that led to a Board subcommittee offering him the Tipp job it appears he was neither the only one, nor the first, to be asked the question. But asked he finally was and his "yes" was perhaps the keyword of the season. It brought him in with a constitutionally new degree of individual status, free to pick his cabinet himself. From a tired old system of collective and diffused management, Tipp had opted for personality. In "Babs" we got an open, talkative, humorous, incisive fellow, he projected that personality and got the response. He was neither self-important nor rigidly domineering, but could assess situations, prospects, tasks with realism. In Theo and Donie he found men of respected name and discretion, unworried about being over-shadowed in the publicity. Not everything was decided to the best advantage — comment is still lively about the moves made and not made, to bolster a crumbling defence in the early part of the All-Ireland semi-final. But plenty was done right; above all, the infusion of self-respect and the will to fight. He hadn't been long in power when he unveiled another talent rather rare in Tipp circles — the flair and the influence and the connections to raise a whole lot of money. The horse project raised laughs at the same time. One popular joke was that Tipp would win a Derby before an All-Ireland, but the scheme flourished and we did win a Munster championship.

## A BACKWARD LOOK

But let's "rewind" with moderate speed back to the start. Not to the very first round of the '86-'87 League but to the point where things grew tense, and qualification from the second division was assured. That was by beating Waterford at Walsh Park. The evolution of the team began about then, with a 3-11 to 1-7 victory and a quarter-final place against Limerick. At that stage several men of later importance weren't evident — Hogan, Kennedy, Delaney, Hayes, Fox.

Limerick came to Thurles. Tipp led by seven points early in extra time but in the tension of the late finish relied on Pat Fox's winning point, 3-15 to 3-14. It was a bruising battle which left an unhelpful mark on the fitness of the side for the semi-final v Clare a week later. Clare were to figure largely in our story as the months went by. On that day in Cork they beat us 2-11 to 1-11, a

margin narrowed by a later Philip Kennedy goal. Neither captain Richard Stakelum nor Nicholas English could line out. The side contained several to be discarded later — Sheppard, Stapleton, Kennedy, Nolan, Kenny, Scully. So ended a respectable League, which Galway won against Clare at Thurles in May, the first jewel in the Connachtmen's crown.

After the pre-championship lull and several tournament outings, serious things commenced. Well, going to play Kerry could hardly be too serious but it did afford a taste of Killarney, where Tipp had never lost. Not that we devastated the Kerry side — they got more goals than Tipp in a 1-21 to 2-6 score. Team: Hogan, Brennan, Donovan, Gibson, Stakelum, Sheehy, John Kennedy, Bonnar, Philip Kennedy, Aidan Ryan, O'Connell, Scully, Fox, Doyle, Stokes, Hayes and Delaney came in as subs.

## SURPRISE CHOICES

Clare would be another matter. Runners-up in the League we'd met, beaten and lost to them over recent seasons. Their team took less picking than ours, too. When followers saw our choice many were the gasps; eyebrows rose. Kennedy of Clonoulty at centreback, Delaney on left wing. More speculative still, Bobby Ryan at full forward. The word "gamble" occurred to several commentators, the writer included. As it transpired the mentors must have seen something in the training camp because the defensive experiments worked well, though the forward one won few marks on June 7th, when Tipp got caught by Gerry McInerney's last minute cracker and were left to regret a host of chances — four of goals in the first half alone and several more of points in the second. Peter Brennan was replaced by John Heffernan, a change that was to prove permanent. John McGrath, a much debated figure during the year, checked Shanahan during the second period. Williams at wing-forward was another to evoke argument.

Much as it was disputed, the placing of Bobby Ryan at full-forward was repeated for the second day — indeed, the whole fifteen got the starting nod again. Bobby gave his own comment with a prompt goal off O'Connell's pass. That one, complemented by English's swoop and toss for another, completely destroyed Clare confidence. Hogan discouraged them further with two superb saves on resuming, and O'Connell's goal signalled a rout which English cheekily underlined with a fourth near the happy end. Aidan Ryan got "Man of the Match" status for his foraging work. Bonnar would not have been far behind. So a visa to the final had been gained. "Babs" expressed a desire to have Cork against us believing that they would rouse Tipp's best and be the right victims in the event of the big breakthrough being made at Thurles.

## AVID INTEREST

Public interest assumed fanatic proportions. Cork were going for a record six in a row. They'd thwarted us many times in the tedious spell since 1971. The experience of Thurles '87 disproved the oft-repeated claim that hurling interest and patronage had declined for good. Not a bit of it. On the great day Thurles was invaded, swamped with surging thousands to an extent that, if figures were correctly judged, probably eclipsed the Centenary All-Ireland. Well over 60,000 crammed in, while many more gave up the effort to enter. The atmosphere in town was keen but supremely good-humoured. Cork followers in general are the best of visitors and they were not going to grudge a turn for the old enemy, if they had to endure it.

The sense of expectancy was almost overpowering among the close-packed crowd who for the brief few hours they are together create a marvellous occasion — no place like Thurles for it, all agree. The pre-game feeling as the teams come out, march round, take their places for the anthem — it's pure theatre, the essence of the year. And in good theatrical terms, one performance was not to suffice — the scene had to shift to another stage. Ultimately, the



**Le gach deá-ghui agus  
Comhgháirdeachas do  
Coiste Cho. Thiobraid Árann**

**ó  
Chomhairle na Mumhan C.L.G.**

## CHAMPIONSHIP FIXTURES 1988

### IOMÁINT SINSEAR

22/5	Clár v. Portláirge	Replay 29/5
	Ciarraí v. Luimneach	
5/6	Tiobrad Árann v. Ciarraí nó Luimneach	19/6
12/6	Corcaigh v. Clár nó Portláirge	19/6 or 26/6
17/7	Cluiche Ceannais	24/7

### PEIL SINSEAR

8/5	Clár v. Luimneach	15/5
	Tiobraid Árann v. Portláirge	
29/5	Corcaigh v. Clár nó Luimneach	19/6
	Ciarraí v. Tiobrad Árann nó Portláirge	
3/7	Cluiche Ceannais	10/7

### IOMÁIN FÉ 21

22/6	Corcaigh v. Tiobraid Árann	29/6
7/7	Clár v. Corcaigh nó Tiobrad Árann	21/7
27/7	Cluiche Ceannais	3/8

### IOMÁINT NA MIONÚR

4/5	Tiobrad Árann v. Clár	11/5
6/7	Luimneach v. Tiobrad Árann nó Clár	9/7

### IOMÁINT SOISIR

5/6	Tiobrad Árann v. Ciarraí nó Luimneach	Extra Time
15/17/6	Cluiche Ceannais	25/6

### PEIL NA MIONÚR

27/4	Clár v. Tiobrad Árann	6/5
11/5	Corcaigh v. Clár nó Tiobrad Árann	18/5

### PEIL FÉ 21

23/3 or 26/3	Corcaigh v. Tiobrad Árann	30/3
6/4	Ciarraí v. Corcaigh nó Tiobrad Árann	13/4
20/22/4	Cluiche Ceannais	27/4

### PEIL SOISIR

8/5	Tiobraid Árann v. Portláirge	Extra Time
29/5	Ciarraí v. Tiobrad Árann nó Portláirge	Extra Time
8/6	Cluiche Ceannais	



Thurles game was a vast let-down combined with a narrow escape for Tipp. They proved they could outhurl Cork but lacked the concentration to keep them beaten. It was pure agony, after the heady delight of our first-half dash and dominance, stemming from Stakelum, Delaney and Kennedy at halfback and reaching a peak of "seven up" on English's foot-worked goal later on. To see that lead eroded by unnecessary frees and the erosion unchecked by our own wides, until Kingston's goal revived bitter memory of '84 and Seanie O'Leary. Were Tipp to fail after doing so many fine things? Thankfully Munster's draw-sequence came to our aid with Pat Fox's two saving points, the last off a free won by — who else? Nicholas English. Great day, but indecisive.

## CORK DISPLEASED

Cork's official side were much displeased to find Tipp intent on Killarney. They insisted that we ought, morally if not by actual contract, go to Cork. But Tipp had learned a little wisdom about going to Cork and went along with the clear message from Babs and the players, who knew our good record in Killarney and felt it gave us a better psychological basis than visiting the Leeside.

Joe Hayes' injured thumb let in fellow-Westerner Fitzelle for the replay. Again, a huge attendance to have their nerves strained by the intensity of the fight and the variations in dominance over another game and a half. Initially, deep gloom for our ardent followers as virtually nothing went right at the outset. Seven points to one down in twenty minutes, Cork rampant. Even when English goaled a beauty, Mulcahy matched it for a five-point interim lead. Two "goals" that weren't provided much fuel for heated dispute. Did Fox's drive come back from within the Cork net? Tipp were adamant it did. Should O'Sullivan's touch on Teddy McCarthy's high centre have been disallowed? Cork were dogmatic that it should not. As the conflict neared the deciding stage substitute Martin McGrath swung two delightful points to level. Fenton edged Cork ahead again; English dashed through and faced by Cunningham opted for extra time rather than risk a block.

## TURN OF THE TIDE

The crowd awaited the extra session, almost drained of emotion and hoarse with roaring. Delaney got a cramp and Bobby Ryan returned to his old region at half-back. Doyle came on at full forward. Fox, dodging veteran Crowley at will, levelled from two points down. Came a significant Fenton miss on a free — almost unheard of! Now, things began to go our way. O'Connell put Tipp ahead for the very first time — an omen greatly encouraging, after all the earlier fears. Better still, Michael Doyle took a well-timed and crucial hand. Bonnar to O'Connell, who races goalward and shoots. Full-back Browne half-turns self-protectively and the ball deflects off his rear to Doyle on the left of goal. Michael takes it around the sprawling 'keeper and ushers it carefully over the line. The followers could not be restrained from invasion to salute him, and he tumbles over as he races outfield. Browne makes an excursion far out of his ground, Fitzelle coming against him collects the break as English hampers Browne's attempted kick clear. Inside to Doyle, all alone. He is set upon by backs and goalie but beats the lot with a toss to the net. It must be ours now. Just in case any doubt remains, O'Connell receives from Fox's brilliant rob of Walsh and palms in the fourth goal. An even bigger invasion pounds the Killenaule man's back in congratulations, and it's really all over, bar the considerable shouting. Captain Stakelum matches the occasion with a fitting acceptance phrase! "the famine is over". Years of disappointment lend vast emotion to the scene. The Munster title is an entity in itself, not just a stepping-stone to higher things, and this one satisfies the tribal need of Tipperary for respectability. Days and nights of celebration followed, unprecedented — but the wait made it understandable.

## CROKE PARK TASK

In retrospect after August 9th some accused Tipp of under-rating Galway. The charge was hardly justified, for Galway's basic, proven strength was public knowledge. They were League champions; they had been at, or near, the top for a long period, winning fewer All-Ireland than they should have. As well as that, the wiser observers had not over-rated Cork. So Galway just had to be a tremendous obstacle, probably more to be feared than Kilkenny, who were waiting in the wings. There was, admittedly, and particularly among our host of younger followers, a conviction that this was our year, irresistibly.

The Croke Park scene, with a near-record crowd, was dominated by Tipp colours. Not far from 30,000 must have travelled; the minors' win seemed a good omen, but the seniors fate was different, and deeply frustrating because out to the depths of early calamity Tipp actually forged ahead on Fox's goal twenty-one minutes into the second half. Those early problems stunned us into disbelief after English's prompt opening point. Naughton drove low past Hogan's left in immediate retort, with our half-backs neglecting their our positions and drawn into the middle. This began a traumatic spell of Galway mobility, passing and pointing that had all but Donovan bewildered. Much stemmed from Cooney on the "forty" as Galway played the middle and radiated out from there to draw our corners out and puzzle our wing-backs too. It all made disturbing viewing and apart from the withdrawal of Gibson-Bobby Ryan switched back — no further remedial steps were taken. We did well enough to be only four points down at the break; our forward work had been crowded and confused; Fox's penalty goal was our best return.

## SO NEAR AND YET . . .

The rally came and we got within a point (1-14 to 1-13) after seven minutes and should have gone on from there; a lot of energy and effort had been expended in the recovery, though. What if Martin McGrath's run had yielded a goal, instead of silencing the cheer on our lips? Most controversial of all was the referee's decision to give a free out, seemingly for John McGrath's challenge on goalie Commins, while English was neatly pointing. The free was doubly fatal since it led to Lynskey feeding Eanna Ryan for a shattering goal. Lane's later one only emphasised the unkindness of fate and handed us a six point beating. Galway had proved fresher and better on the day. Tension had affected our men in many instances — maybe they did find it difficult to resume again after the long and hectic Munster series. But it had been another marvellous occasion and we did not grudge Galway their entry to what proved a winning All-Ireland, if a rugged one, against Kilkenny. All in all, '87 was a turning point. The burden of embarrassment has gone; we walk with livelier step into '88.



*A moment of glory - Tipperary celebrate following Nicholas English's goal in the drawn Munster Final at Semple Stadium.*

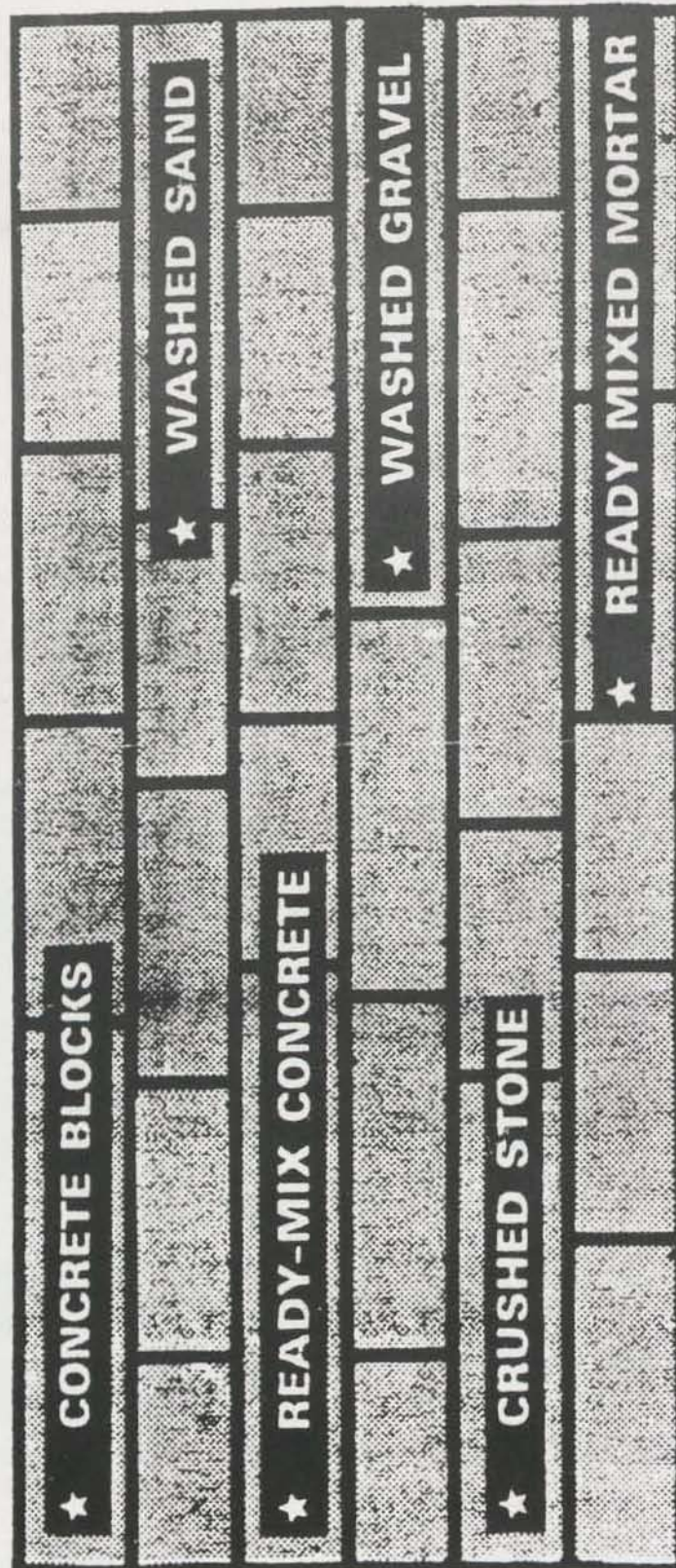
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# Ultimate Aim Unrealised

**T**HAT MEMORABLE hurling marathon in Killarney last July in which Tipperary surged to their first Munster senior hurling title in sixteen years will never be forgotten. Memories are vivid of the swaying mass of people joining with Richard Stakelum in singing Slievenamon following that marvellous victory. Understandably, the euphoria surrounding that victory overshadowed all other hurling events of the time. But how fitting that a week prior to that memorable occasion our stylish minor side had written the first chapter in Tipperary's great success story of 1987. Their attempt at preventing a whitewash four in a row final defeat in Munster came up trumps with a sweet five point victory over Cork, earning the county its 27th provincial title.

Sadly our ultimate All-Ireland title aim went unrealised when we came a cropper to Offaly, but yearbooks are largely about happy reflections and it was a most enjoyable year to recall our young players sharing the limelight with our seniors.

Following exhaustive efforts early in the year by the selection committee Donie Shanahan (Toomevara), Joe Fogarty (Golden-Kilfeacle), Dick Goldsboro (Ballingarry), Paul Hogan (Borrisokane) and Seamus Ryan (Moycarkey-Borris) to find the best possible talent a panel was drawn up and the early indicators pointed to the makings of a very strong and capable outfit. Only the very best was needed to bring back the Munster title last captured in 1983, and while as always, there were plenty of debates and heated arguments about players merits, or otherwise, the selection committee with the help of personnel in the divisions undoubtedly came up with a well-balanced outfit, as one is likely to come across. Highly acclaimed coach Paddy Doyle was drafted into the backroom team and with his assistant Phil Lowry began to mould a side of great promise as witnessed in the sides first round defeat of Limerick in Thurles. A mixture of aggression and superb talent gave rise to a spirited last quarter that was received with delight by the large home following. Limerick were overcome and now it was the long wait from May 'til July for the Munster final.

What an occasion that turned out to be, the colour, the pageantry and the atmosphere of both the minor and senior finals. The big worry before the game was that the tension might be a bit too much for the young lads. Paddy Doyle had told me several times that his side had an almost insatiable desire to keep the Tipperary flag flying at under-age level. They had trained three nights per week, and from my several visits to the camp, I readily appreciated the mighty effort they had invested.

As it turned out, Tipp. were quite calm and composed before starting time, but nobody could doubt that they had the bit between their teeth, facing Cork. Mindful of Tipperary's proud record of having contested no less than nine Munster finals since 1976 (winning in 76, 80, 82 and 83) and having figured in every Munster final in the eighties the lads were eager to win back the title. A great motivating force was the fact that in the previous two finals Tipp. had suffered defeat to Cork — they were beaten in 1984 by Limerick.

Win, lose or draw that remarkable record of consistency spoke volumes for the workrate of all those involved in the promotion of under-age hurling in the county, Donie Shanahan being a classic example — the Toomevara man had been a minor selector since 1982, when Tipp last won the All-Ireland.

If the big match failed to produce the kind of fare the hurling purists speak about, Tipperary hardly worried, and characteristic of their performances right up to the All-Ireland they came with a last quarter-surge to end the string of defeats. Cork made it hot for the Tipp boys for three-quarters of the game, having trailed by a point at the interval, but they were not as polished as the Tipp boys and justice was done at the end of the day.

Colm Egan and John Leahy did some tremendous hurling and Michael O'Meara and Conal Bonnar were to the fore too. But most pleasing was the fact that every player shone in his own right and the title was of extra special significance to O'Meara, Bonnar,

Tipperary G.A.A. Year Book — 9

Egan and Noel Keane, four of the previous year's panel.

Tipperary showed similar form in disposing with relative ease of Galway in the All-Ireland semi-final — again by virtue of a devastating last quarter. The hopes of an All-Ireland title grew stronger. The preparations intensified, Doyle, realistic as ever, urged them to take nothing for granted about their public profile, while at the same time one could not help thinking that they were worthy of the title.

Sadly the Tipperary ship sailing smoothly up to then ran deeply into troubled waters at a critical time. Midfielder Brendan Ryan while assisting his club Golden-Kilfeacle in a football game sustained a broken leg, and by amazing coincidence, Kevin Ryan from Clonoulty-Rossmore, a strong contender for Brendan's place on the team suffered the same fate in a practice match with the squad two nights later. The hearts of hurling followers everywhere went out to both players.

On a happier note, however, Joe Loughnane of Borrisoleigh who played an important role in Tipp's win over Limerick but was subsequently hospitalised with illness had now returned to the panel. The unprecedented injury crisis, without doubt, had its effects on the side, in the final. They received two stunning body blows and morale had to be effected.

Without the direct and incisive approach that had brought them so much honour up to then, they went down by two points in a game that could have been won. Aside from the injury blows, Tipp. did not have the killer punch when it was badly needed against an Offaly side hungry for its second successive title. They enjoyed reasonable possession but their failure to maximise it proved their undoing. But even in defeat, it had been a special day for St. Mary's Clonmel player Ger Deely. A spectator at the Munster final, and All-Ireland semi-final, he got his big chance after injuries had sidelined the Ryans. The selectors had decided to strengthen their panel by the inclusion of Deely and such had been his performances in training that he was given the half-forward spot, with Michael Perdue from Cashel moving to midfield. As it emerged Deely had a very satisfactory outing, shooting three points.

## GRAND MEMORIES

So, a disappointing finish to the year, but let's look at the bright side of our past and what can one say but thanks lads for some grand memories. Many talented players in that side will be heard of at County Senior level — I have no doubt about that. While singing their praises we cannot forget Paddy Doyle and the backroom team. Their efforts did not receive their just reward but, within the region of eight of the panel eligible again next year Tipp have every reason to look to 1988 with optimism.

## TIPP'S RECORD

Munster Championships — Tipp. 3-12, Limerick 3-6.

— Tipp. 2-11, Cork 1-9.

All-Ireland semi-final — Tipp. 4-12, Galway 1-9.

All-Ireland Final — Offaly 2-8, Tipp. 0-12.

*The crack was great on the Square in Thurles after an unforgettable Munster Final.*





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# Juniors fail to realise potential

By SÉAMUS O'DOHERTY

**T**HE Junior inter-county competitions are probably the most talked about championships there are. For years patrons and legislators argued against their retention and they were eventually scrapped in 1973. A few years later people began to realise that nobody over 21 could play for the county unless he was good enough for the county senior team and so the mood change. This reversal of opinion eventually led to the reintroduction of Inter-county Junior Championships in 1983.

Sadly, they have not been the success expected and interest is, candidly, of the minimal type. Games are generally played on week evenings and often at unusual venues. There has been little support either at All-Ireland final level, with this year's final between Cork and Wexford being played at Semple Stadium, Thurles on a Saturday afternoon!

Since 1983 Tipp had only won the provincial title once — remember the dramatic end to the 1985 final v. Limerick? Hopes were high, however, at the start of this year's campaign that ultimate honours might be attained, under the leadership of Shannon Rovers. Tipperary's campaign started with a first round clash against Waterford on Thursday, May 28th, at Carrick-on-Suir. It was a close-scoring game up to half time, at which stage Tipp, thanks to John Sheedy's goal, led by 1-7 to 1-6. The second half took a decisive turn early on and with Séamus Burke and John Sheedy piling on the scores, a final winning scoreline of 4-12 to 1-7 was realised. The game itself was nothing to excite even the fanatics. Despite excellent displays from Pat McLoughney, Martin Burke, Franny Fletcher, Jim Moloughney, Michael Stapleton, Michael O'Riordan, Seamus Burke and John Sheedy the verdict was that a big improvement was necessary

before honours could be expected.

## KERRY NO TEST

Tipperary's next encounter — the Munster semi-final against Kerry — was a fiasco. Played after the senior drawn game with Clare at Killarney, to a backdrop of departing fans, the game was never a contest. The sides were even enough until Seamus Burke slammed in a penalty goal seven minutes from half-time. After that the roof fell in on the Kerry challenge. Tipp's half-time five-point, 1-6 to 0-4, lead soon increased. Goals by Jim Moloughney, from far out, and Arthur Browne, started the rout. John Sheedy and Arthur Browne had further goals, punctuated by a succession of points. Tipp had fine displays from Martin Burke, Jim Moloughney, Joe Hannigan, Arthur Browne and the sharp-shooters Séamus Burke and John Sheedy. With the final scoreline reading 5-13 to 0-7, you just have to wonder about Kerry's affiliation to this competition.

So without being tested, even moderately, Tipp had qualified for a final meeting at a home venue against Cork. The venue chosen was Holycross and the date June 24. Unsuitable weather conditions did little to help this potentially exciting contest. Injuries and other changes may have disrupted Tipperary a little, but whatever the reason they failed miserably to realise the collective potential of their team. Under pressures from early on, only the defiance of Jim Moloughney at centre-back, Michael Kelly and Joe Hannigan at midfield kept Tipp alive. It was clear from an early stage that Padraigh Crowley from Bandon was going to cause problems for Tipp and that Cork's defence was tough and resolute. Joe Hannigan's goal kept Tipp as close to Cork as two points — 1-8 to 1-6 at the half-time break, but from there on Tipp's challenge

subsided.

A first-class save by Cork goalie Kingston, from Seamus Burke, gave the Rebels a great boost in the second half. Only when Cork began to slip away did Tipp make the necessary changes. Sadly, these failed to halt the rampant Cork men and with Crowley still going well and six other Cork players also able to score, Tipp's chance was gone long before the end.

Despite that there were some heroic displays. Team captain Pat McLoughney was in great form. Franny Fletcher, Jim McLoughney and Gerry O'Brien were most consistent in defence, with Michael O'Riordan, Michael Kelly, Joe Hannigan and Seamus Burke occasionally threatening. The final score was 2-16 to 1-9. Cork went on to win the All-Ireland final subsequently and Tipp were left again to rue what might have been.

Ironically, Padraigh Crowley headed for New York later in the season and played a big part in Tipperary's win against Westmeath in the U.S.A.

The Tipperary team v. Cork was: P. McLoughney, M. Stapleton, M. Burke, F. Fletcher, M. O'Riordan, J. McLoughney, G. O'Brien, M. Kelly, E. Kelly, J. Hannigan, M. Ryan, D. Darcy, A. Browne, J. Sheedy, S. Burke. Subs: J. Fitzpatrick, S. Hammersley, D. Carey.

In an effort to boost public support for this competition the Munster Council has decided to play junior championship games before senior championship games. As a result, Tipp will have a double header in next year's Munster championship against the winners of the Limerick/Kerry matches. It might be the way to save the grade and if Tipp win both Munster titles next year we certainly won't ask to abolish the junior championship.



TIPPERARY JUNIOR HURLING 1987

Front row (left to right): Arthur Browne, E. Kelly, S. Bourke, M. Riordan, S. Hammersley, M. Ryan, Joe Hannigan. Back row (left to right): F. Fletcher, Pat McLoughney, M. Kennedy, M. Stapleton, M. Bourke, L. Duggan, John Sheedy, J. Moloughney.



# Quick exit for the Under-21s

By Séamus O'Doherty

**T**IPPERARY'S record since the inception of the Under-21 grade has been highly impressive. Winners of the initial provincial and All-Ireland titles in 1964, the Premier County now holds a total of 11 Munster wins and 6 All-Ireland titles. In the last decade especially, the county has produced some brilliant teams at this level and has rightly been regarded as competition specialists. It was the belief that many of the players on these teams would graduate to senior standard which left people's faith alive in the Co. Senior team. But faith has now been rewarded, hence the great interest in the competition.

Serious efforts have been made with great regularity, since 1979, to scrap the competition at inter-county level. The current campaign was finished in June — the earliest ever conclusion to the competition in its 24th season history. The plan was not successful and I only hope that sanity returns to future arrangements for the competition. There have been many terrific contests at inter-county and indeed inter-club level, and in many cases the quality of play is far superior to that of adult grades. The argument that a handful of counties have dominated the competition over the years is a poor one. What does it matter that only six counties have won the All-Ireland title? New faces are emerging all the time in the winners' list. Haven't Offaly won two All-Irelands at Minor and Senior in this decade? Nobody suggested scrapping those competitions, although they too have been dominated by a few counties over the last 20 years.

Tipperary's elimination at the semi-final stage in Munster in 1986, meant that, for only the second time in 9 years, the county failed to reach the Provincial Final. Limerick were

the team which eliminated Tipp on that occasion, so revenge was high on the list of priorities when the sides met in this year's semi-final, at Bruff on May 13. The departure of Mick Minogue (Roscrea) from the dual posts of trainer/coach meant that, for the first time since 1978, Tipp would have a different tactical planner to the popular Roscrea man.

Tadhg O'Connor, the former Tipp great, and three time All-Star, was the man selected to replace his former club colleague. He soon had his squad in action and an eight point win over last year's All-Ireland champions, Galway, was an encouraging sign.

Tipp had reached the three previous Munster Minor Finals, so there was plenty of talent about. Limerick had rather less work to do. Their side was largely based on their Centenary Year All-Ireland winning Minor Team, many of whom had helped the Shannonsiders to their initial provincial under-21 victory, in 1986. The scene was set then for a hectic contest. Alas for Tipperary, the outing was a disaster. Limerick's first time play, with great emphasis on ground hurling, upset Tipp totally and exposed hitherto weaknesses unknown. Domination by senior player Ger Hegarty at midfield caused many of Tipp's problems. These difficulties saw Tipp failing to score in the first quarter, while Limerick established a five point lead. In the face of such pressure Tipp's main defence came from Paul Delaney at half back, and if nothing else, his display here earned him a senior place later on. Substitutions and switches by the Tipp selectors brought a slight improvement. This position was wrecked however by the concession of two goals just before half time, scored by Brian Stapleton and Pat Barrett. Further half time renovations by the Tipp

mentors failed to improve the scene, which had deteriorated to 2-12 to 0-7 by the end of the third quarter. By then the contest was over and Michael Nolan's goal added nothing but a flattering look to the scoreline, which eventually read 2-15 to 1-8.

## FEW IN FORM

Too few of the Tipp men enhanced their reputations and great disappointment was expressed by the team mentors. Limerick's subsequent annexation of Munster and All-Ireland honours brought minimal consolation to Tipp, who will start the 1988 Munster campaign with an away game against Cork — strangely enough the first meeting between the counties since 1981. It's a difficult task against the 1985 Minor All-Ireland champions. The Tipp squad which played Limerick was:

Philly Ryan (Boherlahan), Rory Brislane (Toomevara), Pat O'Donoghue (Cashel K.C.), Seamus O'Shea (Sarsfields), Paul Delaney (Roscrea), John Ryan (Upperchurch/Drombane), Phil Cahill (Moycarkey/Borris), Derek Hogan (Carrick Swans), David Fogarty (Golden K), Michael Cleary (Eire Óg), Joe



Séamus O'Doherty

Cahill (Drom-Inch), Walter Carroll (Kickhams), Anthony Crosse (Anacarty), Tom Leamy (Golden K), Michael Nolan (Toomevara).

Subs: Noel Coffey (Éire Óg), Michael Fleming (Holycross B), David Quinlan (Kilruane), Jody Grace (Toomevara), Eamon Long (Drom-Inch), Ned Darcy (Kilruane), Pat Maher (Toomevara), Kenneth McDonnell (Toomevara), Richard Ryan (Carrick Davins), Tony Lanigan (Holycross B), Tommy O'Dwyer (Upperchurch D.)



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# TIPP HURLING HONOURED

**T**IPPERARY'S considerable contribution to the game of hurling over the years was honoured at Croke Park when, on the centenary of the first All-Ireland hurling final, three of the greats of Tipperary hurling were among stars from the counties which have won All-Irelands, who were feted.

It is a well-known fact that in the first All-Ireland in 1887, a game played the following year, a Thurles selection representing Tipperary defeated Meelick (Galway) side in Birr.

The former players chosen to represent Tipperary were: John Doyle, Holycross, winner of eight senior All-Ireland medals between 1949 and 1965; Tommy Doyle, Thurles Sarsfields, winner of five senior All-Irelands between 1937 and 1951, and Jimmy Doyle, Thurles Sarsfields, winner of six senior All-Irelands between 1958 and 1971. Jimmy is, of course, nephew of Tommy

and there is no relationship between the Thurles DoYLES and John from Holycross.

Tipperary had a further interest in the presentation in that Limerick's representatives included Garret Howard, father of Tipperary PRO, Liz Howard, who resides at Portroe.

The other county representatives were:

*Dublin:* Mick Daniels, Seán Ó Ceallacháin and Noel Drumgoole.

*Cork:* Pat "Fox" Collins, Jack Lynch and John Fenton.

*Kerry:* Michael Hennessy.

*Limerick:* Jackie Power, Garret Howard, Pat Hartigan

*London:* Pat McCarthy.

*Wexford:* Padge Kehoe, Billy Rackard, Tony Doran.

*Clare:* John Joe Doyle.

*Laois:* Paddy Rustchitzko.

*Waterford:* Frankie Walsh, Kevin O'Connor.

*Offaly:* Pat Fleury, Joachim Kelly.

*Galway:* Jim Power, Joe Connolly.

*Kilkenny:* Terry Leahy, Paddy Buggy, Martin White.



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# The day the famine ended

By Seamus Leahy

**I**T wasn't the greatest of days in Thurles the day we drew with Cork, said the man with the large bottle and the small glass, as he brought the brother, as he called him — home from America — up to date on the events of the summer. Here we go again, we all said, we can't keep a lead. God be with the days when if Tipp. were ahead in the last quarter, we stayed ahead. God be good to Jimmy Kennedy and Kenny and Jimmy Doyle and do you remember the day in Limerick when we were three goals down with a little over five minutes to go and we scored four goals in five minutes? I'll never forget the way Babs nearly took net and all out of it with the force of the 21 he hit and we all walked in a dream back along the Ennis Road saying that's the way to beat Cork — give them a smell of it and then take it away again. Them were the days!

Still, we were glad enough to come out of Thurles with a draw. And it wasn't all bad. We had a goalie again that we could depend on and we had a full-back and we had a centre-back and centre-field, and, dammit but we had a few right good forwards and if we couldn't make something out of that, well, it was all a matter. And even if we **had** lost the lead, we **had** come back again and we **had** got the last score of the game, so it was no use saying we were back where we had started. There were signs that this crowd were different, there was that little extra cut about them, that little extra bit of dash. In 1949 we were lucky to get a second run at Cork and look at what we went on to do — three All-Irelands in a row! Maybe this is exactly what we needed and we never yet had an unlucky day in Killarney.

So Killarney it was and for the next week we heard nothing only is it a fact that Nioclás English is shook and how is Joe Hayes's thumb and is it true about John Kennedy. And all the time we scrutinised the papers hoping only that we might find a reference to John Fenton's having pulled a hamstring or Teddy McCarthy's having dislocated a thumb catching a football. Not that we wished either of them any bad luck — only a slight indisposition which would do neither of them any harm but would keep them from feeling themselves for the space of seventy minutes, and then good luck to them for the rest of their lives. And in the meantime we did what we could to steady our nerves — told ourselves that Babs and Theo and the lads knew what they were about, polished the car, saw that the flags were in good repair and enquired where the

best cuts of ham could be for for the sandwiches.

## LIKE OLD TIMES!

It was like old times hitting the road for Killarney that morning (continued the Man with the Large Bottle and the Small Glass). We could have gone out by Clogheen and on by Kilworth but the young lads said that we should go straight out to cahir and join the main flow of Tipp. cars because a show of strength was important as we headed across the border into County Cork. And we were glad we did because at Cahir we became one of a great cavalcade of cars flying Tipp. flags which gave us the feeling of solidarity which you really needed on the way to play Cork. Through Mitchelstown we thundered and on through Mallow and when we met the roadsign at Rathmore bidding us 'Fáilte go Ciarrai' one of the young lads said, "We're safe again now, we're in friendly territory".

They can say what they like about the beauty of Killarney and they can argue over whether it looks its best from Lady's View or from Kate Kearney's Cottage or from the Gap of Dunloe, but do you know what I'm going to tell you? If the fellows who wrote the songs about Killarney ever saw High Street with all the Blue and Gold flags waving in the sunshine they'd never bother going out near the lakes at all. And if they ever walked along Main Street and heard the renditions of 'Slievenamon' they'd break their pens and never write another note. I didn't hear the like of it for pure melody since the day Danny Dwyer came home after hearing John McCormack singing the Congress mass on the Rock of Cashel and told us that in his opinion McCormack hadn't the real 'nyah' at all.

Well, we left the music behind to go up to the field early because, as one of the lads said, we wanted to spend as long as we could at the Munster Final now that Tipp. were in it. And sitting there on the bank in mild Kerry sunshine I let my mind idle on other days when the nimble wrists and flying feet of men no longer with us brought crowds to their feet. God rest them all, I said, from Denny Maher and Jim Stapleton down to Ring and Mackey. Maybe they're better off than we are today, I thought, because from up above they'll at least be able to see the match, not like us here with big buck Corkmen standing in front of us no matter where we move. I'd give a lot myself to be looking down on it all from a cloud but maybe by the time our turn comes they'll be giving out tickets up there as well. And if they are, guess who'll be getting them? You're right — the company reps, the politicians and the smartasses who spend their time out looking for them while the likes of you and me are in the field watching the lads training or trying to round up the club jerseys for Sunday.

"Why do Tipp wear Blue and Gold?" a lady near me who didn't seem to know too much about the proceedings anyway asked nobody in particular, so I took it upon myself to enlighten her.

"Blue is the colour of loyalty," I said, "and gold is for shining courage. They're the qualities that Tipp people most value and that is why they're our colours."

"Is that so?" she answered and I got the feeling that she had found something to laugh at. "And why do Cork wear red?"

"I wouldn't know that, ma'am", I told her, "but it's probably on account of the amount of Tipp blood they spilt over the

Tipperary dugout in Killarney





years when the ref wasn't looking or maybe they think the sight of a red rag would make decent Tipp. lads lose their tempers and do what they never do — misbehave themselves".

"Oh I'm sure Tipperary boys would never do that," she assured me, but with that on comes a fellow with a megaphone shouting at us all to stand up and make room for the fellows coming in late. It's the same old story, we all agreed — we come in with hours to spare and then we are ordered around by fellows with megaphones in order to accommodate fellows who come in hours after us. Why doesn't he go down behind the goals and make that crowd conduct themselves and stop throwing clods and there'd be room for everyone? So off we went again, criticising officials, so that in no time at all we were all in all with the Cork crowd around us, now that we had found something we could agree on. In fact, we became so friendly on account of tearing strips off your man with the megaphone that a Cork lad invited me to a leg-up on the wall behind us and from there I had the finest view of the match that anyone ever had — and of the McGillicuddy's Reeks as well. And by the time the minor match was over we were in high good humour and had forgotten everything but the glory of the day that was in it — and how could we be otherwise with the young Tipp team having given an exhibition that brought back memories of days when Paddy Kenny and Jack Harris were on the wings and Pat Stakelum at centreback to keep them flying.

#### A TOUCHING SIGHT

There's something about a Tipp team coming out onto the field for Munster Final that never fails to touch me. I never hear the explosion that rocks the ground when the first blue and gold jersey bursts onto the field but I think of some of the great men I have known who wore that jersey and for a moment I give a salute to men who in one way or another held my affection when I was a young fellow — Johnny Connolly and Johnny Walsh, Johnny Leahy and Wedger Meagher, Frank McGrath, little Jimmy Maher and Mick Darcy and a host of others who may have been great hurlers but who were even better men. "We were better hurlers than ye," said the great Sim Walton of Tullaroan to Johnny Leahy coming off the field after Tipp. had beaten Kilkenny on a lively afternoon in 1916. "Ye were", said the Tipperary captain, "but we were better men".

The Tipp. lads who tore onto the field at Killarney that day looked like young stallions and a Corkman nearby said in wonderment, "they're as fit-looking as our own fellows!" as if such were impossible. "There'll be nothing between them again," he added and for want of something wiser to say I told him, " 'Twill come down then to who's the better men!'"

# WHO IS TAKING THE CUP?



Munster Finals H. Draw in Thurles.

And that's the way it was. By the time the seventy minutes were up and we came down off the wall to stretch our legs — and to tell one another that English was the best forward in Ireland and that anyone else would have taken a shot for goal and if he did that Ger Cunningham would have saved it — all the Cork crowd had taken it up. "Twill depend now on who's the better men!" they were all saying as if nobody had ever said it before.

Well, the Cork team came out first for the extra time and when I saw John Fenton limping I had a sudden feeling that after all the bad old years things were beginning to run our way at last. I thought of the sun-drenched day in Limerick in 1949 and of the lads coming out to play the extra time that they should never have earned in the first place and I said to myself, if history doesn't repeat itself today it'll never repeat itself. And it did.

In the last minutes of that greatest of games we saw who the better men were, but by then some of us were gone too hoarse to cheer. We just hung onto the wall and stared and stared as goal followed golden goal and when Donie O'Connell knelt in the net as Cork faces got longer and longer, I could have gone in and knelt beside him and stayed kneeling for the night.

Life has given us many fine moments but I don't think it has given us finer than when we walked across the green sod of Kilkenny, the Famine over, the Blue and Gold flying as it hadn't done for sixteen years and Richard Stakelum

leading us in singing 'Slievenamon'. And when we drove back that night to the Premier County with our flags still flying proudly and the lads all as hoarse as crows we all felt different and it was only then that we really realised how long it had been since we had won a Munster Final.

They're great young fellows, everyone of them (said the Man with the Large Bottle and the Small Glass). They spend their winter months getting fit for the summer while the rest of us are taking it easy by the fire. They rush away from work and they get home in the dark and they deny themselves all sorts of things so that they can go out on a day in June or July and do what Tipperarymen have been doing for a hundred years — trying to put Corkmen in their place. And they get nothing out of it only the smiles on our faces if they win and lots of abuse if they don't. They're great lads — full of the blue of loyalty and the gold of shining courage — and I can't say more than that.

Don't mind what happened to them in Croke Park — wasn't it nice to be back there after all the years! — they'll be craftier when they get there next year and more experienced. In the meantime, we'll all be happy to think back on a summer we'll never forget and to live again in memory a golden afternoon in Killarney when in the last ten of a hundred golden minutes the net shook three times behind a Cork goalkeeper and the Kerry mountains echoed to the roar of Tipperarymen celebrating the end of the Famine.



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# The Football Scene

By Eddie Lonergan

## MINOR

**T**HE minor team competed in the Munster League and Championship. They played seven matches, winning 4 and losing 3. The following are the results:

Feb. 14	League	at Golden	v Limerick	2-10	0-06
Feb. 28	League	at Cooraclare	v Clare	4-10	1-09
Mar. 08	League	at Kilsheelan	v Waterford	2-09	0-04
Mar. 15	League	at Castleisland	v Kerry	1-05	5-11
Apr. 04	League (F)	at Limerick	v Kerry	1-05	1-08
May 01	Champ.	at Askeaton	v Clare	3-09	0-07
May 15	Champ.	at Clonmel	v Cork	0-07	0-11

The selectors used the League games to try out as many players as possible and against Kerry in the final round of the League they were missing many players who were unavailable.

In the League Final under the captaincy of Colm Moran (Newport) in the absence of school tied Colm Egan (Killdangan) they played very well and were considered unlucky not to retain the title won at the expense of Kerry in 1986.

Preparations then commenced for the Championship with training twice a week in Rosegreen. The first game was against a highly rated Clare team but with a superb first half display they deservedly qualified for the semi-final against Cork. Training continued at Rosegreen and Clonmel and a challenge game was played against Limerick at Seán Treacy Park, Tipperary. They faced Cork in a confident mood and with an outstanding display from Colm Moran in midfield shaded the first half and dominated the third quarter but were unable to get the vital scores. In the final quarter Cork got on top and made good use of scoring opportunities to win by 4 pts. Tipperary lined out as follows against Cork:

1. Owen Cummins (Fethard); 2. Paul Norris (Moyle Rovers); 3. Michael McGrath (Moyle Rovers); 4. Justin Quinlan (Arravale

Rovers); 5. Michael Ryan (Upperchurch); 6. Brendan Corcoran (Emly); 7. Brendan Ryan (Golden/Kilfeacle); 8. Colm Moran (Newport); 9. John Leahy (Mullinahone); 10. Colm Egan (Killdangan) captain; 11. Conal Bonnar (Cashel); 12. Eamon Maher (Ballyporeen); 13. John McGrath (Moyle Rovers); 14. Liam Mooney (Éire Óg-Anacarty); 15. Roger English (Emly). Subs: Finbarr Lonergan (Cahir); Mark Hctor (Templemore); Gerry McGrath (Aherlow); Willie Morrissey (Fethard); Eoghan Cooney (Swan); Michael Lovett (Rockwell Rovers); Brian Leamy (Golden/Kilfeacle); Pat Ryan (Arravale Rovers); Alan Quinlan (Holycross).

The selectors were John Cummins (Ardfinnan) the Coach, Hugh Kennedy (Arravale Rovers), Seán Lalor (Templemore), Michael Darcy (Borrisokane) and Tommy Lonergan (Kilsheelan) who had to resign early in the year.

## UNDER-21

Having many of the players from the team that contested the Munster Final in 1986 available hopes were high that this team would go one better than the 1984 Minor team and become All-Ireland champions.

They were drawn to play Cork in the Munster Semi-Final on April 29th at Pairc Uí Chaoimh.

Trials were held at Boherlahan on the 10th and 24th January and challenge games were played against Waterford at Dungarvan and the Tipperary Senior team at Bansha before a panel of 27 was selected to commence training on February 25th.

The panel was quickly reduced to 22 due to injuries and players not being available for training. Four of the players who had to withdraw were members of the panel in 1986 and in fact 3 of them took part in the Munster Final. A fourth player who played in the 1986 Munster Final was also unavailable due to the fact that he had emigrated.

Coach Seamus McCarthy put his panel through 15 training



**TIPP MINOR F. TEAM V CORK AT CLONMEL**

Front (l to r) Finbar Lonergan (Cahir); Willie Morrissey (Fethard); John McGrath (Moyle Rovers); Brendan Ryan (Golden/Kilfeachy); Brendan Corcoran (Emly); Eoin Cummins (Fethard); Conal Bonnar (Cashel); Justin Quinlan (Arravale Rovers); John Leahy (Mullinahone); Pat Ryan (Arravale Rovers); Liam Mooney (Éire Óg, Anacarty). Back (l to r) Mark Hctor (Templemore); Michael Lovett (Rockwell Rovers); Eoin Cooney (Carrick Swans); Alan Quinlan (Holycross); Roger English (Emly); Michael Ryan (Upperchurch/Drombane); Colm Egan (Killadangan) captain; Colm Moran (Newport); Paul Norri (Moyle Rovers); Eamonn Maher (Ballyporeen); Michael McGrath (Moyle Rovers); John McGrath (Aherlow).





### TIPPERARY U-21 FOOTBALL TEAM — TIPPERARY V KERRY AT CLONMEL

Front (l to r) Tommy Sheehan (Fethard); Christian Healy (Newcastle); Peter Lambert (Ardfinnan); Jim O'Meara (Grangemockler); Ger Enright (Cahir); John Owens (Moyle Rovers) captain; John O'Meara (Emly); Colm Egan (Killadangan); David Fogarty (Golden/Kilfeacle) and Ned Ryan (Loughmore). Back (l to r) David Walsh (Arravale Rovers); Declan Hahessy (Grangemockler); Michael Foonan (Newcastle); Anthony Crosse (Eire Óg, Annacorthy); Frank Howlin (Cahir); John O'Loughlin (Newcastle); Jerry Ryan (Ardfinnan); Dermot O'Shea (Clonmel Commercials); Brian Burke (Fethard); Richie Quirke (Cahir) and Philip Ryan (Clonmel Commercials).

sessions and they also played a further 5 challenge games before facing Cork. The challenge games were against Westmeath at Castletowngeoghegan, Galway at Templemore, Waterford at Kilsheelan, Mayo at Galway and Limerick at Bansha.

Prior to this game Cork had gone 15 games without defeat winning 3 Munster and 3 All-Ireland titles in the process. Tipperary however were not overawed and despite being outplayed in the first half and missing a penalty were very much in contention. Cork were on top in the early part of the second half but could not break through the Tipperary defence. Tipperary then came more into the game and were rewarded with a goal from Anthony Crosse. Tipperary went on to win by two points after surviving a late scare when Cork at last got through only to be denied by a great save from goalkeeper Ger Enright. The final score was Tipperary 1-07; Cork 0-08. They were now through to meet Kerry in the Munster Final which had been fixed for May 13th but as two Kerry players would be on the All-Stars tour at that time the game was brought forward to May 6th at Tralee.

In a game in which neither team reached top form both sides were happy to get another chance as the game ended level on the score Tipperary 0-07; Kerry 0-07.

The replay was fixed for Clonmel on May 23rd. Meanwhile training continued at Ferryhouse and a challenge game was played against Imokilly at Mitchelstown.

Before a large attendance Tipperary and Kerry played a great game which Tipperary seemed to have within their grasp midway through the second half when they took a 3 point lead through a penalty goal from Dermot O'Shea. However a late Kerry rally yielded an equalising point with the last kick of the game to leave the score after 60 minutes Tipperary 1-05; Kerry 0-08.

The match then went into extra time and in a blistering start Kerry went 4 points clear. Tipperary re-arranged their forces and set about hauling back Kerry's lead which with a late scoring burst they reduced to 1 point. The final score was Tipperary 1-11; Kerry 0-15.

The coach, Seamus McCarthy (Galtee Rovers) and his fellow selectors Pete Savage (Ardfinnan), Michael Power (Newcastle), John Phelan (Moyle Rovers) and Pat Moroney (Aherlow) and the entire panel under the captaincy of John Owens are to be complimented on their efforts throughout the year.

The following is the team and substitutes for the Munster final replay: 1. Ger Enright (Cahir); 2. Davy Walsh (Arravale Rovers); 3. Richie Quirke (Cahir); 4. John O'Meara (Emly); 5. Frank Howlin (Cahir); 6. Jerry Ryan (Ardfinnan); 7. John Owens (Moyle Rovers); captain; 8. Brian Burke (Fethard); 9. Declan Hahessy (Grangemockler); 10. Jim O'Meara (Grangemockler); 11. Michael

Goonan (Newcastle); 12. Dermot O'Shea (Commercials); 13. Peter Lambert (Ardfinnan); 14. Tommy Sheehan (Fethard); 15. Anthony Crosse (Eire Óg/Anacarty). Subs: Philip Ryan (Commercials); John O'Loughlin (Newcastle); Ned Ryan (Loughmore/Castleiney); Christian Healy (Newcastle); Colm Egan (Kildangan) and David Fogarty (Golden/Kilfeacle); John O'Loughlin, Ned Ryan and Colm Egan were brought on while Seán Brett (Mullinahone) was unavailable for the Final due to injury.

### JUNIOR

After two trials and two challenge games against Wexford at Waterford and New Ross, Tipperary faced Waterford at Clogheen. At half-time they trailed but a goal early in the second half gave them the impetus to go on to win by 2 points.

Following a training session at Clonmel and a challenge game against Fr. Sheehy's also at Clonmel they travelled to Askeaton to play Clare in the semi-final. In this game Tipperary had to rely on a late point from a fifty by Eamon O'Dwyer to force extra time. Clare took an early lead in this period and it took a goal from Andrew Fryday and a point from Eamon O'Dwyer in the closing minutes to get Tipperary through to the Munster Final for the third successive year in which they would meet Cork at Clonmel. Meanwhile a further challenge game was played against Killrossanty at Monroe and two training sessions were held at Clonmel. In the Final Cork were regarded as hot favourites but were given a very good game by Tipperary who midway through the second half rocked Cork with a Paul Walsh goal. Tipperary were now very much in contention but were dealt a severe blow when a player was sent off immediately after the goal. Cork were put under pressure for a while after this but their defence held out and in the closing minutes they scored a goal and 3 points to give them a flattering 7 points victory. The selectors were William Robinson (Coach); Mick Byrne, Tom Cusack, Richie Boyle and John Bourke.

The following are the details of the Championship games:

May 20	at Clogheen v Waterford	1-06	0-07
June 03	at Askeaton v Clare	1-12	2-08 (A.E.T.)
		0-09	1-06 (60 Min.)
June 17	at Clonmel v Cork	1-05	1-12

The team lined out as follows in the Munster Final:

1. Seamus Heany (Clonoulty/Rossmore); 2. T. J. Ryan (Do.) captain; 3. Martin Meagher (Loughmore/Castleiney); 4. John





### TIPPERARY JUNIOR FOOTBALL 1987

Keane (St. Patrick's); 5. Eamon O'Meara (Grangemockler); 6. John O'Loughlin (Newcastle); 7. Michael Ahearne (Ardfinnan); 8. Tony Gleeson (Commercials); 9. Jim O'Donnell (Rockwell Rovers); 10. Paul Walsh (Swan); 11. Eamon O'Dwyer (Rockwell Rovers); 12. John McCormack (Loughmore/Castleiney); 13. Christian Healy (Newcastle); 14. Seán Cronin (Swan); 15. Kevin Barron (Rockwell Rovers). Subs: Tomás Sweeney (Newcastle); Andrew Fryday (Clonoulty/Rossmore); John O'Connor (Rockwell Rovers); Tim O'Connor (Mullinahone); John Lalor (Loughmore/Castleiney); Michael Brennan (Killenaule); John Flannery (Éire Óg, Nenagh); Seán Minogue (do.); Pat Larkin (Kilsheelan); Seán Brett (Mullinahone); Thomas Anglim (St. Patrick's); Michael Sweeney (Ballyporeen) and Pat O'Brien (Cahir) who were members of the panel for earlier games were not available for the Munster Final.

The results were as follows:

Nov. 02:	N.F.L.	at Dungarvan	v Waterford	1-10	2-09
Nov. 16:	N.F.L.	at Clonmel	v Wexford	2-05	0-10
Nov. 30:	N.F.L.	at Carlow	v Carlow	2-10	0-05
Dec. 14:	N.F.L.	at Clonmel	v Wicklow	2-11	0-07
Feb. 08:	N.F.L.	at Kilsheelan	v Kilkenny	2-16	2-03
Feb. 22:	N.F.L.	at Askeaton	v Limerick	0-03	0-03
Mar. 08:	N.F.L.	at Kilsheelan	v Clare	0-10	1-10
May 17:	Champ.	at Askeaton	v Limerick	0-11	0-12

Training for the seniors commenced on Sept. 17th and continued until the end of the National League with a break from the last game before Christmas until January 11th. After the end of the league training resumed on April 8th for the Championship and in all between challenge games, competitive games and training there was a total of 40 sessions.

In preparation for the League they played Kildare in a challenge at Newbridge on October 29th and were in good shape for the commencement of the League but were unlucky to lose to Waterford as a result of a last minute goal. Despite this set back they were in contention for promotion to division 2 at the

## SENIOR

The senior team played 8 games, 7 in the '86/'87 National League and one in the Championship, winning 4, drawing 1 and losing three.



### TIPP SENIOR FOOTBALL TEAM N.F.L. FINAL OF DIVISION 3 — SOUTH AT KILSHEELAN

Front (l to r) Michael Corcoran (Emly); Andrew Healy (Newcastle); John Owens (Moyle Rovers); Mark O'Connell (Clonmel Commercials) captain; Jim O'Meara (Grangemockler); Tommy Twomey (Arravale Rovers); Seamus O'Neill (Clonmel Commercials). Back (l to r) Donal Foley (Moyle Rovers); Jimmy Dunne (Moyle/Templetoohy); Brian Burke (Fethard); Gene McGrath (Clonmel Commercials); Anthony Crosse (Éire Óg, Anacarthy); Terry Ryan (Ardfinnan); Pat McCormack (Arravale Rovers); and Liam Stokes (Kilsheelan).



Christmas break as a result of good wins over Wexford, Carlow and Wicklow. As wins in their remaining three games would ensure promotion the coach, Johnny Mulvihill and his fellow selectors Seán Mockler, D. J. Gleeson, Noel Byrne and Colm O'Flaherty made every effort to see that this would be achieved. In addition to the training sessions challenges were played against Waterford at Kilsheelan, Galway at Ballinasloe and the Tipperary Under-21 team at Bansha. Kilkenny were defeated and after drawing with Limerick a win over Clare in the last game was required to gain promotion. This game was played in a well prepared Kilsheelan pitch on March 8th before a large crowd and in a close game Clare prevailed and so gained promotion at Tipperary's expense. Sights were then set on the Championship in which they were to meet Limerick in the first round. Preparations for this game were hampered by the fact that many members of the panel were also on the Under-21 team. Also many players had to withdraw due to injury including 4 players who had played in the Clare match and these included team captain Mark O'Connell, in all 6 players who played against Clare were unavailable for the Limerick game. As a result of the withdrawals seven Under-21's started against Limerick and ten Under-21's were used in the game.

Tipperary suffered a further cruel blow when they lost their full-back early in the game and took a while to settle after the necessary reshuffle. In the second half they fought back well and reduced the deficit to one point with a late rally. After the good run in the League it was disappointing to lose in the first round of the Championship but bearing in mind the number of players in the panel the future prospects look good. One challenge game was played in the build-up to the Championship and it was against Wexford at Kilsheelan.

The team which faced Limerick was as follows:

1. Ger Enright (Cahir); 2. Frank Howlin (Cahir); 3. Jimmy Dunne (Templetuohy/Moyne); 4. Donal Foley (Moyle Rovers); 5. Michael Goonan (Newcastle); 6. Jerry Ryan (Ardfinnan); 7. Andrew Healy (Newcastle); 8. Brian Burke (Fethard); 9. Michael Beston (Fr. Sheehy's); 10. Jim O'Meara (Grangemockler); 11. Liam Stokes (Kilsheelan); 12. Tommy Sheehan (Fethard); 13. Peter Kilkenny (Commercials); 14. Gene McGrath (Commercials) captain; 15. Michael Cunningham (Emly). Subs: Declan Hahessy (Grangemockler) for Jimmy Dunne; Anthony Crosse (Eire Óg-Anacarty) for Jim O'Meara; Davy Walsh (Arravale Rovers) for Liam Stokes; Tommy Toomey (Arravale Rovers), Paul McKeivitt (Loughmore/Castleiney), Martin Meagher (Loughmore/Castleiney).

## COUNTY LEAGUE

The Co. League is a competition open to all clubs in the county. 32 teams participated and they were divided into 4 divisions as follows: 7 in Division 1 and 2, 8 in Division 3 and 10 in Division 4. The top 2 teams in Divisions 1 and 2 qualify for the semi-finals of the Tipperaryman's Cup while the top 2 teams in divisions 3 and 4 contest the Tipperaryman's Shield.

The top teams in Divisions 2, 3 and 4 are promoted while the bottom clubs in divisions 1, 2 and 3 are relegated.



### SENIOR FOOTBALL SELECTORS AND COACH

l to r: Noel Burns, D. J. Gleeson, Seán Mockler (Selectors); Michael Power, Colm Flaherty (Selector); John Mulvihill (Coach).



l to r: Hugh Kennedy (Football Bórd), Eddie Lonergan (Football Bórd) Rúnaí; Seamus McCarthy (Selector/Coach); Peter Savage (Selector); John Phelan (Selector); Michael Power (Selector); Pat Moroney (Selector).

In the '86/'87 League the Divisional Champions were:

Division 1: Loughmore/Castleiney.

Division 2: Newcastle.

Division 3: Rockwell Rovers.

Division 4: Inane Rovers.

They were joined in the semi-finals of the Tipperaryman's Cup and Shield by Cahir, Templemore, Lattin-Cullen and Drom/Inch. The following are the details of those games:

### Tipperaryman's Cup

#### Semi-Finals

June 20:	at Templemore	Loughmore/Castleiney	2-10	Referee
		Templemore	1-06	P. Lonergan
July 26:	at Clogheen	Cahir	3-08	Referee
		Newcastle	2-06	J. Lonergan

#### Final

Sept. 18:	at Boherlahan	Loughmore/Castleiney	1-08	Referee
		Cahir	0-05	T. Meehan

### Tipperaryman's Shield

#### Semi-Finals

June 22:	at Boherlahan	Rockwell Rovers	0-06	Referee
		Drom-Inch	1-02	P. Cullen
June 29	at Drombane	Lattin-Cullen	2-09	Referee
		Inane Rovers	3-04	P. Cullen

#### Final

Aug. 21:	at Tipperary	Rockwell Rovers	0-09	Referee
		Lattin-Cullen	0-05	J. Harrington

## TIPPERARY POST PRIMARY SCHOOLS

The Post Primary Schools committee run the following competitions: MacGabhann Cup, Cusack Cup, Cusack Shield and the U-14 Blitz.

The following is a table showing the participation of schools in the various competitions:

(See Table Attached)

The results were as follows:

### MacGabhann Cup

#### FIRST ROUND

Mercy, Newport	Beat	Presentation, Ballingarry
St. Joseph's, Cahir	Beat	Newport V.S.
Rockwell College	Rec. W.O.	Templemore C.B.S.
Tipperary C.B.S.	Beat	Nenagh C.B.S.
Fethard P.B.S.	Beat	Thurles C.B.S.





The Tipperary panel and coaches: Back row (l to r) Eoin Liston, Kerry; Colm O'Flaherty, Cahir; Eamon Ryan, Cork; Paddy Ryan, Fethard; Padraig O'Keefe, Clonmel; Peter Gleeson (captain) Arravale Rovers; P. J. O'Meara, Cahir; Damien Hogan, Roscrea; Stephen Napier, Clonmel; Peter Owens, Moyle Rovers; Frank O'Brien, Clogheen; Owen Killoran, Roscrea; Seán Collum, Templemore; Brian Burke, Fethard; Michael Golden, Cork. Front row (l to r) Eugene Hogan, Burgess; Graham O'Connor, Thurles; Ken O'Doherty, Thurles; Seán Moloney, New Inn; Noel Leahy, Mullinahone; Donncadh Horan, Anacarty; Denis O'Shea, Aherlow; Michael Flemming, Clogheen; Martin McCabe, Newport.

#### QUARTER FINALS

Mercy, Newport	Beat	St. Joseph's, Cahir
Fethard P.B.S.	Beat	Rockwell College
Tipperary C.B.S.	Beat	Carrick-on-Suir C.B.S.
High School, Clonmel	Beat	Cashel C.B.S.

#### SEMI-FINALS

Fethard P.B.S.	Beat	Mercy, Newport
High School, Clonmel	Beat	Tipperary C.B.S.

#### FINAL

<b>May 11:</b> At Clonmel		
Clonmel H.S.	Beat	Fethard Ref. Mossy Hyland

#### Cusack Cup

<b>1st ROUND</b>		
Tipperary C.B.S.	Beat	Nenagh C.B.S.
Clonmel H.S.	Beat	Rockwell College
Carrick-on-Suir C.B.S.	Beat	Tipperary V.S.
Cashel C.B.S.	Beat	Fethard P.B.S.

#### QUARTER FINALS

Tipperary C.B.S.	Beat	Rockwell College
Clonmel H.S.	Beat	Tipperary V.S.
Carrick-on-Suir C.B.S.	Beat	Fethard P.B.S.
Cashel C.B.S.	Beat	Nenagh C.B.S.

#### SEMI-FINALS

Carrick-on-Suir C.B.S.	Beat	Tipperary C.B.S.
Carrick-on-Suir C.B.S.	Beat	Tipperary C.B.S.
Clonmel H.S.	Beat	Nenagh C.B.S.

#### FINAL

<b>May 06:</b> At Kilsheelan		
Carrick-on-Suir C.B.S.	Beat	Clonmel H.S. Ref. Joe Keane

#### Cusack Shield

<b>1st ROUND</b>		
Cashel V.S.	Beat	Presentation, Ballingarry
Newport V.S.	Beat	St. Joseph's, Borrisoleigh

#### SEMI-FINALS

Mercy, Newport	Beat	Cashel V.S.
Newport V.S.	Beat	St. Joseph's, Cahir

#### FINAL

<b>April 11:</b> At Newport		
Mercy, Newport	Beat	Newport V.S.

(Rockwell) after 10 years service. In appreciation of this a presentation was made to him on behalf of the Football Board by Michael Power.

The new secretary is Dick Lowney (Cashel C.B.S.) and the chairman is Colm O'Flaherty (Cashel V.S.)

#### PARTICIPATION IN TIPPERARY COLLEGES FOOTBALL

School		U-14	U-15	U-17
1. Cashel C.B.S.	(3)	✓	✓	✓
2. Carrick C.B.S.	(3)	✓	✓	✓
3. Tipperary V.S.	(3)	✓	✓	✓
4. Fethard P.B.S.	(3)	✓	✓	✓
5. Ballingarry Convent	(3)	✓	✓	✓
6. Newport Convent	(3)	✓	✓	✓
7. St. Joseph's, Cahir	(3)	✓	✓	✓
8. Rockwell College	(3)	✓	✓	✓
9. Cashel V.S.	(2)	✓	✓	x
10. Clonmel H.S.	(2)	x	✓	✓
11. Tipperary C.B.S.	(2)	x	✓	✓
12. Newport V.S.	(2)	x	✓	✓
13. Borrisoleigh Secondary	(1)	x	✓	x
14. Cahir V.S.	(1)	✓	x	x
15. Thurles C.B.S.	(1)	x	x	✓
16. Thurles V.S.	(1)	✓	x	x
17. Templemore C.B.S.	(1)	✓	x	x
18. Roscrea V.S.	(1)	✓	x	x
19. Templemore V.S.	(1)	✓	x	x
20. Carrick V.S.	(10)	x	x	x
21. Clonmel V.S.	(0)	x	x	x
22. Killenaule V.S.	(0)	x	x	x
23. Cappawhite V.S.	(0)	x	x	x
24. Nenagh V.S.	(0)	x	x	x
25. Borrisokane V.S.	(0)	x	x	x
26. Roscrea C.B.S.	(0)	x	x	x

#### MUNSTER COUNCIL'S SUMMER CAMP FOR FOOTBALL

This Summer twenty Tipperary Under-16 footballers participated in the first ever Summer Camp completely devoted to Gaelic Football. The Camp was held in Carraig na nFear, Co. Cork, under the management of Eoin Liston, Kerry, from July 26th to 31st.

#### THE SELECTION PROCESS

Bord na nOg Divisional Boards were asked to send their best Under-16 players to Ballycahill for trials. However, players were

The U-14 Blitz was held at Rockwell College on the 13th May. Fourteen schools competed and the winners were Cashel C.B.S.

The plate winners were Tipperary V.S.

Also this year saw the retirement of Secretary, Tony Smith



selected on their performance in a skills competition. There were 4 basic skills, (1) point kicking with good leg (2) point kicking with weak leg (3) free-taking (4) a timed solo-run through obstacles. The judges were Michael Power, Newcastle; John Owens, Moyle Rovers; Pat Moroney, Aherlow and Colm O'Flaherty, Cahir. The 20 players with the highest scores were those selected to attend.

## THE COURSE

Following breakfast each morning the boys were coached in the various skills of football for two 1 hourly sessions. After lunch each day each group had the use of the swimming pool and the Gym for an hour. This was followed by another coaching session. After dinner each of the four participating teams played off a league, semi-final and final, thus giving each team 5 games. During the week there were also lectures on sports injuries, team tactics, winter training and summer training.

Tipperary's results in the League were as follows:

Tipperary 2-5	to	Waterford	1-3
Tipperary 0-2	to	Clare	0-6
Tipperary 4-9	to	Kerry	0-1

### Semi-Final

Tipperary 2-6	to	Clare	1-5
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### Final

Tipperary 3-6	to	Kerry	0-0
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Tipperary's scorers in the 5 games were:

P. O'Keeffe 4-9, O. Killoran 3-5, D. O'Shea 1-3, N. Leahy 1-1, G. O'Connor 1-1, P. Gleeson 0-3, K. O'Doherty 0-3, S. Moloney 1-0, P. J. O'Meara 0-2, M. McCabe 0-1.

On the final day, there was a skills competition in 4 different skills with 5 players from each county performing each skill. Again Tipperary were the winners with **31** marks, followed by Kerry **28**, Clare **19** and Waterford **19**.

During the entire week Tipperary were supervised by Brian Burke, Fethard and Colm O'Flaherty, Cahir.

## ASSESSMENT

All the boys participating found the week enjoyable as well as instructive. The various sessions certainly demonstrated to all present what is required to achieve the high level of skill necessary to successfully compete at inter-county level. The Tipp boys, drawn from all four divisions (South 8, West 5, North 4, Mid 3) Blended very well together and by the end of the week had built up an excellent team spirit. From discussions with the boys a number of alarming facts emerged.

- (1) An almost total lack of interest in football by some clubs in the North and Mid.
- (11) Very few competitive games at either Under-16 or Minor level.
- (111) Very few games at school level in a number of areas. However, the interest and commitment to football shown by all the boys was very encouraging for the future of Tipperary football.

## THE FUTURE

It is hoped that this Camp will become an annual event and indeed there is no reason why something similar could not be held within the county.



In the South Tipp. Junior Hurling Championship Final this year a father and his three sons played together on the Skeheenarinky team against Ballyneale. Left to right: John Maher, Eamonn Maher, Eddie Maher, Thomas Maher.





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# County Bórd na nÓg Review 1987

By JAMES GLEESON

**O**NCE again our young players did us proud by providing a high level of excitement and entertainment for the many spectators who turned up to see the County Juvenile Hurling and Football semi-finals and finals. As usual there was an abundance of skill, commitment, courage and competitive edge liberally sprinkled throughout the matches.

Aherlow's breakthrough in rural hurling and Tipperary's magnificent performance in the Tony Forristal Tournament provided some of the highlights of the year. Durlas Óg had a notable double success in U-12 and U-16 hurling. Arravale Rovers captured three county titles — U-16 football and the urban/rural football and hurling double. Clonmel Commercials are football champions at U-12 level for the second year in a row.

## U-12 HURLING

North representatives Toomevara had a two point victory over St. Mary's, Clonmel in one semi-final. Durlas Óg had to fight all the way to overcome Knockavilla Kickhams in the other semi-final. In the final Toomevara started well but the Thurles boys were determined to avoid a repeat of last year's semi-final. The speed and skill of their forwards was the major factor in recording a satisfactory victory over the 1986 North and County Champions.

## U-12 FOOTBALL

Short a couple of players, Eire Óg were easily defeated by Durlas Óg in the first semi-final, played in Borrisoleigh. The other semi-final between Aherlow and Clonmel Commercials was a much more interesting affair. Aherlow took the game to their opponents and from the start showed some beautiful touches in skill and team-work. They were eventually overcome by a much stronger Clonmel team. The final was played in Bansha and a strangely subdued Durlas Óg side had no real answer to the much improved Commercials lads.

## U-14 URBAN/RURAL HURLING

Arravale Rovers, taking over from Knockavilla Kickhams in the West, faced Toomevara in the first semi-final. After an excellent hour's hurling, they finished level, 6-2 to 4-8. The replay saw Arravale with that little extra in reserve and they qualified for the first of their four county juvenile finals of 1987.

After a lot of hard work at ground level over recent years, Holycross made the breakdown this year in Mid at this grade. They had a relatively easy victory over Carrick Swans in the semi-final in Golden.



Picture taken on the occasion of a presentation to Patrice, Avril, Kelley and John Harrington, Upperchurch-Drombane, by William Corbett to celebrate their All-Ireland Scór na nÓg novelty act victory in Omagh in February of this year. Also included are Mary and P.J. Harrington.

In the final, Holycross gave of their best for the 60 minutes but the Tipperary lads were always in the driving seat and emerged victorious by 0-8 to 1-2.

## U-14 RURAL HURLING

In an evenly fought encounter, Toomevara had two points to spare over Holycross in one semi-final. South representatives, Killenaule, met Knockavilla Kickhams in the other. Back in May, in the semi-final of the County Féile na nGael tournament, Killenaule, after a titanic struggle against Durlas Óg, served notice that they were going to be a force in this year's championship. They defeated Kickhams easily enough and so a bumper gate was guaranteed for a Killenaule/Toomevara final.

In a tremendous game of hurling, the South boys snatched victory by one point on the score 6-4 to 3-11. There were truly emotional scenes afterwards as Killenaule achieved their first county juvenile title and gave a much needed boost to hurling in the South.

## U-14 URBAN/RURAL FOOTBALL

After a tentative start, Carrick Swans ran out easy winners by 0-14 to 1-4 against Eire Óg, Nenagh in one semi-final. Arravale Rovers had seven points to spare over Durlas Óg in the other semi-final. An excellent game of football was served up in the final.

Playing with the wind, Arravale led by just three points at the interval. Carrick came storming back and led by two points midway through the second half, but a

crucial Arravale goal six minutes from the end effectively ended Carrick's challenge.

## RURAL FOOTBALL

West champions Aherlow defeated Ardfinnan in the first semi-final. Holycross had a two points victory over Borrisokane in the other semi-final, played in Borrisoleigh. The final, which brought together the unlikely pairing of Aherlow and Holycross/Ballycahill, was full of incident, excitement and good football. After a hectic sixty minutes the boys from the west shaded it by one point on the scoreline 3-7 to 3-6.

The unbelievable scenes of joy afterwards in the winners dressing room were reminiscent of the aftermath of the Rural Hurling Final. It was little wonder that the Aherlow supporters were in such ecstatic mood as this was their first win in a county juvenile final. A note of commiseration to the Holycross lads who were beaten in two county finals and one semi-final.

## TURAS NA nÓg

Rural winners, Aherlow, played Urban-Rural champions Arravale Rovers for the right to go on this year's trip to the All-Ireland Football Final in Croke Park. Bansha was the setting on a beautiful Saturday in September for the encounter. Aherlow played some excellent football in the first half and they were unlucky to be merely on equal terms at the interval. Arravale had reason to be concerned but their superior skill and strength saw them safely through in the end by 3-8 to 2-5.



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# Scór na nÓg 1987

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Ceol Uirlise .....	Sean Treacy's
Bailead Grupa .....	Templemore
Rince Seit .....	Newcastle

## U-16 HURLING

Toomevara and Arravale Rovers met in the first semi-final in Holycross. Toomevara, after an unexpected North final victory over Roscrea, started well and looked to be easing comfortably into another county final. They didn't count on the superior stamina and finishing power of the Tipperary Town boys and were forced to come back for another game. There was no doubt about the replay as Arravale scored an impressive 0-10 to 1-3 victory.

Meanwhile Durlas Óg had a relatively easy victory over St. Mary's, Clonmel by 6-11 to 4-6 in the other semi-final. Arravale won three county juvenile titles this year but this was the one they dearly wanted to win. Playing with a strong breeze, they started briskly enough and had Thurles rattled for twenty minutes or so. Two opportunistic goals for Durlas before half-time put a different complexion on the interval scoreline. Thurles dominated the second half proceedings and ran out easy winners by 5-4 to 2-7.

## U-16 FOOTBALL

Eire Óg, Nenagh caused the shock of the year when they overcame a fancied Durlas Óg side in truly "miracle" fashion by 2-3 to 0-7 in Borrisoleigh. A well organised and powerful Arravale Rovers outfit overwhelmed Clonmel Commercials by 1-11 to 0-4 in the other semi-final.

In an exciting and hugely entertaining final, Arravale were in total control for the first half. Yet they only led by 0-5 to 0-0 at the interval. Nenagh stormed back and in a purple patch midway through the second half, scored 1-3 without reply. The Tipperary Town lads pulled themselves together and scored 2 points to collect their third county juvenile title in 1987.

## FÉILE NA nGAEL

A much weaker Borrisokane/Knockshegowna side than last year caused one of the shocks of the year when beating Arravale Rovers in one semi-final of the Féile Blitz. The second semi-final between Killenaule and Durlas Óg turned out to be a hectic struggle. They were level 1-4 apiece after the first forty minutes. In extra time, Durlas Óg subtly and craft saw them safely through by 2-8 to 2-5. The final was a mis-match with Thurles emerging easy winners by seven goals.

Thurles, representing Tipperary in the All-Ireland Féile finals in Clare came through the earlier rounds only to falter at the semi-final stage.



## ALL-IRELAND FINALISTS — SCÓR NA nÓG

The Ryan brothers from Cumberbeg, Kilcommon representing Sean Treacy's G.A.A. Club who won the Munster Instrumental Music and reached the All-Ireland Scór na nÓg Final (left to right): Michael Ryan and Ned Ryan.

## FÉILE NA nÓG

The All-Ireland finals of the competition for U-14 football club teams were played in Kildare this year. Eire Óg, Nenagh after defeating Clonmel Óg by 2-6 to 1-0 in the county final, represented Tipperary. Unfortunately, they went nowhere near matching last year's magnificent victory in Cork though they did reach the quarter final.

## FÉILE SKILLS

This was a tremendous year for Killenaule's U-14 hurling team. One of the heroes of that side was Tony Shelley. In the Féile Skills final he came first with fifty two points. Pádraig Madden of Lorrha was second with forty seven points. Seamus Cussen from the West was third with thirty nine points and Thomas Tierney from the Mid was fourth with thirty seven points. Tony Shelley went on to represent Tipperary in the All-Ireland skills final and finished third.

## LONG PUCK

The county final of the U-14 Long Puck was brought off before the Limerick v. Tipperary minor match in Thurles on Friday, 22nd May. Adrian Hogan (North) came first. Lar Barrett (Mid) was second, Tony Sheelley (Killenaule) was third and Seamus Cussen (West) was fourth.

Adrian came third in the Munster Final in Killarney.

## TONY FORRISTAL TOURNAMENT

Selectors for the Tipperary U-14 hurling team were picked early in the year. They were Tom Gleeson (North), Jim Lynch (South), Denis Hogan (Mid), Sammy Ryan (West) and John Ivers (Coach). They came together immediately and planned a course of action well in advance of the tournament.

Many training sessions were held and a challenge game against Galway organised. The thorough preparations paid off and after good victories over Antrim, Kilkenny and Limerick, they reached the final against Galway. Tipperary won in magnificent fashion and captured the Tony Forristal Memorial Tournament Trophy for the second time since its inception.

## U-16 INTER-DIVISIONAL FOOTBALL

The West division, following a successful motion at their A.G.M. were absent from all of the inter-divisional competitions this year. That left three teams in the U-16 football. On Saturday, 16th May, North surprised South in the only semi-final. After many postponements the final was





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eventually played towards the end of October. In a well contested game Mid were that little bit better and so collected the Football Board Cup.

Our thanks to the Football Board for organising the Tipperary panel of U-16 players on their trip to Carricknavar, Co. Cork, for a week long intensive coaching course. That same team took part in an inter-county tournament towards the end of October defeating Waterford in the semi-final and meeting Wexford in the final.

### MUNSTER-U-16 HURLING

There was no joy for Tipperary divisional teams in this year's Munster Special U-16 Hurling competition. South were hammered by Imokilly in Fermoy. North lost out to Mid-Clare in Ballina while Mid were beaten by Limerick City in Newport.

### MOYCARKEY MOTION

A Moycarkey motion that a committee be set up to investigate the structure of our Juvenile Games was passed at Co. Board na nÓg Convention in March. Chairman Donal Shanahan asked each division to debate the issues at length and he welcomed individual submissions.

In October County Board na nÓg delegates discussed the full range of options submitted to them. A sub-committee was drawn up to review the situation and report back to Board na nÓg. Whatever recommendations come from that dialogue will be posted to each

juvenile club in the county. It's up to the clubs to put forward motions changing the structures.

The following are the main talking points:

1. Should grading to County Final level be brought in?
2. Should rural/urban-rural concept at U-14 be done away with?
3. Is U-13, U-15½ age limits preferable to the present U-12, U-14 and U-16 set up?
4. There is a very definite lowering of standards at U-16 level!
5. Should younger age matches be played later in the year?

### REFEREES

We have a good panel of competent reliable and knowledgeable referees at present. I would like to thank the following who refereed games for us this year: Pat Lynch, Sammy Ryan, Liam Quirke, Martin Treacy, Paddy Hogan, John Lonergan, Paddy Lonergan, Nicholas Lonergan, Liam McGrath, T.F. Stapleton and Liam Hogan. A word of thanks also to their officials.

### U-14 INTER-DIVISIONAL HURLING

North completely overwhelmed South in the only semi-final. The final was played in Borrisoleigh between Mid and North. Once more North proved to be too strong for their opponents and won by a large margin. Our thanks to Borrisoleigh Club

for organising the tournament in memory of the late Peadar Cummins.

### GATES

While the vast majority of our supporters pay their way into our games, there is still the odd one unwilling to hand out a pound to help in the running of the Board. Gate receipts are not enough to finance the Board's expenses amongst which the cost of buying winners medals is the most crippling. Subsequently we've been forced to appeal to clubs for a donation.

### FIELD COMMITTEES

There is nothing nicer than to go to a juvenile match where the grass is cut, the field flagged and lined, the nets up and dressing rooms open. This work goes largely unnoticed by those taking part. I would like to thank the various park committees for giving of their time and energy to have the fields ready for the games.

### CONCLUSION

My thanks to Chariman Donal Shanahan, Treasurer Denis Hogan, P.R.O. Liam McGrath and Co. Board members for their help and co-operation throughout the year. My thanks to team officials, club officers and all who came to support our games. Most importantly of all my thanks to you, the boys, the players for providing us with great value in entertainment. Deepest sympathies to any of our supporters families who suffered bereavements during the year.

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# Tony Forrestal Memorial Tournament

**E**ACH year, the Waterford Glass G.A.A. Club organises an Under-14 inter-county hurling tournament to perpetuate the memory of Tony Forrestal, a member of their club who was tragically killed in a traffic accident on his way home from a match a few years ago.

Tipperary last won this tournament in 1983 when only four teams took part. Since then this tournament has grown in stature and importance and in 1987 a total of 16 teams took part. It has now been graded into a strong and weak section with eight teams in each. The eight weaker teams play for the Sonny Walsh Trophy; this to honour the man who initiated the idea of the Forrestal Tournament and who has now passed to his eternal reward.

The Forrestal Tournament was divided into two sections, with four teams in each. Tipperary were grouped with Antrim, Kilkenny and Limerick, while Cork, Clare, Galway and Waterford made up the other group. Preliminary games on a league basis took place on Saturday, 29th August, with the winners of each group to play in the final on Sunday the 30th.

Tipperary commenced their preparations early in July for this tournament and after a

number of trials and training sessions the following panel were selected to represent their county:

Michael Quirke, Gerry Quinlan, Kevin Bowes, Michael Gleeson (Arravale Rovers), Mark Rabbitt, James Slattery (Borrisoleigh); Adrian Hogan, Seamus Killeen (Borrisokane); Lar Barrett, Gery Curry, Liam McAlee, Michael Murphy, (Durlas Óg); Tommy Dunne, Philip Shanahan (Toomevara); Richard Sweetman (Cahir), Fergal Hynes (Éire Óg, Nenagh); Brian Gaynor (Kilruane); Tony Shelley (Killenaule); Seamus McHugh (Ballina); Thomas Fogarty (Holycross); Brian Flannery (Kildangan); Michael O'Mahony (St. Mary's).

The men in charge of this panel were coach John Ivors (Templemore), with selectors Dinny Hogan (Thurles), Sammy Ryan (Golden), Tom Gleeson (Portroe) and Jim Lynch (Cahir).

A four-point win over a useful Galway fifteen in a challenge at Nenagh on Friday, 21st August, sent Tipperary to Waterford in a confident mood on Saturday, 29th August.

Based at Waterford Glass Sports Centre, our first match on Saturday was against Antrim. After a slow start Tipperary ran out easy winners with 18 points to spare.



**INTER-COUNTY FESTIVAL OF HURLING IN WATERFORD**

Michael Gleeson, Arravale Rovers, captain of the Tipperary U-14 team, winners of the tournament, receiving the cup from Mrs. Betty Forrestal.

Scoreline Tipperary 4-10; Antrim 1-1. In the next match Kilkenny had an easy win over Limerick and at this early stage of the tournament the die was cast, Tipperary had to beat Kilkenny to be sure of qualification. This match was our hardest of the tournament and everyone knew that only our very best would do.

But with typical Tipperary fire and passion this team hurled as if their very lives depended on winning. Ground hurling and nothing fancy was the order going out and Kilkenny never got a chance to settle.

Mark Rabbitt commanded the square and with his corner backs, Quinlan and Flannery, made it forbidden territory for any Kilkenny forward. Outside them, like a rock, stood the line on which the foundation of this victory was built. Fergal Hynes at centre and flanked by Richard Sweetman and Thomas Fogarty, they hurled like demons. Adrian Hogan, stylist supreme assisted by the hard grafting Tony Shelley, gave us advantage at midfield while Michael Gleeson, James Slattery and Tommy Dunne were a constant thorn to the Kilkenny defence. Tipperary had eight points to spare at the finish, scoring 2-10 to Kilkenny's 2-2.

The last match of the day was a low-key affair against Limerick, with Tipperary experimenting they ran out easy winners on a scoreline of 6-14 to 3-0. Word had filtered through that Galway had won the other section and would be our final opponents on Sunday.

The Tipperary party were overnight guests of the Ballygunner Club who made our stay a very pleasant one and on behalf of everyone I would like to thank Pat Flynn of Ballygunner who organised this.

On to Sunday and our lads were eagerly awaiting the fray. To keep our lads occupied until 2 p.m. and take their minds off the final, we brought the teams to watch a minor camogie match at Ballygunner. Worked wonders! With the parade over, John Moore threw in the ball at 2 p.m. Tipperary started in a whirlwind fashion and had five points on the scoreboard before Galway realised the game had started. Tommy Dunne and Adrian Hogan punished Galway at every chance with unerring accuracy. Michael Gleeson made great openings from centre-forward and on his right Kevin McKeogh had his best game of the tournament. The inside line of Lar Barrett, Michael O'Mahony and James



**INTER-COUNTY FESTIVAL OF HURLING IN WATERFORD**

Tony Shelly, from Killenaule, who won Man of the Match while playing for Tipperary Under-14 team. They defeated Galway in the final. He is seen here receiving the trophy from Jim Greene.



Slattery worked hard and put away any opportunities that came their way.

At the other end of the field Brian Gaynor was soundness personified in the goal while outside him stood our best line of the day in Quinlan, Rabbitte and Flannery. Our wing back of Sweetman and Fogarty stood firm while for

me the highlight of the day was the sheer hurling artistry of centre-back Fergal Hynes, and man-of-the-match midfielder Tony Shelley. At the end of the game Tipperary were champions on the scoreline of 2-12 to Galway's 2-2. The line-out for the final was as follows:

Brian Gaynor; Gerry

Quinlan, Mark Rabbitte, Brian Flannery; Richard Sweetman, Fergal Hynes, Thomas Fogarty; Adrian Hogan, Tony Shelley; Tommy Dunne, Michael Gleeson, Seamus Keogh; Lar Barrett, Michael O'Mahony, James Slattery. Sub.: Kevin Bowes.

The presentation of trophies took place after a

meal at the Ardree Hotel. A great day for Tipperary hurling. This panel were truly great representatives and ambassadors of Tipperary hurling and I am sure that at some stage in the very near future some of these fine hurlers will again wear the blue and gold jersey of their renowned county.

# Great year for under-age hurlers of Portroe

**1987** will surely go down as the greatest year ever in the history of under-age hurling and football for the Portroe Club.

At the beginning of the year, few could foresee the marvellous hours of great hurling and football endeavour the juvenile hurlers of the parish could produce. With one of the smallest clubs in the division, they managed to win the U-16 'B' North hurling championship, the Minor 'B' North hurling championship, contest the County Minor 'B' hurling final and contest the U-16 'B' football final.

The U-16 hurlers started off their campaign with a good win over Borrisoleigh in Nenagh by 3-8 to 3-4. Even at this early stage it could be seen that this team were going to take a lot of beating in the championship. We followed this up with good wins over Templederry and Shannon Rovers to reach the semi-final against Silvermines. This game was played in Kilcoleman and after a great game of hurling, we had reached the final on the score of 1-12 to 1-5.

The final was against Kildangan in Nenagh on a beautiful Sunday in October and after a titanic struggle, during which fortunes swayed many times, the boys in Green and Gold won on the score of 7 points to 1-2. There was great excitement among the supporters as captain Barry O'Driscoll received the cup from Jimmy Conroy, vice-chairman of the North Juvenile Board — a Cup last brought to the parish by Seamus McGrath in 1981.

All connected with the team are to be congratulated and a special word of praise to the boys who trained so hard to achieve success. At the time of writing, this present panel have qualified for the U-16 'B' football final, after good wins over Borrisoleigh and Burgess and we look forward to seeing their unbeaten record in all competitions in 1987 kept intact.

Our minor hurlers started off the year with a very uninspiring performance against Kildangan in Puckane, eventually winning 1-12 to 1-5. Anyone present at this match would be very surprised indeed if told that this team could reach a county final. After this game, it was decided by players and selectors that a lot more training would have to be done if any progress was going to be made in the championship.



**PORTROE U/16 HURLING TEAM 1987**

**Back row** - D. Quinn, M. Power, P. Power, S. O'Driscoll, D. Hogan, N. O'Halloran, P. Power, C. Madden, J. Sexton, P. Slattery, B. O'Driscoll, D. Creamer, K. Madden, R. Gleeson. **Front row** - R. O'Driscoll, S. Kennedy, J. Hogan, P. Sexton, P. Burke, D. Ryan, P. O'Connor, A. Slattery, J. Lawlor, P. Quinn, M. Slattery.



**PORTROE MINOR HURLING TEAM 1987**

**Back row** - J. Power, C. Ryan, L. McGrath, C. Madden, L. Sheedy, T. Seymour, M. McKenna. **Front row** - D. Bray, P. O'Brien, J. Sexton, A. Freeman, P. Sexton, N. O'Halloran, P. Slattery, B. O'Driscoll.

Our next game was against Templederry in Dualla and once again we struggled for long periods before running out comfortable winners. Our next game was against Silvermines in Ballinahinch and it was here that we showed first signs of our fighting spirit, winning by one point, 2-3 to 0-8. This qualified us for the 'C' final against Newport in Ballina and after our lads had overcome a bad start, we won on the score 0-12 to 2-3. After the game, Joe Brennan, vice-chairman of the North Board, presented the cup to captain, Donal Bray.

This qualified us for a match against Moneygall in Kilcoleman and after looking to be in trouble at half-time, when 7 points in arrears, we recovered to snatch a draw. In the replay, at the same venue, we had to pull out all the stops once again to win by one point — 2-7 to 1-9. We now met Nenagh for the right to represent the division in the county championship. This was another cliffhanger, with the result in doubt up to the final seconds, but our 'never say die' attitude surfaced once again to see us through by one point. We now entered the county championship where we met Fethard in Littleton. This was a game in which the scoreline does not

tell a true story as Fethard gave as good as they got but our ability to take goals proved crucial as we won on the score of 4-6 to 1-5.

This qualified the boys for a first-ever county under-age final against Moyne-Templetuohy. This game was played in Borrisoleigh on Saturday, November 7th.

Once again, the boys were severely tested by a very fit and determined Moyne team but our lads did not relent and after a great hour's hurling the game ended in a draw: Portroe 0-9; Moyne 1-6.

At the time of writing, the replay has not taken place, but win or lose, the players are to be complimented on their efforts in training during the year, as this will be their 10th match in this championship. Their unbeaten record still intact, no praise is high enough and we hope that they receive their just reward for their efforts.

As you can see, a busy year on the playing fields for the young people of the parish. It is evident from the above achievements that hurling and football are alive and well in the little village. A special word of thanks to all selectors and trainers, also to the people who supplied transport to the many matches and finally to our loyal supporters who travelled to all matches in such great numbers.



# CUMANN LUTH-CHLEAS GAEL COISTE THIOBRAID ARANN THUaidh



ÁR MBUÍOCHAS DOS NA CLUBANNA,  
NA h-IMREOIRÍ I NGACH UILE GRÁD,  
NA RÉITEOIRÍ, NA MAOIR AGUS  
DON PHOBAL A BHAIN TAITHNEAMH  
AS ÁR GCLUICHÍ SA BHLIAIN 1987  
NOLLAIG SHONA DHÍBH UILE—  
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# SCÓR REVIEW '87



## NEWCASTLE — ALL-IRELAND SCÓR SET DANCE CHAMPIONS '87

Back row (left to right): Michael O'Keefe, James Coleman, Paddy O'Dwyer, Seamus McGrath and Tommy Coleman. Front row (left to right) Kathleen McGrath, Geraldine O'Gorman, Monnie Hallahan (coach), Martha Coleman, Rosaleen Sweeney.

**W**HAT a lovely picture the true concepts of Scór conjure up for all of us — every man, woman and child in this island endeavouring to revitalise and rejuvenate our priceless treasures of music, song, dance and drama. Imagine the very foundations of these competitions as the most insignificant clubs in the most inaccessible areas organise and prepare their young people, thereby setting alight a spark that culminates in the flaming excitement of All-Ireland fever in Dublin, Galway or even, perhaps, Omagh.

What a great cementer of friendships is the participation, the enjoyment, the social gatherings for coaches, teachers, parents and competitors. How very fulfilling for all these to realise that not only are they involved in something so very constructive, but also something so very Gaelic, nourishing the nationalist blood that courses through all our veins, and imprinting on these young minds that the real patriots of present-day Ireland are not gun carriers, but those who work honestly for Ireland, buy Irish goods and enjoy Irish pastimes. Even those young people who have suffered the "curse of emigration" have a great Irish identity, thanks to their years of Scór and G.A.A. interests, which they are using for the betterment of Irish clubs throughout Britain and America.

Perhaps the above is pure Utopia — as seen through the eyes of a Scór fanatic. I'm glad to say much of it is true, but there are some glaring weaknesses in this picture of the "Perfect Scór Environment". For instance, the number

of adults who are prepared to invest their time in the coaching and preparing of groups for Scór na nÓg is not nearly large enough; the work is so often left to the faithful few who are expected to have bottomless pits of energy, wide ranging abilities, interest and money. So many more, even though lacking the coaching know-how, could help in many ways, e.g. class organisation, costume, provision of music, make-up, transport,

etc. Why not ask your local Scór organiser how you can help?

Reflect for just a moment on the value of time spent in these pursuits as against the awesome, soul-destroying values as depicted in many of our T.V. programmes, watched eagerly by young, easily moulded minds, with full parental consent in many cases. If your interests favour the former — take a bow, your work is appreciated.



## BURGESS — COUNTY FIGURE DANCING CHAMPIONS

Back row (l. to r.) Pauline Flaherty, Regina Quigley, Catherine Quigley, Christine Flood. Front row (l. to r.) Claire Byrnes, Bridie Kyne, Regina Griffin, Aideen Nealon.



## DISTRACTING NOISE

The competitions themselves in Scór na nÓg can often become extremely noisy because of the undisciplined antics of young people, unaccompanied by parents, and cause much heart-break to organisers and hall officials — another area of very useful adult involvement in overseeing the behaviour of their children.

The Senior Scór is not as well contested as Scór na nÓg because of the lack of Scór committees in many clubs. These same clubs have been requested time and again to organise this area of their structure but all to no avail. It is startling to see clubs so efficient and proficient in the field games, allow their organisational reputation be sullied by lack of interest in Scór competitions. There is no valid reason why so many clubs do not become involved — Scór is a very "open shop" with the same representative machinery for all clubs and run on the same basis as the County G.A.A. Board. If you are interested in Scór and anxious to be a club delegate, contact your local G.A.A. club immediately — you will be most welcome there and at Divisional meetings.

We have all heard the usual complaints re Scór Adjudication which have been making headlines since its inception. I cannot comment on the early years, but there is absolutely no doubt that this question has got more airing, more analysis and more thought of late than any other facet of Scór. Consider for a moment the lot of the Scór adjudicator — in a competition of 4 participants, only one can win, so in the eyes of the losers he/she is wrong 75% of the time — not very nice odds.

Scór organisers are very aware of the necessity for competent, impartial personnel in judging the competitions and every effort is made to ensure that all adjudicators fulfil these requirements. In close competitions, of course, the judge's own personal tastes will have a large say and this is the kernel of the debate — if others tastes are not similar to ours, then, in our opinion, they are sadly lacking.

## A WORTHWHILE SEMINAR

As an exercise in pin-pointing the important rule changes and marking systems, and standardising the approach to adjudication, a seminar was organised last year by Coiste Scóir, Tiobraid Árann and was attended by upwards of 30 adjudicators. All present felt it was a very worthwhile meeting.

Previous to this, motions went through right from club level to Division and then to County Board. Next, successful motions were debated by Coiste Scóir na Mumhan and all this culminated in a Croke Park meeting with Coiste Cultúir, which drew up guidelines for Scór '87, '88, '89. In October of this year a special Scór Symposium attended by delegates from



SCOR '87 — UPPERCHURCH/DROMBANE NOVELTY ACT COUNTY CHAMPIONS

all over Munster was held to monitor the progress of rule changes and generally to discuss the state of Scór in the Province.

## FUTURE OF SCÓR

Scór na nÓg continues to flourish, thanks mainly to the dedication of teachers, coaches and organisers, complimented by the enthusiasm of youth. Long may it remain so.

Senior Scór struggles up to Co. Final stage, for reasons already stated, but also there is another very relevant point. i.e. lack of interest, back-up and commitment from many club divisional and county G.A.A. officers and officials, which was depicted all too clearly in Centenary Year, when the talents of Scór participants were totally ignored in the many functions organised.

When was the last time the standard of Scór was discussed in detail at club, divisional or county conventions —? When was the last time officers reports contained comments either critical or complimentary on the regress or progress of the competitions? Are club and Board members conspicuous by their absence from your divisional and county finals? Is Scór really the "Poor Relation" of the G.A.A.

Perhaps those of us in Scór should be more demanding — should we demand representation on our divisional and county G.A.A. Boards to push our case in the weeks prior to Scór commencement? Should we ensure that Scór Reports are sent in well in advance of all divisional and county conventions to make certain of our inclusion on the agenda? Do we do enough on the Public Relations front, promoting the positive aspects of the competitions and yet not afraid to highlight the weaknesses and endeavour to correct same?

If these questions could be answered honestly and openly, then the stage section of our Heritage would flourish and thrive. It's clear that Scór needs a general injection of spirit and

enthusiasm, primarily at parochial level, but it will take our combined efforts to ensure the survival of these competitions. What a terrible indictment of all of us as Irish people and more especially as members of G.L.G. were we to renege on our duties of handing on a "Cultúr Gaelach" to the next generation.

Cad a dhéanfaimid feasta gan amhrán  
Tá deireadh na mbailéad ar lár,  
Níl trácht ar an Scór nár an gcultúr  
Tháinig gach atá againn thar fear  
An áit úd 'na gcónaíodh an Seanchaí  
Muid cois tine 's cluas le héisteacht,  
'S cá bhfuil an ceoltóir is a fídl  
'S an seit á rince go h-éifeacht

P. S. Ó hUrdail,  
Cumann Scóir

## TORTHÁI SCÓR '87

1. Rince Fóirne: Figure Dancing Burgess
2. Aithriseoireacht: Recitation Cappawhite.
3. Amhránaíocht Aonain: Solo Song Moyne.
4. Nuachleas: Novelty Act: Upperchurch/Drombane.
5. Tráth na gCeist: Question Time Seán Treacy's.
6. Ceol Uirlise: Instrumental Music Portroe.
7. Bailéad Ghrúpa: Ballad Group Arravale Rovers.
8. Rince Set. Set Dance: Newcastle.

Tipperary representatives acquitted themselves very well in the Munster Section of Scór and brought two titles to the county, Portroe in Instrumental Music and Newcastle in Set Dance. The latter went on to win the All-Ireland title and celebrated this victory by a most enjoyable function, which I was delighted to attend and accept the hospitality of Seamus McGrath and friends on this night of celebration. Upperchurch-Drombane brought All-Ireland honours to Tipperary in the Novelty Act section of Scór na nÓg.

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# NEIL WILLIAMS

## WELL DESERVED

**T**HERE was great delight felt amongst the members of Toomevara G.A.A. Club in August when it was announced that Neil Williams was named as Tipperary Clubman of the Year for 1986.

The contribution of Neil Williams to the Gaelic Athletic Association has been tremendous over a great number of years. He firstly excelled as a player of great ability during the 50's and 60's, was also a much respected member of the Co. Tipperary Board, a former Secretary of the North Tipp. Bord na nÓg, and for the past fifteen years he has successfully coached many of the juvenile teams in Toome.

## THE PLAYER

In 1958 Neil was appointed to a teaching post at Ballinnee N.S. That same year he transferred from his native Kilruane and threw in his lot with Toome. He was selected at centre back on the team that won the North S.H. title that year and this was a position he was to make his own for the following twelve years.

During his playing career with Toome he won 4 North Tipp. S.H. medals and a Co. S.H. medal in 1960. It is interesting to note that three of his divisional successes were achieved against Kilruane.

He was also a useful footballer and was captain of the St. Flannan's team that won the co. S.F. title in 1961. He represented the county at won the Co. S.F. title in 1961. was a member of the panel that won the Oireachtas



*CIBA-GEIGY Clubman of the Year.*

tournament and National League in 1961. Neil was captain of the Toome team that last won the Frank McGrath cup in 1962.

## JUVENILES

He took a very special interest in juvenile affairs in the parish and in the early 70's was the driving force behind the great hurling revival that has been going on continually since in Toome.

Since his involvement with juvenile teams he has been directly responsible for the coaching of 22 teams that won divisional titles and nine teams that won county honours — a remarkable achievement.

At present he holds the position of club registrar, a function he carries out with great detail and efficiency. He was also a member of the history committee and played a major part to ensure its completion and the publication of "The Green and Golden Years". On many occasions in the past he contributed the club's article to the Yearbook and likewise he wrote many

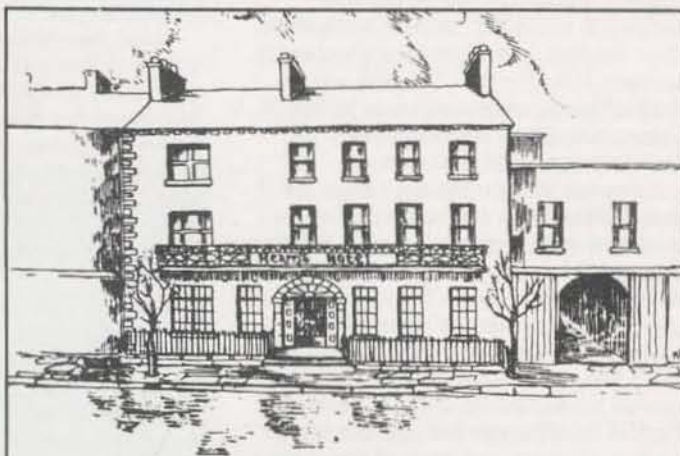
articles for match programmes.

A most approachable person when one is ever seeking advice on any G.A.A. matter, and it is always given in the sincerity and honesty that is the envy of many clubs throughout the county. Neil is a most enthusiastic golfer and always enjoys a round on the well maintained Beechwood course.

We are proud that the honour for the 1986 Clubman of the Year should go to one

that has served the association so well, as an excellent player, a most efficient official and continues the promotion of hurling with his expert coaching amongst the boys of Toome parish.

I suppose it is his knowledge and loyalty to the game of hurling, his joy at living, and his good humour in victory or defeat that make Neil Williams unique in the Gaelic Athletic Association and a worthy recipient of the Ciba-Geigy award for 1986.



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# Cappawhite come of age

By Martin McDermott P.R.O.

**On November 1st in Thurles Cappa won their first ever senior hurling title against a gallant Loughmore/Castleiney team in one of the best finals seen at the venue for many years. This was only the third title won by West teams, Clonoulty having been successful in 1888 and Eire Óg in 1943.**

**M**ANY years of strenuous effort had gone into making this achievement come through. In 1982 after three West Final defeats in four years, '78, '79, '81 it was felt that a coach from outside the parish was needed to bring out the best in the team. Theo English was approached and he accepted the position. Success wasn't instant though as the team was to suffer a one point defeat by Seán Treacy's in the West semi-final of that year.

However '83 saw the opening of the new field and this coupled with the guidance of Theo, Jerry Creedon and Fr. Egan saw the club win the first of their three-in-a-row with the defeat of Cashel in Golden. Kickhams in '84 and Cashel again in '85, were the vanquished.

'86 was not so successful as Cappa bowed out to Eire Og in the semi-final in Tipp. A lot of people felt that this was the end of an era and many of the older players and even some of the younger ones were advised "to hang them up" by the local experts.

'87 dawned and saw the return of Jerry Creedon with Liam Treacy as selectors. Theo left to help Babs and Co. win the Munster title.

At the first training session in early March many eyebrows were raised when Jerry announced that he wanted the county title along with the West one. He also introduced a 6'3" army man and former Garryowen player called Rusty Keane as the trainer for the year. He promised that, if given the players co-operation and commitment he would make us the fittest team in the county.

Challenge games were played against Drom/Inch, Toomevara and Sarsfields as well as Crosco Cup games with Golden, Garryspillane and Arravale Rovers before the first round of the championship against Golden in Cashel.

Many positional switches were made from the team of '86. Danny O'Neill was still No. 1. Mylie was back to the corner with Mike and Noel Buckley. Austin Buckley and Ger Ryan (B) were new wing-backs alongside Anthony O'Neill, Simon Ryan was moved to midfield to partner Eamonn Ryan. Pa O'Neill and Eugene Maguire were flanking Conor Ryan in the half-line. John O'Neill, Ger O'Neill, and Martin McDermot was the full line. The new set-up seemed to work well and Cappa won by 1-14 to 2-4. Kickhams provided the opposition in

the semi-final in Golden, Kickhams had a young team on duty that day which played well but Cappa had the upperhand and won by 2-16 to 1-11 to qualify for the final against Clonoulty in Cashel.

Many people fancied Clonoulty to put a halt to Cappa's run. At half time with a lead of 3-7 to 1-4 Clonoulty looked home and dry. What happened after the interval will long be remembered as the best 30 minutes hurling by any Cappa team ever and they ran out winners by 4-15 to 3-10. John O'Neill received the cup from Mick Maguire the West chairman.

Roscrea were beaten in the quarter final in Boherlahan by 1-20 to 1-14. Pat O'Neill, Eamonn, Conor and Ger Ryan starred that day. Dasúr Hennessy who had returned from America deputised for Noel Buckley, as he had been injured in training.

At this stage of the campaign a training fund was launched. The response to this was exceptional. Many thanks are due to everybody who contributed, the players really appreciated the goodwill and confidence shown towards their efforts on the field.

Sarsfields were the opposition in the semi-final played in Thurles. A one point lead and the wind to face after the interval did not seem to bother the team unduly. Danny O'Neill made a few good saves early in the second half which gave great encouragement, Austin was

back in his usual wing forward position, Pa was hitting points from all angles and Fox got the goal which gave the team a four point victory. So Cappa had qualified for their first county senior final against Loughmore who would also be trying for their first title.

I read some place lately that "the secret of man's being is not only to live but to have something to live for". In the lead up to the final it seemed that everybody in Cappa were only living for the day the county would be won. The village was bedecked with flags and banners. People travelled from America, England, Australia and all over the county for the game.

Loughmore started like as if they were going to walk away with the match. Points flowed freely towards the town goal and after twenty minutes they led by 1-7 to 0-2. Cappa made a few positional changes and showing grit and determination fought back to leave just two points 1-8 to 1-6 in it at half-time. 30 minutes to go and all to play for. Loughmore scored a goal after the resumption to go five points clear. Cappa showed all their fighting spirit and fitness in a tense second half to eventually draw level, with good points by Austin Buckley, Ger O'Neill and Pa O'Neill. With minutes remaining Austin Buckley hit over the winner from an acute angle after a great run by Ger O'Neill.

At the end a sea of blue and white invaded the pitch Thurles belonged to

*At the Game: Included are Paddy Furlong, Dave Carew, Canon Morrissey, Archbishop Thomas Morris, Seamus Ó Riain, John Maher, Tim Maher, Francis Loughnane, Michael Ryan, Jimmy Doyle, Theo English.*





Cappa and the Dan Breen Cup was on its way to the lovely village. Pa O'Neill was also named as 'Man of the Match'. In Cappa the team got a rousing welcome with bonfires, flags and banners the order of the day. For a parish the size of Cappa, with a population of around 1,200 people, to win the senior championship in the Premier County is a unique achievement. Also the fact that it was the 100th county final makes it that bit more special.

Cappa can now boast of having won county championships in every grade, juvenile '61, '62, minor '65, under-21, '65 and '77, junior '42 and '48 and finally senior in '87. To everyone involved in the success we say well done and hope that the good work will be continued in the years ahead.



John O'Neill accepts the Dan Breen Cup from county chairman Michael Lowry.

## West Tipp Bord na nOg



**EIRE ÓG — WEST U-16 'B' H. CHAMPS 1987**

Back row (l-r) P. Ryan, T. Heffernan, M. Heffernan, D. O'Mahony, R. Maxwell, M. McCarthy, J. Maxwell, N. Griffin, G. Ryan, W. Corbett (captain), T. O'Brien. Front (l. to r.) L. Ryan, P. Butler, M. Heffernan, V. Ryan, D. Horan, T. Ryan, R. Quinn, L. Gleeson, G. Griffin, J. Leahy, L. Horan, P. Ahern, D. Quinn.



**AHERLOW — COUNTY U-14 RURAL CHAMPS 1987**

Back (l. to r.) S. Maher, D. Grogan, G. Kirby, J. Frewen, D. Ryan (captain), M. Leonard, M. Moroney, A. Moroney, P. Hughes. Front (l. to r.) B. Hennebry, C. O'Shea, D. Peters, D. Walshe, G. Kiely, K. Moroney, J. Bourke, J. Reardon, S. Peters, M. Russell. Trainers at back: Thady Ryan and Thomas Peters.

By Lou Reardon (*Rúnai*)

**T**he year started off with U-12 competitions in April and finished with the Garda Cups last October.

In between it was a year of very good competition and it is good to see so many club names featured on the list of winners.

Congratulations to the clubs who brought county titles to the division; Arravale Rovers in U-14 and U-16 football and Aherlow in U-14 rural football.

It was the first time a list of fixtures was drawn up and run on schedule in spite of the losers group competition and its problems.

### Full list of winners:

U-12 'A' hurling — Kickhams.

U-12 'B' hurling — Aherlow.

U-12 'B' football — Rockwell Rovers.

U-14 hurling u/r — Arravale Rovers.

U-14 hurling R — Kickhams.

U-14 hurling 'B' — Emly.

U-14 football U/R — Arravale Rovers (Co. Champions).

U-14 football R — Aherlow (county champions)

U-16 hurling 'A' — Arravale Rovers.

U-16 hurling 'B' — Eire Óg.

U-16 football 'A' — Arravale Rovers (Co. Champions).

U-16 Football 'B' — Aherlow.

Congratulations to the West Tipperary representatives on the victorious county U-14 hurling team.

A word of thanks to the Arravale Rovers club who facilitated the board with their premises or our meetings.

The Garda Cup was won by Lattin/Cullen.

A word of thanks to J. J. Kennedy for his co-operation during the year. Also Jerry Ring who was always available to give his advice and assistance. A special word of thanks to the referees, without whom there would be no competitions.

It was a year of revival at county level and I hope it will be reflected in our clubs in a greater interest in our national games and a revival of hurling skills.

Congratulations to those who represented us in the skills competition and the Poc Fáda.



# 1987 WEST REVIEW

## S.H.C. — 8 TEAMS AFFILIATED

**I**N Round One, Kickhams defeated Sean Treacys, Cappawhite defeated Golden, Clonoulty defeated Éire Óg and Cashel defeated Jim Mitchells (Lattin/Emly).

Cappawhite defeated Kickhams in one semi while Clonoulty/Rossmore defeated Cashel in the other.

The stage was set for yet another Clonoulty/Rossmore - Cappawhite confrontation in the final. It was an unique pairing. Neither side had previously met in a West final. Interest in the game reached fever pitch. A large crowd came to Cashel and had plenty to talk about. Cappawhite could never come to grips with an eager Clonoulty/Rossmore side in the first half. The Clonoulty fans were jubilant. Cappawhite's half-time deliberations bore fruit. Their second half display in which they wiped out a nine point half time deficit to go on and win by an eight point margin, was a transformation that left Clonoulty/Rossmore shell shocked. Cappawhite's dominance of the S.H.C. continues and Clonoulty have to wait another year to win back that elusive title.

Clonoulty raised West hopes in the County quarter-final when they held a fancied Kilraune to a draw but in the replay Kilraune ran out easy winners. Cappawhite disposed of a good Roscrea side to reach the semi-final against Thurles Sarsfields. They also proved too good for Sarsfields and went on to win their first ever County Senior Hurling Championship against Loughmore/Castleiney.

## INTERMEDIATE HURLING CHAMPIONSHIP

Six teams affiliated and the Championship was played in a two group league. Lattin/Cullen and Rosegreen did not come out of their groups. So the semi-finals were contested by Arravale Rovers against Rockwell Rovers and Galtee Rovers against Solohead. Solohead and Arravale Rovers reached the final. Much was expected of Arravale Rovers who had a good run in the Crosco Cup. However, on the day Solohead had a famous victory. They had contested the previous three I.H.C. finals and their persistence paid off. Solohead went on to meet Clonmore in the county semi-final, but were defeated by the eventual county champions.

## JUNIOR HURLING CHAMPIONSHIP

Seven teams affiliated and the Championship was played in two groups and two teams from each group contested the semi-finals. The semi-finals provided surprise results. The favourites Cashel were knocked out by Cappawhite, while Kickhams got over a fancied Clonoulty/Rossmore side. Kickhams scored a deserved victory over Cappawhite in the final. They lost to Thurles Sarsfields in the county semi-final.



By JERRY RING Rúnai

## UNDER-21 HURLING CHAMPIONSHIP 'A'

Six teams affiliated. The championship was played on a knockout basis. Golden/Kilfeacle defeated Solohead/Éire Óg and Clonoulty/Rossmore defeated Arravale Rovers in Round 1. Golden/Kilfeacle defeated Clonoulty/Rossmore after a replay in one semi-final and Cashel defeated Kickhams in the other. In the final Golden/Kilfeacle ran out winners after a close game with Cashel but lost to Boherlahan in the county semi-final.

## UNDER-21 HURLING CHAMPIONSHIP 'B'

Four teams affiliated so two semi-finals were played. Cappawhite defeated Sean Treacys and Emly defeated Galtee Rovers to reach the final. In the final Emly defeated Cappawhite after a replay.

## MINOR HURLING CHAMPIONSHIP 'A'

Seven teams affiliated and the Championship was played on a League system with two groups. In group A, Clonoulty/Rossmore and Cashel won through at the expense of Lattin/Emly and Kickhams. In Group B, Arravale Rovers and Solohead/Éire Óg got through to the semi-finals at the expense of Cappawhite.

Arravale Rovers defeated Clonoulty/Rossmore in one semi-final and Cashel defeated Solohead/Éire Óg in the other. In the final, Cashel defeated Arravale Rovers but were defeated by Sarsfields in the county semi-final.

## MINOR HURLING CHAMPIONSHIP 'B'

Three teams affiliated and it was played on a double round League system. The two top teams on points were Golden/Kilfeacle and Galtee Rovers. They played the final. Sean Treacys were the third team in the Group. Golden/Kilfeacle won the final easily but were defeated by Moyne/Templetuohy in the county semi-final.

## MINOR FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP A

The Championship was played on a League with five teams. The top four teams on points played in the semi-finals. Solohead/Éire Óg did not reach the semi-finals. The semi-final pairings were Arravale Rovers v. Cashel and

Lattin/Emly v. Galtee/Aherlow. In the final Lattin/Emly had a surprise win over a fancied Arravale Rovers side in a thrilling final.

## MINOR FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP 'B'

Five teams affiliated and the championship was played on a League with the top four teams on points reaching the semi-finals. Clonoulty/Rossmore did not reach the semi-finals. The semi-final pairings were Kickhams v. Cappawhite and Rockwell Rovers v. Golden/Kilfeacle. Golden/Kilfeacle defeated the Kickhams in the final.

## UNDER-21 FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP 'A'

Five teams affiliated. It was played on a knockout system. Arravale Rovers defeated Solohead/Éire Óg in Round 1, and went on to defeat Golden/Kilfeacle in the semi-final. In the other semi-final Lattin/Emly defeated Cashel. Arravale beat Lattin/Emly in the final.

## UNDER-21 FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP 'B'

Five teams affiliated and Clonoulty/Rossmore gave a walkover to Rockwell Rovers in the first round. In the semi-finals Rockwell Rovers defeated Cappawhite and Galtee Rovers defeated Kickhams. In the final Rockwell Rovers snatched a late minute goal to give them victory over Galtee Rovers.

## JUNIOR FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

Thirteen teams affiliated and the Championship was knockout. Galtee Rovers defeated Emly in one semi-final while Arravale Rovers defeated Rosegreen in the other. In the final Arravale Rovers defeated Galtee Rovers.

## INTERMEDIATE FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

Four teams, Lattin/Cullen, Kickhams, Rockwell Rovers and Éire Óg affiliated. The competition was played on a league basis and the two top teams on points, Éire Óg and Rockwell Rovers contested the final with Rockwell Rovers emerging victorious after a close game.

## O'DONOGHUE CUP SENIOR FOOTBALL LEAGUE

Eleven teams including Galbally and Oola from Limerick affiliated in the League. Two groups, one with six teams and the other with five played in a league. The two top teams in each group contested the semi-finals. Arravale Rovers defeated Cashel in one semi-final while Rockwell Rovers defeated Emly in the other.

## SENIOR FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

Eight teams affiliated and the competition was played on a knockout basis. The first round losers played on a



knockout basis and the winners of the losers group came back into the championship at the semi-final stage.

Cashel, Golden/Kilfeacle, Galtee Rovers and Arravale Rovers were first round winners. Cashel and Golden/Kilfeacle played a second round qualifier for a semi-final place. In the losers group Clonoulty/Rossmore defeated Cappawhite and Emly defeated Solohead. In the final, Emly defeated Clonoulty and went on to beat Cashel in one semi-final while Arravale Rovers defeated Galtee Rovers in the other. Emly had a two point win over Arravale Rovers in the final.

Arravale Rovers defeated Newport in the county quarter final and were beaten

by a point by Commercial in the county semi-final. Emly had a walkover from Kilruane in the county quarter-final and lost to Loughmore in the semi-final.

### THE CROSCO CUP SENIOR HURLING LEAGUE

The eight senior hurling teams along with Arravale Rovers and Garryspillane from South Limerick affiliated. The League had two groups with five teams in each. The two top teams on points from each Group contested the semi-finals. In one semi-final Clonoulty defeated Golden/Kilfeacle while Cappawhite defeated Éire Óg in the other. The final between Cappawhite and Clonoulty has still to be played.



**CASHEL K.C. — WEST MINOR HURLING 'A' CHAMPIONS 1987**

**Back row** (l. to r.): J. O'Donoghue, M. Perdue, S. Morrissey, J. Maher, M. Minogue, R. Ryan, S. Hayes, T. J. Connolly, A. Keating, T. Crosse. **Front row** (l. to r.): J. O'Leary, T. McInerney, D. McGrath, A. Bonnar, S. Barron, C. Bonnar, J. O'Neill, M. Delahunty.



**SOLOHEAD — WEST INTERMEDIATE HURLING CHAMPIONS 1987**

**Back row** (l. to r.): S. Riordan (Sec.), J. Toomey, T. McGrath, M. Ryan (C), P. Cummins, P. Ryan (S), J. Ryan (C), J. Hadnett, M. Ryan (S), T. Ryan, G. Riordan, N. Redican. **Front row** (l. to r.): M. Ryan (B), N. O'Riordan, J. Dee, M. Crowe, T. J. Riordan, W. Hartnett, P. Doherty, J. Nolan, E. Wilson, E. Bargary, P. Connors.



**KICKHAMS — WEST JUNIOR HURLING CHAMPIONS 1987**

**Back row** (l. to r.): S. O'Brien, T. Breen (selector), C. Ryan, M. O'Dwyer, R. Heney, R. Hanly, J. O'Dwyer, F. Buckley, D. Ryan, B. Heney (selector). **Front row** (l. to r.): P. Ryan, C. Ryan, D. Helan, M. Breen (Capt.), R. Kennedy, F. Alley, D. Keating, D. Kennedy.

## CUMANN LUITHCHLEAS GAEIL

### COISTE THIOBRAID ÁRANN THÍAR



The Board wishes to thank Clubs and Gaels of West Tipperary for their continuing support and encouragement in the promotion of the Gaelic Games within the Division.

Congratulations to all Divisional and County Championship winners, especially Cappawhite on their deserved County S.H.C. success in 1987.

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#### **GOLDEN/KILFEACLE — WEST MINOR FOOTBALL 'B' CHAMPIONS 1987**

**Back row** (l. to r.): N. Williams, P. J. McLoughlin, P. O'Shea, D. Browne, P. Power, P. Dalton, S. O'Neill, P. Moloney, D. Keats, P. Hallissey. **Front row** (l. to r.): J. Landers, K. O'Connell, D. O'Dwyer, L. Touhy, J. Hallissey, B. Leamy, B. Kennedy, B. Williams, W. Tierney, K. Hogan.



#### **ARRAVAL ROVERS — WEST JUNIOR FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS 1987**

**Back row** (l. to r.): R. Crowe, F. Nolan, B. Power, P. Keaty, E. O'Dwyer, S. Rochford, T. Lohan, R. O'Halloran, G. Haslam, E. Jones, T. Flynn, P. Kelly. **Front row** (l. to r.): J. Browne, T. Crowe, D. Quinlan, W. Gilsenan, M. Lowry, E. Browne, L. O'Donnell, A. Bresnan, P. Donovan (Capt.), J. Crowe.



#### **LATTIN/EMLY — WEST MINOR FOOTBALL 'A' CHAMPIONS 1987**

**Back row** (l. to r.): J. Kiely, L. Landers, M. Ryan, D. Beary, S. Black, J. Black, C. Murphy, B. Corcoran, G. Kiely, K. Hanly, R. English, M. Concannon, T. Ryan, E. O'Neill. **Front row** (l. to r.): T. O'Brien, P. Maguire, T. Kelly, D. Heelan, P. Concannon, G. Maguire, D. McGrath, C. Power, J. Keogh, P. Carroll.

## **Fr. Sheehy G.A.A. Club**

### *A Parish Remembers*

A very large crowd attended the memorial day at Fr. Sheehy Park, Clogheen, on October 26, 1987, when the local G.A.A. club unveiled the plaque (shown below) in memory of three of its greatest players and officials, for whom the final whistle came in the prime of their lives.

Dan Dowling, a real gentleman and a very accomplished footballer, died on 21st December, 1983, aged 48 years.

John Fleming, county footballer, member of Co. Board and Chairman of South Tipperary G.A.A. Board for three years — surely one of the most dedicated Gaels ever to come out of South Tipperary, died on June 15th, 1985, aged 45 years.

Paddy Hickey, handballer supreme, outstanding hurler and footballer, dedicated father and husband, died on 21st April, 1987, aged 47 years.

For any parish to lose even one of these three great men would be considered a tragedy, but it will take us a long time in Burncourt and Clogheen to recover from this great loss of outstanding talent as Dan, John and Paddy were not only great Gaels, but were also dedicated family men who all played very important parts in the everyday life of our parish.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a n-anamacha.

The plaque was blessed by the president of the Fr. Sheehy G.A.A. Club, Rev. Thomas Morrissey, P.P., and was unveiled by the secretary of the South Board, Michael O'Meara who also read an oration.







**GOLDEN/KILFEACLE — UNDER-21 HURLING 'A' CHAMPIONS 1987**

**Back row** (l. to r.): J. Fogarty (trainer), K. Hogan, J. Cash, D. Fogarty, J. Hally, P. Hallissey, J. Hallissey, T. Leahy, F. Ryan, B. Leahy. **Front row** (l. to r.): N. Fogarty, S. Delaney, T. Looney (Capt.), B. Kennedy, D. Crose, J. O'Connell.



**EMLY — WEST UNDER-21 HURLING 'B' CHAMPIONS 1987**

**Back row** (l. to r.): B. Russell, K. Hanly, S. Black, B. Heney, P. Loneragan, J. Heelan, M. McGrath, J. O'Meara, B. Corcoran, D. Heelan, D. Beary, M. Murphy, P. Concannon. **Front row** (l. to r.): C. Murphy, P. Sheehy, D. Hannon, J. Russell, P. Creamer, S. McManus, R. English, T. Hartnett, M. Ryan.



**GOLDEN/KILFEACLE — WEST MINOR HURLING 'B' CHAMPIONS 1987**

**Back row** (l. to r.): L. O'Sullivan (trainer), B. Leahy, B. Browne, P. J. McLoughlin, P. Dalton, P. O'Shea, N. Williams, J. Bourke, P. Power, D. Browne, D. Keats, K. Hogan. **Front row** (l. to r.): J. Landers, K. O'Connell, B. Kennedy, W. Tierney, S. O'Neill, P. Hallissey, L. Tuohy, J. Hallissey, P. Moloney.



**EMLY — WEST SENIOR FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS 1987**

**Back row** (l. to r.): S. Walsh, D. Heffernan, T. O'Brien, P. Sheehy, P. Creamer, M. Cunningham, B. Corcoran, P. Walsh, G. Moloney, S. O'Brien, J. Heelan, P. Quish, J. Martin. **Front row** (l. to r.): J. McGrath, D. Heelan, M. Corcoran, S. McManus, J. O'Meara, R. English, T. Burke, P. Russell, M. O'Brien.



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Games in the  
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continued support  
and  
encouragement  
during the year.*

**PÁDRAIG Ó CUILINN**  
Cathaoirleach

**TOMÁS Ó h-EADHRA**  
Rúnaí

**TADHG de GRÁS**  
Cisteoir



# Tipperary Referee in Big Demand in the United States

Tommy Lonergan



**K**ILSHEELAN Clubman Tommy Lonergan has been refereeing games in the county for the past fourteen years. He has taken charge of several County Senior football finals, Under-21, Minor Finals, National League and Munster Club games together with a very heavy programme of games at divisional level.

Tommy decided early in 1987 to take up employment in the United States and he assumed that during his period of emigration that refereeing would be a low priority on his agenda, but how wrong he was. He had barely settled into life in Chicago when he was invited to attend a meeting of the Chicago Central Divisional Board by its Chairman Colm McCann. He was made aware at this meeting of the problems being faced by the North American Board in regard to the scarcity of Referees. Typical of Tommy's generous nature this call to duty did not

go unheeded and when the fixtures were made and the Championships were ready to proceed Tommy Lonergan was there with whistle and gear to play his part in ensuring that at least for 1987 that the refereeing problems were eased somewhat for the North American Board.

The first games in the Championship were played on the last Sunday in May and four or five games every Sunday after that until August. Tommy refereed at least two or three games every Sunday sometimes in extreme heat. The games brought him to several cities in North America — Detroit, Pittsburgh, Boston and others and he got into the habit of jetting off on a Sunday morning and back in the evening. On the last Sunday in August he was appointed to referee the Boston Senior Hurling and Football Finals and on his arrival in Boston he was told he would have to do the Junior Football Final as well.

The day was extremely hot, the Junior Football went off fine, but the Senior Hurling ended in a draw and extra time was required. At the end of the extra time Tommy was feeling the effects of tiredness and cramp began to set in, with the assistance of Seamie O'Neill from Clonmel Commercial who was out on holidays and who gave him a rub down, he managed to get through the Senior Football Final and what a happy man he was when that day was over.

The concluding games in the North American Championship were played on the weekend of the 5th/6th September in Pittsburgh. These were the finals of all the grades and Tommy had the assistance of Seamus Aldridge — Kildare and Jim Denihan T.D. — Kerry to referee these games. Tommy describes this as a marvellous week-end of sport and entertainment.

Tommy's comments on the G.A.A. scene in North America

are, that the clubs are very strong there, many better than clubs at home. The standard of the games are quite high. He had heard that the games were very rough out there, but was pleasantly surprised to find out that this was not so and that the referees decisions were much more readily accepted by players and spectators than they would be at home. He enjoyed refereeing there and was extremely well treated by the clubs and divisional boards there.

So, in a year that Tommy Lonergan expected to have a break from refereeing, it turned out to be one of his busiest and most rewarding to date. Now back at home, what does the future hold, well hopefully we will see him back refereeing on the local scene and perhaps in 1988 the major honours in refereeing at Inter County Level that have eluded him for some reason so far may come his way.

An Interview with Seán Nugent

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# Rockwell Rovers – A Century in Action

By TOM O'CONNOR

**T**HIS year 1987 Rockwell Rovers proudly celebrate 100 years of affiliation to the G.A.A. Early details of hurling and football in the parish are sketchy but of the 1,000 clubs affiliated to Congress in 1887 were New Inn, Racecourse, Lagganstown, Poulmucka, Knockraffon. The local curate, Fr. P. W. Ryan, C.C., was one of the powerhouses of the G.A.A. at that time.

Success on the hurling field came early in 1888. Knockraffon caused a major upset in the Tipperary Senior Hurling Championship when firstly they defeated a Clonmel selection and the next round, after a rousing game, defeated the famed Moycarkey in Cashel. In the 1895 County Championship Rockwell Rovers lost in the first round to the famed Tubberadora. In 1886 the Rockwell Rovers captain, Mick Ryan, played on the Tipperary v. Dublin in the Croke Cup (League), and he was playing again with his brother Jack when Tipperary lost to Cork in the Munster Final, and this was the start of a proud tradition of Rockwell players wearing the famed Blue and Gold.

In a meeting held in Rockwell College in 1926 all the clubs listed already came under the one banner and from that year to the present day the renowned Blue and White colours were worn. Jack Maloney in the village is the sole survivor of that meeting and is still with us.

Some barren years were to follow on the playing fields until 1939 when the first West Tipperary Junior Hurling Championship was won in glorious fashion. This act was repeated again in 1950, 1960. The first of many West Junior championship football finals was won in 1947. The first County Junior football title was not won until 1963.

Of course, one cannot forget the great juvenile teams of the 50's, when in 1955 they were the only team ever to win the County football and hurling titles in the same year under the guidance of two men who now remain synonymous with the Rovers — Fr. James Meehan, then C.C. and presently our P.P., and the great Nicholas Tierney, still hale and hearty, living in his native Kilkenny.

The 70's brought only moderate success to the Club on the playing fields. Until the arrival of the glorious 80's, firstly winning the West Senior football final with help from our neighbours, Golden, West Intermediate, in 1983 and 1984 are county Intermediate defeat by Fr. Sheehy's in 1984. West Intermediate in 1981 and O'Donoghue cup victories in 1983 and 1984 and defeat by Cashel in 1985 O'Donoghue Cup Final, and, at the time of writing, we look forward to another



**ROCKWELL ROVERS — COUNTY I.F.C. CHAMPIONS 1987**

**Back** (l-r): M. Tobin, B. Barron, K. Heaney, M. Lovett, J. O'Dwyer, J. O'Connor, S. Looby, T. O'Connor, P. O'Connor, J. Lovett, A. English, J. Fitzgerald, D. Moloney, S. Moloney, G. Hyland. **Front** (l-r): J. Lovett, K. Barron, E. Golden, T. Ryan, M. Butler, J. O'Donnell (Capt.), E. Barron, N. Heaney, B. Ryan, P. Cleary, E. O'Dwyer, P. Heaney. [Missing from photo is Ml. Downey].



**ROCKWELL ROVERS — WEST U-21 F. "B" CHAMPIONS 1987**

**Front** (l-r): John Lovett, Donald Moloney, P. Heaney, S. Moloney, J. Fitzgerald, N. Heaney, Sean Looby, (James Looby, mascot), Eddie Golden, Pat O'Connor, Ivan Bell. **Back:** Declan Flanagan, Kieran Heaney, Val O'Gorman, Andrew English, M. Lovett, Eoin Butler, Tom Ryan, Hubert Butler, Jim Lovett, Dessie Bell, Cyril Gorman, Noel O'Rourke.



**ROCKWELL ROVERS — WEST J.H. CHAMPIONS 1939**

**Back** (l. to r.): H. Moloney, P. Heaney, J. Carey, T. Griffin, T. Lynch, N. Clifford, V. Scully, B. Smyth, M. Hickey, P. English, E. Barron, S. Moloney. **Centre** (l. to r.): J. Hickey, Fr. P. Hickey, L. Griffin, J. Lonergan, J. O'Brien, J. Griffin, N. O'Connor, L. Donnelly. **Front** (l. to r.): J. Smyth, M. Moloney, B. Quirke, P. Barron, M. Dudley.



O'Donoghue Cup Final v. Arravale Rovers.

Our first Under-21 football title since 1970 was won in dramatic fashion against Galtee Rovers. A great revival of hurling took place with the juveniles, with West titles being won in hurling and football in 1985 and 1986 by the under-12 teams.

The arrival of Sergeant Joe O'Rourke with John Looby was primarily responsible for this success at under age level, but the pride of place in the 80's lies with the Intermediate footballers, who brought the county title back to the village under the great captaincy of Jimmy O'Donnell on a windy day in Littleton on the 15th November, where they defeated Borrisokane by seven points to five.

The selectors and players will no doubt forgive me if I single out one man who, above all others, was the chief architect in that fantastic victory, that was, of course, our team Coach, Joe Condon of Waterford, who is now regarded as one of our own, and a "Freeman" of the village and surrounds.

The one great big thorn in our club is that we have no permanent home, a playing pitch that players can practice their skills and feel proud of where they belong to. Of course, we will always remain indebted to that great G.A.A. family, the Barrons, for the use of their field, and presently to Rockwell College and Fr. Frawley who has put the College facilities at our disposal.

One last word must go to our esteemed Chairman, Walter "Wally" O'Donnell, who, on taking up office last year, had two ambitions as chairman: 1, winning the county, achieved; 2, a playing field we in Rockwell Rovers could be proud of, and I am glad to hear we could have good news to that end in 1988. And we eagerly look forward to a new era as a Senior Club on the playing fields of Tipperary.

#### COMMITTEE

*Presidents:* Fr. Meehan P.P., Fr. Flynn C.C. and Fr. Noel O'Connor.

*Chairman:* Walter O'Donnell.

*Joint Secretaries:* J. Looby and P.J. Boland.

*Treasurer:* Eamon Barron, who continues a proud tradition from his late father, Edmond.

*Intermediate Selectors:* Kevin Barron, Ger O'Connor and Val O'Dwyer.



ROCKWELL CENTENARY CERTIFICATE OF MEMBERSHIP DATED OCTOBER 20th, 1887



Photo taken at Tipp Supporters' Club function (from left to right) - Norbert Hennessy, Dr. Dermot Clifford, Liz Howard, Christy Roche and Tommy Barrett.

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# BILL RYAN STANDS ALONE AS A TIPPERARY FOOTBALL GREAT

BY JOHN J. HASSETT

**B**ill Ryan has the unique record of representing his county in three All-Ireland senior football semi-finals and two All-Ireland football finals 1918 and 1920. He was on the Tipperary football team that played Dublin in Croke Park on Sunday, November 20th, 1920, when fellow player Michael Hogan of Grangemockler was killed by British Crown Forces when they opened fire on the players and spectators in retaliation for the killing of fourteen of their intelligence officers by Michael Collins I.R.A. squad members earlier that morning.

One interview with Bill Ryan was conducted under the bright lights and the eye of a modern film recording unit. But Bill was not in the least perturbed by the activities around him and proceeded to provide us with a first hand account of events that will be of immense value for future students of history.

Bill Ryan was a pupil of the local National School just before the new century dawned and has many recollections of education and life under British Rule in Ireland. As a teenager he attended the removal of the mortal remains of the McCormack brothers from Nenagh jail to Loughmore cemetery in 1910. With his father and a neighbour they left Laha at six o'clock in the morning for Nenagh by horse and trap. Bill recalled the excitement preparing for the trip packing sandwiches etc., and the massive crowds and marching bands awaiting to join the



Bill Ryan, Laha

funeral procession as the mortal remains of the two young McCormack boys fifty two years after their execution for a crime they did not commit, were being returned to their family burial ground accompanied by dignitaries of Church and State along the route they had travelled in the reverse

direction in chains to become two more victims of British Rule in Ireland.

G.A.A. activity around Castleiny was increasing during the last two years Bill spent in the National School and he recalled playing in challenge matches arranged by the school master. It was with a Castleiny combination that Bill broke into senior football winning with them his first county senior football final medal. In 1914 he won his place on the Tipperary senior football team. Bill recalls that during his early years the Kerry bogey was as strong then as it still is. In 1917 signs of resurgence in Tipperary football were visible. Grangemockler, Mullinahone, Fethard were producing new talent and as a result confidence was increasing among players and spectators.

Tipperary in a great Munster championship overcame Kerry. Bill recalls the brilliance of Jerry Shelly, Ned O'Shea and Ned Egan throughout that 1918 championship. Tipperary qualified for the All-Ireland final against Wexford then attempting to become the first county to win four All-Ireland titles in a row. Due to a combination of events and circumstances, among them a great flu was raging, a General Election and the end of the First World War, the 1918 football final was postponed to February of 1919.

On January 21st, 1919 as preparations for intensive training for the eagerly awaited All-Ireland Football final, Tipperary's first since Clonmel

**Less than three miles from Templemore at Laha, Castleiny, Bill Ryan the only Tipperary man now alive who won an All-Ireland senior football medal playing for his native county, resides. He is one of the most remarkable and interesting people I have had the honour of meeting. At ninety three years of age, he has retained a level of mental alertness and physical mobility superior to most people half his age. He has a crystal clear memory of events and happenings during his lifetime which extend back to just before the turn of this century.**





#### ALL-IRELAND CHAMPIONS 1922

Pictured here is the Tipperary team which last brought the All-Ireland Senior Football title to the Premier County. They defeated Dublin 1-6 to 1-2 in the 1920 final, which was played on June 11th, 1922. Front row: Jim Ryan, Templemore; Jimmy Doran, Mullinahone; Jim MacNamara, Cahir; Tommy Powell, Clonmel; Joe O'Neill, trainer; Mick Arrigan, Grangemockler; Ned Shea, Fethard (captain), Gus McCarthy, Fethard. Centre row: A. Carew, secretary, Co. Board; Michael Nolan, and Vincent Vaughan, Mullinahone; Dan Breen T.D.; Jerry Shelly, Dick Lanigan and Mick Tobin (Grangemockler). Back row: J. Gregg (in white sweater); Billy Ryan, Castleiney; Bill Barrett, Mullinahone; Bill Grant and Arthur Carroll, Templemore; Ned Callaghan (at back wearing cap); Pat Donovan (selector); Ned Cummins, Fethard; Tommy Ryan, Castlegrace; Tommy Ryan, Clonmel, secretary South Board; and in uniform, D. P. Walsh, Fethard.

Shamrocks title won at the turn of the century was about to start. The new Dáil Éireann met for the first time, on the same afternoon a group of Irish Volunteers including Seán Treacy and Dan Breen ambushed and killed two members of the R.I.C. taking their guns and the gelignite they were escorting to Soloheadbeg quarry. This ambush is recognised by historians as the beginning of the War of Independence.

The immediate consequences Bill recalled of the Soloheadbeg ambush was that martial law was imposed throughout South Tipperary. Training for the All-Ireland final on home ground was not possible. A resourceful county G.A.A. Board met the challenge by sending the Tipperary team to Dungarvan where despite the winter weather they trained on the strand. Bill recalled with an expression of happiness across his face, the great comradeship that developed among all members of the Tipperary selection in Dungarvan. He remembered the help they got from Waterford who provided them with challenge games during their preparations for the final. He recalled a new nights when they had great sing songs but under the leadership of Ned O'Shea and Jerry Shelly strict discipline was maintained. After two weeks of training they returned to their homes on the Thursday before the game, full of hope and with considerable confidence of doing well, when new trouble struck.

Three members of the team, two of them forwards Bill Barrett, Willie Meagher and Davy Tobin went down with

the great 'flu. With team selection plans and forward strategy upset, Tipperary had to face the most successful Gaelic football team ever up to that time, as Wexford were attempting to become the first team to win four All-Ireland titles in a row. The game got underway and despite the February date and the great 'flu then rampant, 10,000 people came to Croke Park to view the game. It was reported in the Press of the time that the standard of football was superb and the pace of the game extremely fast. Fortunes swayed and both teams had brief periods of supremacy but never sufficient or long enough to wrap up the game. Bill Ryan recalled with a tone of disappointment the missing of at least four close in frees by Tipperary in the final quarter of the game that should have been scored. By a single point on a score of five points to four, Tipperary lost the game but a sports writer in the following days paper predicted that Tipperary would shortly win the title. The great team of which Bill Ryan is now the only survivor was Ned O'Shea, John O'Shea, Gus McCarthy, Fethard, Arthur Carroll, Bill Grant, Jim Ryan, Templemore, Jack Skinner, Tommy Powell, Dick Heffernan, Tom Quinlan, Clonmel, Jim MacNamara, Cahir, Tommy Ryan, Castlegrace, Jerry Shelly, Grangemockler, Ned Egan, Mullinahone

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and Bill Ryan, Castleiney. Reserves: Ned Duhy, Mick Hogan, Pat Butler, Martin Shanahan, Gus Dwyer and Bob Redmond

The great revival in Tipperary football was everywhere visible, powerful club teams emerged but the young men of the time and in particular those involved in Gaelic games joined in the struggle for Irish freedom. With such exciting events as the rescue of Seán Hogan at Knocklong railway station after his capture at Meagher's of Annfield by Sergeant Wallace and other Constables from Roskeen R.I.C. Barracks near Drombane, Thurles, in May 1919. Several of the counties leading footballers became involved in the War of Independence.

Addressing a G.A.A. county convention in Thurles in 1919 shortly after the death of Pierce McCann T.D., Dualla, in an English jail on March 6th of that year, the Rev. President Father M. K. Ryan said "the year 1918 has been a year of difficulty for the G.A.A. in Tipperary and elsewhere". No one knew what was going to happen but nevertheless the games went on regardless of obstacles. When we started we had no knowledge whether we would finish the championships on the hurling or football pitch or on the battlefields of Ireland, but we were prepared for the worst. The cloud hangs yet, the country still suffers and is content to suffer with the unflinching courage of the Gael. Those are words spoken when courage was needed to express such sentiments but words that reflect the attitude of many Gaels and the conditions prevailing at a



period when we had the best footballers in the country. Within two weeks of the Knocklong rescue with the county under martial law when training was difficult, Tipperary footballers lost their Munster crown by a point and the hope of an All-Ireland for 1919 was gone.

As the great National struggle for independence went on and Bill Ryan like the many young men of the time joined his local company of the Irish Volunteers which later became the Irish Republican Army. Football had to take a secondary position. Bill recalled for us the shooting of a District Inspector of the police in Templemore in 1920 and his rôle as a volunteer policing crowds who flocked to the town during the period of the alleged bleeding statues and alleged appearance of the Holy Mother. Exciting days and strange happenings in the life of Bill Ryan were common during those eventful years of his youthful manhood.

Tipperary had qualified for the Munster football final with Kerry when the championship had to be deferred due to the intensity of the War of Independence during the summer of 1920. Bill Ryan was to play another intercounty game on Sunday, November 20th, 1920, with Tipperary against Dublin in Croke Park, a game and a day that are as clear in his memory as if it only occurred yesterday. The date and the events of that day are recorded in Irish history as Bloody Sunday. Bill Ryan with Jim Ryan of Loughmore entered Templemore railway station on Saturday, November 19th, 1920, to board the Dublin train. Bill recalls that they were fifteen to twenty soldiers on the platform also waiting to get on the same train. The soldiers were heading home for a holiday break from their war duty. Some pushing and shoving occurred on the railway station platform between the soldiers and Bill and Jim Ryan, but they both were not going to be provoked into a row at the station with the soldiers. After boarding the train Bill Ryan noticed to his surprise all the other members of the Tipp team on the same train. Usually it was from Kilkenny the Mullinahone and Grangemockler players travelled by train to Dublin in those days. Due to some problems with the Kilkenny line they travelled from Clonmel instead.

After a short time out from Templemore station Jack Brett of Mullinahone was struck by one of the soldiers on the train and as Bill put it, a big row between the Tipperary football team and the soldiers broke out. In the melee Bill's football boots were thrown out the window. But Bill says with a smile, the soldiers came out second best in the row and realised that life was not easy on the same train with a fit and determined bunch of Tipperary footballers. They left the train at Portlaoise and peace and quiet was restored as the train with the Tipp men headed for Dublin.

Bill recalls that after the team booked into Barry's Hotel he had to purchase a pair of football boots. This he done and began to walk and run in them to help make them as comfortable as possible on

his feet for the game. The morning of the game Bill recalls that he found the boots too loose for him, but he now had no choice but to use them. Mick Hogan mentioned to Bill Ryan that he would like to change positions with him as Hogan did not fancy marking the great Frank Burke, a star forward in the Dublin team of that time. Bill explained to Hogan his problem with his boots and was not anxious to switch positions. Bill was delayed on his way back to Barry's Hotel when taking a walk after his lunch when held up by British Forces. The team had left for Croke Park when he got to the hotel and he had to rush after them. As they were on their way out on the field Mick Hogan again mentioned to Bill Ryan about switching places but Bill reminded him of his loose boots. Hogan gave Bill a spare lace he had to tie around his right boot to tighten it, Bill still has that lace sixty six long years afterwards.

The game was on about fifteen minutes when the British Army surrounded Croke Park and opened fire. The players scattered in all directions. Bill Ryan followed a Dublin player who somehow succeeded in getting out of the ground. Bill was held by the military with a number of other people. Still in his football gear an Army officer approached Bill enquired what was the score when the game was stopped and ordered a spectator to give Bill his overcoat. The spectator complied, the officer told Bill he could go but he was blocked on his way out of the field again but the friendly officer whom Bill did not know came to his aid and got him out of Croke Park.

Bill had observed during the terrible scenes in Croke Park that a Tipperary player had been hit by a bullet. He saw Jim Egan of Mullinahone being forced across the field and his hands were covered in blood and he noticed that there was a player still on the ground, but he was not sure who it was. When he got onto the roadway he was told by a priest that Mick Hogan was shot. Bill made his way back to the hotel wearing the spectators overcoat. Most of the players were accounted for with the exception of Gus McCarthy who had gone out with one of the Dublin players to Clontarf. Bill was worried about getting the overcoat back to its owner but Jim Egan advised him to leave it in the hotel and to get out of the building as quickly as possible. Bill also recalled how Frank Butler known as "the Scout" a veteran of the first World War, was their goalkeeper. When the shooting started he fell to the ground at once unlike the other players who ran for cover. This was observed by the soldiers who paid particular unkind attention to Butler kicking him in the legs and arms. They accused him of being one of the gunmen who had murdered their men that morning. Butler showed them tatoo marks of his regiment and told them the last gun he fired was on the Continent of Europe.

Through special news sheets issued by the Press Bill learned on Sunday evening of the events of that morning when

Michael Collins men struck at British intelligence in Ireland, a blow that crippled it. Bill Ryan stayed in Dublin that night as all movement out of the city was stopped. He sent a telegram home to advise of his safety. With Jim Ryan and the other Tipperary and Dublin players, they were central participants in the events of a day that had far reaching effects and is now remembered in Irish history as Bloody Sunday.

Bill's greatest sporting achievement the 1920 All-Ireland football championship had yet to come. The 1920 Bloody Sunday team was Ned O'Shea, captain, Gus McCarthy, Frank Butler, Fethard, Mick Hogan, Jerry Shelly, Dick Lanigan, Grangemockler, John Brett, Jim Egan, Bill Barrett, Mick Nolan, Jim Doran, Jack Kickham, Mullinahone, Tommy Ryan, Tommy Connors, Castlegrace, Jim McNamara, Cahir, Tommy Powell, Clonmel, Jim Ryan, Loughmore and Bill Ryan, Castleiny.

The completion of the 1920 championships began in February 1922. Kerry were overcome in Cork in a fantastic Munster final on the score of two goals and two points to two points. Mayo in a great All-Ireland semi-final was beaten by one point. Three weeks collective training for the final was undertaken in Mullinahone and on June 11th, 1922, Tipperary came back to Croke Park to meet Dublin in the All-Ireland final. The game was started by Dan Breen the freedom fighter. The first half was tough Bill recalled but the forward sharpness missing in the 1918 final was evident in this game. Tipperary won the final, one goal six points to one goal two points for Dublin.

Bill looking back on those far off days said "wasn't it sad and remarkable that three members of the Bloody Sunday team died by the bullet". John Brett was killed in the War of Independence. Jim Egan was killed in the tragic Civil War and Mick Hogan shed his life's blood on the green sward of Croke Park.

Bill is a man with great memories and hopes for a return to football and hurling glory for his county. Mick Tobin R.I.P. of Grangemockler who played with Bill in the 1920 All-Ireland victory and missed the Bloody Sunday game due to his father's death on that day, told me a few years ago that Bill Ryan was one of the most stylish and consistently good footballers that this county ever produced. Mick Tobin, a true Gael and powerful midfield player for Tipperary died during 1986.

Bill Ryan stands alone of the great men and teams that gave Tipperary an honoured and respected place among the elite of Gaelic football. They were men who had great pride in their country and who were prepared to take the risks and make the sacrifices necessary to achieve success. All except Bill have now gone but their fame will live on and we pray that Bill will be left to Tipperary and the parish of Loughmore, Castleiny for many more years.



# Mid-Tipperary Review

By Tom O'Hara —  
Mid Secretary

## SENIOR HURLING CHAMPIONSHIP

**N**INE teams affiliated for the senior hurling championship which was again run on a losers' group system. In the first round Loughmore, Moyne, Moycarkey and Upperchurch were successful against Sarsfields, Boherlahan, Holycross and Drom respectively. Best game of the opening rounds was the clash of Upperchurch and Drom. Loughmore easily disposed of the challenge of J. K. Brackens in the second round and had a comfortable victory over Moycarkey in the semi-final and thus qualify for the final for the second successive year.

Sarsfields came through in the losers group and beat Upperchurch in the semi-final to qualify for a final meeting with their first round conquerors Loughmore.

The final played in Holycross was easily the best game of the whole competition and one of the best Mid-finals for a number of years. At the end of a well contested and sporting game Loughmore retained their title with just one point to spare.

## INTERMEDIATE HURLING

Five teams took part in the Intermediate hurling championship which was again played on a league system. Fennelly's beat the 1986 champions, Clonmore in the first round but this proved to be their only win in the competition. Clonmore won their remaining games to qualify for the final against Moycarkey who also only lost in a game in the league series. This was a repeat of the 1986 final and on this occasion Clonmore were convincing winners. Clonmore went on to take the county title — a just reward for many years of frustration and disappointments.

## JUNIOR HURLING

Fifteen teams affiliated for the junior grade which this year was divided into a "A" and "B" championship with the winners of each group playing off for the right to represent the division in the county championships. In the "A" section Sarsfields/Clonakenny qualified for the final. This was a well contested final but the greater craft of Sarsfields forwards proved too much for Clonakenny in the end.

Moycarkey beat Kickhams in the "B" final and in the play-off Sarsfields won the right to represent the Mid in the county championship and went on to take the title.

## UNDER-21 HURLING 'A'

Seven teams took part in the Under-21 hurling "A" championship. This was played on a losers' group system and after



John McCormack, the Loughmore captain, is presented with the cup by Mid Chairman, Pat Cullen.

some keenly contested games Boherlahan and Drom qualified for the final. This was again a repeat of the 1986 final in the same grade and Boherlahan were again successful after a closely contested decider.

**Under-21 'B':** Only four teams took part in the Under-21 Hurling 'B' which was played on a league system and Gortnahoe and Moyne qualified for the final with the former building on their minor success of the previous year to take that title.

**Minor Hurling 'A':** Seven teams affiliated in Minor Hurling 'A' which was played on a league system. The competition provided some some good games, some one-sided ones and a few games where nothing was at stake. If the competition is to continue on a league basis smaller groupings might make for more interest and competition. Sarsfields and Holycross qualified for the final and the Blues were worthy winners of a keenly contested and sporting game.

**Minor Hurling 'B':** Six teams affiliated in the Minor Hurling 'B' which was also played on a league system. Loughmore and Moyne qualified for the final and it took two games before the destination of the title was decided. Both the drawn game and replay were outstanding games and at the end of the second hour Moyne were deserving and worthy winners.

## CAHILL CUP:

The competition was confined to senior teams only in 1987 and was run on same system as senior hurling. Eight teams competed and Moycarkey were worthy winners over Loughmore in the final.

## SENIOR FOOTBALL

Four teams took part and Loughmore and Templeuohy again qualified for the final. The previous year after a long winning sequence Loughmore had lost the



Pat McGrath, Captain of Loughmore's victorious championship team, receiving the trophy from the Football Board's vice-chairman, Pakey Savage (Ardfinnan).





#### **GORTNAHOE/GLENGOOLIE MID UNDER-21 B CHAMPIONS**

Back row (l to r) G. Webster (selector), J. J. Lawlor, C. Walsh, G. Stapleton, P. Delaney (captain), S. McMonigan, L. Duggan, M. Lyons, E. Lanigan, L. Harding, P. McBride, K. Laffan (selector). Front row (l to r) P. Barnaville, M. Barnaville, D. Heffernan, S. Webster, D. Laffan, M. Lanigan, M. Lanigan, J. McGarry, T. McBride. Insert (l to r) C. Egan, J. Norton, J. Lanigan, S. Lanigan. Missing from photo: J. J. Fitzgerald, M. Bergin and P. Slattery.

title to their great rivals and neighbours Templetuohy but on this occasion the wearers of the green and red were determined to regain the trophy and after a sporting keenly contested game realised their ambition.

#### **INTERMEDIATE FOOTBALL:**

Five teams took part and after several final failures in this competition Loughmore eventually came good and ran out convincing winners of the competition when beating Drom in the final.

#### **JUNIOR FOOTBALL:**

As in junior hurling this competition was divided into an 'A' and 'B' championship. Boherlahan were winners in the 'A' section beating Kickhams in the final and Gortnahoe were the surprise packet in Group 'B' beating Loughmore in the final to win their first ever football title.

Play-off has yet to take place.

Minor football "A" Templemore were nominated to represent the Division in county championships and await a Mid final meeting with Moycarkey.

Under-21 Football 'A' and 'B' and Minor Football 'B' still to be completed.

All competitions during the year were keenly contested even though the standard in many games was disappointing. However, the spirit of sportsmanship that prevailed at all times, reflects the highest credit on all concerned both players and officials. We thank all Board members, referees and all who helped in any way in the running of our affairs during the past year.



Pictured at the presentation of a trophy to the Mid G.A.A. Board by the Ryan family, Two-Mile-Borris to commemorate the late Gus Ryan, well-known Moycarkey-Borris G.A.A. personality player are (from left) Timmy Grace (Mid Treasurer); Mrs. Kathleen Ryan, Pat Cullen (Mid Chairman), and Tom O'Hara (Mid-Secretary).



# Historic year for Clonmore:

By Martin Bourke

**1987** will be forever remembered by Clonmore people as the year the club won the county intermediate hurling title for the first time ever and also the year of the restoration and renovation of our club grounds. After many years of effort and much disappointment it was only a fitting reward for a dedicated bunch of players and officials that the Millar Cup should find a resting place in Clonmore. After being unsuccessful in five county intermediate titles — St. Mary's, Clonmel 1975, Kilruane 1978, Ballingarry 1979, Toomevara 1984, Shannon Rovers 1986 — one began to wonder what Clonmore must do to break this frightful hoodoo at county level. However, the victory on October 18th and the scenes of joy and jubilation afterwards adequately compensated for those bitter defeats.

The championship commenced in Semple Stadium on May 24th when we took on Thurles Fennellys who were strengthened this year by transfers from a few of the other town teams. Fennelly's dominated the first half and assisted by the breeze turned over 1-9 to 0-3 ahead. However, with five minutes to go we were within two points of our rivals and just when we were poised to make a final assault Fennelly's struck twice in the space of two minutes scoring goals that severely punished the slack marking which in the first half presented Fennelly's with their opening goal and they ran out convincing winners on the score 3-12 to 2-10. This defeat left us with an uphill struggle in our remaining games as we had to win all remaining matches to be assured of being in the final shake up.

Our next encounter was against Gortnahoe-Glenagoole in Semple Stadium on June 28th. Clonmore did all the pressing from the start and were four points in front after 20 minutes. A goal by Noel Fogarty helped us to an interval lead of 1-9 to 1-4. The second half was for the most part one way traffic and in the end we were easy winners on the score 2-11 to 1-5.

Our next opposition was Moycarkey-Borris in Holycross on July 18th. Moycarkey were in the final and victory or a draw would ensure Clonmore's position in the final while defeat would involve us in a three way play-off with Fennelly's and Gortnahoe. The first half, was evenly contested and goals by Seamus Bourke midway through the second half paved the way for an easy victory. The stage was now set for a Mid-final clash with Moycarkey which again took place in Holycross on September 13th. Moycarkey backed by ex-seniors Phil Cahill, Tommy Quigley and Jim Flanagan would be difficult to beat and the fact they had been beaten by Clonmore in the previous years final would make them even more determined to succeed. However, victory remained with Clonmore on the score 4-10 to 2-8. The *Tipperary Star* in its report had this to say 'After a slow opening to the year, when Fennelly's beat them in the first round, Clonmore seem to be coming into their peak at a crucial time with trainer Billy Sweeney ensuring that they are on key for the big occasions. On Sunday they looked in great fettle for long periods but seemed caught by the great Moycarkey resurgence, but yet, had the character to weather that storm, and showing no panic were able to play themselves back into the game and clinch victory within the playing hour.

Many a more faint-hearted team would have surrendered under such intense pressure. The experience gained by the older members and the impulse of the more recent newcomers make them a formidable team in the grade. Seamus Bourke once more took the scoring honours in typical fashion. Popping up from nowhere to finish off moves with deadly precision and showing his marksmanship from placed balls he finished with a personal tally of 4-7 and on his day he will be a thorn in any defence. In goal, Brendan Bane showed himself as a fine 'keeper with Paddy and Martin Bourke, James Cahill and John Lee never relinquishing in defence. At midfield Clonmore had sway



John Lee, Clonmore captain accepts the cup from chairman Pat Cullen.

for long spells, through Tom Clarke and Michael Larkin. Up front Johnny Fitzpatrick, Pa Delaney and Martin Bourke, were ever dangerous.

## TOUGH STRUGGLE AT 'BORRIS'

In a teak tough semi-final played in Borrisoleigh on October 11th we had a convincing win over Solohead by 1-13 to 0-6. At a county board meeting on Monday, October 12th, it was decided to bring forward the county final originally fixed for October 26th to October 19th because of the county selectors insistence on the availability of Silvermine's Noel Sheedy for Tipperary's national league game with Wexford on October 26. The venue would be Borrisoleigh and the game would clash with the county senior hurling semi-finals in Thurles. Hurling fever gripped the parish and the count-down began to one final onslaught at a county intermediate title. The *Nenagh Guardian* in its preview had this to say "Clonmore will be contesting their sixth final without a win and therefore will be intent and bent on breaking the hoodoo that has beset the team during that period. The extent of determination in such a misfortunate team will be hard to beat. The hunger for victory will be of ravenous proportions and it will be up to the Mines to play to their true potential if they hope to win what is arguably the most important hurling competition the club has appeared in since their county senior hurling final appearance against Sarsfields back in 1974".

Silvermines who had stepped down from senior ranks and had come through the North in convincing fashion and were favourites to take the title they last won in 1972. However, Clonmore had other ideas and after an enjoyable and close fought match we were winners by 2-10 to 1-11. The *Tipperary Star* had this to say 'In the seventh minute Michael Larkin pointed from a sideline cut by midfield colleague John Fitzpatrick. Clonmore were not ruffled and Pa Delaney sent over their fourth point, then Seamus Bourke followed with a point from a free. Clonmore were awarded a close-in free after a goalmouth scramble when the 'Mines keeper failed to hold a high ball from James Cahill. Bourke an acknowledged maestro of a close-in free, buried the ball in the net to put Clonmore 1-5 to 0-2 clear.

Coming up to the interval the Silvermine's defence got itself in an awful tangle and James Cahill shot to the net to put his side comfortably ahead by nine points 2-8 to 0-5. With the wind behind them the Silvermines hopes revived as Harrington shot to the net with a quarter of an hour left and followed with a quick point to leave only a goal between the sides.

Pa Delaney brought relief to the Clonmore fans with a point from a free and Bane brought off a superb save at the other end from Ger Ryan. Brendan Bane had a superb game in goal and other outstanding players were John Lee, the two John Fitzpatricks, James Cahill and Pa Delaney'.

In junior hurling the club were successful in going to the



Mid semi-final. After being beaten by Thurles Kickhams in the first round we had victories over Templetoohy and Gortnahoe but were beaten in the semi-final by Thurles Kickhams on the score 3-8 to 1-6.

Success was not only confined to the playing field as the club won a Mid Scór title for the first time ever. The set dancing team of Catherine Nolan, Sadie Maher, Ann Mason, Martina Delahunty, Liam Bergin, Frances Bourke, Jim Martin, Johnny Delaney were narrowly defeated by Newcastle in the county final in Thurles, on March 8th. Newcastle went on to win the All-Ireland title they had won two years previous.

## FIELD RESTORED

After the county final the highlight of the year must surely be the restoration and renovation of our G.A.A. field. The field was acquired from the Land Commission in 1927 on the division of the Roe Estate. Being of a hilly nature major work had to be carried out to make it suitable as a playing pitch. After raising the necessary finance by a Lord Mayor campaign in 1985, work commenced towards the end of June. The work involved the levelling of the field and the provision of parking accommodation. The next stage of the development will be the provision of dressing rooms and when completed will be on par with most G.A.A. pitches in the county.

## CLONMORE COUNTY INTERMEDIATE HURLING CHAMPIONS



**Back Row** (l to r): Tommy Bourie, Michael Doyle, John Doyle, John Fitzpatrick, Jim Foley, Pat Bergin, Pa Delaney, Martin Fitzpatrick, Mick Cahill, Seamus Delaney, John Egan.

**Middle Row** (l to r): Francis Bourke, Mick Cahill, Thady Maher, Michael Larkin, Seamus Bourke, Tom Clarke, Martin Bourke, Paddy Bourke, Brendan Bane, John Fitzpatrick, Michael Delaney, Mick Ryan, William Sweeney.

**Front Row** (l to r): John Maher, Johnny Delaney, Declan Bourke, Jack Butler, Seamus Madden, John Lee (Capt.), James Cahill, Jim Meehan, Brian Larkin, Pat Laherty, Francis O'Meara, Danny Moloney. Missing from photo: Gerry Purcell, Tomás Deegan, Ruain Morris.

## A Captains Part

*In this years senior hurling county final, the champions Cappawhite began the game with their captain John O'Neill and finished the game without him. Their opponents Loughmore/Castleinny, began without their captain John Treacy and finished the game with him. An unusual coincidence.*

## For the credit of the little village

During early 1987, in a hurling league game, C. J. Kickhams', Mullinahone, though winning the game, were in serious trouble at half-time. They had only twelve players on the field against their opponents fifteen. Three spectators, Larry Madden (in his 60's), John Vaughan (late 50's) and Billy McEnery (early 50's), joined the team for the second half.

With this influx of a mere 175 years, C. J. Kickhams went on to win.

(The referee may not have counted the players at the start of the game.)

**BELIEVE IT OR NOT!**

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local

G.A.A. Club



### ARRAVAL ROVERS — WEST U-21 FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS 1987

**Front Row** (l. to r.): S. McCarthy, D. Ryan, J. Lowry, L. O'Donnell, J. Quinlan, John Lowry, D. Walsh (Capt.), D. Quinlan, R. Barlow, A. Brennan. **Back Row** (l. to r.): R. English, F. Gallagher, N. Crowe, A. Ryan, F. Nolan, G. Haslam, M. Foley, T. Lohan, J. Cremins, S. Rochford, R. O'Halloran, J. O'Donoghue, C. Whelan.



### GALTEE ROVERS - U-21 FOOTBALL WEST CHAMPIONS 1987

**Back Row** (l. to r.): J. Maher, P. Willis, D. O'Gorman, B. Healy, K. McCarthy, L. Esmonde, J. Galvin, D. O'Donoghue, M. White, L. Phelan, M. Magner, B. Walsh, M. O'Dwyer, S. O'Neill, B. Morrissey, J. Dalton. **Front Row** (l. to r.): A. O'Dwyer, M. Carroll, R. Hickey, B. O'Connell, M. Collins, D. Browne, D. Hayes, E. O'Brien (Capt.), G. Lonergan, A. Lonergan, M. Scanlon, P. O'Sullivan, D. Fahy.

### MONEYGALL UNDER-12 HURLERS 1987 — who narrowly lost a thrilling North Tipp. final to Toomevara

**Back Row:** Oliver Larkin, Eamonn Kennedy, Seamus Boland, Joseph Smith, Sean McCormack, Donal Crowley, Enda Fanning, John Flynn. **Front Row:** Brian Gleeson, Michael Muldowney, P. J. Hoolan, Brian O'Donnell, Niall Lowther, Patrick Donnelly, Conor Troy.







#### THURLES SARSFIELDS

**Front** (left to right): P.J. Kavanagh, Ml. Maher, Eamon Walshe, Liam Duggan, Tom Barry, John Kennedy, Frank Murphy, Jim Moloney, Tony O'Mara.  
**Back row:** Ciaran Carroll, Andy Ryan, Jimm Duggan, Phil Leahy, Pat Stakelum, Seamus O'Shea, Connie Maher, Paddy Maher, Ciaran Carroll.

# The County Senior Hurling Championship

By SEAMUS J. KING

**As it turned out, history had to be made in the 1987 county senior hurling final. Not only was it the centenary final, but neither of the contestants had ever won it before. Winners, Cappawhite, were making their first appearance. Runners-up, Loughmore-Castleiney, had been there once before in 1983 when they lost by 0-17 to 1-11 to Borrisoleigh. Another interesting thing about the final pairing was the absence of a team from north Tipperary. Not since 1965, when Thurles Sarsfields defeated Carrick Davins by 3-10 to 0-7, was there a final without a northern team. Finally, it is arguable that never before was a final played between two less-populous parishes.**

#### DIVISIONAL FINALS

**F**ETHARD was the venue for the south final on August 23 when neighbours Ballingarry and Killenaule fought it out before a good crowd on a dry afternoon. In a hard-fought encounter Ballingarry scored two goals in a late flourish to win their third title by 2-11 to 2-3.

Two finals were decided on September 13. In one of the best mid finals for years, at Holycross, Loughmore-Castleiney held on in a thrilling final quarter to beat Thurles Sarsfields by 2-11 to 2-10. Nine miles

away at Cashel, Cappawhite took the west title in an amazing contest with Clonoulty-Rossmore. It was a game of two halves. The first was Clonoulty's who led by 3-7 to 1-4 at halftime. The second was Cappawhite's, who turned that nine-point deficit into an eight point victory in a final scoreline of 4-15 to 3-10. Clonoulty's eclipse in the second half was as swift as it was incredible.

The result of the north final at Nenagh on September 20 was most unexpected. Lorrha, conquerors of All-Ireland champions Borrisoleigh and last year's defeated north finalists, Toomevara,

were fancied to win but, in an inept display, they were well-beaten by a Kilruane team, badly decimated by injury and suspension. The final score was 2-14 to 0-12. Lorrha's tale of woe continued the following Sunday at Borrisokane when they lost to Roscrea, league winners, in a play-off to decide on the second team to represent the division in the quarter finals.

#### QUARTER-FINALS

Three quarter-final games were played on September 27. There was a double bill at Cashel where the mid played the south representatives.



Loughmore-Castleiney made heavy weather of beating Killenaule, who performed much better than people expected of them. They suffered the loss of Joe O'Dwyer early in the game and put up a great performance, especially in the third quarter. In the end Loughmore-Castleiney were in front by 2-13 to 3-6. The second game was more clearcut. Except for a brief period in the second half, Thurles Sarsfields controlled the game against Ballingarry and ran out easy winners by 4-12 to 1-8.

Holycross was the venue for the Kilruane-MacDonaghs versus Clonoulty-Rossmore game. A large crowd turned up to see an indifferent first half transformed into an exciting final thirty minutes during which the lead changed several times. In the end a draw was the fairer result with Clonoulty-Rossmore 2-9 and Kilruane 0-15.

The game was replayed at Boherlahan on October 4 in conjunction with the fourth quarter-final between Cappawhite and Roscrea. Kilruane-MacDonaghs took a grip on proceedings from very early and won easily by 1-18 to 0-9 from a very disappointing Clonoulty side. Cappawhite gave one of their finest performances for some time when they defeated a depleted Roscrea side by 1-20 to 1-14. The game was wide open for three quarters of the hour but the west side pulled away in the final quarter to record a six point victory.

#### SEMI-FINALS

The semi-final pairings for Thurles on October 18 were Kilruane MacDonaghs versus Loughmore-Castleiney and Thurles Sarsfields versus Cappawhite.

Both games were undistinguished from a hurling point of view but both were redeemed by the closeness of the scoring and by the fact that neither was decided until the last five minutes.

Thurles Sarsfields looked good at half-time having kept Cappawhite to a point lead, 1-7 to 1-6, with the wind in the first half.

Sarsfields missed the boat with two goal chances in the middle of the third quarter. The first was fluffed and the second disallowed. Either of these might have given them control of proceedings. Instead, Cappawhite re-established themselves, especially by the move of Conor Ryan to centreback

and had the edge in the final quarter to win by 2-15 to 1-14.

Loughmore-Castleiney's victory was dramatic. A few minutes from time Pat McGrath pointed from about ninety yards to level the scores. But he undid the good work by fouling Seamus Hennessy soon after and the latter made no mistake with the resultant free to put the north men ahead again. But from the puck-out, Eamon Brennan sent to Liam Cormack, who passed to Michael McGrath and the full-forward turned to the left and crashed the ball to the net. Liam Cormack added another point for good measure to give the mid champions victory by 1-12 to 0-12.

## RESULTS AT A GLANCE

- County quarter-finals:** Cashel, September 27  
Loughmore-Castleiney 2-13, Killenaule 3-6. Referee: Michael Cahill (Kilruane-MacDonaghs).  
Thurles Sarsfields 4-12, Ballingarry 1-8. Referee: George Ryan (Lattin-Cullen).  
*Holycross, September 27.*  
Clonoulty-Rossmore 2-9, Kilruane MacDonaghs 0-15. Referee: Willie Barrett, Ardfinnan.  
*Boherlahan, October 4.*  
Kilruane MacDonaghs 1-18, Clonoulty-Rossmore 0-9 (Replay). Referee: Willie Barrett, Ardfinnan.  
Cappawhite 1-20, Roscrea 1-14. Referee: John Maher, Boherlahan-Dualla.
- County semi-finals:** *Thurles, October 18*  
Cappawhite 2-15, Thurles Sarsfields 1-14. Referee: Willie Barrett, Ardfinnan.  
Loughmore-Castleiney 1-12, Kilruane MacDonaghs 0-12. Referee: George Ryan, Lattin-Cullen.
- County final:** *Thurles, November 1*  
Cappawhite 1-17, Loughmore-Castleiney 2-13. Referee: Gerry Long (Knockshegowna).



**THE BALLINGARRY TEAM AND SUBSTITUTES PICTURED BEFORE THE COUNTY SEMI-FINAL**

**Front** (left to right): Michael Fitzgerald, Sean Tuohy, Seamus Butler, Martin Shelley, Kevin Shelley, Dan Shelley, Michael Sparrow, Michael Lyons, Christy Dalton, Don Lyons. **Back row** (left to right): John Dalton, Sean Barrett, Willie McGrath, Willie Hayes, John Molloy, Tom Butler, John Molloy, Michael McGrath, Martin Lyons, J. Norton (Trainer).





## COUNTY HURLING FINALISTS - LOUGHMORE CASTLEINEY

**Final Team:** F. McGrath, R. Stapleton, P. Brennan, J. Maher, P. McCormack, J. McCormack, E. Sweeney, N. Ryan, E. Brennan, S. Bohane, P. Treacy, J. McGrath, L. Cormack, M. McGrath.  
**Coach:** Paddy Kenny.

### FINAL DAY

Semple Stadium was the venue on November 1 for the Centenary final. Gerry Long of Knockshegowna was given the opportunity of refereeing his first county final. Before the game the Moycarkey Pipe Band played the teams around the field. Also in that parade were juvenile representatives of all the clubs in the county, carrying their club colours. Patron of the G.A.A., Archbishop Thomas Morris, was escorted onto the field before the throw-in by county chairman, Michael Lowry, and introduced to the respective captains, John O'Neill of Cappawhite and John Cormack of Loughmore-Castleiney. The game got underway at 3.05.

Everybody had forecast a fairly close game with the verdict at the end of the hour in favour of Loughmore-Castleiney. People from the west, particularly, believed that Cappawhite hadn't delivered their best during the year and were not as good as in 1984, when they should have taken Moycarkey-Borris. The optimists believed that Cappawhite had yet to deliver the goods but that this would be the day.

Cappawhite's opening efforts confirmed the fears of the most persistent pessimist: they were just plain bad and Loughmore-Castleiney looked brilliant as they raced into an eight point lead within twenty minutes. Pat McGrath looked superb as he chalked up a personal tally of 1-4 of his

side's 1-7. But, if the players were anxious and unsure on the field, the Cappa mentors were certain where the trouble lay. They took off Miley Coughlan and tried John Ryan on McGrath, but to no avail. There was only one solution, to send Ger Ryan Bawn back to police the Loughmore danger man, even if it involved upsetting the half-back line. This was done and the game began to stabilise for Cappawhite and they had reduced the deficit to 1-8 to 1-6 at the interval.

However, the best laid plans began to go awry early in the second half, Loughmore opening up a five-point gap in the ninth minute with a Liam Cormack goal. Soon after came a second cappawhite move that had a major impact on the eventual outcome — the moving of Ger O'Neill to centreforward. Added to this was the loss of Loughmore of their full-back, Peter Brennan. Cappawhite surged back and drew level with eight minutes to play. Loughmore retaliated with a Pat McGrath point to go ahead. Pat O'Neill came back to level and, with a minute to go, Austin Buckley got a brilliant point to give the west champions victory. A final effort by Pat McGrath to level was in vain.

Cappawhite deserved a county final. For the past five years they have entertained their supporters with some tantalising hurling. They have dominated hurling in the west and their victory was but rightful consolation for

past failures outside the division. Apart from their hurling ability they are a fine club, a model of what a club should be and a bunch of players and officials who give trouble to nobody.

And what of Loughmore-Castleiney: they will find consolation in no words of condolence. Such words might have substituted for victory in 1983 when they lost on their first county final appearance. But, in 1987, they wanted victory and had it in their grasp only to see it roll away from them in the end like Sisyphus and the rock.

Pat O'Neill was given Man of the Match and scored ten points of his side's total. Following closely behind were Ger O'Neill and Ger Ryan (B). Others to impress were Michael Buckley, about whom doubts were cast beforehand, and Simon Ryan, who did a power of hurling at centrefield. For Loughmore-Castleiney, Pat McGrath must stand out as well as Eamon Sweeney, Jim Maher and Liam Cormack.

**Cappawhite** - D. O'Neill, M. Coughlan, M. Buckley, D. Ryan (P), D. Hennessy, A. O'Neill, G. Ryan, E. Ryan, S. Ryan, A. Buckley, C. Ryan, P. O'Neill, J. O'Neill (Capt.), G. O'Neill, M. McDermott. Subs: J. Ryan (for Coughlan), E. Maguire (for J. O'Neill).

**Loughmore-Castleiney** - F. McGrath, R. Stapleton, P. Brennan, J. Maher, P. Cormack, L. Cormack, M. McGrath, P. McCormack. Subs: J. Treacy (Capt.) for S. Bohane, T. Larkin for P. Brennan, S. Bohane for N. Ryan.





### **CAPPAWHITE - WEST & COUNTY S.H. CHAMPIONS 1987**

**BACK (l-r):** N. Buckley, G. O'Neill, T. Coughlan, S. Ryan (L), J. Ryan (P), C. Ryan (H), G. Ryan (B), D. O'Neill, M. Ryan (L), A. O'Neill, J. Barry, E. Maguire.  
**FRONT (l-r):** A. Buckley, P. Buckley, P. O'Neill, M. Buckley, J. O'Neill (Capt.), M. McDermott, M. Coughlan, D. Hennessy, D. Ryan (P), E. Ryan (B), D. Quirke.



## COUNTY FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS – LOUGHMORE-CASTLEINEY

FRONT (l-r): F. McGrath, M. McGrath, E. Brennan, P. McGrath, N. Ryan, J. Cormack, P. Treacy, J. Treacy.  
BACK: T. Ryan, P. McKevitt, J. Kiely, P. Lynch, E. Webster, R. Stapleton, T. McGrath.





# County Minor Hurling Finalists

## TOOMEVARA - CHAMPIONS

### TIPPERARY'S CHAMPIONSHIP RESULTS 1987

Compiled by Séamus O'Doherty

#### MINOR HURLING

Friday, May 22, at Thurles:	
Tipperary	3-12
Limerick	3-6
Sunday, July 12, at Thurles:	
Tipperary	2-11
Cork	1-9
Sunday, August 9, at Croke Park:	
Tipperary	4-12
Galway	1-9
Sunday, September 6, at Croke Park:	
Tipperary	0-12
Offaly	2-8

#### UNDER-21 HURLING

Wednesday, May 13, at Bruff:	
Tipperary	1-8
Limerick	2-15

#### JUNIOR HURLING

Thursday, May 28, at Carrick-on-Suir:	
Tipperary	4-12
Waterford	1-7
Sunday, June 7, at Killarney:	
Tipperary	5-13
Kerry	0-7
Wednesday, June 24, at Holycross:	
Tipperary	1-9
Cork	2-16

#### SENIOR HURLING

Sunday, May 24, at Killarney:	
Tipperary	1-21
Kerry	2-6
Sunday, June 7, at Killarney:	
Tipperary	1-13
Clare	1-13
Sunday, June 21, at Killarney:	
Tipperary	4-17
Clare	0-8
Sunday, July 12, at Thurles:	
Tipperary	1-18
Cork	1-18 (draw)
Sunday, July 19, at Killarney:	
Tipperary	4-22
Cork	1-22 (after extra time)
Sunday, August 9, at Croke Park:	
Tipperary	2-17
Galway	3-20

#### MINOR FOOTBALL

Friday, May 1, at Askeaton:	
Tipperary	3-9
Clare	0-7
Friday, May 15, at Clonmel:	
Tipperary	0-7
Cork	0-11

#### UNDER-21 FOOTBALL

Wednesday, April 29, at Páirc Uí Chaoimh:	
Tipperary	1-7
Cork	0-8
Wednesday, May 3, at Tralee:	
Tipperary	0-7
Kerry	0-7
Saturday, May 23, at Clonmel:	
Tipperary	1-11
Kerry	0-15 (Replay, after extra time)

#### JUNIOR FOOTBALL

Wednesday, May 20, at Clogheen:	
Tipperary	1-6
Waterford	0-7
Wednesday, June 3, at Askeaton:	
Tipperary	1-12
Clare	2-8 (after extra time)
Wednesday, June 17, at Clonmel:	
Tipperary	1-15
Cork	1-12

#### SENIOR FOOTBALL

Sunday, May 17, at Askeaton:	
Tipperary	0-11
Limerick	0-12

#### ALL-IRELAND CLUB SENIOR HURLING

FINAL	
Borrisoleigh	2-9
Rathnure	0-9

#### COUNTY FINALS

<b>Hurling</b>	
Senior:	
Cappawhite	1-17
Loughmore Castleiney	2-13
Intermediate:	
Clonmore	2-10
Silvermines	1-11
Junior:	
Thurles Sarsfields	1-5
Lorpha	1-2
Under 21:	
Borrisoleigh	3-6
Boherlahan	3-5
Minor:	
Toomevara	1-9
Thurles Sarsfields	1-7
Minor 'B':	
Moyness Templeduffy	3-14
Portroe, 0-12 (Replay and extra time)	
Under 16:	
Dúrlas Og	5-4
Arravale Rovers	2-7
Under 14:	
Arravale Rovers	0-8
Holycross Ballycahill	2-7
Under 12:	
Dúrlas Og	7-3
Toomevara	1-2

#### Football

Senior:	
Loughmore Castleiney	3-2
Clonmel Commercial	2-4 (Replay)
Intermediate:	
Rockwell Rovers	0-7
Borrisokane	0-5
Minor:	
Slevenamon	1-11
Lattin Emly	0-7
Under 16:	
Arravale Rovers	0-7
Eine Og Nenagh	1-3
Under 14:	
Arravale Rovers	3-6
Carrick Swans	2-5
Under 12:	
Clonmel Commercial	3-5
Dúrlas Og	1-1

Some competitions are unfinished at going to press.



**FRONT ROW (players only) (l. to r.):** Willie Ryan, Michilin Delaney, Tommy Carroll, Declan O'Meara, Paul Delaney, Liam Hogan, Joe Kennedy. **BACK ROW (l. to r.):** Tom Bergin, Michael Ryan, Seamus Brislane, Martin Brislane, Bill Carroll, David Spillane, Gerard Frend, Michael Brislane, Kevin McCormack, Michael O'Meara, Tony Delaney, Kevin Kennedy.

## THURLES SARSFIELDS DEFEATED FINALISTS



**BACK ROW (l. to r.):** Tony Coman, Ken Doherty, Andreas Callanan, Richard Corcoran, Padraig Dundon, Padraig Delaney, Trevor Cooke, Pat Jordan, Brendan Carroll, Pat Minogue, Paul Gooney, Martin McElgunn, Brian Spillane. **FRONT ROW (l. to r.):** Paul Mockler, Sean Callanan, Walter Doyle, Mark Jordan, Eddie Coman, Clive Hanrahan, Fionn Stakelum (Capt.), Tomás Maher, Ken O'Connor, Donal O'Shea, Seamus Quinn.



# Centenary Celebration

*A cháirde, tugaimís omós dos na h-  
iománaithe le céad bliain anuas.*

**T**O-DAY we celebrate the first senior county hurling final by paying tribute to all the teams and the many players that have brought honour and glory to themselves and their parishes for the past hundred years.

In the first county championship eight teams participated. The final, played in Borrisoleigh, resulted in an easy victory for Thurles led by Denny Maher of Killinan, over North Tipperary.

Since that historic occasion 93 finals have been played.

No finals were played in 1891, '92 or '93 because of the Parnellite Split. The disturbed political situation in 1920 and '21 also determined the fate of the finals. The County Board decided to hold no championship following a request from the Boherlahan captain, Johnny Leahy, "that so unique an event as the winning of Irish freedom should be allowed to stand out in majesty by itself".

We salute, today, the 34 clubs that have played in those finals, but we remember also the many clubs that never got to the final stage of the championship. There are many clubs on the lower rungs of divisional ladders that can never aspire to the higher reaches and yet they participate every year in the hope and expectation of a breakthrough. To them we owe a debt as great as is owed to the victorious teams.

Twenty-one clubs have won senior titles in the county. Some are household names, while others are long since forgotten. Many have been successful on one occasion only.

Drombane's moment of glory was in 1894. Suir View achieved theirs in 1897, Horse and Jockey in 1899 and Ballytarsna in 1901.

Two teams from the West have but one victory each — Clonoulty in 1888 and Éire Óg, Annacarty in 1943.

The South's first success came in 1947 with Carrick Swans. Other single winners were Nenagh de Wets in 1902 and Moyne-Templetuohy in 1971. Carrick Davins came through in the 'Sixties to win two-in-a-row and Moneygall did likewise in the mid-Seventies.

Three teams have three county titles to their credit. Mikey Maher and the immortal men of Tubberdora blazed this trail at the end of the century. Two-Mile-Borris equalled this achievement in the first decade of this century while Holycross-Ballycahill had a glorious period in the late 'Forties and 'Fifties.

Coming up the ladder of success we recognise the men of Kilruane MacDonaghs who swept to three-in-a-row and came back in 1985 to add an All-Ireland club title as well.

Two clubs have six titles each. Borrisoleigh began well by winning two-in-a-row in 1949 and 1950; they won again in

One hundred years of achievement was celebrated at Semple Stadium on county final day. The G.A.A. celebrated the centenary of the playing of the first county senior hurling final. As part of the celebrations an oration was delivered by Mr. William Corbett (Upperchurch- Drombane). What follows is the text of that oration.

1953 and in this present decade had three more wins, crowning their county final victory of last year with a well-merited All-Ireland club title.

Roscrea are on the same level, with six titles. They crowned their three-in-a-row by winning the first All-Ireland club title in 1970 and came back in '72, '73 and '80 to prove their worth.

Today we remember also the nine titles won by Moycarkey-Borris, their great period of dominance in the '30s and their return to glory in 1982 and '84.

Near the top of the ladder are two clubs of great renown — Toomevara and Boherlahan, both of whom had their days of superiority and eminence in the past when hey each won their 10 titles in the 'tens and 'twenties of this century.

At the top of the ladder of achievement stands Thurles in lonely glory with a magnificent 28 titles won in 40 finals.

Since their first county victory 100 years ago they have won titles in every decade except the 1890s and this decade. Dominating that great record is the period from 1955 to '65 when they won 10 titles in eleven years.

But, we must not forget the teams that played and did not win. Heading this list of 13 clubs is Cashel King Cormacs with six appearances. Linked with this club must go another from the parish — Racecourse, who lost two consecutive county finals in 1909 and 1910.

Lorrha have contested five county finals this century, and have yet to achieve a victory.

Teams from Tipperary Town failed in 1912 and '22. Unsuccessful county final appearances were also made by North Tipperary, Carrick, Kilmoyler, Kiladangan, Killenaule, Kickhams, Na Piersaigh, Silvermines and Loughmore-Castleiney.

The name Loughmore-Castleiney brings us to today's final. We salute the players of Cappawhite and Loughmore-Castleiney who do battle for the centenary title. Both come from small parishes, as indeed do many of the clubs already mentioned and they continue a great tradition of parish rivalry and love of one's place. Today's winners will add a new name to the county roll of honour.

And to add symbolism and atmosphere to this historic occasion J. J. Hassett of Boherlahan and Cashel drove a horse and trap on loan from Michael Wallace of Ardmoyle — homeland of Bianconi. He used the same mode of transport as would have been used 100 years ago.

The pony's name is Tubberadora and the trap dates from the 1880's. To link with the past he carried John Walsh of Tubberadora, son of the famous Johnnie, and his second passenger was John Maher of Killianan, captain of the 1945 team and son of Denis who captained the first county champions 100 years ago.



**IN THE OLD-FASHIONED WAY!**

Arriving in traditional style for the centenary county senior hurling final in Semple Stadium, Thurles are (from left): John Maher, Tipperary, All-Ireland captain in 1945 and son of Denis Maher who captained the Thurles team which won the first county final in 1887; Michael Wallace, John Hassett, Michael Louny, Tipperary G.A.A. Chairman, and Johnny Walsh.





**CLONMEL G.A.A. CENTRE COMMITTEE 1987**

Front row (l to r) Dan Kavanagh; John O'Neill, Trustee; Michael Maher, Treasurer; Con Hogan, Chairman; George Barry, Secretary; Mick Egan, Vice-Chairman; Paddy Quinlivan, Trustee. Middle row (l to r) Jimmy Doyle R.I.P.; John Fitzgerald; Padraic Mahony; Michael Forde; Paddy Mullins; Paddy O'Keeffe; Seamus Leahy. Back row (l to r) Peter Powell, Trustee; Seán O'Donnell; Pat Quinlan; Joe McNamara; Brendan Fennessy; Teddy O'Brien; Jim O'Callaghan. Inset (top left corner) Michael O'Connell, Trustee. Committee members not in picture: John McNamara; Billy Looby; Brendan Power; Rev. Michael Kennedy; Gerry Flynn; Seán O'Neill; Maurice Kennedy; Tom Pollard; John Lonergan; Dermot Lynch.

For a Special Drink and a Special Chat

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### THURLES SARSFIELDS, COUNTY JUNIOR CHAMPIONS 1987

**Front Row (left to Right):** Joe Burke, Ger Corbett, Larry Barrett, John Cahill, Tom Dunne, Trevor Cooke, Paddy McCormack, Michael Dundon, Brendan Carroll. **Back (Left to Right):** Liam O'Donoghue (Selector), Gerry Nolan, Padraic Stakelum, John McCormack, Ciaran Carroll, Murty Bryan, Maurice McCormack, Eamon Stakelum, Ger Stakelum, D. Maher, P. McCormack, G. Doherty, J. Cooke (selector).



Donal O'Gorman.

# A BLUES REVIVAL

## Sarsfields Juniors bridge a Thirty Year Gap

By DONAL O'GORMAN

**"I** T WOULD be a sad day for the G.A.A. in our county, if the games of our native land were to die here, where the Association was founded. Please God they will never — they will remain healthy and vigorous, and the thanks will be due in no small measure to the good work and high standards of the Sarsfields Club".

So stated Rev Dean Lee at the club's 1957 convention, while summing up a successful Triple Crown Year. While our games certainly haven't died, the club has gone through a transitional and lean period since 1965 winning only one senior county title (1974) and two minor titles (1973 and 1985). But 1987 has seen a revival of the Blues and although there was a brief revival in '79 and '80, there is every indication that the club is about to become a dominant force in hurling circles once again. Not since 1957 has any club contested three county semi-finals in the one year in senior, minor and junior grades, and this is an indication of the depth of talent in the club at the present time.

The excellent work done by Durlas Óg since its inception in 1979 is now beginning to bear fruit at senior level with Seamus O'Shea, Eamon Walsh, Tony O'Meara, Andy Ryan, Seamus Maher and Brendan Carroll blending youth with the experience of Jimmy Duggan, Pat Stakelum, and Francis Murphy, and with minors Richard Corcoran, Clive Hanrahan, Thomas Maher and Seamus Quinn among other contenders for senior status, the future looks promising indeed.

Having contested no semi-final at any grade in 1986 and an early defeat by Loughmore in the '87 Cahill Cup did not auger well for the seniors but with renewed spirit the team gradually settled down under the management of Dinny Maher. A win over Boherlahan in the losers group followed by victories over Upperchurch and Holycross set the team up for a further tilt with Loughmore in the semi-final. In what was described as the most thrilling and closely contested finals for years Loughmore scraped home by the minimum margin.

Ballingarry's challenge for a county semi-final place was swept aside in the last quarter of an intriguing but often one-sided affair. Much was expected of the team in the semi-final against Cappawhite but it failed to come up to expectations and missed chances particularly at the start of the second half proved costly with Cappawhite running out deserving winners by four points.

The minors had a somewhat easier passage with wins over Moycarkey, Brackens, Gortnahoe, Boherlahan and Upperchurch. A defeat by Holycross was eventually overturned in the mid final by 4-6 to 2-8. An unexpected win over Cashel in the semi-final qualified the team for a place in the final against county champions Toomevara. Although younger and weaker physically in several areas, Sarsfields made the favourites fight all the way to hold on to their two point lead at the finish. With twelve of the panel still eligible for next year's championship, the team will be all the better for the experience gained and should be in condition for the title in 1988.

Pride of place for the year must surely go to the junior team which annexed the club's first junior title since 1957. The success of the team was greatly helped by the decision of 1986 seniors Pat McCormack, Roddy McCormack, Maurice McCormack and Murty Bryan to retain junior status for the 1987 season. These players helped to form one of the strongest forward lines in the championships and it certainly reflected in the scoring power of the team in most of their games. Mid Tipp wins over Upperchurch and Holycross qualified them for a mid final against Clonakenny.

In a far more keenly contested final than the scoreline of 5-9 to 3-8 suggested, Sarsfields superior scoring power proved to be the decisive factor and it was this same factor which swept aside the challenge of Knockavilla Kickhams in the county semi-final. In what was termed a "mud bath" at Borrisoleigh, Lorrha succumbed to a three point defeat in the County Final in a game which was played in atrocious conditions and which did not allow for any stylish hurling. But what was lacking in skill was more than compensated for by the commitment and endeavour of both teams. In what was a very low scoring game (1-5 to 1-2) dominated by defences Sarsfields just about deserved their triumph. The team was Ciaran Carroll, Denis Maher, Padraic Stakelum, E. Stakelum, John Cahill, Larry Barret, Ger Stakelum, Tom Dunne (capt.), Michael Dundon, John McCormack, Paddy McCormack, Ger Corbett, Pat McCormack, Murty Bryan, Maurice McCormack.



# Dúrlas Óg — A Year to Remember



By  
**MICHAEL DUNDON**  
(*Tipperary Star*)

**T**hough it has been in existence less than a decade, Dúrlas Óg, the Thurles Juvenile G.A.A. Club, has established itself as the leading juvenile club in the county, it's successes at a variety of levels marking it out as "the one to beat" in most competitions, but this year's achievements surpass those of previous years by the proverbial mile.

Championship victories are nothing new to Dúrlas Óg, and this year has seen a great deal of success both at divisional and county level, but a major milestone in the club's short history was achieved this year with the purchase of the club's playing grounds at Garryvicleheen. This spacious playing area, convenient to the town, yet sufficiently isolated not to interfere with the residential nature of the locality in which it is situated, represents a giant step forward by the club, and is a significant achievement in a town like Thurles where the availability of land, suitable in quality and quantity for such a purpose is limited.

It is an indication of the courage and foresight of the men behind the scenes in Dúrlas Óg that when the land became available, they moved quickly to stake their claim. Having done that, there were equally expeditious in getting down to fund-raising to meet the £40,000 outlay. One of the most encouraging features of the exercise was the huge amount of public support in the Thurles area for the club, support which manifested itself in the great success of a £25,000 draw and a sponsored greyhound racing meeting. The G.A.A. authorities in Tipperary can also take pride in the manner in which, from limited resources, they supported the



**DÚRLAS ÓG — U-12A MID HURLING & FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS & CO. HURLING TITLEHOLDERS**

**Back Row (Left to Right):** Frank Mockler, Pat Murray, Enda Ryan, Tomás Fogarty, Padraig Ryan, Garry Mernagh, Martin Larkin, Gavin Purcell, Peter Broderick, Billy Fitzgerald, John Callahan, Michael McCarthy, Gerry Spain, Melvin Brennan, Tom Gooney, Noel Ryan, Pat Murray, Sean Ryan. **Front Row (Left to Right):** Jimmy Coppinger, Noel Murphy, Liam Mockler, Pat Gleeson, Raymond Carew, Raymond Dowd (capt.), Michael Clary, John Enright, John Gleeson, Liam Dwyer, Michael Kennedy, Matty Ryan, Thomas Larkin.



**DÚRLAS ÓG — U-14 A. MID CHAMPIONS**

**Back Row (Left to Right):** Eddie Enright, Niall White, Denis Kennedy, Martin Campion, Declan Keher, George Grogan, Br. Keane, John Purcell, Michael Murphy, Ted O'Connor, Jimmy Doyle, Lar Barrett, John Enright, James Curry, Michael Kennedy. **Front Row (Left to Right):** Tomás Max, Dan Bourke, Murty Larkin, Niall Hanrahan, Michael Bowe, Thomas Kennedy, Eugene McAree (captain), Tomás Tierney, Kevin Hegney, Trevor Dwyer, Sean Ryan.



**DURLAS ÓG — WINNERS OF COUNTY UNDER-16 HURLING TITLE**

**Front Row (l. to r.):** Graham O'Connor, John McCarthy, Martin McElgun, Seamus Quinn (captain), Gary Purcell, Rory Purcell, Colm Ryan, Seán Mullanney. **Back Row:** John Fielding, Clive Hanrahan, Denis Maher, Tony Coman, Padraic Dundon, Ger Collins, Michael Hanrahan, Seamus Quinn.



project, but the same cannot be said of higher authorities.

In any event, the ground is now in use both for club training purposes and as a venue for Mid Bord na nOg games last summer, but while a major step forward has been taken, much work remains to be done as regards developing the facilities available at the pitch, and it is to this end,



Brother Michael Keane

Dúrlas Óg members will be devoting their energy in the coming year.

The concentration of effort on the fund-raising for the field did not deter Dúrlas Óg from once more stamping its authority on the championships also. The club retained its county under-16 hurling title by beating Arravale Rovers in a fine contest at Golden, while at under-14 level, the hurlers won the right to represent Tipperary in Feile na nGael, but missed out on the county championship proper. The club's under-12 hurlers also annexed county honours defeating Toomevara in the final.

From that it can be seen that contrary to what many people argue, with the proper commitment from club officials, success in championships and heavy involvement in fund-raising for development projects, can go hand in hand. Despite the great competition from other interests in the town, Dúrlas Óg, thanks to the loyalty and dedication of its committee, continues to provide an opportunity for the young boys of the town to play hurling and football, no mean achievement given the myriad of counter-attractions in the urban areas for boys at present.

Apart from the championship successes, the club has sections for boys under-8 and 10 where hurling and football leagues are run on Saturday mornings and these have contributed enormously to the steady stream of talent at the club's disposal year in, year out. In this regard, the co-operation of the Christian Brothers who make their premises available for the children on Saturday

mornings, has been vital, and is much appreciated by club officials.

The club lost the services of a great worker this year with the transfer of Bro. Michael Keane to Monasterevan. Dúrlas Óg and Bro. Keane were synonymous during his years in Thurles, and it is doubtful if any man could match the time and energy he gave to the club and its activities. Despite the heavy workload his position as

Principal at Scoil Ailbhe entailed, he seldom missed a match or training session, and his encouragement for Scór and other activities will be greatly missed.

But the show goes on, and as Dúrlas Óg prepares for the events of '88, it can do so in the confidence that the groundwork for success has been laid, and the commitment is there to realise that success.

## ARRAVALLE ROVERS - Juvenile Club



### ARRAVALLE ROVERS WEST AND COUNTY U-14 CHAMPIONS 1987

Back row: M. Gleeson, J. O'Sullivan, G. Quinlan, M. Quirke, B. Moore, D. Lynch, K. Flynn, A. Quinlan, D. Carew. Front row: N. Brett, D. Quirke, M. Martin, J. Lacey, K. Bowes (captain), M. Waldron, M. Morrissey, K. O'Sullivan, M. Stapleton.



### ARRAVALLE ROVERS U-16 FOOTBALL COUNTY CHAMPS 1987

Back row: E. Brown (trainer), B. O'Donnell, D. O'Mara, G. Roache, D. Cavanagh, W. Collins, P. Gleeson, A. Quinlan. M. P. Ryan, S. O'Halloran, P. Murphy, J. O'Dwyer, R. Barlow, C. Bresnan, D. Quirke (trainer). Front row: P. Roache, T. Donnelly, A. Tedford, I. Foley, A. Quirke, T. O'Reilly, C. Stapleton, P. Martin, R. Quinlan, J. Cummins, S. Cummins.



### ARRAVALLE ROVERS - COUNTY U-14 FOOTBALL CHAMPS 1987

Back row (l.-r.): M. Gleeson, M. Quirke, N. Brett, K. Flynn, K. Ryan, K. Bowes, J. O'Sullivan, A. Flynn, M. Waldron, J. Lacey, P. Tedford (manager), K. O'Sullivan, P. Flynn (manager), B. Brett (manager). Front row: F. O'Dwyer, D. Lynch, D. Quirke, G. Lonergan, M. Martin, M. Morrissey (captain), D. Cleary, P. Malone, B. Moore.



# Mid-Tipperary Bórd na nÓg

**1987** can be looked back on with satisfaction by the Bord. It was a year in which all the competitions were completed on time — thanks to the excellent co-operation of all the clubs in the division. All our juvenile players must be complimented on their excellent sportsmanship and right attitude towards our games. They all accepted victory or defeat in exemplary spirit.

Our championships began in April and the following is a brief outline on the outcome of each.

## U/12 HURLING

### Section A

Six teams contested this section: Holycross (A), Moycarkey, Templemore, Gortnahoe, Loughmore and Durlas Óg A. Holycross and Durlas Óg A contested the final. In one of the best U/12 finals seen for years, Durlas Óg emerged victorious with a last minute goal, thus depriving a gallant Holycross team who led the whole way up to the final minute. Durlas Óg went on to emerge as county champions when they proved far too good for Toomevara in the county final.

## U/12 HURLING

### Section B

Seven teams contested this section. Durlas Óg B & C, Drom, Holycross (B), Moyne, Upperchurch, Clonakenny. In the final, Drom were the winners when they proved far too good for Upperchurch on the night.

## U/12 FOOTBALL

### Section A

Five teams contested this section: Templemore, Upperchurch, Holycross (A), Templetuohy, Durlas Óg (A). Durlas Óg and Holycross again contested this final, with Durlas Óg emerging victorious.

## U/12 FOOTBALL

### Section B

Six teams contested this section: Durlas Óg B & C, Clonakenny, Drom, Holycross (B), Loughmore. Loughmore and Durlas Óg C contested this final with Loughmore worthy and popular winners.

## U/14 URBAN RURAL HURLING Section (A)

Holycross, Templemore, Moycarkey, Drom, Gortnahoe, Durlas Óg (A) were the clubs

OFFICERS 1987	
<b>President:</b>	Rev. Fr. O'Rourke
<b>Chairman:</b>	Liam McGrath (Holycross-Ballycahill)
<b>Vice-Chairman:</b>	Paddy McLoughlin (Templemore)
<b>Secretary:</b>	Tom Joyce (Holycross-Ballycahill)
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Dinny Hogan
<b>P.R.O.:</b>	Eoin Brennan (Moycarkey-Borris)
<b>Assistant P.R.O.:</b>	Frank Morris (Templemore)
<b>Co. Bórd na nÓg</b>	
<b>Representatives:</b>	Paddy Ryan (Upperchurch-Drombane)
	Paddy McLoughlin (Templemore)
	Pat Ryan (Holycross-Ballycahill)

contesting this section. Holycross and Durlas Óg A were the clubs contesting this final. At the end of a very exciting and hard fought final, Holycross emerged victorious, thereby being the only club to deprive Durlas Óg of this title in the 1980's.

## U/14 URBAN RURAL HURLING Section B

Boherlahan, Durlas B, Loughmore, Clonakenny, Upperchurch were the five teams in this section. In the final, Boherlahan defeated Upperchurch.

## U/14 URBAN RURAL FOOTBALL Section A

Five teams contested this section: Templemore, Durlas Óg (A), Holycross, Durlas Óg (B), Boherlahan. Durlas Óg (A) and Holycross were the finalists. After a very keenly contested final Durlas Óg were worthy winners.

## U/14 URBAN RURAL FOOTBALL Section B

Loughmore, Upperchurch, Clonakenny and Drom were the teams involved here. In the final Upperchurch defeated Drom.

## U/14 RURAL HURLING

The nine rural clubs in the division contested this championship. Holycross and Boherlahan contested the final with Holycross emerging definite winners.

## U/14 RURAL FOOTBALL

Holycross, Loughmore, Moycarkey, Boherlahan, Templetuohy and Upperchurch were the contestants for this final. It was another Holycross-Boherlahan final with Holycross again coming out on top.

## U/16 HURLING Section (A)

Templemore, Moycarkey, Boherlahan, Gortnahoe, Durlas Óg A and Moyne were the teams in this section. In a very well contested final,

Durlas Óg (A) emerged victorious defeating a very gallant Templemore team, who pushed them hard for most of the game. Durlas Óg (A) went on to become county champions.

## U/16 HURLING

### Section (B)

Drom, Holycross, Upperchurch, Clonakenny, Loughmore, Durlas Óg B, Clonakenny and Holycross contested this final with Holycross emerging winners after being made fight all the way by a good Clonakenny team.

## U/16 FOOTBALL

### Section A

Templetuohy, Durlas Óg (A), Boherlahan, Templemore, Moycarkey were the teams competing here. The final between Templemore and Durlas Óg (A) went to a replay with Durlas Óg (A) emerging with the honours by the skin of their teeth.

## U/16 FOOTBALL

### Section (B)

Loughmore, Upperchurch, Clonakenny, Holycross and Durlas Óg B were the five teams in this section. The final was between Holycross and Upperchurch. The 'Church' emerged as worthy winners of this section.

## SCÓR NA nÓg

Juvenile Scór in our division is still in a good state of health. The standard in our semi-finals and finals show that we are fortunate to have so many people in our parishes giving generously of their time and talent to help prepare our Scór competitions. As I write this, clubs are now preparing for this year's Scór. There is a universal feeling in our division that if Scór is to prosper it will be essential to change the existing format. The present format takes about 4 hours to complete. This is more of an endurance test than a night's entertainment. The format should be changed so that 2½ hours would complete the night's entertainment.

It was at this year's convention that our former secretary, Batt O'Meara, decided to call it a day. The Bord made a presentation to Batt to mark his seven years as mid Bord na nÓg secretary. At this presentation glowing and deserved tributes were paid to Batt on his outstanding contribution to the Bord over the years.

In concluding this account of Mid Bórd na nÓg, I would like to give a special word of praise to all our referees. These men give so much of their time, ensuring the smooth running of our championships. It may not be generally known that these people receive no expenses whatsoever. It was felt at this year's convention that the mid and county senior boards should acknowledge their unselfish contribution to our games by inviting them to their respective finals.

I would like to thank all the people in the division who ensure that venues and pitches are both made available and in perfect condition for our games.

We look forward to a successful year for our division in 1988.

**Tom Joyce, Secretary**



Moyne-Templetuohy - winners of the County Minor 'B' Hurling Final.



## Mid Board Officers - 1987

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

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

**Treasurer and Gate Checker:** Timmie Grace, Sarsfields.

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

**Junior Club Representatives on**

**Co. Board:** John Ryan, Kickhams.

Joe Duffisey, Gortnahoe/Glengoole.

**Senior Club Representatives on Co. Board:**

**Moycarkey/Borris:** Harry Ryan.

**Sarsfields:** Donal Gorman.

**Holycross:** John Ryan.

**Loughmore:** John Treacy.

**Drom:** John Harkin.

**Moyne:** Seán Fogarty.

**Templetuohy:** Liam Leahy.

**Upperchurch:** Michael Greene.

**Boherlahan:** Matty Connolly.

**Templemore:** Tom Colum.

**Central Council Representative:** John Doyle, Holycross.

**Munster Council Representative:** Tim Maher, Boherlahan/Dualla.



Trophies won by Gortnahoe/Glengoole 1986. Club of the Year (B. section) Mid Junior Cup, Mid Minor B; County Minor B. Michael Egan, captain junior team; James Meighan, club chairman; Spencer Webster, captain minor team.



Boherlahan-Dualla — Mid U/21 Champions 1987



Pictured after Moycarkey/Borris' success in the Cahill Cup is Tom Doran, the Moycarkey captain

## Mid-Championship Winners 1987

Senior Hurling .....	Loughmore-Castleiney
Intermediate Hurling .....	Clonmore
Junior Hurling 'A' .....	Sarsfields
Junior Hurling 'B' .....	Moycarkey-Borris
Junior Hurling Play-off .....	Sarsfields
Under-21 Hurling 'A' .....	Boherlahan-Dualla
Under-21 Hurling 'B' .....	Gortnahoe/Glengoole
Minor Hurling 'A' .....	Sarsfields
Minor Hurling 'B' .....	Moyne-Templetuohy
Cahill Cup S.H.L. ....	Moycarkey-Borris
Senior Football .....	Loughmore-Castleiney
Intermediate Football .....	Loughmore-Castleiney
Junior Football 'A' .....	Boherlahan-Dualla
Junior Football 'B' .....	Gortnahoe-Glengoole
Minor Football 'A' .....	Templemore Éire Óg
<b>Championships not completed to date: Under-21 Football 'A' and 'B' Minor Football 'B'.</b>	



# A Century by the Decade



Seán O'Driscoll

## 1888 — 100 YEARS AGO

Clonmel man William Prendergast was Secretary of the Association. He accompanied the team of hurlers and athletes on the "American Invasion". He played a dual role on that trip as both official and player.

Clonoulty won the county S.H. final at the expense of Boherlahan, 1-1 to 0-2.

The Annual Convention of the G.A.A. was held in Thurles on 4th January.

John Cullinan of Bansha refereed the All-Ireland S.F. final between Limerick Commercial and Young Irelands of Louth. The game was decided at Clonskeagh on April 29th, 1888. W. J. Spain of Nenagh played for the Limerick team who won the championship 1-4 to 0-3. This was the 1887 final.

The Premier County senior footballers won the Munster championship. In the first round they accounted for Cork 0-2 to 0-1. Semi-final opponents Waterford were defeated 0-3 to 0-1 at Clonmel. The final was not played as Limerick gave Tipp a walk-over. Bohercrowe represented their county and led by captain Gil Kavanagh.

Mr. Michael Gleeson of Nenagh was Chairman of the Co. Board.

## 1898 — 90 YEARS AGO

The twelfth Annual Congress was held in Thurles on May 25th.

Tubberdora won the Co. S.H. championship when they beat Horse and Jockey 3-7 to 1-4 in the final, which was played in Cashel.

The victorious team was: Mikey Maher (capt.), John Walsh, Denis Walsh, Ned Maher, John Maher, Bill Devane, Jim Flanagan, Thady Flanagan, Phil Scanlan, Ed Brennan, Jack Maher, E. D. Ryan, Watty Dunne, John Ryan, Tom Ryan, Phil Byrne, Paddy Doherty.

The town of Cashel hosted the County Convention.

Clonmel Shamrocks won the Co. S.F. title with a clear-cut victory over Kilcash. The Clonmel team were leading 0-2 to 0-1 at half-time. They scored a further 0-11 in the second half without reply from their opponents.

A third Munster S.H. title was captured by Mikey Maher and his men. Tipp and Cork drew at Dungarvan 3-0 to 2-3 for Cork. The Premier County had a far

easier game in the replay and won 1-13 to 1-2. Both games were delayed until late in 1899. The replay took place at Kilmallock.

The All-Ireland final was not played until 25th March, 1900, the venue was Jones Road, Dublin. Kilkenny were represented by Threecastles. The Leinster men were completely outclassed 7-13 to 3-10. This was Tipp's fourth All-Ireland victory. Tubberdora's Mikey Maher became the first man to captain three All-Ireland winning teams.

The 1898 All-Ireland S.F. final was played in Tipperary Town on April 8th, 1900. Dublin Geraldines 2-8, Erin's Hope of Waterford 0-4.

## 1908 — 80 YEARS AGO

Famous "Blues" captain Tom Semple was one of the Tipperary delegates who attended the Annual Congress at Thurles on February 23rd.

Later in the year he led Tipp to a seventh Munster crown. Waterford were crushed in the first game 7-16 to 0-5. At Fermoy, Cork were beaten 2-11 to 3-7 in the semi-final game. Kerry qualified for the final but gave a walk-over to the Premier hurlers.

The All-Ireland final was fixed for Jones's Road on 25th April, 1909. Dublin and Tipperary drew 2-5 to 1-8. The replay was fixed for Athy on June 27th, 1909. This time the Premier County made no mistake, and brought the championship home for the eighth time, on a score of Tipp 3-15, Dublin Kickhams 1-5.

**Tipperary:** Tom Semple (captain), T. Kerwick, J. Mockler, J. O'Brien, H. Shelly, A. Carew, J. Mooney, T. Kenna, P. Burke, P. Brolan, J. McLoughney, J. Burke, T. Gleeson, M. O'Dwyer, J. Fitzgerald, P. Fitzgerald, Martin O'Brien.

Leinster (Kilkenny) won the Railway Shield outright after beating Munster (Tipperary) in the final which was played in Kilkenny on July 19th. This was the second successive victory for Leinster in the competition. The final score was 0-14 to 2-5.

The Munster Council held its Annual Convention at Tipperary Town on February 16th.

Waterford footballers knocked Tipp



CONGRESS '87 — WEXFORD

Delegates representing Tipperary: Pat Cullen, Dick Fitzgerald, Mick Egan, Michael Lowry, Paddy Maher, Tommy Barrett, Mick Maguire.



out of the championship. The score was Waterford 0-13, Tipp 2-4.

## 1918 — 70 YEARS AGO

Rockwell College created their own piece of history by winning the inaugural Dr. Harty Cup final. The game was played at Thurles and Rockwell beat their Cork opponents 5-5 to 3-1. Jack Quinn of Rahealty was the captain.

Dinny Lanigan of Gortnahoe won a senior All-Ireland hurling medal with Limerick. The final was decided at Croke Park on January 26th, 1919. Limerick won in convincing fashion by 9-5 to 1-3 for Wexford.

Fethard won the Co. S.F. title by beating The Commons 2-2 to 1-2.

Legendary Tipperary hurler Tommy Doyle was born.

The sixth Munster S.F. title was won at the Cork Athletic Grounds on 22nd September. Kerry were ousted 1-1 to 0-1. The winning team was: L. O'Shea (capt.), E. Fahy, G. McCarthy, Tom Powell, R. Heffernan, D. Tobin, T. Quinlan, J. Shelly, W. Barrett, P. Butler, W. Ryan, W. Grant, A. Carroll, W. Maher, J. McNamara.

Tipperary dashed Cork's championship hopes at Thurles on June 2nd. The score was Tipp 7-3, Cork 6-1. In the semi-final game at Limerick the counties finished at 5-2 each. Limerick had one goal to spare in the replay at Cork in August (3-2 to 2-2).

## 1928 — 60 YEARS AGO

Clonmel High School won Corn Uí Mhuiri, the Munster Colleges S.F. trophy. Ballybacon/Grange hurling club was founded at a meeting in Goatenbridge Hall.

Mick Leahy of Boherlahan won a senior All-Ireland (H) medal with Cork. On September 9th Cork beat Dublin 6-12 to 1-0 at Croke Park.

Two Tipperary men were selected to hurl with Ireland in the Tailteann Games. They were Martin Kennedy and Phil Cahill.

Tipperary-born Sean Ryan was elected President of the Association. He represented his adopted county of Dublin in that office.

Munster defeated Leinster in a low-scoring Railway Cup final, 2-2 to 1-2. Five Tipp hurlers were on the winning team. They were: Phil Cahill, Martin Kennedy, John Joe Callanan, Phil Purcell and Mick Cronin.

The National Hurling League final was won by Tipp at the expense of Galway. Three points divided the teams, 1-5 to 1-2.

Kerry crashed out of the Munster S.F. championship at Tipperary Town on 8th July when Tipp had one point to spare, 1-7 to 2-3. Cork beat Tipp 4-3 to 0-4 in the Munster final.

The Munster J.H. title was won by the Premier County with a rather easy victory over Waterford, at Dungarvan, on 16th September. The visitors had



*Amhrán na bhFiann* - County Final day at Semple Stadium (left to right): John Cormack, Gerry Long, Archbishop Thomas Morris, Michael Lowry and John O'Neill.

twelve points in hand at the final whistle, 4-3 to 0-3.

## 1938 — 50 YEARS AGO

Jim Lanigan of Thurles Sarsfields led Munster to Railway Cup honours with a five-point victory, 6-2 to 4-3. Three other Tipp men were selected on the victorious team. They were: J. Coffey, D. O'Gorman and Wm. O'Donnell.

Included on the Dublin team that won the All-Ireland S.H. final were Phil Farrell, a native of Borrisoleigh, and Charlie Downes of Roscrea.

Tommy Doyle joined the Thurles Sarsfields club.

Fethard won the county S.F. championship with a ten-point victory over a West Selection, 2-8 to 1-1. The famous Gus McCarthy was captain.

Thurles Sarsfields won the county S.H. final with a splendid victory over Kildangan, 7-7 to 2-2.

This was the year of the famous "Cooney Case". It was alleged that Jimmy Cooney of U.C.D. and Tipperary broke the foreign games rule by attending a rugby international in Dublin on 12th February, 1938. He admitted the offence and was suspended automatically for three months. He declared for Tipperary but signed his form during his term of suspension.

He played for Tipp v. Clare in the championship, a game that Tipp won 3-10 to 2-3. Clare objected to Cooney. The Council upheld the objection. He was suspended for six months. Clare were awarded the game.

## 1948 — 40 YEARS AGO

Mick Cahill of Mullinahone won a Railway Cup (F) medal when Munster beat Ulster 4-5 to 2-6 in the final.

Rev. Phil Fogarty was Chairman of the Co. Board.

Jim Prior, a native of Borrisoleigh, played with Leinster in the Railway Cup. He also lined out with Dublin in the All-Ireland S.H. final which was won by Waterford.

Jim Devitt and Tommy Doyle won Railway Cup medals with Munster. Leinster were beaten 3-5 to 2-5 in the final.

Cork won the N.F.L. final by beating Tipp in the final, 3-3 to 1-2.

Holycross/Ballycahill took county S.H. honours with an easy win over Lorrha, 4-10 to 2-4. Francis Maher was the winning captain. This was the first senior title won by the Mid club.

Silvermines won the North intermediate (H) title.

Jim Williams, a legend in Tipperary football circles, won his fourth county S.F. medal. He was on two winning teams with Clonmel Shamrocks in 1934 and 1937. He won two more in the colours of Clonmel Commercials in 1944 and 1948.

## 1958 — 30 YEARS AGO

Munster had a narrow victory over Leinster in the Railway Cup final, 3-7 to 3-5. Wearing the Munster "Blue" were Jimmy Finn, Tony Wall and Jimmy Doyle. Mick Maher replaced Finn during the game.

Tipperary had a fifty-point victory over Kerry in a N.H.L. game which was played in Clonmel. L. Dooley scored 5-1 and Liam Connolly added 4-2 to a total of 15-14. Kerry replied with 2-3.

Seamus Ó Riain was elected to the Munster Council.

Thurles Sarsfields ousted Toomevara in the county S.H. final, 4-11 to 3-3.

The Munster S.H. title was won for the first time since 1951.



A first round game at the Cork Athletic Grounds on June 1st saw Limerick's championship hopes dashed when Tipp won by double scores, 2-10 to 1-5. Cork were edged out in the semi-final at Limerick 2-6 to 2-4. Defending champions Waterford were outclassed in the Thurles final. This game was decided on 6th July with the home county winning 4-12 to 1-5.

Leinster champions Kilkenny were dismissed in the All-Ireland semi-final 1-13 to 1-8.

On September 7th, at Croke Park, Galway were well beaten, 4-9 to 2-5.

Tipp All-Ireland winners: John O'Grady, Michael Byrne, Michael Maher, Kieran Carey, Jimmy Finn, Tony Wall, John Doyle, John Hough, Theo English, Donie Nealon, Tom Larkin, Jimmy Doyle, Larry Keane, Liam Devaney, Liam Connolly.

Jimmy Doyle scored a total of 2-23 in the championship.

Tipperary captain Tony Wall was selected as "Hurler of the Year". He was presented with the Texaco Trophy in the inaugural year of the award.

Jimmy Finn and Liam Devaney were selected on the Rest of Ireland team.

## 1968 — 20 YEARS AGO

Mick Frawley of Emly was elected to the Munster Council.

North Tipperary had a very convincing win over Antrim in the All-Ireland Vocational Schools (H) final, 7-15 to 4-2.

Leinster defeated Munster 0-11 to 0-5 in the Railway Cup (F) semi-final game. Gus Danagher, Michael Keating and Paddy O'Connell were included in the panel.

Cork won the Oireachtas final which was played in Thurles on 27th October.

They were level with Tipp, 0-4 each, at half-time. When Offaly referee John Dowling blew the final whistle Cork were ahead 1-9 to 1-6.

Five Tipp men gained Railway Cup (H) medals when Munster won the cup in their 0-14 to 0-10 defeat of Leinster. They were Noel O'Gorman, Len Gaynor, Mick Roche, Michael Keating and Donie Nealon.

The Munster S.H. championship was won by Tipp for the second successive year. Old rivals Cork were ousted by nine points at Limerick on 21st July. The final score was Tipperary 2-13, Cork 1-7.

Wexford won the All-Ireland 5-8 to 3-12 for Tipp.

The N.H.L. "Home Final" was won when Kilkenny were beaten 3-9 to 1-13. In the final New York were defeated on aggregate 6-27 to 4-22 in a two-leg series.

Kilsheelan won the county S.F. championship with a 1-11 to 2-7 victory over clear favourites Ardfinnan.

**Kilsheelan:** J. Dempsey, J. Driscoll, J. O'Halloran, F. Coffey, M. Morrissey, M. O'Gorman, R. O'Gorman, J. Moriarty, D. Fitzpatrick, L. Larkin, D. Strang, S. Nugent, C. Robinson, W. Robinson, P. Halloran.

Roscrea won the county S.H. championship for the first time when Thurles Sarsfields were defeated 2-13 to 3-4. John Dillon became the first Roscrea man to bring the Dan Breen Cup to the North Tipp town.

## 1978 — 10 YEARS AGO

Tadhg O'Connor, Jim Kehoe and Tommy Butler all won Railway Cup medals when Munster defeated Connacht 0-20 to 1-11 in the hurling decider.

Gene McGrath of Clonmel

Commercials wore the No. 8 jersey when Munster beat Ulster 4-12 to 0-19 in a replayed football final. The first game ended 2-7 each.

Newport won the Munster Vocational Schools (H) final.

North Tipperary and Kilkenny played a 1-7 all draw in the All-Ireland Vocational Schools (H) final. The Tipp boys took the honours in the replay 8-11 to 8-9.

The Munster U-21 (H) final between Cork and Tipp ended in a draw at Thurles. Tipp scored 3-13 to 4-10 for Cork. Tipp had four points to spare in the replay at Cork, 3-8 to 2-9.

Galway won the championship in a replayed final, 3-15 to 2-8. The drawn game ended 3-5 for Galway and 2-8 for Tipperary.

Tommy Butler of Drom-Inch was selected at No. 15 on the Carrolls All-Star (H) team.

Templemore C.B.S. had a fantastic year when they won the Harty and All-Ireland Colleges (H) titles. St. Flannan's, the famed Ennis school, were dethroned in the Munster final at Emly, 3-5 to 2-6.

The All-Ireland final was decided at Nowlan Park, Kilkenny, on May 7th, with St. Peter's of Wexford as opponents. Templemore recorded their most famous victory, 2-10 to 1-4.

The All-Ireland team was: Pat Hassett, Martin Bourke, Peter Brennan, Dick Stapleton, Pat Cormack, Mick Ryan (Borrisoleigh), Jim Maher, Pat McGrath, Mick Ryan (Clonmore), Brendan Russell, Pat Treacy, Noel Fogarty, Joe Bourke, Eamonn Cody, Bobby Ryan.

Martin Bourke was the historic captain.

In addition to the above cups, the following trophies were also won in a glorious year: Canon Fitzgerald Cup (U-17 Tipp championship), Croke Cup (U-16 Tipp championship), Rice Cup (Munster U-14 championship).



**SEAN TREACYS SILVER JUBILEE 1962-1987**

Group at the centenary rooms in the Ragg (l. to r.): Dan Kennedy, Chairman 1962; J. Ryan, Secretary 1962; P. Stapleton (representing his father, Treasurer 1962); M. Caplis, Chairman 1987; Mary Griffin, Club P.R.O. in the Sixties; Mary Ryan, Secretary 1987; T. J. Caplis, Treasurer 1987.



# Tipperary Handball 1987

By ALBERT CARRIE

**1987** will surely rank as the year that might have been in Tipperary handball, losing no less than seven All-Ireland finals. Still the strength and depth of our talent in Tipp. can be gauged from the fact that having lost so many deciders, we still managed to win no less than six National Titles. Martin McInerney of Ballina won the U-16 singles 40 x 20 title adding to his already impressive tally. Martin's brother Tony who teamed up with Denis White of Cashel, failed narrowly to capture the U-13's DOoubles 60 x 30.

Interesting to note here that both the previous players' brothers also played together in 1985, and won the U-14 60 x 30 title. Michael Carrie and Noel Marshall of Cashel, had an easy win in the Munster Final of the 40 x 20, but were beaten decisively in the All-Ireland semi-final by Mayo. Both those players also won the Munster 60 x 30 U-14 decider, the manner in which they won led us to believe they would take All-Ireland honours. Alas, it was not to be, as they bowed out after playing badly in the semi-final.

David Moloney and Michael Carrie of Cashel won the U-14½ College's final in great style keeping up a great tradition in this event. Both players were accorded a Civic Reception by the members of the Cashel U.D.C. Also at college level, Martin McInerney and Willie O'Dowd from Ballina, won the U-18 title. Winning college titles is extremely hard, and one has only to look at previous winners, such as Duxie Walsh, F. McCann, John O'Donoghue etc., etc.

Tipperary players got back on the winning trail, when David Moloney and Noel Murphy of Cashel took the U-15 Doubles 60 x 30 title. In winning this event both those players, coming from that bastion of juvenile handball, Cashel, maintained this Club's prestige, as one of the best in Ireland. John O'Donoghue and Billy McCarthy of Clonmel won Munster Junior 60 x 30 doubles, and seemed all set to enter the Senior ranks, but Meath had other ideas, and so the lads' hopes were dashed for

another day. Billy McCarthy will surely be the unluckiest loser of 1987. He played great ball to reach the Junior Singles final. His opponent was E. Jensen of Meath. Jensen wins the first game. McCarthy fights back to win the second. The players take the usual break and then Jensen fails to return to the court, stating the alley was too wet from condensation to continue the match.

All events are called off, and the following week the games are resumed at the same venue with the score standing at a game apiece. Jensen gets off to a great start, but McCarthy comes back at him. But the exertions of pulling back such a lead proved too much, and so Tipp. had lost yet another decider. Jocie O'Dwyer of Cashel was Tipp's representative in the Minor Singles 60 x 30. One of the most colourful characters in the game he cruised through Munster, won his All-Ireland semi-final in Sligo beating a Roscommon player. His opponent in the All-Ireland final was P. McAuley of Louth. McAuley world champ, and a household name in Handball circles.

Jocie cared little for his opponent's reputation, and tore into him from the start, playing the handball of his life. He completely outclassed McAuley, and thrilled the packed Croke Park Gallery, with his skill. Sad to say lack of fitness was his downfall, and he lost a title that I am sure he will regret to his dying day.

Eddie Corbett of Ballyporeen one of the most consistent players on the scene, also one of the hardest working administrators, won the 40 x 20 U-21 Singles title. This was Eddie's only title of 1987. He teamed up with Paul Marshall of Cashel in the 60 x 30. They were beaten in the final by Kilkenny. Eddie's tale of woe was to continue as he also lost the final of the U-21 60 x 30 singles again to Kilkenny.

Martin McInerney of Ballina, after a very busy year, showed that he had gone off the boil, when he was beaten in the U-16 60 x 30 final. The Cashel Novice Team of four won the Munster Title, then went on to beat Connaught Champions Roscommon, in the All-Ireland

semi-final. Our opponents for the final were Ballyudigen of Wexford, and they proved too good for the Tipp. lads in the final. Playing for Cashel were Willie O'Dwyer, Paddy Hoare, Dan Carrie, Jimmie O'Neill, and super sub. Michael Murphy. Musha Maher of Clonmel and Matt Gayson represented Tipp. in the over-45's. They won the Munster final, and lost the All-Ireland semi. This was a game that should have been won, but things went very wrong for them after skating up in the first game.

On the administration end, the highlight of the year for Tipp. people was the coming to Office of the President Elect, Michael Tyrell. What can one say of this man? His name is synonymous with all that is good for the game. He can be seen at the smallest game, and is a great favourite among the juvenile members, as he always seems to have a ball or two to give away.

The Office of President is a demanding one. We in Tipp. know Mick is equal to the challenge, and we can be assured that when his term is over, the game will have been better for having him. We take this opportunity of wishing Mick every success, and the best way of assuring this is that every Club would row in behind him, and that everyone's assistance will be forthcoming at all times.

The National Community Games Finals were again held in Gormanstown College, Co. Meath. The Cashel Club were again the standard bearers for Tipperary in both boys' and girls' events. The U-15 Boys won the gold medals, after a very tough campaign.

The team was as follows: Noel Marshall, Noel Murphy, Timmie Moloney, Michael

Carrie, John O'Dwyer and Denis White.

The Girls U-15 had to settle for silver, but lost nothing in defeat. Playing for Cashel were Anna Maria Carrie, Carol Dunne, Joan O'Dwyer, Jacqueline Keating, Carol Moloney and Sandra Hourigan.



Mick Tyrell (Clonmel), President of the Handball Association of Ireland.



Martin McInerney, winner of Under-16 40 x 20.



Eddie Corbett of Ballyporeen, winner of the U-21 40 x 20 Singles.



Denis Whyte and Tony McInerney, runners-up U-13 All-Ireland Championship.



David Moloney and Noel Murphy, winners of the U-15 60 x 30.



# North Tipperary Handball Board

**O**NCE again the Board has had a successful year. Our many competitive championships were completed on schedule and congratulations go to the North Tipp players who won Divisional, County, Munster and All-Ireland titles, and to our club officers who keep the show on the road.

To commence the 1988 season we have held a successful course under the tutorship of Seán Lee and which covered all aspects of the skills of the game and refereeing.

The North Tipperary G.A.A. supplies the necessary finance towards our upkeep and to Noel Morris, Paddy Maher, Michael Nolan and company we give thanks. Perhaps Mid-Tipp Board might follow their example in 1988.

## Championship winners 1987

### 60 x 30 ALLEY

**Collins Shield: (Silvermines):** Michael O'Brien, Martin Kennedy, Jim O'Brien, P. J. Kennedy, Maurice Duffy, John Sherlock.

**Shamrock Trophy: (Thurles):** Matt O'Dwyer, Pat O'Dwyer, Ger Ely, Pat Maher, Jimmy Curry, Dan Shaw.

**Open team of six: (Youghalarra):**

Tony Flaherty, Pat Flaherty, Gary Howard, Paul Griffin, Pat Griffin, Christy Griffin.

**Junior Singles: (Horse & Jockey):** Timmy Regan.

**Junior Doubles: (Horse & Jockey):** John Ryan and John O'Dwyer.

**Novice Singles: (Ballina)** Connie Collins.

**Novice Doubles: (Thurles)** Willie Kelly and Phil Lowry.

**Masters' Singles: (Ballina)** Mick Fitzpatrick.

**Masters' Doubles: (Silvermines)** Michael O'Brien and Tom Kennedy.

**Golden Masters' Singles: (Silvermines)** Jim O'Brien.

**Golden Masters' Doubles: (Ballina)** Con Lynch and Jim Darcy.

**Open Singles: (Lahorna)** Martin Maher.

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

**Under-10 Singles: (Silvermines)** Brian O'Brien.

**Under-10 Doubles: (Newport)** Derek O'Neill, Kenneth O'Brien.

**Under-12 Singles: (Ballina)** Dessie Nevin.

**Under-12 Doubles: (Newport)** John O'Mahony, Kenneth O'Neill.

**Under-14 Singles: (Horse &**

**Jockey)** Liam McGrath.

**Under-14 Doubles (Ballina)** Tony McInerney, Michael Carey.

**Under-16 Singles: (Ballina)** Martin McInerney.

**Under-16 Doubles: (Ballina)** Seán McCarthy, David Darcy.

### 40 x 20 ALLEY

**Division I: (Youghalarra)** Pat Griffin, Paul Griffin, Gary Howard, Tony Flaherty.

**Division 2: (Silvermines)** Michael O'Brien, Andy Purcell, James Kennedy, Martin Kennedy.

**Division 2: (Silvermines)** P. J. Kennedy, Jim Corcoran, John O'Brien and Ger Gleeson.

**U-11 Singles: (Newport)** Cyril O'Neill.

**U-11 Doubles: (Newport)** Michael Moylan, Paul Whelan.

**U-13 Singles: (Youghalarra)** Liam McGrath.

**U-13 Doubles: (Silvermines)** Finbarr Ryan, Joseph Ryan.

**U-15 Singles: (Youghalarra)** Kevin Cooney.

**U-15 Doubles: (Silvermines)** John Kennedy, John Kennedy.



THEY ATTENDED THE COACHING COURSE IN DUALLA ALLEY  
SPONSORED BY N. TIPP HANDBALL BOARD

Back: Jim O'Brien (Silvermines), Tony McInerney (Ballina), Andy Purcell (Silvermines), Martin Maher (Lahorna), Willie Kelly (Thurles), Benny Brophy (Thurles), Paul Griffin (Youghalarra), John Gleeson (Ballina). Front: Dermot O'Flaherty (Youghalarra), Gerry Carey (Thurles), John McQuaid (Roscrea), Pat McKenna (Chairman), Seán Lee (Coach), Johnny Carmody (Lahorna), Pat Flaherty (Youghalarra).





#### TIPPERARY ALL-IRELAND CHAMPIONS 1962

Back row: Tom Ryan, Matt O'Gara, Ronnie Slevin, John Doyle, Tom Moloughney, Michael Maher, Kieran Carey, Tom Ryan, R.I.P., Liam Connolly, Matt Hassett, Michael Murphy. Front row: Mick Burns, Liam Devanney, Donal O'Brien, John McKenna, Theo English, Donie Nealon, Jimmy Doyle, Seán McLoughlin, Roger Mounsey, Christy Hartigan, Tony Wall.

## Tipperary Champions 1962

5

Now down the years we've had fine teams who brought us great  
renown,  
The Greyhounds, Blues and Boherlahan, DeWetts from Nenagh  
town,  
Moycarkey, Jockey, Holycross won many a gruelling test,  
But our men in blue in '62 now rank amongst the best.

**By Bill O'Keefe**

1.

Well done Tipperary's hurling men, you filled our hearts with pride  
Hats off to Wexford's stalwart sons, stout men from Slaneyside  
Your speed and skill brought many a thrill,  
As the battle raged full blast  
But our boys in blue in '62 showed courage to the last.

2.

We cheered O'Brien's daring saves, and Maher's pull and dash,  
Kieran Carey and the fearless Doyle, broke through in many  
a clash  
A hero tall, stood Tony Wall, with O'Gara by his side.  
And Mick Burn's long and raking pucks rolled back the Wexford  
tide.

3.

Theo English and Devanney played their best when things were  
worst,  
McKenna of the flying feet made many a daring thrust  
Tom Ryan's goal was brilliant and McLoughlin tough and quick  
While Nealon chased the rolling ball and glued it to his stick.

4.

The captain Jimmy Doyle took scores with grace and skill and  
ease  
And Tom Moloughney roamed about for any chance to seize.  
The subs Tom Ryan and Connolly, did well for their short while,  
And showed that they are moulded in the real Tipperary style.

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# West Tipp Scór '87

## SCÓR Sinsir

Rince Fóirne: Ceapach na Bhfaditeach

Aithriseoireacht: Ceapach na Bhfaoiteach  
Eileen Heffernan  
(County also)

Amhránaíocht Aonair: Fanaíthe Gleann Árann  
Carol O'Dwyer

Nuachleas: Ceapach na Bhfaoiteach

Trath na gCeist: Cumann Sheain  
Uí Threasaigh  
(County also)

Ceol Uilise: Cumann Sheain Uí Threasaigh

Bailéad Ghrupa: Fanaíthe Gleann Árann  
(County)

Rince Seit: Cluain Ultaigh/Rosmor

## SCÓR na nÓg

Fanaíthe Gleann Árann

Laitean/Cuileann  
Aine Landers

Ceapach na Bhfaditeach  
Marie McCarthy

Fanaíthe Gleann Árann

Cluain Ultaigh/Rosmór

Cumann Sheáin Uí Threasaigh  
County & Munster

Laitean/Cuileann

Cumann Sheain Uí Threasaigh



SCÓR '87

Eileen Heffernan, West & County Recitation - Winner



SCÓR - WEST COUNTY CHAMPIONS

Séan Treacy's - Question Time team: l. to r. - Ramie Shanahan, Moira O'Dwyer and Tom Berkery.

# Thurles Handball Club '87

**T**HE year 1987 was a reasonably satisfactory one for Thurles Handball Club, many competitions were held viz:

The Noel Feehan Memorial Trophy which is confined entirely to youth. Thirty six young boys competed which augurs well for the Development of the game. Further in this age group the committee are arranging coaching lessons, information on these can be had from any member of the committee.

Also players took part in the following competitions, Shamrock Trophy, North Tipperary Masters' Singles; Munster Novice Inter-Co.; Masters' Handball Tournament; Golden Masters' Singles and the year closed with the Carew Trophy which competition drew many inter-county players. At all times the standard of playing was really superb and from a spectator viewing was most entertaining, in passing many more spectators would be most welcome.

A comment on handball in



1987

Presentation of Carew Trophy by Michael Carew to Michael Walsh and E. Downey. Left: Margaret Carew, Gerard Carew, Michael Walsh, Michael Carew, Eugene Downey.

Photo: M. Kiely

general would be worth thinking on — which is that handball can be played by the young and can also be played by all well into their late years. In short it is a great keep-fit game. This form of attaining fitness can be availed of in Thurles handball court on every week night.

The committee take this opportunity to sincerely thank all patrons, players and everybody who helped the committee throughout the year, and to assure all that helping the game shall be a most rewarding effort.

Please support the development of handball. Thank you.

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# SOUTH TIPPERARY REVIEW



**CLONMEL COMMERCIALS — SOUTH SENIOR FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS 1987**

**Back row** (left to right): G. Condon, D. O'Shea, C. McGrath, G. McGrath, B. Keane, T. Kelly, F. Kelly, S. O'Keeffe, M. Boland, D. Hickey, M. Freiberg, A. Wall, G. Deeley. **Front row** (left to right): H. Daly, M. Lynch, P. Kilkenny, P. Ryan, M. O'Connell, J. McNamara (capt.), S. O'Neill, W. Peters, T. Gleeson, D. O'Keeffe.

**H**ONOURS were equally divided in South Tipperary in 1987 with twelve clubs sharing the fourteen championships. St. Mary's scored a double in under-21 and minor hurling whilst the winners of the under-21 F.C. to be contested between Slievenamon and Fethard will also record a double success as each has been successful in minor grade.

Approximately 240 games were played under the jurisdiction of the South Board and among the year's highlights were Ballingarry's Centenary success in senior hurling, Commercial's successful retention of the senior football crown, Cahir's overdue intermediate hurling triumph, Ballyneale's bridging of a 39-year gap in junior hurling and Carrick Swan's first ever minor football success.

## SENIOR HURLING

This championship attracted an entry of six teams and was run off on a knock-out basis with the three first-round losers playing off for a semi-final place. Ballingarry proved the lucky ones and they joined Swan, St. Mary's and Killenaule in the last four. They were paired in that order for an attractive double bill staged in Fethard.

Pre-championship favourites St. Mary's suffered an unexpected narrowest of margins' defeat at the hands of Killenaule, whose oft-criticised attack found yawning gaps in the Clonmel defence to notch five goals. Ballingarry proved most impressive in ousting champions Swan by a wide margin and the stage was set for a tremendous decider.

Fethard was again the venue and although weather conditions were far from pleasant a fine crowd paid record gate receipts. Ballingarry rose to the occasion in style and there was no denying the merit of their popular success in their Centenary year. They proved the



by  
Michael O'Meara  
South Board  
Secretary

better balanced and sharper side on the day and hard though Killenaule tried they could not repeat their semi-final scoring feats.

Ballingarry's success was very much a team effort but the displays of men like Willie Hayes, Dan Shelley, Seamus Butler, the Lyons brothers and Michael Sparrow deserve special mention.

## SENIOR FOOTBALL

This championship was run once again on a two-group league system with the top two in each group advancing to the semi-finals. Commercial's and Moyle Rovers qualified from Group A but three teams, Fethard, Fr. Sheehys and Knocknagow ended all square in Group B and after a series of play-offs Knocknagow (Mullinahone-St. Patrick's) were eliminated.

In the semi-finals champions Commercial's struggled to account for Moyle Rovers whilst Fethard showed much improved form to overwhelm Fr. Sheehys.

The final, which was played in Cahir, produced a high standard of football with Commercial's managing to contain the gallant efforts of a young Fethard side that gave much hope for the future.

Commercial's, ably led by captain Joe McNamara, had other stalwarts in Franny Kelly, Billy Peters, Donal O'Keeffe and Gene McGrath.

## INTERMEDIATE HURLING

Cahir, starved of success in recent years, proved undisputed champions in a competition run on a knock-out basis. Having disposed of Ballybacon-Grange in the semi-final, Cahir faced a fancied Kilsheelan in what appeared a most attractive final. Kilsheelan, however, proved no match for a rampant Cahir who gave a first class display of power hurling and won most impressively.

Richie Quirke, Joe Barrett, Tom Doolin and Martin Moloney were among the heroes in an overdue success.

## INTERMEDIATE FOOTBALL

Run on a league basis, this championship is considered one of the hardest to win and Newcastle did well to retain their crown and thereby graduate to senior ranks. They had to go to a replay to see off the strong challenge of Grangemockler before going on to face surprise packets Ballingarry in the final.

Ballingarry, seeking a notable double, put up a brave display but in the end had to give best to a better balanced side on which Andrew Healy, Michael Coonan, Michael Hallinan and Tom Lonergan stood out.

## JUNIOR HURLING

Ballyneale, last successful in 1948, took the junior hurling crown amid scenes of great excitement. The team had been knocking at the door for years and no one begrudged them their success, least of all their sporting final opponents, Skeheenarinka.

Ballyneale, who ousted holders Ballingarry in a tempestuous semi-final,



owed much to the wholehearted efforts of players like captain Eddie McGuire, Timmy Bolger, Al Murray, Walter Crowley, Jim and Johnson Lyons, all of whom had given tremendous service to the club down the years.

### JUNIOR FOOTBALL

Ballyporeen and St. Patrick's contested the final for the third successive year and Ballyporeen made it 2-1 in their own private battle by dethroning the champions in a decider played in desperate weather conditions.

Despite a brave show by the men from Drangan/Cloneen, Ballyporeen, semi-final conquerors of Fr. Sheehys, emerged impressive winners. On the day they had outstanding players like Tom Macken, the Maher brothers, Eamonn O'Callaghan, the Lyons and the Fitzgeralds.

### UNDER-21 HURLING

St. Mary's retained their crown by defeating Carrick Swans in one of the best finals of the year. The Clonmel side were firm favourites but a gallant Carrick fifteen pressed them hard all the way and only gave best in the closing minutes.

Jimmy Harvey, Declan Ryan, Michael O'Reilly and Ger Deeley gave outstanding displays for the winners.

### UNDER-21 FOOTBALL

This competition is at the final stage with much interest centring on the meeting of holders, Slievenamon, and Fethard. Fethard had a narrow win over Commercial in one semi-final whilst Slievenamon had to pull out all the stops to contain the fine challenge of a promising Ballingarry/St. Patrick's fifteen in the other.

### U-21 HURLING 'B'

Although only three teams contested this championship, a number of outstanding games were served up, especially in the drawn final and replay.

Kilsheelan were the non-qualifiers after the league stages, leaving Fethard and Killenaule to do battle in the decider.

Fethard enjoyed a clear interval lead but a fine Killenaule rally yielded a deserved draw amid great excitement. The replay proved a gripping affair with both defences well on top. In the end, Killenaule became the first holders of the Sureprint Trophy by the narrowest of margins on an unbelievably low scoreline: 0-4 to 0-3. Tony Sweeney, Michael Brennan, the O'Grady's and Martin Fanning shaped as fine prospects on the winning side.



#### CAHIR — SOUTH INTERMEDIATE HURLING CHAMPIONS 1987

**Back row** (left to right): G. Tarrant, Jim Casey, P. Costello, J. Costello, T. Sullivan, Donal Casey, R. Quirke, S. Quirke, A. Moloney, M. Moloney, J. Quirke, T. Quirke, P. Kiely, M. Kelly, M. Burke, J. O'Donnell. **Front row** (left to right): J. Doolan, L. Keating, J. Barrett, P. O'Brien, T. O'Donnell (capt.), J. O'Leary, W. Barrett, J. Costigan, P. Quirke, D. Casey, M. Quinn, J. Costigan.



#### THE KILLENAULE SIDE — DEFEATED BY LOUGHMORE-CASTLEINEY IN THE SENIOR HURLING QUARTER-FINAL

**Back row** (left to right): Tom Shanahan, Michael Bulfin, Michael Brennan, Michael Hassett, Tom Shelley, Davy Ahearne, Martin Shanahan, Derrick Healy, Donie O'Connell, Bill Martin (trainer). **Front row** (left to right): Joe O'Dwyer, Pat Shelley, Mossy Mullins, Michael Gleeson, Donie McGettigan, Willie Gleeson, Christy Healy, Pat Cleary.



## U-21 FOOTBALL 'B'

Ardfinnan, for many years in the wilderness, enjoyed a welcome success in the newly inaugurated under-21 football championship. They had to work hard for their success, however, as after an impressive semi-final win over Davins, they barely contained a great second half rally from Killenaule who had looked well beaten at half-time in an entertaining final — the first ever played at Moyle Rovers' splendid new grounds at Monroe.

Ardfinnan were without the services of county star Gerry Ryan and owed much to leading scorer Joe Lambert.

## MINOR HURLING

St. Mary's again brought off the minor and under-21 hurling double. In the minor they had to fight extremely hard to contain Ballingarry/St. Patrick's who proved gallant in defeat. The Clonmel side proved worthy champions, however, after a fine game in which goalie John Harvey saved them from defeat with a

series of great saves that capped a superb display.

## MINOR HURLING 'B'

This proved a very good championship and the final between Fethard and Mullinahone at Clonkeen provided one of the games of the year. In the end a draw proved an equitable result.

Fethard stepped up a gear in the replay to emerge worthy champions but Mullinahone's young side lost nothing in defeat and are surely a team of the future.

Fethard had fine young players in Thomas McCarthy, Liam Ryan, Eoin Cummins, Kevin Burke and Shay Ryan.

## MINOR FOOTBALL

Fethard, Ballingarry/St. Patrick's, Slievenamon and Brian Borus qualified for the semi-finals and were drawn in that order. Fethard had not too much difficulty in accounting for their opponents but Slievenamon had a battle royal with Brian Borus at Cahir before

advancing by virtue of a late rally when all seemed lost.

Much was expected of the final but Fethard had a real off-day and Slievenamon in rampant form went on to a most impressive success with players like Michael Browne, Michael and John McGrath, Paul O'Connor and Tommy Hewitt looking most impressive.

## MINOR FOOTBALL 'B'

History was made in this competition when famed Carrick Swans won a minor football decider for the first time in the history of the club.

Cahir were their final opponents in Clonmel and although they fought bravely once Swan found their shooting boots they went on to record a clear-cut success.

Eoin Cooney was Swan's most impressive performer on a team that went on to comprehensively defeat North champions Sean Treacy's in the county semi-final.



**ST. MARY'S — SOUTH U-21 HURLING CHAMPIONS 1987**

**Front row** (left to right): Robbie Hogan, Willie McGarry, Jimmy Quinn, John Dunphy, Liam Ó Duibhir, Jimmy Ryan, George Burke, Michael Peters, Barry Condon, John Harvey. **Back row** (left to right): Jeff Allen, D. J. O'Connell, John McCarthy, Michael Reilly, David Hickey, Padraig Kavanagh, Declan Ryan, Ger Deeley, Jim Harding, Philly Ryan, Derek Doyle, Dick Ryan, Anthony Wall.



**THE BALLYPOREEN TEAM WHO WON THE SOUTH JUNIOR FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP 1987**

**Back row** (left to right): John Geary, Morgan Lyons, Richard Vaughan, Ger Mackin, Tom Mackin, Eamonn Maher, Mick Sweeney, Eamonn Callaghan, John Hyland, Billie Mackin, Seamus Lyons, Tom Sweeney, Danny Fitzgerald. **Front row** (left to right): John Maher, John McDonnell, P. J. Fitzgerald, Donie Cahill, Michael Geary, Donie Lyons (capt.), Johnny Carroll, Tom Flannery, Thomas Maher, Pat Mackin.



**SWAN — SOUTH MINOR 'B' FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS**

South champions, Swan, who beat Kildangan at Holycross on Saturday in the county semi-final.



# South Tipperary Bórd na nÓg

By PATSY O'HALLORAN

**F**OR the first time in many years we managed to have all our Championships completed by mid October. To complete a programme of 246 games between April and October is by any standards a fair achievement and great credit is due to everyone. I would like to thank the Officers, Fixture Committee, Clubs and, in particular, the players for making this possible.

As far as winning County titles were concerned, we had a rather lean year as only two came to the Division with Commercials taking the U-12 football and Killenaule giving hurling a much needed boost in the division by winning the U-14 Rural Hurling. Details of the various competitions are listed hereunder.

## How we fared in County

### U-12 Football (A)

Commercials beat Aherlow in semi-final and went on to retain the title by beating Durlas Óg in the final.

### U-12 Hurling (A)

St. Mary's were beaten by Toomevara in semi-final.

### U-14 Rural Football

Ardfinnan were beaten by Aherlow in semi-final.

### U-14 Rural Hurling

Killenaule beat Knockavilla Kickhams in semi-final and went on to that historic win by defeating Toomevara in the final.

### U-14 Urban Rural Football

Swan beat Nenagh in semi-final but lost the final to Arravale Rovers.

### U-14 Urban Rural Hurling

Swan were beaten by Holycross in semi-final.

## Present Fixture Committee

(Along with Officers)

Nicholas Moroney  
Jimmy Quinn  
Michael Lonergan  
Larry Fitzgerald  
Bernard Mullins

St. Patrick's  
St. Mary's  
Ardfinnan  
Ballylooby  
Davins

### U-16 Football (A)

Commercials defeated by Arravale Rovers in semi-final.

### U-16 Hurling (A)

St. Mary's were beaten by Durlas Óg in semi-final.

### U-16 Hurling Coisde Iomána

The Divisional U-16 Hurling team put up a rather dismal performance against Imokilly in Fermoy. A better approach to

preparing our teams for this competition is required.

## Outstanding Performer

Tony Shelly from Killenaule proved himself to be one of the best hurling prospects to come on the scene for quite some time. He may in the future have some notable achievements but 1987 was a year he will remember with pride.

He was Killenaule's best player in their match to the County U-14 hurling title, South Poc Fada and Hurling Skills winner, County Skills winner, doing exceptionally well in the Féile na nGael competition in Ennis; was selected on the County U-14 hurling team that won the Waterford Glass Inter County Tournament and was voted player of that particular tournament. He is without question a great prospect.

### Grade

#### U-12 Football (A)

#### U-12 Football (B)

#### U-12 Football (C)

#### U-12 Hurling (A)

#### U-12 Hurling (B)

#### U-12 Hurling (C)

#### U-14 R/Football

#### U-14 R/Hurling

#### U-14 U/R Football

#### U-14 U/R Hurling

#### U-16 Football (A)

#### U-16 Football (B)

#### U-16 Football (C)

#### U-16 Hurling (A)

#### U-16 Hurling (B)

#### U-16 Hurling (C)

### Winners

Commercials (A)

Mullinahone

Clonmel (B)

St. Mary's (A)

Cahir

Mullinahone

Ardfinnan

Killenaule

Swan

Swan

Commercials

Fr. Sheehy's

Grangemockler

St. Mary's

Killenaule

Cahir

### Teams

#### Runners-up

Fr. Sheehy's

Killenaule

Ballyporeen

Killenaule

Fr. Sheehy's

Clonmel (B)

Fethard

Ballybacon/Grange

Fethard

Ballybacon/Grange

Clonmel

Cahir

Killenaule

Swan

Mullinahone

Skeheenarinky

### Entd.

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**GRANGEMOCKLER — WINNERS OF SOUTH TIPP. U-16 'C' FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP**

**Back Row** (l. to r.): Al Murray (Selector), Brian Cahill, John O'Meara, Seamus Flynn, Mark Comerford, Kieran McGuire, Michael Cuddihy, P. J. Arrigan, Noel Blanchfield, Conor Arrigan, Ned McGuire (Trainer). **Front Row** (l. to r.): P. J. Lanigan, Pat Brunnock, Mark Cahill, John Brunnock, Larry Delaney, Edward Shelly, Thomas Flynn, Liam Walsh, Jim O'Shea.



## Scór na nÓg

Winners of Finals held in G.A.A. Centre, Clonmel, on 14th December, '86:  
*Céili Dancing:* St. Mary's.  
*Recitation:* Fr. Sheehy's - Breda Quinlan.  
*Solo Singing:* Kilsheelan - Maeve Stokes.  
*Novelty Act:* Marlfield.  
*Question Time:* Cahir (P.J. O'Meara, Rosín Fitzgerald, David O'Meara).  
*Instrumental Music:* Fr. Sheehy's.  
*Group Singing:* Ballybecon/Grange.  
*Set Dancing:* Newcastle.

## Chairman's Remarks

Looking back on the year just ended on the playing fields of the Division, we were treated with some memorable games of high standard. Since grading was introduced two years ago on a trial basis, it has given a chance to the Rural club to achieve something that was never possible through the old system.

Clubs such as St. Patrick's, Mullinahone and Killenaule making great strides and this year Grangemockler winning their first championship for a good many years. It is true that the prominent clubs such as Commercials, St. Mary's, Swan and Fethard are still to the fore with Clonmel Óg making a welcome appearance.

I would like to thank all the clubs and their officials for their co-operation during the year and in the running of our Draw which was such a success; to our hard-working secretary Patsy O'Halloran and all my fellow officers. Rath Dé ar on obair.

**Pádraig de Náglá**  
 Cathaoirleach



Jack Murphy (Hurler of the Past Award) and Gerry Walsh (Hurler of the Year) pictured after receiving their awards at South Board Social. The Awards were presented by Mr. Brendan Long, Editor Nationalist Newspaper.

## Present Officers of the Board

**Chairman:**  
**Vice-Chairman:**  
**Vice-Chairman:**  
**Secretary/Treasurer:**  
**County Board Rep. (Rural):**  
**County Board Rep. (UR/Rural):**  
**South Board Rep.:**

Paddy Nagle  
 Jim Lynch  
 Richie Sheehan  
 Patsy O'Halloran  
 Richie Sheehan  
 Paddy Forristal  
 Jimmy McCarthy

Swan  
 Cahir  
 Mullinahone  
 Kilsheelan  
 St. Mary's  
 Moyle Rovers



**SOUTH TIPPERARY BOARD PRESENTATION 1975**

Left to right: Ned O'Shea, Paddy Browne, Phil O'Shea (R.I.P.), Jimmy Collins, Eddie Maher.



## South Finals 1987

S.H.C.: **At Fethard** — Ballingarry 2-11; Killenaule 2-3. Referee: J. Keane.

S.F.C.: **At Cahir** — Commercials 0-11; Fethard 0-10. Referee: W. Barrett.

I.H.C.: **At Clonmel** — Cahir 2-10; Kilsheelan 0-2. Referee: B. Carroll.

I.F.C.: **At Clonmel** — Newcastle 2-5; Ballingarry 0-6. Referee: T. Keating.

J.H.C.: **At Clonmel** — Ballyneale 2-8; Skeheenarinka 1-4. Referee: J. Lonergan.

J.F.C.: **At Clonmel** — Ballyporeen 1-8; St. Patrick's 1-4. Referee: B. Carroll.

21H: **At Kilsheelan** — St. Mary's 2-12; Carrick Swans 2-7. Ref. W. Barrett.

21F: Not complete.

21H (B): **At Clonmel** — Killenaule 2-10; Fethard 3-7. Referee: J. McCarthy. *Replay*: Killenaule 0-4; Fethard 0-3. Referee: J. McCarthy.

21F (B): **At Monroe** — Ardfinnan 0-8; Killenaule 1-4. Referee: T. Lonergan.

M.H.C.: **At Clonmel** — St. Mary's 1-13; St. Patrick's 1-9. Referee: J. Lonergan.

M.F.C.: **At Clonmel** — Slievenamon 1-13; Fethard 0-5. Referee: B. Carroll.

M.H.C. (B): **At Clonmel** — Fethard 2-6; Mullinahone 1-9. Referee: J. Harrington. *Replay*: Fethard 2-5; Mullinahone 0-4. Referee: J. Harrington.

M.F.C. (B) **At Clonmel** — Carrick Swans 1-8; Cahir 0-3. Referee: S. Mullins.

U-21 F. — Fethard 0-9, Slievenamon 0-7.



**SLIABH NA mBAN — SOUTH AND COUNTY MINOR FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS**  
**Back row** (left to right): M. McGrath, T. O'Dwyer, F. Fennessy, A. O'Meara, J. O'Brien, K. O'Connor, R. O'Dwyer, B. Bolnd, N. Darcy, E. Flynn, P. O'Connor (unable to play owing to injury). **Front row** (left to right): M. Comerford, P. Owens, J. Carey, T. Hassett, M. Browne, P. Lyons, M. McGrath (capt.), J. O'Meara, P. McCarthy, A. O'Dwyer, R. Power. (Missing from photo: Paul Norris and Kevin O'Connell).



**SWAN — SOUTH U-14 U/R FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS**

## SCHOOL OF HURLING HONOURS DOYLE

**S**AIN'T Mary's Hurling Club, Clonmel, lost a valued committee member in July with the death of Jimmy Doyle at the age of 43. Jimmy was a native of Camolin, Co. Wexford, and since he came to Clonmel more than twenty years ago he was involved with the club.

This Autumn the club honoured Jimmy's memory by organising a school of hurling bearing his name. It took the form of a weekly coaching session on Saturday mornings for juveniles from the age of six at which well-known inter-county hurlers assisted. There were up to two hundred juveniles in attendance at each of these sessions.

This school of hurling was but another effort which St. Mary's has been for a long time making to firmly plant hurling in a large urban area with a weak hurling tradition. There are experts who say that if hurling is to thrive in the future it must take immediate root in the large towns and cities. The Jimmy Doyle School of Hurling was a step in this direction.



**ST. MARY'S — SOUTH MINOR HURLING CHAMPIONS — 1987**  
**Front row** (left to right): Gerry English, Gerry Bergin, John Morrissey, Tommy Maher, John Harvey, Willie Burke, Kieran Moynihan, Paul Roche, Jimmy Quinn, Brian Phelan. **Back row** (left to right): Tommy Thompson, D. J. O'Dwyer, Brett McGrath, Chris McGrath, Anthony Wall, Derek Doyle, Christian Browne, Eddie Anderson, Brian Kiely, Ger O'Mahoney, Ger Deeley, John Halley.



**NEWCASTLE — SOUTH INTERMEDIATE FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS, 1987**  
**Back row** (left to right): M. Ryan (trainer), M. Purcell, T. Lonergan, J. O'Loughlin, M. Coonan, E. Mackem, M. Hallinan, C. O'Shea, M. Hally, A. Condon, P. O'Flynn, J. Sweeney. **Front row** (left to right): N. Power, P. Sweeney, A. Cullinan, J. Lonergan, C. Healy, A. Healy, T. Sweeney, B. O'Gorman, N. Walsh, P. Healy, J. Fitzpatrick.



# Ballyneale win after 39 years

**J**ust as 1987 ended the famine for Tipperary's senior hurlers, it also brought to an end a far longer famine for the hurlers of Ballyneale/Grangemockler, for it goes back to 1948 since Ballyneale won their last and only South junior hurling championship.

In a welter of euphoric excitement Ballyneale overcame all the odds to defeat a gallant Skeheenarinky team in the final at Clonmel on the scoreline Ballyneale 2-1, Skeheenarinky 1-4.

Having swept aside the challenge of Ballylooby in the quarter-final at Marlfield, Ballyneale really showed their mettle against defending champions Ballingarry in the semi-final at Clonmel sportsfield where after a titanic struggle in a very robust game they emerged victors on the scoreline Ballyneale 3-3, Ballingarry 1-4.

The final was a keenly contested game in very heavy underfoot conditions that mitigated against free-flowing hurling and great credit must be given to both teams for the high level of sportsmanship they maintained right up to the final whistle. After a ding-dong first-half where Ballyneale dominated for periods with a goal by Tom Keating and points by Timmy Bolger, Skeheenarinky countered in the dying minutes to leave the sides all square at 1-3 each.

## TENACIOUS DEFENCE

The second-half saw a much improved Ballyneale side play with great determination and vigour to stretch into a two-point lead which they were never to relinquish. A great sustained rally by Skeheenarinky was repelled by a tenacious Ballyneale defence inspired by Walter Crowley, Ned McGuire and Eamonn O'Meara. A brilliant passing movement involving midfield and

three Ballyneale forwards culminated in Johnson Lyons first-timing the ball to the back of the Skeheenarinky net for the score to set all of Ballyneale celebrating. 1987 will be long remembered as the year Ballyneale bridged the 39-year gap.

In victory we must remember the great men of 1948 who paved the way by making the breakthrough to capture Ballyneale's very first title. Also great praise is due to all the men who continued to hurl for Ballyneale down through the last 39 years

with little reward except the pleasure of representing the parish. The coaching of John Donovan and the selectors has been justifiably rewarded with this great victory and Ballyneale can look to the future with confidence.

NB: 1987 has been an historic year at juvenile level in the parish also with Grangemockler/Ballyneale winning the South under-16 'C' football championship for the very first time; well done to all involved.

**Al Murray**



**BALLYNEALE — SOUTH TIPP. JUNIOR HURLING CHAMPIONS 1987**  
**Back Row (Left to Right):** J. O'Toole, F. Murphy, C. Dignan, T. Murray, M. Crowley. **Middle Row (Left to Right):** W. Crowley, J. Lyons, J. Lyons, T. Lonergan, J. O'Meara, P. Meehan, D. Hahessey, V. Needham, J. Donovan (trainer). **Front Row (Left to Right):** T. Needham, E. Phelan, A. Murray, N. McGuire, T. Keating, E. O'Meara, T. Bolger, M. Murphy. Missing from photograph: A. Bradshaw, M. Freaney, E. Cuddihy and P. Lyons.



**SWAN SOUTH — U-14 HURLING CHAMPIONS**



# MAGIC FROM MULLINAHONE By RICHIE SHEEHAN

**W**HEN the 1987 season is examined as regards the C. J. Kickham's club in Mullinahone the findings on the surface do not seem to merit the title "a good year" or even "a fair year". Let us dig below the surface, but first a summary of the facts. In hurling no senior hurling for club members as the Eire Og combination with Killenaule had come to an end. No under-21 hurling either but we did produce for the very first time a minor hurling team of our own in minor "B" competition, more of that anon. In 1985 we had won the South Tipp. junior hurling title and lost that same title to Ballingarry in a replayed final in 1986. The 1987 draw ordained that the old champions and the new champions should meet in round one. On a dreadful Sunday evening, Ballingarry emerged deservedly victorious. Exit championship. A late chance to make the final of the 1986 hurling league was let slip away as did chances in the 1987 league also. "And all the way home was downhill" to quote a popular old ballad.

In football the tale reads much the same. In senior football a new amalgamation with St. Patrick's showed early promise when determined first time football from Knocknagow shocked hot favourites Fr. Sheehy's (despite tips from the maestro Mick O'Dwyer) in our first game. We wouldn't keep up the effort and eventually Fr. Sheehy's edged us out for a semi-final place. There were many might have beens but there is still hope for the combination. No under-21, junior and a team of our own in minor football "B".

The minors reached the semi-final as runners-up in their section, but were eliminated at that stage by Cahir. In intermediate football, Mullinahone seemed to have drawn the tougher section from which two would come through to make the semi-finals. In the end Mullinahone seemed to be getting things right when they defeated bogey team Swan and then got that vital semi-final place with a play-off win over Old Brigade, Clonmel. A "soft semi-final" with Ballingarry and we were in the final. Halt, dear reader. On a

day that will be remembered for "strange decisions" the men from the land of no surrender administered some stinging lessons in commitment, in parish pride and in the end in football skills to "the boys of Kickhams town". Once again Mullinahone had fallen at the semi-final hurdle. To say that the parish was bitterly disappointed is probably an understatement. Come comb the ashes of the dreams.

On the county representative front it has been a long time since Mullinahone has had such a high profile. At under-16 level Noel Leahy was one of a party of twenty youths who travelled to Cork to attend a football summer school. The Tipp. youths did well down there and should present us with some useful future minors. In junior football we were represented by Timmy O'Connor and Sean Brett. As the Tipp. under-21 footballers strove to annex our first Munster crown in Tralee and Clonmel, Sean Brett was an important cog in the panel. Strange that when Sean was sidelined with an injury sustained with Tipp's juniors he wasn't part of the panel enough to be included in the panel photograph with the other substitutes. The loss of the same Sean with this injury was to cost Mullinahone dearly in the championship. While the club will always be honoured to serve the county, the omission of one of its most loyal and whole-hearted players from what could have been an historic photograph will not be soon forgotten.

On All-Ireland hurling final day the name Mullinahone was much mentioned. The Tipp minor number 10 was responsible for that. In every round of that championship John Leahy did Tipperary and Mullinahone proud. It had taken over 100 years for a C. J. Kickhams clubman to hurl in a Munster or All-Ireland final. At the year's end, the hurling skills of John Leahy should be well written in Tipp's hurling circles. John also gave some splendid displays for the county minor football side in league and championship. His is truly an unique talent, the skill being the product of

endless hours of practice. His dedication to the games should be a lesson to many players both young and old.

John's success and the emergence of a minor hurling team in Mullinahone were the sparks of hope in the darkness of the past year. We entered a team in the minor championship hoping that the draw would be kind. Last year we had won an under-16 "C" South Tipp. hurling title and the South Tipp. rural under-14 title both for the first time. With the addition of John Leahy, Liam O'Connor, Jim O'Neill and Jim White we felt that we would be able to field a team and give all the lads a chance to hurl. Jim O'Neill had played at centrefield for St. Kieran's, Kilkenny when they had won the Leinster Colleges senior hurling title. We opened with an impressive win over Carrick Swan and then qualified for the last four. In the semi-final we came from behind to once again beat Carrick Swan. In the final we played Fethard. Day one ended in a draw and we let a six point lead slip. The rain came during the intervening week and Fethard proved too strong the second day. In that final we began with five under-15 players in the side and ended with an under-14 as well. Eleven of the side will be underage again in 1988. Some of them possess the talent to emulate John Leahy within a year or two. In spite of the signs of doom on the surface, there is, as John Leahy proved in 1987 still magic in Mullinahone.



Sean Brett is presented with his 1984 All-Ireland minor football runners-up medal during the year by his club chairman Dick Egan.

## C. J. KICKHAMS: MULLINAHONE SOUTH TIPPERARY MINOR HURLING RUNNERS-UP 1987

**Back Row (Left to Right):** J. Bolger, K. Morrissey, B. Vaughan, T. McNamara, M. Gunn, J. O'Neill, L. O'Connor (capt.), J. Leahy, J. White, E. Holland, M. Kennedy, N. Leahy, J. McCormack, M. Madden. **Front Row (Left to Right):** B. O'Meara, D. McNamara, E. Duggan, P. Lynch, M. Skehan, D. Lonergan, D. McGrath, G. Bolger, J. Hennessy, P. Skehan, P. White.





**B**allingarry G.A.A. club, this year celebrated their one hundredth year centenary 1887 — 1987. They were successful in winning the South Senior Hurling Championship, something they had not achieved for seven years.

Our minor hurlers gave a great display in the South Final, and had to yield to a slightly better team, St. Mary's.

We were also in the semi-final of the minor football, and we have yet to play the semi-final of the Under-21 football.

We ran tournaments in every grade at the Parish field in The Commons, all of which were very successful.

For the first time in many years, we had a representative on The Tipperary minor team. Don Lyons who gave an excellent display in all his matches.

Our Centenary Book is with the printers. We were holding this book back, so as to include everything in it, for this year. We now find ourselves in the position, that it may not be printed until after Christmas. Don't worry, it's in the pipeline.



*Martin Brennan, Gawn, Ballingarry, who was County Board Secretary from 1901 to 1909. He gave long and distinguished service to the County Board and Ballingarry G.A.A. club for many years.*

## Ballingarry G.A.A. Centenary

**A**s Ballingarry G.A.A. Club celebrates its centenary this year, it may be appropriate to flashback to the past with a photograph taken in 1928 when Dick Molloy from Ballingarry captained the University College, Cork senior hurling team to victory over University College, Dublin, captained by Denis Finn, Ballinahow, Thurles in the

Fitzgibbon Inter Varsity Cup Championship.

Fifth from the right in the back row is Mr. Michael Kealy, Ballingarry Creamery, who was doing the Creamery Managers Course in U.C.C. at the time. Mick was in goal for U.C.C. in 1929 when Cork University again won the Fitzgibbon Cup in Dublin.

Denis Finn qualified as a doctor and was dispensary doctor in Templetuohy until his death some five years ago. The scoreline in 1929 incidentally was Cork 8-1 and Dublin 7-2. Photo shows Dick Molloy (dark jersey) being presented with the cup. Ballingarry G.A.A. Club are proud to have Dick as Editor of their Centenary Book for his long and dedicated service to the G.A.A.





# Killenaule — Juvenile Victory

**M**ONDAY, 24th. August will always be remembered as the day when Killenaule hurlers finally shook free of that hard luck tag and went on to record an historic county final victory. The hurlers in question were our U-14 team who brought home only our third ever county title. In doing so they played some marvellous hurling and defeated a very good Toomevara team that had previously swept all before them on their way to the final. Having come through the south championship fairly easily, even though we nearly let a big lead slip in the south final, before holding on for a one point victory over a very good Ballybalon-Grange team. We were paired with last year's champions, Knockavilla. Again we let a big lead slip before going on to win by 5 points.

## COUNTY FINAL

And so on to the final, and although not given much of a chance by most, those close to the team, knew it would take a good team to beat them.

We got the start we needed when Larry Hayes collected a Tony Shelly line-ball and shook the net. Tony Shelly followed up with a few great long range points, and by now Toome knew they had a match on their hands. They hit back with some lovely points, but big Steve Lawlor gave us further delight with a fine goal from an Adrian Cleary pass.

Toome now began to attack in waves, but some heroic defending by Eugene Purcell and some great saves by goalie Paul Shelly kept them at bay. 10 minutes from the break they got the goal they deserved by an impressive centre-forward T. Dunne. So the score at half time was 2-5 to 1-7 with midfielder T. Shelly scoring all our 5 points.

## SECOND HALF

The second half followed much the same pattern as the first. Larry Hayes again had an early goal, and followed it up with a beauty of a point. Steve Lawlor showed great determination when he kicked home his second goal, and Tony Shelly scored another long range point.

But Toome fought back to

level terms with about five minutes left to play. The match looked destined for a replay and nobody would have complained, but Toome took the lead for the first time with about a minute to play. It was then we saw what our lads were made of. Tony Shelly now at centre-back drove a long puck out to Larry Hayes who carried it down the touchline. He crossed into the centre where it was fielded (Tony Doran style) by Anthony Nolan, who slipped two defenders and handpassed to the corner of the net.

The final whistle followed the puck-out and the success starved Killenaule supporters gave vent to their excitement. On the night all our players were heroes. Paul Shelly was a courageous goalie. The two Purcells and Bulfin in the fullback line were teak tough. John Healy was a commanding centre-back, and Liam Butler and John (Boggan) Healy were sweet wingbacks. Tony Shelly lorded it at midfield while Michael McGarry was tigerish in the tackle. Kevin Shelly at centre-forward kept the ball going forward while Larry Hayes and Anthony Nolan got the vital scores. Steve Lawlor was a 2-goal hero and we had two nippy little corner-forwards in Adrian Cleary and Kenneth Lawrence. Our subs who were

not called into action were Michael Bolger, Ollie Fitzgerald, Nigel Lahart, Liam

Shelly, Anthony Bulfin, Kenneth Cleary and Donnacha Taylor.



**KILLENAULE UNDER-14 COUNTY CHAMPIONS**

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## Bro. J. V. Hutton



**B**R. J. V. Hutton was laid to rest in the Brothers Cemetery in Baldoyle in May, 1987. He had spent over seventy years serving the Lord. When he first came to Thurles in the early forties he was in the full bloom of life. This talented, intelligent and industrious teacher brought a breath of fresh air into the classroom and made life for us a joy.

I am afraid the mammoth work done by this great Christian Brother has not yet been fully appreciated. The coming of this young Dubliner started a revival of hurling in the county that has continued smoothly, quietly and efficiently to this present day.

The great revival and growth of gaelic games in the rural and urban schools is due in no small way to the work of this young man. He used his great organisational abilities, his fluent pen, his boundless energy, the borrowed bicycle to motivate priests, teachers, club officers and young people.

The Rural Schools' Competitions prospered under his guiding hand.

School leagues and games were played during the war years uninterrupted, as he utilised modes of transport, now sadly out of date, like the bicycle, Maher's horse and trap, Dwans four-wheeled carriage and even Shank's Mare. Br. Hutton led and we, young lads, gladly followed.

His work for the Harty Cup teams is well known and the bulk of the great 1945 minor team had passed through his hands, having benefitted from his fine coaching, intelligent promptings and skilful tuition. Tipperary had won Munster minor titles in 1930, '31, '32, '34, '35 — then in 1945, '46, '47, '49, '50, '52, '53, '54, '55, '56, '57, '59, '60, '61, '62 — 1973.

The work done by Br. J. V. Hutton was, I firmly believe, responsible for our many successes at Minor level and later at Senior level.

We would fail, as fellow gaelis, in not remembering a man of the calibre of John Vincent Hutton.

Ar dheis Dé, i bpáirceanna na bhFlaitheas go raibh a anam uasal.

*S. Ó Páircín*

*He had heard the call in Dublin  
And he came in the bloom of youth,  
To teach the boys in Thurles  
The Christian way of truth.*

*Though war swept over Europe  
And hard work was all around,  
He brought light to the gloomy classroom  
And joy to the hurling ground.*

*The Harty teams were trained with care;  
Tipp minors won renown;  
Through his work each day, he paved the way  
For many a senior crown.*

*God grant you rest John Vincent,  
For the great deeds you have done,  
For the hurling and the rural schools  
And the great games that you won.*

*May this talented Christian teacher,  
Find peace among his own;  
May his discipline and devotedness  
For ever more be known.*

## Tipperary Person of the Year



***Congratulations to Senior  
Hurling team coach  
Michael "Babs" Keating,  
who was named  
"Tipperary Person of the Year"  
by The Tipperary Association  
in Dublin.***



# Fás agus Forbairt — Bua agus Beatha!

## A DECADE OF GLORY!

**W**ITHOUT growth there is death. If those in the boat are not striving to go forward, then the current of the river of life will take them backwards and downstream to mediocrity and failure.

I have seen much growth in the hurling world in the last decade, since I came back to County Tipperary in 1976. There was a great period of growth in the early forties with the rebirth of the Rural Schools. I was young then and part of that "ais-éirí". Bórd na nÓg was founded later and then came men of vision like Tomás Ó Baróid, Séamus Ó Riain and Éamonn de Stafor, who were the founding fathers of Féile na nGael.

In 1976 Tipperary County Minors 'came in from the cold' after a long period away from Croke Park. The work of Br. M.V. O'Grady bore fruit. His coaching, organisation and motivation, brought results. With the help of men like the great Mick Minogue, Willie Carroll, Danny Morrissey, Paddy O'Meara, Phil Lowry (Drombane), Mick Ryan and others, they paved the way for some fine teams in Minor and u/21 hurling, that continues even down to this present day.

What mighty men were they! Br. M.V. Ó Grádaigh, like Fr. Tommy Maher of Kilkenny, Joe McGrath of Down, Ned Power of Waterford, Seán h-Ainle of Clare and our own Donie Nealon saw the great need for coaching the basic skills of hurling. They had to face stiff opposition from the veterans of the games, who said: "what was good enough for our fathers is good enough for the coming generation". But, no, they had failed to read the "signs of the times".

I was lucky to arrive in Nenagh from Limerick in 1976, and was mildly surprised at what I saw around me! It was Martin O'Connor, and a man called Michael "Babs" Keating (then living in Nenagh) who encouraged me to take part in County Board affairs, and in becoming County Youth Officer. Michael introduced me to many of his friends in the South (a friendship still very dear to me). The other Divisions I already knew.

Coaching was a priority with me, although it was not a "nice word" with some. The County Board responded admirably. Tomás Ó Baróid gave every help and that go-ahead, self-sacrificing teacher, Liam Ó Donnchú, gave every help with willing club members and industrious tried trainers. The former coaching methods and training of such talented Gaels as Mick Prior, John Costigan, Fr. J.J. O'Rourke, Timmy Delaney, Michael Forde, Paddy Maher, Br. Higgins, Niall Williams, blossomed



BR. JOSEPH PERKINS

and flourished. Derry Mannix, the Mallow maestro, gave ten years of his busy life improving the standards in Munster, and even Cork to-day are now crying out for more men of his calibre like Fr. Troy and Fr. M. O'Brien who put such skilful and disciplined teams on the fields of glory.

To-day we have the Christy Ring school of hurling and in the past year or so in Clonmel, the Jimmy Doyle school of hurling, as well as schools of coaching for the young and the not so young. We take it all for granted now as something that should be done whenever young lads first catch the ash camán or don the protective helmet on their tender intelligent heads.

The Rural Schools are now more keen for hurling, as they were in the 'roaring forties'. Teachers, men and women, are well equipped to look after their charges. Hurleys cause no fear, Insurance no dread. "Wherever the teacher is, there is the school". Time taken for games is time well spent on education. Both teacher and pupil are proud of their hurling ability. This is the common rule now, not the exception.

### Nostalgic Look-back

I look back, with nostalgia, on the bamboo canes we had for goal-posts in the outside and inside field at MacDonagh Park, Nenagh, in 1976, when up to twenty rural, National schools came to play there in a non-competitive outing and all enjoyed that evening of sport as teachers met one another away from the confines of the four walls of the class-room.

There were similar "Get-togethers" in Semple Stadium, Clogheen, and Mullinahone (in the very home of Charles Kickham and famed Matt the Thresher).

The Tipperary Association in Cork obliged later with the beautiful "Knocknagow Cup" for competition and social meetings of the Four Green Fields — North, Mid, West, South.

We now have, in County Tipperary, a flourishing Primary schools' league for Urban and Rural Schools, graded "A", "B", "C", according to the numbers and ability of the schools.

Another change or growth that has taken place gradually and satisfactorily, is the grading of club teams. The smaller or unskilful clubs or teams had not a chance against more experienced opponents, year in, year out. They played, and were humiliated, in one match and then their annual game of hurling was over 'till a new year dawned. Now we have systematic grading and a sound league system that will not overtax the strength of the participants nor the stress and strain of the young and old, that want to enjoy the greatest field game in the world.

We take it all for granted now. Our games are running smoothly. The standard of hurling is high in our county. We won the u/14 Inter County Forrester, Waterford Competition with a well disciplined (how important!) skilful team. The under-sixteens are well catered for by the 'Garda Cup' and Munster League, **all** new competitions that develop the talents and character of the boys of Tipperary.

Our Minors are strong, our u/21's are blossoming and our Seniors are worthy ambassadors of the "Matchless Men of Tipperary" as Thomas Davis proudly calls us.

It is not so long ago since Richard Stakelum, Aidan and Bobby Ryan sat in a school desk in C.B.S. Templemore, learning the words of "Slievenamon" which Br. Norris taught them, or perfecting the skills displayed by John Costigan in the nearby field. Fr. J.J. O'Rourke's boys were there, too, in 1978 when they brought home the famed Harty Cup. These boys, also, took the field on County Final Day for their native Parish, Loughmore/Castleiney, and have won honour and renown in the hurling arena.

"As long as Slievenamon holds memory of Knocknagow, and the Rock of Cashel stands guard o'er the smiling valleys of Tipperary", and as long as we have men and women, boys and girls, willing to take their stand in the promotion of Irish games and the spreading of our Gaelic culture and priceless heritage, we will be a proud county and a prosperous nation.

"What if the dream come true!" says Padraig Pearse. For me the dream has come true. To all who have put their shoulder to the wheel and their hands to the plough and have helped this growth and development, down the years, deirim. Sláinte agus Buíochas, Bua agus Beannacht agus Bás in Éirinn faoi choimirce na Maighdine Muire, go deo.



# TIPPERARY CAMOGIE

MARION GRAHAM

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**T**HE A.G.M. of Tipperary Camogie Board was held on January 8th, 1987, in Hayes Hotel. This was one of the best attended A.G.M.s Tipperary had for a long time with 17 out of 20 clubs present.

Officers elected were: Chairperson, Rose Hogan, Kildangan; Vice-Chairperson, Bernie O'Dowd, Thurles; Secretary, Catherine Fogarty, Moycarkey; Assistant Secretary, Marion Graham, St. Mary's; Treasurer, Marion Graham, St. Mary's; P.R.O., Eamonn Browne, Knockavilla. County selectors: Paddy Corrigan, Ann O'Rourke, Biddy Phyllips, Marion Graham; Trainer, Bernie O'Dowd.

Due to ill-health our chairperson, Rose Hogan, had to retire and Bernie O'Dowd took the chair. Catherine Fogarty had to retire from her executive role as secretary due to college commitments and Marion Graham took over as secretary. May we take this opportunity in wishing Rose a speedy recovery, she did trojan work for the county in her short term in office.

### GAMES — INTER-COUNTY

Due to lack of response from most of our senior panel, we failed to field a team against Galway in the first round of the National League on March 1st and had to withdraw from the senior championship later on, this resulting in a hefty fine for the Co. Board. Our County Juniors didn't do well either and went down early in the season.

We decided to apply for regrading our remaining senior for 1988. With the first round of the 1988 league over and a win against Carlow, things are looking a bit better for the coming season.

### THE CLUB SCENE

With twenty clubs affiliated and nine competitions to be completed before the end of the year, a lot of hard work was

ahead. However, we got our heels to the ground and with 80% of those competitions completed when writing this article, the year went smoothly enough.

The Under-14 Final was played on August 28th in Nenagh, Templederry-Toomevara coming out victors over Burgess in what was one of the most exciting games this year, by one point, in which extra time had to be played.

The Intermediate final was played on August 30th in Drombane, with Cappawhite having an easy victory over Templederry. The Junior final was played on October 4th in Drombane with Knockavilla and Kilruane contesting this final, Kilruane were the champions by two points. The Under-12 County Final was in Littleton on September 12th and was again won by Templederry when they defeated a very young and gallant Moycarkey side.

The John Hogan Cup, which was presented to Tipperary Junior Clubs by the Hogan family to the memory of the late John Hogan, Urra, Ballycommon. This final was played on October 18th. Again this was contested by the Junior finalists, Knockavilla and Kilruane, and Kilruane were the victors by one point.

The Senior final was played on November 1st in Holycross with Cashel having an easy victory over Roscrea. Cashel were the reigning champions so next year they will be bidding for their "three in a row". This leaves the Under-16 County Final, which will be played between Portroe and Cashel; the Under-18 final and the Ann Fraser final are the only remaining competitions to be completed.

### THANKS

This was a very successful year with the majority of clubs co-operating with the County Board and this made the task a lot

easier for all concerned. May I take this opportunity in thanking everyone who helped the County Board throughout the year, the hurling clubs who let us avail of their pitches, the gate collectors, referees, umpires, linespeople, etc. May I also have this opportunity to congratulate all our county champions and hopefully next year our county Juniors will bring glory to the county and bring back a title to Tipperary camogie.

## Well done — Cashel girls

Congratulations to Cashel camogie team who on November 1st won the County Senior Final with a decisive win of 3-5 to 0-2 over Roscrea. The victory was all the sweeter because it was Cashel's second successive county final, having defeated Newport in the 1986 final.

The team is basically a very young one and is the result of the very fine work for the game in the local Presentation School in recent year, first, under Willie Prendergast and in later years under the guidance of Mr. Martin Quirke.

The present Cashel team has a number of fine local players sporting such well known hurling names as Bonner, Devitt, Butler, Dwyer, but the team is also well supported by a number of very fine players from the neighbouring parishes of Golden, Clonoulty and Boherlahan. Senior citizen of the team is the goalie, Julia O'Dwyer of Boherlahan who must have more than twenty years' experience in the game and has been a great encouragement and motivation for the younger players.

The team has been in the capable hands of Mr. Tom Devitt who was in his day a player of considerable skill and prowess.



**CASHEL CAMOGIE TEAM**

**Back** (Left to right): B. Ryan, M. Ryan, N. O'Dwyer, N. Bonner, C. Troy, N. Maher, M. Quinlan, K. McCluskey, J. Devitt, J. O'Dwyer, Tom Devitt. **Front:** C. O'Dwyer, K. Moloney, A.M. Fitzgerald, V. Ryan, C. O'Connell, S. Ryan, I. Butler, J. Tobin, N. Ryan.



# THE CROSS BAR

Castlegrace,  
Clogheen



052-65331

\* \* \*

OUR GOOD  
POINT  
IS  
YOUR  
GOOD  
PINT

\* \* \*

Prop.:

**Liam and Breda Wall**



**ST. MARY'S THIS YEAR CELEBRATING 21 YEARS IN CAMOGIE**  
**ST. MARY'S CAMOGIE TEAM 7-A-SIDE FINALISTS 1987**

**Top Row (Left to Right)** Seamus Shinnors, Marion Graham, Mary Griffin, Mary Quigley, Joey Shinnors, Bridget O'Sullivan, Kitty Ryan, Catherine Nolan, Bridget O'Brien, Mgt. Hogan, Billy Costelloe.  
**Top Row (Left to Right)** Terry O'Brien, Patricia Carey, Marion Healy, Geraldine Carey, Breda Ryan, Mary O'Dwyer, Pauline Starr.



**TEMPLEDERRY-TOOMEVARA U-12 COUNTY CHAMPIONS**

**Back (Left to Right)** Mgt. Bergin, Madeline Hayes, Majella Maxwell, Elaine Mounsey, Emer Hassett, Aileen Delaney, Audrey, Ryan, Clair Brislane. **Front (Left to Right)** Anna Hogan, Ciara McMahon, Susan Kelly, Hilda Mounsey, Noelle Kennedy (Capt.), Caroline Mounsey, Sarah Bergin.



**TEMPLEDERRY-TOOMEVARA U-14 COUNTY CHAMPIONS**

**Back (Left to Right)** Emer Hassett, Regina Maxwell, Loretto O'Brien, Deirdre Hughes (Capt.), Sarah O'Shea, Nessa McMahon, Elaine Mounsey. **Front (Left to Right)** Olivia Frend, Nula Kennedy, Patricia O'Dwyer, Majella Maxwell, Clair Brislane, Sinead O'Shea, Nora Dwan, Noelle Kennedy, Madeline Hayes.



# Cappawhite's Camogie Success

Not to be outshone by their illustrious male counterparts Cappawhite's ladies wrote their own chapter of historical achievement in the year just past. The camogie side capped a marvellous year when they took their first ever county intermediate title.

The championship was contested by four sides — Cappawhite, Moycarkey, Borrisokane and the Templederry/Toomevara combination. It was run on a league basis with each team playing the others, both home and away, and the top two contesting the final.

Cappawhite started in very impressive fashion beating Moycarkey in Cappawhite by 1-14 to 0-1. Scorers for Cappawhite on that occasion were: Anne Costelloe 1-7, Martina Ryan 0-2, Geraldine Ryan 0-2, Hanna Ryan 0-2 and Mary Ita Buckley 0-1.

In the next round Cappa' hopes took a knock when they lost 3-3 to 0-2 in Templederry. The scores came from Breda O'Neill and Geraldine Ryan. It was obvious at this stage that training would have to be stepped up if further progress was to be made. This problem was seen to under the guidance of Willie Walsh and the team got back on the winning trail with an easy 3-9 to 0-1 win over Moycarkey at Littleton. Again the chief scorer was Anne Costello with 2-5, Geraldine Ryan got 0-3, Mary Ita Buckley 0-1 and Paula O'Dwyer 1-0.

In the next round Borrisokane were defeated by 1-6 to 0-1 in Cappawhite on July 7th. Scorers were: Anne Costello 1-2, Geraldine Ryan 0-4. On the 31st. July the return game against Templederry was

played at Anacarty before a large crowd. Scorers were fairly close in the first half but the move of Breda O'Neill from goal to full forward for the second half changed the game completely. Breda stamped her class on the game and proceeded to score 3-1 to help Cappa' to a 3-8 to 0-6 win. Other scorers were Geraldine Ryan 0-3, Ann Costello 0-2, Mary Ita Buckley and Paula O'Dwyer 0-1 each.

In their final game of the league Cappawhite defeated Borrisokane by 1-5 to 1-2 in Borrisokane to qualify for the final. The scorers were Anne Costello 1-2 and Jenny English 0-3.

The final played in Drombane on August 30th was a cracker with play swinging from one end to the other before the North side opened the scoring with a point from a free by Anne Gleeson. They stretched their lead a few minutes later with another point from the same player. Cappa' brought Jenny English out of goal and this changed the pattern of the game. Jenny quickly got her name on the scoresheet and from here to the finish she was to prove a thorn in the opposing defence's side. Geraldine Ryan was at this stage coming to grips with Anne Gleeson who was having the better of the early stages. Martina Ryan and Mary Ita Buckley were supplying their forwards with plenty of ball.

Still the Temple-Toome defence with Noreen Dwyer playing well were repelling the challenge and they could only add four points to their early score with Jenny English getting all four. This left Cappa' ahead by 0-5 to 0-2 at half time.

The second half promised a thriller and

this it was with some great camogie from both sides which was a joy to watch. Templederry took the game to Cappa' but the Cappa' defence with Cecelia Walsh, Hannah Ryan and Geraldine Ryan in form repelled many attacks.

Cappa' were the first to open the scoring in the second half, with Anne Costello scoring some very nice points. The North side were beginning to tire midway through the second half and Cappa' began to dominate proceedings and added goals from Breda O'Neill, Jenny English and Mary Quinlan and some delightful points from Ann Costello and Martina Ryan.

Templederry were not to be outdone and somehow found the energy to launch some very fine attacks which yielded a goal and three points. The goal from Sheila Delaney and the points before the finish from the stick of Jenny English and it left the final score 3-9 to 1-5.

There were scenes of jubilation at the end when Marion Graham presented the cup to the winning captain, Cecelia Walsh. This win means that Cappa will step up to senior rank while the losers will have their day.

**Cappa:** J. English, H. Ryan, C. Walsh (capt.), G. Ryan, J. Ryan, M. I. Buckley, M. Ryan, K. Fahey, P. O'Dwyer, M. Doherty, A. Costello, B. O'Neill.

**Temple Toome:** R. O'Meara, C. Guerin, D. Keogh, C. Kennedy, C. Dwyer, M. Mounsey, A. Gleason, M. Dwyer, S. Delaney, J. Browne, B. Ryan, S. Mounsey, D. Hughes, T. O'Dwyer.

**Cappa Subs:** C. Walsh, P. Cummins, M. Quinlan, G. Doherty, K. Callaghan, B. Phelan, K. Shanahan, R. White.



**INTERMEDIATE CO. FINAL CAMOGIE CHAMPIONS, CAPPAWHITE**

**Front Row (Left to Right):** Margo O'Doherty, Breda O'Neill, Kathleen O'Callaghan, Mary Quinlan, Cecelia Walshe (capt.) Paula O'Dwyer, Ann Costello, Mary Ita Buckley. **Back Row (Left to Right):** Betty Walshe, Kathleen Fahy, Martina Ryan, Jenny English, Caroline Walsh, Breda Phelan, Jacqueline Ryan, Kathleen Shanahan, Geraldine Ryan, Willie Walsh (trainer). Missing from Photo, Peggy Cummins, Geraldine Doherty, Hannah Ryan, Rena White.





## NORTH TIPPERARY G.A.A. 1987 TORTHÁI NA BLIANA 1987

Páraig Ó Meachair - Rúnaí

**Iomáint Sinnsearach**  
**Iomáint Idirmheánach**  
**Iomáint Sóisearach 'A'**  
**Iomáint Sóisearach 'B'**  
**Iomáint Mionúir 'A'**  
**Iomáint Mionúir 'B'**  
**An Sraith Iomána '87**

**Hogan Cup**  
**Corn Uí Nialáin '87**  
**Iomáint fé 21 'A'**  
**Iomáint fé 21 'B'**  
**Peil Sinnsearach**  
**Peil Idirmheánach**  
**Peil fé 21 'A'**  
**Peil fé 21 'B'**  
**Peil Mionúir 'A'**  
**Peil Mionúir 'B'**

Cill Ruáin 2-15  
Béal Áth Gabhann 3-11  
Lothra 2-11  
Fánaithe na Siomainne 2-12  
Tuaim Uí Mhéara 2-14  
Portrua 2-8

Roscrea 1-15  
Sean Treacy's 3-6  
B. Uí Lúioch 3-11  
Muine Ghall  
Tulach Sheasta 1-7  
B. Uí Chatháin 3-4  
Éire Óg 1-7  
Cill an Daingin 4-9  
Fánaighe Eidhneán 1-6  
Cill an Daingin 4-5

Lothra 0-13  
Tulach Sheasta 0-10  
Tuaim Uí Mhéara 2-6  
Lothra 3-5  
Cill Ruáin 2-4  
Muine Gall 2-7

Muine Gall 0-11  
Lothra 2-4  
Roscrea 3-7  
Tulach Sheasta  
Cill Ruáin 0-7  
Éire Óg 0-8  
Tulach Sheasta 0-2  
Portrua 2-6  
Éire Óg 1-3  
Muine Gall 3-5

### SENIOR HURLING

The year 1987 was not a good year for senior hurling in the Division. Borrisileigh, who a few months before had won All-Ireland Club honours, were caught napping by an eager Lorrha team. The exit of Borrisileigh took away a lot of the appeal.

Éire Óg, Nenagh, who have the potential but are not able to produce the goods on the day, were beaten by Cill Ruáin, in a game that led to a severe referee's report and hefty suspensions were handed out for misdemeanours that should not have happened among neighbours.

Tuaim Uí Mhéara did not rise to the heights of the previous year and after a replay and extra time they were beaten by Lorrha.

The stage was set for a good final — a good day, a good crowd, but the game itself was disappointing. Cill Ruáin retained the Frank McGrath Cup.

### INTERMEDIATE HURLING

Silvermines, who were regraded Intermediate at the Convention early in the year, were odds-on favourites to win out this competition. Cill an Daingin promised well early on, but were never able to maintain the effort.

**Buirgéis**, in my opinion, were the hard luck team. They got plenty of opportunities to beat Silvermines in the semi-final but narrowly failed in a longer than usual second half. Silvermines were too good for Newport in a disappointing final.

### JUNIOR HURLING

There was a great competition in A and B Junior Hurling. Early on in the year Lorrha won a special Junior hurling league. They followed this up by winning the Junior A championship and being runners-up in the Junior B final to Shannon Rovers. There was no shortage of hurling for this particular age group.

### UNDER 21 HURLING

Borrisileigh surprisingly have won the A final by beating Roscrea, who had earlier beaten favourites and holders Tuaim Uí Mhéara. Borrisileigh went on to beat Boherlahan in the county final.

In the B Championship, Moneygall have won. They beat Newport in the final. They play Killenaule in the County semi-final.

### MINOR HURLING

In the 'A' Championship Tuaim Uí Mhéara have retained their North and County titles. Sean Treacy's won the Nealon trophy and Portroe won the B championship. They have qualified to meet Moyne on Saturday, 7th November.

As a result of the arrangements made at Convention, the minor championship was a big improvement on other years.

### SENIOR HURLING LEAGUE

The S.H.L. was a great success. Home clubs feel there are too many games and that it should be in two sections. Thanks to the various Park Committees, who prepared their grounds early in the year. Roscrea won the League, beating Moneygall in the final. The best game in my opinion in the S.H.L. was played one evening at Nenagh when Moneygall beat Borrisileigh. Thanks to Pat Sheedy and Moneygall for looking after the usual coverage of the games.

### PEIL

Football is not played in every club and there were very few teams entered for our competitions.

In the senior grade, Newport beat Kilruane in the final, while **Borrisokane**, Intermediate winners, have qualified for the County Final. In junior football, Silvermines beat Burgess in the final. In the minor football A Inane Rovers won divisional honours, while Kiladangan won the B championship at Minor and Under-21 grade.

I cannot let the opportunity pass without complimenting the officers of the Board who are due to retire after their three-year term is complete. Nollaig Ó Muiris, Cathaoirleach, performed his duties efficiently and honourably. He will go down in the history of Tiobrad Árann Thuaidh as one of our leading chairmen. He is definitely in line for the County Chair and on behalf of the Gaels of North Tipp we wish him well.

Mícheál Ó Nualláin, an Cisteoir, did marvellous work as our Treasurer, and his dedication and efficiency was par excellence. No doubt he could move to higher things, also.

Diarmaid de Búrca, Registrar, was also very efficient in his work.

The two Vice-chairmen, who are departing the scene, are Seosamh Ó Braonáin, Tulach Sheasta and Seán Ó Tiarnaí, Fánaithe na Siomainne. We wish them well also.

### COMHBRÓN

During the year many Gaels departed this life. We sympathise with their relatives. The following come to mind: Donie Nolan, Nenagh; Ned Hurley, Borrisileigh; Eddie Boyle, Newport; Paddy Gaffney, Roscrea; Tommy Max, Thurles; Denis Flannery, Kiladangan; Phil Fanning, Moneygall; Con Heffernan, Ardcroney; Noel Killackey, Cloughjordan; Francis D'Arcy, Kilruane; Denis Cahill, Cloughjordan, and Mrs. Stakelum, Borrisileigh.

Go ndéana Dia trócaire ar a nanamnacha go léir agus gura i leaba Dé a bheidh siad.



Kilruane captain, John Cahill, receiving the cup from North Board chairman, Noel Morris, after victory over Lorrha in North final at Nenagh.





**NORTH CHAMPIONS — KILRUANE MacDONAGH**

**Back Row** (left to right): Philip Quinlan, Tony Sheppard, Joe Banaghan, Dinny O'Meara, Eamonn O'Shea, Ailbe Hogan, David Quinlan. **Front Row** (left to right): Pat Quinlan, Dinny Cahill, Jim O'Meara, John Cahill, Gilbert Williams, Seamus Hennessy, Gerry Williams, Seamus Gibson.

## Nenagh Vocational School — Camogie 1987

**D**URING the past decade the prolific Portroe Club has made a considerable contribution to the success of camogie in Co. Tipperary and to the North Division in particular.

Nenagh Vocational School is fortunate that such a nursery exists within its catchment area. The outstanding achievement of the school's camogie teams can be set against the successful era of the Portroe club. The years of disappointments and frustrations were overcome at last and for the past five years the Nenagh girls set their sights on the All-Ireland final. They reached three finals but success has still eluded them. The year 1987 surely was thought to be theirs, but no, they must wait yet another year. Let the story of 1987 unfold:

After exciting performances against local schools Roscrea and Borrisokane, the Munster championship followed. Great satisfaction was taken from the exciting imprint these young ladies were making in their path to the final. Passage West (Cork) now stood between them and the Munster final. Little was known of this school team as Nenagh had never encountered them before. The venue was fixed for Cashel, and Ms Ó Dwyer (Boherlahan) was referee.

On a beautiful sunny afternoon in May both teams lined

up for what was to become an epic in Camogie Finals. Oh, what a sweet victory it was for the Nenagh girls, and made sweeter because at one stage of the second half, victory seemed to be beyond their grasp when the Cork team seemed set to take the Munster crown. A resolute defence and flushes of brilliance up front, in extra time, appeared to have smoothed Nenagh's path to the title. Their superior technique was vividly illustrated in the closing stages when they swept through for three goals and a well deserved victory. The evenly matched sides were level at 2-1 each at the end of normal time after an enthralling game which produced some brilliant stick work.

Passage West looked the better side in the opening half with inter-county player Linda Mellerick starring at midfield and producing some fine solo runs. She tired somewhat late in the game. Nenagh having settled down, grew in confidence and produced a delightful brand of hurling from Deirdre Hughes, Sinead Tynan and Antoinette Kennedy. The final score was Nenagh 6-2, Passage West 3-1 (after extra time).

"Nenagh V.S. through to All-Ireland" ran the headline after the All-Ireland semi-final with Edenderry (Offaly).

This game was played at Birr. As in the Munster final the



**NENAGH VOCATIONAL SCHOOL**

**Back row** (l. to r.): Caroline Power (Portroe), Christina Spaight (Portroe), Josephine Fennessy (Ballywilliam), Sinead Tynan (Newtown), Alice Hayes (Puckane), Mary Collins (Portroe), Antoinette Kennedy (Portroe). **Front Row:** Josephine Freeman (Portroe), Deirdre Hughes (Toomevara), Nora Dwan (Toomevara), Tina Madden (Portroe), Josephine Kennedy (Portroe).

Nenagh side was slow to settle but a goal after fifteen minutes by Josephine Freeman set them alight. The game was a much closer affair than the scoreline suggests, and had the Edenderry forwards made use of the supply from their midfield partnership, the eventual outcome could have been much closer. Nenagh was best served by Nora Dwan in goal, Tina Madden and Antoinette Kennedy in defence, Sinead Tynan and Alice Hayes at midfield and Josephine Fennessy and Deirdre Hughes in attack.

Final score: Nenagh 3-6, Edenderry 0-4.

Now for Cavan in the All-

Ireland final, fixed for Clara, Co. Offaly on Wednesday, May 27th at 7 p.m.

This was a superb game with all players contributing handsomely to an exciting game. Scores were level on five occasions and the winning point coming in the last minute of the game. Nenagh could and should have won this game. They lacked cohesion and conceded some easy scores. Cavan took their first All-Ireland title in this thrilling final but the girls from Nenagh can feel proud of their achievements during 1987.

Final score: Cavan 3-3, Nenagh 3-2.



# Borris-Ileigh — an unforgettable year

## Borris-Ileigh — County Under-21 Champions

**A**FTER such a great start to 1987 by winning the All-Ireland club final our year came to an abrupt end when we went out of the North Championship but we had one gem left in our Under-21 team.

Our Under-21 team was expected to put up a good challenge for honours this year and started their campaign against Nenagh — a match which they won fairly easily.

Collective training for the under-21 started three days a week under the guidance of Timmy Stapleton. They gave a great response to him and with the aid of some challenge games they were well and truly ready for their north semi-final clash against Shannon Rovers. This was a tough, uncompromising game and only for Rovers being reduced to 14 men the result could have been different. We won this game by one point.

After the North semi-final we did not see ourselves as potential North champions. We increased our training and eventually we knew we were to meet Roscrea in the final. This promised to be a great final as in the past we had some great games in this grade with Roscrea.

The final was played on a very pleasant day in Nenagh in front of a fair sized crowd. The game was a good contest with Borris taking a slight edge in the scoring in the first twenty minutes,

until Roscrea got around our defence and scored a goal to keep the scores close at half time. At the half time break we urged our young men to revert to old style Borris hurling which we knew would win the day.

The ground hurling paid dividends with Christy Reid opening the second half with a brilliant goal. We laid siege to the Roscrea goal and only for some brilliant saves by their goalkeeper we would have wrapped up this game very early in the second half. As we knew of Roscrea they were not giving up without a fight and they got back again with a goal and some points. With a few minutes to go our centre-back Seamus Devaney got injured and J. J. Maher took over at centre-back and with great help from John Ryan, John Glasheen, Conor Stakelum, Tom Stapleton, Philip Delaney and Christy Reid, the Michael Delaney Cup was on its way to Borris after a long number of years. Francis Doolan was a worthy captain and he received the cup from Noel Morris.

Our county semi-final was arranged for Cashel against St. Mary's, Clonmel. Our lads were that bit over-confident going into this game and we were in for some land. With some bad shooting from our forwards and with the aid of a penalty, St. Mary's were leading at half time by one point. Our fifteen came out in the second half and carried the game of

ground hurling to St. Mary's and in a few minutes we had goals from Christy Reid, Eamon Kenny and Con Stakelum and we had reached the county final for the first time in nineteen years.

The county final was against Boherlahan who were slightly favourites for this game. This game was a reminder of past meetings of another era and there was no quarter asked or given by either teams. Borris were slower to start in this game and it took a Barry Ryan goal to get our boys going. At half time we were one point down and the game wide open. Our lads started the second half with some great hurling. Some great displays from our six backs and goalkeeper kept the pressure on Boherlahan. With Conor Stakelum, Joe Loughnane and Tom Stapleton rampant we built up a five points lead. Boherlahan came back as was expected and with our backs to the wall we held out for the final whistle to win by one point. There was great jubilation at this point as our supporters were ecstatic and showed their pride in our team who won by 3 goals 6 points to 3 goals and 5 points.

We thank the team from captain Francis Doolan to the last sub for the great enjoyment they gave us during the year.

**T. F. S.**  
P.R.O. Borris-Ileigh



**BORRIS-ILEIGH UNDER-21 HURLING TEAM**

Back row: (l to r) John J. Maher, Seamus Devaney, Phil Delaney, Joe Loughnane, Barry Ryan, John Glasheen, Conor Stakelum, Michael Stapleton. Front row (l to r) Joe Boyle, Eamon Kenny, Christy Reid, Joe Kennedy, Francis Doolan (captain), John Ryan, Tom Stapleton.





### BORRIS-ILEIGH — ALL-IRELAND CLUB CHAMPIONS

**Back row** (l.-r.): John Glasheen, Philip Delaney, Pat Ryan, Conor Stakelum, Gerry Stapleton, Richard Stakelum, Noel O'Dwyer, Timmy Stapleton, Tommy O'Dwyer, Timmy Ryan, Bobby Ryan, Brian Kenny, Seamus Devaney. **Front row** (l.-r.): John McGrath, John Joe Maher, Aidan Ryan, Noel Maher, Philip Kenny, Mick Ryan (captain), Francis Collins, Mick Coen, Francis Spillane, John Ryan, Joe Loughnane, Timmy Delaney. **Ascot:** Aidan Coen. (Photo: P. Prior)



Pictured at the presentation to Borris-Ileigh, winners of the 1987 Yoplait All-Ireland Hurling Sevens Trophy were Dr. Michael Loftus, President, G.A.A. (on right) and Noel Maher, Borris-Ileigh captain (centre).



Mick Ryan the Borris-Ileigh captain after accepting the All-Ireland Club Trophy from G.A.A. President Mick Loftus.

## ALL-IRELAND CLUB FINAL

**Borris-Ileigh** ..... 2-9  
**Rathnure** ..... 0-9

**M**AJESTICALLY the men from Borris-Ileigh sit astride the hurling world, in regal isolation — their superiority over the nation's best, confirmed in a testing all-Ireland club hurling final at Croke Park, Dublin, on St. Patrick's Day from which they emerged victorious over Rathnure of Wexford by 2-9 to 0-9 to record their first triumph at this level, and maintain the supremacy for Tipperary initiated last year by Kilruane MacDonaghs.

**Borris-Ileigh scorers:** A. Ryan 1-2, P. Kenny 1-1, N. O'Dwyer 0-4, C. Stakelum, J. McGrath 0-1 each.

**Rathnure scorers:** J. Houlihan and J. Murphy 0-3 each; M. Morrissey, N. Hearne and J. Redmond 0-1 each.

**Borris-Ileigh:** Noel Maher; Francis Spillane, Timmy Stapleton, Mick Ryan (capt.); Rd. Stakelum, Gerry Stapleton, Bobby Ryan; Timmy Ryan, Francis Collins; Conor Stakelum, Noel O'Dwyer, John McGrath; Mick Coen, Philip Kenny, Aidan Ryan. Sub: Brian Kenny for T. Ryan.

**Rathnure:** T. Morrissey, M. Codd, M. Quigley, J. Doyle; D. Sheehan, J. O'Connell, J. Conran; J. Houlihan, L. Ronan; J. Codd, J. Redmond, N. Hearne, P. Codd, J. Murphy, M. Morrissey. Sub: J. Quigley for Codd.

The attendance was 9,550.



# North Tipperary Juvenile Report 1987

**T**OOMEVARA and Éire Óg dominated the Juvenile scene by winning all three under-age titles in hurling and football respectively. The year brought about the emergence of a new force in U/14 hurling when Ballina/Ballinahinch reached the semi-final of the Urban and the final of the Rural.

Silvermines came back with a bang, scoring a double in U/14 Section II hurling and football. Portroe were there also in U/16 hurling while Newport continue to dominate our Section II football competitions.

On a sad note we noticed the decline of Roscrea in our games and let's hope that they will be back in '88 with a bang.

Here now is a summary of each of the competitions.

## U-12 Hurling Section I

Toomevara achieved a three in a row at the expense of a well-coached Moneygall outfit in a game which drew the largest attendance of the year. This competition was run on a league basis with six teams taking part.

A disappointing Borrisokane team and Éire Óg failed to make it to the semi's. Éire Óg did, however, fight long and hard, having failed in a play-off after a second attempt to Roscrea.

Roscrea and Kilruane in turn lost to Toomevara and Moneygall in the semi-finals.

Lorrha were brilliant in Section II. They overcame a disappointing Newport team in the Rural. Silvermines and Ballina/Ballinahinch were the losing teams in the semi-finals. Other teams which caught the eye were Kildangan and Borrisoleigh.

## U-14 Section I Rural

Six teams took part, being divided into two groups of three. Toome qualified for the semi-final against Kilruane, having an easy win, while Ballina/Ballinahinch caused an upset, defeating '86 champions Borrisokane. Toomevara were easy winners in the final and captain, Paul Mullins, received the Conway Cup to add to the Martin Kennedy Trophy won in the Urban.

Toomevara did not have it all their own way. They fought a

long, hard battle, emerging winners against Éire Óg in a thriller in the first round of the Urban. They then had an easy win over Kilruane, thus meeting Ballina/Ballinahinch in the semi-final.

Meanwhile, Borrisokane set out to defend their title, beating Roscrea, Ballina/Ballinahinch to meet Éire Óg in the semi-final. This game was one of the most outstanding games of the year. Toome and Boris emerged winners. Toomevara just managed a two-point win on a wet evening in the final.

## Section II U/14 Hurling

Silvermines became champions after a ten-year wait, defeating neighbours Burgess in a thrilling game. They beat Newport and Kildangan respectively in the semi-finals. Borrisoleigh were the only other team to provide a threat.

## Féile

Borrisokane made up for their losses in beating Toome in an exciting battle in the final.

## U/16 Hurling — Section I

A very good final played on a very wet evening between Toomevara (winners) and Roscrea made up for a disappointing championship. Nine teams took part but only five teams looked like having any say in the destination of the title. The five being Borrisokane, Kilruane, Éire Óg Roscrea and Toomevara.

Borrisokane were the odd one out with Kilruane losing heavily in the semi-final to Roscrea, while there was a much closer contest in the other semi-final between Toomevara and Éire Óg. A feature of the final was the great display of Tommie Carroll, scoring 16 points out of a total of 19. This was also a third in a row for Toom.

## Section II

A splendidly contested championship in which seven teams took part. A play-off was necessary in one group between Silvermines, Newport and Kildangan, while Borrisleagh and Portroe were too good for Shannon Rovers and Templeberry in the other group.

There were two well-contested semi-finals, Portroe



Watching unveiling of plaque at 100th County Convention in Nenagh.

accounting for Silvermines while Kildangan caused an upset in beating Borrisleagh in the other. Portroe won the final in a low-scoring but very good game.

N.B.—All hurling competitions were run on a league basis.

Players to note for the future were brothers Terry and Tommy Dunne, Toomevara while Phil Shanahan and Paul Mullins excelled for the champions. We also saw great performances throughout the year from Adrian Hogan, Shay Killeen, Borrisokane; Shay

McKeogh, Ballina; Brian Gaynor, Kilruane, and Fergal Myers, Éire Óg. In Section II John Kennedy, Silvermines; Eugene O'Brien, Burgess; Denis Hogan and Paul Doyle, Portroe, and Joe Brennan, Newport, were impressive, while the Horan brothers also caught the eye.

In Section II U/12 Pdraig Madden, Lorrha, was an inspiring captain.

## FOOTBALL

All football competitions were run on a knock-out basis.

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## U/12 Section I

Éire Óg emerged as winners over Roscrea. This competition was only a two-horse race as all other teams entered Section II. This was Éire Óg's four in a row.

## Section II

Newport proved too strong for the opposition, Ballina/Ballinahinch, Kildangan to reach the final while Éire Óg (B) accounted for Burgess and Shannon Rovers. Newport easily won the final. Eleven teams took part.

## U/14 — Section I

Four teams entered the 'A' competition with Roscrea losing heavily to Borrisokane while Éire Óg had it less easier with Newport. The final was a thriller with Éire Óg coming out on top by three points.

## Section II

Nine teams took part.

Silvermines and Éire Óg reached the final. Silvermines' path to the final started with a win over Ballina/Ballinahinch, Kildangan and then Kilruane were next to fall. Éire Óg's path was an easy win over Portroe followed with a win over Borrisleigh in the semi-final. The final produced the biggest shock of the year, not because Silvermines won but rather the size of their victory.

## U/16 Football — Section I

Again only four teams competed in Section I. Éire Óg caused a shock by beating Roscrea while Kilruane had an easy win over Borrisokane. Éire Óg barely survived Kilruane's rally in the final.

## Section II

This competition has not been finished at the time of writing. Eleven teams entered and we now have reached the

semi-final stage. Newport are drawn against Ballina while Burgess take on Portroe.

## PEADAR CUMMINS' TOURNAMENT

Having ten of the team who played for Tipperary who won the Waterford Crystal inter-county tournament, North Tipp had to have the 'favourite' tag when going into the semi-final clash against South Tipp. They duly did that and emerged winners by 7-14 to 0-2, having a 6-9 to 0-1 lead at half-time. This led to the clash against Mid Tipp in the final.

After an early setback in which Mid Tipp had a 1-2 to nil score after five minutes, North Tipp set about their task in a man-like fashion to come back and lead 2-6 to 2-4 at the break. Mid Tipp failed to score in the second half while the North

team managed a magnificent 5-5 to bring the final score to 7-11 to 2-4.

To mention any individual would be an injustice to each member of the team, including each of the subs., and let's hope this team will go on to make the Tipp minor team in 1990 and 1991.

## U/16 MUNSTER CHAMPIONSHIP

Or one and only game was against Mid Clare who later went on to win the Munster championship. North Tipp failed to live up to expectations. Starting that day without two of our forwards we could still have won the game had we taken all our chances. We didn't and we lost by 2-9 to 0-4, having failed to score in the second half.

**LIAM HOGAN**

## North Tipperary Bord na nÓg 1987

# ROLL OF HONOUR

## HURLING

**U/12 Hurling, Sec. I** — Semi-finals: Toomevara 4-4; Roscrea 2-1. Moneygall 5-1; Kilruane 3-2. Final: **Toomevara 2-0**; Moneygall 0-2.

**U/12 Hurling, Sec. II** — Semi-finals: Silvermines 0-1; Lorrha 5-1. Newport 4-3; Ballina/Ballinahinch 3-2. Final: Lorrha 5-5; Newport 1-0. Referee: Jimmy Conroy.

**U/14 Hurling, Sec. I R.** — Semi-finals: Toomevara 2-19; Kilruane 1-6; Ballina/Ballinahinch 1-5; Borrisokane 1-0. Final: **Toomevara 4-5**; Ballina/Ballinahinch 1-0.

Referee: A. Walshe.

**U/14 Hurling, Sec. I, U/R** — Semi-finals: Toomevara 3-6; Ballina/Ballinahinch 1-0; Borrisokane 2-9; Éire Óg 3-3. Final: **Toomevara 1-7**; Borrisokane 1-5.

Referee: Tom Gleeson.

**U/14 H. Sec. II** — Semi-final: Burgess 2-4; Kildangan 2-3; Silvermines bt Newport. Final: Burgess 3-4; Silvermines 5-3.

Referee: Martin Darcy.

**U/16 Hurling, Sec. I** — Semi-finals: Roscrea 5-13; Kilruane 2-6. Toomevara 2-6; Éire Óg 1-3. Final: **Toomevara 0-19**; Roscrea 2-6.

Referee: P. Sheedy.

**U/16 H. Sec. II** — Semi-finals: Kildangan 0-7; Borrisleigh 1-3. Portroe 2-11; Silvermines 0-9. Final: Portroe 0-7; Kildangan 1-3.

Referee: Chris Middleton.

## FOOTBALL

**U/12 F. Sec. I** — Final: **Éire Óg 3-2**; Roscrea 0-0.

Referee: Michael Maunsell.

**U/12 F. Sec. II** — Semi-final: Newport 7-2; Kildangan 0-1. Éire Óg 2-1; Shannon Rovers 2-0. Final: Newport 4-4; Éire Óg 0-0.

Referee: Michael Mackey.

**U/14 F. Sec. I** — Semi-final: Borrisokane 7-8; Roscrea 0-0. Éire Óg 4-5; Newport 4-0. Final: **Éire Óg 3-7**; Borrisokane 3-4.

Referee: Tom Gleeson.

**U/14 F. Sec. II** — Éire Óg 3-5; Borrisleigh 2-2. Silvermines 2-5; Kilruane 1-1. Final: Éire Óg 0-0; Silvermines 11-4.

Referee: Martin Hogan.

**U/16 F. Sec. I** — Semi-final: Éire Ó (A) 3-3; Roscrea 0-3. Kilruane 2-6; Borrisokane 0-0. Final: **Éire Óg 0-6**; Kilruane 1-1.

Referee: M. Maunsell.

**U/16 F. Sec. II** — Semi-finals: Portroe v. Burgess; Newport v. Ballina/Ballinahinch.

**Féile na nGael** — Semi-final: **Borrisokane 2-6**; Toomevara 2-2.

Referee: D. Hogan.

**Peadar Cummins U/14 Tournament** — Semi-final: North 7-14; South 0-2. Final: **North 7-11**; Mid 2-4.

**U/16 H. Munster Championship** — First round: North Tipp 0-4; Mid Clare 2-9.

**U/16 F. Inter-Divisional** — North Tipp 2-6; South 2-4. Final: **North Tipp 0-6**; Mid 1-9.

**Garda Cup U/16 H. Tournament** — Semi-final November 7th.

Well done  
Cappawhite  
V.S.

Congratulations to Cappawhite Vocational School - fourteen of the school's past pupils were on the Cappawhite senior hurling panel that won the county final. School principal is John Kelly, former Tipperary full-back.

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# Minors steal the limelight in Toomevara

Joe McGrath

**H**aving won three county titles, five North titles and club of the year the previous year, 1987 was always going to find it difficult to compare with it. Looking back at the years successes and failures, one can conclude that further progress has been made and valuable experience gained by all.

**U-12s:** Again dominated in the North and recorded another title under Terry Dunne's captaincy before giving best to Durlas Óg in the Co. Final.

**U-14s:** Began early in the year and steady progress saw them through to the rural and urban rural North Finals against Erin's Hope in which they were successful. Arravale Rovers and Killenaule provided the stiffest of opposition to Philip Shanahan's team and a county title eluded them. Consolation however came their way in winning the Munster Community Games and a weekend in Mosney in September which turned out to be wet, with victory being narrowly missed out on.

**U-16s:** Took its time getting off the ground but the wait was rewarding. Having got to the final by defeating Eire Óg they came up against a very fancied Roscrea team. The role of underdogs suited the team and in a tremendous team performance, outsmarted the Reds to record a historic three-in-a-row North titles at this level. Tommy Carroll's 14 point contribution had a huge bearing on this success which saw Tony Delaney receive the cup. The team were unlucky not to have beaten Arravale Rovers in the County Final at the first time of asking and had to settle for second best in the replay in two great games.

**Minors:** A three-in-a-row of North Minor titles was also the objective of our minor team. Prospects of such an achievement looked slim as we were beaten by Kilruane during Easter. Much of the summer passed before our first championship match against Erin's Hope on a wet August evening. Victory was secured and practice matches against Ahane and Shannon kept us going. Kilruane, who only missed out narrowly the previous year, were also in the final, which we won surprisingly easier than expected on a score of 2-14 to 2-4 to record another 3-in-a-row.

A successful defence of the Co. title was now the objective and St. Mary's were our semi final opponents whom we beat by 1-9 to 0-2.

Sarsfields were the opposition in the final on a perfect November day. After a very sluggish start which saw the game nearly get away from us, we fought back to get within 3 points at the break. Having dominated the second half and got our noses in front with 10 minutes to go we missed chances to finish off the "Blues"

and were lucky not to concede a late goal and eventually won by 2 points. Paul Delaney was a proud captain as he accepted the Seán Treacy Cup for a historical defence of the title. The victory was just reward for the work put in during the year and hopefully some consolation for four of the team who had earlier in the year tasted defeat in Croke Park in All-Ireland final. They were Michael Delaney; J. Kennedy; D. O'Meara and captain of the team Michael O'Meara who led his team to Munster Championship success.

**U-21:** Having lost many of the last two Co. U-21 winning teams it was difficult to expect another treble of titles. Though starting very well against Roscrea in the North semi-final we found ourselves behind at half-time and despite an heroic and dominating second half we narrowly missed out on a final spot.

**Juniors:** Once again it was a case of so near and yet so far for this dedicated group of players and selectors. Early in the year Lorrha defeated us in a great game in the final of the junior league. How ominous this defeat was to be as the same teams met in the championship final proper later on. For a number of the players who figured on losing junior teams in the past five years, don't be disillusioned — success will be all the sweeter when it comes.

**Seniors:** Having played so well the previous year, hopes were high that success at the highest level was not far off. The senior league proved to be a disaster with many poor performances. By championship time a new impetus was

found and Borrisokane were defeated despite a hiccup or two during the second half — a feature of our game that proved costly later on in the semi-final against Lorrha. Having started with a flurry of scores we fell asleep and allowed the opposition into an interval 7 point lead. That was wiped out quickly in the second half but again we lost concentration and the match finished all square. The replay 3 weeks later was never as good despite its closeness which resulted in extra time. This was also an up and down affair as Lorrha raced ahead and kept us scoreless for the first period and yet we could have snatched the equaliser with time running out.

For all our underage success it is still no compensation for that one elusive senior success. The team on the whole is fairly young and has still a lot to learn especially in the area of concentration and hurling for a full hour. When the chance comes in a game to finish off the opposition it must be taken.

1987 was still a very successful year with four North titles and one County title which many clubs would be extremely proud of. Progress at senior level however is still the yardstick by which we will be judged. The work of our players, selectors, trainers, committee and especially our finance committee who once again worked wonders to keep us afloat, and supporters will continue until the ultimate goal is secured. "The inevitable has to happen". It's only a question of when.



TOOMEVARA UNDER-12 NORTH TIPPERARY CHAMPIONS



TOOMEVARA UNDER-14 NORTH TIPPERARY CHAMPIONS



# Lorrha: Kingpins of Junior Hurling in North Tipp

By AIDEN McINTYRE

**O**CTOBER 3rd '87 will live long in the memories of all true Lorrha hurling supporters, when after a lapse of twenty-one years we finally captured the Junior A championship. Our five-point winning margin was a true reflection on what was a brilliant display by a very spirited and determined outfit. We completed a rare double that day, as we had also won the Junior League earlier in the year. Coincidentally, we defeated Toomevara in both finals. Subsequently, five of the winning League team advanced to the senior team and their loss seemed to have a significant bearing as in the first round of the championship the team gave a rather inept performance and were lucky to scrape home against Borrisokane. In the next round against Knockshegowna we were even more fortunate to come away from Borrisokane with a draw.

From then on, the team began to show its true capabilities and with the arrival of "returned Yank" Joe Kennedy (who more than adequately replaced his nephew Pat, who had scored the levelling point for our senior team against Toomevara) the team ran out comfortable winners in the replay.

In the semi-final against Ballinahinch where once again we were depleted by the promotion of Joe Kennedy to the senior team, we defeated them with a very competent display which was highlighted by unerring accuracy by Paul Houlihan and some super finishing by Liam Reddish.

## LORRHA RECOVERY

After a somewhat shaky start in the final, we recovered to gain a memorable victory. A lot of credit for this win must go to selectors Kieran Hough, Eamon Maher and Lar Gleason. The first two who have passed on all the experience and craft they have gathered over the years to willing listeners, and Lar, who has singularly made it fashionable and desirable to play junior. The amount of work he has accomplished since he became selector four years ago is unbelievable. One of his main achievements has been to coax a number of players out of premature retirement. One of his proteges is this year's captain, John Shelly, who proved an ideal target man, made and finished numerous scores.

## COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP

We advanced to the county final with a competent display in Holycross against Ballyneale. We thus made our third appearance in a county junior final (we won in 1946 and were defeated in 1961). This was to be our fifth county final in all grades. This is a paltry total for what must

be considered a leading club in Tipperary. Clearly we have not had the success that we probably have merited but hopes were high that the balance would be redressed in the final against Thurles Sarsfields.

However, our dreams were not to be realised. The Mid champions were formidable opponents and their good blend of youth and experience adapted better to the slippery conditions to edge our gallant stalwarts in a low-scoring game.

## JUNIOR-B

Not to be outdone, our Junior-B also advanced to the North final. This had been achieved by some scoring sprees against Ballina, Portroe and Templederry. But, unfortunately, the lack of a serious competitive match proved to be our undoing in the final against Shannon Rovers.

As with a lot of Lorrha teams, we freeze when it comes to finals and really never produce our true capabilities on final day. We also got the final of this grade in 1985. From that team two players advanced to following year's senior teams. In this year's team it is quite evident that there is an amount of untapped potential present and hopefully it can be refined to worthwhile effect.

## SENIOR

Our senior team, after a somewhat exhilarating start, faded into oblivion. We defeated All-Ireland club champions Borrisoleigh in probably the shock of the season in Nenagh with a last-minute goal by John Sherlock. After two epic encounters against Toomevara (definitely, we were their bogey team this year) we advanced to the North final. Unfortunately, we came up against a rejuvenated and fiercely determined Kilruane team, and in the play-off against Roscrea, the rigours of the two previous games told and we finished the campaign a very tired (both physically and mentally) team.

All in all, it was scant reward for a tremendous amount of effort. We had been training since February. There were a lot of sacrifices by both players and officials. Under new coach Tommy McClearn we were probably never as physically fit and showed the benefits of this in our matches against Borrisoleigh and in the extra time against Toomevara. But sometimes I wonder is there too much perspiration and not enough inspiration.

## A GREAT ACHIEVEMENT

Our three appearances in North finals by our adult teams is quite a phenomenal achievement. This has involved roughly 60

players (19 senior, 17 junior and 24 junior B players). To have so many adults involved on the playing fields proves that hurling is thriving within the parish. There were times during the Summer when there would be 40 players at a training session.

Hurling is the lifeblood of the parish. Our supporters are, without doubt, tremendously loyal. We always have large crowds at our matches and even this year when we went down so disappointingly in the North senior final, quite a sizeable amount of our "fans" went to the play-off against Roscrea the following Sunday. It seemed that there would be a backlash for the Junior final a week later. But once again "they" came, more in hope than confidence. This time, though, their faith was rewarded.

Unfortunately, such like occasions have been few and far between. For example, since 1960 our senior team has appeared in eight senior finals and we have lost all but two. Previous to that we won five out of seven finals. We flatter to deceive and promise a lot more than we deliver and this year is a typical example.

We clearly lack the "killer" instinct and a disturbing feature of our play in all our teams for the last number of years has been our failure to "put away" teams when we have a comfortable lead.

Usually, when one comes to see Lorrha hurling they can be assured of a breathtaking finish. Clearly we don't know how to win and unless we get some crash courses soon, a lot of this present team will never get an elusive county medal and perhaps none of us will.

We are not taking full advantage of the interest in hurling within the parish. Some of our ex-players play little or no part in the running of the club, and it has been left to the dedicated few to run the club year-in-year-out. Unfortunately, this has led to a stagnant and very conservative club.

## ADMINISTRATION

At our last A.G.M. a completely new team of officers were installed. There were an abundance of ideas, new committees were formed, some very successful. For example, the Juvenile Committee. We annexed our first Juvenile title in 12 years and first ever under 12 championship. Well done to chairman Michael Liffey and fellow selectors Jo Needham N.T. and Tom Kennedy N.T.

The Finance and Development Committee recognised at once that there is a great lack of facilities. It is amazing, considering the amount of players we have, when one takes into account our very basic training ground (which has





LORRHA — COUNTY JUNIOR FINALISTS 1987

never been officially opened). Their efforts have not met with financial success and the committee had to suffer the immeasurable loss of its chairman, Fr. Tom Seymour. But hopefully with the advent of our "Lord Mayor" campaign we will be able to implement some of their worthwhile plans.

The Games Committee have had a very exciting year and hopefully it will continue to include a County Junior title. Our Social Committee has had little to do yet, but with the arrival of Scór and the long Winter nights, we shall come to recognise its value.

The future looks reasonably bright and if we can lose some of our suicidal

tendencies, then more tangible results can be gained. Perhaps we all take it too seriously and our passions are easily aroused, and we as a club are unable to adapt to change. Sometimes too much interest is taken with on-the-field activities and as a result administration suffers. But with the amount of goodwill within the parish towards the club, then all the diverse opinions could be merged into a powerful consensus.

Finally, 1987 will be remembered by two of our players — Ken Hogan and Paraic Kennedy — with special affection. Ken's wonderful year with Tipperary stirred the pride within all Lorrha people. Hopefully he will be the parish's first All-

Star. Lorrha has always been known as "Tony Reddan's country" but now it seems that a suitable successor is emerging to don the mantle of greatness.

Paraic Kennedy's quite astonishing feat in collecting two North Junior medals with a gap of twenty-one years in between is surely a record. He epitomises what Lorrha hurling is all about and long may his career continue.

This year will go down as one of our great years. Unfortunately, our great years have been followed by very disappointing and frustrating ones. Hopefully we can build on what has been achieved and make 1988 an even more memorable year.

## Éire Óg Nenagh capture three titles

**W**HILST there is little doubt that football is the poor relation in Tipperary, nevertheless, Éire Óg's achievement in capturing all Section I titles in the North and losing narrowly in the county final made it a very successful year for the club.

The U/12s contested the North final with Roscrea, the only other club in the competition, and after an evenly contested opening period ran out easy winners in the end to take their fourth title in a row. The absence of key players on holidays, together with the lack of competition in the North, militated against their chances in the county semi-final and as a result were eliminated by a well-drilled Durlas Óg side.

The U/14s began the defence of their North and county titles against Newport on a very bad evening at Dalla. This was a very competitive game and late goals gave Éire Óg a flattering eight-point win. Weather conditions again were far from ideal for the North final against Borrisokane, as a strong wind made ball control difficult. This game played at Kilcoleman turned out to be a thriller and it was anybody's game up to the last minute. It took a late goal to retain the title against a skilful Borris team.

It was on to the county semi-final against Carrick Swans at Boherlahan. A shaky start made our task very difficult, but nevertheless we recovered well to be only a point behind at half-time. Numerous chances were created after the break, but a combination of wild shooting and over-elaboration proved costly and Carrick regained control in the closing stages and scored some great long-distance points for a deserved victory.

Our U/16s, backboned by last year's brilliant U/14 team, proved to be the surprise packets. Drawn against hot favourites Roscrea in the semi-final, they turned in a first-class display for a decisive victory. An interesting aspect of this result was the fact that Roscrea had easily beaten Éire Óg two years ago when they met at U/14 level. In the North final the Nenagh boys found the going tough against a determined Kilruane side and were lucky to hold out for a narrow win.

Borrisoleigh was the setting for the county semi-final against Durlas Óg. After facing a slight breeze in the first half Éire Óg were a point ahead at the break, but a transformed Durlas side attacked continuously for the first twenty minutes of the second half. The Nenagh defence played brilliantly and a last-minute goal was enough to secure a county final place against Arravale Rovers on September 22nd at Holycross. From early on the Arravale boys laid siege on the Nenagh goal but their shooting was way off the mark and despite the superiority they only turned over four points ahead.

What a second half it turned out to be as Éire Óg took a firm grip on the game and it was Arravale's turn to soak up the pressure. An early point followed by a well worked goal had the teams level, and when Nenagh took a point lead it looked like victory would be achieved. However, Arravale weathered the storm and two points gave them the title by the narrowest of margins. But before the final whistle, the Nenagh boys staged a tremendous late rally in search of the equaliser and a late attempt went agonisingly wide. So ended what proved to be a successful year for the club and left us looking forward to another enjoyable season in the year ahead.



# Borrisokane — success comes to a small club

**T**HE big aim of any juvenile club, apart from promotion of our national games, is to win county honours and when it comes for the first time, all the dreams come true, particularly for mentors and club officials. 1986 was such a year for Borrisokane, one of the smaller rural clubs, who are also allowed to play juveniles from Knockshegrena, which is the Tipperary portion of Shinrone (Co. Offaly) parish.

All the long years of frustration are forgotten when county honours are achieved. It is impossible to put into words what the thrill of winning for the first time is like, particularly for the officials who have given so much time over so many years and hoped that every year would bring that success.

Back in the 'Sixties and 'Seventies with Fr. Novin, Fr. Seymour, Denis Gardiner, Noel McDonnell and others, Borrisokane won Divisional honours but could never make the big breakthrough. Beaten at county semi-final or county final level and often by that frustrating one point, were we ever to break through?

It was said at that time there was a curse on Borrisokane and that we would never win a Juvenile County Championship. This was a widely held opinion in the parish and Holycross became known as our "burial ground". There

were some lean years in the late '70s and early '80s, when spirits were low, but Paul Hogan, now Chairman, and Micheál Cleary and the Primary Schools started a School League in 1982, and with local sponsorship for trophy and plaques and good coaching from Fr. Madden, P.P., and Paul Dooley, N.T., the youngsters showed marked improvement.

The importance of coaching at under-12 stage combined with a School League cannot be stressed enough and the culmination of all that work was achieved in 1986. Three new under-14 selectors were elected that year: Paddy Murphy, who had semi-retired from the games' scene in the 'Seventies; Fr. Madden and Tadhg Slevin.

The first outing was the Féile na nÓg Blitz in Nenagh, where we had a good win over Roscrea, but were narrowly defeated by Éire Óg. However, the potential of the team was evident that day and from then on great efforts and time were spent in training sessions.

"Paddy Murphy's" Under-14s were often scoffed at but the good signs were there. However, when they beat one of the North's kingpins, Toomevara, in the North Rural Final everyone in the parish took notice. Down to Holycross, the "burial ground" and Knockavilla proved once

again that county championships are not easily won. However, while spirits were very low after that match, hope wasn't abandoned and efforts were again renewed.

We faced Éire Óg in North Urban/Rural Final. Our lads gave one of the greatest displays of hurling in any grade as well as showing magnificent grit on that evening to overcome a great Éire Óg team. Another North championship — but what about that elusive county title?

Paul Hogan, Paddy Murphy, Micheál Cleary and Tadhg Slevin travelled to Boherlahan to study form at the other county semi-final between Durlas Óg and Knockavilla (who had already beaten us in the Rural championship). Durlas Óg won easily and coming home in the car hopes were low, but before they left "Martin Ger's" that night, they decided that they could and would beat Durlas Óg, who were going for their third U/14 county title in a row.

Well, against all the odds, the dream came true and we did beat Durlas Óg in Borrisoleigh by the narrowest of margins, 2-7 to 2-6. The scenes of joy when the final whistle blew and Eoin Cleary was presented with the county trophy were beyond description. Indeed, there were tears in many an adult eye. The cavalcade of cars back home through Nenagh,

followed by a victory parade through Borrisokane, Ballingarry and Eglis, was unbelievable. It took a long, long time to accept that Borrisokane Juveniles were U/14 County Champions at last.

One last match remained. We played Knockavilla for the "Turas" to the All-Ireland and once again we returned to the "burial ground" of Holycross. Convincingly we laid the old bogey and beat Knockavilla. That day out in Dublin was a great day and night and the culmination of a great year.

The historic team which brought such honours were all heroes and each in his own way contributed to the great achievements. Panel consisted of Shay Killeen, Paul Farrell, Henry Reid, Kevin Corrigan, Keith Slevin, Adrian Hogan, Enda Dunne, Eoin Cleary (capt.), Declan Costelloe, Brendan Reid, Alan Carroll, Raymond Killeen, Morgan Hough, Michael Darcy, Niall McKenna, Denis Molloy, James Lyons, Seán Harte, Raymond Hogan, John Egan, Thomas Hough and John Slevin.

An item of interest, which does not happen too often, happened in the Slevin household that year. Keith Slevin won an U/14 county medal while his father, Tadhg, was a selector of that team. His mother, Josie, not to be outdone, won a county medal

## 1986 BORRISOKANE UNDER-14 NORTH TIPP CHAMPIONS AND COUNTY CHAMPIONS

**17 Front row** (L. to R.): Raymond Killeen, Denis Molloy, Paul Farrell, Shay Killeen. **Middle row** (L. to R.): Tommy Haugh, Raymond Hogan, Keith Slevin, Kevin Corrigan, Brendan Reid, James Lyons, Sean Harte, Niall McKenna, John Slevin. **Back row** (L. to R.): Enda Dunne, Morgan Haugh, Declan Costelloe, Eoin Cleary (capt.), Michael D'Arcy, Alan Carroll, Adrian Hogan, Henry Reid. **At back** (L. to R.): Joe Hannigan, P. J. Meara, Tadhg Slevin (selector), Sean Egan, Micheál Ó Cléirigh, Paul Hogan, Michael Quigley, Paddy Murphy (selector). Missing from photo: John Egan and Fr. Madden (selector).





with Borrisokane camogie team.

That win of 1986 should have carried on into 1987. However, the only success was winning North Féile na nÓg Blitz when we beat Toomevara in the final. This should have paved the way for a good run in the championship but success is hard to maintain in a small club and it did not come our way in 1987.

That is not to say that the lads didn't try — they tried their utmost but a little bit of luck deserted them when they needed it most. It is of interest to note that in 1986 Éire Óg won North Féile Blitz but did not win the 1986 U/14 North Championship. The same thing happened to Borrisokane in 1987. Is there a lesson to be learned there somewhere?

Success came to Borrisokane in 1986 and it will long be remembered. It shows that any small rural club can have success, maybe not too often, but with hard work, dedication and that little bit of luck, success will come. It's worth a great lot of time, work,

energy and frustration.

After the early doubts, all Gaelic games followers in the parish rallied round and a feature of the later games was the magnificent vocal support which was forthcoming for every game, a factor which contributed also to this memorable year. But before this support became obvious, the selectors and the team had to prove themselves.

This great team also achieved something else — it brought the whole parish together and won many new admirers for the great game of hurling. This team has proved that a small club can achieve greatness, even for a short time but more importantly for the club itself. It has formed the nucleus for better than average teams in Under/16, Minor and Under/21 grades in the years to come. Who knows? in the not too distant future a cavalcade of horn-blowing cars may parade through Nenagh, Borrisokane and Aglish bearing the County Senior Hurling Trophy — the Under-14 County Championship was also once a dream.



#### MOTHER AND SON WIN MEDALS IN SAME YEAR

Mrs. Josie Slevin, winner of county championship with Borrisokane Junior Camogie Club. Her son, Keith, won Under-14 County Urban/Rural Championship.



Tipperary Senior Hurling captain Richard Stakelum, pictured receiving the B&I personality of the month award (July) from Mr. Ronnie Delaney at a function in Dublin. Also included are Richard's parents, Angela (R.I.P.) and Conor. Previous Tipperary winners of the award are Francis Loughnane, Jim Kehoe, Nicholas English and Seamus Power.



# SILVERMINES - 1987

**H**AVING played a leading part in the early years of the G.A.A. (winning the Silver Cup — the G.A.A.'s oldest trophy, qualifying for the 1888 County Senior Hurling Semi-final, providing 5 players on Tipp's first inter-county panel — one of whom scored the first goal in an inter-county game), Silvermines lived in relative obscurity for well nigh on 85 years. Victories were few and treasured and it wasn't until 1972 that the 'Mines made the breakthrough into senior ranks with a panel capable of holding their own with the best senior clubs in the county. Thirteen divisional titles, in different grades were won from 1969 to 1980. All-Ireland medals were won by club members at Minor, Under-21 and Intermediate Hurling level. New dressingrooms were built in the playing field, and a handball alley was added later. The club was going well. The 70's was a "golden decade" for the club.

Championship successes became a memory in the eighties and representing the club was more a nightmare than a dream. There were talks of going back to Intermediate grade for a number of years before 1987. The step down didn't materialise. Why? Though defeat was our lot almost every Sunday we fielded a team, no opposition had succeeded in inflicting a humiliating defeat on us. There was never more than a few points between winning and losing and we waited for "with a little bit of luck" or "the breaks". We still felt we were as good as the best.

However, our self-criticism, our reappraisal of resources and prospects took a more realistic turn at the A.G.M. in December 1986. There was a motion on the Clar demanding that the club apply to the Board for regrading. The senior panel was circularised and their views sought. After all they would be the ones most directly affected. Nineteen replied and sixteen of those were adamant we had a place in senior ranks. There



**SILVERMINES TEAM WHICH WON NORTH TIPP. INTERMEDIATE FINAL**

**Back:** Alan Kinsella, John Sherlock, Michael McCarthy, Ger Ryan, Joe Harrington, Donal Forde, Noel Sheehy, Jim Keogh. **Front:** Joe Quinlan, Michael Maher, Liam Keogh, William Ryan, John Grace, Michael O'Brien, Tom Freeman.

was a decent discussion on the subject at the annual meeting and the views of the players were respected. Senior for yet another year.

We participated in the North Tipp. Senior League with disastrous results. We were finding it increasingly difficult to field a team. A mere handful was turning up for training, and it became apparent that the future of hurling in the club was more in question than playing in senior ranks. Reality was beginning to dawn on us. An emergency general meeting of the club was called. We had only won two of our previous 23 games. Emigration had hit us hard. The appetite was no longer there. The decision was obvious, though not taken lightly.

The request to play Intermediate hurling was forwarded to the Board for their consideration. The senior clubs viewed it with an air of inevitability. Some Intermediate clubs were not enthusiastic. The request was granted and so after 15 years among the heavyweights we

had returned to the middleweight division. The rest is history. The services of Con Kinane as manager were engaged. Jack Dunlea acted as trainer and selector. Pat O'Brien and Paddy Collins were also on the selection team. Chairman Liam Gleeson, and Secretary John Sherlock kept the show on the road.

Victories over Templederry, Portroe and Kildangan qualified us for a semi-final spot against Burgess, which we won after "extra time". Newport were defeated in the North final. We were lucky to overcome Cahir in the county semi-final in Boherlahan on 11th. Oct. The final against Clonmore was fixed for Sunday, 25th. The County Senior Selectors requested that Noel Sheehy be made available for Tipp's league game against Wexford on the same day. Silvermines agreed to a change of date and the game was brought forward to Sunday, 18th.

It meant that Silvermines would be playing championship games on five successive

Sundays. The decision didn't improve Silvermines, and Clonmore, like Robert de Bruce and his spider on Rathlin Island, were at last successful. Our heartiest congratulations to Seamus Bourke and co. on their victory. Like Victoria of old, some parishioners were "not amused" when they discovered the following week that Noel Sheehy was not selected on the Tipp. team to play Wexford.

Despite losing the County final, it was a happy year for the club. Like all clubs we followed with joy and pride the fortunes of Co. Seniors in Munster and All-Ireland championship games. We won a junior football title on Hallow'een, increasing the intensity of bonfires in the area on the night. The juvenile club did us proud in winning 2 under-age titles, while our handball club though still in its infancy, won a staggering sixteen titles. Silvermines are at last doing something they haven't done for quite a while — training in October and winning.

We look forward to 1988.



# Gaelic Games in the Vocational Schools

**Borrisokane, Nenagh and Newport reach all-Ireland Finals  
North and South V.E.C.'s Unite**



T. J. Egan

**D**ESPITE the severe financial cutbacks in education 1987 was another successful and historic year for the vocational schools. Historic in the sense that for the first time since the setting up of vocational education in the 30's North and South Tipp Games Committees came together and formed the one team to represent the county at inter-county level in hurling and football.

## INDIVIDUAL SCHOOLS U/19 HURLING

Borrisokane V.S. the defending champions, opening game in defence of their title was against old rivals Ennis V.S. at Thomond College. With eight of the previous years talented panel available plus the services of Kildangan's Colm Egan, a member of the county minor team and a recent recruit from that famed hurling nursery — St. Flannan's College, Ennis — expectations were high of another successful campaign. In a very one-sided and disappointing game Borrisokane were easy winners on the score 6-17 to 2-3 — with Colm Egan their top scorer.

On the same day a very depleted Nenagh team were giving way to a much stronger and fitter Causeway fifteen.

## MUNSTER SEMI-FINAL

Borrisokane's next outing was against Midleton of Cork — a team that the Borris lads had defeated in the previous years championship by 1-8 to 1-5. On this occasion with Padraic Hogan and Joe Murphy in great form the Tipp lads were convincing winners on the score 3-10 to 1-8.

## MUNSTER FINAL

The Munster final was a repeat of the previous years pairings — with Borrisokane seeking their third title in a row — and their fourth in five years — pitted against St. Brogan's of Bandon at Kilmallock. After a shaky start Borris were 1-2 to 0-1 down after ten minutes. However, the team settled down and began to play constructive hurling. Colm Egan registered their first goal in the 20th minute and from there on there was no doubt as to the destination of the cup for the third year in a row.

The Cork side were just no match for their Tipp counterparts and indeed the victory margin could have been even bigger but for lapses in the Borris defence which allowed Bandon to score two late goals.

Final score Borris 5-13, Bandon 3-4 with Padraic Hogan collecting his fourth senior Munster medal. Borrisokane scorers: James O'Meara 1-2; Padraic Hogan 0-4; Joe Murphy 0-3; Brendan Hogan 1-3; Donnacha O'Sullivan 1-0 and top scorer Colm Egan 2-1.

## ALL-IRELAND SEMI-FINAL

Borrisokane opponents in the All-Ireland semi-final were newly crowned Connacht champions Moneenageisha of Galway city. Tipp lads approached this game with a certain amount of apprehension — as their two previous appearances at this stage of the competition were absolute disasters for the school, beten in 1983 by Johnstown V.S. and in 1985 thrashed by eventual winners of the title Banagher V.S.

Duggan Park, Ballinasloe, was the venue for this game and despite torrential rain throughout the morning referee Pat Horan (Offaly) after a late inspection of the pitch allowed the game to go ahead.

The game was played in a downpour from start to finish and despite the conditions this was unquestionably one of the finest games of hurling ever played on this famous ground. Had the day been a little kinder one could justifiably suggest that the hurling would have been absolutely enthralling.

Borrisokane won the toss and played with the wind and rain in the first half. After a titanic first half Borris led at half time by 1-4 to 1-2. Many people thought that their slender lead would not be sufficient — with "Moneen" — ready to savour the wind advantage in the second half. Indeed for a while it looked as if the contest was about

to turn very much one-sided when the Galway champions scored five points without reply. All seemed lost for Borrisokane, but the sides unrelenting attitude in the face of adversity paid off when Joe Murphy goaled to level the match with ten minutes remaining. Points were exchanged by both sides and it seemed the result was destined for a draw. With three minutes remaining the all-important score was scored by Padraic Hogan when his soaring shot from the centre of the field dropped in over the heads of the Moneenageish goalkeeper to regain the lead for Borris. The drama was not over yet as Moneenageisha were awarded a free straight in front of the Borrisokane goal. The Galway sides best forward Michael Killalea was entrusted with the free but his blistering shot was parried by the Borris defence and from the clearance the final whistle was blown. A relieved Borrisokane team knew full well that they had been tested to the limits, but by sheer determination and a little luck they had secured their ticket for the final for the second successive year.

## ALL-IRELAND FINAL

The All-Ireland final was fixed for Sunday, May 10th, at Semple Stadium with Kilkenny champions Thomastown providing the opposition. Borrisokane began very nervously and conceded very soft scores in the opening minutes. Thomastown with former Tipp Minor Declan Ryan dominating midfield play increased their lead further entering the second quarter. Joe Murphy was Borrisokane's most dangerous forward in the first half and he lifted their flagging



**KILLENAULE U-14 SOUTH TIPP FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS**

Back: John Hennessy, William Ruttle, Martin Gleeson, Eamon Dalton, Tom Gleeson, Christopher Devitt, Tony Nolan, Seoirse Butler, Michael Lahart, P. J. Walsh, Des McGrath, Shane Ivors, John Connolly, Stephen Lawlor. Front: Mark Cahill, Michael Nolan, Michael McGanny, Kenneth Brett, Tony Shelly, Michael Shelly, Michael Cuddihy, Brian O'Meara, John O'Dwyer, Adrian Heaney, Stephen O'Brien, Eamon Stapleton.





**BORRISOKANE V.S. ALL-IRELAND VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS  
SENIOR HURLING RUNNERS-UP 1987**

Front row (left to right): Mr. Tom Moriarty (Games Master), Declan Dunne, Larry Byrne, Cathal Egan, Brendan Hogan, Padraig Hogan (captain), Bernard Naughnane, Brian England, James O'Meara, Liam Gleeson.

Back row: (left to right): Mr. Nigel Foxton (A.I.B.), Jimmy Cahelan, Eamon Hogan, Colm Haughton, Eugene Cleary, Joe Whelan, John Conroy, Michael Quigley, Colm Egan, Donnacha O'Sullivan, Seamus Brislane, Ger Brennan, Aidan Hough, Joe Murphy, Mr. T. J. Egan (Games Master).

Photograph courtesy Paddy Cotter (Birr)

spirits with a marvellous goal in the 26th minute which left the Tipp lads two points in front at the interval.

## SECOND HALF

Rather than stretch their lead in the second half the Tipperary lads had to fight off a determined challenge by Thomastown who were back on level terms with two great points from Declan Ryan. The in-form Joe Murphy put Borris a point in front minutes later and this was followed by a pointed free from Padraig Hogan to put Borris ahead 3-5 to 1-9. Positional switches by Thomastown paid off entering the final quarter when sub Billy O'Keefe palmed to the net to regain the lead for the Kilkenny boys. Points were exchanged by both sides before Declan Ryan increased the lead to three points with ten minutes remaining. Joe Murphy added another point for Borris, but the score was to finally kill off Borris came in the 55th minute — Eoin O'Neill's blistering shot gave Liam Gleeson no chance and with time running out the Tipp challenge faded.

Even though success was not their lot Borrisokane can be proud of the fact that they contributed to such an outstanding game of hurling. It was ironic that Tipperary man Declan Ryan contributed so much to the defeat of Borris. He gave a marvellous display at midfield. Borrisokane's disappointment was all the more understanding as they were also defeated in the previous year's decider.

Borrisokane scorers: Joe Murphy 1-2; Padraig Hogan 0-2; Brendan Hogan 0-1; James O'Meara 0-1; Colm Egan 1-1; Donnachda O'Sullivan 1-0; Bernard Naughnane 0-1.

Borrisokane's best players were Liam Gleeson, Ger Brennan, John Conroy, Aidan Hough, Joe Murphy, Brendan Hogan and Colm Egan.

Borrisokane V.S.: Liam Gleeson (Kilruane); Ger Brennan (Knockshe-

gowna); Eugene Cleary (do.); Brian England (Kilruane); John Conroy (do.); Aidan Hough (Borrisokane); Cathal Egan (Kildangan); Michael Quigley (Borrisokane); Padraig Hogan (do.); Capt. James O'Meara (Lorrha); Joe Murphy (Knockshegowna); Brendan Hogan (Borrisokane); Colm Egan (Kildangan); Donnacha O'Sullivan (Borrisokane); Bernard Loughnane (Kilruane). Sub: Colm Haughton (Lorrha) for Loughnane.

## THANKS

A special word of thanks to Tom O'Hara secretary, of Mid Board for re-arranging fixtures to facilitate the playing of the final at Semple Stadium.

## HANDBALL

Over the years handball has not received the attention of the support that it deserves due to the fact that most schools do not have a suitable alley to play in. Despite this handicap and undaunted by the indifference shown by the schools, two dedicated teachers and followers of the game in the persons of Michael Tobin (Cashel V.S.) and Andy Purcell (Newport V.S.) have set out to do something about the situation with considerable success.

Earlier in the year both North and South Tipp held blitzes in order to select teams to represent the county in the Munster championship. In the South Cashel came through as did Newport in the North. Unfortunately both schools were drawn against each other in the Munster semi-finals with Newport coming out on top after a very exciting game. In the final Newport defeated Limerick champions Hospital V.S. and so qualified to play in their first ever all-Ireland semi-final.

Roscommon champions, Ballaghadereen V.S. were Newport's opponents and after a very hard fought match as indicated by the scores 20-21; 21-16; 21-19 Newport advanced to the all-Ireland finals.

## ALL-IRELAND FINAL

Kilkenny V.S. 1986 champions were Newport's opposition when they met for their doubles final on May 21st at Thurles. Newport V.S. represented by Philip Kelly (Ballinahinch) and Michael Ryan (Rearcross) were North Tipp's first representatives in a final. Newport got off to a very good start with a 10 aces to 1 lead. However, the more experienced Kilkenny pair got a good grip on the game and won the first game 21-12 and the second and final game by 21-9.

Well done Andy and all concerned.

## INTER-COUNTY

As already stated for the first time ever North and South Tipp V.E.C.'s amalgamated to form the one team to represent the county in hurling and football.

## FOOTBALL

In preparation for their first game of the championship Pat Moroney was elected manager and trainer. A number of trials and practice matches were arranged and all was in readiness for their showdown in the final of the weak sections which comprised of Clare and Limerick with the winners playing Tipp. Limerick having surprisingly defeated Clare provided stiff opposition for three quarters of the game but had to give way in the end to a more eager and fitter Tipp fifteen.

## TIPP V CORK

Tipp's next outing was fixed for Fermoy with "ould" enemies Cork providing the opposition — the winners to play Kerry in the final.

In the first half Cork had the wind in their favour but the Tipp backs played heroically and at half time trailed by only one point 0-4 to 0-3 — all Tipps points coming from the accurate boot of Martin Browne.

With the aid of the breeze in the second half Tipp piled on the pressure but failed to put their superiority on the scoreboard. Cork increased their lead to four points and things looked ominous for Tipp. In the last ten minutes Tipp threw everything at Cork — Pat Ryan narrowed the gap with a point followed a minute later by a superb point from forty yards yards by Colm Egan. In the dying minutes Tipp were awarded a 45, and from the resulting kick substitute Michael O'Meara fielded brilliantly and from close range crashed the ball to the net for the winning score. Final score: Tipp 1-6, Cork 0-7.

Tipperary: John Hally (Clonmel), Aidan Hough (Borrisokane), Jerry Murray (Carrick), J. P. Fennelly (Killenaule), Martin Power (Carrick), Philip Kelly (Newport), Joe Kennedy (Nenagh), Pat Ryan (Tipperary), Tom Hewitt (Clonmel), Colm Egan (Borrisokane), Kevin Bourke (Killenaule), Martin Browne (Clonmel). Subs: Michael O'Meara (Nenagh), William Walsh (Carrick), Ger Kiely (Tipperary).

## MUNSTER FINAL

Kerry's respect for Tipp was demonstrated by their refusal to play the





#### TIPPERARY MUNSTER VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS RUNNERS-UP 1987

Back row (l to r) Philip Kelly (Newport), J. P. Fennelly (Killenaule), Alan Quinlan (Thurles), John Halley (Clonmel), Colm Egan (Borrisokane), John Murray (Carrick-on-Suir), Tommy Hewitt (Clonmel), Aidan Hough (Borrisokane). Front row (l to r) Martin Power (Carrick-on-Suir), Willie Morrissey (Killenaule), Pat Ryan (Tipperary Town), John Harvey (Clonmel), Kevin Burke (Killenaule), Michael Browne (Clonmel), Joe Kennedy (Nenagh).

final at a Tipp venue even though a home and away agreement existed between both counties. Despite Tipps protests the final was fixed for a neutral venue — Croom.

#### THE GAME

Kerry captained by Michael O'Dwyer — cousin of famed Mick — won the toss and elected to play with the stiff breeze.

Within five minutes they had three points on the board and looked in complete control. Tipperary, however, began to settle and they came back with points from M. Browne and Colm Egan. Kerry replied with two further points only to be pegged back by two excellent points from Alan Quinlan and Pat Ryan. At half time Kerry led by 0-6 to 0-4.

#### SECOND HALF

Tipp with the wind advantage had a point immediately after the resumption by "in form" Colm Egan. Pat Ryan brought the biggest cheer of the game when he raced through for a great goal to put Tipp further in front. Kerry fought back and after some reckless fouling by the Tipp backs which gave Kerry easy scores and with Tipp losing their composure allowed Kerry to draw level in the last minute to leave the final score Tipp 0-12, Kerry 1-9.

#### EXTRA TIME

In extra time Kerry with wind advantage scored a fortuitous goal after ten minutes which more or less killed off Tipps challenge. Kerry went from strength to strength with Tipp tiring and ran out convincing winners.

Final score: Kerry 2-15, Tipp 1-12. Despite their defeat all connected with the team can justifiably feel proud of their achievements.

Tipperary: M. Hally (Clonmel), A. Hough (Borrisokane), J. Murray (Carrick), J. P. Fennelly (Killenaule), J. Garry (Clonmel), A. Quinlan (Thurles), W. Morrissey (Killenaule), M. Power (Carrick), P. Kelly (Newport), T. Hewitt (Clonmel), P. Ryan (Tipp), K. McCormack (Nenagh), K. Burke (Fethard), C. Egan (Borrisokane) (captain), M. Browne (Clonmel). Sub: S. Kiely (Tipp), T. Thompson (Clonmel).

#### HURLING

Unlike the footballers Tipp hurlers were a real disappointment. Having received a walkover from Limerick in the first round and having Galway as their opponents in the all-Ireland semi-final their performance against the champions for the previous seven years was possibly one of the worst ever seen by the famed blue and gold outfit. Granted injuries deprived them of the services of county minor stars Colm Egan and Michael O'Meara but that aside their 17 point thrashing by Galway was most unexpected.

Final score: Galway 2-17, Tipp 2-0.

#### TIPPERARY

Liam Gleeson (Borrisokane), Alan Quinlan (Thurles), Thomas Maher (Thurles), Martin A. Lanigan (Killenaule), Michael Ryan (Newport), Eugene Cleary (Borrisokane), Aidan Hough (Borrisokane), Philip Kelly (Newport), John Conroy (Borrisokane), Kevin Burke (Killenaule), Eamon Donnelly (Thurles), John Hickey (Tipperary), Joe Kennedy (Nenagh), J. P. Fennelly (Killenaule), Brendan Hogan (Borrisokane). Sub: Noel Redican for Hickey.

#### LOCAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

##### South Tipp

	Winners	Runners-up
U-16 hurling	Tipperary	Killenaule
U-16 football	Clonmel	Killenaule
U-14 football	Killenaule	Cahir
U-14 hurling	Killenaule	Tipperary

##### North Tipp

	Winners	Runners-up
Senior football	Borrisokane	Roscrea
Senior hurling	Not completed due to bad weather	
Junior hurling	Nenagh	Thurles
Junior football	Thurles	Roscrea

#### CONCLUSION

Once again it is my pleasant duty to thank all those who made 1987 another successful year for our games. A special word of thanks to all the park committees who made their pitches available to us and to our gallant band of referees who continue to serve us. Sometimes at short notice and during inclement weather in the depths of winter. A sincere thanks to one and all.

#### SPONSORSHIP

On behalf of all vocational schools I would like to express our sincere thanks and appreciation to Allied Irish Banks for their very generous sponsorship which amounted to £1,695 for Tipperary and £30,000 nationally.

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ADVERTISERS**



# Post-Primary Games in Tipperary (1986-'87)

IT IS once again my pleasant duty to chronicle the post-primary hurling affairs in Tipperary for (1986-87). In a year when hurling has been elevated to superstar status in the county as a result of the outstanding achievements of our senior county team, it gives us in the post-primary sector a certain amount of satisfaction to observe players who distinguished themselves in Croke Cup and Fitzgerald Cup competition now perform with added splendour on a national platform. Watching the Tipperary team during the summer brought back memories of some hectic Croke Cup and Fitzgerald Cup games between Cashel C.B.S. and Templemore C.B.S. when Kennedy, Hayes, Bonner company crossed camans with Stakelum, McGrath, Aidan Ryan and Philip Kennedy. I have also vivid memories of fine college displays by Nenagh C.B.S.'s Heffernan and Sheedy. Michael Doyle had the honour of captaining a winning Thurles C.B.S. Fitzgerald Cup team while Nick English, Paul Delaney, Bob Ryan, Donie O'Connell, Pat Fitzelle came through the post-primary games scene to achieve national prominence.

Each year as I set out to write an



*By Seán O Costagáin*

account of our post primary games I think we should remember the men who under the inspiration of Tomás Ó Baroid formed the Canon Fitzgerald Cup committee in 1970. At that stage post-primary hurling within the county was at a low ebb and a source of great disappointment was the failure of our county minor teams to make any impact on the Munster championship.

The Tipperary Association in London were aware of the successive failures of our minor teams so they in their wisdom decided to present a trophy for post-primary hurling in the county to perpetuate the memory of a famous priest

who ministered during his life in England and distinguished himself in his noble calling.

With the advent of this post-primary competition a certain awakening took place in the schools, and gradually Tipp schools began to achieve success again in Munster competitions. Gradually the spin-off resulted in an improvement in the results of our Co. minor teams and subsequently in the Co. Under-21 teams and I suppose when we ultimately bring back the McCarthy cup, the schools will feel that they have played some small part. The interest generated in those competitions now sees 80% of our post-primary schools in the county participating. This cannot but be good for the promotion of hurling in the long term.

The premier competition for our post-primary schools is the Canon Fitzgerald Cup. The hurling witnessed during (1986-87) campaign was well up to standard. The first round saw the elimination of holders Cashel C.B.S. by Thurles C.B.S. This Thurles win was a very much appreciated success as they had been beaten by Cashel quite often over the previous few years.

Thurles C.B.S. were joined in the semi-



**THURLES C.B.S. FITZGERALD CUP TEAM**

**Back Row (Left to Right):** C. Harrington, P. Delaney, P. Morrissey, P. Dundon, S. Quinn, D. Laffan, S. Mullaney. **Middle Row (Left to Right):** P. Jordan, W. Ryan, D. Macken, A. Dempsey, K. Higgins, T. Coman, H. Bourke, D. Gleeson, B. O'Dwyer, J. Ryan, D. O'Shea. **Front Row (Left to Right):** S. Callanan, C. Hanrahan, B. Carroll, T. O'Lloyd (capt.), R. O'Dowd, G. O'Connor, R. Corcoran, E. Coman.



finals of the competition by Borrisokane V.S., Nenagh V.S. and Tipperary C.B.S. Tipp C.B.S. having captured the Dean Ryan Cup also won the Fitzgerald Shield, defeating Killenaule V.S. in the process. Much was expected of them in the semi-final of the Fitzgerald Cup, but in spite of their best efforts they were unable to contain a very good Thurles C.B.S. outfit who emerged victors by 2-10 to 2-3.

The other semi-final saw Borrisokane V.S. defeat their old rivals Nenagh V.S. Thus all was set for the final which unfortunately went into late May. The final provided Thurles C.B.S. with a welcome victory. They appeared a team of all talents that day and with a supreme effort could do very well in the (1987-'88) Harty Cup competition.

#### **CROKE CUP**

This competition is for (U-16) hurling in our post-primary schools and we had eighteen schools participating. Competition was very keen and after many outstanding games, the two teams to emerge to contest the final were Borrisokane V.S. and Tipperary C.B.S. So after an exciting contest the Abbey succeeded in putting their name on the trophy for the first time in thirty years. There was much satisfaction in Tipp. C.B.S. with the success and it brought back memories of the last time the trophy was won.

The last winning Croke Cup team provided the majority of the team that subsequently captured the famous

"Harty" in 1959. Let's hope that the 1987 success will provide a similar success story.

#### **NO HARTY SUCCESS**

A source of disappointment to us all in the county over the past few years has been the failure of our schools to make any impact in the Harty Cup. The only school to acquit themselves with reasonable distinction during the (1986-'87) campaign was Thurles C.B.S. who put up a very good performance against ultimate winners St. Flannan's of Ennis. But for glaring forward weaknesses they could easily have created a major surprise in that first round game.

To say everything at post-primary level at the moment is in perfect shape would in my be incorrect. I personally think that with the exception of a few schools who are presently enjoying tremendous success the overall picture is not very good.

I think it is about time all those people involved in the promotion of games amongst our youth in the county came together and had a good look at the overall situation.

#### **BURNT OUT TOO SOON?**

I find many young boys nowadays on reaching sixteen years of age have lost their zest and interest in our games and prefer more leisurely pursuits in their recreation periods in school. Much of this in my opinion is due to the fact that they have been burnt out as a result of too many pressure games since their (U-12)

days. I think it is time that the (U-12) competitions be abolished since they are proving a "turn-off" rather than enthusing our youth. I think educationally it is not good philosophy to have (U-12) youths subjected to the harassment that I have witnessed over the years at some of our (U-12) championship games.

I also think that we have far too many competitions. The result is that they are overlapping and when the school year commences in Sept., it is very difficult to run off competitions as they are cutting across the domestic competitions in the county.

In this context I think that all Bord-na-nOg competitions should be completed by the end of August. I also think that the minor championship games should also be completed by the end of August in order that the young boys would be free to commit themselves wholeheartedly to games at post-primary level until the following April. I think it very necessary that a good look be taken at the whole situation before it is too late.

No commentary on games at post-primary by me would be complete without paying a special word of thanks to my gamesmaster colleagues in the county. Over the years many difficulties have cropped up from time to time, and I must say that all of them were settled with good common sense and a wonderful sense of sportsmanship. It is indeed an honour to work with such a dedicated bunch of sportsmen.

"Gura fada buan sibh".

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# INTO THE LIGHT

**W**HAT'S an article on bloody pop songs doing in a good G.A.A. book? You may well ask. Well surely if some "simple minds" can allow "U2" to take over Croke Park then a little dispensation is allowed. "The Lad(y) in Red" has had his/her thoughts turned to football one fine day in Killarney. It was a long days journey into light with apologies to Eugene O'Neill, but it was wonderful to be able to once again follow the crowd with hope in our hearts as part of what became "the blue and gold army". In 1971 single and carefree we were in Killarney in the rain and in Croke Park too to repay Kilkenny for their insolence of 1967. Little did we know. Back to another part of the kingdom in '72 and another more personal mission and by early 1987 Kevin (13) and Brendan (11) had never known the pride of following a successful Tipp team. "Babs Babes" and John Leahy were to change all that. A personal view of the events of this hurling year follows. It is neither analytical nor full of hurling wisdom. The article began in the kingdom in the wake of Galway's semi-final win is merely a family's personal peregrination through the ups and downs of 1987. If you wish to join in dear reader then read on if not then fare thee well. Here we go, here we go, here we go, Tipp are magic. Tipp are back!



**By Richie Sheehan**

It was at the Peadar Cummins tournament in Borris in August, 1986 that we first got the rumour that Babs was to be the new "supremo" after the debacle of Ennis. Our business was to select a Tipp under-14 side to contest the Waterford Glass tournament. We did our business and no doubt the likes of Vincent Ryan (Anacarty), Tomás Gleeson (Gortnahoe), Michael Skehan (Mullinahone), John Hadnett, Solohead and Stephen Napier, Clonmel Óg will be heard of again. Kevin was present but Borrisoleigh sausages and chips made the biggest impression and added one more loyal fan to the Borris army which was to march to Croke Park. The winter was cheerless with a Laois league win adding to the gloom. The young lads in the club had done well in the '86 championships especially in hurling with an under-14 rural title, a big name hurling figure would be a boost to juveniles. A little survey was carried out and only three Tipp names surfaced from two lads out of a dozen or so. Things are different now "De profundis clamavi est". From the depths I have cried. We asked Nicholas English to come to make our little presentation.

Come he did the forty odd miles over icy roads and was most impressive. The seeds were sown. While there was a wonderful turnout only one minor was present. Mention was made that the Waterford game was of vital importance. We made a note to go along but on the day circumstances decreed otherwise winter passed into spring.

As secretary of a famous though somewhat unsuccessful club one often gets roped into things. Boards decree that trials there must be, minor trials to be precise for football and hurling. We started with three trialists in hurling and they reached Littleton and then one of them even reached Ballycahill. We even reffed a trial there and one player scored a late great goal. It possibly kept him among the contenders. He was to score a number of great goals as the year progressed on more important fields under better refs. Trying to be fair to two sets of minor selectors is no joke, especially when one isn't part of the magic circle. Looking back it seems inconceivable that John Leahy could have failed to make the Tipp minor team. Class always tells. But when a club has never been honoured! Anyway John made the cut to borrow another sporting expression and the two lads and myself went to Nowlan Park to see a C. J. Kickham's player put on the Tipp hurling blue and gold. Into the light — right well he hurled too that night. We knew then that he would be a part of Tipps championship plans. An Easter Monday return saw Tipp improve to beat Kilkenny. We were on our way.

We had gone to Thurles to the League quarter final, daughter Deirdre as well. We were looking at many of the players on a team together for the first time. A hard hitting Limerick team were forced to bow the knee after extra time. We didn't travel to Cork but the result from there didn't worry us unduly. We seemed to have the makings of a team that would not give up. The boys had been pleased to see a Tipp team win. We didn't go to Killarney for trip number one. If we couldn't hurl Kerry then we couldn't hurl Clare, News flashes at local games weren't too good and the *Kerryman* report on the following week made disturbing reading. Still Pat Fox was on song and as it was no home and away it was to be Killarney. Little did we know.

The minors had a home semi-final with Limerick. Half the crowd in Thurles that evening seemed to be from Mullinahone. John had been chosen at right half forward and neighbours child Dan was in the corner in front of him. Limerick came intending to win. Their centreback was beginning to dominate the game and our man was sent in to curb him. He did too and then moved on to full forward. A late second half flourish and Tipp were through. We heard in the dressingroom



**PASSING ON THE TORCH**

To mark his being the first C.J. Kickham's player to hurl in an All-Ireland final, John Leahy is presented with a set of playing gear by local bank manager Eddie Keher, Kilkenny all-time great.

that Limerick had had eyes on the championship. We were going to have a local interest on Munster final day for the first time in a century. Brendan was delighted to bring home Justin Quinlan's broken hurley. The same Justin can whip pretty smartly. The boys were getting to recognise the various players Conall and Brendan Ryan, Colm and Michael O'Meara. On into the light.

## ALONG WAY TO KILLARNEY

It was a long way to "Beauty's Home" but we mightn't have another day out. Mick was in Spain and only the boys were coming so we decided to try the Thurles train. Sandwiches and minerals packed. Got seats on a packed train. Excited boys had never travelled Iaranráid Eireann before. Met a friendly C.B. native of Ballyporeen. Journey passed quickly. Saw game with Sammy Ryan from the stand. Fair display from Tipp until Ger McEnerney stunned us at the end. Thank you Ger for a mighty favour. Back to Killarney this time with Chris and Mick. Found out all about the ring road by walking it. No rain fell on Tipp people that day. Ger no longer a hero in Clare. In a Kilkenny pub in Mitchelstown some local Corkonians were hoping for a Limerick win so that they wouldn't have to face Tipp. They hadn't been to Killarney and they didn't bother to tell John Fenton. Who were they trying to cod?

A Munster final in Thurles. Hope in our hearts, a Mullinahone man in action. We went stewarding. Tickets were that scarce. Tea ran out. Didn't see any loaded guns. Heard rumours of crowd breaking in gate behind us. Bit in the programme about our lad who impressed in the minor. The whole team changed up a gear towards the end and Mullinahone C. J. Kickham's had their first Munster hurling medal. The senior final was great stuff. Could we do it. Oh no is it 1984 all over again. We don't die anymore. English is fouled and Fox sends us to Killarney. Chris and the boys travel with me. Kevin promises his mother that they will lash into those Cork lads. We do but John Fenton



keeps Cork in front like a Will 'o the Wisp. Time is running out. Delaney a lovely hurler shoots wide. We have fought the good fight. Ken pucks out and English is away. Will he win it for us? Class will tell, a point. Extra time. We were good in the second half. We should win now. The first half of extra time. Old failings reappearing. The second half. We are right behind the Cork dug-out as they go out for the final time. They seem to be wobbling. Are they out on their feet? The crowd starts to bay. It's the Tipp crowd. What do they scent. The game is on and still Cork hang on. O'Connell points and we lead. If he can score then surely. Goal and goal again. The penalty stopped. We have them now. Goal once more. The final whistle. Bedlam at the gate as the players try to come in. Nobody hears the Angelus in Killarney. The famine is over. The blue and gold gods walk the earth once more. Into the light. The journey home. A glorious cavalcade of colour and sound. We can't forget Abbeyfeale awash with sound and blue and gold. Sixteen long years.

If we beat Galway we'll win the All-Ireland. The trek to Croke Park. Clonliffe Road a frenzy of blue and gold. Kevin and friend Tony have never seen the like. Seats in the front row of the Upper Cusack. No better view to be had. The minors set the tone, O'Meara, Egan and Leahy blast the youths of the west apart. Paddy Doyle the man who tamed the tigers of "Borris" is a stern and respected taskmaster. The senior game begins. We lead in nine seconds and within a minute Naughton exploits a mistake. We are stunned and things aren't going well. We keep in touch and battle back. At ten minutes to go the game is for the taking. An English point that isn't and a Galway goal that is. The game is lost and won. Did the wrong McGrath get called to the line? An eerie silence at the end. On reflection it was probably the one we were always most likely to lose. The circumstances of the Killarney win must have taken their toll. Feet didn't seem to touch the ground for weeks afterwards and Galways hunger and skill matched our own, but experience was theirs. On reflection Tipp are back. Tipp are still magic. A player or two still needed perhaps but we'll have cause to sign on in the 1988 blue and gold army.

"We let ye down" the quiet tones of Paddy Doyle on the steps of The Maples on Iona Road. Simple words in the quietness of the aftermath of Galway's historic win. Simple words, but not true, Paddy. On one of the rottenest days of the year brothers Chris, Malachy and Pat as well as local club chairman Hugh had made the journey to headquarters for the minor game, also son Brendan and ignored all Croke Park warnings about tickets. Only he could announce in a crowded Kilkenny City Cafe on the way home when asked the question "could he eat a double burger?" "I could eat anything since Kilkenny were bet".

We wanted to be there when the first C. J. Kickham's player lined out in Croke Park in an All-Ireland hurling final. We expected a win and the man from

Mullinahone, John Leahy in the early stages certainly seemed to be leading our lads to victory. It was not to be for on the day we never caught fire and Offaly held onto their title. It was a pity that that first All-Ireland medal didn't make its way back to Mullinahone but that event should not be too long delayed. It was a good minor hurling team and I stress the word hurling. The loss of the two Ryans was felt though Daly played well in the final. Perhaps therein lies a clue to the loss of the title. On final day our lads seemed to lack zip. It could have been the weather but is it possible that many of the club involved didn't release the lads completely to the county, regarding both training and games. All these lads are undoubtedly stars in their own clubs and nearly half were dual county minors. Perhaps at eighteen and younger many of the lads were asked to give too much to too many causes. We may have been disappointed but not let down Paddy. The team were too good for that. From the early trial fields of Marlfield to the crowded stands of Croke Park we enjoyed following the Tipp minors. To answer another question 'Yes I think that we might have another like Leahy in Mullinahone'.

#### ANOTHER WITH LIMERICK

The year began with Limerick it is but fitting that it should end with the

Shannonsiders. In common with many in the county we were anxious to see in the Autumn if the summer had been a dream. With Hugh and the two lads who by now could identify Tipp players in the distance we headed for Thurles. A goodish crowd. Back in the old stand near our positions on Munster Final, part one, day. The memories flooded back, in particular one free taken by Fox into the deserted Killinan end. From a similar position on a July day Pat sent it over to end the 1984 nightmare. Again today. The crowd appreciated the crisp hurling. We seem to have learned a little of how to throw the ball around from Galway. Paul Delaney is a lovely stickman. The Nenaghmen in the full back line are fine hurlers too. It's a pity Martin McGrath had to go off today I'd like to see more of him. We'll be seeing a lot more of the majority of this Tipp side. Aidan Ryan is a real bundle of energy. If only he could control a ball with the first touch like English or Fox what a player he would be. Looking at today's programme we see eight survive from Limerick to Limerick and that includes Pat Fitzelle and the much travelled Bobby. The victory today was sweet. Let it be like the first one the patent of greater things to come because now the engine of ambition has been fuelled. We are at take-off point. All aboard the blue and gold dream machine. We have come **Into the Light**.

## "Champions Come Home"



John Lee (capt.) of Clonmore's winning Intermediate team with team members, teachers and pupils of Our Lady's School seen here on the occasion of their visit after capturing their first County Championship in October.



Michael Ryan, captin of the Borrisoleigh All-Ireland Club Championship winning team displaying the All-Ireland trophy to teachers and pupils on the occasion of their visit to Our Lady's Secondary school.



# Abbey C.B.S.

Abbey C.B.S. won the Croke Cup defeating Borrisokane V.S. in the final. They also won the Fitzgerald Shield defeating Killenaule V.S. in the final.

The U-14 hurlers defeated Thurles, Cashel, Templemore, Callan C.B.S. and Nenagh C.B.S. but were narrowly defeated by Midleton C.B.S. in the final of the Rice Cup.

The U-15 hurlers were defeated by Shannon in the Munster semi-final. The U-15 footballers were defeated by St. Colman's in the Munster semi-final. With the work done by the school and indeed the clubs in the catchment area, games in the Abbey C.B.S. have a bright future.



## ABBAY C.B.S. — CROKE CUP WINNERS (1986/87)

**Back row** (l. to r.): D. Burke, R. Barlow, C. Bresnan, T. Kelly, P. Gleeson, P. Roche, J. Ryan. **Middle** (l. to r.): D. Gogan, J. Kiely, M. Ryan, L. Ryan, P. Delaney, R. Quinlan. **Front** (l. to r.): D. Crosse, D. Horan, L. Stapleton, D. O'Shea, S. O'Halloran, A. Quinlan, P. McCarthy, M. O'Dwyer, M. Kelly.



## ABBAY C.B.S. RICE CUP FINALISTS 1987

**Back** (l. to r.): J. Murray, M. Leonard, M. Moroney, D. Moloney, M. Quirke, M. Heffernan, B. Moore, K. Bowes, B. Roche, G. Quinlan, J. Daly, G. Kirby. **Front** (l. to r.): M. Gleeson, K. Quirke, G. Maguire, J. Lacey, M. Waldron, K. O'Sullivan, D. Quirke, N. Brett, M. Morrissey, T. O'Sullivan.

## ABBAY C.B.S. — FITZGERALD SHIELD WINNERS 1987

**Back** (l. to r.): B. Ryan, C. Bryan, P. Hayes, D. Burke, C. Bresnan, J. Quirke, M. Ryan. **Middle** (l. to r.): N. Foley, M. Flynn, V. Ryan, D. Horan, A. Quirke, L. Ryan, L. O'Donnell. **Front** (l. to r.): M. O'Dwyer, D. O'Shea, P. Gleeson, D. Crosse, S. O'Halloran, P. McCarthy.





# .....Champions from the Primar



**Upperchurch — Winners of Roinn B. Hurling**



**Inch N.S. Winners  
Roinn D. Hurling.**

**Loughmore N.S.  
— Winners Roinn  
D. Football.**





# y Schools of Tiobraid Árann .....



**Peter's & Paul's, Clonmel — Winners Roinn A. Football**

**Scóil Ailbhe,  
Thurles —  
Winners Roinn A.  
Hurling.**



**Scóil Ailbhe,  
Thurles —  
Winners of  
Under-11 Final.**



# Post Primary Schools' Football Competition

By DICK LOWNEY

**T**HE County Tipperary Post Primary Schools' football competitions enjoyed a most successful season, culminating in a very exciting blitz final held in Rockwell College on May 8th, 1987.

The standard of football displayed in all three competitions — under-14 football, under-15 football and under-17 football — was very high throughout the whole competition. This should auger very well for football within the county and the small band of people committed to the promotion of Gaelic Football within our schools, and indeed, to those dedicated people promoting Tipperary football teams at inter-county level.

The competitions began with MacGabhann Cup, a competition for U-17 football between all post-primary schools within the county. Twelve schools entered this competition and after some tremendous displays of skill and natural football ability, P.B.C., Fethard, and Clonmel High School reached the final.

The final was played in Clonmel Sportsfield on the 28th of April, 1987. After a great display of football, served up by both teams, Clonmel High School emerged winners on the score: Clonmel High School, 2-8; P.B.C. Fethard, 1-7. Players from both teams, Michael McGrath (Clonmel High School) and Owen Cummins (Fethard) later represented Tipperary Minors with distinction in the Munster Minor Football competition.

The second competition, U-15 football,



attracted an entry of some sixteen schools. Again, after some marvellous games, the final was contested between Carrick C.B.S. and Clonmel High School. This game was played in Kilsheelan, in ideal weather conditions. The first half was very evenly contested and ended on the score: Carrick C.B.S., 1-4; Clonmel, 1-2. During the second half the bigger and better balanced Carrick C.B.S. team gradually pulled away from their opponents and emerged worthy winners on the score: Carrick C.B.S., 2-10;

Clonmel High School, 1-7.

The final competition was the U-14 football post-primary schools' blitz. Twenty schools entered for this competition, which is run off in one day in Rockwell College annually. The competition is divided into an U-14 Cup for stronger schools and an U-14 Shield for weaker schools. Tipperary Town Vocational School emerged winners of the Shield and Cashel C.B.S. accounted for a fine Thurles Vocational School team in the Cup final.



## TIPPERARY — All-Ireland Champions 1937

Picture taken outside St. Finan's Hospital, Killarney, overlooking Fitzgerald Stadium, before the 1937 All-Ireland Hurling Final.

**Back row** (l. to r.): Tom Semple, Jim Maher, Jimmy O'Loughlin, selectors, Bill O'Donnell, (William McKenna), John Maher (Joe Campbell), Jer Cornally, Johnny Ryan, (Paddy Brolan), Willie Wall, Philly Ryan, Jim Lanigan (capt.), Jimmy Cooney, (Jos. Connors), masseur, Bill Leahy, selector, (Paddy Connors), Johnny Leahy, selector.

**Middle row** (l. to r.): Martin Maher, Jack Gleeson, Fr. Phil Purcell, Jimmy "Butler" Coffey, Bunny Murphy, Tommy Treacy, Tom Kennedy.

**Front row** (l. to r.): Will Bowe and Dinny Max (in suits), Dinny Gorman, Gerry Doyle, Tommy Doyle, Paddy "Sweeper" Ryan, Tommy Butler, Jimmy Barry, Paddy Maher, Dan Mackey.

Dinny Max was secretary to the selection committee and one of the selectors, Frank McGrath of Nenagh, is missing from the photo.



# 1987 Year of Refereeing — what happened?



*By Fr. Seamus Gardiner, Chairman National Referees' Work-Group*

**1987 will be remembered in Tipperary for one event only — the two great Munster Hurling Finals made all the sweeter for Tipperary people by the long-hoped for win. No doubt the Yearbook commemorates that event in style. But 1987 was designated by the Association in general as the Year of Refereeing and I have been asked by the editors to say what happened in the year to deserve the title.**

## INTER-COUNTY REFEREES

**M**UCH WORK has been done with our inter-county referees and I defend our decision to begin at this level. These referees do our most important games and by their performances on television set standards for many others. On the basis of our assessments in the Leagues for the last two years we graded our inter-county referees in May of this year into Grade A and Grade B. referees. As a result of this grading we had 11 Grade A hurling referees and 18 Grade A football referees. There is much greater hope of getting uniformity with a smaller group. For Tipperary interest both George Ryan and Gerry Long were graded A referees. In the Munster championships, as in the other provinces, referees were assessed again — at all levels and promising performances were noted and passed on to G.A.C. in Croke Park. I am satisfied that this was a vital exercise and that the principle — The Best Man for the Job — was accepted. In some quarters, in the association itself and in the media, questions were asked why Pat Lane from Limerick was appointed to do the All-Ireland football final when a Munster team were involved. If he was the right man for the job, then the province should not matter.

The assessments in the provinces also proposed for advancement referees who were not already Grade A referees. Willie Barrett of Tipperary was noted for his performances at under-21 level and has now in the current league been refereeing Division I games in hurling. Paddy Russell has also been noted for his refereeing in Munster and is being used also in the current football League. Both of them are to be given awards on Dec. 5th. in the Referees' Performance Awards '87.

## NEW REFEREES

Since I became Chairman of the Referees' Work-Group two years ago



many have spoken to me of the need to regularise the recruitment and training of referees throughout the 32 counties. Recruitment of referees, to say the least, was haphazard. Some counties made a very determined effort — others did not. Being a Tipperary exile, I cannot speak knowledgeably of the Tipperary scene. But there was no National policy.

We on the Work-Group have now drawn up a Recruitment and Training Programme for the 32 counties and for other units as well. The course comprises — 4 nights and one full day. At the end of this series of instruction the new referee must pass a written exam., a fitness test and then must be assessed in a number of games back in his county. If he gets through all these stages he will be given a certificate and badge as a Grade 3 Referee — capable of refereeing up to under-21 within his county. In subsequent years we hope he will progress up through Grade 2 to be a Grade 1 Referee.

To implement this programme — which is a huge task — we asked each county to nominate one person to head a small group in the county to do this work of recruitment. I was delighted that Tipperary nominated John Moloney.

John's reputation for excellence and integrity is a bye-word in many counties outside Tipperary. As I write this article we have had our first session for these young and new referees in the P.E. College in Limerick. The course in Limerick is for four counties — Tipperary, Clare, Limerick and Kerry. 33 attended on the first night, nine from Tipperary. Part of the first session was for each of the participants to say why he wanted to be a referee and his experience to date. Those of us in charge of the course — John Moloney, Sean O'Connor of Limerick, Michael Griffin of Clare, Eamon O'Sullivan and Bart Moriarty of Kerry and myself, were delighted at the positive and determined tone of the replies — a refreshing contrast to many of the negative comments we hear.

Ulster and Connacht began their courses — the same course — also this week. I have no doubt it's a huge task but a beginning has been made and the response from the counties has been very supportive and many have exceeded their targets. I am a product myself of the early Coaching Courses for Coaches in Gormanstown in the sixties. It's hard to credit that it is over twenty years ago. Could anyone say that we have enough properly trained people to take our teams in the clubs despite the massive effort that has been made in the ensuing years?

We published a Promotional Booklet for the courses — "Wanted — More Men for the Whistle" to emphasise the positive side of refereeing and the enjoyment many of our top referees have got from their task.

## INTERPRETATIONS AND CRITICISM

We published in January '87 the new Referees' Guide to the Playing Rules of Hurling and Football. It is generally accepted as clear and concise in its outline of the rules and advice to referees. We gave as interpretations only those made by



Central Council. Nobody else can interpret rules. Yes, in certain areas, referees were putting their own interpretations. We, as a National Group, have no power to interpret rules but we put matters we think need clarification to Central Council.

I seriously think that the criticism of referees has gone overboard. The sheer prejudice and ignorance of the rules I hear among our spectators never fails to dismay me. We published the Rules—very reasonably priced at £1.50—small, compact booklet. I know—because I know the sales—that almost none of our spectators have ever read it. But what is more annoying, very few of our players or coaches have read them either. Television has made a major difference to the criticism of referees. I have written more widely on criticism in the Dublin Yearbook so I will confine myself to a few comments here. Referees will always make mistakes—they are human. I, as a coach myself, know how frustrating it can be when the mistake is against my team. But my judgement should always be—what was his overall performance?

### APPOINTMENTS

We have been stressing all along that competing teams should have no say in the appointment of referees. In Munster this year the competing counties had no say. All appointments were made by the officers. Surely the officers' main preoccupation must be—who is the best man for the job? If he doesn't do a good job, the game suffers and the blame will fall on them. The referee should feel absolutely free to referee the game according to the rules without fear of recrimination. He should never have the slightest feeling that if he sends off a player he will never be agreed to by that team again. He should referee with the knowledge that he is being judged objectively and that his reappointment for future games will depend on that. The fault I see with competing teams agreeing on a referee—it seems a fair enough system—but they do remember and hold against a referee decisions he made against them in the past. I maintain strongly that we are not objective where our own team is concerned. When my own team is playing I see the fouls being committed against them and I magnify them but at the same time I minimise those my own team commits. Yes, of course, referees have bad periods in games, they even have just bad games. But I want this judged and assessed by somebody who is neutral and objective. Also I state adamantly that if a referee is not fulfilling the rules or is biased then he should not be reappointed.

### NEW INTER-COUNTY REFEREES

Prior to this year '87, each county nominated three referees for the inter-county list. In theory then we had 96 football referees for 120 games approx. in the Football League. Impossible to appoint them all and judge them. This year counties were asked to nominate two and these can be added to by G.A.C. having

got assessments of promising performances by referees not on the list. This was done this year. Our next task—and this is happening already in Ulster—is to get counties to nominate new, younger referees who are not already on the inter-county list and who are promising. These then could be seen at minor and under-21 level in the provinces. Good assessments would put them in line for promotion.

Am I satisfied? No, but I believe the checks and balances are now established if we wish to use them efficiently. There are 5 different appointment bodies—G.A.C. and the four provincial councils. The Referees' Work-Group is connected officially to none of these. There is an area here for tighter links and better structures. The acceptance of the principle of Assessment by the Association in general and by all the appointment bodies is a major advance. Referees will always make mistakes—they are human. Our task is to minimise these by recruiting properly, training efficiently, properly run seminars and objective assessment. I believe a solid beginning has been made if we build on it.

*My wishes for 1988:*

1. All new referees must do the National Course to become Grade 3 Referees.
2. In subsequent years they must do further courses to become Grade 2 and Grade 1 Referee.
3. Competing teams to have no say in appointments of referee for their games.

4. Appointments to be made solely on the basis of objective assessment.
5. New inter-county referees to be appointed to Minor and Under-21 games in the provinces. These games to be assessed before referees are appointed to adult grades.
6. Fitness tests each year for all referees.
7. Retirement of Inter-County Referees at 45 from inter-county refereeing. This was defeated a few years ago at Central Council, but I still believe in it for two reasons:
  - (a) It's the fairest way and the least hurtful way of finishing for someone who has given top-class service—rather than by him being dropped and wondering is he going to be reappointed.
  - (b) Creates room for younger men to move up the ranks.
8. Criticism of referees should always be in an overall context of his handling of the game and not on isolated incidents.
9. A thorough reading of the rules by Players, Mentors, Commentators, Journalists—all of us. In short I want to see a demand for a reprint of the Booklet on the Rules.
10. More people taking up refereeing—what has happened to the ex-players?

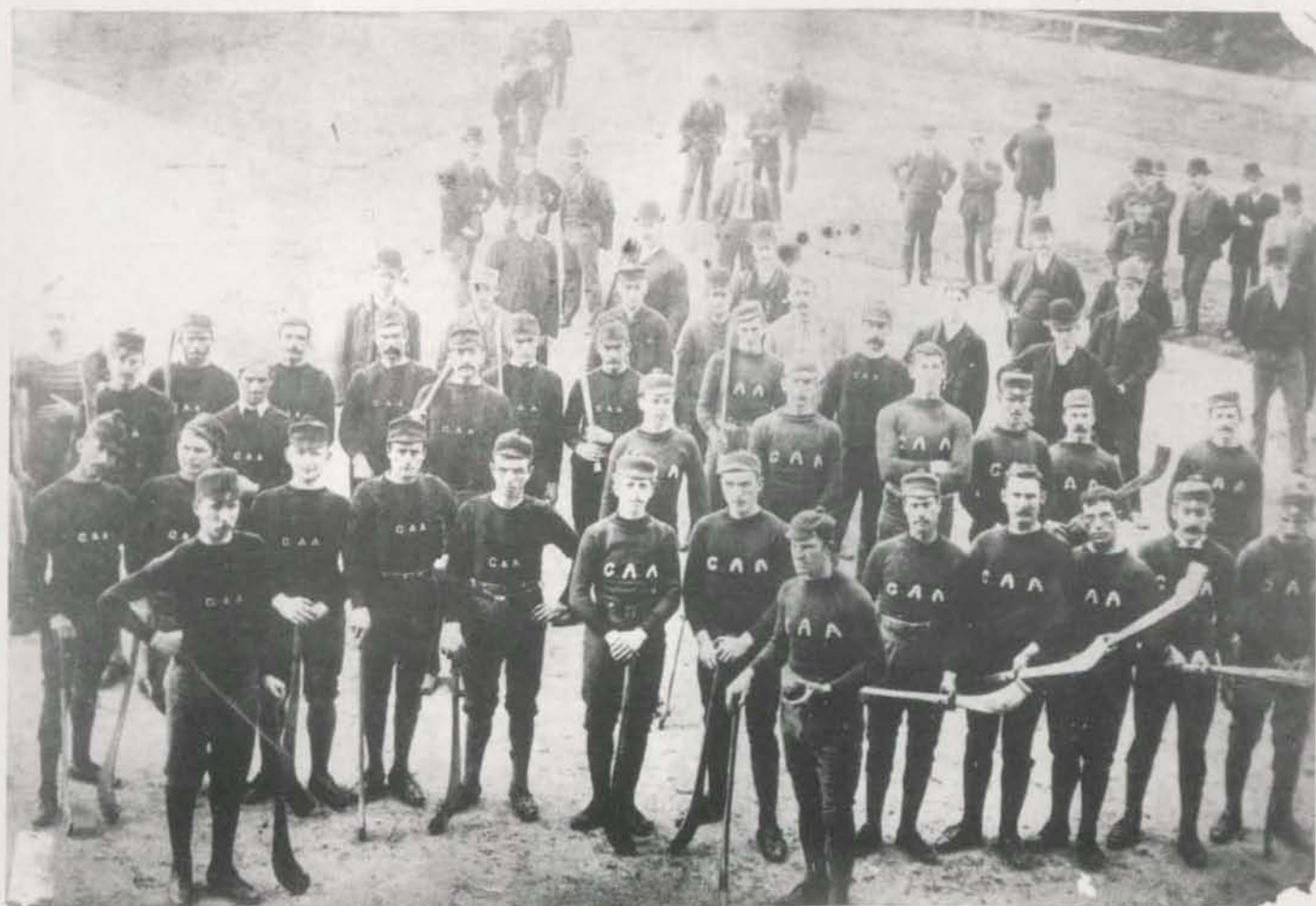


## HALL OF FAME FOR TOMMY

*Smiles all round from this Tipperary group at the Bank of Ireland All-Star banquet at which Tommy Doyle was honoured with the Hall of Fame hurling award and Bobby Ryan was named on the All-Star hurling team at right halfback. From left: T. Barrett (Secretary County Board), Nicholas English (one of the three nominees for the right half forward position, and an All-Star on two previous occasions); Donie Nealon (Secretary Munster Council G.A.A.); Seamus Ó Riain (former President of the G.A.A.); Tommy Doyle; Pat Stakeelum; Bobby Ryan and Jimmy Doyle (son of Tommy and a former Tipperary and Sarsfields hurler).*



# The American Invasion 1888



**W**ITH the Association running in smooth waters and athletic talent strong, prominent Gaels including Archbishop Croke, Michael Cusack, and Maurice Davin fostered the idea of sending to America the cream of Ireland's athletes and hurlers, with a view to fostering in the exiled Gael a greater love for the pastimes of his native land.

The cost of the venture was estimated at over £1,000, and to realise this figure, hurling matches were played throughout the country, one of them in the grounds of St. Patrick's College, Thurles, where this photo was taken.

Though the required amount was not at hand, the plunge was taken and the Invaders — forty-eight in all — left Ireland in September 1888. The Tipperarys travelling were: Maurice and Pat Davin, P.

O'Donnell, Carrick; James S. Mitchell, Emly; Tom O'Grady and John O'Brien, Moycarkey; Jim Stapleton, Thurles; Thady Ryan, Clonoulty; Bob Frewen, Aherlow; William Prendergast, Clonmel, and John Cullinane of Bansha. After a nine days' voyage, the steamer cast anchor in New York harbour.

The programme commenced with a hurling match, the first of its kind in the States.

Confessing themselves pleased with the display, Press reporters declared: "There is nothing in the world to compare with Irish hurling. In the roar and rush of battle, we expected to see skulls flying, but never a head was hit".

At Boston, there was an athletic contest with American athletes. On a card of eight events, six went to Ireland, and, in addition, two American records were broken by Mitchell and Pat Davin. Pat

finding himself in the pink of condition, issued a challenge to the world — but in vain. The Tipperary man's bravery was a general topic, and the Press, full of admiration, gave him the honour of a broad headline: "Davin's World Championship Challenge, Not Accepted".

Eleven other cities were visited by the "Invaders", but the story was the same: "Their march from New York to the Golden Gate was that of conquerors, they showed the Americans that in bone and muscle they were not Ireland's equal".

At the end of seven weeks most of the "Invaders" returned, intensely proud of themselves and assured that they had left behind them a genuine and lasting love for Irish sports and pastimes.

Financially, the trip was a failure, due chiefly to want of organisation and bad weather.

But there was even a worse result. Ireland lost seventeen of the flower of manhood — including Mitchell — who were induced to remain behind.

Others subsequently became exiles, too, among them Willie Prendergast whose active work in securing Celtic Park for Irish games should not be forgotten. The Park is now gone, but let it be remembered there was in the centre of it a piece of shamrock sward, transported all the way from Slievenamon.

Mr. Prendergast had in his possession until near his death, when he gave it to Mr. Forder, Editor of the "Irish World", a treasured camán, once used by Maurice Davin, then by himself, and later by the renowned Tom Kiely — true relic of bygone, happy days.

[Tipperary G.A.A. Story]



## Mick Byrne (1916-1986)



**T**HE death of Mick Byrne on 10/12/86 came as a great shock to his family and friends in Killusty and Fethard. After an illness he accepted with great courage, right up to the end, the same courage he showed so vividly on the playing fields of Tipperary. From an early age his prowess and outstanding ability on the field was a joy to behold.

Educated at Killusty N.S. and St. Augustine's, Dungargan, he returned home to lead the way on the field of play. He held the unique distinction of winning a County Junior Football Medal in 1932 at early age of 16 and another County Senior Football medal in 1957 spending 25 years of active playing.

He was acclaimed in his native parish as the best fullback in the game and his opponents dreaded alone his appearance on the field. His fine catching and fielding were a joy to watch, combined with the ability to clear his lines.

Having appeared for many years in the fullback berth from which he saved the "Blues" on numerous

occasions, he converted to full forward in the latter years of his illustrious career to great effect in helping the Blues to the 1957 championship success.

He had a fine reputation as one of the cleanest and most sporting players in the game. In 1957 he had been winning medals before many of his teammates were even born.

On and off the field he was a gentleman giving of his generosity without even a murmur.

Among his achievements on the playing field he won 1932 and 1957 south and County Junior Football Medals, South Senior Football Medals in 1938, 1942, 1943, 1950, 1954, 1955, and 1957, County Senior Football Medals in 1942, 1954, and 1957, Munster medals in 1935 (Oganac), 1939 (Special Football), also Munster Minor Football medal in 1934.

All-Ireland Minor Football Medal in 1934 which always stood out as the highlight of his career, many tournament medals included. Most notable being the 1950 Clonmel Tournament and Feile Cluain Meala. Tipp Cup Medals in 1938, 1940 and 1942.

He was also a hurler of note achieving the South Tipp Junior championship in 1942 with Coolmoynce.

He was honoured for his awards in 1984 by Fethard Club with Player of the Past Award also by South Tipp. Board in the same year for his 1934 All-Ireland Minor Football success.

Go ndeanad Dia trocaire ar a h-Anam.

**Nollaig O'Broin.**

## Ned Sheehan



**T**HE town and parish of Fethard were stunned on the 30th. June when the word went out that Ned Sheehan, chairman of the Fethard Club, was dead. Could it be true? Sadly it was all too true, and on 3rd. July we carried his mortal remains to his beloved Killusty and there, fortified by the rites of his church, Ned was laid to rest at the foot of Slievenamon.

Born 14th. May, 1929, at Clarebeg, Killusty, one of a family of twelve, eight brothers and four sisters. Educated at Killusty national School and C.B.S., Fethard, he joined the army in 1940, did his initial training in the Curragh Camp and was posted to that much revered Battalion in the Curragh — the famous 3rd. He very soon came under the watchful eye of his Battalion commander for his exemplary good conduct and outstanding devotion to duty. As a consequence of these qualities, he was selected (with others) to do a tutor transport course. He successfully completed this and was qualified to drive all kinds of Army mechanical propelled vehicles. This included the "tracked" Bren Gun Carrier and it was in one of these "carriers" that he so proudly drove down O'Connell St. in Dublin in an Easter Parade in the 1940's with his V.I.P. passenger the Officer Commanding the Eastern Command, leading the Easter commemoration parade.

During manoeuvres in the Glen of Immal Ned was given the responsibility of driving the ambulance, bringing the medical officers and teams of medics. He also represented his Battalion in boxing and was quite accomplished at the sport. He also played gaelic football for the 3rd. Battalion, and was a regular choice on the team. He played with and had training from those two great Cavan men John Joe O'Reilly (Comdt.) and Lt. Simon Duignan.

He was endeared to all his comrades because of his quiet and happy attitude to life. His Army no. was 88802 and he was fraternally known as "ought-two" in the Batt., (the last two figures of his no.). He was transferred to the 13th. Batt. in Clonmel on his retirement from the Curragh and he left the Armed Forces as he joined them, without a blemish on his character.

For years Ned graced the playing fields of Tipperary and

great was the regret at all levels when emigration forced him to cut short his playing career.

He won south and senior championship with Fethard in 1954; the south again in '55. Due to the rules of the time, he was able to win the South and Co. Junior with Killusty in 1956 and then the South and Co. Leitrim with Fethard in '57. Surely a glittering career.

In the late 1950's he emigrated to England and eventually came home in 1969 to his native parish and became very much involved in football again.

And involved he became first with the Juveniles when, with the help of Rev. Br. James, he spearheaded the Golden Age of Fethard Juvenile Club. As a selector with the County Minor Football team in 1984 he guided his charges to Munster championship success and an unsuccessful All-Ireland bid.

He was very involved at committee level with the senior club, and this culminated with his being elected chairman. Ned, being the true gael, regarded this as the greatest honour which the club could bestow on him. As chairman, he served the club faithfully and fairly. He initiated many projects in the Fethard Gaelic Park. He represented the club at South and Co. Committee level.

Ned by his gentle manner, endeared himself to all. There was no malice in the man — no harbouring of grudges. Those of us who knew, admired and respected him, know that the great Lord bore no grudge against Ned. Ar dheis De go raibh a anam uasal. To his wife and family — all active Gaels — we extend sincerest sympathy.

## Tommy Maher

Ardfinnan and Tipperary lost a great gael in the sudden and unexpected death of Tommy (Tiny) Maher. Tiny as he was better known was a member of the great Ardfinnan team of the 1930-40 period and won 2 senior Co. Championship Medals. He also played for Tipperary and Munster. He was also a keen hurler and played for many years with Ballybacon.

Tiny who was father-in-law of the great Michael (Babs) Keating always took great pride in taling about Babs's fine achievements in football and hurling. He was also brother to the late David Maher, who was chairman of the South Board for a number of years.

He always loved to talk about the great men he played on and played with. Tommy's shop was always a meeting place for the gael of Ardfinnan. During the glorious period of Ardfinnan football in the



1960-1970 Timmy Dwyer of Clonmel Commercial used call to Tommy's Shop and it is folklore now the tales that Tiny told Tommy about what the Commercials were going to do to Ardfinnan.

A tetotaller all his life, he was of a very kind nature and helped many a poor person out. He was also a wonderful family man. Tommy's death is Ardfinnan's loss. May he rest in peace.



## Phil Devitt

**T**HE death occurred earlier this year of Phil Devitt of Finglas, Dunmore and formerly of Foilmahonmore, Kilcommon, Thurles.

Phil was born in Kilcommon in 1913. He was educated at Foilacra National School and Doon CBS. It was with Doon CBS that he began his hurling career. He was on the Munster Colleges hurling team that won the All-Ireland Colleges title in 1932. Together with Larry Hayes (later Dr. Larry Hayes who played with Dublin and Limerick) he formed the midfield partnership on that great occasion. They were the first pupils from Doon CBS to achieve that honour. His younger brother, Dan, won a similar honour in 1935.

He also played with Kilcommon (now Sean Treacys) and also represented West Tipperary against South Tipperary in 1932 where he marked the famous Jimmy Cooney who was an outstanding minor and later senior. On leaving school, Phil went to work in Dublin where he worked for a time with Downes' Bakery and later with the New Ireland Insurance Co. He joined the famous Faughs senior hurling club in the metropolis and played with distinction from 1933 — 1943, often called "The Golden Era" of that club. He formed the midfield partnership for many years with another Tipperary man Ned Wade from Boherlahan of Tipperary and Dublin fame.

With Faughs he won four senior Dublin championship medals, 1936, 1939, 1940 and 1941. The 1941 team contained three men from Kilcommon parish, Phil, Dan and Tommy Ryan of Hollyford. He also won numerous Dublin leagues and Boland Cup medals. He also wore the Dublin colours with distinction appearing regularly in



1936/'37 in league and championship. The Faughs team of that era boasted some of the greats of hurling, Harry Grey (Laois), Terry Leahy (Kilkenny) and Mick Gill (Galway and Dublin).

The funeral was large and representative. Many travelled from Kilcommon on both days. Phil was at the Munster Final in Thurles this year and was a fanatical follower of the blue and gold. It was a source of pride when his nephew, Dinny Ryan won an All-Ireland medal with Tipperary in 1971. A large number of his old comrades from Faughs formed a guard of honour and the coffin was draped with the Faughs banner. Faughs celebrated their centenary year last year. Present were Terry Leahy, Mick Gill, Martin Quinn, Tony Herbert, Ned Wade, Charlie Downes, Tommy Ryan (Hollyford). The oration at the graveside was given by Faughs chairman and former All-Ireland winner in 1973, Ned Rea from Limerick.

To his beloved wife, Eileen, son Michael, daughters Maria, Deirdre, Caitriona and Clemencia, sincere sympathy. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam.

—(Eamon a Chnoic)

## Philip Fanning

**A**NOTHER former player passed to his eternal reward when Phil Fanning of Derrycallaghan, Moneygall died at his home last June after a short illness. Phil was an outstanding hurler with his club for over twenty years. While still a minor he was on the Moneygall team that won the North Tipperary junior title 1929 and twenty years later in 1949 he helped the club to win the divisional and county intermediate championships.

He was selected on the county senior team in 1939 and partnered

Jimmy Cooney at midfield in the Munster Championship the following year. He was also an accomplished footballer and he was mainly responsible for bringing a number of junior football titles to the club and he was a regular on the divisional football team in the forties. He demonstrated his versatility by his skilful exhibitions on the handball court.

His two sons, the late Billy and Philip followed in his footsteps at club and inter-county level.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam.

## Philly Gleeson

### LOUGHMORE



as a minor, Philly's sporting career was not confined to gaelic games, and has been described as a more than average 100 yards runner, winning many honours with the parish novice team of that era.

After his playing days ended, Philly rendered his services to the club in no small way, holding many positions as a club officer and was Vice-Chairman for a number of years. He was a selector in all grades both in hurling and football.

During the great juvenile era of the seventies, Philly was one of the principal figures in their guidance to their many county titles. In a year that has seen the club reach senior county finals in both codes, how dearly he would love to be present, but it was not to be, and he was laid to rest beneath the green sod of Loughmore Churchyard on Saturday, Oct. 3rd. attended by his playing colleagues and friends far and wide.

Sympathy to his wife Peggy, son Pat, daughter Breda and relatives on their sad loss.

Go ndeana Dia trocaire ar a anam.

Pat Healy.

## Jim Ryan (H)



**O**N Wednesday afternoon, October 28th., the sad news began to break throughout the parish of Clonoulty-Rossmore that Jim Ryan (H), Cloneyharp had passed away. The news sent a great shock throughout the whole

community and preparations started immediately to pay final respects to a wonderful friend.

Jim was involved in all activities in his parish and was a gifted leader in getting work done and activities organised. The G.A.A. club held a very special place for Jim and he gave it a full life of service. As a player in his young days, Jim always gave of his best and demanded the same from everyone else. He was a member of the last Clonoulty-Rossmore Team to win the West senior hurling championship in 1951.

After his playing days, Jim continued to work for the club including honorary secretary and chairman, the position he occupied at his untimely death. As chairman, in recent years, he gave a new lease of life to the club and is largely

responsible for the improved fortunes of the team in recent times.

Another monument which is left to his memory is the recent developments of the G.A.A. pitch which he planned, guided and completed. at a specially convened meeting of the G.A.A. club, the many members present recalled the memories of Jim and his wonderful work and achievements in the club. A vote of sympathy was passed to his wife, Lelia, family, relatives and friends on their irreplaceable loss.

G.A.A. club members and his team mates of 1951 formed a guard of honour at the arrival of the funeral to the village. A specially requested Mass by the G.A.A. Club was celebrated on the arrival of the remains at which the readings and offertory procession

were done by club members. At the interment, the remains were carried by club members accompanied by the guard of honour to the local cemetery for interment after which a graveside oration was given by the club president Timothy Hammersley.

Jim was not forgotten on county hurling final day at Semple Stadium, when a minute's silence was observed in his memory and a tribute was paid to him by one of the stadium's officials, and a cousin of Jim's — Liam Ó Donnchú.

To his wife, Lelia, family, Conor, Elaine, David, Maria and James; brother John, sister Maura, relatives and his many friends our deepest sympathy and may God comfort them on their great loss. May his soul rest in peace.



# Jack Sullivan

## An Appreciation

*On behalf of Carrick Davins Hurling & Football Club*

**N**O words of sympathy can offer adequate comfort to Jackie Sullivan's widow Nancy, to his children, his mother, his brothers and sisters and his relatives. He was taken from us in the prime years of his life, and the sense of shock and sorrow occasioned throughout the whole community at his passing was evidenced in one of the largest funerals witnessed in Carrick.

Whenever Jack gave his interest or enthusiasm to something, he gave it with an absolute intensity and commitment. His devotion to the great Mick Roche in the sixties was nothing less than hero-worship, but typical of the man's unswerving loyalty to his county and his club.

Jack gave all his heart and energies to the Davins. Over 20 years a member of the club, he served at Committee level for 15 years. He was a selector in the moulding of a number of successful teams, especially at juvenile level. One of his own greatest satisfactions was having been a selector for the team which won the Under-12 Championship and went on subsequently to gain the Under-14, the Under-16 and finally, in Centenary Year, the Minor Championship.

At the level of social events and club organisation, Jack was a powerhouse of energy and enthusiasm. No one could match him as a fund-raiser throughout the years.



At the same time he saw that the club's whole future depended upon the continuous induction, encouragement and training of Juvenile members. Every year he marched proudly with them in the St. Patrick's Day Parade, insisting always that they stepped out in new togs and socks for the occasion.

For all Jack's youth, the intensity of his personality and enthusiasm, whether at work or at play, made him a well-loved "character" in the community. He leaves a tragic gap in the lives of his beloved ones and the Davin Club can never hope to find again his boundless energy and loyalty.

May he rest in peace, and may the family to which he was devoted draw comfort from the memory he leaves within the hearts of all who knew him.

# Paddy Hickey

**W**HEN the news spread throughout South Tipperary that Paddy Hickey had been taken to a Cork Hospital, people just shrugged their shoulders and remarked 'it is just for a check-up'. Known to us all as "Sturdy", he was a man of physique, always good humoured and in very good health or at least never complained up to this time.

His death a few weeks later consequently came as a great shock to us all.

A member of the Fr. Sheehy's G.A.A. Club, with whom he played hurling and football and won many honours in both codes. But it was in handball that brought him into prominence, a game in which he won many All-Ireland titles.

Paddy Hickey's memory will always be honoured and remembered by all his friends, and especially by his loving wife Margaret and his young family, to whom the Gaels of Tipperary extend their very sincere sympathy.



May the green sod of Shanrahan rest lightly on his body.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam.

**Micheál Mac Toirríll**

# Tommy Max

**T**HE death occurred during 1987 of that great gael, Tommy Max of Butler Avenue, Thurles, following a brief illness.

Aged 78, and a retired plumber, he was an extremely well known personality who won the friendship and esteem of all with whom he came in contact.

He will be principally remembered for his involvement with Semple Stadium, and for a long number of years represented that body on Mid-Tipperary G.A.A. Board. Through his involvement in Semple Stadium, he was known throughout the country, his courtesy and efficiency at his task being widely acknowledged.

In his youth he was a prominent hurler with Sarsfields, with whom he won several championships, and when his playing career was over, he continued to be actively involved in the club at a number of levels, and was, at the time of his death, Club President.

There were huge congregations at the removal of the remains to the Cathedral, where they were received by His Grace, Most Rev. Dr. Thomas Morris, with former Sarsfields chairman, Rt. Rev. Dean Lee, P.P., Cashel, also in attendance, and at the interment in St. Patrick's on Monday following Requiem Mass. The coffin was draped in Sarsfields colours, and club members formed a guard of



honour on both occasions.

A mid-Tipp. club game involving Sarsfields on Sunday was called off as a mark of respect, and the Sarsfields Club meeting on Monday adjourned, having voted sympathy to the Max family. Sarsfields Social Centre was closed on Sunday evening as a mark of respect to a man who had served the club so well for so long.

The sympathy of the entire community is tendered to his wife, Susan, son Jim, daughters Mary and Breda; brother Dinny; sister, sons-in-law, daughter-in-law, grand-children and a wide circle of relatives and friends.

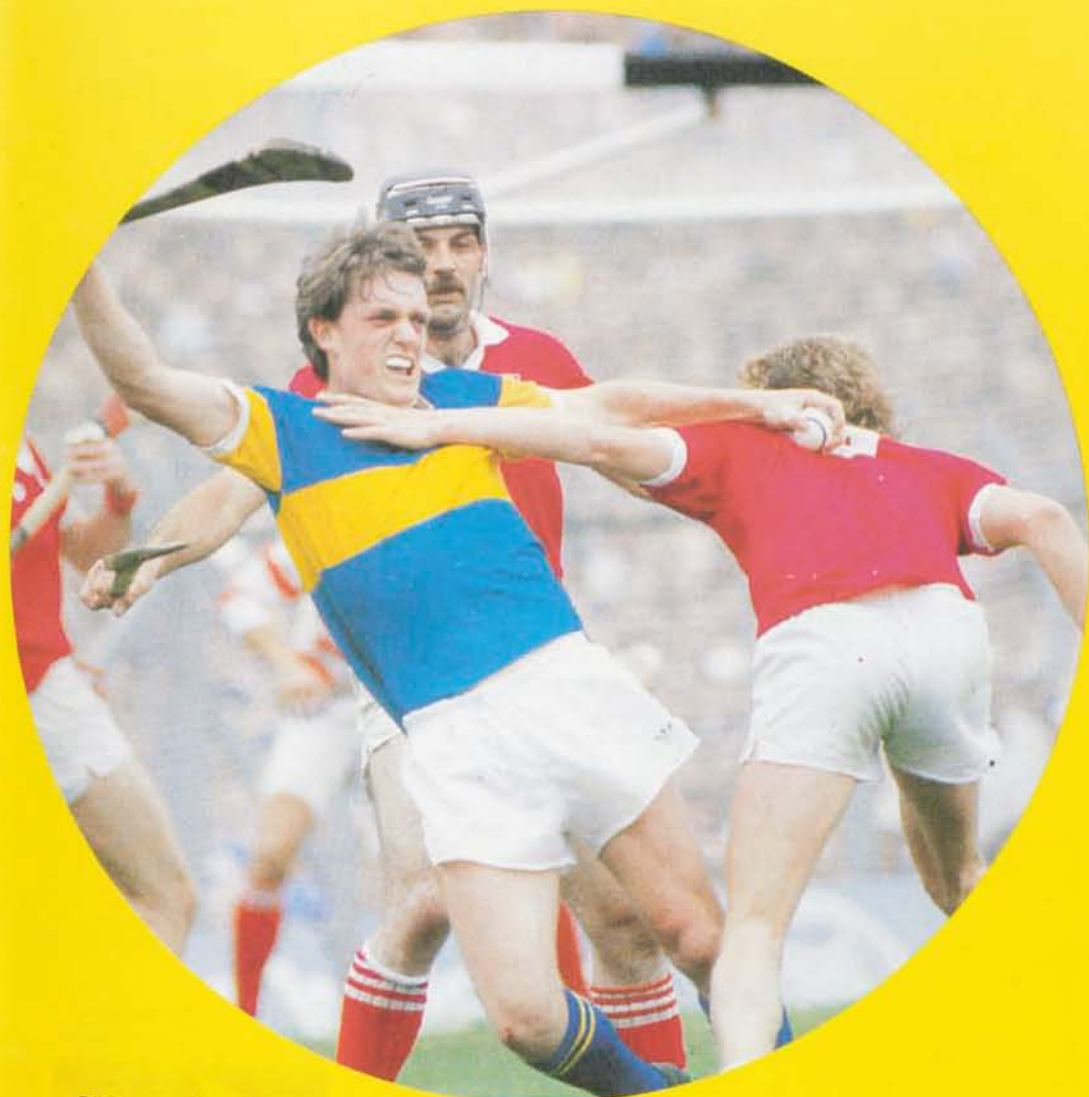
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Páirc an Chrócaigh.



## **TIOBRAID ÁRANN** - The Tipperary Minor team which defeated Cork in the Munster Final at Thurles

**BACK ROW** (l. to r.): John Leahy, Colm Egan, Brendan Hogan, Michael Ryan, Brendan Corcoran, Conal Bonnar, Noel Keane.  
**FRONT ROW** (l. to r.): Kevin Ryan, Don Lyons, Pat Kearns, Brendan Ryan, Justin Quinlan, Michael O'Meara (Capt.), Liam Sheedy, Seamus Bohan.



# TIOBRAID ÁRANN

*The Tipperary Senior Hurling team who defeated Cork, the Munster and All-Ireland title holders, in extra time of the 1987 replayed Munster Final at Killarney.*



BACK ROW (l. to r.): John Kennedy, John Heffernan, Con O'Donovan, Ken Hogan, Colin Bonnar, Donie O'Connell, Bobby Ryan. FRONT ROW (l. to r.): Nicky English, Gerry Williams, Aidan Ryan, Richard Stakelum (Capt.), Pat Fitzelle, Seamus Gibson, Pat Fox, Paul Delaney.