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TIPPERARY G.A.A. YEARBOOK 1989



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TIOBRAID ÁRANN

All-Ireland Senior Hurling Finalists 1988



BACK ROW (l. - r.): John Kennedy, John Heffernan, Joe Hayes, Noel Sheehy, Ken Hogan, Conor Donovan, Donie O'Connell, Bobby Ryan.

FRONT ROW (l. - r.): Nicholas English, Pat Fox, Aidan Ryan, John Leahy, Colm Bonnar, Declan Ryan, Paul Delaney.

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TIPPERARY G.A.A. YEARBOOK 1989

Cover Photo:

Hill 16 during the All-Ireland Hurling Final.

(Inset): Pa O'Neill accepts the National Hurling League Trophy from G.A.A. President John Dowling.

(Photo: Ray McManus)

Liam Ó Donnchú, Tipperary Yearbook Secretary,
Ballymoreen, Littleton, Thurles, Co. Tipperary

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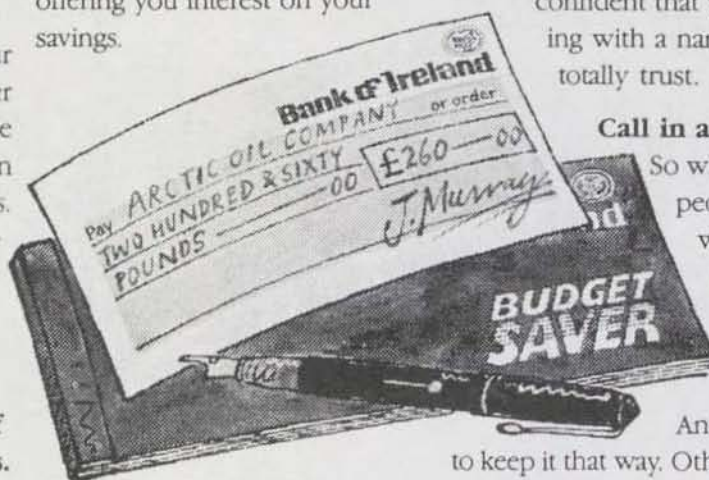


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AS players and pitches take a well-earned rest, Tipperary people can sit by the fireside and recall the many great memories of the past year. Lest memories fade a little, the G.A.A. Yearbook will recall the great moments in word and pictures as we sit among the Christmas decorations. Although we did not pull the McCarthy Cup out of the September fire, who could forget the joy of winning the national League and a second victory over Cork in a Munster Final?

At County level it would be hard to beat the excitement of the drawn game between Loughmore and Borrisoleigh and the quite amazing mustering of heart and hand which saw Loughmore to victory when it seemed that their chances of taking the Dan Breen cup had gone for good. That recovery will long be recalled in Loughmore and the true grit exhibited there on that Saturday afternoon. It epitomised Tipperary hurling spirit; the small parish, the little village and all that inspired Matt the Thrasher to his famous last throw at Kocknagow.

Before I left Kerry the present Chairman of the County Board, Sean Kelly, presented me with a hurley and said, "You will be nowhere in Tipperary without a hurley". Indeed it has been a new sight for me to see youngsters with their hurleys on the way to school. At the school Mass in Borrisoleigh, school-bags and hurleys were piled on each other outside the Church as I entered. A boy in Tipperary town who is confined to a wheel-chair was playing hurling with his pals. I asked him if he liked playing in goal and he said, "No, I prefer mid-field". I passed a farmer near Dundrum who was driving his cows home from his tractor with a hurley to encourage them along. A Tipperary man without a hurley is like a Bishop without a crozier, Nicholas English being somewhat of an exception to the rule.

The real victory of the present Tipperary hurlers and trainers is their example to the youth and the enthusiasm that has been recaptured throughout the County is the sure sign of present health and future success for hurling in the Premier County. Here we must include all those



Most Rev. Dr.
Dermot Clifford.

dedicated Gaels, men and women, who give of their time so generously to foster our National Games at every level.

It has been said that a Foreword to a book is like the porch of a Church. It must invite the worshipper in but it must not be too well appointed or comfortable lest he stay there and never go inside. So do not delay any further here but go inside and view the many interesting features of the 1988 Yearbook!

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Tipperary's honour intact

CUIREANN sé áthas croí orm mar Chathaoirleach Contae fáilte a chuir roimh Iris na bliana seo. Gné an-tabhachtach d'obair na bliana is ea foilsíú na hIrise agus tá an-chreidiúint ag dul don eagathoir an dá fhoireann. Táim cinnte go mbainfidh lucht Chumann Luthchleas Gael ar fud an chontae an-taithneamh ceanna agus a bhaineas féin as na haltanna agus na tuairisci suimiúla atá le fáil san Iris agus go gcothóidh se spiorad agus dóchas ionainn don bhliain atá romhainn.

It is a source of much pleasure to me to help launch this Yearbook. I hope it will provide you at Christmas with lively memories of the year that is past and that it will stir anticipations of the year to come.

Over the past number of years the Yearbook has come to be regarded as a vital part of the life of the GAA in Tipperary. Mixing the kind of hard statistics of games played and reports of the county's successes — or failures — with features of a reflective or lighthearted nature, it has consistently been a credit to the hard work of the committee whose task it has been to produce it. Turning out an annual of this sort can be demanding in terms of man-hours and it would be remiss of me not to give due recognition to those who are responsible. We are grateful to them for their dedication and for the excellence of the end product of their labours.

The performance of our senior hurlers has once again been the central point of the year that is drawing to a close. Our League victory in April brought back memories of days when League titles were almost a matter of course and it whetted our appetites for championship victory. Once again we took the Munster crown and once again we went under to Galway in a game which gave us very much to be proud of, even if the result was not too much to our liking. It would indeed have been nice to have carried back the McCarthy Cup with us but the crowds in Thurles on the evening of the first Monday in September could leave no doubt in anyone's mind but that the people of Tipperary were proud of their hurlers. We returned from battle with our honour intact and the crowds who turned out to meet us were clear evidence, if any were needed, that Tipperary followers have not yet adopted an attitude of 'win at all costs'. Long may it remain so.

Very much in the shadow of our seniors were our Junior hurlers, who also took the Munster title before going under to Kilkenny. They, too, gave us many exciting moments and many of those who followed them from the beginning of their campaign trail to its end at Portlaoise felt that they were deserving of an All-Ireland victory. Our Under-21's and our minors had a less successful year than we have come to expect from them, and it is to be hoped that this is a situation which will be improved upon in the coming year.



Noel Morris
County Board Chairman

Our footballers, too, enjoyed little success this year, though our juniors gave us some exciting moments before falling to Cork in the Munster final. It is regrettable that, despite the Herculean efforts of individual members of the Football Board, we have failed to make a real breakthrough. Their efforts, however, remain an inspiration to others who enjoy more of the limelight and it is to be hoped that in the foreseeable future they will meet with the success they deserve.

It is often, indeed, that those who achieve most reap least in terms of public notice and it would be a pity if the achievements of our handballers should go unnoticed. All-Ireland winners Billy

McCarthy, Mick Tyrrell and Vincent O'Shea did us proud and for many they revived memories of the Hassets, Joe Bergin, Paddy Hickey and other great achievers of Tipperary's handball story. Handball as a game deserves more attention than it generally receives and perhaps the recent County Board discussion concerning the possibility of its inclusion in the Olympic programme may be the beginning of greater recognition for one of our finest pastimes.

As with handball, so with football and hurling — the success of our labours must eventually be judged by the numbers of our own youngsters who play the game. There can be no doubt but that the answer to many of our social problems lies in the facilities available to our youth to participate in games which take them into the fresh air and teach them the value of clean, healthy competition. The youngster who swings a hurley, kicks a football or who spends his spare time in the handball alley will not end up in the Juvenile Court. Those who are paid to enforce the law know the value of games in helping to create a community that is morally healthy.

In view of this, it is high time that those who spend their time and energy in the preparation of juvenile teams should receive more support from the community. Year after year the same faces are to be seen at juvenile games and at juvenile club meetings, their labours going unnoticed by people who reap the benefits of their selflessness. It is simply not good enough that those who provide gratuitously a service of such enormous benefit should be so taken for granted.

Finally, one of the major events of Tipperary's GAA year must not go unmentioned — the appearance of 'Tipperary's GAA Story 1935-1984'. Seamus King's task in covering half a century of activity was a mammoth one which he addressed with the ability and energy which we have come to expect of the author of Cashel's and Lorrha's club histories. The result of his hundreds of hours of work is something of which we can all be proud and it will be much in demand for many years to come among those for whom the story of games of the past holds an endless fascination.

Tréaslaim arís leis an eagarthóir and lena fhoireann agus tá súil agam go mbainfidh sibh taithneamh as an Iris seo.

Noel Ó Muiris

Cathaoirleach Coisde an Chondae

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FIXTURES AND DATES FOR 1989 CHAMPIONSHIPS

Senior Hurling		Date	Replay
1st round	Luimneach v Ciarraí	21/5	28/5
	Portláirge v Clár	21/5	28/5
Semi-Finals	Corcaigh v Clár/Portláirge	4/6	11/6
	Tiob. Árann v Luimneach/Ciarraí	11/6	18/6
Final		2/7	16/7
Senior Football			
1st Round	Tiob. Árann v Clár	14/5	28/5
	Portláirge v Luimneach	14/5	28/5
Semi-Finals	Corcaigh v Tiob. Árann/Clár	18/6	25/6
	Ciarraí v Portláirge/Luimneach	18/6	25/6
Final		23/7	5/8 or 6/8
McGrath Cup			
Final		28/5 or 4/6	(extra time)
Junior Hurling			
1st Round	Luimneach v Ciarraí	21/5	25/5 (Corpus C.)
	Portláirge v Clár	21/5	25/5
Semi-Finals	Corcaigh v Portláirge/Clár	4/6	9/6
	Tiob. Árann v Luimneach/Ciarraí	11/6	16/6
Final		21/6	28/6
Junior Football			
1st. Round	Tiob. Árann v Clár	14/5	19/5
	Portláirge v Luimneach	14/5	19/5
Semi-Finals	Corcaigh v Tiob. Árann/Clár	18/6	23/6
	Ciarraí v P'láirge/Luimneach	18/6	23/6
Final		28/6	5/7
U-21 Hurling			
1st Round	Ciarraí v Portláirge	15/6	21/6
	Corcaigh v Tiob. Árann	15/6	21/6
Semi-Finals	Ciarraí v Corcaigh/T. Árann	12/7	19/7
	Luimneach v Clár/Portláirge	13/7	19/7
Final		26/7	2/8
U-21 Football			
1st Round	Clár v Portláirge	18/3	25/3
	Ciarraí v Corcaigh	18/3	25/3
Semi-Finals	Luimneach v Clár/Portláirge	1/4	8/4
	Tiob. Árann v Ciarraí/Corcaigh	1/4	8/4
Final		15/4	22/4
Minor Hurling			
1st Round	Corcaigh v Clár	19/4	26/4
	Portláirge v Luimneach	19/4	26/4
Semi-Finals	Ciarraí v Corcaigh/Clár	3rd or 17/5	24/5
	Tiob. Árann v P'láirge/Luimneach	3rd or 17/5	24/5
Final		2/7	14/7
Minor Football			
1st Round	Clár v Portláirge	10/5	24/5
	Corcáigh v Luimneach	10/5	24/5
	Ciarraí v Clár/P'láirge	7/7	12/7
Semi-Finals	Tiob. Árann v Corcáigh/Luimneach	7/7	12/7
Final		23/7	28/7

THE SENIOR HURLING CHAMPIONSHIP Story of a Chequered Year

By John O'Grady ("Culbaire")

THE reviewer of '88 in a senior hurling context does not lack for material. Tipperary got maximum exposure. Both major finals — League and All-Ireland — were graced by blue and gold favours and enlivened by loud Tipp accents on stand or terrace. One was comprehensively won, the other lost with dignity. If the year fell short of our wildest dreams, refusing the ultimate accolade and the resumption of former prestige, it still has to be reckoned a thoroughly good one.

SEQUENCE OF SUCCESS

A sequence is discernible in Tipp fortunes, and it is a heartening one. First for the period 1974-1982, we could not pass the first Munster round. Next we proved at least capable of that, but could not win the provincial final against Cork. In '87 at Killarney that barrier was brushed aside, but the All-Ireland semi-final ended the dream. This year we reached the day of days. The only way to continue the advance and sustain the progression is to be champions of '89. What a beautiful and logical consummation that would be, though we're not silly or superstitious enough to believe it guaranteed by some co-operative hand of fate. Faith is fine, but some very good works will need to be done — the '89 championship schedule could not pose a stiffer examination than to win Munster, beat Galway and whoever emerges from Leinster — if they beat Antrim.

That's all inscribable, if enticing, future; my brief is to look back. The retrospect sees both triumph and disappointment, it also sees regained respect. Nobody was ignoring Tipp. Cynical jokes of the kind we've suffered — and maybe at times enjoyed — over the barren years had suddenly gone out of fashion. We were on the full glare of publicity instead of the unheralded by-ways of obscurity.

The Tipperary "troika" of Keating, English and Nealon had gained more or less automatic endorsement and a deserved mandate to carry on after '87. Details of their decisions during the year may certainly be debated — the affair of the All-Ireland captaincy drew prolonged comment, while changes and tactics during games are always matters of strong opinion among the rabid followers. A substantial sector felt that Babs hit an unwise note in post-final comments. But it would be ridiculously unfair not to award the mentors high credit for the general thrust of their work since appointed — and to wish them anything but a climatic '89.



Happy faces at the Munster Final.

TWENTY WIDES AGAINST LIMERICK

The League victory in April was good in itself, adding a second accomplishment to the Munster win of the previous year and it boosted hope for the summer's test. The largest cloud in the sky as the first round drew near was the injury to English in a West football game. Heffernan had been suspended earlier in the year, put off against Wexford in a rather trivial Oireachtas match; had missed the League final and was still "out" for June 5th in Cork against Limerick. Delaney became a corner-back, with Richard Stakelum at right-half. Young Leahy of Mullinahone, skilled minor of '87, made his senior championship debut at right half-forward. Most discussed placing on the fifteen was Declan Ryan at full-forward in English's absence. Limerick were respected on their record against us rather than on current strength and, truth to tell, they were not good. We won by seven points in a goal-less game, fifteen against eight, but the subsequent talk was of our twenty wides, eight of them in the third quarter and leaving Tipp open to a riposte. Joe Hayes broke the ice finally with a point and we were soon safely ahead with three from Fox, finding late form. Chief credit was given to the Bonner-Hayes midfield, with Joe the official choice as star of the game. Ironical, perhaps, in view of the All-Ireland form in the middle of the park, which proved to be an adverse factor. "Pa" O'Neill was replaced by Leahy late in the day, having himself been earlier called off for Ger O'Neill, who gave way to Cleary — quite a "musical chairs" episode. The lack of English was, of course, blamed

for the flawed forward display.

THE MUNSTER FINAL

Limerick, opening their new Mackey Stand, got the final and had some trouble giving either a good view or elbow-room to over 50,000 to see Tipp and Cork. All the trappings of a really great occasion were there. As good winners, Tipp did not mind whether it was a "classic" or not. A huge interval lead of eleven points took all tension from it — Declan Ryan got the goal off an Aidan Ryan-English move. Early worry centred on Tony O'Sullivan's drawing outwards of Conor Donovan but Tony had not an efficient ally among the other five forwards, so there appeared no basis for real anxiety. So it was quite a stunner to find the lead dwindle to two points. Midfield was pinpointed as a problem zone at this stage and Hayes, a hero for a pair of deft points in assembling the lead, got the word to come off. Leahy, on at half-time for O'Neill, went midfield and Cormac Bonner took over on the squares edge, English moving out to the wing. Tom Cashman's long free had gone in off Sheehy's fingers to cause these rearrangements. We got out of the crisis basically on the strength of Cormac Bonner's finishing of a free from Paul Delaney past Ger Cunningham. Colm Bonner was our outstanding man, a tireless worker. On all sides it was admitted that Cork, especially in forward play, were a pale shadow of their best, so it was disturbing to realise that they could, with luck at the right time, have beaten us. Galway might have said much the same about Tipp after the All-Ireland, but fortune does seem to favour the stronger battalion in the crunch.

AN UNEASY SEMI-FINAL

The reaction to this Munster win could not be expected to match the rapture of Killarney '87; happiness was more muted, though no less real for that. Behind Antrim stood the looming shadow of Galway and we'd need to step up, it was realistically admitted by all bar the starry-eyed. The Ulster team was not at all dismissed as insignificant — they'd troubled Kilkenny and Cork in recent semi-finals — but surely we'd not stumble at the penultimate hurdle. We darn near did! The score was 3-15 to 2-10; mathematically solid enough, but we'd been shocked by McFettridge and McAllister goals within twenty minutes to keep things level and by the drive of well-built players like Barr on the "forty" and McNaughton at wing-back. Our own first goal had got through rather scrappily off Fox's penalty shot. English then placed a gem of a goal coolly past Patterson.

Tipp's unease was personified by the switch of Colm Bonnar to centre-back and the withdrawal of "Pa" O'Neill and Aidan Ryan for Cormac Bonner and Leahy. But in the 21st minute of the second half Pat Fox relieved our worries by dodging in from the right and beating the massive Patterson with a hand-toss. Even then we had to thank Ken Hogan for a save from Barr just before Fox's contribution. So a visa for the All-Ireland had been secured, though without great conviction. The lesson would, perhaps, stand to us by banishing presumption.

PRE-FINAL TOPICS

The most newsworthy and discussed topic in the final build-up was undoubtedly the decision, attributed mainly to Babs, to conduct most of the training behind closed doors and to confine public and media attendance to specified evening near the end of the programme. Relieving "pressure" was the stated motive, though some thought the hushed artificiality of the Stadium atmosphere just as likely to prompt anxiety as to relieve it.

The announcement of the chosen side revealed that the captain had been dropped. There was ample comment in which purely practical issues of playing ability and form got mixed up with regional loyalty and personal sympathy. He had been taken off twice in a row, so his place was certainly unsure. His two goals in the League final were used as defensive evidence and the youth of John Leahy quoted as a dubious factor. Then, too, would this sudden elevation to captaincy be any help to the glamour figure, English? Only victory would quieten the argument — and victory was not to be!

But we didn't know that in the heady atmosphere of Croke Park on a bright and ideal September 4th as the crowd thronged good-humouredly but anxiously in and the purpose-built banners were displayed, bearing imaginative slogans amid the host of



Nicholas English in possession being closely watched by two Galway defenders in the All-Ireland Final

more orthodox favours. Again, as in August '87, Tipp seemed to have the edge in numbers and in fervour. The tension could be cut with a knife and it exploded in sound and colour as the teams raced out. We were willing the day to end the right way and bridge the gap from remote 1971.

THE ALL-IRELAND FINAL

It did not. Galway might conceivably have been beaten — we got to the interval decently placed for a climactic push with the breeze to help, at 0-10 to 0-6 — no great deficit and most of due to Galway's second quarter and the points from Malone and Keady which paid indirect tribute to Tipp backs, if less to midfield. Unluckily, after their good year's work to date, neither Bonner nor Hayes found settled form. Declan Ryan was our most productive forward as English could not "create" without space to do so from rival captain Hayes. The loose play conceded to the hardy Linnane was another negative, while the Finnerty - Keady - McInerney line was as positive as had been feared. Twice Tipp got within a point but Galway kept responding before we had time to build on our close pursuit.

AN HONOURABLE STRUGGLE

Things ran maddeningly parallel to

'87, right down to a disallowed score. This time it was Leahy's flick to the net that was called back for an O'Connell free; the point a pale alternative. Then goalie Commins stopped a Fox drive that was unlucky to be placed so close to him. And finally, in almost a re-run of a year earlier, we saw Noel Lane, a most effective sub who'd hugged the Cusack line and sprayed danger with crafty crosses, latch onto a ball that beat Donovan with a fiendish hop, and also beat the advancing Hogan. It was over and the side with better depth in their panel had deservedly retained the crown. Nor will it be taken from them in '89 without a considerable step-up by ourselves or somebody else. There was a fair, or unfair, amount of criticism of selection, placing and failure to mend the weak points in course of play; and the captaincy cropped up on many a lip, intensified by defeat. But the majority were ready to concede Galway's superiority and by contrast with the football final and its still reverberating sidelights, the hurling was an honourable and chivalrously accepted struggle between respected rivals. At year's end we were doing fine in the League and experimenting sensibly. Let's hope for '89 as busy as '88 — and with a sweeter September.

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Diary of a Royal Liver Crown

By J. J. Kennedy



J. J. Kennedy,

NATIONAL SUCCESS

If you view league and championship as the twin pinnacles of hurling stardom then Tipperary in '88 scaled the first and failed at the summit of the second. Not bad by the deprived standards of the past seventeen years although somehow the All-Ireland defeat will always eclipse the league win; '71 is more recalled for Tipp's All-Ireland than Limerick's League.

Still the league ranks as a solid, national success — a sort of mini All-Ireland — giving some completion to the present renaissance; it may be the lesser of the two summits but it's still a peak. As the first winners of this aristocratically-titled insurance league Tipperary took their 15th crown in all, three clear of nearest rivals, Cork.

Our last league success was in '79. Remember '79? For those with an eye for historical linkages there is an interesting connection. '79 was the Bro. O'Grady regime coming from division two and taking a league against Galway (how things have changed!) before failing lucklessly against Cork in the championship on a day recalled for Pat O'Neill's late miss that might have averted a one point loss. Nine years on another of the Cappawhite O'Neill clan — and another Pat — leads the county to league honours setting a most optimistic opening to the '88 season.

It was a league that ended sweetly but had its stutters on the way; a ten match Winter campaign with an 80% success rate involving all the troughs and crests typical of the competition and a fair usage of players from 'off' to 'end' as Babs, Theo and Donie searched for the best format. For programme buffs it provides a rounded ten part volume plotting a success drama rare enough in our recent past.

October 11th: Act 1: 'Watch Tipperary', was the published quote from Limerick's Cregan after his side fell heavily at the Stadium on the first outing. We headed home relieved that October day. The midsummer revelry had fallen short of the ultimate and a new winter season needed some evidence of a spin-off. Pleasing then to come through so strongly against a Limerick side that knew no recent tradition of soft failure to Tipp; we barely scraped past then in the previous Spring's League quarter final.

The game deserves little analysis. Fireless for the neutral, it was smooth for Tipp who hit an instant Pat Fox goal, led by 2-8 to 0-3 at the interval and finished ahead by 3-12 to 1-4. Martin McGrath got a prompt substitution in the early minutes. Unknown then was the extent of the back ailment which ultimately needed surgery and has deprived him of team-winning form ever since. Remember his crucial points in the Killarney replay and his controversial substitution in the All-Ireland semi! For the record we began the League with the following: Hogan; Heffernan, O'Donovan, Gibson; Kennedy, Stakelum, Delaney; Fitzell and Bonnar; McGrath, O'Connell, Ryan (Aidan); Fox, English, Ryan (Bobby). Austin Buckley replaced McGrath, Noel Sheehy came in for Kennedy and Joe Hayes substituted for Delaney.

October 25th, Act 2: To Bellefield Park, Enniscorthy, for round two against a Wexford side stung by an opening defeat by Clare. A poor Tipp record in the eighties against the bulging brawn of the Wexford men hinted of no softness here. We fielded without Donie O'Connell injured in a game Stateside and replaced by Sarsfield's Connie Maher who kicked a first half goal. Peter Hayes got the call to number fourteen.

On a day of nippy downfield wind and glaring Autumn sun it remained hopeful for three quarters. Behind by three points at the interval having faced wind and sun we drew level sharply on resuming. It was winnable with fifteen minutes to play but alas for the final quarter. Three Wexford goals, the last in injury time, sent Tipp to a 3-11 to 1-7 defeat. We had replacements in Conor Stakelum for Bobby Ryan, Noel Sheehy for Gibson and Emly's Mike Corcoran for John Kennedy — the latter started an

absence which lasted until semi-final stage. Two points from two games and Galway next to visit the Stadium.

November 8th: Act 3: A nasty day for hurling; a morning's rain didn't relent until the second half. A game of high billing as an All-Ireland semi repeat. Illness kept Bobby Ryan from corner back where Gibson resumed. Cappa's county success reflected in Conor Ryan at full forward and Pa O'Neill at wing. O'Connell resumed at centre and Noel Sheehy began at half back in place of John Kennedy. Elsewhere personnel remained the same.

No great activity for umpires on a day of few scores and constant closeness; five all at half time and seven all at the end of a goal-less outing. Misses on both sides before substitute Conor Stakelum got the equaliser for Tipp. A satisfactory result for the home side now with three points from three games — a modest but adequate average if sustained. Conor Stakelum had replaced Aidan Ryan and Ger O'Neill came in for Pa.

November 22nd: Act 4: You never tire of beating Cork and boy did we relish this one down in their own Pairc. The midsummer echoes of those two epics still tingled a nerve or two as rivalries resumed. No such closeness at the end of this one with Tipp 2-10 to 0-8 winners collecting another pair of league points. Wobbly enough at half time though, just 0-6 to 0-3, after we'd played with the wind.

The third quarter decided it. An O'Connell goal, fed by Aidan Ryan's punishing grafting, set the lead more firmly. Cork points threatened the advantage. We had started without English because of a back problem. He entered now and promptly netted to finish Cork's rally. Midsummer form was confirmed and Tipp had five points from four games.

That was the game that marked Declan Ryan's debut at wind forward. Joe Hayes started at midfield when English couldn't field. Fitzell dropped to the substitutes.

November 29th: Act 5: Joint table-toppers, Waterford, came to the Stadium for the final pre-Christmas bout. We trailed by a point at 'sos' time, (0-7 to 0-6) to an earnest Waterford bunch. Interval worries however relaxed with an up-tempo resumption which took us to a seven point win (0-18 to 1-8). A goal-less victory but a solid. Fox brought the save of the day from goalie Curran and Conor Stakelum tested the texture of the crossbar in raids that came closest to goals. Bobby Ryan replaced brother Aidan, coming in at wing back and Peter Hayes came on for Richard Stakelum.

And so we relaxed for the Christmas festivities with seven points from a possible ten, second place on the table behind Wexford. January brought the Canary trip duel-functioned as reward for a resurgent season and spirit-builder for the one ahead. Sun, surf and sand dominated although they did take their sticks and got in a spot of training as well.

February 21st: Act 6: A New Year but an old League sent us to Ennis for round six against a struggling Clare side. The Hehir-Stack controversy was raging and with a new look defence our lads gave them a pretty miserable afternoon. It was exhibition stuff as we hit them for half a dozen goals in the course of a fifteen point drubbing, 3-4 to 0-5 at the interval and 6-11 to 1-11 at the end. Fox got 2-7 of the score but there is no need to dwell on the details as the lads just enjoyed themselves.

And so a New Year that had started without relegation worries now had knock-out qualification assured, even before our final game with Kilkenny. Goalie and defence began in '88 as it finished in '87 per Hogan; Heffernan, Donovan and Gibson; Stakelum, Sheehy and Delaney. Fitzell resumed at midfield with Hayes. Bonnar went half forward with O'Connell and Declan Ryan. Fox, Conor Ryan and English formed the full line. Bobby Ryan came in at wing back for Stakelum — it was to be his posting from now on with the forward experiment finally over.

March 7th: Act 7: Oh dear, Oh dear! We went to Nowlan Park with no urgent need to win bar prestige and the vague distant hope of having one-up if we met later in the championship. Just as well the needs were modest because they



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sent us home coyly with at least one defender from their ranks branding our attack over-rated.

It was our worst outing of the League, scoring a lousy 0-4 against their 2-12. It was a real chastening one as the cats purred. Between this and the Clare game we had met both extremes. And we had no exonerating absentees — the side fielded as against Clare with Bobby Ryan replacing Stakelum from the start this time.

But let's not dwell on our worst match of the run. Our nine points put us through to a quarter final against promoted Antrim. Ironically our two losses to Leinster opponents proved beneficial giving us a softer run to the final avoiding the likes of Wexford or Galway.

March 20th: Act: the Quarter Final: "English lesson for Antrim" ran one 'daily' headline on Monday focussing on Nicky's 2-7 contribution to a 2-20 to 2-9 scoreline. Not the most elegant of Tipp wins but then elegance is a quality not easily associated with Antrim clashes. We had never trounced them in previous division two meetings and ominously they were destined to make it awkward for us again later in the summer.

We led by 2-8 to 0-6 at half time and suffered distinctly troubled spells at the start of both periods. This was the day Mullinahone's John Leahy made his debut. Pa Fitzell started at midfield but sustained a hand injury and Joe Hayes substituted. In the absence of O'Connell, Conor Ryan played at centre forward. The backs and elsewhere remained the same with Bobby Ryan now firmly re-established at wing back.

April 10th: Act the Semi-Final: Back to Croker for the second of three visits near the League's end. We'd beaten Waterford by seven already and could surely anticipate further progress now.

A changed line-out tackled the issue. With Donovan injured and Heffernan sent off in the Oireachtas, Sheehy slipped back to full, Kennedy came in at centre and Stakelum reappeared at corner. Hayes and Bonnar were midfield, Pa O'Neill was back leading from wing forward, Donie returned to centre and Declan Ryan, Aidan Ryan, Fox and English completed the attacking forces.

We glide smoothly through the statistics of this one. English hit 2-11, Fox 2-4 and the Decies were trounced by 4-19 to 1-8 after trailing by 1-11 to 0-6 at the interval. A real confidence booster for Tipp. We relaxed and watched Offaly do another late late show to snatch the other semi from Wexford. The final beckoned and optimism was high.

April 24th: Act the Final: And so the long haul that started back in October culminated now in late April. It proved a final worthy of the occasion. Half time saw matters resting closely although we still managed a four point lead (0-9 to 0-5). it had been a half of saves and misses depending on your perspective. We exhaled with relief when Pat Cleary got clear behind our defences but couldn't beat the sizeable bulk of Hogan in goal. Ken did the trick again a few minutes later turning a right-poster

from Paddy Corrigan out. And at the other end our best chances fell to Pa O'Neill who tested but couldn't beat Jim Troy.

The second half fluctuated excitedly. Kennedy in defence, Hayes at midfield and English in attack were starring. Tipp hit a high gear, goals flowed from English and O'Neill and eleven points separated the sides. Back countered Offaly with a by now typical rally. Eugene Coughlan netted, Paddy Corrigan followed with another from a free and a second free was deflected over as our nerves began to fray with the dwindling lead, no down to four.

The encore was Tipp's. We survived nerve-twitching moments as Hogan save was just scooped off the line. Offaly's surge was in full sail — the Tipp ship was listing badly. An eleven point lead had gone curiously brittle. But the troops rallied in fine conclusive style. Conor Stakelum drove in one that Troy could only parry and captain O'Neill pounced feline-like for his second green. Points followed, remarkably an eleven point lead had drained to four and then swelled to a winning nine — see-sawing stuff indeed.

But through the hiccups and horays Tipp had prevailed. O'Neill became a historic Westerner to mount the podium for the cup. His had been a telling contribution at the climax. Others had contributed in various degrees to the long campaign. En route we failed to Leinster sides and so there seemed something extra sweet about an Offaly-conquering final.

It was title number fifteen for the once league specialists. And even if the championship disappointed at the apex we had conquered the Alps on the way to Everest — the experience won't have been lost.

STATISTICS OF THE LEAGUE CROWN

Played	Won	Lost	Scored	Average per game	Conceded
10	8	2	21-123	18.6pts.	13-87

Scorers: Pat Fox 6-40, Nicky English 7-31, Aidan Ryan 0-14, Donie O'Connell 2-4, Declan Ryan 1-7, Pa O'Neill 2-3, Paul Delaney 0-9, Colm Bonnar 1-3, Connie Maher 1-0, Austin Buckley 1-0, Conor Stakelum 0-3, Pa Fitzell 0-3, Bobby Ryan 0-2, Joe Hayes 0-2, Conor Ryan 0-1, Peter Hayes 0-1.

Players used: Ken Hogan, John Heffernan, Conor O'Donovan, Seamus Gibson, John Kennedy, Richard Stakelum, Paul Delaney, Pa Fitzell, Colm Bonnar, Martin McGrath, Donie O'Connell, Aidan Ryan, Pat Fox, Nicky English, Bobby Ryan, Austin Buckley, Noel Sheehy, Joe Hayes, Connie Maher, Peter Hayes, Conor Stakelum, Mike Corcoran, Pa O'Neill, Conor Ryan, Ger O'Neill, Declan Ryan, John Leahy.



THURLES C.B.S. — HARTY CUP FINALISTS 1988

Back Row: M. Long, G. O'Connor, S. Quinn, D. Macken, P. O'Dwyer, S. Coen, D. Woods, A. Coman, B. O'Dwyer, P. Jordan, K. Higgins, E. Donnelly, D. Laffan, C. Hanrahan, P. O'Shea. **Front Row:** S. Mullaney, M. McElgunn, D. O'Shea, E. Coman, P. Dundon, J. Ryan, An Br. S. Ó Dúgáin (Principal), T. Lloyd (Capt.), B. Carroll, R. Corcoran, S. Callanan, S. Kennedy, C. Harrington.

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Cork Show Supremacy in Final

By John Guiton (Tipperary Star)

IF ONE was to alter slightly the line in the song "What a difference a day makes" to "What a difference a year makes", it would aptly apply to Tipperary minor hurling fortunes. Semple Stadium in July '87, and the boys in Blue and Gold tucked away with relative ease the Munster crown. All-Ireland success barely eluded us in September, but there was still plenty of room for optimism.

Seven of the side would form the line-up for '88, and signs were that a fair share of up and coming talent would fill the spaces vacated. Could an All-Ireland be captured? Hopes were reasonably well-founded, even if minor grade can be deceptive, and the fact that it's a long road to All-Ireland glory.

Several questions remained unanswered after our first round success over Clare but after initial difficulty against Limerick in the Munster semi-final, Tipp. showed that they had the potential to at least retain the Munster pennant. What a shock was in store for us, however, on final day in the brand new colourful Limerick stadium as Cork reversed the '87 result with scant regard for reputation.

That 5-7 to 1-2 hammering didn't do justice to Tipp's overall efforts but there could be no disputing that it was a stark reminder of the unpredictability of under-age hurling from year to year, and it underlined most emphatically Cork's supremacy.

Doubts may have lingered about our real capabilities, but few could visualise us caught beneath such a landslide.

Post-match discussion threw up many answers, many and varied as to what went wrong. The fact remained that we did not have the power to recover from a terribly disastrous start in which Cork blasted our net twice inside five minutes before we had time to settle. While we can find comfort in the thought that had we not fell victim to such devastating blows things might have taken a different shape there's no denying that we gave way to a much stronger and potent Cork outfit.

The result was quite humiliating for a side which looked promising enough up to then, and fielded seven of the previous years panel. Chasing Tipps 28th. title in this grade they deservedly cleared the first hurdle on a 1-11 to 0-7 scoreline against Clare, even if it was a game in which they had some very anxious moments. There was a lot of tension in their play, and it was not until the closing stages when the Clare challenge dropped did Tipperary supporters rest in the knowledge that victory was secure.

COUNTY MINOR HURLING TEAM DEFEATED BY CORK IN MUNSTER FINAL



P. Kearns (Knockavilla Kickhams), T. Duggan (Ballingarry), E. T. Maher (Roscrea), B. Carroll (Thurles Sarsfields); R. Ryan (Cashel King Cormacs), D. O'Meara (Toomevara); E. Maher (Skeheenarinka); M. Ryan (Upperchurch-Drombane), C. Byron (Galtee Rovers); T. J. O'Dwyer (Boherlahan-Dualla), B. O'Dwyer (do.), S. Quinn (Thurles Sarsfields); K. Ralph (Moycarkey-Borris), K. Kennedy (Toomevara), J. O'Donoghue (Cashel King Cormacs). Subs: M. Hogan (Roscrea) for T. J. O'Dwyer; E. Cummins (Fethard) for Byron. Munster Final line-out.

EARLY GAMES

First round games are always difficult to get over no matter how a side is rated, but once Tipp cleared that hurdle, hopes were high that a big improvement would show in the semi-final.

Down to Limerick Gale then for the clash with the home county, and in an effort to strengthen the side, the selectors drafted Raymond Ryan, from Cashel King Cormacs into the half-back line and Brian O'Dwyer (Boherlahan-Dualla) into attack, at full-forward.

The first-half was anything but promising from a Tipperary point of view. We spent between the 9th. and 21st. minute without a score but luckily for us Limerick did little more. They only managed four points in that time with the benefit of the stiffish breeze.

The manner in which we transformed a four point deficit at the interval into a three point lead in no less than five minutes of the re-start, thanks in the main to Kevin Kennedy and Michael Hogan goals, lifted Tipperary morale and thereon to the finish some delightful hurling culminating in a 4-10 to 2-6 victory gave us high hopes of retaining the crown.

THE FINAL

Alas, such flair and enthusiasm were conspicuously absent ingredients from Tipp's play on final day. A side with James O'Donoghue (Cashel King Cormacs), who came on as a sub against Limerick, retained in attack was rocked on its heels with early body blows in the shape of goals from Kevin Roche (2nd minute) and Paudie O'Brien (5th minute), with seven from last year's side they swept Tipp. off their feet and moved into a 2-6 to 1-0 interval lead, Tipp's. only score came from T. J. O'Dwyer (Boherlahan-Dualla).

Any hopes of a resurgence on the turnover were thrown aside once Tim Hurley had another Cork goal, that score sparked off another period of Cork superiority and Tipp. struggled to the end.

A sad ending then for all concerned with the side, but it's easy be critical of losers and it should not be forgotten that they toiled just as hard as the champions in their preparations for the big day. Much is sacrificed in the effort, and the players and mentors didn't get anything like a just reward for the work inveted. Here's hoping for much better things in '89.

One felt particularly sorry for Toomevara's Donie Shanahan who holds the commendable record of having been a minor selector since 1982 when Tipp. won the All-Ireland. Sterling service indeed, in the promotion of under-age hurling.



John Guiton at the All-Ireland.

Juniors fail to clinch it

By Seamus O'Doherty



TIPPERARY JUNIOR HURLERS — ALL-IRELAND FINALISTS 1988

Back Row: P. Henebery, D. Quinlan, L. Enright, J. Cooke (S), M. Kelly, J. Sheedy, F. McGrath, J. Bane, A. Buckley, M. Cunningham, M. McCormack, P. Kiely, J. Sherlock, W. Sweeney (C), L. Keogh. **Front Row:** P. Burke (Capt.), M. Stapleton, P. Cahill, P. Delaney, J. O'Brien, J. Harrington, M. Corcoran, E. Kelly, S. Burke.

THE RECORDS show that Tipperary's last Junior All-Ireland title was won in 1953. Even allowing for a long break in the competition, it is still too far back for easy recall. Since the reintroduction of this competition in 1983, Tipperary have been among the most serious contenders for Provincial and National Honours. Prior to the start of the present season, the closest the county had gone to All-Ireland success was in 1985, when Wexford pipped us narrowly.

There is always optimism in Tipperary teams when a campaign starts, and 1988 was no exception. Boosted by the success of the Seniors in 1987, the Juniors wanted their own share of glory and the Munster Council is deserving of praise for fixing Junior games with Senior tests in the early stages of the Championship. This policy certainly boosts the status of Junior hurling, and gives supporters the opportunity of watching possible future senior hurlers in action.

OPENING GAME

Under Clonmore's leadership and Willie Sweeney's coaching, the Tipp. Juniors opened their 1988 campaign against Limerick on June 5th at Páirc Uí Chaoimh. The team selected looked promising and there was every expectation of a good start to a day, which featured the same counties in the Senior Semi-Final.

The Tipp men were quickly into their stride and a brilliant early goal by Seamus Burke, following good team work by John Sheedy and Maurice McCormack, set the trend of the game. McCormack himself notched a first half goal after Sheedy's initial effort had been saved. Limerick missed some early chances but not even a strange goal awarded to them, when Tipp. goalie Liam Enright was adjudged to have

saved behind the line, could improve their position. By half time Tipp. led 2-8 to 1-2 and it was clear that victory would be secured.

Limerick alterations were of no benefit and Tipp. continued to dominate. However the urgency was no longer necessary and a mere 2-3 was added in the second half. McCormack and Joe Harrington were the goalscorers. The final score was 4-11 to 1-4. Particularly impressive for Tipp. were Damien Quinlan at corner back,



Seamus O'Doherty.

Michael Kelly at midfield, Michael Cunningham, Joe Harrington, Seamus Burke and the very brave and unselfish John Sheedy in attack. Critics would highlight seventeen Tipp. wides and occasional loss of killer instinct as major flaws. Nevertheless it was a convincing start and a place in the Provincial Final was now assured. Not surprisingly Cork (defending All-Ireland Champions) qualified to meet Tipp. in the decider, which was fixed for Kilworth on

Wednesday, June 29th. A good crowd travelled to support Tipp. in their effort to win a first Provincial title since 1985.

The game produced some fine hurling and was enjoyable all the way through. The basic difference between the teams was forward power. Cork's attack although possibly better ball players than their opponents, just couldn't find their way through to goal, as their opposite numbers did. The tremendous understanding among Maurice McCormack, John Sheedy and Seamus Burke was amazing and this trio was the main difference between the sides. First half goals by Michael Cunningham, Seamus Burke (2) and Maurice McCormack ensured that Tipp. led well at the break — 4-3 to 0-8. Even the loss of Pa Delaney through injury failed to upset Tipp. His replacement, Fergus McGrath, placed John Sheedy for an early second-half goal and that was really the clincher. Apart from the full forward line, Liam Enright in goal, Damien Quinlan, Gerry O'Brien (scorer of two long range points), Martin Burke in defence and midfielder Eamon Kelly did most to ensure that the Provincial Cup would be heading to Martin Burke's Clonmore. The final score was 5-9 to 0-15 with Seamus Burke scoring 2-4. This victory was very satisfying but there was little time to savour it. Galway were visitors four days later to Templemore for the All-Ireland Senior Final. It was a major test for Tipp.

SEMI-FINAL TEST

Galway's freshness was an advantage to them but Tipp. would not fail without a mighty contest. The All-Ireland title was the incentive. The game was a thriller and it took courage and great spirit to win the day for Tipp. It didn't look like that in the

first half as the home team, encouraged by their partisan aims, raced into an eight point half-time lead, thanks mainly to the accuracy of John Sheedy (a beautiful opening goal), Seamus Burke, with a handpassed goal, and Joe Harrington with a well placed and firmly hit third major. At half time Tipp. led by 3-5 to 1-3 but they had the help of the breeze in that half. Good work by Philly Cahill (replacing the injured Pa Delaney) at right half forward was instrumental in the scoretaking by the sharp shooting attack.

Galway were on the offensive after the change around and it didn't take Eamon Dervan long to score two goals to add to his first half score. Tipp. were in trouble but the introduction of Liam Keogh in defence helped. Galway refused to yield and a series of points from M. Kenny levelled the scoring. In a hectic finish Seamus Burke scored the winning point from a free, but Tipp. had to endure two minutes of extreme pressure prior to the conclusion. Liam Enright's good display in goal, particularly in the closing stages, kept Tipp. in the game. Michael Stapleton

was very impressive at corner back. Clearly there were problems which needed attention before meeting Kilkenny in the All-Ireland Final.

KILKENNY TOO GOOD

Tipp. had beaten the Noresiders in the Junior deciders of 1913 and 1930 but Kilkenny's achievement in scoring 8-25 against Monaghan ensured there would not be any complacency on the premier side for this game. The final was fixed for Portlaoise on Friday, July 15. A good crowd turned up to see the contest and they were not disappointed — it was a thriller.

Tipp. had plenty of opportunities to win, but sadly the potency of the attack which had been so lethal in the earlier rounds was diluted and numerous scoring chances were lost. In particular two goalscoring chances in the first half yielded nothing. John Sheedy's handpass and Joe Harrington's shot both failed to get past Kilkenny goalkeeper David Burke. This meant that Tipp's dominance gave them only a one point half time lead when clearly they should have been out of sight.

Brendan Bane (on duty for the injured Liam Enright) had a busy second half, but was only beaten by Tommy Bawle's penalty, which gave Kilkenny the lead 1-8 to 0-8 halfway through the second half. Increasing dominance by Pat Ryan at midfield ensured that the final minutes swung Kilkenny's way, while sub. Pat. Gannon contributed handsomely to the Black & Amber. Tipp. missed some good chances in the closing minutes and Kilkenny eventually pulled away to win 1-12 to 0-10. There were no words of consolation for Tipp. — the title had slipped away again. It was the one day in the whole season that the forwards couldn't get it right.

Gerry O'Brien, Michael Cunningham, Maurice McCormack and Brendan Bane were about the best of the Tipp. men.

1989 is not too far away and the same backroom team, Jackie Croke, Tommy Murphy, Jim O'Brien and Vinny Ryan have been reappointed to work with coach Willie Sweeney. This squad has it in them to claim the elusive All-Ireland, and if they produce as much good hurling as they did in 1988 on their way, we will all be very satisfied.

Tipperary's first All-Ireland Title – 100 years ago



By Marcus de Búrca

AT A TIME when public interest is concentrated on Tipperary's chances of winning an All-Ireland hurling title, the centenary in 1989 of Tipperary's first All-Ireland football title ought not to be overlooked. Just 100 years ago on October 20, 1889 at Inchicore, then a village on the southern edge of Dublin city, Tipperary, represented by the Bohercrowe club, defeated Laois, represented by the Portlaoise club, by 3-6 to nil.

The Tipperary team (then 21 aside) was: Gil Kavanagh (capt.), Willie Ryan, Joe Ryan, Jack Cranley, Joe Ronan, Paddy Glasheen, Tom Dwyer, Bill Ryan, Paddy Finn, Willy Shea, Paddy Buckley, Dick Whelan, John Daly, Paddy Hall, John Carey, Mick Wade, Brian O'Brien, Larry Fox, Jack Ryan, Paddy Ryan and Jim Keating. Substitutes and players in earlier games were: Mick Ryan, Pat McCarthy, Pat Hogan, Willy Sheehan, Jack Pickham, Jim Murphy, John Griffin, John J. Hayes, Ned Ryan and Jack Power.

Only seven counties played in the 1889 football championship — Cork, Dublin, Kerry, Laois, Louth, Tipperary and Wicklow. Louth, represented by the Drogheda Newtown

Blues (who won the Louth championship of 1888), beat Dublin — represented by the Faughs club, later a famous hurling club. Louth went on to defeat Wicklow (Bray Emmets, later also Dublin county champions), while in Munster Cork (Midleton) beat Kerry (Laune Rangers) before losing to Tipperary, who had got a walk-over from Clare. In the meantime, Louth had lost to Maryborough (now Portlaoise), champions of Queen's County (now Laois).

Bohercrowe, founded in 1887, had played no less than 37 games by the end of 1889. Their most memorable achievement before capturing the All-Ireland title that year had been the winning of a multi-county tournament in Dublin, the proceeds of which went towards the building of the Oblates Church at Inchicore, close to where the 1889 final was played.

In the Tipperary football championship of 1889, 13 teams entered, of which eleven were from places that would now be regarded either South or West Tipperary. Bohercrowe first met and beat Knockavilla, before meeting Grangemockler at Clonmel in the semi-final. In the final,



Co. Tipperary (Bohercrowe) winners of the 1889 All-Ireland football championship. Front row: Jn. Carey, Jn. Daly, P. Hall, Joe Ronan, J. Pickham, (M.F. Ryan, youth). Centre row: (Jn. Cranley), Jim Keating, P. Hogan, Larry Fox, Gil Kavanagh (Capt.), - Hogan, W. Shea, M. Wade (James Ryan). Back row: J. Ryan, E. Ryan, W. Ryan, Joe Ryan, B. O'Brien, P. Buckley, T. O'Dwyer, P. Hayes.

played in Thurles, Bohercrowe met Carrick-On-Suir, led by the co-founder of the G.A.A. Maurice Davin; but the men from outside Tipperary town were decisive winners on the score of 2-7 to nil.

The referee of the 1889 All-Ireland football final was Tom O'Driscoll, chairman of the Faughs (Dublin) club, who died suddenly only a week or so after the game. The referee of the Louth-Dublin game was P.R. Cleary of Lagganstown, later Secretary of the G.A.A., who is buried in Killeale. The chairman of the Tipperary county board in 1889 was Pat McGrath from Tipperary town, later Secretary of the Munster

Council from 1904 until his death in 1931.

After their 1889 win the Bohercrowe team seems to have faded out somewhat; but their place was taken by the Arravale Rovers club from the same area, who were to be football champions of both Tipperary and all Ireland for 1895. Unlike Bohercrowe, the Rovers did not fade out, and are still prominent in Gaelic games in both codes in West Tipperary today. Their controversial All-Ireland title win of 1895 may be told in a later Tipperary G.A.A. Yearbook.

The Football Scene

By Eddie Lonergan

SENIOR

The senior team played 9 games in the League and Championship, winning 5 and losing 4:

Nov. 8: League at Clonmel	Tipperary 0-14; Wexford 0-2
Nov. 22: League at Wexford	Tipperary 0-04; Wexford 2-4
Dec. 6: League at Templemore ..	Tipperary 0-13; Carlow 1-4
Dec. 13: League at Aughrim	Tipperary 2-12; Wicklow 0-5
Feb. 7: League at Kilkenny	Tipperary 1-17; Kilkenny 0-5
Feb. 14: League at Templemore ...	Tipperary 0-10; Limerick 2-6
Feb. 28: League at Ballymahon	Tipperary 1-06; Longford 1-4
Mar. 13: League Play-off at Ennis	Tipperary 0-10; Limerick 2-9
May 8: Championship at Dungarvan	Tipperary 1-11; Waterford 3-09

Training commenced on October 7th in the Canon Hayes recreation centre, Tipperary, and continued each week until the Christmas break. On October 25th they played a Fr. Sheehys selection in Clogheen in a match to mark the unveiling of a plaque to commemorate three outstanding Fr. Sheehys members, Dan Dowling, John Fleming and Paddy Hickey. Tipperary won this game by 5-12 to 0-7. Challenge games were also played against Commercials and Waterford at Clonmel.

At the break Tipperary shared top spot in Division 3 (South) with Limerick and Longford. Tipperary's only defeat resulted from having to field an under-strength team against Wexford due to a clash with the County Senior Football Final replay between Commercials and Loughmore/Castleiney. A request for a postponement was turned down by Wexford.

A trial was held in Clonmel on January 17th and training resumed three days later. Challenge games were played against the County Under 21 team at Castleiney and N.I.H.E. at Lisvernane before the League resumed with a victory over Kilkenny. A disappointing defeat against Limerick followed by a thrilling victory away to Longford left Tipperary sharing first place with those two teams and Wexford. Tipperary were drawn against Limerick in the play-offs and after a poor first half when playing with the wind began to play excellent football in the second half which gave them a 4-point lead entering the closing stages. Limerick then scored a goal against the run of play and equalised soon after. Tipperary then missed a penalty and Limerick scored another goal almost immediately which was followed by two points in injury time to give them a flattering five points victory. In the final play-off Limerick were defeated by Longford.

After a short break, training resumed at Sean Treacy Park, Tipperary, on April 6th. Further training sessions were held in Cashel and Cahir on Sunday nights and a challenge game was held in Kilworth against Cork.

They faced Waterford in a confident mood and despite losing Brian Burke through injury early on were in a good position at half time. However, Waterford got a grip on the game in the second half and despite Tipperary's best efforts qualified to meet Kerry in the semi-final.

The coach, Johnny Mulvihill, and selectors D. J. Gleeson, Sean Mockler, Sean Connolly and Colm Flaherty are to be complimented on their efforts throughout the year.

The Football Board decided to appoint a team manager for 1988/89 who would pick his own selectors. The outgoing coach, Johnny Mulvihill, was appointed and his selectors are D. J. Gleeson, Sean Mockler, Sean Connolly and Pat Moroney.

The following is the team that played Waterford in the Championship:

Ger Enright (Cahir); Pat McGrath, captain (Loughmore/Castleiney); Richie Quirke (Cahir); Mark O'Donnell (Commercials); Donal Foley (Moyle Rovers); Donal O'Keeffe (Commercials); Ned Ryan (Loughmore/Castleiney); Declan Hahessy (Grangemockler); Jimmy Dunne (Coláiste Mhuire, Dublin); Michael Cunningham (Emly); John Costello (Cahir); Brian Burke (Fethard); Anthony Crosse (Eire Óg Annacathry); Jerry Ryan (Ardfinnan); Gene McGrath (Commercials).

Subs.: Michael Beston (Fr. Sheehys) for Brian Burke; Andrew Healy (Newcastle) for Jimmy Dunne; Tommy Twomey (Arravale Rovers) for Ger Enright; Tommy Fitzgerald (Cashel); Peter Lambert (Ardfinnan); Michael Goonan (Newcastle).

We wish to congratulate Brian Burke and John Costello on being selected to play for Munster against Leinster in the Railway Cup semi-final and against Connacht in the Railway Shield Final. Although Munster lost both games the two Tipperary representatives can be happy with their performances. Congratulations also to John Costello on being a member of the U.C.C. Sigerson Cup winning team.

UNDER 21

Following trials held at Boherlahan on November 1987 and January 2nd, 31 players were selected to attend training which commenced at the Canon Hayes Recreation Centre, Tipperary, on January 9th.

The early start was necessary due to the decision to commence



TIPPERARY MINOR FOOTBALL TEAM: 1-5-1988

BACK (L.R): Chris Byron, Fergal Gallagher, Shay Ryan, Michael Ryan, Eamon Maher, Michael McGrath, Anthony Wall, Tommy Hewitt, Brian Morrissey
Front (L.R): Tom J. Connolly, Seán Moloney, Peter Gleeson, Eoin Cummins, Pakie Hallissey, Barry O'Brien.



TIPPERARY SENIOR FOOTBALL TEAM: 8-5-1988

BACK (L-R): Richie Quirke, Anthony Crosse, Jim Dunne, Gene McGrath, Gerry Ryan, Brian Burke, John Costello, Declan Hahessy, John Mulvihill (coach).
FRONT (L-R): Michael Cunningham, Mark O'Connell, Pat McGrath (capt.), Gerry Enright, Ned Ryan, Donal Foley, Donal O'Keefe.



TIPPERARY UNDER-21 COUNTY FOOTBALL TEAM 1988

BACK ROW (L-R): C. McGrath, E. Cooney, D. Quirke, C. Egan, M. Goonan, N. Ryan, J. Cahill, D. Ryan, P. Lambert, J. Lowry, P. Ryan, J. Quinlan, P. Quirke. FRONT (L-R): W. Morrissey, J. Lowry, S. Brett, B. Burke (capt.), B. Lawlor, G. Enright, R. Morris, J. O'Meara, J. Leahy, D. Hogan, C. Healy.



TIPPERARY COUNTY JUNIOR FOOTBALL TEAM 1988

BACK ROW (L-R): F. Kelly, B. Keane, J. Treacy, J. O'Loughlin, T. Ryan, F. Conran, J. O'Donnell, J. Kelly, T. McGrath. FRONT (L-R): W. Peters, S. Dunne, J. Lowry, E. O'Meara, E. O'Dwyer, M. Grace, J. McNamara.

the Championship on March 26th when Tipperary were to play Cork at Clonmel.

Having performed well in this grade for a number of years and having contested the Final in both 1986 and 1987, the coach, Seamus McCarthy, and his fellow selectors, Peter Savage, Michael Power, Pat Moroney and Tom Maher were determined to achieve championship success in 1988.

The final panel of 24 was selected in early February following six training sessions, challenge games against the County Senior team at Castleiney and Waterford at St. Mollerans ground, Carrick-on-Suir, and a final trial at Templemore.

A further 10 training sessions were held before meeting Cork. Galway, Westmeath and Wexford were defeated in challenge games at Castleiney, Tipperary and Carrick-on-Suir respectively.

They opened well against Cork and scored the first two points despite playing against the wind. However, Cork got on top in the second quarter and scored some excellent points to lead at half-time. Tipperary got back into the game in the second half but were unable to break through the Cork defence. In the closing minutes a goal from defender Jim Cahill reduced the deficit to two points, the final score being:

Tipperary 1-6; Cork 0-11.

In August, Seamus McCarthy retired as coach. He has been coach to the Under 21 team since 1985, having been Minor Coach from 1983 to 1985. In that period Tipperary achieved respectability in under-age football and we thank him for his efforts.

Colm O'Flaherty (coach), Pat Savage, Michael Power, Willie Robinson and Noel Byrne were elected as selectors for 1989 and we wish them the best of luck in their efforts to make the breakthrough in Under 21 Football.

The line-out against Cork was as follows:

Ger Enright (Cahir); John Lowry (Arravale Rovers); Brian Lawlor (Templemore); John O'Meara (Emly); Ned Ryan (Loughmore/Castleiney); Declan Ryan (Clonoulty/Rossmore); Jim Cahill (Templemore); Brian Burke, captain (Fethard); Dan Quirke (Clonoulty/Rossmore); John Leahy (Mullinahone); Sean Brett (Mullinahone); Michael Goonan (Newcastle); Peter Lambert (Ardfinnan); Colm Egan (Kildangan); Ruadhan Morris (Templemore).

Subs.: Cristóir McGrath (Commercials) for Declan Ryan; Davy Hogan (St. Patrick's) for Colm Egan; Philly Ryan (Commercials); Justin Quinlan (Arravale Rovers); Willie Morrissey (Fethard); Jimmy Lowry (Arravale Rovers); Philip Quirke (Galtee Rovers); Eoghan Cooney (Carrick Swans); Christian Healy (Newcastle).

JUNIOR

The Junior campaign began with a trial at Littleton on April 8th. Further trials were held at Rockwell on April 15th and 22nd. Before meeting Waterford in the first round of the Championship two challenge games were played against Limerick at Pallasgreen and a training session was held in Clonmel.

As Tipperary had contested the last three Munster Finals and as this year they were able to field senior club players, hopes were high that the breakthrough would be made.

The Waterford game was played as a curtain-raiser to the senior match between the same counties which was a welcome improvement in status for the Junior Championship as until this year it was played in mid-week.

Waterford were defeated easily after an even first half.

Kerry were Tipperary's opponents in the semi-final. In preparation for this game challenge games were played against Carlow Senior team at Carlow and Limerick at Tipperary and a training session was held at Rockwell. Tipperary approached this game in a confident mood and despite missing a penalty early on held a small lead at half-time, having played with the wind, thanks to a goal from Franny Kelly. Entering the closing stages Tipperary appeared to have weathered the Kerry storm when Kerry scored a fortuitous goal to revive their interest. Despite falling behind, Tipperary never gave up and did not allow Kerry to build on their lead. Trailing by one point with one minute remaining, Tipperary made one last attack and opened up the Kerry defence to put Willie Peters through for a goal. Kerry attacked from the kick-out and only an excellent save from Francis Conran at the expense of a 'fifty' which was pointed saved the day for Tipperary.

Cork were Tipperary's opponents in the Munster Final. As All-Ireland Champions Cork had to field a new team and as Tipperary were fielding their second best team hopes were high they would reverse the result of the previous two years. Before the

final two training sessions were held at Rockwell. However, on the night a sub-standard performance coupled with an excellent Cork display resulted in a heavy defeat. The following are the details of the Championship games:

May 8: at Dungarvan — 1st Round	Tipperary 1-15; Waterford 0-07
May 29: at Tralee — Semi-final	Tipperary 2-06; Kerry 1-8
June 8: at Fermoy — Final	Tipperary 0-8; Cork 3-11

The team that played Cork was as follows:

Francis Conran (Fr. Sheehys); Johnny Lowry (Arravale Rovers); Tom Ryan (Loughmore/Castleiney); Sean Dunne (Lattin-Cullen); Michael Grace (Galtee Rovers); Ben Keane (Commercials); Eamon O'Meara (Grangemockler); Jim O'Donnell (Rockwell Rovers); John Kelly (Loughmore/Castleiney); Tom McGrath (Loughmore/Castleiney); Franny Kelly (Commercials); Joe McNamara (Commercials); Eamon O'Dwyer, captain (Rockwell Rovers); Willie Peters (Commercials); John Treacy (Loughmore/Castleiney).

Subs.: Tom Anglim (St. Patrick's) for Jim O'Donnell; Jim Maher (Loughmore/Castleiney) for Tom McGrath; Philly Ryan (Commercials); Paul McKeivitt (Loughmore/Castleiney); John O'Loughlin (Newcastle); Seamus Butler (Ardfinnan); Tony Gleeson (Commercials); Cristóir McGrath (Commercials); Kevin Fox (Éire Óg-Anacarthu).

In August the Football Board decided that the Senior and Junior team should have the same management.

We wish to thank the selectors, William Robinson (coach), Richie Boyle, Tom Cusack, John Bourke and Mick Byrnes for their efforts which saw Tipperary contest the Final on four successive years.

MINOR

The Minor team played 4 games, winning 1, drawing 1 and losing 2.

Mar. 12: League at Cappoquin	Tipperary 0-06; Waterford 0-06
Mar. 19: League at Emly	Tipperary 0-05; South Kerry 1-9

May 11: Championship at Páirc Uí Ch. Tipperary 1-10; Cork 2-10

Divisional trials were held during February with the inter-divisional trials being held on March 5th at Golden and Castleiney. A final trial was held in Cashel on March 17th.

The League commenced originally to help the less successful counties was this year divided into two groups of three with the top team in each contesting the final in order to facilitate Kerry who wished to enter two teams. Tipperary failed to qualify for the Final, gaining only one point from their two games against Waterford and the League winners South Kerry.

Following the trials and the League, a panel of 35 was selected to attend training at Cashel on Saturday mornings. Mid-week training commenced on April 13th at Rosegreen and the panel was reduced to 25 on April 6th. They were due to play Clare in the first round of the Championship on April 27th but before doing so they had a training session at Ardfinnan and a welcome boost as a result of a big win over a well-prepared Waterford team at Clonmel on April 23rd in a challenge game.

They now faced Clare in a confident mood and despite a tentative start emerged clear-cut winners with Tommy Hewitt, Anthony Wall and Pat Hallissey getting some excellent scores.

Further training sessions were held at Cashel, Rosegreen and Cahir in preparation for the semi-final against Cork.

With team captain Eamon Maher leading by example in midfield, they recovered from a shaky start during which Cork scored two points and went on to lead at half-time despite conceding a goal against the run of play. Tipperary continued to dominate in the third quarter and looked likely winners until Cork scored a goal following a blatant foul on the Tipperary full back. This score inspired Cork and they went into a six-point lead. Tipperary then re-arranged their forces and got back into the game but a goal from Barry O'Brien was their only reward.

The coach, John Cummins, and selectors Hugh Kennedy, Mick Darcy, Tommy Lonergan and Sean Hennessy are to be complimented on their efforts and as they have been re-elected for another year we wish them the best of luck in 1989.

The team that played Cork was:

Owen Cummins (Fethard); Fergal Gallagher (Arravale Rovers); Michael McGrath (Moyle Rovers); Peter Gleeson (Arravale Rovers); Seanie Moloney (Rockwell Rovers); Michael Ryan (Upperchurch/Drombane); Shay Ryan (Fethard); T. J. Connolly (Cashel King Cormacks); Eamon Maher, captain (Ballyporeen); Chris Byron (Galtee Rovers); Brian Morrissey (St. Martin's); Barry O'Brien (Éire Óg, Nenagh); Pat Hallissey

(Golden/Kilfeacle); Tommy Hewitt (Moyle Rovers); Anthony Wall (Commercials).

Subs.: Eugene Hogan (Burgess) for Chris Byron; Conor O'Dwyer (Upperchurch/Drombane) for Brian Morrissey; Colm Phelan (Inane Rovers); Tom Guilfoyle (Templetuohy/Moyne); John Hurley (Fethard); Paddy Ryan (Fethard); Tommy Thompson (Commercials); Seamie O'Halloran (Arravale Rovers); Brendan Hogan (Borrisokane); Eoghan Killoran (Inane Rovers).

COUNTY LEAGUE

The County League attracted an entry of 32 teams and they were divided into four divisions. Divisions 1 and 2 which would each provide two teams for the semi-finals of the Tipperaryman's Cup commenced in April while Divisions 3 and 4 which would each provide two semi-finalists for the Tipperaryman's Shield was played as usual over the Winter.

The following tables show the distribution of points from each game:

DIVISION 1

	Lm/C	G.R.	Ardf.	A.R.	C.	N.	Total
Loughmore/Castleiney	X	2	0	2	2	2	8
Galtee Rovers	0	X	2	2	2	2	9
Ardfinnan	2	0	X	2	2	2	8
Arravale Rovers	0	0	0	x	2	2	8
Cahir	0	0	0	0	X	2	2
Newcastle	0	0	0	0	0	X	0

Play-offs: August 31, at Cahir: Galtee Rovers 0-11; Ardfinnan 1-5 (Paddy Russell). Loughmore/Castleiney and Galtee Rovers have qualified for the Tipperaryman's Cup semi-finals and must play-off to decide the Division 1 title.

DIVISION 2 "A"

	R.R.	C.	Fr.S.	M.R.	G.	G/K	Total
Rockwell Rovers	X	2	0	2	2	2	8
Commercials	0	X	2	2	2	2	8
Fr. Sheehys	2	0	X	0	2	2	6
Moyle Rovers	0	0	2	X	2	0	4
Grangemockler	0	0	0	0	X	2	2
Golden Kilfeacle	0	0	0	2	0	X	2

DIVISION 2 "B"

	T.	N.	B	É Óg	S.	T/M	Total
Templemore	X	2	2	2	2	2	10
Newport	0	X	0	2	2	2	6
Ballingarry	0	2	X	2	2	0	6
Éire Óg-Anacarthu	0	0	0	X	2	2	4
Sologhead	0	0	0	0	X	2	2
Templetuohy/Moyne	0	0	2	0	0	X	2

Semi-finals — August 31 at Drombane: Rockwell Rovers 0-8; Newport 0-3 (Michael Greene). October 16 at Clonoulty: Commercials 1-10; Templemore 1-7 (John Moloney).

Commercials and Rockwell Rovers have qualified for the semi-finals of the Tipperaryman's Cup and must meet in the Final of Division 2.

DIVISION 3 (Played on a double round)

	B.	I.R.	S.	U/D.	M/B.	L/C.	Total
Ballyporeen	X	X	2	0	2	2	18
Inane Rovers	2	0	X	X	2	0	14
Sarsfields	0	0	2	0	X	X	12
Upperchurch/D'bane	0	0	0	2	0	0	10
Moycarkey/Borris	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
Lattin/Cullen	0	0	0	0	2	0	2

Champions: Ballyporeen. Runners-up: Inane Rovers

DIVISION 4:

	L/C	K.	Cr.	M.	A.	Cy.	T.K.	D&I	Total
Loughmore/Castleiney	X	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	14
Killenaule	0	X	2	0	2	2	2	2	10
Cahir	0	0	X	2	2	2	2	2	10
Moneygall	0	2	0	X	1	2	2	2	9
Aherlow	0	0	0	1	X	2	2	2	7
Clonakenny	0	0	0	0	0	X	2	2	4
Thurles Kickhams	0	0	0	0	0	0	X	2	2
Drom & Inch	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	X	0

Champions: Loughmore/Castleiney. Runners-up: Killenaule.

Play-off for Runners-up position: July 5, at Monroe — Killenaule 0-9; Cahir 0-7 (Jimmy McCarthy).

TIPPERARYMAN'S SHIELD SEMI-FINALS

May 28 at Drombane: Loughmore/Castleiney 1-13; Inane Rovers 1-1 (Nicholas Lonergan).

August 16 at Monroe: Killenaule 2-2; Ballyporeen 0-6. (Jimmy McCarthy).

FINAL

August 27 at Littleton: Loughmore/Castleiney 1-6; Killenaule 1-6. (Nicholas Lonergan).

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The County Senior Hurling Championship

By Seamus J. King

Michael Ryan of Fennor, a nephew of Jim of Loughmore and Bloody Sunday fame, was so thrilled with the result of the county final that he invited the whole panel, selectors and their girls to a meal in Thurles. Tomsey Gleeson, a native of Cugilla but now residing in London, phoned up that he would supply a set of jerseys. The team on arrival at the Four Roads boarded a float and were played by the local band to the village amidst scenes of wild enthusiasm, where the celebrations continued until the early hours.

THOSE happenings were representative of the tremendous feelings of joy and enthusiasm that filled every native of Loughmore-Castleiney when the final whistle sounded in the replayed county senior hurling final. The two points advantage in the mid team's favour was a great reward for the dedication and determination of a small parish of twelve hundred and fifty people. It was a just return for a team that went senior for the first time in 1981, won four mid titles and qualified for three county finals in the intervening years. Loughmore-Castleiney's victory, like Cappawhite's last year, gave hope to all those clubs that have never achieved the highest honour in county hurling. It also revealed that hurling dominance in the county is no longer the preserve of a few clubs.

PROSPECTS

Earlier in the year there were a number of expected contenders for the title. Cappawhite were regarded as good enough to make it two-in-a-row, many believing them to be unlucky in the Munster club final. Borrisoleigh, with their impressive array of talents would be in the shake-up if they could bet out of the north. Loughmore-Castleiney would also be there or thereabouts.



Seamus J. King



Loughmore-Castleiney captain Eamon Sweeney lifts the Dan Breen Cup following his team's victory in the County Final.



Action from County Final. Borrisoleigh goalkeeper Noelie Maher clears despite the close attention of Seamus Bohane of Loughmore-Castleiney.

The first big shock came in the first round of the west when Clonoulty-Rossmore summarily dismissed the county champions and installed themselves as favourites to succeed. Cashel had other ideas and, in a very impressive display at Dundrum, sent Clonoulty crashing to defeat. Cashel went on to win the west in an unimpressive display against Kickhams at Cappawhite.

THE OTHER DIVISIONS

Meanwhile in the South Killenaule ended a twenty-five year famine when they took the south title for the first time since 1963, beating St. Mary's at Fethard. On the same day Borrisoleigh were taking their twelfth title in the north, providing their supporters with a fine display of hurling to defeat Roscrea by seven points. A week later, at Templemore, Loughmore-Castleiney completed a hat-trick of mid senior hurling titles when they beat Holycross-Ballycahill by three points in one of the best finals for years.

QUARTER-FINALS

Three of the county quarter-finals were scheduled for the weekend of August 13-14. The fourth was delayed because of the north play-off to decide on the second team to represent that division. In that game Roscrea seemed coasting to victory when they led ten points to seven with thirteen minutes remaining. Then a fortuitous goal by Michael Cleary revitalised Nenagh's effort and they had six points to spare at the final whistle.

Two quarter-final games of very mediocre quality were played at Boherlahan on August 14. Joe O'Dwyer, playing at corner-forward, was the star of Killenaule's easy victory over Kickhams. he scored 2-5 of his side's total of 5-14 and Killenaule dominated the game for most of the hour. Kickhams got two goals in the last eight minutes to give a look of respectability to a rather dismal performance. Their final tally was 4-6.

In the second game, Cashel were unimpressive against an injury-hit St. Mary's. The South runners-up kept in touch with the West champions all through because of Cashel's failure to translate superiority on the field into scoring opportunities. In the end Cashel had eight points to spare on a score of 3-11 to 2-6.

On the previous evening at Templemore Borrisoleigh were very lucky to survive by one point against Holycross-Ballycahill. In a thrilling game the mid runners-up squandered a number of first class chances of forcing a draw in the final few minutes and were beaten by 1-9 to 1-8. In contrast the north champions could be thankful for the efforts of Noel O'Dwyer, who was deadly accurate from the placed ball, scoring six points in all.



The Cashel team which was defeated by Borrisoleigh in the County Senior Hurling Semi-Final at Thurles. Back row (left to right): Peter Fitzell, Pat Fitzell, Willie Fitzell, Jimmy Ryan, John Ryan, Pat O'Donoghue, Seán Slattery, Cormac Bonnar, Willie Ryan (Club President). Front Row (left to right): Liam Devitt, Raymond Ryan, Joe Minogue, Conal Bonnar, Tony Slattery (capt.), Michael Perdue, Colm Bonnar.

seemed as if Éire Og would be victorious. Although playing against the breeze in the first half they led Loughmore-Castleiney by four points to three at the interval. In fact they should have been more in front but for many wasted scoring chances. Soon after the resumption Philip Kennedy put them further ahead with a point from a sixty-five. But then the game turned completely about when a Pat McGrath sideline puck seemed to go all the way to the Nenagh net. A further point and a goal followed and Loughmore-Castleiney hurled very well for about fifteen minutes, building up to an eight-point lead. Nenagh came back somewhat into the game in the final quarter but a last minute goal by Seamus Bohan had the mid champions in front by 3-8 to 0-9 at the final whistle.

A FOUR DIVISION DRAW

Not since 1967 were all divisions represented in the county semi-finals. The draw brought Borrisoleigh against Cashel and Loughmore-Castleiney against Killenaule. Because of the All-Ireland football final the games were split with north versus west at Thurles

on Saturday evening, September 17 and the mid versus south encounter on Sunday, September 18.

Borrisoleigh were favourites to beat Cashel but the latter had other ideas. The west champions started off well and were three points to one ahead after eleven minutes. Then a sixty yard free by Noel O'Dwyer was touched to the net by Aidan Ryan while the Cashel goalkeeper and fullback stood indecisively. This blow seemed to knock the fight out of Cashel who were further stunned in the eighteenth minute with a second Borrisoleigh goal by Philip Kenny. At halftime Borrisoleigh were ahead by 2-5 to 0-4. On the resumption the northmen added a goal and two points to open a twelve point lead. Only at this stage did Cashel regain the fluency they showed in the opening ten minutes. In a great last quarter rally they reduced the lead to five points. But for superb goalkeeping by Noelle Maher in the Borris goal and the ineffectiveness of the Cashel inside forward line the result could easily have been different than the final score of 3-8 to 2-6.

RESULTS AT A GLANCE

County Final, October 2, 1988 — Thurles: Borrisoleigh 0-9, Loughmore-Castleiney 1-6. Referee: Willie Barrett, Ardfinnan.

Replay, October 8, 1988 — Thurles: Loughmore-Castleiney 2-7, Borrisoleigh 1-8. Referee: Willie Barrett, Ardfinnan.

Semi-Finals, September 17, 1988 — Thurles: Borrisoleigh 3-8, Cashel King Cormacs 2-6. Referee: Willie Barrett, Ardfinnan.

September 18 — Cashel: Loughmore-Castleiney 2-18, Killenaule 1-9. Referee: John Moloney, Bansha.

Quarter-Finals, August 14, 1988 — Boherlahan: Killenaule 5-14, Kickhams (W) 4-6. Referee: John Maher, Boherlahan-Dualla. Cashel King Cormac's 3-11, St. Mary's (S) 2-6. Referee: Johnny McDonnell, Roscrea.

August 13, 1988 — Templemore: Borrisoleigh 1-9, Holycross-Ballycahill 1-8. Referee: Willie Barrett, Ardfinnan.

September 11, 1988 — Cashel: Loughmore-Castleiney 3-8, Éire Óg (N) 0-9. Referee: George Ryan, Lattin.

Divisional Finals, July 24, 1988 — Fethard: Killenaule 1-14, St. Mary's 2-6. Referee: Willie Barrett, Ardfinnan. **Cappawhite:** Cashel 1-12, Kickhams 1-4. Referee: Paddy Russell, Emly. **Nenagh:** Borrisoleigh 1-14, Roscrea. Referee: Michael Cahil, Kilruane-MacDonaghs.

July 31, 1988 — Templemore: Loughmore-Castleiney 3-9, Holycross-Ballycahill 0-15. Referee: Donie O'Gorman, Thurles sarsfields.

Play-off, August 14, 1988 (North) Borrisoleigh: Éire Óg 2-10, Roscrea 0-10. Referee: Gerry Long, Knockshegowna.

The second semi-final at Cashel on Sunday evening finished a very one-sided affair after a first close first half. At the end of this stage Loughmore-Castleiney had a two point advantage over Killenaule in a score of eight points to six. However, the mid men changed to a much faster gear after the interval and scored 2-3 in the third quarter. They dominated the game and were ahead by 2-18 to 1-9 at the final whistle. The Killenaule goal came in the dying minutes and gave a slight respectability to Killenaule's performance.

COUNTY FINAL

Borrisoleigh were fancied for the final and most people believed that their class would tell in the end and that they would take their seventh senior title. They were coached for the encounter by Paddy Doyle while Loughmore-Castleiney had the services of the wider known, Jimmy.

A great game was expected but, as so often happens, it didn't materialise. In damp conditions, with Semple Stadium totally lacking in any liveliness, the game developed into an intense but scrappy encounter, kept interesting by the closeness of the scores. It was a game of appalling misses and poor hurling.

The first half was undistinguished except for a great free from a sideline cut by Tom McGrath from seventy yards and a goal by Seamus Bohan two minutes from half time which gave Loughmore-Castleiney a 1-3 to 0-3 lead at the interval. Borrisoleigh played their best hurling in the third quarter and went into the lead. Loughmore-Castleiney came back into the game and went two points ahead, but Noel O'Dwyer and Conor Stakelum points brought the sides level with six minutes to go, and that's how it finished with Borrisoleigh nine points to one-six for Loughmore-Castleiney. It was the northmen's third successive county final appearance without scoring a goal.

The replay was fixed for six days later, October 8. It was the first replayed final since 1982 and the first time for a senior final to be played on a Saturday. The replayed All-Ireland senior football final prevented a Sunday fixture. Flowery Ryan's wedding and Liam Cormack's emigration made a later date impossible.

The replay will be remembered for its sensational ending. Two minutes to go Borrisoleigh seemed almost certain. They were two points up and set for victory. Loughmore-Castleiney kept plugging away. The ball was making its tortuous progress along the Kinane Stand side of the field. At the far side Pat McGrath was following its progress and keeping parallel with it. When Liam Cormack's shot was blocked out by Noellie Maher, McGrath was present to slap home an all-important goal. Michael McGrath shot another point from the puck-out and a devastated Borrisoleigh were left without time to redress the situation.

It was a victory for the never-say-die spirit of Loughmore-Castleiney. With the benefit of the breeze in the first half Loughmore-Castleiney, as a result of many misses, could turn over with a lead of only two points in a scoreline of 1-2 to 0-3. The wise heads around the stand were predicting that it would only be a matter of time before Borrisoleigh stamped their superiority on the game. Not only had they the advantage of a stiffish breeze but they also had the heavy mist that began to fall at the interval. A deflected goal by Aidan Ryan in the nineteenth minute of the second half seemed to confirm this opinion. However, Borrisoleigh didn't seem to be able to deliver the decisive blow and were only two points up when Pat McGrath delivered his killer punch.

POOR HURLING

The game was more memorable for tension and excitement and the spectacular finish than for quality hurling. In fact, with the exception of the final ten minutes, the fare was as poor as in the drawn game. Borrisoleigh forwards let their side down, even Noel O'Dwyer, who had done so much to get the team past Holycross-Ballycahill in the quarter-final, couldn't find his shooting form. Among the backs Michael Ryan, Gerry Stapleton and Richard Stakelum were the pick of the bunch. On the winning side Jim McGrath must stand out for a very solid performance at centre-back. He was well assisted by Pat McGrath and Peter Brennan in the backs and Ned Ryan, Michael McGrath and Liam Cormack upfield.

To the question were there any county men hanging around the answer must be in the negative. Apart from the established players, who added no cubits to their statures, there was little else in the line of county talent. What the game showed was that success at this level can be gained by a bunch of middling players, knowing one another and combining well with grit and determination. Loughmore-Castleiney set out to win and to erase from the minds the memory of two previous defeats at this stage. They succeeded in their task and their joy was immense.

The successful side was: F. McGrath, P. Cormack, P. Brennan, E. Brennan, P. McGrath, J. Maher, E. Sweeney (capt.), N. Ryan, T. McGrath, M. McGrath, P. Treacy, S. Bohan, L. Cormack, J. Cormack, T. Larkin. Subs: M. Meagher for Larkin; J. Treacy for Bohan. Other subs: D. Kiely, T. Gleeson, J. Nolan, J. Kennedy, T. McGrath, S. Maher, J. Mockler, P. Gleeson, P. Morris, M. McGrath, D. McGrath, T. Cullen. Coach: Jack Walsh. Selectors: Pat Cullen, Tommy Egan, Joe Grady, Mick McGrath.

The Borrisoleigh side was: N. Maher, B. Kenny, T. Stapleton, M. Ryan, R. Stakelum, G. Stapleton, B. Ryan (capt.), T. Ryan, C. Stakelum, N. O'Dwyer, J. McGrath, S. Devaney, A. Ryan, P. Kenny. Subs: J. Maher, J. Glasheen, J. Ryan, C. Reid, P. Delaney, J. Loughnane, J. J. Maher, F. Doolan. Coach: Paddy Doyle. Selectors: M. Coen, Brendan Kenny, Tommy O'Dwyer. Referee: Willie Barrett, Ardfinnan.

Man of the match: Pat McGrath (Loughmore-Castleiney).

Success for Ballyporeen

BALLYPOREEN bridged a 59 year gap when they won the 1987 Co. Junior Football Championship at the expense of Arravale Rovers at Boherlahan on December 20th. The disappointments of all the intervening years were banished from memory as Donie Lyons received the Power Cup from Sean Mockler, Vice-Captain of the Football Board.

BALLYPOREEN U-12 C SOUTH TIPPERARY FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS 1988

Back Row (left to right): M. Dundon, J. O'Mahony, M. English, A. Fogarty, W. Cahill, T. O'Gorman, J. O'Brien, P. Meade, E. O'Brien, P. O'Gorman, K. Kenneally. **Middle Row** (left to right): Harry O'Brien (selector), S. Geary, M. Mullane, N. O'Gorman, M. Hanrahan, M. Meade, J. O'Farrell, M. Kenneally, M. O'Farrell, E. O'Gorman (Trainer). **Front Row** (left to right): M. Kenneally (selector), E. Walsh, S. O'Brien, L. O'Brien, R. O'Farrell, P. McGrath, J. Gubbins, B. Naidiu.



They have continued on their winning way by taking the 1988 South Intermediate Football title for the first time.

They have recently together with Skeheenarinky Hurling Club purchased their own playing pitch. Both clubs are to be congratulated on their development and have the good wishes of all gaelis in bringing it to fruition.

Tipp. retain Tony Forristal Trophy

By Jim Lynch

SINCE 1982 the Waterford Glass G.A.A. Club have organised an Inter County Under-14 All-Ireland Hurling Tournament to perpetuate the memory of one of their members Tony Forristal. Tony died as a result of a road accident in April 1981 while travelling home in a minibus with the Waterford Under-21 team. The Forristal Trophy goes to the winners of Division I of the Tournament. Another member of the Waterford Glass G.A.A. Club, Sonny Walsh, was one of the main architects behind the setting up of the Forristal Memorial Tournament. But like Tony, in 1983 Sonny died suddenly while coaching the juvenile hurlers of his club De La Salle. The Walsh family have now donated a trophy and this, the Sonny Walsh Trophy, goes to the winners of Division II of the tournament which is for the weaker teams.

Since 1982 this tournament has grown in stature and importance and is the only one of its kind in Ireland. Each province is represented and this year 16 teams took part with eight teams in Division I and eight teams in Division II.

PREPARATION

This year Tipperary were returning to Waterford as holders of the Forristal Trophy. The question everyone was asking, could Tipp. retain it as no county had done this since the Tournament commenced in 1982. The Forristal Tournament was divided into two sections — Tipperary grouped with Galway, Antrim and Wexford and in the other group were Cork, Clare, Kilkenny and Limerick. The preliminary games were all played on a league basis on Saturday 27th. with the winners of each group playing in the final on Sunday, 28th August.

Last year's selectors, Dinny Hogan (Ihurlles), Sam Ryan (Golden), Tom Gleeson (Portroe), Jim Lynch (Cahir), along with coach John Ivors (Templemore) were again in charge of the panel and the aim of these gentlemen was to retain the Forristal Trophy and keep Tipperary at the top.

Our preparations commenced on Saturday, 9th. July at Holycross with a trial where each division sent along their 12 best players. Numerous trials and training sessions were held after this and the selectors also attended the closing stages of the County Championships so that no talent would go unnoticed. Finally after a lot of deliberation and thought the following were the lucky 21 selected to represent their county at Waterford:

Shay Killeen, Keith Slevin, Tommy Haugh (Borrisokane), Frank McGrath, Robert Tomlinson, Liam Walsh (Eire Óg Nenagh), Philip Shanahan, Tommy Dunne, Terry Dunne (Toomevara), Brian Flannery, Sean Kelly (Kiladangan), Ciaran O'Reilly (St. Mary's), Richard Doyle (Holycross), Noel Wall (Moyle Rovers), Declan Kehir (Durlas Óg), Aidan Flanagan (Boherlahan), Brendan Cummins (Ballybacon/Grange), Paul Lucey (Clonmel Óg), Liam McGrath (Burgess), Tommy Keane (Upperchurch), Mark Rabbitte (Borrisoleigh).

We played three challenge games before going to Waterford and these games helped to blend the team together and to develop a strong relationship and comradeship amongst the players. These games were against Templemore U-16's, Limerick U-14 team and finally against Drom and Inch U-16 team. We won all these games so it was a confident Tipperary party that arrived at Mount Sion grounds on Saturday, 27th. August to play Galway in the first game.

THE GAMES

Team and mentors knew that Galway had to be beaten if we were to progress to the final. Galway looked extremely strong up the middle so the order going out was to attack along the flanks and clear everything to the wings. After a slow start, Tipp. soon settled down and played delightful first time hurling. Shay Killeen fully justified his selection in goal with two great saves in the first ten minutes when the game was tight. Outside him, Mark Rabbitte stood like a colossus at the edge of the square catching and clearing as if he was out in the practice field. Our half back line of McGrath (Capt.), Shanahan and Slevin repulsed attack after attack. The stylish Brian Flannery ably assisted by a hard working Terry Dunne kept us on top throughout at midfield while inside, Tommy Dunne, Sean Kelly, Declan Kehir and Aidan Flanagan punished Galway with every opportunity that came their way. Tipp. ran out easy winners in the end on the scoreline 3-13 to 1-1. After this very skillful display, hopes were high that Tipperary would be in the final on Sunday.

Our next game was against Antrim. This was a dour affair as Antrim were very big and physical. We still ran out convincing winners on the scoreline 3-12 to 0-0. Our last game in this group was against Wexford. For this game the selectors decided to rest Philip Shanahan who was suffering from a knee injury. Our



TIPPERARY — TONY FORRISTAL TOURNAMENT CHAMPIONS

Back Row: Tommy Dunne (Toomevara), Paul Lucey (Clonmel Óg), Liam McGrath (Burgess), Robert Tomlinson (Eire Óg, Nenagh), Keith Slevin (Borrisokane), Tomás Keane (Upperchurch), Terry Dunne (Toomevara), Kieran O'Reilly (St. Mary's Clonmel), Aidan Flanagan (Boherlahan). **Back Row:** Mark Rabbitte (Borrisoleigh), Tommy Haugh (Borrisokane), Liam Walshe (Eire Óg, Nenagh), Philip Shanahan (Toomevara), Declan Kehir (Durlas Óg), Brian Flannery (Kiladangan), Shay Killeen (Borrisokane), Sean Kelly (Kiladangan), Frank McGrath (Eire Óg, Nenagh) Capt., Brendan Cummins (Ballybacon/Grange), Noel Wall (Moyle Rovers). Missing from photograph: Richard Doyle (Holycross).

captain, Frank McGrath deputised at centre back for Phil and acquitted himself very well. Ciaran O'Reilly played at left corner back in this game and on his display would be fighting hard for a place in the final. Tomas Keane of Upperchurch played very well at right half-back and Paul Lucey and Liam McGrath proved themselves able substitutes. Brendan Cummins took over goal and proved himself a very capable understudy to Shay Killeen. Noel Wall and Tommy Haugh who had both played against Wexford proved to the selectors that picking a team for the final would be no easy task. We easily defeated Wexford by 3-13 to 0-0 so it was on to the final at the Waterford Glass Centre at 2.00 p.m. on Sunday. Word at this stage had come through that our arch rivals Cork would be our opponents in the Final. What a pairing for the final and what a match to look forward to. Philip Shanahan's injury was beginning to worry us as Phil was limping.

So leaving the Mount Sion Centre it was on to Tramore which was our host club for the night. Before breaking up for the night, a curfew was ordered for 11.00 p.m. as Tom Gleeson and myself were going on patrol to the Waterfront after that. At this stage I would like to thank Dougie Partridge who was a great host for the Tramore club all over the weekend.

Sunday morning came and after Mass at the G.A.A. Centre in Tramore the boys had a puck around in the nearby G.A.A. field. Dougie Partridge had organised a physio for us and this lady Mrs. Tilson got to work on Phil Shanahan's knee. I can still hear Tom Gleeson say as Phil was being treated "How is it that a bad cow never gets sick". Even Phil was laughing. After treatment Mrs. Tilson guaranteed us that Phil would be okay.

THE FINAL

So it was a happy and confident group that arrived at the Glass Centre for the final. The day was showery and windy. With the parade over, John Moore threw in the ball at 2.00 p.m. The Blue and Gold against the Red and White, what more could you ask for. The Blue and Gold flags flew numerously in the big crowd as many parents and supporters had travelled down. Play swung from end to end in the first five minutes with no pattern developing. Tipp. had the elements in their favour.

Brian Flannery began to emerge from his shell in the middle of the field and from Brian's promptings everyone began to respond. Like the jewel of a hurler he is Tommy Dunne began to point balls from angles. A switch which brought Declan Kehir from the corner

to left half-forward in exchange with Robert Tomlinson worked wonders. Kehir from that moment played like a man inspired. A centre from Kehir was broken by full forward Liam Walsh and will-o-wisp corner forward Aidan Flanagan had it in the net in a flash. Two great saves at the other side by Shay Killeen kept Cork scoreless for the first 25 minutes. Half time saw us lead 1-0 to 0-0. Two subs were introduced in the second half. Paul Lucey for Liam Walsh and Noel Wall for Aidan Flanagan who was carrying a groin injury. Despite playing into the elements, Tipperary took over completely in the second half. With a display of skilful and artistic hurling our boys completely overwhelmed Cork. Richard Doyle and Ciaran Reilly were two sound corner-men to full back Mark Rabbittie who commanded the square with great authority. Our half-back line was like a stone wall with McGrath particularly outstanding. Brian Flannery is a prince of a midfielder and all through the tournament he got great support from the hard-grafting Terry Dunne. Seán Kelly on the forty sprayed balls around to his fellow forwards like confetti.

Declan Kehir and Robert Tomlinson both benefitted from their change. Kehir thundered into the game and Tomlinson took his two goals with great panache. Liam Walsh and Aidan Flanagan worked very hard and when they were replaced, both Paul Lucey and Noel Wall gave their all. Tommy Haugh who also came on gave a very workmanlike performance. One man I have left to last, that is Tommy Dunne. He played through the whole tournament with an ankle injury but whether from out of his hand or from placed balls I don't think he ever missed a score. When in possession, Tommy is like poetry in motion. After fifty minutes hurling Tipp were again champions on the scoreline 3-11 to 0-3.

The team for the final was: Shay Killeen, Richard Doyle, Mark Rabbittie, Ciaran Reilly, Frank McGrath (Capt.), Philip Shanahan, Keith Slevin, Brian Flannery, Terry Dunne, Tommy Dunne, Sean Kelly, Robert Tomlinson, Aidan Flanagan, Liam Walsh, Declan Kehir. Subs used: Paul Lucey, Noel Wall, Tommy Haugh.

After a meal at the Ard-Ri Hotel the trophies were presented to the victorious Tipperary team and to cap a great day Frank McGrath was presented with a special trophy for Man-of-the-Match award. It was great to see all the officers of Bord-na-nOg at the presentation.

To this bunch of fine young men I would like to say well done, you are a credit to your families and clubs and it will come as no surprise to me to see most of you in a few short years in the blue and gold of your famous county.

North Tipperary win 1988 Garda Cup

**NORTH TIPPERARY 4-12;
WEST TIPPERARY 3-3.**

NORTH TIPPERARY

B. Gaynor (Kilruane MacDonagh); M. Rabbittie (Borris-Ileigh); D. Conroy (Éire Óg, Nenagh); H. Reid (Knockshegowna); B. Dwyer (Moneygall); F. Hynes (Éire Óg, Nenagh); B. Flannery (Kildangan); M. Loughnane (Roscrea); J. Kennedy (Éire Óg, Nenagh); A. Hogan (Borrisokane); C. Howard (Éire Óg, Nenagh); T. Dunne (Toomevara); O. Cleary (Borrisokane); E. Tucker (Éire Óg, Nenagh); S. McKeogh (Ballina). Subs: P. Shanahan (Toomevara); J. Kenny (Borris-Ileigh); C. Daly (Éire Óg, Nenagh).

WEST TIPPERARY

S. Carroll (Cappawhite); G. Quinlan (Arravale Rovers); M. Heffernan (Éire Óg, Anacarty); T. Heffernan (do.); D. Crosse (Knockavilla Kickhams); V. Ryan (Éire Óg, Anacarty); T. O'Brien (Knockavilla Kickhams); P. Maher (Arravale Rovers); V. Kelly (Knockavilla Kickhams); M. Heffernan (Éire Óg, Anacarty); P. Maguire (Lattin-Cullen); K. Boues (Arravale Rovers); G. Maguire (Lattin-Cullen); N. O'Neill (Galtee Rovers); C. Ryan (Knockavilla Kickhams). Subs: G. Butler (Knockavilla Kickhams); J. Hadnett (Solohead).



Tipperary Handball 1988

By Eddie Corbett

TIPPERARY handballers had a very successful year, winning no less than five All-Ireland titles. Billy McCarthy of Clonmel made the big break-through when he won the coveted junior 60/30 softball singles title. Vincent O'Shea of Lahorna won the masters 60/30 singles title. Vincent O'Shea of Lahorna won the masters 60/30 singles title and he also teamed up with Michael Tyrrell of Clonmel to win the doubles. John O'Mahoney and Kenneth O'Neill of Newport were double juvenile title winners, winning the 40/20 and the 60/30 under-13 doubles titles.

PATHS TO VICTORY

On his way to victory Billy McCarthy defeated K. Kiely of Limerick and Eddie Corbett of Tipperary to qualify for the Munster final. He had an epic contest with T. Herlihy of Cork before succeeding in the final game by a solitary ace. He had a comfortable 21-9, 21-18 win over Rob McCarthy of Westmeath in the All-Ireland semi-final before beating Hugh Duff of Tyrone easily 21-0, 21-11 in the All-Ireland final. This victory, before a packed Tipperary gallery on the eve of the All-Ireland hurling finals, gave Billy his third All-Ireland. He won the minor handball doubles with Seán Hally of Clogheen in 1968 and the junior handball singles in 1977.

Vincent O'Shea had a good year, winning two All-Irelands. He beat Mick Fitzpatrick of Ballina to take the Munster title. He had a convincing win 21-12, 21-6, over J. Connolly of Carlow in the All-Ireland semi-final and was in fine form beating M. Cody of Mayo, 21-15, 21-11 in the All-Ireland, which was played at Roscrea.

His team-mate in the doubles, Michael Tyrrell of Clonmel, is the President of the Irish Handball Council. They had a tough Munster campaign, with a hard-fought victory over Dan Butler and John Ferncombe of Horse and Jockey in the provincial final. They defeated T. Stapleton and E. Mahon of Carlow, 21-15, 9-21, 21-13, in the All-Ireland semi-final and were too good for S. Clarke and M. Corbett of Mayo in the All-Ireland final at Crinkle, beating them 21-15, 21-16. These victories gave Vincent four All-Irelands. In 1975 he won the novice 40/20 singles title and in 1979 the novice doubles with Martin Maher of Lahorna. Michael Tyrrell was winning his second All-Ireland, having been successful previously in 1974 in the 60-30 inter-club with Clonmel.

JUVENILES

John O'Mahoney and Kenneth O'Neill won the provincial title of the 40/20 Under-13 doubles with easy wins over



Billy McCarthy (left), winner of the All-Ireland Junior Softball Singles Championship at Croke Park with Pat McKenna, Chairman of the County Handball Board.

Limerick and Clare. They had a tough win over Wexford in the All-Ireland semi-final. They beat A. Dalton and P. O'Donnell of Roscommon, 15-9, 15-4 in the final.

In the 60/30 competition the pair had an easy win over Limerick but had to fight all the way to beat Cork in the Munster final. Their victims in the All-Ireland semi-final were M. O'Brien and D. Bordy of Offaly, whom they beat by 15-2, 14-15, 15-1. In the final they gave a great display to beat A. Gargan and T. Carolan of Cavan by 15-0, 15-0. It was the first time for a Tipperary juvenile pair to win back-to-back All-Irelands in the same year. A lot of credit for their success must go to Peter Metcalfe of Newport, who coached them.

OTHER PROVINCIAL WINNERS

Tipperary had six other provincial title winners. Martin Maher of the Silvermines won the Munster 40/20 novice singles title after wins over M. Kiely of Limerick, G. Guiney of Cork and fellow Tipperary player, Seán O'Callaghan. In the All-Ireland semi-final he was convincingly beaten by N. Buggy of Wexford, 21-7, 21-10.

Seán O'Callaghan and Peter O'Brien of Tipperary Town had a tough Munster 40/20 championship in the novice doubles, beating J. Fanning and M. Kiely of Limerick and D. O'Riordan and J. Creedon of Cork on the way to the final. They beat Pat and Tony Flaherty of Youghalarra in a thrilling three-set final, 21-20, 16-21, 21-6. In the All-Ireland semi-final they were beaten 21-17, 21-

14, by the Wexford pair, P. Millet and N. Buggy.

Bernie O'Brien of Tipperary Town was the Munster 60/30 novice singles winner with victories over T. O'Hanlon (Clare), D. Hayes (Limerick), and T. O'Brien (Limerick). He beat fellow-county man, Seán Doyle of Clonmel, 21-18, 21-17 in the final. He was well-beaten, 21-8, 21-6, in the All-Ireland semi-final by J. Ryan of Carlow.

Three juveniles won provincial honours. Joe English of Ballyporeen and Timmy Moloney of Cashel won the under-15 doubles championship, between Limerick and Clare. They lost the All-Ireland semi-final to W. O'Neill and J. Daly of Kilkenny by 15-4, 13-15, 15-14. David Moloney and Noel Murphy of Cashel won the Under-16 40/20 doubles title with wins over Limerick and Clare. They lost the All-Ireland semi-final to S. Kavanagh and D. King of Carlow by 13-15, 15-5, 15-6. Noel Murphy and Noel Marshall of Cashel won the Under-16 60/30 title. They beat Limerick and Cork to take the title but lost the All-Ireland semi-final by 15-14, 15-8 to D. King and S. Cavanagh of Carlow.

NEAR MISSES

Seán Lee of Roscrea and Vincent O'Shea of Lahorna were beaten by Cork in the master doubles final. Willie O'Dwyer of Cashel and Bernie O'Brien of Tipperary Town lost the 60/30 novice doubles final. Michael Tyrrell of Clonmel and Paddy Maher of Clonmel lost to Waterford in the silver masters doubles final.

INTER-CLUB NEWS

The Clonmel novice inter-club team of Seán Doyle, Jimmy Cagney, Jimmy Mullins and Pat Cleere won the provincial title when they beat the Horse and Hockey team in a close encounter. They beat Talbot's Inch of Kilkenny in the All-Ireland semi-final but lost the final to Kiltimagh, Co. Mayo.

SPORTS AWARDS

At the beginning of the year Eddie Corbett of Ballyporeen was honoured as Tipperary's Sports Star for handball by the United Sports Panel. He was given his award for winning the 1987 40/20 under-21 singles title.

THE SENIORS

Tipperary had no success in the senior grade. The best result was by Billy McCarthy (Clonmel) and Eddie Corbett (Ballyporeen) in the senior hardball doubles. They were beaten 21-19, 21-7 by the Quish brothers of Limerick in the semi-final:

BUILDING DEVELOPMENTS

Cashel hope to have a new 40/20 court, including dressingrooms, open soon after Christmas. The club received £10,000 from the National Lottery towards the development.

Carrick-on-Suir completed the development of a new 40/20 court during the year. It is located in Davin Park. People involved include Larry Foley, Joe Walsh, Paddy Doherty and the Tobins.



Vincent O'Shea and Michael Tyrrell after their All-Ireland Masters Doubles win over Mayo.

Thurles received £5,000 from the National Lottery fund for further development on their 60/30 court.

FÉILE NA nGAEL

The annual Féile na nGael was held in Laois/Offaly. Tipperary were represented in handball by Silvermines in the 40/20 and by Newport in the 60/30. The Newport team of John O'Mahoney, Kenneth O'Neill, Raymond O'Brien and Joey Brennan lost out in the first round. The Silvermines team were more successful. They won the county Féile na nGael and reached the semi-final of the nationwide event. The team of F. and J. Ryan, M. O'Brien and J. Forde, lost out to Mayo.

ADMINISTRATION

On the administrative side there is a County Board and North and South Divisions which run competitions. Pat McKenna of Thurles is the County Chairman and Michael Tyrrell is the Secretary/Treasurer. The officers of the North Board are as follows: Chairman — Peter Metcalfe of Newport; vice-chairman — Willie Kelly of Thurles; Secretary/Treasurer/P.R.O. — Michael O'Brien, Silvermines. The officers of the South Board are: Chairman — J. J. Keane of Fethard; Secretary/Treasurer — Joe Keane of Fethard.

*Nollaig
shona
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Scór '88



Ballina Question Time team - County Scór Champions 1988 Scór Sinsear.



Arravale Rovers Ballad Group County Champions 1988 Scór Sinsear.

THE County Final of Scór '88 took place in the Premier Hall, Thurles, on March 5th, with Divisional winners contesting the coveted county laurels before a large and appreciative audience. Adjudicators on the night were from County Clare, and glad to relate that all competitors participated in a most sporting manner with the judges' decisions accepted graciously. The duty of Bean 'a Tí was in the capable hands of Carmel Ní Dhónall, who kept the night going with the minimum of "caint" and the maximum of efficiency.

Competitions, as is usual for county final, started promptly. What a pity that the majority of clubs and competitors alike, pay such little heed to punctuality in the earlier rounds, much to the despair of organisers. Another aspect of Divisional and County Finals is the amount of unaccompanied or uncontrolled children present. While Coiste Scór is delighted to have as many children as possible view the Scór highlights in the county, they do expect these young people to be under the discipline and control of parents or guardians. It was quite distasteful to be compelled to eject some 12/13 year old juveniles who were so obviously under the influence of alcohol at this years county final.

To brighter topics, the County Scór Final competitions themselves. All competitions were keenly contested and a high standard prevailed throughout.

In the dancing competitions, Burgess took Figure Dance Honours to the North Division once again, while Clonmore held the Mid flag high with a victory in the so-hotly contested Rince Set.

Eileen Heffernan, Cappawhite, retained her recitation title with her rendition of "The Defence of Clonmel", a tremendously strong historical poem, in which she played three parts — that of Narrator, Cromwell and Hugh O'Neill.

The singing title went to Upperchurch-Drombane with a beautifully sung interpretation of "The Fields of Athenry" by Patricia Quinn. Portroe, Scór Club of the Year in North Tipp brought a well-deserved county title to their parish in Novelty Act, while Ballina proved the "Brains of the Premier" in Tráth na nCeist. County honours went to Moycarkey-Borris in Ceol Uirlise and Arravale Rovers (with a new line-up) retained their Ballad Group title.

All winners were presented with Guaranteed Irish Connemara marble trophies by County Chairman, Noel Morris.

The next stage of the competition was the Munster semi-final where our representatives competed in Tipperary town on the 12th March with opposition from Clare and Limerick. The other Munster semi saw the remaining counties seek Munster final placings in Castleisland on the following day.

All Tipp representatives acquitted themselves extremely well and four items from the eight qualified to contest the Munster Final in Cork.

Eileen Heffernan, Cappawhite — Aithriseoireacht; Portroe — Nuachleas; Clonmore — Rince Set. Fr. Sheehy's — Ceol Uirlise.

County Ceol Uirlise winners, Moycarkey-Borris were ineligible to compete because of a rule technicality but Clare and Niamh English from the Fr. Sheehy's club represented Tipp in style and qualified for the Munster Final.

The Munster Final was held in Connolly Hall, Cork, on the 9th April. Sadly, our four representatives were defeated in their respective competitions, but did the county proud by their excellent performances all round.

We've become accustomed to Munster titles in Tipp G.A.A. circles for the last number of years and must view with a jaundiced eye our failure to do so



At County Scór '88 Final (l. to r.): Noel Morris, Co. Chairman, Máire Ní Chionnaith, Scór Rúnaí, P.J. Harrington, Scór Chairman.



Burgess, County Finne fóirne (19a) Scór '88 Champions pictured here with Noel Morris, Co. Chairman.

in Scór last year. Full credit to those clubs who organise at grass roots level — these are the clubs who look seriously at their G.A.A. duties, and fulfil them earnestly — these are the clubs who have been providing us with talented competitors each year and keeping the name of Tipperary high on the honours list.

What about your club?

Have you helped highlight the talent lying dormant in your area, and so provide Tipperary with the best team available to challenge for Munster and All-Ireland titles?

If you have been running your parish Scór on an annual basis, a sincere thank you from Coiste Scór — if you have not, a sincere request to please prepare now for Scór '89.

Pádraig Ó h-Urdail,
Cathaoirleach
Cuman Scór



Clare and Niamh English represented Tipperary in the Munster Final of Scór in Instrumental Music.



Eileen Heffernan county champion in Recitation.



Portroe — Novelty Act Champions (from l. to r.): Seán Creamer, Joe Lawlor, Nan Kelly, Mike Sheedy, John Sheedy (missing from photograph Jim Gleeson).

Scór na nÓg 1988

Tipperary Co. Champions

Figure Dancing:

Ballina: Fiona Scanlon, Roisín Scanlon, Deirdre Scanlon, Mary Frawley, Patricia Frawley, Marie Shanahan, Marie McKeogh, Bernadette Slevin.

Recitation: Holycross-Ballycahill: Catherine Ryan.

Solo Singing: Seán Treacy's: Deirdre O'Connell.

Novelty Act: Borrisoleigh: Margaret Cowan, Marie Cowan, Aileen Groome, Tracy Groome, Anne Kenny, Nuala Stapleton.

Question Time: Upperchurch-Drombane: Pádraig Ryan, Tom Quinlan, Michael Griffin.

Instrumental Music: Seán Treacy's, Catriona Shortt, Marie Shortt, John Meehan.

Ballad Group: Upperchurch Drombane, Breda Hayes, Siobhán Ryan, Seán Phelan, Una O'Dwyer, Helen O'Dwyer.

Newport — Set Dancing: Karen Ryan, Majella Moynihan, Imelda O'Riordan, James O'Brien, Seamus O'Brien, Eilis Coleman, Kathleen Moloney, Sarah Coleman.



Upperchurch Drombane, County Scór na nÓg 1988 Question Time County Champions.



Seán Treacy's County Scór na nÓg 1988 Instrumental Music winners.



Scór na nÓg 1988 County Solo singing winner (right): Deirdre O'Connell, Seán Treacy's, and (left) Eamon Nolan, Seán Treacy's Scór 1988 Recitation finalist.

Co. Bord na nÓg Review 1988

By James Gleeson

AN OUTSTANDING year for Éire Óg Club, Nenagh. First ever county under-age title for Ardfinnan. An historic rural football win for Kildangan. A double for Toomevara in hurling. Arravale bring the urban-rural football title to the west. A magnificent Tipp. team win the Forristal Trophy for the second year in a row. An excellent run for the U-16s in the Nenagh Co-Op Tournament.

These are the highlights which yet again marked a very successful year for Juvenile Hurling and Football in Co. Tipperary. Attendances were up on last year and by and large, patrons were not disappointed with the games which they saw. True, a couple of games were onesided, but they were more than made up for with some fast, skilful, exciting and evenly contested encounters.

U-12 HURLING

North representatives Toomevara met Arravale Rovers in one semi-final in Drombane. Affairs were evenly distributed until six minutes to go when Toomevara got the all important goal and won by a narrow margin on the score 2-2 to 1-3. The other semi-final was played in Golden. In an excellent encounter, St. Mary's, Clonmel overcame a game Durlas Og side to win by 2-6 to 2-2. The final was played in Semple Stadium in mid July. What a wonderful final it turned out to be. Both teams served up some exciting, courageous and skilful hurling. Toomevara were the winners by the narrowest of margins 1-3 to 1-2, but the young lads of Clonmel needn't be too disappointed. They contributed to a wonderful game of hurling.

U-12 FOOTBALL

South Champions Ardfinnan easily defeat Éire Óg Nenagh in one semi-final in Holycross. Durlas Og had the better of West Champions Arravale Rovers in the other semi-final. The final was fixed for Cahir and like the U-12 hurling final, it turned out to be one of the most exciting and heart stopping games on the Juvenile Calendar in 1988. Ardfinnan seemed to have that little in reserve in the first half, leading by 2-3 to 1-2 at the interval. In the second half, fortunes swayed back and forth, and it would have been a brave man who would predict the outcome. A riveting goal, 5 minutes from time gave victory to Ardfinnan by 4-4 to 4-2, and so brought them their first County Juvenile Title ever.

U-14 URBAN RURAL HURLING

Éire Óg Nenagh played mid champions Durlas Og in one semi-final in Borrisoleigh. There were some delightful passages of play, but Nenagh were always in control and went on to win by 5-9 to 3-3. The other semi-final was a much closer affair, and here Arravale Rovers edged out South Champions Carrick Swans by 2-5 to 2-4.



ÉIRE ÓG NENAGH CO. U-16 HURLING CHAMPIONS

Back; J. O'Donoghue, C. Howard, R. Flannery, E. Tucker, J. Collison, D. Conroy, B. Connolly, F. Hynes, N. Kearns, A. O'Dwyer, J. Linnane, E. O'Kennedy. Front: M. Sheahan, R. Foley, C. Malone, C. Bailey, G. Cleary, R. Tomlinson, B. Shanahan, F. McGrath, J. Kennedy, J. Ryan, F. Moylan.

Arravale had lost most of their all conquering team of last year. They came up against an in form Nenagh side in the final in Templemore. It was a one sided final with the North lads taking the first of their three county titles for 1988.

U-14 RURAL HURLING

I would have to say this competition was often more evenly contested. Toomevara had an easy victory over Ballybacon-Grange in one semi-final in Boherlahan. Holycross played West Champions Aherlow in the other semi-final in Clonoulty. They had met twice the previous week in rural football. Those two games were ding dong struggles, but alas the hurling game was not the same. Holycross had an easy victory and met Toomevara in the final in Templemore.



Frank McGrath, captain of the Éire Óg U-14 team receiving the Urban/Rural trophy from Donal Shanahan, Co. Board na nÓg Chairman after Éire Óg's victory over Arravale Rovers in the Co. Final.

Holycross started well but it was soon obvious that the North lads were that bit fresher and sharper. Toomevara had an easy victory by 7-6 to 1-5.

TURAS NA nÓG

Rural winners, Toomevara, played Urban rural winners Éire Óg for the right to go on this year's trip to the All-Ireland hurling final in Croke Park. The game was played on a wet, miserable evening in Moneygall on the last day of August. They had met, earlier in the Feile and North Championships with Nenagh narrowly coming out on top. A lot was at stake for Nenagh as they sought to prove themselves the best U-14 team of the year. On the other hand Toomevara had nothing to lose. Nenagh made the early running and seemed well in control at half-time. Toomevara threw everything into it in the second half and Nenagh were delighted and greatly relieved to be receiving the 23 Cusack Stand tickets at the end of the 60 minutes.

URBAN RURAL FOOTBALL

Ardfinnan defeated Durlas Og by 2-6 to 2-3 in one semi-final in Cashel. Due to some mix-up in the fixture of the other semi-final, Arravale Rovers came to Nenagh to play Éire Óg. Pat Lynch was in charge of the Whistle, and after a very close encounter the West Champions shaded out the home side. The final was played in Cahir. The large following from both clubs witnessed a fine game of fast open football. Ardfinnan tried with all their might to record an historic double but they just failed to a much stronger Arravale Rovers side on the score 2-8 to 2-3.

RURAL FOOTBALL

This turned out to be one of the most memorable rural football championships for years. Aherlow played Holycross in one semi-final in Golden. Both defences were in control that night and as a result scoring was low. The sides finished level

1-3 all. The pattern was much similar in the replay. Holycross had that little bit more strength in depth and shaded it by 1-4 to 1-3. In the second semi-final Fr. Sheedy's, Clogheen played Kildangan in Drombane. There is no rural championship held in North Tipp. and Kildangan qualified by virtue of their urban-rural final appearance against Nenagh. Clogheen had a nice skilful and evenly balanced team. Kildangan were depending on a few key players and it was these who enabled them to record a 2-7 to 2-2 victory over the South men. The final was played in Templemore and Kildangan achieved an historic football title on the score 1-5 to 1-1.

U-16 HURLING

Éire Óg Nenagh and St. Mary's, Clonmel met in the first semi-final in Holycross. Éire Óg raced into a 0-5 to 0-1 half time lead and looked set for a comfortable victory. On the restart Clonmel struck for 1-1 and Nenagh knew they had a fight on their hands. In the end the North lads won by 2-7 to 1-2. The other semi-final between Durlas Óg and Knockavilla was played in Borrisoleigh. Durlas Óg were going for an unique three-in-a-row. However they came up against a particularly strong and skilful Éire Óg side. In the end the North lads won by 1-8 to 0-5.

U-16 FOOTBALL

Clonmel Óg won the South Championship and they faced Templemore in one semi-final in Golden. it turned out to be a tough, low scoring, encounter with the South Champions shading it by 1-4 to 0-3. Éire Óg, Nenagh played Knockavilla Kickhams in the other semi-final in Drombane. Kickhams gave the eventual champions a real fright. However they had one drawback, their finishing was very poor. Nenagh turned on the style in the last 10 minute or so and had a comfortable victory in the end. The final was played in Holycross in mid September. It was tit for tat all the way through and all agreed that it was a wonderful advertisement for football in Tipperary. Éire Óg Nenagh shaded the verdict by 1-9 to 1-7.

FEILE NA nGAEL

The County Feile competition proved disappointing this year. Éire Óg, Nenagh after some minor hiccups in the North proved far too strong for Carrick Swans in the semi-final in Holycross. Holycross had an easy victory over Clonoulty in the other semi-final in Boherlahan. The final was completely one-sided with Holycross putting up no resistance at all to a rampant Nenagh side. Laois-Offaly were hosts this year for the All-Ireland finals. Nenagh had good victories but were beaten by Galway in a crucial group game.

Apart from South no other division was interested in the football equivalent of Feile Na nGael. Clonmel Óg represented Tipperary after defeating Fr. Sheehy's, Clogheen in the South final. After a string of victories they were beaten by Shannon in the All-Ireland finals in Kildare.

FEILE SKILLS

This competition was brought off in Holycross the same day as Feile na nGael.

Shane Quinlan, Lattin was the winner with a total of 57 points. Declan Keher, Durlas Óg and John Burns, Nenagh were joint second with 44 points. Paul Lucy, Clonmel Óg was in fourth place with 39 points.

LONG PUCK

The County Final of the long puck competition was won by Raymond Hogan, Borrisokane. He represented Tipperary in the Munster Final and came third. Congratulations.

URBAN HURLING

A motion was passed at this year's convention to introduce a County U-14 Urban Hurling Competition for one year only. It was to be run on a knockout system. Frankly it wasn't a success and didn't generate much enthusiasm. Arravale Rovers defeated Roscrea in the first round. Durlas Óg defeated Arravale in the semi-final. Éire Óg got two walk-overs and their first match was in actual fact the final in which they defeated Durlas Óg.

U-16 INTER DIVISIONAL FOOTBALL

This is proving to be a popular competition. This is due I feel because it is played early in the year and it is used as a guide for the selectors in picking a Tipperary U-16 team for Carrick na bhFear. It is keenly contested. This year the semi-finals were played on the same day in Holycross. South beat the West and Mid beat the North. The final was played in Boherlahan and South defeated the Mid. The Football Board organised the selection of players for the week long course in Carrick na bhFear, Co. Cork. By all accounts this week is proving very worthwhile for our future county footballers.

GARDA CUP U-16 INTER DIV. HURLING

West beat Mid in Semi-Final. North had an easy victory over South in the other Semi-final. The final was played in Semple Stadium on 16th. October. North had an easy victory by 4-12 to 3-3. Our sincere thanks to the Garda Association for their continued sponsorship. Apart from the fact that North have been dominant for the past couple of years, I see one drawback with this competition. It is played too late in the year. Why not play it early in the year to give much needed practice matches for the forthcoming Munster U-16 Championships.

MUNSTER U-16 HURLING

Again there was no joy for Tipperary's divisional teams in this year's Munster Special U-16 Hurling Championship. East Waterford beat South Tipperary easily. Mid Clare beat North by one point while South Clare easily defeated Mid Tipp. West Tipp. didn't participate.

TONY FORRISTAL TOURNAMENT

Selectors were the same as last year: Tom Gleeson, North; Sammy Ryan, West; Jim Lynch, South; Denis Hogan, Mid, and John Ivers, Mid was coach. Again much work went into the selection and preparation of this team.

After excellent victories over Wexford, Galway and Antrim, Tipperary reached the final for the second year in a row. Cork provided the opposition in the final and after a magnificent display, Tipperary lifted the Forristal Trophy for the second year in a row.

PEADAR CUMMINS TOURNAMENT U-14 INTER DIV. HURLING

North had an easy victory over South in one Semi-Final. Mid easily accounted for West in the other semi-final. In the final, North had a facile win. Our thanks to Borrisoleigh Juvenile Club for continued sponsorship. Again I feel there is no reason why this competition couldn't be played early in August.

NENAGH CO-OP TOURNAMENT

With generous sponsorship from Nenagh Co-Op Creamery, Co. Bord na nÓg organised a four county U-16 hurling tournament, involving Clare, Tipperary, Limerick and Galway. It was run on a league basis with the top two teams playing off in a final. Tipp. beat Clare in an exciting final.

Many people question the value of juveniles playing Inter-County and representative games at under-age level especially as we have an already overcrowded juvenile fixture list. Providing that these games are kept at tournament level, I see nothing only good coming from them. It gets a player used to playing with lads from other clubs, an experience he will need when he becomes a minor or U-21 player later on. There isn't the same pressure attached as to playing with the club and they are usually associated with pleasant weekends — for instance Waterford and Carrick na bhFear.

REFEREES

A word of thanks to our referees who refereed our matches for their dedication and efficiency: Paddy Hogan, Eamon Browne, Liam McGrath, Pat Ryan, Martin Treacy, Phil Lowry, Liam Quirke, Nicholas Lonergan, John Lonergan, Paddy Lonergan, Sammy Ryan, Pat Lynch, John Maher, Paddy Russell, Liam Hogan, Tom Gleeson. A word of thanks also to their officials.

FIELD COMMITTEES

Our thanks to all the various park committees for making their fields available for the running of our championships. A lot of work goes into cutting the grass, putting up nets, scoreboards, flagging and lining the fields. For this we are extremely grateful.

MOYCARKEY MOTION

A committee was set up last year to examine the structures of our championships. The subject was discussed at Divisional, Board and Club level. There was no overwhelming desire for change, and apart from better streamlining the championship set up will remain the same.

THANKS

My thanks to my fellow officers, board members, team officials and club officers for their help throughout the year.

CIBA GEIGY Clubman Of The Year

Pat Cullen, Loughmore-Castleiney

By Pat Healy, Club P.R.O. & Fr. J. O'Rourke

SOME time after the County Final, I was still chatting with players when Pat Cullen returned to the Loughmore-Castleiney dressing room. His work of visiting the Borrisoleigh dressing room and other matters now over he felt free to let his pride in the team and their victory take first place. Such attention to priorities is nothing new to Pat.

Earlier this year the highest individual award in Gaelic games in the county was announced. To many, especially within his club, it came as no surprise when Pat Cullen was the recipient of the Ciba Geigy sponsored Clubman of the year award for 1987.

Pat Cullen is following in a family tradition. In Canon Fogarty's 'Tipperary G.A.A. Story' Pat Cullen, Loughmore heads the list of those "who helped the Gaelic revival in their respective parishes" in

the years of the infancy of the Association.

Pat's association with the Club stretches back to the early fifties. As a player he played with distinction in both hurling and football, winning a county minor football medal in 1956. At senior level he collected his first Mid Tipp. football medal in 1965 and captained the side to victory in 1967. With that Mid title sequence continuing for a record breaking twenty one years in succession, it was fitting that on that occasion in 1985, as Mid Tipperary Board Chairman, he presented the Ryan Cup to captain Michael McGrath.

When his playing career ended Pat became very much involved in the administration of club affairs, serving firstly as Vice-Chairman, then a Chairman and as a selector in all grades. A man with great care for juveniles he was



Pat Cullen, Clubman Of The Year.

directly involved in the rise to fame of the great juvenile teams of the early seventies.

With the purchasing of a playing field by the club in 1979, he became chairman of the Field Committee and his proudest moment was to see the completion of dressing rooms and facilities at the ground in 1987.

He was elected Chairman of Mid Tipperary in 1984, serving his three year term

with pride and dignity and has been club chairman from 1984, after some years rest from the post. A member of the County Board, he is also a prominent referee in the division and county.

Despite the many calls in his farming duties, Pat is a tireless worker for the club, with his direct no nonsense approach. On the social side he is one of the chief organisers of the annual club Dinner Dance, and also the G.A.A. Scór competitions, both at juvenile and senior levels, and has been a participant in Question Time down the years.

Under his leadership the club has taken many honours, from county titles, club of the year awards and player of the year awards. Everyone in the club are proud of his leadership and achievements and he is a most worthy recipient of the Clubman of the Year Award.

North Tipperary Primary Schools

AFTER many years playing the annual Primary Schools Blitz, the Primary Schools under the Chairmanship of Nollaig MacDomhnaill decided to re-organise the playing of inter-schools matches. Eventually, after discussion, it was agreed that competition should be organised on a knock-out basis. 38 schools agreed to take part and these were divided into four categories. Section d was for two-teacher schools and one teacher schools could amalgamate. Section C was for three-teacher schools. Section B was four and five teacher schools and Section A was for the bigger schools. After Easter many matches were played because of the cooperation and effort of teachers and parents.

The finals of all the sections were played in Nenagh on the same day. Thanks to the interest of county player Conor O'Donovan the Irish Permanent Building Society sponsored the competitions and provided four beautiful shields which will be played for each year. The Primary Schools Committee provided medals for all the winners. The strength of juvenile hurling in Toomevara parish was very evident when it won three of the sections. The final day was a great occasion as all the schools turned up with lots of support 36 — Tipperary G.A.A. Year Book

and hats and flags to encourage their teams.

Many personalities also attended including Nollaig O Muiris, Tomás Ó Baróid, Seán Ó Tighearnaigh, Padraig Ó Meachair, Liam Ó hÓgáin, Donal Ó Niallín, Séamus Ó Riain and Conor O'Donovan who worked overtime signing autographs for his many youthful admirers.

After a great day's hurling the winners were as follows: Section A — Toomevara N.S. beat Nenagh C.B.S.; Section B — Drumakeenan N.S. beat Moneygall N.S.; Section C — Ballinree N.S. beat Dunkervin N.S.; Section D — Gurtagarry N.S. beat Boher N.S.

All agreed that this new format was a great success and are determined to improve on it in future years. Schools are already in training for next year's competitions, and no doubt new winners will emerge. This competition cuts across parish boundaries and really brings to life "playing for the honour of the little village". Thanks are due to P. O'Meachain for the great work he did as organising secretary and we wish him many happy years in his retirement.

Ar aghaidh libh a mhúinteoirí agus a dhaltai. Beannacht Dé ar bhúr n-obair.

TIPPERARY HURLING SELECTION COMMITTEES

The following Tipperary hurling selection committees have been appointed for next season:

Junior: Willie Sweeney (Moynempletuohy), coach; Jackie Cooke (Thurles Sarsfields), Tommy Murphy (Carrick Davins), Jim O'Brien (Silvermines), Vinny Ryan (Éire ÓG, Anacarty).

Under-21: Michael Minogue (Roscrea), coach; Paddy O'Meara (Lorrha), Mick Ryan (Holycross-Ballycahill), Danny Morrissey (Knockavilla Kickhams), Willie Carroll (St. Mary's, Clonmel).

Minor: Paddy Doyle (Thurles Sarsfields), coach; Phil Lowry (Holycross-Ballycahill), Hughie McDonnell (Roscrea), Sean Nugent (Kilsheelan), T. J. O'Dwyer (Sean Treacys).

Senior: Michael Keating, Donie Nealon, Theo English.

Nenagh Co-Op U-16 Inter-County Hurling Tournament

A NEW COMPETITION

WHEN the idea for an Under-16 hurling tournament was first mooted at a juvenile county board meeting, my first reaction was "oh no, not another competition". I already felt that the problem we have in Tipperary with juvenile hurling is that there is too much of it, thereby burning out players, especially the good ones before they get to the age when they should be really enjoying their game.

On August 14th, in Holycross we had our first "get-together". We had over 40 of the best U-16's in the county and in a match which was played on a South/West v. North/Mid basis I quickly forgot my earlier reservations as on that evening the quality and determination of the players was such that my thoughts were "there is no need to worry about the future of Tipperary hurling while the juvenile standards are this high".

FIRST GAME

Despite training sessions we were never in a situation where we could try out the players in a challenge match, so basically, it was an untested team which lined out for the first match of the tournament against Galway in Portumna.

Conditions were poor underfoot and a drizzle fell steadily throughout the first half. It took Tipp. some time to settle as a team and though they had done most of the hurling during the first half were only level at half time, thanks mostly to the accurate free taking of Vinny Ryan.

In the second half Tipp. began to function more as a unit adding one goal and five points without reply before Galway had a consolation goal from a penalty in the last minute.

Scorers were Owen Cleary 1-2, Vinny Ryan 0-4, Muiris Loughnane 0-2 and Paudie O'Keeffe 0-2.

In the second half the whole team stepped up on their performance none more so than Henry Reid, Ger Collins, Muiris O'Keeffe, Adrian Hogan and Owen Cleary. Final score Tipperary 1-10, Galway 2-2.

LIMERICK GAME

Our next game was against Limerick in Nenagh. At the start, Tipperary were slow to settle. This is a malaise which seems to affect all Tipp. teams, perhaps it is something in our nature that fails to ignite the spirit from the throw in.

As usual with Limerick teams they were strong physically and tore into the fray from the word go. They scored 2-2 in the first half and only for the point scoring of Vinny Ryan and Owen Cleary Tipp. would have been in trouble. Half-time score: Limerick 2-2, Tipperary 0-5.

Turning over to play against the wind Tipp. introduced Tommy Dunne and Adrian Hogan as wing forwards. The backline tightened up considerably thanks mainly to an inspired performance by John

By Frank Morris

Hadnett. Derek Conroy, Vinny Ryan and Feargal Hynes came more into the picture and the switching of Paudie O'Keeffe to centrefield before half-time greatly improved the supply of the ball to the forwards. Adrian Hogan scored a brilliant goal and a point. Tommy Dunne played some lovely balls to the inside forward line. Owen Cleary spelt danger to Limerick every time the ball came his way. Both Ger Collins and Muiris Loughnane also contributed handsomely to the overall performance.

Scorers were Owen Cleary 1-5, Adrian Hogan 1-1, Vinny Ryan 0-3, P. O'Keeffe 0-2, Vinny Kelly 0-1.

THE FINAL

By virtue of the results of the first two games both Tipperary and Clare had now reached the final of the competition. They were due to meet in Ennis in the last round of the league, but because so many of the Clare players were involved with St. Flannans in the Harty Cup, the game was called off.

The final was fixed for Nenagh on October 29th. Due to the unavailability of many pitches the game was eventually fixed for Borrisokane. The venue made it difficult from a Tipperary point of view as it made Vin Ryan and Kevin O'Donnell, who were engaged in the minor B final in Cashel, unavailable because of the distance involved. The game was played in pleasant conditions even though the ground was heavy.

In the first quarter it was evenly contested. The outstanding feature was the brilliant play of Henry Reid and Feargal Hynes who repulsed numerous Clare attacks. Derek Conroy was playing very solidly as was Seanie Hewitt. Both John Hadnett and John Cahalan seemed uncomfortable at centreback and right half back respectively. An injury to

Hadnett's knee necessitated the swapping of himself and Cahalan. Both players benefitted from the change and both went on to play the proverbial "blinders".

Paudie O'Keeffe and John Kennedy, until he was forced to withdraw late in the game with a leg injury, played soundly and both contributed to the scoring.

Tommy Dunne despite conceding two years to his opponents played his part and is a fine prospect for the future. Ger Collins while not contributing to the scoring played his part in keeping all the ball moving to the inside forwards and before moving to midfield had outplayed his direct opponent to the extent that Clare replaced their centreback.

Adrian Hogan while not appearing on the score sheet got through an amount of work on his home pitch, and is underage again in 1989. Muiris Loughnane was a tireless worker travelling all over the field in order to put pressure on the opposing defence.

Vincent Kelly, a midfielder converted to full forward, is developing into a real "find". he has the calmness needed for full forward and seems to do the right thing instinctively.

Owen Cleary took his scores well and with a bit more luck would have finished with a much bigger tally. One shot in particular going wide across the face of the goal when it looked as if it must finish in the net.

Pat McGuire also proved his worth when introduced as a sub, setting up a point for Vinny Kelly and scoring one himself.

There has been some controversy about the end of the game, but from my position it appeared as if there was a square infringement and after consultation the referee gave a free out.

Scorers: Vin Kelly 1-2; Owen Cleary 0-3; John Kennedy 0-2; Paudie O'Keeffe, Tommy Dunne and Pat McGuire 0-1 each. Final score, Tipperary 1-10, Clare 2-5.

TIPPERARY U-16 HURLING TEAM — WINNERS OF NENAGH CO-OP TOURNAMENT



Front Row (left to right): Brian O'Dwyer (Moneygall), Michael O'Mahoney (St. Mary's Clonmel), Trevor Dwyer (Durlas Óg), Tommy Dunne (Toomevara), Owen Cleary (Borrisokane), Jn. Cahalan (Shannon Rovers), Shane Ivors (Ballingarry), Muiris Loughnane (Roscrea), Vincent Kelly (Knockavilla), Fergal Hynes (Éire Óg Nenagh), Pat Leahy (St. Mary's Clonmel). Back Row (left to right): Con Howard (Éire Óg Nenagh), Brian Gaynor (Kilruane), Declan Crosse (Knockavilla), Séan Hewitt (St. Mary's Clonmel), Paudie O'Keeffe (Clonmel Óg), Derek Conroy (Éire Óg Nenagh, Capt.), Henry Reid (Borrisokane), Ger Collins (Durlas Óg, vice-capt.), Adrian Hogan (Borrisokane), John Hadnett (Sologhead), John Kennedy (Éire Óg Nenagh), Michael Heffernan (Annacarty). Missing from photograph were: Vincent Ryan (Annacarty), Pat and Ger McGuire (Lattin), Sean Collum (Templemore Éire Óg), Kevin O'Donnell (Boherlahan).



Moneygall Minor Football team defeated by Newport in the Minor Football B Final. **Back row:** Padraig Kennedy, Eddie Ryan, Declan Ryan, Tomás Delaney, David Donnelly, John Maher, Brian O'Dwyer, Pat Gleeson, Jim Shelly, Jim Hoolan, Tomás Kenneally, Neil Maher, Fintan Harney. **Front row:** Donagh Hoolan, John Doughan, Niel Quinlan, Declan Quinlan, Tony Spillane, Tony Fanning, Noel Ryan, Francis Harney, Michael O'Dwyer.



North Tipp Players of the Year 1987, Conor O'Donovan (Hurling) and Colm Egan (Football) receive their awards from the representatives of "Nenagh Guardian", watched by North Board officers Michael Nolan, Paddy Maher and Noel Morris.



Outgoing Chairman, Noel Morris, hands over to new Chairman, John Tierney, at North Convention in January 1988.



Billy Ryan and T. F. Stapleton accept the 1987 Club of the Year Award on behalf of Borrisoleigh from North Board officers Paddy Maher, Noel Morris and Michael Nolan.

TÁ an bhliain 1988 beagnach caite agus tá na comórtaisí go léir beagnach críochnaithe. Beidh siad go léir thart — peil sóisearach agus iomáint fé 21, roimh deireadh na míosa.

The year 1988 under new Chairman John Tierney and new Treasurer Séamas Ó hÓgáin has been well run and managed well. As a young chairman, John Tierney has made a great impact and his attention to detail is perfection itself. Séamas Hogan, in his first year, has been very thorough in all his work. It is a pleasure to work with both of them.

The Fixtures and Finance Committee of John J. McKeogh, Billy Ryan, John McDonnell, Pat Dunlea, with the Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer, met very often to prepare and streamline the business for each meeting. I thank this committee for all their work during the year.

The Board meetings were well attended and the club delegates put the interests of their respective clubs at all meetings.

REFEREES

During the year referees, in general, were good and the Board tried to facilitate referees with finals. This policy is satisfactory and we are happy with it.

REFEREES' MEETING

Tuesday, 8th November

This meeting at the conclusion of the championships looks back and makes preparations for the coming year with particular interest in the closed season.

SCÓR

The A.G.M. of Scór was held on Wednesday, 9th November. Mrs. Nan Kelly, Portroe, was re-elected as chairperson. Arrangements were made for the four quarter-finals in Scór na nÓg.

Gate receipts for the year:
£38,682.69

SCÓR - North Tipperary Review 1988

By DECLAN KELLY (Nenagh Guardian)

Despite the begrudgers and those many people who said that Scór was dying a lingering death in the Premier County, North Tipperary again came up trumps in all departments in last year's divisional final. Though attendances were well below the levels of former years, the people who were there at Scór's birth were still there to see it through its current lean spell.

Those who bothered to turn up for the North Senior Scór finals last year enjoyed what was a great night's entertainment with Ceoil, Craic agus Caint of the highest order. The following were the winners of the eight competitions:

Figure dancing: Burgess.

Recitation: Lil O'Grady (Newport).

Solo song: Joe Lawlor (Portroe).

Novelty act: Portroe.

Question time: Ballina.

Instrumental music: Portroe.

Ballad group: Burgess.

Set dancing: Templederry.

TIOBRAD ÁRANN THUAIDH C.L.G. Torthaí na Bliana 1988

PÁDRAIG Ó MEACHAIR, Rúnaí

1. **S.H. League Final:** Éire Óg 3-11; Muine Gall 2-9.
2. **J.H. League Final:** Tuaim Uí Mheára 4-14; Cnoc Sí Gamhna 0-11.
3. **S.H.C. Final:** B. Uí Luíoch 3-9; Roscré 2-5
4. **I.H.C. Final:** Tulach Sheasta 2-9; Teampal Doire 1-8.
5. **J.H.C. 'A' Final:** Cnoc Sí Gamhna 1-13; Lothra 1-8.
6. **J.H.C. 'B' Final:** Tulach Sheasta 2-15; Teampal Doire 0-9
7. **U/21 H. 'A' Final:** B. Uí Luíoch 1-11, Erin's Hope 1-7.
8. **U/21 H. 'B' Final:** Buirgéis 3-5; Portrua 1-6.
9. **U/18 H. 'A' Final:** Roscré 3-4; Tuaim Uí Mheára 1-9.
10. **U/18 H. 'B' Final:** Muine Gall ; Éire Óg
11. **U/18 H. 'C' Final:** Béal Átha Gabhann 2-8; F. na Sionainne 0-3

Moltóir:
(Dónall Ó Nialláin)
(M. Ó Darsaí)
(M. Ó Cathail)
(G. de Lúing)
(Pádraig Ó Síoda)
(P. Ó Duinnlé)

(P. S. Ó Ceallaigh)
(G. de Lúing)
(L. Ó hÓgáin)
(Seán Ó Síoda)

PEIL

12. **S.F.C. Final:** Tulach Sheasta 2-4; B. Uí Chatháin 0-5 (after replay) (P. Ó Síoda)
13. **I.F.C. Final:** Éire Óg 4-6; Lothra 0-3 (Dónal Ó Seanacháin)
14. **J.F.C. Final:** F. na Sionainne 0-9; Portrua 1-2 (after replay) (P. Mac Craith)
15. **U/21 F. 'A' Final:** Éire Óg 0-11; Tulach Sheasta 1-4 (M. Ó Leineacháin)
16. **U/21 F. 'B' Final:** Cillan Dainoin 2-4; Buirgéis 0-4 (T. Ó Gliasáin)
17. **U/18 F. 'A' Final:** Éire Óg 0-7; Fánaithe Eidhin 0-6 (M. Ó Mainsell)
18. **U/18 F. 'B' Final:** Tulach Sheasta 0-5; Muine Gall 0-2 (L. Ó hÓgáin)
19. **Ulster Cup Final:** Portrua 1-9; Béal Átha Galhann 0-7 (G. de Lúing)



Moneygall Minor Hurling team which defeated Éire Óg Nenagh by 3-6 to 2-8 in the Nealon Trophy final.
Back row: Fintan Harney, Declan Quinlan, Eddie Ryan, Tomás Delaney, David Donnelly, Tony Spillane, Neil Maher, Jim Shelly, Michael O'Dwyer, Pádraig Kennedy, Jim Hoolan. **Front row:** John Maher, Pat Gleeson, Declan Ryan, Brian O'Dwyer, Neil Quinlan, Noel Ryan, Tomás Kenneally, John Dughan, Ger Guest, Tony Fanning, Michael Sullivan, Donagh Hoolan.
An appeal by the Éire Óg club (based on the report of the referee) was upheld by the County Appeals Committee who recommended that the game be refixed. Moneygall refused to fulfil the refixture.



ROSCREA MINOR TEAM — NORTH TIPPERARY CHAMPIONS 1988

Back row (L-R): Mark O'Regan, Brendan Keeshan, Eoghan Killoran, Robert Fahy, Michael Hogan, Damien Hogan, Ciarán Carly, Fabian Jones, Gerry Kennedy, Daragh Maher, Proinsias Loughnane, Colm Phelan. **Front row** (L-R): Mark McLoughlin, Patrick Neville, Maurice Hickey, Richard O'Brien, John Gunnell, Noel Aherne, Michael Mullally, Eoin Maher (capt.), Donal Hogan, Liam Fallon, Brendan Dooley, David Pyne.

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FIAT

North Tipp Bórd na nÓg Report 1988

By Liam Hogan



Toomevara U-14 Rural Hurling North Champions.

THE term club of the year in juvenile hurling must surely rest on the mantelpiece of Éire Óg hurling club for 1988. There can be no question about who was the most outstanding club as the wearers of the sky blue jerseys won no less than six North titles, three in both hurling and football, with county titles to add for good measure. If the honour of best team rests with Éire Óg then Newport must surely come a good runner-up as they appeared in no less than four finals winning two. The old reliable Toomevara were still a force to be reckoned with, achieving an U-12 hurling and U-14 hurling double.

Kildangan also had a double when they appeared in two North Finals winning the U-14 section hurling but failing at the football. They went one better though when they achieved what no other club in North Tipp has done when they won the county U-14 R.F. final.

Ballina/Ballinahinch, Burgess and Borrisoleigh played

their part in making this year a memorable year for juvenile hurling and football when they gained a title each. A brief summary of each competition will show just how each title was won and remember that all football competitions were run on a knock-out basis while each of the hurling championships was run on a league basis as usual.

Finally, a special mention must go to our U-16 and U-14 county teams who won their respective tournaments in Nenagh and Waterford. Our Inter-Divisional sides retained the Peadar Cummins and Garda Cup competitions while in the U-16 Munster Championship North Tipp failed at the first hurdle.

FOOTBALL

U-12 SECTION I:

Four teams entered — Éire Óg, Roscrea, Borrisokane and Newport. Éire Óg retained their title after a hard fought game when they defeated Newport by nine points.



Borrisoleigh - North Tipperary U-16 H. Section II Champions

U-12 SECTION II

Nine teams entered the fray but in the end it was Kilruane and Ballina/Ballinahinch who mattered most. Ballina emerged victors after a replay winning by eight points. Shannon Rovers and Kildangan were the unlucky losers in the semi-finals. Indeed Kildangan and Portroe were rather unlucky as they both failed to beat the eventual champions Ballina, losing by just one point in their respective clashes.

U-14 SECTION I

Five teams were there at the start. Kildangan and Éire Óg reached the final in what was a splendid final. Éire Óg won by seven points but the scoreboard did no justice to the game. Nenagh thrashed Newport in the quarter final while Roscrea received the same handout in the semi-final. Borrisokane were beaten double scores by Kildangan in the other.

Section II:

Ballina/Ballinahinch gave Silvermines a hiding in the semi-final while Burgess had to struggle against Borrisoleigh in the other semi. On a wet and windy August evening Burgess succeeded in winning another football title when they had four points to spare in the end. Nine teams took part in the competition.

U-16 Section I:

Five teams set out in April to win the U-16 football championship knowing that Éire Óg, Nenagh, were hot favourites. Kilruane were first to receive a decisive beating from the favourites. Meanwhile Shannon Rovers, newcomers to Section I football had other ideas. They first beat Roscrea in the quarter final. Borrisokane were next to clash with the near neighbours in the semi-final but alas defeat was their lot when a rampant Rovers side reached their first juvenile section I final ever. They gave Éire Óg a fright in Kilcolman. Éire Óg were always



NEWPORT UNDER-16 FOOTBALLERS

Newport Under-16 Footballers, winners North Tipp (B) 1988. Back: Damien Ryan, Fergal O'Connor, Aidan Sweeney, Robert Ryan, William Powell, Seamus Troy, Paul O'Gorman, Ger Brennan, David O'Neill, Paul Holohan. Front: Ailbe Coffey, Tommy Collins, Kevin Healy, Raymond Meaney, Shane O'Brien, Pat Egan, Michael Coffey, Michael Boland, John Healy.



Newport Under-12 hurlers, winners North Tipp (Division 2) 1988. Back: Chris Ryan, Tom Clifford, John O'Toole, Michael Coffey, Seán Ryan, William Floyd, Seán O'Gorman, Aidan O'Gorman, Cyril O'Neill, Jamie O'Grady, Brendan O'Loughlin, Pat Ryan, Thomas Moylan. Front: John Coffey, Alan Creagh, Michael Carroll, Brian Coffey, Derek O'Neill, James Collins, Michael Moylan, Michael O'Brien, Pat O'Brien, Eoin Bonfield, Paddy Ryan, Martin Tierney.

in control but they could never shake off a heroic Rovers side. Éire Óg won by two points.

Under-16 Section II:

A large number of entries made this a very prolonged championship which started in April and concluded in October. Eleven in fact entered but it was Newport who were the eventual winners when they defeated Silvermines by three points after having a ten point lead at the interval. Ballina/Ballinahinch and Éire Óg (B) were the unlucky semi-finalists.



Raymond Hogan (Borrisokane) Tipp Póc Fáda winner in Cork during Tipp u Limerick game.

HURLING

U-12 SECTION I:

The U-12 hurling championship was run on a different

format for 1988. All sixteen teams were divided into four groups of four with the four traditional strong teams of Éire Óg, Roscrea, Kilruane and Toomevara being graded and

put into four separate groups. The top two teams from each group then entered a knock-out championship which was in fact Section I. Ballina/Ballinahinch, Moneygall, Kilruane, Éire Óg, Roscrea, Lorrha, Toomevara and Borrisokane were the eight team who gained promotion. Toomevara advanced to the semi-final when they crossed camans with Moneygall in a splendid game. Kilruane had an easy victory over Roscrea in the second semi-final and thus earned a tilt at reigning champions Toomevara. Before the biggest attendance of the year both teams served up a very good game when Toomevara had four points to spare in the end.

Section II:

The remaining eight teams

set out to win Section II which was run on a League basis. The eight teams were divided into two groups of four. Each group was keenly contested, but it was Portroe, Borrisoleigh, Kildangan and Newport who reached the semi-finals. After ending all square at 0:1 point each, Portroe edged out Borrisoleigh in the replay, while in the other semi-final Newport were lucky to beat Kildangan. There was no luck attached to their final victory when a stronger outfit in the purple and yellow defeated Portroe by nine points.

U-14 U/R: Section I:

From looking at the first round of this competition in which seven teams competed it was easy to see that only Toomevara, Éire Óg and

RESULTS OF THE SEMI-FINALS AND FINALS

U-12 H. Section I:

Semi-Finals: Kilruane 7-1 Roscrea 1-0
Toomevara 2-4 Moneygall 1-1
Final: Toomevara 1-4 Kilruane 1-0

U-12 Hurling Section II

Semi-Final Newport 3-2 Kildangan 3-1
Portroe 0-1 Borrisoleigh 0-1
(replay) Portroe 2-3 Borrisoleigh 1-1
Final: Newport 2-3 Portroe 0-0

U-14 Hurling H u/r Section I

Semi-Finals: Éire Óg 2-16 Burgess 1-2
Toomevara 1-17 Borrisokane 2-11
Final: Éire Óg 2-12 Toomevara 2-4

U-14 H (R) Section I

Semi-Finals: Toomevara 4-12 Moneygall 0-1
Borrisokane 4-5 Burgess 0-3
Final: Toomevara 3-7 Borrisokane 2-7

U-14 M Section II

Semi-Finals: Newport 6-5 Borrisoleigh 1-7
Ballina/B'hinch 2-4 Kildangan 2-8
Final: Kildangan 4-8 Newport 0-2

U-14 Féile

Final: Éire Óg 2-6 Toomevara 0-6

U-16 H. Section I

Semi-Finals: Éire Óg 3-12 Shannon Rovers 0-5
Toomevara 3-5 Borrisokane 1-11
Semi-Final (R) Borrisokane 4-14 Toomevara 1-2
Final: Éire Óg 3-8 Borrisokane 2-6

U-16 H Section II

Semi-Final: Portroe 0-9 Silvermines 1-6
Semi-Final (R) Portroe 2-7 Silvermines 1-3
Final: Borrisoleigh 8-12 Kildangan 0-2
Borrisoleigh 2-7 Portroe 2-2

FOOTBALL

U-12 F. Section I

Semi-Final: Éire Óg w.o. from Borrisokane
Newport 4-7 Roscrea 0-1
Final: Éire Óg 3-1 Newport 0-1

U-12 F Section II

Semi-Final: Kilruane 2-2 Shannon Rovers 0-0
Ballina/Ballinahinch 2-1 Kildangan 2-0
Final: Ballina/B'hinch 0-3 Kilruane 0-3
(replay) Ballina/Ballinahinch 3-3 Kilruane 1-1

U-14 F Section I

Semi-Final: Kildangan 1-11 Borrisokane 2-1
Éire Óg 3-16 Roscrea 0-1
Final: Éire Óg 2-9 Kildangan 2-2

U-14 F Section II

Semi-final: Burgess 2-3 Borrisoleigh 1-1
Ballina/B'hinch 2-8 Silvermines 0-1
Final: Burgess 3-3 Ballina/Ballinahinch 2-2

U-16 F. Section I

Semi-Final: Shannon Rovers 3-3 Borrisokane 2-3
Éire Óg 6-8 Kilruane 0-0
Final: Éire Óg 2-1 Shannon Rovers 1-2

U-16 Section II

Semi-Final: Newport 1-9 Ballina/B'hinch 0-2
Silvermines 2-4 Éire Óg B 1-3
Final: Newport 2-5 Silvermines 2-2

Inter Division: Munster Championships 1st Round

East Clare 2-8 North Tipp 1-10

Garda Cup:

Semi-Final Nth. Tipp 5-5 South Tipp 1-5
Final: Nth. Tipp 4-12 West Tipp 3-3

Peadar Cummins

Tournament
Semi-Final: Nth. Tipp 8-13 Sth. Tipp 0-5
Final: Nth. Tipp 6-13 Mid Tipp 1-5

Féile Skills:

John Burns (Éire Óg)
Long Puck: Raymond Hogan (Borrisokane)

North Winners Scór na nÓg '88

Rince Foirne: Ballina
Aithriseoireach: Fiona Steed (Silvermines)
Amhrán Aonair: Deirdre Scanlan (Ballina)
Nuachleas: Borrisoleigh
Tráth na gCeist: Éire Óg, Nenagh
Ceol Uirlise: Roscrea
Bailéad Grúpa: Moneygall
Rince Set: Newport



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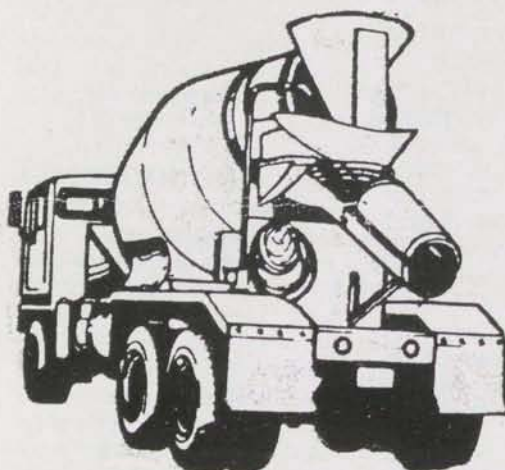
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Borrisokane would have any say in the destination of the Martin Kennedy Trophy. In fairness Burgess threatened but never fulfilled their promise. In the semi-final they never troubled Éire Óg while in the other semi-final Toomevara defeated Borrisokane in what was their second of three meetings in which Toomevara won on each occasion by three points. In the final Éire Óg defeated Toomevara in a good game but surprisingly the winning margin was no less than eight points.

U-14 R:

From the outset this was only a two horse race with Toomevara and Borrisokane reaching the final. What a final it was, as Toomevara had to hold off a late Borrisokane rally to retain the Conway Cup. Burgess and Moneygall were the two losing semi-finalists.

Section II:

Borrisoleigh, Newport, Ballina/Ballinahinch and Kildangan were the only teams that really mattered.

In the semi-finals Newport had a big win over Borrisoleigh while Kildangan were a little lucky against Ballina/Ballinahinch. There was so much luck needed in the final when a powerful display by Kildangan destroyed a stronger looking Newport side by a margin of eighteen points.

Féile:

Ten teams entered which was the biggest number of entrants for a good number of years. In the end it was old rivals Toomevara and Éire Óg who reached the final, with the latter winning by six points.

U-16 Hurling Section I:

Nine teams took part and by the time the group matches were almost over it was down to five teams that mattered. Of those five Roscrea failed at the last hurdle having drawn with Shannon Rovers. In the semi-final Shannon Rovers great unbeaten run came to an abrupt end when Éire Óg gave them a sixteen point hammering. In the other semi-final Toomevara received just as big a hiding from Borrisokane after a replay. In the final it was Éire Óg's greater strength and purpose which saw them through in winning this great final by five points. Fair play to Borrisokane they made a great rally towards the end but time ran out. It was

Borrisokane's second final to lose in '88.

Section II:

Seven teams entered the fray but in the end three teams mattered. The semi-final participants were Borrisoleigh v Kildangan and Portroe v Silvermines. It was Borrisoleigh and Portroe who gained victory and thus the right to play in the final. Borrisoleigh had an easy win over Kildangan but it needed two attempts for Portroe to get by Silvermines. The final was a very good one and Borris had five points to spare in the end.

Inter Divisional U-16:

North Tipp failed to pass the first round hurdle when they lost to East Clare by a point. They made amends in the Garda Cup when they easily defeated South Tipp in the semi-final. They had an even easier and more impressive victory in the final at Thurles when West Tipp were the unlucky losers.

Peadar Cummins Tournament

North Tipp's U-14's were even more impressive as they destroyed South Tipp by a thirty-two point victory. In the

final Mid-Tipp had no answer when North Tipp won by 6-10 to 1-5.

County Scene:

Our Northern representatives served their counties well in both U-14 and 16 hurling. Twelve North players helped Tipperary win the U-14 Waterford Glass Tournament in Waterford. Nenagh Co-Op initiated a four-county tournament between Limerick, Clare, Galway and Tipperary. Tipperary emerged winners when they defeated Clare in the final.

Nenagh C.B.S. 1988 - a great year

THE school participated in approximately five Tipperary competitions, catering for all ages from under-14 to senior levels. A similar number of Munster competitions was entered.

UNDER-15 (CORN AN PHIARSAIGH)

This team has worked and trained very hard since early January and they have been rewarded with a place in the final. In the opening games against Ennis and Cashel our forward line had been doing very well and high scores were recorded in these matches. However, their efforts were negated by poor, slack marking by the defence and we conceded too many soft scores. Our semi-final display against Kanturk Community School was our best performance to date. The movement of Brian Flannery to centre-back and Mervyn Scanlon to wing-back has solidified our defence enormously.

Brian Gaynor has also strengthened our centrefield and his quick delivery of the ball has given plenty of scoring chances to the inside forward line. Fergal Hynes at full-forward is playing a captain's role and is leading scorer on the team.

The final against Mayfield Community School from Cork was fixed for Friday, May 27, in Croom, and was won by a large margin.

UNDER-16 (CROKE CUP)

In this, our first competition of the year, we had Thurles C.B.S. as our first round

opponents. After a great struggle we got through by the minimum one point margin. A great half-back line of Brian Gaynor, Fergal Hynes and Brian Flannery was the basis for this fine win. In the next round Borrisokane were our opponents and despite our best efforts we had to give way to stronger opponents.

UNDER-14 (RICE CUP)

The Rice Cup campaign commenced in early March. Twenty schools took part in the competition. All teams were drawn from Christian Brothers' Schools as far apart as Ennis and Wexford.

Nenagh met Árdscóil Rís in the opening round and lost by five points. From then on the team began to make steady progress and won matches against Sexton Street, Ennis C.B.S. and two games against Thurles C.B.S. in the quarter-final.

The stage was then set for the semi-final against Callan C.B.S. in Semple Stadium on Monday, May 23. Callan was an unknown quantity and being a Kilkenny team, we treated them with the greatest of respect. The Nenagh lads, however, did the school proud by winning the game in a comprehensive manner. The final score was: Nenagh 6-10, Callan 3-7.

The final against Árdscóil was an outstanding game of hurling and Nenagh proved worthy winners.



Nenagh C.B.S. Rice Cup panel - Munster finalists.



The Pearse Cup panel - Munster finalists.

A record year for Newport

DENIS FLOYD

1988 will be remembered as probably the most successful year ever for Newport G.A.A. club. The winning of 6 North championship trophies ensured a fine array of silverware on the proverbial sideboard, and while many of the triumphs were in B grades, the spoils, nonetheless, are an indication of the continuous endeavours and commitment of mentors and players of all ages. In recent years football titles have been won quite regularly by the club. It is a source of great satisfaction, therefore, that half of the 1988 successes came in the smaller ball code. Teams in all grades contested a final in either hurling or football with most of them being successful.

JUVENILE HONOURS

The under 12's reached the final in both codes. Competing in the A Championship in football, they scored a well-merited victory over Inane Rovers in the semi-final before failing to a better Éire Óg team. Sean Ryan, Cyril O'Neill and Michael O'Brien were the leading footballers on a team that should be a force in the future. The hurlers had a long season. In the preliminary rounds they drew with Borrisoleigh but were well beaten by Toomevara and Borrisokane. These results graded them in the B Division where they were grouped with Borrisoleigh, Silvermines and Burgess. They drew again with the former, had a similar result against Burgess and recorded a comprehensive win over the Mines. In a play-off with Borrisoleigh, they won decisively, with Chris Ryan bagging 3 goals, to earn a semi-final place against Kiladangan. This penultimate tie had a dramatic conclusion, with last minute goals from William Floyd and Brian Coffey stealing the game from Kiladangan. Portroe were the opponents in the final which was played on a miserably wet evening in Kilcoleman. Newport adapted better to the conditions to record a decisive 2-3 to 0-0 victory in which Thomas Moylan, Tom Clifford, Aidan O'Gorman and William Floyd were very much to the forefront.

The Under-14 hurlers scored some impressive wins over Silvermines, Lorrha, Ballina and Borrisoleigh on their way to the final. However, they were no match for a strong Kiladangan outfit. Joey Brennan, Paul O'Gorman, Michael Shanahan and Richard O'Malley were the most consistent through the year.

The Under-16 footballers had easy victories over Burgess, Borrisoleigh and Ballina to qualify for the B Final against Silvermines. They seemed well on the road to victory when leading 2-4 to 0-0 at the interval. But the 'Mines were not to be dismissed lightly and made a rare 44 — Tipperary G.A.A. Year Book



NEWPORT INTERMEDIATE HURLERS — NORTH TIPP. CHAMPIONS 1988

Back: Liam Jones, Tim Floyd, Martin Ryan, Con McGrath, Denis Collins, Pat Shinnors, Ger Bradley, Larry McGrath, John Keating, John O'Brien, Ml. Carey, Ger Carey. **Front:** Pat Keating, Ger Floyd, Denis Ryan, Sean Ryan, D.J. O'Brien, Martin McCabe, Peter Coleman, Denis Kennedy.

fight for it in the second half. Newport were lucky to hold on for a 3-point victory in the quickly descending darkness. David O'Neill, Michael Coffey, Shane O'Brien, Damien Ryan and Seamus Troy were the leading players on a well-balanced team.

The Minor footballers brought the third under-age title to the parish. An easy win over Silvermines and a walk-over from Templederry earned them a place in the B Final against Moneygall. The final never produced football of a high standard, but this was irrelevant when the final scoreline of 0-5 to 0-2 had Newport in front. The defence blotted out the Moneygall attack effectively with Kieran Buckley, John Gleeson and Martin McCabe particularly to the fore. Joe O'Brien, David O'Neill, Tisey Allen and Anthony Ryan were most prominent further afield. It took a second attempt to overcome Templetuohy-Moyne in the County semi-final. In the drawn game Newport dominated but did not take all their scoring chances. Moyne took the initiative in the second half and Newport were lucky to survive with a draw.

Newport were by far the better team in the replay but they again found difficulty in scoring. It took a gem of a

goal from David O'Neill to decide the issue in the closing minutes. Anthony Ryan was outstanding on both days. Aherlow had a one point victory in a well-contested final.

SENIOR FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS

Newport took the North senior football crown for the third successive year. They defeated St. Brendan's (Shannon Rovers/Kiladangan) in the semi-final to qualify for a joust with Borrisokane. It took a second attempt to overcome the Lower Ormond side. The drawn game featured an outstanding display from Colm Moran, playing his only game of the year, while on holidays from his studies in the U.S.A. The replay showed a better standard of football than the ragged drawn encounter. Newport had to overcome the handicap of much wayward shooting before registering a 2-4 to 0-5 victory. Larry McGrath was a dominant figure in defence and Pat Keating was impressive at midfield.

The county semi-final against Templemore had a dramatic conclusion with the mid representatives only securing an equalising point in the last minute (1-6 each). Again the Newport forwards, with the exception of Dinny Ryan, failed to utilise the abundant possession supplied by midfielders Pat Keating and Tim Floyd and defenders Larry



NEWPORT MINOR FOOTBALLERS — NORTH TIPP. MINOR (B) CHAMPIONS 1988

Back: Ger Hewitt, Martin McCabe, Kieran Buckley, Tisey Allen, John Gleeson, Fergal O'Connor, David O'Neill, Ger Egan, Ian Flanagan. **Front:** Patk. Egan, Seamus Troy, Anthony Ryan, Shane O'Brien, Joe O'Brien, Damien Ryan, Aidan Sweeney.

McGrath, Pat Shinnors and Ger Bradley. The replay was a disaster from a Newport point of view. With five regulars absent for varying reasons, Newport were never in the hunt against a transformed Templemore side.

A JUNIOR TITLE

The Junior B hurling championship was initiated in North Tipp in 1982. Newport won the title in '83 and in the intervening years competed in the Junior A competition without any success. This year it was decided to affiliate again for the B Championship. The championship did not commence until late August, by which time the Intermediate panel had been well defined and had reached the knock-out stages of their championship. The Junior B team which eventually took the field must be rated as one of the most experienced ever to represent any club in any grade. They opened with a decisive win over Portroe, then failed to Toomevara when there was considerable difficulty in fielding a team, but recovered well to record a good win over Lorrha. This series of results was enough to ensure qualification for the semi-final, where Moneygall were the opponents. Played in the first week of October, the game was dominated by a near gale force wind. Two goals from Eamon Rainsford in the second half sealed the issue in Newport's favour (2-8 to 1-5). A week later, Templederry were the opponents in the final. The game was exciting, brimful of fast lively hurling and well contested until the final ten minutes, when Newport pulled away comfortably for a 2-15 to 0-9 victory.

Martin Moloney, Anthony Floyd and Martin Collins picked off some great scores while Gerry Moloney had been the most consistent forward through the championship. John Hogan and Peter Coleman held sway at midfield. Frank Shinnors and Eddie Quigley were most consistent in defence, with veterans Noel O'Gorman and John Ryan (B) also to the fore in front of a safe and competent goalkeeper in Liam Shinnors.

INTER TITLE AT LAST

Having lost the North Final of the previous two years, Newport's Intermediate hurlers were determined that 1988 would not bring a third failure. Early in the year the services of Tony Hassett were acquired to ensure that lack of fitness would not be the Achilles heel of the team. Victory over Templederry (2-12 to 2-7) got the championship campaign off to a good start, but ambitions received a severe jolt when Silvermines inflicted a crushing 6-7 to 2-7 defeat. An emphatic 4-10 to 0-10 win over Portroe in the concluding group game ensured qualification for the play-off stages. At this point the assistance of Gerry Creedon was sought to help with coaching. Quarter final opponents, Kiladangan, put up a stern challenge before Newport, spearheaded by Dinny Ryan, clinched victory with a storming



NEWPORT SENIOR FOOTBALLERS — NORTH TIPP. CHAMPIONS 1988

Back: John Keating, John O'Brien, Larry McGrath, Ger Floyd, Pat Shinnors, D.J. O'Brien, Peter Coleman, Con McGrath, Stephen McCormack. **Front:** Ger Carey, Denis Kennedy, Sean O'Brien, Tim Floyd, Pat Keating, Denis Ryan, Martin Moloney, Ger Bradley.

finish (1-15 to 1-12). Burgess fell in the semi-final (5-9 to 3-2) to a spirited and determined display with Dinny Ryan again to the fore.

Templederry were again the opponents in the final. A physically stronger and fitter Newport adapted better to the heavy underfoot conditions and scored a four-point victory (2-9 to 1-8) to bridge a 23-year gap. Victory was achieved as a result of hard work, an improvement in discipline and a confident determination to succeed. Ger Floyd was always a competent goalkeeper and some of his saves in the first half of the final were crucial. Martin Ryan had his best game of the season in the final and commanded the edge of the square authoritatively. Larry McGrath and D.J. O'Brien were tenacious corner backs, giving little scope to attackers. Con McGrath was a tower of strength as pivot of the defence, while wing-backs Denis Collins and Liam Jones cut off numerous attacks and made many telling clearances. Ger Carey showed a great work rate at midfield and his stamina and skill saw him very often in the picture. His partner, Martin McCabe, belied his tender years with an aggressive non-stop display, being always in the thick of the action.

Dinny Ryan was the star forward all through the year, being top scorer with 3-40 to his credit in the championship. His speed, skill and courage surely mark him out as a player for the future. In the North final, Tim Floyd worked hard and set up many scoring opportunities. Ger Bradley's strength and ability carved out many openings. Pat Shinnors lent invaluable experience

to the attack and picked up some valuable scores. John Keating was goal poacher supreme, with vital goals in all matches. His brother Pat picked up a lot of ball at half-forward and midfield and kept a good supply of ball to the inner forwards. Sean Ryan (team captain), John O'Brien, Denis Kennedy, Michael Carey, Tommy Bourke, Peter Coleman and John Hogan all made important contributions to the campaign, most of them figuring prominently in a number of matches. Anthony Floyd, Martin Moloney and Gerry Moloney were added to the panel for the county semi-final, for which an unfortunate appendicitis operation ruled out Ger Bradley.

Mid champions Gortnahoe were the opponents in a game which, although played in very heavy underfoot conditions, was an excellent, exciting and nail-biting contest. Unfortunately Newport found themselves a point in arrears at the final whistle (0-15 to 1-11) in a game that they hardly deserved to lose and which certainly could have been won if all scoring chances had been availed of. No fault could be found with Ger Floyd, D.J. O'Brien, Martin Ryan, Ger Carey, Martin McCabe, Pat Shinnors and Dinny Ryan.

Thus the curtain came down on an eventful year for Newport G.A.A. Club — a year which ended in disappointment, perhaps, for the intermediate team, but in which a significant breakthrough was made. All involved with the various teams can look back with pride and satisfaction on the part they played. The 1988 experience should be an important milestone when the present ambitions for the future are fulfilled.



NEWPORT — NORTH TIPPERARY JUNIOR B CHAMPIONS 1988

Back: Joe Kennedy, Eamon Rainsford, Frank Shinnors, Ed. Quigley, Con Keating, John Hogan, Liam Shinnors, Jim Coleman, Ml. Allen, Pat Floyd, Noel O'Gorman, Ned Ryan. **Front:** Martin Kennedy, Martin Moloney, Anthony Floyd, Martin Collins, Peter Coleman, Gerry Foley, Seamus Ryan, John Ryan (B), Gerry Moloney.

CUMANN LUTH-CHLEAS GAEL COISTE THIOBRAID ÁRANN THUaidh



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Newport Handball Club

HANDBALL in the parish of Newport is of relatively recent origin. It owes its existence to the late Canon Mulvihill who was P.P. of Newport for many years. He always had a keen interest in handball and when the old National School in Newport ceased to be used, Canon Mulvihill instructed that it be converted into handball courts. This work was duly carried out and the old school walls were used to build two open handball courts and a larger squash court. Newport Handball Club was then formed. The date of this event was around 1964.

Prominent players in those days were Michael Ryan (Cregaun), Pat McQuane and Tom O'Mahoney who represented the club with distinction in many matches. The holding of the Munster area finals of the now defunct Gael Linn competition in Newport in 1969 was surely the highlight of these early years with famous players such as Pat McGarry, McEllistrim and Connie Cleere of Nenagh taking part. Newport witnessed some great handball that day. Handball was then an outdoor game.

Behind the scenes, one of the earliest guiding lights was Rev. Fr. John O'Connell. Fr. John was instrumental in founding the juvenile section of the club and took a great interest in all the club's affairs. His Volkswagen car filled with juveniles became a familiar sight at handball matches. Michael Kennedy, a local trader, now sadly deceased also played a major rôle in the juvenile section. Seamus Humphries of Main Street was also on the committee for many years and represented the club at many County Board meetings.

SUCCESSSES

On the competitive side, success at county level and therefore beyond was very slow in coming. However in 1972 all those barriers were well and truly cleared when Christy Pratt and Martin Kennedy fought their way to the very top to become

All-Ireland U-12 Doubles Champions. Many locals still recall the joy and enthusiasm which greeted them on their return home with their gold medals. The next year they reached the same final again, only to be narrowly beaten. Two years later they won the Munster U-14 doubles championship but were beaten in the All-Ireland semi-final.

From that time, 1975, up to the start of the 1983 season the club has had only very limited success. Fr. John O'Connell departed to minister in Knockavilla circa 1978 and the training of the juveniles was taken over by Peter Metcalfe, a teacher in the local vocational school. Around that time, mid-seventies to mid-eighties the dominant clubs in Tipperary juvenile handball were Cashel and Ballina, who produced player after player of outstanding ability, many of whom went on to win All-Ireland glory. All other clubs, including Newport, could only watch in awe and wait for better days. Newport won only two titles during this period. Noel Murray U-13 singles. John O'Neill and John O'Leary U-13 doubles.

At adult level Newport also fared badly during the late seventies and early eighties. The only wins of note achieved by the club were:

1981 Pádraig Harvey: County (40 x 20) special novice singles champion.

1981 Peter Metcalfe and Seamus O'Sullivan: County (40 x 20) special Novice Doubles champions.

1982 Peter Metcalfe: County (40 x 20) novice champion. Peter was subsequently beaten in the Munster semi-final.

However, 1987 saw an improvement at adult level. Gerry Foley took over the running of adult affairs and they have since won 1987 North Tipp (Div. 3) 40 x 20 champions and North Tipp Junior doubles. 1988 North Tipp (Div. 2) 40 x 20 championships. Players were Gerry Foley, Con Faulkner, Willie Casey, Pádraig Harvey, Pat O'Donoghue.



The O'Neill brothers, Kenneth, Derek, Cyril and David each of whom won a County Handball title in 1988.

At present they are taking part in the 1988 (Div. 3) championship and are looking forward to the 1989 county championships.

At juvenile level 1983 saw a bit of a breakthrough when Newport won the following Tipp titles:

U-13 singles: John Kennedy and Kieran Buckley.

U-13 doubles: Adrian Nash.

U-15 singles: Denis Kennedy.

However, a tragic mix-up of dates meant that the club missed the Munster semi-finals and so were eliminated.

1987 however proved to be a turning point when the club won the following titles at county level.

40 x 20

U-10 Doubles — Kenneth O'Brien and Tom Clifford. U-11 — Singles — Cyril O'Neill; U-11 — Doubles — Paul Whelan and Michael Moylan; U-12 Doubles — John O'Mahoney and Kenneth O'Neill and the same players were to win in the larger (60 x 30) court.

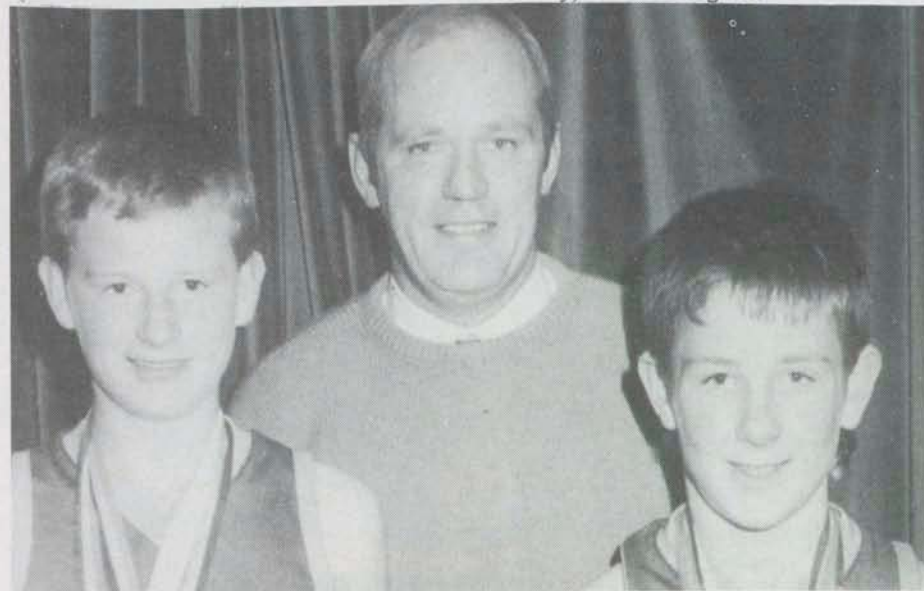
NEW HEIGHTS IN '88

1988 however has seen the standard and achievement of Newport Juvenile handball reach new heights. The following county titles were won.

40 x 20

U-10 Doubles — Derek O'Neill and Mark Barry; U-11 Doubles — Kenneth O'Brien and Tom Clifford; U-12 Singles — Michael O'Brien; U-12 Doubles: Paul Whelan and Michael Moylan; U-13 Doubles — Kenneth O'Neill and John O'Mahony; U-15 Singles — David O'Neill.

This means that four brothers Derek, Cyril, Kenneth and David O'Neill all won county juvenile titles in the same year. In fact they won a total of seven titles in 1988. Again Kenneth O'Neill and John O'Mahony went on to represent Tipperary and win the All-Ireland (60 x 30) U-13 doubles and became the first juveniles from North Tipperary to win both All-Ireland titles in the same year. This feat becomes all the more astonishing when one realises that Newport has not got a covered handball court and that the players had to travel to neighbouring courts to get proper practice.



All-Ireland champions Kenneth O'Neill and John O'Mahony with their coach Peter Metcalfe.

LOUGHMORE-CASTLEINEY

County Senior Hurling Champions 1988



FRONT ROW: Tom McGrath, Frank McGrath, Liam Cormack, Eamon Sweeney, Michael McGrath, Eamon Brennan, Seamus Bohan, Tom Larkin. BACK ROW: Jack Walshe (Coach), Ned Ryan, Jim Maher, Pat Cormack, Pat McGrath, John Cormack, Peter Brennan, Pat Treacy.

CASHEL

- County
Minor Hurling
Champions
1988



Back Row (l. to r.): Packie McNerney, Shane Lawrence, Ailbe Bonner, Trevor McNerney, Seamus Hayes, Seanie Barron, James Maher, Alan Keating, Tony Cross, John Maher, Ramie Ryan, Brendan Murphy (capt.).

Front Row (l. to r.): Sean O'Donoghue, T. J. Connolly, James O'Donoghue, Joe O'Leary, Denis Keating, Andrew Courtney, Declan McGrath, Christy O'Neill, Sean O'Dwyer.



Pat Fox
heads goalwards in the All-Ireland
Semi-final against Antrim.

Flying half-forward
AIDAN RYAN



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KNOCKSHEGOWNA

WHOEVER said "taking part and not winning is what is important" must have been a very naive person. At least he must have had no idea how people of our generation would think. In theory, this principle is fine, but it really does not apply to the world in which most of us live. To prove my point, all you have to do is ask any Knockshegowna supporter what he or she thinks of the fact that our Club had not won a North Tipperary Junior Hurling Final since 1974 or a County Final since 1969. The reply will certainly put paid to the aforementioned theory.

Lest you get the impression that this scribe has no time for proverbs, let me put that matter right straight away. The esteemed Charles J. Kickham's famous saying, "For the honour of the little village" is far more relevant to-day than it could ever have been in the past. Mr. Kickham must have had small rural clubs like Knockshegowna in mind when these words were scripted. This is a principle on which the G.A.A. clubs of rural Ireland will survive as we embark on the journey into the second century of our Association.

To be honest, at the beginning of 1988, it did not seem as if our chances of winning the North Tipperary Junior Hurling Championship would be very good. As the song says, "The curse of emigration" had depleted our forces in a big way. Five of our established players had crossed "the briny ocean" in search of employment. Two others of our established players decided to hang up their boots and call it a day. So, there went half of our team with one stroke of a pen. A loss such as this would be a major setback to even the strongest and most well organised club in the country. To Knockshegowna it seemed an insurmountable problem. However, lots of hard work, many long and arduous hours of practice and a kind of commitment not seen in Knockshegowna for a long, long time have seen to it that the problems, great though they may have appeared at the time, could and would be overcome. Lest I vex them, the gremlins also played their part.

THE GAMES

Our participation in this year's Junior Hurling League started on a high note with victories over Burgess, Ballinahinch, and Moneygall, and victory over Shannon Rovers in the semi-final. Having now qualified for the League Final our opposition for that game would be our old adversaries Toomevara. Toome' looked to be the strongest junior team in the division. Our apprehension in facing them lay mainly in the fact that ours was a comparatively young and inexperienced team.

A sixteen-year-old goalkeeper and a half-back line whose combined average

By Gerry Long

age was seventeen was a matter of grave concern. On a day when nothing went right for our lads Toome' had a resounding victory and looked like the team who would take all the beating in the Championship for the coveted O'Keefe Cup. One other team had beaten us in the League, namely, the Silvermines. This was at a stage when we already qualified for the Semi-final, so, the result didn't really matter.

Our disastrous display in the league final left nobody in any doubt as to the mammoth task facing us if we were to create any impression in the championship. Nothing less than total commitment from everyone involved in the club would be acceptable from here on. Those who were not prepared to give of their all would not be tolerated. The day for the pussy-footing and half-heartedness was over. From here on it would be done properly or not at all.

The players reaction was tremendous. Pride in Knockshegowna had been dented but the spirit was not broken. Nobody would rest easy until that pride was restored. The price didn't matter.

We faced our first round of the Championship against the "Mines" who, as already mentioned, had beaten us in the league. However, at this stage defeats in the league had been pushed aside, our object for the Championship was to take each game as it came and win it. This we did against the "Mines" in Cloughjordan on the 26th of June.

Our next game in the Championship would be against Shannon Rovers. They had given us a hectic game in the League Semi-final earlier in the year. We expected nothing soft from them on this occasion and our expectations were proven correct. In spite of the fact that they had lost some of their junior players to their senior team, 'Rovers were in this game right to the final whistle with victory always in sight. In the end we were victorious by one stroke of a ball.

The defeat of 'Rovers meant that we had now qualified for the Junior Semi-final. Training at this stage stepped up a gear. Players began to sense that victory in this Championship was not just a hope. It was now a distinct possibility. With each victory our younger players grew in stature, our established players continued to serve loyally.

Borrisokane was the venue for our semi-final clash with Nenagh. One hurdle to be crossed before reaching a North Tipperary Junior Hurling Final. Remember, we had not won one for fourteen years. Our victory over Nenagh was accomplished with a solid, business-like display from all our players. In the other semi-final, Lorrha

had defeated Toomevara. On the last three occasions when we had met Lorrha, they had been victorious. We were in the final but it was going to be no "soft touch".

"Knockshegowna had flopped in the Junior League Final. Their players were too young and didn't have the experience necessary to win this final. Lorrha had an abundance of experience in their side, several of them having played Senior Championship Hurling. "They had to win" — or so the pundits said.

THE FINAL

The date for the final was fixed — Saturday, 24th September. The venue — Borrisokane. Our opponents — Lorrha. It was a dull, overcast Saturday evening as we left the cross behind us on Knockshe' Hill. There had been a buzz of excitement in the village in the days leading up to the final. It, at long last, had finally arrived. No worries about the players' fitness or commitment. Everything was in order. We were quietly confident.

In what has been described by one scribe as "probably the best game of hurling played in any grade, in this division this year" Knockshegowna were victorious. The O'Keefe Cup would rest easy in the drowsy surrounds of Knockshe' for the next twelve months. Stories will be told of the heroic deeds of individuals to win this championship. Little bits will be added to these stories as we enter the long winter evenings ahead of us, and come next Spring the point that was scored from fifty yards will really have been hit from ninety. But, of such stories are dreams made and we must all dream from time to time.

The little village will be forever indebted to twenty-four players and their selectors for this magnificent victory after such a long number of years. Now that we have tasted victory the appetite has been whetted for further success. Though failing to achieve further successes in the County Semi-final after a re-play, our hearts are certainly not low. Let's just say that those "Gremlins" and human nature beat us on the day. Come next Spring we hope to have all our gallant heroes back in top shape to vie once again for top honours.

Our players were: Liam Mounsey, Joe Mooney, Liam Brennan, David Enright, Eugene Conroy, Eugene Cleary, Pat Murphy, Ger Brennan (captain), John Fogarty, Barry Bond, Paul Ryan, John Cleary, Sean Carroll, Aidan Fogarty, Joe Murphy, Jim Noonan, Henry Reid, Declan Costelloe, Michael Murphy, Noel Treacy, Alan Carroll, Tom Maddeen, Brendan Kennedy and John Rafferty. Our selectors were Seamus Hogan, Pat Kennedy and Tom Kennedy. Ned Fogarty was our masseur.

BORRIS-ILEIGH

SENIOR HURLING
FINALISTS 1988



BACK ROW: John McGrath, Pat Ryan, Noel O'Dwyer, Timmy Stapleton, Richard Stakelum, Jimmy Ryan, Gerry Stapleton, Bobby Ryan (Capt.). FRONT ROW: Noelie Maher, Brian Kenny, Mick Ryan, John Glasheen, Aidan Ryan, Philip Kenny, Conor Stakelum.



Action from the Munster Final — Aidan Ryan (Tiobraid Árann) about to initiate another Tipperary attack.

FETHARD



South and County Senior Football Champions 1988

BACK ROW (l. to r.): Thomas Sheehan, Michael O'Riordan (jnr.), Liam Connolly, Michael O'Riordan (snr.), Michael Ryan, Michael Downes, Shay Ryan. FRONT ROW (l. to r.): Willie O'Meara, Eoin Cummins, John Hackett, Brian Burke (Capt.), Paddy Kenrick, Michael Fitzgerald, Willie Morrissey, Joe Keane.

Memorable year for Eire Óg - Nenagh

Amazing rate of success at Juvenile level

THE year just ended will be remembered for a long time to come by the Eire Óg Nenagh Juvenile Club. It was a year in which unrivalled success was achieved at several levels and during which the club captured three County hurling titles, one county football title, three North football championships and two North hurling crowns. The club also took the North and County Féile na nGael and Turas na nÓg titles as well as the County and Munster Community Games titles in hurling.

U-12 FOOTBALL

Only three teams participated in the U/12 Section I football championship. Eire Óg received a walk-over from Borrisokane and met a fancied Newport fifteen in the final. They played exceptionally well on a fine evening in Kilcoleman and ran out easy winners to take their fifth successive North title. In the County semi-final they met a skilful Ardfinnan team and even though battling to the end, they were eventually defeated by seven points. Ardfinnan went on to capture the County title.

U-14 FOOTBALL

In this competition we were endeavouring to win our third North title in a row. After early easy wins over Newport and Roscrea, we faced Kildangan in the final. Lining out without four first team regulars and then losing classy midfielder Mervin Scanlon early in the game through injury made our task most difficult, and despite a spirited display by Kildangan, Nenagh held out for a seven point win at the end. There was a long break until the County semi-final against Arravale Rovers. This game was originally scheduled for Holycross, and was then re-fixed for Nenagh two weeks later, and what a thriller it turned out to be.

The standard of play at all times reached an amazingly high standard with exciting movements and goalmouth thrills providing the crowd with rich entertainment. The West champions led going into the closing stages as Eire Óg laid siege on their goal and only the crossbar and fine defensive work saved them from defeat. Arravale went on to capture County honours.

U-16 FOOTBALL

The U-16 footballers were regarded as a "good bet" to capture titles in 1988, as this particular group had won County championships at U-12 in 1984 and at U-14 in 1986. Their opening game this year was against Kilruane in early April and Eire Óg recorded a massive win. Again there was a long wait to the North final in early August with Shannon Rovers providing the opposition. An overconfident approach and little or no preparation almost led to our downfall and only a brilliant goal by Con Howard midway through the second half saw us take the title for the second successive year. We were now in the County

semi-final and on a very wet evening we faced the West champions, Knockavilla Kickhams, in late August. After a fairly satisfying first half display, Eire Óg looked the likely winners, but during the opening fifteen minutes of the second half, Knockavilla took control and missed several chances. However, Nenagh weathered the storm and eventually won by six points to qualify for the County Final.

Waiting to provide the opposition were old rivals Clonmel Óg, whom we had defeated in the U-14 final two years previously. If the Eire Óg boys had shown indifferent form all the year, they certainly produced a brilliant display in the final and were more than equal to the challenge of a very fine Clonmel team. Two points separated the sides at the finish of a very exciting game.

U-14 HURLING

Whilst the winning of football titles is always very welcome. Naturally the main focus is on the hurling scene in North Tipperary, and the committee were very determined that this year no effort would be spared in their efforts to capture hurling titles. We fully realised that we had a skilful u-14 team and the preparation began last October and November and continued in early Spring. When the championship time arrived the boys were "rarin' to go". They gave an early indication of their worth when winning the North Féile na nGael in early May. Later they captured the County Féile na nGael by defeating Carrick Swans and Holycross. We fully realised that the championship would be a different kettle of fish and the preparation continued.

Our first game here was against Kilruane and an easy win resulted. In the next round we received a walk-over from Toomevara who had already qualified for the semi-final. We had now reached the semi-final and easily defeated Burgess, with Toomevara overcoming Borrisokane in the other semi-final. So the big scene was set for the showdown, which had created unprecedented interest among hurling followers. Cloughjordan was the venue on July 21st and a very large crowd assembled as referee Michael Cahill set the game in motion.

After a fairly tense first half the teams looked fairly evenly matched, but coming up to the break, the Nenagh boys were beginning to gain the upperhand and led by four points at the interval. However, it was in the second half that Eire Óg really produced the best hurling by any team at this level for a long time. Their sweeping end-to-end movements produced some delightful scores and long before the end it had become obvious that champions Toomevara were about to relinquish their crown. Eight points separated the teams at the finish and Eire Óg had qualified to meet Durlas Óg in the County semi-final.

Even though the boys did not produce the brilliant hurling of the

Eire Óg Nenagh U-14



BACK: M. Scanlon, M. Loughnane, C. McLoughlin, D. O'Meara, L. Walsh, D. Creamer, R. Tomlinson, F. McGrath, J. Tucker, R. Walsh.
FRONT: E. Guerin, P. O'Kennedy, M. Tuohy, L. O'Gara, K. Tucker, J. Burns, S. Connolly, D. Baily, J. Manley, J. McAuliffe, R. Mitchel.

Eire Óg Nenagh U-16



BACK: P. Walsh, F. Hynes, E. Tucker, D. Conroy, P. Gaynor, C. Howard, B. Connolly, G. Cleary.
FRONT: C. Baily, C. Malone, K. Coonan, L. Walsh, M. Sheahan (Capt.), R. Foley, J. Kennedy.

North final, they were well in control and ran out very easy winners. A week later they captured the County title by scoring a massive win over Arravale Rovers. They completed a memorable year by capturing the first urban competition. Again they easily defeated Durlas Óg on a very wet Saturday in Borrisoleigh to take their second County Championship.

FÉILE NA nGAEL

After winning the county Féile na nGael in June, we headed off to Laois for the All-Ireland series. Rathdowney were our hospitable hosts and our first game was against the locals. We had an easy win, and on the following morning we set out on a ten-mile journey to Durrow to face Galway champions Turloughmore. While it may sound like sour grapes to make excuses for any defeat, we certainly feel justified in stating that the organisation and arrangements at Durrow were far from satisfactory.

On arrival, the players were not provided with dressing-rooms and had to "tog out" in a nearby meadow. The condition of the playing pitch was appalling with a combination of high grass in parts and cut grass left lying in other parts. The pitch also carries a very pronounced slope which made it difficult for the players to control the ball and while one may add, that it was the same for both teams, at least the opposition had the benefit of already having played two matches there. Eventually Turloughmore finished worthy winners, but we felt we would like to have met them in a different setting.

Our final game in the group was against Durrow on a well prepared Durrow pitch, and Eire Óg recorded an easy win.

TURAS NA nÓg

The Turas na nÓg final was a repeat of the North final, and on a wet, miserable evening in Moneygall, Eire Óg held out for a narrow win over Toomevara in an exciting game.

U-16 HURLING

Our U-16 hurlers were another group which, we felt, would make a bold bid for honours during the year, as in 1984, they had won the North and County u-12 titles and two years later were narrowly beaten by Borrisokane in the North u-14 final. Our opening game this year resulted in an easy win over Ballina in April. Exam time then intervened and in late July we defeated Moneygall in Cloughjordan. We then faced Borrisokane in the next round, and as both teams had already qualified for the semi-finals, the result would only decide which team finished top of the group. Borrisokane were worthy winners and qualified to meet

Toomevara with Eire Óg facing Shanna Rovers in late August in the other semi-final. In this game the Nenagh boys showed a vast improvement and gave a competent all-round display, and it became obvious that they would be difficult to beat in the final. As expected, Borrisokane provided the opposition, even though Toomevara took them to a replay. A brilliant opening half by Eire Óg proved decisive and, even though Borrisokane battled gamely to the end, they never really looked likely to mount a serious challenge and Nenagh were clear winners when referee Pat Sheedy sounded the final whistle.

There was little time to relax as we faced St. Mary's, Clonmel, in the County semi-final four days later. After a fairly close first half, the North champions pulled away in the closing stages and won by an eight-point margin.

The County Final against Durlas Óg was arranged for Borrisoleigh on Saturday, October 2nd, and it turned out to be one of the most competitive and exciting games at under-age level this year. Eire Óg's first half superiority was not reflected on the score-board and early in the second half Durlas were hurling with great confidence, but as the half wore on the Nenagh boys gained the upperhand and with the defence sealing off all avenues to goal, a brilliant goal by captain Con Howard sealed the issue and the North champions were well in control for the remainder of the game.

COMMUNITY GAMES

The U-13½ hurlers added their own bit of glory to the year by reaching the All-Ireland final. They started out as "no hoppers" but showed a remarkable improvement as the year wore on and had victories over Lorrha, Borrisoleigh, Thurles and Clonoulty/-Rossmore to take the Tipperary title. They followed this up by defeating Causeway (Kerry), Newmarket-on-Fergus (Clare) and Kildima (Limerick) to become Munster champions. On the All-Ireland week-end they represented Tipperary in Mosney and in the All-Ireland semi-final had a very easy win over the Ulster champions.

In the final they faced Galway representatives Clarenbridge and in a close fought encounter were defeated by five points, but nevertheless they proved very worthy Tipperary standard-bearers.

So the year 1988 brought wonderful success to the club. All the hard work by so many dedicated people has borne fruit and one hopes that the success will continue in the years to come.

Jimmy Conroy
P.R.O.



TIPPERARY GET FOUR ALL-STAR AWARDS

The Tipperary party at the Bank of Ireland All-Stars Banquet in February with Aidan Ryan, Nioclás English, Pat Fox and Ken Hogan, in the centre front row with their awards.

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Two Juvenile Titles for Toomevara

ONE of the most consistent championship contenders of the decade has been Toomevara, and 1988 saw North and County under-12 hurling and the North and County under-14 rural hurling titles come to the club.

The foundations for victory were laid in the inaugural North Tipperary Primary Schools' competition which the Irish Permanent Building Society sponsored, with virtually every school in the North participating. Remarkably, three of the four schools in the parish — Toomevara, Ballinree and Curtagarry — won out their sections; the fourth — Kilkeary — were unlucky to be in the same section as Gurtagarry. The performances of the schools gave great hopes for the championship.

Our under-12s came through their section unbeaten, but in the semi-final had a great game with Moneygall, which attracted one of the biggest attendances at a juvenile game this year. Moneygall had the majority of the play, but could not break down a solid Toomevara defence. Toomevara took their chances and late goals gave them a 2-2 to 1-1 win. The final against Kilruane was also closely contested, with Toome emerging winners 1-4 to 1-1. On to the county semi-final, and a clash with old rivals Arravale. Forced to play on a shortened pitch, Toome took a long time to settle down and had to come from behind to win 3-2 to 1-2.

COUNTY FINAL

The county final was against St. Mary's, Clonmel, at Semple Stadium. Both teams responded magnificently to the challenge of playing in the stadium and spectators were treated to an epic encounter. In a nail-biting finish, Toomevara held on to win by a point (1-3 to 1-2), and regain the title they had held in 1986.

The team was: Paul Byrne, Michael Byrne, Michael Conway, John Cleary, Ray Hackett, Denis Kelly, Kevin Cornally, Martin Ryan, Rory Mounsey, Justin Cotterell, David McCormack, Michael McCarthy, Ken Dunne, Bobby Powell, Michael Bevans, Joseph Ryan.

Our under-14s were unlucky this year to run up against a strong Eire Óg side which went on to win county honours. The teams clashed three times this year. The first meeting was in the North final of Féile, when Eire Óg won 3-3 to 0-7. They met again in the North urban/rural final and once again Eire Óg came out on top 2-12 to 2-4. The third meeting was on the Wednesday before the All-Ireland in the Turas na nÓg. In a very exciting game at Moneygall there was only a point between the sides this time, Eire Óg holding on 3-5 to 3-4.

So Toomevara had to throw all their energy into winning the rural title. In the North Final old rivals Borrisokane were



The Toomevara team and substitutes pictured following their under-12 county final victory over St. Mary's, Clonmel, at Semple Stadium. (Picture: Meehan)

accounted for by 3-7 to 2-7, with the scores coming from Michael Haverty 1-1, John Hogan 1-1, Thomas Dunne 0-4, Arthur Scahill 1-0, Terry Dunne -1. In the county semi-final Ballybacon-Grange were beaten easily 7-15 to 2-1. Due to players being on holidays, Toome had to make changes for the county final, and Paul Byrne and Kevin Cornally were called up from the under-12s. Both acquitted themselves well, as the title came Northwards on a 7-6 to 1-5 scoreline. Team: Paul Byrne, James Mounsey, Jerome Mounsey, Donncha Cleary, Willie Hackett, Philip Shanahan, Aidan Maxwell, Paul Cornally, Terry

Dunne, Michael Haverty, Thomas Dunne, John Egan, Aréthur Scachill, Willie Cleary, Kevin Cornally.

On a representative level, Thomas Dunne, Terry Dunne, and Philip Shanahan were part of the Tipperary victory in the Tony Forristal tournament in Waterford. Thomas Dunne captained North Tipp to victory in the Garda Cup under-16, with Philip Shanahan and Francis Kennedy also in the squad, while Thomas Dunne crowned a great personal season, playing at wing forward on the Tipperary team that won Nenagh Co-Op's quadrangular tournament in October.



Willie Barrett, referee, receiving National Referee Award 1987 from President Mick Loftus. Also in picture: Rev. Fr. Séamus Gardiner, Chairman Referees' Working Group.



Paddy Russell (left), Emily, receives a National Referees' Award from Mick Loftus (Uachtarán C.L.G.) at a National Presentation earlier this year.

"Scór - Let's silence the begrudgers"

By Declan Kelly (Nenagh Guardian)

WITH Tipperary currently riding on the crest of a wave because of our hurlers' rise to the top of the inter-county pile, the interest in the affairs of the Gaelic Athletic Association in Tipperary have never been more obvious. What a pity then, that at a time when we should be celebrating everything that the Association has to offer to the Premier County, we choose to ignore and condemn Scór into near oblivion.

When Scór was inaugurated over 18 years ago, it was designed to be the cultural arm of the Association, and it got the full support of those in the decision-making positions, for a time at least. Until the late seventies and even the early eighties, Scór was the highlight of almost everybody's social calendar, and when the big nights came, halls in every parish in the county were packed to the rafters. Clubs from North, South, Mid and West captured All-Ireland honours in the National Stadium in Dublin, year after year, and everything was as rosy as it could possibly be.

"NOOSE"

In the mid-eighties, however, it became increasingly obvious that people were losing interest in Scór, and as the interest waned, so did the support. Like sheep, the audience followed popular opinion, and when Scór fell out of favour with the popular opinion, it was like tying a noose around its neck and waiting for someone to pull the rope. The begrudgers left and complained from the ditch that the adjudicating system was wrong, that their children were "fiddled", and as a result,



Declan Kelly.

it became harder to get people to even adjudicate the competition, never mind compete in it. Now, as Scór prepares for yet another year of song, dance and music, the crowds will be even lower than last year, and the level of support that the competition deserves will not become apparent until the County Final stages of the competition. It is there that the true supporters of Scór will be found, competing for the sake of competing, not giving a hoot for the begrudger who wishes he was there but is too stubborn to admit it. The saddest thing about all of this, is that those same critics will go to a hurling match every single weekend, perhaps to play or maybe just to spectate. If their team is defeated by a controversial refereeing decision, or a disputed point, that will not stop them from coming back for more the weekend after. The hypocrisy of it all is nothing less than disgraceful.

MEMORIES

Though still very young in years, I count myself lucky to have been brought up in a family where Scór was a way of life. Every year, as a primary school child, I took the stage with my school friends in every competition I could possibly participate in. It didn't matter that I rarely won anything until I was a teenager, all that mattered to was the taking part. I followed senior Scór from Parish final to All-Ireland final with my parents and it instilled in me a love for the Irish culture that I will always cherish. What saddens me most of all is that the young primary school kids of today and tomorrow look like being deprived of the same joys just because the adults who make the decisions and the adults who fail to participate in senior Scór are too stubborn to admit they are wrong. What a great pity it is that the adults cannot being themselves to follow their children's example and participate for the love of their heritage, and the cultural background they were born into.

LACK OF INTEREST

In my own North division,



Patricia Quinn (Upperchurch, Drombane) winner of the Solo Song Competition at the Co. Final, being presented with her trophy by Co. Chairman Noel Morris.

the wane of interest has been as acute as everywhere else. I can remember as a ten or eleven year old boy sitting in the Scout's Hall in Nenagh watching the late Peadar Cummins lead his Borrisoleigh set dancing troops to yet another North Set dancing title. The memories of Newport's question-time trio of Ryan, Collins and Floyd will always be fresh, as will that of the great Billy Donnellan from my own club, Portroe, who was something of a master at the same competition. The three All-Ireland defeats by the instrumental music groups from Portroe, the solo songs of Eileen Briscoe, the figure dancers of Éire Óg, the list is endless. Munster titles were guaranteed every year in the Savoy in Limerick. Who could forget the Cooney's of Moycarkey in their All-Ireland success, the Newcastle set-dancers who repeated the feat last year, the victory of Nuala Carroll in the recitation for Roscrea, etc., etc.

To go on would require more pages than this publication put together, but I think that my message is fairly clear. Most people seem to think that those years of success, those hours

of endless participation and the "crack" that is to be had in getting ready for the big night, are all a thing of the past. Those begrudgers I mentioned earlier will only stop complaining if we all club together and show them they are wrong about Scór. Be under no illusions about it — if the rot isn't stopped soon, then Scór is a goner without a doubt. If there is any man, woman or child in this culturally-steeped county of ours who can justify the killing off of Irish music, dancing and traditional values, then I would be grateful to hear from them.

Like so many other people, I am gone blue in the face from begging people to open their eyes and see what they are doing. The authorities of the G.A.A. in Tipperary should not be allowed to sidestep the issue of Scór in this county any longer, because to do so would be playing right into their hands. If things are very rosy for Tipp. at present, always remember that nothing lasts forever. If that 'nothing' must include Scór, then so be it, but you, the people of Tipperary, can answer your own consciences in the years to come.

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MONEYGALL, COUNTY UNDER-21 B HURLING CHAMPIONS, 1987

Back Row (left to right): Tomas Madden (selector), Eamon Spillane, Donal Donnelly, Tony Fanning, John Costigan, Liam Brereton, Kevin Maher, Eamon Boland, P. J. Delaney, John Donovan, Jimmy Dwyer, Colm Maher, Eamon Toohey (selector). **Front Row** (left to right): Martin Maher, Sean Ryan, John Kenny, Joe Liffey, John Hassett, Philip Maher, Eddie Brereton, Tony Spillane, Michael Dwyer.

IN December 1987, Moneygall won the inaugural Under-21 B Hurling County-Final and became the first holders of the Brophy Cup. This cup was presented to the County Board by the Brophy family, Lorrha, in memory of their father Michael Brophy.

Michael Brophy was long associated with the Lorrha and Dorrha G.A.A. Club, both as a player and administrator. He had many successes with Lorrha and captained their senior hurling team in 1956 which won the North Tipperary title. He represented his club at divisional and county conventions and he had an important motion passed at the 1959 convention. This motion proposed the establishment of an under-21 championship.

The motion was passed unanimously and in 1963 the first County Final in the grade was played and won by Roscrea. On the 25th. anniversary of that occasion, the first County Final of the B competition was inaugurated and it was only fitting that the man whose motion was responsible for the commencement of Under-21 hurling should be remembered by the trophy, presented to the winning team.

The following was the Moneygall line-out: Michael O'Dwyer, Eddie Brereton, Martin Maher, Eamon Boland, Philip Maher, John Donovan, John Kenny, John Costigan, Tony Fanning, P. J. Delaney, John Hassett, Joe Liffey, Kevin Maher, Jimmy Dwyer, Sean Ryan. Subs: David Donnelly, Liam Brereton, Tony Spillane, Colm Maher, Joe Spillane.

The Brophy Cup



Picture shows Michael Lowry presenting the cup to John Costigan, captain of the victorious Moneygall team. On the right is Johnny Brophy, representing the Brophy family, Lorrha.

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The Beginning of Hope



TIOBRAID ÁRANN ag LABHAIRT
TIPPERARY'S IRISH LANGUAGE PROJECT

IS LEATSA Í AN GHAEILGE.

THIS Autumn of '88 an event of great significance took place in Nenagh Town. It was the public launching of 'Tiobraid Árann ag Labhairt', Tipperary's own Irish language project. As one involved to some degree with the Irish language movement and with the project itself, I came away from the meeting with a song in my heart.

ENTHUSIASTIC

The meeting was packed with an enthusiastic cross section of private and public life in North Tipperary and a number of prominent figures, clergy and lay, addressed the meeting. A wide range of organisations, both voluntary and business, had colourful and informative stalls with booklets and posters outlining in Irish the services and facilities available. I was greatly struck by the general air of confidence and purpose.

Luke Murtagh, who initiated the project, outlined in a quiet and persuasive way the aims of the project and the ways in which these aims could be achieved. He outlined the efforts that would be made to involve the Church, public bodies, private organisations, parents and schools and the general public in an organised scheme for the promotion of a real bilingualism in the county.

He was careful to point out that the approach would be a reasonable one and would ensure that people were not pressured or embarrassed in any way. Emphasis would be put on public occasions through the medium of Irish, such as céilís, conversation circles, concerts and cultural activities such as an annual Éigse as in Roscrea. There would be support and further development of existing competitions and festivals such as Glór na nGael, Seachtain na Gaeilge, etc.

It was a very positive and impressive occasion, full of hope and reasoned optimism. I cannot emphasise enough how important this project is for all of us in the GAA in Tipperary who believe in the importance of our language and our Irishness. Given the quality of the leadership and the enthusiasm and

— Mathúin Ó Caoimh —

organised attitude of those involved, it will work.

OUR OWN LANGUAGE

Part of the attraction of this particular effort is that it will involve everybody — those with fluent Irish, those with little Irish, those with no Irish at all, private individuals, private organisations such as the GAA, Connradh na Geilge, Comhaltas Ceoltóirí, as well as the Church, the business community and the whole spectrum of the public services.

It will bring the whole of North Tipperary together in a great concerted effort to achieve a concrete and worthwhile end — the spread and strengthening of the Irish language, our own language, throughout Tipperary.

A real bilingualism is the aim, a people able to converse not only in English but in their own language, the language of the nation, the language of their fathers.

1992, with the forging of closer economic ties with Europe, will bring cultural pressures also. We need now more than ever to foster our individuality and cultural independence as a unique people or we risk being swamped by European cultures more self-assured more firmly rooted than our own.

The Irish language was vibrant not so many years ago in Tipperary. Evidence of this we have in the abundance of songs and literature produced in Irish by Tipperary men in the past. The language can and must become again a real part of everyday life in Tipperary. The time to become involved is now. The leadership and the direction are there, and we in the GAA can play a large role both as an organisation and through our clubs and individual members in the ultimate success of the revival.

In years to come this project, I am confident, will be looked on as a hugely important part of the cultural history, not only of Tipperary, but of Ireland as well.

I ask all members of the GAA, all true Tipperarymen, in whom, despite the failures and broken hopes of the past, the flame still burns, to play their part. They will be able to look back on this with pride and say: "I was part of that. I made it happen!"

If you want to find out more about 'Tiobraid Árann ag Labhairt' ring Siobhán Nic Ghabhan at (067) 31260 and ask for the information leaflets available.

As Oifigeach Gaelach for Co. Tiobraid Árann, I will be keeping clubs throughout the county informed on the progress of the project and I look forward to many clubs and individual members becoming actively involved.



Some of Tipperary's delegates at this year's Congress.

Tipperary's G.A.A. Story 1935-1984

Review by Jim Cronin, Cork

SUCH has been Tipperary's immense contribution to the G.A.A. since it was founded in Thurles in November, 1884 that it would be virtually impossible for any one person to do justice to the task of recording it. With his magnificent book "Tipperary's G.A.A. Story" published in 1960 the late Canon Fogarty certainly did justice to the first 50 years. Now Seamus King has followed up with a 727 page volume commemorating the second fifty years 1935 — 1984.

Because of the many achievements both on and off the field it had to be a major dilemma deciding what to include and what to omit. In the event Seamus has struck an admirable balance and produced a very readable book, no mean feat in a work containing so many statistics of necessity.

Over the past two years there has been renewed evidence of the foremost position hurling holds in the hearts and minds of Tipperary folk. The period covered by the book was a most successful one on the hurling field for Tipperary teams with a total of 11 All-Ireland Senior titles and 13 National Leagues won. Doing justice to such a glorious period for a knowledgeable readership was a daunting task which Seamus successfully negotiated. In a massive contribution extending to some 343 pages he tells the story of the county's hurlers in all grades and of the divisional and county championships combining statistics, tributes to outstanding players and officials and many other anecdotes particular to the period covered in a most interesting way.

Tipperary football has not had the same amount of success although this could hardly be expected in the first year under review (1935) when the county won all three Munster Titles. The minors who were reigning All-Ireland champions lost to Mayo in the decider by a five point margin, the juniors lost to eventual champions Sligo by a goal in the "Home" Final whilst the Seniors had luck when losing to All-Ireland champions Cavan by a two point margin is fully chronicled. Success has been thin on the ground ever since nevertheless there are signs that the county is narrowing the gap at underage level in recent years. In the meantime Tipperary has produced many players who have become household names at the big ball code e.g. Jim Williams, Tommy O'Keeffe, Mick Cahill, Bunny Lambe, Sean Cleary, Pakie Brennan, Babs Keating to mention but a few. As you read the pages of the book their achievements and those of many others come to life.

Having digested the mainstream story a it relates to hurling and football, one



progresses to the next sections which feature a number of profiles starting with that of Canon Fogarty penned by his friend Archbishop Morris and progressing through the five Archbishop patrons Croke, Fennelly, Harty, Kinnane and Morris from the pen of William Corbett. We come to the Administrators next. Here again a difficult choice had to be made yet few will quibble with the selection of Seamus Gardiner, Seamus O'Riain, Johnny Leahy, Jerry O'Keeffe and Tomas O Baroid.

Finally we come to the turn of the outstanding players, four of those chosen Tony Reddan, Jimmy Finn, John and Jimmy Doyle are of comparatively recent vintage. This is not surprising however when one considers that they graced the period 1949 — 1965 a time when eight All-Ireland titles were won. Bill Ryan, chosen to represent the big ball code undoubtedly comes from a rather different era. A survivor of Bloody Sunday he won a county medal as far back as 1914 and played in the All-

Irelands of 1918 and 1920 winning a medal on the latter occasion. His intercounty career finished in 1926. The profiles are compiled by Raymond Smith John O'Grady and Martin Bourke.

The last 200 pages are devoted to statistics of every conceivable kind. County and Divisional championships, Handball, Camogie, Scór and Colleges results are all tabulated as are the names of the corresponding officials. Amongst the myriad facts I was particularly struck by Appendix 10 pp 541-583 which lists the names of players of all grades in hurling and football which represented the Premier County in championship fare over the years 1935 — '84. Compiling this list was a massive undertaking which serves to underline the thoroughness with which Seamus approached his work.

Likewise Appendix XII compiled by Michael Maher which gives a comprehensive report on all grounds within the county. This is an impressive report which underlines how well the affairs of the Association have been managed in the Premier County.

In a brief review such as this, it is not possible to full justice to Seamus King's work. Suffice to say it is a must for every Tipperary home, not only here at home but in whatever part of the globe Tipperary folk may find themselves domiciled. Neither should any commercial or business enterprise be without one for this is the book that will answer all relevant questions and settle arguments quickly. Those who get it will check facts or refresh their memory on some particular incident. As time goes by it will enhance in value and it is indeed a worthy chronicle of the G.A.A. in the Premier County.



At the launch of the Tipperary G.A.A. History - Front Row (left to right): Michael O'Brien, Tipperary Co-Op, sponsor; Dr. Morris, Patron of the G.A.A.; Seamus King; John Dowling, G.A.A. President; Mrs. Margaret King. Back Row (left to right): Liam O'Donnchú; Willie Ralph, Leinster Leader; Noel Morris, Chairman, Tipperary County Board; Michael McCarthy, Chairman, Tipperary Communications Committee; Michael McGuire, Chairman, West Tipperary Board; Donie Nealon, Secretary, Munster Council; Tomás Ó Baróid, County Secretary; Seamus Ó Riain, former G.A.A. President.

G.A.A. Publications

By Seamus J. King

Whereas the appearance of the 'Tipperary G.A.A. Story' was the most important publishing event in the county over the past year a number of club histories also saw the light of day. It is encouraging to see so many clubs undertaking the task of researching and writing their histories and it is to be hoped that their example may encourage the others to get to work.

BORRISOLEIGH

At the end of 1986, too late for inclusion in the article on publications in the 1987 Yearbook, Borrisoleigh published their G.A.A. history. 'A Century of G.A.A. in Borrisoleigh' is a joint effort by Lar Long and Timmy Delaney and sells for £7. It contains 212 pages. The first three chapters give a cursory glance at the early years up to 1940 and from then to 1986 the history of the club is covered in greater detail. The last chapters include information on Borrisoleigh players who made their names at inter-county level, the club's involvement in Scór, the history of Bishop Quinlan Park and Borrisoleigh players who performed with distinction with other clubs and counties. The strength of the book is in its illustrations, having over eighty pages of photographs between its covers. The book was printed by the 'Leinster Leader Ltd.'

BOHERLAHAN AND DUALLA

Back in 1973 Philip Ryan published the 'Tubberadora-Boherlahan Hurling Story', a forty page account of the hurling highlights from the famous parish. The booklet gave people an appetite for more information and that came at the end of 1987 with the publication of 'Boherlahan and Dualla: A Century of Gaelic Games', by John Maher and Philip Ryan. The book, in an attractive dustcover of blue with a gold sash, contains 354 pages, was printed by Litho Press Co., Middleton, Co. Cork and sells for £10. The book is divided into sixteen chapters and twelve appendices. The Tubberadora years are covered in extensive detail and chapter 8 gives a detailed account of the glorious years of Boherlahan. The appendices are a mine of information, especially those dealing with county and divisional finals. The book carries over fifty pages of photographs.

ÉIRE ÓG

In 1943 Éire Óg became the first team from the west division to take the county senior hurling title. That achievement is given pride of place in the history of the club 'Éire Óg: G.A.A. History: 1886-1986' by Eileen O'Carroll, which was published at the end of 1987. The book, which contains 190 pages, is really about the years in the west division from 1930 to 1986. The earlier period is only glanced at in chapter 1. An interesting point about the 62 — Tipperary G.A.A. Year Book



ÉIRE ÓG — CLUB HISTORY LAUNCH

Left to Right: John Cummins, D. J. Gleeson, Michael Maguire, Noel Morris, Eileen Carroll, Michael Frawley, Kevin Fox, Hugh Kennedy.

book is the way the author follows each chapter with profiles on the most prominent contemporary personalities. It gives a variety and a human interest to the book. There are over forty pages of photographs and the book is printed by Tipperary Offset Printers.

BALLINGARRY

Ballingarry launched their history at Thurles at the end of August and the 216 page production, printed by the Kilkenny People Ltd. is a credit to them. It has a very attractive cover containing colour pictures of recent achievements and sells for £7. Written by a committee it covers the history of the club from 1887 to 1987 in great detail. James Murray was the chairman of this committee and he pays special tribute to the editor, Dick Molloy, who compiled the book and Paddy O'Connell, who worked so assiduously collecting material for it. The book contains over seventy photographs, is very detailed on athletics with plenty on Ballincurry and Coolquill and has interesting memories of teams from Crohane, the Commons and Smith O'Briens. Such books have to be paid for and Ballingarry collected no less than fifty-two pages of ads, which form quarter of the book. As well as adding twenty-five percent to the cost of the publication this practice takes from the book as the pages of ads intrude on the enjoyment of reading it. This very fact is bad for the reader but obviously good for the advertiser. It might have been possible to have got these sponsors to agree to a discrete listing at the back of the book. It certainly would have made it more pleasant for the reader.

TEMPLEMORE, CLONMORE, KILLEA

Not many readers will be aware that these three clubs are in the same parish. What about the Parish Rule? A brief guide to the situation would be that Templemore is the football end of things, Clonmore is the intermediate hurling side and Killea, of Tommy Treacy fame, is the junior. Any gaps in our information will be adequately filled on December 7 when Martin Bourke's monumental work on the G.A.A. in the parish will be launched at the Templemore Arms. This book, in large format, will approach 600 pages. It is being printed by Litho Press, Middleton and it is hoped, as a result of generous sponsorship to keep the price at under £10. It should make fascinating reading containing, not only a historical account of the years, but profiles of All-Ireland players, Bill Ryan, Jim Ryan, Billy Grant, Arthur Carroll and the legendary Tommy Treacy. As well the parish produced administrators of the calibre of Canon Fogarty, J. K. Bracken and Fr. Lee. There is an extensive section on the schools, with no less than twenty-five photographs from Templemore C.B.S.

KILSHEELAN AND KILCASH

For the past few years Sean Nugent has been beaver away on the history of Kilsheelan and Kilcash and he is hoping to see it launched on December 8. The interesting thing about this parish is that the first club was formed in Kilcash about 1884 and it continued in existence until 1910. The Kilsheelan club saw the light of day in 1924 and the midwife was Bill

O'Keeffe. Before he died in 1984, Bill wrote an account of the formation of the club and that account forms part of this book. Bill himself is profiled in the book as is his brother, Gerry, of colossal fame. Other famous Kilsheelan men were Jack Roche and Paddy Larkin, the father of Tom. The latter is the only native of the parish to win senior All-Ireland honours. Another famous hurler was Jim Kehoe. He won an All-Ireland Intermediate medal and a National League medal. He also has the distinction of winning Railway Cup medals in hurling and football. There are many other things in this book of over three hundred pages, including an account of the Ballypatrick Handball Club and the famous Tony Ryan. The book will sell at £10 in paperback and £15 for the hardback version.

There are three other club histories in the can, but for various reasons haven't yet been published. They are Thurles Sarsfields by Donie O'Gorman, Fethard by Mick Ahearne and Galtee Rovers by



At the launch of the Boherlahan-Dualla G.A.A. History - Philip Ryan, Canon Morrissey and John Maher.

Seamus McCarthy. On the question of publications I hope all readers collected the fine programmes produced for Tipperary matches last year and this year. Some of them are already collector's items. So our county final programmes in 1987 and 1988 were a credit to Donie O'Gorman and his committee. I should like to refer to the cover of this year's programme with the photograph of Hill 16 on All-Ireland day. How many of you picked yourselves out?

Finally, I refer you to a new publication on Gaelic games that made its appearance first in July 1986. Called 'Gaelic Review' it appeared with great fanfare and sold for £1, with a postal subscription of £12 for the year. Published by Victory Irish Publications Ltd., 82 Upper Georges St., Dun Laoghaire and edited by Martin Breheny of the 'Irish Press' Group, it hasn't lived up to expectations and has appeared sporadically. It's a pity because such publications are rare indeed.

A County Title for Kiladangan

FIRST FOOTBALL TITLE

THE undisputed highlight of the Kiladangan juvenile club in 1988 was the historic County Final victory over Holycross in the Under-14 Rural Section. In beating the Mid team by 1-5 to 1-1 at Templemore last August, Kiladangan won its first County Football final at any grade and the team was also the first in the North Division to win the Fr. Meagher Cup since it was first represented in 1928.

The Under-14 footballers started their campaign against Borrisokane in the North Tipperary Urban/Rural championship, beating their opponents to qualify for the final against Éire Óg. In a David and Goliath encounter, Éire Óg were surprisingly put under extreme pressure, only winning by virtue of two late scores. The excellent performance of the much smaller club did not go unnoticed: Kiladangan qualified to represent the North division in the County Rural championship.

They proved to be worthy ambassadors, accounting for the traditional football club, Fr. Sheedy's in the County semi-final in Drombane on July 22nd. After trailing in the first half, they gave a powerful display in the second period to register a shock victory over their opponents.

Preparations really started in

earnest following qualification for the Final. Former Meath footballer, Vincent Mulligan, who lives in the parish, was drafted in to nurture the raw talent in the team. A month of rigorous training under the experienced eye of Vincent and selectors, Liam Flannery, John Kelly, Timmy Ryan and Pat Gavin, produced the stamina, sharpness and skill necessary for the major event.

THE COUNTY FINAL

A large contingent of supporters made their way to Templemore for the Final against Holycross on August 21st. In a closely contested game Kiladangan led by 1-2 to 0-1, at the interval, due mainly to the wholehearted endeavour of the attack where the inside forward line of David Gavin, Michael Nolan and Peter McCarthy — who had scored 1-1 — dominated over the Holy-

cross fullback line. This trio enjoyed much possession due to the constant supply of ball that was fed by centre fielders, John Slattery and Captain, Sean Kelly, who dominated the exchanges — the latter contributing 0-4 during the hour. Fielding well on the half forward line were Darren McGrath, Anthony Sherlock and Ronan O'Grady.

Holycross exerted great pressure early in the second half, culminating in a penalty from which the Mid side scored a goal. Yet Kiladangan held the initiative, due mainly to the fine goalkeeping of Pdraig Hogan who saved two rasping shots. He received great cover from a solid full back line of James Flannery, Aidan Ryan and James Minehan. The eventual success of Kiladangan can be attributed to an impenetrable halfback line where Dermot

O'Callaghan, Brian Flannery and Art Flannery countered to good effect the schemes of their counterparts. Kiladangan ran out deserving winners by a four point margin.

Contributing in no small way to the entire campaign were substitutes E. Fogarty, G. McEntee, T. Murphy, P. Ryan and C. Hogan.

Almost the same panel of players also distinguished themselves in the hurling arena by winning the North Final of the Under-14 (Section 2) championship, beating Newport by 4-8 to 0-1.

Team: M. Nolan, J. Flannery, A. Ryan, J. Minehan, D. O'Callaghan, B. Flannery (Capt.), A. Flannery, J. Slattery, D. McGrath, W. Seymour, S. Kelly, D. Finch, P. McCarthy, A. Sherlock and D. Gavin. Subs: E. Fogarty, G. McEntee.



KILDANGAN UNDER-14 PANEL

Back Row (left to right): T. Murphy, P. Hogan, L. Foley, A. Flannery, J. Slattery, D. Finch, S. Kelly, B. Flannery, A. Ryan, J. Minehan, A. Sherlock. **Front Row** (left to right): P. Hall, G. McEntee, E. Fogarty, D. McGrath, D. O'Callaghan, D. Gavin, M. Nolan, Wm. Seymour, P. McCarthy, J. Flannery. (Missing: R. O'Grady).

Greats of the Past Honoured

A CENTURY of memories of great and glorious victories was recalled, and the living legendary figures of the exciting action of bygone days honoured, with special emphasis on the magnificent men of 1937, who won the All-Ireland senior hurling championship of that year, at a memorable function organised by the Tipperary G.A.A. County Board in Dundrum House Hotel.



Michael 'Babs' Keating, Jack Duggan (Kilkenny '37 captain), Johnny Ryan and Willie Wall enjoy the celebrations.



Tipperary 1937 captain Jim Lanigan, Dinny Gorman and John Lanigan recall memories of great days.



The Jubilee Cake



Tony Reddan and Jim Devitt at the Jubilee celebrations.



Present at the Jubilee celebrations were: Back row: John Lanigan, John Dowling (G.A.A. President), Michael O'Connor (President Munster Council), Johnny Ryan, John Maher, Dinny Gorman, Tommy Doyle, Jack Duggan (Kilkenny captain), Willie Wall, Jimmy Butler Coffey, Micheál Ó Muircheartaigh. Front: Tommy Barrett, Bunny Murphy, Paddy Ryan, Jim Lanigan, Philly Ryan, Michael Lowry and Denis Max.



Ossie Bennett, the boxer in 1936.

Osmond Bennett

1958-88

30 Years a Rubbing!

By Seamus J. King

ONE of the greatest kicks Ossie Bennett got in 1988 was when St. Kieran's won the Kerry senior football championship. The team used train in Carrow, halfway between Castleisland and Farranfore and Ossie was called in to 'straighten out ankles, cartilages, backs and shoulders'. The five-hour round trip from Johnstown didn't cost him a thought. The previous year it was Myshall in County Carlow. They were beaten in the hurling final, but won the football. In 1986 they had been successful in both.

These are but two of the impressive number of achievements by this man from Ballinhassig, Co. Cork, now residing in Co. Kilkenny and identified for so long with Co. Tipperary. He has been associated with at least twenty county championship winning sides and has gone into Croke Park with twelve All-Ireland winning teams. They include six with Tipperary, four with Offaly, one with Galway and Cork's football victory in 1973.

ATHLETE

Ossie Bennett learned his skill in straightening out bodies from his father, Bill, and his own lengthy experience as an athlete. Bill Bennett was an impressive athlete in the hurdles, 100 yards, high jump and reached 23' 11½" in the long jump. His ability was recognised when he was chosen as one of those to lead the parade in the Tailteann Games in 1924.

Ossie made a similar impact in the world of sport. An all-round athlete like his father his main interests were in cycling and boxing. His cycling interest began as a boy when he cycled thirteen miles a day from his home to school in Cork. During his career he won nearly one hundred cycle races at all distances.

PROFESSIONAL BOXER

Ossie Bennett had a professional boxing career that stretched from 1933 to 1945. It started when Gerard Egan, a boxing promoter from the U.S., came to Cork looking for 'White Hopes' in boxing around 1933. During his career Bennett beat such boxing luminaries as Tiger Smith, Barney Smith, Manuel Quinn, Eddie Downey, Tommy Upton, Tommy Mallon and Moss Leane in places as far apart as Cork, Belfast, Montreal and South America. He reckons he never reached his full potential as a boxer and, when the war was over, Ossie, who was born in 1916, was too old to resume his boxing career.



Ossie Bennett with Lord Montague, in the oldest surviving registered car in the U.K. and Ireland.

THE TIPPERARY CONNECTION

Until he got married in 1949 Ossie Bennett was an engineer with the Limerick Steamship Company, and plied the route between Limerick and various ports in England. About that time he answered an advertisement for 'an engineer with a knowledge of steam' and got the job with Roscrea Meat Products Ltd. He got a house on the Offaly side of Roscrea, became friendly with Fr. Vaughan and began training the Coolderry team.

In 1958 John Joe Maher introduced him to Liam Devaney, who was suffering from some injury. He progressed from there to rubbing Tipperary for the Munster final. In 1960 Sean Ryan, Matt Hassett and Jack Hough asked him to train Toomevara, who went on to win the county final. The following year he was called up full time for Tipperary to replace Bion O'Brien, and he has been with the county since. He worked in conjunction with Jerry Doyle, until the latter's death. Jerry did the hurling training and Ossie the physical training.

TRAINING

Ossie Bennett admits he has no formal training whatsoever but he knows the body thoroughly. He learned firstly from his father and from his own athletic experience he got the rest. There is a strong tradition for healing in the family. His grandmother used to cure people with physical ailments but advised Ossie to keep away from it, as it wasn't lucky. Ossie inherited this gift and he is in demand today, not only from teams but also from a constant stream of people

who visit him from the four corners of the country.

His aim in the training of players is to increase their heart revs. He believes that the player must be able to increase the normal rev count of sixty to eighty or more if he hopes to respond to the demands of a strenuous game. Only training that will increase the rev count is of any value.

MANY INTERESTS

Ossie Bennett is a very busy man. At seventy-two years today he has very few spare minutes. He prefers it that way. He has other interests besides training teams and mending physical ailments. Vintage cars and steam engines are his great loves.

His interest in vintage cars goes back to the mid-fifties and he got into steam engines in the mid-sixties, soon after Stradbally started. In 1961 he joined Gouldings Fertilizers in Dublin and used to travel to Thurles regularly with Donie Nealon and the other Dublin-based Tipperary players. In 1963, on his way to Thurles, he saw a garage in Johnstown for sale. He examined it, bought the place and retired from Gouldings.

Since then he has led a very full life and enjoyed every moment of it. He has been very happy with the teams he trained and admits to having been treated well. If he has contributed substantially to the success of many teams he is content in the thought that he has received immense enjoyment in return. Retiring from his job with Tipperary team will give him more time to pursue his other interests. One thing is certain though, Ossie Bennett will not sit down and put the feet up.

South Tipperary Roundup

MICHAEL O'MEARA, Rúnaí

The curtain came down on the 1988 South Tipperary Championship scene on Sunday, 6th November when the destination of the last of the year's 14 titles was decided. A glance at the year's statistics gives pride of place to Fethard who scored a hat-trick of football titles whilst two clubs Mullinahone and St. Mary's both recorded double successes. The following is a brief account of the happenings in each grade:

SENIOR HURLING

Regarded as the Premier Championship in the Division, senior hurling was run on the same basis as in 1987 i.e. the first round winners going forward to the semi-finals to be joined by the winners of a runners-up competition.

Swan, Killenaule, Ná Píarsaigh and St. Mary's were the qualifiers and both semi-finals provided closely contested games with St. Mary's overcoming a host of injury problems to defeat Swan by 2-10 to 2-9 and Killenaule being hard-pressed to contain the challenge of the Kilsheelan/Davins competition Na Píarsaigh by 3-10 to 3-7.

The scene was therefore set for a St. Mary's-Killenaule decider at Fethard and following a very entertaining game Killenaule emerged successful by a five points margin over gallant opposition. Killenaule's win bridged a 25-year-gap and led to great celebrations round 'the Hills'. Joe O'Dwyer, Donie O'Connell, Dave Hearne, Donal McGettigan and Michael Brennan played leading rôles in a very popular success.

FOOTBALL

This championship was contested on a knockout basis and it was agreed that the winners of the new Clonmel Oil senior football league would play-off with the championship runners-up to provide the Division's second county quarter final representative.

Holders Commercial advanced to meet Ardfinnan in one semi-final whilst Fethard faced Cahir in the second. Commercial proved very impressive winners by 2-11 to 1-4 on Ardfinnan's new ground but an injury hit Fethard struggled to account for Cahir by 1-8 to 1-5.

The final was scheduled for July 31st at Kilsheelan but Commercial informed the Board that they would be unable to field a team. The title was eventually awarded to Fethard and Commercial club was fined £500.

Commercial, however, went on to win the Clonmel Oil League title defeating Moyle Rovers in the final by 2-8 to 1-6 thereby joining Fethard in the county quarter finals. Fethard later proved 66 — Tipperary G.A.A. Year Book

themselves worthy South Champions by sensationally defeating Commercial in the county final.

INTERMEDIATE HURLING

Cahir the holders, came through a tough campaign to retain the title in some style to graduate to senior ranks.

Cahir defeated Swan by 2-11 to 1-7 in one semi-final whilst the other semi-final saw Davins shock a fancied Kilsheelan by 3-12 to 2-4. Much was expected of the decider but Cahir proved too strong winning comfortably by 2-14 to 2-5. The winners owed a lot to the outstanding efforts of players like Richie Quirke, Liam Enright, Jim Doolin, Phil Kiely, Liam Keating and John Quirke.

INTERMEDIATE FOOTBALL

Ballyporeen, South and County Champions in 1987, recorded a notable achievement by taking their first Intermediate crown at the expense of a fancied Grangemockler. Ballyporeen who had accounted for Swan in the semi-final played some fine open football throughout the campaign and they are worthy champions. Spare a thought however for Grangemockler, who were also looking for their first title, but who have enjoyed little luck in the concluding stages of the competition in recent years. On the Ballyporeen side Eamonn and Thomas Maher, Tom Sweeney (captain) goalie and club secretary Tom Flannelly, Tom and Pat Macken and Johnny Carroll all gave impressive performances.

JUNIOR HURLING

Moyle Rovers, Ballyneale (holders), Mullinahone and Ballingarry were the semi-finalists in an entertaining competition. They did battle in that order on a Clonmel double bill that attracted a fine attendance.

Mullinahone led by John Leahy duly accounted for Ballingarry but Rovers and Ballyneale played a draw in a low scoring and disappointing game. Reputations were redeemed in the replay however which was won by Moyle Rovers by a three point margin.

Mullinahone started favourites in the

final played at Clonmel and for a time they looked like coming out on top. Rovers staged a late great rally however and two fine goals from Keith Delahunty paved the way for a well merited success by 3-6 to 0-8. Tom Acheson, Donal Foley, Keith Delahunty, goalie and captain Pat (Nobby) McCormack, Denis Fennessy and Mick Looby made fine contributions to a popular success for the Powerstown/Lisronagh side.

JUNIOR FOOTBALL

St. Patrick's were the red hot favourites in this grade and when they defeated Killenaule by a wide margin in the quarter final their eventual success seemed assured. However, Cahir caused one of the biggest upsets of the years by ousting the men from Drangan/Cloneen in the semi-final at Fethard. At the other end of the draw Commercial were going well and successes over Ardfinnan and Moyle Rovers gave them a place in the final. Cahir and Commercial did battle in the decider at Ardfinnan and once again we had an upset as the Clonmel side made the most of their chances to record a deserved success. Stephen Flynn, Anthony O'Dwyer, Ger O'Mahoney, Michael Frieberg, Michael Sheehan and Robbie Hogan played major rôles in the Clonmel side's victory.

21 HURLING

In recent years St. Mary's and Swan have served up top class hurling in some great finals in the Under-21 grade. They met again in this year's decider and St. Mary's were full value for another success that gave them the title for the fourth successive year. Once again however the Clonmel team had to battle every inch of the way against a gallant Swan side which never gave up but which in the end had to give best to a fine team performance highlighted by some terrific individual displays from Anthony Wall, Declan Ryan, Ger Deeley, Pádraig Kavanagh and David Hickey.

21 HURLING B

Killenaule the holders and Mullinahone

Champions all



MOYLE ROVERS SOUTH JUNIOR HURLING CHAMPIONS

Back Row: (l to r): D. McGrath, S. Norris, M. Hurley, J. Keating, E. Power, M. Looby, T. Acheson, B. Foley, M. McGrath, K. O'Connor, D. Looby, P. Hickey, P. J. Guiry. Front Row: (l to r.): E. Casey, P. Norris, C. Boland, K. Delahunty, J. McGrath, T. McGrath, P. McCormack (captain), B. Boland, D. Farnessey, Michael Browne, D. Foley.



FETHARD U-21 SOUTH FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS

Back row (l. to r.): W. O'Meara, A. Horan, Michael O'Riordan, P. Ryan, Michael Ryan, J. Hurley, P. Hayes, S. Ryan, Michael Broderick, T. McCarthy, L. Ryan. Front row: (l. to r.): Gerry Murphy, K. Butler, W. Morrissey, Eoin Cummins, B. Burke, L. Ryan, C. Coen, A. Donohue.



BALLYPOREEN SOUTH INTERMEDIATE FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS

Back Row: (l. to r.): M. Lyons, R. Vaughan, D. Cahill, J. McDonnell, J. Geary, E. Maher, P. J. Fitzgerald, E. Callaghan, B. Macken, T. Macken, P. Macken, G. Macken. Front row: (l. to r.): Michael Geary, T. Maher, D. Fitzgerald, J. Maher, Tom Fennelly, T. Sweeney, J. Carroll, D. Fitzgerald, D. Lyons. Mascot: P. Maher.



KILLENALE SOUTH TIPP SENIOR HURLING CHAMPIONS

Back row: (l. to r.): Paddy Croke, William O'Grady, Christy Healy, Derek Healy, Davy Aherin, Joe O'Dwyer, Michael Brennan, Martin Shanahan, Donie O'Connell, Mossie Mullins, Michael Hassett, Tom Fanning, B. Perry.



ST. MARY'S SOUTH U-21 HURLING CHAMPIONS

Back row (l. to r.): W. McGarry, M. Peters, J. McCarthy, G. Deeley, P. Kavanagh, D. Hickey, A. Wall, D. J. O'Connell, D. J. O'Dwyer. Front row (l. to r.): D. Doyle, D. Ryan, B. Condon, J. Ryan, G. Burke, J. Dunphy.



SWAN MINOR HURLING B SOUTH CHAMPIONS 1988

Back row: D. O'Meara, coach; D. Phelan, B. Hahessey, M. Waters, J. Bourke, M. Fleming, K. Nagle, M. Whelan, R. Smyth, S. Walsh. Front row: B. Dunne, J. Walsh, L. Casey, W. Walsh, M. Dunne, J. Morrissey, G. O'Brien, D. Boland, B. Waters, R. Walsh (inset Paul Hahessey (captain)).



ST. MARY'S SOUTH MINOR HURLING CHAMPIONS

Back row (l. to r.): B. Fitzgerald, M. Peters, B. Kiely, J. Quinn, D. J. O'Dwyer, A. Wall, D. Doyle, P. Roche, M. Hally. Front row (l. to r.): C. Brown, K. Moynihan, E. Ryan, M. McGarry, J. Harvey, P. Leahy.



CLONMEL COMMERCIAL'S SOUTH JUNIOR FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS

Back row (l. to r.): R. Hogan, P. Dempsey, G. O'Mahoney, A. O'Dwyer, M. Sheehan, F. Kavanagh, D. Hickey, Michael Friedberg. Front row (l. to r.): C. Regan, (captain), J. Guidara, S. O'Loughlin, J. Harvey, T. Kelly, T. Guidara, S. Flynn.

met in the decider at Fethard on a day which saw ground conditions at their worst. Both sides overcame the elements however to serve up an outstanding game. Mullinahone had the better of the early exchanges but Killenaule came back strongly in a pulsating second half. The issue was in doubt right up to the end but Mullinahone finally carried the day amid scenes of great excitement. John Leahy, Martin Scott, the Skehan brothers Michael and Phil, goalie Liam O'Connor, Seán Brett and Jim O'Neill were Mullinahone heroes on the day.

21 FOOTBALL

Fethard and Commercial's fielded experienced sides in what was expected to be an outstanding final. Commercial's started well but missed early chances and Fethard went on to lead by three points at the break. It was Fethard's turn to show their inaccuracy in the second half they proceeded to shoot no less than thirteen wides. In between however an Eoin Cummins goal seemed to put them well on the way to victory and they led by six points with just three minutes remaining. Two goals from full-forward Seamus Strappe put a new complexion on the game however and just when a replay seemed certain Fethard redeemed themselves with an Eoin Cummins point that clinched an exciting victory in a game that generally failed to live up to expectations. Fethard owed a lot to the efforts of Willie O'Meara, Shay Ryan, Brian Burke, Eoin Cummins, Willie Morrissey, Liam Ryan and Chris Coen.

21 FOOTBALL B

Mullinahone and Swan played an exciting draw in Kilsheelan in September but because of Mullinahone's many commitments the replay had to wait until the first Saturday in November.

In the meantime Mullinahone had triumphed in the 21 hurling grade and were therefore seeking a unique double. Swan had their measure in the early stages and still led after five minutes of the second period. A fine goal from Peter Costelloe however put Mullinahone in command and they swept to an easy win in the end notching some fine scores in the process. The double success was a notable achievement for the Mullinahone club and a great reward for the untiring efforts made at underage level in recent years.

John Leahy, Peter Costelloe, Ray Coady, Noel Leahy, Martin Kennedy and Seán Brett played the leading rôles for Mullinahone.

MINOR HURLING

St. Mary's and Brian Borus met in the decider at Ardfinnan on one of the worst evenings of the year. St. Mary's were the holders and the hot favourites but they had to call on all their experience and skill to overcome the gallant efforts of the Fr.



Award winners pictured with Board's officers and guests at South Board Social. Back row: J. Collins, vice-chairman; Con Hogan, chairman; M. Walsh, vice-chairman; M. O'Meara, secretary; W. Barrett, treasurer. Front row (l. to r.): D. O'Connell, hurler of the year; John McGrath, young footballer; Canon G. Power, P.P., St. Mary's; Seán Boland, managing director The Nationalist (sponsors); Bill Purcell (footballer of the past); Mrs. Purcell, John O'Keeffe accepted the footballer of the year on behalf of his son Donal; John Leahy, young hurler.



SOUTH TIPP BOARDS ANNUAL CONVENTION

(L. to r.): Jimmy Collins, vice-chairman; Con Hogan, chairman; Michael O'Meara, secretary; Michael Egan, trustee; Paddy Browne, outgoing chairman; M. Walsh, vice-chairman.



South Board referees pictured after receiving their awards at the South Board Social. Back row (l. to r.): S. Collins, vice-chairman; J. Lonergan, M. O'Donoghue, W. Barrett, T. Keating. Centre row: M. Walsh, vice-chairman; Michael O'Meara, W. Robinson, J. Harrington, M. Hyland, T. Lonergan, S. McCormack. J. Hogan, J. Hewitt. Front row (l. to r.): M. McCormack, M. Kennedy, S. Barlow (sponsor), C. Hogan, chairman, S. Mullins, J. McCarthy, Joe Keane.



CLONMEL COMMERCIALS BEATEN COUNTY FINALISTS

Back row (l. to r.): T. Gleeson, P. Kavanagh, J. McNamara, C. McGrath, B. Keane, A. Wall, J. Kelly, S. O'Keeffe, T. Kilkenny, D. O'Shea, F. Kelly. Front row (l. to r.): W. Peters, S. O'Loughlin, M. Peters, J. Kerins, H. Daly, P. Ryan, M. Lynch, D. O'Keeffe (captain), M. O'Connell, Michael Frieberg.



Mr. Dick Fitzgerald, chairman Fethard G.A.A. Club presenting the "Person of the Year" award to Joe O'Dwyer at the Club's Annual Social.



ARDFINNAN SOUTH M.F.C. "B" CHAMPIONS

Standing (l. to r.): Kieran O'Brien, Conor Meagher, Christopher Ryan, David Lambert, Finbarr Hennessy, Thomas Carrigan, James Hackett, Leslie Boyle, Donal Keating, Eugene O'Mahoney, Martin Doyle, Fintan Walsh, Tony Loneragan. Front row (l. to r.): Eamon Norris, Michael O'Sullivan, James English, Ken Ryan, Eamon O'Mahoney, Aidan Quirke, Seán Maher, Eamon Ryan, Declan Ryan, Shane Mason.



Bill Purcell, Kilsheelan, receiving the "Footballer of the Past" award from Seán Boland, managing director 'The Nationalist', sponsors of the awards, at the South Board Social.

Sheehy's — Skeheenarinka group side splendidly led by Eamonn Maher. In the end St. Mary's survived by a one point margin thanks mainly to the fine efforts of players like Anthony Wall, D. J. O'Dwyer, Derek Doyle, Mick Peters and Johnny Harvey.

MINOR HURLING B

This proved a good competition and many entertaining games were witnessed before the semi-final stages were reached. Both of these were played on a Clonmel double bill. Swan proved far too strong for a tired Fethard whilst Ballingarry came from behind to overcome Ballybacon-Grange.

The decider was staged in Clonkeen and whilst Ballingarry fought hard for much of the way they had to bow the knee to a stronger Swan in the concluding stages of a well contested game. For Swan Ray Walsh, Paul Hahessy and Michael Fleming proved match winners.

MINOR FOOTBALL

Fethard's first leg of the treble came in this grade and at the main expense of Slievenamon. Once again the elements

were far from kind but both sides gave of their best in an entertaining game which saw Fethard hold off a strong second half rally from the holders. On the night the winners had fine players in Eoin Cummins, Shay Ryan, Michael Broderick, Kevin Burke and John Hurley.

MINOR FOOTBALL B

Once again this grade proved an

outstanding success and some splendid games were witnessed. Ardfinnan and St. Patrick's qualified to meet in the final at Clonmel and the pity of it was there had to be a loser after one of the best games of the year. Ardfinnan took the honours just about deservedly by the narrowest of margins but there was much to admire about the efforts of a gallant St. Patrick's side that lost nothing at all in defeat.

SOUTH BOARD CHAMPIONSHIP FINALS 1988

Senior Hurling at Fethard. Killenaule 1-14; St. Mary's 2-6. Ref. W. Barrett.

Senior Football awarded to Fethard. No final.

Inter Hurling at Clonmel. Cahir 2-14; Carrick Davins 2-5. Ref. J. Loneragan.

Inter Football at Clonmel. Ballyporeen 0-11; Grangemockler 1-5. Ref. M. Walsh.

Junior Hurling at Clonmel. Moyle Rovers 3-6; Mullinahone 0-8. Ref. B. Carroll.

Junior Football at Ardfinnan. Commercials 1-6; Cahir 0-7. Ref. T. Loneragan.

21 Hurling at Kilsheelan. St. Mary's 2-11; Carrick Swans 1-9. Ref. T. Loneragan.

21 Hurling B at Fethard. Mullinahone 0-11; Killenaule 0-7. Ref. J. McCarthy.

21 Football at Kilsheelan. Fethard 1-9; Commercials 2-5. Ref. W. Barrett.

21 Football B at Kilsheelan. Mullinahone 1-4; Carrick Swans 0-7. Ref. T. Loneragan.

Relay. Mullinahone 4-10; Carrick Swans 1-3. Ref. J. Loneragan.

Minor Hurling At Ardfinnan. St. Mary's 1-8; Brian Borus 1-7. Ref. J. McCarthy.

Minor Hurling B at Clonkeen. Carrick Swans 2-11; Ballingarry 0-4. Ref. W. Robinson.

Minor Football at Clonmel. Fethard 0-8; Slievenamon 1-2. Ref. B. Carroll.

Minor Football B at Clonmel. Ardfinnan 0-7; St. Patrick's 1-3. Ref. T. Keating.

Clonmel Oil Senior Football League at Kilsheelan. Commercials 2-8; Moyle Rovers 1-6.

Referee T. Loneragan.

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Fethard take 17th senior title

By Denis Burke

1988 was a year of strange contrasts for the fortunes of the Fethard club. The euphoria that greeted the Under-21 team's county championship win of 1987 was dampened by loss of some of the finest footballers in the club to the scourge of emigration. Even older stalwarts such as Andy O'Riordan had to take the emigrant trail and there were many fears, openly expressed, that Fethard would not be able to mount any kind of dominance in South Tipp or to county champions Loughmore. By the end of the year, Fethard were county champions for the seventeenth time and with a very young team. Overall, hopes are high that the future will be as good as the recent past.

Training began under the watchful eye of Jimmy O'Shea and selectors Danny Kane and Davy Morrissey in March. The achievement of '87 had been to put the defeats of '86 at the hands of a very impressive Clonmel Commercials to the back of the players' minds and to build morale and confidence again. In this, the South final of '87 had helped because, while Commercials had won, the result had been close enough to suggest that they had not reached the heights of '86.

THE GAMES

The championship started with a comfortable enough win over Kilsheelan. Perhaps not now the force of a few years ago, but a club with spirit and heart to match the best, Cahir were a much tougher proposition in the South semi-final. Had the green-shirted Cahir men been able to translate their outfield dominance with scores, then our year would have been over. Not only that, but injury to Brian Burke on county duty forced his retirement from this game and cast a cloud over our hopes of going much further in the championship. However, the encouraging form of Shay Ryan, Willie O'Meara and Willie Morrissey in the half-back line was tending to raise the team.

The next game was to have been the South final. This game did not take place for reasons over which we had no control or say. We entered the county quarter-finals as South champions and partnered by Commercials as League winners. It was South versus West this year and while we beat Emly only after a great struggle, Commercials handed out a drubbing to West champions Golden and looked most impressive in doing so.

The semi-finals paired Fethard and Templemore with Loughmore facing Commercials. Again the Blues failed to impress and struggled for long periods against Templemore with a fortunate enough Michael O'Riordan goal paving the way for a close enough win. Commercials in contrast were highly impressive in ousting Loughmore and the stage was set for the county final — a repeat of '86, '84 and '82.

The weeks leading up to the County Final saw two points of view emerging amongst the Fethard supporters.

(i) Commercials on their form against Loughmore and Golden are virtually back at '86 form. We have no chance.

(ii) We have reached this far without playing well — always a good sign. A young team can often rise well to the occasion and anyway they might not carry the mantle of favourites so well. Most followers of this viewpoint expressed it with more hope than confidence.

In the leadup to the final, several genuinely hopeful factors emerged. Brian Burke seemed now fully free of injury and a practice game against Kilrossanty in Kilsheelan on the Sunday before the final saw the team moving well and scoring freely. Jimmy O'Shea and his selectors continued to pound their hopes into the team and convince them that it could be done. It would all come down to the day we all told ourselves.

THE COUNTY FINAL

When the teams took the field for the county final the Blues seemed a light team against the physically bigger Clonmel lads, who seemed to ooze confidence. Fethard had the assistance of a strongish breeze in the first half.

The game opened at a cracking pace with play moving rapidly from end to end. Fethard seemed to have a grip in midfield but the Clonmel half-forwards were looking very dangerous. A Joe Keane free and a Michael Downes' point had us hoping for better things but a dazzling Clonmel move split our defence wide open and gave Paddy Kenrick no chance to save an O'Shea drive to the net. Only a few more points — one a fabulous effort from Brian Burke — had us level at half-time.

The second half was brilliant — no doubt the best performance from a Fethard team for years. Brian Burke and Tommy Sheehan exerted very strong midfield dominance. "Old" hands Michael Downes and Michael O'Riordan raised their games immensely and the entire unit began to mesh together. Joe Keane pointed from an unbelievable angle in the corner and minor player Shay Ryan roused the team with a great point after a surging run into the attack.

With twelve minutes left it was anybody's game. One moment of skill or "magic" would win it. It came from the left boot of Michael Downes. Gaining possession about twelve yards out, heinted right, turned left and found the far

corner of the net with a well-placed drive. Could we hold the lead as Commercials fired everything into attack, sensing defeat? Heart-stopping moments in the defence with Willie Morrissey soloing away from the danger zone — a Clonmel point — now the margin only two as the seconds ticked away agonizingly.

A free to Commercials with time almost out. Franny Kelly blazed towards the top of the net — under the crossbar — it was tipped over by the defence. Tommy Lonergan calls for the ball and almost unbelievably Fethard had defied the odds to take the title. The team was swamped by the joyful supporters and well deserved their award.

In the flush of victory, however, one cannot forget the sportsmanship of Clonmel Commercials. The game itself, while hard fought, hadn't a foul of any importance and John MacNamara — Commercials' supremo — offered his sincere congratulations to Fethard and his best wishes for the Munster Club Championship. As if to emphasise the great sportsmanship that exists between these rivals, Joe MacNamara, a key Commercials' forward, even came to Fethard to join the celebrations on Sunday night. Long may such spirit continue in the game.

MINORS' SOUTH TITLE

While winning the senior championship alone would have meant a great year for the club, the minors gave extra cause for celebration when they took the South title with a hard fought win over Slievenamon in the South final. Minor success always gives great hope for the future and four or five of the minor team are already on the senior panel with others sure to follow in the coming year. The county semi-final against Annavale Rovers went to a replay with our lads being caught with a last-second equaliser. The replay saw us lose by 2 points, a game which, on possession alone, we should have won very comfortably. However, the great displays of Liam Ryan, Paddy Ryan, Jimmy Connolly, Martin Coen, John Hurley, Dermot Kane and Eoin Cummins were a rich source of hope for the future.

All in all, a year of achievement for the Fethard club — one which will be remembered especially as the year in which the 17th county senior title was won and the minors and under-21 teams gave hope for a bright future.



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Feile na nÓg

Football Finals (1988)

EARLY GAMES

CLONMEL Hurling and Football Club U-14 footballers represented Tipperary in the Feile na nÓg finals in Kildare this summer. And they did Tipperary proud with brilliant performances throughout the weekend to qualify for the final on the Sunday.

On Saturday morning, we played Cappagh (Kildare), our host club, in the first game of our section. Even though, we started very nervously, we eventually settled and demonstrated some of the exciting football that we were to witness throughout the weekend. Final score 6-5 to 0-0.

Our next game was against Rathcoffey (Kildare). Again, the team played well as a unit with our forwards scoring magnificent points from very difficult angles. Final score 2-10 to 0-0.

So, it was on to our final game in our group. We had to win this game against Carlow to qualify for the semi-final. We answered the challenge with an exhibition of fast exciting, attacking football. Final score 6-5 to 0-0.

Not only did we win our 3 games by large margins, we did not concede one score, a brilliant performance from any team. In those games every member of the panel helped in some way to achieve a memorable statistic.

SEMI-FINAL

We qualified to play Longford in the

semi-final on Saturday night. Amazingly, despite our convincing wins, Longford were firm favourites to qualify for the final. The terrible conditions which existed for the semi-final, were ones that you associate with the month of November and not July. There was very heavy rain assisted by a strong gale and the pitch was very heavy. These conditions seemed perfect for Longford because of their bigger physique. But, this Clonmel team has a determination to succeed that was obvious throughout the weekend.

We played against the rain and gale in the first half. However in the first minute of game, we got a disastrous start, when Longford scored a fine goal. But this goal only made our players more determined and we were only two points behind. The players now realised that the chance of reaching the final was there. In the second half, we fought for every ball but failed to convert our chances. It looked like the same old story for Tipp. football, so near yet so far! But, midway through the second half we were awarded a penalty and J. Conway converted the kick with style. But Longford equalised with a point. We were set for a grandstand finish. And in those final tense moments, Mark Tucker scored two excellent winning points. Final score: 1-4 to 1-2.

THE FINAL

In the final, we played Wolfe Tones (Shannon) in Newbridge. Alan, we never

reached our true potential as seen in previous games. However, the team played with determination and courage, with Paul Scully scoring a fine goal in the first half. We were only six points in arrears at half time. But, Shannon scored an early goal in the second half, even though, we finished with some great points.

Even though beaten in the final, we had reached this stage from 16 teams, starting in the first round of our group. A great achievement from such a young club.

Our thanks to our sponsors, our very loyal and excellent supporters who paid a visit to us over the weekend and to our host club, Cappagh, for the way they looked after us and supported us in the semi-final and final.

Finally, our thanks to the mentors, Michael O'Loughlin, Paddy Doyle, eddie Kearney for organising and preparing the players for the weekend. Our thanks to the players who were magnificent in their behaviour on and off the field. Parents, town of Clonmel and Tipperary can be very proud of our young ambassadors. Well done lads.

Panel of players on duty for the weekend were: J. Norris, K. Hopkins, S. Halpin, G. Greed, B. Pollard, S. Halpin, M. Ryan, D. O'Donoghue (capt), P. Lucey, J. Conway, M. O'Donoghue, E. Farrell, P. Scully, A. Johnston, M. Tucker, K. O'Flaherty, M. Russell, S. Guinan, B. Morris, E. Kearns, Jo. Dowling, B. Hackett, G. Cantwell, B. Gentles.



CLONMEL FÉILE NA nÓG FINALISTS 1988

Back Row (left to right): P. Doyle (coach), B. Hackett, B. Morris, B. Walsh, A. Johnston, S. Halpin, Ned Hall (Club President), J. Dowling, K. O'Flaherty, P. Lucey, M. O'Donoghue, M. O'Loughlin (coach). Front Row (left to right) S. Guinan, E. Kearns, K. Hopkins, B. Pollard, M. Ryan, M. Russell, D. O'Donoghue (capt.), M. Tucker, B. Gentles, P. Scully, J. Conway.

South Tipp Bórd na nÓg Review - 1988

By Patsy O'Halloran

The year just ended proved once again the success of the grading system introduced three years ago.

It has generated greater interest among the weaker clubs and all clubs are now involved in competition of their own standard.

Ardfinnan Under 12 footballers were the only team to take a County title to the Division but all the other Divisional winners acquitted themselves well and with a little luck the result in some of the games could have gone our way.

Listed are details of all our competitions:

Grade	Winner	Runners-up	No	Venue	Referee
—12 Football (A)	Ardfinnan	Cahir	7	Clogheen	F. O'Brien
—12 Football (B)	Swan	Moyle Rovers	7	Cloneen	J. Harrington
—12 Football (C)	Ballyporeen	Grangemockler	8	Monroe	K. Delahunty
—14 Football (R)	Fr. Sheehy's	St. Patrick's	15	Clonmel	T. J. Corbey
—14 Football (U/R)	Ardfinnan	Swan	15	Clonmel	T. J. Corby
—16 Football (A)	Clonmel Óg	Ardfinnan	7	Marlfield	J. Lonergan
—16 Football (B)	Grangemockler	Ballingarry	6	Cloneen	M. McCormack
—16 Football (C)	Killenaule	Ballylooby	6	Clonmel	T. J. Corby
—12 Hurling (A)	St. Mary's (A)	Cahir	4	Clogheen	F. O'Brien
—12 Hurling (B)	Ballingarry (A)	Mullinahone	4	Cloneen	C. Boland
—12 Hurling (C)	Fethard	Kilsheelan	12	Clonmel	T. J. Corby
—14 Hurling (R)	Ballybacon/Gr.	Ballingarry	14	Clonmel	St. Mullins
—14 Hurling (U/R)	Swan	St. Mary's	15	Kilsheelan	N. Coughlan
—16 Hurling (A)	St. Mary's	Killenaule	5	Cloneen	J. Harrington
—16 Hurling (B)	Mullinahone	Ballingarry	5	Cloneen	J. Harrington
—16 Hurling (C)	Fr. Sheehy's	Skeheenarinky	6	Clogheen	T. J. Corby

How we fared in the county

U-12 Football: Ardfinnan beat Éire Óg (Nenagh) in County Semi-final at Holycross. Beat Durlas Óg in a thrilling final at Cahir.

U-14 Football (Rural): Fr. Sheehy's beaten in semi-final by Kildangan at Drombane.

U-14 Football Urban/Rural: Ardfinnan beat Dúrlas Óg in Semi-final at Golden, but were beaten by Arravale Rovers in Final at Cahir.

U-16 Football: Clonmel Og beat Templemore in Semi-final at Golden. Lost the Final to Éire Og (Nenagh) at Holycross.

U-12 Hurling: St. Mary's (A) beaten by Toomevara in Final at Semple Stadium, having defeated Dúrlas Óg in Semi-final at Golden.

U-14 Hurling (Rural): Ballybacon/Grange beaten by Toomevara in Semi-final at Boherlahan.

U-14 Hurling (Urban/Rural): Swan beaten by Arravale Rovers in Semi-final at Cahir.

U-16 Hurling: St. Mary's defeated by Éire Óg (Nenagh) in Semi-final at Holycross.

DIVISIONAL U-16 HURLING

Our Divisional U-16 Hurling team beat Avondhu (Cork) in the first round of the Coisde Iomána competition at Ballygiblin on Saturday, 9th April (after extra time). Final score: South Tipp 5-13; Avondhu 4-14.

Both finished level at the end of normal time on the scoreline South Tipp 4-8; Avondhu 3-11. South Tipp lined out as follows:

Shane Ivors (Ballingarry); Richard Sweetman (Cahir), Michael Hogan (Clonmel Óg), Fergal McLoughlan (Skeheenarinky); Ken Ryan (Ballybacon/Grange), Paudie O'Keeffe (Clonmel Óg); Eddie Ryan (St. Mary's); Tony Shelly

(Killenaule), Kevin Maher (Clonmel Óg); Rian Forristal (St. Mary's), Benny Ahessy (Swan), Pat Leahy (St. Mary's); Michael O'Mahony (St. Mary's), Philip Skehan (Mullinahone), Eamon Fitzgerald (Skeheenarinky).

Subs.: Brian O'Meara (Mullinahone) for Rian Forristal; Willie Murphy (Cahir) for Eamon Fitzgerald.

South Tipp never played to the same standard in the second round and were convincingly beaten by the eventual Munster champions (East Waterford) at Walsh Park, Waterford, on Thursday, 21st April.

DIVISIONAL U-16 FOOTBALL

In the County Inter-Divisional U-16 Football competition the South beat the West in the Semi-final at Holycross on Saturday, 14th May. The following Saturday they beat the Mid in the Final on the scoreline South Tipp 1-14; Mid Tipp 0-7.

SWAN UNDER-14 HURLING SOUTH CHAMPIONS

Back row: B. Hallissey, S. Nagle, J. O'Donnell, D. McNamara, M. O'Halloran, J. Cullen, F. Walsh, J. Grace, J. Enright, D. O'Sullivan. **Front row:** T. Robinson, J. Hanlon, J. Diffily, A. Walsh, R. Dunne, D. Fitzgerald, G. Norris, W. Murphy, R. Ryan.



South Tipp team lined out as follows:

D. J. Walsh (Fr. Sheehy's); Chris Looby (Fethard); Jim Deely (Commercials); Nial Collum (Kilsheelan); Hugh O'Meara (Clonmel Óg), Rian Forristal (Commercials), Aiden Quirke (Ardfinnan); Jim Burke (Swan), Kevin Maher (Clonmel Óg); Martin Coen (Fethard), Paudie O'Keeffe (Clonmel Óg), Tony Forristal (Commercials); Aiden Sweeney (Newcastle), Michael Spillane (Fethard), Eugene Walsh (Fethard).

Hugh Kennedy, Chairman of Tipperary Football Board, presented the medals to the winning team and subs. at a function in Hearn's Hotel, Clonmel, on the 17th October.

Paul Lucey (Clonmel Óg) won both the Poc Fada and Skills competition.

Clonmel Óg represented Tipperary and did very well in the All-Ireland Under-14 Football competition which was held in Kildare.

SCÓR NA nÓG

Winners at Clonmel on 13/12/1987:
Céili dancing: Newcastle.

Recitation: Fr. Sheehy's (Siobhan Slattery).

Solo singing: Fr. Sheehy's (Síle Tierney).

Novelty act: Marlfield.

Question time: Cahir (P. J. O'Meara, Aidan Mackey, Jean O'Mahony).

Instrumental music: Fr. Sheehy's (Siobhan, Marian and Marguerite Slattery).

Group singing: Cahir.

Set dancing: Newcastle.

Present Officers of the Board:

Chairman, Paddy Nagle (Swan); Vice-Chairmen, Jim Lynch (Cahir), Jimmy Quinn (St. Mary's); Secretary/Treasurer/P.R.O., Patsy O'Halloran (Kilsheelan); Co. Board Rep. (Rural): Michael Lonergan (Ardfinnan); Co. Board Rep. (Urban), Paddy Forristal (St. Mary's); South Senior Board Rep., Jimmy McCarthy (Moyle Rovers); Registrar, Nicholas Moroney (St. Patrick's).



SWAN UNDER-12 'B' FOOTBALL SOUTH CHAMPIONS 1988

Back row: M. Torpey, A. P. Ryan, D. Fitzgerald, G. O'Meara, R. Ryan, F. Walsh, D. Kiely. **Front row:** S. Barrett, B. Brophy, J. Walsh, D. McNamara, T. Robinson, J. Dignam, A. Ryan, R. Moloney.



ARDFINNAN — UNDER-12 FOOTBALL COUNTY CHAMPIONS

Back row: Paul O'Connor, Tommie Dunlee, Thomas Walsh, Michael Anglim. **Middle row:** Albert Keating, Robert O'Connor, Kevin White, Stephen Maher, Anthony Cunningham, Tristan Browne, Adrian Condon, Shane O'Mahony, Alan Moloney, Sean Lyness. **Front row:** Bobby Corrigan, Brendan Browne, John Kinehan, Ian Duggan, Gavin O'Mahoney (capt.), Peter Ryan, Liam Myles, Colm Carroll, Eric Guntie, Liam Hennessy.

Tipperary Under-21 Hurling 1988



Back Row (l. to r.): Michael Nolan, Derrick Hogan, Dan Quirke, Rory Brislane, Seamus O'Shea, Eamon Kelly, Brendan Carey, Noel Keane.

Front Row (l. to r.): Sean Nealon, John Madden, Declan Ryan, Conor Stakelum, John Leahy, Philip Ryan, Conal Bonnar.

Defeated in first round at Semple Stadium on Wednesday, June 22.

Final score: Cork 2-15, Tipperary 2-9.

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A DIAMOND JUBILEE

By SEAN O'DONNELL

IN 1989 St. Mary's Hurling Club, Clonmel, celebrates its sixtieth birthday. It is a club which has always been noted for its attention to underage hurling and it is no surprise that most of its honour are in this category: sixteen South minor titles, and five under 21. To some it is a surprise that this underage success has only feebly translated to the adult grades: the only county title was won by the juniors in 1975, and its South honours are junior in 1936 and 1969, intermediate in 1972 and 1975, and its sole senior title in 1981.

With the exception of a few years in the early 1960's, St. Mary's has had teams in the South championship every year, these teams for most of that time being junior and minor. The hurling tradition in Clonmel before 1929 was slight, and for nearly twenty five years the juniors were usually players from other parts of the county and from Kilkenny and Waterford who had found work in Clonmel. Their best efforts, however, were always



Tom Maher - a native of Borrisoleigh, he was a founder member.

eclipsed by the more notable achievements of the Shamrocks, the Commercials and Old Bridge football clubs.

An abundant supply of Clonmel born minor hurlers began to emerge from the

juvenile street leagues organised by the club, especially successful in the late 1940s and early 1950s. St. Mary's did not reap its due reward from these minors, however, because of the prevailing urban counter-attractions and because of the structure of the G.A.A. in the town.

The Parish Rule did not apply, despite the fact that Clonmel was a two-parish town and the Matt the Thresher syndrome was always therefore missing. This further lent itself to frequent fragmentation, a feature which reached bizarre proportions in 1949 when five Clonmel clubs contested the first round of the South junior hurling championship. Marlfield was the most successful of these rival clubs, and during the long playing career of Theo English it overshadowed St. Mary's.

In the mid 1960s St. Mary's re-emerged from the shadows, and it is since then that most of its success has been achieved. With rare exceptions all its players are now Clonmel born, and it would seem that the ideal of its founders in 1929 to plant the rural game of hurling in Ireland's largest inland town has been attained.

To celebrate its jubilee in 1989, St. Mary's, in a joint venture with Commercials Football Club, will officially open its new dressing-room complex, and at the end of the year will publish its club history.



ST. MARY'S - UNDER-12 SOUTH CHAMPIONS 1988

Back Row: (l-r) J. Trehym, G. Boyle, R. Wall, N. Cahill, P. Power, H. Meehan, E. O'Donnell, J. Ruth, T. Fahey, P. Mullins. **Front Row:** (l-r) J. Fitzgerald, A. Kearney, I. Moore, K. Fahey, T. Dunphy, J. Keating (Capt.), B. Gavengin, S.J. Harris, A. Coyne, S. Boyle, C. Burke.



Tony Smith, still going strong at full-forward. He won medals with St. Mary's before many of his present team-mates were born.



Ned O'Shea - for many his name and that of St. Mary's are synonymous.



Jimmy Collins, Vice-chairman of the South Board, has given a lifetime of service to St. Mary's.

1988 - A magnificent year for Mullinahone



MULLINAHONE — SOUTH "B" U-21 FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS

Back Row (left to right): John Brett, Sean Brett, Peter Costello, Pat Egan, Liam O'Connor, Miguel Gunn, Martin Scott, John Leahy, Eamon O'Keeffe, Jim O'Neill, Noel Leahy. **Front Row** (left to right): Michael Keogh, Kieran Morrissey, Martin Kennedy, Ray Coady (captain), Jim White, Eddie Duggan, Michael Skehan, Philip Skehan, Paul White, Gerry Bolger. (Missing from photo: Fintan Morrissey, Donal O'Brien).

WHEN the annals of the C. J. Kickhams club in Mullinahone come to be written, the year 1988 will rank with the best. It was a year of five finals, four of them in hurling at under-12, under-16, under-21 and junior level and one in football at under-21. It was a year when the young men of Mullinahone restored the parish's pride and when the hope of future glories was awakened in our minds.

1988 was the year of a gallant double in South Tipp, courtesy of our under-21 hurlers and footballers; count it a treble if you include the success of our under-16 hurlers. It was the year that John Leahy became the first Mullinahone hurler to play in a senior All-Ireland final for Tipperary. In 1988 Mullinahone picked up three national medals in Croke Park on National League Sunday. John Leahy played in the League final but Martin Kennedy and Gerry Bolger had been winners of All-Ireland Vocational Schools medals earlier in the afternoon. Later in the year, Tony Dalton brought another All-Ireland medal to the parish when he helped Callan C.B.S. win the All-Ireland under-14½ title in Dundalk. Fabulous rations for a club used to dining on hurling's crumbs.

Earlier in the season Scoil Ruain, Killenaule, had a sextet of Mullinahone players in their ranks as they sought All-Ireland glory, having scored a glorious double in Munster at under-15 level. They failed but the fault did not lie with the Skehans — Michael and Philip — Brian O'Meara, John Hennessy, Dessie McGrath or Stephen O'Brien.

Declan McNamara only fell at the final hurdle in his bid to be part of the Tipp under-14 hurling team which won the Forristal Tournament in Waterford Glass — a mini All-Ireland series. Nigel Gunn was captain of Scoil Ruain's all-conquering teams in the vocational schools championship.

Sean Brett and John Leahy were outstanding for Tipp's under-21 footballers as they went down narrowly to Cork in Clonmel in the championship. Sean later in the year played both junior and senior football for Tipperary. On Sunday, November 6th, Sean Brett scored for Tipp footballers in Cashel as did John Leahy for the hurlers in Thurles. Mullinahone was the club in the county to have players on both teams.

The previous day in Kilsheelan, John and Sean had both combined with their peers to defeat Carrick Swan in a replayed South Tipp under-21 football final. In the second half that day the team played magnificently to power to a 4-10 to 1-3 victory having been led at half-time by 1-2 to 1-1.

Even our former players had their hours of glory. At home Davy Hearne was captain of the Killenaule team which won its first South Tipp hurling title in 25 years. Jackie Bolger also won a South Tipp senior hurling medal that day. Abroad, the good news continued. In New York Ollie Maher was a fine left full-back on the Tipperary team which won the New York championship for the second year in a row. Back home again, it was another All-



C. J. KICKHAMS, MULLINAHONE — SOUTH TIPP U-16 "B" HURLING CHAMPIONS 1988

Back row: T. Cahill, B. Cahill, N. Keating, T. Dalton, P. Lynch, M. Knox, B. O'Meara, P. Skehan, T. McNamara, M. Keating, J. O'Brien, S. O'Brien. **Front row:** M. O'Connell, G. Dalton, E. O'Brien, P. Croke, K. McGuire, M. Skehan (capt.), J. Hennessy, D. McNamara, J. O'Shea, A. Fox, M. Cahill, L. Walsh.

Ireland final appearance, this time in football by Jim White. Jim only failed to win an All-Ireland medal in extra time when Kildalton went down in the Agricultural Colleges' final

A WISE MOVE

Our year began with our A.G.M. in January. Richie Sheehan was returned as chairman as was secretary Dick Egan and treasurer John Foxe. The wisest move of the meeting was to enter parish teams in the "Under-21 B" championships. Those of little faith said we wouldn't have enough players to field teams. Courage carried the day and Albert Curran and his colleagues raided the highways and byways of the parish and produced a squad of determined players who were to become the year's heroes before 1988 was ended.

Our senior footballers — a St. Patrick's/Mullinahone combination — never impressed in their preparations and went tamely out of the championship to Cahir.



Mr. Hugh Madden, President of the C. J. Kickham Club, is pictured above presenting John Leahy with a special gift on behalf of the club of the occasion of his birthday and also being the first man from Mullinahone to play on the Tipperary hurling team. Many of John's team mates turned up for the presentation.

In junior hurling we defeated Fr. Sheehy's in round one, helped by a flood of first-half goals. In round two Skeheenarinky opened up a thirteen-point half-time lead but a combination of the elements, super displays in the second half by a number of players, and the scoring power of John Leahy saw us surge back to a fine victory in probably the best junior hurling match of the year in South Tipp.

In the semi-final we won a psychological battle to oust Ballingarry and qualified for the final against Moyle Rovers. On final day a number of our established stars failed to even twinkle and Moyle Rovers



C. J. KICKHAMS, MULLINAHONE — U-21 SOUTH CHAMPIONS 1988

Back row: E. O'Keefe, M. Kehoe, J. Leahy, J. White, P. Egan, J. O'Neill, M. Scott (captain), S. Brett, L. O'Connor. **Front row:** R. Cody, N. Leahy, P. White, M. Kennedy, P. Skehan, M. Skehan, G. Bolger, E. Duggan. (Missing from photo: J. Brett).

took their chance. Later in the year our under-21 hurlers showed the value of determination as they battled like men for a title that nobody was going to hand to them. Only four of those under-21s were thought worthy of a full hour's action in the junior final.

Our minor hurlers and footballers were young sides and didn't threaten seriously for honours, though the hurlers had a good win over Killenaule. Next year we hope to be stronger. For the fifth year in a row our intermediate footballers failed to reach the divisional final. Of the old guard, only L. Phelan and A. Curran still inspire followers. A change of attitude and style seems to be called for before success can be contemplated.

Early in the year the club entered Scór 1988 and won three competitions at South level. Solo song went to Michael Hennessy, question time was won by Rickie Sheehan, Dick Egan and Paddy Hickey. The latter two plus Bridget and Michael Quirke with Breda Kehoe and Willie Egan won the novelty act. None of the groups managed to pull off a county title.

A NIGHT TO REMEMBER

The night of John Leahy's birthday presentation will long be remembered in Mullinahone. As the crowds danced and sang in the streets the encribed words on the Tipperary crystal presented to John on behalf of the club and its supporters by club president Hugh Madden said it all: "John Leahy, during 1988 your hurling skills brought honour to Mullinahone".

Our thanks to County Secretary Tommy Barrett, South Board Chairman Con Hogan, County selector Theo English, County players Pa O'Neill, Pat Fox, Declan Ryan, Donie O'Connell and

Nicky English for attending this birthday presentation celebration.

Our thanks also to Richard Stakelum who visited us early in the year to present medals to our juveniles. An inspiring and gentlemanly guest he proved to be and exceedingly popular. Our juveniles had an enjoyable year, losing the under-12 hurling final to Ballingarry in an epic game.

We had successful hurling and football courses during the summer. We paid a most enjoyable visit to Templederry in August. On November 12th the year's work was crowned when we obtained revenge on Ballingarry by defeating them in the under-16 hurling final. We look forward to even better things in 1989.

What does the future hold? More representation at county level? Come September 1989 could the Skehans or Martin Kennedy win minor hurling medals on the same day that John Leahy brings home a big one to Mullinahone? Will there be places on the under-21 or junior hurling teams for goalie Liam O'Connor, Jim O'Neill or Sean Brett? Can Sean and Tipperary footballers come out of the doldrums? At junior hurling level can we come back from defeat to take the 1989 title? *Che sera, sera*, as the song says: *Whatever will be, will be*, but our faithful followers can be assured, and their numbers are growing, that a new spirit of hope flickers within the club. We look forward in the not-too-distant future to the return of ancient glories. The results of recent times are promising indeed.

In Holycross on Sunday morning, November 13th, Mullinahone under-21 hurlers won their way to the under-21 "B" hurling final when they defeated Emly 2-10 to 2-5. It was another favourable omen.

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Report on juvenile coaching course — Summer 1988

THE course was organised in accordance with recommendations made by Comhairle na Mumhan and a Coaching Programme was prepared and forwarded to an Coiste Chontae prior to its commencement.

The organisation of the course in South Tipperary was undertaken by a Committee which comprised the Officers of South Senior Board and Bórd na nÓg. The following guidelines were set up:

1. **Age Group:** It was decided to concentrate on 8-14 years.
2. **Course to be run on a club basis:** Clubs to be responsible for organisation within the club area and to liaise with the Primary Schools.
3. **Course Duration:** It was agreed to operate over a six week period in June and July. It was not feasible to run in August because of holidays. As the Primary schools were open for the beginning of the course they were circulated with all details and their co-operation was sought. This was readily forthcoming.
4. **Coaches:** The Joint Committee over a number of meetings by selection and interview appointed the following coaches — Colm O'Flaherty (Cahir), Ger O'Mahoney (Commercials) in football and Bernad O'Neill (Swan) and Ger Deeley (St. Mary's) in hurling.
5. **Sessions:** Two sessions per day for each code were planned as follows: 2.00-3.30 and 4.00 to 5.30. Monday to Friday. This gave each club a total of six sessions or nine hours in each code. The coaches worked 15 hours per week excluding travelling time.

The course was launched on June 14th at a reception kindly given by Bank of Ireland in Clonmel.

The Bank expressed a desire to be associated with the coaching programme and agreed to sponsor a skills award in both hurling and football. It was decided that the coaches would nominate a player from each group who would go forward to finals with the overall winner in each code to receive a set of playing gear and a trip to the All-Ireland hurling final.

This sponsorship which was the brainchild of Bank Manager Mr. Freddie Hatton gave an added incentive to the players and proved very successful.

The course was held over a 6 week period 20th June to 29th July incl.

The programme was completed as scheduled and only one club — Killenaule failed to participate. The numbers

attending varied due to many factors — holidays, weather etc. but all clubs were delighted with the response. The coaches won the highest praise for their efforts and they showed their enthusiasm and interest by continuing to assist clubs following the completion of the scheme. The coaches completed and submitted weekly reports on the progress of the scheme.

At the conclusion of the course two Saturdays were set aside for the **Skills Finals**. On August 13 seventeen young hurlers gathered in Clonmel Sportsfield to show their skills and after a very good competition Michael English of Ballybacon-Grange proved a worthy winner. County hurlers Donie O'Connell and John Leahy were introduced to the boys and minerals and crisps were provided.

On the following Saturday the football programme was completed with the officers of the County Football Board among the attendance. The winner here was Colm O'Flaherty of Cahir.

Such was the interest and enthusiasm shown that the organising committee decided to award trophies to those placed 2nd and 3rd in the competitions and the Bank of Ireland generously covered the cost and hosted a reception for the winners.

The organising committee has also decided to present a certificate to each boy who participated in the coaching course during the summer and these certs are at present being distributed through the clubs.



Pictured at the opening of the Tipperary G.A.A. story and the launching of the juvenile coaching scheme. L-R: H. Kennedy, M. McCarthy, M. O'Meara, J. O'Donnell, B.O.I., W. Barrett, J. Doyle, T. Hatton, B.O.I., Theo English, M. Torpey, B.O.I., M. Walsh, C. Hogan, M. O'Connor. Front row: Paddy Nagle, P. O'Halloran, Eddie Lonergan, J. Collins.



Pictured at the launching of the juvenile coaching scheme last June at B.O.I., O'Connell Street, Clonmel. L-R: Paddy Nagle, Chairman, South Bórd na nÓg; B. O'Neill, hurling coach; G. Deeley, hurling coach; G. O'Mahony, football coach; T. Hatton, manager; Con Hogan, chairman, South Board; Colm O'Flaherty, football coach was unavoidably absent.

1928 recalled – Tipperary beat Kerry Footballers

THE last time that Tipperary beat Kerry in the Munster senior football championship was sixty years ago this year. The historic occasion was at Tipperary Town on July 8, 1928 when the footballers of the Premier County defeated the premier footballers in the county by 1-7 to 2-3.

Hopes weren't too bright beforehand. The game hadn't been flourishing as well as previously, mainly due to emigration. During the previous four or five years Tipperary footballers were simply streaming out of Cogh and it was claimed that if the emigrants could be brought back, it would be possible to field a team which could well stand up to Kerry.

PREVIEW

However, things weren't too bad. A good team had been selected with representatives from Templemore, Fethard, Clonmel, Ardfinnan, Kilsheelan, Mullinahone and Carrick. According to the preview in 'The Tipperary Star' while Kerry would start as favourites, Tipperary could spring a surprise. "The home side tomorrow will have the services of T. Carthy, that robust member of the Garda Síochána, who captained Dublin last year. Con Keane, the brilliant Cashel hurler, who played so well against Clare in Thurles a fortnight ago, is also on the team. Versatility par excellence! Further powerful aid to the Tipp. side will be lent by the services of T. Lee, that brilliant footballer from 'the Glen'. During his time in U.C.C. Tom Lee played consistently good football and he has already done wonderful work in inter-county games for the old county. Tipperary can regard itself as being lucky to have him tomorrow".

PREPARATION

A big crowd was expected. Special trains ran from Waterford, Carrick-on-Suir, Clonmel and from Templemore, Thurles via Fethard and Clonmel. There was also a special from Tralee. The Kerry team arrived in Tipperary on Saturday evening and were treated well. Rumour had it they were taken out to the Glen and 'tanked up'! Perhaps their hosts were taking literally an exhortation that appeared in the 'Tipperary Star', which stated: 'It is hoped that a special effort will be made to cater for the excursionists and that nobody will be sent home hungry or thirsty'.

THE GAME

The match was played in 'Pat McGrath's Field' at the back of the Old Workhouse and although the weather

By Seamus J. King

was ideal, only about 4,000 people turned up. Obviously, not many were giving the home side much of a chance. Kerry played with the wind in the first half and were behind by 1-5 to 0-2 at the interval. Tipperary had played well and the goal by P. Kenny of Carrick had given them great heart. However, it appeared that Kerry, with the aid of the wind would get back on top in the second half. They came out a changed team after the interval and began to attack like demons. But they met powerful opposition from a determined Tipperary side and in the course of the thirty minutes could score only 2-1 while the home side notched up two more points to be ahead by 1-7 to 2-3 at the final whistle. The result was a sensation.

A number of factors contributed to Tipperary's victory. The selection committee had made a good choice. The team stuck to its task with determination for a gruelling sixty minutes. There was also the fact that Kerry had approached the game in a casual way and only woke up to the fact of having a fight on their hands in the second half. Finally there was the magnificent defence of the home backs who held out against desperate onslaughts from the visitors in the second half.

A PYRRHIC VICTORY

An extraordinary feature of the game was the number of Tipperary casualties. All four reserves were used. Yet the match could not be described as rough.



Tom Lee in 1988 at the reception by the Cashel Urban District Council for his brother Very Rev. Dean Christopher Lee, D.D., P.P. of Cashel.

The two worst casualties were purely accidental and the others were attributed to the zeal with which the players got down to their work. Tom Lee, one of the last surviving members of the team, recalls the injuries: 'J. Davey of Templemore broke his leg that day. He and John Joe Sheehy were running at the ball from opposite directions. Both drew at it on the ground. John Joe's boot hit Davey in the middle of the shin and the bone broke like a stick. The sound of it was heard around the field. 'It made me sick', I can truthfully say. Davey was, of course, taken off and never played again. He was an awful loss to us, as he beat John Joe completely that day'. In fact two hurleys were used as splints for his leg.

Tom Lee continues: "Towards the end of the match Tom Carthy sprained his ankle, having jumped into a hole, made by young lads in the field. He, so far as I remember never played again. He was a terrible loss".

TEAM

The winning side was as follows: John Watson (Fethard), M. Barry (Bansha), R. Heffernan (Clonmel), R. Mockler (Mullinahone), J. Davey (Templemore), J. O'Leary (Ardfinnan), E. Lonergan (Ardfinnan), T. McCarthy (Guards), T. Lee (Drumcondra), W. Barrett (Mullinahone), C. Keane (Army), D. Mullins (Fethard), P. Arrigan (Carrick-on-Suir), T. O'Keefe (Kilsheelan), P. Kenny (Carrick-on-Suir). The substitutes were: G. Croke, J. Scott, M. Maher, M. Strapp.

MUNSTER FINAL

The final against Cork was fixed for Dungarvan on August 5 and Tipperary followers were fairly hopeful after the great display against Kerry. Cork were winners of ten Munster finals and Tipperary were two behind with eight. The result was another surprise. Cork were superior in all points of the game and won comprehensively by 4-3 to 0-4 before an attendance of nearly seven thousand. The defeat was attributed to many causes but the principal one was Tipperary's over-confidence going into the game. The losers were also undertrained and lacked completely the fighting spirit displayed against Kerry. On top of all Cork proved a much better team than anticipated. They led by 2-1 to 0-3 at half-time.

MEMORIES

Tom Lee recalls: "I have very unhappy memories of that match. I was very tired (having stayed in Ring on Saturday night and walked with Michéal O'Connghaola (R.I.P.) across the



TIPPERARY SENIOR FOOTBALL TEAM 1928

(Last Tipperary team to beat Kerry in the Munster Senior Football Championship. The semi-final encounter was played at Tipperary on July 8, 1928 and Tipperary won by 1-7 to 2-3. Alas, Cork beat them in the Munster Final by 4-3 to 0-4 at Dungarvan, four weeks later.)

Back Row (left to right): W. Barrett (Mullinahone), Jack Scott (Mullinahone), (non-player, J. McNamara, Cahir), Michael Barry (Bansha), Mick Strappe (Kilsheelan), Jack Weston (Fethard), Dick Mockler (Mullinahone), J. Croke (Mullinahone), D. Heffernan (Clonmel), (non-player without cap, Eddie Donoghue, Tipperary), Tom Lee (Bansha). **Middle Row** (left to right): Tom Carthy (Clonmel), Dan Mullins (Fethard), Ned Lonergan (Ardfinnan), M. Maher (Clareen), J. Davy (Templemore). **Front Row** (left to right): P. J. Kenny (Carrick-on-Suir), Con Keane (Cashel), J. O'Leary (Ardfinnan), P. Arrigan (Grangemockler), T. O'Keefe (Kilsheelan).

Coinigear on Sunday morning). Also, an unbelievable thing happened during the match, a few minutes before the end. I was about forty yards from our goal. The ball had been kicked in high from midfield and, as it passed over my head, I heard a whistling sound from it. Dick Heffernan, our fullback, ran towards it, caught it, only to find it flatten in his hands, with the air still whistling out of it. It fell to the ground and did not hop. Dick picked it up again and held it up in one hand, shouting at the referee that the ball was punctured. He, of course, didn't understand what was going on and did not blow the whistle. A Cork forward ran in and fisted the deflated ball to the net. We remonstrated but to no avail. The flag was put up and the goal stood. We lost the match.

"What happened was that the lacing of the ball opened, the nozzle of the bladder had come out and lost its tying. It was useless arguing with the referee. I never heard of such a thing happening before or since. Kildare easily defeated Cork in the subsequent match. Arbh aiteas go dti e?"

The defeated side was: J. Weston (Fethard), D. Mullins (Fethard), R.

Heffernan (Clonmel), M. Barry (Galtee Rovers), R. Mockler, M. Nolan and W. Barrett (Mullinahone), T. Lanigan (Grangemockler), J. O'Leary, E. Lonergan (Ardfinnan), P. Arrigan, P. Kenny (Carrick-on-Suir), T. O'Keefe (Kilsheelan), C. Keane (Army), T. Lee (Drumcondra).

POSTSCRIPT

Four members of the panel survive sixty years later. As well as Tom Lee the survivors include Tommy O'Keefe, Mick Barry and Jack Scott. Tom Lee and Connie Keane were picked for Munster the following year. Ten Kerry players were included. Tom Lee takes up the story: 'Kerry wanted their own centrefield so I had to play in the half-forward line. I kept passing balls to the other Kerry forwards who, strange to say, were making poor use of them. (I never played in the forward line in my life and so had no confidence in my shot). I remember John Joe Sheehy shouting to me to shoot myself. Anyway, Munster were beaten.

In January 1932, Tom Lee became Professor of History and Geography in St. Patrick's Teacher Training College, Drumcondra. He began playing football

with the college team, Erin's Hope, and won the Dublin senior championship in 1933. The team included Brendan nestor of Galway, Murt Kelly of Kerry, Willie Connolly of Cavan, Colm Boland of Westmeath and Sean Feeney of Waterford.

While he was still in St. Patrick's someone in Radio Eireann had the bright idea of having an Irish broadcast of the St. Patrick's Day matches. Tom Lee continues: "They approached me and I consented. It proved no trouble from the language point of view but it was impossible for me to recognise the players on the field — men from different parts of two provinces, most of whom were never before seen in Croke Park. The broadcasting box was very high up in the stand — it was small — water and steam streaming down the panes of glass. The window could not be opened because of the shouting. D'éirigh leis an iarracht, deirtear, ach caithfidh mé admháil gur thugas moladh san áit nár tuilleadh agus is eagal lion gur fhágas ina éamais go minic an té, a thuill. Ach b'in í an chéad uair ó aimsir na bhFianna fadó, is dócha, a craoladh cluiche i dteanga na Gaeilge".

Up for the match

Seamus Leahy

"DO you know that I'm going to tell you?" said the man with the Large Bottle and the Small Glass. It was an October evening and he was bringing the brother — home from America — up to date on the events of the year. "I said to the Missus when we were making the sandwiches on the Saturday night, that, win or lose, the All-Ireland of 1988 was going to be the most exciting we had ever been at. Whatever happens tomorrow, says I, we're back in Croke Park where we belong. A Tipp team will march behind the Artane Boys, we'll hear 'Slievenamon' at half-time, the lads will hurl like Tipp teams always hurled in the All Ireland and for the first time in seventeen years we'll have our heads up and our chests out and we won't be sitting at home watching it all on the box wondering what it's like to be in an All-Ireland nowadays".

Don't talk to me (he continued) of the great days when it was no novelty for us to be in Croke Park. We beat Cork, we saved the hay and we brought the Cup down from the station on the Monday night after the All-Ireland and gave it to the Archbishop to mind for us until the next year. No noise, no ballyhoo about it — it was all a matter of course, like having your breakfast after the milking, only it never struck any of us that a good few years could ever pass without our having the Cup to bring home.

Seventeen years is a long time, and when you have been without something you're attached to for seventeen years, you come to appreciate it all the more. That's why I said to the Missus that this year's All-Ireland was going to be the most satisfying ever for Tipp. I remember one evening at Tubberadora Cross the lads were all discussing the things that made them right hungry. One fellow said there was nothing to make you hungry like hoeing turnips, another said pulling beet was worse and another fellow again said that the worst thing of all was a night on the river. But Danny Dwyer said that nothing made him as wall-fallen with the hunger as being a long time without anything to eat. And that's the way it was with ourselves and the All-Ireland this year. We were all wall-fallen with the hunger for it.

Somebody told me of an important clergyman from Carlow — well, he was something higher than a parish-priest — who said that every New Year's Day when he's wake up in the morning he'd say to himself that maybe this year Carlow will win the All-Ireland. Would you believe there were New Year's mornings when I had to admit to myself that we had about as much chance of winning the McCarthy Cup as Carlow had.

But I said to myself after Killarney last year that things would never be quite as bad again and through all last Winter and into the spring we all knew that it would



Back row (left to right) — B. Boyle, L. Boyle, J. Boyle, C. Fitzpatrick, K. Boyle — all from Clonmel.

take more than fifteen Corkmen to keep us out of Croke Park. Pa O'Neill gave us a taste of things to come when he brought home the National League Cup and by the time we got to late August the excitement was getting too much for us and women were hiding the 'Star' because all the tension was getting to be too much for us and it was all costing a fortune on the blood-pressure tables. But through the whole thing we knew that, whatever else happened, the boys wouldn't let us alone and we knew that if they didn't win, it wouldn't be for the want of trying.

"What way will ya go up tomorrow?" a fellow asked me on the Saturday — every Clonmelman has to make up his mind which of the roads to Dublin he will take. "We're going through Kilkenny", he said, "so that we can give the Kilkenny fellows the razz on the way".

But, tempting and all as it was to go up through Kilkenny with our flags flying, I decided that the proper route to take would be the one that would keep us for the longest possible time in Tipperary. Up we'd go through Cashel and on through the Horse and Jockey and we wouldn't be in foreign territory until we got beyond Mary Willies.

There's something different about a Sunday morning when Tipp are in an All-Ireland — I've noticed it ever since 1945. You can feel it was soon as you wake up, a kind of electricity in the air that makes it different from all other mornings. Father Dollard used say that when Tipp. were playing he only had to look at Slievenamon in the morning and if there was a cloud over it he knew Tipp. would lose. It goes without saying that in those days there weren't that many clouds —

not on Slievenamon anyway. But, however, I looked out the back window and there was Slievenamon looking as fine as ever I saw it with the dark blue of its crown shoved up into the gold of the sun. "Get up, lads", I shouted, "We're home and dried".

It wasn't yet nine o'clock when we got into Cashel but already the whole country was on the move. I'll say this about the young fellows nowadays — they know how to do things when it comes to supporting a team. Every car on the road was weighed down with youngsters with red faces shining under blue and gold caps, with blue and gold armbands, blue and gold neckties and blue and gold flags.

"Do ye know what we'll do?", I said. "We'll drive through Boherlahan just for luck and then we'll be satisfied that we have done everything that can be done". So off we turned from the main road and down through Boherlahan and Holycross to rejoin the main road at Littleton. And as we passed along through Tubberadora I said I'd try a few quiet prayers on the proceedings —

"Mikey Maher, pray for us
Johnny Leahy, pray for us
Johnny Walsh, pray for us
Johnny Connolly, pray for us
From loose forwards, Jack Power
deliver us
From goalmouth melees, Jimmy
Maher save us
From mishit frees, Arthur Donnelly
save us . . ."

It mightn't do any good, I said to myself, but it definitely won't do any harm. So I told the story of the morning the lads were going to play Cork and Fr. John Joe Meagher suggested that they should drop

into a church and say a prayer. But Arthur put his foot down. "No, father," he said. "We'll beat them fair or we won't beat them at all".

By the time we got to Portlaoise it seemed that all Tipp was on the road and when the two streams of traffic — the one from South Tipp and the one from North Tipp — came together we began congratulating ourselves on having got on the road early. There would be nothing moving by 12 o'clock, we told one another at Kildare, and by the time we got into Dublin and ate the sandwiches it was time to be getting on to Croke Park.

At barricades and at the canal bridge the ticket-sellers were doing a roaring trade and I saw a man wearing a blue and gold cap paying twenty pounds for a terrace ticket. "I wouldn't give it to her", I advised him as he handed over his money to a strap with a Dublin accent. "'Tis all right for you", says he, "you have a ticket. Anyway, 'tis worth it. I haven't missed a match this year and I'm not going to miss this". Me poor man, says I to myself, there's many a one sitting inside now who are going to see their first match of the year. And if they had to stand on the terrace, they wouldn't be here at all because they wouldn't have that much interest in it. And if there were no tickets and if everyone had to queue to get in, they'd be at home watching it on television. But you, me poor man, you'd be out there when the gates opened queuing to get in whether it was wet or fine.

Still, when we got through the stiles and saw Hill 16 like a great forest of blue and gold we forgot all our grouses and we told one another that it was worth waiting seventeen years for. Everywhere we looked there were Tipperary flags and Tipperary faces and none of the faces were tense but all excited and glowing with pleasure that we were back where we belonged. We had nothing to be tense about. We knew that, whatever the final result, the lads wouldn't let us down and that at the end of the 70 minutes we'd still be proud of them. So when the team burst out of the tunnel the roar we let had all seventeen years of waiting wrapped in it. You remember what your man the poet said —

"A shout that tore Hell's concave
and beyond
Frightened the reign of chaos and
old night".

But we didn't frighten the Galway fellows and at half-time when we were all standing around saying we thought we had them, Seán Purcell of Galway — the greatest footballer of them all — whispered as he passed me, "Don't count yer chickens — our lads aren't finished yet".

Well their lads weren't finished and when Noel Lane rounded Conor Donovan for the goal that should never have happened, we finally knew that we would have to wait another year and a day for the march through Liberty Square with the cup.

But do you know what I'm going to tell



Happy Tipperary supporters from Thurles and Clonmel.

you? (said the man with the Large Bottle and the Small Glass), I was never as proud in my life of a team as I was when the final whistle went. They had done everything that young fellows could do — not just for those seventy minutes but through the Winter and Spring and Summer — to give us the McCarthy Cup. They had played their hearts out, they hadn't hit a stroke that you'd be ashamed of, and with the smallest bit of luck they would have pulled it off. What more do people expect from them? When I hear fellows who should know better giving out about them and making stupid remarks such as 'Nickey English is only a mediocre oul' forward anyway' (Did you ever hear the beat of that!), I always think that it's surprising how people can lose their

sense of fair play — and their sense of common gratitude.

The lads who wore the blue and gold against Galway were lads you'd be proud of anywhere and the ordinary people of Tipperary showed what they thought of them when they turned out in their thousands and thousands to welcome them home. The heart of the old county is still sound — from the young lads from Ardfinnan who carried the big banner on Hill 16 to the lads out on the field — there's not the likes of them anywhere. And if only their elders would give them due credit, there wouldn't be any fear of us for '89 or for any other year either. 'Twas a great year to be alive and with the help of God and Nioclás and boys we'll have many another like it — and even better.



Enjoying the All-Ireland: The Egan family from Borrisokane.

Memories of Fifty-Eight

By John O'Grady

Eighty-eight minus thirty makes a nice round sum of 58. The mathematics are undeniable, much as certain people — notably myself — would like to dispute the stretch of time between then and now. It just doesn't feel like three decades since Tony Wall accepted the McCarthy Cup from Dr. Stuart, Association President — as happy a delivery as the famous gynaecologist ever supervised!

THE ALL-IRELAND of 1958 got plenty of mention during the extensive build-up to this year's final. We who were on that team were not heard to object; it's nice to be remembered in the context of victory. Some of us were flatteringly asked to do interviews with television on the "media evening" near the end of the training. My own words of wisdom however, proved superfluous to requirements, but thank you, Mick Dunne, all the same. The coincidence of Tipp. meeting Galway for the first time in thirty years was what hauled that year out of the dry archives and enabled us to compete with the '88 men in the publicity stakes. And, with all due respect to them, they did not bring home what we did. The balance of power has most certainly shifted since then.

"I remember it well" — and without the string of inaccuracies Maurice Chevalier perpetrates in that recording. My files are there to consult, in any case. Since it was the only championship I played in, the feat of memory is nothing wonderful. Now, a man like John Doyle — he had trouble recalling anything about the '58 final when "marking" Joe Salmon in the Saturday night show on RTE. Some Galway folk thought this rather dismissive of the West, but they weren't allowing for Doyle's vast career and the blurring of recollection it had to entail.

1958 VICTORY UNDERVALUED

I do get the impression that 1958 is undervalued. Not so when it was won. Backs were slapped and captain chaired and proper joy was conveyed in the local papers with large headlines, voluminous reports and no lack of pictures. It was a "come-back" for Tipperary after barren years since 1951. But later history left it isolated as the only victory between '51 and '61 and looking, therefore, like a one-off success, less glamorous than the four wins in the '60's which certainly marked a "golden age" in our county's story. Another factor in reducing the status of '58 was what happened in '59 — the year of eight Waterford goals in the first half at Cork and the prompt surrender of the national title.

The real reason, though, for regarding '58 without much awe is clear to me when somebody asks: "who did ye beat that yer?". They mean in the final, of course. "Galway? Oh, I see." One is tempted to furnish them with a fuller rundown of that year. This would reveal that the '58 team beat the All-Ireland winners of both '57 and '59 — Kilkenny and Waterford — and also beat rather prominent counties, quite well able to hurl, like Limerick and Cork. And not too many Tipp. teams have had to defeat five counties to secure that precious Cup. So you'll pardon me if I express quite a warm regard for '58.

Well, what was I doing on the team anyway? Trying to stop goals, I suppose. Seriously, what you mean is: how come you got in for that year, and no other? The truth is that my Tipp. senior career was shortened by two different parties — the selectors and myself. They shortened it in one direction, and I in the other. I'll explain. The Tipp. net was guarded as brilliantly as a net could be, by Tony Reddan from 1949 to 1955. No disputing that. The reserve position was like the U.C. vice-presidency, an office unlikely to matter in practical terms. The club champions in most years give it to their own 'keeper, and I was in faraway Cork playing for U.C.C., and then for Blackrock up to 1955.

Even my return to Moycarkey-Borris for '56 and '57 did not alter the pattern, despite the form shown in a county trial early in '57 with the "Possibles" against Tipp's presumed best. Reddan was in the opposite goal. When it came to July, neither of us was on the selection that lost to Cork. That's the front end of the story. The other end is that, having come in at the ripe age of twenty-seven and becoming conscious of blurring eye-sight, I said "thank you very much" and retired off the team. Later, with the aid of plastic, non-shatter glasses I came back into club hurling until the mid-sixties. Odd? If you weren't a little odd, you'd never be a goalkeeper.



TIPPERARY — ALL-IRELAND SENIOR HURLING CHAMPIONS 1958

Back Row (left to right): N. Murphy, J. McGrath, M. Maher, K. Carey, L. Keane, J. Hough, L. Devaney, John Doyle, J. Finn, M. Burns, R. Reidy. **Front Row** (left to right): M. Maher, L. Connolly, Jimmy Doyle, T. Larkin, T. English, T. Wall, J. O'Grady, M. Byrne, D. Nealon, T. Moloney.

Hopes were not high at the start of '58. Tipp. did nothing much in the League and the pre-championship months were devoted to trials and tournaments. A very useful exercise was an inter-divisional series which finished at Nenagh with Mid against North. Out of that came two players destined to loom large and long — Kieran Carey and Donie Nealon. Carey was from the Kyle-Knock border area with Laois; Nealon was Roddy's son, a guarantee of hurling blood, though he'd never played minor for Tipp. and had made his first impact with St. Flannan's in the Harty Cup. On the winning Mid team was a young lad who'd been pitchforked in, none too happily, the previous summer against Cork — Jimmy Doyle, who was to make his senior name on an August Sunday.

THE MUNSTER CHAMPIONSHIP

Limerick had been runners-up in a highly-praised League Final with Wexford and so were regarded as favourites for the first round against Tipp. in Cork. In particular, a strong full-forward named Mick Tynan was considered quite a threat, while there was a flier called Vivian Cobbe on the wing. I was personally happy to be playing in "the Park" because of the Blackrock connection, knowing there would be good-will from the locals to me, if not to Tipp. The midweek news of the absence of Maher was not so encouraging. Paddy Leahy was chairman of selectors, doyen of the corps. Philly O'Dwyer, Jim Stapleton, Paddy Kenny and Martin Kennedy were his partners. They placed Carey at fullback, Noel Murphy at number five. John Doyle was left corner, Mickey Byrne on the right. Theo English and John Hough were midfield. The attack was without the injured Devaney. Right through the year it was subject to revision. In Cork it featured Johnny Murphy (Cashel), Leo Dooley (Roscrea) at full-forward with "Musha" Maher also on the inside line. The others were Doyle, Nealon and Connolly.

For threequarters of a moderate game Limerick were nicely placed as Tipp's attack never got going. Jimmy Doyle's goal from a "21" put the sides level and within minutes the game had turned our way. Devaney had come on for Hough at midfield and Larkin for "Musha" Maher. The margin finished as a double-score and a very welcome win, 2-10 to 1-5. The backs, led by Finn's great display and with Carey blotting out Tynan had held it together till things brightened up at the other end. We travelled home with a rising sense of optimism, having already done better than many had expected, and very eager to take on Cork.

Carey's definite arrival and Maher's availability squeezed out the slim and skilful Noel Murphy from wingback. Carey went left-corner and John Doyle to the wing in front of him. I don't suppose Tipp. fielded many better sextets than Byrne, Maher, Carey, Finn, Wall, Doyle. They stayed in that formation and got better from game to game.

For the game with Cork, several changes were made. Ray Reidy was midfield with English. Larry Keane came in

at centreforward and Johnny McGrath (Nenagh) at full-forward. Larry's arrival was to be blessed with the great bonus of the goal that swung the match to Tipp. Cork got two goals in the first half, from Ring and Dowling — neither of them, ones a 'keeper could be proud of — and we were still behind with less than ten minutes to go. Then Keane placed a flashing left-hander past Cashman to equalise and Doyle and Devaney capped the rally with the two points which formed the winning margin. I was pleased to make a last-minute stop from a low drive by Liam Dowling — a final plus, against the earlier minus. The real credit on the day went to our majestic half-backs and English's midfield industry. We'd beaten Cork — for the first time since 1951 — and by now were much better regarded.

Munster still wasn't won. Waterford were provincial champions — they'd been most unlucky not to be All-Ireland winners, too, in 1957. Gallantly they came to Thurles for the final. In front of almost 50,000 people, they were hammered to an amazing extend, 4-12 to 1-5 in spite of Frankie Walsh matching Larry Keane's instant goal. Our forward sector had by now become more settled. Nealon, Larkin, Doyle, Keane, McGrath, Connolly. John Hough was restored to midfield. John Doyle got the "Independent's" star-of-the-week award, a fine endorsement of his new career at wing-back.

JIMMY DOYLE SUPERB

On to August and the game everyone regarded as the actual All-Ireland. Kilkenny were champions and all fired-up to break the so-called hoodoo going back to 1922. We trained with grim resolve to preserve the sequence at least another year. One thing I do recall was going into the dressingroom at the Sportsfield to hear the radio commentary on an event that had the athletics world very excited — the mile race at Santry Stadium. Herb Elliott set a new world record — and we went back out to resume operations.

I have preserved Michael O'Hehir's radio coverage on tape, and still feel a thrill at hearing him greet Jimmy Doyle's goal from a free just before half-time. "People were asking when was Jimmy going to have a great game. Well, today's the day. "Up to then, Kilkenny had the better of it in pouring rain and in a Croke Park holding a record 54,000 for a semifinal — it still stands — and looking decidedly top-sided, with the new Hogan Stand under construction. Nobody was let in that side except a few important persons, such as Dr. Kinane of Cashel and Emly and his entourage.

The first half was a relentless battle in terrible conditions, fought at breakneck pace. Dick Rockett goaled an angled ground shot after about a quarter and we really had to hang on or be pushed into fatal arrears. The mood was transformed by Jimmy's goal. From the start, and an immediate beautiful point from the Cusack touchline, he had the better of Paddy Buggy. The future president played him with a firmness that was admirable, if

not unanimously applauded by the losing followers, who would have liked to see Johnny McGovern switched over to the wing where the damage was being done, but he was occupied with Nealon.

Doyle finished up with 1-8 out of 1-13, exactly matching Kilkenny's total off his own stick. The margin through the second half was never absolutely decisive but the morale was with Tipp. Kilkenny compounded their problems with several poor frees from reasonable ground. Sean Clohosey giving Jimmy Finn a deal of trouble, won several of those frees. Mick Maher had his personal best day of the year at fullback against the bustling Billy Dwyer. Nealon replaced Hough at midfield to good effect. Tom Larking coming in as a sub in the attack, as did "Musha" Maher in the second half for McGrath. In the closing minutes our backs stood up to fierce pressure, every clearance bringing the ref's whistle nearer, until he finally signalled the best triumph of '58, the dethronement of the champions. Ollie Walsh made it his business to come and shake hands — nice gesture in a bitter moment for the great 'keeper.

THE FINAL

Less need be said of the final. We approached it with a sort of confident unease. Galway had played no one while Tipp. had beaten four — how embarrassing if the counted chickens never hatched. Galway had lost to Cork in '53 and Wexford in '55. They had many fine hurlers like Jimmy Duggan, Joe Salmon, Joe Young and Cork-born Billy O'Neill. A slim wing-back named Benson had to be drafted into goal after the original incumbent. Sweeney had made early errors. Keane and Wall had quick goals and Tipp. were on their way, ten points up at half-time and able to sustain a brave Galway effort in the second-half. Benson conceded no goal in that period and it ended quietly at midfield. So up went the captain, Tony Wall, to grasp what Tipp. hands hadn't held since Jimmy Finn's in 1951. "Tipp's win was too easy" said a Monday headline. On the day, perhaps, but it had been no easy year — one of repeated comebacks, in fact. It was the first year of Jimmy Doyle, Kieran Carey and Donie Nealon, the last success for Byrne — what a dressingroom raiser of spirits and encourager on the field and, tragically for Finn. Similarly, of course, for my grateful self. I hope you've enjoyed the re-telling of the tale. I have.

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Mid Board Review 1988



Eamonn Lanigan accepts the Mid Intermediate cup from Mid Chairman Liam Hennessy. Mid Sec. and Gortnahoe-Glengooole selector Tom O'Hara is also included.



GORTNAHOE-GLENGOOLE MID INTERMEDIATE HURLING CHAMPIONS 1988

Back Row (left to right): Tom O'Hara (selector), Jimmy Meighean (selector), Michael Lanigan, John Laffan, P. J. Fogarty, Michael Lyons, Eamonn Purcell, Paudie Delaney, John Stokes, Eamonn Egan, Jimmy Lanigan, Michael O'Brien, Thomas Broderick, Brendan Teehan (player/selector), Andy O'Gorman, Pat Langton, Bill Martin (trainer). Front row (left to right): Conor Egan, Kevin Laffan, Noel Barnaville, Martin Lanigan (B), Michael Egan, Denis Laffan, Spenser Webster, Martin Lanigan (C), Eamonn Lanigan, Kevin Moriarty, Jim Lanigan.



Eamonn Sweeney leading Loughmore/Castleiney on County Final day.



Boherlahan - County M.H.C. B Champions 1988

Tomás Ó h-Eadhra, Runai

Mid Board Officers 1988:

Chairman: Liam Hennessy, Moycarkey-Borris; Secretary: Tom O'Hara, Gortnahoe-Glengooole; Treasurer: Timmy Grace, Sarsfields. Co. Board Trustee: Liam O'Dwyer, Boherlahan-Dualla; Thurles Sportsfield representative: Jim Max, Sarsfields; Templemore Sportsfield representative: Mick Cahill, Templemore.

County Board members senior clubs:

Moycarkey: Harry Ryan; Boherlahan: P. J. Maher; Holycross: Mick Ryan; Upperchurch: Michael Greene; Templemore: Tom Collum; Moyle: Seán Fogarty; Drom: Martin Dwan; Clonmore: John Legan; Sarsfields: Donal O'Gorman; Templetuohy: Liam Leahy; Loughmore: John Treacy.

Junior Club representatives.

John Ryan, Kickhams; Joe Dufficey, Gortnahoe.

1988 was certainly a very successful year for the Division and the highlight of the year was undoubtedly the great victory of Loughmore-Castleiney in the County Senior Hurling Final. All concerned are to be heartily congratulated on a magnificent performance which was just and fitting reward for the commitment and dedication of players, selectors and officials in a highly organised club.

Loughmore again won the Mid senior football title and the Under-21 'B' championships in hurling and football and have qualified for the county finals in both under-age competitions.

During the year all competitions were keenly contested and the standard in all the grades showed a marked improvement on previous years.

The spirit of sportsmanship in all games left little to be desired. We extend a sincere thanks to our players, officials, referees, and all who helped in making 1988 a most successful one for our Division.

Senior Hurling

Nine teams took part in the senior hurling championship which was again decided on a knock-out losers group system. Loughmore, Holycross and Moycarkey qualified for the semi-finals from the winners section, and Sarsfields joined them in the semi-finals from the losers group. The first semi-final between Holycross and Moycarkey was played at Boherlahan and in a low scoring keenly contested game Holycross emerged winners on a 1-9 to 1-7 scoreline. The second semi-final between Loughmore and Sarsfields played at Holycross was an entertaining game but in the closing quarter Loughmore pulled away for a convincing nine points win. The final played at Templemore was one of the best

in the Division for many years and after a pulsating struggle Loughmore held on to take the Leahy Cup by 3-9 to 0-15. For the first time the Board introduced a system of relegation in the senior championship. Drom and Moyne contested the play-off game and after a close contest Drom held on to their senior status.

Intermediate Hurling

This championship was played on a league system with Moycarkey and Gortnahoe qualifying for the final. After a rather disappointing game in which both sides missed chances a draw was a fitting result. The replay was a much livelier affair with Gortnahoe stamping their authority on proceedings from the throw-in to emerge worthy winners of the Treacy Cup. The Mid champions scored a thrilling win over Newport in the County Semi-Final and await a final showdown with West champions Arravale Rovers.

Junior Hurling

This competition again had an "A" and "B" championship with winners playing off for right to represent Division. After many top class games Holycross and Clonakenny qualified for the "A" final. After a most exciting contest the teams finished all square. The replay was again evenly contested and in the end Holycross held out for a deserved victory.

The 'B' final was between Moyne and Kickhams with the latter emerging worthy winners to win their first championship in over twenty years.



At Thurles Sarsfields Annual Social presentations were made to survivors of the 1929 and 1938 county championship teams. Front: Dinny Max, Mick Craddock, Jim Langan, Paddy O'Gorman. Back: Mick Murphy, Jimmy Doyle (representing his father Tommy), Tom Mason, John Langan, Dick Ryan, John Maher.

In the play-off Holycross proved too strong for Kickhams and went on to take county honours in this grade.

Under-21 Hurling 'A': In the semi-finals Sarsfield beat Moycarkey and Templemore beat Boherlahan. Both games were closely contested with hurling of a good standard. Final — Sarsfields v Templemore not played at time of review.

Under-21 Hurling "B"

This competition resulted in another win for Loughmore when they beat Moyne in the final. The winners went on to beat North champions Burgess in the county semi-final to qualify for the County Final yet to be played.

Minor Hurling 'A':

The final was between Sarsfields and Moyne. The latter having won County "B" honours last year showed a big improvement to reach the "A" final this year. The game with Sarsfields was one of the best for years with the result in doubt for most of the hour. In the end Sarsfields held on for a narrow and deserved victory. In the County Semi-Final the Mid champions lost to Roscrea in very bad conditions at Borrisoleigh.

Minor Hurling "B":

After defeating Rahealty in a close and exciting Mid Final Boherlahan went on to take county honours in this grade and bring a third County Hurling title to the

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Mid. In the final against Eire Og, Anacarty, the team gave their best display of the year and after a close and exciting tussle for three quarters of the game pulled away in the final quarter for a convincing win.

Cahill Cup Senior Hurling:

This competition was again run on a knock-out and losers group system. Old rivals Holycross and Moycarkey qualified for the final. After a well contested and sporting game Holycross were victorious on a 2-9 to 0-11 scoreline.

Special Junior — Intermediate Competition:

Fourteen teams took part in this new competition which was played on a straight knock-out system. Gortnahoe and Moycarkey qualified for the final and in an entertaining game Gortnahoe prevailed by a two point margin.

Senior Football:

Loughmore once again proved supreme with an easy win over Templemore in the final. After winning the County Quarter Final the Mid champions went under to Commercial in the County Semi-Final.

Intermediate Football:

Moycarkey scored a narrow win over Boherlahan in the Mid final and meet Nenagh Eire Óg in the County semi-final.

Junior Football:

Championship not yet completed.

Under-21 Football "A":

Championship not yet completed.

Under-21 Football "B":

Yet another victory for Loughmore-Castleiney. They went on to beat Kildangan in the county semi-final to qualify for their third county final yet to be played.

Minor Football "A":

Sarsfields proved worthy winners over Templemore in the Mid final and went on to contest the county final against Arravale Rovers. This was a splendid game of football and although deprived of the services of a couple of leading players through injury Sarsfields made the West champions fight all the way for a deserved victory.

Minor Football "B":

Templetuohy beat Boherlahan in a very closely contested Mid final and after a game with Newport in the County Semi-Final lost narrowly in the replay.



Mid J. H. champions, Thurles Kickhams. Front (l. to r.): Bernard Keane, Michael Kenehan, John Keane, John Treacy, Michael Kiely, Denis Curtis, Leo O'Gorman, John Campion. Back: Martin Doyle, John Freeman, Walter Ryan, Patsy Kelly, Gilbert Bryan, Martin Heffernan, Paddy Coleman.



Mid M.H. champions, Thurles Sarsfields. Front (left to right) Martin McElgun, Clive Hanrahan, Mark Jordan, Ken Doherty, Seán Callanan, Rd. Corcoran, Eddie Coman. Back: Graham O'Connor, Padraic Dundon, Brendan Carroll, Padraic Delaney, Pat Jordan, Tony Coman, Tommy Maher (captain), Donal O'Shea.



Thurles Sarsfields, beaten county minor football finalists. Front (left to right): Rory Purcell, Clive Hanrahan, Dara Keher, Graham O'Connor, Mark Jordan, Seán Callanan, Martin McElgun, Gary Purcell, Ken Doherty. Back: Larry O'Connor (coach), David Condon, Padraic Dundon, Seamus Fitzpatrick, Miceál Sullivan, Greg Rafter, Donal O'Grady, Pat Jordan, Richard Corcoran, Trevor Cooke, Donal O'Shea, Thomas Maher, Donal O'Grady (coach).

Senior Hurling	LOUGHMORE-CASTLEINEY
Intermediate Hurling	GORTNAHOE-GLENGOOLE
Junior Hurling "A"	HOLYCROSS-BALLYCAHILL
Junior Hurling "B"	THURLES KICKHAMS
Under-21 Hurling "A"	SARSFIELDS

Under-21 Hurling "B"	LOUGHMORE-CASTLEINEY
Minor Hurling "A"	SARSFIELDS
Minor Hurling "B"	BOHERLAHAN-DUALLA
CAHILL Cup	HOLYCROSS-BALLYCAHILL
Special Junior Inter Hurling	GORTNAHOE-GLENGOOLE

Senior Football	LOUGHMORE-CASTLEINEY
Intermediate Football	MOYCARKEY-BORRIS
Junior Football A & B	(Unfinished)
Under-21 Football "A"	
Under-21 Football "B"	LOUGHMORE-CASTLEINEY
Minor Football "A"	SARSFIELDS
Minor Football "B"	TEMPLETUOHY-MOYNE

The Rise to Success

What the winning of a County Senior Hurling Final means to
Loughmore/Castleiney Parishes

By PAT HEALY, P.R.O.

October 8th, 1988, will forever live in the minds of Loughmore/Castleiney people, as the day when the senior hurling team became champions of the County for a first time ever.

It was an unique occasion in many ways for it was the first time a final was layed on a Saturday; it was also a replay — only the eighth one in over a century of finals — and it brought a title to the Mid Division that was, to say the least, manless on the Inter County scene during the year.

THE EARLY DAYS

While football was always the natural game in the club down the years, the game of hurling was always played but brought about little reward. It was in the early seventies that the nucleus of to-day's side was formed when in 1975 they made a clean sweep of U-14 titles, taking Urban/Rural hurling and football and rural hurling and football county finals.

With Fr. J. O'Rourke a curate in Castleiney during that period, he was the guiding light behind those juveniles, keeping them in touch with Einter parish league games etc. At U-16 level in 1977 they once again took county titles in hurling and football, as minors of 1979 the double was again achieved. Many of those players were again involved at U-21 level in '79 and won county football finals, but were pipped in county semi-final of hurling by Nenagh, bringing about their first defeat in a two year cycle.

When Templemore C.B.S. won Harty

and All-Ireland Colleges' titles in 1978, the club supplied no fewer than nine members of the panel, six of which lined out in this year's county final. In 1980 the club was at Intermediate level, going all the way to lift the county title. The year 1981 saw the club gain senior status and they contested Mid finals of '81 and '82. 1983 was the big breakthrough as senior hurlers, capturing a first ever Mid title at the expense of Moycarkey at Templemore. They went on to reach the county final only to lose narrowly to Borrisoleigh. Mid titles were again won in '86 and '87. They were defeated in county semi-final of '86 by Kilruane and last year had a one poine defeat at the hands of first-timers Cappawhite in county final.

CHAIRMAN'S APPEAL

I can recall our chairman Pat Cullen's after-match address, following that final defeat, congratulating the team on their great performance and appealing to all the panel to keep at it, that next year would be their year. At that particular time another year seemed like a century. But to their eternal credit one month later the majority of that panel were county football champions.

With the Spring of 1988 approaching, the lads were back again, hurleys swinging and eager to make amends for '87. They faced Drom in a first round

game in Thurles and after a disastrous start fought back to level and fight another day. Their replay performance was a much improved one and came away worthy winners.

The famed Sarsfields were Mid semi-final victims with a polished performance from our boys that gave indications that they meant business. Holycross were defeated in Mid final to create a three-in-a-row. Nenagh and Killenaule were quarter and semi-final victims, respectively, and so the scene was set for a repeat of the 1983 decider against close neighbours from North of the county, Borrisoleigh.

The build-up to this final in the club and parish had to be seen to be believed. Each training session was attended by many supporters and well-wishers. Players were finding it difficult to move around the dressing-rooms to shower with supporters being so happy to be part of their parish, lads whom they hoped would bring glory to the tiny and closely-knit community. Young and old were involved in flag making and banners until stocks of green and red material were no longer obtainable in adjoining towns. Outside each household in the parishes flags were to be seen flying from windows, doors, piers, gates, ESB poles and any vantage point possible.



Pat McGrath, Loughmore, "man of the match" in the County S.H. final, receives his award from John McCormack of Tom Hogan Motors, Nenagh.



Pictured before the throw-in: Noel Morris, Chairman, County Board; Archbishop Thomas Morris; Bobby Ryan, the Borrisileigh captain; referee Willie Barrett; Eamon Sweeney, captain of Loughmore-Castleiney, and Most Rev. Dr. Dermot Clifford, Archbishop of Cashel and Emly.

Video crews arrived at training sessions to interview players, mentors, trainer and officials. They also attended the village to mingle with supporters, who aired their views in the best way possible. After the semi-final victory, a training fund was set up. The contributions to this fund were phenomenal — not alone in the parish, but throughout the division and further afield, something which the players appreciated and boosted their confidence no end.

Training concluded on the Tuesday night prior to Final with, as in every previous session, our Dublin and Limerick based players in attendance, after some inspiring words from chairman Pat Cullen, trainer Jackie Walsh, that famed hurler of days gone by, Jimmy Doyle, Mid chairman Liam Hennessy and Fr. Bergin C.C. All retired with the feeling that no stone was left unturned and yearning for the day to come.

THE FINAL

On the 2nd day of October all roads from the parish headed for Semple Stadium, cars bedecked in Green and Red travelled bumper to bumper. The tension was now becoming unbearable for all concerned as Eamonn Sweeney led his men onto the green sod, all looking resplendant and rarin' to go. However, after a hard fought game under dreadful conditions both sides ended on level par and so the Dan Breen remained with Tommy Barrett for another day.

REPLAY

The replay date was quickly fixed for the unlikely following Saturday, again at the stadium.

Once again the conditions were not favourable with the going very soft but a mild afternoon saw both sides serve up a thrilling final which was touch and go throughout. As our boys led for three quarters of this game, they were rocked by a Borrisoleigh goal that sent the men in maroon two points clear with four minutes remaining, and determined to become champions once more.

A switch which had seen Pat McGrath move to the forward line now paid

dividends for, following great work by Michael McGrath in the centre of the field, he passed to John Cormack who then found brother Liam who sent a beautiful ball to the waiting Pat McGrath who hurley-plucked the ball from the air and crashed it past a bewildered Borris 'keeper for a dramatic lead.

Almost from the puck-out, Michael McGrath sent over another point and seconds later came referee Willie Barrett's final whistle and a first ever county title for Loughmore/Castleiney. The scenes that were dreamt of in the days previous had now become a reality, as players, mentors and supporters hugged and wept openly and it was many minutes before Eamonn Sweeney made his way to Ardán O Riain to accept the Dan Breen Cup from our former Archbishop, Dr. Morris. Pat McGrath was awarded "Man of the Match" for a five-star performance over the two hours.

Following his acceptance speech, Eamonn Sweeney made his way to an emotional dressing-room followed by players and hundreds of supporters. Players, trainer and selectors were interviewed for video, something which has brought a new dimension to our games.

The homecoming for the team was

something never witnessed before. As the team boarded a float at the Four Roads they were escorted by the McDonagh Pipe Band, Templemore, to Loughmore village. Bonfires blazed, flags and banners flew as crowds lined the route to get a glimpse of their heroes, who had brought fame to the parish as county senior hurling champions of the Premier County.

What has this victory meant to a club and parish like Loughmore/Castleiney? Simply it was the icing on the cake for this wonderful bunch of players who, as previously described, came from juvenile ranks, kept their heads and pride, trained extremely hard, listened, and their never-say-die attitude reaped its reward.

To trainer-coach Jackie Walshe, who took over at the start of the year after being with the lads in '83, and himself an accomplished hurler with club and county; fellow selectors Pat Cullen, Joe Grady, Mick McGrath and Tommy Egan, it was a fitting climax for days and nights of hard work. To our supporters who travel far and wide, for them the parish and, above all, our youth, it was an achievement that may be equalled but not surpassed, and let's hope that a Loughmore/Castleiney man will lead the County to a McCarthy Cup success in 1989!

Remember '88

(Air: Who fears to speak of '98)

Long we'll remember '88
And the County Final game,
When Loughmore/Castleiney boys
Won everlasting fame;
Twas the 8th day of October
When the Borris boys did yield,
In a great replay, they won the day,
In the famous Thurles field.

When Captain Eamonn Sweeney raised
The Cup of great Dan Breen,
There were tears of joy, as the flags flew high,
With their colours Red and Green;
There were bonfires bright, throughout the
night
And lights by the Castle tower,
By Cuguilla's side, they cheered with pride
For this, their greatest hour.

Young boys were seen in Red and Green
And cheered with sheer delight;
And ladies fair, without a care,
Danced round the fires that night.
But old men wept as they homewards crept
And thought of days of yore,
Of many a son, who played and won,
With Castleiney and Loughmore.

We've got men yet, do not forget,
Brave men of might and brawn,
We have courage still, with strength and skill,
To wield the grand camán.
Other games they'll play, but this great day
For long they'll celebrate,
For they won renown, and the County Crown,
In nineteen eighty-eight.

J. Perkins



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Gortnahoe/Glengoose - An Historic First Intermediate County Title

SUNDAY, 6th. March started the hurling year in the club with an Intermediate challenge against Threecastles of Kilkenny, and from that day onwards, one could feel a fresh impetus of interest under the guidance of our newly acquired trainer Bill Martin. This was to develop even further as the year progressed.

Our minors began their campaign on the 9th July, after a couple of challenges with a win over Holycross. This was followed on the 24th July by a defeat from Thurles Sarsfields, next came a defeat by Moyne/Templetuohy on the 10th August, and we completed the earlier rounds of the championship with a win over Moycarkey/Borris on the 17th August. This left Moyne/Templetuohy, Holycross and ourselves to play-off for the right to meet Thurles Sarsfields in the Mid Final. Moyne/Templetuohy defeated Holycross and so on Sunday, 11th September we faced Moyne/Templetuohy in Semple Stadium, and on a day when too many players were below form, we were well beaten by a well balanced Moyne/Templetuohy side.

The U-21's again played a couple of challenges before facing Templemore in the first round of the championship when defeat was our lot on the 2nd October. The following week we got back on the winning trail with a win over Drom/Inch and again a week later we suffered defeat at the hands of Thurles Sarsfields and bowed out of the championship.

Our Junior hurlers started their championship with a good victory over Clonmore on the 18th. June and with a couple of challenges to get them in shape, we faced Thurles Kickhams in the Mid Semi-Final on the 14th. August, and with a weakened team we lost to the Thurles team, who went on to win the Mid Final.

Our junior footballers had the shortest campaign of all, starting their championship on Saturday, 29th. October with a win over Upperchurch and finishing our interest in same when defeated by Templemore on Monday, 31st. October, all of 2 days later.

We had wins over Upperchurch/Drombane, Thurles Sarsfields and Boherlahan in the new Mid Junior/Intermediate competition and we qualified for the final against Moycarkey. This took place on the 8th. May in Holycross and after an evenly contested game we finished two points winners on a score of 1-9 to 1-7, and so captain Eamon Lanigan received the Shield from Mid Chairman Liam Hennessy in the inaugural year of the competition.

With the confidence of this win behind us we faced the championship in a happier mood. The first round took place on the 22nd May against Thurles Sarsfields, and after a patchy performance in the first half, we seemed to be heading for victory when 6 points in fromt with as many minutes



Trophies won by Gortnahoe/Glengoose G.A.A. Club in 1987. From left: John Kenny, captain of Mid Junior "B" Football team; Jimmy Meighan, chairman with Mid Junior Club of the Year Trophy, and Paudie Delaney, captain of Mid U-21 "B" hurling team.

remaining, but almost got caught with a late rally by Sarsfields to leave the sides level on a score of 4-7 each. The second round took place with Thurlis Fennellys on the 25th. June, and we finished victorious on a scoreline of 1-15 to 1-8. The third round of the championship was against Moycarkey in which we needed a win or a draw to qualify us for the Mid Final. After an indifferent start we settled down in the second half to win by 3-9 to 1-4. This put us in the final with, believe it or not, Moycarkey whom we had already met in the final of the Junior/Intermediate Competition.

So on Saturday, 10th September in Semple Stadium we faced Moycarkey in our attempt to win the Tommy Treacy Cup for the first time in 15 years. After being 5 points behind at half time, we fought back in a marvellous second half to earn a deserved draw. Some vigorous training took place under the watchful eye of trainer Bill Martin before the replay on

Sunday, 25th. September again in Semple Stadium. This time after a good start we made no mistake and amid great scenes of joyour excitement, we were winners on a scoreline of 2-12 to 2-7 and our captain Eamon Lanigan added the Tommy Treacy Cup to the Junior/Intermediate Shield he had already received.

Much of the credit for these wins must go to our dilligent selectors Jimmy Meighan, Tom O'Hara and Brendan Teehan and our hard working and dedicated trainer Bill Martin.

Our next "port of call" was Holycross for the County Semi-Final on the 23rd. October against the North Champions Newport who had beaten Templederry in the North Final. Again after a bad start (4 points to no score down after 10 minutes) we knuckled down to the task in hand and after the sides being level on several occasions in the second half we edged in front by a single point scored by "Super-Sub" Conor Egan to win on a scoreline of 0-15 to 1-11.

So on to the big one — County Final Day in Boherlahan on Sunday, 20th. November at 12 noon against Arravale Rovers, the West Champions who had beaten Cahir by the minimum margin in the Co. Semi-Final after a replay with the following team doing duty:

Dennis Laffan, Noel Barnaville, Eamon Purcell, Spencer Webster, Michael Lanigan, John Stokes, Jim Lanigan, Jimmy Lanigan, Martin Lanigan (C), Michael Egan, P. J. Fogarty, Kevin Koriarty, Martin Lanigan (B), Kevin Laffan, Eamon Lanigan (capt.), Conor Egan, Paudie Delaney, P. J. Walsh, Michael O'Brien, Michael Lyons, Justin Norton, Brendan Teehan, Eamon Egan.

Following a keenly contested game in which we led from the start, we defeated a gallant Arravale Rovers team by 2-8 to 1-7. Gortnahoe/Glengoose have added a new chapter to their history.



New pitch for Ardfinnan

Ardfinnan G.A.A. club field was opened on 1st May 1988 — an historic day for the club.

On 29th December 1983 the Club purchased six acres of land for £15,000. Work commenced in February 1984 and to-date the total outlay is £103,000.

The official opening was performed by Noel Morris, Chairman Co. Tipperary G.A.A. Board and to mark the occasion, Tipperary played Waterford in a senior hurling tournament.

The Club Officers are P. Savage (Chairman), J. J. Lonergan (Vice-Chairman), R. Boyle, Pat Kearney (Secretary), P. Noonan (Asst. Secretary) and William Barrett (Treasurer).

Mid-Tipperary Bord na nÓg - 1988

Review

By Tom Joyce (Secretary)

A SUCCESSFUL YEAR

THE Bord can look back on the past year with satisfaction. As a result of a motion carried at this year's convention our championships were run on a league basis which was a change from the knock-out system of previous years. This motion also abolished the preliminary round, which decided the grading of teams into A or B sections in former years, and replaced this by having the Bord officers grading the teams for each competition. This eliminated many of the one-sided games of other years. While we need a couple of more years experience before passing final judgement on the new system the outcome this year looks promising.

Our championships began in April and all our finals were completed before the end of August. The following is a brief outline on the outcome of each.

U-12 HURLING: SECTION A

Four teams were graded into the A Section — Moycarkey, Holycross (A), Gortnahoe and Durlas Óg (A). Durlas Óg (A) with 4 points and Gortnahoe with 5 points were the two top teams in this section. In the final between these two teams Durlas Óg (A) emerged victorious thus reversing an earlier defeat by Gortnahoe in the league rounds.

U-12 HURLING: SECTION B

Eight teams were graded into the B section. Upperchurch, Holycross (B), Durlas Óg (B) and Drom were placed in Group 1 while Loughmore, Durlas Óg (C), Templemore and Moyne were placed in Group 2. At the end of the league rounds Upperchurch were the leaders of Group 1, and Loughmore were the leaders of Group 2. In the final between these two teams, Loughmore emerged victorious.

U-12 FOOTBALL: SECTION A

Durlas Óg (A), Templemore Holycross (A), and Loughmore were the four teams graded A. Durlas Óg and Holycross were the top two teams after the league rounds and in a very good final Durlas Óg emerged worthy winners.

U-12 FOOTBALL: SECTION B

Six teams were graded into the B section. Moycarkey, Holycross B and Durlas Óg C were in Group 1, while Durlas Óg B, Upperchurch and Moyne were in Group 2. Moycarkey, winners of Group 1 met Durlas Óg B, winners of Group 2 in the final. Moycarkey proved to be worthy winners of this section.

U-14 URBAN RURAL HURLING: SECTION A

Holycross, Durlas Óg (A), Templemore and Drom were the four teams in this section. Holycross, and Durlas Óg (A) were the leaders after the league rounds and in a very keenly contested final. Durlas Óg (A) emerged victorious.

96 — Tipperary G.A.A. Year Book

U-14 URBAN RURAL HURLING: SECTION B

Eight teams were graded into the B section. In Group 1, were Boherlahan, Moyne, Durlas Óg (B) and Gortnahoe, while in Group 2, were Upperchurch, Moycarkey, Clonakenny and Loughmore. Durlas Óg (B) were winners of Group 1. Upperchurch were winners of Group 2. In the final between the group winners, Upperchurch proved too good for a gallant Durlas Óg (B) team.

U-14 URBAN RURAL FOOTBALL: SECTION A

Durlas Óg (A), Holycross, Templemore and Durlas Óg (B) were the A section teams. Durlas Óg (A) and Templemore were the two teams contesting this final. In a very tight game in which the woodwork was hit on a number of occasions, Durlas Óg (A) finally emerged victorious.

U-14 URBAN RURAL FOOTBALL: SECTION B

Four teams contested the B section, Boherlahan, Upperchurch, Loughmore and Templemore. Upperchurch and Boherlahan were the top two teams after the league rounds and they contested the final. The 'Church' lads took their second Mid title of the year with a well merited win.

U-14 RURAL HURLING

Both round competitions, hurling and football are run on a knockout basis. In the hurling competition, all nine rural parishes took part. Upperchurch and Holycross came through to contest the final. In a match in which the standard of hurling was very high and which was very keenly contested. Holycross eventually emerged victorious by a somewhat flattering margin.

U-14 RURAL FOOTBALL

Six teams entered, Templemore, Boherlahan, Loughmore, Moycarkey, Holycross and Upperchurch. The Holycross boys were too strong for a very young Loughmore who will surely be a team to watch in a year or two. The Holycross club therefore completed the rural double again this year as they had done last year.

U-16 FOOTBALL: SECTION A

Four teams, Durlas Óg (A), Templemore, Boherlahan and Holycross contested the A section. Boherlahan caused a surprise here by emerging to contest the final with Templemore. On the

night Templemore emerged convincing winners.

U-16 FOOTBALL: SECTION B

Seven teams contested the B section. In Group 1 were Durlas Óg (B), Gortnahoe and Moycarkey while in Group 2 were Clonakenny, Loughmore, Templemore and Upperchurch. Group 1 winners were Gortnahoe who were competing at juvenile football level for the first time in a long number of years. Group 2 winners were Upperchurch. In the final, Gortnahoe surprised almost everybody by taking their first juvenile football title ever.

U-16 HURLING: SECTION A

The four teams in Section A were Templemore, Durlas Óg (A), Gortnahoe and Holycross. In a keenly contested section Durlas Óg (A) and Holycross emerged to contest the final. On the night the Thurles boys were too strong for the Holycross lads.

U-16 HURLING: SECTION B

In Group 1 of this section, Drom, Upperchurch, Clonakenny and Loughmore contested with Drom emerging the leaders after the league rounds. In Group 2, Moycarkey, Durlas Óg (B), Boherlahan and Moyne were the teams contesting. Moycarkey were the leaders of this group. In the final Drom showed that they were worthy winners of this title.

COACHING COURSE

Because the Munster Council had such a financial bonanza in 1987 it decided to make £30,000 available to the six counties in Munster for the purpose of coaching juveniles. Tipperary received £5,000 which was divided equally among the four divisions. In the Mid division we are fortunate that coaches of the calibre of Paddy Doyle, Paudie Butler and John Ivors agreed to undertake the coaching work with the juvenile clubs. These men are in the process of visiting all our juvenile clubs on a number of occasions at the moment. Hopefully we will begin to see the benefits from this next year.

SCÓR NA nÓG

As I write this, clubs are being asked to submit their entries for this year's Scór. Its importance among many of our clubs has diminished substantially. Only two clubs — Upperchurch and Holycross — hold parish Scórs. Hopefully those responsible for the Scór format will investigate the

OFFICERS

President: Rev. Fr. O'Rourke; **Chairman,** Paddy McLoughlin (Templemore); **Vice-Chairman,** Pat Ryan (Holycross/Ballycahill); **Secretary,** Tom Joyce (Holycross/Ballycahill); **Treasurer,** Dinny Hogan (Thurles); **P.R.O.,** Frank Morris (Templemore); **Co. Bord Na nÓG Representatives,** Pat Ryan, Frank Morris.

reasons for its diminishing appeal at parish level.

The 1988 Mid Scór Na nÓg winners were: *Figure Dancing*, Moyne/Templetuohy; *Recitation*, Holycross/Ballycahill — Catherine Ryan; *Solo Singing*, Loughmore/Castleiney — Brigid Brennan; *Novelty Act*, Upperchurch/Drombane; *Question Time*, Upperchurch/Drombane — Padraid Ryan, Tom

Quinlan, Michael Griffin; *Instrumental Music*; Boherlahan/Dualla; *Ballad Group*, Upperchurch/Drombane; *Set Dancing*, Holycross/Ballycahill.

In concluding this report I would like to thank our juvenile referees for their commitment to our games. Many of these referees do an average one game a week during the playing season. When one considers that these people get no expenses whatsoever one can appreciate

their true value to our juvenile bórd and clubs. I would also like to thank all the people in the division who ensure that venues and pitches are made available and in good condition for our games. Finally, but by no means least, I would like to thank my fellow officers for their commitment and co-operation during the year.

We look forward to a successful year for our division in 1989.

Lá Chluiche Ceannais Iomána Na Mumhan Anuraidh

Le Liam Prút

“Nthugann na Corcaigh seans eile!” B’in a dúirt gach aon duine. B’in a dúirt na Corcaigh. Ach bhí an seanchreideamh dúisithe arís ionam. Cinnte, ba dheacair Fenton agus an chuid eile acu a bhualadh. Foireann óg a bhí againn agus ceangal sinsearachta idir iad agus foirne na ndaichidí agus na gcoagaidí. “Níor chailleamar riamh i gCill Airne!” B’in í an chaint a bhí á cur in aghaidh mhaíomh na gCorcaíoch. Agus ba chúis sásaímh nár bheag dúinn an scéal cinnte nár thaitin sé leis na Corcaíoch. Agus ba chúis sásaímh nár bheag dúinn an scéal cinnte nár thaitin sé leis na Corcaigh go raibh orthu teacht anseo don athimirt. Cárbh fhios nach ndéanfaimis an bheart? Cárbh fhios!

Baile beag ab é Cill Airne den chéad uair riamh a breis is dosaen uair ar fad a bhí mé anseo cheana. Ba róleir anois nár fhágamar Neidín luath ár ndóthain. Bhí seachtain cheathach, éachtach ann ú fuair Nioclás an cúilín réitigh i nDurlas an lá a scóráil sé an cúl Maradonna tar éis gur baineadh a chamán de. Fuil na bua faoi dheireadh ag teacht isteach thar an **Glen Eagle** dúinn bhí sé ina mheán lae cheana féin agus bhí coinne déanta agam le mo dheartháir don tráth in féin. Dá fhad isteach i dtreo an bhaile mhoir a tháingamar is ea ba shoiléire nach raibh áit lochta ar fáil don ghluasteán. D’fágfaimis áit ar bith í, fuair ar thaobh an bhothair, cé go raibh trealamh péintéireachta agus feisteas saoire ar fud an bhaill inti, dá mba fúmsa féin amháin a bheadh sé! Isteach i gclós mór páirceála an ionaid siamsaíochta atá os comhair stáisiún na traenach amach, ar shráid na mBráithre Proinsiasacha, d’iompaigh mé!

“Ní bhfaighidh tú aon bhéile anseo!” a dúirt fear an gheata mar fhreagra ar an leithscéal lag uaim mar bhí gach spás, bearna agus oscailt coiscithe ar gach aon duine seachas custaiméirí faoin am sin. Ach bhíomar istigh agus níor iarradh leithscéal thairis sin orainn. Ní fhéadainn fanacht nóiméad amháin eile le teann deithnis agus fuadair agus d’fhágas mo bheah bhocht i mbun an ghluasteáin.

D’ainneoin go raibh mo dheartháir óg tar éis glaoch orm an oíche roimh ré á rá go raibh ticéad aige dom, cheannaigh mé



Na mílte ag fáiltiú i gCearnóg na Saoirse — Durlas Éile.

ceann eile ó bhean a bhí tar éis turas tríocha míle a dhéanamh ó Bhaile Liam go baile Thiobraid Árann an oíche roimhe sin lena aghaidh.

Anois go bhfuil sé thart, is mór é m’fhaoiseamh agus is mór mo bhuíochas do Dhia go rabhas i láthair. ach ní beag í an inní atá orm i dteannta an laochair agus an ghliondair nár thaithíoch liom ó bhíos i mo gharsún naoi bliana d’aois — inní faoin tsíl a bhí mo ghra d’fágta agam i bhfeighil an ghluasteáin agus faoin ide a thabharfadh sí dom ide a bhí ag dul dom go dóite! Brúim fúm an cuimhneamh sin agus gach smaoineamh ar mhíchompord an tslua atá ag baint áit na gcos díom. Briseann tonn áthais ar fud na páirc nuair a láimhsíonn Michael Doyle a chéad chúl tar éis don Chonallach sinn a chur chun tosaigh nóiméad roimhe sin. Ansin an dara cúl ó Michael Doyle . . .! Lá millteanach fad é — réamhchluiche agus am breise san áireamh — ó mheán lae to dtí leathuair tar éis a cúig. Tá sé thart! Beirimid barróg ar a chéile. Fáiscimid lámha a chéile. Is beag eile a thabharfadh ar dhaoine na mná a phógadh. Ach ar pógadh i gceart iad le sé bliana déag?

Lena bhrúil de ghleo agus de lúcháir ann, de dhreapadh in airde ar ghuaillí a chéile, ar an mballa, ar na sreanga agus ar

na suíocháin istigh sa pháirc, b’fhada gur thugas faoi deara cad air a bhí gach aon duine ag faire. Díreach laistíos díom le hais an bhalla aird, idir na gorgáin féaraigh agus an taobhlíne, a bhí sí. Bean bheag mheánaosta an té a chífedh an bosca tathagach fúithi — bean feirmeora ba dhóichí! Breathnaíonn ina timpeall. Sciorta dearg, blús bán, mála faoi ascaill agus páipéar — an clár oifigiúil? — faoin ascaill eile. Tá ag dul in airde ar an mballa. Casann thar n-ais inár dtreo agus “F... Cork!” uaithi in ard a gutha gan séimhiú ar bith. In airde arís. Í ina seasamh ar an mballa agus a sciorta dearg i bhfostú sa sreang deilgneach. Na focail chéanna arís uaithi. Scaoileann beirt thear láimh léi a sciorta. Tugann ruid in airde tríd an sreang. Stracann le fórsa a sciorta pollta tríd an sreang. Titeann a mála agus a páipéar ar an bpáirc istigh — Staid Mhic Ghearaill! Fágann ina diaidh iad nuair a léimeann anuas go foréigheach. Sin í anois í thall ar an daichead slat agus í i ngreim fada fáiscithe ar bheirt de chosantóirí Thiobraid Ára. “Agus mheasfadh duine gur Chorcaíoch í ar a feisteas!”

Is fada an t-achar é sé bliana déag don té a bhfuil cónaí ar a chroí i gceartlár Thiobraid Árann.

Triumph for Holyrcross-Ballycahill Juniors

*On Monday, November 13th, 1988, the following result appeared in the daily papers:
County J.H. Final - Holyrcross-Ballycahill 0-11, Cappawhite 2-4.*

TO most people that was an important statistic but it crowned a year of great endeavour by a team of junior hurlers who were regarded as no-hopers by most of our so-called knowledgeable hurling men and announced a victory that gave joy and happiness to our parish.

MID TIPP GAMES

To win a County Final in any grade is an achievement but to win one in face of adversity makes it an outstanding triumph. Early in the year it looked as if we would have a fairly good junior team that might go a long way in the Championship. Some were promoted to senior ranks and we were left with a combination of Dads Army and Junior Infants. The ages ranged from 43 down to 18 with a few late thirties and mid-twenties thrown in.

A first round defeat by Killea did not hold out much promise but they bravely battled their way through to the losers' group to defeat Clonakenny after a replay

in the Mid Final. Thurles Kickhams' junior B champions were beaten in the Mid play-off in Semple Stadium.

A GREAT SEMI-FINAL

A semi-final game against Knockshegowna on a rain-soaked pitch in Borrisoleigh ended in a lucky draw. A goal down with time nearly up and Knockshe playing well seemed to herald defeat. Then a free was awarded about 30 yards from the Knockshegowna goal. Paul Slattery tried for a goal. The shot was saved and a melee took place in the crowded Knockshe goalmouth. Hurleys flew, men fell and suddenly we saw the umpire reaching for the green flag. Bill Gorman had somehow got the ball over the goal-line. Exactly 30 minutes had elapsed. Would John Moloney play extra time?

A short puck-out to a Knockshe back, a tackle on the player in possession — a free awarded to our opponents. It looked as if we would be again under pressure. Thankfully the final whistle was blown as

the ball was in flight and we had lived to fight another day.

The replay was fixed for the following Sunday in Templemore and the saga continued. Knockshegowna took the lead early on but Holyrcross suddenly came alive and put on an exhibition of first class hurling. Bill Gorman grabbed a goal after a fumble by the 'keeper; Paul Slattery added another; Seamus Browne drilled over some marvellous points; Paul Slattery was deadly accurate from frees and at half-time we had a comfortable lead.

Knockshe were down but not out. They reduced arrears with a goal but Seamus Brown slammed the rebound from a Paul Slattery free to the net to put us twelve points clear with twenty minutes remaining. Even our greatest pessimists — we have a few — could not see any danger. Suddenly the pattern changed; Knockshegowna scored three goals in a four minute spell and then added a point to reduce our lead to two points. Could we hold out? Panic-stricken selectors and offi-



HOLYRCROSS-BALLYCAHILL COUNTY AND MID TIPPERARY JUNIOR HURLING CHAMPIONS

Back: G. Fennessy, J. Ryan, T. Ryan, T. O'Gorman, P. Lowry, W. Ryan, J. Butler, T. Lanigan. **Front:** J. Fitzpatrick, B. Browne, P. Fennessy, P. Browne, S. Browne (Capt.), P. Slattery, P. Maher.

cials raced up and down the sideline giving advice that was only heard by spectators in their immediate vicinity. Phil Lowry, Paul Maher and Benjy Brown steadied things down and we put over two points to get the guard the knave.

Knockshe came back for a point and made a final rush. Tommy Lanigan saved, the backs completed the clearance. Hundreds of Holycross followers chanted "Time-up, ref". Two agonising minutes extra time were played and we lived dangerously. Seldom was a final whistle more welcome.

THE COUNTY FINAL

In its wisdom, the Co. Board decided that the final should be played on the following Sunday and we learned that Cappawhite would be our opponents. And so to Cashel, seeking our third County Junior title. We had won in 1941, beating Clerihan in Cashel, and in 1974 when Knockshegowna were defeated in Nenagh.

The game was fixed for 12 noon and we set off fortified only by cups of tea or Bovril. How many of the senior champions of 1987 were on the Cappawhite team was a big topic of conversation. Would they be too experienced for us? Paddy Brown had been sidelined during the semi-final replay and three of our players had hand or leg injuries. The outlook was bleak but, thank God, the day was fine.

We put up a two points lead early on but Cappawhite came back for a goal and a point. Cappa again broke through. Tommy Lanigan made a great save, the backs failed to clear and Cappa had the ball in the net. A point followed and we were six points down with twelve minutes played. Doubting Thomases shook their heads, selectors looked at each other in dismay and our supporters were strangely silent. But we did not appreciate the courage of our players. Point by point they cut down the lead as Paul Slattery pointed frees from all angles. Phil Lowry put over a good point from play after an excellent pass from William Ryan. This was our only score from play. By half-time the lead had been reduced to one point.

Paul Slattery equalised early in the second half. Cappawhite came thundering back and pointed two frees. A quarter of an hour to go and another mountain to climb. We cut back the lead to a point, missed a few good chances and then we levelled. Cappawhite attacked and the grace of God and Tom O'Gorman's foot got the ball safely away. Jim Fitzpatrick, Phil Lowry and William Ryan began to play inspired hurling. A foul on Jerry Fennessy gave Paul Slattery the chance to put us ahead and he made no mistake.

Ten minutes remained. Cappawhite came again. Tommy Lanigan was on the ground and confusion reigned in our goalmouth. Suddenly Tommy appeared, minus his hurley, but with the ball safely clutched in his hand. He kicked and found



Holycross-Ballycahill Mid Tipp. Rural Hurling and Football Champions 1988.

touch with an effort worthy of Hugo McNeill.

The sideline ball was grabbed by a Cappawhite forward. Phil Lowry closed him down and as far as we were concerned the ball went wide. However, the umpire awarded a '70' and again we waited in fear and tremblings. The ball drifted wide and the final whistle sounded immediately.

WHAT A RELIEF!

So we had won our first county final since 1982. It was a hard day to be a Holycross-Ballycahill supporter and I felt especially for fathers, mothers and wives who had men playing. But the relief was great. Players were mobbed and mentors and parents congratulated. The broad beaming smiles on mothers and wives' faces and the false modesty of fathers when their sons were praised are par for the course on such occasions.

The trophy was presented to Seamus Brown by Noel Morris, Chairman of the Co. Board. I did not hear either his speech nor Seamus Brown's reply. The presentation was made in the centre of the field and most of our supporters could not get near the presentation.

Speeches in the dressingroom followed and every speech was greeted by loud and prolonge cheering. Paul O'Neill of Cappawhite came to congratulate us and we could sympathise with him and with his team. They are gracious losers and good sportsmen.

Many supporters forgot about their lunches. They may have been hungry but they certainly did not suffer from thirst as the afternoon wore on. We missed Jack Maher from the celebrations. Jack must be our oldest active follower and he is certainly one of our more vocal. His comments during games could be heard over a wide area and when he thumped the sideline seats with his walking stick those who did not know his form gave him a wide berth. He had met with an accident after the replayed semi-final and was confined to hospital. Later that evening members of the team visited him and brought along the trophy. Fair play to the matron, she

provided a glass of whiskey and Jack did not refuse the gift.

The team that played in the final was: T. Lanigan; M. Quinlan, T. O'Gorman, J. Butler; Jim Ryan, B. Brown, J. Fitzpatrick; Tomás Ryan, Paul Maher; H. Fennessy, Phil Lowry, Wm. Ryan; P. Slattery, L. O'Gorman, Seamus Browne.

Paul Fennessy came on as a sub. Others who took part during the year were Alan Quinlan, Paddy Brown, John Ryan, Michael Maher, Kieran Donnelly and W. Skehan.

Benjy Brown, Pual Maher and Wm. Ryan played minor during 1988 while Matt Quinlan, Phil Lowry, L. O'Gorman and J. Fitzpatrick were on the selection that won the County junior title in 1974.

Matt Quinlan won a Mid under-21 title in 1963 and a Mid senior medal in 1966. His son Alan played in goal in the Mid play-off and in the drawn game with Knockshegowna. What a great year for the gradand of the team!

Selectors are never forgotten in defeat but are seldom noticed in victories. Our men did very well and Michael Doyle, Rodgie Dwan and Pakie Carr are to be congratulated. Ml. Doyle was a great leader and was the driving force behind the team.

So we look forward to the Intermediate championship next season. Some of our juniors will certainly be promoted, a few of this year's seniors will drop back a grade, and hopefully we will be a force in both grades in 1989.

Footnbote: When Holycross-Ballycahill met Clerihan in the 1941 Junior County Final at Cashel, in May 1942, the jerseys were brought by pony and trap by a group of young people from Glenreigh. During the Emergency, sign posts had been removed. The group knew the way as far as Boherlahan but when they came to the Four Roads they were undecided. One of the group had been in Cashel previously and on his advice decided to go by Ardmyle. Naturally the jerseys were late arriving and at one stage it appeared that Holycross would have to play in their shirts.

Bob Stakelum

Scór na Sinsear Mid-Division

SCÓR na Sinsear '88 in Mid Tipperary was highly successful — thanks to a fourteen member dedicated and efficient committee, and to the clubs who so loyally prepared for and participated in the Semi-Finals. A special word of thanks to the Moyne and Upperchurch Committees who hosted the semi-finals, from which a full programme of competitions emerged for the Mid-Final held in Sarsfield Social Centre.

At the County Final on March 5th the Mid-Division was successful in three competitions, with Clonmore Set group going through to the Munster Final in Connolly Hall, Cork. To the eleven clubs who took part in Scór '88, I say well done agus go raibh míle maith agaibh. To those who promised to take part in '89 — well I have a good memory and will be in contact and to the other clubs I appeal that you would endeavour to send a representative to the Scór meetings or to contact me personally. We are fast approaching the 21st Anniversary of Scór and how better to celebrate that than to have representation from the clubs.

Sponsorship of trophies for the Mid-final has alleviated the financial burden which had heretofore been a problem for organisers. Sincerest thanks to each and every sponsor for your generosity, your support and your presence on the night.

Finally, there are a few factors which I feel would create greater interest in Scór firstly, Club of the Year should be awarded at county as well as Division level. Secondly, the people who train the teams should be given recognition for their work. For too long those people have remained anonymous. Trainers of minors, seniors etc. hurling and football teams are well known so why not Scór trainers?

Thirdly, if the Division Secretary would please include "Scór Representative" on the nomination papers which are sent to the clubs prior to the Mid Convention, it would ensure that your club is represented at meetings.

It is with confidence then that we look forward to seeing you at Scór meetings and to a successful Scór '89.

Siobhán Ní Riain
Nora Ní Throithigh (Runaí)
P. Ó Ealaí (Cisteoir)



Joan Ryan (chairperson) and Nora Quinlan (secretary) holding the Mid Tipp Scór Trophy, which the Upperchurch Drumbane club has won for the third year in succession.



Upperchurch-Drumbane ballad group winners of the Mid '88 (L.-R.) M. Ryan, P. Donnelly (sponsor), J. Ryan, M. Fahey, M. Ryan, Michael Ryan.

Scór Club of the Year – Mid Division

Joan Ryan (Scór chairperson)
Nora Quinlan (Secretary)

UPPERCHURCH-Drumbane has been awarded Club of the Year in the Mid-Division for the 3rd Year in succession.

Our parish Scór was instrumental in gaining us a total of 85 points at the Mid Final. Parish Finals are difficult tasks to organise but here again much credit is due to the efficiency of a hard-working
100 — Tipperary G.A.A. Year Book

committee and to a dedicated secretary Nora Quinlan, who with the ever dependable Anna Ryan spent many nights in Upperchurch Hall preparing the groups for Scór. This year our Figure Dance and Ballad group won Mid titles. Our solo singer Patricia Quinn brought Divisional and County titles to the parish. This is the first time, since our first involvement in

Scór that the club at any level won a county title in Solo singing. Well done Pat. To all who participated in or who helped in any way at parish level I offer my sincerest thanks. Within the next few weeks preparation will be made for the parish final of Scór '89 and again we confidently look forward to your support and participation.

A Thurles Street League kid remembers

It was the best of times and the worst of times Thurles in the early sixties, a sleepy tribal town on a hurling high where the main activity of the day was the departure of the twenty past five mail train for the Holyhead boat. A small self-contained town, depending almost totally on the sugar factory, itself a melting pot of hurling emotions. Almost everyone in the town was either related or on first name terms and the only real pastime for boys in this pre-television era of large families was hurling or football.

INTENSE

When Father James Meehan mooted the idea of a street league he could not have anticipated the depth or intensity of feeling released among young and old around town. There had always been ad hoc challenges between the streets but this was something that involved the whole community. Although the town was full of king pins and current stars it was generally the ordinary man in the street who managed the teams. Some like Jimmy Dowd, fought tooth and nail on every tiny issue, others like Dan Walshe were quiet and knowledgeable. Jimmy Cleary and Joss Connors supplied almost half their respective teams from within their own families. Matt Treacy retained a boyishness that appealed to all the children of Loughtagalla while Johnny Quinn of Stradavoher inflamed the passions of a street already steeped in hurling history.

MANY CONTRASTS

The teams themselves provided many contrasts. 'Dolly' Cronin, a light speed wing-forward from Clongour was the perfect foil from the Dwyer brothers of Stradavoher. Billy and Micky Walsh could make a football talk while the sight of 'Junior' Jordan in full flight towards goal raised passions in Bohernanave normally reserved for his illustrious next door neighbour, Jimmy Doyle.

When the Pike decided to enlist the services of a five foot six hairy under-fifteen who had recently and coincidentally found employment in a local tavern, all Loughtagalla quaked. Spare a thought for the young boy who had to leave the field in front of one thousand people before the match would be allowed to start — he had neglected to pack his birth certificate in the back pocket of his corduroy trousers.

The clash of Loughtagalla, the new boys in town, and Bohernanave, the 'real' home of hurling was generally seen as the clash of the year. The hundreds of bicycles littered across the entrance gate ensuring difficulty of access (nobody from Bohernanave ever entered the Sportsfield by the main gate!), the security that made the '84 All-Ireland a piece of cake, the



LOUGHTAGALLA — THURLES STREET LEAGUE CHAMPIONS 1962

Front: Micky Byrne, Tommy Treacy, Bill Mernagh, Jimmy Duggan, Eddie Fitzgibbon, Kieran Fogarty, Bill Casey. **Middle:** Joe Fogarty, Martin Butler, Conor Lanigan, Declan Kennedy, Pat Fahy, Matt Treacy. **Back:** Don Loughnane, Jack Dwyer, Tom Smith, Joe Mernagh, Eamon Roche, Pat Cummins, Timmy Moynihan, Liam Callaghan, Paul Byrne, Leonard Neylon, Michael Gleeson. John Fitzpatrick.

chanting of 'When the Saints go marching in', and the abuse and derision of the shawled women under the old scoreboard set the scene. The smell of poitin and wintergreen were always worth a few points to Loughtagalla although small benefit they were when the combined talents of Abbey Road, Garryvickiheen and the terraces of Bohernanave produced a style and skill that would be the envy of many modern senior teams.

CELEBRATIONS

Loughtagalla were lucky enough to lift the C.I.E. cup on a number of occasions and it was a joyous band that wended its way up the quarry towards the black plume of smoke under the water tower. Jack Harris and Martin Cummins had donated the crisps and minerals (rare offerings in those days). As night fell and the flames danced, so also did every man, woman and child to the music of Johnny Ryan, Dick Cotter and Eddie Gleeson. I'm

By Jimmy Duggan

sure we disturbed quite a few of Strongbow's men as we bashed out the steps on the flags of Log na Fola. That was the least of my worries as I, a hero of the passing hour, nonchalantly strode over to Dan Higgins' gate to ask the girl next door for my first dance! a siege of Ennis.

Just as another generation look with total affection on those years before the war, we the lucky ones of our generation hold a special grá for those years of the street leagues before Ireland and Thurles changed for ever. As street league kids, we are forever grateful to those who organised and ran them. They left in almost every Thurles boy a passion for hurling that the years have not tarnished and the whispered question of Thurles folk 'Do you remember the street leagues still brings a gleam to all our eyes as we head into middle age'.



STRADAVOHER — THURLES STREET LEAGUE CHAMPIONS 1967

Front Row: J. Skehan, M. Farrell, M. Fitzgerald, J. Cleary, J. Purcell, Tim Ryan, J. Behan, P. Foley, Tony Ryan, P. Duggan. **Middle Row:** R. Stakelum, T. Hogan, J. Cahill, J. Fitzgerald, G. Stakelum, J. Quinn, P. Connolly, D. Hogan, M. Ryan, D. Cleary, E. Dwyer. **Back Row:** P. Quinn, D. Quinn, Rev. J. Feehan C.C., M. Ryan, P. J. O'Meara, G. Hogan, L. Barrett, Joe Ryan, M. Carter.

Bank of Ireland G.A.A. Exhibition

"Tipperary's G.A.A. Story"

FIRST OF ITS KIND

TIPPERARY'S G.A.A. Story was the theme of an Exhibition, and the very first of its kind, mounted by Bank of Ireland at its Liberty Square, Thurles Branch. It was officially opened by the President of the Association, Dr. Mick Loftus, on Sunday, 31st January, 1988. The Exhibition, which proved to be a tremendous success, was open to the public throughout the months of February and March, during which time large numbers of people came from far and near to see it.

The Exhibition was the brainchild of Seán O'Callaghan, the Bank Manager, and was assembled under the advice and guidance given by well-known G.A.A. Historians, Willie Corbett, Seamus King, Tommy Barrett and Liam O'Donoghue, all closely associated with the G.A.A. in Tipperary. The Exhibition displayed the history of the G.A.A. in Tipperary as portrayed by the late Canon Fogarty in his book, "Tipperary's G.A.A. Story". The content of the Exhibition was very wide-ranging. It included a large pictorial section, which illustrated Tipperary's All-Ireland Senior Hurling and Football successes, large blow-up prints of action on field of play along with the Thurles influence on the G.A.A. in the County through the achievement of Thurles Sarsfields, Thurles C.B.S. and more recently Durlas Óg. It included documents relating to the foundation of the G.A.A. in Thurles in 1884 together with an array of literature relating to the Association and Clubs in the County.

IMPRESSIVE DISPLAY

The trophies on display included the famous Mayor Walker Cup, The Cuffe Shield, the Croke Fennelly Cup, the Munster Final Cup and All-Ireland Club Championship Cup. There was a very impressive display of medal collections, won by famous County players over the years. This included John Doyle's 8 All-Ireland Medals, Tommy Doyle's, Mickey Byrne's, Jimmy Doyle's, the Leahys of Tobberadora and the Heahys of Coolcroo, among others.

Bloody Sunday was a feature, highlighted by the display of the jersey worn by Mick Hogan shot by the Black & Tans on that occasion. Adding to the event was the presence of Bill Ryan of Laha, Castleiney, a member of the Tipperary team on that day. Tipperary Presidents and Patrons of the Association were featured in a special

section as was a section on the many "firsts" caused by Tipperary over the years.

DISTINGUISHED GATHERING

There was a large and distinguished gathering of guests at the Opening, including Dr. Michael Loftus, Most Rev. Dr. Thomas Morris, Seamus O'Riain, Moneygall, Past President of the Association, Gerry O'Donnell, General Manager - South, Bank of Ireland, and Enda MacGowan, Area General Manager. Mr. Jack Lynch, former Taoiseach and winner of All-Ireland medals with Cork, was guest speaker at the Opening. Present also were former

great players from the County, as well as Representatives from neighbouring counties Cork, Limerick and Kilkenny.

After the Official Opening Ceremony, the guests attended a special Mass at Thurles Sarsfields G.A.A. Pavilion prior to the County Convention and were specially welcomed by Michael Lowry, Chairman of the County Board.

The events and exhibition got very wide media coverage in local and national newspapers, in Donncha O Dubhlaing's Sunday Radio Programme and was also filmed and featured by R.T.E. in Mick Dunne's Gaelic Stadium Television Programme.



Pictured at the opening of the Exhibition are: Seán O'Callaghan (Bank of Ireland Manager, Thurles); G.A.A. President Mick Loftus; G.A.A. Patron Most Rev. Dr. T. Morris, and Jack Lynch.



Former Tipperary Captain, John Maher, with Seán O'Callaghan and former Taoiseach Jack Lynch at the Exhibition.

TIPPERARY G.A.A. DRAW

The Answer to Club and County Finances

THE G.A.A., like every other organisation, is going through difficult times. Apart from emigration, rising costs probably represent the biggest threat to the survival of our national games especially at grass-roots level. Raffles, church gate collections, sales of work and dances are no longer capable of providing essential revenue to complete our clubs' yearly activities. Hurleys, travelling expenses and upkeep of grounds place heavy demands on funds and a definite, ongoing means of finance is required.

Our County Board depends on a successful League campaign plus good attendances at its domestic championships to honour its financial commitments within the county. These can be unreliable sources as we unfortunately have experienced prior to the last two years. Okay, we kept our heads above water, but lack of surplus income was felt in many sectors such as schools, Bord na nÓg, coaching and Semple Stadium. A solution had to be found to rectify all these problems. It would mean a combined effort from every Tipperary G.A.A. member and supporter in clubs, bodies and associations inside and outside the county from top to bottom.

NEW DRAW LAUNCHED

May 16th, 1988, saw the launch of Tipperary G.A.A. Draw, a revolutionary new idea in fund raising, drawn up by a sub-committee appointed by the County Board. This committee consisted of Noel Morris (Co. Chairman), Michael Nolan (Co. Treasurer), Con Hogan (South), Gerry Creedon (West), John Ryan (Mid), John Tierney and Seamus Hogan (North). The committee was chaired by Michael Frawley and Timmy Floyd was appointed as Draw Co-ordinator.

A reasonable target of 6,000 members was set at £60 per head. This subscription could be paid in full or monthly by cash, cheque or bank order. The incentive for clubs to act as agents was based on a 33⅓% commission on all money collected. Another 33⅓% would be returned in prize-money and the balance less costs to be retained by the County Board. The scheme was very well presented on a most colourful brochure and proved to be a great attraction. Special incentive prizes were offered to members fully subscribed and to clubs with the highest units sold.

CRITICS SILENCED

The first draw took place on July 28th in the Clonmel Social Centre. On that night the drum rolled with 8,500 members. The critics were silenced and the show was on the road. Following this success, prizes were improved and bonuses were added to the commission. Every effort was made



Mick Frawley (Chairman, Draw Committee) presents Suzuki Swift to 5-year-old Mark Taylor, first prize winner in June Draw.

Timmy Floyd

to bring the draw to the public as the months passed on and we moved from the Royal Hotel, Tipperary, to O'Meara's Hotel, Nenagh, and back to the Social Centre in Thurles with our draws.

Members were still increasing as we approached that magic 9,000 members figure. In a further effort to bring the draw to the members we moved away from the main centres in each division to our top clubs with the highest sales.

Holycross carried the Mid torch with a highly professional and motivated force collecting 340 members. Cappawhite led the West with similar numbers. In the South, Cahir just about kept ahead of St. Mary's with 330 units, whilst Newport were tops in the North with 300.

All these clubs stand to earn from seven to eight thousand pounds in commission for selling the draw. This they make with no risk attached. No worries about prize money, overheads or organisation. This revenue will not alone cover their expenditure for the year but also allows for a little development on their grounds. They are also giving their members a chance to partake in a draw with worthwhile prizes.

GREAT SUCCESS

Following the Draw's success, the County Board can now look favourably on those areas that have suffered from lack of finances in recent years. Commitments have already been made to football coaching, Bórd na nÓg and our schools at all levels. Carefully planned programmes of expenditure have been presented and

analysed to ensure this money is directed where most needed. Inter-divisional expenses which were suspended in recent years may now be reintroduced, so that our successful clubs might receive the attention they deserve. Of course, we cannot shirk our responsibility to Semple Stadium. It's in all our interest that this debt is cleared up as quickly as possible.

THE FUTURE

Whilst Tipperary G.A.A. Draw is enjoying tremendous success in the inaugural year, it's vital that this effort be sustained in the coming years. The potential of this scheme is enormous when one considers the room for improvement that exists in many of our clubs. Okay, these clubs had their own fund-raising activities planned for this year, but they have now received sufficient notice for next year's Draw.

This Draw is capable of outshining all competition. It can offer higher commission and a bigger prize fund, only if it gets 100% backing from every club throughout the county. Clubs must be properly organised to promote this draw. To sell 300 units a minimum of 15 promoters is required by a club. Otherwise collecting becomes a chore and interest diminishes as the months pass by.

Acting as agents we have 66 clubs throughout the county plus the Handball, Camogie and Inter-Firm Boards, McDonagh Park, the Limerick and Dublin Tipperary Men's Associations and many more individuals. We are grateful for all their support and as we plan for the year ahead we hope we can count on their continued commitment, so that Tipperary G.A.A. Draw can prove to be the answer to all our fund-raising worries.

Gaelic Grounds Unvisited

Brother Joseph Perkins

*"Upon the barren African veldt
You'll find our lads to-day
And in Australia, too, the Celt
Has nobly won his way;
And 'neath the friendly "Stars and
Stripes",
That 'oft they died to save;
They are here and there, and
everywhere
The Gaels beyond the wave!"*

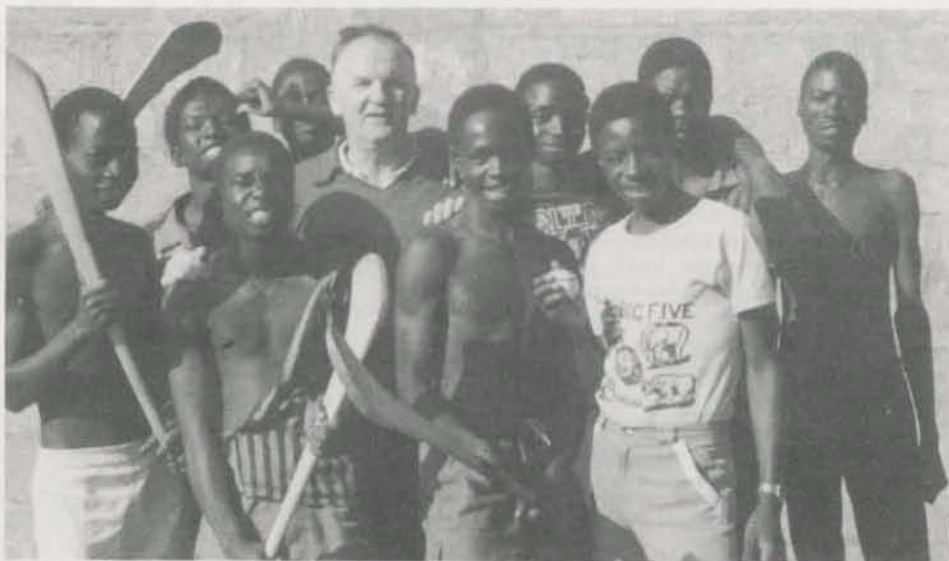
THE above lines were written by that historian and song writer from Kinsale, Phil O'Neill, better known as "Sliabh Rua". He understood what it was to be in exile and far from the land of one's youth.

WHO WON?

Much has been written about this year's Munster Final by those who **visited** the Gaelic Grounds on that great day in July, 1988. I missed the great occasion. Most of you know what it is like to be present. Do you know what it is like **not** to be there? When I volunteered to spend some time teaching in Zambia, in Central Africa, the first thing that came into my head was that I would not be able to be present at the Munster Final. Well, we will remember Killarney 1987 when tears of joy came into our eyes after extra time, when the crowd began to sing our own beloved "Slievenamon", and Blue and Gold flags were everywhere. Even better things seemed to be in store for us in the Gaelic Grounds, Limerick.

Let me now paint you a different canvas picture. Imagine to yourself a small town on a very warm Sunday. The place is quiet. There are only five white men hwere, all from Ireland, two from Tipperary. The schools are well-built, so is their living quarters. Dinner is over. There are no Sunday newspapers. There will be no commentary on the radio, if one had one, and nobody around knows there is a very important match being played five thousand miles away. You go for a walk in the 'Bush'. Your thoughts are far-away, back home. At 6 p.m., African time, Brother Phil Russell of Ballyduag says "I wonder what's the result from beneath the new Mackey Stand. Will we get word?" We listen in for an hour to the B.B.C. News. It is a faint and crackling sound. They give no account, not even the score, only the result of All-Irelands! Monday comes, no papers. Irish papers will not come till a week or more passes, and the good old, bright "Star" will not arrive 'till a fortnight has gone by.

Tuesday came. We are desperate. Someone rang the Irish Embassy or Consulate, over a hundred miles away. They do not know either, but they'll find out by 'Telex'. They did! Mazabuka is rejoicing. The news spreads to the other seven Brothers' houses, hundreds of miles



Bro. Joseph Perkins with a happy group of young Zambian hurlers. All Tipp supporters - no doubt.

apart. Priests hear of it, and the nuns are delighted. Bob Stakelum's sister (Sister Imelda) hears of it in Monze and so does Sister Molly Moloney from the green, Holycross, four hundred miles away.

The little black lads are amazed on Wednesday to see the Brothers in such good humour, in spite of the oppressive sun and biting mosquitos. Those boys are playing soccer in their bare feet and do not understand the language of the onlooker as he shouts at them: "Ar an dtalamh", "Pull first time", "squeeze 'em up Moycarkey" or "Up Ahane, as far as Newport".

The "Southern Cross" did appear in the sky that night at 6.30 p.m. as we said a Rosary of thanksgiving and the "Tipperary Star" appeared two weeks later. Only the handle of the "Plough" could be seen low down in the Northern horizon. The work must go on!

SOLID FOUNDATION

The work of many years had borne fruit. The Rural Schools, the Post Primary Schools. Bord na nÓg, Minor and U-21 teams had laid the foundations. The forgotten heroes had done their work well. The coaching, the training, the discipline and the motivating of young hurlers could be seen by those who know of hidden forces and proper growth.

When I look back to the work of men who were there **sixteen** years ago and who had been in charge of the under twelves I can easily see why such a splendid tree has grown and spread to every part of Tipperary, from Lorrha to Cullen, from Cahir to Mullinahone, to areas where there was little hurling. I thank the Lord for giving us such pillars of the Gaelic Athletic Association. Who will forget the great work of Fr. J. J. O'Rourke and the fruit that has come from such endeavours, or **John Costigan, Mick Prior, Paddy Maher, Michael O'Brien, Mick Forde, Timmy Delaney, Mick Maxwell, P. J.**

Harrington, Brs. Higgins and Keane, Paddy Kelly, Nickey English, another Paddy Maher, Seamus O'Doherty, Niall Williams, John Ivors, Philly Ryan, Danny Morrissey, Liam O'Donnchú, Paudie Butler, Dinny Hogan, Br. O'Grady, Tom Purcell, Eddie Ryan, Liam McGrath, etc., etc.

A UNIQUE GAME

We still have great men doing tremendous work, keeping that great game of hurling alive and well. I have seen many games in foreign lands, but none can compare with hurling. The Africans have nothing like it and the Romans or Greeks, for all their valour, discipline and "flare" never played a game such as hurling with:

"Something like 'bis' in it,
Always a 'fizz' in it,
Plenty of 'jizz' in it,
Muscle and brawn!"

Is it they have not got the athletic prowess of the Irishman, or his courage from one generation to the next?

"There's a glittering sheen in the changing scene,
In the glory of manhood's glow,
In the steadied nerve and lightning swerve
To counter the friendly foe".

Tradition dies slowly; but 'twill never die if properly fostered, as it is being done by the trustworthy promoters and motivators of our games to-day. You may take a man away from the game, but the game will never be far away from the man. he will take his love for the game away in his heart to the farthest ends of the earth. Even in heaven, I believe his spirit will still long for the game he loved so well. In the words of a modern poet he will say:

"Look for me in heaven
When you pass the Golden Gate,
Where all the fields are level
And all the posts are straight".

Archbishop Morris

By WILLIAM CORBETT

In an interview with "The Pioneer" magazine a few years ago Archbishop Thomas Morris stated: "I am very fond of the G.A.A. and especially of hurling, but I could claim no prowess whatever in the sport - I would not even have made the parish team".

HE is, however, a good Patron of the G.A.A., fully appreciative of the contribution of the Association to the national well-being for the past century and anxious to help in any way possible to advance its aims and objectives.

His years as secretary to his predecessor, Archbishop Kinane, who had an intense interest in the Association and particularly in hurling, were an invaluable apprenticeship. But in many respects he needed no tutors. His innate interest in people and their advancement, their culture and in all that was truly Irish have been motivating factors in every aspect of his life.



Welcoming our lads home on the steps of Thurles Cathedral after the All-Ireland.

acceptance of the patronage of the Association was in Irish with the stipulation that when used for official purposes the Irish version be used.

As a Knocknagow man he is interested in the survival of our rural communities and of working and playing "for the credit of the little village".

he has, like everybody else, followed the varying fortunes of our senior hurlers and must have been bitterly disappointed with their failure last September — his last day in Croke Park as Archbishop of Cashel and Emlly. However, he is philosophical and never desponds. In our adversity we should remember the many counties that never in a century of effort reached the coveted final.

The Association is not a winners club. *Is mó is fiú an imirt ná an bua.*

His words of appreciation and encouragement in last year's Year Book are worth repeating:

"There is a band of faithful people who guard the G.A.A. 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. I think of those who provide and maintain grounds and premises, those responsible for training, stewarding, refereeing, finance, programming and fixtures".

He is generous with his time where the G.A.A. is concerned and if his attendance contributes to an occasion he will not decline an invitation. As did the many demands of centenary year, the official opening of grounds, and pavilions, the launching of club histories and the opening of exhibitions always met with a positive response.

He is still Patron of the G.A.A. and we hope will be there to see the McCarthy Cup return to Tipperary not once but many a time.

Agus é in a chonáí fao scáth na mainistreach i gceart lár na muintire imeoidh an aois de agus go raibh sé arís óg.



In a happy mood at the stadium before this year's County Final, with chairman Noel Morris.

As a close friend and confidant of Canon Hayes, the founder and father figure of Muintir na Tire, he was in contact with the same people who form the backbone of the G.A.A. His lifelong interest in the Irish language not merely as a scholar but as an exemplary Gaeilgeoir was an added qualification for the title of Patron. Indeed his letter of



"The First Time" - Dr. Morris throwing the ball into the 1960 Munster Championship in which Tipperary beat Cork by two points. Also in the picture are current Tipperary selectors Theo English and Donie Nealon along with Tony Wall.

West Tipperary G.A.A. Games

Review 1988

By Jerry Ring



CAPPAWHITE — WEST J.H. CHAMPIONS 1988

Back Row: Martin Quinlan (selector), Larry Quinn (selector), Seanie O'Neill, Tom Coughlan, T. J. Quinn, Mickey O'Neill, John Barry, Eugene Maguire, Paddy Joe Walsh, Kieran Devery (selector). **Front Row:** Paul Buckley, Ned Ryan, Johnny Ryan, Dasun Hennessy, Michael Ryan (capt.), Francis Quinn, Mylie Coughlan, Liam Hennessy.



GALTEE ROVERS, WEST U-21 F. 'B' CHAMPIONS 1988

Back Row: Karl Hickey, Chris Byron, Michael Maher, Nicholas O'Neill, Michael Grace, John Doocey, Willie Crowe, Johnny Halpin, Matty Breen, Philip Quirke. **Front Row:** Kevin Roche, Niall McGrath, Christy Harris, Edmund Fahy, Thomas Coen, Jason Flannery, Martin Halpin, John Gubins, Dinny Healy, Willie Tarrant (Capt.), Ivan Hickey.



RETURN TO THE WEST — GLENGAR J.F. 1988

Back Row: Andy Quinlan, John Treacy, Pat Treacy, Joe Shanahan, Corie Ryan (Rue), Jim Ryan (Rue), Paul Ryan (Rue), Tom Treacy, Matt Hogan, Pat Ryan (Manager), Milie Treacy, Mike Buckley, Patsy Ryan (Rue), D. J. Treacy. **Front Row:** Willie Shanahan, Liam Bradshaw, Mike Real, George Ryan (Manager), Joe Treacy, Liam Ryan (Manager), Dan Shanahan, Mike Butler, Tom Butler, Ollie Treacy, Fran Ryan (Rue), John Ryan (Pakie).



EMLY WEST U-21 H. 'B' CHAMPIONS 1988

Back Row: Andrew Heffernan, Brendan Corcoran, Mike McGrath, Denis Beary, Denis Heelan, Brendan O'Haney, Liam O'Brien, Pa Sheehy, Michael Ryan, Fran Cunningham, Michael Frawley. **Front Row:** Roger English, John O'Meara, Joe Heelan, Joseph Keogh, Charlie Murphy, Paul Carroll, Donal Heelan. Missing from photo is Pat Concannon.

DESPITE all the Inter county activity during the year in which players from many of our clubs were involved, the activities on the playing fields ran relatively smoothly. It's a pity that some of our championships are still running somewhat late, but this problem is also caused by the success of a club in many competitions. One noticeable trend in most clubs this year has been their seeming difficulties in fielding teams at all times in all grades. It's also noticeable that almost 50% of all our players playing on adult teams in the majority of our clubs are under twenty ones. I think that this trend speaks for itself. On the positive side the interest in our championship games seems to be holding up well. The attendances at our Senior Hurling Championship games in particular seems to bear out the support which is present within the Division for our games.

SENIOR HURLING CHAMPIONSHIP

(7 Teams — Knockout)

Co. Champions, Cappawhite made their exit from the championship at the hands of Clonoulty/Rossmore in the first round. Sean Treacys defeated Golden/Kilfeacle, and Kickhams proved too good for Éire Óg in the other first round games. Cashel who had a bye to the semi-final took on a confident Clonoulty/Rossmore side in their semi, and provided another surprise with Clonoulty/Rossmore failing to line up to expectations on the day. A young Kickhams side had the better of a gallant Sean Treacys fifteen in the other semi-final. The final between Cashel and Kickhams was played in Cappawhite and Cashel won, but did not impress on the day. Kickhams went down to Killenaule in a high scoring Co. Quarter Final, while Cashel kept West hopes alive with a fine victory over St. Mary's. However in the County Semi-Final they lost by five points to a fine Borrisoleigh side, thus failing to emulate the feat of Cappawhite in 1987.

CROSCO CUP

(S.J. League — 9 Teams)

Arravale Rovers and Emly joined the senior clubs in this league and the league was run in two groups. Clonoulty/Rossmore and Cashel won through in Group 1 and Kickhams and Cappawhite came out of Group 2. The semi-finals Clonoulty/Rovers versus Kickhams and Cashel v. Cappawhite have yet to be played.

JUNIOR HURLING CHAMPIONSHIP

(League — 10 Teams)

This league was played in two groups, five teams in each. Three teams in each

group finished level on points, so play-offs were necessary. Golden/Kilfeacle and Cashel were eliminated in the play-offs, and Lattin/Cullen defeated Kickhams in one semi-final while Cappawhite were taken to a replay by Clonoulty in the other semi-final. Lattin/Cullen met Cappawhite in the final with Cappa proving too strong, running out worthy winners.

INTERMEDIATE HURLING CHAMPIONSHIP

(League — 2 Groups — 3 teams in each)

In Group I, Galtee Rovers were eliminated while in Group II Rockwell Rovers failed to make the semi-finals. Arravale Rovers defeated a fancied Emly side in one semi-final while Solohead were too good for Rosegreen in the other. Arravale Rovers and Solohead met in the final and Solohead forced a draw with a last minute point. In the replay a great second half rally saw the Rovers through.

U-21 HURLING CHAMPIONSHIP 'A'

(6 Teams — Knockout)

In the first round games, Arravale Rovers lost narrowly to Cashel, while Clonoulty/Rossmore had the better of a youthful Cashel side. Clonoulty/Rossmore defeated Golden/Kilfeacle in the final and went on to defeat St. Mary's in the County Semi-Final.

U-21 HURLING CHAMPIONSHIP 'B'

(4 Teams — Knockout)

This competition consisted of two semi-final games. Sean Treacys/Glengar defeated Galtee Rovers, and Emly defeated Éire Óg after a replay. The final between Sean Treacys/Glengar and Emly saw Emly run out easy winners to retain their title.

MINOR HURLING CHAMPIONSHIP 'A'

(4 Teams — Knockout)

Kickhams were defeated by Cappawhite in one semi-final while Cashel were much too good for Arravale Rovers in the other. Cashel had a handsome victory over Cappawhite in the final and went on to annex the County title defeating St. Mary's in the County semi-final and coming through with a great second half performance to defeat Roscrea in the County Final.

MINOR HURLING CHAMPIONSHIP 'B'

(7 Teams — Knockout)

Sean Treacys/Glengar, Solohead and Lattin/Emly lost their first round games. Galtee Rovers defeated Golden/Kilfeacle in one semi-final while Éire Óg had the better of Clonoulty/Rossmore in the other. Éire Óg held out to defeat Galtee Rovers in a very good final. They went on to defeat Carrick Swans in the county semi-final and were defeated by Boherlahan in the County Final.

SENIOR FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

(9 Teams — knockout with losers group)

The winners of the losers group



ARRAVALA ROVERS — WEST INTERMEDIATE HURLING CHAMPIONS 1988

Back Row: E. Browne, J. Quinlan, T. Crowe, T. Lohan, E. Lowry, N. McMahon, J. Harding, A. Quirke, P. O'Donnell, J. O'Dwyer, J. Ryan, J. Sheldon, W. Crowe, J. Quirke. **Front Row:** J. Cummins, R. O'Connor, T. O'Dwyer, C. Lowry, E. O'Dwyer (Capt.), D. Quinlan, M. O'Donnell, J. Lowry, J. Crowe, L. O'Donnell, R. Lohan.



AHERLOW, WEST M.F. 'B' WINNERS 1988

Back Row: Darren Ryan, Martin Ryan, John Butler, John McCormack, David Grogan, Ciaran Clifford, Michael Moroney, Mark Leonard, Sean Russell, Brendan Carey, Toby Peters, Daragh Maher. **Front Row:** John Ivory, George Martin, John Frewen, Owen Ryan, Patrick Carey, Denis O'Shea, Luke Leonard, Patrick O'Shea, Pat Frewen, Robert Russell.



ÉIRE ÓG, WEST M.H. 'B' CHAMPIONS, 1988

Back Row: Michael McCarthy, Richard Quinn, Denis O'Mahony, Geoffrey Maxwell, Diarmuid Mooney, Liam Ryan, Tony O'Brien, John Ryan, Michael Ryan (Capt.), John Ryan, Walter Corbett, Gerard Ryan, Michael Heffernan, Ronald Maxwell. **Front Row:** Donal Kelly, John Leahy, Pat Aherne, Pat Butler, Liam Gleeson, Michael Heffernan, Tom Ryan, Michael Kelly, Vincent Ryan, Doncha Horan, Tim Heffernan, Pat Quinn.



CLONOULTY/ROSSMORE — WEST U-21 'A' HURLING CHAMPIONS 1988

Front Row: Mitchel Heffernan, Patrick Fogarty, Seamus Coen, Ger Ryan, Laurence Loughman, Seamus Coffey, Michael Murphy (capt.), Alan O'Dwyer, Kevin Ryan, Tim Shanahan. **Back Row:** Pat Hennessy (selector), Paul O'Dwer, Brendan Ryan (selector), P. J. Heffernan, Conor Ryan, Philip Quirke, Willie Heffernan, Noel Keane, Declan Ryan, Dan Quirke, Phil Shanahan, Maurice Quirke, Thomas Heffernan, (selector).

GOLDEN/KILFEACLE — WEST SENIOR FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS 1988

Back Row: Tadhg Rafferty (selector), Tom O'Donnell, Tom Leamy, Mick Doyle, Jimmy Wade, John Cooney, James Hallissey, Morty O'Connell (selector), Tony cooney, Liam O'Sullivan, Eamonn O'Donnell, Ken O'Connell, Jimmy O'Donnell (selector). **Front Row:** Danny Hallissey (chairman), Pakie Hallissey, Niall Fogarty, Brendan Ryan, P. J. Collins (Capt.), Brian Leamy, Jim O'Connell, John Currihan, Willie Barragry, Sean Delaney.



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played the losers of the West Final for the right to represent the Division in the County quarter-final.

Clonoulty/Rossmore, Golden/Kilfeacle, Arravale Rovers and Galtee Rovers won their first round games. Cappawhite who had a bye in the first round were defeated by Clonoulty/Rossmore in the second round game to decide who met Galtee Rovers in the semi-final. Galtee Rovers won through and met Golden/Kilfeacle, who had defeated Arravale Rovers in the other semi, in the West Final. The West Final was abandoned because of the tragic death of referee Timmy Hennessy during the game. Golden/Kilfeacle won the refixture to retain the Hennessy Cup.

Cashel defeated Solohead and Emly defeated Rockwell Rovers in the Losers Group semi-finals. Emly defeated Cashel in the Losers final, and then defeated Galtee Rovers in the play-off for the right to meet Fethard in the County Quarter-Final. Emly were defeated by Fethard the eventual county champions, while Golden/Kilfeacle went down to Commercial in the County Quarter-Finals.

O'DONOGHUE CUP S.F. LEAGUE

(9 Teams — Two Groups)

Emly and Rockwell Rovers won through in Group 1 while Golden/Kilfeacle and Cashel won through in Group 2. The semi-finals between Emly and Golden and Rockwell Rovers and Cashel have yet to be played.

JUNIOR FOOTBALL LEAGUE

(9 Teams — Two Groups)

Rosegreen and Rockwell Rovers reached the semi-finals from Group 1 and were joined by Aherlow and Arravale 'B' from Group 2. Aherlow defeated Rosegreen in one semi-final while Arravale 'B' defeated Rockwell Rovers in the other semi-final. Aherlow went on to win the League defeating Arravale 'B' in the final.

INTERMEDIATE FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

(3 Teams — League)

Only three teams Lattin/Cullen, Éire Óg and Kickhams affiliated. The two top teams on points, Lattin/Cullen and Éire Óg contested the final, with victory going to Éire Óg by a single point.

JUNIOR FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

(13 Teams — Knockout)

Aherlow who were favourites to win this championship defeated Galtee Rovers in the semi-final. In the other semi-final, Arravale Rovers defeated Cashel so the scene was set for a rematch of the League finalists. Arravale



ARRAVALA ROVERS — WEST MINOR FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS 1988

Back Row: Niall Foley, Michael Ryan, Richard English, Alan Quirke, Fergal Gallagher, David Kavanagh, Peter Gleeson, Colm Bresnan. **Front Row:** Jason Tynan, Declan Nugent, Cyril Stapleton, Michael Flynn, Seanie O'Halloran, Peter Hogan, John Quirke.

Rovers turned the tables on Aherlow and won their third West Junior Football Championship title in a row.

U-21 FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP 'A'

(5 Teams — Knockout)

Golden lost out and Cashel defeated Lattin/Emly in one semi-final while Arravale Rovers defeated Clonoulty/Rossmore in the other. Arravale Rovers and Cashel contested the final.

U-21 FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP 'B'

(6 Teams — Knockout)

Kickhams and Éire Óg did not reach the semi-finals. Galtee Rovers with a walkover from Solohead and Rockwell Rovers with a walkover from Cappawhite contested the final with victory going to a fine Galtee Rovers side.

MINOR FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP 'A'

(4 Teams — On a League Basis)

The two top teams on points, Arravale Rovers and Cashel contested the final with victory going to a fine Arravale Rovers side. Lattin/Emly and Golden/Kilfeacle were the other teams in the championship. Arravale Rovers drew with a fancied Fethard side in the Co. Semi-Final and after a great display won the replay. The Rovers defeated Thurles Sarsfields in the County Final.

MINOR FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP 'B'

(8 Teams — League)

The Championship was run on a league basis with two groups of four teams. The two top teams on points from each group contested the semi-finals. Aherlow defeated Clonoulty/Rossmore in one semi-final while after a replay Kickhams defeated the Galtee Rovers in the other. Aherlow defeated Galtee Rovers in the final and went on to score a fine win over Ardfinnan in the County Semi-Final.

SCÓR

Scór, the Winter activity for G.A.A. clubs is obviously on the decline for many reasons. Maybe it's overdue a restructuring. However some clubs are still enthusiastic and involved, they deserve our thanks and support. The following are the winners of Scór 88:

	Scór Na nÓg	Scór Sinsir
Rince Foirne:	Arravale Rvs.	Éire Óg
Aithriseoireacht:	Eamon Nolan	Eileen Heffernan
	Sean Treacys	Cappawhite (Co)
Amhran Aonair:	Deirdre O'Connell	Carol O'Dwyer
	Sean Treacys (Co.)	Arravale Rvs.
Nuachleas:	Aherlow	Cappawhite
Trath na gCeist:	Sean Treacys	Sean Treacys
Ceol Uirlise:	Sean Treacys (Co.)	Sean Treacys
Bailead Ghrupa:	Clonoulty/R.	Arravale Rvs (Co)
Rince Seit:	Lattin/Cullen	Éire Óg



ÉIRE ÓG WEST — INTERMEDIATE FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS 1988

Back Row: Tom Crosse, Seamus Hanley, Tim Ryan, Anthony Crosse, Bill Burke, Mike Ryan, Sean Breen, John O'Dwyer. **Front Row:** Jack Breen, Liam White, Pat Fox, Kevin Fox, Liam O'Dwyer (capt.), John Fox, Seamus Fox, Donncha Horan.

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

*Congratulations to all Divisional and County Championship
winners.*

Mícheál Magaidhir
Cathaoirleach.

Diarmuid Ó Rinn
Rúnaí

Breandán Ó Riain
Cisteóir

CAISEAL RÍ CORMAIC:

West & County Minor Hurling Champions

By Joseph O'Dwyer, P.R.O., Cashel King Cormacs

ON Sunday, October 2 Brendan Murphy became the fourth Cashelman to hold the Seán Treacy Cup aloft in Semple Stadium. It was the end of an epic county final in which the King Cormac's overcame Roscrea in a thrilling county minor hurling final.

It was the first in a number of years for the minor championship to be played on a knockout system in the west. Cashel had a bye to the semi-final in which they played old rivals, Arravale Rovers. This opposition had beaten them at the under-12, under-14 and under-16 levels but the Cashel boys made no mistake at Golden on June 27 and pushed their former victors aside with consummate ease in a score of 4-21 to 1-4.

WEST FINAL

The final was against Cappawhite on July 24. Because four of the team, Ramie Ryan, James O'Donoghue, T. J. Connolly and Ailbe Bonnar, were also on the senior panel, the minor final was not played until after the senior game. Cappawhite provided stern opposition in the first half

but Cashel pulled away after the interval and won by 5-21 to 2-6. The game will be remembered for three great goals by Declan McGrath and fourteen brilliant points by Ramie Ryan. In fact the minors gave the seniors a lesson the day.

The opposition for the semi-final was St. Mary's, Clonmel, and the game was played at Boherlahan on September 21. The outcome was doubtful for the first quarter but after that it was a Cashel parade. The most brilliant Cashel display came from Joe O'Leary who had a hat-trick of goals in a King Cormac's winning margin of 6-12 to 1-4.

COUNTY FINAL

For the final against Roscrea at Semple Stadium on October 2 Cashel had to play in the colours of the local Vocational School. The predictions were that we had a fifty-fifty chance. We had come through with brilliant displays on our way to the final but there was a question mark over the quality of the opposition. In contrast Roscrea had two very tough games, against Toomevara and



Cashel captain, Brendan Murphy, receiving the trophy from His Grace, Most Rev. Dr. Dermot Clifford, Archbishop of Cashel and Emly, following the county minor hurling final.

Thurles Sarsfields.

The day was damp and the underfoot conditions wet and slippery. From the throw-in Cashel held their opponents even. But, midway through the half disaster struck. In a four minute blitz Roscrea notched up three goals which sent Cashel reeling. At half-time we were seven points behind. Prospects for the second half were none too rosy.

Our worst fears seemed to be realised when Roscrea went further ahead with a point on the resumption. Then the Cashel boys began their Lazarus act. Gradually they

chipped away at Roscrea's lead and drew level by the 20th minute. A Ramie Ryan point soon after gave them the lead but Roscrea replied with a point from a 65. However, in the last minutes of the game Ailbe Bonnar scored a great point from under the new stand and Brendan Murphy clinched the issue with another in the last minute. The final score was 2-11 to 3-6 in Cashel's favour and Most Rev. Dr. Dermot Clifford presented his first county Tipperary final trophy to Cashel captain, Brendan Murphy.

There was great jubilation and a great reception for the team when they arrived back in Cashel. They were paraded through the town by the Dr. O'Hurley Pipe Band to Ryan's Royal Oak Hotel for a reception.

The victorious side was: T. McInerney, D. Keating, T. J. Connolly, A. Courtney, S. Barron, J. Maher, S. Hayes, Brendan Murphy (captain), T. Crosse, R. Ryan, A. Bonnar, J. O'Donoghue, J. O'Leary, J. Maher, D. McGrath. Subs: S. O'Donoghue, A. Keating, N. Murphy. Other members of the panel: S. O'Duibhir, S. Lawrence, C. O'Neill, P. McInerney. Man of the Match Award: Ramie Ryan. Selectors: Joe Joe Moloney, Seán Slattery, Joseph O'Dwyer. Medic: Pierce Bonnar.



THE BONNARS OF CASHEL

From left: Colm, Brendan, Ailbe, Pearse (father), Conal and Cormac.

West Tipp Bórd na nÓg

By Lou Reardon

COMPETITION began with Féile, Clonoulty/Rossmore beating Arravale Rovers in the final and going on to represent the division. Although outclassed in the county semi-final they acquitted themselves well.

The championships began with U-12 football in April and finished in September with the U-16 'B' hurling final. The pleasing aspect of the results was the spread of teams with pride of place going to Arravale Rovers who brought the only county title to the division in U-14 football. Aherlow won three competitions as did Kickhams. Cappawhite, Emly, Golden and Rosegreen returned to claim titles. This year saw Cashel taking part in U-16 competitions only. Hopefully some way can be found to encourage them to again take part in U-12 and U-14 competitions.

In the Garda Cups we were represented in the U-16 football and hurling inter-divisional competition. Our hurlers reached the final where they were beaten by a strong North team. Our footballers were beaten by the eventual winners and it was great to see West representatives on the county U-16 football team that went to Carrignavar for intensive training. Ciarán Clifford of Aherlow was chosen as the most promising player.

The West had seven representatives on the U-16 county hurling panel who won the inaugural inter-county competition. The representation on the U-14 county team



West Bórd na nÓg officers on occasion of presentation to long-serving member James O'Donoghue: l. to r.: Sammy Ryan (chairman), Jim O'Donoghue (treasurer), Tommy Kelly (former chairman) and Lou Reardon (secretary).



Galtee Rovers, West U-12 'B' football winners 1988. Back row: John Quinlan, Michael White, Seán O'Neill, Eamonn O'Connell, James Dalton, Martin O'Dwyer, Liam Phelan, Shane O'Brien, Gary O'Gorman, Theo O'Donovan, Mark Crowe, Kevin McCarthy. Front row: Brian Morrissey, David Gorman, Prionsias Walsh, Peter O'Sullivan, Eamonn Lonergan, Michael Collins, Michael Scanlon, Declan O'Donoghue, Jack Murphy, Brendan Healy.



I.N.T.O./G.A.A. Skills Tipperary Award Winners who participated in Mini-Games in Croke Park before All-Ireland hurling series. L-r.: Paul Martin, Eanna McManus, Stephen Burke, John McCarthy (Emly N.S.).



Shane Quinlan, Lattin/Cullen, winner of Féile skills county competition 1988.



Aherlow, West U-14 rural hurling winners 1988. Back row: Robert Shanahan, Derry Peters, Pat Hughes, John Riordain, George Kiely, Anthony Moroney, Don Walsh, Michael Russell, Declan Riordan, Denis O'Shea (coach). Front row: Eddie Moroney, John O'Connell, Seán Peters, Lionel Leonard, Kieran Moroney, Donal McGrath, Mark O'Shea, Brian O'Sullivan, Liam Lewis, Conor O'Shea.

was not as large as other years but it was great to see the Tony Forrester trophy retained.

The skills competition was won by Shane Quinlan, Lattin/Cullen, who was third in the county. The Póc Fadó was won by S. Heffernan, Clonoulty, who represented the division in the county. The U-14 inter-divisional competition was played in late October which was a disappointment.

The level of competition at U-12 level was improved particularly in football with the deletion of the solo run. Anyone who saw the county final in Cahir between Thurles and Ardfinnan would be convinced that this innovation should be tried also at U-14 level.

The standard of hurling at all levels was not as good as other years and the running of coaching courses at all levels must be a priority. There were the usual complaints about venues and availability of referees and difficulties caused by a competition with a knock-out system and a losers group. However it operated far better than the league system and all deadlines were met.

My thanks to all the players, mentors and clubs who took part in competition, also to the much maligned referees and the public who supported our efforts. Hopefully in time many of our juvenile players will represent the county in hurling and football and continue the great tradition of West Tipp games.

The winter is the time for discussion on the year's achievements in time for planning for future years. Now is the best time to formulate any changes that might improve our games and make them more attractive to our youth. For at the end of all our planning the only worthwhile aim is to encourage our youth to take part and by so doing to enrich our games and their lives.

1988 West Juvenile Champions

U-12 Grade: 'A' hurling — Arravale Rovers. 'B' hurling — Cappawhite. 'A' football — Galtee Rovers — 'B' football — Galtee Rovers; 'C' football — Emly. U-14 grade: Rural hurling — Aherlow; Urban/Rural hurling — Arravale Rovers; 'B' hurling — Golden/Killeacle. Rural football: Aherlow; Urban/Rural football — Arravale Rovers; 'B' football — Rockwell Rovers; U-16 grade: 'A' hurling — Kickhams; 'B' hurling — Aherlow. 'A' football — Kickhams; 'B' football — Rosegreen. Féile winners: Clonoulty/Rossmore.



Arravale rovers, West U-14 H. (Urban) champs 1988. Back row: Michael Bowes, Ian Quinlan, Kevin O'Sullivan, Alan Quinlan, Anthony Culhane, J. C. O'Halloran, Damian Lynch, Rory Kissane, Mark Gleeson, Colin Cummins. Front row: Kevin O'Sullivan, Denis Cremins, Brian Lacey, Stephen Maguire, Geoffrey Comas, David Cleary, Kevin Jones, Frank Jones, Brendan Crowe, Noel Greene, Pat Stokes.



Arravale Rovers, West U-12 H. champions 1988. Back row: Pa McEvoy, Jamie Wade, Ger McGrath, Niall English, Niall Hanrahan, Jason Nugent, Ian Morrissey, Seán O'Halloran, Kieran Greene, Declan Crowe, Enda O'Sullivan, William Gleeson. Front row: Kieran Codd, Shane O'Connell, Liam Martin, Morgan Fahy, Aidan Tobin, Barry McGrath, Eamonn O'Dwyer, Kenneth Bowes, Simon Pilkington, Shane Moore, Mark Cummins, Denis Lynch.



Aherlow, West U-16 'B' H. champions 1988. Back row: Denis O'Shea, Tony Donovan, Seán Peters, Derry Peters, Anthony Moroney, Conor O'Shea, Din Walsh, Luke Leonard, George Kiely, Martin Ryan, Shane Maher, Tom Hanley. Front row: Jackie Bourke, Owen Ryan, Ger Kirby, Darren Ryan, Patrick O'Shea, Paddy Carey, Ciarán Clifford, Mark Leonard, John Frewen, Michael Moroney. Sitting: Edel Hanley.



ARRAVALA ROVERS UNDER-14 FOOTBALL COUNTY CHAMPIONS

Back row: B. Brett (manager), D. Donovan, M. Gleeson, M. Bowes, J. C. O'Halloran, A. Quinlan, I. Quinlan, B. Quinn, D. Lynch, K. Sullivan, P. Tedford (manager), P. Flynn (Manager). Front row: E. Bresnan, P. Stokes, D. Ryan, S. Maguire, C. Brett, D. Cremins, D. Cleary (captain), B. Lacey, S. Lynch, B. Crowe, G. Coman, D. Ryan (missing from photo R. Kissane and L. Ward).

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Cappawhite and the Munster Club Championship

AFTER Cappa's historic win in the county final, and the celebrations that followed, it was back to training in the cold and dark November nights in preparation for the Munster Club Championship. As Kilruane and Borrisoleigh had held the title for the previous two years, the team was very much aware of the responsibility that lay on their shoulders. Not alone had the team to be prepared, the field also had to be got ready, as well as fixed for Cappa.

So on November 21st, with a large crowd present, we played host to Patrickswell, the Limerick champions. The game, which was played in heavy underfoot conditions against a very experienced opposition, was marked with tension and anxiety. Indeed Cappa shot no less than twenty wides in a game which they dominated and it was only their more stylish finishing that enabled them to qualify for the final. Goals by Pa O'Neill and Martin McDermott in each half ensured victory for the home side. *Result:* Cappawhite 2-8, Patrickswell 0-9.

Liam Treacy

MUNSTER FINAL

On Saturday, December 5th, Kilmallock was the venue for the Munster Final, with Midleton, a star-studded side having half a team of Cork inter-county experience, the opposition. Cappa got off to a disastrous start. When the game was only a few minutes old, Kevin Hennessy had a goal from a shot that bounced just inside the Cappa goal. This was followed quickly by John Fenton free and prospects looked bad.

Conor Ryan then took control in the centre, distributing well to the forwards.

Points from John O'Neill and Pa O'Neill were followed by a series of misses before a shot from Austin Buckley was well saved by Ger Power, but Ger O'Neill was on hand to tap home the rebound. Then followed Cappa's best spell with points from Martin McDermott, Austin Buckley and Pa O'Neill. Midleton then hit back

with points from John Fenton (2) and John Hartnett. Points were again swopped before a Pat Hartnett point gave Midleton a half-time lead. The second half was a ding-dong affair in which the sides were level on no less than five occasions.

With only twelve minutes remaining, Kevin Hennessy was ordered off by referee John Moore for an off-the-ball incident in which Noel Buckley was stretched on the ground. We failed to take the full advantage of the extra man but eventually took the lead, with only three minutes remaining, from a pointed '65' from Pa O'Neill.

Midleton replied with a point from John Hartnett, from a half chance, and with the Cappa defence under pressure they conceded a '65' which "ice-cool" John Fenton clinically pointed to give them the lead.

Cappa piled on the final pressure but Midleton absorbed all, and time ran out.

To say that we were disappointed at the final whistle would be to understate the situ-

ation. It was so unbelievable that victory was snatched in the final minute. Still it was defeat with much dignity, with a little consolation from the fact that Midleton went on to win the All Ireland Club Championship convincingly. When the team bus finally returned to Cappa after the game it was met at the hurling field by flag-waving supporters with bonfires blazing.

It was the end of a memorable year in which we would be remembered not as the team which lost the Munster final, but the team which brought an historic first county title to the "Lovely Village".

Result: Midleton 1-12, Cappawhite 1-11.

Team: D. O'Neill, D. Ryan (P), M. Buckley, J. Ryan (P), N. Buckley, A. O'Neill, G. Ryan (B), S. Ryan (L), E. Ryan (B), A. Buckley (0-1), C. Ryan (H), P. O'Neill (0-6), J. O'Neill (0-1), G. O'Neill (1-1), M. McDermott (0-2). *Subs:* J. Barry, M. Coughlan, N. Buckley, E. Maguire, D. Quirke, M. Ryan (L), T. Coughlan, P. Buckley.

Selectors: G. Creedon (Coach), L. Treacy, R. Keane (Trainer).



CAPPAWHITE: BEATEN MUNSTER CLUB FINALISTS 1987

Back row (left to right): D. Hennessy, R. Keane (trainer), P. Buckley, M. Ryan, T. Coughlan, S. Ryan, M. Coughlan, M. Buckley, J. Ryan, C. Ryan, E. McGuire, N. Buckley, G. Ryan, J. Barry, L. Treacy (selector).

Front row (left to right): A. Buckley, P. O'Neill, G. O'Neill, M. McDermott, J. O'Neill, W. O'Neill, D. Ryan, G. Ryan, D. O'Neill, G. Creedon (coach).

Through Blue and Gold Spectacles

Mathúin Ó Caoimh

I S iontach an rud é and dúchas, Port Láirgeach ab ea in m'athair, go ndéana Dia tróchaire air, fear de bhunadh Shliabh gCua. Fear mór iomaíochta ab ea é chomh maith, agus in ainneoin dó daichead bliain a chaitheamh ag múineadh scoile leis na Bráithre i dTiobraid Árann, ba Phort Láirgeach é go lá deiridh a shaoil.

Ba chrá croí dó i ndeireadh a shaoil foreann Thiobraid Árann a bheith chomh fada sin in uachtar agus a mhuintir féin ó dheas in isle brí. Is cuimhin liom, na laethanta orga sin, nuair bhíodh Corn Mhic Carthaigh ag filleadh go rialta ar Dhurlas Éile sa bhlómhar gur dhóite an gáire a bhíodh ar m'athair bocht.

Ní raibh slí ab fhearr ag dailtíní na scoile chun rang a chur amú maidin Dé Luain ná alt John D. Hickey ar pháipear an Domhnaigh a tharraingt anuas. Bhí an ghráin dhearg ag m'athair ar Thiobraid Árannachas mí-náireach John d. agus leanadh díospóireacht fhada theasaí a mheileadh cuid mhaith den rang.

"Boy", a deireadh m'athair ar deireadh le dailtíní Tiobraid Árannach éigin de lucht a chráite, "you are looking at life through blue and gold spectacles".

Go maith m'athair dom é, ach is amhlaidh a bhíos féin, agus na mílte, mílte nach mé caochta ag an ngorm agus ór céanna i rith na bliana imithe tharainn. Ní cuimhin liom le fada, bliain mar í le fuadar, le borradh dóchais, le mórtas cine, le gluaiseacht ghealgáireach mór-shluaite go faichí imeartha that teorainn i gcéin ar lorg na ngaicióch.

Is beag má bhíodh éinne fágtha sa bhaile lá cluiche. Is minic a cheapas gurbh



Cormac Ó Cnáimhsí (T.A.), agus Seán Ó Coimín (G) i lár an chomhraic i bPáirc an Chrócaigh.

iontach an deis é do mhuintir Phortláirge lá cluiche. D'éadfaidís teacht de ruathar anea agus a raibh de bheithíoch i ndeisceart Thiobraid Árann a sciobadh leo gan stró mar ná beadh fear fásta fágtha ar shráideanna Chluain Meala chun cur in a gcoinne.

ÁR MUINTIR LE CHÉILE

Bhí rud nua le brath san aer anuraidh i gConndae Thiobraid Árann. An Dóchas. Chuir sé gile bhreise i sola na gréine ar shlí éigin. Thug sé muintir Thiobraid Árann le chéile. Chothaigh sé spioraid an chine. bhuaileá le fear ó'n mbailé i gCorcaigh, b'fhéidir, nó san Inis, nó thuas i bPáirc na Chrócaigh, fear ná raibh ach súil aithne agat air, fear nár labhair tú

focal raimh leis roimhe sin (agus ná cuimhneofa, b'fhéidir, ar a leithéid a dhéanamh) agus seo an bheirt agaibh ag beannú dá chéile mar a dhéanafad sean-chairde.

Má buadh orainn sa deire nach cuma ar shlí. Ní hé deire an domhain tós é i dTiobraid Árann. Thóg sé foireann mhaith chun sinn a chloí. Ach tá an bhunsraith tógtha agus tógtha go maith agus tá an misneach arís ionnainn. Tá an lag-mhisneach curtha dinn againn agus an dóchas préamhaithe go láidir inar gcroí. Don té an mhair trí bhlianta fada an ghorta is meisciúil ceart í fion aduain seo an dóchais. Ár mhuíochas libh uile a thug sin dúinn ath uair!

Cashel girls are great

CASHEL Camogie Club made their own patch of history on Sunday, November 6, when their seniors made it three-in-a-row with a decisive win of 4-11 to 2-0 over Cappawhite. This game was expected to be a close one but it was one-sided from the throw-in, with Cashel in complete control.

The team is basically a young one, most of the girls having played their first camogie with Presentation Convent. An important force behind the team is trainer Tom Devitt.

Earlier in the year the under-16 team retained their crown with a 5-5 to 3-4 win over a strong Toomevara/Templederry combination. This victory reinforces the strength of the club and gives promise of continued success in the future.

In fact, the club is on-stream for a hat-trick of victories this year. The under-18 team have reached the semi-final of their competition and are very keen to emulate the achievements of their seniors and juniors.



CASHEL — SENIOR COUNTY CAMOGIE CHAMPIONS

Back row (left to right): Phil O'Dwyer, Mary Quinlan, Noreen Ryan, Nora Maher, Margaret Riordan, Niamh Bonnar, Anne Marie Fitzgerald, Kirsty McCluskey, Julie O'Dwyer, Kaiffe Moloney. **Front row** (left to right): Sinéad Ryan, Helen O'Leary, Margaret Ryan, Claire O'Connell, Joan Tobin, Irene Butler (capt.), Noreen O'Dwyer, Triona Bonnar.



CASHEL — UNDER-16 COUNTY CAMOGIE CHAMPIONS

Back row (left to right): Kirsty McCluskey (trainer), Sinéad Ryan, Marita Tobin, Josephine Kenny, Jovita Delaney, Marilyn Brosnan, Roisin Nash, Anne Barron, Jackie Keating, Angela Ryan, John Devitt (manager). **Front row** (left to right): Joan Tobin (trainer), Áine Rothwell, Sylvia Ryan, Siobhán O'Sullivan, Kaiffe Moloney (capt.), Carol Dunne, Neasa O'Dwyer, Sinéad Ryan, Helen O'Leary.

A Century by the Decade



100 YEARS AGO — 1889

The Fourth Annual Congress was held in Thurles on Nov. 6th

The following officers were elected at the County Convention which was also held in Thurles. County Chairman Pat McGrath, John Burke Secretary and Andy Mason Treasurer. Forty-two clubs were affiliated to the County Board.

Toomevara and Holycross qualified for the County S.H. Semi-Final. They failed to agree on a suitable venue within the county. The game was fixed for Dublin and Toomevara advanced to the final by 1-1 to 0-2.

Moycarkey and Toomevara met in a disputed final. The Mid-men were in front by 1-3 to 1-0 when the game ended abruptly over a disputed score. The Co. Board offered a replay which was refused. Moycarkey were then awarded the title. Eleven teams entered for the championship.

Bohercrowe represented the county in the All-Ireland S.F. Championship. Following victories over Waterford and Cork, they outclassed Laois in the final by 3-6 to 0-0. Gil Kavanagh was the proud captain.

Mick Leahy, father of the famous Boherlahan family was a member of the Moycarkey team that won the County S.H. Championship.

Thirteen teams entered for the Co. S.F. Championship. Clonmel Shamrocks and Arravale Rovers contested the final, which was fixed for Cashel. Shamrocks disputed a score and refused to continue the game. The title was awarded to Arravale Rovers who were led by Wm. Ryan. The scores were level at 0-6 each when the game "ended".

William J. Spain of Tipperary won an All-Ireland S.H. Medal with Dublin Kickhams. He became the first man to win dual medals as he was a member of the Limerick Commercials team when they won the football in 1887.

90 YEARS AGO — 1899

The town of Cashel hosted the County 116 — Tipperary G.A.A. Year Book

Convention on May 14th.

Eight teams entered for the County S.H. Championship. Horse and Jockey and Two-Mile-Borris reached the final. A huge crowd gathered at Thurles and witnessed a good hard game of hurling. Two-Mile-Borris had a commanding half-time lead, 2-5 to 0-1, after playing with a strong wind.

The 'Jockey took control in the second half and emerged as winners by 3-6 to 2-5. Borris lodged an objection on the grounds that overtime was played.

A Co. Board meeting ordered a replay and nominated Cashel as the venue.

A large attendance were thrilled by a great first half, which saw the 'Jockey, 2-4 to 2-3 in front at the break.

The 'Jockey maintained the superiority of the drawn game in a great second half. They had seven points to spare at the final whistle 3-8 to 2-4.

Tipperary and Clare contested the Munster S.H. Final at Limerick's Marketsfield on 16th September, 1900. This was the 1899 final. A far superior Tipp team emerged as easy winners by 5-16 to 0-8.

The All-Ireland final was delayed until March 23rd, 1901. Tipperary represented by Moycarkey had a very easy hour. Wexford who were represented by Blackwater scored 1-4 to Tipp's 3-12. The venue was Jones's Road, Dublin.

80 YEARS AGO — 1909

The Munster Council held their Annual Convention in Tipperary Town on 21st February.

Moneygall won the North J.H. Final which was delayed until April, 1920. The game was decided at Nenagh with Kilruane as opponents. Moneygall had plenty to spare when they took the title by 6-4 to 2-3.

Tipperary's senior football team were completely outclassed by Kerry in the first round of the provincial championship at Fermoy, on July 4th. The Kingdom scored 2-10 while Tipp replied with 0-5.

Tipperary Town was the venue for the Cork v Tipp Munster Final on August 29th. Tom Semple led the home county to a four point victory over rivals Cork by 2-10 to 2-6. Tipperary were represented by Thurles.

Tipperary Munster Champions:

Tom Semple (captain); T. Kerwick, M. O'Brien, H. Shelly, J. Mockler, P. Brolan, J. Mooney, A. Carew, J. "Hawk" O'Brien, P. Burke, J. McLoughney, M. O'Dwyer, J. Burke, J. Fitzgerald, R. Mockler, T. Gleeson, P. Fitzgerald.

The South S.H. Championship was won by Racecourse (Cashel) at the expense of Mardyke (Glengoole-Killenaule) in a replayed final. The drawn game was contested at Fethard on July 25th Racecourse 1-7; Mardyke 2-4. The winners had things all their own way the second day and outclassed Mardyke 5-6 to 0-4 on August 22nd.

Grangemockler captured the South S.F. crown with a two point victory over Clonmel Emmets. In an exciting game they emerged as champions by 2-4 to 1-5.

The South title holders advanced to the county final and added further honours to their name with a 4-7 to 0-4 victory over Thurles.

Grangemockler: Jim Cooney, Michael Nolan, John Nolan, Peter Walsh, Jim Morris, Martin Morris, Pat Hanrahan, Jim Houlihan, Ed. Egan, Jim Egan, Pat Egan, Sam Cooney, Jas. Cooney, Bill Scully, Tom Flynn, Jack Lynch, Ed. McGuire, Jas. Duggan.

70 YEARS AGO — 1919

A year when Gaelic Games were disrupted by the political situation in the country. Many members of the G.A.A. were in jail. Others were "on the run". British Military patrols made life very difficult, ordinary every day activities were severely restricted.

The County Board held its convention in Thurles.

Rev. Fr. M. K. Ryan (later Canon) was County Chairman.

Two Tipperary natives Bob Mockler and Jim Cleary played with Dublin in the All-Ireland S.H. Final. There were no medals for them as Cork won the game.

Cork beat Tipperary in the Munster S.H. semi-final which was decided at the Athletic Grounds, Cork, on 29th June.

The Rebels had a narrow victory scoring 2-4 to 2-3 for Tipp.

Kerry had to fight hard against a gallant Tipperary fifteen in the opening round of the Munster S.F. Championship. The Athletic Grounds, Cork, was also the venue for this game, which was played on May 25th. Kerry took the honours when they beat Tipperary.

Tom Kerwick was elected chairman of the Mid Board at the Convention which was held in Thurles.

Co. J.H. Final Mid-Selection beat a North Selection by 7-3 to 0-1.

In the Co. S.F. Final Fethard brought honour to the South when they beat Nenagh by 3-5 to 1-0.

60 YEARS AGO — 1929

The South Board held its convention in Clonmel on January 13th.

The Co. Convention was held in Nenagh on 3rd February. Bob Mockler the famous Tipperary and Dublin hurler was elected Hon. President of the Faughs club in Dublin. Boherlahan won the county S.H. final which was decided at Horse and Jockey on February 9th, 1930. They had a very easy passage against Gortnahoe by 10-3 to 2-3. Boherlahan played in the South Division at that time.

A far superior Mullinahone team won the Co. S.F. title, at Clonmel, when they had ten points to spare over Templemore 2-5 to 0-1. The N.H.L. Final was played at Thurles on December 8th. Dublin beat Cork 7-4 to 5-5.

Munster beat Leinster in the Railway Cup Final by 5-3 to 3-1. Tipperary supplied four hurlers to the victorious team. They were Phil Purcell, Phil Cahill, Martin Kennedy and Con Keane. Munster lost the Railway Cup (F) final to Leinster 1-7 to 1-3. Two Tipperary players were honoured with selection T. Lee and C. Keane.

Boherlahan won the South S.H. final at Carrick-on-Suir which was played on 2nd June. Their opponents Killenaule could only manage to score 0-1 and the winners notched 2-3.

The great Martin Kennedy led his Toomevara hurlers to another North title with an easy victory over Duharra by 5-4 to 0-2.

A North Selection won the Co. J.H. Final with a 4-3 to 3-2 victory over the Mid Selection.

The South Division were declared winners of the Co. J.F. title after an easy victory over the North by 3-2 to 0-1.

50 YEARS AGO — 1939

The Co. Convention was held in Clonmel on January 29th. Roscrea won the North S.H. title at the expense of Nenagh. The game was played at

Borrisokane on August 27th when Nenagh scored 8-3 to 1-3 for Roscrea.

Dan Devitt and Ned Wade won Dublin Co. S.H. medals in the Faughs colours.

Carrick Swan captured the South S.H. championship with an easy victory over Fethard. The venue was Clonmel on September 10th and the scoreboard read 6-6 to 1-1 in favour of the Carrickmen.

Tipperary qualified for the Munster S.F. final with victories over Cork 1-9 to 2-2 and Clare 4-5 to 1-6. In the final which was decided at Clonmel on 23rd July, Kerry were well in control at the final whistle by 2-11 to 0-4.

At Emly on November 6th Galtee Rovers won the West S.F. title from Arravale Rovers on a scoreline 3-2 to 1-2.

Ned Wade and Dinny O'Gorman won Railway Cup (H) medals in Munster's victory over Leinster by 4-4 to 1-6.

Dick Allen and Tommy O'Keefe were selected on the provincial football team beaten in the semi-final.

Brian Boru's (Annacarty/Carrawwhite) completed a minor treble with a one point victory over Cashel in the West M.H. Final 3-1 to 2-3.

Thurles Sarsfields and Moycarkey-Borris contested the Mid. S.H. final at Boherlahan on 13th August. The Thurlesmen won by double scores 8-4 to 4-2.

Thurles C.B.S. won the Harty Cup for the second successive year with a nine point victory over North Monastery, Cork. The score was 7-4 to 4-4.

World War II broke out on Sunday, 3rd September when England and France united against Germany. A few days previous Germany invaded Poland.

40 YEARS AGO — 1949

Very Rev. Canon Fogarty was elected as Co. Chairman at the Convention which was held in Thurles on 30th January.

Philly Ryan a native of Annacarty won a Dublin S.H. medal in the Young Ireland colours.

Three Tipperarymen won Railway Cup (H) medals with Munster. J. Devitt, T. Purcell and W. O'Carroll were the successful trio.

Two famous Tipperary hurlers passed to their eternal reward during the year. Jim Stapleton the 1887 All-Ireland captain and Johnny Leahy of Boherlahan saddened all Gaels with their passing from the sporting scene.

The opening round of the Munster S.H. Championship proved to be a Marathon affair between Cork and Tipperary.

On Sunday, 29th May, they ended all square at 3-10 each after 60 minutes at Limerick's Gaelic Grounds.

Four weeks later at the same venue the game was undecided at the end of normal

time. The old rivals were level at 1-5 each. Extra time was required to separate the teams. The scoreboard told the story at the end of a long day Tipperary 2-8 to Cork 1-9.

On July 3rd at the same venue Tipp advanced to the final with eight points to spare over the Bannermen winning by 1-15 to 1-7.

A great display by Jimmy Kennedy at the Cork Athletic Grounds on July 17th gave Tipp the Munster Crown. The Premier county scored 1-16 and Limerick replied with 2-10.

Against Antrim in the All-Ireland semi-final on July 31st Tipp scored at will and qualified for the final by 6-18 to 1-4.

The challenge from Leinster champions Laois fell flat on the day and Tipp collected their fourteenth All-Ireland crown on a scoreline of 3-11 to 0-3.

The Minor hurlers created their own piece of history when they hammered Kilkenny by thirteen points. The Irish Press cup was presented to the winners of this competition for the first time and Tipperary captain John O'Grady was the first man to be presented with the cup, on September 4th. Tipperary 6-5 to Kilkenny 2-4.

Tipperary All-Ireland M.H. winners: John O'Grady, Jas. Moloney, John Moloney, S. Browne, D. Maher, J. Finn, S. McGrath, R. Holden, Wm. Perkins, A. McDonnell, L. Keane, T. Aherne, M. Buckley, M. Maher.

In a very memorable year the N.H.L. was also won by the Premier County. Old rivals Cork were edged out in a Thurles final on February 27th by two points. After a good game of hurling the score stood at 3-5 to 3-3 in favour of Tipp.

The Oireachtas Trophy was added to Tipp's collection with a 2-8 to 1-6 victory over Laois.

Footballers Mick Cahill and Pakie Brennan won Railway Cup medals with Munster who beat Leinster 4-9 to 1-4.

30 YEARS AGO — 1959

The County Convention was held in Thurles on January 25th.

Tipperary were defeated by the Rest of Ireland at Thurles.

Tipperary: T. Moloney, W. O'Donovan, M. Maher, K. Carey, J. Finn, T. Wall, John Doyle, T. English, J. McDonnell, D. Nealon, L. Devaney, Jimmy Doyle, Liam Connolly, M. "Musha" Maher, Tom Larkin. *Subs:* M. Byrne, N. Murphy, M. Burns, P. Hennessy, S. McLoughlin.

Tipp star Tony Wall won his third All-Army (H) medal with the Curragh Command team.

A very welcome Harty Cup victory was recorded by Abbey C.B.S. Tipperary when they beat St. Flannan's, Ennis, by 1-9 to 2-4.

On Sunday, May 3rd the N.H.L. was won for the eight time at Nowlan Park, Kilkenny. In an all-Munster final Waterford provided the opposition. Tipp had eight points to spare when they took the title by 0-15 to 0-7.

Tipperary: Terry Moloney, Ml. Byrne, Ml. Maher, Kieran Carey, Jimmy Finn, Ton Wall, John Doyle, Theo English, Donie Nealon, Liam Devaney, John McDonnell, Jimmy Doyle, Tom Larkin, M. "Musha" Maher, Liam Connolly.

Tipp added the St. Brendan's Cup to their collection when they defeated New York on their American trip.

The All-Ireland M.H. title won at the expense of Kilkenny. It was Tipp's twelfth victory in the grade.

Larry Kiely led Tipp in the 2-8 to 2-7 victory.

Tipp All-Ireland M.H. winners: J. O'Donoghue, P. Griffin, G. Kinnane, W. Loneran, J. Carroll, A. Croke, R. Slevin, Tom Ryan (T), Tom Ryan (K), P. Doyle, B. Carey, M. Duggan, M. Nolan, L. Kiely, J. Ryan.

Mid Tipperary won the Miller Shield at Nenagh when they scored 3-6 to 1-8 for the North Division. The South suffered a hammering from the Mid in their semi-final by 3-19 to 3-1.

20 YEARS AGO — 1969

Thurles was the venue for the County Convention on January 26th.

Hubie Hogan of Lorrha was elected chairman of the North Board at the Convention in Nenagh.

Donie Nealon retired from inter-county hurling. During a very distinguished career in the "Blue and Gold" he won five All-Ireland S.H. Medals in 1958, 1961, 1962, 1964, 1965.

Francis Loughnane led Tipperary to an easy victory over Wexford in the Wembley Tournament by 2-10 to 1-2.

North Tipperary won the All-Ireland Vocational Schools (H) title for the fourth successive year.

Nenagh had a very convincing win over Moycarkey-Borris in the Co. M.H. final by 8-8 to 1-7.

At Clonmel on 30th November the local Commercials team were crowned Co. S.F. champions following their 2-13 to 0-13 victory over Ardfinnan.

Roscrea won the Munster club (H) title when they defeated Glen Rovers (Cork) by 3-6 to 1-9 at Tipperary Town. The final was not played until 1971.

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The Premier County supplied eight players to the Munster Railway Cup (H) team. It was a happy occasion as they won by 3-13 to 4-4. The eight were John O'Donoghue, Noel O'Gorman, Len Gaynor, P. J. Ryan, Noel O'Dwyer, Jimmy Doyle, John Flanagan and John Costigan.

Paddy O'Connell and Patsy Dawson were on the Munster (F) team beaten in the Railway Cup semi-final by Connacht. The score 1-12 to 0-6.

10 YEARS AGO — 1979

Tom O'Hara of Gortnahoe was elected Secretary of the Mid Board.

Former hurling full-back Mick Maher commenced his term as County Chairman.

Kilruane McDonagh's completed a treble of Co. S.H. titles when they beat Thurles Sarsfields by 2-18 to 3-6.

On December 9th at Golden, Cahir, were crowned County (I.F.) champions with a 1-9 to 0-3 victory over Newport.

The Premier County captured the N.H.L. for the fourteenth time at Limerick's Gaelic Grounds. Galway coached by Tipp's Babs Keating were outclassed by 3-15 to 0-8. A great display from James Kehoe of Kilsheelan was rewarded with selection as the B + I Personality of the Month. The brilliant No. 14 roamed all over the field and contributed 1-6 to his counties total before retiring with a leg injury. Francis Loughnane contributed 5 goals 52 points during the League run. Pat O'Neill had 5-20 to his credit and Tommy Butler helped himself to 7-9.

Tipp N.H.L. winners: P. McLoughney, P. Williams, J. Keogh, T. O'Connor, K. O'Connor, N. O'Dwyer, Pat Fitzelle, Michael Doyle, Ger Stapleton, E. O'Shea, J. Williams, P. Queally, F. Loughnane, Jim Kehoe, S. Power. Sub: T. Butler for Jim Kehoe (injured).

Jimmy Rankins of Laois refereed the game which was watched by 27,000 on a cold day. Paddy Williams of Kilruane McDonagh's was the happy captain.

The (U-21) hurlers held out against Cork in the Munster final and took the title by 1-13 to 2-7. A welcome All-Ireland was won at Portlaoise on 30th September. Six points separated Galway from the winners at full time, when the scoreboard read 2-12 to 1-9.

Loughmore/Castleiney won the County M.F. Final by a one point margin over Clonmel Commercials. The final score was 2-6 to 1-8.

The Co. S.F. Final was played in Clonmel on August 26th between Loughmore/Castleiney and Galtee Rovers with victory going to the Mid team by 2-11 to 1-9.

Silvermines were crowned County J.H. Champions when Mullinahone were ousted by 3-6 to 0-4.

RESULTS OF 1988

Compiled by Séamus O'Doherty

SENIOR HURLING

Páirc Uí Chaoimh, Cork, Sunday, July 5:	
Tipperary	0-15
Limerick	0-8
Páirc na nGael, Limerick, Sunday, July 17:	
Munster Final	
Tipperary	2-19
Cork	1-13
Croke Park, Dublin, Sunday, August 7:	
Tipperary	3-15
Antrim	2-10

All Ireland Final — Croke Park, Sept. 4th — Galway 1-15, Tipp 0-14

SENIOR FOOTBALL

At Dungaroon, Sunday, May 8:	
Waterford	3-9
Tipperary	1-11

JUNIOR HURLING

Páirc Uí Chaoimh, Sunday, June 5:	
Tipperary	4-11
Limerick	1-4
Kilworth, Wednesday, June 29:	
Tipperary	5-9
Cork	0-15

(Munster Final)

Templemore, Sunday, July 3:	
Tipperary	3-10
Galway	3-9
Portlaoise, Friday, July 15:	
Kilkenny	1-12
Tipperary	0-10

(All-Ireland Final)

JUNIOR FOOTBALL

Dungaroon, Sunday, May 8:	
Tipperary	1-15
Waterford	0-7
Tralee, Sunday, May 29:	
Tipperary	2-6
Kerry	1-8
Fermoy, Wednesday, June 8:	
Cork	3-11
Tipperary	0-8

(Munster Final)

UNDER-21 HURLING

Seimle Stadium, Thurles, Wednesday, June 22:	
Cork	2-15
Tipperary	2-9

UNDER-21 FOOTBALL

Clonmel, Saturday, March 26:	
Cork	0-11
Tipperary	1-6

MINOR HURLING

Bruff, Saturday, May 14:	
Tipperary	1-11
Clare	0-7
Limerick, Wednesday, July 6:	
Tipperary	4-10
Limerick	2-6
Limerick, Sunday, July 17:	
Cork	5-7
Tipperary	1-2

(Munster Final)

MUNSTER FOOTBALL

Bruff, Wednesday, April 27:	
Tipperary	2-12
Clare	0-6
Páirc Uí Chaoimh, Wednesday, May 11:	
Cork	2-10
Tipperary	1-10

COUNTY FINALS

Senior Football	
Fethard	1-11
Clonmel Commercials	1-10
Senior Hurling	
Loughmore Castleiney	2-7
Borrisoleigh	1-8 (Replay)
Loughmore Castleiney	1-6
Borris-leigh	0-9 (Draw)

Intermediate Hurling

Gortnahoe Glengoole	2-8
Arravale Rovers	1-7
Junior Hurling	
Holycross Ballycahill	0-11
Cappawhite	2-4

Minor Football

Arravale Rovers	0-11
Thurles Sarsfield	0-7

Minor B Football

Aherlow	0-5
Newport	1-1

Minor Hurling

Cashel King C.	2-11
Roscrea	3-6

MINOR B HURLING

Boherlahan Dualla	6-8
Eire Og	2-9

Under 16 Football

Eire Og Nenagh	1-9
Clonmel Og	1-7

Under 16 Hurling

Eire Og Nenagh	1-8
Durlas Og	0-5

Under 14 Football

Arravale Rovers	2-8
Ardfinnan	2-3

Under 14 Hurling

Eire Og Nenagh	10-12
Arravale Rovers	1-4
Rural Hurling	
Toomevara	7-6
Holycross	1-5
Rural Football	
Kildangan	1-5
Holycross	1-1

Under 12 Football

Ardfinnan	4-5
Durlas Og	4-3

Under 12 Hurling

Toomevara	1-3
St. Mary's Clonmel	1-2

Munster Club Championship

Senior Football		Hurling	
Fethard 0-9	Claughton 2-2	Patrickswell	1-12
Kilrossanty 3-6	Fethard 1-7	Loughmore Castleiney	0-9

(Some competitions are unfinished at going to press)

Mol an Óige

THE G.A.A. has a long tradition of service to youth. It possibly is the largest and most effective youth organisation in Ireland. But one must question whether the G.A.A. has kept pace with the changing times in implementing policies to maintain this position in the future. Youth are our greatest asset and as such are our greatest responsibility. Contemporary trends call for a more positive and co-ordinated approach to youth work, not only for the benefit of the G.A.A. but as a major contribution to youth generally.

The club format has remained basically unchanged since the G.A.A. was founded. Changes in population size, population spread and lifestyle make new demands on club organisation but few clubs have adapted to accommodate this new Ireland. The most basic priority of the G.A.A. is to generate the enthusiasm which will attract youth in increasing numbers and to provide greater involvement and participation by youth in the Association.

HOW YOUTH SEE THE G.A.A.

Recent youth conventions and seminars have given young people the opportunity to voice their opinion on the G.A.A. as an Organisation. While they admire the dedication and commitment of many club officials and mentors and welcome the activities that are provided for them, the young people are forthright in their comments on the deficiencies evident in their clubs and in the Association. Among the criticisms they have expressed are:

1. The G.A.A. is too conservative.
2. The G.A.A. is only for good players.
3. They do not get regular games.
4. Youth are not involved in running the G.A.A.
5. Views of youth are not listened to at meetings. They are not encouraged to attend meetings and are generally dictated to.
6. The G.A.A. is over-burdened with rules and administration.
7. Clubs do not pay equal attention to hurling and football.
8. Adults hold on to positions too long.
9. Juveniles are brought on to senior teams at too early an age.
10. Not enough social functions are organised for youth.
11. Lack of punctuality characterises all G.A.A. functions.
12. The G.A.A. does not participate actively in community activities.

While all of the above remarks have been trotted out on numerous occasions by various speakers, when they come from young people, they must be given greater credence. Clubs must be more aware of their own limitations and plan accordingly. Clubs must now have a concrete policy for attracting new members and maintaining their loyalty and interest.

CLUB YOUTH POLICY

The haphazard approach of clubs, so alarmingly widespread in too many areas, is a sure recipe for failure. The future demands planning, preparation and action. Each club must draw up its plan of campaign at the beginning of each year. Things must be made to happen, rather than let events take their course. Among the items which deserve consideration by a club when drawing up a club youth policy are:

1. **Regular Games:** The minimum recommended number of games for each juvenile is 16 per year. Weaker players must be given due attention. Games must be extended over a longer period. Non-competitive local leagues have a major part to play.

2. **Continuity in Coaching:** Most coaching is done on an irregular basis. coaching needs to be on an ongoing basis up to senior level.

3. **Rôle of Parents:** An active canvassing campaign must be carried out on a regular basis to increase manpower. Many parents do not become involved because they are not asked and encouraged.



DENIS FLOYD
County Youth Officer.

4. **Selection of Mentors:** Team mentors of high moral character should be selected rather than elected. Club general meetings generally leave the appointment of under-age team officials until all other positions are filled. How about starting at the bottom and working upwards?

5. **Safety:** Are all precautions taken to reduce possibility of injury and to minimise the consequences? — helmets, insurance, first-aid kits etc.

6. **Hurley Supplies:** Does the club have a stock of hurleys (all sizes) at subsidised rates?

7. **Finance:** Methods of fund-raising to implement all the aspects of the club policy.

8. **Facilities:** Are facilities adequate and a rota system defined to cater for all age groups? Are indoor facilities required to

provide a greater variety of activities for existing members and to attract new members?

9. **Social:** Outings, Dances/Discos, Concerts, Scór.

10. **Youth Forum:** What forum within the club is available to youth to express opinions? — Annual Youth Meeting. Club Youth Committee. Youth on Club Executive Committee (Official Guide dictates that at least two Under-21 members be on Club Committee).

11. **Communication & Policy:** Explore all avenues of internal communication (acquainting members of activities) and informing the general public of forthcoming events. Notes to local Press Newsletter; Shop Windows etc.

12. **Discipline:** Club rules re behaviour, drink, bad language, presentation of teams etc.

13. **Community Participation:** What is the club rôle in community activities?

14. **School-Club Liaison:** What can the Club do for the local schools?

15. **Club Structure:** Sub-committees for effective sharing of work load — Games committee, Finance, Facilities, Youth, Social, Ladies etc.

The Club policy must clearly outline the short and long term plans for youth in the club. Youth should be treated as an integral part of the club and the community, not as a people apart. While the provision of games will always be the priority, every effort must be made to entrust youth with responsibility. Care must be taken, however, not to overburden them too soon or to plunge them in at the deep end. Young people need to be prepared to administer the clubs of the future — leadership courses must be organised at local level to ensure a high quality of administrators as the G.A.A. moves into a new century.

WHAT YOUTH CAN DO

Young people have signified their interest in helping out at club level in the following areas:

1. Field maintenance.
2. Refereeing local juvenile leagues.
3. Organising Scór and other functions.
4. Serving on Juvenile Committee.
5. Training Juvenile Teams.
6. Writing reports on matches.
7. Research in Club History etc.

The list is endless. While too much should not be attempted or expected at once, continual work is important. Good leadership in the club will always get youth to respond. Youth development work is essential if the G.A.A. is to be successful in the future. Apart from the necessity of such work it is also a most rewarding social work and it is a vital step in the fulfilment of the club's obligation to ensure that all our Irish youth are introduced to Gaelic games and are given the opportunity to participate.

TOMMY DOYLE

By Michael Dundon, Tipperary Star

IT IS surely the measure of any sportsman's greatness that long after his career has come to an end, his exploits are still recalled with affection. This is the stamp which isolates the great from the good; such a man was Tommy Doyle of Thurles, Tipperary's "Rubber Man" who passed to his eternal reward so suddenly last February.

HURLING CAREER

In a career that spanned three decades, the thirties, when he won the first of his senior All-Ireland medals ('37), the forties, when he collected two more ('45 and '49) and the fifties ('50 and '51) when he completed his collection, Tommy Doyle was acknowledged by friend and foe as an accomplished hurler, an exemplary sportsman, and one of Tipperary's best.

Tommy had two careers, in a sense. He first came on the scene in the late thirties, when a member of Thurles Kickhams, and won his first All-Ireland as a forward. Later, still a forward, and now in Sarsfields colours he helped Tipperary to the '45 victory. Subsequent defeats in the following three years, prompted Tommy to retire from the game, but in 1949, with the fatal illness of Moycarkey's Tommy Purcell, "The Rubber Man", at the invitation of Paddy Leahy, reconsidered his decision, and came back for the epic tussle with Cork that initiated Tipperary's three-in-a-row from '49 to '51, a feat unequalled in the county since.

MANY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

It is now part of hurling history that Tommy held Christy Ring scoreless over the two games and extra time that is still remembered as being among the greatest clashes in hurling. In a sense that great achievement of Tommy's tended to obscure the many other



Tommy Doyle

marvellous accomplishments in a glittering career that saw him standing four-square with the best in the world of hurling and amass an impressive array of National League, Railway Cup and Oireachtas trophies to complement his five All-Irelands.

A man of superb physique Tommy took great pride in his athletic prowess, and trained with all the dedication of a professional. His great friend Mickey "Rattler" Byrne often relates how back in their playing days, Tommy always made a point of getting to bed early in the days preceding a match in order to be at his best for the game. In many

ways, Tommy was ahead of his time in this respect but such was his commitment that he left no stone unturned to ensure that on the day he could give his all for Sarsfields with whom he won seven county senior championships or Tipperary.

Even when his career was long over, honours were heaped upon him. Tommy was Bank of Ireland Hall of Fame recipient in 1987 and was honoured by the United Sports Panel, Clonmel, with its Knocknagow Award that year too. He was also guest of the Tipperary Association in Manchester at their annual dinner two years ago — honours which served to underline the greatness of Tommy Doyle and the esteem in which he was held.

A PLAYER'S MAN

Despite the many accolades heaped upon him, Tommy remained the same smiling, unassuming, and boyish character, always with a word of encouragement for any player of any calibre who called to his house to have a hurley banded or who met him at a game or on the street. He was a players' man, who understood the stresses and strains that players endure, and whose own infectious enthusiasm for hurling was an inspiration to all who were fortunate enough to know him. He was too a man of endearing simplicity, devoid of malice; quick to salute the accomplishments of an opponent, honest and indefatigable in his pursuit of victory; but generous and graceful in defeat. In short, he was the epitome of what sport and good sportsmanship was all about.

How fitting it was that many of the country's finest hurlers turned up at the Cathedral in Thurles to pay their final tribute to a man who would well have qualified for the title — Superstar — had such been in being at the time. Mrs. Rita Ring, Christy's widow and her son headed a Cork delegation that included such household names as Jack Lynch, Willie John Daly, and Paddy Barry. Limerick's John Mackey, Seán Herbert and Dermot Kelly, joined with Philly Grimes of Waterford; Ted Carroll and Pat Henderson, Kilkenny; and Ned Wheeler of Wexford in their personal tributes to Tommy.

Continued ►



Tommy Doyle receives the Bank of Ireland All-Star Hall of Fame award from former G.A.A. President Hugh Byrne.

Tipperary was not found wanting either. All-Ireland captains of his era Jim Lanigan, John Maher, Jimmy Finn, Pat Stakelum, and Seán Kenny led the representation that included Jim Devitt, Michael Maher, Mickey Byrne, Jimmy Doyle, Larry Kiely, Liam Devaney, John Doyle, Theo English, Matt Hassett, Johnny Ryan, Paddy Kenny, Michael Murphy, Tony Reddan and Donie Nealon.

The President of the G.A.A. Dr. Mick Loftus; Director General, Liam Mulvihill; Munster Council chairman, Michael O'Connor; Cork County Board vice-chairman, Mick Barry; Tipperary chairman, Noel Morris; and the Patron of



The cortege moves away from the Cathedral in Thurles.

the Association, Archbishop Thomas Morris were others to attend.

With Tommy's passing, Tipperary and hurling has lost a magnificent ambassador, but rather than grieve, we should rejoice for the fact that we had the privilege to know such a man, and to

draw inspiration from his achievements. In a county rich in hurling tradition and renowned for the great men it has given to the game, Tommy Doyle as one of the greatest of all time will always be remembered with respect and affection. Could a man ask for more?

THURLES HANDBALL CLUB

A good year

AS 1988 draws to a close, Thurles club can look back on the progress in developing handball with a reasonable amount of satisfaction. Firstly the development of the juvenile section the number has reached the 40 mark and as of now a Munster championship standard has been reached.

The year has really been a busy one for the juveniles with the playing of their club tournaments and playing inter-club games that their club contests have not yet been completed. It is indeed very gratifying to see juveniles playing on Sunday nights and also to see those amongst them who have



THURLES HANDBALL CLUB

Left to right: Paddy Barry, T.H.C., Jim Healy, T.H.C., Pat Ryan, T.H.C., Gerry Carew, Chairman Thurles Handball Club; Michael Tyrrell, President of Irish Handball Council; William Kelly, Treasurer, Thurles Handball Club; Kevin Croke T.H.C., Liam Hennessy, Chairman, Mid G.A.A. Board; Joe Fitzgerald, Secretary Thurles Handball Club; Jimmy Curry, Thurles Handball Club.



A successful year for Thurles Handball Club



Last seasons North Tipp Novice Doubles winners Willie Kelly and Phil Lowry.

attained a high standard helping and encouraging others, all this has come about in a few years and the committee shall be examining the possibility of an intensive training course. The photo herewith shows the trophies won by the juvenile section and it was really great encouragement to the youth that Michael Tyrrell, President Handball Association of Ireland, Gerard Carew, chairman, Thurles Club and Liam Hennessy, Chairman of Mid-Tipperary G.A.A. Board were

present in the night to speak and encourage them on.

Now to the adult section the club were represented in all the county competitions and finished well in the honours list it would have been a great year for our adult members if more time could have been devoted to training but much time and energy had to be given to fund raising to keep "Home and House Together". A sincere thank you to everybody who helped the club during the year.

"Keep the Faith"

Liz Howard, P.R.O., Tipperary G.A.A. Board



Liz Howard.

HOW will you remember 1988? Will it be recalled as the year in which Tipperary hurlers won a second Munster Championship and captured a league title. Or will it be the year in which a senior All-Ireland was lost. How will they remember a September evening in Thurles when over twenty thousand supporters came out to greet them or will they dwell on an All-Ireland defeat? My hope is that they will cherish the good memories and learn from the defeat.

MANY GREAT DAYS

A successful league campaign saw Tipperary into the final against offaly in Croke Park for the first time since 1979. Captain Pat O'Neill played a fine part in that victory, scoring two goals. The elegant John Kennedy won Man of the Match Award and a subsequent B & I Player of the Month Award for a display of skilful and effective hurler. The league victory was greeted with delight and anticipation of the Championship.

While 1987 was a magical year for hurling, 1988 was one of mediocrity. Perhaps, we all expected too much, but overall the standard never reached that of the previous year. However Tipperary were winning and success overcomes a lot! Limerick were easily disposed of. A second Munster Final against Cork, in Limerick saw a capacity crowd. Our minor hurlers were a big disappointment

and their crushing defeat left us all a little down. There is nothing like a minor success on the Munster Final Day to set the mood for the senior game. Our seniors dismissed a second-half challenge by Cork. Cormac Bonner's goal put the Tipperary seal on victory. An All-Ireland was in the air — Antrim provided the rather physical and sometimes crude semi-final opposition. We won.

SPORT IS SPORT

Tipperary had waited seventeen years for an All-Ireland appearance. Hopes and dreams of success were uppermost in our minds. Galway, the All-Ireland champions were maintaining a low profile coming up to the final. They had been there before. They knew defeat and success in recent years. Personally, I felt that we in Tipperary were deflected somewhat from our real target — an All-Ireland victory. The ban on supporters and the issue of the captaincy, in particular, put pressure on the team, selectors and the supporters. What should have been a time of total concentration on winning was a time of tension, and rumour. While some of the players welcomed the closing of Semple Stadium to supporters during training, overall, it put additional pressure on them. Sport is sport and should relieve stress and pressure, not add to it.

The issue of the captaincy has been discussed from Lorrha to Carrick and in other counties also. Frankly it left a sour

taste and was unwittingly, handled in a manner devoid of sensitivity. The most damaging aspect was that the other players also suffered, not just Pat O'Neill, and to a lesser degree Nicholas English. We can be all wise following the event but it wasn't a situation which was handled with sensitivity or forethought. Hopefully there was a learning factor. For many, it took from some of the gloss and sense of anticipation of the All-Ireland Final.

A SEA OF BLUE AND GOLD

All-Ireland Day! Would we win? Or, would Galway retain their crown? We all know what happened. Tipperary could have won. Right up to the last six or seven minutes, our hurlers held the outcome in the balance. However, we were beaten before Noel Lane's goal came. Being fair, Galway had that little extra on the day, but they were there for the taking. Tipperary supporters travelled in force. Dublin was taken over by a sea of Blue and Gold. The atmosphere was not as relaxed as that of the semi-final the previous year. All-Ireland Day holds a lot at stake. While victory was not our lot, Tipperary hurlers impressed everyone, both on and off the field. They are excellent ambassadors for one county — a credit to themselves, their families, club and county.

The junior hurlers also reached an All-Ireland final and were narrowly defeated by Kilkenny in a thrilling final. It wasn't a successful year for either minors, U-21's or our footballers either. We are still pinning our football hopes on the nucleus, of the '84 minor team. I would dearly love to see the breakthrough. Our senior footballers came close to success in Division III South and played some fine games in the series.

All-Star Awards have a glamour and recognition all of their own. We were all delighted when Ken Hogan, Aidan Ryan, Pat Fox and Nicholas English were honoured for their skills. Indeed to receive a nomination is recognition in itself. Congratulations to all those who were nominated and to Ken, Aidan, Pat and Nicholas.

On the home front, congratulations to all county champions. Fethard added to their list in football. The hurling minors of Cashel put in a wonderful late rally to beat polished Roscrea. The senior hurling trophy, the Dan Breen Cup, went to the "little parish" of Loughmore-Castleiney. It was a dream come true. While Borrisoleigh is one of the most popular



Happy faces at this year's Munster Final.



Here we go... Nioclás English leads Tipp into Croke Park.

clubs, people were delighted for the nearness of the Red and Green. Hopefully, come September they will make it another first and bring home the McCarthy Cup.

Death took its toll and sympathy is extended to those who lost loved ones. Tipperary lost many loyal G.A.A. people during the year. Tommy Doyle, one of the greatest hurlers was called to his reward on the night of the All-Star banquet. He was in fine fettle regaling us with tales of hurlers and hurling. Suddenly, he was gone. Tommy Doyle was ready to meet "his maker" for his was a gentle and caring soul. Sudden too was the calling of John Lanigan. John who put so much into the G.A.A. as a player, mentor and administrator. A wise and shrewd man he had many admirers. Their families will miss those who died but their memories will live on.

AN EXCELLENT WORK

The continuation of Canon Fogarty's work, Tipperary's G.A.A. History was produced by Lorrha man Seamus King. Seamus is to be complimented on this excellent work, adding to his two previous publications, the history of Lorrha and Dorrha and Cashel's story. Every G.A.A. house should have a copy of the recent history. Pat Cullen from

Loughmore was awarded the Ciba Geigy Clubman of the Year in Tipperary. A worthy winner to add to the list of previous winners. Noel Morris was elected to lead the county, a popular choice, he has a direct approach and a basic honesty, always recognised if not always appreciated! Michael Lowry has taken on the onus of running Semple Stadium and the task of ridding the county of the huge debt. It would be remiss not to pay tribute to Pierce Duggan who worked so hard for so many years. He never asked anyone to do what he wouldn't do himself.

1988 should be seen as a successful year in Tipperary. Let us all remember the better things on the playing field. We still yearn for senior All-Ireland success. But remember we were in Croke Park on the first Sunday in September. Tipperary won a second successive Munster title and a League title. One step more is all we need for 1989. To our hurlers and selectors I say "hang in there", to our supporters "keep the faith". Tiobraid Árann Abú, and good luck to "Babs' Babes" in 1989.

Cahir's Hurlers Go Senior

AS A result of their victories in the South Intermediate hurling championships of 1987 and 1988, Cahir's hurlers will play in the Senior championship, for the first time in the club's history.

At the start of this year, everyone realised that to win the championship again, following the great displays of 1987, would require a special effort and an infusion of some new blood. Four players who had played key rôles in the 1987 victories were anxious to stop i.e. Jim O'Leary, Ger. Tannant, now a selector, Donie Carey and Willie Barnett. While Joe Barnett, like many other young men, emigrated to Australia.

So not surprising an understrength Cahir were defeated 2-8 to 3-2 by Carrick Swans. However Cahir hurling was given a great boost when 3 Cahir players were picked on the Tipperary Junior hurling team that played Limerick in Cork, in the Munster semi-final. They were Liam Enright in goal, Richie Quirke, Centre-back and Philly Kiely, wing back. Liam and Richie retained their places for the Munster Final victory and the All-Ireland semi-final victory over Galway. Unfortunately neither were to play in the All-Ireland defeat by Kilkenny. Meanwhile in the local championships, with the senior footballers beaten, all effort was concentrated on the hurling. Cahir's wins over Kilsheelan 1-9 to 0-2 and over Fethard 0-10 to 2-1 improved the team's league placing.

Then in an amazing game in Clogheen, we lost by 4-4 to 0-13 to old rivals Ballybacon-Grange, having led 0-11 to 0-2 at half time. A win over Marlfield, 1-21 to 1-4 gave Cahir a semi-final spot against Carrick Swans.

Colm Ó Flaherty

So 5 months after they had first met, Cahir had a good victory, 2-11 to 1-7. In this game Cahir showed flashes of good hurling, yet Davins' victory over Kilsheelan 3-12 to 2-4 showed them to be a useful side.

SOUTH FINAL

The south final was played in Clonmel on Sunday, October 2nd before a good size crowd. Cahir played some great hurling. They led by two points at half-time and although Davins got two goals, Cahir were far too good and ran our worthy winners 2-14 to 2-5. The team that achieved this great and historic breakthrough was: Liam Enright, Jim Doolan, Tom O'Donnell, Andy Moloney, Seanie Quirke, Richie Quirke (0-2), Philly Kiely, John Costello, Tom O'Sullivan (0-1), Jim

Casey (capt), Martin Moloney, Ger Enright; Pat O'Brien (0-2), John Quirke (1-1), Liam Keating (1-8). Subs: Paul Costello for O'Sullivan; Gerry Tannant for O'Donnell.

For veterans Garry Tarrant and John Quirke, it was their third Intermediate medal, to add to those won in 1987 and 1969.

In his after-match speech Jimmy Casey thanked the three selectors John Smyth, Gerry Tannant and Dan Costigan who missed the final as he was holidaying in the U.S. Special mention was given to Frank "Speedie" Spillane and Jim Lynch who had trained the team. As the majority of the panel is young, Cahir can look forward to the experience of playing senior hurling. With many young boys, 120 in all, under-10 and under-13, playing in the parish league, Cahir's future in hurling seems secure.



CAHIR — SOUTH INTERMEDIATE HURLING CHAMPIONS

Back Row (left to right): J. Costello, P. Kiely, J. Doolan, J. Quirke, B. Condon, T. O'Sullivan, S. Quirke, A. Moloney, T. O'Donnell, P. Costello, M. Quinn, D. McNery, J. O'Donnell. **Front Row** (left to right): Jim Casey (Capt.), G. Enright, P. O'Brien, L. Enright, D. Casey, R. Quirke, M. Moloney, L. Keating, J. O'Donoghue, T. Quirke.

Champions from the of Tiobro



BALLYLOOBY N.S. - Winners of South Section D.



LOUGHMORE N.S. - Winners of Roinn IV.



SCOIL AILBHE - Under-13 County Champions 1988.



SCOIL AILBHE, THURLES C.B.S. - U-11 Champions.



SCOIL AILBHE, THURLES C.B.S. - Under-13 Roinn I Winners.

Primary Schools

id Árann



DUNKERRIN N.S. - North Tipperary Finalists, Div. 3.



MONEYGALL N.S. - North Tipperary Div. II Finalists.



UPPERCHURCH N.S. - Winners Roinn III.



KNOCKAVILLA N.S. - Winners of Roinn II



SCOIL AILBHE - Under-11 Football Champions



LOUGHMORE N.S. - Winers of Roinn III.

Tipperary Post-Primary Football Competitions 1987-88

By Dick Lowney

UNDER 17

THREE competitions were contested, under-17, under-15 and an under-14 football blitz. The under-17 competition proved once again to be the showpiece. After some eagerly contested games in the preliminary rounds Rockwell College and Abbey C.B.S. qualified for the final. This game, for the Corn Mhic Gabhann, was played at Golden on May 18 and was a very exciting affair. Playing against the wind in the first half, Rockwell led by 2-1 to 0-2 at the interval. However, the game was by no means over and Abbey put on a great performance in the second half to be behind but a point when John Moloney blew the final whistle. The score then was 2-3 to 1-5 in favour of Rockwell, who were recording their fourth success in the competition.

The teams were:

Rockwell College: C. Hayes, D. O'Dowd, R. Maher, G. Geoghegan, D. Foley, S. Moloney (capt.), P. McGuire, P. O'Donoghue, F. Fitzgerald, D. O'Connell, E. Fahey, S. Fitzpatrick, R. Moroney, B. O'Donovan, T. Ryan.

Tipperary C.B.S.: D. Kavanagh, L. Ryan, L. Meagher, C. Power, C. Stapleton, P. Gleeson, M. O'Dwyer, A. Quirke, C. Clifford, D. O'Shea, D. Burke, C. Brosnan, D. Horan, T. Kelly, S. O'Halloran.

UNDER-15

The under-15 competition, while providing some top-class football, did not live up to the high standards of previous years. This, I may hastily add, was not the fault of all the schools but rather the lack of interest displayed by some schools in seeking postponements on the flimsiest of excuses and the granting of walk-overs.

The final, between Abbey C.B.S. and Fethard P.B.C., was played at Sean Treacy Park, Tipperary, on May 26. The first half produced some fine football with the locals in the lead by 0-5 to 0-3 at the interval. In the second half Tipperary proved themselves the superior side and ran out easy winners by 0-12 to 0-4.

Tipperary C.B.S.: A. Flynn, M. Howe, K. Bowes, M. Quirke, B. Roche, M. Leonard, G. Quinlan, J. Daly, M. Gleeson, J. Lacey, G. McGuire, N. Brett, M. Morrissey, M. Moroney, J. O'Sullivan.

Fethard P.B.C.: P. Fanning, L. Cuddihy, A. Quinn, R. Broderick, K. Hackett, A. Connolly, S. O'Meara, P. Blake, M. Quinlan, M. Hackett, O. Walshe, D. O'Gorman, L. Treacy, J. Barry, D. Tobin.



ROCKWELL COLLEGE UNDER-17 WINNERS 1987-88

Back row (left to right): M. Cronin, S. Fitzpatrick, D. Geoghegan, D. Foley, F. Fitzgerald, C. Hayes, R. Maher, R. Thompson, D. Thompkins, K. O'Donnell, J. Browne, M. Doyle (coach). **Front row** (left to right): E. Lonergan, R. Moroney, B. O'Donovan, E. Fahy, P. O'Donoghue, S. Moloney, D. O'Dowd, P. McGuire, T. Ryan, D. O'Connell, D. Moloney.



ABBEY C.B.S., CUSACK CUP (CO. TIPPERARY UNDER-15 FOOTBALL) WINNERS 1988

Back row: Noel Kilcoyne (teacher), Brian Roche, Michael Gleeson, Kieran Flynn, Thomas Martin, Mark Leonard, John Daly, Gary Quinlan, Alan Flynn, Jim O'Sullivan, Michael Quirke, Andrew Nolan, Tom O'Donoghue (teacher). **Front row:** Michael Moroney, Ger Kirby, Mark Waldron, Damien Moloney, Michael Morrissey, Gerry Maguire (capt.), John Lacey, David Quirke, Nicholas Brett, Michael Howe, Kevin Bowe.



CASHEL VOCATIONAL SCHOOL — UNDER-14 SHIELD WINNERS 1987-88

Back row (left to right): T. J. Tierney, T. Bennett, A. Beattie, L. Hassett, S. Ryan, J. Shelly, N. Moloney, B. Ryan. **Front row** (left to right): G. Tuohy, J. Tarrant, F. Gayson, D. Kennedy (capt.), L. Sherlock, J. Ryan, J. Gillespie, J. Ryan. Missing from photograph: K. Moloney, M. Hoare.

UNDER-14

The third competition was the under-14 football blitz and this was played at Rockwell College on May 18. A resounding success since its inception, this year's competition was no exception with a record number of eighteen post-primary schools competing. There were two competitions and Clonmel High School, who entered a team in each, won the premier section while the Shield, for weaker schools, was won by Cashel Vocational School. Clonmel High School 'A' team defeated Killenaule V.S., St. Joseph's, Cahir, Tipperary V.S. and Nenagh C.B.S. to qualify for the final, in which they beat Carrick-on-Suir C.B.S. by 1-4 to 1-2. In the final of the Shield Cashel V.S. defeated the High School 'B' team after extra time in a high scoring game by 3-10 to 3-8.

In conclusion, I should like to thank everyone who assisted us and gave us support over the past year. I refer particularly to all the clubs that gave us the use of their grounds and Rockwell College for their facilities for the under-14 blitz. Also, to the Football Board and the referees, without whom no competition could take place. Finally, I should like to thank those teachers who so generously gave their free time in promoting Gaelic football in our schools.



CLONMEL HIGH SCHOOL — UNDER-14 WINNERS 1987-88

Back row (left to right): M. Byrne, L. Phelan, S. Morrissey, F. O'Callaghan, P. Lucey, N. Dempsey, J. Power, A. J. Loneragan. **Front row** (left to right): S. Halpin, S. Granville, J. McNamara, L. Crowe, K. O'Reilly (capt.), S. Skehan, K. O'Brien.

KNOCKAVILLA-DONASKEAGH JUVENILE CLUB

By: CHRISTY RYAN

ON previous year's experience it appeared that our U-16 team would be our most successful in 1988 and so it proved, winning the West hurling title and having a first win in the U-16 football 'A' section.

With the championship usually starting late in the year there was ample time for preparing the team and so five friendly games were played with an almost 100% record.

The quest for the football title began with a game against Cashel which was won easily. This put us into the final against Arravale Rovers. Played in Golden the game ended all square, Ger Butler getting a last gasp equaliser after a few near misses. The replay took place in Cashel where a fine all-round team display plus a

few fine individual performances, especially by Kevin and Tom Farrell, Timmy O'Brien, Declan Hogan and Vincent Kelly, saw Timmy collect the cup for the first time in the club's history.

We were beaten by eventual county champions, Nenagh, in the semi-final; an obsession with going for goals proved our downfall here.

Arravale Rovers were our first opponents in the hurling championship — a game that was won after a rather shaky start. Eire Óg, Anacarty, were our next opponents in a game we won easily which put us into the final against Arravale, who had qualified through the losers' group.

After beating Arravale in the final, our opponents in the county semi were Dúrlas Óg; a game I missed and was told on my

return that we could have won as easily as lost. However, it's scores that win matches and we fell short in that department and so ended a reasonably successful year.

We thank all the players in every grade together with all selectors and club officers for their efforts during the year, not forgetting, of course, the parents, without whose support we could not continue.

The U-16 panel that did duty during the year was: Donal O'Brien, Alan Hogan, Christopher Ryan, Kevin Farrell, Jimmy Farrell, John Small, Tom Farrell, Timmy O'Brien, Vincent Kelly, Declan Crosse, Declan Hogan, Christopher Ryan (Dundrum), Liam Hourigan, Gerard Browne, Laurence O'Dwyer, Seamus Cussen, Aidan Slattery, Tommy Riordain, Clive Morrissey.



KICKSAMS U.16 — WEST HURLING & FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS 1988

Back Row Declan Hogan, Gerard Browne, Larry O'Dwyer, Tom Farrell, Alan Hogan, Declan Crosse, Liam Hourigan, Kevin Farrell, Tom Riordain, Christopher Ryan. **Front Row:** Seamus Cussen, Donal O'Brien, John Small, Timmy O'Brien, Ger Butler, Vincent Kelly, Christopher Ryan, Aidan Slattery, Seamus Farrell. Missing from photo: Clive Morrissey.

GAELIC GAMES IN THE VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS

10th All-Ireland Title for Tipperary Vocational School Hurlers

Munster Double for Killenaule Vocational School



By T. J. Egan

ONCE AGAIN it my pleasant duty to report on another successful and historic year for the Vocational Schools of the County. While expectations of a senior All-Ireland were very high with most followers of the game — until Galway ruined our dreams — the only All-Ireland title to come to the county was that won by the Vocational Schools in a last gasp win over old rivals Kilkenny played as a curtain raiser to the Tipperary-Offaly league final.

1988 will also be a year in which Killenaule V.S. can look back with pride on the year they captured Munster titles in U-15 hurling and football as well as dominating all South Tipp. competitions.

Munster titles were won also by Tipp. V.S. in the Senior "B" hurling competition while Nenagh V.S. and Cashel V.S. added further glory to their schools by winning camogie and handball titles yet again.

TIPP WIN ALL-IRELAND TITLE

Tipperary Vocational Schools won the All-Ireland Hurling title in Croke Park on Sunday, 24th. April by a margin of 3 points, at the expense of Kilkenny. While North Tipperary had won 9 titles, the last being in 1978 against the same opposition, this was the first success since the amalgamation with South Tipperary.

THE CAMPAIGN BEGINS

Following the inter-schools championship a trial game took place in mid-February. The venue was Ballycahill. Typical of such games the hurling was scrappy and uninspiring. The cold February day and a biting east wind did not help matters. Little did anyone present realise that the campaign just beginning would end in the sunshine of Croke Park.

FIRST ROUND

Borrisoleigh was the venue for our first round clash with Limerick. Tipperary hurled well from the start, and by half time were well in command. The second half was similar, the Tipperary backs in command and the forwards picking off points at ease. Tipperary ran out easy winners on a score of: Tipperary 4-17, Limerick 1-6.

SEMI-FINAL: GALWAY THE OPPOSITION AGAIN

Preparation for the semi-final clash with All-Ireland Champions Galway now began in earnest. Challenge games with Thurles C.B.S. and training sessions took place in Thurles. Galway were champions now for eight years and going for a record ninth title in succession. The game was fixed for Semple Stadium on March 26th.

The semi-final day was wet and blustery. Tipperary were playing against the wind in the first half. Galway took the initiative and 128 — Tipperary G.A.A. Year Book



TIPPERARY VOCATIONAL SCHOOL — ALL-IRELAND HURLING CHAMPIONS 1988

Ront Row (left to right): Brendan Hogan, David Donnelly, Martin Kennedy, Raymond Dooley, Colm Fitzpatrick (Capt.), Michael Hogan, Damien Hogan, Paul Delaney, Diarmuid Dowling, Niall McGrath. **Back Row** (left to right): Ciaran Carey, Joe O'Brien, Gerry Bolger, John Hadnett, Tony Fanning, Kevin McCormack, Liam Gleeson, Ken Ralph, Sean Russell, Noel Redican, Paul Doherty, Tim Bergin, John Conroy.



KILLENAULE V.S. MUNSTER U-15 CHAMPIONS, HURLING & FOOTBALL 1988

Back Row (left to right): J. Healy, Killenaule; M. Nolan, Killenaule; D. McGrath, Mullinahone; B. O'Meara, Mullinahone; S. Ivors, Ballingarry; M. Shelly, Killenaule; P. J. Walsh, Gortnahoe; S. Butler, Tullaroan; J. Connolly, St. Mary's, Clonmel; M. Lahart, Killenaule; M. Geoghegan, Killenaule; M. Shekan, Mullinahone; K. Shelly, Mullinahone. **Front Row** (left to right): J. Hennessy, Mullinahone; P. Corcoran, Ballingarry; S. O'Brien, Mullinahone; M. Gleeson, Gortnahoe; J. O'Dwyer, Killenaule; T. Gleeson, Gortnahoe; C. Devitt, Killenaule; E. Dalton, Ballon; T. Shelly, Killenaule; E. Purcell, Killenaule; P. Skehan, Mullinahone; E. Stapleton, Gortnahoe. Also on the football panel were (inset left to right): Kenneth Brett and Michael Cuddihy, Drangan.

used the wind to the best effect. While Tipperary hurled fairly well, they conceded two soft goals in the second quarter and went in at half time 3-8 to 0-3 in arrears. The task now looked almost impossible, but this Tipperary team had great courage and would not go down easy. On the resumption and with the aid of a strong wind, Tipperary hurled with more cohesion and spirit. The defence shackled the Galway forwards, David Donnelly, Paul Delaney and Captain Colm Fitzpatrick were outstanding. A goal by Michael Hogan set the forwards alight. In

the final quarter, goals in quick succession by Diarmuid Dowling, Ken Ralph and Kevin McCormack put us within two points of the champions. Points by Ralph (two) and Hogan sealed the issue. Galway's long reign was over. Tipp. were on course for Croke Park.

THE BUILD UP FOR THE FINAL

Preparations for the final went smoothly. Injury to Tony Fanning who missed the semi-final cleared up, and also did illness to Brendan Hogan. Further games against Thurles C.B.S. and the

County Minor selection went ahead. The final training session took place in Thurles. Presentation of Kit Bags, courtesy of A.I.B. and photographs for the programme were all part of the build-up. Slight signs of nerves were now evident, but we were well prepared and ready to go.

Sunday, 24th. April was our big day. The Tipperary senior team had qualified for the league final. This made it all the more special. The players from Newport, Killenaule, Tipperary Town and Thurles arrived in Thurles, next stop was Templemore then on to Roscrea to collect the Nenagh, Borrisokane and Roscrea contingent. We were on the road at last.

The mid-morning stop in Kildare and the puck around on the Curragh, eased some of the tension. From Newlands Cross we appeared to crawl towards Croke Park. The build up of traffic and the obvious big Tipperary support was to have its effect on the players, the bus was now strangely quiet. At last we reached Croke Park. The usual noisy dressing scene was somewhat subdued. Everyone toggled out quietly, deep in their own thoughts, anxious to get out on the field and get on with the game.

THE FINAL

Tipperary elected to play into the Hill 16 goal, the hill was strangely empty due to reconstruction. Within seconds of the throw in, Brendan Hogan goaled, hopes ran high, but Kilkenny had other ideas. Their forwards were fast and accurate and they levelled with three quick points. Raymond Dowley put Tipp. ahead with a good point, but Kilkenny struck back with further points. Just on half-time Kilkenny were awarded a penalty. Tipperary's full forward Kevin McCormack (goalkeeper cum forward) made a frantic dash to his goal. His journey was justified, he made a brilliant save which was cleared by Liam Gleeson. Tipperary went in at half time 0-6 to 1-1 in arrears.

The second half commenced. McCormack goaled to restore Tipp. lead. Tipperary then missed some good scoring chances. Then disaster, a Kilkenny free from 40 yards deceived backs and goalkeeper and ended in the net. Worse was to follow, Kilkenny struck for another goal, they were now ahead 2-6 to 2-1. Tipp. now introduced Joe O'Brien (Newport) at midfield. Raymond Dowley goaled, Tony Fanning had a point. Seven minutes remained, McCormack passed to Ken Ralph who made no mistake, Tipp. were in the lead again. Kilkenny levelled the scoring again.

Two minutes remained. Once again it was Kevin McCormack who answered the call, he collected a ball from Michael Hogan, rounded the full back and flicked the ball to the net. One final Kilkenny attack was subdued. Tipperary were champions again, the final score was Tipperary 5-3, Kilkenny 2-9.

Tipperary had many heroes on the day, to single individuals out would be unfair. The full panel each contributed to this victory. Their club, schools and especially their parents can feel very proud of this fine group of young men. Their behaviour both on and off the field during the campaign

was exemplary. From all concerned, thanks lads for a job well done.

We came a long way from Ballycahill to the sunshine of Croke Park which now seemed to shine even brighter.

FOOTNOTE

Represented on the panel were eight schools and fourteen clubs. The All-Ireland medals were presented to the panel at a very enjoyable function in the Park Avenue House, Thurles on June 1st. Donie O'Connell (Killenaule) kindly made the presentations for which we extend our thanks.

Panel: Liam Gleeson (Kilruane), Martin Kennedy (Mullinahone), David Donnelly (Moneygall), Paul Delaney (Toomevara), Damien Hogan (Roscrea), Colm Fitzpatrick (Killavilla), Capt., John Hackett (Solohead), Niall McGrath (Galtee Rovers), Tony Fanning (Moneygall), Raymond Dooley (Coalderry), Michael Hogan (Roscrea), Ken Ralph (Moy-Borris), Diarmuid Dowley (Errill), Kevin McCormack (Toomevara), Brendan Hogan (Borrisokane), Joe O'Brien (Newpoort), Ciaran Casey (Roscrea), Paul Doherty (Arravale Rovers), Noel Ridican (Solohead), Gerry Bolger (Mullinahone), Tim Bergin (Moyne Templetuohy), Sean Russell (Aherlow), John Conroy (Kilruane).

Manager: John O'Riordan (Thurles); **Selectors:** Michael Keely (Templemore); 2. Donie Cullen (Tipp. Town); 3. Michael Hassett (Killenaule); T. J. Egan (Borrisokane); Cyril Gleeson (Newport); T. Connolly (Nenagh); Brendan Greaney (Roscrea).

SCOIL RUAIN'S WONDERFUL YEAR

1987/88 was the year Tipperary Vocational Schools Hurling regained its former glory — the mantle of All-Ireland Champions. In Scoil Ruain, Killenaule it will be remembered as the year they won the treble — double, South Tipperary Senior Hurling and Football, South Tipperary Junior Hurling and Football and Munster Junior Hurling and Football titles.

The year began with a hard earned win

over a good Clonmel team in Senior Hurling. Victory over Carrick in the next round put us into the final against Tipperary where we had an easier than expected victory. While this was very much a team effort, Thomas Gleeson, Michael Skehan, Martin Kennedy, Dessie Blake and Michael Shelly were to the fore in acquiring the title. Final score: Killenaule 6-7, Tipperary 0-2.

The Football championship began almost immediately. Victories over Cahir and Cashel qualified Scoil Ruain for the final against Carrick. Carrick had the better of the first half and Scoil Ruain were forced to introduce Brendan Fitzgerald, who despite carrying an injury, played a major role in bringing Killenaule into the game. Despite this it took a goal in the last two minutes, scored by N. Leahy, following good work by Michael Crannitch to give Scoil Ruain a 2 points winning margin. Best for Scoil Ruain were: Brendan Fitzgerald, Michael Crannitch, and Michael Skehan. Final score: Killenaule 1-9, Carrick-on-Suir, 1-3.

The Junior competitions began after Christmas. Victories over Clonmel and Cashel in Junior Football provided another Killenaule — Tipperary pairing in the final. The first half was evenly contested but Scoil Ruain stepped up their performance and took their chances well in the second half to run out relatively easy winners. Good displays came from K. Brett, T. Shelley, B. O'Meara, M. Gleeson and John Connolly. Final score: Killenaule 3-4, Tipperary 0-2.

In Junior Hurling, Scoil Ruain, defeated Cahir on their way to the final against Clonmel. The final provided some excellent hurling. While Clonmel were on top in many sectors of the field, the better balance of the Scoil Ruain team provided the victory to bring home their fourth trophy of the year. M. Gleeson, T. Shelly, P. Walsh, K. Brett, B. O'Meara and V. Webster had excellent displays during the championship. Final score: Killenaule 2-9, Clonmel 1-5.

In the Munster Hurling Championship, Scoil Ruain faced neighbours Thurles in the first round and after a hard sporting



PRESENTATION OF MEDALS AT SCOIL RUAIN

Back Row (left to right): M. Gunn (Capt. U-16 Football), Michael Shelly (Captain U-15 Football), C. Devitt (Capt. U-16 Hurling), E. Meagher (Chairman School Sub Committee), D. O'Connell (County Player and Past Pupil), Michael Hassett (Principal), Mrs. M. Lahart (Chairperson of Parents' Committee), B. O'Meara (Capt. U-14 Football), M. Gleeson (Capt. U-14 Hurling). **Front Row** (left to right): E. Dalton (Capt. U-15 Hurling), B. Ryan (Capt. Senior Basketball).

game were somewhat flattered by their 7 points winning margin. This was followed by victories over Causeway and Charleville and then onto Dungarvan to face Middleton C.S. in the Munster final. The final provided an excellent game of hurling, fiercely contested in a most committed and sporting manner from start to finish. The better balance of the Killenaule team allied to the excellent free taking of Tony Shelly helped them to a 3 point victory. Killenaule 1-8, Middleton 1-5. In the All-Ireland semi-final, Scoil Ruain never really got going against a skilful and well balanced Johnstown team and were defeated by 7 points. During this championship, we had some excellent hurling from Tomas Gleeson, Seoirse Butler, Michael Skehan, E. Dalton, Michael Shelley, and later in the year Michael Lahart.

In the Munster Junior football Championship Scoil Ruain defeated Scoil Stiofan Naofa and Clonakilty on their way to the final against Killarney. The final was played at Bruff and was an excellent game of football with many superb scores being taken by both sides. Scoil Ruain appeared to be the faster team and their superior

control and use of the ball had Killarney struggling for long periods of the game. Killarney staged a spirited fight back and it took some staunch defensive play by the backs, especially Michael Skehan to hold on for a deserved victory. During this championship Michael Skehan, T. Gleeson, P. Skehan, P. J. Walsh, Michael Shelley, D. McGrath, M. Cuddihy, and S. Butler provided some outstanding displays. The fullback line and goalkeeper Christy Devitt were very sound and conceded only one goal during the championship. Killenaule 3-5, Killarney 1-4.

In the All-Ireland semi-final, Moneenageisha proved too strong for a weakened Killenaule side. During this game Tomas Gleeson accidentally received a serious leg injury. Thankfully he is making a satisfactory recovery and we are looking forward to seeing this fine player back in action later in the year.

The achievement of winning these two Munster Championships is all the more spectacular when one considers that fourteen players played on the teams in both championships.

The U-19 Hurling team also came close

to winning the Munster Senior B. Championship. In their first game they defeated Mitchelstown by one point, Gerry Bolger, Paul White, and Eddie Duggan were the stars of this game. Scoil Ruain, lost narrowly to Tipperary in the next round. Damien Murphy, E. Duggan, Paul White, Liam Murphy and Martin Kennedy played well. Tipperary went on to win the title.

To the people who train these young people in the local clubs and to the teachers who look after the school teams — well done and keep up the good work.

Finally, Scoil Ruain had a direct interest in the Senior All-Ireland Final. Donie O'Connell and John Leahy had in previous years won titles with the school. In fact Donie O'Connell was on the last Scoil Ruain team to win a Munster title.

Well done Mick Hassett and Liam Rice.

NORTH TIPP CHAMPIONSHIPS

While Killenaule V.S. dominated all South Tipp. competitions — Roscrea V.S. and Newpark V.S. shared the spoils in North Tipp. — Roscrea winning the Senior Hurling and Football titles, while Newport V.S. captured the Junior Championships.

Good year for Newport V.S.

JUNIOR FOOTBALL

In the first round, Newport had home advantage at Pairc Ni Riain and had a good win over Roscrea Vocational School. The semi-final was played at St. Cronin's Park, Roscrea against Thurles. Newport played with a gale wind in the first half and unfortunately for Thurles it died down in the second half. Newport, playing some good passages of football went on to win. The final was played at Dolla against Templemore on Wednesday, October 14, 1987. Newport played their best football of the season and had a handsome victory against the game players from Templemore Vocational School. John Foley (Captain) played a decisive roll in all of Newport's matches.

Team: Andrew O'Riordan; William Powell, Cathal Smith, Paul O'Gorman; Eoin Hurley, Jim Dunlea, Seamus Troy; John Foley (captain), Tony Ryan; Adrian Smith, Pat McCarthy, Liam Kearns; Pat Murtagh, Liam Hammersley, Clement Smith. **Subs:** Brendan Healy, Thomas Gleeson, Sean Collins, Liam Corcoran, Greg Foley, Ivan Hurley, Adrian Hurley, Andrew Carr, Robert Ryan.

JUNIOR HURLING

Newport had to play all their matches away in this competition, starting with a win against Templemore at Templemore. The next match was against Borrisokane, at Borrisokane. After a very keenly contested first half, Newport gained the upper hand in the second after a great goal from a lengthy solo run by Andrew Carr. The final, against Thurles Vocational School, had a very dramatic finish. With less than 5 minutes remaining, Thurles were leading by 5 points. Two ground 130 — Tipperary G.A.A. Year Book

clearances by wing back, Seamus Troy brought 2 goals (also from ground shots) to make Newport winners by one point.

So, Newport brought off the double in junior hurling and football, a feat last achieved by the school in 1969, when they won their first ever North Tipp. titles.

Team: John Quinn; Martin Kelly, Jim Dunlea, Eoin Hurley; Seamus Troy, Brendan Healy, Pat Murtagh; Tony Ryan, Adrian Smith; Andrew Carr, Liam Kearns, Liam Hammersley; Clement Smith, John Foley, Sean Collins. **Subs:** Thomas Gleeson, Ivan Hurley, Greg Foley, Liam Corcoran, John Healy, Michael Collins, Cathal Smith, Pat McCarthy, Robert Ryan. Well done Cyril Gleeson and all concerned.

UNDERAGE AND REPRESENTATIVE GAMES

In recent times I have noted with alarm the inordinate amount of games our young boys are asked to play. Commencing at U-12; we have competitions at U-14; U-16; U-18 in hurling and football. Add to that the various competitions in hurling and football at Post Primary level which cover all age groups i.e. U-13; U-14; U-15; U-16 Croke Cup; U-17 Fitzgerald Cup; U-18 Senior. We also have representative games at divisional and inter county level at U-14; U-16 and Vocational Schools Inter Co. U-18.

As if that is not enough we have the various county trials for county hurling and football teams which seem to go on throughout the winter. Is it any wonder then that many young boys are burn't out by the time they reach minor level. We have far too many competitions at club

and school level which duplicate each other. I also cannot see the value of inter county competitions at U-14 and U-16 as I feel they already have enough competition at this level.

In this context I was very pleased to be invited to attend a special meeting recently — organised by Bórd na nÓg to look at the whole area of underage games. The views put forward at the meeting were similar to the ones I have mentioned — while other speakers were very concerned at the attitude to football within the county. Hopefully as a result of this meeting something positive will be done to redress the whole situation and the sooner all interested parties sit down together — Bórd na nÓg — Primary and Post Primary Schools and Co. Board — the better will be the prospects for the years ahead.

SPONSORSHIP

On behalf of all Vocational Schools I would like to take this opportunity in thanking our very generous sponsor A.I.B. for their continued support for our games. Tipperary Vocational Schools received £1,745 as part of the National grant which amounted to £30,000. Without this sponsorship we could not survive, and it is to be hoped that A.I.B.'s support will be acknowledged by all concerned in the promotion of our game.

REFEREES AND PARK COMMITTEES

No report of mine would be complete without a special word of thanks to the many gallant referees who assist us throughout the year. Unfortunately some of these referees do not get the recognition

that they deserve from the various boards when referees are appointed for the various finals. We are very fortunate to have at our disposal such a fine bunch of referees and it is to be hoped that their dedication will not go unrewarded.

I would also like to express a sincere "thank you" to the many Park Committees who make their pitches available to us at all times. Unfortunately in recent times a number of "prominent" pitches close down for the winter months, with the result that some pitches are over used. This I feel is very unfair and it is to be hoped that this trend will not continue, as without the goodwill of the park committees our games cannot be played.

EDUCATIONAL CUTBACKS

By now most people will be aware of the drastic cutbacks which are now affecting all sections of education. Unfortunately the promotion of games in the schools has not escaped the "cuts". Many teachers, who for years have given dedicated service to our national games — are no longer time-tabled to continue the great work. This will have serious consequences in the years ahead if it is left unchecked. With no new young teachers coming into our schools the prospects for the future don't look encouraging.



TIPPERARY VOCATIONAL SCHOOL MUNSTER U-19 'B' CHAMPIONS

Back Row (left to right): G. Kiely (Lattin/Cullen), K. Myers (Arravale Rovers), J. Hickey (Cappawhite), J. McCormack (Knockavilla Kickhams), James Kiely (Lattin/Cullen), Michael Maher (Galtee Rovers), S. Russell (Aherlow), B. Carew (Aherlow), N. O'Neill (Galtee Rovers), Michael Kirby (Solohead), K. Farrell (Knockavilla Kickham), P. Doherty (Arravale Rovers). **Front Row** (left to right): K. O'Donnell (Arravale Rovers), J. Hadnett (Solohead), G. Kiely (Oola), J. Frewen (Aherlow), N. Redican, Capt. (Solohead), E. Wilson (Solohead), T. Coen (Galtee Rovers), N. McGrath (Galtee Rovers), C. Coen (Galtee Rovers).

Historic hurling year for Tipp. Vocational School

By Pat Moroney

TIPPERARY Vocational School captured its first Munster Hurling title when they won the first Under-19 B Vocational Schools Championship. The foundation of the team was based on the U-16 team that took the County Vocational Schools championship in 1987.

The Championship road started in

December, 1987 with a two point victory over Killenaule at Sean Treacy Park, Tipperary in a tremendously exciting game. This proved to be the team's toughest encounter.

The Munster Semi-Final was played against Macroom in Doneraile on the 24th February. The team had a very comprehensive victory running out winners by 1-14 to 1-0, even though the Tipp. boys had a player sent off in the second half.

THE FINAL

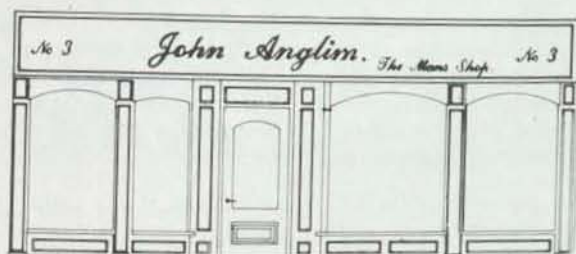
The final on March 11th in Fermoy against Clonakilty was a completely different affair. Tipperary were struggling to come to terms with their opponents until midway in the second half when the Tipperary mentors made some astute switches bringing Jerry Kiely to centreback and switching John McCormack to full forward. These

changes paid dividends almost immediately when a long John Hickey clearance dropped around the square and John McCormack made no mistake scoring a vital goal to give Tipperary the lead.

Tipperary began to take control at midfield with Niall McGrath in particular doing trojan work to run out winners on the score 6-4 to 2-6.

There were exciting scenes in the town when the cheering and jubilant supporters returned. The team which made history by being the first from the school to win a Munster Hurling title was prepared by Donal Cullen and Tom Crowe.

Further history was made when 5 members of the team were on the County Vocational Schools Hurling team that won the All-Ireland in Croke Park. John Hadnett and Niall McGrath were on the team, while Paul Doherty, Noel Redican and Sean Russell were members of the panel.



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'Tickets Please' or Take Your Pick

Richie Sheehan



A GREAT awareness has grown up in Ireland in recent times concerning the preservation of our environment. Bungalow Blight is being held in check. Conservation orders are being slapped on buildings willy nilly. Flora and fauna are being protected out of existence. Pollution is a dirty word and our environment is being guarded as never before.

Yet, in the midst of all this preservation one creature alone is being hunted out of existence. Shortly coursing and other blood sports will be ended by some form of Section 31 or other. But can overdue protection be obtained for this other harmless creature. Alas, dear reader, no. Such is not the case.

In fact, the organisation of which he is the lifeblood has loosed on this unfortunate and defenceless thing a new and terrible peril called "the ticket seeker".

This is the latest and I fear the most lethal blow to that inoffensive of innocents, the secretary of the rural G.A.A. club. This virtue was first noticed at the Centenary year All-Ireland final in Thurles in 1984. It reappeared again in Killarney in 1987 but the antidote of 16 years banished it from memory. However, it roared back in virulent form in Limerick in 1988 and reached a new peak before All-Ireland Sunday in September. Worse still, it seems to be a disease that is here to stay.

DAZZLE THE MASSES

The club secretary who previously only had to contend with players, dyed-in-the-wool supporters, parish priests, local publicans, minions of the law and irate mothers of non-selected or taken-off players now has to contend with tickets. Were a ticket only the means by which one is admitted to a hurling game then things would not be so difficult, but such is not the case.

First and foremost, the ticket is a status symbol. To be able to obtain one is a form of one-upmanship which has been brought to a fine art by some. However, the real trick is to be able to obtain fistfuls which can be used to dazzle the eyes of the masses at pre-match pint sessions in Cookes or Birmingham's.

That some of these precious pieces of paper can be carelessly lost is unimportant. That tickets lubricate the wheels of business cannot be denied. Even those most incorruptible of men, politicians are not immune from some wheeling and dealing in the ticket sphere.

In the old days when we visited Croke Park on a regular basis and you paid your way in, nobody bothered to use tactics to obtain tickets which would put the S.A.S. to shame and which Mr. Gorbachev's glasnost society in the U.S.S.R. could not tolerate. This new situation poses a mental and physical threat to the harassed club runal.

Of course, it is scarcity of tickets which is the cause of blood pressure, family feuds, bad pints, bad language, rising club membership and stimulating public discussion in modern-day Tipperary. The ordinary G.A.A. supporter realises that in the natural order of things he rates very low within the hierarchy. He is not jealous of rich Yanks who fly in for the final with plane-fuls of tickets. He knows that his turn will come when Lattin or Mullinahone or Moyne or Burgess are playing some November or February day in the mud. But then he won't need a ticket for that one.

Likewise, he doesn't need to be told that all those nameplates festooned around G.A.A. grounds attract tickets like magnets. The fact that many of the users of these tickets would be more at home on the playing fields of Eton or the short grass of The Curragh is not significant to our Jack Ryan or Paddy Leahy. Where, or where do the tickets go? Try explaining to the man who was always a member of the club (he paid his first and last membership in 1971) that a hard-working county board member has his ticket. Even a diplomat like Babs wouldn't get away with that one.

Income tax was introduced purely as a temporary measure about 150 years ago. You, dear reader, may think that all this fuss about tickets is temporary. There is at least one place in every county for subversives who think like that. Consider the benefits of the ticket to Croke Park or Munster Council: (a) a sell-out crowd and guaranteed no money. Rule one, official guide: no



Tipperary captain Pa O'Neill receives the Munster Championship Cup from Munster Council Chairman Michael O'Connor.

money, no ticket; (b) no cash taken at gates, ergo no loss of revenue; (c) proof positive that only the proper number are allowed to attend games; (d) youngsters of impressionable years are made doubtful whether or not they can be allowed into matches. The day of the first come, first served basis is like the age of chivalry gone forever.

As one who barely survived the ticket program of 1988, I would offer the following advice to club secretaries: (1) Insist that there be a club rule that club officers are entitled to plenty of tickets. If such a rule exists keep the minutes, if it does not exist, burn the minutes. (2) Close club membership early in the season as the fellow who was slow to pay his £3 in March will gladly pay £10 if the membership is re-opened the week before the Munster final. (3) Never under any circumstances promise anything to anybody and then you will be the recipient of gratitude if it suits you to deliver something. You will be the recipient of plenty if something is promised and nothing is delivered. (4) Never forget that the once in a while club/county supporter thinks that he is more deserving than you. After all, you will be there all the time. It's a bonus if he comes. (5) Assemble the family at the start of Munster Final week. Say solemnly with hand on heart (an empty formula): "I have no tickets". Then for the rest of the week don't answer 'phone or return calls. Immediately after solemn declaration collect from club chairman who repeats declaration in his house. Wife and children can now only tell the truth as they know it. (6) Form a supporters' club. Remember, dear reader, this TICKETS is a new game with constant changing rules. It took us a long time to adjust to changes in hurling rules. I'd willingly bet that we'll understand these TICKET rules much quicker. See you at the Munster Final next year if you can get a ticket.

Risteard Ó Síocháin

Post-Primary Hurling Scene in Tipperary

CROKE CUP

IN THE Croke Cup competition for Under Sixteen hurling, seventeen of our Post Primary Schools participated. After a series of well contested games the semi-finalists to emerge were Tipperary C.B.S. v. Killenaule V.S. and St. Joseph's Borrisoleigh v. Borrisokane V.S.

Tipperary the holders overcame a spirited Killenaule V.S. team in one semi-final and Borrisokane V.S. were victorious over Borrisoleigh in the second semi-final. The Croke Cup final provided a rousing contest with the Abbey C.B.S boys retaining their trophy on the score 4-8 to 2-7. The second half of the eighties has seen Tipperary C.B.S. emerge as a very strong force in Tipperary post-primary hurling circles and let's hope that the wonderful effort of pupils and teachers alike will be rewarded with greater victories in the years ahead.

FITZGERALD CUP

The prestige competition in Tipperary post-primary hurling circles is the Canon Fitzgerald Cup (Under-17 Hurling). This competition is always very interesting as it always gives a school a chance to assess the potential of the following year's Senior team and also it gives potential county minor hurling aspirants a chance to show their paces. It is a little disappointing that county minor hurling selectors seldom bother to attend any of those Fitzgerald Cup games. In my opinion it would be a far better inspecting ground for potential minors than many of the trial games that take part in early spring.

There was a general feeling that (1987-88) could be Tipperary C.B.S.'s year to capture the elusive "Fitzgerald" and after defeating Borrisoleigh 2-11 to 0-7 in one semi-final they were slight favourites when they lined out against Cashel C.B.S. in the Final. Cashel had reached the final as a result of a well deserved win over Borrisokane V.S.

The final was played in Semple Stadium in the last week of May, much to the dissatisfaction of all. After a very keenly



Loughmore players and supporters with Dan Breen Cup on the occasion of visit of team to the Templemore School. Back Row (left to right): Tom McGrath, Jack Walsh (coach), M. McGrath (L), Denis McGrath, Seamus Bohane, Liam Cormack, Phil Morris, Seán O Costagáin (Schools' gamesmaster), Michael McGrath (K). Front Row: Excited Loughmore supporters.

contested game which at one stage looked going Tipperary's way, Cashel achieved victory with a typical late goal on the score 1-11 to 1-9. This Cashel team deserved their victory as they battled on when all seemed lost, a hallmark of all Cashel C.B.S. teams over the years.

VITAL YEARS AHEAD

To say that everything in the garden is rosy in relation to the post-primary games scene in the county at the moment would be misleading. I personally think that great assistance will be required both from adjoining clubs and Co. Board over the next few years if we are to maintain the present standard.

Due to educational cutbacks over the last few years, teachers are not as available as heretofore for coaching and training teams. The question of finance is also of significance. Over the years the school managers provided finance for the purchase of hurleys and for the transporting of teams without any recognition been given by the G.A.A. authorities, but alas the well is running dry and I think that the powers to be would be well advised to try to redress the situation before it is too late.

To us involved in the promotion of games at Post Primary level, one of the biggest shocks of the year was the sudden and untimely death of one of our greatest friend the late Timmy Hennessy. Timmy was a friend to us all and his cheerful voice at the other end of the

phone when requested to officiate at a college game was an inspiration to us all. How he loved to be mentioned in the same category as other loyal servants of the colleges namely John Moloney, George Ryan etc., who all gathered in early August at St. Michael's cemetery to pay their last respects to a generous soul.

One of the most rewarding things for teachers is to see their past pupils acquit themselves with distinction in their lives afterwards. Therefore the schools of the county were justifiably proud in September when so many past pupils lined out in Croke Park on All-Ireland final day. We can well remember many of them in our Croke Cup and Fitzgerald competitions.

For us in Templemore Co. Final Day was a source of great satisfaction for us all as twenty six of the thirty players that lined out in the Loughmore and Borrisoleigh colours played their post-primary hurling in the maroon of Templemore C.B.S. It was indeed wonderful to see players who had played side by side in the Templemore colours, strive manfully in opposition for the honour and glory of the "little village".

One of the highlights of the school year so far at the Templemore school was when the Loughmore team and mentors visited their alma mater with the Dan Breen Cup.

Let's hope this victory will be an inspiration to the youth in the school to capture honours that have eluded them through the eighties.



CASHEL C.B.S., FITZGERALD CUP WINNERS 1988

Back Row: John Gleeson (teacher), T. Quirke, John Morrissey, Michael Brennan, Pat Morrissey, Tom Farrell, Denis Keating, Seanie O'Donoghue, Seanie Barron, Maurice Quirke, Michael Kearney, Seamus Hickey, Michael O'dwyer, Mattie Finnerty (teacher). Front Row: Frank Hickey, Joe O'Leary, T. J. Connolly, Ramie Ryan, Kevin O'Donnell, Andrew Courtney, Vincent Kelly, Rickey Delaney, Jerry Butler, David Ryan.



ABBEY C.B.S. CROKE CUP WINNERS 1987/88

Back Row: Paddy Kelly (teacher), Paddy Maher, Pakie Roche, Larry O'dwyer, Kieran Clifford, Brian O'Donnell, Declan Crosse, Michael Bowes, Gerry Maguire, Declan McGrath, Brian Roche, Nicholas English (teacher), Luke Leonard. Front Row (left to right): Michael Heffernan, Timmy Byrne, Conor Burke, Mark Leonard, John Kiely, Liam Ryan, Michael Quirke, Gary Quinlan, Michael Gleeson, John Daly, Vinny Ryan.



Dermot Wall

THE death took place on May 2, 1988, of that great handballer, Dermot Wall. In his early days he was a successful member of the Ballyporeen football team and the Skeheenarinka hurling team but it was handball that gave him prominence.

He won four All-Ireland golden masters titles in the 40/20 court. In 1975 he won the doubles All-Ireland with Paddy Mackin. He won the singles the following year. Teaming up with Jimmy Walsh in the 1980 doubles final, they had a dramatic win after being 20 aces to 12 down in the final set. The pair were successful again in 1981 to give Dermot his fourth All-Ireland medal.

It is significant that Dermot died in the ballcourt, the most fitting place for one who gave so much to handball. He helped roof the 60/30 court in Ballyporeen in 1973 and he was instrumental in the building of the 40/20 court. He also helped to coach footballers and was willing to give a helping hand any time he was asked. His death at 68 years of age was greatly regretted, not only by his family but by all who knew him.



Philly Ryan

(Castle), Anacarty

WHEN Tipperary folk flocked to Dublin for the All-Ireland semi-final in early August, missing from their ranks was Philly Ryan (Castle) of Éire Óg, Anacarty, who had been called to his reward that 134 — Tipperary G.A.A. Year Book

very week. Eileen O'Carroll in her Éire Óg club history published earlier in the year had this profile of one of the famed Ryan (Castle) family.

"By the time Philly Ryan (C) came on the hurling scene, the Ryan Castle name had been made prominent by his brothers Tom and Michael. He upheld and even surpassed their great feats, right into the 1950s. Philly's first medal was won in 1934, when as a juvenile he played with Anacarty when they won the primary schools' league under the watchful eye of Bill O'Donnell. It is remarkable that Philly's hurling coach and teacher during those early years later played alongside him with both Éire Óg and Tipperary. On graduating to minor hurling he aided Brian Boru's, the Éire Óg/Cappawhite combination in their three-in-a-row victories of '37, '38 and '39. The latter year also saw him play minor hurling with Tipperary and he continued to do so for '40 and '41. There are not many who can boast of playing county minor for three years.

In 1941 he played senior hurling with Éire Óg and thus won his first senior hurling championship medal. In the controversial final of the same year he played at centre-back. It must be remembered that he was still only a minor. The following year he annexed his second West senior hurling medal. At the age of twenty he won a county medal with Éire Óg in 1943, playing at centre-back on an all-Ryan half-back line comprising of his brother Tom and George Ryan, Mohera. Philly played on 'Sweeper' Ryan, Moycarkey, and as the song goes:

'But out comes Phil the Castle, the man of great repute,
The way he played the Sweeper Ryan, sure we thought 'twas very cute'.

As a result of this win Éire Óg selected the Tipperary team to play Waterford and Philly Ryan played in his usual position of centre-back. In 1943 he won his fourth consecutive West senior medal and also captained the Tipperary team in the championship and league. However, following a victory over Waterford, Tipperary were beaten by Cork in the Munster final though they won the four-county league title. This was the last time that Philly played for Éire Óg and Tipperary.

He moved to Dublin in 1945 and began playing with Young Irelands, coincidentally the English version of Éire Óg. He won many trophies while playing with this club, the most notable being a county championship in 1949. In 1947 he was selected to play on the Dublin county team and continued to do so until 1953. By the late 'Forties his absence from the Éire Óg team was very noticeable as they lost three consecutive West titles.

In 1952 Philly won a Leinster championship medal with Dublin when they defeated Wexford in the Leinster final. He holds the proud distinction of having held Nicky Rackard scoreless. Dublin went on to play Cork in the All-Ireland final but were beaten by the Munster champions. Philly continued to play for another year but then decided to hang up his boots with regard to county hurling at any rate. At club level he played for a few more years.

Up to his death Philly took a keen interest in the Éire Óg club. May he rest peacefully.



Tom Power

Rathkea

HE recent death of Tom Power, Rathkea, removes from this life one of the county's greatest footballers of the 'thirties and 'forties.

He first came to prominence as a member of the Clonpet junior football team that won a West Tipperary championship in 1934. In 1935 he played with the Tipperary junior football team that reached the All-Ireland final only to be defeated by Sligo.

In 1936 Clonpet and Arravale Rovers were amalgamated and competed in the South Tipperary senior hurling final, a success they repeated at senior football level in 1941. In all those games Tom Power was at centrefield captaining the team which defeated Mullinahone in that 1941 final.

The previous year his outstanding displays for the county senior football team were recognised by the Munster selectors who picked him for the successful Railway Cup team.

Tom Power was a gifted footballer, strong, talented and direct, a beautiful kicker of a ball with left or right foot. His talents were only matched by his modesty and dedication to Gaelic football and hurling and when his playing days were over he was a very capable referee, respected and looked up to.

During all his long life he followed the fortunes of Tipperary football and his one regret was that he never won an All-Ireland title.

God rest him.

P.B.



Jim Devitt

MANY people were surprised at the announcement of Jim Devitt's death on November 19. He had been at the hurling and football All-Irelands and it wasn't so long since they had met him with his smile and his latest story. But his family and his close acquaintances knew that his end was nigh and they had nearly two weeks to come to terms with the news.

Jim was one of three Cashel players to win All-Ireland senior hurling medals. Jack Gleeson of Shanbally won one before him and Peter O'Sullivan was to win a few after him. Jim's medals were won in 1945 and 1949.

At the height of his hurling career he scaled at less than ten stone, not that terrible much above Barry McGuigan. But his size never worried him because his speed, anticipation and hurling skills proved adequate compensation. He revealed that you didn't need to be a big man to play hurling and this is all the more significant when one recalls the era in which he played.

His inter-county career began in 1944 when he was twenty-three years old. He had proven himself before that when he won the All-Army final in 1943 with the 7th Brigade of the Southern Command. Within ten months of making the county panel he had won All-Ireland and Railway Cup medals. He was to win two more Railway Cup medals in 1948 and 1949. In the latter year he won his second All-Ireland and ended his inter-county career through ill-health. He continued playing with Cashel, winning two divisional medals in 1945 and 1948, and he finished his club career in 1962, playing junior hurling at full-forward for Boherlahan.

One of the greatest games he ever played was in the Munster championship clash with Limerick at Cork in 1948. According to the *Tipperary Star* reporter: 'Jim Devitt played the game of his life—he was the outstanding player on the field. Right from the throw-in he hurled magnificently and tirelessly.

OBITUARIES

Three of Tipperary's goals were direct results of his accuracy with seventies. Attacking and defending Devitt was superb and Tipperary supporters were sighing for half-a-dozen of his calibre.

Jim Devitt was a most sociable and friendly man who scarcely ever made an enemy. Whether at the fair or the funeral, at a game or in the pub with the usual "medium" he was good fun and had a fine hearty laugh. Although sixty-seven years of age he never seemed old and had the outlook and enthusiasms of men much younger. The tremendous crowd that turned out to pay their final respects at his funeral were a witness to the way Jim was liked and esteemed.

Our sincerest sympathies to his wife, Charlie, and daughters Anne, Madeline, Kathleen, Charlotte, Margaret and Bridget.

Go ndéana Dia trócaire ar a anam.



Mick McDermott

THE death occurred unexpectedly last February of Mick McDermott who had a long association with St. Mary's Hurling Club, Clonmel. Mick was involved with the club first as a player and later as secretary and vice-president. He was one of the leading referees in the South Division from the mid-1940s to the mid-1950s.

Mick was a native of Eyrecourt, Co. Galway, and from the time he came to Clonmel in 1944 he was involved in the business and cultural life of the town, but his immense contribution to the community was always quietly discreet. The G.A.A. and especially the local hurling club were high in his priorities. He will be greatly missed by St. Mary's as one of its keenest supporters and one who was always available in the background with encouragement, advice and generosity. Deepest sympathy is extended to his wife Mary and to his family.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam.



Donal Heffernan

THE parishes of Lattin-Cullen were scarcely recovering from the death of Joe Kelly when on the morning of August 19th word filtered through that Donal Heffernan had been killed in a traffic accident in the U.S.A. on the previous day.

He had taken 12 months' leave of absence from his employment in the Civil Service in Dublin.

Donal had started playing hurling and football with Lattin-Cullen club at an early age and was also a member of the combination team Lattin-Emly who won minor and Under-21 West and County football titles.

To his mother, Tess; brothers and relatives we extend our sincere sympathy.



Bill Purcell

BILL PURCELL, who passed to his eternal reward in May of 1988 was one of the stars of Tipperary football in the 'Thirties. Born in Kilsheelan around 1912, he won two county senior football medals with the local club in 1930 and 1933. At inter-county level, he had an early introduction to the scene, being selected with seven of his clubmates on the 1930 county minor team which reached the Munster final, being defeated by Kerry.

He progressed to the county senior team in 1934 and became a regular on the team for a number of years. In 1935 he figured prominently on the team that brought back a Munster title and just failed narrowly to Cavan in the All-Ireland semi-final after a controversial game.

Bill played most of his football at wing back where his speed and skill and great positional sense made him one of the best in the game in his time, a fact which was proved in 1936 when he was selected to represent Munster in the Railway Cup. Though small in stature, his other great attributes more than made up for his lack of inches and his service to club, county and province was an exemplary one.

In 1987 the South Board honoured Bill's great service by selecting him as Footballer of the Past, an honour he well deserved and deeply appreciated.

We extend our sincere sympathy to his wife Kitty and family.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam.



Ned O'Shea

THE death in January last of one of South Tipperary's most popular personalities, Ned O'Shea, saddened G.A.A. followers in all areas of the county.

Ned's service to the Gaelic Athletic Association and in particular to St. Mary's Hurling Club had been recognised for quite some considerable time, not alone in Clonmel but throughout the county at large. The sacrifices and efforts that he made to ensure the survival of St. Mary's club and the proud position that the club holds today is due in no small way to Ned's successful and tireless work in a lifetime of association which saw him deeply involved be it as a member, secretary, chairman or president.

The title he carried, however, did not count one iota, for as far as Ned was concerned the lads on the field were the ones that mattered.

His generosity to the young players knew no bounds and it is generally accepted that but for Ned's generous nature and his unbounded enthusiasm St. Mary's club would not have survived to

become one of our leading hurling strongholds.

Ned's great work for his club predictably led to his talents being recognised on a wider plain.

In 1951 he was first elected to the South Board's Appeals Committee. He was chosen to represent the Board at Congress and Munster Convention on numerous occasions, he was a County Board member and he acted for many years as a gate checker for Munster Council. In 1968 he was elected treasurer of the South Board and it is a magnificent tribute to his ability, his personality and his integrity that he had been annually returned unopposed up to the time of his death.

Though first and foremost a G.A.A. man, Ned was never found wanting as a family man, as a neighbour or as a friend. His generous nature and his endearing personality held him in the highest esteem. This side of his personality shone out at the bingo and at the card games which he organised and from which he derived much enjoyment.

Ned was ever ready to do a good turn or help a worthy cause. He was a servant of the community, an example of all that is good in our society.

Many is the story that is told of his goodness and generosity and it can honestly be said that no one has ever had a bad word to say about him.

The large and representative attendances at the removal of his remains and funeral proved a fitting tribute to the esteem in which he was held.

Beannacht na Maighdine muire air. Ar dheis lámh Dé go raibh a anam dílis.



Dr. William Herlihy

DR. WILLIAM HERLIHY, Thurles, was born in Knocknagree on the Cork/Kerry border in 1913. He grew up in an area of great Gaelic and national tradition. Hurling was his first love and his ability with the camán was recognised very early by his selection on the Cork county minor team in 1931, and at college level with Farranferris.

Moving to Dublin, he played with Tipperary G.A.A. Year Book — 135

Civil Service club and on taking up his medical studies he played with U.C.D. with which he won two Sigerson Cup medals and was very proud of his partnership with the late Jimmy Cooney at centrefield in a Dublin county final in which some of his opponents were Ned Wade, Mick Butler and the late Tommy Treacy.

Dr. Herlihy came to Thurles in 1946 as Medical Officer to the District Hospital and the Hospital of the Assumption and immediately became involved in the public life of the town. He was a very active member of the Thurles Lions Club, the annual Lourdes Pilgrimage, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul and the Thurles Golf Club, but to us he will always be remembered for his voluntary contribution as Medical Officer to the Tipperary Co. Board and the Thurles Sportsfield Committee.

In his capacity as M.O. he was always available to attend to an injured player at all levels and again was responsible for all medical services at Semple Stadium on match days until his retirement from the post after the 1984 All-Ireland.

His love of all things national and Gaelic was unbounded? And a great thrill of his was to attend the games in Cork, Limerick, Killarney or Croke Park with his four life-time friends. I had the privilege of being in that company on a few occasions and I cherished the honour and the memories.

His loss to the G.A.A. in Tipperary and to his many friends in Tipperary is immense but to his wife Pat, daughters Catherine, Sheila, Marie and Una and son Billy his passing has left a void which only time will replace.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam.

T. Ó.B.

Willie Fitzgerald

THE Gortnahoe/Glengoole club suffered a great loss with the passing of one of its outstanding members at a comparatively early age. The club was blessed with many fine administrators over the years but none better than the late Willie Fitzgerald. He was an extremely modest and easy-going man. He was never the one to court the limelight but was one of the most diligent of club workers in the country.

Because of the fact that he seldom put himself in the limelight it was hard to realise the extent of his contribution to G.A.A. affairs in the parish, first with the Glengoole club and in later years with Gortnahoe/Glengoole. Secretary of the Glengoole club for a long number of years, he also served as Chairman and Secretary to Gort-

nahoe/Glengoole when the clubs amalgamated.

He was an outstanding club officer for many years and his keen interest in the Association was maintained up to the time of his death. He also played a leading role in the compiling of the club history.

Willie will be sadly missed by his friends and fellow members in the G.A.A. but his loss will be greater to the family to which he was so devoted, but they can draw comfort from the many pleasant memories he leaves within the hearts of all who knew him.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam.

T. O'H.



Ned Gardiner

POULACAPPLE lost one of its most respected and elderly citizens with the passing of Ned Gardiner at his home recently. Ned's death at the ripe old age of 89 was not unexpected, but coming in the same year that his wife predeceased him by months, it was a tragic blow to this tightly-knit family.

He was a member of the farming community all his life and he loved that life which was hard but rewarding. He was a great conversationalist, one of the old stock that liked nothing more than to sit round the fire, telling stories of bygone days, of the characters and people and their exploits. He liked a good joke but it had to be clean and had no time for some of the rhetoric associated with some of the jokes of today. He was a life-long supporter of the G.A.A., its ideals and its objectives and an astute assessor of the merits and demerits of Tipperary hurling and football teams and his opinion was valued and sincere at all times.

Ned was an accomplished footballer in his youth, representing the C. J. Kickham club, Mullinahone, with honour and distinction and helping to bring many honours to a very honour-laden village. He wore the Blue and Gold in challenge and tournament games and was only a whisker short of a permanent place on the Tipperary senior football team at a time when the standard was up

there at the top. He was proud, too, that his sons continued where he left off and Michael, Jim, Jack and Eamonn played for the C.J. Kickham club in one grade or another. Jim and Jack reached the higher realms, wearing the county colours at senior championship level.

Ned and his brother Jack, who resides in Callan, will always be remembered and associated with the War of Independence. When the Gardiner family home at Poulacapple had a "Céad Míle Fáilte" sign over it as a house of safe refuge for the boys on the run. They, like many others in that historic area, fought for a principle which they genuinely and sincerely felt was correct. They were proud to represent that principle to the very day they were placed in the coffin, bearing no grudge animosity or resentment against any other opinion that differed from theirs.

The large and representative gathering that attended at the removal of his remains to St. Michael's church and at the interment in the adjoining cemetery was proof positive, if needed, of the popularity of this great family. The coffin was draped in the Tricolour and military honours were justifiably rendered.

The Mullinahone fifteen: Bugler Dunne, Bill Vaughan, Ned Crotty, Ned Egan, Bloody Sunday Sean Quinn, Jackie Brett and Jim Egan, Katmandu, Jim Brien, Jim Cashin, Swing Landrigan, the Kennedys, Boggan Healy, the Cahills and Walty Scott". Stop, come back to reality. The coffin is lowered into the grave. This surely is almost the end of an era, made glorious by men of the calibre of Ned Gardiner and his family to whom we, the Gaels of the Premier County, extend our sincere and heartfelt sympathy.

Go ndéanfídh Dia trócaire ar a anam.

M.E.



Paddy Denny

TIPPERARY Gaeldom and football in particular lost one of its most colourful characters with the passing of Paddy Denny at his home in Carrick-on-Suir recently.

Paddy was a native of Mullinahone, the village he loved and helped to bring many honours to during a long and illustrious career as a footballer. He represented the C. J. Kickham club at Junior and Senior level, culminating with the evening of a Senior County Championship medal in 1929, regrettably the last time the Senior championship came to the Village.

He was considered small in stature for a footballer but he possessed an indomitable spirit and determination to succeed, allied to football skill, that ranked him as one of the better footballers to come out of the Premier County in any era. He wore the Blue and Gold with honour and distinction at Minor, Junior and Senior level. He reached the pinnacle of his career in helping to bring the Munster Senior football title to the county in 1935, and will always be remembered as part of the team that was sensationally and unluckily defeated in the All-Ireland semi-final by Cavan when they snatched victory with the last kick of the game, and well into injury time.

Paddy was always of the opinion, like many of his former teammates, that this setback put Tipperary football back many years, and who are we to argue with that statistic. He was also honoured at Provincial level on a few occasions.

He moved to Carrick-on-Suir shortly after this and continued to take an active interest in the promotion of Gaelic games.

He was a committee member and a selector of the Swan club during the '50s and early '60s. He was also a very active member of the Davin Memorial Park committee on which he served from 1955 to 1985.

In Centenary year he was one of the committee set up to justifiably honour the important role Maurice Davin played in the foundation of the G.A.A. and as its first President. He was very proud that the two Carrick clubs — Swans and Davins — worked together to make that occasion such an outstanding success.

The very representative gathering that attended at the removal of his remains to St. Nicholas's Church, Carrick-on-Suir, and at his interment in St. Mary's cemetery, bore testimony to his popularity and of the esteem in which he was held within the county. The coffin was draped in the colours of the famous C. J. Kickham club, Mullinahone, whose members carried him to his last resting place, something he would be very proud of.

Paddy will be remembered as a great footballer, a gentleman on and off the field, a fanatical supporter of the Blue and Gold, a sincere friend of everybody's and, above all, a great family man to

whom we extend our deepest sympathy.

Go ndéanfaidh dia trócaire ar a anam.

M.E.



Joe Kelly

1988 will long be remembered in the parishes of Lattin and Cullen and in particular the G.A.A. club as the year two of their young players were taken to the heavenly playing pitches in the prime of life.

On 18th June, Joe Kelly was fatally injured less than one mile from his home as he returned from a social function. Joe was a playing member with Lattin-Cullen club from an early age and was a member of Lattin-Emly minor and under-21 football teams that won West and County titles.

To his bereaved father, Joe, and mother, Mary, his brothers, sisters and relatives we tender our sincere sympathy.



Jack O'Brien

Holycross and Thurles

HURLING lost one of its most likeable characters with the untimely death of Jack O'Brien of Holycross and Thurles. Jack, in latter years, was always on hand at Holycross field with a smile for all-comers, quietly and unobtrusively attending to the little details that make for the smooth running of matches at any venue.

We had known Jack earlier, as a staunch member of Dúrlas Óg, who played no small part in helping establish the club in Thurles. Again, Jack was always on hand with a disarming smile to minimise any

crisis, and his great work with the young boys of Thurles at that time was much appreciated.

Even when he left to take up residence in Holycross parish, and threw in his lot with the club there, we felt he still had a soft spot for us, and always gave us a hearty welcome when our paths crossed.

Jack enjoyed club meetings as no one else did and, in debate, could always be relied upon to find a dimension to the topic under discussion that no one else had thought of.

We are sad at Jack's passing, but appreciative that even for a short time we had the pleasure of his company. May his gentle soul rest in peace.

Our sympathy goes out to his wife and family, who have suffered a great loss.

M.D.



John Lanigan

FOLLOWERS of Gaelic games from all over Tipperary, and many others from much further afield, joined in a sad but eloquent farewell to a man who had graced the G.A.A. scene as a player and administrator for some sixty years — John Lanigan, Ard Mhuire, Thurles, whose unexpected death at the age of 76 occurred in October.

His sudden passing, at a time when most thought him to be recovering from a recent illness, shocked the community not only in Thurles, but the entire hurling world who had come to know and appreciate his great administrative ability through his work in developing Semple Stadium, Thurles, as one of the country's foremost G.A.A. grounds.

John Lanigan was born in Ballinahow 76 years ago. The family of six brothers and two sisters moved to Thurles when John was just six years old and he commenced his education at Thurles C.B.S.

His links with the G.A.A. reach back over sixty years. An accomplished hurler in his youth, he won Harty Cup honours with Thurles C.B.S. and also a minor

All-Ireland with Tipperary in 1930, the Triple Crown year.

He wore the Sarsfields' blue with distinction for a long number of years, winning four senior county championships and was recognised by the county selectors on many occasions. One he recalls with pride was when they beat Cork for the official opening of Fitzgerald Stadium, Killarney, the 50th anniversary of which was celebrated only two years ago.

At the end of his playing career his interest in the game never waned and he became one of the foremost administrators in the county. He was a great judge of hurling, and a great disciplinarian, and his part as a manager and selector with the all-conquering Sarsfields team of the 1956-65 period, when ten county championships were won in eleven years, was widely acknowledged. He was also a county selector and was involved with the last Tipperary team to bring All-Ireland honours to the county in 1971.

It was with Sarsfields and Thurles Sportsfield, later Semple Stadium, that his greatest association lay. At the time of his death he was President of Sarsfields, having previously been chairman and vice-president, and he was also treasurer of the Tipperary G.A.A. Development Committee, the body which oversaw the development of Thurles into the leading ground in Munster. He was also to the fore in the making of the arrangements for the Centenary All-Ireland hurling finals in Thurles in 1984.

Thurles Sarsfields, Semple Stadium and the G.A.A. in general will be much the poorer for the passing of John Lanigan but his loss will be most felt in his home.

Ar dheis Dé go raib a anam.

Timmy Ryan

Drumline, Bansha

THE untimely death of Timmy Ryan in early July last shocked the Gaels of West Tipperary. Timmy was an official of the Galtee Rovers club for many years and his joviality and good humour in the heat of debate will now be sadly missed.

Timmy's connections with the G.A.A. go back generations. His father, Martin, was a prominent hurler and footballer with Golden/Kilfeacle and Galtee Rovers. Indeed, his brother Maurice played with Cordangan and Arravale Rovers. His grandfather, Maurice Morrissey, and his grand-uncle, Jackie Morrissey, both held All-Ireland medals for running around 1900. Jackie played on the County Tipperary athletic team which

defeated Cork in Dungarvan in 1900.

His uncle, Sean Ryan, a solicitor in Dublin, became the youngest ever president of the G.A.A. in 1928, a position he held for four years. He was legal adviser to the G.A.A. until his death in 1953.

Another uncle, Tommy, was secretary of the South Board G.A.A. from 1918 until his death in 1930; indeed, he was also secretary of Tipperary S/R County Council at the time of his death. He was present with the Tipperary team on Bloody Sunday and brought home Michael Hogan's jersey, which was presented some years ago to the county museum by the Ryan family. Tommy also played an active part in the Anglo-Irish war and later on the Republican side in the Civil War. His other uncle, Canon Morrissey, Boherlahan, is well known as a former president of Muintir na Tire. Coming from this background, it is no wonder that Timmy was imbued with the Gaelic and Nationalist traditions.

He was grand company and his legion of friends in Bansha and throughout the division will miss him. Of course, his loss will be most keenly felt by his wife Eileen and his young family. To these we extend our heartfelt sympathy.

I bpáirceanna glasa na bhflaitheas go gcasfar sinn.

D.R.



Sean Barrett

1988 SAW the severing of a link with the Swan Club spanning a period of almost half a century. Sean Barrett, who had served the Club as a player and mentor for such a long period passed to his eternal reward.

As a player, he won a number of South Tipp championship titles. A dedicated clubman, he held numerous positions at administrative level with one thought uppermost in his mind, the well-being of his beloved Swan Club. He was Chairman in the current year.

His loss to his wife, Nellie, sons, daughters and sisters and to the Swan Club will be felt for a long time.

May he rest in peace.

Timmy Hennessy

THE large and representative gathering for the removal of the remains and subsequent burial bore ample testimony to the popularity and esteem in which Timmy was held. Timmy, though gone to his eternal reward, will live on vividly in the minds and hearts of his legion of friends with whom he shared the joys of living. He was full of nature, overflowing with generosity and always brimful of optimism. He was loyal and dedicated to the G.A.A. and he died in its service.

The untimely and sudden death of Timmy cast a gloom over the G.A.A. in West Tipperary. Timmy played Junior Football this year with Arravale Rovers. He was a former Committee member and Treasurer of the club. Indeed, he was Secretary of the West Tipperary Bord na nÓg in the mid-Seventies. In latter years he was most prominent as a referee. He was a faithful servant to schools and colleges all over the Province, the county and in particular West Tipperary.

At Emly on Saturday, July 30th, Timmy took charge of his first



Senior Football West Final. Before the game he was in his usual jovial mood and in great spirits. He was a little excited at the prospect of doing the final but after the ball was thrown in he handled the game efficiently and was always well up with the game.

Two minutes from half-time the Great Referee summoned full-time for Timmy with a shrill blast. It was the Lord's call from the green sod of Emly to the everlasting playing fields of heaven. Timmy's officials, the players and the spectators were numbed. Medical and spiritual assistance were rendered immediately and a spontaneous Rosary on the field confirmed for us the reality of what we found hard to accept and chilled the team on many a cheek.

Emly, indeed, was a place dear to the Hennessy family. John Hennessy, Timmy's uncle, was a founder member of the West Board and one of West Tipperary's first Co. Board representatives. He, too, was well known in Emly and within the county as a player, administrator and referee. Indeed, he appears in the Guinness Book of Records for scoring a point from a puck-out in a South Limerick Senior Hurling Final played in Kilmallock. The West Tipperary Intermediate Football Trophy commemorates John Hennessy.

Timmy's other uncle, Bro. W. A. Hennessy, presented the S.F.C. Trophy to the Board and it was for this trophy the teams were playing when Timmy so tragically died. So, the Hennessy family have a long connection with the games in West Tipperary. We are all now the poorer for the loss of Timmy. The Board Officers, clubs and his fellow referees will sadly miss him.

He is also a tragic loss to his family. They will miss him most. We tender our sympathy to his mother, Janie; his brothers, Liam and John; his sisters, Joan and Eileen, and his girlfriend Patricia.

Ar dheis láimh Dé go raibh a anam dhílis agus tá súil againn go mbuailfimis le chéile arís i bpáirceanna glasa Parthais.

Dick Lonergan

Moyle Rovers

IT was with deep regret that we learned of the death of Dick Lonergan after a long illness. Dick was an outstanding footballer, the proud holder of a Munster senior championship medal. A member of the county side that lost to Cavan in the All-Ireland senior semi-final of 1935.

He served the club and county loyally for many years. He was a member of the team that won the 1931 county junior championship. He served as a County Board



member for many years and was vice-chairman of the South Board and a regular delegate to the annual Congress at Eastertime. He served the club faithfully as an administrator and played a special part in the winning of the second county junior championship in 1959, and continued to take a keen interest in club affairs up to the time of his illness.

His other interest was greyhounds and he bred and trained many outstanding dogs and was regarded by many as a very good judge.

He was a kindly neighbour and was always willing to help out at parish level and was involved in many worthy causes.

As was fitting, his coffin was draped in club and county colours and the cortege was met on arrival at Lisronagh church by a guard of honour of club members.

We tender our deep sympathy to his brother, Tom; sisters-in-law, nephews and nieces. Go ndeana Dia trócaire ar a anam.

Meelick Centenary Celebrations

VISITORS to Meelick in Co. Galway this summer would be forgiven for thinking they had passed through a time-tunnel if they came upon the hurling contest between the local Meelick Eyrecourt and Thurles Sarsfields.

Here were forty-two hurlers engaged in a twenty-one aside game and with old style hurleys and playing-gear — and all this in 1988.

Reason for the vintage display was the re-enactment of the first All-Ireland final between Meelick Eyrecourt and Thurles — which was played one hundred years ago this year, and what an occasion it was.

Prior to the game there was a special Mass at which Sarsfields' secretary Gerard Corbett read a lesson. Then the teams toggled off in an old shed, and played on a specially lined field for the occasion,



Specially made 1887-style hurleys in action.

having been paraded to the ground by the local band.

What started out as an exhibition match soon settled into being a very serious contest and though it took Meelick 100 years to do so, they succeeded in reversing the All-Ireland decision.

It was, indeed, a great occasion, enjoyed by all.



THURLES Sarsfields — CENTENARY TOURNAMENT TEAM

Back row: A. Ryan, S. O'Shea, M. McCormack, B. Carroll, P. Maher, Sean Maher, Seamus Maher, P. Leahy, L. O'Donoghue. Front row: L. Duggan, P. Murphy, G. Corbett, L. Barrett, G. Loughnane, D. Maher, C. Carroll, E. Walshe, T. Cooke, T. Duggan, D. Purcell, J. Cooke.

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National Hurling League
Champions 1988



BACK ROW (l. - r.): John Kennedy, Conor Donovan, Noel Sheehy, Ken Hogan, Joe Hayes, Donie O'Connell, Colm Bonnar, Declan Ryan, Bobby Ryan.

FRONT ROW (l. - r.): Nicholas English, Aidan Ryan, Pa O'Neill (Capt.), Pat Fox, Seamus Gibson, Paul Delaney.

