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TIPPERARY G.A.A. YEARBOOK 1990



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TIOBRAID ÁRANN

All-Ireland Under-21 Hurling Champions 1989



BACK ROW (l. to r.): John Madden, Padraic Hogan, Seamus Maher, Michael Ryan, Brendan Bane, Conor Stakelum, Dan Quirke, Liam Sheedy.
FRONT ROW (l. to r.): Don Lyons, George Frend, Tony Lanigan, Declan Ryan, Dinny Ryan, Conal Bonnar, John Leahy.

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





Tipperary's pride restored

THE Editor of the Tipperary G.A.A. Yearbook had a problem this time round. After the phenomenal success

of the County on the hurling field the problem was where to begin!

He soon solved it. He would start with a foreword. The new Patron would have to write it. This left me with the problem. Where am I to start? Yet it is a labour of love. It gives me the opportunity of thanking those who gave us all so much enjoyment and excitement in 1989.

I am very happy for the people of Tipperary. Over the past three years I have been touched by their deep longing for a return to their rightful place in the hurling world. They have experienced so many set-backs and disappointments over the past eighteen years that a less committed people would have given up in despair. But the tradition was too strong for that. The Editor of the 'Nationalist' recently described the grip which hurling has on the people of this great County, "If anything embodies the spirit of Tipperary it is its hurling. Ingrained in the hearts and souls of its people is an enduring love for this most ancient and traditional of our games". The tree which was pruned for all those painful years was to blossom and flower once again in the beautiful summer of 1989.

"I am a great believer in luck and I find that the harder I work the more of it I have", observed the Canadian humorist Stephen Leacock. While luck played its part, as it does in every sport, Tipperary's success was the fruit of unprecedented effort on the part of players, trainers, the County Board officials and the Supporters' Club. They worked tirelessly and they worked together to turn Tipperary's luck round once and for all. And turn it they did and with a vengeance! Three All-Ireland titles in the one year!

So, I warmly congratulate the Senior, Junior and Under-21 teams who restored their County's pride. Let Bobby Ryan the Senior Captain represent and personify the present spirit of Tipperary hurling. Survivor from 'famine' days he is past master in all the skills and in endurance. His sportsmanship never falters even under provocation. The better side of his nature has been sorely tested but it always withstood the test. He is the

natural leader who calms things and unites people.

On the presentation stand in Croke Park - a daunting place in which to take a microphone in your hand even without playing your heart out for seventy minutes before doing so - Bobby did not forget any of the people whose efforts had put him there. His team-mates, trainers and coach and the Loughmore-Castleiney club who had nominated him as Captain, were the ones who got the credit. He was as modest about his own contribution as he was generous in his praise of the Antrim players who stood dejected below. He had not forgotten either that he was in their place twelve months ago. This year he held his head high and raised the McCarthy Cup above it. Tipperary people everywhere held their head high too. The right order of things had been restored. But after the long wait, Tipperary would never become complacent again. They would never leave it as long again, of that they were determined.

So, as the players take a well-earned rest after a hectic year on the playing fields and on the round of the towns, schools and hospitals, the rest of us wish to savour the memories of a marvellous year. When last did we see a year when the hay was saved before the end of June and Cork didn't have to be beaten? And the best was yet to come.

To help you to relive the events, install a copy of the Yearbook at your fireside before the Winter sets in fully. Perhaps, you might send a copy to an emigrant who would really appreciate it. The only possible criticism I can foresee either of Tipperary's performance or of the Yearbook is the one made by Mickey 'Rattler' Byrne of the first missalettes which appeared in the Cathedral, "It doesn't give the minor team", he complained.

+DERMOT CLIFFORD
Most Rev. Dermot Clifford, D.D.
Archbishop of Cashel & Emly.





All hopes realised



Is cúis áthais mór dom fáilte a chur ar an Bliainris seo go mór mhór as son an bliain stairiúil atá ag teacht chun deire. Tá imeachtaí na bliana annseo agus cúis bróduil mór dúinn gur é seo an bliain is fearr sa chondae ó 1930. Comhghardaiceas do gach éinne a bhí páirteach ins na himeachtaí go léir.

Never in the twenty year history of the Yearbook, has an edition been so eagerly awaited as this one is. A year of triumph on three fronts, All-Ireland titles in Senior, Under-21 and Junior. So much to celebrate, so much to look back on, so much to be proud of. It's all within these pages and rightly so, because celebration of major events had become so scarce in Tipperary that when at last the breakthrough came, it is only right and proper that it be documented vividly and for posterity.

Since the Yearbook first came on the scene back in 1969, through the initiative of Seamus O'Riain and the commitment of its first Editor Gerry Slevin, it has never failed to highlight the events of each year. There were some poor seasons, some encouraging ones but at all times there was something to celebrate, something to record that showed how firmly footed the G.A.A. is in our county.

1989 was the year we will forever look back on as the one when just about all we hoped for was realised. But success has its responsibilities and as the county all others

now look up to, we must embark upon those responsibilities in the same determined fashion as we embarked upon the games that brought us the success we now enjoy. Our hurlers have shown themselves to be exemplary young men, with all the characteristics that can be adopted by the young people of the county in their search for an attachment to a healthy lifestyle. We are so proud of them, not alone of what they achieved for themselves, their families, their clubs and their county but for the manner in which they faced up to their responsibilities as young men carrying proudly the banner of Tipperary on the hurling field.

Another platform will afford me the opportunity to pay them special tribute, as well of course as their mentors and all who worked so hard behind the scenes. I am confident that the Yearbook committee will, in these pages pay them the tribute in words and pictures they so richly deserve and it will be the earnest hope of all of us that Tipperary will build on the achievements of '89 and so renew an era of greatness that will for many a long year to come maintain the fine traditions that we have always cherished and worked so hard to endorse.

Nollaig O Muiris,
Cathaoirleach Coiste Cumann Thiobrad Árann,
Cumann Lúthchleas Gael.
Mí na Samhna, 1989.

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TIPPERARY G.A.A. YEARBOOK 1990

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The Year of Tipp's Restoration

TIPP'S 23RD

Hurling is for pleasure, entertainment, excitement; it is also about winning, and the biggest thing to be won is a Senior All-Ireland. Tipperary had lost the habit of winning, and it galled us here in a county to whose self-respect a regular appearance on the honours list is so important. When 1989 began, it was eighteen long seasons since Tadhg O'Connor handled the McCarthy Cup in 1971. The championship ended on September 4th with the fingers of Bobby Ryan clutching the old trophy and Tipperary followers feasting their eyes on it as he brandished it high. A sight for moist eyes indeed, as the dwindling decade of the eighties got a Tipp. entry on its roll of success. It was as if a heavy weight had been lifted off our collective shoulders, a cloud dispelled from the Tipperary sky.

THE PATH



Declan Ryan leading another Tipperary attack in the All-Ireland final supported by Pat

TO GLORY



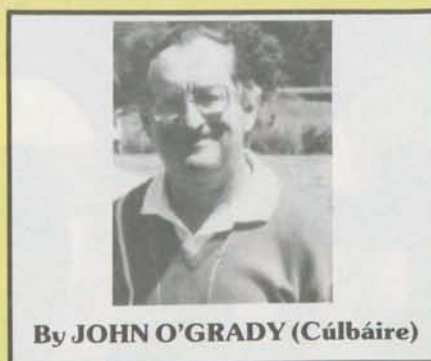
◀ Continued from page 5

So, having recorded annual failures in this yearbook — from the depths of first round failures from 1974 to 1982 to the more creditable Munster losses up to 1986 and on to the defeats by Galway in '87 and '88, it is rather nice to have a triumph to review. It is as well to confess right off that 1989 would not be called an epic or brilliant championship season. Not that this damages the basic and happy fact of being champions — we'd much prefer to be winners in a moderate year than losers in a classic one; we weren't choosy about it, just plain happy to have done it at last. Let years to come endorse and embroider it, if we're able to repeat — these players broke the jinx and the sequence, so all honour to them; their names will be all the better remembered for having had no recent predecessors.

A COMMON EXPECTATION

Before a ball was hit in the championship, the common presumption was that for the third year in a row, it would boil down to Galway v. Tipperary. And though they did not meet in the final, such was indeed the case. You could say we had two finals, the real one and the nominal one. Tipp. secured the invoice of the title on August 6, though the goods could not be delivered until September.

Topping the dual winners from the West was going to be Tipp's major task — we were widely assumed to be Munster's best, and events were to prove that assessment correct. The League Final in May saw us lose our title to Galway, but at the same time give grounds for hope. If



By JOHN O'GRADY (Cúlbaire)

a team lacking both English and Fox could come within two points of Galway (2-16 v. 4-8), the gap was not unbridgeable with a full selection; neither Heffernan nor Kennedy was fit to play either, so we could strengthen the team fore and aft. On the other hand, we had scored more goals than could safely be budgeted on, as well as missing two more. Nor did our defence seem to have much better grip on Cooney, Ryan, Burke and company than in previous years. Optimists said we'd never lost by any big margin to Galway and just a small turn of fortune would see us winners; pessimists were dubious, pointing out how smartly Galway's attack had responded to our brief lead secured by Cormac Bonner's hand-pass for Tipp's third goal; of the next nine points they scored eight. It had been, however, a right good League final, rich in promise for the next meeting; we were not then to know what a publicised preamble there would be over the Keady case — and what an embittered sequel there would be over Linnane, McGrath and referee Denton.

THE MUNSTER SERIES

So, while Galway sat quiet and waited for opposition from Munster, the southern province began its eliminating process. No great stir was caused by Waterford's win over Clare in a game watched by no more than would see a club game. Cork would very likely deal with the Decies, even if reports from the Leaside spoke of low expectations. Tipp. were somewhat cautious about Limerick in Pairc Uí Chaoimh in early June — we had plenty of trouble from them in times past, like the day we lost a fourteen point lead in Thurles.

Our team was: Hogan; Heffernan, O'Donovan, Sheehy; Conal Bonner, Bobby Ryan, Delaney; Carr, Colm Bonner; Declan Ryan, Hayes, Leahy; Fox, English, McGrath. The most interesting change since the League had been the placing of Bobby Ryan at centreback. It was widely debated, with many pointing out that his club had never seen him as a natural number six. John Kennedy was out through injury in training; Cleary had to cry off and Fox, wily veteran, came in.

Limerick came out of traps fast, and keen on an upset. Led by Ger. Hegarty's dashing midfield play until Declan Ryan was moved onto him in a crucial switch — they punished our prodigality and eleven wides to be level at 1-7 at the interval, Fitzgibbon's late goal cancelling English's early one. The mentors meditated profitably and brought on Cormac Bonnar at full forward; it was to be the year's outstanding piece of team strengthening. His swooping runs and



Tipperary action in the Munster Final against Waterford.



All-Ireland semi-final action.

amazing pace for a big man opened up the spaces for English and Fox. Tipp. leaped into a growing lead. English, Hayes and Fox had the goals to buttress a flow of points and long before the end we had another Munster Final to anticipate with confidence.

NO TIPP. v. CORK!

Waterford had failed to keep Cork in what appeared safe custody at Thurles; the draw set most people expecting Cork improvement and Decies decline. If tradition said so, tradition got it wrong, because the replay confirmed Cork's weakness, especially in defence, and the admirable energy of Waterford prevailed in a tight finish. This result had the effect of rendering academic the agreement between Tipp. and Cork on home and away which would have seen Cork come to Thurles. Instead, paradoxically, we went to Cork, where the home folk were unhappy neutrals. All prediction, except for the inevitably committed Waterford camp and local press had Tipp. as warm favourites in this first final clash since long ago 1963.

It was televised — a decision based on other expectations by both RTE and the Munster Council. What the viewers saw was in many respects a sad advertisement — a one-sided game, won by twelve points in a runaway second half which

saw Decies players Crowley and Byrne sent off — a quota to be amazingly repeated in the Galway game. It could be put down to an over-fanatical desire to cause another surprise, and frustration when that surprise was clearly not to happen. Some came up with a theory that again pre-figured the Galway match — players upset by refereeing decisions; a facile notion and no real excuse on either day.

Actually, the interim position was not all that good for us: 0-12 against 1-5, their goal by O'Connor sending them optimistically to the dressing room, with our fellows wondering at the absence of a goal from so many chances. Ken Hogan had averted a second Decies goal with a great save. Tipp. resumed with a point-a-minute brilliance; Delaney, English, Hayes and Leahy set the pattern. The last quarter was the acrimonious part, with the issue settled but tempers frayed. The last episode, with English pursued by two backs in apparent competition as to which would get him first, was a sour finale. To their great credit, Waterford Co. Board later issued an apologetic statement, rejecting the easy and natural urge to defend everything that had happened, or claim it was a fifty-fifty affair. John Kennedy appeared as a sub. when O'Donovan had to retire. Bobby Ryan had assumed the captaincy when

Loughmore-Castleiney nominated him in the absence of any of their own on the starting line-up. The only other Mid member of the first round team, Declan Carr, had not regained favour — he was soon to do so, and emphatically.

KEEN ANTICIPATION

The whole country looked forward to the semi-final as the major occasion of the year. The Big Two were at it again for the virtual All-Ireland — a feeling which dismissed Offaly rather severely and which hardly took any account of Antrim, though here and there you heard the odd comment that maybe Offaly weren't certain to come through.

The most mentioned hurler was the one who did not play. Tony Keary's case evoked a varied stream of publicity as the issue was tossed back and forth from New York to Ireland. The home authorities refused to accept New York's technical but harmless sentence on him for playing under a curious version of his own name with the Laois club against the Tipperary one, without having fulfilled residence rules. The objection came from the losing camp, leading to Galway suspension of Keady, an effort to weaken them vis-a-vis Tipp. Some commentators went rather overboard in sympathy for the player though it seems he got plenty of good advice from friends before lining

out. Here in Tipp. we felt rather unhappy at the circumstances, not wishing for unorthodox aid from our exiles.

Ultimately, it was appealed from G.A.C. to Central Council, where Tipp. both spoke and voted for Keady to be available. What more could we have done? In spite of this, there were — and are — elements out West who are implacable in additude. Not involving official circles, but the more partisan of the followers, I hasten to add whose imaginations run to talk of an anti-Galway "plot" to deprive them of three in a row.

LOTS OF CONTROVERSY

Controversy did not end there. The tough nature of the game, with so keen an edge to competitiveness, both individual and team, and above all, the dismissals of Linnane and McGrath plus the refereeing of Wexford's John Denton, took it way out of normal category. Even Tipp's followers, who had visualised the long-sought victory as the perfect consummation, were affected by the way things had gone. This must not be construed as a sort of guilt or shame, but simply as a let-down to the instincts of the time hurling-lover who wants to see a hard but normal game, unmarred by shrill post-mortem argument. Galway, it



Pat Fox about to score in the All-Ireland.





Paul Delaney, Tipperary and Declan Ryan, Tipperary in action during the Munster Final at Pairc Uí Caoimh.

seems, got themselves into a sort of persecution-complex before the game, helped by some tendentious writing in which Keady was the victim of unfair official treatment. Worse still, a foolish controversy cropped up over the choice of referee, with Brendan Lynskey quoted the morning of the game as saying "Tipp. had been allowed to influence the choice. Quite why Denton was presumed to be a friend to Tipp. has never been explained; he had refereed the League Final without any complaint or unusual comment arising.

The restoration of Carr to midfield for Colm Bonner caused much comment; it was apparently based on training camp evidence which showed the Holycross player back to form. Delaney still held the wingback place over Kennedy. The Croke Park atmosphere with a record semi-final crowd on hand, was tense indeed, especially as we'd seen Antrim pull off a sensational rally to beat offaly and reach the final.

No start could have been worse for Tipp. and for an inner defence that had not done well against these forwards in the past. Eanna Ryan's half-hit, half-shoved ball hopped past, or under Ken Hogan in the first minute for a real

shocker. Fortunately, it did not rock Tipp. morale as the team settled into some delightful play through the whole field and held Galway scoreless for seventeen minutes. Fox was very prominent in early scoring. Linnane could not get close to English and Cormac Bonner had the initiative on Conor Hayes; Cleary was doing well at right wing. An early high pull by Leahy against Finnerty had the partisans howling — the Galway player soon delivered a tit-for-tat and the game showed no real signs of undue trouble. Lynskey, true to his "Tribune" piece, was a constant questioner of Denton's frees. A second Eanna Ryan goal just on half time shook us severely — only two points clear, after so much control against a Galway who,

by their best standards had never got moving in attack, missing Naughton greatly. Treacy had already shown himself a good reserve for Keady at centre-back.

A switch of Leahy to midfield for Declan Ryan, was a useful move. English set up Fox and Cormac Bonner despite Leahy's failure on a twice-taken penalty after Linnane was sent off. Sylvie's indiscretion was a potent factor in turning this game off a regular course; he seemed to give English an off-the-ball rap which toppled Nicholas forward. Protesting vehemently, he had to depart and with him Galway's composure. Not their zeal for victory, though, for they had the best of the last quarter, even when McGrath crashed late and high into Donovan and





A jubilant Nicky English after scoring in All-Ireland Final.

was ordered off, also. Some Tipp. hearts sank a little, too, at this episode, knowing that in some circles victory would be devalued by a thirteen v. fifteen conclusion. McGrath's involvement with Leahy as he left made the affair greatly worse. In the argumentative aftermath, you had Galway people angrily insisting that Leahy should have gone, for the early pull across Finnerty and English for allegedly throwing the stick at goalman Commins; all sorts of things occurred to the fertile minds of disputants. Declan Ryan, English and Cormack had points, while Burke and McGrath kept Galway hopes alive. Joe Cooney at length got going well, moving far out towards midfield and starting some attacks that were only barely arrested in the frighteningly wide spaces. Colm Bonner and John Kennedy came on for Delaney and O'Donovan. John McCormack had earlier replaced Hayes.

NOT IDEAL — BUT WELCOME

So, we'd beaten Galway not in the most ideal way or the most desirable occasion. Arguments will still rage as to the might have-beens if two full selections had started or had finished. Some press comment had more to say of the losers' woe and of John Denton than of the winners. An after-whistle confrontation between Keating and Galway selector O'Connor added further to the furore; happily, this has since been mended. Some writers seemed to exceed any normal brief in speculations as to who might, or should be called to account by

the G.A.C. There was blatant unfairness to the referee in some of the comments.

Tipp. were, as they had to be, the hottest of final favourites. Certainly, there was prudent recognition of how well Antrim had done in the '88 semi-final, their good goals and Hogan's important saves. But the realists had Tipp. winning, and by a decent margin, and so it proved. For all the colour and the noise of the stadium, and these were at a crescendo

when Antrim raced out to a thunderous ovation from flag-strewn "Hill 16", the contest never became a live issue. Had Antrim not driven depressing wides in the first quarter, and had Declan Ryan's long ball not deceived Patterson, but there's no sense in wondering. Tipp. led 1-13 to 0-5 at the interval and Bobby Ryan could be trying out apt phrases for cup-receiving time.

ANTRIM NET THREE

Antrim, disconcertingly, had as many goals as Tipp. with only a minute left. McCarry, Donnelly and Armstrong matched English — or was it Bonner? — and Fox, until Nicholas popped up with his ultimate piece of superb timing for the fourth. Our ardent followers could not restrain themselves, and English was submerged. Soon Bobby was up there fulfilling a captain's role with good taste and the right words for the day, in personality an excellent captain and deserving it for so many years of vain effort. English was named "man of the match". Carr must have run him close. Kennedy made good use of his replacement role for the omitted Delaney. The Roscrea player's position had been queried via a "Press" item, soon after the Galway game, regarding a London appearance, which was admitted. Tipp's decision to leave him out was probably the sensible one — it certainly deprived some writers of material for speculating about an Antrim objection.

The "afters", as they are called in nuptial circles, were loud and long, as befitted the end of the "drought". The stadium concert-cum reception was a debated matter, and we've since had rumblings of discord involving official Co. Board, Stadium committee and Supporters Club. One has confidence though, that the need to retain what took so long to win will concentrate Tipp's energies in harmony for the start of a new decade.





Bobby Ryan at the "Welcome Home" celebrations at Semple Stadium.

A fireside chat with Bobby

By: JOHN O'GRADY (Culbairé)

Bobby Ryan, fresh in from Thurles Cattle Mart, sat at ease by the glowing fireside in the sittingroom at Ballyroan. His parents Timmy and Bridget (née Stakelum, as the hurling pedigree-experts know very well) had insisted on withdrawing on to the kitchen to let us talk.

Feeling guilt at evicting them, I promised to make it short, but Bobby talks so eagerly and easily about hurling that it wasn't all that sort in the finish.

A busy man is Bobby — busier than ever since Sept. 4th. "I thought, and hoped," said he, "that I could hand the Cup to one or two of the hurlers and let them represent the team at maybe a school or a hall in their own area — but it seems everybody wanted the captain there as well, so what could I do but go, if at all possible? It has been hectic over the last few months, and it's far from over yet". Not that he is averse to a good social night, for he's a friendly sort, of breezy, open manner and ready smile, very capable of hitting the right note either in a speech or in another rendition of "Slievenamon". He admits to not being too confident of the exact wording of the last verse of that popular county anthem — but then, who is?

THE CAPTAINCY

Fortuitously as the Tipp. captaincy fell on Bobby for the Munster final when Pat McGrath did not hold a place, it did so in a remarkably apt way. "Pat and myself were together on the Templemore C.B.S. team that won the Dr. Harty Cup in 1978 — I regard that win as next to the All-Ireland in satisfaction, ahead of under-21 titles or county championships. Pat's gentlemanly acceptance of the situation and whole-hearted backing are things I appreciate very much. I suppose, too, that being a veteran, a fellow that had soldiered through the bad times, was a high help to me with

the team, especially, the younger lads."

He spoke very truly in this respect — he'd been a big "name" for a good few years as a wing-back, though it was at centre forward he won two Railway Cups and Under-21 All-Irelands. In lean years, he and English were the saviours of our county honour as choices for Munster. So, like John Maher back in 1945, he brought years of honest service to the leadership of the side.

Personality was a large plus factor, too, in giving him access to the hearts and minds of his colleagues in the tense moments before a big game, as he used word or gesture to find the right mood for the task ahead.

The same expansive, cheerful manner came through with great impact in his cup-acceptance speeches or words to welcoming crowds after the All-Ireland. He clearly did not find the job any great burden, but radiated enjoyment, without triumphalism.

MOVE TO CENTRE-BACK

How did he feel about being centre-back? "I was put there for an Oireachtas match with Offaly, between the League final and the championship. A lot of people, maybe even myself, were surprised — I'd hurled wing-back beside a lot of centre-backs over the years, and more recently beside McIntyre, Stapleton, Sheehy and Kennedy. I was always on the wing for Borrisoleigh

beside Gerry, so obviously not many thought my style suited to the centre.

Anyhow, Donie Neelson said to me they wanted me to do a job for them and I must say, looking back, that it worked effectively, if not in any spectacular or prominent way. I was judging myself by what my opponent did: I didn't want him to score, or to make scores. So I limited myself a lot more than I would on the wing, cutting out the dashes forward that I liked to do, and staying goalside of my man. I didn't want him either to catch the high ball or to break past me in possession."

Certainly, a major difference between Galway '88 and the same team in '89 was the lack of a lethal distribution-point at centre-forward; for that, Bobby deserved more credit than was awarded by those critics who wished for spectacle rather than effect. If he was a 'late vocation' centre-back, he did very creditably, considering that, on his own admission, his pace isn't what it used to be.

"Some people are harping on the fact that we didn't beat Cork, and had an easy All-Ireland final. Ideally, no doubt a game with Cork is an occasion of tradition and wonderful atmosphere — and no doubt, either, a final against Galway would have been a great climax; but we met what came out against us. I do think, with all respect,

that Cork wouldn't have stopped us, not on their two showings against Waterford."

TURBULENT TUSSLE WITH GALWAY

There was no great material for discussion in the Limerick or Waterford matches, both won well with powerful second-half displays, and the Munster final remembered mostly for the two sent off. The Galway game made up for those as a live topic.

"There's no doubt we'd have preferred a normal game, with fifteen men finishing, than what happened that day — it did take from our satisfaction, after spending several years desperate to beat them. In talking about Galway, I'd like to say there were a really fine team, probably still are. More than that, after all the publicity about the game, the referee, Keady and the two men sent off, if people imagine there's bitterness, they've it very wrong.

For example, less than a week after the All-Ireland we had the GOAL charity match in Thurles. That night, in Bowe's, we had a great session altogether, with Conor Hayes taking the microphone to do a turn, Joe Cooney, John Commings and Pete Finnerty all there getting on the finest with our fellows. We've had hard games, but the respect and friendship is always there, whether some of the partisans know it or not.

Perhaps the build-up to the semi-final was no good for Galway, with the prolonged doubt as to whether Keady would be let back. And there didn't seem to be much sense in any of their men passing judgement on John Denton beforehand — he refereed the League final without drawing any particular comment. Then, during the match, he got too much argument over frees. I can't comment on the rights or wrongs of Linnane and McGrath — he put them off, of course, was criticised for it and for not putting off John Leahy, which is silly talk from people looking at the match backwards and saying how dirty it was — I could see no sign of any great trouble the whole first half, only worried that they'd got two handy goals to stay dangerously near us. Actually, I don't think it was Keady's absence that had the real weakening effect on Galway that day, but missing Naughton's pace from the wing; Treacy did a great job at centre-back. It will surely be some occasion if we meet Galway in next year's All-Ireland."

DELANEY LEFT OUT

The Delaney case just had to come into the chat. "I hope by the time your article comes out that Paul's position will be settled, hopefully without any long suspension. He took his disappointment well, not wanting to put Tipp. in any danger of an objection. In fairness to him, you'd want to know the pressure a player is under to join one of the London clubs — people hardly talking to him, and all that.

To give you an example, my own

brother Aidan had his signature forged to an application form to join a club. He had to write to Tommy Barrett to point out that he didn't want any transfer and hadn't signed the form that came over here. They told him he could play in the league in London and still hurl for Borrisoleigh in the championship — which, of course, he couldn't. So you can see what happened Delaney. Of course, his case was used by some journalists as a consequence of the Keady affair. Tipp. behaved quite sensibly in leaving our player off. If we'd played him the publicity would have been practically urging Antrim to object."

Mention of Antrim brought up the final. "I can tell you it was an awkward situation. We knew that, by all odds, we just had to win, if we played as we could. It was actually a good thing that Antrim had given us so much trouble last year. It made us think a bit and realise we couldn't take the whole thing for granted and not be ready in our minds for more problems than we expected.

I found it hard enough to know what to say in the interviews, like the one with Ciaran Barr on television. I could hardly deny that we expected to win, but I knew some people would be quick to accuse us of being cocky and arrogant. So I had to balance confidence in ourselves with proper respect for Antrim, and I hope it came across that way.

As to the game, the atmosphere was marvellous, but we knew after Declan Ryan's goal that we couldn't lose.

Getting the Cup was a tremendous moment — whether it was a one-sided final or not, we had done what every Tipp. person at home or abroad was wishing for."

I was insensitive enough to ask what he thought of our poor start to the League. "Well, it is important that, at least, we stay in the top division, although it won't be easy to pick up points" — we had Antrim and Galway to play when our conversation took place.

A YEAR OF JOY — AND SORROW

"If was, of course, a very mixed year for the family", I ventured to suggest. "It was indeed," he sighed, I had earlier noted a photograph over the mantelpiece of a fine-looking young man in degree-awarding dress. "Yes," he said in reference to the sudden decease in the Spring of his brother Tim, "it was a hard blow. I had the hurling to distract me, but our parents had no relief." What could one say? A brief silence paid respect to deeper matters than hurling.

Bobby's own future? He has no thought of retiring at such a peak of his career, but wants to be part of the Tipp. picture as long as Babs and company consider him capable of a useful role. "I would love to back up this year's breakthrough by retaining the title next year." The captaincy will, of course, have gone to Clonoulty-Rossmore. The county will remember with affection the personable man who held it in the year that restored Tipperary's pride. And I'll recall a pleasant fireside at Ballyroan.

Antrim's Terence McNaughton and Tipp's Bobby Ryan, in action in the All-Ireland.



The making of an All-Ireland

In an interview with the *Tipperary Star* on the eve of the All-Ireland, Babs Keating mentioned a figure 'in excess of £225,000' raised by the Supporters' Club over three years through raffles, golf outings and sponsorship. This money had gone towards the cost of training the Tipperary senior hurling team.

At a subsequent county board meeting, treasurer Michael Nolan informed the members that, in 1988 alone, £30,000 had been paid from board funds towards the training of the team. These figures reveal the tremendous cost of getting the county senior team to Croke Park on September 3.

The cost in members' time and travel is equally impressive. Five of the present panel and management, Babs Keating, Ken Hogan, Declan Carr, Nicholas English and Philip Conway, are based in Dublin. The round trip to Thurles is nearly 200 miles and this journey is done sometimes as many as three nights a week. For instance, Philip Conway took over as team physical trainer on March 15 and between then and the All-Ireland there were 43 team sessions. He attended 38 of them which, translated into miles, is between seven and eight thousand!

NEW MANAGEMENT

The number of games played, since the present management structure was set up in September 1986, is also staggering. The new management had been appointed at the August county board meeting following a special meeting of the board in July, which reviewed the structures in the county and the system of appointing selectors and team management. A sub-committee of county officials Michael Lowry, Tommy Barrett and Martin O'Connor, plus divisional chairmen Paddy Browne, Pat Cullen, Mick McGuire and Noel Morris, was set up to appoint a team manager.

Initially, the committee drew up a list of 14 candidates for consideration, among whom were believed to be Joe McGrath from Down and Dermot Healy from Kilkenny. Among the Tipperary contenders for the position were Tony Wall, Len Gaynor, Mick Minogue, Jimmy Doyle and the man who was appointed, Babs Keating. The new manager appointed former team-mates Donie Nealon and Theo English to assist him in his selectorial duties. Interestingly, all three appointees were members of junior clubs.

POOR PERFORMANCE

The reason for the decision to change the method of appointing the selectors of the team was the dismal showing of the senior hurlers against Clare in that year's



by SEAMUS J. KING

championship. In a staggering last quarter collapse at Ennis, Tipperary surrendered a nine point lead and were defeated by 2-10 to 1-11. For the record, the team was Tony Sheppard (capt.), Colm Bonnar, Peter Brennan, Seamus Gibson, Donal Kealy, Noel Sheehy, Bobby Ryan, John McGrath, Ralph Callaghan, Liam Stokes, Donie O'Connell, Philip Kennedy, Ger O'Neill, Seamus Power, Liam Maher. Subs to appear that day were John McIntyre and Eamon O'Shea. The selectors were Pat Stakelum, Rev. Ray Reidy, Jimmy Hennessy, Len Gaynor and Liam King.

The new management took over for the start of the 1986-87 League. In preparation there was a challenge with Waterford at Clonmel on September 21, which was won by 3-19 to 3-11. The team on that occasion was Ken Hogan, Michael Corcoran, Conor O'Donovan, John Ryan, Pa Fitzelle, J. Walsh, John Heffernan, Joe Hayes, Noel Sheehy, Nicholas English, Paudie Everard, Michael Cleary, J. Quinn, Donie O'Connell and Michael Scully. Interestingly, eight of that lineout were to contribute to the All-Ireland victory on September 3. The other warm-ups followed, against Clare at Newmarket and Kilkenny at Cloughjordan.

THE LEAGUE

Tipperary were in Division II and their opening game was against Antrim at Dunloy, on October 12. They were well beaten, 3-15 to 3-7, and the team, revealed problems in the full-back line, at centrefield, where Aidan Ryan and Donie O'Connell didn't gell, and in the forwards. There were drastic changes for the next game away to Kerry which saw the introduction of Tony Sheppard for Hogan in goals, Conor O'Donovan and Peter Brennan in the full-back line, Paul Delaney at half-back, Philip Kennedy and Liam

Stokes at centrefield and Philip Kenny, Gerry Williams and Michael Nolan to the forwards. They beat Kerry by 3-15 to 0-5, followed up with a win over Meath by 5-14 to 0-9 and defeated Dublin by 1-12 to 1-4 on December 7. They went into the winter recess with 8 points out of a possible 10.

February 15 was a crunch game for Tipperary. They played Waterford at Walsh Park and victory was essential for promotion to Division I. This was a fiercely competitive game because Waterford, unbeaten to date, had a similar mission. The final score was 3-11 to 1-7 in Tipperary's favour and left them with only lowly Mayo to overcome in their final game. In fact they trounced Mayo by 5-18 to 0-2, at Thurles, on March 1, and qualified to play Limerick in the quarter-final on April 5.

This game was postponed for a week because of the state of Semple Stadium and was eventually won by Tipperary (3-15 to 3-14), after an epic encounter that went on for 90 minutes. In the course of that time Tipperary lost a seven-point interval lead and needed an English point in injury time to square the match. Similarly, it took a Pat Fox point in the final minute of extra time to grasp the winner. Pat Fox and John McGrath, who hadn't participated in earlier league games, came in as subs.

Tipperary had to turn out in the league semi-final the following Sunday in Cork and gave a jaded performance before going down to Clare by 2-11 to 1-11. They lined out without the services of Richard Stakelum and Nicholas English, both sidelined by injuries from the previous Sunday.

The team for the occasion, with the numbers in brackets indicating the number of league games, (9 in all), they played, was as follows: Tony Sheppard (6), J. Heffernan (2), C. O'Donovan (6), S. Gibson (6), C. Bonnar (5), J. McGrath (-), D. O'Connell (8), M. Nolan (4), P. Fox (-), P. Kenny (2), A. Ryan (2). Other players used during the league included K. Hogan (2), M. Corcoran (4), J. Ryan (3), J. Hayes (1), N. Sheehy (2), P. Everard (2), J. Quinn (5), M. Scully (4), P. Delaney (2), L. Stokes (5), G. Williams (4), M. Doyle (8), R. Stakelum (8), P. Brennan (2), F. Collins (1), N. English (7), R. Stakelum (7).

THE CHAMPIONSHIP

There were five challenge games before the first round of the championship against Kerry at Killarney, on May 24. There were eight changes in personnel from the team that lost to Clare in the league semi-final. Sheppard, Heffernan, Fitzell, Stapleton, McGrath, Nolan and Philip Kenny were omitted and Bobby Ryan was still in the States with the All-Stars. Nolan and McGrath were, in fact, dropped from the



This photograph was taken at St. Michael's College, Ailesbury Road, Dublin on the morning of the All-Ireland. The Tipperary panel used the facilities of the College for Mass and a workout in the gymnasium.

Back row (left to right): Noel Turley, St. Michael's, John Kennedy, John Leamy, Noel Sheehy, Pat McGrath, Rev. A. Lehane, C.S.Sp., Nicholas English, Rev. P. Holohan C.S.Sp., Joe Hayes, Declan Carr, Ken Hogan, Richard Stakelum, Phil Conway, Bobby Ryan.

Front row (left to right): Theo English, Austin Buckley, Declan Ryan, Donie O'Connell, John Madden, Aidan Ryan, Conor O'Donovan, John Cormack, John Leahy, Cormac Bonnar, Colm Bonnar, Conal Bonnar, Michael Cleary, Pat Fox, Paul Delaney, Donie Nealon. **Reclining:** Babs Keating.

panel. In their places were named Ken Hogan, Peter Brennan, Richard Stapleton, Noel Sheehy, newcomer John Kennedy from Clonoulty, Michael Doyle, Liam Stokes and Michael Scully.

The game was expected to be no more than a warm-up but at half-time Tipperary were in the embarrassing position of having only four points to spare. In the end, however, they won by 1-21 to 2-5, to everyone's relief.

There were a number of surprise changes for the semi-final game with Clare. Bobby Ryan was a shock choice at full-forward and John Kennedy was given the number 6 spot. John McGrath, dropped from the panel for the Kerry game, was now brought in at centrefield to the exclusion of Philip Kennedy. Jerry Williams and Nicholas English replaced Liam Stokes and Michael Scully in the forwards. The game, a mediocre contest, was redeemed by the closeness of the exchanges and ended in a draw (1-13 all). There were a few changes for the replay. Joe Hayes came in at centrefield to partner Colm Bonnar, and John Heffernan, who had replaced Peter Brennan in the drawn game, retained the cornerback position. There were no mistakes in the replay and Tipperary destroyed any Clare aspirations to Munster supremacy in a score of 4-17 to 0-8.

An estimated 60,000 people saw the final against Cork, at Thurles. There was one change, John McGrath replacing the injured Jerry Williams at wing-forward. The match ended in a draw with Pat Fox pointing twice in the last minute, but Tipperary should have put Cork away before that. The final score was 1-18 all and the replay was in Killarney.

This memorable game ended in a draw and there were scenes of incredible delight when, at the final whistle of extra time, Tipperary were ahead by 4-22 to 1-22 and became the holders of the Munster Cup for the first time in sixteen years. There were two changes from the drawn game with Pa Fitzelle replacing the injured Joe Hayes at midfield and Jerry Williams returning at wing forward. The full team was: K. Hogan, J. Heffernan, C.

O'Donovan, S. Gibson, R. Stakelum, J. Kennedy, P. Delaney, C. Bonnar, P. Fitzelle, J. Williams, D. O'Connell, A. Ryan, P. Fox, N. English, B. Ryan. Subs. introduced were Martin McGrath, Michael Doyle and Gerry Stapleton.

DEFEAT

The hopes and expectations of Tipperary followers were dashed in the All-Ireland semi-final against Galway at Croke Park on August 9. A series of mistakes led to a Galway victory by 3-20 to 2-17. A slackness in defence in the opening twenty minutes, a failure to take opportunities during the third quarter and some doubtful decisions by the team mentors contributed to a very disappointing defeat. For the game Joe Hayes was declared fit and chosen in preference to Pat Fitzelle and Martin McGrath, who had come on in the Munster final, was chosen in place of Gerry Williams.

THE 1987-88 LEAGUE

Tipperary played ten games to win the 1987-88 league. The campaign opened with an encouraging victory over Limerick, at Thurles, on October 11, but was followed by defeat at the hands of Wexford two weeks later. The third game was a repeat of the All-Ireland semi-final and ended in a 0-7 each draw in Thurles.

There was a good victory over Cork at Páirc Uí Chaoimh and another over Waterford before the winter recess. After Christmas there was a heavy defeat of Clare at Ennis and then over 30,000 went to Kilkenny for the final game against the home side. Tipperary suffered a comprehensive defeat from Kilkenny on a day when the forwards were well and truly spattered by a determined Kilkenny backline.

Nine points from seven games was good enough for a place in the quarter finals in which Antrim were overcome by 2-20 to 2-9 at Croke Park, on March 20. Three weeks later at the same venue, Tipperary had a comprehensive victory over Waterford, 4-19 to 1-8, in the semi-final and on April 24 they defeated Offaly in the final by 3-15 to 2-9 to win their first league title since 1979.

The winning side, with the number of league appearances in brackets - total 10, was as follows: Ken Hogan (10), J. Heffernan (8), C. O'Donovan (9), S. Gibson (10), R. Stakelum, capt. (7), J. Kennedy (4), P. Delaney (10), C. Bonnar (10), J. Hayes (6), M. McGrath (1), D. O'Connell (9), A. Ryan (8), P. Fox (10), N. English (9), B. Ryan (6). Subs: J. McGrath (-), M. Doyle (-). Other players used during the league: P. Fitzelle (6), N. Sheehy (8), C. Maher (1), P. Hayes (1), P. O'Neill (3), C. Ryan (5), D. Ryan (7), C. Stakelum (2), J. Leahy (1).

THE 1988 CHAMPIONSHIP

The first game in the 1988 championship was a Munster semi-final encounter with Limerick, at Cork, on June 5. A number of players were excluded because of injuries — English, Gibson, Heffernan and Fitzelle. There was a cautionary approach to the game but the team weren't flattered with their win of 0-15 to 0-8. The team lined out as follows: K. Hogan, C. O'Donovan, N. Sheehy, P. Delaney, R. Stakelum, J. Kennedy, B. Ryan, C. Bonnar, J. Hayes, J. Leahy, D. O'Connell, P. O'Neill, P. Fox, D. Ryan, A. Ryan. Ger O'Neill and Michael Cleary were introduced as subs.

For the Munster final against Cork, in Páirc Uí Chaoimh, on July 17, English and Gibson returned to the exclusion of Leahy and Stakelum, English going to full-forward and Declan Ryan reverting to the wing. Conor O'Donovan moved to full-back in a switch with Sheehy and Bobby Ryan and Paul Delaney reverted to their initial half-back positions. Tipperary confirmed their Munster mastery, despite a second-half slide, and won by 2-19 to 1-13. The game saw the introduction of Cormac Bonnar, and John Leahy was also brought on as a sub.

The All-Ireland semi-final saw one change from the Munster final. John Heffernan, out because of suspension, was brought in in place of Seamus Gibson. The other decision taken by the selectors was the omission of Michael Corcoran and Michael O'Meara from the panel of twenty-three. Tipperary had the edge all through but they weren't released from the grip of the underdogs, Antrim, until Pat Fox scored a decisive goal in the 21st minute of the second-half. The final score was 3-15 to 2-10. Three subs were

introduced — Leahy, Cormac Bonnar and Austin Buckley.

The big bombshell for the final was the dropping of captain Pa O'Neill and his replacement with John Leahy. English took over the captaincy. The backline was reshuffled with O'Donovan going full-back and Noel Sheehy to centre-back. Delaney went back right-corner and John Kennedy moved out to his position. A third Bonnar, Conal, was drafted into the subs.

The final on September 4 ended frustratingly. Playing against the breeze in the first half, Tipperary held Galway to four points (0.10 to 0.6) at half-time, chiefly due to good back work, and looked good for the second half. But the Galway backs were equally effective against the Tipperary backs after the interval and the All-Ireland champions were ahead by 1-15 to 0-14 at the final whistle. In the end, with only a point between the sides, Tipperary tried desperately for a goal but it came at the opposite end in the dying moments. The losing lineout was: K. Hogan, P. Delaney, C. O'Donovan, J. Heffernan, B. Ryan, N. Sheehy, J. Kennedy, C. Bonnar, J. Hayes, D. Ryan, D. O'Connell, J. Leahy, P. Fox, N. English, A. Ryan. Sub: Cormac Bonnar for Hayes.

THE 1988-89 LEAGUE

The first round was at Dungarvan on October 30 and Tipperary beat the home side by 1-12 to 0-11. Seven of the defeated All-Ireland side were missing and many new faces were introduced. The side was: K. Hogan, Colm Bonnar, C. O'Donovan, N. Sheehy, Pat McGrath, Jim Maher, B. Ryan, J. Kennedy, Jim Cormack, D. Ryan, D. O'Connell, David Fogarty, P. Fox, Cormac Bonnar, Michael Cleary.

Three more victories followed before Christmas. Against Offaly, at Thurles, on November 6, the score was 1-19 to 0-10. A week later at the same venue there was a comprehensive defeat of Wexford, 2-20 to 1-4. Two weeks later, at Limerick, in an exciting game, the result was 4-14 to 3-11 in our favour.

The good work continued after Christmas against Antrim, at Thurles, when the result was 2-15 to 0-7. However, only one point was got from the final two games. At Ballinasloe, on March 5, the result was 0-12 to 1-7 in Galway's favour and a week later at Thurles the result was a draw: Tipperary 1-11, Kilkenny 2-8. Eleven points secured a semi-final place against Kilkenny at Croke Park, on April 16, and the result was a narrow win: Tipperary 0-15, Kilkenny 1-11. Two weeks later Galway proved the bogey once again when, after a thrilling game, they were ahead by 2-16 to 4-8 at the final whistle. The losing side showed some changes from the opening game and from the previous year's All-Ireland: K. Hogan, B. Ryan, C. O'Donovan, P. Delaney, R. Stakelum, N. Sheehy, Conal Bonnar, Colm Bonnar, Declan Carr, D. Ryan, J. Hayes, J. Leahy, Michael Cleary, Cormac Bonnar, Pat McGrath.

The number of players used in the nine league games, plus the number of games each player plays in brackets, is as follows: K. Hogan (8),

C. O'Donovan (9), N. Sheehy (9), R. Stakelum (3), J. Kennedy (5), P. Delaney (3), B. Ryan (9), Colm Bonnar (9), J. Hayes (4), J. Leahy (6), D. O'Connell (1), P. Fox (3), D. Ryan (8), N. English (4), J. Heffernan (3), P. McGrath (8), Jim Maher (1), John Cormack (8), Declan Carr (8), John Leamy (1).

AN ALL-IRELAND AT LAST!

The first game in the Munster Championship was a repeat of 1988, with Limerick the opponents and the venue Cork on June 11. It was a close game in the first half with the sides level at 1-7 at the interval. But Tipperary took over in the second-half and won comfortably by 4-18 to 2-11. The side showed changes from the league final. R. Stakelum was out and J. Heffernan was back and Bobby Ryan was the new centre-back. The reshuffled backline read: Heffernan, O'Donovan, Sheehy, Conal Bonnar, B. Ryan, P. Delaney. In the forwards, Fox and English replaced Cleary and Cormac Bonnar.

The Munster final was against surprise packets, Waterford, and Tipperary were red-hot favourites, and proved it, despite getting a battering from an excessively physical opposition, two of whom were sidelined in the course of the game. Tipperary failed to score a goal but won by 0-26 to 2-8. There were a few changes from the side that won the semi-final. Declan Carr was replaced at centrefield by Declan Ryan, who made way for the introduction of Michael Cleary at wing-forward. Pat McGrath was excluded from the corner-forward position and his place was taken by Nicholas English, with Cormac Bonnar coming in at full-forward.

In a semi-final of high drama and controversy, devoid of quality hurling, Tipperary eventually beat Galway at Croke Park on August 6. However, there were only three points between the sides in the end, 1-17 to 2-11, despite the fact that Galway had only thirteen men for the final ten minutes. The only change in the lineout was the return of Declan Carr in place of Colm Bonnar at centrefield.

Tipperary put an end to the eighteen year famine on September 3 when they beat a disappointing Antrim team by 4-24 to 3-9 in the final. It was really one-way traffic for the duration and Nicholas English gave a superb display to get a personal tally of 2-12 and set up a new record. The side showed two changes from the semi-final. Paul Delaney was omitted because of doubt on his legality and was replaced by John Kennedy. Colm Bonnar returned at centrefield with

Declan Ryan moving to centrefield and replacing Joe Hayes.

The winning side, with championship appearances in brackets, was as follows: K. Hogan (4), J. Heffernan (4), C. O'Donovan (4), N. Sheehy (4), Conal Bonnar (4), B. Ryan (4), M. Cleary (3), P. Fox (4), Cormac Bonnar (3), N. English (4). Subs: D. O'Connell (—), J. Hayes (3), A. Ryan (—). Others: R. Stakelum (—), J. Leamy (—), J. Cormack (—), P. McGrath (1), J. Madden (—), P. Delaney (3).

CONCLUSION

Since the new management took over Tipperary played 42 competitive games in league and championship over three years. The result was 30 wins, 4 draws and 8 losses. Two of the draws were in the 1987 championship, against Clare and Cork. The other two were against Galway in the 1987-88 league and against Kilkenny in the 1988-89 league. Galway beat us four times — twice in the championship 1987 and 1988, and twice in the 1988-89 league. The other defeats were at the hands of Laois and Clare in the 1986-87 league and by Kilkenny and Wexford in the 1987-88 league.

Of the players who have been involved over the period the most impressive performance is that of Conor O'Donovan. Of the 42 games, Conor played in 38! He is followed by Colm Bonnar with 36. Colm has another record, an uninterrupted sequence of 31 games until he was dropped for the All-Ireland semi-final. Next in line comes Ken Hogan with 34 games, Bobby Ryan with 33, Nicholas English with 31, Donie O'Connell with 29, Noel Sheehy with 28, Paul Delaney with 27 and Pat Fox with 26.

Finally, Tipperary's scoring performance has been impressive. In the 1986-87 league they played nine games and were beaten in the semi-final. The team scored 25 goals 128 points and conceded 11 goals 66 points. In the 1987 championship they were beaten in the semi-final. They scored 13 goals 108 points and conceded 8 goals and 87 points. They won the 1987-88 league with ten games and scored 23 goals 131 points while conceding 12 goals 79 points. In the 1988 championship they played four games and scored 5 goals 63 points while conceding 4 goals 46 points.

There were nine games in the 1988-89 league and the tally was 16 goals and 121 points for and 9 goals 90 against. The 1989 championship was the only time the opposition scored as many goals. The combined total was 9 goals 85 points for and 9 goals 39 points against.



Pictured at the Bank of Ireland G.A.A. All-Stars banquet were (l. to r.): Benny Keating (Manager, Bank of Ireland, Templemore); Enda MacGowan (Bank of Ireland, Assistant General Manager, Limerick); John Grogan (Assistant Manager, Bank of Ireland, Templemore); Colm Bonnar (Tipperary All-Star); Bobby Ryan (Tipperary All-Star); Nicholas English (Tipperary All-Star); Sean O'Callaghan (Manager, Bank of Ireland, Thurles); Declan Ryan (Tipperary All-Star).

Philip Conway

By: SEAMUS J. KING

WHO is Philip Conway? The question was asked by many last March after his appointment as Physical Fitness Trainer to the Tipperary team. This wasn't surprising because he wasn't a Tipperary man and had no connection with the game of hurling.

It will come as a surprise to many to learn that the man has spent nearly a quarter of his life in Tipperary. Born in Dublin he came to Preparatory School to Rockwell College in 1956 at the tender age of eight years! He was to spend no less than nine years as a student there and later return as a P.E. teacher for one year, 1970-71.

ATHLETICS

During his years at Rockwell he won high distinction in the field of athletics. His speciality was the shot putt and he first made the national scene in 1963 when he won the Irish Schools' Intermediate Championship with a great final throw, which pushed Ned Byrne of Cistercian College, Roscrea into second place. Byrne was to play corner-forward for Kilkenny in the 1971 All-Ireland.

Almost equally gifted with the discus Philip took senior All-Ireland honours in both shot-putt and discus in 1964 and followed up with a second double the following year. His contribution was a major factor in Rockwell winning the College of Science Cup on both occasions.

RUGBY

Equally proficient at rugby he played on two junior and two senior cup teams between 1962 and 1965. The College won the senior cup in 1964, Centenary Year, and the captain, Johnny Moroney of Clogheen, presented it to the then President, Fr. Finucane, C.S.Sp. on the balcony over the main entrance of the College. It was with a certain amount of nostalgia that Philip Conway appeared on the same balcony with the McCarthy Cup on October 4 last. He himself captained the College side in 1965 and his skill with the oval ball was recognised with Munster interprovincial caps in 1964 and 1965. This was the end of his rugby career because he gave up the game after school to concentrate solely on athletic training.

OLYMPICS

He had an offer of an athletics scholarship to the U.S. after his Leaving Certificate but decided he needed a year to think things over before he accepted. During the year he worked for the Irish Lighthouse Service and eventually went to Boston University in September 1966. He spent four years there before coming back to Rockwell in 1970 with a B.Sc in Physical Education. Returning to Springfield College, Mass. in 1971 he was awarded a Master's degree in Education in 1973. He got a job after returning in Belvedere College and has been working there since.

The high point of his athletics career was qualifying for and competing in the Munich Olympics in 1972. It wasn't to be the happiest of occasions for him and he didn't perform as well as he hoped but he recalls it as a great honour to have represented his country at that level.

Three years previously he had the distinction of winning three Irish titles in the one year, the hammer, the shot and the discus. Two years before he had broken two Irish national records. Ned Tobin's discus record had stood since 1939 and Hugh O'Callaghan's shot-putt record had been established in 1964. Philip became very good friends with Ned Tobin and actually called his house the day he died.

TIPPERARY

Coaching teams and players to be fit is Philip Conway's job. As well as his work at Belvedere College he has coached teams outside. He has done work with Old Belvedere and Trinity Athletic and Rowing clubs. He wrote the fitness schedules for Roly Meades' tour teams to New Zealand and Australia. He has also acted as national hammer and discus coach.

How did he happen to come to Tipperary? Babs takes up the story: 'I was talking to Tony Ward and Ollie Campbell after a Links Golf Outing and I asked them if they knew anyone who was good at preparing teams. Ollie told me the best man he knew was Phil Conway'.

Phil continues the story: 'I was at a Rockwell College PPU dinner at the Royal Marine Hotel on February 17 and I was informed there was a man who wished to speak to me. I was introduced to Denis O'Connor and he spent over two hours talking to me. In the course of the conversation he used the expression 'winning an All-Ireland' at least twenty times! I went home and discussed it with my wife. At the time we were expecting our fourth child. He was born a week later and died shortly after birth. When things settled down Babs contacted me in early March. I said I'd try it as at the time it seemed like a good distraction and one hell of a challenge.

TRAINING

On March 15 he met the panel for the first time at Thurles and explained the components of fitness, tested them, knew that he could make a contribution and gave the players a programme of 'self-help' to be done at home. Between then and the All-Ireland the team had 43 sessions and he was present at 39 of them.



Philip Conway, past pupil, addressing the students from the balcony of Rockwell College on October 4, 1989. Left to right: Seamus J. King, Declan Ryan, Philip Conway, Seamus Leahy, College President, Rev. James Hurly C.S.Sp., Liam O'Duibhir, Vice-Principal, and Babs Keating.

They looked at videos on the various forms of fitness training to help them understand the direction the graph was taking. The panel trained methodically and progressively, adapted well to the imposed demands made upon the various energy systems of the human frame. They learned about the regression before progression concept.

Tremendous attention was paid to detail. For a man to play well he must look well and much attention was paid to the players' gear and the get-out as well as to their physical fitness.

He tells the story of the laces to illustrate the point. 'When I first took over, players went out with different laces, different togs, different jerseys and dirty boots. I tried to get across the idea that if the player thought enough of himself he would present himself properly. So, one evening I said: 'Let's all wear white laces'. There were mumbles and grumbles and after about a half-hour Ken Hogan said: 'I don't like the idea of white laces. The ball is white. In a tussle in the square I could mix up the laces and the ball'. 'A very valid point' I said. So, we agreed on black laces.

HANDOUTS

Every training session has a purpose and every player must be given a reason for every recommendation and every requirement. During these 43 sessions the players received about 35 handouts to be taken home and studied. One such handout was a list of all the members of the panel, selectors, mentors, etc., their addresses and their phone numbers at home and at work. This was to facilitate easy communication and to make each player feel he was a member of a closely knit group.

Philip Conway sounds like a man with a mission. He has a great acquaintance with



Phil Conway, Liz Howard, Nicholas English, Cormac Bonner and Pat Fox, singing "Slievenamon" during the welcome home concert at Semple Stadium.

the human body and an extensive knowledge of physical training requirements. He tries to coax and convert his charges to accepting this information and using it for their physical betterment. But the psychological factor is equally important. The players must know what they are doing and be happy and contented doing it. 'My task was educative in nature. If all they got from me was the importance of warm-up and the practice of same, the importance of stretching for injury prevention and the practice of same, the work practice, skill practice or fitness training and warm-down phase afterwards, I would be happy. Finally, if they would take these practices into their own clubs they would improve physical fitness generally.

SATISFACTION

Philip Conway is quietly satisfied with his achievement. It has all been worth the nearly 8,000 miles he has travelled from Dundrum, Dublin to Thurles since last March. A married man with three young girls, he rises at 6.30 during the week in order to be at work at Belvedere at 8 a.m. He is very pleased with the freedom he has been given to implement his physical fitness ideas on the team. He believes that a few of the players could achieve a higher level of fitness. He enjoys the meal after training in the Park Avenue. He has no major plans for the future except to take things as they come. The players are very happy for him and so must be all the Tipperary supporters.

Patience awaiting the champions at the home-coming to Semple Stadium.



"THE RYANS OF BALLYROAN"

JOHN COSTIGAN

UNDoubtedly a very influential factor in team games on occasions is the presence of sets of brothers. You have seen clubs build successful teams around a group of brothers. At national level we have had the Fennellys of Ballyhale, the Spillanes of Templemore, the Rackards of Killane, etc.

Here in Tipperary we have over the years seen the influence of brothers at both club and inter-county level. At inter-county level amongst the most famous have been the Kennys of Borrisoleigh, the Leahys of Tubberadora, the Ryans of Roscrea, the Ryans (Sweepers) of Moycarkey and in the present scenario the Bonners of Cashel and the Ryans of Ballyroan. It is with pleasure that I write here a few words about the transition of the Ryans from juvenile level to Superstar status.

In the late 'Sixties and early 'Seventies, on assuming responsibility for the promotion of Gaelic games in Templemore C.B.S. from Kieran McDonnell, who carried the can for a number of years before being appointed to the role of Vice-Principal, one of the first things I did each year was to carry out a survey amongst the

First Year pupils to assess the potential.

In September 1969 I came across a small, red-haired pupil and on enquiring his name I found him to be Tim Ryan of Ballyroan. I had been informed beforehand by a dear friend, the late Mick Prior, with whom I often travelled to a race meeting in the company of a mutual friend, Joe Stapleton, that Tim Ryan's sons were very promising material. It was to be expected that the Ryans would be able to swing a camán, as Tim was an outstanding member of the Borrisoleigh teams of the 'Fifties and also a very valued member of Tipperary's successful three-in-a-row team (1949-51) while their mother came from a family of outstanding hurlers, the Stakelums of Holycross.

Tim (Jnr.) was not long in Templemore when he made his mark on the school teams. In 1969, his first year, he was a goalkeeper on the Rice Cup winning team — a small but very determined player with a left-hand-under style. He continued to give his all with school teams in subsequent years and I remember him playing an outstanding game at corner-back in a Munster (U-16½) final in the early

'Seventies against a John Grace-led Nenagh C.B.S.

Tim was a tremendous pupil and distinguished himself in the academic field. Having left school, he did not pursue his hurling career. On arrival for work on Monday morning, April 3rd, a colleague, who was a contemporary of Tim's, Gerry Ryan, said to me that Tim Ryan was dead. It took some minutes for it to sink in as I was numbed by the very sad news. I am sure that Tim was in Croke Park in spirit on September 3rd for Bobby's day of glory.

Following Tim through the corridors of the local school was Pat, who was an outstanding young player. He was a very skilful, determined player and won many honours in the maroon singlet of Templemore C.B.S. He graduated to the County Minor team and was an outstanding midfielder on that Tipp Minor team in 1976 which collected Tipperary's first title in that grade for seventeen years.

It was with tremendous satisfaction that I recall himself and forward colleague Michael Murphy returning to the school with the "Irish Press Cup." At that time it almost created as much euphoria as the visit of "McCarthy" in September. Pat, in after years, played on many a successful Borrisoleigh outfit, but his accountancy career in latter years took him out of the county and but for that he could quite easily have been a member of "Bab's Babes" on September 3rd.

The next one of the Ryans to arrive to us was Bobby. A teaching colleague, Catherine Tynan, told us beforehand that in view of his outstanding displays at juvenile level with Borrisoleigh he could be "the best of them." Having arrived in September 1973, he let it be known from the outset that his primary subject was hurling.

At that stage he was small in stature but was very determined and without much difficulty he quickly made the Rice Cup team (U-14) and under the captaincy of Pat McGrath (Loughmore) they captured the prestige trophy with a brilliant victory over Kilkenny C.B.S. in Semple Stadium. For the record, the game was refereed by Br. Michael O'Grady, Antrim's coach last September.

Bobby's stay in Templemore coincided with the most glorious era in the school's history. He won two Rice Cup medals, two Fitzgerald Cup



The Ryan brothers, Aidan and Bobby, on the occasion of their visit to Templemore school with the McCarthy Cup on September 7th. They are seen here signing autographs for young admirers. Also in the photo is Sister Helen Kennedy, Principal of the school.

trophies, three Munster (U-15½) medals, captaining the winning team of 1977, and two Croke Cup pennants (Tipp U-16 titles).

But it was in 1978 that he really showed that he was destined for the big time. In that year Templemore C.B.S. reached the Harty Cup final for the first time and were hot favourites in many people's eyes to capture the trophy. On that day, for the first thirty minutes, the team froze and nothing appeared to go right.

At the start of the second half Bobby Ryan brought a ball out of defence and carried it deep into the Flannan's territory, being heavily checked in the process, but his act of defiance apparently woke up the Templemore boys and the whole team cast off the inhibitions of the first half and captured the famous trophy.

Having been a member of the Tipp Senior panel since the early 'Eighties, it was only fitting that he should be part of the historic breakthrough of '89 and I think his school colleagues from Loughmore-Castleiney who nominated him for captaincy showed great wisdom in their choice as he proved an unqualified success by his actions, both on and off the field.

The way Bobby has visited schools and parishes big and small with the McCarthy Cup since September has proved to be a wonderful success and I have no doubt that it will do wonders for the promotion of hurling amongst our youth.

Eamon was the fourth boy of the Ryans to arrive and he also played with distinction at school level. His style was left-hand-under, but what he lacked in skill he made up for in dogged determination. I can well recall a Templemore team playing North Mon. in a Harty Cup semi-final in Bansha in 1980, when the best we were hoping for was a respectable show. Eamon played corner-back on that occasion and was pitted against none other than current All-Star Tony O'Sullivan.

Aidan arrived in Templemore in 1978 with a tremendous reputation — a small, blondie-haired youngster. On arrival, the First Year boys usually had to undergo an entrance examination and Br. Perkins asked those innocent young boys if they would undergo the "hurling test." In his innocence, Aidan duly volunteered to do the test and, needless to say, he passed it with flying colours. He immediately made his way on to the school Rice Cup team and won a medal in 1978.

During Aidan's school days Cashel C.B.S. were a potent force, with the result that Templemore's successes were few. Aidan duly went on to represent Tipp with distinction in all grades and, I would say, played a very important part in Tipperary's magnificent breakthrough in 1987. I have no doubt but that he will realise his full potential in the '90s should he continue to give the game his full commitment.

The last member of this fine hurling family with whom I became acquainted was Johnny. A beautiful stickman and also a tremendous competitor. His school days coincided with lean years in our school but he was an outstanding wing-back on the Kinnane Cup winning team in 1984 in the company of present County Under-21 players Brendan Bane, Seamus Bohan, James Cahill and Conor Stakelum. Don't be surprised if in a few years he joins his more famous brothers in the Blue and Gold singlet.

In order that youngsters do well at any particular undertaking, it is vitally important that parental support be at all times forthcoming. At all times during their school days, when the Ryan boys were playing for the school — be it in Thurles, Holycross, Cashel or Emly — their father, Tim, was nearly always in attendance in an unobtrusive way, never being in any way prominent but very obviously following their progress with tremendous interest.

Having savoured the Croke Park atmosphere as guests of the Irish Nationwide Building Society early in the day, I am sure that Tim and his wife enjoyed the remainder of September 3rd and surely the Tipp victory and Bobby's very well received acceptance speech was the culmination of twenty years plus effort and encouragement to their family.

It was, indeed, a very well deserved tonic for the Ryans of Ballyroan in what has been for them a difficult year.



TEMPLEMORE C.B.S. (1974) — MUNSTER (U-18) B CORN PHÁDRAIG CHAMPIONS, KINNANE CUP MUNSTER (U-16½) CHAMPIONS AND FITZGERALD CUP, TIPPERARY (U-17) CHAMPIONS.

Back Row (Left to right) — Eamon Brennan (Castleiney), Eamon Fitzpatrick (Clonmore), Pat Ryan (Borrisoleigh), Walter O'Connell (Kilcommon), Ollie Phelan (Templetuohy), George D'Estelle Roe (Templemore), Tim Ryan (Borrisoleigh, R.I.P.), Don Everard (Templetuohy), Jim Bourke (Upperchurch), Pat Treacy (Borris-Ileigh), Andy Ryan (do.), Br. A. M. Mac Domhnaill (Principal). **Front Row** (Left to right) — John Costigan (coach), John Gleeson (Borrisoleigh), Tim O'Meara (Killea), Matt Shortt (Upperchurch), Seamus Bourke (Clonmore), Eamon Sweeney (Loughmore), Tom Larkin (Loughmore), Gerry Ryan (Borrisoleigh), Joe Fitzpatrick (Clonmore), Ger Ryan (Borrisoleigh), Jim Meehan (Clonmore) and Johnny Bourke (teacher).

Tipperary's Under-21 Success

= completed the Treble

By: MICHAEL DUNDON, "Tipperary Star"



Tipperary captain Declan Ryan accepts the All-Ireland U-21 trophy from Michael Maher.

WHILE DUE recognition has deservedly been given to the players from all sides, it should not be forgotten that the first major step to recapture this title was taken when the half County Board brought together again the selection committee of Mick Ryan (Holy-cross), Billy Carroll (St. Mary's), Paddy O'Meara (Lorrha) and Danny Morrissey (Knockavilla) headed by coach, Mick Minogue from Roscrea. This quintet had previously steered Tipperary to four All-Irelands in this grade and eight Munster titles so there was every reason for optimism that the combination would again produce the old magic.

MUNSTER CHAMPIONSHIP

However, the opening game against Cork was fraught with anxiety as a porous defence conceded five goals in Pairc Uí Chaoimh but still salvaged a draw from the

To win an All-Ireland title any year is an achievement worthy of celebration. To win three in the same year, particularly in these competitive times, is the stuff dreams are made of, but this Tipperary accomplished in '89, taking the senior, junior and under-21 crowns. While the senior always takes precedence, the under-21 was surely the sweetest and not only because the win brought Tipperary its first title since '85, but principally because it completed the Triple Crown.

encounter. The selectors got the message and made the changes they deemed appropriate with the result that in the replay at Semple Stadium, Tipperary triumphed by six points, not the most convincing win, admittedly, but sufficient to form the basis for a real "go" at the title.

Before Tipp. met Limerick in the final they had an easy win over Kerry at Ardfert and then in Semple Stadium they swept aside the challenge of a highly-rated Limerick team with a super performance, the highlight of which was an outstanding display by John Leahy, but senior colleagues Conal Bonnar and Declan Ryan

were also to the fore.

Tipperary and Galway were seeing a lot of each other at this time. Tipp. had beaten Galway in the junior and the week previously knocked out the All-Ireland senior champions in that most controversial semi-final. Not surprisingly, there was a real buzz in the air when the sides took the field for the All-Ireland under-21 semi-final and to the delight of the Tipp. following there, Tipperary completed a hat-trick of wins over Galway, getting home with seven points to spare in a contest which did not see them at their best until late in the game. Pdraig Hogan of Borrisokane



Tipperary's U-21 selectors - Paddy O'Meara, Michael Ryan, Mick Minogue, Billy Carroll, Danny Morrissey.



Dan Quirke gets possession...



Dan Quirke shoots...

picked off some delightful points in this contest and was a key figure in the Tipperary win.

The All-Ireland final between Tipp. and Offaly was scheduled for Portlaoise a week after the senior All-Ireland and talk of a Triple Crown to emulate that of 1930 was rife. The day will be remembered for many reasons, not least of which was the traffic chaos which caused many to miss the start of the game, even though it was delayed to accommodate patrons caught up in the traffic snarl that built up from Urlingford on the main Dublin/Cork road.

THRILLING ALL-IRELAND FINAL

A more fitting climax to a great season for Tipperary could not have been imagined as in a contest worthy of all the superlatives at one's command, Tipperary survived the thrilling challenge of Offaly to emerge triumphant by two points.

The game had everything — fast, skilful but very competitive hurling; goalmouth thrills galore; and a nailbiting climax that had the 30,000 crowd, the largest ever at an under-21 final, on its toes to the final seconds.

Tipperary won the hard way. Appalling slackness in the first quarter saw them concede two goals and but for Brendan Bane in goal it would have been three. Trailing by seven points after playing with the breeze for fifteen minutes, Tipperary found a saviour in Clonoulty's Dan Quirke, who in a hectic finish to the first half banged in three goals to turn the seven point deficit into a seven point lead, 3-8 to 2-4 at the break.

The drama continued to unfold in the second half as the expected Offaly challenge was mounted with a thrilling ferocity. Offaly moved quickly to make up the leeway but Mike Nolan came to Tipperary's rescue with a twelfth minute penalty goal to stem the Offaly tide, at least temporarily. Still Offaly rolled forward and whittled away the Tipp. lead. George Frend and



On their knees at the final . . . Tommy Barrett, Paddy O'Meara and Noel Morris.

Declan Ryan made valuable clearances but, as if stage managed, Offaly trailing by two points were awarded a penalty in injury time. Defender Roy Mannion was called up to take the shot but his powerfully hit drive was turned out for a sixty five and the title was Tipperary's.

Sight should not be lost of the fact that Offaly played the last seven minutes a man short, full back Damien Geoghegan having been dismissed for a tackle which grounded Mike Nolan. Had Offaly stayed at full strength for the hour, who knows how the game would have ended? John Madden had an outstanding game for Tipperary in the final but the contributions of Brendan Bane, Conor Stakelum, John Leahy and three-goal hero Dan Quirke were also noteworthy.

The victory gave six of the Tipperary team their second All-Ireland medal for the year. John Leahy, team captain Declan

Ryan, Conal Bonnar and John Madden were part of the senior squad while Liam Sheedy and Dinny Ryan had also won medals with the juniors.

This win set the seal on what was surely Tipperary's greatest year since 1930. With a comparatively young senior squad, the under-21 win underlines the abundance of talent there is in the county at present and already Conor Stakelum and Liam Sheedy have been promoted to the senior panel. It is on the cards that more of the squad will wear the senior jersey in the current campaign in the National Hurling League.

With seven titles at this level to their credit, Tipperary trail Cork, the leaders in the field, with nine titles. However, with a talented nucleus from this year's side, including Conal Bonnar and John Leahy of the senior side, Tipperary have every reason to look with optimism to the start of the nineties.



Dan Quirke scores.

Tipperary Juniors set the pattern

From JOHN GUITON (Tipperary Star)

It is quite understandable that in this special year, Tipperary senior hurlers have grabbed the bulk of the limelight. Why not, you may rightly ask, after such a prolonged absence from the All-Ireland record books. But how our junior side should pride themselves in setting the pattern for the seniors and U/21's by chalking up the first leg of the memorable treble. After all, how can we forget the great scenes of jubilation that followed the junior defeat of Galway (0-12 to 0-8) in the Gaelic grounds, Limerick, last July, and the tingling anticipation of followers towards a 'double' follow-up in the other grades.

With Galway turning out to be Tipp's hurling masters, the junior side broke the unhappy sequence, and provided the inspiration for our seniors to repeat the dose in the semi-final a few weeks later. It was, of course, a splendid achievement for many other reasons, not least the fact that the Premier County had lost the final on the previous year by a narrow margin to Kilkenny, and had given way to Cork in the '87 Munster final, and it was high time to make amends for these disappointments.

It was clear from the start of the year that the five man selection committee of coach Billy Sweeney, Jackie Cooke, Tommy Murphy, Vinny Ryan and Jim O'Brien had made every effort to come up with the most suitable material for the Championship. Numerous trials and training sessions moulded a right blend of youth and experience and it was clear from their demolition of Limerick in the semi-final at Páirc Uí Chaoimh on a 3-18 to 1-5 scoreline that they would be hot contenders for at least Munster success — if not outright All-Ireland triumph.

Veterans like Gerry O'Brien, John Sheedy, Michael Ryan, and Michael



A moment of sheer joy! Tipperary junior captain, Kevin Laffan, holds the All-Ireland trophy aloft, following his team's victory.

Stapleton, to mention a few, combined very well with players of youthful enthusiasm such as the likes of Liam Sheedy, Dinny Ryan, Kevin Laffan, and Richie Quirke, to put Tipp in control from the start and long before the end we were on top in every department. Frankly Tipp were in a different class but the question remained if they were really as good as they looked.

After all, so poor were Limerick that they had only four points on the scoreboard at half-time, at which stage Tipp had put up an impressive 2-9. When John Sheedy netted after only forty seconds of the last period, there was no

let-up and the way was clear for a tilt with Clare in the Munster final.

Full of great senior names of the past, the likes of Seán Stack and Tommy Keane, Clare were going to be no push-over. As it emerged, Tipp had six points to spare (2-14 to 2-8) but if the victory was deserved it was hard-earned. After only twenty minutes of the game it became clear that Tipp had that bit extra on the Clare boys but every score was not achieved without difficulty and Tipp were quite relieved to hear referee Terence Murray's full-time whistle.

Things had been finely balanced in the opening stages, with the hurling fast and competitive, but Tipp took the initiative when good work on the part of Seán Nealon earned his side a goal in the 21st minute. After John Sheedy had been fouled, Nealon, son of the former great, Donie, stepped up to take the 21-yard free, and while he appeared to be ready to tap it over the bar, he proceeded to blast the ball to the back of the net to the utter consternation of the Clare line of defence. The score provided a vital lead to Tipp which they were never to relinquish. They led by 1-7 to 0-7 at the break, and after only thirty seconds of the second half Maurice McCormack put the ball in the net, to drive his side to further greatness. While Brendan McNamara did cancel the score out with a fine goal, Tipp were firmly in the driving seat and a Munster crown was about to be retained.

On the way to the All-Ireland final, Tipp



Tipperary Junior Selectors: Billy Sweeney, Jim O'Brien, Tommy Murphy, Vinny Ryan, Jackie Cooke, with County Chairman, Noel Morris, after the Final.



Maurice McCormack, Tipperary (left), in action against Galway in the Junior All-Ireland at Limerick.

had a facile 3-15 to 0-1 victory over Donegal in Ballyshannon. The result showed more clearly than any words can tell the huge gap in hurling standards, and did not even provide a decent challenge for our side in preparation for the decider against Galway. Staying at the Holyrood Hotel in Bundoran, belonging to former Donegal footballer Brian McEniff, the Tipp squad had a most enjoyable weekend. And sure didn't we sing a few songs before we left the holiday resort on the Sunday evening!

Our sincere wish on that Sunday evening was that there would be plenty more songs to be sung on the evening of the Galway game. Home again, the squad got down to serious preparation for the decider. Sunday, July 23rd, was D-Day, and a huge crowd made its way to the Limerick grounds. From the outset it was clear that Tipperary had the greater will to win, but, of course, so much hinged on our ability to break down the Galway half-back line, manned in the centre by senior star Seán Treacy.

Well for a start Paudie Everard gave Treacy plenty to do and while the centre-back did get in an amount of work, the Moyne-Templetuohy man won a fair share of possession, and proved to be a great inspiration to those around him.

As a result Tipp, for almost all of the first half, enjoyed the lion's share of the play with plenty of effective ground hurling. With man of the match Liam Sheedy being supported so well in the defence, Tipp took the game to Galway with great determination but they had to regroup their forces considerably after the sending off just before half-time of midfielder Eamonn Kelly.

Kelly and Steve Mahon, another Galway senior, got their marching orders



A little man is held aloft, while sporting the Kildangan and Tipperary colours, for the first time in his life. Six months old Nicholas Flannery and grandson of the late Nicholas Flannery, is pictured at his first hurling final – the All-Ireland U.21 match at Portlaoise. He is accompanied by his parents, Donal and Patricia Flannery. Donal is a member of this year's All-Ireland Tipperary Junior Hurling champions.

just before half-time after a bad flare-up, but thankfully the second-half was played in a most exemplary fashion.

Following the restart, Tipperary found themselves under pressure for most of the second half as Galway tried desperately to get back into the game. But the Tipp defence stood firm. While Mahon was a huge loss to the Galway team, senior Michael Connolly never really got going, having come home from England especially for the game. Yet the margin was tight as Galway threw everything into the fray in the dying minutes.

Tipp held out for a truly heroic victory and every player did his share. As stated, Liam Sheedy was Tipp's best man and with Dinny Ryan went on to win an U/21 medal as well. Gerry O'Brien ended his career on a high note, and was not far behind Sheedy in terms of excellence.

From the moment captain Kevin Laffan took the Cup in his hand, the celebrations took off and, believe me, the birds were singing merrily as the last of the revellers left Gortnahoe on the following morning! Captain Laffan took great pride in bringing the cup to schools and parishes throughout the county, and proved to be a great ambassador for the Blue and Gold. What can one say but congrats to all concerned with a great triumph.

The 'final' team for the record was: J. Grace (Toomevara), M. Stapleton (Templederry), M. Ryan (Ballinahinch), D. Quinlan (Arravale Rovers), G. O'Brien (Portroe), R. Quirke (Cahir), L. Sheedy (Portroe), E. Kelly (Kildangan), K. Laffan (Gortnahoe-Glengoole), D. Ryan (Newport), P. Everard (Moyne-Templetuohy), D. Flannery (Kildangan), M. McCormack (Thurles Sarsfields), J. Sheedy (Portroe), S. Nealon (Burgess).

Sub: C. Egan (Kildangan).

Honourable failure in the League

In a year of multiple hurling successes the League was one that slipped the net. To expand the fishing metaphor we could add that it was a small fry that escaped while the big fish were landed. Not that we under-valued its importance; as holders and Galway's opponents in the final we had a double incentive to seek retention. But the manner of failure, with dignity and status preserved in a memorable final, plus subsequent achievements made the loss quite bearable.

We entered '89 as League champions envying championship-owners Galway, by year's end the roles had reversed and I doubt if we would willingly have swapped. Curiously, our previous All-Ireland winning year of '71 had a similar pattern when we conceded League parallels to then rivals Limerick, but had revenge in quality through the championship.

For Tipperary it was a nine-game League spanning the '88/'89 calendar years from late October to the final in late April. A slim loss to Galway and a Kilkenny draw were the only flaws in the League rounds that took us straight to a semi-win over our eastern neighbours before the folk West of the Shannon stole a verdict in the final against our depleted forces. It was a campaign that unearthed Declan Carr and Conal Bonnar for the '89 All-Ireland format and produced a game highlight in the final.

But first let us retrace our steps to the opening bout on October 30th against Waterford. As our first taste of competitive hurling since the All-Ireland defeat, the trip to Dungarvan assumed an added importance; we needed evidence that the championship setback did not have long-term consequences and that the side could quickly return to winning ways.

THE EARLY ROUNDS

Loughmore's county championship win reflected itself in a side that opened the League thus: Ken Hogan; Colm Bonnar, Conor O'Donovan, Noel Sheehy; Pat McGrath, Jim Maher, Bobby Ryan; John Kennedy and John Cormack; Declan Ryan, Donie O'Connell, David Fogarty; Pat Fox, Cormac Bonnar, Michael Cleary. During the action Mickey McGrath replaced Donie and very significantly Conal Bonnar came in for Jim Maher and Declan Carr for John Kennedy — within twelve months both debutants had made a very significant contribution to an All-Ireland success.

The game itself was won by four points, 1-12 to 0-11. A close one throughout with Waterford contesting everything sternly. Pat Fox hand-tossed an early goal but Tipp were trailing by 1-3 to 0-9 at the interval. Colm Bonnar went centre-back for the second half and improved matters considerably. Still it remained tight with Waterford goalie Jim Power making a fine save from Cormac Bonnar before the Tipp attack put enough points over in the last

By J. J. KENNEDY

quarter to claim an opening win in defence of the Royal Liver.

And so we with points safely bagged we welcomed Offaly to the Stadium for round two. Declan Carr and Conal Bonnar retained positions, on a reshuffled side that saw Sheehy go centre-back, John Kennedy wing, Pat McGrath corner-forward and John Leahy come in at centre-forward. By throw-in time Michael Cleary had replaced the unavailable Pat Fox.

Tipperary's final winning margin of 1-9 to 0-10 was flattering, coming mainly from a last quarter fade-out by the Leinstermen. Our interval lead was just 1-6 to 0-6 with Michael Cleary getting the goal. A saved penalty from Mark Corrigan and an easy miss from a free seemed to sap the sting from Offaly's hitherto stiff challenge and Tipp took control in the last quarter with a string of points.

John Kennedy was one of the stars of the day at wing back with the newcomers to the side settling in well and showing promise for the future. And so Tipp with full points from two games headed the table.

Round three of the League brought old foes, Wexford, to the Stadium. The same fifteen were originally chosen but by starting time Nicky English had replaced John Leahy, coming on at corner-forward with Michael Cleary going wing. It was a troubled Wexford that came to the Stadium to a background of internal dissent and two early defeats. By departure time their problems had increased.

It was soft for Tipperary who hammered the dismal Wexfordmen by 2-20 to 1-4, after leading by 1-13 to 1-2 at half-time. With Pat McGrath deadly accurate from placed balls, and English causing turmoil in the Wexford defence there was no contest from a Wexford that has often bothered us in the past. Declan Ryan had the first-half

goal, Michael Cleary added the second with Pat McGrath getting ten points. Many of the attendance had departed long before the end.

And so Tipp faced up to the final pre-Christmas game with six points from three games — joint table-leaders with Galway. That fourth bout involved a trip to Limerick who were themselves nicely perched after two wins. The selected line-out showed two changes from that which started against Wexford: Paul Delaney making a return to oust Conal Bonnar at corner-back and John Leahy replacing Michael Cleary. Before the throw-in Pat Fox had replaced Nicky English.

It all began marvellously for Tipp in the first quarter. A mistake by Tommy Quaid let Pat McGrath in for an opening goal and with Pat Fox and Cormac Bonnar adding two more we led by 3-6 to 0-5 by the twentieth minute. Before the interval though, there were signs that Limerick had discovered some weaknesses in our inner defence and Liam Garvey had a goal before the break to reduce our interval advantage to 3-7 to 1-7.

It was still sizable though and difficult to imagine that by the end of the third quarter with Garvey netting again and Shane Fitzgibbon adding Limerick's third, Tipp found themselves a point in arrears. The laxity bred out of early dominance seemed to be exacting a costly toll.

Reacting to the crisis, Tipp responded to re-take a two points' lead by the ship was still wobbly. Then the Tipp backroom team decided it was time for drastic measures and brought on English for the final minutes. Just two touches from the Cullen man and Tipp were safe. The first was a kick-on to the unmarked Cormac Bonnar who netted and then English himself added a sweet point. The storm had been weathered, Tipp had survived some dodgy moments to go unbeaten to the winter break.

AFTER CHRISTMAS

The players then went ahead to the Festive season after a very successful

TIPPERARY — NATIONAL HURLING LEAGUE FINALISTS

BACK ROW (L. to R.): Joe Hayes, Richard Stakelum, Noel Sheehy, Conor Donovan, Ken Hogan, Declan Carr, Declan Ryan, Bobby Ryan. FRONT ROW: John Leahy, Michael Cleary, Cormac Bonnar, Pat McGrath, Colm Bonnar, Donal Bonnar, Paul Delaney.



League run that saw them head the Division I table with Galway. Activity didn't resume until February 19th when Antrim visited the Stadium for our next engagement. The Northerners came buoyed up by the success of club side O'Donovan Rossa's over Limerick's Patrickswell to face a Tipp side missing players like Paul Delaney and Aidan Ryan, both in England — Delaney's term as an emigrant was to have later consequences.

It was a pretty miserable day for hurling. Tipp, with memories of one stiff Antrim challenge in the All-Ireland semi-final, led by 0-7 to 0-5 at half-time after facing the wind. It was tight at that stage but the flood-gates opened in the second half. Cormac Bonnar and John Leahy got the goals as Tipp waltzed to a 2-15 to 0-7 win, the luxury of which was reflected in the withdrawal of All-Stars Pat Fox and Nicky English. John Kennedy met a heavy collision with Ciaran Barr and was stretched off — his contribution to the League was over.

The side had begun 1989 as follows: Hogan; Heffernan, Donovan, Bobby Ryan; Kennedy, Sheehy, Colm Bonnar; Cormac, Carr; English, Declan Ryan, Leahy; Fox, Cormac Bonnar, McGrath. Conal Bonnar had replaced Kennedy, Joe Hayes for English and David Fogarty for Fox.

So, with ten points from five games we headed into the penultimate league round before the knock-outs. It involved a trip to Ballinasloe to face a Galway side with whom we shared the League leadership. The public anticipated a major tussle but the Tipp backroom men deflated its importance by sending an under-strength side — a decision not warmly received in some quarters. The half-time puck-about of subs included Ken Hogan, Bobby Ryan, Declan Ryan, Nicky English and Pat Fox. The starting team was: John Leamy; Heffernan, Donovan, Jim Maher; Stakelum, Sheehy, Colm Bonnar; Carr, Cormack; Cleary, Hayes, Fogarty; Nealon, Cormac Bonnar, Michael McGrath.

On a day of strong wind and at times rain, the large attendance at Duggan Park saw the sides go to the break at 0-4 each. The closeness was surprising given Galway's virtual full-strength side. The hurling was intense, belying the academic nature of the outcome given the fact that both sides were already sure of knock-out involvement in the quarter-finals at least.

The second half saw Galway slip into a four-point lead but Seán Nealon netted a penalty to bring it back to one. Tipp were there with a shout right to the end when Galway goalie Commins saved well from David Fogarty; Leamy for Tipp had done likewise earlier. In the end Galway held out for a 0-12 to 1-7 win; slim and reflecting considerable credit on a makeshift Tipp side for whom midfielders Carr and Cormack impressed as did Joe Hayes in an experimental centre-forward role on Tony Keady.

And so Tipp faced the last League round against Kilkenny at the Stadium with no

terrible urgency to win points but a lot of keenness to restore pride after the 'Cats' had subjected us to a humiliating defeat in the corresponding fixture a year earlier. Tipp restored a stronger side for the task. Joe Hayes held centre-forward but back came Bobby Ryan, Declan Ryan, John Leahy, Pat McGrath and Nicky English.

The game, played in blustery conditions, was contested with fervour. The sides were level on seven occasions during the hour, including half-time, at which stage the score stood at 1-4 apiece, Pat McGrath cracking home a gem of a goal. The second half remained tight with defences doing very well. Still, Tipp seemed to be heading for a win with a three-point lead before John Leahy was harshly penalised and when the resultant free dropped into the goal area Liam Fennelly swept to the net for a leveller.

Tipp had to be satisfied with a draw but the League point was enough to send us directly to the semi-finals. Kilkenny came through against Cork in the quarters and so a repeat clash was scheduled for Croke Park on April 16th. Galway and Dublin completed the other semi-'pairing.

THE SEMI-FINAL

The semi-final of modest quality was marked by a rousing finish. Tipp entered the game with John Heffernan, Pat Fox and John Kennedy already on the injury list and had further casualties during the action in John Cormack, Conor O'Donovan and Nicky English. It was a game of teak toughness and containment with the sides level on many occasions and the lead being swapped in turn by both sides.

Tipp held a slender interval lead of 0-6 to 0-4. Adrian Ronan put Kilkenny into the lead approaching the last quarter with the only goal of the game for Kilkenny. Conor O'Donovan limped off and the reshuffle which saw Donie O'Connell come in at centre-forward, Joe Hayes go midfield, Colm Bonnar centre-back and Noel Sheehy full-back. The moves benefited Tipp.

Kilkenny went two clear but Tipp then hit a purple patch with Joe Hayes and Donie O'Connell prominent to score five points on the trot. Ritchie Power pulled one back for Kilkenny and Nicky English and Adrian Ronan swapped further scores. Two points still remained between them when Ronan drove a Kilkenny free low from out on the left which Hogan turned behind for a '65' which was pointed, to leave just the minimum between them. Further seconds of sweat remained before John Denton relieved Tipp nerves with the long blast.

It was a game in which Michael Cleary hit new heights as a forward, scoring four fine points. Conor Donovan, Declan Carr, Joe Hayes, Richard Stakelum were others to play well.

THE FINAL

And so with Galway coming through with something to spare in the other semi-, the best of all possible finals seemed in prospect.

Tipp had intentionally sent an under-



Airborne . . . Brendan Lynskey of Galway is airborne as he attempts to catch the sliotar as Conor O'Donovan closes in.

strength side earlier to Ballinasloe but this time the absentees were enforced through injury. Missing were John Heffernan, John Kennedy, Nicky English and Pat Fox. The side started: Hogan; Bobby Ryan, Donovan and Delaney; Stakelum, Sheehy, Conal Bonnar; Colm Bonnar, Carr; Declan Ryan, Hayes, Leahy; Cleary, Bonnar, McGrath.

It was a final of marvellous intensity and excitement. The pace was hectic, the approach of both sides was severe and there were goals aplenty as Tipp strove to bridge a gap that had separated them from Galway on previous occasion. In the end Tipp goals failed to Galway points on a scoreline of 2-16 to 4-8.

Galway's interval lead was 2-8 to 3-3. They hit the front early with fine goals from Joe Cooney and Gerry Burke but Tipp stormed back with goals from Pat McGrath, Michael Cleary and a hand-tossed one from Cormac Bonnar.

The trend continued for the second half. Galway, moving sweetly in attack against a troubled Tipp defence, continued to tack on the points. Tipp with a Pat McGrath penalty hit a fourth goal to stay in touch. It remained winnable, just a few points away, but somehow that gap, narrow as it was, remained. There had been Tipp misses early on from Joe Hayes and Pat McGrath and now a few crucial chances went abegging again. We craved for the vital break to the end but it never came and a depleted Tipp had to be content with honourable failure to a Galway side combining skill and strength to a potent mix.

On our way from Croke Par we could only wonder at what might have been if English or the others were playing. Interesting though unproven speculation. The reality was that Galway had once again proved the masters and taken our League title of the previous year in the process. Still, the championship in August remained as another opportunity to finally pass the Westerners. We had seen enough in the League to convince us that the All-Ireland semi-final could be won and in retrospect I think Galway would gladly swap places.



*An interesting silhouette of Ken Hogan in the league game against Dublin
at Croke Park on October 15, 1989.*

A Dream fulfilled

By Ken Hogan

Another 6 a.m. morning over in order to meet the lads in time to make it to Thurles for one very last training session. It's All-Ireland week as always the Dublin based guys are easy targets for the hordes of Pressmen clamouring for interviews to fill the Sports Pages.

FINAL TRAINING SESSION

Heading down to Thurles in the car different versions are given on how the game will go. Declan Carr agrees to swap positions with me if we're winning well on the day, Phil Conway sitting in the front, as always, gives a disapproving grunt. He hopes we're only jesting, but knowing Carr's antics, anything is possible.

Nicky sits in the middle where his sensitivity to tickles is shown up again, as he's driven berserk by our constant prodding and poking. He swears this is the last time he will ever travel with us.

Meanwhile John Kennedy, forever burdened with the chore of driving concentrates, avoiding the rush hour traffic jams. A two hour journey, we're reminded by Phil Conway that this is his 43rd session with us. We think of the sacrifices we've made to reach the pinnacle of our careers.

Autograph hunters delay our entry to the dressing-rooms by 20 minutes. Cameras seem to be flashing everywhere.

Tonight the session is light, everybody knows all the hard work is over, lying in the frost and snow, our tracksuits covered in mud, that's all in the past now, our biggest test has yet to come. Paul Delaney joins us. The team really appreciates his attendance and his loyalty to the cause hasn't diminished.

After spending a few days at home organising match tickets etc., and thriving on my mother's cooking. I return to work in Dublin on Friday and Saturday, to keep my mind off the big day.

It's hard to believe that I bump into Ciaran Barr in town on Friday as he prepares for his wedding on the following day. He seems unaffected by pre All-Ireland nerves. His display will have a vital bearing on the game.

SATURDAY

On Saturday evening we meet up in the Burlington Hotel. Denis O'Connor, as

ever, is flying around the place making sure everything is in order. That night, some of the lads watch "Up For The Match", more have a puck around upstairs in the plush corridors of the hotel. All we seem to be hearing from well-wishers in the hotel is that "ye'll have it handy" tomorrow. Some supporters seem oblivious to the pressures of a team trying to end an "All-Ireland Famine". I'm rooming with Noel Sheehy. We've been rooming together for 3 years now and still our dream remains unfinished.

ALL-IRELAND SUNDAY

After a restless night I finally arise at 9 a.m. All the papers can't see Tipperary being beaten. At this stage I'd rather be playing Galway or Kilkenny. We travel to Blackrock College for Mass followed by a warm-up and puck-around. We return to the hotel for a light snack and it seems ages before we board the coach for Croke.

On our arrival there, we quickly make our way to the dressing-rooms. We all sit in our usual spots in the dressing-rooms. So many thoughts in your mind. You check your laces and hurleys for the umpteenth time. The expression on 'Babs' face tells it all. He knows this has to be 'our day'. Donie gives the final pep talk, the dander is up and out we go. Croke Park seems a sea of blue and gold. The pre-match puckaround gets rid of some of the nerves. "I can actually stop and hit the ball". This is also a very difficult time for your family and close friends. They will not enjoy the game. They feel the pressure more than any player. Having to change my jersey before the game slightly un-nerves me.

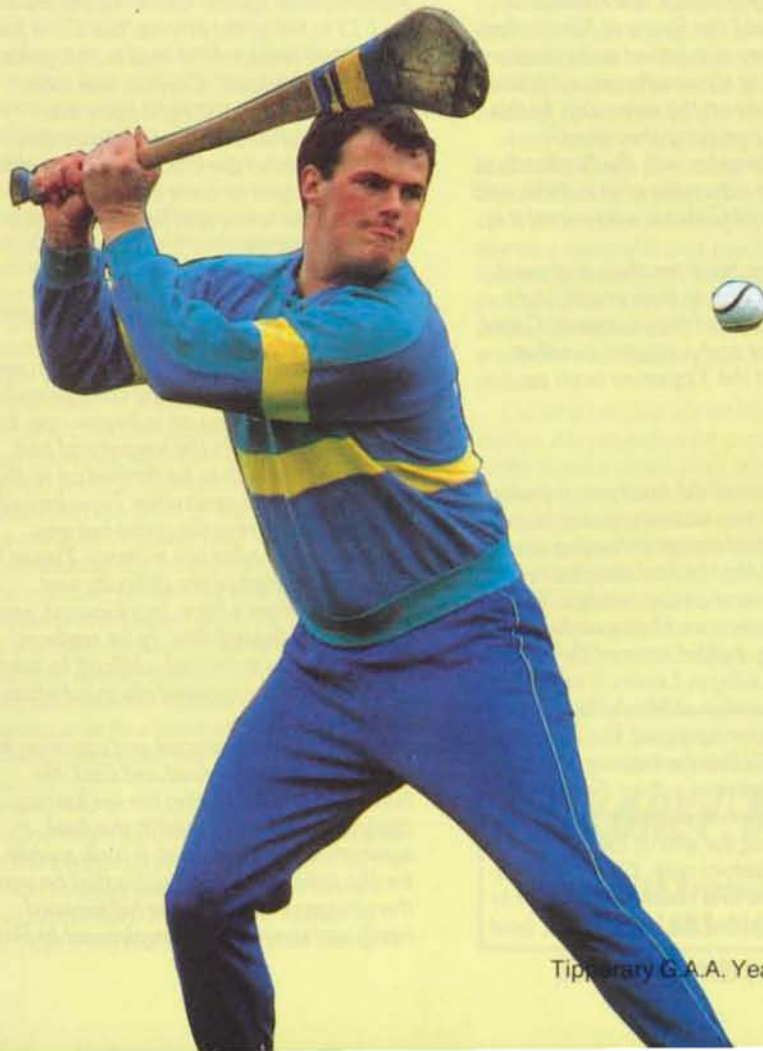
We began the game playing like a team under severe pressure, until Declan Ryan's deceptive shot ended up in the Antrim net. At last we settle down to play with our normal fluency. Our loyal supporters cherish every score. Aidan, Joe and Donie join the fray. If only we could play all the lads, they are as much a part of this great day as the rest of us.

SWEET SUCCESS

Finally Pat Delaney spreads his arms, the pitch is invaded by our success-starved followers, it hasn't yet sunk in that my dream has been fulfilled. Last year there was such an empty feeling that I hardly even cared if there was another tomorrow. I had to face the camera after our defeat, even in disappointment I knew we would be back. I let my feelings be known that evening and I was proved right. An old Gael once told me that success is all the sweeter after a few failures. He was so right.

All those gruelling training sessions in sub zero temperatures, the tongue lashings from Theo. He knew it was in us and the smile of contentment on his face told all.

Who will ever forget the reception in Thurles on Monday night. The pride on the faces of our youth who had never seen the Liam McCarthy return. The tears of joy from the older generations. It brought home to me the difference between winning and losing. Winners take all. Losers take the pain of failure home with them. Unless of course you fight back and eventually succeed. We did just that and we're proud of it.



Three Bonnars

By: SEAMUS KING



Colm, Conal and Cormac Bonnar.

One of the most unusual aspects of the Tipperary senior hurling team for the 1989 All-Ireland final was the inclusion of three brothers, Cormac, Colm and Conal Bonnar from the Cashel King Cormac's club. Con Houlihan had this to say about them in his "Evening Press" column of September 4:

"Bobby Roche, M.P. for Tralee in Grattan's Parliament, was a dab hand at the Kerryman joke — now read on.

Once upon a time — perhaps even twice — he said: "Nobody can be in two places at the one time unless he be a bird." A stranger in Croke Park yesterday might have thought that for once the good man was wrong. Hardly a minute went by without such shouts as "Come on Bonnar" and "Good man Bonnar" and "Glory on you Bonnar".

Our stranger would have wondered how this man Bonnar could be in defence and in midfield and in attack. The team sheet would have solved the puzzle: there were three Bonnars — and they all played well. I have yet to see a tiger hurl but I doubt if any member of the species could have done as well as Conal did at right half-back. In the first fifteen minutes when Tipperary were obviously stricken with tension, he was the man who played as if he knew that this would be his day.

In midfield Colm played solidly all through, producing the quartz from which his comrades up in front distilled the gold. The third brother, full-forward Cormac, didn't get on the scorers' list — but his presence gave great room to corner-forwards Pat Fox and Nicholas English."

By winning the All-Ireland, the Bonnars joined the ranks of other illustrious hurling families from Tipperary, the Leahys of Tubberadora, the Kennys of Borris-ileigh and the Ryans of Moycarkey-Borris. But they also joined an exclusive club confined to those who played in and won All-Irelands on the same day. In this distinguished company they stand shoulder to shoulder with the Rackards of Wexford, who set up the club in 1956, and the Connollys of Galway, who joined it in 1980.

The brothers have another, and most unusual distinction to their credit: the oldest, Cormac, and the youngest, Conal, were the oldest and youngest member respectively of the Tipperary team on September 3.

Cormac

For the oldest of the brothers, winning the All-Ireland was an unexpected bonus to a distinguished career in hurling. It was unexpected in that he had decided to quit after the 1988 west championship. The decision was taken, not because he was tired of hurling, but because of the travelling involved. Living in Limerick with his wife, Nesta, a native of Mitchelstown and with no hurling connection, the 72 mile round trip to Cashel for training and matches had become a drag. So, at the end of the 1987 championship he made a decision to go at the end of 1988.

The rest is history now. Cashel played Clonoulty in the first round of the west in 1988 and, against all the predictions, beat

them and went all the way to the county semi-final. Cormac impressed the county selectors and was called up for the Munster final against Cork. Tipperary led by 1-13 to 0-5 at the interval but Cork had rallied and reduced the lead to two points in the third quarter. Cormac was introduced and was in the right place five minutes later when a Paul Delaney free dropped behind the Cork defence and he was on the spot to steer it to the net. It was a crucial score and halted the Cork rally in its tracks.

PHILOSOPHICAL

Was he excited about being introduced in that game? 'Well, I was more philosophical than anything else. You see I had come on before in the championship and the memory was an unhappy one. In 1983 I had played in the league and had impressed enough to be drafted on to the panel for the championship. I was brought in sometime during the game but was replaced again after ten minutes. I wasn't playing well. Part of my difficulty was converting from a back to a forward, and I hadn't yet adjusted. But, to be replaced so quickly was extremely difficult to take and the memory crossed my mind when I came on in '88.

But he wasn't replaced and came on in the All-Ireland semi-final and final. He became a regular during the league campaign and impressed in the final against Galway last April. It took a while for the selectors to recognise that he was the obvious choice for the full-forward berth and the perfect complement to Fox

and English on the inside line.

Mention of adjusting brings to mind Cormac's earlier career which was always in the back line. There he won two Under-21 All-Ireland medals in 1979 and 1980. However, the winning medals he cherishes most are those he won at the minor level. He played minor with Cashel in 1974, 1975, 1976 and 1977, winning west medals in the first three years and county championships in '75 and '76. The latter year is of abiding memory to him. As well as a county minor medal he won a football medal as well and his school, Cashel C.B.S. won the Corn Phadraig, the Kinane and the Croke cups.

Looking back to those days, in an interview in May 1980, he had this to say: "We had exceptional teams and we won too easily. We were also too clean. We never had to mix it physically. Some of us are only now learning to use our bodies."

CRITICISM

Some of Cormac's critics would claim that he never did learn to use his fine physique (6'2" x 14 stone) sufficiently and that he remains a gentle giant on the field. Cormac would disagree and so would many a backman who came up against him in full flight.

A more common observation made of the player is that he lacks confidence and that he is inclined to pass on scoring opportunities to players with inferior chances to his own. "It may have been the case in the past," he replies, "but it's no longer so. I have developed my skills greatly in the past twelve months. I must

thank John Leamy a lot for that. He has come out regularly with me in Limerick to practice. I now have much greater confidence in my ability and I do take my chances. But I would consider myself a team player. I don't give a damn who gets the score as long as it's registered for us on the scoreboard. I'm a bit of a socialist in hurling in that we must be all for one and one for all."

In putting emphasis on the Indian summer of Cormac's career, and it can be a long summer with few if any contenders for the full-forward position he has made so much his own in the past year, one is inclined to forget his many earlier achievements. As well as those mentioned above he won Fitzgibbon Cup medals in 1977 and 1978. But he also played on the Sigerson Cup team with U.C.D. where he studied History and Mathematics. He played county minor hurling in 1977 and was on the Under-21 county football team for three years. He also played county senior football.

All in all then a career chockful of athletic accomplishments and with no sight of it coming to an end. If the journeys to Cashel were long in the past those to Thurles are longer. For the All-Ireland this year there were 43 sessions of an hour and a half under Philip Conway and Cormac missed only one of them. His dedication to fitness is complete. Who will forget the turn of speed he showed in the first game of the year at Clonmel last January! Some believe he wouldn't have it on the harder ground of summer but he had and plenty to spare over other players. And, as he adjusted in the past from a back to a forward, we can anticipate similar adjustment in the future if the handpass goal is voted out of existence next Easter.

Colm

When Cork beat Tipperary in the league game at Thurles on October 29 it was the first time Colm Bonnar experienced defeat at the hands of the Rebel County. Since he first wore the county colours in 1982 as a minor he has been on successful county teams against teams from Munster, with one exception, the senior Munster championship game against Clare at Ennis in 1986.

He has an extraordinary record. He's been playing with the county for eight years and he has eight Munster medals to his credit! The record is as follows: minor — 1982; under-21 — 1983, 1984, 1985; junior — 1985; senior — 1987, 1988, 1989. So, 1986 is the only blot in a very impressive sequence of victories. That defeat in Ennis in 1986 led to a re-think in the method of preparing county teams and the appointment of Babs, Theo and Donie to take charge.

During the same period Colm played in seven All-Irelands, winning in 1982, under-21 in 1985 and 1989. The losses were in 1983 and 1984, junior in 1985 and senior in 1988. In retrospect, the most galling of these has to be the loss of the junior All-Ireland in 1985. Playing against the breeze in the first half against Wexford at Kilkeny they led by two points at half-

time and seemed set for victory but they changed their tactics in the second half and were behind two points at the final whistle. The chances of Colm ever getting so near an All-Ireland junior medal in the future are indeed slim and the possession of one would have given him a unique collection.

These eight years with the county were presided with intensive involvement in games at Cashel C.B.S. During his stint there he won Croke, Fitzgerald and McGabhann Cup medals but pride of place must go to his two All-Ireland 'B' hurling medals. These were won in 1980 and 1982 and John Kennedy also won both. Joe Hayes played on the 1980 team and John Leamy on the 1982. So all of these lads learnt success at an early age.

Up to the age of thirteen Colm played left hand over right and, on the instructions of his coach changed over to the orthodox way. Close observers of his game will notice how he sometimes fumbles catching the ball because his best catching hand is still his right. Even still he occasionally catches the ball in his right hand and has then to transfer it to his left.

This difficulty may account for another anomaly in his play, his delivery of the ball. It is never as crisp and as long as one would expect from a player of his strength. The thought arises if the change were well-advised and if reversion to this original style were possible.

During the past summer there was an opinion abroad that Colm had gone stale and that his game was suffering as a result. He would disagree and claims that Phil Conway worked wonders with the team, getting them mentally prepared for the game so that they would all be well able to last the seventy minutes.

However, the nature of Colm's occupation may be a contributory factor. A P.E. instructor with Waterford R.T.C. he is full-time involved with hurling, football and camogie. For five days a week he works with teams until seven o'clock in the evening and always has a hurley in his hand. This kind of involvement can kill some of the enthusiasm for getting out to hurl oneself.

Colm's contribution to Tipperary hurling has been tremendous. In the past three years he has been an important link in the chain of success. He holds a record for 33 successive appearances in league and championship over a thirty-month period and the highlight of that run must have been the 'Man of the Match Award' for the 1988 Munster final. Such a contribution is a tribute to the fitness of the man and his hurling ability and was properly recognised when he became one of the 1988 All-Stars. The fact that he is still only twenty-five years of age must give us reason to believe that he will continue to be a force in Tipperary and Cashel hurling for many years to come.

Conal

One might be inclined to regard Conal as the Benjamin of the bunch but that would suggest someone in need of care and protection. Such would, indeed be furthest from the truth, because Conal is

very much his own man and has an impressive record of achievement for one who celebrated his twentieth birthday on October 13.

Conal was drafted into the Tipperary senior panel for the 1988 All-Ireland. The event attracted plenty of attention because he became a third Bonnar on the panel and, to be drafted in at that stage of the championship was an indication of the potential of the player.

Conal first hit the county headlines in 1986 when he was picked wing-back for the minors. With five of the previous year'sd panel Tipperary were expected to do well and fulfilled that expectation in defeating clare. The Munster final was in Killarney and ended in a draw and Colm had to experience the pangs of defeat to Cork in the replay in Kilmallock eleven days later. Playing at centreback in 1987, Colm experienced similar agony at the ultimate stage. The Munster championship was won with victories over Limerick and Cork, the All-Ireland semi-final impressively against Galway, and hopes were high against Offaly in the All-Ireland. But, defeat was his lot by two points.

SCHOOL

Colm came on the county minor team following an impressive career at Cashel C.B.S. during which time he won two Croke Cup medals, two Fitzgerald, one McGabhann and he captained the Kinane Cup team to victory in 1986. He was also captain of the Cashel King Cormac's minor team which won the west in 1987.

A Third Year Commerce student at U.C.D. he travels to Thurles during the week to train with the team. On such a day he will leave Belfield at 3 p.m. and cycle home to his flat in Ranelagh. He collects his gear and travels over by bus to Bab's place in Castleknock for the trip to Thurles. After an hour and a half training he returns to Dublin.

After being on the losing side in 1987 and 1988, Colm eventually struck gold on September 3 this year. Playing at wing-back he performed impressively and seems a natural in that position. On the following Sunday at Portlaoise he hit the jackpot a second time when winning an under-21 medal. Both victories helped to erase the memories of the 1987 and 1988 defeats.

Conal is modest about his achievements. He considers he got a number of lucky breaks which gave him opportunities he exploited to the fullest extent. But observers give him more than luck. He impressed them with his anticipation on the field, his burst of speed and his expert delivery. In a very short inter-county career he has impressed many, who see a long and brilliant future ahead for him.

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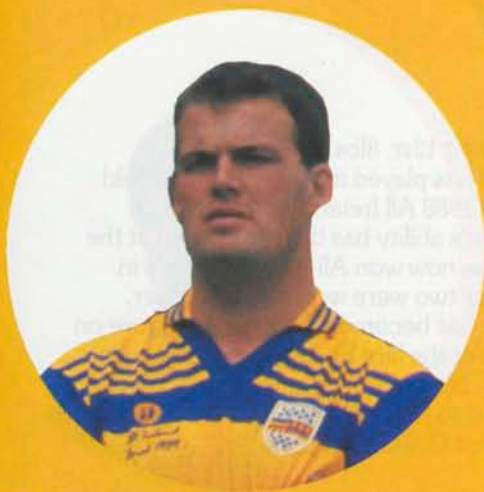
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KEN HOGAN

(Lorrha)

GOALKEEPER

Born 1/5/1963. Height 6'2". Weight 13st. 7lbs.

Ever present in Championship hurling since 1987 campaign. All Star in 1987. Captain of Lorrha's North Tipp winning team this year. His goal from a free beat Éire Óg in the Divisional semi-final, but his opening shot in the County semi-final wasn't as accurate! A great favourite with everyone, Ken is a perfect ambassador for Tipperary hurling. He will make a great success of his new role as Coaching Officer.

1989 was a memorable year for Ken — he won a third Munster senior medal and added a senior All Ireland to his minor victory of 1980. The agile goalkeeper had a memorable season during which he was consistent rather than spectacular, but he played a vital role in Tipp's success. Modest in victory and gracious in defeat, Ken Hogan has lived up to the potential first displayed with Presentation College, Birr. Became engaged to Joan McDonagh.



JOHN HEFFERNAN

(Éire Óg, Nenagh)

RIGHT CORNER BACK

Born 27/12/1963. Height 5'11". Weight 12st.

Returned to the defence for the championship after missing the end of the League campaign through injury. Considered the toughest of the Tipp defence, he can also hurl with the most skilful. Former Tipp minor and under-21 player, he was particularly successful with his club at underage level. Won his third Munster senior medal this season.

His best game in the campaign was probably against Waterford in the Munster final. Versatile, strong and committed, he looks like being a valued member of the defence for a long time to come. John is manager of the family hardware business in Nenagh.



CONOR O'DONOVAN

(Éire Óg, Nenagh)

FULL-BACK

Born 7/2/1962. Height 6'1". Weight 14st.

A native of Limerick, Conor played in the 1980 Munster Minor Final against Tipperary. Since he moved to Nenagh he has played u/21 and senior for Tipp. with great success. He was a full-back on the breakthrough team of 1987, having earlier played in various defensive and attacking positions. Troubled a lot by injury in recent years, he still served Tipp well all season, particularly against Limerick, when the exchanges were tight in the first half.

Much happier at full-back than anywhere else, Conor was a victim of a Galway foul in the semi-final which necessitated his departure from the pitch. An All Star award can't be too far away now for the Irish Permanent Branch Manager.



NOEL SHEEHY

(Silvermines)

LEFT CORNER BACK

Born 5/12/1964. Height 6'1". Weight 12st. 8lbs.

The utility man of the Tipp team, Noel has played in most of the outfield positions, including centre back in the 1988 All Ireland final. Although playing with an Intermediate club, Noel's ability has been displayed at the highest level with great success. He has now won All-Ireland medals in Minor, U/21 and Senior, but the former two were won as an attacker.

He was a sub. on the 1987 team but has become a permanent fixture on the team since 1988. Noel is a nephew of the late Fr. Harry Sheehy, who played for Tipp in the 1946 minor final. Now a representative with Bank of Ireland Finance, Noel can look forward to further success in the future and fine displays like the one he gave against Galway.



CONAL BONNAR

(Cashel King Cormacs)

RIGHT HALF-BACK

Born 13/10/1969. Height 5'11". Weight 12st.

A member of the losing minor team of 1987, Conal has developed into a top class defender, whose contribution improved in every round of the championship. The discovery of the 1988/89 League, Conal justified the faith shown in him and, apart from his defensive work, he also scored morale boosting points against Limerick and Waterford.

His best and most important display was in the semi-final against Galway. Conal got a great thrill from winning an All Ireland with his brothers Colm and Cormac, but had even more to enjoy when he was a valued member of the u/21 team which won the All Ireland title in a classic against Offaly. He looks to have a great future ahead of him. At present he is a student in U.C.D.



BOBBY RYAN (Captain)

(Borrisoleigh)

CENTRE-BACK

Born 23/10/1961. Height 5'9". Weight 13st.

Probably the most popular captain Tipperary ever had. His acceptance speech at the end of the Final showed the real class of the man. Forty years on he emulated the feat of his uncle, Pat Stakelum, in leading Tipp to All Ireland victory. Bobby's career has been long and often unrewarding, but he never gave up, and the ultimate reward is now his. The All Ireland medal will go nicely with his three Munster medals, National League, two All Star medals, three Co. S.H. medals, Munster and All Ireland Club medals, two u/21 All Ireland medals and the never-to-be-forgotten Harty and Croke Cup wins of 1978 with Templemore C.B.S.

Another versatile player, who served Tipp in defence and attack, he made his senior championship debut in 1982 along with his great friends Donie O'Connell and Nicholas English. Bobby's displays in the unaccustomed centre-back position during 1989 will not be forgotten, especially his marking of Brendan Lynskey in the All Ireland semi-final and a whole range of opponents in the Munster Final.



JOHN KENNEDY

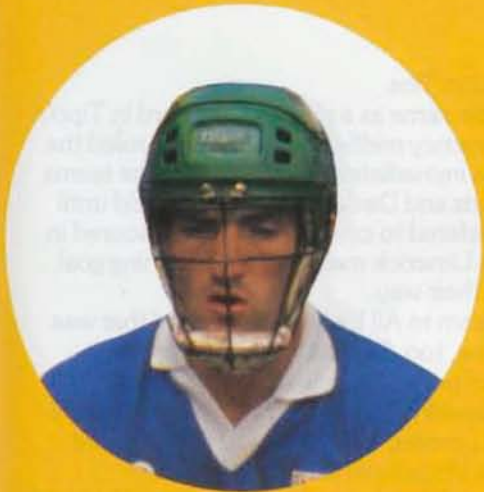
(Clonoulty-Rossmore)

LEFT HALF-BACK

Born 7/11/1964. Height 6'1". Weight 12st. 7lbs.

Seriously injured in the League game last February against Antrim, John Kennedy steadily made his way back to full fitness for the championship and having come on as a sub against Waterford and Galway, he was picked to replace Paul Delaney for the decider. In the No. 7 position (the same as 1988) John mastered the threat posed by Antrim captain, Ciaran Barr, and this played a big part in Tipp's success.

By virtue of Tipp's win, John also picked up his third All Ireland — Minor '82 when he was captain, u/21 1985 and now Senior. The elegant, stylish and perceptive Clonoulty man has also had a great season at club level and his contribution helped Clonoulty Rossmore to their best ever season. John's under-age career was based at midfield but he has blossomed into a defender of the highest class. John, who is engaged to Martina Coughlan, is a Marketing Manager for a stationery company. He was a star of Tipp's 1987 revival.



COLM BONNAR

(Cashel King Cormacs)

MIDFIELD

Born 12/6/1964. Height 5'11". Weight 12st. 7lbs.

Last year's All Star came in for a lot of unwelcome attention in the Munster final against Waterford. He lost his place for the semi-final against Galway, but came on as a sub and then played in the final against Antrim. Colm covered a lot of ground for Tipp and put in plenty of solid tackling.

His job as hurling coach in Waterford ensures he is superbly fit all season. By virtue of Tipp's win, Colm also joins the elite — those who have won minor, u/21 and senior all Irelands. His years of earlier success were 1982 and 1985 and both were won as a defender. Colm has been a member of the Tipp team since the 1987 breakthrough and in that time he has won 3 Munster SHC medals, 1 NHL, 1 All Ireland and 1 All Star award.



DECLAN CARR

(Holycross/Ballycahill)

MIDFIELDER

Born 30/7/1965. Height 6'1". Weight 12st. 7lbs.

The Dublin based fireman was substituted after twenty minutes in the opening game against Limerick, but regained his place for the All Ireland semi-final against Galway. His display in the All Ireland final against Antrim was magnificent and showed exactly what a midfielder role is in modern day hurling. Declan was unlucky that such a performance was not honoured with 'man of the match' but it certainly answered his critics and gave him huge personal satisfaction.

The powerful midfielder was 'discovered' during the 1988/89 League, where he was consistent throughout. His displays at club level this season helped greatly in their return to County Final action and will certainly convince everyone that Declan Carr has plenty of ability and lots of hurling skill.

JOHN LEAHY

(Mullinahone)

RIGHT HALF-FORWARD

Born 16/9/1969. Height 5'10". Weight 12st.

A superb display in the 1987 Minor Final was the launching pad for John Leahy's career. Since then he has become a regular on the Tipp senior team. Played in two Munster and two All Ireland senior finals; won Munster and All Ireland honours in u/21 and senior and inspired his club to all kinds of success.

Came in for some provocation during the year but this didn't stop him from really turning on the style. Scored only five points in the championship but his workrate and link-up were excellent. His first half display against Limerick was matched only by his u/21 displays against Cork and Limerick. Two Munster medals and two All Irelands from a season's hurling are ample reward for his efforts. John will still be on u/21 in 1990 and what a player he should be then!

DECLAN RYAN

(Clonoulty-Rossmore)

CENTRE-FORWARD

Born 25/7/68. Height 6'1". Weight 12st. 7lbs.

The red-haired Declan, who made his name as a right half-forward in Tipp's league win of 1988, became an emergency midfielder as Limerick ruled the roost in the first half. His impact was immediate and by half-time the teams were level. Tipp won easily afterwards and Declan stayed at midfield until the All-Ireland final when he was transferred to centre-forward. He scored in all Championship games except the Limerick match and his opening goal against Antrim sent Tipp clearly on their way.

Declan later captained the u/21 team to All Ireland victory and that was just as memorable. On the club scene, too, Declan had a memorable season and has figured in a variety of positions including full-forward. A former Tipp minor, Declan has achieved much already — 1 NHL medal, 2 Munster SH medals, 1 Munster u/21 medal, 1 All Star award, All Ireland medals in various grades including a Vocational schools' title with Thomastown and much success at club level — and he is still an u/21 for the 1989 season. He works with Templetuohy Farm Machinery.

MICHAEL CLEARY

(Éire Óg, Nenagh)

LEFT HALF-FORWARD

Born 16/8/1966. Height 5'8". Weight 11st.

The former Nenagh CBS star had an eventful year. His big chance came in the NHL semi-final when he came on as a sub and scored four points to beat Kilkenny. He followed up with another good display scoring-wise against Galway — but Tipp lost. Injury kept him out of the Championship opener against Limerick, but he came back for the final and scored three good points. He played well against Galway, particularly in the first half, when he 'roasted' Gerry McInerney, and again in the final against Antrim when he scored two points.

A beautiful striker of the ball, 'JK' has the skill and control to make him a long time member of the Tipp attack. He works in the family restaurant and grocery business in Nenagh. Michael first played in a Co. u/21 final when he was 16, that was the same year he led his club to the Co. u/16 hurling title (1982). He won a Munster minor medal with Tipp in 1983, but had no success at u/21 level. His brilliance at midfield played a major part in the Nenagh CBS All Ireland Colleges' 'B' victory in 1983.



PAT FOX

(Éire Óg, Anacarty)

RIGHT CORNER-FORWARD

Born 8/7/1961. Height 5'8". Weight 12st.

It was Pat Fox who equalised against Cork in the 1987 Munster Final at Thurles. If he had missed, where would Tipp be now —. At that time he was the only member of the team who was married. A really versatile performer, 'Foxy' has played minor, u/21 and senior for Tipp and he has lined out in almost every position. He won two u/21 All Irelands as a corner-back and a third as a midfielder. Troubled by injury for much of his career, he is the veteran of the Tipp team, having played his first senior championship game against Cork in 1980.

Not selected for the Limerick game, he lined out when Ml. Cleary cried off, and contributed a fabulous 1-5. His display against Galway in the semi-final was his best since 1987 and his goal after half-time sent Tipp on their way. He benefited all season from the excellent passes delivered from the Tipp half-back line, especially by Paul Delaney. Surely an All Star award has been earned this year?



CORMAC BONNAR

(Cashel King Cormacs)

FULL-FORWARD

Born 31/5/1959. Height 6'1". Weight 14st.

First played senior hurling with Tipp in the 1981/82 League but had to wait until Munster Final day 1988 to make a real impression. His goal that day finished the Cork revival and but for a great save in the All Ireland final, his effort might have won the day for Tipp. Cormac — the veteran of the three brothers — had a great '89 League final against Galway — even in defeat — but surprisingly he was omitted from the team for the start of the championship. His half-time introduction at full-forward swung the game Tipp's way as Fox and English revelled in their freedom. From then on Cormac was an automatic choice and his replacement in the decider was nothing to do with a bad display! For what it's worth I'm convinced he was the last to touch the ball before it crossed the line for Tipp's third goal. A teacher in Árd Scoil Rís Limerick, Cormac scored little but provided plenty. Without his presence Tipp would not be champions of 1989.



NICHOLAS ENGLISH

(Lattin-Cullen)

LEFT CORNER-FORWARD

Born 2/10/1962. Height 6'1". Weight 13st.

Probably the best hurler of the present decade. Nicholas won his well deserved senior All Ireland medal in the same position as he won the minor in 1980. His u/21 medal was won at No. 10 and the debate about his best position has included those two and full full-forward. Five times an All Star — and another on the way for '89 — English finished the year in great style. His championship total over four games was 3-38 and, not surprisingly, he won the RTE 'Man of the Match' award for his display against Antrim.

He suffered much at the hands of opponents but always played fairly and well deserves his success, both hurling wise and on the careers front. Nicholas won great renown as a hurler in the Fitzgibbon Cup with U.C.C. and his medal haul from that competition is unrivalled. His wedding to Ann Cooke on November 4 brought a great year to an end. Nicholas has taken a career break from his teaching post in the Abbey C.B.S. and is now an assistant manager with Allied Irish Finance based in Dublin. The Tipp revival took three years but all through it English has been prominent with goals nicked, struck, and handpassed, points from play, and frees, and passes left and right and all the time being modest enough to realise he is a team player. Honoured by the Tipp Association in Dublin as its person of the year 1989.

THE YEAR OF VICTORY

"Do you know there's a funny sort of life-cycle about the GAA," said the Man with the Large Bottle and the Small Glass. "By the time you have finished grouching about Christmas never being so quiet and how you'd get fed up of eating turkey you are into the County Conventions and everyone complaining about nothing being different this year and the same old faces being around and I wonder will there be anything controversial at all to keep us from yawning on a long January afternoon in Thurles. Well, not quite everyone — just the true blues who will be there looking after the games and the business of the GAA whether the county team is beaten in the first round of the championship or not. The other crowd — the crowd who will start beating down the doors of everyone looking for tickets in the months of July and August — will have been in hibernation since September and we won't hear from them again until the summer.

It was that time of year when the Man with the Large Bottle and the Small Glass was bringing the brother up to date on the year's events.

Then, after the Convention (he went on) you're back into the League and no sooner is that over than you're into the championship and then there's the long summer evenings with balls flying to the high heavens, Saturday nights with excitement rising, and the Sundays with the journeys, the flags and all that makes life worthwhile. And then you're into September and if it's your county that marches round Croke Park there will be moments that you'll remember for the rest of your life. And no sooner is September gone than all the loose ends of the county championship are being tied up, the summer crowds are gone and you're back to the familiar faces at the matches and before you know where you are you're putting up the Christmas decorations again...

But this year everything was that bit different. Before the winter was over there was a kind of buzz in the air, the young fellows were wearing their blue and gold jerseys out on the street even on Christmas Day and it was as if the hills and the ditches themselves couldn't wait for the championships to start.

By the time the League was under our belts we were like greyhounds waiting to come out of slips at the sound of a whistle. We kept the petrol tanks well topped up and we kept a supply of cooked ham ready to make sandwiches at twenty-four hours' notice. And I may as well tell you that it was as well we did because between the Seniors and the Under-21's and Senator Murphy's Juniors we were on the road more often than off it.

Do you remember what your man the poet said about the French Revolution — "Bliss was it in the dawn to be alive, but to be young was very heaven!" Well, that's the way it was with us this year. I sneaked up to Thurles once in February to see were the lads really at it in this kind of weather and there they were, training their hearts out. From the four corners of the county they had come and from Dublin through the winter months and into the spring and I said to myself fair play to ye, lads, the

SEAMUS LEAHY

hopes of the county are in good hands and if we don't bring home the bacon, it won't be ye're fault.

*But the funny thing was that it never occurred to us that we **wouldn't** bring home the bacon and maybe that's why we could enjoy every puck of every game so much — we felt so sure within ourselves that this year nobody would stop us and, in a way, we were saving our vocal chords for the first Sunday in September.*

So when we came out of Munster it was a bit of a disappointment to us that we had to play a Galway team without Tony Keady because we felt in our hearts that we were going to beat them anyway and we'd prefer to beat them with a full team. And, mind you, even though our County Board said publicly that we would like to see Tony Keady reinstated in time for the game, there were still begrudgers who seemed to blame Tipp for his suspension. Still, it took the real good out of beating Galway for us and it was only the prospect of having the McCarthy Cup almost within our grasp that made us all jittery through the month of August.

Don't let anyone tell you that the thrill of All-Ireland Day was any the less because it was Antrim we were playing. When you're eighteen years without the Cup it would be all the same to you if you were playing Fermanagh for it, or Leitrim, or Carlow, and besides, nobody was taking Antrim for granted — and rightly so. When we set off from Clonmel that sunny September morning, flags were fluttering as if they had never been aired before and as we took the traditional route up through Boherlahan and Holycross and Moycarkey I said to myself if only all the good men who went to their graves over the last eighteen years wondering would Tipp ever win an All-Ireland again could see us now they'd sit up in their graves and cheer. And I think maybe some of them did.

I'm a great believer in tradition and

when I saw the peculiar historical coincidence of its being Tipp's year to have its heroes of the past presented to the crowd before the match I said to myself there is no way that Antrim can win today. Do you mean to say, I said to the fellow beside me, that these young Tipp fellows after sweating themselves sore since last winter will let themselves and us down in front of the congregated might of the team of '49 and '50 and '51? Arrah, said I, don't be coddlin' me.

So onto the green sod of Croke Park stepped the men who lifted our hearts and our voices forty years ago and once again the names of Stakelum and the Kennys and Finn and Doyle and Bannon and Shanahan and the others rang round and a Tipp crowd rose to the Tipp men of other days. Here and there around me I could see a handkerchief being produced and an eye getting a quick dab for a moment each of us looked into the past and savoured a private memory — of tall, lithe, Jimmy Kennedy lifting and striking, of the flashing blade of Paddy Kenny cutting through a Wexford defence, of Tony Reddan reaching into the sun. And then the heroes of the past marched off to make way for the heroes of the present and I thought as I saw Timmy Ryan settling down to watch Bobby lead Tipp out how important tradition is to Tipp and I asked myself how in the name of all that's holy did we have to wait eighteen years for this.

But all I can say is that it was worth it. Don't believe a word from anyone who tells you that it would have been more exciting if we had been playing Kilkenny or Wexford or Galway. No such thing. These Antrim fellows were an ornament to the game — fast and skilful and hard, but fair. If you were a foreigner and didn't know anything about the game, you'd have said it was a grand spectacle entirely — two teams showing all the skills of hurling in a way that wouldn't have been possible with a different pairing.

Both teams got fine scores and we cheered each Tipp point as if it was the



first and when Nicky English raced through a few minutes from the end and with a left-handed stroke on a hopping ball nearly drove the net into the canal we roared in a way that must have been heard on Slievenamon — if there was anyone on Slievenamon that day. But I don't think there was — they were all in Dublin. All the frustrations of eighteen years melted away in that moment and if there was any of the frustration left it disappeared when Bobby held the cup over his head and we shouted and told one another it was well worth the wait and we'd never go home again.

But we did go home because we had to be home to greet our heroes in the way that they deserved. One of the lads at home years ago used say that he only went to meet a Tipp team coming home when they lost because the crowd was smaller and you did not have to go so often.

But things have changed since then and the crowd being so big last year they decided that they'd have to take the crowd off the streets and get the whole thing into Tom Semple's stadium. And what do you think happened? The stadium was full and the streets were full and the roads into Thurles were full and between one thing and another 'twas only then we realised that during

all the years we were being knocked out in the first round we had lost sight of the fact that times had changed and we had forgotten how many people would want to greet an All-Ireland winning team.

But when the lads arrived in the stadium we relived that glorious moment when Bobby had held up the cup to prove that we had really won and as each of the team was presented to us individually we gave each the individual cheer they had all earned. And as we cheered ourselves hoarse and the music blared away giving it all an atmosphere of what do you call that South American thing — the Mardi Gras, is it? — I thought to myself how, in this day and age, it's great to see young fellows like them who, for the honour of wearing the Tipperary jersey will pour out their sweat — and maybe their blood — and will give up literally hundreds of hours of their spare time so that we can enjoy moments like this.

'Tis a pity there was that mix-up about the bus being blacked out while it was coming into Thurles, but these are the things that happen when it goes too long without winning an All-Ireland. Now that the natural order of things has been restored, with the McCarthy Cup back in the Premier County, things will

begin to right themselves and tradition will re-assert itself. Next year things will be done in a way that will leave everyone satisfied and anyway the main thing is that the Cup is back where it belongs. Everything else is secondary to that.

Next year the excitement will begin even earlier than usual, because whatever happens in the League, the Munster championship has a special significance for us. Do you realise that never before has Tipp won four Munster championships in a row? Twice we have won five in six years — 1895, '96, '98, '99, 1900, and 1960, '61, '62 '64, '65 — but never four in a row, not in the 102 years of the championship's existence. Now if that's not a challenge, I don't know what is!

So while we sit back and take it easy for the winter in anticipation of the strenuous campaign ahead of us in 1990, we hope that these young fellows who carry all our hopes in their gear-bags are taking it easy and not being kept out half the night by fellows who won't know them as soon as they are no longer winning. There are great things ahead for us if we can only keep our heads. And if the next year is only half as exciting as the one behind us, we will still be the happiest people in Ireland.

Pen Pictures

Compiled by

SÉAMUS O'DOHERTY

PAT McGRATH (Loughmore Castleiney)

Born 17/3/1961. Height 5'10". Weight 13st.

Pat started the season as captain, but his replacement at half-time in the Limerick game marked the end of his onfield season. He accepted the position graciously and proved himself a Tipperaryman by congratulating Bobby on his elevation. Even then he still contributed greatly to Tipp's effort to win the All-Ireland.

A great clubman, Pat has been the inspiration of his beloved

Loughmore/

Castleiney for several years and was well deserving of the Co. Title they won in 1988. On his day, he is a deadly free-taker and good general contributor, but not even Pat's ability was good enough to earn a place on the All Ireland team and that's a measure of how strong the panel was.

Pat continues to serve his club well and could easily become a Tipp regular before the season ends. He is employed by "An Post" and, like Bobby Ryan, his great friend, is a past pupil of Templemore C.B.S.

DONIE O'CONNELL (Killenaule)

Born 24/6/1960. Height 6'. Weight 13st. 7lbs. Probably the most popular member of the squad, the affable Donie won three u/21 All Irelands before graduating to the senior championship team in 1982. Much of his earlier efforts were in vain, but when Tipp came back in 1987 Donie was a powerful influence at centre-forward. He scored Tipp's final goal in extra time in Killarney in 1987, which was the clincher, but in recent times he hasn't been able to claim a permanent slot on the team. He played in the 1988 All Ireland Final and it was a nice touch by the selectors to introduce him as a sub in 1989.

Donie has been active in the League since then and perhaps may return again to his favourite centre-forward slot. Working out of the country for months at a time makes it difficult for him to reach peak fitness, but at club level he was a great inspiration to Killenaule as they won the south title this year. Donie has won a NHL title with Tipp in 1988 and a Railway Cup medal with Munster in 1985.

AIDAN RYAN (Borrisoleigh)

Born 30/1/1965. Height 5'9". Weight 12st.

Played in the 1988 All Ireland Final but went to England afterwards and didn't really figure in Tipp's major attacking plans. This brilliant forward played a big part in the 1987 Munster revival with some classic scores. The former minor ('82) and under 21 ('85) All Ireland medal winner joins his many colleagues in adding the senior award.

Aidan went in as a sub. in all Tipp's championship games except the All Ireland semi-final. While he only scored one point in the campaign, Aidan will be remembered as the player who delivered the shot from which Nicholas English slammed in the best goal of the All Ireland final. A brother of team captain Bobby, Aidan has won All Ireland Club honours, All Star status and, of course, a N.H.L. medal to go with his three Munster senior awards.

JOE HAYES (Clonoulty-Rossmore)

Born 9/1/1963. Height 5'11". Weight 13st.

A former Cashel C.B.S. player, Joe won minor and u/21 All Irelands with Tipp in his under-age days. A member of the senior team in the 1987 comeback year, his performance in the drawn Munster final that year was probably his best. After a disappointing All Ireland display in 1988, Joe was converted to centre forward where he played some good games in the concluding stages of the '89 League. He played there also against Limerick, Waterford and Galway but was replaced in that game and made only a second half entry to the All Ireland Final.

The powerhouse behind Clonoulty Rossmore this season, Joe will surely be back on a regular basis for next year's championship. Joe is a Garda based in Roscrea, near his great friend Paul Delaney.

PAUL DELANEY (Roscrea)

Born 27/11/1966. Height 5'9". Weight 11st. 7lbs.

An automatic selection since 1987, Paul Delaney was omitted from the Tipp team for the All Ireland Final amid rumours and newspaper trials. Tipp Co. Board did not wish to have any hint of controversy attached to the team selected and instructed the selectors accordingly. The facts are that Delaney was not charged with any offence and Antrim had no intention of objecting to him whatever the result.

Whatever else is reported, Delaney played a huge part in Tipp's march to the Final. He was always consistent at wing back and his displays against Waterford and Galway were superb. His clearances from defence were always well placed and his long range free taking was a great bonus. In his three games he scored seven points. It was a redeeming feature of the episode to see Paul with the team in Croke Park and at all subsequent functions. His return is inevitable and anticipated with optimism.

RICHARD STAKELUM (Borrisoleigh)

Born 28/3/1963. Height 6'. Weight 13st. 7lbs. The man who led Tipp back from the wilderness in 1987, Richard has not been able to command a regular place on the team but he has nonetheless been a willing member of the squad. He was a useful replacement early in the year when a series of injuries disrupted our League Final effort.

Still a very useful club player, Richard won two Co. S.H.C. medals with Tipp to go with his NHL medal 1988 and Munster u/21 medal from 1984. His brother Conor has recently rejoined him in the squad so the family involvement in Tipp hurling continues. Richard, a teacher in Dublin, is a cousin of team captain Bobby Ryan and perhaps it isn't a coincidence that both delivered wonderful speeches after leading Tipp to success in recent times.

JOHN LEAMY (Golden Kilfeacle)

Born 26/1/1964. Height 5'11". Weight 12st. 5lbs.

The patient understudy to Ken Hogan since the start of the 1988 championship. He has been readily available and did very well against Galway in the League game at Ballinasloe last March — he kept a clean sheet. A former minor All Ireland winner (1982), he added an u/21 title in 1985 and has now completed the treble. Even though he eventually aims to take the No. 1 position, he is a good friend of Ken Hogan and usually is the one to help the Lorrha man in the warm-up before the game.

JOHN CORMACK (Loughmore-Castleiney)

Born 21/2/1964. Height 5'11". Weight 13st.

A stalwart in his club's County Title victory in 1988, the Loughmore man has also won Minor ('82) and u/21 ('85) All Ireland medals with Tipperary. A good league campaign kept him in the squad for the championship and he was introduced as a sub. against Limerick, Waterford and Galway.

He scored in the two Munster games and generally played well when introduced. Likely to make a bid for a permanent place during the current league. A useful utility man who has also played inter county football.

JOHN MADDEN (Lorrha)

Born 13/2/1968. Height 5'11". Weight 11st.

The star of Tipp's u/21 All Ireland victory over Offaly, John Madden played minor for Tipp without success, but 1989 has been a great year for him. He played very well in challenge and Oireachtas games to earn a place in the senior squad and he held this slot throughout the season.

Some good displays with Lorrha helped that club to a first Divisional title since 1984 and it wasn't his fault that they didn't reach the County Final. John captained the successful Galway Vocational School's hurling team in 1985 while a student in Portumna. His best position is at right half-back but he is a versatile player and this, allied to his skill and commitment, will see him reach future stardom.

Compiled by Seamus J. King

WHAT THE PAPERS SAID

'The wounds which Tipperary pride has suffered over the last 18 years, the disappointments and frustration which have harrowed them many times in the long barren stretch, all faded away like mist at sunrise when Bobby Ryan ascended the Hogan Stand at Croke Park to receive the Liam McCarthy Cup from John Dowling, the President of the G.A.A., at the end of the All-Ireland senior hurling final yesterday'.

Paddy Downey, *The Irish Times*, 4/9/89

'At exactly 5 p.m. captain, Bobby Ryan, kissed the McCarthy Cup and hoisted it above his head to the delight of thousands of delirious fans. 'Thank you. I'm sorry it took 18 years', he said.

Tom Reddy, *The Irish Independent*, 4/9/89

'Tipperary entered Croke Park yesterday as unbackable favourites to win the title. They did everything that was required when handing out the heaviest defeat in the final since Antrim last reached that stage in 1943. And they will celebrate mightily today, tomorrow and every day for at least a week. The famine is now truly over. The supporters have new heroes now to adore in succession to Keating, Loughnane, O'Connor and Roche'.

Donal Keenan, *The Irish Independent*, 4/9/89

'To Tipperary it was a day of tremendous pressure. It is difficult to remember when a team was installed with such favouritism for an All-Ireland title. But Tipperary had to play that 70 minutes. And they did so extremely well. Their's was a display of easy confidence, hurling ability and hurling authority. This morning they must be glad it is all over'.

Peadar O'Brien, *The Irish Press*, 4/9/89

'The 18 point difference on the scoreboard at the end tellingly relates the vast gulf in all aspects of the game that existed between the two sides. In terms of skill, cohesion, teamwork, understanding, speed to the ball and scoring power, Tipperary manifested a decided superiority. Such was the Munster champions' edge that they would almost certainly have finished even more comprehensive winners but for seemingly easing up in the latter stages of the second half'.

Paddy Hickey, *The Evening Herald*, 4/9/89

'Hunger was the essence of this Tipperary performance. Antrim, seeking their first-ever title, could be said to have been similarly affected, but, while the seventy-minute menu provided to appease that craving want, was the same for both, Tipperary's appetite was the keener. They revelled in the juicy morsels whereas Antrim were shown to be lacking in their selection of choice ingredients. The appetiser of the opening minutes saw them heistant and as the second course was provided Tipp. were in full spate. An Antrim resurgence in the second half never threatened to spoil the Tipp appetite and the dessert was surely evident in the swarm of Tipp supporters coming on to the pitch and delighting in the raising of the Liam McCarthy Cup by a splendid and gracious Bobby Ryan'.

Gerry Slevin, *The Nenagh Guardian*, 9/9/89.

'Tipperary did not so much beat Antrim as overwhelm them with their presence. The Northerners hurled like men with no tomorrow but this was a day when their raging spirit could only go so far'.

Vincent Hogan, *The Irish Independent*, 4/9/89

'And when Declan Ryan's long range shot beat Neilly Patterson for Tipperary's first goal you could sense Antrim's confidence ebbing away. From then on they were always in a position of serious disadvantage which had a disturbing effect on them'.

Conor Hayes, *The Irish Press*, 4/9/89

'Nor had they anyone like Nicholas English, the brilliant corner-forward who scored 2-12, thus beating the record of Eddie Keher, who scored 2-11 in the 80 minute 1971 All-Ireland final, ironically on a losing team to Tipperary'.

Peadar O'Brien, *The Irish Press*, 4/9/89

'A stranger to Croke Park yesterday might have thought that for once the good man was wrong. Hardly a minute went by without such shouts as 'Come on Bonnar' and 'Good man, Bonnar', and 'Glory on you, Bonnar'. Our stranger would have wondered how this man Bonnar could be in defence and midfield and in attack. The team sheet should have solved the puzzle: there were three Bonnars and they all played well. I have yet to see a tiger hurl but I doubt if any member of the species could have done as well as Conal at right back.

Con Houlihan, *The Evening Press*, 4/9/89

'For now let us savour the occasion and fatten on the satisfaction to be derived from the triumph. Let us too, sincerely, thank the players and their management team who gave so unselfishly of their time and talents to achieve an ambition that only a few short years ago was but a pipe dream. For them it is a great and most satisfying moment, and the indications are that, having made the breakthrough, the best is yet to come'.

Michael Dundon, *The Tipperary Star*, 9/9/89

'Tipperary hurlers deserve their triumph and we wish them every success in the months and years ahead when perhaps they will scale the lofty heights of the really great Tipperary teams of the past that dominated Irish hurling for many years'.

Editorial, *The Nationalist*, 9/9/89

'Wiser heads in Tipperary are now contemplating a sequence of All-Ireland successes after last Sunday's mismatch. They have not been induced into foolish predictions by a winning tally of double scores. They know that a defence that conceded 3-9 against opposition as weak as that provided by Antrim, has problems. What must be most worrying for the Tipperary mentors in the long term is the fact that the slackness in the fullback line, which allowed soft goals to be conceded against Waterford, and a ridiculously easy one at the very outset against Galway, was evident again last Sunday'.

Raymond Smith, *The Sunday Independent*, 10/9/89

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The year 1989 will go down in the history of Tipperary Football because after years of trying, they finally won the McGrath Cup defeating Limerick 1-5 to 0-7 in the Home Final and London in London 1-12 to 1-5. This victory may seem small in comparison to the All-Ireland Senior Football Titles won in 1889, 1895, 1900 and 1920 but I believe this victory will lay the foundation for Tipperary Football in the 90's. We have a young panel who have graduated from Minor and U-21 sides and no doubt this experience will stand to them.

TIPPERARY FOOTBALL — 1989

McGrath Cup — Highlight of Year

By: JOHNNY MULVIHILL (Manager)



TIPPERARY SENIOR FOOTBALL CHAMPS 1989

Back Row (left to right): Donal O'Keeffe, Criostoir McGrath, Ned Ryan, Anthony Crosse, Gene McGrath, John Costello, Tom Macken, Jim O'Meara. Front Row (left to right): Eamon Maher, Michael Ryan, Francis Conran, Sean Brett, Brian Burke, Tommy Sheehan, Brian Lawlor.

SENIOR

IN 1989, the Senior team played a total of 23 games, winning 13, drawing 1, and losing 9. We missed out in Promotion to Division 2 and in the Munster Championship, we beat Clare, and lost to Cork who were the eventual winners of the All-Ireland. I could spend the rest of the article recalling the McGrath Cup victory and the first overseas tour by a Tipperary Senior Football Team to London, but a better exercise would be to set out what I feel should be done to ensure that Tipperary Senior footballers make further progress in the future, because it is every player's

aspiration to play at the highest level, i.e. All-Ireland Final, and Tipperary players are no exception.

I believe that Tipperary along with the other so called "Weaker Counties" should seek to have an Open Draw in the Munster Senior Championship, like there is in Minor and U-21 grades. The present system favours Cork and Kerry in that they know they cannot be paired together in the first round. What would happen if they were? Their training programmes would have to be altered. More importantly, one of the other four Counties, Tipperary,

Waterford, Clare or Limerick would be contesting the Munster Final. This would provide an experience to that County that no amount of training could provide. That experience would stand to the team in subsequent years. We must remember in the modern era, teams are not built during a National League Campaign, but over a number of Championships, e.g. Cork, Dublin, Kerry & Meath. During the Championship, these teams gain vital experience with each match.

Tipperary Football would benefit if the National Football League was played

during the Summer months because conditions are better and more conducive to skilful football. In the present system, Tipperary play seven games in the Winter and two at most on the Summer. This leads into poor preparation for the Championship because it is competitive matches that are needed in the build-up to same.

It is my opinion that proper structures will have to be put in place to ensure that Inter County Players are not forced to miss National League games because of club commitments. This has cost Tipperary promotion from Division III on at least two

Congratulations Tipperary Senior, Junior and U-21 All-Ireland Champions 1989

and

to our neighbouring Club, Clonoulty/Rossmore, congratulations on your County Final victory.

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occasions. It is unfair on the panel if all players are not available for selection. I appreciate the difficulties that fixture committees have in trying to fulfil their programmes of games but at the end of the day, priority has to be the County team if that county team wants to succeed. With adequate planning and co-operation, this can be achieved without affecting the club.

It is true to say that inter county players are professional in their approach to training and planning for the games. They spend hours training and the time has come to look at the possibility of providing a training ground where all teams could train. The County Team would not have to be asking for the loan of club grounds for training and the training would be in a central

venue. This would lean to better organisation of training and also protect the club grounds for over use.

I would like to acknowledge the tremendous time and effort that the panel, *Selectors*: D. J. Gleeson, Pat Moroney, Sean Mockler, Sean Connolly, our *Medical Team*: Dr. J. Browne, Pat Flynn; The Co. Football Board for making 1989 a success. I would also like to

thank Noel Morris for his support and encouragement throughout the year.

Mar focal Scoir there is an old saying that says "it's a long road with no turning". In 1989 that road turned for the hurlers. Maybe in 1990 it will be the footballers turn. The last time Tipperary hurlers won the All-Ireland in 1971, the Footballers won Div. II of the National League. We live in hope.

The following is a list of match results:-

N.L. at Askeaton	Tipperary 0-12 — Limerick 0-11
N.L. at Cashel	Tipperary 2-8 — Kilkenny 0-7
N.L. at Thurles	Tipperary 0-5 — Wexford 0-6
N.L. at Dungarvan	Tipperary 0-7 — Waterford 1-9
Halpin Cup Final at Stradbally	Tipperary 2-8 — Waterford 1-7
N.L. at Clogheen	Tipperary 0-10 — Wicklow 0-10
N.L. at Carlow	Tipperary 1-12 — Carlow 1-7
N.L. at Golden	Tipperary 1-6 — Clare 3-10
Carlow Tournament (semi-final)	Tipperary 0-15 — Laois 0-10
Carlow Tournament (Final)	Tipperary 0-13 — Monaghan 1-11
Championship at Clonmel	Tipperary 1-17 — Clare 2-5
McGrath Cup (Home Final) Fermoy	Tipperary 1-5 — Limerick 0-7
C'Ship (semi-final) Pairc Ui Chaoimh	Tipperary 0-6 — Cork 0-22
McGrath Cup (Final), Ruislip	Tipperary 1-12 — London 1-05

The following is the team which defeated London in the McGrath Cup Final:

Ger Enright (*Cahir*); Michael Ryan (*Upperchurch/Drumbane*), Brian Lawlor (*Longford Slashers*), Tom Macken (*Ballyporeen*), Donal O'Keeffe (*Commercials*), Ned Ryan (*Loughmore/Castleiney*), Sean Brett (*Mullinahone*), Gene McGrath (*Askeaton*), Declan Hahessy (*Grangemockler*), Eamonn Maher (*Ballyporeen*), John Costello (*Cahir*), Brian Burke, Capt. (*Fethard*), Anthony Crosse (*Eire Og/Annacarty*), Crioscoir McGrath (*Commercials*), John Treacy (*Loughmore/Castleiney*).

Subs: Tommy Sheehan (*Fethard*) for Maher; Ruan Morris (*Templemore*) for Treacy, Anthony Power (*Ardfinnan*) for Hahessy, Johnny Lowry (*Arravale Rovers*), Willie Morrissey (*Fethard*), Davy Hogan (*St. Patrick*).

Jim O'Meara (*Grangemockler*), Francis Conran (*Fr. Sheehy's*) and Willie O'Meara (*Fethard*) who were involved in the home final were unavailable for the final.



TIPPERARY JUNIOR FOOTBALL CHAMPS 1989

Back Row (left to right): Chris Coen, Paul Costello, John Ryan, Pat O'Donoghue, Tommy Fitzgerald, Liam Connolly, Paul McKeivitt. Front Row (left to right): Pakie Hallissey, Johnny Lowry, Willie Morrissey, Peter Brennan, Finbarr Lonergan, Kevin Fox, Jimmy Lowry, John Treacy.

JUNIOR

Trials for the junior team were held in April and all clubs were requested to submit names of players. Over 80 names were received but very few of them turned up for the trials.

In preparation for the Championship, three challenge games were arranged against Limerick and a number of training sessions held.

Limerick were defeated in two of the challenge games while they were unable to field a team for the other game.

In the championship they were defeated by Clare in the first round on the score 1-7 to 0-9.

Tipperary lined out as follows:

Finbarr Lonergan (*Cahir*), Johnny Lowry (*Arravale Rovers*), John Ryan (*Upperchurch/Drumbane*), Peter Brennan (*Loughmore/Castleiney*), Willie Morrissey (*Fethard*), Pat O'Donoghue (*Castle K.C.*), Paul McKeivitt (*Loughmore/Castleiney*), Chris Coen (*Fethard*), Tommy Fitzgerald (*Cashel K.C.*), Liam Connolly (*Fethard*), Jimmy Lowry (*Arravale Rovers*), Kevin Fox (*Eire Og/Annacarty*), Pakie Hallissey (*Golden*), John Treacy, Capt., (*Loughmore/Castleiney*), Paul Costello (*Cahir*).

Subs: Pat McCormack (*Cuala Kickhams*) for Fitzgerald; Michael O'Brien (*Galtee Rovers*) for Costelloe; Michael Grace (*Galtee Rovers*); Seamus Butler (*Ballingarry*); Ray Coady (*Mullinahone*); John Hackett (*Fethard*); Donie Cahill (*Ballyporeen*); John O'Loughlin (*Newcastle*).

Under-21 Football

By: COLM O'FLAHERTY



TIPPERARY UNDER-21 FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS 1989

Back Row (left to right): Declan Ryan, Colm Duggan, Criostoir McGrath, Anthony Wall, Colm Egan, Dermot Barlow, Michael Ryan (Fethard), Peter Lambert. Front Row (left to right): Dinny Ryan, Michael Burns, Michael Ryan (Upperchurch/Drombane), Jim Cahill, Willie Morrissey (Fethard), Brian Lawlor, Owen Cummins.

WHILE 1989 did not bring the long-awaited Munster title, there was compensation in the winning of the inaugural South East of Ireland League. There was also the knowledge that Tipperary gave the eventual All-Ireland Champions, Cork, their sternest test.

During the Winter months, the coach and selectors visited each of the Divisional Boards to seek their assistance and that of Clubs, in putting the best possible team on the field in the Championship. The interest shown by the boards and most of the clubs was welcome and this interest was reflected in the good attendances at trials. Trials were held in December at Clonmel, Templemore and Clonoulty. The final trial was held again in Clonoulty on the 7th of January.

Immediately a panel had to be picked for the league. The first four games were played on 14th., 22nd and 28th of

January and 4th February. They resulted in:

Tipperary 0-11, Wexford 0-4 in Fethard; Tipperary 2-11 to Waterford 1-6 in Dungarvan; Tipperary 0-8 to Wexford 0-3 in New Ross; Tipperary 0-8 to Waterford 1-7 in Cahir.

The final was played in Clonmel, on March 4 against Waterford. Following a shaky start, Tipperary got completely on top and in the process scored some excellent points to win 0-16 to 0-8. In between the final league game and the actual final, four training sessions were held and two challenge games were played against Duhallow and Rockwell Rovers. Also on 18th and 19th of February, the panel had a very valuable weekend in Galway. On the Saturday, Tipperary drew with U.C.G. and on the Sunday, easily defeated Galway U-21's. The overnight stay was of great benefit to the panel and they came home a closer and more determined unit.

Before the Cork game, nine further training sessions were held, mainly in Fethard and occasionally in Clonkeen. The attendance at training was excellent, with players coming from as far away as Longford and Carlow.

Two challenge games were played and won against Duhallow and the Tipperary Seniors. However, what the panel was not prepared for was the uncertainty about the date of the Cork game which was caused originally by a change in the Cork — Kerry first round and then the board room wranglings over the Cork-Tipperary game, in Pairc Ui Caoimh. Despite all this, Tipperary gave Cork a right fright and were only 1 point behind with 3 minutes to half-time. Then Cork got a lucky goal. In the second-half Tipp. needed an early score. Unfortunately Cork got another goal. Tipp. received another blow when midfielder Colm Egan was sent off. Despite these setbacks Tipperary fought back well. In

the end, only 4 points separated the sides on the score: Cork 2-6 to Tipperary 0-8.

Team: Owen Cummins (Fethard), M. Ryan (Upperchurch), Dermot Barlow (Arravale Rovers) M. Ryan (Fethard), Willie Morrissey (Fethard), Brian Lawlor (Longford Slashers), Capt., Jim Cahill (Templemore), Christoir McGrath (Clonmel Commercial), Colm Egan (Kildangan), Dinny Ryan (Newport), Declan Ryan (Clonoulty), Anthony Wall (Clonmel Commercial), Peter Lambert (Ardfinnan), Colm Duggan (Drangan), Michael Burns (Nenagh).

Subs: Eamon Maher (Ballyporeen) for Wall; Pakie Hallissey (Golden) for Lambert; Davy Hogan (Drangan) for Ryan; Jim Cullen (Loughmore) Noel Keane (Clonoulty), Johnny Lowry (Arravane Ros.) Shay Ryan (Fethard), Jim Lanigan (Gortnahoe), Barry O'Brien (Nenagh), Eamon Kelly (Kildangan).

Selectors: Michael Power (Newcastle), Noel Byrnes (Fethard), Willie Robinson (Kilsheelan), Peter Savage (Ardfinnan). **Coach:** Colm O'Flaherty (Cahir).

Tipperary Minor Football - 1989

By: SEAN HENNESSY

TWO years ago a Tipperary U-16 squad defeated Waterford and Clare and hammered Kerry in the final of the football tournament which was run in conjunction with the Coaching Course in Carrignavar, Co. Cork. They also went on to win the South-East U-16 competition, defeating Wexford in an entertaining replay in Clonmel.

Thus it was with an air of optimism about our prospects in the Munster Championship that John Cummins (coach), fellow selectors Hugh Kennedy, Mick d'Arcy, Tommy Lonergan and me fein came together early in the New Year to begin preparations for the campaign.

Trials began on the 25th of February and continued, together with challenge and league games right through to the month of May. Our immediate goal was the Munster Minor Football League, ostensibly a competition for the less successful counties, but one which has, of late, been used and abused by the Kingpins of football in the province, Cork and Kerry.

Our first league game was against Waterford in Clonmel on March 31. After a promising opening the team faded somewhat and almost succumbed to a spirited Waterford comeback. We hold firm however, and recorded our first victory. Two weeks later we faced South Kerry in Ardfinnan. The slicker and faster Kerry boys took an early lead and some close shaves for the Kerry goal helped them hold on to that lead and run out convincing winners.

Team: S. Collum, M. Fleming, P. Gleeson, E. O'Mahoney, P. Frewen, P. Ryan, L. Stapleton, A. Quirke, C. Clifford, P. J. O'Meara, C. Bresnan, P. Maguire, S. O'Halloran, M. Broderick, D. O'Shea.

Subs: D. Horan, E. McAree, E. Hogan, K. O'Doherty, D. Hahessy, T. Kelly, P. O'Shea, D. Fitzgerald and R. Forristal.

That ended our interest in the league and numerous trials and challenges were held until, finally a panel of twenty-six players was

chosen. Under the expert guidance of coach Johnny Cummins the squad blended well together and improved with each passing week. Cork had defeated Limerick and were to be our opponents in the semi-final. We were looking forward to taking on the boys from the Rebel County.

The gods, however, appeared to be conspiring against another upset in the football championship. We lost Alan Quirke and Pat Frewen with broken legs and Declan Nugent with a stomach injury. Then the day before the game the sad news came through from Fethard that Paddy Ryan's father had died suddenly. It was a devastating blow.

Friday, the 7th was our date with Cork. We had home advantage in Clonmel. We took the field against Cork, slightly depleted but in no way dispirited.

The opening exchanges were close and we might have been a couple of goals to the good if Lady Luck had smiled on us. Cork edged in front and were flattered to be a couple of goals ahead at half time. The second half followed a similar pattern and despite the efforts of S. Collum, P. Gleeson, T. J. Connolly, Colm Bresnan, M. Broderick, Paddy Ryan, D. Fitzgerald and the full-forward trio of Eugene Hogan,

Paudie O'Keeffe and Seamie O'Halloran and Pat Maguire, Cork ran out convincing winners on the score 3-12 to 1-5. Cork were then narrowly defeated by Kerry in the Munster Final.

What has happened in the intervening years since the Under-16 successes? While we certainly had no help from Lady Luck, be it in the preparation, the break of the ball or refereeing decisions there would appear to be a more deeply rooted reason for our lack of success at all levels of football in Tipperary.

As you read this, are you one of those people saying to themselves, "Ah sure, Tipperary Football, they do their best", they do, indeed, Tipperary football does its best, but does Tipperary do its best for football? If you are one of those people, you, my friend are part of the problem, and, part of the solution. Pessimism and a lack of interest are sure ingredients for a recipe of failure. I believe our footballers and all other sportsmen and women, especially those under-age, deserve better than some of the cruel, crude, uninformed

bigoted remarks and opinions which we hear, not only from the general public, but worse still from those involved in the G.A.A. in the county. What hope have we if our own stab us in the back.

It was also most disappointing to learn that, not only were we deprived of injured players and players involved in other codes, but also players who opted solely for hurling. I fail to see what the great difficulty is in combining our Gaelic games.

It is time for a change of attitude from all of us. Let us go forward believing we are as good as, and even better than any county in Ireland. We must believe in ourselves and in our youth.

Finally to club officials, fellow selectors, players, officials of the County Football Board and all our supporters, I say míle buiochás for your assistance and support during the year. I'm certain that, given the right approach and support we can march on to success after success. Fágháidh me sibh on seanfhocal oiriunach, "Mol an oige agus tiocfaidh sí"

TIPPERARY MINOR FOOTBALL TEAM v. CORK 7-7-'89

S. Collum (Templemore); B. Hahessy (Swan), T. J. Connolly (Cashel K.C.), E. O'Mahoney (Ardfinnan), L. Stapleton (Templemore), P. Gleeson (Arravale Rvs.) Capt., C. Bresnan (Arravale Rvs.), S. Maloney (Rockwell Rvs.), M. Broderick (Fethard), D. Fitzgerald (Ballyporeen), P. Maguire (Lattin-Cullen), K. Doherty (Sarsfields), E. Hogan (Burgess), P. O'Keeffe (Clonmel Óg), S. O'Halloran (Arravale Rvs.).

Subs: D. Horan (Eire Óg/Anacarty), P. Ryan (Fethard), D. McGrath (Lattin-Cullen), R. Forristal (Commercials), M. Sheehan Eire Óg/Nenagh), C. Egan (Kildangan), P. O'Shea (Aherlow), P. J. O'Meara (Cahir), J. Hadnett (Solohead).

Scorers: Pdraig O'Keeffe 1-0; Seamie O'Halloran 0-3; Eugene Hogan 0-1.



TIPPERARY MINOR FOOTBALL TEAM 1989

Back Row (left to right): Bernard Hahessy, Pdraig O'Keeffe, Larry Stapleton, T. J. Connolly, Sean Collum, Seanie Moloney, Colm Bresnan, Michael Broderick. **Front Row** (left to right): Dessie Fitzgerald, Eamon O'Mahoney, Eugene Hogan, Peter Gleeson, Seamus O'Halloran, Ken O'Doherty, Pat McGuire.

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I was very pleased to learn that the Central Council were unanimous in selecting me. I hope to meet them and to thank them personally on August 12 next. I feel that their confidence reflected their appreciation of the Patron-Archbishops of Cashel who went before me more than any merit I may have.

Five patrons span over a hundred years of the Association's history. None of them would come remotely within Dr. Samuel Johnson's celebrated definition of a 'patron'. Dr. Johnson had worked for years completing a dictionary. When he eventually succeeded in compiling and publishing his magnum opus Lord Chesterfield presented himself as his patron at the launching. Since he had never lifted a finger to help during the long years of toil, Dr. Johnson addressed him angrily, "Is not a patron my lord, one who looks with unconcern on a man struggling for life in the water, and when he has reached ground encumbers him with help?"

My predecessors, who included one Corkman, three Tipperary men and one Limerick man, were the exact opposite to Dr. Johnson's patron. They gave active assistance when necessary, without ever interfering in the day-to-day running of the Association. Their encouragement and support for the aims, ideals and success of Cumann Lúthchleas Gael were constant throughout its history.

Dr. Croke's letter of acceptance as the first patron gave the infant Association a great boost and acted as a clarion call to the Irish people to rescue their native games before it was too late. Very soon he was to help it during its teething troubles in the political turmoil of the day.

His immediate successor, Dr. Fennelly, wrote a very brief letter of acceptance of patronage and played a quiet but supportive role throughout the early years of this century.

In 1920 Dr. Harty, the third patron, recalled those early years as he dedicated the memorial to Dr. Croke in Thurles: "Day by day the Association gathered the best athletes into its fold. It appealed to the heart of Irish Ireland and it received a great response. Its gatherings added a new zest to Irish life . . . They brought together Irishmen contesting in friendly rivalry our noble Irish games." 'Friendly rivalry' is, of course, another name for sportsmanship and it remains a central ideal in times when 'winning at all costs' is a great temptation in sport and in life. Trainers and mentors, therefore, have a serious responsibility to inculcate the primacy of sportsmanship on and off the field of play.

To Dr. Harty also fell the honour of assisting at the Golden Jubilee celebrations in Thurles in 1934. Here he pointed up the emergence of other important dimensions of the Association. "The renewal of the Irish games did not come alone but brought with it ample proof of its high cultural value. It brought with it a new spirit and a new outlook on Irish life. Self-respect, a sense of fair play and manliness followed in its train. A greater love of Ireland and its traditions arose side by side with the revival of the games. The G.A.A. paved the way for the Gaelic League. While it will foster Gaelic games it will also encourage Irish music and Irish dances. It will help Irish industry as far as possible." Dr. Harty appreciated and encouraged all these different aspects of the contribution of the G.A.A. to the life of the Irish people. Such analysis was important in confirming the Association in its broader dimension as a truly national organisation then half a century old.

Dr. Kinane is remembered for his interest, passion even, for the games themselves. He was an enthusiastic spectator at Thurles and at Croke Park. Nothing pleased him more than to welcome victorious Tipperary hurling teams on the steps of the Cathedral on the first Monday in September. He was fortunate in that he had this pleasure regularly and frequently during his years as patron.

Dr. Morris, my immediate predecessor, seems to have combined all the main characteristics of the men who went before him. He had the deep commitment to the ideals, he was faithful in his attendance at the games and other functions. He shared with Cumann Lúthchleas Gael a love of all things Irish – the language, our history, Irish culture, 'an muintearas,' Irish monuments and abbeys. And yet he never forgot the practical side of the organisation or the unsung heroes who play a vital role off the field of play. Writing last year in the Tipperary Yearbook he said: "There is a band of faithful people who



On the occasion of his acceptance of the role of Patron of the G.A.A., Dr. Dermot Clifford, Archbishop of Cashel and Emly, was presented with his symbol of office by John Dowling, President of the G.A.A. On the left is Liam Mulvihill, Director-General G.A.A.

guard the G.A.A. tradition at different levels, from clubs 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 at the game. I think of those who provide and maintain grounds, those responsible for training, stewarding, refereeing, finance, programming and fixtures." Like the work of the woman in the home, it is only noticed when it is not done. The vital importance of stewarding at the bigger games has been borne in on us all since the Hillsborough tragedy last month. Many of us took stewards for granted, and we were occasionally annoyed with them even, whereas our very lives can, we now realise, depend on their efficiency.

Dr. Morris's only small failing was that he allowed the custom on the Cathedral steps to lapse after 1971! Otherwise, he was completely in tune with all that is good in the Association for almost thirty years and he was proud to participate in the memorable Centenary Celebrations of Cumann Lúthchleas Gael in 1984.

Personal experiences over the past few years confirmed my admiration for the G.A.A. My coming to Cashel and Emly coincided with the revival of Tipperary's hurling fortunes. I might say, in passing, that Kerry football went into a temporary decline when I moved but this, too, was only a coincidence! But I was deeply impressed by the manner in which the young people of this county came alive and blossomed in blue and gold in the summer of 1987. I recalled what Dr. Harty said more than fifty years previously: "Tipperary loves the G.A.A. as its own. We are proud in commemorating the progress of the G.A.A. As we have done in the past we will do in the future." Prophetic words, indeed, from a Limerickman! But today in the birthplace of the G.A.A. the people still revere their Archbishops and worship their hurlers! They long to welcome the McCarthy Cup even more than the previous generations did.

The second experience concerns our emigrants. I have found that when our young people go to England, America or Germany the G.A.A. plays a new and vital role in their lives. It keeps them in contact with each other. It keeps them in contact with home. It gives them a sense of pride in themselves in much the same way as it did to the half-defeated people in rural Ireland in the 1880s. Video-recordings of games are flown out from Ireland on Sunday evenings and shown in New York and London on Monday night and in Chicago on Tuesday. The conversation of exiles nearly always turns to games at home or abroad. Many of them play the games in foreign fields. I saw large groups of young Irish boys playing hurling and football in Van Courtland Park, New York, one Sunday afternoon recently. In Munich last November I was approached by a young Cork lad to assist in setting up a G.A.A. club in that city. Experiences like this have given me a new appreciation of the special role which Cumann Lúthchleas Gael continues to occupy in the hearts of our young people, despite all the competing interests and attractions of the modern age. The Association has adapted well to the television age and Gaelic games hold their own against professional sports of all kinds. Skill, sportsmanship and presentation are the selling points on television.

Because of my interest in our emigrants and because I know that you share that interest, I should like to present two trophies, one in hurling, one in football, for competitions between our emigrants in America, the U.K. and mainland Europe, that is if you consider such competitions to be feasible. I leave it to your better judgement to decide this and to work out the details if you consider the proposal a worthwhile one.

Ba mhaith liom go dtabharfa mo bhuíochas arís don Comhairle Cheannais as an muinín atá acu asam. Is é an céad uair riamh a cuireadh muinín den t-sórt seo i gCiarraíoch! Le cúnamh Dé déanfaidh mé mo dhícheall gach cabhair is féidir liom a thabhairt do Chumann Lúthchleas Gael ins na blianta atá chugainn.

Guim rath Dé ar do shaothair,

Mise, le mór-mheas,

+ DIARMUID Ó CLÚMHÁIN
Árdeaspáig Chaisil agus Imlighe.

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Understanding the needs of our customers, and responding to them, is what we at Allied Irish Bank aim to achieve.

And through our sponsorship of the GAA All-Ireland Schools Competitions we've learnt a few things, from the young teams who have so much energy, commitment and determination. They strive to do the very best they can.

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You bring out the best in us.

TIPPERARY MINOR HURLING - 1989



The South Tipperary minor hurling team which won the Munster minor hurling league title defeating North Tipperary in the final: Front Row (left to right): Vinne Ryan, Denis O'Shea, Raymond Ryan, Seán Collum, Seamus Quinn, Clive Hanrahan, Pat McGuire. Back Row (left to right): Ailbe Bonnar, Pádraig O'Keeffe, Graham O'Connor, Tomás Gleeson, Denis Laffan, P. J. Walsh, Francis Quinn, Kevin Maher. (Photo: B. O'Connor)



NORTH TIPPERARY — MUNSTER MINOR HURLING LEAGUE FINALISTS

Back Row (left to right): Kevin Kennedy, Donal Hogan, Kevin McCormack, Tommy Carroll, Ciaran Carey, Cathal Egan, Adrian Hogan, Martin Steed. Front Row (left to right): Tony Delaney, Fergal Hynes, Martin McCabe, Liam Fallon, Darragh Maher, Barry Bond, John Kennedy. (Photo: B. O'Connor)



TIPPERARY MINOR HURLING TEAM WHICH PLAYED LIMERICK AT FERMOY

Final score - Limerick 2-7; Tipperary 1-8. Back Row (left to right): C. Carey, K. Kennedy, R. Ryan, C. Egan, T. J. Connolly, K. McCormack, S. Collum, D. O'Shea, T. Delaney, V. Ryan, A. Bonnar, D. Laffan, R. Ryan, A. Hogan. Front Row (left to right): J. Kennedy (Nenagh), J. Kennedy (Loughmore), P. O'Keeffe, T. Carroll, S. Quinn, L. Fallon, P. Maguire, M. McCabe, G. O'Connor, T. Gleeson. (Photo: B. O'Connor)

Scór 1989

By Kathleen King

Scór Sinsear ended on a high note in 1989 with Tipperary having three representatives in the All-Ireland. Seán Treacy's won the Set Dancing to make it the third time the county has been successful in this event. (Newcastle took the honours twice, in 1985 and 1987). Our other representatives, the Lorrha musicians and Eileen Heffernan of Cappawhite, also performed well and did the county proud, with Eileen being runner-up in recitation. This level of competition is extremely high and professional and maybe a bit of luck comes into it as well.

Heartiest congratulations to all winners at all levels of Scór competitions from parish to All-Ireland. Well done, also to all contestants who didn't win. These are the important people and without them there would be no Scór and no winners.

Scór will celebrate its 21st year this year and all clubs should make it a year of revival and celebration of our heritage and traditions. It is vital that these traditions be passed on to our children and what better way than through Scór na nÓg. If Scór is fostered at parish level it will be very strong at county. Every club should have its Scór committee and if a club hasn't — this may be the year to form one.



County Scór committee with County Chairman Noel Morris.

OFFICERS

At this year's Scór convention the following officers were elected. Chairman: Seán Creamer; Vice-Chairman: Tom Gleeson; Secretary: Kathleen King; Treasurer: Seamus McGrath. Seamus is treasurer since 1982 when Coiste Scór was first set up. He is also county delegate to Coiste Scór na Mumhan.



Fr. Sheehy's - County Scór question time champions.

Winners 1989

Scór na nÓg:	Rince Fóirne	Templerry
	Áithriseoireacht	Ann Marie Clancy,
		Lattin-Cullen
	Amhránaíocht Aonair	Deirdre O'Connell,
		Seán Treacy's
	Nuachleas	Golden Kilfeacle
	Tráth na gCeist	Cappawhite
	Ceol Uirlise	Seán Treacy's
	Bailéad Ghrua	Burgess
	Seit Rince	Seán Treacy's
Scór Sinsear:	Rince Fóirne	Burgess
	Áithriseoireacht	Eileen Heffernan,
		Cappawhite
	Amhránaíocht Aenair	Carol O'Dwyer,
		Arravale Rovers
	Nuachleas	Mullinahone
	Tráth na gCeist	Fr. Sheehy's
	Ceol Uirlise	Lorrha
	Bailéad Ghrua	Arravale Rovers
	Rince Seit	Seán Treacy's
Scór na Mumhan:	Áithriseoireacht	Eileen Heffernan,
		Cappawhite
		Lorrha
	Ceol Uirlise	Seán Treacy's
All-Ireland:	Rince Seit	Seán Treacy's
	Rince Seit	Seán Treacy's



Arravale Rovers - County Scór ballad group winners: Pat Ahearne, Mary Whelan, Kay Tbin, Bernie Ryan, Maurice Crotty.



Eileen Heffernan, Cappawhite - Recitation county winner.

Congratulations to our P.R.O., Eamon Browne, who was elected chairman of Coiste Scór na Mumhan.

A special tribute is due to Mary Kenny for her many years of hard work and dedication as secretary of Coiste Scór. Anyone who had any dealings with Mary always found her most helpful and courteous. No task was ever too big for her. Her great love of Scór shone out in all her work and it is hoped that Scór will have the benefit of her experience for many years to come.



Carol O'Dwyer, Arravale Rovers - Solo Singing county winner.

I should also like to pay tribute to the outgoing chairman, P. J. Harrington for his dedication to Scór. He acted as Fear an Tí on many occasions and was always most efficient in his running and handling of Scór. Finally, I should like to draw your attention to the new rule book which is in operation this year. There are some rule changes, the main one being the age groups.



Sean Treacy's - All-Ireland set winners. Front: Margaret, Carmel, Claire and Sadie O'Dwyer. Back: Carl, Paul, Fran and Corrie Ryan.

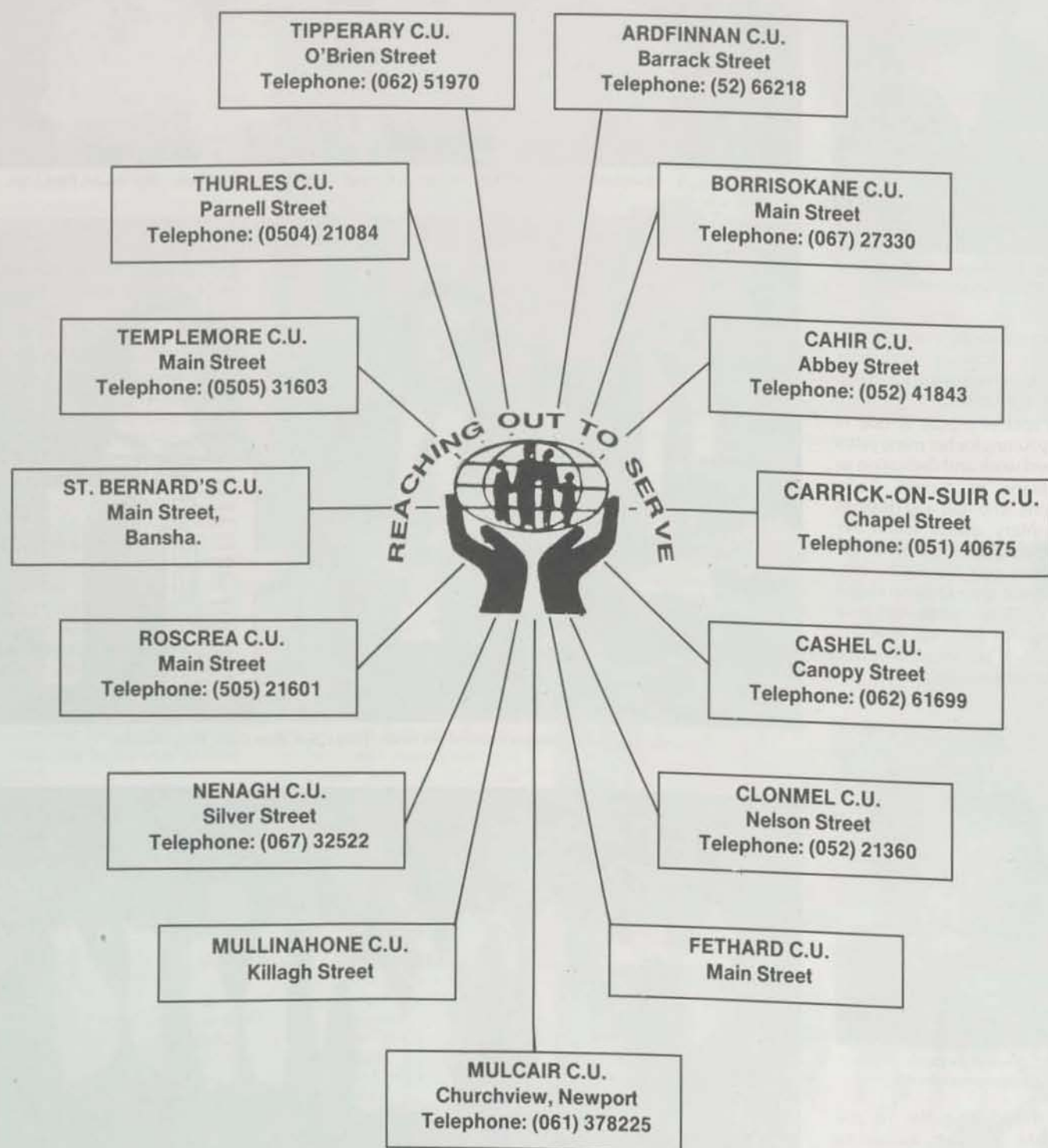


Lorrha - All-Ireland finalists instrumental music: Tony Coen, John Ryan, Mary Madden.



Burgess - County Scór figure dancing champions.

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To our Seniors, Juniors and Under 21's we say congratulations and thank your for the memories.

FROM THE 35,000 CREDIT UNION MEMBERS IN THE PREMIER COUNTY

A year of history in the making



By Declan Kelly
"Tipperary Star"

While it won't be regarded as one of the most memorable years ever on the senior club hurling front in the Premier county, this year's county senior hurling championship will certainly be remembered for many other reasons, most of them historical. One of the most unpredictable county championship races for years, it was the year of the men in green and gold, as the Dan Breen Cup found its way to the trophy cabinet of West champions, Clonoulty-Rossmore, for the first time in 101 long years.

The famine had ended for a team filled with inter-county talent in its ranks, and when T. J. Ryan accepted the coveted cup on the evening of October 22nd, there were very few hurling neutrals who would have quibbled with the end result.

Once the pairings for the county quarter finals of this year's championship became known, Clonoulty-Rossmore were installed as the favourites to take the title, and this favouritism seemed justified when one considered the wealth of county talent that they had at their disposal. The one telling factor which made the championship a very interesting one however, was the fact that Clonoulty were a team who had yet to prove themselves as worthy recipients of that favourites tag. Until October 22nd, that burden still rested heavily on their shoulders, and there were still a few lingering doubts as to who would eventually bring home the bacon. Because of this, there were very few critics foolish enough to make any predictions about the final or any other game that preceded it. The hurling in this year's championship might not have been brilliant, but the outcome of almost every game remained in doubt until the closing stages. That, in the end, was what made very game utterly unpredictable.

With that in mind, the proceedings in Boherlahan got off to what turned out to be a high scoring start for the quarter finals on Sunday, September 17th. Lorrha, who had just captured the North title, squared up to beaten South finalists, Carrick Swans, while Killenaule again carried the main hopes of the South, when they prepared to do battle with the young and tenacious fifteen from Toomevara, who were back in the reckoning after a long absence from the scene.

In the Lorrha—Swans clash, it was generally expected that the North champions would have too much in reserve to be seriously troubled, and this in the end was exactly what

happened. Lorrha's mainstay in every respect was Kieran Hough, who continued his brilliant year-long form in the North division, with a final tally of 1-10 from frees and play against the Swans. It was Hough's day in every respect with a match winning performance, to which the South finalists had simply no reply. The final tally in this game was a double — scoring 4-14, 2-7, a fair indication of the general run of play.

In the second quarter final, the outcome was more difficult to predict, and thus we had the first of what were to be a number of evenly balanced games. Killenaule, South champions, and led by the inspirational Donie O'Connell, faced the young lions of Toomevara, who narrowly lost out in the North final, and who had their sights now firmly fixed on regaining the former glories of the Greyhounds in years gone by.

On the day, Toomevara were to have their way, and rather emphatically at that. The evenness of the teams on paper soon dissolved into nothingness, with Toome's Mike Nolan turning in a superb individual performance which was comparable to that of Hough in the other quarter final at Boherlahan that day. In all, Nolan notched up 13 points, as his side coasted to a 3-18 to 2-11 win, and a place in the semi-finals. For Killenaule, it was a day of disappointment yet again, as they were forced to give second best to what was then a fiercely determined Toomevara team.

Thus, with the two North teams safely through to the semi-finals, the hurling public in the Premier county wet its lips at what looked like being yet another totally unpredictable afternoon of hurling. In the other two quarter finals, played at Semple Stadium on Sunday,



Declan Carr (Holycross-Ballycahill) about to be challenged by Kevin Ryan and Michael Heffernan (Clonoulty-Rossmore).

Sept. 24th, last year's Co. Champions Loughmore-Castleiney prepared to tussle with Clonoulty-Rossmore in what looked like being a county final game in itself, while Cappawhite, Co. Champions in 1987, had to overcome Holycross, the Mid champions, who had surprised Loughmore with their divisional final win.

In the event, both games were nail-biters to the very end. In the Holycross-Cappawhite game, it was the Mid champions who continued on their winning ways, with a four point win, to the tune of 1-13 — 1-9. Cappawhite, spurred on by fine performers such as Austin Buckley, Pa O'Neill and others, just didn't have enough in reserve to see off Declan Carr, Michael Doyle and company, even though they did show a marked improvement from their heavy defeat at the hands of Clonoulty in the West final a few weeks earlier.

The other quarter final in Thurles that day was an equally close affair, with the exact same margin separating the two teams at the sounding of the final whistle. It was Clonoulty-Rossmore who had the advantage when that same whistle was heard, and in many respects, their victory in this quarter final was their most vital of the whole county championship, because from there on in, they were, for the most part, the dominant team in both their semi-final and final games. 1-14 — 2-7 was the state of play at the end of the sixty minutes, by which time the men in green and gold had gone proudly marching on. Perhaps even more significantly, the result of this game was to see the men from the West being installed as firm favourites for the county title, a burden they would have preferred not to carry.

With two North teams in the semi-finals, the draws were a relatively straightforward affair. In the heel of the hunt, the pairings were as every hurling neutral would have wanted them. The favourites had been drawn against the unpredictable, but often brilliant young lions of Toomevara, while Holycross were to face Lorrha in a clash of divisional champions. Both games generated a great deal of lively debate, as again it seemed relatively impossible to predict what the final pairing would be for October 22nd. Most people seemed sure that Clonoulty would overcome Toome', but in the same breath, those very same people were quick to acknowledge that the dark horses from the North would be well capable of springing a surprise. Similarly, in the second semi-final, there seemed to be little or nothing between the two teams. In the way things turned out, that latter prediction, at least, proved totally correct.

Before a fine Semple Stadium crowd of over 12,000 people, Toome' and Clonoulty were the first to enter the fray, and if there ever was a contest for the greatest mismatch since the famed Tyson v Spinks bout a few years ago



Tony Lanigan breaks through for Holycross-Ballycahill against Lorrha.



In action during the county final, left to right: P. J. Ryan, Clonoulty-Rossmore, Phil Shanahan (do.), Jim Ryan (Holycross-Ballycahill) and Kevin Ryan (Clonoulty-Rossmore). In the background, Joe Hayes (Clonoulty-Rossmore) awaits developments.

then this semi-final would surely be amongst the top contenders. The Toomevara challenge in this game was simply non-existent, as they buckled beneath a Clonoulty team who had barely to raise a sweat to reach the final. Five points in all, and only one from play in the full hour, was the sum total of Toomevara's efforts, and that in itself shows exactly how abysmal their performance proved to be. As I said in my report of the game at the time, the reason for the Toome' decline on the day is unfathomable, and it probably wouldn't happen again in a hundred years. Clonoulty had waited exactly that length of time to win a county title however, and when the chance presented itself to take the easy path to the final, they grabbed it with both hands.

The final scoreline in that first semi-final was an overwhelming 2-12 — 0-5 for the men from the West, and they had much to be proud of in the performance of people like Kevin Ryan at midfield with 0-5 to his credit. Noel Keane at corner-back, and John Kennedy at No. 6. George Frend continued to show his class for Toome in defence, and was the

best player on view in this game, but his efforts were not enough to keep the opposition at bay.

With this anti-climax of a game just about becoming a reality in the minds of most hurling followers who couldn't believe their eyes for the hour before, the Lorrha and Holycross teams took to the field for what was to be probably the most dramatic and nail-biting games of the whole county championship this year. Five points from play from Tony 'Tonto' Lanigan saw the Mid champions safely through in the end, with the last one coming in the final minute of play, a score which brought a dramatic end to what was a very dramatic game.

The drama was never more in evidence than in the second half, when Lorrha had a goal and a point disallowed by referee George Ryan in the space of only two minutes. Both were scored by Aidan McIntyre, and both times, the referee gave a free out for what he saw as an infringement in the square. Lorrha protested, especially when they lost the game in such dramatic circumstances at the very end, but the arguments and protests proved fruitless. Losing their second shot at a

county title in five years, the men in blue and white had finally met their maker, and the undoubted good fortune which they had enjoyed in doing the "double" up North all year, had finally deserted them at this most vital stage.

And so, after weeks of talking, speculation and arguing in every corner of the county as to who would contest the final, the champions of Mid and West Tipperary had finally solved all the possible permutations. October 22nd was fixed as the date for the County Final, and Semple Stadium the automatic venue of course. All that remained to be decided was whose hands would be clutching that coveted Dan Breen Cup at the end of the hour's play.

Going into the game, Clonoulty-Rossmore continued to 'enjoy' the tag of strong favourites and having disposed of Toomevara so easily in the semi-final, that tag seemed to be more deserved than ever. For Holycross, the underdogs role was more than welcome, for they were confident of victory themselves, and as things turned out on the day, they had every right to be. Though Clonoulty would eventually capture that elusive county title that they had yearned for 101 long years, it would not be captured without more than a few heart-stopping moments. The result was hanging in the balance up to the very last puck of the game, and that more than made up for the standard of hurling, which seemed a bit down on previous years. Indeed, had Stephen Dwan been lucky enough to point what would have been a levelling free in the dying minutes, then a replay would have been the order of the day.

How that would have set the chins of the prediction-makers wagging!

A draw was not to be however, as Clonoulty hung on to win by 1-11 — 1-9, and thus enter the record books after bridging what was, in reality, an eternity for them on the field of play. It wasn't a game that will long be spoken of for its high standard of hurling, because in truth, the exciting moments were few and far between until those tense closing minutes, when it looked as if Holycross were about to come back from the dead.

In the main, the principal focal point after the game, was of how well the Mid champions had contested the final, when one considers that their opponents had such a wealth of experience and inter-county talent at their disposal. The truth of the matter is that Holy Cross could easily have snatched what would have been a deserved draw at the very end, and if they had managed to do that, there is no telling what might have happened in a replay. With one title win under their belt, the men from the West will now almost certainly be on the county championship scene for quite some time to come. One puck of the ball in this year's county final could have altered their future very radically indeed.

Apart from the disappointed Holycross contingent in the 20,000 crowd in Thurles that October day however, there were very few neutrals who could have quibbled with the end result. The 101 year wait had been far too long for a club of such talent, and nobody begrudged their long overdue

moment of glory. In their victory, they had players of note in John Kennedy yet again at centre-back, Kevin Ryan and Joe Hayes, as well as Peter Hayes, Declan Ryan and Dan Quirke up front. For the losers, Michael Doyle was yet again an inspirational force, earning himself the "man of the match" award for his display at centre-back, and, when he was later moved up into the forwards when all caution had to be thrown to the wind. Other Holycross players to shine included Rory Dwan at corner-back, Declan Carr and Stephen Dwan. Rory Dwan, in particular, I thought, did himself no harm at all of getting an inter-county call up, after a fine finish to a year of many solid displays.

And so it was. The West was certainly awake, and bonfires were lit all over the parishes of Clonoulty and neighbouring Rossmore. Dan Breen had finally come back to visit after a century of travel elsewhere. Holycross would have to wait a little longer for that privilege, but could console themselves in the knowledge that they were unlucky on the day not to have at least emerged from the game with a share of the spoils.

Most of the talk centred on what would have happened if Dwan had pointed that last free, a score which would surely have made John Kennedy's last second '65 all the more difficult to convert. Focal points such as these have long since been exhausted throughout the county, but for the men in green and gold, all such talk was now purely academic. They had made history. History wouldn't have had it any other way.

The sliotar safe in Clonoulty hands during the County Final.



West Tipperary Round-up

J. Ring

OFFICERS:

Chairman: Jim Ryan
Vice-Chairmen: Seamus King,
Paul O'Neill.
Secretary: Jerry Ring
Treasurer: Brendan Ryan
P.R.O.: J. J. Kennedy

1989 was a historic year for the county and indeed the feats of our senior, junior and U-21 hurlers are well documented in this book. These victories gave us all a renewed sense of pride and hope for the future. Players from this division made a significant contribution on all the teams which brought this triple crown success and we are justly proud of them. We extend our congratulations too to the trainers, coaches and selectors of these teams.

The success of, and involvement of club players on county teams has caused a bottleneck in our fixtures resulting in the fact that some of our divisional and county championships are running late. This has led to some annoyance but it's the price we pay for success and also the championship structure in which we work.

Pride of place within the division must go to Clonoulty/Rossmore. After a lapse of over 100 years they brought the Dan Breen Cup back to the club. Indeed their last West senior hurling championship win was 38 years ago. They have been knocking on the door for the past few years and only were denied by the supremacy in the West of Cappawhite and Cashel. However, they were not to be denied this year as they swept aside the challenges of all to win the elusive county title. As county champions they have set the standards like Cappawhite for other clubs in the Division and we hope others will take up this challenge. Many other



ROCKWELL ROVERS — WEST U-21 F. 'B' CHAMPIONS

Back Row (left to right): Dom Moloney, Colm Farrell, Gavin McGurk, John Fitzgerald, Donal Moloney, Eddie Golden, John Fitzgerald, Pat O'Connor, Sean Moloney. Front Row (left to right): Val O'Gorman, Tom Doherty, Tom O'Donnell, James Hennessy, John Hally, Martin Moloney, Noel Heaney, Ivan Bell, Phillip Heaney, Mick Cleary.



CLONOULTY/SOLOHEAD, WEST TIPP. M.H.C. 'B' WINNERS — 1989

Back Row (left to right): Nicholas Lonergan (selector), Michael Hughes, Ken Ryan, Maurice Quirke, Simon English, Andrew Nolan, Edward O'Dwyer, William Perry, Joe Barry, Willie Devane (selector). Front Row (left to right): Danny Ryan, Michael O'Donnell, John Hadnett, Tommy O'Dwyer, Michael Brennan, Brendan O'Sullivan, Tommy Kennedy. Missing from photo — Morgan Kirby.



ROSEGREEN — WEST J.F. CHAMPIONS — 1989

Back Row (left to right): Gabriel Shelley (selector), Owen Lonergan, Tom O'Brien, John Shanahan, Michael Fanning, John O'Grady, Fintan Ryan, Michael O'Grady, P. J. Doyle, Richard Delahunty, Eamon O'Dwyer, John Walsh, David Maher, Jim Skeffington (selector). Front Row (left to right): Jimmy Cummins, David Hayde, Ray O'Brien, Tommy O'Meara, T. J. Phelan, Michael Doyle, Dinny Ryan, Albert Mooney, Pat Cormack, David Brabston, Michael Corcoran, Liam Kelly (trainer).



ARRAVAL ROVERS WEST I.H.C. — 1989

Back Row (left to right): Cyril Stapleton, Paul McCarthy, Sean McCarthy, John Cummins, John Ryan, Tommy Crowe, Pat O'Donnell, Eamon O'Dwyer, Paddy Maher, John O'Dwyer, Jimmy Lowery, Willie Crowe, Noel McMahon, Brendan Lowery, Justin Quinlan. Front Row (left to right): Robbie Quinlan, Andrew Quinlan, John Quirke, Richard O'Connor, Richard Lohan, Michael O'Donnell, Larry O'Donnell, Damien Quinlan, Peter Gleeson, Carl Lowery, Tom Neville.

clubs have the material and the potential but it takes much more to win a senior county championship title. We congratulate Clonoulty/Rossmore and know their players will give leadership and commitment to the county to bring us further honours.

Aherlow retained their county M.F.C. 'B' title which is a significant achievement for this little club. Lattin/Cullen had a significant double taking the J.H.C. and also the I.F.C. titles, as well as the O'Donoghue Cup S.F.L. title. One of these teams has players from 14 years to 44 years combined and indeed the loyalty and inspiration of Nicholas English, the doyen of sportsmen was a significant factor in these successes. Rosegreen too made their little bit of history, they won their first ever West Championship. They annexed the J.F.C. and added the league title as well. Cashel brought off the Minor 'A' championship double and in the county M.H.C.A. final fought back to force a replay with Eire Óg (Nenagh). Glengar better known in the old days as hurlers came through to contest unsuccessfully the J.F.C. final. Seán Treacy's were defeated in the U-21 I.H.C. 'B' Co. Semi-Final by Upperchurch/Drombane, Arravale Rovers suffered the same fate in the Co. I.H.C. semi, having led all the way they were pipped in the end by Thurles Sarsfields. They beat Templemore in the County U-21 F.C. 'A' semi, while Rockwell Rovers are still awaiting opponents in the U-21 F.C. 'B' County Semis. Lattin/Cullen beat Killea in the County J.H.C. semi-final. Clonoulty/Solohead were defeated by J. K. Brackens (Templemore) in the County M.H.C. semi-final. The Croke Cup S.H.L. final has yet to be played between Clonoulty/Rossmore and Kickhams. The U-21 H.C. 'A' final between Clonoulty/Rossmore and Cashel, was won by Clonoulty 3-11 to 3-7.

The standard of football within the division generally has given some cause for concern. The playing of the county S.F. Open Draw also I think has commenced too early, with over half the football clubs out of the championship in early May.

I feel too that this has an adverse effect on our county football teams. The West S.F.C. final between Clonoulty/Rossmore and Galtee Rovers has yet to be played.

Scór and Handball are being seriously promoted only by a few clubs and these have had All-Ireland successes. We congratulate these. These too are facets of our games and culture which are all too often forgotten.

Club histories in the pipeline within the division are welcome. Cappawhite history edited by John Kelly should be on the shelves by Christmas. The histories of Arravale Rovers and Galtee Rovers are also nearing completion.

During the year also projects to improve facilities and field have taken place in Cashel, Cappawhite, Annacarty, Seán Treacy Park, Golden, Kilcommon and Bansha. Rockwell Rovers have purchased a new playing field. We congratulate all concerned on their good work.



**LATTIN/CULLEN, WEST I.F.C. & O'DONOGHUE CUP WINNERS 1989
ALSO WEST J.H.C.**

Back Row (left to right): Pat O'Halloran, Ger Kiely, Tommy Morrissey, Timmy Kelly, Nicholas English, James Kiely, Con Power, Aidan O'Dwyer, Eddie Morrissey, Liam Landers, Ger Howe, Mick Hanly. Front Row (left to right): Tom Ryan, Sean Dunne, Michael Martin, Gerry Maguire, Niall Hassett, Jody Morrissey, Pat Maguire, Declan McGrath, Damien Moloney, Joe Buckley, Eamonn Buckley.



SEÁN TREACYS/GLENGAR WEST U-21 H. 'B' WINNERS — 1989

Back Row (left to right): Tom Kennedy, Michael Slattery, John Ryan, John McCormack, Thomas Shanahan, Corie Ryan, Michael Hanly, Edward Carr, Paddy Ryan (coach). Front Row (left to right): John Carey, Paul Ryan, Val Kennedy, Pat Hickey, Seamus Butler, Michael O'Brien, Martin McCormack.

WEST CHAMPIONSHIP AND LEAGUE WINNERS 1989

WINNERS

S.H.C. Clonoulty/Ros. (Co.) 3-20;
Crosco Cup S.H.L. Clonoulty/Ros.
I.H.C.: Arravale Rovers 1-14
J.H.C.: Lattin/C. 1-9
U-21 H.C.: Clonoulty/R 3-11
U-21 H.C. 'B' Seán Treacy's 2-6
M.H.C. 'A': Cashel 3-16
M.H.C. 'B' Clonoulty/Sol. 5-6
S.F.C. Clonoulty/Ros.
O'Donoghue Cup S.F.L. Lattin/C. 1-9
I.F.C. Lattin/C. 0-13
J.F.C.: Rosegreen 3-18
U-21 F.C. 'A' Arravale Rovers
U-21 F.C. 'B' Rockwell Rovers 0-5
M.F.C. 'A' Cashel 2-5
M.F.C. 'B' Aherlow (Co.) 3-6
J.F.L. Rosegreen 3-10

SCÓR '89

Scór Sinsir

Rince Fóirne: Arravale Rovers
Aithriseoireacht: Eileen Heffernan
Cappawhite (Co.)
Amhrán Aonair Carol O'Dwyer (Arravale Rvs.) (Co.)
Nuachleas Golden/K.
Tráth na gCeist Cashel
Ceol Uiruse Seán Treacy's
Bailéad Ghrupa: Arravale Rovers (Co.)
Rince Seit: Seán Treacy's (All-Ireland)

RUNNERS-UP

Cappawhite 4-6
Kickhams (to be played)
Galtee Rovers 0-10
Cashel 2-4
Cashel 3-7
Eire Og 0-9
Arravale Rvs. 1-4
Lattin/Emly 1-12
Galtee Rvs. (to be played)
Galtee Rvs. 0-6
Eire Óg 2-5
Glengar 0-2
Clonoulty/Ros.
Golden/K. 0-4
Arravale Rovers 1-6
Kickham's 2-7
Arravale Rovers 1-0

Scór na nÓg

Lattin/C
A. N. Clancy (Lattin/C) (Co.)
Deirdre O'Connell (Seán Treacy's)
Golden/K.
Cappawhite (Co.)
Seán Treacy's (Co.)
Clonoulty/R.
Seán Treacy's



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Aherlow - County Minor Football (B) Champions

By: TOM O'SHEA

THE TRADITION of football goes back a long way in Aherlow. 'The Cashel Sentinel' newspaper lists Aherlow as a club in 1885. This was largely due to Chris Lee, principal teacher in Lisvernane and an inter-county footballer. Declan Ryan, the Tipperary hurler, is a grand nephew of the same Chris Lee.

Aherlow had a chequered history down the years and very often were not heard of at all. In fact we failed to win a county final until three years ago. Then we won three-in-a-row, one U-14 and two minor football championships.

Aherlow is quite a small unit, being the smaller part of Galbally/Aherlow parish. Galbally play in the Limerick championship. Our success down the years has been meagre but a milestone in the development of the club was the purchase of a pitch in Lisvernane village in 1971. This pitch was adjacent to the school and the club was lucky that the principal, Tom O'Shea, had a keen interest in promoting Gaelic games.

Hanging on the wall in Lisvernane school is a photograph of an U-10 team who won a tournament at the Galbally festival in 1982. Eleven of these boys played on the successful minor team of this year. They remained together and won divisional honours at U-12, U-14 and U-16.

Our campaign this year began with a game with Lattin/Emly. It was a tough game played in very poor conditions which ended in a draw. Denis O'Shea scored a penalty on his cousin, Pat Maguire. They both played on the Tipperary minor hurling team later in the year.

Rosegreen gave us a fright in the next round. It took a fortuitous goal from Ciaran Clifford to pull us through. Our game against Glengar was easily won but unfortunately Pat Frewen, one of our best players broke his leg and was unable to take any further part in the championship.

The remainder of the campaign in the West up to the final was poor with Rockwell Rovers and Solohead giving walk-overs and Galtee Rovers proving surprisingly weak.

We then faced our arch-rivals, Kickhams, in the West final. It proved an exciting see-saw game. Kickhams swept into an early lead. However, two quick goals by Mark Leonard and Denis O'Shea left us ahead by two goals at half-time.

Kickhams started the second half in determined fashion and were soon level. They were awarded a penalty with six minutes to go and went two points up. This seemed the end for us. Captain



AHERLOW — COUNTY MINOR FOOTBALL 'B' CHAMPIONS 1989

Back Row (l. to r.): John McCormack, John Ivory, Brendan Carew, Toby Peters, Michael Moroney, Patrick O'Shea, Bobby Russell, Ciaran Clifford. Front Row (l. to r.): Paddy Carey, John Frewen, Denis O'Shea, Mark Leonard, Martin Ryan, Eoin Ryan, Luke Leonard.

Denis O'Shea had other ideas. He won possession at midfield, raced down the wing beating a number of tackles and from twenty metres out scored a magnificent goal. We went on to defeat luckless Kickhams by two points for the second year running. Martin and Eoin Ryan along with Paddy Carey played very well.

We expected a severe test from Loughmore in the semi-final but with Bobby Russell, John Ivory, Patrick O'Shea and Tony Donovan playing well and with Ciaran Clifford soaring high at midfield we won easily in the end.

This brought us to Kilsheelan on a grand fine Sunday in September to play St. Patrick's in the final. A large crowd gathered as the senior final was also scheduled to be played there.

The large Aherlow following were happy when, after an early point, Mark Leonard took a forty metre free which landed in the St. Patrick's net. With Paddy Carey and Ciaran Clifford lording it at midfield we had every chance of putting our opponents away but our finishing was very poor. St. Patrick's lobbed a high ball into our square and bang, it was in our net. We then had a fight on our hands and but for excellent defending by goalie Michael Moroney and Brendan Carew we would not be a point up at half-time.

The St. Patrick's drew level with their first attack in the second half, and things looked black. Aherlow, however, rallied and with John Frewen and John McCormack starring at the back and forwards Toby Peters and Luke Leonard making progress up front we edged four points ahead. Denis O'Shea then scored what seemed to be the clinching goal but the referee ruled it out. Immediately St. Patrick's swarmed up the field and forced a penalty which was converted.

The stage was set for a hectic finish but Denis O'Shea kicked the clinching point and the Aherlow cheers at the final whistle could be heard back on Old Galteemore. Tipperary set a kind of a fashion with a three man selection committee. Our three wise men for selecting the minor team were Pat Moroney, Lar Ivory and Terence Coskeran.

After the final the players and selectors were treated to a lovely meal at the Coach Road Lounge and later that night the whole parish gathered into Moroney's to see a video of the game. A day and a year that will not be easily forgotten in the Glen of Aherlow.

Aherlow M.F. Panel: Michael Moroney, John Ivory, Brendan Carew, Mark Leonard, John Frewen, Bobby Russell, Ciaran Clifford, Pat Carey, Luke Leonard, Patrick O'Shea, Toby Peters, Eoin Ryan, Martin Ryan, Denis O'Shea, Pat Frewen, Dara Maher, Tony Donovan, John Butler, Derry Peters, Ger Kirby.

Clonoulty-Rossmore

County Senior Hurling Champions 1989



BACK ROW (l. to r.) — John Kennedy, Dan Quirke, Joe Hayes, Peter Hayes, Cecil Ryan, Declan Ryan, Noel Keane, David Ryan (H).
 FRONT ROW — Seamus Hammersley, Kevin Ryan, Michael Heffernan, Tommy Kennedy, T.J. Ryan (Captain), Andrew Fryday,
 Phil Shanahan. Mascot - Thomas Ryan.

Photo: O'Shea

Great year for Clonoulty/Rossmore

By: Francis Kearney

What a year it has been for the little parish of Clonoulty-Rossmore! The historic Triple Crown year in Tipperary hurling will always be remembered wherever Gaels assemble but will remain indelibly etched in the minds and hearts of the people of Clonoulty and Rossmore. In the year in which West Tipperary hurling came of age, with a majority representation on the Tipperary senior hurling team which captured All-Ireland honours, Clonoulty-Rossmore marched from the hurling wilderness to stand astride Tipperary hurling as county champions.

Who would have thought on May 28th when we played the first round of the West senior hurling championship that such glory lay ahead? It had been thirty-eight years since the club had savoured the sweetness of a West final victory and a massive one hundred and one years since county honours had been annexed. Nobody doubted the hurling ability of this year's team, but seven years of disappointment since the club returned to the senior grade in 1982 left many pessimistic of a major breakthrough ever coming. However, it was only to be expected that this team would need to go through a maturing process before reaching the pinnacle as all had graduated from under-age level with no old warriors of former campaigns to guide younger players through the heat of senior championship battles.

Personally, I regard the humiliating defeat by Cashel in last year's West semi-final (having beaten the 1987 county champions, Cappawhite, in the first round) as the final phase in the team's maturation.

Golden were the first victims in this year's championship and succumbed to a 2-19 to 3-2 drubbing despite the excellence of John Leamy in goal. Tommy Kennedy took the scoring honours with 0-5 from play, closely followed by Dan Quirke with 1-2 and Joe Hayes who contributed 1-1. Critics pointed to defensive weaknesses which allowed Golden to score three goals but victory was readily secured. Knockavilla Kickhams were next to fall in the West semi-final again suffering a heavy defeat 2-14 to 1-5. The game was very much up for grabs at half-time with Clonoulty-Rossmore just four points to the good at 0-9 to 1-2. The team raised their game in



T. J. Ryan - Clonoulty-Rossmore captain, receives the cup from County Chairman Noel Morris

the second half to ease out comfortable winners with Joe Hayes, who played superbly, emerging as top scorer with 1-3. Dan Quirke again notched 1-2 while Kevin Ryan contributed 0-5, three from frees and one beauty from a line-ball. However, general consensus deemed the victory unimpressive and it was felt that a major improvement was required to overcome Cappawhite who had looked sharp in ousting last year's champions, Cashel, in the other semi-final.

The turning point in the fortunes of this team came three weeks before the West final when selector Owen Ryan succeeded in obtaining the services of Len Gaynor to coach the team. There followed a dramatic rise in the number of players attending training sessions so that seldom was there less than a full number present. Len quickly brought the players to peak fitness and his infectious enthusiasm generated a great spirit in the team. He instilled an unprecedented hunger for success and will-to-win in the team which was to pay rich dividends in future games.

A cautious optimism prevailed on the road to Emly for the West final showdown with arch-rivals Cappawhite on August 20th. Things were shaping up well, yet the years of expectation which always seemed to end in defeat left many a lingering doubt. Clonoulty-Rossmore's new found enthusiasm was evident in a blistering start which left them 2-3 to 0-0 ahead mid-way through the first half against the wind. Cappa gallantly fought back and only two points separated the sides at half-time, Clonoulty-Rossmore leading 2-8 to 2-6. A goal immediately on the resumption by Peter Hayes set the green and gold on the way to victory, with twelve points being added to the tally to a two goal reply from the Cappawhite boys, leaving the final score 3-20 to 4-6. Joy was unrestrained at the final whistle, the ice had been broken and a resounding and historic victory had been achieved.

Now that the West was finally won nothing outside the division was going to intimidate the men from Clonoulty-Rossmore. Loughmore-Castleiney were the opposition in the quarter-final and

what gallant opponents last year's champions proved to be. In a tough and dogged struggle our boys led at half-time by 0-8 to 1-2 despite sending eight scorable chances wide. When Loughmore took the lead midway through the second half through a John Treacy goal the signs were ominous for Clonoulty-Rossmore. However, Peter Hayes came to the rescue with a goal which set up a 1-14 to 2-7 victory. All players played their part with John Kennedy magnificent at centre-back and Joe Hayes turning in another five-star performance on the forty.

The semi-final on October 8th against Toomevara proved to be an anti-climax with Clonoulty-Rossmore coasting to a fourteen point victory on the score 2-13 to 0-5. Playing with the wind in the first half, the issue was beyond doubt at half-time, with Clonoulty 2-6 to 0-1 in front, the goals coming from Tommy Kennedy and Declan Ryan. Under little pressure in the second half we ran out convincing winners with all players playing their part. The defence, which up to this had been considered suspect had finally answered their critics and Tommy Kennedy topped the scoring list with 1-3.

The stage was now set for the clash of the neighbours in the county final on October 22nd as Holycross-Ballycahill had struggled to victory by the minimum margin over Lorrha in the other semi-final. The build-up in the parish of Clonoulty-Rossmore had to be witnessed to be believed. Hurling was practically the only topic of conversation, banners and bunting in green and gold decked the village and every household lofted the colours in flags and a multiplicity of banners. The hearts of young and old beat faster in anticipation of the great event. A palpable tension infused the air on the morning of the match. The message "Declan is Magic", emblazoned on the road at Cross of the Hough by some covert night-walkers, lifted all hearts on the long road to Thurles and epitomised the euphoric spirit of the occasion.

What a titanic struggle the match turned out to be. Holycross, quickly into their stride, went three points ahead of a nervous and hesitant Clonoulty-Rossmore. A purple patch before half-time saw our boys rally to be three points ahead at the interval, 0-8 to 0-5. A Peter Hayes goal early on the resumption seemed to indicate the road to victory but Holycross came storming back with a goal later in the game to leave but a point between the sides. Our boys held out bravely in the final nerve-tingling minutes and John Kennedy fittingly had the final say when pointing a '65. The Dan Breen was destined for Clonoulty amidst scenes of wildest jubilation. Bonfires blazed, horns hooted and young and old came out to acclaim their heroes on a night of celebration that will long be remembered in Clonoulty and Rossmore.



Anxious faces at the County Final

The final honour had come to the parish in this historic year. John Kennedy, Joe Hayes and Declan Ryan had already been acclaimed for bringing All-Ireland senior honours to the club. Declan had captained the victorious county U-21's and Dan Quirke, Kevin Ryan and Noel Keane had all shared in this victory. The icing was now on the cake.

The victorious team was:

Andrew Fryday; David Ryan, Cecil Ryan, Noel Keane; Seamus Hammersley, John Kennedy, Phil Shanahan; T. J. Ryan (captain), Kevin Ryan; Declan Ryan, Joe Hayes, Michael Heffernan; Dan Quirke, Peter Hayes, Tommy Kennedy.

Subs: Paddy Bourke, Alan O'Dwyer, Neil Ryan, John Kennedy, Tim Shanahan, Timmy Corcoran, John Ryan, John Fitzgerald, Philip Quirke, Patrick Ryan. Selectors: Tom Ryan, Michael Ryan, Owen Ryan. Coach: Len Gaynor.

Scorers in the championship: Kevin Ryan 0-28; Joe Hayes 2-16; Dan Quirke 2-13; Peter Hayes 4-3; Declan Ryan 2-8; Tommy Kennedy 1-10; Michael Heffernan 0-5; T. J. Ryan 0-4; Noel Keane 0-2; John Kennedy 0-2.

Scores for: 11-91; Against: 11-34.

Our final outing of the year was against Ballybrown, champions of Limerick, in the Munster club semi-final. In contrast to Clonoulty-Rossmore, who had a mere fortnight to prepare for this encounter after the county final, Ballybrown had almost two months to get their act together, regain momentum and set their sights on further glory, having won the Limerick county final on Sept. 10th. To compound matters further, John Kennedy, who had been outstanding at

centre-back throughout our domestic championship, was unavailable for selection.

The match itself was played in Bruff on Nov. 5th. Our boys, playing against a stiff breeze in the first half, did well to be only two points adrift at the interval, 0-6 to 0-4. However, Clonoulty-Rossmore failed to take command on the resumption and Ballybrown hit a purple patch scoring 1-2 without reply to go seven points clear. Disaster then struck as our corner back, Noel Keane, who had been drafted to centre-back, was dismissed by the referee after ten minutes of the second half. Ten minutes later our other corner-back David Ryan was also sent to the line for an off-the-ball incident to add to our misfortunes. However, to their eternal credit, the remaining thirteen stormed back mightily in the midst of adversity to launch a sustained siege on the Ballybrown posts. A goal by Peter Hayes after a delightful movement involving Joe Hayes, Declan Ryan and Tommy Kennedy, signalled the revival. With time almost up and Clonoulty-Rossmore just a single point in arrears, our lads won a free forty yards from goal near the left sideline. Freetaker Kevin Ryan was informed by the referee that he had to score directly to earn a draw but tragically his shot went agonisingly wide of the target and Clonoulty-Rossmore's great senior hurling adventure had ended for '89.

No honour was lost in defeat as our brave thirteen fought gallantly to the end, only to be denied by the narrowest of margins. They have given us a wonderful year and memories that we will forever cherish and have gained for themselves immortality in the annals of hurling lore in Clonoulty and Rossmore.



Caiseal Rí Cormaic

County Minor Hurling Champions 1989

By JOSEPH O'DWYER, P.R.O.

1989 turned out to be a very good year to be involved with the minor hurlers from the City of the Kings. A second county title after a replay with Éire Óg, Nenagh, and a county final appearance in minor football. Yes, it was very good indeed.

The start of the year was not like any other, we were going out as defending champions and everyone wanted to take our place. We played a number of challenge matches which were used to experiment as much as possible in what formation our best possible team could play to win another title.

The West title was decided on a championship basis. The King Cormacs were drawn against the Kickhams in the semi-final. This match was played at Emly on Sunday, 20th August, as a curtain-raiser to the senior final. Cashel approached this match in the same confident and determined way, but one could not help but feel nervous that the players felt under pressure as defending champions.

Cashel took what seemed eternity to settle, but by half-time they had and they led by one point playing against a driving wind and heavy rain. After the sixty minutes were up Cashel had survived by five points. Hero of the hour was Timmy Moloney who scored the three goals in the King Cormacs' 3-10 to 2-8 victory.

The West final was played on Saturday, 26th August, at Golden. Our opponents were our urban rivals, Arravale Rovers. While Cashel led by seven points at half-time the flow of play in the opening half was very even. A pep talk during the break did something to the Cashel side as they proved their worthiness as West champions over the next thirty minutes when they added 2-7 while conceding only two points. The final score was Cashel K.C. 3-16, Arravale Rovers 1-4. Top scorer on this day was the baby of the Bonnar clan, Ailbe, he scored a total of 1-5 in the final.

The county semi-final was played in Boherlahan. Our opponents were Thurles Sarsfields. This was something of a showdown. The Sarsfields had beaten the Cashel minors in the Cashel Citroën Carnival minor hurling tournament final and Cashel had beaten the Sarsfields in the county minor football semi-final. Who was going to get the upperhand on this occasion?

The Cashel side were all fired up for the encounter and by the end of the hour they had realised the dream of reaching a second county final in two years by three

points. The final score was: Cashel K.C. 0-13, Thurles Sarsfields 0-10. We had two men to thank for this victory, the first being Ramie Ryan who scored a total equalling the Sarsfields' total over the hour; the second was our 'keeper, P.J. Flanagan, who stopped a number of powerful shots during the game to keep us in the game to the end.

The scene was set for a thrilling encounter with what was to Cashel an unknown quantity in Éire Óg, Nenagh. The Cashel team had viewed their final opposition in Boherlahan at the semi-final stage when they overwhelmed their opposition.

We arrived at Semple Stadium on Sunday, 22nd October, feeling confident. All available members of our panel were injury-free and fit for the fray. But to our dismay we watched our side go into a nine-point arrears by half-time. A younger and physically weaker Éire Óg totally dominated the game. In the second-half the King Cormac side got down to their task and by the final minute with all Cashel and West Tipp cheering them along the King Cormacs levelled to draw the game at 2-11 each.

We returned to the stadium on Saturday, 4th November. We had our homework done this time. While the team trained, the selectors viewed the video of the drawn game. The whole panel then viewed the tapes. Each player's performance through the final was examined with each man being told his task.

This time there was no failing. From the word 'go' Cashel got stuck in and playing against wind we trailed by only four points

at the break. The fate of the game was in our hands, we had the wind at our backs and we had the physical strength to do it. Cashel mounted an all-out offensive and took the lead, eventually winning by seven points. The final score was: Cashel KC 3-10, Éire Óg, Nenagh, 2-6.

Seán Barron accepted the cup on behalf of a jubilant King Cormac side, giving a fine speech in Irish which any man ten years his senior would be proud to give.

The panel and mentors returned to jubilant celebrations in Cashel that evening being led in by the Dr. O'Hurley Pipe Band. The panel and mentors then retired to Grant's Castle Hotel where they were treated to a fine feast after their day's work.

The second title of the day was also in Cashel. That was the Man of the Match title which was presented to Raymie Ryan who played a fine game.

For the record, the following is the team and panel who won the title: P.J. Flanagan, Denis Keating, Seán O'Donoghue, Andrew Courtney, John Maher, T.J. Connolly, Alan Keating, David Moloney, Raymie Ryan, Ailbe Bonnar, Seán Barron (capt.), Noel Murphy, Joe O'Leary, Timmy Moloney, Seán Lawrence, Aidan King, Seán Ó Duibhir, Gary Quirke, Michael Butler, Craig Rothwell, Martin Hayes, Michael Quinlan, Christy O'Neill, Ruane King, Seamus Morrissey, Eamon Foley, Seamus O'Keeffe.

Selectors — Joe Joe Moloney, Seán Slattery, Joseph O'Dwyer.

Team medics — Dr. P. J. Breen, Pearse Bonnar, Dinny Ivers.

Physical trainers — Peter Fitzell, Brendan Bonnar.



CASHEL KING CORMACS

Winners of the County minor title after replay against Nenagh Éire Óg. BACK - J. O'Leary, A. Bonnar, D. Moloney, T. J. Connolly, S. Barron (capt.), D. Keating, J. Maher, S. O'Donoghue, R. Ryan. FRONT: N. Murphy, A. Keating, P. J. Flanagan, S. Lawrence, A. Courtney, T. Moloney.

CLONMEL COMMERCIALS

Co. Senior Football Champions 1989



BACK ROW (left to right) — D. O'Keefe, C. McGrath, T. Gleeson, G. Deely, J. Kyne, P. Kavanagh, P. Keane, A. Wall, D. O'Shea, J. McNamara, F. Kelly.

FRONT (left to right) — D. O'Donnell, W. Peters, R. Forrestal, P. Kilkenny (Capt.), P. Ryan, M. O'Connell, J. Kerins, S. O'Loughlin, C. English.

Clonmel Commercials Take 11th Title

Martin Conran, Secretary

1988 with its many up and downs will long live in the memories of players, officials, and supporters alike. The biggest disappointment must undeniably be, the losing of the county championship to Fethard, with a below par display. We were installed as hot favourites and following the game there were many bowed heads in the dressingroom, as only three members of the team could be said to have enhanced their reputations. But we were assured by our coach, John McNamara, that another year would come and with it, another county senior title for Commercials.

1989 saw changes at administration level in our club. John McNamara on a career break. He had been secretary 26 years and coach to the senior team throughout the '80's.

Training for 1989 began in mid-March with Hugh Daly installed as coach. As a result of a motion from Newcastle at the Annual Convention the County Senior Football Championship was to be run on the open draw. A total of 28 teams entered the competition and we were one of four teams who received a first round bye.

We encountered Thurles Crokes in the second round. It was with apprehension that we travelled to Cashel that day as the nightmare of the '61 final returned to haunt us when Commercials received a surprise beating at the hands of the said 'Crokes. We needn't have worried. We ran out easy winners with a scoreline of 4-19 to 1-4.

In a teak-tough county quarter final, we met old rivals Loughmore-Castleiney, in Cashel on Saturday, June 17th. Franny Kelly with his deadly accurate free-taking crucified Loughmore on many occasions. But if Pat McGrath was Loughmore's outstanding player that evening, his namesake Cristóir McGrath proved himself a force to be reckoned with. When the full-time whistle was blown the scoreboard read Commercials 1-14; Loughmore-Castleiney 2-5. Football was the real winner, as this was undoubtedly the outstanding game of the championship.

On to the county semi-final and a meeting with Eire Óg (Nenagh). As expected we booked our place in the final with nine points to spare. While never in any real danger of losing, we luckily survived an unsure ten minute spell during the second half when Nenagh made a brief fight-back but Commercials re-assumed their composure. Our soundest department was our full-back line where John Kerins, Rian Forristal and Pádraig Kavanagh jealously guarded their line. Commercials sealed Eire Óg fate as a goal from the boot of Anthony Wall rattled the Nenagh net. It was a dour and uncompromising game with a final score of 1-12 to 1-3.

The stage was now set for a repeat of last years final. Memories of '88 came flooding back which only made the players train harder as they vowed not to hand the title to Fethard without a fight as they had done the previous year.

August 27th dawned bright and dry with excellent conditions for football. Expectations were high as we lined out. We had waited a year to replay Fethard in this game and avenge last year's defeat. Commercials opened brightly with a point from Dermot O'Shea followed by one from Donal O'Keeffe. Minutes later Philly Ryan made a great save. Points and goals followed and at half time we led 2-3 to Fethard's 0-2 and looked in command. Two goals and a point inside five minutes without reply seemed to put us in the driving seat. Fethard left chances go a-begging and the team as a whole was not playing well. Thus was demonstrated when Anthony Wall broke away from deep in defence, raced away the

length of the field and topped his run with a superb point. Scores followed from both teams and it was Jim Kyne who kept 7 points between sides.

In the final quarter Fethard began to play and a more faint-hearted team would have surrendered under such intense pressure, but Commercials held out and their courage, skill and experience saw them through. In Donal O'Keeffe, Commercials had their man of the match. Popping up from nowhere to finish off moves with deadly precision to finish with a tally of 1-3, he would be a thorn in any defence. Our backs never relinquished, though they were under constant bombardment from Fethard right through the second half. Ben Keane and Mark O'Connell caught the eye while under pressure. While Seán O'Loughlin, and Peter Kilkenny showed well throughout. Tony Gleeson was a tower of strength at midfield. Willie Peters likewise up front.

When referee Paddy Lonergan blew the final whistle the score was 2-7 to Commercials; Fethard 0-9.

It was not the greatest of finals but for us victory was sweet. Our thanks must go to Fethard for a very sporting display throughout the game.

For the game it was Commercials 11th title and their 3rd of the 80's.

The Mayor of Clonmel, Councillor Seán Nyhan, attended the final and following the game entered the dressingroom to congratulate the team on their success. It was here that he told us that he would be according us a civic reception in recognition of the club's achievements over the years.

On the following Tuesday night 29th August the council chamber was bedecked in the green and gold of Commercials and filled with the excited chatter of players, officials, former players whose exploits on the fields of Tipperary and Munster have faded but will never be forgotten and supporters of long standing.

In his speech the mayor was loud in his praise of Commercials and their contribution to Gaelic football in Tipperary and to the G.A.A. He also remarked on the club achievements not only with seniors but also with juveniles as reflected in the numerous south and county underage titles. He went on to say that work done by Commercials with the boys of Clonmel ensured that the people of the town would be forever indebted to the club for the discipline taught to these youngsters during training and on the field of play. This discipline they would carry with them through life.

Councillor Nyhan went on to say that he was proud and Clonmel was proud of their team in acquiring their latest senior football title.

The mayor then presented the club with a beautifully inscribed scroll. The inscription read as follows:

"Presented to Clonmel Commercials, County Tipperary Senior Football Champions, 1989. On the occasion of their 5th consecutive appearance in the county final. In recognition of the clubs services to Gaelic Football in Clonmel. By his Worship, the Mayor of Clonmel. Cllr. Seán Nyhan on the 29th day of August on which date Clonmel Commercials were afforded a civic reception by the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of Clonmel Corporation.

This was the first occasion that a Commercials Championship winning side had received such recognition.

Thank you, Mr. Mayor, for your nice gesture. It was deeply appreciated by the team officials and supporters.

Tipperary Handball '89

During the past 12 months, Tipperary had many high points, winning three All-Ireland titles — Willie Fitzgibbon (Tipperary Town), Eddie Corbett (Ballyporeen) and John O'Donoghue (Cashel) winning the All-Ireland 60/30 junior singles and doubles and Fergal and Joseph Ryan (Silvermines) winning the All-Ireland 60/30 u-15 doubles.

Willie Fitzgibbon (Tipperary Town) began the year as a clear outsider to win the All-Ireland junior 60/30 singles title.

Willie began the year with 40/20 handball but failed to win county honours. Then came the 60/30 championship and Willie was picked to play the junior singles. In the first round of the Munster championship, he K.O'd John Herlihy (Cork), who was firm favourite for the junior crown, in a thrilling match that went the full 3 games. Willie was in good form with some great "kill shots" and "fly shots" beating J. Herlihy 21-12, 9-21, 21-14. This proved the turning point, with Willie improving his fitness dramatically, he met T. O'Brien (Limerick) next, and overcame his Limerick opponents 21-9, 21-8 with relative ease. Then he met the seasoned R. O'Connell (Limerick) in the semi-final, Willie again turned in a fine performance, to beat R. O'Connell 21-14, 21-10.

In the Provincial Final he met surprise finalist N. Breen (Clare). In the first game it was close with Breen trying to run Willie but many times Willie showed his class by running Breen into the ground. Willie took the first game 21-19 and in the second game Willie overwhelmed Breen to run out a worthy winner 21-9. Next stop was the All-Ireland semi-final in Clonmel, Willie had an easy victory over S. McKavanagh (Armagh) 21-8, 21-9. Willie was always well in control and he eased through

convincingly. Willie was now in the final against young J. Ryan (Carlow), played at Croke Park. In the first game it was very close with little mistakes made but Willie showed all his experience to win 21-18. In the second game, Willie was in devastating form with some great "passing and fly

shots" to win the second 21-5.

Willie regained the title that Billy McCarthy (Clonmel) won last year.

This was Willie's third All-Ireland title, winning his first title in 1970 in the U-16 singles and his second in 1973 in the U-21 singles grade.



Pictured after the All-Ireland Softball Final at Croke Park are Michael Tyrrell, President Handball Council; John Ryan, Carlow (runner-up), Willie Fitzgibbon (winner) and Pat McKenna, Chairman Tipperary Handball Board.

Presidential win for O'Donoghue

John O'Donoghue (Cashel) had just returned to competitive action, when he recorded his first tournament win of the season, winning the Ballyporeen "Presidential 60/30 Open Singles. This tournament held in June had the "cream of Tipp handballers".

John had just returned to court action after a long lay-off with injury, turned in a great performance to beat Tom Morrissey (Clonmel) 15 aces to 8 in a good sporting 20 minute final.

In the semi-finals — John had a runaway win over Billy McCarthy (Clonmel). Tom Morrissey had a titanic struggle with Seán O'Callaghan (Tipp Town), the game was level on many occasions but Tom held out to win by a mere two aces.

In the final, O'Donoghue led all the way but the experienced Morrissey was never far behind but just could not stay with O'Donoghue when he made his break at the 10 minute mark.

60/30 Provincial wins

In the 60/30 Provincial championship, Tipperary won 8 adult titles. David Moloney (Cashel) had good wins over K. Buckley (Cork), K. Lyons (Limerick) and then beat fellow clubman B. Murphy in the final by 21-19, 21-10. But in the All-Ireland Minor Singles semi-final, David was in poor form losing to J. McKeon (Cavan) 21-16, 21-9. David Moloney and Noel Murphy (Cashel) beat Cork. Clare and Limerick to win the Munster Minor Doubles title. They had an easy win in the All-Ireland semi-final but were most unlucky to lose to the fancied D. J. Carey and G. O'Brien (Kilkenny) 14-21, 21-18, 21-16 in the final. Jim Cagney (Clonmel) had some close calls in the Munster Novice Singles Championship with close wins over M. Kiely and P. McNamara (Limerick). In the All-Ireland semi-final, he easily beat N. Busby (Monaghan) 21-12, 21-9. In the final, Jim lost to the better K.

Flanagan (Westmeath) 21-13, 21-11.

Michael Gleeson and Gerry McKeogh (Ballina) had wins over Limerick (1) plus (2) in the Munster Novice Doubles. In the final they were comfortable winners over fellow Tipp pair John Dwyer and J. Ryan-Moore (Horse and Jockey) 21-13, 21-7. Vincent O'Shea (Lorrha) met J. Kirby in the Munster Masters Singles and then turned in a super show to win 21-15, 10-21, 21-14. Vincent received a walkover in the All-Ireland semi-final but in the final, he lost to N. Buggy (Wexford) 21-8, 21-10.

Michael McGrath and John Ferncombe (Horse and Jockey) won the Masters' (B) Doubles Munster title with wins over Cork and Limerick. In the All-Ireland semi-final they had an easy win over J. Balfe and J. Boylan (Monaghan) 21-12, 21-12. In the final, they lost out to a stronger A. Ryan and T. Stapleton (Carlow) 21-16, 21-8.



Pictured after the Minor Doubles 60 x 30 All-Ireland Handball Final at Croke Park are gallant Tipperary losers N. Murphy and D. Moloney with Michael Tyrrell, President, Irish Handball Council

Senior action

Our two senior 60/30 handballers, Tom Morrissey and Billy McCarthy (Clonmel) did reasonable well. Tom received a walkover in the first round of the singles from J. Grant (Meath). In the quarter-final, he lost to T. O'Rourke (Kildare) 21-4, 21-18.

Billy McCarthy made an early exit losing to E. Jensen (Meath) 21-14, 21-9 in the first round. Tom and Billy lost to P. Delaney and M. Ward (Galway) 21-16, 21-20 in the senior doubles quarter-final. The Clonmel pair had a great opportunity to win this match but failed to take their chances.

Michael "Ducksie" Walsh (Kilkenny) recorded his fifth successive victory in the Coca-Cola senior 60/30 softball singles beating Tom O'Rourke (Kildare) 21-13, 12-21, 21-9 in one of the best finals for years.

M. "Ducksie" Walsh and E. Downey (Kilkenny) beat J. Molloy and J. McGovern (Meath) 21-8, 21-13 to retain the Coca-Cola senior 60/30 softball doubles title.

'New Handball Secretary'

On the national front, the Irish Handball Council has a new Secretary, Lorcan O'Rourke taking over from Joe Lynch.

Joe Lynch retires after 35 years as handball secretary. In his term they have been many developments, the building of Ceannaras handball courts, development of the game through the country, and the running of the world championships. Lorcan O'Rourke is Wicklow-born and has lived in Laois and Galway before settling in Kildare. A former army officer and National Schoolteacher, he joined Croke Park G.A.A. staff in May 1980 and was involved in coaching and development until over as handball secretary this year.

County Board affairs

The County Board had another busy year. They are involved with the G.A.A. County Draw which has proved to be a great success.

They also held a bucket collection at the Munster hurling semi-final. They also ran the county 40/20 and 60/30 semi-finals and finals.

Officers of the Board:
Chairman: Pat McKenna (Thurles)
Secretary/Treasurer: Michael Tyrrell (Clonmel).

Hollyford handball club was a new member of the county board. They have an open 60/30 court and are presently trying to roof it. The Hollyford club are now playing in the North championship with Canice Ryan their most prominent player.

"Sports Star - Billy McCarthy"

Billy McCarthy (Clonmel) was honoured as Tipperary Sports Star for handball by the United Sports Panel for 1988. Billy had a great '88 winning the All-Ireland Junior 60/30 singles after a number of near misses. Billy also won two other All-Ireland's, the minor hardball doubles in 1968 with Seán Hally and the junior hardball singles in 1977. Billy was presented with his award in Clonmel following such great names as Paddy Hickey and Tony Ryan.



Billy McCarthy (Clonmel) receiving his Cidona Award from Mr. Brendan McGuinness (Showerings) as Tipperary United Sports Handballer for '88.

G.A.A. connection

Over the last year, many people have played handball and hurling with great success. Many people ask — "can players combine competitive handball with competitive hurling and who are they?"

Many players this year did it with success with Tipperary.

Seán Nealon (Toughalarra) came to the fore this year with his scoring exploits on the All-Ireland Junior hurling winning team. Many people may not know that he has been involved with handball reaching the All-Ireland U-15 doubles final in 1983 and also reaching the county Junior 40/20 doubles this year.

Jim O'Brien (Silvermines) was a selector on the All-Ireland Junior hurling winning team. Jim has won many county titles over the years and was most unlucky to lose to Kilkenny in the All-Ireland 40/20 Golden Masters doubles final partnering P. Cleary.

Michael McGrath (Horse & Jockey) had a most unlucky year in both codes. In hurling, he was goalkeeper on the Holycross team that were narrowly beaten in the county senior hurling final. In handball, Mick has won many county and provincial titles over the years but lost to Carlow in the All-Ireland Masters (B) 60/30 doubles final with John Ferncombe after a close fought contest. Three young Cashel lads have also been involved in both codes.

David Maloney, Noel Murphy and Timmy Maloney who have played superbly for the Cashel minor hurling team this year. These three lads played handball also for Tipperary this year. David and Noel lost to Kilkenny in the minor 60/30 All-Ireland Doubles final after a titanic struggle. Timmy won the Munster 40/20 and 60/30 U-16 titles this year in the juvenile ranks.

40/20 Provincial success

Many people involved in handball could not believe that at the beginning of the year, there was a short-list of 40/20 handball. The problem began before Christmas and dragged on until April. So all the championships began late with some hectic handball.

Tipperary won five adult 40/20 Munster titles. Jim O'Brien (Silvermines) and Pat Griffin (Toughalarra) had a tough campaign when winning the Munster Novice doubles title. In the final, they had a hard fought win over E. Stack and O. Deegan (Kerry) 21-14, 21-12. In the All-Ireland semi-final, they had an easy win over Donegal but in the final, they were most unlucky to lose to W. McCarthy and D. Bermingham (London) 21-14, 9-21, 14-21.

Billy McCarthy (Clonmel) and Eddie Corbett (Ballyporeen) had a strange Munster Junior doubles campaign. They should have been beaten in the first round by P. Hayes and B. Furlong (Cork) and then looked to be out when S. O'Callaghan and P. O'Brien (Tipp Town) led well in the 3rd game but O'Brien received an ankle injury and could not continue. In the final they caused a big shock to beat D. Lucy and N. Kerins (Kerry) 21-16, 21-9, turning in a great performance. In the All-Ireland semi-final, they had a hard fought win over P. Hand and P. McDonagh (Cavan) 21-16, 21-19. In the final, the Kilkenny pair of W. Pratt and P. O'Keefe proved a bit better to win 21-11, 12-21 and 21-7.

Vincent O'Shea (Lahorna) had a comfortable passage in the Masters (B) singles with wins over Clare and Cork. Vincent had another easy win over C. Nugent (Antrim) in the All-Ireland semi-final but in the final Vincent lost out to a stronger E. Kennedy (Dublin) 21-9, 21-14.

Pat Cleary (Lahorna) and Jim O'Brien (Silvermines) had five wins over Cork and Limerick to win the Provincial title and then accounted for Antim in the All-Ireland semi-final. In the final, P. O'Keefe and E. Leahy (Kilkenny) had an easy win over the Tipp lads 21-3, 21-9. Tom Kennedy and Jim Ryan (Silvermines) won the Provincial title and the All-Ireland semi-final convincingly but in the final, they lost out to a better A. Ryan and T. Stapleton (Carlow) 21-16, 21-9.

Near misses

Tipperary had a number of "near misses" in the Provincial championship. Seán Doyle (Clonmel) was very unlucky to lose the Munster 60/30 Novice singles semi-final to P. McNamara (Limerick) 21-19, 21-16.

John Ferncombe (Horse and Jockey) turned in a good performance but just could not overcome F. O'Toole (Limerick) in the Munster Masters (B) 60/30 singles final.

Noel Ryan (Clonmel) was most unlucky to lose to J. Donlon (Clare) in the Munster 40/20 Junior singles semi-final, when he seemed to have the match at his mercy. Noel was surprisingly beaten in the Munster 60/30 junior singles semi-final losing to N. Breen (Clare) 21-19, 21-14.

Seán O'Callaghan and Peter O'Brien (Tipp Town) were most unlucky in the Munster 40/20 junior doubles semi-final when victory looked likely, Peter hurt his ankle in the third game and could not continue so fellow Tipp lads Eddie Corbett and Billy McCarthy advanced.

Seán O'Callaghan and Tom O'Meara (Tipp Town) were most unlucky to lose to John O'Donoghue and Eddie Corbett in a thrilling Munster junior 60/30 doubles final 21-19, 12-21, 21-16.

South Tipperary Handball Board 1989

JOE KEANE

Officers: Chairman: J. J. Keane; Hon. Sec./Treasurer: Joe Keane.

Clubs: Clonmel, Cashel, Fethard, Golden, Carrick-on-Suir, Ballyporeen, Horse & Jockey, Tipperary Town.

40 x 20 CHAMPIONSHIPS

Minor Singles: David Moloney, Cashel.

Minor Doubles: Noel Murphy and David Moloney, Cashel.

Under-21 Singles: Brendan Murphy, Cashel.

Under-21 Doubles: Brendan Murphy and Paul Marshall, Cashel.

Novice Singles: Jim Looby, Golden.

Novice Doubles: Jim Looby and Danny Looby, Golden.

Junior Singles: Sean O'Callaghan, Tipperary Town.

Junior Doubles: Sean O'Callaghan and Peter O'Brien, Tipperary Town.

Masters Singles: Jim O'Meara, Fethard.

Masters Doubles: Ballyporeen.

Special Novice Singles: Jimmy O'Regan, Horse & Jockey.

Team of Three Junior/Novices: Fethard: W. O'Donnell, J. J. Keane, W. O'Meara.

Open Novice - Team of Four: Horse and Jockey - John Ryan, Danny Butler, Tim O'Regan, Michael McGrath.

60 x 30 CHAMPIONSHIPS

Minor Singles: Cashel.

Minor Doubles: Ballyporeen.

Novice Singles: J. Cagney, Clonmel.

Novice Doubles: J. Ferncombe and J. Moore, Horse & Jockey.

Junior Singles: N. Ryan, Clonmel.

Junior Doubles: E. Corbett and P. Hennessy.

Masters Singles: J. Slattery, Clonmel.

Masters Doubles: Fethard.

Inter-Club News

Tipperary handballers did reasonably well in the Inter-Club 60/30 championship. In the Novice grade — Horse & Jockey team of John Dwyer, John Ryan-Moore, John Ferncombe and Michael Kerwick reached the All-Ireland final but lost to Naomh Padraig of Dublin.

The Horse & Jockey did well when winning the Provincial title by beating a strong Clonmel side. In the All-Ireland semi-final, they had an easy win over Virginia of Cavan but in the final, the Dublin side of Naomh Padraig proved stronger in the final.

In the junior grade — the Clonmel team of Noel Ryan, Frank Scully, T. "Junior" Slattery and Kevin Mullins were beaten in the All-Ireland 60/30 final by the Garda Club of Dublin. The Clonmel side did well beating a weakened Tipperary Town side in the Provincial final. In the All-Ireland semi-final, they beat Loughmaclowry of Tyrone. In the final, they were always close to the Garda team but the Dublin side proved stronger.



J. Lynch (General Secretary, Irish Handball Council), M. Tyrell (President Irish Handball Council); H. Kennedy (former Secretary of Tipp Handball Council) who received presentations for their contributions to handball at the handball dinner.

O'Donoghue and Corbett win



Pictured after their victory over Kilkenny in the 60 x 30 All-Ireland Junior Doubles Handball Final at Croke Park are John O'Donoghue and Eddie Corbett with, on left, Michael Tyrrell, President, Irish Handball Council, and Pat McKenna, chairman, Tipperary Handball Board.

John O'Donoghue and Eddie Corbett began the year not knowing what to expect. John O'Donoghue dogged by injuries in '88 hoped for better luck but again was unable to play in the 40/20 championship. Early indications looked like a bleak year for this young promising pair.

Then will the beginning of the 60/30 championship O'Donoghue slowly began to regain full fitness. John was "K.O.'d" in

the county junior singles championship by N. Ryan and with Corbett only playing the doubles, they put all their hopes in the doubles.

In the first round of the Munster championship, they overcame the strong challenge of J. Herlihy and J. O'Connor (Cork) 19-21, 21-14, 21-7 without finding their best form. In the semi-final, they met fellow Tipp pair of Willie Fitzgibbon and Martin Maher. In a tough match that went

the full three games, John and Eddie wore down Willie and Martin to win 21-14, 12-21, 21-9. In the Provincial final, they met another Tipp pair of Tom O'Meara and Seán O'Callaghan (Tipp Town). It turned out to be an exciting match with any pair good enough to win. In the first game it was very close with the score level on many occasions but John and Eddie held out to win 21-19. In the second game, O'Meara and O'Callaghan began to take control winning 21-12. In the third game, O'Meara and O'Callaghan ran into an early lead of 8-1 but John and Eddie failed to panic and recovered to finish the stronger to win 21-16.

In the All-Ireland semi-final, they had a comfortable victory over J. Kelly and S. McKavanagh (Armagh) 21-9, 21-6 at Kingscourt. In the final, played at Croke Park, they met the Kilkenny pair of W. Pratt and P. O'Keeffe. In the first game, John and Eddie ran up a big lead, leading 15-1 at one stage but the Kilkenny pair fought back to 14-15 but the Tipp lads recovered to win 21-4. The second game was always close with the Kilkenny pair looking the better but with John in superb form and Eddie holding his own, it was very close. The Kilkenny pair led 20-17 but then the Tipp lads won service and finished off the game to win by the narrowest of margins.

John and Eddie have won many titles together but this must rank as one of the best.

Ryans' - All-Ireland glory

Over the last number of years, Fergal and Joseph Ryan have been the leading juveniles in the Silvermines club.

They have represented Tipperary in all juveniles ages beginning in '86 when they first came on the scene, winning the Munster u-12 40/20 (B) doubles title. In '87, they were most unlucky to lose the Provincial 40/20 u-13 doubles final to Clare. '88 turned out to be a lean year with no success coming.

In '89, it was the beginning of a highly successful year. In the early part of the year, they were a very consistent pair on the Tipp juvenile side that won the Munster League 40/20 title. In the 40/20 championship, Fergal and Joseph won the Provincial title beating Cork 15-14, 15-8 in the semi-final and then ran out convincing winners in the final beating Limerick 15-13, 15-9. In the All-Ireland semi-final Fergal and Joseph had an exciting win over Tyrone 7-15, 15-8, 15-13. In the All-Ireland final their inexperience showed, losing to C. O'Carroll and P. Phelan (Kilkenny) 15-13, 15-9 when they had many chances to win the game.

Then came the 60/30 championship, with many people believing that the Ryans' had lost their chance of an All-Ireland title.

But they began to prove people wrong, with an easy victory over Cork in the

Provincial semi-final and then accounted for Limerick in the final.

Under the guidance of Andy Purcell and Michael O'Brien, they trained hard improving their skills in the big court. In the all-Ireland semi-final, they had a "Jekyll and Hyde match" beating Tyrone 15-14, 15-1. Next stop was the final where they met old rivals C. O'Carroll and P. Phelan (Kilkenny) who had beaten them in the 40/20 final. Fergal and Joseph started poorly and lost the first game 15-13. In the second game, they settled down and with

Joseph playing strong and consistent on the left-side and Fergal improving on the right side, they convincingly took the second, 15-9. In the third game, they were in top form with some good handball, they overwhelmed the Kilkenny pair to win the third 15-8 and the All-Ireland title. It was the Silvermines first All-Ireland win and much of the credit must go to Andy Purcell and Michael O'Brien who trained and looked after the lads.

It is interesting to note than Fergal and Joseph have the same surname but are not related.



Joseph Ryan and Fergal Ryan (Silvermines) - winners of All-Ireland 60 x 30 Under-15 'D' Final, 1989.

North Tipperary Handball Board

A TOTAL of 207 fixtures for adult competitions were made by the Board for the year 1989, which has just ended. Local competitions accounted for 128 fixtures and the rest were County games. It was quite an exciting year with tremendous healthy rivalry in most competitions, especially local ones.

Lahorna regained the 'Shamrock Trophy' after a lapse of 6 years by defeating Silvermines. In the 'Collins Shield' the same Silvermines sextet reversed the decision by defeating Lahorna. Youghalarra won the open 'Team of Six' for the fourth successive

year, when they narrowly defeated Ballina in a tense encounter.

Vincent O'Shea emerged as the Division's top player by winning the Open Singles for the second successive year.

In the 40 x 20 alley, Silvermines once again emerged as top club, winning both Division I and Division III championships. In the premier division Silvermines had a mere 3 aces to spare over defending champions Youghalarra, 122-119. The same clubs met in the Third Division and the issue was again in doubt up to the seventh and final game which helped Silvermines to a 115-109 victory.

Newport had no such problems in the second division and easily accounted for all their opponents. The Mulcaire men will be pitting their skills against more stern opposition of Division I next year. We had now five 40 x 20 alleys in Nenagh, Dolla, Kilcolman, Templederry and Moneygall. Plans for yet another alley are well under way in Ballinahinch. In the 60 x 30 world there are alleys in Roscrea, Thurles, Lahorna and Ballina. Both Newport and Hollyford have uncovered courts at present but hopefully in the future these will be roofed.



Dara Hudner (Silvermines) who won North Tipperary Under 11 Singles titles in both alleys.



Brian O'Brien (Silvermines) who won North Tipp. Under 12 Singles titles in both alleys.



Brendan Timmons and Timmy Kelly (Silvermines) who won North Tipp. Under 10 Doubles titles in both alleys.



Graeme Quirke (Silvermines) who won Under 10 Singles North Tipperary titles in both alleys.

1989 WINNERS (40 x 20)

Division I Team of Four: (Silvermines) Kevin Keyes, Martin Maher, Tom Kennedy, Jim O'Brien.
Division 2 Team of Four: (Newport) Gerry Foley, Connie Faulkner, Billy Casey, Padraig Harvey.
Division 3 Team of Four: (Silvermines) Michael Ryan, Richard Hayes, Philip Kelly, Pat Sheehan.

1989 WINNERS (60 x 30)

Shamrock Trophy: (Lahorna) Paddy Kelly, John Carmody, Paul Maher, Gerry O'Meara, Tom Ryan, Tony McCormack.
Collins Shield: (Silvermines) Matt Hanly, Richard Hayes, Philip Kelly, Seamus Treacy, Michael Ryan, Denis Gleeson.
Open Team of Six: (Youghalarra) Pat Flaherty, Tony Flaherty, Pat Griffin, Paul Griffin, Christy Griffin, Seán Nealon.
Novice Singles: (Lahorna) Kevin Spain.
Novice Doubles: (Roscrea) Neddy Nash and John Lee.
Junior Singles: (Roscrea) John McQuaid.
Junior Doubles: (Ballina) Willie Bourke and Mn. McNerney.
Open Singles: (Lahorna) Vincent O'Shea.
Open Doubles: (Youghalarra) Paul Griffin, Pat Griffin.
Master Singles: (Ballina) Mick Fitzpatrick.
Master Doubles: (Lahorna) Vincent O'Shea, Dave Slattery.
Golden Masters Singles: (Thurles) Jimmy Curry.
Golden Masters Doubles: (Silvermines/Lahorna) Jim O'Brien, Pat Cleary.

1989 JUVENILE WINNERS (40 x 20)

Under 10 Singles: (Silvermines) Graeme Quirke.
Under 10 Doubles: (Silvermines) Timmy Kelly, Brendan Timmons.
Under 11 Singles: (Silvermines) Dara Hudner.
Under 11 Doubles: (Silvermines) Kieran Timmons, Shane Egan.
Under 12 Singles: (Silvermines) Brian O'Brien.
Under 12 Doubles: (Newport) Thomas Clifford, Kenneth O'Brien.
Under 13 Singles: (Newport) Michael Moylan.
Under 13 Doubles: (Newport) Cyril O'Neill, Paul Whelan.
Under 14 Singles: (Thurles) Andrew Healy.
Under 14 Doubles: (Newport) Kenneth O'Neill, John O'Mahony.
Under 15 Singles: (Silvermines) Denis Lenihan.
Under 15 Doubles: (Silvermines) Joseph Ryan, Finbarr Ryan.
Under 16 Singles: (Newport) David O'Neill.
Under 16 Doubles: (Newport) John Healy, Liam Hammersley.
Under 17 Singles: (Silvermines) John Kennedy.
Under 17 Doubles: (Silvermines) Michael Harrington, John Ryan.

1989 JUVENILE WINNERS (60 x 30)

The same 16 underage grades were played in the 60 x 30 alley and the same players and clubs emerged victorious in 12 of the 16 competitions. So quite a high percentage of players recorded doubles. There were different winners in the following four grades and these were:

Under 11 Doubles: (Newport) Mark Barry, Derek O'Neill.
Under 13 Singles: (Newport) Michael O'Brien.
Under 14 Singles: (Newport) Raymond O'Brien.
Under 17 Doubles: (Silvermines) Michael Harrington, Colm O'Brien.

MICHAEL MAHER

— *Munster Council Chairman*

FORMER HURLING stalwart of the sixties Michael Maher became the sixth Tipperary man to hold the distinguished position of Munster Council Chairman when he took over the past at the annual convention this year.

Michael Maher, Chief Agricultural Officer with Teagasc in North Tipperary, and based in Thurles, now shares with his meat-mate of the sixties, the present senior selector Donie Nealon, who is Secretary of the Council, the honour of representing the Premier County in the two key provincial positions.

Michael, who is married with four children and resides at Killinan, Thurles, won five All-Ireland senior hurling medals with Tipperary, the first in 1958 and the others in 1961/62 and 1964/65 and was part of the legendary full back line which featured John Doyle and Kieran Carey in the corner-back roles.

He also won many other honours at club and county level and has the distinction of having manned the full back spot in front of four different goalkeepers, Terry Moloney, John O'Grady, Donie O'Brien and more recently John O'Donoghue during Tipperary's peak years.



Michael comes to the post of provincial Chairman on the strength of a glowing administrative career. First elected to the Munster Council three years ago he was Chairman of Tipperary G.A.A. Board for three years from 1979 to 1982. Equally accomplished in the boardroom, as on the field of play, he also served on Central Council for a spell in the sixties, and on a number of Croke Park committees.

He was also very much involved in Tipperary G.A.A. Board, and the Centenary Committee preparations for the staging of the 1984 All-Ireland in Thurles.

SIXTH TIPPERARY CHAIRMAN

Mr. Maher is the sixth Tipperary man to hold the position. Fethard's Dick Cummins was the first from the Premier County to assume the office in 1901 while Frank McGrath from Youghalarra was appointed Chairman in 1937.

Jerry O'Keeffe, a native of Kilsheelan, but living in Clonmel, held office from 1952 to 1955, and former President of the Association Seamus Ó Riain from Moneygall, spent a term as Munster Chairman, commencing in 1965.

The last Tipperary man to hold such office was Mr. Michael Frawley from Emly who was appointed for a term commencing in 1977.

Two men with Tipperary links also served for terms in the chair. Seamus Gardiner, a Clareman, and a teacher in Borrisokane, was elected Chairman in 1941. His son, Fr. Seamus Gardiner, is the present Council P.R.O. And another Clareman, Monsignor Hamilton who ministered in Nenagh, took over the position from Mr. Gardiner. Monsignor Hamilton was a native of Clonlara.

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Mid Board Review 1989

Tomás Ó h-Eadhra, Rúnaí



Mid Board officials. Front Row (left to right): Noel Murphy (treasurer), Liam Hennessy (Chairman), Tom O'Hara (secretary), Joan Ryan (Scór Chairperson). Back Row (left to right): Pat Cullen, John Ryan, Tim Maher, Michael Ryan, Timmy Grace, Mick Cahill.

TEN teams affiliated for the senior hurling championship, which was again played on a losers' group system. Loughmore, Sarsfields and Boherlahan qualified for the semi-finals from the winners' section and were joined by Holycross, who came through via the losers' group section. The semi-finals — Sarsfields v. Holycross and Loughmore v. Boherlahan — were closely contested games with Holycross and Loughmore qualifying to contest the final for the second successive year.

The final was played in Thurles on Sunday evening, August 20, before a large attendance and was one of the best finals in recent years between two sporting teams. At the end of a very keen contest, Holycross emerged narrow but worthy winners of the Leahy Cup. With victories over Cappawhite and Lorrha, Holycross qualified for a county final meeting with West champions Clonoulty, and after a very sporting and well contested game, lost by a two-point margin to their next-door neighbours.

Intermediate Hurling: Old rivals Holycross and Sarsfields qualified for the final of this competition and after a game of fluctuating fortunes, Sarsfields emerged winners by the minimum margin. In the county semi-final the Mid champions overcame the challenge of Arravale Rovers but in the County Final lost to Newport.

Junior Hurling 'A': The junior championship was played on a league basis with Killea and Rahealty qualifying for the final. After a very sporting and keenly contested game, Killea were winners and a 0-12 to 0-10 scoreline.

Junior Hurling 'B': Drom and Moycarkey contested this final and again it was touch and go all through with Drom holding on for a narrow but deserved victory.

Junior Hurling Play-off: The play-off between Killea and Drom for the right to contest the County semi-final was one of the highlights of the year in the Division

and at the three-quarter stage Killea looked home and dried when leading by eight points, but Drom came with an amazing rally to earn a replay. The second meeting was no less exciting and this time Drom looked winners as the time ticked away but Killea came with a last minute equaliser to force the game into extra time.

MID OFFICERS 1989

President: Paddy Ryan, Moycarkey-Borris.
Chairman: Liam Hennessy, Moycarkey-Borris.

Vice-Chairmen: Seán Fogarty, Moyne-Templetuohy; Rev. Tony Ryan, Gortnahoe-Glengoose.

Secretary-P.R.O.: Tom O'Hara, Gortnahoe Glengoose.

Treasurer: Noel Murphy, Sarsfields.
Timmie Grace, Sarsfields.

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

Thurles Sportsfield Representative: Jim Max, Sarsfields.

Templemore Sportsfield Representative: Mick Cahill, Templemore.

County Board Representatives Senior Clubs

Gortnahoe: James Meighan; **Moycarkey:** Conor Kennedy; **Boherlahan:** Dan Ryan; **Holycross:** Mick Ryan; **Sarsfields:** Liam O'Donoghue; **Drom:** Martin Dwan; **Upperchurch:** Michael Greene; **Loughmore:** John Treacy; **Moyne:** Seán Fogarty; **Clonmore:** Martin Burke; **Templemore:** Martin Collum; **Templetuohy:** Martin Esmonde.
Junior Club Representatives: John Ryan, Kickhams; Dick Buckley, Killea.



HOLYCROSS-BALLYCAHILL, MID TIPP. SENIOR HURLING CHAMPS.

Mid. Tipperary Senior Hurling champions and County Finalists Holycross-Ballycahill. Front Row (left to right): Tony Lanigan, Paul Slattery, Michael McGrath, Rory Dwan, P. J. Lanigan, Robert Stakelum, Paul Maher, Michael Doyle. Back: Jim Ryan, Phil Dwyer, Benjy Browne, Declan Carr, Johnny Doyle, Stephen Dwan, Tom Dwyer.



THURLES SARSFIELDS, MID INTERMEDIATE CHAMPIONS

Thurles Sarsfields team which won the Mid Intermediate title. Back Row (left to right): Theo Duggan, Tom Barry, Ciaran Carroll, Dinny Maher, Eamon Walshe, Jackie Griffin, Clive Hanrahan, Kieran Kennedy. Front Row (left to right) Andy Ryan, Lar Barrett, Walter Doyle, Sean Callanan, Ger Stakelum (captain), P. J. Kavanagh, John Cahill.

The first period of extra time was again evenly contested but in the end Killea pulled away for a hard-earned but deserved victory.

Under-21 Hurling 'A': Sarsfields and Boherlahan qualified for the final of this competition which was played on a losers' group system. There was little between the sides in the opening half and at the interval Boherlahan seemed to be in with a great chance of victory. Sarsfields, however, raised their game in the second period to run out comfortable winners on a 2-12 to 1-7 scoreline.

Under-21 Hurling 'B': Moyne and Upperchurch contested this final, which was keenly contested by two sporting and well matched teams, Upperchurch holding out for victory on a 2-8 to 1-9 scoreline.

Minor Hurling 'A': Played on a league system with Sarsfields and Gortnahoe qualifying for the final. Sarsfields were well on top in the opening half and although Gortnahoe improved considerably in the second period, Sarsfields emerged worthy winners on a 3-8 to 2-1 scoreline. In the County semi-final Sarsfields lost narrowly to eventual Co. Champions, Cashel.



KILLEA, MID JUNIOR HURLING CHAMPIONS

The Killea team which won the Mid junior hurling title for the first time in sixty-two years. Back Row (left to right): Sean Scully (trainer), Sam O'Meara, Jim Hamill, Dan Burke, John Russell, John Guidera, Sean O'Sullivan, Peter Burke, John Coffey, Dick Buckley (chairman). Front Row (left to right): Mick Treacy (selector), Batt Burke, Kieran Broderick, Pat Bohar, Pat Brett (captain), Larry Broderick, Tim O'Meara, Seamus Burke, Pat Russell (selector).



DROM-INCH, MID JUNIOR 'B' HURLING CHAMPIONS

Back Row (left to right): Joe Harkin, Johnny Harkin, B. Looby, T. Kennedy, B. Callanan, M. McGrath, F. McGrath, P. Halloran. Front Row (left to right): M. Shanahan, G. Fogarty, J. Sheridan, A. Dempsey, K. Nolan, L. McLoughlin, F. Costelloe.



Pat Cullen (on right) receives the Senior Club of the Year award on behalf of Loughmore-Castleiney from Mid Chairman, Liam Hennessy at the board's convention.

CHAMPIONSHIP RESULTS 1989

Senior Hurling: Holycross 2-13, Loughmore 2-9.

Intermediate Hurling: Sarsfields 0-12, Holycross 1-8.

Junior Hurling 'A': Killea 0-12, Rahealty 0-10.

Junior Hurling 'B': Drom 1-15, Moycarkey 3-7.

Junior Hurling Play-off: Killea 1-12, Drom 1-12.

Replay: Killea 3-12, Drom 0-15.

Under 21 Hurling 'A': Sarsfields 2-12, Boherlahan 1-7.

Under-21 Hurling 'B': Upperchurch 2-8, Moyne 1-9.

Minor Hurling 'A': Sarsfields 3-8, Gortnahoe 2-1.

Minor Hurling 'B': Templemore 2-10, Moycarkey 3-6.

Intermediate Junior Hurling League: Sarsfields 4-15, Boherlahan 1-9.

Cahill Cup (Final not played): Holycross awarded game.

Senior Football: Loughmore v. Templemore, to be played.

Intermediate Football: Holycross 1-4, Boherlahan 0-4.

Junior Football 'A': Sarsfields 2-8, Drom 3-2.

Junior Football 'B': Templetuohy 1-11, Loughmore 0-4.

Junior Football Play-off: Sarsfields 2-6, Templetuohy 1-3.

Under-21 Football 'A': Templemore 4-4, Loughmore 4-4.

Under-21 Replay: Templemore 1-8, Loughmore 1-3.

Under-21 Football 'B': Templetuohy v. (to be played)

Minor Football 'A': Sarsfields 3-7, Templemore 0-2.

Minor Football 'B': Loughmore 0-8, Boherlahan 0-4.

Referee: Willie Clohessy

Referee: Michael Doyle

Referee: Michael Doyle

Referee: Michael Webster

Referee: Michael Doyle

Referee: Michael Doyle

Referee: Michael Greene

Referee: Willie Clohessy.

Referee: Kevin Darmody

Referee: Phil Lowry

Referee: Michael Greene

Referee: Pat Cullen

Referee: Billy O'Grady

Referee: Martin Treacy.

Referee: Jim O'Shea

Referee: Kevin Darmody

Referee: Phil Lowry

Referee: Kevin Darmody.

Referee: Billy O'Grady



Philly O'Dwyer, Boherlahan (on right) winner of the Hall of Fame award is presented with his award by Mid Chairman, Liam Hennessy.



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Minor Hurling 'B': Templemore Brackens and Moycarkey reached the final of this competition with Templemore emerging winners of a most exciting game by a one-point margin. In the County semi-final the Mid champions showed great character when coming from behind to pip West champions Clonoulty-Solohead and qualify for a county final date Moneygall. In a keenly contested final, the North champions emerged winners.

Intermediate-Junior Hurling League: Sarsfields proved much too strong for all opposition in this competition and easily accounted for Boherlahan in the final by 4-15 to 1-9.

Senior Football — Final between Loughmore and Templemore not played at time of this report.

Intermediate Football: Played on a league system with neighbours Boherlahan and Holycross qualifying for the final. There was little between the sides all through and in the end Holycross proved victorious on a 1-4 to 0-4 scoreline.

Junior Football 'A': Played on a league system Sarsfields and drom were the finalists and after a closely contested and sporting game, Sarsfields had made it five championship wins for the club plus the Intermediate hurling league.

Junior Football 'B': Templetuohy and Loughmore were the finalists in this competition, which was also on a league system. Templetuohy were easy winners of this game but lost the play-off to 'A' winners Sarsfields.

Under-21 Football 'A': Old rivals Loughmore and Templemore contested this final. Templemore were favourites to win but Loughmore got off to a great start when playing with the strong breeze and held off a great rally by Templemore in the second half to finish on level terms. The replay was again a well contested game. This time Templemore were favoured by the elements in the first half and built up what proved to be a winning lead. Loughmore, true to tradition, fought back in the second half but Templemore held out for a deserved victory by 1-8 to 1-3.

Under-21 Football 'B': The final between Templetuohy and Upperchurch not played at time of this report.

Minor Football 'A': Sarsfields and Templemore were the finalists in this



THURLES SARSFIELDS, MID TIPP. SPECIAL JUNIOR HURLING LEAGUE CHAMPS.

The Thurles Sarsfields team and subs which won the Mid Tipperary Special Junior Hurling League. Front row (left to right): S. Mullanny, S. Callanan, D. O'Shea, L. Barrett, G. Stakelum (capt.), P. McCormack, J. Kennedy, J. McCormack, G. Corbett, P. McCormack, S. Coffey. Back Row (left to right): C. Hanrahan, A. Callanan, P. Dundon, E. Stakelum, J. Woodlock, W. Doyle, J. Dorney, D. Maher, M. McCormack, T. Barry, T. Cooke, R. Corcoran, J. Cahill. B.O.C.



SARSFIELDS, MID. TIPPERARY U-21 HURLING CHAMPIONS

The Sarsfields team which retained the Mid-Tipperary U-21 Hurling Championship. Back Row (left to right): Seamus Maher (capt.), Pat Minogue, Fionn Stakelum, Ger Collins, Tony Coman, Gary Loughnane, Jackie Griffin, Brendan Carroll. Front Row (left to right): Andy Ryan, Sean Callanan, Graham O'Connor, Clive Hanrahan, Tommy Maher, Seamus Quinn, Tony O'Mara.



UPPERCHURCH-DROMBANE, U-21 'B' MID CHAMPIONS

Upperchurch-Drombane team which won the Under-21 'B' Mid Final. Front Row (left to right): L. T. Ryan, Paddy Dunne, Ailbe Quinlan, Michael Ryan, Richard Ryan, Padraig Bourke, Jim Dunne. Back Row (left to right): Padraig Hayes, Donal Hayes, Pat Carey, Michael Dwyer, Colm Harrington, Conor O'Dwyer, Michael Griffin, Jerry Ryan. B.O.C.



TEMPLEMORE-BRACKENS, MID MINOR HURLING 'B' CHAMPIONS

Back Row (left to right): Jim O'Shea, Tony Rogan, Paul Deegan, John Maher, John Ivers, Sean Leahy, Michael Marnell, P. J. Corcoran, Paddy Clarke, Francis Hennessy, Jim Patterson, Jack O'Shea, John Patterson, Donal Bourke. Front (left to right): Paul Walsh, Ger Ryan, Martin Grey, Sean Percy, Raymond Doyle, Colm Russell, Cathal O'Shea, Anthony Marnell, Sean Collum, Tim Quinlan, Paul Henderson, Richard Buckley, William Cahill.



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competition, which resulted in an easy win for the Blues on a 3-7 to 0-2 scoreline. The Mid champions lost to Arravale Rovers in the County semi-final.

Minor Football 'B': Loughmore and Boherlahan were the finalists in this competition and after a well contested game, Loughmore came out on top by 0-8 to 0-4.

The year just ended was a very successful one for the Mid Division, our games were played in a manly and sporting manner and all activities on the playing fields ran very smoothly. There was the utmost co-operation from clubs in fulfilling fixtures and all hurling competitions were completed in mid October. At the time of this review only Under-21 Football 'B' and Senior Football Finals remain to be played.

We can look back with pride on the year just ended and look to the next decade with confidence in our clubs, Divisions and County to continue to uphold the proud traditions of the Gaelic Athletic Association.



GORTNAHOE/GLENGOOLE G.A.A. CLUB TROPHY COLLECTION FOR 1988

Eamon Lanigan, Captain (left) and Jimmy Meighan, Chairman with (left to right): The Park Avenue Shield (Mid Junior Hurling League) in its inaugural year. The trophy for the Mid Junior Club of the year for the third successive year. The John Miller Cup (Co. Intermediate Hurling Championship), and The Treacy Cup (Mid Intermediate Hurling Championship).



HOLYCROSS-BALLYCAHILL, MID TIPP. INTERMEDIATE FOOTBALL CHAMPS.

Holycross-Ballycahill team which won the Mid Tipperary intermediate football final. Back Row (left to right): Jerry Fennessy, Jim Fitzpatrick, Declan Carr, Liam Gorman, Tim Stakelum, Alan Quinlan, Rory Dwan, Michael Doyle. Front Row (left to right): Paddy Browne, Paul Slattery, Phil Dwyer, P. J. Lanigan, Jim Ryan, Tony Lanigan, Robert Stakelum.



THURLES SARSFIELDS, MID JUNIOR FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS

Mid Junior Football champions, Thurles Sarsfields. Front Row (left to right): John McCormack, Ken O'Connor, Tommy Maher, Larry Barrett, Mark O'Connell, Eugene McAree, Graham O'Connor, Ciaran Carroll, Michael Dundon (Capt.). Back Row (left to right): Lar Barrell, Brendan Carroll, Tony O'Mara, Seamus O'Shea, Liam Duggan, Murty Bryan, Trevor Cooke, Andy Ryan, Padraic Dundon, Michael Sparrow, Pat McCormack, Martin McElgun, Conor O'Dwyer (manager). Missing from photo - Maurice McCormack and Dinny Maher.



EIRE ÓG, TEMPLEMORE, WINNERS OF MID TIPP U-21 FOOTBALL TITLE

Back Row (left to right): Sean Collum, Larry Stapleton, John McGrath, Brian Larkin, Brendan Bane, Brendan Foy, Paudge Newe, Michael Cahill, Martin Grey. Front Row (left to right): Jim Ormonde, Anthony Shelly, Michael Crampton, Kevin Foy, Mark Hctor, Willie Butler, James Cahill (capt.), Seamus Newe, Michael Ormonde, John Fitzgerald.



LOUGHMORE-CASTLEINEY, MID MINOR 'B' FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS

Loughmore-Castleiney team which defeated Boherlahan-Dualla in the final of the Mid Minor 'B' football final. Back Row (left to right): Noel Bourke, Noel Kennedy, Trevor Bourke, Joe Ryan, Phelim O'Dea, Patrick Gleeson, Connie Cormack, Brendan O'Connell. Front Row (left to right): John Kennedy, Tommy Larkin, Noel Cahill, Philip McGrath, Michael Ormond, Michael Nesbitt, Colm Dunne. (Photo: B. O'Connor)

Scór na Síneair = Mid Division

Thurles Sarsfields and Moycarky Borris clubs hosted the two semi-finals of Scór na Síneair 1989. In Scór Ailke on February 10, the competition was keen and the standards were high, most clubs participating in all competitions.

Fear a'Tí for the night was the ever Efficient and courteous Donie O'Gorman, R.I.P., whose commitment to and support for Scór activities merit admiration.

In Littleton on February 11, with Pat Houlihan as Fear a'Tí, the standard and the quality of entertainment has yet to be matched. It was truly one of the great nights for Scór. Well done Moycarkey-Borris and sincerest thanks to all who assisted and competed.

The Mid final was held in Sarsfields Social Centre on February 17. Competition was keen as competitors sought a place on the County programme, and although our standards in the Mid-Division are obviously as high if not better than other divisions, county honours eluded us. This puts a further question mark over the standards of adjudication, and it is disheartening to know that quite a lot of talented people have opted out of Scór because of unfair decisions by adjudicators.

Club of the Year was again won by Upperchurch-Drombane.

As this is my last year as chairperson of the Mid-Division, I offer sincere thanks to the Committee who worked with me, particularly the secretary Nora Troy and treasurer Pat Healy. I also thank the clubs who participated in Scór for the past three years, the clubs who hosted the competitions and all those people who supported me so loyally. I wish the incoming committee every success and may the cultural revival of the past 21 years be maintained for future generations.

**Siobhán Ní Riain,
(Cathaoirleach)**



UPPERCHURCH-DROMBANE NOVELTY ACT — GROUP WINNERS OF THE MID DIV.

Left to Right: Marian Kinane, Margaret Moynihan, Anne Gleeson, Kathleen Stapleton, Breda Corcoran.



UPPERCHURCH-DROMBANE BALLAD GROUP — MID-TIPPERARY WINNERS

Left to Right: Patricia Quinn, Joan Ryan, Kay Clancy, Eamon Ryan, Mary Ryan.

Mid Board

Honours

Tom O'Hara



Tom O'Hara

Twenty-five years of dedicated service to the Mid division and county was honoured by the Mid Tipperary G.A.A. Board when, at a special function organised by the Board and held at Park Avenue House, Thurles, secretary Tom O'Hara of Gortnahoe-Glengoole was toasted by friends and colleagues from both inside and outside the county.

It was an emotional occasion for the popular Tom, who has served the GAA with such distinction right from his playing days to his many years as an administrator. The highlight of the evening was undoubtedly a "This Is Your Life" presentation by County Secretary, Tommy Barrett, which traced in a lively and witty way Tom's career as a player, club official, divisional chairman (twice), county chairman and, in later years, divisional secretary.

The function was graced by the presence of Tom's wife, Nora, his son Robert, daughters Nora, Elizabeth, Marian, Geraldine and Patricia, but daughter Philomena, a nun, was unable to attend.

At the late Eamon Andrews, the organisers had a big surprise in store for Tom by the attendance of his former Harty Cup winning colleagues at Thurles CBS in 1938, led by captain Tim Nyhan, along with Most Rev. Dr. Michael Russell, Bishop of Waterford; Lt.-Col. Henry Gooldsboro, Dick Ryan (Bishop), Larry Hickey, John Delahunty, Jimmy Hurley, Tim Delahunty and Eddie Gleeson.

The attendance at the function also included the Archbishop of Cashel and Emly, Most Rev. Dr. Dermot Clifford; former County Board Chairman, Michael Lowry, TD; Mid Chairman, Liam Hennessy; Paddy Maher, Secretary of North Board; and former Co. Treasurer, Martin O'Connor.

GENEROUS TRIBUTES

The tributes by the speakers, Donal O'Gorman R.I.P.; Liam Hennessy, Michael Lowry, Tommy Barrett and Tim Nyhan were generous and sincere and due recognition of the contribution of a man who won All-Ireland colleges honours when with Thurles CBS, and



1938 Thurles CBS Harty Cup team pictured with Bro. O'Dugain, Superior, at the Tom O'Hara function. Front, left to right: Bro. O'Dugain, Henry Gooldsboro, Tom O'Hara, Tim Nyhan, Dick Ryan. Back: Jim Hurley, Tim Delahunty, John Delahunty, Eddie Gleeson.

later went on to lead his club to its first No. 2 junior hurling title in the Mid in 1952, followed a year later by success in the No. 1 grade. Many of his playing colleagues of those teams were also present.

Tom was secretary of Gortnahoe from 1939 to 1960, and when the two parts of the parish united to form Gortnahoe/Glengoole, Tom was secretary for six further years. From 1964 to 1969 he was Mid Tipperary representative on the County Board. In 1969 he was also elected as Mid Chairman and three years later became County Chairman. When he completed his term there, he returned to chair the Mid for a further three years, and on completion of that term became Mid Secretary, a position he has held since 1979.

He has also served as a county selector at various grades and in 1988 had the great satisfaction of being a selector with Gortnahoe-Glengoole as they won their first county intermediate hurling title. For good measure, Tom was also elected Lord Mayor of Gortnahoe-Glengoole last year, a tribute to his outstanding work as a fund-raiser for the development of the club's field.

Messages of congratulations to mark the occasion were received from John Dowling, President of the GAA; the Munster Council, the Tipperary senior selectors; the County Board and the Tipperary Supporters' Club.

A presentation of a magnificent piece of Tipperary Crystal with the new Mid GAA insignia was presented to Tom by the Mid Chairman, and there was also a presentation to Mrs. O'Hara.

'Martin Bourke (Clonmore) Tipperary' Clubman of the Year"

John Costigan

As a teacher, one of the most rewarding features of our profession is to observe past pupils distinguish themselves in various fields, having completed their education. Therefore it is with immense pleasure and a little pride that I pen a few words in recognition of the great honour bestowed on Clonmore's Martin Bourke who was nominated Tipperary Clubman of the Year in recognition of his wonderful work in promoting the aims and ideals of the Gaelic Athletic Association in the Clonmore and the Templemore Éire Og clubs.

Martin is the sixth of seven sons born to Peg and the late John Bourke of Dromard. It was not surprising that he developed a love of Gaelic games as from a very young age he observed his older brothers playing hurling and football both at school and club level so it was the natural thing for Martin to follow in their footsteps.

SCHOOLDAYS

Having arrived at Templemore C.B.S. in September '72 he immediately involved himself in hurling activities. He did not make an immediate impression on school teams as his brother Seamus had done a few years earlier. But his commitment and enthusiasm saw him improve by leaps and bounds and he was an outstanding full-back on the first Templemore team to capture a Munster (U-15) Corn an Phiarsaigh title in 1975.

He also won Fitzgerald Cup and Kinnane Cup medals during those years. Martin was to have left Templemore C.B.S. in June '77 but fate decreed that he should be in the Leaving Cert. class of '78 and it was Templemore's good fortune that he was, as he was an inspirational captain of the Harty and All-Ireland winning teams that year. He led by example being at all times first out on the field for training. As he was the senior figure on the team current stars like Pat McGrath and Bobby Ryan modelled themselves on him.

In 1978 having graduated from Templemore C.B.S. with a seven honours Leaving Certificate Martin proceeded to U.C.D. to study Mechanical Engineering which course he successfully completed in four years with an Honours Degree. On completing his studies he took up a position with Bord na Móna and having spent four years there he came face to face with current cutbacks that have become part and parcel of our times and as part of a rationalisation plan in the company he became redundant.

A GREAT CLUBMAN

Surely a traumatic occasion in any young man's life but Martin was not the type of young man to lie down feeling sorry for himself and during the time he was unemployed the Clonmore G.A.A. club were developing their new playing field, Martin took off his coat and picked up shovel and spade and gave much of his time until the job was complete. His professional expertise was also very much in demand in the venture. Therefore it was with great pleasure that the Clonmore club finally opened their new playing pitch in May of this year. Fortunately for the club Martin succeeded in obtaining employment in Nenagh in latter years with the Castlebrand company.

In 1983 with centenary year around the corner every club contemplated a history "in onóir na h-ocáide" Clonmore were no exception to the rule and again the onus fell on the broad shoulders of the big-hearted Martin. He set about his task and having done a little research he realised that Clonmore's history in isolation from the overall parish of Templemore, Clonmore and Killea would be incomplete so he decided to ignore the 1984 deadline and do a complete job.

It is now history that the completed book came out before Christmas in 1988. It was a wonderful piece of work and it will always be a memorial to the dedication, discipline and "bród Dúchais" of an exceptional young man.



Martin Bourke, administrator supreme and Tipperary Clubman of the Year receiving his award in the Burlington Hotel, Dublin, earlier this year from President of G.A.A. John Dowling. (L. to r.) Michael O'Kennedy (Minister for Agriculture); J. Hickey (Managing Director of Ciba Geigy, sponsors of the event), Martin Bourke and John Dowling (President of the G.A.A.)



Martin Bourke the player receiving the prestige Harty Cup from Archbishop Tomás Morris on the occasion of Templemore C.B.S. famous victory on April 16th, 1978.

His personal speech on the night of the launching was as good as I have had the privilege to hear at any G.A.A. function in my time and many observers on the night forecast a bright future for the young Clonmore man in the administrative side in future years.

Being secretary of his club as well as coaching an (U-14) team in Templemore and in the last few months helping to start a camogie club in town one would be surprised how Martin could give much time to the playing side.

Over the past number of years he has been one of the stalwarts of the Clonmore club on the playing field and a very happy moment for him was, when, after many years of relentless effort they finally captured the county Intermediate title in 1987 defeating Silvermines in the process. I can remember how proud Martin was of the

club's achievement at the time. It was men like Martin that Kickham had in mind when in his famous novel "Knocknagow" he spoke glowingly of the pride of the little village.

As county champions Clonmore provided the captain of the county junior team in 1988 and the honour fell to Martin who led Tipp to victory in the Munster Championship but in spite of a gallant effort he was denied the honour of captaining a winning all-Ireland junior team by a very good Kilkenny outfit.

So, in this very special year for Tipperary hurling followers it gives me great pleasure to salute another great Tipperaryman who has distinguished himself as a sportsman, historian, scholar and administrator. His motto in life appears to be to give and not to count the cost.

"Gura fada buan thú, a Mhairtín".



Photograph taken at the launching of the History of the G.A.A. in Templemore Parish
Back row (l. to r.): Timmy Grace, John Costigan, Tomás Ó Baróid, Tom Maher, John Egan, Francis O'Meara, John Ivors, Michael Curley, Frank Bourke, Paddy Guidera, Jim Ryan and Noel Morris. Front row (l. to r.): Richard Buckley, Liam Hennessy, Martin Bourke, John Dowling, Bill Ryan (Laha), Michael H. Maher, Canon O'Donnell P.P.



Tipperary referee Paddy Russell (Emly) who refereed this year's Munster Senior Football Final and All-Ireland Minor Football Final.

He is seen here in Killarney with his linesmen Willie Barrett and Pat Lane.

Moycarkey — Borris G.A.A. Club win National Competition

LAST August the Moycarkey-Borris G.A.A. club were announced as the first nationwide winners of the Kaliber Lager Sports club tour. Their winning prize of £4,000 went towards the cost of a trip to London the first week-end in November.

The competition open to all sports clubs in the twenty-six counties consisted of answering a number of sports questions and submitting a slogan. The Mid-Tipperary club was selected from the thousands of entries received and their winning slogan was "Kaliber is the ideal sporting drink because it puts vitality into sport without hangovers".

After the first phase of the competition Moycarkey-Borris were shortlisted and eventually declared the overall winners. The club decided that the £4,000 prize would be used towards part cost of the London trip. The next question was who would travel and the organising committee decided that the 1989 senior hurling team, club officers and all 1989 selectors in every grade would be invited on the trip. A party of forty accepted the invitations. All of the prize money had to be used to fund the trip on the stipulation of the promoters. Needless to say this was not sufficient and generous sponsors filled the void.

Members from the club travelled to Dublin in August and received their prize at a function organised by Wilson Hartnell, Public Relations Consultants. Arrangements for the trip began immediately and the first week-end in November was decided upon. Another first for Tipperary G.A.A. and Moycarkey-Borris.



Pictured at the presentation are (front row l. to r.): David Fogarty (club captain), Tony Brophy (Marketing Manager, Kaliber Lager, Guinness Group Sales, Ireland), Harry Ryan (chairman), Jimmy Fogarty (Hon. Secretary). At back (l. to r.): Billy Lanigan (assistant club secretary), John Hackett (P.R.O.), Liam Hennessy (former club chairman and Mid Board chairman), Michael Clohessy (football secretary), Conor Kennedy (former club secretary and Co. Board draw club co-ordinator).

Tipperary's Triple Crown

J. Perkins

We will sing of Tipperary
And our hurlers of renown
Who for the second time have won
The famous Triple Crown.
'Twas back in 1930
We accomplished that great feat,
And now in '89 again
The Triple Crown we greet.

2.
In famine, fight for freedom,
And on many a hurling field
Tipperary's son and daughters
Were never known to yield
There was character and training;
There was steel in every one;
There was discipline and daring
In every contest, we have won.

3.
We have beaten Cork and Kerry,
Limerick, Waterford and Clare,
Galway, Antrim, Down and Offaly;
Our three teams have gained their share.
Liam McCarthy, Michael Cusack,
Cashel Cross Trophy, is here;
We are proud of our great Champions
This memorable year.

4.
God be with you, John Joe Callanan
Russell, Harty of renown,
Who in '30 were the captains
To first win the Triple Crown.
Bobby took the Liam McCarthy
Declan raised the trophy up;
Kevin Laffan for the Juniors
Brought home the Cusack Cup.

5.
With our senior wise selectors,
Theo, Donie, 'Babs' we rate
Carroll, Morrissey, O'Meara
Ryan, Mick Minogue as great.
With the juniors Tommy Murphy,
Jackie Cooke and Vincent Ryan,
Templeuoahy's Billy Sweeney
And the 'Mines Jimmy O'Brien.

6.
I salute you Tipperary
For your great and noble sons
Who have won the senior, junior
And the Under-21's
From Fennor to fair Cullen,
From Lough Derg to Carrick Town,
Our grand youth will e'er remember
How we won the Triple Crown.
In every hill and valley
Where e'er the sun doth shine
We will sing of those great hurlers
Who won fame in '89.
The Devil's Bit and Galtees,
Keeper, Slievenamon look down
On the homes of Tipperary
That now hold the Triple Crown.

8.
The mist has left the mountain
The fog has left the plain;
There's the clash of ash now ringing
Round every home again.
There is hope in every young heart;
There's content and joy there now;
Our loved exiled sons and daughters
Are all proud of Knocknagow.

9.
It was character that made them;
And character that won
For those senior, junior, hurlers
And those men of twenty-one.
And character will stamp them
As hurlers of renown;
For 'twas character that won us
Tipperary's Triple Crown.

"Matt the Thresher"

No words can be written about the development of our G.A.A. grounds at Ballynira, Drombane, without first paying a tribute to the people with foresight and skill, who negotiated its acquisition in the first instance. Jacksie Ryan was to the forefront and now both he and two of the people who assisted him – James O'Dwyer and James Ryan – are the Club Trustees. We owe them a debt of gratitude.

The development and opening of Upperchurch-Drombane G.A.A. Grounds

CON HARRINGTON

BEGINNERS

IN the early 1970's, when the first structural works on field development took place, we were fortunate to have within our parish and Club people with knowledge and machinery to tackle a fairly major earth movement task. This was done very successfully, John Shanahan of Cappanaville being a central figure. That structural work has given the field the expanse of Croke Park, level as a plate, with its very own "Hill" at the far end. The overall setting is indeed delightful.

The second half of the 70's saw the Club active and indeed successful on the field of play, but slow to carry out improvements such as the erection of boundary wall, gate entrances etc. Percy Duggan, Club Chairman, pushed for action, and momentum again picked up. Through voluntary effort mainly, the appearance and presentation of the grounds was gradually improved.

Perhaps the high point was in 1981 when a successful Lord Mayor campaign raised substantial funds and dressingroom accommodation of a high standard was completed. Tommy Gleeson was Chairman then.

In the aftermath of the very intensive Club effort of that time, and in the excitement and pre-occupation with the Centenary All-Ireland in Semple Stadium, a lull in action took place in the mid 1980's. In 1987, in his role as County Development Officer, Percy Duggan did the ground work in launching a FÁS assisted plan for further field development. This scheme commenced in April 1988 and has resulted in much improved internal car-parking space, the putting in place of an elevated clay bank on the south side, and the completion of sideline seating accommodation on both sides.

As I write, a new FÁS assisted plan is commencing, the objective being to re-seed and landscape the south bank, the hill, and indeed the grounds as a whole. External toilets, storage shed and back-of-goal-line safety netting are contemplated also.



Left to right: Michael Bourke (Secretary), James Ryan (Trustee), John Shanahan (President), and Con Harrington (Chairman), Upperchurch-Drombane G.A.A. Club in attendance as Munster Council Chairman, Michael Maher, unveils the plaque marking the official opening of the G.A.A. grounds on Sunday evening, 2nd April, 1989.

THE OFFICIAL OPENING

On the 2nd April last the club gladly accepted the opportunity to officially open to the public our grounds. Through the co-operation of Tommy Barrett, County Secretary, and team management, the Tipperary County senior hurlers agreed to participate in an Inter County Tournament. Clare manager Seán Hehir relished the chance to have an early season 'crack' at Tipp. Drombane Co-Op. Society Ltd. were kind enough to sponsor a set of watches for the winners.

The occasion generated much enthusiasm and spirit at all levels within the club. No stone was left unturned to ensure that the pitch, the pavilion and surrounds were in tip-top shape. The ladies' committee undertook the mammoth task of catering for all visitors and guests. However, we couldn't control the weather, and inclement conditions just one hour before match-time didn't help.

Michael Maher, Chairman of Munster Council, unveiled a commemorative plaque and did the ceremonial opening, while Fr. Tom Egan C.C. blessed the field. Clubman Michael Greene refereed what was an entertaining, well contested, and sporting work-out for both the Tipp. and Clare camps. Tipp ran out winners in the closing quarter, the scoreline being 2-14 to 2-5.

The occasion was an historic one for

the Club. This was the first ever Inter County senior hurling tournament held in the parish. It was therefore a fitting time to officially open the pitch and to commemorate the people and events which have given the parish such a rich and long tradition in Gaelic activity. A Eugene Shortt compiled programme was a sought-after souvenir, since it brought together much information on club personalities who contributed to the G.A.A. at County and National level.

Well, the official opening is over, but field development will go on. The parish of Upperchurch-Drombane is justly proud of the fine facilities which now exist here. To the Club's delight, the Mid Board, too, gave due recognition this year by having two Divisional Hurling Finals played there.

The Club hopes in the future to host many more important games and to welcome Gaels from far and near to the special atmosphere that is Drombane.

While many tributes have been received, our own Brother Joe put it best

*I saw sliothars fly, in the evening sky
And were lost in the field or fence;
When Tipperary scored, how the
natives roared,
For the hurling was intense.*

*The field looked fine; here hurlers shine,
On a sod, so fast and true;
Each Upperchurch Gael, you did not fail,
Drombane, we're proud of you.*

Clonmore G.A.A.

Grounds Development

By Martin Bourke

There is no doubt that the Gaelic Athletic Association has in its hundred and five years existence given the people of Ireland much to cherish and be proud of in the way of admirable national pastimes. Invariably, it has seen many adverse changes down through the years and has weathered these to emerge as the great survivor of our time but in the years ahead it faces much more demanding challenges of modern times and its future will be determined by how well it responds to these changes.

It is imperative therefore, that in spite of population shifts, not to mention modern financial constraints, that clubs, the fabric of the Association, continue to make progress in every respect. The most fundamental requirement for any progressive and reasonably successful club is of course a proper playing pitch and the provision of modern facilities. The Clonmore G.A.A. Club were a case in point but May 7th, 1989, was a milestone in the history of the club as it marked the official opening of the club grounds. The grounds had been acquired in 1927 from the Land Commission for the sum of £60 and although it had been used for training purposes, it was unsuitable for the playing of games. In the mid-seventies the club moved its training to Templemore with the result that the local field became neglected. With an increase in the number of juveniles playing games in the early

eighties it was strongly felt that something positive needed to be done in relation to the field.

PLANNING THE PROJECT

At the 1985 annual general meeting, Martin Bourke tabled a motion requesting the club to provide proper facilities for the playing of our national games. The proposal received the unanimous backing of the meeting and it marked the beginning of what was to be a slow and tedious operation. Minor difficulties had to be surmounted, not least was how the necessary finance to fund the project was to be raised.

To avoid interest charges the club decided to raise the required funds before any development work would commence. While this decision had many advantages it also had its disadvantages, namely that the amount required and the urgency to collect the money would not be as great as would otherwise have been the case. However, after many meetings to discuss the fund-raising methods, a Lord Mayor election fund was finally launched at a buffet dance in Clonmore Hall on August 2nd. Three candidates, Seamus Bourke, Mary Nolan and Julia Leahy contested the election and after four months of fund-raising Seamus Bourke was elected with his fine contribution of £9,800. The campaign was a great success and the club benefitted to the tune of £16,112.

With the financial success of the campaign a lot of discussion took place on the best option available to the club. The majority favoured selling the existing field and purchasing a more suitable one closer to the village. Up to ten different locations were looked at but in February 1986, the club decided to pursue the only available option — namely to develop the existing field. By early June the development work commenced and was completed by the end of September. The field was fully enclosed and a car park provided but due to a deterioration in the weather the field was not finally sown until August 1988.

Meanwhile, the second stage of the development had to be tackled, namely to provide dressingrooms, showers and toilets. The club applied to the National Lottery and were successful in obtaining £5,000. With grants from the Munster Council and Central Council totalling £4,630, the club were in a sound financial state to commence the second stage. A structure 40" x 24" was erected consisting of two dressingrooms 14" x 15", toilets and showers 10" x 30", a store and a referees room.

OFFICIAL OPENING

With the development work completed, the stage was now set for the official opening on Sunday, May 7th. Weatherwise the day was ideal and a large crowd turned up to watch proceedings. Club chairman John Egan, Mid Board chairman Liam Hennessy and Parish



Clonmore club members at Official Opening of Field - May, 1989. Back Row (left to right): John Delaney, Eamon Cody, Francis O'Meara, John Egan, Martin Bourke, Liam Hennessy (Mid chairman), Phil Quinn, Francis Bourke and Seamus Bourke. Front Row (left to right): Jimmy Maher, Andy Maher, Julia Leahy, Fr. James Meehan, Canon A. O'Donnell, Liam Bergin and Michael Doyle.

Priest Canon O'Donnell all spoke in glowing terms of the tremendous work done by the club. Fr. James Meehan, P.P., New Inn, in declaring the grounds officially open said he was delighted to have lived to see the beautiful sports complex become a reality. He thanked the club for inviting him back to his native and beloved parish to perform the ceremony and stated that future generations of Clonmore people will thank you for what you have done — this marvellous parish amenity!

The days programme included a juvenile sports, a hurling game between Clonmore, 1970 Mid junior hurling champions and Clonakenny 1973 Mid junior hurling champions and a senior hurling tournament between Clonmore and Errill. The highlight of the day was an inter-county senior hurling tournament between Tipperary and Laois in Templemore at 7.30 p.m. with Laois narrowly but deservedly winning by two points on the score 3-15 to 4-10. An enjoyable buffet dance brought a successful day to a conclusion and the £3,230.86 profit was a great financial boost. In excess of £33,000 has been spent on the project and its pleasing to be able to record that all this money has now been collected. The club can feel proud of its achievement and now has facilities to match most rural clubs in the county.



Rev. James Meehan P.P., New Inn, and a native of Clonmore, officially opening the new playing field and dressingrooms on May 7th, 1989.



THURLES SRSFELDS, COUNTY U-21 CHAMPIONS, 1988

Back Row (left to right): Andrias Callanan, Seamus Maher, Pat Minogue, Garry Loughnane, Jackie Griffin, Seamus O'Shea (capt.), Ciaran Carroll, Brendan Carroll, Ger. Doherty, Donal O'Shea, Paul Murphy, Eddie Coman. Front Row (left to right): Sean Coffey, Andy Ryan, Clive Hanrahan, Thomas Maher, Walter Doyle, Trevor Cooke, Dara Purcell, Seán Callanan, Tony O'Meara, Padraig Dundon.

Tipperary's Three-in-a-Row Honoured by Irish Nationwide

A golden era of Tipperary hurling was honoured at a function in Dundrum House when the Tipperary team which won All-Ireland titles in '49, '50 and '51 were presented with the Irish Nationwide G.A.A. Great Teams of the Past awards.

Still sprightly, and bearing the burden of their years with the athleticism which distinguished their playing careers all but five of the 32 men who brought such glory to Tipperary were present for the memorable occasion to receive their awards from G.A.A. President, John Dowling of Offaly and the Managing Director of Irish Nationwide, Mr. Michael Fingleton.

Apart from G.A.A. President John Dowling, the distinguished gathering also included two other former G.A.A. Presidents, Seamus O'Riain of Moneygall and Kilkenny's Paddy Buggy. Ciarán O'Neill of the Croke Park Administrative staff and former inter-

county hurlers Eamon Goulding (Cork) and Eamon Cregan (Limerick) who are officials of the Irish Nationwide, were also in attendance as was the captain of the Laois team defeated by Tipperary in the '49 All-Ireland final, Paddy Rustchitzko, and Seán Ó Siochain, former G.A.A. general secretary.

It was a great evening for the players and their wives, many of whom were renewing acquaintance for the first time in almost forty years. Their memories of those halcyon days were revived by the showing of films of the '49 win over Laois and the '50 triumph over Kilkenny. No film of the '51 win over Wexford was available.

Captains present

The three Tipperary captains of the period, Pat Stakelum (Holycross) ('49), Seán Kenny (Borrisoleigh) ('50) and Jimmy Finn (Borrisoleigh) ('51) were present as was Tipperary G.A.A. chairman, Noel Morris and county secretary Tommy Barrett, along with current Tipperary captain, Bobby Ryan and team-mate Donie O'Connell.

Five of the squad have passed to their eternal reward — Tommy Doyle and Tommy Ryan of Thurles Sarsfields; Anthony Brennan, Clonoulty; Jim Devitt of Cashel; and Paddy Fleming, Carrick-on-Suir, but they were represented by members of their families or their wives, and were surely present in spirit on the night.

Appreciation of the sponsorship of Irish Nationwide for the event was voiced by G.A.A. President, John Dowling and Tipperary's Pat Stakelum who spoke on behalf of the players. John Dowling said it was fitting that a team which was so great and so magnificent in its time should be honoured. He hailed them as magnificent sportsmen who brought honour to their county and said that current teams could take example from the standard of sportsmanship displayed by them.

Pat Stakelum told Michael Fingleton of Irish Nationwide that he would never fully realise how much the players appreciated the honour bestowed on them, the first they had received as a group in forty years. Pat spoke of the spirit of the team and said that it was best exemplified by the attendance at the function of Seamus Bannon from Swansea and Philly Ryan of Borrisoleigh, both of whom were present despite ill-health.

Those to receive the awards were Pat Stakelum, Seán Kenny, Jimmy Finn, Tony Reddan, Michael Byrne, John Doyle, Flor Coffey, Phil Shanahan, Tom Ryan, Mick Ryan, Jimmy Kennedy, Jack Ryan, Sonny Maher, Seamus Bannon, Ned Ryan, John Hough, Timmy Ryan, Paddy Furlong, Ned Gorman, Phil Kenny, John Everard, Dinny Ryan, Connie Keane, Johnny Walsh, Tom Kevin, Philly Ryan.

Awards were received by Mrs. Charlotte Devitt on behalf of late husband Jim; Mrs. Anne Ryan on behalf of her late husband, Tommy; Jim Brennan, son of the late Anthony Brennan; Vincent Doyle, son of the late Tommy Doyle.

Mrs. Collins, daughter of the late Paddy Fleming, was unavoidably absent.

In Croke Park



Some members of the three-in-a-row team honoured at Croke Park on All-Ireland Day, Eddie Gorman, Bob Stakelum, Johnny Everard, John Walsh, Tom Kevin, Paddy Furlong.



The Tipperary senior hurling team of 1949-51 with subs at the Irish Nationwide G.A.A. "Great Teams of the Past" awards in Dundrum House Hotel. Also included are Michael Fingleton, Managing Director, Irish Nationwide and Seán Dowling, President, G.A.A.

Pat Stakelum recalls 'Three-in-a-row'

HUMBLE BEGINNING

It is my privilege to be invited to contribute to the Tipperary Year Book in this historic year of 1989. It is forty years now since I was lucky enough to be part of that victory march of the great Tipperary team of 1949, '50 and '51. The details are committed to the pages of hurling history but the memories live on.

This successful combination had in my opinion a humble beginning. Most of John Maher's team of 1945 had left the inter-county scene and our best effort had failed to Limerick in 1946, '47 and '48. Holycross/Ballycahill became Tipperary champions for the first time in 1948. Phil Purcell, Paddy Leahy, J. J. Callahan, Phil Purcell (Holycross-Ballycahill) and Tom Dwan were appointed as selectors. The county was searched from Lorrha to Carrick. Trials and challenges were arranged and a policy of youth was adopted.

We failed narrowly to Cork in the League Final '47-'48. Just a few months later Tipp beat Cork in the League Final '48-'49. This was the first real sign of this young team making its presence felt. The county championships took a dramatic rise in standard. Suit lengths tournaments and divisional championships were contested with great fervour.

Borrisoleigh — Boherlahan — Thurles — Moycarkey were all out to dethrone the champions. Sean Kenny's Borrisoleigh became champions of the county in '49 and again in '50. Competition for places on Tipperary's first fifteen became very keen. No one was sure of his place and a high standard of discipline was demanded and given.

A wealth of talent became available. In spite of the fierce rivalry at club level the warm spirit of togetherness was very evident when we all teamed up in the blue and gold.

TIPPERARYISM

This brand of Tipperaryism came to our rescue on many occasions especially when the chips were down. Tipperary people everywhere closed ranks behind the team. In the Spring of 1949 it became known that the great Tommy Purcell, one of our brightest stars would not be with us in our battle with Cork. This was a major set-back. But the darkest hour proved to be before the dawn.

The legendary Tommy Doyle was persuaded to come out of retirement. He answered the call magnificently. Tony Brennan made the then troublesome full-back position his own. Those two men who were our boyhood heroes of 1937 and '45 plus Mick Ryan, Roscrea; Sonny Maher and Flor Coffey, Boherlahan, gave

the team the strength and experience we needed.

The rest of the panel were young and willing to learn. Tony Reddan's goalkeeping was inspirational and Jimmy Kennedy's accuracy was phenomenal. We all got on well together and enjoyed winning. We guarded our places on the team jealously. The selectors were committed people who motivated us by their sincerity. The rest is history.

A UNITED FRONT

While we became All-Ireland champions almost overnight — the present team's historic break-through is as a result of many years of hard work and heart-break. We will always be indebted to the men who made it possible for us to say once again — Tiobráid

Arann Abú. The spin-off from this years success among our young juvenile players will ensure that we will never again experience the famine of the last eighteen years. With continued support and a united front the present team can equal and even surpass the three-in-a-row success. If we abide by the old spirit of Tipperary —

Tipperary is far greater than any Tipperaryman — then the '90's must belong to Tipperary.

In conclusion I salute my comrades of 40 years ago. Our re-union at Dundrum was a most enjoyable occasion and again on All-Ireland Day when we showed to the full — Tipperary's great triumph.

They were all great hurlers — great friends and above all great sportsmen. Thanks for the memories.

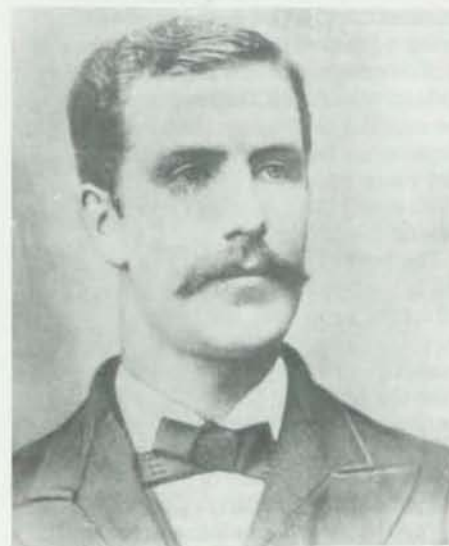


At the Irish Nationwide G.A.A. "Great Teams of the Past" awards in Dundrum House Hotel for the Tipperary senior hurling teams 1949-51 were (left to right) Jimmy Finn, Borrisoleigh; Pat Stakelum, Holycross; and Sean Kenny, Borrisoleigh, team captains, with Bobby Ryan, 1989 team captain.

Spain brace

William J. Spain, a native of Moanfin, Nenagh, was the first to win All-Ireland senior medals in football and hurling. He was in employment in Limerick when he lined out with the local Commercial's against Dundalk Young Irelands in the first All-Ireland football final, that of 1887, and scored the only goal of the game. The Shannonsiders came out on top in that decider.

Subsequently, he moved to Dublin, and helped the Kickhams side there to beat Tulla of Clare for the 1889 All-Ireland Senior Hurling Title. Incidentally, the Clare men played in their bare feet, a headline followed by many teams later.



William J. Spain

Coiste Camogaiochta Thiobraid Árann

1989 was a year of change and development for camogie in Tipperary. For the first time the County had a fixtures committee and thankfully an achievement that hadn't been reached for many years, all our county finals had been completed by Mid-October. With 22 clubs affiliated to the county and 9 competitions to be completed before the end of the season the committee had their work cut out for them. However, nearly all the clubs co-operated with them and things ran smoothly enough.

The full list of competitions run by the Board in 1989 were as follows, under-12, 14, 16, 18, Junior, Intermediate, Senior, John Hogan Cup for Junior teams and the Ann Fraser Cup for Intermediate and Senior teams and Junior and 7-a-side.

Cashel reached the Munster senior club final travelling to Sixmilebridge to take on the Clare champions. I wasn't at the game but from the reports I heard back it was one of the best camogie games to be seen for many years. I suppose a draw was a fair result.

The replay was fixed for the following Saturday in Cashel, surely this should have given them the edge they deserved, but in a thrilling finish in Leahy Park, Cashel, Sixmilebridge were victorious by the narrowest of margins, one point was all that was between them after 120 minutes of heart-stopping camogie.

COUNTY SCENE

On the county scene our u-16s were the team we looked to for that elusive All-Ireland title. After defeating Waterford, Cork and Limerick to take Munster honours, we were unsure of the Galway opponents, but with only a few minutes into the game we could see in our youngsters that only Kilkenny stood between them and an All-Ireland title. Alas Kilkenny proved to be superior on the day. With far more experience behind them and eight of last years' panel still under-16 for 1990 surely our turn must be only around the corner.

The Junior County team got a good run in the League reaching the play-off for the semi-final, but having to travel to Armagh with only half their usual strength things looked bad from the start. The girls put up a great performance and were only beaten by a few points. However, they went down in the first round of the Munster championship to Cork.

The U-18 team got off to a great start against Cork and led by 12 points at half time, but as always you

Competition

U-12

U-14

U-16

U-18

Junior

Intermediate

Senior

John Hogan Cup

Ann Fraser Cup

Junior 7-a-side

Winner

Toomevara

Burgess

Burgess

Cashel

Knockavilla-Donaskeigh

Burgess

Cashel

Moycarkey-Borris

Toomevara

Moycarkey-Borris

Runner-up

Burgess

Drom & Inch

Toomevara

Burgess

Moycarkey-Borris

Borrisokane

Toomevara

Knockavilla-Donaskeigh

Cashel

Knockavilla



COUNTY BOARD OFFICERS 1989

County Board Officers 1989 - Front: Biddy Philips (Treasurer); Geraldine Ryan (Chairperson). Back: Mary O'Dwyer (P.R.O.); Marion Graham (Secretary). Missing from photo is Eamonn Browne (Vice-Chairperson) and Liam Hogan (P.R.O.).



CASHEL — SENIOR COUNTY CHAMPIONS 1989

Back Row: (l. to r.) S. O'Sullivan, J. Tobin, M. O'Riordan, K. McCluskey, J. Butler, N. Ryan, A. M. Fitzgerald, S. O'Dwyer, N. Maher. Front (l. to r.) A. Ryan, T. Bonnar, C. O'Connell, M. Ryan, J. O'Dwyer (captain), J. Delaney, S. Ryan, H. O'Leary, K. Moloney.



TOOMEVARA SENIOR CAMOGIE — ANN FRAZER CHAMPIONS 1989

Back Row: Margaret Mounsey, Cora Kennedy, Regina O'Meara, Antoinette Keogh, Mary Stapleton, Catherine Guerin, Fiona Steed, Ann Bergin (captain), Siobhán Cusack. Front Row: Tricia Clarke, Siobhán Mounsey, Josie Broune, Ellen Guerin, Anne Gleeson, Deirdre Hughes, Patsy Hayes.

can never say you've won until the final whistle is blown. Cork came at us in the second half and mutilated our back-line, blasting sliotar after sliotar to the back of the net and ended with a 2 point victory. Shock was the feeling after the game combined with disappointment.

Selectors for u-16, u-18, Liam Hogan (Burgess) (trainer), Roger Mounsey, Toomevara; Martin Kennedy, Clonmel.

Junior selectors: Biddy Philips, Thurles, Bernie O'Dowd, Thurles, and John Kennedy, Toomevara, Liam Shinnick (trainer).

DEVELOPMENT SCENE

1989 will surely go down in history for camogie in Tipperary. The chairperson Geraldine Ryan called an emergency County Board meeting and informed all clubs that the Ragg hurling field was coming up on the market and that the County Board should make a go for it. This was

taken with mixed interest.

Everybody was for it but few felt we could come up with the necessary cash to achieve this major step for camogie in Tipperary.

We set about fund raising and distributed cards to all clubs for "Guess the Score", Tipperary v Galway semi-final. If all clubs could have put 80% effort into this and our cycle to Dublin for All-Ireland weekend our financial brick wall would have been broken.

With good inroads made into our fund raising but not the necessary target reached we approached the G.A.A. Board. Even though they could not provide us with the cash we needed, they left us in no doubt that they would help us in another way. Noel Morris felt it would be a tremendous loss to both us and them if the field should be sold outside the G.A.A. circles.

They arranged another meeting with us and disclosed that they had

made an offer to Drom-Inch club to buy the pitch and would lease it to us with the option of buying it when we were in a better financial state. We are indebted to the County G.A.A. Board for the help they have given us and to Drom-Inch club for all the times they allowed us the use of the field throughout the years. Many thanks.

7-A-SIDE COMPETITION

On Sunday, Nov. 5th we held our County 7-a-Side competition in Littleton. It is indeed disappointing to relate that Toomevara were the only entry for the senior competition and Borrisokane were the only team interested in playing in the Intermediate so those competitions didn't take place. The junior was well received with 8 entries — those being, Clonmel, Fethard, Toomevara, Moycarkey, Thurles, Gortnahoe, Drom-Inch, Knockavilla.

The final was between Moycarkey and Knockavilla after a thrilling game Moycarkey were victorious by one point. Congratulations to all teams who took part, again I was disappointed at the interest shown by our senior and intermediate teams in what could be described as a very enjoyable day of camogie.

SOCIAL SCENE

On Friday, Nov. 3rd, we had our dinner dance in the Anner Hotel, Thurles. This was an event we didn't have for many years. Again a number of clubs failed to support, but may I take this opportunity in telling them that they missed a "whale" of a night. The meal provided by Frank Mulcahy and his staff was excellent and the music was provided by the tremendous Midnite Dynamos.

Medals were presented to the captain of the winning teams and trophies were presented to the U-16 county team for their Munster Final victory and trophies for reaching the All-Ireland Final. The social was attended by approx. 170 people everybody enjoyed the night and are already looking forward to next year's one. Hopefully, more clubs will support it and make it even more enjoyable if that is possible.

FÉILE NA nGAEL

Next year as everybody knows Tipperary is hosting Féile na nGael. I hope everybody takes this competition serious and do camogie in Tipperary proud to be associated with such a fine event. Hopefully all clubs who have U-14 teams will enter this and that their goalposts, flags, uniforms, banners, dressingrooms will be in top class condition for the occasion.

THANKS

Before I conclude my report, I would like to thank all club secretaries and officials for their help



CASHEL — COUNTY CHAMPIONS U-18 AND TRAINER AND SELECTORS

Back Row (l. to r.): John Devitt, Neasa O'Dwyer, Kirsty McCluskey, Siobhán O'Dwyer, Ann Fitzgerald, Patricia Moloney, Angela Ryan, Roisin Nash, Sinead McGrath, Fiona O'Leary, Tom Devitt. Front Row: (l. to r.) Aine Rothwell, Silvia Ryan, Siobhán O'Sullivan, Jovita Delaney, Kaiffee Moloney (captain), Sinead Ryan, Helen O'Leary.

in 1989. Many thanks to the referees, umpires, linespeople, gate collectors and supporters, the people who prepared the pitches, your work is not financially rewarding, but nevertheless is greatly appreciated. Thanks to our sponsors for their contributions to our U-16 county team in the All-Ireland Final.

Thanks to the G.A.A. Board for the use of Semple Stadium for our County Finals and County Games, also for their financial assistance. To all the G.A.A. clubs for the use of their pitches and facilities, many thanks. A special word also to all the players who came to county trials, training and matches, to the parents of our under-age county teams for bringing them to the training sessions, it was appreciated. Thanks to my fellow officers for their assistance during the year, you made my task much easier. Finally, I would like to thank Liam O'Donoghue for giving me the opportunity of writing this article.

May I have this opportunity also of congratulating the senior, junior and under-21 county teams on winning their All-Ireland Finals.

Is mise,
Marion Ní Greachain,
Rúnaí

Officers for 1989

Chairperson: Geraldine Ryan

Vice-Chairperson: Eamonn Browne

Secretary: Marion Graham

Treasurer: Bridget Phillips

Joint P.R.O.: Mary O'Dwyer and

Liam Hogan.

Fixtures Committee:

Siobhán McDonnell, Sally Duggan, Marion

Graham, Geraldine Ryan, Mary O'Connell,

Kirsty McCluskey.

Féile na nGael Committee:

Chairperson: Marion Graham.

Sub-Committee: Ann O'Rourke, Ann

Moloney, Sally Duggan, Bridget Phillips.



TOOMEVARA U-12 CAMOGIE COUNTY CHAMPIONS 1989

Back Row (l. to r.): Miriam Maxwell, Bridget Phelan, Tara Young, Triona McCormack, Linda Hassett, Deirdre Keogh, Catriona Hassett. Front Row: Sarah Bergin, Helen McGrath, Anna Hogan (captain), Caroline Mounsey, Theresa Bergin, Hilda Mounsey.



TIPPERARY MINOR TEAM AND SUBS

Back Row (l. to r.): Mary Butler, Sinead McGrath, Caroline Dooley, Nuala Nealon, Roisin Nash, Sinead Nealon, Jovita Delaney, Angela Ryan, Grace Webster, Aine Rothwell, Helena Campion. Front Row (l. to r.): Marita Tobin, Nessa O'Dwyer, Lorraine Graham, Deirdre Hughes, Ciara Burns, Orla Hogan, Claire Madden, Helen O'Leary.



MOYCARKEY/BORRIS — JOHN HOGAN CUP WINNERS — AND 7-A-SIDE, 1989

Back Row (left to right): Siobhán Vaughan, Veronica Molumby, Mary Barrett, Geraldine Carey, Lorraine Graham, Margaret Costelloe, Ann Slattery, Ann Ralph (captain), Eddie Ryan (trainer). Front Row (left to right): Claire McKenna, Esther Butler, Claire Kenny, Mary T. Butler, Isobel Coman, Catherine Barrett, Sally Duggan, Ailis O'Dwyer, Josephine Carroll.

Schools Camogie

THE camogie competitions at secondary school level are run on a provincial basis. As of yet, regrettably, there is no county post-primary competition. Three Tipperary secondary schools, Presentation Convent, Cashel, Mercy Convent, Nenagh and Loreto Convent, Clonmel, took part in the 1988-'89 Munster competitions.

Though small in number, these schools represented Tipperary well with Cashel winning the two premier competitions and Nenagh being successful in the Intermediate 'B' competition. As a result of this win Nenagh will take part in the Munster senior schools championship in 1989-90.

SENIOR SUCCESS

In the senior championship, Presentation Convent, Cashel defeated St. Patrick's Comprehensive, Shannon and Scariff Community School to reach the Munster final. St. Mary's, Charleville, the reigning champions, were their

By: MARTIN QUIRKE

opponents in the final and Cashel emerged as winners to bridge a ten-year gap. Having come successfully out of Munster, Cashel faced the All-Ireland champions, St. Raphael's, Loughrea. The latter were trained by the well-known Cyril Farrell and were bidding for their fifth All-Ireland in a row. After a close, exciting and skilful game, Cashel had to give best to their more experienced opponents and Loughrea went on to capture that fifth title.

UNDER-15

In the Under-15 competition, Cashel and St. Mary's, Charleville emerged from a long campaign of 35 teams to contest the Munster final. This contest was played on one of the worst days of winter last February. After a close, low-scoring game Presentation Convent had the luck to emerge victorious. Again, Cashel faced

St. Paphael's, Loughrea in the All-Ireland semi-final but came out second-best once again.

INTERMEDIATE

Convent of Mercy, Nenagh won the Munster Intermediate 'B' competition for the third time in April. Their previous wins were in 1982 and 1983. Their opponents in the final, played at Charleville, were Presentation Convent, Crosshaven and they emerged victorious.

In 1989-90 the Tipperary schools will be hoping to go one better and bring an All-Ireland trophy back to the premier County.

The Cashel and Nenagh schools provided the bulk of the players that brought the Tipperary U-16 county team through Munster to an All-Ireland final with Kilkenny. If more schools could be encouraged to promote camogie then, coupled with good disciplined club camogie, Tipperary would not be long more suffering a camogie famine at senior county level.

Juvenile Handball

Tipperary juvenile handballers did well this year with many success stories notably — Fergal and Joseph Ryan (Silvermines) All-Ireland win.

But many more high points come to mind. At the beginning of the year, the Tipp team won the Special Munster 40/20 League competition. This was a Special Munster competition for a team of six juveniles, run on a league basis. After good wins over Limerick, Cork and Clare then met Cork in the league final. The U-13 pair of John O'Mahony and Kenneth O'Neill (Newport), were beaten by Cork but Fergal and Joseph Ryan (Silvermines) proved to be in good form making up the lost aces and giving the last pair a three ace lead. The experienced pair of Michael Carrie and Noel Marshall (Cashel) showed all their class in the U-16 doubles to beat Cork by seven aces to win the league title. In the 40/20 Provincial championship, Tipperary won five titles.

Thomas Clifford and K. O'Brien (Newport) beat Cork in the Munster semi-final and then played superbly in the final to beat Limerick 5-15, 15-3, 15-12 in the U-12 doubles final.

Michael Moylan (Newport) had an easy win over Cork in the semi-final and then surprised his Limerick opponent in the final to win the u-13 singles 15-7, 15-13.

Michael Carrie and Timmy Moloney (Cashel) teamed up to beat Cork 15-14, 15-8 in the semi-final and then disposed of Clare in the final 15-9, 4-15, 15-3. In the All-Ireland semi-final, they had a close fought win over Cavan 14-15, 15-10, 15-11. In the final, they lost out to a stronger Kilkenny pair 15-7, 15-8.

John Kennedy (Silvermines) had an easy win over Cork in the semi-final and Clare in the final 15-7, 15-9. In the All-Ireland semi-final he fought gallantly but lost to Monaghan 15-4, 8-15, 15-13.

In the 60/30 Provincial championship, Tipperary also won five titles. Denis White (Cashel) had an easy win over Cork and Limerick to win the Munster title and then overcame his Tyrone opponent 14-15, 15-9, 15-0 in the All-Ireland semi-final. In the final, Denis was never in the game losing to Kilkenny 15-0, 15-2 in the U-15 singles final.

Timmy Moloney (Cashel) won the Munster title with an easy win over Limerick in the final but then lost to C. Curran (Tyrone) 15-2, 15-10 after putting up a brave show in the U-16 singles All-Ireland semi-final.

Michael Carrie and Noel Marshall (Cashel) had an easy win over Cork in the Munster semi-final but had a close win over Limerick in the Munster final and had another close win over Tyrone 13-15, 15-3, 15-6 in the All-Ireland semi-final. In the All-Ireland final, the Cashel lads, were well beaten by Offaly 15-4, 15-8 in the U-16 doubles final.

John Dwyer (Cashel) won the Munster title and had an easy win over Tyrone 15-10, 15-7 in the All-Ireland semi-final. In the final, John was well beaten by Wexford 15-4, 15-8 in the U-17 singles final.

This year has not been a good year for Kenneth O'Neill and John O'Mahoney (Newport) with no major titles. But they turned in a super show in the 40/20 Munster U-14 doubles final before losing out to the fancied Clare pair of D. and L. Frawley 15-8, 9-15, 15-8.

"County 40/20 title winners"

Minor Singles — David Moloney (Cashel).
Minor Doubles — David Moloney and Noel Murphy (Cashel).
U-21 Singles — James Kennedy (Silvermines).
U-21 Doubles — James Kennedy and Martin Ryan (Silvermines).
Novice Singles — Jim O'Brien (Silvermines).
Novice Doubles — Pat and Tony Flaherty (Youghalarra).
Junior Singles — Joey McCullagh (Silvermines).
Junior Doubles — Joey McCullagh and Martin Maher (Silvermines).
Masters Singles — Vincent O'Shea (Lahorna).
Masters Doubles — Vincent O'Shea and David Slattery (Lahorna).
Golden Masters Singles — P. "Musha" Maher (Clonmel).
Golden Masters Doubles — Jim O'Brien and Pat Cleary (Silvermines and Lahorna).

U.S. Trials

Earlier in the year on the 11th and 12th of March, trials were held in Clare for a trip to the U.S. Masters Singles 40/20 championship. Vincent O'Shea (Lahorna) entered for a bit of match practice, but to his surprise, he reached the semi-final, losing to the eventual winner — John Kirby (Clare). Vincent beat N. Kerins (Kerry) in the quarter-final in a hard fought match but lost to Kirby 21-9, 21-11. John Kirby went on to beat W. Pratt (Kilkenny) 21-16, 21-12 in the final.

Burgess Treble Champs '89

By: LIAM HOGAN, CHAIRMAN

Since the establishment of a club in Burgess in 1985, the success story of this little club has been phenomenal. Our first taste of championship camogie was in 1986, and in that year, two County Championships were won — U-12 and U-14. The County U-13½ Community Games was also achieved.

The following year, 1987 was regarded as a lean year — winners of U-13½ County Community Games, beaten in Munster Final by Shannon, Co. Clare who went on to win the All-Ireland. In 1988, we had another successful year, winning the U-14 Feile na nGael, All-Ireland, Division 3.

The U-14 County Championship and Junior Championship were also won. The winning of the Junior Championship was a bonus as we entered a team to gain experience and we were victorious at our first attempt.

The current year has been our most successful, winning the U-14, U-16 and Intermediate Championships. Again this was our first year in the Intermediate Championship and again our girls obliged by beating a very experienced Borrisokane side.

We have now reached senior status in the space of four years. Little did we think back in 1986 that we would be fielding a Senior team in 1990. Great credit is due to the players for the dedication and to those who have worked so hard to bring the club to this level of competition. A number of our players have graced the playing fields with the County Minors and U-18's during the year.



BURGESS UNDER-14

Back Row (left to right): Elaine Quinlan, Norma Slattery, Ciara Burns, Marie Slattery, Shiela Brophy, Maureen Kyne, Shiela Kyne, Ann-Marie Ryan. **Front Row** (left to right): Sorcha McDonnell, Christina Kennedy, Máiréad Hogan, Áine Hogan, Isabella Tynan, Una Collins, Teresa Brophy. Missing from photo, Barbara Tynan, Maria Hogan.



BURGESS UNDER-16

Back Row (left to right): Norma Slattery, Elaine Quinlan, Maria Hogan, Carol Quinlan, Orla Hogan, Sinead Nealon, Deirdre Cooney, Maureen Kyne, Ann Marie Ryan. **Front Row** (left to right): Ciara Burns, Marie Slattery, Máiréad Hogan, Áine Hogan, Christina Kennedy, Isabella Tynan, Maeve McGrath, Nuala Nealon. Not in photo — Siobhán Tynan.



BURGESS INTERMEDIATE TEAM

Back Row (left to right): Norma Slattery, Elaine Quinlan, Maria Hogan, Patricia McGrath, Carol Quinlan, Siobhan McDonnell, Orla Hogan, Sinead Nealon, Deirdre Cooney, Patricia Carmody, Ann Marie Ryan. **Front Row** (left to right): Ciara Burns, Marie Slattery, Máiréad Hogan, Áine Hogan, Christina Kennedy, Isabella Tynan, Maeve McGrath, Nuala Nealon, Emer Nealon. Not in photo — Mary Collins, Siobhan Tynan, Mary Minogue, Noreen Kelly.

CAMOGIE

Eamon de Brún

AFTER an unsuccessful year in 1988, compared to the previous few years, in the beginning of '89 morale was low. Even though we had won the Junior County League in '88, the championship had again eluded us, and this was the cause of morale being low. We had been into and lost the previous three finals. We also lost some of our most notable players, and our greatest loss was Noreen Tobin, which could be understood, but players who were prepared to be involved — and play elsewhere — was difficult to fathom.

Nonetheless, with a lot of persuasion and being lucky to secure a few good players in the persons of Ann Frawley, Edel English and Marian Mulvey, we got down to the task, a little later than usual, and after a quiet start the pieces came together again, thanks chiefly to the girls, who put in great work at training.

We won our way through to the final of the John Hogan Cup, where our opponents were Moycarkey Borris, whom we beat in the previous year's final. This game was played in Durlais Óg's pitch in Thurles, and after dominating the game we still failed to score enough to win, and a late goal from Moycarkey earned them a draw. In the replay we were well beaten, never playing on the night, but all credit to Moycarkey on their display — and few clubs deserved a win more.

We called training for the following Thursday night, expecting a low turnout, but we were surprised that so many were present. We told the ladies that night of our plans and what we expected of them, and in fairness to them they didn't let us down.

In the first round we won rather easily and some fine displays from the girls gave us hope. We had only the bare 12 players to start and this is where girls like Catherine McCormack play their part. Marie Dalton arrived during the first half and made her contribution. Madeleine Browne, Valerie Wade, Sharon Browne scored most on the night.

We played Carrick in the second round and we again won easily in the end, after a tough, hard game. We played Cahir in the 3rd round in Cashel and after a very close game we emerged winners by 3 points. This took us into the County semi-final, where our opponents were Lorrha.

The game, played in the Ragg, was very close for most of the game but the girls pulled away in the end. Yvonne O'Dwyer, Eileen Kearns, Geraldine Browne, Edel English and Ann Frawley were our best players on that day. On the other side of the draw, our conquerors in the John Hogan Cup, Moycarkey Borris, won through. This game was fixed for October

1st in Semple Stadium and everything was right for the big day.

We travelled with a lot of hope, provided the girls played to form, and this they did. From the throw-in they played tremendously, every girl on the team. And they emerged winners on the day by 5 points. Bernie Breen, Jean Lonergan, Marie Dalton, Sharon and Madeleine Browne, Marian Mulvey, Marie Dalton, Triona Kinnane, Edel English, Yvonne O'Dwyer, Ann Frawley and Eileen Kearns played trojanly.

Margaret Hayes, Marie Barron, Valerie Wade, Catherine McCormack and Marian Bishop were a vital part also of this great win, of which we are extremely proud. This was the fifth County Final win since we started five years ago. We now enter the intermediate championship next year.

We also entered the u/18 championship but lost out to the eventual winners in Cashel. Players who played here, in addition to those already mentioned: Theresa Horgan, Breda Ryan, Ciara O'Brien, Sinéad Carew. We are also indebted to the people who drove the girls during the year: Mrs. Frawley, Mrs. Kinnane, Tommy Hayes, Joe Lonergan, Michael Cummins, Noreen Browne, Marie Dalton.



KNOCKAVILLA-DONASKEIGH - CAMOGIE 1989

Roscrea Vocational School Camogie Report

Camogie was a very definite minority interest in Roscrea Vocational School for the past 20 years. Two factors helped to change this: (1) The emergence of local clubs Ballyskenach and Shinrone as camogie basis; (2) the interest shown by trainer Gabrielle Quigley.

Like the resurgent Tipperary senior team, the Vocational School showed flashes of promise in the years leading up to 1988 — a narrow defeat by Nenagh V.S., brilliant hurling a few years earlier by Mary Moloney of Roscrea, victories in challenge matches with Gloster and Sacred Heart Convent teams. Suddenly, without warning, it all fell into place.

1989 opened with a much-postponed North Tipp fixture v. Borrisokane, played in Roscrea. The latter had defeated Roscrea so many times previously that the result was taken as a foregone conclusion. One parent who rang the school secretary to enquire about the match refused to believe that Roscrea V.S. had actually won by 26 points.

This writer remembers the day he rang Radio Éireann to query a half-time score: Waterford 8-2, Tipperary 0-0, in the late 'Fifties.

The scoring feats of Theresa Kirwan will not be forgotten. Theresa it was who broke Borrisokane hearts with three first-half goals, and for good measure tacked on 1-1 in the second half. Roscrea were so much on top that the real stars of later games went unnoticed in the rout.

In the final of the North Tipp Cup Nenagh proved to be much sterner competition. Roscrea, playing with the wind, tacked on four points in the first half but were held to level scores by half-time. When Nenagh goaled with ten minutes to go it was all over. But resolute defence by Linda Franks and D. Whyte steadied the team.

Daring bursts forward by Michelle Davis and her sister Siobhán secure the vital scores. Roscrea pulled ahead to win by four points: Roscrea 4-6, Nenagh 3-5. The first ever title for the school.

The Munster senior competition old-stagers Ennis V.S., many times All-Ireland champions, were our first round opponents. For ten minutes the first-time ground striking of the Roscrea girls had Ennis rattled, but it wasn't long 'til craft and experience began to tell.

The Ennis centre-forward walked through a hesitant Roscrea defence and palmed two goals and a point. Only an opportunist goal by Fiona Davis kept Roscrea in touch.

Ennis continued to dominate the second half — even against the wind — until ten minutes from time. Long-range frees from M. Davis pegged them back to a two-point lead. A melee in the Ennis goalmouth saw Siobhán Davis shoot the winning goal.

The drama was not over. The Ennis centre-forward burst through with a seemingly unstoppable shot — it was then that goalie Anita Franks — always sound — rose to the occasion with a magnificent save. The game was over!

MUNSTER FINAL V. NENAGH

If the North Tipp Cup game was a thriller, then this was a classic of excitement. Nenagh were out for revenge. The first half was almost totally dominated by defences — both forward lines managed one point each. Outstanding in

defence were Emma Carroll and Geraldine Tynan. Midfield and forwards were having problems.

A second-half switch of Siobhán Davis to centrefield paid rich dividends as she broke the Nenagh dominance. Sarah McCarthy, a first-year student, took on the Nenagh half-backs with two fine points. Roscrea held this lead. Roscrea held this lead — Marie White, Dympna Whyte and Linda Franks closed down the now-dangerous Nenagh forwards.

Five minutes from time Nenagh goaled — two minutes into injury-time Roscrea goaled. Siobhán Davis was again the saviour. Feature of the match was a super first-time struck point by Pamela Brereton. Roscrea 1-5; Nenagh 1-4.

ALL-IRELAND SEMI-FINAL V. CAVAN V.S.

Marie White was drafted into the forward line to add some scoring power — her place in the backs went to Theresa Brophy. It was a non-contest. Superb displays by Marie White — two goals — forwards Pamela Brereton and Fiona Davis, complete dominance at centre-field and power-packed defensive play of Linda Franks and Geraldine Tynan, saw off the Cavan Challenge by half-time when Roscrea led by three goals.

ALL-IRELAND FINAL V. THOMASTOWN

This was an extremely colourful and exciting game — a game of swinging fortunes and clever stickwork. Thomastown, old hands in All-Ireland competition, were outthured for much of the first half. Roscrea squandered a multitude of changes and with twenty minutes of domination had a mere three points to show. Two goals in five minutes completely unnerved the Roscrea girls.

Despite trojan work by Michelle Davis and Dympna Whyte, the Roscrea machine stuttered to a halt as Thomastown piled on the scores in the second half. Only a goal from a "35" by Michelle Davis kept us in touch.

Suddenly, a mixture of Thomastown running out of steam and Roscrea finding themselves, the game swung our way.

Marie White, Sarah McCarthy and Emma Carroll got control of centrefield — the injured Dympna Whyte spurred on her side, Michelle Davis broke forward time after time. A goal with three minutes to go saw wholesale panic in the Thomastown ranks. Two frantic Roscrea attacks were narrowly wide — time had run out on a gallant team.

In the bitter disappointment of defeat it seemed little consolation that as well as winning the first camogie championship game in twenty years that Roscrea had defeated three of the powers in V.S. camogie: Nenagh (twice), Borrisokane and Ennis. Perhaps on a less greasy pitch the lighter team might have won. Final score: Thomastown 3-3; Roscrea 2-4.

Two players must be singled out. Captain Dympna White, who led by example all year, and camogie player of the year Michelle Davis who was outstanding in every game.

Linda Franks at full-forward marshalled her inside line with help from Geraldine Tynan and Marie White. Centrefield saw starring performances from Siobhán and Fiona Davis. Sarah McCarthy, a first-year, hurled with intelligence and great bravery. Emma Carroll — a play-anywhere players — starred in the Munster final. Pamela Brereton and Theresa Brophy gave of their best while goalie Anita Franks had an outstanding game.



A determined Nicholas English with Galway's Pete Finnerty in the semi-final.

All-Ireland Champions 1988

Rorer/Careys bring Inter-Firms title to Nenagh

PRIOR to 1989, All-Ireland titles were a rarity in Tipperary hurling circles. However 1988 ended on a high note for the Tipperary Inter Firms Board, when two factories from Nenagh amalgamated and went on to win ultimate honours in the Junior Hurling Championship. Careys and Rorer were the successful combination and drawing their players from many of the prominent clubs of North Tipperary, they put together an impressive squad.

The Careys/Rorer combination virtually romped through the preliminaries of the Munster campaign right to the final. This was due mainly to a tight marking defence which conceded very little in the way of scores, a midfield in which M. Kennedy always played a captain's role, ably assisted by V. McKenna and a free

scoring forward line in which J. Darcy, J. O'Dwyer and G. Gleeson in particular could always be looked upon to come up with the telling scores.

This set up Careys/Rorer for a chance of their first Munster title in 21 years. Having had the experience of a final appearance the year before, they would be installed as favourites, but Castlemahon, their opponents were not to be underestimated. However the Nenagh boys were determined to make up for the disappointment of the year before. They were in command from start to finish. An early goal by N. Corbett put the team well on their way. They led by 1-5 to 0-4 at half time. They weathered an early storm from Castlemahon and with six minutes left Jimmy O'Dwyer sealed the occasion with a fine goal following a solo run of all of fifty yards.

This victory then qualified the Nenagh combination for their first All-Ireland appearance. On a cold and wet December 3, they squared up to a Castlecomer combination in Callan. Played in poor weather conditions, the Nenagh lads were in control from the early stages but were pushed all the way by a young Kilkenny side. They recorded a 3-10 to 2-8 victory to give a major boost to Inter-Firms hurling in North Tipperary. Pat Maher at midfield was the outstanding player in the final, fielding, tackling and distributing perfectly. He was ably assisted by an inspiring captain, Michael Kennedy who was a tower of strength throughout.

The halfback line was probably the bulwark on which the Castlecomer attack floundered. Noel Coffey, Michael O'Meara and Seamus O'Sullivan formed a formidable unit which repelled all onslaughts and set up many attacks.

Behind them Gerry Hynes, Rory Brislane and Liam Flannery cleared their lines effectively in front of a competent goalkeeper in Liam Gleeson, who seldom put a foot wrong. John Darcy and Vincent McKenna were the leading marksmen in attack. Jimmy Dwyer's point from a sideline cut will long be remembered. Neilly Corbett was at the centre of many of the Nenagh scores. Ger Gleeson and Michael Kearns were valuable providers and score getters. Intercounty star, John Heffernan, was introduced as a second half substitute and added greater stability to the overall team performance. Ger Whyte and Pat Harrington were other substitutes who contributed to Rorer/Careys All-Ireland victory. A national title had come to Nenagh and months of hard work had been rewarded.



MUNSTER FINAL WINNING TEAM

Back Row (left to right): N. Corbett, P. Farrelly, R. Brislane, P. Havery, G. Hynes, N. Coffey, P. Maher, G. Gleeson, V. McKenna, L. Gleeson, T. Shanahan (selector), Michael Howard (selector). **Front Row** (left to right): S. O'Sullivan, G. White, J. Darcy, Michael O'Meara, M. Kennedy, L. Flannery, P. Gavin, J. Dwyer. Missing - C. O'Farrell, K. Kennedy, J. Heffernan, M. Kearns.

'Sweeper' first President of Mid G.A.A. Board

FORMER Tipperary hurling great and well-known Division administrator, Mr. Paddy 'Sweeper' Ryan has been appointed first President of the Mid Tipperary G.A.A. Board. The appointment was ratified at the adjourned

convention of the Board.

Mr. Ryan's selection for the position follows Sarsfields' motion successfully tabled at the Mid Convention calling for the appointment of an Honorary President.

The club was anxious that the Board would select the candidate for the presidency rather than elect one and as a result the genial 'Sweeper' had been a unanimous choice.

Paddy 'Sweeper' Ryan comes from one of the best hurling families in the country and with his brothers, Johnny and 'Mutt', won almost every honour in the game. With their brothers, Larry, Timmy, Tommy and Billy, they carved out a glorious era for Moycarkey-Borris hurling in the 'Thirties in particular.

'Sweeper' has two All-Ireland senior hurling medals to his credit won in 1937 and 1945 as well as county and divisional honours and as an administrator he served the Mid Tipperary Board with distinction as its secretary for eighteen years from 1948 to 1966. He also served at County Board level and as a county selector and his selection now as president is a most popular choice of the Board.



Tom O'Hara, Harry Ryan, Paddy 'Sweeper' Ryan and Liam Hennessy pictured at Littleton.

1989 was once again a very successful year for Bórd na nÓg. Although there were a few one-sided games we still had plenty of skill, spills and excitement to make the year a memorable one.

Co. Bórd na nÓg Round-up



GRANGEMOCKLER/BALLYNEALE — UNDER-12 SOUTH TIPP WINNERS GROUP C

Back Row (left to right): Jonathon Downey, Bobby Houlihan, Gerard Crowley, Kevin Freaney, Laurence Heffernan, Eamonn Cooney, Shane Comerford, Padraig McCarthy, Noel Murphy, James Wallace, Patrick Holloway. Front Row (left to right): Ted McGuire, Brian McCarthy, Ian Walsh, Shane Murray, Paul Cahill, Cathal Houlihan, Ger O'Toole, Desmond Murphy, Brian Dignam, Mark Carberry, Paul Ryan, Jamie Murphy, Willie Wallace. Insert: David Walsh, Kevin Tobin.

Ard Finnan put two u-12 football titles back to back. Dúrlas Óg made a clean sweep of the u-14 Urban Rural football and hurling championships, Féile na nGael and Turas na nÓg competitions. Holy Cross won their first juvenile title at county level since 1973. We saw the introduction of the U-16 'B' championships at county level. We saw a brilliant N. Tipperary team win the Munster u-16 hurling championship.

James Gleeson

U-12 Football

Arravale Rovers had six points to spare over Éire Óg, Nenagh, in one semi-final in Drombane. Ard Finnan, winners over Dúrlas Óg in the 1988 final had one point to spare over the Thurles lads in the other semi-final, on the score 0-3 to 0-2. In the final Arravale and Ard Finnan drew the

first day in Bansha. The replay again produced a cracking game with Ard Finnan winning by 3-8 to 2-8. Ard Finnan have now won the 1988 and 1989 u-12 football titles — a remarkable back to back for a rural club.

U-12 Hurling

In a very well contested championship Dúrlas Óg eased out Toomevara by 2-3 to 1-3 in the first semi-final. Ballingarry created quite a bit of interest in emerging South winners. They drew with Knockavilla Kickhams in the second semi-final in Holycross. The replay again took place in Holycross and a much more organised Ballingarry side emerged victorious by 0-6 to 0-1. On the strength of beating a highly polished Toomevara side one would have to make Thurles firm favourites for the final. However, they had to fight hard all the way through before defeating a gallant Ballingarry side by 1-5 to 0-1.

U-14 Urban - Rural Hurling

Where u-14 juvenile affairs were concerned, this year belonged to Dúrlas Óg. They won Féile u-14 Urban-Rural hurling and football championships and crowned a memorable year by winning the coveted Turas na nÓg competition in football.

In the semi-final of the Urban-Rural hurling they inflicted a heavy defeat on Arravale Rovers. Toomevara had a narrow win over St. Mary's, Clonmel, in



ARDFINNAN — SOUTH AND COUNTY CHAMPIONS UNDER-12

Back row: Pat Quirke (manager), David Brown, Eric Guthrie, Shane Mahoney, Tristan Brown, John Kinehan, Brian Loneran, Marcus Ryan, Liam Hennessy, Paul Loneran, Kieran Quirke, Alan Gorman, Liam Norton, Diarmuid Boyle, Jamie Loneran. Middle Row: Noel Brown, Liam Myles, Wesley Burke, Colm Quinn, Stephen Maher, Johnny Walsh, Padraig Ahern, Glenn Grace, Andrew Ryan, Aidan O'Mahoney, Kieran Savage. Front Row: Brendan McCarthy, Bobby Carrigan, Johnny English, Nigel Carrigan, Colin White, Gerard Sullivan, Ross Hally, Garret Ahearn.

the other semi-final. The final had a predictable pattern about it from the start with the Mid lads proving the dominant force and winning by 5-9 to 3-2.

U-14 Urban-Rural Football

In the first semi-final Dúrlas Óg crushed Eire Óg, Nenagh by 6-9 to 0-1 in a very one-sided game. In the other semi-final Clonmel Commercials had to fight hard against a spirited Arravale Rovers side before emerging victorious on the score 4-4 to 1-5. The final was a repeat of the 1987 u-12 final. Commercials u-12 champions two years ago had to be favourites going into the game. However, they came up against a well trained and resolute Thurles side and the Mid boys triumphed by 2-6 to 1-8 in an intriguing encounter in Cashel.

U-14 Rural Football

North representatives Newport had an easy victory over Knockavilla in one semi-final in Drombane. Fr. Sheehy's representing the South defeated Holycross in the other semi-final. The Clogheen side who were shocked by Kildangan in last year's semi-final were fully determined that a similar occurrence would not be repeated in this year's final. They prepared carefully and diligently and in the end easily enough accounted for an earnest Newport challenge by 4-7 to 1-5.

Turas na nÓg

A trip to the All-Ireland football final was the prize for the winners of this year's Turas na nÓg competition. The Rural football champions and Urban-Rural football champions played-off for this highly acclaimed reward. Though Fr. Sheehy's put up a spirited performance they went down to a much stronger and skillful Thurles outfit. This competition which is the envy of many other counties alternates each year between hurling and football and has been in operation since



Kilruane Under-14 Rural Captain Richie Darcy, accepts the magnificent Shield, the symbol of county supremacy, after his team's final victory over Holycross.

the 1970s. The winning panel receives Cusack Stand tickets for the All-Ireland Final. It is greatly appreciated each year by the winning side.

Rural Hurling

Kilruane returned to the juvenile hurling fold with a tremendous victory in the u-14 rural hurling championship. They completely outclassed Knockavilla Kickhams in the first semi-final. Holycross defeated Cahir in the other semi-final. The final fixed for Borrisoleigh turned out to be a very well contested game. Holycross stayed with them throughout the hour but in the end Kilruane had that bit extra in reserve and emerged victorious by 3-8 to 0-8.

U-16 Hurling

In winning the u-16 hurling championship Holycross won their first county juvenile title in any grade since 1973. Arravale Rovers defeated St. Mary's, Clonmel in a tightly contested game by 2-8 to 2-6 in one semi-final. Holycross and Toomevara had to meet twice to earn the second placing. In the first of those games Holycross had to come from behind to earn a 1-8 each draw. In the replay they completely outshone Toomevara to reach the final. That game was played in Semple Stadium and was fiercely contested all through. Holycross had that much more in reserve and won easily enough in the end by 2-13 to 1-8.

U-16 Football

Eire Óg, Nenagh, had a thoroughly convincing win over Ard Finnan in the first semi-final in Holycross.

Arravale Rovers easily defeated Holycross in the second semi-final by 4-11 to 1-6 in Boherlahan. The final was played in Drombane and while not taking from a solid Arravale victory the game was a lack lustre affair. The effects of being involved in the concluding stages of four major county championships told on Nenagh and in the end Arravale emerged easy winners.

U-16 Football 'B'

Following the introduction of the Minor 'B' and U-21 'B' championships at county level it was only a matter of time before the same would happen at juvenile level. Following a successful Solohead motion to Convention 'B' championships to county level were introduced in hurling and football, on a one year trial period.

In football Boherlahan defeated Ballina by 0-8 to 1-2 in the first semi-final. South representatives Killenaule defeated Lattin/Cullen in the other semi-final in Boherlahan. Boherlahan had that little extra in reserve over Killenaule in the final and emerged victorious by a narrow margin.

U-16 Hurling 'B'

Ballybacon/Grange proved too strong for Upperchurch-Drombane in one semi-final. Moneygall easily defeated Lattin/Cullen in the other semi-final.

Although Ballybacon beat Upperchurch in early September the final was not played until the first week in November. A hold-up in the West Championship and Moneygall's involvement in the Minor championship contributed to this. The final resulted in a win for the boys from Ballybacon.



Dúrlas Óg's Pat Murray receiving the County Shield from Bord na nÓg chairman, Mr. Donal Shanahan, following his team's win over Toomevara in the county Urban Rural hurling final U-14.



Seán Treacy's - Deirdre O'Connell - Solo Song - County Winner Scór na nÓg.



A. M. Clancy, Lattin/Cullen County Scór na nÓg winner - Recitation.

Féile na nGael

Dúrlas Óg represented Tipperary in the All-Ireland Féile na nGael final in Laois/Offaly this year. They had easy wins over Portlaoise and Castletown but went down to Dublin in their crucial game. In the county semi-final they defeated Toomevara by 2-9 to 0-3. Killenaule had an easy victory over Cashel in the other semi-final. The South lads had no answer to Thurles in the final and went down by 2-14 to 1-1.

Féile Skills

The County Féile skills competition was held in Holycross on the same day as the Féile na nGael finals. Thomas Dunphy, St. Mary's, Clonmel, was the winner with 61 points. Alan Joyce, Holycross was second with 57 points. Noel Hogan, Lorrha, was third with 55 points and Aidan Kiely, Lattin, was fourth with 37 points. Stephen Hogan, Lorrha, won the County Poc Fada competition.

U-16 Inter-Divisional Football

This competition is now firmly established on the Juvenile Calendar. It is played early in the year and gives the football selectors an opportunity to pick a county under-16 panel for the coaching course in Carrignavar, Co. Cork.



Séan Treacy's, County Scór na nÓg set winners (l. to r.): Paddy Russell, Mairead Nolan, Oliver Kennedy, Catriona Shortt, Eoin Ryan, Margaret Russell, Liam Hammersley, Marie Shortt.

The semi-finals were played on the same day in Cashel. West beat North by 1-13 to 3-4 and South defeated Mid by 2-7 to 2-4 in the other. West had a surprisingly easy victory over South in the final by 4-8 to 0-5.

Peadar Cummins Tournament

Borrisoleigh continue to run a county inter-divisional u-14 hurling tournament in memory of the late Peadar Cummins.

North 7-5; West 3-2. Mid beat South by 3 or four points. North won the final for the fifth successive year.

Garda Cup Competition

We are indebted to the Garda Association for continued sponsorship of the county inter-divisional u-16 hurling tournament. North defeated Mid in the first semi-final by 2-4 to 1-1.



Burgess ballad group - County Winners Scór na nÓg

By James Gleeson

Tony Forristal Tournament

Tipperary were going for 3-in-a-row in the Inter-County U-14 hurling. Tony Forristal Tournament in Waterford this year. Selectors were Tom Gleeson, North; Jim Lynch, South; Sammy Ryan, West; Paudie Butler, Mid. A lot of work was put into assembling and preparing the team. Numerous trials, training sessions and challenge matches were held. In the draw Tipperary were grouped with Limerick, Galway and Kilkenny. Although going down to Limerick by just one point Tipp were fairly decisively beaten by Kilkenny and Galway. (The latter subsequently won the tournament). Success was not the teams lot this year yet they played with the same level of commitment, discipline and spirit as the teams of 1987 and 1988.

Nenagh Co-op Tournament

The Nenagh Co-op u-16 inter-county hurling tournament is being run for the second year. Six counties took part and were divided into two groups with the top two in each group qualifying for the semi-finals. Tipperary were grouped with Limerick and Waterford. Clare, Kerry and Galway comprised the other group. After a series of first round games played on a league system Tipp and Waterford qualified to meet Galway and Clare respectively in the semi-finals. Clare 1-9; Waterford 1-7. A skillful Tipp team defeated Clare 4-11 to 3-9 in the final.

Once again the Bórd is extremely grateful to Nenagh Co-op Creamery for sponsoring the tournament. The Tipperary selectors were Tommy Kelly, West; Jimmy Quinn, South; Jimmy Conroy, North; Frank Morris, Mid and John Ivors acted as coach. A lot of work went into selecting and preparing the team. Trials, training sessions and challenge games were arranged and the Board is indebted to these men for their dedication.

Fund Raising

County Board na nÓg got involved in promoting the County Board Draw. Some fifty units were sold by Juvenile

Board members. A few members in particular made a special effort to sell units.

County Senior Board gave Bord na nÓg permission to hold a bucket collection on County Final Day. Something in the region of £2,000 was collected. A word of thanks to our collectors and all who contributed to the collection.

Bord na nÓg also organised a G.A.A. Table Quiz early in the year. There were 22 tables and £150 was realised. Our thanks to Tipperary Supporters Club for sponsoring first prize.

A sincere word of thanks to Munster Council and our own Senior Board for helping us out financially during the year in the Rockwell College Coaching Scheme and in other areas.

Conclusion

In conclusion I would like to thank my fellow officers and board members for their hard work, dedication and co-operation over the year. A word of thanks to the various park committees for allowing us the use of their fields for juvenile games. The referees and their linesmen and umpires officiated fairly and judiciously at all our games. A word of thanks to the supporters who came to cheer the boys on. Credit is due to the club officers, trainers and selectors for preparing and looking after the young players. Thanks to the Senior Board and Football Board for their help and co-operation. Finally our sincere gratitude to the players themselves who continue to play Gaelic Games and provide us with atmosphere, excitement and good healthy competition.



Templederry - Rince Fóirne - County Winners Scór na nÓg

Is Leatsa I



Siobhán Nic Ghabhann, Feidhmeannach Sinsearach; Lucas O Muircheartaigh, Stiurthóir; An Taoiseach agus Aire na Gaeltachta Cathal O hEochaigh; Tony Hogan, 'Royal Flush', ag bronnadh coip den cheirnín 'Is Leatsa I' ar an Taoiseach.

Anner Park, Cloneen

1989

ON SUNDAY, May 14th, 3,000 people converged on Cloneen to see Dublin play Tipperary in senior hurling, it was also the official opening of Anner Park, Cloneen by Mick Maher, Chairman of Munster Council.

This was a great day for the parish and St. Patrick's Club as it took a lot of hard work and meetings in the past few years to make this day possible.

The field was first given to the Parish in 1938, it was vested in the G.A.A. in the '60's and levelled. In mid-'70 the dressing rooms were built and the '80's saw drainage, sideline and seating put in.

It was all worth the hard work when we heard Mick Maher say that it was one of the best fields he had seen in Munster

1989 was also a year that we lost some great players and supporters. Go ndeanach Dia trochaire ar a anam.



Michael Maher, Chairman Munster Council, about to declare Anner Park officially open. Pictured also are Con Hogan, South Board; Nicholas Moroney, Club Chairman; Tommy O'Connor, Club Secretary and Michael O'Meara, South Board Secretary (partly hidden).

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Pictured at the Tipperary Supporters Club function in Kiltarnan, Co. Dublin were Tipperary captain Pat McGrath and selectors Donie Nealon, Theo English and Michael "Babs" Keating with Supporters Club Chairman, Mr. George Kinane, on extreme right.

Féile comes home

By Seamus Ó Riain

I do not believe that the enthusiastic and exciting atmosphere of the first Féile na nGael in Tipperary can ever be surpassed. It was original, it was new and when the young hurlers of the 32 counties assembled in Semple Stadium the colourful display made an emotional impact on all who were present. It was the result of a united response to the promptings of an ideal by the County Board, Bord na nOg, the clubs and the host families who opened their homes and their hearts to the visitors. And throughout the country in every county the challenge was taken up to ensure that the county would be represented at the Féile.

The first two years in Tipperary featured the activities which have become central to Féile ever since, the hurling, the parade, exhibitions, projects and the address by the Association's Uachtarán. Tipperary having established the Féile and hosted it for two years offered it to some other county to act as host and so maintain its continuity.

Pat Guthrie, a teacher in Limerick, had attended Féile for the two years in Thurles, was convinced of its importance and agreed, with the approval of Limerick County Board, to take the responsibility of hosting the festival for the next two years. Thus Féile set out on its rounds which would take it to eleven counties up until the present.

FRESHNESS RETAINED

Féile retains its appeal and its freshness mainly because its central

location changes at least every two years so there is a regular change over of personnel who are responsible for the general organisation and smooth running of affairs in the host county. Each host county while retaining the essentials, has added its own distinctive character and handball, hurling skills, long puck, camogie, school visitations have been added to the programme.

A festival of the size, scope and importance of Féile requires very definite rules and regulations which must be strictly and impartially enforced. After many meetings, discussion and thought a National Steering Committee was set up with the approval of Ard Comhairle charged with the responsibility of exercising overall control of the Féile from year to year. Former President Pdraig MacFloinn is the chairman of the committee at present and the secretary is Pat Guthrie who has been the main driving force of the Féile since the first year in Limerick.

SPONSORSHIP

From the first year the festival has had the benefit of sponsorship by Coca-Cola, which has involved not only a substantial financial contribution each year but in addition the company assists with personnel and office accommodation. It can be claimed that this is the longest continuous sponsorship in the entire Association.

Each year the Féile is honoured by the presence of His Excellency, Uachtarán na hEireann who has on many occasions

expressed his admiration for the basic concept of the festival and the high standards of organisation displayed in carrying it out. And his attendance adds to the status of the festival and the young people expressed their joy in meeting the President of our country.

Nineteen years of Féile have given me a deeper appreciation of the commitment of many people to the promotion of hurling among young people and the pleasure and enjoyment they get from it. I have a special regard for those from the counties that are considered to be 'weak' in hurling. Year in, year out they bring their teams and in no sense can they be taken as weak in their commitment to hurling and Féile na nGael. Whether they win or lose a game their interest never wavers and they return home proud that they have played their part well in a national festival of hurling.

The return of Féile na nGael to Tipperary next year poses a challenge to us all, the County Board, Bord na nOg, and club members to match if not surpass the excellence of the organisation and presentation which featured the inauguration nineteen years ago. Since then other counties have maintained the high standards of the first years and we must marshall all our various resources to continue the remarkable progress for the next two years. Preparations have already been pressed forward and I have no doubt that the 'homecoming' of Féile will be a fitting celebration of its coming of age.

Féile na nGael

Féile na nGael was officially launched at the Anner Hotel, Thurles, on Saturday, October 21.

Back row (l. to r.): County Chairman, Noel Morris; Secretary of the Féile National Executive, Pdraig Guthrie; Seamus Ó Riain.

Front row (l. to r.): His Grace, Most Rev. Dr. Clifford; Pdraig McFlynn; President of the G.A.A., John Dowling; Minister for Science and Technology, Michael Smith T.D.; Ard Stiurthoir, Liam Ó Maolmichil.



National Schools Football Coaching Scheme

Mick O'Connell talking with Hugh Kennedy

Since January last, the Tipperary Football Board, in conjunction with FÁS, the Government Training Agency, has been running a football coaching course in the national schools of the county. The course was supervised by Mick O'Connell, the former Kerry player, who here answers some questions on the project.

Briefly, outline the scheme and its operation.

The brief was "to teach the skills of Gaelic football to the pupils in the National Schools". The men employed as coaches had, by regulation, to be unemployed and under 25 years of age. Initially, twenty lads were recruited through advertisement in local papers. These lads then undertook a two-week training course in Thurles conducted by myself, during which we rehearsed various skill practices and routines appropriate for the job in the schools. A schedule of one-hour weekly visits to each of the particular schools, and in larger urban schools to the several participating classes, whereby a pair of coaches worked together with 10—12 age group. In the first half of the year we operated the scheme in the three divisions, South, West and Mid and post summer extended it into the North division. I, myself, circulated to oversee the whole operation assisted by another supervisor.

What skills in particular did you endeavour to have taught to the pupils?

The basic/foundation skills of Gaelic football are catching and kicking, any young lad who has attained a fair level of proficiency in those skills is on the right road. I therefore gave them priority attention and practice at catching the ball coming at different angles and kicking from the hands and off the ground was my main concentration. We also got them to practise some hand-fisted passing and the block-down and at all times I stressed with the coaches the necessity of good practical demonstrations of the skill. On my own occasional visits to the schools I always participated in the action and explained the rules of the game. This is an aspect of Gaelic football coaching that has always been neglected and, in my opinion, explains the widespread incidence of shabby play such as pulling the jersey and charging with the ball.

Were you satisfied with the work of the coaches?

Most of the coaches were in the 18/20 age bracket. It was their first job after leaving school and it was a daunting enough task to ask them to impose their authority and control over often very large numbers. Also, they were obliged to

take total classes, in many instances girls as well, with the result that they were sometimes working with pupils who had no interest nor aptitude for any sport. It would have been much easier and rewarding if they had interested pupils only under their charge.

To answer the question, I was reasonably satisfied. At the outset, I stressed the importance of good example and a sporting demeanour while on the job. Standing about in a school yard or field on a fine sunny day wearing a leather jacket and suede shoes is not going to inspire any pupil. I had an unpleasant job of enforcing a couple of dismissals because of misbehaviour in this regard.

On the other hand, most of the coaches did their job very dutifully. Those who were skilled footballers themselves were the ideal coaches but I recall one in

particular who was not endowed with much football ability but more than compensated with his commitment.

The school teachers were wonderfully supportive and facilitated the coaches in every way. This contributed enormously to the running of the course.

What would you say the course has achieved?

It is very difficult to gauge the success or otherwise of a course such as this because it may be a few years hence before the results are noticeable. I have noticed a very definite improvement in most schools since the coaching started and I attribute this in a big way to the continuity of the regular weekly visit. Partaking in the scheme must have sown the seed of interest in many boys who might otherwise have never had a thought about playing the game, and if only a small



Master class . . . Mick O'Connell shows the basic skills of football to pupils at Scoil Ailbhe, Thurles. Bro. Fitzgerald is in the background.



Mick O'Connell with County Secretary Tommy Barrett at Semple Stadium.

percentage of the thousands of boys who passed through it have become better players then it can be said that it was worthwhile.

From a recreational point of view, judging from the response of the pupils in the schools, it was a wonderful success. They seemed to enjoy it very much.

The social dimension to the scheme cannot be overlooked, because to date over fifty people which includes coaches, supervisors and drivers have been employed on it. While the Tipperary Co. Board is the sponsoring body, FÁS, through its wonderfully supportive chief officer Liam O'Brien, will at its conclusion have contributed a considerable sum to its financing.

What are your views of football in Tipperary?

I have great admiration for the administrators of the game in the county who have worked with me during the operation of this scheme. At under-age level, I would say that the standard is comparable to that in other counties and is reasonably catered for competition-wise. However, I noticed a void at senior level and that is a lack of regular competition. Stories abound of a match now and the next match in the same competition several months later.

The formation of a league with the guarantee of a match at least once per fortnight should be seriously considered. The enthusiasm of the most dedicated player will wane if there is no match coming up.

In conclusion, I must say that this is a very difficult time to be trying to promote or coach Gaelic football, here in Tipperary or anywhere else. The administrators seem to be unaware of the question mark they are placing over it. The persistent dabbling with Australian Rules, experimental rules, hand-pass in, hand-pass out, etc., shows a clear lack of vision on their part.

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TIPPERARY U-16 HURLING PANEL WINNERS OF THE NENAGH CO-OP SPONSORED TOURNAMENT

Back (l. to r.) Philip Shanahan, Timmy Gleeson, Sean Hewitt, Mark Rabbitte, Denis Hogan, Adrian Hogan, Seamus McKeogh, Seán O'Donoghue, Michael O'Mahony, Brian Gaynor, Brian Flannery, Tomás Fogarty, Lar Barrett, Mark Leonard, Michael Gleeson, Sean Kelly, Front (l. to r.) Tom Kennedy, Michael Moroney, Tommy Dunne, Ger McGuire, Richard Sweetman, Shay Killeen, Tony Shelly, John Doughan, Fergal Hynes, James Slattery.

Nenagh Co-Op U-16 Hurling Tournament

Frank Morris

For the second year in succession Tipp's U-16 hurlers proved themselves more than a match for the best when they captured the Nenagh Co-Op sponsored shield. On the way to the final they defeated Waterford by 5-19 to 0-5, Limerick by 4-17 to 3-1. In the final at Nenagh on November 18th, Tipp faced Clare who had also made it to the final for the second year in a row. Final score: Tipperary 4-11; Clare 3-7. The team and scorers in the final were:

	Shay Killeen (Borrisokane)	
Richard Sweetman (Cahir)	Mark Rabbitte (Borrisoleigh)	Mark Leonard (Aherlow)
Seán Donoghue (Cashel K.C.)	Brian Gaynor (Kilruane)	Fergal Hynes (Éire Óg, Nenagh)
Tony Shelly (1-1) (Killenaule)		Brian Flannery (Kiladangan)
Tommy Dunne (0-4) (Toomevara)	Seamus McKeogh (Ballina)	Adrian Hogan (0-4) (Borrisokane)
John Doughan (Moneygall)	Michael O'Mahoney (3-0) (St. Mary's, Clonmel)	Ger Maguire (0-2) (Lattin/Cullen)

Subs: Tomás Fogarty (Holycross) for Doughan, Michael Gleeson (Arravale Rovers) for McKeogh, Timmie Gleeson (Holycross) for Sweetman; Michael Moroney (Aherlow); Tom Kennedy (Drom); Seanie Hewitt (Clonmel Óg); James Slattery (Borrisoleigh); Dinny Hogan (Portroe); Sean Kelly (Kiladangan); Philip Shanahan (Toomevara); Lar Barrett (Durlás Óg).

Selectors: Coach/Selector John Ivers, Templemore; Tommy Kelly, Knockavilla, Jimmy Conroy, Éire Óg, Nenagh; Jimmy Quinn, Clonmel; Frank Morris, Templemore.

Tipp in Hat-Trick bid

1989 saw Tipperary return to Waterford bidding for three-in-a-row in the Tony Forristal tournament. This feat had yet to be achieved since the tournament commenced in 1982. Tipperary had been the first county to win two-in-a-row.

Just to remind readers that the U-14 Hurling Tournament was first organised in 1982 by the Waterford Glass G.A.A. club to perpetuate the memory of one of their colleagues Tony Forristal who died in a road accident in April, 1981. Tony an outstanding G.A.A. stalwart was returning home with the Waterford Under-21 team when the accident occurred.

For 1989 there was a change in personnel in management from the previous year. Gone were coach John Ivors from Templemore and Denis Hogan the mid-selector. In fact it was Denis's first year missing since the inception of the tournament in 1984.

This years selectors were Paudie Butler (Mid) who also acted as coach, Sammy Ryan (West) Tom Gleeson (North) and yours truly from the south. To win three-in-a-row would be a mammoth task but would be a terrific achievement for juvenile hurling in the county if we managed it.

In this years tournament we were grouped with Galway, Kilkenny and Limerick with Cork, Antrim, Clare and Waterford in the other groups. Our first assignment was against Galway and to beat these we knew we had to be good.

Preparations started in Holycross on Saturday, 8th July with a trial. We had over 40 of the county's best U-14s that day. A North/West v Mid/South match showed that to pick a panel of 21 for Waterford would be no easy task for the selectors. Every Saturday after that until Mid-August we returned to Holycross each week dropping a few players. The closing stages of both divisional and county championships were closely monitored and no stone was left unturned in trying to secure the best team to travel to Waterford. A challenge game against Limerick was played at Cappamore and after this we picked the following 21 players to represent their county at Waterford.

Brendan Cummins (Ballybacon/-Grange); Colm O'Flaherty (Cahir); Coy Vaughan (Mullinahone); Pat Croke (Mullinahone); Pat Murray (Durlás Óg); Peadar Broderick (Durlás Óg); James Ryan (Moyné-Templetuohy); Shane Slattery (Emly); James McCormack (Knockavilla); Kevin O'Sullivan (Arravale Rovers); Stephen Hogan (Lorrha); Brendan Liffey (Lorrha); Pauraic Madden (Lorrha); Brian Stritch (Ballina); Niall Deegan (Roscrea); Kevin Tucker (Eire Óg, Nenagh); Darrell McGrath (Kiladangan); Terry Dunne

By Jim Lynch

(Toomevara); James Maunsey (Toomevara); Martin Haverty (Kilruane); Bobby Alley (Knockavilla).

So on Saturday, 26th August it was a confident Tipperary squad left for Waterford. Brendan Liffey was suffering from a slight hand injury and would not be starting against Galway. Reports from the West had reached up that Galway had been in training for the tournament since June.

We knew Galway would be a tough nut to crack. The day was very blustery so the wind was going to have a big bearing. Having lost the toss ground hurling was the order of the day. Galway piled on the pressure from the word go and soon our goalie Brendan Cummins was brought into action. Our backs defended heroically with Martin Haverty and Coy Vaughan outstanding. Niall Deegan soon settled and was a very tigerish centre back. Pat Murray and Bobby Alley were trying hard at midfield but were finding the going tough.

The Galway forwards were moving very slickly and one feared that if they got a big one they would take over. Just on the stroke of half-time that goal came and we went in at half-time 1-6 to 0-2 in arrears. Not a great lead with the wind that was blowing, but, disaster struck Tipp just after half-time.

Two soft goals were conceded by our defence and the men in maroon were away in a hack. Galway were now playing inspired hurling and only for some fine defensive play by our half-back line of Madden, Deegan and Vaughan the score could have been higher. Our forwards found the Galway backs at their best in this half. Darrel

McGrath and Stephen Hogan took some good scores but nothing was going right for Terry Dunne. Peadar Broderick made some fine penetrating runs from the forty and both James Ryan and Brian Stritch showed that they are hurlers for the future.

Tipperary showed great grit and determination against this opposition and came back strongly in the last 10 minutes. The full-back line of Haverty, McCormack and Maunsey finally got to grips with their opponents but Galway had the damage done at this stage. Galway finally won on the score line 3-10 to 1-6. As was to prove afterwards this was as good as any game that Galway got in the tournament which they eventually won rather convincingly.

After our game the hurlers of Kilkenny and Limerick played. Kilkenny won their match easily and so the writing was beginning to appear on the wall for us. In the afternoon we played Kilkenny and Limerick and were narrowly beaten in both games. All the boys on the panel played and they did their county proud. Their discipline both on and off the field was excellent and indeed they acted as great ambassadors for our county. Dougie Partridge was once again our host from Tramore G.A.A. club and I would like to take this opportunity of thanking the families from this club who were our hosts for the weekend.

I know that these boys were disappointed in not completing the hat-trick for Tipperary in the tournament, but we must accept defeat as well as victory. The selectors know you did your best and we are every bit as proud of you as we were of the '87 and '88 teams. To you I say continue hurling practice and develop your skills and in a very short time I have no doubt you will be winning All-Irelands in the blue and gold of Tipperary.



TIPPERARY UNDER-14 HURLING TEAM

Front Row (l. to r.): J. Lynch (selector), T. Dunne, M. Haverty, K. O'Sullivan, C. Vaughan, P. Croke, D. McGrath, B. Cummins, B. Stritch, S. Slattery, J. Ryan, R. Butler (selector). **Back row** (l. to r.): S. Ryan (selector), K. Tucker, J. Mounsey, B. Alley, B. Liffey, P. Broderick, P. Madden, S. Hogan, J. McCormack, P. Murray, N. Deegan, C. Flaherty, T. Gleeson (selector).

Munster U-16 Success

By: LIAM HOGAN

MANY people will remember '89 as the year that Tipperary regained the Liam McCarthy Cup for the first time in 18 years. They will remember the artistry of Nicholas English, Pat Fox and John Leahy. Other memories of the past year include the County's U-21 and Junior success. Many may remember '89 for its fine weather, but how many will remember North Tipp's outstanding success when they won the U-16 Munster Inter Divisional Final in Pairc Uí Caoimh by beating Imokilly by seven points. It was a deserved success for a talented panel of twenty six players representing all but one of the sixteen clubs.

The key to their success was good preparation. Preparation for the

championship began way back in December when selectors Paddy Madden (Lorrha), John Gleeson (Kildangan), Jimmy Conroy (Eire Óg), Pat McGrath (Toomevara) and yours truly decided that we would have a trial in Borrisokane. More trials were to follow in the new year with the final one in Ballinderry. Practice games against Eire Óg Minors and Nenagh C.B.S. were to follow.

Our first round opponents were South Clare who would have players from the famed Wolfe Tones in Shannon. North Tipp. nonetheless had a well earned 3-14 to 1-8 win followed by an easier 3-14 to 1-3 win over South Limerick in the quarter final. South Tipp. made us fight all the way in the semi-final when we won by 2-13 to 1-2.

We had to wait until July for our next game which was the Munster Final. Imokilly were our opponents, Pairc Uí Caoimh was the venue and 12.15 p.m. was throw-in time. A large number of home support were there to see North Tipp. survive a bad start to lead at half-time by 1-9 to 2-4. North Tipp. strung together a number of fine points from Tommy Dunne, James Slattery, Sean Doughan and Adrian Hogan to establish what looked like a victory. But Imokilly's Brian Corcoran helped his side stage a late rally. North Tipp. held out and went on to win by 3-21 to 5-8. Fergal Hynes, captain of the side accepted the Cup from Brendan Vaughan. North Tipp. had won their third Munster U-16 crown. It now remains to be seen if North Tipp. can defend their title with success in 1990. Perhaps the success of last July can inspire Tipperary to greater things for our minors. Roll on the nineties.

The North Tipp. team which defeated Imokilly in the Munster Final at Pairc Uí Caoimh was: Seamus Killeen (Knockshewanna), Frank McGrath (Eire Óg), Mark Rabbitte (B/heigh), Sean Kelly (Kildangan), Paul Mullins (Toom); Brian Gaynor (Kilruane); Phil Shanahan (Toom); Adrian Hogan (Boh.); Brian Flannery (Kildangan); Tommy Dunne (Toom); Denis Hogan (Portroe), James Slattery (B/hheigh), Seamus McKeogh (Ballina), Fergal Hynes (E. Óg), Sean Doughan (M/Gall). Subs: Pat Quinlan (S/Rov.), Darren Tucker (Burgess); John Doheny, Brendan Shanahan (Eire Óg), Liam Murray (T/Derry); Michael Kinsella (Lorrha); Seamus Troy (Newport); Declan Ryan (M/Gall); Terry Dunne (Toom); Rory Flannery (Eire Óg); James Cottrell (Toom).



UNDER-16 NORTH TIPPERARY MUNSTER CHAMPIONS

Front Row (left to right): T. Dunne, Sean Kelly, Phil Shanahan; Paul Mullins, Liam Murray; Fergal Hynes (capt.), Sean Doughan, Darrell Tucker, Seamus Troy, Seamus Keogh, Michael Kennedy, Adrian Hogan. **Back Row** (left to right): Mark Rabbitte, Brian Flannery, Patrick Quinlan, Declan Ryan, Terry Dunne, James Slattery, John Kennedy, Shay Killian, Denis Hogan; Briay Gaynor, Frank McGrath, Frank Shanahan, Rory Flannery.

Moycarkey-Borris Juvenile G.A.A. 1989 Review

THE year past has been a year of much coaching, training and good displays on the playing fields although we contested three Mid finals without success.

Our U-12 footballers, after victories over Dúrlas Óg, Gortnahoe and Templetuohy, lost the Mid final to a strong Templemore outfit in atrocious conditions at The Ragg. Our hurlers, depending largely on Robert Clancy at centre-back, lost to Holycross.

The U-14 footballers defeated Templetuohy and Loughmore to reach the Mid Rural final. After a great game with Holycross in Páirc na nÓg we lost narrowly in the end.

Our hurlers, short a couple of key players, were defeated by Upperchurch and Gortnahoe.

Our U-14 Hurling Blitz involving Upperchurch, Gortnahoe, Loughmore and ourselves was held in Littleton at the end of August. There were a number of grand games in this competition. In the end we defeated Gortnahoe in the final.



A group of juveniles from Moycarkey-Borris pictured at the Tipp/Limerick game in Páirc Uí Caoimh with club officials Anne Ralph, John Hackett, Ger Moloughney and Eddie Clancy.

The U-16 footballers played a draw with Gortnahoe but lost to Boherlahan who later won the county final.

The hurlers had victories over Dúrlas Óg B, Templemore and Drom to reach the Mid final against Upperchurch. An injury

to our scoring ace Donal Hogan before the final proved to be fatal and we lost to a determined Upperchurch fifteen.

We welcome Jack Caesar back to the club and wish him well in his new post as county hurling coach.

North Tipp. Bord na nÓg '89

By: LIAM HOGAN

ONCE AGAIN Bord na nÓg games provided its share of excitement and thrills for players and supporters alike. Toomevara again brought home its usual share of the spoils, winning all three Section I hurling titles in U-12, U-14 and U-16. Kilruane MacDonaghs bounced back into the limelight for the first time in four years when they regained the U-14 rural championship. Éire Óg failed to match their successes of last year but nonetheless they are still number one in football as they retained each of their U-12, U-14 and U-16 titles. Likewise Kildangan, who reached the dizzy heights of county football honours last year, only managed two Section II titles this year in U-12 and U-14.

As usual some new faces arrived on the scene in Section II hurling, as Borrisoleigh, Silvermines and Moneygall each won U-12, U-14 and U-16 respectively while Ballina/Ballinahinch gained the U-16 Section II Football which was much deserved after they had appeared in three football championship finals. U-16 Section II in hurling and football had the added incentive of a county championship title to fight for the first year.

COUNTY HONOURS

County honours were of a scarce commodity when one sees that only one title came northwards. Kilruane MacDonagh's won the county rural hurling final while Moneygall had reached the county U-16 Section II final but this game had not been played at the time of writing. Moneygall beaten by Grange in the county final.

MUNSTER CHAMPIONSHIP

Pride of place must go to our divisional team who won their third championship since its inauguration. It was nice to see that each of the U-16 North Tipp. clubs bar one were represented on the panel on that glorious day in Páirc Uí Chaoimh.

CHAMPIONSHIPS

Football — All football championships were run on a knock-out basis and here is a look at how each team fared.

Under-12 Section I:

Quarter-Final:	Éire Óg 3-2	Borrisokane 0-0
Semi-Final:	Ballina/Ballinahinch 2-2	Roscrea 0-0
Semi-Final:	Éire Óg 1-1	Newport 0-1

Final: Éire Óg gained their sixth title in a row at the expense of luckless Ballina/Ballinahinch who had a goal disallowed in the last minute. The game was played in Kilcolman and the final score read: Éire Óg 0-3, Ballina/Ballinahinch 0-2. Ref. Liam Hogan.



KILDANGAN - U-12 Football Section II Champions

Under-12 Section II:

Quarter-Final:	Kildangan 2-7	Silvermines 0-0
Quarter-Final:	Burgess	3-0
Semi-Final:	Kilruane 2-0	Burgess 0-0
Semi-Final:	Kildangan 4-7	Templederry 0-0

Final: Kildangan would have given any Section I team a run for their money judging by their accomplished victory over Kilruane MacDonaghs at Nenagh. Kilraune led by 2-0 to 0-1 at the break but

Kildangan's greater skill gave them a nine point victory. Final score: Kildangan 4-3, Kilruane MacDonagh's 2-0. Referee: Jimmy Conroy, Éire Óg.

Under-14 Section I:

Semi-Final:	Newport 3-4	Éire Óg 2-7
Replay:	Éire Óg 2-7	Newport 0-4

Final: Éire Óg had an easy victory to gain the third title in a row at the expense of Roscrea who had gained a bye to the final. The game was played in Moneygass and the final score read: Éire Óg 1-8 to Roscrea 1-2. Referee: John Sheedy, Portroe.



KILDANGAN - U-14 Football (Division 2) Champions

Under-14 Section II:

1st Round:	Ballina/Ballinahinch 4-5	Templederry 0-0
	Kildangan 3-8	Borrisokane 3-0
	Kilruane 5-2	S. Rovers 0-1
	Burgess 3-4	Portroe 0-0
Silvermines 2-2	Newport B 2-1	
	Lorrha gain w.o. from Borrisoleigh	
Quarter-Finals:	Kildangan 0-5	Kilraune 0-1
	Ballina/Ballinahinch 2-2	Silvermines 0-2
Semi-Finals:	Ballina/Ballinahinch 4-6	Lorrha 1-3
	Kildangan 2-9	Burgess 0-0

Final: Kildangan and Ballina/Ballinahinch provided a fine game which was played in Kilcolman in glorious sunshine. The final score read Kildangan 2-8, Ballina/Ballinahinch 1-7. Referee: Martin Healy.



ÉIRE ÓG - U-16 Football Champions

Under-16 Section I

Quarter-Finals:	Éire Óg 5-8	Kildangan 0-0
	Borrisokane 4-6	Roscrea 1-1
Semi-Finals:	Newport 4-6	Borrisokane 1-1
	Éire Óg 2-14	Silvermines 1-3

Final: Newport just narrowly failed to halt Éire Óg's run of

successes at this grade. One point separated the sides at the end with Eire Óg needing a goal to secure victory in the final minute of the game. Final score: Eire Óg 2-5, Newport 1-7.



BALLINA/BALLINAHINCH - Under-16 Football (Division II) Champions

Under-16 Section II:

1st Round: Ballina/Ballinahinch defeated Kilruane
Eire Óg gained w.o. Moneygall
Burgess gained w.o. from Templederry
Portroe 1-5 Shannon Rovers 0-4

Quarter-Final: Ballina/Ballinahinch 3-12 Portroe 0-1

Semi-Finals: Ballina/Ballinahinch received w.o. from Borrisoleigh.
Burgess 3-1, Eire Óg B 2-2.

Final: Ballina/Ballinahinch gained a deserved victory over neighbours Burgess at Nenagh. This was Ballina/Ballinahinch's third final for this year, having lost the other two.

HURLING

Our hurling championships were run on a number of various systems. The U-12 championship was run as follows: sixteen teams were divided into four groups of four and run on a league basis. The top two in each group qualified for Section I while the remaining eight had Section II honours to aim at. Section I was then run on a straight knock-out basis and Section II was run on a knock-out losers group basis. Here is a look at how each team fared.



TOOMEVARA - North Champions U-12 Hurling

Under-12 Section I

Quarter-Finals: Toomevara 1-5 Ballina/Ballinahinch 0-1
Kilraune 8-2 Borrisokane 1-0
Moneygall 2-2 Roscrea 1-1
Eire Óg 3-5 Lorrha 1-1

Semi-Finals: Moneygall 4-4 Eire Óg 0-0

Toomevara 6-5 Kilraune 1-1

Final: Toomevara 4-3 Moneygall 2-3

There have been many good U-12 fials in recent years but this one will surely go down as the best one. Toomevara gained their fifth in-a-row at the expense of Moneygall. Toomevara were always that step ahead and won by two goals in the finish, but the

scoreboard did not bear a true reflection of the game. Final score: Toomevara 4-3, Moneygall 2-3. Referee: Dan Darcy, Kilraune MacDonagh's.



MONEYGALL — Under-12 North Finalists 1989

Back Row: Jonathan Lowther, Billy Fanning, Michael Muldowney, Fergal Hourihane, Sean Kennedy, P. J. Hoolan, Mark Keeshan, Kevin Jones.
Front Row: Patrick Smyth, Sean Jones, Thomas Toohey, Eoin Troy, Barry Ryan, Enda Gleeson, Denis Dwyer, Diarmaid Kennedy.

Under-12 Section II:

Portroe 3-0	Burgess 2-2
Silvermines 2-0	Shannon Rovers 1-0
Borrisoleigh 3-3	Kildangan 3-0
Newport 4-2	Templederry 2-4

Losers' Group:

Semi-Finals: Burgess 4-0	Shannon Rovers 2-2
Kildangan 5-2	Templederry 1-0
Final: Burgess 3-0	Kildangan 0-1
Quarter-Final Proper: Burgess 2-0	Portroe 2-0
Replay: Burgess 1-1	Portroe 0-0
Semi-Final: Borrisoleigh 6-2	Kildangan 0-2
Burgess 4-1	Silvermines 2-3
Final: Borrisoleigh 4-1	Burgess 2-1

Borrisoleigh had too much craft and skill for a spirited Burgess side played in Toomevara. Borrisoleigh should be a force to reckon with in Section I U-14 in two years time. Final score: Borrisoleigh 4-1, Burgess 2-1. Referee: Martin Ahearne (Ballina).



TOOMEVARA - North Champions U-14 Hurling Urban/Rural

Under-14 U/Rural was run on a league basis. Here are the

Group A: Kilraune 8-5 Newport 2-4
Toomevara gain w.o. from Moneygall
Kilraune 3-9 Moneygall 2-2
Toomevara bt. Newport
Moneygall 6-7 Newport 2-5
Kilraune and Toomevara qualify for semi-finals.

Group B: Roscrea 1-7 Lorrha 1-4
Eire Óg 8-10 Kildangan 3-1
Eire Óg 5-5
Kildangan 3-2
Lorrha 4-4

Roscrea 0-2
Lorrha 4-10
Eire Óg 5-6

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Eire Óg and Roscrea qualify for semi-finals
Semi-Finals: Kilraune 6-2 Eire Óg 2-4
 Toomevara 5-3 Roscrea 4-3
Final: Toomevara 2-8 Kilraune 1-6

Toomevara went into this game as complete underdogs after both sides had met a week earlier in the rural semi-final which Kilraune won easily. Toomevara regained the Martin Kennedy trophy after a two year lapse. Final score: Toomevara 2-8, Kilraune 1-6. Referee: Gerry Long, Knockshewgowna.



MONEYGALL — Under-14 North Finalists 1989

Back Row: Brian Gleeson, Sean McCormack, Gearoid Kenny, Seamus Boland, Ollie Larkin, Donal Crowley, Joseph Smyth, John Flynn. Front Row: Patrick Donnelly, Fergal Hourihane, P. J. Hoolan, Mark Keshan, Michael Muldowney, Michael Toohey, Eamon Kennedy, Enda Fanning.

Under-14 Rural Hurling:

The U-14 rural hurling championship was run on knock-out losers group basis. Here are the results:

Moneygall 6-8	Kildangan 1-0
Kilraune 4-8	Newport 2-4
Toomevara 4-5	Lorrha 4-1
Loser's Group:	
Semi-Final: Kildangan 5-3	Newport 3-1
Final: Lorrha 3-7	Kildangan 1-1
Semi-Finals	
Proper: Moneygall 2-5	Lorrha 2-3
Kilraune 3-7	Toomevara 2-2
Final: Kilraune 4-8	Moneygall 2-3

Kilraune regained the Conway Cup with an excellent performance. They were always in command with Moneygall having their best spell in the second quarter of the game. It has been four years since they last won the Conway Cup. Final score: Kilraune 4-8, Moneygall 2-3. Referee: Martin Darcy, Borrisokane.

Under-14 Feile Final:

Toomevara 2-5, Roscrea 1-1



SILVERMINES — U-14 Hurling Division 2 Champions

Under-14 Hurling Section II

This competition was run on a league basis:

Group A:	Borrisoleigh 10-7	Shannon Rovers 2-6
	Silvermines 2-9	Portroe 0-4
	Shannon Rovers 7-8	Portroe 1-1

Borrisoleigh 1-4	Silvermines 0-1
Silvermines 8-6	Shannon Rovers 1-1
Borrisoleigh received w.o. from Portroe	
Group B	
Ballina/Ballinahinch 4-5	Borrisokane 4-2
Burgess 10-7	Templederry 3-1
Borrisokane 4-2	Templederry 3-1
Burgess 2-1	Ballina/B'hinch 2-1
Borrisokane 3-5	Burgess 1-3
Ballina/Ballinahinch w.o. from Templederry	
Semi-Finals:	
Silvermines 3-2	Ballina/B'hinch 2-3
Borrisoleigh 11-14	Borrisokane 1-1
Final:	
Silvermines 8-6	Borrisoleigh 4-6

Borrisoleigh were odds on favourites to win the final after their impressive semi-final performance, but Silvermines had other ideas with more direct hurling proving decisive on the day. Referee: Tom Gleeson, Portroe.

Under-16 Hurling Section I:

As usual this competition was run on a league basis:

Section I, Group A:

Toomevara 3-14	Roscrea 2-8
Borrisokane 2-10	Kilraune 4-1
Borrisokane 3-9	Roscrea 2-0
Toomevara	Kilraune
Toomevara 0-10	Borrisokane 3-7
Kilraune received w.o. from Roscrea	

Section I, Group B:

Silvermines 2-1	Ballina/B'hinch 0-7
Eire Óg 2-6	Silvermines 1-0
Eire Óg 4-4	Ballinahinch 0-3
Silvermines 1-3	Ballina/B'hinch 0-4
Play-off:	
Semi-Finals:	
Toomevara 4-6	Silvermines 5-1
Eire Óg 8-3	Borrisokane 3-1
Final:	
Toomevara 3-6	Eire Óg 2-5



TOOMEVARA — U-16 Hurling North Champions

Toomevara regained the U-16 Section I championship from holders Eire Óg at Cloughjordan in an exciting game. Toomevara had the help of a soft goal before the break. Referee: Gerry Long, Knockshewgowna.

Under-16 Section II

Section II was also run on a league basis:

Group A:	Moneygall 7-16	Templederry 0-2
	Newport 6-9	Shannon Rovers 1-1
	Newport 7-9	Templederry 0-2
	Lorrha 0-2	Shannon Rovers 0-2
	Lorrha 5-6	Templederry 1-2
	Newport 5-9	Lorrha 1-1
	Moneygall received w.o. from Shannon Rovers	
	Moneygall 2-8	Newport 0-6
Group B	Borrisoleigh 5-4	Kildangan 4-7
	Burgess 4-5	Portroe 0-2
	Kildangan 5-5	Burgess 2-4
	Borrisoleigh received w.o. from Portroe	
	Kildangan bt. Portroe	
	Borrisoleigh bt. Burgess	
Semi-Finals:	Newport 3-7	Kildangan 1-6
	Moneygall bt. Borrisoleigh	
Final:	Newport 1-9	Moneygall 3-5

Moneygall achieved their first juvenile success in four years and earned the right to be the first team to represent North Tipperary in the County U-16 Section II semi-final. Moneygall and Newport would have given any Section I team a run for their money. Referee: Martin Ahearne, Ballina.

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Kilruane MacDonagh U-14 Hurling 1989

By: FLAN DWAN



KILRUANE MacDONAGH, COUNTY U-14 CHAMPIONS 1989

Back Row (standing left to right): A. Mulcahy, Michael Ryan, J. Quinlisk, D. Darcy, D. McLoughney, R. Darcy (capt.), Martin Haverty, C. McLoughney, F. Prout. Middle (kneeling left to right): J. Reddan, N. Grace, E. Kennedy, M. Haverty, K. O'Brien, D. Troy, S. Sheppard, M. O'Leary, J. Casey. Front (left to right): E. Troy, W. Brennan, R. Casey, S. Costello.

1989, proved to be a highly successful year for the U-14 hurlers of Kilruane MacDonaghs when both North and County titles were regained by this fine team in the rural competition. In climaxing their great season by regaining the County Rural Championship, our hurlers ended the '80s as another U-14 squad had begun the decade by winning the same title in 1980. The eight years in between proved to be barren enough with only a North rural title, in 1985, coming to the parish in this age group. Therefore, the success of this squad is all the more appreciated, particularly in light of an unusual lack of success by the other teams of the parish this year.

Like any successful season, the road to final honours was not easy. In hindsight, the early training done by the team plus a couple of practice games prior to the Championship proved very valuable in getting a settled team and building spirit. Both rural and urban-rural competitions ran side by side with the first played on a knock-out basis and the second run on a league system of two groups.

Before reviewing the success in the rural championship, it is worth noting that the team also qualified for the North final of the urban rural. To qualify for the final, we defeated Newport and Moneygall in the group games before beating Nenagh in the

semi-final. In the final Toomevara defeated us narrowly after a thrilling game.

In the rural competition we defeated Newport again by 4-8 to 2-4 in the quarter-final. We overcame Toomevara in the semi-final with a decisive victory following a hard game on a scoreline of 3-7 to 2-2. The North final was against Moneygall on Sunday evening, July 9. The game produced some great hurling, and after a very competitive contest, we emerged victorious on a 4-8 to 2-3 scoreline.

The Kilruane team which regained the Cup that evening in Nenagh was Kevin O'Brien (goal), Michael Haverty, Martin Haverty, Michael Ryan; Eoin Kennedy, Declan Troy, Cathal McLoughney; Richie Darcy, Adrian Mulcahy; Mark O'Leary, Declan Darcy, Sean Sheppard; Jim Quinlisk, Declan McLoughney, Willie Brennan. Sub used was Ruadhan Casey. The other subs — Sean Costello, John Casey, Edward Troy, Fergal Prout, Niall Grace and John Reddan.

In the County Semi-Final, played at Inch, we had an easy win over Knockavilla-Kickhams by 7-7 to 0-3. The team was the same as above. The scorers were: W. Brennan 3-1, D. McLoughney 2-3, M. O'Leary 1-2, D. Darcy 1-0 and S. Sheppard 0-1.

The County Final on Wednesday, August 9th was against Holycross-

Ballycahill in Borrisoleigh. As expected, it proved to be a very hard game. In the first half our lads struggled right through when playing against the breeze. A goal against the run of play kept us just one point behind at the interval — 0-7 to 1-3. After some stern words from the mentors, the team put in a great second half of hurling, and soon overhauled the Holycross lads and scored 2-5 to a single point in that period. Despite some late pressure, the Kilruane backs held firm with Kevin O'Brien in goal making one great save to keep a clean sheet. Final score was Kilruane 3-8, Holycross 0-8.

The team and scorers were: K. O'Brien (goal), Michael Haverty, Martin Haverty, Michael Ryan; E. Kennedy, D. Troy, C. McLoughney, R. Darcy (capt.), A. Mulcahy (0-1); M. O'Leary (1-3, 2 pts. from frees), D. Darcy (0-1), S. Sheppard (0-1); J. Quinlisk, D. McLoughney (1-2), W. Brennan (1-0). Sub was R. Casey.

The captain Richie Darcy accepted the Cup on behalf of the team and thanked the selectors Jim O'Meara, Jim McLoughney, Michael Elebert and Bill O'Meara. Others who helped out with the team were Eddie Troy, Peter Prout, Connie Grace, Tom Killackey, John Sheppard, Clare McLoughney and Flan Dwan. We also thank our many supporters who followed the team throughout.

West Bord na nÓg

With the upsurge of interest in the county teams 1989 was a very successful year for juvenile games in West Tipperary. With the championship this year being played on a league system every team was assured of at least three or four games in each competition. A total of 169 games were played within the division with the following break down.

U-12s played 55 games; U-13s played 6 games; U-14s played 50 games; U-15s played 6 games; U-16s played 49 games.

It is indeed a credit to all concerned with the running of juvenile affairs that this amount of games which started on the 10th of April were all completed by the end of September. A total of 91 teams were entered by the clubs of West Tipperary with the honours as follows:

U-12 Hurling

(A) Final: Kickhams 2-2, Cappawhite 0-2. Referee: John Currvan.
(B) Final: Clonoulty 1-3, Aherlow 0-3. Referee: Eamon Browne.

U-12 Football:

(A) Final: Arravale Rovers 2-7; Cashel 0-0. Referee: John Kennedy.
(B) Final: Aherlow 2-4; Cappawhite 1-1. Referee: Michael Forrester.
(C) Final: Clonoulty 3-0; Lattin-Cullen 1-2. Referee: Ritchie Barry.

U-14 Football:

Rural Final: Kickhams 2-11, Galtee Rovers 1-4. Referee Paddy Russell.
Urban-Rural Final: Arravale Rovers 5-9; Galtee Rovers 0-2. Referee: Angus Ryan.
(B) Final: Golden 7-8, Rosegreen 0-3. Referee: Jim O'Donnell.

U-14 Hurling:

Rural Final: Kickham's 2-9, Emly 1-3. Referee: Liam Quirke.
Urban-Rural Final: Arravale Rovers 3-12, Emly 1-1. Referee: Liam O'Dwyer.
(B) Final: Galtee Rovers 2-4; Cappawhite 1-3. Referee: John Currvan.

U-16 Hurling:

(A) Final: Arravale Rovers 4-8; Cashel 2-3. Referee: Eamon Browne.
(B) Final: Lattin-Cullen 1-6; Seán Treacy's 2-2. Referee: Paddy Lonergan.

U-16 Football

(A) Final: Arravale Rovers 3-7; Aherlow 1-3; Referee: John Moloney.
(B) Final: Lattin-Cullen 5-4; Arravale Rovers (B) 4-2. Referee: Jim O'Donnell.

Féile na nGael:

Final: Cashel 1-5; Emly 1-4. Referee: Michael Carew.

Garda Cup U-13 Football

Arravale Rovers 3-8; Aherlow 1-0. Referee: Jim O'Donnell.

Garda Cup U-15 Hurling

Aherlow 4-6; Cappawhite 3-8. Referee: S. Ryan.

Poí Fáda Winner: Oliver O'Neill, Lattin/Cullen.

Féile Skills Winner: Aidan Kiely, Lattin/Cullen.

By Tommy Kelly

Summary of the championships

In the U-12 (A) hurling competition Kickhams turned the tables on a gallant Cappawhite team who had previously beaten them in the earlier round of the competition. Kickhams were beaten in a replay of the county semi-final by Ballingarry.

In the U-12 (B) hurling competition Clonoulty/Rossmore made the breakthrough by overcoming a fine Aherlow team in an exciting final played at Golden.

In the U-12 (A) football Arravale Rovers proved too strong for Cashel and went on to contest the county final but had to give best in a replay to Ardfinnan after two hectic games.

In the U-12 (B) football Aherlow Over were again to the fore when they defeated Cappawhite at Golden.

In the U-12 (C) football Clonoulty/Rossmore took their second West title when they overcame Lattin/Cullen in a great game played at Dundrum.

In the U-14 competitions Arravale Rovers recorded a double by winning both hurling and football in Urban-Rural competitions while Kickhams did likewise in the rural competitions.

In the U-14 (B) hurling Galtee Rovers recorded their first hurling win in a long number of years when they defeated Cappawhite at Golden while Golden/Kilfeacle had an easy victory over Rosegreen in the (B) football competition.

In the U-16 competitions doubles



WEST TIPPERARY, COUNTY GARDA CUP (U-16 FOOTBALL) WINNERS 1989

Back (left to right): Pat Ryan, John Looby (selector), Michael Corcoran, Liam Rafferty, Andrew Nolan, Tom Peters (selector), Oliver Kennedy, Sean O'Donoghue, Kieran Ryan, John Daly, Mark Leonard, Kevin Bowes, Mark Kenny, Padraig Moloney, Andy Hennessy, John McGrath, David Quirke (manager). Front (left to right): Aidan O'Dwyer, Nicky Brett, Damian Moloney, Gerry Maguire, Paul Malone, Michael Moroney, Martin Moloney, Gavin McGuirk, Sean Og Corcoran, John O'Grady, Kevin Moloney.



**ARRAVAL RVS., WEST & COUNTY U-16 'A' F. WINNERS, 1989
ALSO WEST U-16 H.C. WINNERS**

Back (left to right) David Quirke (manager), Michael Gleeson, Damien Lunch, Alan Quinlan, Jim O'Sullivan, Tony O'Sullivan, Kevin O'Sullivan, Graham Lonergan, Dermot Donovan, Tom Martin, Anthony McGrath, Mark Gleeson, Billy Brett (manager). Front (left to right): John Lacey, David Cleary, Michael Martin, Paul Malone, Kieran Ryan, Nicky Brett, Shay Lynch, Brian Moore, David Quirke.



AHERLOW, U-15 GARDA CUP HURLING WINNERS 1989

Back (left to right): Denis O'Shea, Mark O'Shea, Billy Hennebray, John O'Connell, George Kiely, Declan Riordan, John Riordan, Anthony Moroney, Don Walsh, Donal McGrath, Pat Hughes. Front (left to right): Derry Peters, Kieran Moroney, Liam Lewis, Conor O'Shea, Brian O'Sullivan, Eddie Moroney, Billy Riordan, Lionel Leonard.

were recorded by both Arravale Rovers and Lattin/Cullen. In the (A) football, Arravale Rovers proved too strong and subsequently went on to record the division's only county final win of 1989. Likewise in the (A) hurling competition they easily won the divisional title but failed in the county final to a very good Holycross team. In the (B) football Lattin/Cullen defeated Arravale Rovers second string but were beaten by Killenaule in the replayed county semi-final. The (B) hurling saw the Seán Treacy's club contest their first final since 1984 but having played gallantly throughout they lost out to Lattin/Cullen by one point in the final. This was an excellent game played in Dundrum. Lattin/Cullen went on to play Moneygall in the county semi-final and were defeated.

The Féile na nGael was won by Cashel who overcame Emly by the narrowest of margins.

The Garda Cup competitions which were once again sponsored by the Garda of the division were won in fine style by Arravale Rovers in U-13 football and Aherlow in the U-15 hurling.

Inter-Divisional Competitions

In the inter-divisional competitions the Garda Cup football was won by the West Tipperary selection. They defeated North Tipperary in the semi-final and overcame South Tipperary in the final played at Holycross.

While there were many fine players on this team, it was essentially a team victory. Great credit is due to coach David Quirke and his co-selectors: Thomas Peter (Aherlow) and John Looby (Rockwell Rovers) for this victory.

The following was the panel:

Liam Hammersley, Oliver Kennedy (Seán Treacy's); Aidan O'Dwyer, Damien Moloney, Ger McGuire (Lattin-Cullen); Martin Moloney, John McGrath, Andrew Hennessy, Gavin McGuirk, captain (Rockwell Rovers); Mark Kenny, Seanie Donoghue, Timmy Moloney (Cashel); Andrew Nolan, Pat Ryan (Solohead); Kieran Ryan, Kevin Bowes, Nicky Brett, Paul Malone, Tony O'Sullivan (Arravale Rovers); Liam Rafferty, Kevin Moloney (Golden); Michael Corcoran, Seán Óg Ryan, John O'Grady (Rosegreen); Mark Leonard, Michael Moroney (Aherlow).

In the U-16 hurling Munster competition West Tipperary had a comprehensive win over West Limerick but were beaten by Mid-Clare in the second round. This team was coached by Nicholas English assisted by Thomas Peters (Aherlow), Eamon Buckley (Lattin-Cullen) and Tommy Kelly (Kickhams).

The following team and subs: Michael Moroney (Aherlow), Kieran Flynn (Arravale), Seán O'Donoghue (Cashel), Michael Corcoran (Rosegreen), Seán O



**ARRAVAL RVS., WEST U-14 'A' H. CHAMPIONS 1989
ALSO U-14 F.C. WINNERS**

Back (left to right): Pat Stokes, Paul Maher, D. J. Lynch, Shane O'Donoghue, Kevin Jones, John Buckley, John McEvoy, Noel Greene, Niall English, Gerry McGrath, Andy Lacey (manager). Front (left to right): Wayne Doyne, Andrew Kavanagh, Kevin O'Sullivan, Pat Morrissey, Fergal O'Reilly, Frank Jones, Brendan Crowe, Eamon O'Dwyer, Kenneth Bowes, Sean O'Halloran, Eamon Buckley.



GOLDEN/KILFEACLE, U-14 F.C. 'B' CHAMPIONS 1989

Front (left to right): Tadgh O'Donnell, David Fogarty, Roger Morrissey, Anthony Hanley, Eamon O'Dwyer, 2nd Row (left to right): Brian O'Connell, Eamon Ryan, Donal Ryan, Barry Ryan (capt.), Thomas Fogarty, Noel Casey, James Tierney. 3rd Row (left to right): Seamus Ryan, Alan Price, Patrick O'Dwyer, Oliver Morrissey, Derek Hogan, Brian Fogarty, David Levingstone, Gerard Looby, Sean Hourigan, Paul Browne, Jim Fogarty. Back Row (left to right): John O'Doyle, Michael Hanrahan, Miley Keefe, Tom Casey.



**LATTIN/CULLEN, U-16 'B' HURLING WEST CHAMPIONS
ALSO WEST U-16 'B' F.C. WINNERS**

Back (left to right): Damien Glasheen, Padraig Byrnes, David Cunningham, John Kiely, Damien Moloney, Gerry Maguire, Aidan O'Dwyer, John Byrnes, Kevin O'Dwyer, Michael Howe, Eamon Buckley (manager). Front (left to right): Tim Hourigan, John Kennedy, Aidan Kiely, Diarmuid Halligan, Niall Ryan, Richard Hourigan, Oliver O'Neill, Kevin Quirke, James Cunningham, Shane Quinlan.

OLLIES — NEW INN

For best drinks and tasty snacks in a pleasant environment

Proprietors: Gerry and Phil Ryan

Duibhir (Cashel), Ger McGuire (Lattin-Cullen), Kevin Bowes (Arravale), Michael Gleeson (Arravale Rovers), John Daly (Galtee Rovers), Timmy Moloney (Cashel), Mark Leonard (Aherlow), Ger Kirby (Aherlow), Garry Quinlan (Arravale Rovers), John (Aherlow), John Lacey (Arravale). Subs: Michael Heffernan (Eire Óg), John O'Grady (Rosegreen) both injured for second round, Aidan Heffernan (Emly), Kevin O'Sullivan (Arravale Rovers), Richard Ryan (Cappawhite).

The U-16 County Garda Cup not yet played and in this West Tipperary are down to play South Tipperary.

West Tipp Bord na nÓg in conjunction with senior Board and All-Ireland referee John Moloney this year organised a referees course and ten new referees were instructed in the art of refereeing. This was done over a six weeks period during March and April and was an outstanding success. One can only admire the interest and enthusiasm which those lads brought to the job of refereeing games and the impact which they have made has certainly not gone unnoticed as some have already graduated to refereeing at Minor, U-21 and junior level.

Our thanks to John Moloney co-ordinator and senior secretary Gerry Ring for their work with those referees and it certainly made the job of running Bord na nÓg games a lot easier.

The following are the new referees: Jim O'Connor (Rosegreen), Pat Cormack (Rosegreen), Michael Carew (Aherlow), Richard Barry (Cappawhite), John Kennedy (Clonoulty), James O'Donnell (Rockwell Rovers), Michael Forrester (Golden), John Currihan (Golden), Jim Ryan (Glengar), Gerry O'Toole (Seán Treacy's). Our thanks to both established and new referees for all their help over the last season.

Nineteen U-16 players from West Tipperary attended a weekend hurling coaching course held in Rockwell College on the weekend of the 27th-30th of July. eighty juveniles from all over behalf of the Tipperary took part and this was an outstanding success.

The coaches who conducted the course were: Joe McGrath, Donal O'Grady, Danny Morrissey, Colm Bonner, Michael Minogue, Nicholas English, Paddy Doyle, also Brother Cahill (New Ross), and county Bord na nÓg secretary James Gleeson who saw to it that everything was in order. This was a most enjoyable weekend kindly sponsored by the county Senior Board. Indeed it is hoped to have follow-up courses over the winter months.

The following players took part in the course: John O'Grady (Rosegreen), Seán O'Donoghue, Timmy Moloney, Seán Ó Duibhir (Cashel), John Daly (Galtee Rovers), Richard Ryan (Cappawhite), Derry Peters (Aherlow), John Lacey (Arravale Rovers), Michael Gleeson, Garry Quinlan, Kevin O'Sullivan (Arravale Rovers), Damien Moloney (Lattin-Cullen), Kieran Flynn (Arravale Rovers), Dermot English (Cappawhite), Pádraig Moloney



ARRAVALLE RVS., WEST U-12 'A' FOOTBALL WINNERS 1989

Back Row (left to right): Patsy Hanrahan, Jason Nugent, Daniel Buckley, Enda O'Sullivan, Declan Crowe, Pat McEvoy. Middle Row (left to right): Sean Moore (manager), Mark Cummins, David Quinlan, Eoin O'Dwyer, Barry McGrath, Dara O'Donoghue, Tony Kuss, Liam O'Dwyer (manager), Paddy Maher (manager). Front Row (left to right): Alex Casey, Niall Halligan, John O'Dwyer, Andrew Lacey, Michael O'Dwyer, Michael Brady, Pádraig Moore.



KICKHAMS U-12 WEST 'A' CHAMPIONS, 1989

Back (left to right): Declan Murphy, Richard Horgan, Derek Breen, Justin Cranley, Stephen Carew, Fergal Heney, Shane O'Neill, Fergal Morrissey, Peter Carew, Diarmuid Crosse, Owen Morrissey, Stephen O'Brien (selectors) John Carew and Seanie O'Brien. Front (left to right): Sean Ryan, Michael Shanahan, Seamus Quirke, Joseph O'Brien, Adrian Crosse, Philip Kinane, Eamonn Browne, John O'Brien, Fergal Horgan, Patrick Hayes, Kevin McGrath, Gerard Hayes.



AHERLOW, U-12 'B' FOOTBALL WEST CHAMPIONS, 1989

Back (left to right): Billy Reardon, Noel Clifford, Mark O'Brien, Mark O'Shea, Tom Hennessy, Dino Wilkinson, Robert Shanahan, Barry Leonard, James Noonan, Paul O'Brien, Morgan O'Connell. Front (left to right): Philip Kiely, Alan Price, Anthony Donovan, Paul Kiely, Timmy Leonard, Donal McGrath (capt.), Michael Carew, Cathal O'Shea, Denis Grogan. At back - Tom O'Shea (manager).

(Galtee Rovers).

At inter-county level the following players represented the division on county teams: U-14 hurling Forresteral cup held in Waterford; James McCormack and Bobby Alley (Kickhams), Shane Slattery (Emly), Kevin O'Sullivan (Arravale Rovers). The West selector was Sammy Ryan. U-16 inter-county hurling tournament sponsored by Nenagh Co-op; Ger Maguire (Lattin/Cullen), Mark Leonard and Michael Moroney (Aherlow), Seán O'Donoghue (Cashel), Michael Gleeson (Arravale Rovers). The West selector was Tommy Kelly.

The following U-16 footballers were sent by the senior board to a coaching course held annually at Carrignavar, Co. Cork; Ger Maguire (Lattin/Cullen), Gavin McGurk, Martin Moloney (Rockwell Rovers), Seán O'Donoghue (Cashel), Michael Moroney (Aherlow), Kevin Bowes (Arravale Rovers).

It would be remiss of me to let this opportunity pass without paying tribute to James O'Donoghue former treasurer of Bord na nÓg in West Tipperary. Jim as he is affectionately known was looked upon as the father figure of our board. He stepped down this year after giving over forty years of service to not alone Bord na nÓg and its juveniles but also to all branches of the G.A.A. in West Tipperary.

Jim was a thorough gentleman and on behalf of the board I would like to thank both himself and Mrs. O'Donoghue for their kindness and help shown to board members at all times; also his family Seamus, John and Tom who are actively involved in all branches of the association both in playing and administrative level. Jim was unanimously elected life president of our board and I am glad to say that he is ever-present at our meetings and our games. A true Gael if ever there was one, and I would like to wish him many more years of active service in West Tipperary.

Finally I would like on behalf of Bord na nÓg to thank most sincerely all clubs and club officers for their work for the juveniles. Also all field committees and caretakers who are so helpful at all times; to our senior P.R.O. J. J. Kennedy, who has been so good to us — all fixtures were published weekly on our local papers as well as reports on all finals; to our referees who have given us wonderful service over the past season; to everyone who helped in any way during the year and we look forward with optimism to another successful year in 1990.

OFFICERS FOR 1989

Life President: James O'Donoghue (Arravale Rovers).

Chairman: Sammy Ryan (Golden/Kilfeacle).

Vice-Chairman: Liam O'Dwyer (Eire Óg) and Nicholas Lonergan (Solohead).

Secretary: Tommy Kelly (Kickhams).

Treasurer: Eamon Buckley (Lattin/Cullen).

Registrar: Lou Reardon (Galtee Rovers).

Co. Board representatives: Nicholas Lonergan (Solohead) and Lou Reardon (Galtee Rovers).



KICKHAMS, WEST U-14 RURAL H. CHAMPIONS — 1989
ALSO RURAL FOOTBALL WINNERS

Back (left to right): Tadgh Farrell, Gerard Farrell, Aidan Butler, Brian Horgan, Michael Ryan, Andrew Kennedy, James McCormack, Paul Ryan, P. J. Horgan, P. J. Flanagan, Bobby Alley. *Front (left to right):* Peter Carew, Fabian Pollard, Joseph Shanahan, William Shanahan, John O'Brien, Oliver Ryan, Aidan McGrath, Michael O'Brien, John McGrath, Aidan Murphy, Shane Kavanagh.



CLONOLTY/ROSSMORE WEST U-12 'C' FOOTBALL WINNERS 1989
ALSO U-12 'B' H.C. WINNERS

Back (left to right): Michael Coen, Derek Ryan, Conor Ryan, James O'Dwyer, Michael Ryan, Brian Lyons, John Heffernan, Donal Lacey, Michael Heffernan, Maurice Slattery, Kevin O'Sullivan, Michael Carroll. *Front (left to right):* James Caplice, Michael Kennedy, John Kearney, Neil Kearney, James Ryan, Michael Kennedy, John Kearney, Neil Kearney, James Ryan, Maher, Patrick O'Brien, Tadgh Burke, Michael O'Dwyer, Richard O'Mahony, Liam Ryan, Diarmuid Brennan. *Selectors (left to right):* Michael Coen, Tom Maher, Fr. Bergin.



GALTEE ROVERS WEST U-14 HURLING CHAMPIONS

Back (left to right): Michael Collins, Michael Scanlon, Bryan Morrissey, Gerard Lonergan, Michael Magnier, Oliver O'Brien, Stephen Crowe, Mark Crowe. *Front (left to right):* Raymond Hickey, Bryan Walsh, Michael White, Peter O'Sullivan, Dallan Browne (capt.), Eamon Lonergan, Liam Phelan, Brendan Healy, David O'Gorman.

JAMES HENNESSY, DUNDRUM, TIPPERARY

Tel. 062-71146

Sponsored this Page

Mid Tipperary Bord na nÓg 1989

TOM JOYCE-Rúnaí

This year proved to be one of the most successful years that the mid division has had at juvenile level for a long time. Our teams brought back no less than 5 county titles to our division. We achieved a clean sweep of the major juvenile hurling county titles. Dúrlas Óg won both the u-12 A and u-14 A titles, while Holycross/Ballycahill won the u-16 A title. All three county final victories were achieved with considerable victory margins. Dúrlas Óg also achieved a unique double by winning the u-14 A football county final.

1989 saw the introduction for the first time of a county u-16 B championship. Here our u-16 B football champions — Boherlahan/Dualla — went on to become county B football champions, thus winning their first ever juvenile county title. Dúrlas Óg also won the Féile na nGael championship in Tipperary this year and went on to represent the county in the national finals with distinction.

Our mid championships are now run on a league basis. This means that we can now publish a fixtures book early in April showing the dates for all our championships for the full year. The fact that our championships were run so smoothly is a tribute to all our clubs who co-operate with the Bord so well.

The following is a brief outline on our year:

u-12 Hurling: Section A

Four teams were graded in this section: Dúrlas Óg (A), Gortnahoe, Holycross (A), Moycarkey. The final was contested by Gortnahoe and Dúrlas Óg. It was only in the final 10 minutes of the game that Dúrlas Óg succeeded in pulling clear of a very gallant Gortnahoe side, thus becoming our u-12 A hurling champions.

u-12 Hurling: Section B

Four teams contested group I of this section. They were: Drom, Dúrlas Óg B, Loughmore and Templemore. After the league rounds, Templemore headed this group. The four teams contesting group 2 were Dúrlas Óg C, Upperchurch, Holycross B, and Moyne. Upperchurch headed this group and contested the final with Templemore. In the final, Templemore were too strong for the Church' boys.

u-12 Football: Section A

The four games in the A section were: Dúrlas Óg A, Holycross A, Loughmore and Dúrlas Óg B. Dúrlas Óg A and Holycross A emerged to contest the final. The Thurles boys were too good for a gallant Holycross side.

u-12 Football: Section B

Templemore, Drom, Holycross B and Upperchurch were competing in group I of this section. Dúrlas Óg C, Templetuohy, Gortnahoe and Moycarkey were contesting group 2. Templemore, winners of group I, defeated Moycarkey, winners of group II, in the final, which was well contested throughout.

u-14 Urban-Rural Football: Section A

The four teams in this section were: Dúrlas Óg A, Templemore, Loughmore and Boherlahan. Dúrlas Óg and Loughmore emerged to contest the final after the league rounds. Dúrlas Óg emerged as champions.

u-14 Urban-Rural Football: Section B

The four teams competing here were: Upperchurch, Clonakenny, Dúrlas Óg B, and Gortnahoe. In the final, Upperchurch defeated Dúrlas Óg B to become champions.

u-14 Rural Football

Rural competitions are played on a knock-out basis. In the first rounds here Moycarkey defeated Templetuohy, Boherlahan received a walk-over from Clonakenny, Holycross defeated Gortnahoe, and Loughmore received a bye. In the semi-finals, Moycarkey defeated Loughmore and Holycross defeated Boherlahan. The final between Holycross and Moycarkey concluded with Holycross as Champions.

u-14 Rural Hurling

All nine rural parishes entered for this competition. The final was contested by Holycross and Upperchurch. Holycross again were victorious thus winning the rural double for the third year in a row.

u-14 Urban-Rural Hurling: Section A

The four teams in this section were: Drom, Dúrlas Óg A, Boherlahan and Holycross. Dúrlas Óg A and Holycross contested the final here. This was an excellent game of hurling with Dúrlas Óg coming from behind to eventually defeat a very good Holycross side.

u-14 Urban-Rural Hurling: Section B

Four teams contested group I of this

section: Templemore, Clonakenny, Loughmore and Upperchurch. Three teams were competing in group II: Dúrlas Óg B, Gortnahoe and Moycarkey. Loughmore, the leaders of group I and Dúrlas Óg B, the leaders of group I, contested this final. Dúrlas Óg B came from behind to win this championship.

u-16 Football: Section A

Four times were graded in this section: Holycross, Upperchurch, Dúrlas Óg A and Templemore. After the league rounds Holycross and Dúrlas Óg emerged to contest the final. This was a well contested game with Holycross eventually emerging as champions for the first time.

u-16 Football: Section B

In group I of this section were: Dúrlas Óg B, Loughmore, Templetuohy and Clonakenny. In group II were: Gortnahoe, Boherlahan and Moycarkey. The final was contested between Loughmore and Boherlahan. Boherlahan emerged as convincing champions.

u-16 Hurling: Section A

The four teams in this section were: Boherlahan, Holycross, Dúrlas Óg A and Gortnahoe. Dúrlas Óg A and Holycross were again the two clubs to contest this final. In one of the best matches played for a long time, the Holycross boys emerged champions on the score of 2-8 to 0-6, thereby completing the double over the Dúrlas Óg boys.

u-16 Hurling: Section B

In group I of this section we had Dúrlas Óg B, Drom, Templemore and Moycarkey. In group II we had Moyne, Clonakenny, Loughmore and Upperchurch. The final between Moycarkey and Upperchurch was emphatically won by Upperchurch. This year the Bord decided to play its football championships before commencing its hurling championships. Previously, hurling and football were alternated throughout the season. The

MID TIPPERARY BORD NA nOG OFFICERS

President	Very Rev. Fr. O'Rourke
Chairman:	Pat Ryan, Holycross/Ballycahill
Secretary:	Tom Joyce, Holycross/Ballycahill
Treasurer:	Jimmy Coppinger, Dúrlas Óg
P.R.O.:	Frank Morris, Templemore
Mid Senior Bord Representative:	Martin Treacy, Holycross/Ballycahill

new system this year appears to have worked well.

Scór na nÓg

Scór at juvenile level has been stagnant now for a number of years. Only a handful of clubs are now prepared to put any effort into organising it. Young people, by the nature of things, will always be enthusiastic about participation. It is the responsibility of adults to ensure that the proper organisation is there for them to participate. Unfortunately, those responsible for the present format have failed to recognise the problems that those

who try to organise Scór at local level encounter.

The 1989 mid Scór na nÓg winners were:

Figure dancing — Upperchurch/Drombane. Recitation — Upperchurch/Drombane. Solo Singing — Gortnahoe-Glengoole. Novelty Act — Upperchurch/Drombane. Question Time — Boherlahan Dualla. Instrumental Music — Loughmore-Castleiney. Ballad Group — Upperchurch-Drombane. Set Dancing — Holycross/Ballycahill.

In concluding this report I would like to express a word of appreciation to all who work with juveniles in our division. These people give of their time unselfishly without any material reward. In particular I would like to thank our juvenile referees without whom the Bord could not function. 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 I would like to thank my fellow offices for their commitment and co-operation during the year. We look forward to as successful a year in 1990.



TEMPLEMORE EIRE ÓG MID U-12 'B' FOOTBALL CHAMPS.

Back Row (left to right): Donal Bergin (selector), Raymond Greaney, Johnny Bane, Aidan Doyle, Damien Byrne, Tony Quinlan, Paddy Kennedy, William Collier, Joe Cusack, Tom Collum (selector). Front Row (left to right): Fergal Meagher, Derek Doyle, Denis Tuohy, Jim O'Boyle, Michael Reilly, Damien McBride (capt.), Damien Harkins, David Delahunty, David Greham. Missing - Denis Tuohy (selector), Paul Doyle, Owen Keating, Mark Boyle, David Morkan, Darragh O'Neill, John Henderson, Eddie Ahearne, Michael O'Brien, David Bourke, Fergal Meagher.



LOUGHMORE-CASTLEINEY U-14 FOOTBALL TEAM — 1989

Back Row (left to right): Oliver Russell, Oliver Ryan, Damian Cullen, Brian Dunne, Stephen Maher (N.T. Coach), Brian Webster, Declan Laffan, Tom Foy, John McGrath, Dominic Brennan, Paul Ormond. Front Row (left to right): Donal Bolger, Tom Maher, Micheál Webster, David Kennedy, Martin Cosgrave, Joe Danagher, Kieran Webster, Tom Ormond, John Gleeson. Missing from photo were: Patrick Keane, Anthony Keane, Noel Morris, Gerard Heffernan.



TEMPLEMORE EIRE ÓG MID U-12 'B' HURLING CHAMPIONS

Back Row (left to right): Owen Keating, Aidan Doyle, William Collier, Eamon Corcoran, David Delahunty, Johnny Bane, Joe Cusack (capt.), Darren Owens, Raymond Greed, Brendan Guidera, Andrew Kelly. Middle Row (left to right): Francis Hogan, William Fogarty, John Henderson, Jim O'Boyle, Kieran Kirwan, David Collins, Damien McBride, Phonsie Deegan, David Maher, David Bourke, James Maher, Benny Fogarty. Front Row (left to right): Jonathan Madden, Daniel Maher, Patrick Kennedy, Paul Doyle, Matt Butler.



HOLYCROSS-BALLYCAHILL U-16 A HURLING TEAM — 1989

Front Row (left to right): Seamus Whelan, Joseph Bourke, Brendan Treacy, Philip Ryan, Tom Flanagan, Timmie Gleeson (Capt.), Tomás Fogarty, Michael Fercombe, Pádraig McGrath, David Bourke, Eamon Ryan. Back Row (left to right): Tadgh Bourke, Kevin Maher, Tommie Ryan, Jim Ryan, Andre Lynch, Denis Allen, P. J. Mackey, James Ferncombe, Richard Doyle, Paul Ryan, Liam McGrath. Missing from photo — Paudie Lee.



LOUGHMORE-CASTLEINEY U-12 HURLING TEAM — 1989

Back Row (left to right): Pat Nolan, Aloy Stapleton, Micheál Webster, Brian Webster, Stephen Maher, N.T., John Gleeson, Gary Sweeney, Paul Ormond, Mark Ryan. Front Row (left to right): Dermot Ryan, Andrew Long, John Paul Russell, Tom Ryan, Jody Sweeney, John Paul Foy, Paul Maher. Missing from photo were — Liam Brennan, Mervyn Deegan, Martin O'Meara, Michael Brennan, Hugh Dunne, Brian Fogarty.



Donal Shanahan presents the Coiste na Banban Cup last won by Holycross in 1973 to Timmy Gleeson, captain of the victorious Holycross/Ballycahill side.

Dúrlas Óg, the right balance – the future



Dúrlas Óg's u-14 football Captain, Bill Fitzgerald.

DÚRLAS ÓG has just completed an amazing year. A new pitch was bought — Páirc na nÓg; a youth centre was built; a Munster football title was won; five county championships, five Mid Tipperary titles were won; and the club fielded an amazing total of sixteen teams in outside competition. How is it done? Where does it start? It starts in the homes of the sports loving Thurles parish where the people love their sports and in particular their hurlers and give great support to Dúrlas Óg.

Thurles has a juvenile club, Dúrlas Óg, where the young boys of the parish are taught the skills and love of Gaelic games at an early age.

Each September budding eight-year-old bright-eyed hopefuls are introduced to hurling by Con Kennedy, Seán McLoughlin, trainee teacher Anne Enright and Michael Dundon. They run mini leagues for the boys on Saturday mornings in the Under 7, 8 and 10 age groups. (Bro. Fitzgerald and Bro. Hickey have similar leagues during the school week). The leagues last until July when the boys are taken on an outing to round off the year.

As they grow older the boys progress to the Railway Field and Páirc Ailbhe, where Michael Kennedy, Jimmy Coppinger, Paul Maher and Paul Barry coach them and assign them to A, B, or C teams for the championships in hurling and football, a process carried out on the basis of leagues run during the winter months on Saturday mornings, hurling one week, football the next.

The under 14s now have the use of Sarsfields pitch on Saturday mornings. They expect to have two teams in the Féile this year. Bro. Hickey, Pat McEvoy, Gerry Kelly, Bill Darcy are preparing our young hopefuls for the great event to be staged here in 1990 and 1991. Considering that Dúrlas Óg won the Under-14 double in '89 and the Féile na nGael, Bro. Hickey from Doneraile, has a lot of confidence and an under-12 county championship winning team to build on.

The big boys of the club are the under-16s, many of them six feet tall. They now have their Saturday morning leagues in Páirc na nÓg organised by under-16 manager, Pat Murray.

The greatness of Dúrlas Óg is not the titles that are being won, important though this is — it is the fact that so many boys can play hurling and football on a regular basis, regardless of their own personal ability or standard.

There is a great balance about the club with men from Cork, Limerick, Kerry, Kilkenny and Laois mingling with the locals, people drawn from all walks of life who instil discipline and give guidance and good example to those under their care.

It is a great sight on Saturday mornings to see so many boys from the parish descending on the playing fields of the town with their hurleys and gear. Dúrlas Óg is servicing four adult clubs — Rahealty, Kickham's, Fennellys and Sarsfields — and the future of these clubs lies in the continued success of Dúrlas Óg.

Can the club expand further? What about integrated leagues for boys and girls up to Under 12 to give ready-made talent to Thurles Camogie Club for the future?

NEW CLUB HOUSE

The new building is a credit to men like Gerry Spain, Pat Stakelum, Larry O'Connor, Phil O'Mara, Dick Callanan, Liam Hanrahan, Mick Carroll and Dan Harnady who designed the building.

PLAYING STANDARD

When one considers that seven under-16s — M. Campion, S. Curry, G. Grogan (capt.), D. Keher, L. Barrett, J. Purcell and E. Enright — played on the Mid Under-16 team that reached the Munster semi-final, one has to be satisfied with the standard of players in the club (D. Keher and E. Enright are young enough again next year) and it is now up to the other GAA clubs in the parish to continue the good work for the youth.

Like all good GAA clubs, Dúrlas Óg is providing an excellent social youth service in the parish. Boys playing games are good boys!

ALL-CONQUERING UNDER 14's

FRANK MOCKLER and Pat Murray have guided the fortunes of this panel since under-12 days and were joined this year by Bro. John Hickey, C.B.S., and Bill D'Arcy. They won the U-12 Hurling Championship and were runners-up to Clonmel in the football.

The 1989 season began with County Féile na nGael in May. A rather easy semi-final passage at the expense of arch rivals Toomevara was attributed more to weaknesses in the opposition than to any great strength in our panel. However, the skill and determination shown in winning, against Killenaule, in the final was the first real indication that this team might be 'special' and that the hard work, put in over the winter months, might be about to pay dividends. In the All-Ireland competition we had comfortable wins over Castletown (Laois) and Portlaoise, only to come a cropper, in a thrilling game, against the great Wolfe Tone Club from Co. Clare.

In the County Championship we were given byes by Drom/Inch and Boherlahan

and accounted for Holycross quite easily in the league section of the Mid. This set up a Dúrlas Óg v. Holycross mid final. A huge crowd, at the new field in Inch, saw Holycross race into a 5-0 to 1-2 lead after

eighteen minutes and a major upset seemed on the cards. At half-time the lead had been reduced to 0-5 and throughout the second period we began to stamp our authority on the game, eventually running



DÚRLAS ÓG — U-14 COUNTY CHAMPIONS

Back Row (l. to r.) — Tom Gooney, Tom Fogarty, Melvin Brennan, Gerard Spain, Philip Butler, Raymond O'Dowd, Padraig Barrett, Michael McCarthy, John Callanan, Peter Broderick.

Front (l. to r.) — Michael Cleary, Gavin Purcell, Jimmy D'Arcy, Pat Murray (Capt.), Raymond Carew, Liam Mockler, Patrick Gleeson, Tom Larkin, Matthew Ryan.

out winners, if only just.

Leahy Park, Cashel, was the venue for the semi-final with West Champions, Arravale Rovers, providing the opposition.

Our ever improving side shattered the pride of the West with a tremendous first half display and held on in the second period to win rather comfortably. Toomevara came through over the South and Borrisoleigh was chosen as the meeting ground for the eagerly awaited repeat of the U-12 final. County Bórd na nÓg had prepared well for the final and added to the sense of occasion by providing a public address system over which the line-outs were given to the large gathering and the National Anthem played. As in the Féile, Toome had no answer to our overall strength and we ran out worthy winners of a keenly contested final. With the hurling trophy safely on the sideboard, thoughts turned to football and little did we think then that the best was yet to come.

The football championship started early and we qualified for the county semi-final with wins over Templemore, Loughmore/-Castleiney and again over the latter in the mid-final. Nenagh were the semi-final opposition and our victory over them was business like rather than sparkling. Three weeks of intensive training followed this victory, during which the commitment from players and mentors had to be seen

to be believed. Holidays were postponed and in some cases cancelled. Others cut short their family holidays and we had one instance of a boy travelling home from Donegal to play a challenge match.

Then came the final. The date, 30th August; venue, Leahy Park, Cashel; opposition, the mighty Clonmel Commercial Club who had, of course, been installed as firm favourites. We took the game to Clonmel from the start, led by 0-3 at half-time and by 0-5 with eight minutes to go.

True to their great tradition, Commercial fought back, a 1-0 and 0-1 saw the bare minimum between the teams with a minute to go. We held out and Paddy Loneragan's final whistle was met with a huge crescendo of cheering and wild excitement. Pat Murray's great dream had come true and Dúrlas Óg had won a county football title.

In writing about our U-14's one is inclined to concentrate on the achievements of the 'A' team. In our case this would be entirely remiss given the performances of the 'B' team in the mid championship. They won easily against Gortnahoe in the opening round and met Moycarkey/Borris in the second. Those lucky enough to be present at Páirc na nÓg for that match will hardly ever forget it. Moycarkey led by a whopping 0-15 points at half-time and it looked all over bar

the shouting. However, we reckoned without the character of this team. They scored an unbelievable 0-19 points in the second period to win by 0-4.

Following that match our great hurling mentor, Frank Mockler, was heard to remark: "If given the choice, I would rather see these lads win the mid-final than the 'A' team win the county". As it turned out, Frank had no worries on either score, the 'A's won the county and the 'B's won a thriller against Loughmore/Castleiney at Inch.

All in all it was a wonderful year for the U-14's. A clean sweep of the mid and county. It was never done before and may not be repeated for a long time to come.

U-14 'A' Hurling and Football Panel:

B. Fitzgerald (Capt. Football), Pat Murray (Capt. Hurling), L. Dwyer, T. Cooney, T. Fogarty, M. Brennan, G. Spain, P. Butler, R. O'Dowd, P. Barrett, M. McCarthy, G. Callinan, P. Broderick, M. Cleary, G. Purcell, G. D'Arcy, R. Carew, Liam Mockler, P. Gleeson, T. Larkin, M. Ryan.

Under-14 'B' Hurling Panel:

Gerry Mernagh, Liam Scully, Melvin Brennan, Michael Kennedy, John Gleeson, John O'Dwyer, Gavin Purcell, Damien Harris, Declan Molumby, Michael McCarthy, Don Cornally, John Hayes, Daithí Dunne, Padraig Ryan, Philip Crowe, Sean Ryan, Reamonn O'Riordan, Patrick Gleeson, Philip Butler, Mark King, Matthew Dowd, Tom Gooney, Patrick Lawlor, Dermot Enright, John Enright, Denis Shanahan.

UNDER-12

TRAINING for our under-12 panels began in February. Following a series of unimpressive challenge games against Moneygall, Clonoulty and Golden, prospects for the championships looked bleak. Many players were given trials in these games, following which our 'A' team panel was selected.

Following the selection of our panels, training was stepped up. The championships in football began with a game v. Holycross on the 24th April, which was easily won. We subsequently defeated our 'B' team and had to fight very hard to overcome a good Loughmore side to qualify for the Mid Final. This was played on the 15th May in Inch and following a great display from captain Mark Wade, at full-back, and some skilful forward play, we ended up winning well.

We immediately began the hurling campaign. We defeated Gortnahoe and Holycross to qualify for the Mid Final. We had some very anxious moments before eventually overcoming a very gallant Gortnahoe team. A feature of this game was the solid display of the backs and the marvellous point-scoring of the captain, Johnny Enright.

Our next opponents were the north champions, Toomevara, who had come with a great reputation. In one of the best games seen at this level we overcame them on the scoreline 2-3 to 1-3 with our backs performing heroics under great pressure and our midfielders and forwards taking vital scores.

July 19th was the date fixed for the County Final and our opponents were

Ballingarry. Once again all our backs were magnificent, conceding only 1 point to their opponents; midfield impressive, and the forwards — after a slow start — grabbing vital scores. After a good game Ballingarry were finally defeated and the U-12 championship returned to Thurles after a lapse of 2 years.

The football championship finished for Dúrlas Óg when they were defeated by Ardinnan by the narrowest of margins.

Many of the football panel also figured in the Community Games team which captured the Munster Championship.

All the players who played on both panels are to be complimented on their dedication and commitment over the season.



Back Row (l. to r.) — Michael Kennedy (Team Manager), D. Collins, J. Bowe, C. Coppinger, G. Kelly, D. O'Riordan, M. Wade, A. Hughes, B. O'Grady, J. Connors, M. O'Dwyer.

Front Row (l. to r.) — R. Long, S. Delaney, O. Geoghegan, C. Kennedy, E. Maher, D. Daly, J. Enright (Capt.), P. Ryan, P. Dwyer, J. Kavanagh, D. Butler.

Missing from photo: D. Kelly and D. Broderick (inset).

COMMUNITY GAMES

Our under-12½ Community Games football team are Munster champions. Playing another game of fast, open, intelligent football they defeated Wolfe Tones, Shanno, 1-8 to 0-2 in Thomond College.

All credit to trainer Bro. Hickey, his mentors Jimmy Coppinger, Pat McEvoy and under-12 manager and trainer Michael Kennedy.

Panel: P. Maher, B. O'Grady, M. Wade, P. O'Dwyer, C. Daly, D. Dunne (capt.), G. Kelly, J. Enright, D. O'Riordan, J. Bowe, D. Molumby, L. Scully, M. O'Dowd, W. Murphy, O. Geoghegan, P. Ryan, P. Cooke, D. Harris, D. Kelly.

Gortnahoe/- Glengoole Juvenile Club

The U-12, U-14 and U-16 teams in both hurling and football played a total of 16 championship games between them. The most successful team in all the grades were undoubtedly our U-12 hurlers who reached their second Mid final in succession and were once again defeated by Durlas Óg. It was a quiet year for the juvenile club with no trophies coming back to us at Bord na nÓg level. It was the clubs first year taking part in U-12 and U-14 football and only our second year in the U-16 football championship.

The club decided to take part in the U-12 and U-14 football championships as our young players were being coached in the skills of football in the local schools. The fruits of this training will hopefully be shown within the next few years. As for our U-14 and U-16 teams in both hurling and football we can only look forward to next year and hopefully better things to come, without a doubt the ability is there to shock a few teams next year and win a few championships.

We didn't fail to bring back some trophy to the club this year and that was achieved by winning the County U-13½ Community Games competition in hurling. We had a famous victory over Durlas Óg in the County Final. We represented Tipperary in the Munster Finals and after winning the first game — lost out to Patrickswell of Limerick in the semi-final. Nevertheless it was another piece of history created by our young hurlers. The successful winning team was:

Brendan Hogan, Christopher Dunne, Michael Purcell, Dermot Ryan, Gerard Hogan, Darren Coady, Brian Barnaville, Philip Dooley, Richard Ryan, Pat Barnaville, Liam Pollard, Stephen Webster, Michael Norton, James McBride, Christopher O'Meara, P. J. Gleeson, James Meighan, Eddie Lawlor, Raymond Gorman (captain), Matthew Pollard, Michael Campion, Ronan Stanley.

The club broke new ground during the summer when we left our parish headed down for the famous Glen Rovers club in Cork. We took our U-14 hurling team and played the local team in a few matches and on the trip we also took in the Munster semi-final between Tipp and Limerick. And it was a great experience for our young players. Also we'd like to thank the Glen Rovers club for the hospitality they showed us on our visit.

We had four successful members on the Killenaule U-16 hurling Vocational schools team that won the All-Ireland this year. They were: Martin Gleeson (captain); Michael Doheny, Pat Walsh and Alan Norton.



Pat McGrath presenting an under-16 football medal to P. J. Walsh, captain of the successful team who won the Mid U-16 'B' championship.



Gortnahoe/Glengoole U-13½ Community Games team — winners of the competition in Tipperary. Picture taken at Munster Finals held at Thomond College, Limerick, during the summer.



Gortnahoe/Glengoole U-12 team — winners of the U-12 hurling tournament held during the Gortnahoe/Glengoole Festival.

Holycross-Ballycahill Juvenile G.A.A.

1989 has been a most successful year for our club. Pride of place goes to our U-16 players who won the U-16 A County Hurling Championship. This county final victory was the culmination of many years of commitment, dedication and hard work by both players and juvenile committee members.

All of these young players started with U-11 parish leagues. At U-12 level they were defeated by Durlas Óg in the Mid Championship. Two years later at U-14 level the panel had improved to be able to defeat Durlas Óg in the Mid Championship but were defeated by Arravale Rovers in the County Final. Now, two years further down the line, this same panel had progressed further to again defeat Durlas Óg in the Mid Final and then go on to comprehensively defeat Arravale in this year's county final.

In the mid final against Durlas Óg, played on the beautifully prepared Littleton pitch, the standard of hurling was the best seen for many a year. With the Holycross defence playing brilliantly and the forwards taking their chances we won by the score of 2-8 to 0-6.

In the county semi-final they overcame North Champions Toomevara and of course then went on to defeat Arravale in the county final.

This same panel also won the Mid U-16 'A' football title for the first time; again defeating our great rivals Durlas Óg. In the county semi-final they had to give best to a very good Arravale side. Their selectors this year were Jimmy Ryan, Michael Doyle, Tom Fogarty, Liam McGrath, Thomas Maher and John Riordan.

Our U-14 players also had a very successful year. They won both the Rural Hurling and Rural Football titles in the mid division. This is the third successive year that our club has achieved this double. In the mid finals against Upperchurch in hurling and Moycarkey in football they had comprehensive victories. In the football county semi-final against Fr. Sheehys (the eventual champions) our boys were unlucky to lose out in a very tight game. The same panel qualified for the county rural hurling final by defeating Cahir in the county semi-final.

In the county final against north champions Kilruane-McDonaghs our lads failed to produce their earlier form. Although they led at half time by 2 points they were eventually defeated by 8 points. One of the highlights of the year for this panel was the U-14 'A' mid hurling final against Durlas Óg. This was an outstanding match in which we led for most of the time, only to be caught eventually by an outstanding Durlas Óg side. When one considers how comprehensively Durlas Óg went on to win the county U-14 'A' hurling title, it puts our performance against them in its true perspective. The selectors for this team were Michael Hassett, Martin Treacy, Christy Croke, Denis Dwyer and Tom Joyce.

Our U-12's this year never really got a chance to fulfill their potential. A sickness epidemic in April and May in the parish among many in this age group left our panel much depleted. We still managed to

qualify for the U-12 'A' mid-football final against Durlas Óg.

Overall this was a most successful year for our club. We look forward to continuing our progress next year.



Holycross/Ballycahill panel which won the Mid-Tipp, Rural Hurling and Football titles in 1989. **Front Row** (left to right): Martin Treacy (selector), Noel Fogarty, Thomas Flanagan, Eoin Delahunty, Sean Long, John Butler, Tadgh Bourke, Pat Kilbane, Keith Ryan, Cornelius Croke. **Back Row** (left to right): Michael Hassett (selector), Diarmuid Delahunty, Noel Ryan, Michael Lee, Declan Bourke, Pakie Ryan, Aidan Hassett, Donal Duggan, Alan Joyce, Patrick Doyle, Adrian O'Keefe, Thomas Maloney, Brendan Bannon, Tom Joyce (selector).

County Under-16 'B' Football Final

THE U-16 'B' football competition for 1989 was won by the footballers of Boherlahan-Dualla club.

Having won their way through the Mid division, they had an easy victory over Loughmore in the divisional final.

In the county semi-final they faced North champions Ballina at Borrisoleigh on a wet, miserable evening which made play very difficult.

There was little between the sides at half-time and then early in the second half Ballina edged ahead with a well-taken goal. Our lads, however, fought back gallantly despite the conditions and went out victors in the end.

In the county final they faced South champions Killenaule at Páirc Uí Laochda, Cashel.

Boherlahan played magnificently in the first half and at the break they were well poised for victory. Undaunted, however, the Killenaule lads fought back gallantly and a brace of goals early in the half brought them within fighting distance of our lads.

The final quarter produced some fine open football but in the end Boherlahan held on grimly for a narrow, well-deserved three-point victory — 3-4 to 2-5.

The team was: Lorcan Nash (goal), Eamon Maher, Frank Hickey, Brendan O'Dwyer, Michael O'Dwyer, Conor Gleeson, Mark McLoughlin (capt.), Adrian O'Dwyer, Robert Hunt, Donncha Kennedy, David Ryan, Aidan Flanagan, Martin Ferncombe. Kieran Trainor, Timmy Crowe. Subs. in final: Garret McLoughlin, Ger Flanagan.



BOHERLAHAN-DUALLA, UNDER-16 'B' COUNTY FINAL WINNERS 1989
Back row (L. to R.): B. Dwyer, F. Hickey, D. Kennedy, C. Gleeson, N. O'Dwyer, M. McLoughlin (capt.), R. Hunt, K. Trainor, L. Nash, M. O'Dwyer, G. McLoughlin, N. Flanagan, G. Flanagan. **Front row** (L. to R.): A. Flanagan, D. O'Dwyer, M. Ferncombe, A. O'Dwyer, E. Maher, D. Ryan, T. Crowe, J. Tarrant, J. Ferncombe, M. Ferncombe, D. O'Dwyer, B. Ferncombe.

Rockwell Coaching Scheme

County Bórd na nÓg organised a very successful weekend coaching course for u-16 hurlers in Rockwell College at the end of July.

Several discussions in recent years have revealed that there is a falling off to the game among under-16s and minors. It was felt that resources should be directed to the promotion of the game in this age group.

It was decided to bring together 80 of the top u-16 hurlers from all over the county for a weekend intensive coaching course in Rockwell College. The divisional selections were asked to pick 20 players from their respective divisions. If a player was selected he had to get parental permission to attend. The players club contributed £10 to a maximum of £30 per club, Munster Council contributed £800 and Tipperary Senior Board paid the balance.

A team of top class coaches was drawn up for the weekend and these included Joe McGrath, Donal O'Grady, Nicholas English, Colm Bonnar, Mick Minogue, Paddy Doyle and Danny Morrissey. Brother Cahill, New Ross C.B.S. was appointed as coaching director for the weekend.

Gerry Flynn of Rockwell College as organiser of Rockwell Multi-Activity Summer Camp acted as liaison officer with the college. He ensured that the players material needs were looked after. He organised sleeping and eating arrangements and recreational activities outside the hurling.



Coaching Course in Rockwell College

It was an action packed weekend for the 80 players. Each underwent eight intensive coaching sessions involving all the skills in hurling. He had two challenge or mini-matches (one each evening). Although merely friendlies and with no prizes at stake, they were contested with all the spirit and determination of a county final or an All-Ireland. Each coach on the day was responsible for a team and the rivalry between coaches helped to heighten the atmosphere in the games.

There were numerous pep talks and words of encouragement from experienced coaches, officials and referees. Our thanks to John Moloney, Tommy Barrett, Noel Morris, Mick Maher, Joe McGrath, Donal O'Grady and Nicholas English. The players were shown

a number of videos on the skills of the game and top class hurling matches.

Denis Floyd provided an amount of promotional material from Croke Park. In between the coaching sessions mini-matches, videos, talks and meals, players went swimming, played table tennis, snooker, tennis or just walked around. It was a thoroughly enjoyable weekend and players left, as Joe McGrath put it, on a high.

It is up to Bord na nÓg and the Divisional Juvenile Boards to keep the players interested by organising day coaching courses throughout the winter, either at county level or divisional level. Without these follow-up sessions the weekend will lose a lot of its impact and might only serve as a nice memory.

Cumann Lúthchleas Gael Coiste Thiobraid Árann Thiar



*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*

Séamus Ó Riain
Cathaoirleach.

Diarmuid Ó Rinn
Rúnaí

Breandán Ó Riain
Cisteoir

Under-16 Football Summer Camp

By: LIAM O'DWYER

CARRAIG na bhFear set in quiet and pleasant surrounding approximately five miles from Cork city was the venue once again for the intensive coaching scheme for U-16 footballers which took place this year from July 3rd — 7th. This scheme was initiated three years ago and it was by kind permission of Fr. MacCarthy that it was possible to have the use of the same venue once again with all of its very satisfactory facilities.

It was to this venue that twenty young men, representing some sixteen clubs spread throughout the length and breadth of Tipperary, were ferried by mini-bus on Monday morning. Arriving in brilliant sunshine, a feature of our entire stay, we were welcomed by Fr. MacCarthy, were assigned to our rooms and assembled shortly after 11.00 a.m. for our initial briefing.

The entire operation was directed and overseen by Joe McGrath whose coaching expertise is widely known and respected. The team was completed by Eamon Ryan, Cork, and Sean Brosnan, Kerry, both of whom displayed a wide knowledge of the skills and struck up a good relationship with the lads over the period.

We were joined by Waterford and by Limerick who were experiencing the venture for the first time. It was a pity that Clare had to cancel at a late hour. It was my first taste of the scheme and my partner, Eugene Fogarty, and from my limited knowledge of coaching I would have to deem the course to be well worth the effort and I could only strongly encourage its continuation.

The programme commenced each day at 10.00 a.m. and with the minimum of breaks continued until 6 p.m., which, taking into account the very warm conditions, proved to be very arduous sessions. The various sessions zoned in on the basic skills, the overall purpose being to build up an attitude and commitment on the part of the lads that would enable them to arrive at the sort of perfection that the wearing of a county jersey would require.

The sessions were interspersed with talks from the coaches on attitude, dedication, team play, fitness and the pride and satisfaction that accompanies the donning of a county jersey. Indeed, the underlying idea behind the week appeared to be the exposing of lads, who have already reached a definite level of skill and ability, to the kind of pressure, vision, skill, etc. required in the making of a county player. Obviously, when you expose a bunch of lads to this sort of pressure some will succumb while others will take it in their stride, for us who were looking on it was an

education to see how lads measured up in varying degrees.

At the end of the day we would have to admit that Tipperary can be well satisfied with their representation. While it would be folly to pretend that everybody measured up one hundred per cent, the overall picture was of dedication and commitment which augurs well for the future. The coaches for their part didn't spare themselves and were full of praise for the wholehearted effort which the lads put in.

Each day was rounded off with a game which afforded the lads the opportunity to put into practice the lessons learned during the course. Our lads had three outings over the period, each of which proved to be successful. The most stirring of these was on the final night, when we faced Limerick who through a misunderstanding on the part of the organisers had a number of U-17s on the course, including a county minor.

The contest, which lacked nothing in county rivalry, allowed both sides the opportunity to display their talents, and in particular showed the courage and

fight of the Tipperary lads in coming from behind when all seemed lost. Trailing by nine points to three well into the second half, the game underlined the fact that no game is over until the final whistle as our lads stormed back to emerge victorious by 2-5 to 0-9. So in every sense of the word this proved to be a very successful and worthwhile venture.

The following players represented Tipperary: Seamus McKeogh (Ballina); Frank McGrath, Kevin Coonan (Éire Óg-Nenagh); John Purcell, Michael Murphy (Durlas Óg); Tom Fogarty, Thomas Flanagan (Holycross); Gavin McGurk, Martin Moloney (Rockwell Rovers); Michael Moroney (Aherlow); Kevin Bowes (Arravale Rovers); Sean O'Donoghue (Cashel King Cormacs); Gerry McGuire (Lattin-Cullen); John Ryan (Golden-Kilfeacle); Oliver Kennedy (Seán Teacys); Richard Sweetman (Cahir); David Lavin (Clonmel Óg); Aidan Sweeney (Newcastle); Michael O'Mahoney (Commercials); P. J. Lonergan (Ardfinnan).



Tipperary representatives at the Under-16 Football Summer Camp at Carraig na bhFear. **Back row** (L. to R.): Eamon Ryan, Frank McGrath, Kevin Coonan, Michael O'Mahoney, Gavin McGuirk, John Purcell, Seamus McKeogh, Sean O'Donoghue, Oliver Kennedy, Michael Moroney, Michael Murphy, Eugene Fogarty, Liam O'Dwyer. **Front row** (L. to R.): Richard Sweetman, David Lavin, John Ryan, Aidan Sweeney, Martin Moloney, P. J. Lonergan, Gerry McGuire, Thomas Flanagan, Tomás Fogarty, Kevin Bowes.

Vocational Schools Handball (40 x 20)

The annual Vocational Schools handball competitions were held this year in Dolla. After a very successful, keenly contested competition the following emerged as winners and represented North Tipp in the Munster championships:

Senior singles: John Kennedy, Nenagh; senior doubles: John Kennedy and Seamus Slattery, Nenagh; intermediate singles: Finbar Ryan, Nenagh;

intermediate doubles: Finbar Ryan and Michael Carmody, Nenagh; junior singles: Andrew Healy, Thurles; junior doubles: Grey Foley and Raymond O'Brien, Newport.

The senior doubles pair and the intermediate singles and doubles from Nenagh went on to win the Munster championship and were narrowly beaten in the All-Ireland semi-finals.

SOUTH TIPP BORD NA nÓG

By Patsy O'Halloran

Grade	Winner	Runner-up	No. Entered	Referee
U-12 Football (A)	Ard Finnan	Cahir	7	T. J. Corby
U-12 Football (B)	Ballyporeen	Ballingarry	6	C. Boland
U-12 Football (C)	Grangemockler	Kilsheelan	10	M. McCormack
U-16 Football (A)	Ard Finnan	Swan	6	J. McCarthy
U-16 Football (B)	Killenaule	Cahir	5	J. Harrington
U-16 Football (C)	Newcastle	St. Patrick's	6	S. Mullins
U-14 Football (R)	Fr. Sheehy's	Ard Finnan	9	T. J. Corby
U-14 Football (U/R)	Commercials	Cahir	13	W. Barrett
U-14 Football (Sp.)	Clonmel Óg (B)	Grangemockler	6	N. Coughlan
U-12 Hurling (A)	Ballingarry	Cahir	5	S. McCormack
U-12 Hurling (B)	Ballybacon/Grange	Fethard	4	M. O'Donoghue
U-12 Hurling (C)	Fr. Sheehy's	Kilsheelan	11	M. Kennedy
U-16 Hurling (A)	St. Mary's	Killenaule	5	J. Harrington
U-16 Hurling (B)	Ballybacon/Grange	Ballingarry	4	J. Lonergan
U-16 Hurling (C)	Newcastle	Moyle Rovers	7	W. Barrett
U-14 Hurling (R)	Cahir	Killenaule	9	J. Harrington
U-14 Hurling (U/R)	St. Mary's	Clonmel Óg	12	J. Lonergan
U-14 Hurling (Sp.)	St. Mary's (B)	Ballylooby	6	F. O'Brien



JUVENILE SCÓR na nÓG WINNERS (1989)

Representing Marlfield Juvenile Club Ballad Group (left to right). Therése Johnson, Regina Barrett, Fionnuala O'Connell and Michele Johnson.



BALLYBACON-GRANGE U-12 SOUTH 'B' HURLING CHAMPIONS

Front Row: (l. to r.) Stephen Maher, Wesley Burke, Alan O'Gorman, Barry Carrigan (captain), John English, Ger O'Sullivan, Diarmuid Boyle, Ross Hally. Back Row (l. to r.) Keith Scanlon, Liam Norton, John Kinahan, Shane O'Mahoney, Eric Guthrie, Liam Hennessey, Brian Lonergan, Liam Myles, Nigel Carrigan.

Progress in County

U-12 Football (A) — Ard Finnan beat Durlas Óg in Co. Semi-Final at Golden and went on to retain their county title by defeating Arravale Rovers in a thrilling replay at Cashel.

U-14 Rural Football — Fr. Sheehy's beat Holycross in semi-final and took the second county title to the division by beating Newport in the final at Drombane.

U-14 Urban Rural Football: Commercials beat Arravale Rovers in semi-final at Boherlahan, but were beaten by a point in the final against Durlas Óg at Cashel.

U-16 Football (A) — Ardinnan lost to Nenagh in semi-final at Holycross.

U-16 Football (B) — Killenaule beat Lattin/Cullen in semi-final. Replay at Boherlahan, but were defeated by Boherlahan in the Final at Cashel.

U-12 Hurling (A) — Ballingarry beat Knockavilla Kickhams in Semi-Final Replay, but lost to Durlas Óg in County Final at Holycross.

U-14 Rural Hurling — Cahir beaten by Holycross in Semi-Final at Cashel.

U-14 Urban Rural Hurling — St. Mary's lost to Toomevara in Semi-Final at Holycross.

U-16 Hurling (A) — St. Mary's were defeated in Semi-Final at Arravale Rovers at Boherlahan.

U-16 Hurling (B) — Ballybacon/Grange beat Upperchurch/Drombane in Semi-Final, and then beat Moneygall in the final.

Divisional Teams

Under-16 Football defeated the Mid-Division at Cashel but lost the Final to a very strong West team at Holycross.

The u-16 hurling team did this Division proud during the year by reaching the Munster semi-final before going out to the eventual Munster Champions North Tipp at Holycross. A great deal of coaching and training went into this team and this was reflected in all their matches. They beat East Limerick in Golden, Avondhu (Cork) at Ballygiblin, East Clare at Pallasgreen but their great run ended at Holycross against North Tipp. John Leahy took charge of the coaching and he must be responsible in no small way for our great victories. The following is the team that represented South Tipp:

Tony Dalton; Richard Sweetman, John Connolly, Liam Treacy; Thomas Dalton, Seán Hewitt, Mark O'Halloran; Conor Maher, Michael McGarry; Tony Shelly, Brian O'Meara, Kenny Brett; Aidan Sweeney, Michael O'Mahony, Conor Arrigan. Subs: Declan Halley, Larry Hayes, Dessie McNamara, Noel Wall, David Lavin, Peter Behan, Paul Lucey, Eugene Purcell.



BALLYBACON/GRANGE U-16 SOUTH 'B' CHAMPIONS AND COUNTY FINALISTS

Front Row (l. to r.) Eric Ryan, Derek O'Mahoney, P. J. Lonergan, Declan Ryan, Conor Maher, Kieran Walsh (captain), Liam O'Leary, Noel Murphy, Liam Barnett, John O'Leary. Back Row (l. to r.) Seán Maher, Pat O'Gorman, Noel Lonergan, Pat Halley, Carol Hennessey, Mike English, Brendan Cummins, Mike O'Sullivan, Alan John Lonergan, Willie Carrigan, Davy Ryan, Willie Keating.



CLONMEL ÓG UNDER-12 HURLING TEAM



THE NEWCASTLE TEAM WHICH WON UNDER-16 "C" CHAMPIONSHIPS IN BOTH HURLING AND FOOTBALL IN 1989

Back Row (l. to r.) F. O'Flynn, J. Fitzpatrick, A. O'Gorman, D. Hackett, A. Sweeney, N. Hackett, D. O'Flynn, D. Coonan, K. Byrne, L. Cahill, D. O'Loughlin. Front Row: J. Hackett, P. Hackett, C. Hyland, J. Cullinan, E. Browne, G. Aird, A. O'Dwyer, G. Aird, N. Sweeney, R. Hackett.



CLONMEL ÓG U-14 'B' FOOTBALL — SOUTH CHAMPIONS 1989

Winners Under-14 'B' competition. Front Row (l. to r.) G. Brett, L. Prendergast, D. Smith, D. Buck, A. Davis, J. Morrison, S. Aylward (captain), I. MacManimen, F. Roche, D. Joyce. Back Row: (l. to r.) P. Doyle (manager), K. Lonergan, G. Murphy, P. O'Gorman, T. Quigley, E. Hally, J. Foley, P. Whitley, M. Hackett, K. Smith, M. O'Connor, D. O'Brien, J. Toomey, C. Aylward (trainer).

Some of Clonmel Óg u-12 hurlers who won four tournaments this year. Matches between teams from Cork, Kilkenny, Wexford and Clare.

Scór na nÓg

Winners of South Finals in G.A.A. Centre, Clonmel, on 10/12/'88.

Ceili Dancing (Kilsheelan) A. O'Halloran, C. Collum, P. O'Halloran, M. Robinson, M. Larkin, J. Egan, R. McHale, G. McHale.

Recitation: (Kilsheelan) Jennifer Regan.

Solo Singing: (Fr. Sheehy's) Sheila Tierney.

Novelty Act: (Fr. Sheehy's) S. Condon, M. Condon, N. Condon, A. Condon, S. Condon, L. Condon.

Question Time: (St. Patrick's) O. Ryan, C. Foley, J. O'Brien.

Instrumental Music: (Fr. Sheehy's) M. Slattery, D. Slattery, M. Slattery.

Group Singing (Marlfield) T. Johnson, M. Johnson, F. O'Connell, R. Barrett.

Set Dancing: (Killenaule) T. Shelly, M. O'Connell, D. Taylor, E. Purcell, L. O'Connell, C. Fanning, C. Tynan, M. Tynan.

Board Officers:

Chairman: Jim Lynch (Cahir); Vice-Chairman: Jimmy Quinn (St. Mary's); Vice-Chairman: Nicholas Moroney (St. Patrick's); Sec./Treas./P.R.O.: Patsy O'Halloran (Kilsheelan); Co. Board Rep. (R.): Michael Lonergan (Ard Finnan); Co. Board Rep. (U/R): Michael Lavin (Clonmel Óg); **South Board Rep.:** Jimmy McCarthy (Moyle Rovers); Registrar: Paddy Nagle (Swan); Fixtures Members (3): Paddy Forristal (St. Mary's); John Dalton (Ballingarry); Seán Tierney (Fr. Sheehy's).

Selectors (u-16 Football): Michael O'Donoghue, John Dalton, Paddy Boyle, Michael Murphy, Michael Lavin.

Selectors (u-16 Hurling): Jim Lynch, Jimmy Murray, Jimmy Quinn, Patsy O'Halloran, Ricky Sheehan.

Fr. Sheehy's G.A.A. Club Juvenile Affairs

SEÁN TIERNEY

1989 was a great year for our juveniles with two South finals and one county title which, in any rural club is a tremendous boost for the young and senior players of our club. The success also brings many of the parents into focus which is always so badly needed in clubs.

The first juvenile team to take the "championship trail" was the U-12 footballers under Bob Murphy, ably assisted by Frank O'Brien. Due to success in recent years we were in the "A" group which in the end proved just a little too strong for us, but only just, as we got to the play-off stage of the competition.

The U-12 hurlers, however, were in the C grade, not having entered any team in 1988. This championship started a little later so some extra training was put in. These training sessions were very enjoyable as the panel seemed to have a much greater appetite for hurling and a full panel was in attendance for all training and challenge games.

We got easily to the semi-final with only one difficult game against neighbours Ballylooby. We eventually won by one goal and hoped not to meet them in the semi-final.

For the semi-final we met Moyle Rovers and after a worrying first half we seemed to find an extra gear for the remaining period. The final was then set for the end of August against Kilsheelan.

We trained hard for this and eventually our fitness and skills paid off. We had great support in Marlfield and it was "tit-for-tat" for ten minutes until our star midfielder Seán Fleming received a nasty hand injury and needed attention on the sideline.

The loss of Seán seemed a millstone around our lads and Kilsheelan scored three quick goals while Seán was being attended to and eventually substituted.

At half time we trailed by four goals and all seemed lost, but a truly memorable second-half display by a team who seemed possessed by "camán-wielding demons" held Kilsheelan's might scoreless and in the last seconds of the game edged ahead by one point to claim the honours.

Excellent performances were produced by goalkeeper David Wall, Barry Moran, Frankie Wyse, Conor Durack, Patrick Maher, Adrian Wall, Liam Condon, Warren O'Brien and Patrick O'Sullivan, but it must be said that every member of the team played to a standard that we had not shown to then. The trainers and selectors here were Toby Moran and Sean Tierney.

The U-14s' fortunes were mixed, the

hurlers had a good run in the Rural competition, losing to a great Cahir team in the semi-final and we were forced to give a w.o. to St. Mary's in the second round of the U.R. competition.

The footballers, however, are the success story of our club. We started the U.R. competition on a bad note, getting thrashed by Commercials, but this was our very first outing and we had not done any training. This was the omen we needed, so training started the following night and we reaped the benefits by getting to the semi-final in style.

Frank O'Brien was then drafted in as physical trainer and he almost killed our complete panel. Most spoke of giving up football altogether but as the "stitches" wore out the smiles came back as all realised they had come through the "wall" and were better footballers for it. I'm sure Rickey Sheehan knows how fit Frank had got them as we beat Mullinahone in a fantastic game in Cloneen.

This was a memorable game for me as Henry O'Grady gave a great performance and went on to build on this to become one of our most reliable players. Also Seamus Durack who travelled back from West Cork on the evening of the match gave a great display.

It was back then to Frank O'Brien for two hard weeks of "groans and grunts" until we faced Ardfinnan in the final at Marlfield. This game has been described by the Chairman of the South Board as the game of the year and I am in total agreement.

Football was definitely the winner on the night and thankfully we kept our noses ahead in the dying seconds to be the first recipients of the beautiful "Ned Sheehan Memorial Cup."

Back to Frank O'Brien for another week of "bump and grind." Holycross were our next opponents in Golden, and I can only imagine how our lads felt when what looked like a senior team took the field — the Holycross boys were huge, it was like David and Goliath and as in the Bible, our Davids slew the Giants.

This was a very tough game with creditable performances by Franie Wyse in goal, David Clarke, Henry O'Grady, Willie Cleary, Liam O'Connor, Declan English and Ashling Tierney whose timely goal turned the game for us and rose some flagging spirits to steer us through the last few minutes and into our first ever U-14 county final.

We now had almost three weeks to wait until the final match, to the disappointment of everyone, as we were anxious to get into battle immediately. This delay was especially awkward as it was in peak holiday period and many had to re-arrange trips etc. and the players had to endure Frank O'Brien's imposed torture for a while longer.

By the time of the final they were fit enough to join any circus act. The game was set for Drombane against Newport and it was not a particularly hard game. Newport lacked balance and some football skills, and also depended on one or two excellent players for their strength.



FR. SHEEHY'S — U-14 COUNTY RURAL FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS

Front row (L. to R.): L. Condon, C. Durack, P. Supple, E. English, D. English, David Clarke (capt.), Liam O'Connor, Seamus Durack, Kevin Clarke, Sean Fleming, Patrick Maher. **Second row:** Willie Cleary, Seamus Murphy, Frank Wyse, James Hickey, Barry Moran, Liam Fleming, Paudie Butler, Seamus Tierney, John Fox, Ashling Tierney, Henry O'Grady. **Rear:** Michael O'Connor, Christy English, Seán Tierney. Omitted from photo is Pete Fehilly (selector).

We ran out easy winners and when David Clarke accepted the Cup it was a moment of absolute euphoria for me, my fellow members and all involved with the club.

Along with Frank O'Brien, special mention must be given here to Christy English and Pete Fehilly who acted as trainers and selectors and gave their time and effort freely.

Our U-16 teams have no successes to relate, not winning any game in hurling or football. The fault here must not be laid totally with the players but the mentors and the club must also share the blame. We just had too few trainers and it must be said that not one training session was held for the U-16 team.

Finally, mention must be made of the many people who worked hard to achieve much in 1989. Mary Fleming and Secretary Micheál O'Connor, Chairman Bob Murphy, Frank O'Brien, Toby Moran, Christy English, Pete Fehilly, Michael O'Connor, Harry O'Grady and all who helped and supplied cars for the

year. Ann O'Sullivan and Agnes O'Riordan who looked after the Juvenile Scór, and to the Fr. Sheehy Parents' Club

who supplied the money, we say thanks and appeal to all for their continued support through 1990.



FR. SHEEHY'S — U-12 SOUTH CHAMPIONS (HURLING)

Front row (L. to R.): William Casey, Gerard Casey, Patrick O'Sullivan, David Walsh, Paul Moran, Patrick Kenneally, Frankie Wyse (capt.), Warren O'Brien, Shane Keating, Michael Cusack, John Cusack. **Rear** (L. to R.): David Casey, John Quinlan, William O'Grady, John Noonan, Patrick Maher, Seán Fleming, Barry Moran, Conor Durack, Liam Condon, Jason English, Adrian Wall.

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Clonmel Hurling & Football Club - Féile Finals

By: M. O'LOUGHLIN

FOR the second year in a row Clonmel Hurling & Football Club Under-14 footballers represented Tipperary in the Féile na nÓg finals in Galway, and the club did Tipperary proud with some magnificent performances by reaching the final against London.

On Saturday morning, we played Dunmore (Galway), our host club, in the first game of our section. This game proved to be a tough, exciting match with our hosts proving to be difficult opponents. A fine second half performance from our lads was the difference between both sides. Final score — Clonmel 3-2 to Dunmore 1-2.

Our next game was against Kilkerrin/Clondernie (Galway). Our lads showed great form and produced some fine football. Final score — Clonmel 4-8 to 0-0.

Our final game in our group was against group favourites Cavan from the famous football area of Mullahoran. This Cavan side was fancied to win out the competition, but our lads relished the role of underdog. We played with the strong wind in the first half, we had a great start with a goal from S. Hally and points from P. Scully and E. Farrell. However, Mullahoran scored 1-1 in the final minutes before half-time, leaving the score 1-2 to 1-1 in our favour. In the second half, we were playing into the strong wind, our chances looked remote. The Cavan side dominated early proceedings but failed to score. Our lads showed great determination as they fought for every ball. Our defence, led by B. Walsh, were magnificent and J. Conway, even though badly injured, was an inspiration to our forwards.

Cavan levelled with 5 minutes remaining, then in a rare attack, our 'super-sub' A. Davis scored the winning goal. For the last few hectic moments, our defence stood firm and great scenes of joy greeted the final whistle. One would have to give special mention to the man of the match, performance of Eddie Farrell, who played a blinder throughout the match.

In the semi-final, on the Saturday night, we had an easy win over Glenamaddy (Galway). Final score was 7-12 to 0-0 in our favour.

So, it was onto Salthill on Sunday for the Féile Parade, and the final against London. We were met on our arrival by our club supporters, who travelled to Galway early Sunday morning from Clonmel. We faced a strong London side. We had a great start with goal from E. Morrison, but we conceded two soft goals and we were two points in arrears at half-time. Even though, we dominated the second half, we failed to take advantage of our chances, and we were beaten by 1 point in an excellent final. Final score — Clonmel 1-3, London 2-1.

Despite the obvious disappointment of losing the final, our lads can be very proud of our achievements over that memorable weekend.

We would like to thank our sponsors, especially Larry O'Keeffe, our excellent supporters, our host club, Dunmore, who looked after us so well over the weekend; to Jimmy Flynn, our bus driver for his co-operation and the crack over the weekend.

Special mention to our secretary, Sean Quirke, who stayed with us for the weekend. His work and assistance to the



CLONMEL ÓG

Shane Madigan and Malcolm O'Connor who played for the I.N.T.O. Mini Series at Croke Park before the Cork/Dublin Football Semi-Final.

team was tremendous and our players recognised that work by showing a great respect for our "father-figure".

Well done to Paddy Doyle, Dale Kearns, Christy Aylward, Michael O'Loughlin for preparing the lads for the competition.

Finally, our thanks to our players, who were magnificent in their behaviour and attitude on and off the field. Their parents, the town of Clonmel, County Tipperary, can be very proud of our young ambassadors. Well done everyone.

Panel on duty: M. Russell, D. O'Loughlin, B. Morris, J. Dowling, B. Gentles, B. Walsh (capt.), S. Aylward, J. Crotty, E. Farrell, J. Conway, S. Hally, M. Tucker, J. Morrison, P. Scully, T. Creed, E. Kearns, B. Dennehy, M. O'Connor, A. Davis, I. McMinmian.

The following represented the club on County and Divisional Teams: Paudie O'Keeffe, Minor Football and Hurling County teams; Kevin Maher, Minor Hurling County Panel; Paul Lucey and David Lavin, South Tipp. U-16 panel; Jonathon Dowling and Graham Cantwell, South Tipp U-14 H. Panel.



CLONMEL HURLING & FOOTBALL UNDER-14 TEAM

Front Row (left to right): P. Doyle (manager), B. Gentles, D. O'Loughlin, M. O'Connor, B. Walsh (capt.), A. Davis, I. MacMenimen, S. Aylward, T. Creed, B. Morris. Back Row (left to right): D. Kearns (trainer), E. Farrell, E. Kearns, B. Dennehy, J. Crotty, M. Russell, J. Dowling, J. Conway, J. Morrison, M. O'Loughlin (trainer), C. Aylward (trainer). Inset - P. Scully, M. Tucker, S. Hally.

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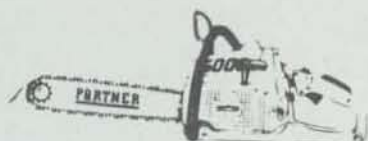
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SOUTH ROUND-UP

MICHAEL O'MEARA, Secretary

SENIOR HURLING

THE Senior Hurling Championship was run on a knock-out basis with the three first round losers playing off to join the first round winners in the semi-finals. The three first round games were all played at Clonmel on May 21st and patrons were treated to some exciting fare. Ballingarry overcame newly promoted Cahir by a single point while holders Killenaule had to battle hard to contain Carrick Swans in a high-scoring encounter.

The third tie between St. Mary's and the Kilsheelan/Davin group side Na Piarasigh ended in a draw and was replayed at Kilsheelan a fortnight later. On this occasion St. Mary's triumphed by the narrowest of margins in extra time.

In the losers' play-off Na Piarasigh had two points to spare over Cahir but they were badly beaten by Swan who thereby joined Killenaule, Ballingarry and St. Mary's in the semi-finals. Killenaule were drawn against St. Mary's in a repeat of the previous year's decider and the holders were regarded by many as fortunate finalists as St. Mary's led up to the closing minutes and only succumbed by a two-point margin. In the second semi-final Swans were not over-impressive in defeating Ballingarry by 3-9 to 3-5.

So the scene was set for the decider which was arranged for Clonmel on August 13th. A disappointing attendance saw a closely contested but sub-standard game during which Swan failed to take their chances and Killenaule went on to retain their crown.

INTERMEDIATE HURLING

This championship run on a league system provided many closely contested games and a play-off was necessary before the semi-finalists were known. Both semi-finals were played at Clonmel on 1st October and whilst Fethard had a clear-cut success over Davins, Kilsheelan had only a point to spare over Ballybacon-Grange in a game that ended in some controversy with the scoreboard showing the sides level.

The decider provided one of the best games of the year and it fittingly ended in a draw. The repaly provided another enthralling encounter with the scores again level at the end of the hour. In extra time, however, Fethard proved the stronger and annexed the magnificent Jerome O'Dwyer Trophy for the first time.

JUNIOR HURLING

Competition was very keen in this championship run on a knock-out basis. There were few surprises, however, and the fancied sides, holders Moyle Rovers, Mullinahone, Ballingarry and Ballyneale advanced to the semi-finals.



MULLINAHONE — SOUTH JUNIOR HURLING CHAMPIONS 1989

Back row (L. to R.): G. Brett, A. Curran, T. O'Brien, L. O'Connor, R. Cody, S. Brett, O. Maher, T. Lonergan. **Front row** (L. to R.): P. Ryan, P. Skehan, J. Bolger, G. Bolger, M. Skehan, J. McCormack, J. Leahy (capt.).



BALLYBACON-GRANGE — SOUTH MINOR HURLING 'B' CHAMPIONS

Back row (L. to R.): D. Lambert, M. Sullivan, C. Maher, D. Ryan, E. Ryan, K. Walshe, D. Keating, E. O'Mahony. **Front row** (L. to R.): P. English, T. Condon, S. Maher, S. Mason, J. English, K. Ryan, A. Quinlan.



Gerry O'Keefe and Con Hogan enjoying the game in Clonmel.

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MOYLE ROVERS — SOUTH JUNIOR FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS 1989

Back row (L. to R.): M. Drohan, B. Foley, M. Looby, J. O'Brien, C. Boland, K. O'Connor, T. Acheson, A. O'Dwyer, F. Fennessy, R. Boland, C. Flynn, P. Boyle. **Front row** (L. to R.): P. McNeal, B. Boland, J. McGrath, P. McCarthy, D. McGrath (capt.), P. McCormack, D. Looby, P. Owens, S. Norris, E. Moore. Missing from photo: T. McGrath.

History repeated itself with the same semi-final pairings as in 1988 and there was further coincidence when Ballyneale and Moyle Rovers drew a low-scoring game as they also did in '88. Rovers triumphed in the replay. Mullinahone and Ballingarry also played a draw and in a high-scoring and exciting replay Mullinahone advanced to meet Moyle Rovers in a repeat of the '88 decider.



Few gave Moyle Rovers a real chance but once again they put it up to a highly-rated Mullinahone who duly confirmed their favourites' tag, but only just.



KILLENALEE — SOUTH SENIOR HURLING CHAMPIONS 1989

Back row (L. to R.): Martin Fanning, Derek Healy, J. P. Shaw, Michael Brennan, Sean Ryan, Michael Hassett, Davy Ahern, Joe O'Dwyer, Tom Shelley, Willie Gleeson, Donie O'Connell, Michael Gleeson. **Front row** (L. to R.): Tom Shanahan, Nicholas Bergin, John Lyons, Thomas Brennan, C. Healy, Jackie Bolger, John O'Dwyer, Martin Shanahan, Jimmy Butler, Mossy Mullins, Pa Shelley.

21 HURLING

Newly-promoted Mullinahone inspired once again by John Leahy defeated champions St. Mary's at Kilsheelan in the first semi-final whilst Carrick Swans ousted Brian Borus in the second. In the

decider at Clonmel Mullinahone got well on top to win their first title in the grade in most impressive fashion.

21 HURLING (B)

This again proved a very worthwhile competition and some very entertaining



FETHARD — 21 FOOTBALL SOUTH AND COUNTY CHAMPIONS 1988

Back row (L. to R.): D. Kane, Michael Riodan, Michael Broderick, G. Horan, A. Donovan, L. Ryan, S. Ryan, Michael Ryan, P. Hayes, L. Ryan, P. Ryan, J. Hurley. **Front row** (L. to R.): W. O'Meara, J. Connolly, G. Murphy, R. Burke, D. Hackett, W. Morrissey, B. Burke (capt.), T. McCarthy, E. Cummins, C. Coen.



FETHARD — SOUTH INTERMEDIATE HURLING CHAMPIONS 1989

Front row (L. to R.): D. Byrne, P. Ryan, G. Murphy, W. O'Meara, W. Morrissey, J. Connelly, Michael Ryan (capt.), Michael Fitzgerald, K. Burke, S. McCormack, L. Ryan, M. Spillane. **Back row** (L. to R.): C. Looby, J. Hurley, A. Donovan, Michael McCormack, Fr. M. Ryan, L. Connolly, B. Burke, S. Ryan, L. Ryan, T. Sheehan, E. Cummins, L. McCarthy, Thomas McCarthy.



MULLINAHONE — U-21 SOUTH WINNERS 1989

Back row (L. to R.): J. White, P. Costelloe, J. O'Neill, M. Skehan, N. Leahy, B. O'Meara, L. O'Connor, E. O'Keeffe, F. Morrissey, C. Duggan, P. O'Halloran, J. Ryan, M. Nash. **Front row** (L. to R.): P. White, K. Morrissey, J. Ryan, T. Cahill, P. Skehan, J. Leahy, G. Bolger, E. Duggan, D. McNamara, M. Kennedy.



ST. PATRICK'S — WINNERS OF THE SOUTH MINOR B FOOTBALL AND BEATEN COUNTY FINALISTS 1989

Back row: (Missing from photo, P. Burke, selector), J. Gleeson, R. O'Brien, D. Quinn, K. Brett, M. Crannick, J. Noonan, A. Quinn, T. Egan, E. Kiley, G. Tobin, D. Keane, L. O'Dwyer (selector). **Front row:** A. Britton (selector), J. O'Brien, C. Foley, P. Keane, D. Ryan, N. Keane, D. Ryan, P. White, J. Horan, R. Horan.

games were witnessed. Ballingarry, powered by county panelist Don Lyons, enjoyed a clear-cut semi-final success over Ballybacon-Grange whilst Kilsheelan surprised a fancied Fethard.

The final proved a closely contested and a very entertaining affair which Ballingarry

won by a five points' margin over gallant opponents who fought hard all the way.

MINOR HURLING

Standards showed a significant drop in this competition but it was gratifying to see Brian Borus get through to the decider for the second successive year. Their final

opponents were Killenaule who overcame St. Mary's, the holders, in the semi-final. Killenaule, who carried the favourites' tag, duly took the honours but all praise to Brian Borus who put up a very plucky display and lost out narrowly for the second year in succession. Their turn will surely come.

MINOR HURLING (B)

Another very keenly contested competition with a great battle for semi-final places. Clonmel Óg qualified to meet Ballybacon-Grange but did not do justice to themselves on the night and were soundly beaten. Davins caused an upset by drawing with Mullinahone but lost out in the replay. The final was of a good standard comparable with the premier grade and Ballybacon-Grange scored a well-deserved and overdue success over a good Mullinahone fifteen that went down with colours flying.

JUNIOR FOOTBALL

Always one of the hardest championships to win, junior football again provided its quota of surprises, not least the defeat of favourites St. Patrick's at the hands of Killenaule.

Killenaule, however, went under to Moyle Rovers in the first of the semi-finals whilst Ardfinnan, who had defeated Ballylooby/Castlegrace after 150 minutes' play, surprisingly lost out to surprise packets Ballyporeen. The final was staged before an enthusiastic attendance in Ardfinnan and Moyle Rovers took the title in good style but not before some anxious moments especially in the second period when a Ballyporeen rally left just a point between the sides. Rovers recovered their composure, however, to eventually succeed by a five-point margin.

21 FOOTBALL (B)

We saw a number of fine games in this competition, in particular the draw and replay which saw St. Patrick's finally see off the great challenge of Ballingarry. The Drangan/Cloneen side went on to defeat Old Bridge in the semi-final whilst at the other end of the draw Cahir scored a hard-earned success over a good Kilsheelan

side that had earlier eliminated Swans. The final produced a good hard hour's football with Cahir gaining an overdue success at the hands of a luckless St. Patrick's.

MINOR FOOTBALL

This competition played on a league basis, provided a good standard and many entertaining games. In the first semi-final Fethard scored a resounding success over a disappointing Brian Borus whilst the second semi-final produced a surprise result with Clonmel Óg getting the better of their local rivals Commercials by a two-point margin in a fine game.

Few gave Clonmel Óg a chance in their first decider but they carried the fight to the favourites right from the start and Fethard had to pull out all the stops to take the title in one of the best finals of the year.

MINOR FOOTBALL (B)

This championship was again most successful and the semi-final places were hard earned. St. Patrick's, Killenaule, Mullinahone and Grangemockler were the qualifiers and they met in that order.

St. Patrick's had to go to a replay before seeing off the tenacious challenge of Killenaule whilst Mullinahone went under to Grangemockler.

The final promised much but on the night St. Patrick's proved much the better side and they went on to a well-merited and popular success.

SENIOR FOOTBALL

Though run on a knock-out basis, this championship has still to be decided. Commercials and Moyle Rovers have advanced to the final. Moyle Rovers caused one of the upsets of the year by defeating holders Fethard and went on to overcome Cahir in the semi-final. Commercials had a clear-cut success over Ardfinnan but had to battle hard to defeat the combination side St. Patrick's/Grangemockler in the second semi-final.

INTERMEDIATE FOOTBALL

Run on a two-group league basis, Ballyporeen, holders, Ballingarry, Mullinahone and Swan were the qualifiers for the semi-finals and they were paired to meet in that order. Ballyporeen scored a comfortable win over Ballingarry whilst Mullinahone got on top in the last quarter to account for Swan.

A great final was anticipated and the large crowd at Clonmel were not disappointed as both sides served up some fine football. Ballyporeen looked the likely winners for much of the way but the spirit and will to win of Mullinahone once again carried the day in very exciting fashion by the narrowest of margins.

21 FOOTBALL

This championship has yet to be completed at the time of writing. Commercials have qualified for the final by virtue of a good win over Mullinahone whilst the second semi-final will be contested by holders Fethard and the Moyle Rovers/Grangemockler combination Slievenamon.



South Board referees pictured with Board officers at South Board Social. Left to right: Michael O'Donoghue, Jackie Hogan, Billy Martin, Jimmy Collins (Vice-Chairman), M. Walsh (do.), John Cummins.



Awards winners, Board officers and guests at the South Board Social. **Back row** (L. to R.): John Leahy (Hurler of the Year), Donal Foley (Footballer of the Year), Tommy Foran (Hurler of the Past), Brendan Long (Editor, "Nationalist"), Eamon Maher (Young Hurler), Anthony Wall (Young Footballer). **Front row** (L. to R.): Con Hogan, Chairman; Ted Dillon, Sports Editor, Nationalist; Michael O'Meara, Secretary.

SOUTH TIPPERARY ROLL OF HONOUR 1989

SENIOR HURLING

At Clonmel: Killenaule 0-13; Carrick Swans 0-9. Referee: J. Lonergan.

INTERMEDIATE HURLING

At Clonmel: Fethard 3-11; Kilsheelan 4-8. Referee: J. McCarthy. *Replay:* Fethard 2-15; Kilsheelan 2-11. After extra time.

JUNIOR HURLING

At Clonmel: Mullinahone 1-11; Moyle Rovers 1-7. Referee: B. Carroll.

21 HURLING

At Clonmel: Mullinahone 1-17; Carrick Swans 2-7. Referee: W. Barrett.

21 HURLING (B)

At Clonmel: Ballingarry 1-8; Kilsheelan 1-3. Referee: W. Barrett.

MINOR HURLING

At Clonmel: Killenaule 3-7; Brian Borus 1-9. Referee: M. Hyland.

MINOR HURLING (B)

At Clonmel: Ballybacon-Grange 4-9; Mullinahone 2-9. Referee: T. J. Corby.

SENIOR FOOTBALL

Final to be played — Moyle Rovers v. Commercials.

INTERMEDIATE FOOTBALL

At Clonmel: Mullinahone 0-9; Ballyporeen 0-8. Referee: J. Lonergan.

JUNIOR FOOTBALL

At Ardfinnan: Moyle Rovers 1-7; Ballyporeen 1-2. Referee: B. Carroll.

21 FOOTBALL

Final to be played — Commercials v. Fethard or Slievenamon.

21 FOOTBALL (B)

At Clonmel: Cahir 1-6; St. Patrick's 0-6. Referee: W. Robinson.

MINOR FOOTBALL

At Kilsheelan: Fethard 0-13; Clonmel Óg 2-5. Referee: T. Lonergan.

MINOR FOOTBALL (B)

At Kilsheelan: St. Patrick's 1-13; Grangemockler 0-4. Referee: S. Mullins.

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Fethard: minor football county champions 1989



FETHARD SOUTH COUNTY MINOR FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS 1989

Back row: (l. to r.) Martin Coen, Michael Broderick, Paddy Ryan, Dermot Kane, John Stokes, Christy Looby, Michael Spillane, Eugene Walsh, Kevin Coffey, Donal Cummins. Front row: (l. to r.) Luke Hackett, J. P. Connolly, Michael Quinlan, Martin Ryan, Kenneth Hackett, Eamon Houlihan, Philip Blake and Riobárd Broderick, Liam Treacy.

Having won all their games in the league section, Fethard qualified to meet Brian Borus in the South semi-final. This hurdle was safely jumped but Clonmel Óg, in the final, was a much tougher assignment. However, after a tough struggle against a well-drilled Clonmel team, the South Trophy was on its way to the walled town of Fethard.

By "True Blue"

With high hopes and an improving team we set off for Thurles. What a fright we got from Éire Óg, Nenagh. A last gasp point and we lived to fight another day. Holycross was the venue for the replay and this time the Fethard boys, giving an outstanding performance, proved much too good for gallant Nenagh.

Boherlahan was our final destination. A highly skilled and well-fancied Cashel team was the opposition. Fethard welcomed back to the fray Dermot Kane, at midfield — out of action all summer with a facial injury received against Carrick Swans. And with game finely balanced at 2 points each it was an outstanding goal from Dermot that gave Fethard a lead which they never relinquished.

Cashel never gave up until a great solo point from Martin Coen finally put the game out of their grasp. John Stokes was a

constant thorn in the side of the Cashel defence, Mickey Spillane, Michéal Broderick and Eamonn Holohan were always prominent. Murt Ryan was an outstanding half-back and his brothers Paddy at full-back was without doubt man-of-the-match.

In truth, all players were heroes and Fethard football remains in a healthy state with these young men to look forward to. Great credit too to Jimmy O'Shea, Pat Sheehan and Michael Keane who got them

to the field in tip-top shape mentally and physically.

And so it was another trophy for the Blues — a hard won trophy which brought great joy to the players, their mentors and loyal supporters. The team played always in the best Fethard traditions of sportsmanship and courage.

The task 'twas done, the cup 'twas won. The joy was fierce and true, And Micheál brought the trophy home To the town of the famous Blue.



TIPP UNDER-14 HURLING TEAM

Front Row: (l. to r.) J. Lynch, selector; T. Dunne, M. Haverty, K. O'Sullivan, C. Vaughan, P. Croke, D. McGrath, B. Cummins, B. Stritch, S. Slattery, J. Ryan, P.J. Butler, selector. Back Row: (l. to r.) S. Ryan, Selector, K. Tucker, J. Mounsey, B. Alley, B. Liffey, P. Broderick, P. Madden, S. Hogan, J. McCormack, P. Murray, N. Deegan, C. Flaherty, T. Gleeson, selector.

Of Leahy and Lesser Gods

Mullinahone U-21 Double Champions of 1988

We took our leave of you in the last edition at the end of what had been a good year for the Mullinahone club. John Leahy had appeared with honour in an All-Ireland senior hurling final. We had done an historic double in winning the South Tipp under-21 'B' hurling and football titles. We had failed in the divisional junior hurling final and we had gone out of the intermediate football championship at the semi-final stage after a replay. Yes it had been a good year but few imagined as November sped by that in the dark days greatness beckoned.

On Saturday, November 11th, in Cloneen, giving a fine display of skillful and aggressive hurling, Mullinahone swept to victory over Ballingarry in the U-16 'B' hurling final. A matter of small moment you would say. In the second half of that game 15-year-old Brian O'Meara at midfield had turned on a wonderful display of hurling. The 'draft Brian campaign' into the under-21's had begun. Brian refused but persuasion persisted. Brian relented and fate had intervened. On the following morning in Holycross Mullinahone played well at high noon to oust Enly in the county hurling semi-final. On the day Sean Brett was immaculate at full-back, Ray Cody ruled at midfield and up front John Leahy and Philip Skehan picked off the scores. We had reached an underage county hurling final for the first time. Ring out the celebration bells.

Six days later in Clonmel we again faced a western challenge this time in football from a fancied Galtee Rovers. Early on we were rattled but we recovered our composure to cope with Bansa's slick team work, as time sped by we had gone three points clear. Now only a goal could save Galtee. We were on the attack seeking the insurance point but Galtee cleared and in a sweeping movement brought the ball to the other end of the field and goaled. The final whistle greeted the knockout. We had to meet again. This we did a week later in Clonmel on Saturday, Nov. 26th.

In what will ever be remembered as Sean Brett's game, Mullinahone with Brett truly dominant as never before qualified for their second county under-21 final of the year by a narrow margin. That day Sean Brett proved to all who cared to see, what had been long held in Mullinahone, that there was not a better or more competitive half-back in Tipperary. However, it still took a couple of most timely intercepts from Michael Skehan to see us safely through.

It was now December. We had played on eight successive weekends

since October 2nd. Throw in a number of county games by our representatives in football and hurling. Our team was young. Grounds were getting heavy and county senior champions Loughmore now barred the way to glory. To Cashel of the Kings we came on December 4th to resolve the conflict. A clash of colours dictated Mullinahone's "green above the red" would be replaced by Grangemockler's green and white. We started well against the elements and Loughmore and grabbed a two point lead.

The Mid champions came back and aided by a Seamie Bohan goal went on to lead by seven points at half time. We had played nobly. It was to be a final appearance with honour. Supporters were satisfied but the team had other ideas. They would battle and battle and fall and rise again. They possessed the raw courage "never to submit or yield".

The mentors played with last card, fifteen-year-old Brian O'Meara was sent into the fray. He scored an early point and began to exert an influence in the half-forward line. A switch was made, Sean Brett moved from full-back to centre-half with sixteen-year-old Michael Skehan going to guard the edge of the square. Fortune favours the brave. From his new berth at wing back on his own '65' Big Jim O'Neill launches a massive drive which clears the crossbar. The lead is down to a point as time ticks away. Now it is two again and then once more it is one. A final desperate attack. A Loughmore hand lifts the sliothair straight from the ground on his own '65 but John Moloney's eye is keen. A few fatal words and from that final pressure free John Leahy levels. There are no losers.

The same opposition a week later this time in Golden in the football final. We feel that we are physically stronger in football and on a gloomy day we finally pull away to net the county football title. Early goals from Peter Costelloe and Martin Kennedy and a five-star display from Jim White at wing-back bring the young Kickham's revenge for the minor final of 1956.

Weekend number 11. The date — Dec. 18th a club dinner dance was held two nights before on Dec. 16th. The players took a decision. A county title had been won. History had been made but could immortality be gained? Had the advantage now passed to Kickham's sons? This was a team that would do or die. Chosen from a panel of only 19 they had fought the good fight. I won't attempt to describe that final nor could any Mullinahone person who lived through it. Sufficient to say that a Jim White goal early in the second half

should have broken Loughmore but it didn't. Bravely they battled as the game hung in the balance. Thanks to Gerry Bolger we were doing better at midfield today, but Loughmore led by a point with two minutes to go. Earlier Liam O'Connor had broken their hearts with some wonderful saves. Far out on the left wing O'Meara got possession, swayed, left two defenders floundering and launched a rocket over the crossbar. Level, both sides had raid after raid repelled. A sideline cut to Mullinahone, almost fifty yards out on the left, Leahy to take it. (He's be better off in the middle under the dropping ball). "Go for the point John". It's on its way. It's over. Oh yes. A miracle point. Sound your whistle John Moloney. In injury time as Ned Ryan sends the ball too far forward to an advancing Liam O'Connor the sweet note of final victory.

Three people stand together as Martin Scott the almost forgotten captain receives the cup. Grandfather Pat in his seventies looks at the scoreboard with eyes blurred with tears. He sees Loughmore 1-8, Mullinahone 1-9. He remembers the old days when hurling was a flower that did not bloom in the valley near Slievenamon. He had seen its birth in the early forties but until today Dec. 18th, 1988, he had never seen Mullinahone win a county hurling title. His son Mick stood with him, a generation younger. His heart too was filled with pride. When he was young Tipperary ruled the hurling earth. Mullinahone didn't aspire to that kind of greatness but times were changing and perhaps as a 103-year famine had ended today so might a one of somewhat lesser vintage. Old Pat's grandson young Tom (10) was also there. He saw the future. Of course the men in green and red (or green and white) would win county hurling titles. They would play for Tipperary too. He'd be in Croke Park to urge them on or even playing with them. No problem. Hadn't he his own heroes at home to model his skills on. He would be one of the lesser gods. Three wise men with three different visions of reality.

Thus the impossible dream came to pass. The team that would not give in had become immortal. There can be only one first. Let those who brought it about receive due honour. A magnificent double. Carve the hurlers names with pride. L. O'Connor, E. Duggan, S. Brett, M. Kennedy, M. Skehan, J. O'Neill, P. Egan, R. Cody, G. Bolger, M. Scott, J. Leahy, B. O'Meara, N. Leahy, P. Skehan, J. White, P. White, M. Kehoe, J. Brett and E. O'Keefe. They were footballers too as were M. Gunn, P. Costelloe, F. Morrissey, K. Morrissey,

and D. O'Brien. Remember too the mentors J. Kelly, S. O'Connor and J. Bolger, as well as a A. Curran, O. Vaughan and G. Brett. On their way back to Mullinahone the winning hurling

team first called into the local Community Centre where the senior citizens Christmas Party was in full swing. Word of their victory had preceeded the team. The cup was

displayed with youthful pride but not the same fierce pride with which many viewed, a sight that they thought never to see. It was symbolic. It was a great year but the best may be yet to come.



C. J. KICKHAMS, MULLINAHONE — TIPPERARY U-21 'B' CHAMPIONS, 1988.

Back: Brian O'Meara, Jim White, Michael Kehoe, John Brett, Ray Cody, Eamonn O'Keeffe, Pat Egan, Jim O'Neill, Noel Leahy, Sean Brett. Front: John Leahy, Martin Kennedy, Michael Skehan, Martin Scott (captain), Liam O'Connor, Eddie Duggan, Gerry Bolger, Philip Skehan, Paul White.

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Tipperary G.A.A. Draw now a necessity

TIPPERARY G.A.A. Draw has become so much a part of Gaelic games in our county, one wonders can we really now do without it?

County Board's commitments to schools, coaching schemes, grants, etc. are almost totally dependent on the Draw fund, and cannot be abandoned in mid-stream. Many clubs reaping the rewards of a very generous commission will now find it very difficult to resume their own high-risk fund-raising schemes with limited return.

Let's face it, our clubs and County Board have rarely before had the luxury of such readily available finance to carry out their objectives.

CLUBS

The running costs of all our clubs in any one year would rarely exceed £7,000, unless we embarked on field or building projects. This figure can be realised by

selling only 250 units in Tipperary G.A.A. Draw without organising any other fund-raising venture.

This year many clubs doubled that

figure and made the draw an outstanding success. If all our clubs set their target on 250 it would guarantee the survival of this money-spinner. This moderate figure coupled with attractive prizes and minimum risks make it a most attractive method of financing our club's needs in any given year.

Successful clubs also benefit from the divisional grants paid to all our teams reaching county play-off stages, which have been reintroduced owing to the Draw's success. All our clubs will reap the rewards of County Board coaching schemes in our schools and parishes which have commenced since the introduction of the Draw.

SCHOOLS

For many years Gaelic games enjoyed a monopoly over other sports in our schools. Today even our games are in the market of "free enterprise" as Government grants for alternative sports invade most of our schools. We could sit back and watch Gaelic games dropping in order of priority or else we could take it in our own hands and control the problem.

Over the past few months thousands of pounds have been channelled into Tipperary schools in conjunction with the associated committees. These funds from the County Draw will help towards travelling, hurleys, helmets, balls, etc. The problem of personnel also needed to be tackled and with this in mind coaching schemes were introduced.

COACHING

We often hear it said that the standard of our games have dropped and the same skills and techniques are not as evident.

Two very important coaching schemes are now in progress which should help in this area. The football coaching scheme co-ordinated by the Football Board, under the supervision of that great Kerry footballer Mick O'Connell, employs twenty young men with the help of FÁS in



At the launch of Tipperary G.A.A. Draw 1989/90 in Dundrum House on June 1st were (left to right): Timmy Floyd (Co-ordinator), Hugh Kennedy (Football), Noel Morris (Co. Chairman), Mick Frawley (Draw Chairman), Pat McGrath (Hurling), Dr. Dermot Clifford and Donie Nealon who launched the Draw.



Claire Murphy, Bantis Cloughjordan, receives the keys of her new Peugeot 205 from the August draw. Also in picture, Mick Frawley (Draw Chairman), Pat Stapleton and Con Cash (Cash's Garage, Golden).



Conor Donovan receives his £10,000 prize from Archbishop Dermot Clifford which he won in the May 1989 Draw. Also in picture: John Tierney (North Chairman), Noel Morris (C. Chairman), Michael Frawley (Draw Chairman), Ger Gavin and Jimmy Morris (Eire Og officials).

our county. Over the past twelve months these men trained as coaches and transferred the skills they learned from "Micko" to young boys in our schools and clubs.

Munster Council have initiated a scheme for hurling coaching which has been improved by our County Board. We now have four full-time coaches in the

county reporting to a steering committee, who organise and control their programme between schools and clubs.

Both of these schemes are very much dependent on funding from Tipperary G.A.A. Draw.

The beauty of this Draw is that it incorporates every aspect of G.A.A. in the county from club to Count Board,

Handball and Camogie Boards, Semple Stadium, Bórd na nÓg and even to the extent of purchasing a G.A.A. museum for Thurles. Even though it's only a year and a half in existence Tipperary G.A.A. Draw has become integrated in all our Gaelic affairs. Until an alternative means of finance is found, we have to admit it's definitely here to stay.



TIPPERARY G.A.A. DRAW COMMITTEE

Back: Gerry Creedon (West), John Tierney (North), Con Hogan (South), Timmy Floyd (Co-ordinator), John Ryan (Mid), Mike Nolan (Co. Treasurer). *Front:* Seamus Hogan (North), Mick Frawley (Chairman), Martina Ryan (Office Secretary), Noel Morris (Co. Chairman).

HALF-MILLION POUNDS IN 1½ YEARS

Since June '88 Tipperary G.A.A. Draw has made funds available to our clubs and county as follows:

	£
Football Coaching Scheme	20,000
Co. Board Coaching Scheme	10,000
Post-Primary Schools	10,000
Primary Schools	7,000
Club Grants	14,150
Semple Stadium	40,000
Purchase of Sam Melbourne Museum	17,000
Divisional Promotional Grant	1,184
County Bórd na nÓg	2,411
County Camogie Board	500
County Handball Board	1,000
	<hr/> 123,248
Plus Commission Earned by Clubs (approx.)	370,000
TOTAL	<hr/> 493,248 <hr/>

TIMMY FLOYD

(Draw Co-ordinator)



Pat Fox in action during the All-Ireland final against Antrim.

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

Chomhairle na Mumhan C.L.G.

Suggested Dates for 1990 Championship Games

<i>Grád</i>	<i>Cluiche</i>	<i>Dáta</i>	<i>Áth-imirt</i>
Iom. Sinn & Soisir			
1st Rounds	Corcaigh v. Ciarraí	20/5	27/5
	Luimneach v. Clár		
S/Finals	Portláirge v. Corcaigh/Ciarraí	3/6	17/6
	Tiobraid Árann v. Luimneach/Clár	10/6 or 17/6'24/6	
Final	Senior	15/7	22/7
Final	Junior	20/6 Wed.	27/6

Peil Sinn. & Soisir

1st Rounds	Tiobraid Árann v. Luimneach	6/5	13/5
	Clár v. Portláirge		
Semi-Finals	Corcaigh v. Tiobraid Árann/Luimneach	27/5	3/6
	Ciarraí v. Clár/Portláirge		
Final	Senior	1/7 or 24/6	8/7
Final	Junior	13/6 Wed.	20/6
McGrath Cup	Final	13/5 or 20/5	extra time

Peil fé 21

1st Rounds	Tiobraid Árann v. Portláirge	19/3 Mon.	24/3
	Ciarraí v. Luimneach		
Semi-finals	Corcaigh v. Tiobraid Árann/Portláirge	28/3 Wed.	4/4
	Clár v. Ciarraí/Luimneach		
Final		25/7 Wed.	8/8

Peil na Mionúr

1st Rounds	Luimneach v. Portláirge	25/4 Wed.	28/4 Sat.
	Tiobraid Árann v. Ciarraí		
Semi-finals	Corcaigh v. Luimneach/Portláirge	9/5 Wed.	16/5
	Clár v. Tiobraid Árann/Ciarraí		
Final		1/7	6/7 Friday

Iom. na Mionúir

1st Rounds	Corcaigh v. Ciarraí	2/5 Wed.	9/5
	Tiobraid Árann v. Clár		
Semi-finals	Portláirge v. Corcaigh/Ciarraí	4/7 Wed.	7/7 Sat.
	Luimneach v. Tiobraid Árann/Clár		
Final		15/7	20/7 Friday

Coaching - Planning for the future

DENIS FLOYD

COACHING is a relatively modern word in the G.A.A. vocabulary. That is not to say that coaching was unknown to past generations of G.A.A. players. Indeed, if we go back to the early years of the Association we find that Michael Cusack's role with the Dublin and Metropolitan Hurling Club was primarily that of coach. In the 1880s a number of non-playing captains, who taught the skills, achieved fame.

Later, revered hurling captains such as Tom Semple and Mikey Maher, were, in fact, coaches before their time, instructing in the skills of the game, overseeing practice sessions and issuing commands on the field of play.

For years afterwards the Christian Brothers, teachers and mentors filled coaching roles at local level. Instruction booklets by Dick Walsh (Kilkenny) in 1910 and Dick Fitzgerald (Kerry) in 1914 were forerunners in the field of coaching.

Dr. Eamon O'Sullivan (Kerry) in 1955 and Joe Lennon (Down), with two books in the 1960s, produced books on football, while Tony Wall issued a hurling manual in 1965. These were sporadic efforts by various individuals, but for close on 100 years there was no definite coaching policy.

COACHING - WORLDWIDE

Coaching, as a term, originated with the popularisation of American football and baseball - "skill training" being an important aspect of their team-building.

More recently, the English soccer manager asserted for himself an independence in training, selecting and motivating teams, which made him something of a cult figure.

Because of the cult following both American and English coaches enjoy, the G.A.A. has been suspicious of their role. The disdain with which "team supremos" were treated also affected the attitude to the vital area of coaching children.

Perhaps the greatest boost to coaching was brought about by the ongoing competition between the Eastern and

Western countries following the USSR's return to the Olympic Games in 1952. Coaching in every sport became a matter of international prestige.

Ireland, however, was slow to accept this new trend, neither facilities nor personnel being available to ensure that our sportsmen reached the pinnacle of their potential.

The McNamee Commission of 1971 was probably the first attempt by the G.A.A. to put coaching of our national games in its proper perspective. The Commission differentiated between physical training to withstand the physical stress of a game and coaching as perfecting and applying skills to achieve better results in competition.

The Commission set out: "We are convinced that widespread coaching will benefit the Association by stimulating and sustaining interest in young players, by guiding the development of all players and endeavouring to give a continuous sense of improvement. Coaching can sell the game to players, improve standards of play - not necessarily with a view to winning matches, inculcate respect, and improve the games as a spectacle."

Since 1971, coaching courses have been a feature of G.A.A. activity at all levels. Courses have been organised under two headings:

- A course where young players were brought together for a day to be coached by stars.
- A course where clubs were asked to send people to attend lectures and practical demonstrations from well-known coaches.

Many clubs, however, were sending club members to courses, simply to have a "presence." The level of coaching at club level still depended on the enthusiasm of local personnel.

It is now generally recognised that little benefit accrues from bringing a large group of juveniles together for a day and

that there must be a follow-up procedure where the progress of coaches can be monitored.

A NEW SCHEME

Munster Council has initiated a scheme which must be the most revolutionary ever advanced by the G.A.A. at any level. Our Association has for long shied away from the appointment of full-time personnel. But at the instigation of the Provincial Council and with its financial support, each county in Munster is to have full-time coaches in hurling and football for the next three years.

The Council will contribute towards the employment of one coach for each code. However, the Tipperary County Board, recognising the

potential of the scheme and considering the size of the county, decided to appoint two additional coaches.

Following advertising, interviewing and painstaking inquiries, Ken Hogan, Phil Lowry, Jack Ceasar and Jim O'Donnell were appointed to fill the positions in Tipperary and they commenced work in October.

Their job will involve much more than mere formal coaching of the various skills. Their role is also seen as a developer of games and an organiser of whatever schemes are deemed necessary to improve the wellbeing of the Association at school, club and county level.

The provision of an ongoing, repetitive coaching service would be a very limited and unproductive objective. One person can only do a limited amount of coaching in any given period. He should not be



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expected to do the work in a club or school which someone else is capable of and should be doing.

The coach will be expected to devise a programme of activity which the teacher or club mentor will continue. He will identify weaknesses and deficiencies in schools and encourage the local club to come to their assistance. Encouragement and help with problems, backed up by some coaching demonstration, is the way forward rather than just calling to do regular coaching sessions with no particular objective.

The new Coaching Scheme is being monitored and

controlled by a committee representative of all divisions, urban and rural clubs, primary and post-primary schools. Members of the committee are as follows:

Chairman, Tom Collum (Templemore); Secretary, Denis Floyd (Newport); Paudie Butler (Drom-Inch), John Costigan (Clonakenny), Martin Bourke (Clonmore), Martin O'Connor (Nenagh), Eugene Ryan (Moneygall), Jimmy Conroy (Nenagh), Michael Hassett (Killenaule V.S.), Paul Brett (Clonmel), Gerry McDonnell (Clonmel), Jim Lynch (Cahir), Colm Ó Flaherty (Cahir), Danny

Morrissey (Knockavilla), Michael Ryan (Tipperary), Timmy Delaney (Borrisoleigh), Noel Morris (Co. Chairman).

From October '89 to Easter '90 the concentration will be on the 27 Post-Primary Schools of the county. Selected groups will be coached in hurling and football skills. Areas with particular weaknesses, problems and needs will be identified for further attention. After Easter, concentration will be on the clubs and Primary Schools.

While the Committee will determine which units will receive attention from time to time, the coach is free to

embark on various projects which he deems beneficial. His working hours are flexible and he will be available for evening and week-end sessions with the clubs and Boards.

This new initiative is a welcome step in the development of hurling and football in the county. It will reach a large number of young players during the next three years and should have a profound impact on the future status of Gaelic games in Tipperary. The four newly-appointed coaches are full-time professionals working for a better future for our national games. They deserve our fullest support.

Semple Stadium - the facts

SEMPLE Stadium has a special place in the hearts of all followers of our national games; for Tipperary folk it is the natural home for all the big games. Most likely, it is only when we calmly consider the facts that we realise what an asset this stadium is to Thurles, to the county, to Munster, indeed to the nation.

Many a business person will have an increased Monday lodgment to make because of our games. That story is repeated many times during the year. Because of its central location, Semple Stadium is the ideal venue for inter-divisional and county games. It is only when one is involved in the organisation of games that you fully appreciate and realise the amount of work and cost involved. As in every undertaking, success does not happen; it is the result of detailed planning and much work.

The comforts we now enjoy in Semple Stadium have been dearly bought and the cost would have been much greater were it not for the vast amount of voluntary labour undertaken by many people over the years. Perhaps those who use the amenity most and appreciate it best are the players, not only the countless teams that play here but the teams that train here, particularly our county hurling team.

Semple Stadium is a venue to be proud of, an asset to be treasured and, let's face it, a facility for which we have to pay. The last development phase, including new stand and terraces, cost £1.350 million. This outlay was serviced by Bank borrowings, Double Your Money Investment Scheme, and with the assistance of Munster and Central Council.

The repayment of interest charges, the costs of maintenance and upkeep, rates, insurances and general charges, are funded from a 10% of gate receipts, advertising revenue and the sale of 10 year tickets.

The day-to-day upkeep of a vast



complex such as this is very costly, even when we attend to essential items only. It is very evident that our traditional sources of income are not sufficient to meet our financial commitments. This considerable annual shortfall has been met in part for the current year by a contribution from County Board Draw and receipts from the recent concert.

Our committee are charged with the daunting task of raising £1.2 million over the next four years to discharge our responsibilities and commitments to the financial institutions and our investors. The first step in this regard is the re-sale of our very attractive 5-year tickets. We wish to advise patrons that current ticket holders have been offered an option to re-purchase existing seats. Surplus seats are available for sale to general public.

Application forms, etc. are available from: G.A.A. Office, Liberty Square, Thurles. 0504-22702.

Semple Stadium Management Committee are determined to meet our

obligations and in doing so are very conscious that new sources of income must be generated. To meet that challenge is our task as a management committee. We can undertake our responsibilities only in the full knowledge that we have the total support of all units of the G.A.A. and the necessary response from the general public.

We avail of this opportunity to thank our patrons for their support in the past and look forward to your continued co-operation and assistance in the future.

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Chairman: Michael Lowry, T.D.

Vice-Chairman: Rev. Fr. Tom Fogarty.

Treasurer: Tommy Barrett.

Secretary: Martina Ryan.

P.R.O.: Liam O'Donoghue.

Michael Maher, Noel Morris, Jerry Ring, Michael Frawley, Paddy Maher, Tom O'Hara, Matt Hassett, Martin O'Connor, Tim Maher, Donal O'Grady, John Doyle, Bobby Mockler, Con Harrington, John Kennedy, Michael Lanigan, Jimmy Collins, Tommy Murphy, Pat Stakelum, Michael Ryan, Eamon De Staffort.

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G.A.A. PUBLICATIONS

by Séamus J. King

NOT very much to report in the line of new club histories in the county for 1989. Pride of place must go to the 'Centenary G.A.A. Story, 1887-1987, of Fethard, Coolmoyne & Killusty', which made its appearance with suitable pomp and circumstance in the Abbeymill Theatre, Fethard, on May 27.

The events of the evening were chaired by that well-known G.A.A. personality, Dick Cummins, and the book was launched by Monsignor Christopher Lee, who first came to Fethard as a curate in 1942 and became Parish Priest in 1960. Other dignitaries to grace the occasion were Munster Council Chairman, Michael Maher, former County Chairman, Michael Frawley, Football Board Chairman, Hugh Kennedy, South Board Chairman, Con Hogan, Fr. James Power, P.P., and community leaders.

IMPRESSIVE WORK

This book of 426 pages is a comprehensive record of football, hurling, camogie, handball and G.A.A. activity in general in the parish. The book was edited by Michael Ahearne, a native of the parish, who lives in Dublin, and the work of research was done locally by a Centenary Committee under the chairmanship of Dick Cummins.

Nearly 250 pages of the book are devoted to the history of football, with comprehensive coverage of all grades. A section entitled 'There were Seven Green Fields' informs the reader of the seven playing fields used at different times in the parish.

The section on hurling begins with the first senior team to be fielded, Fethard Burkes, in May 1912, and goes on to record the arrival of Coolmoyne on the scene twelve years later. It is related how the game against Boherlahan in the 1926 south final was called off with ten minutes to go because of a row and how, as a result of the match being awarded to Boherlahan, hurling was given a terrible set-back in Coolmoyne and a senior team wasn't affiliated again until 1935. High point for the hurlers of Coolmoyne was winning the south senior hurling championship in 1951.

A NUMBER OF FIRSTS

Fethard won the first county senior football championship and leads the county roll of honour with 17 wins. Dick Cummins (snr.) was the first chairman of the Munster Council. The Fethard Club is the only one in the south division to have won titles, u/21 hurling excepted, in all grades of football and hurling. The most famous hurler from the parish must be Liam Connolly, who won an All-Ireland senior hurling medal in 1958.

The book is full of interesting detail and fine photographs and the production is a credit to the printers, "The Kilkenny People". The book is unusual in that it is the first club history in the county in latter



Dick Cummins (right) congratulating Michael Ahearne on the publication of the Fethard G.A.A. story.

years to be a sellout! Five hundred copies, 300 hard and 200 softback, were printed and, if you're lucky enough to have got one, hold on to it for dear life because it's already a collector's item! Well done, Fethard!

ROS REVIEW

Another interesting development during the year was the 'Ros Review', a bulletin to the members of the Roscrea Club. The brainchild of Seamus O'Doherty, this four sheet production was sent to every club member about four times during the year and kept him up-to-date with club developments. So many of us talk of the need for communication within clubs and this is a practical example of what can be done.

IN THE OFFING

A number of club histories are on the verge of publication. The nearest to that date is the Cappawhite club history. Liam Treacy has informed me they're hopeful of making the Christmas market. A committee has been appointed at Thurles Sarsfields to bring to fruition the work of the late Donie O'Gorman. It is hoped to have that book published during the coming year. I haven't heard any word of late of the Galtee Rovers' book which, I understood, was to appear this year and can only hope that we shall see it completed by this time twelve months.

R.I.P.

Mention of Donie O'Gorman recalls his untimely death last May. For a good

number of years he was producing programmes of the highest quality at Semple Stadium and setting standards for other venues. His death was untimely and his loss a major one, not only to programme-making at our premier venue but also for the publication of the Thurles Sarsfields story. His job at Semple Stadium has been taken over by John McCormack and he is filling his footsteps impressively.

PRESS COVERAGE

During the year the *Tipperary Star* continued to give excellent coverage to G.A.A. affairs in the county. One of the most welcome developments was the increased coverage by the *Nationalist*. For the past few years we complained about the sloppy coverage of our affairs in that paper. But, as if aroused from slumber, the paper has given an outstanding treatment over the past year. Each week it appears to send out a race of reporters to report on our games and give us columns of coverage and plenty of photographs to keep us entertained in the next edition. But, the *Guardian* stole a march on all the local papers with its coverage of the All Ireland. On its front page it gave us a magnificent picture of the All Ireland Senior Hurling champions in full living colour! It was a fine tribute to our senior hurlers and we owe a big 'thank you' to the new editor, Gerry Slevin, who figured so prominently in the early years of this Yearbook.

Champions from the Tiobraid



LOUGHMORE N.S. ROINN 'C' WINNERS

Back Row (left to right): Brian Webster, Michael Webster, David Kennedy, John McGrath, Joe Danagher, Paul Ormond, Martin Cosgrave, Stephen Maher (Principal). Front Row (left to right): Kieran Webster, John Gleeson, Tom Foy, Gary Sweeney, Andrew Long, Alby Stapleton, John Paul Foy, Tom Ormond. Missing from photo were - Paul Maher, Dermot Ryan, Tom Ryan, Jody Sweeney, John Paul Russell, Pat Nolan and Mark Ryan.



ST. PATRICK'S N.S. FETHARD — U-13 'B' CHAMPS. '88-'89

Front Row (left to right): N. Nevin, K. Colville, C. Allen, G. Horan, S. Looby, M. McCormack, T. Purcell. Middle Row (left to right): S. Kenny, M. Bourke, P. J. Colville, T. Bourke, M. Ryan, R. Condon. Back Row (left to right): M. Cuddihy, T. Tobin, G. Aherne, K. Barry, P. Fitzgerald, N. Barry, J. Kelly, D. Flanagan. Missing from photo - S. O'Donnell (Capt.).



"UP TIPP."

Many primary schools were visited by the Treble Crown captains and players. Here we see some pupils of Moycarkey N.S., Thurles, savouring the visit.



C.B.S. TIPPERARY TOWN U-13 'A' PRIMARY SCHOOLS HURLING CHAMPIONS, 1989

Front Row (left to right): M. Cummins, D. Morey, B. McGrath, E. O'Dwyer, D. Crowe, M. Fahey, L. Martin, S. Moore, A. Ellard. Second Row: C. Green, J. Wade, P. Hanrahan, C. Codd, K. Bowes, J. Nugent, P. McEvoy, J. Morrissey. Back Row: Br. Jack Kelly (coach/manager), N. English, G. McGrath, E. O'Sullivan, P. Maher, A. Tobin, S. O'Connell, D. Lynch, W. Gleeson, K. Donovan.



BOHERLAHAN NATIONAL SCHOOL 1989 WINNERS OF ROINN 'B' TIPPERARY PRIMARY SCHOOLS COMP.

Back Row (left to right): D. O'Dwyer, J. Maher, J. Hanly, B. Ferncombe, B. Crosse, L. Burke, J. Hassett, J. Eakins, M. Ryan, D. Moylan, M. Hickey, D. Hayes. Front Row (left to right): S. Hickey, S. Patterson, D. Donnelly, W. Hickey, N. O'Connor, P. O'Dwyer (Capt.), R. Hennessy, S. O'Dwyer, T. Croke, G. Barry. Left to right at back: Rev. J. Feehan, P.P., Mrs. Gallaher Cooke, N.T., Mr. Paul Byrne, N.T., Principal; Mrs. Marion O'Dwyer, N.T.; Mrs. Kathleen O'Dwyer, N.T.; Rev. Canon M. Morrissey, A.P.

Primary Schools of Árann

Cumann na mBunscoileanna acknowledges with gratitude the support of the County Board, and indeed of the various clubs who recognise the value of encouraging "Aosóg na Tire" in the pursuit of enjoyment through our National Games.



SCHOOLS RECORD?

John Bowe and John Enright, who are winners of seven (7) U-11 Schools Championships with Scoil Ailbhe, Thurles C.B.S. (4 hurling titles and three football titles).



The occasion was the presentation of a cheque of £6,000 by the Chairman of the County Board, Noel Morris, to the Primary Schools Gaelic Games Committee. Left to right: Eugene Ryan, N.T., Moneygall, Noel Morris, Paul Brett, N.T., St. Oliver's, Clonmel and Paudie Butler, N.T., Inch.



KILSHEELAN NATIONAL SCHOOL

Front Row (left to right): Eoin McHale, Richard O'Gorman, John Moloney, Niall Cloona, Jason Fogarty (Capt.), Patrick Larkin, Ciarán Geoghegan, Edward Collum, Noel Ryan. Back Row (left to right): C. Carroll (teacher), Patrick O'Loughlin, Bill Stokes, Richard McMahon, Desmond Walsh, Patrick Burke, Patrick Cronin, Mark O'Connor, Nigel Fogarty, Jason Walsh.

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North Tipperary Primary Schools Hurling

ONCE again 1989 was a very successful year for the North Tipperary Primary Schools hurling competitions. A total of 34 schools took part and these were divided into four groups according to the size of the schools.

There were many exciting games in the competitions before the eight finalists emerged and the four finals were played in Nenagh on 7th June. This was a magnificent occasion for all the schools concerned and it provided players with memories to last them a lifetime. The results were as follows:

Group A: Toomevara 2-5; Dromakeenan 0-0.

Group B: Borrisokane 3-2; Moneygall 1-2.

Group C: Dunkerrin 4-2; Kilruane 2-3.

Group D: Gurtagarry 7-7; Kylepark 2-0.



In 1989 a new skills competition for a team of three was held — thanks to Denis Floyd — and the winning schools were Rathcabbin, Dunkerrin and Gurtagarry.

The organising committee is grateful to the following for their help: The teachers for their co-operation in organising the competitions; the referees who officiated at the games and the Park committees who provided their facilities; Conor O'Donovan and the Irish Permanent Building Society for their support; Seamus Hogan, treasurer of the North Tipp. Board, for his efficient handling of the finances; Liam Doran and the *Guardian* for the good publicity during the year.



TOOMEVARA N.S. — WINNERS OF GROUP A.



BORRISOKANE N.S. — WINNERS OF GROUP B.



DUNKERRIN N.S. — WINNERS OF GROUP C.



GURTAGARRY N.S. — WINNERS OF GROUP D

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- County Senior Hurling Champions*

Post-Primary Games (1988-89)

By: SEÁN Ó COSTIGAIN

A FIRST FOR TEMPLEMORE

THERE were unprecedented scenes of jubilation in Our Lady's Secondary School on September 7th when Bobby Ryan and teammates brought the McCarthy Cup to the school. It was the first time that a past pupil from the school had the honour of captaining a winning Senior All-Ireland team.

RICE CUP FOR OUR LADY'S, TEMPLEMORE

Our Lady's, Templemore bridged a ten year gap last May when they captured the Rice Cup Munster Under-14 Hurling Championship with a clear cut 3-14 to 2-4 win over Limerick C.B.S. It was a badly needed boost as the school had not much success for a few years previously. This win was due in no small way to the great efforts of two teachers Gerry Ryan and Seamus Bourke. It could be a forerunner of greater things to come. Perhaps the glory days of the 70's could be around the corner.

FITZGERALD CUP TIPPERARY U-17 CHAMPIONSHIP

In all of twenty years since the Fitzgerald Cup commenced, Nenagh C.B.S. despite many gallant efforts failed to capture the prestige trophy. That was rectified last April when they defeated a gallant Carrick-On-Suir C.B.S. by 5-6 to 2-5, to take the trophy to Nenagh for the first time. Having also captured the Tipperary (U-16) post-primary schools championship and with household Tipperary hurling names like Gaynor, Flannery, Mounsey and McKenna, as players I would not be surprised to see the North Tipp. nursery figure prominently in Munster Colleges Championships in the next few years.



Left to right: Brian Kenny, John Costigan, Bobby Ryan, Seamus Bourke and Canon O'Donnel. In background - Dan Condrón and Aidan Ryan.



Pictured at a presentation of cheque for £10,000 by Noel Morris, Chairman, County Board to T. J. Egan, Chairman, Canon Fitzgerald Cup Committee for the promotion of Gaelic Games in schools in the county. Front (left to right): Bro. O'Connell, Nenagh C.B.S.; Sean O'Costigan, Our Lady's Secondary School, Templemore; Noel Morris, Chairman, County Board; T. J. Egan, Borrisokane V.S.; Martin Slattery, Nenagh C.B.S. Back (left to right): Michael Hassett, Killenaule V.S.; Matt Finnerty, Cashel C.B.S.; John O'Riordan, Thurles C.B.S.; Dick Lowney, Cashel C.B.S.; Michael Nolan, Treasurer, Co. Board.



NENAGH C.B.S. CROKE CUP U-16 CHAMPIONS

Back Row (left to right): Mervyn Scanlon (Éire Óg), Rory Flannery (Éire Óg), Denis Hogan (Portroe), David McAuliffe (Éire Óg), Pádraig Kirby (Kilruane). Middle (left to right): Liam Gleeson (Toomevara), Liam McGrath (Burgess), Declan Dillon (Éire Óg), John Doughan (Moneygall), Seán Kelly (Kildangan), Brian Flannery (Kildangan), John Mounsey (Toomevara), John McKenna (Burgess). Front (left to right): John Kennedy (Silvermines), Fergal Hynes (Éire Óg), Anthony Byrne (Sean Treacys), Neil Kearns (Éire Óg), Darrel Tucker (Burgess), Denis Quinn (Portroe). Missing: Brian Gaynor (Kilruane) capt., Éamon Troy (Moneygall), Frank McGrath (Éire Óg).

CROKE CUP TIPPERARY U-16 HURLING CHAMPIONSHIP

Over the past few years there has been many a fine contest in Tipperary Colleges between Paddy Kelly's Tipperary C.B.S. and Nenagh C.B.S. and this year's Croke Cup Final was no exception. Nenagh in my opinion were an outstanding side but the Abbey boys made them fight all the way before yielding on the score 3-9 to 1-8.

CO. BOARDS FINANCIAL GRANT TO POST-PRIMARY SCHOOLS

Over the years even when financial affairs were such that money was scarce, the Co. Board and its very committed officers were at all times generous towards the promotion of games at post-primary level. Hurlies, balls were provided for the schools and the post-primary competitions were generously sponsored by the Co. Board.

There is no doubt but that history was made in September when the Co.

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Chairman Noel Morris presented £10,000 to be divided amongst the twenty seven post primary schools in the county for the promotion of Gaelic games. When one observes that this grant to the Tipp. school exceeds the grant that the Munster Council gives to all the schools of Munster, one can realise the generosity of the donation. On behalf of the schools of the county I would like to say a sincere thank you to the Board, especially the County Chairman Noel Morris and his fellow officers.



VALUE OF ALL-IRELAND WIN TO OUR SCHOOLS

To all of us involved in the promotion of hurling at post-primary level, the greatest boast our efforts got for quite a while was the win of our County Senior hurlers on September 3.

I must say that in this school year the enthusiasm for the game amongst the youth is unbelievable. Every young boy in the county at the moment wants to be a Nicky English, a Ken Hogan, a Bobby Ryan etc.

A sincere debt of gratitude is due to all members of the County panel who so unselfishly gave of their time to visit the schools. Your visits have been inspirational and I must say that our All-Ireland panel have done themselves and their county proud.

Let's hope that the work of our County hurling ambassadors will inspire some Tipp. school over the coming years to bring back the famous "Harty" to the premier county once again.



NENAGH C.B.S. FITZGERALD CUP U-17 CHAMPIONS 1989

Back (left to right): Robbie Foley (Éire Óg), Eddie Tucker (Éire Óg), Con Howard (Éire Óg), Brian Kennedy (Kildangan), Chris Madden (Portroe), David McAuliffe (Éire Óg), Pádraig Kirby (Kilruane), Rory Flannery (Éire Óg), Cormac Malone (Éire Óg). Middle (left to right): Pádraig Quinn (Portroe), Darrell Tucker (Burgess), Liam McGrath (Burgess), John Doughan (Moneygall), Brian Flannery (Kildangan), John Mounsey (Toom), Gearóid Cleary (Éire Óg), Conor Shore (Éire Óg). Front (left to right): Declan Dillon (Éire Óg), Derek Conroy (Éire Óg), Fergal Hynes (Éire Óg), Denis Hogan (Portroe), Seán Kelly (Kildangan), John Kennedy (Silvermines). Missing: Brian Gaynor (Kilruane), Eamonn Troy (Moneygall).



Photograph shows the presentation of a Cup by Tipperary Post Primary Schools to perpetuate the memory of the late Timmy Hennessy. Tipperary Post Primary Schools will compete for the cup at Under-16 Hurling. (left to right): John Costigan (School Sec.), T. G. Egan (School Chairman); Noel Morris (Co. Chairman); Tommy Barrett (County Sec.).



OUR LADY'S, TEMPLEMORE RICE CUP CHAMPIONS 1989

Back Row (left to right) Gerry Ryan (trainer), Robert Conroy (Templemore), Noel Morris (Loughmore), Denis Ryan (Drom), Darragh O'Shea (Templemore), Tony Broderick (Killea), Declan Laffan (Castleiney), James Ryan (Templetuohy), Fergal McDonnell (Clonmore), John Ormond (Templemore), Brendan Kennedy (Drom), Mark Dwyer (Clonakenny) and Seamus Bourke (trainer). Front Row (left to right): Tom Dunne (Toomevara), Enda Everard (Templetuohy), Denis Kelly (Borrisoleigh), Kevin Dwan (Drom), Tom Keane (Upperchurch) Capt., Terry Dunne (Toomevara), Sean Purcell (Upperchurch), Ronan Loughnane (Templemore), Brian Phelan (Upperchurch) and Robert Stakelum (Borrisoleigh).

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Post Primary Schools Football – 1988-'89

By: DICK LONEY

AS IN previous years three major football competitions were held, the Under-17 MacGabhan Cup, the Under-15 Cusack Cup and Cusack Shield, and the Under-14 blitz.

A total of 12 schools entered the MacGabhan Cup competition and, after some very skilful and exciting games, Carrick and Cashel C.B.S.'s emerged to meet in the final. This game was played at Clonmel on May 10 in ideal weather before an attendance that included the Chairman of the Football Board, Hugh Kennedy, and the great Mick O'Connell of Kerry.

Carrick attacked from the throw-in and showed more flair, skill and a will to win. Had they availed of their many chances in the first half, from both play and placed balls, they would certainly have put the game out of Cashel's reach. But they didn't and were only a point in front of Cashel as the game entered its final minute. At this stage Cashel were awarded a thirty metre free and Seanie O'Donoghue tapped it over the bar to level the scores.

REPLAY

The replay was at the same venue a week later. Carrick were forced to field without two of their original lineout and that upset the balance of the team. After an excellent hour's football, Cashel came

out on top by the narrowest of margins in a scoreline of 1-7 to 0-9. Outstanding for Cashel on both days were Seanie O'Donoghue, Denis Keating, Gerry Butler and Vincent Kelly. For Carrick the outstanding player was Bernard Hassey and he was ably assisted by P. J. Arrigen and Mark O'Halloran.

CUSACK CUP

Ten teams entered the Cusack Cup and after some very exciting games the final was contested between Carrick C.B.S. and Abbey C.B.S., Tipperary. Carrick emerged victorious by 2-6 to 1-7 and gained a little consolation for their defeat the previous week in the senior competition.

Eight teams entered the Cusack Shield, an Under-15 competition for smaller schools, and the final was contested between Newport V.S. and the Convent of mercy, Newport, with the latter team emerging victorious.

On Wednesday, May 24, the Under-14 blitz competition took place at Rockwell College. Eighteen teams took part and after some very good games, Clonmel High School and the Abbey C.B.S. reached the final. The High School won after two periods of extra time. This was, without question, the best and most

exciting blitz final since the inauguration of the competition five years ago. The level of football skills, sportsmanship and commitment by both teams was a credit to all concerned. On presenting the cup to the winning Clonmel captain, Mick O'Connell remarked that the standard of football attained by both teams was comparable to that produced in his own native county of Kerry!

The Shield, a competition for first round losers, was once again won by Cashel Vocational School.

THANKS

I should like to thank a number of people for their help and co-operation in running these competitions, the President and Bursar of Rockwell College for the use of their excellent facilities, the many referees who gave us their time, the clubs for the use of their pitches, the school principals for their co-operation and finally the teachers for their dedication to the promotion of Gaelic football.

In conclusion I should like to ask our County Board, the clubs, particularly the football clubs throughout the county, and everybody associated with Gaelic football to work unceasingly to restore the game to the lofty position it once enjoyed in this county.

S.S. PETER & PAUL'S C.B.S., CLONMEL – COUNTY U-11 FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS 1989

with their teachers and trainer, Mr. C. Ryan



Clonmel High School, winners of Co. Post Primary Schools U-14 Championship.



Front Row (left to right) — Billy Desmond, Vincent Hannigan, David Heafey (goal), David Landy (captain), Paul Prout (sub goalie), Dean Blake, Peter Kelleher, Mark Kiely, Mr. Norris.

Middle Row (left to right) — Mrs. O'Donovan, Karl Greene, Stephen Mason, Trevor Morrissey, Michael Carey, Paul Murray (vice captain), John Butler, Eoin O'Keefe, James Kelly, Paul McCarthy, Mr. C. Ryan.

Back Row (left to right) — Mr. S. Stritch, Patrick Higgins, Shane Kerin, Mark Normyle, John Fitzgerald, Ian Tucker, Brian McGuinness, Andrew O'Donoghue, Stephen Ryan, Noel Doyle, Gerry O'Mara, Mr. E. Kearney.

Gaelic games in the Vocational Schools

By T. J. EGAN



TIPPERARY Vocational Schools domination of the Munster competitions was further strengthened in 1989 by the fact that while all the major trophies were captured — Tipp schools also provided the opposition in each of the finals.

Pride of place must go to Scoil Ruain, Killenaule, on winning their first hurling All-Ireland and to Roscrea V.S. on winning Munster titles in senior hurling and camogie and narrowly losing to Banagher V.S. and Thomastown V.S. in their respective All-Ireland finals.

The defeat of Nenagh V.S. by Killenaule V.S. in the junior hurling final was compensated for a few weeks later when they were successful in three of the four handball finals, while Thurles V.S. can be happy with their performances in reaching the junior football final.

The Munster U-14 hurling final was also an all-Tipperary affair with victory going to Borrisokane V.S. at the expense of

Killenaule V.S.
On the inter-county scene Tipperary hurlers overcame Wexford in the first round but were surprisingly beaten by a well-balanced Offaly team in the All-Ireland semi-final, while our footballers won the special football competition. They were later well beaten by Cork.

THANKS
To conclude, I must compliment everyone involved in the promotion of Gaelic games in our post-Primary Schools. Our sincere thanks and gratitude is due to the Co. Board for its very generous grant of £10,000 which it recently presented to our post-Schools Committee for the promotion of our games at all levels, and to the Munster Council for initiating the coaching courses which are now in full progress in all our schools — sowing the seeds for the future.

A special word of thanks is also due to our main sponsors, Allied Irish Banks, for their continued support for our games

with their annual grant of £30,000 — so greatly appreciated by all.

To our gallant band of referees and the Park Committees a sincere thank you for your help and support throughout the year.

CONGRATULATIONS
No report of mine would be complete in this historic year for Tipperary without congratulating our Senior, Junior and Under-21 hurlers on their marvellous victories during the year. It is a sense of pride with us in the schools that only a few short years ago all these players were involved in our schools' games — well done to one and all.
To all the players who visited our schools with the various cups recently a sincere thank you — we can assure you that your visits were greatly appreciated by all the young boys and girls of Tipperary and hopefully they will follow in your footsteps in the years ahead.

“Thro’ The Thatch” — The Thurles Sarsfields Story



Thurles Sarsfields G.A.A. Club has, for over a century, been Tipperary's and one of Ireland's leading clubs. It holds a record 28 Tipperary Senior Hurling titles. Sarsfields men have also captained Tipperary to All-Ireland Senior Hurling victory on ten occasions:

Jim Stapleton	1887	John Maher	1945
Tom Semple	1906, 1908	Tony Wall	1958
John Joe Callanan	1930	Jimmy Doyle	1962, 1965
Jim Lanigan	1937	Michael Murphy	1964

Sarsfields Club has given to hurling some of its most legendary figures. Their story and the story of Thurles Sarsfields has been compiled by the late Donal O’Gorman. The book is an extensive account of the achievements of the club at all levels and is illustrated by a large selection of photographs.

A committee, under the chairmanship of Liam Ó Donnchú — Sarsfields Chairman, has been established to publish the book. Subscribers who wish to be associated with this publication are asked to avail of the pre-publication price of £20. Subscribers will be our guests at the launch of the book and will receive a hardback copy. Both their names and addresses will be listed in the book as patrons of the publication.

The following are the members of the publication committee:
Rev. James Feehan, P.P., Michael Dundon, Paddy O’Gorman, Brenda McNiff, Ann Corridan, John McCormack (Treasurer), Eithne O’Gorman, William Corbett, Timmy Grace, Jim Graham, Gerard Corbett (Secretary).

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Roscrea All-Ireland Vocational Schools Finalists, 1989

IT was a very successful year for Roscrea Vocational School, reaching the All-Ireland final against Banagher V.S.

Roscrea began the quest for Munster honours with an all-Tipperary clash against Tipperary Town Vocational School in Ballycahill. After an equal first half Roscrea won easily by the score of 3-11 to 1-8.

Roscrea Vocational School's next engagement was the Munster semi-final against Bandon Vocational School in Mitchelstown. Roscrea began badly and were three points down at half-time, but a great second half saw them run out eventual winners by 5-5 to 2-5.

It was an all-Tipperary Munster final against arch-rivals Borrisokane Vocational School, who had a fine record in this competition during the 'Eighties. Conditions in Cloughjordan on March 10th were completely unsuited to good hurling, but still a game full of interest and closely contested exchanges was provided.

Roscrea were always in command in vital sectors, especially midfield and the half-forward line. They led at half-time by 2-4 to 0-2. Both sides added 1-1 in the second half but Roscrea always had the upper hand.

Damien Franks was efficient in the

Roscrea goal with Tony Fanning, Ciaran Carey and Damien Hogan very prominent in the defence, giving the Borris forwards little scoring opportunities. Donal Hogan and Fintan Harney were masters at midfield; Michael Hogan, Raymond Dooley and John Dooley were the best of the forwards.

Roscrea were in the All-Ireland final as Banagher and Loughrea battled for the other final place which Banagher duly qualified for. The final was played on May 7th in Birr, and Roscrea faced a team which had contested the previous final and also had won three finals in the 'Eighties.

Roscrea's final preparations were hampered by an injury to John Dooley which prevented him playing in the final. It was a very keenly contested and hard-fought final which thrilled the sizeable crowd in Birr.

Banagher led by 0-7 to 1-3 at half-time but a goal and two points from frees in the opening four minutes of the second half put Roscrea 2-5 to 0-7 in front, and looked to be heading for victory. It was then that Banagher showed their character in fighting back and they grabbed the lead with a goal nine minutes from the end.

They managed to restrict Roscrea to a single point in the final 26 minutes while

tacking on 1-5 themselves to have three points to spare at the finish, 1-12 to 2-6. But it could have been much closer if Roscrea went for points instead of trying to walk their way through for goals.

Goalkeeper Damien Franks did well for Roscrea while Neil Maher, Ciaran Carey and Tony Fanning performed excellently in defence. Raymond Dooley was the better of the midfield pairing, Donal Hogan and Michael Hogan were best of the forwards.

Roscrea V.S.: Damien Franks (Shinrone); Neil Maher (Dunkerrin), Ciaran Carey (Roscrea), Rory Ryan (Roscrea); Damien Hogan (Roscrea), Tony Fanning (Moneygall), Enda Phelan (Killavilla); Raymond Dooley (Coolderry), Fintan Harney (Moneygall); Donal Hogan (Roscrea), Michael Hogan (Roscrea, capt.), Paddy Neville (Roscrea); Paddy McLoughlin (Shinrone), Declan Hanrahan (Borris-in-Ossory), Joe Murphy (Roscrea). Subs.: Michael Deane (Roscrea) for Paddy Neville; Michael Dooley (Borris-in-Ossory), Tony Spillane (Moneygall), Ciaran Fletcher (Roscrea), John Dooley (Ballyskenagh), John Leamy (Roscrea), Eugene Kirwan (Ballyskenagh), Denis Donoghue (Ballyskenagh), Keith Russell (Ballyskenagh), John Shelly (Moneygall), Pdraig Burke (Roscrea).



ROSCREA — ALL-IRELAND SENIOR HURLING FINALISTS

Front row: M. Deane, P. McLoughlin, J. Shelly, K. Russell, D. Franks, N. Phelan, D. Hogan, M. Hogan, T. Fanning, P. Bourke, D. Doughan, E. Kirwan.

Back row: J. Dooley, T. Spillane, C. Fletcher, R. Dooley, J. Murphy, R. Ryan, D. Hogan, D. Hannahan, P. Neville, C. Carey, N. Maher, M. Dooley, F. Hanney, J. Leamy, B. Greaney (trainer).

Tipp schools dominate Munster competitions *First All-Ireland title for Scoil Ruain, Killenaule*

Junior Hurling All-Ireland for Scoil Ruain Killenaule

1988/89 was again a very successful year for Scoil Ruain, winning the two hurling and two football titles in South Tipperary.

Having won the Munster double in 1987/88, i.e. Junior Hurling and Football, Scoil Ruain achieved another Munster double in 1988/89, i.e. Junior and U.19 Hurling and went on to gain the first All-Ireland title for the school.

SOUTH TIPPERARY V.S. CHAMPIONSHIPS

The year started with the U-16 Football championship. Scoil Ruain had a bye in the first round and having defeated Tipperary V.S. in the second round qualified to meet Cashel V.S. in the final. This game was played in Killenaule and Scoil Ruain retained their title with a relatively easy victory.

The U-16 Hurling followed, and victory over Carrick-on-Suir V.S. saw Scoil Ruain qualify to meet Cashel V.S. in the final at Cashel. This proved to be a hard, close game, played at a lively pace all through. For three quarters of this game the result hung in the balance but from there on the superior teamwork of the Killenaule boys brought the vital scores and Scoil Ruain had completed the U-16 double.

After Christmas saw the commencement of the U-14 Football competition. A hard-earned one-point victory over Tipperary V.S. saw Scoil Ruain qualify to meet Cahir V.S. in the final at Marlfield.

This proved to be an excellent game played in ideal conditions. Both teams dominated at different stages and Scoil Ruain retained their title by the narrowest of margins.

The U-14 hurlers went into training immediately. Cappawhite were defeated in the first round in Cappawhite. Victory over Clonmel in the second round saw Scoil Ruain qualify to meet Cahir in the final. After an excellent game the final whistle saw Scoil Ruain winners by seven points.

MUNSTER AND ALL-IRELAND CHAMPIONSHIPS

Scoil Ruain were narrowly defeated by Thurles V.S. in the first round of the Junior Football. Thurles reached the Munster

Final and were narrowly defeated by Kilkee.

In Junior Hurling Scoil Ruain defeated Bandon and Middleton on their way to the final in which they faced a fancied Nenagh side. Having lost most of their team from the previous year, Scoil Ruain were regarded as underdogs for this game.

The newcomers to the team responded to the promptings of the more experienced players and at the end of a most sporting and well contested game Scoil Ruain had retained their Munster title. Final score: Scoil Ruain, Killenaule, 2-8; Nenagh V.S. 0-8.

As there was no competition in Ulster, Scoil Ruain qualified for the All-Ireland final. Leinster champions Ballyhale defeated Connacht champions Gort in the semi-final and the scene was set for a Tipperary—Kilkenny All-Ireland final to be played at Birr on 7th May, 1989.

On a well-prepared pitch the large Killenaule following saw their team take an early lead. However, despite having by far the better of the exchanges Scoil Ruain could still only manage a 1-3 to 0-3 lead at half-time. The change-over saw Killenaule continue to dominate but scores were slow in coming. However, a flurry of scores midway through the second half saw them build up a twelve-point lead and the title appeared to be on its way to Killenaule.

Ballyhale continued to hurl with determination and a softish goal revived their spirits. A spell of Ballyhale pressure saw them get two more goals and now Scoil Ruain were fighting desperately to defend a three-point lead. This they did manfully and the final minutes saw the Killenaule boys again attacking when the final whistle sounded on the score: Scoil Ruain, Killenaule 4-7; Ballyhale 4-4.

The Killenaule defence was on top for most of the hour with captain Martin Gleeson being the dominant figure. Tony Shelly and Michael McGarry had the better of the midfield exchanges and while all the forwards played their part, Anthony Nolan and Eugene Purcell took the scoring honours.

Scoil Ruain team: P. Behan (Ballingarry), M. Doheny (Gortnahoe/Goole), J. Connolly (St. Mary's), D. Grogan (Killenaule), P. Walsh (Gortnahoe/Glengoole), M. Gleeson (Gortnahoe/Glengoole), B. Lawlor (Ballingarry), T. Shelly (Killenaule), M. McGarry (Killenaule, 1-1), K. Brett (Mullinahone, 0-1), K. Shelly (Killenaule), B. O'Meara (Mullinahone 0-2), A. Nolan (Killenaule, 2-1), E. Purcell (Killenaule, 1-1) and D. Taylor (Killenaule, 0-1).

Larry Hayes (K) and Vincent Webster (B) played in the Munster final. Mark Cahill (Grangemockler) came on a sub. in the Munster final and scored the winning goal.

In U-19 Hurling Killenaule began their campaign against Croom at Golden. Having led by three goals at half-time, the Killenaule boys found themselves under severe pressure in the second half and were lucky to come away with a draw. The replay in Croom saw Scoil Ruain take an early lead. They continued to press home their advantage and ran out easy winners on the score: Scoil Ruain, Killenaule 3-9; Croom 1-4.

The final against Cobh was played at Glanworth. Cobh had the better of the exchanges in the first half and Scoil Ruain were lucky to be only one point in arrears at half-time.

However, aided by the breeze in the second half, Scoil Ruain took control and ran out impressive winners on the score: Scoil Ruain, Killenaule 3-10; Cobh C.S. 2-4.

Scoil Ruain: J. Dwyer (Killenaule), M. Kennedy (Mullinahone), B. Fitzgerald (Killenaule, capt.), M. Shelly (Killenaule), M. Skehan (Mullinahone), T. Gleeson (Gortnahoe-Glengoole), S. Butler (Tullaroan), P. J. Walsh (Gortnahoe-Glengoole), P. Fennelly (Killenaule), M. Lahert (Killenaule), P. Skehan (Mullinahone), S. Ivors (Ballingarry), L. Murphy (Killenaule), E. Dalton (Ballingarry), J. Cummins (Tullaroan).

Subs.: T. Shelly (Killenaule), C. Devitt (Killenaule), B. O'Meara (Mullinahone).



KILLENAULE V.S. — WINNERS OF THE JUNIOR HURLING ALL-IRELAND

Front row (left to right): J. Healy, P. Behan, M. Cahill, D. McNamara, E. Purcell, D. Taylor, V. Webster, D. Grogan, K. Lawrence, A. Norton, T. Power, B. Lawlor.
Back: N. Lahert, L. Shelley, M. McGarry, J. Connolly, T. Shelley, M. Gleeson (captain), P. Walsh, K. Brett, B. O'Meara, K. Shelley, M. Doheny, A. Nolan, L. Hayes, J. Goldsboro.

A Century by the Decade



Seán Ó Driscoll

1890-100 YEARS AGO

The town of Thurles hosted the Annual Congress of the Association on 27th November. The number of delegates was down on other years. Gaelic Activities were restricted as the struggle against "Landlordism" diverted the attention of Gaels from their native pastime. Only 15 clubs were affiliated to the Co. Board. The county did not compete in the Munster championships. This was a very difficult era for the G.A.A., considerable unrest nearly brought about the total disintegration of the Association. Many attempts were made by the I.R.B. to gain control of affairs. Various other groups and individuals were involved in disrupting affairs at local and national level. They included people from the political and non-political areas, clergy and glory-hunters. Many competitions were not played and others were not completed for some considerable time. Tipperary went unrepresented at Congress.

Danny McCormack a native of Borrisoleigh was elected captain of the Faughs (Dublin) S.H. team for the sixth successive year.

Grangemockler were declared County S.F. champions. Jas. O'Shea (captain), Mike Lyons, Dan Meagher, Mick Healy, Tom F. Kiely, John Fogarty, Henry Fogarty, Ed. Landy, Jack Morris, F. Fox, Wm. O'Shea, Paddy Comerford, Mike Houlihan, Jerry Houlihan, Ed. Purcell, Jim Purcell, Tom Walsh, Mike Kearns, Dick Shinny, Mike Ryan, Pat Fanning. (Teams were 21-a-side at that time).

Toomevara were declared as County S.H. Champions for that year. A very prominent member of the club was Ned Meagher, father of the famous Wedger Meagher who became a legend in Tipperary hurling.

1900-90 YEARS AGO

Tipperary senior footballers won the Munster Championship for the fourth time, with victories over Cork 0-3 to 0-1, Limerick 2-4 to 2-1. The Munster Final was decided at Limerick on May 11th, 1902, and Clonmel Shamrocks had the honour of representing the county. Of the twelve previous finals played, Cork won six and Kerry, Limerick and Waterford had one each. Tipperary had a good win over the Kingdom by 1-13 to 1-4, and qualified for the Home Final v Galway Krugers. This game was played at Terenure, Dublin on 21st Sept., 1902. The Tipp men were far superior and ran up a score of 2-20, Galway's reply was just a single point. London Hibernians provided the opposition in the All-Ireland Final, which was played at Jones's Road (Croke Park) on 26th October, 1902. The All-Ireland Crown was captured with an easy victory 3-7 to 0-2.

Tipperary: J. Tobin (captain), P. Moloney, Wm. McReil, J. Dwan, D. Myers, M. Walsh, J. O'Brien, R. Quane, R. Hourigan, P. Wall, W. O'Toole, D. Harney,

J. O'Shea, J. Cooney, D. Smyth, P. Cox, J. Hayes.

For the second time in the history of the Premier County the two senior All-Irelands were won (1895 also).

The hurlers commenced their campaign in Dungarvan during November, 1901. Cork were dismissed by 0-12 to 0-9. In March the following year Clare were completely outclassed in the semi-final which was decided at Limerick. Tipperary had a very respectable score of 6-11 and the Banner replied with 1-6.

The Munster Final was fixed for Limerick and was played on May 11th, 1902. The Kingdom hurlers provided the opposition and Tipperary took the honours by 1-6 to 1-1.

The All-Ireland title was annexed at Jones's Road, Dublin, on October 26th, 1902. Tipperary were represented by Two-Mile-Borris and Desmond's carried the London colours. The Mid men won the day 2-5 to 0-6.

On September 21st, 1902 the Tipperary champions had a very easy game when the "Home Final" was decided at Terenure, Dublin. Galway represented by Ardrahan were no match for the Premier hurlers who scored 5-7 and they replied with a single point. This was Tipp's sixth S.H. title.

Tipperary: E. Hayes (captain), M. Ryan, P. Hayes, T. Allen, P. Maher, M. Purcell, M. Maher, W. Maher, E. Maher, T. Ryan, Wm. Gleeson, Bill Gleeson, M. Wall, T. Ryan, T. Semple, Jack Gleeson.

Two-Mile-Borris received a w.o. from Moycarkey in the county S.H. Championship Final.

The County S.F. final was decided at Deerpark, Carrick-on-Suir between two Clonmel teams. The Shamrocks were superior on the day and scored 1-8, Commercial's replied with 0-4.

1910-80 YEARS AGO

The County Convention was held in Thurles on January 1st. Tom Kerwick of Thurles, was elected as County Chairman.

Pat McGrath a native of Emly was once again re-elected as Provincial Secretary at the Convention which convened in Limerick.

Annual Congress decided that goal nets were to be used for all championship games. The 70 yards puck was introduced instead of the 50 yards puck in hurling.

The hurlers of Cork and Tipperary travelled to Belgium and played games in Brussels, Malines and Fontenoy during the Pan-Celtic Congress which was held in Brussels.

Tipperary recorded a splendid Munster double, at Junior level, in the inaugural finals of the grade.

The hurlers won the Provincial crown with a one point victory over Cork at Dungarvan. In a

close game they emerged victorious by 0-6 to 0-5.

In the semi-final which was played in Limerick, Tipperary outclassed the Banner-men by 5-1 to 2-0.

A semi-final victory over Cork by 2-6 to 0-3 put Tipp into the final. Their opponents Limerick accounted for Clare by 0-10 to 1-0 in their "semi" game.

The final was fixed for Limerick on November 11th with victory going to the Premier men by 1-1 to 0-0.

Tipperary (J.F.): Tom Byrne (captain), Phil O'Dwyer, Chas. Daly, Tom Rodgers, Joe McInerney, Jerome O'Driscoll, Steve McDonagh, Bob Heffernan, Charles Fitzgerald, Larry Joy, Rd. O'Halloran, Pat McInerney, Jas. Kenny, Pat Cahill, Ben Byrne, Ed. O'Shea, Vincent Vaughan.

The above competitions were for a provincial title only, no All-Ireland series was played.

The Mid Board Convention was held in Thurles on December 11th. Mikey Maher of Tubberadora fame was elected as chairman.

In the Munster S.H. Championship Cork and Tipperary met at Limerick on 3rd July. The "Rebels" were far superior on the day and won by 5-7 to 3-4.

The footballers suffered a similar result, at Dungarvan, two weeks later, when Cork were once again successful, by 2-10 to 0-3.

Borris-ileigh achieved a Mid Championship double by winning the Junior Hurling and Senior Football titles. The County J.H. Crown was also won by the club.

1920-70 YEARS AGO

Denis Lanigan, a native of Gortnahoe, was elected Secretary of the Limerick County Board.

Bob Mockler, a native of Horse and Jockey, won his second All-Ireland S.H. medal in the Dublin colours when he led them to victory over Cork by 4-9 to 4-3 on 14th May, 1922.

John Joe Callanan of Thurles was a member of the team also, and Jim Cleary, a native of Kilruane, won his second award in the Dublin victory.

Another year in the history of Ireland when the political climate was very tense. The gun replaced the hurley in the hands of the Irish people during the 'Tan War'. Public gatherings were banned in many areas which caused disruption to the fixture lists.

On Sunday morning, November 21st, a number of British Agents were shot in Dublin. The footballers of Dublin and Tipperary met at Croke Park that afternoon for a challenge game. A crowd of around 10,000 gathered for the contest. Early in the first half the Black and

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Tans invaded the Stadium and opened fire on the crowd. They were responsible for the deaths of thirteen people including Mike Hogan of Grangemockler — one of the Tipp. team. The Hogan Stand in Croke Park now perpetuates his memory.

Tipperary footballers captured the Munster S.F. title in a protracted championship. The first round game with Clare was played on June 6th, 1920, and it took three games to decide the round. The first game ended level 1-2 each and the replay was tied at 0-2 each. Tipperary advanced to the semi-final when they accounted for Clare at the third attempt. The game was played at Clonmel on August 8th, 1920, and this time Tipp. made no mistake winning by 1-7 to 0-1.

Waterford were the semi-final opponents at Dungarvan, in February 1922. Tipperary showed no mercy to their hosts and came away with twelve points to spare, 3-4 to 0-1.

The Munster Final was decided at the Cork Athletic Grounds on April 9th, 1922. Kerry who were defending their Provincial title provided the opposition. The Premier County were on top at the final whistle by 2-2 to 0-2. In the five games played Tipperary scored 7-17 and conceded 1-8.

The All-Ireland was won at the expense of Dublin at Croke Park, on June 11th, 1922. Tipperary beat a Dublin (O'Toole's) selection, by 1-6 to 1-2.

Tipperary: Arthur Carroll (goal), Jim McNamara, Edward O'Shea, Dick Lanigan, Bill Ryan, Jerry Shelly, Bill Grant, Bill Barrett, Mick Tobin, Jim Ryan, Jim Doran, Gus McCarthy, Vincent Vaughan, Mick Arrigan, Tommy Powell.

Thurles was the venue for the Mid Convention which was held on May 2nd.

1930-60 YEARS AGO

Boherlahan defeated Carrick Davins in the South S.H. Final which was played at Killenaule on January 11th, 1931. Boherlahan led by Tommy Leahy scored 10-5 and "Davins" replied with 4-2.

John Joe Callanan, who was a member of the 1920 Dublin team, won a S.H. medal with his native county.

This was a great year for Tipperary hurling. The Premier County won three All-Ireland hurling cups. The **M.H., J.H., S.H.** titles were brought to the Premier County.

The minor hurlers first outing was in Mallow where they outclassed Kerry and won by 7-1 to 4-2. The semi-final was played at Thurles with Waterford as the opponents. The Home County advanced to the Provincial Final by 4-0 to 2-1.

Cork and Tipperary lined out at the Mardyke on 24th September with a lot of pride at stake. The Premier boys won the title for the first time by 4-3 to 3-0.

Leinster champions Kilkenny provided the opposition in the All-Ireland Final at Croke Park. A gallant Tipperary team captured National honours for the first time in the M.H. grade by 4-1 to 2-1.

Tipperary (M.H.): Jack Russell (captain), Larry Burke, John Lanigan, Tim Harney, John Semple, Gerald Heavey, Ned Wade, Ned Maher, John Quinlan, Pat Ryan, Joe Dunne, William O'Neill, Jas. Coffey, Jimmy Close.

The juniors had four games before they carried Munster honours home to Tipp. The first round game against Kerry was decided at Tralee, in April. Tipp had fifteen points to spare over the Kingdom hurlers winning by 5-5 to 0-5. Two games were required to separate Limerick and Tipperary in the semi-final. At Clonmel on

July 20th the scoreboard showed 4-7 each. In the replay at Limerick four weeks later Tipperary made no mistake and marched into the final with eight points to spare.

Clare qualified for the final with a victory over Cork. The Cradle town was the selected venue for the Provincial Final between Clare and Tipp. Munster J.H. honours were won by the Premier County for the eighth time in very easy fashion. Clare were handed a twenty-point drubbing. (Tipperary 7-4, Clare 1-2).

Leinster champions Kilkenny provided the opposition in the final of this grade also. A crowd of over 10,000 turned up at Waterford and saw Tipperary take the title by 4-8 to 3-2.

Tipperary: Paddy Harty (captain), Tom Harty, Willie Ryan, Tim Connolly, Michael McGann, Martin Browne, Ned Wade, Tom Rainey, Jack Dwyer, Mick Ryan, Dan Looby, Pat Furlong, Wm. Gorman, Joe Fletcher, Sean Harrington.

Two easy victories brought the senior provincial championship to the Premier County. Waterford were ousted at Dungarvan by 2-5 to 0-1. On July 27th Clare's championship hopes were ended by 6-4 to 2-8.

Galway's hopes were also dashed at Birr, in the All-Ireland semi-final. Tipperary had an easy victory on a day when good hurling was spoiled by poor weather conditions. A gap of sixteen points separated the teams at the call of time.

Tipperary 6-8; Galway 2-4.

On September 7th, Dublin and Tipperary lined out in the All-Ireland Final, at Croke Park. The Dublin team was comprised of several hurlers who were born in other counties and included five Tipperarymen. At the end of the hour Tipperary had won the S.H. title for the eleventh time by 2-7 to 1-3.

Ned Wade of Boherlahan was on the minor and junior teams and he collected two All-Ireland medals in the same year.

The West Board was founded at a meeting in Dundrum on January 29th.

1940-50 YEARS AGO

The Munster Council Convention was held in Thurles on 18th February.

The County Convention was held in Dundrum on 28th January.

Old hurling rivals Cork and Tipperary qualified for the N.H.L. Final which was played at Cork on 7th April. Cork took the honours in this game and had matters under control winning by 8-9 to 6-4.

At Clonmel on 11th August, Carrick Swan outclassed Killenaule in the South S.H. Final by 7-2 to 1-3.

The South S.F. Championship was won by Clonmel Shamrocks who defeated Arravale Rovers 1-2 to 0-4 at Ard Finnan on January 5th, 1941.

Tipperary junior footballers qualified for the Munster Final which was played at Fermoy on 21st July. Cork were the dominant team and emerged winners by 1-6 to 0-3.

Mick Kennedy, a native of the Ragg, Thurles, won his third All-Ireland S.H. Medal in the Limerick colours. He was a member of the 1934 and 1936 successful teams.

John Joe Callanan of Dublin and Tipperary fame was the referee for the All-Ireland S.H. Final between Limerick (3-7) and Kilkenny (1-7).

Clonmel referee Bob Redmond was in charge of Munster S.F. Final between Kerry and Waterford (Kerry 1-10; Waterford 0-6).

Castleiney/Loughmore won the County S.F. championship in a delayed final which was not

played until 30th November, 1941. The Mid team won easily by 1-8 to 0-2.

Four Tipp. hurlers won Railway Cup medals with Munster. Leinster were pipped in the final by two points. Tipp's representatives in the 4-9 to 5-4 victory were Ger Cornally, Wm. O'Donnell, Dinny O'Gorman and John Maher.

Three men were selected on the Provincial football team, beaten in the final by Leinster, 3-7 to 0-2, they were Jim Williams, T. Power and T. Maher.

Moycarkey-Borris won the Co. S.H. championship at Thurles on 13th October when they defeated Cashel by 4-7 to 4-2.

Borrisokane and Galtee Rovers contested the Co. J.H. final. The Northern team took the honours 3-4 to 3-0.

The senior hurling team crashed to Cork in the first round of the championship by 6-3 to 2-6.

In the junior hurling semi-final Tipperary had a four point win over Waterford, 6-4 to 5-3. The game was played at Dungarvan on 23rd June with Cork's Andy Scannell as the referee.

1950-40 YEARS AGO

Jerry O'Keeffe was elected Vice-Chairman of the Munster Council at the Annual Convention which was held in Clonmel on 12th March.

The County Convention was held in Thurles on 29th January.

In the N.H.L. Final, played at Croke Park, on 7th May, Tipperary beat Kilkenny by 3-8 to 1-10 in a game which produced some great hurling.

Tipperary: Tony Reddin, Michael Byrne, Tony Brennan, John Doyle, Seamus Bannon, Pat Stakelum, Tommy Doyle, Phil Shanahan, Sean Kenny, Tom Ryan, Mick Ryan, Jimmy Kennedy, Paddy Kenny, Sonny Maher, Jack Ryan.

The West S.H. Final was won by Kickham's. They defeated Cashel by 2-5 to 2-0 at Tipperary on 17th September.

Thurles Sarsfields recorded another Mid final success with a nine point victory over Holycross when they notched 3-8 to 0-8 for the losers.

Fethard won the South S.F. Final from Old Bridge by 1-5 to 0-2 at Clonmel on October 15th.

Eight Railway Cup hurling medals were won by Tipp players when Munster beat Leinster by 0-9 to 1-3 in the inter-provincial final. Tipperary were represented by Tony Reddin, Pat Stakelum, Tommy Doyle, Phil Shanahan, Seamus Bannon, Jimmy Kennedy, Mick Ryan and Seán Kenny.

Three Tipp. footballers were selected for the Railway Cup semi-final game with Leinster. They were Mick Cahill, Pakie Brennan and Seán Cleary, with victory going to the Eastern Province by 2-6 to 1-5.

The senior hurlers with the League Cup safely secured set out for the Championship with a first round game with Limerick. On Sunday, 18th June at Limerick twelve points separated the teams when the final whistle sounded. Tipperary scored 4-8 and Limerick replied with 0-8.

In the semi-final game with Clare which was also played at Limerick their task was more difficult and they edged out the Banner County by 2-13 to 3-7.

Once again Cork were through to the final with a narrow victory over Waterford by 1-4 to 0-5.

At a packed Fitzgerald Stadium, Killarney, on 27th July, Tipp held out for another victory over their old hurling rivals Cork by 2-17 to 3-11. The game will always be remembered for the crowd encroachment onto the pitch. Many people gained entry to the venue when gates were

forced open. Tipperary goalie Tony Reddin kept cool and Tipp the title.

Tipperary made the long journey to Tuam for the All-Ireland semi-final meeting with Galway. They advanced to the National Final v Kilkenny by 4-7 to 2-6.

At Croke Park on 3rd September, Tipperary retained their All-Ireland Crown when the Leinster Champions were defeated by 1-9 to 1-8. The game will not be recalled as one of the great finals.

Tipperary: Tony Reddin, Mickey Byrne, Tony Brennan, John Doyle, Jimmy Finn, Pat Stakeleum, Tommy Doyle, Seamus Bannon, Phil Shanahan, Ed. Ryan, Mick Ryan, Seán Kenny, Paddy Kenny, Sonny Maher, Jimmy Kennedy. Sean Kenny of Borris-ileigh was captain.

Kilkenny beat the Tipperary minor team by 3-4 to 1-5 in the National Final of that grade.

The Munster M.H. title was won with victories over Limerick by 8-6 to 2-6, Waterford 7-10 to 3-4. The Munster Final was played at Killarney with the senior game. Clare provided poor opposition and Tipp. had an easy day scoring 12-3 to 2-0 for Clare.

Munster Final Team: G. Butler, P. Mockler, S. Power, P. McGrath, P. Croke, T. Wall, M. Hynes, S. Cunningham, D. Doyle, L. Moloughney, D. Nolan, L. McDonnell, T. McCormack, S. Keating, D. O'Brien.

1960-30 YEARS AGO

The County Convention was held in Thurles on 31st January.

Theo English of Marlfield was selected as the Tipperary Hurler of the Year. The great midfield star gave many superb displays for club and county during the year.

The Oireachtas competition was won by Tipperary who had seven points to spare over Cork, 4-11 to 2-10.

Thurles Crokes won the County S.F. championship when they recorded a 1-9 to 0-9 victory over Clonmel Commercial at Cashel, on 6th November. This was the first time that the title was won by the men from the hurling stronghold.

Cork and Tipperary advanced to the N.H.L. final which was played at Cork on 1st May. A total of four points separated the teams at the final whistle, with the Cup going to Tipperary, who had 2-15 to 3-8 for Cork.

The Premier County senior hurlers qualified for a Munster Final meeting with Cork. A first round game with Limerick resulted in a very easy hour for Tipp who outclassed their opponents by 10-9 to 2-1.

In the semi-final Tipperary quelled the Waterford challenge and relieved them of their Munster title with fourteen points to spare. As the teams made their way to the dressingrooms the scoreboard read Tipperary 6-9, Waterford 2-7.

At Thurles on 31st July the old hurling rivals of Cork and Tipperary lined out for another Munster Final meeting. The honours fell to Tipp in a very tough game of hurling and they held out by just two points, 4-13 to 4-11.

The joy of the Tipperary followers was short-lived as Leinster champions Wexford carried the Liam McCarthy Cup in triumph from Croke Park after their defeat of Tipperary by 2-15 to 0-11.

Tipperary's Munster Final Team: Terry Moloney, Matt Hassett, Mick Maher, Kieran Carey, Mick Burns, Tony Wall, John Doyle, Tom Ryan, Theo English, Jimmy Doyle, Liam Devaney, Donie Nealon, Liam Connolly, Tom Moloughney, Sean McLoughlin.

The minor hurlers won the Munster title with victories over Limerick by 2-9 to 2-8, Clare 6-13

to 2-3 and they beat Galway in the Provincial Final by 6-7 to 4-3. In the All-Ireland semi-final Antrim were beaten by 5-11 to 3-3.

Leinster champions Kilkenny inflicted a heavy defeat at the final hurdle.

Munster Final Team: J. O'Donoghue, W. Greene, Christy O'Dwyer, T. Cummins, J. Cummins, Conor O'Dwyer, M. Roche, P. Flanagan, P. O'Connell, J. Ryan, W. Nolan, M. Keating, A. McGovern, M. O'Connor, M. Ryan, N. Hogan.

Munster won the Railway Cup Final from Leinster by 6-6 to 2-7. Tipperary supplied four to the victorious team. They were John Doyle, Jimmy Doyle, Theo English and Kieran Carey.

Leo Dooley was the sole representative on the football team who lost their final to Ulster by 2-12 to 3-8.

The West S.H. final featured Kickhams and Solohead, at Golden, on 24th July. Kickhams took the honours by 2-8 to 1-6 in a very good game of hurling.

In the North decider Toomevara had full control and they beat Kilruane MacDonagh's by 4-13 to 1-3.

The County S.H. was fixed for Templemore on 16th October and Thurles Sarsfields were surprised by Toomevara. The all-conquering Mid men were seeking their sixth successive title. Toomevara were far superior on the day, and took the cup North with a scoreline of 3-15 to 2-8.

1970-20 YEARS AGO

The County Convention was held in Thurles on 25th January. Very Rev. Philip Canon Fogarty retired as chairman after twenty-two years service in that office. he was installed as President of the Board.

Seamus O'Riain was elected chairman in succession to Canon Fogarty. The popular Moneygall teacher's term of office followed three successful years as Preident of the Association.

The Premier County won the Oireachtas Tournament for the ninth time with a 1-12 to 0-8 victory over Cork.

Michael "Babs" Keating of Ardfinnan was voted "Tipperary Footballer of the Year".

Francis Loughnane of Roscrea, received a similar award for Hurling.

Former Tipperary hurler John Kelly of Cappawhite won a Cork S.H. Championship medal in the U.C.C. colours.

John Moloney of Bansha was in charge of the whistle for the Munster S.F. Final between Kerry (2-22) and Cork (2-9). He officiated at the junior football final won by Cork (2-10), Kerry (2-9). The popular referee rounded off a great year when he was appointed for this third final in the Province. He had charge of the U-21 (F) game between Cork (5-12) and Clare (1-7).

Kilsheelan got back into the honours list with a victory over Clonmel Commercial in the South Final. The game was played at Kilsheelan and the home club won the day by 1-7 to 0-7.

The hurlers of Roscrea won the County S.H. title for the third successive year with a narrow victory over Thurles Sarsfields at Semple Stadium. At the call of time on the 4th October, the Northerners had scored 3-11 to 2-12 for 'Sars.

Boherlahan won the minor championship with four goals to spare over Clonoulty/Rossmore. The final score was 7-6 to 3-6.

Ardinnan, who were beaten in the two previous county S.F. Finals, took the honours at the third attempt from Clonmel

Commercial, the holders, by 1-11 to 2-2. The championship was played on an open draw system and the decider was at Clonmel on 8th November with John Moloney as referee.

The county S.H. team won the Oireachtas with a victory over Cork in the final. On 13th December at the Thurles venue Tipp. were superior and won the day by 1-12 to 0-8.

In the Railway Cup hurling final Munster beat Leinster by 2-15 to 0-9.

It proved to be a great day for Tipperary when eight medals were won by the following players: John O'Donoghue, Mick Roche, Len Gaynor, Noel O'Dwyer, Jimmy Doyle, Michael Keating, John Kelly and P. J. Ryan.

Four footballers from the Premier County were selected for the Province, but the efforts of Eddie Webster, Denis Burke, Sean Kearney and Michael Keating were overshadowed by Ulster, who won the semi-final by 2-12 to 0-6.

1980-10 YEARS AGO

The County Convention was held at Rockwell College on 27th January. Liz Howard was elected as P.R.O. and so became the first lady member of the Co. Board.

Tommy Butler of Drom-Inch won the "RTE Goal of the Year". The former Tipp star scored a superb goal in the N.H.L. v Kilkenny at Semple Stadium.

Former Tipperary hurler Seamus Shinnors won a Railway Cup Medal when he lined out in goal for Connacht.

Tipperary goalie Pat McLoughney was honoured with All-Star selection for the second successive year.

Fethard completed a three-in-a-row of South S.F. titles with a victory over Cahir by 0-11 to 0-7 at Clonmel.

The following team brought the 20th Divisional title to the club: M. Fitzgerald, Joe Allen, Ned Byrne, Pakie Harrington, Paddy Kenrick, J. Keane, P. Hanrahan, M. O'Riordan, D. Williams, A. B. Kennedy, M. Downes, Joe Keane, Maurice Harrington, M. Healy, D. Burke.

The South Board held its Convention in Clonmel on 13th January.

A great All-Ireland double was achieved at Under-age level. The M.H. and U-21 (H.) kept Tipperary hopes alive with their triumphs at Provincial and National level.

The minors started their victory trail at Limerick on 10th July, when Cork were dethroned by 1-14 to 1-7.

Limerick were the final opponents in Thurles, with victory going to the home county, by 1-17 to 1-4.

On 7th September Tipperary opposed a Wexford team, who were physically stronger, but not as skillful, as the Munster champions. A very welcome minor title was won by 2-15 to 1-10.

All-Ireland team: Ken Hogan, M. Conway, P. Maher, E. Hogan, I. Conroy, J. Maher, D. Finnerty, Joe Hayes, P. Kenny, G. O'Neill, M. Maher, J. Darcy, A. Browne, W. Peters, Nicholas English.

The U-21 team commenced the championship with a drawn semi-final v Limerick. On 9th May at Limerick the game finished level with Tipp. scoring 3-11 to 1-17 for Limerick.

Two weeks later at Thurles Tipperary made no mistake and qualified for the Provincial Final by 2-13 to 1-9.

The final was fixed for Fermoy on the evening of 6th August and it was played before a good attendance in a downpour. The rain was not

important as there was a Munster Final at stake. Tipperary mastered the elements and Cork to win by 4-11 to 2-9.

A journey to Ennis was necessary for the semi-final game v Galway.

Luck shone on Tipperary and a place in the final was snatched from gallant Galway by 3-11 to 2-12.

September 14th was the date fixed for the final with Walsh Park, Waterford, the venue. Following a tremendous battle with Leinster

champions Kilkenny, the crown was retained for the second year by 2-9 to 0-14.

Tipperary All-Ireland team: V. Mullins, M. Ryan, Colm Bonnar, Pat Fox, B. Heffernan, J. O'Dwyer, P. McGrath, P. Kennedy, M. Kennedy, M. Murphy, Bobby Ryan, A. Buckley, J. Kennedy, Donie O'Connell, P. Power.

In the County S.H. Final which was decided at Semple Stadium on 28th September, North Champions, Roscrea just held off the challenge

of Kilruane MacDonagh. Roscrea were one point to the good 3-11 to 2-13 at the final whistle.

Four hurlers were selected to wear the Munster jersey in the Final of the Railway Cup. The Connachtmen won the game by 1-5 to 0-7.

The four selected were Pat McLoughney, Jim Keogh, Tadgh O'Connor and Pat Fitzelle.

There was no success for Gene McGrath in the football decider as Ulster achieved victory by 2-10 to 1-9.

Nenagh's first Co. Intermediate Football Title, 1988

BECAUSE of the club's involvement in the 1988 County Senior Hurling Championship, Eire Óg did not take the field in the North Tipp. Intermediate Football Championship until late September. Moneygall were our opponents in Toomevara and Eire Óg started slowly despite playing with a strong breeze. An early second half goal for Moneygall had the sides level with twenty minutes remaining. The spirit of the side surfaced for the first time as Eire Óg rallied with two great goals and ran out winners by a comfortable eight points at the finish.

The North final was played in October with Lorrha as our opponents in Cloughjordan. Eire Óg quickly established superiority, but shot many wides to be just four points ahead at the finish. The second half was all one way traffic as Eire Óg banged in four goals to finish a massive twenty-three points clear at the final whistle.

Inter-county activity was one of the factors which delayed our Co. Semi-Final game against Moycarkey. Eventually Eire Óg's agreement to Moycarkey's request for a postponement led to a home venue in Nenagh on Saturday, 19th Novmber. Moycarkey opened with a lightning start, grabbing a goal from a penalty to lead by three points after fourteen minutes. The *Tipperary Star* report of the game had the headline as "Burns — Nenagh's Super Sub" referring to the introduction of Michael Burns in the 23rd minute. Michael went on to score 1-2, as Eire Óg won by 1-5 to 2-1.

The *Tipperary Star* report quoted Eire Óg's best as the defence, starring Frank Moran, Brendan O'Meara, John Heffernan, Kevin O'Carroll, complemented by very sound goalkeeping by Sean Minogue. The 'Star report went on — "Michael Burns was the hero in attack, followed in order of merit by Barry O'Brien, Niall O'Shea and Michael Kennedy". It was nerve racking stuff as Moycarkey pounded the Eire Óg goal in the final minutes, but a great display by the

The winning of a County Football Championship is never easy.

It is even more difficult for teams from North Tipperary where hurling is the more dominant game among Gaelic players.

defence proved the key and Eire Óg had qualified for the County Final.

The County Final took place on Sunday, 11th December in Holycross with Ballyporeen as our opponents. Pat Cullen of Loughmore was the referee. The Eire Óg team lined out as follows:

Sean Minogue; Pdraig Gleeson, Frank Moran, Brendan O'Meara; John Heffernan, Kevin O'Carroll, Gerry Hynes; Philip Kennedy, Noel Coffey; Michael Cleary, Michael Kennedy, Barry O'Brien; Niall O'Shea, Conor O'Donovan, Michael Burns.

The most notable features of the Eire Óg line-up were the missing captain and centre back Paul Kennedy who was also missing for the semi-final because of injury and the selection of Michael Burns who replaced Michael Manning in the only change from the semi-final line-up.

Eire Óg started slowly in the final. Many chances were missed as the forwards took time to settle. Nerves were strained as chance after chance was missed. Ballyporeen's Eamon Maher was playing havoc with the defence. Eire Óg were assisted by the breeze but trailed at half-time by four points to three. The

selectors decided to take a chance at half-time. It was a chance that was to have a major bearing on the match. Injured captain Paul Kennedy was brought on at centreback. Other switches saw Conor O'Donovan move to centrehalf forward. Both switches were of major benefit to the team. Paul Kennedy dominated at centre-back and the threat of Eamon Maher became less significant. O'Donovan used his height and fitness to win many valuable balls and scored a marvellous goal.

Eire Óg were not out of the woods though. Ballyporeen kept picking off their points and with a minute remaining Eire Óg trailed by two points. The spirit which first surfaced in Toomevara some months previously was still there however as Eire Óg fought on. First a goalmouth scramble resulted in a fifty. Once more Eire Óg attacked. Michael Kennedy's marvellous catch and sidestep resulted in a penalty. Who would take it. Up stepped Michael Burns. The crowd gasped as he struck his kick. Was it inside or out. The umpire reached for the green flag. Still time remained.

Hearts were in our mouths as Ballyporeen's last effort from a free landed short and Pat Cullen sounded the final whistle. History was made. Eire Óg's first ever county intermediate football title. Other members of the Eire Óg panel were Con Morris, scorer of a marvellous goal against Moneygall, Liam Flannery who banged in two goals in the North Final, Michael Manning who played up to the County Final, Denis Finnerty who appeared in the County Final, Chris Bonnar, Jim Nagle, Jim O'Sullivan, Robert Cleere and Michael Grace.

The selectors who proved invaluable were Ger Gavin, Jimmy Minogue, Tommy Mulcahy and Jimmy Morris. Finally the man who has made such a large contribution to Eire Óg football in the last few years, coach Gerry Fitzgerald who brought the team to such a high peak of fitness and footballing skill.

The North Division Review



LORRHA, WINNERS NORTH TIPPERARY SENIOR HURLING CHAMPIONSHIP 1989

The Lorrha team which won the North Tipperary senior hurling final at Nenagh. Back Row (left to right): Pat Kennedy, Martin Young, Gerry Sullivan, Ken Hogan (captain), John Madden, Aidan McIntyre, Mick Brophy. Front Row (left to right): John McIntyre, Seamus Mannion, Declan O'Meara, Kieran Hough, Eamonn Sherlock, Cathal McIntyre, Donal O'Donoghue, Pat Kelly. (Photo: B. O'Connor).

The opening of the Eire Óg complex in Nenagh was one of the highlights of the year. Lorrha G.A.A. club have also provided a marvellous playing pitch. Provisions and amenities as such give a special identity to the club. Every club in North Tipp has its own "ground".

This year our much-respected cathaoirleach Seán Ó Tiarnaí, leaves the chair after just two years. John now living in Kilkenny, is a big loss to the Division and to the club he loved so well — Shannon Rovers.

Guímíd gach rath ar Sheán, a bhean is a chlann i gCill Choinnigh.

COMPETITIONS

So far it has been a very busy year here in the division, but our divisional champions to date have failed to capture county honours.

Eire Óg, in minor hurling were unlucky not to win the county title against Caiseal. The replay is eagerly awaited.

Tulach Sheasta (Newport), Erin's Hope, Portroe, Moneygall are all seeking county honours in hurling; while our football competitions are nearing completion.

PÁDRAIG Ó MEACHAIR, Rúnaí

NORTH TIPPERARY 1989 RESULTS

S.H. League: Lorrha 2-12, Borrisokane 3-6 P. J. Kelly
M.H. 'B' Championship: Moneygall 1-15, Burgess 1-1 Seán Carroll
M.H. 'A' Championship: Eire Óg 1-11, Roscrea 3-4 Michael Lenihan
M.F. 'A' Championship: Eire Óg 1-9, Newport 0-3 Liam Hogan (B.)
M.F. 'B' Championship: Shannon Rovers 2-7, Kiladangan 1-4 Pat Sheedy
J.H. League: Toomevara 4-13, Ballinahinch 1-8 Pat Sheedy
Ulster Bank I.H.: Kiladangan 2-14, Portroe 1-7 Donal Shanahan
U-21 H 'B' Championship: Portroe 1-12, Kiladangan 1-8 Pat McGrath
I.H. Championship: Newport 2-14, Portroe 1-12 Pat Sheedy
S.H. Championship: Lorrha 1-14, Toomevara 1-12 John McDonnell
J. H. Championship: Knockshegowna 2-13, Lorrha 0-1 P. J. Kelly
U-21 H 'A' Championship: Erin's Hope 4-9, Toomevara 4-7 Pat Dunlea
J.H. 'B' Championship:
U-21 F. 'B' Championship: Portroe 2-4, Silvermines 1-2 D. Shanahan
U-21 F. 'A' Championship:
S.F. Championship:
J.F. Championship: Shannon Rovers 2-10; Kildangan 0-5.
I.F. Championship:



Liam Doran of Nenagh Guardian presents Dinny Ryan (Newport) with the "Guardian Trophy" as Hurler of the Year in North Tipp. for 1988.



NORTH TIPP FOOTBALLER OF THE YEAR 1988

Kevin O'Carroll (Eire Óg) receives his award from Liam Doran of Nenagh Guardian.



ERIN'S HOPE — NORTH TIPPERARY UNDER-21 HURLING CHAMPIONS 1989

Back Row (left to right): Ned Fogarty, Joe Murphy, Darren Moore, Barry Bond, Henry Reid, Declan Costelloe, Donnchadh Sullivan, Michael Quigley, Liam Mounsey. Front Row (left to right): Ger Brennan, Seosamh Cleary, Mark Hough, Eugene Cleary, Pdraig Hogan (captain), Brendan Hogan, Adrian Hogan.



KNOCKSHEGOWNA, NORTH TIPPERARY JUNIOR HURLING CHAMPIONS — 1989

Front Row (left to right): Ned Fogarty, Jim Noonan, Jason Treacy, Seán Carroll, Liam Mounsey, Barry Bond, Eugene Cleary (captain), Brendan Kennedy, Alan Carroll. Back Row (left to right): Joe Mooney, John Cleary, Joe Murphy, Aidan Fogarty, Noel Treacy, Ger Brennan, Pat Murphy, Henry Reid, Eugene Conroy, Paul Ryan, John Fogarty, Declan Costello, Brendan Reid.



PORTROE — WINNERS UNDER-21 'B' HURLING CHAMPIONSHIP 1989

Back Row (left to right): Connie Ryan, Denis Hogan, Ger Power, Chris Madden, Liam McGrath, Liam Sheedy, Paul Burke, Benny O'Driscoll. Front Row (left to right): Pdraig Quinni, Noel O'Halloran, Pdraig O'Brien, Martin McKenna, Declan Kelly (captain), Pat Sexton, John Hogan, Joe Sexton.

At 7.57 am, on Thursday, 19th July, 1984, an earthquake struck the east coast of Ireland. Recording 5.5 on the Richter scale, the tremor lasted some 5 to 10 seconds, depending on location. Houses shook in Dublin but it caused little or no damage and, thankfully, no casualties.

The real shock, however, was that it happened at all. To us in Ireland, earthquakes are things that happen elsewhere. And it proves the point that one has to expect the unexpected.

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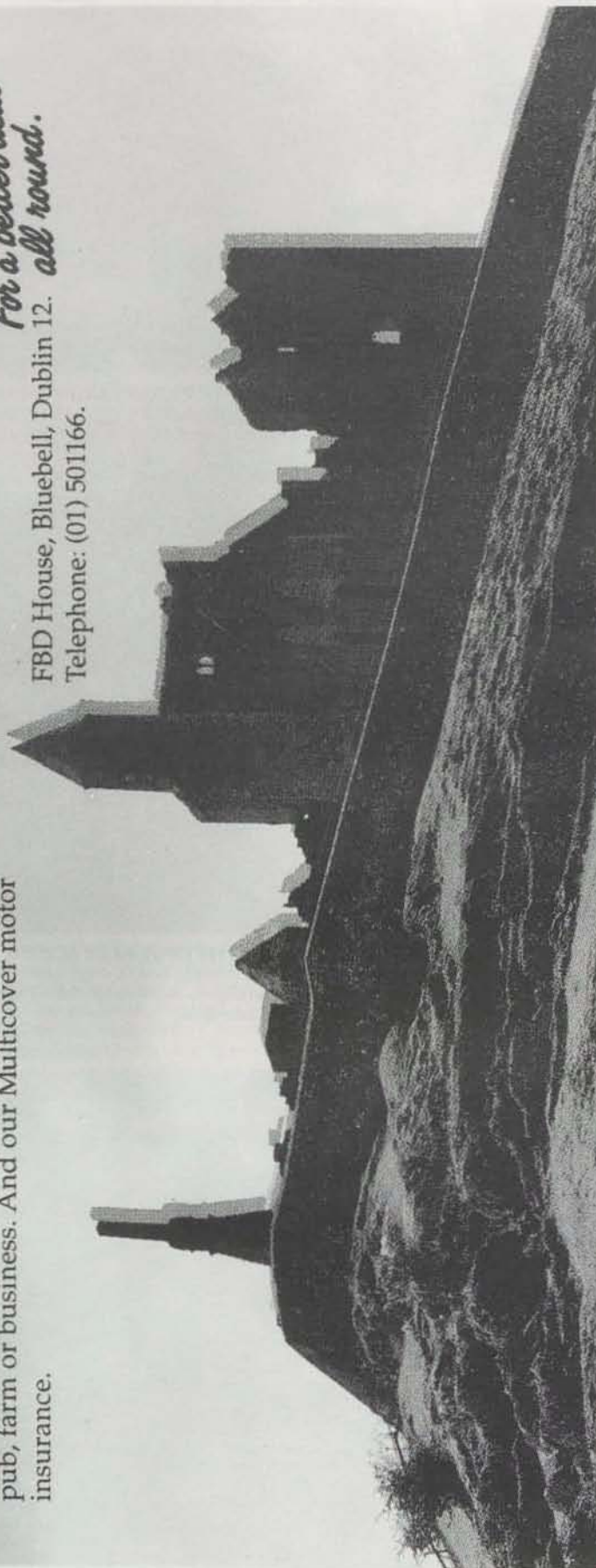
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EIRE ÓG MINOR HURLERS, NORTH TIPPERARY CHAMPIONS — 1989

Back Row (left to right): Mark Sheahan, Fergal Hynes, Con Howard, Joe O'Donoghue, Ronan Burns, Brendan Shanahan, Joe Mulqueen, John Moylan, Derek Conroy. Front Row (left to right): John Kennedy, Robbie Tomlinson, Gearóid Cleary, Declan Nolan (captain), Brian Connolly, Frank McGrath, Cyril Bailey. Mascots: Liam Nolan and Trevor Connolly.



CLUB OF THE YEAR — 1988

John Tierney (North Board Chairman) presents the McDonagh Trophy to Ned Ryan (Chairman Newport G.A.A. club). Also in the picture are Denis Floyd, P. J. Ryan, Tim Floyd, Joe Brennan and Dinny Ryan.



MONEYBALL HURLING TEAM — NEALON TROPHY WINNERS 1989 & COUNTY MINOR 'B' CHAMPIONS

Back Row (left to right): Padraig Kennedy, John Maher, Tomás Kenneally, Declan Ryan, Brian O'Dwyer, Neil Quinlan, Fintan Harney, Thomas Delaney, Jim Hoolan, Neil Maher, Noel Ryan, Pat Gleeson, Eoin Toohey. Front Row (left to right): Seamus Boland, Denis Sullivan, Michael Sullivan, John Doughan, John Shelly, Philip Quinlan, Eamon Troy, Donagh Hoolan, Patrick Whyte, Andrew Keeshan, Ger Guest.

Newport return to senior ranks

THE record books show that Newport have appeared in relatively few county hurling finals. In 1924 the Juniors fell to a Mid selection in a replay. The same fate befell the intermediate team of 1965 when Moyne Templetuohy gained the upperhand at the second attempt.

In between came one glorious triumph when in 1957 the county junior hurling title was annexed at the expense of Cappawhite. The early 'Seventies saw Newport compete with the best in senior hurling — the high point being reached in 1973 with an impressive display in the county semi-final against Roscrea.

There followed a decline in fortunes until regrading to intermediate ranks was sought in 1980. Still it took time to make an impact in the lower grade. It was not until 1986 that the North Intermediate final was reached. Two final defeats had to be endured before success was achieved in '88. Retention of the title was the target for 1989. This would guarantee a return to senior status and a crack at a much longed for county title.

NORTH CHAMPIONSHIP

The championship campaign commenced on May 14 with a resounding victory over Burgess at Ballina. An impressive 5-7 from play out of a total of 5-8 (Burgess registered 0-8), with Dinny Ryan accounting for 2-4, looked promising for things to come. However, we were rocked back to earth a fortnight later when

Silvermines scored a 4-7 to 3-7 victory. One of the few encouraging aspects was the impressive debut of Joe O'Brien on the half-back line.

The third game hit the headlines for the wrong reasons. An isolated incident in an otherwise well-contested game against Portroe saw two players sidelined from each side after an unsightly melée. Pat Shinnors picked off some magnificent scores to help record a 3-10 to 1-11 victory. Inter-county games saw to it that two months had elapsed before the next game (against Templederry) was played. A storming display from Connie McGrath, with Ger Bradley scoring 0-8, were the main contributory factors in a 1-14 to 0-10 triumph. Kilruane conceded the points in the next round before Kildangan fell in the concluding group game in what was Newport's most impressive performance to date. Pat Keating got through for 2-0 in helping to record a 3-10 to 1-6 victory.

Old rivals Silvermines were the semi-final opponents. They had been somewhat of a bogey team for Newport in recent years. Consequently the game was full of tension and never sparkled. In a lacklustre performance Newport were far superior and finished 0-11 to 0-5 in front to earn a joust with fortune.

The final turned out to be one of the best games seen in any grade in the division for some time. Lively play, spectacular scores and some fine individual performances

were the hallmarks of an exciting victory for which Ger Carey and Martin McCabe at midfield and Pat Keating on the half-forward line laid the groundwork. Just five points (2-14 to 1-12) separated the sides but it brought the Hewitt Cup to Newport for the second successive year and ensured that the club would be back in the senior championship for 1990.

However, everyone realised that a county title would have to be won if we were to return to senior ranks with any confidence or credibility. Unfortunately, a serious accident robbed us of the services of Tony Hassett who had been responsible for the fitness of the team for the past two years and whose work had a big bearing on the victories of '88 and '89.

On the other hand, Len Gaynor had joined the backroom team shortly before the North semi-final and he was very instrumental in guiding the team to greater heights.

Fethard were easily overcome in the county semi-final at Semple Stadium on November 4th. The 3-16 to 0-3 clearly indicates the disparity between the sides. Ger Bradley was in top form, being ably assisted by his half-forward colleagues and a hard-working midfield partnership. Pat Keating was an unlucky absentee, having picked up a leg injury in training which was also to keep him out of the final.

November 12th at Cashel was the long-awaited final fixture. Thurles Sarsfields



The Newport team which won the intermediate county final. BACK ROW (left to right) — Tim Floyd, John Keating, D. J. O'Brien, Pat Shinnors, Peter Coleman, Ger Carey, Larry McGrath, Denis Collins. FRONT ROW: Ger Bradley, Dinny Ryan, Martin Ryan (Lacken) (captain), Ger Floyd, Joe O'Brien, Martin McCabe, Connie McGrath.

(Photo: B. O'Connor).

were the opponents on a pleasant day for the time of year but on which the playing surface was heavy and sticky. With two teams eager to make a breakthrough after many years in the doldrums and with the conditions militating against open play, the game was not the spectacle the purists would relish.

Exchanges were tough and uncompromising, defences ruled on both sides and most of the scores came from frees. Newport's greater physical strength and high level of fitness stood well to them and they seemed to be better balanced than the Mid representatives. Helped by the unerring free-taking of Ger Bradley and a fortuitous goal from Pat Shinnars, Newport were able to put enough on the scoreboard for a clear victory (1-11 to 0-8).

Concern had been expressed about the Newport defence, but as the season progressed they improved considerably in confidence and tightness as opposing forwards were given little scope to be creative.

The defence was built around the commanding presence of Con McGrath at centre-back and the close-marking D. J. O'Brien on the edge of the square. Martin

Ryan was an inspiring captain with his relieving clearances. Larry McGrath strong and decisive, Joe O'Brien's youthful style and skill, Denis Collins' high catching and long deliveries and the solid hard-grafting Eddie Quigley all formed a stout rearguard to front the calm and reliable Ger Floyd.

Midfield was manned by the stylish Ger Carey who added a county medal to his All-Ireland junior memento won earlier in the year. His partner, Martin McCabe, the 'baby of the team', was an indefatigable worker with speed and amazing determination. Helping out occasionally at midfield and regularly on the half-forward line was the elegant Pat Keating who was making an enormous contribution until injury ruled him out of the county semi-final and final.

In 1988 the undoubted star of the attack was Dinny Ryan. Earlier in '89 he added All-Ireland Under-21 and Junior medals to his collection and consequently he was a marked man in all club engagements. Nevertheless, he showed many flashes of his scintillating skill with devastating bursts and clinical finishing.

Taking over the mantle of chief scorer

was the ebullient Ger Bradley who showed a steady improvement through the year. In the closing stages of the championship the attack revolved around him but he was well supported by the hard-working and fleet-footed Peter Coleman, the tall and affable John Keating, the strength and experience of Tim Floyd and Pat Shinnars and the silken touches of Anthony Floyd.

Adding strong back-up to the panel were able substitutes Sean Ryan, John O'Brien, Denis Kennedy and Martin Moloney, who all contributed to the successes of the year.

The 'Eighties began with Newport taking a step down in status to commence the task of rebuilding. That task has taken a decade to reach fruition. A new decade now presents a new challenge. Undoubtedly, Newport will add an extra dimension to the senior championship in North Tipperary. But an impact will only be made in the higher echelons with a renewed commitment to hard work and a determined ambition to succeed. The success of '89 should enkindle that ambition to ensure a new era for hurling in Newport.

CUMANN LUTH-CHLEAS GAEL COISTE THIOBRAID ÁRANN THUaidH



Ár mbuíochoas dos na Clubanna,
Na h-Imreoirí i ngach uile grád,
Na Réiteoirí, na Maoir agus
don phobal a bhain taithneamh
as ár gcluichí sa bhliain 1989
Nollaig shona dhíbh uile—
Go n-Éirí libh san aith-bhliain.

SEÁN Ó TIARNAIGH
Cathaoirleach.

PÁDRAIG Ó MEACHAIR
Rúnaí



NEWCASTLE — SOUTH TIPPERARY CHAMPIONS 1949

Back Row (l. to r.) P. 'Bird' Kelly (R.I.P.), L. McEntaggard, P. O'Dwyer (R.I.P.), W. Hickey (R.I.P.), F. Hallinan, C. O'Dwyer, J. Duggan, B. Mulcahy. Front (l. to r.) J. Hally, P. Shortiss, C. O'Neill, N. Fitzpatrick, P. 'Butt' O'Dwyer, T. Sweeney, J. Fitzpatrick (R.I.P.), M. Nugent.

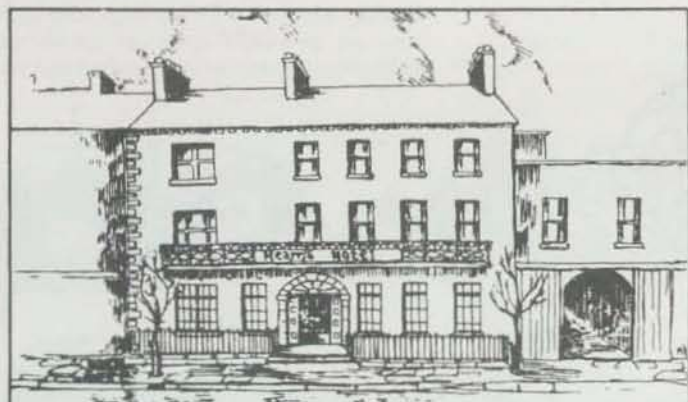


A YOUTHFUL 'BABS' KEATING ON THE TIPPERARY INTERMEDIATE TEAM THAT DEFEATED CORK IN THE MUNSTER FINAL, 1961

Front Row (l. to r.) Mick Kenny, Donal Ryan, Peter O'Dwyer, Eddie Maher, Tom Larkin, Liam Tierney (captain), Christy Hartigan, Paddy O'Meara. Back Row (l. to r.): John McGrath, John O'Dwyer, Sean Cullagh, Dick Callinan, Sean McGovern, Pat Ryan, Michael (Babs) Keating, Tom Flynn.



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A new complex for Eire Óg, Nenagh

At a meeting of the club held in March, 1987, a committee was set up with a view to building a sports and leisure complex for the club in McDonagh Park, Nenagh. Under the leadership of chairman Ger Gavin; treasurer Jimmy Morris and secretary Jimmy Minogue the first action of the new committee was the running of a 12 month draw at £100 per ticket. To say that this draw was a success was to put it mildly. A draw secretary, Mrs. Anne Galvin, was appointed and with many ticket sellers led by the Lord Mayor, himself, Mr. Mick Brien, travelling far, the draw yielded a profit of £80,000. We were on our way.

A host of other bodies and individuals helped in bringing plans to reality. They included County and North G.A.A. Boards, the Munster Council, Croke Park, Handball authorities, National Lottery, A.I.B., Nenagh, Calor/Kosangas, Nenagh U.D.C., The McDonagh Park committee who made the site available to us for a nominal fee and advertisers and of course the general public.

Under the guidance of Jimmy Morris himself involved in the building trade a complex was designed by Joseph F. Murphy, Civil Engineer, a senior partner in the firm of Michael Punch and Partners, Limerick. The plans went for tender and the successful contractors were Margle Developments Ltd. Work on the complex began in Mid-March. The Complex was completed towards the end of September and the official opening took place on Monday, October 30th with the opening performed by the President of the G.A.A. John Dowling.

Today we have a magnificent sports and leisure complex comprising of the following:

A sports and social amenity hall complete with stage; two spacious changing-rooms, with shower-rooms and toilets, a compact fitted kitchen, a 40' x 20' handball alley with a glass back-wall, raised viewing area, office cum meeting room at the same level, a large conference / meeting room, shop at ground floor level, a health centre — fitted with sauna and exercise equipment and shower and toilet.

The complex is a tribute to all those whose efforts led to its completion. Hopefully it will provide a great source of enjoyment for the people of Nenagh and surrounding areas for many years to come.

Sean Minogue



G.A.A. President, John Dowling, about to cut the tape to officially open Eire Óg, Nenagh's new Sports Complex on October 30th, 1989. In attendance are County Board chairman Noel Morris, and newly elected Lord Mayor of Nenagh, Mick O'Brien.

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Willie O'Dwyer

Tipperary G.A.A. President

On the 23rd of October, 1989, Willie O'Dwyer, Nodstown, Boherlahan, died just four months short of his hundredth birthday. A man whose life was devoted to many forms of community development, his main lifelong interest, however, was the G.A.A. to which he gave a lifetime of devoted and committed service.



Willie's interest in the G.A.A. began with the foundation of the local Boherlahan club of which he was a founder member way back in 1912. He served as club secretary from 1919 to 1945, as club chairman from 1966 to 1967 and as treasurer during the later years of his active service with the club. His secretary years coincided with the most glorious years of our club when in the space of just over a dozen years they won nine county senior county hurling finals and two All-Ireland hurling finals. That was the "Leahy" era. He was also in large measure responsible for the procuring of a club playing field at Gaile back in 1933 a venue well known in its day.

Willie's G.A.A. interests were to go far beyond the local club and he succeeded the late E. D. Ryan as Mid Board vice-chairman back in 1919. From the early twenties and for all of forty years he was a member of the Tipperary County Board as a Mid representative; for ten years as a south representative and for two periods 1950-1956 and 1963-1967 as a representative of the Munster G.A.A. Council.

In 1976 on the death of the late Canon Fogarty the Gaels of Tipperary paid Willie a unique tribute in electing him President of Tipperary G.A.A. County Board — a position he held up to the time of his death, and in 1984 during the centenary celebrations he was presented with a beautifully inscribed "scroll" to honour the occasion.

Willie, too, served his country with many of his fellow Gaels in her period of distress and he served as a local political representative for more than forty years. Déanamid có-bhrón lena chlann uilig. Ar dheis laimh Dé go raibh a anam.

P. ÓR.



Graveside oration was delivered by Munster Council chairman Michael Maher.



Jim Ryan, Willie Ryan, Noel Morris, County G.A.A. chairman Fr. Johnny Minihan, Liam O'Dwyer and Con Donovan, chairman of South Tipperary County Council in Boherlahan.



Johnny Ryan, Philip Ryan, Micky Byrne and Matt Ryan seen at the funeral in Boherlahan.

Brian Delaney



WHEN the news spread throughout the county that one of Toomevara's great clubmen, Brian Delaney had died under tragic circumstances, there was a great sense of shock and sorrow.

The eldest of four boys in a family of six (2 girls are older). Brian developed from a very early age a keen interest in Gaelic games and had a special love for hurling. He was educated at Toomevara N.A., Nenagh C.B.S. and the Salesian Agricultural College, Pallaskenry. In each of these schools, Brian was a prominent member of their hurling teams.

When the revival of hurling took place in Toomevara in the mid 1970's Brian played a vital role in many of the club's successes, first as a goalkeeper and later as a forward of no mean standard. During a very short playing career he built up a fine reputation as a very sporting player, both on and off the field. A man with a great sense of humour, he was always willing to help with anything that would benefit the club. On many occasions he acted as linesman or umpire for the club throughout North Tipperary.

In 1985 he had the honour of captaining the Club's U-21 hurling team to a historic first county title. He played many fine games on the full forward line that year but none better than on that warm Sunday in Holycross in the exciting final against Clonulty/Rossmore. His delight when accepting the cup from Michael Lowry had to be seen to be believed.

All of us have many memories of Brian's achievements on the hurling field, but it was his dedication and loyalty to the club and his team-mates that made him a most likeable man to all who knew him. He had a tremendous attitude to the game, and when ever he was replaced on the local team, he was never known to hold a grudge against any selector or club official.

Brian's death has left a tragic gap in the lives of all who knew him. For the Toomevara Club it will be difficult to find again one with such interest and loyalty to the green and gold. He is a great loss to his

parents, brothers and sisters. We hope that they will draw comfort from the memory he leaves within the hearts of all his friends and colleagues. It is a difficult task to pay due tribute to a man who at the young age of 24 years, gave so much to his club, proudly wore the green and gold and graced the hurling fields of Tipperary displaying his skills and sportsmanship — the hallmarks of all great clubman.

Yes, indeed, a great loss to his family, to his club and county. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam.



Declan Long

WHEN Rahealty G.A.A. Club's activity for the year is reviewed undoubtedly the events on the playing field will be overshadowed by the tragic death recently of one of our most popular players — Declan Long.

Declan joined our Club three years ago and played hurling and football at Minor, U-21 and Junior level. He was on the teams which won Mid Minor and U-21 titles in 1987. He was a vital member of these teams in 1988 and 1989 and with the re-emergence of Thurles Crokes as a senior football side, he was an automatic choice for this team also, playing championship and league matches earlier this year. His powerful burst of speed down the wings caused untold problems for defences and he thoroughly enjoyed tormenting them.

On the field he was courageous, skilful and determined. Off the field he was popular with his team-mates and his many friends. He always seemed to have time for the children who would frequent the field and seemed reluctant to leave their impromptu kick-about to join in training sessions.

The news of his death stunned all associated with the club and our scheduled Junior Football game was deferred. It was a great honour for the club to be allowed participate in the carrying of his coffin, bearing the flags of Rahealty and Thurles Crokes A.C. We express our sincere thanks to Declan's family.

Even though there is a deep feeling of great loss in Rahealty it pales in comparison to the loss experienced by Declan's parents John and Betty and both his sisters and to them we extend our heartfelt sympathies. Go ndeana Dia tróchaire air.

Pat Furlong



JUST two years after his native Cappawhite won the supreme accolade of Tipperary hurling Pat Furlong passed to his reward. The following tribute to this grand old man of Cappawhite hurling was printed in the 1987 county final programme:

"One of Cappawhite's most loved sons has lived through all the great achievements of the club. Born in 1904 into an old Gaelic family, his brother George was captain of the first ever winning Cappawhite team which won the 1913 South junior hurling championship.

Pat Furlong played most of his hurling career in the late twenties and early thirties. He won a South Championship junior hurling medal with Solohead in 1926 before the West Board was founded.

Cappawhite had many attractions to roving hurlers and at regular intervals a car would be sent across the border from a certain club in East Limerick to collect prominent players to play in important matches. It was during these incursions to county Limerick, that his hurling prowess first came to light and he was considered for a place on the Limerick senior hurling team until further investigation showed that he lived on the wrong side of the border.

A prominent Limerick official suggested to the Tipperary mentors his hurling ability and he was selected on the Tipperary junior hurling team which won the triple crown in 1930. He was the first Cappawhite man to win an All-Ireland adult championship hurling medal as Bill Neill won the first ever All-Ireland hurling medal as a minor some weeks earlier.

He was selected and played senior inter-county hurling

for Tipperary in the League against Galway in Portumna on the following year but unfortunately broke his leg in an accident which ended his promising inter-county career.

He played a prominent part in the Cappawhite/Donohill team which won the first ever junior hurling championship in West Tipperary in 1930. In 1939 he won his second West Junior medal with Rockwell Rovers.

Pat Furlong in recalling his memories of triumphs and glories can point with boyish grin to a mark left on him by the legendary John 'Tyler' Mackey, father of Mick Mackey, for his incursions into county Limerick hurling.

Pat acted as secretary for the club in its early days. The Furlong Gaelic tradition was continued by his nephew, George Furlong, prominent player in the late fifties and also by his grand nephew, John Kelly, who won U-21 and senior All-Ireland medals with Tipperary.

He was a skilful, stylish and fast player who played most of his games at centre forward in a sporting manner, which still is characteristic of the club.

Pat Furlong is now approaching his 84th birthday and was witness at all the club's great events in its history and at the winning of all its county hurling titles which include juvenile, minor, U-21 and junior. His most favourite wish is that he will witness Cappawhite winning its first county senior hurling title and believes 'today is the day'.

We wish this great Gael, Pat Furlong, many more years of health, happiness and endless hours of hurling chat".

Two years after seeing his great wish come through, Pat died in 1989. May he rest in eternal peace.

Mick Cahill



CURRENTLY as John Leahy keeps the name of Mullinahone before the Gaels of the nation with his exploits on the playing fields of the country, the memories flood back to older Gaels of Mullinahone's last great nationally renowned Gaelic star, the late Michael Cahill.

Mick, as he was known far and wide, passed away in June. He was surely one of the greatest Gaelic footballers that Tipperary ever

produced. Though he was in failing health for some years and only a shadow of the fine athlete of his youth, nevertheless his unexpected death caused sorrow and grief over a wide area.

Born into a family of three boys and two girls he was encouraged by his late father, Tom Cahill (himself a fine athlete) to participate in all outdoor sports and even at national school age he showed qualities of greatness. His brothers, the late Tom Cahill, R.I.P. and Walter were also first class performers on the Gaelic field and I recall a day in Clonmel when the three Cahill brothers manned the Tipperary half back line in a senior championship game against Kerry.

On leaving Mullinahone N.S., Mick went to Callan C.B.S. There he took up hurling and reached the stage where he was selected for the Tipperary minor hurling team of 1941. He lined out in the championship against Waterford at the age of sixteen but the 'foot and mouth' outbreak of 1941 and the cancellation of the minor championships due to World War II wrote a premature 'finish' to a most promising hurling career.

From Callan, Mick moved to Knockbeg College, Carlow. There his potential as a footballer was quickly realised and to quote a former president of that college, Fr. Shine, "He was the best footballer the college ever produced". As a student in Knockbeg he represented Leinster in football and hurling in the colleges interprovincial series. He made his debut with the Tipperary senior football side at the tender age of 16½ years.

It was not long until he brought himself to the notice of the Munster football selectors. He was an automatic choice for the province from 1946 to 1953, winning three Railway Cup medals. His partnership with the legendary Kerry midfielder Paddy Kennedy was almost unbeatable. In the early fifties, he moved to Cork and was a leading light in that county's win in the national league in 1952. Cork beat New York in that final. He was a member of the famous Lees Club and he had a major role in that club's winning the county senior football championship in 1955. He was also selected on an Ireland team of that era to play the combined universities.

When he retired from football his next love was greyhounds. With his great friend, Rita Browne, they bred, raced and sold some of the best dogs in Ireland. A familiar figure at coursing meetings and race tracks around the country his expert advice was often sought and freely given.

The respect and esteem in which he was held was very evident at his funeral. The Gaels and the doggy folk were there to a man. They came in numbers from Cork, Kerry, Wexford, Kilkenny, Waterford and, of course, from all parts of

his native Tipperary. His remains were borne from St. Michael's Church to the strains of "Slievenamon", flanked by a guard of honour of former team-mates representative of all Munster. He was buried in the new cemetery at Killaghy which was at one time the local G.A.A. field which he graced so often in his playing days.

May the sod rest lightly on his noble breast. My sincere sympathy to his brother, Walter, his sisters Kitty and Emma, his dear friend Rita, to his nephews, nieces and other relatives and his legion of friends and admirers. Ar dheia laimh De go raigh a anam. "Ni fheicimid a leitheid arís".

Nicholas Flannery



TO BE with Nick was to know that you were in the presence of a real man. Everything about him, his appearance, his glance, his conversation was forceful. That is why we miss him so much; the quality of his remembered presence is the measure of his absence.

Sixty-seven years ago he was born of farming stock down by the Shannon in Castlesheela.

Nick was to be born into a tradition in which land, religion and independence were important. He was the fourth child in a family of six boys and one girl. He grew up in a less affluent Ireland and soon learned the need of hard work, which he never shirked. His father's illness made it necessary to part with precious land and schooling had to be cut short for a witty boy with a gift for maths and an original turn of phrase. By all accounts, the master was exigent and there was no keener judge than young Nick of "the day's disaster in his morning face."

The medium of self-expression for the youth of the time was hurling and Nick gave himself to that with passion and pleasure. He loved hurling and was to bring credit to Kildangan in their heyday; he 'quietened' more famous men at both club and Miller Shield level and was picked for the county when that was exceptional for a man from the North.

He openly regretted that on one occasion in the early 'Forties, in Limerick, a defender instructed to "lie down" refused to do so and

deprived him of getting a crack at Christy Ring. "I was mad to get at him," he commented.

We can still visualise him as he was then: stocky, courageous, strong, wily, prancing with energy, skilful and fair. He subscribed to John Keane's philosophy: "Take it, give it and shut up." It was the way to be a hero and he revelled in it. During the G.A.A. centenary he went to see the field in Boherlahan 'where hurling was invented' and visited John Maher, the late Tommy Doyle and Johnny Ryan.

It was an occasion of unabashed romanticism and heartening reminiscence as great occasions were relived in imagination. Nick had the most exacting standards of excellence in judging hurlers of the past and the present and, although he would not call it humility, he applied the same standards to himself.

It was good to be anywhere with Nick, at home, playing cards in the local, at a match, visiting friends. He was always shrewd and good humoured, compassionate without being sentimental. He had an eye for situation comedy, was an excellent raconteur who relished picturesque language and had the knack of painting vivid word pictures of his dramatic personae. He was never at a loss for his share of repartee.

This can be no more than an inadequate hint at the richness of his personality and our gratitude for it. We pray that he is now enjoying a beauty of which galloping horses can be only the faintest image and a peace that surpasses immeasurably the fisherman's swaying in his cot on the Shannon.

Tá mo guth leat, a Thiarna.

Donal O'Gorman



THOUGH we knew for a short time that the end was imminent, the death of Donal O'Gorman was shocking in its finality. It was hard to accept that our friend and colleague had been taken from us.

Donal was born here in Thurles some 40 years ago. Growing up and attending the local C.B.S. he had a great interest in the games and, following in his father's footsteps, it is no surprise to find him a staunch

supporter of Thurles Sarsfields and their Secretary in the late '60s and '70s. He was a very efficient, dedicated and well organised secretary. He won high regard and our club prospered under his guidance.

His work as a librarian, firstly in Thurles, later took him to Cavan where he became involved with the local G.A.A. scene and he was also earning a name for himself as a referee.

Home for weekends in Thurles, he was either supporting the Blues or doing refereeing duty for Tipperary Co. Board or Mid Tipperary Board. Over the years he became a highly respected referee and was a popular choice for major club games in the county. He was chairman of Mid Tipperary Referees Committee and did much to upgrade both the status of referees and the standard of refereeing.

Later Donal was appointed Kildare County Librarian and Treasurer of the Library Association of Ireland. But his daily commuting to Newbridge did not dampen his boundless energy. He became chairman of Thurles Sarsfields and was serving his fourth year in that position. He will be remembered for sound leadership, many innovations and for his upgrading of our social centre but mainly as a loyal and true supporter and an able ambassador through thick and thin.

As a librarian, he naturally had a great love of books and in time he became involved with publication. For the past five years he has expertly compiled match programmes for all the G.A.A. games played at Semple Stadium and his expertise has been recognised and honoured on several occasions by the Munster G.A.A. Council and nationally by his acquisition of a coveted McNamee Publications Award a few years ago.

He has also compiled the history of Thurles Sarsfields Club—a very time-consuming and painstaking project but a labour of love for Donal. It's called "Thro' The Thatch"—The Thurles Sarsfields Story. This work is, as yet, unpublished and it is Sarsfield's earnest hope to see it on the bookshelves in 1990. It will be an enduring monument to Donal.

Donal was also a great Thurles man, having a deep knowledge of the history of the town, and he was willing to share his knowledge and expertise with all. In 1978 he helped with the updating of "The Chronology of Thurles."

He assisted with Shannonside in 1984 by compiling the text for their "Walking Tour of Historic Thurles" and it is but a few short months ago since many came together in Sarsfields Social Centre to launch a collection of essays entitled "Thurles—The Cathedral Town"

— andt here to bid a welcoming Céad míle fáilte was Donal O'Gorman. He also had a lengthy essay in the publication, again of the subject closest to his heart — the game of hurling.

We are saddened at the passing of one who meant so much to us and in acknowledging our loss we can all the more readily understand the void that now exists in the life of Eithne, Paul, David, his parents and family. Their's is a great cross to bear but we feel sure that the great courage and resignation which Donie showed in his battle with his final illness will be a source of inspiration to them and help ease the pain.

Short though his lifespan was, he touched the lives of many, all of whom will concur that we were the richer for his friendship and fortunate that he crossed our paths.

Jim Donnellan



THE DEATH of Jim Donnellan occurred on Sunday, 2nd April, 1989. His popularity among his own community and G.A.A. followers throughout the county and surrounds was very much in evidence by the large crowds who attended the removal of his remains and burial in Portroe.

Jim had a lifelong association with the G.A.A. in the county and was his club's sole representative for many years at North Board level. A gentleman at all times, and a man who evoked admiration from all who knew him. The fact that he was elected vice-chairman of the North Board, a position he proudly held from 1979-81, shows the respect in which he was held by fellow delegates.

At club level, Jim was a dedicated member for close on forty years and worked tirelessly for the good of the club at all times. He held the position of chairman, secretary and treasurer at different times, served on selection committees from juvenile to senior level. He rarely missed a game and was always at hand to lend support, encouragement and transport to teams involved. He spent countless hours in the local field which he was involved in the purchase of, and nothing made him happier than the sight of young lads pucking about or girls practising camogie.

Jim had a great love of Irish culture and when the playing year was over he always looked forward to the Scór competitions for which he had an undying interest. On the social side of life his great humour and personality which resulted in many great stories will survive the years, enrich the community and be remembered by those whose lives touched his in whatever way.

May his soul rest in peace.

Thomas O'Flynn

Newcastlewest



IT WAS with deep regret that we learned of the sudden death of Thomas Flynn. The large and representative gathering for the removal of the remains and subsequent burial bore ample testimony to the popularity and esteem in which Thomas was held.

Thomas, 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 served his club and county loyally for many years. Thomas was an outstanding hurler, the proud holder of three Munster and two All-Ireland medals.

He was a member of the 1956 Tipperary minor hurling team, winning Munster and All-Ireland titles, defeating Limerick and Kilkenny in the respective finals.

He was a member of the 1961 Tipperary intermediate hurling team which won the inaugural Munster final by defeating Cork in the final but Wexford defeated them in the All-Ireland Home Final after a replay.

He was a member of the 1963 Tipperary intermediate hurling team which won Munster and All-Ireland titles by defeating Clare and London in the respective finals.

In 1957 he played senior hurling with Tipperary in the National League and his opponents included the great Wexford full-back Nick O'Donnell. At club level he won a South Junior hurling championship in 1960 with Newcastle.

On the administration front, he served as club chairman and during his term of office the club recorded a notable South Junior football and hurling triumph in 1975 and in 1977 the club contested its first ever county football final.

He continued to take a keen

interest in club affairs up to the time of his death. he was a great Irishman and loved everything Irish, including its music, language and coursing. As was fitting, his coffin was draped in club and county colours and the cortege was met on arrival at Newcastle church by a guard of honour of club members.

We tender our deep sympathy to his wife, Mary Bridget; sons, daughters, son-in-law, sister Honor; brothers and sisters-in-law, nephews and niece.

Go ndéana Dia trócaire ar a anam.

Tom Duffy



THE DEATH of Tom Duffy in early March marked a major passing in the history of the G.A.A., not only in the parish of Lorrha but also in the county. The longevity of the man was startling. When he was born in 1894 Tipperary had only one senior hurling All-Ireland to its credit. A year later the county was to record the first double, in hurling and football. When Tom won his All-Ireland in 1925 it was the county's tenth. At the parish level he attended all seven divisional finals won by Lorrha from the first in 1905, through the two, 1914 and 1925, he won himself the last in 1934.

Not only was he the last of the 1925 All-Ireland team, he was the last Tipperary All-Ireland hurler who was also a veteran of the Black and Tan war. Quite possibly he was the last All-Ireland hurler in the county to have taken part in that fight.

But longevity is not enough to establish his uniqueness. Boherlahan had the pick for the 1925 championship and, as well as picking six from the parish, they also had three from Moycarkey, one from Holycross, Martin Kennedy and Stephen Hackett from Toomevara as well as Jack and Mick Darcy from Nenagh. The fifteenth man was Tom Duffy, the first man from Lorrha to play on a senior All-Ireland team.

To have been picked from so far up the county, the very borders of Offaly and Galway, and so far away from the home of the county champions, was surely a sign of his hurling ability. And he was to justify the trust placed in him when he gave a sparkling display at wing-forward in the All-Ireland, scoring 2-3.

His political activities were to shorten his inter-county career, depriving him of a place on the 1923 team, which might have won the All-Ireland with his inclusion. For his club he played from the age of 17 to 40 years.

More than a hurler, he was a wit and raconteur. Anyone who has read Tom Kenny's book on the 1926 tour of the U.S. will get some flavour of the man's ability. Tom had an active mind right up to his death and had a comment on everything and anything. On the American trip he kept his fellow travellers regaled during the long train journeys over the eleven weeks just as in later life he kept visitors to his home in Graigue regaled with contemporary comment as well as stories from a colourful career.

Tom Duffy never lost his interest in hurling. As long as he could walk he travelled to games. In later years when his legs gave out, he was a familiar sight in Nenagh, travelling up the sideline in his automated wheelchair. As late as the previous summer he attended the North final. And he didn't only attend but was a shrewd observer and ever ready to voice an opinion on a player or a game. He followed the present upswing in the county's hurling fortunes with the interest of a young man. I'd be willing to bet he was present in spirit in Croke Park on September 3.

This interest and energy were the most startling things about the man in later years. Old men doze off during long conversations but Tom never did. As late as January he got out of bed during a visit. As he sat in the chair by the fire he leaned forward to hear and involve himself in the conversation. There seemed to be no lethargy, no tiredness, only enthusiasm for the conversation.

Wherever he is today he's probably the centre of the conversation. May he enjoy the peace of the Lord and may he continue to entertain all who love hurling with stories of Clare county finals and 'The Henman for Clanrickarde' and tales of Lorrha and Tipperary.

S.J.K.

Mick Quirke



THE tragic death of Mick Quirke of Poulacapple in a road accident last March sent shock waves through the parish of Mullinahone and, indeed, through

the surrounding parishes as well. To those who played football with him in the 'Forties and 'Fifties, he seemed indestructible.

A striking figure of a man, standing over six feet tall and possessed of enormous strength, he was one of the mainstays of the Mullinahone team during that period. His talents were recognised early on by the Tipperary minor football selectors. He played minor, junior and senior football for Tipperary.

He played a major role in Mullinahone's winning of the South Tipperary senior football title of 1945. In that year Mullinahone were unfortunate to encounter a virtual "League of Nations" 10th Batt. team in the county final. Bunny Lambe, Sean Minogue, Dick Slater were all household names at that time, but Mick gave as good as he got in exchanges with these men and other heroes of that era. That Mullinahone team remained relatively intact until after the South Tipperary final of 1949 when retirements and emigration decimated their ranks and the club was relegated junior.

Mick Quirke's services were much sought after and he fielded with Ballingarry in 1951. This time he played a leading role in winning the county senior football title with his adopted club. In 1953 he fielded with neighbours St. Patrick's (Drangan and Cloneen) and again his contribution to their county success was immense.

His remains were carried to St. Michael's church by old comrades through a guard of honour made up of representatives of the three clubs which he had served so well. His coffin was draped in the green and red colours of his beloved C.J. Kickhams, Mullinahone, and carried also the flags of Ballingarry and St. Patrick's. Mick Quirke had never been known to give less than 100% to any cause in which he served.

A man of the highest Christian principles, a gentle giant, he will be greatly missed within his community. Sore as is their loss, the loss to his wife Kathleen, to his daughter and four sons, to his sister and brothers, will be sorer still.

A huge circle of friends turned out to express their sympathy and pay their last respects a this seeming "man of iron" was laid to rest. I am confident that the good Lord whom he loved has already found a place for Mick on his heavenly team. May his noble soul rest in peace.

"It is not those who can inflict the most, but those who endure the most, who finally conquer." - Milton.

— JOHN MCGUIRE

Bro. T. M. Ó Catháin



ON NOVEMBER 5th word arrived that Br. T. M. Ó Catháin had passed away. Headlines in the following day's newspapers carried the story of his death and listed among his past pupils the current Taoiseach, C. J. Haughey.

It was the good fortune of Templemore C.B.S. to have had the benefit of his leadership and teaching from 1966-72. His stay in Templemore coincided with the free education programme and right well did the esteemed gentleman prepare the school for it.

During his stay the enrolment of the school almost doubled, which in itself necessitated extra buildings. The good Brother's fund-raising ability came to the rescue in this situation and by the time he left Templemore in 1972 the school had a magnificent structure to suit the needs of the time.

His fame as a Mathematics and Science teacher preceded him and when the New Maths course was introduced by the Department of Education Br. Ó Catháin was requested to write a text book to meet the needs of the time. This he did and his book was a very important part of post-primary pupils' book list for many years.

As an educator he listed the teaching of the Irish language and the promotion of Gaelic games and other Irish pastimes very high in his priorities. He was an avid trainer of school teams in his younger days and had great success both at St. Joseph's, Fairview, and Mount Sion.

He played a big part in the preparation of the Mount Sion Harty Cup winning team of 1953. He loved the ancient game of hurling and took great pride in seeing his school participate in the various competitions.

He saw participation in the famous Harty Cup competition as a giant step forward for a school and even though he had left Templemore C.B.S. in 1978 he took great pride in its capturing the famous trophy.

As headmaster, he appreciated the value of games in a young boy's development and he always gave tremendous support both financial and otherwise towards the

promotion of Gaelic games. To conclude, I would like to say that it was the good fortune of Tipperary to have this native son of Kilnamona, Co. Clare, with us in Templemore.

"Go ndéana Dia tróchaire ar a anam uasal."

Mick O'Dea



ON Monday, September 11, Mick O'Dea, a member of a well-known Templemore family, a keen G.A.A. supporter and an outstanding footballer in his younger days, passed to his eternal reward. He was considered small in stature for a footballer but he possessed an indomitable spirit, strength and determination to succeed, allied to football skill that ranked him as one of the better footballers of his time to wear the club jersey.

Mick's football career with the club began in the early 'Twenties and in 1924 he was a member of the junior football team defeated in the Mid semi-final by Cashel. The following year he played a prominent role at wing-forward on the team that won the county senior football championship for the first time, defeating Fethard in the final by 1-4 to 1-1.

Only two of that historic team now survive: Bill Ryan (Laha) and Mick Ryan (Fennor). In 1926 he was a member of the Tipperary junior football team that defeated Limerick by 1-8 to 1-2 but lost the Munster final to Kerry by one point: 1-5 to 2-1. He was on the teams that won the junior football championship in 1930 and 1933.

He was also on the 1930 Mid junior team that was defeated by the South in the inter-divisional football championship. In 1934 he was a member of the team defeated by Clonmel Shamrocks in the county final on the score 1-5 to 0-3. Two years later he was on the team which defeated Ballinree Rovers in the Mid senior football final, but he failed to gain a place on the team for Templemore's second county title when they defeated Arravale Rovers by 2-5 to 1-6.

He was a reserve on the team defeated by the West — a team selected from all junior football teams in West Tipperary — in the 1938 county semi-final. In 1939 he joined the Templemore Columbcille's club and he served on its committee for three years until it

re-emerged with Templemore Éire Óg in 1942.

In the veteran stage of his career, Mick was mainly responsible for Columbcille's 1940 Mid senior football semi-final victory over Baile na dTeac. Columbcille's went on to defeat Loughmore Castleiney in the final by 2-1 to 0-2 but they lost the match on an objection.

Besides his football interest, one of his great interests in life was his love and knowledge of horses. As a young man he worked with Blakes of the Heath training horses and continued at this job with various other horse owners until he joined Triplex in the late 'Forties. On his retirement from Triplex he went to work for Billy Harney and among the many horses he trained was the famous Monamore. He was also a prominent rugby player with Templemore in the late 'Twenties, winning Garryowen and Manserragh medals.

Up to the time of his death, Mick was extremely active for a man who had reached his 90th birthday. He was full of life, a great entertainer and a man that did everything to the best of his ability. His passing leaves a void in our community that can never be filled and takes from our midst a stalwart who was actively involved with the Templemore club 65 year ago. Sincere sympathy to his wife, relatives and friends.

Ar dheis lámh Dé go raibh a anam uasal.

M. de B.

Fr. Willie O'Donoghue P.P., Bodyke

MET Fr. Willie O'Donoghue for the first time in 1940 when he came to our parish as a curate shortly after his ordination. He was a fine figure of a man, well over six feet, spare and well-knit, full of vitality and eager to take up his priestly duties.

Coming as he did from a rural background in Youghalarra Parish, he had no difficulty in establishing rapport with the parishioners and their way of living. Cycling around the parish he got to know every part of it and its people in next to no time.

Apart from his priestly duties, he became involved in all aspects of parish life which gained considerably from his leadership qualities. His devotion to hurling was acknowledged when he was chosen to be chairman of Moneygall club which he revived and gave to it a unified purpose which bore fruit under his guidance in a successful campaign in the intermediate championship to the final stage.

When the Parish Council was formed to promote local initiative

during the War years, he was the unanimous choice to chair its activities and spearhead many productive schemes for food, fuel and fertilisers during the time of scarcity.

There were genuine feelings of loss when he was transferred to a parish in Co. Clare after a brief period in Dunkerrin, but his influence remained and when meeting him occasionally at hurling matches in later years he always enquired about people and activities in the parish.

He came to Toomevara in the 'Sixties and again he was energetically involved in parish associations particularly in the G.A.A. and it was no surprise when he was unanimously elected chairman of the North Tipperary Board which he guided with understanding and impartiality and with firmness when it was called for, and it became clear to all that behind the mild exterior there was a stern adherence to principle which marked his highly successful term as chairman.

He relinquished the chair on his transfer to Co. Clare but he always retained an interest in the welfare of the Board. His unexpected death came as a shock to his family connections and to all who knew him and worked with him in his younger years, and it recalled memories of one who was a friend and above all one who was revered as a priest of the people.

S. ÓR.

Seamus Phelan



IT WAS with great shock and heartfelt sadness that we learned of the untimely death of Seamus Phelan on Monday, 24th July.

Seamie was a stalwart member of our club as a footballer and hurler all his life, winning a junior football title in 1977 and a junior hurling league in 1985.

He was always willing and able to help out with the affairs of the Grangemockler/Ballyneale club whenever there was work to be done. Seamie also served as a selector on our junior hurling championship winning team of 1987.

His popularity in general was exemplified by the enormous crowds from all walks of life who

attended at his funeral in his native Grangemockler.

Seamie's support will indeed be sadly missed by our club, but we are confident that from his final resting place in Heaven he will continue to follow our progress.

To his wife Moira; his father and mother, Mick and Maureen; his brothers Eamon and John; his sisters Jenny, Margaret and Breda, we extend our deepest sympathy and we remember you in our prayers for Seamie.

Go déanaí Dia trócaire ar anam.

James Maher



THE DEATH during the year of Jim Maher, Castle Avenue, after a brief illness, borne with outstanding fortitude, removes from the Thurles area one of its finest men.

Scion of a Killinan family steeped in hurling tradition, Jim was a life-long follower of Gaelic games and a considerable authority on the game. His first love was Thurles Sarsfields with whom he played in the 'Thirties, but his career in An Garda Síochána took him too far afield to pursue his active participation in the game to its ultimate.

He was also a great Tipperary man, not surprising in that his father, Denis, was a member of the first Tipperary team which brought All-Ireland honours to the county and his brother John captained the county to the 1945 All-Ireland triumph.

He had an outstanding career in An Garda Síochána, attaining the rank of Sergeant and giving sterling service in a variety of stations before winding up his career prematurely as a member of the staff of the Garda Training Centre in Templemore to devote himself to rearing his family, his wife having died some time earlier.

He was very proud of the Force and its achievements and led his life by the code of discipline and devotion to duty that is the hallmark of that body of men.

A man of the highest integrity who valued honesty and uprightness above all else, he was an exemplary Christian and a dedicated family man.

At the removal of his remains to the Cathedral of the Assumption, his coffin was draped in the

Tricolour. Members of the Garda Síochána formed a guard of honour, a final, fitting tribute to one of nature's gentlemen.

The huge attendance at the funeral, representative of An Garda Síochána, the G.A.A., Church and State, and his legion of friends indicated more eloquently than words the standing of Jim Maher and the Maher family in the community.

Following Requiem mass in the Cathedral, interment was in the family burial ground at Killinian. He is survived by his son Denis, daughter Joan, brothers John and Ricky, sister Mrs. Josie Slattery and a large circle of relatives and friends.

I bpáirceanna glasa na bhflaiteas, go gcastar sinn.

William Hayes



WILLIAM HAYES, who passed to his eternal reward on September 14th, 1989, was president of Thurles Fennellys G.A.A. club. He was brother of the late Fr. Thomas Hayes, P.P., Kilcommon, who was a former member of Thurles Fennellys. So when the club was reformed in 1967 it was no surprise that William Hayes was elected its first president.

Willie, as he was affectionately known by all, always showed a keen interest in the welfare of the club and was respected by players and committee members alike for his views on club and G.A.A. affairs, and with his home adjacent to Semple Stadium — many a good story he could tell about the great games he had seen at the Stadium.

A man of great piety and devotion, he was greatly concerned with the moral and physical health of the youth of Bohernane and its environs.

His remains were received into the Church of St. Joseph and St. Brigid by Most Rev. Dr. Dermot Clifford and Most Rev. Dr. Thomas Morris, present and former Archbishops of Cashel and Emly. That this beautiful little church should be his final resting place before burial was highly appropriate, as it was his magnanimous gesture in donating the land for its building that secured for Thurles its second place of divine worship. Very many people

will forever be indebted to him for having provided for them a church so close to their homes.

The large numbers at the removal of remains, Mass and burial bore ample witness to the high esteem and favour in which he was held.

A warm, humble and simple man, he will have no fears in crossing the Great Divide.

To his wife Mary, daughter Mrs. Brendan Healy, sons Jimmy and Billy, his brother James and son-in-law Brendan we extend our sincere sympathy.

May he rest in peace.

Jack O'Brien



THE death last April of one of the South Division's most colourful personalities Jack O'Brien of Ballybacon-Grange caused widespread regret.

When the Ballybacon-Grange club was formed in 1927 Jack was a founder member and he had the honour of being elected first Chairman. He was the club's South Board representative for a long number of years and it can be truly said that no club had a better or more able delegate. His unique and colourful contributions to Board room discussions are often recalled. Jack served the South Board for over forty years as Gate Checker and during that period his dedication to the post was total and utterly dependable. On his retirement from the position he was presented with an inscribed clock by the then Board Chairman the late Phil O'Shea.

Jack continued to serve the club which meant so much to him and it is recorded that in the club's sixty two years history he missed only two Annual General Meetings. He attended his last meeting only one month before his death, and it was a pity that he did not live to see a fine young Ballybacon-Grange team to take South Minor Hurling (B) honours later this year. However, that minor team and future generations of Ballybacon-Grange teams will recall with pride the vision, effort and dedication of men like Jack O'Brien who sowed the first seeds back in 1927 and carried the torch down the years. Go ndeana Dia trócaire ar anam dílis.

Rody Nealon



ONE of the last two remaining links with the All-Ireland team of 1925 was severed when Rody Nealon passed away in December, 1988 at the age of ninety. Amongst the vast and distinguished gathering that came to pay their last tribute was his friend and former team-mate, Tom Duffy of Lorrha who was to follow him to his eternal reward within a few months.

Son of Dan Nealon, principal teacher in Newtown National School, Rody followed in his father's footsteps in the teaching profession and after some years teaching in Kilkenny he returned to succeed his father as the village schoolmaster in his native parish for forty years.

Rody was endowed with many gifts of nature and of nurture. Physically he was strong, wiry and agile and his skill as a hurler won his recognition in three counties, in Waterford during his student days, in Kilkenny when he was teaching there and at home in Tipperary. He was a member of the Tipperary All-Ireland Junior champion team of 1924 and in the same year he was selected to play on the Ireland team against America in the revived Tailtean Games in Croke Park. The following year he was on the All-Ireland champion side and in 1926 he travelled with the team on the historic and triumphant coast to coast trip in the United States. His great pride was in working for his own club which was in the top flight of senior hurling in the twenties.

His ability as an administrator was acknowledged when he was elected chairman of the North Tipperary Board in 1924 at the early age of twenty-six. After his playing days he served for many years on the Divisional and County Boards and he represented the county on the Munster Council and he was a regular representative at the Annual Congress of the Association. For many years he was in great demand as a referee for club and inter-county matches.

In the boardroom he was incisive and effective in debate and his views expressed with force and conviction were the deciding factor in many a contentious matter. His lively sense of humour and a ready

wit, allied to a keen memory entertained many a company with stories drawn from varied sources.

He was a nature-lover with an intense love of his native place, its people, his family and his home and he served them well by his single-minded devotion to the things he held dear.

Bhí grá thár na beartaigh aige dón Gaeilge agus bhí an teanga go líofa aige. Núair a bheadh an déis aige is í nGaeilge a labháir sé lé na chárde da mbeadh tuisgint acu uirthi agus ní ligeadh sé fáil thairis chún daoine a ghriósadh chún a teanga a chaomhnadh, agus a labháirt.

Beannacht Dé leat a Rúairi agus solás síorrai dod anam.

Dick Fleming



A SENSE of deep sadness was felt in Drangan, and the surrounding areas when the news broke that Dick Fleming had died in England.

It was in the early forties that he first hit the headlines on the football field. Though one of the smallest players ever to represent his club, he more than held his own, with all the great players of his time. He possessed a tremendous turn of speed, and could shoot scores from almost impossible angles. One of the principal competitions around that time, was seven-a-side, which included teams from all the surrounding areas, those teams were composed of outstanding players most of which were inter-county class, like Mullinahone which had a super seven, and an army squad that included some of the best players in the country.

Those tournaments were played on Sundays or Holydays, and were played out on the one day, with the final late evening which often meant playing 5 or 6 games to win out. On one such occasion, Dick scored the amazing tally of 6-20, no mean achievement, considering the opposition. He was a prominent member of the St. Patrick's team that swept all before them in 1947 to win the Tipp. Men's Cup, as well as the South and County Senior Football Championship. It was the first time winning the championship since 1908.

He continued to play on over the next few years and was a member

of the Drangan team that was beaten in two South Junior Championship finals in the early 50's.

Around this time the parish lost some of its most promising players, through emigration, Dick joined that band and so ended the career, of one who still had lots more to offer.

When his remains arrived in Drangan, his old colleagues formed a guard of honour. The following day in the presence of a large congregation, his team mates carried his coffin which was draped in the club colours to its last resting place in Cloneen cemetery, under the shadow of Slievenamon, a fitting tribute.

Thomas Heffernan



THE death of Thomas Heffernan, 81, Ard Na Greine and formerly of Quay Street, Clonmel took place on July 25th, 1988.

'Hefty' as he was known to his friends and acquaintances was a founder member of Clonmel Commercials Football Club. A very quiet and inoffensive man, he retained an interest in the club to the end. Past and present members attended the funeral and the coffin was draped in the club colours.

We extend the sympathy of the club to his sister, nephew, relatives and friends. May his soul rest in the peace of Christ.

Denis Murphy



THE UNEXPECTED death, during the year, of Denis 'Bunny' Murphy came as a shock to the community, who held him in the highest esteem.

Bunny worked for many years as a lorry driver with O'Meara's, in which capacity he gave sterling

service, winning the respect of all with whom he came in contact.

An accomplished hurler in his younger days, he was a member of the Tipp team which won the 1937 All-Ireland in Killarney, and he also won several championship medals with Sarsfields. His playing career over, he retained a keen interest in the affairs of both club and county, and at the removal of the remains and at the interment his coffin was draped in the county colours, and former comrades at club and county level formed a guard of honour.

In his late seventies, and hailing from Ballycurrane, Bunny was a kind, unpretentious man whose passing is deservedly mourned. The large attendances at the removal of the remains to the Cathedral and at the interment in St. Patrick's cemetery following Requiem Mass testified to his popularity and the esteem in which he was held.

Michael (Mick) Kiely



THE death took place of Mick Kiely on June 26, 1989. Following a long illness, which was borne by him with great dignity and patience which was reflected in his way of life.

Mick was a member of Clonmel Commercials since its foundation in 1934, playing minor with the club that year. In 1936, Mick was on the club junior team which won the County title in that year. In 1937 he was on the South Junior winning team.

Mick was also a staunch committee member for many years, lending his time so unselfishly to the club. He had a wide circle of friends in Clonmel and area, whom he met through his other interests and hobbies, which included fishing, table-tennis and billiards.

As a token of the esteem in which Commercials held the now departed Gael, Mick's coffin was draped in the club flag. May he rest in peace.



Declan White

IN the month of October, the tragic death of Declan White (Cashel) occurred. Declan was a well-known handballer and came from the famed Cashel Handball club. He also played football and hurling, but it was in handball that he came to the fore.

In 1983, Declan was a surprise winner of the County U-13 singles 60x30 title coming out of the blue. In 1984, he won a bronze medal in the Community Games with the Cashel U-13 side. In 1985, he won the county 40x20 U-14 singles title, but it was later in the year that he was a major success when he teamed up with Martin McInerney (Ballina), they won the Provincial title with ease and the All-Ireland semi-final comfortably.

In the final they were underdogs to the Roscommon pair, but with

McInerney in good form and Declan playing vintage handball on the difficult right-glass wall of Croke Park, they won a memorable All-Ireland.

Declan has two other prominent handball brothers Seanie and Denis who also have All-Ireland title wins.

Declan died at the young age of 19, and had one of the biggest funerals ever seen in Cashel. To his father and mother, family and relatives we extend our deepest sympathy.

ALL THE RESULTS

Compiled by Séamus Ó Doherty

INTER-COUNTY HURLING

Senior Hurling

Sunday, June 11, at Páirc Uí Chaoimh:

Tipperary	4-18
Limerick	2-11

Sunday, July 2, at Páirc Uí Chaoimh

Munster Final:

Tipperary	0-26
Waterford	2-8

Sunday, August 6, at Croke Park:

Tipperary	1-17
Galway	2-11

Sunday, September 3, at Croke Park

All-Ireland Final:

Tipperary	4-24
Antrim	3-9

Junior Hurling

Sunday, June 11, at Páirc Uí Chaoimh:

Tipperary	3-18
Limerick	1-5

Friday, June 16, at Limerick

Munster Final:

Tipperary	2-14
Clare	2-8

Sunday, July 9, at Ballyshannon:

Tipperary	3-15
Donegal	0-1

Friday, July 21, at Limerick

All-Ireland Final:

Tipperary	0-12
Galway	0-8

Under-21 Hurling

Wednesday, June 21, at Páirc Uí Chaoimh:

Tipperary	2-14
Cork	5-5

Wednesday, July 5, at Semple Stadium

(Replay)

Tipperary	1-16
Cork	1-10

Wednesday, July 12, at Ardfer:

Tipperary	4-15
Kerry	1-7

Wednesday, July 26, at Semple Stadium

Munster Final:

Tipperary	5-16
Limerick	1-6

Sunday, August 13, at Limerick:

Tipperary	1-14
Galway	1-7

Sunday, September 10, at Portlaoise

All-Ireland Final:

Tipperary	4-10
Offaly	3-11

Minor Hurling

Wednesday, May 17, at Fermoy:

Limerick	2-7
Tipperary	1-8

Under 16 Hurling

Sunday, July 2, at Páirc Uí Chaoimh

Munster Final:

North Tipperary	3-21
Imokilly (Cork)	5-8

Semi-final:

North Tipperary	2-13
South Tipperary	1-2
North Tipperary	3-14
South Limerick	1-3
North Tipperary	3-14
South Clare	1-8

FOOTBALL

Senior Football

Sunday, May 14, at Clonmel:

Tipperary	1-18
Clare	2-5

Sunday, June 4, at Páirc Uí Chaoimh:

Cork	0-22
Tipperary	0-6

Junior Football

Sunday, May 14, at Clonmel:

Clare	1-7
Tipperary	0-9

Under 21 Football

Friday, April 14, at Páirc Uí Chaoimh:

Cork	2-6
Tipperary	0-8

Minor Football

Friday, July 7, at Clonmel:

Cork	3-12
Tipperary	1-5

Munster Club Championship

Hurling:

Ballybrown (Limerick)	1-10
Clonoulty Rossmore	1-9

Football:

Clonmel Commercials	0-10
Laune Rangers (Kerry)	1-7

(Replay)

Laune Rangers	2-11
Clonmel Commercials	0-5

McGrath Cup Senior Football

'Home' Final:

Tipperary	1-5
Limerick	0-7

Final:

Tipperary	1-12
London	1-5

COUNTY FINALS

Senior Hurling

Clonoulty Rossmore	1-11
Holycross Ballycahill	1-9

Senior Football

Clonmel Commercials	2-7
Fethard	0-9

Inter. Hurling

Thurles Sarsfields	0-8
Newport	1-14

Inter. Football

Junior Hurling:

Lattin-Cullen v Mullinahone

Junior Football:

Thurles Sarsfields v.

Under-21 Hurling

- (a)
- (b) Upperchurch Drombane
- (b) or Ballingarry

Under-21 Hurling 'A'

Mullinahone v Clonoulty/Rossmore or
Thurles Sarsfields.

Under-21 Hurling 'B'

Upperchurch/Drombane v
Seán Teacy's (Replay)

Under-21 Football 'A':

Arravale Rovers v.

Under-21 Football 'B'

Cahir v.

Minor Hurling

Replay:

(a) Cashel K.C.	3-10
Éire Óg Nenagh	2-6
(b) Moneygall	3-7
J.K. Brackens	1-4

Minor Football

(a) Fethard	1-8
Cashel K.C.	0-7
(b) Aherlow	1-8
St. Patrick's (S)	2-3

Under 16 Hurling

(a) Holycross Ballycahill	2-13
Arravale Rovers	1-8
(b)	

Under 16 Football

(a) Arravale Rovers	1-10
Éire Óg Nenagh	1-7
(b)	

Under-16 Hurling 'B'

Ballybacon/Grange 1-6; Moneygall 0-5.

Under 14 Hurling

U/R

Dúrlas Óg	5-9
Toomevara	3-2

Rural

Kilruane McDonagh	3-8
Holycross Ballycahill	0-8

Under 14 Football

U/R

Dúrlas Óg	2-6
Clonmel Commercials	1-8

Rural:

Fr. Sheehy's	4-8
Newport	1-5

Under 12 Hurling

Dúrlas Óg	1-5
Ballingarry	0-1

Under 12 Football

(Replay)

Ardfinnan	3-6
Arravale Rovers	2-6

TIOBRANID ÁRANN

All-Ireland Junior Hurling Champions 1989



BACK ROW (l. to r.): Liam Sheedy, John Sheedy, Maurice McCormack, Eamon Kelly, Richie Quirke, Mick Ryan, Jody Grace.

FRONT ROW (l. to r.): Damien Quinlan, Kevin Laffan, Donal Flannery, Dinny Ryan, Paudie Everard, Sean Nealon, Michael Stapleton, Jerry O'Brien.

TIOBRAID ÁRANN

**All-Ireland Senior Hurling
Champions 1989**



BACK ROW (l. to r.): John Kennedy, John Heffernan, Noel Sheehy, Declan Carr, Ken Hogan, Conor O'Donovan, Declan Ryan, Bobby Ryan (Captain).
FRONT ROW (l. to r.): Nicholas English, Michael Cleary, Cormac Bonnar, Colm Bonnar, Conal Bonnar, John Leahy, Pat Fox.