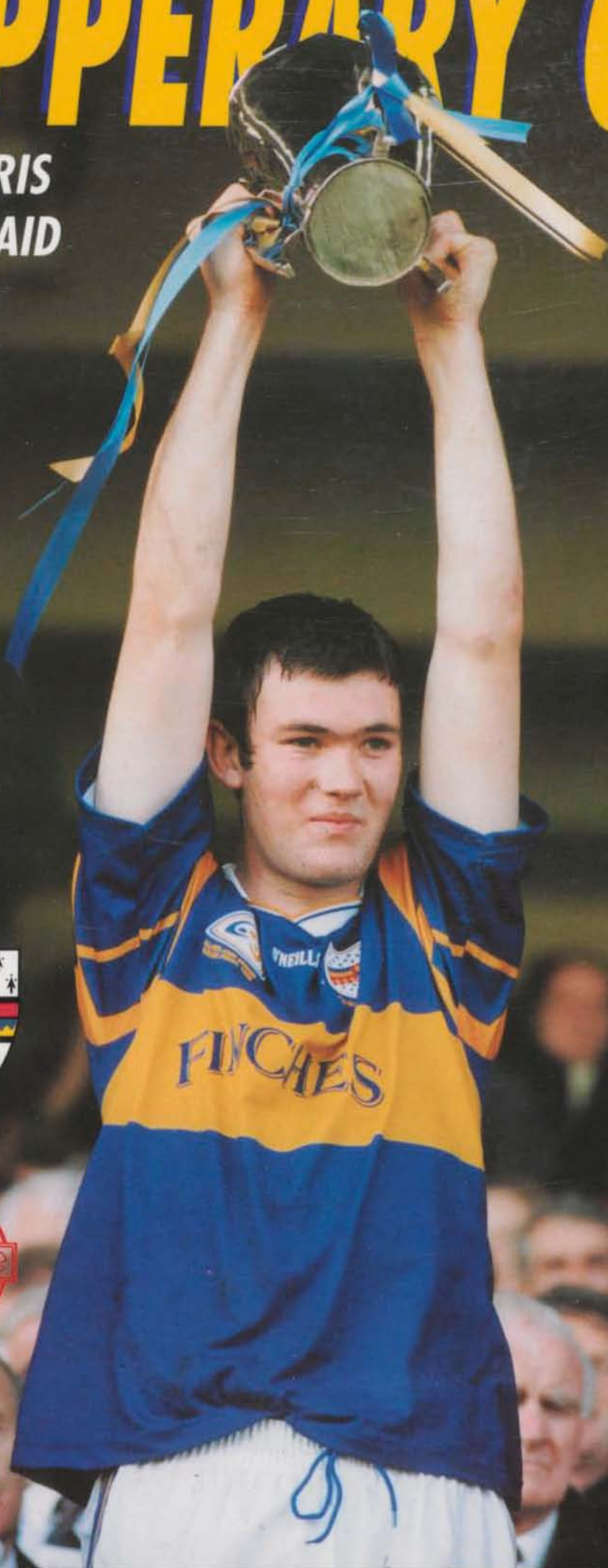


# TIPPERARY G.A.A.

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Yearbook  
1997

INSIDE:  
TIPPERARY  
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QUIZ



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# Tiobraid Árann

Church and General National Hurling League Finalists 1996

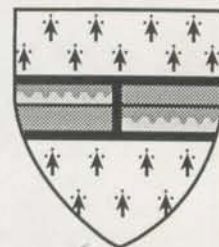


The Tipperary senior hurling team which played Galway in the National Hurling League final at Páirc na nGael, Limerick. Back row (l. to r.) - Raymie Ryan, Colm Bonner, Conal Bonner, Eddie Tucker, Brendan Cummins, Brendan Carroll, Brian O'Meara, Michael Ryan, Conor Gleeson. Front row - Nicholas-English, George Frend, Michael Cleary (captain), John Leahy, Liam Cahill, Paul Shelly.





# TIPPERARY G.A.A. YEARBOOK 1997



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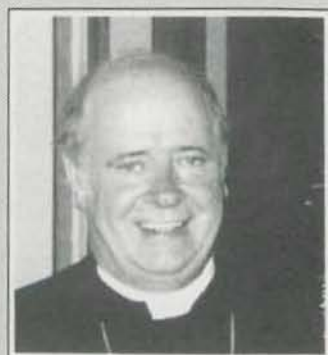
*A jubilant Tipperary Captain – William Maher receives the Irish Press Cup following Tipperary's All-Ireland Minor Hurling (replay) victory at Croke Park.*

*Photo – Sportsfile*

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



# The swallows waited on . . .



**O**NE of my predecessors, Dr. Jeremiah Kinane, was a very keen follower of hurling. In particular, he followed the fortunes of the Tipperary team with a passion. Nothing pleased him more than to welcome a victorious team on the Cathedral steps in early September and he went down through the players with a word of commendation for each. He took Tipperary defeats very much to heart, the acid test of the loyal supporter.

On one occasion he was listening to Michael O'Hehir's commentary on the first round of the Munster Championship in the President's room in St. Patrick's College. He had ordained a large class of young men that morning. But instead of relaxing after a long ceremony he was all excited at the broadcast, so much so that he could not sit down but paced up and down the room. A knock came to the door and the President, Fr. Dick Devane answered it. He came to Dr. Kinane with an Ordination Certificate which one of the newly-ordained wished to have signed prior to going home. Dr. Kinane waved the form away impatiently: "I'll sign nothing till half-time!"

Half-time is an interesting part of a game. The ten-minute break gives players and spectators time to get their breath back. Spectators animatedly discuss the story so far and express opinions on the eventual outcome. Meanwhile, in the dressing rooms the rub-downs and dressing-downs are in full swing!

Half-time in this year's Munster Final at the Gaelic Grounds in Limerick was the happiest time in the whole of 1996! Tipperary were leading Limerick a merry dance. Old heads had combined with young hands to produce a splendid thirty-five minutes of pure hurling. Tipperary could do nothing wrong – their first touch was a joy to behold. Tipperary supporters were chuckling. The thumbs-up sign was being given to those further up the stands and terraces. The future looked bright. Croke Park was beckoning for August and September!

The second half proved to be a torture for Tipperary players and supporters alike. The ten-point lead was whittled away as Limerick fought back. Each point they scored was as painful as having a tooth extracted! Limerick drew level and forged ahead. Tipperary fought back in turn and came tantalisingly close to snatching victory. But a last-gasp effort earned Limerick a draw.

What a memorable contest! A wonderful Munster Final. Yet Tipperary's fine display in the first half was eclipsed in the media by Limerick's gallant come-back. I should have known that in hurling a ten-point lead at half-time is no guarantee of victory. "Ní breac é go mbíonn sé ar an bport". In future I'll sign nothing until full-time!

And so to Cork on the next Sunday. Tipperary had lost the element of surprise and seemed not to have recovered fully from the gruelling contest of the previous Sunday. They lacked accuracy in the forwards, and the backs – who had marked so tightly the first day – played loose. Limerick, on the other hand, were alive and kicking – kicking goals!

But our senior team had given us three marvellous outings and brought us to mid-July. If only the new system had come in this year we might have had a third go at Limerick! Our thanks to Fr. Tom, Ken and John. And every success to Len and his

selectors. They inherit a well-drilled and talented panel, reminiscent of that which Ger Loughnane took over from Len himself two years ago.

An interesting feature of the two Munster Finals was the manner in which the Limerick supporters rallied their team. Their army seemed to outnumber and to outshine Tipperary's. Or is it that Tipperary people have become a bit complacent? Are they more inclined to the role of observers, critics and analysts than to that of the generation of true blue (and gold), "Babs boomers" of 1987? I saw Kerry supporters dancing in the rain in Páirc Uí Caoimh after they had won their first Munster Final in five years – a new phenomenon for them. "Is maith é an t-anlann an t-ocras" – Hunger is a good sauce!

It often happens that when we are wiring into the main course of a meal we forget the starter, which may have been both tasty and nourishing. Until mid-July we had perhaps forgotten the minors. By August their progress to the All-Ireland Final had restored our appetite for hurling. They had shown their class against Limerick, Cork and Waterford but their true grit and a maturity beyond their years were demonstrated on the first and last Sundays of September.

They faced a Galway side which had all the skill and guile we have come to associate with the Tribesmen since the 1980s. The two teams provided the best curtain-raiser for years on the first Sunday of September. After a tremendous contest, with Tipperary losing a big lead, they came back to equalise in the dying minutes. In the dressing room afterwards there was no sign of gloom. They vowed to win the replay.

Then, after a poor enough summer, September came good – an Indian summer. The minors continued to train for the replay at Ennis on the fourth Sunday. The draw in the Football Final resulted in a transfer to Croke Park for September 29th. There were no objections from Tipperary people who looked forward eagerly to the replay. The sun shone until dusk each evening. The grain harvest was the best in years. The G.A.A. also had a bumper harvest – two All-Ireland Finals each of five Sundays in September!

I have noticed over the years that while the swallows swoop low over Croke Park on the first Sunday of September they never appear there on the third. Either they prefer hurling to football or they are unable to lay hands on a ticket or they have left for warmer climes. This year, however, they were still to be seen all over County Tipperary right up to the last Sunday of September. It is difficult to escape the conclusion that they stayed on to see the unfinished business of minor hurling through!

What a mighty contest it turned out to be! The skill, the passion and the intensity of the exchanges were much more like a senior than a minor game. Tipperary and Galway provided a feast of hurling and a nait-biting finish. Tipperary were defending a narrow lead and they held out to win by two points. They had won the All-Ireland Final for the first time since 1982. Willie Maher received the Irish Press Cup from the Patron of the G.A.A. on the steps of the Hogan Stand and he presented it back to the Archbishop the next evening on the steps of the



Cathedral in Thurles! It was his first experience of the event which gave Dr. Kinane so much pleasure. It should happen more often!

This is a team of great ability and character. They have given a wonderful example to our young people by their performance on and off the field. Their mentors – Dinny Chaill, Ger O'Neill and Paudie Butler deserve enormous credit for their part in this achievement. Success at minor level gives further hope for the future of hurling in the Premier County.

In the County Championship, Boherlahan or "Boherlahane" as it is known in R.T.E., recalled the feats of the great warriors of Tubradora when they took the Senior title in an exciting finish. Their captain, Philip Ryan, danced a jig on the presentation box. Michael Flatley was left flat and the "Man of the Match" trophy was almost flattened, but it was a famous victory for Boherlahan-Dualla and actions speak louder than words! It is amazing how a team can improve so much in twelve months.

The senior football final took two Sundays and a Bank Holiday, 240 minutes of play, before Moyle Rovers defeated their near neighbours, Clonmel Commercials. Both teams have earned a place in the record books for skill, stamina and the will to win.

The Tipperary football team gave Kerry the fright of their lives in Clonmel in the Munster semi-final. The departure of Seamus McCarthy as manager is a blow to the county – he has given sterling service to Tipperary football for a decade.

The minor hurling title went to Clonoulty/Rossmore in a close tussle with Mullinahone. Michael Kennedy was delighted to add a County medal to his All-Ireland win and he is a most worthy captain. The minor medal went to Cahir who defeated

Golden in the final. Lattin/Cullen took the intermediate hurling title. Ger Maguire collected the cup and Nicky English reaped the just reward of years of loyal service in his native parish.

A feature of this Autumn has been a profusion of berries. Haws and holly berries painted the country red. Another crop which was unusually plentiful was autobiographies! A number of them are of special interest to Tipperary Gaels. But while examining one of them in a newsagent's here in Thurles the other evening, the good woman behind the counter advised: "Autobiographies are slow to sell but the G.A.A. Annual walks off the shelves!"

Cuireann sé taitheamh thar cuimse dhom an brollach seo a chur le Bliainiris Thiobraid Árann 1997. Guím Beannachtaí na Nollag ar Mhuinter Uasal Thiobraid Árann agus gach rath san Ath-Bhliain.

I sincerely hope that after the Annual has walked off the shelves it will be kept fit and active around the fire in the homes of Tipperary at Christmas. I wish you all the blessings of the Holy Season and the never-say-die frame of mind of the Tipperary Minors when the swallows return!

♦ Dermot Clifford  
Archbishop of Cashel and Emly  
Patron of the G.A.A.

## MUNSTER FINAL ACTION



Paul Shelly (Tipperary)  
and  
Damien Quigley (Limerick)  
race for possession.

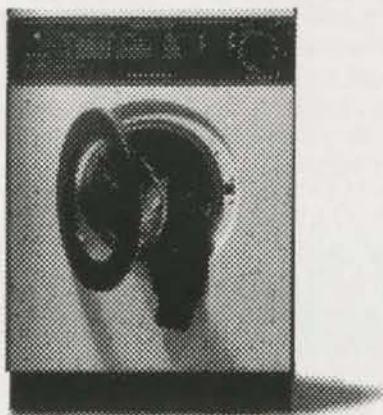


## TIPPERARY MINOR FINAL ACTION

Michael (Bonny) Kennedy  
(Clonoulty/Rossmore)  
races through the  
Mullinahone defence in the  
County minor final.



# SPONSORSHIP THAT WORKS, EVEN ON REALLY TOUGH STAINS.



At AIB, we've always been committed to football and hurling at grass roots level. As proud sponsors of the All Ireland Club Championships, we provide support for clubs all over the country. The clubs themselves put our support to whatever use they please – whether it's contributing to new facilities, replacing old equipment or making sure the team's kit is spotless for Sunday's game.

Over the years we've also sponsored the GAA Club of the Year awards and the All Ireland Colleges and Vocational Schools competitions. In fact, AIB has provided support for every aspect of gaelic games. Now we're playing our part in supporting the GAA in the Croke Park stadium development. We offer our congratulations to everyone involved – from the grass roots up.





# Future looks bright

**T**HIS IS my final year to have the honour of writing the foreword for the Tipperary Year Book. Whilst the workload has been immense during the last three years, it is still with some pang of regret that I pen these few lines knowing that it is my final contribution. The friends I have made during my term of office, far outweigh any inconvenience the position may have caused me.

The highlight of Tipperary's year on the playing field was undoubtedly the All-Ireland Minor Hurling success. The fourteen year interval since our previous title probably contributed to the euphoria, yet it was with amazement that we returned to the steps of the cathedral on Monday evening to tumultuous reception. We expected hundreds, but were greeted by thousands. I would like to avail of the opportunity to express my sincere thanks to the entire panel of players for their exemplary conduct at all times. They were great ambassadors for Tipperary.

All our other inter-county teams in both codes prepared well and met with varying degrees of success. The Senior hurlers in particular, were unfortunate. At half time in Limerick, it seemed as if



**Sean Fogarty**

they would be joining the Minors in Croke Park. However, thirty five minutes is a long time in a hurling game and it wasn't to be. Looking forward, the future looks bright, with an All-Ireland u-21 title in '95 allied to this year's Minor title, all set to provide the nucleus of a Tipperary team equal to the best.

The achievement of Boherlahan-Dualla in capturing the Dan Breen Cup for the first time since 1941 should serve as an inspiration to all other clubs.

Not alone have they assembled a fine panel of players, but they have put in place a very solid club structure. This is something more of our clubs will have to aim for, as a good panel of players without proper focus and direction are at a distinct disadvantage. This is where the ordinary individual can help, at juvenile level in particular. Our juvenile clubs are doing fantastic work for the young people in the county. Not alone are they helping them to become proficient at hurling and football, they are playing a major role in character formation and most important of all, they are helping to steer them clear of the many pitfalls that bedevil modern youth. There is strength in number, maybe 1997 is the opportune time to begin.

Finally I would like to congratulate the communication committee on another fine production. At this stage the Tipperary Yearbook has become as integral a part of Christmas as the turkey, not only for your own enjoyment but as an excellent Christmas present also.

Is mise,

**Sean Ó Fógartaigh**  
Cathaoirleach  
Coiste Chondae

## Tipperary GAA Yearbook Committee



**YEARBOOK COMMITTEE:** Front (l-r) Tom O'Donnell, co. treasurer; Sean Fogarty, co. chairman; Seamus King, chairman; Liam Ó'Donnchú, secretary; John O'Grady. Back (l-r): Denis Floyd, J.J. Kennedy, John Costigan, James Holohan, Con Hogan, Seamus O'Doherty. Missing from photo: Liz Howard, Michael O'Meara, Gerry Ring.





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LEFT:  
Christy Campion won a car with the  
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RIGHT:

Arthur Griffen, Clongour, Thurles,  
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Tipperary County G.A.A. Board expresses its sincere thanks to all Clubs, Promoters and Members  
for their valuable support to Tipperary Members' Draw.



# A Tale of Two Finals – Tipp's Senior Championship Year

By John O'Grady (Cúlbaire)

**S**eldom has the turning point of the hurling year – as far as it concerned Tipperary – been easier to pinpoint. Seven minutes into the second half at Limerick on July , Declan Ryan found space near the left corner flag at the Clare end, crossed a lovely ball parallel to the end-line into the grasp of young Liam Cahill. The Ballingarry youth had scored a grand goal after exactly as many minutes of the first half, this second chance looked automatic to gleeful and exultant Tipp followers as he seemed to have wrong-footed both goalie Quaid and his defenders. We looked to see the net bulge with a score that would put Tipperary a matter of thirteen points up and, by all odds, out of reach.

The ball was delivered, but outside the far post and the lead remained at the even decade which the visitors has amassed in their sweeping first half exhibition. We recall, all too clearly, that no decision was reached that first day – and a very unwelcome one the second day, at Páirc Uí Chaomh.

Isolating that tormenting moment is by no means to infer any particular blame to Cahill but it does identify the high-water mark of Tipperary's year under the management of Fr. Tom Fogarty and associates John Kennedy and Ken Hogan. We had other and later, opportunities to wrap up a Munster title and a visa to the All-Ireland. Fate decreed otherwise and sent us on a trip to Cork to suffer a three point defeat in which four lethal goals were the stunning basis of Limerick's triumph. The All-Ireland did not come to Munster. We indulged in useless speculation about how we might have done against Wexford – and were glad of the minors' brave performances in two tremendous games with Galway.

## CHANGE AT TOP

It wasn't only the team that fell. In late Autumn the backroom set-up was altered by the return of Len Gaynor in place of Fr. Tom, with Michael Doyle and Murt Duggan taking over from Kennedy and Hogan. The deposed "government" had taken Tipp to the League Final and to a Munster Final, lost both and paid the price, as is the modern and severe custom in many sports. If the record did not show success it got within touching distance of it twice and could not be accused of undue good fortune.

Chronology demands a "fast rewind" to the previous Autumn and the start of the League. The first season in office of the



George's ball! – Tipperary corner-back George Frend (right) has this situation under control as he is tackled by Galways players Joe Cooney and Liam Burke (second and third from left respectively), during the National Hurling League Final at Páirc na nGael, Limerick. Awaiting developments is Tipperary's Paul Shelly (left).

post-Keating administration had seen us beaten by Limerick in Cork. We had to field without Michael Ryan and Paul Delaney, suspended in consequence of the flailing sticks and busy fists of the flare-up in the Waterford game. John Leahy had been drawn into the Council's inquiry, too, but had escaped suspension. In '96 we were to suffer no similar losses but Leahy was to be in the centre of publicity and unable to exert influence to the maximum of his ability – another bad "break" for the mentors.

The League – the last one, had we but known it, to occupy pre-Christmas Sundays – began at Birr, and not happily. Offaly had been caught late in the All-Ireland by Clare's Taaffe and might suffer reaction but they beat Tipp by six clear points (1-14 to 0-11). Our side was: O'Sullivan; Delaney, Sheehy, Ryan; Conal Bonner, Timmy Gleeson, Frend; Carroll, Colm Bonner; Moloney, McGrath, Maguire; Declan Ryan, Fox, Bourke.

An early goal by Joe Dooley got Offaly moving and Tipp were never going to get close.

The initial defeat was not to be a bad omen, though we struggled for three quarters against Kerry in the unexpected venue of Tipperary Town. Seven of the winning under-21's were fielded. Rugged and earnest Kerry led at half-way by 1-5 to 0-4 and it was quite late before our fol-

lowers' murmurings were stilled by goals from Colm Bonner, Kevin Tucker and a Declan Ryan penalty. Raymie Ryan and Paul Shelly were among our best in a selection that read: O'Sullivan; Barron, Shelly, Flannery; Ryan, Colm Bonner, Carroll; Aidan Ryan, McGrath; Kevin Tucker, Eddie Tucker, Moloney; Fox, Declan Ryan, Bourke.

## A PLEASANT SURPRISE

Third in the rota was a game which nobody could be too optimistic about, but which turned the League corner for Tipp in quite unexpected fashion. Ballinasloe had been the scene of heavy defeat in the past but Tipp won late and luckily enough after Galway had seemed certain of success. Aidan Ryan's goal in lost time delighted the small quota of Tipp travellers and depressed the expectant home support. Tipp had hung in and gained reward 2-8 to 0-12. The choice was: Cummins; Delaney, Shelly, Flannery; Ryan, Colm Bonner, Carroll; Aidan Ryan, McGrath; Dunne, Conor Gleeson, Declan Ryan; Fox, John Ryan, Bourke. We lacked such as English, Cleary, Leahy and the Tucker brothers. Easily the biggest surprise – maybe even to John, was the full-forward place for the Upperchurch player, Ryan. The home goalkeeper, Richard Burke, suffered a broken leg in the episode that led to our first goal from David Bourke. Great defence by the



# Thurles Milk

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strong, if short-statured Shelly, against Joe Rabbitte and fine half-back play by Raymie Ryan, Bonner and Carroll kept Tipp afloat but a great leading point by Coleman seemed to be the signal for a home take-over in the last quarter.

Declan Ryan lobbed over the defenders and found Aidan Ryan behind them all. The Borrisoleigh player did not miss and Galway were left to rue many chances of putting Tipp away. The points had been annexed by the visitors it must have been among the happiest days the squad enjoyed and it put Tipp into a high place on the table with only a home tie with Waterford to complete the first section of the programme.

### THREE IN-A-ROW

That game at the Stadium, only provided a third win in succession, but not very easily. Waterford rebounded from a bad beginning – 'keeper Barry stepped over his line in catching from Liam McGrath – and Tipp needed a Declan Ryan goal with two minutes left to be assured of the expected result. The Decies had come from five down to the bare minimum on a day of keen frost before Declan popped up with the steadying score. Tipp eventually won by 2-17 to 2-11.

The team: Cummins; Delaney, Shelly, Flannery; Ryan, Colm Bonner, Carroll; McGrath, Aidan Ryan, Declan Ryan, Conor Gleeson, Dunne; Fox, Maguire, Bourke. The damage done at Birr in the first round had been comprehensively repaired. We now headed the standings. John Leahy had made his first appearance late in that fourth game. English had not featured at all, nor had Frend, Mick Ryan, Conal Bonner or Cleary.

The '96 quota of outings set us to travel to Cork and Kilkenny and to play Clare at the Stadium. The closed season had brought unwelcome prominence to John Leahy, raising the issue as to whether the mentors might decide to omit him when he became again available. The team that played Cork at Páirc Uí Rinn did not include Leahy. It read: Cummins; Mick Ryan, Shelly, Flannery; Frend, Colm Bonner, Carroll; Raymie Ryan, O'Meara; Declan Ryan, Eddie Tucker, Aidan Ryan; Cleary, Dunne, Bourke. The outcome was nearly as big, and as pleasant a surprise as the Ballinasloe one – Tipp won by seven points, having at one time been ahead by thirteen on a day of wind and downpours. It was a bad blow for Jimmy Barry Murphy as new Cork manager and would have been worse but for great early saves by veteran 'keeper Cunningham. In a heartening Tipp exhibition the stars were Paul Shelly, George Frend and Michael Cleary. A notable item was the appearance of young Liam Cahill as sub for Aidan Ryan – he supplied one of the late points that checked Cork efforts to rally. On the other hand the game represented the last day we saw something like the best form of team captain Michael Cleary.



Co. Secretary Tommy Barrett (left) photographed with new senior hurling manager Len Gaynor

### ONE UP ON CHAMPIONS

Clare came to town with the kudos of a popular All-Ireland title, having been away in the meantime in the exotic location of Bangkok. The sharp-edged rivalry of the two counties made the one point (0-16 to 2-9) victory rather sweet for the home following, even if most admitted that a draw would have been a reasonable result. Tipp fielded: Cummins; Flannery, Shelly, Ryan; Frend, Colm Bonner, Carroll; Raymie Ryan, O'Meara; Declan Ryan, Eddie Tucker, Kevin Tucker; Cleary, Dunne, Bourke. Reserves used were Sheehy, Cahill and Philip O'Dwyer. We stood level at the break 0-8 to 1-5, the Clare goal from Barry Murphy. Noel Sheehy's arrival was soon greeted by a second goal from Murphy. In a tense conclusion a Raymie Ryan point off a free was vital, leading to the winner from Tommy Dunne. This made it five victories in-a-row and ensured a semi-final place. No matter what happened in the last round at Nowlan Park. What happened was we lost by one point (0-14 to 1-10) in a game precluded by silent tribute to Ollie Walsh, Ted Carroll and "Cha" Whelan.

The team: Cummins; Shelly, Sheehy, Ryan; Frend, Colm Bonner, Carroll; Raymie Ryan, O'Meara; Declan Ryan, Moloney, Cahill; Kevin Tucker, Dunne, Cleary. The home side left us standing in a bright first half display, even against the wind and led at half-way by 0-8 to 0-3. Such attacking poverty led to the introduction of Philip O'Dwyer, Conor Gleeson and Pat Fox, while Kilkenny brought on virus-victim D. J. Carey late in the hour. Gleeson supplied two good long points as Tipp rallied and young Cahill levelled. The Ballingarry boy was luckless in a late bid to save the game in which Adrian Ronan got ten of their fourteen

scores. A Declan Ryan goal gave Tipp the impetus to recover from their dull first period.

Everybody said that we'd be meeting Kilkenny again in the semi-final. However, a certain fellow named Keating and his new Laois charges floored that presumption by taking on Kilkenny at Thurles and beating them. This set up the piquant situation of our ex-manager leading the opposition on our return to Nowlan Park.

### LEAHY'S RETURN

John Leahy had quietly slipped back into the picture in a tournament against Limerick at Emly. He was chosen for more publicised duty against Laois on a fifteen that read:

Cummins; Frend, Shelly, Ryan; Conal Bonner, Colm Bonner, Carroll; Raymie Ryan, O'Meara; Cleary, Eddie Tucker, Leahy; Kevin Tucker, Declan Ryan, English. The last name on that list was of high interest, too. We won, but barely. The credit went to the defence on the score-line of 1-13 to 1-11. In storybook style, it was a Leahy goal after 17 minutes that was our most important score; he had another, and better one, called back. Laois goalie Cashin came upfield and made his journey meaningful with a goal from the penalty. Tipp's three point lead at the interval was fortunate enough. Cuddy and Conroy brought Laois within two of Tipp. as the hour expired – there were a few hectic rucks close to Cummins' posts. The last three flags were all to Laois. Keating had come close to pulling off a notable feat. Cahill, Gleeson and Fox had come in as subs. Cummins did much to avert embarrassment. We were into the final, an occasion when the League is raised to real importance as the year moves towards the championship and a preliminary prize is at stake.



We'd won at Ballinasloe, Galway never lack good reasons to do their utmost against Tipperary and vice-versa. Bad news before action started was that Declan Ryan could not play. The selectors reacted by placing Raymie Ryan at wing-forward. Fox was another absentee on a selection as follows: Cummins; Frend, Shelly, Ryan; Conal Bonner, Colm Bonner, Carroll; Gleeson, O'Meara; Raymie Ryan, Eddie Tucker, Leahy; Cleary, English, Cahill.

### GALWAY POUNCE

Eight wides in the first session and a five-point lead show how much play Tipp had towards the city end. A goal turned in by Raymie Ryan after twenty minutes was our best moment in building a 1-4 to 0-2 lead at the interval – Leahy our only forward to register. Gleeson was doing well in restricting Coleman at midfield. Galway came out and scored 2-8 in the second half, goals from Broderick and a great one from Joe Cooney turning things their way. Forde levelled, Burke and Rabbitte finished it off in a powerful, driving finish by the westerners. We had little excuse apart from the absence of the strength of Declan Ryan and the experience of Fox. To be in a worthy final was a reasonable achievement and gave grounds for some optimism vis-a-vis the more important business soon to start.

### A HANDY DRAW

Tipp got the best of all possible draws for the championship, not exactly a "primrose path" but one that avoided the likes of Clare, Limerick and Cork and put us against Waterford, with Kerry getting a bye. The only complicating factor was that Waterford having done development work at Walsh Park, were requiring Tipp to honour an agreement dating back to remote 1973 and a Thurles game in which Jimmy Doyle played in goal – Tadhg Murphy returned for the "Bennis final". Paying off a mortgage is bad enough, but it's worse when it's been taken out by somebody else, years earlier. But Fr. Tom accepted the position and got down to coping with what might well be a difficult mission in the first round. Waterford play lively hurling, go to their play with zest, even if not always sustaining the pace for the hour or seventy minutes.

It was not out of turn for Waterford to play a championship game at home – for long years they'd been perpetual travellers to Thurles, Cork, Limerick or, now and then, lesser venues. Always keen to beat the neighbours from across the Suir, and doing so on some dramatic occasions, as the remarkable '59 game in Cork and the '83 encounter at the same venue – they would be eager to reverse the '95 result. Tipp would not know what to expect but ought to budget for a severe examination, especially if Waterford got early encouragement to increase the volume of local support.

Tipp coped well and with composure,



*Captains and officials in Walsh Park*

never really safe but always holding a useful advantage – the final tally was 1-14 to 1-11. Our team: Cummins; Frend, Shelly, Ryan; Raymie Ryan, Colm Bonner, Carroll; Cleary, O'Meara; Cahill, McGrath, Leahy; Declan Ryan, English, Dunne. The main talking point was the placing of Cleary at midfield. This was mostly an attempt to get him into the play more than his recent outings had done – his quick deliveries could provide the forwards with the chance to get away from their men.

### WAS AT WALSH PARK

Good saves by Ray Barry delayed our offensives. It was close to half-time before Cahill made the desired break, finishing off a Leahy centre. We led by five – 1-8 to 0-6 – and stretched it to eight before the Decies hit back and reduced it to a nervy two. The threat spurred the mentors to replace O'Meara with Fox, Declan Ryan with Kevin Kennedy, Raymie Ryan with Conal Bonner and Tipp got out safely by three points, very relieved to do so. Our best was Colm Bonner, keen to show his best stuff in his county of employment. Smart form from English was another good aspect. Frend had a very fine game at right-back. The Cleary experiment could be called a success.

So Tipp were more or less guaranteed a Munster Final place, unless Kerry were to do the unexpected. They did not. The game at Tralee was put out of their reach with four goals in six pre-interval minutes – Leahy, Dunne, Cahill, Leahy the finishers. It ended at 4-19 to 2-11. We had conceded more than was strictly convincing, but the lack of tension might have something to do with that. The fifteen: Cummins; Frend, Shelly, Ryan; Conal Bonner, Colm Bonner, Carroll; Cleary, McGrath; Declan Ryan, Kennedy, Leahy; Cahill, English, Dunne. Subs employed were Fox, Delaney and Butler.

Once again for the Munster Final, Fr. Tom found himself paying off a long-standing debt, with Tipp obliged to travel

to Limerick – the "Statute of limitations" has no force in these matters! Tipp's pick for the decider again featured a midfield surprise – Conal Bonner alongside O'Meara, with Cleary gone to wing-forward and Raymie Ryan, recovered from injury, restored to his '95 place at right-half. English's muscle trouble for the Tralee game left him on the bench. The full selection: Cummins; Frend, Shelly, Ryan; Raymie Ryan, Colm Bonner, Carroll; O'Meara, Conal Bonner, Cleary, McGrath, Leahy; Cahill, Declan Ryan, Dunne. Just on 44,000 gathered at the Ennis Road. They were to see a remarkable game, well entitled to a high place in Provincial annals for its second half dramatics after a Tipp monopoly of the first period. Not since the destruction of Clare in '93 had Tipp moved so sweetly – or not since the first half of the '92 League Final had Limerick been so overrun. The comparison with that latter game was to be more "carbon copy" than any Tipp follower could have foreseen during a happy half-time (1-11 to 0-4) of a ten-point margin. The wind factor was not to be disregarded, but the lead was still massive.

### A COSTLY MISS

Early events on resuming were no obvious threat. Tipp still held their lead intact when, as my introductory paragraph points out, Declan Ryan's cross to Cahill promised the knock-out blow, and the promise escaped fulfilment, very unluckily for the individual and for the team. Limerick's reply, gathering impetus and raising the crowd, was amazing testimony to their spirit. Ten in-a-row wiped out the deficit, the scoreboard proclaimed parity at 0-16 to 1-13. Cahill and English hit back for a two-point lead. Frankie Carroll and Kevin Tucker exchanged score to leave us two up. Kirby's '65 and Carroll's final flashing drive restored equality amid indescribable excitement. Now Quaid's save from Aidan Ryan took on real significance. We had two or three very reason-



able chances of getting out with a win but English, Dunne and Cleary all failed to get one over. Limerick's switch of Ciaran Carroll and Mike Houlihan paid off well, so did the bringing in a Galligan, T. J. Ryan hit our post in the unluckiest episode. Tipp morale was not helped by the sight of Leahy being replaced by Tucker – Aidan Ryan and English took over as Carroll and McGrath left the scene. It was the League of '92 all over again, except for a winning Limerick point. The regrets and the recriminations were intense – people tended to forget the force of the wind and see collapse where a trouble-free passage was not really on.

Off to neutral ground for the replay and to the ground where Limerick had pipped us a year earlier. The balance of psychological benefit out of the draw would probably favour those who had pulled down so large a lead – and also pulled down, the rebuild, if smaller, one. The name of Gary Kirby occupied much attention – he was reported doubtful for several days but was declared available. The Limerick experience persuaded Fr. Tom, John and Ken to recall Paul Delaney in place of Brendan Carroll, while choosing English to start in preference to Tommy Dunne. The Conal Bonner trial at midfield with O'Meara was persisted with – otherwise the side was unaltered from the original.

#### DEFENSIVE GAPS IN CORK

Most of the emphasis as regards Tipp's deficiencies had for long focused on the attack and midfield – we were, in general, quite acceptably sound in defence. Goals had been few enough against us – none at

all in the draw and only three altogether in the opening two rounds. There was the odd criticism heard now and then as regards Shelly's lack of inches for full-back; and Michael Ryan had not been quite up to previous seasons; and Frend, for all his resourcefulness, lacked weight in traditional Tipp mould.

It was goals that ruffled, undermined and beat us. Four of them, evenly distributed between the halves and a fifth was luckily averted. Early control was dissipated by a string of wides from many hands. Owen O'Neill's kicked goal after a quarter, gave Limerick the lead for the first time over the two games. Frankie Carroll's just on the break, left it level at 0-9 to 2-3, nine scores matched by five. Kirby's quietness had been made up for by others.

Limerick, having tasted goals, were intent on further tormenting our disjointed rearguard. A Frend-Ryan switch worked no wonders, nor did Delaney's later move to mark O'Neill. One looked to John Leahy for inspiration but he could not provide it – the sight of him leaving the pitch, Aidan Ryan entering, was no boost. Many felt he could have been re-deployed. A few poor frees from Cleary were another depressant.

Wides were a problem all day – we had eight in fifteen minutes at the start, to be only a point up. Limerick's third goal was pushed home by T. J. Ryan after the ball hit an upright. The fourth was by O'Neill, all alone inside, on a Houlihan free at 4-5 to 0-10 we were in dire straits and capable only of respectability – seeking points where larger lodgements were needed. Deferred payment – for the slip-up the first

day had been imposed on Tipp by a county that seems to find inspiration against us. Two finals, two defeats was the record of team and management. Prominence, yes; success, no. It will be up to Len Gaynor and friends to carry on the quest for another All-Ireland in the 90's.

The decade is moving on without a companion prize to the '91 title. The new "cabinet" comes in at a time of change and experiment in the two major competitions. They will have no League games until next March and merely to get into the Munster Final will be an assurance of staying in the All-Ireland reckoning, whether as Provincial winners or runners-up. "A whole new ball game", roundly condemned by some as foolish tampering with the essence of a championship and cramming the League into the March-May period while leaving the Autumn-Winter season featureless for serious inter-county fare.

How the club scene will cope is a matter of deep concern. Anyhow, let's wish Len luck on his "second coming". The future of some big names of veteran status seems to be uncertain as English ventures into authorship in the wake of previous manager Keating; Fox may be tempted to write "finis" fairly soon; Sheehy is another who may close his account, having been little employed in the year under review. We meet either Waterford or Limerick – likely, but not certain, to be the latter once again. And a tussle with Limerick would be at the Stadium, the toss having gone our way for the first leg of a new deal. Len will like that!

Members of Tipperary's 1971 All-Ireland winning team celebrating their Silver Jubilee at Croke park (l. to r.) P. J. Ryan, Len Gaynor, Mick Roche, John Gleeson, John Kelly, Liam King, Peter O'Sullivan and captain Tadgh O'Connor.



Members of Tipperary's victorious 1971 senior hurling team photographed in Croke Park where they were celebrating the Silver Jubilee of their victory over Kilkenny (l. to r.) Mick Jones, Jim Fogarty, Jack Ryan, Noel Lane, John O'Donoghue, Paul Byrne, Jimmy Doyle, Michael 'Babs' Keating.

Celebrating their Silver Jubilee in Croke Park was the Tipperary senior hurling team of 1971. Photograph shows (l. to r.) some of the members of the victorious team – Roger Ryan, Peg Flanagan (representing her late husband John), Dinny Ryan, Noel O'Dwyer, Francis Loughnane and Seamus Hogan.





**T**EAM managers are part of the lives of all of us nowadays. The selection of a manager of a county team commands at least as much public attention as that of a county chairman. Once installed, he lives in the glare of publicity and there are those of us who are not a little disconcerted to find ourselves on a Sunday night having to listen to the ruminations of a manager when we might just as easily be shown the game and allowed judge for ourselves. The manager, it seems to us, would not be human if he did not succumb to the temptation to think of himself as being personally responsible for victory every time his team takes the field. Not alone is he himself under judgement but his backup team as well – the trainer, the physio, the doctor, the psychology expert, the hurley-carriers and the man with the bottle. It is all a long way from the days when Tipp, with no manager and with Gerry Doyle in a pair of tennis shoes covering the field from end to end with spare hurleys and bottle, won more leagues and All-Irelands than we could keep count of.

That's not to say that the old times were better or anything like it. The sheer extent of the change in the preparation and treatment of teams were brought home to me some months ago by a letter in which a long-exiled family member, prompted by the picture of modern training practices which he had read about, reminisced on his own associations with Tipp teams in the early forties.

He wrote: – "My recollections of training with the county team was being picked up by 'the car' at Kitty's Cross (Tubberdora) at 5.30 in the evening, the milking having to be done early. When we got to the field we toggled out under the stand and this was quite a step up from the barns and ditches we were used to. We hurled for about an hour and then we did a couple of rounds of the field running and some short sprints. Then down to Jim Meagher's for tea and nice fresh bread, no mate except on match days. The only people in the stand were a few girls that some of the players were doing a line with. I remember well J.J. Callanan, Tommy Butler, Tommy Semple and others used get mad over the girls showing up for the practices. Showed a lack of commitment on our part. Phil Purcell never seemed to mind but Johnny Leahy was terribly against it. I believe there was tremendous deliberation over dropping Mickey Byrne from the team when he got married (1946) and I can tell you the only thing that saved him was that he was a Thurles man. So much for the good old days. I remember hearing a story of a hurler from a country parish, well he married a girl but she was pregnant when he married her. They were toggled out for a match against the Sarsfields

# Before the Managers

*By Seamus Leahy*

*when the curate came into the dressing room and absolutely forbade anyone associating with him. When hurling survived things like that there should be no worry about its future. . .*

The above should be placed, of course, in the context of the Forties. Life was generally hard, it was wartime, transport was scarce and education – like the food – was basic. In GAA terms the hardship was reflected in the fact that at county level there was only a senior championship. The National League had been abandoned for the duration of the war and with it the minor and junior championships. The writer of the letter quoted above was playing for Tipp. as a minor in 1941 with two more years in that grade before him, when the championship was abandoned. By the time it was resumed he was over-age.

Secretary Tommy Barrett, whose experience of training practices, first as a player, later as an administrator, stretches back to the early Fifties, bears out much of the above. By the time he reached the county panel things had improved from the war years but there was the same culture of economy in all things. There was now tea in the Glenmorgan after training and the girls might be seen at the door or looking in the windows at their heroes dining on cooked ham and slices of tomato. But things were beginning to loosen out and already lads were beginning to look back with some amusement on John Maher's habit during his captaincy of filling up the time between the end of training and the onset of darkness by taking the Thurles lads on a walk to the Ragg. By the time they arrived back in the Square there was no possibility of any of them ending up in a pub. John would be after giving a day walking behind a horse before he turned up for training and perhaps there is a lesson to be learned from the fact that he and his generation knew nothing of hamstrings or pulled muscles. On the night of the launching of Seamus King's history of hurling at Croke Park Mickey Byrne was

heard telling someone who had asked him when he first came in contact with hamstrings, "We always thought hamstrings were what we were getting with the tomatoes after matches."

Through the Fifties there was a gradual improvement in the facilities available to players, though by modern standards they were still rudimentary. There were still no showers and no proper washing facilities even in Thurles. At the back of the stand were a few barrels of rainwater where players whose names were already household words among hurling followers might be seen dousing themselves. Tony Wall, already showing benefit of army discipline, was in the habit of ducking his head in a barrel and sometimes there would be total immersion.

By then, too, cars were available more easily. John Doyle, as an only son and with substantial acreage, was one of the earliest players to have his own transport but it was the end of the Forties before those from the mid-Tipperary area were no longer expected to get to Thurles under their own steam – that generally meant by bicycle – for training. Theo English was another of the very earliest to have his own car and it was certainly not foreseen at that time that the days of the pickup by the hackney-car at the crossroads were numbered.

If there was light-years of difference between transport arrangements then and now, the same could be said of practice sessions at Thurles. With a panel that seldom carried more than twenty – a load, incidentally carried in five or six cars – the main part of a training session was a 20-minute ten-a-side game followed by a few rounds of the field and some sprinting. The business of match-fitness was regarded as the players' own concern and Mickey Byrne remembers even in the Fifties Paddy Leahy telling them that they were expected to be fit before they came to the field; training sessions were merely a kind of brush-up on that fitness. Michael Maher, however, recalls in the late 50s the introduction by army-man Jack O'Brien of organised sprints and some physical exercises, including leap-frogging which provided much amusement for the groups of spectators who began to attend – most of them arriving by bicycle – after a few matches had been won. And before the advent of Ossie Bennet as masseur, Tom Fanning cycled from the army barracks at Templemore to introduce players to the magic of the professional rub at the end of training. By then too, of course, the number of players who were daily engaged in physical work had begun the decline which has probably continued to the present day. When I told a farming acquaintance how I saw John Doyle at the age of sixteen ploughing in his



barefeet he commented, "We're doing it on our backsides nowadays".

As for organised formal coaching of the county panel, the consensus among players of forty or fifty years ago appears to be that it simply did not exist. There was plenty of advice of the kind gleaned by experience passed on to individual players by men who were themselves invariably veterans of the inter-county scene; and there was plenty of advice that would help fifteen individuals play as a unit. But the idea of a team gathering in a room to design a grand strategy to deal with a particular opposing team was non-existent. Paddy Leahy travelled to Croke Park to watch Wexford play in 1950 and came back to tell Mickey Byrne and John Doyle they could leave their own man to tackle Nicky Rackard since he had noticed the big full-forward was not in the habit of throwing out the ball to his corner forwards; but this kind of advice was delivered without fuss and certainly with no show either during a game or as soon as a game was over. Kieran Carey in a radio interview last year emphasised the responsibility that was given to the players on the field, even to allowing them to make their own changes where they wished – a practice which to the modern follower seems extraordinary. But that was a throwback to the early days of the GAA when there was no dugout and the team captain was much more than the man who called "Head!" when the referee spun the coin.

As for the title 'manager', it appears to have surfaced on the Tipperary scene for the first time in 1926 when Frank McGrath of the Toomevara 'Greyhounds' carried it to the United States with the Tipp team. It is difficult seventy years afterwards to determine how much of the modern manager's workload fell to Frank but Wedger Meagher as county secretary also travelled with the team so it is reasonable to assume that the manager's role on that occasion was something similar to nowadays.

As is well-known, it was 1949 before the right to name the selection committee was taken away from the club who won the county championship and it was the Fifties before the new position of chairman of the selection committee was created. The sickening experience of the Famine years ushered in the position of manager in its modern form and it is an interesting speculation that had it not been for the hungry years we might still be using the old-style selection committee, with the winning club still entitled to representation.

But the position of manager is here to stay. So are the hamstrings. The old system is as dead as the pickup by the hackney at Kitty's Cross, the 'mate tay', the barrels of rainwater under the stand and the walk to The Ragg after training.

## Tribute to Seamus McCarthy



*Seamus McCarthy discussing tactics with John Phelan.*



*Presentations to Seamus McCarthy and (l-r): Seán Crowe, Seán Fogarty, Eddie Lonergan, Seamus McCarthy, Seán Mockler, John Moloney, John Moloney, Tom Cusack, Pat Moroney*



*Congratulating a Kerry player after the Munster championship.*



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# TIPPERARY FOOTBALL 1996

**I**T IS the time of year when we take time out and have a good hard look at what did and might have happened during the past twelve months.

Our Junior Footballers had their first outing in the '95/'96 league with an away game to Offaly at Tullamore. This game saw us in trouble with the clash of club and county fixtures. This is not an unusual problem and it certainly makes the task of our Senior mentors very difficult. Trying to field full strength teams or as near to it as is possible, in the early rounds of the league is paramount to our chances of promotion from division 4. Without the co-operation from all concerned and in particular a bit more leniency towards football from those in charge of arranging fixtures, we will find it difficult to compete with the football counties.

We all understand the difficulties facing fixtures committees in trying to have all competitions completed. Perhaps in this day of ever changing customs and ideas it might be possible to play games on Saturdays, in order to enable players with county footballers to make themselves available on Sundays of league games.

That game against Offaly found us struggling and we lost out by 3-14 to 1-7. Kilkenny gave us our next piece of action, travelling to Ardfinnan and giving us a fright into the bargain. We survived on a scoreline 2-0 to 1-11. The lads travelled to Carlow on 12/11/95 and having played some good football, had to give second best to the host county losing by the single goal, 2-11 to 1-11. On the following Sunday we had our Dublin friends in Thurles to compete in the annual Bloody Sunday tournament. Last year was of course a special event in that it was to mark the 75th anniversary of that tragic Sunday. Tipperary played some very attractive football and gave as good as they got from the Dubs, losing narrowly 1-12 to 1-10.

On the 26/11/95, Wicklow travelled to Thurles. Our selectors at this stage were in real need of a win to keep our hopes alive of promotion, but alas the boys from the Garden County were not in any mood to concede to our plight, and went away with the points winning by 1-14 to 1-8. The final league game before the break was on December 3rd, over in Ruislip, where we defeated London by 3-10 to 1-8.

The Seniors opened their '96 campaign with a McGrath Cup game against Limerick, at Askeaton on January 14th. However, it was not to be a successful start as we came away losing 2-8 to 1-8. January 21st will be remembered by Tipperary football supporters in a special way, as it was on that Sunday the Premier County defeated Paudie O'Shea's Kingdom in a McGrath Cup game at Ardfinnan.

The final score Kerry 0-8, Tipperary 1-8, saw the blue and gold defeat the green and gold for the first time in any serious competition for sixty eight years. When one looks back on that display you could be forgiven for wondering what we were doing at the bottom almost, of division 4 of the league. We had another good



**COUNTY FOOTBALL BOARD CONVENTION – FOOTBALL BOARD OFFICERS:** Front (l-r) Tom Cusack, treasurer; Sean Mockler, chairman; Eddie Loneragan, secretary.

Back (l-r) Michael Power, vice-chairman; Peter Savage, vice-chairman; Billy Butler, P.R.O.

outing in the league against Waterford at Ardfinnan, on the 4/2/96, winning on this occasion by 3-7 to 1-10.

On the following Sunday we played host to Limerick at New Inn. Tipperary emerged winners on a scoreline of 1-10 to 0-9. The last league game took us to the midlands to take on Longford. Eventhough our chances of making the play-off stages of the competitions were now out of our hands, the players played with great determination and grit. You could see at this stage their sights were set on greater things.

Having played with great passion and commitment we lost by 2-9 to 0-8. It was now time to concentrate on the big one, the championship clash with Kerry at Clonmel on the 13th May. The selectors and trainer Seamus McCarthy left no stone unturned in their efforts to have their charges fully fit and prepared, mentally as well as physically, for the visit of the Kingdom. Tipperary put it up to Kerry on the day and it was not until the last quarter that we had to give way to the might of the eventual Munster Champions.

So all in all it was a year when we could have seen our football being played in a higher division. A year that saw us defeat the Kerry men in the McGrath Cup play very well against them in the championship.

Our displays at underage was not as encouraging. We lost to Clare at Ennis in the u-21 championship Minors. Our visit to Cork to take on the Leesiders was not successful. Injury of some players deprived us of being at full strength for this minor game.

The Juniors failed in their championships debut against Kerry at Clonmel. One feels here, there is great room for far greater commitment and we seem to be over conscious of the fact that we can not field what would be considered our second best team. We take this opportunity of thanking all team management committees for their generous commitment to all teams. Their task is not an easy one and the time demanded of them is substantial. We wish the best of luck to our Senior team manager Paddy Morrissey and his selectors John Treacy and Tommy Harvey.

Don Ryan, Seamus McCarthy, Pte Savage, John Phelan and Anthony Crosse are our u-21 selectors for '97. We wish you success. The minor team mentors are Eamonn Owens, Ml. Power, John Owens, Tomas Twomey and Aidan Shanahan. We hope you have a successful year.

To all our county champions in the different grades, we say congratulations. The best of luck to those clubs still in contention for county honours.

Success comes to those who persist, rarely to those who do not. Finally to all supporters of Tipperary football, we extend a sincere word of gratitude for your continuous loyalty. May the year ahead give you reason to celebrate.

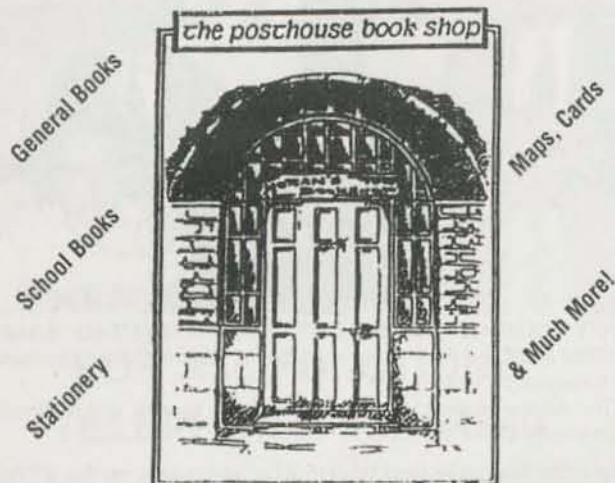
**Billy Butler P.R.O.**



Delegates who attended the County Football Board Annual Convention at Hayes' Hotel (l to r) – Larry O'Connor, Thurles Sarsfields; Pat Moroney, Aherlow and Con Ryan, Drom-Inch.



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# TIPPERARY FOOTBALL 1996



The Tipperary senior football team which played Kerry in the first round of the Munster championship at Clonmel. Back row (l-r): Sean Collum, Derry Foley (captain), Criostoir McGrath, Brendan Cummins, Brian Burke, Brian Lacey, Liam Cronin, Mark Sheahan. Front row (l-r): Sean Maher, Peter Lambert, Tom Macken, Philly Ryan, Davy Hogan, Declan Browne, Sean Brett.

Brendan Cummins gets his shot in during the Munster Senior Football Championship game against Kerry at Clonmel.



Derry Foley (Tipperary) passes the ball to a team mate during the Munster Senior Football Championship game at Clonmel



A disappointed Tipperary senior football manager Seamus McCarthy (centre) has some words of consolation for his players Criostoir McGrath (left) and Philly Ryan after the exit from this year's championship at the hands of Kerry at Clonmel.



# Friends of Tipperary Football Reunion 21-9-1996



At football reunion . . . The 1949 Minor football full back line (l to r): Dick McGrath, Paddy Gleeson, John McGrath.



At football reunion . . . (l to r): Jimmy Harney - Commercial's, Mick Maguire - Latin Lo, Sullivan - Commerical's, Seamus Fitzgerald - Commerical's.

## Civic Receptions 1996



John Moloney and his umpires at Civic Reception. Left to right: Matt Nugent, Jim Byron, John Moloney and Michael Moloney



At Civic Reception for John Moloney. - friends. Left to right: John Loneragan, Governor Mountjoy Prison, Tipperary Man of the Year; John Moloney; Seamus McCarthy, Manager of S.F. Team.



Mayoral Reception for Michael O'Meara. Left to right: Tommy Barrett, Sean Fogarty, Sean Nugent, Alderman Tom Ambrose, Lord Mayor of Clonmel, Michael O'Meara, Mrs. O'Meara, Lady Mayoress.



At Mayoral Reception for Michael O'Meara, left to right, Dick Cummins, Fethard, Sean Lyons.



# TIPPERARY FOOTBALL 1996



The Tipperary Junior Football team which played Kerry in the first round of the Munster Championship at Clonmel. Back row (l-r): Aidan Butler, Paul Slattery, Jimmy O'Brien, David Condon, Mark Leonard, Tom Hennessy, Anthony O'Gorman, Anthony Moroney. Front row (l-r): Liam O'Dwyer, Fergal Clifird, Gary Mernagh, Denis O'Shea (captain), Noel Leahy, Conor Wall, John Butler.



Tipperary Junior selectors (l to r): Jackie Walsh, Terence Costigan, Conor O'Dwyer and Willie Robinson, photographed before the Munster championship clash with Kerry at Clonmel.



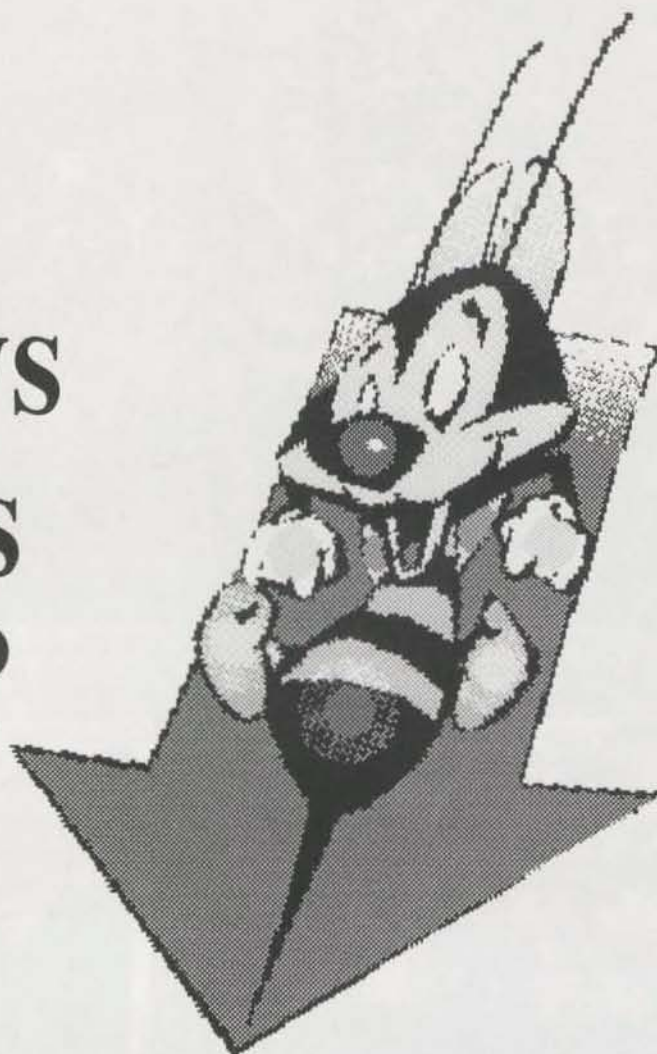
Tipperary Minor Football selectors (l-r): Eddie Lonergan (Cahir), Eamonn Owens (J.K. Brackens, coach) and Aidan Shanahan (Inane Rovers) photographed before the Munster Championship (first round) game against Cork at Pairc Uí Rinn.



The Tipperary Minor Football team which surrendered the Munster title won last year when they failed to Cork in the first round at Páirc Uí Rinn.



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# Moyle Rovers

## Tipperary Senior Football Champions 1996



Back Row (l – r): Ger Cahill, Brian Boland, Jimmy Dunne, Paul O'Connor, Paul Norris, Donal Foley, Seamus Delahunty, Derry Foley, Kevin O'Connor, Keith Delahunty, Tom Hanrahan, Brendan O'Dwyer, John Kelly. Front Row (l – r): Michael J. Browne, Ger McCarthy, Eamonn Power, John McGrath, Declan Browne, Robbie Boland, John Owens (capt.), James Williams, Liam Cronin, Noel Wall, Seamus Norris. Inset: Michael McGrath and Paul Boland.





All-Ireland 40/20 Junior  
Singles Champion  
Carol Moloney (Cashel)



All-Ireland Junior Hardball  
Singles Champion '96  
Mark Flynn (Silvermines)

# HANDBALL ALL-IRELAND CHAMPIONS



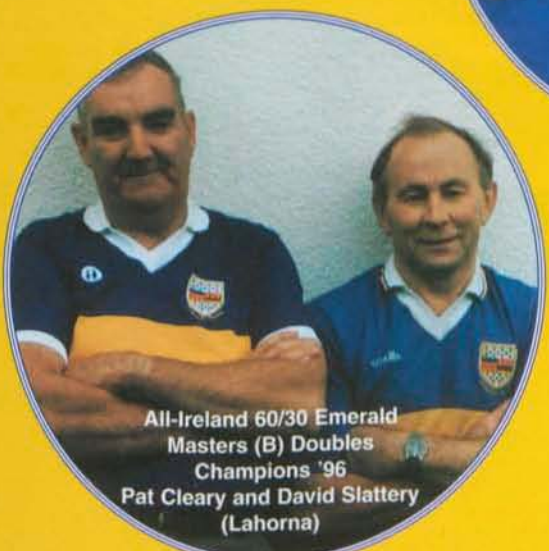
All-Ireland 60/30 Junior  
Doubles Champions  
Kevin Croke and Pat Ryan



All-Ireland 60/30 Silver Master  
(B) Doubles Champions  
John Dwyer and John Ryan  
Moore (Horse and Jockey)



All-Ireland Silver Masters (A)  
Doubles Champions  
Geddi McKeogh (Ballina) and  
Vincent O'Shea (Lahorna).



All-Ireland 60/30 Emerald  
Masters (B) Doubles  
Champions '96  
Pat Cleary and David Slattery  
(Lahorna)



All-Ireland 40/20  
U17 Singles Champion  
Paul Coleman (Ballina)



# Tipperary Minor Camogie Team

## Munster Champions and All-Ireland Finalists



Back Row (l - r): Sheena Howard, Niamh O'Dwyer, Denise Manton, Norma Coffey, Martina Moloney, Pauline Kennedy, Joanne Ryan, Louise Ryan, Sinead Collins, Helen Collier, Helena Frawley.  
Front Row (l - r): Jacinta Fahey, Marcella Crompton, Niamh Connolly, Siobhan Ryan, Catriona Hennessey (capt.), Helen Campion, Eimear McDonnell, Louise Brennan, Catriona Tiernan, Emily Hayden, Sinead O'Sullivan. Mascots: Michaela Graham and Aine Ryan.



# TIPPERARY FOOTBALL 1996



Tipperary corner-back William Hickey (right) brings the ball out of defence as he is persued by Cork's Alan Beale during the Munster minor football championship game at Páirc Uí Rinn.



Tipperary captain John Crotty (left) in action during the Munster u-21 football championship match at Ennis.



The Tipperary U-21 Football team which played Clare in the Munster championship at Ennis. Back row (l-r): Liam Barron, Brendan McKeogh, Brendan Cummins, John Crotty (captain), Niall Kelly, Damien Byrne, Kevin Moloney, Liam O'Connor. Front row: Bill Fitzgerald, Brian Fogarty, Bernard Walsh, Gary Mernagh, John Heaney, Aidan Butler, Colm O'Flaherty.



Tipperary Under-21 Football selectors photographed before the start of the Munster Championship game against Clare at Ennis (left to right): John Cummins, Benny Conway, Jim O'Donnell, Vincent McKenna and George Webster.



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# Tipperary Under-21 Hurling

June 19 .....Tipperary 0-16 .....Limerick 0-10  
 July 18 .....Cork 2-18 .....Tipperary 1-12



The Tipperary Under-21 hurling team which surrendered its Munster and All-Ireland crowns by losing to Cork in the Munster semi-final at pairc Uí Chaoimh. Back row (left to right) Liam Barron, Noel Morris, Pat Coman, Declan O'Meara, Brendan Cummins, Darren O'Connor, Ger Flanagan, Philip



Tipperary Under-21 selectors photographed before the Munster Championship game against Limerick (left to right) - Gerry O'Brien, Michael Doyle (manager) and Donal McGettigan.



*Nollaig agus  
 Athbhliain faoi  
 shéan is faoi  
 mhaise duit*

Tipperary's forward Andy Moloney (left) heads for goal under pressure from Eamon Morrissey (Cork) during the Munster Under-21 hurling semi-final at pairc Uí Chaoimh.



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on winning the All-Ireland.

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# Tipperary Minors – All Ireland Hurling Champions A MAJOR SUCCESS

By

Michael Dundon (Tipperary Star)

**T**HE HUGE turn-out in Thurles on the Monday night after Tipperary's minor hurlers had beaten Galway in a thrilling All-Ireland final replay reflected more eloquently than all the words written about two excellent contests that decided the destination of the Irish Press Cup how much success meant to the Premier County.

An alarming fourteen years span since Tipperary's previous triumph in '82 was a cause of serious concern. The county had contested finals in the interim without taking the honours and the sixteenth title was becoming frustratingly elusive.

In a year when all other hurling teams fell by the wayside, the minor campaign became the focus of followers' attention – a pressure the youngsters could have done without but which they coped with admirably.

From an early stage this team showed promise. Manager Dinny Cahill with selectors Paudie Butler and Ger O'Neill drawing on their experience of '95, left no stone unturned in their preparations but before their opening game with Limerick there was an understandable apprehension that the promise shown in the training ground might not be realised in championship action.

The anxiety was greatly unfounded. Tipperary, with Eugene O'Neill showing the class that was to mark this champi-

onship for him, took Limerick apart with a display of top-drawer hurling, winning 2-14 to 0-5. How good were Tipp? How bad were Limerick?

Those questions occupied the minds of supporters as the semi final against Cork loomed. The intervention of the Leaving Cert exams curtailed preparations, and that was a concern but they do the Leaving Cert in Cork too, don't they!

Tipperary have always regarded displays against Cork as a dependable guide to assessing the quality of a team. With home advantage, Tipperary did not have it all their own way in the first half of the semi-final and retired at half-time two points adrift, and struggling. The second half was a different matter as Tipperary ran Cork ragged, scoring ten points without reply to win by 0-16 to 1-9. The victory was more impressive than the scoreline suggests as Cork's goal came from a penalty in injury time. Eugene O'Neill's accuracy was again a major factor but William Hickey, Aidan Doyle and team captain William Maher also made big impressions.

Waterford were the Munster final opponents but they had no answer to Tipperary's free-scoring machine whose handsome 2-19 to 1-11 win brought the title back to Tipperary after a three year absence. Surprise, surprise, Eugene O'Neill again took the scoring honours amassing an impressive 1-11. Aidan Doyle's goal in the first minute got Tipp off on the right foot and Waterford were back-peddalling after that.

As the championship developed other stars began to emerge. John Carroll's powerful hurling at centre half-back was of immense importance. So too was the tenacious Donncha Fahey leading the attack and now Michael "Bonnie" Kennedy's influence became more pronounced.

Against Antrim in the All-Ireland semi-final the Clonoulty lad shot a brilliant 2-5 as Tipperary streaked home victorious by an incredible 2-25 to 3-3. This set up a final against Galway who had become specialists in this grade in recent years. The concession of three goals to Antrim late in that game raised some eyebrows but was attributed to silly loss of concentration in the closing stages of a very one-sided encounter.

## THE FINAL

Galway went into the final with a big reputation. They had hammered Kilkenny 3-16 to 1-14 in the semi-final and in full forward Eugene Cloonan they had a match winner. Full-back Michael Healy was playing in the grade for the third year and had won an All-Ireland medal in '94.

Tipperary travelled in force to Croke Park, delighted to be part of the special



Minor hurling selector Paudie Butler encouraging players during the All-Ireland semi-final against Antrim at Croke Park.



Tipperary full-forward Eugene O'Neill wins the race for possession as he is followed by Galway's Michael Healy during the All-Ireland minor hurling final replay.



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All-Star Liam Cahill (Ballingarry).



occasion in the hurling year. For forty five minutes an exceptionally good final, Tipperary paraded their extravagant skills and established an eight point lead going into the last quarter but the smiles were wiped off Tipperary faces as Galway rattled in three goals to surge two points clear with two minutes to go. All the splendour of the early stage of the game was forgotten but to their eternal credit, the players showed the stuff of champions in this searching test of their character.

Michael Kennedy pointed as the game headed for injury time and then Michael Ryan burst through for the equaliser. There was relief on the faces of the Tipperary lads afterwards but concern too at the manner in which three goals were conceded in ten minutes. John Carroll, John Teehan, Michael Ryan, Donncha Fahey, Paul Kelly, Aidan Doyle, Michael Kennedy and William Maher all played with great conviction but the job was not yet done.

### THE REPLAY

Controversy followed regarding the date and venue for the replay. The authorities eventually decided to switch the game from Ennis, the original venue, to Croke Park as a curtain-raiser for the All-Ireland football final replay between Meath and Mayo. It was a decision that was well received in Tipperary. John Carroll shook off a football injury to take his place but Michael Ryan had to retire at half-time with an eye injury as Tipperary were pounded by a determined Galway. Declan Browne had an early goal for Tipp but then Galway struck with force for goals by Eugene Cloonan in the 23rd and 28th minutes to lead by seven points at half-time.

The third quarter was crucial for Tipperary. Eugene O'Neill had a quick point



Minor hurling selector Ger O'Neill and manager Dinny Cahill anxiously watching the final minutes of the All-Ireland semi-final against Antrim.

and found the right mood as Tipp shot four points in eleven minutes and had a goal in the 17th minute from a penalty when Declan Browne was fouled. This levelled the game but Tipperary were now in the driving seat and Eugene O'Neill pointed for the lead.

Galway were not dead, but there was no stopping Tipperary now as they emerged narrow but deserving winners by two points 2-14 to 2-12.

At the end of the day the victory was worth waiting for and the praise heaped on Dinny Cahill, Paudie Butler, Ger O'Neill, Liaison Officer Martin Maher, father of team captain William, and all the others in the background was fully deserved. They had come through a most searching campaign with colours flying and already several of the players are being earmarked by the fans as future seniors.

This win over Galway brought the curtain down in glorious fashion on a year that previously had been rife with disappointment for Tipperary. Fourteen years was a long time to wait, but hopefully, the next success will come much sooner.

### SCORERS AND LINE-OUTS ALL-IRELAND MINOR FINAL

#### Drawn game

Tipperary 0-20 ..... Galway 3-11

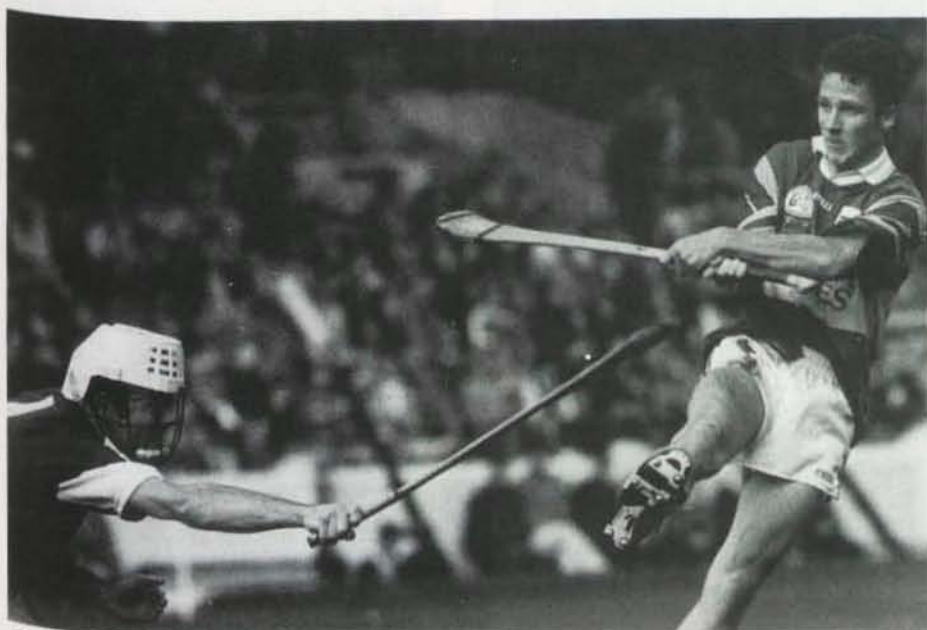
**Tipperary** – F. Horgan (Knockavilla-Kickhams), T. Costello (Cappawhite), F. Heaney (Knockavilla Kickhams), W. Hickey (Boherlahan-Dualla), N. Cleere (Ballingarry Gaels), J. Carroll (Roscrea), J. Teehan (Gortnahoe-Glengooole), W. Maher (Ballingarry Gaels) 0-1, M. Ryan (Templederrey) 0-1, P. Kelly (Mullinahone) 0-1, D. Fahey (St. Mary's Clonmel) 0-2, S. Ryan (Cappawhite), A. Doyle (J.K. Brackens) 0-4, E. O'Neill (Cappawhite) 0-7, 0-6 frees, M. Kennedy (Clonoulty-Rossmore) 0-3.

#### Replay

Tipperary 2-14 ..... Galway 2-12

**Tipperary** – F. Horgan (Knockavilla-Donaskeigh Kickhams), T. Costello (Cappawhite), F. Heaney (Knockavilla-Donaskeigh Kickhams), W. Hickey (Boherlahan-Dualla), T. Keane (Fethard), J. Carroll (Roscrea), J. Teehan (Gortnahoe-Glengooole), W. Maher (Ballingarry Gaels) 0-2, M. Ryan (Templederrey), D. Browne (Moyle Rovers) 0-1, D. Fahey (St. Mary's Clonmel) 0-1, P. Kelly (Mullinahone), A. Doyle (J.K. Brackens), E. O'Neill (Cappawhite) 1-8, M. Kennedy (Clonoulty-Rossmore) 1-2.

**Substitutes** – P. Lonergan (Ballybacon-Grange) for Micheál Ryan; P. O'Brien (Toomevara) for P. Kelly; E. Carey (Mullinahone) for A. Doyle.



Declan Browne gets in his shot on goal under pressure from Kevin Coy (Galway) during the All-Ireland minor hurling final replay at Croke Park.





"Glory with Martin Storey" – Members of the Tipperary Minor Team and friends with Wexford captain, Martin Storey and the McCarthy Cup.

**W**ITH time ticking away, Tipperary Minor hurlers down a point, was it going to be a case of deserved to win, but lost! Up popped the cool Michael Ryan to score a great point, forcing a replay of the All-Ireland Minor Final against Galway. Relief all round from the exhausted and drained young hurlers, not to mention Dinny, Paudie and Ger. All three had a word for every player, instilling and reinforcing confidence, no element of doubt was allowed penetrate young minds. The Irish Press Cup was definitely going to rest in Ballingarry, under the shadow of Slievenamon. Where would the replay be? When would it be? Questions which were put aside for a while, the Tipperary Association in Dublin was hosting a dinner, so off we went to join them.

It is always lovely to be among your own on the night of an All-Ireland. The Tipps in Dublin have provided celebration, consolation and hospitality for Tipperary teams over the years. While the more mature chatted into the small hours, the young hurlers hit the disco. Word has it that Paddy O'Brien rivalled Michael Flatley with his twinkling toes.

The G.A.A. hosts a lunch on the Monday after the All-Ireland. The four participating teams attend. Hurlers always mix better than their football counterparts. While Limerick were devastated, players Gary Kirby and Mike and Declan Nash had words of encouragement for the Tipp Minors, who scurried around seeking autographs. George O'Connor was a big hit, Nigel Cleere was hoping to get a hurley from George. The request was made, George already had given away all his sticks. However he volunteered to send a hurley to Nigel. It duly arrived in Ballingarry. A treasured hurley from a supreme hurler and sportsman. The Wexford men were ecstatic and anxious to hit for home, glory for Martin Storey and his

## Triumph for Tipperary Minor Hurlers

men.

Ennis was the venue for the Minor replay, not the happiest of "hunting grounds" for Tipperary teams. The selectors were not allowing any negatives thoughts about a venue. Mayo and Meath intervened, a draw in the Football Final. The replay was set for September 29th, Tipperary and Galway could provide the curtain raiser. The untimely sad death of Fergal Horgan's mother put hurling in perspective. The loss of a mother is always huge, the loss of a game, a fleeting thing.

An injury to John Carroll caused concern, but it didn't distract from preparations. Training sessions were terrific, the lads were flying. Dinny, Paudie, Ger and Martin Maher had everything in order. The team could travel by train on the

morning of the game. Following a "few pucks" in St. Brigid's, a cup of tea and sandwiches, it was off to Croke Park.

Dressing rooms are always interesting before a game. The players keep the same places, follow the same ritual, set faces and far-away minds. Words of encouragement, the smell of "winter green", strapping of ankles, tipping of sliothars and Dr. Clifford's words of wisdom. Players in a huddle, an "are ye ready" call from the steward, ensuring that the schedule is kept to time.

William Maher and his men dash onto Croke Park. Mayo followers rowed in behind Galway, Meath responded to Tipp. A dozen sliothars hurled to Hill 16, where the Meath fans were, helped our cause! Nice one Paudie Butler! A quick greeting from my friend Phelim Murphy, as we met in the tunnel. Galway looked fit and confident.

The young Tipperary men produced "the goods". Eugene O'Neill gave an impeccable display of free taking, scoring a goal and four points in the space of seventeen minutes to leave the sides level. It was bargaining time with God, £10 for Nugent's point to put the premier County ahead for the first time since Michael Kennedy's goal!

A great finish, heart stopping stuff. Meath gave us great support at that stage, much appreciated! Two points up, the most dangerous of leads. The now famous "Costelloe interception" saved the day. A great late save from Fergal Horgan, as Fergal Heaney lay injured on the ground, saved "our bacon". Would the final whistle ever sound? Fergal Heaney was by now on his way to the Mater Hospital.

A smiling Dr. Clifford greeted our composed young captain, William Maher on the steps of the Hogan Stand. William held the Irish Press Cup aloft, the fourteen year wait was over. Tipperary rejoiced, smiles all round, a lap of honour around

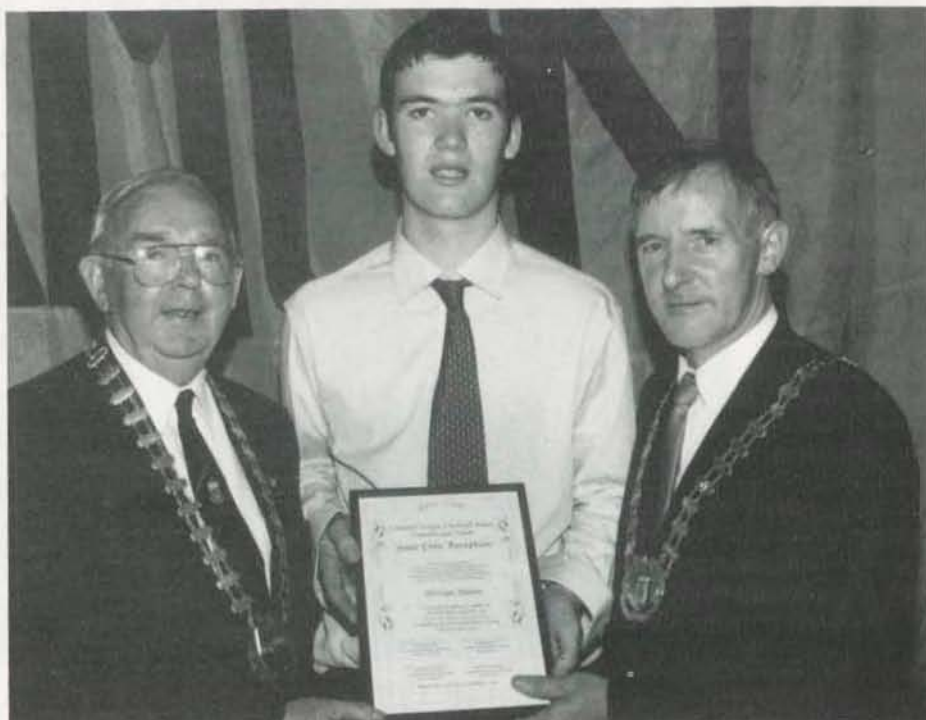


Croke park and back to the dressing room. "We are like brothers, we were prepared to die for each other" said William Maher, words which epitomised the spirit of the entire panel. The arrival of Micéal Ryan from the Mater Hospital was greeted with pleasure. No serious injury to his eye, but he didn't know what was happening in Croke Park until Fergal Heaney arrived in the Mater. Fergal, with a heavily bandaged leg and on crutches, arrived before we left Croke park. Parents, siblings, friends and supporters greeted the players. A word of congratulations from Michael Lowry. Happy people complete with the Irish Press Cup. Happy Co. Chairman, Sean Fogarty. Happy Pat Fox and John Leahy who were there to congratulate all. Contented and happy Dinny Cahill, Paudie Butler, Ger O'Neill and Martin Maher, a long campaign successfully completed.

Jarlath Daly, President of the Tipperary Association, Dublin, and his fellow officers Tom Quigley, Tom Ryan, Pat Ryan, Eileen Butler, Mary Ann Ryan and John Gleeson among others, greeted the victorious team, mentors and County Board officers, Sean Fogarty, Dinny Cahill, Capt. William Maher thanked the Association for their hospitality after a most welcome and enjoyable meal. John English, chairman of the Supporters Club added his words of congratulations. We watched the "highlights" on the Sunday Game, cheering every score.

Monday, back to Croke Park and another G.A.A. lunch. Difficult to gain access as Sean Boylan and Tommy Dowd will verify. A somewhat subdued lunch followed! William Maher, Thomas Keane and John Hayes ("Hotpoint") took the Irish Press Cup to Beaumont Hospital where staunch Ballingarry and Tipperary man Joe Murray was. For me, it was one of the most thoughtful gestures. Joe was "proud as punch" and deeply moved that William and Thomas took time out to visit him. Joe went to his eternal reward in early November. William and the Irish Press Cup were part of the Offertory procession at Joe's funeral Mass in Ballingarry, a lovely tribute to a lovely son of Tipperary.

The train journey home was relaxing and fun, everyone anxious to get back to



At the Civic reception in Holycross for the All-Ireland Champions, Jimmy Hogan, chairman South Tipperary Co. Council; William Maher, team captain and Matty Ryan, chairman North Tipperary Co. Council.

Tipperary. A great crowd greeted the team and mentors on arrival at Thurles station. The Sean Treacy pipe Band led the parade to the steps of the Cathedral, the streets were lined with supporters. I had the honour of being M.C. and was delighted to introduce His Grace Archbishop Clifford, who in his usual inimitable style brought warmth and wit to the occasion. John Kenehan, Chairman of The Thurles Urban Council also congratulated the team. Sean Fogarty, Dinny Cahill, Paudie Butler, Ger O'Neill and captain William Maher replied, before the entire panel was introduced to the crowd. The strains of "Slievenamon" floated out on the Autumn night as we got ready to head for Ballingarry. It was lovely to meet Br. Perkins there, the man who did so much for Tipperary hurling.

Ballingarry was a village in celebration, bedecked in bunting and colour. The local officers John Cahill (Liam's dad), Dick Goldsboro, J. P. Maher and John Dalton had all in readiness. The players and mentors were taken through the village on a float, welcomed officially and cheered loudly. It was a proud evening for the players, particularly William Maher, Michael McGrath, Nigel Cleere and Martin Maher. Ballingarry did them proud. Sean Nugent, South Tipperary Chairman, was there to greet them as he had been the previous night in Dublin.

We retired to the Maher

"establishment" where we were treated royally. A big fire welcomed us on a night which had turned cool.

There in Maher's was James Murray, who had been very involved with the Minors until a spell in hospital sidelined him! He got wonderful reception from all the players, from Dinny, Paudie and Ger. The Murray brothers are in a "league of their own", wonderful friends to many Tipperary people, loyal and kind with a lovely sense of fun.

The evening in Ballingarry is a special memory, one of warmth and friendship. Slievenamon was keeping an eye on proceedings, smiling through the harvest moon!

I travelled home with my sister Jo (Needham), Brigid Delaney and Connie Grace, who elected himself navigator. Well, I'll let you into a secret, if you have any designs on the Circuit of Ireland Rally, don't get Connie to navigate. We travelled on roads that never saw tarmac, took turnings which saw the Black Stairs mountains facing us, anyway we definitely took the long way home! Nil to Connie for his navigational skills, but the fun was mighty!

The players and mentors were feted by the North and South Tipperary County Councils in a joint effort in Holycross, another pleasant evening. The Mayor of Clonmel also honoured them. Right through the championship these young men have carried their mantle with dignity, displaying all that is admirable in Irish youth. They will carry the memory of 1996 wherever they go. I hope that life is good to them.

Liz Howard  
P.R.O. Tipperary



Keeping an eye on the Minors - James Murray.





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# BACK TO BACK TITLES FOR MOYLE ROVERS

BY TONY LONERGAN

**T**HE 1966 County Senior Football Final will go down in history for its three titanic games of good football played in the varied October weather conditions and enjoyed by large attendances on each occasion.

The defence of the South and County titles began on 12th April and involved seven games in the South Championship and having full points, met Grangemockler in the semi-final and qualified for the final versus Commercials. On the 4th August, the club won the South title for the third time in six years. At half-time in this game played at Kilsheelan, Commercials looked poised to make a strong challenge for the title, but an outstanding second half performance by the team saw them run out winners on the scoreline of 2-11 to 1-7.

J.K. Brackens and Golden-Kilfeacle were overcome in the county quarter and semi-finals respectively setting up another final clash with Commercials who had accounted for Loughmore/Castleiney and Lattin/Cullen.

As we headed for Ardfinnan on Sunday, 6th October for the County final, little did anyone realise that this was but the first round of what proved to be an epic encounter that took four hours to resolve. Even now as we reflect on the happenings over the three games, one can only savour the thrills, bravery and never say die attitude of the two teams involved.

Somebody once said "tis hard to win a championship" and those words never had truer meaning than in those contests as both teams literally refused to be beaten.

In the first two games Commercials seemed to have secured victory as the final whistle edged closer, but to their eternal credit, Moyle Rovers clawed their way back with some great scores.

Indeed, on both occasions we could have won when in the first game just before the final whistle we seemed likely to secure the winning point, but the danger was averted. In the second game with time almost up and down by two points, we got the all important goal to lead by one point. This certainly looked like the winning score, but the Commercials refused to lie down and scored a fantastic equalising point from a forty yards free near the side-line and after two and a half hours of football it was still all square.

Back to Ardfinnan on Bank Holiday Monday for the second reply in conditions that were anything but conducive to good football, a greasy sod

and a gale force wind. Despite the conditions, both teams contrived to play good football. Moyle Rovers had first use of the very strong wind, but found it difficult to convert their territorial advantage into scores and with a lead of two points to one at half-time, the show seemed to be over.

This time facing the elements, the boys in blue refused to yield and playing great football were never headed, the Commercials coming back to equalise in the closing minutes from a free. Extra time again.

As we stood on the bank of Ardfinnans well kept pitch before play resumed we wondered would it ever end and more importantly how would both teams cope in what was now turning out to be a marathon.

Moyle Rovers again faced the elements in the first period of extra time and playing brilliant controlled football for the first time put daylight between themselves and their great rivals scoring six points to one for Commercials. For the first time in the three hours and forty-five minutes and with the elements in our favour, the winning post now looked near. This proved to be the case as the team retained the County Title with six points to spare.

As the final whistle blew, scenes of great joy were witnessed, but also a huge relief descended on players, mentors and supporters alike, in having come through those three absorbing contests.

I count myself privileged to have witnessed this great saga, a true contest between two evenly matched sides, in which no quarter was asked or given. That Moyle Rovers should have won is a tribute to their character and stamina which was built up over many arduous training sessions throughout the year. It was also a tribute to their coach,



John Owens, Captain Moyle Rovers, accepts the South Senior Football Trophy from South Board Chairman, Sean Nugent.

mentors, trainer, captain and club officials who too put so much time and effort into the 1996 campaign. Congratulations to one and all on this latest achievement.

To the vanquished Commercials we say hard luck and look forward to many more great games in the future.

As the man said, "Tis hard to win a Championship".

For the record the scores of the three games are as follows:

**October 6th:** Moyle Rovers 0-9, Commercials 1-6.

**October 20th:** Moyle Rovers 1-10, Commercials 0-13.

**October 29th:** Moyle Rovers 1-12, Commercials 0-9.

The efforts of the three games, two periods of extra time, and all the championship games finally took its toll when the team lined-out against Rathgormack in the Munster Club Championship at Dungarvan on November 3rd. They were a weary outfit and despite this and injuries etc., failed by just one point on the score of 1-9 to 1-8.

And so ended two years of intense activity for our team.



Moyle Rovers selectors Dick Looby, John Keating and Jim Cahill (selector/coach)



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Picture shows Denis Kinane presenting Tommy and Kitty Keane, Loughmore, with a new Honda Civic which they won in the Tipperary G.A.A. Draw.



# Tipperary G.A.A. County Convention at Árus na Sáirséalach, Dúrlas Éile - January 28, 1996



Photographed after the County Convention were re-elected officers Tom O'Donnell, treasurer; Seán Fogarty, chairman, and Tommy Barrett, secretary.



At the G.A.A. County Board's Annual Convention at Thurles Sarsfields Social Centre were (L/R) - Jo Needham (Lorrha), secretary, North Tipperary Bórd na nÓg; Liz Howard (Burgess) who was re-elected as County Board PRO at the Convention, and Connie Grace (Kilruane MacDonagh's), chairman County Board na ÓG.



Re-elected at the County Convention were (L/R) - Liam O'Dwyer, Munster Council rep.; Noel Morris, Munster Council rep., and Michael McCarthy, Munster Council rep.



Re-elected at the County Convention were Donal Shanahan, Youth Officer; John Ryan, Development Officer, and Conor Ó Riain, Oifigeach na Gaeilge.



Delegates from Mid Tipperary clubs at the G.A.A. County Board's Annual Convention at Thurles Sarsfields Social Centre were (L/R) - Michael Ryan and Jackie Lanigan, both Holycross/Ballycahill G.A.A. Club, and Micheál Egan and Liam Butler, both Gortnahoe-Glengoole G.A.A. Club.



Delegates from Thurles Sarsfields and Upperchurch-Drombane at the G.A.A. County Board's Annual Convention at Thurles Sarsfields Social Centre. Included are (L/R) - Ger Corbett, Thurles Sarsfields; Phil Lowry and Michael Burke, both Upperchurch/Drombane G.A.A. Club.



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# The County Senior Hurling Championship

by Seamus J. King

**T**HEY said it wasn't possible, that it couldn't be done, that Boherlahan-Dualla didn't have the talent, that Toomevara had too strong a panel and were fully focused on reversing last year's result. Although the mid men had annihilated Cashel King Cormacs in the semi-final, the pundits and the experts had honed in on the clinical way the north team had despatched Thurles Sarsfields at the same stage of the competition.

Even though Boherlahan-Dualla had beaten them in last year's semi-final, that defeat was regarded as nothing more than a blip on an otherwise ascending graph to county honours. In fact with the talented team and the strength in depth right through the squad, Toomevara were predicted to go right through to contest the honours on St. Patrick's Day!

And, all that certainty was sanctioned by the betting men: in a two-horse race the boys in the green and gold were certs at 9/4-on and the minions from Boherlahan-Dualla didn't stand a chance.

That was, of course, outside the parish of Boherlahan-Dualla. Within the confines of this historic place the supporters believed in their chances and their mentors plotted and planned for victory. They did not consider anything less than victory. In fact, manager Martin O'Dwyer expressed disappointment on Sunday night at their margin of victory: he had expressed a five-point margin!

And the supporters were equally optimistic. One such, Eddie Bennett, on his way home from the pub through the wind and rain of the previous night, was positive he met the ghost of Dan Breen in Boherclough and he was headed by Boherlahan! There was no doubt it was an omen: Boherlahan would win!

And they did. In the end the margin was the minimum but there was no doubt that the Boherlahan boys deserved their victory. They had to endure setbacks and difficulties in the first half but they overcame them and the breeze in the final 30 minutes, and when Liam Maher hit the final winning point there was no supporter – outside of Toomevara – who wasn't willing them to win.

When Philly Ryan received the Dan Breen cup on behalf of the team, he was doing something that no Boherlahan man had done for 55 years. The last man from the parish to receive the cup was Philly O'Dwyer in 1941, when Boherlahan had won their 50th and last senior county final. They had made another unsuccessful final appearance in 1953, when they



At the launch of Nenagh Co-Op, Tipperary County S.H.C. sponsorship (l-r) – Martin Leenane, Nenagh Co-Op.; Tommy Barrett, Co. Secretary; Seán Fogarty, Co. Chairman; Dick Tobin, Chairman Nenagh Co-Op., and Jim Murphy, Chief Executive, Nenagh Co-Op.

were beaten by Borrisileigh.

That team was captained by Tom Kevin and included George Studdard, Andy Fogarty, Johnny Callanan, John Ryan (T), James O'Meara, Sean Leahy, John Walsh, Jack Doherty, Eamon Leahy, Sonny Maher, Paddy O'Dwyer, Michael O'Reilly, Philip Ryan, Mick Leahy.

\* \* \*

When 1996 dawned there were a num-

ber of serious contenders for county honours. County champions, Nenagh, were hoping to expand on their 1995 victory. Toomevara had very definite aspirations, feeling they had been ambushed the previous year. Cashel King Cormacs believed they had left it behind in 1995, when losing a seven point lead to Nenagh, and intended to make amends.

Boherlahan had gained enormously in



Boherlahan-Dualla's David Ryan salutes the crowd after the county senior hurling final. On left, Aidan Flanagan also joins in.



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confidence as a result of making the breakthrough the previous year and saw no reason why they couldn't go one better. And there were other teams who felt that 1996 could be their year.

## DIVISIONAL CHAMPIONS

The west division were first with their senior final and it was played for the first time in Rockwell Rovers' newly developed venue at New Inn on August 18. Cashel King Cormac's went into the game very hot favourites but they came a cropper against a very purposeful Clonoulty-Rossmore side. On a windy afternoon. Cashel, who were going for four-in-a-row, had no answer to an opposition which played with determination and cohesion right through the hour and had a thirteen point winning margin at the final whistle on a scoreline of 2-13 to 0-6.

The defeat left Cashel with the Crosco Cup final to play against Kickhams in order to decide on the second team for the county championship. When this game, which was, in fact, a replay, the sides having drawn on July 21, was played on September 8, Cashel came through by 2-11 to 1-10. Had they been beaten, the sides would have had to play once more because Kickhams would then have been Crosco Cup winners and Cashel would have been runners-up in the championship!

So much for the west. There were three divisional finals on September 8. In the south, the venue was Monroe and the teams were Ballingarry and Killenaule. What had been billed as a potential thriller and a repeat of the 1992 final turned out to be a damp squib in which Killenaule had no answer to the opposition and Ballingarry won in a canter (2-17 to 1-10). Highlight of the game was the display of young star, Liam Cahill, who scored six points of the winners' total.

In the mid there was no doubt about Thurles Sarsfields' supremacy on the day. Inspired by Brendan O'Carroll, they put in a powerful performance to beat the holders, Boherlahan-Dualla, by 3-13 to 1-13 to take their 36th divisional title. This six point margin of victory was achieved in spite of conceding 1-2 in the first four minutes of the game.

Matters were more complicated in the north. The final brought together the most unlikely pairing, Lorrha and Newport. Neither side seemed likely prospects in the beginning of the year. But then Lorrha put Nenagh out in the first round and Newport gave Toomevara their marching orders in the second round. The two sides eventually made it to the final at Nenagh on September 8.

For Newport it was a very special occasion as the club hadn't found itself in that position since as far back as 1931. There was a great atmosphere about the final, which was added to by the similarity between Newport's and Wexford's colours. The sides ended level at 0-12 to 1-9 with Lorrha's John Madden getting the



Pat King (Toomevara) and David Ryan (Boherlahan-Dualla, on ground) dispute possession during the county senior hurling final. In the background, Terry Dunne (Toomevara) watches the outcome.

last minute leveller. The replay was the following Sunday and a very exciting occasion saw Newport span a 61 year gap to become north champions by 2-13 to 3-6. In a welter of excitement, the Newport captain, Connie McGrath, received the cup from divisional chairman John Joe McKeogh.

As championship losers, Lorrha had to play league winners, Toomevara, to decide on the second team for the county championship. This game was played at Cloughjordan on September 28 and the league winners didn't have much difficulty in ousting a Lorrha side badly depleted by injury, on a scoreline of 1-16 to 2-7.

## QUARTER-FINALS

In the quarter-finals the mid played the south and the north played the west. The first encounter was between Thurles Sarsfields and Killenaule, at Littleton, on September 21. The margin of victory of nine points by Thurles Sarsfields was comfortable but it flattered the mid men somewhat and didn't do justice to Killenaule. The latter were much improved on their south final performance and could consider themselves unlucky to be behind by 2-13 to 1-7 at the final whistle.

The remaining three quarter-finals were played off on the weekend of October 5/6. In Clonmel on Saturday, Boherlahan-

Dualla bounced back from their defeat in the mid final to record a comprehensive defeat of south champions, Ballingarry. They were in command of the game from the third minute when Michael Ferncombe scored a goal from long range and were well on top at the interval, when they led by 2-12 to 0-4. In the 7th minute of the second half, Liam Cahill goaled for the south side but it did not unduly worry Boherlahan, who went on to win comfortably by 2-18 to 1-8.

The two remaining semi-finals were played at Templemore in fine conditions on the following day. The first game, between Cashel King Cormacs and Newport, was very exciting because of the closeness of the scores and the doubt about the result until the final minutes. In fact, right to the end, Newport might have got the goal to draw but Cashel defended well and a combination of determination and luck kept their opponents at bay until the end and a scoreline of 2-11 to 1-11 in their favour.

The second game was a big disappointment. Clonoulty-Rossmore were only a shadow of the side that had impressed so well in the west final. Right from the start Toomevara had matters under control. They got the scores and their tight defence prevented the west champions from



# Lár na Páirce



Seamus King (left), on behalf of Lár na Páirce GAA Museum, being presented with the Fr. Meagher Trophy by Connie Grace, chairman Co. Tipperary Bord na nOg at the board's Annual Convention in the Park Avenue House. The trophy was presented by the board of display in the museum and has been replaced by a new trophy presented by Dr. Dermot Clifford. Patron of the GAA.



One of the most exciting acquisitions in Lár na Páirce during 1996 was the Croke - Fennelly Cup. Won outright by the famous Thurles Blues in 1911 the very impressive trophy was in the care of the Archbishop of Cashel since 1948. During the year the Thurles Sarsfields club decided to present it on loan to Lár na Páirce. Photo (l-r): Seamus King (Lár na Páirce), Archbishop Clifford, Liam Ó Donnchú (Thurles Sarsfields).

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responding. It seemed as if the team was inhibited by the jerseys they wore, playing in the old Rossmore colours for the occasion. In the end Toomevara were comfortably in front by 2-17 to 0-9.

### THE SEMI-FINALS

Semple Stadium was the venue for the two semi-finals on October 13. In the first game mid champions, Thurles Sarsfields, were pitted against north league winners, Toomevara. The mid men, showing promise in the past few years and having given an impressive display in the mid final, believed they had the material to upset the north men.

They opted to play against the wind in the first half and could have had a goal from Johnny Enright early on but it was stopped by Jodie Grace. This failure to score epitomised their play all through the match: they never really got going and had to work inordinately hard for the meagre of rewards.

In contrast, Toomevara could do things effortlessly, could send over points at will and controlled the game right down the centre. The second half and the breeze brought no change in proceedings and the game dragged its slow length along to the final whistle without any prospect of a Sarsfields' revival. The final score was 1-17 to 0-6 with no less than eight players contributing to Toomevara's winning account.

In the second game, Boherlahan-Dualla gave a stunning performance which demolished Cashel King Cormac's and destroyed any chance they had of making up for the county semi-final failure in 1995. The west men went into the match with reasonable expectations. In fact some of their more fervent supporters gave them more than reasonable expectations. And yet, there had been a large number of question marks about this Cashel side in the course of the year.

They were struggling to succeed. They were waiting for the good display to arrive. They did not recognise that things were going as badly as they were. And the day didn't change anything. Cashel got an ideal start with T.J. Connolly's goal but as if to confirm that the weakest time in a team's defence is immediately after it scores a goal, Boherlahan struck almost immediately with a Philip O'Dwyer goal.

Then when Cashel appeared to have absorbed the storm from Boherlahan, O'Dwyer struck again with another goal in the 21st minute. This was followed by a third from Michael Murphy five minutes later. The mid men led by 3-5 to 1-6 at half-time and any signs of a Cashel revival were shattered by another O'Dwyer goal nine minutes into the second half.

However, Cashel reduced their deficit to five points midway through the half and for a short while things looked more hopeful. But, just as the sun was about to come out, O'Dwyer struck again with his fourth goal in the 17th minute. This put an end to Cashel's hopes and expectations and left

Boherlahan-Dualla convincing 5-11 to 2-8 winners.

Whereas O'Dwyer's performance grabbed the headlines, this was a great team effort in which every member grafted for everybody else and many players revealed high levels of skill. Boherlahan-Dualla showed a great level of hunger and commitment and a tremendous self belief.

### THE COUNTY FINAL

The pairing for the county final was unusual. Neither team had won divisional honours. Toomevara had been beaten in the second round of the divisional championship by the eventual winners, Newport, who, in turn, had been beaten by Cashel at the quarter-final stage. The latter were beaten by Clonoulty-Rossmore in the west final, who were then beaten in the quarter-final by Toomevara, who defeated Thurles Sarsfields in the semi-final after they had beaten Boherlahan-Dualla in the mid final.

And in the second semi-final, Boherlahan-Dualla beat Cashel, who had overcome Toomevara's earlier victors. It was really difficult to understand the way things were going.

Just under 10,000 spectators came to Semple Stadium on October 27 to watch the fare in reasonably good conditions. Although Boherlahan-Dualla had the breeze in their favour in the first half, it was Toomevara who got the breaks and the scores which gave them a five point lead at the interval.

The north men got a goal in the 14th minute from Kevin Kennedy, which was deflected into the net by William Hickey. Five minutes later Michael Murphy got through for the mid men but failed to score.

In the final minutes of the first half, Toomevara got three points without reply from Boherlahan, who, in fact, had two scoreable opportunities driven wide by Aidan Flanagan.

As the teams went in for the interval break the signs were not good for Boherlahan. Only the optimists might claim that the goal should never have happened and Flanagan might have scored the two points. Had both these things happened the sides would have been level at that stage. For Toomevara there was the loss of Bevans after 15 minutes, a player who had been giving a lot of trouble to Tommy O'Dwyer. On the positive side his replacement, Terry Dunne, was playing well and had scored two great points during the second quarter.

Boherlahan-Dualla resumed well and had two points in three minutes. But, when their spirits were beginning to rise, Toomevara came back with a point from Liam Nolan and then the finest score of the hour, a goal by Kevin Kennedy, to put the Greyhounds 7 points ahead and seemingly in an unassailable position. But the goal acted as a spur to the Boherlahan boys.

They responded swiftly with three

points by J.J. McGrath, Ger Flanagan and Aidan Flanagan. Then, in the 11th minute, a goal by Philip O'Dwyer. The game was now wide open. Boherlahan had a new lease of life.

Points were exchanged. The sides were level and, in the dying minutes of the game, Liam Maher sent over the bar to give Boherlahan-Dualla the lead for the first time and victory when referee Willie Barrett sounded the final whistle.

It was a time to remember! After so many years in the wilderness, Boherlahan-Dualla had arrived in the promised land.

A jubilant Boherlahan captain, Philly Ryan, received the cup from county chairman Seán Fogarty as Semple Stadium became a sea of euphoric blue and gold. While this ecstatic celebration was taking over the field, Toomevara were left with the sadness of defeat and the query as to what had gone wrong. They had come up against a greater hunger but must have felt that they had left victory behind them. The teams were as follows:

**Boherlahan-Dualla** – Philip Ryan (capt.), William Hickey, T.J. O'Dwyer, Tommy Dwyer, Seamus Hickey, Conor Gleeson, David Ryan, Michael Ferncombe, J.J. McGrath, Ger Flanagan, Michael Murphy, Brian O'Dwyer, Philip O'Dwyer, Liam Maher, Aidan Flanagan.

**Toomevara** – Jody Grace, Pat Maher, Rory Brislane, Aidan Maxwell, George Frend, Michael O'Meara, Phil Shanahan, Tony Delaney, Pat King (Capt.), Kevin Kennedy, Tommy Dunne, Ken Dunne, Michael Bevans, Kevin McCormack, Liam Nolan. Subs: Terry Dunne for Bevans, Liam Flaherty for McCormack, Bevans for King.

**Referee:** William Barrett (Ardfinnan).

**Man of the Match:** David Ryan (Boherlahan-Dualla).

**Boherlahan-Dualla Selectors:** Martin O'Dwyer, Kieran Maher, Willie Joe O'Dwyer, Donagh O'Donnell (trainer).

**Toomevara Selectors:** Seán Stack, Dinny Haverty, Matt O'Meara.

### COUNTY SENIOR HURLING CHAMPIONSHIP 1996

**County Final:** October 27, 1996, Semple Stadium, Thurles – Boherlahan-Dualla 1-16, Toomevara 2-12.

**County semi-finals:** October 13, 1996, Semple Stadium, Thurles – Toomevara 1-17, Thurles Sarsfields 0-6. Referee: Tommy Lonergan (Kilsheelan).

**Boherlahan-Dualla 5-11, Cashel King Cormacs 2-8.** Referee: Michael Cahill (Kilruane-MacDonaghs).

**County Quarter-finals:** September 21, 1996, Littleton – Thurles Sarsfields 2-13, Killenaule 1-7. Referee: Michael Cahill (Kilruane-MacDonaghs).

**October 5, 1996, Clonmel – Boherlahan-Dualla 2-18, Ballingarry 1-8.** Referee: Richie Barry (Cappawhite).

**October 6, 1996, Templemore – Cashel King Cormacs 2-11, Newport 1-11.** Referee T.J. Corby (Clonmel).

**Toomevara 2-17, Clonoulty-Rossmore 0-9.** Referee: Willie Barrett (Ardfinnan).



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*The Board wishes to thank Clubs, Gaels and Sponsors of Mid Tipperary for their continuing support in the promotion of Gaelic Games in our Division. Congratulations to all Divisional and to Championship winners.*



Officers and Committee of Mid Tipperary GAA Board photographed after the Board's Annual Convention in Sarsfields Social Centre. Seated (l.-r.): Noel Murphy, Assistant Secretary; Bob Stakelum, President; Seán Mockler, Chairman; Matty Connolly, Secretary; John O'Donovan, Treasurer. Standing: John Moloughney, Co. Board Junior Club rep.; Conchubhair Ó Riain, Oifigeach na Gaeilge; Michael Bourke, Co. Board Junior Club rep.; Jim Max, Thurles Sportsfield rep.; Mick Curley, Gate Checker; Andy O'Gorman, Youth Officer; Pat Cullen, Co. Board Trustee; Jimmy Meighan, Vice-chairman; Dick Maher, Gate Checker; Andy O'Gorman, Youth Officer; Pat Cullen, Co. Board Trustee; Jimmy Meighan, Vice-chairman; Dick Maher, Gate Checker; Liam O'Dwyer, Munster Council rep.; John Ryan, Co. Development Officer; Harry Ryan, Vice-chairman.



# COUNTY SENIOR HURLING CHAMPIONS

## Boherlahan-Dualla

**T**HE past two years have been most entertaining, enjoyable, and above all, successful for us the people of Boherlahan-Dualla. In 1995 we took the first step in our great hurling breakthrough by taking the Leahy Cup in the Mid division, the first time since 1953 and this year we completed that breakthrough when we took the county trophy – the Dan Breen Cup – in a hurricane county final finish against firm favourites Toomevara. At last the proud name of Boherlahan was vindicated and we could stand shoulder high once more with all our border parishes Moycarkey, Holycross, Clonoulty and Cashel who had themselves all won county senior honours in the last dozen years; and the tortuous wait of fifty five years was over.

As in 1995 Martin O'Dwyer was again entrusted with the team management and his co-selectors were Ciaran Maher and W.J. O'Dwyer. Aongus Ryan, because of commitment to his own club Cashel was not available as trainer but the management were fortunate to obtain the services of young Donncha O'Donnell a staff member at Rockwell Agricultural College and as the year went on both management and players began to realise how fortunate they were with the training skills of this young Corkonian with Nenagh family connections. Having completed some weeks of training the teams first engagement was in the Cahill Cup on a cold Saturday evening in April at home to Gortnahoe and there we glimpsed what we might later hope to expect. We later beat Holycross but lost to Loughmore in a replay. Our concentration was now set on the championship.

On May 5th we drew again with Loughmore but won the replay decisively and then went on to defeat Holycross and Moycarkey before losing the mid final to Thurles Sarsfields in Holycross in mid September. This mid final defeat spurred on the players to greater effort and so in the quarter final we decisively defeated an up and coming Ballingarry team at Clonmel and later disposed surprisingly easy of near neighbours Cashel in the County semi-final.

Our final hurdle was old foes Toomevara and just as in the semi-final of a year earlier this was our finest display as in tigerish fashion we snatched a last minute victory by the narrowest of margins. We had broken the barrier of

fifty five years and our proud name would be recorded once again in the records of Tipperary. For this wonderful success the accolades must go, first of all, to Martin O'Dwyer, Donncha O'Donnell, Ciaran Maher, W.J. O'Dwyer and the team selection whose dedication to training for all of nine long months was way above the normal call of duty. Families and leisure time were sacrificed and no fewer than eleven of the final fifteen had travelled over thousands of miles from Dublin, Waterford, Limerick, Cork and many a place besides on two or more evenings per week to attend to training.

Practise games were also included against such well-known clubs as Rathnure or Birr and they also, though time consuming proved invaluable. Nine months hard work had borne fruit and the tumultuous welcome that greeted our heroes as they returned to our village on that damp October Sunday evening had to be seen to be appreciated as thousands of parishioners young and old and neighbours flocked together to savour the long-awaited success.

### EARLIER DAYS

Hurling in Boherlahan and its environs preceded even the foundation of the GAA itself in 1884 and by the turn of the century five county titles had come to the area; Tubberadora 1895, 1896, 1898; Suir View 1897; Ballytarsna 1901. The early years of the century saw the emergence of Thurles Blues and Toomevara and then in

1912 the Boherlahan club was founded. Having succumbed to Toom on a number of occasions during its 'teething' years the club was nonetheless impatient for success and under Johnny Leahy they won their first County final in 1915, adding further county success in 1916, 1917 and 1918. The twenties still saw Boherlahan and the Greyhounds grappling for the honours Boherlahan taking the titles in 1922, 1924, 1925, 1927 and 1928 while Toom were successful in 1923, 1930 and 1931.

Strangely enough the next sixty years turned out to be lean ones for both these famed parishes Boherlahan just taking a single title in 1941 and Toomevara likewise just one in 1960. Tradition, however, dies hard and sooner or later a re-emergence of both these clubs was inevitable. As in the earlier years of the century Toom were first to break through, winning in 1992, 1993 and 1994. Was the success of the 'hounds a signal for a Boherlahan revival? Were the ghosts of the Leahy's, the O'Donnells, the O'Dwyers and the Powers calling for a club renaissance? One way or the other the response was quickly forthcoming. Success over Toom in the '95 semi-final was gloriously followed by ultimate success in 1996. Boherlahan were back where for over five decades we yearned to be. Whether we go on to emulate the deeds of the Leahy era is still in the lap of the Gods but with a very young team of eager players we hope to be around as we enter the opening years of the new millenium.



Boherlahan-Dualla's Liam and Martin O'Dwyer (team manager) get their hands on the Dan Breen Cup after the county senior hurling final.



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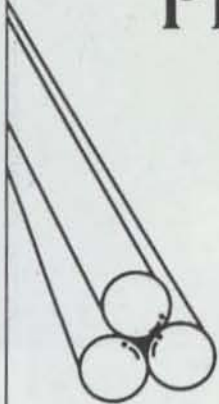
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They can sing, they can (probably) dance, they can play (hurling) and they'll go far! – Boherlahan-Dualla players David Ryan, Philip Ryan (captain) and Conor Gleeson join together for a few vereses of 'Up the Boys of Boherlahan' (a ballad penned specially for the occasion by Philip's uncle, Philly) after their victory over Toomevara in the county senior hurling final at Semple Stadium.

### THE LEAN YEARS

In recent weeks I have been asked by various commentators what the present team possessed that seemed lacking for fifty five years. I tried to explain by showing that the early years of the club which yielded nine County finals was a vintage time and was bound to be followed by leaner years. Other clubs, such as Sarsfields and Toom know my sentiments. I also reminded them of the many clubs which have never won a county hurling final. The mentors of such clubs who, year in year out, work tirelessly to keep their players motivated deserve no less praise than the successful ones and their contribution to the association is as valuable and often more difficult than their successful counterparts. Likewise, the mentors of our club who kept the flag flying for fifty five fruitless years are all a vital part of the current success. I have in mind men such as Tom Leahy, Willie O'Dwyer, Philly O'Dwyer, John Connolly, Paddy O'Dwyer and Jacky Maher who witnessed the early years of the decline. The expectations of the late forties and early fifties gave way to even gloomier times in the sixties with our relegation to junior status and men such as Philly Heffernan, Bob Manton, Lar O'Dwyer. Tim Maher and Leonard Meskill carried bravely on despite adversity. These men saw a glimmer of hope with the county minor final success of 1970 but it was not until a decade later that we eventually won the Intermediate County final and could once more contest the senior grade. The eighties were more hopeful. Continuing earlier work at under-age level by men such as Philip Ryan, Eddie Ryan and Brian O'Dwyer; Dick Delaney, that great motivator of juveniles worked assiduously aided by the likes of Danny Troy, Tommy Flanagan,

Ann Ferncombe and Paddy O'Dwyer and soon the age old adage, "Mol an óige agus tiocfaidh siad", was beginning to ring true. These juveniles of the early eighties later became the successful Minors and U21's

first under Ciaran Maher, Paddy Wardick and Philip Ryan and later under Michael Ferncombe, Bob McLoughlin and Cyril O'Dwyer and John Devane. These players are, in the main the basis for our recent success.

The present officers of the club, Billy Maher, Paddy Stapleton, P.J. Maher, John Davane, Bob McLoughlin, Seamus Leahy, John Maher and Liam O'Dwyer have over recent years given the enlightened leadership so necessary for success and they along with board representatives such as the late Tim Maher. Liam O'Dwyer and Matty Connolly have played their parts and have never flinched in their work for the success and survival of Boherlahan-Dualla.

As we gaze into our crystal ball on the approach of the new millennium what do we see? No doubt many another club through the length and breadth of the county will have their sights on the self-same glory which now is ours and it is that healthy thirst for hurling glory and village pride which as made the game of hurling such a vital part of life and the leisure-time activities of so many of the homes of Tipperary.

P. Ó Riain.

## UP THE BOYS OF BOHERLAHAN

In Irelands' hurling history Tipperary holds first place  
For many a glorious victory has been won by Kickham's race  
And as we give due credit to each team and to each man  
We now must sing the praises of the Boys of Boherlahan

### Chorus:

Up the Boys of Boherlahan  
Gallant hurlers every one  
Ireland's choice and Ireland's champions  
Are the Boys of Boherlahan

ii

Then here's to Tipperary to her hurlers bold and brave  
To her homesteads bright and cheery where we never reared a slave  
And now a toast I give you and let each one fill the can  
And many more All Irelands to the Boys of Boherlahan

### Chorus:

iii

Twas a damp October evening we came to Thurles town  
Faced up to Toomevara to wrestle for the crown  
The 'hounds were firm favourites, all deft with the camán  
But they clean forgot the pride and grit of the Boys of Boherlahan

### Chorus:

iv

There were Ryans, O'Dwyers, Hickeys, Conor Gleeson and Liam Maher  
The Flanagans could put the ball a sailing oe'r the bar  
Murphy, Ferncombe, McGrath, you're the first since forty one  
To bring the Dan Breen trophy back again to Boherlahan

### Chorus:



# The 1895 All-Ireland Double Centenary

By Seamus J. King

**T**HE CENTENARY of the first All-Irelands played in Croke Park was celebrated on March 15. The day was chosen because it was exactly 100 years since the hurling and football All-Irelands of 1895 were played. On March 15, 1896 teams from Tubberadora and Tullaroan contested the hurling All-Ireland while teams from Arravale Rovers and Pierce (Navan) O'Mahony's played in the football All-Ireland. It was only right and fitting that representatives and teams from the four clubs should be invited to Croke Park to commemorate the event one hundred years later.

Only eight years after the inauguration of the All-Ireland championships, the governing body of the G.A.A. was facing a crisis in regard to finding suitable venues at which to stage important fixtures. By 1895 it was clear that something would have to be done in the wake of the recent debacles at major games – the Phoenix Park fiasco when the venue for two All-Irelands had to be changed at virtually a few minutes notice; the 1894 All-Ireland football final replay at Thurles, which was unfinished and the lack of crowd control at the Dublin-Meath game in the same year at Clontarf Park in Drumcondra. The latter ground had served reasonably well in its day, but, with the rapidly growing support for Gaelic games, it was imperative that the use of grounds capable of housing much larger crowds than heretofore be acquired.

The problem was that the G.A.A. was not in a financial position to embark on any expensive acquisitions. Renting suitable pitches was the only option and the grounds of the City and Suburban Racecourse and Amusements Company at Jones's Road had been used with success for the 1895 Leinster semi-final and final. With this experience behind them, the Central Council had no hesitation in fixing the 1895 All-Ireland finals for March 15, 1896 at the venue.

## SUCCESS

Under the astute direction of President Frank B. Dinneen and the General Secretary, R. T. Blake, no effort was spared to make the move to this new location and the staging of the first All-Irelands there was a huge success. For a week before the games, the two sets of medals which were to be awarded to the winners were displayed in the window of Messrs Moore and Company, Grafton Street and tickets were on sale 'all over the city'. According to a newspaper report, the price of tickets was 6d. (2.5p) to the trotting track and 1/- (5p) to the stands up to Saturday before the finals. On Sunday the prices would be increased to 1/- (5p) and 1/6 (7.5p). The programme could hardly have been more attractive, as, apart from the two games, the long puck and long kick championships were also down for decision. The events were timed thus: football final at 11.45; hurling final at 1.00; long kick at 2.15 and long puck at 2.30.

There was a delay in getting matters under way as the train carrying the Tipperary teams arrived late with the football game eventually starting at 1 p.m. Only the football match lived up to expectations. Against the breeze Arravale Rovers failed to score in the first half during which Pierce O'Mahonys scored three points. However, the Tipperary side improved in the second half, scoring four points without reply from Meath. Willie Ryan notched the winning point seven minutes from the end to give Arravale Rovers victory by 0-4 to 0-3.

The Arravale Rovers team was as follows: Paddy Finn (capt.), Willie Ryan, Bob Quane, Jim Riordan, Mick Finn, M. 'Jerry' McInerney, Paddy Glasheen, Jack Carey, Mick Conroy, Dick Butler, Willie Ryan, Jack Heffernan, Jerry O'Brien, Paddy Daly, Batt Finn, Phil Dwyer, John Carew.

The hurling final, despite a brave showing by Kilkenny, espe-



Larry O'Donnell, the Arravale Rovers captain, introducing the members of his team.



Before the Exhibition Games in Croke Park, March 15th, 1996, Connie Lorrigan, Dick Maher, Arravale Rovers, Liam Ó Maolmhichil, John Maher, Boherlahan



Philly Ryan, the Boherlahan captain, receiving his medal from G.A.A. President, Jack Boothman.



cially in the opening stages, gradually became a one-sided affair. Tipperary led by 1-6 to 1-0 at the interval and at the finish were easy winners by 6-8 to 1-0. One of the stars of Tubberadora's success was Paddy Riordan, a Drombane man, to whom is attributed the distinction of scoring all his side's total of 6-8 on the day. This score should give him the record for an All-Ireland final but, because it was never authenticated, the record is claimed by Michael 'Gah' Aherne, who scored 5-4 in Cork's 6-12 to 1-0 win over Galway in the 1928 final. Paddy Riordan's brother, Jim, played with Arravale Rovers on the same day. Mr. J. J. Kenny (Dublin) refereed both games and though there was no official figure issued, most estimates put the attendance at about 8,000. The size of this figure can be placed in context by the fact that the Ireland-Wales rugby international, played the previous day at Lansdowne Road attracted a crowd of 7,000. In fact the entire Welsh rugby panel were in attendance at Croke Park on the day.

The successful Tubberadora side was as follows: Mickey Maher (capt.), E. Maher, Phil Byrne, W. Kerwick, John Maher, Denis Walsh, John Walsh, Peter Maher, T. Flanagan, Jas. Flanagan, Paddy Riordan, Jas. Gleeson, Fergus Moriarity, John Connolly, John Maher, E. Brennan, Will Devane.

#### SEQUEL

The proceedings of the historic afternoon at Jones's Road concluded with the presentation of medals to the winning teams and to the individuals who had won the long puck and long kick competitions. In a letter to the *Irish Daily Independent* on the Tuesday following the finals, the referee, J. J. Kenny stated that the result of the football final was incorrect. According to his letter, he stated he should have disallowed one of the Tipperary scores for an infringement following a kick out from the Meath goal and that the correct result was a draw. However, no action was taken on the foot of this disclosure and, though there was a lengthy discussion at the next meeting of the Central Council, with Pierce O'Mahony's reluctant to press the matter, the result was allowed to stand. At a later stage, the Central Council presented a special set of medals to the Meath side with the inscription 'Virtual Champions of Ireland, 1895'.

#### A CENTURY LATER

The commemoration on March 15, 1996 began with a luncheon for the officers of the four clubs involved in Croke Park. After the meal, which was attended also by G.A.A. officials and the Press, the President of the Association, Jack Boothman, addressed the group. He paid tribute to the men of the past whose endeavours helped set in motion two of the most

exciting and cherished field games in the world, hurling and football. He had a special word of praise for famed Tubberadora, the home of so many great hurling names. On hand to receive the presentation of a framed commemorative scroll from Mr. Boothman was vice-chairman of the Boherlahan-Dualla club, P. J. Maher. In his words of thanks, the latter said the presentation would always have a special place in the hearts of his clubmen. The presentation to Arravale Rovers was accepted by club chairman, Tom Richardson, who spoke in praise of the men who gave a lifetime of service to the club. Tullaroan chairman, Ger Doheny, and Pierce O'Mahony, chairman, Liam Curran, also received scrolls and spoke of the momentous occasion enjoyed by their respective clubs. The Tullaroan chairman remarked on the coincidence that he and the Tubberadora chairman were contemporaries at Pallaskerry College.

After the meal a limestone plaque was unveiled at the back of the Hogan Stand inscribed thus:

*Unveiled by Sean Boothman  
Uachtaran Cumann Luchtleas Gael  
15 Marta 1996  
to commemorate the first All-Ireland  
finals played in Croke Park  
15 Marta 1896  
Iomaint  
Tubberadora v. Tullaroan  
Peil  
Arravale Rovers v. Pierce O'Mahony's  
1896 - 1996*

(With the life of the Hogan Stand under threat with the new development of Croke Park, some of the spectators wondered would the plaque have a much shorter life than the event commemorated).

#### EXHIBITION GAMES

After the unveiling of the plaque, two exhibition games, fifteen minutes aside, took place to mark the occasion. The results of the century earlier were reversed when the hurlers of Tullaroan and the footballers of Pierce O'Mahony's claimed victory. In the hurling game there was an exciting finish.

Tullaroan were in front by 0-6 to 0-4 with about three minutes to go. In the course of two minutes, Boherlahan went ahead with a goal and a point, but, in the dying minute of the game, Tullaroan forced a penalty from which a goal was scrambled and this score gave them victory by 1-6 to 1-5. The football was a much more one-sided contest with the Pierce O'Mahony players much fitter and more prepared than Arravale Rovers, running out easy winners by 2-6 to 1-1. Dublin referee, Aodan Mac Suibhne, refereed both games.

After the games the teams were feted at a function and the contestants were presented with a fine commemorative medal to mark the occasion. The respective captains, Seamus Dunne of Tullaroan, Brendan Murray of Pierce O'Mahony's, Philip Ryan of Boherlahan and Larry O'Donnell of Arravale Rovers, introduced the players and they received their medals from President Jack Boothman.

Overall then, an enjoyable afternoon and a fitting tribute to the men of one hundred years ago, who became the first to play All-Irelands in the famous venue. Although the latter would not be recognisable to the ghosts of these men, with the dramatic Cusack Stand dominating the scene, the games of hurling and football would be easy to identify even if they are played at a faster pace.



Jim Coppinger, Pat Stakelum, Tony Reddan, Br. Walsh at Final of Supermacs Cup in Limerick, 1996

Beannachtai na Féile ortsa agus ar do theaghlach!



# Blessed Edmund Rice, the Christian Brothers and their contribution to Gaelic games in Co. Tipperary

by Liam P. O'Maoileoin

**T**his has been a great year for the Christian Brothers, their staffs, pupils and friends. This year has seen the culmination of nearly 50 years work — a year in which we have seen Br. Edmund Ignatius Rice beatified by his Holiness Pope John Paul II. This ceremony was held on Oct. 6th and watched in brilliant sunshine by approx. 6,000 Irish pilgrims and by many more from C.B. schools throughout the world. It was a great day and those privileged to be there, had reason to feel uplifted and proud that the virtues of Edmund were at last recognised officially by the church.

Edmund Rice founded the Christian Brothers in 1802 and by 1806 he had established a school in Carrick on Suir. Schools were later established at Thurles (1816), Clonmel 1847, 1860, Nenagh 1862, Tipperary Town 1868, Cashel 1869, Templemore 1932 and Roscrea 1961. Having established themselves in the educational field the Brothers then gave a commitment to the promotion of Gaelic games in primary and post-primary schools. Many a young hurler experienced the joy and pleasure of participating in Gaelic games in mid-Tipp by playing for the Doody Cup. Br. Doody had expended a tremendous amount of his time and energy in promoting the games in Nenagh and later in Thurles. It was men like him that epitomises the contribution of the Christian Brothers to the advancement of Gaelic games.

## THURLES C.B.S.

The 1930's and the 1950's were the halcyon days at Thurles. They won the Harty cup on three occasions in each of those decades. Br. Giffney had trained the 1950 team and was then transferred. Br. Doody took over the training in 1951 and he retained the trophy. He was also training the 1956 team and had brought them to the semi-final when tragedy struck. He became ill and was ordered to bed. Thurles were playing Limerick in the Harty and he insisted on going to the match which Thurles won. The following morning after Mass he became unwell and was ordered back to bed. He died on the 17th December. Br. A. Leahy took over the training and the Cup was retained by Thurles.

Thurles were very lucky in the quality of the Brothers who were transferred there. These include Br. Giffney, Br.



O'Leary (also Templemore), Br. Power, Br. Devaney, Br. Perkins. These have now been succeeded by Br. O'Donoghue, Mr. Long, Mr. C. O'Loughlin. They also had Br. Walsh, Br. Fitzgerald, Br. Keane to train the up and coming stars of the Primary school.

The number of past-pupils of Thurles that progressed to play for Tipperary (and one famous hurler Pat Henderson of Kilkenny) is too numerous to name but the Ryans, Stakelums, Kennys and Doyles are all easily remembered. The contribution of Thurles C.B.S. to Tipp hurling would provide sufficient material for a book.



Mgr. Christopher Lee with some of the Thurles Group who attended the Beatification in Rome.

## TEMPLEMORE

When Templemore C.B.S. was established in 1932 Thurles was the dominant school in Tipp. Templemore started as a mainly football school. They had 3 pupils on the Tipp. team that contested the 1934 All-Ireland minor final viz. Bill Treacy, Jimmy Rafferty, the late Jimmy Quinn. Treacy was also chosen on the Munster colleges and played alongside Joe Keohane and Paddy Kennedy. When Br. O'Leary was transferred to Templemore he set about sowing the seeds of hurling in

the school. A few years later Br. J. Scully (Cork) and Br. Tynan (Borrisoleigh) continued the process. Their efforts and with the help of John Costigan bore abundant fruit. Since then they have won Corn Phadraig six times and with their last success in it also won Corn Ui Chaoimh (All-Ireland B); Kinnane Cup 11 times; Corn an Phiar-saigh 4 times as well as many Tipp championships.

The heroic efforts of John Costigan, helped by Br. Perkins, Br. Seavers reached fruition when in 1978 Templemore, in an epic final against St. Flannans, won the Harty Cup and then beat St. Peter's, Wexford to win the All-Ireland colleges cup.

## ROSCREA

The Christian Brothers opened their school in Roscrea in 1961 with less than 30 pupils. They immediately entered both Tipp, Munster competitions. Success came early as they won the Rice Cup in '64, '65, '66. They also won the Dr. Kinnane Cup in '69 and '70 and the Croke Cup in '67. After a few lean years they

captured the Fitzgerald Cup in 1981 and in the following 2 years they captured 4 Munster titles in the U/15, U/16½ and under 18 level. I remember those 2 years well as I was invited, as Chairman of the Munster Colleges, to present the medals to the winning teams. The welcome was very warm and the enthusiasm of staff, parents and pupils was infectious. On one of those occasions I travelled back to Clonmel in a storm of thunder and lightning. In 1984 Roscrea entered the Harty and although beaten by Sexton Street, they earned many plaudits for their skill and courage against stronger and more



experienced opponents.

The early pioneers of hurling were Br. Scully who had already made his mark in Templemore and Br. J. Collins who had spent some time in Clonmel and Thurles. When Br. Collins departed from Roscrea in 1967 his leaving was looked upon as a disaster. His successor, Br. Casserly, was a superb athlete and imbued the lads with his own never-say-die spirit.

Br. Donovan, who arrived as superior in 1978, provided a link with the earlier successes as he had been on the staff in '67. Br. Devaney, fellow townsman of Br. Collins and Br. Casserly, who had previously trained Harty Cup teams in Limerick, Thurles did great work for the promotion of hurling in Roscrea.

## HIGH SCHOOL, CLONMEL

The first inter-colleges games were played in Munster in 1918. That year the senior hurling and football trophies were won by Rockwell. The games were then suspended and not re-started until 1928. Br. E.I. Gleeson (Borrisoleigh) had arrived in Clonmel in 1926 and was to remain there until 1941. The High school teams were famous during his time in Clonmel. They won the Senior A title in 1928. They also won the Frewen Cup in 1940.

The '40's and '50's saw a succession of brothers who believed in promoting everything that was Gaelach. Some of these men, T.G. O'Munieachain, Eamonn O'Donnabhan, N. de Barra and G. O'Coileain were absolutely committed to the Gaelic ideal. However no Munster titles were garnered in those two decades. In the '60's and '70's the High School re-discovered their winning ways and brought the following cups to Clonmel: Corn na Bardan '67, '72, '73; Corn na gColaisti '69; Corn na Carraigh '73 and one hurling trophy Corn Solo 1983, Corn and Uachtarain 1986.

## TIPPERARY C.B.S. (THE ABBEY)

The Abbey was founded in 1868. The first brother that I remember in Tipp that was strong on games was Br. Carr. He put in a terrific effort to inspire his pupils to win a football trophy. As a result of his efforts he was asked to serve as a Tipp. minor selector in 1955. He had as co-selectors Br. Barry of Clonmel and Br.

Albert Small (Patricians, Fethard). That year they won the Munster final and reached the All-Ireland but were beaten by Dublin. Success came to the Abbey out of the blue and it was not in football. Stories abound about the famous Harty victory of 1959. Some say that Br. O'Donnell forgot to enter the team and that it was the students who persuaded him to enter them.

The Abbey had won the Dr. Kinnane cup in 1955 and won it again in 1995. They also won Corn an Phiarsaigh in '86, and '90 and the Dean Ryan in '87. Second in importance to winning the Harty was their great victory in winning Corn Phadraig and then going forward and winning Corn Ui Chaoimh (All-Ireland Colleges). A great deal of the hurling success can be attributed to the excellent training that the young boys got from Br. C. M. Moloughney. From the time he came to Tipp, he never spared himself in his coaching of the primary boys.

The two most promising hurlers to come out of the Abbey were John O'Donoghue and Nicky English, two great servants of the Premier County. Seamus McCarthy, recent trainer of the Tipp. football team is probably the best known of a great crop of footballers who came from the Abbey.

## CARRICK ON SUIR

Carrick is the second oldest foundation of the Brothers. Two brothers arrived in Carrick to set up school in 1806 just 4 years after Edmund Rice set up Mt. Sion.

Carrick was fortunate in that Br. P.F. Vaughan started his teaching career here in 1936. Br. Vaughan was a brilliant mathematician and a gifted trainer of choirs. He was later to train the Harty teams of the North Mon. and Sexton St., Limerick. Other brothers who were to coach the boys were Br.s Hickey, Marnell and Ennis. I remember Br. Hickey of Murrow as a man who used to make his own sliotars and hurlers. Br. Ennis was elderly when he came and yet he infused enthusiasm into his hurlers.

Br. Freeman helped to train teams in the early '70's and did Br. O'Kelly in the Primary. Tomas O'Niallain for many years has looked after football teams in the Primary Schools. In Munster competitions Carrick did not come good until the late '70's. They engaged considerable success between '77 and '87.

## NENAGH C.B.S.

Nenagh CBS has been and continues to this day to be a great stronghold of Gaelic games while other games are also catered for very well. The young hurlers of the '50's and thereafter were instructed in hurling by the teachers in the Primary and Secondary Schools, some were Christian Brothers, e.g. Br. Malone and Br. Kelliher, others were lay but in all of them the spirit of the Gaelic ethos moved them all towards everything National. For many still living, the recall of names such as Br. Frank Walsh, Br. Cass, Br. Perkins and Br. O'Connell will bring back memories of fine matches in pitches in Nenagh and North Tipperary. The role of the lay teachers was equally formative and the names of Vincent Kyne and Martin Slattery have become synonymous with the best in the hurling tradition of the Christian Brothers' Schools. Likewise Tom Sheehy and Willie Stankard have done trojan work on the Gaelic Football pitches. Another facet of the legacy of the Christian Brothers' in this area is the love for the skills of traditional Irish Music; a number of Brothers and their students have gone on to distinguish themselves with Comhaltas Ceoltoiri Eireann — Tom Gleeson, Willie Fogarty and Br. Jack Casey who presently encourages a group who are learning and playing instruments in the traditional mode.

## CASHEL C.B.S.

The first newspaper report of a hurling team in Cashel C.B.S. was written in 1927 and included a player called Jack Gleeson who was to play on the county Tipperary All-Ireland winning team of 1937. For just twenty years there is nothing in the line of success to report. Then in 1948 the school was successful in the Rice Cup competition.

Hurling flourished in the C.B.S. from the 1960's onwards with the arrival of an outstanding bunch of dedicated, determined and able mentors, who were also fortunate to have a fine crop of hurlers to work with at their disposal. Brother Noonan's arrival in 1964 began this line of distinguished trainers. Following him were Brother Malone, Br. Ryan, Brother O'Grady, John Gleeson and Mattie Finnerly. It is interesting to note that 7 past pupils of Cashel were on the panel of the victorious 1989 Tipperary All-Ireland team.

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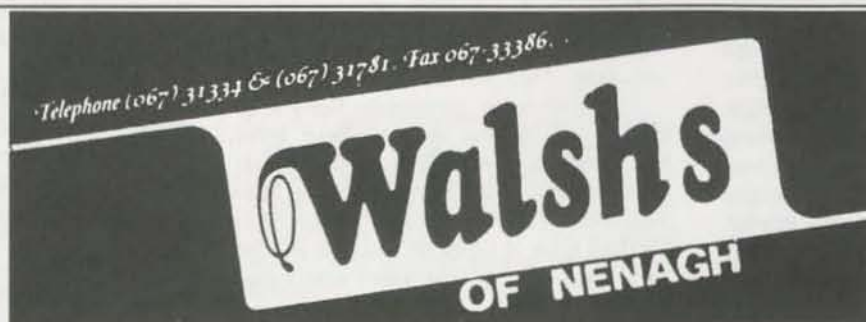
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# Newport bring a breath of fresh air to North Tipp Championship

**N**O GREAT thing is suddenly created, our past tells us. And so it proved for Newport that, after 61 years, greatness finally and justly came together for them in the splendid sunshine of a memorable autumn evening at MacDonagh Park, Nenagh.

Anyone present – except Lorrha folk – at the North's most hallowed venue on the evening of September 15th last, would be short of committing perjury were they to deny that something special unfolded in that divisional title decider.

Not since 1935 had this glorious occasion visited itself on the proud hurling parish of Newport. And wouldn't you know it, as what seemed, swapping the pent up frustrations of 61 years for unbridled joy as captain Connie McGrath lofted the Frank McGrath Cup.

The scenes which followed were quite unreal. Tears, we are told, are the noble language of the eye; then this was an occasion of enormous nobility as the elation poured out through the eyes of many a Newport supporter on that sunny autumn evening.

Even the many neutrals who waited around to hear McGrath's rousing speech seemed touched by the event, an event which will linger long in the memory of all present. The dream was now a reality for Newport. The shackles of 61 years had been broken.

To crown it all, team manager Tim Floyd gave a culled and passionately delivered version of "Dear Old Newport Town"

before the buoyant crowd flooded out the gates of MacDonagh Park and into a week of wild celebrations which engulfed both Newport and Birdhill.

Eight years earlier, Newport experienced the thrill of their first intermediate title in twenty two years – a year later they would return to capture the county championship – and while that in its own right was a milestone achievement for the club, it would never equate in terms of importance to a senior title success.

There were many who felt that Newport's tenure in senior ranks would be brief when they graduated from the intermediate grade in '89 but Newport truly believed they were back where they belonged. It may have taken seven years for them to finally take centre stage in the top ranks but Newport were never really going to be satisfied with a minor role in the grand play.

Without ever achieving spectacular success, Newport's progress in the senior grade was steady; they earned the respect of all opponents and were certainly not a side to be taken lightly (reigning divisional champions Nenagh learned that to their cost in '94).

But for all this, the men from the banks of the rippling Mulcaire waters were never really seen as potential North champions – outside their own domain, that is.

Indeed at the start of the campaign just gone by, a Newport v Lorrha north final was one of the more improbable fixtures the division expected to see.

## EARLY GAMES

Newport's opening to the campaign was less than conspicuous for would-be champions; a three point victory over Portroe (the Shannonside club were at their weakest for years) was only secured by a Kieran Buckley goal three minutes from time. Lorrha, their eventual final opponents, started with the proverbial bang, dispatching county champions Nenagh to the losers' group with a 0-10 to 0-9 victory.

That unimpressive victory over Portroe was not wont to instill confidence for the awesome task ahead for Newport, a quarter-final meeting with a Toomevara team that looked to be back to its irrepressible best in capturing the league title the previous month.

The sides met on Sunday, June 22nd, again at MacDonagh Park, Nenagh, in a clash which awakened the division to the genuine title aspirations of the Newport men.

The 2-13 to 2-11 Newport victory was without question the upset of the season. Toomevara did lessen the task for Newport somewhat by dropping a number of regulars for what was believed outside the camp to be disciplinary reasons, but not even this could detract from what was a truly magnificent victory for Newport.

In that game Newport provided more than enough evidence to suggest they were now real contenders for the title. Cushioned by a six point lead five minutes after the interval, Newport withstood some fierce late pressure from the rallying Toomevara men



**NEWPORT, NORTH TIPP. S.H. CHAMPIONSHIP '96** – Back: Martin McCabe, Barry Gleeson, Tom Moylen, John O'Mahony, Ger Floyd, Dinny Ryan, Aidan O'Gorman, Con McGrath. Front: Ger Bradley, John Ryan, Pat Keating, Timmy Jones, Liam Jones, Gerry Moloney, D.J. O'Brien. Mascot: Nigel Jones.





Newport team manager Tim Floyd, leads the team's supporters in an emotional rendering of "Dear Old Newport Town" after the North senior hurling final replay in which Newport defeated Lorrha to bring home the cup for the first time in sixty-three years.

before securing their place in the semi-final.

Moneygall's victory over Nenagh gave Newport a surprise semi-final opponent. After reaching such dizzy heights in the win over Toome, there was always a danger that Newport's guard would drop for the clash with the border county club.

Newport were, in fact, anything but convincing in that semi-final. A John Doughan pointed free three minutes into injury time sent the tie to a replay but after another tensely fought affair, Newport finally broke their semi-final hoodoo with a 2-12 to 1-12 victory which booked their place in their first North Senior Hurling final since 1935.

The three weeks break between the semi-final and final saw excitement in the parish rise to near fever pitch and when Newport took to the field on September 8th for the clash with Lorrha, they were greeted with an explosion of colour from a huge travelling support which swelled the attendance figures beyond previous records for a North final.

It was a splendid spectacle; what the game may have lacked in hurling quality, it more than made up for in sense of occasion. And it was Newport who responded best, with corner forward Dinny Ryan leading the Lorrha defence a merry jig as Newport opened a six point interval lead.

Lorrha, however, have courage in abundance and propelled by a superb second half display by centre back Cathal McIntyre, they fought their way back bravely and earned a second chance thanks to a late equaliser from a John Madden free.

Had Newport blown it? Would Lorrha's experience and craft grind them down? The consensus as the crowd filtered out after yet another draw was that, psychologically, the advantage now rested with Lorrha.

Long serving full back Donal O'Donoghue was ruled out through injury

for the replay and re-shuffle saw John McIntyre, who was clearly carrying an injury through the drawn game, drafted back to the No. 3 slot. Playing the former inter county star was a gamble and one which cost Lorrha dearly as by the time his forced substitution came about, Newport full forward John O'Mahoney had already rattled the net twice.

Newport were rampant in the first half but were caught napping just short of half time when Gerry Sullivan netted, reducing Newport's six point lead to just three at the break – hardly a true reflection on a first half they almost completely dominated.

From a position of strength, Newport were suddenly looking vulnerable and the hearts of their vociferous support collectively sank early in the second half as Lorrha hit the front after further goals from Pat Kennedy and Stephen Hogan.

Lorrha were 3-6 to 2-7 in front and looked to be on their way. Again it looked like Newport were going to be pondering another hard luck defeat.

But this side had not come through the stern tests the campaign had already thrown at them without having their character strengthened. This was the true test; their dominance had been shattered, their spirit

surely broken.

Ger Bradley pointed a free and Connie McGrath, whose influence on the game was significant, then shot over from an acute angle. Newport were level again and were suddenly, once more, hurling like champions elect. A disputed line-ball followed; Bradley took the pass and Newport were ahead. The screams of delight could be heard in the Clare Glens.

Every despairing Newport tackle, every stick that got to the ball was cheered loudly as the partisan support urged them on to victory. Bradley, Dinny Ryan and Bradley again pointed. A four point lead. "Surely we're there" was the look etched on the anxious faces of the Newport contingent. Ref. T. F. Stapleton answered them with the final whistle. It's over, the long wait had ended. Players sunk to their knees, the crowd raced onto the field, swallowing up the exhausted saffron and purple clad heroes.

The scenes were of wild jubilation. The back slaps. The hugs. Even the kisses were powerfully planted. Connie McGrath's speech stirred the emotion even further. Newport was aglow that night and for days after as every man, woman and child toasted the heroes of '96.

Not even a narrow county quarter final



**NEWPORT UNDER-12 HURLING, WINNERS** – Back: Michael Ryan, Eoin Larkin, Shane Ryan, Ciaran McCabe, Eoin Murphy, Dermot Duggan, Eoin Carroll, Dermot Ryan, Vincent Moloney, Philip O'Brien. Front: Ian O'Donovan, Nigel Ryan, Eoin Shinnors, Daragh Ryan, Andrew Hickey, Conor O'Mahoney, Christopher Koyce, Colin Moroney, Kieran O'Sullivan, Christopher Doyle, David Quinn. Mascot: M. Ryan.



**NEWPORT UNDER-21 FOOTBALLERS, WINNERS NORTH TIPP. A CHAMPIONSHIP 1996** – Back: Paddy Ryan, Cyril O'Neill, Tom Moylan, Brian Coffey, John O'Toole, Donncha Hoolihan, Ml. Doyle, John O'Mahoney, Raymond O'Brien, Michael Coffey, Martin McLoughlin. Front: Brian Lenihan, Mark Lenihan, Ken O'Brien, David Hickey, Eoin Bonfield, Ger O'Brien, Tom Clifford, Trevor Delahunty.



loss to Cashel could take from Newport's achievement – with a bit of luck that day, they would have taken another impressive scalp.

Retaining the title will be more difficult than winning it, but this is a Newport side which has finally come of age and fears no foe. In a year which saw the winds of change blow prominently elsewhere in the county and country's GAA corridors, Newport's North title success was a breath of fresh air for a division which has been dominated for five years by Nenagh and Toomevara.

What impressed most about them was their selfless determination and unshakable belief. In the victory over Toomevara and the drawn and replayed North final, in particular, they played a hunger and intense passion for victory the like of which had not been seen for a long time in the division.

And the beauty of it all was the suspense. The narrow victory over giants, Toomevara, the drawn semi-final, the drawn final and, eventually, the victory. It was the stuff great thrillers are made of. Maybe even fairytales. But it's certainly no fairytale. Pinch yourselves Newport, after 61 long years, you're North Senior Champions!

"An rud is annamh, is iontach"

by Eugene Hogan



Jimmy Butler Coffey, a North Senior Hurling Championship medal winner with Newport in 1935, Newport's last win in the championship, is pictured above with this year's captain, Connie McGrath, after Newport's victory over Lorrha in the replay of the final at Nenagh.



### County Final Win for Loughmore NS

Pupils from Loughmore NS, winners of the county final of the Table Quiz on GAA affairs photographed with their prizes after the final at Thurles CBS. Included are (front, 1 to 4) – team members Brendan Healy (captain), David McGrath, Evan Sweeney, Brendan Maher. Back – Donal Shanahan, Co. Board Youth Officer; Sean Fogarty, chairman GAA County Senior Board. The quiz was organised by the County Board Youth Committee in conjunction with Bord na nÓg.



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# Just reward for Dinny Cahill

By John Gilton 'Tipperary Star', GAA Correspondent

There is something very special about Inter-county players who give back so much to hurling and football. Those who enjoyed little success in their own playing days, and yet willingly gave of their services in later life towards the promotion of the games deserve even greater commendation. Tipperary Minor hurling coach, Dinny Cahill, fits into this category. The modest, unassuming, Cloughjordan man, does not readily accept praise but since September when he led the Premier County to All-Ireland glory he had been the recipient of many well deserved bouquets.

In his second year at the helm the Kilruane Mac Donagh's clubman pencilled his name into the record books for guiding the county to the first crown in the grade since 1982. Tipperary hurling cried out for a major breakthrough, and how fitting it was that Dinny, who never attained Intercounty All-Ireland recognition himself, should be the man in the driving seat. It was a just reward for Dinny who gave sterling service to Tipp in the dark unsuccessful days of the eighties.

A star of the near invincible Kilruane Mac Donagh's who won three County titles in a row in '77, '78, and '79, and an All-Ireland club title in '85, Dinny first played with Tipperary Seniors in 1980. He played at left half back in the 1980 Munster semi-final in Thurles, beside Noel O'Dwyer and Pat Fitzelle and Tipp lost that day to Cork on a 2-17 to 0-12 scoreline. But during the early eighties Cahill established himself as one of the foremost defenders in the game, a tough competitor but highly capable hurler. He figured in the Tipperary defence up to 1985, but never won a major award. But it speaks volumes for Dinny's dedication to the



Tipperary Minor Hurling selectors Ger O'Neill, Paudie Butler, Dinny Cahill (Manager).

sport that he was so determined to continue playing for his club, and figured with the Tipperary Masters side. In an interview before the All-Ireland final drawn game, Dinny Cahill told me that he always had a desire to get involved in coaching. And he was honoured to be given the role of Tipperary minor coach in 1995. 'Even though I did not win anything myself I enjoyed playing the game, and I was anxious to put back something into hurling' he said. Dinny put into his coaching of players his own traits, courage, skill, and confidence.

Having lost the first round to Waterford last year Dinny was determined towards making amends this season. With seven of last years

panel available, and new promising talent coming on stream, no stone was left unturned in the panel's preparation for the championship. Their passage to the All-Ireland victory was an impressive one, with wins over the cream of hurling, Limerick, Cork, Waterford, Antrim and Galway. Dinny's pragmatic, steely, no nonsense, approach combined with a huge respect for players did much to bring All-Ireland success to a team admired for their skill and courage. The need for an All-Ireland minor title in Tipperary was great and we salute Dinny and his co-selectors Paudie Butler, Ger O'Neill, Martin Maher, and all associated with the team, for attaining that welcome feat.



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# Tipperary Supporters' Club

By Gerry Ryan, P.R.O.

**O**UR supporters' club will be ten years in existence next year having been set up by Babs Keating when he took over as team manager in the autumn of '86. The supporters' club was the brainchild of Babs and he set it up to ease the financial worries of the county board with regard to team training expenses.

To return Tipperary to All-Ireland glory after 15 years without being contenders for honours meant that the whole way our team was being prepared had to change as so had the cost structure of preparing a team.

If a player was prepared to give his all then he had to be looked after properly and Babs had the foresight to see if he was to do what every Tipperary supporter yearned for: he had to generate monies outside what was available from a county board, which was already trying to make ends meet.

The efforts that went in to raise money in that inaugural year by Babs and the committee that he gathered around him can only be described as 'Herculean'. At our A.G.M. this year, held at Park Avenue Hotel, Thurles, we produced an historical summary to show what our Income and Expenditure amounted to from the inauguration of the club on 1st October '86 to date.

There was £380,292 expended on the senior hurling panel so that was what two All-Irelands, two National League titles, five Munster championships cost in monetary terms. I do not think the joy and excitement that they brought to Tipperary could be measured as such. Money will not buy success but the hard graft to collect that led our players to realise that our county was hungry for them to deliver.

Our supporters were behind them so the record of achievement was the players' thank you for their sacrifices on the training ground.

It has been a misconception that being on the committee of Tipperary Supporters' Club is a position of privilege. Well! it can be if you are totally dedicated to Tipperary hurling and are prepared to give a commitment to obtain as many members as possible for a £10 membership fee and further assist in the other fund-raising objects such as our golf classic which has proven one of our major fund-raising events.

However, we are extremely lucky in



John Hayes, of the Tipperary hurlers' backroom team, and Gerry Ryan, P.R.O. Tipperary Supporters' Club, at the A.G.M.

Tipperary with the excellent people who have volunteered for our committee, none more so than our chairman, John English. I could not adequately describe the time, effort and unrewarded commitment that John has given to our club. His loyalty to

Tipperary is unsurpassed, and should John ever decide that he has had enough, I would hate to think of what future our supporters' club would have.

When Babs decided to call it a day as team manager, he continued in his role with the supporters' club to ensure there would be continuity of purpose in continuing the club's support for Tipperary hurling and ensuring that Fr. Tom and his mentors would have the same help that Babs had in his time. We enjoyed a great rapport with Fr. Tom, Ken and John and it was such a heartbreak that ultimate success only marginally eluded them and the team. They gave us as a committee great help in achieving our fund-raising aims and played a full part in all our activities.

The efforts in continuing to raise funds for Tipperary hurling have not waned but with success not coming our way in recent years it has become more difficult. The membership of our club has dropped annually since our last All-Ireland success and it is an acceptable fact that unless you have success it is difficult to maintain support.

When you see the chairman of our provincial council calling for foreign holidays for all county teams and suggesting it can be achieved by county boards liaising with supporters' clubs and thereby coming up with the necessary finance, it shows a sad lack of knowledge of the efforts of supporters' clubs.

I think our players appreciate that this county has rallied behind them and supported them with memorable holidays after their '87 Munster Final and '89 and '91 All-Ireland successes, but to think that same could be provided on an annual basis, regardless of the team's achieve-



A group at Tipperary Supporters' Club A.G.M. held at Park Avenue, Thurles, on 2nd March, 1996.  
**Back Row:** Tom O'Donnell, Treasurer, Co. Board; Donal McGettigan, U-21 Selector; Don O'Mahony, Committee; Seamus King, Chairman, West Board; Michael Bruder. **Centre:** Conor Davitt, Secretary, Supporters' Club; Ml. 'Babs' Keating, Committee; Gerry Ryan, P.R.O. & Membership Secretary; Ailbe O'Connell, Committee; Francis O'Dwyer, Committee; Mrs. Ml. Bruder; Paul O'Neill, Vice-Chairman West Board; Larry Mackey, Selector, Tipp. Over 40's. **Front:** Ml. Berkery, Committee; Liz Howard, P.R.O. Co. Board; John McKiernan, Finches - Sponsors Co. Teams; John English, Chairman Supporters' Club; Seán Fogarty, Chairman, Co. Board; Tommy Barrett, Secretary, Co. Board.



ments, is simply not on.

To have such a high ranking officer of our Association suggest such in an off-the-cuff newspaper interview shows scant respect for the people who have offered their support as a reward for the team's success or the extraordinary amount of work involved in collecting the necessary monies.

The members of our committee live in Tipperary and outside the county, but

each one has an endearing love for our county, and if our biggest disappointment this year was our Munster final defeat, the success of our minor team was a particular thrill. For me, on a personal level, to see two players from my native Temple-derry be part of this success was an unforgettable memory.

I do hope you will forgive me ending this piece with another memory of '96 – at club level for Temple-derry, who previous-

ly had never figured in a county final at any level, annexing the county minor B hurling final with a team that included our All-Ireland medal winners, Michael Ryan and Paul Ryan, was indeed a milestone.

It was achieved on Nov. 10th at Inch against Gortnahoe/Glengoole. I saw grown men cry with joy. It was Temple-derry's "Killarney" – it is achievements like this that keep us all going in our efforts to support Tipperary.

# Cashel retain All-Ireland 'Elevens' title

**C**ASHEL King Cormacs became the first team ever to retain the All-Ireland club hurling 'Elevens' title when they won the competition presented by Carlow Town hurling club in May.

This was Cashel's third success in this prestigious competition having won it previously in 1992 and 1995.

Forty teams took part in this year's event with the winners of the eight groups going forward to the quarter finals.

Cashel won all the matches in their group, defeating Newmarket-on-Fergus (Clare), St. Vincent's (Cork), Ballygunner (Waterford), and Slasher Gaels (Longford).

In the quarter-final, Cashel faced the team they defeated in last year's final, Camross (Laois).

The King Cormacs had to field without Conal Bonnar who was injured in the earlier rounds but after a fiercely competitive game they emerged victorious by 1-5 to 1-1, with Cashel's goal coming late in the match from T. J. Connolly. Both Liam Barron and Colm Bonnar were outstanding in defence for Cashel in this game, but sadly it was Bonnar's last appearance as he was forced to retire with a wrist injury.

In the semi-final, Cashel encountered their old rivals Kiltormer from Galway and after what was easily the best match of the whole competition, they advanced to the final on the scoreline 0-5 to 0-4.

One of the main features of this game was the outstanding display given by Joe O'Leary who totally eclipsed star Galway forward Justin Campbell.

The final against Castletown of Laois provided a nail-biting final with Cashel

trailing 0-3 to 0-1 and just two minutes remaining Timmy Moloney crashed home a goal from a twenty metre free to put Cashel ahead for the first time. When Castletown equalised in the last minute, the prospect of extra time looked, then up popped Michael Perdue to send over the winning point, with the last puck of the match.

Cashel King Cormacs will be very pleased with this performance and it will give them a tremendous boost for the tough battles ahead as they endeavour to retain their West senior hurling title. Cashel will be encouraged by the displays given by two of their younger players Jim O'Leary and Ronan

O'Donoghue who scored ten points in the competition. One wonders why Ronan was not a member of the Tipperary minor hurling panel.

In the course of their seven match competition Cashel scored 8-51, and conceded 2-11. Timmy Moloney was their top marksman, scoring 4-20. The 14 players utilised by Cashel King Cormacs in the competition were: Kevin O'Sullivan, Liam Barron, Pat O'Donoghue, Joe O'Leary, Willie Fitzell, Ronan O'Donoghue, Michael Butler, Sean O'Donoghue, T. J. Connolly, Timmy Moloney (capt.), Colm Bonnar, Conal Bonnar, Jim O'Leary, Michael Perdue.



Timmy Moloney, Cashel captain, receiving the All-Ireland "Elevens" trophy from G.A.A. President, Jack Boothman.

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**T**HE 1996 Congress of the G.A.A. was held in London. Lancaster Gate and the leafy environs of Hyde Park was the setting and the Royal Lancaster Hotel with its extravagant central London hotel prices was the location. The *Irish Post* set the scene in its report on the event: 'On Friday afternoon they started to arrive, a procession of Pioneer pins and paunches, official ties sloping down well-fed bellies. Those that were called to the bar returned with faces as long as a Yorkshire beef farmer . . . £3.50 a pint, not much less for a cup of tea. The delegates voted with a two-thirds majority to repair to an adjacent (much cheaper) hostelry.' And, over the course of the weekend, two other hostelries with Tipperary connections, Johnny Barrett's in Cricklewood and Tom Milne's *British Queen* on Uxbridge Road, did good business.

The reason for holding Congress in London was to recognise the foundation of the G.A.A. in Britain. The year 1896 is regarded as the foundation year even though it is fairly certain that the earliest English club to affiliate to the Association was Wallsend and Newcastle-on-Tyne in 1885. The first London club to affiliate was Hibernian A.C. in Clerkenwell and soon after that Exiles of Erin. This was in 1895 and at the November meeting of the Central Council the clubs were congratulated on being the pioneers of the G.A.A. movement in Great Britain. Soon afterwards a club was established in Manchester and the governing body of the Association decided to send over teams to London to give exhibitions the following year with a view to spreading the movement in England. Perhaps the centenary marks this first formal connection as there was quite an influx of players and athletes from Ireland to London at Easter 1896.

The Tipperary delegation included Sean Fogarty, chairman; Tomas Ó Baroid, secretary; Tom O'Donnell, treasurer; Michael O'Brien, Silvermines; Sean Nugent, Kilsheelan; Noel Morris, Borrisokane; Michael Frawley, Emly; Liam Hennessy, Moycarkey-Borris; John Ryan, Holycross-Ballycahill; Jimmy Collins, St. Mary's Clonmel; Seamus King, Cashel King Cormacs; Matty Connolly, Boherlahan-Dualla. Also present was Donie Nealon, Burgess, Munster Council secretary.

#### HURLING PROPOSALS

Probably the most memorable event of the Congress was the sanctioning of the hurling proposals. These, which allow the losers of the provincial senior and minor finals in Munster and Leinster a second bite of the championship cherry, had generated quite an amount of heated debate on the run-up to Congress and still more when they were debated before being put to the delegates. In general, however, they were happy with the decision to experiment in the face of the challenges facing the game. It was a mood most urgently

expressed by former president, Pat Fanning of Waterford 'Marking time is the inevitable prelude to decline', he said, before adding: 'If change is needed, resistance to change is unacceptable'. When the vote came it was overwhelmingly in favour, receiving more than two-thirds of the over 300 delegates.

Perhaps, equally memorable was the election of Joe McDonagh as the youngest ever president-elect. It was enthusiastically received as was the confident and exuberant oratory which marked his acceptance. In getting elected, he defeated an excellent candidate, Sean McCague of Monaghan, by 214 voted to 103. He will bring to the presidency a great belief in the efficacy of coaching as an engine for the promotion and progress of hurling.

## Congress '96 in London

by S.J. King

Allied to this are impressive communication skills and comparative youth which must be good for the image of the Association. 'More than that', as Sean Moran wrote in the *Irish Times*, 'in his sense of history, pride of place and command of language, he portrays a cultural *joie de vivre* that is sometimes lacking within the G.A.A. Joe McDonagh's love of Irish language, sport and music came naturally and unselfconsciously to him. He is a great spokesperson for the culture because his embrace of it is unforced and presents itself as a celebration of his identity rather than as an assertion of what he isn't. His enjoyment of that culture makes him what

he is; he's not pursuing it to prove a point.'

#### LIAM MacCARTHY

The arrangements for Congress were in the hands of the London County Board, whose chairman, John Lacey, called the decision to hold it in London 'a message of unification and co-operation as the way forward into the next millennium'. All were agreed that the arrangements went very well. From a London perspective one of the highlights of the historic weekend was the unveiling of a headstone at the grave of Liam MacCarthy, the most famous son of the G.A.A. across the Irish Sea. This ceremony took place in the Old Dulwich Cemetery after twelve o'clock mass in St. Thomas Moore Church on Lordship Lane on Easter Sunday.

The unveiling was a fitting reminder to delegates of the immense contribution made by the son of Eoghan and Brigid MacCarthy of Ballygarvan, Co. Cork to the G.A.A. in London. Born in 1853 in London, Liam MacCarthy married well and was 43 years old when the Association was formed in his native city. He was the first treasurer of the London County Board and later became president or chairman. He was also involved in the Gaelic League, Amnesty International and the I.R.B. In the latter he worked with Sam Maguire and Michael Collins. When the Provincial Council of Britain was formed he became its first secretary. He is best known for having provided the eponymous trophy for the All-Ireland hurling championship in 1922, for which he paid Edmund Johnson Ltd. of Grafton Street £50. He was a man of great character, proud of his Irish roots and Catholic upbringing, never smoked or indulged in alcohol. It is understandable that his compatriots should honour him with the title of 'Father of the London G.A.A.'

It was fitting, therefore, that his memory should be honoured appropriately in this the Centenary year of the London G.A.A. before a representative gathering of Gaels from many parts of the world and that it should be done at Easter, a symbolic time for Liam MacCarthy's religion and patriotism.



Delegates to Congress 96 - Back row, left to right: Liam Hennessy, Matty Connolly, Michael O'Brien, Michael Frawley, Jimmy Collins. Front row, left to right: Johnny Barrett, London, who looked after the delegates well; Seamus King, Sean Fogarty, John Ryan, Sean Nugent, Noel Morris. Missing from picture, Tomas Ó Baroid and Tom O'Donnell.





Marie O'Donnell and Joan O'Brien with the Carling Premiership Trophy, during a break from Congress in London last Easter.



Tom Milne, Lorrhe and London, was most helpful to the Tipperary delegates at this year's Congress in London. He presented county chairman, Sean Fogarty with a plaque to commemorate the occasion. Picture shows Tom O'Donnell, Sean Fogarty, Tom Milne and Tomás Ó Baróid at the presentation in Milne's pub on Uxbridge Road, London.

## Junior Hurling Scoreboard 1996

JUNE 22:

Tipperary ....2-10      Waterford... 1-11

June 25

Cork.....2-15      Tipperary.... 2-10



County Junior Hurling Selectors

Left to right - Kevin Fox, Jimmy Ryan, Seamus Barry.



The Tipperary Junior Hurling panel which played Cork in the Munster Championship Final at Cashel. **Back row (L/R)** - Liam Enright, John Ryan, Seán Collum, Mike Ryan, Darren O'Connor, Liam Rafferty (captain), Donncha Droney, Anthony Wall, Jim McGrath, Kevin McCormack, Mark Leonard, P.J. Brett, Philip Kelly. **Front row** - Pádraig Hogan, Ger Maguire, Denis O'Shea, Tommy Hogan, Jimmy Darcy, Tomás Keane, Pat Ivors, Richie Lohan, Declan Corcoran.



# Len has no illusions about Tipp's immediate future

By Gerry Slevin

**T**WAS hardly any great surprise that Len Gaynor should have been handed the reins with which to control Tipperary senior hurlers fortunes over the next couple of years. He had been there before, though not as lord and master, while his record with several clubs in the county in bringing them to the pinnacle of success, spoke for itself.

Then there was the Clare connection and what many Tipp people might consider to be the doubtful distinction of preparing new charges to challenge his native county in a Munster final! It wasn't the happiest of outings for Len and the Banner men but a year later, amends were made as Clare exacted revenge and after defeat would be their lot to Limerick in the provincial final the Kilruane man turned his boats, leaving it to his lieutenant, Ger Loughnane to carry on the work.

No need to elaborate on what came next but in all the excitement of Clare's '95 All Ireland victory, not forgotten was the input that Len had made, the seeds of confidence and self-belief that had been sown. In the celebrations, Len proudly and quite rightly took his place of honour and rejoiced with the Clare people. And they in turn appreciated his worth to them.

Come next September, it will be six years since Tipp have had pride of place on All Ireland hurling final day. Not all that long, one might say, but there are others who aren't happy if the blue and gold isn't there at least every second year!

Whether or not Tipp will be there on the second Sunday in September is at this stage merely a matter of guess work but while the rest of us hope such will indeed be the case, with Len Gaynor lies the task of doing everything to make it possible.

There are quite a few within the county too who would feel that the structure of the team that lost this year's Munster final to Limerick after a replay, requires radical alteration. That age and commitment have caught up with some is thrown out as a cause for some radical amendments to the squad.

Len doesn't see it in that light. Whatever about the outcome of July 14th last, Len still feels that was a good Tipp team and scrapping players would not be the way he would go about bringing about improvements.



New Tipperary senior hurling manager Len Gaynor, Kilruane MacDonagh's (centre) photographed with his fellow selectors (l to r) Michael Doyle, Holycross-Ballycahill and Murt Duggan, Ballingarry after they had attended the county senior hurling quarter-final between Thurles Sarfields and Killeenale in Littleton.

So far, since taking up duty along with co-selectors Michael Doyle and Murt Duggan, his concentration has been on the Waterford Glass Five County League, introduced to take the place of the Church and General National League which doesn't set off until March.

"You need games this side of Christmas to sort out players and new management especially needs that opportunity. Coming in as a new manager I have to sift through what is there and try and come up with the proper blend for a panel", says Len.

He sees the pre-Christmas time as a means to that end and that over, they can start into the heavy work necessary.

Admittedly Len hadn't the most auspicious of starts to his reign, bringing his side to Cork to take on the old enemy in the Waterford Glass league. A late goal deprived his team of the spoils. Significantly the nucleus of the championship team lined out on that extremely wet day in Pairc Ui Rinn. While he sees the need for new blood and has some players in mind who he hopes to bring along, he is mindful that there are still quite a few of what one might call the regulars with plenty to offer.

"I would feel there is nothing that badly wrong with Tipperary hurling. The nucleus of last season's team will still be there. That was a good team and it is not my intention to come along and break it

up. I would see it necessary though, to refresh the team. It just needs a boost here and there. There are a few positions we need to pay particular attention to and to try and right them, if we can".

Tipp's championship aspirations will begin at the semi final stage, playing the winners of Limerick and Waterford. Len is not too worried about the draw though he would have preferred to have had a first round or preliminary game.

"Having said that, you can only peak for so many matches and we have only two to win a Munster championship. We will have to be on our toes to beat either Limerick or Waterford and it is quite likely that Waterford will come through to meet us. With Gerald McCarthy in charge, they will be hard to beat".

Of course the '97 championship will see both winners and runners-up going through to the All Ireland championship and on this point, Len is quite adamant the new structure will not interfere one whit with Tipp's ambition to regain the provincial title. His priority will be to win a Munster championship. It's what he wants, it's what Tipperary wants and irrespective of the fate to befall both finalists he cannot see how there will be any let up in the approach to that final – provided Tipp are in it!

"Provincial finalists, I have no doubt at all, will still put everything into their final. There's pride at stake and there's also the fact that going through as



# Le gach dea-ghuí agus Comhgháirdeachas do Coiste Cho. Thiobraid Árann ó Chomhairle na Mumhan CLG

## MUNSTER GAA FIXTURES 1997

### IOMÁINT SINSIR AGUS IDIRMHEANACH

Ciarraí v. Clár	18/5/1997	Ath-Imirt	24/5/1997	Ionaid
Luimneach v. Portláirge	25/5/1997		7/6/1997	Inis
<b>Semi-finals:</b>				Dúrlas
if Corcaigh v. Clár	8/6/1997		14/6/1997	Luimneach
if Corcaigh v. Ciarraí	8/6/1997		14/6/1997	Páirc Uí Caoimh
if Tiobraid Árann v. Luimneach	15/6/1997		22/6/1997	Dúrlas
if Tiobraid Árann v. Portláirge	15/6/1997		22/6/1997	Páirc Uí Caoimh
<b>FINAL – Sinsir</b>	6/7/1997		13/7/1997	
<b>FINAL – Idirmhéanach</b>	23/7/1997		30/7/1997	

### PEIL SINSIR AGUS SÓISIR

<b>Preliminary Game:</b>				
Tiobraid Árann v. Luimneach	11/5/1997	18/5/1997		Luimneach
<b>Preliminary Group Final:</b>				
if Portláirge v. Tiobraid Árann	1/6/1997	8/6/1997		Dún Garbhán
if Portláirge v. Luimneach	1/6/1997	8/6/1997		Luimneach
<b>Semi-finals:</b>				
Corcaigh v. Clár	22/6/1997	29/6/1997		Inis
Preliminary Winners v. Ciarraí	29/6/1997	5/7/1997		Tralaí
<b>FINAL – Sinsir</b>	20/7/1997	27/7/1997		
<b>FINAL – Sóisir</b>	16/7/1997	23/7/1997		

### PEIL FÉ 21

A. Clár	<b>Semi-finals</b>
B. Ciarraí v. Luimneach	A. v. B.
C. Portláirge	C. v. D.
D. Corcaigh v. Tiobraid Árann	

### IOMÁINT FÉ 21

A. Luimneach	<b>Semi-finals</b>
B. Portláirge v. Tiobraid Árann	A. v. B.
C. Corcaigh	C. v. D.
D. Clár	

### PEIL NA MIONÚIR

Clár, Portláirge, Luimneach, Tiobraid Árann will play each other on a Round Robin league system (three games each team). The two top teams will qualify for the semi-finals with Corcaigh agus Ciarraí.

A. **Semi-final:** Ciarraí v. Corcaigh.

B. **Semi-final:** Winners League Group v. Runners-up League Group.

### IOMÁINT NA MIONÚIR

A. Luimneach
B. Portláirge v. Tiobraid Árann
C. Corcaigh
D. Clár

#### Semi-Finals:

A v B

C v D



provincial champions gives teams a boost for the rest of the journey", he says.

For the present, the panel meets on Saturday mornings. He is not over-taxing the players at present and as soon as the Waterford league ends in early December, they will go immediately into heavy training, finalising the panel for the league. He doesn't believe in starting too early because he doesn't believe the players are able to maintain a heavy campaign for too long, nor would it be fair to them.

Though the Waterford league may be a gap filler, Len sees it as a competition that will give him and his fellow selectors an opportunity to assess the talent at their disposal. Then will come the National League and between them, the ground should be well prepared for the championship.

He is not so naive as to think it can and will be all plain sailing in the lead up to that championship. They will not win every game and they will have to be prepared to lose as well, but while the aim will be to win as many as possible, there will be lots to learn from the losing also.

A panel of approximately thirty players will be adjusted at the end of the Waterford league and there will be a permanent panel for the league. There's a very tough league campaign looming with action on successive Sundays during March. That means that if the league is to

be taken seriously, quite an amount of the homework will be required to be carried out by the end of this year.

Speaking with Len at the launch of Nicky English's book "Beyond the Tunnel", the Lattin-Cullen man invariably came up in conversation and Len was quite blunt about the reason for his presence at that launch.

"It's a long way from Kilruane to here just for a book launch", he said. Len felt that there was some significance in the fact that Nicky did not himself announce his retirement, though there were rumours to that effect.

"I came up this evening principally to

keep the pressure on because Nicky still has a lot to offer. He's a good leader, he is good with young players as well and generally is the right type of guy to have there", he told me.

It would certainly be a boost to the new manager if Nicky were to give it another year, but whatever, the genial Kilruane man who has seen and experienced it all as a player, knows only too well that transferring it to a new generation is not easy.

It is a challenge though and when it comes to taking up challenges, Len's the proven man.



Launch of Waterford Glass sponsored 5 county hurling league at Waterford Glass on October 24, 1996. Left to right: Seamus J. King; designer and master craftsman Frank Curtis; John O'Connor, Wexford with the Liam McCarthy Cup; Paddy Finnucane, Tipp FM.

## Munster Final Memories 1991 TWELVE YEARS OF AGE

I stood to the memories of other days  
in Semple Stadium, yet keenly aware  
Of red banners and the dual clad men  
From the homes of Tipperary.  
"I was your age, then lad, just your age,  
Turned twelve I was, and listen boy,  
I recall it better than any recent game".

The humid air, cloud laden, hung transfixed  
On hopeful followers and neutrals  
Long inured to the trauma of tradition.  
The early scores added the sauce of satisfaction  
To the sandwiches for the uniformed one.  
"Dad", says he, "your were wrong", with a triumphant  
smile in his youthful eyes that knew not  
Gaelic lore nor that the Leemen  
Had worn the wreath of victory against us  
Just a single year before.

A stony silence sealed my sadness  
When wonted Cork assertion and devastation  
Opened up a nine point lead.  
Years like fifty two and sixty nine  
And even eighty four paraded through  
The flashback of my mind.  
Nineteen eighty four, the very year is like  
A crown of thorns in Tipperary,  
A perennial Calvary in the wake of time.  
When for an hour or more we stood  
At Eden's gate in breathless vision  
But the heady wine of victory turned to  
call in our collective months.

Three great goals and swift flowing points  
Evoked the memory of fifty eight.  
We had broken the stranglehold of Cork  
The Holy Grail of Tipp ambition.  
"I was your age, then lad, just your age,  
Turned twelve I was and listen boy,  
I recall it better than any recent game"  
Two missiles launched by Michael Cleary  
Sealed our joy in Tipperary.  
I wound up a generation of glory  
Bridged in the abysmal gape of time.  
From fifty eight to ninety one,  
Tipp, top victories and my son  
Wore my smile, just my smile  
When I was twelve years of age

DAVID POWER



The man behind the wire! - T. J. Maher enjoying Boherlahan's great year.





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# North Tipperary Review 1996

Grade	Date	Winner	Score	Loser	Score	Venue	Referee
S.H.C.	8/9	Newport	1-9	Lorrha	0-12	Nenagh	T. F. Stapleton
Replay	15/9	Newport	2-13	Lorrha	3-6	Nenagh	T. F. Stapleton
S.H.L.	19/5	Toomevara	4-13	Borrisoleigh	1-7	Nenagh	J. McDonnell
I.H.C.	20/10	Borrisokane	1-11	Templederry	0-10	Nenagh	M. Ahearne
I.H.L.	19/5	Borrisokane	3-13	Silvermines	1-6	Nenagh	M. Ahearne
J.H.C. 'A'	3/11	Ballina	0-14	Toomevara	0-9	Nenagh	M. Darcy
J.H.C. 'B'	5/12	Templederry	1-13	Kilruane	3-6	Nenagh	M. Griffin
J.H.L. 'A'	30/6	Ballina	0-213	Newport	0-5	Nenagh	M. Griffin
J.H.L. 'B'	30/6	Silvermines	1-12	Templederry	2-6	Nenagh	T. Ryan
U-21 h. 'A'	9/11	Toomevara	2-14	Nenagh	1-16	Cloughjordan	M. Cahill
U-21 h. 'B'	12/10	Erin's Hope	3-6	Ballina	2-8	Nenagh	S. Hogan
M.H. 'A'	19/10	Toomevara	0-17	Roscrea	2-9	Moneygall	G. Hayes
M.H. 'B'	12/10	Templederry	1-10	Kildangan	3-1	Moneygall	M. Ahearne
I.F.C.	23/11	Nenagh	0-14	Newport	2-7	Puckane	V. McKenna
J.F.C. 'A'	23/11	Borrisoleigh	2-10	Portroe	1-6	Nenagh	J. Kissane
J.F.C. 'B'	23/11	Newport	2-9	Kilruane	0-6	Puckane	M. Darcy
U-21 f. 'A'	13/14	Newport	1-9	Borrisoleigh	0-6	Templederry	J. Kissane
U-21 f. 'B'	13/4	Kildangan	3-13	Kilruane	0-1	Nenagh	V. McKenna
M.F. 'A'	4/9	Inane Rovers	2-8	Newport	0-4	Dolla	J. Kissane
M.F. 'B'	6/9	Borrisoleigh	4-1	Kildangan	1-3	Dolla	T. Gleeson

**NORTH TIPPERARY 1996 AWARDS** – Club of the Year: Templederry. Hurler of the Year: Mícheál Ryan, Templederry.  
Footballer of the Year: P.J. O'Rourke, Newport.



Toome U-21 hurlers, North champions – Back: Jackie Meagher, Paddy O'Brien, Kevin Cornally, Ken Hassett, Martin Cahalan, David McGrath, Terry Dunne, Ken Dunne. Front: Justin Cottrell, Denis Kelly, Padraig Hackett, Michael Bevans, Ray Hackett, Joe O'Meara, Damien O'Meara.



Toomevara minor team – North champions – Back row (l. to r.) Collwyn Martin, James O'Meara, Dermot Brislane, Andrew Ryan, Noel Cummins, Brian McGrath, Andrew Ryan and Paddy O'Brien. Front row: Brian Duff, Padraig Hackett, Ken Hall, Diarmuid Haverty, Barry Dunne, Brendan Dunne and Patrick McGrath.



Toomevara senior team – North League champions and county finalists. Back row (l. to r.) Philip Shanahan, Kevin Kennedy, Pat Meagher, Jody Grace, Kevin McCormack, Thomas Dunne and Pat King. Seated: Liam Nolan, Michael Bevans, Ken Dunne, Michael O'Meara, Aidan Maxwell, Tony Delaney, George Frend and Rory Brislane.



Erin's Hope – North U-21 'B' champions. Back row (l. to r.) Liam Torpey, David King (captain), Shane Guest, Martin Costello, Patrick Tully, Niall Slevin, Dermot Murphy, Donie Comerford. Front row: Michael Kennedy, Barry Carroll, Michael O'Brien, Adrian Egan, Damien Bond, Tadhg Slevin and Paul King.



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(Cathaoirleach)  
Máire Ní Chéilleachair  
Antoine Ó Colleáin  
Helen Ó Murchú  
Peadar Ó Flatharta

Michéil Ó Loingsigh  
Seosamh Ó Dáimhin  
Seamus Ó Cathasaigh  
Antón Mac Clonnath  
Seamus Ó Coistealtha  
Siobhán Uí Chriagáin

**Uimhreach**  
Comhphobail Eorpach  
Crannchur Náisiúnta  
Bord na Gaeilge agus  
Coiste Galmoideachais  
Thiobraid Árann Thuaidh





Borrisokane – North – Intermediate champions. Back row (l. to r.) Sean Gardiner, Martin Tooher, Martin Donnelly, Vincent McKenna, Paul Corcoran, Dermot Murphy, John McKenna, Eoin Cleary. Front row: Paul Dooley, Adrian Hogan, Michael Heenan (captain), Keith Slevin, Jim McLoughlin, Vivian Dooley and Padraig Hogan.



Ballina – North J.H.C. title holders – Back: Michael Grace, Michael Shanahan, Mark King, Fergus Collins, Brian Stretch, Adrian King, Tom Gleeson. Front: Mark Riordan, Wm. Shanahan, Sean Collins, Pat McCarthy, Ned Cawley, Brendan McKeogh, Seamus McKeogh, Jim McGrath.



Inane Rovers – North Tipp M.F. champions. Back row: L. Egland, S. Hogan, M. Shanahan, W. Shanahan, D. Martin, A. Lynch, K. Garvey, T. Douglas. Front: D. Loughnane, C. Houlihan, T. Carey, D. Cunningham, J. Carroll, A. Tynan, B. Doran.



North G.A.A. Board chairman John Joe McKeogh hands over the Thomas MacDonagh memorial trophy to Fr. Michael Casey (chairman) in acknowledgment of Toomevara's "Club of the Year" status. Also pictured are Paddy O'Brien, deputising for club treasurer Bernard O'Neill and Eddie Frend, club secretary.



North Tipp "Hurler of the Year" (1995) Eddie Tucker receives his award from Gerry Slevin of "Nenagh Guardian".



Niall Kelly (Kildangan) is presented with the North Tipp "Footballer of the Year" award (1995) by Gerry Slevin "Nenagh Guardian".



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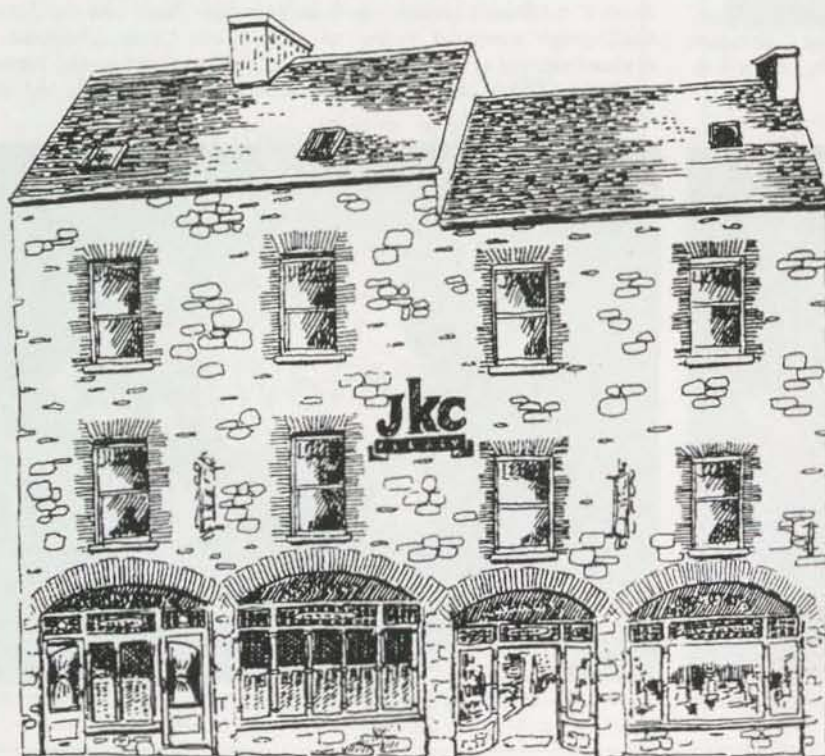
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# Nenagh Éire Óg, AIB/Kilmacud Crokes All-Ireland Sevens 1966 winners

The above competition has, over the last 24 years, grown in its attraction and nationwide appeal for hurling teams from all over Ireland on the Saturday prior to the 1st Sunday in September. This year's entry attracted 48 teams for the Premier event, 12 teams for the Shield (weaker teams) and 6 teams for the Under-16.

The roll of honour to date reads as follows (Premier section):

- 6 Tipperary
- 4 Cork
- 4 Wexford
- 3 Galway
- 2 Waterford
- 2 Limerick
- 1 Clare
- 1 Kilkenny
- 1 Offaly

As can be seen, this event is a remarkable feat of planning and clockwork organisation by the host club and is a credit to the most progressive unit of Cumann Luthchleas Gael.

When Nenagh won this most prestigious competition, they joined with Roscrea, Kilruane MacDonaghs and Borrisoleigh (3) in becoming the 4th club from Tipperary to enscribe their name on the Roll of Honour.

The following are the scorelines from six games:



Back row (l. to r.) Declan O'Meara, Eddie Tucker, Christy McLoughlin, Donnach O'Donnail, Conor O'Donovan. Front row (l. to r.): John Kennedy, Ronan Burns, Michael Cleary, Noel Coffey.

Nenagh Éire Óg ..... 7-6  
Faughs ..... 2-4

Nenagh Éire Óg ..... 3-15  
Rathnure ..... 2-6

Nenagh Éire Óg ..... 6-11  
Padraig Pearsigh ..... 2-3

Nenagh Éire Óg ..... 4-10  
Keady ..... 1-3  
(quarter final)

Nenagh Éire Óg ..... 5-10  
Kilmacud Crokes ..... 1-4

(semi-final)  
Nenagh Éire Óg ..... 4-14  
O'Toole's ..... 5-6  
(Final)

The match report headlines ran:

"Nenagh Nine Win Kilmacud Sevens"  
"Nenagh Club too strong for O'Toole's"  
"Cleary the difference"  
"Tucker's Trojans"

Management team: Manager: Liam Heffernan. Selectors: Christy Tucker, Jim Morris, Mick Hynes. Medic: Paudge Kirwan.



Proctor & Gamble inter-firms team – Munster senior champions and All-Ireland finalists.

Back row l to r – Brian Bergin, Barry Ryan, Jimmy Killeen, Stephen Treacy, Eddie Tucker, Vincent McKenna, Paraic Loughran, Seamus Hassett, John Conroy and Willie Connors. Second row – Steve Carthy, John Grace, Mark Kennedy, Brian Cooney, Ger Gleeson, Joe Cahill, Phil Hennessy, James Moran, Vincent Harney. Front row – Ken Dunne, Tommy Hogan, Tommy Carroll, Declan Corcoran, Liam Sheedy and Richie Lohan.



## TEMPLEDERRY KENYON'S G.A.A.

# An outstanding Year

**T**HE year 1996 was the most outstanding year in the club's history since the foundation of the G.A.A. This was reflected in our championship performance and titles won. It is even more remarkable given the low population of the parish, sparsely populated being the second largest parish in the Diocese of Killaloe in area.

During the course of our year we played 37 games in minor, junior and intermediate level. Tournament and challenges games would add another twelve. The club also had to facilitate the Tipp minor team, as we had two players on the panel, and this placed a very welcome burden on the club. With our limited resources we could only field an intermediate, minor and junior team. For intermediate and junior we were looking from a panel of 37 players including eight minors.

Our juvenile playing field is now in operation. We have provided floodlighting at a cost of £2,000. The club has also built up over a number of years a Development Fund, which will be for use in essential maintenance and upgrading of facilities. The G.A.A. Centre was the temporary location for the celebration of our Holy Days and Sunday Masses, due to repairs being carried out in the church.

Templederry continues to have a very high profile in Scor in Tipperary, with club representatives to the fore in North and county level. Currently at North Tipperary level, Mai Fogarty is secretary, Dan Mad-

den is treasurer and John Fogarty is P.R.O. with Dan Madden as assistant treasurer at county level. The club competes in Scor Sinsear, Scor na nOg and Scor na bPaisti, with club parish finals being annual events. The success is built around the fact that we continue to have dancing teachers and music teachers offering the appropriate tuition in the Kenyon centre weekly.

In supporting our schools we have always had an excellent relationship, currently through a school Liaison Officer. We provide sliothars and hurleys to the school. We actively support the County Coaching Scheme in implementing its programme at school level. We provide financial and other supports in dual leagues at Templederry N.S. and Killeen N.S. In other primary schools competitions we provide transport, jerseys etc.

We continue to compete in all age groups in hurling and football from very small pools of players and the 90's have proved to be very successful for our club. Probably our current successes reflect some of the work that has been put into juveniles over a ten year period. We captured the North under-14 hurling C final after a second replay but we played outstandingly well in under-11 ground hurling tournament and winning Burgess under-11 tournament. In addition we played under-16 football final, under-16 hurling semi final and under-14 football B semi final.

We pride ourselves in the facilities we have in Templederry and when we are for-

tunate to be granted provisional or county fixtures we prepare our facilities diligently

There were many highs in our year, one being Tipperary minors winning the All-Ireland title and the fact we having two members on the panel. The last occasion this happened was in 1976 when we had Michael Murphy and Michael Stapleton playing on that Tipp team and incredibly Tipp only won one minor title in the at 20 year gap and again this reflects our promotion of juvenile games in the parish. In fact we can claim that any one of a half dozen players were very close at least to county minor hurling standard.

In 1996 at the third attempt, Templederry won their first ever North Tipp minor title and became the holders of the Nealon trophy. And if that was not good enough that team went on to win the county title, also our first, and also our first time competing in a county final at any grade. The members of this team will become indelible in the Annals of Templederry hurling history. But whenever we think of this team, it is inevitable that the name of the late Peter Nolan R.I.P., who was one of our greatest ever prospects and who died so tragically on August 28 1995 will be linked with this great bunch of lads. It was Peter's performance, more than any other, that ensured our qualification for the 1995 final, and without is presence we were a pale shadow of the great team we would otherwise have been. Celebrations, the likes of never seen before in the parish, welcomed home the



The Templederry panel which brought the club its first ever county success by defeating Gortnahoe-Glengoolie in the county minor hurling 'B' final at The Ragg. Back row (left to right): Kieran Butler, Paul Ryan, Maitiu Ryan, Andrew Ryan, James McLoughney, Damien Bourke (captain), Pat Minogue, David Ryan, Cathal Ryan, Bill Fogarty, Alan Mulcahy, John Murphy, Donal Gleeson. Front row: Patrick McLoughney, Seamus Kennedy, Micheál Ryan, Brian Murray, John Kennedy, Daniel Madden, Donie Kennedy, Brian McLoughlin, Gerard Ryan, Vincent Madden, John Hogan, Noel Murray.





Second county title, The Templederry panel which added another county title to the minor 'B' hurling title won the previous week by defeating Rahealty-Kickhams in the final of the county junior hurling 'B' competition at Borrisoleigh. Back row (left to right): Paddy Maher, Shay Kennedy, Denis Carey, Richie Kennedy, Michael Ryan (K), Paddy Kennedy, Pat Minogue, Phil Collins, Paul Ryan, Martin Guilmarin, Richard Gleeson, James McLoughney. Front row: Paudie McCutcheon, Michael McLoughlin, Donie Kennedy, Pat Gleeson, Michael Harrington, Seamus Murray (captain), John Tynan, Jimmy Kennedy, Matt Gleeson.

winners of the North and county titles, being lead in glory by the Moycarkey Pipe Band. Young and old celebrated the transformation in the Club's fortunes.

The winning of our second junior hurling B North title (previously won in 1984) would in the normal course be something special to celebrate in any year. But 1996 was no normal year in Templederry. The winning of this title must be credited to the elder statesmen and the young pretenders united in an unconquerable force. Again divisional titles were previously the norm but on this occasion we went all the way taking our second county title in 8 days capturing the Tim Maher Cup. The scenes of jubilation and celebration were incredible. Those two great victories were for the many fine hurlers and our great supporters who for decades were starved of the success they rightly deserved. Those great victories were also for those proud wearers of the green and white who for decades continued the promotion of our Gaelic games and culture.

Our senior team of intermediate hurlers contested a great North final. In a game of two halves, on a very windy day in Nenagh, we had to give way to a better Borrisokane team on the day. As said earlier 1996 was no normal year and this our third North final confirms that. This was probably the youngest ever team to contest an intermediate final.

In conclusion the club wishes to thank all the fine officers at divisional and county level, the Tipperary Mens Association in Dublin, the referees and their officials, the gate checkers, the clubs who provide their fields and our opponents, the press and media. Also a word of thanks to our supporters, hard working committees, selectors, trainers, coaches and our many generous sponsors whose contributions made so many dreams come true for the Templederry Kenyon's G.A.A. club.



Templederry mentor, Tommy Kennedy, wearing some neat headgear as he watches the county minor hurling 'B' final against Gortnahoe-Glengoele a The Ragg. Tommy's son, Donie played at midfield for Templederry, the winners of the final.



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# South Tipperary Review 1996

## BOARD OFFICERS

**Cathaoirleach:** Sean O'Nuinsean  
**Leas Cathaoirleach:** Donal Mac-Carthaigh, Seamus Ceitinn.  
**Runaí:** Miceal O'Meara.  
**Cisteoir:** Tomás Ó'Crísóg.  
**Iontaobhaí:** Miceal Mac Aogain  
**Oifigeach na nÓg:** Risteard O'Siocháin.

1996 proved another highly successful and progressive year for South Tipperary Board.

The many highlights included Ballingarry's Senior Hurling Championship success in the 1st S.H.C. final played at Moyle Park, Moyle Rovers retention of their S.F.C. crown before going on to confirm the form against Commercials in that splendid county series the divisions magnificent contribution to that long awaited all Ireland minor hurling success, and the selection of Ballingarry's Liam Cahill as the county's only All Star.

A total of over 320 games were played during the year under the auspices of the Senior Board and at the end of November just two finals - under 21A hurling and Intermediate football remain unplayed.



Paddy (Blondie) Ivors, accepts the AIB Senior Hurling Championship trophy from Jim Ryan, Allied Bank, Clonmel, after Ballingarry, defeated Killenaule, in the final which was held in Moyle Park, Monroe, on Sunday 8th September, 1996. Included also is South Board Chairman, Sean Nugent.

Photo: Mullally



MARLFIELD JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS AND BOOK LAUNCH  
 Mick Egan, Joe McDonagh (President elect), Michael Mullane (Club Chairman), Theo English.

## ROLL OF HONOUR

### AIB S.H.C. FINAL

Ballingarry.....2-17 Killenaule .....1-10 Monroe T. Lonergan

### S.F.C. FINAL

Moyle Rovers .....2-11 Commercials .....1-7 Kilsheelan W. Barrett

### HEARNS HOTEL I.H.C. FINAL

Cahir.....5-11 Kilsheelan .....0-7 Clonmel W. Barrett

### CLONMEL ARMS HOTEL I.F.C. FINAL

Fr. Sheehys v Mullinahone to be played

### JOHN QUIRKE JEWELLERS J.H.C.(A) FINAL

Skeheenarinka.....3-7 Moyle Rovers .....1-9 Clonmel J.J. Corby

### J.F.C.(A) FINAL

Ballingarry.....1-11 Clonmel .....1-3 Monroe M. McCormack

### J.H.C.(B) FINAL

Carrick Davins .....2-6 Killenaule .....0-11 Monroe S. Quirke

### O'BRIEN ALUMINIUM J.F.C. (B) FINAL

Kilsheelan .....2-7 Carrick Swans .....1-6 By Pass F. O'Leary

### UNDER-21(A) HURLING FINAL

Mullinahone Gaels v Ballingarry to be played

### UNDER-21(A) FOOTBALL FINAL

Cahir.....2-16 Moyle Rovers .....0-10 Clonmel T. Lonergan

### UNDER-21 (B) HURLING FINAL

Cahir.....3-8 Ballyneale .....2-5 Clonmel S. Quirke

### UNDER-21(B) FOOTBALL FINAL

Mullinahone .....4-12 Fr. Sheehy's .....4-5 Clonmel S. Roche

### CHADWICKS MHC(A) FINAL

Mullinahone .....5-8 Ballingarry Gaels.....2-7 Clonmel S. Roche

### M.F.C.(A) FINAL

Cahir.....2-8 Fethard .....1-9 Clonmel B. White

### M.H.C. (B) FINAL

Kilsheelan Fethard.....4-13 Carrick Davins .....2-3 Kilsheelan S. Mullins

### M.F.C.(B) FINAL

Mullinahone .....1-12 Fr. Sheehy's .....2-6 Marlfield S. Roche

### M.F.C.(C) FINAL

Kilsheelan .....1-10 Newcastle .....1-9 By Pass C. Aylward

### WALSH SHIELD S.H.L FINAL

Ballingarry.....1-13 Killenaule .....1-9 Cloneen T.J. Corby

### M.F.L.(B) FINAL

Killenaule .....3-10 Moyle Rovers .....1-4 By Pass J. Harrington



SOUTH TIPPERARY OFFICERS AND REFEREES, 1996





## C.L.C.G. Coiste Co. Thiobrad Árann Roinn Theas

Búiochas ó chroí do gach éinne as ucht an chomhoibriú faoi leith a bhronnadh orainn i rith na bliana 1996.

Sincere thanks to all our patrons, sponsors, players, referees and their officials, club officers and all who co-operated with us in another highly successful year.

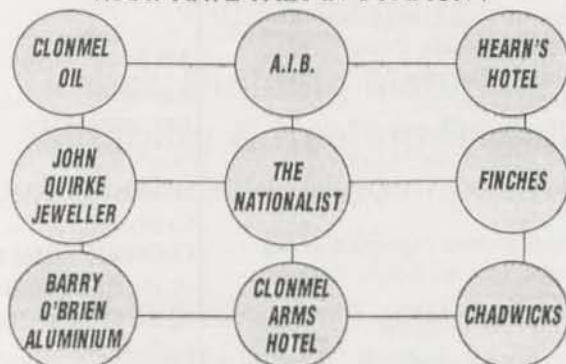
Nollaig shona is go néirí go gheal libh sa bhliain atá romhainn.

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Cathaoirleach

MICHEÁL Ó MEÁRA  
Runaí



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Cahir, who won the Hearn's Hotel South I.H. Championship, which was held in Clonmel. Included are, front row - Matty Cummins, Andrew Moloney, Pat O'Brien, Liam Enright, Johnny Conway, Andy Moloney, Colm O'Flaherty. Back row - Dave O'Gorman, Richard Sweetman, James Hyland, Tom O'Donnell, Jimmy Casey, Richie Quirke, Dan Casey, Michael Hearne.

Photo: Mullally.



Cahir, who won the South Under-21B Hurling final which was held in Clonmel. Included are, front row - Brian Dolan, Richie O'Connor, Mark Costigan, Andrew Moloney, Robbie Hally, Ger O'Gorman, Colm Flaherty. Back row - Ciaran O'Flaherty, Benny Hickey, James Hyland, Darren O'Connor, Declan Enright, Kieran Flynn, Paul Frazer, Pdraigh Hyland.

Photo: Mullally.



Skeheenarinka who beat Moyle Rovers, in the John Quirke Jewellers J.H.C.(A) Final which was held in Clonmel, on Nov. 10th, 1996. Included are, front row - Tom Maher, Richard Vaughan, Liam Finn, Conor Farrell, Declan Hickey, John Fox, Pat Bennett. Back row - Willie Cahill, Joe English, Ian O'Donnell, Eamon Maher, Fergal McLoughlin, John Maher, Ger Fox, Rory McLoughlin.

Photo: Mullally.



Kilsheelan, who beat Carrick Swan in the South J.F.C.(B) final, which was held at the By-Pass. Included are front row - Jason Fogarty, Willie Ryan, Jason Strang, Michael Dempsey, Teddy McGrath, John O'Driscoll. Back row - Lanny Walsh, Denis Lonergan, Simon McGowan, Richard McMahon, Joe Ormonde, Niall Colum, Tony Walsh, Noel Walsh.

Photo: Mullally.



Mullinahone, winners of the Chadwicks M.H.C.(A) final, which was held on Nov. 3rd, 1996, included are, Gary Collins, Richie Cahill, Noel O'Shea, Frank O'Meara, Dermot Hackett, Eoin Kelly, Eddie O'Brien. Back row - Damian Maher, James Luttrell, Paul Curran, James Maher, Eddie Carey, Paul Kelly, Niall Curran, Michael Luttrell.

Photo: Mullally.



The Ballingarry team which regained the South senior hurling championship by defeating neighbours Killenale at Monroe. Back row (l. to r.) - Thomas Duggan, Don Lyons, Michael Ivors, Tony Walsh, Brian Walton, Michael McGrath, Paddy Ivors, Martin Lyons. Front row - Michael Fitzgerald, Seamus Butler, Gary Ivors, Morgan Ivors, Patrick "Blondie" Ivors (captain), Liam Cahill, Martin Shelley. Mascot: Michael Ivors.





*SOUTH TIPPERARY UNDER-16 HURLERS, 1996*



*ST. LUKES HOSPITAL, CLONMEL, 25TH REUNION*



**NATIONALIST AWARD WINNERS**

*Hall of Fame Award (football) Sean Cleary (Commercials). Hurler of the Year for 1995 Brendan Cummins (Ballybacon Grange). Footballer of the Year for 1995 Derry Foley (Moyle Rovers). Young Hurler of the Year for 1995 Liam Cahill (Ballingarry). Young Footballer of the Year for 1995 Declan Browne (Moyle Rovers)*



*Questions and Answers! John Owens and Franny Kelly discuss the finer points of the game!*



*Father and Son! – Former Tipperary inter-county hurler, Joe O'Dwyer, a member of the Killenaule panel which played Ballingarry, photographed with his son, Joe, the team mascot, at the South senior hurling final, at Monroe.*



*Cahir players in opposition in Fitzgibbon Cup (l-r): Darren O'Connor (U.L.) and Colm O'Flaherty (Garda College).*



# Reflections and Observations

## South Board Chairman, Sean Nugent in an interview with Michael Heverin, *The Nationalist*.



**C**OMING to the end of his three year term as chairman of the South Board, Sean Nugent is happy that the G.A.A. is prospering in the division, in the county and at national level. Apart from one or two areas of concern, the Kilsheelan man gives the Association a clean bill of health.

Within his division he believes that things have never been stronger. It remains the dominant football sector, with Clonmel Commercials and Moyle Rovers flying the flag with pride at county and provincial level in recent years, but great strides have also been made in hurling with the fruits of hard work and endeavour now there for all to see.

On the county stage he is confident that the structures are firmly in place to justify Tipperary's appellation as the Premier County.

While nationally he believes that the G.A.A. is as strong as ever, still firmly deep-rooted in every parish in the country and strong enough to meet the challenges posed by other sports.

It's an encouraging picture painted by a man whose life revolves around the G.A.A.

He started playing with his beloved Kilsheelan as a juvenile in the 1950s and now at the age of fifty he has still not hung up the boots or hurley and would be more than willing to tog out in the club's blue and gold if needed.

"I believe I can still contribute, especially in hurling, if I had more time to train. But I would only play the odd game now if I was needed" he says.

Gaelic games run through the family blood and Sean has two sons also playing with Kilsheelan, Sean and Paddy, and they joined him on the intermediate hurling team in 1989.

A proud moment for him during his first year as South chairman was when Kilsheelan won the South intermediate football title and he had to present the cup to the team captain – none other than his son Sean!

His own playing days were not devoid of success. He was a member of the hurling and football teams that won South junior titles in 1964, ending a barren run of fourteen years without any title in the club. On his preference for football or hurling, he says "I preferred hurling as a player because I was better at it."

But it was in football he and his biggest occasions, winning county senior titles in 1968 – the first in thirty five years for the club – and again in 1972. "We had a very

good team and we should have won three or four titles" he recalls now.

In 1975, while working with the Post Office in Clonmel, he succumbed to pressure to become club secretary. "I was reluctant to do so because I had a young family and I was very busy at the time but I took it on and it was my first introduction to the administrative side of the Association."

He held the job for nine years and in a natural progression, he became chairman in 1988, a position he held for six years.

"I spent fifteen years as an officer with the club and the experience I gained stood to me during my time as Board chairman. I had good experience of the trials and tribulations of a club officer" he says.

Indeed he has served a full apprenticeship in the G.A.A. in the county – he was a member of the Year Book Committee for ten years, served on the County Development Committee under Mick Maher, and John Ryan and for three years as a county minor hurling selector from 1989 to 1991.

He came close to landing an All-Ireland title with Tipperary in 1991 but the statistics of that day, when a highly rated Tipperary side lost to Kilkenny, hid the real drama of the day.

Nugent recalls now that the curtain raiser to the senior decider between the same counties might not have been played following a frightening incident in the team's hotel that morning.

The players and officials had just returned from Mass and were going up to their rooms in the lifts to get their gear for a light puck around. One of the lifts, containing eight players, a number of officials and some other guests, stalled on the way up and fell two floors back.

"We came back down with a bang" he recalls now. "It was very frightening and not the ideal preparation for an All-Ireland final for the players. When the lift finally stopped it was below the level of the floor and there was a bit of panic when there was difficulty opening the door. One woman had been holding a cup of coffee and the cup hit the ceiling of the lift and the coffee spilled over everyone."

Nothing so dramatic happened to the Kilsheelan man during his three years at the helm of the South Board and yet there was drama during his first year in charge in what became known as the 'Derry Foley affair'.

The brilliant Moyle Rovers player was sent off in a club game against Grangemockler. A two week suspension would have allowed Foley to play for Tipp in the

Munster final against Cork. However, he was reported for striking and the one month ban ruled him out of the Munster showdown.

"It was a baptism of fire for me but I had to accept that controversy can be always around the corner in this job and we dealt with the situation in accordance with the rules" he points out.

The story has been told and re-told many times but the key aspect is that Foley received a court injunction to allow him play against Cork. That was the legal decision but the G.A.A. authorities felt otherwise and were unhappy when Foley made an appearance as a sub in the game.

The Moyle Rovers player was eventually suspended by the South Board for six months for a breach of the rules and discrediting the Association – the Board was particularly annoyed that Foley had played in the Munster final and in a club game during the time of his automatic one month suspension.

Nugent accepts now that the controversy caused unnecessary division but he is adamant that the rules of the G.A.A. stood up to scrutiny and indeed were strengthened by the incident. The position of the referee was also strengthened, he said.

"Having to deal with court hearings and injunctions is not something we would relish but we have to organise and control our games to the best of our ability and I believe that we did that" he remarks.

As he approaches the end of his three year term in charge, the Telecom Eireann employee is much happier looking back on other aspects of his time in the chair. He is particularly pleased with the new profile of South Tipperary hurling, especially at under age level.

"The achievement of Ballingarry Gaels in becoming the first team from the division to win the county minor A hurling title, and then retaining it the following year, was a huge boost. Another milestone was Ballingarry's William Maher becoming the first South player to captain Tipp to an All-Ireland minor title. These events reflect the growth of the game at under age level in the division. I can quote former Tipperary senior manager, Fr. Tom Fogarty, who said that the best hurling prospects in the county appear to be coming from the South" he states.



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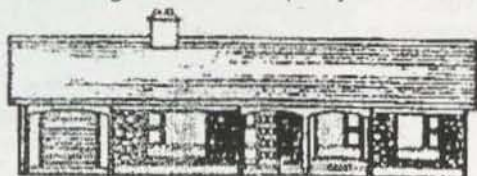
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He attributes the success to top quality coaching, the efforts of Bord na nOg and the work of hurling nurseries such as Scoil Ruain in Killenale. "A lot of hard work is now coming to fruition" he says.

However, Nugent matches his exuberance for the under age game with his realism about the game at senior level in South and is not confident that the long wait for senior champions from the South is nearing an end.

The last champions from the division were Carrick Davins in 1967. Nugent mentions Ballingarry or Mullinahone as teams who might one day make the breakthrough but he adds the a lot of hard work is needed still before 'Dan Breen' comes South again.

Part of the problem, he believes is that football and hurling have equal status in the South while other divisions attach more importance to hurling.

Nugent is happy with the state of football in the division but much less so at county level. Within his own area of control, he says that the South has the best structures at senior football level and runs the championship that gives the players the most number of games.

Accordingly standards rise as can be seen by the achievements of both Clonmel Commercials and Moyle Rovers in reaching Munster club finals in successive years.

At county level the picture is less rosy. "I am concerned about Tipperary football at the moment. It is not making progress" he says bluntly, reflecting on the prospect of another year in the basement division of the National League.

He adds: "It is a difficult area. Tipperary is most associated with hurling and it is hard for the footballers to make the breakthrough. The signs of progress were there in the early stages of Seamus McCarthy's time in charge. We were very close to the breakthrough but we didn't get over the hurdle and now we seem to be going backwards again. And yet I don't want to

be too pessimistic as we have a great tradition in football."

To help Tipp football achieve its full potential, he would like to see closer integration between the County Board and the Football Board but accepts that it might be difficult to achieve. He says there is a need for people with special responsibility for football but believes it might be more productive if they were more under the umbrella of the County Board.

Yet overall he believes that the G.A.A. in Tipperary is in a healthy condition. It is very well organised with the correct structures to look after all areas of responsibility. He accepts that there are some difficulties in streamlining games but says this can be overcome by pinpointing key championships and running them off in a manner and at a time that will allow other championships to proceed unhindered. And this can be done without interfering with the status of divisions, he adds.

He understands that there are too many games at certain times of the year and not enough at others and describes this as a job for the County Board to tackle.

At national level, the Kilsheelan man is also confident about the future and says that the Association has grown in stature in recent years and can compete successfully with other sports. Attendances at matches reflect that growth.

However, he does feel that the G.A.A. could promote itself better and has views on how the media can be used to achieve that aim. The G.A.A. doesn't always get the most favourable publicity and too often the P.R.O. is reacting to something negative rather than initiating its own coverage.

"We need a revamp of the Public Relations area because we are reactive rather than pro-active. We should be out there in the field with the media promoting our activities. I know that the P.R.O. has to react to situations but he should also be out exploring where the Association and its games can be promoted. There is great

goodwill out there for us if we can tap it and get more people behind us. We are not getting the message across nationally of the benefits to society of the work being done, on a voluntary basis, by G.A.A. members.

Sean Nugent, who will be a candidate for the County Chairman's position at Convention, is keen to see more people come forward for leadership roles at club level. Clubs should be identifying potential leaders at an early stage and the Association should be providing them with training and back up services for the job.

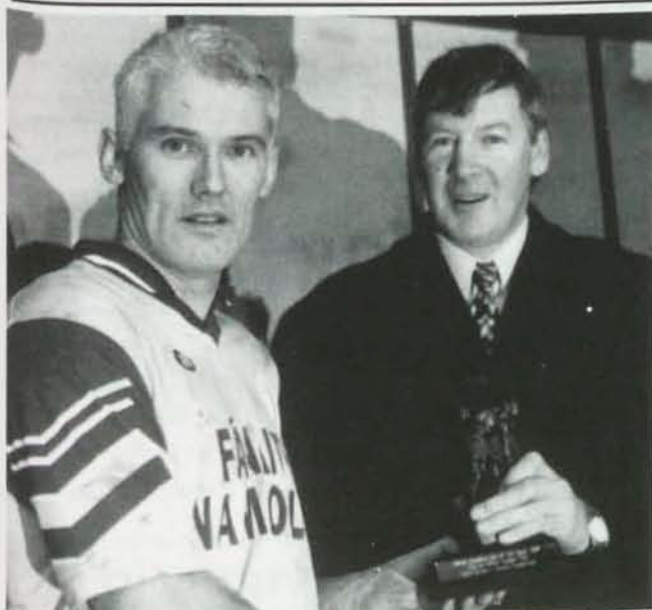
"Clubs have difficulty getting people involved in the administrative side of affairs and the County Development Committee is now making moves to do something about this. It is a position that carries great responsibility but it is also a great challenge as the Club is the basic unit of the Association" he remarks.

As he finishes his three years as South chairman and looks ahead to new challenges, he pays tribute to people who have helped him during his term, such as divisional secretary, Michael O'Meara and the other officers.

"I also want to thank the players in all grades for the enjoyment they have provided. I have enjoyed the games more than anything and the standard has been as good in some areas as anything I have seen during my playing career" he says.

Looking ahead to Tipperary's chances in the championships next year, he believes that Tipp had a hurling team this year that was good enough to win an All-Ireland and that the team should win one in the near future.

In relation to football, he believes that improvement must be the first step and that a Munster title may be some way off just yet. "But I believe we can improve and that with the right approach success can be achieved. Just look at what Commercials and Moyle Rovers have achieved at club level."



Following the county football final, John Owens receives the 'Man of the Match' award from John Quirke.

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# Cahir bridge 38 year gap

**B**y winning the county Minor "A" football title Cahir bridged a 38 year gap, that many thought would always elude the club. However, this years minors had always shown the potential to win county titles, so it came as no surprise that it was this group of players who achieved this long-awaited objective.

The team progressed through the under-17 league and were unlucky to lose the final to Clonmel Óg. Due to the hard work of the trainer, Gerry Tennant and his co-selectors Willie O'Gorman, Patrick Hyland and Jim Hickey, the team, following an initial defeat to Ardfinnan, began an eight match unbeaten run as follows:

Cahir 2-18 to Clonmel Óg 1-6; Cahir 4-4 to Commercials 0-2; Cahir 6-15 to Fethard 2-3; Cahir 3-8 to Killenaule 2-2; Cahir 3-8 to Commercials 0-7 in South semi-final; Cahir 2-8 to Fethard 1-9 in South final. Cahir 3-9 to Moyne-Templetuohy 0-6 in county semi-final; Cahir 1-9 to Golden 0-9 in county final.

That gave Cahir a combined total of 25-84 against 7-53.



Robbie Hall (captain of Cahir), accepts the Pierce Larkin Cup, from South Chairman, Seán Nugent, after Cahir won the Minor Football 'A' championship final in Clonmel on September 9th, 1996.

(Photo: Mullally)



Cahir - County M.F. champions 1958 - back row (l. to r.) Paddy McGrath (R.I.P.), Richie Delahunty, Michael "Darby" Walsh, Willie Neville, Joe Doherty, Davy "Boots" Fitzgerald, Frank Meehan, Mossy Hyland, Paddy Tierney, Pat Geary N.T. (trainer). Front row (l. to r.) Neddy Ramsey, Donal Ryan (R.I.P.), Tom Delaney, Mattie Hussey, Denis Halpin, Sean Walsh (captain), Stephen McCormack, Seamus Doherty. Note: Missing from the photo was Willie Leahy (full-forward) who was injured during the game.

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# An Oak tree has grown

By J. Perkins

**A**N oak tree as first planted in Westcourt, Callan, in the year 1762 A.D., spread to Waterford, all Ireland and to the five continents.

On 6th October, 1996, full recognition was given to that tree in Rome when Edmund Rice was Beatified and now holds the title of Blessed and will be honoured all over the world. He has become "A man for our time". He saw and read the signs of his own time and acted to make things better in Ireland.

He was one of the lucky ones himself. He was born into a well-to-do farming family, got a good education at home, in the local Hedge school and in an academy in Kilkenny. At 17 years his uncle, Michael Rice, a Waterford merchant, offered him a vacancy in his stores. He accepted the offer and became a prosperous businessman.

He had learned much in his own home with his parents, six brothers and two step-sisters – Joan and Jane Murphy. His mother was Margaret Tierney, a "near relative" of Valentine Smith of Callan and of the late Valentine Maher M.P. for Tipperary. They were extensively engaged in trade in Carrick and had acquired great wealth.

The Rices had plenty of visitors to their house and they heard many stories of the



A happy Tipperary group, including Br. Joe Perkins, at the Beatification ceremonies in Rome.

as hurling was then called by the boys. He was a fun-loving boy whose conversation was pleasant, bright and lively.

Even though Edmund was not much given to sport, he could scarcely have missed being present at some of the hurling contests that were famous in the Callan district, or hearing the fame of the local heroes. There was Andy Delaney of whom a local poet sang with some exaggeration:

*"Here active Andy, famed from pole to pole,  
The elastic ball to hurl from goal to goal."*

Another was Lord Cuffe of Desart to whom Edmund's father paid a yearly rent of two gold sovereigns per acre – in all about £300, then. His fame was sung in sadness on the occasion of his death.

*"A sigh comes from many a heart  
And tears fall on many a cheek  
At not beholding thee  
With green jacket and crimson cap  
Leading out the nimble hurlers."*

Edmund was a graceful dancer, too, and loved to sing in his pleasing voice the songs and ballads of the countryside.

He befriended the wandering poet, Tadhg Gaelach Ó Súilleabháin, whom he met at the musical gatherings at the "Yellow Inn" on the Lacken Road, a few miles from Waterford.

The place was renowned as a rendezvous for lovers of music, and poetry, on Sunday afternoons. At one of these gatherings a firm friendship grew up between Edmund and the poet, who then became a frequent visitor at his rich home at Arundel Place in Waterford. He was always welcome and gradually Edmund's influence confirmed a change in Tadhg's attitude to life. He was induced to confide in one of the city priests and reform his irregular habits.

The conversion was both sincere and lasting, showing itself in his poems in the "Pious Miscellany". Edmund was one of the the subscribers towards the publica-

tion of the volume. Tadhg Gaelach Ó Súilleabháin died a holy death, on the steps of the Big Chapel, the first day of Holy Week on the 22nd April, 1795.

Edmund was fully alive to the problems of the day and always ready to proclaim his support for what he believed to be right and necessary.

When Edmund Rice's young wife died and he was left in the world with a delicate child, it changed his outlook on life and he looked to the wider family that was sore in need of help. He gave his life and wealth to helping the boys who roamed the streets of Waterford and other towns and cities. He had no time, now, for fun or sport.

The children he had to deal with now had enough to do to exist, to keep body and soul together. He thought of the green fields of Callan. Here was a greater field. He educated, fed, clothed and raised up those he saw most in need. He had not a schoolhouse, nor a playground nor a green field and this is how it remained for years.

Except for Drill, P.E., some Cricket, later Rugby, there were not much games or exercise in the schools. We hear little mention of Gaelic Games. The G.A.A. was founded in 1884, the Gaelic League in 1893 and the Abbey Theatre in 1904. A slow revival was taking place of things national which came to fruition after 1916. The schools and education had a lot to do with that great National Revival.

The Christian Brothers Schools entered the spirit of this great fight for true Catholic freedom where all things Irish were to the fore. With pride can we look to the great work done in Carrick, Clonmel, Tipperary, Cashel, Thurles, Templemore, Nenagh, Roscrea and wherever there was a "Monks" school.

The first Harty Cup final was played in 1918. The "rise of the rural schools" can be traced to 1929. Since then we know of the phenomenal increase in schools playing games and promoting the Irish Lan-



Blessed Edmund Rice

"happenings" in the area and used to feed the hungry. There was a large level field behind the house where Edmund and his brothers and the boys of the district played many a well-contested game of "Loops",



guage. Edmund Rice would be delighted to see young lads playing the Rice Cup matches and promoting "a healthy mind in a healthy body". He had worked so hard for true education that produced such national figures, such clergymen, such illustrious teachers that continued on his work, and especially, now, who are

continuing on the great work which he started, bringing still to the schools the spirit of Edmund's life.

A Quaker, writing to a friend of the impressions of the funeral of Edmund Rice in 1844, declared:

"Mr. Rice is not dead! He lives. Yes, he lives – the highest, noblest and greatest

life. He lives in the noble band of Christian workmen to whom he has bequeathed his spirit and his work."

We can proclaim now, after his beatification, that Edmund Rice is not just an example for his Brothers and Teachers, he is an example for all the People of God.

# Opening of new facilities in Knockshegowna

I am sure when Knockshegowna G.A.A. club was formed in 1934, little did those people think that sixty two years later that the club would have its own hurling field and community centre. It cost in the region of £140,000 and everything so far is paid for. In 1934, Knockshe played in the junior championship and were successful in their first attempt. The team consisted mostly of the three families, Waters, Carroll and Treacys while Donoghue, King, Ryan, Brereton and Cunningham made up the rest. The team was captained by Johnny Carroll. As there was no intermediate championship at that time, Knockshe played senior and could hold their own with most of the teams. Due to emigration in the early fifties, Knockshe were regarded as a junior team. The club was successful again in 1958, 1969, 1972, 1974, 1988, 1989 and 1993 as winners of the North Tipp divisional junior championship.

1969 was one of the glorious years for the club when we had a convincing win over Roscrea. Then we were faced with Burgess intermediate for the right to represent the North division, in which we were victorious. Great celebrations were to follow when the club went on to win our first ever county junior championship. The team was captained by Jim Noonan. Jim who represented Tipperary in all grades, has been a driving force behind our

Development team from the very beginning.

For several years the club often spoke about purchasing our own G.A.A. field. Up to that time, the club was indebted to the Cahalan family for the use of their field for a long number of years. Because Knockshe is a small club and our aims were high, we knew it was going to take something special to achieve those aims. The club organised a very good development committee under the chairmanship of Jim Noonan. Having our own field was our first priority. Several meetings were held and several sites were discussed. One particular site close to the village was very appealing. The owner, Leo O'Meara was approached and was willing to sell. The first giant step had been taken. At the same time our Parish Priest, Fr. Bergin was in the process of building a Community Centre in Shinrone (the other end of the parish which is in Offaly). Both communities joined forces and a major fund raising event took place. £100 tickets were sold for a major draw and we got £22,000 reward for Knockshe's participation in the draw.

Knockshe's future was now on its way. It could only be full steam ahead from here on. Now our pitch had been acquired things could not rest there. A clubhouse come Community Centre was our next aim. Several other club houses were looked at. With Jimmy, a draughts-

man of repute he was the ideal man to draw up the plans. It was decided to build two dressing rooms, shower room to facilitate both teams, a main hall, toilets, kitchen, referees changing room and shower and utility room for bar function. All space seemed carefully put to use.

Our fund raising with Shinrone continued once more with more major draws and a cattle rearing scheme. Various grants from units of the G.A.A. and the National Lottery topped up our figure to £45,000. We were now on our way with the building. Shinrone had now completed their fund raising. We were now at this stage going alone with further fund raising. More draws, golf outings, timber auctions, race night as well as other fund raising events were taken on with great success and as it stands everything is paid for.

We in Knockshe were fortunate with our FÁS schemes and in particular last year the amount of work and especially the entrance wall was a credit to all concerned. We intend to continue our development with a boundary fence and stand with a view to holding some major North Tipp championship games. We are eternally grateful to our local committee, community and surrounding communities for their continued financial support. April 14th 1996 was a very proud and memorable occasion in Knockshegowna for all concerned.



Some guests at official opening of the Knockshegowna G.A.A. field were (left to right): Fr. S. Gardiner, Bishop Michael Walsh, Joe McDonagh (President-elect G.A.A.), Sean Fogarty (County Board Chairman), Tommy Barrett (County Secretary), Jimmy Ronan (Development Chairman), Sean Carroll (Knockshegowna Chairman), Gerry Long (M.C.).



# MID-TIPPERARY G.A.A. RESULTS 1996

Venue/ Date & Ref.	GRADE	Goals	Points
Sunday 8-9-96/Holycross, Ref: Pat Cullen	<b>Senior Hurling Final</b> Thurles Sarfields Boherlahan-Dualla	3 1	13 13
Sunday 20-10-96, The Ragg, Ref: W. Clohessy	<b>Intermediate Hurling Final</b> J. K. Brackens Upperchurch-Drombane	1 2	12 9
Sunday 3-11-96, The Ragg, Ref: W. Clohessy	<b>Replay</b> J. K. Brackens Upperchurch-Drombane	3 2	20 9
Sunday 22-9-96, Templemore, Ref: W. Clohessy	<b>Junior A Hurling Final</b> Upperchurch-Drombane Moycarkey-Borris	2 0	10 10
Saturday, 5-10-1996, Littleton, Ref: P. J. Leahy	<b>Junior B Hurling Final</b> Rahealty-Kickhams Drom-Inch	3 1	11 8
Saturday, 16-11-96, Holycross, Ref: R. Lowry	<b>U-21 B Hurling Final</b> Drom-Inch Gortnahoe-Glengoole	3 1	13 11
Saturday, 28-9-96, Drombane, Ref: R. Ryan	<b>Minor A Hurling Final</b> Drom-Inch Holycross-Ballycahill	4 4	10 7
Sunday, 6-10-96, Littleton, Ref: D. Curtis	<b>Minor B Hurling Final</b> Gortnahoe-Glengoole Boherlahan-Dualla	1 1	10 7
Sunday, 23-6-96, The Ragg, Ref: W. Clohessy	<b>Junior Hurling League Finals</b> Group 1 Boherlahan-Dualla Loughmore-Castleiney	1 1	9 9
Friday, 30-8-96, The Ragg, Ref: W. Clohessy	<b>Replay</b> Boherlahan-Dualla Loughmore-Castleiney	3 2	8 11
Sunday, 22-9-96, Templemore, Ref: J. O'Shea	<b>2nd Replay</b> Boherlan-Dualla Loughmore-Castleiney	2 1	10 6
Saturday, 22-6, 96, Littleton, Ref: P. J. Leahy	<b>Group 2</b> Thurles Sarsfields Gortnahoe-Glengoole	3 1	10 10
Sunday, 23-6-96, Littleton, Ref: R. Lowry	<b>Group 3</b> Rahealty-Kickhams Holycross-Ballycahill	2 0	10 12
Saturday, 2-11-96, Castleiney, Ref: J. Sweeney	<b>Minor C Hurling Final</b> Upperchurch-Drombane Clonakenny	3 3	8 8
9-11-96, Castleiney, Ref: J. Sweeney	<b>Replay</b> Upperchurch-Drombane Clonakenny	2 2	7 6
Friday, 26-7-96, Semple Stadium, Ref: B. Lowth	<b>Senior Football Final</b> Loughmore-Castleiney J. K. Brackens	3 2	8 5
Saturday, 26-10-96, Littleton, Ref: B. Lowth	<b>Intermediate Football Final</b> Moyne-Templeouhy Holycross-Ballylahill	2 2	9 4
Sunday, 17-11, 96, Thurles outside field, Ref: P. J. Hewitt	<b>Junior B Football Final</b> Gortnahoe-Glengoole Loughmore-Castleiney	3 0	10 5
Saturday, 13-4-96, Littleton, Ref: J. Kelly	<b>U-21 A Football Final</b> Loughmore-Castleiney Holycross-Ballycahill	1 0	14 8
Sunday, 31-3-96, Castleiney, Ref: P. Cullen	<b>U-21 B Football Final</b> Moyne-Templeouhy Moycarkey-Borris	1 2	16 5
Tuesday 13-8-96, Ref: Jim O'Shea	Moyne-Templeouhy Kickhams-Rahealty	0 0	11 7
Thursday, 22-8-96, Boherlahan, Ref: Wm. O'Grady	<b>Minor B Football Final</b> Holycross-Ballycahil Drom-Inch	1 0	9 9

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Mid Tipperary referees photographed with Mid GAA Board officers, following presentation of plaques to Mid final referees, at the Annual Referees' dinner in the Park Avenue House, Thurles. Front Row (l. to r.): Martin Treacy, referee, Mattie Connolly, secretary Mid Board; Bob Stakelum, president Mid Board; Michael Greene, chairman Mid Referees Association; Sean Mockler, chairman Mid Board; John O'Donovan, treasurer Mid Board; P. J. Hewitt, referee. Back Row: John Kelly, referee, Willie Robinson, referees's assessor; Brindsley Lowth, Pat Lynch, Denis Curtis, Roddy Lowry, Pat Cullen, Tom Maher, all referees.



The Thurles Sarstfields team which regained the MacLochlainn Roadmarkings Ltd. Mid Senior Hurling Championship title by defeating Boherlahan-Dualla in the final at Holycross. Back row (l. to r.): Connie Maher, Pat Murray, Michael Sparrow, Eamonn Walsh, Ciaran Carroll, Seamus O'Shea (captain), Brendan Carroll, Eddie Enright. Front Row: Brian O'Grady, Johnny Enright, Gary Memagh, Tommy Maher, Seamus Quinn, Matthew O'Dowd, Jack Griffin.



The Upperchurch-Drombane panel which won the Irish Pride Bakeries Mid Tipperary junior A hurling title by defeating Moycarkey-Borris at Templemore. Back row (l. to r.): Pakie Phelan (selector), Seamus Ryan, Ollie Moloughney, Darren Keane, Michael Carey, Gerry Ryan (R), Eugene Shortt, Billy Clancy (at back), Patsy Ralph, Pat Carey, Seamus Griffin, Tim Ryan, David Brennan, Edmond Quinlan, Paddy Brennan, Pat Phelan, Dan Griffin. Front Row: John Ryan (C), Neil Ryan, Donal Hayes, Donal Leamy, Tony Bourke, Seamus Barry, Stephen Gleeson, Michael Griffin, Timmy Ryan, Donal Carey, John Harrington, Frankie Shortt (captain).



The Rahealty-Kickhams panel and selectors which won the Mid junior hurling B title by defeating Drom-Inch at Littleton. Back row (l. to r.): Pat Troy (selector), Dominic Stapleton, Chris Stapleton, Francis Maher, Colm Ryan, Eddie Ryan, Pat Kelly, Kevin Ryan, Martin Campion, Kevin Bannon, Keith Fitzgibbon, John Kelly, Kevin Ryan, Danragh Kinane, Paddy Campion (selector). Front Row: James Ryan, Barry Gorman, Jimmy Breen, Joe Ryan, Raymond O'Dowd, Seamus Doran (captain), Micheál Hackett, Patrick Hackett, Gavin Purcell, Pa Dwyer, Michael O'Dwyer, P. J. Quinn (selector).



The Drom-Inch panel which won the Hibernian Insurance Mid Under 21 B hurling title by defeating Gortnahoe-Glengoolie at Holycross. Back Row (l. to r.): Noel Kennehan, Liam Hoare, Bernard Kennedy, Tom Maher, Conor Ryan, Eddie Kinnane, Eamonn Hickey, Damien Young, Mervyn Hicks, Seamus Cahill, Daniel McGrath, Michael Kiely, Fergal McLoughlin, Michael Cantwell, Michael Brett, Michael McLoughlin, Brendan McGrath, William Lowry, Johnathan O'Connor, Denis Ryan, Jimmy Darcy, Frank McGrath, Paul Ryan, P. J. Brett (captain), Seamus Butler, Paul Stapleton, Michael Cahill.



The Drom-Inch team which won the Mid Tipperary minor A hurling title for the first time by defeating Holycross-Ballycahill by 4-10 to 4-7 at Drombane. Back row (l. to r.): Padraig Butler, Seamus Cahill, Eddie Kinane, Damien Young, Noel Kennehan, Liam Hoare (captain), Johnathan O'Connor, Seamus Butler. Front row: Michael Cahill, Mattie Ryan, Michael Cantwell, Paul Ryan, Paul Stapleton, Liam Kennedy, Brian Doyle.



The Gortnahoe-Glengoolie team which won the mid minor B hurling title by defeating Boherlahan-Dualla at Littleton. Back Row: (l. to r.): Pat Hickey, Darren Kenny, Fergal Egan, Mark Ryan, Darren Cody, Leo Dufficey, Stuart Perry, Pat Wall. Front Row: Darren O'Brien, Keith Corbett, John Teehan (captain), Denis Byrd, Vincent Ryan, Liam Cleary, Nigel Kenny.



The Boherlahan-Dualla team which beat Loughmore-Castleiney in the Mid Junior Hurling League final. Back Row: (l. to r.): Alan Wade, John Maher, Jason Hassett, Sean Corbett (captain), Liam Burke, Frank Hickey, Mark McLoughlin, Brian Dwyer. Front Row: Stephen Patterson, Brendan Femcome, Eamonn Maher, James Tarrant, Tony Lacey, Thomas Quirke, Michael Lahart.



# CLUB RE-UNION - 1996



Members of the Drom-Inch intermediate hurling team of 1970, winners of the county final, who received presentations at the club's Annual Social in The Ragg. Front row (left to right) Tommy Butler, Francis Costello, John O'Dwyer, Dick Maher, Patrick Connolly, John Harkin, Larry Ryan, Kathy Butler, Tess Lowry. Middle Row – Michael Costello, Tim Ryan, Pat Doherty, Pat Barry, Eamonn Butler. Back Row – Tom Everard, Paudie Butler, Neil Dwyer, Larry Doherty, Jim Carey, Ollie Quinn, Seamus Butler and Sean Shanahan.



Photo taken at Thurles Sarsfields Social Centre on Saturday, 26th October, 1996 at the Re-union of the Thurles Sarsfields senior hurlers who won Tipperary county senior hurling championships from the 1950's up to 1965 (including 10 out of 11 county championships 1955 to 1965). Front Row (left to right) Benny Maher, Michael Murphy, Thomas Butler, Miceál ("Rocky") McElgun, Martin ("Musha") Maher, Mickey ("Rattler") Byrne, Very Rev. Fr. James Feehan (former chairman), Paddy Doyle, Very Rev. Canon William Noonan (former chairman), Bobby Mockler. Middle Row (left to right) Michael Craddock, Eddie Maher, Larry Keane, Frank Barrett, Patsy Dorney, Thomas Callanan, Gerry Spain, Willie Hackett, Noel Murphy, Stevie Smee, Tommy Barrett, Dick Callanan, Mick Cahill, Seamus Browne, Flor Coffey, Rev. Ray Reidy, Michael Small. Back Row (left to right) Tony Wall, Michael Stapleton, Jimmy Doyle, Martin ("Murty") Collins, Michael Dundon, Sean McLoughlin, Bill O'Dwyer, Tim Walshe, John Purcell, Connie Keane, Michael ("Barton") Dorney, P. J. Spain, Michael Fogarty, T. J. Semple.





The Thurles Sarsfields panel which won the Mid Tipperary Junior Hurling B League title by defeating Gortnahoe-Glengoose at Littleton. Back Row (l. to r.): Dinny Maher, Pat McCormack, Rory Purcell, Leonard Phillips, Raymond O'Riordan, John Dorney, Ger O'Grady, Trevor Cooke, Noel Dundon, Gerry Nolan, David Molumby, John Rowe, John Dwyer, Tomas Max. Front Row: Trevor Dwyer, Sean Ryan, Tommy Collins, Colin Coppinger, Seamus Brophy, Lar Mackey, Sean Mullanney (captain), Liam O'Dwyer, Damien Daly, Brian O'Grady.



The Moyne-Templetuohy panel which won the Mid Tipperary intermediate football title by defeating Holycross-Ballycahill in the final at Littleton. Back row (l. to r.): Thomas Doyle, Michael Ryan, William Maher, Micilin Troy, Enda Everard, Joe Leahy, Cathal Ely, Theo Lloyd, Tom Guilfoyle (captain), Phil Bowe, Micael Buggy, Pierce Everard, Seamus Maher. Front row: "Toddy" Sweeney, Pat Blake, Peter Sweeney, Padraig Costigan, Sean Everard, Tim Bergin, Brendan Gavin Ailbe Hayden, Martin Ryan, P. J. Sweeney, Thomas Costigan



History Makers - the Kickhams-Rahealty combination which won its first Mid title by defeating Holycross-Ballycahill in the final of the Junior Hurling C League competition at Littleton. Back row (l. to r.): Pat Madden, Dominic Stapleton, Pat Kelly, Eddie Ryan, Joe Ryan (R), Keith Fitzgibbon, Tomas Doyle, Martin Campion, Francis Maher, Damien Kinane, Emmet Maher, Devin Bannon, John Kelly. Front Row: Barry O'Gorman, John Gleeson, Jimmy Breen, Raymond O'Dowd, Joe Ryan, Colm Ryan, Jimmy Ryan, Kevin Ryan.



The Loughmore-Castleiney team which retained the Mid under 21 football A title by defeating a courageous Holycross-Ballycahill at Littleton. Back Row (l. to r.): Kieran Webster, Noel Morris, Tommy Ormond, Declan Laffan (captain), Dominic Brennan, David Kennedy, Donal Bolger, Tom Foy, Kevin Kelly (coach). Front row: John Paul Foy, Alvy Stapleton, Paul Ormond, John Gleeson, David Sweeney, Michael Brennan, Joe Danagher.



The Upperchurch-Drombane panel which won the Irish Pride Bakeries Mid Tipperary junior A hurling title by defeating Moycarkey-Borris at Templemore. Back row (l. to r.): Pakie Phelan (selector), Seamus Ryan, Ollie Moloughney, Darren Keane, Michael Carey, Gerry Ryan (R), Eugene Shortt, Billy Clancy (at back), Patsy Ralph, Pat Carey, Seamus Griffin, Tim Ryan, David Brennan, Edmond Quinlan, Paddy Brennan, Pat Phelan, Dan Griffin. Front Row: John Ryan (C), Neil Ryan, Donal Hayes, Donal Leamy, Tony Bourke, Seamus Barry, Stephen Gleeson, Michael Griffin, Timmy Ryan, Donal Carey, John Harrington, Frankie Shortt (captain).



The Moyne-Templetuohy panel which won the county under 21 football B title by defeating West champions Cappawhite at Cashel. Back row (l. to r.): P. J. Ryan, Peter Sweeney, Pat Blake, Michael Ryan, Thomas Doyle (captain), Brian Delahunty, Cathal Ely, Martin Kelly, Declan Leahy, Johathan Cullen, Enda Everard. Front row: Joseph Leahy, Padraig Costigan, Ailbe Hayden, Pat Hartigan, James Ryan, Brendan Gavin, Pat Meade, Thomas Costigan, P. J. Sweeney, John Paul Kelly, Michael Smith



Mid champions again - The Loughmore-Castleiney team which won the Roadstone Provinces Ltd. Mid senior football title for the thirty-first time in thirty-two years by defeating J. K. Brackens in Semple Stadium. Back row (l. to r.): Philip Kennedy, David Kennedy, Tim Cullen, Declan Laffan, Paul Ormond, John Kennedy, Noel Kennedy, Tom McGrath. Front row: Mick McGrath (K), Ned Ryan, Pat McGrath (captain), Seanie Bohan, Eamonn Brennan, Michael McGrath, Michael Ormonde. Mascot: Diarmuid Brennan.



The Moyne-Templetuohy panel which won the Thurles Credit Union Mid Tipperary minor "A" football final by defeating Kickhams-Rahealty at Castleiney. Back Row (l. to r.): Michael Esmonde, Johathan Cullen, Martin Kelly (captain), Thomas Costigan, Brian Delahunty, Michael Ryan, Cathal Ely, Cormac Lloyd, Martin Kiely, Eamonn Ryan, Joseph Kiely, John Stokes. Front row: Odhran Lloyd, Declan Leahy, Simon Everard, Michael Smith, Brendan Gavin, John Paul Kelly, Louis Everard Pat Meady, Colm Everard, Pierce Butler



# First Minor Football Title for Holycross

## Mid Championship

**T**HE year commenced in March with a first round game at Páirc na nÓg against Loughmore/Castleiney, which we won comfortably. In our second match we beat Clonakenny at Ballycahill. Then came the long break for exams and in July we played Boherlahan/Dualla to reach the final.

In the final we faced stiff opposition in Drom/Inch. This game was played in Boherlahan. We got off to a very slow start and we were four points adrift after eight minutes. However, we found our rhythm and pulled back the lead. Both these teams played some good quality football and we finished the game three points clear to claim the Mid title.

## County Championship

Our opponents in the county semi-final were Mullinahone, who had to line out without their star player Paul Kelly. Again we started slowly and allowed the South champs to gain an early advantage. Once we settled down we played good football and went on to win in style.

The final was played in The Ragg against Borrisoleigh. We knew that this game would be similar to the Mid final and so it proved to be. Borrisokane had the ball in our net in the second minute and went five points clear without reply. Our star player all year, John Ferncombe, pointed from a free and followed with a goal from a penalty to bring us back into the game. The North boys continued to dominate the game and we would have been further behind but for some stout

defending by John Fogarty at full-back. The half-time score left Borrisoleigh ahead by three points.

We made several changes during the interval and the placing of Peter O'Donoghue at centre-back changed the course of the game. A goal from Eoin Hassett was the crucial score and we went on to claim our first football title at Minor level. The team was well prepared by Phil Lowry, Fr. Tom Fogarty, Michael Ryan and Liam McGrath. The captain of the team was Brendan O'Dwyer.

The panel of players was: Eamon Ryan, Shay Doyle, Gary Byrne, Ronan Ryan, John Bourke, Robert Quinlan, Peter O'Donoghue, Patrick Ryan, Denis McCullagh, Eoin Hassett, Michael Hayes, Noel Ryan, Paul Gould, Liam Judge, John Ferncombe, Jack Doyle, John Fogarty, Mark Fogarty, Brendan O'Dwyer, Paul O'Dwyer, Paul McGrath, Kevin Ryan, Stephen Flanagan.



**HOLYCROSS/BALLYCAHILL – COUNTY MINOR B FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS 1996**

**Back row (L/R)** – Eamon Ryan, Shay Doyle, Gary Byrne, Ronan Ryan, John Bourke, Robert Quinlan, Peter O'Donoghue, Patrick Ryan, Denis McCullagh, Eoin Hassett, Michael Hayes, Noel Ryan. **Front (L/R)** – Liam Judge, John Ferncombe, Jack Doyle, John Fogarty, Mark Fogarty, Brendan O'Dwyer (captain), Paul O'Dwyer, Paul McGrath, Kevin Ryan, Stephen Flanagan. Missing from photo is Paul Gould.



# JOHN DOYLE - hero of yesterday

**J**OHN DOYLE, the legendary Tipperary hurling hero from Hollycross-Ballycahill was recognised in May when he received the prestigious Guinness 'Heroes of Yesterday award at a special function in Croke Park. This is a new award, so John has joined the ranks of Premier County Firsts in becoming the first holder. The award of 'Hurling Hero' recognises his tremendous record in the game, having played in ten All-Irelands, winning eight. Even more impressive is his National League record, which stands at eleven wins out of fifteen finals.

For the occasion Micheal O Muircheartaigh composed a flattering profile of the recipient, referring to him as 'a hurler in the warrior mould'. He painted the following picture of the young man who made his senior debut in May of 1949: "He was tall and bronzed, strong and sinewy and displaying a semifrowning questioning smile, unlike the Mona Lisa's, but enigmatic nevertheless. His name was John Doyle and a sterling performance helped to fashion a facile win for the team captained by Pat Stakelum. The Hollycross man had now climbed the first rung of the ladder which was ultimately going to lead him to the land of the legends'. By 1958 he had established his regular berth at left halfback 'where his enormous strength and lumbering truslog strides presented



John Doyle, with his Hero of Hurling Award, sponsored by Guinness, being congratulated by Colin Storm, managing director, Guinness Ireland.

awesome defiance to forwards who plied the right flanks of many hurling fields.' O Muircheartaigh goes on to talk about 'Hell's Kitchen' where Doyle was a familiar sight and 'was frequently to be seen powering his way outwards with the sliothar in his grasp or behind dribbled to

safety by a pair of guarding dust-raising boots'.

And there was much more to describe this hurling colossus and why he should be the first recipient of *gaiscíoch mór na h-íomána*.

## The D File

### - John Doyle's Hurling Record

**J**OHN DOYLE of Hollycross-Ballycahill played in the minor inter-county grade for three years. He moved up to senior level at 19 years of age. During an illustrious career at senior level, which lasted for 19 years, he achieved every honour available to him and became a legend in hurling circles. His record and achievements are most impressive.

**M.H. Munster Medals:** 1946, 1947.

**M.H. All-Ireland Medals:** 1947.

**S.H. Munster Medals:** 1949, 1950, 1951, 1958, 1960, 1961, 1962, 1964, 1965, 1967.

**S.H. All-Ireland Medals:** 1949, 1950, 1951, 1958, 1961, 1962, 1964, 1965.

**N.H.L. Medals:** 1949, 1950, 1952, 1954, 1955, 1957, 1959, 1960, 1961, 1964, 1965. He holds 11 medals - a record.

**Oireachtas Medals:** 1949, 1960, 1961, 1963, 1964, 1965.

**Railway Cup:** Selected in the following years - 1951, 1952, 1953, 1954, 1955, 1956, 1960, 1961, 1963, 1964, 1965, 1966.

**Railway Cup Medals:** 1951, 1952, 1953, 1955, 1960, 1961, 1963, 1966.

**Representative Games:** Ireland v. Combined Universities. Doyle was selected on the Ireland team in 1953, 1954, 1955.

**Texaco Hurler of the Year Award** in 1964.

**Tipperary Sports Star Award:** 1959.

**Sunday Independent/Nationwide 'Team of the Century':** 1984  
Chosen at left corner back.



John Doyle Honoured... (l-r): Matty Connolly, Seán Fogarty, John Doyle, Tom O'Donnell, Seamus King.

**Club Honours:** On Mid Selection County M.H. winners: 1946, 1947, 1948.

**Mid S.H. Medals:** 1947, 1948, 1951, 1954.

**Co. S.H. Medals:** 1948, 1951, 1954.

**Mid S.F. Medal:** 1954.

John retired from the inter-county scene in 1967, following the All-Ireland defeat by Kilkenny. He continued to play club hurling until 1969. He served as a County S.H. selector and as the Tipperary Central Council Representative.

On the club front he held a variety of positions including selector, Co. Board Representative and also served as club chairman.

The most recent honour awarded to the Hollycross legend was the prestigious 'Hall of Fame' award for his exceptional contribution to hurling on the playing fields of Ireland, London and the U.S.A.





The Loughmore-Castleiney team which beat Holycross-Ballycahill in the Cahill Cup final replay at Holycross. Back Row (l. to r.) David Kennedy, Noel Kennedy, Philip Kennedy, Timmy Cullen, Tom Foy, Pat McGrath, Tommy Ormond, Tom McGrath. Front row: Noel Morris, Mick McGrath (K), Ned Ryan, Eamonn Brennan, Michael McGrath, Seamie Bohan (captain), Paul Ormond.



The Holycross-Ballycahill team which won the County Intermediate Hurling League title by defeating Thurles Sarsfields in the final at Holycross. Back Row (l. to r.): Declan Ryan, Brendan Bannon, Noel Ryan, Tadgh Bourke, Pa Doyle, Liam Ryan, Aidan Hassett, Benji Browne. Front row: Alan Joyce, Pat Morrissey, Declan Bourke, Paul Slattery, Philip Ryan, Gerry Fennessy (captain), Jim Ryan.



The Thurles Sarsfields team which won the Mid Junior Hurling League (1995) title by defeating Boherlahan-Dualla at Holycross. Back row (l. to r.): Noel Dundon, Tony O'Mara, Mark Wade, Eamonn Walshe, Tony Coman, Maurice McCormack, Pat McCormack, Denis Maher. Front row: Ciaran Carroll, Lar Mackey, John Dorney, Eamonn Stakelum (captain), Andy Rossiter, Michael Hanrahan, Martin McElgunn.



Photographed at the Official Opening of the new stand and seating at Páirc Shileáin, Templemore, followed by a tournament game between Tipperary and Dublin, were (l-r) – Seán Fogarty, County G.A.A. chairman, who performed the official opening; John Costigan, c chairman J.K. Brackens GAA Club; Rev. Tomás Sherlock, Templemore, and Fr. Conor Hayes, Templemore, who blessed the new facilities.



All-Ireland medal winners – Photograph shows (l-r) Matthew O'Dowd (Thurles Sarsfields), Anthony Kirby (Moycarkey-Borris), Ger Flanagan (Boherlahan-Dualla), who were on the Waterford RTC Freshers team which won the All-Ireland by defeating UCC by 5-10 to 4-11 in the final.



Fitzgibbon Cup – The Enright brothers, Eddie and Johnny, on the victorious U.C.C. team.



The J. K. Brackens panel and selectors which beat Upperchurch-Drombane in the Centenary rooms Mid Intermediate Hurling Final replay at The Ragg. Back Row: (l. to r.): Michael Delaney, Aidan Doyle, Michael Delaney (captain), Ray Doyle, Peter Bourke, Michael Cahill, Paddy Clarke, Martin Bourke, Michael Marnell, Paul Walsh, John Ivers, Michael Larkin, Paul Deegan, Aidan Russell, Seán Cashman, Seán Percy, John Guider, Ronan Loughnane. Front Row: Tim Marnell, David Bourke, Seán Scully, Darren Owens, Seamus Delaney, Paddy Marnell, Jim Cahill, John Fitzgerald, P. J. Corcoran, Donal Bourke, Eamonn Corcoran, Seán Collum, John Loughnane, Tim Leahy, Tommy Tierney.



# Mid Tipperary Hall of Fame Award Winner

## Mickey Byrne – “The Rattler”

By Noel Dundon (Tipperary Star)

**P**EOPLE will constantly refer to living legends in conversation about sport and sporting feats but one of the greatest of GAA legends is still ‘at large’ today and was earlier in the year awarded the Mid Tipperary Hall of Fame Award.

Mention the name of Mickey Byrne and people say ‘Yeah I know that name from somewhere,’ but mention “The Rattler” and heads nod, faces smile and the stories begin.

The Thurles Sarsfields man has more county final medals than any (14), was responsible for more stitches than a factory of seamstresses, spilled more blood than the Desert Storm and tells more stories than a seanchaí. Mickey Byrne is one of the best loved and most respected living legends in the entire country.

As a player in his prime he was feared by the most lethal of forwards and yet his hard man reputation left him once he left the field. A gentleman and a man of many words, Mickey Byrne remains great friends with those same forwards he ‘terrorised’ back in the 40’s, 50’s and 60’s and can be seen at many gatherings of old Gaels and greats, chatting and entertaining his audience.

Upon meeting The Rattler though the one thing that sticks out more than any other is his amazing ability to remember incidents and occurrences in games which have left their mark and have gone down as folklore in GAA history. His stories are “something else” and chatting for an evening with Mickey seems like a very short time.

My favourite story which Mickey recalls with great affection was of an incident in a clash with rivals Cork in a National League game in Croke Park. The game was close as full time approached. Perhaps Mickey should tell the story. “We were holdin’ out and the full time whistle was not too far off when Cork got a sideline ball fifty yards out. Christy Ring moved over to the line to take the cut and he put it straight over the bar to win the game.”

He continues, “we were back in Barry’s Hotel having a bit of grub that evening and all the Tipp lads and the Cork lads were there together but there was no sign

of Ring. He went away for a bit of treatment after the game. Anyway as we were talking about the game in walked Ring with bandages and stitches everywhere. I saw him coming and I said to him ‘Be God Christy we’ll have to shoot you.’ ‘Jay-sus Mickey, ye tried everything else,’ answered the quick thinking Ring.”

Another story told tells of times when men were men and the ball was just a distraction on the hurling field. Sarsfields were the premier club in Tipperary at the time and everyone else wanted to get a right good crack at them, in every sense of the meaning. Again Mickey takes up the story. “We came back down to Dr. Paddy Cummins and there were lads sitting around the room with broken fingers, bad cuts, grazes and concussions. Dr. Cummins came out of the surgery and took a look around at all the fellows waiting for treatment and he looked up and said ‘Lads will ye tell me one thing, had ye any ball?’”

The stories flow from Mickey like water from a fountain and each one is as funny as the next. While many of them have been heard before there is always one that he can pull from the bottom drawer that will leave you doubled with laughter.

Mickey’s sons too have played the game of hurling for both club and county. Paul was a member of the Tipperary 1971 team which won the senior All-Ireland

while Noel was on the U21 panel in 1981 when Tipperary captured the title. Sean, Martin (Clonmel) and Dixie (Michael) have also played the game while the grandsons are now taking over from where the others have left off. The legendary Rattler name is even being revived as one of his grandsons bears the name on his hurley and helmet.

Mickey is now President of the Sarsfields club he served on the field through three decades and his service continues today in the official capacity. His contributions are always listened to with great interest and his knowledge and experience of the game are vital to the Thurles Sarsfields club. He was instrumental in organising a recent reunion of all the senior hurling players who won county championships with the club between 1929 and 1965 and a great night was had by all who attended. Many of the stories focused on The Rattler and his amazing feats.

Mid Tipperary could hardly have chosen a more appropriate recipient of the Hall of Fame Award and Mickey is as good an ambassador for the game now as he was when he pulled on the jersey himself. So watch out for The Rattler when you attend the big games in Tipperary. You might just be lucky enough to hear some of those stories.



President of MidTipperary GAA Board, Bob Stakelum (second from left) presenting Mickey “Rattler” Byrne with his Hall of Fame award at a function in the Park Avenue House. Included in photograph are (l to r) – Sean Mockler, chairman Mid Tipperary GAA Board; Bob Stakelum; Mickey Byrne; Mrs. Mary Byrne, wife of Mickey; being presented with a bouquet of flowers by Rose Mockler, wife of Sean; Mattie Connolly, secretary Mid Tipperary GAA Board and John O’Donovan, treasurer Mid Tipperary GAA Board.



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# WEST BOARD REVIEW

**T**HIS year the Board ran twenty-one competitions. Minor 'B' Shields were added at Convention in hurling and football.

On the games front Aherlow have retained their County U21 F.C. 'A' crown. Clonoulty/Rossmore have won the county minor hurling championship 'A' bridging a fifteen years gap. Lattin/Cullen too created their own bit of history by winning the county I.H.C. for the first time.

The story of the above achievements are chronicled elsewhere in this book.

## WEST TIPPERARY BOARD OFFICERS 1996

Chairman, Seamus J. King  
Vice-Chairmen: Paul O'Neill  
Willie O'Grady  
Secretary: Jerry Ring  
Treasurer: Eamon Buckley  
P.R.O.: J. J. Kennedy  
Youth Officer: D. J. Carr.

## WEST SCÓR WINNERS 1995/96

	Scór Sinsear	Scór na nÓg	Scór na bPáistí
1. Figure Dancing	—	Seán Treacys	Seán Treacys
2. Solo Singing	Breda Butler (Seán Treacys)	Orla Glasheen (Lattin/Cullen)	Mary T. O'Connell (Seán Treacys)
3. Instrumental Music	—	Arravale Rovers	Clonoulty/Rossmore
4. Novelty Act	Arravale Rovers	Clonoulty/Rossmore	Seán Treacys
5. Question Time	Seán Treacys	Clonoulty/Rossmore	Clonoulty/Rossmore
6. Recitation	Dan Murphy (Seán Treacys)	Mary T. O'Connell (Seán Treacys)	Orla Byrnes (Lattin/Cullen)
7. Ballad Group	Arravale Rovers	Cappawhite	Cashel
8. Set Dancing	Seán Treacys	Seán Treacys	Seán Treacys

## West Tipperary Roll of Honour 1996

Dáta	Ionad	Am	Foireann			Réiteoir
18/8/1996	New Inn	S.H.C.	Clonoulty/Rossmore	2-13	Cashel 0-6	E. Browne
8/9/1996	Golden	Crosco Cup (Rep.)	Cashel	2-11	Kickhams 1-10	R. Barry
5/10/1996	Emly	I.H.C.	Lattin/Cullen	1-17	Arravale Rovers 2-6	J. Moloney
2/11/96	S.T. Park	J.H.C. 'A'	Aherlow	1-8	Galtee Rovers 0-8	A. Ryan
13/10/1996	Clonoulty	J.H.C. 'B'	Rockwell Rovers	1-9	Solohead 1-8	W. Morrissey
3/11/1996	Cashel	U-21 H.C. 'A'	Clonoulty/Rossmore	2-14	Kickhams 1-10	C. O'Sullivan
12/10/1996	Golden	U-21 H.C. 'B'	Aherlow	2-15	Seán Treacys 2-4	J. Ryan
12/10/1996	Golden	M.H.C. 'A'	Clonoulty/Rossmore	2-13	Cappawhite 2-6	P. Russell
14/9/1996	Cappawhite	M.H.C. 'B'	Aherlow	3-10	Seán Treacys 2-11	N. Lonergan
9/11/1996	Clonoulty	M.H.C. 'B' Shield	Solohead	5-7	Rockwell Rovers 1-5	P. Russell
2/8/1996	S.T. Park	S.F.C.	Golden/Kilfeacle	2-19	Lattin/Cullen 3-5	D. Fitzgerald
		O'Donoghue Cup	Lattin/Cullen		Aherlow	
17/11/1996	Cashel	I.F.C.	Kickhams	1-12	Rockwell Rovers 2-4	P. Lonergan
10/11/1996	Golden	J.F.C. 'A'	Clonoulty Rossmore	2-9	Aherlow 1-7	T. Meehan
24/11/1996	Golden	J.F.C. 'B'	Solohead	2-8	Galtee Rovers 0-4	C. O'Sullivan
28/9/1996	Bansha	J.F.L.	Rockwell Rovers	0-14	Aherlow 0-10	P. Lonergan
31/3/1996	Bansha	U-21 F.C. 'A'	Aherlow	1-11	Golden/Kilfeacle 2-5	P. Lonergan
14/4/1996	Golden	U-21 F.C. 'B'	Cappawhite	4-8	Rockwell Rovers 0-6	S. Toomey
4/9/1996	New Inn	M.F.C. 'A'	Golden/Kilfeacle	1-14	Cashel 2-7	S. Toomey
4/9/1996	S.T. Park	M.F.C. 'B'	Solohead	0-15	Kickhams 2-2	R. Barry
28/10/1996	S.T. Park	M.F.C. 'B' Shield	Rockwell Rovers	1-9	Éire Óg 2-3	J. Moloney



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**Reunion Christmas 1995 of Arravale Rovers, West S.H.C. team who won West 25 years ago in 1970.** Front row (L/R) – Tommy Dwyer, Dick Meagher, Fr. Christy O'Dwyer, Jim O'Donoghue, Pat Leahy, Pete Dwyer, Shamie Dwyer. Back row (L/R) – John O'Donoghue, Paddy Maher, Tom O'Donoghue, Davy Ryan, Dermot O'Connor, Mickey O'Dwyer, Andy Lacey, Paddy Delaney (for Joe, R.I.P.), Tom Kinnane, John Breen.



**Golden/Kilfeacle – West S.F.C. 1996**

Back row (L/R) – Jim O'Connell (selector), Eamonn Ryan, Anthony Beatty, Seán Carr, Stuart Beatty, Michael Fogarty, Niall Fogarty, Liam Sherlock, David Fogarty, Brian O'Connell, P.J. Collins (selector). Front row (L/R) – Brian Fogarty, Packie Hallissey, Kevin Maloney, Donal Ryan, John Curran, Ger Luby, Padraig Malone.



**Clonoulty/Rossmore – West S.H.C. Winners 1996**

Back row (L/R) – Jackie Walsh (coach), John Kennedy, Dan Quirke, Andrew Fryday, Joe Hayes, Aidan Butler, Noel Keane, Tim Shanahan, Maurice Quirke. Front row (L/R) – Micheál Ryan, Alan O'Dwyer, Kevin Lanigan-Ryan, Kevin Ryan, Michael Kennedy, Declan Ryan (capt.), Phil Shanahan.



**Clonoulty/Rossmore – West Under-21 H. 'A' Champions**

Back row (L/R) – Micheál Ryan, Micheál Coen, Michael Kennedy, Kevin Lanigan-Ryan, Diarmuid Brennan, Michael Maher, Tom Dwyer. Back row (L/R) – Tomás Barry, James Ryan, Michael Wade, Michael Heffernan, Brian Lyons, John Heffernan, Nollaig Heffernan, Roddy Aherne.



**Cashel King Cormacs – Crosco Cup Winners 1996**

Back row (L/R) – Raymie Ryan, Liam Barron, Sean Morrissey, Pat O'Donoghue, Kevin O'Sullivan, Sean Barron, Timmy Moloney, Barry Moloney. Front (L/R) – T. J. Connolly, Ailbie Bonnar, Conal Bonnar, Willie Fitzell, Joe O'Leary (capt.), Michael Perdue, Colm Bonnar.



**Clonoulty/Rossmore – West J.F.C. 'A' Winners 1996**

Back row (L/R) – Aidan Butler, John Barry, Dan Quirke, Peter Brennan, Philip Quirke, T.J. Ryan, Maurice Quirke, Andrew Fryday, Willie Devane (selector). Front row (L/R) – Kevin Ryan, Edmund O'Dwyer, Kenny Ryan, Declan Ryan, Kevin Lanigan/Ryan



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**Kickhams – West I.F.C. Champions 1996**

Back row (L/R) – Paul Morrissey, John McCormack, Ger Crosse, Clive Morrissey, Seán Bradshaw, Tony Farrell, Jimmy Farrell, Aidan Butler. Front row (L/R) – Ger Butler, Vincent Kelly, Barry Ryan, Kevin Farrell, Declan Hogan, Willie Crowe, Johnny Butler.



**Cappawhite – U21 F.C. 'B' West Champions**

Back row (L/R) – Eugene O'Neill, Michael McCarthy, James Burke, Owen O'Keeffe, Tommy Julian, Kevin O'Keeffe, P.J. Collins, Patrick Quirke, Pádraig O'Brien, Adrian Carmody. Front row (L/R) – John Coyle, Brian O'Neill, Declan Costelloe, John English, Sean Ryan, Stephen Grisewood, Pat O'Neill, Thomas Costelloe.



**Solohead – West M.F.C. 'B' Champions 1996**

Back row (L/R) – Ger Riordan (selector), Shane Flavin, Freddy Coffey, Michael Cosgrave, Patrick Ryan, Liam O'Neill, Matthew Kennedy, Michael Cagney, James Hadnett, John Hadnett, Brendan O'Brien, Lar Keefe (selector). Front row (L/R) – Robbie Ryall, Denis Lynch, John Myers, Alan Riordan, Aidan Riordan, Patrick Russell, John Kennedy (capt.), Keith Hadnett, Walter Ryan, Mark Ryan.



**Golden/Kilfeacle – County M.F.C. 'A' Runners-up**

Back row (L/R) – Donie Crosse (selector), Aidan O'Sullivan, Thomas Fogarty, Sean Carr, Brian Landy, James Tierney, Kevin McCarthy, Seamus Carr, Anthony Ryan, Jason Collins, Aidan Fogarty, Kevin Landy (selector). Front row (L/R) – Connie O'Dwyer, Thomas Ryan, Mark Bargary, David Bargary, Shane Stapleton, Michael Sherlock, Michael Carr, Gerald Fogarty, Damian Fogarty, Alan Sherlock.



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# Lattin-Cullen win County Honours

In 1996 only two teams contested the west Tipperary intermediate hurling championship, Arravale Rovers and Lattin Cullen. In 1994 Lattin Cullen were narrowly beaten by Eire Og and in 1995 were again narrowly beaten by Golden Kilfeacle. Both teams went on to win county titles.

The 1996 west final was a case of third time lucky for Lattin Cullen who beat Arravale Rovers by seven points. The last time the club won the final at this grade was in 1983 and the team included five of the present players, Tommy Morrissey, Eddy Morrissey, Nicky English, Sean Dunne and Pat 'Spuddie' O'Halloran.

At half time Lattin Cullen were just one point ahead but they pulled away in the last fifteen minutes after Tommy 'Puff' Morrissey scored a great goal. Scorers for Lattin on the day were Tommy Morrissey 1-3, Nicky English 0-8 (0-5 from frees), Gerry Maguire 0-3, Damian Maloney, Aidan Kiely and Paddy Morrissey 0-1 each. Damian Maloney was presented with the Leahy Cup by West Board chairman Seamus King.

In the county semi final the team

played and beat Borrisokane by just one point. The players started really well and were leading at one stage by six points after Pat O'Halloran goaled but Borrisokane came back and were three points behind at half time. Borrisokane went four points up early in the second half after scoring a goal and a few points without reply. Lattin Cullen players then dug deep and scored some great points to level and eventually went four points up with two minutes to go. It was looking good now for Lattin but Borrisokane scored a goal from a superbly taken free and left only one point between the teams but Lattin Cullen held on in this game of class hurling to win and thus securing a place in the county final. Final score was Lattin Cullen 1-19 Borrisokane 3-12, N. English 0-10, Gerry Maguire 0-05, Pat O'Halloran 1-00, Brian Maguire 0-02, James Cunningham and Paddy Morrissey 0-1 each.

The county final was played in Semple Stadium, Thurles on Sunday 17th of November against J.K. Brackens. This was a closely contested final with the teams level on several occasions but Lattin

Cullen dominated the last ten minutes and won by two points. This was a fabulous occasion for the players, selectors, club and especially the supporters. Scorers for Lattin Cullen on the day were Aidan O'Dwyer, Paddy Morrissey and James Cunningham 0-1 each, Gerry Maguire 0-3, Nicky English 0-4 and Pat O'Halloran 0-3.

The team had only to play three championship matches but the selectors Brendan Bonner, Johnny Slattery and Eamon Buckley organised several challenge matches. The team travelled to Cork to play Douglas and played several other teams in Emyr Sean Treacy Park, Lattin and Garryspillane.

## TEAM

Eddy Morrissey, Sean Dunne, Ger Kiely, Aidan Kiely, John Brian Maguire, Nicky English, Paddy Morrissey, Tommy Morrissey, James Cunningham and Pat O'Halloran.

## SUBS

Michael Morrissey, Diarmuid O'Halloran, Donal Leahy, Thomas Leahy, Thomas Cunningham, John Breen, Maurice Crowe, Donal Breen, John Burke.



Lattin Cullen County Intermediate Hurling Champions - 1996. Front Row (l to r): Sean Dunne, Ger Kiely, Diarmuid O'Halloran, John Kiely, Aidan Kiely, Thomas Leahy. Second Row (l to r): Eamon Buckley (selector), Pat O'Halloran, Donal Leahy, James Cunningham, Brian Maguire, Damien Maloney (captain), Thomas Morrissey, Michael Morrissey, Thomas Cunningham. Back Row (l to r): John Slattery (selector), Aidan O'Dwyer, Donal Breen, Maurice Crowe, Ger Maguire, Pat Maguire, Eddie Morrissey, Nicky English, Paddy Morrissey, John Bourke, John Breen, Brendan Bonnar (trainer).



# A great year for Aherlow

**T**he 1996 campaign started with the Under-21 football championship. We had won this county championship in 1995 and we were very anxious to put two back to back. We got through a difficult campaign in the West, defeating Galtee Rovers, Arravale Rovers and Golden in the final.

We defeated Newport in a hard game in the semi-final and so faced Loughmore/Castleinney in the final.

This was described in *"The Nationalist"* as a super game and so it was. We went into an early lead and looked like winning well but those doughty warriors from the Mid came back and went ahead for the first time with eight minutes to go. It looked curtains for us but our players dug deep and fought back to win by one point thus giving us the third victory in this competition in four years.

Next we turned our attention to the senior football championship. We were playing senior football for the first time in over twenty years. We met Galtee Rovers first and after a tough struggle pulled through to reach the semi-final. Who should we be drawn against but our neighbours and arch-rivals Lattin. We had the whip-hand over them for some years in under-age matches so this was to be a crunch game.

It was played in Seán Treacy Park on a fine summer's evening before a large crowd with John Moloney as referee.

It was a tense affair with no quarter given. We held our own in the first half and went in winning by one point. However, Lattin got two quick goals just after half-time and try as we might we could not catch up. With some minutes to go Mark O'Shea fielded a high ball at the edge of the square and we held our breaths thinking of the winning goal but alas a free out was given and our chance had gone.

Defeat was bitter at the time but on reflection it might be of benefit to us. We must serve our time at senior football. The oldest player on our team was only twenty-five and nine were under-21.

When defeated in the football we turned our minds to hurling and found that we had more time to practice. This paid off as we have already won the West B minor and the Under-21 B and we have won the final of the junior A.

We would dearly love to win the county junior and so establish ourselves as a real force in hurling within the county.

Dave Shanahan, Denis O'Shea and Tom Hanley are doing great work promoting hurling and they are greatly helped by Tommy Kelly of Kickhams who has been with us now for some years.

*Tom O'Shea/Tom Leonard*



*Aherlow West J.H.C. 'A' Champions 1996 – Front row (l. to r.) Noel O'Brien, Denis Grogan, Luke Leonard, Denis O'Shea, Mark O'Shea, Conor O'Shea, Cathal O'Shea, George Kiely, Fergal Clifford, Jackie Bourke, Paddy O'Shea. Back row (l. to r.): Paul Kiely, Noel Clifford, Kieran Moroney, Bill Riordan, Mark O'Brien, Mickey Moroney, Declan Riordan, Mark Leonard, Anthony Moroney, Robert Shanahan, Lionel Leonard, Liam Loose, Seanie Peters.*



*Aherlow West U-21 H.C. 'B' Champions 1996 – Front row (l. to r.) Sean Hennessey, Paddy Bourke, Paul Kiely, Peter Leonard, Cathal O'Shea, Mark O'Shea, Seanie Peters, Kieran Moroney, Liam English, Fergal Clifford, Noel O'Brien. Back row (l. to r.) Liam O'Brien, Philip Kiely, Michael Carey, David Hennessey, Denis Grogan, Timothy Leonard, Billy Riordan, Noel Clifford, Robert Shanahan, Declan Riordan, Mark O'Brien, James Noonan, Conor O'Shea, Leo Leonard.*



*Aherlow West M.H.C. 'B' winners – Front row (l. to r.) Denis Grogan, Noel O'Brien, Thomas Russell, Michael Frewan, Philip Kiely, Cathal O'Shea, Peter Leonard, Shane Leonard. Back row (l. to r.) Paul McGrath, Sean Hennessey, Liam O'Brien, David Hennessy, Noel Clifford, Paul Kiely, Leo Leonard, Michael Carey, James Noonan, Patrick Coffey, Denis O'Brien.*



*Aherlow West and County U-21 F.C. 'A' – Front row (l. to r.) Sean Moroney, Cathal O'Shea, Peter Leonard, Noel Clifford, Mark O'Shea, Brian O'Sullivan, Liam Lewis, Paul Kiely, Fergal Clifford, Mark O'Brien. Back row (l. to r.) Michael Carey, Eddie Moroney, James Noonan, Dennis Grogan, Pat Bourke, Timmy Leonard, Robert Shanahan, Kieran Moroney, Seanie Peters, Lionel Leonard, Declan Riordan, Barry Leonard, Billy Riordan.*



# Successful season for Solohead

**J**anuary 1996 – Another year for Solohead G.A.A. club. Our adult hurlers had not won a West title since 1987 and had not been in a West final since 1988, when we operated at intermediate level. Our adult footballers had not won a West title since 1977 and had not been in a West final in any grade since 1983 when we operated at senior level. We had not been able to field a team on our own in minor and U-21 for over 20 years and in that period we had been joined with various other clubs in combos.

In the minor "B" football championship, we beat Eire Óg, drew with Rosegreen and in an unbelievably exciting match we beat Rockwell Rovers with the help of a late goal. This was in May but we had to wait until September for the West semi-final against Emly. In the meantime Ger Riordan put the lads through their paces in the field. The good preparation paid as goals from John Kennedy and Patrick Russell put us through.

The West final against Kickams was the clubs greatest day for years. We led well at half time by scoring some great points and even though the opposition staged a late rally, Solohead won 0-15 to 2-2. When John Kennedy collected the trophy he was collecting the senior clubs first award since 1987 and the clubs first minor award on their own since 1971

**Minor Team:** Alan Riordan, Patrick Ryan, Denis Lynch, Liam O'Neill, Michael Cagney, Michael Cosgrave, Shane Flavin, Freddie Coffey, Mark Ryan, John Kennedy, Robbie Ryan, Keith Hadnett, Aidan Riordan, Matthew Kennedy, Brendan O'Brien. **Subs:** John Hadnett, Patrick Russell, Walter Ryan, James Hadnett, Jerry Myers.

In the county semi final Solohead travelled to Templederry to play Borrisleigh –

hardly a neutral venue – with two key players injured namely Dennis Lynch and Keith Hadnett. Solohead started with a Robbie Ryan goal and there was only a point between the sides with ten minutes left in the game but sadly for Solohead, Borrisleigh finished the stronger side.

The minor hurlers lost to Bansha and Eire Óg in the early rounds and beat Rockwell Rovers by a point. They failed to qualify for the B final but they reached the C final against the New Inn side, which they won by 5-7 to 1-5. This was Soloheads first Minor Hurling Championship on their own since 1953. The team lined out as follows:

**Team:** Dennis Lynch, Patrick Ryan, Michael Cosgrave, Jerry Myers, Shane Flavin, Michael Cagney, Alan Riordan, Freddie Coffey, Robbie Ryan, Aidan Riordan, Keith Hadnett, Mark Ryan,

Patrick Ryan, John Kennedy, Brendan O'Brien.

The Junior footballers began with replay win over Sean Treacy's and a West semi-final win over Rockwell Rovers. In the West final, 6 minors played with the older lads against Galtee Rovers. The mixture worked well – Solohead winning 2-8 to 0-4 and James O'Doherty collected the clubs third trophy of the year. At the time of writing we await the County semi-final. The team lined out as follows:

**Team:** Willie Gilsenan, James O'Doherty, Jimmy Ryan, Philip O'Doherty, Michael Cagney, Jimmy Ryan, Mark Ryan, John Kilmartin, Andrew Nolan, Freddie Coffey, Pat Cummins, Keith Hadnett, Ger Riordan, John Hadnett, Phipip Ryan. **Subs:** Niall O'Callaghan, Robbie Ryan, Aidan Riordan, Patrick Ryan, Danny Ryan, Thomas Nash.



**Solohead West J.F.C. "B" Champions 1996:** Front Row: Willie Dee (selector), Phillip o'doherty, Robert Ryan, James Doherty, Ger Riordan, Tommy Ryan, Keith Hadnett, Aidan Riordan, Michael Cagney, Mark Ryan, John Hadnett. Back Row: timmy Dwyer (selector) John Kilmartin, Pat Cummins, Philly Ryan, Freddie Coffey, Andrew Nolan, Phillip Ryan (S), Jimmy Ryan (C), Nial Callaghan, Daniel Ryan, Tim Kilmartin, Pat Ryan, Thomas Nash, Dermot Crowe (selector)



**ROCKWELL ROVERS WEST JFL CHAMPIONS 1996:** Front (l-r) Tom Buckley, Barry Shortall, Tom Flynn, Martin Peters, Andrew Hennessy, Eamon O'Dwyer, Vincent Phelan, Noel Heaney. Back (l-r): Kieran Heaney, Vincent Farrell, Kevin Moloney, Gavin McGork, Tom Ryan (J), Sean Looby, John Fitzgerald, Bernard Barron, Pat O'Connor. Missing from photo: John O'Connor, Mark Flanagan, Kieran Flanagan.



**ROCKWELL ROVERS WEST JHC 'B' CHAMPIONS 1996:** Front (l-r) John Halley, Thomas Flynn, Alan Moloney, Kevin Heaney, Colm Heaney, John Heaney, Noel Heaney, Mark Hally, Sean Moloney, P.J. Moloney, Eamon O'Dwyer, Barry Shortall, Thomas Buckley. Back (l-r): Jack Cooney (selector), Andrew O'Dwyer, John Fitzgerald (m), Michael Tobin, Martin Moloney, Cyril O'Gorman, Jimmy O'Donnell, Jim Joe Dudley, Oliver Hally, Owen O'Gorman, Lar Donnelly, Declan Flanagan, Don Moloney, Donal Moloney, Sean Looby.



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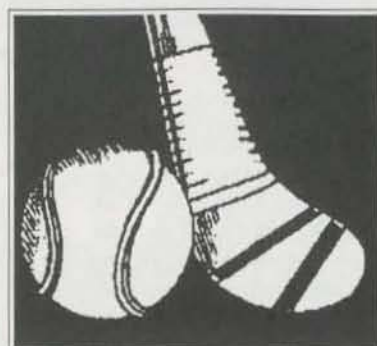
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# The Nationalist



# I was there – just recalling

I suppose the principal remembrance that the 1996 county final brought back to me was the fact, that it was the first meeting in a county final of the same contestants since 1930, and – don't throw away your book at the thought of this – but I was also present at that 1930 Co. Final replay in Nenagh Show Grounds on 7th December, 1930.

Let me quickly say I am not claiming any privilege or distinction for that, because, at this years recent final, I happened to meet briefly with your Co. Board President Jim Ryan, who was also present at that 1930 game.

Speaking of Nenagh Show Grounds – the scene of many great games in the early thirties – it had one great asset for the hurling of that time – especially for the youngsters at practice there. In those days the emphasis was very much on ground play, and, as every inch of that field was surrounded by galvanise sheets some feet high – that meant that the ball rarely went very far astray.

Some of the more light-hearted memories of that 1930 game came more easily to mind. These were the days of few motorcars – more or less confined to a few of the better-off doctors and a still fewer number of parish priests – when the crowds generally travelled to matches in their very trusted ponies and traps – of if you were lucky enough to own a bicycle – of any sort.

I don't know do I have to remind you, of course, that the pony and trap was a very safe way of travelling, especially if your team won, and there were some celebrations. The pony thankfully always knew his way home – and maybe 'twas just as good too.

On that final day, as I happened to live then on the Thurles side of Nenagh, I got a great view of all the traffic from that direction – it seemed endless – and the only motorcar I can recall was one that broke down just outside our house because the wooden spokes (in common use then) of one of its wheels went to pieces and couldn't be replaced. Very likely it was an overloaded vehicle at the time, anyway. Turning to the game itself, it is not so much the quality of the hurling I remember, as the big names involved – especially the ones I had never seen before, but about whom I had heard so much. I had seen Toom play often enough, and had a good idea of their county men, especially, but I had never yet seen Boherlahan, and so, my principal ambition was to see this "Johnny Leahy" who was such a household name at the time.

I can't tell you how surprised and even amused I was to see this same Johnny lead out his men – complete with a small moustache – and hat. I had seen a very odd one hurling in a hat before – Bill O'Meara of Toom was one of them, Tom Duffy of Lorrha was another – but I had never yet seen a man with a moustache on the field. Because my father had a moustache, I automatically associated it with older age. You may think that I should have seen Johnny's picture on some paper, but let me tell you, very, very few people got the daily paper then – the weekly *Nenagh Guardian* was our principal – or even sole informant. And waiting for a picture of a hurler or of anybody else on the *Guardian* at that time was just like waiting for the recent eclipse of the moon – although in truth, I have to say that just before this time in a preview to another very important game, which I hope to mention later, the *Guardian* did give a picture of the two opposing captains.

Getting back to the 1930 game, it was, of course a replay. The first meeting in Thurles ended in a draw – thanks to a wonderful finishing effort by Boherlahan – very reminiscent of what just happened this year, but to my great delight, on this replay occasion, they never reproduced their form of the first day. I say "much to my delight", because I had then to be very much a Toom supporter for two reasons. Being a native of the North Division was compelling enough, but also, much more to the point, was the fact that at that very time, I happened to be in 5th class at Nenagh C.B.S. and our teacher was none other than the great Toom goalman Tom O'Meara. And of course we were always hoping that a win would mean "in good form" for next at least, and hopefully longer. Mind you that didn't always work, as I well remember, some months later, when the Tipp team travelled to London for the Monaghan Cup competition on Whit Monday, we weren't expecting him home for a couple of days, and to our utter astonishment, he appeared in our classroom early on Tuesday – and remember – these days were far removed from the air travel now available.

The statistics of that 1930 replay will show that all Boherlahan scored was one goal, but that doesn't at all tell the full story. From a '70 they got a second goal, but as some players had got to grips (things haven't changed much that way – have they?) the whistle had sounded, and when the '70 was retaken, nothing came of it.

Funny how some things remind you of others. Mention of '70 there reminds me that, at that time, the Toom expert on '70s and frees was one Sergeant Jack Gleeson – a native of Clare. He had an almighty stroke on a ball, and a '70 just seemed like a 21 yards free.

He played centrefield for Toom and right half back for Clare. He was one of those right-hand-under strikers – golf style – and I couldn't help noticing in later years (and not that so long ago) that, what I might call his very similar successor with Toom, was Matt O'Gara – of same style and equal length.

Again mention of right-hand-under always meant something to myself, because, being a ciotóg (and I sincerely hope I am not giving too much away here) I always had to strike that way too. I always consoled myself by recalling the many well-known right-hand-unders over the years – especially some of the greatest goalkeepers ever in the game. Dr. T. Daly and M. Hayes of Clare, Paddy Scalan of the great Limerick era in the 30's. Coogan of the Cork 50's, K. Matthews of Dublin, and our own Jimmy Maher of '45.

And you can add to that list some great outfield men Seán Kenny and his uncle before him Paddy Harty, Borrisoleigh and that great half back for Kilruane McDonagh in the 40's – Paddy Peters and in more recent time the great-hearted Tom McGrath of Loughmore. For those of us with that concern – the list is endless. However, I once knew a great trainer of C.B.S. Harty teams who, the moment he saw a young prospect with that method – well he had to be something extra to get his place.

While 1930 might seem a long way back – and sure it is – still it might be of interest to recall, that one of the Toom stars of that day, only passed away last year '95 – the late great Garrett Howard, who had already won an All-Ireland with the Dublin garda selection of 1927, and later on, won in '34 and '36 with Limerick.

Around that time Toom were reckoned to be unbeatable in North Tipp so much so that in that year 1930, practically all Lower Ormond, including Borrisokane, Ballingarry and Lorrha united in an attempt to dethrone them. Again, the match was played at Nenagh Show Grounds. There was tremendous interest in the lead-up to the game, and, as I mentioned already, in the preview the *Nenagh Guardian* published the pictures of the two captains Martin Kennndy, Toom and Paul McKenna (he was never called McKenna – only 'Kennah'). Of added interest was the fact that both captains would be marking each other – McKenna at full-back and Kennedy at full-forward. Kennedy, of course, was the star forward of those days, whose feats were spoken of far and wide, and from whom you could expect anything. I just couldn't fit in here even a fraction of the unexpected things we saw from him.

Anyway, back to the game itself. Things opened up well for the challengers, who were powered by county men Paul and Jack McKenna, M. Cronin N.T., Tom Duffy and also a great full-forward in Willie Carroll. In the first ten minutes or so, the ball came twice to Carroll, who shot a goal and a point in quick succession. We all began to wonder was this going to be the end of the "invincible" but very soon we got the answer, and were left in no doubt as to what was going to happen after the quarter hour scores were level at 1-3 each, but from then on, it was one way traffic. Toom were comfortable winners 4-6 to 1-3.

Whether it was in sympathy with Lower Ormond I don't know, but the evening of that day turned out to be a time of fierce thunder and lightning. So much so, that, when one of our neighbours returned home, his head was running rain, because he had taken off his cap. When asked "why did you take off your cap?" he hadn't the slightest hesitation or shame in saying "Pure devotion then, if you want to know – the lightning!"

I was reminded of this match again a couple of years ago, when visiting Nenagh Hospital. As I was passing along the corridor whom should I see in a bed only the late Tom Duffy – it was shortly before he passed away. In that match Tom took a 21 yard free, and not alone did he drive it over the bar – he drove it away down across the Nenagh -





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Tipperary panel at Óg Pheil '96 held in University of Limerick. Included are coaches Christy Aylward, Paddy Nagle, Mick Healy. The players included are: Tom Fitzgerald, Killenaule; Niall O'Shea, Bansha; Noel Browne, Ardfinnan; Fergal Condon, Commercial; Stephen Owens, J.K. Brackens; Michael Carroll, Fethard; Michael McNamara, Nenagh; Colm Morrissey, Bansha; Aidan Fitzgerald, Fethard; Benny Fogarty, J.K. Brackens; Owne Lloyds, Moyne-Templetuohy; John O'Halloran, Newcastle; Matthew Galligan, Killenaule; Kenneth O'Donnell, Fethard; Jason Nevin, Fethard; Cormac Flynn, Newcastle; Ger Stapleton, Arravale Rovers; Leonard Ryan, Nenagh; Adrian Ivors, J.K. Brackens; Joe Keane, Fethard; Patrick Duggan, Arravale Rovers.

Borrisokane Road into the next field – much to the discomfort of North Secretary M. Moylan, whose demanding task in these days was to look after the number of balls used. Balls then cost 4s/6p., and the principal or only supplier was Mick McGrath of Patrick Street, Nenagh – many an evening I gave with him, watching him making them.

In that Toom match too, an example of the Kennedy genius comes very easily to mind. On one occasion, the ball was about to go over the end line for a Toom '70. McKenna and Kennedy struggled for possession – McKenna endeavouring to prevent the '70, while Kennedy, to all appearances, equally making sure that it would be one. Eventually, as the ball neared the line, McKenna accepted the inevitable, and turned back towards his own square, saying "a 70, let it". But just as he had turned, Kennedy trapped the ball, and quickly making the necessary angle, to McKenna's utter disgust, flashed over a point. But wait. I don't want to infer from this that the McKenna-Kennedy duel over the hour was a one-sided affair. Far from it. In actual fact later during the second half Kennedy left the full-forward berth and finished the game at half-forward.

And you know that kind of genius stayed with him to the end of his playing days. Many years later, when he had transferred to Kildangan, and when he wasn't anything like the danger or power of his earlier days, people that knew him so well, still always expected something special. I well remember a North final – Roscrea v Kildangan around 1942. As the match neared its end, and Roscrea led by 8 points, I heard



Templetuohy U-11 panel - winners of a juvenile tournament and also victories in all of their games in the County ground hurling tournament. Back Row: Mentors Dan Madden, Matt Ryan and James O'Leary. Second Row: Dan Fahy, Owen Mulcahy, Michael Ryan, Matthew Ryan, Owen Murray, Padraig Gleeson, David Ryan, Eddie Fahy, Damien Carey. Third Row: Donnacha Carey, Michael O'Dwyer, Owen Murray, Michael Ryan, James Hogan, Michael O'Leary, Daniel Shanahan, Paul McLoughlin, Brendan Hayes. Front: Gearóid Ryan, Tommy Hogan, Michael Carey and Padraig O'Leary.



Under-15 Hurling Coaching Camp 1996 in University of Limerick last July, with coaches Tom Gleeson, Donal McCarthy, Paudie Butler and Jim Hennessy. Players included are: Damien Young, Drom-Inch; Fergal McLoughlin, Drom-Inch; Eoin Brislane, Toomevara; Kevin Cummins, Toomevara; Eoin Larkin, Borrisokane/Knockshegown; Kevin Mulryan, J.K. Brackens; Aidan Ivors, J.K. Brackens; Dermot Gleeson, Ballinahinch; Kevin Dempsey, St. Mary's Clonmel; Patrick Cosgrove, Ballina; Darren Gleeson, Portroe; Shane Maher, Burgess; Damien Gleeson, Killenaule; Joe Keane, Fethard; Richard Horgan, Knockavilla Kickhams; Eoin Kelly, Mullinahone; Eamon Ryan, Sean Treacy's; P.J. McCormack, Gortnahoe/Glengoole; Donal Shelly, Killenaule; Stephen Mason, Durlas Óg; Barry McLoughlin, Durlas Óg.

a man near me say to his companion "come away they're bet!" and the reply he got was "they're not bet while Kennedy is there". Sure enough, Kildangan scored three goals in the remaining time – but unfortunately it still wasn't enough to save the day – "the one and only John Joe Maher (whom I am so glad to see still around) shooting to the net from a 21 yard free to clinch the title for Roscrea".

Yes, Kennedy was surely something special, and I was always so glad to have seen him, while I was young, because, when I go to matches now, I always come away feeling certain that I have missed a lot of the smaller things that used to mean so much to me before. I am only too painfully aware that the clock moves on.

The tremendous scenes of jubilation on the part of Boherlahan that greeted the final whistle in the recent county final prompt me to return to my final memory of that 1930 final. On that occasion, it was the Toom lads who were being shouldered from the field. Things were going fine until they attempted to carry off the Toom full-back – Paddy Ryan of Ballymackey. Paddy was about 6' 4" – and looked even more to my young eyes – a most likeable fellow, who didn't at all relish all this fervour, and to his obvious utmost delight his two carriers failed to lift him from the ground. "For God's sake", he said "will ye let me down for fear I'd fall on top of ye". So off he went, to celebrate his victory – only on the flat.

(Author's name withheld at his request)



# County Bórd na nÓg Round-up 1996

By JIMMY CONROY

**I**n a year in which Tipperary recaptured the All-Ireland Minor hurling title after a fourteen-year gap, the county juvenile scene saw changes in the formation of the championships with the scrapping of the rural competitions. It was a year which provided many exciting games in both hurling and football with titles going to each Division.

In hurling, Toomevara were once again to the fore, capturing the U-12 and U-16A championships. Mullinahone, inspired by a brilliant Eoin Kelly, captured their first U-14A title. Moyne/Templetuohy produced some fine displays when winning the U-14B championship and in U-16B a strong and skilful Moneygall team was victorious.

In the Garda Cup South defeated Mid and North defeated West. This set up a repeat of the Munster U-16 semi-final in which the South had an exciting win. However, the North turned the tables in the Garda Cup final.

The Peadar Cummins tournament saw the Mid and South qualify for the final and in a disappointing game the Mid boys ran out easy winners. In the Tony Forrester tournament in Waterford, Tipperary once again returned home with the trophy after

## RESULTS AT A GLANCE

U-12A Hurling	Toomevara	2-2	Dúrlas Óg	2-1
U-14A Hurling	Mullinahone	4-13	Nenagh Éire Óg	
U-14B Hurling	Moyne/Templetuohy	4-11	Newcastle	0-8
U-16A Hurling	Toomevara	4-5	Fethard	1-11
U-16B Hurling	Moneygall	8-7	Cappawhite	1-7
Féile na nGael	Toomevara	3-7	Mullinahone	3-5
Garda Cup Hurling	North Tipp	2-12	South Tipp	2-9
Peadar Cummins Tournament	Mid Tipp	5-13	South Tipp	3-5
Tony Forrester Tournament	Tipperary	4-11	Kilkenny	2-4
Carrigdhoun Tournament U-14 H.	Limerick	3-7	Tipperary	1-7
Féile Skills Winner	Owen Kelly (Mullinahone)			
Poc Fada Winner	Owen Kelly (Mullinahone)			
U-12 Football	Burgess	2-7	Arravale Rovers	0-5
U-14A Football	Galtee Rovers	3-5	Cahir	2-8
U-14A Football (Replay)	Galtee Rovers	2-7	Cahir	2-6
U-14B Football	Killenaule	2-5	Gortnahoe/G'goole	1-6
U-16A Football	Fethard	2-10	J. K. Brackens	2-9
U-16B Football	Killenaule	4-7	Golden/Kilfeacle	1-7
Peil na nÓg	Moyne/Templetuohy	3-5	Burgess	2-5
Garda Cup Football	Not yet completed.			
Jim Power U-14 F'ball Tournament	Tipperary	3-3	Wexford	0-5

some very exciting displays.

The football championship saw Killenaule capture two titles. Burgess created their own bit of history by winning the first U-12A crown. Fethard took the

U-16A championship with Galtee Rovers winning the U-14A after a replay. Moyne/Templetuohy won the Peil na nÓg thereby representing the county in the All-Ireland finals in Mayo.



TIPPERARY U-16 FOOTBALL PANEL 1996

**Front (L/R)** – Odhran Llloyd (Moyne/Templetuohy), John O'Halloran (Newcastle), Michael Carroll (Fethard), Matthew Galligan (Killenaule), Fergal Condon (Clonmel Commercials), Kenneth O'Donnell (Fethard), Jason Nevin (Fethard), Patrick Duggan (Arravale Rovers). **Back (L/R)** – Cormac Flynn (Newcastle), Stephen Owens (J.K. Brackens), Noel Browne (Ardfinnan), Benny Fogarty (J.K. Brackens), Joe Keane (Fethard), Tom Fitzgerald (Killenaule), Aidan Fitzgerald (Fethard), Ger Stapleton (Arravale Rovers), Michael Ivors (J.K. Brackens), Nial O'Shea (Galtee Rovers), Leonard Ryan (Nenagh Éire Óg). Missing from photo – Colm Morrissey (Galtee Rovers), Michael McNamara (Nenagh Éire Óg).



## COUNTY BÓRD NA nÓG – Contd.

And as the curtain comes down on another very successful year I wish to thank my fellow officers and all members of the Bórd na nÓg for their commitment and dedication during the year.

We would like to thank the County Senior Board for their help and interest in our work. To our dedicated referees and their officials we offer our sincere thanks. Also to the various field committees who prepared the pitches and put them at our disposal we are most grateful.

We would also like to express our grat-

itude to A.I.B., Nenagh, and A.C.C., Thurles, for their respective sponsorship of our U-14A and U-16A hurling championships. A similar word of thanks to Gleeson Concrete and Glasheen Bus Hire for their sponsorship of jersie. Above all, to the people who attended our games and the players who gave us so much enjoyment during year we are most grateful.

It would be most gratifying to be able to report that all our games were incident-free but, unfortunately, this was not the case. Incidents which occurred at a very small number of games were most disturbing. It is very difficult to understand the mentality of those involved in unruly

behaviour in the presence of young people who are at a most impressionable age.

I commenced this report by referring to the All-Ireland Minor victory. This success brought great satisfaction to Bórd na nÓg as it saw the hard work being done at juvenile level brought to fruition at Minor level. It is also worth noting that 23 members of the All-Ireland Minor panel had taken part in the Nenagh Co-op Tournament over the past couple of years. Finally, we would like to thank the Games Development Committee for organising the U-11 Ground Hurling Tournament which turned out to be a great success.



County Board na nÓg officers photographed after their Annual Convention at Park Avenue House, Thurles. Seated (L/R) – Jimmy Conway (Nenagh Éire Óg), secretary; Archbishop Dermot Clifford, Patron of the G.A.A.; Connie Grace (Kilruane MacDonagh's), chairman; Frank Morris (J.K. Brackens), treasurer. Standing – Paddy Nagle, outgoing treasurer; Rickie Sheehan (Mullinahone), P.R.O.; Tommy Kelly, outgoing secretary; James Gleeson (Templederry), County Bórd na nÓg rep. to Senior Board; Donal Shanahan (Toomevara), County Youth Officer.



**LEFT** – Photograph shows the John Flanagan Memorial Trophy being presented for the first time after this year's County under-14 'A' final between Mullinahone and Nenagh Éire Óg at Holycross. Included in photograph are (l.-r.): Eoin Kelly, Mullinahone captain; Connie Grace, Chairman Co. Board na nÓg; Peg Flanagan, wife of the late John Flanagan with her daughter Noreen.



**RIGHT** – His Grace, Most Rev. Dr. Dermot Clifford, Patron of the G.A.A. (second from left) presenting a new trophy to County Tipperary Bord na nÓg at the Board's Annual Convention at the Park Avenue Hotel, Thurles. The trophy, which will be presented annually to the winners of the county under-14 football competition, was accepted on behalf of the Board by Connie Grace, Chairman. Also included in photograph are Jimmy Conway (left) and Frank Morris (right) who were elected to the positions of secretary and treasurer respectively at the convention. The trophy will replace the Fr. Meagher Trophy which has been presented to Lár na Páirce for display in the museum.



# North Tipperary Bord na nÓg

Date	Grade	Results	Venue	Referee
10-5-96	U-12 Football A	Burgess 1-7, Newport 1-2	Ballina	John Kissane
8-6-96	U-12 Football B	Ballina 4-2, Moneygall 1-2	Dolla	Tom Killackey
22-6-96	U-12 Football C	Borris-Ileigh 5-5, Shannon Rovers 3-3	Cloughjordan	Dan Darcy
1-6-96	U-14 Football 'A'	Roscrea 3-6, Ballina 1-2	Toomevara	M. Darcy
8-6-96	U-14 Football 'B'	Borris-Ileigh 4-6, Kildangan 1-5	Toomevara	M. Griffin
3-6-96	U-14 Football 'C'	Silvermines 3-4, Portroe 0-4	Puckane	Patsy Farrell
23-6-96	U-16 Football 'A'	Roscrea 2-6, Burgess 1-4	Toomevara	Tommy Ryan
30-6-96	U-16 Football 'B'	Kildangan 2-6, Ballina 1-6	Portroe	P. J. Cleary
30-6-96	U-16 Football 'C'	Lorrha 3-9, Templederry 2-6	Nenagh	Paul Hearty
27-7-96	U-12 Hurling 'A'	Toomevara 5-2, Roscrea 0-0	Moneygall	Dan Darcy
28-7-96	U-12 Hurling 'B'	Newport 1-3, Moneygall 1-0	Dolla	Tom Gleeson
20-7-96	U-21 Hurling	Shannon Rovers 6-4, Silvermines 1-1	Toomevara	Edward Fox
22-7-96	U-14 Hurling 'A'	Éire Óg 2-7, Moneygall 2-1	Cloughjordan	Michael Cahill
7-8-96	U-14 Hurling 'B'	Ballina 1-8, Silvermines 1-3	Cloughjordan	Seán Hogan
26-7-96	U-14 Hurling 'C'	Templederry 2-7, Portroe 2-7	Dolla	Seamus Troy
6-9-96	Replay	Templederry 1-6, Portroe 0-7 (game abandoned due to failing light)	Toomevara	Seamus Troy
20-10-96	2nd Replay	Templederry 2-4, Portroe 0-4	Toomevara	Ger Hayes
30-8-96	U-16 Hurling 'A'	Toomevara 1-13, B'okane-K'gowna 1-3	Cloughjordan	Martin O'Leary
	U-16 Hurling 'B'	Moneygall 1-8, Borris-Ileigh 2-4	Toomevara	Liam Hogan
	U-16 Hurling 'C'	Silvermines (final not played)		
27-4-96	U-14 Football	Féile na nÓg		
		Burgess 3-0, Éire Óg 1-3	Dolla	M. Griffin
23-5-96	U-14 Hurling	Féile na nGael	Moneygall	Tom Killackey
		Toomevara 0-7, Burgess 0-3		
		County Final		
		Toomevara 3-7, Mullinahone 3-5		
	Garda Cup Inter. Divisional U-16 H. Tournament.	North Tipperary 2-12, South Tipperary 2-9		
	Féile na nGael Skills Champion:	Cathal McGrath (Burgess)		
	Poc Fada Champion:	John O'Brien (Toomevara)		



U-16 (C) hurling – Beal Átha Gabhann – Back row: Vincent Forde, Niall Horan, Enda Bourke, Ronan Gleeson, Mark Shanahan, Seán Quirke, Ger Grace, William Forde, Pádraig Hanley. Middle row: Alan Ryan, Paul Sherlock, Paul Ryan (Tip Co. Minor), Brendan Timmons (captain), Micheál Ryan (Tipp Co. Minor), Jim Egan, Matthew Ryan. Front row: John Brophy, Conor Hannon, Alan Cunneen, Wm. Keogh, Eoin O'Sullivan, Siobhán McCarthy (for Wm. McCarthy). Missing: Brian Duignan, Darren Clifford and James McGrath.



Borris-Ileigh U-12 football champions – North football 'C' champions. Back row (l. to r.) – J. Stapleton (selector), J. Spooner, J. O'Maloney, P. Mason, V. O'Connor (selector), J. Walsh, M. Stapleton, J. Walsh (selector), with N. Walsh. Middle row: K. Ryan, N. Kent, N. Stapleton, B. Stapleton, M. Fahey, M. Kiely, G. Treacy. Seated: P. Rynn, J. Harkins, D. O'Connor, P. Stapleton, J. Devitt, O. Delaney, R. Tynan, J. Kelly and M. Treacy.





Nenagh Éire Óg U-14 panel which defeated Moneygall in the North Final. Back row (l. to r.) John Treacy, John Tanner, Ronan Spillane, Eamonn Hodgins, Derek Tucker, Trevor Connolly, John Paul King, David Ryan (captain), John Donnellan, Brian Darcy, Kevin Flannery, David Givens. Front row: Daniel Hassett, Robbie Bonfield, Paddy Kinehan, James Whelan, John Brennan, Kieran Morris, Ger Clifford, Tom Kennedy, Hugh Moloney, Gary Bourke, David Coady, David Hackett and Paddy Ryan.



Burgess U-14 panel: North Féile (Peil) champions and hurling finalists. Back row (l. to r.) Martin Hogan, Kevin McGrath, Cathal Hanrahan, David Maher, Thomas Hogan, Donal Hogan, Damien O'Brien, Alan Seymour, Eoghan O'Donoghue, David Quinlan, Martin Fogarty, Senan McDonnell. Front: Niall McGrath (h. captain), Tony Sinoope, Noel McDonnell, Patrick Tucker, Eoin Hogan, Frankie Hogan, Ger Fogarty, Noel Gleeson and Conor Quigley.



Toomevara – North and County Féile na nGael champion: Back row (l. to r.): Alan Sweeney, Robert O'Neill, Francis Doran, Michael O'Meara, John O'Brien (captain), Conor Slattery, Damien Bentley, William O'Meara, Michael Hassett, David Kennedy, Thomas Maxwell and Jason Hogan. Front row: Michael O'Brien, Donal Fahy, Sean Delaney, Alan Kenneally, Joseph McCormack, Francis Devaney, Shane Tynan, Sean Hogan, Ronan O'Neill, Paddy Kelly, Willie Ryan and Michael Cleary.



Toomevara U-16 hurling panel – Winners of the A.C.C. sponsored 'A' county title. Back row (l. to r.) Aidan Slattery, Kevin Cummins, Andrew Ryan, Michael Kelly, Thomas Hassett (captain), Brian McGrath, Brendan Boland, Marty Ryan, Alan Coffey, Alan McCormack and Kevin Sherlock. Seated: John O'Brien, Brendan Dunne, Anthony O'Neill, Ronan Tynan, Thomas O'Meara, Brian Hassett, Tony Delaney, Eoin Brislane, Paul McGrath, Michael Devaney and Bill Duff.



Béal An Átha U-14 'B' hurling champions – Back row (l. to r.) Padraig Ryan, Wayne, Cahalane, Robert Nolan, Séan McKeogh, Pat Cosgrove, Gerard Sheehy, Noel Moroney, Donal McKeogh, Christopher O'Mara, James McKeogh. Front row (l. to r.): Willie Gleeson, Thomas Collins, Stephen Stritch, Thomas Manly, Rody Kennedy, Seamus Larkin (captain), Cathail O'Connell, David Hickey, Patrick Kennedy, Owen Kennedy, Kevin Ryan.



North Tipperary U-16 panel and selection – Garda Cup champions and Munster semi-finalists. Back row (l. to r.): Anthony Ryan (selector), William Hayes, John Scroope, Shane Grace, Michael McNamara, Brendan Timmons, Timmy Hogan, Leonard Ryan, Martin Ryan (selector). Middle: Tommy Connors, Eoin Brislane, Marty Ryan, Paul Hogan, Colman Shouldice, Garry Howard (selector), Benny Dunne, Dermot Gleeson, Tadhg Slevin, Kevin Cummins, Dan Hackett, Darragh Rabitte, Brian Hogan. Front: Shane Maher, Padraig McDonnell, Andrew Ryan (captain), Trevor Fletcher, Brian Fitzgibbon, Aaron Devane, Brian McGrath, Paul Sherlock and Brian Duggan.



Lorrha U-16 football team – back row (standing) Alan Quirke, Ritchie Burke, Rory Coen, Ruadhan Mannion, John Paul Houlihan, Michael Carroll, Brendan Coen, Enda Moran, David Burke, Liam Carroll, Dermot Power. Front row (sitting): Ronan King, Barry Moran, Gerard Power, Robert McLoughlin (captain), Daryl Sullivan, Shane Mannion, Colm Dolan.



Moneygall U-16 panel – North and County 'B' champions. Back row (l. to r.) Paddy Ryan, Conor Ryan, Ger Whyte (captain), Damien Martin, Ronan Hourigan, Derek Ryan, Tadhg Kennedy, Thomas Harney, Derek O'Meara, Brian Nolan, Liam Hough, Michael King. Kneeling: Paddy Fanning, John O'Meara, David Gleeson, Billy Melonmack, Brendan Jones, Donal Doughan, Michael Ryan, William Maher, Michael Kirwan, Seamus O'Meara, Michael Jones, Willie Greene and Paul Smyth.





Templederry U-14 panel – North (section 'C') hurling champions. Back row (l. to r.) T. Foley (selector), M. Butler, P. Ryan, S. O'Leary, Denise Ryan, J. Murphy, T. Minogue, M. Ryan, M. Harrington, P. Ryan, R. Gleeson, P. McLoughney, J. O'Leary, P. Ryan, A. Ryan. Middle row: J. Ryan, E. Fahy, M. O'Leary, S. Ryan, M. Ryan (captain), E. Foley, J. Hawkins, N. Ryan, D. Corcoran, T. Coughlan. Front: O. Mulcahy, J. Hogan, P. McLoughlin, B. Hayes, M. Ryan, D. Shanahan, J. Fahy and D. Ryan.



Burgess U-12 panel – North and County 'A' football champions. Back row (l. to r.) Leo Quigley, Fearghal Ryan, John Barry, Ger Fogarty, Robbie Cremin, Noel McDonnell, Kieran Brophy, Tony Scnoope, Noel Gleeson and Michael Seymour. Kneeling: Patrick Hogan, Jonathan Maher, Mick Dunne, Conor Mulcahy, Conor Quigley (captain), Sean Darcy, Thomas Fogarty, Jonathan Ryan, Cathal McGrath, Eoin Duggan.



Moneygall Under-10 hurling team: Winners of Neesan Tournament (Div. 3). Back row: Eugene Ryan, Paul Maher, Sean King, Jimmy Maher, Seamus Ryan, Jamsie O'Connor. Second row: John Maher, Colm Hogan, Julie Kirwan, Maeve Kennedy, Eoghan Ryan, Phil Fanning, Damien Greene, Stephen Maher, Patrick Doughan, Eimear Ryan, Sean Ryan, Thomas Devereaux. Front row: John King, Marie Jones, Mary Ryan, Ger Moten, Joseph Treacy, Pajo Troy, John Ryan, Robert Jones, Denis Carroll, Robert Burns. The team defeated Ballyagran (Limerick), Feoghanagh (Limerick), Loughmore (Tipp), Ballybrown (Limerick) and Croom (Limerick). Later in the year they defeated Kilruane, Kildangan, Nenagh and Na Piarsaigh (Limerick) to win the Nenagh Tournament.



Ballina 1996 U-12 football – Back row (l. to r.) S. Hickey, P. Hannon, O. Sheehy, K. Ryan, R. Riordan, D. Molloy, J. Mooney, D. Haskett, Michael Carroll, S. O'Brien, M. McKeogh, J. O'Brien, K. Cosgrove, B. McKeogh, M. Kennedy. Front row (l. to r.): J. Carroll, S. Nash, P. McKeogh, T. Larkin, H. Molloy, D. Quigley, J. Hickey, S. Stretch, D. Hayes, T. J. O'Connell, P. Nash, P. Ryan, D. Frawley, M. McKeogh, S. Kennedy, M. Sullivan. Absent from photo: Tomás Collins.



Silvermines U-14 football (section C) North champions: Back row: P. J. Grace, Alan Shanahan, Alan Cunneen, Daniel Steed, John Brophy, Cathal Gleeson, M. Ryan, W. Powell, M. Clifford. Middle row: Seamus Ryan, Alan Ryan, Micheál Ryan (Tipp Co. Minor), David Kennedy (captain), Paul Ryan (Tipp Co. Minor), Patsy Bonar (trainer), Wm. Keogh. Missing: Michael McCarthy and James McGrath. Front row: Aidan Hudner, Eoin Quirke, Niall Kelly, Damien Egan, Donal O'Brien.



Toomevara U-12 team: North and County champions. Back row (l. to r.): Conor Maxwell, Declan Bentley, Sean Delaney, James McGrath, Francis Devaney, John Boland, John O'Meara and David Young. Front row: Thomas McCarthy, Patrick Tuohy, Terry Delaney, Willie Ryan (captain), John Delaney, Andrew McCarthy and Andrew Fitzpatrick.



North Tipperary U-14 panel which won the Peadar Cummins (Inter-Divisional) Shield Final. Back row (l. to r.) N. Ryan (Portroe), T. Coughlan (Templederry), D. Fitzgerald (Roscrea), D. Maher (Burgess), W. O'Meara (Toomevara), D. Doughan (Moneygall), D. Martin (Moneygall), D. Bourke (Lorrha), J. Murphy (Templederry). Middle row: C. Grace (North and Co. Board chairman), J. O'Brien (captain) (Toomevara), M. Gleeson (selector), J. Needham (North Board secretary), P. Fanning (Moneygall), S. Farrell (Borrisoleigh), M. Maher (Borrisoleigh), P. Cosgrave (Ballina), D. Hogan (Burgess), A. Seymour (Burgess), C. Hanrahan (Burgess), S. Larkin (Ballina), M. Cosgrave (selector), T. Gleeson (selector). Seated: M. Bourke (Borrisoleigh), W. Keogh (Silvermines), S. McKeogh (Ballina), B. Coen (Lorrha), R. Brennan (Newport), M. McGrath (Burgess), A. Kelly (Ballinahinch), P. O'Connor (Roscrea), B. Darcy (Nenagh), G. Griffin (Ballinahinch).



Roscrea U-16 team – North Tipp football 'A' champions. Back row (l. to r.): Paul Brussels, Ger Leamy, Cathal Ruane, Trevor Fletcher, Colin Collison, William Shanahan, Kevin Garvey. Front row: Don maher, Jamie Cummins, Brendan Ryan, Colm Monaghan (captain), Ross Redmond, Paul Tynan, Liam Armstrong and Brian Brooks.



# SOUTH TIPP BORD na nÓG

By PATSY O'HALLORAN

Competition	Winner	Runner-up	Venue	Date	Referee
U-12 Football 'A'	Ardfinnan	Killenaule	Marlfield	6/6/1996	Christy Aylward
U-12 Football 'B'	Moyle Rovers	Ballyporeen	Ardfinnan	20/6/1996	Fran O'Leary
U-12 Football 'C'	Kilsheelan	Fr. Sheehy's	Ardfinnan (R)	13/6/1996	Seán Quirke
U-14 Football 'A'	Cahir	Fethard	Monroe	27/6/1996	Jimmy McCarthy
U-14 Football 'B'	Killenaule*	Moyle Rovers	Marlfield (R)	29/6/1996	Maurice Kennedy
U-14 Football 'C'	Davins	Grangemockler	Kilsheelan	3/7/1996	Tommy Lonergan
U-16 Football 'A'	Fethard*	Ardfinnan	Marlfield	17/7/1996	T. J. Corby
U-16 Football 'B'	Killenaule*	Ballingarry	Cloneen (R)	20/7/1996	Tommy Lonergan
U-16 Football 'C'	Newcastle	Ballyporeen	Ardfinnan	26/7/1996	Fran O'Leary
U-12 Hurling 'A'	Killenaule	Cahir	Monroe	1/8/1996	Jimmy McCarthy
U-12 Hurling 'B'	Swan	Ballylooby	Bye Pass	2/9/1996	T. J. Corby
U-12 Hurling 'C'	Skeheenarinky	St. Patrick's	Kilsheelan	13/9/1996	Tommy Dignam
U-14 Hurling 'A'	Mullinahone	Killenaule	Monroe	10/8/1996	Maurice Kennedy
U-14 Hurling 'B'	Newcastle	Ballylooby	Clogheen	7/8/1996	Frank O'Brien
U-14 Hurling 'C'	Fr. Sheehy's	St. Patrick's	Bye Pass	9/9/1996	Christy Aylward
U-16 Hurling 'A'	Fethard	Ballingarry	Cloneen (R)	14/9/1996	P.J. Hassett
U-16 Hurling 'B'	Kilsheelan	Newcastle	Bye Pass	4/9/1996	Christy Aylward
U-16 Hurling 'C'	Ballyneale	Fr. Sheehy's	Marlfield	28/8/1996	T. J. Corby

## • DENOTES COUNTY CHAMPIONS.

U-14 Hurling (Skills)	Eoin Kelly (Mullinahone)
U-14 Hurling (Poc Fada)	Eoin Kelly (Mullinahone)
U-14 Hurling (Féile)	Mullinahone

## MUNSTER UNDER-16 HURLING

South Tipp	1-10;	Limerick City	1-5	Kilsheelan	13/4/1996
South Tipp	2-13	West Limerick	1-3	Kilsheelan	20/4/1996
South Tipp	2-9	North Tipp	1-10	Boherlahan	4/5/1996
<b>Munster Final - Páirc Uí Caoimh, Cork - 15/7/1996</b>					
Imokelly 2-11; South Tipp 0-15.					

## 1996 OFFICERS

Chairman: Michael Lonergan (Ardfinnan)  
 Vice-Chairman/Co. Board Rep.: Christy Aylward (Clonmel Óg)  
 Vice Chairman/Co. Board Rep.: Seán Hickey (Cahir)  
 Secretary: Patsy O'Halloran (Kilsheelan)  
 Treasurer/P.R.O.: Jim Hennessy (Kilsheelan)  
 South Board Rep.: Noel Russell (Swan)  
 Registrar: Tony Hogan (Swan).

## SCÓR na nÓG 3/12/1995

Céilí Dancing	Newcastle
Solo Singing	Ardfinnan (Fidelma Murphy)
Instrumental Music	Fr. Sheehy's
Novelty Act	Newcastle
Question Time	St. Patrick's
Recitation	St. Patrick's (Fiona Horan)
Ballad Group	Newcastle
Set Dancing	Newcastle

## SCÓR na bPÁISTÍ 3/3/1996

Céilí Dancing	Newcastle
Solo Singing	St. Patrick's (Louise McGrath)
Instrumental Music	Moyle Rovers
Novelty Act	Ballylooby
Question Time	Kilsheelan
Recitation	Newcastle (Aishlinn 'Keeffe)
Ballad Group	Moyle Rovers



**Fr. Sheehy's - South Tipperary Under-14 Hurling Champions 1996**

Back row (standing) - Eamonn Kelly (selector), John O'Donnell, Paul Mulcahy, John Denis Sweeney, Luke Fleming, Patrick Kelly, Liam Wall, Alan McGrath, Thomas Conway (vice-captain), Patrick Fleming, David Platt, Patrick Sheehan, Tom Conway (selector). Front row (seated) - Seamus Fitzgerald, Alan Moran, John Sheehan, John Sweeney (coach/selector), Andrew Sweeney, Stephen Platt, John Corbett (captain), Richard McGrath, Eoin Halley, Michael Gerard Kenneally. Missing from photo is Killian Casey.

• This Fr. Sheehy's team beat St. Patrick's 5-3 to 1-4 in the South Final on Monday, 9th September, at Bye Pass, Clonmel. St. Patrick's led 1-4 to 1-0 at half-time. Fr. Sheehy's came out fighting in the second half and there was only one team in it from there to the final whistle. Fr. Sheehy's were South Tipp champions and deservedly so, after putting in a huge effort at training all during the campaign.





**Grangemockler/Ballyneale – Under-16 'C' Hurling South Tipperary Champions, 1996.**

**Front** – Pat O'Toole, Joanne Cody, Michael Munnelly, Richard Downey, Willie Wallace (capt.), Thomas Cody, Billy Lyons, Robert Murphy.  
**Middle** – Al Murray (selector), Paul Ryan, Liam Murray, Brian Dignam, Brian McCarthy, Cathal Houlihan, Alan Keenan, Paddy Ryan (selector), Cha Houlihan (selector).

**Back** – Yvonne McCarthy, Patrick Tobin, Shane Murray, Kieran McGuire (trainer), J.P. Joy, Patrick McGuire, Alan Burke. Missing from photo: John Delaney.



**Skeheenarinky – Under-12 C' Hurling 'South Tipp Champions 1996**

**Front row (L/R)** – S. McGrath, H. English, O. Meaney, A. Hanlon, M. J. Meaney, D. Martin, B. Finn (capt.), D. Lyons, J. Cahill, J. Roche, D. English, K. Lynch, S. Sweeney, C. Flannelly. **Standing (L/R)** – I. Nolan, M. Crotty, C. Gubbins, C. McGrath, D. Russell, P. Hennessy, J. Tobin, S. Molan, P. Hyland, B. English, P. Treacy, E. Flannelly, D. O'Sullivan. **Back** – Enda Maher, John English (selector), Michael McGrath (secretary).



**Ardfinnan – Under-12 'A' Football South Tipp Champions 1996**

**Back row (L/R)** – James Long, Peter Hally, Patrick Condon, Thomas O'Mahoney, Eric Canaze, Patrick Ryan, Barry O'Gorman (C), Travis Ryan, Neil White, Marcus O'Sullivan, Lorcan Bannon, Michael Condon, Seán Phelan, Louie Ronan, Alan Fitzgerald. **Front row (L/R)** – Gerard Hally, Gerard Malone, Alan Ryan, Daniel Puryer, Jamie Barlow, Seán Coyne, Niall Hickey, Jason Byrne, Craig Carrigan, Liam Lonergan, Jonathan Browne, John Murphy, John Halley. Missing from photo: Graham Lonergan.



**Kilsheelan – Under-16 B' Hurling 'South Tipp Champions 1996**

**Back** – Ger Hennebry, Aidan Slattery, Edmund O'Reilly, Glen Spillane, Trevor Cloona, Ross King, Noelie Walsh, Johnny Walsh, Gary Fitzgibbon, Michael Dempsey, Derek Hanrahan, James Ryan, Liam Geoghegan, Pierce Larkin, Daniel O'Meara, Seán Nugent (coach). **Front** – Robert Hennebry, Patrick Walsh, Thomas Ryan (supporter), Peter O'Connell, Aidan Walsh, Edward Sweeney, Adrian Walsh, Johnny Cahill, Edmond Walsh, Patrick Moloney.



**Kilsheelan – Under-12 'C' Football South Tipp Champions 1996**

**Back** – Stewart King, Jim Healy, Patrick Walsh, Niall Walsh, Martin Walsh, Oisín Ó Cuineagain, Senan O'Halloran. **Front** – Thomas Ryan, Anthony Walsh, Eoin Ryan, Shane Geoghegan, Jonas Kerr, Michael Foley, Michael McHugh, Eoin Ryan.





#### **Fr. Sheehy's – South Tipp Under-11 Football Champions 1996**

Back row – Patrick Moran, John Sheehan, Andrew Sweeney, Michael Myles, Pat Mulcahy, Damien Flynn, Terence O'Brien, Kevin Fitzgerald, James Mulcahy, Ger Norris, Shane Gleeson, Brian Mulcahy. Front row – Adam O'Neill, Sam Hayes, Thomas Quirke, Aidan Hyland, Brian O'Brien, Stephen Fitzpatrick, Bobby Platt, Paul Condon (captain), Thomas O'Donnell, Joseph Foy, Padraig Reardon, John Tierney. Seated – Terence Fox and Adrian Fox.

• Fr. Sheehy's beat Ballylooby and Newcastle to qualify for the semi-final. They beat St. Martin's in the semi-final 3-4 to 1-0 at Marlfield on Saturday, 9th November. Fr. Sheehy's played Carrick Davins in the final on the same at Marlfield. Fr. Sheehy's led 1-2 to 0-1 at half-time.

Fr. Sheehy's played some lovely football in the second half which produced some fantastic scores and ran out comfortable winners with a score of 5-4 to 1-2. This was a great achievement by Fr. Sheehy's as they have now won the South Shield three times since its introduction in 1993.



#### **Moyle Rovers – South Tipp Under-12 'B' Football Champions 1996**

Back row (L/R) – Brian Leahy, Joseph Fitzgerald, Stephen Byrne, Morgan Ryan, Conor Cooney, Shane Dolan, Brian Keane, David Roche, Mark Melbourne, Paul Shanahan, Ronan Crosse, Ronan Maher. Front row (L/R) – Padraic Kelly, Neville Melbourne, Aaron Kelly, Jim Ryan, Cian Keating, Aidan Foley, Padraig Hartigan (captain), Kevin Harte, Aaron Curran, David Conway, Shane Kelly. At back – Rena Kelly (team secretary). Very Rev. F. S. Nugent P.P., Donal Lyne, Donal Foley (selectors), Eileen Boland (secretary).

Patrick Fitzgerald captained the under-12 team that won the Shield for the first time in 1993, the competition wasn't run in 1994.

John Sheehan and Paul Condon captained the victorious Under-11 teams in 1995 and 1996 respectively.

## **Moyle Rangers G.A.A. Club Summer Camp 1996**



Fr. Sheehy's Under-11 Ground Hurling Team (from left to right) – Kneeling: Brian Mulcahy, Pat Mulcahy, Thomas O'Donnell, Michael Myles, Bobby Platt, Stephen Fitzpatrick. Standing: Patrick Moran, Damien Flynn, Terence O'Brien, James Mulcahy, Andrew Sweeney, John Sheehan, Kevin Fitzgerald. Back Row: Jimmy Fitzgerald, Sylvia Sheehan, John Sweeney, Dave Fitzgerald.



Marching in style . . . Moyle Rovers' mascot, Denis McGrath.



# Tiobraid Árann Méanach

by Martin Treacy, secretary

**T**he 1996 season in mid Tipperary was once again very busy and active one for Bord na nÓg. The board organised approximately 125 football games and 150 hurling games.

The organising of so many games creates an enormous amount of work for club officers, coaches and selectors. Many hours are spent coaching, training and driving young boys to games. The value of the work of these people cannot be praised highly enough.

On the field of activity our divisional under 14 hurling team take pride of place capturing the Peadar Cummins tournament trophy after a lapse of six years. Great praise is due to all the panel and to coach Phil Lowry and his selectors Frank O'Regan, Lennie Phillips and Sean McLoughlin for this success. Our under 16 hurlers were defeated by East Clare in the first round of Munster championship. In the Garda cup hurling, South Tipperary ended our interest in that competition. At the time of writing the Garda cup football competition had not taken place.

The very successful under 11 ground hurling was of great benefit to all clubs who took part. All clubs in mid Tipperary played in the tournament. The Board would like to thank Donal Shanahan and county Board na nÓg for organising the event.

As in 1995 a number of one day blitz's were organised which proved an outstanding success.

The Board would like to congratulate all the winners of the various competitions. Moyne/Templemouhy were the most successful club, winning the county under 14 B hurling title, county peil na nÓg under 14 football title and their under 13½ hurlers captured the all Ireland crown in Mosney. Add to that two county schools titles in Roinn B hurling and football won by Templemouhy N.S.

A new innovation this year was the organising in co-operation with west Board na nÓg of special hurling tournaments in under 12, 14 and 16 for the weaker clubs. The under 12 tournament was won by Upperchurch/Drombane and the under 14 and 16 cups went to Nonakenny. The trophies for these tournaments were presented by J.C. Ryan Upperchurch/Drombane in memory of his father the late Jacksie Ryan. the Board would like to thank J.C. for this.

The Board would like to acknowledge the help of everyone in running our championships. We thank the clubs, their officers and mentors, the clubs representatives on the Board, field committees and groundsmen, *Tipperary Star* and photogra-



Officers of Mid Tipperary Bord na nÓg photographed with senior board officers at their Annual Convention in Sarsfield Social Centre. Included are (seated l. to r.) - Frank O'Regan, treasurer Mid Bord na nÓg; Paudie Butler, vice-chairman Mid Bord na nÓg; Bill Corcoran, chairman Mid Bord na nÓg; Fr O'Rourke, president Mid Bord na nÓg; Martin Treacy, secretary Mid Bord na nÓg. Standing - Jimmy Copinger, Mid Bord na nÓg Representative to County Bord na nÓg; Dominic Everard, Mid Bord na nÓg Representative to County Bord na nÓg; J.C. Ryan, Mid Bord na nÓg Representative to County Senior Board; Seán Mockler, chairman Mid Senior Board; Andy O'Gorman, Mid Tipperary Youth Officer; Matty Connolly, secretary Mid Tipperary Senior Board.



**ALL-IRELAND CHAMPIONS** - The Dúrlas Óg team which won the inaugural final of the Towns Cup (Nessan Tournament for under-12 hurling) by defeating Navan at Laughan (Limerick). Front row (l. to r.) - Peter Maher, Mark Walshe, Brendan O'Sullivan, Barry Delahunty, Jonathan Gleeson, Richard Ruth, Paddy McCormack, Lee Shanahan (captain), Shane Ryan, Adrian Quinlan, Brendan Duggan, Stiofán Ryan, Kieran O'Connor. Middle row - Jimmy Duggan (selector), Patrick Ruddy, Willie Collins, Thomas Ryan, Patrick Kenny, J.J. Gleeson, Lorcan Burke, John Ryan, Wayne Culley, Shane McKenna, David Kennedy, David O'Callaghan, Matthew Murphy, Michael Kennedy (selector). At back - Christy Kennedy and Pat Callaghan (selectors). Absent from photo: Br. Fitzgerald, Scoil Ailbhe (selector).



The Gortnahoe/Glengoole under 12 team which won the Mid 'B' football title by defeating Boherlahan-Dualla in the final at Holycross. Back row (l. to r.) - Michael O'Brien (manager), John Coleman (selector), Michael Heffernan (selector). Middle row - Shane Hanrahan, Brian Stokes, Stephen Bourke, Michael O'Brien, Jeff Brennan, Robert Rafter, Mark McMonagle, Stephen McCormack, Shane Kenny, John Coleman, Michael Heffernan, Niall Teehan (captain), John Campion, Thomas Kane. Front row - John Coleman, Michael Clancy, Joseph Purcell, Thomas Cormac, Paul Hanrahan, Keith Houlihan, John Houlihan, Conor Teehan, Mark Ivors, Trevor O'Neill, Keith Dwyer, Shane Long.



pher Brendan O'Connor and local radio. A special thanks to our referees and their officials to whom we are deeply indebted. The Board would also like to thank the sponsors of our championships. A happy Christmas and New Year to all.

#### SPONSORS

*Under 12A Hurling* - Centenary Co-Op Creamery.

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#### BORD NA NÓG - TIOBRAID ÁRANN MEANACH - OFFICERS 1996

**President** Fr. J.J. O'Rourke; **Chairman** Mr. William Corcoran; **Vice Chairman** Mr. Paudie Butler; **2nd Vice Chairman** Mr. Joe Moran; **Secretary** Mr. Martin Treacy; **Treasurer** Mr. Frank O'Regan; **P.R.O.** Mr. Sean McLoughlin; **Mid Sen. Board Rep.** Mr. J.C. Ryan; **Co. Board Rep.** Mr. Dominic Everard; **Co. board Rep.** Mr. Jimmy Cooper.



The Moyne/Templemouhy under 12 players and selectors who won the Mid football A title by defeating J.K. Brackens (Templemore) in the final at Holycross. Back row (l. to r.) - Brendan Gavin (selector), Tom Kiely (selector), Eamonn Kelly (manager), Tom Maher (selector), Oliver Walshe (selector), Fr. Pat Murphy (selector). Middle row - Gary Killeen, Denis Meade, Kevin Quinlan, Denis Maher, Richard Ryan, Kevin Fogarty, Edward Kelly, Hugh Coughlan (captain), Martin Cantwell, Michael Bourke, Darren Quinlan, Ronan Ely. Front row - James Egan, Denis Kelly, Niall Walshe, Niall Russell, Edward Everard, John Paul Costigan, Kieran Walshe, Kieran Flynn, Kevin Davy, Thomas Purcell.



Photograph taken at a Mid Bord na nÓg function for competition sponsors at the Park Avenue House, Thurles, shows (seated, l. to r.) - Bill Corcoran, chairman Mid Bord na nÓg; Gerry Spain, Spain Fewer Quinlan and Co., Chartered Accountants, Thurles, sponsor; Noel Foxton, AIB, sponsor; Bob Stakelum, president Mid Senior GAA Board; T.J. Ryan, Roskeen Construction, sponsor; Seán Mockler, chairman Mid Senior GAA Board. Standing - Seán McLoughlin, PRO Mid Bord na nÓg; Martin Treacy, secretary Mid Bord na nÓg; Connie Grace, chairman County Bord na nÓg; Frank O'Regan, treasurer Mid Bord na nÓg; Matty Connolly, secretary Mid Senior GAA Board.

## Championship Results 1996

### HURLING

GRADE							
U. 12A	Dúrlas Óg .....	2-5	Loughmore/Castleiney .....	2-2	Semple Stadium	29/7/96	Brinsley Lowth
U. 12B	J.K. Brackens .....	5-6	Boherlahan/Dualla .....	6-1	Páirc na nÓg	28/9/96	Willie O'Grady
U. 12C	Moycarkey/Borris (B) .....	3-3	Dúrlas Óg (B) .....	0-3	Littleton	12/8/96	Jimmy Sweeney
U. 14A	Dúrlas Óg .....	0-9	Gortnahoe/Glengoole.....	1-1	Littleton	12/8/96	Pat Cullen
U. 14B	Moyne/Templetouhy .....	3-12	Boherlahan/Dualla .....	2-4	The Ragg		Rody Lowry
U. 14C	Not completed						
U. 16 A	Drom/Inch .....	4-12	Dúrlas Óg .....	2-5	Drombane	6/9/96	Pat Cullen
U. 16B	Moyne/Templetouhy .....		Holycross/Ballycahill .....		Templemore	2/9/96	Jim O'Shea
U. 16C	Clonakenny .....	1-10	Upperchurch/Drombane .....	1-7	Holycross	4/9/96	Jimmy Sweeney
Féile na nGael							
	Dúrlas Óg .....	3-10	Gortnahoe/Glengoole.....	4-0	Sarsfields Ground	11/5/96	John Crawford

### FOOTBALL

U. 12A	Moyne/Templemouhy	3-7	J.K. Brackens	1-5	Holycross 19/5/96	John Crawford
U. 12B	Gortnahoe/Glengoole	3-7	Boherlahan/Dualla	2-3	Holycross 19/5/96	Denis Curtis
U. 12C	Upperchurch/Drombane	0-8	Clonakenny	2-1	Garda Field 11/9/96	P.J. Hewitt
U. 14A	J.K. Brackens	2-7	Moyne/Templemouhy	1-6	Littleton 25/6/96	Rody Lowry
U. 14B	Gortnahoe/Glengoole	3-4	Moycarkey/Borris	0-5	Littleton 25/6/96	Jimmy Sweeney
U. 14C	Not completed					
U. 16A	J.K. Brackens	0-13	Drom/Inch	1-7	Holycross 8/7/96	Tom Maher
U. 16B	Boherlahan/Dualla	1-6	Holycross/Ballycahill	0-8	Drombane 5/7/96	P.J. Leahy
U. 16C	Not completed					
U. 14 Peil na nÓg						
	Moyne/Templemouhy	4-10	Gortnahoe/Glengoole	2-4	Ballycahill	Jimmy Sweeney





**BORD NA nÓG 'CLUB OF THE YEAR' AWARD FOR DROM-INCH**  
For the second consecutive year Drom-Inch Juvenile GAA Club are Mid Tipperary Bord na nÓg's 'Club of the Year'. Photograph shows Bill Corcoran, chairman of board (second from left) presenting the trophy to John O'Connor, chairman Drom-Inch Juvenile GAA Club, at the board's Annual Convention in Thurles Sarsfields Social Centre. Also included are Mattie Ryan, secretary Drom-Inch Juvenile GAA Club (left) and Paudie Butler, committee member Drom-Inch Juvenile GAA Club and vice-chairman Mid Tipperary Bord na nÓg.



The Clonakenny panel which won the Mid under-16 'C' final at Holycross. Back row (l. to r.) - Brendan Murray, Aidan O'Keefe, Mark Talbot, John Stapleton, Micael Bourke, Geróid Byrne, John Higgins, Garrett Ryan, Derek Ryan, Walter Byrne. Front row - Liam Costigan, Damien Coonan, Donncha Murray, Alan Abbott, Joe Crampton (captain), Martin Joe Murray, David Crampton, David Talbot.



The Moycarkey-Borris panel which won the Mid under-12 hurling C title by defeating Dúrlas Óg in Littleton. Back row (l. to r.) - John Paul Leahy (selector), Gerard Carey, Paul Gooney, Brian Hogan, David Sheppard (captain), Kieran Shortall, Daniel Kirby, Joseph Dixon, George Ryall, Brian Moran. Front row - Kieran Moran, Patrick Leahy, Peter O'Brien, Philip Purcell, Mark Healy, Philip Kelly, Gerry McGrath, Martin Slattery, Ciaran Clohessy



The Upperchurch-Drombane panel which beat Clonakenny in the under-12 'C' football final replay at Templemore. Back row (l. to r.) - Michael Greene (manager), M. Purcell, E. Ryan, R. Grant, E. Carew, J. Fogarty, S. Armstrong, P. Ryan, R. Ryan, Ml. Ryan, A. Kinane, P. Shortt, P. Bourke, O. Ralph, D. Carey, C. Kennedy, D. Ryan, Tom Quinlan (selector). Front row - N. Greene, C. Ryan, C. Stapleton, K. Ryan, P. Greene, Ml. Ryan(D), M. Greene, J. Greene, P. Ryan, M. Ryan, M. Bourke, M. Ryan, L. Purcell, P. Lowry, J. Ryan, J. Ryan, M. Hart, P. Stapleton.



The Moyne-Templemouhy panel which won the Roskeen Construction Ltd Mid under-16 hurling B title by defeating Holycross-Ballycahill at Templemore. Back row (l. to r.) - Declan Leahy, Eamonn Ryan, John Stokes, Louis Everard, Peter Quinlan, Raymond Everard, Odhran Lloyd (captain), Colm Everard, Jim Tierney, Simon Everard, Maurice O'Sullivan. Front row - Robert Ely, Declan Kelly, Alan Leahy, Ricky Fogarty, John Sweeney, Paddy Clarke, Conor Costigan, Stephen Everard, Pat Kennedy.



The Dúrlas Óg under-12 panel which won the Mid 'A' hurling title by defeating Loughmore-Castleiney at Semple Stadium. Back row (l. to r.) - Richard O'Gorman, David Murphy, Patrick Kenny, Willie Collins, Thomas Ryan, Shane McKenna, T.J. Gleeson, Lee Shanahan (captain), Shane Ryan, Barry O'Donovan, Eoin Russell, David Kennedy, John Ryan. Front row - David O'Callaghan, Stiofán Ryan, John Gleeson, Richard Ruth, Adrian Quinlan, Brendan O'Sullivan, Paddy McCormack, Lorcan Burke, Wayne Culley, Cian Gleeson, Kieran O'Connor, Matthew Murphy.





The Moyne-Templeouhy panel which won the county under-14 hurling 'B' title by defeating Newcastle at New Inn. Back row (l. to r.) - Mark Russell, William Delahunty, Damien Bergin, Declan Kelly, Ricky Fogarty (captain), John Hassett, John Sweeney, Gerry Maher, Maurice O'Sullivan, Declan Leahy, Alan Leahy, Raymond Everard, David Kennedy. Front row - Craig O'Donnell, Edward Kelly, Eoin Dunne, John Butler, Richard Ryan, Martin Costigan, Hugh Coughlan, Mark Kelly, Robert Ely, Patrick Leahy.



The Clonakenny under-14 team which won the Mid v. West Divisional final at Páirc na nÓg, Thurles. Back row (l. to r.) - Walter Byrne, Bridget Murray, Catriona Ryan, Damien Coonan, Geróid Byrne, Eoin Houlihan, Mark Ryan, Caroline Greed, Neil Matthews, Liam Costigan. Front row - Andrew Crampton, Damien Abbott, David Crampton, Michael Murray, Martin Joe Murray (captain), Michael Costigan, David Killoran, Joe Shelly, Paddy Costigan. Clonakenny defeated Upperchurch-Drombane in the final.



Moycarkey-Borris under-10 team, pictured in Cusack Park, Ennis on Saturday July 6th following their victory over Doon in the Nesson tournament finals. Back row (l. to r.) - Joseph Dixon, Brian Wogan, Daniel Kirby, Gerard Carey, Rory Coote, Ciaran Shortall. Front row (l. to r.) - Brian Moran, George Ryall, Phil Kelly, Gerry McGuire, Mark Healy.



Dúrlas Óg under-14 panel, winners of the mid under-14 'A' hurling title by defeating Gortahoe-Glengoole in a final replay at Littleton. Photograph, taken before the drawn game at The Ragg shows - (back row, l. to r.) - Leonard Philips (coach), Sean Costelloe (selector), Peadar Graydon, Tristan O'Gorman, Aidan Dundon, Liam Hickey, Philip O'Dwyer, Tony Connolly, Eoin Costelloe, Joe Duggan, John Lillis (captain), Declan Ryan (mascot), Jimmy Copinger (secretary Dúrlas Óg). Front row - P.J. Mullanney, Padraig Duggan, M.J. O'Sullivan, Sean O'Dwyer, Eamonn Gleeson, Anthony Ruth, David O'Dwyer, Jim Mackey, Barry O'Dwyer, Matthew Ryan, Hugh Mockler, Eamonn Tuohy, Gerry Dwyer. Missing from photo: Tomás Callinan, James O'Riordan.



The Drom-Inch panel which won the Thurles Credit Union under-16 'A' hurling title by defeating Dúrlas Óg at Drombane. Back row (l. to r.) - Padraig Butler (captain), William Ryan, Trevor O'Connell, Damien Young, Robert Hicks, Shane Kennedy, Brian Costello, Mattie Ryan, Macdara Butler, Timmy O'Meara. Front row - P.J. Shanahan, Seamus Walsh, Kieran McGrath, Liam Kennedy, Liam Brett, Alan Ryan, Sean Cahill, Seamus Butler, Eamon Buckley.



BOHERLAHAN-DUALLA, U-16 FOOTBALL 'B' MID CHAMPIONS 1996





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Solohead  
Arravale Rovers  
Solohead  
Golden  
Cappowhite  
Cappowhite  
Clonoulty  
Arravale Rovers  
Solohead  
Golden  
Clonoulty

GRADE	WINNER	RUNNER-UP	REFEREE	VENUE
U-16 Hurling	Clonoulty 2-12	Cashel K.C.	P. Lonergan	Golden
U-16 B Hurling	Cappawhite 2-15	Golden 2-7	S. Twomey	S.T.P.
U-16 C Hurling	Emily 4-5	Lattin 2-2	E. Browne	Solohead
U-14 A Hurling	Cashel K.C. 2-5	Cappawhite 1-2	P. Russell	Dundrum
U-14 B Hurling	Lattin 5-4	Rosegreen 0-1	C. O'Sullivan	Golden
U-14 C Hurling	Golden 5-5	Rockwell Rvs. 2-1	L. O'Dwyer	Annacarty
U-12 A Hurling	Emly 1-4	Clonoulty 2-1	John Moloney	S.T.P.
Replay	Emly 1-4	Clonoulty 1-2	John Moloney	Golden
U-12 B Hurling	Arravale Rvs 3-3	Sean Treacy's 0-0	W. Morrissey	Cappawhite
U-12 C Hurling	Golden 4-1	Solohead 2-1	W. Morrissey	Dundrum
U-16 A Football	Galtee Rvs. 2-9	Arravale Rvs. 2-5	E. Browne	Bansha
U-16 B Football	Golden 2-11	Lattin 3-5	C O'Riordan	Annacarty
U-16 C Football	Cappawhite 2-9	Rockwell Rvs. 1-6	C. O'Riordan	Solohead
U-14 A Football	Galtee Rvs. 1-10	Cashel K.C. 0-6	S. Twomey	Golden
U-14 B Football	Cappawhite 5-5	Atherlow 108	S. Twomey	Golden
U-14 C Football	Kickhams 5-6	Solohead 1-3	L. O'Dwyer	Clonoulty
U-12 A Football	Arravale Rvs. 2-0	Galtee Rvs 1-2	J. Ryan	S.T.P.
U-12 B Football	Rosegreen 1-2	Cappawhite 0-2	E. Browne	Dundrum
U-12 C Football	Atherlow 4-7	Sean Treacy's 0-1	P. Lonergan	Annacarty
U-12 Shield Football	Emly 2-4	Cashel K.C. 2-4	S. Twomey	S.T.P.
Replay	Emly 7-2	Cashel K.C. 3-1	S. Twomey	S.T.P.
U-14 Féile na nGael Hurling	Lattin 3-2	Cashel K.C. 0-4	D. Grogan	Golden
U-14 Feil na nÓg Football	Galtee Rvs 6-10	Clonoulty 2-3	D. Fitzgerald	Annacarty
U-15 Garda Cup Football	Kickham's 5-9	Lattin 0-1	S. Twomey	Annacarty
U-13 Garda Cup Hurling	Doon 6-4	Galtee Rvs 0-2	T. Fitzgerald	Annacarty
U-14 Skills Hurling	Ronan O'Brien (Éire Óg)			Golden
U-14 Poc Fada	Alan Horgan (Kickham's)			Golden
U-11 Football Blitz	Galtee Rvs 1-4	Rosegreen 0-4	G. O'Riordan	S.T.P.

**B**ord na nÓg Tiobraid Árán Thiar wish to acknowledge their appreciation to the following for sponsorship of West Divisional Championships during '95.:

Allied Irish Bank, Tipperary: U-16 A Hurling & A Football; Centenary Co-Op: U-16 B Hurling; P. J. Burns, Fuel & Hardware, Tipperary: U-16 C Hurling; Quirke Jeweller, Cahir: U-16 B Football; Cashel Credit Union: U-16 C Football; John Kelly Soft Drinks, Tipperary: U-14 A Hurling; Friar St. Fryer, Cashel: U-14 B Hurling; Seamus Hanley Tyre Centre, Tipperary: U-14 C Hurling; Corrib Minerals: U-14 A Football; Sergeant Peppers, Tipperary: U-14 B Football; Colm Whelan Sports, Tipperary: U-14 C Football; Gleeson Con-

crete Ltd.: U-12 A Hurling; Tipperary Co-Op: U-12 B Hurling; Noel Browne Bus Hire, Bansha: U-12 C Hurling; Fitzpatrick Printers, Tipperary: U-12 A Football; teddy Greene's Stationery, Tipperary: U-12 B Football; Irish Permanent Building Society, Tipperary: U-12 C Football; Irish Permanent Building Society, Tipperary: U-12 C Football; Coca-Cola: U-14 Féile na nGael Feil na nÓg; Friends of Tipperary Football: U-11 Hurling Blitz.

Over 300 games were organised for the juveniles of West Tipperary in 1996. The first games – U-16 Football – began on Monday, April 1, with the Garda Cup finals on the weekend of 12/13 October the final divisional action. GAA President, Jack Boothman, honoured the Division by

launching the Board's Fixtures Booklet in Tipperary Town on Thursday, April 18, at a packed function. Friday, October 25, in Dundrum was the date for the Annual Presentation Night. Clubs, captains, grounds-men, referees and guests along with the Board's sponsors attended a enjoyable function. Special and welcome guest for the night were William Maher, Ger O'Neill and West Tipperary's All-Ireland Minor winners. During the year, West and Mid Tipperary Bord na nÓg initiated a joint inter-divisional tournament for "C" hurling finalists, which was successful due to the efforts of Gerry Beary and J. C. Ryan. The annual convention of West Tipperary Board na nÓg is scheduled for Thursday, December 5



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Monastery C.B.S., West Tipperary (Primary School Football Blitz): Back Row: James Halligan, James O'Brien, David Whelan, Barry Quinn, Anthony Glasheen, Thomas Gleeson, Mark Cosgrove, Luke Edmonds, Justin Cleary, Ian Hanley, Wayne Rogers. Front Row: Cormac Moore, Robbie Cramer, William O'Brien, Adrian Fitzgerald, Carl Lowry, Eamonn Crowe, Mark Roche, Jason Donnelly, Thomas Caren. Coach: Séan Toomey



Waiting for the action at Camp Cappowhite



Anacarty N.S. in Primary Schools Football Blitz in S.T. Park. Back Row: (l. to r.): Christy O'Dwyer, Thomas Coughlan, John O'Dwyer, Daniel Hogan, Conor O'Brien, Pádraig Ryan, Emma Kennedy, Fiona Fox, Aisling McGrath, Sheelagh Carew, David Hennessy, Gerard Hayes. Front: (l. to r.) Sean Hogan, Peter O'Dwyer, Denis O'Dwyer, Claire Ryan, Mary O'Dwyer, Anne O'Dwyer, Brian Fox, Kevin Fox, Cathal Hayes, Eoin Kennedy, Sean Hogan



Arravale Rovers, U-12, West Football Champions 1996. Back Row: James Halligan, James O'Brien, David Whelan, William O'Brien, Ian Hanley, Thomas Gleeson, Carl Lowry, Sam Houlihan, John O'Brien, Luke Edmonds, Wayne Rogers, Greg O'Brien, Stephen Greene. Front Row: Cormac Moore, Mark Roche, Barry Quinn, Jason Donnelly, Eamonn Crowe, Bernard O'Callaghan (capt.), Adrian Fitzgerald, Roger O'Connor, David Whelan (Av.), Thomas Crowe, Anthony Glasheen



Arravale Rovers U-12 B Hurling West Champions: Front Row: (l. to r.) Ciaran Ahearne, Matthew Connors, Alan Lowry, Thomas Gleeson, Adrian Fitzgerald, Mark Roche (capt.), John O'Brien, Roger O'Connor, John Collins, David Whelan, Paul Donovan, Eamonn Crowe, Bernard O'Callaghan, Alan Crowe. Back Row: Stephen Greene, Robbie Cramer, Denis O'Brien, Thomas Carew, Barry Quinn, Carl Lowry, Wayne Rogers, James O'Brien, Cormac Moore, Neil Ryan, Darragh Donovan, Michael Tuohy, David Coleman, James Halligan, Alan Kenny. Team Managers: James Hogan, Richie Lohan.



Golden West U-16 Football Champions. Front Row (l. to r.) Patrick Stapleton, Donncha Carr, Danny Hallissey, Alan Ryan, John Coulihan, Michael Sherlock, Shane Stapleton, Paul Fogarty, Gavin Ryan, Gerald Fogarty. Back Row (l. to r.) John Stapleton (selector), John Ryan, Richard Walsh, Robert Kennedy, Devin Bargary, Jerry Griffin, Jack O'Sullivan, David Downey, Mark Bargary, Damien Fogarty, Kevin McCarthy, William Bowles, Michael Hanrahan, Seamus Carr, Brian Fogarty (Selector). Missing: Richard Walsh (selector).



At West Tipperary Bord na nÓg Function: Front: (l. to r.) Jimmy Conroy (Co. Secretary), Connie Grace (Co. Chairman), Jack Boothman (President GAA), Denis Ryan (West Chairman). Back Row: (l. to r.) James O'Donoghue, Nicholas Lonergan, Seamus King, Lar O'Keefe, Liam O'Dwyer, Gerry Beary



West Bord na nÓg Presentations - Captains. Front Row: (l. to r.) Trevor Collins, Cappowhite, Ger Slattery, Cashel, Gavin Ryan, Golden K., Denis Ryan, Chairman, Alan Horgan, Kickhams, Denis Peters, Galtee Rvs, Paul Ryan, Lattin/c.





*Bord na nÓg Presentation U-16s: Front Row (l. to r.): Nial Peale, Cappawhite, John Paul Crowe, Cappawhite, Michael Sherlock, golden K., Denis Ryan, Chairman, Liam Manton, clonulty R. Brian Murphy, Emly, Niall O'Shea, Galtee Rvs. Back Row: John Rogers, Cashel Credit Union, Gerry Costelloe, A.I.B., Patsy Byrnes, Emly, John Quirke, Cahir.*



*Lattin/C. West U-14 H.C. "B" Champions. Back Row (l. to r.) Pat Maguire, Ailbe Power, Michael Leahy, Pat O'Grady, Joseph Dwyer, Tim Butler, Paul Ryan, James Breen, Liam Vaughan, Daniel Connery, Bernard Leahy, Front Row: James Maguire, James O'Dwyer, Christy O'Dwyer, Richard Byrnes, Bill Condon, Jamie Morrissey, Andrew Morrissey, Denis O'Sullivan, Avon Hanley.*



*Galtee Rovers representatives on County U-14 Football team. Front Row (l. to r.): Denis Peters, Aidan McGrath, David Byron, John Peters (Selector), Anthony Crowe.*



*Galtee Rovers U-14 F.C. "A" County Champions 1996: Second Row (l. to r.) Alan Crowe Kevin Bergin, Christopher Higgins, David Byron, Denis Peters, Aidan McGrath Adrian Byron, David Morrissey, Michael Byron. Third row: Seamus Walsh, David O'Brien, Andrew Morrissey, Donna Crowe, Joanne Peters, Paul McCarthy, Anthony Crowe, Declan Peters, Brendan Murphy, Eamon O'Connell, Aidan Keating, Anthony Bowles. On ground kneeling: Mark Hayes, Ciaran Bergin, Michael O'Connell, James Scanlon, Tony Loneragan. Standing at back: Michael Grace, John Peters, Seamus Byron, Liam Bergin*



*Knockavilla Kickhams GAA Club, recently honoured their All Ireland Minor Hurling players, Fergal Horgan & Fergal Heney, and other players who attended, included are, front row: Michael Kennedy, Mark Cummins, Fergal Heney, Seamus King, Chairman, West Board; Billy Ryan, Club Chairman, Wm. Maher, team capt.; Mary and Thomas Ryan, grandparents of Fergal Horgan, who was unable to attend, Fr. P. O'Gorman, P.P. back: Billy Heney, Aidan Doyle, Seanie Ryan, Jason Connolly, Denis Ryan, West Board na nÓg Chairman, Thomas Costello; Wm. Hickey, Billy Maher, Ger O'Neill, Denis Cahill, Paudie Butler and Eamonn Browne.*

*Photo: Pat Mullally*

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# Tipperary Hurling Masters - Champions of '96

**"WE'LL SING OF OUR GREAT VETERANS  
THE OVER FORTIES BOLD  
WHO WON THEIR THIRD ALL-IRELAND  
IN TIPPERARY'S BLUE AND GOLD".**

*Br. J. Perkins*

From "major to minor" in the year of '96 when the Tipperary master hurlers captured their third All-Ireland title, as well as the minors winning the Irish Press Cup. Both teams were captained by Ballingarry men, Dan Shelly led the masters, William Maher the minors. Both were smashing captains, leading by example they were well respected by colleagues.

The masters is confined to those who have reached the "Big 40" and gives players the opportunity to keep in contact socially as well as playing the game. This year things started out slowly, the attendance at training in "The Ragg" was sparse, talk about players retiring didn't help. Gradually, the spirit and attendance improved culminating in a hard won All-Ireland title. A victory which won over many who were sceptical about the wisdom and attraction of the competition. I can still see Jimmy Morris, Nenagh Éire Óg tearing across the field, congratulating the victorious Tipperary players with the words "well, ye are mighty men".

The competition is played on a league basis, with teams divided into two groups. All-Ireland Champions, Kilkenny travelled to "The Ragg" for our first game. The "Cats" were victorious, a most sociable evening followed in John Kennedy's "Centenary Rooms". A visit to Athenry, to play Galway yielded no pay either. Clare came to "The Ragg" where the Tipperary men recorded their first win. The long trip to Wexford was worth two points and a walk over from Dublin ensured a place in the play-off stages.

Laois were the opposition in the quarter final. When we arrived in "The Ragg", we were without jerseys, but a quick call to Tommy Butler produced the Drom 'n Inch set. Maybe it was the sight of the familiar green, but Tommy Butler made a welcome come back, a decision which was to prove most beneficial, particularly at a later stage. Laois were all "fired up", look-

ing likely winners, Tipperary held on for a doubtful draw. The referee said it was a

slapped over a point. Loughmore duo Tom McGrath and John Treacy worked together to score the winning point. Laois sent a late free wide of the upright. Tipperary were into the semi-final against Kilkenny, Nolan Park the venue.

The spirit, at this stage was great, everyone looking forward to a crack at Kilkenny. The game attracted a fine crowd. The semi-final was, without question, the best game of the competition played at a hectic pace, the hurling was superb. Kilkenny had the Fennellys, Joe Hennessey and Billy Fitzpatrick, who still showed the style and skill, which made them household names. Tipperary rose to the challenge and recorded a sweet victory. It is always great to beat "The Cats". Eamonn Sweeney made some brilliant saves, Seamus Barry used his positional sense and intelligence to best advantage. At full back - Jack Bergin, at centre back hurled defi-



*The spirit of the 'Masters' - Midfielder Tom McGrath (right) shows the determination which brought Tipperary its third All-Ireland title in five years as he powers his way past Clare's Sean O'Halloran during the final at Nenagh.*

draw, we gladly accepted his decision!

The replay was held in Rathdowney, played in a down pour, scores were hard to come by. Laois were leading by a point with three minutes to go, Paddy Moore gave a clever pass to Tony Dunne, who

ance at anything which came his way. Former All Star Tommy Butler tormented the Kilkenny defence. Were we glad that he made a come back! Eddie Keher and his fellow selectors were gracious. Larry Mackey, Pat Dunlea and Michael Loneragan were thrilled with the win. Now for



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Tipperary 'Masters' All-Ireland Champions 1996 . . . The Tipperary 'Masters' (over 40) panel which brought the county its third title in five years by defeating Clare in the All-Ireland final at Nenagh. Back row (l to r): John Kehoe, Denis Maher, Paddy Moore, Donal McGettigan, Eugene Shortt, Tom Kennedy, Roddy Crawley, John Ryan, Sean Fitzpatrick, Jack Bergin, Tommy Butler, Pat McCormack (B), Tom McGrath, Martin Bohan. Front row . . . Tony Dunne, Paddy McCormack, Martin Butler, Mat McLoughney, Eamonn Sweeney, Seamus Barry, Eamonn Maher, Leo Crampton, John Stokes, John Treacy, Dan Shelley (captain), Jim Guilfoyle, Frankie Shortt.

Clare in the All-Ireland final.

The fitness level had improved 100%, the extra game added sharpness. Breda Ryan worked hard to ease aching and injured muscles. Dinny Cahill and Michael O'Riordan were definitely out through injury. Clare had high hopes of capturing their first All-Ireland. The game was close and well contested. Disaster when Jack Bergin was injured, Jack who had played so well was one of our anchor men. The selectors moved Leo Crampton to man the centre back position. Leo was most influential in fashioning the Tipperary victory, adapting to the defensive role, he played "a stormer".

Every man played a vital part in a 2.10 to 1.10 victory. Heroes all, from goalkeeper Eamonn Sweeney to corner forward Sean Fitzpatrick. Former president Mick Loftus presented the All-Ireland cup to captain Dan Shelly. Both teams were entertained together, our thanks to Munster Council for their generous support. Tipperary Crystal sponsored a trophy to acknowledge a "Player of the Championship" from both teams. Eamonn Maher (Lorrha) and Jackie Walsh (Bodyke) were the respective winners.

I enjoyed the masters championship immensely, not just because Tipperary won, but because of the commitment, spirit and fun which the players brought to each game. They are a great group, every man so proud to wear the blue and gold. The wit and humour on the sideline kept things in perspective; Martin Bohan being the number one in that department. Roddy Cawley was another whose sense of fun always prevailed. The spirit of Seamus Barry, Eamonn Maher, Sean Fitzpatrick and Dan Shelly set the standard for the "young lads" Pat McLoughney, Tom McGrath. If only Tony Dunne would give up the cigarettes, he'd hurl for another ten years. Any hope Tony?

Popular team Manager Larry Mackey, Chairman Pat Dunlea and fellow selector Michael Lonergan were delighted with the Tipperary performance. It was the saddest of years for Larry and his wife Joan, with the death of young Din. A Tipperary victory brought fleeting joy Larry. Breda Ryan was a calming influence as well as pro-



Dr. Mick Loftus presents the All-Ireland trophy to Dan Shelly (captain).

viding relief from aches and injury. Our thanks to all sponsors who were so generous.

Most of all, thanks to a wonderful group of hurlers, roll on '97, no retirements please!

**"THEN HURRAH FOR THE GALLANT VETERANS, TO AGE YOU'LL NEVER BOW, YOU'RE A CREDIT TO TIPPERARY AND THE HOMES OF KNOCKNAGOW."**

Liz Howard, P.R.O. Tipperary Co. Board

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# Recent Publications

HOGAN, VINCENT:	Beyond the Tunnell: The Nicky English story (MedMedia, £10)
HUMPHRIES, TOM:	Green Fields: Gaelic Sport in Ireland (Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £15)
KEENAN, DONAL:	Babs: The Michael Keating Story (Storm Books, £10)
KING, SEAMUS J.:	A History of Hurling (Gill & Macmillan, £18)
MURPHY, SEAN:	The Prince of Hurlers: The Life and Times of Jackie Power (The Clare Champion, £10)
O'HEHIR, MICHAEL:	My Life and Times (Blackwater Press, £15)
O'KEEFE, CATHERINE, (ED):	Marlfield Hurling Club, 1946 – 1996 (Sureprint, £10)
O'ROURKE, COLM:	The Final Whistle (Hero Books, £10)
RACKARD, BILLY:	No Hurling at the Dairy Door (Blackwater Press, £10)
NUGENT, SEAN:	Slievenamon in Song and Story (Sureprint, N.P.)

AS THE above list testifies there is an abundance of G.A.A. publications on the market for this Christmas. And, I heard, it may be added to in the very near future by books from Ger Loughnane and Jimmy Smith of Clare! The significant thing about the list is the overwhelming preponderance of hurling books. The sole exception is the autobiography of Colm O'Rourke, sponsored by Kepak and published last summer. The book brings to life one of the best known and respected footballers of the last twenty years, tracing his life from the earliest interest in football in Skyrne through some of the most memorable games in the colours of Meath. The autobiography discusses the extent of the rivalry between Dublin and Meath among other things and there is a stimulating article on the road ahead for the G.A.A. The book concludes with O'Rourke's scoring record over twenty years of senior football with Meath – his average was 2.47 points per match – together with the scores and lineouts in every championship game he played.

The Marlfield club history presents the story of the club through newspaper accounts of its successes and defeats and this is fleshed out by personal reminiscences of some of the major figures in the club. In existence since 1946 it made its first major breakthrough in 1954 when it won the south junior title. Senior breakthrough followed in 1960 after the club was strengthened by the addition of five new players, Mick Egan, Mickey Carew, Jerry McCarthy, Paddy Maher and Seamus Power. Of course the most influential figure on the side was Mr. Marlfield himself, Theo English. There is much more and Catherine O'Keefe and all those involved in its production are to be complimented. If I am critical it's of a few minor things. I should have liked to have read a bit more about the lawn, some history of the Bagwells and, for those confused by many of the placenames, a map would have been a help.

There is a review of three of the books elsewhere in the Yearbook, *the Babs story*, *Beyond the Tunnel* and *A History of Hurling*. I was interested to read in the Babs' book that he claims responsibility for the high catch in hurling. "In those days not many hurlers tried to catch a high ball. Everything that came in the air was played in the air. I was different. I jumped for it and caught it." When I put it to him that this skill arrived earlier with Wexford he claimed it was in the backs they used it, not the forwards. He is very interested in the changing style of management from the time he played. At that time there was little rapport between players and management. No selector ever discussed your game with you. The first inclination you got of dissatisfaction was when you weren't picked to play. (Interestingly some of the players managed by Babs would claim you got the message when he stopped talking to you!) He reckons there was a failure in the management of the Tipperary team in 1966. Of his own days in management he is eloquent in the defence of his way of doing things. He admits that his five S's, speed, stamina, style, skill, leading to scores, were not sufficient without a killer instinct. He writes about inviting Kevin Heffernan in 1989 to talk to the Tipperary players in order to try and instill the killer instinct. He would agree that Galway beat Tipperary physically in 1987 and 1988 as did Cork in 1992.



Archbishop of Cashel, Dr Clifford, Seamus J. King and Br. Liam P. Ó Caithnia, at the launch of "A History of Hurling".

Nicky English claims honesty in his account of his hurling life and it is difficult not to concur. It's a warts and all presentation and he is quite modest about his achievements. The famous kicked goal was pure luck: "As I closed in on Cunningham's goal, the sliothar at my feet, I honestly hadn't a clue what I was going to do next. . . To this day, I still can't believe what the ball did." He is equally modest about the tap over point in Killarney: he thought there was someone behind him and was afraid of being hooked! He recalls the photograph from the Clare game of 1984 in the *Cork Examiner* "with shall we say, more than my tongue hanging out as I raced through on goal. I couldn't believe my eyes when I saw it. There I was, in all my glory, the side of my shorts opening just sufficiently for the family jewels to protrude. Incredibly, to my knowledge, it got through every edition." He does not hesitate to write about the terrible decision made by the selectors in picking the 1990 team. And there is much more, all written in a very readable manner.

Tom Humphries' book is not just a book about football and hurling but one about Ireland and the Irish. It is the story of people, places and passions, tales about games which run deep in the Irish consciousness. It's about sports which have stirred a country like little else can. Anyone who has read Humphries in the *Irish Times* will know what an interesting and exciting writer he can be.

*A History of Hurling* is an attempt to write a one volume history of one of the oldest field games in the world, a game that stretches back into the dim and distant past. The main part of the book concentrates on the history of the game since the foundation of the G.A.A. and it traces this through the senior hurling championship. There are also chapters on the other championships and competitions, on the geography of the game, on hurling styles and on the future of hurling.

The Jackie Power book runs to 200 pages and recalls the life of Jackie from his birth in 1916 to his death in Tralee in 1994. His dazzling skills and ferocious courage come to life as his feats and deeds on the



hurling fields of Ireland are detailed in the winning of two All Ireland's, four National Leagues, seven Railway Cup medals, one Oireachtas, fifteen county hurling finals and five county football finals. The book also records his son, Ger's 8 All Ireland football medals with Kerry and grandson, Stephen McNamara's All Ireland with Clare in 1995.

Michael O'Hehir's, *My Life and Times*, was launched with impressive pomp and circumstance by President Mary Robinson at a gala occasion in the Burlington Hotel, Dublin a few weeks ago. Over 700 people, chiefly from the G.A.A. and racing worlds turned up for the occasion. The book reads as interestingly as Michael used to commentate: "At Cusack Park we climbed into a broadcasting box that had just enough room for myself and my father. He struck me as being in a more nervous state than I was. Some 30 or 40 yards away in a kind of watchman's hut was Jimmy Mahon, the Radio Éireann technician. Through the headphones I got the word from Jimmy "Two minutes to go... one minute to go." And then: "You're on the air and off I went. I tried to describe as best I could what was happening on the field." The occasion was the Galway-Monaghan All-Ireland football semi-final, the place was Mullingar and the year was 1938 and with it began a distinguished broadcasting career that was to last until 1985 and include 99 All-Ireland final broadcasts.

Sean Nugent has collected in 300 pages the songs and stories associated with Tipperary's most famous mountain. The legends and tales, associated with the mountain, have endured down the centuries and have created an aura of magic and mystery around the place.

Billy Rackard's book is not only an account of hurling but of a family and a village. When he was born in 1932 the Rathnure G.A.A. club was founded. He describes how his father, Bob Rackard, set his sights on the beautiful, 5'11" Statia Doran and married her. They had nine children, of whom Billy was the youngest. The book brings us through his childhood, an assortment of colourful characters and the exceptional hurling careers of himself, and his brothers, Bobby and Nicky. A great addition to the Wexford hurling story and to our hurling library.

As I complete this review of recent G.A.A. publications Liam Griffin is talking to Pat Kenny about another book, to appear in the next few weeks, on Wexford's success in 1996 and what it did for the county. The book isn't even printed yet but must be looked forward to.



President of the G.A.A., Jack Boothman, who did the launch, Seamus J. King, Minister Michael Lowry, T.D. and Eddie Kehir, at the launch of "A History of Hurling".



Professor Liam Ryan, Mickey Byrne and Liam O'Donnchú at the launch of "A History of Hurling".

## NATIONAL ADVANCE FIXTURES '97

Jan. 26: Inter-Provincial Foot. Semis, Con. v Muns./Ulster v Leins.  
Feb. 2: N.F.L. Rd 5. N.F.L. IV Rd. 6; Feb 9: Inter-Provincial Foot. Final; Feb 16: N.F.L. Rd. 6 N.F.L. IV Rd. 7 AIB Club Hurling Semis Muns. v Ulster / A v Leinster; Feb 23: AIB Club Football Semis Muns. v Ulster, A v Leinster.  
March 2: N.F.L. Rd. 7 N.F.L. IV Rd. 8 Fitzgibbon w/e; March 9: N.H.L. Rd. 1 Sigerson w/e; March 16: N.F.L. IV Rd. 9; March 30: N.F.L. playoffs. N.H.L. Rd. 3  
April 6: N.F.L. Q. Finals; April 13: N.H.L. Rd. 4; April 20: N.F.L. Semis; April 26: All-Irel. U-21 F. Semis; April 27: N.H.L. Rd. 5  
May 4: N.F.L. Final; May 11: N.H.L. Rd. 6 All-Irel. U-21 F. Final; May 18: Provincial Champ.; May 25: Provincial Champ.  
June 1: N.H.L. Rd. 7; June 8: Provincial Champ.; June 15: Provincial Champ.; June 22: Provincial Champ.; June 29: Provincial Champ.  
July 5: N.H.L. Q. F.; July 6: Munster/Ulster S.H.C. Fin.; July 12: N.H.L. Q. F.; July 13: Leinster/Connacht S.H.C. Fin.; July 20: Muns/Ulster S.F.C. Finals; July 27: All-Ireland Q. Finals Senior & Minor Hurling.  
Aug. 3: Lein/Conn S.F.C. Finals; Aug. 10: All-Irel. M & S.H. Semis; Aug. 17: All-Irel. M & S.H. Semis; Aug. 24: A.I.F. Semi M v U. N.H.L. Semis; Aug. 31: A.I.F. Semi. M v U N.H.L. Semis.  
Sept. 6: A.I.H. Finals Minor B & C & Junior; Sept. 7: U-21 / Inter Semis; Sept. 14: A.I.H. Minor & Senior Finals; Aug. 21: A.I. U-21 / Inter Finals; Aug. 28: A.I.F. Minor & Senior Finals.  
Oct. 5: N.H.L. Fin; Oct. 12: Oireachtas B I; Oct. 19: N.F.L. I; Oct. 26: Oireachtas B II.  
Nov. 2: N.F.L. 2; Nov. 8/9: Inter-Provincial Hurling Semis & Final - Railway Cup; Nov. 16: N.F.L. Rd. 3; Nov. 23: Oireachtas B 3; Nov. 30: N.F.L. Rd. 4; Oireachtas Semis.  
Dec. 7: A.I.B. Club Hurling, Munster v England. Oireachtas Final; Dec. 14: A.I.B. Club football - Munster v England.

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# Review of "A HISTORY OF HURLING"

by Seamus J. King

**F**ast on the heels of two books by Tipperary hurlers Babs Keating and Nicky English comes another book from a Tipperary man.

A History of Hurling, by Seamus King.

As the title indicates, this is a much more ambitious undertaking, requiring years of patient research. The author brings good credentials to the task: a native of Lorrha, a lifetime involvement with the GAA in Tipperary, author of a number of books on the GAA, including Tipperary's Hurling Story, 1935-84.

The book falls into three broad sections:

(1) The early chapters trace the story of hurling from mythological lore down to the founding of the Gaelic Athletic Association in 1884. A further chapter deals with the evolution of the rules of the game over the centuries down to the present day.

(2) The main part of the book is devoted to telling the story of the revival of hurling following 1884, and the development of the game since then.

Very often the narrative centres around the team which dominated a particular era or decade, usually Cork, Tipperary and Kilkenny. Limerick and Wexford had their hours of glory in the thirties and fifties. Further chapters tell the story of county teams who have made the breakthrough to winning an All Ireland in more recent times: Offaly and Galway and of course, Clare. The book was gone to press before Wexford's win in 1996.

(3) The final section is a kind of mixed bag. A chapter is devoted to the other hurling competitions besides the senior All Ireland. A chapter on the "geography" of hurling asks why hurling is limited to such a small area of the country. Two further chapters deal with hurling styles and the future of the game.

A number of Appendices cover the results of all major competitions over more than a century, providing the list of winning teams in most cases. I can see many people trawling through this statistical section over the years to settle a dispute, or just to find out how many All Ireland's a particular county player had won.

I liked best the opening section on the history of hurling prior to the 20th century, and the gradual evolution of the rules of the game. If I have any criticism of this well-researched book, it would be a desire for more information on the early

history of hurling. In recent times there has been no dearth of information on the history of hurling and hurlers of the present century; one thinks of the work done by people like Raymund Smith and Brendan Fullam. But only Brother O'Caithnia has delved into the early origins of hurling, and his monumental work has not been available outside the Irish language (Scéal na hIomána). Certainly what Sea-

by

**Rev. SEAMUS RYAN**

*P.P. Ballyfermot*

*(formerly Limerick)*

mus King offers us in these early chapters whetted my appetite for more.

The old mythological tales of the Fian-na and Cú Chulainn indicate that hurling in some form goes back thousands of years. It is fascinating to think that some form of hurling was already practiced here long before the Celts arrived on the shores of Ireland. The famous Statute of Kilkenny in 1366 banning "the games which men call hurlings" was passed in order to wean the Norman settlers away from the customary pastimes of the Irish Gael, in this case from a game from which (according to the Statute) "great evils and injuries have arisen." They are exhorted to apply themselves to archery and the throwing of spears and other such gentle games!

The author quotes from many sources

to show that hurling was alive and flourishing in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. The landlords played an important role organising and supporting teams of their tenants to play against a team of a rival landlord. The games were well attended and there was heavy wagering, which often led to tensions and violence. As the political relationship between landlord and tenant soured in the 19th century, the landlord patronage of hurling ceased, leading to a decline in the game.

Even though the basic ingredients of hurling were always the same, a camán, a sliotar, and the desire to get the ball into the opposite goal, yet hurling as we know it today is a very different game from what it was in the 18th century or early 19th century. The number of players was often far bigger than today (sometimes as many as fifty) and the ball was much bigger and heavier. In the early days no points were recognised. Even when points were introduced, a goal had no equivalent in points. In early times the goal was much narrower, no wider than the narrow goal used in ice-hockey today, but without any bar. The ball could not be struck through the goal, but had to be carried through it. Goalkeepers were unnecessary, and points were unknown. The first team to score a goal usually won the game. There was no such thing as a referee; the captains were responsible for controlling the play and the conduct of the players.

There was a time in the evolution of the game when handling the ball was strictly forbidden. There was a great deal of ground hurling, yet the weight and size of



Professor Liam Ryan, Rev. Seamus Gardiner, P.R.O. Munster Council and Liam O'Donnchu at the launch of 'A History of Hurling'.



the ball would have made it a much slower game than the game we have known in this century.

There was a great deal more physical contact. Jostling and wrestling an opponent were not excluded. The early rules, in so far as they existed, permitted the assailant to wrestle the opponent in possession, and this may have been common up to 1886.

No wonder that the author remarks on the many similarities to be found between this form of hurling and the rules of modern rugby! There may have been an even greater likeness to American Football, since there is evidence in some of the contemporary accounts of a kind of scrum or phalanx formed by the heavier men on the team, with the ball then being passed back quarter-back style, and then delivered out to the swifter lighter athletes on the wing. The playing field was much wider and longer in those days.

I mentioned ice-hockey. Unlike field-hockey, it is a game distinguished by a great deal of body-charging and hip-to-hip contact. There is a belief among some (not mentioned by the author) that ice-hockey as played in Canada and the United States today may well have its remote origins in the kind of hurling once played on the plains of Ireland. I mentioned that the early games did not allow the handling of the ball. During the 19th century many Irish people migrated to Newfoundland and Nova Scotia. They may have brought their game of hurling with them. In the absence of suitable terrain, they played their game on the ice, and this was one of the major influences on the eventual evolution of ice-hockey as it is played today.

The second section of the book begins with the story of the founding of the Gaelic Athletic Association, and the key roles played by Michael Cusack of Clare (resident in Dublin), Maurice Davin of Carrick-on-Suir, and Archbishop Croke of Thurles.

He goes on to tell the story of early All Irelands, which were all club or parish based, and only grew into full county selections over a few decades.

In the early years only a few teams contested the All Irelands, e.g. three in 1892 and 1893, and four in 1894. The final in 1895 between Tipp (Tubberadora) and Kilkenny (Tullaroan) was the first All Ireland to be played at Jones' Road, later to become Croke Park. Tubberadora is a small area in the parish of Boherlahan; one hundred years later (1996) Boherlahan won the Co. Tipp. Hurling Championship. No doubt the parish will be very eager to emulate the great achievements of those Tubberadora men of 100 years ago and the three great All Irelands they won for Tipperary.

Seamus King's book goes on to range over a century of hurling, concentrating on the senior hurling championship and the counties and outstanding players who graced this major competition. For any

keen follower of the GAA over the years it makes compelling reading. The author is at his best when dealing with Tipperary's triumphs; it is easy to see that he has an inside track and speaks with great affection and esteem of the great teams and heroes of his native county.

But he is generous too in his appraisal of the great teams and great hurlers of other counties. Of Christy Ring he says that he is accepted as the greatest hurler ever, and that his likes will not be seen again. Not all Limerick people would agree! With some justification they might propose Mick Mackey as the more complete hurler and sportsman with a dash and élan uniquely his own. Of course Christy Ring had the advantage of a much longer playing career spanning twenty four years from 1939 to 1963. But he wasn't approaching his 51st birthday in the Munster final of 1961 as the book states in one of its rare misprints (page 144). If true, it might help to explain Tipp's easy victory in Limerick on a day which saw the biggest attendance ever at a hurling match outside Croke Park (62,000).

Of course Christy Ring's name and fame would have been further enhanced by the voice of Michéal O'Hehir who began broadcasting in the very year that Christy Ring embarked on his long inter-county career with Cork.

Michéal is mentioned a few times in passing in the book, but his recent death and the tributes paid to him remind us of the pride of place this great man should occupy in any history of the GAA and particularly of hurling which was his first love. The popularity of hurling today must owe so much to Michéal and the excitement he generated in the heart of many a youngster listening to the Radio and Television over half a century.

Seamus King finishes his book with interesting chapters on the "geography of hurling" and hurling styles, and a final chapter on the "future of hurling" in an age that has seen the creeping professionalism of all sport. All three chapters make compelling reading. The book is gener-

ously illustrated with 64 pages of photographs ranging over a century of the game, further enhancing a book that is attractively produced. I trust there will be a paper-back edition in due course to help make the book more widely known.

Further editions might note that the victorious Limerick captain of the Munster final of 1980 is Seán Foley and not Joe McKenna as stated in the caption to the photograph. A Kerry neighbour in Ballyfermot, tells me that Ned Barrett of Ballyduff (who appears in the early series of photographs) did accomplish the unique feat of winning an All Ireland hurling medal and an Olympic Gold medal. He was an all round sportsman, competing in the Olympics in many events; wrestling, shot-put, discus and javelin. But it was not in these that he won the gold medal, but with the United Kingdom tug-of-war team!

The author is to be complimented for the extraordinary amount of research he has put into this book. It is a fascinating account of the story of hurling. Despite the inevitable detail of many names and scores, the writing is never dull. For me it evoked many memories especially of the fifties when I had the honour of playing against the great teams of that era, Wexford and the Rackard brothers (Billy has now added a book to the burgeoning library of hurling memories), a great Cork team won 3 All Irelands in a row, and one of there greatest of Tipperary teams in the making.

Elsewhere in the book the author discusses the different styles of close-in free taking of the experts on those teams: Nicky Rackard, Christy Ring and Paddy Kenny. It was pretty scary facing any of them when they lined up and you sensed they were going for a goal. But Paddy Kenny was the most lethal. In those days the backs lined the goal-line; Paddy threw the ball so far ahead of him that he seemed just a few yards beyond the square when striking. It was a time for praying that it would not come my way!

I enjoyed this book immensely. It will



Tomás O'Baróid, John English, Minister Michael Lowry, T.D., Seamus J. King, Archbishop Dermot Clifford, Len Gaynor at the launch of 'A History of Hurling'.



make a great Christmas read for any lover of the camán, and especially those of a vintage that saw many of the games so vividly recalled in this book.

I regret to end in a more negative vein. The book was launched in Croke Park last November. There was a great gathering of hurlers and lovers of hurling from all over the country. I have often been to Croke Park but never to the inner sanctum before, and I looked forward to the occasion. After the launch of the book and the speeches, I and those who came with me were looking forward to a traditional warming cup of tea and a sandwich before heading out again into the grey November night. It may have been the land of the camán, but it certainly was not the land of the cupán! Not a bite to eat, not even a biscuit.

Seamus King, you have written well of hurling, and you deserved better of the H.Q. If I might finish with a quote from your own book:

"Hurling is the oldest recorded field-game. It is a link with our heroic past, part of our cultural heritage and part of what we are. It is a strong and virile game, a game worth going a long way to see, and

one that is well worth preserving. It is as much a part of our heritage as our language and our music . . ."

Part of that proud heritage is a great tradition of warmth, and welcome and hospitality. They were sorely missing in a place where we had every right to be expect them on that November evening.



Mattie Finnerty, Joe Moloney, John Darmody, Brendan Bonnar and Conor Davitt at launch of 'A History of Hurling'.

## Beatha is sláinte chuig muintir Thiobraid Árann sa bhaile agus i gcéin



Carrick Swan under 12. B South Champions '96. Back Row (l to r): Simon Butler, Wayne O'Neill, Edward O'Gorman, Barry Lonergan, James Gibbs, Alan Rockett, Colin O'Sullivan, Michael Keegan, Quintin McCarthy, Pat Lanigan, John White, Wayne Murphy. Front Row (l to r): Stephen Walsh, Barry Walsh, David Drohan, David Kelly, Darren Fahey, Noel O'Donnell (capt.), David Smith, Colin Regan, Mark Walsh, Mark Coghlan, Matthew Power.



# "Beyond the Tunnel" – The Nicky English Story

By SÉAMUS O'DOHERTY

(Published by MedMedia Ltd., with support from AIB Bank)

I APPROACHED the Nicky English story with a sense of anticipation. This was based on his highly successful career and the involvement of Vincent Hogan, Chief Features Writer with the *Irish Independent*. As a fan of English for many years, I marvelled at his class and ability, without every knowing the person. His intention was to write an honest book, which is precisely what anybody would expect from the Cullen wizard. The selection of Vincent Hogan was prudent for many reasons, and he subscribed to the ethos of honesty.

*Beyond the Tunnel* is an excellent read. A worthwhile story is well told, but the pace of the text is its essential ingredient. There is so much 'action' that the story doesn't sag until reflection is called for towards the end. The forlorn image of a wounded hero on the front cover is not how I will remember Nicky. He will always be the hurler supreme, capable of scoring by hand, boot or hurley. He was a colourful player, resplendent in the blue and gold.

The story begins at the end – the Munster Final replay of 1996. The self-doubt, the uncertainty about the whole process of attaining the level of fitness was a far cry from the dashing swash-buckler of the 1987-1989 era, when Nicky was at his peak. Yet if the referee



Nicky English, with Walter Coakley, General Manager, AIB, at the launch of his autobiography, "Beyond the Tunnel", in the AIB Centre, Ballsbridge, Dublin.



Nicky English is fouled as he heads goalwards against Limerick in this year's championship.

had awarded the free when the jersey was pulled, in the closing minute of the drawn Munster Final, Nicky would have been the hero – the super sub! His appreciation of the substitute's role is frank and informative. They are seated in unsettling detachment from the field of dreams. The gloom of the small dressing room in Cork, his best hurley being broken and the error of replacing John Leahy led to a miserable 1996.

There's a lot of pessimism in Nicky's story. It mainly concerns his injuries, and the games he missed as a result of them. There's the vivid reflection of being alone in a dressing room when injured and being of no practical use – to the team or management.

Nicky's early attempts to become a hurler were not easy. He had some allies, but really it was his own determination to succeed which enabled him to



persevere. He was even called a coward when he was young! The influence of Michael Ryan and Paddy Kelly at the Abbey C.B.S. was hugely significant to the English development. Did Michael think Nicky would join Arravale Rovers after bringing him to Croke Park? I loved the question from Pat Fox when some youngsters were travelling to Minor Hurling trials – "Who is English?" he asked, reading from a list of players. This particular duo developed a famous scoring partnership in later years, but in the back seat then Nicky was too shy to identify himself.

The significant influence of Fr. O'Brien (later to be Canon) on Nicky's career is recorded during those halcyon Fitzgibbon Cup days with U.C.C. There's a lot of humour in this particular segment. The Canon, of course, performed the English/Cooke wedding ceremony in November 1989, and followed up by stealing Tipperary's Munster and All-Ireland Cups in 1990? Perhaps Nicky should have uttered one of his speeches in the Tipp dressing room before the game!

Nicky's respect for what 'Babs' did to lift the county is obvious. So too the acknowledgment that players must be well treated. But 'Babs' didn't escape all criticism and his errors are noted. This despite an early admission that he was Nicky's hero! A great respect also emerges for Donie Nealon, who was always capable of looking coldly at a game and responding to the flow of play. His retirement from the selection committee was a major loss to Tipperary. The brilliance of Ger O'Neill was correctly highlighted. Unfortunately after a successful spell at Minor and U-21 his Senior career was short and unconvincing. How great it was to see him involved with the successful Tipp Minor team of 1996!

The problems of captaincy in 1988, 1989 and 1993 are recalled and supporters will agree that the 1988 and 1993 situations were handled very badly.

Nicky rates his 1988 N.H.L. semi-final v. Waterford as his best performance. He was impeccable that day, but the game was a runaway. He has played more important games for Tipp, where touches of genius won the day!

The absence of physical strength was addressed by the arrival of Phil Conway as trainer for the 1989 campaign. The change in emphasis made the difference. Liam Hennessy subsequently filled the role of trainer, but he was much more to the players and this wasn't always known. He was in many ways the best communicator around. It's amazing the amount of useful work which can be done quietly.



Referee John Denton (Wexford) dismisses Sylvie Linnane (Galway) in the 1989 All-Ireland Senior Hurling semi-final.

Declan Carr's verbal outburst, as captain in 1991, amid newspaper stories of bad morale, is highlighted as significant in that year. Carr took quite a risk with his candour, but the subsequent results proved it was worthwhile. There is a sub-theme running through the book of players and selectors not reading the same signals. There is also criticism of team selections (e.g. the 1990 Munster Final team) and the choice of particular players. In the midst of it all, Joe Hayes keeps appearing – delivering pinpoint passes to Nicky, calling him on the mobile phone, or protecting him from the mob when injured in battle. Wasn't it only fitting that Joe should launch this book? After all, Niall Quinn didn't win any All-Ireland medal! Joe must surely be heading for the commentator's box, after a lifetime apprenticeship.

Nicky was forgiving in consideration of opponents, who perpetrated foul play against him. The 'Cork player' who disfigured him in 1993 wasn't named, various Waterford and Galway players were also pardoned and he goes so far as to admit that Sylvie should not have been put off in 1989. Wrong, Nicky! The relevant Wexford umpire gave me the real story, in late 1989. Sylvie had to go!

The importance of attention to public comments and gestures towards opponents is identified also. The most unintentional comment or facial expression can come back to haunt you – even when it is misinterpreted. Both 'Babs' and Nicky discovered this to their team's cost.

Nicky didn't evade the Miss Ireland story, which could have caused personal disaster in other cases. It is well handled, had a satisfactory conclusion, but should never have arisen. The irony was they had never met and Ms Treacy subsequently passed him in the street, without recognising the face of a six-time All Star! I think Nicky forgave her for that.

The wheel turned full circle in Nicky's years. From the huge throngs of

followers in the 1987-91 era to more modest numbers in '96, from All-Ireland victories to fighting relegation in the 1989/90 and 1994/95 Leagues, from a record 2-12 in the '89 Final to more mundane totals, from blinding pace to unwilling legs. He has been there and done that!

In relation to supporters, Nicky is of the view that club supporters are more loyal and less critical than those who wear the county colours. His County Junior hurling title won in 1992 gave him as big a thrill as anything won in a Tipperary jersey. His loyalty to Lattin/Cullen endured throughout the years and was complemented by the Intermediate County Final victory on November 17th last. At last his club has acquired Senior status.

Denis Mulcahy (Cork) was the toughest player encountered in his career. What will he take most from the game? The friendship and the sense of loyalty, which can only be developed among colleagues.

Nicky will always be grateful to the selectors for starting him in the 1991 All-Ireland Final, despite a catalogue of injuries. He reckoned that the free-in from which Michael Cleary's shot was deflected to the Kilkenny net was a harsh decision. (Don't become a referee, Nicky!). Of course, he knew it wouldn't have mattered anyway, because Fox had demanded the ball before the game, telling the team he would take Kilkenny apart. He did, Tipp won, Nicky went off injured and Fox became Hurler of the Year.

This book is a compelling read and I enjoyed it immensely. My impression of Nicky is that of a decent man, who was proud to hurl and suffered a lot to contribute to Tipperary's cause. Injury wasn't far away but it's the quality of his play which will always be remembered. For the inside story as it really was, it will be hard to beat this for balance and honesty.



# The Gospel according to Babs

*Reviewed by J.J. Kennedy (Westside of the Nationalist).*

I suppose it was inevitable that the 'Babs' Keating story would eventually go to print. All the colourful ingredients for a good read were there. A legend in Irish Sport, trumpets the book's subtitle. Donal Keenan, the book's very visible 'ghost', described the man as larger-than-life at the launch. You can quibble here or there with the terms but you can't deny the man's stature. Babs is a big figure and a book on him doesn't lack for material.

The book's very span has to take in a broad sweep and while there are reservations in other areas, this is one of its merits. It careers along briskly, the story told in the fast lane, leaving the reader little opportunity to get bored. The book's panorama takes the reader through an eventful tale from the man's outstanding playing days to his successful managerial career. Side issues like horses and dogs add other dimensions. And always there's heat and controversy.

Essentially you could divide this book into two sections: Babs as player and Babs as manager. I must confess to finding the former section the more satisfying. That's perhaps an ominous judgement because apart from the '71 all-Ireland and the few declining years of his career that followed, I was a mere boy when Babs won his two all-Irelands in the sixties. Maybe ignorance is bliss and I can accept and enjoy what he says about the sixties in a manner that I find difficult with events that I'm more familiar with.

The early days of boyhood growing up in Grange and the influences that shaped

his outlook make pleasant reading. That nickname can't have been a blessing but I suppose it became something of a badge as he established himself as a player of major potential. Three all-Ireland minor defeats must have shaken the faith but he kept loyal and quickly graduated to play among the 'big boys'. And Tipp had the biggest of the lot those days.

The story of Babs' reaction to joining such prestigious company and his reflections on the moods and personalities makes lively reading although as always with Babs there are illogicalities and contradictions all over the place. There's implicit criticism of Paddy Leahy for not taking greater care of players and the loss of Tom Ryan to Tipperary is particularly bemoaned. But while leaving players to solve their own woes is criticised here, in the next breath there's praise for such a character building approach.

For those of us without memories of the early sixties it's always an experience to watch film footage of those years. The game seemed much more rough-and-tumble than now with players battling their individual corners but seeming to have little awareness among those Tipperary teams where players constantly discussed how to maximise advantage on opponents, how to place the ball for forwards, how defenders would react in situations etc. An interesting little detail is where Tony Wall was very interested in Babs' football penchant for catching the overhead ball rather than pulling on it, which was the natural instinct of Wall's generation.

As always the controversies are there. The rivalry with Kilkenny became intense and bitter. There are the battle of Nowlan Park, very similar to Billy Rackard's account of the battle of New Ross. And like Rackard upending a Corkman, Babs glories in his uppercut that dazed Pa Dillon in a clash that got both of them sent off. And there's the league final fracas of '68. Into the seventies then and there was the league match in Thurles where Liam King was involved onfield and Babs, in his own words, drove Gerald McCarthy back against the wall on the way to the dressing rooms. An inquiry landed Babs another suspension. It all reads very macho and you can't escape the irony when he criticises others for lack of discipline later on.

But I suppose for younger generations it's the managerial side that will draw most attention. It's a section not without appeal but overall my judgement here is less complimentary. Perhaps there are personal reasons colouring my view, local columnists taking a dig on a few occasions although without reference to specific detail. On a broader spectrum though it appears to me that this section is massively defensive in tone. And it's patently inaccurate in some details.

Remember the 1991 Munster final in Thurles and Declan Ryan's foul on Jim Cashman? Are you sure you remember it? The Babs version, I tell you, will leave you bemused. Not even a blinkered Tippman could credit such a blinkered version of the incident as Babs offers. You can read the details yourself and I'll merely quote two of his concluding comments. "He



At a book signing in the Post Bookshop, Clonmel, Babs Keating gives Gus Nugent a copy of his book.



(Declan) did pull and got the ball and Jim's hand.... It was an accident, the sort you see every Sunday.... The referee, Terence Murray, was standing right beside it and he read it as legitimate".

Legitimate? Did the referee not pull Declan aside and book him while Tipp fans held their breaths fearing a sending off? Legitimate? Come off it, Babs, there are some wild comments that can be put down to your looseness of tongue but this is totally off-the-wall.

Speaking of Declan Ryan leads on nicely to the player sketches near the end of the book. Declan's profile is one of the more fascinating ones capturing as it does the sheer enigma of an outstanding player who was so vital to the team and yet could play so inexplicably bad at times. Babs was puzzled and felt an inability to get through to Declan.

The absence of Michael Cleary from the sketch parade has been widely commented on and one assumes that it was a most unfortunate accidental omission. In fact the book in general was very poorly proof read such is the multitude of print errors. Noel Sheehy's profile is included but fails badly to give the player the credit his hurling deserved. Perhaps this is connected to Babs' assertion that Noel wasn't good at taking criticism. There are also critical comments about Declan Carr following the '91 all-Ireland. Carr was another prone to assert his views and, you know, one can't avoid the conclusion that perhaps Babs was the one worst of all at taking criticism.

The controversies over captaincy take up a large space in the book. The drop-

ping of Pa O'Neill and Pat McGrath are vigorously defended with the Cappawhite parish priest getting unwelcome mention for a letter that he wrote to Babs saying the manager had slighted the people and the place. A curious aspect I find in the book is that whereas Babs goes almost prostrate in apologising for the way they treated Richard Stakelum, he has no such concern for others like O'Neill and McGrath. Then again Stakelum's dropping never stirred controversy. As I said, it's a defensive self-justifying book.

The famous donkey comment is yet another where Babs stretches credibility in his explanation. There was only one way the comment could be interpreted and Cork interpreted it that way. It was part of the mood at that stage in Tipperary where a few years of dominance over Cork had led to over-confidence. The match programme at that final carried a piece from the Tipp. P.R.O. stating, "Cork lack players of real class and every team hoping to win an all-Ireland needs three or four such players". These are haunting words now and that final must have haunted Babs too with a team that had Johnny Leahy full-forward, Pat Fox substituted at half-time and two Bonnars on the sideline before Colm came on and nearly saved the day in the second half.

Individual details aside, one of my problems with this book is the first person narrative. The 'I' persona begins to grate on one's tolerance after a while and one is reminded that self-praise is no praise. It would be interesting to count the number of times 'I was right' or a version thereof appears in the book where it becomes a

type of self-congratulatory ego trip. My problem with Babs is that as time passed he became utterly intolerant of any criticism, almost as if he was believing the hype about himself. He was the guru and neither columnists nor anyone else were allowed challenge his judgement.

In a book that covers many areas and many issues my review has, of necessity, to be brief and selective. The Keady affair that clouded the 1989 win is dealt with in some detail as is the controversial homecoming after that year's all-Ireland. Again Babs is on the defensive; nothing was wrong, he was right and damn the detractors. There's a section near the end on the state of hurling, claiming that the game is dying and the powers in Croke Park take a heavy bashing for their attitude. The dropping of Theo is another issue that will interest although here there's a lack of specifics on the difference of opinion.

The book is very definitely 'Babsian' in style, fast talking and brash. You get the impression that he's constantly searching for the witty one-liner to live up to the image. His achievements were outstanding, both as player and manager, but I feel he became a victim of his own colour. It's as if he believed he was the Messiah — one of those silly terms some people kept using about him. It left him more interested in winning games on the sideline than on the field and made him utterly intolerant of criticism. After all if I'm the Messiah then everyone else must be wrong.

The Michael Keating story is written by Donal Keenan and published by Storm Books. It's entertaining. It's saleable. It's Babsian.



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# Scór – a busy year

1995/96 has been an extremely busy but also a hugely successful year for Tipperary and Coiste Scór Thiobraid Árann.

The beginning of the year saw a packed capacity in St. Michael's Hall, Holy Cross for the Scór na nÓg county final. There was an abundance of talent, who did their clubs very proud on the night and subsequently the winners did the county proud at the Munster semi-final in Cappamore, followed by the Munster Final in the Regal Theatre, Clonmel. Moycarkey-Borris Nuachleas, Clonoulty-Rossmore Tráth na gCéist agus Borrisoleigh Bailéad Ghrúpa were chosen here to represent Munster in the All-Ireland Scór na nÓg Final. We were to be no strangers to this All-Ireland as the Premier Hall, Thurles was to be the venue. Saturday, the 17th of February was a day to remember, as months of work came to fruition. The day went smoothly we could hardly ask for more . . . but of course even one win would have really made it!! Tráth na gCéist was to give us our first winner with Clonoulty-Rossmore taking the laurels in an exciting competition. We had to wait for our other results.

Nuachleas was to be Moycarkey-Borris' on the night, "Moycarkey's Boys Hurrah" greatly deserving their All-Ireland Medals. Borrisoleigh Bailéad Ghrúpa in a very close competition were not so fortunate on the night but they did themselves and the county proud. We could not have had such a success story but for the support of so many. I would like to take this opportunity to thank most sincerely all our sponsors, the entire event was wholeheartedly supported by Scór people from all corners. We can be all very proud of our involvement in this hugely successful All-Ireland.

Still reeling in our All-Ireland exper-

ience, six days later we had another packed venue in Halla na Féile, Cashel for our Scór Sinsear County Final. From the results here we were represented well in the Munster semi-final and those that won here did us proud at the Munster Final. Munster chose Newcastle Bailéad Ghrúpa agus J. K. Brackers Rince Set from closely fought competitions for the All-Ireland Scór Sinsear Final in Athlone R.T.C. on Saturday 20th April. It hardly seemed possible but here we added two more All-Ireland titles to the Premier County.

Our All-Ireland success this past year has been quite extraordinary. The hard work, dedication and commitment of those involved has been fruitful. All these many people have our congratulations.

Our year nearly at an end saw a packed attendance in Halla na Féile, Cashel for the County Final of Scór na bPáistí. All our young people gave us a great night with a wonderful show of talent and enthusiasm from all Divisions. This year we saw the competition go from strength to strength again.

Our Finale cannot be forgotten with a Dinne Dance in The Ragg. Here we paid tribute to our victorious All-Ireland teams with inscribed plaques presented to those involved. We hope this was a fitting gesture to their achievements. Most importantly a presentation was made to our former secretary Kathleen King of a Tynan Glass Mirror. Kathleen and her husband Liam were present as we honoured her work and commitment to Scór in her years as county secretary. May I take this opportunity to thank most sincerely Kathleen for all her help and kindness to me during the past year.

Maria Morrissey  
Rúnaí

## Scór na nÓg County Final Winners

Rince Foirne Seán Treacy's  
Amhránaíocht Aonair Moyne-Templeuohy  
Ceol Uirlise Seán Treacy's  
Nuachleas Moycarkey-Borris  
Tráth na gCéist Clonoulty-Rossmore  
Aithriseoireacht Borrisoleigh  
Bailéad Ghrúpa Borrisoleigh  
Rince Set Borrisoleigh

## Scór na nÓg Munster Final Winners

Nuachleas Moycarkey-Borris  
Tráth na gCéist Clonoulty-Rossmore  
Bailéad Ghrúpa Borrisoleigh

## Scór na nÓg All-Ireland Winners

Nuachleas Moycarkey-Borris  
Tráth na gCéist Clonoulty-Rossmore.

## Scór Sinsear County Final Winners

Rince Foirne Newcastle  
Amhránaíocht Aonair Seán Treacy's  
Ceol Uirlise Mullinahone  
Nuachleas Mullinahone  
Tráth na gCéist Mullinahone  
Aithriseoireacht Boherlahan-Dualla  
Bailéad Ghrúpa Newcastle  
Rince Set J. K. Brackens.

## Munster agus All-Ireland Scór Sinsear Winners

Bailéad Ghrúpa Newcastle  
Rince Set J. K. Brackens

## Scór na bPáistí County Final Winners

Rince Foirne: Gortnahoe-Glengoole  
Amhránaíocht Aonair: Seán Treacy's  
Ceol Uirlise: Clonoulty-Rossmore  
Nuachleas: Ballylooby  
Tráth na gCéist: Templederry  
Aithriseoireacht: Moycarkey-Borris  
Bailéad Ghrúpa: Ballina  
Rince Set: Gortnahoe/Glengoole.



Co. Scór Committee: (L. to r.): Joan Ryan (treasurer); Joe O'Halloran (chairman); Maria Morrissey (secretary)  
(Photo: Seamus Bourke)



Joe O'Halloran making presentation to Kathleen King. (Photo: Seamus Bourke)





Newcastle All-Ireland Scór champions in the Ballad Group. Front row (l. to r.) Mary Nugent, Annette Nugent, Michelle Nugent. Back row: (l. to r.) Michael Nugent, Jacinta Nugent, Jack Boothman (Uachtarán C.L.C.G.), Tomás O'Keefe, Denis Bourke (Bús Éireann), Nellie Nugent.  
(Photo: Seamus Bourke)



Clonoulty/Rossmore – All-Ireland Scór na nÓg champions (Question Time). Front row (l. to r.): Jimmy Doyle, Seamus Ryan, Tadhg Bourke. Back row (l. to r.): Jack Boothman (Uachtarán C.L.C.G.), Seamus McGrath (Munster Chairman of Scór)  
(Photo Seamus Bourke)



Sean Treacys – Co. Scór na nÓg figure dancing winners with Joe O'Halloran, Co. Scór chairman and Sean Fogarty with Noreen Devitt, Elaine Berkerry, Susan O'Gorman, Caitriona Reynolds, Brema Berkerry, Adrienne O'Gorman, David Ryan and Catherine Keane.



Borrisoleigh – All Ireland Set Dancing Champions Scór na nÓg 1995. Seated: (l. to r.) Seamus Farrell, Michelle Maher, Marguerite Ryan, Bernadette Stapleton, Helen Carroll, Martin Maher. Back: Declan Maher, Pierce Ryan



Borrisoleigh – Munster Scór na nÓg Winners 1996 in Ballad Group. Seated: (l. to r.) Maria Ryan, Ann Kenny. Back Row: Sinead Stapleton, Ann Ryan, Lorraine O'Dwyer



Elaine Kenny, Borrisoleigh, Co. Winner of Recitation Scór na nÓg, 1996



# Mid Tipperary Scór 1995-1996

Nora Troy (P.R.O.)

**T**he Scór Committee had a very successful season in the Division, it was very rewarding for two clubs winning All-Ireland honours – Moycarkey-Borris Novelty Act in Scór na nÓg and J. K. Brackens set dancing team in Scór Sinsear, we were glad that their commitment and perseverance paid off.

Aine Hassett (solo song) went on to win the county final, unluckily in Munster, also Moycarkey won Novelty Act in Scór na nÓg. Recitation Tim Joe McGrath won county senior Scór recitation, unluckily in Munster also senior set won. We had three category winners in county Scór na bPaistí final, which finishes at county level, Gortnahoe/Glengoole won both figure and set dancing and Marie T. Purcell won recitation.

It was good when the Moycarkey Novelty team on home ground won All-Ireland Scór na nÓg in Premier Hall on 17th February, this group gave great enjoyment to all competition audiences on way to All-Ireland final. Well done to the boys, Roger Heffernan, Chris Gooney, Martin Kevin and Matthew Shortall, Martin, Kevin and Joseph O'Dwyer to their mentors Paddy and Josie Cooney and Margaret O'Connell. Congratulations to the West division on their winners of the question time.

It was nice to travel to Athlone to cheer on our senior set dancers J. K. Brackens in the All-Ireland on 20th April, there was

	Scór na nÓg	Scór Sinsear	Scór na bPaistí
Rince Foirne	Upperchurch-Drombane	Upperchurch-Drombane	Gortnahoe/Glengoole
Solo Song	Aine Hassett Moyne Templetuohy	Ann Hassett Moyne-Templetuohy	Claire Quinn Upperchurch/Drombane
Ceol Uirlise	Boherlahan/Dualla	Upperchurch/Drombane	Boherlahan/Dualla
Nuachleas	Moycarkey/Borris	J. K. Brackens	Upperchurch/Drombane
Question Time	Moyne/Templetuohy	J. K. Brackens	Upperchurch/Drombane
Recitation	Murtagh Brennan	Tim Joe McGrath	Marie T. Purcell
	Loughmore/Castleiney	Boherlahan/Dualla	Moycarkey/Borris
Bailéad Ghrupa	Moyne/Templetuohy	Moyne Templetuohy	Moyne Templetuohy
Set	J. K. Brackens	J. K. Brackens	Gortnahoe/Glengoole

great jubilation when results were announced, especially as our friends in South Newcastle ballad group had won previous competition on the night, it was a second for Johnny Delaney as the set had won a few years back as Clonmore. Afterwards everyone went to Athlone G.A.A. Centre where the celebrations went on till dawn. Then on Sunday night their bus was met by a large crowd outside Clonmore village and the 'hooley' continued till dawn also.

Coiste Scór Thiobraid Arann had a celebratory dinner in Centenary Rooms, The Ragg, where the four clubs were presented with suitably inscribed plaques, it was a most enjoyable night. The Mid Scór Committee were glad to be involved in the arrangements for the staging of All-Ireland Scór na nÓg here in February, which was a great success.

The committee were delighted to welcome for the first time Knock in the Scór competition. Coiste Scór Thiobraid Arann

Mheán wishes to thank the host clubs for their help during the season, the Greens for their great music at all our competitions. Our sponsors Thurles Credit Union, John Kennedy Centenary Rooms, The Ragg, Thurles A.C.C., Tivoli Cleaners, Grants and Kinane's, publicans, Upperchurch, Thurles Livestock Mart and Tycon Auto Spares.

Congratulations to Boherlahan/Dualla hurlers on their great win, delighted to see them crowned county champions after such a long wait. >

**Elected officers:** Chairman: John Delaney (J. K. Brackens); Vice-chairman: Paddy Cooney (Moycarkey); Runi: Breda Corcoran (Upperchurch); Cisteoir and P.R.O.: Nora Troy (Thurles Sarsfields); Delegate to Munster: Joan Ryan (Upperchurch). Delegates to county: Josephine Kenny (Gortnahoe), Breda Corcoran (Upperchurch); Paddy Cooney (Moycarkey)



J. K. Brackens, All-Ireland senior set dancing champions 1996. Front row (l. to r.): Sadie Bergin, Jane Bergin, Jack Boothman (Uachtaran C.L.C.G.), Catherine Meehan, Martin Fogarty, Denis Bourke (Bus Éireann). Back row (l. to r.): Mary Greene, Michael Greene, John Maher, Laurence Leahy, Frankie Bourke, Johnny Delaney, John Greene, Davy Brearton.

(Photo: Seamus Bourke)



Moycarkey-Borris, All-Ireland Scór na nÓg champions in the novelty act: Front row (l. to r.): Joe O'Dwyer, Christy Gooney, Dermot O'Dwyer, Kevin Shortall, Matthew Shortall. Back row (l. to r.): Jack Boothman (Uachtaran C.L.C.G.), Roger Heffernan, Thomas O'Dwyer, Martin Shortall, Seamus McGrath (Munster Chairman of Scór)

(Photo: Seamus Bourke)



# SCÓR - NORTH TIPPERARY



Templederrey Novelty Act Team - North Scór na bPaistí Champions. Standing - left to right: Seamus O'Leary, Tara Kennedy, Orla Kelly and Michelle McGrath. Front row - left to right: Tom McLoughney, Caitriona Madden, Johnny Harkins and Sarah Foley.



Templederrey Set Dancers - North Scór na bPaistí champions. Back, left to right: Sarah Fogarty, Martina Kennedy, Jackie Shanahan, Michelle McGrath. Front: Helen Shanahan, Michelle Hogan, Catherine Shanahan, Elizabeth Ryan.



Templederrey Question Time Team - Scór na bPaistí North Champions - Left to right: Seamus O'Leary, Helen Shanahan and Thomas Coughlan.



"The Guilty Child" - North Final 1996 (Recitation) Scór na bPaistí. Sarah Fogarty, Templederrey.



Portroe Ballad Group - North Senior Scór Winners - Back row - left to right: Alison Lawlor, Sarah Madden, Riva Lawlor. Front row: Billy Power and Nicky Cottrell.



Linda Scanlon (Borrisoleigh) - North Senior Scór (Solo Song) winner.



Figure Dance, Templederrey North winners Scór na bPaistí. Front row: Catherine Shanahan, Catriona Kennedy, Elizabeth Ryan. Back row, left to right: Helen Shanahan, Sarah Fogarty, Martina Kennedy, Jackie Shanahan, Michelle McGrath.





## Kilnoone McDonagh Set Dancing Group

*Kilnoone McDonagh Set Dancing Group – North Senior Scór winners. Back row left to right: Sean Hogan, Anthony Heffernan, Peter Hennelly, Oliver Moroney. Front – Stella O'Reilly, Majella Reddin, Yvonne Heffernan, Elaine Heffernan.*

## Portroe Novelty Act Group

*Portroe Novelty Act Group, North Tipperary Scór winners. Back Row, left to right: John Sheehy, Nan Kelly, Stephen Egan, Jamie Byrnes. Front Row - Kathleen Connors, San Creamer and Caroline Egan.*



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*Yearbook Quiz 1996 winners receiving their Tipperary Crystal prizes in Dundrum House Hotel. Left to right: Michael Cahill, Kilruane-MacDonagh's, Seamus J Kin, Chairman Communications Committee, Patricia Walsh, Cappawhite and Joe Moloney, Moycarkey-Borris*



# Tipperary Handball '96

**I**T WAS another busy year for Tipperary handball with some great success, winning seven All-Ireland titles, All-Ireland Community Games title and a long list of Munster titles to bring great memories for '96 year to Tipperary.

## Coleman wins All-Ireland

Paul Coleman (Ballina) won the All-Ireland 40/20 U17 singles title in the month of May. Paul had an impressive year with a great championship to win his first All-Ireland of his career.

Paul had wins over T. Naughton (Clare), A. O'Dwyer (Cork), J.P. Kennedy (Waterford) in the Munster championship. Then in the All-Ireland semi-final, he had a superb win over R. Maughan (Mayo) in Roscommon. In the All-Ireland final, Paul turned in a brilliant display in Croke Park to easily beat Terry Kieran (Monaghan) 21-3, 21-7 to lift Tipperary's best ever U17 singles title.

21-11 in the final in the Garda Depot Dublin. Mark who had wins over Frank Semple (Wicklow), Pat Ryan (Ballyporeen) and Martin Kiely (Limerick) on his way to the final.

mon).

In the final, Jim was out of luck. After winning the 1st game 21-30 against Raymond Breen (Wexford), he injured his leg and was unable to continue so Breen lifted



*Irish Nationals 'B' Singles Final*

Sean McEntee presenting Sean Devine (Antrim) winner and Pat Flaherty (Youghalarra) runner-up with their prizes.



*Presentation of sponsorship by Thurles Fresh Milk. Left to right: Pat McKenna, Chairman Co. Board; Brian Darcy, Nenagh; Tom Aherne, Thurles Fresh Milk.*



*Irish Nationals U19 Singles Final.*

Fiona McKenna (Antrim) winner and Grainne Shanahan (Silvermines) runner-up.

## Carol lifts All-Ireland

Carol Moloney (Cashel) won the All-Ireland 40/20 Junior singles title in April.

Carol had three wins in her success, beating Susan Ennis (Dublin) 21-7, 21-8 in the quarter final. Then in the semi-final, she had a tough 21-13, 21-12 win over Adrienne Fleming (Dublin). In the final, she played superbly to overcome the highly fancied Roisin Faulkner (Cavan). After losing the 1st game 21-4, Carol came back well to win the 2nd game 21-16 and the 3rd game 21-13 to win the Junior singles title and this will lift her into the Senior ranks for the '97 season.

## Flynn wins Hardball

Mark Flynn (Silvermines) won the All-Ireland Junior hardball singles title in the month of June.

Mark beat Paddy Hope (Offaly) 21-12,

## Six 40/20 Munsters

Tipperary adult handballers won six Munster 40/20 titles in '96.

Jim O'Brien (Silvermines) won Tipperary's 1st Munster 40/20 title with a runaway win over Tom O'Brien (Limerick) in Nenagh. In the All-Ireland semi-final, Jim had a hard fought 21-15, 16-21, 21-17 win over Anthony O'Donnell (Roscom-

ed the Junior singles title.

Eddie Corbett (Ballyporeen) won the Munster 40/20 Senior Singles for the 5th year in-a-row with wins over Paul Walsh (Clare) and John Herlihy (Cork) but in the All-Ireland final, Eddie never reached his best form and lost out to M. "Duxie" Walsh (Kilkenny) 21-7, 21-14 in Ballymore-Eustace.

Eddie Corbett and Noel Murphy



*Munster 40/20 Junior Singles Champion  
Jim O'Brien (Silvermines).*



*Munster 40/20 Senior Singles and Doubles '96,  
Eddie Corbett (Ballyporeen).*



*Jason Tobin  
(Carrick-on-Suir) Munster 40/20 U21 Singles Winner*



*Munster 40/20 Senior Doubles Champion  
Noel Murphy (Cashel)*



(Cashel) teamed up well for the 1st time to win the Munster Senior 40/20 doubles title with a tough fought win over John Donlon and Paul Walsh (Clare) in Nenagh. But Eddie injured his finger in the singles All-Ireland and was unable to play in the doubles All-Ireland thus Tipperary had to concede the game.

Billy McCarthy (Ballyporeen) won the Munster 40/20 Silver Masters (B) singles title with a good win over Tony Mahoney (Waterford) in the final but in the All-Ireland semi-final in Nenagh, Billy lost out to Bert Keleghan (Galway) 21-7, 14-21, 21-11 in a fine match.

Michael "Bisie" Hogan (Nenagh) turned in a fine performance to beat Jim Kennedy (Cork) 21-20, 21-11 in the Munster Diamond Masters singles final but in the All-Ireland semi-final Michael lost out to Michael Naughton (Roscommon) in Williamstown, Co. Galway.

Jason Tobin (Carrick-on-Suir) won the Munster U21 singles title with a good 21-15, 21-12 win over Anthony O'Brien (Cork) in Cashel. But in the All-Ireland semi-final, Jason went under to Oliver Cassidy (Mayo) 21-17, 21-10 in Ballyhadereen, Co. Mayo.



Munster 40/20 Silver Masters (B) Singles Champion  
Billy McCarthy  
(Ballyporeen).

Munster 60/30 Diamond Masters (B) Singles winner  
Michael "Bisie" Hogan  
(Nenagh).

### *Ryan and Croke win*

Pat Ryan (Ballyporeen) and Kevin Croke (Horse and Jockey) teamed up successfully again this year when they won the All-Ireland 60/30 Junior doubles title in September.

Pat and Kevin won the novice doubles title in '95 and now the Junior doubles title with a devastating 21-12, 21-10 over Christy Joyce and Ray Charles (Westmeath) in the final in Ballina.

In the final, Pat and Kevin turned in a stunning performance of Senior class highs to easily beat the fancied Westmeath pair.

### *Horse and Jockey take All-Ireland*

John Ryan Moore and John Dwyer (Horse and Jockey) won the Silver Masters (B) doubles All-Ireland 60/30 title in September.

The Horse and Jockey pair won the Munster title with a vintage performance to beat Steven Roche and John Frazer (Limerick) 21-17, 7-21, 21-17 in the final.

In the All-Ireland semi-final, they just got the better of Joe Nolan and Noel Rigney (Galway) 14-21, 21-15, 21-16 in Roscommon.

In the All-Ireland final in Ballina, they had a comfortable 21-7, 21-9 win over Seamus Fitzgerald and Martin Blanchfield (Kilkenny) with an excellent performance.

This is Tipperary's 4th Silver Masters (B) doubles title winning in '90, '94, '95 and now '96.

### *Lahorna pair win All-Ireland*

The Lahorna pair of Pat Cleary and David Slattery won their 1st ever All-Ireland title in the month of September.

Pat and David won the All-Ireland 60/30 Emerald Masters (B) doubles in Clonmel with a convincing 21-5, 21-10 win over Brian Murphy and Arthur Gainfort (Wexford). Pat and David have been loyal servants of the Lahorna club over the years and this All-Ireland was just reward for them.

### *McKeogh and O'Shea win All Ireland*

Geddi McKeogh (Ballina) and Vincent O'Shea (Lahorna) won the All-Ireland 60/30 Silver Masters (A) doubles title in September.

Geddi and Vincent won the Munster title with a close win over Billy McCarthy and Ken Conway (Tipperary). In the All-Ireland semi-final, they comfortably beat Tom Derrig and Michael Corbett (Mayo). In the final in Kells, Co. Meath, Geddi and Vincent were in impressive form playing some class handball to beat Gred Sheridan and Patsy Hand (Cavan) 21-17, 21-14 to win Tipperary's 1st ever title in the Silver Masters (A) doubles grade.

### *Ten Munster 60/30 Titles*

Tipperary 60/30 adult handballers won ten Munster 60/30 titles and then went on to win four All-Ireland titles.

Paul Coleman (Ballina) won the Munster 60/30 Minor singles title with a 17-21, 21-14, 21-17 win over Aidan Supple (Ballyporeen) in an all Tipperary Munster final but in the All-Ireland semi-final, Paul lost out to Pdraig Gaffney (Mayo) 9-21, 21-20, 21-15 in a match Paul was most unlucky to lose in.



Munster 60/30 Junior Singles winner Pat Griffin  
(Youghalarra)

Munster 60/30 Emerald Masters (B) Singles Champion  
Pat Gleeson (Lahorna)



Munster 60/30 Minor Doubles winners Aidan Supple and Warren O'Brien (Ballyporeen).



Munster 60/30 Diamond Masters (B) Doubles winners Michael Hogan (Nenagh) and Patsy Tobin (Carrick-on-Suir).

Pat Griffin (Youghalarra) won the Munster Junior singles title with a comfortable 21-12, 21-10 win over John McQuaid (Roscrea) in another all Tipp Munster final. In the All-Ireland semi-final, Pat was most unlucky when he injured his eye, when the ball hit it and just lost out to Martin Golden (Sligo) 21-19, 21-19.

Pat Tobin (Carrick-on-Suir) and Michael "Bisie" Hogan (Nenagh) won the Munster Diamond Masters (B) doubles with an easy win over Louis and Pat Halpin (Clare) but in the All-Ireland final in Clonmel they went under to a very strong Wexford pair of Jimmy King and Tom Byrne 21-10, 21-7.

Aidan Supple and Warren O'Brien (Ballyporeen) did very well winning the Munster Minor doubles title with a great win over Ger and Danny Healy (Cork) 21-20, 18-21, 21-4 in the final in Cullen. In the All-Ireland semi-final, in Killala, Co. Mayo, Aidan and Warren were most unlucky to lose out to Paul Flynn and Pdraig Gaffney (Mayo) 21-15, 21-20 in an exciting match.

Vincent O'Shea (Lahorna) won the Munster Silver Masters (A) singles title with a 21-12, 21-18 win over Billy McCarthy (Ballyporeen) in an all Tipp Munster final. In the All-Ireland semi-final, Vincent started well winning the 1st game 21-14 but lost the next two 21-3, 21-6 to Tom Derrig (Mayo) to make his exit.

Pat Gleeson (Lahorna) won the Munster Emerald Masters (B) singles with an easy



Munster 60/30 Silver Masters (A) Singles Champion  
Vincent O'Shea (Lahorna)

win over Cork in the final. Pat won his All-Ireland semi-final with a 21-12, 21-17 win over Matt Grier (Mayo) but failed in the final when he lost out to Frank Dooley (Kildare) 21-10, 21-6 in Clonmel.



## Success in Community Games

Tipperary handballers had great success at the recent All-Ireland Community Games finals winning gold and two silver in Cashel. U15 girls lifted the gold in superb fashion with a great win over the fancied Carlow team in the semi-final. The team of Alison White, Mary Harding, Ellen Coleman, Jacqueline Kennedy, Donna Corbett and Orla Hickey turned in a high powered performance in the final with an exciting win over Roscommon. The team was very well managed by well-known Cashel lady handballer Elaine Moloney. Special praise for County manager Maureen O'Donoghue who continues to bring success to Cashel. Ballina reached two finals in the girls and boys U13 competition.



*All-Ireland Community Games  
Boys U13 Finalists – Ballina*

Back row: Gerry O'Brien, Enda McKeogh, Shane Hickey. Front row: Thomas Manly, Niall Collins, Ger Coonan.



*All-Ireland Community Games  
Girls U13 Finalists – Ballina*

Back row: Aishling Horan, Nicola Moroney, Marion Coleman. Front row: Aoife Hickey, Tracy Coonan, Maria Hickey.

The boys team of Shane Hickey, Enda McKeogh, Ger Coonan, Neil Collins, Gerry O'Brien and Thomas Manly reached the final with a good win over Kilkenny in the semi-final but in the final, they were most unlucky to lose to Mayo by just eight aces in a close fought final. The team manager Pat Gleeson did an excellent job.

The Ballina girls team of Aoife and Maria Hickey, Tracy Coonan, Alma Horan, Marion Coleman, Nicole Moroney reached the final but met a very strong



*All-Ireland Community Games Champions – Girls Under 15*

Back row: Elaine Moloney (team manager), E. Coleman, O. Hickey, A. White. Front row: D. Corbett, J. Kennedy, M. Harding pictured with Maureen O'Donoghue, Tipperary County Manager.

Roscommon team losing out after putting up an excellent performance. The team manager Chris Hickey was highly praised for a job well done.

Well done to all for their great show at this years Community Games.

## Great Schools performances

Tipperary young handballers did very well in the All-Ireland Schools competition in Croke Park.

Tipperary won four out of the six finals that they were involved in.

Neil Collins (Ballina) did well winning the boys U11 singles title with wins over Dublin and Armagh.

Enda McKeogh and Ger Coonan (Ballina) were easy winners of the boys U11 doubles with wins over Tyrone and Mayo.

Aoife Hickey (Ballina) played very well to win the girls U11 singles with wins over Dublin, Antrim and Mayo.

Darragh Lyons and Michael John Meaney (Ballyporeen) were very impressive to win the boys U13 doubles with a great win over Roscommon.

Maria Hickey and Marion Coleman (Ballina) did well finishing 2nd in the girls U11 doubles losing out to Roscommon.

Tracy Coonan (Ballina) finished 2nd in the girls U13 singles only losing out to Roscommon.



*Tipp players who took part in the  
All-Ireland School's Finals*

Back row: N. Collins, E. McKeogh, D. Lyons, M.J. Meaney, G. Coonan. Front row: A. Hickey, M. Hickey, M. Coleman, T. Coonan.

## Keating wins Intervarsities

Jackie Keating (Cashel) who had a quiet year but in February she won the Ladies Open Intervarsities Singles title with a superb win over Y. Gacquinn (U.C.G.) in the semi-final and in the final Jackie had a runaway win over R. Faulkner (D.I.T.) to win Tipperary's 1st ever ladies title.



*Jackie Keating (Cashel)  
Ladies Open Intervarsities Champion*

## World News

The latest news on the 1997 World Handball Championships which will be held in Canada is that they will take place between 5th and the 9th of August 1997.

The championships will be played in Winnipeg, Canada in three central downtown walking court facilities, each a short walking distance from the other. There will be forty competitions in the four-wall championships for women and men of all age groups. There are also one-wall competitions.

For further information, you can contact Lorcan O'Rourke, Irish Handball Council, Croke Park, Dublin 3 or phone 01-8363802 or 01-8363222.



*Ken Conway (Clonmel)  
County Secretary and current  
Irish Handball Council  
Treasurer*





Munster 40/20 Doubles U15 Girls winners  
Alison White and Mary Harding (Cashel).

### Adult County 40/20 Winners '96

Minor Singles – Brian O'Brien (Silvermines).  
Minor Doubles – Dessie Kelly and Michael Carroll (Ballinahinch).  
U21 Singles – Michael Forde (Silvermines).  
U21 Doubles – Michael and David Forde (Silvermines).  
Novice S – Paul McGrath (Cashel).  
Novice D – Paul McGrath and Michael Carnie (Cashel).  
Junior S – Mark Flynn (Silvermines).  
Junior D – Pat Ryan and John Corbett (Ballyporeen).  
Intermediate S – Josie O'Dwyer (Cashel).  
Intermediate D – Pat and Tony Flaherty (Youghalarra).  
Masters (B) S – Martin Maher (Silvermines).  
Masters (B) D – Geddi McKeogh and Paddy Collins (Ballina).  
Silver Masters (B) S – Billy McCarthy (Ballyporeen).  
Golden Masters (B) S – Frank O'Brien (Ballyporeen).

### Adult County 60/30 Winners '96

Minor Singles – Aidan Supple (Ballyporeen).  
Minor Doubles – Aidan Supple and Warren O'Brien (Ballyporeen).  
U21 S – Derrick Slattery (Lahorna).  
U21 D – Derrick Slattery and Edward Quinn (Lahorna).  
Novice S – John Ryan (Hollyford).  
Novice D – Paul Kinehan and Martin Kelly (Tipp Town).  
Junior S – Pat Griffin (Youghalarra).



Munster 60/30 U13 Doubles winners  
Shane Hickey and Kevin Kennedy (Ballina).

Junior D – Kevin Croke and John Ferncombe (Horse and Jockey).  
Masters (B) S – Bill Dempsey (Clonmel).  
Masters (B) D – Paddy Collins and Paddy Coleman (Ballina).  
Silver Masters (A) S – Vincent O'Shea (Lahorna).  
Silver Masters (B) S – John Ryan Moore (Horse and Jockey).  
Silver Masters (B) D – John Ryan Moore and John Dwyer (Horse and Jockey).

### County Juveniles 60/30 Winners

U10 Singles –  
U10 Doubles – T. Grace and A. Kennedy (Ballina).  
U11 Singles – G. Coonan (Ballina).  
U11 Doubles – N. Collins and G. O'Brien (Ballina).  
U12 Singles – E. McKeogh (Ballina).  
U12 Doubles – M. J. Meaney and Darragh Lyons (Ballyporeen).  
U13 Singles – P. Grace (Ballina).  
U13 Doubles – K. Kennedy and S. Hickey (Ballina).



Munster 60/30 U15 Doubles Champions  
Shane Spillane (Nenagh) and Thomas Mee (Ballyporeen).



Munster 60/30 U14 Doubles winners  
Noel Moroney and David Hickey (Ballina).

U14 Singles – B. Darcy (Nenagh).  
U14 Doubles – D. Hickey and N. Moroney (Ballina).  
U15 Singles – D. Collins (Ballina).  
U15 Doubles – P. Duffy and J. Ryan (Ballina).  
U16 Singles – M. McNamara (Nenagh).  
U17 Singles – P. Ryan (Ballyporeen).  
U17 Doubles – P. Shanahan and D. O'Brien (Hollyford).



Munster 60/30 U17 Doubles Winners  
Paul Shanahan and Dermot O'Brien (Hollyford).



All Munster Champions 60/30 – Ballina  
Back l to r: Lena Riordan, Alma Conroy, Cliona Collins, Louise Barry. Front l to r: Tracy Coonan, Aishling Horan, Aoife Hickey.



## County Juveniles 40/20 Winners

- U10 Singles – G. Coonan (Ballina).
- U10 Doubles – T. Grace and A. Kennedy (Ballina).
- U11 Singles – G. O'Brien (Ballina).
- U11 Doubles – O'Sheehy and N. Collins (Ballina).
- U12 Singles – T. Loneygan (Carrick-on-Suir).
- U12 Doubles – M.J. Meaney and Darragh Lyons (Ballyporeen).
- U13 Singles – A. Kelly (Ballinahinch).
- U13 Doubles – K. Kennedy and S. Hickey (Ballina).
- U14 Singles – B. Darcy (Nenagh).
- U14 Doubles – D. Hickey and N. Moroney (Ballina).
- U15 Singles – J. Egan (Silvermines).
- U15 Doubles – J. Ryan and D. Collins (Ballina).
- U16 Singles – M. McNamara (Nenagh).
- U16 Doubles – D. Tobin and D. Butler (Carrick-on-Suir).
- U17 Singles – P. Coleman (Ballina).
- U17 Doubles – P. Shanahan and D. O'Brien (Hollyford).



Brian Darcy (Nenagh) pictured with President Con Moore and Michael Gregan (Wicklow) winner, after the All-Ireland U14 singles 40/20 final.



40/20 Munster Championships, Alma Conroy, Tracy Coonan and Aoife Hickey.



Munster 40/20 and 60/30 U12 Doubles Champions Michael John Meaney and Darragh Lyons (Ballyporeen).



Feile na Gael All-Ireland semi-finalists  
Back row: Alma Conroy, Rachel Moran, Tracy Coonan. Front row: Maria and Aoife Hickey.



Munster 40/20 U15 Doubles Winners Shane Spillane (Nenagh) and David Collins (Ballina).



Munster U12 and U13 team winners  
Back row: Enda McKeogh, Damian Egan, Shane Hickey, Kevin Kennedy.  
Front row: Michael John Meaney, Darragh Lyons, Ger Coonan.



Feile na Gael All-Ireland 60/30 finalists  
Back row: Kevin Kennedy, David Hickey, Paul Grace. Front: Shane Hickey, Noel Moroney.



Michael McNamara (Nenagh) pictured with Con Moore, President, and Timmy Clifford (Kilkenny) winner, after the All-Ireland U16 singles 40/20 final.



Munster 40/20 and 60/30 U12 Singles Champion Ger Coonan (Ballina).



Munster 40/20 U17 Girls singles winner Elaine Moloney (Cashel).



Feile na Gael 2nd in Skills Test  
David Hickey (Ballina).



# SCOREBOARD

Compiled by Marion Uí Greacháin

## U/12 'A' Championship Final

Drom/Inch	5-1
Templemore	3-1.

## U/12 'B' Championship Final

St. Cronan's	3-1
Knockavilla	0-2

## U/12 'C' Championship Final

Portroe	4-1
Clonakenny	0-0

## U/14 'A' Championship Final

Templemore	4-5
Drom/Inch	1-3

## U/14 'B' Championship Final

Cashel	
Silvermines	

## U/14 'C' Championship Final

Moneygall	2-5
Lorrha	2-3

## U/16 'A' Championship Final

Burgess	3-6
Drom/Inch	0-9

## U/16 'B' Championship

Not completed.

## U/16 'C' Championship Final

St. Cronan's	3-1
Lorrha	0-5

## U/12 'A' League Final

Drom/Inch	3-1
Templemore	0-3

## U/12 'B' League Final

Toomevara	2-1
Kilruane	0-0

## U/12 'C' League Final

Silvermines	1-0
Drangan/Cloneen	0-0

## U/14 'A' League Final

Not completed.

## U/14 'B' League Final

Not completed.

## U/14 'C' League Final

Not completed.

## U/18 Championship

Drom/Inch	1-10
Burgess	1-3

## U/18 Losers' Group

Not completed.

## Senior Championship Final

Toomevara	2-10
Drom/Inch	1-8

## Intermediate Championship Final

Shannon Rovers	0-9
Portroe	0-9



Cathriona Hennessy accepting the Minor Munster Cup from the chairperson of Munster Council, Vera Mackey (Limerick).



Action from the Minor All-Ireland Final. Sinéad O'Sullivan (Tipperary) in possession.

## Replay:

Shannon Rovers	1-4
Portroe	1-0

## Junior 'A' Championship Final

Holycross/Ballycahill	5-8
Templemore	2-9

## Junior 'B' Championship Final

Borrisoleigh	1-4
Drangan/Cloneen	1-3

## Ann Fraser Cup (Senior League)

Toomevara	5-8
Drom/Inch	2-5

## Jimmy Carroll Cup (Intermediate League)

Shannon Rovers	0-8
Portroe	1-3

## John Hogan Cup (Junior 'A' League)

Holycross/Ballycahill	1-6
Drom/Inch	2-2

## Terry Griffin Geaney Cup (Junior 'B' League)

Borrisoleigh	1-4
Clonakenny	1-3



# Intermediate county team 1996

by Martin Kennedy

**A**fter our narrow defeat in 1995 we felt that with a little extra effort, the elusive all-Ireland title could be captured in 1996.

We played in the senior league and were beaten in all four games, but our performances in the game against Clare in Newmarket of Fergus when we were beaten by one point and the game against Cork in Golden when we battled to go ahead after 50 minutes only to succumb to two soft goals, gave hope for the future, but there were ominous signs; There were few players training consistently, lack of real commitment at training because of so little competition for team places.

The writing was on the wall long before a promising position to a new low gradually over the past couple of years. There seems to be a lack of pride in wearing the blue and gold. Clubs are not giving the support required to the county team. Clubs cannot seem to see beyond their own parochial circle. Players and mentors who travel long distances at their own expense have not even the reward of a cup of tea at the end of a session. It is time we looked to big brother, the G.A.A. for some assistance. The successful counties, Cork and Kilkenny get this support. Contrast the effort put into our successful minor hurling team this year. No expense

was spared, no club said "you are training with tonight, forget about your county". If it can be done for the boys why not also for the girls? Until the girls are looked after properly and until such time that each girl has to look over her shoulder at someone breathing down her neck contesting for a team position, then and only then will senior status be achieved. Team beaten by Limerick: Marie Harkins, Tess Burke, Paula Bulfin, Cora Kennedy, Clare Madden, Cath. Burke, Kaiffe Moloney, Meadhbh Stokes, Noelle Kennedy, Triona Bonnar, Helen Kiely, Deirdre Hughes. Sub: Regina O'Meara, Niamh Bonnar.

## County Junior team 1996

by Liam Hogan

**I**t is true to say that our County Junior team were unsuccessful during 1996, as they did not bring any provincial or national honours to the Premier County. In the national league, we reached the later stages of this competition only to be beaten by it's eventual winners Limerick. In the championship, we reached the Munster semi-final and again Limerick were our bogey team, as we lost narrowly to them.

Cork (All-Ireland Junior champions) beat us in the Intermediate Munster final by a small margin. We must ask questions on these performances although we were out of luck, particularly in our games against Limerick in the Junior championship and Cork in the Intermediate championship.

1) Is it due to bad management?

2) Is it due to the non availability of certain players?

3) Is it due to the lack of interest shown by clubs and players?

At some point these questions must be answered and hopefully sooner than later.

In the past year it was impossible to maintain a consistent panel due to factors beyond the control of the selectors e.g. a number of players who were on the team left the country during the summer months to seek summer jobs. This appears to be the trend for third level students for the past number of years. Players because of exam commitments are not prepared to play in the months of April, May and June for fear of injury, and this is the time that the Championship is in full swing. For these reasons and others we could not maintain a regular place. We propose that

the selectors for the coming year organise earlier in the year. Starting with trials and getting a firm commitment from the players for the championship and the League. If there are doubts about the availability of any player or players then the panel should be altered accordingly. This will bring a consistency of numbers attending training and proper preparation can be carried out. No club fixtures should conflict with inter-county matches, at least up to mid-week prior to the game. Management must have the support of all clubs and they must be supportive of their players' involvement with the county team.

We feel if these proposals as suggested are implemented then hopefully the tide will turn and provincial and national titles will come our way.

## Shannon Rovers Camogie Club

**1**996 was yet again a year when we can look back upon and be proud of the year gone by with the success of our Intermediate team.

On the 24th July we played Portroe in the League final in the Ragg and after a very late start we eventually won by 0-8 to 1-3.

In the championship final on Sept. 2nd in Cloughjordan we were once again to face Portroe and after a hard fought game it eventually ended in a draw, 0-8 to 0-8. The replay was fixed for Sept. 28th and credit must be given to both teams for the excellent camogie played in what turned out to be the worst weather conditions we had all year. At half time Portroe led by 1-0 to 0-1 and after a stern talk to the team by Conor Ryan, trainer and coach, we emerged for the second half with a determination that we were not going to lose

this game. When the full time whistle blew we were able to breath a sigh of relief in the knowledge that we had won 2-3 to 1-1. It was a great achievement by

this very young team and especially for the club and we hope that they will go on to greater things next year.



Shannon Rovers Intermediate League and Championship winners 1996. Back: Jean Tierney, Noreen Ryan, Catherine Burke, Teresa O'Meara, Helen Fox, Nora Casey. Middle: Annette Cahalan (Chairperson), Deirdre Quinlan, Helen Brennan, Antoinette Darcy, Maura Cahalan, Brid Morris (Captain), Claire Horan, Margaret Tierney, Mary Leenane, Carmel Tierney, Mary Leenane, Carmel Tierney (Secretary), Conor Ryan (Trainer). Front: Jim Tiernan, Jenny Tierney, Helen Tierney, Carol Brophy, Louise Brennan, Aine Darcy, Catherine Tiernan, Canice Gorman, Nickie and Stacey Gorman.





**Silvermines Camogie Panel – U-12 "C" County Final Winners**

**Back row** – Sandra Griffin, Dawn Toohey, Emma Dunlea, Niamh Keogh, Triona Butler, Emily Dooley, Gráinne Gleeson, Joanne Nolan, Gráinne Mulcahy. **Middle row** – Mairéad O'Donoghue, Edel Ryan, Eileen Kennedy (trainer), Siobhán O'Doherty (captain), Fr. O'Meara C.C., Mary Coughlan, Lisa Toohey. **Front row** – Teresa Kennedy, Denise O'Brien, Joanne O'Brien and Shauna Kennedy.



**Portroe Camogie Club – U-12 County Champions 1996**

**Back** – Ann Hickey and Michael Donnellan (selectors). **Standing (L/R)** – D. Richardson, L. Hickey, O. Seymour, N. Hackett, N. O'Brien, M. Conroy, G. Slattery, E. Ryan, C. Lawlor, T. McLoughlin, N. Hickey, S. Hogan, D. Hennessy, J. O'Brien (trainer). **Kneeling (left to right)** – D. Hickey, M. Dillon, S. Ryan, C. Lewis, A. Kennedy, P. O'Halloran (capt.), M. Gleeson, D. Hogan, M. Sheedy, E. O'Brien and L. Slattery.



**Kilruane MacDonagh's Under-14 Team 1996**

**Back row (L/R)** – S. Sheppard, F. Heffernan, M. Keogh, A. O'Meara, M. O'Meara, S. Kelly, A. O'Brien, H. Costello. **Front row (L/R)** – D. Williams, P. McGrath, K. Starr, J. Hill, G. O'Meara, L. Dwan, P. Costello.



**St. Cronan's Camogie Club, Roscrea – Under-12 "B" Champions 1996**



**BORRISOKANE COMMUNITY COLLEGE U-18 CAMOGIE TEAM**

Photo taken on All-Ireland semi-final day. **Back row (L/R)** – Caitriona Tiernan, Susan Williams, Marie White (captain), Donna O'Meara, Margaret Tierney, Claire Horan. **Front (L/R)** – Una O'Rourke, Sinéad Sullivan, Debbie Carroll, Niamh Larkin, Helen Brennan, Louise Brennan. Subs were Samantha Reid, Yvonne Williams, Helen Tierney, Jean Tierney, Carol Brophy.



# Borrisoleigh Camogie Club win Historic Double

**1996** will go down as the greatest year in Borrisoleigh Camogie club's short existence. Their junior players created history in the club by winning the Junior B championship in the same year under the guidance of club trainer Vincent O'Connor.

The club was formed in 1992 and the first committee was formed under the chairmanship of Michael Ryan (Ballyroan). We have had three girls represent the county at minor level namely Pauline Kennedy, Jacinta Fahey and Deirdre O'Connor and hopefully there will be many more to follow in their footsteps.

The committee would like to thank all the girls from under 12 to Junior for their dedication to the club and to the amount of training they have put in during the year.

The committee would like to thank the business people of the parish for their kind sponsorship during the year and also to the general public for supporting their draws and Church gate collections. The club is going from strength to strength what with the double win of the Juniors and U/16 and 18's doing very well in their respective championships, things are looking very good for the future of Borrisoleigh Camogie club.



Back L to R: Bernadette Stapleton, Brid Ryan, Louise Ryan, Marguerita Ryan, Deirdre O'Connor, Mary Kelly, Helen Carroll, Marian Finn (C), Christine Ryan, Sinead Stapleton, Fiona Ryan, Caroline O'Connor. Front: L to R. Bernie Walsh, Siobhan Stapleton, Linda O'Connor, Jacinta Fahey, Pauline Kennedy, Julie Ryan, Elizabeth O'Connor, Mairead Kennedy, Marie Cowan, Michelle Maher and trainer Vincent O'Connor.



Francis Loughnane (Roscrea) presenting the Terry Geaney/Griffin Cup to the captain of the Borrisoleigh team Helen Carroll after winning the County Junior 'B' Championship.

## Schools camogie

by Martin Quirke

**D**uring the school year '95 — '96 four competitions were played in Tipperary Schools camogie. In the U/18 competition Community College

Borrisokane emerged champions defeating Presentation Clonmel in the final.

Borrisokane also retained their Munster senior title — their third-in-a-row — with

a victory over St. Ruan's, Killenaule. They lost out to arch-rivals, Loughrea — whose star was none other than Denise Gilligan, who contributed so much to Galway's success in the All-Ireland senior final against Cork — in the All-Ireland semi-final.

The U/16 competition was won by Cashel Community School in a very exciting and competitive final they defeated Borrisokane Community College.

The U/14 blitz was again a very entertaining day in Cashel last May. After a series of sporting, exciting games Our Lady's Templemore emerged winners of the A section and St. Joseph's Borrisoleigh were winners of the B section.

Thanks to the County Board for their continued support. Thanks to all who refereed our games and to the clubs for giving the use of their pitches.

Finally thanks to all the teachers who continue to give their time on a voluntary basis so that these young girls can have the opportunities to play the skilful game of camogie and make new friends for life.

Keep up the good work.



Cashel Community School U/16 County School champions Back row: Eithne Ryall, Derbhla Keane, Denise Manton, Mr. John Scully, Sandra Hennessy, Bridgit Tobin, Ms. Ursula Ryan, Grainne Alley, Maree Gerard O'Dwyer, Mary Barron, Maureen McGrath. Front row: Emma Doheny, Norma Coffey, Emily Hayden (Capt.), Maura Tarrant, Una O'Dwyer, Philomena Fogarty.



# TOOMEVARA CAMOGIE CLUB 1996

## Success story continues – Five-in-a-row for Senior girls!

**O**NCE again the Senior team took the headlines in 1996 with a remarkable League and Championship double success. The Ann Frazer victory gave Toomevara its fourth league title in a row, while the championship win saw the achievement of an historic five in a row!

Both finals were played against Drom Inch and while the league final was a relatively easy victory, the county final was a different story. The Toome girls had to call on all their experience on August 25th for a thrilling victory on a scoreline of 2-10 to 1-8.

The Munster club championship first round was against none other than Glen Rovers. The Cork champs proved too strong on the day but Toome can bounce back from this defeat in the near future.

Other outings included an enjoyable tournament in London back in May. Toomevara won out this tournament which was organised by the Tara club who were celebrating their 10th anniversary. This was a great experience for all who travelled.

The year ended on a high note when they travelled to the usual end-of-season tournament – the Kilmacud Sevens. Graded in Division 2, an oversight by the organising committee, Toomevara coasted



At the Toomevara Presentation Dance last February were K. Hughes (secretary), Mrs. Peg Kenny (former Tipperary camogie player), Suzanne Kelly (captain) and John Kennedy (coach), seated with the Munster Club Camogie Cup.

to victory to bring back another title to the parish.

The club's U-12 team had no luck in the championship but won the "B" League final against Kilruane. Other teams did not win titles but gave many fine performances during the year. The U-16 girls

enjoyed the Pan Celtic tournament in Tralee in April, eventually losing to Burgess in the "A" final.

Thanks to all players, parents and officials involved in the club during the past year. Also to our local G.A.A. club for the use of facilities.



**TOOMEVARA SENIOR CAMOGIE TEAM – COUNTY LEAGUE AND CHAMPIONSHIP WINNERS**

**Back row (L/R)** – John Kennedy (coach), Louise Maxwell, Audrey Ryan, Ann Bergin, Nora Dwan, Siobhán Maxwell, Suzanne Kelly, Siobhán Cusack, Aileen Delaney, Áine Fitzpatrick, Deirdre Troy, Natalie Ryan. **Front row (L/R)** – Triona Maxwell, Gráinne Shanahan, Cora Kennedy, Josie Browne, Deirdre Hughes, Regina Hughes, Regina O'Meara, Anne Gleeson, Miriam Maxwell, Noelle Kennedy (captain).



# TOOMEVARA CAMOGIE CLUB 1996



**Toomevara Senior Camogie Team – Winners Div. 2 Kilmacud All-Ireland Sevens.**  
**Back row** – N. Kennedy (captain), G. Shanahan, N. Ryan, N. Dwan, A. Bergin, J. Kennedy. **Front row** – S. Cusack, A. Gleeson, S. Kelly, C. Kennedy, D. Hughes.



**Toomevara U-16 Camogie Team – Finalists Tralee Pan Celtic Tournament.**  
**Back row** – M. O'Meara, M. Cleary, P. Ryan, C. Brislane, A. Fitzpatrick, T. Maxwell, E. Guilfoyle (captain). **Front row** – D. Maher, C. Hackett, L. Woods, L. Maxwell, A. Woods, D. Troy, M. R. Ryan.



**Toomevara Under-12 Panel – Under-12 'B' County League Champions**

**Back row (L/R)** – Gillian Grace, Nicola Cuddihy, Maria Sweeney, Nessa Devaney, Kathleen Kennedy, Aisling O'Neill, Helen Ryan, Brenda Morrissey, Anna-Marie Doran, Triona Dunne and Paula Ryan. **Front row** – Marina Doran, Amy Ryan, Helen Ryan, Olive Ryan, Niamh Kinnane, Áine Shanahan, Brenda O'Meara, Emma Harty, Christina Gleeson, Mary Hassett and Miriam O'Shea.

The following was penned by Pat Kearney, formerly of Kilsheelan and now living in Cahir.

## A MUNSTER FINAL

A feast of hurling, a sporting venue,  
 Tipp and Cork were on the menu,  
 It was a Munster final day,  
 Thurlow town was bright and gay.  
 Crowds poured in by bus and train,  
 Cars were driving head to tail,  
 They came from Carrick and Clonmel town,  
 From Roscrea, Nenagh and Lorrha down.

He went to Hayes's Hotel to be fed,  
 The place was alive with white and red,  
 From Doneraile they came and Duhallow,  
 Bantry Bay, Skibbereen and Mallow.  
 Then we headed off for the field,  
 Touts had tickets, twenty pounds each,  
 Hats or colours, the travellers said,  
 Blue and gold or white and red.

Apples, oranges and chocolate supplied,  
 The last few minerals the hawker cried,  
 Official programmes, one pound each,  
 Schoolboys selling them on the streets.  
 Ice-cream twenty pence a lump,  
 The more you eat, the more you jump,  
 We must get in before the match,  
 The ref was looking at his watch.

The band had finished the Soldiers Song,  
 Then the whistle blew, the game was on;  
 Cork were helped by a summer breeze,  
 But Tipp were playing at their ease.  
 A low ball came in from centrefield,  
 The Cork men struck, the green flag waved,  
 A sideline cut went over the bar,  
 A sixty-five pointed by a Tipperary star.

The second half started at a sizzling pace,  
 Cork got a penalty but the goalie saved;  
 The Tipp full-forward had it all planned,  
 He caught the ball in the palm of his hand,  
 He kicked the ball with his big left boot,  
 And as we looked, the net it shook,  
 But like the giants of other days,  
 Cork set about to wipe out arrears.

Goals were exchanged, a point or two,  
 Cork now had it all to do;  
 Tipp fought every ball and tussle,  
 With might and main and every muscle.  
 Excitement now was at fever pitch  
 When the ref started looking at his watch,  
 The hay is saved and Cork are beaten,  
 But Cork got a point that saved their bacon.



# Templemore win All-Ireland Féile na nGael Division I Camogie title



Templemore – All-Ireland Féile winners 1996. Front Row (l-r): Martin Bourke, Leona Bohan, Shirley Bergin, Laura Bourke, Aileen Brennan, Lorraine Bourke, Claire Grogan, Fiona Connolly, Sarah Kennedy. Back Row (l-r): Kathleen Maher, Andrina Webster, Edel McDermott, Bridín Jones, Norma Maher, Laura Carton, Emma Kirwan, Linda Grogan, Mairéad Bourke.

**T**HERE were great scenes of enjoyment in Walsh Park, Waterford, on Sunday, June 23rd, when Templemore defeated Cork champions, Courcey Rovers, in the All-Ireland Féile na nGael Division I camogie final, on the score 2-10 to 1-3.

Since the competition started 26 years ago it was the first time a Tipperary team won the national Division I title, and in the process they accounted for teams from Waterford, Wexford, Kilkenny, Cork and Galway. Over the three days, the team played five games, winning all five with comfortable margins.

To qualify for Féile na nGael, Templemore had to win their own county U/14A championship, and this they did in convincing fashion, defeating Thurles by 9-10 to 1-2, Toomevara by 5-9 to 1-0, and in the final From/Inch on the score 3-10 to 1-5.

Their first game in Féile was played on Friday morning, June 2, in De La Salle, and resulted in an easy win over our hosts for the weekend, Rathnure, from Wexford, on the score 5-6 to 1-0.

Their third game on Friday evening resulted in an easy win over the Rower/Inistioge on the score 6-1 to 1-0. Templemore were never in any danger in this game and at the interval they led by 3-1 to 1-0.

As winners of their group, Templemore played the runners-up of the other group, Oulart-The Ballagh, in the semi-final. This game was played on Saturday morning and was the Templemore girls' most difficult game, finally winning by five points (1-6 to 1-1).

The final took place on Sunday, in Walsh Park, and after a fairly evenly contested first half in which Templemore led at the interval by a point (0-5 to 1-1), they

defeated Courcey Rovers on the score 2-10 to 1-3.

Cork opened the scoring with a point after two minutes, but two minutes later Claire Grogan equalised. After 9 minutes Templemore led by 0-3 to 0-1, but in the tenth minute a Norma Maher save resulted in a Cork goal as the rebound was tapped into the net by a loose forward. Templemore quickly regained the initiative, and two Linda Grogan points left them ahead at the interval by 0-5 to 1-1. It was still anybody's game, but Templemore were unfortunate not to have scored two goals with the crossbar denying Linda Grogan on one occasion and a shot by Claire Grogan just inches wide.

On resumption, Linda Grogan stretched the Templemore lead with a pointed free after one minute. Cork replied with a point from a free a minute later, which was cancelled by a similar score from



Linda Grogan after four minutes. The Templemore defence was outstanding and, try as they might, the Cork attack was unable to penetrate.

The decisive score came in the 9th minute when Linda Grogan beat her opponent a long way out from goal and after a solo run gave the Cork 'keeper no chance to score a great goal. This score gave Templemore great confidence and was quickly followed by two points from Linda and Lorraine Bourke, to open up a 7 points lead (1-9 to 1-2) after 14 minutes. In the 16th minute Clare Grogan rounded off a great performance when she lashed the ball to the Cork net, and minutes later

she added a beautiful point to give Templemore a comfortable 10 points' winning margin. All Templemore players performed well over the five games. Norma Maher was faultless in goal and brought off a number of crucial saves.

The four defenders were outstanding, marked tightly all through, and conceded few scores. Lorraine Bourke and Bridín Jones have great displays at midfield and they were well supported by Sara Kennedy. Laura Carton and Aileen Brennan worked tirelessly on the forward line and the Grogan sisters, Linda and Claire, were in tremendous form. Ten-year-old Claire played well in all five games, scor-

ing 2-7, while Linda went on a scoring spree, scoring 13-21 in the five games.

The team for the five games was as follows: Norma Maher, Edel McDermott, Andrian Webster, Mairéad Bourke, Leona Bohan, Sara Kennedy, Bridín Jones, Lorraine Bourke, Claire Grogan, Laura Carton, Aileen Brennan, Linda Grogan.

Subs: Laura Bourke, Emma Kirwan, Shirley Bergin, Fiona Connolly.

Spare a thought for Ailish Meagher who played in all three championship games, but who was unavoidably absent for the greatest occasion in the 7-year-history of Templemore Camogie Club.

## Burgess Camogie 1996

**H**aving won the Intermediate championship in 1995, Burgess had high hopes of doing well in the senior grade for 1996.

However, a number of prominent players were not available to us due to examinations and injuries, and we were defeated by Toomevara and Drom/Inch. Our senior ladies had the consolation of a good win over Cashel.

Within the under-age groups we knew our U/16 panel, with four county minors in the squad, was something special. So it proved to be, winning the Pan Celtic series in brilliant fashion in Tralee and later the Tipperary 'A' championship, defeating an outstanding Drom/Inch side



Burgess U-16 camogie panel that defeated Drom-Inch in the u-16 'A' County final. Back Row (l-r): John O'Donoghue (Manager), Helena Frawley, Elaine O'Brien, Michelle Slattery (with her sister, Emma), Josephine McKeogh, Marie Mulcahy, Niamh Hogan, Laura Brennan, Anne McKeogh, Lorraine Gleeson, Sheena Howard and Padraig Meagher (mentor). Front: Brian McDonnell (trainer), Olive Slattery, Deirdre Kyne, Amy Kissane, Sinéad Collins (capt.), Eimear McDonnell, Deirdre McDonnell, Ailish Kennedy, Edel Hogan, Olive Gleeson and Liam Hogan (mentor).

in a rousing final to round off a super year for this group.

Our U/14s and U/12s did us proud with some very good performances, without reaching the final stages. Presently our

U/18 ladies, with some hard fought victories, have reached the 'A' final yet to be decided.

**Brian McDonnell**

## MONEYGALL CAMOGIE CLUB

Moneygall Camogie Club, only formed this year, entered teams in the U-12, U-14 and U-16 competitions. Our U-12 team did well in the Championship, reaching the semi-final where they were beaten by Silvermines. However, it was in the U-14 championship where Moneygall enjoyed the most success. Our inexperienced but determined team took on and defeated several more seasoned clubs in the competition. The championship final against Lorrha was fiercely contested but Moneygall finally emerged triumphant.



Moneygall Under-14 Champions: Front Row (l-r) - Eileen Ryan, Catriona Jones, Miriam Greene, Áine Troy, Aisling Kennedy (Capt.), Sylvia O'Rourke, Joanne Maher, Eimear Ryan. Back Row (l-r): Amanda Moten-Letsome, Brid Byrne, Claire Boland, Caroline Kirwan, Deirdre Treacy, Nessa Hourihane, Emma Boland, Aileen Jones, Aisling Quigley, Pat Kirwan (Trainer).





# Ladies' Football



## Templemore Under-16s and Cappawhite U-12 girls make history in first ever under-age county titles!

**T**he Tipperary Ladies' Football Championship started with the U-16's and a gallant Templemore side, inspired by Norma Maher and Linda Grogan, defeating Aherlow in a very exciting final with play ending in a final score of Templemore 5-4, Aherlow 1-11.

Congratulations to all involved with Templemore Ladies' football on their first ever county title.

The U-14 Championship was next, and this was dominated by a very strong Aherlow side which literally ran through the county all the way to the final where they beat Cappawhite very convincingly. Well done to Aherlow on the outstanding job done with this team.

The next championship to be ran was the U-12s where history was made by Cappawhite in winning the U-12 county final before a large attendance in Golden. Cappawhite defeated Ardfinnan by 3-5 to 1-3 in a thrilling game.

Congratulations to Cappawhite club on a great victory.

The senior football championship followed and we had four very strong clubs in this grade. Brian Boru's, going for four in a row were beaten by a very strong and fit Ardfinnan side who were deserving winners in a final that ended Ardfinnan 3-9, Brian Boru's 4-5. Congratulations to all involved in Ardfinnan.

Last but not least was the U-18 championship where the Queens of the South, Brian Boru's, made up for their defeat in the senior final by beating a brave Aherlow side by 4-10 to 3-7. Congratulations to both teams on an exceptionally high standard of football, but especially to Brian Boru's. Well done!

On behalf of Tipperary Ladies' Football Co. Board, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the referees and all of the clubs who made their pitches available for our games. I would like to include all those who participated in the running of the ladies' football, with very special thanks to Tipperary Co-Op. for their sponsorship of ladies' football.

To conclude, I would like to see more teams in U-18 and senior grades as we have lots of under-age teams that should be coming through into the senior ranks. Many thanks to all the clubs for their co-operation during the year.

Patrick Kenneally P.R.O.  
Co. Tipperary



Cappawhite U-12 team: Front row (left to right): Denise Renehan, Cathy O'Neill, Michelle O'Neill, Mary K. Ryan, Ruth Kennedy, Emma McHugh, Mary Morrissey, Marie O'Neill (captain), Roisín McCarthy, Orla Ryan, Catherine Cranley, Antionette Murnane, Marion Renehan. Middle row: Mary C. O'Neill, Jayne Clancy, Ann Treacy, Helen Kennedy, Marion Ryan, Josephine Crowe, Roisín Ryan, Claire Barry, Jennifer Buckley, Elaine Renehan, Jane A. O'Neill, Sinéad Buckley. Back row: Ann Costello (selector), Denise Horan, Eugene Maguire (trainer), Cecilia Walshe (selector).



Ardfinnan Ladies' Football team – County Champions 1996 – Back row: Peggy Kennedy, Deirdre O'Brien, Breda Maher, Julia Finke, Brigid Lambert, Dickie Brown (trainer), Elaine Cowan, Yvonne Ryan, Miriam Halley and Susanne Savage. Front row: Mary Walsh, Jean Lonergan, Anne Condon, Patricia Brown, Claire Tobin (captain), Geraldine Brown, Siobhán O'Mahony, Antoinette Nagle, Claire Lambert, Martina Walsh, Glenda O'Gorman.

## Cappawhite Ladies' Football

**C**appawhite Ladies' football club had a very successful year at juvenile level in 1996. The club fielded teams in the under-12 and under-14 competitions.

In the under-12 championship, the team had victories over Slievenamon (A), Roscrea, Aherlow and Killenaule, to head their section. In the county semi-final, Cappawhite beat Slievenamon (B) by 5-7 to 0-0 in Cashel to qualify for the final against Ardfinnan. The final was played in

Golden on 6/6/1996, before a very large attendance.

In an exciting first half, Cappawhite had scores from Marie O'Neill (2 points), Sinéad Buckley (1 goal) and Roisín McCarthy (1 point) to lead 1-3 to 0-1 for Ardfinnan at half-time.

Ardfinnan tried everything they knew in the second-half to break through the Cappawhite defence in which Mary Claire O'Neill, the Renehan sisters, Marion Ryan and Denise Horan were standing firm. At



the other end Roisín McCarthy and Marie O'Neill were taking good scores. Ardfinnan goaled from a penalty, to set up a grandstand finish but Sinéad Buckley sealed victory for Cappawhite with a brilliantly executed goal.

Pauline Russell presented the "Shield" to team captain Marie O'Neill amid scenes of great jubilation. The Cappawhite team was Mary Claire O'Neill, Marion Renehan, Denise Horan, Helen Kennedy, Marion Ryan, Sinéad Buckley, Elaine Renehan, Marie O'Neill (captain), Roisín McCarthy, Orla Ryan, Jennifer Buckley, Josephine Crowe, Antionette Murnane, Jane-Ann O'Neill, Mary Morrissey.

*Subs:* Ann Treacy, Roisín Ryan, Michelle O'Neill, Cathy O'Neill, Claire Barry, Jayne Clancy, Catherine Cranley, Emma McHugh, Ruth Kennedy, Mary K. Ryan, Denise Renehan.

In the Under-14 championship, Cappawhite qualified for the county semi-final from their section with victories over Killaule, Marlfield and Golden, and a defeat by Aherlow. In the semi-final Cappawhite had a hard earned victory over Templemore to set up a county final against Aherlow, who had beaten Brian Boru's easily in their semi-final.

The final was played in Emly on August 12th, 1996, in what was an excellent game of football which Aherlow won by 4-10 to 0-0. Cappawhite lost no respect in defeat because they gave 100% effort throughout. The Cappawhite team was: Mairéad Crowe, Marion Ryan, Aileen Crowe, Ann M. Ashton, Sandra Barry, Sinéad Buckley, Marie O'Neill, Teresa White, Siobhán Costello (captain), Marguerite Crowe, Orla McCarthy, Susan English, Roisín McCarthy, Faustina Renehan, Kathleen Cummins.

*Subs:* Tracy Maguire, Alice Ryan, Aishling Barry, Sinead Ellis, Edel O'Connor,



*Aherlow U-14 County Champions 1996. Front row: Margaret Davern, Chantel Ryan, Marie Devane, Moira Ryan, Emma Noonan, Kate Hedigan, Martina Peters, Louise Peters. Back row: Celine McInerney, Elaine Donovan, Margaret McGrath, Siobhán Hayes, Martina Brennan, Bríd O'Brien, Aoife O'Sullivan, Maire Hennebery, Bríd O'Neill, Edel Hanley, Louise Grogan, Helen O'Donnell.*



*Templemore County U-16 football champions 1996 - Back row (left to right): Deirdre McLoughney, Edel McDermott, SORCHA Loughnane, Michelle Purcell, Lena Bohan, Bridin Jones, Sarah Moynihan, Majella Stapleton, Norma Maher, Marie Brennan, Joanne Carton. Front row (left to right): Fiona Collins, Veronica Bane, Linda Grogan, Lorraine Bourke, Anna Larkin, Elizabeth Jones, Niamh Connolly (captain), Ciara Ormond, Eanna McDonnell.*

Niamh Dunne, Elaine Renehan, Jane-Ann O'Neill, Jennifer Buckley, Margo Horan, Catherine Morrissey.

Both teams were excellently trained by Eugene Maguire, ably assisted by Cecilia Walshe and Ann Costello.

The main source of income of the ladies' football comes from a weekly "Lotto" run in conjunction with the

County Board Draw. It is hoped to enter teams at Under-12, Under-14, Under-16 and Junior level in 1997.

*The officers of the club are:* Chairperson: Patricia Walshe; vice-chairman: Patricia Walsh; vice-chairman: Ann White; secretary: Cecilia Walshe; Asst. secretary: Ann Costello; treasurer: Marion Crowe; P.R.O.: Josephine Crowe.



*County Hurling Action...Liam Maher, Boherlahan and Rory Brislane, Toomevara*



*In safe hands.... Philly and Ann and Dan after the county final.*





Church & General  
Cumann na mBunscol

# Tipperary Primary Schools

**1996** was again a very successful year in the annals of Tipperary's Cumann na mBunscol. Highlight of the year was again our county hurling finals day in Semple Stadium last June. This day gave a chance to up to 300 children to play on the famous sod, a treat they all savoured.

Again the number of schools taking part in our competitions increased and we are very grateful to all the schools, teachers, Boards of Management and clubs which in their own way helped us through the year.

The success of our Board could not be achieved without the support of our senior County Board and the Munster Council. Both these bodies have been very helpful with financial support and this support has led to schools all over the county getting subsidised hurleys, helmets, sliotars and footballs.

Another initiative introduced this year was the supply of indoor hurleys to schools. We would again like to thank the County Board who financed some of the sets and the clubs who supplied them for their schools. Up to 40 sets of the hurleys were distributed around the county.

## OFFICERS:

Hon. Life President: Mr. Jerry Daly, Monadreen, Thurles; President: Mr. Sean Horan, Cahir B.N.S.; Chairman: Mr. Donal MacCarthy, Ballylooby N.S., Cahir; Vice-Chairman: Mr. Christy Clancy, Littleton N.S., Thurles; Mr. Paudie Butler, Inch N.S., Thurles; Runaí: Mr. Paul Brett, St. Oliver's N.S., Clonmel; Delegate to County Board: Mr. Jerry McDonnell, St. Oliver's N.S., Clonmel; Treasurer/P.R.O.: Mr. Paul Brett, St. Oliver's N.S., Clonmel; Delegate to Munster Council: Mr. Jerry McDonnell, St. Oliver's N.S., Clonmel.

## ÍOMÁNAÍOCHT:

County Finals: Roinn A

Nenagh C.B.S. .... 2-5

Thurles C.B.S. .... 1-3

**N**enagh C.B.S. came to Thurles defending their title and did not let down their supporters. Playing with the wind they led by four points at the break. Another goal just after the break gave them the cushion they needed and they held out to retain the trophy.

**Nenagh C.B.S.** – Tom Kennedy, Robert Ryan, Conor Quigley, Kieran Staed, William O'Brien, John Brennan, Darren



Primary School Hurling Finals 1996: Ballylooby N.S. camogie team captain Orla Fahey accepting the Primary Schools Camogie A Trophy from Donal McCarthy, chairman Cumann na mBunscol. (l. to r.) Donal McCarthy (chairman); Paul Brett (secretary); Orla Fahey (captain) and Jerry Daly (president).



Castleiney N.S. hurling team – winners of Roinn F Primary Schools hurling championship 1996. They beat Tankardstown in the final 0-6 to 0-4. Back row (l. to r.): Annie Scott (R.I.P.), Martin Ryan, Sara Ryan, Siobhán Brennan, Derek Bourke, Michael Treacy, Paul Brennan, Ursula Treacy, Anne Treacy, John Treacy N.T. Front row (l. to r.): Germaine Brennan, Stephen Higgins, John Scully, Diarmuid Brennan, Catherine Ryan, Philip Treacy, Eoin Brennan, Maria Brennan.



Christian Brothers School, Carrick-on-Suir U-11 hurling team. Back row: Stephen Waters, Wayne O'Neill, Alan Waters, Michael Ryan, John Murphy, James Gibbs, Gerard Robinson, Noel O'Donnell, Patrick Dowley, Darren Fahey, Cian Power, David Smith. Front row: Andrew Cronin, Brian Kenny, Lee Waters, Stephen Walsh, Wayne Murphy, Derek Reade, Peter White, Alan Redmond, Kieran Reade, Peter White, Alan Redmond, Kieran Reade, Rory Murphy, John White, Shane O'Shea.



Nevin, Martin Ryan, Donnacha Ryan, Gerard Clifford, Tony Scoope (captain), Robert Bonfield, Ciarán Morris, Martin Slattery and Alan Kelly.

*Subs:* Eoin Fitzgibbons, Enda Parker, Conor Brennan, Patrick Ryan, Ronan Spillane and Conor Hayes.

**Thurles C.B.S.:** Patrick McCormack, Wayne O'Colla, David Callaghan, John O'Dwyer, Wayne Mullins, Martin Treacy, Hugh Mockler, Tim Gleeson, Lee Shanahan, Jonathan Gleeson, Robert Grace, James Mackey, Eoin Ryan, Adrian Quinlan, Peter Salmon, John Kenny, John Ryan, Liam Collins, David Kennedy, Mark Walsh, Kevin Dwyer and Matthew Murphy.

*Referee:* T. J. Corby.

#### ROINN B:

**Templetuohy** ..... 1-7

**Moneygall N.S.** ..... 0-1

**A**fter winning Roinn C the previous year Templetuohy N.S. continued their winning ways with this classy win in Roinn B. John Sweeney and Hugh Coghlan were their stars and Co. Board chairman, Seán Fogarty, was delighted to present the trophy to his own parish.

**Templetuohy N.S.:** Richard Ryan, Eddie Everard, William Delahunty (captain), Kevin Davy, John Butler, John Hassett, Denis Maher, Hugh Coghlan, John Sweeney, Kevin Fogarty, Denis Meade, Edward Kelly and Niall Russell.

*Subs:* Craig O'Donnell, Brian Kelly and Barry O'Brien.

**Moneygall N.S.:** Colin Larkin, P. J. Troy, Patrick Guilfoyle (captain), Brian Quinlan, Seán Ryan, Padraic Greene, Michael Bergin, Eamonn McCormack, Darragh Hayes, Gerard Ryan, Shane Treacy, Damien Greene, Eoghan Ryan, Aisling Quigley and Billy Hayes.

*Subs:* Padraic O'Meara, Emma Boland, Claire Boland, Miriam Greene, Áine Troy, Marguerite Sutton and Damien Costello.

*Referee:* Christy Aylward.

#### ROINN C:

**Ballinahinch N.S.** ..... 3-2

**Upperchurch N.S.** ..... 1-1

**G**eneral opinion on the day was that this clash was the classic of the day. Ballinahinch were appearing in their third final in a row and after suffering two heavy defeats the previous two years this victory was all the more sweeter.

**Ballinahinch N.S.:** John Foley, Shane Fitzgerald, Michael Fitzgerald, Michael Lynch, Alan Kelly, Michael Gleeson, Padraig Gleeson, Padraic Berkery, Gerard Griffin, Adrian Gleeson, Shane McGrath, Pat Jones, Edward Chadwick and Michael Ryan.

*Subs:* Aidan Gleeson, Stephen Ryan, Noelle Ryan, Mairéad Berkery, Claire Ryan, Seán Sheehy, Michael Bourke, Francis Bourke, Philip Loughman, John



*Inch N.S. camogie team: Back row (l. to r.) Paudie Butler (coach); Nancy Fahey, Fiona Callanan, Orla McLoughlin, Noirin Egan, Mairead Walsh, Marie Costello, Brid Looby. Front row (l. to r.): Majella Flynn, Maria Ryan, Frances Cleary, Leona Hennessey, Breda O'Halloran, Triona Butler, Sinéad Walsh, Catherine Jordan.*



*Moneygall N.S. – winners of Roinn B in the northern region. Back row (l. to r.): Claire Boland, Emma Boland, Miriam Greene, Aisling Quigley, Colm Larkin, Brian Quinlan, Gerard Ryan, Shane Treacy, Billy Hayes, Darragh Hayes. Front row (l. to r.): Padraig O'Meara, Marguerite Sutton, Damien Greene, Pajo Troy, Michael Bergin, Eamonn McCormack, Padraic Greene, Patrick Guilfoyle, Sean Ryan, Eoghan Ryan. Eugene Ryan (coach).*



*Ballinahinch N.S. – winners of the Roinn C county final in hurling. Back row (l. to r.) Claire Ryan, Mairead Berkery, Noelle Ryan, Michael Gleeson, Alan Kelly, Stephen Lyons, Michael Ryan, John Ryan (coach), Aidan Gleeson, Michael Fitzgerald, Gerard Griffin, Shane McGrath, Pat Jones, Edward Chadwick. Front row (l. to r.): John O'Grady, Philip Loughman, Michael Bourke, Michael Lynch, Francis Bourke, John Foley, Shane Fitzgerald, Seán Sheehy, Michael O'Brien, Padraic Berkery, Stephen Ryan, Adrian Gleeson.*



*Ballylooby N.S. winners of the Roinn A county camogie title. Back row (l. to r.) Allison Slattery, Mary Francis Murphy, Triona English, Donal MacCarthaigh (coach), Roisín Dwyer, Karen Barry, Siobhan Fahy. Front row (l. to r.): Karen Kehoe, Eimear Morrissey, Mairead Morrissey, Orla Fahy (captain), Denise Fitzgerald, Fiona Fahy, Elizabeth English, Mary Ellen Flynn.*



O'Grady, Michael O'Brien and Stephen Lyons.

**Upperchurch N.S.:** Jody Brennan, Donal Ryan, Michael Gleeson, Martin Bourke, John Carey, Kieran O'Toole, Lawrence Ryan, David Hickey, Patrick McLoughlin, Matthew Davern, Andrew Queenan, Patrick O'Gara, Eoin Carey, Philip Burke, Michael Harty, John Gleeson, Michael Ryan, Paul Darcy, Denis Ryan, David Carey, Michael O'Brien, John Lowry, Patrick Clancy, Oliver Ralph, John Fogarty and Colm Kennedy.

Referee: T. J. Corby.



Boher N.S. – winners of the Roinn E county hurling final. Back row (l. to r.) Martin McKeogh, Jerry O'Brien, Paul Hannon, Domhnall McKeogh, James McKeogh, Thomas Collins, Kevin Ryan, Michael Sullivan, Liam Ryan. Front row (l. to r.) Seamus Kennedy, Daniel Frawley, Roddy Kennedy (capt.), Shane O'Brien, Kevin Cosgrove, Brian McKeogh. (Missing Michael Kennedy and Seoirse Hickey)

#### ROINN D:

**Burgess N.S.** ..... 4-4

**Drangan N.S.** ..... 1-1

A very good start was the key to Burgess N.S. winning this title. Their school and supporters were delighted as this was their first win after appearing in two previous finals and lost.

**Burgess N.S.:** Thomas Fogarty, Conor Mulcahy, Noel Kennedy, Senan McDonnell, David Maher, David Maskett, Martin Fogarty, Noel Gleeson, Seán Darcy, Eoin Duggan, Jonathan Maher, Áine Mulcahy, Patrick Hogan, Alan Hayes and John McGrath.

**Drangan N.S.:** Jill Horan, Mark McCormack, Brian McCormack, Vincent Cunningham, Pakie Brett, Liam Brett, Michael Farrell, John Brett, Edmund Horan, Thomas Horan, Seán Horan and Heather McGrath.

Referee: Christy Aylward.



Drangan N.S. – winners of Roinn D Southern Shield, back row (l. to r.): Liam Brett, Fiona Horan, Vincent Cunningham, Liam Horan, Mark McCormack, Heather McGrath, Michael Farrell, Michael Horan, Pakie Brett, Teddy Morris, John P. Harrington, Eoin Anglim, Liam O'Grady (coach). Front row: (l. to r.) John Brett, Brian McCormack, Sean Horan, Owen Hayes, John Fleming, Stephen Kennedy, Thomas Horan, Jill Horan.

#### ROINN E:

**Boher N.S.** ..... 0-4

**Ballagh N.S.** ..... 0-4

This again was a very close encounter and Ballagh could be deemed a bit unlucky in that a few of their points could just as easily ended in the goal.

**Boher N.S.:** James McKeogh, Shane O'Brien, Roddy Kennedy, Kevin Cosgrove, Daniel Frawley, Jerry O'Brien, Brian McKeogh, Kevin Ryan and Michael O'Sullivan. **Subs:** Thomas Collins, Paul Hannon, Martin McKeogh, Seamus Kennedy, Liam Ryan, Michael Kennedy and Seoirse Hickey.

**Ballylooby N.S.** ..... 1-3

**Inch N.S.** ..... 1-0

Down through the years in Cumann na mBunscol these two schools have served up many an epic encounter and this was no exception. From start to finish there was very little between the teams with Ballylooby just edging it at the end.

**Ballylooby N.S.:** Triona English, Karen Kehoe, Karen Barry, Fiona Fahy, Elizabeth English, Denise Fitzgerald, Orla Fahy, Siobhán Fahy, Roisín Dwyer, Mairéad Morrissey, Emer Morrissey and Mary Ellen Flynn.

**Subs:** Alison Slattery, Mary Francis Murphy and Gráinne O'Connor.

**Inch N.S.:** Majella Flynn, Marià Ryan,



Tankerstown National School – Winners of Roinn E Cumann na mBunscoil 1996-97 along with their Principal Mr. Liam Bergin N.T. Front: Seamus Walsh, Kieran Marnane, Kevin Bergin, Thomas Peters, Christopher Collins, Patrick Marnane, Kieran Bergin, Emmet O'Mahony, Mark O'Brien. Back: Cormac O'Connell, James Doyle, David O'Brien, Gerard O'Dwyer (captain), Declan Peters, Joanne Peters, Louise Collins, Denise Peters.



Ballyporeen B.N.S.: C Co. Champions – Back row (l. to r.) Tony Donovan, Jamie Cahill, Níoclás Ó Duinnín (principal), Alan Hanlon, Mrs. Kitty English: N.T., Peter Brophy, Rev. Fr. Joe Flynn P.P., James Kenneally, William Carey, Paul Hyland, Pat Donoghue, Jonathan MacDonnell, David Hyland, Brendan Finn, Cathal Ó Duinnín, Cormac Ó Duinnín, Paddy Kelly. Front row: (l. to r.) Shane Nolan, Charlie Bailey, Michael John Meaney, Darragh Lyons, Declan Martin, Paul Hennessy, Kieran MacGrath.



Frances Cleary, Leona Hennessey, Breda O'Halloran, Triona Butler, Sinéad Walsh, Catherine Jordan, Nancy Vahey, Fiona Callahan, Orla McLoughlin, Noírin Flynn, Máiréad Walsh, Marie Costello and Bríd Looby.

Referee: Christy Aylward.

#### FAOI 11A:

**Thurles C.B.S.** ..... 4-1

**Carrick C.B.S.** ..... 0-3

**P**laying with wind advantage in the first half Thurles C.B.S. built up a lead of eight points which try as they could Carrick C.B.S. were not able to pull back.

**Thurles C.B.S.:** Colin Sweeney, Patrick Kenny, Andrew Fogarty, Richard Ruth, Philip McCormack, Barry Delahunty, Gregory Frewer, Gregory Bowe, Barry O'Donovan, Richard Gorman, Brian Salmon, Barry Maher, Stephen Lawless, Peter Maher, Michael Kennedy, Brendan Duggan, Tom Ryan, Brendan Sullivan, Patrick Redigan, Muiris O'Sullivan, Cian Gleeson, Andrew Sweeney, David Murphy, Tim Flanagan, Eamonn Ryan, Stephen Loughnane, Kieran O'Connor.

**Carrick C.B.S.:** Kieran Reade, Cian Power, Gerard Robinson, Derek Reade, James Gibbs, Patrick Dowley, Alan Waters, Noel McDonnell, Alan Redmond, Liam Waters, Michael Ryan, John Murphy, Peter White, Wayne Murphy, Rory Murphy, Shane O'Shea, Brian Kenny, Stephen Waters and David Smith.

Referee: Christy Aylward.

We would like to thank Sean Fogarty, Tommy Barrett and Conchubhair O'Riain of the County Board who came to see the finals.

#### PEIL:

##### Roinn A:

**Cahir B.N.S.** ..... 2-10

**Carrick C.B.S.** ..... 1-0

**C**ahir B.N.S. retained their county football title with a terrific display against Carrick C.B.S. in this final. Amazingly Cahir only led by two points at half time but a goal blitz in the second half secured them victory.

**Cahir B.N.S.:** Brian Enright, James O'Connor, Paddy Flaherty (captain), Eamonn Barrett, Kevin O'Gorman, Mark O'Dwyer, Pakie O'Dwyer, Kevin McGuire, Padraig Whelan, John Ryan, James McGrath, Gary Burke, John Devereaux, Daniel Maguire and Christopher Kendrick.

**Subs:** Seamus Ryan, Stephen Grant, Jason Grant, Aaron McGee, Patrick O'Connor and Christopher Wills.

**Carrick C.B.S.:** David Dunleavy, Alan Carroll, Adam O'Loughlin, Ross Cleary, Jonathan Doran, Michael Hackett, Noel Butler, Evan Walsh, Alan Kavanagh, Eddie O'Gorman, Alan Comerford, Mark Walsh, John Paul Walsh, Alan O'Sullivan, Jonathan Barrett, Patrick Dowley, Gerard Walsh, Francis Torpey and William Waters.

Referee: T. J. Corby.



**Ballagh N.S. – Winners of Roinn E regional shield.** Back row (l. to r.) Padraig Heffernan, Liam Hayes, Philip O'Connor, Patrick Sadlier, Moira Ryan, Marie Devane, Brian Slattery, David Kennedy, Front row (l. to r.): Irene Ryan, Seamus Heffernan, Derek O'Connor, James Manton, Seamus Hickey, Liam Devane, Patrick Ryan, Thomas Lyng.



**Ballyporeen B.N.S. – Mini 7's Co. Champions** – Back (l. to r.) David Russell, Cathal Ó Duinnín, Cormac Ó Duinnín, Níoclás Ó Duinnín (Principal), Brendan Finn, Jamie Cahill, Tony Donovan, Rev. Fr. Joseph Flynn P.P. Front (l. to r.): James Kenneally, Michael John Meaney, Darragh Lyons, Paul Hyland.



**Primary School Hurling Finals 1996** – Pictured above are the three Ballylooby N.S. camogie team members who were chosen to play in Croke Park on All-Ireland Final Day. L. to r.: Máiread Morrissey; Donal McCarthy, chairman Cumann na mBunscol; Orla Fahey and Denise Fitzgerald.



**Loughmore N.S. – Roinn E winners (10-1-side)** Back row (l. to r.) Thomas Maher, Brendan Maher, Leonard Ryan, David McGrath, Colm Campion. Front row (l. to r) Edward Connolly, Stephen Ryan, Evan Sweeney (captain), Ronan Stapleton, Damian Russell, Stephen Maher (principal).



## ROINN B:

<i>Templetuohy N.S.</i> .....	3-8
<i>Tipperary C.B.S.</i> .....	1-4

**T**empletuohy N.S. crowned a great year for their parish with this fine win. Having won Roinn D the previous year they were promoted two divisions and still went on to win the title.

**Templetuohy N.S.:** Eddie Everard, John Butler, William Delahunty, Denis Meade, Michael Burke, John Hassett, Mark Russell, Hugh Coghlan, Kevin Fogarty, Edward Kelly, Niall Russell, Richard Ryan, Denis Maher and Thomas Hassett.

**Subs:** Craig O'Donnell for Thomas Hassett.

**Tipperary C.B.S.:** John Donnelly, Kenny Hayes, John Quirke, Eric Higgins, David O'Connor, Christy Sutton, Bernard O'Callaghan, Robert Cullen, David Whelan, Jason Donnelly, James O'Brien, Rory O'Connor, Luke Edmund, Robert Egan, Mark Roche, Evan Hanly, Mark Cosgrove, Barry Ryan, David Flannery, Kieran O'Dwyer and Noel Kennedy.

**Referee:** Paudie Butler.

## ROINN C:

<i>Ballyporeen N.S.</i> .....	8-3
<i>Upperchurch N.S.</i> .....	4-1

**I**n what was a brilliant game of football Ballyporeen N.S. had a good win over a gallant Upperchurch N.S. On a lovely evening for a game all present agreed that on the day football was the real winner.

**Ballyporeen N.S.:** Declan Martin, Patrick O'Donoghue, Cathal O'Duinnin, Cormac O'Duinnin, Tony Donovan, Patrick Kelly, Paul Hyland, John Paul Begley, Jamie Cahill, Kieran McGrath, Peter Brophy, Alan Hanlon, Charles Baily, James Kenneally, Daragh Lyons (captain), Brendan Finn, William Carey, Michael John Meany, Paul Hennessy and David Hyland.

**Upperchurch N.S.:** Matthew Dameron, P. J. McLoughlin, Michael Gleeson, Shane Armstrong, Andrew Kinnane, Pat Short, Larry Ryan, John Carey, Owen Carew, Michael Ryan, Jody Brennan, David Carey, Ciaran O'Toole, Colm Kennedy and Martin Bourke.

**Subs:** David Hickey, Donal Ryan, Kate Carew, Siobhán Quigley, Oliver Ralph, John Fogarty, P. J. Clancy, John Gleeson, Philip Bourke and Michael Harty.

**Referee:** Paddy Lonergan.

## ROINN D:

<i>Lisvernane N.S.</i> .....	9-7
<i>New Inn B.N.S.</i> .....	5-6

**L**isvernane N.S. continued their winning ways in our competitions with this fine win over New Inn N.S. in a very high scoring game.

**Lisvernane N.S.:** D. J. Ryan, Billy Donovan, Louise Grogan, Barry Grogan, Danny Mike Hennessey, Edel Hanley, Brian Leonard, Brian Moroney, Martina Peters,

Lawrence Coskeran, Gerard Peters and Ciaran Nash.

**Referee:** Paddy Lonergan.

## ROINN E:

<i>Tankerstown N.S.</i> .....	7-8
<i>Ballagh N.S.</i> .....	2-1

**I**n this final Tankerstown N.S. had a good win over a gallant Ballagh N.S. in this competition for the smaller schools in the county.

**Tankerstown N.S.:** Christopher Collins, Joanne Peters, Cormac O'Connell, David O'Brien, Kevin Bergin, Geard O'Dwyer (captain), Declan Peters, Seamus Walsh, Patrick Marnane and Mark O'Brien.

**Subs:** Kieran Bergin, James Doyle, Denise Peters, Patrick Marnane, Thomas Peters, Louise Collins and Emmet Mahony.

**Ballagh N.S.:** David Kennedy, Brian Slattery, Philip O'Connor, Mary Ryan, Mary Dwane, Liam Hayes, Eoin Lacy, Spencer Potts, Seamus Hickey, Patrick Heffernan, Tomás Lyng, Liam Dwane, Martin O'Brien, Mary O'Connor and Anne Ryan.

**Referee:** Tom Meehan.

## CAILÍNÍ:

<i>Lisvernane N.S.</i> .....	8-10
<i>Ballylooby</i> .....	3-4

**L**isvernane N.S. continued their dominance of the girls football in Tipperary with this very convincing win over a very brave Ballylooby side.

**Lisvernane N.S.:** Edel Hanley, Aoife O'Sullivan, Brid O'Neill, Deirdre Coskeran, Aoife Donovan, Eilis Hennessey, Martina Peters, Helen O'Donnell, Martina Brennan and Louise Grogan.

**Ballylooby N.S.:** Denise Fitzgerald, Mairéad Morrissey, Orla Lonergan, Orla Fahy, Breda Tobin, Triona English, Kealy Taidewells, L. Reidy, Karen Barry, Karen Kehoe, Eilis English, Roisín Dwyer, Alicia Coghlan, Maire Flynn, Fiona Fahy and Eimear Morrissey.

**Referee:** Paddy Lonergan.

<i>Ballingarry N.S.</i> .....	2-4
<i>Inch N.S.</i> .....	2-3

**A** first county football title for the parish in 44 years. The Ballingarry team was: Natalie Scott, Kimberley Evans, Anita Brennan, Joanne Ivors, Natalie Ivors, Breda O'Neill (capt.), Avril McGrath, Nicola Rice, Mairéad Maher, Ruth Maher.

**Subs:** Ann Marie O'Neill, Aine Maher, Mary McGrath, Irene Ivors, Stacey Cleere.

## FAOI 11 'A':

<i>Carrick C.B.S.</i> .....	6-7
<i>Killenaule N.S.</i> .....	1-0

**W**ild celebrations followed the final whistle of this game when Carrick C.B.S. captured their first title for thirteen years in Cumann na mBunscol.

**Carrick C.B.S.:** David Smith, Darran Fahy, Patrick Dowley, Derek Reade, Cian Power, Gerard Robinson, Wayne Murphy,

Alan Redmond, Daryl Kavanagh, Michael Ryan (capt.), Noel O'Donnell, Mark Coghlan, Terence Power, Alan Rockett and John Kelly.

**Subs:** James Gibbs, John White, Paul Quinlan, David Drohan, Stephen Walsh, Rory Murphy, Colm Murphy, Kieran Reade, Lee Waters, Julian Carson, Brian Kenny, Brian Dunne, Damien Roche, Shane Hogan, Shane Butler and Aidan Hitchens.

**Killenaule N.S.:** Aine O'Dwyer, Barry Murphy, Stephen Brennan, Brendan Fanning, Jonathan O'Dwyer, Ian Murphy, Ger Kennedy, Richard Maher, Annette Hanley, Kieran Bergin, Vincent Hannigan, Edward Fanning, David Maguire and Adrian Lawrence.

**Subs:** Emma Webster, Eamonn Fanning, John Lamphier, John Fleming and John Mackey.

**Referee:** Seán Quirke.

## FAOI 11B:

<i>Grange N.S.</i> .....	2-5
<i>Ballyporeen N.S.</i> .....	1-2

**I**t took three very evenly contested games between these two evenly matched teams before Grange N.S. eventually became champions.

**Grange N.S.:** Melissa McDonagh, Kevin Queeney, Travis Ryan, Philip Bannon, Tina Hally, John Hally, Gerard Mullane, Lorcan Bannon, Richard Carroll, Louis Ronan, Richard Guthrie, Alan Fitzgerald, Seán Phelan, Peter Hally, Michael Corbett, Daniel Purver, Kevin Price, Karl O'Donovan, James Heffernan, Gerard Lonergan, Katie O'Donovan, James Heffernan, Gerard Lonergan, Katie Boyle and Claire Ryan.

**Ballyporeen N.S.:** Alan Hanlon, E. Meany, D. Russell, A. Stapleton, M. O'Brien, C. Baily, J. Roche, P. Hennessy, S. Moran, G. McGrath, P. Drishane, D. Martin, D. English, P. Brophy and K. Lynch.

**Subs:** W. Carey, B. Carey, P. Kenneally, R. Murphy, J. Sheehan and E. Flannelly.

**Referee:** Fran O'Leary.

## TIOBRAID ÁRANN v CIARRAÍ:

<i>Tipperary</i> .....	0-1
<i>Kerry</i> .....	0-0

**A**s part of the senior Munster championship in football the respective Primary schools were asked to put on a challenge in football the respective Primary schools were asked to put on a challenge game before the big game. After a very exciting game Tipperary just edged out Kerry. The following team represented Tipperary:

Brendan Flynn (Ballyporeen N.S.); John Noonan (Fethard B.N.S.); Paul Hyland (Ballyporeen N.S.); Hugh Coghlan (Templetuohy N.S.); Christopher Higgins (Bansha N.S.); David Byron (Ballylooby N.S.); Jodi Brennan (Upperchurch N.S.); Declan Peters (Tankerstown N.S.); Kevin Fogarty (Templetuohy N.S.); Daniel Maguire (Cahir B.N.S.); Paudie Whelan (Cahir B.N.S.) and Jonathon Sandvoss (Grange N.S.)





Christian Brothers, Carrick-on-Suir U-11 football champions – 1995-1996. Back row: Darren Fahey, David Drohan, Paul Quinlan, Noel O'Donnell, John White, John Kelly, Aidan Hitchens, Rory Murphy. Middle row: Wayne O'Neill, Gerard Robinson, Kieran Reade, Alan Rockett, David Smith, Patrick Dowley, James Gibbs, Wayne Murphy, Thomas Croke, Mr. Tom Nealon. Front row: Lee Waters, Mark Coghlan, Ciarn Power, Alan Redmond, Michael Ryan, Daryl Kavanagh, Terence Power, Derek Reade, Colm Murphy.



Scoil Ailbhe C.B.S. – winners of the Roinn A regional final. Back row: l. to r.: Wayne Moylan, Jonathan Gleeson, William Collins, Jim Mackey, Shane McKenna, Richard Fanning, Peter Grayden (captain), Philip Young, T. J. Gleeson, Martin Treacy, Hugh Mockler, Colm McGrath, Robert Grace, Eoin Ryan, Mark Walsh, Matthew Murphy. Front row (l. to r.): Lorcan Burke, Adrian Quinlan, David Kennedy, Padraig Duggan, Sean O'Dwyer, Paddy McCormack, Lee Shanahan, Shane Ryan, David O'Dwyer, David O'Callaghan, P. J. Mullaney, Wayne Moylan, Ger O'Dwyer, Bernard O'Mahoney. Donal O'Riain (coach).



Scoil Ailbhe C.B.S. – winners of the Roinn A under-11 county final. Back row: (l. to r.): Brian Graydon, Stephen Lillis, Richard O'Gorman, Pat Kenny, Tadhg Flanagan, Ciaran O'Connor, Barry O'Donovan, Philip McCormack, Chris O'Brien, Thomas Ryan, Pat Ruddy, Barry Maher, Muiris O'Sullivan, David Murphy. Front row (l. to r.): Andrew Sweeney, Colin Sweeney, Stephen Loughnane, Andrew Fogarty, Philip McCarthy, Barry Delahunty, Brendan O'Sullivan, Richard Ruth, Peter Maher, Eamonn Ryan (captain), Gregory Bowe, Gregory Frewer, Cian Gleeson. An. Br. D. MacGearailt (coach).



Templetuohy N.S. – winners of the Roinn B county hurling final. Back row (l. to r.): Cillian Quillinan, Michael Maher, P. J. O'Brien, Kieran Flynn, Denis Maher, John Sweeney, John Hassett, William Delahunty, Hugh Coghlan, Mark Russell, Kevin Fogarty, Denis Kelly, Craig O'Donnell, Mattie Ryan (coach). Front row (l. to r.): Thomas Hassett, Liam Quinn, Barry O'Brien, Eddie Everard, John Butler, Richard Ryan, Eddie Kelly, Denis Meade. In front: Paul Carroll, Eoin Butler.



Upperchurch N.S. – Winners of the Roinn C regional final in hurling. Back row: (l. to r.) Michael O'Brien, David Hickey, John Fogarty, Eoin Carew, Matthew Davern, Shane Armstrong, John Gleeson, John Carey, Jody Brennan, P. J. McLoughlin, Larry Ryan, Michael Gleeson, Philip Bourke, Michael Harty. Front row (l. to r.): P. J. Clancy, Paul Darcy, Donncha Ryan, Michael Ryan, John Ryan, Andrew Kinnane, Pat Shortt, David Carey, Ciaran O'Toole, Martin Bourke, Donal Ryan, Colm Kennedy, Oliver Ralph, P. J. Harrington (coach).



Nenagh C.B.S. – Winners of the Roinn A county hurling final. Back row: (l. to r.) Darren Nevin, Ronan Spillane, Donncha Ryan, Martin Ryan, Tom Kennedy, John Brennan, Kieran Staed, Martin Slattery, Conor Brennan, Patrick Ryan. Front row (l. to r.): William O'Brien, Ciaran Morris, Enda Parker, Eoin Fitzgibbon, Alan Kelly, Tony Scroope, Conor Quigley, Conor Hayes, Robert Bonfield, Robert Ryan, Gerard Clifford. Br. F. Doherty (coach).



Burgess N.S. – winners of the Roinn D county hurling championship. Back row: (l. to r.) John McGrath, Seanan McDonnell, Frank Scroope, Noel Kennedy, Thomas Fogarty, Martin Fogarty, Noel Gleeson, David Maher, David Hackett, Eoin Duggan, Alan Hayes. Front row (l. to r.): Cian McDonnell, Tadhg Hogan, Jonathan Maher, Aine Mulcahy, Patrick Hogan, David Corrigan, Conor Mulcahy, Sean Darcy, Brendan Sheehan, Gerry Ryan, Norma Hanrahan. (Denis Floyd, coach).



## LIATHRÓID LÁIMHE:

The county finals of the handball competitions took place in the Horse & Jockey Handball Club with the following results:

### Under-11 (Boys):

Paul Hennessy (Ballyporeen N.S.) beat Matthew Ryan (Lissenhall N.S.) Niall Collins (Ballina N.S.) beat Paul Hennessy in the final.

### Doubles:

Enda McKeogh and Jer Coonan (Ballina N.S.) beat David Russell and Donal English (Ballyporeen N.S.)

### Girls:

*Singles:* Aoife Hickey (Ballina N.S.) beat Teresa Timmons (Lissenhall N.S.); *Doubles:* Ballina N.S. got a walk-over.

*Under-13: Singles:* Shane Hickey (Ballina N.S.) beat Eoin Quirke (Lissenhall N.S.). *Doubles:* Daragh Lyons and Michael J. Meany (Ballyporeen N.S.) beat Damien Egan and Donal O'Brien (Lissenhall N.S.)

### Girls:

*Singles:* Ballina N.S. (walk-over); *Doubles:* Ann Moloney and Yvonne Ryan (Lissenhall N.S.) beat Aisling Horan and Sarah Conroy (Ballina N.S.)

The above winners went on to represent Tipperary in Croke Park and they did the county proud with Niall Collins, Enda McKeogh and Ger Coonan, Aoife Hickey and Daragh Lyons and Michael J. Meany winning their respective games over the winners from other counties.

### I.N.T.O./G.A.A. Mini-Sevens:

After a very exciting competition in all four disciplines the following schools came out on top:

*Iománaíocht:* Upperchurch N.S.

*Camógaíocht:* Ballylooby N.S.

*Peil (Buachaillí):* Ballyporeen N.S.

*Peil (Cailíní):* Ballagh N.S./Clonoulty N.S.

After the Regional finals the following children from Tipperary were selected to represent Tipperary in Croke Park:

*Iománaíocht:* Jody Brennan and Pat Short (Upperchurch N.S.)

*Camógaíocht:* Mairead Morrissey, Orla

Fahy and Denise Fitzgerald (Ballylooby N.S.)

*Peil (Buachaillí):* Daragh Lyons (Ballyporeen N.S.)

*Peil (Cailíní):* Moira Ryan (Ballagh N.S.)

## SOUTHERN REGION HURLING FINALS:

### Roinn A:

*Thurles C.B.S.* ..... 3-4

*Ballylooby N.S.* ..... 3-2

The Roinn A final was one of the best seen for a long time and great credit is due to both schools which put on such a fine display of hurling.

*Thurles C.B.S.:* Paddy McCormack, Richard Fanning, Peter Grayden (captain), Lee Shanahan, Lorcan Burke, Sean O'Dwyer, Wayne Cully, Shane McKenna, Robbie Grace, David O'Dwyer, T. J. Gleeson, Shane Ryan, Pádraig Dugga, Philip Young and Jim Mackey.

*Subs:* P. J. Mullaney, Colm McGrath, Eoin Ryan, David O'Callaghan and Martin Treacy.

*Ballylooby N.S.:* Alan McCormack, Orla Fahy, Michael Doyle, Michael Murphy, Denise Fitzgerald, Derek Whelan, Pat Slattery, David Byron, David Fox, Mairead Morrissey, Brian Kennedy, Brian Beary, Colm Flynn and John Whelan.

*Subs:* Karen Barry, James Murphy, Ben Colgan, Pa Burke, Darren Connelly and Paudie Slattery.

*Referee:* Paddy Russell.

### ROINN F:

*Castleiney C.B.S.* ..... 0-6

*Tankerstown N.S.* ..... 0-4

This was a new competition introduced this year for schools with small numbers on roll. Eleven schools took part and this very exciting final was the climax of a very fine competition.

*Castleiney N.S.:* Michael Treacy, Derek Burke, Sarah Ryan, Eoin Brennan, Kathleen Ryan, Philip Treacy, Paul Brennan,

Anne Treacy, Siobhan Brennan, Martin Ryan, Jerry Brennan, John Scully, Stephen Higgins, Ursula Treacy, Germaine Brennan and Mary Brennan.

*Tankerstown N.S.:* Kevin Bergin, Declan Peters, Siobhan Peters, Gerard O'Dwyer, David O'Brien, Louise Collins, Teresa Walsh, Denise Peters, Christopher Collins, Patrick Marnane, Cormac O'Connell, Mark O'Brien, Raymond O'Dwyer, Andrew O'Neill, Kieran Marnane, Ciaran Bergin and Thomas Peters.

*Referee:* Mr. Walsh.

### ROINN D:

*Drangan N.S.* ..... 5-5

*Ballyporeen N.S.* ..... 2-3

Drangan N.S. became the holders of this Roinn D title with this very hard fought win over a very good Ballyporeen side. They laid the foundations for the victory in the first half when despite playing against a strong wind they led by three points at the break.

*Drangan N.S.:* Jill Horan, Mark McCormack, Brian McCormack, Vincent Cunningham, Pakie Brett, Liam Brett, Michael Farrell, John Brett, Edmund Horan, Thomas Horan, Seán Horan and Heather McGrath.

*Ballyporeen N.S.:* Jonathan McDonnell, Paul Hyland, Patrick O'Donoghue, William Carey, Daragh Lyons, Brendan Finn, James Cahill, Cathal Duinnin, Cormac O'Duinnin, Michael J. Meaney and James Kenneally.

*Referee:* Seán Quirke.

*Roinn B:* Won by Templetuohy N.S.

*Roinn C:* Won by Upperchurch N.S.

*Roinn E:* Won by Ballagh N.S.

On behalf of Cumann na mBunscol I would like to thank most sincerely all the clubs around the county which put their fields and facilities at our disposal throughout the year and to all the referees who give of their time for the schools. Go raibh míle maith agaibh go léir.



Galtee Rovers – Winners of U-11 West Football Blitz – Front row (l. to r.) Tony Egan, Kieran Murnane, Tony O'Brien, Matthew Grogan, David Morrissey, Thomas Peters, Damien Ryan, Sean Buckley, Adrian Grace. Standing at back: (l. to r.) John Peters, Michael Crowe, Seamus Byron, Michael Grace, Liam Bergin. Second row (l. to r.) Shane Grogan, Kieran Bergin, Michael Connell, Brian Hogg, Gerard Crowe, Pat Murnane, David Ryan, Mandy Crowe.



West Tipperary Primary Schools Football Blitz – Ballydrehid N.S. Front row (l. to r.): Aisling Lonergan, Leah Collins, Mena Keane, Imelda Lonergan, Sarah-Lee Lonergan, Siobhán Martin, Bernadette Moloney, Christopher Byron. Back row (l. to r.) Emma Carroll, Louise Carroll, Lorraine Doocey, Sinéad Martin, Shane Fenton, Eoghan Wade, Conor Moore, James Keating, Adrian Carroll, Anthony Boles, Tony Lonergan, Michael Byron.



# North Tipperary Primary Schools Hurling and Football Championships 1995-1996

By JAMES GLEESON, Secretary

## Football Championships

**G**ROUP A involved a straight final between Nenagh C.B.S. and Roscrea C.B.S. the Nenagh lads were victorious in what was the first leg of a football/hurling championship double.

### GROUP B

Group B was by far the biggest group of the four, involving 14 schools in the four to six-teacher category. Teams were 13-a-side and the championship was run on a straight knock-out basis. There were six first-round games.

Dunkerrin N.S. received a walk-over from Borrisoleigh N.S. Ballinahinch N.S. easily defeated Templederry N.S. Moneygall and Cloughjordan drew 3-1 to 2-4 in their game. Moneygall emerged victorious by 5-7 to 1-4 in the replay.

Ballina N.S. accounted for near neighbours Portroe N.S. and Youghalarra were too good for Puckane N.S. In the last of the remaining preliminary games Lorrha/Redwood accounted for Borrisokane N.S.

In the quarter-finals Ballinahinch proved too strong for Dunkerrin N.S. Moneygall defeated Carrig N.S. by 4-4 to 2-2. Ballina N.S. had it all to do to overcome Youghalarra N.S. while Lorrha defeated fellow parishioners Rathcabbin in the last quarter-final game.

In the first semi-final a good Moneygall side had a bit to spare over Ballinahinch, winning by 2-4 to 1-3. Ballina easily triumphed over Lorrha in the other semi-final.

The final was a closely contested affair for the first twenty minutes or so but a better drilled and more skilful Ballina side emerged winners over Moneygall by 3-8 to 2-0.

### GROUP C

This championship was run for schools in the three-teacher category. There were four entries and teams were 11-a-side. Burgess N.S. had a facile victory over Ballinaclogh N.S. in one semi-final while Kilbarron received a walk-over from Ardcreney N.S. in the other.

Burgess had two points to spare over Kilbarron in the final. The score was Burgess 3-9, Kilbarron 5-1. This was the first leg in an excellent football/hurling double for Burgess.



**Ballina - Schools Football Champions, Section B, 1996**

Back (L/R) - Sean Flanagan, Gerard Sheehy, Michael Carroll, Stephen Stritch, Darren Bourke, T. J. O'Connell, Michael Scanlon, James Carroll, Paul Ryan. Middle - David Dineen, David Hayes, David Cassidy, Peter King (C), Cathal O'Connell, Thomas Manly, Shane Hickey. Front - Eoin Sheehy, Niall Collins, Thomas Larkin, Gerard Coonan. Coaches: Vivian Cahalane, Declan Masterson.

### GROUP D

This championship was run for schools in the two-teacher category. Teams were nine-a-side. Schools entered were Boher N.S., Lissnahall N.S., Aglish N.S., Gortagarry N.S., Kilkeary N.S., Kyle Park N.S.

Boher and Lissnahall made it through to the final. Lissnahall played some skilful football but in the end had to give way to a stronger and better balanced Boher outfit.

## Hurling Championships

**T**here five grades in the competition and all were run on a straight knock-out basis.

### GROUP A

There were four schools in the Group A championship. Teams were composed of 15 players a side. Nenagh C.B.S. easily defeated Roscrea C.B.S. in one semi-final while Toomevara had the better of Dromakeenan in the other.

The final was played in Toomevara with the Nenagh lads proving that bit too strong for the local school. Nenagh C.B.S. went on to win the county final.

### GROUP B

This grouping was made up of six schools and teams were thirteen a side. There were two preliminary rounds. In one, Moneygall defeated Borrisoleigh N.S. by 7-4 to 1-3 while in the other Cloughjordan N.S. was too strong for Corville N.S.

In the first semi-final Moneygall drew with Ballina N.S. 2-4 each. In the replay Moneygall proved much too strong, winning by 5-6 to 0-3. Cloughjordan N.S. earned a place in the final by virtue of a good semi-final win over Borrisokane N.S.

Moneygall N.S. defeated Cloughjordan by 7-2 to 2-5 in the final. They lost to Templetuohy N.S. in the county final.

### GROUP C

Nine schools were entered for the Group C championship. Teams had to be eleven a side. Ballinahinch easily accounted for Lorrha/Redwood in a preliminary round. This left eight quarter-finalists.

In the first of these Ballinahinch N.S. had their second victory of the championship by easily accounting for Portroe. Rathcabbin N.S. were too good for Carrig N.S. Youghalarra made it through to the semi-final by virtue of a win over Templederry N.S. and Dunkerrin N.S. completely outclassed Puckane N.S. in the remaining quarter-final game.



## NORTH TIPP PRIMARY SCHOOLS – Continued

The first semi-final between Ballinahinch and Rathcabbin, played Nenagh, was a close affair with Ballinahinch N.S. taking victory in the end. Youghalarra had to shake off stiff resistance from Dunkerrin N.S. before booking their place in the final.

The final was a closely-fought affair with Youghalarra winning for much of the game. A late rally by Ballinahinch secured them victory by four points. They went on to beat Upperchurch N.S. in the final.

### GROUP D

This competition was for three-teacher schools. There were two preliminary

quarter-finals. Silvermines N.S. overcame Kilruane N.S. in one and Burgess N.S. defeated Ballinree 4-6 to 2-5 in the other.

Silvermines booked their place in the final by virtue of a semi-final victory over Ardcrone N.S. Burgess N.S. accounted for Kilbarron N.S. in the other on a score of 2-11 to 3-4.

In the final Burgess had an easily enough win over Silvermines on a score of 3-8 to 2-3. They finished a great year by beating Drangan N.S. 4-5 to 1-1 in the county final in Semple Stadium.

### GROUP E

Nine schools entered for the two-teacher Group E competition. Sides were nine-a-side. There was one preliminary round in which Kilkeary N.S. easily defeated Fanfane N.S.

In the first of the quarter-finals Kilkeary had to give way to a strong Boher side in a wind-dominated game in Nenagh. Kyle Park defeated near neighbours Aglish N.S. Lissnahall accounted for Gortagarry easily enough and Ballinacloyh completely outclassed Rearcross N.S. in the last remaining quarter-final.

The semi-finals saw Boher N.S. pitched against Kyle Park and Lissnahall in opposition to their fellow parishioners. Boher N.S. and Lissnahall emerged to compete in the final.

Lissnahall started well, stayed with Boher throughout the game but it was the Ballina school which claimed victory. They went on to defeat Ballagh N.S. by four points in the county final.

All in all, a great championship for the North Schools, winning four county finals in all.

# Deochanna Draíochta

**N**ÍL LUIBH ná leigheas in aghaidh an bháis, adeir an sean fhocal, agus gan dabht is fíor an ráiteas sin. Mar sin féin is iomaí duine in Éirinn sna blianta thart le heolas na luibheanna a rinne obair fhiúntach ar son an pobail. Deirtear gor thosaig an nós leis na Tuathe De Danann. Uair nuair a bhí siad á n-ullmhú féin don chath leis na Fomhóraigh chuaigh an dochtúir cáiliúil a bhí acu. Dian ceacht go lúsmhaigh, Co. Uí bhFáilí, chun luibheanna íce a bhailiú. Le linn an chatha thugtaí fir ghonta cuige agus ní dhéanadh seisean ach iad a thumadh i gcoire luibheanna agus shlánaíí go hiomlán iad.

Se scéal Táin Bó Cuailnge deirtear linn gur throid Cú Chulainn agus a chomhalta Fear diadh ar feadh thrí lá ag an áth. An chéad dá thráthnóna nuair a scoir siad den troid tháinig lucht leighis ón sí agus luibheanna íce acu chun créachtaí na beirte a shlánuú. Ar an tríú lá áfach chaith Cú Chulainn an Gae Bolga le Fear Diadh agus níorbh fhéidir le héinne an ghoin sin a leigheas. Tá neart scéalta againn ar chumas an lusracháin (herbalist) ins na sean aoiseanna agus tá an t-ádh linn go bhfuil eolas ar chumhacht luibheanna éaghsúla againn fós san aois seo.

Is soiléir ó na seanscéalta go raibh dlúthbhaint ag luibheanna íce agus bcírd an lia leis an saol eile, nó lucht na sí. Níor thuig na gháth daoine cúisíocht na ngalar agus dá dtíochfadh pian tobann orthu, is cinnte gurb iad na síoga ab údar léi.

Insítear an scéal go minic mar gheall ar leabh tinn sa chliabhán. In áit páiste breá folláin is créatúr lag bocht le cuma sean-duine air a d'fheicfeadh na tuismitheoirí.

Is é an míniú a bhí air ná nach é an páiste féin a bhí ann, ach iarlais (changeling). Bhí an páiste féin tógtha an na síoga. Is leir ó sin gur leis an aos sí a bhain na luibheanna leighis agus de bharr sin is siar go dtí aimsir na págantachta a théann a n-úsáid. Rinne Naomh Pádraig agus an nua creideamh Chríostaí iarracht thar barr na nósanna págantachta a athrú agus a athainmiú. Sin an fáth meastar ar as Naoimh Chríostaí a nainmíodh an oiread sin plandaí, Duilleog Bhríde Cuach Phadraig, Lus Cholm Cille agus mórán eile. Ach le sin ráite bhí teannas nimhneach idir lusracháin agus an Eaglais agus mhair ar agóid sin go dtí an 19 ú haois ar a laghad.

Ní ag gach duine a bhí an teolas ar luibheanna agus leigheas. Is le ginealach a théadh céird an lia agus ar lusracháin. Is iad na teaghlaigh a bhí ar chaint is mó acu ná Muintir Icí, Muintir Dhoinsléibhe agus Clann Mhic Lea. Is ins na scoileanna dúchasacha a chleachtaigh na dochtúirí gaelacha a gcéird. Nuair a scriosadh córas na nGael go luath san 17ú haois chualthas creill bháis na hoiliúna sin. Ach leanadh leis an oideachas agus bhí daoine ann a d'fhoghaim na horthaí (charms) agus na leigheasanna óna muiníir féin. Glaoth dochtúirí an phobail orthu, na cráimhseacha (midwives) na cúipineirí (bonesetters) cailleacha na luibheanna agus na lusracháin éile.

Níor léir do na daoine i gcónaí cé na buanna a bhí sna plandaí agus is trí triail agus earráid a thangthas ar na leigheasanna. Chreid na daoine go mbéadh leideanna le fáil ar chumhacht an phlanda ina chruth féin. Dá mbéadh claonadh chun deirge ann ba léir gur mhaith é chun galair

fola a leigheas. Dá mbéadh dath buí ar chrann nó sceach léireodh sin gur leigheas ar na buíocháir (jaundice) a bhí ann. D'úsáideadh na luibheanna mar chóir leighis d'ainmhithe freisin. Dá mbéadh bláthanna dearga ar luibh thugtaí do bheithig iad mar leigheas ar an mún dearg (murrain).

Bhí muinín mhór ag daoine san dealg spionáir (gooseberry) chun sleamhnán sa tsúil (sty) a leigheas. Bhí searmanas ag gabháil le gníomhacht an leighis agus bhí orthaí áirithe le rá. Chuidigh an searmanas seo le draíocht agus mistéir na hócáide. Baineadh an-úsáid as Aiteann mar leigheas ar a bpluchadh (asthma) agus in aghaidh casachta. Deir na sean daoine nach raibh planda níos cumhachtaí ná an Beathnua (St. John's Wort). Bhí cumhacht ag an bplanda seo fiú amháin a bheith á iompar i bpóca an duine. Bhí sé ábalta deamhain a ruaigeadh agus freisin grá a mhealladh. Ní thíocfadh tromluí ar an té a mbéadh an planda sa leaba aige. Bhí leigheas san bhiolar (watercress) ar aicídí éagsúla, na daitheacha, tinneas boilg, eitinn, fuil lag agus a lán eile nach iad.

Cé go bhfuil an mhistéir ag caint le leigheasanna na ndaoine is iontach freisin a eifeachtaí is atá cuid acu. Diaidh ar ndiaidh tá na ceimiceoirí ag dul i dtuiscint ar na luibheanna agus na plandaí seo. Tá andul chun cinn déanta acu le drugaí a fuarthus as plandaí lusracháin. Tuigtear anois gur mhór an fiúntas atá iontu. Deireadh na lusracháin go raibh leigheas ar gach galar le fáil ins na luibheacha agus do réir tuairimí na dtaighdeoirí nua-aimseartha is amhlaidh go raibh an ceart acu.

Conor Ó Riain

# TIOBRAID ÁRANN ABÚ



# Tipperary Post-Primary Games

By Sean O'Costagáin

**A**S we look back over the past year's activity, I believe the greatest boast that people working at underage level in county got was the great victory of our minors in the All-Ireland final in September. I think as a source of encouragement to all those people, be they at primary school level, Bord na nÓg, or post-primary level, that victory was badly needed and I believe it has given a fresh impetus to games at post primary level already this term in the school year.

As we look back over the past year it is my pleasure to report a very successful one with many fine games having taken place.

The following are the results of our various competitions for 1995 - '96:

## CORN UÍ AONGUSA (U-16) B. HURLING

### Semi-Finals:

Carrick-on-Suir V.S. 7-2 .....Fethard 5-4  
Nenagh V.S. 2-5 .....Presentation Ballingarry 1-5

### Final:

Nenagh V.S. 5-12 .....Carrick-on-Suir V.S. 1-2

Six teams affiliated and the earlier rounds provided us with closely contested games. But in the final, Nenagh V.S. proved themselves to be a very good team and continues their successful strike rate in the Tipperary Post-Primary competitions.

## CROKE CUP (U-16) A. HURLING

### Semi-Finals:

Our Lady's Templemore 4-12 .....Thurles C.B.S. 2-8  
Roscrea V.S. 3-6 .....Borrisokane C.C. 1-9

### Final:

Roscrea V.S. 1-7 .....Our Lady's Templemore 0-5

This was an excellent competition with nine schools affiliated and it provided us with a series of excellent evenly fought contests. In defeating Our Lady's Templemore in the final, Roscrea V.S. won the prestige trophy for the first time in the school's history and understandably, it was greeted with great scenes of jubilation. I wish to sincerely congratulate the school on their achievement and especially Brendan Greaney for his great work for Gaelic Games in the school over the years.

## FITZGERALD SHIELD (U-17) B. HURLING

### Semi-Finals:

Roscrea C.B.S. 3-14 .....Thurles V.S. 2-12  
Nenagh V.S. 4-4 .....Clonmel C.B.S. 1-3

### Final:

Roscrea C.B.S. 4-8 .....Nenagh V.S. 1-5

Twelve teams affiliated in this competition and once again, we had some very good games but not as many as usual in what yearly provides some great entertainment. Our congratulations to Roscrea C.B.S. who captured the Shield after an entertaining final with Nenagh V.S.



**ROSCREA VOCATIONAL SCHOOL - CROKE CUP (U-16) A HURLING CHAMPIONS** - Back: Ger Leamy (Roscrea), Anthony Walsh (Roscrea); Thomas Harney (Moneygall), Henry Bevens (Shinrone), Derek McLoughlin (Shinrone), Ger Whyte (Moneygall), Jason Ryan (Shinrone), Patrick Whelan (Kinnity), Kevin Mullally (Shinrone), Joe Brady (Coolderry), Gerald Egan (Shinrone).

Front: Geróid Fox (Borris-in-Ossory), Joe Crompton (Clonakenny), Colm Monaghan (Roscrea), Michael Burke (Clonakenny), Paul Tynan (Roscrea), Trevor Moore (Borris-in-Ossory), Mick O'Hara, captain (Ballyskenagh), Trevor Fletcher (Roscrea), Barry Keeshaw (Ballyskenagh), Conor Ryan (Moneygall), Michael Cordial (Shinrone), Damien Murray (Coolderry), Alan Abbott (Clonakenny).

## FITZGERALD CUP (U-17) A. HURLING

### Semi-Finals:

Nenagh C.B.S. 1-11 .....Thurles C.B.S. 2-7  
St. Joseph's, Borrisoleigh 2-13 .....Tipperary C.B.S. 1-8

### Final:

Nenagh C.B.S. 1-8 .....St. Joseph's, Borrisoleigh 0-7

Nine teams affiliated but I believe this competition which is our premier hurling one at Post-Primary level is not what it should be. Maybe, we should consider running it over a three week period earlier in the year or giving the final a higher profile, perhaps having it as a curtain raiser to some important League game. This year's final was an excellent one very well contested and it marked St. Joseph's, Borrisoleigh's first appearance in the premier final. They acquitted themselves quite well, but in the end Nenagh C.B.S. gained some compensation for their great year's hurling when they deservedly retained their title.

## CUSACK SHIELD (U-15) B. FOOTBALL

### Semi-Finals:

St. Joseph's, Borrisoleigh defeated Convent of Mercy, Newport  
Tipperary V.S. 2-13 .....Nenagh V.S. 4-6

### Final:

St. Joseph's, Borrisoleigh 8-5 .....Tipperary V.S. 3-10



**ROSCREA C.B.S. FITZGERALD SHIELD WINNERS (1996) U-17 B** - Front: T. Douglas (Roscrea), M. Culleton (Kinnity), A. Franks (Roscrea), G. Walsh (Kyle), W. Shanahan (Roscrea).

Middle: Mr. M. Mannsell (coach), G. Doherty (Moneygall), S. Nolan (Moneygall), N. Hayes (Clareen), B. Kennedy (Kyle), A. Barry (Roscrea), T. Ryan (Roscrea), M. Talbot (Clonakenny), E. Fitzgerald (Roscrea), Mr. M. Harte (Co-ordinator).

Back: B. Murphy (Ballyskenagh), D. Carney (Ballyskenagh), R. Hourihane (Moneygall), I. Kinehan (Coolderry), T. Fitzgerald (Shinrone), D. Martin (Roscrea), D. Franks (Ballyskenagh).



Ten schools affiliated, but unfortunately, two of them – St. Joseph's Cahir and Carrick-on-Suir V.S. conceded walkovers. This competition left much to be desired in the manner in which it dragged on and also the gamesmasters failure to convey information or co-operate with organiser Colm O'Flaherty must not be allowed to happen again. Borrisoleigh's excellent victory in the end, once more demonstrates the rapid progress being made at football in that area. Once again, a sincere 'well done'.

### CUSACK SHIELD (U-15) A. FOOTBALL

#### Semi-Finals:

Clonmel C.B.S. defeated Fethard

Killenaule V.S. defeated Borrisokane C.C.

#### Final:

Killenaule V.S. 5-17 ..... Clonmel High School 3-2

Nine teams affiliated in this competition with Fethard mistakingly left out in the original draw, but that was rectified by Cashel C.S. playing them in a preliminary game. A very good competition with some excellent football being played, culminating in giving us excellent winners in Killenaule V.S. who had a team of all the talents. Their progress in Post-Primary competitions in the immediate future will be watched with interest.

### McGABHANN SHIELD (U-18) B. FOOTBALL

#### Semi-Finals:

Borrisokane V.S. defeated Carrick-on-Suir V.S.

Nenagh V.S. defeated Roscrea C.B.S.

#### Final:

Nenagh V.S. 0-9 ..... Borrisokane C.C. 0-8

Seven teams affiliated and after a series of interesting games, Nenagh V.S. and Borrisokane C.C. qualified to contest the final – a unique pairing in a football final and in the end, Nenagh V.S. captured their second Post-Primary title for 1995-96. A pity that neither of the finalists informed us of date of same, with the result that the Football Board Chairman could not attend to present the trophy to the winning team. This situation should not be allowed to happen as it belittles the status of the final and we have no one to blame but ourselves for allowing this to happen.

### McGABHANN CUP (U-18) A. FOOTBALL

#### Semi-Finals:

Tipperary C.B.S. 3-8 ..... Cashel C.S. 0-7

Rockwell College 2-11 ..... Tipperary C.B.S. 2-6

#### Final:

Rockwell College 2-11 ..... Tipperary C.B.S. 2-6

The preliminary games provided us with some very good games and the final itself was a game in keeping with the high standards we have come to expect in Corn Mhic Gabhann. Unfortunately, we had a sequel to the final with Rockwell College loosing the game on an objection that nobody wanted, not even Abbey C.B.S. What happened should be a lesson to us all to get our own houses in order and do our business in an efficient, business like and professional manner in keeping with the high standards expected of G.A.A. people in the Premier county.

### WINNERS (U-14) A. FOOTBALL

Scoil Ruain, Cill Náile

### WINNERS (U-14) B. FOOTBALL

Coláiste Carraig an Tobair

The annual blitz for the u-14 footballers in the county took place in Rockwell College on May 22nd, once again expertly organised by Colm O'Flaherty. Seventeen teams participated and an excellent days sport was had by all. The strength of underage football around Slieve Ardagh was again in evidence when Scoil Ruan, Killenaule captured the 'A' title and the host school were worthy winners of the 'B' trophies. Our sincere



### SCOIL RUAIN, KILLENAULE, CUSACK CUP U-15 A FOOTBALL

**WINNERS** – Back (l-r): Eamon Cahill, Thomas Grant, Rory Rice, Tony Doyle, P.J. Burke, Thomas Fitzgerald, Paul Curran. Middle: Gerry Treacy (coach), Eoin Kelly, Jimmy Gazely, Jonathan Guilfoyle, Eoin Teehan, Joseph Hogan, Gearóid Maher, William Hogan, Paddy O'Reilly (coach), Brian Coen. Front: Neil O'Brien, Andrew Lawlor, Joseph Caesar, Donal Shelly, Patrick Kerwick, DAmien Gleeson, Edward O'Brien.



### NENAGH VOCATIONAL SCHOOL SENIOR FOOTBALL PANEL

**WINNERS OF THE '95/'96 McGABHANN SHIELD** – In the final they defeated Borrisokane Community College, 0-9 – 0-8 at McDonagh Park, Nenagh. Front (l-r): M. Delahunty, N. Slattery, C. McGrath, M. McGrath, M. Ryan (captain), K. Hayes, P. Shoer, P. Kirwan, T. Connors. Back (l-r): J. Slattery, B. Power, L. Ryan, E. Nolan, E. Connolly, D. Boland, G. Mitchell, J. McCarthy, J. Gleeson, T. Maher, G. Slattery, P. Seymour, D. Hackett, W. O'Meara, J. Lynch, J. McLoughney, R. Tynan, T. Delaney (coach). Missing from photo E. Murtagh (due to injury).



### OUR LADY'S TEMPLEMORE, CORN NA PHIARSAIGH MUNSTER (U-15)

**CHAMPIONS 1996** – Back (l-r): Sean O'Costagáin (gamesmaster), Tom Loughnane (Errill), Gearóid Byrne (Clonakenny), Kevin Mulryan (Brackens), Aidan Ivors (do), Tom King, capt. (Loughmore), P.J. Shanahan (Drom-Inch), John Cahill (do), Conor Costigan (Moyne-Templetuohy), John Dunne (Brackens), Tim O'Meara (Drom-Inch), Seamus Bourke (trainer). Front (l-r): Philly Ryan (Brackens), Pat Kennedy (Moyne-Templetuohy), Tommy Long (Loughmore), Kevin Ivors (J.K. Brackens), Martin Gleeson (Loughmore), Eoin Shortt (Upperchurch-Drombane), Donncha Murray (Clonakenny), Mark Bourke (Borrisoleigh), Martin Joe Murray (Clonakenny), Ricky Fogarty (Moyne-Templetuohy), Ml. Walsh (Loughmore) and Trevor O'Connor (Drom-Inch).



thanks to all involved, especially to Rockwell College who once again put their excellent facilities at the disposal of the Post-Primary Schools Board.

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As well as the ten domestic competitions within our county in which our schools participated we had a number of successes at provincial level and it gives me great pleasure to salute the schools that brought home provincial titles.

Pride of place must go to Thurles C.B.S. who captured the Whyte Cup (u-15) A provincial title with narrow but well deserved victory over North Mon. on the score 2-6 to 1-8.

Our Lady's Templemore also had a very good year when they captured the Corn uí Phiarsaigh with a well deserved 3-9 to 1-5 victory over Presentation College, Mallow.

One of the great colleges' games of 1996 had to be the Rice Cup Munster (u-14). A school's final between Our Lady's, Templemore and Thurles C.B.S. as prestige as well as Cup and trophies was at stake. Thurles C.B.S. dominated the first half and with the aid of a stiff breeze led at half time 0-8 to 0-0. But in the second half the real fighting qualities of Our Lady's came to the surface and the Templemore school came back for a memorable 3-6 to 0-9 victory.

The Rice shield was won by Nenagh C.B.S. This competition is for teams that did not reach quarter final stage. I wish also to salute Killenaule V.S. who won the Munster (u-14) Vocational title with a five points victory over Thurles V.S. in a local Derby.

On the football scene Munster honours came Fethard's way when they captured the Corn Mhic Chraith (u-15) football title.

Annually the most prestige Colleges competition of them all is the Harty Cup and during 1996 most interest centred on the progress of Nenagh C.B.S. who were the best in Tipperary. They reached the final quite impressively but despite the best efforts of Paul Ryan, Mark O'Leary and Johnny Slattery they were unable to match the brilliance of St. Coleman's, Fermoy who captured their fifth title in 1996.

Looking back over the past year I am satisfied that it was a good one for underage hurling in our county as 1995 was for football. Lets hope that the good work being done at underage by the various people will continue and if it does I have no doubt but Tipperary will not have to wait as long again for another all-Ireland underage title.

I am a little concerned about the recent emphasis of inter-county competitions being introduced at all ages from (u-14) up to minor. The end result of this is that the good players in the various clubs are getting a surplus of games, whereas, the less talented can be inactive right through summer when their clubs are eliminated from various competitions. Perhaps it could be worthwhile at club level organising more competition for this sector otherwise they will be inclined to get involved in other codes.

As we move into the twenty first century, I think at post-primary level, the emphasis on coaching cannot be over stated and I believe that the many fine coaches working at post-primary level are making a valuable contribution and I hope that in the years ahead more will become available and utilised.

To conclude I wish on behalf of the post-primary schools to say a sincere thank you to the various clubs and their grounds-men for making their pitches available during the year and also for our referees for their invaluable services.

I hope when the time comes in 1997 for our annual review of the past year we will at post-primary level be recalling the achievements of Tipperary at minor level once more and once again be saluting the great deeds of Dinny Cahill, Paudie Butler and Ger O'Neill for putting back to back all-Ireland minor titles together.



**OUR LADY'S TEMPLEMORE, RICE CUP CHAMPIONS 1996** – Back (l-r): Seamus Bourke (trainer), Eamon Ryan (Drom-Inch), Declan Bolger (Loughmore), John Dunne (J.K. Brackens), Aidan Webster (Loughmore), Brendan Corcoran (Brackens), Dr. Jim O'Shea (headmaster), Ian Kilroy (Brackens), Gearóid Byrne (Clonakenny), John Cahill (Drom-Inch), Kevin Ivors (J.K. Brackens), Gerry Ryan (trainer). Front (l-r): Reamon Everard (Moyne-Templetuohy), Padraig Ryan (Templederry), Eoin Shortt (Upperchurch), Ricky Fogarty (Moyne-Templetuohy), Niall Hackett (Loughmore), Brian Hennessey (do), Aidan Ivors, capt. (J.K. Brackens), Martin Gleeson (Loughmore), Darren Danagher (do), Mark Bourke (Borrisoleigh), Martin Joe Murray (Clonakenny), Peter Bourke (J.K. Brackens).



**ST. JOSEPH'S C.B.S., NENAGH, RICE SHIELD WINNERS 1996** – Front (l-r): Damian Bentley, Conor Boyce, Cathal Hanrahan, Damian O'Brien, Brian Fox, Edward Lawlor, Niall McGrath, Ronan O'Neill, Patrick Williams, William Keogh, Kevin Shinnors, John Murphy, Donal Doughan. Back (l-r): Br. O'Connell (trainer), Thomas Hogan, James Whelan, Shane Creamer, Sean Tanner, Alan Seymour, Brian Darcy, Eamonn Hodgins, Seamus Ryan, Donal Hogan, William O'Meara, Mr P. Dolan (trainer). Missing from photo: Trevor Connolly, John O'Brien.



**THURLES C.B.S., WHYTE CUP CHAMPIONS 1996** – Back (l-r): John Kelly (Moycarkey-Borris), Aidan Fagarty (Emeralds), Alan Guilfoyle (Emeralds), Larry Corbett (Durlas Óg), Patrick Carey (Moycarkey-Borris), Barry McLoughlin (Durlas Óg), Tom Butler (Clonoulty-Rossmore), John Devane (Clonoulty-Rossmore), Colm Ryan (Moycarkey-Borris), Tomas Ryan (Moycarkey-Borris). Middle (l-r): David Bannon (Moycarkey-Borris), Billy Kelly (Durlas Óg), Declan Curtis (Durlas Óg), Colm O'Rourke (Durlas Óg), Joe Ryan (Emeralds), Michael O'Shea (Clonoulty-Rossmore), Colm Everard (Moyne-Templetuohy), Damien Young (Drom-Inch), William Dempsey (Moycarkey-Borris), Tomás Campion (Durlas Óg), Francis McCormack (Gortnahoe-Glengoose), John O'Loughlin (Fenians). Front (l-r): Mac Dara Butler (Drom-Inch), P.J. McCormack (Gortnahoe-Glengoose), Aidan Dundon (Durlas Óg), Brian O'Loughlin (Durlas Óg), Brendan Cahill, capt. (Emeralds), Gerard Joyce (Emeralds), Robert Stakelum (Holycross-Ballycahill), Tomas Egan (Moyne-Templetuohy), Paul Horan (Gortnahoe-Glengoose), Philip Maher (Calmoy).





**NENAGH C.B.S., U-17 TEAM:** Fitzgerald Cup winners – Back row (l. to r.) Paul Quinlisk, Brian Duggan, Michael Ryan, Peter Carroll, Richard Flannery, John Scroope, Eoin Troy, Noel Costello, Brian McGrath, Andrew Ryan, Cormac Galvin. Front row: Michael McNamara, Fergal McDonnell, Paul Ryan (captain), Brian Hogan, Kevin McDonnell, Timmy Kelly, Brian Fitzgibbon, Brendan Timmons and Kenneth Jones.



Tipperary minors who won All-Ireland Colleges medals with St. Kieran's, Kilkenny. Left to right: William Maher (Ballingarry), Donncha Fahy (St. Mary's, Clonmel), Michael McGrath (Ballingarry)



**NENAGH C.B.S.,** defeated Harty Cup finalists. Back row: l. to r. Cormac Galvin, Hugh Flannery, Donal Keogh, John Slattery, Damien Bourke, Sean Kennedy, David McGrath, Mark O'Leary. Front row: Brian Hogan, Collwyn Martin, Anthony Quinn, Padraig Hackett, John Ryan, Paul Ryan and Keelin Howard.



Nenagh CBS player Sean Kennedy looks for an opening as he is watched by Timmy Murphy (St. Colman's, Fermoy), during the Dr. Harty Cup final between the sides at Clonmel.



**ST. JOSEPH'S COLLEGE, Borrisoleigh,** team which played Nenagh CBS in the final of the Fitzgerald Cup (under-17 'A' Post-primary Schools hurling at Semple Stadium. Back row (l. to r.) Rory Kinane, John Keane, Noel Kenehan, Philip Maher, Kevin Cummins, Kevin O'Regan, Danny McGrath, Florence Woodlock. Front row: Declan Maher, Kevin Keane, John Doyle, Darragh Rabbittie, Niall O'Riordan, John Harrington (captain), Brian Boyle, Eoin Brislane.



# Waterford RTC - Achieving new Standards of Excellence on the G.A.A.

**F**amiliar with the "famous G.A.A. nursery"? Of course you are. There are scores of them, situated all around the country. St. Flannan's, St. Jarlath's, North Mon, St. Kieran's, St. Mel's, Colaiste Chríost Rí, St. Peter's and many, many other well-known secondary school establishments.

But recent years has seen the emergence of a new G.A.A. nursery. A nursery which caters not for a single county but for an entire region – in this case, the South East. A nursery which isn't a secondary school at all but a third-level institution. A nursery called Waterford Regional Technical College.

Always a natural and popular destination for school leavers from Waterford, Wexford, Tipperary and Kilkenny intent on furthering their education, Waterford RTC's standing is sure to rise further as it achieves institute of technology status – as it looks likely to do sooner rather than later.

There's more to it than that, however, for young people with an interest in Gaelic games. That's because Waterford RTC is a hotbed of hurling, Gaelic football, ladies' football and camogie. The college GAA club boasts more than 600 members, making it the largest third level club in the country. With two Fitzgibbon Cup triumphs for the hurlers since 1992, and the footballers making their Sigerson Cup debut this season, WRTC's recent record on the field of play is second to none.

And then there's the college GAA Education Awards Scheme, a brave and imaginative development which affords promising young players of both sexes an exciting challenge in the third level area. Up for grabs are places on the hugely popular diploma/degree course in recreation and leisure management – a course which, uniquely, to a large extent revolves around the study of Gaelic games!

Fittingly, and to emphasise the commitment of Waterford RTC to its catchment area, the scheme is tailored for young people in Waterford, Wexford, Tipperary and Kilkenny. The successful candidates – six first year students in 1995-96, seven more this time around – are nominated by their respective County Boards, and further assessed by members of the academic staff at the college. Officially launched by GAA president Jack Boothman, the scheme costs in the region of £15,00 per year and is co-funded by the four County Boards, the Munster and Leinster provincial council and the WRTC GAA club itself.

That such a bold and innovative enterprise has emerged from the Suirside college is scarcely surprising, given that boldness, innovation and enterprise have been hallmarks of the WRTC GAA club right from the moment it first saw light of

day in 1982. Back then it was distinctly a humble outfit which consisted of one hurling team. But that team won the Third Level Division 3 league at the first time of asking, and suddenly Gaelic games were up and running at Waterford RTC.

Progress was swift. By 1986 WRTC were Division 1 hurling league winners, and the college were freshers' football league winners and Munster freshers' football champions the same season. Twelve months later came the milestone that splashed Waterford RTC's name all over the national newspapers: the appointment of Tipperary dual All Ireland senior hurling medallist Colm Bonnar as full time development officer, the first such officer in the then 103 years history of the Association.

At the time regional colleges were not allowed to participate in the Fitzgibbon Cup (universities hurling), a rule that, thankfully and sensibly, was later abolished. As if to prove a point, Waterford RTC eventually won the competition in 1992 – and, captained by the aforementioned Colm Bonnar, repeated the trick in 1995. The achievement was, Colm maintains, every bit as satisfying as bringing home the McCarthy Cup.

"Winning the Fitzgibbon Cup was one of the greatest moments of my career. It is a honour I place right up there alongside playing and winning with Tipperary. College hurling is a great learning ground. You're meeting colleagues and opponents from other counties, and the friendship and craic you share have to be experienced to be believed. The same in football."

Other leading players to have worn

the mustard and green of Waterford RTC down the years include Liam O'Connor and Shane Ahearn of Waterford, Niall and Diarmuid McDonald (Wexford), Fergal McCormack (Cork), P. J. Delaney (Kilkenny) and Tommy Dunne (Tipperary).

Who might their successors be? A number of names do spring to mind, no a few of them from this part of the world. Thanks to the support of the Tipperary County Board and the help of their representative on the GAA Education Awards Committee, Sean Nugent, three young people from Tipp have won scholarships for the diploma/degree course in recreation and leisure management – a career option perfect for anyone interested in working in the field of Gaelic games administration and/or coaching.

The three are:

- Brendan McKeogh – a member of the county junior football team (second year student).
- Andy Moloney from Cahir, prominent with many of the county's under age hurling and football outfits in recent years, played with Tipp in the Munster senior hurling championship 1995.
- Ger Flanagan, a county senior hurling medallist with the Boherlahan-Dualla in 1996.

This is a trio which, thanks to the vision of the Waterford RTC GAA club, we'll be hearing a lot more of in the future. Thanks also to the vision of Waterford RTC GAA club, there should be plenty more from the Premier County following in their footsteps in the coming years!

## WRTC GAA Education Awards



*In attendance at the launch of WRTC GAA Education Awards were: Front row: (l. to r.) Sean Fogarty (Chairman), Andy Moloney, Brendan McKeogh, Ger Flanagan, Tommy Barrett (Secretary). Back row: Sean Nugent (vice-chairman), Eugene McKenna (WRTC GAA Club President), Liam O'Dwyer, Paraic Fanning (GAA Development Officer WRTC).*



# SCOREBOARD 1996

Compiled by: SÉAMUS O'DOHERTY

## COUNTY FINALS – HURLING

<b>Senior:</b>	
Boherlahan-Dualla	1-16
Toomevara	2-12
<b>Intermediate:</b>	
Lattin-Cullen	0-13
J. K. Brackens	1-8
<b>Junior 'A'</b>	
Skeheenarinka v Ballina	
<b>Junior 'B'</b>	
Templederry	2-9
Rahealty/Kickhams	1-6
<b>Under-21 'A'</b>	
Toomevara or Clonoulty-Rossmore v Mid or South.	
<b>Under-21 'B'</b>	
Drom-Inch v Erin's Hope	
<b>Minor 'A'</b>	
Clonoulty/Rossmore	1-12
Mullinahone	2-8
<b>Minor 'B'</b>	
Templederry	1-10
Gortnahoe-Glengoele	2-3
<b>Under-16 'A'</b>	
Toomevara	4-5
Fethard	1-11
<b>Under-16 'B'</b>	
Moneygall	8-7
Cappawhite	1-7
<b>Under-14 'A'</b>	
Mullinahone	4-13
Nenagh Éire Óg	3-5
<b>Under-14 'B'</b>	
Moyne-Templetuohy	4-11
Newcastle	0-8
<b>Under-12</b>	
Toomevara	2-2
Dúrlas Óg	2-1

## COUNTY FINALS – FOOTBALL

<b>Senior</b>	
Moyle Rovers	0-9
Clonmel Commercial	1-6
	(draw)
Moyle Rovers	1-10
Clonmel Commercial	0-13
	(replay – after extra time)
Moyle Rovers	1-12
Clonmel Commercial	0-9
	(2nd replay after extra time)
<b>Intermediate</b>	
Kickhams v Mid or South	
<b>Junior 'A'</b>	
Clonoulty-Rossmore v Mid or South	
<b>Junior 'B'</b>	
Solohead v Gortnahoe-Glengoele	
<b>Under-21 'A'</b>	
Aherlow	0-10
Loughmore-Castleiney	1-6
<b>Under-21 'B'</b>	
Moyne-Templetuohy	0-14
Cappawhite	0-9
<b>Minor 'A'</b>	
Cahir	1-9
Golden-Kilfeacle	0-9
<b>Minor 'B'</b>	
Holycross-Ballycahill	2-5
Borrisoleigh	1-5
<b>Under-16 'A'</b>	
Fethard	2-10
J K Brackens	2-9
<b>Under-14 'A'</b>	
Galtee Rovers	3-5
Cahir	2-8
	(draw)
Galtee Rovers	2-7
Cahir	2-6
	(replay)
<b>Under-14 'B'</b>	
Killenaule	2-4
Gortnahoe-Glengoele	1-6

<b>Under-12</b>	
Burgess	2-7
Arravale Rovers	0-5

## INTER-COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS – HURLING

<b>Senior</b>	
at Walsh Park, June 2nd	
Tipperary	1-14
Waterford	1-11
at Tralee, June 15th	
Tipperary	4-19
Kerry	2-11
at Limerick, July 7th	
Tipperary	1-16
Limerick	0-19
	(Final)
at Páirc Uí Chaoimh, July 14th	
Limerick	4-7
Tipperary	0-16
	(Replay)
<b>Junior</b>	
at Walsh Park, June 2nd	
Tipperary	2-10
Waterford	1-11
	Semi-Final
Tipperary w.o. Kerry (scr.)	
at Cashel, June 25th	
Cork	2-15
Tipperary	2-10
	(Final)
<b>Under-21</b>	
at Semple Stadium, June 19th	
Tipperary	0-16
Limerick	0-10
at Páirc Uí Chaoimh, July 18	
Cork	2-18
Tipperary	1-12
	(Semi-Final)
<b>Minor</b>	
at Semple Stadium, May 1st	
Tipperary	2-14
Limerick	0-5
at Semple Stadium, June 26th	
Tipperary	0-16
Cork	1-9
at Limerick, July 7th	
Tipperary	2-19
Waterford	1-11
	(Munster Final)
at Croke Park, August 10th	
Tipperary	2-25
Antrim	3-3
at Croke Park, Sept. 1st	
Tipperary	0-20
Galway	3-11
	(All-Ireland Final)
at Croke Park, Sept. 29th	
Tipperary	2-14
Galway	2-12
	(Replay)
<b>Under-16</b>	
at Nenagh, March 30th	
North Tipp	5-12
West Waterford	1-5
at The Ragg, April 13th	
East Clare	4-11
Mid Tipperary	1-8
at Carrigtwohill, April 13th	
Imokilly (Cork)	3-14
West Tipperary	0-10
at Kilsheelan, April 13th	
South Tipp	1-10
Limerick City	1-5
at Nenagh, April 13th	
North Tipp	5-10
Carberry (Cork)	0-5
at Kilsheelan, April 20th	
South Tipp	2-13
West Limerick	1-3
at Nenagh, April 20th	
North Tipp	3-10

East Clare	0-5
at Boherlahan, May 4th	
South Tipp	2-9
North Tipp	1-10
	(Semi-Final)
at Páirc Uí Chaoimh, July 14th	
Imokilly (Cork)	2-11
South Tipperary	0-15
	(Final)

## INTER-COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS – FOOTBALL

<b>Senior</b>	
at Clonmel, May 19th	
Kerry	2-15
Tipperary	1-7
<b>Junior</b>	
at Clonmel, May 19th	
Kerry	1-14
Tipperary	0-5
<b>Under-21</b>	
at Cusack Park, Ennis, April 10th	
Clare	1-13
Tipperary	0-8
<b>Minor</b>	
at Páirc Uí Rinn, April 24th	
Cork	2-18
Tipperary	1-4

## CHURCH AND GENERAL NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE

<b>1995/'96 (Division 4)</b>	
At Ardfinnan, February 4th	
Tipperary	3-7
Waterford	1-10
At New Inn, February 11th	
Tipperary	1-10
Limerick	0-9
At Longford, February 25th	
Longford	2-9
Tipperary	0-8
<b>1996/'97 (Division 4)</b>	
At Ardfinnan, October 13th	
Offaly	2-13
Tipperary	1-5
at Nowlan Park, October 27th	
Tipperary	2-15
Kilkenny	0-7
at Ardfinnan, November 10th	
Carlow	0-16
Tipperary	1-10
At Semple Stadium, December 1st	
Tipperary	2-13
London	0-7

## ALL-IRELAND SENIOR 'B' FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS 1996

Round 1, Sept. 29th	
Tipperary w.o. Clare (scr.)	
Round 2 at Semple Stadium, Oct. 5th	
Longford	0-15
Tipperary	0-9

## MCGRATH CUP SENIOR FOOTBALL

at Askeaton, January 14th	
Limerick	2-8
Tipperary	1-8
At Ardfinnan, January 21st	
Tipperary	1-8
Kerry	0-8
	(Tipperary eliminated on scoring difference)

## CHURCH & GENERAL NATIONAL HURLING LEAGUE

<b>1995/'96 (Division I)</b>	
at Páirc Uí Rinn, February 18	
Tipperary	1-15
Cork	1-8
at Semple Stadium, March 3rd	



Tipperary	0-16
Clare	2-9
at Nowlan Park, March 24th	
Kilkenny	0-14
Tipperary	1-10
at Nowlan Park, April 28th	
Tipperary	1-13
Laois	1-11
(Semi-Final)	

at Limerick, May 12th

Galway	2-10
Tipperary	2-8
(Final)	

#### WATERFORD CRYSTAL HURLING LEAGUE 1996

At Páirc Uí Rinn, October 12th

Cork	1-11
Tipperary	2-7
at Wexford Park, November 17th	
Tipperary	0-16
Wexford	1-7
At Carrick-on-Suir, December 1st	
Tipperary	1-14
Waterford	2-7

#### MASTERS OVER-40 HURLING CHAMPIONSHIP

At The Ragg, June 10th

Kilkenny	2-10
Tipperary	1-11
at Athenry, June 17th	
Galway	1-13
Tipperary	0-13
At The Ragg, June 24th	
Tipperary	0-12
Clare	0-9
Tipperary beat Wexford and got w.o. from Dublin	
at The Ragg, July 29th	
Tipperary	1-11
Laois	3-5
(Quarter-Final, Draw)	

At Rathdowney, August 5

Tipperary	0-8
Laois	1-4
(Replay)	

At Nowlan Park, August 12th

Tipperary	2-15
Kilkenny	2-11
(Semi-Final)	

At Nenagh, August 17

Tipperary	2-10
Clare	1-10
(Final)	

#### OTHER RESULTS:

#### MUNSTER CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP 1996

#### HURLING:

at Semple Stadium, Nov. 10th

Ballygunner (Waterford)	2-16
Boherlahan-Dualla	1-13

#### FOOTBALL:

at Dungarvan, November 3rd

Rathgormack (Waterford)	1-9
Moyle Rovers (Tipperary)	1-8

#### INTER-PROVINCIAL IARNROD ÉIREANN CUP

#### HURLING:

at Ennis, February 25th

Munster	5-13
Ulster	0-7
(Semi-Final)	

at Ennis, March 18th

Munster	2-20
Leinster	0-10
(Final)	

#### FOOTBALL:

at Clones, March 10th

Munster	2-17
Ulster	1-20
(semi-final) (draw A.E.T.)	

at Ennis, March 18th

Munster	0-13
Ulster	0-12
(replay)	

at Newbridge, April 14th

Leinster	1-13
Munster	0-9
(Final)	

#### SIGERSON CUP – FOOTBALL

at Templemore, Feb. 17th

Garda Training College	1-12
Dublin City University	1-8
at Limerick, March 2nd	

Garda Training College	1-6
University of Ulster (Jordanstown)	0-7
(Semi-Final)	

at Limerick, March 3rd

U.C.D.	2-11
Garda Training College	3-5
(Final)	

#### MUNSTER J.H. CHAMPIONSHIP

at Bruff, February 25th

Thurles Sarsfields	1-15
Dromin/Athlacca, Limerick	1-8

#### FITZGIBBON CUP HURLING

at Templemore, February 24th

Garda College, Templemore	1-9
Waterford R.T.C.	0-9

at Belfield, March 9th

University of Limerick	1-9
Garda College, Templemore	1-8

at Belfield, March 10th

U.C.C.	3-16
University of Limerick	0-16
(Final)	

#### FÉILE NA nGAEL U-14 HURLING

Semi-Finals at the Ragg, May 25th

Toomevara	4-4
Dúrlas Óg	0-6

at Holycross, May 25th

Mullinahone	8-7
Lattin-Cullen	0-4

Co. Final at Holycross, May 25th

Toomevara	3-7
Mullinahone	3-5

#### CO. PRIMARY SCHOOLS' HURLING FINALS

at Semple Stadium 20th June

'A'	
Nenagh CBS	2-5
Thurles CBS	1-3

'B'

Templetuohy N.S.	1-7
Moneygall N.S.	0-1

'C'

Ballinahinch N.S.	3-2
Upperchurch N.S.	1-1

'D'

Burgess N.S.	4-4
Drangan N.S.	1-1

'E'

Boher N.S.	2-2
Ballagh N.S.	0-4

Under-11 'A'

Thurles C.B.S.	4-1
Carrick CBS	0-3

#### NENAGH CO-OP U-16 HURLING TOURNAMENT

at Nowlan Park, October 6th

Tipperary	0-17
Kilkenny	2-11

at The Ragg, October 13th

Tipperary	2-13
Waterford	0-5

at Fermoy, October 28th

Cork	2-15
Tipperary	2-11

at Kilsheelan, November 2nd

Tipperary	1-13
Wexford	1-5

\*Tipperary eliminated on scoring differences.

#### GARDA CUP UNDER-16 HURLING

at Boherlahan, 27th July

South Tipperary bt Mid Tipperary	
North Tipperary bt. West Tipperary	

at The Ragg, August 11th

North Tipperary	2-12
South Tipperary	2-9
(Final)	

#### GARDA CUP U-16 FOOTBALL

At the Ragg, Nov. 30th

North Tipperary	0-10
Mid Tipperary	0-4

South Tipperary beat West Tipperary  
(Semi-Finals)

#### TONY FORRISTAL U-14 HURLING TOURNAMENT

at Waterford, August 24th

Tipperary	5-7
Waterford	2-3

Tipperary	1-7
Offaly	2-3

Tipperary	0-7
Galway	0-5
(Semi-Final)	

at Waterford, August 25th

Tipperary	5-11
Kilkenny	3-5
(Final)	

#### PEADAR CUMMINS U-14 HURLING TOURNAMENT

at Borrisoleigh, 13th July

Mid-Tipperary	1-6
North Tipperary	2-2

South Tipperary beat West Tipperary

Mid-Tipperary	5-13
South Tipperary	3-5

(Final)

#### POWER CUP U-14 FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

at Kilmacthomas, Nov. 9th

Tipperary	3-8
Waterford	1-2

(Semi-Final)

at Kilmacthomas, Nov. 9th

Tipperary	3-3
Wexford	0-5

(Final)

#### COMMUNITY GAMES U-14 HURLING CHAMPIONSHIP

at Mosney, Sept. 8th

Moyne-Templetuohy	3-4
Portumna (Galway)	1-3

(All-Ireland Final)

#### MUNSTER U-16 FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

at Limerick, Nov. 2nd

Kerry North	1-12
Tipperary	2-5

Munster Under-16 Football

Woodlands Cup (1st Round losers)

at Limerick, Nov. 2nd

Waterford	3-8
Tipperary	1-6

#### INTER-FIRM SENIOR HURLING

Munster Final at Piltown, Nov. 2nd

Proctor & Gamble (Nenagh)	3-8
Suir Electric (Mooncoin)	0-16

All-Ireland Semi-Final



<b>All-Ireland semi-final at Toomevara, Nov. 16th</b>	
Proctor & Gamble	4-13
Meadow Meats (Rathdowney)	4-10

### SENIOR HURLING CHALLENGE GAMES

<i>at Drombane, Feb. 11th</i>	
Galway	1-10
Tipperary	0-9
<i>at Emly, April 7th</i>	
Limerick	2-14
Tipperary	2-17
<i>at Ballingarry (N) April 14th</i>	
Galway	0-16
Tipperary	1-12
<i>at Templemore, May 5th</i>	
Tipperary	2-23
Dublin	2-9
<i>at Nowlan Park, May 19</i>	
Kilkenny	3-18
Tipperary	0-10

### SENIOR FOOTBALL CHALLENGE GAME

<i>at Bansha, April 28th</i>	
Tipperary	0-16
Limerick	0-15

### ALL-IRELAND "ELEVENS" HURLING TOURNAMENT

<i>at Carlow, May 11th</i>	
Cashel K.C. bt Newmarket-on-Fergus	(Clare)
Cashel K.C. bt St. Vincent's (Cork)	
Cashel K.C. bt Ballygunner (Waterford)	
Cashel K.C. bt Slashers Gaels (Longford)	
Cashel K.C.	1-5
Camross (Laois)	1-1
	(Quarter-Final)
Cashel K.C.	0-5
Kiltormer (Galway)	0-4
	(Semi-Final)
Cashel K.C.	1-2
Castletown (Laois)	0-4
	(Final)

### ALL-IRELAND 'SEVENS' HURLING

<i>Dublin, 31st August</i>	
Nenagh Éire Óg	7-6
Faugh's (Dublin)	2-4
Nenagh Éire Óg	3-15
Rathnure (Wexford)	2-6
Nenagh Éire Óg	6-11
Pearse's (Galway)	2-3
Nenagh Éire Óg	4-10
Keady (Armagh)	1-3
Nenagh Éire Óg	5-10
Kilmacud Crokes (Dublin)	1-4
	(Semi-Finals)
Nenagh Éire Óg	4-14
O'Toole's (Dublin)	5-6
	(Final)

### COLLEGES' HURLING

<b>Senior 'B' Semi-Final</b>	
<i>1995/96 at Clonoulty, Feb. 21st</i>	
De La Salle (Hospital)	3-10
St. Joseph's (Borrisoleigh)	2-7
<b>Dr. Harty Cup Semi-Final</b>	
<i>at Buttevant, Feb. 25th</i>	
Nenagh CBS	0-13
North Monastery, Cork	0-10
<b>Dr. Harty Cup Final</b>	
<i>at Clonmel, March 17th</i>	
St. Colman's (Fermoy)	3-19
Nenagh CBS	1-4
<b>Fitzgerald Cup Semi-Final</b>	
<i>At Clonoulty, March 27th</i>	
St. Joseph's, Borrisoleigh	2-13
Abbey CBS, Tipperary	1-8
<b>Corn an Phiarsaigh Semi-Final</b>	
<i>at Cappamore, May 2nd</i>	
Our Lady's (Templemore)	5-13
Scariff Comp. School	1-2

<b>Fitzgerald Cup Final</b>	
<i>at Semple Stadium, May 8th</i>	
Nenagh C.B.S.	1-8
St. Joseph's College, Borrisoleigh	0-7
<b>Rice Cup U-14 Quarter-Final</b>	
<i>at New Inn, May 21st</i>	
Our Lady's, Templemore	6-15
Midleton C.B.S.	3-5
<b>Rice Cup U-14 Final</b>	
<i>at The Ragg, May 24th</i>	
Our Lady's (Templemore)	3-6
Thurles CBS	0-9
<b>White Cup U-15 'A' Final</b>	
<i>at Cappamore, May 14th</i>	
Thurles CBS	2-6
North Mon. (Cork)	1-8

### 1996-97

<b>Dr. Harty Cup</b>	
<i>at Cappamore, October 16th</i>	
Nenagh CBS	2-7
Ard Scoil Ris (Limerick)	2-6
<b>Dr. Harty Cup</b>	
<i>at Ballyhea, October 16th</i>	
Thurles CBS	0-14
Charleville CBS	2-6
<b>Dean Ryan (U-16's) Cup</b>	
<i>at Nenagh, October 23rd</i>	
Our Lady's (Templemore)	2-10
Limerick CBS	1-11
<i>At Nenagh, November 20th</i>	
St. Flannan's	1-9
Our Lady's, Templemore	1-7
	Dean Ryan Cup Semi-Final

<b>Kinane Cup (U-15)</b>	
<i>at Emly, October 24th</i>	
Charleville CBS	2-12
Abbey CBS	1-4
<b>Dr. Harty Cup (Quarter-Finals)</b>	
<i>At Nenagh, Nov. 13th</i>	
Thurles CBS	3-9
Scariff Comp.	1-10
<b>Dr. Harty Cup (Quarter-Final)</b>	
<i>at Kilcommon, Nov. 13th</i>	
Nenagh CBS	3-14
Doon CBS	1-1
<b>Corn Phadraig Senior 'B'</b>	
<i>at Fermoy, October 16th</i>	
Cashel Com. School	1-7
Bandon High School	0-5
<i>at Boherlahan, October, 16th</i>	
Our Lady's (Templemore)	2-9
Dungarvan CBS	0-7
<i>October 16th</i>	
St. Joseph's Coll., (Borrisoleigh)	3-10
Col. An Spioraid (Nenagh)	0-2
<i>November 13th at the Ragg</i>	
St. Joseph's Coll., (Borrisoleigh)	5-6
Our Lady's (Templemore)	4-7
<b>Croke Cup Semi-Final</b>	
<i>November 13th</i>	
Thurles C.B.S.	5-6
Roscrea C.B.S.	0-6

### VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS

<b>1995/96</b>	
<b>All-Ireland S.H. Semi-Final</b>	
<i>at Loughrea, April 26</i>	
Galway	2-15
Tipperary	0-8

<i>At Semple Stadium, May 31st</i>	
Scoil Ruain	2-7
Scoil Mhuire, Thurles	1-3
<i>Munster U-14 Hurling Final</i>	

### COLLEGES FOOTBALL

<b>1995-96</b>	
<b>Munster Senior 'B' Semi-Final</b>	
<i>at Gatenbridge, Feb. 21st</i>	
St. Augustine's, Dungarvan	2-6
Abbey CBS, Tipperary	0-11
<b>McGowan Cup Final</b>	
<i>at Cashel, April 17th</i>	
Rockwell College	2-11
Abbey CBS	2-6
<b>Cusack Cup U-15 Final</b>	
<i>at Monroe, May 8th</i>	
Scoil Ruain	5-17
High School, Clonmel	3-2
<b>Cusack Shield U-15 Final</b>	
<i>at Clonoulty, May 30th</i>	
St. Joseph's, Borrisoleigh	8-5
St. Ailbe's (Tipp)	3-9
<b>1996/97</b>	
<b>Munster Under-15 1st round</b>	
<i>At Ballygiblin, November 14th</i>	
St. Colman's, Fermoy	4-5
Abbey C.B.S.	1-6
	(Quarter-Final)
<i>at Ballyloobey, October 17th</i>	
Abbey CBS, Tipperary	2-17
Carrig na Bhfearr	2-3
<b>Munster senior 'B' championship</b>	
<i>At Ballyloobey, October 30</i>	
Abbey CBS	3-12
Douglas C.S. (Cork)	0-5
<b>McGabhann Cup</b>	
<i>at Tipperary, November 22</i>	
Abbey C.B.S.	7-8
Carrick-on-Suir C.B.S.	2-9

### OUTSTANDING RESULTS '95

<b>Co. Finals:</b>	
<b>Junior Football 'A'</b>	
Holycross/Ballycahill	1-7
Portroe	0-8
<b>Junior Football 'B'</b>	
Cahir	1-11
Golden-Kilfeacle	1-7
<b>Church &amp; General N.F.L. (Div. 4)</b>	
<i>at Ruislip 3-12-95</i>	
Tipperary	3-10
London	1-8
<b>Colleges' Hurling</b>	
<i>Dr. Harty Cup 1995-96</i>	
<i>Quarter-Final:</i>	
Nenagh CBS	3-10
Midleton CBS (holders)	1-5
	(Replay)
<b>Post Primary Schools Hurling</b>	
<i>U-16 Croke Cup Final:</i>	
Roscrea Vocational School	1-7
Our Lady's, Templemore	0-5
<i>Munster U-15 'C' Football Final:</i>	
Fethard Patrician	1-11
Carrick-on-Suir CBS	2-6
<b>Senior Hurling Challenge:</b>	
<i>at Littleton 3/12/95</i>	
Tipperary	3-8
Limerick	1-9

## Some results omitted from County G.A.A. History and the Supplementary List published in the 1996 Yearbook

<b>County minor hurling 'B' (1984-87)</b>	
1984 Drom Inch 1-8, Ballybacon-Cahir 0-8	
1985 Borrisoleigh 4-8, Galtee Rovers 3-4	
1986 Gortnahoe-Glengoose 3-7, Burgess 3-5	
1987 Moyne-Templetuohy 3-14, Portroe 0-12	
<b>County Under-21 Hurling 'B'</b>	
1987 Moneygall 3-8, Gortnahoe/Glengoose 1-5	

<b>County minor football 'B' (1985-87)</b>	
<b>No competition</b>	
Carrick Davins 1-6, Loughmore-Castleiney 1-0	
Brian Borus 2-10, Solohead-Éire Óg 0-7	
Carrick Swans 1-8, Golden-Kilfeacle 1-6	
<b>County Under-21 Football 'B'</b>	
Rockwell Rovers 2-5, Ardinnan 0-3 (R)	



# Tribute to Michael O'Hehir

The death of Michael O'Hehir on November 24 came as a shock to many and was of particular sadness to the representatives of the Tipperary County Board, who attended the tribute in the Burlington Hotel to the unrivalled sports broadcaster only two weeks previously. On that occasion he appeared frail and small in his wheelchair but was alert and attentive to the many tributes paid to him by President Robinson and others. Over 700 people, representative of the G.A.A. – all 32 county boards were present – racing and other areas of Irish sport came together on that occasion to show their appreciation of one who was the voice of Irish sport from 1938-1985. Probably the warmest, the most entertaining and certainly the most relevant of the formal tributes was that of Archbishop Dermot Clifford, the Patron of the G.A.A. This is what he had to say:

It is an interesting confluence of events that sees our tribute to Michael O'Hehir take place as the nation recalls the 50th anniversary of rural electrification and the release of the album "Faith of our Fathers" which has reached the top of the charts! Old furniture of yesteryear has become to-day's antiques.

I am told that Michael O'Hehir's name was regularly invoked by promoters of the ESB 50 years ago – "If you take the electricity," they urged people, "you will be able to listen to Michael O'Hehir without the troublesome batteries."

I must say as one who had begun to be enthralled by Michael O'Hehir's commentaries on Gaelic games a year or two before the dry battery and the wet battery were superseded, I thought that Michael had electrified rural Ireland and urban Ireland several years before the ESB drew their lines across the landscape. My own first recollection comes from 50 years ago, 1946, the All-Ireland final - Kerry v. Roscommon. I had just received First Communion. I had learned the basics of my first religion but I had yet to be introduced to the second religion in Kerry – Gaelic football. I was in a neighbour's house, Tom the Yank's; he was born in New York but came to Ireland in his childhood. The kitchen was choc-a-bloc with people young and old. Tom the Yank himself was sitting in the middle of the kitchen table. The children sat all around him. A senior citizen, Old Mike, sat at the head of the table with a hard hat and a pipe, ear straining at the radio.

Michael O'Hehir was in full flight. Roscommon were six points up with five minutes to go. "Time ticking away," Michael said. There was a tense silence. Children were afraid to move! Then suddenly Kerry got a goal. Paddy Burke, Tom the Yank jumped up on the table – "Yo-hoo!" I thought this very strange behaviour from a grown man! Then, within minutes, Kerry got a second goal, Gega O'Connor. This time Tom the Yank jumped so high that he hit the oil lamp overhead. The lampshade of white glass hit the floor and smashed into smithereens while the bowl landed on Old Mike's hard hat and the paraffin spilled all over it. So, Michael O'Hehir did bring down the lamp and did play a part in electrifying rural Ireland 50 years ago!

The next year, 1947, I was more focused, to use a current

phrase, and I recall the last minutes of the All-Ireland semi-final, Kerry v. Meath. Michael announced "Time ticking away. The Kingdom leading the Royal County by nine points" and in this memorable phrase: "The Statute of Liberty is staring them in the face."

The Polo Grounds All-Ireland of 1947. We listened to it after dark. Around 10 p.m. Michael O'Hehir was appealing, "Give me five minutes more". No wonder! Kerry were four points down! Cavan proved to be the new champions. Tom the Yank sadly declared: "Kerry football is finished." I believed him, but then, of course, I was only eight years old at the time. There are times his words come back to me in recent years! Four years later when Meath went to the United States to play New York, Michael was not invited to commentate. There was controversy in the newspapers and Michael himself expressed disappointment. Lefty Divine was the commentator. To put it mildly, he was not a brilliant commentator. I recall his continued references to "Big Hands Paddy O'Brien"! – a nickname we had never heard before. At the end he was not sure who had won. "You will see it in the papers in the morning," he concluded. The joke at the time was "O'Hehir was human, to forgive Divine".

Michael accompanied me through my adolescence, from the oil lamp to electric radio on to the black and white television and then on to full colour. He was part of all our lives in the '40's, '50's, '60's, '70's and indeed up until 1985. We could not imagine a future that did not include his voice. His voice was crystal clear, his diction faultless, even when he was going at a mile a minute. He would

even be exempted from the elocution lessons proposed by Mr. James Price QC in a London court recently. Michael was imitable. Yet every "meitheal" picking potatoes had a man who attempted to imitate his commentaries. Every school had a budding Michael O'Hehir. I have it on good authority that there was an exceptionally gifted mimic of Michael O'Hehir at Coláiste Iosagáin, Baile Bhuirne, in the late 1940's. His name was Michael O Muirearchataigh.

It could be said that the latter has inherited the O'Hehir vote and he has attained his own very special niche in the hearts of Irish people at home and abroad. Comparisons are odious – but I





will risk one. Michael O'Hehir was way ahead of Michael O Muirearchataigh when it came to horses. But in the greyhound stakes, O Muirearchataigh was well ahead at the time. Horses for courses, greyhounds for tracks! Nobody ever lampooned Michael O'Hehir and that is something to be pondered on.

Remember when Michael O'Hehir's turn came at the Grand National? He took over from laid-back BBC commentators like Peter O'Sullivan. Then the race always came up a gear or two. We all jumped over Beechers Brook! Today's overseas commentators have a very easy time. You will hear 'Cantona' in a normal voice, that means Cantona has got the ball. Then a little higher, 'Cantona' means that he is 25 yards out. Then 'CantonA' – this means that he is shooting and if he scores you may put your hands over your ears! Contrast this with O'Hehir's radio commentaries. "Paddy Kenny to take the free for Tipperary. He bends, he lifts, he strikes and sends it straight over the bar."

Michael had a great empathy with Gaelic players. One example from a clip of the 1971 All-Ireland final, Offaly v. Galway, which I saw recently. At a crucial point the Galway left corner back jumped for a ball, failed to catch it and fell out on his face and eyes. In a split second an Offaly forward, Murt O'Connor, had

the ball in the net. Michael's commentary went – "Noel Colleran doesn't quite hold on to it." Michael realised that the day was wet, the ground was slippery, the ball was slippery. He realised that nobody would feel his mistake more keenly than the young player himself. Michael did not rub things in. I have known county players who had their careers blighted by one blunder in an All-Ireland final.

Michael would never say who had been put off – in the radio days, that is. "The referee has sent a player from each side to the line." He always reminded us that the referee was "the man on the spot". Nowadays more often than not the referee is "the man in the spot", when playbacks are viewed at slow motion and the analysts get going. We had no analysts in the old days – how did we survive?

But survive we did. And so it gives me great pleasure as Patron of Cumann Luthchleas Gael to thank Michael O'Hehir, the man who brought joy to my youth and well into my middle age. Even if he did not broadcast his 100th All-Ireland to which he had looked forward so much, it is certain that he will live forever in the memories of all who heard him.



Newport – North Tipp Junior "B" football champions (beat Kilruane McDonagh's in final) 1996. Alan Creagh, Martin Moloney, David Hickey, Timmy Jones, Eoin Bonfield, Michael Doyle, Cyril O'Neill. Back: Ger Bradley, John Ryan, Stephen McCormack, P. J. O'Rourke, John Keating, John O'Toole, Paddy Ryan, Tim Floyd.



Nenagh Éire Óg – North Intermediate football champions 1996 (beat Newport in final). Front: Dec Bailey, Killian O'Shea, John Kennedy, Chris Bonar, Gearóid Cleary, Ronan Burns, Jim McAuliffe. Back: Mervyn Scanlan, John Heffernan, Kevin Coonan, Christy McLoughlin, Eddie Tucker, Joe O'Donoghue, Hugh Flannery, Michael Kennedy.





The late Jack Ahearne: To most of us Christmas is a time of celebration. Families reunite and come home for the holidays. Yet for some who lose a loved one through death there can be great sorrow at this time. On Christmas Day, Jack Ahearne, Knockballinra, Ardfinnan, got ill, was removed to hospital and with his brother, nephew, nieces by his bedside, passed to his eternal reward.

A man with great faith, Jack who was in poor health for some years bore his suffering with a cheerfulness and dignity which won the admiration of all he came in contact with. He always had a kind and cheerful word. His attitude to suffering was - It is God's will and tomorrow could be better. Jack had a great trust in the Almighty and had a great faith in prayer, a faith which helped Jack greatly in his suffering.

Apart from his deep Christian faith and love for his native parish and family, Jack had one abiding passion, namely hurling. He hurled with Ballybacon/Grange for many years, commencing in 1943, when he won the first medal for the club when they won a league for teams defeated in the first round of the championship as a goalkeeper. He continued hurling until the early 60s and was valued member of the team during that period. He also won two South minor hurling championships with the club in the 40s. A non-smoker and a life-long Pioneer, he was always in top physical condition and his great skill made him one of the most scientific hurlers of his era. Jack played in many positions but it is his uncanny skill as a goalkeeper he will be best remembered. The sight of his capped figure from a crowded goalmouth skuffle with a footwork and concentration on the ball that few could equal and then clearing the ball down the field brought the applause from the crowds.

When his playing career ended, Jack was coach and selector to many successful hurling teams in the parish. His kind and gentle approach, his astute hurling brain and his great love of hurlers and hurling made him a great favourite with all.

During his illness Jack contin-

ued to attend a game on Sundays Even when in obvious pain. Jack did not let ill health prevent him from enjoying the game he loved.

To his brother Tom, sisters-in-law Kit and Nellie, nephews, nieces, relatives and friends, we tender our sympathy

## Jimmy Boland



The late Jimmy Boland gave a lifetime of service to Moneygall G.A.A. Club.

As far back as 1955 he played on the juvenile team which won a special competition defeating Borrisileigh and Templederry. In 1962 Moneygall defeated Kilruane in the Intermediate final by 2-6 to 1-8 and Jimmy lined out in goal and was captain of the team. All through the 60's he was a regular on the senior team, lining out in many different positions, when Moneygall went so close to winning the North Championship. Jimmy was also an accomplished footballer, lining out at full back on the team that won the county junior championship, in 1964, and also contested the county senior finals in 1964 and 1965. His final game for Moneygall was the junior final of 1971, when he lined out at corner forward on a team beaten by Ballinahinch.

Jimmy also acted as secretary of the club for a period during his playing days.

His death during the year after a short illness came as a great shock to his family and all who knew him.

Sincere sympathy is extended to his wife Margaret, sons Eamon and Seamus and daughters Fiona, Caroline, Emma and Claire.

## Mick Browne (Knockavilla & London)

The passing of Mick Browne R.I.P. of Paddington London and late of Lislovan, Cashel early in October marked the end of an era, one of a family who made a great contribution to G.A.A.

# Friends lost in 1996



affairs in the Knockavilla - Donaskeigh club.

He was the holder of 2 West medals winning them in 1935 and 1938. The 1938 team was one of the best teams to represent the club, just failing to the great Sarsfield team of that era.

He also followed the fortunes of the County teams and when they were regular visitors to New Eltham the then home of the G.A.A. in London during the 60s, he never missed their games attending with his wife Mary and 2 sons, Eric and Colin. He also received the *Tipp Star* weekly which kept him in touch.

Mick also served with the Defence Forces in the 40s and regularly played alongside the immortal Mick Mackey of Limerick. He was also a renowned cyclist and a very good boxer, an all round sportsman.

To his wife Mary and sons Eric and Colin and all his relatives We extend our sincere sympathy on behalf of Kickhams G.A.A.

## Michael Carroll



It was with deep regret and profound sorrow that we learned of the death of Michael. He had a life long interest in all GAA activities, but his greatest loyalties lay with his parish and club. Before Knockshewanna club was formed in 1934, Michael along with his brother Johnny played minor hurling with Offaly. In the first year (1934) Michael with his brothers, Johnny, Tom and his youngest brother, Jimmy (who incidentally passed away one week after Michael's death), were all players with Knockshe for a number of

years.

Michael came to the rescue again in 1958 when Knockshe were hit by emigration and injuries. He lined out for Knockshe between the posts and later in the years Knockshe won the North Tipp. Junior championship for the second time. He also won several Lord Abbott Cup tournament medals. He was a selector with the club at different levels for many years. His interest did not stop at Knockshe, he was a gate checker with the North Board.

Go ndéana Dia Trócaire Air.



## Patsy Carroll

Patsy Carroll's death earlier this year, left a huge void in GAA circles, not only in his native Lorrha, but much further afield. In his heyday, Patsy was an All-Ireland Champion, Cross Country runner, with many successes to his credit. In later years, his prowess as a masseur, with Lorrha teams and the Offaly senior hurling team, was well known and appreciated by many a grateful hurler.

As a person, Patsy was a man of great sincerity, integrity and honour with a deep sense of obligation to his fellow men. He was a great family man devoted to his wife Celia and his family.

Ní bheid a leithéid ann arís. Solas na Bhflaitheas dó.

## Seamus Collins (Burgess)



On March 22nd, a very popular man of the community, Seamus Collins, Párlasmore passed away, and he is greatly



missed by his family, relatives and friends. He was pre-deceased by his wife Agnes, who died on March 1, 1995. The Collins family of Pallasmore were always associated with hurling. Seamus' father Mick played with parish teams. Both Seamus and his brother Michael were part of the Duharra teams from 1945 to 1949. At the end of that decade, the Duharra combination was broken up, and the two two sides of the parish formed separate teams, Burgess and Youghalarra. Seamus and Michael Collins played on the 1950 Youghalarra team that was defeated by Borrisokane in the North I.H.C. semi-final. In 1951, these two fine hurlers transferred to Burgess and this club went on to win the North Intermediate title. After his retirement from the game, Seamus kept a great interest in the GAA events, and attended as many games as possible. Both Seamus and his wife Agnes encouraged their six children to play gaelic games. Hurling talk and hurling gear were part and parcel of their neighbourly and warm household.

Their three sons, Michael, Denis and Seamus played at all grades with the Burgess GAA club, while their three daughters Mary, Jane and Una contributed handsomely to the Burgess camogie club since its foundation in 1986. Seamus accompanied his daughter Mary to numerous All-Ireland finals.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh sé.

## Michael (Mick) Cooney



On February 12, 1996, Mick Cooney of Heathview, South Lodge, passed suddenly to his eternal resting place. Mick played Gaelic football with his native Grangemockler and was also a keen hurler having played in his youth with the famed Carrick Davins Club.

Besides his continued interest in our parish's progress in hurling and football, Mick was a highly regarded musician and particularly accomplished accordion player.

Having been a number of Grangemockler's Ballyea band initially, his love of music brought him over the length and breadth of Ireland.

Go fleadh na cheoil agus feiseanna where he is fondly remembered. Therefore, it is a fitting tribute to his lifestyle that as he was laid to rest beneath the shadow of Slievenamon, a group of his fellow musicians assembled to play a lament for their old comrade.

Go ndéana Dia Trócaire ar a anam.

## Martin Corcoran



Martin Corcoran, Matthew Avenue, Thurles was a native of Two-Mile-Borris village and died in October. He was a trojan parish gael and sportsman. An honoured member of the veterinary profession, where he had built up a widespread clientele in Thurles and its environs over his working life, and won much admiration in this sphere, from the farming community. A fact shown at his funeral, where veterinary colleagues and his friends travelled many miles, from all over the country to pay their respects.

Martin hurled with the Moycarkey-Borris parish teams and was member of the Two-Mile-Borris team winners of the Mid No. 2 junior hurling championship in 1957. A skillful and elusive forward in his day. An able debater, he represented the Two-Mile-Borris club at Mid Board Meetings and was always forceful in putting his point of view and cause across and won admiration from Board officers and clubs of the time.

In 1962, when a motion was tabled at the annual club convention seeking for an investigation into the operation of Rule 27 (the Ban on foreign games rule) he was just one of three people to oppose the motion.

Martin enjoyed the excitement of many sports and was an avid reader of sports magazines and a collector of sports press cuttings and programmes. He was one of the first in the area to have a sports cutting scrap book. He was well versed in the history of all sports and had a great memory for retention of facts. A gift that helped him in later years at quizzes throughout the county where he was much sought after for sport and general knowledge question times and in his time was "Brain of Thurles". Much sought after in any company Martin liked to relive events past and present and was a witty and knowledge-

able conversationalist. He liked to meet old friends and chat with them.

Like John Flanagan of Galbertstown, who predeceased him a month earlier, Martin was proud of his association with the parish and followed the fortunes of parish sports with interest; celebrating the successes and being down hearted at the defeats.

Both Martin and John had a common bond in that they were selectors together with Tommy Kelly, Johnny Ryan and John Bergin to the Moycarkey-Borris team that reached the Tipperary senior hurling final in 1962 and lost so narrowly, by 1-7 to 1-6 to the might of Thurles Sarsfields, the champion club of that era. A glorious path to that final and an emphatic display on that October day thirty four years ago are often still spoken of in the parish.

A victory that day would have broken the long wait of twenty-two years. But it was not to be and another twenty years elapsed before the Dan Breen was regained. This victory and that of 1984 were cherished by both men and they were pleased to see the success and glory at last. No doubt John and Martin will get together on heavenly fields to relive again the ups and downs of Moycarkey-Borris sport and affairs.

## Kieran Devaney



The death occurred unexpectedly on August 19, 1995 of Kieran Devaney, Park Road, Templemore.

He took a keen interest in the GAA in the parish and commenced playing junior hurling and senior football with Templemore in 1949. He played hurling and football with Templemore, Collegehill, Naomh Lileain, Templemore Kickhams, and was also a committee member and selector with some of these clubs. He won a mid No. 2 junior hurling medal with Collegehill in 1954 beating Ballintaggart in the final and a county junior football championship medal in 1957 with Templemore. In the county final they defeated Grangemockler by 2-2 to 1-2 and Kieran scored the first goal to set them on the road to victory. In 1960, he won a mid

junior football medal with Templemore, but lost the county final to Burncourt. He was also on the team that lost the mid junior hurling final to Thurles Kickhams in 1960. In 1963 and 1964, he was a selector in the senior football team that won two mid championships. He continued his involvement with the club as a selector and committee member up to 1968.

As dheis lámh Dé go raibh a anam uasal.

## Alan Dolan



It was with widespread shock and sadness, that the people of Lorrha learned of the death of a local teenager in a drowning tragedy.

Alan was a prominent hurler and was a member of the Lorrha teams which won a North U-12 championship in the late 1980s and a North 'B' minor hurling championship in 1993.

Sincere sympathy is extended to his parents, brothers David, Colm and Brian; grandparents, aunts, uncles, relatives and a wide circle of friends.

## John Flanagan Galbertstown



JOHN FLANAGAN, who died in September, was a respected member of the farming community, and of that famous hurling and Gaelic family. He served the club in many capacities during his lifetime as a player and official and at the time of his death was a Vice-President.

In the 1950s when there were three clubs in the parish, the parent club, Galbertstown and Two-Mile-Borris, John threw in his lot with his native Galbertstown both as a player and mentor and also hurled in his time, with the parish teams and played senior hurling, with a group team selected from junior clubs in the area in the Mid championships. John was a selec-



tor with the parish club in the 1960s and was one of the mentors to steer the club to the 1962 county senior hurling final. He was father of Jim Flanagan, current chairman of the Moycarkey-Borris G.A.A. Club, the former inter-county star the late John, and Bill, all of whom played a large part in hurling circles, in the parish.

Away from the Gaelic scene John took a great interest in the equine world and was a founder member of the Holy Cross Horse Show committee, and was its President.

He and his family, including his late son, the legendary John, were very much involved in the show activities down the years. He was one of the oldest founding members of that body and always put in a tremendous amount of work, willing and available to help out when called upon and led many of the innovations to mark the show as a national fixture on the show-jumping calendar.

A man of genial character, a great Gael and horseman, he has left legions of stories that will be related upon wherever hurlers and horsemen are discussed in the years ahead.

May he rest in peace.

## Kieran Flynn Cahir

ON Wednesday, October 2nd, Cahir G.A.A. lost one of its most promising young dual players, Kieran Flynn, when he died tragically in a road accident on the Tramore-Waterford road.

Kieran began playing football and hurling in the local parish leagues as a young, enthusiastic player. He played three years Under-12 hurling and football. At Under-14 level he was a most valuable player on the football team that won the County Rural title in 1991, as well as captaining the hurling team to a South title.

In the following year he again played a key role in bringing the club to its first U-16A football county title. Kieran's potential as a footballer was recognised at county level in 1993 when he played on the county U-16 football team. In 1995 he played on the Minor A football team to win the first Minor title since 1958.

This year his scoring power was a key factor in Cahir's first U-21A South football title. Kieran gave a great display of hurling on the Saturday night before he died, when he helped Cahir to the South U-21B title.

To his family, our heartfelt sympathies.

## Tommy Flynn Grangemockler



THE unexpected passing of Tommy Flynn of Ballyea, on July 10th, 1996, came as a shock to not only his family, but to all his G.A.A. comrades, in the parish of Grangemockler.

Tommy was a noted footballer of the late '40s and early '50s and was a commanding figure on the Grangemockler teams of that era. His talent was recognised by the county and he represented Tipperary at both Senior and Junior level.

Tommy maintained his interest in football all his life and always looked forward to the chat about club and county progress after Saturday night Mass.

Being a native of the townland of Ballyea, it was only natural that he became a member of the famed Ballyea Band and he was prominent with them for many years.

It was only fitting that on his arrival to St. Mary's Church, Grangemockler, his coffin was flanked by comrades from the Ballyea Band and the G.A.A. Club.

Go ndéana Dia tróchaire ar a anam.

## Jerry Gough



ON the 15th May, 1996, Ballina lost one of its greatest servants in the person of the late Jerry Gough. Jerry was totally committed to Gaelic Games and Ballina G.A.A. Club.

In 1932, Jerry was a member of the first Ballina team to win the North Tipperary junior hurling championship. Francis Hannon is now the only surviving member of that same team.

During his playing days, Jerry also hurled with Adare, Co. Limerick, as well as serving as a refer-

ee. Indeed, Jerry always travelled to games with a pencil and paper to keep track on the scores.

In recent times Jerry was a regular attender at all games involving Ballina from U-10 all the way up to Junior. He and his constant companion at such games - Paddy Coonan - knew every panel member by name from the very young to the not so young.

The club would like to extend its deepest sympathy to his sons Mick and Jerry; his daughter Annette; relatives and many, many friends.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam.

## Mick Griffin



THE death occurred in October of well-known Clonmel and Tipperary handballer, Mick "Stick" Griffin.

Mick was a top-class handballer who was the top handballer in the Army for over 20 years.

He won the All-Ireland Junior 60/30 singles in 1950 and in 1953 he had a famous win when he won the All-Ireland 60/30 senior singles title.

Mick was admired as a superb handballer with two beautiful hands and was one of the best handballers of all times.

In 1987, he was honoured as Handball Player of the Past by Munster for his services to handball.

To his family and relatives, we extend our deepest sympathy.

## Tom Hough



IT WAS with great sadness that the parish of Lorrha laid Tom Hough, to rest, at an early age, in June. Tom had a lifelong association with the Lorrha club playing hurling and football at every level

and as a juvenile selector since 1989. He also served as a selector with the U/16 divisional hurling sides which won Garda Cup honours in 1994 and 1995.

Gentle in manner, Tom's sincerity, loyalty, astuteness and great sense of fun, were appreciated by all who knew him.

To Chrissie his wife, Martina his daughter and Patrick his son, deepest sympathy is extended.

Go ndéana dia trochaire an a anam dilis.

## Michael Hogan

MICHAEL HOGAN, Silver Street, Nenagh, who died in October, was a great follower of Nenagh all his life. In his early days Michael served on committee and travelled everywhere to support his beloved Nenagh.

## Michael Killeen



MICHAEL KILLEEN died on October 9, 1996 at the age of 68 years. A well-known farmer in the area, he was a noted ploughman, having won an All-Ireland junior ploughing title with horses in 1950. He received his prize from the then President of Ireland, Sean T. O'Kelly.

A lover of hurling he represented Lorrha in all grades up to senior. When his playing days were over, he too a keen interest in the club and was one of its most loyal supporters on and off the field. The large crowds that attended his funeral on both days bore testimony to his popularity.

To his wife, Betty, sons, George and Michael, and daughter Katherine, son-in-law Adrian, brothers, sisters, relatives and friends, we extend our deepest sympathy.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam dilis.

## Sean Lawlor



OCTOBER 5th, 1996, was a sad day for the Templemore community, with the passing of



his eternal reward of Sean Lawlor, Richmond.

Born in Roscrea in 1930, he took an interest in the G.A.A. and the local club from an early age. He tasted success when as a thirteen year old, he played no small part in Roscrea winning the North Tipperary Minor Hurling Championship in 1943. As a sixteen year old in 1946 he won a North Tipperary Junior Hurling Championship with Roscrea and his exploits in the field of play from an early age earned him a place on the Tipperary minor hurling team in 1948. As a garda, he spent a number of years in Monaghan where he continued to play the game of hurling, and in 1956 he won a Monaghan Senior Hurling Championship medal with Monaghan Town.

In 1963, he returned to Tipperary and was stationed in Moyne, before returning to the Garda Training College in Templemore in 1964 where he remained until his retirement a few years ago. He took a keen interest in all affairs in the College and was secretary of the Garda Pensioners Association.

With the growing up of his two sons Declan and Brian, he passed on to them the gaelic tradition he had inherited, and it was a source of pride and joy for him to see them involved in the game he so dearly loved. With their involvement it was inevitable that Sean would get involved with the local juvenile G.A.A. club, and in 1981 he was an Under-12 football selector. He continued on as a selector for a number of years, at Under-12, Under-14 and Under-16 football level, and he represented the club as a mid Under-14, Under-16 selector as well as a county minor football selector for two years.

His words of wisdom and sincerity to the young boys in his care were respected and he left a lasting impression on the youth he came in contact with. It was indeed a proud occasion for him to see his son Brian wear the county jersey at Minor, Under-21 and Senior Football level, and also the Longford colours at Senior Football level.

To his wife Bridget, sons Brian and Declan, sincere sympathy on your great loss.

I bflaitheas Dé go raibh anam uasal Séan.

### Joe Lawrence

ON OCTOBER 10th, 1996, the death took place of Mr. Joseph Lawrence, Cashel and formerly of Synone, Boherlahan. Only sixty one years of age, he



had for some time been in ill health.

In his younger days he was an active member of Boherlahan G.A.A. club and played for them back in the fifties. His playing career was unfortunately curtailed because of a rather serious arm injury.

Over thirty years ago Joe was employed by the Bank of Ireland in Cashel and went to live there, but he never lost interest in our club and followed their fortunes right down through the years.

Our deepest sympathy is tendered to his widow Kathleen; to his daughters and sons; grandchildren; brother Seamus and to all his relatives and friends.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam uasal.

### Donncadh (Don) Maher



IN EARLY October, the death occurred in Dublin of Donncadh (Don) Maher after a brief illness. Don was born in Thurles, and was the youngest of seven children of the late Jim and Annie Maher, Parnell Street – noted Publicans of hospitality towards everything Gaelic and sporting, especially hurling, football and athletics.

Don's roots stemmed from the Mahers of Killinan and at home learned to love the great Thurles Sarsfields tradition, from a very early age. The Club and County teams always toggled out at 'Jim Maher's' and Don was a favourite of all. He was brought as mascot for the Tipperary winning team to Killarney in 1937.

Don won his own All-Ireland Medal with Tipperary Minors in 1949. Afterwards, he won Division and County medals with Sarsfields in the late forties and early fifties. He played football with distinction with Thurles and

reached the County Semi-Final, when the team was captained by his brother Michael. In athletics, he won medals in the 100 and 220 yards, running for Roscrea in the Leinster Colleges Championships.

Don left Thurles in 1954 and became a very successful caterer and hotelier in the Metropolis. He is survived and mourned by his wife Jo and family, his brothers Michael and Seamus and his sisters, Mrs. Cait O'Gorman and Mrs. Áine O'Meara.

'May his kind and gentle soul rest in peace'.

### Jack Maher



The death of Jack Maher on March 11th 1995 marked the end of an era in the GAA history of Templemore as he was the last man to have links with the club as far as the early 1920's. Born in 1906, his tremendous hurling and football ability soon came to the notice of the club and he figured prominently on the junior hurling and football teams of 1923, winning a junior football championship medal at the early age of 17. 1925 was a special year for Jack as he was a member of the Templemore senior football team that won the county championship for the first time defeating Fethard in the final by 1-4 to 1-1.

In 1926 he was a member of the mid team beaten by the South in the interdivisional football final. In 1927 he won a mid Tipp senior football medal defeating Thurles comprehensively in the final. Templemore were due to play Fethard in the county final in Mullinahone on July 17th but a special meeting of the county board was held on July 13th to deal with a complaint from Templemore regarding the payment of expenses to Templemore drivers who conveyed the team from the town to Mullinahone for the county final the previous year. With the expenses not being paid, Templemore refused to travel, and Thurles represented the division but were beaten. Were it not for the bizarre situation Jack could well have had his second county SF championship medal at the age of 21. In 1928 he was a member of the Killea Castleiney senior hurling team that won the mid championship and his displays earned him a place on the Tipperary junior hurling team that won the Munster championship defeat-

ing Waterford in the final by 4-3 to 0-3 but losing the All-Ireland final to Kilkenny by the scoreline 4-6 to 4-4. In 1929, he was on the team beaten by Mullinahone in the county final by the score 2-5 to 0-1. In 1931 there was no senior football championship and he was a member of the team that won the mid junior football championship.

The same year he won a mid intermediate hurling medal with Killea and he was on the mid junior football team beaten in the interdivisional final by the south. In 1932 and 1933 he won two mid junior football medals and in 1934 he played on the senior football team beaten by Clonmel Shamrocks in the county final on the score 1-5 to 0-3. In 1935 he captained the team that won the mid senior football final defeating Loughmore by 3-2 to 0-2 but losing the county final to Ardfinnan by 3-5 to 2-1. 1936 was a great year for the lion hearted Jack when he was on the team that retained the mid senior football championship defeating Ballinree Rovers by 2-5 to 1-0 and they went on to take their second county senior football championship defeating Arravale Rovers by 1-3 to 1-1. This game was to be Jack's greatest hour, as he turned in a star studded performance at wing back to contain Arravale danger man Andy Greensmyth.

In 1938, he won another mid senior football championship defeating Thurles Mitchels by 2-4 to 1-4, but they were well beaten in the semi-final by West Tipperary. He figured in the Tipperary senior football team that was beaten by Kerry in the Munster final, on the score 2-6 to 1-3.

In 1939 he added another medal to his impressive collection, when Templemore won the mid senior football championship defeating Baile na dTeac by 3-5 to 0-1. He was a member of the Tipperary junior football team beaten by Cork, on the score 2-1 to 0-5. He continued playing until 1941, having completed eighteen years, as loyal and dedicated service to the club in hurling and football and having represented his county in both codes on a number of occasions.

Ní bheidh a leith réid ann arís. I measc na hAingeal go raibh a anam uasal.

### James (Jimmy) Murphy (Grangemockler)

On April 29th, 1996, Jimmy Murphy of Mayfield, South Lodge passed to his eternal resting place.

Jimmy played football with his





native Grangemockler during a very successful period for our parish, culminating in 1931, when he was the youngest member of our senior football team which took south and county honours, a feat not surpassed since.

Jimmy also donned the Blue and Gold for Tipperary, in Junior football.

During his long life, he continued his interest in Gaelic Games and was a regular supporter of both football and hurling in the Parish. Jimmy's other great interest was of an equine nature with noted success in both showjumping and horse racing. He gained world wide recognition as the breeder of the famous showjumper 'Boomerang' and also enjoyed many great successes on the racecourse with horses such as Nero, Skimble, Glamorous Gale and Jupiter Jimmy.

Jimmy also ably represented the local community as Co. Councillor and Chairman of the South Eastern Health Board.

Grangemockler/Ballyneale GAA club was prominent among the many groups who formed a Guard of Honour on his arrival to St. Mary's church, Grangemockler.

Go ndéana Dia tróchaire ar a anam.

## Joe Murray

Joe Murray, 59 Botanic Avenue, Glasnevin, Dublin died on 6 November 1996 after a short illness. He belonged to Ballincurry, Ballingarry and shared his young days with the great athletes, hurlers and footballers of that place. The Murray pub at the crossroads was a convivial meeting place where the game of hurling, the football match, the handball, track and cross-country and the coursing at Crohane were all drawn down. Ballingarry GAA Club, for which Joe was a proud player and later a mentor won the County Senior Football Championship in 1951 and Joe was most pleased when the boys from the village on the hill brought home the minor hurling cup in 1995. In between Joe had moved to Dublin where with James he gravitated towards Young Irelands, the club who wore his beloved blue and

gold. He remained with them until their demise in 1956 and never lost enthusiasm nor his great friendships with Laffans-bridge's Paddy Croke, Bill Walsh of Carrickshock, Tom Kennedy, Nicky Power and Larry Kiely. Happy to win a Dublin Senior Championship in 1965 he was as glad in 1976 when Young Ireland won the Dublin Junior Championship with his neighbours, Sean Hayes, Nicholas Quinlan, Richard Raleigh and Martin Norton on the team.

Joe also organised a Tipperary team each year in the O'faly men's Seven-a-Side and put manners on the managers such as Babs Keating and his great hurling friend from Windgap, Kilkenny, Kieran Purcell. He lived to see three Ballingarry players on the Tipperary minor hurling team to bring home the Irish Press Cup home this year — Maher, Cleere, McGrath — and was delighted that Liam Cahill fulfilled all his predictions to play for Tipperary and would be more pleased to see him as the first Ballingarry All-Star. A pillar of the Tipperary Association in Dublin, Joe was a sensitive, caring person imbued with great respect for all.

He was a lovely man whose passing leaves us all the poorer but whose good humour, tracing skills and encouragement enriched all our lives. His brothers Richie and James, sister Frances and his extended family will miss him greatly as will the Tipps in Dublin, Liz Howard (now in Ennis) Breda Ryan (now in Nenagh), Eileen Butler, Tom Quigley, his neighbours in Botanic Avenue including Oliver Neary, Jimmy Kelly and Margaret Barrett. Joe's latter years were greatly enhanced by his friendship with Doris who shared his abiding interest in Ireland, its people, places and sporting life. He loved Ballingarry and Tipperary and always looked homewards. A verse from Dan O'Meara's "Ballingarry I Have Loved From Long Ago" is an appropriate finish to this small tribute.

I can see the skylark soaring o'er the slopes of Kennelly's Hill

And hear Grawn river rippling down below,

I can look right down on Kickham's town

At the foot of Slievenamon  
Ballingarry I have loved from long ago.

## Sean Nolan

(Grangemockler)

It was with deep sadness and shock that the people of Grangemockler and surrounding areas learned of the tragic death of Sean Nolan, Mill Park, Grangemockler and formerly of Heathview South Lodge on March 16th, 1996.



Following his playing career in the Green and White of Grangemockler, Sean developed into one of our parish's greatest sporting personalities. Sean was a dedicated supporter of club and county throughout his life and was deeply respected for his knowledge of our native games. Above all Sean was a very inoffensive gentleman and his company was very much sought after by young and old.

Sean's other great love was for music and craic and he will be fondly remembered for his many fine renditions of 'The Half Door'. Sean was also a noted musician and was a prominent member of Grangemockler's Ballyea Band who together with the local GAA club formed a Guard of Honour on his arrival to St. Mary's church, Grangemockler — Sean Óg — you will be sadly missed by many.

Go ndéana Dia tróchaire ar a anam.

## James O'Brien R.I.P.



In mid December 1995, the whole community of Ballina was shocked at the sudden death of James O'Brien.

James had played for Ballina GAA club from U/10 all the way up to Junior. Indeed James had played at wing forward on the minor hurling team which won the North championship in 1995. He also played on the minor football team which reached the 'A' final in 1995 as well as playing junior football.

James was always a popular member of any team or any occasion due to his friendly nature, his courage and his willingness to help out at any time.

To his parents Margaret and Paddy, his sisters Elaine, Helen and Michelle, his brother Jerry, his grandmother and his many other

relatives and friends we express our deepest sympathy.

Go ndéana Dia tróchaire ar a anam.

## John Joe O'Brien



John Joe O'Brien hurled for Rockwell Rovers, Wild Rovers, Whitelands and Cahir. Sadly he saw his best days at a time when if one did not make it to the county senior team or win county championships, one was little heard of. He was, in fact, on the fringes of the county team during the late 30's and he played a number of times for the county before the world war curtailed everything but senior championship games.

But it was as a hurler-maker that he has a special claim to remembrance by hurling men throughout the country and especially in this county. Hurlers from all the leading hurling counties used his sticks, called to collect them and remained his friends. His workshop was a place where one might meet stars of the past and stars of the present — and always the talk was of hurling. To make a hurley was not for him just a way of making a living but a labour of love and when a well-known hurler or just a player who shared his own enthusiasm for the game called to him, he delighted in shaping a stick to a particular specification. "Babs" Keating and Mick Roche, Nicky English and John Leahy and many others of our own stars kept his busy, while some of the most famous Limerick players were among regular callers. His particular skill in making goalkeeper's hurleys was well known and Noel Skehan, Seamus Durack, Seamus Shinnors and Jim Corr of Antrim used them.

Difficulties of eyesight finally came between him and his craft but until near the end of his 84 years he was still apt to spend time in the workshop. A gentleman in every sense of the word, he radiated that inner peace which comes from working at what one loves and the huge crowds who turned out for his obsequies during the Christmas season were ample demonstration of the regard in which he was widely held.



## Johnny O'Brien

Johnny O'Brien died suddenly on the 29th of August 1996.

He was one of four brothers, all of whom gave great service to the Newport club. Johnny played hurling in all grades from juvenile ranks upwards. He made his debut on the senior side as goalkeeper in 1960. For many years he was very much the utility player on the Newport panel, often called upon to fill in a mid-field or in the forward line as the need arose. He won a North inter-mediate medal in 1965.

However, it was from 1969 onwards when chosen at corner-back that Johnny found his true niche on the Newport team. For the next eight years he continued to give many outstanding displays, as a defender, in both the North and Co. hurling championships.

The highlight of his career was the winning of the *Guardian* Player of the Week award, when Newport held out to pip Kilruane for a place in the County Quarter final at Nenagh in 1974. It was Johnny's finest hour.

When his playing days were over, Johnny, like so many other hurlers, took up golf and he was well-known on the local circuits.

At the removal and burial club members and former team-mates formed a Guard of Honour and his coffin was draped in the purple and gold colours of the club. We tender our sincere sympathy to his daughters, brothers, sister, relatives and friends.

Go ndeana Dia trocaire ar a anam.

## Danny O'Dwyer (Solohead)



News of the sudden death of Danny O'Dwyer filtered through the community during Holy Week. It was greeted with a feeling of disbelief and shock.

Danny began his playing career with Arravale Rovers in the mid sixties. He was a member of a county winning under-15 football team of 1969. In 1972 he was corner forward on minor and under-21 football teams which annexed county honours. In 1973 he was a member of the county minor football team.

When he got married, in the mid-seventies he returned to live in the old family homestead at Bohertrime. He switched his allegiances to the local club and became one of its stalwarts, over the next two decades.

His popularity could be gauged from the huge turn-out of mourners from all codes of sport who came to say a fond farewell to a dear friend and a stout competitor.

He is deeply missed by his wife Kathleen, daughters Julia and Joanne, son Daniel jnr., mother, brothers, sister and all those who had the pleasure of knowing him.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam.

## Tommy O'Dwyer



On Thursday morning May 2nd, doom and gloom spread quickly over Templemore and surrounding areas when the news reached us that Tommy O'Dwyer had passed on peacefully to his eternal reward. Tommy, a legend in his own right was popular and friendly with everyone who knew him.

A devoted church and family person he also had a great love and loyalty to the GAA and in particular to his own club Templemore, Eire Og. That loyalty to the local club spanned seven decades and as a young boy he witnessed Templemore's victory over Fethard in the 1925 county championship final at Carrick-on-Suir on the score 1-4 to 1-1. He was again present in Thurles when Templemore won their second county senior football championship defeating Arravale Rovers by 2-5 to 1-6. During his life he attended so many club games and his shrewd words of wisdom and analysis of a game were always respected and were made in the best interest of the club. He was also a keen follower of his beloved county and on countless occasions followed them the length and breadth of Ireland. The 1930 and 1937 All Ireland finals ere extra special to him, as his good friend Tommy Treacy was inspiring and helped Tipperary capture two titles at the expense of Dublin and Kilkenny respectively. He took a keen interest in

the running of the local club and was committee member and treasurer of the club for a long number of years.

Go ndeana Dia trocaire ar anam uasal, Tomás.

## Canon Tom O'Keeffe



Canon Tom O'Keeffe passed to his eternal reward on the 17th of December 1995.

During his time in Newport he took an active part in the affairs of the GAA and was President of the club up to the time of his death.

He was a selector on the senior hurling side in 1975, and chairman of the juvenile club in 1976. He was a staunch and generous supporter of all club ventures' down the years.

Tom O'Keeffe was born in Littleton in 1915. His ability with the camán was evident from an early age. Having lined out with his club Moycarkey-Borris, in under-age competitions, he was selected on the Tipperary minor team in 1932. He won his All-Ireland medal when the side defeated Kilkenny in the final, at Waterford. Also on that team were his club-mate, Phil Purcell, net-minder, Jimmy Maher of Boherlahan and captain, Dinny Gorman of Holycross.

Tom attended Thurles CBS and was on the Harty Cup team that defeated North Mon. in the final, at Charleville, in 1933. He was chosen on the Moycarkey senior team the following year. In the Golden Jubilee year of the Association, the Moycarkey men took their third county championship in a row. Tom, now a student in St. Patrick's College, missed out on the final against Kildangan/Kilbaron, having to return to his studies in the interim. He again figured with his club, in the championship winning year of 1937. But once again, he missed out on the final because of the ban on hurling for students approaching their ordination was introduced in that year.

Tom was noted for his speed and skill at corner-forward and as a master of the fast, ground stroke. A team-mate described him as "a man who was never beaten".

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam dílis.

## Billy Ryan



The death of Billy Ryan, Knockbawn, Rossmore, occurred on Wednesday, 19th June 1996. His popularity among his own community and with GAA followers throughout the parish and surrounds was very much in evidence by the large crowds who attended the removal of his remains and burial in Rossmore.

Billy had a life long association with the GAA and played for Clonoulty-Rossmore in the 1949 County Final against Holycross. In 1956 he captained his native Rossmore to win the West Junior Hurling Final. He rarely missed a game and was always on hand to lend support and encouragement to teams involved from the parish.

A warm, humble and simple man, he will have no fears crossing the great divide.

To his wife, Mary, and family, we tender our deepest sympathy.

## Christy Ryan



When Christy Ryan of Pubblehill in the parish of Knockavilla, departed this life on the 18th of July 1996, the Kickham club lost one of its most loyal supporters. Although his own playing career was brief, his immediate and extended family's contribution to the club was and still is immense.

In his working life most of which was spent on the road maintenance staff of the Tipperary S.R. County Council he was a most diligent and conscientious worker held in high regard by his superiors and fellow workers. A very devout Catholic he was a regular Mass goer until the end. The Rosary was recited every night, as was the angelus.

Socially he liked a game of cards and also to to to the old folks parties where he enjoyed a



bit of old time waltzing. He was also a keen bingo player.

To his wife Margaret and family we extend our deepest sympathies.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam.

## Jacksie Ryan (Upperchurch)



It is difficult to believe that Jacksie is dead, silent and at rest. Even though he had been seriously ill for the past four years on many an occasion he seemed to defy death, to have one more trick up his sleeve, to do the impossible. But at ten o'clock on Sunday night 21st April, 1996, the final call came and Jacksie passed peacefully to his eternal reward leaving us all so much the poorer for his passing.

Jacksie had a varied life and packed much into the six and a half decades allotted to him. He had a special and unfailing love for his native Kilcommon and leaving it before he was yet twenty seemed to increase that love. He had a rare facility and aptitude for names both of people and of places and he brought with him through life and developed a treasury of people and places — families and their relations; the fields, the hills, the laneways and the roads with the myriad tales and lore that entwined them. His crystal clear memory was a priceless storehouse and from it he picked many a gem to describe the people and the places that were his first love.

In September 1950, Jacksie moved to Upperchurch and the brash gangly youth soon found a place in the hearts of his adoptive parish. As was natural for the son of a family of noted athletes, he soon became involved in hurling, football and athletics. Indeed in 1950 he played minor hurling with Upperchurch (mid Tipperary), Glengar (west Tipperary) and Kilcommon (then in north Tipperary); an example of his enthusiasm for the game, a laudable attribute.

Not only did he play the game at all levels but he became involved in the administration of the club of which he was secretary for a record span of years. At

mid board and county board meetings his unerring knowledge of the minutiae of the rules was often an embarrassment to the officers but Jacksie's ready wit (and he had few, if any, equals) like charity, covered a multitude and endeared him to all. It was a well deserved tribute to him that in the late seventies he was one of our Munster Council representatives.

A lasting memorial to Jacksie is the hurling field at Ballynira, Drombane, which he acquired in 1970 for the local club acting as sole negotiator with the Irish Land Commission. Never easily satisfied, he rejected the first field allotted and persisted until he got what he wanted.

He gave freely of his time and talents in organising local sports and athletic events, tournament games that were a welcome source of revenue, and in 1986 he was chairman of the committee that organised the Tim Crowe Memorial Race from Templemore to Milestone.

Tenacious in debate, he lacked rancour, but only at his peril did an antagonist underestimate Jacksie's intelligence. In him there was no malice but if occasion demanded it he was a most forgiving man.

The genuine esteem in which Jacksie was held was evidenced by the corps of visitors that came so loyally during his prolonged illness. They and many more will miss him dearly. Jacksie deserves to be remembered with gratitude and love.

Peace to his noble soul.  
Cara a scríobh.

## John Ryan



John Ryan (O'Toole), Cumberbeg, Kilcommon, died on 6 April, 1996 after a brief illness.

Throughout his life, John was an ardent G.A.A. supporter. He played for many years with Kilcommon and he was on the team that won the North Tipperary Junior Championship, in 1943. When Sean Treacy's G.A.A. Club was formed in 1963, representing the parishes of Kilcommon, Hollyford and Rearcross, John quickly became a constant supporter of the club and attended all the clubs matches at all levels.

A great conversationalist, and never more so than when Tipperary had been playing, John delighted in the after-match debate when each stroke was replayed time and again.

To his wife Mary and family, brother and sisters we extend our sincere sympathy.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a h-anam dílis.

## Larry Ryan (Littleton)



Larry Ryan, Thurles Road, Littleton, died unexpectedly in early 1996. He was a prominent hurler with Moycarkey-Borris and played on the senior team for many years with his brothers Johnny, Mutt, Billy, the late Paddy (Sweeper) and the late Timmy.

He was a member of the No. 1 junior hurling team that won the 1943 Mid final and played with the parish teams in all grades. A member of that famous hurling family the Ryans of Ballybeg, a name that is revered throughout the county and further afield in the Gaelic world.

Larry was employed by Bord na Mona up to his retirement and was a most jovial and loveable man and great company to be with at any time. After his retirement from the game he took great pride in seeing his sons compete in hurling, football and running with great distinction. He competed in cross-country with the great Coolcroo club of the Healy era. Another great follower of Moycarkey-Borris sport Larry leaves a legacy of great support that will be missed wherever parish teams play and a big void in his native Littleton.

May he rest in peace.

## Michael Ryan



THE DEATH took place during the year of Michael Ryan,

Knockanpierce, Nenagh. Michael was president of Nenagh Eire Óg at the time of his death. A life-long G.A.A. man, Michael was best known for his work at McDonagh Park, where for many years he served on the Park Committee, as well as his love of Nenagh Eire Óg. As his health deteriorated in later years, Michael still took an avid interest in the affairs of the club and McDonagh Park.

## Martin Ryan (D)



It was with deep regret on the 18th March, 1996, that we learned of the sudden death of Martin Ryan, Dromwood, Rossmore. The large and representative gathering for the removal of his remains and subsequent burial, bore ample testimony to the popularity and esteem in which Martin was held.

Martin though gone to his eternal reward will live on vividly in the minds and hearts of his legion of friend with whom he shared the joys of living. As a loyal supporter, he served his club and county for many years.

He was a great Irishman and loved everything Irish, including its music and dancing. As was fitting, his coffin was draped in the Rossmore colours and the cortege was met on arrival at Rossmore church by fellow members of the Clonoulty/Rossmore club.

We tender our sympathy to his brothers, Jack and Tom and to his sisters, Nell and Mary.

## Rodge Ryan (Kilcommon)



It was with sadness and deep regret that we learned of the unexpected death of Rodge Ryan, Knockbrittas, Kilcommon. Affec-



tionately known by his relatives and friends as "Fox Rodgers" he played corner-back with a non-sense approach and first time hurling the winner.

He won a junior title in 1943 with Kilcommon-Rearcross and with Hollyford in 1947. He also played in many of the Clan-william Cup games of that time.

He was a great supporter of the Séan Treacy's club down the years, always contributing to our collections. His son Michael won West under-15 titles with the club in 1970. To his wife Nora and boys, brothers and sister we extend our deepest sympathy.

Go ndéana Dia trócaire ar a anam.

### Tim Ryan (Borrisoleigh)



Though he had been in declining health for some time, the unexpected death in February this year, of Tim Ryan, Ballyroan, caused widespread sorrow and shock. Born in 1924, one of a family of ten, Tim following his primary schooldays, went to Thurles C.B.S. where he played on Dean Ryan and Harty Cup teams. Having given many determined and dedicated displays he was picked to play on the Munster Colleges' team, a team which also included Con Murphy of Cork. On completion of secondary school Tim attended Ballyhaise Agricultural College and then graduated to Albert College, Dublin, where he qualified as a creamery manager. While in Dublin Tim hurled with Commercials and in fact on a number of occasions hurled in opposition to his equally illustrious brother Ned who at that time was playing with Young Irelands.

Leaving Dublin, Tim's chosen profession took him to Rosscarbery where he worked and hurled before returning to his native Borris as manager of Currahaha creamery and subsequently succeeded his father as manager in

Borrisoleigh. Having returned home Tim played a leading part in helping Borris win five Divisional and two County S.H. titles, with the added distinction of captaining the 1953 double champions. His club displays led to his call up to the county senior hurling team with whom he won Munster and All-Ireland medals in 1951, while also collecting two National League winners' medals.

He was married to Bridget Stakelum, a member of the famous hurling family from Ballycahill and they had two daughters and seven sons, three of whom Pat, Bobby and Aidan have worn the blue and gold with pride and passion. Indeed there was no prouder man in Ireland when in September 1989 Tim had the thrill of watching Bobby accept the McCarthy Cup on behalf of the Premier County.

"Ar dheis Dé go raib sé".

### Tom Ryan (Two-Mile-Borris)

The death in early Spring of Tom Ryan, Cloncleigh, Two-Mile-Borris, who had great associations with local sports clubs. Tom was a close and skilful defender on parish teams and won a Mid Tipperary junior hurling medal with the 'Borris team of 1957.

Tom was a great player and committee man and was always most willing to give a helping hand with club affairs. He was a great worker with the Coolcroo Athletic Club of the 1960's. He seldom missed a game in which Moycarkey-Borris teams were involved and was a true club supporter. His unexpected death caused much regret in the area.

May he rest in peace.

### Willie Ryan (Moyné & Littleton)

The death occurred during the summer of Willie Ryan, Moyné and formerly of Cooleenbee, Littleton. Willie, a former employee of Centenary Co-op, Ballyduff, had a lifelong association with sport. He played senior hurling with Moycarkey-Borris for a long number of years, winning Mid and county medals and gave sterling service to the club. Towards the end of his career, now domiciled in Moyné, he played with them and was centre-back on the team beaten in the 1957 Mid junior final.

In his youth he competed in cross-country with the Coolcroo A.C. and at the time of his death

was vice-president of the Moycarkey-Coolcroo A.C. In later years he took great pride in seeing his grandchildren, the Hackett family of Athnid competing with his former athletic club and with the Rahealty G.A.A. club.

The late Willie was a man of splendid character, a most dedicated worker and a loving husband and father. A great conversationalist on sport, he liked to reminisce about games of the past and was one of hurlings most ardent supporters. Peace to his soul.

### John Shoer



THE DEATH took place in September of John Shoer, Sallygrove, Nenagh. John was an avid Nenagh and Tipperary follower and took great pleasure in underage victories. He took particular delight in Nenagh's county final victory, and the team photograph of county final day which proudly hangs in McDonagh Park along with so many other marvellous photographs, was taken by John. Many of John Shoer's photographs appeared in the Tipperary Yearbook and in local papers.

### Paul Stapleton (The Ragg)



When news of the illness of Paul Stapleton spread throughout the locality most people were spellbound. How could Paul be ill? He was perceived as the man who was out in all weathers, never a day sick or idle - as hardy as the proverbial "otter".

Gradually it became known that his illness was life threatening

went astray under his supervision. He will be sadly missed by all who knew him.

### Tim Walsh (Burgess)

Tim Walsh was from Clareen, Brallagh, and was one of Burgess' longest supporters. He often talked about Burgess teams of the past and his interest remained with him until his death, which was on September 4th, 1996, at the ripe old age of 91. He took great pride in Kilcolman G.A.A. pitch, when it opened for use in 1976, the same year as Burgess won the junior county final. He served as caretaker of Kilcolman pitch and Tim ensured that not a single sliotar and a great sadness enveloped the area. Visitors travelled constantly to St. Vincent's Hospital in Dublin from all parts of the county.

Paul played with his club Drom/Inch at all levels. His commitment and wholehearted contributions endeared him to all the faithful followers who supported the green and white over the years. He also represented the club in "Scór" where he will be remembered for his "set dancing", which was indeed a great love of his.

Paul's final hours were spent surrounded by his family. He died as he lived, in his native parish and among his people.

### Johnson Hackett

Johnson Hackett was a stalwart of the Borris-Ileagh county winning side of 1949, playing at full-forward and he also played in the same position when they lost to Carrick Swans in the 1947 Co. Final. He also took part in the Millar Shield competition of the late 'Thirties and early 'Forties.

After his marriage in 1950 Johnson went to live in Loughmore where his son John played with the local club. Johnson himself always remained interested in the fortunes of his native parishes hurling fortunes. The high esteem which he was held in in Borrisoleigh was evidenced by the large number of people who attended his removal and subsequent interment.

Ar dheis Dhe go raib a anam dílis.

Solas na  
bhflaitheas dá  
n-anamnacha



# LOYAL SUPPORTERS ALL!





# CLONOULTY-ROSSMORE

## TIPPERARY MINOR HURLING CHAMPIONS 1996



Back row (l. to r.) - Andrew Fryday, Selector, Dan Lacey, Paddy Flynn, Conor Ryan, Liam Kearney, James Ryan, Conor Devane, Barty Flynn, Michael Heffernan, T.J. Ryan, Richard Sadlier, Pádraig Coen, Michael Heffernan, Manager. Front row - Paddy O'Brien, Kieran Ryan, Liam Manton, Edmund Maher, Philip Manton, Michael Kennedy (capt.), Declan Ryan, Alan Kennedy, Con O'Keeffe, Michael Fogarty

# CAHIR

## TIPPERARY MINOR FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS 1996



Back row (l. to r.) - Michael Browne, Conor Hyland, Paul Kearney, Diarmuid Tarrant, Vincent Moloney, John Guthrie, Brian Frazer, Derek Davis, Pádraig Hyland, Benny Hickey, Brian Dolan, David Williams, Garvan Queeny, Thomas Howley, Kieran Flaherty, James Swords. Front row - Joe Moloney, Liam Kiely, Andrew Hyland, Richie O'Connor, Robbie Hally (capt.), Darren O'Keeffe, Liam O'Gorman, Brendan O'Flaherty, Paul Conway, Kenny Burke, Gerard O'Gorman



# Tiobraid Árann

## All-Ireland Minor Hurling Champions 1996

Partners **BOWE TRAVEL** Partners **BOWES BAR** Partners **KELLY'S OF FANTANE**



Back row (l. to r.) - Declan Maher, Jason Connolly, John Carroll, Fergal Horgan, Fergal Heney, Paul Kelly, Don-  
ncha Fahy, William Maher (capt.), Mark Cummins, Paul Loneragan, Eddie Carey, Paddy O'Brien, Nigel Cleere.  
Front row - Eugene O'Neill, Aidan Doyle, William Hickey, John Teehan, Thomas Costelloe, Michael Ryan,  
Michael Kennedy, Sean Ryan, Michael McGrath, Paul Ryan, Declan Browne.