Co. Tipperary Senior Hurling Final Match Programme 1992 Replay



CLUICHÍ CHEANNAIS CHONTAE THIOBRAID ÁRANN

STÁID SEMPLE, DÚRLAS ÉILE



8u, Samhna, 1992

TOMAS Ó BAROID Runaí





Teachtaireacht an Cathaoirleach



It's back again to Semple Stadium today to see if a winner can emerge from these two great hurling clubs. The drawn game was a titanic struggle which, while lacking in forward flair nevertheless showed that hurling is alive and well and living in Thurles and Toomevara. Although both defences dominated last Sunday, I expect that today's match may well be a more open affair as is often the way with replays.

Today also we have a county Junior Hurling Semi-final between Newcastle and Ballinahinch. The occasion gives both these clubs an opportunity to perform before a large gathering.

Finally I would like to record my appreciation to our great rivals in sport, Kilkenny, for so readily agreeing to the postponement of our National Hurling League fixture and thereby allowing today's replay to go ahead.

Micheal Maguidhir,

Cathaoirleach Coiste Contae Tiobraid Árann

CLÁR AN LAE

1.00 Cluiche Leath-Cheannas Soisear

Caisleán Nua v. Baile na hInse

(Newcastle)

(Ballinahinch)

Reiteoir: Michael Doyle (Holycross-Ballycahill)

2.15 Cluiche Cheannas Sinsear (Ath-Imirt)

Tuaim Uí Mheara v. Na Sairsealaigh

(Toomevara)

(Thurles Sarsfields)

Reiteoir: Tommy Lonergan (Kilsheelan)

Past Player, Current President MATT HASSETT

(Toomevara)

The Toomevara club has given many great names to Tipperary hurling . . . Wedger Meagher and Martin Kennedy immediately spring to mind, but Club President, Matt Hassett, has carved his own particular niche in the club's history both as a player and administrator.

Toomevara's last victory in the county senior championship in 1960 holds a special place in the hearts of Toomevara people everywhere. They conquered the Thurles Blues in Templemore, ending a winning sequence stretching back five years, and Matt was a key defensive figure on that team.

The Greyhounds won three North senior hurling championships in that period, '58, '60 and '61 and Matt was on all three teams.

The triumph in the county championship in '60 meant that Matt led Tipperary in the '61 All-Ireland campaign and had the distinction of bringing back the



McCarthy Cup to Toome when Tipp beat Dublin in the final.

That Tipp team included club colleagues John Hough, Roger Mounsey and Matt O'Gara.

His playing career over, Matt contributed handsomely to the administrative affairs of the club serving in a number of capacities before being elevated to the presidency. He also served as treasurer of the county board and was secretary of the North Board for five years.

As a player and official Matt Hassett represented all that is best in Gaelic games and it is not surprising to see the Toomevara club flourish once more under his presidency.

Ballinahinch

Dathanna: Gorm is Or

NOEL KEARNS

2. BILL LYNCH 3. GER SULLIVAN

JOHN HEALY

5. DAN SULLIVAN

MICHAEL RYAN

7.
DERMOT HEALY

8. PHILIP KELLY

MARTIN KENNEDY

10. LIAM KEARNS

EDWARD COUGHLAN

12. BRENDAN HEALY

13. MARTIN RYAN 14. JOHN RYAN

MICHAEL HEALY

Fir Ionad: 16. Mike Kelly; 17. P. J. Lynch; 18. John O'Donnell; 19. Seamus Young; 20. Eamon Gleeson; 21. T. J. McLoughlin; 22. Sean Gleeson; 23. Denis Lenihan; 24. Liam Ryan; 25. P. J. Ryan; 26. Michael Harrington.

Newcastle

Dathanna: Dubh is Bui

THOMAS SWEENEY

2. NIALL POWER

PAUDI O'FLYNNN

PAUDI SWEENEY

5. DENIS HACKETT

BERNARD O'GORMAN

7.
JAMES LONERGAN

8. ANTHONY O'GORMAN 9. MICHAEL HALLY

10. DARREN GOONAN JOHN FITZPATRICK

12.
JAMES FITZPATRICK

13. NICHOLAS WALSH

14. MICHAEL GOONAN 15. AIDAN SWEENEY

Fir Ionad: 16. Anthony Condon; 17. Michael Hallinan; 18. Anthony O'Dwyer; 19. Thomas Lonergan; 20. Michael Slattery; 21. John Sweeney; 22. Noel Grant; 23. Fergal O'Flynn; 24. Robert Hackett. Selectors: Fr. C.Kelleher, Anthony Morrissey, Michael Coleman.

T may not have been a long hot summer, but it was a long active one on the Tipperary Hurling front. Ask Toomevara, if you have any doubts.

Today is their 19th competitive game of the year and before you comment that the league games could hardly be taken as seriously as the c h a m p i o n s h i p, remember that only for their league success, they wouldn't be here

today!

Nineteen games is a heck of a number for an amateur team to fulfil. There were five group league games which brought Toome into the semi-finals and then the final. In the championship they had to go twice before falling to Borris-ileigh in a preliminary round. Next came losers group matches against Kilruane and Portroe which saw them in the North semi-final. There's no need to remind what happened when they came ujp against Lorrha here. Three times it took and defeat at the end of

Another crack with Lorrha to decide Nenagh's North companions in the race for county honours. Victory this time and on



to the county quarter final. Ballingarry and Loughmore-Castleiney followed and then into last Sunday's decider against Sarsfields, again undecided. Which leaves us with today's replay and a final conclusion to a year which Toome will recall for many a long day. Did I say 'conclusion'? Don't bet on it!

And even if a decision is reached today, there's no rest for the champions, be they Toome or Sarsfields.

Because of the Munster Council's insistence, there's action again next Sunday in the club semi-final against either Erins Own (Cork) or Kilmallock.

Is too much expected of players nowadays? Certainly the number of draws is no help in the endeavours to complete a programme, but on the other hand, that could be avoided too, if, perhaps, games were extended to seventy minutes, as with the inter county championships. The survival of the fittest might then come into the reckoning. Of course there is a downside to that also. Boards would not be reaping the bonusses they are at present earning, if the match schedule was reduced appreciably.

And finance is probably the nub of the whole exercise with the players receiving scant consideration, even though it is their efforts that bring the crowds.

It is grossly unfair that a championship should run so long into the year and maybe a streamlining exercise might be considered in relation to the way in which the various divisional boards run their competitions. But any demand for a change will invariably bring an outcry from those whose interest is in accumulating finance with which to further the interests of the boards.

It's all a vicious circle, isn't it?

Meanwhile the players... especially the successful ones . . . are overburdened with games. The less successful haven't enough and here we are in Semple Stadium on the second Sunday in November bringing a climax to the season, with the county's showpiece.

A long year, yes, but I suppose at the end of it whether it be Toome or Sarsfields, that will matter little when celebration time comes round.

Tipperary G.A.A. Yearbook

Articles, Photographs, etc., for this year's production should be sent immediately to:

LIAM Ó DONNCHÚ

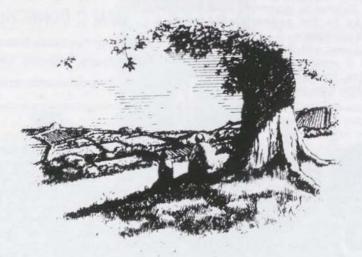
Tipperary Yearbook Secretary Ballymoreen, Littleton, Thurles.

Advertising details also available



Action from the drawn game Brendan Carroll (Sarsfields) gets in his shot as Pat King (Toomevara) prepares to challenge.

FROM THE GOOD EARTH
OF THIS NATIVE LAND
COMES ALL THE RICHNESS
AND NATURAL, HOMEGROWN
FLAVOUR OF ERIN.





HOMEGROWN IN THE LAND OF ERIN.

ICKEY "Rattler" Byrne, President of Thurles Sarsfields, is one of the best known characters in G.A.A. circles, not only in Tipperary, but much further afield.

His exploits on the field are legendary, and in a career that spanned three decades, he won every honour the game had to offer both at club and county level.

Mickey was a member of the Tipperary squad which won the '45 All-Ireland and he went on to play on the three-in-a-row team of 1949-'51. He collected his fifth All-Ireland senior hurling medal in 1958 when Tipperary beat Galway.

Apart from his links with Cork through the Tipperary - Cork games of the period, Mickey also was acquainted with the Leesiders through the great church tournaments in Cork when Sarsfields would draw 20,000 to the Mardyke to witness their tussles with the Glen, The Rockies and The Barrs. Sarsfields played in five of those tournaments, winning four, including one, the final of which was played in Croke Park



against St. Vincent's, Dublin, and refereed by the great Christy Ring.

On the club front he was a stalwart member of the great Sarsfields team which dominated club hurling in the county in the late fifties and early sixties. winning ten county senior hurling titles in eleven years. Indeed, Mickey still holds a record number of senior county championship medals, fourteen, having begun his collection in the forties

A regular attender at games both inside and outside the county and never short of a word in any situation, Mickey recently accepted the invitation by Sarsfields club to become President and his advice and presence in the build-up to the county finals has helped enormously generate great confidence and enthusiasm in the Thurles camp.

A great favourite everywhere he goes, The Rattler, will be hoping his team can regain the Dan Breen after a lapse of eighteen years. Incidentally, his son Paul was a member of the last Sarsfields team to win the trophy, and another son, Martin, was also a member of that squad.

ony Wall and Matt Hassett were "talking hurling" when I met them, "under the old stand" last Sunday evening. Two former Tipperary captains who had lifted the McCarthy Cup in victory, in 1958 and 1961, respectively. Tony also deputised for the injured Jimmy Doyle in 1962. Both men were positive and enthusiastic about the quality of hurling played in the second half. It's always good to hear past players praise the men of to-day. Toomevara's George Frend joined them, you could see the mutual respect and rapport. I wondered if we were looking at a future Tipperary captain? To-day will tell a tale or two about that.

The County Champions have the right to nominate the captain of the county team.

Some argue that this should not be. However, I feel that it is a recognition of the champions' success, and one which I wouldn't change now. Gone are the days of the county champions having a selector on the selection committee, yet they have some say, by retaining nomination of a captain. Some people claim that captains are born not selected or nomi-

nated. Cartainly, leadership qualities are required, so too are inter-personal skills and the ability to communicate effectively with the media. However, these "extras" can be acquired and "polished up". The main requirements are leadership on the field and the ability to take the job in one's stride.

We all read about the legendary Tom Semple, captain of the Thurles Blues. Judging from his photographs, he looked the part; his record is impressive. He also played a prominent part in the early development of the stadium, which now bears his name. "Wedger" Meagher was another great Tipperary captain, who is remembered in song and story. Tipperary lost him to the U.S.A. Mikey Maher of Tubberadora captained three All-Ireland winning teams, 1895, '96 and '98.

The captain who captured my imagination most was Johnny Leahy. I never met him but feel that I knew him well, through my Dad, who was both friend and admirer. Dad claims that 'Captain Johnny' knew more about hurling than anyone else he ever met. Possessing a charismatic personality, he was a natural leader. He captained Tipperary to victory in 1916 and 1925, playing at intercounty level for over twenty years. He became Co. Secretary in 1927 and also held the office of chairman and served on Munster Council. The Leahy name is synonymous with Tubberadora and G.A.A. history.

John Maher of Killinan was another much respected leader; he led Tipperary to victory in 1945 and was also part of the 1930 and '37

winning teams. Tall and athletic in build, he had a warm and gracious manner which made him very popular. Pat Stakelum, Sean Kenny and Jimmy Finn captained the "three-in-arow" (1949, '50 & '51). Hurler supreme, Jimmy Doyle, led Tipperary in 1962 and again in '65. Quiet and unassuming, Jimmy led by example. rarely has hurling seen such a gifted player or

better sportsman. Michael Murphy, also from Thurles Sarsfields, had the honour of captaining Tipp in 1964, while Tadgh O'Connor will be remembered as of the last "pre-Famine" leaders, also for his deft and economical hurling.

Bobby Ryan, nominated by Loughmore-Castleiney, led Tipperary in 1989. A man who epitomises the "spirit of Tipperary", Bobby is well liked by players and public alike. 1991 will recall Holycross and Declan Carr as the Blue & Gold dominated.

Where do we go from here? Who will lead Tipperary in '93? Did I meet the future captain, when George Frend joined Tony Wall and Matt Hassett? Thurles has produced many successful captains, as well as famous ones. We'll just have to wait and see.

THE CAPTAIN'S ROLE

By
LIZ HOWARD
PRO, Tipperary Co. Board



(10)

LIAM NOLAN

Tuaim Uí Mheara

(Toomevara)

Dathanna: Green and Gold (Glas is Óir)

(1) S. de Grás JODY GRACE

(2)	(3)	(4)	
P. Ó Meachair	R. Ó Brisleáin	M. Ó Meára (Capt.)	
PAT MEAGHER	RORY BRISLANE	MICHAEL O'MEARA	
(5)	(6)	(7)	
S. Frend	D. O'Meara	P. Ó Seancháin	
GEORGE FREND	DECLAN O'MEARA	PHILIP SHANAHAN	
(8)		(0)	

PAT KING	TONY DELANEY
P. O'Cionga	A. Ó Dúláinne
(8)	(9)

(11)

L. O Flaithcartaign	M. O Murchu	1. U DOINN
LIAM FLAHERTY	MICHAEL MURPHY	TERRY DUNNE
(13)	(14)	(15)
L. Ó Nualláin	M. Ó Nualláin	T. Ó Doinn

Fir Ionald: 16. C. MacCormáic (Kevin McCormack); 17. S. Ó Nualláin (Sean Nolan); 18. T. O'Cearúil (Tommy Carroll); 19. C. MacDonáill (Kenneth McDonnell); 20. S. Ó Riain (John Ryan); 21. S. Ó Doinn (Jimmy Dunne); 22. B. Ó Speoláin (Brendan Spillane); 23. C. Ó Dúláinne (Kevin Delaney); 24. E. O'Cúidithe (Owen Cuddihy).

MICHAEL NOLAN

TOMMY DUNNE

Selectors: Fr. Michael Casey, Jim McDonald, Frank Ryan. Coach: P. J. Whelehan.

Na SAIRSEALAIGH

(Thurles Sarsfields)

Dathanna: Blue & White (Gorm is Bán))

(1)
P. McCormaic
PAT McCORMACK

(2)	(3)	(4)	
M. ÓMeacháir	T. Ó Meacháir	M. Sparrow	
MICHAEL MAHER	THOMAS MAHER	MICHAEL SPARROW	
(5)	(6)	(7) S. Ó Meachair	
S. Ó Maolomhnaigh	S. Ó Sé	S. Ó Meachair	
JIM MOLONEY (Capt.)	SEAMUS O'SHEA	SEAMUS MAHER	
(8)		(9)	
S. Ó Doirinne		B. Ó Cearúill	
JOHN DORNEY	BRENDAN CARROLL		
(10)	(11)	(12)	
(10) P. Ó Meacháir	(11) C. Ó Meacháir	M. MacCormaic	
PADDY MAHER	CONNIE MAHER	MAURICE McCORMACK	
(13)	(14)	(15)	
G. Ó Conchúir	L. Ó Duagáin	S. Ó Coinne	
GRAHAM O'CONNOR	LIAM DUGGAN	SEAMUS QUINN	

Fir Ionaid: 16. C. Ó Cearúil (Kleran Carroll); 17. E. Breathnach (Eamon Walsh); 18. C. ÓhAnracháin (Clive Hanrahan); 19. L. Ó Baróid (Lar Barrett); 20. M. Ó hAnracháin (Michael Hanrahan); 21. A. Ó Comáin (Tony Coman); 22. A. Rosaitear (Andy Rossiter); 23. P. Caomhánach (P. J. Kavanagh); 24. A. Ó Meara (Tony O'Meara); 25. S. Ó Cinnéide (John Kennedy); 26. C. MacCoimín (Kevin Cummins).

Selectors: Tom Barry (Coach); Denis Maher, Liam Ó Donnchú.



County Tipperary Senior Hurling Finals Present trophy - Dan Breen Cup (1972)

By Seamus O'Doherty

1887	Thurles 0-3	North Tipperary0-0
1888	Clonoulty1-1	Boherlahan 0.2
1889		
1890	Toomevara – no records available of	games played.
1891		
1892	No championship played di	ue to Parnellite split
1893		
1894	Drombane 4-4	Thurles 0-0
1895	Tubberadora 2.0	Cuir Vian
	(after ex	tra time)
1896	Tubberadora 4.8	Suir View
1897	Suir View 4.2	Horse & Jockey2-9
105	(Not replayed Title	awarded to Suir View)
1898	Tubberadara (Not replayed, Title a	awarded to Suir View)
1899	Horse & Lasker	Horse & Jockey1-4
1099		Two Mile Borris2-4
1900	To Mil D (rep	olay)
-775 RESTE	I wo Mile Borrisw.o.	Moycarkeyscr.
1901	Ballytarsna7-11	Thurles0-1
1902	Lahorna De Wets7-10	Carrick1-2
1903	Two Mile Borris awarded title from L	ahorna De Wets
1904	Thurles 5-8	Lahorna De Wets3-9
1905	Two Mile Borrisw.o.	Lorrhascr.
1906	Thurles4-11	De Wets 3.6
1907	Thurles3-13	De Wets. 1-6
1908	Thurles 2-6	Glengoole
	(Co. Convention declared 1908 of	championship dropped and void)
1909	I hurles 10-4	Racecourse/Grangemockler 5.2
1910	Toomevara won title on objection to	Racecourse after two games
1911	Thurles 4-5	Toomevara1-0
1912	Toomevara6-4	Tipperary O'Learys0-1
1913	Toomevara2-3	Cashel0-0
1914	Toomeyara 5-2	Boherlahan 3-1
1915	Boherlahan 4-4	Thurles 1-2
1916	Boherlahan 2.2	Toomevara0-0
1917	Boherlahan 2.2	Toomevara1-1
1918	Roherlahan 2.4	Toomevara
1710	(Title awarded to Bel	100mevara6-0
1919	(Toomeyara) North Cal	nerlahan on objection)
1920		Mid. Se1-5
1921	Championship not played due to	o War of Independence
1922	(Bonerianan) Mid Sel5-1	North Sel2-3
1923	(Dobredskie) South Sel5-4	South (Kilmoyler)3-3
1924	(Bonerlanan) South Sel8-3	Mid Sel1-0
1925	Boherlahan5-4	Toomevara/Moneygall2-3
1926	Moycarkey6-4	Boherlahan 4-2
1927	Boherlahan4-1	Clonoulty1-1
1928	Boherlahan5-4	Clonoulty 2-2
1929	Thurles 4-3	Toomevara 1-3
1930	Toomevara4-1	Boherlahan1-0
	(ren	lav)
1931	Toomevara5-4	Moycarkey Borris2-0
1932	Moycarkey Borris7-6	Killenaule5-1

1933		Borrisokane 1-0
1934	Moycarkey Borris3-6	Kildangan/Kilbarron2-3
1935		Carrick Swans0-2
1936		Roscrea0-3
1937		Cashel 6-2
1938	Thurles Sarsfields7-7	Kildangan2-2
1939		Cashel4-2
1940	Moycarkey Borris4-7	Cashel
1941	Boherlahan2-2	Éire Óg/Anacarty0-6
1942	Thurles Sarsfields8-5	Killenaule0-1
1943		Moycarkey Borris2-4
1944	Thurles Sarsfields6-3	Kilruane Mac Donagh1-4
1945		Roscrea1-0
1046	(rep	Carrick Swans0-3
1946	Cominist Surger 5.4	Borris-Ileigh2-2
1947	Carrick Swans	Lorrha2-4
1948 1949	Borris Heigh	Kickhams2-1
1949	Porris Heigh 2.7	Carrick Swans2-3
1950	Holyaross / Pallyashill 5.15	Clonoulty1-4
1952		Borris-Ileigh1-8
1953	Borris Heigh 4-8	Boherlahan4-4
1954	Holycross 6-5	Roscrea2-3
1955	Thurles Sarsfields 4-10	Borris-Ileigh0-6
1956	Thurles Sarsfields 3-8	Lorrha1-4
1957	Thurles Sarsfields 4-15	Na Piarsaigh4-4
1958	Thurles Sarsfields 4-11	Toomevara3-3
1959	Thurles Sarsfields 3-12	Kilruane Mac Donagh2-6
1960	Toomevara3-15	Thurles Sarsfields2-8
1961	Thurles Sarsfields3-4	Toomeyara0-9
1962	Thurles Sarsfields1-7	Moycarkey Borris1-6
1963	Thurles Sarsfields4-10	Roscrea2-10
1964	Thurles Sarsfields5-13	Holycross1-4
1965	Thurles Sarsfields3-11	Carrick Davins2-7
	(reg	olay)
1966	Carrick Davins2-12	Lorrha1-3
1967	Carrick Davins2-10	Roscrea2-7
1968		Thurles Sarsfields3-4
1969		Carrick Davins0-5
1970		Thurles Sarsfields2-12
1971	Moyne/Templetouhy2-8	Roscrea0-6
1972	Roscrea5-8	Borris-Ileigh3-6
1973	Roscrea3-14	Kilruane Mac Donagh3-8
1974	Thurles Sarsfields3-6	Silvermines1-10
1975	Moneygall3-13	Kilruane Mac Donagh0-5
	(rep	olay) Roscrea2-5
1976	Moneygall1-9	Roscrea2-5
1977	Kilruane Mac Donagh1-5	Borris-Ileigh0-5
	(rep	olay)
1978	Kilruane Mac Donagh2-14	Roscrea2-13
1979		Thurles Sarsfields3-6
1980		Kilruane Mac Donagh2-13
1981	Borris-Ileigh1-14	Roscrea 0-12
1982	Moycarkey/Borris2-12	Roscrea0-11
1000	(rep	olav)
1983	Borris-Heigh0-17	Loughmore Castleiney1-11
1984	Moycarkey/Borris2-8	Lorrha0-9

1985	Kilruane Mac Donagh2-	11	Roscrea0-10
1986	Borris-Ileigh 0-	14	Kilruane Mac Donagh0-7
1987	Cappawhite1-	17	Loughmore Castleiney2-13
1988			Borris-Ileigh 0-9 (Draw)
Replay	Loughmore-Castleiney 2-7	7	Borris-Ileigh1-8
1989	Clonoulty-Rossmore 1-1	11	Holycross-Ballycahill 1-9
1991	Cashel King Cormacs 2-8	3	Holycross-Ballycahill 1-5

ROLL OF HONOUR

Senior Hurling Championship - Dan Breen Cup

Thurles Sarsfields (28) 1887, 1904, 06, 07, 08, 09, 1911, 29, 35, 36, 38, 39, 42, 44, 45, 46, 52, 55, 56, 57, 58 59, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 74.

Moycarkey-Borris (15) 1889, 1899, 1900, 01, 03, 05, 26, 31, 32, 33, 34, 37, 40, 82, 84.

Boherlahan-Dualla (14) 1895, 96, 97, 98, 1915, 1916, 17, 18, 22, 24, 25, 27, 28, 41.

Toomevara (10) 1890, 1910, 12, 13, 14, 19, 20, 23, 30, 1960.

Borris-lieigh (6) 1949, 50, 53, 81, 83, 86.

Roscrea (6) 1968, 69, 70, 72, 73, 80.

Kliruane-McDonaghs (4) 1977, 78, 79, 85.

Holycross-Ballycahill (4) 1948, 51, 54, 90.

Carrick Davins (2) 1966, 67.

Moneygall (2) 1975, 76.

Eire Óg, Annacarthy (1) 1943.

Cappawhite (1) 1947.

Carrick Swans (1) 1987.

Clonoulty/Rossmore (2) 1888, 1989.

Drombane (1) 1894.

Cashel King Cormacs (1) 1991.

Lahorna De Wets (1) 1902.

Moyne-Templetuohy (1) 1971.

Loughmore-Castleiney (1) 1988.

TIOBRAID ÁRANN

All-Ireland Masters (Over-40's) Hurling Champions 1992



The Tipperary Over-40's hurling team who beat Dublin in the Masters final

THE first time I got the big thrill at a hurling match was in the old Gaile field in Boherlahan. That was in the early forties, when Sarsfields and Moycarkey were in action. The hurlers then, looked like giants to me as they marched, in perfect step, after the famed Moycarkey Band.

We've
got them
still
by: BRO. PERKINS

Down the years, the teams did not look as great but of late I feel again the thrill of a Mid-Final, and a County Final, just as great as in those far-off days. They come again, thank God, sons and relations of the old "Blues". Toomevara, in their Green and Gold, are just as daring, as brave and as manly as "Wedger's" and "O'Meara's

men".

The Moycarkey Band is still there, "ever ancient, ever new" and the hurlers are every bit as competent. "We may have brave men, but we'll never have better".

"Tipperary's name in fire they wrote,

Where all who ran might read, That we their sons might reap today, Where they had sown the seed".

The love of hurling will never die in the heart of the men of Tipperary.. We've still got "Matt the Threshers" today who would die "for the credit of the little village".

The men of Toomevara and the hurlers of Thurles are as eager as of yore, as graceful and as brave, as

skilful and as courageous.

John Maher of Killinan - John of the Hundred Battles - was a giant in the forties. His son Michael, today, at 36 years, is of the same stature. So are cousins Connie and Paddy, Tommy and Seamus, Seamus O'Shea of the same "Patsy" blood, Jim Moloney, runner and athlete, with another athlete's son, John Dorney. Carroll of great Kilkenny blood, the McCormacks, Liam Duggan, Seamus O'Quinn and Ballingarry's fearlessness is there too in Michael Sparrow, and so have we Kerry and Kenny blood in young Graham O'Connor. Eamon Walsh is waiting to show his real worth in a fine team presided over by Tom Barry, Dinny Maher and Liam O'Donnchu.

Presiding over them all is the "Rattler" Byrne who hurled for twenty three years in the Blue and White, and now has a treasure of fourteen Senior County Medals.

"May God be with the days they spent

In manhood's golden morn. In love and cheer and honest sport, E'er yester year was born. When none were rich and none were poor But neighbours children all, And none too grand to lend a hand To meet a humble call.

Oh, yes, the name of Toomevara stirs up many hurling memories. As a young lad I saw Martin Kennedy. 1960 revived many memories. Even, then thirty two years ago, the men of Toome looked Goliath-like – fine men, proud men, great-hearted men – the brave John and Gerry Hough. Phil and Tom Shanahan, Niall Williams, Matt Hassett, J. J. McCormack, Matt O'Gara, Billy Donovan etc.

The O'Meara name is still there, courageous and true. So is Shanahan, young and lively with the promising Dunnes and the versatile Tony Delaney. The Nolans, Liam O'Flaherty and strong, hard-pulling Michael Murphy backed up by the commanding

Pat King. As dependable as Matt Hassett himself, is Pat Meagher. The Brislanes have given great service and that strong Rory is the most under rated fullback in the game. Jody Grace is a grand goalie and who will forget the smooth-working, skilful and successful George Frend. Ready to take a score is Tommy Carroll. There's another McCormack there, another McDonnell, Cuddihy, Ryan, Spillane, Delaney and Dunne – young greyhounds bursting at the leash, eager to dare and to die "for the credit of their homes and the hurlers of old".

Another epic is in store. Old men will dream dreams. Young men will tell of Visions and will pass on heroic tales when the year 2000 A.D. dawns.

"To your camans, oh, boys of Banba" adúirt Mac Piarais.

"The greatest test of courage on the earth, is to bear defeat without losing heart".



Declan O'Mera (Toomevara) bursts away with the ball as he is challenged by Seamus Quinn (Sarsfields) in this action shot from the drawn game.

Tipperary man who "never stopped a ball in his life"

By JOHN D. HICKEY in the "Irish Independent" Dec. 17th, 1952

he accomplishments of the famed Thurles Blues, winners of the 1906 and 1908 All-Ireland senior hurling titles, will ever be renowned, but few names in that brilliant band of Tipperary men will be recalled with more affectionate regard than that of Paddy ("Daddy") Brolan.

In Thurles and Tipperary – maybe it is because they know him so well – he is Paddy Brolan to all, but in Tullaroan, Mooncoin, Blackrock, Dungourney, Cork, Caherline, Croom, and Castleconnell, in fact in every parish famed for its hurling outside the confines of the Premier County, he is called "Daddy" Brolan – and he owes his soubriquet to the superlative quality of his hurling.

With his captain of immortal memory, the late Tom Semple, "Daddy" formed one of the greatest attacking wings the game has seen.

Many of his team-mates will tell you that they never remember the lithe and hardas-iron Thurles man to stop a ball. His motto was: 'Don't stop a rolling ball . . . keep it moving no matter where you are playing and whether it is on the ground or in the air.' That, of course, is sound advice, but it is council that more often than not falls on deaf, or unheeding ears, as the Brolan writsts are, indeed a rarity." John D. went on to explain how difficult it was to get Paddy to give any information about himself. But from other sources he found out Paddy played firstly as a corner forward when he tallied off ten points, and in 1925 was told that he played against Moycarkey in the Mid-Tipperary final he gave an incredible display for a man of his

"Daddy" recalled that the best game he ever saw was in 1908 in Tipperary when Cork, who had a big lead at half-time, let off pigeons to carry home the good news, but having released all the birds, had to wait for the bad news as Tipperary eventually won by four or five points.

To "John D's" further questioning, he said that his greatest regret was the disinclination of players of 'to-day' to remain in their places, and that if they did the game would be much more spectacular, as how often does a player make a pass to where a colleague should be "only to find that he is not within shouting distance. "Daddy" continued that in his day you beat your man or he beat you. There was then no cover up that you were helping out somewhere else. Your place was your place, and it was your business to be there.

Thus, hurling of that period was more man-to-man and much more open. In the early 1900's he often saw a ball travel the length of the field half a dozen times in the air, and no one marvelled at the spectacle, just accepted it as part of the game."

"Daddy" died on the eve of the Munster Final of 1956 at the age of 75 years. For a number of years he was associated with the Thurles Sportsfield, as it was known then, in the capacity as groundsman and cared for it with great dedication and earned its reputation as the best in Ireland.

The week leading up to the Munster final of that year was his last time doing and caring for what he loved best; he had worked late there on the night preceding his death. Another of the old guard had passed on.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam.

Paddy Doherty



The Blues team who won Tipperary's eighth All-Ireland Senior Hurling title, together with officials of the club.

BACK ROW (from left) — T. Gleeson, J. Fitzgerald, M. O'Brien, R. Mockler (stood in for T. Kenna), J. Burke, J. Mooney, J. Mockler. STANDING — T. Lawlor, T. Dwyer, M. Mulcaire, —, J. M. Kennedy, Hon. Sec. (ex-Town Clerk), P. Brolan, J. ("Hawk") O'Brien, T. Kerwick, A. Carew, W. Bowe (Hon. Treas.), —, E. Fitzgerald. SEATED — H. Shelly, J. McLoughney, T. Semple (capt.), Rev. M. K. Ryan, C.C., Rev. J. Duggan, C.C., M. O'Dwyer, P. Fitzgerald, P. Burke.

TO-DAY'S CAPTAINS



Michael O'Meara (23). Won Co. Championships at U/12, U/14, U/ 16, Minor, U/21. Won North S.H. medal in 1991. he was captain

of the Tipp. M.H. in 1987, has played with the Tipp. U/21 team, and is currently a member of the Co. Senior Panel, and is a holder of an All-Ireland medal for 1991.

Michael is also captain of doday's team - Factory Employee.



Jim Moloney (29). Halfback, married to Mary, sister of Conor and Richard Stakelum, Borrislleigh; one daughter, Sinéad. Occupation: Super-

visor. Jim is unique in that he played little hurling at juvenile level, having played only for his school. It was only after injury curtailed his athletic career that he turned to hurling and is a regular on the Sarsfields' senior team since. As vice-captain, to-day he deputises for the injured Eamon Walsh.

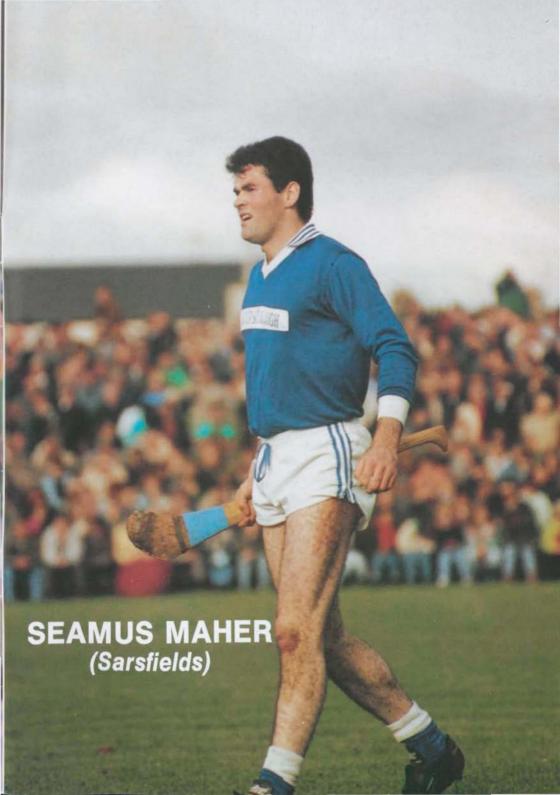
Tipperary Star

TOPS IN TIPP -

For sports coverage of all the county

60,000 readers weekly

For your advertising ring: Paula – Jean – Pat at (0504) 21122.





Distributors of:

Agri & Auto Diesel Heating & Lubricating Oils



Quality Products at Competitive Prices with Prompt Delivery

ALSO DIESEL EX-YARD PUMPS

P. O'MEARA & SONS LTD.

Ballycurrane, Thurles. Tel. 0504-21333.

SERVING THE AREA FOR OVER A CENTURY