

Co. Tipperary Senior Football Final
Match Programme
2006

**Craobh Cluichí an Chontae
Páirc Úi Laochdha, Caiseal
29ú Deireadh Fomhair 2006**

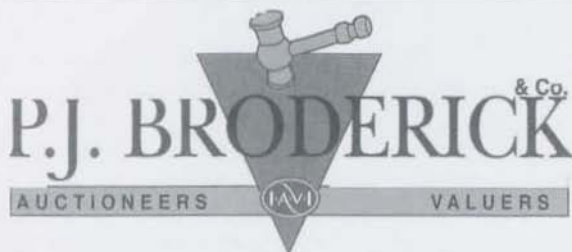


**Minor Football Final at 1 pm
CILL NÁILE v NA SÁIRSÉALIGH DÚRLAS ÉILE
Referee: Paddy Russell (Emly)**

**Senior Football Final at 3 pm
EATHARLACH v FÁNAITHE AN MAOILIG
Referee: John Kissane (Nenagh Éire Óg)**

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FÁILTE AN CHATHAOIRLIGH (SÉAN Ó COSTAGÁIN)

Is príobhléid mór domsa fáilte a chur roimh gach éinne inniu go Pairc Uí Laocha Caiseal I gcóir craobhacha péile 2006, mionúir agus sinsear. Féaraim fíorchaoín fáilte roimh, na ceithre foirne, Eatharlach, Fánaithe na Maoilig, Cill Náile agus na Sáirsealaigh, Dúrlas. Tá súil agam go mbeidh cluichí den scoth againn.

On behalf of the Tipperary County Board G.A.A. it is my privilege to welcome you all to Leahy Park, Cashel for the county senior and minor football finals 2006. Both finals provide unique pairings. Moyle Rovers, who have become a powerful club in the last twenty years, will hope to win their 6th title since 1995 and crown a memorable year, to coincide with the official opening of their magnificent new facilities which were opened in February. Aherlow on the other hand will be attempting to win the O'Dwyer Cup for the first time. While not having the state of the art facilities of the men from Powerstown they have honed their skills and have been prepared to the minute in scenic Lisvernane in the heart of the Galtees. It promises to be a cracking contest and on semi-final form could go either way.

The minor pairing would be more at home on a hurling programme but no doubt both teams are here on merit. Sarsfields, having taken two and half hours to beat Burgess Gaels, are attempting to retain their title while Killenaule are in quest of their first county minor A football title. In beating a highly-rated Arravale Rovers in the semi final they could take the title to the club at a time when great talent exists within the unit.

It is great today to welcome the excellent Clonmel Commercials teams of 1965,66,67 who emulated their great rivals Ardfinnan of ('62,'63,'64) winning three titles in a row themselves. I hope you enjoy the coming together again agus, le cúnamh Dé tá súil agam go mbeidh lá ionntach agaibh go léir.

My thanks to the Cashel Sportsfield committee for again putting their excellent facilities at our disposal for such an important day in our calendar.

In conclusion I want to wish the best of luck to our referees Jack Kissane Nenagh Éire Óg and Paddy Russell and hope they have an enjoyable and trouble free day.

FÁILTE AN CATHAOIRLIGH COISTE PEIL PEADAIR SABHOIS

On behalf of the Tipperary Board it is my pleasure to welcome you all here for today's finals. My best wishes to the four teams involved. County final day is a very special one and it is great to have two divisional winners, Aherlow and Moyle Rovers, in the senior game. The minor teams may be better associated with hurling, but they have proved they are talented footballers as well. I would like to wish both referees, Paddy Russell and John Kissane, the best of luck.

Today is a very special day for the Commercials teams of 1965, 1966 and 1967, who are honoured by the county board in conjunction with The Nationalist and Minella Hotel. They brought great glory to their club and I hope they have a very enjoyable day.

Finally I would like to thank the Cashel club for their excellent facilities for the final.

The best of luck to Moyle Rovers from

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THE REFEREES

Paddy Russell (Emly) will referee today's minor game between Killenaule & Thurles Sarsfields and **John Kissane (Nenagh Éire Óg)** has charge of the senior final between Aherlow and Moyle Rovers.

Name: Paddy Russell

Home Club: Emly

When did you start refereeing? 1976

What finals have you done? All Grades

What level have you refereed in i.e. schools, inter-firms, club (Senior, Under-Age etc), inter-county etc. All levels

What is the one rule you would change given the chance? Pick Up

What was your funniest moment as a referee? The funniest moment when I look back was the Charlie Redmond incident

Why did you get involved as a referee? I was asked by my club to attend a Juvenile refereeing course in 1976 – the rest is history

Any Comments: The best referees are those who never refereed a match of any kind, which is why I take all their critical comments to heart.



Name: John Kissane

Home Club: Nenagh Éire Óg

When did you start refereeing? April 1987

What finals have you done? Co. U-21 F. 'A'; J.F. 'A', J.F. 'b', U-14 F. 'A', Div 1 League Final; S.F. Reg. Final; 2 Mid I. Final; All-Ireland Agricultural Colleges H. Final; North Finals; U-12 'A', U-14, U-16, Minor, U-21, Junior 'B', Junior 'A' & Intermediate

What level have you refereed in i.e. schools, inter-firms, club (Senior, Under-Age etc), inter-county etc. All levels including inter-county challenges.

What is the one rule you would change given the chance? Pick Up in Football

What was your funniest moment as a referee? Chasing after the only ball available during a game in Kilcommon, along the banks of a swollen river.

Interests: Gardening, cycling, reading.



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Best wishes to Aherlow

Coach Road Inn

(Glen of Aherlow)

Proprietors: Bernard & Margaret O'Brien

Wish Aherlow the very best
in the County Football Final

Today's Final by Jonathan Cullen, Tipperary Football PRO

Today's county senior football final pits South Tipperary's finest Moyle Rovers against the men from the Glen of Aherlow in what promises to be an enthralling encounter.

Moyle Rovers, who last won the competition in 2000, will be aiming to bring the cup back to the parish of Powerstown and Lisonagh for the sixth time since 1995 whilst their opponents Aherlow will be hoping to make history by capturing the title for the first time ever, and one could only imagine the celebrations that would take place if this were to occur.

To evaluate both teams one would have to admit that on paper Moyle Rovers are the team with the more household names, players such as full back Liam Cronin who has been an inspiration to so many Moyle Rovers teams in the past, Aidan Foley, Niall Fitzgerald, Brian Mulvihill and of course Declan Browne, the player who can only be described as a real life legend of the game.

However as we all know games are never won on paper and one can be very certain that Aherlow will come to Cashel today with absolutely no fear of their opponents and they will be looking to the likes of the O'Sheas, Denis, Cathal and Conor, captain Mark O'Brien and Laurence Coskeran to give the players around them the inspiration and encouragement needed to claim the title. Aherlow, who dethroned last year's champions Ardfinnan in the semi-final, will know that only a performance exceeding that of the semi will be sufficient if they are to have any chance of holding off the challenge of Moyle Rovers.

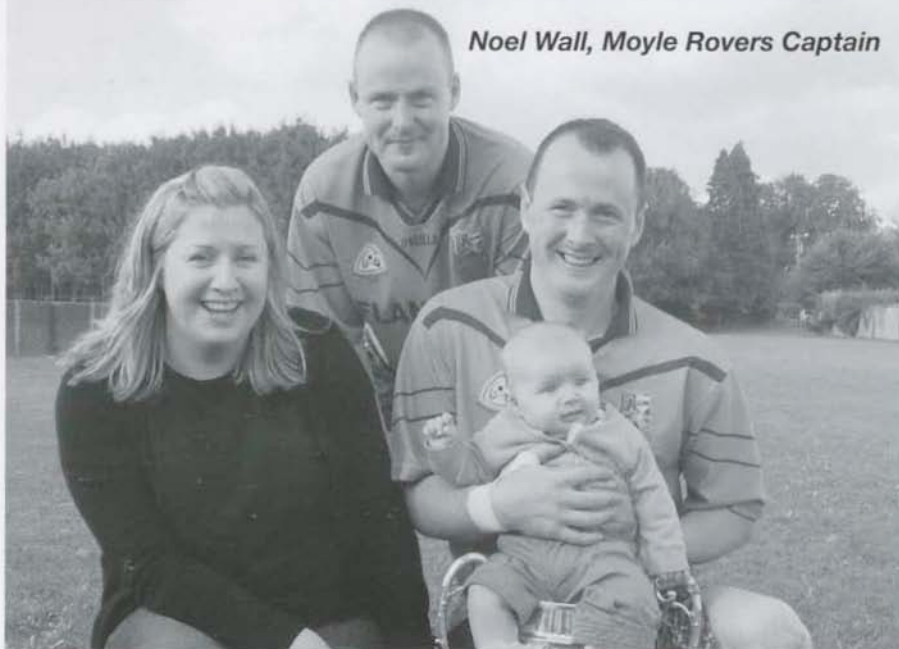
For their part the South men will know that a performance anything below par could be very, very costly indeed but I am sure that this fact will be well emphasised to them by their very experienced manager Jimmy Dunne and his backroom team. Aherlow too have a very capable management committee and one can be sure that Tom Peters, Pat Moroney and Larry Nash will have put a lot of time and effort into making sure that things go their way.

I am of the opinion that this will be a game that will go right down to the wire and indeed a game which is impossible to call. If there is to be a winner I believe that a defensive error or a missed opportunity could be the difference in the end.

Verdict: Draw

Glen of Aherlow Co-Op
Wishes Aherlow the best of luck
in the County Football Final

Noel Wall, Moyle Rovers Captain



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MINOR CLUB PROFILES

KILLENAULE

On route to today's final Killenaule came through a very exciting and competitive South championship, to claim divisional honours in this grade for the first time in the club's history. The scenes in Fethard following that South final victory over a fancied Clonmel Og side, will be fondly remembered in Killenaule for some time to come. A first round defeat to Moyle Rovers, way back in February, and a hard earned draw against Clonmel Commercials left Killenaule in need of much improvement in order to progress to the knockout stages. Victories soon followed against Cahir/Ballylooby, Carrick Swans and things were looking up for Killenaule. A pulsating three-point win over Ardfinnan in Monroe secured Killenaule a semi-final berth. The Killenaule cause was helped in no small way by its four-man county contingent of Matthew O'Donnell, Paddy Codd (capt.), Steven Brown and Michael Doyle. This Killenaule quarteret were instrumental in Tipperary reaching an All-Ireland quarter final. Killenaule's South semi-final victory over Moyle Rovers was a game of thrilling football from start to finish, with full forward Michael Doyle's wonder injury-time goal snatching victory from the jaws of defeat. This win gave Killenaule no end of confidence going into the South final and the six-point winning margin over Clonmel Og did not flatter them one bit! Onward to the county semi-final against last year's finalists Arravale Rovers. This proved to be very much a game of two halves given the strong wind in Cashel that day. Killenaule owe much of this victory to their hard working defence, in particular the sterling displays of Kieran Murphy, Paddy Codd and James Hickey.

Killenaule are under no illusions about the might if their task to dethrone county champions, Thurles Sarsfields, but will go into today's game quietly confident of spoiling the "double" celebrations.

THURLES SARSFIELDS

This panel of players have already achieved success this year by capturing the county minor hurling crown last Sunday. They hope to achieve the double today. The team are also looking to defend the title they won last year for the first time. The minor football championship began in early April with the group stages of the mid championship. It saw the team progress nicely with victories over J.K Brackens and Holycross before losing to Drom and Moycarkey. We managed to qualify for the mid semi-final against Brackens whom we duly defeated. We met Moycarkey in the final and after a close game we managed to secure victory by a margin of 5 points on a scoreline of 0-12 to 1-4. This was a tremendous boost in confidence for the players as captain Conor Moloney lifted the Mid title for the second successive year.

There was then a ten-week gap till the county semi final where we drew with Burgess in Templederry after extra time. This was a tough game with us overcoming a half-time deficit of 5 points to force extra time and there was no separating the two teams in extra time. The replay was the following Saturday again in Templederry and the drawn match seemed to have brought us on a fair bit as we opened up a commanding lead. However Burgess rallied and we were lucky to hold on to record a narrow victory which saw us qualify for our second successive county minor football final. The final score was 1-09 to 2-05.

This group of players have shown exemplary discipline throughout the year and especially the last few weeks which has seen the majority of players play important games over the course of 4 weeks. We salute the players and their mentors in their quest to add back to back titles county titles in minor football and also their attempt to record the double by adding the football title to the hurling title they already hold.



Pictured at the presentation of a new set of tracksuits to Aherlow G.A.A. Club are (l. to r.) David Grogan, Secretary, Gerard Moroney representing the sponsors, Moroney's Shop and Bar, Lisvernane, Mark O'Brien, Captain Aherlow S.F. team, Larry Nash, Selector Aherlow S.F. team and Tom Peters, Manager.

FLANCARE

*Flancare wishes the Mayle Rovers
Senior Football Team the best of success
in the County Senior Football Final
against Aherlow*

Killenaule
(Red & Yellow)

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Edward Kelly | | |
| 2. Tom Kennedy | 3. Kieran Murphy | 4. Cathal Bergin |
| 5. Anthony Guinan | 6. Paddy Codd | 7. James Hickey |
| 8. Matthew O'Donnell
(capt) | | 9. Niall Bergin |
| 10. Michael McGrath | 11. Michael Kelly | 12. Steven Browne |
| 13. John O'Dwyer | 14. Michael Doyle | 15. Brian Murphy |

Subs: 17. Kevin Prendergast 18. Shane Kavanagh
 19. Michael Webster 20. James Gleeson 21. Pdraig Kennedy
 22. JJ Webster 23. Steven Hannigan*
 Team Manager: Anthony Doyle. Selectors: Paul Guinan, Patrick Fennelly

Thurles Sarsfields
(Blue & White)

- | | | |
|--------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. David Keady | | |
| 2. Liam Phelan | 3. Stephen Dorney | 4. Laurence Burke |
| 5. Kevin O'Gorman | 6. Conor Moloney
(Capt) | 7. Pa Burke |
| 8. Pdraig Maher | | 9. Patrick Leahy |
| 10. Michael Cahill | 11. John Joe Burke | 12. Michael Gleeson |
| 13. Paul Connors | 14. Eoin O'Dwyer | 15. Jamie Lennon |

Subs: 16. Rodney Mason 17. Shane Dorney 18. Jonathon Shannon
 19. Bill McCormack 20. Shane Meagher 21. John Callanan
 22. Peter Donnelly 23. Shane Maher 24. Sean Smith
 25. Michael Keane 26. Kieran O'Shea
 Manager: Michael Gleeson. Selectors: John Dorney, Gary Mernagh,
 John Cahill, Thomas Callanan

**AHERLOW
(GREEN & GOLD)**

1. Shane Leonard
(Toureen)

2. Denis O'Shea
(Lisvernane)

3. Mark O'Brien (capt)
(Coach Road)

4. Ciaran McDonald
(Coach Road)

5. Cathal O'Shea
Lisvernane

6. John Hennessy
(Monour)

7. Cathal Dillon
(Knockanbrack)

8 Derry Peters
(Rosbog)

9 Anthony Moroney
(Lisvernane)

10. Conor O'Shea
(Lisvernane)

11. Stuart Moloney
(Ballinacourty)

12. Laurence Coskeran
(Ballinacourty)

13. Seamus Grogan
(Foxford)

14. Dave Cleary
(Ballinacourty)

15. Barry Grogan
(Foxford)

Subs: 17. Mark O'Shea (Lisvernane), 18. Sean Mullins (Corderry),
19. Bernard O'Brien (Coach Road),
20. Thomas Fahey (Ballycrehane), 21. Seanie Peters (Stonepark),
22. Paddy Hennessy (Rosbog), 23. Mark Leonard (Toureen),
24. Brian Moroney (Lisvernane), 25. Tadhg O'Donoghue
(Lisvernane), 26. Kieran Moroney (Ballinacourty)
27. Michael Moroney (Lisvernane),
28. Joss O'Brien (Ballinacourty), 29. Tommy Russell (Gortavoher).

Team Manager: Tom Peters. Selectors: Pat Moroney, Larry Nash.
Team Doctor: Kathleen O'Sullivan; Team Physio: Pat Moroney

Club Officers: chairman – Kieran Moroney,
Secretary – David Grogan, Treasurer – James Noonan.

MOYLE ROVERS (SKY BLUE/NAVY)

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Ian Browne
(Magelstown) | | |
| 2. Noel Wall (capt.)
(Giantsgrave) | 3. Liam Cronin
(Jossesstown) | 4. Robbie Boland
(Moangarriff) |
| 5. Martin Dunne
(Caherclough) | 6. Aidan Foley
(Ballingarrane) | 7. Ronan Desmond
(Powerstown) |
| 8. Niall Fitzgerald
(Moangarriff) | | 9. James Williams
(Clashaniska) |
| 10. Kevin Condon
(Caherclough) | 11. Declan Browne
(Shanbally) | 17. Kevin Morrissey
(Rathronan) |
| 13. Paul Shanahan
(Langanore) | 14. Pdraigh Foley
(Ballingarrane) | 15. Brain Mulvihill
(Silersprings) |

Subs: 16. Kieran Kendrick (Silersprings), 18. Jack O'Shea (Ard Gaoithe), 19. Paul Johnson (Monroe), 20. John Shanahan (Langanore), 21. P. J. Wall (Giantsgrave), 22. Padraic Kelly (Ballyvaughan), 23. Aaron Kelly (Baptistgrange), 24. Billy Hunt (Lisronagh), 25. David Conway (Rathronan), 26. Ger McCarthy (Monroe), 27. Keith Fortune (Magelstown), 28. Eamon Cahill (Giantsgrave), 29. Mark Ryan (Tannersrath).

Manager: Jimmy Dunne. Trainer/selector: Donal Foley. Selectors: Brendan Foley, Michael Mulvihill. Team Physio: Neil Burke.

Kit Manager: Pat O'Connor.

Club Officers: Chairman – Tom Acheson,

Secretary – Seamus Delahunty,

Treasurer – Seamus Norris, P.R.O. – Jean O'Connor.



Aherlow SFC Winners: Back Row (L to R) Ciarain McDonald, Tadgh O Donoghue, Bernard O'Brien, Thomas Fahey, Laurence Coskeran, Cathal Dillon, John Hennessy, Brian Moroney, Stuart Moloney, Mark Leonard. Front Row (L to R) Anthony Moroney, Sean Mullins, Shane Leonard, Mark O'Brien (Capt) Barry Grogan, Seamus Grogan, Derry Peters, Paddy Hennessy, Conor O'Shea, Cathal O'Shea



SENIOR COUNTY CHAMPIONS 1995

Back row: John Owens, Paul Boland, Jimmy Dunne, John McGrath, Paul O'Connor, Tony Maher, Tom Hanarahan, Gerard Cahill, Derry Foley, Seamus Delahunty, Donal Foley, Michael McGrath, Michael John Browne.

Front Row: Robbie Boland, Paul Norris, Kevin O'Connor, Eamon Power, Liam Cronin, Declan Browne, James Williams, Noel Wall, John Kelly, Pat Brett

Arch Bar
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Thurles*
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*Best of luck to
Thurles Sarsfields
today from
the Hayes Family*

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*Home of
Champions*



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teams well
in Cashel today*

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Thurles*
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*Traditional music every
Wednesday night
Wish the best of luck to
Thurles Sarsfields*

Ardagh House
*Main Street,
Killenaule*



*We wish
Killenaule Minors
every success today*

AHERLOW CAPTAIN PROFILE

Name: Mark O'Brien

Date of Birth: 28/11/1977

Address: Coach Road, Aherlow G.A.A.

Height: 6 Ft

Position: Full Back

Honours Won: County U. 16 'B' Football, County Minor 'A' Football,

2 County U.21 'A' Football, County Senior Football League, West

U. 16 'B' Football, West Minor 'A' Football, 2 West u.21 'A' Football,

3 West Senior Football Championships.

Sportsperson you most admire: Roy Keane

Favourite Food: Steak and Chips

Favourite Drink: Pint Heineken from the Coach

Favourite Position: Full Back (of course)

Captain's Comment: I started playing in primary school at the age of 8 years under the tutelage of Tom O'Shea who taught us a lot. For the last fourteen years I have had the great guidance of Thomas Peters and Pat Moroney. These men, along with Tom O' Shea, have given so much to the development of the club. I have been on great teams and had a lot of success but to bring home the county senior would mean so much to everyone in the community.

PAST PLAYER PROFILE:

JOHN O' GORMAN

John O' Gorman, after whom our sportsfield and ground is named, was a very prominent player and official in the Aherlow club for years. Born in Moonaboola in 1920, he came of a very sporting family. His sisters played camogie for many years and John took an interest in football from an early age. He played for Galbally when there was no club in the Glen but in the late 1940's he helped to reorganise the Aherlow club. He became secretary and was one of its most prominent players.

Through his organisational and playing abilities he helped to bring the first championship to Aherlow-winning the West Junior football championship in 1950. This success was repeated in 1952, John again being a star.

It was a great shock to all club members when in 1953 in the prime of his life he went to his eternal reward.

In his memory Aherlow G.A.A. decided to name their sportsfield O'Gorman Park and it was officially opened on 10th June 1979 when two of the premier football teams in the country Cork and Galway played a tournament game in the field in Lisvernane. A fitting tribute to a great Aherlow Gael.

AHERLOW G.A.A. CLUB-OUR HISTORIC PAST - DAVID GROGAN

While most of us are aware of the achievements and history of our club since our current group of players made their impact on the West and county scene, it is worth remembering how our club developed from its inception up to the 1970s when the oldest of today's senior team was born.

The G.A.A was founded in 1884 and the following year Aherlow were listed as a club in the 'Cashel Sentinel'. This was due to two men, Chris Lee, the principal of Lisvernane N.S. and his friend R. J. Frewen who offered one of his fields as a sportsfield. Chris Lee played senior football for Dublin and Tipperary and kept the spirit of the G.A.A. alive in the Glen until his death in 1944. R. J. Frewen became treasurer of the G.A.A. in 1887 and in the following year he accompanied 48 athletes to America with a view of fostering a great love of the game in that land. At home both Chris Lee and R. J. Frewen continued to promote the game playing challenge matches with neighbouring locations. R. J. Frewen's impact on the Association is highlighted by the fact that to this day the Munster Colleges U. 16 1/2 'A' football championship cup is named in his honour.

In the early 1900s Kilross were to the forefront supplying many players to the Tipperary senior football team. Around 1922 a combination of footballers came to the fore known as 'The Aherlow Blues'. They were based largely around Coach Road and challenge games were often played between 'The Top Road' and 'Coach Road'. Aherlow played in the South Tipperary championship between 1925 and 1927 and won a Silver Medal Tournament in Lattin in 1927. In the late 1920's the Aherlow Blues broke up and in 1928 a Galbally-Aherlow combination (with 14 Aherlow players in the selection) won the Limerick junior football championship.

Tommy Lee came to teach in Aherlow in 1928 and started the school team which became known as 'The Gleann Ogs' and they reached two county finals, beaten by Thurles in 1929 and Ballyneale in 1930. The next period of prominence for Aherlow was from 1937 to 1939 when we were beaten in three successive West junior finals. Success at last came to Aherlow in 1950 when we won the West junior football championship and we repeated the feat in 1952 when we were unlucky to lose to Cahir in the county final.

In the Sixties we won our first hurling trophy when a team captained by the great Michael McCormack won the No.2 West junior hurling title. While in 1968 in combination with Emly we won the West senior football championship. More West junior success followed in 1970 and 1971 and we won our second West junior hurling crown in 1975. A west junior football title followed in 1978 and from this period to the present day has been the most successful period in Aherlow G.A.A. But despite our recent winnings we will never forget the impact our forebears had on establishing the roots of Aherlow G.A.A. club.

MOYLE ROVER'S CAPTAIN PROFILE

Name: Noel Wall

Date of Birth: 24/12/74

Occupation: Instrumentation Technician with Lisheen Mines

Marital Status: Married to Mary with a baby daughter Ava.

Honours Won: 5 South & County SF Championship, 1 South & County JH Championship, 1 South & County U21 B Football

Favourite Food: Used to be steak and chips until the birth of his daughter Ava, now its Liga!!!!

This is Noel's third year in a row as captain of the Moyle Rovers senior football team. He is a very worthy choice as captain as his popularity with the players and supporters alike within the club is immense his dedication and hard work both on and off the field makes him an inspirational figure to all the young players within the club.

The Wall family have always been well associated with the Moyle Rovers club as his father Michael played with us in his earlier years and remains actively involved with the club to this day as a selector of our junior hurling team and a key member of the backroom team today. Noel's brother T. J. is also a member of today's senior football panel. Even at the tender age of 31, Noel is regarded as one of the veterans of the Moyle Rovers team and his vast experience will play a vital role if his team are to be successful today in their quest for the county title.

PLAYER OF THE PAST - DERRY FOLEY

Derry Foley must surely rank as one of Tipperary football's all time greats. His list of achievements is indeed impressive: South and county minor championship 1984, South senior championship 91,95,96,98,99 and 2000, county senior championship 95,96,98,99 and 2000, New England championship 1989, New York junior championship 1989.

He has represented his club, college, county, province and country in a footballing career spanning 25 years.

Tipperary minor panel 1985, U.C.C. Sigerson Cup panel 1986, Tipperary senior panel 1992-1999, Railway Cup 1995-1996, International Rules Series 1998-1999.

When discussing football with Derry he says that success does not come easily and points out that he has competed in 6 Munster finals (all grades) lost 5 drew 1.

His message to young people is to strive for excellence and success will come at some stage but above all enjoy our Gaelic Games.

MOYLE ROVERS CLUB PROFILE

The Moyle Rovers G.A.A. club derives its name from the Moyle river which flows through the parish of Powerstown and Lisronagh, joining the Anner at Thorneybridge.

Since the purchase and development of Moyle Park in the early 1980s, great emphasis has been placed on the development of a strong juvenile club. The trojan work at juvenile level began to reap rewards with the winning of a county minor title when joined with Grangemockler in 1984. Our juvenile club has created a nurturing environment in which young people are encouraged to develop their football and hurling skills. This encouragement, together with excellent coaching has put our juvenile teams to the forefront of all football championships and indeed hurling is catching up fast.

We had to wait until the 1990s for success to flow at adult level, and flow it did, with the winning of 5 senior South and county titles from 1995 to 2000. We were also involved in 2 Munster finals.

A further milestone in the provision of facilities at Moyle Park was reached last February when Sean Kelly, Uachtarain C.L.G., dedicated the new sports hall and gym to the memory of our own "Mr. Moyle Rovers" the late Mick McCarthy. Great credit is due to the Monroe development committee under the guidance of Seamus Norris and Frank Burke for their vision and commitment to this development project, which to date has cost 1.35 million euro. The progress at Monroe signifies great times for our club. Long may these continue.

On a sad note, our club president Kitty O'Donnell passed away this year but we have no doubt she is urging the lads on today, as always.

MONROE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

In association with Moyle Rovers juvenile G.A.A. club, will hold a benefit race night at Clonmel Dog Track this evening, Sunday, October 29. First race is at 7.30 pm.

The evening will feature the Frank Purcell Memorial 575 and the European Group Stakes.

Come along for a great fun-filled evening.

REMEMBERING CLONMEL COMMERCIALS THREE-IN-A-ROW

Following the very successful celebration of Ardfinnan's four-in-a-row county football titles last year, the Tipperary county board, in conjunction with the Nationalist/Minella Hotel will honour the Commercials senior football time that brought three county titles to the club in 1965, 1966 and 1967. The celebrations will take place at Leahy Park, Cashel during the county football finals this Sunday, and later at the Minella Hotel.

To win a county championship is the ambition of every club, but to succeed in winning three-in-a-row is an honour achieved by very few clubs.

The first of Commercials victories was achieved at Templemore on October 24, 1965, when they defeated Moneygall by 2-9 to 0-5 before two thousand people. The winning team was as follows: Tommy Williams, Brian O'Callaghan, Tom Pollard, Michael O'Connell, Kieran McGrath, Mick Egan, Conor O'Dwyer, Paddy O'Connell, Brendan O'Keeffe, Johnny Ryan, Peter Archibald, Denis O'Donoghue, Anthony Burke, Liam Boland, Timmy Ryan. Subs: George Collins, Pat McDonagh, Niall O'Donnell, Ollie Matthews, Tom Fennessy, Brendan Dunne.

The club won their second at Clonmel on December 4 the following year, when they beat old rivals, Ardfinnan by 2-6 to 1-8. The winning team was as follows: John McNamara, Brian O'Callaghan, Tom Pollard, Michael O'Connell, Kieran McGrath, Mick Egan, Kevin Hackett, Paddy O'Connell, Brendan O'Keeffe, Pat Fitzgerald, Liam Boland, Jimmy Hewitt, Seamus Wall, Eddie Hewitt, Timmy Ryan. Subs: Anthony Burke, Conor O'Dwyer, Johnny Ryan, Denis O'Donoghue, George Collins, Tom Fennessy, Brian Burke.

Commercials captured their third in a row when they had seven points to spare, 2-9 to 0-8, over West champions, Lattin-Cullen, at Cashel on November 12, 1967. The winning side was as follows: John McNamara, Brian O'Callaghan, Tom Pollard, Michael O'Connell, Pat Fitzgerald, Mick Egan, Conor O'Dwyer, Peter Archibald, Paddy O'Connell, Johnny Ryan, Liam Boland, Larry Fagan, Anthony Burke, Brendan O'Keeffe, Jimmy Hewitt. Subs: Timmy Ryan, John Shanahan, Denis O'Donoghue, George Collins, Tom Fennessy.

The captain of all three winning sides was Brian O'Callaghan. It was a great tribute to the player that he held the honour for the three years. He was an outstanding player and a great leader. He won a county minor football title in 1955 and returned to Clonmel in 1964, having qualified as a dentist. He had spent his student years at U.C.C. and captained the college team to two Cork county titles, and played with distinction on Cork county football teams. Under his leadership Commercials thrived, winning the Tipperaryman's Cup in 1964 and then going on to win the three-in-a-row under his captaincy. He was a demanding captain and expected a high degree of fitness from all players. Unfortunately he died prematurely after a prolonged illness.

The successful teams had an earlier celebration at the Clonmel Arms Hotel on November 28, 1998.



Commercial's Team 1966

Back row, left to right: Kieran McGrath, Mick Egan, Tom Pollard, Paddy O'Connell, Kevin Hackett, Liam Boland, Brendan O'Keefe.

Front row, left to right: John McNamara, Jimmy Hewitt, Timmy Ryan, Pat Fitzgerald, Brian O'Callaghan (capt.), Eddie Hewitt, Seanie Wall, Michael O'Connell

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