

Co. Tipperary Senior Football Final
Match Programme
1997



Coiste Chondae Tiobrain Árann



County Minor and Senior Football Finals

Sunday, September 21st, 1997



at Páirc na nGael, New Inn



Minor: 3 p.m.

Arravale Rovers

v

Kildangan

Reiteóir: Jim O'Shea

Senior: 4.30 p.m.

Aherlow

v

Fethard

Reiteóir: Brian White



Tomás Ó Baróid
Runaí

Luach
£1

Teachtaireacht ón Cathaoirleach



Tá an áthas orm fáilte a chur raimh gach éinne go Páirc na nGael Fánaithe Charraigh an Tobair an trathona seó. Tá súil agam go mbeidh árd-chaighdeán 'ana cluichí agus go mbainfidh gach éinne idir na himathóirí agus luacht féachanna ault agus taithneamh as an lá mór.

Today we reach the culmination of this year's senior and minor championship programme. We will also witness history being made because not alone are the Rockwell Rovers club hosting this final in their recently acquired spacious grounds, but we also have Kildangan and Aherlow contesting their first ever finals in their respective grades.

Both of these teams with Fethard and Arravale Rovers deserve to be part of a history making occasion. Down through the years they have provided us with some of the memorable occasions in the chronicles of the G.A.A. and likewise continue to adorn our playing fields with the highest standard of skill and

sportsmanship. So we look forward to a further episode of the skills, enthusiasm and manly rivalry which has made these clubs so famous. Let's hope that this occasion too will be one that will be forever treasured in our memories and in the annals of Tipperary Co. Football Finals.

In conclusion I would like to thank all of our players and officials throughout the county for providing us with such pleasure and entertainment during the year. I would also like to thank our legion of supporters for their continued loyalty and exemplary behaviour.

With a renewed welcome to all here present and wherever you may be, and extending an open invitation to become involved and play your part in restoring Tipperary to its former place of glory on the football fields of Ireland.

Gabhaim búiochas libh uile.

Michéal Ó Freaghaile,
Cathaoirleach,
Coiste Péil, Thiobraid Árann

Búiochas: Many thanks to the following for their assistance in compiling this programme: *Jerry Ring, *Tom O'Shea, *Tommy Twomey, and *Michael McCormack. Produced by Tipperary G.A.A. Public Relations and Publications Committee

Fáilte ón Cathaoirleach Condae Thiobraid Árann

Fáilte inniú chuigh Páirc na nGael Loch Ceann agus cliúchi Cheannais peil sínsear agus mionúir.

While hurling has taken precedence in Tipperary in recent weeks, we are back to domestic matters and our football showpiece of the year today.

Both games, senior and minor promise a feast of football. Fethard are no strangers to success while Aherlow are contesting their first ever senior final. Fethard have 19 titles to their credit, winning their last one in 1993.

Aherlow draw from a community of approximately 600 people, the larger part of their parish is in Limerick under the Galbally banner. Galbally contested the Limerick County Football final a couple of weeks ago.

The minor final between Kildangan and Arravale Rovers is an interesting clash. While Arravale Rovers have a strong tradition, Kildangan have



emerged as a football force in recent years, building on underage success.

I welcome the participating teams, the referees, their officials and you the supporters and hope that you enjoy the day's football here in New Inn.

I take this opportunity to thank outgoing Tipperary senior football manager, Paddy Morrissey and welcome Colm Browne who takes over that rôle.

*Pól Ó Neil
Cathaoirleach*



AHERLOW – County senior football finalists 1997

Front row (left to right): Cathal O'Shea, Paul Kiely, Derry Peters, Mark O'Shea, Fergal Clifford, Conor O'Shea, Peter Leonard. Back row (left to right): Denis O'Shea, Seán Russell, Mark Leonard, Declan Reardon, Anthony Moroney, Michael Moroney, Mark O'Brien, Timmy Leonard.

Aherlow G.A.A.



Mark O'Shea, Aherlow captain

We like to boast in Aherlow that our club was founded away back in 1885. We know for certain that Gaelic games were played here in the Glen at that time. We even provided the treasurer of the National Association at the turn of the century – Bob Frewen.

Another great family involved in the G.A.A. in those far off days were the Lees. Chris Lee was principal of Luvernane school for many years and was a fine footballer. His son Tomás played for county Tipperary and was centrefield on the team that defeated Kerry in 1927. Tomás is still alive as is his brother Monsignor Christopher Lee of Cashel, who very likely is attending today's game.

Like most parishes the G.A.A. had its ups and downs and for many years there was no club in Aherlow.

We had to wait a very long time for our first success at divisional level. We won the West Junior championship for the first time in 1950.

We did not win our first county

championship until 1987, when our under-14 footballers succeeded.

In the ten years since we have had huge success and every Aherlow player out there today has many divisional and county medals. We never won a county junior final, being beaten twice but we won an intermediate title two years ago in this field.

Aherlow is the smallest club in the area in West Tipperary. All our players except Tommy Carew attended Luvernane school. We are lucky that a group of boys came along together who were very dedicated and under the guidance of Tom Peters, Pat Moroney and others have brought us to the very top – senior county finalists today.

Tom O'Shea

Aherlow Club officers:

<i>Chairman:</i>	Joe Donovan;
<i>Secretary:</i>	Tom Leonard;
<i>Treasurer:</i>	Lar Ivory;
<i>Trainer:</i>	Tom Peters;
<i>Selectors:</i>	Tom Peters, Shamie Frewen,



ARRAFALE ROVERS

Fir Ionaid:

(16) **Barry Walsh**
(B. Breathnach)

(17) **Niall Sheehan**
(N Ó Siocháin)

(18) **Tagdh Duggan**
(T. Ó Duagáin)

(19) **Pat Heffernan**
(P. Ó hIfeárnáin)

(20) **Declan Madden**
(D. Ó Madáin)

(21) **Paul Loweny**
(P. Ó Labhraí)

(22) **Mark O'Brien**
(M. Ó Briain)

(1)

(R. Ó Suaird)

RICHARD SWORDS

(2)

(I. Ó Floinn)

IVAN FLYNN

(3)

(A. Ó Láitheasa)

ANDY LACEY

(4)

(T. MacCraith)

TED McGRATH

(5)

(P. Ó Duagáin)

PAT DUGGAN

(6)

(P. Ó Toibín)

PAUL TOBIN

(7)

(B. MacMathúna)

BRIAN McMAHON

(8)

(D. Ó Móra)

DARRAGH MOORE

(9)

(G. MacAnGhaill)

GER STAPLETON

(10)

(M. Ó hAnluain)

MARK HANLEY

(11)

(S. Ó Dónail)

JOHN O'DONNELL

(12)

(M. MacFhíobhuí)

MICHAEL McEVOY

(13)

(C. Ó hÓgain)

GARY HOGAN

(14)

(B. Gláisin)

BRIAN GLASHEEN

(15)

(C. Ó Riain)

COLIN RYAN

Arravale	Cúil	Cúilíní	Seacháí	45m	Saor Ciceanna
1adh leath					
2adh leath					
IOMLAN					

KILDANGAN



(1)

(P. Ó Ciarubháin)
PAUL KIRWAN

(2)

(A. Ó Flannabhra)
HUGH FLANNERY

(3)

(S. Ó Slatara)
JOHN SLATTERY

(4)

(T. Ó Cléirigh)
THOMAS CLARKE

(5)

(F. Ó Ceallaigh)
FERGAL KELLY

(6)

(D. Ó Haicéid)
DAN HACKETT

(7)

(G. Ó Slatara)
GER SLATTERY

(8)

(E. Ó Nualláin)
ENDA NOLAN

(9)

(B. Ó Leathlobhair)
BRIAN LAWLOR

(10)

(S. Ó hEigearthaigh)
STEPHEN HEGARTY

(11)

(M.I. Ó Riain)
MICHAEL RYAN

(12)

(T. Ó Conchúir)
TOMMY CONNORS

(13)

(D. Ó Slatara)
DENIS SLATTERY

(14)

(M. Ó Conchúir)
MICHAEL CONNORS

(15)

(D. MacComháin)
DAVID COEN

Fir Ionaíd:

(16) **Sean Lynch**
(S. MacLoingsigh)

(17) **Liam Kelly**
(L. Ó Ceallaigh)

(18) **Eric Kirwan**
(E. Ó Ciarubháin)

(19) **Liam Flannery**
(L. Ó Flannabhra)

(20) **Martin Nolan**
(M. Ó Nualláin)

(21) **Dermot Hogan**
(D. Ó hÓgáin)

(22) **Graham Finch**
(G. Ó Fúinse)

(23) **Eoin Cleary**
(E. MacGiolla Arraith)

(24) **Ger Kennedy**
(G. Ó Cinneide)

<i>Kildangan</i>	Cúil	Cúilíní	Seachai	45m	Saor Ciceanna
1adh leath					
2adh leath					
IOMLAN					



AHERLOW

Dathanna: Glás agus Óir

Fir Ionaíd:

(16) **Kieran Moroney**
(C. Ó Maolruanaidh)

(17) **Luke Leonard**
(L. Ó Loinin)

(18) **Seanie Peters**
(S. MacPheadair)

(19) **Peter Leonard**
(P. Ó Loinin)

(20) **Leo Leonard**
(L. Ó Loinin)

(21) **John Ivory**
(S. Ó hUidhrin)

(22) **Billy Reardon**
(L. Ó Riordáin)

(23) **Jackie Bourke**
(S. de Búrca)

(24) **George Kiely**
(S. Ó Cadhla)

(25) **Noel Clifford**
(N. MacRifeartaigh)

(1)

(M. Ó Maolruanaidh)

MICHAEL MORONEY

(2)

(M. Ó Clúmháin)

FERGAL CLIFFORD

(3)

(S. Ruiséal)

SEAN RUSSELL

(4)

(P. Ó Cadhla)

PAUL KIELY

(5)

(M. Ó Briain) (Capt.)

MARK O'BRIEN

(6)

(M. Ó Loinin)

MARK LEONARD

(7)

(T. Ó Loinin)

TIMMY LEONARD

(8)

(D. MacPheadair)

DERRY PETERS

(9)

(D. Ó Riordain)

DECLAN REARDON

(10)

(L. Ó Loinin)

LIONEL LEONARD

(11)

(T. Carrún)

TIMMY CAREW

(12)

(D. Ó Sé)

DENIS O'SHEA

(13)

(C. Ó Sé)

CATHAL O'SHEA

(14)

(M. Ó Sé)

MARK O'SHEA

(15)

(C. Ó Sé)

CONOR O'SHEA

<i>Aherlow</i>	Cúil	Cúillíní	Seachái	45m	Saor Ciceanna
1adh leath					
2adh leath					
IOMLAN					

FETHARD

Dathanna: Gorm agus Bán



(1)

(P. MacGearilt)

PAUL FITZGERALD

(2)

(S. Ó Domnaill)

STEFAN O'DONNELL

(3)

(M. Ó Riain)

MICHAEL RYAN

(4)

(P. de Blaca)

PHILIP BLAKE

(5)

(M. Quinlan)

MICHAEL QUINLAN

(6)

(L. Ó Meara)

WILLIE O'MEARA

(7)

(L. Ó Muiriosa) (capt.)

WILLIE MORRISSEY

(8)

(C. Coen)

CHRIS COEN

(9)

(M. Spillane)

MICHAEL SPILLANE

(10)

(D. Ó Broin)

DAMIEN BYRNE

(11)

(B. de Burca)

BRIAN BURKE

(12)

(M. Coen)

MARTIN COEN

(13)

(S. Ó Meara)

JIMMY O'MEARA

(14)

(T. Ó Siochain)

TOMMY SHEEHAN

(15)

(M. MacGearilt)

MICHAEL FITZGERALD

"Buddy"

Fir Ionaid:

(16) **John Paul Looby**
(S. P. Luibí)

(17) **Tomás Keane**
(T. Ó Cathain)

(18) **Michael O'Riordan**
(M. Ó Riordan)

(19) **Tom McCarthy**
(T. McCartaigh)

(20) **Willie Quigley**
(L. Quigley)

(21) **Brendan Brett**
(B. de Brett)

(22) **Declan Maher**
(D. Ó Meaghair)

(23) **Eugene Walsh**
(E. Breathnach)

(24) **Conor O'Donnell**
(Conor Ó Domnaill)

<i>Fethard</i>	Cúil	Cúilíní	Seachái	45m	Saor Ciceanna
1adh leath					
2adh leath					
IOMLAN					

Fethard - home of football with 19 county titles



Willie Morrissey, Fethard captain

In football parlance Fethard could be compared with Vesuvius or Monserat – a sleeping giant waiting to explode anytime, anywhere or against any opposition.

Since our last championship in 1993 they have been smouldering and preparing patiently for today – will September 21st see the eruption. Time will tell. Certainly sparks will fly, but hopefully no dark cloud will hang over the "Friary Town" this evening.

Having won 19 county titles and been constantly in the shake-up since 1978, we have slipped into spectator mode over the last four years. Our batteries are now replenished and we are ready for the mammoth task on hand, an encounter with the men from "The Glen", Eddie included.

There is no illusion that it will be easy, rightly so. Any side that will take out Ardfinnan or Loughmore

Castleiney must be respected, but having said that, Fethard as South Champions must be rated with an equal chance.

Men like Brian Burke, Willie O'Meara, Michael O'Riordan, Tommy Sheehan, Chris Coen and the ever-green Michael "Buddy" Fitzgerald, have served their club and county well. Today could be their finest hour in the St. Patrick's blue. Young guns John Paul Looby and Tomás Keane will be eager to impress if called upon to perform.

Fethard selectors today are:
Michael Healy, Danny Kane, Noel Byrne, Jimmy O'Shea and manager Walty Moloney.

Cathaoirleach: Seán Moloney;
Runaí: Michael Cormack;
Cisteoir: Nicholas O'Shea.

Honours list:

1887 - 1917 - 1918 - 1912 - 1920 -
1922 - 1923 - 1924 - 1927 - 1928 -
1938 - 1942 - 1954 - 1957 - 1978 -



FETHARD – Co. Senior Football Finalists 1997 –

Front row (left to right): Martin Coen, Willie O'Meara, Michael Fitzgerald, Philip Blake, Willie Morrissey (captain), Jimmy O'Meara, Tommy Sheehan. Back row (left to right): Michel Ryan, Damien Byrne, Brian Burke, Michael Spillane, Paul Fitzgerald, Michael Quinlan, Chris Coen, Stephen O'Donnell.



ARRAVALLE ROVERS – Co. Minor Football Finalists 1997 –

Back row (left to right): Seamus King, Ted McGrath, Joe Power, Mark O'Brien, Patrick Heffernan, Paul Lowry, Mark Hanley, Ger Stapleton, Brian Mahony, Richard Swords, Brian Glasheen, Andrew Lacey, Michael McEvoy, Paddy O'Connor, Colin Ryan, Gary Hogan, Andy Lacey (Royal Hotel - sponsor of West M.F.C. 'A'), Seán Moore (selector), Front row (left to right): Tadhg Duggan, Declan Madden, Niall Sheehan, Barry Walsh, Paul Tobin, Pat Duggan, Ivan Flynn, Dara Moore, John O'Donnell, Tommy Twomey (selector).



KILDANGAN Minor Footballers

– who beat Holycross/Ballycahill in the Co. Semi-final –

Front row: (left to right): Dan Hackett, Hughie Flannery, Denis Slattery, Stephen Hegarty, Paul Kirwan, Thomas Clarke, Eric Kirwan, Liam Kelly, Eoin Cleary, Dermot Hogan. Back row: (left to right): Tommy Connors, Enda Nolan, Ger Slattery, Mick Connors, John Slattery, Mike Ryan, Brian Lawlor (captain), David Coen, Fergal Kelly, Martin Nolan, John Lynch.

Arravale Rovers

In Tipperary football Arravale Rovers' a special place of honour was assured as early as 1895, when the Tipperary Town club won the first All-Ireland played at Croke Park, then known as Jones' Road. A few years before Bohercrowe also drawn from Tipperary town annexed the 1889 title.

The story of Arravale Rovers began in 1895 when the club was among the first to rally to the newly formed G.A.A. During the closing years of the 19th century, Tipperary Town as a thriving G.A.A. centre. The success and prominence of Bohercrowe and Arravale Rovers was almost equalled by another club, Rosanna. Tipperary Shamrocks and Tipperary Commercials also fielded senior football teams at this time.

John O'Leary's won county titles in the early years of the 20th century as "The Rovers" went into decline. However, the famed black and amber hoops re-emerged in the honours lists of the 1930's. Taking the minor football county titles of 1933 and 34. In all Arravale Rovers have ten county minor football titles as follows:

1933, 34, 39, 1959, 1966, 1972, 1980, 86, 88 and 1991. At least once every decade Rovers have taken a county minor football title. Between 1940-1952 there was no county minor championship in football.

1962 was a crucial year in Arravale Rovers history as Seán Treacy Memorial Park was opened by the then President of the G.A.A. Pat Fanning.

Centrally located in the Tipperary urban area, the new stadium heralded an era of success at all levels of hurling and football for a new generation of players.

At this time also the Christian Brothers at the local Monastery, played a major rôle in fostering Gaelic Games among the school-going population in their charge.

Today Arravale Rovers is a thriving G.A.A. unit with progressive and ambitious adult and underage committees. Gaelic Games in Tipperary Town are in good hands and Arravale Rovers look forward with optimism to the new millenium.

Selectors: Seán Moore and Tommy Twomey.

Kildangan G.A.A. Club

Trainer: Niall Kelly.

Selectors: Edward Fogarty and Tommy Ryan.

Path to the Final: Bye to semi-final. Semi-Final: v Borrisoleigh in Nenagh 1-9, 0-4. Good tough game. Tommy Connors had an outstanding game. Final v Nenagh in Nenagh 2-15, 1-6. First Minor 'A' North Championship for club. Good team performance with Tommy Connors and Brian Lawlor playing above average.

Co. Semi-final v Holycross in Temple-derry 1-8, 1-8. Enda Nolan our best player. Replay 2-9, 1-7. Fergal Kelly, our Man-of-the-Match.

THE Senior Football decider today brings together a unique pairing with the West champions Aherlow, competing in their first Senior final against the South standard bearers Fethard who are by now seasoned campaigners at this level.

Therefore we look forward to a very different type of County Final with contrasting styles of football being played by both sides.

This Aherlow side has come from juvenile level right through the ranks with the majority of the side in their early twenties. The team has shown a superb level of fitness right throughout the campaign with a fierce hunger for success.

Fethard on the other hand will depend on what they have in abundance and that is the experience of playing at top level for a long period. They have the slow build-up to scores and tend to wear down the opposition, never panicking under pressure.

Whatever side comes out victorious today we can look forward to some new faces on our county senior side for the coming League and 1998 Championships.

Both sides have some very promising young players who have worn the county colours at underage level and with the experience of playing in the

Co. Senior Football Final 1997

Co. Minor A Football Final 1997

concluding stages of the championship and the further prospect of participating in the Munster Club competition it will greatly enhance their chance of making it onto the bigger stage.

Will the tradition of the men in blue and white overcome the men in green and gold with their enthusiastic new approach this is the imponderable question which will be answered at New Inn by 6 o'clock today unless we have of course a repeat of last years sagas.

The best of luck to both clubs no matter who wins we know either Aherlow or Fethard will be most worthy County Champions.

The minor decider has a North West pairing with Kildangan taking in Arravale Rovers. The West champs have quite a few members of this years minor county panel on their side and will be fancied by



Brian White – who referees today's senior game.

many to take the title. However this is a Kildangan team which has some fine footballers and will be strong contenders for the County title.

A final is a very important game particularly for underage players. A kick of the ball and a lucky break can turn a game one way or the other.

It is nice to see the North champions contesting the minor final. The West boys are the side with tradition here. Underage players do not have the same regard for who won the most or least.

We look forward to a good game with the best skills of football being on display because I believe it is at this age you have the opportunity to play without the same burden you may have to carry when you wear the adult jersey.

To Arravale and Kildangan the best of luck and win or lose remember it is often more important how you play the game than the final result.

**Billy Butler P.R.O.
Football Board**



Lar na Pairce

The Story of Gaelic Games

Slievenamon Road, Thurles, Co. Tipperary. Tel/Fax: 0504-23579

Can You Beat That?

WHEN the secretary of Lar na Pairce GAA Visitor Centre Tony Casey attended last Sunday's All-Ireland Senior Hurling final between Clare and Tipperary it was his 93rd time at an All-Ireland Final. Since he first attended the All-Ireland Senior football final between Kerry and Roscommon in 1946, Tony has rarely missed a final in hurling or football.

On September 22nd 1956 he watched Wexford hurlers beat Cork 2-14 to 2-8 and since that day he has never missed an All-Ireland hurling or football final, or indeed a replay. This means he has attended 87 finals consecutively. Is this a record, or is there somebody who has been attending both finals and replays since 1955 or before and has never missed even one? If you are in this position, or if you know somebody with such a record, please telephone details to 0504-23579.

A creamery manager by profession, Tony in his playing days was no mean performer on the pitch, representing Tipperary in Minor football and winning a Tipperary County Senior Football

medal with Thurles Crokes in 1960. Now as secretary to Lar na Pairce, Tony looks after all financial matters, relating to the project, where his undiminished ability to tot up long lines of figures without the aid of a calculator is legendary. Still as trim and fit as in football days, Tony is often to be seen after a big game dashing back to Lar na Pairce to help staff cope with the after match rush.

Lar na Pairc Visitor Centre, which tells the full story of Gaelic Games is open seven days a week from March to the end of November. Of course Gaelic Games in Tipperary features most prominently, with many exhibits from around the country and a full computer Roll of Honour listing all Tipperary's achievements and profiling more than five hundred players who have won All-Ireland, Senior hurling and football medals for the county. So on the 4th Sunday of September in the year 2000 when Tony – all going well – will attend his 100th All-Ireland final, lets hope that a Senior Football team from Tipperary will grace the occasion and add further to this great Roll of Honour.



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