

Co. Tipperary Senior Football Final
Match Programme
2013



Cumann Lúthchleas Gael Thiobraid Árann

Craobh Cluichí Peil an Chontae 2013

Clean Ireland Recycling
County Senior Football
Championship Final

Aherlow Gaels v Loughmore Castleiney

Stáid Semple
2.30pm 3ú Deireadh Fomhair 2013

Clean Ireland Recycling
County Minor Football Championship Final
Clonmel Commercials v Drom and Inch

Boherlahan
11.45am 3ú Deireadh Fomhair 2013

Tuairim Runai

Luach: €2

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FÁILTE ÓN GCATHAOIRLEACH

Fáilte romhaibh go léir go dtí Cluiche Cheannais Peil Tiobraid Árann i Stáid Semple inniu. Fáilte fé leith roimh na foirne ó Luachmágh- Caisleán Laighnigh agus Na Gaeil an Eatharlaigh, na h-imreoirí agus na h-oifigigh agus an reiteoir. Tá súil agam go mbeidh cluiche sportuil againn inniu.

County football final day is here again and it is my pleasure on behalf of the County Board to welcome all our valued patrons to Semple Stadium today for what promises to be a great days entertainment. I extend a special welcome to the teams from Loughmore Castleiney and Aherlow Gaels and to their management teams, club officers and supporters.



Today's final has all the promise of being an exciting encounter as the clubs concerned, Loughmore Castleiney and the combination of Aherlow and Lattin Cullen are noted for the spirit and passion that they bring to the game. Loughmore Castleiney have the added incentive of creating history by being the first club in the county to do the double in senior hurling and football, history as we know from past experience is hard to achieve and Aherlow Gaels will surely be a major stumbling block on that path to glory. It's going to be an intriguing battle then for the O'Dwyer Cup and I look forward to a game that will be an exhibition of good football skill, that will have the passion and intensity that the clubs are renowned for and that will be enjoyed by all our patrons.

Today we welcome to Semple Stadium the players of the past from Clonmel Commercials who won county senior football titles in 1969 and 1971. This is a great day of remembrance for them and indeed a worthy tribute to them for their contribution to Gaelic Games and in particular to football over their careers. Our thanks to the organizing committee and to *The Nationalist* for their sponsorship of the event.

I want to take the opportunity of thanking Clean Ireland Recycling for their sponsorship of all our championships for 2013 and look forward to their much valued participation in the future.

Best wishes today to Derek O'Mahoney from the Ardfinnan club who referees today's final and to his officials. Derek is one of the finest football referees in the country and is assured of a great future as a top class referee.

Finally my thanks to the County C.C.C for their splendid work in bringing so many of our championships to a successful conclusion and to Semple Stadium management and staff for the excellent facilities on offer and for making them available for today's final.
Go mbeidh sar cluiche againn le cunamh Dé!

Seán Ó Nuinseain *Cathaoirleach Coiste Chontae Thiobrad Árann*

FÁILTE ÓN GCATHAOIRLEACH PEIL

Fáilte romhaibh go léir go dtí cluiche ceannais peil sinsear Thiobraid Árann i Stáid Semples Dúrlas Eile inniu. Fáilte fe leith roimh na foirne as Gaeil an Eatharlaigh agus Luachmágh-Caisléán Laighnaigh, na h-oifigigh agus an reiteoir. Tá súil agam go mbeidh sár cluiche spoirtíúil againn.



Welcome all to today's Clean Ireland Recycling Tipperary County Senior Football Championship Final. Congratulations and a special welcome to the contestants from Aherlow Gaels and Loughmore-Castleiney, to their officers, mentors and supporters. These two clubs are worthy contestants for the O'Dwyer Cup having being the titans of Tipperary club football for generations. The proud parishes which they represent are to be admired within Tipperary and beyond and we look forward to a game where both teams will spare nothing in their endeavours to bring home the O' Dwyer Cup.

Aherlow have the help of their neighbours Lattin-Cullen in today's contest and a repeat of a tight contest in the 2010 final is on the cards with Loughmore-Castleiney striving for their twelfth title and a unique double, which if achieved will be a first ever in Tipperary. Best of luck to both teams in what promises to be an intriguing final.

To today's match officials, Derek O'Mahoney and his team, a special thanks and best wishes. Thanks also to the Semples Stadium committee for having the 'field of dreams' in such order for today's final.

Seosamh Ó hÁnnagáin
Cathaoirleach

Coiste Peil Tiobraid Árann

Clár an Lae

Clean Ireland Recycling County Senior Football Final Stáid Semple Sunday November 3rd

Clean Ireland Recycling County Senior Football Final 2.30pm Aherlow Gaels v Loughmore Castleiney

- 2.08** Aherlow Gaels amach ar an bpairc
- 2.10** Loughmore Castleiney amach ar an bpairc
- 2.25** Pre-Match Parade lead by the Moycarkey Pipe Band.
- 2.28** Amhrán na Bhfiann
- 2.30** Tús an chluiche - Senior football final 2013
- 3.02** Leath-am
Presentation of the Clonmel Commercials County senior football champions 1969 and 1971
- 3.17** Tús an dara leath
- 3.50** Críoch an chluiche
- 3.55** Presentation of the Corn Ui Dhuibhir (O'Dwyer Cup) to the winning captain by Seosamh Ó hAnnagáin Cathaoirleach Coiste Peil Thiobraid Árann, followed by presentation of "Man of the Match" award (sponsored by John Quirke Jewellers, Cahir)

BUIOCHAS

We hope you enjoy reading today's programme. It has been produced with the assistance of PJ Leahy (County Football PRO), Tom Maher (Assistant County Secretary), Ger Corbett, Terence Coskeran (Aherlow PRO), Pat Healy (Loughmore Castleiney PRO) and the Lattin Cullen, Clonmel Commercials and Drom & Inch clubs. Many thanks to Jackie Cahill and Seamus J. King for contributing articles and to Clonmel Commercials for the profiles of their players from 1969 and 1971. A special word of thanks to Bridget Delaney, John Kelly and John Moloughney for their photographs.

Ger Ryan, Programme Editor

Welcome from



Clean Ireland Recycling

cleanireland.ie

PROUD SPONSORS OF TIPPERARY GAA HURLING & FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP 2013

Two proud teams proving quality is what really matters

– a message from club championship sponsors Clean Ireland Recycling

Clean Ireland Recycling, as sponsors of today's county senior football club championship final, is delighted to join with the Tipperary GAA County Board in welcoming you to Semple Stadium for what is one of the great days in the annual sporting calendar in the Premier County.

In a wonderful year for club activity, a year which has thrown up more than its fair share of surprises and endless excitement, two rural clubs collide in a game that, irrespective of which side wins, is certain to deliver yet another abiding memory from 2013.

Both these clubs are, of course, from rural areas of the county and given the current emigration trends - trends which have hit more sparsely populated areas even harder - making it to a county final alone is a success. To do so by dispelling clubs drawing from population bases multiples of their own along the way is even greater testament to the passion for the game in both these clubs.

As a family run company that now operates into every corner of Tipperary, we know all about building from small beginnings and that quality is what matters most.

We pride ourselves in terms of the quality of service we give and, just as today's teams will be hoping that all their hard work pays off, we were rewarded last month for our own sterling efforts by being selected as the operator of the 'Best Kerbside Collection' award in Ireland in the prestigious Repak industry awards.

Just like Aherlow Gaels and Loughmore Castleiney did in making it to today's finals, we beat off much larger opposition to claim this proud honour. It was a team effort; the victory was testament as much to our customers here in Tipperary as it was to our own endeavours. Our customers have most definitely bought into the principal we operate under – that the more you recycle the less you pay and the more you contribute to the environment.

Today, however, is all about the two immensely proud rural areas of Tipperary as they go head-to-head in pursuit of a great honour because come the final whistle in Semple Stadium this evening, history will be made.

The newly amalgamated Aherlow Gaels will be hoping to make good on their first year by making it a perfect start for the new club entity and putting their name on the honours' list for the first time.

For Loughmore, also, huge history beckons in that they will be trying to become the first club ever in the county to claim both the senior football and hurling titles in the same year. Given the hectic schedule they have kept over recent weeks across both codes, this would be a Herculean achievement by any comparison.

In our first year as sponsors of the Tipperary football and hurling championships, we have been privileged to watch some of the finest young sportsmen in the country battle it out for honours with pride and distinction.

We expect that today will be no different and may the best team win.



Caroline Walsh, Financial Controller, Clean Ireland Recycling

Seamus Grogan (Aherlow Gaels)

By Jackie Cahill

SEAMUS Grogan's return from cruciate knee ligament damage was a long and lonely road but he got there, with a little help from his friends.

Grogan, 25, sustained the injury on club duty against Galtee Rovers in September 2012 but with a neat symmetry, he returned to competitive action against the same opposition a year later.

Grogan, a valuable asset at midfield or in attack, underwent surgery last December and then the hard work began as he plotted a route back to full fitness.

Naturally, he was unable to play any part in Tipperary's 2013 National League and championship campaigns but he remained very much involved on the sidelines as team medics and trainer Alan O'Connor oversaw his rehabilitation within the team environment.

Grogan explained: "I had great help from (physios) Karen Coughlan and Marie Aherne, the Tipperary senior footballers and my own club.

"They backed me all the way. Bansha was my first game back in the county quarter-final. I took a small bit of a knock the last day against JK Brackens but hopefully come Sunday, I'll be right again."

Grogan feared that he may have suffered a setback in the Clean Ireland Recycling Tipperary SFC semi-final victory over JK Brackens but he a scan in Cork revealed nothing worse than a build-up of fluid in the joint.

And a previous visit to the Santry sports clinic confirmed that Grogan's recovery went very much according to plan, with his previously injured right knee now showing up stronger than his left.

Now, he's anxious to make up for lost time as Aherlow target a third county SFC success, following their previous victories in 2006 and 2010.

Grogan is obviously pleased to be involved again as a starter and he was champing at the bit to return.

"It just all builds up when you're looking on for so long," he explains.

"I was glad to get out there and get it over with (against Galtee Rovers).

"And when it holds up, words can't describe the feeling."

Grogan added: "The people behind me gave me so much support when it happened. And when there are

people helping you, it makes it so much easier.

"But there were times in the gym when it was lonely. I see my own clubmate Ciaran McDonald now; I'm in there with him some nights, giving him the bit of support. It is a lonely place at times but you get out of there eventually if you keep trying."

Grogan believes that playing in previous county finals can stand Aherlow Gaels in good stead this afternoon.

"It's a massive help," he admits.

"In 2006, when we won it first, I was young and it really didn't sink in.

"In 2009, we lost to Moyle Rovers and that hurt and in 2010, we came back and won it again.

"It made much more of a difference then – I was four years older and it meant a lot. You could see what the older guys went through. They were coming towards the end of their careers and they went the extra mile.

"Now, we're the older guys, still young enough but we've been

around playing at senior level since 18 years of age.

"And that winning feeling, you just can't beat it.

"We'll be trying against a very good Loughmore team, and I mean a determined Loughmore team.

"We'll have to be 100 per cent, and maybe even 110 per cent, to have any chance of beating them."

Aherlow have already come through a real battle to reach the final as Barry Grogan, brother of Seamus, nailed three late points to seal a come-from-behind victory over JK Brackens.

"A very tough battle – we made a few mistakes," Seamus admits.

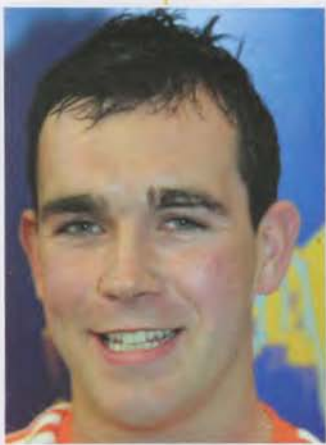
"Maybe in the first half we didn't play all that well. We expected that JK Brackens would put up a good fight but maybe one or two things went against us.

"Loughmore will bring the same next Sunday and we have to be ready to deal with them."

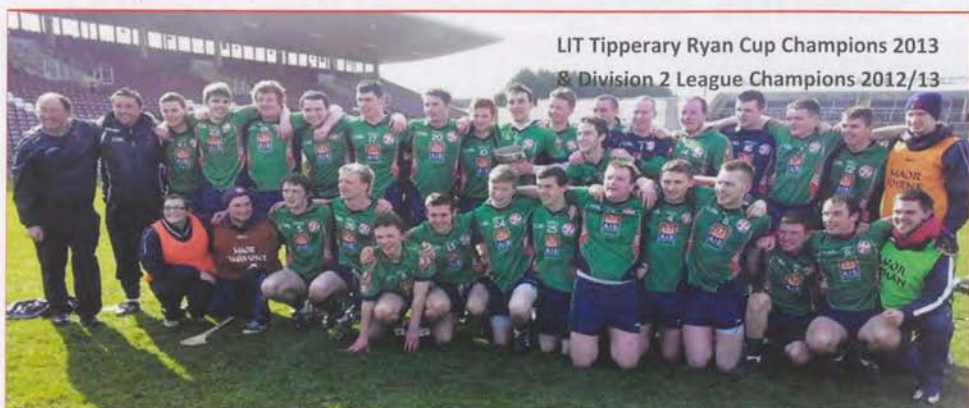
Seamus was sent off for two yellow card offences in the semi-final – harshly in the eyes of many.

He smiles: "Yeah, these things go against you some days and with you other times. I have to take them on the chin and move on to the next day.

"It would have been worse if it was a straight red and I couldn't play in the final. They were harsh," he insisted. "I saw them again on video but we all make mistakes. If the referee saw it the day after, he might have changed his mind."



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Mark Hanley (Aherlow Gaels captain), Derek O'Mahony (Referee - Ardfinnan) and Derek Bourke (Loughmore-Castleiney captain) at the launch of the Clean Ireland Recycling County SFC Final in Semple Stadium.

The Loughmore management team



Loughmore/Castleiney management (from left) Seamus Bohan, Declan Laffan (Manager) and Pat McGrath.



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For further information please contact Laoise Ni Cheallaigh
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Meet the Match Officials

Senior

Referee:	Derek O'Mahoney (Ardfinnan)
Stand-by:	Sean Loneragan (Moyle Rovers)
Linesman:	Brian Tyrrell (Clonmel Commercials)
4th Official:	Martin Doyle (Ardfinnan)
Umpires:	Ger Meagher, Trevor O'Leary, Liam Barrett, Stan Barlow (all Ardfinnan)

Today's county senior final referee is 38 year old Derek O'Mahoney from Ardfinnan. Derek is married to Margaret and they have 2 children, Emer and Darren. Derek is refereeing for 10 years and has refereed all grades within county. This is his second County senior final the first being in 2009 between Aherlow and Moyle Rovers. Derek is on the national refereeing panel since 2009 and refereed the Munster minor final in 2007, under 21 final in 2011, intermediate finals in 2007, 2009 and 2012 and the senior club final in 2010. He was in charge of the All-Ireland junior football final in 2011. He has had a busy year this year refereeing in the Allianz Football League, Cork v Kerry in the Munster under 21 football championship, the Interprovincial semi-final between Connaught and Leinster and the All Ireland minor football semi-final between Roscommon and Tyrone in Croke Park.



Minor

Referee	Paddy Russell (Emly)
Stand-by	Michael Heffernan (Clonoulty Rossmore)
Linesman	Padraig Ryan (Cashel King Cormacs)
Umpires:	Michael O'Dwyer, Liam O'Dwyer (Éire Óg Annacarty), John Ryan (B), Paddy Moloney (Cashel King Cormacs)



Aherlow Gaels Play Profiles

Mark Hanley (Captain) First year as captain, hoping to win his second County Senior Football Medal. Winner of Junior and Intermediate County Hurling Medals. He has also represented Tipperary in Football.

Shane Leonard: Going for his third Senior Football Medal with the Club. Played in goals for 2006 winning team.

Mark O'Brien: Captain of 2006 and 2010 winning Teams. Has represented Tipperary in Football.

Shane Russell: Age 22. Student Teacher, playing his first County Senior Football Final today. Winner of Minor and Under 21 County C: Championships with Lattin-Cullen Club. Has represented Tipperary in Football.

Ed O'Meara: One of the younger players on the team today. Winner of County Intermediate Hurling Medal.

John Hennessey: Hoping to win his third County Senior Football Medal today. Holder of Junior and Intermediate County Hurling Medals. Has represented Tipperary in Football.

Sean Mullins: Hoping to win his third County Senior Football Medal today. Holder of Junior and Intermediate County Hurling Medals. Has represented Tipperary in Football.

Cathal Dillon: Hoping to win his third County Senior Football Medal today. Holder of Junior and Intermediate County Hurling Medals. Has represented Tipperary in Football and Hurling.

Thomas Fahey: Hoping to win his third County Senior Football Medal today. Holder of Junior and Intermediate County Hurling Medals.

Barry Grogan: Hoping to win his third County Senior Football Medal today. Holder of Junior and Intermediate County Hurling Medals. Ever

present on Tipperary County Senior Football Team for the last number of years.

Seamus Grogan: Hoping to win his third County Senior Football Medal today. Holder of Junior and Intermediate County Hurling Medals. Has represented Tipperary in Football.

Laurence Coskeran: Hoping to win his third County Senior Football Medal today. Holder of Junior and Intermediate County Hurling Medals. Has represented Tipperary in Football.

Sean Cunningham: Age 19, Student. Playing in his first Senior Football County Final today. Winner of West Minor A Football Medal and Munster Colleges B Football Medal.

Bernard O'Brien: Hoping to win his third County Senior Football Medal today. Has represented Tipperary in Football.

Thomas Hanley: Hoping to win his second County Senior Football Medal today. Holder of Junior and Intermediate County Hurling Medals. Has represented Tipperary in Football.

Mark O'Shea: Hoping to win his second County Senior Football Medal today. Holder of Junior and Intermediate County Hurling Medals. Has represented Tipperary in Football.

Mark Russell: Age 18, Student. West Minor A Football Medal Winner. Darryl Darcy Munster U 17 Football Medal Winner. Has played Minor Football for Tipperary.

Brendan Hanley: Age 28, Teacher. All Ireland Colleges Hurling with Abbey C.B.S. in 2002. Played Minor and U 21 Hurling with Tipperary.

Anthony Leahy: Age 17, Student. West Minor A Football Medal Winner. Represented Tipperary at Underage Football.

Aherlow Gaels Play Profiles

Thomas O'Donoghue: Age 19, Student. West Minor A Football Medal Winner. Munster Colleges B Football Medal Winner. Two Daryl Darcy Munster U 17 Football Medals. Part of the Tipperary Winning All-Ireland Minor Football Team, 2011.

Leonard Leahy: Age 23, Student. Winner of Minor and U 21 County C Hurling Medals.

Frankie Leonard: Hoping to win his second County Senior Football Medal today.

Stephen Martin: Age 24, Accountant. Winner of West Junior Hurling Medal. County Intermediate Football League Medal Winner. County U 21 C Hurling medal Winner. Munster Senior B Colleges Football Medal Winner.

Sean Kiely: Age 19, student. Winner of Munster Colleges B Football Medal.

John Hessessey: Hoping to win his second County Senior Football Medal today.

Timmy Byrnes: Age 28, Teacher. Winner of West Junior A Hurling Medal. West Tipp Intermediate Football Medal Winner. West Minor B Football Medal Winner. Has represented Tipperary in Football.

Ciaran McDonald: Hoping to win his third Senior Football Medal today. Has represented Tipperary at Football.



Aherlow's Bernard O'Brien and JK Bracken's Tommy Kennedy in semi-final action.



Drom & Inch

Colours: Green and White

(1)

Rory O'Dwyer (*Capt*)

FIR IONAIÐ

(17) Brian Hennessy

(18) Robert Ryan

(19) Liam Dempsey

(20) Padraig Campion

(21) Conor O'Meara

(22) Mark O'Brien

(23) Paul Hennessy

(2)

Ciaran Thorpe

(3)

Micheal Campion

(4)

Colm Kinane

(5)

Kevin Aherne

(6)

Emmet Moloney

(7)

Kevin Hassett

(8)

Thomas Nolan

(9)

Joey Maher

(10)

Jamie Bergin

(11)

Paul Kennedy

(12)

Robbie Long

(13)

Mikey Connors

(14)

Brendan Larkin

(15)

Thomas O'Meara

Manager: Eamon Kiely. Selectors: Conor Ryan, Benny Kennedy, Eamon Long.

Coach: Mick O'Sullivan. Physio: Brian Costello. First Aid: Mary O'Brien

DROM & INCH	Cúil	Cúilíní	Seachái	45m	Saor Ciceanna
1 adh leath					
2 adh leath					
IOMLÁN					



Clonmel Commercials

Colours: Green and Gold

(1)

Jake McDonald

(2)

Robert Lyons

(3)

Liam Ryan

(4)

Ross Dennehy

(5)

Michael Connolly

(6)

Sean Gunne

(7)

Eric Walsh

(8)

Kevin Fahey (Capt)

(9)

Pauric Loomam

(10)

Ross Peters

(11)

Padraig White

(12)

Stephen Kelly

(13)

Michael Nugent

(14)

Jack Kennedy

(15)

Ritchie Gunne

Manager: Brian White

Selectors: Martin Quinlivan, Charlie McGeever, Joe Doyle



FIR IONAD

(16) Michael Boland

(17) Kyle Peters

(18) Joey Doyle

(19) Shane Crowley

(20) Graham Kelly

(21) Shane Moloney

(22) Keith Fahey

(23) John Bates

(24) Jamie Ahearne

(25) Matt Barlow

(26) Liam Powell

CLONMEL	Cúil	Cúilíní	Seachai	45m	Saor Ciceanna
1 adh leath					
2 adh leath					
IOMLÁN					



Aherlow Gaels

Colours: Green and Gold

(1)

Shane Leonard

(2)

Mark O'Brien

(3)

Shane Russell

(4)

Ed O'Meara

(5)

Mark Hanley

(6)

John Hennessy

(7)

Sean Mullins

(8)

Seamus Grogan

(9)

Thomas Fahey

(10)

Thomas Hanley

(11)

Barry Grogan

(12)

Laurence Coskeran

(13)

Sean Cunningham

(14)

Cathal Dillon

(15)

Bernard O'Brien

Management team: David Hennessy, Derry Peters, James Cunningham

Physio: Georgina O'Brien. Doctor: Kathleen O'Sullivan

AHERLOW	Cúil	Cúilíní	Seachai	45m	Saor Ciceanna
1 adh leath					
2 adh leath					
IOMLÁN					

FIR IONAIÐ

(16) Mark O'Shea

(17) Mark Russell

(18) Brendan Hanley

(19) Anthony Leahy

(20) Thomas O'Donoghue

(21) Lenny Leahy

(22) Frankie Leonard

(23) Stephen Martin

(24) Sean Kiely

(25) John Hennessy

(26) Timmy Byrnes

(27) Ciaran McDonald



Loughmore Castleiney

Colours: Green and Red

(1)

Dominic Brennan

(2)

Tommy Long

(3)

John Meagher

(4)

Lorcan Egan

(5)

Tom King

(6)

Ciaran McGrath

(7)

John Ryan

(8)

Noel McGrath

(9)

David Kennedy

(10)

John McGrath

(11)

Derek Bourke
(Capt)

(12)

Cian Hennessy

(13)

Liam McGrath

(14)

Miceál Webster

(15)

Evan Sweeney

Selectors: Declan Laffan, Seamus Bohan, Pat McGrath. Trainer: Alan O'Connor.

Physio: Cathy Doran. Equipment: Kieran Kiely, Kevin Stapleton



FIR IONAI D

(16) David McGrath

(17) Aidan McGrath

(18) Tomas McGrath

(19) Joseph Hennessy

(20) Willie Eviston

(21) Shane Hennessy

(22) Tommy Maher

(23) Ritchie Maher

(24) Henry Maher

(25) Brian McGrath

(26) Shane Nolan

(27) Paddy Moynihan

(28) Denis Brereton

(29) Joseph Nyland

(30) Liam Treacy

(31) John Scully

(32) Eddie Connolly

LOUGHMORE	Cúil	Cúilíní	Seachaí	45m	Saor Ciceanna
1 adh leath					
2 adh leath					
IOMLÁN					

Loughmore/Castleiney Player Profiles

Derek Bourke Captain Age: 29. A holder of various underage titles with the club and County. He won minor Mid and County honours in hurling and football in 2002. He was a County minor full back in 2002. He holds a County senior football medal in 2004, County senior hurling titles in 2007 and 2013, Munster club hurling in 2007. Derek has played various positions with the club. He has been recovering from a back injury in recent times. His father Matty won County titles with Moycarkey, while his mother Josie played ladies football for the club and won an All Ireland title with Tipperary. His grandfather Pat Joe Stapleton won County titles in 1940 and 1946 and played full back for the Tipperary footballers for many years and lives hale and hearty in Laha, Castleiney. Derek hopes to bring a 12th title to the club this evening.

Dominic Brennan Age 36. Occupation: Teacher. Won U/14 football County final in 1991 as goalkeeper. Won many titles with the club as goalkeeper including County senior honours in 2004.

Lorcan Egan Age: 19. Student. Won Munster and All Ireland minor hurling medals in 2012 and also an Munster football medal in 2012.

John Meagher Age: 20. Student. Won Munster and All Ireland minor football medal in 2011. Harty cup and All Ireland medal winner with Thurles C.B.S.

Tommy Long Age 32. Occupation: Intel employee. Has won many titles with the club in both codes.

Tom King Age 32. Occupation: Civil Servant. All honours with the club in both codes. Munster minor hurling medal in 1999.

Ciaran McGrath Age: 25. Occupation: Civil Servant. Captained senior hurling team to County success some weeks ago. Won minor hurling and football County titles in 2002 at 15 years old. Played County in all grades.

John Ryan Age: 22. Occupation: Farmer. Came to the club from Borris-Ileigh. Has won many honours in both codes. His father Tom captained Loughmore/Castleiney to a County titles in 1983.

Noel McGrath Age: 22. Student. Won All Ireland senior hurling title in 2010. All Star Awards in 2010 and 2011. Young hurler of the year in 2010. Tipperary SH team vice captain for 2014.

Willie Eviston Age: 22. College Graduate. Has won minor, U/21 and senior County titles with the club in hurling and u/21 football title. Seeking a first senior football title.

John McGrath Age: 19. Student. Brother of Noel. Has won various honours with club and County. Starred for County minor hurlers in the All Ireland victory of 2012. All Ireland minor football winner 2011.

Aidan McGrath Age: 22. Student. Brother of Ciaran and David. Has won various honours with club and County. Member of Tipperary U/21 teams over the last two games.

Cian Hennessy Age: 23. College Graduate. Has had an excellent year with the club in hurling and football. Holder of various honours with the club and schools.

David Kennedy Age: 37. Occupation: Garda. The oldest member of the team, David is laden with club and County honours. He was centre half back on 2001 All Ireland winning Tipperary team. His commitment to the club over the years has been outstanding.

Michael Webster Age 36. Occupation: Electrician. Has won about every honour in the game. Played senior hurling and football for the County. Son of Eddie, former County and Munster footballer.

Loughmore/Castleiney Player Profiles

Evan Sweeney: Age: 29. Occupation: Civil Servant. Player for club and County in both codes with huge success at minor and U/21 level. Man of the Match in 2007 County hurling final.

Joseph Hennessy: Age: 19. Student: The find of the year for the club in both hurling and football. Has won many underage honours. Presently carrying an injury from the County semi final.

Liam McGrath: Age: 20. Student. Captained Tipperary minor footballers to Munster and All Ireland success in 2011. Has won all underage titles with the club. Hampered with an injury all year. Scored vital goal in the hurling County final.

Tomas McGrath: Age: 21. Student. Has won all underage titles with the club. Played midfield in hurling County final. Has played in various positions on the hurling and football teams.

Liam Treacy: Age: 20. Student. Liam has played County minor and U/21 in both codes for Tipperary. Has won many honours for the club. Received a broken bone in his foot early in the season and is just making a return at present.

Eddie Connolly: Age: 28. Occupation: Bank Official. Captained Tipperary to intermediate hurling All Ireland success last year. Played on various County teams and has won all club honours. Presently recovering from surgery. We wish him well.

Shane Hennessy: Age: 27. Occupation: Teacher. Holder of many titles with the club. Shane can play in various positions including goal keeper. A fine dead ball kicker.

Tommy Maher: Age: 19. Student. Another young promising player. Played on all school teams and holds minor and U/21 honours with the club.

Richie Maher: Age: 20. Student. Played in goal during the year. Holder of underage titles with school and club.

Henry Maher: Age: 22. College Graduate. Captained U/21 footballers to Mid and County success in 2011. Son of Jim, All Ireland minor hurling captain in 1980.

Brian McGrath: Age: 20. Student. Brian has held many underage titles in hurling and football and hails from the Kylemore McGraths. His grandfather Richard played for Tipperary footballers for many years.

Shane Nolan: Age: 23. College Graduate. Senior hurling goalkeeper this year, taking County honours. Played in goal for Mary Immaculate College, Limerick, in Fitzgibbon Cup final this year.

Paddy Moynihan: Age: 23. College Graduate. A tight marking defender, Paddy has played on all underage teams with the club and schools.

Denis Brereton: Age: 19. Student. Holder of minor and U/21 titles. Played in Harty Cup final for Our Lady's Templemore this year.

John Scully: Age: 27. Occupation: Garda. Won minor hurling and football Mid and County titles in 2002. U/21 A football County titles in 2004/2005/2006.

Joseph Nyland: Age: 18. Student. Another promising young player for the club. Has been curtailed by injury this year. Holder of various underage titles.

David McGrath: Age: 28. Occupation: Civil Servant. David has won all underage honours in both codes. He was a County minor in 2003 and has won County senior football and hurling medals and various honours with the club. He is sub goalkeeper on today's team.



Commercial's Aldo Matassa and Loughmore's Evan Sweeney



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Derek Bourke (Loughmore Castleiney)

By Jackie Cahill

CAPTAIN Derek Bourke is keen to put last Sunday's hurling disappointment behind him when Loughmore-Castleiney tackle Aherlow Gaels in this afternoon's Clean Ireland Recycling Tipperary SFC final.

Loughmore suffered a heart-breaking two-point defeat against Na Piersaigh last Sunday, in the AIB Munster senior hurling quarter-final.

And Bourke is anxious to make amends after he was sent off in the fourth minute following an off-the-ball incident.

Rather than hiding away or dodging the issue, the 29-year-old defender came straight out after the game and admitted that he was wrong.

It was a frank, refreshing acknowledgment from a player who has given long and distinguished service to his club.

"Personally myself, I feel I let the team down," Bourke reflected.

"And this is a way for me to prove myself and give something back.

"I couldn't have been more proud of the lads, the way they fought back after going a man down so early. I can see that spirit continuing into Sunday, and we'll pick it up again."

The bond enjoyed by the Loughmore players, families and spectators was surely never more evident than last Sunday, when the team left everything on the pitch in the face of adversity.

Even with just 13 players for the majority of the second half, they almost pulled off the win before David Dempsey's late goal sealed victory for their Limerick opponents.

"It comes from the families," Bourke says. "Your family starts you off in the game – they bring you to training, they follow you everywhere, from South Tipp, North Tipp, wherever you have to go, they go.

"We never really started a tradition of bringing a bus to any game. That's what brought on the crowds and the support. It started with the parents and the bond of friendship is the hard work we do on the field.

"We drive on from there – past players have stayed around and come to the games. The grassroots is ex-players and the parents."

Having gone close to the double before, most notably in 1983 and 1987, Loughmore-Castleiney today aim to become the first club in the history of Tipperary GAA to win the county senior hurling and football titles in the same season.

And Bourke concedes: "It would be a huge achievement, it would be massive. It's something to aim for.

"I'd expect that maybe we'd get the key of the parish, like some players get the key to the city!" he smiled.

"It's something to aim for and definitely something to pick ourselves up after last Sunday. I'd say without it, I

honestly couldn't have seen myself sleeping on Sunday night. At least I have something to aim for now in the football."

And behind the scenes, Eddie Connolly is a huge source of inspiration.

Tipperary's 2012 All-Ireland winning intermediate hurling captain underwent surgery to remove a brain tumour recently but has been told that he requires further treatment.

And Bourke revealed: "Eddie was the first man to put his hand around me after the game, saying 'chin up, let's go again.'

"His belief is that it's something to aim for next year, to redeem ourselves in the Munster championship.

"Obviously we'll have to start at Mid level again and on to the county championship and maybe even for lads thinking of retiring, that's out the door now."

Bourke added: "Eddie's an inspiration in the way that he's so brave.

"He's after taking this in his stride – he knows what he has to do and he's doing it.

"At training sessions, he's there, keeping us going. And before the last football game (semi-final victory over Clonmel Commercials), he was the lad in the middle of the circle, dishing out the advice, saying 'lads, let's drive it on.'

"This was a week after winning the county hurling final. Where maybe lads' heads were elsewhere, Eddie steadied the ship and said let's go again. He's definitely a part of this."

And that special club spirit extends far beyond the parish boundaries, as Connolly reveals that Paul Brennan is his very own personal trainer in Dublin.

Brennan, a winner of county senior hurling and football medals, is also based in the capital and Bourke revealed: "I'm working in Dublin, an engineer for Ethos in Sandford.

"I'm delighted to be with them. I came home from Newcastle (where he studied), had a year with OMC in Holycross and went to Carey Glass.

"But now I'm in Dublin working at what I studied. I'm delighted with the job, love it. It's very easy to get up in the morning and go to work when you like what you're doing. And Paul would be like my fitness coach in Dublin. Any night I fancy a run or a swim, he's there to take me on and pull me through the hard nights."

And Bourke also highlighted the impact of Cahir native Alan O'Connor on Loughmore's season.

Trainer O'Connor has worked wonders in recent weeks as the club juggles dual commitments.

And Bourke explained: "Without him this year, I wouldn't see us being able to go from week to week. He brought a professionalism to us from the first night he came over. And he promised us that if we did the hard work, it would pay off at the end of the year and that we'd have no excuses about fitness."





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L-R : Padraic Maher, Pa Bourke, Michael Cahill & Lar Corbett

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Aherlow's Thomas Fahey and JK Brackens Brendan Guidera



Long serving Loughmore/Castleiney player Micheál Webster celebrates the County Hurling Final win with his wife Grace and their twin girls Ava and Lauren.

Clonmel Commercials 1969 and 1971

Goalkeeper in 1969 and sub goalkeeper in 1971 - John McNamara

Minor South and County Championship Medals in 1954 (1)
South Senior Championship Medals in 1956, 1958, 1960, 1965, 1966, 1967 and 1971 (7)

County Senior Championship Medals in 1956, 1966, 1967, 1969 and 1971 (5)

John served as Club Secretary, Club Chairman and is now the Club President

Holder of 4 South Senior Hurling Championship Medals with Marlfield in 1960, 1962, 1964 and 1970

Right Full Back in 1969 and 1971 - Jimmy Harney

Minor South and County Championship Medals in 1967 and 1968 (2)

U21 South and County Championship Medals in 1969 and 1971 (2)

South Senior Championship Medals in 1971 and 1975 (2)

County Senior Championship Medals in 1969 and 1971 (2)
Jimmy captained the team in 1975

Full Back in 1969 and 1970 - Tom Pollard

Minor South and County Championship Medals in 1960 (1)
South Senior Championship Medals in 1965, 1966, 1967, 1971, 1972, 1975 and 1977 (7)

County Senior Championship Medals in 1965, 1966, 1967, 1969 and 1971 (5)

Tom served as Chairman in 1982

Holder of 2 South Senior Hurling Championship Medals with Marlfield in 1964 and 1970

Left Full Back in 1969 and 1971 - Michael O'Connell

South Senior Championship Medals in 1960, 1965, 1966, 1967, 1971, 1972, 1975 and 1977 (8)

County Senior Championship Medals in 1965, 1966, 1967, 1969 and 1971 (5)

Michael captained the team in 1971

Michael served as Club Treasurer from 1982 to the nineties
Holder of 2 South Senior Hurling Championship Medals with Marlfield in 1964 and 1970

Right Half Back in 1969 and 1971 - Brian O'Callaghan - Deceased

Minor South and County Championship Medals in 1955 (1)
South Senior Championship Medals in 1960, 1965, 1966, 1967, 1971, 1972, 1975 and 1977 (8)

County Senior Championship Medals in 1965, 1966, 1967, 1969 and 1971 (5)

Brian captained the team in 1965, 1966, 1967 and 1969

Centre Back in 1969 and 1971 - Mick Egan

South Senior Championship Medals in 1960, 1965, 1966, 1967, 1971 and 1972 (6)

County Senior Championship Medals in 1965, 1966, 1967, 1969 and 1971 (5)

Mick was Club Chairman from 1974 to 1981 and South



Clonmel Commercials 1969 Co. Senior Football Champions. Back: Donal Boyle, Brian O'Callaghan (capt.), Michael O'Connor, Mick Egan, George Collins, Dennis O'Donoghue, Pat O'Sullivan, Jimmy Harney, Tom Pollard, Garry Smith. Front: John McNamara, Tony O'Sullivan, Timmy Ryan, Paddy O'Connell, Jimmy Hewitt, Michael O'Connell, Brendan O'Keeffe, Tony Smith, Mick Burke, Paddy O'Donoghue.

Board Chairman from 1982 - 1984

Mick captained the Tipperary Senior Football team to win the Cumann na Sean Ghael trophy against Dublin in the Bloody Sunday Commemoration game.

Holder of 4 South Senior Hurling Championship Medals with Marlfield in 1960, 1962, 1964 and 1970

Left Half Back in 1969 and Left Half Forward in 1971 –

Paddy O'Donoghue

Minor South and County Championship Medals in 1967 and 1968 (2)

U21 South and County Championship Medals in 1969 (1)
South Senior Championship Medals in 1971, 1972 and 1975 (3)

County Senior Championship Medals in 1969 and 1971 (2)

Centre Field No 8 in 1969 – Gary Smith - Deceased

Minor South and County Championship Medals in 1967 and 1968 (2)

U21 South and County Championship Medals in 1969 and 1971 (2)

Gary captained the U21 team in 1971

South Senior Championship Medals in 1971 (1)

County Senior Championship Medals in 1969 and 1971 (2)

Centre Field No 9 in 1969 and Centre Forward in 1971 –

Paddy O'Connell - Deceased

Minor South and County Championship Medals in 1960 (1)
Paddy captained the minor team in 1960

South Senior Championship Medals in 1960, 1965, 1966, 1967 and 1971 (5)

County Senior Championship Medals in 1965, 1966, 1967, 1969, 1971 and 1972 (6)

Holder of 1 South Senior Hurling Championship Medals with Marlfield in 1970

Paddy represented Munster on the Railway Cup Team in 1968 and 1969

He won an All Ireland Intermediate Hurling Medal with Carlow in 1962

Right Half Forward in 1969 – Michael Burke

Minor South and County Championship Medals in 1967 and 1968 (2)

U21 South and County Championship Medals in 1969 and 1971 (2)

County Senior Championship Medals in 1969 (1)

South Senior Championship Medals in 1975 (1)

Centre Half Forward in 1969 and left Full Forward in 1971 –

Jimmy Hewitt

South Senior Championship Medals in 1966, 1967 and 1971 (3)

County Senior Championship Medals in 1966, 1967, 1969 and 1971 (4)

Left Half Forward in 1969 and Left Full Forward in 1971 –

Pat O'Sullivan

Minor South and County Championship Medals in 1967 and 1968 (2)

U21 South and County Championship Medals in 1969 and 1971 (2)

South Senior Championship Medals in 1971, 1972, 1975 and 1977 (4)

County Championship Medals in 1969 and 1971 (2)

Right Corner Forward in 1969 and Substitute in 1971–

Brendan O'Keeffe

Minor South and County Championship Medals in 1960 (1)
South Senior Championship Medals in 1965, 1967 and 1971 (3)

County Senior Championship Medals in 1965, 1967, 1969 and 1971 (4)

Full Forward in 1969 – George Collins

South Senior Championship Medals in 1965 and 1967 (2)
County Senior Championship Medals in 1965, 1967 and 1969 (3)

Right Full Forward in 1969 and Substitute in 1971 –

Timmy Ryan

Minor South and County Championship Medals in 1955 (1)
South Senior Championship Medals in 1958, 1960, 1965, 1966, 1967, 1971 and 1972 (7)

County Senior Championship Medals in 1965, 1966, 1967, 1969 and 1971 (5)

Holder of 2 South Senior Hurling Championship Medals with Marlfield in 1964 and 1970

SUBSTITUTES

Donal Boyle

Minor South and County Championship Medals in 1967 (1)
U21 South and County Championship Medals in 1969 and 1971 (2)

South Senior Championship Medals in 1971 (1)

County Senior Championship Medals in 1969 and 1971 (2)

Tony Smith

U21 South and County Championship Medals in 1969 (1)
South Senior Championship Medals in 1986 (1)

County Senior Championship Medals in 1969 and 1986 (2)

Holder of 1 South Senior Hurling Championship Medals with St Mary's in 1981

Johnny Ryan

South Senior Championship Medals in 1965 and 1967 (2)
County Senior Championship Medals in 1965, 1967 and 1971 (3)

Goalkeeper in 1971– Seamus Fitzgerald

Minor South and County Championship Medals in 1967 and 1968 (2)

U21 South and County Championship Medals in 1969 and 1971 (2)

South Senior Championship Medals in 1971, 1972, 1975 and 1977 (4)

County Senior Championship Medals in 1971 (1)

Continued on next page



Clonmel Commercials 1971 Co. Senior Football Champions and Munster Club Finalists.

Back: John McNamara, Ciarán Lonergan, Timmy Ryan, Donal Boyle, Matt Ruth, Morgan Walsh, Mick Egan, Brendan O'Keeffe, Paudie Butler, T. J. Corby, Brian O'Callaghan, Tom Pollard. Front: Johnny Ryan, Liam Kane, Frank Kenny, Jimmy Hewitt, Paddy O'Connell, Pat O'Sullivan, Seamus Fitzgerald, Paddy O'Donoghue with Joe McNamara. Inset: Michael O'Connell (capt.).

Continued from previous page

Left Half Back in 1971 – Liam Kane

Minor South and County Championship Medals in 1968 (1)
South Senior Championship Medals in 1971 and 1972 (2)
County Senior Championship Medals in 1971 (1)

Centre Field No 8 in 1971– T J Corby

South Senior Championship Medals in 1971, 1972, 1975 and 1977 (4)
County Senior Championship Medals in 1971 (1)

Centre Field No 9 in 1971– Matt Ruth

South Senior Championship Medals in 1971 and 1972 (2)
County Senior Championship Medals in 1971 (1)
Matt represented Limerick and Kilkenny at Senior Hurling and won 3 All Ireland Senior Medal with Kilkenny in 1975, 1979 and 1982. He is also the holder of 4 Leinster Titles and 2 National Hurling League Titles

Right Half Forward – Maurice Mossy Patterson - Deceased

Minor South and County Championship Medals in 1960 (1)
South Senior Championship Medals in 1971 (1)
County Senior Championship Medals in 1971 (1)
Paddy represented Tipperary on the Railway Cup Team

Full Forward in 1971 – Kieran McGrath

Minor South and County Championship Medals in 1965 (1)
South Senior Championship Medals in 1965, 1966, 1967 and 1971 (4)
County Senior Championship Medals in 1965, 1966, 1967 and 1971 (4)

SUBSTITUTES

Ciaran Lonergan

U21 South and County Championship Medals in 1969 and 1971 (2)
South Senior Championship Medals in 1971 and 1972 (2)
County Senior Championship Medals in 1971 (1)

Aidan Lonergan

U21 South and County Championship Medals in 1971 (1)
South Senior Championship Medals in 1971 and 1972 (2)
County Senior Championship Medals in 1971 (1)

Paudie Butler

South Senior Championship Medals in 1971 and 1972 (2)
County Senior Championship Medals in 1971 (1)
Paudie was a dual player for Tipperary and managed the Tipperary Minor Hurling Team from 1998 to 2000
He managed Laois Senior Hurling team from 2002- 2005
He was also National Director of Hurling

Bernard O'Doherty

U21 South and County Championship Medals in 1969 (1)
County Senior Championship Medals in 1969 (1)

Michael O'Connor

County Senior Championship Medals in 1969 (1)

Tony O'Sullivan

County Senior Championship Medals in 1969 (1)

Frank Kenny

South Senior Championship Medals in 1971 and 1972 (2)
County Senior Championship Medals in 1971 (1).

Clonmel Commercials Win Two Finals in Three Years

Clonmel Commercials won the county senior football championship in 1969 and 1971. The finals were played under the Open Draw system. The latter was introduced in 1968 following a motion by the club's Micheál O'Meara, which was passed by a substantial majority. It was for a one-year trial period but was retained for a number of years. The first Open Draw final led to victory for Kilsheelan-Kilcash for the first time in thirty-five years.

The semi-finals of the 1969 county championship were played on November 9. Commercials defeated Loughmore-Castleiney by 3-6 to 1-2 at Thurles, while Ardfinnan defeated titleholders, Kilsheelan-Kilcash by 2-1 to 0-5 at Clonmel.

The final was played at Clonmel on November 30. In a game that had everything 'including passages of really good football, a high degree of excitement and exemplary sportsmanship', Commercials were slightly flattered by their winning margin of 2-13 to 0-13. This was the Clonmel's side seventh county crown and the displays of their young players, Pat Sullivan, Mick Burke, Pat O'Donoghue, Jimmy Harney and Garry Smyth, all of whom were members of the 1967 county minor winning side, were a revelation.

The team was: John McNamara, Jimmy Harney, Tom Pollard, Mick O'Connell, Pat O'Donoghue, Mick Egan, Brian O'Callaghan (capt.), Paddy O'Connell, Garry Smyth, Mick Burke, Jimmy Hewitt, Pat Sullivan, Brendan O'Keefe, George Collins, Timmy Ryan.

In his annual report to the club's convention later in the year, secretary, John McNamara, said: 'I have the utmost delight in stating that we have for the fourth time in five years, won the county senior championship having defeated old and keen rivals, Ardfinnan, in what was to me the best match ever played between these two teams.'

In what was then the Munster Club championship Commercials defeated East Kerry in the first round at Clonmel on March 7, 1971. The semi-final wasn't played until January 16, 1972, when Commercials went down to Cloughaun by 0-8 to 1-2 at Limerick.

In the South senior football championship, which was a separate competition, Commercials lost out to Fethard, the eventual champions, by 1-4 to 0-6 in the semi-final.

Second Championship in 1971

Commercials lost out to keen rivals, Ardfinnan, in the 1970 final by 1-11 to 2-2. Played at Clonmel on November 8 it was a tense affair, marred by unseemly conduct on the sideline. Two players were sent off. It was Ardfinnan's fourth final to contest in five years and their first victory. Commercials also lost out to Kilsheelan-Kilcash in the South final, going down by 1-7 to 0-7 in a tremendous final at Kilsheelan before a record attendance.

Commercials were back with a bang in 1971 county championship. They outclassed Loughmore-Castleiney by 5-6 to 0-4 in the semi-final played at Thurles on October 17. On the same day at Clonmel, Ardfinnan defeated Fr. Sheehy's by 1-11 to 1-2 and the stage was set for the third final in a row between the arch rivals, with one victory each in the first two.

The game was played at Clonmel on November 7. In an exciting and hard-fought encounter, which attracted one of the biggest crowds for some time, Commercials captured their eighth title, when they defeated the holders, Ardfinnan, by 2-8 to 1-9. The losers were best in the first half and, though playing against the breeze, were on level terms at half-time, 0-6 to 1-3. However, Commercials were a different team in the second half and gradually gained control of the game.

The winning team included the following players: Paddy O'Donoghue, Mossy Patterson, Pat O'Sullivan, Jimmy Harney, Mick O'Connell, Paddy O'Connell, Tom Pollard, Liam Kane, Kieran McGrath, Mick Egan, T. J. Corby, Seamus Fitzgerald, Jimmy Hewitt, Matt Ruth, Brian O'Callaghan.

Commercials got a bye to the semi-final of the club championship and beat Waterville by 1-7 to 1-6 on January 23, 1972. They were beaten by U.C.C. in the final by 2-9 to 1-8 at Mitchelstown on April 19.

Controversy surrounded the first round tie of the South senior football championship between Commercials and Ardfinnan. Originally fixed for early July, it was never played and eventually awarded to Commercials. The latter met Fr. Sheehy's in the final and won by 1-8 to 1-6, though the losers had plenty of chances of causing an upset.

The selectors in 1969 were

- Dr Pat O'Callaghan
- Mick Donnelly
- Mick Hanley

The selectors in 1971 were

- John McNamara
- Timmy Ryan
- Johnny Ryan

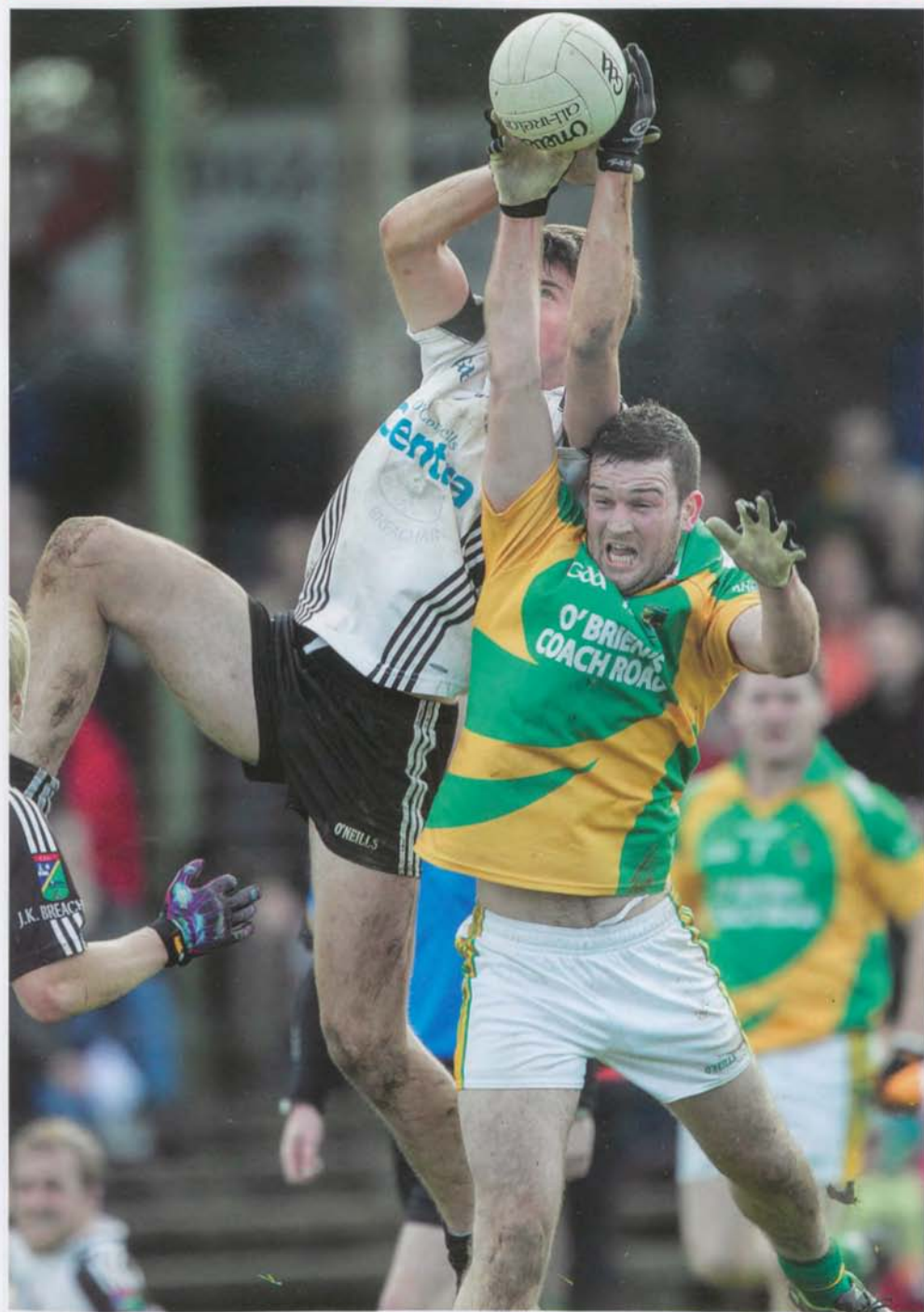
County Minor Finalists



The Drom Inch Panel that defeated Thurles Sarsfields in the Murphy Office Supplies Mid Tipperary Minor A Football Final. Back: Thomas O'Meara, Robbie Long, Michael Campion, Mikey Connors, Robert Ryan, Emmet Moloney, Pauric Campion, Joey Maher, Rory O'Dwyer Capt., Colm Kinane, Conor O'Meara, Mark O'Brien, Liam Dempsey. Front: Brian Hennessy, Ciaran Thorpe, Kevin Hassett, Paul Kennedy, Brendan Larkin, Thomas Nolan, Kevin Ahearne, Jamie Bergin, Paul Hennessy



The Clonmel Commercial Minor Panel



Aherlow's Barry Grogan

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Clonmel Commercials would like to thank their club sponsor Dornan Engineering for their generous support and sponsorship of the Commercials teams.

Drom and Inch

Drom & Inch GAA club would like to thank Moloneys Service Station, The Ragg, for their recent sponsorship of gear for the Minor Football team as they prepare for the County Final.



Included in photograph are: (L-R) Willie Clohessy (Juvenile Club Chairman), Eamonn Kiely (Manager), Michael Campion (Player), Trevor Moloney (Sponsor), Rory O'Dwyer (Captain), Pamela McLoughlin (Sponsor), Austin Broderick (Senior Club Chairman), Benny Kennedy (Selector)

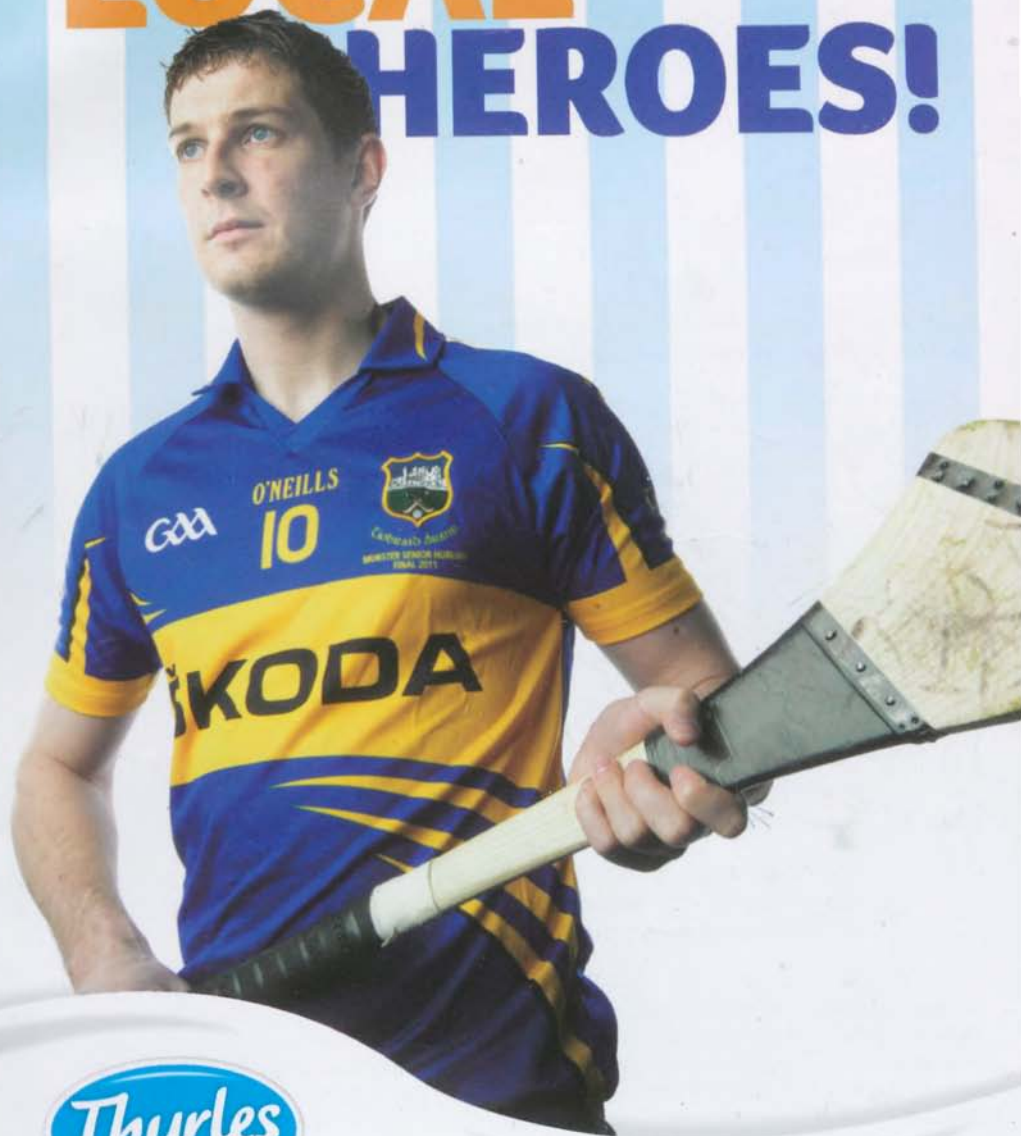
Aherlow Gaels

Aherlow Gaels wish to sincerely thank all their sponsors and those who contributed to their training and county final funds or helped in any way with preparations for today's game. Aherlow GAA club would like to thank all those who have contributed to the development funds for their new field and dressing rooms while Lattin Cullen GAA club would like to thank everybody who supports the club's fund raising activities. Both clubs would also like to thank their many loyal supporters for following them throughout the 2013 season.

Loughmore Castleiney

Loughmore Castleiney would like to thank all the club's sponsors and supporters for their generosity and is particularly grateful to the following: Stapleton's Bar, Nolan's Bar, The Spinning Wheel, Premier Bounce, Tom Maher's Inn, Michael Finn's Pub, Larry Mackey's Pub, Templetuohy Bus Hire, Pat Claffey Butchers, Pat Cullen, Mark Breen, Mid West Oil and Centenary Thurles Co-operative Society Ltd

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