Mid-Tipperary Senior Hurling Final Match Programme 1990

CUMANN LÚTH CHLEAS GAEL

CLUICHI CEANNAIS IOMÁNA TIOBRAÍD ÁRANN LÁIR

AT BOHERLAHAN

ON SUNDAY, 26th AUGUST, 1990

SOUVENIR



PROGRAMME

SENIOR HURLING FINAL:

3.30 p.m.

HOLYCROSS-BALLYCAHILL v LOUGHMORE CASTLEINEY

REFEREE: - JOHN HARKIN (DROM-INCH)

Preceded at 2 p.m. By MINOR "A" FINAL

THURLES SARSFIELDS V HOLYCROSS-BALLYCAHILL

REFEREE: - MICHAEL GREENE (UPPERCHURCH-DROMBANE)

CLÁR OIFIGIUIL - LUACH 50p

Tomás Ch Eachaza, CH 50p Runai

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FAILTE ON gCATHAOIRLEACH

'Se mo phibhleid fior — chaoin failte a chur roimh gach einne go Bothar Leathan ar an la mor seo. 'Se ar ndochas gur fiuntach agus aoibhinn a bheidh bhur gcuairt. Caithfear failte are leith a fheara ar iomanithe Mainistir Na Croise, Luach Magh agus Na Sairsealaigh comh maith leis na reiteoirí agus a h-oifigí — gur iad fe ndear an ocaid more seo.

Mid Hurling Final day is a special one in the life of the Gaelic Athletic Association in the division. It is the day which represents the culmination of a series of games which, through the season, provided splendid enjoyment and good wholesome recreation for our loyal supporters, in witnessing the skill and endeavour of our players to decide the standard bearers in Senior and Minor hurling. It is a day which highlights the progress of the association in the division at all levels, through its games, club development, and other activities, a day of stirring emotions requireing high standards all round.

It is my privilege as Chairman of the Board to extend a sincere welcome to everybody, players Senior and Minor, referees and their officials, and all our loyal supporters. It is our hope that your visit will be worthwhile and enjoyable, and that each one of us will make our own contribution to ensure that the high standards so long associated with Mid Tipperary will be fully projected with a dignity which the occasion demands,

Liam O hAonghusa.

FAILTE GO BOTHAR LEATHAN

Se mo phribhleid agus mo dulgas taithneamach fior chaoin failte a chur roimh gach einne go Bothar Leathan ar La Ceannaid Thoibraid Arann Méanach san iomaint. Ta suil agam go mbeidh clár an lae inniu ar aon dul leis na cluiche a bhi againn ceanna.

As Chairman of the host club it is my privilege to extend a very sincere welcome to all of you, supporters, players, referees and officials to Boherlahan for our Minor and Senior hurling finals.

I hope the games will be played in a sporting manner and in the best tradition of Mid Tipperary that has played such an important role in the many successes of our County down through the years.

As you depart the scene this evening I hope you enjoyed your visit and that our games will continue to have your full support and encouragement at all times.

Beir Bua agus Beannacht

Padraig S. O'Meachair, Cathaoirleach

BIUOCHAS

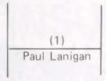
This programme is produced by the Mid Board and deistributed by members of the Boherlahan underage teams. I wish to thank the club for their help and co-operation in this respect and especially Club Secretary John Maher for his invaluable assistance in producing the programme.

A sincere thanks to our Sponsors Bank of Ireland and Park Avenue House and all our advertisers and ask our patrons to support them. Many thanks to our contributors and the participating clubs for their excellent help and co-operation. Finally a special thanks to our loyal patrons and hope they will derive much enjoyment from today's games.

Tomas Ó hEadhra, Programme Editor

MINOR TEAMS

SARSFIELDS (Blue & White)



(2) Tom Max

(3) Jim Curry

(4) George Grogan

- (5) Eugene McAree
- (6) Ger Collins (Capt.)
- (7) Jimmy Doyle

(8) Jim Corbett

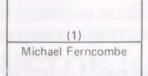
(9) Declan Keher

- (10) Rory Delahunty
- (11) John Purcell
- (12) T.J. Woodlock

- (13) Lar Barrett
- (14) Tony Coman
- (15) Michael Murphy

Subs:— 16) Colm O'Shea, 17) Mark Maher, 18) Brendan O'Neill, 19) Tom Kennedy, 20) Dan Bourke, 21) Ed. Enright, 22) Michael Bowe, 23) Peter Broderick, 24) Noel Dundon, 25) Noel Bourke.

HOLYCROSS BALLYCAHILL (Green & White)



- (2) Thomas McGrath
- (3) A.N. Other

(4) Conor Ryan

- (5) James Ferncombe
- (6) Jimmy Gleeson
- (7) Declan Ryan

(8) Seamus Ryan

(9) Denis Allen

- (10) Tommy Flanagan
- (11) Thomas Fogarty
- (12) Richard Doyle

- (13) Declan Quintan
- (14) Liam McGrath
- (15) Paul Ryan

Subs:— 16) Tadgh Bourke, 17) Pat Whelan, 18) James Bourke, 19) Philip Ryan, 20) Ml. Loughnane, 21) Kevin Maher, 22) Liam Bannon, 23) Joseph Bourke, 24) David Bourke, 25) Audra Lynch, (26) Jim Ryan, 27) Stephen McGrath.



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THE MINOR FINAL — SARSFIELDS v HOLYCROSS A PROUD HURLING TRADITION

For many supporters the Minor Final is just regarded as the curtain raiser or appetiser for the main course to follow, and this applies at all levels right up to All Ireland Finals, when supporters can be seen arriving long after starting time and even well into the second half of the minor game. To-day's Mid Minor Final brings into opposition two clubs which have been an integral part of the Division for many years, during which they have established a keen and healthy rivalry.

Contesting finals at Mid or County level is nothing new to Holycross—Ballycahill or Sarsfields, yet each decider has its own particular importance and both clubs in to-day's final will be as keen and anxious for victory as if they were chasing a first championship success.

As we watch to-day's final we may well speculate as to the future of those moving players who battle for the honour of their clubs — will they wear their clubs senior jersey? — will they wear a County jersey in any grade?

Sarsfields club have produced some of the greatest players the game has known, many who first showed their ability at the same age as the young lads who proudly wear the club colours in to-day's final. Immediately coming to mind are the names of many great players such as Jim Stapleton, Tom Semple, J.J. Callanan, Jim Lanigan, John Maher, Tony Wall, Jimmy Doyle, Ml. Murphy (all Captains of All-Ireland winning teams), Tommy Doyle, Mickey Byrne and Ger Connolly.

Holycross—Ballycahill have also been to the forefront in this regard and the early promise shown by such household names as Phil Cahill, Dinny Gorman, Pat Stakelum, John Doyle, Michael Maher and others came to fruition some years later much to the benefit of the club and county. The club really came to fame in the late forties with great minors such as Pat Stakelum, John Doyle, Michael Maher, joining such established players as the Gormans, Dwans, Bob Stakelum and others to form a club side that was a force to be reckoned with in that period and the fifties. These were the halycon days of Mid Tipperary hurling when thousands thronged to Gaile, Littleton, Thurles and Templemore to see the clash of the ash between such clubs as Moycarkey, Moyne, Sarsfields, Boherlahan & Holycross. Those were great days for Tipperary hurling with the County on the crest of the wave. As we watch to-day's minor final and the young hurlers of Holycross and Sarsfields do battle for the minor title we may well be viewing a game that will produce some players that will in future years match the heights attained by their illustrous predecessors in both clubs.

PLAYER OF THE PAST — JOHN (JACK) MACKEY LOUGHMORE—CASTLEINEY

From John Guiton Tipperary Star

As the men in the now familiar green and red jersies of Loughmore-Castleiney take to the pitch for todays Mid Senior hurling showpiece it will be the clubs 8th Mid final appearance since 1981. Indeed it has contested the last five finals, and last took home the cup in 1988. Such statistics speaks volumes for the sheer dedication of so many people in the parish and it must be a constant source of pride to so many stalwarts of yesteryear, that the game of hurling continues to flourish in what has been traditionally regarded as a football stronghold. No man is more satisfied about development of the game in the parish than sprightly John (Jack) Mackey a member of the Castleiney team which won the Mid Senior hurling championship in 1928.

Like so many other former club members, Jack remains as loyal to the game today as he had been in his playing days. In his eighties, Jack, hale and hearty, will, doubtless, be among the early arrivals at the pitch in the heart of hurling's famed Boherlahan this afternoon, and will as always have a word of encouragement for the men from his parish as they take on the reigning champions. Winner of numerous championship honours in hurling, and football, Jack has many great memories of games against the likes of Holycross, Moycarkey, Sarsfields and Clonoulty, and team mates of his time included those two famous names Bill Ryan (Laha) and Tommy Treacy, from Killea. We wish Jack many more years of health and happiness, following our great game of hurling.

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THE FIRST MID CHAMPIONSHIP

The new Mid Division formed in 1907 comprised Thurles, Moycarkey, Two-Mile-Borris, Templetuohy, Gurteen, Horse and Jockey, Upperchurch, Milestone, Drombane, Holycross, Clonoulty, Rosmore, Cappawhite, Cashel and Racecourse. Although draws were made for the first ever Mid Championship no matches were played and at a Board meeting Andy Mason (Secretary) proposed that the medals be awarded to Thurles and a fresh start be made in 1908. This proposal was adopted.

Rosmore had the honour of hosting the first Mid final between Cashel and Thurles Sarsfields. Cashel had won their way to the final by defeating the Jockey 4-11 to 4-10 in the first round, in the semi-final Holycross overwhelmed them in a one sided game but followed an objection the match was awarded to Cashel. Sarsfields defeated Templetuohy by a large score and beat Borris by 6 - 8 to 2 - 10.

The final between Thurles and Cashel was originally fixed for the Jockey but was not played as Cashel failed to turn up. When it was eventually played in Rosmore in 1909 Sarsfields were easy winners on a score of 2-12 to 0-3 and went on to a shock defeat by Glengoole in the Co. final 4-2 to 2-6. Thurles objected and won, but at a later meeting of the Co. Board the 1908 championship was dropped.

PUBLIC ADDRESS

The public address will be supplied by Pat Prior Dovea and Pat Houlihan, Littleton who are always available with first class service for G.A.A. games, Field Evenings, meetings etc.

TEAM PARADE

The team parade will be led by Sean Treacy Pipe Band, Moycarkey who are always part and parcel of all big G.A.A. occasions.

MID TIPPERARY SENIOR HURLING CHAMPIONS

1907	Thurles	1 1939	Thurles Sarsfields
1908	Thurles	1940	Moycarkey
1909	Thurles	1941	Boherlahan
1910	Two-Mile-Borris	1942	Thurles Sarsfields
1911	Thurles	1943	Moycarkey
1912	Sarsfields	1944	Thurles Sarsfields
1913	Boherlahan	1945	Thurles Sarsfields
1915	Thurles Sarsfields	1946	Thurles Sarsfields
1916	Boherlahan	1947	Holycross
1917	Boherlahan	1948	Holycross
1918	Boherlahan	1949	Borrisoleigh
1919	Boherlahan	1950	Thurles Sarsfields
1920	Thurles/Moycarkey	1951	Holycross
1921	No Championship	1952	Thurles Sarsfields
1922	Moycarkey/Two-Mile-Borris	1953	Boherlahan
1923	Moycarkey	1954	Holycross
1924	Moycarkey	1955-64	Thurles Sarsfields
1925	Thurles Sarsfields	1965	Moycarkey
1926	Moycarkey/Borris	1968-69	Thurles Sarsfields
1927	Clonoulty	1970	Moyne
1928	Castleiney/Killea	1971	Moycarkey
1929	Thurles Sarsfields	1972	Moyne
1930	Moycarkey/Borris	1973	Thurles Sarsfields
1931	Moycarkey/Borris	1974	Drom/Inch
1932	Moycarkey/Borris	1975	Thurles Sarsfields
1933	Moycarkey/Borris	1976-77	Moyne
1934	Moycarkey/Borris	1978	Holycross
1935	Thurles Sarsfields	1979-80	Thurles Sarsfields
1936	Thurles Sarsfields	1981-82	Moycarkey
1937	Moycarkey	1983	Loughmore/Castleiney
1938	Thurles Sarsfields	1984	Drom/Inch
		1985	Holycross-Ballycahill
		1986-88	Loughmore/Castleiney

Mid Board Chairmen

1907	John Cahill, Cashel	1979	Tim Maher, Boherlaha
1908	Tim Condon, Moycarkey	1982	Michael Lowry, Holycr
1912	Tom Semple, Thurles	1985	Pat Cullen, Loughmore
1916	E. D. Ryan, Cashel	1988	Liam Hennessy, Moyca
1919	Tom Kerwick, Thurles		
1924	Tim Gleeson, Drombane		Mid Board Secreta
1927	Rev. John Meagher C.C., Thurles	1907	Andy Mason, Drombar
1929	Rev. Phil Fogarty, C.C., Moycarkey	1930	Phil Cahill, Holycross
1948	Rev. Patrick Lee C.C., Templemore	1937	Phil Purcell, Moycarke
1956	Rev. Mick Russell, St. Patrick's	1948	Paddy Ryan, Moycarke
1961	Rev. D. O'Meara, C.C., Moycarkey	1966	Seán Ryan, Loughmore
1969	Tom O'Hara, Gortnahoe	1974	Liam Ryan, Holycross
1973	Michael Small, Sarsfields	1979	Tom O'Hara, Gortnah

7 76 10 1	
1976	Tom O'Hara, Gortnahoe
1979	Tim Maher, Boherlahan
1982	Michael Lowry, Holycross
1985	Pat Cullen, Loughmore
1988	Liam Hennessy, Moycarkey
	Mid Board Secretaries
1007	Andu Macon Drombane

1989 Holycross-Ballycahill

1937	Phil Purcell, Moycarkey
1948	Paddy Ryan, Moycarkey
1966	Seán Ryan, Loughmore
1974	Liam Ryan, Holycross
1979	Tom O'Hara, Gortnahoe



Holycross-Ballycahill Senior Hurling Finalists



Loughmore-Castleiney Senior Hurling Finalists

HOLYCROSS-BALLYCAHILL

(Green & White)

(1)
Pat Slattery

(2) Johnny Doyle

- (3) Tom Dwyer
- (4) Rory Dwan

- (5) Phill Dwyer
- (6) Michael Doyle
- (7) Benjy Browne

- (8) Phil Cahill
- (9) P.J. Lanigan

- 10) Tony Lanigan
- (11) Stephen Dwan (12) Declan Carr (Capt.)
- (13) Robert Stakelum (14) Kieran Carroll (15) Michael Felming

Subs:- 16) Mick McGrath, 17) Donal Ryan, 18) Paul Maher, 19) Paul Slattery, 20) Jim Ryan, 21) Cristoir Croke, 22) Gerry Fennessy, 23) Tim Stakelum, 24) Pat Cahill, 25) Paddy Dwan, 26) Tommy Lanigan.

SELECTORS:- Mick Ryan, Seamus Mackey, Phil Lowry, Coach: Paddy Kenny, Masseur: Pat Flynn.

Holycross	Cuil	Cuilini	Seachaí	65m	Saor Pucanna
1 ú Leath		-			
2 ú Leath					
Iomlan					

LOUGHMORE-CASTLEINEY

(Green & Red)

	(1)
Eamon	n Sweeney

- (2) Pat Cormack (Capt.)
- (3) Peter Brennan
- (4) Pat Treacy

(5) Pat McGrath

(6) Jim Maher

(7) John Kennedy

(8) Ned Ryan

(9) Eamonn Brennan

- (10) Tom McGrath
- (11) John Cormack
- (12) Frankie McGrath

- (13) Mick McGrath
- (14) Richard Stapleton
- (15) Seamie Bohan

Subs:— 16) John Treacy, 17) Mick McGrath, 18) Pat Lynch, 19) Joe McGrath, 20) Conor Eviston, 21) Aidan Ryan, 22) Philip Kennedy, 23) Tom Larkin, 24) Tim Cullen (Sub. Goalie).

SELECTORS: – Mick McGrath, Joe O'Grady, Tommy Egan, Pat Cullen, Jack Walsh, Coach/Trainer.

Loughmore	Cuil	Cuilini	Seachaí	65m	Saor Pucanna
1 ú Leath					
2 α Leath	177		THE STATE OF		
Iomian					



Holycross-Ballycahill Minor Hurling Finalists



Thurles Sarsfields Minor Hurling Finalists

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CORN UÍ LAOCHA

There was no trophy for the Mid Senior Hurling winners until 1955 when the present Corn Uí Laocha was presented to the Mid Board by the Leahy Family. It was presented in memory of the late Johnny Leahy, who had brought so many honours to his club and county. Johnny was not just a great figure in the Gaelic world but the outstanding member of a family that was unique in the history of the G.A.A. Four of the Leahy brothers has won All—Ireland senior hurling championship medals — a record unequalled.

Johnny, the eldest of the family, began his hurling career with the Cashel Racecourse team in 1908. Johnny and a number of other Boherlahan players continued to play with this team until it folded up in 1911. In February 1912, the Boherlahan Club was founded after a gathering of gaels in O'Dwyer's barn in Nodstown. Johnny Leahy was elected captain and a senior team was affiliated in Mid Tipperary. Johnny continued to captain his club until 1928. He retired in 1930 when Boherlahan lost to Toomevara (after a replay) in the County Final. Before he retired he had led his county to five Munster Championship successes, two All—Ireland and one National League. He also captained the Tipperary team which travelled the United States from coast to coast in 1926 and he led his club to no less than twelve county championship finals, of which nine were won. Such were his qualities of leadership and so long was he captain of Tipperary and Boherlahan teams that for the remainder of his life he was known by the title of Captain.

His association with the G.A.A. did not end, however, with his playing days. He held a number of administrative positions and was for many years secretary of the Tipperary County Board, during which time his personal influence with the Land Commission was responsible for acquiring numerous playing pitches in the county.

Paddy came next to Johnny in the family. Paddy Leahy played with all the great Tipperary teams of his time and shared Johnny's successes. But it was when he became a hurling selector in 1949 that his greatest services to the county began. From then until his death in 1966 he was widely regarded as one of the principal architects of Tipperary's successes at that time. His ability to make crucial switches and his command of players' respect and allegiance were recognised by hurling followers not only in Tipperary but throughout Ireland.

The third member of the family, Mick, though-he won an All-Ireland with Tipperary in 1916, enjoyed his greatest successes with Cork. He played for years with the famous Blackrock team and won All-Irelands with Cork in 1928 and 1931. A dynamic corner-forward, old timers still recall matches

between Tipperary and Cork in which he was pitted against his brother Johnny, who moved out from his full-back position to mark him.

Tommy was the youngest of the family and he succeeded to the captaincy of Boherlahan when Johnny retired. He was on the Tipperary team which won the All—Ireland in 1930. This was the year of the famous "Triple Crown", when twelve members of the Boherlahan—Dualla Club won All—Ireland medals.

The fifth brother, Jimmy, was described by Tom Semple as 'The handiest of all the Leahys' but the loss of sight of one eye as a result of a wound received during the Anglo—Irish war put an end to his hurling days. Before his injury, nevertheless, he had played once for Tipperary in a National Aid tournament at Croke Park.

It is of particular interest that the family's connection with the G.A.A. began with the foundation of the Association. Their father, Mike Leahy played in the first great Cork—Tipperary clash in August, 1886, and their uncle, Thomas Leahy, was President of the famous Tubberadora club which won All—Irelands in 1895, 1896 and 1898.

All-Ireland medals won by the Leahys

	Senior	Junior
Johnny Leahy	1916, 1925	-
Paddy Leahy	1916, 1925	1913, 1915
Mick Leahy	1916, 1928, 1931	-
Tommy Leahy	1930	1926

One who knew Johnny Leahy well was John D. Hickey and in 1956 he wrote:

"For all that some knew of the 'Captain' they cannot decide in what sphere he was greatest. Some will say that his hurling excelled all his rich gifts, others will say that his leadership was his outstanding attribute and still others will claim that his stature was greatest as an administrator.

Neither can I quite make up my mind on the score of deciding an order of merit but I content myself by saying that I would have considered him a man apart were it for even only one of his great qualities."

Best Wishes to Mid Board for Today's Hurling Finals

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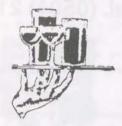
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MEMORIES FROM THE PAST — 1955 MID FINAL SARSFIELDS FIRST HOLDERS OF LEAHY CUP

by Tom O'Hara

Thurles Sarsfields became the first holders of the Leahy Cup when beating Holycross in the Mid Senior hurling final at Gaile on Sunday, August 28th, 1955 before an attendance of 8,000 (gate £629). Final score Sarsfields 3–10, Holycross 3–5.

The Boherlahan club had everything in perfect order fo the big occasion, with side line seating provided to accomodate well over 4,000 spectators. The pitch itself was in splendid condition, a good sized scoreboard was provided, and the line outs were given over the Public address system prior to the start of the game, much to the satisfaction of the large attendance.

Every vantage point including the trees along one side of the field was filled as the teams paraded behind the Cashel and Moycarkey bands. The atmosphere was tense, the setting was glorious as the sun blazed down from a clear blue sky.

Sarsfields opened in whirlwind fashion and were two goals and two points to the good inside the first five minutes. Both goals were brilliantly taken by Paddy Kenny. The Blues held the asscendancy in speed and finishing power for the first twenty minutes, at the end of which they held a commanding lead of nine points.

At this stage Holycross mentors took a hand, John Doyle was sent to corner back to mark the elusive Paddy Kenny, Pat Stakelum moved from mid field to centre half back and Bob Stakelum from Half forward to centre field where he proceeded to play his best ever game for the club.

By half time Holycross had cut the deficit to two points, an excellent recovery after a disastrous start.

With Bob Stakelum dominant at mid field Holycross continued to show improvement on the turn over, when an incident occured which resulted in the sending off of the legendary John Doyle. However, Holycross continued to play with heart and determination and during the last quarter Sarsfields only passed midfield on rare occasions. Holycross had a stranglehold in this area, giving the forwards a sufficient supply to win handsomely, but they were bedevilled in their efforts by poor finishing. The last quarter was a testing period for Sarsfields defence but they emerged with considerable credit, the full line in particular being the essence of soundness when the pressure was greatest.

The Blues fully deserved their victory, having the edge in craft and finishing power and were more evenly balanced than their opponents. Captain Mickey Byrne had a great game at right full back and with Paddy McCarthy and Bobby

Mockler completed a sound full line. Behind them "Blackie Keane" brought off a couple of brilliant saves at a crucial period. Ray Reidy was outstanding at right half back and at front Tommy Ryan, Paddy Kenny and Michael Butler made a handsome contribution to the victory.

For Holycross the outstanding player and man of the match was undoubtedly Bob Stakelum when switched to mid field. The moving of John Doyle to corner back and Pat Stakelum to centre half considerably improved the performance of the team and had this formation been used from the start the result might well have gone their way. Gerry Doyle and Liam Skelly were best of the forwards, the latter coming out best in his duals with Tony Wall.

Looking through the line outs of both teams they would do justice to the County jersey, yet the game was far from being a memorable one. The match was fought in a tense atmosphere all through and the players were too keyed up to hurl with their customary fluency, the game never reached the heights expected from two outstanding teams. Sarsfields went on to take County honours which was the first of five in a row and both clubs made valuable contributions to the many successes of the county in the great period 1958—1965.

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MICHAEL MAHER - ONE OF HOLYCROSS'S GREATS

By Michael Dundon, Tipperary Star.

Tipperary has always been very proud of it's hurling defenders and could lay claim to some of the greatest exponents in this sphere of play. Indeed, the parish of Holycross—Ballycahill is particularly to the fore in this regard with such as John Doyle, Pat Stakelum and Dinny O'Gorman immediately springing to mind.

Of equal stature, and deemed peerless in the number three shirt in his time, was Michael Maher, current chairman of the Munster Council and a stalwart Holycross and Tipperary defender in the fifties and sixties.

Winner of three county championships with Holycross in '48, '51 and '54, Michael made his inter-county debut for Tipperary against Wexford in 1952 but is was not until 1956 that he firmly established himself at fullback.

He won his first senior All-Ireland in 1958 when Tipperary defeated Galway and with John Doyle and Kieran Carey formed one of the greatest ever inside line of backs as Tipperary dominated the early sixties, with All-Ireland victories in '61 over Dublin, '62 over Wexford, '64 over Kilkenny and '65 over Wexford.

In between times a string of National League medals and Railway Cup honours followed before the lion-hearted Michael bowed out of the inter-county scene in 1966.

Though retired from the playing side of things, Michael has continued to play an active role in the affairs of the association and is at present Chairman of the Munster Council. He previously served on Central Council ($^{\prime}67-^{\prime}74$), Bord na bPairc and was chairman of the Tipperary Board from 1979 to 1982.

Michael is also a key figure in the Semple Stadium Development Committee and played a prominent part in the development of the G.A.A. complex at Clonmel Sportsfield while domiciled there.

Despite the pressures of his job as Chief Agricultural Officer in North Tipperary, and his commitment as chairman of the Munster Council, Michael takes a keen interest in and is a regular attender at Mid Tipperary games and will be anxiously following the fortunes of his home parish in today's finals.

However, for most G.A.A. followers, he will be remembered with affection and admiration as the "strongman" at the edge of the square in mighty tussles with the likes of Ned Wheeler (Wexford), Paddy Croke (Dublin), Billy Dwyer (Kilkenny) when the rules of the game relating to physical contact were not as refined as they are today. Holycross and Tipperary can be truly proud of Michael Maher.



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