

North Tipperary Senior Hurling Final
Match Programme
2002



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Coliste Thiobraid Árann Thuaidh

North Tipperary
Senior Hurling Final

Muine Gall v Tuaim Uí Mheara



Luach
€3

Seoraid Mac Eochaidh
O'NEILLS

MacDonagh Park, Nenagh Saturday 13th September 2002



Nenagh (067)32088



10 years ago: Celebration time for Nenagh Éire Óg players, mentors and supporters after they won the 1992 North senior hurling championship.

Fáilte

- Tomás Ó Slathraigh, Cathaoirleach



A dhaoine uaisle, is abhar áthais, agus bród dom, ar mo shon féin, agus ar son Coiste Thiobraid Arann Thuaidh, fáilte ó chroí a fhearradh roimh gach éinne anseo inniú.

Is la spesialta atá ann inniú – cluiche Cheannais Tiobraid Árann Thuaidh idir Tuaim Uí Mheara agus Muine Gall. Tá suil agam go mbeidh sar cluiche againn agus beidh buaitheoirí againn sa chluiche sinsear.

In my last year as chairman of the North Tipperary GAA Board, I wish to extend a warm welcome to all at MacDonagh Park Nenagh today.

Today's senior final brings together Toomevara and Moneygall in a repeat of the final two years ago. Toom are hoping to win their 29th title and Moneygall their second. Both teams have come through to today's final in style. Toom defeated Borris-Ileigh, Nenagh and finally Roscrea in the semi final. Moneygall played Portroe in the first round but lost in the replay. Since then they have reproduced their best hurling defeating Templederry, Borris-Ileigh via the losers' group before accounting for Portroe again in the semi final proper.

Toomevara have a proud record and they hope to repeat their win over Moneygall two years ago. Moneygall can equally be proud of theirs as they hope to bring back the Frank McGrath Cup again after a gap of 27 years.

The U-21 'B' hurling final provides the curtain raiser and we have the unusual pairing of Borris-Ileigh and Ballinahinch who will hope to bring home the Peter Nolan Cup. Ballinahinch lost in this final last year whereas Boris-Ileigh last won the final in 1995.

I would like to express the board's thanks to the George McGrath and Permanent TSB Bank, Nenagh, for its generous sponsorship.

I would like to thank all that helped in the preparations for today's game, MacDonagh Park Committee, Gardai, Order of Malta, the press and the participating clubs.

Today's programme has been compiled by our Treasurer Catherine Gleeson and Liam Hogan, in conjunction with Bord na nOg. I would like to express my appreciation and thanks to them for producing a very fine programme.

My thanks to the referees and clubs of the division for their help and co-operation during the three years and finally to all my fellow officers, but especially an Rúnaí, Ger McKeogh and an Cisteoir, Catherine Gleeson, and Michael Nolan, who carried out a huge amount of outstanding work on behalf of the board.

Clár an Lae

3.45	Curtain raiser: U-21'B' H. Final: Ballinahinch v Borris-Ileigh	5.15	Presentation of Frank McGrath Cup to Chairman, Tom Slattery
5.00	Presentation of Peter Nolan Cup	5.25	Parade of teams behind the Sean Treacy Pipe Band, Moycarkey
5.05	Juvenile Guard of Honour	5.28	Amhrán na bhFiann
5.10	Foireann Tuaim Uí Mheara amach ar an bpairc	5.30	Permanent TSB North Tipp Final
5.12	Foireann Muine Gall amach ar an bpairc	6.15	Second half
		6.50	Presentation of Frank McGrath Cup

North Final a great attraction

By James Hayden (Tipperary Star)

One of the great attractions of the North Tipperary SHC final is that it creates interest not only in GAA circles throughout the division but in the county and the country as a whole.

Teams with proven pedigrees have often competed for the coveted Frank McGrath Cup and in GAA parlance today's clash promises to be a 'mouth watering' encounter between not only two rival clubs but neighbouring parishes.

Toomevara have been the kingpins of hurling in the division for the past ten years and with 28 titles to their credit since the championship's inception they will eagerly be seeking their 29th after last year's three in a row dreams were dashed by Borris-Ileigh at the quarter-final stage.

Moneygall men will take credit for at least ten of those titles, as both parishes amalgamated to field a senior team between 1919 and 1934.

However, today Moneygall will relish the chance to put one over on their neighbours and will be seeking to capture only their second ever title and bridge a 27-year gap since their first title in 1975.

Many supporters will remember that great team of 75' and 76' that captured two county championships on the trot and put the men in red and black on the hurling map in Tipperary.

Toomevara, on the other hand, have proved an unstoppable force for the past ten years and despite being starved of senior glory for nearly three decades, trojan work at underage level throughout the lean years yielded a

plethora of juvenile titles and formed the basis for a side which has remained at the pinnacle of hurling in the county since 1991.

Six north titles in the space of ten years speaks for itself and today the Greyhounds will be gunning for another.

So far this season they have recorded deserved victories and despite suffering a fright at the hands of Roscrea, they bounced back with a superb second half display to deservedly book their place in today's decider.

With players with the calibre of John O'Brien, Tony Delaney, Ken, Terry, Thomas, Benny and Barry Dunne coupled with the talents of Michael Bevans, Paul McGrath, Philip Shanahan, Eoin Brislane and Frances Devanney, Toomevara will be a force to be reckoned with.

Moneygall will rely on the accurate freetaking of scorer-in-chief, John Doughan and with Willie Greene, Mark Keeshan and Donal Doughan also in top form the Toome' full back line will have their work cut out for them.

In defence Moneygall are reliant on county minor Michael Bergin, Barry Ryan, Eoin Troy and Paddy Whyte, all of whom impressed in their hard-fought semi-final victory over Portroe.

However the sides match up today the game promises to be a tight encounter with Moneygall determined to silence the pessimists who have expected yet another Toomevara victory and the Greyhounds intent on maintaining their lofty perch at the summit of hurling in North Tipperary.

North Final Day

By **Conor O'Donovan** (former Tipperary and Éire Óg hurler)

Conor O'Donovan led Nenagh Éire Óg to a county senior hurling championship success in 1995. A native of Effin, Co.

Limerick he won many honours while playing for Tipperary and Nenagh Éire Óg. These include two All-Ireland Senior Hurling Medals, four Munster, one County Senior, three North Senior championship plus four North Senior League.

He suggests that clubs should press for a better deal when it comes to playing their championships

I played senior hurling with Nenagh Éire Óg for 18 seasons, 1981-1998. During that period we contested the North Final in 1982, 1984, 1991, 1992, 1993 & 1998.

In 1982 we drew with Roscrea. This game however was never replayed. We lost the 1984 Final to Lorrha and after a barren spell we next contested the North Final in 1991. Unfortunately defeat again was to be our lot at the hands of Toomevara, in a replay. One year later we finally tasted success when we got the better of Lorrha and successfully defended our title in 1993 against Moneygall.

In my final season we regained the North title at the expense of Toomevara. My abiding memory of playing in the North Championship is of it being very competitive. It is very hard to win. There were times when I wondered if I would ever win a North Senior Hurling medal. I am now the proud holder of three.

The North Final is an exciting event. It can be a tense time for teams, however every player in the Division wants to be part of it. Indeed, it is an honour in itself just to play in the Final. The crowd and the pre-match parade really add to the sense of

occasion and contribute greatly to the unique atmosphere that surrounds the day.

Whichever team emerges victorious can later reflect on a great achievement.

The Club Championship

In recent years the running of club championships has become more disrupted. This, I believe, is as a direct result of the increase in the number of games played at Inter County level. The introduction of the 'Back Door' system in 1997 followed this year by the introduction of the 'All Ireland Qualifier' system has

resulted in more Inter County teams remaining involved in the championship later in the season.

While these extra games are a good way of increasing the profile of the game of hurling, it is done so at the expense of the club championships. The club championship exists in a state of limbo for as long as the county team is still in the championship.

This is unsatisfactory. It is unfair on clubs and frustrates players, as they can never be sure of when they will be playing their next championship game. A break of two months could be followed by two games in the space of a week.

In order to retain a high degree of player involvement at club level it is vital that a well-structured and well-run club championship exists. It is the clubs that are the lifeblood of the GAA because it is they who provide the players who play for the county.

I feel that the time is fast approaching where clubs should be pressing for a better deal rather than allow matters to decline further.



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Toomevara's 39 North Finals

Toomevara have played 39 North Tipp Senior Hurling Finals
winning 28, drawing 1 and losing 10

1910	Toomevara	4-5	Roscrea	0-3
1911	Toomevara	7-0	De Wets	3-0
1912	Toomevara	7-3	Ballina	0-1
1913	Toomevara	4-6	Borrisokane	1-2
1916	Toomevara	3-1	Moneygall	1-2
1917	Toomevara	W/O	Moneygall	Scr
1918	Toomevara	beat	Glenahilty	
1919	Toomevara	1-4	Lorrha	1-2
1922	Toomevara	Beat	Borrisokane	
1923	Toomevara	7-0	Nenagh	1-2
1925	Toom/Money	9-3	Youghalarra	6-2
1926	Toomevara	5-4	Youghalarra	2-0
1927	Toomevara	3-7	Youghalarra	0-1
1928	Toomevara	6-3	Nenagh	5-0
1929	Toomevara	5-4	Duharra	2-0
1930	Toomevara	5-8	Borrisoleigh	1-6
1931	Toomevara	7-1	Borrisoleigh	1-3
1932	Toomevara	Scr	Newport	W/O
1933	Toomevara	2-2	Borrisokane	2-7
1946	Toomevara	6-7	Roscrea	2-4
1957	Toomevara	4-5	Eire Og Nenagh	5-5
1958	Toomevara	6-13	Kilruane Mac D	4-3
1959	Toomevara	1-4	Kilruane MacD	0-11
1960	Toomevara	4-12	Kilruane MacD	1-3
1961	Toomevara	4-14	Borrisokane	3-4
1962	Toomevara	4-9	Kilruane Mac D	5-4
1963	Toomevara	1-8	Roscrea	2-12
1966	Toomevara	2-13	Lorrha	3-11
1986	Toomevara	2-6	Kilruane MacD	1-12
1989	Toomevara	1-12	Lorrha	1-14
1990	Toomevara	0-5	Kilruane MacD	2-7
1991	Toomevara	0-12	Nenagh Eire Og	0-12
Replay	Toomevara	2-11	Nenagh Eire Og	2-7
1994	Toomevara	1-15	Kilruane MacD	0-7
1995	Toomevara	0-18	Borris-Ileigh	1-12
1997	Toomevara	1-15	Borris-Ileigh	0-8
1998	Toomevara	0-11	Nenagh Eire Óg	1-11
1999	Toomevara	2-19	Nenagh Eire Og	2-15
2000	Toomevara	3-13	Moneygall	1-10

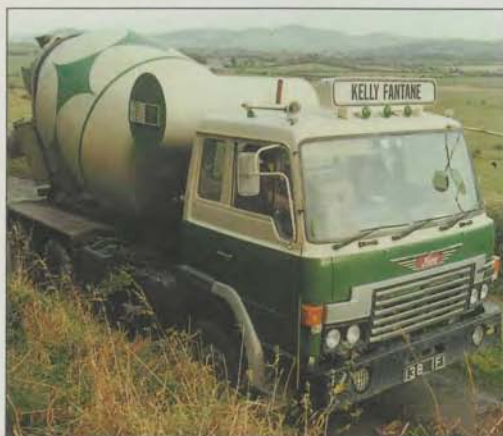
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North Tipp. SHC roll of honour

PRE-PARISH RULE 1901-1934

Toomevara (17)	1910, '11, '12, '13, '16, '17, '18, '19, '22, '23, '25, '26, '27, '28, '29, '30, '31
Lahorna De Wets (7)	1901, '02, '03, '04, '06, '07, '08
Lorrha (3)	1905, '14, '24
Kilbarron/Kildangan (1)	1934
Borrisokane (1)	1933
Newport (1)	1932
Nenagh (1)	1915
Youghalarra (1)	1909

AFTER PARISH RULE

Roscrea (15)	1936, '37, '39, '41, '42, '45, '49, '54, '63, '67, '68, '69, '70, '71, '80
Borris-Ileagh (12)	1947, '50, '51, '52, '53, '55, '72, '73, '76, '81, '83, '88
Kilruane MacD (11)	1940, '44, '59, '65, '77, '78, '79, '85, '86, '87, '90
Toomevara (11)	1946, '58, '60, '61, '62, '91, '94, '95, '97, '99, '00
Nenagh Éire Óg (6)	1957, '64, '92, '93, '98, '01
Lorrha (5)	1948, '56, '66, '84, '89
Newport (2)	1935, '96
Kildangan (2)	1938, '43
Moneygall (1)	1975
Silvermines (1)	1974



TOOMEVARA PLAYER PROFILE

George Frend

Age: 32

Occupation: Primary School Teacher

Inter County Honours: 2 National
hurling League Medals
2 Munster U-21 medals and
1 All-Ireland

Club Honours: 7 County Senior
Medals;

6 North senior Medals
1 U-21 North and County
2 North Minor and 2 Co. Minor
1 North U-16 plus 1 County
4 U-14 North plus 2 county
3 U-12 and 1 County

Biggest influence: Niall Williams

Hurlers you admire: Declan Ryan
and Brian Whelahan (Offaly)

**Any changes you would like to
make:** To bring club hurling back into a
more prominent position

Sports person you admire:
Mohammed Ali

Other sporting interest: Rugby
Should players be paid: No.

Best wishes to both teams from

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MONEYGALL PLAYER PROFILE

John Doughan

Age: 29

Occupation: Block layer

Inter county Honours: Munster U-16 divisional medal 1989

Nenagh Co-op medal 19..

Played U-21 with Tipp 1992,93,94

Captained the U-21 team in 93

Influence on career: Mick Minogue

Hurlers you admire: Tomas Dunne and Colin Lynch

What do you like about the GAA: Entertainment value of our games is very good

Any changes you would like to make: Top players should be given some incentive for the amount of time they put into the game. Club hurlers should get more regular games and not just one every three months.

Favourite food: Bacon and cabbage

Favourite actor and actress: Anthony Hopkins and Cameron Diaz

Other sporting interest: Swimming , Soccer and Rugby on TV

Advice to young players: Always work on skills and listen to your coaches

Should players be paid? Inter county players should not be full time but they should receive adequate expenses should be available on a regular basis e.g. three or four times a year.



Top seven scorers in this year's Championship

Ken Dunne	Toomevara	0-22	0-21 frees		3 games
Sean Doughan	Moneygall	0-22	0-14 frees	0-2 '65	5 games
Angelo Walsh	Borris-Ileigh	0-17	0-8 frees	0-4 '65	3 games
Barry O'Driscoll	Portroe	1-12	0-10 frees		3 games
Paul Ryan	Templederry	1-11	0-5 frees	0-1 '65	2 games
Michael Cleary	Nenagh E Og	1-9	0-6 frees		1 game
Francis Devaney	Toomevara	3-2			3 games

Rapid Express Coaches



A map of North Tipperary and surrounding areas, including parts of Dublin, Limerick, and the South. The map shows major roads, rivers, and towns. Overlaid on the map are three bullet points in red text. Below the map is a yellow box with red text. At the bottom of the map area is a scale bar and a north arrow.

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North final referees down the years

By Eanna Gleeson Kildangan

Since the first North final took place in 1901, 48 men have refereed the 102 finals including replays. There have been many outstanding men who have officiated at least one final. Donie Nealon heads the list with 10 finals beginning with the 1961 North Final between Toomevara and Borrisokane. Today we list all of the referees who officiated in each of the finals in order of total appearances.....

10	Donie Nealon	Burgess	1961, 62, 65, 69, 73, 77, 80, 81, 83, 86.
6	Hubie Hogan	Lorrha	1951, 52, 53, 54, 57, 59
5	Michael Cahill	Kilruane MacD	1988, 91, 98, 99, 01
4	Johnie McDonnell	Roscrea	1989, 93, 94, 97.
	Sean O Meara	Lorrha	1968, 74, 79, 82
	Rody Nealon	Youghalarra	1937, 39, 41, 49
	Con Heffernan	Ardcroney	1936, 42, 43, 48.
	Peter Carroll	Kilbarron	1902, 03, 04, 05
3	Denis Costello	Kilbarron	1935, 46, 47.
	J Kennedy	Silvermines	1930, 32, 34.
	J.J. Callanan	Thurles	1925, 26, 28.
	Felix Cronin	Lorrha	1916, 17, 18.
2	T.F. Stapleton	Borris-Ileagh	1996, 00
	Gerry Long	Knockshe	1987, 90
	Philly Ryan	Borris-Ileagh	1958, 66.
	P O Connell	Offaly	1955, 56
	M Rainsford	Newport	1933, 38.
	Jim Gleeson	Terryglass	1919, 24.
1	Ger Hayes, Moneygall	1995; Michael Lenihan, Ballinahinch	1992; Liam Hogan S Rovers 1987;
	Pat Dunlea, Silvermines	1985; Michael Nolan, Moneygall	1984; Denis Floyd, Newport 1978;
	Pat McGrath Toomevara	1976; Sean O Connor Limerick	1975; MI Spain Offaly 1972;
	Michael O Brien Silvermines	1971; Liam Ryan Holycross	1970; P Jones Newport 1967;
	Mick Carey Ballinahinch	1964; S Gleeson Limerick	1963; Tony Murphy Borrisokane 1960;
	J Sadlier Limerick	1950; M Fitzgibbon Limerick	1945; E Daly Waterford 1944;
	P Kennedy Dolla	1940; M F Cronin Lorrha	1931; T Delaney Borrisoleigh 1929;
	M Kennedy Cloughjordan	1927; Pat Hennessy Toomevara	1915; T McDonnell Templederry
	1912; Jim Ryan Newport	1911; J Salmon Lorrha	1910; P J Flanagan Templederry 1909;
	M Flanagan Nenagh	1909; P Ryan Borrisokane	1906; Michael Kelly Nenagh 1901.

To-day's referee

John Ryan, Boherlahan

Played with his club Boherlahan/Dualla in all grades of hurling and football since 1980. He won numerous divisional titles from u-12 to U-21. He was secretary of his club for a number of years. He took up refereeing when injury cut short his playing career



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Ballinahinch U-21 'B'

	1 John Foley	
2	3	4
John Doheny	Donnacha Ryan	Daniel Lyons
5	6	7
Michael Fitzgerald	Ger Griffin	Marcus Ryan
	8	9
	Shane McGrath	Michael Gleeson
10	11	12
Adrian Kelly	Dermot Gleeson	Matthew Fahy
13	14	15
Eoin O'Sullivan	Alan Kelly	Raphael Ryan

Fir Ionaíd: 16 Victor Belfey, 17 Shane Fitzgerald, 18 Derek Walsh, 19 Michael Ryan, 20 John Shinnors, 21 Kieran Kennedy, 22 Michael Lynch, 23 Michael O'Brien, 24 Liam Berkery, 25 Stephen McNamara, 26 Paudie Berkery, 27 Matthew Kennedy.

Selectors: Philip Kelly, P. J. Lynch, John Ryan

Buiríor Uí Luíoch U-21 'B'

	1 Keith Ryan	
2	3	4
Patrick Tynan	David O'Connor	Michael Ryan
5	6	7
Paraic Maher	Martin Maher	Martin Treacy
	8	9
	Vinnie Stapleton	Patrick Stapleton
10	11	12
Pierce Ryan	Brendan Kenny	Matty Fahy
13	14	15
Matty Stapleton	Mark Bourke	P. J. Kiely

Fir Ionaíd: 16 Michael Small, 17 Timmy O'Connell, 18 Seamus Fahy, 19 John Walsh, 20 Jody Harkins, 21 Michael Delaney, 22 Oliver Delaney, 23 Conor Ryan, 24 Andy Spillane, 25 John Spillane

Muine Gall

	1	
	Sean McCormack	
2	3	4
Michael Ryan	Sean Kennedy	Michael Bergin
5	6	7
Barry Ryan	Eoin Kelly	Paddy Whyte
	8	9
	John Doughan	Tom Touhy
10	11	12
Noel Ryan	Enda Fanning	Diarmuid Kennedy
13	14	15
Willie Greene	Mark Keeshan	Donal Doughan

FIR IONAIÐ

16 Eamon Troy, 17 Donie Guilfoyle, 18 Brian Fanning, 19 Brian Gleeson, 20 Conor Ryan, 21 Ger Ryan, 22 Eamon McCormack, 23 Joe Smyth, 24 Paddy Fanning, 25 Conor Troy, 26 Enda Gleeson

RAGHNÓIREI

Coach: Donnagh O'Donnell

Selectors: Kevin Collison, Sean Doughan, Philip Fanning

Physio: Matt Carr



Eoin Troy, Captain

Tuaim Ui Mheara

	1	
	Justin Cottrell	
2	3	4
George Frend	John Kinnirons	Philip Shanahan
5	6	7
Eoin Brislane	Pairic Hackett	Benny Dunne
8	9	
Tomas Dunne	Bryan Duff	
10	11	12
Paul McGrath	Terry Dunne	Ken Dunne
13	14	15
Michael Bevans	John O'Brien	Francis Devanney

FIR IONAIÐ

16 Tomas O'Meara, 17 Kevin Cummins,
18 Barry Dunne, 19 Willie Ryan, 20 John Boland,
21 Denis Kelly, 22 David Kennedy,
23 Andrew Ryan, 24 Ronan Tynan

RAGHNÓIREI

Coach: Sean Stack

Trainer: Bertie Sherlock

Selectors: Tony Dunne, Roger Ryan, Denis Haverty

Physio: Ned Murphy

First Aid: John Touhy



Ken Dunne, Captain

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North Final



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Blast from the past

September 18th -1966 U-21 Hurling semi-final

TOOMEVARA 4-10 ROSCREA 3-5

Toomevara qualified for the final of the North Tipperary Under-21 hurling championship with a convincing win over Roscrea. Today we produce extracts from *The Guardian* match report, which recalls the efforts of many stars from the past.

A winning margin of eight points suggests a fluent victory and an easily gained one, but such was not the case. At half time after been favoured by what little breeze there was in the first half the winners had only two points to spare 1-4 to 1-2 over a Roscrea side that were guilty of squandering many chances.

After half time both sides exchanged early points and Toomevara stretched into a 1-9 to 1-3 lead. Roscrea introduced S Fogarty for B Burns at corner forward but Toomevara still forced the pace. T.J. Grace scored his second point. Now Roscrea threw everything into the attack and were rewarded with a point from a free by Francis Loughnane plus a goal through S Feehan.

Toomevara however showed their mettle by retaliating almost immediately with a splendid goal from Michael Delaney who now figured at left corner forward having started at midfield. Not to be outdone Roscrea replied with a similar score by P Treacy giving Pat McGrath little chance with a shot from close range.

Toomevara were quick to reply with Paddy Harty finding the net from close range which was quickly followed by a Michael Delaney goal from a free through a packed goalmouth. Tadgh O'Connors closed the scoring with a point from play. Final score Toomevara 4-10 Roscrea 3-5

Best for Toomevara were Pat McGrath in goal, Pat Hassett, Billy Kelly, and Sean Maxwell in defence. Tommie Ryan at midfield and Michael Delaney for his contribution of 2-5 to his teams tally. Billy Kennedy was Toome's best forward and Ollie Ryan plus Tom Maxwell were little behind him.

Roscrea had J Kennedy, B Maher and A Spooner best of the backline. Tadgh O Connor was the star performer for Roscrea all through. Joe Tynan, Pat Treacy and Francis Loughnane in that order were best of the forwards.

Scorers for Toomevara: Michael Delaney 2-5, Ollie Ryan 1-1, Paddy Harty 1-0, T.J. Grace 0-2, B Kennedy, T Maxwell, 0-1 each.

For Roscrea: Francis Loughnane 1-2, P Treacy 1-1, S Feehan 1-0, Tadgh O'Connor 0-2.

TOOMEVARA: P McGrath, P Hassett, B Kelly, M Meara, J Hackett, L Hackett, S Maxwell, T Ryan, M Delaney, T Maxwell, N Maxwell, B Kennedy, P Harty, O Ryan, T.J. Grace.

ROSCREA: J O Connor, J Kennedy, M Maher, B Maher, P McEvoy, A Spooner, J Dooley, T O'Connor, L Brussels, P Treacy, F Loughnane, J Tynan, H Feehan, S Feehan, B Burns.

Substitute: S Fogarty for Burns

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Richie Casey

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Player of the past

ROGER RYAN: Toomevara

The video clip of the 1971 All-Ireland Senior Hurling Final between Tipperary and Kilkenny shows Tipp full forward Roger Ryan scoring a goal from an over head flick. Michael Keating makes one of his high deliveries and Roger Ryan pulls before connecting on the ball which past Ollie Walsh in the Kilkenny goal, prompting Match Commentator Michael O Hehir to utter the words "Ollie didn't see it". Today he shares some thoughts on the game.



DARKEST MOMENT:

Being beaten by Limerick in the 1973 Munster Final by an extra time 'wide' point by Richie Bennis

BEST PLAYER

PLAYED BESIDE:

Francis Loughnane

HONOURS

ACHIEVED:

One All Ireland Senior Hurling Medal
One Oireachtas Senior Hurling Medal
One North Tipp Senior Hurling Medal
Two County Senior Hurling Medals
Two All Ireland Factory League Medals

EARLIEST SPORTING MEMORY:

Toomevara defeating Thurles Sarsfields in Templemore to win the 1960 County Senior Hurling Final.

CHILD HERO:

Jimmy Kennedy – Kildangan & Tipperary

BIGGEST INFLUENCE:

Sean Ryan and John Haugh

BRIGHTEST MOMENT:

Beating Kilkenny to win the 1971 All Ireland Hurling Final

IDEAS FOR THE GAME:

No pay other than generous out of pocket expenses to be given to any GAA player
Throw in Balls to be abolished where possible
County Senior Hurling Championship be graded A & B for separate trophies
No player be allowed to intimidate an opposing free taker



*Best wishes to both teams in
today's final*

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Moneygall's 8 North Finals

1915	Moneygall	3-2	Nenagh Eire Og	3-3
1916	Moneygall	1-2	Toomevara	3-1
1967	Moneygall	3-8	Roscrea	4-15
1970	Moneygall	3-3	Roscrea	3-9
1975	Moneygall	2-10	Silvermines	1-11
1979	Moneygall	1-9	Kilruane MacD	1-12
1993	Moneygall	0-12	Nenagh Eire Og	0-14
2000	Moneygall		Toomevara	

Five years ago

The North Senior hurling Championship was sponsored for the first time. The TSB Nenagh became the first sponsors. Borris-Ileagh defeated Borrisokane in the semi final and Toom accounted for Lorrha in the other. The final was played on Cloughjordan on August 3rd and torrential rain fell all day which left the pitch almost unplayable and resulted in the smallest attendance in years at a North final in years. Toome finished winners by 1-15 to 0-8. In the earlier rounds Moneygall had lost both of their games to Borrisokane and Borris-Ileagh.

In the same year Borris-Ileagh won the U-21 A Championship defeating Roscrea and Toomevara won the Minor accounting for Nenagh Eire Og. Moneygall were winners over Silvermines in the Minor B.

10 Years ago: Eleven teams entered the Senior Championship. Holders Toomevara lost their first round game to Borris-Ileagh after a replay. They entered the losers group where they were joined by Moneygall who in turn lost their opening game to Borris-Ileagh.

Toomevara won out the losers section but lost to Lorrha in the semi final after two replays. Lorrha were no match for Nenagh in the final as Nenagh won by 1-18 to 0-8.

Moneygall won the U-21 hurling A and Nenagh won the Minor

15 Years ago: Not a good year for either Toom or Moneygall in that year's senior championship. Moneygall lost to Borrisokane in the opening game in one of the lowest scoring game for many a year.

The score line read 0-5 to 0-4 and Moneygall joined the losers group and there was not much joy there either losing to Roscrea and therefore that ended their interest for the season ended. Meanwhile Toomevara received a bye to the second round but they lost to Lorrha in the semi final. Lorrha later lost to Kilruane in the final.

In the U21 A Borris-Ileagh defeated Roscrea in the final while in the B Moneygall were the winners over Newport. Toomevara defeated Kilruane in the Minor A.

*Best of luck to
Moneygall in the North Final
from*

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Ag feachaint siar

1982: Nenagh 0-17 Roscrea 3-8

The North Final that ended in a draw at Borrisokane but the replay never took place. Since 1971. After eleven years of the North Senior Hurling Championship run on a league basis it was decided in 1982 to operate the championship on a knock out and losers group system. Seven teams entered – Borris-Ileigh, (holders) Lorrha, Nenagh, Moneygall, Roscrea, Silvermines and Kilruane were the teams.

Gardiner Park Borrisokane housed the final for the first time since 1941. August 1st was the date set and the final was a very exciting affair with Nenagh having to come from behind to draw level on the verge of full time. It was Jim O Sullivan who grabbed the equaliser. The attendance were treated to a worthy final as Roscrea had three first half goals in the 4th 13th and 29th minute through Joe Butler twice and one from Joe Bergin. Roscrea led by 3-4 to 0-10 at half time. Roscrea led by four points soon after the interval and by the 46th minute it was 3-7 to 0-13 in the reds favour. In the remaining 14 minutes Liam Spooner had one more point for Ros while Roger Coffey, Phil Hennessy and Jim O Sullivan brought parity between the sides.

1962: Toomevara 4-9 Kilruane Mac Donaghs 5-4

In front of 3000 people the Frank McGrath cup went home for the second year running, the cup being presented for the first time the previous season. Toom had won their third final in a row and fourth in five years. September 9th was the date and Nenagh was the venue.

As hot favourites Toomevara found the MacDonaghs too hot to handle in the opening half. Hugh Tooher had three goals, plus one each from Ger Hogan and Charlie McLoughney by which time The Greyhounds were 5-3 to 0-4 behind coming up to half time. Then Phil Shanahan grabbed a vital goal. The goal was to prove a very crucial score and the same player had two more in the middle third of the second half. Frankie Ryan scored 1-1 so in the final minutes Paddy Cummins and Matt O Gara got two vital points to secure victory.

Holders Toomevara had went through to the final unbeating Roscrea and later Nenagh in the semi final. Kilruane had won the final two years earlier against the same opposition, accounting for Saint Josephs and Borrisokane followed by an eleven point win over Lorrha in the semi final.

1942: Roscrea 7-5 Kildangan 7-4

Close on 6,000 spectators were present at the new Gaelic Park Nenagh for the North Senior Hurling final which was won by Roscrea almost on the call of time. Kildangan led as the game approached the final whistle. Roscrea attacked in the final minutes and were awarded a 21 yard free. Up stepped John Joe Maher who blasted to the net and give Roscrea a one point win. Fourteen goals were scored and at the time the scoreline was the highest aggregate score to date.



Toomevara, North minor champions and county finalists, 1998: Back row, Frank Devaney (selector), Brian McGrath, Noel Cummins, Anthony O'Neill, Aidan Slattery, Thomas Hassett, Brendan Boland, Andrew Ryan, Michael Kelly, Philip Shanahan, selector. Front: Andrew Dunne, John O'Brien, Paul McGrath, Tomás O'Meara, Bill Duff, Alan Coffey, Eoin Brislane.

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**Gerry
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Blast from the past

October 9th 1967: U-21 Hurling quarter Final

Moneygall 3-7 Borris-Ileigh 2-5

Moneygall fielding with three under -21 county men, Jack Ryan, Henry Condon, and Mick Nolan came through their quarter final tilt with Borris-Ileigh in impressive fashion at MacDonagh Park, Nenagh on Sunday last. They now join Toomevara, Roscrea and Lorrha in the semi finals of the competition.

The standard of hurling served up by both teams was at all times of good quality. County men of both sides stood out. For the winners Jack Ryan had a good day, his best for a long time. Donal Kennedy ex county minor of a couple of years ago gave an impressive performance and Henry Condon made some magnificent saves throughout the hour. T McLeish at wing back caught the eye.

One of the best goals scored at MacDonagh Park for quite a while came towards the end of the first half. Jack Ryan broke away on a solo run. Spotting his forward Donal Kennedy lurking loose he swept the ball out to him. Kennedy crashed home an unstoppable shot for the only goal of the half. Indeed the combination of these two was a feature of the game.

Borris-Ileigh had outstanding players in Noel O Dwyer a county under -21 player plus former county minors, Mick Ryan and Paul Kennedy who inspired between the goals. Frank Spillane put in a good hour also for the maroon and white.

Referee Tom Shanahan Toomevara

CÉAD BLIAN AG FÁS

Moneygall in 1975

In reaching their one and only North Final success in 1975, Moneygall had a tough path to the final. The championship was run on a league basis and in their groups matches they defeated Kildangan, Roscrea and Silvermines but lost to Borris-Ileigh. To reach the final they defeated Lorrha by 1-15 to 2-9 in the semi final. The North final was played on September 21 and Moneygall defeated the holders Silvermines 2-10 to 1-11.

ICT and the GAA - half-speed ahead?

**Munster Council GAA PR and Marketing Sub-Committee
Tipperary Representative, Tim Floyd**

No sensible person would expect the GAA, at either provincial or county level, to be up to the same speed as the business or educational worlds in using information and communication technology (I.C.T. to those who already take it for granted in thousands of Irish workplaces today) GAA activity is overwhelmingly voluntary and there is no electronic infrastructure to link the huge number of voluntary officials with the handful of office-based staff. Not all county secretaries, and only a minority of club secretaries, have even basic fax and email facilities at their disposal. Facilities for phoned credit card transactions and online ticket payment hardly exist. However, both at Croke Park and provincial levels the catch-up effort is underway, albeit belatedly.

At national level, work is more or less complete on a Player Registration database, which already has some club secretaries exchanging disc-based information only with Croke Park. No one who knows the inner workings of the GAA will realistically expect take-up of electronic facilities such as this to be immediate - or even remotely uniform - across different counties, but the process is underway. Streamlined administration of injury/insurance claims will be just one of the more immediate paybacks.

A scheme to allocate every GAA club and county official his or her own unique 'gaa.ie' email address is also in planning. Eugene McKenna in Waterford's WIT is a key technical consultant to the overall Croke Park ICT effort.

Under the Munster Council Development Committee there is an active IT Work Group currently headed by Pat Fitzgerald, Limerick and Peter Twiss, Kerry. Their immediate priority is to upgrade the Munster Council website. Right now, they are putting in place mechanisms for club, county and provincial officials to get their latest items onto the website so that it will be a live and up-to-date site. There is already a well-designed and technically well maintained website (www.gaa.ie/munster) - the only problem is that until now there has been no proper mechanism for the people who actually have the latest information to quickly put that information on to the website! Of course, as anybody in business could have forecast, the next bottleneck to having the systems used fully is the inevitable delay time in training of not-so-young users at Munster Council and county level.

In the nature of the GAA, take-up of new ideas may be slow but there is a real need to get this one right. After all, there is hardly an easier way to waste scarce investment money than to spend it on 'almost there' ICT applications that won't have the capability to eventually work across every club unit and every committee and council of the GAA.

Meanwhile, check out your county website. Search for [http://\(county name\).gaa.ie](http://(county name).gaa.ie) ... the Kerry one, well-maintained by young Eoin O'Sullivan is good example.

Any maybe you'll even sign on for one of the independent email discussion groups where the successes and failures of your county's teams and all kinds of GAA issues get aired day in day out, by people who obviously love the game - in a (mostly!) sensible and constructive manner.

A good example is a Tipperary one - hurlinglist@topica.com - excellently moderated by Ed Donnelly.

When Reddin's talent blossomed

By Gerry Slevin

August 22nd 1948 is a long way back, and while the date as such doesn't come readily to mind, Nenagh's MacDonagh Park on a very damp Sunday does.

It was North final day, Borrisoleigh, the holders, and Lorrha in contention for the Murphy Cup.

I was nine years old. My first North final!

Do I remember it?

Vividly, I hasten to add, and for several reasons.

It never stopped raining. I can recall sitting on the side line with my father. In Nenagh around that time on a visit was a British government minister, Lord Jowitt and his wife and I can remember that a number of people were anxious to see him and, of course, to gauge his reaction to what was probably his first hurling match.

Whatever about the match, he certainly got his fill of the inclement weather!

As a Borrisokane native I would have had my colours nailed to the mast of fellow Lower Ormonders Lorrha that day and as such was delighted that the honours went their

way.

But the day belonged to one Tony Reddin, who between the Lorrha posts, was defiance personified as Borris strove with might and main to retain their title.

The longer the game went on the better he became, and in the second half there was the spectacle of patrons dashing to the end of the pitch defended by Lorrha, just to see at close-up, this fantastic goalkeeper.

Borrisoleigh threw everything at him, but all to no avail. This heroic figure whose first year on the North Tipperary scene had attracted the attention of so many with his impeccable

performances, was writing the initial chapter of a career that would last less than a decade at top grade.

Nevertheless it was a period that would earn him the accolade of Ireland's greatest ever hurling goalkeeper, and recognised as such in the Team of the Century (1984) and the Team of the Millennium (2000).

My first North final and what a memory to have!



Memories of North finals

by Seamus O Riain

When asked to write a few lines on the most memorable North Senior Final of my time, I was not presented with a difficult choice. Many great finals of the past came to mind but one game above all others that has endured in brightest memory was the 1975 final when Moneygall gained its first North Senior title.

The venue was Cloughjordan, our opponents Silvermines, worthy champions of the previous year. The teams were evenly matched, the issue in doubt up to the closing exciting minutes.

Moneygall forced a seventy. Eugene Ryan lofted the ball with easy grace towards the opposing goal. Donal Kennedy's hand went highest at the edge of the square. His hurl flashed. The net bulged. It was the decisive score. The speed of execution was vital. Had it been delayed the vigilant Mines backs would have smothered the shot. Still, it gave us victory and Moneygall rejoined.

In a heartwarming gesture at the final whistle, the North Board

Chairman, Hubie Hogan, handed the Frank McGrath trophy to me and gave me the special honour of presenting it to out captain Pat Sheedy.

That North final will remain my most cherished memory until the great referee shall sound His final whistle.

**By Dermot Bourke,
Ballinahinch**

One of the great North Finals I remember was in 1962 when Toomevara defended their North title against Kilruane MacDonaghs, which was played at Nenagh. Kilruane had a dream start with Hughie Tooher scoring three goals and at half-time they led by eleven points.

The second half produced marvellous hurling and slowly but surely Toome reduced the lead with great displays from Tom and Roger Ryan at midfield plus Phil Shanahan at full forward. Despite the best efforts of the McLoughneys and the Gibsons from Kilruane, Toom managed to draw level before they secured the win with scores from Matt O Gara and Paddy Cummins.

Final score Toomevara 4-10
Kilruane 5-4.



Player of the Past: Jack Ryan, Moneygall

Jack Ryan played for Moneygall for almost two and a half decades playing his last game in 1989. A winner of an All-Ireland Senior hurling medal he always saw his club as an important part of his hurling life.

Inspired by his parents he played juvenile hurling for Moneygall. His early career was blighted by two north final losses at under age. He played in two U-15 finals loosing to Kilruane in both of them. He never forgot those losses and as he says himself that those days still remain a disappointment.

Fast forward to 1975 and 76 where the Moneygall senior team enjoyed their best era. They won two County finals plus one North final and these victories provided great days for Moneygall. "There is no doubt about it the winning of the county finals and the first one in particular surpassed even the winning of the All-Ireland final in 1971."

Jack Ryan's earliest memories of hurling was the three in a row in 1949, 50 and 51 era. He has a more vivid memory of the 1953 County Senior final between Borris-Ileigh and Boherlahan. He recalls his attendance in hurling games at Borrisokane and other venues to watch his hero Tony Reddin. "When I went to a game where Tony Reddin was playing I like many other young boys would watch the game from behind the goals to be close to Reddin. There were other Tipperary players to admire but Reddin was the real hero."

In 1967 Jack won both a Munster and

AI-Ireland U-21 medals. Then followed the two Munster Senior finals of 67 and 68 followed by the success of 1971. In the late sixties Jack played for U.C.D and in 1968 he was successful

in winning both a County Senior Hurling league and Championship medals.

Like in any sport there were disappointments as well. It seemed as if Moneygall would never win the North Final and to add to the disappointments came the defeat in the 1973 Munster Final against Limerick and the infamous Richie Bennis

point.

Winning and losing a side there is always changes to be made and alterations to be carried out. What changes would he make to the present day hurling. "I would change very little but looking back to my day there was much more aerial striking and I miss the third man tackle. Some people laugh at me when I mention this but I see nothing wrong with a third man tackle provided it is fair. I can see nothing wrong with the goalkeeper being challenged in the small square provided each of his back men can shoulder fairly," said Jack who became involved with Naomh Marnog club in Dublin.

Now retired from teaching Jack can sit back happily now as his son Shane plays an important role with Dublin senior football team. Like his father before him he can hurl as well. The tradition goes on.



North Captains of N.H.L. teams



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