

North Tipperary Senior Hurling Final
Match Programme
2006

Coiste Thiobraid Árann Thuaidh

The Hibernian Inn

North Tipperary Senior Hurling Final

Cill an Daingean v Tuaim Uí Mheara

6.30 pm Referee: Johnny McDonnell

Preceded by

Menagh Guardian

North Tipperary INC

Buiríos Uí Chéin

v Teampall Doire

4.45 Referee Tommie Ryan



Seoirid Mac Eochairdh

Luach
€3



MacDonagh Park, Nenagh Sunday 30 July 2006



Toomevara senior hurlers that defeated Borrisoleigh in the Hibernian Inn North SHC semi-final at MacDonagh Park, Cloughjordan. Back row: (l to r) - James McGrath, Francis Devaney, Ken Dunne, Paul McGrath, Tony Delaney, Willie Ryan, Barry Dunne, Eoin Brislane. Kneeling: Benny Dunne, Terry Dunne, John O'Brien, Thomas Dunne (captain), Michael Bevans, John Delaney, David Young.

Photograph: Bridget Delaney.

Fáilte

Cathaoirleach, John Sherlock



A dháoinne uaisle, a chairde, a lucht leanúna ár gcluichí, tá sé de phribhléid speisealta agam, ar mo shon féin agus ar son Coiste Thiobraid Árann Thuaidh, fáilte ó chroí chur roimh go dtí Páirc Mhic Dhonnchadha, Áonach inniu, don Cluiche Craobh Ceannais Iomaint sinsear idir Cill an Daingain agus Tuaim Uí Mheara. Tá súil agam go mbeidh cluichí ar fheabhas againn arís i mbliana agus go mbeidh cuimhne ar ócáid seo ar feadh na mblianta.

On behalf of North Tipperary G.A.A. Board, it is my pleasure to welcome all of you to Thomas MacDonagh Park, Nenagh for today's games. What a contrast we have today between our senior finalists! Kildangan with two senior titles to their credit and one while joined with Kilbarron in pre-parish rule 1934, make their first appearance in a North senior final since 1945. Their opponents, Toomevara, have thirty titles to their credit and are appearing in the first final for three years, which for the Toome of recent years is a long break.

Once again the Senior Championship was run on a straight knock-out system with defeated teams taking part in the county championship qualifiers. The K.O. element gives a great edge to all games and some fine entertainment was served up.

The Hibernian Inn, Nenagh are again sponsors of the senior championship and we are very grateful to Martin Morris and his staff for their support and hospitality during the year and I would appeal to all patrons to reciprocate this support whenever possible.

In the curtain raiser, we have Borrisokane and Templederry in the final group match of the Intermediate Championship. The Intermediate Championship is again one of the most open competitions in the county. A win for either of them will guarantee them a place in the knock-out stages. All in all, I hope we have two very well contested and enjoyable games today where hurling will be the real winner.

I would like to wish all four teams, their mentors, backroom staff and their loyal groups of supporters the best of luck. Good wishes also to today's referees, their linesmen and umpires. Johnny McDonnell, one of our more experienced officials takes charge of the senior fixture and Tommy Ryan is the man in the middle for the intermediate tie.

Many thanks to Eire Óg Club for the use of their facilities today and I'm sure that, as we have come to expect, everything will be in top shape for our final. I would also like to thank my colleagues in the Order of Malta for their assistance. Also, a word of thanks to all those who help in the running of games in so many ways, to Gerard McKeogh our hard working secretary and to Catherine Gleeson our ever efficient treasurer and her loyal group of gatecheckers and to anyone else who helps in any way.

As we congregate for today's games, it is fitting that we should remember Thomas MacDonagh, in whose memory this pitch is named. He was a native of Cloughjordan and a signatory to the 1916 Proclamation. The 90th anniversary of his death was commemorated earlier in the year by Kilruane Club in the opening and rededication of their facilities in his memory. The bust of Thomas MacDonagh appears on all medals presented by North Tipperary G.A.A.

Seán Ó Scurlóig, Cathaoirleach.

Thanks to all those who helped with today's programme:

PROs Michelle Seymour, Kildangan and Tom Shanahan, Toomevara

Photographs: Bridget Delaney, Paddy Shanahan, Toomevara; Martin McLoughney, Kildangan; Donie Shanahan, Toomevara; Michael Kennedy, Kildangan and Sean Fay.

Thanks also to Gerry Slevin and Shane Brophy. Special thanks to Catherine Gleeson, Liam Kelly, Kildangan chairman and Jackie Cuddihy, Toomevara. **Editor: Liam Hogan**

Design and printing by The Guardian, Nenagh



Kildangan senior hurling panel that defeated Roscrea in the Hibernian Inn North SHC semi-final at MacDonagh Park, Nenagh. Back l-r: Michael Connor, Denis Slattery, Patrick Coen, Conor Foley, Niall Kelly, Colm Darcy, Liam Karol Flannery, Karl Hogan, Patrick Lynch, Eddie Fogarty, John Hayes, Eoin Gleeson, Eoin Kelly, Liam Kelly (capt), John Slattery, Conor Hogan, Darragh Egan, Hugh Flannery. Front: Tommy Connors, Brian Kelly, James Flannery (J), James Flannery (M), Sean Gleeson, Dermot Hogan, Dan Hackett, Brian Lawlor, John Maher, Gerry Slattery, Michael 'Scart' Ryan, Martin Slattery, Brian McLoughlin. Photograph: Bridget Delaney.

A North final to whet the appetite

By **Shane Brophy** *The Guardian*

In 2004, both Toomevara and Kildangan were celebrating county and Munster title success.

While Toomevara were beating 'The Combo' and Mount Sion, Kildangan were attempting to become part of the elite of Tipperary and by winning the Intermediate championship against Moyne/Templetuohy, a return to the senior ranks for the first time in 1975 was guaranteed.

Are they happy to just be in with the "big boys" after years of trying to get out of the Intermediate grade? Not a bit of it.

They reached the last twelve of last year's county championship before bowing out to neighbours, Nenagh Eire Og. A fantastic achievement after a long year that saw them become All-Ireland Intermediate champions. What a fine way to leave the intermediate scene.

This year under the eye of coach Vincent McKenna, they have been mightily impressive. Moneygall was the perfect start for them after the rude awakening that they received from their opponents to senior hurling twelve months ago. A late scoring spree secured the win and they were off and running.

Any talk of a one-sided final went out the window after looking at Kildangan's performance in the semi-final. Their nine point win over Roscrea was fully deserved and if it was double that, the Rossie's would have had no argument.

Their hurling was crisp and fast. Their support play was terrific and in Paddy Lynch and Darragh Egan, they have players who can amass big totals.

No disrespect to Moneygall and Roscrea, but Toomevara provide a big step-up in class for Kildangan but they will thrive on taking on a team they could only have dreamed of playing less than two years ago.

Toomevara are appearing in their first North Final since 2003 and will be keen to restore themselves to the top of the senior hurling scene in North Tipperary. Burgess provided an early test but their craft and experience brought them through to a semi-final meeting against the side that had knocked them out of the previous two championships.

A big crowd turned out in Cloughjordan expecting another cracker between Toome and Borris-Ileigh but it didn't live up to expectations but Toomevara didn't mind, coming from behind in the second half to record a six point win with Eoin Brislane and Terry Dunne two of the key men in that success.

New coach Pat Herbert has reignited the fire in this Toomevara team and they look a lot hungrier than they have done for some time. While they may not be near the heights they reached four to five years ago, they are still the team to beat in Co. Tipperary.

The perennial contenders against the new pretenders! An intriguing final is in store.



Toomevara, 1993/4 Munster Club champions. The Toomevara wide which captured its first Munster club title by defeating Sixmilebridge at Limerick Gaelic Grounds. Back, l-r: Michael Murphy, Mike Nolan, Michael O'Meara, Pat Meagher, Pat King, Liam Flaherty, Thomas Dunne, Kevin Kennedy. Front: Philip Shanahan, Tommy Carroll, George Frend, Jody Grace (capt), Declan O'Meara, Tony Delaney, Rory Brislane.

'04 Toome are Munster champs

By *Liam Hogan*

Toomevara 1-14 Mount Sion 1-13

Out of the game for most of the year due to a serious arm injury, John O'Brien scored the winning point for Toomevara as they won their second Munster club championship, following a great finish at Semple Stadium last Sunday.

Few could believe that Toome could make such a come back. They trailed by four points at half time and went seven behind after Mount Sion out hurled them in the third quarter to lead by 1-13 to 0-9.

Paddy O'Brien cut over an excellent line ball on the 40th minute. Six minutes later Ken McGrath hit the upright with a free. The ball rebounded to the path of Sean Ryan whose first timed effort looked to be heading for the corner of Justin Cottrell's net only to see the ball deflect off John Boland's leg resulting in a 65. That 65 went wide from Ken McGrath.

Mount Sion never scored after that as Toomevara contested the last quarter with vigour.

Terry Dunne and Benny Dunne plus Padraig Hackett were beginning to win most of Ian O'Reagan's puck outs. Both Ken and Tommy Dunne were busy picking up the bits and pieces. O'Reagan denied Willie Ryan with an excellent save and Brislane followed up on the rebound by fly kicking the ball wide. At the other end Justin Cottrell came off his line to deny Eoin Kelly.

Six minutes elapsed as neither side scored. Paddy O'Brien pointed a free after Brislane was fouled. Devaney moved to wing forward and the move worked with immediate effect as he reduced the margin to four points.

The margin was down to three, as Mount Sion's Brian Greene was penalised for throwing the ball at midway. Tomas Dunne pointed the resulting free. The Toomevara

inside backline were having a tighter grip on the Mount Sion attack.

With three minutes to go Paddy O'Brien hit a superb line ball from 35 metres with Ian O'Reagan gaining possession. With all avenues blocked he decided to throw up the ball in the small square. Willie Ryan read the situation to perfection and he expertly tapped the ball to an empty net.

The Toome following could not believe it. The pressure continued and one would expect to see a team so dominant to really sew it up. Not to be, as they hit four wides and then the upright. There were three minutes of additional time gone. A replay looked on the cards until John O'Brien bisected the posts from around forty five metres.

From the puck out Mount Sion were awarded a free. Protest from Tomas Dunne and other Toome players saw the position of the free ten metres closer. Up stepped Ken McGrath and much to the delight of the Toome following the free went to the right and wide.

TOOMEVARA: Justin Cottrell; John Boland, Tony Delaney, Philip Shanahan; Terry Dunne, Benny Dunne, David Young; Padraig Hackett, Eoin Brislane 0-1, Ken Dunne 0-4 (4f), Francis Devaney 0-2, Tomas Dunne 0-2(1f); Michael Bevans, Paddy O'Brien capt 0-3 (1 side and 1f), Willie Ryan 1-1.

Subs: Bryan Duff for Young h/t, John O'Brien 0-1 for Bevans 42nd, Denis Kelly for Ryan 63.

MOUNT SION: I O'Reagan; J O'Meara, A Kirwan, K Flynn; B Flannery, T Browne, K Stafford; K McGrath 1-6(1-5f), F O'Shea; E Kelly 0-3, E McGrath, D Kelly 0-2, B Greene 0-1, R McGrath, S Ryan 0-1. Subs- B Browne for R McGrath 41st min, M Frisby for Greene 56th.

Referee Diarmuid Kirwan Cork.



Kildangan Team 1945: Back: D. Moloney, J. Gilmartin, P. Devaney, J. Kileen, M. Griffen, M. Coen, Middle : N. Harty, J. Culhane, D. Gleeson, S. Flannery. Front : P. Morrissey, J. Hogan, M. Culhane, N. Flannery, T. Hogan.

Kildangan's last North senior final a distant memory

By **Liam Hogan**

August 22nd 1943

Kildangan 6-2, Roscrea 5-4

Three of the players that helped Kildangan win their last North Tipp senior hurling final are alive today. The three include Paddy Morrissey who played at full back. Seamus Flannery was in the left corner and Jimmy was a substitute.

The final was played in MacDonagh Park. The teams were close rivals having already met in five finals 1934, '36, '37, '38 and '42. Roscrea had won the lion's share.

So 3,700 spectators attended the decider.

Kildangan had the breeze in the first half which helped them into a 4-2 to 0-1 lead at half time. Jimmy Grace had Kildangan's opening goal. Roscrea had Seamus McBrien sent off and Martin Loughnane was back to help shore up the defence. John Joe Maher was very much involved also.

Kildangan used their numerical advantage and Matt Coen landed a sixty-five. Martin Kennedy had Kildangan's second goal. Roddy Gleeson replaced the injured Paddy Devaney.

Another switch saw Paddy Morrissey move to the attack and he had goal number three. Jimmy Killeen blasted a twenty metre free for goal number four and after twenty minutes, the challengers were leading by 4-2 to 0-1.

The scores remained the same at the interval and after the break, Martin Loughnane reverted to his starting position of right corner forward.

Sean O'Neill pointed for Roscrea. Joe Fletcher found the net to bring Roscrea closer. However John Gleeson combined with Martin Kennedy to send Danny Gleeson through for Kildangan's fifth goal.

The champions lost Joe Fletcher who retired injured and was replaced by J. Cunningham. Martin Loughnane slammed a twenty-one yard free to the net for Ros but Kildangan made sure of keeping their noses ahead when Coen and Grace sent Danny Gleeson in for the full forwards second goal.

Roscrea responded with a Hannon point.



Seamus Flannery and Paddy Morrissey
surviving members of the Kildangan '43 team

Brussels added another before Martin Loughnane had another goal from a close in free. Bears added a point. The Kildangan defence were under tremendous pressure and in the closing minutes, they saw John Joe Maher's effort from sixty five go narrowly wide.

Apart from the goal scorers, Kildangan were well served C Coen in goals who made two great saves just before half time. Paddy Morrissey, Matt Coen, Danny Moloney, Seamus Flannery, Nicholas Flannery, John Gleeson, John Hogan and Roddy Gleeson played well.

Kildangan: C Coen; Jack Hocht, Paddy Morrissey 1-0, Seamus Flannery; Matt Coen 0-1 (65), Danny Moloney, Nicholas Flannery; J Murphy, Jimmy Killeen 1-1 (1-0 free); Paddy Devaney, J Grace 1-0, J Gleeson; J Hogan, Danny Gleeson 2-0, Martin Kennedy 1-0.

Sub Roddy Gleeson 0-1.

Roscrea: S Maher; J J Maher, Joe Fletcher, Seamus O'Brien; S O'Neill 0-1, Mick Loughnane, J Bears 0-1; M Ryan, Joe Maher; W Gleeson 0-1, W Brussels 0-1, M Abbott; Martin Loughnane 2-0 (2f), M Fletcher 1-0, Tony Hannon 2-0.

Sub: J Cunningham.



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Michael Bevans

-Toomevara's most consistent

By **Liam Hogan**

Ever since Michael Bevans first appeared in a Toomevara jersey, he has been the club's most consistent player.

He normally plays at right corner forward, but this year he has taken up a new position on the wing.

Toomevara's first game in this year's championship was against Burgess. Toome looked in trouble, but Michael Bevans pulled them out of the fire, scoring 1-3 in their 2-18 to 3-10 victory. In the semi-final win over Borris-Ileigh Michael darted to every available part of the field to create any danger possible. It was a close affair as Michael added a point before John Delaney's goal sealed it.

Michael's display was similar to all of his performances ever since he first arrived on

scene in the 1988 U-12 championship final when he dazzled the Moneygall defence with amazing skill and good positional sense for a player of his age.

He won medals at U-12, U-14 and U-16 levels and played a vital roles in helping North Tipp win a Munster U'16 and Garda Cup Final plus Tony Forestall and Nenagh Co-Op medals with his county.

Michael played minors for Tipp in '95. Meanwhile, he collected his first North medal as a sub in '94. He added six more medals in '95, '97 and '99, '00, '02 and '03.

He was captain in the '03 win over Nenagh Eire Og. Apart from his seven North medals, he has collected county honours. In addition, he has two Munster medals.



Action from the 1994 North senior final when Toomevara defeated Kilruane in MacDonagh Park, Nenagh. Toomevara's Rory Brislane (3), George Frend and Declan O'Meara seem to have the situation under control while Kilruane's Martin Cahalan looks on. Kevin Moloney and Eamon Jones were Johnny McDonnell's umpires for the final.



Tipperary, 1949 All-Ireland champions. Jimmy Kennedy is pictured here, second from right, kneeling. Front: Paddy Leahy RIP (selector), Tommy Ryan RIP, Mick Ryan, Mickey Byrne, Pat Stakelum (capt), Tommy Doyle RIP, Jimmy Kennedy, Jack Ryan. Standing: Phil Purcell RIP (County Secretary), Flor Coffey, Sean Kenny, Tony Reddin, Phil Shanahan, John Doyle, Sonny Maher RIP, Seamus Bannon RIP, Tony Brennan RIP, John Joe Callinan RIP (selector), Gerry Doyle RIP (trainer).

How much for Jimmy Kennedy?

By Gerry Slevin

The recent World Cup and the outrageously high monetary value placed upon soccer players has, again, raised the 'what if' topic in GAA circles. What if hurlers and footballers could play for a county of their choice, or more specifically, a county that was prepared to pay enough for their services? What if players, surplus to requirements, could set their cap on helping out another county that mightn't be as well adorned with inter-county talent?

Whatever about the second 'what if' becoming a reality in time (and it might not be too far off at all), the likelihood of the first one bursting on to the scene is about as fanciful as Ian Paisley stepping on to the Croke Park sod to greet the teams on All-Ireland final day. The reasons don't require any elaboration. Even if the 'play for pay' element that has reared itself in recent times were to eventually find favour, it is extremely unlikely that the bond that keeps the GAA so tightly gripped, that grath for playing for one's native club/county, would be interfered with to such an outlandish extent.

We can think of Tipp's Declan Browne, whose loyalty to his county and Moyle Rovers has never wavered, despite the fact that there are other counties that would have 'fixed him up' if he was prepared to enlist with them and, perhaps, help them to All-Ireland honours.

All of fifty six years ago another Tipperary player was setting the hurling scene alight with another county and it led to an all-out campaign to have him declare for his native county at a time when things were relatively low here and a win was badly needed. In 1948 Dublin reached the All-Ireland final only to lose to Waterford and a valued and hugely influential member of that Dublin side was a young man from Puckane named JIMMY KENNEDY. Jimmy was a student at UCD and four years earlier he had helped St Flannan's College, Ennis to Harty Cup and All-Ireland colleges honours. In UCD his prowess saw him to the fore in colleges competition (Fitzgibbon Cup) and in the Dublin SHC too. Then, television had not arrived and unlike today, press reports on GAA activities were very scarce so that back home in Tipperary, all that Jimmy Kennedy was accomplishing and his outstanding scoring feats, especially from placed balls, would have gone unnoticed by the vast majority of Tipperary people.

That All Ireland final performance against Waterford, albeit on a losing team, to be followed by Jimmy's selection as captain of the Leinster team in the Railway Cup made Tipp's hurling fraternity take notice. Since winning the final of '45 Tipp had been out of the frame with very little sign of recovery. They were defeated by Limerick in each of the following years, the difficulty in swallowing that pill exacerbated by virtue of the fact that Limerick failed on each occasion to come out of the province. Maybe this young Kennedy chap might help change things, if he could be persuaded to transfer his hurling allegiance to his native county.

Co-incidentally, while plans were afoot to reclaim the

Puckane man whose only hurling reward back home had been a North junior championship medal with Kiladangan as a lad of 18 summers in 1944, things were happening down near the Galway border where a goalkeeper named Martin Charles Reddington, was giving a new lease of life to Lorrha. That name would change to Tony Reddin and with it so too would his influence on his adopted club. His performances in the blue of Lorrha would soon see him in the Tipp colours as the road back to All-Ireland glory began to be traversed.

But young Kennedy had to be brought home too. The plans were hatched and two highly articulate and deeply committed men in former GAA President Seamus Gardiner and Fr Johnnie Minehan were selected to accompany County Secretary Phil Purcell on a mission of recovery. They travelled to Dublin and met Jimmy, with all their powers of persuasion used to the limit. It wasn't easy. Jimmy liked the Dublin hurling scene. He was happy there. He liked playing for UCD and for Dublin. Still, the persuasive influence of the travellers worked. Jimmy declared for his native county and made his debut in a Thomond Shield match against Clare on May 8th 1949. Four months later he would be the proud possessor of an All Ireland medal following Tipp's 3-11 to 0-3 win over Laois. That campaign would have seen him notch a grand total of 6-37 in six games. When the McCarthy Cup was retained in 1950, Jimmy's scoring contribution was 4-23 in five games.

As Tipp set off for their three-in-a-row Jimmy Kennedy hardly anticipated that in quelling Wexford's fire, he would have no part to play in that achievement. He scored 1-3 in the first round defeat of Waterford but was dropped for the semi-final against Limerick and came on as a sub, being then named for the provincial final against Cork, a match he played with cracked ribs. There was no All-Ireland final place for him and his disappointment at not being chosen was compounded by virtue of the fact that although he had played in two of the championship matches he was omitted from the list of substitutes that also received medals. Later selected to play in the Oireachtas, he declined.

Jimmy Kennedy had played his last match for Tipperary and he was aged only 25 years. Just imagine, had the transfer system existed and had Jimmy Kennedy been 'transferred' from Dublin in '49, it would surely have been for a record figure. Then, in the autumn of 1951 the cheque books would have been out, his signature sought eagerly by several counties. His inter-county career that had been cut short so unexpectedly and abruptly after all the persuasion there had been to have him declare for Tipp, might have extended much farther in another county.

Jimmy Kennedy still remains a legend in Tipperary hurling and is surely deserving of that 1951 All-Ireland medal.

Maybe the Kiladangan club might set about having the wrong righted!

Meet Michael 'Spike' Nolan

By Liam Hogan

Very few have done so much for gaelic games in this county as Micheal Nolan from Kildangan.

Hurling and football, refereeing or administration, Spike, as he is better known, has done it all.

A carpenter by trade, Spike worked for thirty years with the ESB in Ardnacrusha.

He is married to Margaret and they have six children.

He is the current Treasurer of the Tipperary County Board a position he is serving for his second spell but his activity with the GAA began much earlier as a player with Moneygall.

In his hurling career he played with



Spike Nolan with Tipperary manager Babs Keating at a training session in Semple Stadium.
Photograph: Bridget Delaney.

Tipperary's successful county under-21 team that won the Munster and All-Ireland finals in 1967. He played on the very successful Moneygall side, which captured two county finals in 1975 and 1976. Those victories more than compensated for a number of near misses at club and county level.

Whereas his footballing success is not as impressive he still has a respectable tally of achievements. Starting in 1963 he won a divisional junior medal. He followed up in 1964 with divisional and county honours in the same grade. There was mixed luck in 1965. Moneygall were beaten in the county senior football final by Commercials but had the consolation of beating Ardfinnan for the county under-21 title.

In 1966, there was defeat in the county senior final but success at divisional under-21 level. This great under-21 squad had a last fling in 1967 with victory in the division but defeat by Fethard in the county final. Spike won a divisional intermediate title in 1980.

Spike's ability with the big ball is reflected in his county achievements. In 1966 he was on the under-21, junior and senior football panels. In 1967 he was on the under-21 panel.

Spike also made his name as a referee, the high points of which were the refereeing of the senior hurling final in 1984 and the senior football finals in 1985 and 1986. His older brother, Tom, was a well-known referee and county football selector.

As his involvement on the hurling and football fields was coming to a close, Spike became involved with his club affairs. As an enthusiastic member of the Moneygall Development Committee, he was involved in the construction of the clubs sports complex in 1976/1977.

He was a club representative at divisional board level before he was elected registrar of the board in 1982 for three years.

At the end of that period he was elected treasurer, a post he held for a further six years before he was elected county treasurer in 1988 for a three year term. He returned as divisional treasurer in 1991 and remained in that position until the end of 2000, when he was elected county treasurer once again.

In that twenty years Michael has turned the role of treasurer into an art. His annual reports gives a detailed account of every last penny that is spent or saved. Apart from being a Treasurer, Michael is also known for his astuteness and is never afraid to speak his mind.

When he transferred to the Kildangan club in the early eighties he threw himself energetically into the club's activities, helping out at all levels of activity and contributing in no small way to the success of the club. He was chairman from 1997-1999.

During his term as chairman, Kildangan won the County Minor hurling final in 1998 with a team that sports seven or eight players in action today. That was the beginning of the clubs current period of success that has scene three North Intermediate hurling titles, one county title, a Munster and All-Ireland intermediate honour as well.

His sons Michael, Enda and Martin all played hurling with Kildangan. Enda is a member of today's panel. His daughters, Bride, Yvonne and Lorraine had played their part too.

Today, Michael's family will be cheering on Kildangan to win their first North Senior title in 63 years. What odds on a county title to follow.

Liam Kelly - Kildangan captain

Age:	23.	
Height:	6ft.	
Weight:	12 st. 5 oz.	
Inter County Honours won:	Minor Hurling -North and County U-21 Hurling - North and County Intermediate Hurling- North 3; County 1; Munster 1; All-Ireland 1 U-16 Football North and County Intermediate Football 1.	
Biggest influence on career :	My parents, Ned and Lelia Kelly and my girlfriend Kathleen Leamy.	
Players who were role models in your juvenile hurling days:	Brian Flannery, Waterford and Brian Whelahan, Offaly.	
Hurlers your admire most:	Ken McGrath, Waterford; Henry Shefflin, Kilkenny; Eoin Kelly, Tipperary.	
Team-mate with best sense of humour:	Fellow club mate Eddie Fogarty singer/songwriter.	
What you like about the GAA:	The opportunities it creates to meet people and to build friendships.	
Any changes you would like to see:	Inter – county players receiving some of the proceeds taken in on gates at championship gates.	
Favourite food:	Italian.	
Favourite actor:	Robert De Niro.	
Favourite Actress:	Cameron Diaz.	
Favourite Group:	Snow Patrol.	
Sports people you admire:	Roy Keane, Paul O'Connell.	
Most consistent person you know:	Seamus Hogan. (never misses a training session/match)	
Advice to young players:	Train hard, practice the basics. Be proud of where you're from and enjoy the game.	
What do you do to unwind:	Swim and sauna.	
What does it mean to wear the blue & gold:	Being a member of a club & team that both on and off the pitch stick together through good times and bad.	

Tomas Dunne - Toome captain

Age:	32, dob 21/05/74
Height:	6ft
Weight:	12st 3lbs
Biggest influence on career:	Would be my father, Tony, Neil Williams (underage coach in Toomevara) and Nicky English.
Role models when I was growing up:	Would have been Nicky English, John Fenton,
Hurlers I admire most:	Would be Eoin Kelly, Paul Curran and Micheal Bevens {Toome}
Team-mates with best sense of humour:	Are Tony Delaney & Eoin Brislane, a match made in heaven!
What I like about the GAA:	Is that all levels of ability are catered for and I think that it is a great organisation for young people in particular to get involved in whether its playing, managing, refereeing, administering etc."
Changes I would like to see:	A reduction in admission prices to games and a more serious attempt at promoting hurling among counties and clubs that are interested.
Favourite food:	Fresh fish like seabass or sole with potatoes & veg.
Favourite actor:	Denzel Washington/Actress is Julia Roberts
Favourite band:	Bruce Springsteen & E Street Band.
Sports people I admire:	Paul O'Connell for his courage and Tiger Woods for his resilience.
Most consistent person I know:	Tony Cullen, my boss at work. He knows why!
Advice to young players:	Enjoy your sport, try and do everything to the best of your ability. Stay away from alcohol.
What I do to unwind:	I play golf, watch sport on telly and have been known to Hoover the house from time to time!
Inter-county honours won:	1 minor Munster cship, u21 All-Ireland, senior All-Ireland, 2 senior Munster cship, 3 National leagues, 2 Railway Cups, 3 All-Stars, 1 Texaco, 1 Player of the year, 1 Fitzgibbon Cup.
What does it mean to wear the blue & gold:	To wear the Tipperary jersey is a huge honour. No words of mine could explain what it's like. It is unique and I was privileged to be asked to wear it for fourteen years.





Toomevara management team. Roger Ryan, Pat Herbert, Neil Williams.



Kildangan North senior champions 1938. Back, l-r.: John O'Grady, Bill Hayes, Paddy Morrissey, Paddy Slattery, Joe Cleary, Johnny Hogan, Jim Killeen, Tommy Collins. Middle: Danny Moloney, Jack Kelly, Joe Barry, Pat Hogan, Matt Coen, Mick Hanrahan, Ned Gleeson, Mike Murphy. Front: Mick Quirke, Danny Gleeson, Jack Hooctor, Martin Kennedy, Rody Gleeson, Christy Coen.

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This page is sponsored by The Whiskey Still, Dromineer 067-24129 who wish to recognise Seamus Hogan, Kildangan and Tipperary for winning an All-Ireland senior hurling medal in 1971. Best wishes to Kildangan in today's final.



Tipperary senior hurling team that won the 1971 All-Ireland final includes Kildangan's Seamus Hogan, third from eight, back row. Back row l-r: Michael Keating, Roger Ryan (Toomevara selector), John Flanagan RIP, Liam King, John Kelly, Seamus Hogan, Mick Roche, Noel O'Dwyer. Front: John Gleeson, Francis Loughnane, Dinny Ryan, Tadhg O'Connor, capt., Len Gaynor, P. J. Ryan, Peter O'Sullivan.

Meet Pat Lynch

- Kildangan's prolific scorer

By **Liam Hogan**

Pat Lynch is fast becoming Kildangan's most consistent scorer from both frees and play since he joined the clubs intermediate team in 2002.

The right wing forward has made steady progress since then and this year he has become the clubs leading scorer and key play maker in helping Kildangan into today's final. In the championship opener against Moneygall, he scored 0-12 with 0-9 coming from frees. In the semi-final clash against Roscrea, he scored 0-5 with 0-3 from play.

Pat's enjoyed gaelic football at under age and played with the Tipp minor football team in 2001 when Tipp lost to Cork in the Munster semi-final.

However, his first taste of hurling success came in 1998, when at the age of fifteen, he won North and county minor B medals, as Kildangan defeated Portroe in the north final and accounted for Moycarkey in the county decider. That was a good minor side sprinkled with talent with players like Dan Hackett, Tommy Connors, Hugh Flannery, Sean Gleeson, and Gerry Slattery, players who will play a key role in today's final.

Pat continued on the success trail and the following year he won his first North U'21 'B' medal and added a second in 2004. That year was crowned with a county medal after a great win over Arravale Rovers, a success which meant a lot to the Dromineer lad as he played a great game in the final forming a great partnership with Darragh Egan.

Pat wasn't on the successful Intermediate team in 2001 but instead he won a North Junior 'B' title after defeating Nenagh Éire Óg. He made the intermediate team in 2002 normally on the wing, and won his first medal against Newport. He won his second in 2004 before playing key roles in the county, Munster and All Ireland Intermediate



successes.

He was top scorer in the All-Ireland semi-final win over St Thomas of Galway on 0-5, with 0-3 from frees, and provided 0-3 from play in the All-Ireland final win against Carrickshock.

In today's final, Pat will be lining out against Tipperary's U-21 Captain, David Young and it promises to be a great battle.

Pat is employed as a plasterer and works with his father, Pat senior. The Lynch household have a keen interest in the affairs of Kildangan and his parents, Pat and Mary, along with his sisters, Jennifer and Ciara attend most of the games.

Football wins for Pat Lynch:

Intermediate Football 1999 & 2003

Junior Football 1998

U'21 Football 1999 & 2000

U'16 B Football 1999

U'14 B Football 1997.

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Borrisokane Intermediates

	1 Liam Gleeson	
2	3	4
Cathal Dooley	Dermot Murphy	Kevin McKenna
5	6	7
Graham McMahon	Enda Forde	Ronan Guest
	8	9
	Eoin Larkin	Seosamh Cleary
10	11	12
Robert Davis	Philip Austin	Joe Gleeson
13	14	15
Colm Larkin	Niall Slevin	Brendan Redden

Fir Ionaide: 16 Paul Egan, 17 Pdraig Moriarty, 18 Shane Guest, 19 Tadhg Slevin, 20 Kevin Gleeson, 21 Conor Darcy, 22 Darrell Sullivan, 23 Brian Hogan, 24 Barry Gohery, 25 Adrian Egan, 26 Ray Harding, 27 Mark Rahmoune.

Manager: Eamon Kelly. Selectors: Pdraig Hogan, Paul Dooley.

Templederry Intermediates

	1 Matthew Ryan	
2	3	4
Eoin Murray	Donie Kennedy	Pat Minogue
5	6	7
John Harkin	Thomas Stapleton	Billy Corcoran
	8	9
	Jimmy Minogue	Daniel Shanahan
10	11	12
Cathal Ryan	Paudie Ryan	Gearoid Ryan
13	14	15
James Hogan	Seamus Kennedy	John Kennedy

Fir Ionaide: 17 Damien Quinn, 18 Michael Ryan (C), 19 Pdraig Ryan (O), 20 Donal McGrath, 21 Pdraig O'Leary, 22 Michael Ryan (L), 23 J. J. Fahey, 24 Eddie Fahy, 25 Tommy Hogan, 26 Diarmuid Corcoran, 27 Pat Ryan, 28 Daniel Madden.

Manager: Michael Stapleton, Selectors: Tommy Murray, Gerry Kennedy.

Tuaim Uí Mheara

1

James McGrath

2

Barry Dunne

3

Paul McGrath

4

Tony Delaney

5

Terry Dunne

6

Benny Dunne

7

David Young

8

Eoin Brislane

9

Ken Dunne

10

Michael Bevans

11

Francis Devaney

12

John O'Brien

13

Willie Ryan

14

Thomas Dunne (capt)

15

John Delaney

Fir Ionaid

17 Paddy O'Brien

18 Pdraig Hackett,

19 Andrew Ryan

20 Thomas McCarthy,

21 Paddy Toohey

22 Brian McCormack,

23 Kevin Cummins

24 Joey McLoughney,

25 Denis Kelly

26 David Kennedy,

27 Tomas O'Meara

28 John Boland

Raghnóirei

Manager:

Pat Herbert

Selectors:

Neil Williams, Roger Ryan

Trainer:

Ross Dunphy

Doctor:

Dr. Colm O'Reilly

Physio:

Ned Murphy

First Aid:

John Toohey



Captain: Thomas Dunne

Cill an Daingain

	1	
	Dermot Hogan	
2	3	4
Michael Ryan	Liam Kelly (capt)	Brian Lawlor
5	6	7
Karl Hogan	Dan Hackett	Gerry Slattery
	8	9
	John Maher	Brian Kelly
10	11	12
Paddy Lynch	John Slattery	Tommy Connors
13	14	15
Conor Hayes	Liam Karol Flannery	Darragh Egan

Fir Ionaí

16 Patrick Coen, 17 James Flannery (M),
 18 Eóin Gleeson, 19 Sean Gleeson, 20 Eóin Kelly,
 21 Joe Gallagher, 22 Eddie Fogarty, 23 Colm Darcy,
 24 Conor Foley, 25 James Flannery (J), 26 John Hayes,
 27 Hugh Flannery, 28 Niall Kelly, 29 Michael Connors,
 30 Denis Slattery, 31 Martin Slattery,
 32 Brian McLoughlin, 33 William Seymour

Raghnóirei

Coach: Vincent McKenna
Manager: Seamus Hogan
Selectors: Seamus Gleeson
 Donal Flannery



Captain: Liam Kelly

Jim McLoughney

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Kildangan camogie team 2003: Back row: Lorraine Nolan, Rita Burke, Louise Brennan, Margaret Minehan, Helen Brennan, Josie Knight, Caitriona Tiernan, Sinead Hogan. Front: Joan Fitzgerald, Denise Flannery, Roisin Hackett Ryan, Bridin Hackett, Claire Meaney, Tess O'Meara, Olivia Hogan



Kildangan management team: Seamus Gleeson, Vince McKenna (coach), Seamus Hogan and Donal Flannery.

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2003: Toome's last North senior final win

By Liam Hogan

Toomevara 2-13 Nenagh Eire Og 0-16

Toomevara lived up to their favourites tag to win their eight North Senior title in twelve years in Tomas MacDonagh Park, Cloughjordan.

Three first half goals – two by Willie Ryan and one by John O'Brien proved to be enough to deny Nenagh the chance of an upset.

It was a final that never raised the passions of the followers despite the teams going level four times in the opening twenty minutes. Eire Og fell six points behind at one stage in the second half but recovered to come within two and six minutes of normal time remaining.

It was Toome's 30th title all right and inside four minutes, John O'Brien had the ball in the Nenagh net. Consistent rain fell throughout. Tomas Dunne came on for the injured Padraic Hackett after 16 minutes and pointed a free from a difficult angle.

Willie Ryan grabbed his team's second goal to help take a 2-4 to 0-7 lead after 23 minutes. Nenagh kept in touch spurred on by accurate free taking of Michael Cleary but two minutes into added time, Toome had their third goal thanks to clever stick work by Willie Ryan.

Toome led 3-6 to 0-10 at half time.

The skies brightened for the second half and

Toome went six ahead thanks to Francis Devaney. Nenagh tightened up their defence and entered a bright spell with points from Cleary bringing the light blues to within two of the leaders.

That was as far as it goes for Nenagh. The holders replied with three late points thanks to Ken Dunne, two, and one from Willie Ryan.

Teams and scorers:

TOOMEVARA Justin Cottrell; Benny Dunne, George Frend, Philip Shanahan; Brian Duff, Tony Delaney, E. Brislane; Terry Dunne, Padraic Hackett; Paddy O'Brien, Ken Dunne 0-6 (5f), Francis Devaney 0-2; M. Bevens, J. O'Brien 1-2, Willie Ryan 2-1.

Subs: Thomas Dunne 0-1 (f), for Hackett (inj 16th min); Barry Dunne for Benny Dunne (inj 34th min); Denis Kelly for Duff (57th min).

Nenagh Eire Og Michael McNamara; Declan Bailey, J. Slattery, Joe O'Donoghue; John Flannery, Richie Flannery, Hugh Moloney; J. Kennedy, Brian Darcy; Kevin Tucker 0-2, Noel Moloney 0-2 (1f), Michael Hackett; Robbie Tomlinson, Eddie Tucker 0-1, Michael Cleary 0-11 (frees). Subs- Brian Fitzgibbon for O'Donoghue (25th min); Declan O'Meara for Bailey (h/t); Chris Bonar for Hackett (42nd min); Cormac Galvin for Flannery (49th min)

Referee John Ryan Cashel.

The late Tom Ryan, Toomevara was the leading scorer in the 1966 North Senior Final between Lorrha and Toomevara. The former Tipp star scored 1-7 with 1-4 coming from frees. Despite his great deeds, Toome were on the losing side as Lorrha won by 3-11 to 2-13.

Not a nice thing to happen on the morning of a North senior final but when Toomevara were looking ahead to their 1966 North final clash with Lorrha, they were dealt a severe blow when they discovered that Michael Bevens and Matt Hassett would have to cry off the team due to injury.

Goalkeeping in the blood. Present Toomevara keeper, James McGrath, is a nephew of Pat McGrath and Jody Grace both of whom were outstanding goalkeepers with Toome in the eighties and nineties.

Finals by twenty

By Liam Hogan

August 25 1946: TOOMEVARA 6-7, ROSCREA 2-4

Over 6,000 people saw Toomevara become North senior hurling champions when they defeated Roscrea in the final at MacDonagh Park, Nenagh.

The young Greyhounds ended a thirteen year absence in what was the best final in years.

Roscrea moved into a 1-1 to 0-2 lead after Jack Maher beat Rody Nolan with an early goal. But two goals by Martin Burke and further goals through John Gleeson and Willie Harty helped Toome to a 4-2 to 2-3 lead at the interval.

Roscrea applied the pressure early in the second half but Rody Nolan made a number of great saves. Having survived the onslaught, Toome settled the issue in the final ten minutes with Dan Kennedy and Willie Harty finding the net twice.

TOOMEVARA: Rody Nolan; Mick McCarty, Sean Ryan, Billy Shanahan; Willie O'Meara, Paddy Shanahan 0-1, Paddy Guerin; Patrick Young 0-2, Tom Dunne 0-1; Paddy Devaney, Jack Gleeson 1-0, Martin Bourke 2-1; Dan Casey 0-1, Tom Cawley, Willie Harty 2-0. Sub- Dan Kennedy 1-1 for O'Meara

ROSCREA: J Cunningham; J Fletcher, J.J. Maher, D Ryan; Joe Maher, J Kelleher, Mick Loughnane; J Ryan, W Brussels; D Fitzgerald, M Abbott 1-0, F Roland 0-1; Martin Loughnane 0-2 (1f), T Hannon, Jack Maher 1-1.

REFEREE D Costello Shannon Rovers

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August 28th 1966: LORRHA 3-11, TOOMEVARA 2-13

Lorrha won their eight North Tipp Senior Hurling championship following a thrilling one point win over Toomevara at MacDonagh Park, Nenagh.

Toomevara led 2-7 to 1-5 at half time thanks to goals by Tom and Roger Ryan. Lorrha captain, Noel Lane had the Lorrha goal.

Early in the second half and Lorrha full forward, Mick Doyle had his team's second goal. Toome went three up on the three quarter hour mark before Peter Hogan had the teams level when he bellowed the Toome net with a twenty one yard free. Toome took the lead on three occasions but Lorrha levelled every time. Then Peter Hogan grabbed a 57th minute winner from a free to make Lorrha the champions after a ten year lapse.

LORRHA: Gerry Moylan; Mick Liffey, Paddy O'Meara, Seamus O'Meara; Liam King, Sean O'Meara 0-2 (2 65s), Mick Gleeson 0-1; Wilsey Morris, Jim Lane 0-2; Noel Lane 1-0, Frank Ryan, Peter Hogan 1-5 (1-4 f); Paddy Madden, Mick Doyle 1-0, Michael O'Meara.

Subs: J Kennedy 0-1 for M. O'Meara.

TOOMEVARA: Roger Mounsey; Liam Hackett, J.J. McCormack, Jim McDonnell; Tom Shanahan, Neill Williams, Sean Maxwell; Tom Ryan 1-7(1-4f), Mickie Delaney; Tom Hassett, Roger Ryan 1-2, Pat McGrath; Frankie Ryan 0-2, Paddy Cummins 0-1, John Hough. Subs- Paddy Shanahan 0-1 for Cummins; Sean O'Gara for Delaney.

REFEREE Philly Ryan Borris-Ileigh.

August 17 1986: KILRUANE MacDONAGH 1-12, TOOMEVARA 2-6

Holders, Kilruane scored their ninth North Tipperary senior hurling championship by defeating a young Toomevara side at MacDonagh Park.

Best wishes to Kildangan in today's North final

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Toome, county intermediate champions in '84 were the underdogs against a Kilruane side that were crowned All-Ireland champions the previous March. Yet, thanks to a goal from Michael Nolan penalty, Toome managed a 1-5 to 0-4 lead at the interval. Both Michael O'Meara and Pat King retired due to injury.

Five minutes into the second half, Tony Dunne had Toome's second goal. Nolan added a point to put the challengers leading 2-6 to 0-8.

But Kilruane's experience began to tell and David Quinlan and Gerry Williams reduced the margin to two points. On 57 minutes, Philip Quinlan – man of the match – added a goal. Joe Banaghan hit a long range point before a Paddy Williams free in injury time sealed it.

KILRUANE MacDONAGH: Tony Sheppard; John Cahill, Denis O'Meara, Seamus Gibson; Michael Hogan 0-1 (line), Jim O'Meara, Gilbert Williams; Enda Hogan, Joe Banaghan 0-1; Gerry Williams 0-4, Jim Williams, Eamon O'Shea; Pat Quinlan, Paddy Williams 0-4 (4f), Philip Quinlan 1-1. Subs- Dinny Cahill for E Hogan; David Quinlan 0-1 for Pat Quinlan.

TOOMEVARA: Jody Grace; Rory Brislane, Dan Brislane, Francis Spillane; Sean Nolan, Pat King, Noel McDonnell; Michael Murphy, Michael O'Meara; Jimmy Dunne, Tony Dunne 1-0, Joe McGrath; Liam Nolan 0-1, Liam McGrath, Michael Nolan 1-4 (1-3 f).

Subs- Kenneth McDonnell for O'Meara inj; Eddie Frend for King

Referee: Donie Nealon, Burgess

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A moment to remember:

Kildangan win All-Ireland Inter. final

By Liam Hogan

Kildangan 2-13, Carrickshock 1-13

It was one of the most extraordinary ten minutes in the club's history. Ten minutes, when Kildangan came from three points behind, lost a key player threw injury, and defeated the best Kilkenny could throw at them, to win the first ever All-Ireland Intermediate Club final at Semple Stadium.

With three minutes of normal time remaining, Kildangan were trailing by 1-12 to 0-12. Defeat was staring them in the face. Dan Hackett, who played heroically at centre back, throughout the game, was switched to the attack. It was a repeat of the move he made in the semi-final against St. Thomas, when he scored the match winning goal.

His first attempt for a score went wide. His next attempt ended in injury as he lay agonisingly on the ground with a badly broken ankle. Play was held up for three to four minutes before he was stretchered off. Conor Hayes, who had earlier being substituted, replaced him. The corner forward would play a key part in those final minutes.

When play resumed the game Sean Gleeson, also a substitute won possession and his delivery landed at the feet of Conor Hayes. Hayes first timed but his shot was parried by Carrickshock goalkeeper Brendan Hoyne. Backs and forwards foraged for the ball but somehow the slíotar ended up in the net. Later on, Darragh Egan said it was an own goal.

Sean Gleeson followed on by sending Tommie Connors through for a point. Then Kildangan made one more attack and Conor Hayes first timed to the net for the match winning goal.

After seven minutes of added time, the full time whistle went and Kildangan were crowned All-Ireland champions.

What a finish. From Dermot Hogan up to Darragh Egan at corner forward, Kildangan provided fifteen heroes and nineteen if you include the substitutes. Dan Hackett and Ger Slattery

starred at half back. Liam Kelly never played as well at full back curbing the threat of a quality player like Michael Rice. At corner back, Michael Ryan was a star of stars.

Liam Karl Flannery, whose hurling year looked in doubt two months earlier because of a serious knee injury, played brilliantly when he came on. Brian Kelly battled all through the game and his partner Tommie Connors made a vital contribution.

It was a great great day for Kildangan

Kildangan: D Hogan; M Ryan, L Kelly, B Lawlor; K Hogan, D Hackett, G Slattery capt; B Kelly, T Connors 0-2; P Lynch 0-3, H Flannery 0-1, J Maher; D Egan 0-6 (4f), E Nolan, C Hayes 1-0. Subs: L K Flannery 0-1 for Maher 24th min, B McLoughlin for Nolan h/t; J Slattery for Hayes 42nd min, S Gleeson for McLoughlin 55th min; C Hayes for Hackett inj 60th min.

Carrickshock: B Hoyne; M Rohan, J Tennyson, P Barron; P Dalton, J Dalton, J Murphy; S Power, P Tennyson; R Power capt 1-3(1f), P Cleary, P Farrell 0-2; J Power 0-3, M Rice 0-1, S Gibbons. Subs: J Moran 0-3 for Cleary 21st min, M Rohan for S Power 30th min, R Frisbie for P Dalton 40th min, D Millea for P Tennyson 52nd min.

Referee Michael Haverly Galway.



Brothers in arms Ger and John Slattery at the homecoming in Puckane

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Wishing both teams every success in today's final



Best of luck to both teams today and especially to our work colleagues Liam Kelly, captain of Kildangan



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Club of the Year 1975-'05

By Liam Hogan

Toomevara have been chosen as North Tipperary Club of the Year on five occasions.

They first won the coveted Cuchulainn Statue in 1986 followed by wins in '91, '93, '95 and '97.

Overall sixteen clubs in this division have won the Club of the Year award with Shannon Rovers and Knockshegowna the two outstanding clubs yet to win.

The break down of the wins is as follows.

Toomevara have won it 5 times.

Kilruane MacDonaghs 4

Nenagh Eire Og 3

Silvermines 3

Roscrea 2

Borrisokane 2

Kildangan 2

Burgess 2

Moneygall, Lorrha, Borris-Ileigh, Newport, Portroe, Templederry, Ballina and Ballinahinch have one each.

1975 : Kilruane MacDonaghs

1976 : Moneygall

1977 : Kilruane MacDonaghs

1978 : Kilruane MacDonaghs

1979 :

1980 :

1981 :

1982 :

1983 :

1984 :

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2004 :

2005 :

Nenagh Éire Óg

Roscrea

Borrisokane

Borrisokane

Roscrea

Lorrha

Kilruane MacDonaghs

Toomevara

Borris-Ileigh

Newport

Nenagh Éire Óg

Portroe

Toomevara

Nenagh Éire Óg

Toomevara

Silvermines

Toomevara

Templederry

Toomevara

Silvermines

Silvermines

Ballina

Kildangan

Ballinahinch

Burgess

Kildangan

Burgess

John Joe Maher, Roscrea, R.I.P. and the then president of the North Board, threw in the ball to commence the 1986 North Senior Hurling Final between Kilruane and Toomevara

When Donie Nealon refereed the same final, it was to be his tenth North senior final with the whistle.

N7 on the march: Today, Kildangan hope to complete a hatrick of wins over teams that are situated on the N7 road to Dublin. Already, Kildangan have beaten Moneygall and Roscrea on route to today's final.

Toomevara's Band of Brothers

By Shane Brophy

Today's final will be a very unique occasion as if their team selection remains unchanged from the semi-final win over Borris-Ileigh, one-third of the Toomevara team will come from one family.

For the first time in a North Tipperary Senior Hurling Final, five brothers will line up behind the band with the famous Dunne family doing the honours.

While all five have featured in North Finals previously in 2002 and 2003, never have five members of one family started a North Final.

Tommy (Captain), Terry, Ken and Benny are all household names to hurling followers in the premier county but Barry Dunne is also part of the Dunne dynasty and he will make his first start in a North Final today.

It was all of fifteen years ago when Tommy Dunne played in his first North Final as a minor. He will be chasing his tenth winner's medal having won titles in '91, '94, '95, '97, '98, '99, '00, '02 and 2003.

He has started in seven of those finals having missed out in '94 and '00 through

injury and was a substitute in 2003. He also started in the drawn final in 1991. Indeed since losing the North Final of 1990, Toomevara have contested ten finals, winning nine and drawing one. Some record.

Terry Dunne is the next in line having won eight North Senior medals and has played in every single final Toomevara have been in since 1994 and captained the side to victory in 2000.

Ken Dunne made his first appearance in a North Final in 1995 when Toomevara defeated Borris-Ileigh and has played in six of the seven finals having missed out in 1999.

The next Dunne arrived in the form of Brendan in the 1999 decider when he played at corner back. He has played in all four finals Toomevara have been involved in and is now a key member of the team at centre back and will be looking for his fifth North medal on Sunday.

For Barry, this will be his first start having made appearances as a substitute in the 02 and 03 finals against Moneygall and Nenagh Éire Óg respectively with two winners medals in his possession already.



Karl Hogan

- hoping to make history

By Liam Hogan

As Karl Hogan takes his place at right wing back for Kildangan in today's final, he will create a unique piece of history. Sixty-one years ago, his father, James lined out in the 1945 North senior final for Kildangan when they played Roscrea.

James played on the full backline alongside his brother Johnnie but his team lost to Roscrea that day.

Now, Karl hopes to go one better.

For the past five years, Karl, or Charlie as he is better known, has played a vital role in the re-emergence of Kildangan. He has won three north intermediate three medals plus a county intermediate in 2004 to add to his Munster and All-Ireland medals which came following the clubs great success in late '04 and early '05.

He played Intermediate with Tipperary also and won a Munster U-16 medal back in 1993 with North Tipp. Colm McGrath was also a member of that squad while fellow club men, Johnnie Gleeson and Seamus Hayes R.I.P. were selectors.

Karl has lined out in a variety of positions for his club, from his customary half back to midfield and indeed the attack also.

He played at full forward against Newport in the replay of the 2002 North Final and scored 0-2 in the 2-13 to 0-2 win.

In the 2004 final against Borrisokane he

manned the midfield berth.

This year, he is back to his best position at right wing back. He is playing with great confidence at the moment and played a great game against Roscrea in the semi final. He has created a great understanding with his second cousin, Dan Hackett, along with Gerry Slattery who completes the half back formation.

Off the field, Karl has played a vital role in the coaching and selection of the clubs underage teams.

He was manager of the minor side that won the 2003 North Minor B hurling final against Borrisoleigh. He is a selector with the current minor side also and last week Kildangan defeated Shannon Rovers in the first round of the championship.

Camogie in the club is his passion also and is currently coaching the Kildangan Senior Camogie side with Michael "Scart" Ryan, corner back on today's team also, a selector as well.

Today will be a real family occasion for Karl and his family. His father and mother, James and Marie, brother and sister, Dan and Olivia will be at the game to cheer him on.

• Pictured above Karl Hogan and his father Jimmy after the Intermediate Munster final win in Limerick December 2005.



Nenagh Guardian Intermediate Hurling Championship so far

By Shane Brophy

This year's Nenagh Guardian sponsored Intermediate Hurling Championship has turned out as predicted with it being the most competitive championship in years.

With the final round of group matches taking place this weekend, Lorrha are the only team definitely through to the knockout stages. Group one has seen the unprecedented situation of all four teams on one win each with the knockout places up for grabs this weekend.

Ballinahinch v Silvermines and Newport v Shannon Rovers are all battling for three places. The victors of these games will go through with the team with the better scoring average going through to the semi-finals. The bottom two will play-off for the last quarter final spot.

Group two sees Lorrha already through and set for semi-final place if they avoid defeat to Ballina. A narrow defeat couples with a narrow win for either Templederry or Borrisokane today might be good enough for Lorrha due to their superior scoring average.

Ballina need a win to have a chance of staying in the championship and that depends on there being a result in today's game between Templederry and Borrisokane who have both won one game so far. Scoring average does not dictate the last quarter final spot.

Group 1	<i>P</i>	<i>W</i>	<i>D</i>	<i>L</i>	<i>+/-</i>	<i>Pts</i>
Silvermines	2	1	0	1	+5	2
Ballinahinch	2	1	0	1	+2	2
Newport	2	1	0	1	-1	2
Shannon Rovers	2	1	0	1	-6	2

Ballinahinch v Silvermines
Shannon Rovers v Newport

Group 2	<i>P</i>	<i>W</i>	<i>D</i>	<i>L</i>	<i>+/-</i>	<i>Pts</i>
Lorrha	2	2	0	0	+6	4
Templederry	2	1	0	1	-1	2
Borrisokane	2	1	0	1	-3	2
Ballina	2	0	0	2	-2	0

Lorrha v Ballina
Templederry v Borrisokane

Top team in both groups to semi-final.

Quarter Finals

2nd Group 1 v 3rd Group 2

2nd Group 2 v 3rd Group 1

IH: when the sides last met, '96

Borrisokane 1-11, Templederry 0-10

An impressive scoring display from Pauraic Hogan, helped Borrisokane to their seventh North Intermediate hurling title, when they defeated Templederry in a wet MacDonagh Park all of eight years ago.

He scored 1-9 over the hour and with Borrisokane having wind advantage in the first half, he had Borris 0-4 to 0-1 ahead after twenty minutes.

His brother Adrian, scored a point from a sideline cut to extend their lead, and on twenty five minutes Pauraic Hogan scored a goal from a long distance free which deceived the Templederry defence.

Borris went on to lead 1-9 to 0-1 at half time. The expected Templederry comeback began to materialise with points coming from John Collins and Seamus Kennedy.

Martin Tooher halted the Borrisokane slide with their first and only point from play. Templederry switched Micheal Ryan to centre forward and Tommy Murray had

a point which skimmed over the Borris crossbar.

The deficit was reduced to three points after Liam Murray pointed a free, but with two minutes to go, Pauraic Hogan sealed the issue with a free.

Borrisokane: Vince McKenna; Paul Dooley, Martin Donnelly, Jim McLoughlin; Dermot Murphy, Keith Slevin, Paul Corcoran; Michael Heenan(capt), John Gardiner; Adrian Hogan, Martin Tooher 0-1, Padraig Hogan 1-9(1-7 f and 2 '65); Vivian Dooley, John McKenna, Eoin Cleary.

Sub: Barry Gohery for Cleary, Declan Morris for Murphy injured.

Templederry Jimmy Collins, Gerard Ryan, Patrick Kennedy, Donal Ryan; Murty McMahon, Micheal Ryan 0-1, Patrick Ryan; Michael Kennedy, Pauraic Ryan; Seamus Kennedy 0-1, Liam Dwan (capt), John Collins 0-4, Liam Murray 0-3 (frees), Michael Stapleton, Tommy Murray 0-1.

Sub- Damien Bourke for Pauraic Ryan, Brian Murray for MI Kennedy.

Referee Martin Ahern Ballina.

When Kildangan played in the 1945 North senior final, they were playing in their eight north final appearance in eleven years. They won three of them in the years 1934, 38 and 43. In '45, they lost to Roscrea which brought an end to a great era in which Kildangan and Roscrea had enjoyed. It was the teams sixth divisional final.

For the record, the Kildangan team in the 45 final was J Grace; John Hogan, James Hogan, Seamus Flannery; Danny Moloney, Mick Culhane, Nicholas Flannery; Jim Joe Killeen, Matt Coen; D Griffen, Danny Gleeson, J Harrington; Paddy Morrissey, Martin Kennedy, E Harty

Johnny McDonnell's will referee his fifth north senior final. His first was in 1989 when Lorrha defeated Toomevara. Four years later, he took charge of the Nenagh v Moneygall followed by Toomevara v Kilruane MacDonagh game, one year later. His fourth was in '97 as Toomevara accounted for Borris-Ileigh.

His umpires for today's final will be Kevin Moloney, Eamon Jones, Dermot Moloney and John Ryan, all from Roscrea. His linesmen officiating today are Michael Cahill and Joe Cahill, Kilruane MacDonagh.

Tommy Ryan is the man in the middle for the curtain raiser between Borrisokane and Templederry in the third round of the Nenagh Guardian North Tipperary Intermediate championship.



Toomevara 1946 North champions. Back row, Phil Shanahan, Rody Nolan, Tom Dunne, Mick Shea, Tom Condon (trainer), Martin Bourke, Sean Ryan, Paddy Shanahan, Willie O'Meara. Middle: Rev. T. Cosgrave, Billy Shanahan, John Gleeson, Paddy Guerin, Tommy Cawley. Front: Danny Casey, Paddy Devaney, Mick Bourke.

Grace Sawmills

TOOMEVARA

*Wishing Toomevara best of luck
in North Tipperary Senior Hurling Final*

PHONE

067-26240 Bernie

087 2604172 James

087 6758546 Kevin



Today's Referees

John McDonnell

Name: John McDonnell

Home Club: Roscrea

Age: 52

When did you start refereeing? 1985

What finals have you done? All finals in North Tipp, County and Munster. All-Ireland Finals in U-21, Junior, Intermediate and All Colleges and Vocational Schools

What level have you refereed in i.e. schools, inter-firms, club (senior, under-age etc), inter-county etc. All levels

What is the one rule you would change given the chance? Introduce a Sin Bin

What was your funniest moment as a referee? Before a game, a player (corner-back) asked me not to look in for a few minutes as he had a score to settle.

Why did you get involved as a referee? As secretary of my club, I was at a North Board meeting and North Board were unable to appoint a referee for a Minor football game one night and asked me would I do it – the rest is history

Interests: Golf and training

Any comments: I would advise referees to train hard, read the rule book in their free time and always listen to their senior referees.





Toomevara's future stars: Andrew Ryan, James McCormack and Brian Delaney, member of the North Tipperary under 14 panel.



Toomevara's Paudric Shanahan, Sheila Ryan and Colin Canning, who took part in the Munster Primary Game.

Toomevara Juvenile GAA Club

When the late Canon John Mulqueen brought a group of people together in the winter of 1973 to re-organise underage hurling in the parish of Toomevara, no one envisaged then that the foresight and vision shown would have such an impact on the club's hurling history.

During those years the club has been fortunate that so many men and women have given voluntary of their time to ensure that the young people of the parish get the fullest of enjoyment and well organised coaching as they proudly represent the club on the hurling fields of Tipperary. The club has enjoyed tremendous success at juvenile level and this has been mainly due to the role played by the teachers in all four schools of the parish and also with the support and goodwill by all the people of the parish.

The senior club has always given its full support both financial and otherwise which was always much appreciated by the juvenile committee.

Unlike many areas throughout the county there has been a massive decline in the numbers attending the schools of the parish in recent years.

The decline has meant that the juvenile committee has had to work much harder to ensure that every boy and girl attending national school are encouraged to play hurling.

However, it is hoped that this decline in numbers will only be short term and in the near future we will see more housing developments in the parish which will surely result in the numbers attending our schools in the years ahead. Toomevara GAA Club owes a major debt to many people who worked so hard since 1973.

Sadly some are no longer with us but it has been the great effort and pride of so many people who made such a huge contribution to make Toomevara one of the most successful clubs over the past 30 years - long may the hard work continue.



1991: North Board chairman, Liam Hogan presents the North U-12 hurling cup to Toomevara captain Barry Dunne. Toomevara defeated Roscrea 4-2 to 0-2 in the final.

Johnny Ryan, Moycarkey Borris recalls his memories of Martin Kennedy

Former Tipperary star, Martin Kennedy, was a great Tipperary hurler. He played hurling with Toomevara and won ten North senior medals between 1919 and 31 and four county medals in 1919, 23, 30 and 31. He switched to Kildangan club in 1932 and won three more North medals. He won numerous other awards including Railway Cup medals, Thomond Shields and was selected at full forward by the readers of the Tipperary Star newspaper for the Millennium team off 1999.

To recognise the Toome/ Kildangan connection we take extracts of his conversation with writer, John O'Grady in an interview done on the early eighties

Who could ask finer? A bright fire, a comfortable chair, Johnny Ryan sitting opposite, talking hurling with humour and relish and, at the appropriate time, his good wife appearing with something appetising to keep us going.

The welcome blaze in the grate was fuelled aptly enough with material from not far away in Littleton. If anyone should have lots of sound turf it is Johnny, he gave from 1941 to 79 working with Bord na Mona.

The great backman, of club, county, and provincial fame; winner of Tipp championships, All-Irelands and Provincial Cups admired as a defensive craftsman – who better qualified to remember and to assess his fellow hurlers. If he has a hobby in retirement it might be just that – discussing hurling, recalling men and matches.

The year then ending had removed from among the living, some very famous players - Tipp hurlers like Martin Kennedy, Dan Mackey, Mick Maher; Cork star Johnny Quirke and

Waterford goalie, Jim Ware.

Johnny went on to tell about his team (Moycarkey/Borris) playing Kildangan-Kilbarron in the Jubilee County Senior



Final of 1934. It was his first senior final.

"I had the privilege of playing on Kennedy. I was left corner back. Kennedy switched out from full forward in the second half. He had been on John Maher of Killough in the first. It was a thrill for me.

Martin was a veteran of ten years with Tipp, the most famous full forward off all time. I decided to get out before him as I thought I would have more speed than him. T would be foolish to stay behind him and let him get the first move. We beat Kildangan-Kilbarron that day and I was happy to come through the test,"

What struck Johnnie about Kennedy's methods? "He had a brilliant brain, great ball control, fast stickwork and you could expect all sorts of cleverness from him. He varied his tactics from one ball to the next. He might be out to a ball crouch as if to stop it, then suddenly step aside and let fly. He would create a free for himself if he could. The least touch and he would be down on his hands and knees. In the finish, the referees would often blow against him because they suspected he was play acting.

Martin won his first All-Ireland medal (Junior) in 1924. He won two senior in 1925 and 30 and toured America with Tipp to become world champions.

"Kennedy was on the Toomevara team that defeated

Moycarkey in 1931," recalls Johnny. "He won three north medals with Kildangan-Kilbarron in 34, 38 and 43. He missed two years, in the late thirties, because of ill- health.

"Martin was quite," said Johnny. He would not push himself to talk about his own achievements. He could be got to sing when he had a few jars. His favourite song was The Toomevara Greyhounds.

"Tom Duffy, Lorrha, was one of his best friends. They used travel together to meet their former team-mates at funerals and other events. Martin was a friend to all that played with and against. Sweeper and myself went to see him just before he died.

God rest him, he was a wonderful man, said Johnny.



Be passionate.

Good luck to Kildangan and Toomevara in the North Tipperary Hurling Final from AIB, Nenagh

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Gurtagarry North Tipperary Junior Hurling Champions 1955: Back row, D. Kennedy, R. Nolan, M. Bourke, T. Tierney, T. Ryan, B. Maher, G. Hough, M. Bourke. Middle: J. Feehily, D. Tierney, J. McDonnell, T. Ryan, P. Cummins, P. Fitzpatrick, M. O'Gara, O. Donovan. Front: J. Donovan, T. Tierney, M. Bevens, A. Martin, T. Shanahan. Final score: Gurtagarry 7-5, Silvermines 4-3.

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

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Pearse Street, Nenagh

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