

West Tipperary Senior Hurling Final

Match Programme

1989

CUMANN LUTH-CHLEAS GAEL - TIOBRAID ÁRANN THJAR



SÍNSEAR:



JOHN O'NEILL

**GEAPACH NA
bhFAOITEACH**

Vs.

**CLUAIN ULTAIGH-
ROSMOR**



T.J. RYAN

TOSNÚ: 3.00 p.m.

Réiteoir: SEÁN Ó MAOLDOMHNAIGH

MIONÚR: **CAISEAL** Vs. **CUMANN CIOCAIM**

TOSNÚ: 1.30 p.m.

Réiteoir: SEOIRSE Ó RIAIN

**PÁIRC NAOMH AILBE, IMLEACH
20 LÚNASA 1989**

CLAR OIFIGIUIL :: LUACH 50p.

D. Ó RINN, Runaí

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FÁILTE

It is an honour and a privilege for me as Cathaoirleach of Coiste Thiobraid Árann Thiar to extend a céad míle fáilte to all in attendance here today for this eagerly awaited clash between old rivals, Cappawhite and Clonoulty-Rossmore.

The West Final is always a special occasion. The build-up this year has been tremendous. Large crowds have attended all the games. I thank the clubs and especially all the players who have given us so much during the year. A special thanks to all our patrons for their loyal support.

Today's game has all the ingredients for a classic encounter between two old rivals. Both sides include many current and former inter county players. We look forward to these teams giving leadership to the county and helping to bring back the McCarthy Cup this year to the county.

The minor game sees Cashel, the defending county champions, being taken on by a dedicated Kickhams team and a great match is in prospect.

Finally, I thank all who have contributed to make this final day a great occasion agus ar aghaidh leis na cluichí.

Seamus Ó'Riain, Cathaoirleach Tiobraid Árann Thiar.



CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS



On behalf of the Emly GAA Club, it is my privilege to extend a warm welcome to the four participating teams to St. Ailbe's Park, Emly and to wish that the two games will be very sporting showpieces worthy of the occasion.

A special welcome also to you, supporters and spectators and I hope you enjoy both games - I would ask you to kindly co-operate with the stewards.

A very special "Thank You" to all our club members for their help and vigilance in having our GAA pitch and surrounds in excellent condition. To our advertisers for their generous sponsorship, and to the West Board for giving Emly the honour of hosting the 1989 Divisional Senior Hurling Final.

Seán Ó hAonghusa, Cathaoirleach.

EMLY G.A.A. CLUB

(Black & Amber)

While Emly has been renowned for its footballing prowess, it was in the areas of athletics and hurling that the GAA club in Emly (founded in 1886) first became prominent. In 1888, Jim Mitchell (1865-1922) of Bartoose, who had been one of the club's founders and who was noted for his hammer throwing exploits was a member of the forty-eight strong party that left Ireland on the "American Invasion".

In 1904, Jim Mitchell won the bronze medal at the St. Louis Olympic Games and in an American career that spanned almost twenty years, he set thirty-two American records and collected sixty-one gold medals between outdoor and indoor championships. Jim Mitchell may have died but his deeds and records live on after him, never surpassed under the system in vogue when he made them.

Meanwhile, to return home, we note that Emly were fielding a Senior Hurling team as early as 1887 and in the same year, two Emlymen, Malachy O'Brien of Ballinvrina and Pat Reeres of Lackelly were members of the Limerick Commercials team that won the inaugural All-Ireland Football title at Clondalkin.

Emly's big breakthrough in Senior Hurling came in 1911 when St. Ailbe's, Emly captured the South Tipperary title but were defeated by Thurles in the county semi-final and Emly failed again at the penultimate hurdle in the county championship of 1914 when pipped by eventual county champions, Toomevara. Emly managed to cross the county boundary to defeat Kilmallock in the South Limerick Senior Hurling final of 1924 and in 1927, Emly won a Gold Medal Senior Hurling tournament but thereafter Emly gradually began to fade out of the limelight never to re-emerge again as a major force in senior hurling.

County honours first came to Emly in 1938, the year the West division achieved a notable county championship junior double, with Emly taking the football title and Solohead the hurling crown. The period from 1936 to 1939 was a glorious one for the Emly junior footballers, who captured four successive divisional titles. The 1940's were lean for the Emly club but the late fifties and early sixties were Emly's halycon days in West Tipp football, taking two Senior titles in 1959 and 1960 and missing out narrowly on county championships on both occasions to North selection at Clonmel in 1959 and to Thurles Crokes the following year. Indeed 1960 was a tremendous year for Emly in West Tipp football, because as well as capturing the senior football title, Emly won the minor and under 21 divisional titles in combination with Aherlow.

There were many great tussles between Emly and Lattin-Cullen in this era, most notably the senior football final of 1959 at Monard, which Emly won by 2-2 to 1-4 but that didn't prevent the neighbouring clubs from combining together to capture the 1951 West minor football championship and the 1954 west minor hurling title.

In 1968, the Emly junior footballers emulated the achievement of the Emly junior footballers of thirty years earlier when they were crowned county junior football champions and in the same year, Emly teamed up with Aherlow, under the St. Ailbe's banner to regain the West Tipp Senior Football title, under the captaincy of Mickey Dawson, whose brother, Patsy, was the captain of the victorious Emly senior team of 1959.

Tuesday, 20th May, 1969 will always stand out as a special milestone in the history of Emly GAA Club, with the official opening of St. Ailbe's Park, purchased by the club in 1965, by the then GAA president, Tipperary's Seamus O'Riain and the occasion was marked by a senior hurling challenge between the then reigning Munster Champions, Tipperary and great rivals, Limerick.

Wishing Both Teams the Best of Luck

For the BEST IN FAST FOODS call to

EMLY TAKE AWAY

200 Yards from Field

The 1970's were prosperous for our juvenile teams with the highlights being the capturing of the West under 12 football title in 1972 and in the same year the West and County rural and urban-rural championship successes of the under 14 footballers, the 1976 West under 12 hurling championship triumph and in 1979 the annexing of the county and West under 14 rural and under 14 urban-rural football championships and the West under 14 urban-rural hurling championship. These successful juvenile teams were to lay the basis for further West and county championship victories at minor and under 21 level in the eighties.

In 1975, Emly won their first divisional intermediate football title at the expense of Golden-Kilfeacle and in the same year, Emly-Lattin won the West minor football title, but were narrowly defeated by Clonmel Commercial in the county decider.

In the early 1980's, Emly-Lattin won two county minor football championships (1982 and 1983) and having captured West titles also in 1981 and 1987, they lost county finals to Clonmel Commercial and SLievenamon respectively. Emly-Lattin won five successive West under 21 titles between 1982 and 1986, adding county championships in 1982 and 1985. 1983 was a golden year for the club because as well as collecting the county minor football title, Emly-Lattin won the West minor hurling championship and lost narrowly to Commercial in the county under 21 football title and Emly captured the West and county intermediate football titles. The Emly intermediate hurlers put two West titles back to back in 1984 and 1985 and in 1987, Emly's senior footballers brought the Hennessy Cup back to the parish for the fourth time in all and for the first time in 19 years and in the county semi-final, Emly went under to eventual county champs, Loughmore-Castleiney by six points.

Emly GAA Club, 103 years after its founding, still awaits that elusive county senior football title, but to the great players and teams of the past and all the wonderful characters, we salute you and thanks for all the memories because that's the special folklore of the GAA - it has to be recorded and every club has the same.

1989 officers - Presidents, Fr. Rochford, Fr. Kennedy; Chairman, J. Hennessy; Secretary, S. O'Brien; Treasurer, T.J. O'Brien; Vice-Chairmen, Martin Condon and Phil McCarthy; Hurling Sec., M. O'Dwyer; Asst. Secretary and PRO, P. Clancy.

(By Liam O'Brien, Imleach Iubhar.)



Wishing Both Teams the Best from

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Na Réiteoirí

Since John refereed his first SHC West Final twenty five years ago, he has officiated at games at the highest level at home and abroad and won acclaim as one of the finest referees of our time.

Now he is responsible for the recruitment and training of referees within the county and he is much sought after all over Ireland as a speaker at referees' courses.

We are proud of his contribution and he has motivated many in this division to follow his footsteps.



JOHN MOLONEY



GEORGE RYAN



George Ryan's involvement with the Association has been as a player, administrator and referee.

He started refereeing in the seventies and since then he has handled games at all levels, being recognised as one of the top referees in the country.

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CAPPAWHITE SENIOR HURLING TEAM



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Hon. President: Paul O'Neill.

Chairman: Liam Treacy.

Vice Chairman: Eddie Costello, Jerry Creedon.

Secretary: John Buckley.

Asst. Secretary & PRO: Martin McDermott.

Treasurer: Shane Ryan.

Asst. Treasurer & Development Officer: P. Tuohy.

Social Chairman: Michael Ryan (P).

Bord na nOg Chairman: Very Rev. Denis Curtin.

History Chairman: John Kelly.

Around 1820, the modern parish of Cappawhite was formed. it is made up of parts of (i) **Solohead**; Ayle, Clonganhue, Ballykiveen, the home of the O'Neills, Ryans 'Bs' and 'P', Breens etc. (ii) **Donohill**; Cappagh, Ironmills, (Clashnacrony), Cross Ayle, Glassdrum, Greenfields, Leenane West, Philipstown, Tinnahinch, Chadville, where the Kelly's; John, Dick, Larry plus John Carew, the O'Sheas, Paddy Connors, Bill Neill, the Meaghers etc. came from.

The New parish lost a portion to Doon - Carnahalla. It also lost the complete portion of Hollyford, its northern part, which now forms the modern parish of Kilcommon or better known as Sean Treacys in hurling circles. To understand the make-up of a parish can help to explain the deep intensity of rivalry that exists between the club and its neighbours down through the years.

If one stood in the Square of Cappawhite, and travelled any road for 2½/3 miles, one would find themselves outside the parish. Cappawhite, Emly, New Inn, Solohead, Aherlow, are the only single church clubs in the division with the exception of Tipp town. All the other clubs are multi church (2 or more) which reflects its population, size and in general its playing powers with the exception of Glengar in the parish of Doon, Co. Tipperary - which has no church.

Cappawhite GAA Club was founded in 1886. The following year challenges and tournaments became the order of the day. The Gaelic spirit of Tipperary was reawakened with games played all over the district with huge crowds in attendance.

Three football teams, Cappawhite, Toem, Moanrue, left the parish after last Mass on August 14, 1887, for Quinlan's Castle in Togher, Doon, Co. Limerick. Toem 98's with a pick from the Annacarty club were no match for Oola's 67's and lost by 6 points and one forfeit to nil. Likewise, Cappawhite lost to Doon in a well contested game. The most exciting match of the tournament was between Cappa's third team in the parish, "Moanroe" and New Pallas, this was the first match played by the New Pallas men and it was rather rough, but fast and furious with victory going to New Pallas. These teams at that particular time would consist of twenty one players aside.

Toem and Mogherugh (Annacarty) gave a fine display of misdirected energy in the Moherugh tournament, in late August. Moherugh being essentially a hurling club and Toome rather inexperienced footballers, their imperfect kicking being excusable. It was however, a vigorous, inspiring game whose rough and tumble fired the excitable mountaineers to their wildest enthusiasm. The final result was Toome 1 forfeit (a wide) to Moherugh Nil. Ballydine and Cappawhite in a proper football match played a draw at the same venue.

Another great tournament which South and Mid Tipperary have been noted for, was held on Sept. 3rd at Moanrue in the parish of Cappawhite, ten football teams contesting.

Congratulations and Best of Luck to Cappawhite from . .

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COUGHLAN'S SUPERMARKET

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Moanrue 2 pts 1 forfeit Oola 1 pt.
 Annacarty v. Newtown (dispute, failed to finish)
 Knockavilla 1 goal 1 pt. 1 forfeit Cullen Nil
 Castletown (Doon) 2 pts. Donohill Nil
 Toome 4 pts. 2 forfeits Kilfeacle Nil

On the Last Sunday in September, six splendid matches with no second teams took place at Cappawhite tournament. There were two Limerick teams, two Inter-county matches and a considerable mixture of Limerick supporters. The enormous assemblage which must have numbered 10,000 was fully representative of all ages, sexes and classes of a provincial, rural and urban population. The musical performance was provided by the local Brass Band, St. Columbas. The fine field kindly given by Mr. John Fahey, contained two Gaelic grounds. In general, Cappawhite football committee could feel proud of their most successful tournament and should be gratefully remembered by those teams who partook of their lavish hospitality.

Cappawhite 1 goal 1 pt. Castletown (Doon) 1 goal 1 pt.
 Solohead 2 pts. 1 forfeit Doon 1 pt.
 Knockavilla 2 pts. Annacarty 2 pts.
 Doon v Cappawhite (abandoned after 15 minutes)
 Craughafoil 2 goals 3 pts. Doon 2 pts. (Hurling)
 Moherugh 1 pt. 1 forfeit. Ballydine (Knockavilla) Nil

The following year, 1888, on St. Stephen's Day at the Annacarty Tournament, Cappawhite and Donohill played a draw, although the score was disputed, the prediction was that with sufficient training the Cappawhite and Donohill teams would bring laurels from many a field to their respective parishes. In 1889, a decline in the GAA started due to emigration, land troubles, evictions and the local scene was very quiet. There is a strong tradition and sufficient circumstantial evidence to say with certainty, that the famous Bohercrowe team who won the 1889 All Ireland Football title got help from Jackie Ryan (builder), Kilpatrick; Bill Sadlier, Ballydonagh, (Donohill), John Kelly, Aileen, (Donohill) and later Chadville, Cappawhite. Philly Ryan (Castle), Ballysheedy, (Annacarty) and it is also suggested a Dan Murray from Grange, (Donohill) and later Murray's Pub, Main St., Tipperary was involved. One hundred years later 1989, we find the fame of football the "Cinderella Sister" of the GAA in the once proud football stronghold of Cappawhite and district.

The above article is a brief account of the first few years of GAA activity in our parish. The intervening one hundred years can be read at leisure, after the launch of the **Cappawhite's GAA Book 1886 - 1889**, at Christmas this year, D.V. The club's history is a detailed examination of its activities year by year, where records are available irrespective of whether it won or lost laurels.

The club's history is almost completed and any additional old photographs of athletics/GAA events or traditions like Bohercrowe above, Ballyhane, etc. or whatever, would be welcome.

John Kelly.

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3. T.J. CONNOLLY
4. ANDREW COURTNEY
5. DENIS KEATING
6. JOHN MAHER
7. SEANIE BARRON
8. RAYMIE RYAN
9. DAVID MOLONEY
10. SEANIE O'DONOGHUE
11. SEAN O DUBHIR
12. NOEL MURPHY
13. JOE O'LEARY
14. TIMMIE MOLONEY
15. AILBE BONNAR
16. SEANNIE MORRISSEY
17. RUADHAN KING
18. MICHAEL BUTLER
19. MARK KELLY
20. CHRISTY O'NEILL
21. SEAMUS O'KEEFFE



KICKHAMS

1. PAT BUTLER
2. ML SLATTERY
3. TOM FARRELL
4. TIM O'BRIEN
5. KEVIN FARRELL
6. THOMAS RYAN
7. DECLAN CROSSE
8. JOHN McCORMACK
9. CHRISTOPHER RYAN
10. PATRICK MORRISSEY
11. MICHAEL O'DWYER
12. VINCENT KELLY
13. GER BUTLER
14. AIDAN O'DWYER
15. DECLAN HOGAN
16. JOHN MORRISSEY
17. GER BROWNE
18. LARRY O'DWYER
19. PAUL RYAN
20. DONAL O'BRIEN
21. CHRISTOPHER RYAN

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(Blue & White)



1. Danny O'Neill

2.
Johnny Ryan (P)

3.
Mike Buckley

4.
John O'Neill

5.
Anthony O'Neill

6.
Dick Quirke

7.
Ger Ryan (B)

8.
Eamonn Ryan (B)

9.
Austin Buckley

10.
Francis Quinn

11.
Conor Ryan (H)

12.
Pa O'Neill

13.
Ger O'Neill

14.
Noel Buckley

15.
Martin McDermott

SUBS: 17. Dan Ryan (P); 18. Sean Hennessy; 19. Mike Ryan (L); 20. Tom Coughlan;
21. Myles Coughlan; 22. Paul Buckley; 23. Seanie O'Neill; 24. Simon Ryan (L).

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CLONOUITY/ROSSMORE

(Green & Gold)

1. Andrew Fryday



2.
David Ryan (H)

3.
Cecil Ryan

4.
Noel Keane

5.
Seamus Hammersley

6.
John Kennedy

7.
Phil Shanahan

8.
T.J. Ryan (R)

9.
Kevin Ryan

10.
Declan Ryan

11.
Joe Hayes

12.
Michael Heffernan

13.
Tommy Kennedy

14.
Dan Quirke

15.
Peter Hayes

SUBS: 16. Seamus Coffee; 17. P.J. Heffernan; 18. J. Fitzgerald; 19. Alan O'Dwyer; 20. Tim Shanahan; 21. John Ryan (J); 22. James Ryan (W); 23. Niall Ryan (R).

Rossmore from ...

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and Congratulations from SHANE RYAN,

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OLD GAELS STILL GOING STRONG

"BINGO" MICKIE BARRY

Won two West and County J.H.C. medals with Cappawhite in 1942 and 1948. He captained the Tipperary Juniors in 1949. He won a West SHC with St. Nicholas in 1957. He also holds three Waterford Co. SHC medals. Indeed, he captained the Waterford Senior Hurling team beaten in the Munster Championship by Tipperary in Fermoy in 1945.

BILL RYAN (EARLY).

Bill won the West MHC with Hollyford-Glengarr in the company of Willie Walsh, Sonny O'Brien, Con Hayes, Pake Stapleton, Billy O'Brien and Jack Slattery - all still hale and hearty in 1932 (for which they never received medals!). He was a member of the victorious All-Ireland Tipperary Minor Hurling team also in 1932. He played full-back on the Tipperary Junior Hurling team in 1938. He also played with the Seniors the same year and was a member of the team that played Galway at the opening of St. Coleman's Park, Roscommon. He was also a member of the Glengarr club and later St. Ailbe's, Hollyford. He went to Dublin and joined the Con Colberts Club with whom he won a Dublin County Junior Championship in 1941, he also played on the Dublin County Junior Hurling team that year.

During those years he played with the late great Tommy Treacy and Jimmy Cooney. He now lives in active retirement in Cappawhite.



BILLY O'NEILL (PENCIL)

Another member of the great Cappawhite Junior teams of 1942 and 1948. Today his sons Pa, Whacky and Bricky carry on the family hurling tradition with key roles on the Cappawhite team.

WILLIE WALSH

Another fine hurler who played with Bill Ryan (Early) on the Hollyford-Glengarr team which won the West Minor Championship in 1932. He is now the very efficient groundsman of the lovely Cappawhite field.



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CHURCH STREET, TIPPERARY

Best of Luck to both Teams

DAVE CAREW

One of the founder members of the West Board and a noted Clonoulty hurler in his youth. He also represented the county at Junior Hurling level. He played with Clonoulty against Toomevara in the 1930 SHC Semi-final in Borrisoleigh. Dave also figured in the now infamous 1928 SHC when Clonoulty were nominated to represent the Mid and west neighbours Boherlahan in the unfinished final in Thurles.

He was on the 1933 West Championship winning side also.



TIMMY HAMMERSLEY

Timmy was associated with Clonoulty-Rossmore in the West Finals of 1933, 1937 and 1951.

Holycross defeated Clonoulty in the 1951 County Final. Timmy became a noted referee within the county after retiring from the game and also served terms as chairman of Clonoulty-Rossmore club. He refereed the famous final known as the "Battle of the B's" in the Mid in 1949.



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U/14 WEST RURAL HURLING CHAMPIONS 1989**



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MARY & NOEL O'DWYER

Props:- **GOOLDCROSS INN**

CLONOLTY/ROSSMORE G.A.A. CLUB (Green & Gold)

The West division was formed in 1930 and Clonoulty had the honour of winning the first four West finals - 1930, 1931, 1932, and 1933 beating Solohead, Newport, Cappawhite-Donohill (twice) respectively. Unfortunately, county honours eluded Clonoulty in these years. The first president of the West Board was Rev. J. Moloney, C.C., Clonoulty and the first Secretary was Dan B. English, Rossmore.

In 1936, the Clonoulty grounds were given to the club by the Land Commission. Clonoulty won the west junior hurling final in this year but were defeated by Boherlahan in the county final, played in 1937. Clonoulty went senior in 1937 and were beaten in the West final by Cashel, who also beat them in the 1940 final. Clonoulty returned to the junior grade in 1944 and won the West final. Having returned to senior hurling they were victorious in the West senior league in 1945 and 1950.

In 1951, Clonoulty won the West senior hurling final but were beaten by Holycross in the county final, 5-15 to 1-4. Rossmore broke away from Clonoulty in 1953 and went junior while Clonoulty remained in the senior grade.

In 1957, the GAA pavilion in Clonoulty was completed by voluntary labour under the direction of Rev. P. Cooney, C.C. Under Fr. Cooney's guidance juvenile hurling blossomed in the parish with West final victories in the u-15 grade in 1957, 1958, 1959, 1961 and 1962. Victories followed in the 1966 (West finals u-15 and u-16½), 1967 (West finals u-15 and u-16) and 1968 (West u-17).

1969 was a very successful year for Clonoulty-Rossmore with victories in the Crosco Cup, West junior hurling and football finals and West minor and u-17 finals all being won. Cashel were defeated in the final of the Crosco Cup while Rockwell were the victims in junior football. This team went on to capture county honours, beating Ballyporeen in the county final. The minor team were defeated by Boherlahan in the county final.

It is significant that all players on today's senior team have won divisional honours at some level of under-age competition. In 1975 and 1976 we won successive West u-16 titles, beating Cashel and Cappawhite in respective years. These teams went on to be beaten in both county semi-finals by Ballingarry in 1975 and Loughmore-Castleiney in 1976. From these teams, Cecil Ryan, Patrick Ryan, T.J. Ryan and Peter Hayes play in today's final.

1977 saw the club capture county u-14 hurling honours beating Toomevara in the final. The same team went on to win a minor county final in 1981, beating the same opposition. Andrew Fryday, Seamus Hammersley, David Ryan, Michael Heffernan, Joe Hayes and John Kennedy who line out with today's team were on the teams of 1977 and 1981.

Clonoulty-Rossmore tasted victory in the county u-16 hurling final on the GAA's Centenary Year, 1984. Dan Quirke, Noel Keane, Declan Ryan and Kevin Ryan were members of this team which defeated Kickhams in the West final and St. Marys, Clonmel in the county decider. Coincidentally, these four players also represent the club on this years u-21 county team which has reached the All-Ireland final.

Phil Shanahan and Tommy Kennedy were members of the 1985 u-21 hurling team which defeated Lattin-Emly in the West final and went on to be defeated by Toomevara in the county final that year.

Thus the importance of juveniles and under-age competitions as nurseries for young hurlers can be seen and cannot be over-emphasised. We have been fortunate in Clonoulty-Rossmore in having men who were dedicated to the promotion of Juvenile hurling and football and we honour them today. Six of our players on today's team will be striving for All-Ireland honours at u-21 and senior level in September and the club wishes them and the county every success in bringing back those elusive crowns to the county.

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THE WEST'S AWAKE

(by Seamus J. King)

Senior Hurling Final day in the West is a good day to reflect on the contribution of the division to the fortunes of the county at the senior level. Whatever may have been the story in the past there isn't a shadow of doubt that the West has contributed enormously to the present revival of Tipperary's fortunes.

Most commentators on last Sunday's victory over Galway have made the point that the most impressive line on the field, in either team was our inside forward line, which scored 1-12 of the team's total of 1-17. And, everyone reading this today is aware that the three forwards who made such an impression were Pat Fox of Eire Og; Cormac Bonnar of Cashel King Cormac's and Nicholas English of Lattin-Cullen.

But the contribution of this division didn't end there. Of the total panel of twenty-three, no less than nine players came from the West, representative of five clubs. As well as those mentioned above, Clonoulty-Rossmore were represented by Declan Ryan, Joe Hayes and John Kennedy; Golden by John Leamy and Cashel had the two other Bonnars, Conal and Colm. Significantly, all of them, with the exception of John Leamy, made their contribution to victory on the field of play.

LATE ARRIVALS

Observers from other divisions are wont to make the point that the West is a late arrival on the hurling scene and that much wasn't heard from the division before the eighties. There is a certain truth in the observation but it is by no means the whole truth.

Since the division was formed in 1930 its hurlers have made a respectable contribution to the county's senior hurling victories. During that period, Tipperary won twelve senior All-Irelands and the men from the West had a contribution to make in eleven of them.

The exception was 1930 when the division had no representative. However, there were two who played their part in the 1937 victory over Kilkenny in Killarney, Jack Gleeson of Shanballa, Cashel and Bill O'Donnell of Golden and Eire Og. Gleeson played at centrefield, went to London late in the year and won an All-Ireland junior medal with London the following year. O'Donnell played corner-forward and was to help Eire Og to become the first team from the West to take the County Senior Hurling title six years later.

In 1945, the West had two representatives again. At right-corner back was the 10½ stone Jim Devitt of Cashel, a most improbable occupant of the position. At the other end of the field was the Clonoulty-Rossmore star, Tony Brennan, playing at full-forward. It was to be the first of four All-Irelands for Tony. He was the only representative from the division on the successful three-in-a-row teams of 1949, 1950 and 1951. In these All-Irelands he changed ends and gave sterling service at full-back, providing maximum cover for Tony Reddan in the days when Michael McGrath's indiscretion against Conor Donovan would have been regarded as a mere passing irritation.

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There's a bit of a blank in the 1958 team. The man between the posts in that All-Ireland was John O'Grady of "Culbairé" fame. However, his shadow on the occasion was Terry Moloney from Arravale Rovers. Terry had made his name with St. Flannan's College, won an All-Ireland Minor medal with Tipperary in 1957, and, still a minor, was beaten unexpectedly by Limerick in the first round of the 1958 championship.

GOALKEEPING TRADITION

Terry started a great tradition of West goalkeepers on successful Tipperary teams. He himself wasn't quite so successful. He took over from O'Grady, who retired because of faulty vision, in the 1959 championship but Tipperary were massacred by a rampant Waterford in the Munster semi-final. He was again unfortunate to be on the losing side against Wexford in the 1960 All-Ireland. So, he had to be satisfied with his 1958 medal because he was out of favour by the following year.

His place on the 1961 team was taken by Kickhams player, Donal O'Brien. Donal had a shorter innings between the posts but became the proud possessor of two All-Ireland medals when Tipperary succeeded in 1961 against Dublin and in 1962 against Wexford.

The remarkable supply of goalkeepers from the West division, begun by Terry Moloney in 1959, was to continue until 1972, with the exception of 1963 when Toomevara's Roger Mounsey occupied the position. (Interestingly, the tradition is revived in the 1989 side with John Leamy of Golden holding the position of sub-goalie). John O'Donoghue of Arravale Rovers took over in 1964 and guarded the net in that year's All-Ireland victory over Kilkenny and in the 1965 victory over Wexford. He might have had four-in-a-row but Tipperary were beaten in 1966 and 1967.

John was replaced by Peter O'Sullivan during the 1970 championship and held the position until 1972. He was on the last All-Ireland winning side in 1971 and had two other Westmen for company in the victory over Kilkenny, John Kelly of Cappawhite, played at full-back on that successful side and Dinny Ryan of Sean Treacy's played at wing-forward. It was the biggest representation the West ever had on an All-Ireland winning side and may have been an omen of future developments in the county.

Therefore, our present players, who will represent the division on September 3rd can carry into the All-Ireland final a great belief in their own contribution to the present revival of the county's fortunes but also the knowledge that they are the bearers of a very respectable tradition, which has contributed significantly to the county's Senior Hurling success since the division was formed.

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