

West Tipperary Senior Hurling Final
Match Programme
1990



CUMANN LUTH-CHLEAS GAEL

- TIOBRAID ÁRANN THIAR

SÍNSEAR:



Cashel K.C. Captain
CORMAC BONNAR

CAISEAL

vs.

**CLUAIN
ULTAIGH-
ROSMÓR**



Clonoulty/R. Captain
MICHAEL HEFFERNAN

Tosnú: 3.00 p.m.

Réiteoir: PÁDRAIG Ó RUISÉAL



Cashel Minor Captain
ALAN KEATING

MIONÚR:

CAISEAL

vs.

**CUMANN
CIOCAIM**



Kickhams Captain
KEVIN FARRELL

Tosnú: 1.30 p.m.

Réiteoir: PÁDRAIG Ó LONARGÁIN

i bPáirc Gabhailín - 12 Lúnasa, 1990

CLÁR OIFIGIÚIL :: LUACH 50p

D. Ó RINN, Runaí.

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Cashel, the County Minor Champions are being taken on today by a good Kickham side and a great match is in prospect.

The clash between Cashel and Clonoulty, with many inter-county players on each side has all the ingredients for a classic. May the best team win.

We appreciate the support of all our loyal supporters from within and outside the Division throughout the year and our thanks to all who contributed to make this final day a great occasion.

SEAMUS O RIAIN, Cathaoirleach Tiobraid Arann Thiar.



CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS

Is mór an pribhléid domsa fáilte a chur roimh gach duine agaibh go dtí Páirc na nGael nGabhailin.

It is my privilege to welcome each and everyone of you here today to Páirc na nGael, Golden. A special welcome to the participating teams in today's Divisional finals. Wishing them all the best of luck in their bid to bring honour to their clubs.

I want to thank the West Board for giving us the honour of hosting their showpiece of the year, the Minor and Senior Hurling Finals. It is my wish that you enjoy the games and please, kindly co-operate with the stewards.

SEÁN O CUANA, Cathaoirleach.



THE WEST BOARD EXTENDS AN OPEN INVITATION TO THE UNVEILING OF A PLAQUE by SEAMUS O RIAIN

*in Kilfeacle Cemetery, Tipperary on WEDNESDAY, 15th AUGUST, 1990
at 7.00 p.m.*

*To Commemorate the late **PATRICK ROGER CLEARY**
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The Golden Club was founded in 1885 and in Kilfeacle in 1887. They played mostly in the South Championships up to 1930 — when the West Board was formed. They won the Junior Hurling Championship in 1935.

During the 1940's Golden/Kilfeacle amalgamated and played in all the various competitions — winning most — but they had to wait until 1969 for their first Senior Hurling title. They were victorious again in 1972. In 1979 the County Junior Football title came to the village and also in '83 the Intermediate Football County title. They have won many titles in other grades since 1930.

The present field — acquired from the Land Commission — was officially opened in 1960, and with the club development of grounds, handball courts, tennis courts etc. over £80,000 has been spent.

The Juvenile Club is really flourishing, winning the Minor Football and also in the U/16 Football Final.

At present a club history is being compiled with Mona Williams as organiser and Jimmy O'Donnell, Morty O'Connell and Willie Ryan as the historians etc.

John Cooney, Chairman.
John Currivan, Secretary.
Tom O'Donnell, Treasurer.
MI Fogarty, P.R.O.



1937 - THE GOLDEN CONNECTION

(L/r.):— Bunny Murphy, R.I.P.; Willie Wall, Philly Ryan, Bill O'Donnell, R.I.P.

DID YOU KNOW ?

1. Pa Fitzelle, John Grogan, Joe Minogue were on the Harty Cup Final team 1973, captained by Johnny Luby.
2. Joe Hayes, Clonoulty; Pat Donoghue and John Ryan, Cashel; are all members of the Garda Siochana.
3. Justin McCarthy of Cork fame is the Cashel coach.
4. Jim Fogarty of Golden, captained Moyne to the County Title in 1971.
5. Willie O'Donnell won an All-Ireland in 1936.
6. Dan Luby, Golden was a member of the Triple Crown Year, 1930.
7. 50 years ago, 1940, Cashel beat Clonoulty by 4 points.
8. Cashel have won 5 West Titles in Golden.
9. Kickhams contested 11 West Finals in a row.
10. Today is the 17th West Final in Golden.

Cormac Bonnar, Cashel:—"We love playing in Golden. We have trained hard and the team is confident of winning the West Title".

John Kennedy, Clonoulty:—"Although we are not playing well at the moment, I have no doubt we will rise our game for Cashel and the Cup will be on its way to Clonoulty Rossmore".

Opinions of the Experts:-

E. Brown, Knockavilla — Cashel.
P. Cormac, Rosegreen — Clonoulty.
P. Dunphy, Golden — Clonoulty.
J. Ryan, Kilfeacle — Cashel.
J. Luby, Golden — Clonoulty.
M. O'Connell, Golden — Clonoulty.
J. Dwyer, Boherlahan, Cashel.
J. O'Connell, Fethard — Cashel.
J. O'Donnell, Golden — Clonoulty.

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Na Réiteoirí



PADDY RUSSELL is refereeing since 1975 and at 32 years of age must be one of the youngest Inter-County referees.

His Club, Emly, introduced him to refereeing at Bord na nÓG level and he never looked back.

Today, he referees his second West Senior Hurling Final. To date he has refereed All-Ireland Junior and Minor Football Finals, Munster Senior, U/21's and Minor Finals, County Senior and Intermediate Football Finals and numerous National League Football games.

His umpires today are Ml. Collins, Ailbe Burke, Davy Crowe, Lar O'Keeffe. Linesmen are Nicholas Loneran and Connie O'Sullivan.



PADDY LONERGAN was born and raised in Kilmoyler. He is 34 years of age. He commenced his refereeing career in 1974 and is much in demand in both codes. He has handled West Finals in every grade including Hurling and Football, also County Finals in Minor, U/21 and Intermediate Football and All-Ireland Vocational Schools Finals. He has also refereed for the Munster Council at Minor and Junior level.

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CASHEL SENIOR HURLING TEAM 1990



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CASHEL KING CORMACKS

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Roll of Honour:

West S. H. titles: 1934, 1936, 1937, 1939, 1940, 1945, 1948, 1965, 1971, 1975, 1976, 1980, 1988.

West M.H. titles: 1931, 1940, 1949, 1952, 1956, 1959, 1960, 1961, 1964, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1974, 1975, 1976, 1980, 1987, 1988, 1989.

Officers: President — Willie Ryan
Chairman — Seamus J. King
Vice-Chairman — Michael Browne
Secretary — Kevin Hall
Treasurer — John Cahill
P.R.O. — John Prendergast
Juvenile Secretary — Brian Clancy
Caretaker, Leahy Park — Dinny Keating
Selectors — Brendan Bonnar, John Darmody,
Aengus Ryan.
Coach — Justin McCarthy

The "GAA History of Cashel and Rosegreen, 1884-1984" by Seamus King was published in 1984 and is still available.

All-Ireland S.H. Medal winners from the Cashel club are as follows:— Jack Gleeson, 1937; Jim Devitt, 1945 and 1949, Peter O'Sullivan, 1971; Cormac, Colm and Conal Bonnar, 1989.

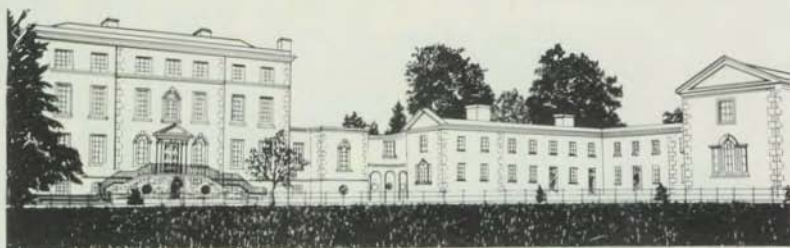
National Hurling League winners: Pat Fizelle, 1979; Colm Bonnar, 1988.

All-Star Awards: Colm Bonnar, 1988; Cormac and Conal Bonnar 1989.



Bord Officers at AGM in Cashel, 1989.

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7. TIMMY O'BRIEN
8. TOM FARRELL
9. VINCENT KELLY
10. BOBBY ALLEY
11. DECLAN HOGAN
12. GER BUTLER
13. DECLAN CROSSE
14. PAUL RYAN
15. SEAMUS CUSSEN

Subs:

16. GER BROWNE
17. LARRY O'DWYER
18. ALAN HOGAN
19. JAMES McCORMACK
20. CLIVE MORRISSEY
21. PAUL MORRISSEY
22. D. O'DWYER
23. CHRISTY RYAN

Selectors:

GERRY CAHILL
CHRISTY RYAN
PADDY CLEARY.



CASHEL

1. P. J. FLANAGAN
2. ALAN KEATING
3. SEAN O'DWYER
4. SEAMUS O'KEEFFE
5. GARY QUIRKE
6. SEAMUS MORRISSEY
7. KELVIN FLANAGAN
8. TIMMY MOLONEY
9. DAVID MOLONEY
10. SHANE LAWRENCE
11. SEANIE O'DONOGHUE
12. NOEL MURPHY
13. EAMON FOLEY.
14. JOHN ALLISON
15. MICHAEL BUTLER

Subs:

16. DENIS KEATING
17. MICHAEL QUINLAN
18. STEVAN RYAN
19. BARRY MOLONEY
20. GARY McINERNEY
21. TIMMY MOLONEY
22. LIAM BARRON.
23. MARTIN HAYES
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PHIL SHANAHAN

8.
JOE HAYES

9.
KEVIN RYAN

10.
T. J. RYAN

11.
DECLAN RYAN

12.
M. HEFFERNAN

13.
MAURICE QUIRKE

14.
DAN QUIRKE

15.
PATRICK RYAN

Subs:

16. PADDY BOURKE; 17. PETER HAYES; 18. JOHN RYAN;
19. SEAMUS COFFEY; 20. DOMINIC RYAN; 21. PHILIP QUIRKE;
22. ALAN O'DWYER; 23. SEAMUS COEN; 24. JOHN FITZGERALD.
25. KENNY RYAN; 26. TIMMY CORCORAN; 27. NEIL RYAN,
28. PAT RYAN.

Selectors: TOM RYAN, OWEN RYAN, MICHAEL RYAN

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Iomlán						

CASHEL KING CORMACS

Colours: Green & Red



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3.
PAT O'DONOGHUE

4.
JOE MINOGUE

5.
CONAL BONNAR

6.
PA FITZELLE

7.
TONY SLATTERY

8.
COLM BONNAR

9.
WILLIE FITZELLE

10.
RAYMIE RYAN

11.
CORMAC BONNAR

12.
AILBE BONNAR

13.
JAMES O'DONOGHUE

14.
SEAN SLATTERY

15.
TOMMY GROGAN

Subs:

16. MICHAEL PERDUE; 17. JOE O'LEARY; 18. DECLAN McGRATH;
19. GER SLATTERY; 20. SEAN BARRON; 21. DON HIGGINS;
22. JOHN GROGAN; 23. PETER FITZELLE.

Selectors: JOHN DARMODY, BRENDAN BONNAR, AENGUS RYAN,

Coach: JUSTIN McCARTHY.

THE MATCH

Inscribed Piece
Crystal has been
A.I.B., Tipperary

	Cúil	Cúilíní	Seachai	65m	Saor-Pucanna
Céad Leath					
Dara Leath					
Iomlán					

CLONOULTY/ROSSMORE SENIOR HURLING TEAM 1990



Clonoulty/Rossmore Selectors:

(L./r.):— Mick Ryan; Tom Ryan; Eoin Ryan.

SIR ROWLAND

THOMASTOWN, GOLDEN. *Prop: Michael & Mary Shanahan*

Best for FOOD and DRINK

Best of Luck to Both Teams in the Final.

CLONOUTLY/ROSSMORE G.A.A. CLUB Green & Gold

The words of a famous poet "Success is counted sweetest by those who ne'er succeed" can well be appreciated by many clubs all over the county and indeed, the country. For Clonoutly/Rossmore a wait of thirty eight years since 1951 made last year's West Final victory sweet indeed. To proceed to win County honours for the first time in 101 years was special — the stuff of dreams.

Long though it will be remembered, however, 1989 is past and the Senior Hurling Championship in West Tipperary has reached its final hour for another year. Clonoutly/Rossmore are happy to be part of this year's final after unconvincing victories over Eire Óg and Cappawhite. Motivating the team has not been easy this year after last year's achievements but finals generate their own motivation. Cashel are formidable and worthy opponents; interestingly they number three County Seniors in their ranks, the same compliment as Clonoutly/Rossmore and have an abundance of talent besides. Forecasting a result is an unenviable task but if the match 'lives up to expectations it should be one of the most memorable in recent years.

It is significant that all players on Clonoutly/Rossmore'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, Patrick Ryan, T.J. Ryan and Peter Hayes play in today's final.

1977 saw the club capture 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 John Kennedy who line out with today's team were on the teams of 1977 and 1981.

Clonoutly/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. Mary's, Clonmel in the County decider.

Phil Shanahan was a member 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 underage competitions as nurseries for young hurlers can be seen and cannot be over-emphasised. We have been fortunate in Clonoutly/Rossmore in having men who were dedicated to the promotion of Juvenile hurling and football and we honour them today.

Officers: Chairman — Tom Ryan
Secretary — Francis Kearney

Treasurer — John Kennedy
P.R.O. — Patrick Fogarty.



His Grace, Dr. Morris congratulates near neighbour T.J. Ryan, captain Clonoutly/Rossmore. Also in photo Monsignor Lee & J. Ryan, West Chairman.

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CASHEL & CLONOLTY - PREVIOUS MEETINGS

by S.J. King

Clonoulty won the first four West Finals, 1930, '31, '32 and '33. They didn't succeed again until 1951 and their remaining victory was in last year's final. In contrast, Cashel have won thirteen titles, their last being in 1988.

The sides have played against one another in three finals and Cashel have been successful on all occasions. In fact Cashel's first Senior West final victory was at the expense of Clonoulty in 1934.

Clonoulty were known in that year as the "Cusacks" and the sides played the final at Knockavilla on July 15th. The venue was in Killanure Castle, where the owner, Mr. Cooper, gave a field to the club.

According to the report of the game in the "Tipperary Star", Clonoulty Cusacks were decisively defeated by 'a team of merit and promise'. The report continued: 'Cashel are a young, fast team and their supporters are confidently expecting big things from them. The Clonoulty side were a much heavier side but lacked the speed and combination of their opponents. They were noticeably weak in the forward line. The veterans of the Cusack team, Jim Brown, Jack Dwyer (L) and Tom Duggan were prominent throughout'. The weakness of the Clonoulty forwards is reflected in the score, a mere point in the course of the hour. At half time the score was 2-3 to 0-1 in Cashel's favour and at full time 2-5 to 0-1.

The Cashel team was:— Michael Leamy (capt.), Jack Gleeson, Mick and Florrie McCarthy, Batt Hickey, Mick Burke, Davy Boland, Tom Griffin, Mick Murphy, Stedie and Ned Morrissey, Mick Ryan, Denis O'Brien, Tom Parsons and John Barrett. Subs on the day were Mick Flynn, Joe Byrne, Pat Maher and Dan Ryan. The report does not give the Cusack team. The referee was James Ryan of Hollyford, who had succeeded Dan English as secretary of the West Board.

MEMORIES

Cashel captain, Michael Leamy, who is still hale and hearty at 78 years of age, has a few memories of the game. Although usually a corner-forward, he played at centre-forward that day in order to keep an eye on Jack Dwyer. He succeeded in getting one of the Cashel goals. He believes that the parish rule wasn't very closely enforced at the time and that the Cusacks had players from outside the parish. It was to be the first of five Senior titles for Michael and two more of them were to be won against Clonoulty. One of the players he was to come up against was Jim Hennessy and he was later to marry Jim's sister, Mary.

The 1937 final was contested between Cashel and Clonoulty. The game was played at Golden on July 18th and the reports tell of a "splendid game" and although Cashel retained their title "Clonoulty made them travel all the way". The 'Cusacks' tag had disappeared and Clonoulty were the previous years Junior champions.

According to the report 'Cashel carried too many guns for their opponents and, giving a polished display of fast, accurate hurling, succeeded in retaining their title. It was not, however, until the last ten minutes of the game that the King Cormacs established any definite superiority. Wearing down a stout Clonoulty defence they had two valuable scores in the closing stages of the game, which clinched the issue'.

At halftime, Cashel led by 1-3 to 1-1 and were in front by 2-4 to 1-1 at the final whistle. Bill O'Donnell of Golden was the referee. The Cashel side was:— M. Burke (capt.), J. Barrett, G.

THE GOLDEN INN

(Prop. Bill & Ber Toohey)

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THE GOLDEN INN



O'Shea, M. Leamy, E. Morrissey, S. Morrissey, T. Parsons, M. Murphy, P. Maher, M. McCarthy, F. McCarthy, P. Holmes, D. Boland, D. O'Brien, M. Ryan (S). The Clonoulty team was:— J. Kennedy (capt.), J. Byrne, J. Brennan, G. Gleeson, J. Hennessy, J. Dwyer, J. Gould, W. Ferncombe, J. Carew, J. Quirke, P. Hammersley, M. Maher, P. Byrne, T. Hammersley, W. Dwyer.

A THIRD VICTORY

Cashel became the first holders of the O'Dwyer Cup, the new trophy for the West Senior Hurling Champions, when they defeated Clonoulty by 5-1 to 3-3 at Dundrum on August 25th, 1940. This was an extraordinary game in which Cashel's comfortable early lead was nearly lost in a surprise finish.

Although holding a commanding lead at the interval, 4-1 to 0-3, Cashel were hard pressed to retain their title, Clonoulty making a great rally which provided a thrilling finish. Most of the highlights of the game were reserved for the second half. In the last quarter, Clonoulty, only four points behind, fought desperately to save the day and provided a rousing finish.

The referee was Bill O'Donnell and the admission charge was one shilling (5p). The teams were:— Cashel — D. Boland, W. Moynihan, M. McCarthy, P. Holmes, J. Barrett, S. Morrissey, M. Hackett, E. Morrissey, M. Murphy, P. Maher, M. Burke, J. Maher, G. Shea, D. O'Brien, D. Ryan. Clonoulty:— M. Cleary, J. Byrne, J. Kennedy, B. Ferncombe, J. Quirke, P. O'Shea, M. Ryan, P. Hennessy, J. Ferncombe, M. Maher, T. Hammersley, J. Hennessy, P. Ferncombe, P. Fell, J. Byrne.

TODAY?

What result will today's game give us? If past encounters are anything to go by Cashel will continue their run of successes. On the other hand if present team strengths are taken into consideration one can't be quite so sure. Neither team fulfilled its promise at the semi-final stage. Both teams have galaxies of names to beat the best but delivering on promise has been neither side's strength. Clonoulty bring out the best in Cashel and if they continue to do that it should be the King Cormac's day. It is interesting that the last good, full hour's championship hurling played by Cashel was against Clonoulty at Dundrum in 1988!

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CLONOLTY & CASHEL

FRUITS OF UNDERAGE SUCCESS ? by J.J. Kennedy

Does underage success assure adult achievement? The vexed question crops up periodically as analysts try to explain the emergence of a particular force or alternatively the seeming disappearance of upcoming talent.

The evidence to support the line that underage achievement follows through to the senior grade is patchy and at times unconvincing. The great underage accomplishments of Eire Og, Nenagh, read most impressively: County Minor Hurling titles in '77 and '78 and a string of U/21 County's from '79 to '82. Yet the impetus has failed to carry through to Senior; you go back to '64 for the last of their few North Senior Hurling successes with not a hint of a County coming.

On the inter-county stage, Offaly won an All-Ireland Senior in '81 five years before they won their first Minor in '86 — and they've never won the U/21. Surely the reversal of an argument often put forward. Even Galway's Senior Hurling breakthrough in 1980 came three years before their first Minor success in '83 although they did have U/21 success in the seventies.

And yet despite the evidence people will still glance worriedly or smugly at underage affairs as if they offered a foolproof indicator for the future. Cork recently set up a committee to investigate the state of hurling in their county; worried, most apparently, about the lack of Minor success. In Tipperary, already there are worried glances cast at the failure of our under-eighteens to claim an All-Ireland since 1982.

So what of the debate if applied to today's contestants? Cashel surely indicate that there is sometimes nothing to follow underage success. Their great sides at Minor level in the mid-seventies, taking a pair of County titles in '74 and '75 failed to step up to take an U/21 and at Senior level their count of West Championships in the meantime has been sparse as well.

They won a County Minor title in 1980; now ten years later those players are in their late twenties, a time when surely, they should be in their prime even allowing for a certain element of "natural wastage". Yet a quick glance at that 1980 Cashel Minor side reveals that only Colm Bonnar, Sean Slattery and Willie Fitzelle are on today's panel. So should Cashel expect a great future from their Minor successes of the past few years? One wonders. Past evidence isn't encouraging.

Clonoulty's case however does show a far greater degree of follow through. They succeeded Cashel as County Minor Champions in 1981 and although they have failed to add a County U/21 title since then missing tantalisingly in the past two years their present Senior team includes Andrew Fryday, David Ryan, Seamus Hammersley, Joe Hayes, Michael Heffernan, John Kennedy, Pat Ryan, Paddy Burke and Niall Ryan from the '81 Minor panel (hopefully I've missed none).

One could go on and on stating the evidence. Cappawhite won a County Senior title in 1987 without winning a County Minor since 1965; they won an U/21 with Eire Og in 1977. Clonoulty last year won the County Senior without ever winning the U/21.

So what does it all indicate — what conclusion should be drawn. Already I can hear people mention numerous cases where underage success has carried through to bright Senior futures; I have taken selective evidence to support one side it will be claimed.

The most balanced conclusion would seem to be that underage prominence can lead to adult success but only if there is development. If underage becomes an end in itself then there is no life at Senior. And inevitably if players become sated with success in their teens with cupboards of trophies and endless adulation they become tired, unambitious Seniors.

Besides the gap between underage and Senior is huge; players who continue to play a Minor or U/21 game at Senior will flounder. They must progress, develop, mature, call it what you will. The qualities that made players successful in underage company will not suffice in the more demanding Senior arena; they need to be supplemented with a developing toughness.

So "Mol an Oige" and all that is fine in its own right but don't expect that it will automatically bring a rich Senior harvest. The "cut-off" in many clubs somewhere in the late teens is worrying; the progress isn't always carried through. So perhaps underage needs to be reassessed and put in its proper perspective as the conveyor belt of future stars rather than the end.

The evidence shows that underage success indicates nothing more than future potential — and we all know that potential isn't always realised. And those without underage stars should not despair — others have successfully skipped that route.

A LOOK BACK AT 1983



Clonoulty/Rossmore S.H. Team 1983 - Clonoulty, runners-up to Cashel in the Crosco Cup S.H.C. Final in Bansha.



Cashel U/21 Team West Hurling Champions 1983.

(Back row l/r):-Willie Fizzle, John Barry, Pat O'Donoghue, Jimmy Ryan, Pat Walsh, Ger Slattery, Donal Fanning, Joe Moloney.

(Front row l/r):-Colm Bonnar, Sean Slattery, Gabriel Irwin (capt.), Michael Fanning, Eddie Ryan, Eddie Wallace, J.J. Murphy.



Golden/Kilfeacle S.F.C. Losers Group v. Cappawhite in Sean Treacy Park.

CENTREFIELD - LÁR NA PÁIRCE

BACKGROUND

Thurles is a town which has been steeped in the tradition of Gaelic Games since the Gaelic Athletic Association was founded there in 1884. As such, it is the ideal location in which to recreate and interpret the proud history of Ireland's premier sporting association. It is estimated that at least 750,000 are actively involved with Gaelic Games and a much larger number are interested as supporters. As no national interpretive centre for Gaelic Games exists, such a centre located in Thurles, the very birthplace of the G.A.A. has potential to become a visitor attraction of national and indeed international significance.

A project team has been set up consisting of representatives of Thurles Development Association, Shannon Development Company and Tipperary County Board G.A.A., with the objective of establishing a visitor attraction based on the history and games of the G.A.A. A feasibility study which was carried out, concluded that the project was viable and would attract 50,000 visitors annually to Thurles.

LOCATION

The Committee has now purchased the town's old National Bank building which is one of the finest non-ecclesiastic buildings in Thurles. Built in 1863, it is a large building with a fine cut-stone facade, and located 60 metres from Liberty Square, it is an ideal home for the project. An adjacent half acre site provides adequate space for landscaping, coach and car parking, and any future extension of the existing building which may be necessary.

With the generous support of FÁS, renovation of the building began in July 1989, with the major job of replacing the roof and securing the building. Those working on the project are all young people under 30. When complete, the project will be titled Lár na Páirce or Centrefield.

THE NEED FOR LÁR NA PÁIRCE

Sporting organisations throughout the world are now creating and reliving their historic past. Basketball, baseball, golf and soccer, are all interpreted within several exciting and imaginative visitor centres. Gaelic games do not yet benefit from the heightened awareness and prestige which a first rate interpretive centre can impart.

This need to preserve and foster the rich heritage which the games have bestowed, presents an opportunity for Thurles, a town presently without a visitor attraction. Since Interpretive Centres are really successful, only when located where the event being interpreted actually occurred, the Centrefield concept is uniquely suited to Thurles and for this reason will be developed **exclusively** as an interpretation of the heritage transmitted to us from Gaelic Games.

THE PROJECT TEAM

Chairman J. Finn (TDA), Secretary T. Casey (TDA), Treasurer L. O'Donnchu (GAA), E. De Stafford (Shannon Development), S. King (GAA), N. Morris (GAA), S. O'Callaghan (TDA), T. O'Domhnaill (Shannon Development), J. O'Dwyer (Development Officer).

Centrefield is being supported by Shannon Development, Tipperary County Board, the Munster Council and the Central Council, GAA.

WHAT WILL LÁR NA PÁIRCE HAVE TO OFFER?

- An interpretive centre for Gaelic Games.
- The National GAA archive and library.
- Audio Visual Theatre.

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- Tipperary GAA Office.
- Administration and storage space.

HOW WILL THE GAMES BE INTERPRETED?

The plans for Centrefield envisage that the ground floor area will consist of interactive display where light, sound, graphics and video are used to bring alive the history of the GAA and its enormous effect on Ireland's historic and cultural development. A small cinema will be included showing highlights of classic games from the past, using all-round sound to pull visitors directly into the atmosphere of the games.

The first floor area will incorporate a standard museum display of artifacts, but with modern technology used to demonstrate the historic context and importance of the exhibits. Here, cups, medals, hurleys and programmes will be displayed along with models of how famous grounds would have looked in the past at an early stage of development. As a basis for this display the famous Sam Melbourne collection, which is now owned by the Tipperary County Board, is being made available. Finally, in the dramatic concluding exhibit, a large wrap-ground screen and special effects will allow visitors to directly experience the unique atmosphere and intensity of All-Ireland Final Day.

It is also proposed that the National Archive of Gaelic Games will be located within the building. With the support of FÁS, research has been carried out to provide a centralised data-base of statistical information covering all Gaelic Games. When operational, visitors to the centre can be provided with pen pictures of each player to win an All-Ireland title, along with other statistical and historic information.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT SOUGHT

When complete, it is estimated that Lár na Páirce will have cost upwards of £0.65 million. The financial package being put in place will involve a mixture of private and public sector funding, along with a substantial GAA and community contribution. Financial projections indicate that once in operation, Lár na Páirce will trade profitably, provided it is not burdened by annual repayment on substantial borrowings.

Therefore the Project Team are appealing to the many friends and supporters of Cumann Lúthchleas Gael for the assistance which will be necessary to make Lár na Páirce become reality. In supporting this project you will help directly with the creation of six jobs, generate a large financial spin-off greatly benefitting the economy of the Tipperary area, but above all you will have assisted in the creation of a fitting tribute to great players and outstanding achievements in over 100 years of Gaelic Games.



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THE CUP IN GOLDEN

John Leamy,
Declan Carr,
Cormac Bonnar,
Conal Bonnar,
pictured with
Michelle O'Shea.

GOLDEN OLDIES

Morty
O'Connell,
Willie
Ryan,
Jim
O'Donnell.



Fitzpatrick Bros., Printers, Tipperary.