

West Tipperary Senior Hurling Final

Match Programme

1993

Cumann Lúthcleas Gael - Tiobraid Árann Thiar



Cluiche Ceannais Iomáint Sinsear

Páirc Shéain Uí Treasaigh 29 Lúnasa, 1993.



WILLIE FITZELLE
Cashel Capt.

Caiseal
Rí Cormaic
V

Cumann Baire
Cnoc A Bhile
Dún na Sciath



TONY FARRELL
Kickhams Capt.

Tosnú : 3.15 p.m.

Réiteoir : Pádraig Ó Ruiséal

Cluiche Ceannais Pelle

Mionúr A: Fanaithes Gleann Árann V Fanaithes na Gailtí

Tosnú : 12.15p.m. Réiteoir : Eamonn Ó Duibhir

Iomáint Idirmheanach

Cumann Sheáin Uí Threasaigh V Eire Óg

Tosnú : 1.30p.m. Réiteoir : Concubhar Ó Súilleabhain

Clár Oifigiúil
Luach : £1

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FÁILTE

West Board Chairman

It is an honour and a privilege as Cathaoirleach of Coiste Thiobraid Árann Thiar to extend a cead míle fáilte to all in attendance here today, especially all participating teams.

I want to compliment Arravale Rovers on the improvement carried out on their grounds and wish them well today on hosting our divisional showpiece.

Today we bring you Arravale and Galtee, traditional in football to battle for Minor Football "A" honours. A crunch game Sean Treacys and Eire Og in Intermediate Hurling and hopefully a classic final in Senior Hurling between Cashel and Kickhams.

Finally, thanks to all our patrons for all your loyal support throughout the season and hopefully all our wishes are that today's Senior finalists will do West Tipp proud in the Co. Championships.

PÓL Ó NEILL

Cathaoirleach Tiobraid Árann Thiar.

TODAY'S REFEREES



EAMON O'DWYER
(Rosegreen)
Referee Minor game



PADDY RUSSELL
(Emly)
Referee Senior game



CON O'SULLIVAN
Referee I.H.C. game

WELCOME

- Arravale Rvs. Chairman

Cead míle fáilte to all the teams, officials and patrons who make West Final days memorable for all of us. Today is also an important day for our club - our Minors play in a West Final and it's the first time that our new enclosed sideline will be used. This development is ongoing and hopefully in the near future the seating will be covered.

We look forward to an afternoon of skillful and sporting, enjoyable games. I thank the West Board officials for their courtesy and help and especially J.J. Kennedy, Seamus King, Jerry Ring, Tom O'Donoghue and all our contributors to this lovely programme.

LIAM O DUIBHIR, Cathaoirleach.



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Intermediate Hurling Championship

EIRE OG

- | | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| | 1.
Donncha Horan | |
| 2.
Bill Burke | 3.
Liam Mooney | 4.
Denis O'Dwyer |
| 5.
Vinny Ryan | 6.
Pat Fox | 7.
Kevin Fox |
| 8.
Liam Dwyer | | 9.
John Kelly |
| 10.
Tim Heffernan | 11.
Anthony Crosse | 12.
John Quinn |
| 13.
Michael Ryan | 14.
Martin Quinn | 15.
Michael Ryan |

Fir Ionaid:- 16. Tom Ryan, 17. Sean Breen, 18. Ger Griffin,
19. Noel Griffin, 20. Tom Breen, 21. Shane Hennessy
22. Michael McGrath

SEAN TREACYS

- | | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| | 1.
Seamus Butler | |
| 2.
Michael Hickey | 3.
John Hickey | 4. |
| 5.
William Ryan | 6.
Tom Hickey | 7.
Philip O'Connell |
| 8.
Vincent Carr | | 9.
Mike Hanley |
| 10.
John Butler | 11.
Val Kennedy | 12.
Nicky Carroll |
| 13.
Andy Carr | 14.
Tom Kennedy | 15.
Paudie Ryan |

Fir Ionaid:- 16. Paddy Quigley, 17. J.J. Ryan, 18. George Fahy,
19. Martin McCormack, 20. Seamus Costello, 21. Ollie Kennedy.

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Championship Meetings between Cashel and Kickhams

14-7-1935	Kickhams 4-5	Cashel 1-5	at Clonoulty
16-8-1936	Cashel 5-3	Kickhams 0-3	at Golden
21-6-1942	Kickhams beat Cashel by 2 points		at Golden
23-7-1944	Cashel 2-5	Kickhams 2-3	at Clonoulty
8-7-1945	Cashel 6-5	Donaskeigh 5-5	at Clonoulty
11-8-1946	Kickhams 2-4	Cashel 1-3	at Clonoulty
3-8-1947	Kickhams (won)	Cashel	at Clonoulty
5-9-1948	Cashel 3-6	Kickhams 3-4	at Golden
21-8-1949	Kickhams 5-7	Cashel 3-2	at Clonoulty
17-9-1950	Kickhams 2-5	Cashel 2-0	at Tipperary
17-9-1950	Kickhams 2-5	Cashel 2-0	at Tipperary
1951	Kickhams (won)	Cashel	
24-5-1953	Kickhams 7-11	Cashel 4-0	at Golden
6-6-1954	Kickhams 11-3	Cashel 5-0	at Clonoulty
11-9-1955	Kickhams 7-3	Cashel 5-7	at Golden
22-6-1958	Kickhams 4-9	Cashel 0-3	at Clonoulty
7-6-1959	Kickhams 4-1	Cashel 2-5	at Clonoulty
6-6-1965	Kickhams 7-9	Cashel 1-3	at Golden
25-6-1967	Cashel (by 4 points)	Kickhams	at Golden
1947	Kickhams (by a point)	Cashel	
30-5-1976	Cashel (won)	Kickhams	at Golden
15-5-1977	Cashel 2-13	Kickhams 3-4	at Golden
31-7-1977	Kickhams 3-11	Cashel 4-7	at S. T. Park
28-5-1978	Cashel 1-14	Kickhams 2-5	
9-5-1979	Cashel 2-9	Kickhams 0-8	at Golden
8-6-1980	Kickhams 2-11	Cashel 2-8	at Clonoulty
24-7-1988	Cashel 1-12	Kickhams 1-4	at Cappawhite
23-6-1991	Cashel 3-12	Kickhams 1-8	at Clonoulty
17-5-1992	Cashel 4-14	Kickhams/Emly 1-5	at Golden

Best of Luck to KICKHAMS from . . .

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PREVIOUS FINALS - by S. J. King

Today's final will be the 64th West Senior Hurling Final and between them Cashel and Kickhams have won twenty-nine. The breakdown is Cashel fifteen, Kickhams fourteen. So, nearly half of all finals have been won by either side. Yet, they have met only four times in finals.

However, the teams have met many times in championship games, as can be seen elsewhere in this programme. In all they have contested twenty-eight games with the balance strongly in Kickhams favour. The latter have been on the winning side sixteen times to Cashel's twelve. An interesting point about these encounters is that on two occasions when Cashel won the divisional title they were beaten earlier by Kickhams. This happened in 1965 and 1980. On both occasions the championship was organised on a league followed by a knockout basis. In 1965 Kickhams slaughtered Cashel in the first round of the league by 7-9 to 1-3 and in 1980 they had a three point victory. On both occasions Cashel got there act together and went on to win the title. Another interesting year was 1977. Kickhams beat Cashel that year in the Crosco Cup. Cashel reversed the decision in the league championship. The sides met for a third time in the semi-final and Kickhams were victorious.

FIRST FINAL

The first meeting of the sides was in 1935 but it wasn't until 1948 that they met in a final. They played in Golden on September 5th, the day Jesse James was born one hundred and one years previously. Kickhams had already beaten Cashel in the league semi-final. Cashel had three players of county experience, Jim Devitt of the senior side and P. O'Brien and W. Hickey of the junior side. Kickhams got off to a flying start and netted two goals. They were ahead by four points at half-time and looked good. But Cashel fought back and won by 3-6 to 3-4. The winning side was:- M. Hackett, M. Coady, J. Corcoran, E. Murane, M. Murphy (capt.), J. Devitt, M. Devitt, W. Hickey, S. Dunne, R. Ryan, J. Hickey, J. Fitzell, P. O'Brien, P. Darcy, P. Devitt.

KICKHAMS' VICTORIES

Kickhams won the next two finals between the sides. Today's venue was the setting for the first of these victories on September 7th, 1950, a day on which bad weather marred the game. There is very little contemporary newspaper information on this match. One account states that Kickhams proved too strong for a good but light Cashel fifteen and won by 2-5 to 2-0. Neither local papers give the Kickhams team. The side that was defeated later by Carrick Swans in the county semi-final was:- B. Dwyer, M. Ryan, J. O'Dwyer, R. English, P. Morrissey, L. Fryday, T. Ryan, J. Farrell, D. McCormack, J. Ryan, M. Maher, M. Wade, J. Hennessy, J.J. McCormack, S. Dwyer.

The next meeting between the sides was on September 11th, 1955. The newspaper headline stated:- *"Knockavilla win 8th title in ten years"*. It was their fourth successive title and it didn't appear possible at half-time. At that stage they were being led by thirteen points. Cashel seemed set for victory. Their speedy forwards outpaced the Kickhams backs and availed of almost every opportunity to score four goals and six points. In contrast the Kickhams forwards could do hardly anything right and shot no fewer than ten wides.

What a transformation in the second half! Kickhams staged a great recovery which

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Previous Finals continued . . .

was inspired by the introduction of J.J. McCormack, who came on as a sub. Although he could hobble around on only one leg because of an injured knee, he scored two goals and had a hand in the others. His presence at full-forward instilled new life into the other forwards and they ran in six goals during the half. Nobody could account for the collapse of Cashel. They went to pieces in most sectors of the field and Kickhams were ahead by 7-3 to 5-7 at the final whistle. The winning team was:- P. Hennessy, S. Dwyer, J. McCormack, T. McCormack, M. Ryan, L. Dwyer, J. Lonergan, D. McCormack, J. Farrell, W. Hayes, J. Hennessy, Jimmy Farrell, J. Browne, D. Ryan, P. Cleary.

A LONG WAIT

Cashel had to wait a long time to avenge that defeat, thirty-three years in fact. The date was July 24th, 1988 and the venue was Cappawhite. In the meantime Kickhams had gone through a bad patch, not winning a final since 1960. In contrast Cashel had four victories to their credit over the same period and were going for their thirteenth title. It didn't prove an unlucky number and they took the title in a comfortable enough manner in a scoreline of 1-12 to 1-4 on a windy day Cashel were the superior side but their forwards had to contend with a Kickhams defence which defended bravely. The winning side was:- R. Ryan, T. Slattery, P. O'Donoghue, J. Minogue, L. Devitt, C. Bonnar, T. Fitzgerald, P. Fitzell, W. Fitzell, Conal Bonnar, Cormac Bonnar, M. Perdue, S. Slattery, John Ryan (B), Jimmy Ryan.

So what does all that tell us? That on the championship record Kickhams should have the edge or that on the result of finals the verdict is fifty-fifty? On the basis of the last three outings by the teams the advantage is strongly stacked in Cashel's favour, with an increasing margin of victory on each occasion. However, on an occasion like this statistics can be meaningless. It's a new game on Sunday with Kickhams, arguably the most highly-motivated team in the west this year and with a long unbroken record of successes to their credit challenging a Cashel team which nobody had given much chance against Cappawhite but which, as a result of that fortuitous Ailbe goal in the last minute, has got a new lease of life and a new belief in itself. What the result will be is difficult to forecast but it will, as always, depend on which side delivers the goods today, not on how they played on previous occasions.



Tony Slattery (capt.) with his wife, Mary, after receiving the O'Dwyer Cup following Cashel's victory in the 1988 West final.



Action photograph from 1948 West final between Cashel and Kickhams. (L. to r.): Jimmy Hennessy (Kickhams) Mickey Murphy, Cashel, Donal Ryan, Cashel; Jimmy Farrell, Kickhams.

TODAY'S CAPTAINS

by J. J. Kennedy

Cashel Captain - WILLIE FITZELL

One of the great sporting families of Cashel and brother of Peter, Pat and Arthur, uncle John was on the successful Cashel team that beat Kickhams in the 1948 final.

Twenty-eight years of age and married to Julia, it's Willie's second time to captain the King Cormac's. He was at the helm in 1987 when Cashel won the Crosco Cup, the first of his four league medals. However, it was brother Pat who received the cup that day because Willie had been injured during the game. Later in the championship the team was beaten by Sean Treacy's with an opportunist goal in the dying moments.

The following year Willie made the county panel and was on the successful Tipperary side that beat Offaly in the National League final.

In 1988 also, Willie won the first of his three divisional Senior Hurling medals and he was to go on to win county and Munster honours in 1991.

At underage he also had a reasonably successful career. He won divisional honours at under-14 and under-16 in hurling and football. In the latter he captained the side that failed in the final hurdle against Templemore after a marathon final that lasted five hours! His later football achievements included a county junior football medal in 1984 and a senior divisional medal in 1991.

Today, Willie is determined to captain the red and green to West Senior Championship success to add to his achievement in the Crosco Cup in 1987 and his other sporting successes.

Kickhams Captain - TONY FARRELL

At 28 years of age, he stands 6 feet tall and weighs around 11 and a half stone. He wears number 14 and today he'll stand flesh-to-flesh on the edge of the square with one of Cashel's tallest, Pat O'Donoghue. He's free taker and goal poacher. He's play-maker for those around him. He's onfield leader of Kickhams offense. He's Tony Farrell, captain full forward who'll hope to be the first parishioner to handle the O'Dwyer Cup since fellow Donaskeighite, Billy Hayes, in 1960.

Hurling is in the genes. Brother, Kevin, handles the number six jersey and cousin, Jimmy, lays claim now to number three. Older brother John will be recalled as a Tipp goalie who won All-Ireland u-21 in 1981 and spent a term with Tipp seniors subsequently. Dad, another John, holds a unique distinction that's unlikely to be matched: he owns twelve West Tipp Senior medals, the first as a youthful panelist in '46 and the last in '60. He also boasts a Minor All-Ireland with Tipp in '47 and a little detail of five West Minor medals must also stand apart in the records.

Tony's sideboard collection doesn't quite match that. He's got a West Minor "B" from 1982, and u-21 in 1986 and a Crosco this year. Last year though was the highlight when he captained the side to a County Intermediate, the club's first, and this year he retains the captaincy in the quest for the Senior breakthrough. Injuries have been unhelpful - he missed the Crosco Cup final against Clonoulty. Still, if he leads the side to glory today he'll be merely continuing the family line, which isn't easy when the name is Farrell.

CASHEL SENIOR HURLING TEAM



(Back l.r.): T. J. Connolly, Donal Ryan, Pat O'Donoghue, John Ryan, Sean O'Donoghue, Joe O'Leary, Joe Minogue.
(Front l.r.): Michael Butler, Ailbe Bonnar, Colm Bonnar, Conal Bonnar, Cormac Bonnar, Willie Fitzell,
Raymie Ryan, Michael Perdue.

Best wishes to CASHEL in the Final ...

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Red & Green

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2. DONAL RYAN	3. PAT O'DONOGHUE	4. MICHAEL PERDUE
5. RAYMIE RYAN	6. T.J. CONNOLLY	7. SEAN O'DONOGHUE
8. WILLIE FITZELLE (Captain)	9. COLM BONNAR	
10. CONAL BONNAR	11. AILBE BONNAR	12. JOE O'LEARY
13. JOE MINOGUE	14. CORMAC BONNAR	15. MICHAEL BUTLER

Substitutes:- 16. Trevor McInerney, 17. James O'Donoghue, 18. Seamus Morrissey, 19. Kieran O'Reilly, 20. Sean Slattery, 21. Sean Morrissey, 22. Sean Barron, 23. Michael Minogue, 24. Declan McGrath, 25. Ger O'Dwyer.

Coach: Justin McCarthy

Selectors: Brendan Bonnar, John Darmody, Peter O'Sullivan.

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17/7/93	Cappawhite 0-16
25/7/93	Kickhams 2-14
SEMI'S	
15/8/93	Kickhams 1-15
15/8/93	Cashel 1-17
FINAL	
29/8/93	Cashel

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3.
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4.
GER CROSSE

5.
CHRISTY RYAN

6.
KEVIN FARRELL

7.
PAUL MORRISSEY

8.
KIERAN CUSSEN

9.
JOHN McCORMACK

10.
P.J. QUALTER

11.
JOHNNY BUTLER

12.
VINCENT KELLY

13.
GER BUTLER

14.
TONY FARRELL
(Captain)

15.
DECLAN CROSSE

FINAL

Arravale/Aherlow 1-6

Treacys/Galtee 0-6

Eire Óg/Lattin 3-9

Clonoulty/R 0-10

Cappawhite 2-13

Kickhams

Substitutes:- 16. Brian Horgan, 17. Barry Ryan, 18. Aidan Slattery,
19. Martin Browne, 20. Pierce Butler, 21. Larry Farrell,
22. Phil Ryan, 23. Pat Ryan, 24. Raymond Heney.

Coach: Danny Morrissey.

Selectors: Jim McCormack, Gerry Cahill, Paddy Hayes.

Wishing the Kickhams all the best in the Final

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KICKHAMS SENIOR HURLING PANEL



(Back l.r.): Martin Browne, Paul Morrissey, Brian Horgan, Phil Ryan, Anthony Qualter, Jimmy Farrell, Sean Bradshaw,
Kieran Cussen, Pat Ryan, John McCormack, Larry Farrell, Declan Crosse, Paudie Slattery.
(Front l.r.): Barry Ryan, Aidan Slattery, Vincent Kelly, Ger Butler, Christopher Ryan, Tony Farrell (capt.), Johnny Butler,
Ger Crosse, Raymond Heney, Kevin Farrell, Pierce Butler.

MINOR FOOTBALL "A" FINAL GALTEE ROVERS

- | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1.
Sean O Neill | | |
| 2.
John Murphy | 3.
Michael White | 4.
David Gorman |
| 5.
Liam Phelan | 6.
Oliver O'Brien
(capt.) | 7.
Gerard Lonergan |
| 8.
Eamon Lonergan | | 9.
Dallan Browne |
| 10.
Raymond Hickey | 11.
Brian Walsh | 12.
Ml. Collins |
| 13.
Brendan Healy | 14.
Stephen Crowe | 15.
James Galvin |
- Fir Ionaid:-** 16. Declan Hayes, 17. Peter O'Sullivan, 18. John Peters,
19. David Browne, 20. Mark Crowe, 21. Declan O'Donoghue
22. Brian Morrissey. **Selectors:** Willie Tarrant, Michael Grace, John Gubbins,
Matt Nugent, Seamus Byron.

ARRAVALLE ROVERS

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| 1.
Ian Morrissey | | |
| 2.
Kieran Greene | 3.
Andrew Cavanagh | 4.
Niall English |
| 5.
Declan Crowe | 6.
Kevin Jones | 7.
David Ryan |
| 8.
Brendan Crowe (capt.) | | 9.
Wayne Doyle |
| 10.
Frank Jones | 11.
Kevin O'Sullivan | 12.
Aidan Tobin |
| 13.
Fergal O'Reilly | 14.
Donal Ryan | 15.
Pat Stokes |
- Fir Ionaid:-** 16. Mark Cummins, 17. David Morey, 18. Paul Maher,
19. Roy Collins, 20. Jamie Wade, 21. Eamon O'Dwyer.
Managers: Seamus O'Donoghue, Tony O'Sullivan.

Best wishes to KICKHAMS in the Final
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1960 RECALLED - KICKHAMS' LAST HURRAH

by J. J. Kennedy

If an innocent bystander had suggested, as Billy Hayes carried the O'Dwyer Cup from Golden on July 24th 1960, that it would be thirty three years (at least) before Kickhams again held that trophy, he'd surely have been dismissed as of unsound mind. The club that had won ten out of twelve titles could hardly be suppressed for that long. Yet that's precisely what has happened as Kickhams today once more seek to end the lengthenig famine.

That 1960 win has assumed an importance similar to Tipperary's 1971 All-Ireland prior to the 1989 breakthrough. Each added year to the list of failures gives it an added signifnace.

In 1960 Kickhams got to the final with wins over Cappawhite (3-5 to 1-2), Rossmore (4-4 to 0-5) and St. Vincents, made up of Eire Og and Glengar, (6-13 to 0-3). Solohead were the final opponents.

In the game played at Golden Kickhams won by 2-8 to 1-6 for their 14th divisional crown.

Snippets from the match report allot the credits:

".....one of the best finals in the division for many years witnessed by a record attendance.....a good share of the credit for Kickhams victory goes to goalie, Donie O'Brien.....Tom McCormack, Niall Dwyer and Con Cash kept a close eye on the Solohead forwards and made sure they did not molest Donie.....Billy Hayes.....played a captain's part.....the fair haired Butler had his best game of the year.....Paddy Ryan had a good hour.....veteran Din McCormack had a poor first half but redeemed himself in the second.....Joe Mulooly had a great game.....John Farrelldid some nice things.....Eamon Purcell played a good game.....Regan.....played well.....J.J. McCormack..... found Jim Stapleton a handful.....the Cleary brothers.....played well and Paddy's goal was the best of the match."

KICKHAMS - 1960 West Champions



(Back row):- Joe Mulooly, Niall O'Dwyer, John Joe McCormack, Eamonn Purcell, Paddy Ryan, Tom McCormack, Dinny McCormack, Con Cash, John Butler.

(Front row):- Michael Cleary, Leo Ryan P (R.I.P.), Sean Regan, Billy Hayes (capt.), John Farrell, Donal O'Brien, Paddy Cleary.

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TOMMY GROGAN

Years of Hurling - by S. J. King

Spectators leaving the West Senior Hurling final game in Golden recently expressed the opinion that Cashel were lucky to get through against Cappawhite. And, in a sense, the opinion was correct because it was a last minute goal by Ailbe Bonnar that made victory possible. However, another point of view was that Cashel's victory shouldn't have depended on that fortuitous score as Cashel had scoring opportunities from at least five placed balls in the course of the hour. It was believed that had Tommy Grogan been playing things would have been different and his fine display against the same opposition in Clonoulty in 1991, when he scored ten of Cashel's twelve points, all from placed balls, was recalled.

Since that fine display, Tommy has retired from the competitive scene. On an occasion like this it is appropriate to recall the achievements of one of the finest players to represent the Cashel King Cormac's.

A child prodigy in hurling, his early hurling honours were won in 1969. In that year he won a County u-13 hurling medal and he went on to win similar medals in under 15 hurling and football, u-16 hurling and football and u-18 hurling and football. He has a record of five West Minor hurling medals which is unlikely to be ever equalled.

CONTRIBUTION

He is high in his praise of two men prominent at underage level at that time, Monto Carrie, and, when he died tragically in 1973, Aengus Ryan. Their contribution was immense and they organised and developed the incredible talent available.

'We felt we were unbeatable and the record proved it. It was as fine a collection of underage talent as was ever assembled in a parish'. He goes on to recall how they were beaten in the All-Ireland semi-final of Feile na nGael by the eventual winners, Blackrock, in 1971, and he adds:- 'Significantly, twenty-one years later on, four of us, John, Pat Fitzell, Joe Minogue, and myself were beaten in the All-Ireland Club semi-final by the eventual winners Kiltormer'.

COUNTY

Tommy's sporting brilliance was soon recognised in a wider arena. He was on the County Minor hurling and football teams in 1975 and 1976, winning provincial and All-Ireland honours in hurling in the latter year. He was three years on the county under-21 team in hurling and football, beaten in an All-Ireland final by Galway in 1978 and winning in 1979. He never progressed to Senior level. Some of his opponents at underage level like Tom Cashman, Diarmuid McCurtain of Cork and Paddy Prendergast of Kilkenny, made the natural progression to senior ranks, but most of them didn't. The only senior involvement Tommy had was in a few tournaments, including a trip to Coventry in 1981 to play the new All-Ireland Champions, Offaly.

CLUB ACHIEVEMENTS

Probably the high point of Tommy's achievements was in 1976 when he won the record total of seven divisional medals, minor hurling and football,

u-21 hurling and football, Crosco Cup and Senior Championship, Intermediate Football. In all he won five West Senior Hurling Championships medals - he missed out in 1988, having retired prematurely, but came back to play in the county championship the same year. The county medal in 1991 and the Munster club medal in the same year are treasured possessions. He also won six Crosco medals and, as well as winning a county intermediate football final in 1976, he captained Cashel to its first ever divisional senior football victory in 1991.

Tommy has been playing at senior level for twenty years and the number of hurling and football miles he has registered over that period is incredible. Yet his injuries have been few with the only major one, a groin strain, coming in 1992 and its failure to heal precipitating his decision to retire.

Looking back over a lengthy career his abiding memory is the huge level of disappointment at poor Cashel performances during the lean years, when talent was at its greatest. Much more might have been achieved had preparation been better. But there have been high points. The county final at the end of his career is recalled as is the great minor double achieved in 1974. Another achievement of distinction was the National Levi Youth Award in hurling in 1976. Overall, the perspective is a satisfying one and an impressive record from one of Cashel's most able and popular players.

CASHEL MENTORS



Brendan Bonnar, Peter O'Sullivan and John Darmody

KICKHAMS MENTORS



Jim McCormack, Gerry Cahill, Paddy Hayes.

Sean Treacy Park - Home of Arravale Rvs.

Tipperary town, has, for more than 100 years, been a major venue for Gaelic games. The present, refurbished Sean Treacy Memorial Park, continues that long tradition and will ensure that many more big matches will be played in Tipp.

All Ireland finals were played less than 200 metres from today's pitch and a look at the games housed there in 1898, gives a good idea of how popular Tipperary town was as a venue:

April 16th: Tipp. County Hurling and Football Finals of 1897;

Sept 24th: Munster Hurling and Football Finals for 1897;

Nov. 20th: All Ireland Hurling Final, Kilkenny v. Limerick;

Nov. 20th: Croke Cup Final, Football, Tipperary v. Cork;

Dec. 18th: Munster Football, Tipperary v. Cork, 1898.

During the first decade of the 20th century some very famous names played in Tipperary. Jamesy Kelliher led Dungourney, Cork, against Young Irelands of Limerick in 1903. Tom Semple captained Tipperary against Cork in 1907 at Tipperary sportsfield while Kerry's famous duo, Dick Fitzgerald and Austin Stack led Munster to victory over Leinster, in the Railway Shield at the same venue.

In the 1930's the need for a new home for Arravale Rovers arose. Approaches were made to the Land Commission to secure tenure at Scallagheen. While negotiations were going on a field at Bohertrime was used but by 1938, with some help from Dan Breen, Scallagheen was procured. An area eight acres, three roods and 24 perches was acquired costing £225 and named Sean Treacy Memorial Park.

A huge crowd of over 5,000 attended the two hurling games that marked the official opening of "the Park", on

Sunday, May 12th, 1940. Sean McCarthy, Chairman of the Munster Council performed the opening while famous hurlers Christy Ring, Jack Lynch, Batt Thornhill, Johnny Quirke of Cork, Declan Goode, Waterford and Limerick's Paddy Clohessy and John Mackey lined out to play. Waterford opposed Cork and Tipperary took on Limerick. The Tipp side, all from the Western Division, was:- D. Boland (Cashel), goal; F. McCarthy (Cashel); M. McCarthy (Cashel); J. Kennedy (Clonoulty); J. Quirke (Clonoulty); J. O'Donnell (Golden); M. Murphy (Cashel); W. Barry (Cappawhite); J.J. O'Brien (Rockwell Rvs.); M. Bourke (Cashel); D. Condon (Eire Og); J. Maher (Cashel); J. Holden (Golden); G. O'Shea (Cashel); T. Treacy (Cappawhite).

Programmes for the big day cost two old pence each.

Until 1962 Scallagheen was a happy home for hundreds of Rovers' players but the site was not suitable for development and in the late 1950's alternative accommodation was surveyed. Eventually, the urgings of Andy Kennedy Snr., Bank Place, were adopted and the old derelict Barracks Site was bought. It fell on the shoulders of three Rovers' officials to spearhead the development of the new Park; Chairman, James O'Donoghue; Secretary, Dick Meagher; and Treasurer, Hugh Kennedy. Assisted by a host of volunteers these officers organised and ran a series of monster draws that brought in the funds needed to develop the new Sean Treacy Memorial Park.

On June 3rd, 1962, Pat Fanning, Chairman of the Munster Council, declared the new Sean Treacy Memorial Park open and a huge 12,000 crowd basked in the sunshine to see Meath and Kerry in senior football, followed by Cork versus Tipperary, senior hurling. On the Kerry team were Johnny Culloty, Tim "Tiger" Lyons, Niall Sheehy,

Sean Treacy Park - Home of Arravale Rvs. continued . . .

Mick O'Connell and Donie O'Sullivan. Meath had Dinny Donnolly, Martin Quinn, Kevin McNamee, Bertie Cunningham, John Nallen and Peter Darby among their stalwarts. Kerry won by 1-8 to 0-8.

The hurling game was eagerly awaited and Cork's Christy Ring scored two spectacular goals in a lively encounter. The final score was Cork 5-3; Tipperary 1-11. Cork team: O. Hurley, D. Riordan, E. Brennan, P. Duggan, J. Brohan, M. Cashman, D. Murphy, J. O'Sullivan, W. Walsh, J. Barry, T. Kelly, M. Mortell, J. Coughlan, C. Ring, D. Sheehan.

Tipp team: R. Mounsey (goal), M. Hassett, K. Carey, M. Loneragan, S. English, T. Wall, M. Murphy, P. Ryan, T. English, J. Doyle, D. Nealon, T. Ryan (Killenaule), L. Connolly, T. Moloughney, S. McLoughlin.

Since 1962 Rovers have a home for club meetings and functions and through the years that home has been improved and refurbished by successive committees. In the late sixties the clubhouse was extended and a new shower unit was added at each end. Gradual improvements were added to the dressing rooms until in 1980 the face of the pavilion was changed during the Chairmanship of Rev. Fr. John O'Neill C.C. New dressing rooms, a maple floored hall 50' x 24', new showers were all completed and within two years, a kitchen and committee room were completed.

Drainage had always been a problem at "the Park" but that problem was

faced and overcome in 1988. The entire surface was altered. The troublesome western half of the pitch was mole-drained, one drain every metre. Collector and main drains were installed and by the end of August, more than 400 tons of new topsoil and sand had

been added, levelled, rotovated and seeded. More than £12,000 were expended but a free-draining surface was the result, thanks to the valued guidance of Mr. Tim Gleeson, An Foras Taluntais, Kinsealy. During 1989 the huge retaining nets behind the goals were erected adding a new dimension to the barrack skyline.

The latest development phase, to add proper seated accommodation, has been brewing for a few years and great credit is due to the present officers and committee, who have ensured the proper completion of this fine project. Costing well over £20,000 the new facilities will make "the Park" an even more attractive venue for the future. The job of covering the seated area will fall to another generation of Rovers' administrators.

Arravale Rovers Sean Treacy Memorial Park stands today to commemorate a favourite son of Tipperary. However, without the wholehearted and generous support of Tipperary people down the years, Rovers could never have developed the old barrack site for the young people of Tipperary town and the clubs of the Western division. But for the people of Tipperary and the hard work of successive club committees, Arravale Rovers would not have such a fine home at Sean Treacy Memorial Park.

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DANNY MORRISSEY

Kickhams Coach

by J.J. Kennedy



school teaching stint at Cashel C.B.S. tutored Pat O'Donoghue, Willie Fitzell and Colm Bonnar to a county primary schools' title in the mid seventies. With Knockavilla N.S. where he's now principal he captured the same championship in 1979; two highly prized entries in the C.V. of one who is now almost twenty years in the coaching business.

Other Cashel players have had Danny on their side too in various county grades. In this category include Raymie Ryan, Conal and Cormac Bonnar and Joe Minogue. In total that's about half the Cashel side who've known the Morrissey guidance. Today it's different: the coach has others trying to outwit his former pupils.

Unlike Cashel who've trawled in the deep South for coaching inspiration Kickhams' handler is home bred, flesh and blood of the parish who has represented the club at all grades although playing success was restricted to a few juniors. West Senior medals are restricted to the over-fifties in Knockavilla/Donaskeigh such as been the stretch of famine since 1960, their last moment of triumph.

But coaching experience has been different; Danny Morrissey is no rookie, he's been through the mill with club and county. The county business began in the mid-seventies and peaked with the u-21's of 1977 to 1982. In a grade that has been as barren as any we suddenly struck gold: four from Munster from 1978 to 1982 and three successive All-Irelands from 1979 to 1981 reads most impressively. The backroom team that steered the county to such unprecedented success included at various stages Br. O'Grady, Mick Minogue, Billy Carroll, Paddy O'Meara, Mikey Ryan and Liam Heffernan - and always Danny Morrissey.

Inevitably such glory saw the dynasty step up to Senior in 1982 where like so many predecessors and successors they sampled failure - the famine would last another five years. Then after a break there was a return in 1989 to u-21 management and another All-Ireland, the third jewel in the triple crown of that glorious year.

Such county achievement inevitable meant that Danny would be sought by a club. At various grades he guided Kickhams to divisional achievements but the county advance eluded until last season and the Intermediate came West for the very first time. Now at Senior he seeks a further advance in the hurling fortune of his native sod.

It's been a slow but steady advance for Kickhams to this final and while Danny will get much of the praise, he's most keen to acknowledge the immense contribution of trainer Gerry Cahill and not to forget fellow selectors Paddy Hayes and Jim McCormack.

Today is a far cry from Gormanstown 1974. But wouldn't it be ironic if Justin's charisma of two decades back played a part in unhinging his best laid plans today.

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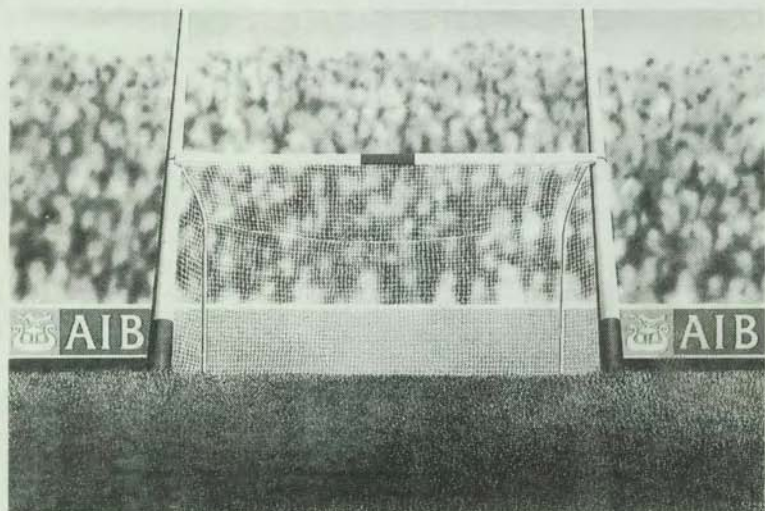
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