

West Tipperary Senior Hurling Final  
Match Programme  
2006



camann láthchleas gael  
thíobraid áran thiar



**Tipperary Co-op SuperValu**

**West Tipperary Senior Hurling Championship Final**

# clonoulty/rossmore v. kíckhams

**at Golden - Sunday, 9th July, 2006 at 3.00 p.m.**

**Referee: John Ryan**



**Aidan Butler**  
Clonoulty Captain



**John Ryan**  
Referee



**Brian Horgan**  
Kíckhams Captain

**Preceded by Tipperary Co-Op SuperValu West JHC 'B'**

## **Sean Treacys v. Rosegreen**

**at 1.15 p.m.**

**Referee: Willie Kennedy**

*De Runai* Runai



**Willie Kennedy**  
Referee

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## Fáilte an Chathaoirligh

Cuirim fáilte Uí Cheallaigh roimh cach go dtí an Gabhailín inniu agus tá súil agam go mbainimis go leir taitheamh as imeachtaí an lae.

On behalf of Coiste Thiobraid Árann Thiar, I extend a céad míle fáilte to everyone at the game this afternoon. We all expect enjoyment and a sporting contest from the four teams involved this afternoon. You, too, can play a part in this occasion by co-operating with stewards and keeping your youngsters safe from sidelines and behind the goals during the match.



There is no doubt but that hurling in the Division needs a boost. We expect both clubs to day to supply players to our County teams and that prospective County players will show their skills on our shop window today. We badly need players from the Division to be part of a Tipperary resurgence today, as they were over the last twenty years.

Tipperary Co-Op has been our loyal sponsor over the past few years. They are a successful company on the local and national stage. Their support for our activities is welcome and appreciated. In return I ask you to support the various activities of the Co-Op and especially their expanded SuperValu business. My thanks to Matt Quinlan, their Chairman for his interest and support over many years and to Chief Executive Tim Dullea and his Management Board for their interest and continued support. I also wish John Ryan and his officials all the best this afternoon. We are lucky to have officials of his calibre officiating in the Division.

Willie Kennedy is officiating in the curtain raiser between Sean Treacys and Rosegreen in the Tipperary Co-Op SuperValu JHC 'B' game. We wish Willie and his officials well in this game; it should be close and exciting.

Also this evening, spare a thought for clubs that have not made the final. Over the past seven years we have experimented with new championship systems. We threw out those that served the County and the Divisions well in the past in the name of progress. I suggest that we again consider going back to the old situation where the county quarter finals were contested by the Divisional winners and runners up. This allowed flexibility for inter-county activity and did not unduly penalise clubs with county players.

I wish to thank the Runai Jerry Ring, J.J. Kennedy, Lennie Fitzgerald and the clubs involved for their assistance with the programme. I would suggest that the preparation of programmes in the future should be undertaken by the Divisional Bord na nOg in conjunction with the Senior Board. I also wish to thank the Golden /Kilfeacle club and its officers and the Fas workers for the arrangements and preparation of the facilities for this important occasion.

Finally it's regrettable that we now cannot have a Sunday free from Inter County activity to play our Divisional showpiece. The way things are going we will have neither clubs nor local showpieces down the road. On behalf of all the Gaels in the Division, I wish our Minor footballers success in the Munster final to day in Killarney. Tiobraid Árann Thiar Abú.

**LIAM Ó RIAIN,**

*Cathaoirleach Tiobraid Árann Thiar.*



*Best of Luck to Clonoulty from . . .*

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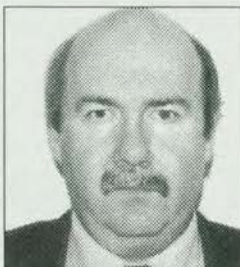
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*Eamonn, Kathleen & Stephen  
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## Fáilte ón gCathaoirleach

Cuirim fóir-chaoin fáilte roimh gach éinne chuig cluiche ceannais iomána an iarthair anseo i Gabhailín inniu. Tá súil agam go mbeidh cluiche breá spóirtiúil againn agus go mbainfidh ár bpatrúin sult as.

It gives me great pleasure to extend a céad míle fáilte to the four teams, their mentors and supporters to Golden for the biggest day in West Tipperary's calendar. We hope for sporting and entertaining matches and hope you will enjoy the occasion.



Many thanks to Coiste Thiobraid Árann Thiar for allowing us the honour of hosting this year's final. Thanks also to all our advertisers and to Jerry Ring and to our Juvenile Club Officers for their work in compiling and editing this programme. We ask for your co-operation with the stewards in the smooth running of the day's activities. May the ancient game of hurling be the winner on the day.

**Micheál Ó Longáin, Cathaoirleach**

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both teams from . . .*

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Clonoulty/Rossmore  
from  
Philip & Sadie Quirke*



## KICKHAMS LOOK TO THE FUTURE

In 1999 (the year in which we last won a senior hurling west title) our club decided that in order to carry the Kickhams forward into the 21st century and to cater for the changing needs of players and supporters our facilities at Pairc Ciocaim would have to be improved. Our first task was the purchase of the wood adjacent to our playing field and after an enormous amount of work, stones and sand, it became our second playing field. Two new dressing rooms, referees room, ladies and gents toilets were added to the clubhouse. The meeting room and kitchen were also revamped. Plans for continued development include the building of a hurling wall, stand and the laying of tarmac in the carpark. The financial cornerstone to all of this is our weekly lotto and we commend our very hard working committee and all of you who support our lotto each week - we are indebted. We have a high level of player participation in our club and take part in three adult hurling competitions Senior, Junior A and B. We also have minor hurling and football and u21 hurling and football. In recent times we have reached many divisional finals in all grades but with limited success. Our endeavours for the future is to change this trend. We have a very strong Juvenile club and have been fielding juvenile teams since the 1940s but our first success did not arrive until 1969, when we won the west u15 rural hurling championship beating Galtee Rovers. The 70s saw more titles being won but it was from the early 80s through to the present that the Kickhams Juvenile teams became a major force in the division. Over the years countless people have given of their time to ensure that our native games continue to be enjoyed by all in the parish of Knockavilla/Donaskeigh. We are particularly grateful to the teaching staff of our primary schools who have done so much to promote the game, and at this point we would like to pay tribute to Mr. Danny Morrissey, Principal of Knockavilla N.S who is retiring this year. Each week our club coaches look after children from u8 to u16 and we endeavour to take part in all the relevant competitions, be they blitz or championship. Kickham Camogie Club play in the black and amber was founded in 1984. The club is very active in promoting the game within the parish. We compete in u10 u12 u14 u16 u18 and junior competitions. The commitment and dedication shown by the girls is reflected by the large attendance at weekly training sessions, which in return results in winning county titles. The club has won u12 in 1992 u14 twice and u16 in 1985; junior league 1988 and junior championship in 1989 and 1992 with our most recent county title coming in 2005 when our u15 captained by Sinead Cahill proved victorious. We also have girls playing for county teams. Currently on the county u14s we are represented by Eimear Crowe, Mary Ann Hayes and Erena Fryday while on the county u16 team both Niamh O'Connell and Sheena Ryan line out with distinction. As part of our on going development of camogie in the parish the club are organising a camogie blitz for all age groups on Sunday July 30th in Dundrum, all local clubs have declared themselves available for what promises to be a great family day. Finally we all join together in wishing our senior hurlers the very best of luck today.

**LADS YE CAN DO IT.**

**Tomás Ó hAodha  
Rúnaí**



*Best of Luck to Both teams  
from . . .*

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## **Aidan Butler** **– Captain of Clonoulty Rossmore**

This is Aidan's 15th year playing senior championship for Clonoulty Rossmore. He made his senior debut against Sarsfields in 1992 in the county quarter final as an eighteen year old.

He has won West U16 hurling and 3 West U21 hurling medals. At senior level he has won 4 West senior medals in 1992,'96,'98 and 2002 and was centre back for Clonoulty Rossmore in 1997 when they were the last West team to win a senior county final.

Like his father T.J., Aidan also won a Munster and All Ireland U21 title with Tipperary. He lined out at midfield in 1995 for the final against Kilkenny. He was part of the Tipperary panel in 2001 that won Munster and All Ireland senior titles.

Aidan's first cousins Declan Ryan and Tom Butler also line out for Clonoulty Rossmore today. He is married to Helen and they live in Ballymore where he works as a farmer.

**Patrick Fogarty P.R.O.**



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## John Farrell of The Kickhams

If longevity of service is a factor in estimating a player's contribution to a club - and it surely must be - then John Farrell contributed more to Kickhams than anyone else.



The hurling talent was precocious. It all began with five West minor hurling medals from 1943 to 1947. Such prowess could hardly be ignored - and it wasn't. The county minor selectors quickly recognized his potential and he featured prominently on the 1947 John Farrell Tipperary team, which won All Ireland glory beating Galway in the final. John was centre field on a side that included such future senior All Ireland medal winners as John Doyle, Paddy Kenny and John O'Grady. His club mate John Joe McCormack was full back.

Back with Kickhams his graduation to senior ranks was rapid, joining the panel in 1946 and being an ever-present component from then until 1960. In that fifteen-year period Kickhams - and John Farrell - won an unprecedented twelve West Tipperary titles. John Farrell was the only player to win all twelve, a record that is unlikely to be matched.

As a minor he began as goalie but quickly moved to midfield where he played most of his senior hurling, though on occasions playing wing forward and full forward. He was full forward against Rossmore in the 1959 final and the press report had this to say: "John

Farrell once again was the chief schemer; he roamed out from his full forward position and drew out the full back to the thirty yard mark. This tactic would have paid bigger dividends against any other goalie than P. Sweeney".

When the West team of the millennium was chosen in 2001 John Farrell was a very popular choice for midfield, beside the legendary Bill O'Donnell. In his citation at the awards Seamus King had this to say about John Farrell: "He was a fast-striking player, moving the ball into the forward line in the shortest possible time. He was equally adept at striking it on the ground or in the air and had perfected the art of doubling or pulling on the ball at an early stage. His dedication and commitment to his club was second to none and his selection on this team came as no surprise to anyone who watched him play".



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*Best of luck to  
Both teams*



# Prominent Clubman - Andrew Fryday

– by Patrick Fogarty P.R.O.

One of the most popular players ever to wear the Green and Gold of Clonoulty/Rossmore, Andrew has given sterling service to the club both as a player and selector and is currently a senior selector.

As a juvenile he won a West and County U14 title in 1977. The same double was achieved as a minor in 1981 against Toomevara. He also won a West minor in 1982. West U21 titles followed in 1981, 1982, 1984, 1985. He began his senior hurling career in 1981 and was ever present as a goalkeeper until 2005. He achieved many honours including 5 West senior medals in 1989, 1992, 1996, 1998, and 2002. One of the few players in the West division who holds 2 county senior hurling titles in 1989 and 1997.

He has achieved many successes on the football front and holds 2 county junior football titles in 1985 and 2002 and an Intermediate county title in 1986. He played junior football for Tipperary in 1987 and was part of Nicky English's panel in the National league in 2000.

Andrew has been involved with Clonoulty Rossmore minors for a number of years, winning 3 West titles and a county title in 1996. Married to Cathy they have 4 children Shane, Aidan, Sarah and Oisin. Andrew runs a very successful mushroom business with his brother Philip.



Clonoulty/Rossmore club members presenting a cheque for €50,000 to the Irish Guide Dogs for the Blind following a recent fund-raising venture.

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# Clonoulty Rossmore – A Brief History

by Patrick Fogarty P.R.O.

Clonoulty Rossmore was one of the first clubs in Tipperary when the GAA was founded. In 1888 the Clonoulty hurlers known as the "Boheen men" defeated Boherlahan to take Tipperary's second county hurling final .

When the West division was formed in 1930 Clonoulty had the honour of winning the first 4 West finals in 1930, 31 ,32 ,33. West titles have been won since in 1951,1989, 92, 96, 98 and in 2002 against todays rivals Kickhams.The highlight of the club's success was county senior titles in 1989 and 1997.

At present the club is undertaking a major development with 2 full playing pitches,stand,new dressing room facilities and indoor playing facilities for hurling. To achieve these ambitions major finance is needed and the club in conjunction with the Irish Guide Dogs for the Blind last Easter raised €123,000 with a donation of €50,000 being made to the Irish Guide Dogs.

The success of any club comes from a strong juvenile structure and we are very lucky to have excellent people involved in promoting Gaelic games in our parish.

## Club Officers for 2006

Chairman:	Michael Heffernan
Secretary:	Paddy Bourke
Assistant Secretary:	Joanne Caplis
Treasurer:	P.J. O'Sullivan
P.R.O.:	Patrick Fogarty



## Achievements

**County Senior:** 1888,1989,1997

**West Senior:** 1930,1931,1932,1933,1951,1989,1992,1996,1998,2002

**West Under 21A:** 1971,1972 + 1973 (combo with Eire Og) 1981, 1982, 1984, 1985, 1988, 1989, 1995, 1996, 2005

**West Under 21B:** 1991, 1993

**County Minor:** 1981,1996

**West Minor:** 1969,1970,1981,1982,1985,1986,1996,1998,2004,2005

**West Junior:** 1936,1944,1956 (Rossmore),1958,1974,1983

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# Clonoulty Rossmore Juvenile Club

by Brema Horan PRO

Today as our senior club is contesting a West Senior Title, our juveniles hope they too will line out on our senior team and contest many finals. Our young players are going from strength to strength, which is very evident from the many young lads on the senior panel who have come through the juvenile ranks. John O'Keeffe is the youngest on the senior team and John is representing our club with Tipperary Minors at present and has represented the club on various West and county under age teams over the past few years.

The club training structures ranges from U8 to U16. We have an array of willing people both men and women alike to train and help out in the field at a moment's notice. All this work and commitment has paid off with the wonderful 3 in a row County U12 A hurling titles won by the club in the last three years, '03, '04, and '05. Never did we dream that such success and honour could bestow our club !

At football too we are making great progress. Our U12's reached a county semi-final last year, our 14's contested a Co. final and our 16's won the West A football title for the first time ever this year.

Our three schools Clonoulty N.S., Rossmore N.S., and Ballagh N.S. do their share in promoting our national games in the parish. We are very lucky to have Tom Ryan as coach in all our schools. This year Clonoulty N.S. won the 7 a side Cumann na mBun Scoil competition. Consequently Sean Maher was picked to play on the Primary Game 7 a side before the All Ireland final, and Conor Hammersley before the All Ireland Semi-finals. It will be a great honour for these two young lads to wear the blue and gold in Croke Park. Clonoulty girls had their share of success in winning the Cumann na mBun Scoil Roinn B football competition. Last year Rossmore school won the Roinn F football title. Ballagh N.S. won the Roinn E hurling title and 7-a-side girls football last year also.

This along with our Little League and our annual Summer Camp has been the nurturing place for our young stars of the future. The spirit of hurling and football and indeed camogie is thriving in our community. Our U14 girls did our parish proud by winning the Co. U14B camogie final in the Ragg recently .

The club would sincerely like to acknowledge the role of Fr. James Fogarty P.P. and Fr. Jimmy O'Donnell in promoting gaelic games in the parish.

Best of luck to our senior team today against our arch rivals Kichams from all in the Juvenile club. On a final note we would like to wish a speedy recovery to Martin Sadlier who was injured in a football match recently.

## Juvenile Club Officers

Chairperson:	Joe Hammersley
Secretary:	Siobhan Hennessy
P.R.O.:	Brema Horan

*Best of Luck to all teams from . . .*



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                  **John O'Donnell**              **087 2911621**

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## John O'Neill – An Up Coming Star

by Patrick Fogarty P.R.O

A star in waiting you might say, nephew of the great Michael "Bonny" Kennedy who starred many times for Clonoulty/Rossmore and Tipperary, John has numerous titles to his credit already.

A member of the Clonoulty/Rossmore team that won the West U12 A hurling in 2002 and narrowly lost to Loughmore in the county final. As a 13 year old he won a West U16A hurling title in 2003. In 2004 John had a great year winning a West Feile and representing Tipperary in the Tony Forristal tournament in Waterford. John played a leading role in the forwards for this team in winning this prestigious competition.



Despite being only 15 years old he won West minor and U21 titles last year. He also has 2 West football medals.

On the school scene with Thurles CBS John is no stranger to success, winning Croke Cup in 2004 and 2005, White Cup in '05 and Fitzgerald Cup in 2006. He also played on the Harty Cup team that reached the Munster semi-final this year. John's biggest supporters are his parents John and Mary and his sisters Lisa and Christine.



Clonoulty/Rossmore U12A - Winners of the County Final 2005



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# clonoulty/rossmore



1.  
Declan O Dwyer

2.  
John Heffernan

3.  
John Devane

4.  
James Heffernan

5.  
John O Keeffe

6.  
Aidan Butler (Capt)

7.  
Liam Devane

8.  
Alan Kennedy

9.  
Micheal Coen

10.  
Tom Butler

11.  
Conor Ryan

12.  
Trevor O'Dwyer

13.  
Fiachra O Keeffe

14.  
Declan Ryan

15.  
Timmy Hammersley

## Subs:

16. Diarmuid Cullen; 17. Jason Forrestal; 18. Paudi White; 19. Conor Devane;  
20. Joey O Keeffe; 21. Kevin Horan; 22. Brian Ryan; 23. James Ryan (H);  
24. Michael Heffernan; 25. Patrick Ryan; 26. Daithi Maher; 27. RD Martin.

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# kickhams

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2.  
Michael Shanahan

3.  
Nigel Hayes

4.  
Michael Heelan

5.  
John McCormack

6.  
Eoin Morrissey

7.  
Brian Horgan (capt)

8.  
Alan Horgan

9.  
Derek Breen

10.  
Vincent Kelly

11.  
Dan Breen

12.  
Aidan Butler

13.  
Paul O'Dwyer

14.  
Richard Horgan

15.  
Damien McGrath

**Subs:** 16. Fergal O'Brien; 17. Pdraig Hayes; 18. Paul Breen; 19. Ger Butler; 20. Kevin Farrell; 21. Joe Breen; 22. Jimmy Farrell; 23. Peter Comerford; 24. James Shanahan; 25. Joe Shanahan; 26. Tommy Comerford; 27. John O'Brien; 28. David Shanahan; 29. Ger Farrell; 30. P.J. Collins; 31. Eamonn Browne; 32. Noel O'Brien. **Manager:** Paudie Slattery.

**Selectors:** Fr. Liam Holmes, Ger Crosse, Donal Kennedy.



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# Snippets - Snippets - Snippets - Snippets

Knockavilla Kickhams lie second in the West Tipp Senior Hurling Championship Roll of Honour with sixteen titles (1935, 38, 46, 47, 49, 50, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 58, 60, 97, and 1999)

Clonoulty/Rossmore for their part are third in the Roll of Honour.  
Their West titles coming in 1930, 31, 32, 33, 51, 89, 92, 96, 98 and 2002)

In the past twenty five years of championship hurling, there have been twelve meetings between these great rivals.

Clonoulty/Rossmore were triumphant on six occasions: in 1983 (First Rd: 1-14 to 2-03), 1989 (Semi –final: 2-14 to 1-05), 1996 ( Semi –final: 3-13 to 2-06), 1998 (Semi –final Replay: 0-22 to 1-18), 2002 (Final: 2-12 to 2-11) and 2004 (First Rd: 2-10 to 1-09).

Knockavilla Kickhams were successful on five meetings: in 1982 (First Rd: 2-12 to 2-11), 1993 (Semi –Final: 1-15 to 0-10), 1995 (Semi –Final: 2-11 to 1-11) 1997 (Semi –Final: 1-14 to 2-07) and 2002 (First Rd: 1-11 to 0-13).

John McCormack was the last Kickhams player to lift the coveted Willie O' Dwyer Cup in the 1999 Final victory of 1-21 to 0-07 over Eire Og Annacarty.

Current mentor, Kevin Ryan was Clonoulty/Rossmore's last proud recipient in the 2002 Final 2-12 to 2-11 victory over Kickhams.

Today is Declan Ryan's ninth West Senior Hurling Final appearance including replays! He was successful in 1989, 1992, 1996, 1998 and 2002. He didn't feature in the 2004 final loss to Golden/Eire Og, but had the honour of captaining his club to divisional titles over Cashel KC in 1992 at Bansha and 1996 at New Inn.

Current manager, Paudie Slattery helped Kickhams win a West Senior Hurling Title after a lapse of thirty seven years from corner-back in the 1997 win over Cappawhite. He was also the unsuccessful captain in the 1995 final against Cashel KC in Cappawhite. An All –Ireland 'B' Colleges title winner with Cashel CBS in 1980, he also holds West Junior Hurling titles spanning twenty four years apart.

Clonoulty/Rossmore coach, Maurice Nelligan has won Limerick county senior hurling championship medals with Kilmallock in 1985, 1992 and 1994. He also holds Munster Club hurling medals with the green and white of Kilmallock in 1992 and 1994.

Knockavilla Kickham's Damien McGrath holds a Munster Minor Hurling Championship Medal with Tipperary in 1999, operating at corner-forward.

It's only recent times that Clonoulty –Rossmore have defeated their near-neighbours, Kickhams in the West Senior Hurling Final back in 2002 by the slenderest of margins, 2-12 to 2-11. Kickhams however must go back to their golden era in the fifties, when they edged out the green and gold in the 1959 decider in Cashel again by a single point at the game's end, 3-05 to 2-07.

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## WEST S.H. FINAL PREVIEW

Local rivalry has been an integral part of sporting life in the G.A.A. world since the Association was first founded. It's the engine that has driven championships down the decades. The prospect of beating the neighbours in a local championship fixture always stirs the blood – it's the ultimate incentive that drives teams to extra special effort.

In West Tipperary hurling circles there are few rivalries to match that between Kickhams and Clonoulty. They've tangled for generations and the latest instalment goes ahead this Sunday at Golden. It's the 2006 Tipperary Co-Op Super Valu West hurling final, a repeat of the 2002 event, which Clonoulty nicked by a single point.

For all their age-long rivalry Kickhams and Clonoulty have met rarely enough in the divisional final. This is the 77th West decider but only the 7th occasion in which these clubs have gone head-to-head at the final stage. From their six previous meetings the score stands at four-two for Kickhams, though on this occasion they line out as distant outsiders.

Their last meeting, in the final of 2002, was a dramatic one. Kickhams deserved better than to fall the wrong side of a 2-12 to 2-11 score line but it was a luckless period for the club in general, losing four-in-a-row West finals from 2000 to 2003. This then will be their fifth West final appearance in seven years and they won't want to add to the list of defeats.

Clonoulty also scored a famous final win over Kickhams back in 1951 when Tony Brennan and colleagues interrupted Kickhams glory years. The Dundrum club got ample revenge when they did a three-in-a-row over Clonoulty in the finals of 1952, '53 and '54 - and added a fourth victory over the Rossmore side of the parish in 1959. Amazingly in the four decades that followed the clubs never clashed in the final until the present generation resumed rivalry four years ago.

For this latest instalment of the rivalry Clonoulty approach the task as firm favourites. Their lead-in to the final has been far more impressive than Kickhams. With Declan Ryan back in the fold after a few years of retirement they began their West campaign with a competent win over Cashel K.C. on a wet evening in Cappawhite. But it was their semi-final win over Cappawhite that made the pundits sit up and take notice. Despite being outsiders against the reigning champions they set down an impressive marker in the first half and were never caught, despite a brave Cappawhite rally on the turnover.

For their part Kickhams had a softer passage to the final. In their only game they reversed the form of recent years against Galtee Rvs., scoring a comfortable win in a most disappointing match at Sean Treacy Park. The quality was poor in that game but the prize for Kickhams was major, though they now face the task of a significant step-up in form if they are to challenge Clonoulty.

There's a similarity between the sides in that both clubs are building for the future, with a significant element of young players on board. Kickhams have a former county minor panellist, Paddy Ryan, in goal, and in the last game a very youthful full back line of Michael Shanahan, Nigel Hayes and Michael Heelan fronted him. The tragic death of Stephen Hayes in a recent car crash has left understandable uncertainty about the involvement of his brother, Nigel, in this game; if he's unavailable it appears the club might recall either Kevin or Jimmy Farrell for the onerous task of policing Declan Ryan.



Kickhams do have considerable experience elsewhere in the team. Brian Horgan and John McCormack have been through this particular grind on many occasions and they bring huge know-how to the half back line. In the semi-final Kickhams played Paul O'Dwyer to great effect as an extra midfielder and it will be interesting to see if they employ that tactic again on Sunday. Owen Morrissey is another who'll operate either midfield or halfback.

In attack Kickhams have been deploying Damien McGrath in a bid to add potency to the forward line. The Horgans, Richard and Alan, bring considerable skill to this department too while Vinny Kelly and Aidan Butler have plenty of experience of these occasions. Daniel Breen was centre forward against Galtee Rvs.

For Clonoulty the disappointing news is that full back, David Kennedy, has departed for America. The reshuffle caused by his departure might well see John Devane reverting to defence, a zone that many regard as his best employment. They too, like Kickhams, have a significant younger element in the team. John Heffernan and James Heffernan were corner backs in previous games with county minor, John O'Keeffe, and Liam Devane on the wings flanking the formidable Aidan Butler at centre.

Micheal Coen has enjoyed a busy presence at midfield so far this season and Alan Kennedy could well partner him on this occasion. Their attack too has a decidedly teenage look with Fiachra O'Keeffe and Timmy Hammersley in the corners and others such as Paudie White and Jason Forrestal likely to see action at some stage, if not starting. In that company Declan Ryan's presence is crucial.

For Kickhams it's an important engagement as they seek to end the losing sequence of recent years. Their last final win was in 1999 when the club easily beat Eire Og Annacarty to record its 16th divisional title. For Clonoulty '02 was their last hurrah when they notched their 10th title in total.

On known form Clonoulty will be strong favourites, though the loss of David Kennedy will be significant, even if full back was never his ideal position. They are coached by former Limerick player, Maurice Nelligan, and impressed in a recent challenge game with O'Loughlin Gaels of Kilkenny, which they lost by a single point.

Kickhams rely on home grown inspiration with Paudie Slattery managing the team. They too wrapped up preparations with a challenge game against Ballyduff of Waterford. Like Clonoulty it was an outing that went well, the Dundrum team winning comfortably in the second half.

So the stage is set for what promises to be another engrossing encounter between these most traditional of rivals. Neither likes losing to the other and when they clash in key games the matches tend to have a flavour of their own. It should be another cracker with Clonoulty the safer bet to extend Kickhams' losing sequence in West finals.

*Photo:-*

*Alan Horgan scoring against Galtee Rovers*



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## Profile - Brian Horgan

### Kickhams Captain



Brian Horgan our captain today is a product of the Kickhams highly successful juvenile structures of the 80s and has been very successful at all levels - club and county. In 1986 and 1987 he won at u12, in 1989 he won at u14 level, at u16 level there were west medals in 1990 and 1991. In 1993 and 1994 he won west minor medals. At u21 level he won west and went on to win a treasured county medal. He also won county minor football, intermediate hurling, west and county, two west senior hurling titles, one west senior football, three west and county intermediate football and four Crosco cups.

At county level he played at all grades starting with Tipperary u14 Tony Forrester tournament, County u16 and two years with the minors winning a Munster medal. He captained the Tipperary team that won the u21 All Ireland Final in 1995 and he has the distinction of being the only Kickhams player to do so. He played u21 for the following two years. He joined the senior panel in 1996 and won a National League medal in 1999. Brian's brothers Richard and Alan join him on the team today. Brian is an integral part of the Kickhams team and his skill and experience will be at the fore today.

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## Profile

### Shane Heelan

(Kickhams Young Player)



Age 15 years

He is a third year student in Cashel Community School.

Favourite player: Eoin Kelly.

Shane lives in Dundrum and has had a hurley in his hand for as long as he can remember playing in the u 10 blitz's for three years.

He won West u 12 A hurling in 2001.

At U14A hurling he won West titles in 2003, 2004 and 2005.

In 2005 he won an U16 Garda Cup Football medal.

In Cashel Community School in 2003 he played on the Rice cup team that was beaten in the final.

In 2005 he captained the u 15 B hurling team to victory in the Corn Na Piarasigh Munster Final, on that day he played at corner forward and scored 2-2.

He also played on the West u 14 hurling team. Shane is a brother to Michael who plays at corner back today and they would dearly love to see the West senior hurling trophy in Dundrum.

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