

North Tipperary Senior Hurling Final
Match Programme
2012

Coiste Thiobraid Árann Thuaidh

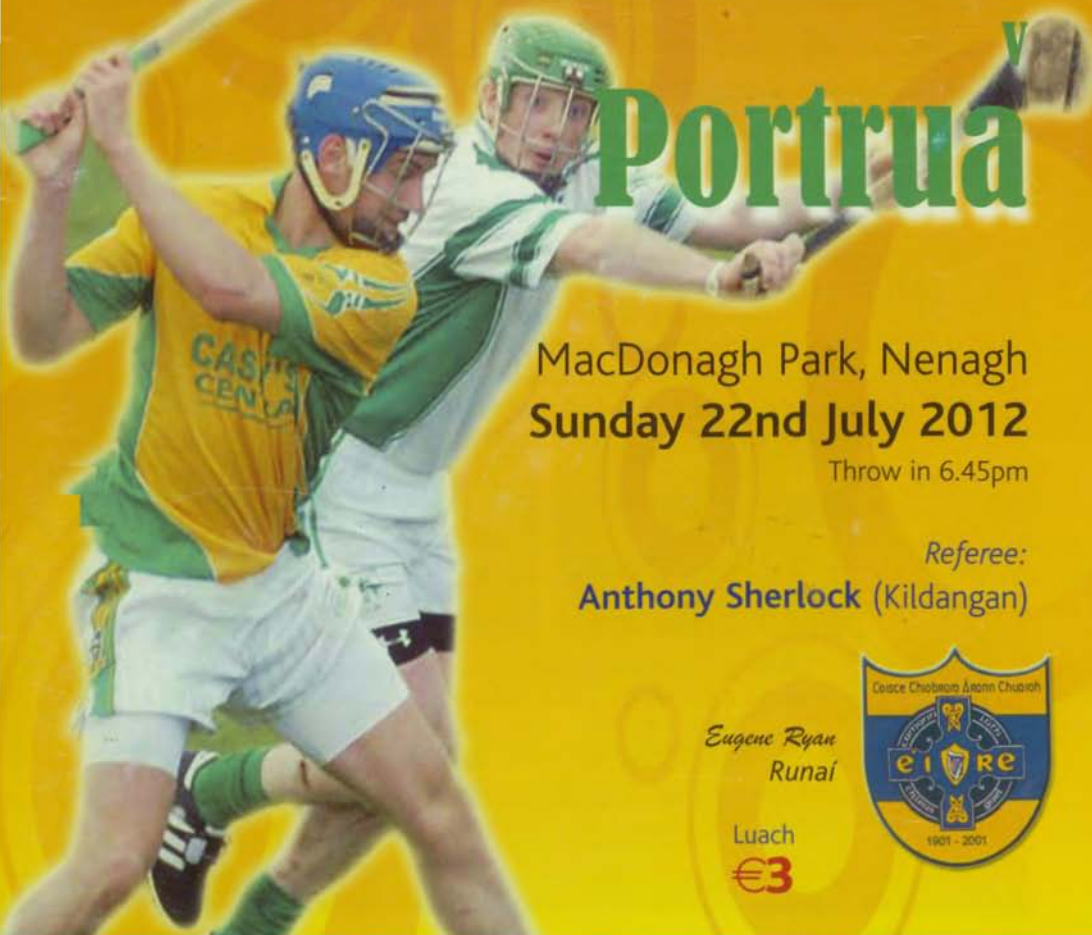
The Hibernian Inn

North Tipperary Senior Hurling Final 2012



Tuaim Uí Mheara

Portrua



MacDonagh Park, Nenagh
Sunday 22nd July 2012

Throw in 6.45pm

Referee:

Anthony Sherlock (Kildangan)

*Eugene Ryan
Runaí*

Luach

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Fáilte

Cathaoirleach, John McGrath

A Dhaoine

Fáilte romhaidh go leir go dtí Cluiche Ceannais Iomaint Tiobraid Árann Thuaidh anseo i bPáirc Mhic Donnacha an Aonaigh. Fáilte fe leith roimh na foirne as an Tuaim Uí Mheara agus Port Rua agus na h-oifigigh agus an reiteoir. Tá il again go mbeidh cluichi sportuail again inniu.



This year the Hibernian Inn North Tipperary Senior Hurling Championship was very competitive with many games played in the best sporting manner culminating in today's final between holders, Toomevara and Portroe. This final should be a cracking game and I wish both teams the best of luck.

I would like to wish the best of luck to referee Anthony Sherlock who takes charge of today's game. We are grateful to our championship sponsors, Martin and Jane Morris of the Hibernian Inn for continuing their generous sponsorship of our senior championship. We wish all our sponsors well.

Nenagh Éire Óg has once again come up trumps with their pitch for today's final. It is in excellent condition.

A word of thanks to those who help in the running of our games. To our Secretary, Eugene Ryan, Treasurer, Willie Lennox and his loyal band of gate checkers. The programme sellers and anyone else who helps out in any way.

Thanks also to PRO Liam Hogan who compiled today's souvenir programme. It's another fine production. Finally a word of praise to the Order of Malta for their attendance at our games.

Is mise

Seán McCrath, Cathaoirleach

Buiochas. The compilation of this programme would not be possible without the help of the following: Toomevara Club Secretary, Jackie Cuddihy; Portroe Club Secretary, Dolores McKenna; contributors of articles, Shane Brophy and Brian McDonnell. Photographers Bridget Delaney, Andy Jay and Tom Shoer. **Editor Liam Hogan**

Printed by Guardian Print & Design, Nenagh

Toomevara - 2012 North Finalists



Toomevara senior hurlers that defeated Borrisoleigh in The Hibernian North SHC Semi-Final. Back row: (l to r) Conor O'Meara, John Delaney, Andrew Ryan, Francis Devaney (Captain), David Young, Darren Delaney, Mark McCarthy, Darren Cuddihy, Chris Moore (Physio-Trainer), Philip Shanahan (Coach). Kneeling: Ken Dunne, David Kennedy, Billy Dunne, Denis Kelly, John O'Brien, Cathal Kennedy, Willie Ryan. **Photograph: Bridget Delaney**

North Final remains a tradition worth holding onto

By Shane Brophy (Nenagh Guardian)

Tradition! Depending on your point of view, it can be seen as protecting the past or stifling progress.

Despite the evolution of the backdoor in the inter-county championships in the last 15 years, one wants to let go of the provincial championships and in the case of the Munster Championship in hurling this year, why give up what is still working?

The same can be said of the divisional hurling championships in Tipperary with the evolution of the County series over the last decade or so. Increasing problems with fixture congestion of having four divisions feeding into one big competition has seen growing calls for possibly the Senior Championship becoming an all-county competition.

That would mean demoting the importance or possibly ending divisional senior championships, competitions what have fostered great rivalries, generated tails of great players and contests, and developed North Final day into a special occasion we cannot afford to lose.

While the North Final doesn't command the special date in the calendar it used to due to the regular number of games for clubs, as well as the irregular scheduling around inter-county games, it is still a massive occasion for the clubs involved.

For the twelve clubs that set out on the quest for the Frank McGrath Cup last April, getting to the North Final was the goal. It might have become a passage-way to the latter stages of the County Championship in recent years but for the clubs involved, a North title in any year remains the holy grail. The County series is a bonus.

Tradition would also dictate for a club such as Portroe, winning a County Championship might

be an unrealistic ambition but a North title is certainly achievable. Today is just their second ever appearance in a divisional final, the second in four seasons. They come up against the North division's traditional powerhouse, Toomevara, 33 times champions and still hungry for more.

Considering in a modern context since 1992 in which Toomevara have won 2 Munster club titles, 8 county senior titles and 11 North Championships, you would think another one wouldn't get them that excited. On the contrary however, when you put on the green and gold jersey, you carry a tradition of winning.

Today, Toomevara are chasing a three-in-a-row of North titles, something they have not achieved since 1906, '61 and '62 and will aim to bridge a 25-year gap to the last time it was achieved, by Kilruane MacDonaghs in 1987, a team in which current manager Billy O'Shea was part of the backroom team.

For Portroe, it is about etching their name on the roll of honour for the first time. They have developed a tradition renowned for its great spirit. You'd often hear people say "wouldn't you love to bottle the spirit Port have". They are one club that always prepare teams to compete to the best of their ability. If you do that, anything is possible.

Tradition suggests that Toomevara should carry the day but it also dictates that firsts happen every now and again, such as Portroe reaching their first ever final three years ago, so why can't they build on the experience of it and make today the day they begin a tradition of a club that wins North Tipperary Senior Hurling Championships.

The North Tipperary Senior Hurling Championship is a tradition worth keeping.

Enjoy the game!!

Portroe - 2012 North Finalists



Portroe panel that defeated Nenagh Eire Og in The Hibernian North SHC Semi-Final at Dolla.

Photograph: Bridget Delaney

Anthony Sherlock, today's referee

Anthony Sherlock is our referee today. Currently on the Munster Referees' Panel, he is one of our younger referees. He has officiated in all grades and was the main the middle for the 2011 North Junior 'B' final. He took charge of last year's County Junior 'A' Hurling final. In addition he officiated in the All-Ireland U-16 Hurling Plate final in Semple Stadium. This year he took charge of the Munster Minor game between Cork and Kerry. A senior referee since 2010 the Kildangan native works with Proctor and Gamble. We wish him the best of luck.

Umpires: Michael Ryan, Robert Ryan, James Mulqueen and Brian Kennedy.

Linesmen: Philip Kelly (stand-by referee) and Dan Darcy.

Fourth official: Michael Hayes.



Toome and Portroe met in the 1998 North Tipp League Final (Hogan Cup). Pictured are Philip Shanahan (Toome captain), John McDonnell (referee) and Noel O'Halloran, (Portroe captain).

Toomevara - Champions twenty years ago



Toomevara 1992 county senior hurling champions. Back row, l-r: Michael Murphy, Tommy Dunne, Tommy Carroll, Jody Grace, Pat Meagher, Michael O'Meara, Liam Flaherty, Pat King. Front: Liam Nolan, Tony Delaney, George Frend, Philip Shanahan, Declan O'Meara, Terry Dunne, Rory Brislane.

Snippets

- **Over 6,000** patrons attended the 1996 North Final when Newport and Lorrha drew 1-9 to 0-12 at Nenagh. The replay drew a very big attendance also and Newport won 2-13 to 3-6.
- **Top Scorer** John Sheedy, Portroe scored 0-52 to finish top scorer in the North Tipp senior hurling championship after picking up four points the North final defeat to Nenagh Éire Og. He had thirteen points to spare over Ken Dunne and Kevin Tucker who joined together in second place.
- **Ten Points** Ken Dunne scored 0-12 (0-9f) in last year's 1-18 to 0-13 North final win over Kildangan
- **Goal Famine** Eoin Brislane scored 1-0 in the same final.
- **League Meeting** Toomevara defeated Portroe 0-15 to 0-9 in the 1998 Hogan Cup North Tipp Senior Hurling League Final. The tie was played in MacDonagh Park and it was the last Hogan Cup final when the winners entered the county championship via the backdoor.
- **First Success** In 1975, Moneygall were the last club to win the North final for the first and only time. Can Portroe replace them?
- **Baker's Dozen** Thirteen of the Portroe senior panel were involved in last year's North U-21 'B' Hurling final win over Borrisokane when they won by 2-17 to 3-13 after extra time. They include team captain, Michael Sheedy, Mark Gennery, James Ryan, John Sheedy, Kevin O'Halloran, Shane O'Brien, Jack Keating, Conor Leo, Andrew McCloskey, Stephen Kennedy, Cathal O'Brien, Ian O'Donnell and Niall Gleeson who is currently on the injured list.

25 years ago: 1987 North Tipp Final

Twenty-five years ago Kilruane MacDonaghs and Lorrha encountered one another in the 1987 North Tipperary senior hurling final. The game took place at MacDonagh Park, Nenagh on Sunday, September 20th 1987.

Kilruane, although they had been crowned All-Ireland club champions following a famous 1-15 to 2-10 victory over Buffer's Alley (Wexford) in March 1986, entered the final as slight underdogs against a warmly-fancied Lorrha team.

Lorrha had already accounted for Borris-Ileigh (the 1987 All-Ireland club champions who had beaten Kilruane 0-14 to 0-7 in the 1986 county final) and the 1986 North finalists Toomevara in a stirring campaign. Indeed, Lorrha's drawn (2-13 to 1-16) and replayed (2-22 to 4-15) semi-final victory over Toome remains one of the finest series of games ever witnessed in the division. Kilruane saw off Nenagh Éire Óg in their respective semi-final (2-7 to 0-11).

Lorrha were well-merited favourites to claim the Frank McGrath Cup, but they faced a three in-a-row chasing Kilruane MacDonagh's team. Following a tame semi-final exit suffered at the hands of Lorrha in 1984 Kilruane were not expected to feature at the business end of the North championship for some time. A management team consisting of Liam O'Shea, Jim Casey and Len Gaynor had other ideas however.

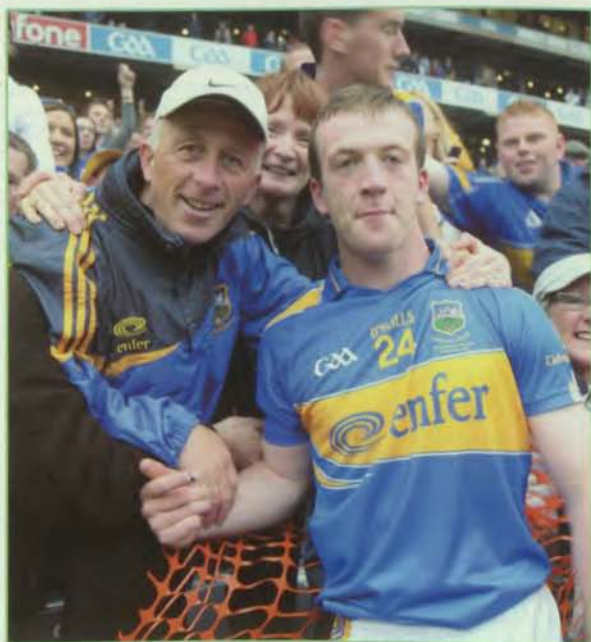
Kilruane were crowned North champions in 1985, 1986 and completed the three in-a-row in September '87 when Lorrha failed to cope with a MacDonagh's side which was badly hampered by injury and suspension. The final score read: Kilruane MacDonagh's 2-14 Lorrha 0-12.

The game was notable for the fact

that just seven minutes had elapsed in the game when Knockshegowna referee Gerry Long was forced to retire with a hamstring injury. Gerry Long was ably replaced however by linesman Liam Hogan (Shannon Rovers) whose handling of a sometimes "physical" affair was warmly received.

In the 1987 county semi-final Kilruane lost out to Loughmore-Castleiney when a late Michael McGrath goal helped the Mid men toward a dramatic 1-12 to 0-12 victory. Loughmore-Castleiney lost the county final to Cappwhite - not since 1965 (Thurles Sarsfields v Carrick Davins) had a decider failed to feature a team for the North division.

The Kilruane MacDonagh's starting XV v Lorrha: Philip Quinlan, Tony Sheppard, Joe Banaghan, Denis O'Meara, Eamonn O'Shea, Enda Hogan, David Quinlan, Pat Quinlan, Denis Cahill, Jim O'Meara, John Cahill, Gilbert Williams, Séamus Hennessy, Ger Williams, Séamus Gibson.



Seamus Hennessy Snr with son Seamus at the All-Ireland 2010.

North Tipp Bord na nOg View 2012

Under age Hurling is in full flow at the moment with Chairman, Mike Flynn and Runai, Marian Minehan and the CCC making sure that everything is in order.

Munster and Garda Cup Success The divisional U-16 hurling side took full honours this year when winning the Munster and Garda Cup double.

Group stages North Tipperary U-16 Divisional side won all three games in the Group stages of the Munster U-16 Divisional Championship played at Toomevara in the last weekend of April. The recently crowned Garda Cup winners defeated West Waterford, Mid Clare and Sean Dun of Cork to see them through to the semi final stages in Mallow. The team management of Ken Dunne, Toomevara; Len Gaynor, Kilruane MacDonaghs and John Sheedy, Portroe had the team well prepared.

Group Stage In Toomevara:

Game 1: North Tipp 1-10 West Waterford 0-12

Game 2: North Tipp 2-14 Mid Clare 0-5

Game 3: North Tipp 3-11 Seandun (Cork) 2-3.

Semi Final: North Tipp 2-9 Limerick South/East 0-7

A strong first half performance was enough to help North Tipp into the final after they accounted for Limerick South/East in the semi final at Mallow. North Tipp led 2-7 to 0-4 at half time after playing with the stiff breeze. The opening minutes were played in a downpour but North Tipp didn't waste time in setting out their agenda.

Final: North Tipp 6-5 Limerick City/West 0-8

A six goal avalanche helped North Tipp claim their eleventh Munster U-16 hurling Final success when they defeated Limerick City/West at Mallow.

Not in their widest dreams did North Tipp think they would win in such a manner. They could do no wrong as Conor Ryan secured a hatrick with Andy Dunne and Paul Ryan adding one each to see North Tipp lead 5-4 to 0-3 at half time. A string of second half points by the Limerick side kept North on their toes but Darragh Carey broke Limerick hearts with North Tipp's sixth goal thirteen minutes into the second half. It looked all over by then. Team captain Pa Ryan missed the tournament because of a broken hand.

North Tipp were winners, adding another title to the ones won in 1981, '84, '89, '90, '93, 2000, '02, '04, '08 and '11.

SCORERS: North Tipp- C Ryan 3-1; A Dunne 1-1; D Carey and P Ryan 1-0 each; W Connors 0-2 (2f); C Floyd 0-1 (65). Limerick City/West- R Lynch -4 (2f, 2'65); C O'Brien 0-2; S Casey and D O'Mahony 0-1 each.

NORTH TIPP: Brian Hogan (Lorrha); Kieran Maher (Borris-Ileigh); Mark Grace (Toomevara); Rob Houlihan (Newport); Andrew Duggan (Portroe); Andrew Coffey (Nenagh Eire Og); Padraic Hogan (Templederry); Conor Floyd (Newport); Paul Ryan (Toomevara); Willie Connors, Willie Coffey (Toomevara); Shane Hennessy (Nenagh Eire Og); Andy Dunne (Burgess); Darragh Carey (Templederry); Conor Ryan (Nenagh Eire Og). Subs: Aodhan Geaney and Philip Hickey were brought on.

CLUB SCENE

U-12 Hurling The U-12 Go- game finals will be played in Ballinderry on the 11th August.

U-14 Hurling The make up of the knockout stages are ready

for action.

The quarter finals are planned for 25th July.

Roscrea v Moneygall; Toomevara v Nenagh Eire Og

Semi Finals 8th August

Newport v winners Roscrea v Moneygall

Kilruane MacDonaghs v winners Toomevara v Nenagh Eire Og

U-14 B Hurling No dates set yet but the teams are almost known bar one.

Quarter Finals

Group 1 3rd placed team Shannon Rovers v Group 2 (2nd)

Silvermines

Group 1 (4th) winners Ballina or Templederry v Group 2

winners Borris-Ileigh

Semi Finals

Group 1 winners and runners up, Kildangan and Borrisokane

respectively are through to the semi finals.

U-16 Hurling Two Rounds of the North U-16 Championship have been played.

U-16 A Rd 1: Newport 4-10 Toomevara 3-10

Nenagh Eire Og 2-15 Kildangan 0-11

Roscrea 2-12 Borris-Ileigh 1-12

Rd 2 Newport 0-13 Kildangan 1-10

Toomevara 7-12 Roscrea 1-7

Nenagh Eire Og 2-12 Borris-Ileigh 0-6

U-16 B Hurling

Rd1 Portroe 2-15 Lorrha 1-4

Shannon Rovers v Borrisokane P

Burgess 5-13 Silvermines 3-8

Templederry 4-16 Kilruane MacDonagh 1-9

Bye to Ballina

Rd2 Shannon Rovers 1-11 Lorrha 0-13

Templederry 7-6 Borrisokane 2-12

Kilruane MacDonaghs 2-8 Burgess 0-12

Ballina 2-9 Silvermines 1-7

Tipperary Supporters All-Ireland U-16 Hurling Tournament 2012

North Tipperary will host the Tipperary Supporters U-16 A and B Hurling

Tournament next September.

Four venues will hold the Group stages on the 1st September.

1 Dolla: Galway, Waterford, Offaly.

2 Kilcolman: Laois, Dublin and Clare

3 Antrim, Tipperary and Limerick

4 Wexford, Kilkenny and Cork.

First round games - 10.30am

Second round - 12.30pm

Third round - 2.30pm

Semi Finals in Nenagh - 4.30pm

Final in Semple Stadium on 2nd September.

Tipperary Supporters All-Ireland U-16 B Hurling Tournament 2012

Toomevara host the B Tournament. Six teams take part.

1 Tipperary, Cork and Kilkenny

2 Waterford, Limerick and Galway.

Feile na nGael Camogie Div I Champions 2012- Newport Ballinahinch

By Liz Howard

For the past three years Tipperary camogie teams have contested the Division One camogie final of Feile na nGael. Burgess beaten by Lucan Sarsfields in 2010, Cahir who played sparking camogie to win in 2011 and this year Newport/Ballinahinch (not forgetting the West Tipperary members) captured the trophy with a fantastic display to defeat Davitt's of Galway.

I was privileged to spend the Friday following the tunes of the North Tipperary club and meeting the players, team management and parents. Initially, they were based in the host club, Lucan Sarsfields, for the first three games. What incredible hosts, supportive in every way of their young guests, they also provided nonstop refreshments for players and all supporters right through the day. The facilities were top class. Newport/Ballinahinch defeated their hosts in the first game on Thursday evening. On Friday they met and defeated St. Jude's, where John Coman the PRO of the Tipperary Supporters' Club does incredible work for camogie. Next up were Kilkenny champions, Piltown, another super victory which saw them through to the semi final against Ballyboden St. Endas. This is another club with strong Tipperary influence, the O'Neill brothers Paudie, Seamie and Terry from Clonmel and John Ryan of Holycross among the prominent members.

The semi final was held in St. Peregrines GAA pitch, torrential rain left the pitch waterlogged in any areas but the young players from both clubs just got on with business, again Newport/Ballinahinch emerged victorious. Loudest vocal support came from the

hosts Lucan Sarsfields players and parents. It was a long day for the players but positivity and good humour prevailed.

Newport/ Ballinahinch were so impressive; it was a real case of "all for one and one for all". Team work was the hallmark of this outfit. Superbly trained, the skills of striking, hooking and blocking were of the highest standard despite challenging weather conditions. Coach Liam McGrath deserves great credit. Totally disciplined and focused each player contributed immensely. The club and parents can be so proud of these lovely youngsters who were fun, polite and great ambassadors for Tipperary. The team management of Bill Mullaney, Liam McGrath, Eddie Quigley, Breda Floyd and Rosarie Ryan was equally impressive, it was all positive encouragement for every player and perfect organisation. Former Tipperary hurler Dinny Ryan played a role as Mr. Motivator. The affable Tim Floyd, Tipperary GAA secretary was among the many parents present, his daughter my lovely young friend Elizabeth is a hard working forward on the team.

Croke Park was the venue for the final on Saturday, after a long delay due to an objection by the Cork champions, who featured in a three way play off the final did not start until late afternoon. Davitts of Galway were the favourites but the girls in Purple and Gold played superbly to capture the Purcell Cup, Captain Caroline Mullaney and the entire panel were in joyful celebratory mood.

It was a fantastic achievement for a wonderful group of players. They returned home to bonfires and a reception worthy of All Ireland Champions. Congratulations Newport/Ballinahinch.



Bus Eireann Feile na nGael Div 1 Camogie champions Newport Ballinahinch at Croke Park.

Photograph: Livephotos 3.

Last man standing

Portroe's Noel O'Halloran, full back in today's North final, lined out at midfield twenty-two years ago when Portroe won their fourth North Intermediate title after they defeated Silvermines by 3-8 to 2-9 after an absorbing clash.

Current selectors, Liam Sheedy and John Sheedy were also on the team with John their winning captain. They added a county title later in the year when defeating Mullinahone in Littleton with Sheedy taken the silverware again. Portroe went up to senior grade in 1991 and has remained there to the present day.

And while a very young Noel O'Halloran was anchored at midfield that year a youthful looking Denis Hogan was a substitute that day. Looking back on the North final win over Silvermines, the young O'Halloran partnered Barry O'Driscoll. The game was a very exciting encounter with fortunes swaying back and forth. Mines led by two points approaching half time but a John Sheedy goal allowed Portroe take a 1-6 to 1-4 half time lead.

Early in the second half, Silvermines had Eoin Ryan sent off but they stuck to their task. James Seymour denied Ger Clifford a clearance before tapping the ball into the net. Mines hit back and six minutes from time, Joe Harrington goaled to create a 2-8 to 2-7 lead. They looked set for victory but Portroe refused to throw in the towel and four minutes later, James Seymour grabbed his second and most important goal. A Harrington point left the minimum between the teams but Barry O'Driscoll sealed victory with a point from seventy metres out. Portroe were on route to a fourth championship win in the grade.

Scorers: Portroe J Seymour 2-2; John Sheedy 1-2; B O'Driscoll 0-2. **Silvermines** Joe Harrington 1-1; S Forde 1-1; N Sheehy and G Ryan 0-3 each; E Ryan 0-2.

Portroe: Chris Madden; Martin McKenna,

Paddy Conroy, Jimmy Ryan; Michael Gleeson, Gerry O'Brien, Tom Keating; Noel O'Halloran, Barry O'Driscoll; Pádraig O'Brien, Jimmy Sheedy, Liam Sheedy; Michael Madden, John Sheedy (capt), James Seymour.



Noel O'Halloran (Portroe) and Eoghan Slattery (Nenagh Éire Óg) tussle for possession during the semi-final match.
Photograph: Bridget Delaney

Subs- Donnacha Keating for T Keating; Michael McKeogh for M Madden; Richard Freeman for O'Halloran.

Silvermines: Ger Clifford; Liam Touhy, Donal Forde, Ger Ryan; Joe Quinlan, Ger Ryan (D), Liam Keogh; Ger Gleeson, Michael Cunneen; Martin Ryan, Noel Sheehy John Sherlock; Joe Harrington, Sean Forde, Eoin Ryan. **Subs-** Declan Corcoran for M Ryan, Finbarr Ryan for Clifford.

Referee Michael Lenihan, Ballinahinch.

STAR OF THE PAST:

Pat O'Brien, Portroe

Pat O'Brien was a star centre back with Portroe in the 1940s and '50s. He attended primary school in Killoran and first lined out for Port Intermediates at the tender age of 15.

He usually lined out in the number six position but partnered Michael Seymour at midfield as Portroe won their first North Intermediate title in 1950 defeating Borrisokane by 6-5 to 1-4. The Portroe Fife and Drum Band played the teams around the field before the game commenced.

He continued playing a star role as the team reached three senior semi finals in 1952, '53 and '54. They lost to Kilruane in the 1952 and '53 penultimate rounds and in '54 they fell to Roscrea by six points as the Reds went on to defeat a star studded Borris-Ileigh side in the final.

Pat won a Munster Junior medal with Tipperary in 1951 when they defeated Limerick at Kilmallock on July 22nd. His fellow clubman, Timmy Lewis was on the team. However the side lost to Kilkenny in the all-Ireland semi-final.

It would be thirty one years before Portroe would win the North Intermediate final again and the O'Brien name would play a key role. Portroe faced Toomevara in the decider and

Gerry O'Brien (Pat's son) was on the team. Sadly he was injured for the final but came on as a substitute late in the game to score two goals and see his team secure a 2-10 to 0-15 win. Gerry played in all grades with Tipp and captured three Munster junior and two All-Ireland junior medals. In fact he captained the 1991 team to success. He shared the 1989 success with John and Liam Sheedy while Liam was on the '91 side. Pat's younger son, Pdraig played a key role with Port and captured North and County Intermediate medals plus a Munster Under-21 medal in 1990.

Pat married local girl, Bernie Molamphy and they had five in family. Camogie played a major part in the O'Brien household and daughters Mary, Una and Margaret played camogie with Portroe while Mary played with Tipp and featured in the 1984 All-Ireland camogie final.

Grandsons, John and Michael Sheedy will feature in today's final. A third grandson, Andrew McClosky is a member of the panel as the O'Brien gene continues to help Port and could be instrumental in helping the Hill Village make history this evening!



Tipperary, Intermediate Munster Hurling Champions 1951. Pat O'Brien (front row 6th from left) and Timmy Lewis (back row 5th from left).

Head to Head Toome & Portroe

There have been ten meetings between the teams in the North Senior Hurling Championship since 1952. It stands at Toomevara 6 Portroe 2 and there were two draws.

Venue & Date	Teams & Scores				Round
MacDonagh Park: 25.5.52	Portroe	2-9	Toomevara	2-3	Losers' Group
MacDonagh Park: 15.6.91	Toomevara	1-18	Portroe	0-11	First Rd proper
Kilcolman: 2.8.92	Toomevara	1-17	Portroe	1-6	Losers' final
MacDonagh Pk: 25.6.95	Toomevara	2-12	Portroe	1-12	First Rd Proper
MacDonagh Pk: 13.8.98	Toomevara	4-17	Portroe	2-6	Semi-Final
Cloughjordan: 1.8.99	Toomevara	3-10	Portroe	2-13	Semi-final (Draw)
MacDonagh Pk: 15.8.99	Toomevara	2-13	Portroe	2-12	Semi-final (Replay)
MacDonagh Pk: 20.5.07	Toomevara	3-13	Portroe	2-10	Quarter
MacDonagh Pk: 26.7.09	Portroe	1-14	Toomevara	1-12	Semi-final
MacDonagh Pk: 12.5.12	Toomevara	0-17	Portroe	1-14	Round 4 (Draw)

INTERMEDIATE HURLING CHAMPIONSHIP

Toomevara were regraded to Intermediate Hurling in 1980 and the teams met three times resulting in two wins for Portroe

Venue & Date	Teams & Scores				Round
MacDonagh Park: 27.9.81	Portroe	2-10	Toomevara	0-15	North Final
MacDonagh Park: 22.8.82	Portroe	1-11	Toomevara	0-11	Quarter- Final
MacDonagh Park: 30.9.84	Toomevara	0-13	Portroe	0-12	North Final



Portroe, North Tipperary Junior Hurling Champions 1968. From rear: P. Hogan, K. Lancaster, J. Donnellan, B. Murnane, C. Cullinane, D. Hogan, P. Power, A. McInerney, M. Egan, P. McGrath, M. McLoughlin, F. Hogan, J. Seymour, M. Shinnors, T. Ryan, T. Kennedy (capt), J. McGrath, L. Hogan, M. Conroy, P. Quinn, M. McLoughlin, T. Hogan, M. Moloney, P. Kennedy, B. Kennedy, Sgt. J. Hughes, J. Sheedy.

Toomevara - Champions 2011



Toomevara senior hurlers - North Champions 2011. Back row: (l to r) David Kennedy, Bryan Shanahan, Conor O'Meara, Denis Kelly, John Delaney, Andrew Ryan, Brian McCormack, Francis Devaney, Darren Delaney, Barry Dunne, James McGrath, Ken Dunne, Eoin Brislane, Brian Delaney, Thomas McCarthy, Kieran McGrath, Jamie Quigley, Tony Delaney, John Boland. Kneeling: Andrew Ryan (B), Colm Canning, David Young, Benny Dunne, Paddy Grace, Joey McLoughney, John O'Brien (captain), Terry Dunne, Willie Ryan, David Nolan, Bob Duff, Darren Cuddihy, Niall McCormack, Conor Delaney. Picture: Bridget Delaney

Toome's 33rd North title

Toomevara 1-18 Kildangan 0-13

A 43rd minute goal by Eoin Brislane helped Toomevara collect their 33rd North Tipperary Senior Hurling title when they defeated Kildangan in a well contested final at MacDonagh Park.

Brislane's goal arrived put Toomevara six points clear at 1-14 to 0-11. Darragh Egan's free and Joe Gallagher's point from the left wing cut the margin to four. However Ken Dunne replied with four points, one from play, to ease Toomevara's worries.

Although Kildangan's Paddy Lynch might have had more luck only to see his shot hit the upright and his team did win a sixty five which came to nought in the end.

In the end, Toomevara had retained the title. Man of the match was Benny Dunne,

Scorers: Toomevara – Ken Dunne 0-12 (0-9f); Eoin Brislane 1-0; Joey McLoughney, Willie

Ryan 0-2 each; Paddy Grace 0-1. Kildangan: Darragh Egan 0-5; Ruairi Gleeson 0-3; Seán Kelly, Joe Gallagher 0-2 each; Jack Loughnane, Pauric Kelly, 0-1 each.

Toomevara: James McGrath; Barry Dunne, Terry Dunne, Andrew Ryan; David Young, Benny Dunne, Darren Delaney; Joey McLoughney, Ken Dunne; Francis Devaney, Brian McCormack, John O'Brien (Capt); Paddy Grace, Eoin Brislane, Willie Ryan. Subs: Bob Duff for P Grace (49m); David Nolan for Brislane (59m); David Kennedy for Devaney (60m).

Kildangan: Cian Hayes; Martin Minehan, Liam Kelly, Fergal Hayes; Jack Loughnane, Dan Hackett, Gerry Slattery; Tommy Connors (Capt); Pauric Kelly; Darragh Egan, Joe Gallagher, Tadgh Gallagher; Seán Kelly, Eoin Kelly, Ruairi Gleeson. Subs: Eoin Gleeson for E Kelly (h/t); Paddy Lynch for Sean Kelly (48m).

Referee – Ger Fitzpatrick, Roscrea.

Portroe's star of the past



Portroe intermediate county champions 1990. Back l-r: Martin Gleeson, Ger Power, Anthony Connors, Pat Sexton, Gerry O'Brien, Liam McGrath (RIP), Noel O'Halloran, Denis Hogan, Liam Sheedy, Chris Madden, Jimmy Sheedy, Mike Madden, Declan Kelly, Martin McKeogh, Paddy Conroy, Mike McKeogh, Connie Ryan. Front: Mike Moloney, Donnacha Keating, Mackey McKenna, Mike Gleeson, John Sheedy, Barry O'Driscoll, James Seymour, Paudie O'Brien, Pat Hickey.



Portroe 1982 Under 21 'A' North Champions. Back row: Jim Ryan, J. Madden, M. Helebert, J. Bray, M. McKeogh, P. Gleeson, T. O'Halloran, T. Keating, John Ryan, S. Gleeson, M. Madden, M. Moloney, S. Slattery, J. Lawlor. Front: J. Seymour, D. McGrath, John Ryan, D. Keating, M. Sheedy (capt), E. Quigley, S. McGrath, S. Donnellan, R. Freeman, J. Quigley.

Darren Gleeson, Portroe

Darren Gleeson is the immensely-popular goalkeeper on the Portroe team. The 31-year-old has been on the Tipperary senior hurling panel since 2008 - with Tipperary Darren has won one All-Ireland title, four Munster titles and a National Hurling League.

Darren has long enjoyed a reputation as one of the best goalkeepers in Tipperary. Indeed, Darren was twice named as player of the tournament in the Kilmacud Crokes All-Ireland Sevens and was a prominent member of the Portroe team which won the Sevens in September 1999.

Darren, a financial advisor by trade, is also well-known as a terrific exponent of the 21-yard free.

Darren Gleeson captained the Portroe senior hurling team to their first appearance in the North Tipperary senior hurling final in 2009. On that occasion however Nenagh Éire Óg proved too strong for Portroe and won on a 0-24 to 2-12 scoreline - barring the inaugural final in 1901 only Silvermines (1974) have claimed the North title when also making their first appearance in the divisional decider.



Tulla Ceile Band leads the Portroe and Nenagh Éire Óg teams for the North SHC Final parade in 2009.

Photograph: Bridget Delaney

Score 11/17 11/13



Toomevara



FIR IONAIÐ

(16) Thomas O'Meara

(17) Eoin Brislane 0-1

(18) David Kennedy

(19) Cathal Kennedy

(20) Bob Duff

(21) Paddy Grace

(22) Colm Canning

(23) Conor Delaney

(24) John Boland

(25) Paddy O'Brien 0-1

(26) Thomas McCarthy

(27) Brian Delaney

(28) Jason Ryan

(29) Paraic Shanahan

(30) Colin Hall

(31) Mark Harty

(32) Shane Nolan

(1)

Darren Cuddihy

(2)

Barry Dunne

(3)

Andrew Ryan

(4)

Denis Kelly

(5)

David Young

(6)

Benny Dunne

(7)

Darren Delaney

(8)

Ken Dunne

(9)

Francis Devaney (Capt)

(10)

Conor O'Meara

(11)

Brian McCormack

(12)

John O'Brien

(13)

Mark McCarthy

(14)

John Delaney

(15)

Willie Ryan

Selectors: Billy O'Shea (manager), Tommy Carroll (selector)

Philip Shanahan (coach), Chris Moore (physio-trainer)

TOOMEVARA	Cúil	Cúilíní	Seachái	45m	Saor Ciceanna
1 adh leath					
2 adh leath					
IOMLÁN					



Portroe



(1)

Darren Gleeson

(2)

Christopher O'Riordan

(3)

Noel O'Halloran

(4)

Dermot O'Halloran

(5)

Michael Creamer

(6)

Simon Kelly

(7)

Colm Gleeson

(8)

Jimmy Creamer (Capt)

(9)

Justin Conroy

(10)

Mark Gennery

(11)

Michael Sheedy

(12)

James Ryan

(13)

John Sheedy

(14)

Dinny Hogan

(15)

David Gleeson

Manager: John Sheedy. Selectors: Liam Sheedy, Fr. Seamus Gardiner, John Hogan. First Aid: Tim O'Halloran. Masseur: Padraig Quinn.

PORTROE	Cúil	Cúilíní	Seachái	45m	Saor Ciceanna
1 adh leath					
2 adh leath					
IOMLÁN					

FIR IONAIÐ

(17) Kevin O'Halloran

(18) Nicky Ryan

(19) Padraig Hickey

(20) Padraig Malone

(21) Jack Keating

(22) Conor Leo

(23) Andrew McCloskey

(24) Shane O'Brien

(25) Joey Knight

(26) Nigel Kennedy

(27) Stephen Kennedy

(28) John Ryan

(29) Nigel Flood

(30) Cathal O'Brien

(31) Damien Ryan

(32) Darren Ahern

(33) Ian O'Donnell

(34) Anthony Freeman

(35) Shane Creamer

(36) Cormac Shouldice

(37) Niall Gleeson

Previous Meeting Toome and Portroe

Toomevara and Portroe provided some exciting games over the years. Here we look at five of them in brief.

June 15 1991: SHC First Rd- Toomevara 1-19 Portroe 1-10 in MacDonagh Park.

It was the beaten North finalists, Toomevara against senior newcomers, Portroe but the experienced senior side held all the aces in a one sided affair.

Toome were in arrears just once when Liam Sheedy's free went past Jody Grace to give Port the lead after twenty four minutes. However, Toome finished the half with a strong burst and led 0-11 to 1-6 at the interval.

For much of the third quarter, Toome dominated the scoreboard and stretched their lead to seven with thirteen minutes remaining. Coming close to the end, Port reduced the margin to five but a late Michael O'Meara sixty five and a Michael Murphy goal in injury time sealed the issue.

Toomevara: Jody Grace; Rory Brislane, Sean Nolan, Pat Maher; George Frend, Michael O'Meara 0-2, Declan O'Meara; Pat King 0-2, Jimmy Dunne; Tommy Carroll 0-1, Michael Murphy 1-0, Tony Delaney 0-5; John Ryan 0-1, Tony Dunne 0-1, Michael Nolan 0-7.

Portroe: Chris Madden; Mackey McKenna, Pat Conroy, Noel O'Halloran; Michael Gleeson, Gerry O'Brien, Connie Ryan; M McCullagh, Liam Sheedy 1-2; Dinny Hogan, Jimmy Sheedy 0-1, Barry O'Driscoll 0-7; James Seymour, John Sheedy, Michael Madden.

Subs: Donnacha Keating for C Ryan; T Harty for M Madden.

Ref: Michael Lenihan, Ballinahinch.

Aug 1 – 1999. SHC Semi Final: Toomevara 3-10 Portroe 2-13 in Cloughjordan

A free in the dying seconds by Barry O'Driscoll gave Portroe another chance against County Champions, Toomevara in the TSB semi final played in Cloughjordan

Toomevara: Justin Cottrell; Aidan Maxwell, Brian McGrath, George Frend; Damien O'Meara, Padraig Hackett, Benny Dunne; Terry Dunne, Brian Duff; Paddy O'Brien (1-2); Tomas Dunne (0-5), Eoin Brislane; Paul McGrath (0-1), John O'Brien (0-1), Tommy Carroll (2-1). Subs- Tony Delaney for Duff; Pat King for Carroll.

Portroe: Darren Gleeson; Michael Delahunty, Noel O'Halloran, Joe Sexton; John Hogan, Liam Sheedy (0-2), John Moloney; Brian O'Driscoll (0-8), Colman Shouldice; Denis Quinn, Pat Sexton (1-1), Pat Conroy; Anthony Kennedy (0-2), Denis Hogan 1-0, John Ryan. Subs- John Sheedy for Conroy; P Quinn for Quinn.

Ref: John McDonnell, Roscrea.

Aug 15: Replay: Toomevara 2-13 Portroe 2-12 in MacDonagh Park

Portroe's dreams of reaching a North final were dashed in the final minutes when Paul McGrath's goal earned Toome a win. Toome led 1-7 to 1-6 at half time but Port's persistence helped them take a three point lead thanks to a 42nd minute goal by John Sheedy followed by a point by Anthony Kennedy. Toome came back level within the 52nd minute but Barry O'Driscoll put Portroe ahead two minutes later. Three minutes from time, Paul McGrath got the lead goal. Barry O'Driscoll replied with a point but Toome held on to win.

Toomevara: Justin Cottrell; Brian McGrath, Eoin Brislane, Aidan Maxwell; George Frend, Tony Delaney 0-2 (frees), Benny Dunne; Brian Duff, Terry Dunne, Eoin Brislane, Tomas Dunne 0-8 (0-6f), John O'Brien; Paul McGrath 1-1, Michael O'Meara 0-2, Tommy Carroll 1-0. Subs- Pat King for Carroll; Damien O'Meara for B McGrath; Andrew Ryan for E Brislane.

Portroe: Darren Gleeson; Michael Delahunty, Noel O'Halloran, Joe Sexton; John Hogan, Liam Sheedy, John Maloney; Barry O'Driscoll 0-9 (0-4 0-1'65), Colman Shouldice 1-0; Denis Quinn, Pat Sexton (0-1), Padraig Conroy; Anthony Kennedy 0-1, Denis Hogan, John Ryan 0-1. Subs- John Sheedy 1-0 for Conroy; John Hogan for Quinn. Ref John McDonnell, Roscrea.

July 26th 2009: Semi Final: Portroe 1-14 Toomevara 1-12 in MacDonagh Park, Nenagh

Port came from behind to defy Toomevara in the North semi final. The win gave Portroe their place in the final for the first time. Port trailed 0-8 to 0-6 at the break after playing against the breeze. They began the second half with a 1-4 blitz. The goal, a Darren Gleeson free came from

inside his half. Toomevara lined out without Benny Dunne and John Delaney.

Portroe: Darren Gleeson (1-1f); John Hogan, Nicky Ryan, Dermot O'Halloran; Noel O'Halloran, Colm Gleeson 0-1, Charlie Wilford; Jimmy Creamer, Justin Conroy; Michael Sheedy 0-4 (0-1 line), Dinny Hogan 0-1, Mark Gennery 0-1; Michael Creamer, John Ryan, John Sheedy 0-6 (4f, 6s); Subs: Pádraig Malone for Creamer (57m).

Toomevara: Sean Delaney; Paddy Tuohy, Tony Delaney, Andrew Ryan; David Kennedy, Benny Dunne, Joey McLoughney; Ken Dunne 1-9 (all frees), Brian McCormack; Paddy O'Brien, Terry Dunne 0-1, John O'Brien; Michael Bevens 0-1, Jim Níghnán 0-1, Willie Ryan.

Subs: Darren Delaney for McCormack (h/t) Kieran Brislane for T Delaney (43m); Paddy Grace for Duignan (55m); John Delaney for Bevens (62m).

Ref: Michael Cahill, Kilruane MacDonaghs

May 12 - 2012: Round 4. Toomevara 0-17 Portroe 1-14 in MacDonagh Park.

After an action packed second half, Toomevara needed an injury time equalizer by David Kennedy to secure a draw in a well contested encounter.

Kennedy was Toomevara's saviour after at the end of a half that saw the teams level four times in the last twenty minutes. Toomevara perhaps should have won having shot at least nineteen wides. However Port on the other hand displayed fantastic spirit as they recovered from a six point

deficit in the last twenty minutes and took a two point lead due to a splendid Mark Gennery goal in the 57th minute.

The remaining eight minutes of action were electric. A Conor O'Meara point followed by a Ken Dunne free brought the teams level. Dunne added a free on the hour mark. James Ryan leveled but Ken Dunne put Toome ahead once more.

Three and a half minutes into added time, two James Ryan points gave the minnows the lead.

Not to be outdone, the champions managed one more attack with Ken Dunne supplying a pass for Kennedy to bring the teams level at the end of a great tussle.

Toomevara: Darren Cuddihy; Cathal Kennedy, Andrew Ryan, Paddy Tuohy; Darren Delaney, Benny Dunne, Denis Kelly; David Young 0-1, David Kennedy 0-2, Conor O'Meara 0-2, Eoin Brislane, Francis Devaney (Capt) 0-1; Mark McCarthy, Ken Dunne 0-10 (0-8f), Willie Ryan 0-1.

Subs: John O'Brien for C Delaney (48); Conor Delaney for Brislane (52); Brislane for Delaney (56).

Portroe: Darren Gleeson; Christopher O'Riordan, Noel O'Halloran, Dermot O'Halloran; Michael Creamer, Colm Gleeson, Justin Conroy; Jimmy Creamer, Shane O'Brien; Mark Gennery 1-2, Michael Sheedy 0-1, James Ryan 0-4; David Gleeson, John Sheedy 0-7 (0-5f), Kevin O'Halloran.

Subs: Dinny Hogan for K O'Halloran (inj) (14).

Referee- Ger Fitzgerald, Roscrea.



Mark McCarthy (Toomevara) and Sean Maher (Borris-Ileagh) race for possession during semi-final at Nenagh on Tuesday of last week. Photograph: Bridget Delaney

Francis Devaney, Toome captain

Name: Francis Devaney
Club: Toomevara GAA
Height: 6ft
Weight: 13 stone

Honours: Numerous underage Medals at Club Level and North & County Medals, Munster U16, 5. North Senior Medals, 2. Munster Minor, 2. Munster U21, 5. County Senior Medals, 1. County U21.

Who are your sporting heroes? Roy Keane and Lance Armstrong

If you could play with a player from another era, who would it be? Ollie Farrell

Three opponents, club and county, you admire most? Eoin Kelly, Tommy Walsh and Ollie Canning

Most memorable game, both club and county? Captaining our U21 Team to county title and winning 2 Munster Club titles when we looked like being beaten.

Biggest influence in your career? Neil Williams mostly but all have played a part.

What is the toughest part of your sporting career? My social life suffers a lot.

Do you have a nickname? Any amount, mainly Franny.

Are you currently in a relationship? Yes, better mention her name Mairead Ryan.

Away from sport, who do you most admire? Johnny Egan.

What hobbies or interests do you have? Big Man. Utd. fan/play soccer for Ballymackey F.C. (Divisional Champions 2011)

Favourite ground? Semple Stadium
Favourite food? Chinese/Thai
Favourite music? All kinds really.

Sporting ambition? Captain Toome to a county title.

If you could change three (rules) things in the GAA what would they be? (1) 2 Points for a line ball. (2) Having 2 months between games is ridiculous. (3) Entrance fee into games.

Best piece of advice you have received during your hurling career? Don't try to complicate thing, just attack every ball.



Jimmy Creamer, Portroe captain

Name: Jimmy Creamer
Club: Portroe
Height: 6' 2"
Weight: 13 Stone

Honours: Co. Senior Hurling League,
North Tipp U16, Minor and
U21 Hurling

Who are your sporting heroes? Paul O'Connell
Munster, John Leahy Tipperary
and Colin Lynch Clare.

If you could play with a player from another era,
who would it be? John
Sheedy Senior.

Opponents, club and county, you admire most?
Patrick Bonner Maher, Lorrha
and John Doughan, Moneygall

Most memorable game, both club and county? 2007 Seven-a-side All Ireland Final

Biggest influence in your career? The players I line out with in every game

What is the toughest part of your sporting career? Time management – hurling/work/life

Do you have a nickname? The lads are working on one!

Are you currently in a relationship? The North Championship ... (Yes)

Away from sport, who do you most admire? Michael O'Leary

What hobbies or interests do you have? Darts, skiing, tag rugby, any sport really.

Favourite ground? Nenagh

Favourite food? All food

Favourite music? Anything that's on the radio

Sporting ambition? To play to the best of my ability every day I tog out

If you could change rules in the GAA what would they be? Two points for a side-line cut and better use of the advantage rule.

Best piece of advice you have received during your hurling career? Shorten the grip and don't shout.



Portroe scorers for 2012

1st	John Sheedy	(55 pts)	3-46 (0-33 f, 0-2'65)	3-54 0-29 F
2nd	Mark Gennery	(21 pts)	3-12	4-12
3rd	Kevin O'Halloran	(12 pts)	1-9	1-10
4th	James Ryan	(11 pts)	1-8 (0-1 s-cut)	1-10
5th	David Gleeson	(08 pts)	2-2	
6th	Jimmy Creamer	(07 pts)	1-4	0-1 1-5
6th	Michael Sheedy	(07 pts)	0-7	1-1 1-8
6th	John Ryan	(07 pts)	1-4	1-2 2-6
7th	Darren Gleeson	(04 pts)	0-4 (0-4 f)	
8th	Simon Kelly	(02 pts)	0-2	
8th	Denis Hogan	(01 pts)	0-1	
8th	Justin Conroy	(01 pts)	0-1	



1981 Portroe Intermediate hurling team.

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Wishing the Portroe Players & Management the very best of luck.



Meet the managers



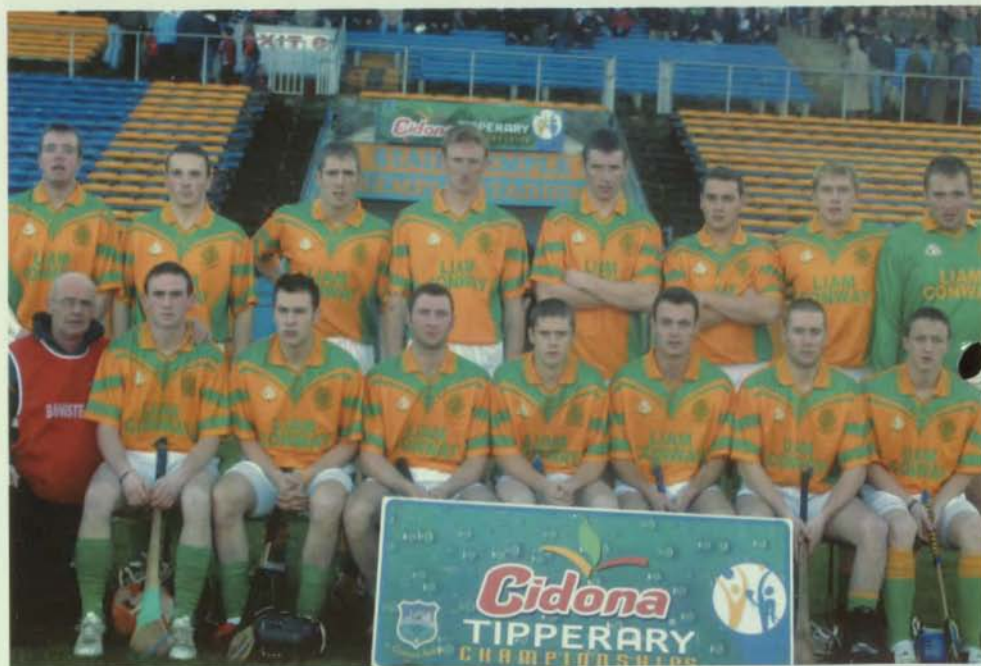
Portroe management team - (l to r) Liam Sheedy, Fr Seamus Gardiner, John Sheedy and John Hogan.



Toomevara senior hurling management (l to r) Billy O'Shea (manager), Tommy Carroll (selector) and Philip Shanahan (coach). Photographs: Bridget Delaney

Toomevara scorers for 2012

1st	Ken Dunne,	(57 pts) 3-48 (0-25 f, 0-6'65) & 1-10 2-68 0-3
2nd	Willie Ryan,	(21 pts) 3-12 0-6
3rd	Conor O'Meara,	(15 pts) 1-12 0-1
4th	John O'Brien	(12 pts) 1-9 1-10
5th	David Young	(11 pts) 1-8 & 0-1 1-9
6th	Mark McCarthy	(10 pts) 2-4
7th	John Delaney	(07 pts) 1-4
8th	David Kennedy	(06 pts) 1-3
9th	Francis Devaney	(05 pts) 0-5
10th	Conor Delaney	(04 pts) 1-1
11th	Bob Duff	(03 pts) 0-3
12th	Darren Delaney	(02 pts) 0-2
12th	Eoin Brislane	(02 pts) 0-2
13th	Benny Dunne	(01 pts) 0-1 (0-1f)



Toomevara North and County U-21 Champions, 2005. Back row, l-r: J. Delaney, T. Gleeson, F. Devaney, B. McCormack, T. O'Meara, W. Ryan, D. Young, J. McGrath, Front row, l-r: B. Sherlock (coach) P. Tuohy, J. McLoughney, J. Boland, K. Brislane, S. Delaney, T. McCarthy, R. Duff.

Ken Dunne - a glittering career

By Jackie Cahill

Ken Dunne admits that he's been extremely lucky. A glittering career at club level for Toomevara has yielded nine North senior hurling championship medals, along with nine county titles. Dunne, 34, also won provincial titles in 2004 and 2006 but the All-Ireland club title unfortunately eluded him. He recalls: "I missed out on the 1999 North championship. I was away in Chicago. We beat Nenagh that year and I remember seeing the video of it. We were well down at half-time but came back to win well. I've been there since 1994, when I was a sub. "Six or seven of us were brought onto the panel at that time."

Dunne admits that landing a tenth senior divisional medal would be a sweet achievement – but he would be even more pleased for the likes of Mark McCarthy, Cathal Kennedy and Jason Ryan, who were going for their first.

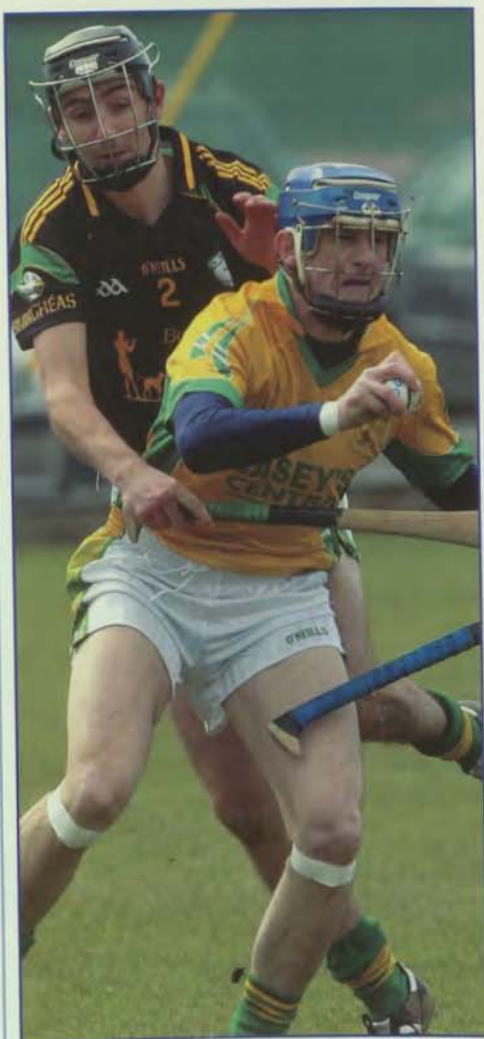
And ace free-taker Dunne knows that Toome' will get nothing easy from Portroe, pointing out that the teams drew earlier in the campaign.

The former Tipp senior player said: "They're very good – a well-prepared outfit. They're well-drilled and know what they're at. Everybody has a job to do and they're doing it. Liam Sheedy has them flying – instils a lot of belief in them."

And while Dunne has amassed a haul of medals that would topple a cabinet, he still laments the ones that got away.

"Like against Boherlahan (1996) county final," he says. "Six points up in the second half. And the semi-final against Sars in 2010, when Pa Bourke scored the last minute goal. Little things like that. But then again, we were fortunate enough to win other ones as well. We can't be too greedy I suppose."

"The ones that stand out are 1998 (county final) against Clonoulty – the first one that I started in. We went on to do four in a row



Ken Dunne, Toomevara

before Mullinahone beat us in 2002. I was captain that year. We won it back in 2003, 2004 and 2006. That 2006 final was a great game against Nenagh, an enjoyable game of hurling. We were down four or five points at half-time but hurled some stuff in the second half."



Portroe U-12 Hurling 'C' County Champions 2000. Back: Tim O'Halloran (manager), Neville White, Shane Reidy, Sean Slattery, John Sheedy, Shane Tuohy, Fionan Ryan, Killian Boyle, Mark Gennery, David Gleeson, Darren Ahern, Conor Ryan, Michael Sheedy, Ruari Blaney, Darragh McLoughlin, Michael Creamer, Sean Creamer (selector). Front: Padraig Hanly, Cormac Shoudice, Thomas Knox, Dessie Brereton, Jamie McCloskey, Adrian Lewis, Simon Kelly (capt), Colm Gleeson, Justin Conroy, Shane O'Brien, Andre McCloskey, Martin Hammond.

Five of these players are on the Portroe panel for today's match

Blast from the Past: 1952

May 25th 1952

Portroe 2-9 Toomevara 2-3 in Nenagh

Portroe survived their first round loss to Burgess by defeating a John Hough led Toomevara side in the opening round of the losers group that year.

The winners led 1-6 to 1-1 at half time. Their lead could have been greater but for some fine goalkeeping by Roddy Nolan.

But it was Port's day with Connie Collins in goal, Paddy Seymour, Michael Seymour, Christopher Molamphy, Pat O'Brien, John Quinn and James Kenny best for Portroe. Best for Toome

vara included Roddy Nolan, Dwan, Fitzgerald, the Shanahans, John Hough, Burke and Guerin.

Portroe Connie Collins; John Hogan, Jimmy Seymour, John Quinn; Tommy McInerney, Pat O'Brien, Paddy Seymour; Michael Seymour, Tom Molamphy; James Kenny, Eddie Ryan, Christopher Ryan; Jimmy Carr, John Seymour, John Kenny.

Toomevara Roddy Nolan, J Dwane, Sean Ryan, P Fitzgerald; T Hayes, M Shanahan, Martin Bourke; John Hough, Stephen Guerin; Jimmy Feehily, J Gleeson, Matt Hassett; Tom Shanahan, M O'Brien, J Kennedy.

Referee J Quigley.



Toomevara's vice-captain Francis Devaney lifts the Frank McGrath Cup in 2011 presented by his uncle Pakie Devaney (The Hibernian Nenagh). Also present are Ciarán Morris (The Hibernian Nenagh), North Board chairman Michael Sheehy and the victorious Toomevara team. Photograph: Bridget Delaney

Ten senior hurling championship scorers

Ken Dunne, Toomevara and John Sheedy are battling for top spot as they take first and second places in the scoring charts in this year's Hibernian Inn North Tipperary Senior Hurling championship.

Significantly the duo were in the top top in last year's list after the North final was complete. Back then, Ken Dunne finished runner-up, his 0-12 in the North final helped him to a 1-50 total, eleven points behind the winner, Darragh Egan who reached 1-61 after the Kildangan man scored 0-5 that day. The next four in the 2011 race included Kevin Tucker 0-45; Ray McLoughney 1-42; Adrian Ryan 2-38 and Portroe's John Sheedy on 2-35.

The question is who will fill the top position after today's final. The current list includes, twenty-two players in the top fifteen scoring positions with Tommy Heffernan heading the list from play.

1st	Ken Dunne, Toomevara:	(57 pts)	3-48 (0-25 f, 0-6 '65)
2nd	John Sheedy, Portroe	(55 pts)	3-46 (0-33 f, 0-2 '65)
3rd	Davin Flynn, Roscrea:	(50 pts)	3-41 (1-25 f, 0-2 '65)
3rd	David O'Connor, Borris-Ileigh	(50 pts)	0-50 (0-36 f, 0-3 '65)
4th	Eanna Murray, Templederry	(48 pts)	3-39 (1-28 f, 0-2 '65)
5th	Brian O'Meara, Kilruane	(34 pts)	3-25 (0-12 f)
6th	Willie Greene, Moneygall	(33 pts)	1-30 (0-24 f, 0-1 '65)
7th	Tommy Heffernan, Nenagh	(32 pts)	5-17
8th	Michael Heffernan, Nenagh	(30 pts)	2-24 (1-8 f)
9th	Tony Scroope, Burgess	(28 pts)	0-28 (0-14 f, 0-4 '65)
10th	Mark Bourke, Borris-Ileigh	(26 pts)	1-23
11th	Stephen Murray, Templederry	(25 pts)	0-25 (0-18 f, 0-1 '65)
11th	Ruairi Gleeson, Kildangan	(25pts)	0-25 (0-13 f, 0-1 '65)
12th	Gearoid Ryan, Templederry	(21pts)	2-15
12th	Mark Gennery, Portroe	(21 pts)	3-12
12th	Willie Ryan, Toomevara	(21 pts)	3-12
13th	Ray McLoughney, Kilruane	(20 pts)	2-14 (1-11 f)
14th	Tadhg Slevin, Borrisokane	(17 pts)	1-14 (1-7 f)
15th	Patrick Maher, Lorrha	(15 pts)	2-9 (2-6 f)
15th	Philip Austin, Borrisokane	(15 pts)	3-6
15th	Conor O'Meara, Toomevara	(15 pts)	1-12
15th	Brendan Maher, Borris-Ileigh	(15 pts)	1-12 (0-1f, 0-2 s-cut)

70 4-58 3-38

62 3-54

4-12

Ten Top Scorers from play for 2012

1st	Tommy Heffernan, Nenagh Éire Óg	(32 pts)	5-17
2nd	Ken Dunne Toomevara	(26 pts)	3-17
2nd	Mark Bourke, Borris-Ileigh	(26 pts)	1-23
3rd	Brian O'Meara, Kilruane MacD	(22 pts)	3-13
4th	Gearoid Ryan, Templederry	(21 pts)	2-15
4th	Willie Ryan, Toomevara	(21 pts)	3-12
4th	Mark Gennery, Portroe	(21 pts)	3-12
5th	Michael Heffernan, Nenagh Éire Óg	(19 pts)	1-16
6th	Philip Austin, Borrisokane	(15 pts)	3-6
6th	Conor O'Meara, Toomevara	(15 pts)	1-12

4-12

Toome and Portroe met in two Intermediate finals in the '80s

Strange times, those 1980s. Toomevara went down a grade to Intermediate in 1980 and formed a great rivalry with Portroe over the next five seasons. They met three times, two finals, 1981 and 1984 and a North semi-final in 1983.

The 1981 final 27th September

Portroe 2-10 Toomevara 0-15

0685
0-12
With two minutes to go in this game and Toomevara five points ahead, everyone in MacDonagh Park, MacDonagh, spectators and players alike, must have committed to the inevitable fact that Toomevara had won fairly and squarely by a five point margin. But if ever a miracle took place, it happened on Sunday last.

Star player, Gerry O'Brien of Portroe turned the water into wine in the last two minutes when after coming on in the dying moments and labouring an injury, crashed two brilliant goals to the net to give Portroe a one point victory.

Earlier Toome, with the first half breeze, opened up a five point lead after ten minutes with Sean Nolan, Seamus O'Meara, James Grace and Michael Delaney providing the scores and by half time they led 0-12 to 0-1. Port can thank goalkeeper, John Sheedy who produced a marvelous save in the first half denying Michael Delaney.

In the second half, wind assisted Portroe slowly pulled back the lead with Brendan Kennedy and Tom Keating finding the target.

That was until O'Brien's late intervention turned game on its head.

Portroe John Sheedy; Liam Kennedy (capt), Paddy Conroy, Mike Sheedy; Michael Gleeson, Mike Moloney, Jimmy Ryan; Mike McKeogh, Tom Keating (0-2); Martin Gleeson (0-1), Brendan Kennedy (0-7), Pat Hickey; Jimmy Creamer, Jimmy Sheedy, Martin Flynn.

Subs- Willie Ryan for Flynn, Gerry O'Brien (2-0) for Hickey; Pat Ryan for M Gleeson.

Toomevara Pat McGrath; Tony Dunne, Joe Kennedy, D J Cleary; Peter Connolly, Denis Haverty, Martin O'Meara; Sean Nolan (0-5), Joe McGrath (0-3); James Grace (0-2), Seamus O'Meara (0-1), Jimmy Dunne, Michael Delaney (0-4), Donal Shanahan, Michael McCormack.

Subs- Tom Shanahan for S O'Meara, T J Grace for T Shanahan.

Referee Gerry Long, Knockshgowna.

1984 Centenary Final 30th September

Toomevara 0-13 Portroe 0-12

A Liam Nolan free in the 59th minute gave Toomevara victory over champions Portroe following a very entertaining final at MacDonagh Park.

It was definitely one of the best games of the year as the both teams played open hurling with play flowing from end to end. It was mainly point for point with the margin at one, two and at one occasion three when Toome led 0-4 to 0-1 after eleven minutes.

By half time it was seven points each and parity would be shared on four more occasions the latest in the 55th minute when Jimmy Creamer replied to a Liam Nolan score leaving it 0-12 each. Most would have settled for a draw but Liam Nolan's late free proved worthy.

Mike Murphy was best with three points to his credit with Liam Nolan, Joe and Liam McGrath always posing a threat up front. Pat McGrath did well in goal with Pat King, Denis Haverty and Brendan Spillane doing well in the backline.

James Seymour was superb in goals with Mike Sheedy, Gerry O'Brien strong in defence. Mike Moloney and Mike McKeogh held their own at midfield while up front Jim Creamer, the Sheedys and Martin Gleeson made sure the Toome defence was tested.

Toomevara Pat McGrath; Michael Egan, Dan Brislane, Brendan Spillane; Noel McDonnell, Pat King, Denis Haverty; Sean Nolan (0-1), Michael Murphy (0-3); Joe McGrath (0-2, 1f), Liam McGrath (0-1), Michael Kennedy; Liam Nolan (0-4, 2f) Tony Dunne, Brian Delaney. Sub- Jimmy Dunne for Delaney; Tom Shanahan for J Dunne.

Portroe James Seymour; Liam Kennedy (capt), Paddy Conroy, Mike Sheedy; Jim Ryan, Gerry O'Brien (0-1), Michael Gleeson; Mike Moloney (0-1f), Mike McKeogh (0-1); Jim Creamer (0-2), John Sheedy (0-4 all frees), Willie Ryan; Martin Gleeson, Jimmy Sheedy (0-3), Donnacha Keating. Subs- Brendan Kennedy for W Ryan; Pat Power for Keating.

Referee Gerry Long, Knockshgowna.



Mike McKeogh
winner of three North
and one county
intermediate medals

Hibernian Inn North Tipp Senior

TEAMS				DATE	VENUE	REF
GROUP 1. Round 1						
Roscrea	1-12	Kildangan	0-15	7.7.12	MacDonagh Pk	Michael Murphy
Borris-Ileigh	0-21	Moneygall	0-11	8.4.12	MacDonagh Pk	Philip Kelly
Nenagh Éire Óg	2-16	Kilruane MacD	3-10	8.4.12	Toomevara	Kieran Delaney
Round 2						
Kildangan	1-14	Moneygall	1-11	14.4.12	MacDonagh Pk	Pat Gibson
Nenagh Éire Og	3-9	Borris-Ileigh	1-14	15.4.12	Toomevara	Ger Fitzpatrick
Roscrea	2-11	Kilruane MacD	2-11	15.4.12	Toomevara	T.P Sullivan
Round 3						
Borris-Ileigh	1-16	Roscrea	1-10	28.4.12	Moneygall,	Pat Gibson
Kilruane MacD	2-16	Kildangan	0-17	28.4.12	MacDonagh Pk	Kieran Delaney
Moneygall	2-11	Nenagh Éire Óg	1-12	29.4.12	Dolla	Michael Murphy
Round 4						
Borris-Ileigh	1-11	Kilruane MacD	2-8	13.5.12	Dolla	Michael Murphy
Nenagh	2-12	Kildangan	2-6	13.5.12	Dolla	Pat Gibson
Roscrea	1-14	Moneygall	1-10	13.5.12	Toomevara	Kieran Delaney
Round 5						
Roscrea	3-11	Nenagh Éire Óg	2-14	1.6.12	Cloughjordan	John Cleary
Borris-Ileigh	2-16	Kildangan	4-9	1.6.12	Dolla	Philip Kelly
Moneygall	3-16	Kilruane MacD	1-10	1.6.12	Toomevara	Michael Murphy
GROUP 2. Round 1						
Burgess	1-23	Lorrha	0-8	8.4.12	Cloughjordan	Michael Cahill
Portroe	3-14	Templeberry	1-16	8.4.12	Toomevara	Anthony Sherlock
Toomevara	3-19	Borrisokane	2-10	7.5.12	Cloughjordan	Ger Fitzpatrick
Round 2						
Templeberry	1-20	Burgess	1-20	14.4.12	MacDonagh Pk	Tommy Ryan
Toomevara	5-22	Lorrha	0-18	15.4.12	Cloughjordan	Noel Coffey
Portroe	0-17	Borrisokane	2-7	15.4.12	Cloughjordan,	Dan Darcy
Round 3						
Templeberry	4-19	Borrisokane	3-17	28.4.12	MacDonagh Pk	Ger Fitzpatrick
Portroe	3-13	Lorrha	0-11	29.4.12	Cloughjordan	Michael Cahill
Toomevara	3-17	Burgess	0-14	29.4.12	Dolla	Anthony Sherlock
Round 4						
Templeberry	2-23	Lorrha	1-11	12.5.12	MacDonagh Pk	Anthony Sherlock
Portroe	1-14	Toomevara	0-17	12.5.12	MacDonagh Pk	Ger Fitzpatrick
Borrisokane	2-15	Burgess	0-17	3.6.12	Cloughjordan	Michael Cahill
Round 5						
Toomevara	1-22	Templeberry	1-17	9.6.12	Dolla	Ger Fitzpatrick
Burgess	0-17	Portroe	1-13	9.6.12	MacDonagh Pk	Anthony Sherlock
Lorrha	2-18	Borrisokane	2-10	10.6.12	Cloughjordan	Liam Hogan

North Tipperary Senior Hurling Championship 2012

Senior Hurling Championship League tables after five rounds

Group 1	Pl	W	D	L	For	Ag	D	Pts
Nenagh Éire Óg	5	3	1	1	10-63 (93)	11-52 (85)	+8	7
Borris-Ileigh	5	3	1	1	5-78 (93)	10-47 (77)	+16	7
Roscrea	5	1	3	1	8-58 (82)	6-66 (84)	-2	5
Moneygall	5	2	0	3	7-59 (80)	4-71 (83)	-3	4
Kilruane MacDonaghs	5	1	2	2	10-55 (85)	8-71 (95)	-10	4
Kildangan	5	1	1	3	7-61 (82)	8-67 (91)	-9	3

Group 2	Pl	W	D	L	For	Ag	D	Pts
Toomevara	5	4	1	0	12-97 (133)	4-73 (85)	+48	9
Portroe	5	3	1	2	8-71 (95)	3-68 (77)	+18	7
Templederry	5	2	1	2	9-95 (122)	9-84 (111)	+11	5
Burgess	5	2	1	2	2-91 (97)	7-73 (94)	+3	5
Borrisokane	5	1	0	4	11-59 (92)	9-90 (117)	-25	2
Lorrha and Dorrha	5	1	0	4	3-66 (75)	13-91(130)	-55	2

Quarter Finals:

Teams and Scores

Teams and Scores				Date	Venue	Referee
Portroe	3-15	Roscrea	0-18	28.6.12	Cloughjordan	Pat Gibson,
Borris-Ileigh	3-15	Templederry	1-11	28.6.12	Dolla	Fergal Horgan.

Semi Finals

Portroe	1-14	Nenagh Éire Og	0-16	2.7.12	Dolla	Ger Fitzpatrick
Toomevara	2-17	Borris-Ileigh	0-22	3.7.12	MacDonagh Pk	Philip Kelly

North Final

Toomevara	0-00	Portroe	0-00	22.7.12	MacDonagh Park
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Snippets

- **Five Draws** Five North Tipperary Senior Hurling finals have ended level. In 1934, Kilbarron/Kildangan and Roscrea finished level at 5-6 to 4-9. There was no replay needed because the championship at the time run on a strict league basis and Kilbarron/Kildangan finished in top position.
- **A replay** was required in 1980 when Roscrea and Kilruane drew 1-9 to 0-12 with Roscrea winning the replay, 5-6 to 2-12.
- **Gardiner Park, Borrisokane** was the venue for the 1982 final involving Nenagh Éire Óg and Roscrea. At the end of a very exciting game, the sides finished level Nenagh Éire Óg 0-17 Roscrea 3-8. However the replay was never played as both sides disputed the date for the replay due to commitments to the county championship.
- **Toomevara drew** with Nenagh at 0-12 each in the 1991 decider played at Tomas MacDonagh Park, Cloughjordan. The replay was played at the same venue, with Toome bridging a 29 year gap to win by 2-12 to 2-8.

North Tipp U-16 success

North Tipperary U-16 hurlers captured their eleventh Munster title last May. Today we produce a number of the teams that won since 2000. Have a look at the names that played senior hurling with their clubs over the past decade

2000 North Tipp 3-12 East Clare 1-14 at the Gaelic Grounds, Limerick

Thomas Kennedy (Nenagh Eire Og); John Boland (Toomevara); Diarmuid Corcoran (Templederry); Michael Bergin (Moneygall); Roy Darcy (Shannon Rovers); Conor O'Mahony (Newport); Martin Treacy (Borris-Ileigh); Sean Delaney (Toomevara); David Killoran (Roscrea); Niall Kelly (Silvermines 0-1); Francis Devaney (Toomevara 0-1); Shane McGrath (Ballinahinch 0-1); Tony Scroope (Burgess 2-2); Thomas Collins (Ballina 0-4); Willie Ryan (Toomevara Capt 1-3 (2f). Subs Seosamh Cleary (Borrisokane), Kevin Ryan (Ballina) Marcus Ryan (Ballinahinch)

2002 North Tipperary 2-16 Imokilly Cork 3-11 at Bruff

Scorers :- North Tipp - Colm Larkin 1-9 all frees; Stephan Murphy 1-1; Keith Ryan 0-2; Shane Carroll 0-2 (0-1 free and 0-1= 65). Shane O'Brien and Daragh Egan 0-1 each.

North Tipp :- Matthew Ryan Templederry; Jack Maher Lorrha; Sean Ryan Moneygall; Martin Walsh Kilruane; Ray McLoughney do; Shane Carroll Shannon Rovers; David O'Conner Borris-Ileigh; David Kearns Nenagh; Shane O'Brien Ballina; Mark O'Meara Roscrea Capt; Stephan Murphy Kilruane; Keith Ryan Borris-Ileigh; Colm Larkin Borrisokane; Daragh Egan Kildangan; Joe McLoughney Toomevara. Sub Joe Gleeson Borrisokane for O'Meara; Declan Mulqueen Silvermines for Kearns

2004 The winning North Tipp U-16 team that defeated South East Limerick in the Munster Final in Claughan was as follows: John King Moneygall; David Minogue Nenagh Eire Og; Timmy Gleeson Toomevara; Justin Conroy Portroe; Tomas Stapleton Templederry; Eoin Hogan Kilruane MacDonaghs; Barry Cahalan Shannon Rovers; Tony Dunne Burgess; Simon Kelly Portroe; Gearoid Ryan Templederry; Seamus Hennessey Kilruane MacDonaghs; Eoin Gleeson Kildangan; Brendan Maher Borris-Ileigh; Joseph McLoughney Toomevara Capt; Michael O'Meara Lorrha. Subs- Ger Corcoran Kilruane MacDonagh; Brian Maxwell, Nenagh Eire Og; Michael Heffernan do; Robert Duff Toomevara; Paul Maher Borris-Ileigh; Donagh Maher Burgess; David Gleeson Portroe; Darren Carroll

Shannon Rovers; Colm Gleeson Portroe; Gavin McAvinchy Kilruane MacDonagh.

2008 North Tipperary 4-18 East Waterford 2-15 a.e.t. at Cashel

SCORERS: North Tipp: B Stapleton 1-5 (3f and 65); N O'Meara 1-3; D McCormack 0-5 (2f); D Flynn 1-2; John Ryan 1-0; E Hogan 0-2; B Harkins 0-1.

NORTH TIPPERARY: David Reddan; Stephen James Gleeson, David Maher, Justin Cahill; Peter Gill, Brian Stapleton, Jason Forde; Andrew Byrne, Darren Moore; Niall O'Meara, Dan McCormack, James Ryan; Davin Flynn, Benny Harkin, Tommy Heffernan (Capt).

Subs: Eoin Hogan for James Ryan (h/t); John Ryan for Harkins e/t; Benny Harkins for McCormack (e/t); Pauraic O'Meara for Moore (e/t); James Bergin for N O'Meara (e/t)

2011 North Tipp 1-9 Mid Tipp 1-7 at Mallow

NORTH TIPP SCORERS: B Heffernan 0-6 (0-3f and 1'65); J Mackey 1-1; C Gleeson and A Boyle 0-1 each. NORTH TIPP TEAM: Daryl Ryan (Roscrea); Donnacha Quinn (Nenagh Eire Og); Cathal Kennedy (Toomevara); David Sweeney (Kildangan); Austin Tierney (Shannon Rovers); Jason Ryan (Toomevara); James Cleary (Kilruane MacDonaghs); Cillian Gleeson (Nenagh Eire Og and Capt); Jamie Lewis (Lorrha); Sam Conlon (Roscrea); Barry Heffernan (Nenagh Eire Og); James Mackey (Nenagh Eire Og) Christopher Fogarty (Lorrha); Mark McCarthy (Toomevara); Joey Knight (Portroe). Subs: Aidan Boyle (Kilruane MacDonaghs) for Fogarty.

2012: North Tipperary 6-5 Limerick City/West 0-8 at Mallow

SCORERS: North Tipp- C Ryan 3-1; A Dunne 1-1; D Carey and P Ryan 1-0 each; W Connors 0-2 (2f); C Floyd 0-1 (65).

Limerick City/West: R Lynch)-4 (2f, 2'65); C O'Brien 0-2; S Casey and D O'Mahony 0-1 each.

NORTH TIPP: Brian Hogan (Lorrha); Kieran Maher (Borris-Ileigh); Mark Grace (Toomevara); Rob Houlihan (Newport); Andrew Duggan (Portroe); Andrew Coffey (Nenagh Eire Og); Padraic Hogan (Templederry); Conor Floyd (Newport); Paul Ryan (Toomevara); Willie Connors; Willie Coffey (Toomevara); Shane Hennessey (Nenagh Eire Og); Andy Dunne (Burgess); Daragh Carey (Templederry); Conor Ryan (Nenagh Eire Og). Subs: Aodhan Geaney and Philip Hickey were brought on.

North Tipp. SHC roll of honour

Pre-Parish Rule 1901-1934

Toomevara (17)	1910, '11, '12, '13, '16, '17, '18, '19, '22, '23, '25, '26, '27, '28, '29, '30, '31,
Lahorna De Wets (7)	1901, '02, '03, '04, '06, '07, '08
Lorrha (3)	1905, '14, '24
Kilbarron/Kildangan (1)	1934
Borrisokane (1)	1933
Newport (1)	1932
Nenagh (1)	1915
Youghalarra (1)	1909

After Parish Rule

Toomevara (16)	1946, '58, '60, '61, '62, '91, '94, '95, '97, '99, '00, '02, '03, '06, '10, '11
Roscrea (16)	1936, '37, '39, '41, '42, '45, '49, '54, '63, '67, '68, '69, '70, '71, '80, '04
Borris-Ileigh (14)	1947, '50, '51, '52, '53, '55, '72, '73, '76, '81, '83, '88, '05, '07.
Kilruane MacDonaghs (11)	1940, '44, '59, '65, '77, '78, '79, '85, '86, '87, '90
Nenagh Éire Óg (7)	1957, '64, '92, '93, '98, '01, '09.
Lorrha (5)	1948, '56, '66, '84, '89
Kildangan (3)	1938, '43, '08.
Newport (2)	1935, '96
Moneygall (1)	1975
Silvermines (1)	1974

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