

Cumann Lúthchleas Gael Thiobraid Árann



Craobh Chluichí Iomána Thiobraid Árann 2022

SENIOR & PREMIER
INTERMEDIATE FINALS



*FBD Stáid Semple,
Dúrlas Éile*

*Sunday,
23rd October 2022*

www.tipperary.gaa.ie

John J. O'Connell
Runaí

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~ CLÁR AN LAE ~

1.58pm	Gortnahoe-Glengoole amach ar an Páirc
2.00pm	Roscrea amach ar an Páirc
2.15pm	Tús an cluiche FBD Insurance Premier Intermediate Hurling Championship Final GORTNAHOE-GLENGOOLE v ROSCREA
2.47pm	Leath-am
2.57pm	Tús an dara leath
3.30pm	Críoch an chluiche
3.37pm	Presentation of the Seamus Ó Riain Cup to the winning captain by Séamas Ó Muineog, Leas Cathaoirleach an Chontae, followed by the presentation of the “Man of the Match” award (sponsored by John Quirke Jewellers, Cahir)
3.47pm	Presentation of the Éire Óg Nenagh County Senior Hurling winning team from 1995.
4.05pm	Kilruane MacDonaghs amach ar an Páirc
4.07pm	Kildangan amach ar an Páirc
4.22pm	<i>Give Respect, Get Respect</i> handshake
4.24pm	Pre-match Parade led by the Sean Treacy Pipe Band
4.28pm	Amhrán na bhFiann
4.30pm	Tús an cluiche FBD Insurance Senior Hurling Championship Final KILADANGAN v KILRUANE MacDONAGHS
5.03pm	Leath-am
5.13pm	Tús an dara leath
5.45pm	Críoch an chluiche
5.55pm	Presentation of the Dan Breen Cup to the winning captain by Seosamh Ó Cinnéide, Cathaoirleach an Chontae, followed by the presentation of the “Man of the Match” award (sponsored by John Quirke Jewellers, Cahir)

FRONT COVER – *Kiladangan's Paul Flynn scores a great point despite the attentions of Jack Peters (Kilruane Mac Donaghs) in the North SHC quarter-final.* [Photo: Bridget Delaney]

Buíochas I would like to thank everyone associated with this production – Tom Maher (Assistant County Secretary), Jonathan Cullen (Tipperary PRO) and Tim Floyd (County Secretary) for their assistance throughout the year. Our contributors for their fine writing and interesting articles marking County Final day for all four clubs and Nenagh's heroes of yesteryear, namely, Noel Dundon, Seamus O'Doherty, S.J. King, Liam Hogan, Liam Ó Donnchú, Timmy Hammersley, Charlie Evans, Mark Dunne and Seamus Ó Dubhagáin. Finally our photographers Bridget Delaney, Eamonn McGee, Michael Boland and Odhran Ducie whose keen eye and images chronicle the sporting year. Mile buíochas everyone.

GER CORBETT (Programme Editor)



Fáilte ón gCathaoirleach



FÁILTE riombaidh go léir go dtí Cluichí Ceannais Iomána Tiobraid Árann anseo i FBD Stáid Semple. Táim cinnite go mbeidh iomaniocht láidir ann idir na foirne ins an dá cluiche cheannais.

Fáilte fé leith riomh na h-imreoirí, na hoifigigh agus na reiteoirí agus tá suíl agam go mbeidh sar cluichí spóirtíúla againn.

It gives me great pleasure, on behalf of Tipperary County Board, to welcome you all to FBD Semple Stadium today for this year's Senior Hurling and Premier Intermediate Finals. A special welcome to Uachtarán Cumann Lúthchleas Gael Larry McCarthy. It is a great honour for Tipperary GAA to have the President attend our finals here today.

Both matches today have all the promise of two wonderful games displaying all the positive attributes that makes hurling the greatest field game there is.

I would like to welcome our Championship sponsors FBD and thank them for their generous sponsorship. I would also like to acknowledge their support of Semple Stadium by

securing the naming rights of the stadium earlier this year. FBD are similar to the GAA in that they are based locally throughout our county. We wish them continued success in the future.

In keeping with the well established practice, post covid, we are honouring the Nenagh Éire Óg team that captured the Co Hurling Final in 1995. We welcome their players, mentors, officials and their partners and hope that they have an enjoyable day reliving the great deeds of 1995 here in FBD Semple Stadium today. The players will get the opportunity to grace the field of play today and I know they will receive a warm welcome from all those present.

I welcome, in particular, all the players who will grace the famed sod at FBD Semple Stadium today. It is a proud day for them. They have trained hard and have played hard to reach their respective finals on merit. I wish all players and management the very best of luck in today's games.

The senior final is an all North affair between an experienced Kiladangan team



James Quigley (Kiladangan) and Kian O'Kelly (Kilruane MacDonaghs) tangle for possession during the North SHC quarter-final. [Photo: Bridget Delaney]

officials for today's games. Kevin Jordan and Michael Kennedy have given excellent service for a number of years and I hope they too enjoy today's games. Many thanks to all our referees and the referees committee for their dedication over the year. Before both finals, the players will shake hands with all our officials as part of our "Give Respect" initiative. I would urge all involved in any of our games to give the officials the respect they deserve and hopefully today's initiative will be the beginning of a culture whereby our officials receive the proper respect.

who face Kilruane MacDonaghs who have improved steadily over the championship. Extra time was needed to separate these two teams when they played in the North championship earlier this year. That result will have no effect on today's game, but we hope to have a final that provides a game of similar excitement.

The Premier Intermediate final is a novel pairing between Roscrea and Gortnahoe-Glengoole. Both teams have had impressive championship campaigns to date. Roscrea are hoping to make a fast return to Dan Breen and will have plenty of confidence from their form throughout the championship. Gortnahoe-Glengoole have also been impressive this year and have steadily improved all year, which gives the prospect of an intriguing final.

Best wishes to both referees and their

FBD Semple Stadium is one of the best stadia in the country. Many thanks to Chairman Con Hogan and Stadium Director Dave Morgan for their work in the upkeep of the Stadium. Thanks also to Pdraig Greene and his staff for the excellent work they do in maintaining the pitch to a very high standard.

My thanks to Ger Corbett and all the contributors for giving us an informative programme as always. Many thanks also to my fellow officers for their diligence in making the entire match day arrangements and finally to all our supporters, I hope you enjoy today's games.

SEOSAMH Ó CINNÉIDE
Cathaoirleach,
Coiste Chontae Thiobraid Árann

~ Meet the Match Officials ~

KEVIN JORDAN

Senior Final Referee

IT IS a great honour for Kevin and his family to be in charge of today's County Senior Hurling decider. He would like to thank his club Thurles Gaels, his fellow officials and especially his umpires who have been with him since the very beginning. He brings a wealth of experience to the role and is a member of the County, Munster and National Championship Referees panels.

To-date he has refereed the following finals – County Junior Hurling final 2015 & 2017; County Senior Hurling Final 2018 & 2022; Munster Club Championship Junior Hurling Final 2016; Munster Intermediate Club Hurling Final 2018; Munster Minor Hurling final 2017; Munster U20 Hurling Final 2021; Nicky Rackard Hurling Final Croke Pk 2020; National Hurling League Division 3 Final 2021; National Hurling league Division 2 Final 2022.

Role of referee: Since starting refereeing the biggest changes he has seen is in the area of fitness and physical conditioning of club and inter-county players. Kevin works hard on maintaining his fitness and believes if your fitness is not up to scratch by championship time, then you are not going to be able to make the necessary calls in games.

Kevin enjoys refereeing games and looks forward to many more years as the man in the middle. Hobbies: GAA, running, golf. He is currently a member of Thurles Gaels, Thurles Crokes and Thurles Golf Club (playing off a 5 handicap).

Officials – Linesmen: Conor Doyle (Standby Ref), Peter Carroll.

Fourth Official: John Dooley.

Umpires: Martin Fitzpatrick, P.J. Bowden, Christy Moore, Paul Stapleton.



MICHAEL KENNEDY

Premier Intermediate Final Referee

MICHAEL and his team are looking forward to refereeing today's Premier Intermediate final. He began refereeing in 2016 and has been a member of the National panel since 2020 and more recently joined the championship panel of referees.

Games refereed of note – Tipperary County senior final 2020; Lory Meagher Final 2021; Christy Rinn final 2022; Harty Cup Final 2021; Munster Intermediate Club Final 2021; Munster Senior Club semi-final 2021; Munster quarter and semi-finals at inter-county Munster U20 championship; National Hurling League games in Div 2.

Michael believes awarding two points for a sideline cut that goes over the bar would be a rule change to be considered.

Officials – Linesmen: Alan Tierney (Standby Ref), John O'Grady.

Fourth Official: Sean Everard.

Umpires: Paudie Sweeney, Tommy Sweeney, Conor Grant, Ray Hallinan.



FBD INSURANCE - PROUDLY SUPPORTING TIPPERARY HURLING

On behalf of FBD Insurance, Ireland's local Irish insurer, I would like to welcome you all to FBD Semple Stadium.

We are proud to be the sponsor of the Tipperary GAA Club Championships. With 34 branches across the country we are dedicated to supporting our local communities and so we are delighted and privileged to have the opportunity to partner with Tipperary GAA on this exciting journey which culminates in today's finals.

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Best of luck to the teams in today's County Finals - **Gortnahoe-Glengoole & Roscrea** in the Premier Intermediate Final and **Kilruane MacDonaghs & Kiladangan** in the Senior Hurling Final.

Michael Berkery

Chairman, FBD Trust

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Let's hope for a fitting

By: NOEL DUNDON
(Tipperary Star)



AFTER ALL the heartache and hurling we have arrived at this day in the FBD Insurance county senior hurling championship final.

There has been much focus on Tipperary over the last year, what with the fortunes of the senior hurlers; then the change in the senior hurling management team; the success of the minor hurlers and their dramatic last gasp All-Ireland final winner; and then the sad, traumatic and distressing passing of one our brightest stars, Dillon Quirke, on the field of play right here in FBD Semple Stadium.

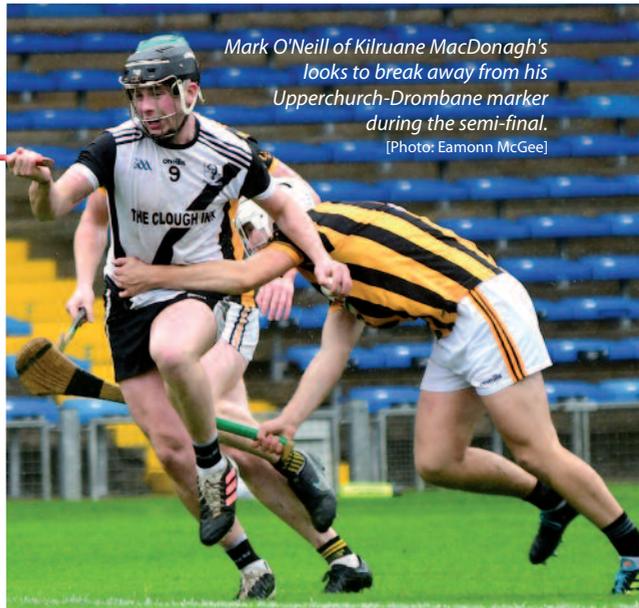
The national spotlight was on Clonoulty and Rossmore for much of the summer following that awful tragedy and even after the hurling recommenced, the residue of loss continued to play a major part as teams retired their number 11 jerseys, and minutes of silence and applause became a feature of our season.

Now, today, that loss is still felt and the 2022 championship has been tainted somewhat. That Kilruane MacDonagh should be in the final is perhaps fitting – save only had Clonoulty-Rossmore made it all the way, the championship scenario could not have been better book-ended. Dillon Quirke remains in our thoughts all the time, as does his family, his club and his many friends. A pity that his marker on that fateful evening who administered CPR, his friend Craig Morgan,

was felled with a cruciate injury since then and will not feature on this great day for the Premier County.

The County Final is always a big day and participating clubs will have felt that nervous tension all weekend as they while the time away waiting for throw-in. It's a special time and for one club it will be a very special day. Kiladangan would love to make it two titles in three years while Kilruane MacDonagh would love to bridge that ever widening gap to their last hold on the Dan Breen Cup way back in 1985 when they defeated Roscrea by 2-11 to 0-10. That was Roscrea's last appearance in the final, and a year later, against Borris-Ileigh, was to be Kilruane MacDonaghs last appearance in the final too, until today.

So, it's an all-north affair this year. Is the balance of power shifting again in Tipperary? Toomevara dominated the scene for much of the '90's and early 2000's, but before that Kilruane MacDonagh, Roscrea, Moneygall and



Mark O'Neill of Kilruane MacDonagh's looks to break away from his Upperchurch-Drombane marker during the semi-final.
[Photo: Eamonn McGee]

finale to a tainted year



Sean Hayes of Kiladangan about to catch the sliotar during the semi-final.
[Photo: Eamonn McGee]

to seize the day. Finals are for winning and while only one team can actually win, both sides will feel that they have the wherewithal to be crowned champions.

Killruane MacDonagh have proven a resilient bunch. They have taken many hits this season and have still fought and battled their way to the final – a bit like the MacDonagh’s of old whose teams were characterised by a strong work ethic, a resoluteness and utter determination. The management team has gotten a lot out of the players and they are looking for just a little bit

more now on this ultimate day.

Kiladangan have had more of a direct line to the final. They have been many peoples fancy from a long way out and yet they have not set the scene alight. Still, they won their games and will feel that they have the capacity to improve further still. Perhaps their experience of final day will be an added advantage to them when it comes down to the final furlong.

Tipperary County GAA Board and the CCC are to be credited for the manner in which the championships have been run this season, despite the loss of a weekend midway through as a mark of respect to Dillon Quirke. The games have been run off in an efficient manner and we have seen a mixture of decent fare and some less than decent hurling. But, as ever, the final will bring its own story and a great one it will be for the victor. Who that will be, time will tell as the tale unfolds.

Enjoy the game.

Borris-Ileigh had their hands of the Dan Breen Cup with great regularity – from 1968 -1986 north teams won the county final on fifteen occasions.

Of course, Thurles Sarsfields dominated the late ‘50’s and early ‘60’s winning ten out of eleven titles between 1955 and 1965, but then the titles dried up for the Blues and they went from 1974 until 2005 when Ger ‘Redser’ O’Grady climbed the steps of Ardán Úi Riain to accept the silverware.

So, Kiladangan and Kilruane MacDonagh will step out behind the Sean Treacy Pipe Band this afternoon. Both teams are here on merit and given the neighbouring rivalries associated with this final, it could go either way. Kiladangan might have the favourites tag, but only just. And, in finals, such tags count for little anyway.

Kilruane MacDonagh will appreciate that they have a unique opportunity here today – there are no guarantees that they will be back at this stage again next year – same goes for Kiladangan – and so, they will want

Title hunt

KILRUANE MacDonaghs have played in ten county finals – winning four and losing six.

Their wins were –

1977 beat Borris-Ileigh 1-5 to 0-5 in a replay, after a draw Kilruane MacDonaghs 1-11, Borris-Ileigh 2-8.

1978 beat Roscrea 2-14 to 2-13

1979 beat Thurles Sarsfields 2-18 to 3-6.

1985 beat Roscrea 2-11 to 0-10.

The defeats were –

1944 lost to Thurles Sarsfields 6-3 to 1-4

1959 lost to Thurles Sarsfields 3-12 to 2-6

1973 lost to Roscrea 3-14 to 3-8

1975 lost to Moneygall 3-13 to 0-5 replay, after a 3-9 each draw.

1980 lost to Roscrea 3-11 to 2-13

1986 lost to Borris-Ileigh 0-14 to 0-7.

Kiladangan have played in five county finals – winning one and losing four.

Their lone success to date was –

2020 beat Loughmore -Castleiney 1-28 to 3-20, after extra time.

The defeats were –

1934 (with Kilbarron) lost to Moycarkey -Borris 3-6 to 2-3

1938 lost to Thurles Sarsfields 7-7 to 2-2

2016 lost to Thurles Sarsfields 0-27 to 1-15

2019 lost to Borris-Ileigh 1-15 to 1-12.

What might have been

WHILE the Nenagh Éire Óg county champions of 1995 are enjoying today's final, they – along with members of the club's present team – might be wondering about what might have been. Today's finalists were both beaten in 2022 competition by "the blues" – The Nenagh men beat Kiladangan in the North final at Cloughjordan on July 10th by 2-20 to 2-18. They also beat Kilruane MacDonaghs in round three of the county championship group stages by an impressive 3-19 to 1-17. Alas, Nenagh Éire Óg lost to first time Mid champions, JK Brackens, by four points in the preliminary quarter-final on September 11th.

County Final Memories

All by:
SEAMUS O'DOHERTY



Attendances

COUNTY final attendances have been modest since 2000, with 10,000 being reached on only four occasions. In 2005, 12,710 witnessed a first ever Thurles Sarsfields v Drom-Inch final, while 12,140 witnessed Toomevara's win over Thurles Sarsfields in 2001.

There were 10,905 patrons at the 2002 replay to see Mullinahone beat Thurles Sarsfields and 10,200 were present for the Toomevara victory, also over Thurles Sarsfields in 2003.

Last year's all Mid decider between Loughmore-Castleiney and Thurles Sarsfields attracted 6,362 to the drawn game and 4,124 to the replay. The lowest figure was the historic 2020 final, when Covid-19 restrictions ensured a Stadium attendance of 200, for Kiladangan's victory over Loughmore-Castleiney.

According to the archives, the 1986 final attendance for Kilruane's last appearance v Borris-Ileigh was 10,000 approx, comprising 6,500 who paid, 1,750 ten year ticket holders and the balance of Juveniles.

Local issues

THIS year's final has produced yet another pair of finalists from the same Division. It is exactly sixty years since Thurles Sarsfields beat Moycarkey-Borris in the first such clash. This will be the twenty third local decider and the North has dominated with today's clash being the fifteenth local contest. Both finalists have experienced this scenario previously with Kilruane MacDonaghs facing Roscrea four times, Borris-Ileigh twice and Moneygall (draw and replay).

Kiladangan's experience of Divisional rivalry on a bigger stage is limited to the 2019 Borris-Ileigh loss. The narrow defeat was compounded when Borris won the Munster title and lost the final gallantly to Kilkenny's Shamrocks at Croke

NEXT UP

THE winners of the Dan Breen Cup will be in action again on November 6th when they make a trip to Waterford to play nine-in-a-row Decies champions, Ballygunner, who are defending their Munster and All-Ireland titles. While neither club is looking beyond today's game, many will recall last year's tense affair between the respective county champions at the semi-final stage. Kilruane MacDonaghs will always remember their dramatic win at Tallow in 1985, en route to glory, but the Covid-19 restrictions prevented Kiladangan from progressing in 2020. No doubt our champions will represent the Premier county, in a manner befitting their status.

Sharing the silver

SINCE Kiladangan returned to senior hurling following their Intermediate success in 2004/05 they have avoided Kilruane MacDonaghs at all stages of the county senior hurling championship.

Accordingly, this year's first time final pairing has divided opinion on the likely outcome. Following last year's double semi-final loss to Mid opposition, the North has restored its pride with a pair of victories a fortnight ago. These clubs have little history at county championship level, but they have met at Divisional level on a regular basis.. Overall, there have been four Divisional deciders between the pair, with Kilruane Mac Donaghs emerging victorious in 1940 and 2018, while Kiladangan earned their wins in 2016 and 2021. The clubs have been frequent Divisional opponents beyond the decider and this year they produced an absorbing quarter-final contest. Kiladangan led by ten points at half-time, but Kilruane were level at full time. Alas, they could not maintain the momentum and the honours went to Puckane on a 3-24 to 4-18 scoreline.



Dan O'Meara (Kiladangan) gets ahead of James Cleary (Kilruane MacDonaghs) in The Hibernian North SHC quarter-final at MacDonagh Park Nenagh.

[Photo: Bridget Delaney]

FBD INSURANCE COUNTY PREMIER IN

By: LIAM HOGAN



What was once the Seamus Ó Riain decider is now the FBD County Premier Intermediate Hurling final and today's finalists Roscrea and Gortnahoe-Glengoole take the stage as curtain raiser in today's programme.

Not alone is it a final but a historic one in that the winners will not alone take part in next year's top tier, the Dan Breen Cup 2023, but will also go forward to represent Tipperary in this year's Munster Intermediate hurling championship.

History aside, the prize remains the same and at around 3.45pm the Seamus Ó Riain Cup will rest in the hands of Davy Nolan or Ronan Teehan of Gortnahoe-Glengoole or Roscrea's Conor Sheedy or Shane Fletcher.

Success for either team will be very welcome with both clubs starved of county final success in terms of silverware over the last three decades.

In Roscrea's case it does not seem natural for a club that enjoyed so much success in the 1960s and 70s. Their last senior County title was in 1980, their sixth, when Roger Ryan's last minute goal helped them to victory over Kilruane MacDonaghs. Since then, Roscrea continued to spend the majority of their time contesting the Dan Breen. They were never too far away from the top eight but their form dipped of late. In the 2016 Dan Breen they finished fourth in their group and thus were confined to taking part in the newly formed Seamus Ó Riain which was run on its own right the following year. Roscrea reached the final and were promoted to the top tier after they lost to Toomevara following a replay. Another four years at the top tier produced mixed displays before they were relegated to the Ó Riain last year.

Gortnahoe-Glengoole's record shows their list of county titles is small in comparison. They won their first county Intermediate title in 1988 when defeating Arravale Rovers 2-8 to 1-7 at Boherlahan on November 20. They also won two county Minor B titles in 1986 and 1994. Success had to wait another twenty two years when they claimed their first of two County Under 21B titles in 2016 and a again three years later. Both victories formed a timely foundation for their 2020 County Intermediate win over Moyne-Templetuohy.

Five of that County Under 21B hurling title in 2019 will line out in today's final including Karl Campion at full back plus Davy Nolan and Brian Maher at number six and seven positions respectively. Throw in Jack Moore at midfield and Keane Hayes at full forward. Fionn Cleary would be another starter but he is rather doubtful having at out the last two games through injury.

Gortnahoe-Glengoole are a very young team and apart from the aforementioned quintet there is the experienced Ronan Teehan, a member of the Tipp Under 21 team in 2017 plus Kevin



Tadhg Condon (St. Mary's Clonmel) moves in to attempt to block a shot by Ronan Teehan (Gortnahoe-Glengoole).

[Photo Michael Boland]

INTERMEDIATE HURLING FINAL PREVIEW

Slattery who won an All-Ireland minor medal in 2012. Both Teehan and Cleary were members of the 2020 Intermediate winning side as well as goalkeeper Timmy Dunne plus Enda McCarthy and Martin Barnaville in defence Adrian Maher in attack. Davy Nolan, Brian Maher and Keane Hayes were also on that winning team

Hayes is the team's top scorer this year with 1-57 to his total including 1-17 from play. The full forward is part of a high scoring inside line that includes twenty two year old Darragh Maher who comes next with 5-13 with the experienced Kevin Slattery completing the line with 2-1 so far.

In the midst of the relegation battles, Roscrea, similar to their opposition won at underage and their County Minor A hurling final win over Moycarkey-Borris in 2017 topped the lot. It was their tenth in the grade and first since 1984.

Eight of that winning team form part of today's panel including James Synott and Darragh Tynan in defence. Daniel Ryan has played a huge part in midfield in addition Owen Tynan, Jack Lee and Conor Booth have occupied the bench but have made important contributions to their path to the final.

Aside from those players Roscrea have vast experience in goalkeeper Daryl Ryan plus Keith McMahon, Michael Campion and Darren O'Connor in defence. Jason Fitzpatrick is highly experienced at midfield and is well capable of scoring. He is not alone as Evan Fitzpatrick, Shane Fletcher, Conor Dooley, Luke Cashin and Jason Gilmartin have played huge parts in the art of scoring. Luke Cashin is the team's top scorer on 1-36 (0-35f) with Evan Fitzpatrick on 0-22 with Jason Gilmartin adding 3-6 from play. The return of Conor Sheedy and the ever improving Alan Tynan has added value to their scoring prowess and have been a huge boost to Roscrea.

Overall, the performances of both of today's

Roscrea's Evan Fitzpatrick is chased by Stephen Kirwan (Burgess).
[Photo: Bridget Delaney]



finalists, where both teams have huge potential in terms of scoring, suggests there is little to separate the teams.

Roscrea defeated Kiladangan, Silvermines and Moyne-Templetuohy in their group stage before adding a quarter-final win over Sarsfields and a two point win over Burgess in the semi-final. Their score difference was plus 28 the biggest of any of the sixteen teams.

Gortnahoe-Glengoolle had a plus sixteen total after their three group wins over Killauna, Sarsfields and Ballina. They defeated Portroe by three in the quarter-final and caused an upset when overcoming a fancied Saint Mary's in the penultimate round.

Gortnahoe-Glengoolle's attack has huge potential but on the downside, Fionn Egan's absence could be a huge loss to the team and you need every advantage in a final.

Roscrea meanwhile reached this year's North final but lost to Portroe. They didn't allow the defeat to distract them and manager Liam England has not let the grass grow under his feet when including Kilkenny star Eddie Brennan to the sideline. Timing is everything and Brennan's arrival coincided with Alan Tynan return to his best form after a few years involved with Rugby. Conor Sheedy's return to fitness is another welcome boost and the three pluses can be the difference. In addition, Roscrea's experience at senior level will also help and I feel they could win by two or three.

Gortnahoe-Glengoose



Back row (l-r): Aidan Guilfoyle, Cormac Moloney, Karl Collins, Charlie Tobin, Sam Atkinson-Lynch, Karl Campion, Kevin Slattery, Robert Gleeson, Tommy Duggan, Fionn Cleary, David Lanigan, Martin Barnaville, Bobby Doheny, Liam Hayes, David Nolan, Ronan Teehan, Darragh Maher. Front row (l-r): Philip Purcell, Colm Scott, Gearóid Fahy, Timmy Dunne, Keane Hayes, Brian Maher, Adam Butler, Adrian Maher, Enda McCarthy, Luke Moore, Jack Moore, Oisín Cleary, Jack Atkinson-Lynch.



GORTNAHOE-GLENGOOLE'S PATH TO FINAL

July 22nd	Gortnahoe-Glengoose	2-21
	Killenaule	2-17
Aug. 5th:	Gortnahoe-Glengoose	5-21
	Thurles Sarsfields	3-21
Sept. 3rd:	Gortnahoe-Glengoose	2-15
	Ballina	2-9
<i>Quarter-Final</i>		
Sept. 24th:	Gortnahoe-Glengoose	1-22
	Portoe	2-16
<i>Semi-Final</i>		
Oct. 8th	Gortnahoe-Glengoose	3-18
	St. Mary's Clonmel	0-22



Gortnahoe-Glengoose management team:
Richie Ruth,
Richie Power,
Jim Rafter.

[Photos:
Michael Boland]

Roscrea



Roscrea panel that defeated Burgess in the FBD County Premier IHC at MacDonagh Park, Nenagh. Back row (l.-r.): Conor Booth, Darragh Tynan, Dylan Hogan, Diarmuid McLoughlin, Michael Campion, Conor Donovan, Jack Lee, Owen Tynan, Aidan Booth, Conor Phelan, Keith McMahon, Sam Conlon, Shane Davis, Daniel Ryan, Conor Dooley, Conor Shanahan, Jason Fitzpatrick, Alan Tynan, John Ryan. Front row: Michael Parlon, Enda Moloney, Liam Seacy, Evan Fitzpatrick, Jason Gilmartin, James Synnott, Conor Sheedy (joint Capt.), Daryl Ryan, Luke Cashin, Joe Carroll, Darren O'Connor, Kenny Lee, Shane Fletcher (joint Capt.).

[Photos: Bridget Delaney]

ROSCREA'S PATH TO FINAL

July 22nd	Roscrea	1-33
	Kiladangan	4-11
Aug. 21st:	Roscrea	1-17
	Silvermines	2-9
Sept. 3rd:	Roscrea	3-17
	Moyn-Templetuohy	1-15
<i>Quarter-Final</i>		
Sept. 25th:	Roscrea	2-26
	Thurles Sarsfields	2-14
<i>Semi-Final</i>		
Oct. 8th	Roscrea	1-19
	Burgess	1-17



RIGHT:
LIAM ENGLAND
(Roscrea Manager)

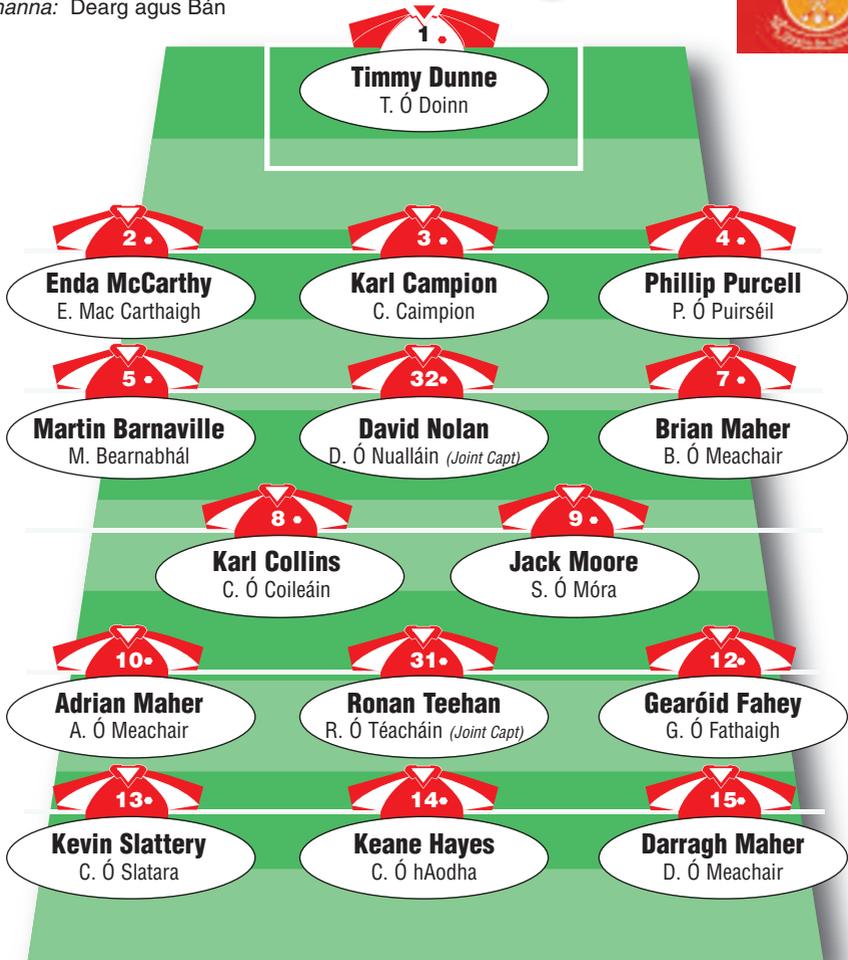


LEFT:
EDDIE BRENNAN
(Roscrea Coach)

Gortnahoe/Glengoole



Dathanna: Dearg agus Bán



16. ROBBIE GLEESON R. Ó Glasáin	20. CHARLIE TOBIN C. Ó Toibin	23. SAM ATKINSON-LYNCH S. Mac Aidicín-Ó Loingsigh	26. BOBBY DOHENY B. Ó Dúchonna	29. LIAM HAYES L. Ó hAodha
17. CORMAC MOLONEY C. Ó Maolomhnaigh	21. AIDAN GUILFOYLE A. Mac Giolla Phóil	24. JACK ATKINSON-LYNCH S. Mac Aidicín-Ó Loingsigh	27. TOMMY DUGGAN T. Ó Duagáin	30. FIONN CLEARY F. Ó Cléirigh
18. DAVID LANIGAN D. Ó Lonagáin	22. LUKE MOORE L. Ó Móra	25. COLM SCOTT C. Scot	28. ADAM BUTLER A. de Builéir	
19. ÓISÍN CLEARY Ó. Ó Cléirigh				

ROGHNÓIRÍ

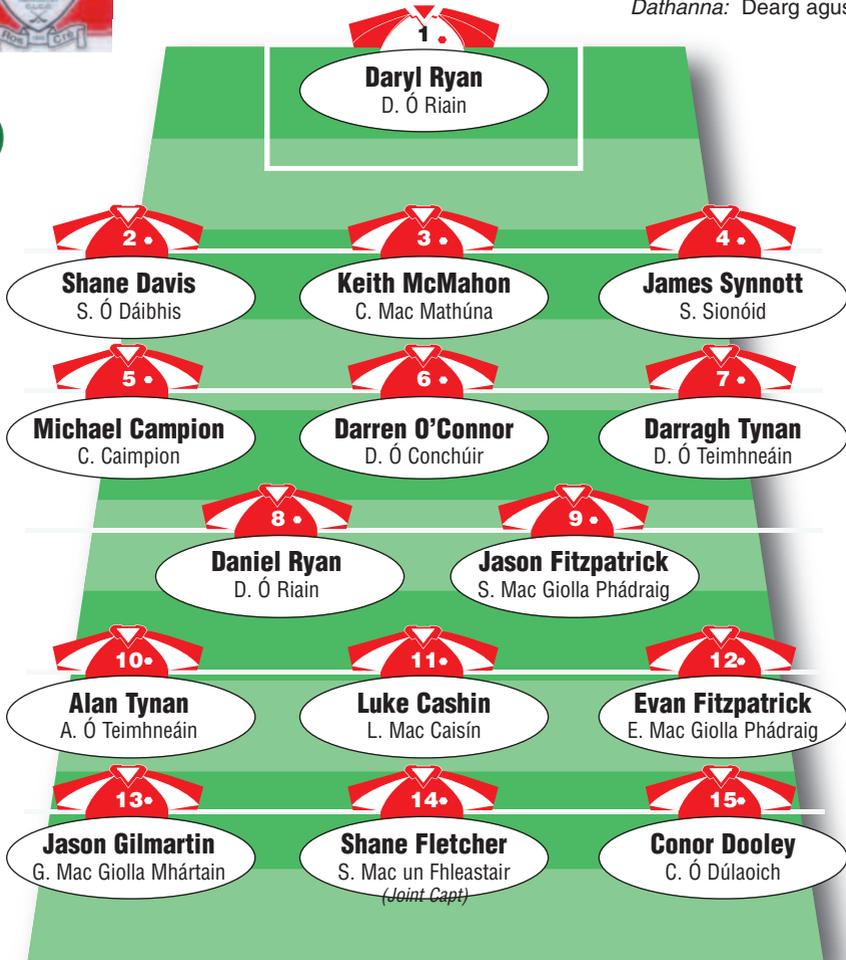
Manager: Jim Rafter Selectors: Richie Ruth, Richie Power Coach: Richie Ruth Physio: Madeleine Loughnane
 Kit Man: T.J. Mockler Stats: Mike Cleary, Meabh Maher, Conor Teehan, Danny Bourke
 Hurley Carriers: Cian Barnaville, John Lanigan, Tomás Meany, Damien Corbertt Maor Uisce: David Stanley



Roscrea

Dathanna: Dearg agus Bán

FBD
INSURANCE



16. **ENDA MOLONEY**
E. Ó Maolomhnaigh

17. **AIDAN BOOTH**
A. Booth

18. **JOE CARROLL**
S. Ó Cearúil

19. **CONOR PHELAN**
C. Ó Faoláin

20. **LIAM SEACY**
L. Seacy

21. **OWEN TYNAN**
O. Ó Teimhneáin

22. **CONOR BOOTH**
C. Booth

23. **CONOR SHEEDY**
C. Ó Síoda (Joint Capt)

24. **KENNY LEE**
C. Ó Laoi

25. **SAM CONLON**
S. Ó Conalláin

26. **CONOR SHANAHAN**
C. Ó Seanacháin

27. **JACK LEE**
S. Ó Laoi

28. **LUKE SEACY**
L. Seacy

29. **MICHAEL PARLON**
M. Mac Parthaláin

30. **CONOR DONOVAN**
C. Ó Donnabháin

31. **DIARMUID McLOUGHLIN**
D. Mag Lochlainn

32. **BRIAN O'LONE**
B. Mac Giolla Eoin

33. **JAMIE RYAN**
S. Ó Riain

ROGHNÓIRÍ

Manager: Liam England Selectors/Coaches: Alan Tynan, Ger Fitzpatrick, Paul Delaney, Aidan Shanahan, Eddie Brennan Physio: Ray Fitzpatrick, Diarmaid Fitzgerald Doctor: Paul Booth S&C: Jordan Donovan Goalkeeper Coach: Stephen Aherne Kit: Kevin Donoghue, Kevin Moloney Stats: Eamon England, Neil O'Connor



GA WHERE WE ALL BELONG

The GA stands with its referees and match officials. Join us in doing the same this Referee Respect Day, Sunday October 23rd.

#GARefRespect

Labhrás MacCárthaigh
Uachtarán GAA

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Páirc an Chrócaigh,
Baile Átha Cliath 3
Guthán +353 1 865 8600
uachtaran@gaa.ie
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Dublin 3
Telephone +353 1 865 8600
uachtaran@gaa.ie
www.gaa.ie



17ú Deireadh Fómhair, 2022

A chairde,

Tá Craobhchomórtais na gClubanna go maith faoi lánseol faoin tráth seo agus am thar a bheith speisialta atá ann do gach duine a rinne ionadaíocht thar ceann a gcuid clubanna le roinnt míonna anuas. Tá sé fíorthábhachtach a chuimhneamh gur am an-speisialta atá ann do na réiteoirí ar fad a rinne ionadaíocht thar ceann a gcuid pobal agus clubanna, freisin. Tá ár gcuid réiteoirí chomh tábhachtach céanna do CLG agus atá ár gcuid imreoirí, cóitseálaithe, baill choiste agus duine ar bith eile a bhíonn ag feidhmiú go deonach thar ceann an Chumainn.

As we head towards the end of the first designated window for the club season there can be no denying that our club championships have been given a fantastic opportunity to take centre stage. Just as our club players have been put on centre stage, so too have our dedicated referees and match officials and it has never been more important to single them out for special appreciation.

But actions need to speak louder than words when it comes to respect for our referees because allegations around the actions of a small few has cast a shadow over the entire Association.

To be the embodiment of the GAA manifesto, *Where We All Belong* requires that no one is left out or left behind. The people who act as match officials make a contribution that our games cannot exist without. They are as important to the GAA as every player, coach, committee member and volunteer. They are dedicated to Gaelic games, have a passion for their vocation and have families who are proud of the contribution they make. How we treat them says something about us, and the only treatment we should tolerate is one of utmost respect.

I have referenced previously the prevalence of inflammatory language and a culture of negative criticism and what one American commentator has called ‘the corrosive assault on civility’. The GAA we want is one that is truly *Where We All Belong*, where respect for all of its members is not a slogan but enshrined in our ethos. I believe we have the opportunity and ability to ensure that our GAA community sets the tone for where respect for all of our members should be, and I’d urge all of us to show courage to make sure that this opportunity is not lost.

Does your club supply referees? If not, why not? If your club supplies referees, do they feel supported and appreciated for that contribution? If not, why not? Does your club set and monitor a code of best practice and standards for behaviour on the field and on the sideline? Again, if not, why not? Are parents of juvenile players in your club aware of the standards that we insist upon at our games?

The standards we set in our own clubs, on our sidelines, among our own members need to be clear and unequivocal. All of those involved in our games must adhere to our standards of discipline and we will not tolerate abuse of players, coaches, members or match officials.

There is nothing complicated about any of the above. But we need to get out of our comfort zone and shake off an air of complacency around *Give Respect, Get Respect* that has allowed our levels of discipline to drop. Crucially, when we fall short of the standards that we set for ourselves, we need to face up to it and accept the associated punishment.

Last spring the Association launched a five-year strategic plan that placed referee recruitment and retention as one of its central pillars. This month we launch a review in several key areas that include the penalties for infraction against Match Officials, how these are handled within the disciplinary system with the aim to make motions to 2023 Congress and a full review of the current *Give Respect, Get Respect* initiative.

Let’s make the GAA a place Where We All Belong and we are all respected. Ar aghaidh linn le chéile.

Is mise le meas,

Labhrás Mac Carthaigh
Uachtarán

History makers

THE Kilruane MacDonaghs lineout captained by **Dinny Cahill**, which won the club's first county title in 1977 was –

Tony Sheppard, Sean Hyland Denis O'Meara, Enda Hogan, Jim O'Meara, Paddy Williams, Denis Cahill, Seamus Hennessy (1-1), Mackey Keogh, Liam O'Shea, Len Gaynor, Gilbert Williams (0-1), Jim Williams, Sean O'Meara (0-1), Jim Reddan. Subs: Eamon O'Shea (0-2) for Jim Reddan, Mackey Waters for Sean O'Meara.

The Kiladangan history makers of 2020 captained by Paul Flynn were:

Barry Hogan, Darragh Flannery, James Quigley, Fergal Hynes, Alan Flynn (0-3), David Sweeney, Declan McGrath (0-1), Willie Connors (0-1), Tadhg Gallagher, Sean Hayes (0-4), Joe Gallagher, Dan O'Meara (0-1), Billy Seymour (0-8), Paul Flynn (0-7), Bryan McLoughney (1-2). Subs: Andy Loughnane (0-1) for Bryan McLoughney, Martin Minehan for Dan O'Meara, Bryan McLoughney for Willie Connors, Darren Moran for Declan McGrath.



PAUL FLYNN

THE FIELD

IN March 1961, a well attended meeting in the parish hall, Cloughjordan, discussed the Kilruane MacDonaghs club's need for a GAA pitch in the town. There was unanimous support to proceed with purchasing a site for development. Members were not perturbed by a previous attempt, which had failed and expressed the desire to own a pitch which would be of enormous benefit to the club's teams.

Five years later MacDonagh Park was officially opened on Easter Sunday. There were some initial problems with drainage, but by 1972 the two county senior hurling semi-finals were hosted as a double header. Numerous improvements have followed since opening day and the club will always be grateful to the many people who gave their support to the ambitious project sixty one years ago.

County Final Memories

Dinny Cahill's Men

(Air "She lived beside the Anner")

*They tell in song and story of the mighty men of old,
How they fought for game and glory in Tipperary's Blue and Gold,*

*Tony Wall and Tony Reddan, there was John and Jimmy Doyle,
Tom McLoughney and Len Gaynor, Jimmy Finn and 'Sweeper' Ryan.*

*Now, alas their reign is ended and their day is past and gone,
But their memory we will cherish and for ever 'twill live on,
And dear old Tipperary she will soon be 'tops' again,
She can trust in Dinny Cahill and his bold MacDonagh men.*

Oh God bless the great MacDonaghs, may their name and fame live on,

*Cloughjordan and Ardcroney too, and dear old Kilruane,
Hand in hand we march together on to victory again.*

Give three cheers for Dinny Cahill and his bold MacDonagh men.

*'Twas in glorious seventy-seven that our heroes took the field,
And to Dinny Cahill and his men all others had to yield.*

There was Lynch, Toome and Newport and we saw their colours fall,

Then in Borris town we routed county champions – Moneygall.

*On the fourteenth day of August we flocked to Nenagh town
To meet O'Dwyer's men who wore the North Tipp crown.
Old Kilruane went marching on, our banners waved again
And the cheers rang out in victory for Dinny Cahill's men.*

CHORUS

*Then on to 'Semple Stadium' one bright September day,
From Carrig town came mighty 'Swans' who failed to bar our way.*

'Sean Treacy's' true, they came there too – their colours fell again,

For none could halt the onward march of Dinny Cahill's men.

Oh, I never will forget the day below in Thurles town,

We played again O'Dwyer's men and won the County crown.

*The 'Old De Wetts' from Heaven came back to cheer us on again
And the Dan Breen Cup – they filled it up for Dinny Cahill's men.*

– CON HEFFERNAN (Ardcroney)

Jonathan CULLEN

PRO – Tipperary GAA

By: CHARLIE EVANS

THE ROLE of the county board PRO is hugely important but it is one that Jonathan Cullen relishes. He estimates he devotes over 40 hours a week to the various jobs the position requires but it is all enjoyable.

“When I put myself forward for a position,” he said, “I always try to do it to the best of my ability and I look at the people that have gone before me and the high standards they set. I always try to reach those standards and maybe even improve them.”

Cullen became involved in administration because he was “never any good to play the game” because of his poor eyesight and his father Pat, who served as Mid Chairman from 1985 to 1987, was a huge influence on him.

“When I was growing up, I was going to meetings and matches with him the whole time and that gave me the interest,” he said.

Aged 18, Cullen’s first role was as a Youth Officer for Mid Tipperary and four years later, he became the youngest ever Chairman of his club, Loughmore-Castleiney. He followed that



by being Mid Secretary and Chairman before being elected onto the County Board.

“When I was Chairman or Secretary of the Mid Board, those roles were really focusing a lot on fixtures and disciplinary issues. The role of the PRO is a predominantly happy one. You’re spreading good news, you’re giving good information.”

Tipperary GAA has one of the largest social media profiles within the organisation and with that comes a responsibility to keep everybody updated.

“I think the online element of it is hugely important now. Everybody has their phone in their hands or sitting in front of a laptop or a tablet at home if they can’t get to a game. People want to know what’s happening. People want to know the latest scores,

the latest developments, team news.”

Streaming club matches has carried on since the pandemic and Cullen thinks the relationship with StreamSport has proven to be successful. Highlights are uploaded across the different social media platforms and gather thousands of views.

Cullen writes the weekly GAA scene which goes into the local newspapers and online. He also started the Tipperary GAA Club Focus where he profiles a club and gives them “the opportunity to showcase themselves and all that’s good in their club.”

Another aspect of the role is interviewing. Cullen often speaks to managers after matches and it goes straight up on social media afterwards.

“It’s something I like doing to a point but I think it’s something that needs to be done and it’s something different. It’s very easy to speak to them after you win but it’s not that easy if you lose.”

He is extremely grateful to the clubs for helping him at every opportunity. “It’s important people work together and it’s important everybody gets on. We’re all in this for the love of the GAA and we all do it to do our best.”



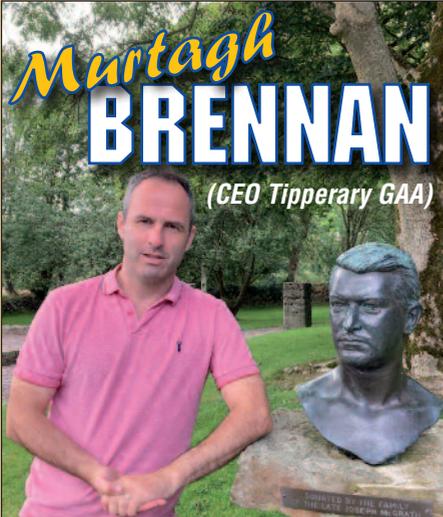
“My Photograph of the Year”



By: BRIDGET DELANEY
(Photographer)

Borris-Ileigh hurler Paddy McCormack scored the winning goal for Tipperary in the Electric Ireland All-Ireland Minor Hurling Final.





By: JONATHAN CULLEN (PRO Tipperary GAA)

THE announcement of Murtagh Brennan as the new CEO of Tipperary GAA last week signalled new beginnings for him and the end of an era for the man who has been the driving force behind Tipperary GAA for many years Tim Floyd. As is always the case when there is change, people will have lots of questions about 'the new man' and it will take a little time to get to know him, but as someone who has known Murtagh all my life, I can say with complete certainty that our county will be in very safe hands going forward.

The youngest son in a family of nine, Murtagh has been steeped in the GAA and all that comes with it from a very young age. He played both codes with his native club Loughmore-Castleiney where he featured on many divisional and county title winning teams. Murtagh also represented his club in Scór competitions for many years. His love for the GAA would also have been formed during his school years across the road from his family home in Castleiney by then principal John Treacy who Murtagh and indeed all of us who attended the school regarded as our hero on the playing field and continues to be someone who all his former students look up to.

After graduating with an honours Degree in Sports Science through University Limerick, Murtagh later completed a Master of Science in

Sports Management in University College Dublin. In his role as Principal of the Defence Forces School of Physical Education, Murtagh has amassed significant expertise in the practice of managing the multi-dimensional elements associated with a professional high performance organisation. Furthermore, Murtagh completed an MSE in Leadership and Strategic Studies with Maynooth University and a certificate in workplace mediation. His career of over 20 years as an Officer in the Defence Forces has been diverse and dynamic. In his present role as Assistant Director/Deputy Commanding Officer for the 120th Irish-Polish Battalion in Lebanon, Murtagh is responsible for the leadership and management of 564 multinational soldiers serving in the United Nations Peacekeeping Mission in Lebanon, acting as Chief of Staff for a robust infantry battalion.

Since hanging up his playing boots, Murtagh has managed and coached teams at all grades at club level and in the Defence Forces. He has fulfilled the role of both Coach and S&C trainer with the Westmeath minor footballers, Rathcoffey senior football team in Kildare and Castledaly GAA club in Westmeath. Murtagh's most notable achievement was his involvement as Coach and S&C trainer for the Loughmore-Castleiney senior football and hurling teams in 2020 and 2021, which culminated in an historic double county final win.

Murtagh, who now lives in Tullamore, is married to Theresa and they have three children, Saoirse (8), Caoimhe (6) and Róisín (4), spoke following the announcement of his appointment saying "I am honoured to be offered the role of CEO Tipperary GAA. I really appreciate all the messages of goodwill from friends, family and Tipp supporters. I am indebted to the Irish Defence Forces for all their support over the years and I shall continue to serve the 120th Irish-Polish Battalion in Lebanon until I take up my new role in January".

Murtagh's appointment is in many ways ground breaking and unique and is I believe a great appointment for Tipperary GAA. I have no doubt that the clubs and officials of the county will embrace Murtagh's appointment with enthusiasm and positivity as we all strive to promote and develop gaelic games in the premier county.

Andy Ryan heads for pastures new with Bourke Sports



THURLES man Andy Ryan has stepped down as Games Development Administrator with the County Tipperary GAA Board after fourteen years in the role and has moved to pastures new with Bourke Sports in Borrisoleigh.

Andy had responsibility

for a region which involved all of the clubs in mid Tipperary and also took in the Ballinahinch, Newport, Killenale and Sean Treacy's clubs, as well as the schools in the region too. In all, Andy had 39 schools under his jurisdiction and he enjoyed his fourteen years working as a facilitator with them all.

"I got to know so many

people in the schools and the clubs and I am looking forward to working with them again, in a different capacity now, but still in the sports sector. We have tremendous people working in our schools and in our clubs and I have always said that while the club is the bedrock of the GAA, the school is the bedrock of the club. We



have to ensure that this continues to be the case going forward,” Andy said.

His brief as GDA involved a lot of activity during the day with the schools, and then evening work with the clubs and organising coaching courses and blitzes. The whole concept of the games development notion in Tipperary commended during Con

Hogan’s time as Chairman with Dinny Maher as Games Master, but it has grown and grown and is now a major part of the activity of the Tipperary GAA Board.

“Dinny Maher was the main man for many years and he drove the whole thing on. But, our job as

he loves it.

As for his new post with the sales team in Bourke Sports, Andy says: “ It’s a new challenge for me and it is very different to what I was doing, but it’s still working in the same circles, dealing with clubs and schools. I would hope to

“We have tremendous people working in our schools and in our clubs and I have always said that while the club is the bedrock of the GAA, the school is the bedrock of the club”

GDA’s could not have been carried out without the help of the office staff in Thurles. When I started in the job we had Tadhg O’Connor, Johnny Cummins and Kevin Hally in the jobs, and through the years we had Paudie Malone, Tony Fitzgerald and John O’Keeffe as well. Kevin is now the Games Master following Dinny Maher’s retirement,” Andy said.

The Board has plans to expand the GDA staff with additional GDA’s set to be appointed soon, including one specifically for football.

Andy is now one of the public address announcers in Semple Stadium and he really enjoys this role, feeding off the energy of big match day in the Field of Dreams. It is a demanding role which keeps him on his toes but

cross paths again with many of the people I met and struck up friendships with during my time as GDA and hopefully look after them again. It is a very competitive business but proprietor Cathal Bourke, who is a brilliant person to work with, always stresses the importance of quality and service and I really buy into that mantra.

“Leisure wear is now a huge part of the sports industry too and Bourke’s have a great range of quality products which are available all the time,” he adds.

Andy continues to have a big presence in Tipperary GAA and we join in thanking him for his great work over the last fourteen years, and in wishing him well in his new role with Bourke Sports.

When we were young

In the lead up to County Final day, Andy Ryan met up with a number of the players who will grace the Field of Legends today. They, like their former teachers, were delighted to recall their fond memories of life in school, both on and off the field. Mar a déarfá, mól an óige agus tiocfaidh siad.



BRIAN MAHER

Club: Gortnahoe-Glengoose

Primary school attended: Ballysloe NS

Principal at that time: Padiag Mullins

Most influential GAA person in the school while you attended: Kevin Slattery and Padiag Mullins used to have us out the back every lunch time, generally a little bit longer than they were supposed to



Best GAA memory in Primary School: Probably the blitz Gortnahoe primary school used to organise with the three schools in the parish, getting to play against the lads that I'd be training with on a Saturday.

Advice for Primary school kids today: Listen to the coaches and have the hurley in the hand as often as possible

School report on Brian: As a past pupil of Ballysloe NS, it was no surprise to hear Brian Maher is a strong leader on the the Gortnahoe Glengoose GAA team. Brian was always a highly intelligent, diligent, outstanding and enjoyable pupil here in primary school. Brian has a wonderful light hearted personality that will lead him to success in any walk of life. We have wonderful memories of his charming smile and a clever wit. We wish Brian every success in the county final on Sunday. We are so proud of you here in Ballysloe NS. Best of luck – The Ballysloe NS team.

GEARÓID FAHEY

Club: Gortnahoe-Glengoose

Primary school attended: Urlingford NS

Principal at that time: Dermot Dunphy

Most influential GAA person in the school while you attended: Gerry Troy super player always aspired to be like him



Best GAA memory in Primary School: Playing hurling matches every day at break

Advice for Primary school kids today: Keep the head in the books

School report on Gearóid: Gearóid was always 'up the field' during

his days in Urlingford. Hurling or football, he loved the games. Tall and strong, he protected the square as full back in his final two years! Always made sure to wear the Tipp jersey to school matches!! Best of luck to our close neighbours in Gortnahoe-Glengoose GAA from all in Urlingford school!

ALAN TYNAN

Club: Roscrea

Primary school attended: Scoil Eoin Naofa Roscrea

Principal at that time: Louis Cooley

Most influential GAA person in the school while you attended: Mr. Paddy Kelly

Best GAA memory in Primary School:

Playing U11 and U13 county finals in the stadium with my best friends.

Advice for Primary school kids today: Try out as many sports as possible while you can it will benefit you in the future and try enjoy playing as much as you can.

School report on Alan: From an early age Alan displayed great enthusiasm and ability across a range of sports. He was an integral part of a team that won a Cumann na mBunscoil county title and represented the school on the Tipperary Primary Game football team. The whole Scoil Eoin community wish him and all our past pupils involved every success in the county final.



CONOR SHEEDY

Club: Roscrea

Primary school attended: Dromakeenan NS

Principal at that time: Brendan Hanamy

Most influential GAA person in the school while you attended: Paul Maher – an extremely passionate GAA man and always took a genuine interest in our development and enjoyment of GAA.

Best GAA memory in Primary school: Winning an Offaly County Final and reaching a Tipperary County Final in 4th class (first time ever playing in Semple Stadium)



Advice for Primary school kids today: Make sure you bring your hurl to school every day. It's nearly more important than your homework!

School report on Conor: Conor was a skillful and talented member of our U13 team that played in both the Offaly and Tipperary Cumann na mBunscol Championship. He was a very accurate free taker and his stick work was a joy to watch. We wish Conor and his team mates the very best of luck in today's final.

JOE GALLAGHER

Club: Kiladangan

Primary school attended: Carrig National School

Principal at that time: Liam Maloney

Most influential GAA person in the school while you attended: Mary Flannery (loads of hurling matches for PE)

Best GAA memory in Primary School: Winning the shield final in 6th class. Michael Quinn got sent off so we were up against it.

Advice for Primary school kids today: Keep practicing and enjoying it.

School report on Joe: Joe was a wonderful addition to school life in Carrig NS. He contributed to all areas of school life and excelled at sports. We are very proud of his achievements and wish him and his team-mates every success in the County Hurling Final. From all in Carrig National School.

BARRY HOGAN

Club: Kiladangan

Primary school attended: Kiladangan NS

Principal at the time: Paul Dooley

Most influential at school: Paul Dooley, always encouraged us to bring a hurley and practice basic skills. Didn't focus on result.

Best GAA memory: Egan and co bringing Liam McCarthy to the school when I was in sixth class, 2010

Advice for Primary school kids today: If you enjoy GAA, practice at every opportunity, nail the basics, there's always room for improvement.

School report on Barry: All at Kiladangan NS are extremely proud of Barry and all our past pupils who are representing the club today in Semple stadium on county final day, Barry's hurling journey started in our school under the brilliant guidance of Paul Dooley and both Barry and his teammates had many successful years playing Cumann na mBunscol with our school. What is brilliant for a school to see more than a decade since Barry and these lads were in primary school is how they carry themselves on and off the field and how they have a massive hunger for success in the sporting and working lives. Le gach Dea ghuí inniu a bhuaichailf agus Bigí linn leis an 'cuairteoir' i rith an seachtain.

JEROME CAHILL

Club: Kilruane McDonaghs

Primary school attended: Ardcroney NS

Principal at that time: Martin Ryan

Most influential GAA person in the school while you attended: Martin Ryan

Best GAA memory in Primary School:

2010 when Liam McCarthy cup came to the school and later that year, Kilruane U21 county final winning team visited.

Advice for Primary school kids today: Bring your hurl to school. You may only have two hours a week to go club training. But in school, you can practice with your friends a lot more than two hours a week.

School Report on Jerome: Ardcroney National School was privileged to have witnessed Jerome for eight years in Primary School. Jerome is a talented, motivated, hard-working person who puts 100% effort into everything he does. Jerome represented the school in handball, hurling, football, soccer and GAA quizzes and excelled in every activity. The one enduring memory we have of Jerome is his honesty and his friendship. We wish Jerome and all Kilruane MacDonaghs team and Management the very best of luck in the County Final.



CIAN DARCY

Club: Kilruane McDonaghs

Primary school attended: St Michael's Cloughjordan

Principal at that time: Vivian Dooley

Most influential GAA person in the school while you attended: Vivian Dooley and Tomas Hassett. They were great at improving my skills and getting me to where I am today.

Best GAA memory in Primary School: Playing primary game against Cork in the first round of the championship in front of 30000

Advice for Primary school kids today: The advice I would give primary schools children is to enjoy every moment and occasion and make as much friends as you can along the way. Later in life as your progress through the inter county GAA teams you'll bump into all these friends again. Be happy with what you do and play with total freedom!

School report on Cian: Cian was a very diligent pupil and a keen sportsman during his time in St. Michael's. He represented the school with great distinction in cross country, soccer, Gaelic football and hurling. He is a fine role model for our pupils, and we have enjoyed his return to our school on many occasions with successful teams. We wish him the best of luck in today's final – The staff of St. Michael's Cloughjordan.



TOP MEN

SINCE the official 'Man of The Match' was first introduced on county final day in 1979, Kilruane MacDonaghs have claimed the award twice per Paddy 'Bowler' Williams 1979 and Eamon O'Shea 1985. Kiladangan's victory in 2020 resulted in Paul Flynn receiving the award and being the first player from his club to achieve the feat.

All-Star

KILRUANE MacDonaghs were delighted to see their clubman Mark O'Leary chosen at right half-forward on the 2001 All-Star team. Mark had a memorable year, winning National League, Munster and All-Ireland honours with his county during a season. Nicky English managed them to an unbeaten run.

Kiladangan have yet to be honoured by the All-Star selectors, but in view of the club's progress over the past decade or so, the day may not be too far away.

County Final Memories

Silent community

THERE was some shock around the country, when the GAA and Independent Broadcasters of Ireland reached agreement on the latest deal for Radio coverage of Gaelic Games. In effect, Community Radio stations, manned mainly by volunteers, will no longer be allowed to provide live commentary or updates of games as heretofore. Instead they will be limited to providing reviews and pre-views, before and after the event. The downside to this decision is that Community Radio was often the only station covering lesser games 'live' and this benefit will now be lost to listeners, who were unable to attend the game. No doubt Nickey Brennan, former GAA President and one of the driving forces behind sports coverage in Community Radio Kilkenny City, is feeling disappointed, at this development.

One hit wonders

OVER the past sixty years, Carrick Davins, Roscrea, Moyne-Templetuohy, Moneygall, Kilruane Mac Donaghs, Cappawhite, Loughmore-Castleiney, Clonoulty-Rossmore (it was only Clonoulty in 1888), Cashel KC, Nenagh Éire Óg, Boherlahan Dualla (it was Boherlahan when they won in 1941 and previously), Mullinahone, Drom-Inch and Kiladangan have all won the county title for the first time.

From that list, eight clubs failed to win another title.

Moyne Templetuohy 1971 – no final appearance since then.

Cappawhite 1987 – no final appearance since then

Cashel KC 1991 – beaten finalists 1994

Nenagh Éire Óg 1995 – beaten finalists 1999, 2006, 2013, 2015, 2018.

Boherlahan-Dualla 1996 – no final appearance since then.

Mullinahone 2002 – no final appearance since then.

Drom-Inch 2011 – beaten finalists 2012.

Kiladangan 2020 – today is their first final since then.

ON THIS DATE

WHILE sixteen of the last twenty two finals (2000-2021) have been played on an October date, the Dan Breen Cup has never been presented on October 23rd, despite being the prize since 1931. The first Dan Breen Cup was withdrawn after Moyne-Templetuohy's win in 1971, Roscrea were first winners of the replacement in 1972, while Toomevara captained by Tommy Dunne claimed the latest edition in 2006.

BIG DAYS

KILRUANE MacDONAGHS return to the county final day after a thirty six year absence. Their last appearance was against Borris-Ileigh on a lovely Summer style day in late September 1986. The North, County, Munster and All-Ireland champions had been on the go a long time and were an ageing team. Borris-Ileigh, inspired by Philip Kenny, who scored 0-6 and was 'Man of the Match', overran them in the second half to win by 0-14 to 0-7.



Kilruane MacDonaghs captain Tony Sheppard with the Tommy Moore Cup after their All-Ireland Club Final victory.

The maroon and white followed the path of their vanquished opponents to claim Munster and All-Ireland honours – the last time the Tommy Moore cup came to Tipperary. Kilruane's achievement in March 1986 when beating Wexford's Buffers Alley at Croke Park launched the Tipperary revival and gave the county hope after a long period of disappointment. Following Borris-Ileigh's achievement, the belief returned and with 'Babs' front of house, the Munster title was regained.

Kiladangan also claimed All-Ireland honours, in their case at Intermediate level. The injury time smash and grab was a forerunner to the 2020 county senior final as a late rally, which produced goals by Darragh Egan and Conor Hayes, caught Kilkenny's Carrickshock at FBD Semple Stadium towards the end of March 2005.

It was the first time the competition was played and Kiladangan remain Tipperary's only All-Ireland winners in the grade. That victory heralded the return of the blue and gold to top flight hurling in Tipperary. The glorious day eventually arrived in 2020 when the Dan Breen Cup was raised to the sky by Paul Flynn, after Bryan McLoughney's late goal had stunned Loughmore-Castleiney.



KILRUANE MacDONAGHS – All-Ireland Club Hurling Champions 1985

Back row: Jack Darcy, Tom Killackey, John Quinlan, Philip Quinlan, John Cahill, Enda Hogan, Joe Banaghan, Dinny O'Meara, Eamon O'Shea, Jim Williams, Eamonn Gaynor (supporter), Paddy Williams, Michael Hogan, Paul Mulcahy, Sean Williams. Front row: Eamonn Kirby, David Quinlan, Gilbert Williams, Jim O'Meara, Dinny Cahill, Tony Sheppard (Capt.), Ger Williams, Seamus Gibson, Pat Quinlan, Seamus Hennessy, Ned Darcy, Ned Fogarty (Masseur).

Meet the **MANAGERS**

SEAN O'MEARA

KILADANGAN

"A county final is a county final. The bit of hunger that Kilruane MacDonaghs are going to bring to it because of the fact they haven't had success for that long is going to need to be at least matched, if not bettered, by us as they are a side who are back in a county final where they always wanted to be. And it is then all on the day as to who performs."

"The lads have a lot of hurling played since 2016."

"I was looking at the programme today of the Kiladangan v Kilruane MacDonaghs North final that was played in Cloughjordan that year and there are eight from each side still there, so both sides have a mixture of experience and youth which makes it all the more interesting."



LIAM O'KELLY

KILRUANE MacDONAGHS

"We have not played well all year and we have spoken about that. We have been getting through games – marginal, tight games, but our character has been shown too, especially in the game against Upperchurch-Drombane. I cannot say enough about the lads we have in this panel – we have a massive group of lads in the dressingroom – up to 45 people including physios and all that. Many of them have not seen game-time but they don't miss a training session and that is just fantastic."

"We are delighted to be there in the final and really looking forward to it as well. This is where we want to be and we will be leaving no stone unturned to have everything in place for the big day."



Kiladangan



Kiladangan panel that defeated Drom/Inch in the FBD County SHC semi-final at Semple Stadium. Back row (l.-r.): Barry Hogan, Eoghan Sharkey, Fergal Hayes, Sean Hayes, Dan O'Meara, Matthew Cleary, James Quigley, Darren Moran, Tom O'Meara, Willie Connors, Tadhg Gallagher, D.J. McGrath, Rúairí Gleeson, Ronan Ducie, Darragh Ryan, Declan McGrath. Front row: Paul Flynn, David Sweeney, Ciaran Kelly, Conor Byrne, Billy Seymour, Joe Gallagher, Bryan McLoughney, Shane Gleeson, John O'Meara, Darragh Butler, Jack McGrath, Jack Loughnane, Darragh Flannery.

[Photos: Bridget Delaney]



KILADANGAN'S PATH TO FINAL

July 22nd	Kiladangan	0-18
	Loughmore-Castleiney	0-18
Aug. 20th:	Kiladangan	1-18
	Éire Óg Annacarty/Donohill	0-9
Sept. 4th:	Kiladangan	3-13
	JK Brackens.....	1-14
<i>Quarter-Final</i>		
Sept. 25th:	Kiladangan	1-14
	Clonoulty-Rossmore	0-12
<i>Semi-Final</i>		
Oct. 9th	Kiladangan	1-21
	Drom & Inch.....	1-17



Kiladangan Management Team. Standing (l.-r.): Michael Carmody (kit man), Dan Hackett, George Hannigan, Darragh Egan, Sean O'Meara, Sean Treacy. Kneeling: Owen Higginbotham (physio), Kyle Kelly (S&C), Jim Ryan (kit man).

Kiladangan



Dathanna: Gorm agus Ór

1.
Barry Hogan
B. Ó hÓgáin

2.
John O'Meara
S. Ó Meára

3.
James Quigley
S. Ó Coigligh

4.
Darren Moran
D. Ó Móráin

5.
David Sweeney
D. Mac Suibhne

6.
Alan Flynn
A. Ó Floinn (Capt.)

7.
Declan McGrath
D. Mac Craith

8.
Tadhg Gallagher
T. Ó Gallchóir

9.
Tom O'Meara
T. Ó Meára

10.
Sean Hayes
S. Ó hAodha

11.
Joe Gallagher
S. Ó Gallchóir

12.
Billy Seymour
B. Saomar

13.
Bryan McLoughney
B. Mac Lachtna

14.
Paul Flynn
P. Ó Floinn

15.
Willie Connors
L. Ó Conchúir

16. DARRAGH EGAN D. Mac Aogáin	19. DAN O'MEARA D. Ó Meára	22. MATTHEW CLEARY M. Ó Cléirigh	25. MARTIN MINEHAN M. Ó Mionacháin	28. EOGHAN SHARKEY E. Ó Searcaigh
17. DARAGH BUTLER D. de Builéir	20. CONOR BYRNE C. Ó Broin	23. RÚAIRÍ GLEESON R. Ó Glasáin	26. DARRAGH FLANNERY D. Ó Flannabhra	29. D.J. McGRATH D.S. Mac Craith
18. JACK LOUGHNANE S. Ó Lachtnáin	21. FERGAL HAYES F. Ó hAodha	24. JONATHAN HORAN S. Ó hÓráin	27. SHANE GLEESON S. Ó Glasáin	30. CIARAN KELLY C. Ó Ceallaigh

Also on the Kiladangan panel – **Conor Culhane, Neil Cahalan, Darragh Ryan, Jack McGrath, Ronan Dúicé.**

ROGHNÓIRÍ

Management: Dan Hackett, Darragh Egan, Sean O'Meara, George Hannigan, Sean Treacy
Physio: Owen Higginbotham *Kit Men:* Mike Carmody, Jim Ryan



Kilruane Mac Donaghs

Dathanna: White & Black

FBD
INSURANCE

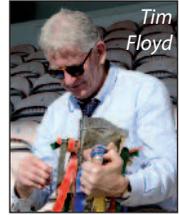


16. CONOR DOHENY C. Ó Dúchonna	19. PADDY RYAN P. Ó Riain	22. MARTIN GRACE M. de Grás	25. ÓÍSÍN O'MEARA Ó. Ó Meára	28. CRAIG MORGAN C. Ó Muireagáin
17. ROB AUSTIN R. Mac Aibhistín	20. EOIN CARROLL E. Ó Cearúill	23. CARL WILLIAMS C. Mac Uilliam	26. RORY GRACE R. de Grás	33. BRIAN 'Buggy' O'MEARA
18. THOMAS CLEARY T. Ó Cléirigh	21. ROSS AUSTIN R. Mac Aibhistín	24. CONOR CLEARY C. Ó Cléirigh	27. EANNA HOGAN E. Ó hÓgáin	B. Ó Meára

ROGHNÓIRÍ

Manager: Liam O'Kelly Coach: Christy Morgan Selectors: Brian O'Meara, Pat Murphy S&C: Jack Hickey
Physio: Sara Cuddy Kitman: Pat Shanahan Admin: Cronan Casey Stats: Declan Souch, Rachel Shanahan, Ruan Casey

Tight calls



Tim Floyd

THE upcoming retirement of Tipperary's long serving Runaí Tim Floyd from Tulach Sheasta will result in many genuine tributes acknowledging his tremendous contribution to the county. The recruitment of his replacement, to a reclassified post of Head of Operations/CEO, was a more complex process than the case about sixty years ago.

In early March 1961, a special meeting of the Co Board was held in Thurles to elect a new Co. Secretary to succeed Phil Purcell, who died the previous month. Two of the candidates were All-Ireland winners with the county, Pat Stakelum from Holycross-Ballycahill – then resident in Thurles – and Tony Brennan from Clonoulty. After Tommy Barrett had been eliminated, Mr Stakelum was elected by 16 votes to 15. However his reign was brief and Pat retired for personal reasons in February 1963. There were two candidates to replace him and Tommy Barrett began his lengthy term of office, after an 18 to 14 vote victory over Tony Brennan.

Micheál Egan mans the scoreboard on match day throughout the season in the Field of Legends, Semple Stadium.

[Photo: Bridget Delaney]



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Luke 087-7513079, Sandra 087-2291813

E-mail: lukiejordan@hotmail.com

Address:

Bohernanave, Thurles, Co. Tipperary
E41 F6P8



Kilruane MacDonaghs



Kilruane MacDonaghs panel that defeated Upperchurch/Drombane in the FBD County SHC semi-final at Semple Stadium. Back row (l.-r.): Liam O'Kelly (manager), Paddy Ryan, Karl Williams, Eanna Hogan, James Cleary, Kian O'Kelly, Rob Austin, Conor Doheny, Willie Cleary, Kieran Cahill, Mark O'Neill, Aaron Morgan, Ross Austin, Rory Grace, Oisín O'Meara, Eoin Carroll, Martin Grace, Cronin Casey (Admin.). Front row: Conor Austin, Niall O'Meara, Cian Darcy, Jerome Cahill (Capt.), Thomas Cleary, Jack Peters, Eoin Hogan, Sean McAdams, Paudi Williams, Seamus Hennessy, Brian 'Buggy' O'Meara.

[Photos: Bridget Delaney]

KILRUANE MacDONAGHS PATH TO FINAL

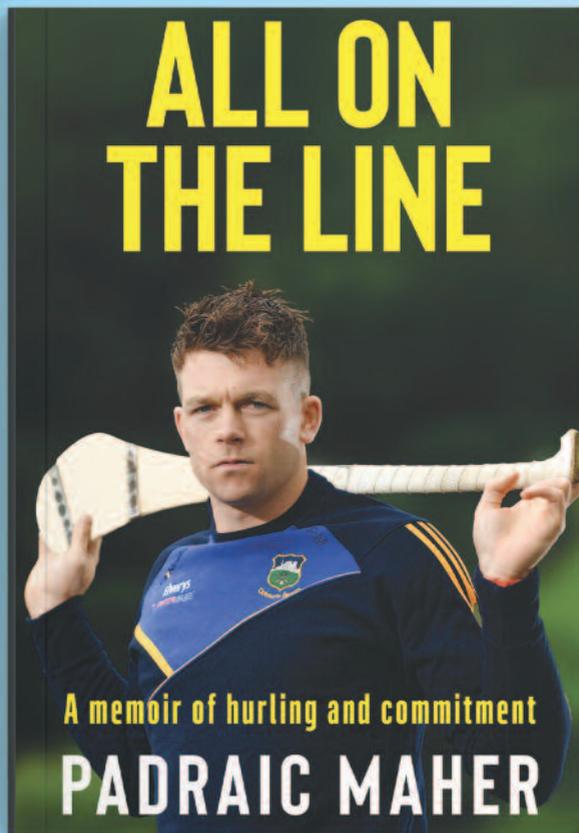
July 23rd	Kilruane MacDonaghs	4-22
	Moycarkey-Borris	0-10
Aug. 21st:	Kilruane MacDonaghs	1-17
	Éire Óg Nenagh	3-19
Sept. 4th:	Kilruane MacDonaghs	3-15
	Clonoulty-Rossmore	1-20
<i>Quarter-Final</i>		
Sept. 24th:	Kilruane MacDonaghs	2-17
	Toomevara	2-15
<i>Semi-Final</i>		
Oct. 9th	Kilruane MacDonaghs	2-17
	Upperchurch-Drombane	1-14



Kilruane MacDonaghs Management (from left) Sarah Cuddy (physio), Cronin Casey (admin), Stephen Cleary (logistics), Declan Souch (Stats), Liam O'Kelly (manager), Christy Morgan (coach), Pat Murphy (coach).

BOOK LAUNCH

'All On The Line' by Padraic Maher
Anner Hotel Thurles 7pm 10 November



Padraic will be joined by fellow hurling legends Nicky English, Tommie Walsh of Kilkenny, Patrick Horgan of Cork and Tipperary's Eoin Kelly.

Not to be missed! All Welcome.
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REFLECTIONS

By: SEAMUS O'DOHERTY

SENIOR WHITEWASH

Notwithstanding the bad luck with injuries and retirement, it was a very disappointing year for the senior team. Early season embarrassment, in the loss to Kerry, seemed to cast a cloud over the League campaign. A bleak Saturday night saw a four point win over Laois, which was achieved without scoring a goal. It was the first time this happened, in a League meeting with the O'Moore county.

Eight days later a surprising one point win over Kilkenny suggested an improvement, but a home loss to Dublin and a seven point defeat, at Walsh Park, ensured there would be no qualification for the semi-finals. The competition ended with a record breaking win over Antrim 7-29 to 1-17. The Glensmen, who travelled without some of their key players, won the game that mattered against Offaly the following weekend and survived in the top flight. Jason Forde, as he had been last year, was our top scorer, in the League campaign.

The championship started on Easter Sunday April 17th, with a four point loss to Waterford at Walsh Park. Some good individual displays masked a modest effort and that was the trend. We lost at home to Clare 3-21

to 2-16, away to Limerick 3-21 to 0-23 and finally, we conceded a record margin for the fixture, in losing to Cork by 3-30 to 1-24 at FBD Semple Stadium. Goals win games – we scored 5 and conceded 11. It was Tipperary's sixth consecutive defeat in the championship.



NOEL McGRATH

Our season was clearly reflected by the nomination of one player, Noel McGrath, for the All-Star Award. Similarly, Colm Keyes included him in *The Irish independent* top fifty hurlers of the year at number 39. No other Tipp player was included in either list.

After some reflection and assessment by the County Management Committee, Liam Cahill was invited to return to his native county and much to everyone's relief, he accepted the post of Bainisteoir. His back room includes a highly qualified quartet, who have triumphed at club level and know the culture well enough to develop a new vision for Tipperary. Padraic Maher captained his club to four county titles, Michael Bevans did it twice, T.J. Ryan once and Declan Laffan guided Loughmore-Castleiney to the double in 2013 and more recently has turned Clough-Ballacolla into the hurling kings of Laois. It would be hard to



JASON FORDE

quibble with any of them !

The work is well advanced on drawing up a squad to begin preparations for 2023 and the talent observed at all adult grades ensures there will be no need to hold trials or Millar Shield games – an anachronism in the modern era. We can, despite the Annus Horribilis of 2022, look forward with some optimism to next year. The team will be different in many respects from the Cork game last May and it will take some time for team-work and a style of play to be fine tuned.

Progress would be finishing in the top three of the round robin and advancing to the All-eland series. Cahill has the nous to present a team, physically primed, fuelled by desire and intensity to restore the temporarily tarnished image of the Tipperary senior hurling team. As a man of integrity and courage, he will not shirk responsibility for the results.

UNDER 20 PROMISE

After three unsuccessful years at Minor level, expectations were modest for the new Bainisteoir Brendan Cummins and his Management colleagues. In 2019 Tipp only won one game of the four round-robin outings in Munster, they lost the 2020 final to Limerick

after extra time and were trounced by Waterford last year.

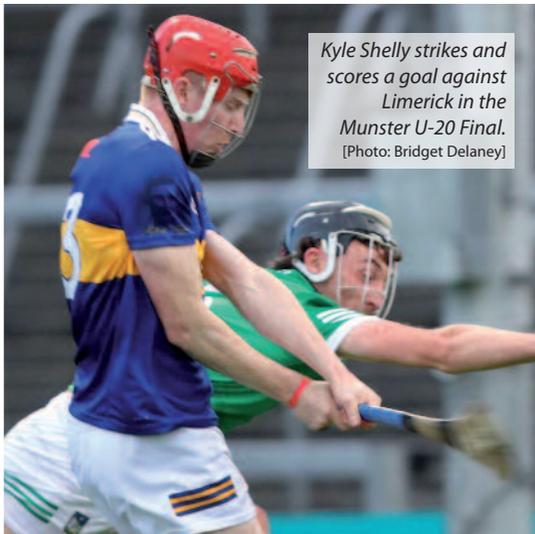
Despite that work began early and thorough preparation ensured they were anticipating a win over Kerry at Austin Stack Park, on April 6th. Kerry had spiked the Senior team in the Munster league, so the warning was there. This was another tight game for most of the way with Kerry leading by five points after 15 minutes, but Tipp finished strongly, out scoring the hosts by 2-6 to 0-1 in the final quarter to win by 3-15 to 0-13.

Next up came Waterford at FBD Semples Stadium on April 13th. In the tradition of recent games at this level, it was a memorable game. Tipp led by a point at half-time and helped by Kyle Shelly's scoring prowess and a strong finish, which included a Peter McGarry goal, Tipp qualified for the semi-final by 2-21 to 1-20. By winning the group, Tipp had earned a home semi-final against Cork on April 27th.

Tipperary led by 2-12 to 0-9 at half-time, with the goals scored by Peter McGarry and our outstanding midfielder and captain John Campion and got through by 2-20 to 1-21. Cork's goal came in added time. The TUS

Gaelic Grounds hosted the decider on May 5th. Tipp played really well at times but an early error, which resulted in a Limerick goal by Adam English, gave the home team the impetus to keep going and they led by 1-13 to 1-6 at half-time. Colm Fogarty proved to be a useful substitute and he set up

Jack Leamy for an early second half goal. Tipp were only two points down with twenty minutes to go, but despite a great effort they could not overtake the home team, who won by 1-25 to 2-18. Tipperary's disappointment was palpable, but it would have



Kyle Shelly strikes and scores a goal against Limerick in the Munster U-20 Final.
[Photo: Bridget Delaney]

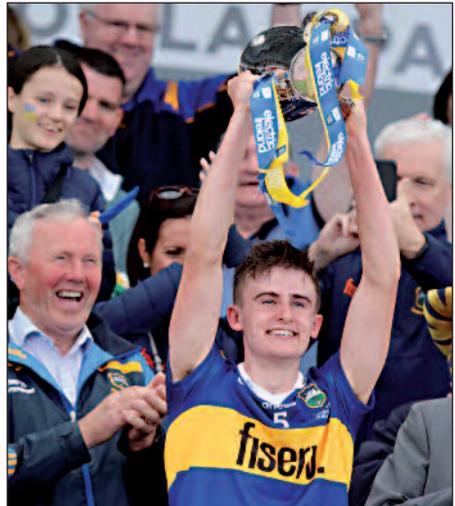
to be classed as a worthwhile campaign and several players gave a firm indication that they will be heard of at top level in the years ahead.

MINOR GLORY

After Waterford trounced Tipperary in the 2021 Munster Minor championship, James Woodlock knew that certain things would have to be done for this year's campaign. Among those items was a S&C programme calculated to ensure that our players would not be brushed aside when seeking possession. Apart from that, a splendid spirit was inculcated, which meant the team believed in each other and would never surrender, no matter how precarious their situation.

The Munster structure saw Tipp in a three team group. They beat Waterford by two points in Dungarvan and Clare by two goals at FBD Semple Stadium in the first half of April. Following the quarter-finals, their semi-final opponents at FBD Semple Stadium were Waterford again. There was no doubt this time – Tipp won by 3-27 to 0-15 with Tom Delaney, one of eight Tipp scorers, contributing 1-12. Next up was Clare again. The final on May 11th had a Limerick base and after the most enthralling game the teams were level after extra time Tipp 1-22 Clare 0-25. Paddy McCormack's levelling point from the sideline will never be forgotten. The dreaded penalty shoot-out followed and Eoin Horgan became the hero by saving two and scoring one. Paddy McCormack and Adam Daly scored the other 'goals' as Tipp won 3 to 0 and proceeded to the All-Ireland semi-final.

It was back to Limerick on June 19th for the clash with Galway who were fancied to regain the All-Ireland title. You could not keep track of the drama, which saw Tipperary leading by six points into the second half, before Galway took control to go ahead two minutes into added time. Not to be denied, Tipp rallied again and amazingly secured an equaliser from Adam Daly. Then Joe Egan



Tipperary Minor Hurling Captain Sam Farrell lifts the All-Ireland silverware. (Photo: Bridget Delaney)

pointed for the lead and Senan Butler found the net near the finish to ensure Tipp won the game by 3-24 to 3-20.

At this stage we believed this team was invincible. Offaly had blazed a trail through Leinster, before dismissing Clare, in the All-Ireland semi-final. Their support base was phenomenal as the two counties landed at UPMC Nowlan Park on July 3rd.

Everybody knows what happened by now. Tipp were defiant, despite trailing by six points and being a man down, after fifty two minutes. Offaly withdrew to defend the lead, Tipp pushed forward to stay in the game with points from Jack O'Callaghan, Sam O'Farrell, Paddy McCormack, Darragh McCarthy and Aaron O'Halloran before the late free from Paddy Phelan, which Paddy McCormack rose to meet and smashed the ball to the Offaly net. Team captain Sam O'Farrell met the President and spoke eloquently as he accepted the Irish Press cup. The Civic Reception by Tipperary County Council a fortnight ago was richly deserved.

Tom Delaney was one of the stars of Tipp's campaign and his scoring prowess was vital to success. He was one of four Tipperary

players, along with Sam O'Farrell, Adam Daly and Paddy McCormack, who were chosen on the Electric Ireland Minor Star Hurling Team of the Year. However, it was his subsequent media interview, in which he spoke about his background and how the GAA valued his inclusion, which caught many people's attention. This was our inter-county team of the year, without a doubt.

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

The promotion and relegation aspects of our local championships have helped to grade teams at a level, which gives them some hope of progressing. The current system applied by the CCC of alternating Hurling and Football week ends has worked very well and means that no club player, who only plays one game, is waiting too long for action. Other counties have used different systems, playing all hurling first and then football, in the club/county split season. There are supporters of that system in Tipperary, but efforts to change the status quo must be resisted.

The top sixteen Senior Hurling teams, which compete for the Dan Breen Cup gave us plenty of close contests this year and the four group winners reached the semi-finals. An all North final today provides an expectant public with hopes of a memorable final. Kilruane MacDonaghs have been tested emotionally and otherwise in this campaign and it is great to see them back in the decider, after such a long absence.

This year's draw for the groups raised eyebrows, as county champions 2021 Loughmore-Castleiney were classified as a second seed. That anomaly has been rectified for 2023 when the four semi-finalists will be the top seeds and the beaten quarter-finalists will have a secondary classification. The fact that no club can now come into the preliminary quarter-final stages from outside the top sixteen is progressive. Divisional winners were given a preliminary quarter-final slot this year, if they did not finish in the top two,

which suited JK Brackens and Clonoulty-Rossmore, both of which won and earned a quarter-final place. It is somewhat unbalanced to have two preliminary quarter-finals, when the logical thing to do is play four of them, so everyone knows where they stand. It would surely be acceptable to guarantee group winners a quarter-final spot and have an open draw, pitting all second placed teams against the third placed in four preliminary quarter-finals. The bottom team in each group would still play in the relegation semi-finals, even if the club had won the Divisional final.

MISCELLANEOUS

It was great to have a five year deal agreed with FBD Insurance for naming rights at Semple Stadium following on from their sponsorship of the county senior championships. Michael Berkery is the affable face of FBD and along with locally based colleagues, is a regular attendee at the games.

The fiserv team sponsorship is also proving mutually beneficial, as the brand becomes more visible and closely linked to Tipperary hurling.

Streaming of our games has continued to prove popular since its introduction during the Covid-19 limitations. Obviously, there has been a reduction of attendances if people are watching at home. Nonetheless it keeps them close to the games and if it suits people to watch the action in this manner, there is no reason to object.

TG4 have boosted the club game by live transmissions for many years and today we welcome them to FBD Semple Stadium for our county final, which accordingly will be seen far beyond the borders of the Premier county.

Our local Media have been brilliant in respect of their coverage of our games. It is a logistical challenge at the peak of the club season to cover everything but there are rarely grounds for complaint. Reporters/commentators are often on the go from Saturday afternoon to Sunday evening.



By:
MARK DUNNE
(Irish Cultural
Officer)



Noel Joyce (JK Brackens) –
Aithriseoireacht/Scéalaíocht.

SCÓR SINSEAR made a welcome return to the Premier County in early October with the hosting of our first Senior Scór Final since 2020. Tipperary has a long and proud tradition of Scór and are currently holders of three



Newport – Nuachleas



Moyne-Templetuohy – Tráth na gCeist.

All- Ireland trophies from the 2020 competition.

Newport provided the venue for our Scór Sinsear Final held on October 1st. Although a small programme greeted the enthusiastic crowd, we were not short of a high standard of competition. Our winning acts headed to the Munster Final held last weekend.

Buaiteoirí from the Premier County were as follows:

Tráth Na gCeist: **Moyne-Templetuohy**

Rince Foirme: **Newcastle**

Amhránaíocht Aonair: **Siobhan Egan** (Newport)

Aithriseoireacht/Scéalaíocht: **Noel Joyce**
(JK Brackens)

Ceol Uirlise: **Newport**

Nuachleas: **Newport**

Bailéad Ghrúpa: **Newport**

Rince Seit: **Newcastle**

Scór is a wonderful opportunity for Gaels throughout the County to represent their club and county on the stage. It provides a wonderful opportunity to meet new people across the country and most importantly to show of your



Siobhán Egan (Newport) – Amhránaíocht Aonair.

talents on the stage.

Keep an eye out for details on our upcoming Scór na bPaistí and Scór na nÓg competitions. Scór Abú!



Newport – Bailéad Grúpa.



Newcastle – Rince Foirme.



Newport – Rince Seit.



Newport – Ceil Uirlise.

By: TIMMY HAMMERSLEY

Dillon QUIRKE

Starting to write at this stage about Dillon Quirke feels like a daunting task. So much has been written and said. Pieces such as that by Fintan O'Toole on 'The 42' the day after he passed and from Moneygall native Eimear Ryan have beautifully captured Dillon's importance to many people. Not to mention the beautiful poem by Seanie Nally, along with the appearance on 'Off The Ball' by Jimmy Maher and John O'Keefe have all told a story in their own right.

This, however, will merely be an attempt to tell another part of that story – not about what he won or achieved, but about the Dillon whom I knew, experienced, and walked the line with.

INNOCENCE is the word I think I will always use most to describe Dillon. The very same innocent love of life and hurling he possessed as a child remained with him forever. During the era of Declan Ryan's Tipperary management both Dillon and Jack Ryan were a permanent fixture at training sessions in Thurles. We used to joke that Dillon knew the team before players did. In 2011, I was off the panel but came in for periodic training sessions. One sunny summer evening I walked in through the tunnel and Dillon was the first person I saw. He shouted over to Jack with excitement that "Timmy is back in". I will never forget that image and what it meant to him that another Clonoulty/Rossmore player was involved. I firmly believe he never lost that boyish attitude right up until the very end. Even after becoming a mainstay on the Tipp hurling team there was never a change. Dillon was very accepting of people, never uttered a mean or judgmental word, a beautiful gentle soul.

COMRADE is another. For me, a teammate means someone who will go to the edge with you on the training pitch, and back you to the hilt on game day. It was summer 2019, and we were training one Sunday morning in Clonoulty. I competed

against Dillon in a 1 v 1 tackling drill. I remember thinking beforehand this fella, albeit 11 years my junior, is much bigger than me, but he is definitely going to feel my presence in the next 60 seconds. Twenty seconds in we were on the ground boxing. That evening we were texting and he referenced how proud he was to train and compete with John O'Keefe and myself. People with no involvement in competitive sport may find that hard to grasp – but that there is a fellow soldier. We were willing to go any place in trying to bring success to our club. As Conor Hammersley says, *"You play with many, but soldier with a few."*



Dillon Quirke training with Conor Hammersley and Jimmy Ryan Con over Covid.

He was that Travelling Soldier.

LOVE is the most appropriate way to describe Dillon's relationship with hurling. I feel very grateful that I met him the weekend before the Kilruane game, which was to be played the following Friday. I was home, and called up to watch the team train. Dillon's exact words with a big smile were *"Friday night in summer playing in Thurles, where else would anyone want to be?"* This is the innocent love that I feel that served him so well. We chatted for nearly an hour and he was passionate about how the team was playing. He loved that the team was managed by all club people, John Devane back involved and Declan as manager. Dillon himself trusted with the captaincy of the team – in the same way he was trusted with the number 5 jersey for Tipp under Colm Bonnar. Dillon flourished under trust. Trust and love.

LOYALTY of the highest degree to those whom he was friends with and played with. Loyal to the Clonoulty-Rossmore hurlers that came together around 2016 where you

still had the old guard of the Heffernans, Devanes, O'Keefes, Hammersleys, Butlers, Paudie White, Kevin Horan, Jason Forrestal, Declan O'Dwyer, Sean O'Connor, Paddy Ryan, Niall Shanahan and Kieran Quirke etc, along with the new faces who included the second set of Heffernans, Jimmy Con, Mickie Ryan W, Cathal Bouke and James Ham. The leader of the new group was Dillon. This team was the perfect balance which delivered Dan Breen in 2018 and also reached 16 consecutive county Senior Hurling quarter-finals. He respected the dedication we all showed and stood up for us when he felt it was important. When in conversation with a recent Tipp manager about his own place in the pecking order, I know he referenced his feelings that both John O'Keefe and myself were at times not given the opportunity that was deserved in the blue and gold. People may agree or not with the sentiment, but it was the principle which mattered, and mattered a lot to me. Even when it might do himself personally no favors, loyalty to his people was what mattered most.



Dillon Quirke – Little League 2002.

There are many poignant circumstances around writing this. On the same weekend 12 months previous to Dillon's passing, another great Clonoulty-Rossmore Gael and one of my best friends, Philip Maher, went to his eternal reward. This weekend four years ago we also had our day of days. I had never seen someone own a dressing room that day like John Devane did, and give a group who had never got over the line before, belief that it could be done. I am so happy Dillon got to experience that. And we got to experience it with him.

Dillon's passing has epitomized the real importance of the GAA. It has brought people together and brought us back to the true meaning of the association, a sense of community along with the friends and comrades you make along the way. We all love success but the truth is it pales in comparison to brotherhood, friendship and comradeship. I have one main regret, and it is that I never told Dillon how much I loved him. If there is a failing among us GAA lads, it is that we don't express how much we mean to each other. I never told him how loyal he was, how much of a true comrade



Dillon Quirke in action for Tipperary as he goes on a solo run while Martin Keoghan (Kilkenny) gives chase.

[Photo: Bridget Delaney]

he was, and how genuine he was. I was more focused on challenging him to be the best he could be. It is true, we never appreciate someone enough until they are no longer around. I wish he could read everything that has been written about him.

Sin é, he is forever young in our mind now and his life is inspiring people, I have seen it already. At the writing of this, the

Clonoulty-Rossmore Camogie team, with Dillon's sisters Shannon and Kellie among them, take to the field on Saturday after much heartbreak the last few years and I know Dillon will be in their thoughts. His legacy will live on and we are all the better for knowing him – as the age-old proverb states 'It is better to have loved and lost, than not loved at all'. To the hurling fields of heaven our number 11 will continue the game.



Dillon Quirke with John O'Keefe and Timmy Hammersley on the night of the 2018 County Final.

The Image I have chosen as my photo of the year is of Clonoulty-Rossmore manager Declan Ryan taking a moment to let it all sink in after victory in the All-Ireland Junior B Final replay.

“My Photograph of the Year”



By: **EAMONN MCGEE**
(Photographer)



County Final Memories

WINNER ALL THE WAY

THE latest book written by Damian Lawlor, a Kilkruane MacDonaghs man living in Co Kildare and working for RTE, looks like a certainty to win the Irish Sports Book of the Year. "After the Storm" tells the tale of how GAA people

coped during Covid-19 restrictions, along with the aftermath and insists its members became heroes off the field by their varied and significant contributions to Irish society.

The *Irish Independent* sports writer Vincent

Hogan has no doubt about its merit – "An absolute triumph". The well known writer and author, Paul Rouse, Professor of History at UCD, rates the book as 'A brilliant read'. There will be no disagreement from anyone who reads it.

Remembering the Gaels

TIME moves on and old hurlers eventually depart this world leaving much sorrow and numerous happy memories. Today, we remember two men who gave great service to their clubs and coincidentally, wore the number two jersey for much of their careers.

Jim O'Brien from Ballincur, Dolla died on June 13th. He was a Silvermines club man and famously captained the blue and white to its only North title in 1974, when they beat the previous year's county champions Roscrea in the final, at Nenagh. Unfortunately for the club, Thurles Sarsfields proved too good in the county final winning by two points.

Jim had a great love for Gaelic Games and he helped the GAA in many ways after his playing days ended. He was also a voluntary steward at Semple Stadium where he managed the town side gate into the VIP section. He knew all of the regular patrons and loved to see Tipperary going well. Sympathy to his wife Sarah, son Diarmuid, daughter Edel daughter-in-law Áine, grandchildren and other relatives.



The Roscrea hurling club President **Mick Hogan**, Assumption Park, died on October 4th. He won five county titles, captain in 1969, two Munster club and one All-Ireland club with Roscrea, usually lining out at right corner back before moving to full back after Kieran Carey's retirement.

Mick worked for much of his life at Antigen Ltd. and he was a Munster inter-firm winner with the company but All-Ireland honours eluded him narrowly in 1971.

When Mick finished hurling he acted as selector with many Roscrea teams and he attended the 1983 All-Ireland Community Games hurling final at Mosney to watch his son Michael win gold, but he had an ear to the radio, because his eldest son Eddie was playing for Tipperary in the under-21 All-Ireland final against Galway at Tullamore.

Sympathy to his wife Mary, sons Eddie, Paul and Michael, daughters-in-law Frances, Ginger and Mona, along with his brother Sonny, sister Tess grandchildren and extended family.

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By: Jerome Cahill

Two parishes

ONE HANDBALL CLUB



Help Lahorna Handball Club to roof new alley

LAHORNA Handball Club is neutrally nestled on the N52 between today's competing parishes, Kilruane MacDonaghs and Kiladangan. The game of handball has been played in Lahorna since 1905. It is traditionally held that the existing 60x30 alley was built on the site of a small cabin, from which two elderly sisters, Bridget and Sarah Hogan, were evicted in 1905 during the Land Wars.

Peter, Tom and Jack McCarthy, Con Heffernan and Pat Starr rebuilt the alley after damage in a big wind. Joe Bergin, John and Hugh Slattery and Paddy Seymour added a backwall in the 1940s. In 1975, the Quinns, Clearys, Slatterys and Seymours roofed the alley. It was re-roofed in 2015 by L.G. Gaynor Enterprises Ltd.

Hurlers and camogie players in both Kilruane MacDonaghs and Kiladangan are familiar with the alley, using it frequently to sharpen their skills. Lahorna club members have participated in many competitions with much success, including Cumanna mBunscoil, while today's Niall O'Meara, Jerome Cahill, Sean McAdams and Rory Grace of Kilruane MacDonaghs, Sean Hayes and John McGrath of Kiladangan, have won Munster and All-Ireland Handball medals representing Lahorna. This is largely due to the commitment of long-standing club coach

Vincent O'Shea, Martin Spain and principal of Ardcroney NS, Martin Ryan.

This year, the club began construction of a 40x20 court, dressing rooms and toilets. With money received from the Sports Capital Grant Scheme, Tipperary County Council and well-supported local fundraising, the new building is now at roof level. This development will complement the existing 60x30 alley, and provide greater facilities for players and coaches who currently have to use 40x20 courts in other clubs. It will also put the club in a strong position to host national games in both codes of play, and encourage the participation of local youth in a game that has a rich GAA heritage.

Today, the club is asking for your support to help put a roof on the new building. You can contribute by visiting the club's GoFundMe Page any time and donate digitally (scan the QR code or visit the page on www.gofundme.com and search "Help Roof Lahorna Handball Club"). Club updates are available on the Facebook page.



Ag gabháil buíochas líbh roimh ré, bainígí go léir sult as na cluichí inniu.

A century ago

By: SÉAMUS Ó DUBHAGÁIN

ONE hundred years ago was a fraught time in Tipperary as civil war raged. Guerilla warfare was still the order of the day, burnings of houses, atrocities, swoops, executions, forced emigration, attacks on individuals, warnings to families, sabotaged railways were all common place and the loss of Griffiths and Collins brought heartbreak particularly in the context of what had gone before.

As Liam Ó Donnchú states, Ireland was a land of broken hearts and broken hopes. However the Croke memorial was finally unveiled on June 4th 1922 by Dr. Harty. After a year of inactivity, the games made a fresh start in 1922 and divisional teams contested the county finals.

Tipperary reached the All-Ireland final but due to political problems at the time they were missing key players and went down to Kilkenny. An interesting aspect was the development of local teams such as grocers or hardware assistants taking on the pick of the town – hurling could not be kept down.

This was the year too when the Sportsfield Committee decided to erect a new stand, paling and caretaker's house – seeds being scattered amidst the flames of war. The role of hurling and football in the monumental task of reconciliation and living together in peace has not been documented in Tipperary to the same extent as for example Kerry, but even though there were odd incidents in games over

the next number of years that were appropriated to civil war politics, all in all, it was hurling and football that played the most vital practical role in weaning a country off the gun and turning it towards community Ireland, working once again for the credit of the little village.

For the approximately 173 young Tipperary men who did not survive the civil war, their life dreams would never be realised but today a century later we can remember them and feel their loss and sacrifice as we continue to place our games at the centre of our national identity.



This stand at Thurles Sportsfield accommodated patrons from the 1920s until the mid 1960s. It was replaced in 1968 by Ardán Uí Chuinneáin – Dr. Kinane Stand. The small construction to the right of the stand housed the commentator, usually Mícheál Ó hEithir, on big match days.

Céad bliain ó shoin

By: SÉAMUS Ó DUBHAGÁIN

CÉAD BLIAIN ó shoin bhí an tír trína chéile de dheasca cogadh na gcarad. Bhí treall chogaíocht i réim fós, tithe á lascadh, uafáis, ruathair, bású, imirce, fogha ar dhaoine, rabhadh do theaghlaigh,

bóithre iarainn millte go foirleathan agus thit an lug ar an lag le bás Uí Ghríofa agus Uí Choileáin go háirithe nuair a rug na daoine chun cuimhne na blianta roimhré.

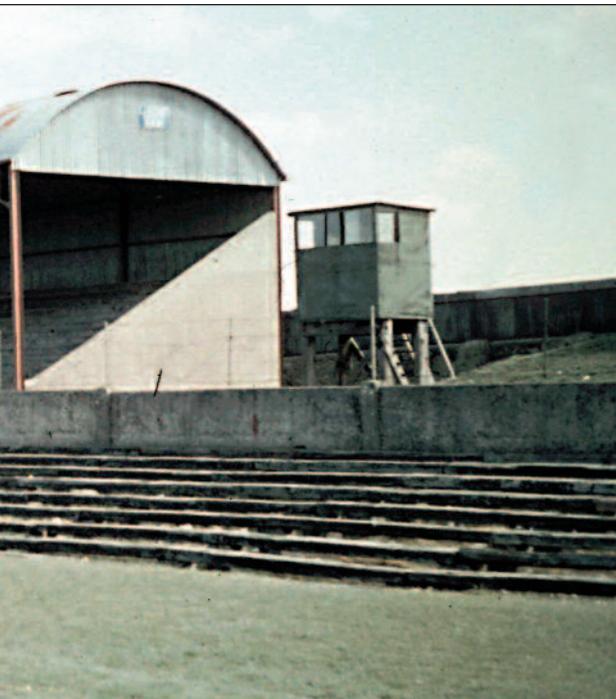
Mar a deir Liam Ó Donnchú, bhí an tír briste brúite ina gcroíthe agus ina mianta. Ach, i Meitheamh na bliana 1922, nochtadh dealbh Uí Chrócaigh ag an Dochtúir Uí Artaigh. Tar éis bliana ar an ngannchuid, d'fhill na cluichí athuair. Agus b'iad na foirne roinne a bhí san iomaíocht i gcluichí ceannais na gcumann.

Shroich Tiobraid Árann cluiche ceannais na hÉireann ach de dheasca asláithreachta polaitíochta theip orthu in aghaidh Cill Chainnigh. Bhí sé suimiúil gur fhás foirne aníos as an gcosmhuintir mar ghrosaeirí nó lucht cruá earraí i gcoinne togha an bhaile – ní féidir an iománaíocht a chloí.

Sa bhliain céanna shocraigh coiste an Sportsfield ardán, claiá agus teach nua a sholáthar-bhí siolta á scaipeadh in ainneoin

tinte an chogaidh. Níl an cur sios céanna ar fáil i dTiobraid Árann is atá i gCiarraí ar an ról a ghlac Cumann Lúithchleas Gael in athbhunú cairdis is comhoibriú sna blianta díreach i ndiaidh cogadh na gcarad. Cinnte, cé go raibh eachtra nó dhó sna blianta ina dhiadh sin ag cluichí a luadh leis an gcogadh, ar an iomlán, b'iad an pheil agus an iománaíocht na bealai ba fhearr chun daoine a chasadh ó bhealach na héigeandála agus iad a dhíriú ar aththógáil na tíre ag obair as lámha a chéile chun a bpobail áitiúla a chur chun chinn.

Don 173 fear óg a d'éag i dTiobraid Árann i gcogadh na gcarad, ní fheicfidís riamh an lá sin ach is méanar dúinn cuimhneamh orthu inniu agus a bheith leo ina gcailliúint agus a níobairt. Cuimhnímís orthu is sinn ag cur ár gcluichí náisiúnta i gceartlár ár bhféinaithe mar thír neamhspleách nua aimseartha ar thóir barr feabhais.



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Saturday, December 10th, 2022

12-4 pm

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(Entry-Gate beside Teagasc – opposite Greyhound Stadium)

This G.A.A. Memorabilia Fair will give you a chance to browse and search a large selection of match programmes, club histories, hurling, football, camogie, ladies football and handball publications as well as other G.A.A. material in the pleasant and spacious surroundings of the **The Dome, Semple Stadium**, Thurles, Co. Tipperary.

Collectors and sellers are cordially invited to attend this event, where it is hoped they will find plenty of material to interest them.

Sales positions, free of charge may be booked in advance by contacting the organisers before December 8th.

Admission for all will be €5, with accompanied children free. The venue will have disabled access, facilities for teas and coffees etc. It is located within a five minute walk from Thurles Railway Station.

For further information contact: **Seamus J. King, 087-2246245**

seamusjking@gmail.com

or **Liam Ó Donnchú 086-6036547**, liam.odonnchu.oifigeach@gaa.ie

Lár na Páirce G.A.A. Museum,

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Tipperary and Wexford teams – 1955 Páirc Shilean, Templemore

Burgess' Stephen Murray celebrates a late goal in extra time as they finally overcame Cashel King Cormacs in the County Premier Intermediate quarter-final. I was impressed by

Stephen's total of 2-18 on the day and I think this photo sums up the joy of finally getting the win after 80 minutes of hurling.

The joy is matched by the young Burgess supporters in the background ready to dash on to the field at the final whistle.



“My Photograph of the Year”



By: ODHRAN DUCIE
(Photographer)

NENAGH ÉIRE ÓG

County Senior Hurling Champions 1995

By: SEAMUS J. KING



IN MY article on the Nenagh Co-Op County Senior Hurling Championship 1995 in the G.A.A. Yearbook, the opening paragraph was as follows: 'The fifteen thousand crowd that came to the county final at Semple Stadium on October 15 was the biggest in years. The pairing was unique. Never before had Boherlahan-Dualla and Éire Óg, Nenagh met in a county final. Never before had the North side won a senior final. In fact, they had appeared but once in that stage of the competition, in 1993. On the other hand, the Mid side of the equation, with a noble fine tradition of appearing in and winning finals, hadn't

appeared in a final since 1953 and hadn't won one since 1941! So, there was hunger on both sides and the supporters turned out in their thousands to find out which side was hungrier and whither the destination of the Dan Breen Cup.'

The long road to the county final began months previously with the start of the divisional championships. The first final to be decided was the South on August 13 when Mullinahone crushed Carrick Davins by 5-11 to 0-10 on a day that John Leahy notched up 2-8.

The following Sunday saw Toomevara and Borris-Ileigh fight it out in the North decider at Nenagh. Toomevara were the surprise winners by 0-18 to 1-12.

The Mid final was played on August 26 and this saw Boherlahan-Dualla come good by



ÉIRE ÓG NENAGH – Tipperary Senior Hurling Champions 1995

Back row (l.-r.): Con Howard, John Heffernan, Paul Kennedy, Noel Coffey, Christy McLoughlin, Eddie Tucker, Frank Moran, Denis Finnerty. Front row (l.-r.): Chris Bonar, Michael Cleary, Darragh Quinn, Conor O'Donovan (Capt), Kevin Tucker, John Kennedy.

1-13 to 1-8 in a comprehensive defeat of Loughmore-Castleiney. It was an occasion of great emotion when Seamus Murphy received the Leahy Cup, the first time in 47 years for his club to do so. On the following day at Cappawhite, marred by a sending-off incident at the interval, Cashel came through against Kickhams on a score of 2-11 to 0-10.

At this stage the reader may be wondering where were Éire Óg, Nenagh the ultimate county champions! They had been eliminated from the North championship by Borris-Ileigh in the semi-final but gained a second chance to represent the division by winning



Kevin Tucker (Éire Óg Nenagh) is pursued by Garrett McLoughlin (Boherlahan-Dualla) during the County senior hurling final.

the Hogan Cup. To do so they needed to defeat the championship runners-up in a play-off and this meant another crack at Borris-Ileigh. This took place on August 27 and ended in a draw as a result of a great comeback by Borris-Ileigh, who were ten points in arrears at the interval. The sides were level at 3-8 each at the final whistle. The replay didn't take place for three weeks. Nenagh showed much of the ability and many of the skills that would carry them through to ultimate honours. They scored a magnificent 2-16

from play and deserved more than their 8-point margin of victory on a scoreline of 2-21 to 5-4. In the middle of the second half, as if resting on their laurels, they let Borris-Ileigh through for four goals, which gave a respectability to the scoreboard.

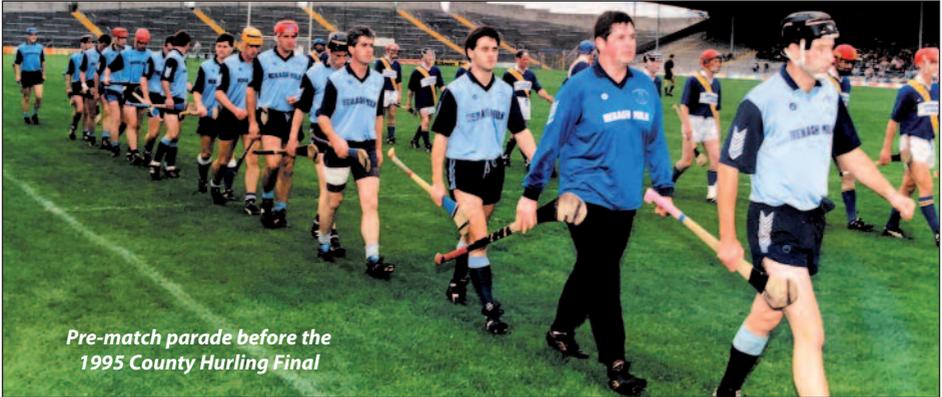
COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP

The draws for the county quarter-finals pitted the North against the South and the Mid against the West. The latter encounters took place in Semple Stadium on September 16.

First up were Boherlahan-Dualla against Kickhams in which the West runners-up gave a very creditable performance and led by two points entering the final quarter. However, a goal by Liam Maher and a flurry of points gave Boherlahan victory by 2-12 to 1-11. In the second game Cashel King Cormacs scored a comprehensive victory over Loughmore-Castleiney by 1-18 to 1-11, with Timmy Moloney scoring ten points of the winners total. The Loughmore goal came from a last-minute penalty by Pat McGrath. Later that evening, with a 5.30 start at Holycross, Toomevara had an easy win over Carrick Davins. Whatever hopes the South runners-up might have had about creating a surprise were shattered in the first quarter, when county minor, Michael Bevans, scored three goals in an eight-minute spell for the North champions. Toomevara won by 4-16 to 3-5.

The last of the quarter-finals was played at Semple Stadium on September 23. Éire Óg, Nenagh gave a lacklustre performance before beating Mullinahone by 2-16 to 3-9. The game will be remembered for the magnificence of John Leahy's display for the losers. He scored 2-7 and his overall performance was excellent. His catching ability, his turn of speed, his ball control, his weaving runs and his striking ability were a delight to watch.

The draws for the semi-finals seemed to point to a Cashel-Toomevara final. Cashel were drawn against Nenagh and were



Pre-match parade before the 1995 County Hurling Final

installed as favourites against a side which had not impressed in the quarter-final. Toomevara had been making steady progress and, although Boherlahan had impressed along the way, hurling wisdom dictated they wouldn't have the class or experience to dethrone the county champions.

The semi-finals were held in Semple Stadium on November 1 with the Cashel-Nenagh game the curtain-raiser. Cashel had wind advantage in the first half and, though not performing well, led by 1-8 to 1-5 at the interval. An Ailbe Bonnar goal midway through the second-half put Cashel seven up, and seemingly heading for a comfortable victory. However, they allowed Nenagh back into the contest and in the final minute, with the lead down to two points, Robbie Tomlinson goaled a stunning winner for the Éire Óg men for a final score of 2-14 to 2-13.

In the second game Boherlahan defied the pundits by dethroning the champions. Against the breeze in the first half they performed quite well and as a result of two goals by Aidan Flanagan and Liam Maher, led by 2-2 to 0-6 at half-time. They continued to play the better hurling in the third quarter and led by 2-8 to 0-8 at the end of the period.

Toomevara then made a great burst and drew level with five minutes to go but Boherlahan held out with points by Phillip O'Dwyer and Conor Gleeson for a 2-11 to 1-12 victory.

COUNTY FINAL

There were great expectations for the final, not only in Nenagh and Boherlahan-Dualla but in the county at large. The freshness and novelty of the opposing sides generated widespread interest. A marvellous crowd turned up to see expectations fulfilled. Nenagh were the bookies' favourites and Boherlahan were unfortunate to be without their free-taking and point-taking forward, Aidan Flanagan, who had injured his wrist in the semi-final. For the first fifteen minutes Boherlahan were very much in the game, having had a dream start with a goal in the fifth minute, which might have been their third. After

twenty minutes the sides were level but after that the Boherlahan challenge began to falter. At half-time Nenagh were ahead by 0-12 to 1-5 and in the driving seat.

The hope of a renewed challenge from the Mid men in the second half never materialised. Instead the crowd saw and outstand-



Eddie Tucker ('Man of the Match') is presented with the trophy by John Quirke (Jeweller).

ing Nenagh performance, which became more fluent and perfect as the game progressed. The players reached into reserves of talent that had been lying dormant for years and gave an exhibition that was uninhibited and brilliant. They caught and struck the ball with ease and accuracy and scored some marvellous points. They clocked up the huge score of 2-25 to Boherlahan's 2-8.

It was Nenagh's day and the heroes were all on their side. The Tucker brothers – both got 'Man of the Match' awards from different sponsors – John Heffernan, Michael Cleary and Paul Kennedy were outstanding, while Conor O'Donovan player a captain's part in the back line. It was a great occasion for Nenagh, an achievement that had proved elusive for over a century and a moment to relish by the captain, when he received the Dan Breen Cup from county charman, Sean Fogarty. In fact, as if making up for having to wait so long for the winners' podium, he gave one of the longest acceptance speeches ever heard in Thurles!

Éire Óg, Nenagh – 1 Christy McLoughlin, 2 Noel Coffey, 3 Conor O'Donovan (capt.), 4 Paul Kennedy, 5 John Kennedy, 6 Frank Moran, 7 Denis Finnerty, 8 Con Howard, 9 Chris Bonnar (0-1), 10 Michael Cleary (0-8), 11 Eddie Tucker (0-3), 12 Kevin Tucker (0-5), 13 Darragh Quinn (0-1), 14 Robbie Tomlinson (1-2), 15 John Heffernan (1-3).

Subs: Declan O'Meara (0-1) for John Kennedy, Ronan Burns (0-1) for Con Howard, Joe O'Donoghue for Darragh Quinn. Also: Gearóid Cleary (sub goalie), Robbie Foley, Derek Conroy, Ton Conroy, Hugh Flannery, Liam O'Gara, Shane Connolly, Donie O'Brien, Phil Hennessy.

Manager: Pat Joe Whelehan. **Selectors:** Liam Heffernan, Billy Flannery.

Man of Match award: Eddie Tucker

Referee: T. J. Corby (St. Mary's).

CLUB OFFICERS 1995

Chairperson: Ger Gavin (RIP)

Secretary: Jimmy Minogue

Treasurer: Jimmy Morris

DIVIDED LOYALTIES

In a piece in the county final match program in 1995, Seamus Leahy wrote about his



Seán Fogarty (Chairman Tipperary GAA Board) presents the Dan Breen Cup to Conor O'Donovan, Nenagh Éire Óg captain.

divided loyalties on the day: 'For 40 years I have felt part of Éire Óg in victory and defeat. My predicament today is that for the same period I have felt part of Boherlahan in victory and defeat. If I learned the initial skills of hurling in Nenagh playing on the Dublin Road by lamplight on winter evenings, in Hodgins' Field and MacDonagh Park, summer was a magical time spent hurling at Kitty's Cross in Tubberadora perfecting those skills, such as they were.

An that is why I can't take the pleasure I would wish in today's game. Whoever wins, I will win with them, But, whoever loses, I will lose with them. May the better team win.

VICTORY AT LAST!

The late 'Digger' Stanley, a dedicated supporter of Éire Óg, Nenagh, wasn't around to savour his club's great victory in 1995, but he was recalled in one of the speeches that followed. At one stage in his life Nenagh were chided for not having a successful team despite the large population the town had.

'What about China', was the Digger's reply, 'look at the population that's there, and not a hurler among them!'

MUNSTER CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP

The county champions had a bye to the Munster semi-final against Limerick champions, Patrickswell, at Thurles on November 12. The game ended is a draw, Éire Óg,

Nenagh 1-14 Patrickswell 0-17. The Limerick side led by 0-8 to 0-5 at the interval, and Nenagh needed a Michael Cleary point from an injury-time free to survive. Nenagh made no mistake in the replay at Limerick Gaelic Grounds six days later, winning by 3-11 to 1-12. The winners led by 2-4 to 0-8 at the interval, and added five points soon after the resumption to ensure a comfortable victory.

Clare champions, Sixmilebridge, proved a bridge too far in the Munster final, played at Limerick on November 26. Although Nenagh were marginally favourites, on the basis of

their fine display in the replayed semi-final, and were level with Sixmilebridge at 1-5 each at the interval, they were overpowered in the second half and had no answer to the power and passion of the Clare champions. The final score was 2-18 to 1-7 and Sixmilebridge thoroughly deserved their 14-point victory.

Éire Óg, Nenagh – C. McLaughlin, N. Coffey, C. O'Donovan (capt.), P. Kennedy, J. Kennedy, F. Moran, C. Bonar, D. Finnerty, C. Howard, R. Burns, E. Tucker (0-2), K. Tucker (1-0), R. Tomlinson, J. Hefernan, M. Cleary (0-5). *Subs:* D. Quinn for Burns, J. O'Donoghue for Bonar, R. Foley for Tomlinson.

Referee: Pat O'Connor (Limerick).

PLAYER PROFILES

MICHAEL CLEARY – Winning the County Senior Championship in 1995 was the pinnacle of a 24 year Nenagh Senior Hurling Career for Michael. A skilful player who gave his all every day. Better known as a forward Michael played most of his hurling at midfield, small in stature, full of heart, skill and determination, Michael was a handful for all his opponents. Still involved in the club giving his time to the next generation of Nenagh camogie players.

ROBBIE FOLEY – Robbie played hurling and football, at all levels in Nenagh Éire Óg, Nenagh CBS, UCD and Michael Cusack's/New South Wales Sydney and was part of many championship winning squads, the highlight being Nenagh Éire Óg's historic senior hurling championship winning squad in 1995. Robbie works as an Engineer in Pfizer, Pharmaceuticals, Cork.

CONOR O'DONOVAN – Conor describes being captain of the 1995 Nenagh Éire Óg, Tipperary senior hurling championship winning team as a great honour. Among other achievements with the club, Conor was also a member of the Junior 'A' County hurling final winning team, five years later in 2000. Played with Tipperary senior team 1984-91 winning two All-Irelands. Long retired, Conor still enjoys hurling in the ball alley with friends and former teammates.

HUGH FLANNERY – Hugh was the youngest member of the Nenagh Éire Óg Championship winning squad in 1995. Hugh was also successful in winning a second Senior Hurling Championship five years later in 2000, this time in Dublin with University College Dublin, where he

lined out at wing back.

DONAGH O'DONNELL – Donagh played minor and u21 hurling with Cork. Fitzgibbon Cup Winner with WIT. Played with Nenagh Éire Óg from 1992 - 1998 and was a Kilmacud Crokes All Ireland 7s winner in 1996. MSc in Applied Coaching. Coach to St Joseph's Nenagh CBS Harty Cup Team when they won the All Ireland 'A' Schools Final in 2013. Limerick Senior Hurling Coach in 2012 and 2013 winning the Munster Championship in 2013. Laois Senior Hurling Coach 2021. Coach/Manager of numerous senior hurling clubs in Tipperary, Clare and Limerick.

SHANE CONNOLLY – Shane won all grades in juvenile hurling and football with Nenagh Éire Óg, including successive county minor hurling final successes in 1991 and 1992, with Shane captaining the 1992 team. Shane went on to represent the club at junior and senior levels. In 1997 Shane was a member of the club's football team that won the county intermediate final. In recent years Shane has been coaching at club and North Division level.

TOM CONROY – Tom played hurling and football at underage level with Nenagh Éire Óg, culminating in county minor hurling honours in 1991 and 1992. In 2000 Tom lined out at centre back for the club's junior 'A' hurling team and played a key role in its county final success that year. Now residing in Galway, Tom is actively involved in underage coaching with Castlegar GAA Club.

ROBBIE TOMLINSON – Robbie played hurling and football at all underage levels with the club and achieved a remarkable feat of winning county medals at U12, U14, U16, U18 and U21 in both codes. A prolific forward, Rob-

bie scored 1-02 in the county senior hurling final in 1995. His match winning goal in the county semi-final versus Cashel lives long in the memory.

KEVIN TUCKER – Kevin played senior hurling with the club from 1993-2015. The positions he played in were corner forward, wing forward and midfield. Kevin's biggest influence was his late father John, who instilled the values and standards of what a club and a team stand for. Kevin scored 4 points in the 1995 county senior hurling final and his most memorable moment was embracing his parents after the final whistle and also their good friend Willie Condon, who came home from America for the match.

EDDIE TUCKER – Eddie cites the 1995 county senior hurling final win as a proud day for Nenagh people, with it being the team's finest hour after defeating a highly fancied Cashel team in the semi-final. Eddie played at centre forward in the county final, scoring 4 points from play and earned the Man of the Match award. Eddie describes the 1995 county senior hurling final win as a very special day for the players' families, the club and the town of Nenagh.

DEREK CONROY – Derek played hurling and football at all underage levels with Nenagh Éire Óg club winning county u21 medals in both codes in 1993. Derek played with the senior hurling team in the earlier rounds of the 1995 championship. Derek went on to play hurling and football with Liam Mellows and St. James's in Galway. Derek is currently involved in coaching Carnmore U10s.

CON HOWARD – Con played underage hurling and football at all levels with Nenagh Éire Óg club. Among his many achievements in both codes Con captained the U16 hurling team to North and County honours in 1988. Con played senior hurling with the club for 12 years and lined out at midfield on the team that won the historic senior county final in 1995.

GEARÓID CLEARY – Gearóid was a member of many successful teams with Nenagh Éire Óg club in both hurling and football at underage level. Gearóid was the sub goalkeeper for the senior hurling county final winning team in 1995. Gearóid subsequently moved abroad and played hurling with Michael Cusacks GAA club in Australia. Following his return from his travels Gearóid lined out at corner forward for the club's junior 'A' hurling county final winning team in 2000.

PHIL HENNESSY – Phil won 2 North senior hurling medals and 1 county senior hurling medal with Nenagh Éire Óg and was 'Man of the Match' in the 1993 North final. Phil represented Tipperary at minor, u21 and Masters winning

Munster u21 and Masters All Ireland medals. Phil's sons Shane and Conor also represented Tipperary at underage. Conor won a North senior hurling medal this year, thereby ensuring 3 generations of the Hennessy family with North senior medals, along with Phil senior in 1957 and 1964. Also, Phil's grandfather Paddy Hennessy won a county senior hurling medal with Toomevara in 1910.

LIAM O'GARA – Liam played with many successful hurling and football teams with his native Nenagh Éire Óg, which include North and county hurling medals in minor, under21 and senior grades. While studying in Mary Immaculate College of Education Liam captained the College hurling team to All Ireland glory when winning the Fergal Maher Cup in 1995. Liam is the son of the renowned former Toomevara and Tipperary hurler Matt O'Gara. Liam would like to acknowledge and thank all the dedicated mentors and officials from within Nenagh Éire Óg, who gave so generously of their time and expertise during his time playing with the club.

CHRIS BONAR – Chris played underage hurling and football with Nenagh Éire Óg. He won North under16B hurling and county under21 football honours. Chris represented Tipperary in football and won Munster and All Ireland junior titles in 1998. Chris lined out a midfield for the team that won the historic county senior hurling final in 1995, scoring a point from play. In 1999 Chris also won a senior hurling championship medal in Dublin with Faughs GAA club. Chris is a Garda based in Cork.

NOEL COFFEY – Noel played at corner back on the victorious 1995 Nenagh Éire Óg team. Winner of numerous underage North and county medals. Noel has been involved with both juvenile and senior management of Nenagh Éire Óg Hurling and Camogie teams. Noel and wife Noreen are parents to three wonderful, sporting children. A passionate Nenagh Éire Óg man.

DONIE O'BRIEN – Donie played underage hurling and football at all levels with Nenagh Éire Óg, which included winning North and county under-21 Hurling medals in 1981 and 1982. Donie was also a member of the victorious junior 'A' hurling team that won North and County titles in 1983. Donie played senior hurling with the club and captained the team to North final success in 1993. Donie was an integral member of the senior hurling championship winning panel in 1995.

PAUL KENNEDY – Paul played underage hurling and football at all levels with Nenagh Éire Óg and enjoyed under-21 North and County hurling championship success in

1982. Paul also enjoyed North and County success in 1983 with the junior 'A' hurling team. In 1992 Paul was captain of the club's senior hurling team when it bridged a 28 year gap by winning the North final. In 1995 Paul lined out at left corner back on the team that won the historic county senior hurling final.

CHRISTY McLOUGHLIN – As goalkeeper Christy won North and County medals at U12, U14, U16, U18, U21 and junior grades in both hurling and football. He also won North and County medals in senior hurling and intermediate football plus North medals in senior football. Christy is also an All-Ireland 7s winner plus he wore the Blue and Gold jersey at intermediate hurling. Christy is a prolific hurling, football and camogie coach who has worked with clubs, schools and divisional teams. He is also a popular referee for both juvenile and adult competitions in both codes. Christy has officiated as umpire in camogie at Munster and All Ireland finals, most recently in Croke Park at the junior All Ireland final. While Christy spent most of his playing career in goals, nevertheless he holds a record for scoring 10-03 in under-13 schools hurling.

DECLAN 'POPS' O'MEARA – Declan played hurling and football with Nenagh Éire Óg winning various juvenile medals during his playing career, including 2 North and 1 county minor along with 2 North and 1 county under-21 in hurling. Declan also won 4 North senior hurling medals plus the historic county senior hurling medal in 1995, scoring a point in the county final. Declan was also a member of the team that won the All Ireland 7s hurling final in 1996. At intercounty level 'Pops' won a Munster minor hurling medal in 1993, plus under-21 Munster and All Ireland medals in 1995.

JOHN HEFFERNAN – John played senior hurling for 21 plus years for Nenagh, winning 3 North, 1 county and 1 Munster club runners up. He was more noted as a solid defender, but played at number 15 in '95. John was top scorer from play on the day scoring 1 goal and 3 points. John will remember these men here today, with incredible pride, honour and friendship. He always said: "Their courage had no boundaries".

JOHN KENNEDY – Having played most of his career to this point as a midfielder or forward, John reverted to wing back for the historic '95 campaign. Prior to 1995 John won county titles in hurling at U12, U16 and U21 levels and represented Tipperary at minor level in 1990. In 1996 John was a member of the team that won the Kilmacud Crokes All Ireland 7s hurling final. John also won

county titles at all ages in football.

JOE O'DONOGHUE – Joe played underage hurling and football with Nenagh Éire Óg winning numerous North and county medals. Joe also played on the team that won the historic county senior hurling final in 1995 when introduced in the 2nd half of the game. In the county semi-final win over Cashel, Joe scored a vital point shortly after being introduced at right corner forward in the 2nd half. In 2000 Joe was a member of the team that won the county junior 'A' hurling final, lining out at left half back.

RONAN BURNS – Ronan won North hurling championships with Nenagh Éire Óg at U16b ('86), Minor ('89) and Senior in '92 and '93 before winning the county senior championship in 1995, the only medal missing from the collection of his father and Tipperary half back of the late 1950s and 1960s Mick Burns. Ronan won a Kilmacud Crokes All Ireland 7s in 1996 along with numerous North football medals (from U16 to senior). Ronan represented Tipperary at under-21 level in both hurling and football in 1992. He also won a Kildare senior hurling championship in 2005 with Celbridge, where he is now based and is heavily involved in coaching camogie at club and county levels.

FRANK MORAN – Frank played hurling and football at all levels with Nenagh Éire Óg. He won 3 North senior hurling titles in 1992, 1993 and 1998. In 1995 Frank manned the centre back position on the team that won the historic county senior hurling final, repelling many Boherlahan attacks on the day. Frank also won numerous football titles including 5 North under-21 and 1 county under-21, 1 intermediate county and 3 North senior titles.

DENIS FINNERTY – Denis played in all 6 county championship winning Nenagh Éire Óg hurling teams from 1978-1983 (2 minor and 4 under-21) and also captained Tipperary in hurling at minor level in 1979 and under-21 level in 1983. Denis was an All-Ireland minor hurling winner with Tipperary in 1980. In 1995 Denis lined out at left half back on the team that won the historic county senior hurling final. Denis also enjoyed a successful career in athletics and represented Ireland at schoolboy, junior and senior level at sprints and hurdles. He is a Pharmacist, working and living in Nenagh.

DARRAGH QUINN – Darragh played underage hurling and football with Nenagh Éire Óg. In 1995 Darragh played at right corner forward on the team that won the historic county senior hurling final, scoring a point from play. Darragh is an Architect, working and living in Nenagh.

REGULATIONS Stáid Semple

1. All persons entering this ground are admitted only subject to the following Rules (which are designated to protect the Health and Safety of all entrants to the ground). Entry to the ground shall be deemed to constitute unqualified acceptance of all of these Rules.
2. The management reserves the right of admission.
3. The instructions of the stewards must be obeyed at all times.
4. All persons entering the ground agree to be searched by a member of the Garda Síochána.
5. Every person (including infants) entering the ground must have a ticket.
6. The following are not permitted:
 - 6.1 Entry upon the pitch or engaging in conduct that causes or is likely to cause injury or harm to, or otherwise interferes with, disrupts, hinders, or distracts a person playing in, refereeing or otherwise having a role in a match at this ground.
 - 6.2 Any unauthorised contact with the boundary wall surrounding the pitch or incursion on to the pitch. Any such unauthorised contact or incursion constitutes a trespass to property.
 - 6.3 The climbing of floodlights or other pylons, stands or other buildings. Such behavior constitutes a trespass to property.
 - 6.4 Throwing of objects onto the pitch.
 - 6.5 Remaining or loitering in any gangway or aisle.
 - 6.6 Behaving in an offensive or indecent manner.
 - 6.7 Bringing of alcohol into the ground.
 - 6.8 Bringing into the ground of fireworks, smoke canisters, bottles, glasses, cans, flags, banners, poles, distress signals, laser pointers and similar articles or containers, including anything which could or might be used as a weapon.
 - 6.9 Excessive noise such as that from use of radio sets, air horns, vuvuzelas or other appliances and behaviour likely to cause confusion or nuisance of any kind including foul or abusive language.
7. If a person commits a trespass, reasonable force may be used to prevent, restrain or terminate any trespass.
8. Where a person is in breach of any of these rules, or where the management believes that a person constitutes a source of danger to others, or to the ground, such person may be refused entry or ejected from the ground, and reasonable force may be used for that purpose.

Safety and General Information

Supporters are asked to respect the fact that they are entering and leaving the stadium through residential areas.

Safety Notice



In the interests of safety, patrons will not be allowed to enter the playing area after the games.

The policy to prohibit such encroachment in the future has been taken to avoid injuries and possible fatality and has been taken on the advice and promptings of the safety authorities, namely the Gardai, Fire Brigade and the HSE.

The full co-operation of supporters is requested to avoid serious injury and to ensure that games can be enjoyed without resource to fencing or avoidable obstructions to seeing action from all vantage points.

Together we can ensure that the Stáid Semple experience is both enjoyable and safe, particularly for the young and vulnerable.

Smoking Policy

Stáid Semple operates a No Smoking policy except in designated areas of the ground.



Medical Assistance

First Aid Centres are located at the four corners of the pitch and at the centre on both sides. Should you require assistance please enquire which is the nearest to you from a member of An Garda Síochána or official steward.



Lost Children

Lost children should be brought to Stewards at the Centre of the Pitch on either side.





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