

KILKENNY GAA YEARBOOK



€10

2002



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KILKENNY G.A.A. YEARBOOK 2002

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EDITORIAL



In years to come, when qualities are being apportioned, the year 2002 anno domini, will be, in all probability, embossed with a high vintage tag. It was just one of those years. Eyebrows were raised, when Brian Cody unveiled his new panel early on. He wasn't too slow in preaching "if these lads can prove themselves, we will go with them as far as it takes us" gospel. His policy unearthed Derek Lyng from unfashionable Emeralds, and Martin Comerford from more fashionable O'Loughlins. The finds of the season went on to win everything, including All-Star Awards in November.

St Kieran's College, and Community College Castlecocker were beaten in the All-Ireland finals in Thurles on the worst day since Noah took up sailing. Cody's new-look team won the Allianz National League final against Cork in Thurles - barely. They went on to win a frantic Leinster final against Wexford, and Nicky Cashin's minors made it a double. They too were looking good. Eoin Kennedy from Dublin reduced the great Ducksie to a mere mortal by beating him in the All-Ireland handball final. Consolation for Kilkenny handball is the fact that Eoin's mother is from Piltown. The Liam "Dunneless" Wexford were forced to play Clare in the quarter final in Portlaoise, seven days after the Leinster final. It was a bridge too far for them - Clare were in the All-Ireland 'seans. Waterford won Munster. Great. Tipp made it to the All-Ireland 'seans too, eventually. Galway arrived after a long tough road through Connaught/ Ulster/ London/ and New York. Clare faced Waterford in the first semi-final. They won because the Decies stars failed to glitter. Kilkenny took care of Tipp. In a blaze of glory, DJ came back, had the proverbial blinder against the Premier, and we were looking forward to the All Ireland Finals - our minors were there too. The good times were back.

The local scene produced striking stuff. Unheralded Fenians finished the aspirations of reigning champs, O'Loughlins. It took them two offerings to accomplish the feat. The same Fenians drew their semi-final against Duinnmággín, were level after sixty minutes in the replay, but were defeated eventually in extra time. Even robots suffer from metal fatigue. Young Irelands remained unbeaten throughout the year, winning leagues and eventually championships. They beat James Stephens in the semi-final of the championship, and took care of Duinnmággín in the final. St Martin's were very impressive in the intermediate campaign, winning with some style. There were some marvellous games at underage level. Carrickshock won the Minor title with something to spare, while James Stephens won the under-21 championship.

Our County Caogie junior team won their All Ireland. Our handballers won titles all over the place.

Radio Kilkenny lost their broadcasting licence. Not so good for us.

Nowlan Park continues to develop. It is looking progressively marvellous.

Paul Simon and Van the Man performed to big crowds. Yes we've seen the best of good times through 2002. May they continue.

During the year we bade farewell to a marvellous Gael, and supporter of our Yearbook, Mick Dunne. We miss him, but I'm sure that he has been press-ganged into re-furbishing a failing PR department in the Alonghty domain.

My thanks to all who helped in the compilation of this all colour- for the first time - Yearbook. Na mílte aithne to the club PRO's, the amateur "scribblers", and to our professionals, Enda Mc Evoy (Sunday Tribune), and Diaraid O'Flynn (Examiner). My thanks to our professional band of terrific photographers, including Ray Mc Manus and his Sportsfile staff, including his helpful wife, Ann, John McIlwaine, Eoin Hennessy, Ignatius O'Neill, and Tom Brett.

I thank all our Yearbook Committee, brilliantly led by Chairman Pat Henderson, our Treasurer, Gerry O'Neill, Tommy Lanigan, Richie Stone, Jimmy Walsh, Ned Buggy, Conor Brennan, Tommy O'Brien, David Carroll, Martin Fogarty, and John Knox NT.

I exhort you to support our advertisers, who are the people who didn't say "No", when I asked for their support.

*Barrie Henriques
Editor*

Foreword



As the end of a year of many triumphs approaches it is my great pleasure to welcome the publication of our annual yearbook, which recalls the golden moments, enjoyed by our schools, clubs and county teams throughout the season. All Ireland final day 2002 will live long in the memory of all Kilkenny hurling followers. Before an attendance of 79,000 spectators in the magnificently renovated Croke Park both our Minor and Senior teams recorded wonderful victories to bring the 17th Minor and 27th Senior All Ireland titles back to our county. Both successes were achieved with the style and skill that is the very essence of Kilkenny hurling and this was acknowledged by all sections of the media in their coverage of both finals. Success in the Minor final ended a nine year barren spell in that grade and was all the more welcome for that reason while victory in the Senior final completed a great League and Championship double. Congratulations to all involved in these outstanding achievements. Congratulations also to our County Junior camogie team and their mentors on their great All Ireland victory. This year also saw the first ever Kilkenny Ladies football team enter the National League and we wish them every success for the future.

Glanbia PLC continue to be most generous sponsors to all our County teams and while this financial support is always appreciated it is particularly so in a year when teams are contesting All Ireland Finals.

Our Supporters Club contribute very generously to all teams and we are greatly indebted to them for their ongoing support also. The All Star presentation night brought further honours to Kilkenny with seven players chosen on the hurling team. Congratulations to Michael Kavanagh, Philip Larkin, Peter Barry, Derek Lyng, Henry Shefflin, Martin Comerford and D.J Carey on their well deserved selections. Special congratulations to Henry Shefflin on his selection as both the GPA and the All Stars Player of the Year. Also to D.J Carey on gaining his ninth award and to Philip and Fan Larkin on becoming the first ever father and son hurling All Star award winners.

The concluding stages of our Senior hurling championship produced many exciting and closely contested games with replays and extra time required to separate teams on a number of occasions before Young Irelands of Gowran eventually emerged as worthy champions for the second time in their history defeating a most skillful and sporting Dunamaggin team.

St. Martins dominated the Intermediate grade winning all three titles. In the championship decider they were pushed to the limit by an emerging Carrickshock team. Blacks and Whites emerged victorious in the Junior final overcoming surprise packets Kilmacow after a closely contested game. In the U-21 A final played in dreadful conditions James Stephens defeated Mullinavat while Carrickshock retained the Minor A title defeating a very young Graigue-Ballycallan team.

Erins Own of Castlecomer won their first ever Senior championship by defeating James Stephens in the county Senior football final. In the Intermediate final O' Loughlin Gaels scored a deserved victory over Mooncoin while Ballyhale Shamrocks were successful in the Junior final.

Kilkenny County Board very much appreciates that all its Championships in both hurling and football are now sponsored

and extends thanks to St. Canices (Kilkenny) Credit Union, Vale Oil, Bus Eireann, JJ Kavanagh & Sons,

Hennessy Sports, Iverk Produce, Michael Lyng Motors, Iarnrod Eireann and Duggan Steel for their ongoing support.

Our primary and second level schools continue to play a vital role in promoting our games. Many people believe that it is the work going on in our schools and colleges that gives us the edge over all other counties. The fact that four Kilkenny schools: St. Kierans College, Kilkenny CBS, Castlecomer Community School and Callan CBS contested this years Leinster A and B Senior finals is an indication of the standard being achieved. The efforts of our county coaches Briain Ryan and Georgie Leahy in this area must also be recognised. It is in the interest of Kilkenny hurling that we continue to support our schools in every way possible.

The work of promoting gaelic football in the county continues. The level of interest displayed in those taking part in the development squads is most heartening as was the displays of our under age inter county teams in various Leinster competitions. Sincere thanks is due to the dedicated people who continue to put time and effort into ensuring our participation in these competitions. Perhaps it is now time to signal our intentions to return to the Senior inter county fold and to bring forward a blueprint to enable us to do so.

The next phase of the redevelopment of Nowlan Park which includes extending and partially roofing the city end terrace, has now commenced. The overall objective is to increase the capacity of the Park to 37,500. This work when completed will further enhance the prospects of staging major championship games in Kilkenny.

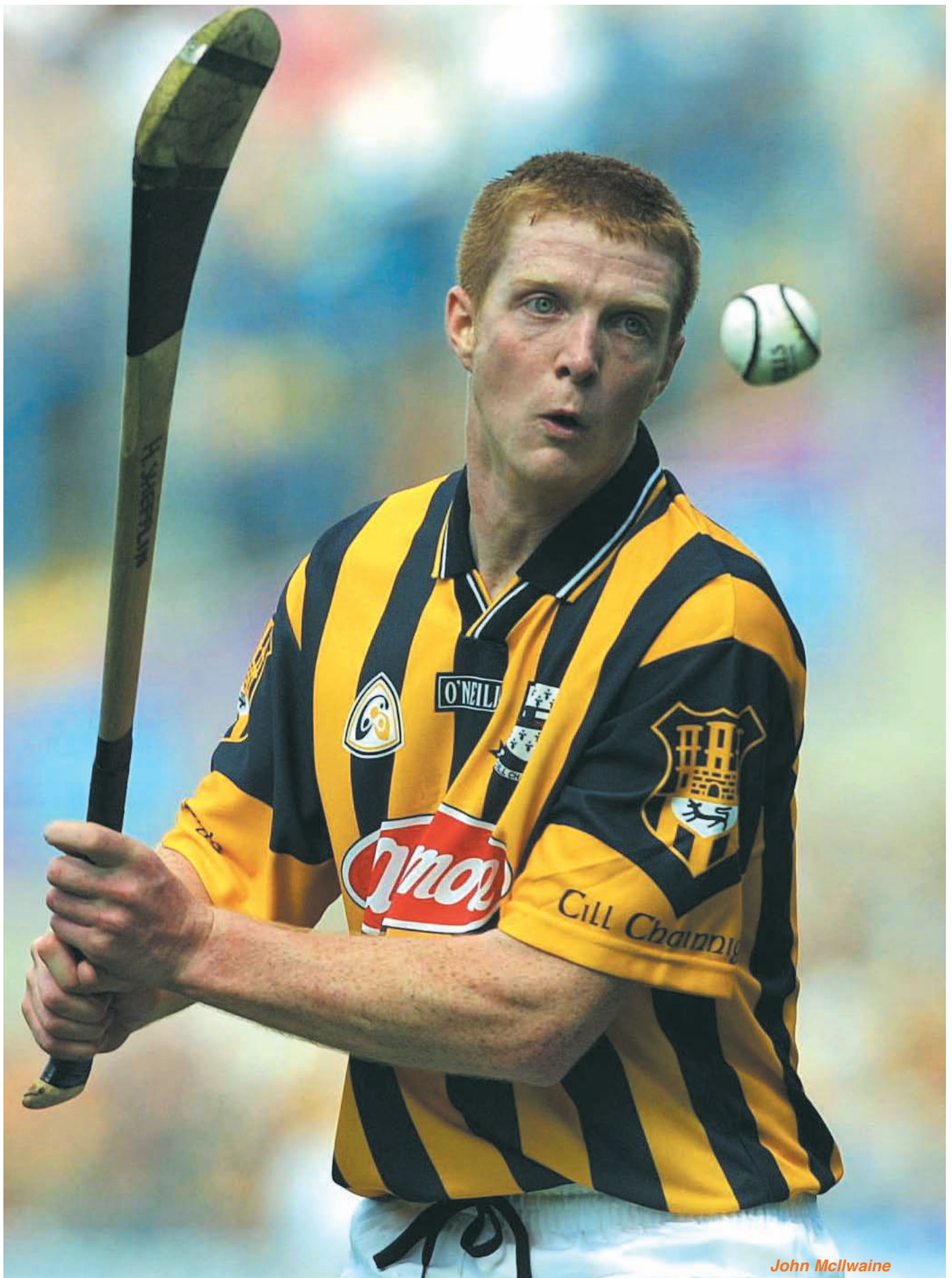
Thanks to the absolute dedication of those involved there were many all Ireland handball successes achieved by players representing our county this year. It is very encouraging to note that the game is enjoying something of a revival at under age level which augurs well for the future. This year also marked the end of a golden era in handball with the decision by the great Michael "Ducksie" Walsh to retire from the game he was graced for so long. It is indeed unlikely that we will ever see his equal again.

The initial coaching and training of players who eventually bring All Ireland glory to our county commences far from the glamour and excitement of Croke Park. It all starts in our clubs and schools and as a county we are deeply indebted to the wonderful voluntary officials and teachers who spend so much time imparting the skills of the game to our young players. To them and to all who helped the promotion of our games throughout the year I extend my sincere thanks.

In conclusion I wish to thank Chairman Pat Henderson, Editor Barry Henriques, Gerry O' Neill and all who contributed to the production of this yearbook which I know will be greatly enjoyed by Kilkenny people everywhere.

Eamon O' Cuinn
Cathaoirleach

Kilkenny GAA Yearbook Committee greatly appreciates the generous support of our Advertisers, without whose faithful sponsorship, this publication would never see the light of day. We earnestly urge our readers to support them at every possible opportunity.



John McIlwaine

**Henry Shefflin,
Players' "Player of the Year", Vodafone "Player of the
Year" - 2002**

GLORY FOR YOUNG IRELANDS!

DJ'S GREAT DAY

County Senior Hurling
Championship
by Tommy Lanigan

In a way it was inevitable. For so many years we have watched him turning in memorable performances against the best that Ireland could offer in a variety of championship finals. We had not seen him at his outrageous best in a county senior hurling final with his beloved Young Irelands. Back in '96 when they won their first title he played very well throughout the campaign and did serious damage in the final itself. Then in 1997, Dunnamaggin sprung an ambush and kept DJ unaccountably quiet in a disappointing final for Young Irelands.

Magnificent Performance

Sunday 27 October 2002 will live long in the minds of those fortunate to have been in Nowlan Park. When the memory of many great games and individual displays will have faded from the mind,

unquestionably, DJ Careys county final performance will live on.

That he scored 2-7 and set up the third Young Irelands goal was an immense achievement. But it was much greater because the quality of 1-3 of these scores was such that no other contemporary hurler could possibly have managed to score them given the tightness of the marking and space available. After all, these scores were filched from Noel Hickey, probably the best full back in the game at present.

Pity Dunnamaggin! They came to the county final superbly prepared, boasting a defensive formation as durable and efficient as any club in the country, a solid midfield and scoring forwards. They could more than match Young Irelands in many spheres of play. But DJ's remarkable talents put a chasm between the sides.

His second goal illustrates the point.

Dunnamaggin defenders had effectively closed down a Young Irelands attack about twenty yards from goal. Suddenly DJ shot out of a ruck of players, two Dunnamaggin defenders approaching with murder in their hearts were sent hopelessly astray by a glorious dummy hand-pass and the net bulged.

Great Team Performance

But the County Final was not just about DJ. Here was a Young Irelands team at peak performance. Martin Carey was sharp and aggressive in goal, Eoghan Farrell strong and skilful at full back, Tom Drennan, Ciaran Carroll, Stephen Byrne, Ciaran Phelan and Cathal Fitzgerald doughty and long striking defenders. The midfield pairing of Ollie Carter and James McDermott complemented each other and played steadily at all times. Jack Carey can take much credit for opening the forward spaces for his col-



YOUNG IRELANDS : ST CANICES CREDIT UNION SENIOR HURLING CHAMPIONS.

Front : James Fitzgerald, David Carter, Martin Carey, Dick Carroll, Steven Byrne, Charlie Carter, DJ Carey, Colm Madden, Alan Doyle, Dermot Madden.

Middle : Tommy Harding, Ollie Carter, James McDermott, Jack Carey, Tom Drennan, Ciarán Carroll, Darragh Phelan, John Drennan, Eric Corcoran, Patrick Farrell, Thomas Carroll, Martin Carter, Pat O'Neill, Liam Phelan.

Back : Ciarán Phelan, Paddy O'Neill, Eoin Farrell, Cathal Fitzgerald, Shane O'Neill, Peter Carroll, Richard Kennedy, Jonathan Dunphy.

Mascots: Sean and Michael Carey.

Photo: Eoin Hennessy.



Richie Hayes (James Stephens) and **Ollie Carter** (Young Irelands) both try to grab the sliotar from the air in their St. Canices Credit Union SHC Semi-Final. *Photo Eoin Hennessy*

leagues and his county final performance, in particular, was a tour de force. Add to these the sniping play of Charlie and David Carter, the opportunism of Dick Carroll and the graft of James Fitzgerald and here is a potent force. You may wonder why these players have not won more than two titles at a time when the county championship in recent years has been won by some mediocre teams. This Young Irelands team has the youth and capacity to win much more. Time will tell if they possess the resolution.

Championship Action

It must be said at the outset that 2002 provided us with an outstanding senior hurling championship. After the shadow boxing of the Credit Union Senior Hurling League and with the county senior and minor teams making huge demands on players, we were still treated to several wonderful club contests. Young Irelands, James Stephens, Tullaroan and Fenians had advanced via the League to the quarter final stages. Champions of last year O'Loughlins made short work of a game, young Mullinavat side by 1-18 to 0-10. Graigue-Ballycallan put paid to a Glenmore team showing signs of age who struggled all year. Ballyhale Shamrocks squeaked past a Dicksboro side in desperate need of scoring forwards by 1-13 to 0-15. Dunnamaggin had a miserable League but it didn't unduly upset them as they crushed a hapless Erins Own by 3-13 to 1-7. Erins Own subsequently lost their senior status for the first time since 1958 losing the relegation final playoff to Dicksboro.

Quarter Finals

The quarter finals produced four outstanding contests. Fenians and O'Loughlins played two wonderful games, the replay and extra time being one of the finest club games ever seen in the county. O'Loughlins surrendered their crown after an enthralling



Ken O'Shea (Dunnamaggin) celebrates after scoring a goal against the Fenians in their St. Canices Credit Union SHC Semi-Final Replay clash. *Photo Eoin Hennessy*

contest, decided when a last second PJ Delaney shot pinballed its way to the city teams net to give Fenians the narrowest of victories. Young Irelands, scoring at will and buzzing with menace, proved much too sharp for a Graigue-Ballycallan in a faultless display and it was evident they were going to be the team to beat. In Thomastown James Stephens held out well to defeat a splendid young Shamrocks side, that was unlucky not to snatch victory at the end of a stirring encounter. Tullaroan, the team who had impressed most in the League led Dunnamaggin by two points with minutes to play. But with the previously rampant Tullaroan forwards well held, the Southerners finished with a flurry of scores to see them through.

Close Semi-Finals

The semi-finals were rugged, not as exciting as the quarter finals, perhaps too tense. Dunnamaggin and Fenians determined to win by the hard route, forced each other to extra time in a replay. A virtuoso point scoring phase during the last few minutes saw Dunnamaggin through by 3-17 to 3-14 in a replay which proved to be a high quality and exciting spectacle.



Philly Larkin (James Stephens) thwarts **DJ Carey** (Young Irelands) during their St. Canices Credit Union SHC Semi-Final clash. *Photo Eoin Hennessy*



DUNNAMAGGIN - COUNTY SH FINALISTS 2002

Back: J.P. O'Neill, Liam Heffernan, Andrew Hickey, Paul Cahill, Ken O'Shea, Mark Heffernan, Seaghan O'Neill, Andrew O'Neill.
Middle: Eamon Kennedy, Noel Hickey, Noel Lahart, Denis Lahart, David Herity, Matthew O'Shea, Kenneth Moore, Jim Hickey, Niall McCormack.
Front: Colin Herity, Tom Hickey, Canice Hickey, Sean Ryan, Brian Mackey, Ramie Cahill, Brian O'Shea.

Photo Eoin Hennessy

James Stephens, led by a brilliant Philly Larkin, almost caused an upset over keen rivals Young Irelands, missing a close range free to go ahead in injury time. Inevitably it was DJ who decided the outcome, having left the field injured a few minutes earlier, returning to the fray to shoot a long range free for a one point victory late in injury time.

Fitting Climax

Never mind the bad weather which as usual dogged some games and postponed the final for a week. It was a

tremendous championship, the best team winning in a great final, garnished by the best hurler at his most accomplished and joyful. What more could we have asked?

The County Final teams:

Young Irelands: Martin Carey (Capt), Ciaran Carroll, Eoghan Farrell, Cathal Fitzgerald, Stephen Byrne, Tom Drennan, Ciaran Phelan, James McDermott, Ollie Carter, James Fitzgerald, Jack Carey, Charlie Carter, Dick Carroll, DJ Carey, David Carter.

Subs: Martin Carter for Ciaran

Phelan, Patrick Farrell for Stephen Byrne, Pat O'Neill for James Fitzgerald.

Dunnamaggin: David Herity, Tom Hickey, Noel Hickey, Brian Mackey, Canice Hickey, Eamon Kennedy, Noel Lahart (Capt), Colin Herity, Denis Lahart, Ramie Cahill, Paul Cahill, Kenneth Moore, Brian O'Shea, Ken O'Shea, Sean Ryan. *Subs: Seaghan O'Neill for Denis Lahart, Jim Hickey for Brian Mackey. Referee: Pat Dunphy (Carrigeen).*



Ger Henderson (Fenians) under pressure from **Brian Kelly** (O'Loughlin Gaels) during their St. Canices Credit Union SHC Clash.
Photo Eoin Hennessy



Dick Carroll, Young Ireland's, in action against **Brian Mackey**, Dunnamaggin in the County Final.
Brendan Moran / SPORTSFILE

Unfinished Business!

County Senior Hurling League
by Tommy Lanigan

At this time of year it is normal to lavish some praise on the winners of the St. Canices Credit Union Senior Hurling League.

Perhaps one might compliment the finalists, praise one or both for going on to glisten in the county hurling landscape or perhaps, as has happened often since the competition was restructured, wonder why neither side has progressed in the business end of the championship. But this year, the second most important competition in senior club hurling in Kilkenny is unfinished and it could well be late Spring of 2003 before Young Irelands and Tullaroan meet to decide which was the most consistent senior side for the first eight months of 2002. The county teams rip-roaring Summer, a



TULLAROAN: ALL-COUNTY SENIOR HURLING CHAMPIONS.

Back : Shane Hennessy, Joe Norton, Liam Simpson, John Coogan, Derek Gaffney, Ken Coogan, Chris Maher, Ned Sweeney.

Front: Mikey Maher, Bill Hennessy, Liam Keoghan, Edward Holland, Patrick Campion, Michael Maher, Tommy Walsh.

Photo: Eoin Hennessy.

delayed County final due to draw games and the progress of Young Irelands through the AIB Leinster Club Hurling Championship all conspired to deprive us of an early resolution to this competition.

Tullaroan, we are sure, are hurting badly. The only team to come through the League unbeaten have thus far an empty trophy cabinet at adult level for the year. Caught on the line by a fast finishing Dunnamaggin in the Championship they were stunned as rabbits in the headlights

of an oncoming truck. They had been unbeaten in all senior games this year. Theirs had been a fine progress indeed. County U-21 champions of 2001, maybe a year before their time, they opened the League in memorable fashion before a huge crowd at a new venue, Urlingford. On a wet May evening they hurled brilliantly to defeat a resurgent James Stephens in convincing fashion. A draw two weeks later against an equally young Shamrocks side was their only League hiccup as they seemed to grow in maturi-

Players who took part in the 2002 Credit Union Senior Hurling Championship

James Stephens

Derrick Brennan, John Morgan, Philip Larkin, Dermot Grogan, Vinnie O'Brien, Peter Barry, Martin Phelan, Richie Hayes, Brian McEvoy, Eoin McCormack, Gary Whelan, Noel Brennan, Niall Tyrrell, Joe Murray, Tomas O'Dowd, Eoin Larkin, Diarmuid Herlihy, Hugh Gannon.

Shamrocks:

John Drennan, Tom Coogan, Pauric Farrell, Willie Coogan, Aidan Cummins, Paul Shefflin, Dermot Ryan, Bob Aylward, Keith Nolan, Tommy Shefflin, David Hoyne, Patrick Reid, Robert Aylward, Henry Shefflin, James Fitzpatrick, Brendan Costello, Michael Dermody, Eoin Reid, Liam Grant.

Fenians:

PJ Ryan, Jason Ryan, Paul Phelan, James Whelan, Declan Garrett, Ger Henderson, JJ Delaney, PJ Delaney, Eoin Beehan, Stephen Grehan, Brian Power, Kevin Power, Brian Ryan, Podge Delaney, Paul Quinlan, Brendan Ryan, Liam McEvoy, Lar Ryan, Michael Phelan.

O'Loughlin Gaels: Kevin Cleere, Barry Power, Michael Holohan, Brian Murphy, Brian Hogan, Andy Comerford, Sean Dowling, Jimmy Comerford, Colin Furlong, James O'Keeffe, Brian Kelly, Martin Comerford, Nigel Skehan, Alan Geoghegan, Brian Dowling.

Graigie-Ballycallan:

Johnny Ronan, Johnny Butler, Damien Cleere, Alan Hoyne, James Ryall, Padraig McCluskey, Ciaran Hoyne, James Young, Denis Byrne, John Hoyne, Robert Byrne, Eddie Brennan, Adrian Ronan, Joe Brennan, Gearoid Cleere, Micheal Hoyne, PJ Pollard.

Glenmore:

Niall Mackey, Fergal Freyne, Eddie O'Connor, Michael Aylward, Paddy Mullally, Willie O'Connor, Michael Phelan, Fintan Walsh, Richie Mullally, Seamus Dollard, Michael 'Tich' Phelan, Shay Vereker, Paul Fitzgerald, John Phelan, Denis Mullally, Michael Murphy, Frank Kirwan.

Dunnamaggin:

David Herity, Tom Hickey, Noel Hickey, Brian Mackey, Canice Hickey, Eamon Kennedy, Paul Cahill, Noel Lahart, Denis Lahart, Brian O'Shea, Sean Ryan, Liam Heffernan, Ramie Cahill, Kenneth O'Shea, Niall McCormack, Jim Hickey, Seaghan O'Neill, JP O'Neill, Kenneth Moore.

Young Irelands:

Martin Carey, Ciaran Carroll, Eoghan Farrell, Cathal Fitzgerald, Stephen Byrne, Tom Drennan, Martin Carter, James McDermott, Ollie Carter, James Fitzgerald, Jack Carey, DJ Carey, Dick Carroll, Charlie Carter, David Carter, Ciaran Phelan, Liam Phelan.

Dicksboro:

Cillian Breathnach, Brian Walton, Ger Henderson, Jimmy Bergin, Dan O'Neill, Tom Henderson, David Carroll, Donal Carroll, Brendan Dalton, Conor O'Loughlin, Darren O'Connor, Shane Prendergast, John O'Gorman, Derek O'Gorman, Sam Morrissey.

Erins Own:

Eamon Holland, Ken Brennan, Philip Shore, Liam Shore, Eoin Rothwell, Sean Meally, Peter O'Donovan, Colm Dunne, John Buggy, Brian Young, Michael Owens, John Feehan, Gordon Byrne, Patsy Brophy, David Buggy.

Mullinavat:

PJ Aylward, Tom Frisby, Ken Butler, Tony Duggan, Sean Farrell, Walter Burke, Liam Murphy, Paul Aylward, Jimmy Rohan, Seamus Holden, John Walsh, Andrew McGovern, Conor Conway, Michael Murphy, Willie O'Dwyer, Mossy Murphy, Michael Dunphy, Kevin Aylward, Damien Conway.

Tullaroan:

Eamon Holland, Bill Hennessy, Liam Simpson, Michael Maher, Tommy Walsh, John Coogan, Ken Coogan, Michael Walsh, Shane Hennessy, Jimmy Coogan, Chris Maher, Paul Doherty, Ned Sweeney, Liam Keoghan, Barry Teehan, Tom Fitzgerald.

ty as the summer progressed.

In Group B only the Village could keep pace seemed, as the city team, uncharacteristically, went on scoring rampages against Shamrocks, Glenmore and Erins Own. They then unravelled against a determined Mullinavat side. The Southerners, last years Intermediate champions, had a fine season in the top flight and with a very good U-21 team coming through, should prove to be a stern challenge for all comers in 2003. The tougher Group A produced some memorable contests with most of them involving either O'Loughlins or Young Irelands. The latter's first outing was a disaster as young, ebullient Fenians cut through 'Irelands at will. The Gowran men recovered quickly to defeat Dunnamaggin, O'Loughlins and Graigue-Ballycallan before hammering a suffering Dicksboro outfit. Fenians truly woeful performance against Graig, when they managed only four points in the hour



Eoin Behan (Fenians) solos the sliotar to safety with **Brian Dowling** (O'Loughlin Gaels) sticking to him, in their SHL game. Eoin Hennessy

was quickly forgotten as they tore Dunnamaggin apart and then defeated O'Loughlins in a smashing encounter, a forerunner of their memorable champi-

onship meetings.

Dicksboro and Erins Own had miserable seasons, compounded for the latter by

Games & Scores - Credit Union Senior Hurling Championship 2002

1st Round	Quarter Finals	Replay	Replay
Graigue Ballycallan 1-19 Glenmore 1-14 Graigue Ballycallan Scorers; A Ronan 0-11 E Brennan 0-3 PJ Pollard 1-0 D Byrne 0-2 James Ryall 0-2 J Young 0-1 Glenmore Scorers; D Mullally 1-3 P Mullally 0-5 M Phelan 0-2 S Vereker 0-1 S Dullard 0-1 J Phelan 0-1 PJ O'Connor 0-1	Young Irelands 5-9 Graigue Ballycallan 1-15 Young Ireland Scorers; D J Carey 3-4D Carroll 1-2 J Carey 1-0 C Carter 0-2 D Carter 0-1 Graigue Ballycallan Scorers; A Ronan 0-7 E Brennan 1-0 J Hoyne 0-3 G Cleere 0-2 D Byrne 0-1 D Cleere 0-1 D Hoyne 0-1	Fenians 3-20 O'Loughlin Gaels 1-25 Fenians Scorers; B Power 1-2 S Grehan 0-4 B Ryan 1-1 P J Delaney 1-0 E Behan 0-3 K Power 0-2 Brian Ryan 0-2 P Delaney 0-2 L Ryan 0-2 P Quinlan 0-1 Whelan 0-1 O'Loughlin Scorers; N Skehan 1-13 J Comerford 0-4 B Kelly 0-2 B Dowling 0-2 A Comerford 0-1 C Furlong 0-1 M Comerford 0-1 A Geoghegan 0-1	Dunnamaggin 3-17 Fenians 3-14 Dunnamaggin Scorers; C Herity 0-10 K O'Shea 2-1 P Cahill 1-1 S Ryan 0-2 R Cahill 0-2 S O'Neill 0-1 Fenians Scorers' K Power 0-7 P Quinlan 1-2 P Delaney 1-1 L Ryan 1-0 E Behan 0-3 B Power 0-1
O'Loughlin Gaels 1-18 Mullinavat 0-10 O'Loughlin Gaels Scorers; N Skehan 0-11 B Kelly 1-1 B Dowling 0-3 J Daly 0-2 A Geoghegan 0-1 Mullinavat Scorers; W O'Dwyer 0-5 M Murphy 0-4 D Conway 0-1	Dunnamaggin 1-12 Tullaroan 0-11 Dunnamaggin Scorers; R Cahill 0-5 K O'Shea 1-0 E Kennedy 0-2 K Moore 0-2 S Ryan 0-1 P Cahill 0-1 D Lahart 0-1 Tullaroan Scorers; J Coogan 0-3 S Hennessey 0-2 B Teehan 0-2 D Gaffney 0-1 T Walsh 0-1 C Maher 0-1 M Walsh 0-1	Young Irelands 0-17 James Stephens 0-16 Young Ireland Scorers; DJ Carey 0-8 C Carter 0-4 J Fitzgerald 0-2 O Carter 0-1 D Carroll 0-1 D Carter 0-1 James Stephens Scorers J Murray 0-10 B McEvoy 0-4 E Larkin 0-1 T O'Dowd 0-1	County Final Young Irelands 3-14 Dunnamaggin 1-15 Young Irelands Scorers; DJ Carey 2-7 D Carroll 1-0 D Carter 0-2 C Carter 0-2 J McDermott 0-1 J Fitzgerald 0-1 J Carey 0-1. Dunnamaggin Scorers; C Herrity 0-7 S Ryan 1-0 R Cahill 0-2 K Moore 0-1 P Cahill 0-1 S O'Neill 0-1 N Lahart K O'Shea 0-1 E Kennedy 0-1
Dunnamaggin 3-13 Erins Own 1-7 Dunnamaggin Scorers; K O'Shea 1-3 R Cahill 1-3S O'Neill 1-1 D Lahart 0-2 C Herity 0-1 K Moore 0-1 L Heffernan 0-1 s Ryan 0-1 Erins Own Scorers; B Young 1-2 D Buggy 0-3 C Dunne 0-1	James Stephens 2-11 Ballyhale Shamrocks James Stephens Scorers; J Murray 1-6 N Brennan 1-0 B McEvoy 0-2 E McCormack 0-2 G Whelan 0-1 Shamrocks Scorers; J Fitzpatrick 0-6 B Hoyne 0-4 H Shefflin 0-3 P Reid 0-1 T Shefflin 0-1 B Costello 0-1	Fenians 1-13 Dunnamaggin 2-10 Fenians Scorers; P Quinlan 1-1 K Power 0-4 E Behan 0-3 S Grehan 0-2 Brian Ryan 0-2 Brendan Ryan 0-1 Dunnamaggin Scorers; K O'Shea 2-1 R Cahill 0-3 S O'Neill 0-3 E Kennedy 0-1 K Moore 0-1 S Ryan 0-1	Relegation Final Dicksboro 2-10 Erins Own 1-11 Dicksboro Scorers; S Morrissey 1-2 D O'Neill 0-5 J Treacey 1-0 B Dalton 0-2 T Bawle 0-1 Erins Own Scorers; B Young 0-6 E Rothwell 1-2 M Owens 0-1 D Buggy 0-1 D Byrne 0-1
Ballyhale Shamrocks 1-13 Dicksboro 0-15 Shamrocks Scorers; D Hoyne 1-1 H Shefflin 0-3 A Cummins 0-2 B Aylward 0-1 T Shefflin 0-1 P Reid 0-1 B Costello 0-1 J Fitzpatrick 0-1 Dicksboro Scorers; D O'Gorman 0-4 S Morrissey 0-3 D Oneill 0-3 J O'Gorman 0-2 B Dalton 0-1S Prendergast 0-1 C O'Loughlin 0-1	Fenians 1-10 O'Loughlin Gaels 1-10 Fenians Scorers; B Ryan 0-3 P P Delaney 1-0 K Power 0-2 E Behan 0-2 S Grehan 0-2 B Ryan 0-1 O'Loughlin Scorers; N Skehan 0-5 B Dowling 1-1 S Dowling 0-2 M Comerford 0-1 A Geoghegan 0-1		

their relegation from the top flight for the first time since 1958.

The semi-finals were games of contrasting quality. Young Irelands were much better than the four point gap over James Stephens in a disappointing game. Fenians and Tullaroan, predictably, came up with the fireworks. A thunderous first game ended all square and while the replay was of fair standard, the extra time needed to get a result was spell binding. Tullaroan, thanks to an outstanding performance from Jimmy Coogan won through and seemed to be the team to beat in the championship. While Young Irelands have gone on to greater things, Tullaroan found within weeks that making it to a league final was a dubious honour indeed, if one cannot match League exploits with championship survival.

This season's League demonstrated amply that you must have above average forwards playing well to win any points in the League. Let us remember that several of the young crop of county senior Cats



League Champions 2002.....**Michael Maher** (Vice-Captain, Tullaroan) receives the St. Canices Credit Union All County League Cup from **Ned Quinn** (Chairman, County Board) after their defeat of Young Irelands in Palmerstown. *Eoin Hennessy*

impressed hugely in the League, notably Tommy Walsh, Jimmy Coogan, Walter Burke and Alan Geoghegan. Add to these the outstanding form of DJ Carey, Charlie

Carter, JJ Delaney, Phil Larkin, Peter Barry, Noel Hickey and the Comerfords and we had a heady mixture to satisfy the most demanding of fans.

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KIERAN'S AND 'COMER SUFFER IN THURLES MONSOON

COLLEGES HURLING REPORT

Although two Kilkenny College teams reached Senior All Ireland finals, both failed narrowly in atrocious weather conditions in Thurles on April 28th.

ST KIERAN'S COLLEGE.

Saint Kierans College won all three Leinster Championship hurling titles in the 2001-02 hurling season. The Juniors got the ball rolling last November. The Seniors beat old rivals the CBS last April and the Juveniles wrapped up the treble last May when they beat a gallant Good Counsel in the Leinster decider.

The Juveniles qualified for the decider with victories over St. Peters, Laois Colleges, CBS and a draw



ST KIERAN'S - LEINSTER SENIOR COLLEGES A HURLING CHAMPIONS 2002

Back: Brendan Doyle, John Tennyson, Mark Heffernan, Pádraig Kennedy, John Lennon, David Prendergast, Niall Staunton, Eamon O'Gorman, James Fitzpatrick, James Hickey.

Middle: Donncha Cody, James Freeman, George Hickey, Eamon Fitzpatrick, Sean O'Connor, Richie Power, James Blanchfield, Darren O'Neill, John Walsh, Damien Bergin, Tom Hogan (Coach)

Front: Ken Archbold (Physio), Willie McCormack, Eoin Reid, Sean O'Neill, Ger Holden, Michael Rice (Capt), John Murphy, Dermot Nolan, Don Callanan, John Quane (Coach), Art Anglin (Mentor).

Photo - Tom Brett



CASTLECOMER CS - ALL IRELAND B COLLEGES FINALISTS 2002

Back: Ned Iawlor (Mentor), David O'Gorman, Conor Kinsella, Steve Mahon, Ciarán Houlihan, Shane Coonan, Michael Boland, Sean Maher, Sean Allen, Paddy Nolan, Thomas Campion, Peter Dollard, Pa Dwyer, David Shore, Terence Fahy (Mentor).

Front: Ronan Walsh, Ronan Maher, Michael Bergin, Alan Healy, Peter Donovan, Eoin McGrath, Shane Cadigan, Robert Shore, Damien Fogarty, Kieran Byrne, Martin Boran, Paddy Brennan, Gavin Dowd and Kevin Maher, Pat Murphy (Mentor).

Missing from photo - David Stone, Ger Cody.

against Birr. In the final Kierans produced a gutsy performance to win the game 1-10 to 1-05. The Saints had brilliant performances through out the year from Niall Lanigan, Neill Prendergast, Steven Shortt, Richie Hogan, John Joe Farrell and Martin Walsh.

Team; N.Cleere, P.Grogan, N.Tennyson, N.Lanigan, J.Dowling, N.Prendergast (C), J.Lawlor, S.Shortt, P.Phelan, E.O'Shea, R.Hogan, T.J.Reid, J.Farrell, L.Muldoon, M.Walsh, D.Sullivan, J.Nolan, L.Brennan, R.Walsh, K.Hogan, D.Cody, M.Culleton, K.Everard, L.Ryan, S.Dowling, M.Lawlor, M.McDonald, D.Walsh, D.Grinseall, P.Deady and M.Rafter.

Earlier in the Juvenile footballers got to the South Leinster Football and were unlucky to lose to a strong Carlow CBS side where two games inside 48 hours proved to be their undoing. They many fine performers through out the campaign including James Dowling, Steven Shortt, Mark Culleton, T.J Reid, Robbie Walsh and Captian Eoin O'Shea.

Panel; P.Barcoe, D.Sullivan, J.Dowling, J.Kearney, S.Shortt, M.Culleton, J.Durney, T.J Reid, J.Brennan, R.Hogan, L.Ryan, N.Lanigan, M.Walsh, R.Walsh, K.Everard, J.Lawlor, E.O'Shea, D.Cody J.Farrell, K.Hogan, L.Ryan, M.Lawlor, D.Waffer, G.Breen, P.Deady, M.Gannon, D.Whitty.

The junior team made an unprecedented attempt at doing the double in football and hurling. Having already won the hurling they fell just an agonising one point short of capturing the Junior Leinster B championship for the first time in 30years to Drimnagh Castle by 1-08 to 2-06.

They displayed character and heart through out the campaign which was epitomised in the trio of John Walsh, Tomais Keogh and three year veteran Adrian Harkin. Donncha Cody and Willie Norton also had good years.

Panel; E.Fitzgerard, D.Cody, P.Butler, T.Keogh, M.Bergin, J.Walsh, P.Walsh, D.O'Neill (C), A.Ryan, A.Harkin, R.Power, W.Norton, P.Hogan, D.Bergin, M.Doyle, C.Brennan, N.Maher, P.Treacy, S.Prendergast, J.Taylor, M.Donovan, K.Quinlan, N.Maher and S.Collins.

Handball

Kierans won two All-Irelands and three Leinster titles. The Hogan brothers, Patrick and Richie, won the 60x30 A and 40x20 A All-Ireland and Leinster titles while Steven Shortt won the 40x20 B Leinster title.

Senior Hurling.

Victories against St Mary's, Dublin Colleges and St Peter's secured a place



ST KIERAN'S - SOUTH LEINSTER JUNIOR B FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS

ST KIERAN'S 1-07 0-06 CARLOW C.B.S (Photo Tom Brett)

Back: Adrian Harkin, Martin Doyle, Michael Bergin, Shane Prendergast, Patrick Hogan, Mark O'Donovan, Kevin Quinlan.

Middle: Niall Connolly (Co-Manager), Paraic Treacy, Philip Walsh, Kieran Brennan, Edward Fitzgerald, Nicky Maher, William Norton, Patrick O'Flynn (PRO).

Front: Thomas Keogh, Aidan Ryan, Donncha Cody, Darren O'Neill (Capt), Richard Power, John Taylor, Richard Windle (Co-Manager). *Missing from Photo:* John Walsh, Damien Bergin, Patrick Butler.

in the Leinster league final. This proved to be a tight encounter with Roscrea snatching the silverware with a goal late on in the match. However, the league proved to be a success in helping the new team management find the fifteen people they wanted for the first round of the championship against Birr CS. This first round of the championship proved to be a non-event with St. Kieran's easily brushing aside the challenge of Birr.

St Marys CBS proved to be a far stiffer test in the Leinster semis with the tie evenly poised at half time, Kieran's leading 1-5 to 1-3. The second half saw a piece of magic from Seaghain O'Neill when he pulled in mid-air from the '21' and the ball flew into the top right hand corner to seal victory by 3-11 to 1-07. The Leinster final was a typical derby match with old rivals CBS providing the opposition. Kieran's dominated the opening twenty minutes leading by 1-06 to 0-1 with the Saints scores coming from Power (2), Reid, Fitzpatrick and Kennedy. Mark Heffernan plundered a goal after 12 minutes and followed up this with a point with the CBS responding with an O'Hara point.

The next ten minutes proved to be a real turnaround. With only minutes to go to the break, CBS scored two goals via Drennan and Dooley. However, Kierans responded from Heffernan to leave it 1-7 to 2-1 to the College.

Kierans weathered CBS's inevitable early fight back and points from O'Neill, Fitzpatrick and McCormack steadied the winners and they brought home the cup

by 1-15 to they brought home the cup by 1-15 to 2-03.

The All-Ireland final proved to be one most closely fought in the history of Colleges hurling with the Saints showing pure grit and determination but ultimately all their efforts proved in vain as they could not find all their efforts proved vain on a weather-beaten Sunday in April. St. Kieran's opted to play with the gale force wind in the first half. The first score of the game arrived in the 12th minute when Michael Rice's side line cut from 40 yards out floated into the goal to give



Stephen Shortt - Leinster 40x20 B Champion with Tom Looby (Teacher)

their confidence a real tonic. This was followed up by a point from Sean O'Connor after some neat play from Dermot Nolan. Colman's tactic to crowd defence proved effective with Kieran's finding it difficult to break them down. Colman's scores arrived in a six minute burst when Patrick Kirby (2), Paul



CASTLECOMER CS - LEINSTER JUNIOR FINALISTS 2002

Back: Pat Nolan, Michael Stapleton, Jimmy Byrne, Thomas O'Dwyer, Gavin Nolan, James Maher, Padraig Haughney, Ronan Maher, Kevin Lawlor, Kevin Phillips, Michael Murphy, Niall Gibbons, Eddie O'Dwyer, Anthony Kelly, Donal Fenlon, Liam Oates, Gerry Brennan, Pat Murphy

Front: Gavin Dowd, John Maher, Tomas Morrissey, Ian Kavanagh, Brian Healy, Mark Murphy, Colin McGrath, Chris Mahony, Michael Morrissey, Joe Maher, Micheal Morrissey, Shane Comerford, Barry Dunne, David Healy.

Kearney and Andrew Shaughnessy all pointed.

The Kilkenny side re-took the lead just upon the stroke of half time with a point from James 'Cha' Fitzpatrick to give them a lead of 1-2 to 0-4.

After the turn Colman's hit the ground running and attacked relentlessly but couldn't find a way past the rock-like John Lennon at John Tennyson and David Prendergast but the Cork men eventually took the lead by the 38th minute with points from Kearney (2) and Relihan.

However, the mighty men from the College were not about to lie down and had retaken the lead within minutes of Relihan's point with Sean O'Connor cutting through the heart of Colman's defence and passing the ball to Eoin Reid who hammered home.

The sides were level with eight minutes to go after points from Condon and Molumphy while the Saints responded from their captain Rice.

The game was poised on a knife edge in these final few minutes with Colman's firing over points via Kearney and O'Shaughnessy. In the dying seconds the fate of this game was decided when Eoin Reid's rocket of a shot was somehow deflected over the bar by Fitzgerald. It wasn't lack of effort that denied Kierans the Croke Cup and there was some truly tremendous performances especially from John Lennon, Dermot Nolan and David Prendergast in the full back line. Michael Rice, John Tennyson and Eoin Reid also had good games Kierans played their hearts out, showing great determination and an unbelievable team spirit through out the campaign. They say you've to lose an All-Ireland to win one. The unfortunate thing is the likes of Rice, O'Neill, Lennon, Heffernan, Holden and Doyle, to name a few, won't be around next time but surely the likes

of Power, 'Cha', Prendergast, O'Gorman and Tennyson will do their utmost to exorcise the ghosts of Thurles 2002.

Well Done

Congratulations to the 28 past and present pupils from St. Kierans who won senior and minor All-Ireland titles. Managers Brain Cody and captains Andy Comerford and Michael Rice are past students while minor manager Nicky Cashin currently is a member of the Colleges teaching staff.

Thank You

St. Kierans College would like to thank all those who supported them through out the year and look forward to their continued support in the future.

CASTLECOMER COMMUNITY SCHOOL.

The story of the year for Castlecomer Community School was their senior hurling team's successful run to the 2002 All Ireland Colleges 'B' hurling final.

Having received a bye to the Leinster quarter-final, the team had to be content with training sessions and challenge matches before Christmas. Their campaign started in earnest in February where they came out with a two point win over a very good St Rynagh's (Banagher) team. On a wet, miserable day out in Clogh, both teams served up a thriller, the highlights of which being a couple of superb saves by goalie Robert Shore and a brilliant individual goal from Alan Healy in the second half.

On to the Leinster semi-final then where the 'Comer boys faced near neighbours Heywood CS in a local derby. And, in typical derby fashion, it proved a tight

dogged match with 'Comer eventually running out four points winners.

In the Leinster final, Castlecomer faced the team who beat them in last year's decider, Callan CBS. Callan had come from behind twice in their semi-final; once to force a replay, and twice to force extra-time in that replay; so they were always going to be a tough nut to crack. It took a long time to crack that nut but, with about ten minutes to go, a Shane Coonan goal gave 'Comer the edge that saw them run out five points winners over a gallant Callan team. It was Castlecomer's first Senior Leinster title in fourteen years but despite this, the atmosphere in the 'Comer dressing room afterwards was one of relief more than anything else, especially having lost the two previous deciders.

The All-Ireland semi-final was held a mere four days later against St. Patrick's Maghera in the Fingallian's Club in Dublin. Despite some confusion over the directions, everyone managed to get there on time. A brilliant first-half goal by Eoin Mc Grath sent 'Comer on their way to a ten point win, although it wasn't until the last ten minutes that the Kilkenny lads were able to pull away from though Northern opposition.

All-Ireland day had all the ingredients for a great day for College's Hurling in Kilkenny. In the 'B' final, Castlecomer were to face Tipperary Town CBS, while in the 'A' final, St Kieran's were to face St Colman's. Everything was ripe for a great day's hurling— except the weather. All four teams were forced to play in freezing cold, gale force winds and driving rain. This didn't suit a young Castlecomer team encountering physically stronger opposition. Playing into a gale force wind, 'Comer managed to

hang in there for the first twenty minutes of the first-half. Then disaster struck—two Tipperary goals in five minutes saw them open up a thirteen point lead by half time. However, at a time when many would have given up, the 'Comer lads dug deep and came out fighting in the second half. Eight unanswered points in a row saw them claw their way back to within five points of their opposition. Then came an absolute downpour of rain which made it nearly impossible to score, and 'Comer hit five wides in a row. Although they tried desperately for those last couple of scores in the closing minutes, it just wasn't to be and Castlecomer's dream of All-Ireland glory ended at the wrong end of a four point defeat in the wind and the rain in Thurles.

However, it was a matter of some consolation and great pride that three of the team, Shane Coonan, Alan Healy, Shane Cadigan and Castlecomer past-pupil, Shane Dowling went on to win All-Ireland minor medals with Kilkenny.

Outside of hurling, the main success story in the school this year were the school's handballers who, as usual, excelled themselves. Paul Byrne and Thomas Hughes won the Leinster and All-Ireland U-17 60x30 doubles. Sean Maher and Thomas Campion were beaten in the Leinster U-18 doubles final by eventual All-Ireland champions, Wicklow CBS. Graham Lawlor and Kevin Philips won the Leinster U-15 doubles in 40x20 and 60x30. While in 1st Year Girls, Marie Therese O'Neill and Claire Love won the Leinster doubles in 60x30 and 40x20.

Leinster Junior Championship:

Hurling in Castlecomer Community School this year ended well however with a great run by the schools Junior (U-16) team who reached the school's first Rionn 'A' final, at that age group, since 1987. On their way to the final they started off with a comfortable win over Westmeath Colleges. They then went on to overcome the stiffer challenge of Kilkenny C.B.S., before overcoming a determined St Peter's College (Wexford) with only two points to spare in a thrilling semi-final in Thomastown. Three days later Castlecomer' faced a well fancied Good Council College (New Ross) in the final in Dr. Cullen Park, Carlow. Despite having the advantage of playing with the stiff breeze in the first-half Castlecomer found themselves in the difficult position of being five points in arrears at the break. Their woes were added to when 'Council tacked on a point straight after the break. However out of a seemingly impossible situation 'Comer managed to fashion what was later, rightly, called 'a magnificent comeback' by bothe Irish Examiner and The Irish Independent. Shane Comerford finally



ST BRIGID'S COLLEGE CALLAN - WINNERS OF THE FIRST YEAR CAMOGIE BLITZ.
Back: Elaine O'Shea, Áine Delaney, Elaine Murphy, Kay Ryall, Claire Coonan, Aisling Pollard, Stacie Power, Gillian Collins, Elaine Phelan.
Front: Stephanie Power-Maher, Edel O'Hara, Jill McDowell, Kate Hoynes, Ann Marie Phelan (Capt.), Rita Freyne, Shauna Fennelly, Kelly Ann Brennan, Aisling McCormack.



COLÁISTE ÉAMON RÍS CALLAN - RICE CUP WINNERS 2002
Back: Robbie O'Brien, Bill McCormack, Robbie Ryan, Eoin Wall, Robbie Wall, Darran O'Connell, Conor Lonergan, Mark Nolan, Pádraig Daly.
Middle: Barrie Henriques (Coach), Joe Mulcahy, Chris Walsh, Pierce Doheny, Richie Norton, Tomás Collins, Derek Brennan, Keeith O'Dwyer, Paul Roche, Derek Hartery, Catherine Rice-Kelly (Trainer).
Front: Liam Kennedy, Brendan Grace, Damien Kennedy, Ian Hennessy, Eoin Fahey (Capt.), Brendan Grace, Enda Fogarty, Adrian Burke, Dermot Ronan (Trainer).
Photo: Ignatius O'Neill.

equalised for Castlecomer with a minute to go the two most likely outcomes seemed to be, a 'Comer victory or extra-time. However 'Comer's efforts ended in heartbreak again when 'Council full-forward J.J. Kelly struck over the winning point in the fifth minute of injury time. For the sheer bravery of their comeback in a brilliant game of hurling Castlecomer's U-16's can hold their heads up high.

COLÁISTE ÉAMOINN RÍS

Callan CBS last tasted Rice cup success seven years ago. This year they ploughed a long hard furrow, before capturing the prestigious trophy again. Opening their campaign against Clonmel CBS, they won comfortably by 5-6 to 1-4.

Their second outing against local rivals, Kilkenny CBS was a far more difficult assignment, but they emerged victorious on a score of 2-9 to 3-4. The quarter-final saw them pitted against Clare opposition, Ennis CBS. Again, the Callan lads showed great resilience, and came away with a creditable win; 2-15 to 1-8. On a dreadful day in Thurles, Callan faced Nenagh in the semi-final. A far bigger team, were the Tipp lads. In a frantic game from start to finish, the Callan boys just about got up on the line to win by a single point - 0-12 to 0-11. Players like Bill McCormack, Robbie Ryan, Derek Hartery, Keith O'Dwyer, Paul Roche, little Ian Hennessy, and Joe Mulcahy really gave every ounce of their ability in the winning of this marvellous game. The final against Thurles CBS in

Templemore was a terrific exhibition by two marvellous teams. They were level on seven occasions, and at the end it was going to take that little bit of extra luck to win the game. The Callan lads availed of it, when, in injury time, Joe Mulcahy slipped over the winner. An historic day for the Coláiste Éamon Rís, and one not to be forgotten by the entire panel. The final score read:
Coláiste Éamon Rís 1-9 Thurles CBS 1-8.

ST BRIGID'S COLLEGE, CALLAN

St. Brigid's College Callan participated in six competitions in 2002 – Senior A, Junior B, Minor B, Leinster 7-a-side (2001 and 2002) and The Kilkenny First Year Blitz.

In the Senior A, Callan were very unlucky not to beat Loreto Kilkenny who represented Leinster in the All-Ireland Semi Final.

The Junior B team was more successful reaching a Leinster Final with victories over Scoil Arigeal, Ballyhale and St. Fegal's Rathdowney. However, Presentation Wexford were too strong for the Callan girls in the Final.

At Minor level, St. Brigid's beat Haywood Community School Co. Laois but were unsuccessful in the semi final against Presentation Kilkenny.

Because of the Foot and Mouth epidemic in 2001, the Leinster 7-a-side competition was not played so it was decided to play it in 2002. St. Brigid's had a very strong team with Aoife Neary, Jacqui Frisby, Phena Heffernan, Gráinne Brennan, Therese Muldowney, Julieanne Woodcock, Ailish Keneally, Patricia O'Neill, Aileen Cunningham, Laureena Murphy and Mairéad Lutrell. This team convincingly defeated Loreto Kilkenny in the Leinster final. In the All-Ireland semi final they lost by a single point to St. Mary's Charleville who have won the competition for the past few years.

St. Brigid's also competed in the 2002 7-a-side competition. Yet again they qualified for the All-Ireland series but were unsuccessful. Therese Muldowney, Aileen Cunningham, Mairéad Lutrell, Ann Marie Phelan, Elaine O'Shea, Kay Ryall, Aisling Pollard and Linda Sweeney were part of this series. Kilkenny camogie run a First Year Camogie Blitz every year but St. Brigid's hasn't been very successful over the last few years. However, 2002 will be remembered fondly by 18 St. Brigid's College students who brought the trophy back to Callan. They beat Presentation Secondary School, Coláiste Mhuire Johnstown, and Loreto B to reach the final against Loreto A which they won in great style. Ann Marie Phelan was captain for the day and was helped by Elaine O'Shea, Kay Ryall, Aisling Pollard, Gillian Collins, Kelly-Ann Brennan, Shauna Fennelly, Claire Coonan, Elaine Murphy, Edel O'Hara, Stacie Power, Stephanie Power Maher, Áine Delaney, Rita Freyne, Kate Hoynes, Jill McDowell, Elaine Phelan and Ailing McCormack.

St Brigid's College had many representatives on Kilkenny Camogie Team, On the Kilkenny under-14 Panel, Ann Marie Phelan, Kay Ryall, Elaine Phelan, Claire Coonan and Elaine Murphy all received Leinster Championship medals. Julieann Woodcock, Phena Heffernan and Therese Muldowney were on the Minor Panel, While Aoife Neary, Jacqui Frisby and Ailish Keneally won Leinster U-18 medals.

Aoife Neary and Jacqui Frisby both played for Kilkenny Senior team. Kilkenny's Junior team won the All-Ireland Junior Championships and a proud Jacqui Frisby captained the side. Aoife Neary received the Player of the Match and was also awarded a Smithwicks Award for camogie. Ailish Keneally was a member of the All-Ireland winning panel.



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Brigid's Win Senior Thriller

By Tommy O'Brien
Kilkenny Camogie Board PRO

ST BRIGID'S 2-3 ST LACHTAIN'S 0-7

Two goals by star forward, Sinéad Millea, towards the end of the first half were the vital scores in this extremely well-contested senior camogie county final and were the downfall of St Lachtain's who found winning 5 county titles in a row just one step too far.

Freshford had annihilated the Ballycallan girls when they met in the league but this certainly did not appear to worry St Brigid's as they showed rare purpose right from the start.

The winners had the wind in the first half but it was Freshford who attacked right from the start. Ballycallan absorbed 8 minutes of intense pressure before the first crack appeared. Eileen Fitzpatrick gathered a great pass from Marie O'Connor but her

effort at goal was brilliantly saved by Bronagh Neary.

Just a minute later Marie O'Connor decided to do the job herself and shot left handed over the bar for the opening score. Four minutes later the scores were level. Trish O'Neill soloed through the Freshford defence but was fouled and Sinéad Millea sent over the equaliser.

After 14 minutes of the half Jillian Dillon Maher looked set to score when she raced past hard tackling Pauline Comerford but she was fouled before she could shoot and it gave Marie O'Connor the opportunity to put Freshford ahead once more. Caitríona Cormack (St L) then soloed through brilliantly but shot just wide. St Brigid's got two chances of equalising but both frees—far out on the right sideline—were sent wide by sharpshooter Sinead Millea.

Sinead got a further chance—this time on the left sideline after Margaret Comerford was fouled—but once more her effort went wide. Sinead Millea had a great solo run stopped when she was ruled to have overcarried the ball while a similarly fine run by Jillian Dillon Maher ended in another great Bronagh Neary save.

With 5 minutes to go in the half, St Brigid's sowed the seeds of victory. Sinead Millea was fouled and sent the resultant free to the net for the lead. A minute later Tracy Millea was fouled as she stormed towards goal and once more her sister planted the ball high into the net. This left St Brigid's 2-1 to 0-3 ahead.

Marie O'Connor and Sinead Millea swapped pointed frees before a huge clearance by Tracy Millea found her sister Sinead close to goal. A goal looked imminent but the backs converged on Millea and she was brought to the ground. The resultant penalty was well saved on the line by Paula Dowling but deflected over the bar to leave the half time score:- St Brigid's 2-3 St Lachtain's 0-3.

St Lachtain's began the second half with great determination



ST BRIGIDS - COUNTY SENIOR CAMOGIE CHAMPIONS 2002

Back: Aisling Byrne, Kay Dunphy, Ann-Marie Ryall, Laureena Murphy, Deirdre Phelan, Josie Ronan (Selector), Tracy Millea, Martina Comerford, Margert Comerford, Caitríona Muldowney, Ann-Marie Young, Alison Pollard, Andrea Murphy, Bernie Ryall, Pat Treacy (Trainer, Manager).

Front: Sinead Millea (Player of the Match), Kathy Kennedy, Trisha O'Neill, Therese Muldowney, Sinead Quigley, Ursula Walton (Capt.), Deirdre Tracey, Una Hennessy, Pauline Comerford, Deirdre Sullivan, Bronagh Neary, Lizzie Teehan.

Photo Eoin Hennessy

and a first minute free by Marie O'Connor was cleared. Almost immediate Freshford came back and a high ball fell among back and forwards but this dangerous situation was rescued for Ballycallan by their top class goalie, Bronagh Neary, who grabbed the ball confidently from just under her crossbar and cleared.

Marie O'Connor was using her speed and elusiveness to good effect at this stage and she went on a fine solo run which was stopped by an illegal tackle. Marie was shaken by this and Esther Kennedy took over the free taking role for a while. Esther's first effort was well placed but St Brigid's captain Ursula Walton grabbed the ball and cleared her lines in fine fashion.

After 12 minutes St Lachtain's brought Marie Maher into play and she almost had an instant impact but her shot for goal went just wide. A free by Esther Kennedy had a similar ending before Marie O'Connor registered the first score of the half, a point from a free after 13 minutes.

Kilkenny captain Esther Kennedy was really trying to get St Lachtain's going and she looked set to cause panic in the St Brigid's defence when she set out on a solo run. Her run was stopped when she was unceremoniously upended—but referee Paddy Neary had already blown the Kilkenny star for catching the ball 3 times. The final minutes were approaching before Freshford had another score, yet another Marie O'Connor point from a free.

The last 5 minutes were intensely absorbing as St Brigid's tried to button down the hatches while St Lachtain's used all their experience and expertise to prise open a defiant defence. Tracy Millea, Ann Marie Young and Pauline Comerford brought roars of approval from the crowd as they cleared ball after ball. With 27 minutes gone Marie O'Connor scored a point to leave a goal between the sides.

And still the waves of attack came from St Lachtain's. And once more it was a pointed free from Marie O'Connor. A goal at this stage for St Lachtain's would give them a last minute victory but it was St Brigid's who attacked and a great opportunity to seal victory went a-begging when the chance of a goal was spurned.

And still St Lachtain's were not beaten. They had to go for goal now but the St Brigid's defence was not for turning and the Ballycallan followers roared their approval when the final whistle meant they had regained the title after 7 years.

Sinead Millea won the "Player of the Match" trophy but she must have felt that her backs had really given her the springboard for many of the attacks. All the Ballycallan backs were in tremendous, unyielding form with goalie Bronagh Neary and backs Tracy Millea, Ann Marie Young and Mag Comerford in outstanding form.

Pauline Comerford had a tremendous game at midfield with her partner Ursula Walton playing a real captain's part.

Sinead Millea showed class every time she touched the ball scored all her side's scores but was well assisted up front by Ann Marie Ryan and Trish O'Neill.

St Lachtain's began well with Mairead Costello dominating in defence and Jillian Dillon Maher showing all her old power and skill leading the attack. Mairead Costello got great assistance



Ursula Walton (Capt. St. Brigid's) receives the Senior Camogie Cup from **Liam Dunne** (Chairman, Camogie Board). *Eoin Hennessy*



No holding back.....**Therese Muldowney** (St. Brigid's) tries to slow down the attacking run of **Esther Kennedy** (St. Lachtain's) during their Senior Camogie Final Clash. *Eoin Hennessy*

in defence from Paula Dowling, Eimear Connery and Mairead Lawlor. Esther Kennedy—especially in the second half—exuded class at midfield while Jillian Dillon Maher's attack was best served by Caitríona Cormack while Marie O'Connor was almost unstoppable in attack. Her ability to pick to ball quickly and her speed off the mark gave countless headaches to the St Brigid's defence and, like Sinéad Millea, Marie scored all her sides scores.

St Brigid's: Bronagh Neary, Deirdre Treacy, Tracy Millea, Bernie Ryall; Therese Muldowney, Ann Marie Young, Margaret Comerford; Pauline Comerford, Ursula Walton (Capt.); Ann Marie Ryan, Sinead Millea, Deirdre O'Sullivan; Trish O'Neill, Sinead Quigley, Una Hennessy
Subs Andrea Murphy, Deirdre Phelan

St Lachtain's: Helen McGrath Burke; April Purcell, Paula Dowling (Capt.), Fiona Dowling; Eimear Connery, Mairead Costello, Mairead Lawlor; Esther Kennedy, Margaret Kavanagh; Caitríona Cormack, Jillian Dillon Maher, Aoife Fitzpatrick; Eileen Fitzpatrick, Marie O'Connor, Danielle Minogue
Subs: Marie Maher, Mary C Ryan

Referee: Paddy Neary (James Stephens)

JUBILATION!

How Kilkenny won their 27th title - by *Barrie Henriques*

The announcement by the Kilkenny selectors of their Championship panel caused some surprise and no little debate. Gone were Eamon Kennedy, Denis Byrne, Paul Sheehan, Kevin Power, Kieran Rafter, Dermot Grogan, Eoin Behan, and Steven Byrne. Some of the old guard returned. Charlie Carter was one such, and Brian McEvoy was another. James Ryall (Graig Ballycallan), Jimmy Coogan (Tullaroan) and Walter Burke (Mullinavat) were added. Still no DJ Carey.



season

Kilkenny: James McGarry, Michael Kavanagh, Noel Hickey, Phil Larkin, Richie Mullally, Peter Barry, JJ Delaney, Derek Lyng (0-1), Pat Tennyson (0-1), John Hoyne (1-0), Henry Shefflin (0-11, 0-4 frees) Andy Comerford (Capt), Eddie Brennan (1-1), Martin Comerford, Steven Grehan. *Subs:* Brian McEvoy (0-2), Charlie Carter (0-4), Brian Dowling.

Kilkenny now faced Wexford, who had beaten Dublin by six points in the other semi-final in Thurles. The new Croke Park was the venue, where a surprisingly low 37,567 turned up to watch. Selectors and officials were at

pains to quell the groundswell of over confidence permeating through supporters within the county. The media too, were carrying wads of the same confidence in their columns.

The game was the traditional fire and brimstone affair, with the lead changing hands four times in the first half alone. By half time, Kilkenny had a very edgy lead of two points— 0-10 to 0-8. Wexford were to pay a huge price for dreadfully bad shooting in the second half, combined with the dismissal of wing back Liam Dunne for an indiscriminate pull on Martin Comerford. Newcomers Derek Lyng, Richie Mullally, and Martin Comerford can look back on this game with marvellous satisfaction. The defensive work of Noel Hickey, Philly Larkin, JJ Delaney, Peter Barry and Richie Mullally provided the launchpad for this teak-tough, well fought, and record-equalling Kilkenny win.

Kilkenny: James McGarry, Michael Kavanagh, Noel Hickey, Philip Larkin, Richard Mullally (0-2), Peter Barry, JJ Delaney, Derek Lyng (0-2, one free), Andy Comerford, John Hoyne, Henry Shefflin (0-8, six frees), Brian McEvoy (0-4), Eddie Brennan (0-2), Martin Comerford, Charlie Carter.

Subs (used): Stephen Grehan, Alan Geoghegan, Sean Dowling, Brian Dowling (0-1).

It didn't take too long for the pairings in the All-Ireland semi-finals to be finalised. Clare took out Dublin rather easily, and a weakened Wexford even more easily, much to the chagrin of Wexford officialdom. Tipperary stormed through too, at the expense of Offaly and Antrim. Galway arrived via comprehensive wins over Cork

and Down.

The back-door system dictated that Tipperary could not face Clare in the semi-finals, so it was the Marble against the Premier in one 'semi, while the Tribesmen would face the Banner in the other.

The great DJ Carey finished all speculation, when he returned to training within a media glare and flash of Oscar proportion. Young Tommy Walsh from Tullaroan was brought on board as was Mooncoin's Diarmuid Mackey.

A surprisingly small crowd of less than 54,000 was in Croke Park for the second All-Ireland semi-final between the oldest of rivals, Kilkenny and Tipperary. Brian Cody and his fellow selectors ended all the speculation about whether they would start DJ Carey, when he was named at left corner forward.

Nervous Kilkenny support trekked towards Croke in their thousands, but they were hugely outnumbered by the supporters of the reigning Champions.

This was probably the best game that Kilkenny had played for two years. Tactically, they won hands down. In typical Kilkenny fashion, individual players dictated the plot on their own stage. Philly Larkin for instance, knew that he would have to observe the two Fs- first and fast - if he was to negate the considerable threat that Eoin Kelly posed. He was the personification of corner back perfection. He had a shaky opening seven minutes or so, but he re-adjusted his focus, and sailed on to merit solid support from many as a Man-of-the-Match nomination. He was not alone. Prior to the game, John Carroll posed a huge threat. Was there any Kilkenny defender capable of holding the marauding, straight-running Tipp centre forward? – we won-

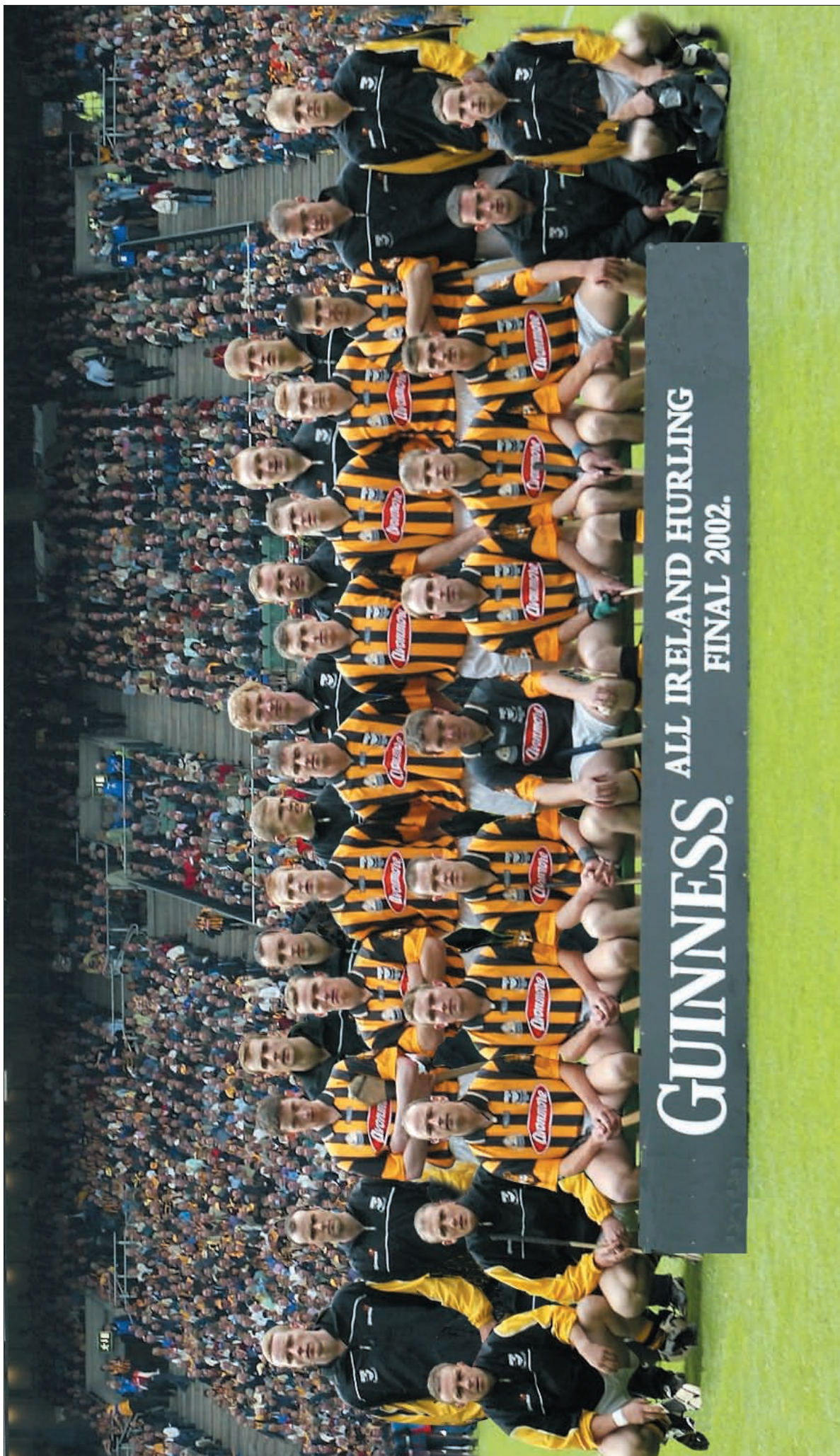


Photo John McIlwaine

KILKENNY - ALL IRELAND SH CHAMPIONS 2002

Back: Aidan Cummins, Alan Geoghegan, Tommy Walsh, John Power, PJ Ryan, Walter Burke, Diarmuid Mackey.

Middle: James Ryall, Brian McEvoy, Martin Comerford, Noel Hickey, Henry Shefflin, John Hoyne, Derek Lyng, Jimmy Coogan, Peter Barry, Philly Larkin, Sean Dowling, Paul Cahill.

Front: Charlie Carter, Steven Grehan, Andy Comerford (Capt.), Eddie Brennan, Michael Kavanagh, James McGarry, DJ Carey, JJ Delaney, Richie Mullally, Brian Dowling, Pat Tennyson.



Richard Mullally, Kilkenny, in action against Clare's **Tony Griffin**, left, and **Niall Gilligan**, All Ireland Hurling Final.
Aoife Rice / SPORTSFILE

dered. After the greatest performance of his life in the black and amber shirt, Peter Barry was entitled to scold, with "Oh you of little faith!" He was a colossus at centre back. He maintained such a concentrated energy through the seventy minutes, that he left the supporters searching for oxygen masks long before the finish.

There have been many great games in the past— emotion-filled, highly-charged, skillful contests – but it is very doubtful if any encounter left players and supporters so drained, so emotional, so thrilled as did this epic.

All the baggage was jettisoned in an explosive start. No shadow-boxing, no nice-guy antics. The players threw themselves into the white heat of activity from the bell.

Tackles were delivered with bone-crushing regularity. Some were avoided, more hit the target. Players got up - eventually - and raced back to the battlefield. Hickey, Larkin, Kavanagh, Barry, Mullally and Delaney defended their outposts as if

someone was trying to snatch the family jewels. Further afield, captain Andy Comerford, re-discovered his own special all-action brand of hurling as we knew he would. His partner, Derek Lyng from the Emeralds in Urlingford, added yet another superlative to his already bulging hurling CV.

Up front, Henry Shefflin led the Tipp defence a merry dance. He added another dimension to his play - steel. He charged through the Tipp defence, taking route one most of the time.

With John Hoyne on his right and Brian McEvoy on his left, they caused an inordinate number of problems for the vaunted Tipp half back line of Noel Morris, Eamon Corcoran and Paul Kelly. However, it was the inside line of attack that proved the real match-winners for Kilkenny. Martin Comerford showed no respect for the reputation or ability of Philip Maher. Eddie Brennan too, though not having his best game in the black and amber, showed some of his former brilliance, but all eyes on this sector were levelled in the direction of the King from Gowran. It is hard to comprehend



Captain, **Andy Comerford** delivers in the All Ireland Final
Brian Lawless / SPORTSFILE

the pressure that must have been on the shoulders of DJ. After all the ballyhoo, he was in a no-win situation. He was inspirational. The lads around him visibly responded to his industry. Kilkenny's goal was virtuoso Carey. He collared the sliothar within the shadow of the Hogan Stand, thirty-five metres from the goal line. An instinctive acceleration across the park towards the centre, found him confronted by three Tipperary backs. A slight hesitation seemed to unhinge the Tipp men. Carey spotted the hesitation, scythed through a gap in the defences, raced goalwards, and, as he coaxed the full back line into moving to his right to cut off the obvious pass to Charlie Carter, who had raced alongside Carey for the duration of the run, El Maestro passed the ball to his left side, to the less patronised Jimmy Coogan, whose shot left Brendan Cummins pawing at fresh air.

Kilkenny: James McGarry, Michael Kavanagh, Noel Hickey, Philly Larkin, Richie Mullally, Peter Barry, JJ Delaney, Andy Comerford (Capt) (0-2), Derek Lyng(0-2), John Hoyne(0-1), Henry Shefflin(0-7, four frees), Brian McEvoy, Eddie Brennan (0-1), Martin Comerford (0-1), DJ Carey (0-4, two frees). *Subs (used):* Charlie Carter(0-1), Jimmy Coogan(1-1). The All-Ireland Final was a focal point of the aspirations and thoughts of the deep-thinking hurling men within the county. They proffered the opinion that if Kilkenny could get an early lead over Clare, they should stay in front and win. They mused that if DJ, Henry, and Martin could get any change from their direct opponents, Kilkenny would be on the road to winning McCarthy. Colin Lynch figured in the concern stakes too. **Surprisingly,** Jimmy Coogan was selected to start at left half forward, with Charlie Carter, Brian McEvoy and John Power confined to the subs' bench. To the fray.



John Hoyne, in action against Tipp in the All Ireland semi-final.
Ray McManus / SPORTSFILE

tells its own story. The Kilkenny backs had little trouble in curbing the Clare attackers. Again, Hickey, Larkin and Kavanagh were excellent. Again, JJ Delaney was superb, but it was at centre field, where the real fire of battle burned, and, even though pitted against Colin Lynch and John Reddin, Andy Comerford and, particularly, Derek Lyng were narrow winners in the toe-to-toe slog. Up front, Martin Comerford had a terrific game against the best full back we have seen in many a long day—Brian Lohan. DJ Carey frightened the livin' bejaysus out of the Clare backs, every time he got within ten yards of the ball. One nugget of Carey magic in the 52nd minute had him scoring a memorable point, when, after beating two defenders, and having caught the ball twice, he had no option but to strike off his hurley. The crowd erupted—many of them from the Banner County.



Derek Lyng in action against **Brian Lohan**, Clare, in the All Ireland Hurling Final.
Damien Eagers / SPORTSFILE

With barely two minutes gone, Henry Shefflin took the ball from the sky, ghosted by Seanie McMahon as if he wasn't there, clipped a left-handed shot towards the Clare goal, intending it to go over the bar. The ball dropped short, and as Davy Fitzgerald awaited its arrival, an unexpected visitor accompanied the sliothar. DJ Carey coaxed the ball from the skies, and with the deftness of a Picasso, brushed it to the back of the net. Could you have a better start? Clare were never to recover. It got better for the Cats. They had 1-2 on the board before Seanie McMahon opened the Clare account. At half time Kilkenny led by 1-11 to Clare's 0-8. At the end of the day, Clare scored ten points from play—scarcely enough to win an All-Ireland final against a team of Kilkenny's calibre. Kilkenny's 2-13 from play

Finals are made of such memorable moments. It was fitting that the great-hearted John Power was afforded the distinction of ending his illustrious hurling career on the stage he had graced since 1987, when he was called on in the dying seconds of the game.

Kilkenny: James McGarry, Michael Kavanagh, Noel Hickey, Philly Larkin, Richie Mullally, Peter Barry, JJ Delaney, Andy Comerford (Capt) (0-1), Derek Lyng (0-1), John Hoyne, Henry Shefflin (1-7, four points frees), Jimmy Coogan (0-1), Eddie Brennan (0-1), Martin Comerford (0-1), DJ Carey (1-6, three points frees). *Subs (used):* Charlie Carter (0-1), Brian McEvoy (0-1), John Power.



Peter Barry celebrates with selector **Noel Skehan** after the All Ireland Hurling Final. *Ray McManus / SPORTSFILE*



PJ Delaney clears his lines in the semi-final. *Damien Eagers / SPORTSFILE*

2002 Senior Hurling Championship Scoreboard

LEINSTER

Preliminary Round

27th April, Aughrim:
Laois 1-12; Wicklow 0-9
 28th April, Mullingar:
Westmeath 1-14; Kildare 1-10
 28th April, Dr.Cullen Park:
Meath 1-9; Carlow 0-9

Pr.eliminary Semi-Finals

12th May, An Uaimh:
Meath 2-16; Laois 1-18
 12th May, Mullingar:
Dublin 2-12; Westmeath 1-12

Preliminary Final

26th May, Tullamore:
Dublin 1-24; Meath 2-12

Semi-Finals

9th June, Thurles:
Kilkenny 2-20; Offaly 1-14
Wexford 3-15; Dublin 2-12

Final

7th July, Croke Park:
Kilkenny 0-19; Wexford 0-17

MUNSTER

Quarter-Final

19th May, Pairc Ui Chaoimh:
Tipperary 1-18; Clare 2-13

Semi-Finals

26th May, Thurles:
Waterford 1-16; Cork 1-15
 2nd June, Pairc Ui Chaoimh:
Tipperary 1-20; Limerick 1-13

Final

30th June, Pairc Ui Chaoimh:
Waterford 2-23; Tipperary 3-12

ULSTER

Quarter-Final

12th May, Casement Park:
Down 3-22; London 1-9

Semi-Finals

25th May, Casement Park.-
Down 0-12; Derry 1-9
 26th May, Gaelic Park:
Antrim 5-19; New York 2-11
 1st June, Casement Park (replay):
Down 2-12; Derry 1-12

Final

9th June, Casement Park:
Antrim 3-16; Down 1-18

ALL-IRELAND

Qualifier Round 1

15th June, Casement Park:
Galway 7-15; Down 0-13

15th June, An Uaimh:

Offaly 1-20; Meath 1-11

15th June, Parnell Park

Clare 3-22; Dublin 1-8

29th June, Thurles:

Cork 1-16; Limerick 1-15

Qualifier Round 2

13th July, Portlaoise:
Tipperary 2-19; Offaly 1-9

14th July, Portlaoise:

Clare 3-15; Wexford 2-7

14th July, Thurles:

Galway 0-21; Cork 1-9

Quarter-Finals

28th July, Croke Park:
Tipperary 1-25; Antrim 2-12
Clare 1-15; Galway 0-17

Semi-Finals

11th August, Croke Park:
Clare 1-16; Waterford 1-13
 18th August, Croke Park
Kilkenny 1-20; Tipperary 1-16

Final

8th September, Croke Park:
Kilkenny 2-20; Clare 0-19

Fifty Years since 'Bridge Burst on Scene

In the period 1952 to 1974 Bennettsbridge contested sixteen County SH finals, winning eleven. No other club in the county has ever exercised such dominance in the championship as did this great team. They won the first of those titles in 1952, and, this year, at the County Senior Hurling Final, Kilkenny County Board honoured the survivors of that historic win, half a century ago. There follows a report on that final in which the "Bridge beat Tullaroan.

Bennettsbridge take Senior Hurling Title Pulsating battle won in last minute

Bennettsbridge 5-3; Tullaroan 4-5

Last year's junior champions, Bennettsbridge, created a major surprise when they defeated Tullaroan by 5-3 (18) to 4-5 (17) in the Kilkenny senior hurling championship final at Nowlan Park on Sunday. Their victory came after 62 years of waiting, as the title was last held by them away back in 1890.

It was not a brilliant game, and the standard only occasionally rose to great heights. What it lacked in this way, however, was made up in close, earnest tackling and the never-say-die spirit of Bennettsbridge, which enabled them to come from behind almost on the stroke of full time to snatch the title from the Tullaroan men's grasp.

Bennettsbridge about deserved their victory,

but the fact can hardly be overlooked that Tullaroan's display was below what everybody expected of them and their generalship, in my opinion, was at fault, particularly in regard to Shem Downey, who should have been moved out of the full forward line after a quarter of an hour and allowed to play his normal game at centrefield or on the half forward line.

There were other factors that militated against Tullaroan. They seemed over-confident turning over with a lead of five points and a good breeze in their favour, the shooting of their forwards was not in the general Tullaroan class and their failure to finish, a feature that has characterised all their championship games in the last few years, was again evident. This is not to be taken as in any way detracting from the merit of the sensational victory of the junior champions, who never faltered, even when the odds were altogether against them.

The game was a personal triumph for Dan Kennedy who literally carried the team on his back. He was the man in the gap when things were at their worst and he inspired all

Kilkenny Senior Hurling Championship 1952

1st Round

Carrickshock	1-11	Mooncoin	1-2
Tullaroan	3-9	Eire Óg	1-4
Bennettsbridge	3-10	Slieverue	3-3
Graigue	3-4	Dicksboro	1-10

Replay

Graigue	1-8	Dicksboro	1-4
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Semi-Finals

Tullaroan	4-9	Carrickshock	4-4
Bennettsbridge	7-7	Graigue	6-5

Final

Bennettsbridge	5-3	Tullaroan	4-5
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their rallies. Apart from trojan work, he rendered at centrefield where he reigned supreme, he led most of their movements that brought scores.

In addition to Kennedy, Mick Kelly won a high place for himself in the honours list. He scored no less than four goals and was the



BENNETTSBRIDGE PLAYERS HONOURED AT COUNTY SH FINAL

Back : Ned Quinn (Chairman Kilkenny County Board), Tom Skehan, Seamie Cleere, Mick Mc Carthy, Martin Treacy, Sean Holden, Frankie Ryan, Paddy Moran, Henry Drea, Joe Galway, Sean Treacy, Brian Brennan (Managing Director Springhill Court Hotel).

Front : Liam Cleere, Sam Carroll, Tom Walsh, Michael Phelan, Johnny Mc Govern, Mickie Kelly, Paddy Ryan, Dick Muldowney. *Photo: Eoin Hennessy.*



Members of Bennettsbridge 1951 - 1972 Teams at their Reunion

Photo Tom Brett

Back row: Dick Power, Noel Ryan, Mick Phelan, Noel Skehan, Liam Mulhall, Mick McCarthy, John Holohan, Larry Cleere, Barry O'Brien, Paddy Moran, Martin Crowe.
Third row: Paddy Kealy, Henry Drea, Michael Bourke, Conor O' Brien, John Kinsella, Liam Bookle, Tom Skehan, Mick Kelly, Kevin Dunne, Sean Holden, Liam Cleere, Liam Bennett, Bobby Maher, Ned Ryan, Jim Marnell, Seamus Cleere.
Second row: Derek Galway, Frank Ryan, Jim Treacy, Tom Walsh, Tom Lineen, Jack Galway, Paddy Ryan, Billy Dobbyn, Martin Treacy, John McGovern.
Front row: John Dowling, Joe Galway, Sam Carroll, Paddy Treacy, Mick Treacy, Sean Treacy, Pat Lawlor, Christy Hayes, Jim Bennett.

toughest proposition the Tullaroan defence had to face this year. Derek Galwey was a brilliant defender and he and his brother Jack, who also had a great game, were mainly responsible for frustrating every good effort of the Tullaroan forwards. John McGovern had a good game without being up to his usual high standard while Jim Dobbyn was a resourceful centre back. Whelan in goal stepped up on the form he showed in his previous outings and had several brilliant saves to his credit. Dick Carroll also played well but apart from these the remainder of the winners' side were hard set to hold their own against their heavier and more experienced opponents.

Paddy Malone and Tom Hogan were outstanding in the Tullaroan defence, but Jim Hogan and Mark Marnell hardly ever reached the spectacular heights that they are capable of, even in far better class. Billy Costigan was obviously unhappy at centre-field but his partner, M. Henderson, played well against Dan Kennedy. P. Spencer and Sean Clohosey were the only Tullaroan forwards that really sparkled and if Spencer had been given greater scope, he could have easily upset the result. Tullaroan were unlucky to lose Jimmy Clohosey, who played on for some time after a nasty facial injury. He had the capacity to get scores and even though he was well held up to the time of his injury, there was always the likelihood he could have changed the issue in the second half. Tom Walton tried hard and did some useful work but he was not as accurate as usual, while Shem Downey never came prominently into the picture.

Tullaroan's first half Tullaroan had the better of the exchanges in the first half but they failed to make use of all their openings. At half time it looked as if they were complete

masters and many people were inclined to foresee a complete route when they got the wind behind them. Only a team with the dour, unflinching spirit that Bennettsbridge showed could have come back in such brilliant style. Shortly after resuming, Bennettsbridge got in front and so well did they counter every effort by Tullaroan that they were well on the road to victory long before the end. Biggest shock of the game came from Sean Clohosey who shot home two fine goals in less than a minute to win back the lead for Tullaroan. Tullaroan were thus a point in front at the end of the hour and lost time was being played. Peter Dowling stretched their lead to

two points. It was at this stage that Bennettsbridge showed the mettle of champions and an all-out onslaught swept all before it and ended in Mick Kelly striking home the winning goal. Bennettsbridge fielded eleven of the team that won the junior championship last year and several of their players have only come from minor ranks in the past few years. If they stay together they can be welded into a formidable force in the years ahead. They deserve to be congratulated on their great victory which was the reward of a magnificent fighting spirit.

- ❑ Bennettsbridge club have a very proud tradition and they also claim to hold six national club records;
- ❑ 43 All-Ireland Senior Hurling Medals;
- ❑ 19 All-Star Awards.
- ❑ Noel Skehan is holder of nine senior All-Ireland hurling medals.
- ❑ The famous 'Ring Area' (20 houses) holds 23 All-Ireland Senior Hurling Medals.
- ❑ The club has had a representative on each Senior Hurling All-Ireland winning Kilkenny team since 1932.
- ❑ Over a span of 23 years from 1952 to '74, they appeared in sixteen county finals and they won eleven of these.
- ❑ Over a period of twenty-five years Bennettsbridge captains led Kilkenny Senior hurlers to five All-Ireland victories. They were Dan Kennedy '47, Mick Kelly in '57, Seamus Cleere in '63, 1im Treacy in '67 and Noel Skehan in 1972.

Record Attendance

The attendance at Nowlan Park on Sunday was over 11,000 a record for a county final. The gate receipts were over £600.

How the score came:

Jimmy Marnell opened the scoring with a point after a nice centre by J. Carroll. Whelan saved brilliantly in the Bennettsbridge goal under terrific pressure but after a short respite, the Bennettsbridge defence was again tested and Spencer shot a brilliant goal with a left-hand drive. Shortly afterwards, Spencer repeated his performance and Tullaroan were two goals up with Bennettsbridge a single point. Dan Kennedy added a point, but Tom Walton from a free put on another point for Tullaroan and Costigan made no mistake when he sent over the bar from another free.

W. Costigan put Tullaroan on the offensive from a '70' but the Bennettsbridge defence proved sound. A Bennettsbridge free was centred by John McGovern and a '70' resulted. McGovern dropped this shot in the Tullaroan goalmouth and Bennettsbridge were awarded a close-in free. Mick Kelly tried for goal but the ball was stopped and cleared in fine style. Dan Kennedy added a nice point and the half time scores were:

Tullaroan 2-2; Bennettsbridge 0-3

Shortly after resuming, M. Galwey came on in room of T. Walsh, who retired injured. J. Dowling was moved from left corner forward to centrefield to partner Kennedy and Galwey moved into his position. The Bennettsbridge revival started when Mick Kelly finished an attack for a grand goal. Shortly after, Dick Carroll had another goal and this score put Bennettsbridge in front (2-3 to 2-2) by a point. Jimmy Clohosey retired and was replaced by P. Tynan.

Shem Downey finished a pass by Costigan for a point and Tom Walton was wide from a free. Shortly afterwards, Walton manouvered himself into position to score a lovely point and Tullaroan were again a point in front. Whelan cleared in fine style in the Bennettsbridge goal and conceded a '70' when saving his net from a hard shot by Sean Clohosey from point-blank range. Jim Hogan centred the '70' but Whelan again proved the stumbling block.

T. Walsh came on again to play full forward when Liam Hackett retired injured. A spectacular solo run by Dan Kennedy was finished

to the net by Mick Kelly and when Kelly outwitted the Tullaroan defence to send another shot past Gannon in the Tullaroan goal, Bennettsbridge led by 4-3 to 2-4.

The junior champions looked like having the issue well in hand at this stage but their supporters got a shock when Sean Clohosey made a laneway through their defence to score a great goal and before the applause of the Tullaroan fans had spent itself, he repeated the performance, the ball rolling into the net after Whelan had got his hurley to it but failed to stop it.

Peter Dowling added a Tullaroan point and they then led by two points (4-5 to 4-3) and 'lost time' was being played. More than four minutes of extra time was played when Mick Kelly finished a movement, started by Kennedy, for a goal.

Bennettsbridge: M. Whelan, R. Galwey, J. Nolan, J. Dobbyn, J. McGovern, D. Kennedy, T. Walsh, J. Carroll, R. Carroll, M. Kelly, J. Marnell, P. Ryan, J. Dowling, L. Hackett, M. Galwey.

Tullaroan: W. Gannon, T. Hogan, S. Marnell, M. Marnell, J. Hogan, P. Malone, W. Gaffney, M. Henderson, W. Costigan, S. Clohosey, P. Dowling, J. Clohosey, T. Walton, P. Spencer, S. Downey.

Mr. P. Dack (Thomastown) refereed.

Bennettsbridge GAA Club Roll of Honour

Senior Hurling champions (12): 1890, 1952, 1953, 1955, 1956, 1959, 1960, 1962, 1964, 1966, 1967, 1971

Junior hurling champions (2): 1948, 1951

Junior A hurling champions (2): 1960, 1961

Junior B hurling champions (1): 1991

U-21 hurling champions (2): 1967, 1985

Minor hurling champions (2): 1947, 1983

U-16 C hurling champions (2): 1978, 1994



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Good Year for Kilkenny in Overage Grades

Handball report by Martin Lalor
PRO Kilkenny Handball Board

Looking back on 2002, Kilkenny handball supporters will remember it as the year in which Duxie Walsh decided to retire from the game and in so doing brought to an end the most successful career of all time. Elsewhere, all the adult All Ireland successes were achieved in the overage grades while in the juvenile championships Kilkenny recorded five wins.

40 x 20

When the 40 x 20 season commenced the best chance of All Ireland success appeared to be with the overage players and this proved to be true when the titles were handed out at the end of the season.

In Masters B Singles Martin Lalor (Talbot's Inch) beat all before him in the Leinster championships to qualify for a semi final meeting with Bryan King (Antrim). Two close games saw the Inch player advance to the All Ireland final where he saw off the challenge of Ger Walsh (Roscommon) on a 21-7, 21-8 score-line.

In the Masters B Doubles championship Lalor teamed up with Philly Parsons (O'Loughlins) and they won provincial honours in Leinster, before travelling to Tydavnet to play Cavan's Pat Donagh and Andrew Clarke in the semi final. This was a tricky assignment for the Kilkenny pair who kept their cool and came home with a 21-19, 21-9 victory.

Clare's Mike Kelly and Pat Donnellan provided the opposition in the All Ireland final but on the night were no match for the rampant Kilkenny pair. Apart from early on when scores were close, Parsons and Lalor dominated the two games to bring home the crown by winning 21-10, 21-5.

Kilkenny also won three other Leinster titles in Junior Singles and Diamond Masters B Singles and Doubles. Eddie Bourke (O'Loughlins) had a successful Leinster campaign, beating Offaly's Noel Murphy in the provincial decider, but came a cropper in the All Ireland semi-final when losing to Paul Graham (Antrim) on a night when the O'Loughlins man played well below his best. Sean Curran (O'Loughlins) was Kilkenny's representative in the Diamond Masters B Singles and he came up against Eddie Sheehan (Tipperary) in the All Ireland final.

Unfortunately the Munster player proved too strong for Curran in the decider and when the two met again in the Doubles final a week later the honours once again went to Sheehan. In this final Curran was partnered by the wholehearted Johnny O'Mara (Mullinavat) while Sheehan's partner was Jack King.

A number of Kilkenny players made it to the provincial finals but came out second best in their matches. Willie Pratt (O'Loughlins) lost both finals in the Masters A grade while in the Junior B decider Michael Maher and Colm Love (Clogh) were defeated by Wicklow. Pat Savage and Jimmy Neary (Talbot's Inch) had a tough match in Golden Masters B Doubles before losing out to Wexford while in Junior Doubles Timmy Clifford and Canice Quigley (O'Loughlins) were narrowly beaten by Dick Berry and Felix Doran (Wexford) in a three set thriller.

HANDBALL SCOREBOARD

COUNTY CHAMPIONS 40 X 20

SINGLES

U10(A)S Peter Funchion (Kells)	U10(A)D Pauric Maher/Eoin Hennessy (Clogh)
U10(B)S John Power (Kells)	U10(B)D Cian Ryan/Ciaran Fennelly (Windgap)
U11(A)S Michael O'Brien (Goresbridge)	U11(A)D David Delahunty/Michael Fennelly (Kells)
U11(B)S Dylan Whearty (O'Loughlins)	U11(B)D Peter Landy (W/gap)/Ciaran Bergin (Kells)
U12.S Mark O'Dwyer (Kells)	U12.D Niall Smith/Patrick Funchion (Kells)
U12.S Tina O'Brien (Goresbridge)	
U13.S Mark Bergin (O'Loughlins)	U13.D Eamonn Foley/Niall Mulally (Kells)
U13B.S Eoin Ryan (Windgap)	
U13.S Lydia Phelan (Kells)	
U14.S Richard Hogan (Kilfane)	U14.D Steven Shortt/Kirk Green (O'Loughlins)
U14.S Sarah Butler (Kells)	
U15.S Patrick Hogan (Kilfane)	U15.D Brendan Burke/Daniel Reade (Kells)
U15B.S Michael Neary (O'Loughlins)	
U15.S Claire Love (Clogh)	
U16.S Maurice Nolan (O'Loughlins)	U16.D Ricky Nolan/Mark Nolan (Mothel)
U16.S Ann Maire Hawe (Windgap)	
U17.S Thomas Hughes (Clogh)	U17.D Paul Byrne/Steve Mahon (Clogh)
U17B.S John Murphy (Goresbridge)	
U17.S Mary Murphy (Goresbridge)	
Minor Sean Maher	Minor T J Comerford/Tomas Campion (Clogh)
Novice Diarmuid Burke (Kells)	Novice P J Hawe/ Niall Kenny (Windgap)
Junior Shem Kelly (Mothel)	Junior Pat Walsh/P J Egan (Windgap)
Senior Pearce O'Keefe (Mullinavat)	Senior Pearce O'Keefe/Eamonn Law (Mullinavat)
Ms(A) Seamus Reade (Talbot's Inch)	Ms(A) Seamus Reade/Mick Reade (Talbots Inch)
Ms(B) Jimmy Holden (Kilfane)	Ms(B) Con Moore/Joe Hennessey (O'Loughlins)
Ms(C) John Direen (O'Loughlins)	Ms(C) Pierce Mockler/ Pat Lonergon (Windgap)
U12 Singles Maire T O'Neill (Clogh)	

U12 Doubles Clare Love(Clogh)/Sinead Butler (Kells)

U14 Singles Ann Maire Hawe (Windgap)

U17 Singles Sean Maher (Clogh)

U21 Singles Brian Manogue (Kells)

U12/13 Team 6: Richard Hogan (Kilfane), Nicholas Anthony (Mullinavat), Patrick Nolan (Mothel), Mark Bergin (O'Loughlins) Ciaran Neary (Talbots Inch), Niall Mulally, Eamonn Foley (Kells), Steven Conway (Kells)

U14/15 Team 6: Patrick Hogan (Kilfane), Brendan Burke (Kells), Owen Cody (Windgap), Diarmuid Brennan, Ricky Nolan, Mark Nolan (Mothel), Steven Conway (Kells)

60 X 30 COUNTY CHAMPIONS 2002

SINGLES

U10(A) Peter Funchion (Kells)	U10(A) Eoghan Hennessey/Pauric Maher (Clogh)
U10(B) Andrew O'Dwyer (Kells)	U10(B) David Lafford/Owen Finnegan (Kells)
U11(A) Patrick Funchion (Kells)	U11(A) Dylan Whearty/Rebecca Mulholland (O'LG)
U11(B) Michael Fennelly (Kells)	U11(B) James Kavanagh/Brian Campion (Urlingford)
U12.S Rebecca Mulholland (O'LG)	
U14.S Maire.T.O'Neill (Clogh)	
U14.B.S. Fiona Ryan (Clogh)	
U15.S Ann Maire Hawe (Windgap)	
U17.S Mary Murphy (Goresbridge)	
U12.S Mark O'Dwyer (Kells)	U12.D Eoghan Hennessey/Pauric Maher (Clogh)
U13.S Eamonn Foley (Kells)	U13.D Conor Kelly/Ciaran Brennan (Mothel)
U14.S Richard Hogan (Kilfane)	U14.D Nicholas Anthony /Pat Ratice (Mullinavat)
U15.S Patrick Hogan (Kilfane)	U15.D Patrick Hogan/James Forreastall (Kilfane)
U16.S Diarmuid Brennan (Mothel)	U16.D John Murphy/Charlie Ryan (Goresbridge)
U17.S Mark Nolan (Mothel)	U17.D Brian Mulhall/Patrick O'Flynn (Mothel)
Minor Diarmuid Brennan (Mothel)	Minor Diarmuid Brennan/Brian Mulhall (Mothel)
Novice Thomas Campion (Clogh)	Novice Thomas Campion/Kevin Phillips (Clogh)
Junior Sean Maher (Clogh)	Junior Paul Dowling/Thomas Power (Mothel)
Senior Pearce O'Keefe (Mullinavat)	Senior Philly Parsons/Seamus Kavanagh (O'LG)
Masters (A) Willie Pratt (O'Loughlins)	Masters (A) Seamus/Michael Reade (Talbots Inch)
Masters (B) Joe Anthony (Mullinavat)	Masters (B) Pat Caulfield/Jim Caulfield (Kilfane)
Masters (C) Billy Love (Clogh)	
Minor League: Diarmuid Brennan (Mothel)	
Novice League: Thomas Campion (Clogh)	
Junior League: Sean Maher (Clogh)	
Senior League: Pearce O'Keefe (Mullinavat)	
Masters (A) League: Willie Pratt (O'Loughlins)	
Masters (B) League: Michael Dalton (Kells)	
Masters (C) League: Billy Love (Clogh)	

LEINSTER CHAMPIONS

Intermediate Singles:	Eddie Burke (O'Loughlins)
Intermediate Doubles:	Martin Lalor (Talbots Inch)/ Eddie Burke (O'Loughlins)
Masters (A) Singles:	Johnny Brennan (Mothel)
Masters (A) Doubles:	Johnny Brennan (Mothel)/Philly Parsons (O'Loughlins)
U12.Doubles:	Rebecca & Clare Mulholland (O'Loughlins)
U12.Doubles:	Mark O'Dwyer/Niall Smith (Kells)
U14.Singles:	Richard Hogan (Kilfane)
U14.Doubles:	Clare Love/Marie T O'Neill (Clogh)
U15.Singles:	Ann Marie Hawe (Windgap)
U15.Doubles:	Sarah Lafford (Kells)/Fiona Ryan (Clogh)
U15.Doubles:	Patrick Hogan (Kilfane)/Gavin O'Keefe (Kells)
U17.Singles:	Mary Murphy (Goresbridge)
U14/15 Team 6:	Brendan Burke, Darren O'Dwyer, Daniel Reid (Kells), Patrick Nolan (Mothel), Nicholas Anthony (Mullinavat), Stephen Power (Mothel).

60 x 30

When this year's 60 x 30 championships commenced the focus was again on Duxie Walsh to see if he could continue his remarkable winning streak and once again retain the Senior Singles title. Having won it sixteen times in the previous seventeen years many handball observers felt that this year the opposition would be tougher than ever. And how right they were!

After beating Tony Healy (Cork) in the semi final, the Kilkenny star came up against the very in form Eoin Kennedy (Dublin) who on the night produced a fabulous display of handball.

From the beginning Duxie found the going tough and was always back pedalling. Kennedy raced ahead early and never looked like being caught. Leading 15-1 at one stage the Kilkenny star was obviously in trouble against a player who was 13 years his junior. The first game went to the Dubliner on a 21-6 scoreline. Many in the packed gallery were hoping that history would repeat itself and that they would see a different Duxie in the second game. (Last year Kennedy won the first game 21-2 but Duxie came back to win the next two) However, on this occasion history was created as the Dublin player learned from last year's mistakes and made sure of victory in the second game.

Once again it was Kennedy who set the early pace and was 8-0 ahead before the Kilkenny star scored. With the score standing at 10-4 in favour of Kennedy, Duxie for the only time in the match exerted some influence on proceedings as he scored five aces to bring him to within one ace of the challenger. A short break to dry the court seemed to settle the Liffesider again and it was he who took full advantage when play resumed. He had reached 16 before Duxie scored again and was then at 19 while the champion was at 12. Scoring the last two aces Kennedy took the title for Dublin's first win in this championship since 1980 and the first Dublin born player to win it in over 50 years.

For Duxie it was a sad way to end the most successful handball career of all time but like has happened a lot of other brilliant sportsmen, Father Time would appear to have caught up with him. After the final Duxie announced that he was now retiring and so brought an end to an amazing career in which he won every honour in the book, most many times, and ended up as Ireland's most successful handballer, ever, by a long shot. In the Senior Doubles championship, Duxie and Eugene Downey once again teamed up in an effort to regain a title they last held in 1997. However, the championship proved to be a

HANDBALL SNIPPETS

At the Munster Open played at Clare venues in January, Kilkenny were successful in two grades. Eddie Bourke won the Mens A Singles and, in Masters A/B Doubles, Philly Parsons and Martin Lalor brought home the glassware. In his final Eddie defeated Bernie McDonagh (Galway) 21-17, 21-19 after a tough test while in their grade Philly and Martin defeated Cork's Pat Morris and John Hedigan, 21-2, 21-14.

Martin Lalor also won the Mens B Singles in the Irish Open when he beat Ger Walsh (Roscommon) in two sets and in the Golden Masters B grade Con Moore (O'Loughlins) got to the semi final where he lost to John O'Neill (Kildare)

Having fully renovated their existing 60 x 30 alley a few years ago, Clogh Handball club have now built a new 40 x 20 alley.

In the Community Games, Kells represented Kilkenny in both the U13 and U15 events. The U13 team brought home a Bronze medal while the U15 went one better and took home Silver. The teams were U13:- Niall Smith, Mark O'Dwyer, Michael Fennelly, David Delahunty, Aidan Martin and Ian O'Dwyer and the U15:- Gavin O'Keeffe, Stephen Conway, Darren O'Dwyer, Richard Hogan, Robert Walsh and Brendan Martin.

O'Loughlins and Kells were the County's representative at the Feile na Gael. The O'Loughlins team reached the final of the 40 x 20 competition where they were defeated by Tyrone. The team was Kirk Greene, Stephen Shortt, Paul Delaney, Mark Bergin and Conor Bergin. Kells played in the 60 x 30 event and lost in the semi final. Their team: Stephen Conway, Darren O'Dwyer, Gavin O'Keeffe, Eamon Foley and Niall Mullally.

Kilkenny once again were to the fore in the Joe Maxwell Leagues, winning both competitions.

A Team; U11 Dylan Whearty (O'L) and Patrick Funchion (Kells) U13 Niall Mullally and Eamon Foley (Kells) U 15; Patrick Hogan (Kilfane) and Brendan Burke (Kells)

B Team; U11 Padraig Maher and Owen Hennessy (Clogh) U13; Ciaran Neary (Talbot's Inch) and Niall Mullally (Kells) U15; Paul Murphy (Goresbridge) and Darren O'Dwyer (Kells)

In the finals of the Cumann na Bunscoil, a record number of over 90 entries took part in the finals night.

Sisters Claire and Rebecca Mulholland (O'Loughlins) claimed Leinster hon-

ourless one as they were beaten in the penultimate stage. In the semi-final match they played the very strong Wexford pair of Tommy Hynes and Colin Keeling and came out on the wrong side of a 21-16, 21-16 defeat.

Kilkenny's only All Ireland success in the 60 x 30 court was achieved in the Masters A Doubles grade when Philly Parsons and Johnny Brennan registered a marvellous victory by beating a fancied Sligo pair in the final.

The Noreside duo played solidly throughout the Leinster campaign and having seen off Westmeath in the final, they received a walkover in their semi-final and so progressed to the All Ireland decider where they met Francie McCann and Michael Porter.

Prior to the final, Johnny Brennan sustained an arm injury which hindered his preparations, but, on the night, he played through the pain barrier to record a great victory.

A slow start by Kilkenny allowed their opponents a chance to

build up an early lead but, refusing to panic, the local pair gradually played themselves back into the match and won the first game 21-15.

The second was dominated by the Westerners who seemed to be well in control when leading 20-13 and the final appeared to be set for the third set. However the resilient Parsons and Brennan refused to concede defeat and, with some brilliant serves and kills, clawed themselves back to win 21-20, and so capture the Master A crown.

Johnny had also won the right to represent Leinster in the Singles championship but found Pat Donagh too hot to handle in the All Ireland semi-final.

Since the formation of the Intermediate championship in 1994, Kilkenny have only once been winners of both Singles and Doubles titles, this happening in 1997 when Johnny Brennan won the Singles title and Pearse O'Keeffe and Eamon Law took home the Doubles honours. In 2002, Eddie Bourke had the distinction of being the first Kilkenny player to win both championships in Leinster but then failed to advance any further.

Travelling to Loughmacrory, the O'Loughlins player was beaten by local player Niall Kerr in the Singles 'semi and then in the Doubles, he and partner Martin Lalor lost 21-16, 21-13 to Cavan's Paul Brady and Jimmy McKeon.

One of the unluckiest players of 2002 must be Michael Maher of Clogh who reached three Leinster finals and an All Ireland club final, only to lose them all. Michael was beaten 21-14 in the third game by Pat O'Donnell (Wicklow) in the Junior B



Under 14,15 and 16 County 40 x 20 Winners 2002.

Front: Michael Neary (O'Loughlins), Kirk Greene (O'Loughlins), Stephen Shortt (O'Loughlins), Richard Hogan (Kilfane), Brendan Burke (Kells)
Back: Billy Love (Clogh), John Murphy (Goresbridge), Daniel Reid (Kells), Patrick Hogan (Kilfane), Jim Dalton (Kells)



Successful Kilkenny Handball Girls 2002

Marie Terese O'Neill (Clogh), Eileen McCarthy (Kilfane), Claire Love (Clogh), Brigid Burke (Kells), Mary Murphy (Goresbridge), Sarah Butler (Kells), Loretta Murphy (Goresbridge), Anne Marie Hawe (Windgap)

decider and then, with his partner Colm Love, narrowly lost, 21-20, 21-15, also to O'Donnell and Ned Kealy.

Michael and Colm were also on the Clogh team which were defeated 103-96 by Clonmel in the Junior B final. The other two members of the team were William Love and Andrew Lawlor, while team mentor was Billy Love.

Clogh were also represented in Leinster finals when Daniel Love and Pat Maher played in the Intermediate Doubles, while in Minor Doubles Thomas Hughes and Sean Maher were beaten by eventual All Ireland winners, Wicklow.

In Golden Masters, defending All Ireland champions Paddy Reilly and Seamus Reade surrendered their crown when they went down to Dublin in the provincial decider.

Kilkenny's Team of 8 had a first round loss to Wicklow when, with games even at 4 all, Wicklow won the right to play Wexford by having scored more aces 125-111. The Kilkenny team was;- Philly Parsons, Johnny Brennan, Michael Maher, Colm Love, John Curran, Shem Kelly, Eddie Bourke and Martin Lalor.

Hardball

The oldest form of Handball has been dying a slow death for the last number of years with the number of entries for these championships decreasing each year. This year, Pearse O'Keeffe threw his hat in the ring for the Senior championship and almost pulled off a famous win when he reached the final.

One of the hardest hitters around, the Mullinavat player faced the younger Kenneth Kane in the final and it turned out to be a real ding-dong affair. Coming from behind in the first game, O'Keeffe turned round a 14-6 deficit to win 21-15. Things looked even better in the second as he forged ahead 7-0 and still looked to be in with a great chance when he led 11-7. But the super fit Carlow player upped the tempo to level the match by winning 21-14. The third set belonged to Kane as he pulled away from a visibly tiring O'Keeffe to take the Senior crown



Masters All Ireland Winners 2002
Johnny Brennan, Philly Parsons & Martin Lalor

comfortably on a 21-4 scoreline.

Juveniles

For the Hogan brothers, Richard and Patrick, 2002 will go down as a year when they won three All Ireland titles each, while it will also be a memorable year for Mary Murphy (Goresbridge) as she won Kilkenny's first ever girls' All Ireland title.

The first victory of the year for the Hogan brothers came in the Colleges championships when they played together to win the Junior Doubles crown for their school, St. Kierans College.

In the 40 x 20 competitions Richard played in the U14 Singles while Patrick represented in U15 Singles and both brought home All Ireland medals. Richard reached the final where he had a comfortable 15-0, 15-8 win over Ciaran Burke (Mayo) and in the U15 decider Patrick had a tougher match with Conor Cooney (Clare) before winning 21-11, 21-13.

To finish off a brilliant year for the Kilfane lads, Richard added the 60 x 30 U14 Singles crown when he accounted for Alan Mannix (Cork) 15-10, 15-11 in a delayed final, while Patrick opted for the U15 Doubles where he was successful with Gavin O'Keeffe (Kells). They also beat Cork in a final where they were never really troubled and won 21-5, 21-7.



Richard & Patrick Hogan (Kilfane) winners of 3 All Ireland medals each, with Mary Murphy Goresbridge, Kilkenny's first All Ireland Girls' winner.

Early in the year, Kilkenny captured their first ever girls' All Ireland medal when Mary Murphy (Goresbridge) won the 40 x 20 U17 crown. Playing very clever handball, the Kilkenny girl outclassed her Tipperary opponent to win in two games 21-11, 21-11. Later on in the year Mary was very unlucky not to add to her achievements when she reached the 60 x 30 final in the same grade. In that match she played Mayo and looked set for another win as she led 7-4 in the tie break. However, a lapse of concentration proved very costly as she let that lead slip and lost the set 11-7.

There were a number of other local players who reached juvenile finals but came out on the losing sides. In the 40 x 20 Girls' U14 Doubles, Claire Love (Clogh) and Sarah Butler (Kells) were well beaten, 21-11, 21-11, by Kerry and in Girls' U15 Doubles, Sarah Lafford and Grainne Hackett (both Kells) never got going in their match with Kerry, losing 21-10, 21-9.

Ann Marie Nolan had won the Leinster Girls U15 Singles championship but was then defeated in the semi-final by Donegal.

Clogh girl Claire Love also reached the 60 x 30 U14 Doubles final where she was partnered by clubmate Marie Terese O'Neill but, as in the 40 x 20 final, they came out on the wrong side of a 15-12, 15-9 defeat by Roscommon.

There was also Kilkenny involvement in the final of the Girls' U15 Singles when Ann Marie Hawe (Windgap) took on Kerry. Trying her best, she was no match for the Munster girl and lost 21-7, 21-10.

Juvenile Teams

Kilkenny's Juvenile teams enjoyed considerable success during the year, with both the U12/13 and U14/15 winning the 40 x 20 provincial titles. The U14/15 team went on to collect All Ireland glory when they beat Clare 90-35 in the final while the U12/13 team were defeated by Tyrone in their semi-final.

There was no success for the U12/13 team in the 60 x 30 competition as Carlow got the better of them. The team was the same except that Niall Mullally replaced Niall Bergin.

The U14/15 side won the Leinster title and then went on to defeat Clare again in the All Ireland final by 82 to 37.

(For Team members see Results Panel)



U10 and 11 County 40 x 20 Winners 2002, pictured with County Board Officials Seamus Reade and Jimmy Holden.
Back: Kieran Bergin (Kells), Michael Fennelly (Kells), Padraig Maher (Clogh) and Owen Hennessy (Clogh)
Middle: Edward Burke (O'Loughlins), Stephen Forristal (O'Loughlins), Dylan Whearty (O'Loughlins), Tina O'Brien (Goresbridge), Niall Farrelly (Windgap) and Cian Ryan (Windgap).
Front: Gerard Purcell (Windgap), Brian Campion (Urlingford) and Peter Funchion (Kells).

Lar Carroll

1933 - 2002

Larry Hamilton



I first met him in June 1946. We were doing the Primary Certificate Examination in Lisdowney School. He was gregarious and sociable even as a young boy and I'm certain he knew all pupils present before the day was over, even though they came from three different schools. Back then he had an enquiring mind and was interested in people and things around him. Of him it could truly be said that his service to the community was universal.

His wife Mary, daughters Nora, Mary and Angela, his sons Páraic, Tom, Michael, John and Paul survive him. He grew up on the family farm with his brothers Michael and Ted (who died in 1995), his sisters Bega and Betty. Mary, her sons and daughters and the rest of the O'Carroll family have the sympathy and support of their community, colleagues and friends.

He served on the Boards of Management of Lisdowney National School and St. Fintan's Secondary School, Durrow. He was prominent in the fight for a new school in Lisdowney which opened finally in 1989. His skill and strength of will as a negotiator was an enormous help to every delegation. He was, at various times, a member of Macra na Feirme, of the Parish Council, an officer in the Irish Farmers Association, a member of the Board of Avonmore and Council of Glanbia. He was Chairman of Kilkenny Cattle Mart and Chairman of the Mart Section of I.C.O.S.

But here we must write about his service to the G.A.A. He loved hurling and gave much of his time promoting it. Lisdowney Hurling Club was formed in 1939 and Lar grew up with it. As a teenager he was tutored by the late Johnny Ivory in the skills and nuances of running the local G.A.A. Club. The club won the Junior Hurling Championship win in 1960. It became a senior club then for about ten years. Lar served as Club Treasurer for years, but his activities were not confined to matters financial. He contributed to the Club at all levels. He served as Secretary and Treasurer for years. When the duties of Secretary and treasurer were separated he continued to serve as treasurer. For years he worked on a very tight budget. It is a tribute to his energy, commitment and generosity that the club managed to always pay its way.

Every year he was one of the prime movers in 'acquiring' the 'makings' of hurleys. Local farmers were approached and asked to donate ash trees. Organising diggers and sawyers, transporting the timber to have it 'planked', taking the planks to the hurley maker...Lar was involved in all aspects of the operation. During the winter months a team of willing club members spent many afternoons digging, sawing and rooting out the raw materials for hurleys. Lar was there, in spite of his many commitments to his family, farm and other interests.

Those of us who had charge of school teams back as far as 1955 could always count on his help. His was a genuine love and concern for young hurlers. Hurleys, sliotars, transport, advice and moral support...he usually volunteered, and never refused a request. He was not your typical 'fair weather soldier'. Whether a team was promising or not, Lar was there.

In 1977 Lisdowney hurling club set out to acquire grounds and build a community hall. The respect and goodwill Lar had earned by his diligence and integrity helped to facilitate and speed up the process. He negotiated the purchase of the land. The building committee and the hurling club worked hand in hand. Lar's tact and his gentle way with all involved helped the project to a successful conclusion. There was no prouder person in Lisdowney when the new grounds and Community Centre were officially opened in May, 1983 by Government Minister Mr Liam Kavanagh, T.D. and G.A.A. President, Mr Paddy Buggy.

On Saturday, 28th September, 2002, he was there at our Coca-Cola Sevens Finals. I did not know he had left the field feeling unwell. Though he was admitted to hospital, Sunday was a day when he was 'in good form'. The shock of Monday night's announcement of his death was profound. The term 'parochial' is often used in a pejorative sense. This is unfortunate, as it hints at the inward-looking mind. Lar Carroll certainly had the interests of his native parish close to his heart, but he was also a man who looked with interest and concern beyond the boundaries of his native parish, county and country. Thus the news of his death sent ripples way beyond his native parish.

'Ní bheidh a leithéid arís ann' is a Gaelic tribute that Lar truly deserved. Go gcumhdaigh Dia is Muire é!

A Man for All Seasons

by Enda McEvoy (Sunday Tribune)

Now:—

Ninety-three years young, he tends his garden in Glasnevin in Dublin with loving care, clips the hedges, does his best to keep the jackdaws at bay. He enjoys TV sport, including the golf (he took up the sport at the age of 50 at Donabate, where his first handicap was nine), plus the nature programmes on the Discovery Channel. Every morning he drives to Mass in Ballygall church nearby and gets the messages and the paper afterwards. On Mondays he's always a little late back to Peg, his wife of 55 years. Well, the post-mortem on the previous day's matches with his cronies after Mass does take time, he points out by way of mitigation.

"May you live in interesting times," as the Chinese curse has it. Martin White has. Through the War of Independence, the Civil War, two world wars, seven children, 12 grandchildren and three All Ireland senior hurling medals in the black and amber. The first of them was won 70 years ago, in 1932.

Then—

Martin White was 23 years old. One of a family of 14 children from Bonnetstown near Tullaroan, working in Clover Meats in Waterford, staying with the Misses Murphy in 6 Wellington Street. You started off an apprentice at £1 a week. Next up the scale was £2-8, a shilling an hour. Next after that was £2-15. Martin eventually took over as manager of the tanning factory on £5 a week - "a good wage then"

County training meant travelling to Kilkenny in Tom Blanchfield's hackney car. They'd stop at Tory Hill to collect Jack Duggan. Neddy Doyle would get in at Mooncoin. Occasionally they'd pick up the Carrickshock contingent if a car was unavailable there. It was a long evening, and invariably Martin wasn't back in his lodgings in Waterford until after midnight. No fun when he had to be into work at eight o'clock next morning.

The training itself rarely varied, though the pace was upped approaching the All Ireland final, Dublin having been disposed of by four points in the provincial decider. Some hurling, a practice match, a couple of circuits of Nowlan Park, sprints. Afterwards there was a meal in Dunnes' of James's Street, the Langtons' of the era "and a great house on a fair day".

That far-off September weekend began for him and the Mooncoin players at the railway station in Waterford on the Saturday afternoon, the rest of their colleagues boarding the train in Kilkenny. Up into and through Carlow, the necklace of small rural stations of the era full of young people waving and shouting their support. The team stayed in the Ossory Hotel in Gardiner's Row, a couple of doors down from Barry's Hotel and owned by a man from Castlecomer. "It was a good hotel for food. Comfortable. What more would you want? The only drawback was that the Sunday morning was a bit long, waiting for the match." For eve-of-the-final relaxation Martin went to the pictures in the Savoy in O'Connell Street. A good cowboy film, that's what he liked. Or maybe a gangster movie with the one and only Jimmy Cagney. Or something with Clark Gable, Loretta Young, "all those ladies". The next morning he went to Mass in Gardiner Street. On his return he found Gardiner's Row a sea of humanity, with gangs of people gathered outside the hotel.

The 1932 final pairing was a unique one, unrepeated until the next century. Clare had claimed their first Munster title since 1914 by defeating Cork, the All Ireland champions, thanks to a four-goal blast from the talismanic Tull Considine. But Kilkenny, who'd lost to the Leesiders in the legendary



Martin White

three-part final the previous year, possessed in Lory Meagher, Podge Byrne and Peter O'Reilly a number of loyal servants nearing the end of the line; Mattie Power, a winner with both his native county in 1922 and Dublin in 1927, was the only member of the team who possessed an All Ireland medal. "The older players were anxious to get an All Ireland medal before they retired," Martin recalls. "That inspired the younger lads to do their best for them. Everybody played for it. Also, we wanted to make up for 1931."

Martin, 10 years younger, had admired his near-neighbour Meagher from afar as a boy; their parents were firm friends. "He always seemed to know where the ball was. He was so graceful. A beautiful follow-through on a stroke. Great body, great shoulders, powerful arms although he was light-limbed. It wasn't until the 1931 All Ireland final, when he was 32, that everyone recognised Lory's talent. But we'd seen him play in his mid-20s and that was the time he was really good."

Watched by a record attendance of 34,692 which yielded gate receipts of £2,999 1s 3d, the first half was a dour affair. Clare led by 0-3 to 0-2 at the break. Power hit a goal for Kilkenny shortly after the resumption. Then Meagher and White, the Tullaroan clubmates, linked up and turned the game on its head.

Twice in the space of four minutes Meagher flighted sideline balls in head-high towards the Railway End goalmouth, the first from under the old Hogan Stand, the second from the opposite wing. Twice White, lurking with intent, was on hand to connect. Twice Dr Tommy Daly, Clare's fabled goalkeeper, was beaten. Kilkenny led by eight points and looked home and hosed.

It wasn't over yet, however. The Munster champions rallied in the closing quarter and hit two goals to cut the leeway to two points. They would have been closer still, Martin believes, had they not employed Mick Falvey at right-half forward. "He was a natural midfielder and kept dropping back there. He would have made a difference had he been there the whole time.

"I got a bit jittery when Clare came to within two points of us. Jimmy Walsh said, 'We'll have to do something about this.' Mattie Power did, got a point that made the gap three points." Famously, Clare had a chance of levelling when Considine gained possession in the dying minutes. Looking on from full-forward at the far end of the field, Martin was sure that Considine would score. But Podge Byrne intervened and gave him a nudge. "Tull only barely touched the ball in trying to connect with it, more or less hit fresh air. Podge got it and cleared it. That was the winning of it." The final whistle sounded with Kilkenny 3-3 to 2-3 in front.

Sadly, Clare were not to pass that way again for another 63 years. Next morning Considine told White and Paddy Phelan

that they were young enough to win another medal. "I'll never win one now," he added wistfully. "I'm gone too far." In later years, Phelan publicly stated that losing to Clare in 1932 wouldn't have broken his heart. Martin isn't sure he'd have been so magnanimous. "Certainly we'd have begrudged it to them at the time. I was young, it was my first All Ireland medal, I couldn't be sure I'd win another one. But looking back, you wouldn't have minded so much."

The new champions travelled home by train on the Monday evening. They reached Kilkenny "with fog signals going off by the new time" and were carried shoulder-high the long way around town, via Greensbridge and Irishtown and up High Street, to be received at City Hall by the members of the Corporation. Our man was relieved simply to get there, for his circuit of the city had been painful in the extreme. "A big guy under you on one side, a small guy under you on the other side. Murder. It was Kilkenny's first All Ireland win in 10 years. There were an awful lot of young people who had never seen one before, so the crowds were huge, on the platforms of the stations on the way home as well as in the city itself. Why it was so good was because people had wondered if our form in 1931 was a flash in the pan. The '32 final proved that it wasn't."

Different times, different hurling. "There was a lot of centre-field play because of the heavy ball. That's why you had so many good centrefield men. Timmy Ryan of Limerick, Jim Hurley of Cork, Mick Gill from Galway, Lory. Lots of overhead striking, which used to be lovely. Aerial hurling from one backline to the other backline. But the lads today have to be very fit because the ball travels so fast, and I like that too."

Martin was sufficiently versatile to line out in all the forward positions during his intercounty career. In the 1935 All Ireland final against Limerick he featured in three different positions, starting off at left-half forward on Mickey Crosse and moving to top of the right in direct opposition to Mick Kennedy after Johnny Dunne was injured before fetching up for the second half at centre-forward on Paddy Clohosey. "They were no easy men to mark. We beat a better team than ourselves that day. Limerick were at their peak." One of Kilkenny's goals in their 2-5 to 2-4 victory the same sodden afternoon was scored by

Martin, from ^ yes ^ a Meagher lineball from under the Hogan Stand. Martin caught it on the 21-yard line but, crucially, hesitated. As he did so, the Limerick defenders moved out and let their guard down. He let fly with a drop-puck "and knew it was in because I saw the rain falling off the net. Had I hit it instead of waiting, they would have stopped it."

And Now Again-

After ten years in Waterford, he moved to Cork in the summer of 1939 and hurled with Blackrock, then on to Dublin in 1948, upon which he became a baker. (First a butcher, then a baker. One of these days he'll probably get around to candlestick-making.) But he's never forgotten where he comes from; the sight of the black and amber continues to warm his heart. His nephew Mick Crotty won four All Ireland medals with the county in the 1970s, and Kilkenny matches in Croke Park remain a cause for pilgrimage. The usual gang from Tullaroan ^ Billy Gaffney, John Walton, Dick and Eamon Holland ^ call up to him in Glasnevin beforehand, maybe have a drink, bring him down to Croke Park and drop him home afterwards.

There is nobody better equipped to trace the lineage of modern-day Kilkenny hurlers. Take John Hoyne, for instance. Easy one. Martin knew his great-grandfather Paddy well. "Bonnetstown had a team in 1935. John Hoyne, Paddy's son, was in goal. A good goalie too. They won the junior championship, beat Slieverue in the final. The following year they reached the intermediate final and lost to Slieverue. My brother Michael (the long-established High Street chemist) was on the same team." Purely in the interests of accuracy, dear Yearbook reader, we checked the records in Tom Ryall's *Kilkenny: The GAA Story*. Those two finals did have those very outcomes. Foolish of us to have even bothered.

Any ambitions, Martin? "I can't say I have. Well, maybe to live another couple of years. They tell me I'm on bonus time!"

Some bonus time. Some life. Some man.



KILKENNY ALL IRELAND SH CHAMPIONS 1933

Back Row: Sean McCarthy (President GAA), Jimmy Walsh, Podge Byrne, John Farrell, Jimmy O'Connell, Lory Meagher, Rev Willie Brennan.
Middle Row: Jack Keoghan, Dick O'Sullivan, Eddie Byrne, Martin Power, Jim Dermody, Peter O'Reilly, Paddy Phelan, Tommy Leahy, Sean Gibbons (Chairman Co Board), Mick Dalton (Train er).
Front Row: John Fitzpatrick, Jack Duggan, Paddy Larkin, Eddie Doyle (Capt), Martin White, Tommy Grace, Mattie Power, Johnnie Dunne.

A Sting in the Tail!

Leinster U21 Campaign

Barrie Henriques

The involvement of the County under-21 players in Championship fare was short lived indeed. Drawn against Wexford in Nowlan Park in the Leinster semi-final, expectations were more than confident that they would reach the Provincial winning stage. It was not to be.

On a balmy evening, Kilkenny dictated the tempo of this game all the way to the finish, or at least all the way to the second last puck of the sliothar.

They had set a blistering pace from the off, and raced into a 0-6 to 0-1 lead by the sixth minute. They looked exceptionally impressive. Senior panelist Brian Dowling was accuracy personified. Eddie Walsh too, from Graignamanagh, never missed from his scoring attempts. Gerry Byrne and Paul Doherty were no less impressive, but Wexford slowly calmed down the Kilkenny enthusiasm midway through that first half. They even managed to reduce the deficit to three points by the time, Referee, Eamonn Morris, blew the half time whistle: Kilkenny 0-10, Wexford 0-7.

The accuracy of the Kilkenny forwards, for some inexplicable reason, seemed to have been spirited away from early in the second half. They were guilty of some woefully bad shooting. Wexford, never known to look a gift horse in the mouth, rode their good fortune for all it was worth. By the end of the third quarter, the sides were level at 0-12 apiece. Again Eddie Walsh nudged Kilkenny into a one-point lead with a good free, but the Wexford men came thundering back with a levelling point from Diarmuid Lyng. Still Kilkenny fought to wrest the initiative from the Slaneysiders. Two remarkable points from Aidan "Taggy" Fogarty from an impossible angle out on the sideline, and an equally delightful effort from Micheal Grace, from the 45 yard line, renewed Kilkenny hope that the Wexford lads had been done and dusted. Their traditional fighting heritage was momentarily forgotten. In the third minute of added time, the Wexford hurling phoenix came to life to take the last curtain call. Not defiant or anything like that, more symbolic. As the crowd roared their approval of a great finishing climax, the ball was worked to young Rory Jacob. The young Wexford Lochinvar tore straight through the heart of the Kilkenny defence, and his angled rising shot was but a blur, as it flew into the net behind David Herity. The word has not been coined to describe the throes of depres-



Hand pass under pressure.....Paul Doherty (Kilkenny) with Pierce Donoghue (Wexford) on his case during their U21 clash in Nowlan Park. Photo Eoin Hennessy

sion into which everyone involved with this Kilkenny team was dumped. For young Jacob, it was Roy of the Rovers stuff. For Bobby Jackman, and his fellow selectors, never mind the players, it was the cruellest kind of execution. Besides those already mentioned, Kilkenny had great performances from Mark Phelan, JJ Delaney, Brian Hogan, and David Herity, who never put a foot wrong in goal. However, the outstanding performer on the field for the entire hour, was Tullaroan's Tommy Walsh. No won-

der he was co-opted onto the Senior panel after this game.

Kilkenny: David Herity, Tommy Walsh, Jackie Tyrrell, Ger Joyce, Walter Burke, Brian Hogan, Mark Phelan, JJ Delaney, Chris O'Neill, Aidan Fogarty (0-1), Shane Hennessy, Gerry Byrne (0-3, one free), Paul Doherty (0-1), Eddie Walsh (0-3), Brian Dowling (0-6, three frees). *Subs (used):* Michael Grace (0-1), Kieran Rafter, Ken Coogan.



Aidan Fogarty (Kilkenny) attacks Wexford down the flank with Thomas Hawkin (Wexford) playing catch up Photo Eoin Hennessy

MARTINS BACK AT THE TOP!

Vale Oil Intermediate Hurling Championship 2002 Review

By Conor Brennan



ST MARTIN'S - VALE OIL INTERMEDIATE HURLING CHAMPIONS 2001

(Photo Eoin Hennessy)

Back: Dick Dooley, Niall Moran, Don Callanan, Kieran Kelly, Shane Cadogan, Conor Kinsella, Martin Dowling, Richard Nolan, Dermot Comerford.

Middle: Aidan Lawlor, Stephen Murphy, Nicky Purcell, Shane Coonan, Niall Maloney (Capt), Ger Doyle, John Dooley, Philip Shore, Michael Mulhall.

Front: Tom Kinsella, Paul Maher, Liam Dowling, Brendan Maher, Eoin McGrath, John Maher, Damien Maher, Alan Murphy, Robert Shore, Dermot Lawlor.

The 2002 Vale Oil Intermediate Hurling Championship proved to be a far more open competition than many had anticipated. At the beginning of the season, most experts would have limited their selection of potential championship favourites to three or four at most. Yet, the matches that followed proved, in the majority of cases, to be very tight affairs and indeed, with some unexpected results.

Even so, both league and championship arrived at the same conclusion, with St. Martin's ending the year as double champions and returning to senior grade after an absence of a couple of years. No one can deny that the spoils went where they deserved, as the Muckalee men were most consistent throughout the season, and when the major questions were asked of them in the county final by Carrickshock, they proceeded to find them.

The league, as with 2001, proved to mirror the performances of the top teams in the championship. The four semi-finalists, Graignamanagh, Carrickshock, John Lockes and St. Martin's, would also succeed in being the four championship semi-finalists. Graignamanagh easily

accounted for Carrickshock, while, following a replay, St. Martin's got the better of John Lockes. St. Martin's then proceeded to secure the first half of their double with a 2-13 to 1-10 victory over Graig-namanagh in the league final.

On Friday, July 26th, James Stephens and Bennettsbridge opened the championship campaign. The match proved to be a one-sided affair, as James Stephens had too much in reserve for the Bridge men and condemned them to a relegation final. James Stephens secured victory either side of the break with eight points on the trot to win 0-23 to 1-9. A potential classic encounter was the local derby between St. Lachtain's and Emeralds in Johnstown. And so it proved. It was a titanic battle from start to finish with little separating the sides throughout. However, it was the Urlingford men who seemed to hold a small advantage all through and managed to get crucial scores at important stages, including two goals in a purple patch in the first half from Thomas Manton and the Emeralds star performer, Aidan Fogarty. Freshford came close to bridging the gap in the second period but late points secured a somewhat surpris-

ing 2-16 to 2-10 victory for the Intermediate newcomers.

In the next first round match, Clara, a team who were unlucky to fall at the last hurdle in 2001, faced Mooncoin, another team with high aspirations. As it proved, Mooncoin's better blend of youth and experience secured a shock result. The Southerners were constantly on top, leading 0-9 to 0-3 at the interval. Despite Clara fighting their way back into contention and being only three points behind midway in the second half, Mooncoin rose the tempo once again and an Eamonn Mackey goal broke Clara hearts. They then added points to finish the game 1-14 to 0-9 victors. In the final match, the Rower-Inistioge avoided a relegation battle and condemned Thomastown to that fate with a comprehensive 4-11 to 2-3 victory in Mullinavat. In dour conditions, the Rower's better goal-scoring ability meant Thomastown had to chase the game throughout and, try as they might, things would not turn around for them. In the relegation final that followed for Thomastown, they suffered a heart-breaking one-point defeat against near neighbours Bennettsbridge and must now operate in the junior grade in the coming year.

The quarter finals saw the four major teams of the league now enter the championship. The first, between Mooncoin and Graignamanagh provided a stirring contest with both sides fighting tooth and nail for victory. In the end, both sides could not be separated as a last minute goal from Ger Walsh secured a second chance for Graignamanagh and left the score 1-18 (Mooncoin) to 4-9 (Graignamanagh). In the replay, Graig made full use of their second chance in another tense encounter. Graig started well, leading 2-8 to 0-5 at the break. However, Mooncoin fought back gradually through the accuracy of Diarmuid Mackey and a goal from the same player gave them hope. But, the Graig defence held firm and a late point from sub John



CARRICKSHOCK - INTERMEDIATE COUNTY FINALISTS 2002

Back: Shane Power, John O'Dwyer, Martin Rohan, Niall Rohan, Paul Barron, Michael Rohan, Edward Power, Brendan Hoynes.
Middle: Tommy Murphy, Patrick Farrell, Pádraig Rohan, Stephen Lonergan, John Dalton, Pat Dwyer, Pádraig McInerney, John Raggett, William Duggan, Michael Rice, Matty Hanrahan, Brian Tennyson.
Front: Pat Tennyson, Paul Kearney, Eamon Phelan, Pat Cleary, Jamie Power, John Murphy, Richie Power, John Tennyson.
Eoin Hennessy

INTERMEDIATE HURLING CHAMPIONSHIP 2002	
1st Round	
Jas Stephens 0-23,	Bennettsbridge 1-9
Emeralds 2-16	St. Lachtain's 2-11
Mooncoin 1-14	Clara 0-9
R-Inistioge 4-11	Thomastown 2-3
Quarter-Finals:	
G'managh 4-9	Mooncoin 1-18
<i>Replay</i>	
G'managh 2-13	Mooncoin 1-12
St. Martin's 4-18	Emeralds 1-13
John Lockes 1-13	Rower-Inistioge 1-12
Carrickshock 2-16	James Stephens 1-9
Semi-Finals	
St. Martin's 0-16	John Lockes 1-9
Carrickshock 0-18	Graignamanagh 2-8
Final	
St. Martin's 0-14,	Carrickshock 0-13

Carroll gave them a hard-earned win.

After their victory over St. Lachtain's, the Emeralds went into their match with St. Martin's with confidence high to cause a potential upset. However, this did not prove to be the case. Despite starting in a whirlwind fashion, scoring 1-5 in the first 10 minutes and leading by three points at half time, the pattern of the game changed completely in the second period. St. Martin's tacked on numerous scores while Emeralds were limited to just two points. Having scored a crucial goal before the break to keep his side in touch, Niall Maloney proved to be the anchor-man for his side, scoring a further 2-1 in the second period and demoralising the Urlingford men in the process, giving St. Martin's a 4-18 to 1-13 victory and signalling their intent to all other teams.

John Lockes left it late in their match against the Rower-Inistioge to secure passage to the semi-finals. A late goal from substitute Stuart Donovan secured a 1-13 to 1-12 victory, but not after the Rower had given the Callan men a few frights along the way. In the fourth quarter final, Carrickshock, a team whom many

neutrals saw as potential championship favourites, underlined this view with a 2-16 to 1-9 victory over James Stephens. After a cautious first half from both sides with the Southerners leading 2-5 to 1-7, the winners moved to a higher gear, thanks to scores from Jamie Power, Michael Rice and Paddy Farrell, to which the Village had no answer.

So now we had our semi-final pairings – St. Martin's taking on John Lockes while Carrickshock faced Graignamanagh with an opportunity to overturn a heavy defeat in the league semi-final. In the opening semi-final, St. Martin's had to fight hard for a victory over the Callan men. In all, it was a game that lacked any kind of spark in proceedings. St. Martin's held the scoring advantage all through the game, leading 0-10 to 0-5 at the interval. David Lynch pulled a goal back to leave Callan only two points behind, but they could not sufficiently build on this incentive to further challenge the winners. The game eventually went towards an uneventful conclusion with St. Martin's pulling through with a 0-16 to 1-9 victory.

The second semi-final certainly provided more entertainment a week later. Here, Carrickshock were pushed all the way by a determined Graignamanagh, eventually securing a county final berth on a 0-18 to 2-8 scoreline. The major difference between the two sides was the ability of the winners to hit back whenever the Graig men posed a threat, in particular through the scoring ability of Paul Kearney, Richie and Jamie Power and the industry of midfielder Paddy Farrell. However, it was not until the final quarter

that Carrickshock opened up and gained a seven-point lead. John Carroll managed to goal a 21 yard free for Graig, yet despite their domination that followed, they could pull back the deficit no further



There can only be one winner.....**Paul Maher** (St. Martins) and **Richie Power** (Carrickshock) jump together for the sliotar, in their Vale Oil IHC Final
Photo Eoin Hennessy



James McGarry (Bennettsbridge) blocks down **Richie Bolger** (Thomastown) in their Vale Oil IHC Relegation Final in Ballyhale. *Eoin Hennessy*



Richie Power (Carrickshock) fires another ball over the bar as **Paul Hamilton** (Graignamanagh) can only watch, in the IHC Semi-Final. *Eoin Hennessy*

and Paul Kearney sealed victory for Carrickshock following a pass from Paddy Farrell.

And so we reached the climax of the intermediate championship with two teams who many were convinced would provide a truly great final. Prior to the final, both sides could now claim potential match-winners in attack and true dependability in defence. The opening thrusts suggested that the expectancy many people had was justified. Dermot Lawlor and Richie Power ensured the ascendancy swung back and forth early on through

their unerring accuracy, in particular the former, who was a real threat from play and frees in the opening half. It resulted in the Muckalee side holding a three point lead at the break (0-8 to 0-5). With the breeze at their backs for the second half, Carrickshock made a major effort to bridge the gap through frees from Ritchie Power, but wayward shooting from play would cost them dearly, as well as a sterling performance by Aidan Lawlor at centre-back. St. Martin's grew in strength from this and points from Dermot Lawlor (his ninth in total) and Shane Coonan, gave them a four-point lead with 10 minutes left. Carrickshock, in true form, now

mounted a revival, with two points from Richie Power and one from sub Brian Tennyson. Shane Coonan scored what turned out to be the vital score soon after but Richie Power scored another free, his seventh in all. It now seemed that the Southerners might snatch an unlikely draw when they were awarded a free half-way out near the sideline. Power stepped up bravely, but dragged his shot to the left and this proved to be the last action in a titanic battle. St. Martin's had deservedly returned to the senior grade, thus erasing the disappointment of losing at the same stage two years previously.



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Joe Pyke (Chairman, Bord na nOg) and **Larry Dinenn** (Sponsor, Iarnród Éireann) present Carrickshock captain **Paddy Mulcahy** with the Iarnród Éireann Minor Roinn "A" Cup after their defeat of Graigue-Ballycallan.



NEW REFEREES FOR 2002

Back: Ger Rafter (Threecastles), Eddie Crowley (Mooncoin), Dominic Connolly (Mooncoin), Thomas Duggan (Mullinavat), Harold Stone (St Patricks), Peter Holland (Tullaroan),
Front: Sean Brennan (James Stephens), Sean Cleere (O'Loughlin Gaels), Patricia Kennedy (Young Irelands), Sinead Curran (Emeralds), Kathrine Ryan (Emeralds), Ollie O'Neill (Barrow Rangers), Pascal Connolly (Shamrocks).



Chairman of the Kilkenny County Board, Mr Ned Quinn, presenting referees outfits Mr to Thomas Duggan, Chairman Kilkenny GAA Referees Association early this year



LORETO SECONDARY SCHOOL LEINSTER COLLEGES SENIOR A CAMOGIE CHAMPIONS 2002

Back: Fiona Dowling (Freshford), Margaret Byrne (St Brigid's), Aoife Fitzpatrick (Freshford), Elaine O'Neill (James Stephens), Aine Fahey (Emeralds) & Laoighseach Quigley (Clara).
Middle: Deirdre Delaney (Freshford), Catherine Kavanagh (Freshford), Breda Kavanagh (Freshford), Danielle Minogue (Freshford), Caitriona Kavanagh (Freshford), Grace McCormack (Muckalee), Aoife Quigley (Clara), Fiona Phelan (Clara) & Eileen Fitzpatrick (Freshford).
Front: Mairead Lawler (Freshford), Sinead Corrigan (Freshford), Caitriona McCormack (Captain) (Freshford), Grace Dermody (Freshford), Noelle Corrigan (Freshford) & Nicola Minogue (Freshford).

The Loreto Secondary School won the Leinster Colleges Senior A Camogie Championship for the second year in succession and the fourth time overall when they defeated Colaiste Bríde (Enniscorthy) in this years final. En route to the final, they defeated Presentation (Kilkenny) & St Brigid's College (Callan) and received a walk-over from F.C.J. Bunclody.

In a thrilling match which they led from the start, belieing their status as underdogs, the Loreto team eventually won by a single goal. Co-incidentally, their three previous final victories had all been against the same opposition.

A poor performance for the first ten minutes against their opposition, Portumna Community School, from Galway left them with too much ground to make up in the All-Ireland semi-final & they eventually lost very narrowly.

Later in the year, the school (Captained by Elaine O'Neill (James Stephens)) also won the Leinster Colleges 7-a-side Camogie Championship, for a record eighth time.

The school also contested the Leinster Colleges Junior A final in which they were defeated by Colaiste Bríde (Enniscorthy), the delayed Leinster Colleges 7-a-side 2001 final in which they were defeated by St Brigid's College (Callan) & the Kilkenny Colleges First Year final in which St Brigid's College (Callan) were also victorious.

Wexford Refuse to Die!

Kilkenny Intermediate Hurlers 2002

Barrie Henriques

On Wednesday, June 26th Kilkenny were hauled to Dublin to play the Metropolitans in the first round of the Leinster Intermediate Hurling Championship. Now Kilkenny won on a score of 2-26 to 0-6, and counting. OK, so it was a bit of a drubbing- something like what might happen if the Dubs came to play Kilkenny in football, but the point is, that Kilkenny were forced, by whatever circumstance, to travel on the M50 in the height of the rush hour traffic, and then try and negotiate Dublin's heaviest traffic on the Swords-Balbriggan road to get to the Fingallians GAA Park. I am still trying to work out the rationale of that scenario.

However, it is not for us mere mortals to work out the whys and wherefores of the GAA planning psyche. It was a far different proposition for Maurice Power and his fellow selectors as they travelled to the magnificent Wexford Park on the Wednesday evening after the Leinster Senior Final.

A relatively large crowd—mostly Wexford—was in good voice when referee, John Sheridan from Kildare threw in the sliothar.

It took considerable time for this game to get up a head of steam. Kilkenny were somewhat unfocussed and a little lethargic. There were so many similarities between this game and the under-21 semi-final in Nowlan Park seven days previously. In Wexford Park, Kilkenny let the initiative go too easily once they had established it. Kilkenny showed commendable spirit to hit the front at the real right time within minutes of the final whistle, but they allowed the Wexford lads the freedom of the park, when a better expedient would have been to consolidate.

Galmoy's Noel Doherty opened Kilkenny's account with a point

in the 6th minute, but Michael Jacob cancelled that with a like score for Wexford. Ollie O'Connor restored Kilkenny's lead, but Nigel Higgins nullified the advantage.

In the 10th minute, a mis-hit Chris McGrath shot dropped in front of Kilkenny goalie, Richie O'Neill. Corner forward, Eddie Cullen raced in on the blind side of the Kilkenny cover to rocket the slowing ball to the roof of the net. McGrath pointed a free within a minute, and suddenly Wexford led by three points. However, points by Paul Sheehan and Jamie Power reduced the Wexford lead to a single point. This margin was to remain between the sides until the interval when Wexford, having played with the breeze, led 1-6 to 0-8.

Paddy Farrell cancelled the Wexford lead, and captured the lead for his team with two mighty points within a minute of the re-start. Wexford reacted almost immediately. Some dreadful defending and poor clearances eventually were punished by rampant Wexford forwards. Eddie Cullen picked up one such poor clearance, and fed Chris McGrath. McGrath's low drive billowed the back of the Kilkenny net. The Cats were in dire trouble. With true Kilkenny resilience, they clawed their way back, and by the 54th minute, they actually led by four points. It should have been enough to claim the Leinster Cup, but Wexford had were not reading from the same hymn book. Two points by Francis Simpson and two like scores by Chris McGrath forced the game into extra time.

Kilkenny could only manage to shoot two points in the extra time, whereas the homesters had points by Diarmuid Lyng, Chris McGrath (2), and Eddie Cullen to set up a great night of celebration for the lads with the purple over gold jerseys.

Final score— Wexford 2-16, Kilkenny 0-19.

Kilkenny: *Richie O'Neill (Kilmacow), Ken Hughes (Emeralds), Brendan Barcoe (Clara), Shane Lanigan (Thomastown), Paul Costelloe (St.Lachtain's), John Costelloe (St Lachtain's), Eddie Mackey (Mooncoin), Patrick Farrell (Carrickshock) (0-4—two frees), Jamie Power (Carrickshock) (0-1), Paul Sheehan (Rower/Inistioge) (0-1), John Barron (Capt. Tullogher Rosbercon) (0-2), Niall Doherty (Galmoy) (0-1), Brian "Brookie" Phelan (St Patricks, Ballyraggett) (0-1), Austin Cleere (Emeralds), Ollie O'Connor (St Lactains) (0-6—five frees), Subs: Aidan Fogarty (Emeralds), D.Mackey (Mooncoin) (0-2), Aidan Lawlor (St Martins), Pádraig Brennan (Clara), Paul Buggy (Conahy Shamrocks).*



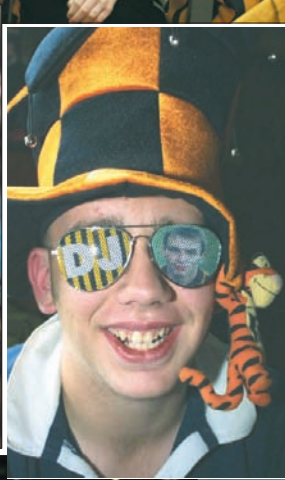
KILKENNY INTERMEDIATE HURLING TEAM- LEINSTER FINALISTS 2002

Back: Aidan Lalor, Eddie Mackey, Paul Costelloe, Shane Lanigan, Brendan Barcoe, Jamie Power, John Costelloe, Austin Cleere, Patrick Farrell, Richie O'Neill, Ciarán Muldowney, Michael Brennan, Diarmuid Mackey.

Front: Paul Buggy, Joe Ryan, Brian "Brookie" Phelan, John Barron (Capt.), Paul Sheehan, Ken Hughes, Ollie O'Connor, Noel Doherty, Aidan Fogarty, Ger Joyce, Pádraig Brennan.

Photo: Eoin Hennessy.

KILKENNY FANS



Coon Muckalee Make HISTORY

A Year of Mixed Fortunes
Cumann na mBunscoileanna Report by Noel Murphy



Coon/Muckalee - Roinn A Under-13 Hurling Champions 2002

Back Row: Darren Holohan, Jamie O'Brien, Sean Ryan, Conor Kelly, Patrick Lawlor, Keith Davitt, Thomas Breen, Stephen Shore.
Middle Row: Ollie Walsh, Ger Walsh, Canice Maher, Sean Meany, Michael Nolan, Ciarán Brennan, Roderick Hogan, Tomás, Coonan.
Front Row: Patrick Dowling, Geoff Doyle, Cornelius O'Flynn, Colin McGrath (Captain), John Haughney Andrew Ring, Sean Hennessy, Cathal Healy.

At schools level there are years when one or other team emerges triumphant, winning all around them as it were. Last year, 2001 for example, was such a year for Clara, when they took the GAA/INTO Mini Sevens, the Corn de Bháldraithe and the Roinn A Hurling trophies. This year, 2002, has not had the same clear leader, though Coon/Muckalee would be in contention with wins in the Roinn A Football, Corn na Tuaithe Football and for their first time ever, the Educational Supplies Roinn A hurling. Ballyhale also, had a successful year with wins in the GAA/INTO Mini Sevens both Hurling and Football (boys) in addition to the Tedcastle Oils Corn de Bháldraithe (Country Cup).

The Educational Supplies Roinn B final this year set brother against brother, with team mentors Pat (Mooncoin) and Tom (Carrickshock) Duggan locked in battle. Both teams had been disappointed finalists in their respective leagues in the football and eventual victory for Carrickshock means their return to competition in Roinn A next year where they will no doubt be looking forward to giving a good account of themselves. Tedcastle Oils Roinn C was won by

Gowran with a 4 point victory over Glenmore and the Tedcastle Oils Roinn D Cup was taken by Conahy in a two point victory in a replay over St Canice's.

The Tedcastle Oils Corn de Bháldraithe produced 100 minutes of thrilling hurling by old rivals Ballyhale and Kilmanagh where the 5 point winning margin for Ballyhale in the replay could be deceptive since for most of the duration of the two matches there was no more than a point or two between the teams.

Sponsors

Our thanks are extended once more this year to our sponsors whose generous support is so important to the continued success of our competitions. At national level, Allianz are sponsors of Cumann na mBunscol while at local level in Kilkenny our thanks go to:

Educational Supplies - Roinn A Hurling and Roinn B Hurling

Tedcastle Oils - Hurling League Roinn C/D, Corn de Bháldraithe

Toymaster, High St. Prop. M. Crotty - Roinn B Football

GAA/INTO Mini Sevens Hurling

The boys of Ballyhale were the eventual winners of the county competition out of

a starting field of 28 teams. The finals at Palmerstown saw a shock defeat of favourites Clara by Mooncoin. At the end of the day Ballyhale emerged winners on score difference and had the honour of representing Kilkenny at the Regional Festival held this year in the spillover of rain in Taghmon, Co. Wexford. At the Regional festivals players are selected to participate in the Mini Sevens exhibition matches in Croke Park during the All-Ireland Semi-Finals and Final. Three boys were selected for Croke Park, which is an exceptional achievement. Enda Fitzpatrick played during the Semi Final and Colin Fennelly and James Walsh played on All-Ireland Day.

Camogie

Mullinavat were county winners in the Mini Sevens Camogie competition and participated in the Regional Festival at Taghmon. Regina Madigan was the player chosen to play for Kilkenny in the Mini Sevens exhibition match at the All Ireland Hurling Final. This was Regina's second time to represent her county in Croke Park as she was selected last year in the Girl's Football Mini Sevens while she was only in Fifth class.

Football (Boys)



BALLYHALE - CORN DE BHÁLDRAITHE CHAMPIONS 2002

Back: Michael Fennelly (Mentor), Brendan Muldoon, Thomas Hession, Alan Cuddihy, Patrick O'Neill, Aiden Frisby, Gary Fitzpatrick, Enda Fitzpatrick, Colin Fennelly, James Walsh, Eoin Knox, Helen Dermody, Clodagh Doyle, Stephen Burke, Tom-s O'Dowd (Mentor), Richard Deasey.
 Front: John Connolly, Darren Mason, Micheal Kelly, Chris Murphy, Emmett Holden, Richard Reid, Conor Walsh, Eoin Long, Margaret Mary Fennelly, Martin Duggan, Gavin Butler, Eoghan Grace, Eoin Doyle.



CARRICKSHOCK - ROINN B LEAGUE CHAMPIONS 2002

Back: Gerard McGrath, Thomas Walsh, Joseph Holden, Mark O'Dwyer, Niall Smith, William Hoyne(Capt.), Andrew Power, Luke Gaule, Damien Walsh, Philip McBride.
 Middle: Stephen Brennan, Ian Duggan, Brian Donovan, Seamus Millea, Conor O'Farrell, John Cahill, Liam Holden, Niall Mullally, Joseph Fennelly, Shane Carr.
 Front: Ray O'Dwyer, Brian O Farrell, Eamon Foley, James Gaule, Christopher Roche, John Power, Ciarán Phelan, JFrisby.



GOWRAN - ROINN C LEAGUE CHAMPIONS 2002

Back: Dick O'Neill NT, Dara Keogh, Ben O'Connor, David Doyle, Sean Keogh, JJ Lennon, Paul Keogh, Michael Hutchinson, Danny Glendon, John Knox NT.
 Middle: Patrick Lennon, Vincent Byrne, Andrew Prendergast, Jack O'Connor, Jody Foley, Andrea McEvoy, Mikey Dreehan.
 Front: Colin Dreehan, Chris Nolan, Anthony McEvoy, Richie Barcoe, Michael Walsh (Capt), Paul Holden, Niall Walsh, Stephen Nolan.

Ballyhale were winners in this competition at county level and the ten-man squad took part in the Regional Festival in Carlow. Thomas Hession was selected to play in Croke Park on Football Semi-Final day.

Football (Girls)

The winners of the county competition were the girls from Owing/Temporum. Selected at the Regional Festival were Katie Power and Elaine Kenny, who represented their school and county in Croke Park on Sept 1st to play for Dublin against Armagh.

Handball

20 schools were represented in this years Cumann na mBunscol Handball Skill Awards. A total of 125 children (32 girls and 93 boys) participated. The Beginners groups in each age category, once again proved very popular. 20 girls and 56 boys participated in these Beginners groups. 12 girls and 37 boys competed in the A competitions. The winners in each category represented Kilkenny in the Leinster Competitions in Carlow and the following boys and girls qualified for the National Handball Skill Awards Day in Croke Park:- *Michael O'Brien, Tina O'Brien, Rebecca & Claire Mulholland, Eamonn Foley & Mark O'Dwyer.*
Well done to all participants.

EDUCATIONAL SUPPLIES ROINN A HURLING FINAL 2002

Coon/Muckalee 1-7 Kilkenny CBS 2-1.

Coon/Muckalee are the Educational Supplies Roinn A schools champions for 2002. In defeating Kilkenny CBS in an exciting final at Nowlan Park on June 28th, these young boys made history for the parish of



CONAHY - ROINN D LEAGUE CHAMPIONS 2002

Back: Michael Egan, Noreen O'Keeffe, David Healy, Andrew O'Keeffe, Gary Kavanagh, Donal Brennan, Kieran Mooney, Pauric Hally, Teilo Maher, Rachel Coady, Danika Dunne, Jamie-Ann Cuddihy.

Front: Sarah Maher, Barry Waters, Pauric Harding, PaddyMullan, James Murphy, Mariga Nolan, Aisling Cass, Phillip Murphy, John Coady, Lorraine Cass, Tom Mullan, John Mullan, Lisa Nolan, Padraig Delaney.



KILKENNY CBS - EDUCATIONAL SUPPLIES LEAGUE ROINN A FINALISTS 2002

Back: Miss A. Moloney (Coach) Gary Meany, Oisin Walsh, Bernard Mahony, Patrick Cantwell, Martin Gaffney, Bill Gannon, Sean Doherty, Paul Barrett, Daniel Kenny, Richard Mahony, Robert Delaney, Shane Claffey, Simon O'Shea, Shane O'Neill, Mr. C.O'Neill (Trainer)

Middle: Ciaran Brennan, Adrian Stapleton, Michael Kelleher, Christopher Lambert (Capt.), Kevin Manning, Michael Dunne, Enda Malone.

Front: Ciaran Hickey, Laurence Burke, Killian Murphy, Sam Dunlop, Craig Eardley, Eamon Campion, Brian Dollard, John Traynor, Jesse Watters.
(Missing From Photo—Darren Rowe, Stephen Murphy, Michael McDonald.)



KILMANAGH- CORN DE BHÁLDRAITHE FINALISTS 2002

Front: Liam Doyle, David O'Dea, Dermot Heafey, Daragh Twomey, John Robinson, Martin Doheny, Damien Carroll, Stephen Butler.

Middle: David Kennedy, Stephen Kenna, Conor Hogan, James Power, Justin Dermody, Damien Maher, Jamie Hillman, Thomas Purcell, Daragh Marnell.

Back: Gerard Hall, P.J. Delaney, Ciarán Neary (Capt) Niall Cleere, Philip Heafey, Joseph Johnson, Darren Cleere, Paul Harrison, Eoghan Doheny.



MOONCOIN - ROINN B LEAGUE FINALISTS 2002

Back: Nicky Mc Carthy, Jim Power, Darren Coffey, William Hughes, Shane Kelly, Ann-Marie Phelan, Elaine O Shea, Aine Delaney, Mandy Egan, Katie Kirwan, Aisling Mc Cormack, Lynne Power.

Middle: J.J. Dunphy, Connor Coffey, Eoghan Wallace, Patrick Kenneally, James Kelly, Luke Fahy, Richard Carney, Brendan Martin, Michael Hoyne.

Front: Clodagh Phelan, Alison Delehunty, Caroline Mc Carthy, Fiona Delaney, James Kehoe, Mark Cleary.

Muckalee. This was their first Roinn A hurling title at schools grade and their victory crowned a great year in which they had earlier won the Roinn A football and Corn na Tuaithe titles.

Their victory completely belied their earlier league form where they found themselves eighth of the nine teams in the competition. However, by then, fields which had been soft and heavy in the early rounds began to dry out and the smaller Coon/Muckalee players began to express themselves in the improving conditions. A thrilling quarter final victory over league-toppers, Clara, followed by an equally close victory over Kilmannagh, saw the North Kilkenny boys into their first ever premier final. Here, the ability of Coon/Muckalee to hang on defiantly to a dearly-built lead saw them through in the end against a CBS team who threw everything at them in the tense closing quarter.

Conditions were ideal and CBS started the better, putting intense pressure on the Coon/Muckalee defence where full-back Conor Kelly cleared some vital balls to keep them in the game at this early stage and, indeed, his mature full-back play was a feature of the game. He was ably assisted by centre back Colin McGrath, who got in some long clearances. Pressure was eased when Colin opened the scoring for Coon/Muckalee with a pointed free. Minutes later he added a second before the lively Thomas Breen netted for a vital goal for the country boys, giving them a lead 1-2 to 0-0. The physically stronger CBS team came more into the game at this stage and the powerful Adrian Stapleton broke through for two unstoppable goals in quick succession to give CBS a one point lead.

Coon/Muckalee rallied again and forced CBS defence to concede two frees, which were pointed by the ever-accurate Colin McGrath to leave the halftime



GLENMORE - ROINN C LEAGUE FINALISTS 2002

Back: Eamonn Jones, Eoin Murphy, James Irish, Darren Aylward, Denis O'Dwyer, Ciaran Doherty, Jim Kenny, Patrick Connick, Claire Aylward, David Aylward.

Front: Luke O'Connor, Colm Hennessy, Ciaran Foran, David Boyle, James Aylward, Paul Lyons, Colm Foran, Gerard Aylward, Ruth Jones.



ST CANICE'S ROINN D FINALISTS 2002

Back: C. Browne, E Cantwell, D Glynn, D McNamara, B Donegan, R Kavanagh Dunne, C Gough, P Byrne, C Dawson, J Horan,

Middle: S Johnston, C Kavanagh, C Tynan, R MC Phillips, E Guilfoyle, C Buckley, S Closshehy, A Nolan, E Walsh C McPartlan, H Walshe.

Front: A. Cantwell, C Kennedy, R McPartlan, Ml. Hayes, C Manning, A Ryan, J Keohane, N Butler, C O Shea.

score 1-4 to 2-0.

Adrian Stapleton levelled the game early in the new half with a well-taken point. CBS were getting the upper hand when Coon/Muckalee goalie, John Haughney brought off a brilliant save to give the local boys a badly needed boost. Corner backs, Patrick Dowling and Gerard Walsh came more into the game and denied CBS passage to goal, time and time again. Wing backs, Canice Maher and Geoffrey Doyle got in some fine clearances to ease the pressure. Ollie Walsh and Jamie O'Brien at midfield fought hard for every ball.

The half forward line of Ciarán Brennan, Roderick Hogan and Tomás Coonan caused endless problems for the CBS defence while Darren Holohan also worked hard until replaced by Michael Nolan before halftime. Coon/Muckalee full forward line of Andrew Ring, Thomas Breen and Michael Nolan posed more problems for CBS defence forcing them to concede frees in the closing stages, which Colin McGrath pointed to give Coon/Muckalee a well deserved three point win.

The downfall of CBS was probably their persistence in going for goals and conceding needless frees which were consistently punished by Colin McGrath who was an outstanding presence throughout the game. Nevertheless, Kilkenny CBS gallantly maintained their unrelenting assault on the Coon/Muckalee goal right to the very end. The CBS defence was well served by Enda Malone, John Traynor and Paul Barrett. Christopher Lambert tried valiantly at midfield while Oisín Walsh, Sam Dunlop, Bill Gannon and the formidable Adrian Stapleton in the CBS attack always threatened a solid Muckalee defence. Sean Doherty in the CBS goal could not be faulted.

Coon/Muckalee: John Haughney, Patrick Dowling, Conor Kelly Ger Walsh, Canice Maher, Colin McGrath (Captain), Geoffrey Doyle, Oliver Walsh, Jamie O'Brien, Ciarán Brennan, Roderick Hogan, Darren Holohan, Tomás Coonan, Thomas Breen Andrew Ring, *Subs:* Michael Nolan for D Holohan, Cornelius O'Flynn, Sean Meany, Stephen Shore, Sean Ryan, Keith Davitt, Cathal Healy, Patrick Lawlor, Sean Hennessy.

Kilkenny CBS: Sean Doherty, Martin Gaffney, Enda Malone, Craig Eardley, Patrick Cantwell, John Traynor, Paul Barrett, Christopher Lambert (Capt.), Adrian Stapleton, Oisín Walsh, Bill Gannon, Ciaran Brennan, Sam Dunlop, Gary Meany, Kevin Manning. *Subs:* Michael Kelleher for Ciaran Brennan, Daniel Kenny for M.Kelleher. *Referee:* Ben Hayes

TEDCASTLE OILS CORN DE BHÁLDRAITHE COUNTRY CUP FINAL



Ballyhale - I.N.T.O./G.A.A. Mini-Sevens Hurling Champions 2002.

Back: James Walsh, Thomas Hession, Gary Fitzpatrick, Alan Cuddihy, Eoin Long.

Front: Richard Reid, Colin Fennelly, Enda Fitzpatrick, Conor Walsh.

Insert: Eoin Knox



Owning NS winners of the INTO GAA Mini Sevens in football for the very first time.

Winning the county final was like winning the All Ireland as this was the first major sporting victory for Owning.... Long may it continue !!!

Back: Leanne Long, Elaine Kenny, Lisa Fitzgerald, Fiona Malone

Front: Sarah Healy, Georgina Culleton, Ruth Farrell, Sinead Long

Missing from photo: Katie Power and Eimear Roantree

Ballyhale 2-4 Kilmanagh 2-4

When referee Podge Butler threw in the sliotar who could have known that this was the beginning of 100 minutes of schools hurling at its very best between old rivals Ballyhale and Kilmanagh. These two teams have had some ding dong battles over the years and the final of the Tedcastle Oils Corn de Bháldraithe 2002 was to be no exception. It has often been remarked that when two teams draw the replay can be a one-sided affair with one of the teams losing self belief and caving in. This was in no way the case here and the replay was almost as exciting and every bit as hard-fought as the drawn game.

In the first game Kilmanagh opened the scoring with a pointed free from centre back Eoghan Doheny, but in less than a

minute the sides were level again following a nicely taken point from play by Colin Fennelly. The Kilmanagh combination at centre field of Philip Heafey and P.J. Delaney proved very effective at keeping up a steady pressure on the Ballyhale defence. Seven minutes into the first half a long-range point from Ger Hall and an answering point from Colin Fennelly left the teams level on two points each. The puck out from Ballyhaloe full back Eoin Knox was knocked down by Justin Dermody to his captain Ciarán Neary. Ciarán rounded three Ballyhale players and scored a fine goal in the tenth minute. Three minutes later a further point from Ciarán kept the pressure on the Shamrocks but the Ballyhale boys came back in force with a comeback led by Colin Fennelly, Enda Fitzpatrick and Captain, Brendan



MULLINAVAT CAMOGIE MINI-SEVENS CHAMPIONS 2002

Front: Jennifer Delahunty Susan Fitzpatrick, Elizabeth Cunningham, Sinead Phelan, Alison Duggan, Avril Delahunty, Tara Curtis, Grainne Dalton, Regina Madigan. Grainne Dalton played on semi final day Regina Madigan played on final day.

Muldoon, resulting eventually in a point from Brendan Muldoon. The constant pressure from the Graigue/Ballycallan men was resisted bravely by the Ballyhale defence, with fine leadership by James Walsh and solid performances from Helen Dermody, Eoin Knox and Gary Fitzpatrick. In spite of the solid defending Kilmanagh registered another point before the half time whistle and leaving the scoreline at half time Kilmanagh 1-4 Ballyhale 0-3.

The strong breeze from the town end favoured Ballyhale in the second half. The battle continued up and down the field at full pelt for the first ten minutes which remained scoreless despite several near misses by both sides. Excellent performances were put in by Ballyhale's Margaret Mary Fennelly, no. 12 Eoin Long and mid-fielder Chris Murphy, while Kilmanagh's centre-field combination of Philip Heafey and P.J. Delaney and centre forwards Stephen Kenna, Justin Dermody and Ger Hall did great work. Then in the twelfth minute James Walsh sent a scorching penalty to the back of the goal and five minutes later he sent another free in to rattle the Kilmanagh net. This was followed by a penalty to Kilmanagh in the 30th minute which resulted in a goal by Ciar-n Neary putting his team back into the lead by the narrowest of margins. But their lead was short lived when James Walsh's free from the centre of the field was snapped up by Colin Fennelly and popped over the bar with deadly accuracy. This brought the sides level at 2-4 each and with the remaining three minutes scoreless, that is how the match ended.

Replay

Ballyhale 4-6 Kilmanagh 3-4

The replay took place in Nowlan Park on a sunny 26th of June with Ballyhale defending the country goal. James Walsh, Ballyhale's mid-fielder and free taker opened the scoring with a pointed free from the 21. A goal from Captain Brendan Muldoon gave Ballyhale a 1-1 lead after four minutes. Kilmanagh goalie

blocked a low shot from a James Walsh free deflecting the shot over the bar and increasing the Ballyhale lead to 1-2 with eight minutes gone in the first half. The Graigue men fought back hard at this point but the Ballyhale defenders held the line, with solid performances from Helen Dermody, Gary Fitzpatrick and Eoin Knox in the full back line and half backs Alan Cuddihy, Brendan Muldoon and Aiden Frisby. The Kilmanagh drive resulted in several near misses but the scoreline remained unchanged until Ciar-n Neary scored a point from a free from 20 yards out. A further point from Justin Dermody from play rewarded Kilmanagh's sustained assault on the Ballyhale goal. Colin Fennelly added to the Ballyhale lead with a lovely run and a perfect finish in the back of the net. The score now Ballyhale 2-2 and pointed free by Ciar-n Neary brought Kilmanagh's tally to 0-3.

A blistering shot from Dermot Heafey almost brought Kilmanagh a much needed first goal but Ballyhale goalie Conor Walsh intercepted and cleared. A fine point from the centre of the field by P.J. Delaney was followed by that long awaited first goal for Kilmanagh scored by Captain Ciar-n Neary. The score at half time was Ballyhale 2-2 to Kilmanagh's 1-4.

Kilmanagh had a big boost to their spirits after two minutes of play in the second half with a goal. A quick response from Colin Fennelly, Ballyhale's untiring centre forward brought Kilmanagh's newfound lead back to one point. A point from Brendan Muldoon brought the sides level again with eight minutes played in the second half. A pointed free from James Walsh brought Ballyhale into the lead again. There followed a period of play mainly in the vicinity of the Kilmanagh goal, all of this attack paid off in the form of a point scored by Enda Fitzpatrick from a pass by Colin Fennelly. Twenty minutes into the second half a pass from Justin Dermody was sent to the back of the Ballyhale net by Ciar-n Neary and Graigue/Ballycallan were



Brothers in Arms

Brothers Pat and Tom Duggan who were opposing managers of Mooncoin and Carrickshock, respectively, in this year's Hennessy Fuels Roinn B League Final.

back in the driving seat with a scoreline of Kilmanagh 3-4 to Ballyhale's 2-6. But high drama indeed in the final minutes of the match. Following a tackle on Ballyhale's corner forward, Richard Reid, a penalty was awarded to Ballyhale. With four minutes left in the match, James Walsh sent the sliotar to the back of the net. Kilmanagh's fate was sealed by the same Ricard Reid when he scored a brilliant goal from a Colin Fennelly pass in the final minute of normal time.

Ballyhale: Conor Walsh, Gary Fitzpatrick, Eoin Knox, Helen Dermody, Alan Cuddihy, Brendan Muldoon (1-1)(Capt), Aiden Frisby, James Walsh (1-3), Chris Murphy, Thomas Hession, Colin Fennelly (1-1), Eoin Long, Richard Reid (1-0), Enda Fitzpatrick (0-1), Margaret Mary Fennelly, John Connolly, Clodagh Doyle, Richard Deasey, Gavin Butler, Eoghan Grace, Eoin Doyle, Michá-I Kelly, Patrick O'Neill, Martin Duggan, Darren Mason.

Kilmanagh: James Power, Thomas Purcell, Paul Harrisson, David Kennedy, Niall Cleere, Eoghan Doheny, David O'Dea, Philip Heafey, P.J. Delaney (0-1), Stephen Kenna, Justin Dermody (0-1), Gerard Hall, Conor Hogan, Ciarán Neary (Capt) (3-2), Dermot Heafey, Joseph Johnston, Stephen Butler, Jamie Hillman, Martin Doheny, John Robinson, Damien Maher, Darren Cleere, Damien Carroll, Daragh Twomey, Daragh Marnell, Liam Doyle.

HENNESSY FUELS ROINN B LEAGUE FINAL

Carrickshock 4-3 Mooncoin 2-3

Carrickshock are the new Roinn B Hennessy Fuels League School Hurling Champions after defeating Mooncoin in a pulsating game to get the Cumann na mBunscoileanna Finals off to a great start. An overcast and damp Nowlan Park was the venue for this game which saw two gallant sides give their all. A flying final fifteen minutes saw the boys

from Newmarket, Stoneyford and Monrue pull off a famous win for the parish of Augharvillar.

A tidy breeze was blowing from the Town End of the ground and Carrickshock had first use of it. Liam Walsh was tested early in the game as Carrickshock made the brighter start to the game but the Mooncoin keeper saved well. Carrickshock had a couple of chances to open the scoring but were just wide as both teams took a few minutes to settle into their rhythm. Stephen Crowley had Mooncoin's first chance on 12 minutes before the first score finally came when the skilful Conor O'Farrell pointed for Carrickshock from the right wing. Mooncoin repented well and forced a good save out of Damien Walsh. A few minutes later, Damien Walsh was again tested as Mooncoin enjoyed a period of dominance around the middle. But using the wind well, Carrickshock were dangerous on the break and went close on a couple of occasions. Half time approached and Carrickshock got a fullup right on the stroke of half time when Mark O'Dwyer reacted fastest to a breaking ball and shot to the net. In fact, the same player just missed out on doubling his tally from the puck out but he shot narrowly wide and as the break was called, Carrickshock led by 1-1 to Mooncoin's no score.

If the first half saw scores hard to come by, the second half began with a whirlwind. Within half a minute Carrickshock goaled. Mark O'Dwyer sent the ball in and when it broke around the square, John Power sent the green flag flying with a first time pull. Mooncoin could have been shocked to a standstill but their team had courage in depth. Shane Walsh began the charge and was fouled. Stephen Crowley pointed. In the second minute of the half, Niall O'Hanlon sent in a shot from the right wing which flew to the net off the wet grass and on five minutes Crowley again despatched a dangerous ball in and Eamon Hennebry goaled for Mooncoin. Twenty minutes left and the sides were level at 2-1 each!

Mooncoin looked rampant at this stage and with the wind at their backs they had Carrickshock under fierce pressure. They had a couple of chances blocked before Richard Doyle's shot was blocked out and Niall O'Hanlon blasted hard and shot a point. Just before this score came, in my opinion the turning point of the game. Richard Doyle looked certain to goal from five yards when Carrickshock full back Joseph Holden made an incredible save. Carrickshock were inspired now and Holden and captain William Hoyne began to control events and drive Carrickshock forward. On 14 minutes the ever improving Andrew Power pointed a free to level matters and just two minutes later Niall Smith reacted best to a blocked 65 to goal for Carrickshock. Liam Walsh kept Mooncoin in the game with a fantastic save from Luke Gaule but with four minutes left Andrew Power pointed another free to leave Carrickshock four points clear. Mooncoin battled to the end but when John Power grabbed his second and Carrickshock's fourth goal the destiny of the Hennessy Cup for 2002 was decided. To their credit, Mooncoin never said die and Thomas Healy had a late point for them, but it proved a small consolation on what was Carrickshock's day.

For the winners, they had heroes all over the field. William Hoyne led brilliantly from the centre half back spot and had excellent aid in Damien Walsh, Joseph Holden, Mark O'Dwyer, Andrew Power, Conor O'Farrell, Niall Smith, Luke Gaule and John Power. For Mooncoin, all fifteen gave their all and deserve credit with a special mention to Liam Walsh, John Healy, Cormac Daly, captain Mark Fitzgerald, Ian Dunphy, Thomas Healy, Stephen Crowley, Niall O'Hanlon, Richard Doyle and Eamon Hennebry.

Carrickshock: Damien Walsh, John Cahill, Joseph Holden, Thomas Walsh, Joseph Fennelly, William Hoyne, Seamus Millea, Eamon Foley, Mark O'Dwyer (1-0), Ian Duggan, Andrew Power (0-2), Conor O'Farrell (0-1), Niall Smith (1-0), Luke

Scoreboard 2002.

Educational Supplies' Hurling League (Roinn A).
Coon/Muckalee 1-7 CBS Kilkenny 2-1

Hennessy Fuels' Hurling League (Roinn B).
Carrickshock 4-3 Mooncoin 2-3

Paddy O'Connell (Dublin) Hurling League (Roinn C).
Gowran 1-11 Glenmore 3-1

Tedcastle Oils' Hurling League (Roinn D).
Conahy 0-3 St Canice's II 1-0
Conahy 0-4 St Canice's II 0-3

Tedcastle Oils' Corn de Bhaldrathie.
Ballyhale 2-4 Kilmanagh 2-4
Ballyhale 4-6 Kilmanagh 3-4

GARDA SIOCHANA CITY CLASS LEAGUES

6th Class: St. Canice's beat St Patrick's
5th Class: St. Patrick's beat St John's
4th Class: St. Canice's beat St Patrick's
3rd Class: St. Canice's beat Gaelscoil
2nd Class: St. Patrick's beat Gaelscoil.

INTO/GAA Mini-Sevens

Hurling: Ballyhale.
Football: Ballyhale.
Camogie: Mullinavat.
Girls' Football: Owing.

Girls' Handball:

Under 11 (S): Tina O'Brien (Goresbridge)
Beginners: Aisling Fitzgerald (Urlingford)
Under 11 (D): Rebecca & Claire Mulholland (Gaelscoil Osraí)
Beginners: Mairead Comerford/Alison Walsh (Windgap)
Under 13 (S): Regina Madigan (Mullinavat)
Beginners: Maria Cuddihy (Kells)
Under 13 (D): Eilis Cantwell & Bobbie Stapleton (Muckalee)
Beginners: Claire Moore/ Julie Walsh (Windgap)

Boys' Handball:

Under 11 (S): Michael O'Brien (Goresbridge)
Beginners: Michael Rice (Johnswell)
Under 11 (D): Patrick Funchion/Peter Funchion (Callan)
Beginners: Edward Bourke/Dylan Whearty (St Johns)
Under 13 (S): Niall Mullally (Stoneyford)
Beginners: Ian O'Dwyer (Dunamaggin)
Under 13 (D): Eamonn Foley & Mark O'Dwyer (Stoneyford)
Beginners: Tomás Coonan/ Andrew Ring (Muckalee)

Gaule, Brian Donovan, John Power (2-0), Niall Mullally, Stephen Brennan, Philip McBride, Tomas Phelan, Shane Carr, Gerard McGrath, JJ Frisby, Ray O'Dwyer, Ciaran Phelan, Christopher Roche, Brian O'Farrell, James Gaule, Liam Holden.

Mooncoin: Liam Walsh, John Healy, Eoin Crowley, Donncha Hassett, Cormac Daly, Mark Fitzgerald, Ian Dunphy, Daniel Purcell, Thomas Healy, Seamus Kearns, Shane Walsh, Stephen Crowley, Niall O'Hanlon, Richard Doyle, Eamon Hennebry, Hugh McGovern, Paul Delahunty, AJ Wall, Alan Gallagher, Liam Roche, John Wall, James Walsh, Thomas Walsh, Peter

Dunlea, Darren Twomey, Brain Gallagher, Eric Wall, Thomas Talbot.

TEDCASTLES ROINN C LEAGUE FINAL

Gowran 1-11, Glenmore 3-1

A 19-YEAR gap was bridged when Gowr and defeated Glenmore in the final of the Tedcastle Roinn C schools hurling championship. Having captured schools titles in 1972 (Roinn B), 1982 (Roinn A), the omens looked good for the winners. Glenmore made them fight all the way before taking their first title of the new Millennium.

The losers hit the ground running. In their first attack, Gerard Aylward shot a spectacular goal. The Northerners hit back for points from JJ Lennon and Chris Nolan and then a long range goal from Paul Kehoe.

The Gowran defence lived dangerously, and but for some great work by Michael Hutchinson and Jack O'Connor, who saved the day on one occasion by keeping the ball on the goal line when a goal seemed certain. The winner increased the lead with marvellous points from JJ Lennon, Paul Kehoe and Ben O'Connor.

Glenmore got scarce reward from pressure applied by midfielders Denis O'Dwyer, Darren Aylward, Gerard Aylward and Ciaran Foran. Their only reward was a point from a free by Darren Aylward. A brace of points from Paul Kehoe and Chris Nolan completed the scoring to leave the half-time— Gowran 1-7, Glenmore 1-1.

On the resumption Jody Foley extended the winner's lead with a great point. The Glenmore forwards finally got their reward when Patrick Connick goaled. Gowran replied with points from Jody Foley (free) and Michael Walsh. The losers dominated midfield, but the introduction of Patrick Healy and Ben O'Connor moving to wing back gave some respite to Gowran. When Jody Foley switched to midfield, the balance was somewhat restored.

Gerard Aylward, who posed a mighty threat, earned reward with a smashing goal to leave three points between the sides with minutes left. Several great clearances by David Doyle rescued his side, and a magnificent save and clearance by goalie Paul Holden kept the Gowran lead intact. Finally, Jody Foley shot the insurance point from a free in the dying moments.

The winners were a well-drilled and skillful side. Goalkeeper Paul Holden had a great season. The full-back line, led by the stylish Michael Hutchinson, played a great game with both David Doyle and Jack O'Connor saving their side on numerous occasions. Captain Michael Walsh was possibly the best hurler on display. He had a right duel with Glenmore captain, Ciarán Foran. Wing-backs Sean Kehoe and Vincent Byrne had their hands full, but they came through with flying colours. Ben O'Connor covered acres of ground and gave an excellent performance. JJ Lennon produced his best game of the season, and landed two valuable points. Jody Foley led the attack well, and was one of the best. Paul Kehoe and Danny Glennon were always dangerous. Andrea McEvoy had a mighty tussle with James Irish, and was unlucky not to score. Richie Barcoe and Chris Nolan fought hard and put their opponent under fierce pressure. Patrick Healy made a huge contribution when introduced at midfield. Stephen Nolan was stylish and committed hurler.

Glenmore's Luke O'Connor played a great game. James Irish gave nothing away. Eoin Murphy was one of the best hurlers on view. He got great support from Colm Foran and Paul Lyons. Denis Dwyer and Darren Aylward dominated midfield at times. The forwards found scores hard to come by. Gerard

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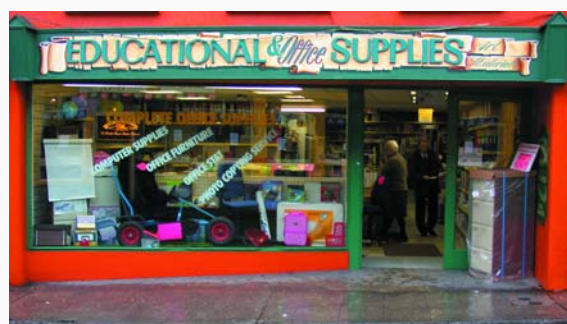
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Winners in 2002**

Aylward was a constant threat, as was Ciarán Foran. Gerard Aylward made life difficult for the Gowran defence. Eamonn Jones took his goal well. He got great support from James Aylward and Gerard Aylward.

Scorers: *Gowran*— R Kehoe (1-2); J Foley (0-3, two frees); JJ Lennon (0-2); C Nolan (0-2); B O'Connor, M Walsh (0-1 each).

Glenmore— D Aylward (1-0); R Connick, G Aylward (1-0 each); D Aylward (0-1, free).

Gowran: R Holden, D Doyle, M Hutchinson, J O'Connor, V Byrne, M Walsh (capt), S Kehoe, B O'Connor, JJ Lennon, R Kehoe, J. Foley, D. Glennon, C. Nolan, A. McEvoy, R. Barcoe. **Subs:** S Nolan, P Healy, C Dreeling, A Prendergast, R Lennon, M Dreeling, A McEvoy, D Kehoe, E Walsh, O Byrne.

Glenmore: L O'Connor, P Connick, J Irish, C Hennessy, C Foran, E Murphy, R Lyons, D O'Dwyer, D Aylward, D Boyle, C Foran (capt), J Aylward, G Aylward, D Aylward, E Jones.

Subs: C Doherty, J Kenny, R Jones, C Aylward, B Hennessy.

TEDCASTLES OIL ROINN D LEAGUE FINAL

Conahy 0-3 St Canice's 1-0

Conahy and St. Canice's played out a low-scoring yet thrilling draw in the Roinn D Final. Both teams found it hard to break down the opposition's defence in the opening stages. St. Canice's did come close with a goal-bound effort, but this was well saved and cleared by Conahy goalkeeper Andrew O'Keeffe.

However, it was Conahy who scored the only score of the first half when Kieran Mooney pointed a free.

The second half was played in a welter of excitement as each team both missed great chances. Conahy thought they had secured victory when Kieran Mooney pointed two more frees midway through the half. However, with the end of the game approaching, the city side forced a replay when wing-forward Cillian Buckley blasted the ball to the net from close range following a mix-up in the Conahy defence.

It was relief for St. Canice's but heart-break for Conahy who felt they had victory secured after losing county finals in the previous two years. However, they could be pleased of the performances of David Healy and in particular Kieran Mooney in defence, who gave a superb display at centre-back. They were assisted well by the other backs, Teilo Maher, Mariga Nolan, Donal Brennan and Rachel Coady and goalie Andrew O'Keeffe. Noreen O'Keeffe did well in midfield while Gary Kavanagh tried hard up front. St. Canice's best were Colm Manning in goal, David McNamara, Cathal Kavanagh, Jonathan Holmes, Chris Dawson and Andrew Cantwell.

Replay

Conahy 0-4 St Canice's 0-3

The replay was another tense and tight affair with defences on both sides being more dominant from the start. The wet conditions made striking the ball difficult as the teams struggled to make head-way. Despite, they were still locked

together at the break with 0-2 apiece. Conahy were the more dominant side in the second period and two frees from Kieran Mooney gave Conahy a great impetus. St. Canice's tried desperately hard to claw their way back, and managed to score a point late on. However, it was not enough and Conahy won a county final at the third time of asking. They could thank David Healy and Kieran Mooney for masterful displays, as well as Donal Brennan, Mariga Nolan, Paddy Mullan and Noreen O'Keeffe. St. Canice's, who fought so well, could not be faulted for effort, especially David Glynn, Jonathon Holmes, Cillian Buckley and Eric Cantwell.

Conahy: Andrew O'Keeffe, Teilo Maher, David Healy, Mariga Nolan, Donal Brennan. Kieran Mooney, Rachel Coady, Noreen O'Keeffe, Pauric Hally, James Murphy, Gary Kavanagh, Paddy Mullan, Michael Egan, Pauric Harding, John Coady, Tom Mullan, Danika Dunne, Aisling Cass, Lorraine Cass, Barry Waters, Sarah Maher, Phillip Murphy, John Mullan.

St. Canice's: Colm Manning, David Glynn, David McNamara, Phillip Byrne, Cathal Kavanagh, Jonathan Holmes, Ciaran Gough, Chris Dawson, Robbie McPartlan, Cillian Buckley, Robin Kavanagh Dunne, Eric Cantwell, Thomas Hayes, Andrew Cantwell, Brian Donegan, Rory McPhillips, Frank Campion, John Horan, Neil Butler, Ross Comerford, Colm Kennedy, Jimmy Keohane, Tom Nugent, Aidan Nolan, Anthony Ryan, Evan Guilfoyle, Sam Johnston, Cian Tynan, Dylan Lawless, Michael Hayes, Caiman Browne, Evan Walshe.

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LIAM AYLWARD, T.D.

Greetings to all my Supporters

Well done, Kilkenny & Carrickshock



THE FAMINE IS OVER!

Kilkenny's Seventeenth Minor Title

The success of the Kilkenny minor hurlers in winning this year's All-Ireland and Leinster Championships was very well timed. Following the disappointment of 2001, when a fancied team was defeated in the All-Ireland semi-final, by Cork, it was a great thrill for players and mentors to win an All-Ireland after a nine year lapse.

Kilkenny, without a competitive match together, faced round-robin winners, Dublin late in June, with a place in the provincial decider at stake. The strength of the Dublin challenge was expected to be impressive, as they had prepared their team very well for this game, and were fully committed to taking on Kilkenny. It was a game Kilkenny worked very hard to win. In fact, their display that evening in Portlaoise left much to be desired. The Kilkenny lads did just enough to hold off the challenge of a very focussed, determined Dublin, to win by a two-point margin, 0-18 to 2-10.

In a sluggish first half, the Kilkenny mentors were forced to take drastic action to thwart the Dublin dominance around the middle of the park. They moved Richie Power from full forward to that troublesome area, and the move effectually paid dividends, as it curbed the dominance of Dublin's Ronan Fallon at centre back, Tim Sweeney, and Michael Carton at midfield, and Garry Keogh at centre forward. At half time, Kilkenny, having clawed their way back from a four point deficit, were still behind, but only just- Dublin 0-7 Kilkenny 0-6.

An obviously well-fired Dublin returned for the second half and fired over the first point, compliments of Aidan Glennon. They stormed the Kilkenny goal, but thanks to atrocious shooting,

and some excellent defending by John Tennyson, David Prendergast and Keith Nolan, they were not able to increase their two point lead. A Shane Coonan point in the 36th minute settled the Kilkenny boys. Rice and Maher in the middle of the field rediscovered their much heralded talents, and started to drill some good ball into the likes of "Cha" Fitzpatrick, Coonan and Robbie Dowling. It didn't help the Dublin cause when they had a player sent off, Tim Sweeney, one of their best. They caused a major problem for the Kilkenny mentors and supporters inside the last couple of minutes, when sub Sean O'Sullivan booted the ball to the Kilkenny net. There was but a goal between the sides, when Dublin were awarded a twenty metre free, in front of goal. Sean O'Connor's thunderbolt just lifted over the bar, and with it went the last opportunity of the Dubs to manufacture another shot at the Champions.

Kilkenny: Colin Grant, Pádraig Holden, John Tennyson, David Prendergast, Keith Nolan, PJ Delaney, Ciarán Hoyne, Michael Rice (Capt.), Stephen Maher, Shane Dowling, Willie O'Dwyer, Shane Coonan, James "Cha" Fitzpatrick, Richie Power, Robbie Dowling. **Subs (used):** David McCormack, Andrew McCarthy, Eoin Reid, Mark Heffernan.

For the keeper of keys and the recorder of records, the first official hurling game played on the newly laid Croke Park sod, was the Leinster Minor Final between Kilkenny and Wexford on July 7th.

After their unexpected win over Offaly in their semi-final, Wexford came with big ambition, and no little confidence. With



KILKENNY MINOR TEAM - ALL IRELAND CHAMPIONS 2002

Back : Mark Heffernan, Shane Cadogan, Pádraig Kennedy, Eoin Larkin, Shane Dowling, Tomás Frisby.

Middle : Shane Coonan, Steven Maher, Richie Power, David Prendergast, John Tennyson, PJ Delaney, Michael Rice (Capt.), Ciarán Hoyne, David McCormack.

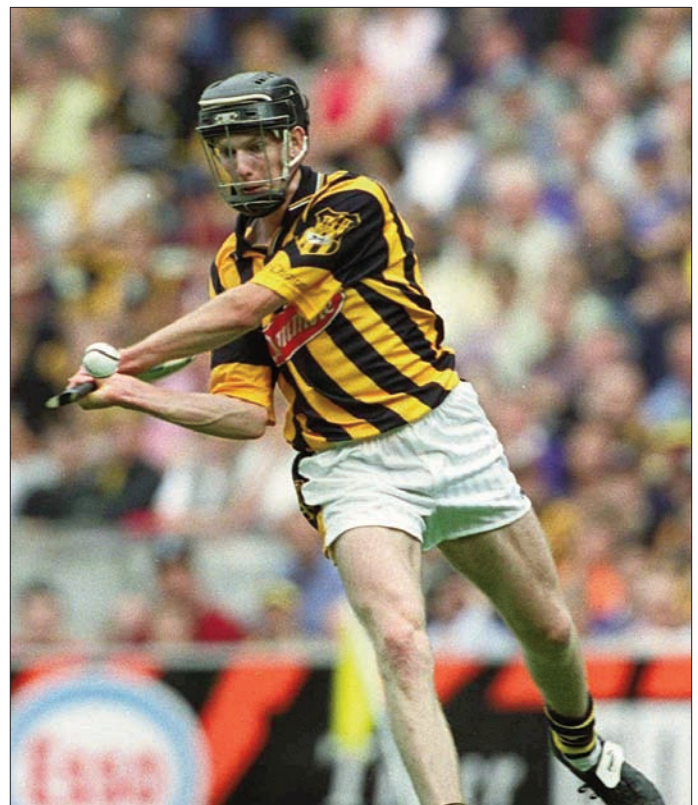
Front: Andrew McCarthy, Ray Wall, Eoin Reid, Colin Grant, Alan Healy, Keith Nolan, James Fitzpatrick, Pádraig Holden, Willie O'Dwyer, John Dalton.

Kneeling at front - Robbie Dowling.

Photo Eoin Hennessy



Celebrate Willie style.....**Willie O'Dwyer** (Kilkenny) clenches his fist after he scores a goal against Wexford in their Leinster Minor Final.
Photo Eoin Hennessy



Michael Rice played a Captain's part throughout the campaign.
Damien Eagers/SPORTSFILE

Conahy's Alan Healy in for Shane Dowling on the half forward line, it was the only change in the team that were frightened to death by Dublin in the semi-final in Portlaoise. The Kilkenny lads posted early notice that they meant business, when they laid early siege to the Wexford goal. Richie Power, Cha Fitzpatrick, Shane Coonan, and Alan Healy surged forward, but Wexford goalie, Damien Grannell, came to his side's rescue on at least four occasions in the first half, with super stops from Fitzpatrick, Power, Robbie Dowling and Willie O'Dwyer. With four minutes remaining in the first half, the reigning champs were in cruise mode, leading by a comfortable six points. However, Points by Richard Flynn and Marty Kelly, were followed by an opportunistic goal from Pat Doran on the stroke of half time, and suddenly there was a " what's happening" furrow on the brow of the Kilkenny mentors.

As the crowd swelled with the arrival of the Wexford senior support, their minors sensed that the entire Croke Park was on their side. They responded, despite Kilkenny's opening the second half with points by Power, Fitzpatrick and Coonan. A fortuitous goal by Darren Foran, midway through the second half had the Wexford crowd bullish. Their appreciation was roof-lifting as they sensed the possibility of a win over Kilkenny. However, Mullinavat's Willie O'Dwyer was the all-conquering matador that Kilkenny needed. Not seven minutes had elapsed since Foran's goal, when the bould Willie waltzed through the Wexford defence to rasper a shot to the back of Grannell's goal. The Wexford challenge, surprisingly, petered out from then to the finish. Kilkenny won by seven points, and in truth it did not flatter them ultimately.

The final score read; Kilkenny 2-15 Wexford 2- 8.

Kilkenny: Colin Grant, Pauric Holden, John Tennyson, David Prendergast, Keith Nolan, PJ Delaney, Ciarán Hoyne, Michael Rice (Capt.), Steven Maher, Alan Healy, Willie O'Dwyer, Shane Coonan, James Fitzpatrick, Richie Power, Robbie Dowling.
Subs (used) : *Eoin Reid, Tom Frisby, Shane Dowling.*

The All-Ireland semi-final between Kilkenny, the Leinster Champions, and Galway, (their fourth in succession) was,



Cha Fitzpatrick's goal clinched the All Ireland for Kilkenny.
Ray McManus/SPORTSFILE

arguably, one of the best games of the year. The closeness of the exchanges, the defensive strengths of both sides, the quality of the hurling will linger in memory for a while. But what will long be remembered will be the goal of Richie Power, the deftness of sub Eoin Reid when he scored a match-winning goal shortly after coming on the field, and the catch and clearance of John Tennyson in the dying seconds of the game. Galway raced into a 2-3 to 0-2 lead at mach two speed. The Kilkenny defence was in total disarray. The switching of Keith

Nolan and Shane Cadogan, and the re-siting of PJ Delaney in the pivotal defensive position, were important. By half time the Galway lead was down to a goal- (2-8 to 1-8).

The initial ten minutes of the second half was an exercise in disciplined defence by both sides. They could only muster a brace of points between them. If Richie Power's goal in the first half was memorable, then Reid's goal in the second half was of match-turning proportions. It was followed by a "Cha" Fitzpatrick point, a minute later, which gave Kilkenny the lead for the first time in the game, a lead that they were never subsequently to lose. The action was supersonic during the last ten minutes, culminating with the Tennyson stop, the subsequent clearance to Willie O'Dwyer via Podge Kennedy, and the massive O'Dwyer point on the call of full time.

As referee, John Sexton from Limerick, sounded the final whistle, Kilkenny were in front where it mattered, and more importantly in the All-Ireland Final.

Kilkenny 2-13, Galway 2-11.

Kilkenny: Colin Grant, Pádraig Holden, John Tennyson, David Prendergast, Shane Cadogan, Ciarán Hoyne, Keith Nolan, PJ Delaney, Steven Maher, Richie Power, Michael Rice (Capt.), Shane Coonan, James Fitzpatrick, Willie O'Dwyer, Alan Healy.

Subs (used) : Eoin Reid, Podge Kennedy, David McCormack.

All-Ireland Final day dawned, and Kilkenny had a two pronged attack going for All-Irelands. The seniors were facing Clare, but to Nicky Cashin (Manager), Joe Dunphy, Tony Maher, Brian Waldron, Br.Damien Brennan (Selectors), and Joe Pyke, Chairman of Bórd na nÓg, the minor final against Tipperary was the most important fixture of the year for them and their squad.

Tipperary were worthy participants in the minor final, having given a very impressive display in their semi-final game against Wexford. Players like Willie Ryan, Pat Shortt, Tony Scroope, and Damien Burke had established big reputations for themselves through the Munster and All-Ireland series of games. Kilkenny were wary. The John Boland saga, in hindsight, cloaked the pre-match hype with a certain surrealism. Eventually his "will he won't he play in the final" was decided at the eleventh hour by a court of the land. Not for the first time was a GAA decision adjudicated upon by litigation rather than the Clár Offigiúl.

The opening twenty minutes was a rather tame affair, with never more than a couple of points between the Premier and the Marble.

Kilkenny made a telling move, one of many, at a psychological moment just as



Ciarán Hoyne strikes in the All Ireland Final
Damien Eagers/SPORTSFILE



Eoin Reid, scorer of Kilkenny's first goal is tackled by **Martin Tracey**, Tipperary in the All Ireland Minor Hurling Final.
Brian Lawless / SPORTSFILE



On the break.....**Richie Power** (Kilkenny) gets away from **Brian Costello** (Galway) during their Minor Hurling Semi-Final Clash in Croke Park.
Photo Eoin Hennessy



Shane Coonan's searing run set up Kilkenny's first goal.
Damien Eagers/SPORTSFILE

the clock ticked down towards the half time break. A Tipperary attack was repulsed by PJ Delaney. His clearance was well won by St Martins', Shane Coonan. He cut a swathe through the Tipp defence, drilled an inch-perfect pass to the Ballyhale man, Eoin Reid, whose blistering shot scorched the back of Patrick McCormack's net in front of the Hill 16. The black and amber-clad Hill bayed for more. The minor hurlers had five more minutes before half time to sate their appetites. If Reid was the scorer of the first goal, he turned provider for the second. He lofted a high ball towards the Tipperary goal. As goalie McCormack awaited it's arrival in his territory, Reid's clubman arrived "on sched" to flick the dropping ball into the net. A peach of a match-winning goal, of that there is no doubt. Kilkenny went in at half time leading by 2-6 to 0-6. They had their hands on one lug of the Irish Press Cup.

While Tipperary tried - in vain generally -, in the second half, their efforts were of the damage-limitation variety. It was the stylish Kilkenny who looked the class act all the way to the wire. Their third goal in the 46th minute was clinically executed. Alan Healy blazed along the Cusack Stand sideline, with the sliothar glued to his stick. From forty-five yards out, he delivered the perfect pass to the threatening "Cha" Fitzpatrick who ghosted clear of his marker, grabbed the flying ball and rocketed it beyond the despairing clutches of Pat Mc Cormack. Game set and match to the young cats.

Kilkenny cruised to the finishing line, winning by 3-15 to 1-7, after a gap of nine years.

Kilkenny team of players used in the final, plus the entire panel was:

Colin Grant, Pauric Holden, John Tennyson, David Prendergast, Keith Nolan, PJ Delaney, Ciarán Hoyne, Michael Rice (Capt.), Steven Maher, Richie Power, Willie O'Dwyer, Shane Coonan, James Fitzpatrick, Eoin Reid, Alan Healy. Subs (used): Eoin Larkin, Podge Kennedy, Shane Cadogan.

Rest of the panel: John Dalton, Ray Wall, Andrew McCarthy, Robbie Dowling, Mark Heffernan, Shane Dowling, David McCormack, Tomás Frisby.



Alan Healy, Kilkenny, is tackled by Michael Bergin, All Ireland Minor Hurling Final.
Ray McManus / SPORTSFILE



Nicky Cashin Kilkenny Minor Trainer retires on a high note.
Photo Eoin Hennessy

THE SCORING RECORDS:

Richie Power 1-23 (0-21 frees),
James Fitzpatrick 2-13,
Willie O'Dwyer 2-3, **Eoin Reid** 2-1,
Shane Coonan 0-8,
Michael Rice 0-4,
Alan Healy 0-3,
Robbie Dowling, PJ Delaney 0-2 each,
Ciarán Hoyne, Shane Dowling 0-1 each.

Kilkenny scored 7-61 in the Championship, an average of 1-18 per game.

Kilkenny conceded 7-36, and average of 1-11 per game.

“I Know how Lucky I am”.....

Noel Hickey admits.....

By Enda McEvoy

“I know how lucky I am,” Noel Hickey admits.

Three years on the intercounty scene. Two All Ireland medals, three Leinster medals, one All Star award. Noel Hickey turns 22 in December (well, why else would he be called Noel?). Does he realise just how fabulously fortunate he is?

As it happens, he does. “It’s been a wonderful three years alright,” he agrees. “To win two out of three All Ireland medals isn’t bad, putting it mildly. Better hurlers than me have been around for much longer in the past and weren’t lucky enough to win a single All Ireland. I have to say I’ve been very lucky.” Taking into account his 1997 county championship medal with Dunnamaggin and 1998 Leinster colleges’ medal with Callan CBS, we’d have to agree.

It was in the autumn of 1999 that the call came from Brian Cody. Not long beforehand, Noel had captained Kilkenny to All Ireland under-21 glory against Galway in Tullamore. The summons from

on high wasn’t entirely unexpected, then, even if the prospect was a daunting one - he, Noel Hickey, asked in to train alongside the likes of John Power, DJ Carey, Willie O’ Connor et al.” Fortunately five of the other lads from the under-21 team were called up as well, so that made it easier for me.”

A 19-year-old in his debut season in the intercounty arena needs a wise old head alongside him. Noel was luckier than most in this regard too; he had Willie O’Connor - “the main man” - in his corner (literally) to offer support and advice. The youngster’s admiration for the Glenmore stalwart, considerable as it was at the beginning of 2000, increased as the season went on. “Having Willie beside me was fantastic. He never gave out. Make a mistake and he’d always say, ‘Don’t worry, get the next one.’

Having lined out at corner-back as well as in the number three jersey with Dunnamaggin, what position Noel occupies in the full-back line doesn’t bother him. Being corner-back is slightly easier, he reflects, in that if you make a mistake there your opponent still has the full-back to get past. Make a boo-boo at full-back, on the other hand, and your opponent is straight through. Hence the big lesson he’s learned from playing with Kilkenny: get out first to the ball. “The idea of standing behind your man with the ball coming in - that day is gone. You have to make up your mind to be one step ahead of him. If he gets the ball in his hand, you nearly have to foul him or he’ll score.”

The most dangerous opponent he’s faced to date he rates to be Galway’s Eugene Cloonan, whose first touch is “exceptional and who’s practically guaranteed to score or make a score once he wins possession”. Another tough customer is Niall Gilligan of Clare, who gave Noel an uncomfortable afternoon in the 2001 National League semi-final in Thurles. That wasn’t the last time the Dunnamaggin farmer has endured a tricky time in Semple



Stadium, as Brendan Murphy outpaced him there for Offaly’s goal just before half-time in this year’s Leinster semi-final. “One of those days that didn’t go wonderfully for me. But everyone has days like that. And Brian Cody is very good in those situations. He’ll always have a quiet word in your ear and tell you to stick with it. Players take great encouragement from that kind of support.”

That Offaly game - at the end of which the Cats still had nine points to spare - was about as bleak as it got for Noel on the intercounty front in 2002. From there his graph went in only one direction. Upwards. Having Michael Kavanagh and Philly Larkin hanging



Photo Aoife Rice/Sportsfile

around the place helped in no small way, mind you, as did trying to cope with Martin Comerford ("quite a handful") on the training field. Kavanagh, he points out, "was flying" all year. Larkin produced the goods come the crunch in the All Ireland semi-final and final. "Philly is the loudest of us, tells us what to do. We had a great understanding this year, the three of us, and hopefully that will continue in 2003. The two lads are excellent readers of the game, and when they go out to a ball they very rarely miss it. They'll easily drive it 60 yards down the field. That makes life a lot handier for me." Another top-class talker in the Kilkenny defence, Noel adds, is Peter Barry. "Always talking, always encouraging, never criticising. Every team needs someone like that."

An even bigger thank-you goes to his mother Ann, the most profound influence on Noel's career. Ann Hickey brought her offspring to schools' matches all over the county in their younger days, and Noel was there in the centre of the upper deck of the old Cusack Stand with her and his brother Canice when another brother, Jim, won an All Ireland minor medal with Kilkenny in 1991. Noel appeared in the minor decider himself in 1998 only to finish on the losing side versus Cork, a setback that clearly didn't do him any harm in the long run. "No, but now that I've won under-21 and senior medals, there's a little regret at the back of my mind to be missing the minor. It would be nice to have all three of them."

Half a mile up the road from Noel lives Pat Dwyer, one of the heroes of his childhood. "An exceptional player. He wasn't loud, but I certainly learned a lot from watching him." Pat Dwyer, Noel Hickey. Two quiet men. Two formidable full-backs.



A young Noel Hickey - middle row with glasses - with his schoolmates after winning the Primary Schools Roinn B Final in 1991.

Back: James McCormack, Brendan Delahunty, Vincent Cummins NT., J.P O'Neill, Clayton Delaney, Andrew O'Neill, John Hickey, Niall Brett, William Kearney, Brian O'Shea, Colin Herity, Sean Costello NT.

Middle: Fergal O'Shea, Patrick Drennan, Niall McCormack, Matthew Enright, Ramie Cahill, Kenneth Moore, Dermot Maher, Noel Hickey, Lorcan Dowd RIP.

Front: Paddy Butler, Brian O'Shea, Canice Hickey, Leonard O'Shea, Rory Dunne.



Noel Hickey breaks out by Eugene O'Neill (Tipperary) with support from Derek Lyng during their semi-final clash. Photo Eoin Hennessy

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The Kilkenny GAA website enjoyed another great year, thanks of course to all the great games at both club and county level and of course the magnificent League and All Ireland victories. Our site is the envy of all other County sites, not because it is any better but because we have so much raw material, so much to report on. When you have All-Ireland Senior and Minor champions and National League Champions on you site everybody wants to look in and that is not to mention the vast interest in our club games. It would take 5 full time webmasters to do justice to the amount of activity happening in Kilkenny GAA circles at the moment.

The main focus this year was of course on the progress of the Senior hurling team and as usual the site featured match by match reports and photographs. The all Ireland preview was something special with some excellent live audio interviews with players and officials. There was also a video clip section showing the players in training. All that, coupled with an extensive pictorial preview proved very popular with visitors to the site. The review on the final was disappointing as due to an astonishing decision by Croke Park not to allow web personnel access to the pitch. plans for an comprehensive review which would include immediate interviews with the

players following the final whistle had to be abandoned. A belated review which focussed mostly on the home-coming and featured photos of the game that were kindly donated by John McIlwaine and Eoin Hennessy was eventually posted but the loss of sharing in those precious post-match moments was a major let down to the hundreds of regular visitor to the site.

Elsewhere the site did it's best to keep weekly local fixtures and results up to date and to capture some moments from the more important club games. Many thanks to the people that regularly send in match reports and may we encourage other clubs to do likewise. At the moment there are more than 700 pages on the site and a massive 2000 photographs. There is a vast amount of archive information which includes old match reports, coaching skills, club resources and much more.

In the coming months it is hoped to re-vamp the site. Some pages need to be added to while others need to be altered. In particular the area on clubs needs an update and we would ask PRO's to get in touch with us regarding our new ideas. Basically we would like to have a profile on each Club that does not need regular updating. The profile should be a general description of the Club, stating it's location, brief history, achieve-

ments, initiatives and contacts. A range of photographs including various teams and a picture of the facilities would add to the feature. If clubs have their own site, please send us the address so that we can set up a link from the Kilkenny site.

The website has become a regular port of call for many fans and in particular fans abroad find it an excellent way to keep in touch. Some of the emails we get are amazing. As well as the general material wishing teams well and congratulating them we get letters from people from all over the world that are maybe researching sport and are wondering what this game is all about. We are asked to pass on various messages to people and players all over the county (if we had email addresses for every club it would be a big help). We get fans asking us to send them jerseys, photographs, stockings and many other amazing requests. At the moment during off season the site would have an average of 100 visitors a day while during the season, especially at weekends 1000 visitors could log in on any particular day.

For further information or if you have any contributions to make please contact the webmasters Brian Ryan at coachkk@indigo.ie Tel: 056-31224 or Martin Fogarty mfogarty@iol.ie Tel: 056-41131

Developments

Discussions / Chat

Fixtures & Results

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National League 2000

A Blast of the Past

Caption Competition

Nowlan Park

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VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS REPORT

COLÁISTE MHUIRE, JOHNSTOWN

Senior Hurling Championship

The 2001/2002 Senior Hurling "A" Vocational School Championship broke away from the traditional format of provincial winners going on to contend for All Ireland glories, into an open draw where groups of four would contest, with the top two teams from four groups going on to all Ireland quarter final stage.

Coláiste Mhuire's group was made up of St. Brigid's of Loughrea, Coláiste Phobal Roscrea and St. Rynaghs of Banagher. The preliminary rounds of the championship were ren off in October and November which resulted in a very narrow defeat to Loughrea played in Loughrea on a scoreline of 2-12 to 2-10 and a 1-9 to 1-6 victory over Roscrea in a very evenly contested game played in Urlingford, a game in which county minor Robbie Dowling contributed 1-6 of the overall tally.

The final game in the group stages played in Portlaoise was against old rivals St. Rynaghs of Banagher, a match which had the added pressure of Coláiste Mhuire needing to win by a large margin as scoring averages could evidently put them out of the championship if Loughrea were to beat Roscrea. Coláiste Mhuire came out easy victors on the day 3-14 to 0-3 and were drawn again against Rathdowney in the quarter final stages.

After many postponements due to adverse weather conditions, the match was finally played in Urlingford in February 2002. This match had a winner take all tag attached to it as both teams had also qualified for the Leinster Final and it was decided to play both competitions over the one game. On the day Rathdowney looked the more eager side for victory but a three goal Johnstown blitz in three minutes of the second half denied the Laois men the honours, Coláiste Mhuire winning 3-1 to 0-6.

With four teams remaining in the competition Johnstown were drawn with the very tough task of having to meet Loughrea for the second time. Played in Banagher, St. Brigid's always looked the better side but were made fight all the way by a gallant Johnstown side who had a never say die attitude. Loughrea were victorious on the day winning 1-13 to 1-6 and went on to easily win the final.

Team and Panel.

Martin Purcell, Daniel Looby, Donnacha Gray, Kevin Dalton, Martin Henderson, P. J. Delaney (Capt), Séamus Nolan, Thomas Neary, Noel Dowling, James Dunne, Philip O'Loughlin, Frank Murphy, John Broderick, Robbie Dowling, Colin Grant, Brian Doyle, Eoin Delahunty, Kevin Sheil, Jamie Dollard, Michael Doyle.

At the annual awards night in the school, attended by guest speakers Mr. Brian Cody, Mr. Joe Pyke and Ms. Ann Downey. Nurler of the Year went to Kevin Dalton who had a great year at corner back on the Senior Team. A special achievement award went to Senior Hurlers P. J. Delaney, Colin Grant, and Robbie Dowling for their outstanding



COLÁISTE MHUIRE - LEINSTER SENIOR HURLING CHAMPIONS 2002

Back: Frank Murphy, Jamie Dollard, Kevin Dalton, PJ Delaney (Capt), Brian Doyle, Philip O'Loughlin, Seamus Nolan, Thomas Neary, Martin Henderson, Eoin Delaney.
Front: Kevin Shiel, James Dunne, Donnacha Gray, Martin Purcell, Noel Dowling, Daniel Looby, Colin Grant, Robbie Dowling.



COLÁISTE MHUIRE - LEINSTER U16 ROINN "C" CHAMPIONS

Back: Frank Murphy, Paddy O'Shea, Ger Reilly, Pauraic Gray, Noel McGree, Declan Brennan, James Lennon.
Middle: Martin Purcell, Irevor Walsh, Anthony Byrne, Tom Barry, Michael Tobin, John Scott, Shane Webster.
Front: Timmy Purcell, Michael Walsh, Brian Kavanagh, Daniel Looby, James Dunne, John Broderick, Thomas Burke, Michael Harte, James Tobin.



COLAISTE MHUIRE SENIOR CAMOGIE TEAM

Back: Louise Glendon, Michelle Skehan, Christine Fogarty, Linda Gray, Aine Mackey, Trisha Orr, Aisling Tallis, Aisling Fitzpatrick, Mairead Bergin, Sarah Bergin, Julie Mackey, Saralee Murphy, Clodagh Cleere, Shona Power, Tara Warren, Mairead Phelan.
Front: Siobhain O'Hara, Marion Ryan, Nicola Thornton, Triona Meagher, Selina Power, Loraine Peters, Eileen Hughes, Orla Hughes, Mary Margaret Marum.

contributions to the Kilkenny Minor Team, in winning Leinster and All Ireland Medals 2002. Also in attendance to present medals on the night were Kelly Long, Stephen Grehan and J. J. Delaney, all past pupils of the school.

Under 14 Hurling

While the school team did not enjoy great success during the spring in colleges competitions the most recent crop, in September showed such great interest and enthusiasm that a local blitz was organised to cater for them. It consisted of eight teams:- St. Fergals Rahtdowney, Heywood Community College, Our lady's Templemore, Callan CBS, Killenaule Vocational School, Ballingarry and two teams from Coláiste Mhuire. Both teams acquitted themselves very well. Shane Clyne, Sean Warren, Eamon Corcoran, Richard Breen, John Henderson, and Eoin Phelan were outstanding for the A team while Noel Cleere, Conor Costello, Darragh Tobin, Shane Neary and Damien Delaney shone for the B team. The event was organised by LCVF students Lisa White, Amanda Beehan, Paul Eyre and Liam Bergin with the help of Mr. Maher, Mr. Marnell and Mr. Tom Dollard.

Hat Trick for Coláiste Mhuire

Coláiste Mhuire have retained the Leinster colleges under 16 title for the 3rd year in a row. Last year they defeated Ennischorthy Vocational School on a score of 4-8 to 2-6. Then they met Presentation De La Sale Bagnalstown and the Johnstown side put in a storming finish to level the game at 1-7 for the Kilkenny side to 2-4 for the Carlow side. In the semi-final Johnstown overcame Wexford CBS. This game played in New Ross was thrilling. James Dunne and John Broderick were gifted players in this game and a goal by Pat O'Shea helped Johnstown early in the 2nd half. The colleges final played in Nowlan Park was exceptional in that both sides – Johnstown and Bagnalstown ended level at full time again and in extra time the Johnstown side emerged victorious on a score of 1-6 to 1-4. This was an artic like day, which made skilful play difficult. Both sides deserve much praise for soaking up much pressure, and playing the game in a fine sporting manner. Fine goal keeping by Martin Purcell was a joy to watch in defence Michael Tobin, Gary Glendon and Daniel Looby were brilliant. Noel McGree and John Broderick are two bright stars to look out for in the future. Up front Anthony Byrne, Michael Webster, James Lennon and Tim Purcell excelled. Tom Burke played very solidly when introduced at half time.

Camogie Campaign Coláiste Mhuire

Our senior team were very unlucky this year reaching the Leinster semi-final, to lose out by just two points to St. Wolstans Secondary School, Cellbridge. It was a very tight game with St. Wolstans getting a late goal in the dying minutes to win. Coláiste Mhuire pushed hard but could not pull back that lead and it was the decider in the end. A sad ending to a brilliant year but the Johnstown girls intend to go one step further next year and win the final. Our junior (under 16) team also reached the Leinster semi-final, this time against Borris, Carlow. This was another hard fought game but even an excellent second half effort from the



GRENNAN COLLEGE - JUVENILE "D" SOUTH LEINSTER COLLEGES HURLING & FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS 2002

Back: Patrick Mullally, Richard Hughes, Chris Griffin, Terence Croke, Noel Hearne, Peter Conway, Joey Butler, Terry Brennan, Alan Byrne, Thomas Dreelein.
Front: Andrew Aylward, Stephen Croke, Patrick Kahn, Michael Lennon (Hurling Capt), Ross Dimond, Ian Egan, Jake Moran, Bobby Walsh, Eoin Kelly.
Missing from Photo: Jamie Tennyson (Football Capt), Diarmaid Aylward, David Kavanagh, Nevin Kelly, Alan Byrne, Brian Malone, Tony Brennan, Anthony Greene, Dermot McMahon, Thomas Barcoe, Colm O'Sullivan, Martin Naddy.



SCOIL AIREAGAIL - S LEINSTER INTEGRATED SCHOOLS U14 HURLING CHAMPIONS 2001/2002

Back: Mr J O'Halloran (Trainer), M Mason, B Dunne, M Dunphy, N Hawe, P Murphy, P McNamara, P Corcoran, P Jones, D Fitzpatrick, J Phelan, K Grace, G O'Keefe, D O'Dwyer, M Delehunty, Mr T Hunt (Principal)
Middle: K Holden, JJ Dunphy, S Ryan, W Hughes, T Maher, J Power, M Malone, G Fennelly (Capt), E Ramsbottom, S Conway, M Farrell, D Murray, D Coffey, R Murphy.
Front: M O'Connor, J Kehoe, D Kenneally, D Burke.

Johnstown girls could not pull back Borris's lead and Borris were deserving winners in the end.

The minor, first and second year girls had better luck winning the Sheild in the blitz in James's Park beating Castlecomer Community School in an exciting final. These are interested young players and show great promise for the future.

Altogether a mixed year for the Coláiste Mhuire girls b-ut our younger players show great promise and intend to bring many cups back to Johnstown next year.

SCOIL AIREAGAIL, BALLYHALE

Senior Football. Scoil Aireagail senior footballers reached the Leinster Final in the Vocational Schools "B" Championship for the second time in four years. On their way to the final the Ballyhale School beat teams from Kilkenny, Carlow, Wexford and Kildare.

The Leinster final had Scoil Aireagail taking on a Meath team from Ashbourne Community College. Ashbourne had a number of players on the Meath minor panel. A

tentative start by Scoil Aireagail left the Meath team in for a number of relatively easy points. However by half time there were only two points between the two teams. The footballing experience of the Meath team showed in the second half and the final score was Ashbourne 0 14, Scoil Aireagail 0 8. While defeat was a disappointment, the team showed tremendous grit, determination but above all footballing skills in order to reach the Leinster final.

Senior Hurling. In the open draw All Ireland championship, the Scoil Aireagail team had good wins over Scoil Ruaine, Killenaule and Kilcormac Vocational School. However a hometown defeat in Athenry left the Ballyhale team as runners up in the qualifying group and in the All Ireland quarterfinals met Bandon Vocational School. In atrocious conditions, on a sodden dangerous pitch, a more physical Bandon team overcame the slighter, more skilful Scoil Aireagail team.

In the Leinster confined senior hurling "A" championship, Scoil Aireagail were beaten by St. Fergal's, Rathdowney.

2002 - That Was The Year That Was Black & Amber

by Enda McEvoy (Sunday Tribune)



Evil Intent... DJ Carey moves on the Tipp goal in the All Ireland Semi-Final.
Photo John McIlwaine

No names, no pack drill. So never mind the identity of the Kilkenny player who was the speaker, because he's going to remain nameless, and never mind the identity of the alehouse he and his colleagues were winding down in the night of the Leinster semi-final against Offaly last June. (Oh, alright, it was Mick Dempsey's in John Street if you must know.)

What he said was the bit that mattered. "In DJ Carey and Henry Shefflin we have two of the best forwards ever,% quoth he. "Yet we've only won one of the last three All Irelands. It's not a good enough record"

One out of three: not good enough. Two out of four: perfectly adequate, maybe even slightly better than adequate in an age of non-retained All Ireland titles. It happened kinda like this—

April (nothing much occurred in January, February and March): Kilkenny travel to the Gaelic Grounds to take on Limerick, the popular choice as championship dark horses, in the National League semi-final, and end up taking them apart. Henry Shefflin, in his incarnation at centre-forward, vapourises Brian Geary in the first half, and on the resumption the visitors' half-back line, where Peter Barry similarly operates from a new position in the centre, gobble up the Limerick puckouts. It's a simple but, as time will prove, hugely auspicious rearrangement of the furniture. Brian Cody and his selectors have set out their stall for the season.



Philip Larkin breaks up yet another Clare attack in the All Ireland Final
Photo John McIlwaine.

May: Would that the league final had produced different opponents than Kilkenny and Cork (and no, not Tipperary and Galway again). Unfortunately it 's a sign of the depressing lack of serious contenders for silverware these days that Wexford and Offaly are nowhere to be seen, while Waterford also fail to make the cut after being upended by Dublin in Parnell Park during the qualifiers. Anyway, the Old Firm do their best to compensate by providing an unusually

entertaining showpiece, with the Cats snatching the verdict on the finishing line thanks to Brian Dowling's late point and thus winning a tight match for the first time in aeons. As Tipperary showed in 2001 and Kilkenny will do so before 2002 is out, it pays to take the league seriously.

June: Tipperary, having seen off Clare in mid-May, have the look of back-to-back champions about them in destroying Limerick in the Munster semi-final. The aura lasts three weeks. On the last day of the month comes the one truly magical moment of the hurling summer, Waterford fulfilling their destiny in glorious fashion. As for Tipp, shades of the young Mike Tyson here ^ regarded as invincible till he met Buster Douglas but never

as scary afterwards.

July: Another Leinster title for Kilkenny, for whatever that's worth these days, albeit their least impressive since 1998's. Tony Dempsey has it about right afterwards when he announces that Brian Cody's men were slightly the better team, but not by much. Everyone else has it more than about

right afterwards when they say that Kilkenny won't be winning any All Irelands on this performance. These "everybody else" are, of course, all Noresiders.

That accepted, the extent to which this was a no-win game for Kilkenny shouldn't be overlooked. Another facile victory would have done them no good whatsoever (see 12 months earlier). A hard-won success, along with the manner in which the absence of Carey reduced their goal threat to almost nil, at least has the result of allowing everyone ^ both inside the tent and outside ^ to observe the unvarnished picture and realise where the blunt-clawed Cats stand. Philip Larkin, Charlie Carter and Andy Comerford realise it better than most, each having been substituted by a demanding management (open itals) pour encourager les autres (close itals). If Brian Cody could have been accused a couple of years ago of being unwilling or unable to take really hard decisions, he can't be accused any more. No more Mister Nice Guy. Next morning he takes another - for quite a different reason - tough decision, picks up the phone and rings Gowran. You know the rest.

August: The match of the summer, the match of the year, the first great match of the new century.

Fair is fair. One caveat should be entered here, in that Tipperary were some degree short of their best. In addition to knocking some of the psychological stuffing out of them, the Munster final setback had a deleterious effect on the reigning All Ireland champions in another, more tangible way, by forcing them to play two extra matches in order to return to Croke Park in September. True, they proceeded to skate past Offaly, but just when Nicky English's troops might have been expected to have regained their equilibrium, their All Ireland quarter-final date with Antrim handed them more problems than it solved. Opting for Kilkenny to get the verdict on August 18th wasn't difficult, for most of the Tipperary players simply weren't hurling as well as they'd hurled in 2001. And this was Tipp's sixth championship outing of the season and 11th championship fixture in the space of 15 months, compared to Kilkenny's sixth in the latter period. A bridge too far.

The McCarthy Cup holders die with their boots on, no mistake there. Mark O'Leary, on the turn after bouncing off Michael Kavanagh, and Eamon Corcoran, off his stick without taking the sliotar into his hand, fire over arguably the two best points of the afternoon. But once Eddie Brennan and John Hoyne find the target immediately after the restart, Kilkenny always look to have something in hand. John Carroll's goal, very much against the run of play, merely keeps Tipp in the argument.

Peter Barry, prospering from Brendan Cummins's insistence on dropping puckouts on top of him, is man of the match. Comerford, storming back from his Leinster final disappointment, is man of the first 50 minutes. Larkin is man of the second half. Shefflin is now Da Man in attack. And Carey? Plays within himself, works hard (as indeed he always does), hits two points from play in the second half, creates the decisive goal for Jimmy Coogan. Without him, etc.

September: Not so much a black September as a black and amber September. And not just an All Ireland double, but an All Ireland double in style, 21 points being the aggregate winning margin of the minors and seniors. For fully a week afterwards, the citizens of Noreside are on a palpable high. It ain't what you do, as Bananarama and the Fun Boy Three once pointed out...

Given that recent seasons had seen Michael Kavanagh, Noel Hickey, Henry Shefflin and JJ Delaney ^ none of them All Ireland minor medallists ^ progress to senior ranks, obviously there hadn't been too much wrong with Kilkenny's under-age structure of late. But sometimes these things need to be stated in neon lights. Nicky Cashin's lads make sure they are.

Not that anyone should be running around predicting that these young men will automatically inherit the earth, mind. The members of the last Kilkenny team to carry off the minor title, the 1993 version who overcame Galway with a notable flourish, were never heard of in an intercounty context afterwards, whereas the generally unconsidered 1999 All Ireland under-21 winning side produced no fewer than six young men, plus ^ stranger still, this bit ^ three non-playing substitutes (Derek Lyng, John Hoyne and Martin Comerford), who went on to taste senior success three years later. Most odd. There's also no harm in remembering that the last time Kilkenny did the senior and minor double, in 1993, and thereupon appeared poised for a period of dominance, it took them seven years to



Henry Shefflin - Players' Player of the Year in All Ireland Final action.
Photo John McLlwayne



Martin Comerford starts an attack as Brian Lohan looks hungrily at the sliotar.
Photo John McLlwayne



Kilkenny's **Michael Kavanagh** positions himself to clear against Tipp in the semi-final. *Photo John McIlwaine*

claim their next senior crown and nine years to do likewise in minor. In sport, one never knows what's around the corner - and hurrah for that.

But more of that for another day. With a second title in the bag, nobody can seriously claim any more that the present group of Kilkenny players have underachieved. Neither can anyone make out that they've won another bloodless All

Ireland; for success in 2002 to be truly meaningful, the Cats had to beat Tipperary, the titleholders, and either Cork or some other Munster team into the bargain. They did both and they did it beautifully. Brian Cody is entitled to take his place alongside Pat Henderson and the late Ollie Walsh in the pantheon of modern high-achieving Kilkenny managers. Andy Comerford, quite possibly the best Kilkenny captain ever, is entitled to his own pantheon.

Seven days after the All Ireland final, the new champions were the subject of a lavish tribute from none other than Babs Keating in the Sunday Times. "They're a classy team on the pitch, and a classy group of men off it," Babs declared. "When you have that sort of dignity and mental strength in a group, you always have a chance."

Warm, generous words. The challenge for Kilkenny in 2003 will be to live up to them.

Some final thoughts.

Hurler of the year: Henry Shefflin. Next best: Peter Barry, Michael Kavanagh, Colin Lynch.

Young hurler: Eoin Kelly (Waterford).

Match: Kilkenny v Tipperary. Next best (for spectacle): Waterford v Tipperary.

Team of the year: Davy Fitzgerald (Clare); Michael Kavanagh, Brian Lohan (Clare), Philip Larkin; Fergal Hartley (Waterford), Peter Barry, Paul Kelly (Tipperary); Colin Lynch (Clare), Derek Lyng; Eoin Kelly (Waterford), Henry Shefflin, Tony Griffin (Clare); Eoin Kelly (Tipperary), Martin Comerford, DJ Carey.

Goodbye of the year: Goodnight and God bless.



SERIOUS MEN

Captain Andy Comerford leads out his team for the All Ireland Final.

Photo Eoin Hennessy

Mikie Morrissey:

The passing of Michael (Mikey) Morrissey during the year has left a great void in another Kilkenny community, a void that cannot easily be filled. In recent times other communities like Graigueballycallan, Castlecomer, Clogh-Moneenroe and more recently, Lisdowney, have experienced similar losses.

An "Icon" in the Muckalee community has been taken away to a greater place and the people left behind are wondering how they will manage in his absence. Who will fill the void, do all the little things he did, advise people when they need advice, look out for everyone and most of all, lead by example.

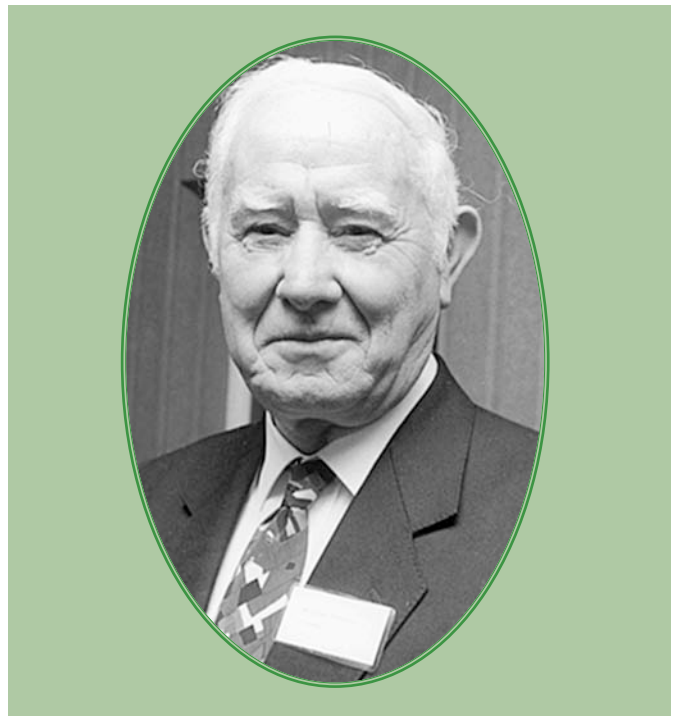
To say that Mikey Morrissey was an "Icon" is to say that he was a symbol of all that is good in a community. A "Beacon" would describe him better, a "guiding light". Mikey was like the "Metalman" in Tramore, shining out from his native hills of Muckalee to guide and inspire all around him. He had presence. If you met Mikey, even if you had never done so before, you knew you were speaking to a man of great character, intelligent, articulate and wise.

Mikey was born in Muckalee on May 1st 1926. From an early age, his leadership qualities were to be recognised and respected. As a youngster he would organise games of hurling, football, rings, cards, skittles etc. for his own age group. Never was he to organise anything for his own benefit. He was always fair.

Even though he had won a County Council scholarship to a college of his choice Mikey chose to terminate his formal education and start work at the tender age of 15. In those days it was customary for the eldest in a large family to acquire work as soon as possible in order to contribute to the household and give the younger members of the family the better opportunities. Mikey's employment was at Muckalee Creamery and the fact that he worked there for half a century, ending up as manager, speaks for itself. The creamery was the focal point of the rural community. It was not a job to Mikey, it was a service. The people loved and trusted him as he knew and understood their condition. He had empathy for them, with their welfare always at heart, a quality that is scarce in today's money-driven society. Mikey would go out on a limb for a person and this was one of the countless characteristics that endeared him to so many.

On the sports field Mikey "wasn't simple"- this of course is the ultimate compliment a former GAA opponent could pay to a player from an opposing Parish without having to say the actual words "he was brilliant". To say the words would be seen as high treason in GAA circles. Mikey excelled at handball, hurling and Gaelic football. He played senior football with Kilkenny, won a senior county football final with a Northern Junior selection in 1945 and Junior county finals with Muckalee in 1947 and 1953. All his sporting dreams came through in 1984 when his beloved parish team St. Martins won the Kilkenny Senior hurling championship and followed that up with the All-Ireland Club title. Very few knew Mikey's deepest secret at that time of great hurling rivalry between Muckalee and neighbours Erin's Own Castlecomer and that was that Mikey actually hurled with Castlecomer in the late 1940's as there was no hurling team then in the parish of Muckalee.

Mikey had one weak spot, however— his knee. At that time a knee was a knee and when it went, it was gone. Today, a knee is not a knee, it is a "cruciate", a "cartilage", a "medial" or a "lateral" and the surgeons knife can now repair what often finished a great player. Mikeys' playing days were finished early with a bad knee injury. However, that did not stop his continued involvement in Gaelic games. He refereed Kilkenny Club football games including the Minor County finals of 1948, '49, '54 and



'62. He also refereed inter-county Junior Football matches. He was secretary of Muckalee football club from 1945 – 1970 and represented the club at county board level for many of those years. He was secretary of Kilkenny Football Board from 1964 – '67 and vice-chairman in 1951. He was a selector for the Kilkenny Intermediate hurling team in 1962 and Kilkenny minor hurlers in 1971.

Possibly the best indication of his wisdom and his great standing not just in the parish but in the county was the fact that Mikey used to write out the objections for Muckalee football club and he was the one that was sent in to defend players or the Club if they were called before the County Board. Younger readers might not understand this but in those days objections were a big part of Gaelic games. They had to be penned in Gaelic (no problem to Mikey) or they were immediately thrown out and a certain type of person was needed to plead the clubs case. You didn't want an "I'll sort them out" type of person, nor did you need a slick "know all" attending these hearings. You needed a "Statesman" and that was Mikey Morrissey, someone who could, when everything was looking bleak, save the day. He was highly respected by the opposition as they knew him to be fair, honest and above board and with his calm and level headed approach to problems he could solve them and he was certainly a great ally to have in a tight corner.

With such an involvement in Gaelic games and community life it is hard to see how Mikey could have had time for anything else. There was however, another full chapter to this man's life and it was golf. Mikey was a dynamic member of Castlecomer Golf Club for many years and it was at this game once again that he was afforded the opportunity to enjoy and display so many of his attributes. Here he could play and socialise with his brothers and sisters, his extended family and indeed his wide circle of friends. Right to the end, despite his years he was a formidable opponent on the course and got great pleasure from pulling one over on over-confident adversaries, especially when they were his nephews. He enjoyed many victories as both player and team manager and was always to the fore when it came to rolling up the sleeves and getting work done for the club. Mikey served as club captain on two occasions and had the honour of being the first Lay President in 1993-'94, testament surely, to his great standing in that club. Fuller details of his golfing exploits will surely be published elsewhere.

The passing of Michael Morrissey has indeed left an enormous void but if people can learn from his example and try to follow it, even in a smaller way, then the community and the organizations that he touched will be the better for knowing Mikey.



Camogie News

Clara



CLARA JUNIOR CAMOGIE TEAM

Back: Gemma Dowling, Angela Cody, Orla Healy, Fiona Phelan, Aisling Mc Donald, Laoighseach Quigley, Patrice Mullins, Sharon McDonald, Mairead Barcoe, Marilyn Nolan, Elaine Costigan, Carol Doyle, Emma Nolan, Grainne Byrne.

Front: Sylvia Crane, Emer Cashin, Lisa Collins, Clare Brennan, Ciara O Loughlin, Deirdre Shortall, Elaine Nolan, Clare Me Donald, Margaret Nolan, Laura Galvin.

The stars of the year for Clara camogie club in the 2002 season were the youngest players, our under 10 team. The girls won all 4 of their matches during the blitz in Thomastown this summer. Playing with great spirit and determination they showed that the club have strong young players to build a great future on. They then went on to provide the backbone of the under 12 team. Although the girls playing Under 12 played very solid camogie they missed out on the playoffs. However as most of them are still under age in 2003 we are expecting big things from them for the coming season.

The under 14 team made their way to the semi finals of the Roinn B championship but came up against a very strong team from Windgap and despite a very spirited performance were knocked out at this stage. The minor team remained in Roinn A this year but with a number of their slayers gone over the age, they found the going tough. Clara reached the Semi Finals of both the U18 Roinn A and U21 Roinn B championships but in both games were beaten by James Stephens.

the Junior County final brought out the very best performances of the season. The girls went into an early lead against



CLARA U10 TEAM

Back: Olive Langton, Sarah Heffernan, Orla Quinlan, Elaine Evans, Laura Kehoe, Niamh Byrne, Aisling Curtis

Front: Aoife Murphy, Ailsa Crane, Amy Crane, Leah Hope, Brid Vlurphy

James Stephens and although they had lost that lead going in at half time they never gave up trying all through the second half. As this is only the second year that the girls have competed at Junior level and having watched the dedication and hard work they have put into their training and matches we are sure these

girls are destined for greater things. the committee would like to thank all our sponsors and supporters, thanks to our trainers Carmel and thanks and good luck to Theresa who steps down as trainer this year. We appreciate the time and effort the women have dedicated to all the teams.



Camogie News

Emeralds

Still Strong

This year in 2002, the Emeralds Camogie didn't do as well as the previous year in which we succeeded in getting to three under-age county finals U-14, U-16 and U-18. Although, we didn't capture any titles, camogie is still going strong among the hearts of the Emeralds women.

Under 12

During the year, the Emeralds u-12 team weren't successful but did succeed in getting to the semi-final. Along the way they beat St. Annes, Lisdowney, St. Lachtains and Ballyragget. They faltered in the semi-final losing to Piltown.

Under 14

This was the most successful team for the Emeralds Camogie club this year. Captained by Sarah Byrne, the girls defeated Shamrocks and Mullinavat. They were beaten by St. Lachtains. They defeated Mullinavat in the semi-final. They met St. Lachtains again in the County Final but were well beaten. Great performances in this age were by Sarah Byrne, Marion Clohessy, Siobhan Fahey, Danielle Campion and Laura Kavanagh.

Under 16

In the U-16 Roinn B c'ship, Emeralds succeeded in getting to the semi-final but, unfortunately, were beaten by rivals Tullogher by one single point. Along their way led by Captain Eileen Hughes, the Emeralds ladies defeated Carrickshock, James Stephens, Lisdowney and St. Martins. They lost to Blacks and Whites and also Tullogher in a very tough and physical game.

The ladies who played well in this category were Aine Fahey, Siobhan O'Hara, Roseanne Webster, Clodagh Cleere and Eileen Hughes.

Under 18

The under-18 girls went out in the early stages of the c'ship, their only game being against Lisdowney in which they were badly beaten. Captained by Clodagh Cleere, the parish could barely field the numbers for a full team. Playing well under this age were Shona Power, Selina Power and Siobhan O'Hara.

Under 21

We enjoyed a smooth journey into the quarter finals in Under 21 being piped by Lisdowney in the quarter final. This was our only game Under 21, having been given a walk-over by O'Loughlin Gaels. Played well under this age were Sarah O'Gorman, Laura Comerford, Lorraine Peters and Margaret Marshall.

Junior

In this level, we were beaten by Clara in the first round. We received walk-overs from O'Loughlins and Lisdowney, losing to James Stephens in the fourth round by a single point. James Stephens later went on and won this Junior c'ship.

Camogie Committee

Chairperson: Edward O'Gorman
Secretary: Sinead Curran
Asst. Secretary: Catherine Ryan
Treasurer: Kay Bowden
Trainers: - u-12: Sinead Curran & Catherine Ryan
U-14 and over: Paddy Hughes & Gerry Fahy



This will be mine someday!
Adam-John Tobin, Killahy, Tullaroan takes a firm grip of the Liam McCarthy Cup.

Special Thanks

A special word of thanks must go to Paddy Hughes and Gerry Fahy for training the five teams for their effort and great commitment to training. This is a heart-felt thanks from all the girls who they have trained. Keep up the good work guys!!... Also, congratulations to Paddy Hughes on picking up job of vice-chairman of the Kilkenny Camogie County Board. It is a great achievement for the club.

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Camogie News

James Stephens

Club Officers 2002

Chairperson: Catherine Neary
Vice Chairperson: Gretta Kelly
Secretary: Ann Mulholland
Treasurer: Finola Gorey
PRO: Mary Howley

Junior Success

Over a long, drawn out Championship this year, the Village Junior team reached their first County Final since 1933. Wing-back Grainne Howley's grand aunt Mary Larkin was on the losing side in 1933, but Grainne and her team mates had more success, when the James Stephens girls proved themselves worthy of the Junior title beating a tough and determined Clara team by 5-8 to 3-5. Richard 'Bridget' Mulholland and Catherine Neary trained the team this year.

Panel Maggie Moran (Capt), Danielle Shortall, Emer Phelan, Sarah-Ann Martin, Niamh Butler, Louise Rafter, Grainne Howley, Ciara Lawlor, Siobhan Hickey, Elaine O'Neill, Aoife Neary, Bronagh Ryan, Angela Power, Laura Hanlon, Sinead Fitzpatrick, Aoife Gorey, Karen Brennan, Corrina Shortall, Nicola O'Shea, Elaine Murphy, Angela Grogan, Orla O'Ruairc and Sarah Morris.

Under 16

The U-16 team started the year on a high by winning the Pan Celtic Under 16b title, beating teams from Wicklow, Kilkenny, Wexford, Tipperary and Galway along the way. The Pan Celtic Tournament was held in Kilkenny for the first time and James Stephens was the first successful Kilkenny team. Continuing the winning streak, the U-16's reached the County final, but were beaten by a stronger Tullogher on the day. The Team was trained by John Gorey, Helena McCormack, and Maggie Moran. Panel: Sinead Walsh, Orla O'Ruairc, Sharon Rafter, Orla Neary, Sarah Morris, Niamh Butler, Emma Hickey, Emily Ann Gilligan, Elaine O'Neill, Orla McCormack, Aoife Gorey, Laura Brennan, Natalie Walsh, Naomi Fogarty, Antoinette Murphy, Brid Murphy, Agnes Gannon, Sinead O'Brien, Rosemary Nyham, Emer Walsh, Tara Mulholland, Lyndesey Owens, Tara O'Halloran, Siobhan Magner, Samantha Kearney, Emer Ryan, Lisa Claffey, Muireann Byrne, Emma Breen.

Under 14/12

The U-14's played well this year after dropping down into Roinn B. Reaching the semi final, they were beaten by a good team from St. Brigid's. Many of the U-14's cut their teeth in the U-16 competition this year. The under 12's went out on points when they were beaten after extra time by St. Brigid's. Helena McCormack and Aodan O'Ruairc trained both teams.

County players

The Club would like to congratulate Aoife Neary who represented Kilkenny at Senior, Junior and U- 18. Aoife along

with Louise Rafter were part of the Kilkenny Junior panel that won all Ireland Honours. Aoife also received the 'Player of the Year Award'. Aoife Gorey and Sharon Rafter were part of the U-16 panel and Orla McCormack was on the U-14 panel. Laura Brennan, Tara Mulholland and Orla Neary took part in the County development squads.

Primary Schools

St John of God had a successful year this year. Winning the Roinn C championship after a replay against Muckalee in Jenkinstown. Ms. Hogan trained the team.



PanCeltic U-16 Tournament Winners

Back: Orla O'Ruairc, Sarah Morris, Eimear Walsh, Naomi Fogarty, Emma Hickey, Sinead O'Brien, Elaine O'Neill, Niamh Butler (Capt), Natalie Walsh, Tara O'Halloran, Agnes Gannon, Muireann Byrne, John Gorey (Trainer).
Front: Brid Murphy, Sharon Rafter, Laura Brennan, Orla McCormack, Aoife Gorey, Rosemary Nyham, Orla Neary.



James Stephens County Junior Camogie Champions 2002

Back: Richard Mulholland(Trainer), Orla O'Ruairc, Sarah Morris, Orla Lawlor, Niamh Butler, Sarah Ann Martin, Nichola O'Shea, Elaine O'Neill, Laura Hanlon, Angela Power, Karen Brennan, Danielle Shortall, Bronagh Ryan, Catherine Neary (Selector)
Front: Emer Phelan, Aoife Neary, Ciara Lawlor, Aoife Gorey, Grainne Howley, Maggie Moran (Capt), Siobhan Hickey, Louise Rafter, Sinead Fitzpatrick, Corinna Shortall.



Camogie News

Lisdowney

U-12 Team

The team trained throughout the Summer months, improving steadily, suffering defeats by Emeralds and local rivals Ballyragget, then victories over St. Anne's and St. Lachtain's. Panel: Emma Bergin, Grace Murphy, Claire Sherman, Stephanie Ivory, Claire Phelan, Niamh Brennan, Amy Sweeney, Rachael Coady, Louise Skehan, Aisling Kearney, Siobhán Holland, Sinéad Campion, Linda Sweeney, Aoife Murphy, Orla Kearney, Clodagh Kearney, Lisa Hickey, Claudia Hudner, Amy Ivory, Amy Sullivan. They played Emeralds, St. Martin's and Fr O'Neills (Cork) in a tournament organised by Emeralds in Sept. Sabrina O'Shea and Aoife Campion attended Co. U-13 Squad Development sessions.

U-14 Panel

The U-14's suffered defeats to Paulstown, Ballyragget and O'Loughlin's, but defeating St. Anne's. Unfortunately they didn't qualify for the latter stages of the competition. Most of the team are underage for 2003. Panel: Aoife Campion, Claire Coonan, Nicola Thornton, Rachael Coady, Michelle Holland, Michelle Skehan, Siobhan Holland, Aisling Kearney, Joanne Coady, Niamh Brennan, Amy Sweeney, Siobhan Holland, Sabrina O'Shea, Claire Sherman, Louise Skehan, Eimear Glendon, Nicola Healy, Emma Bergin, Nicola Coady, Laura O'Neill. Claire Coonan was a member of the U-14 team defeated by Wexford in the Leinster Final.

A Young Minor Side

Following our Minor Roinn "C" victory in 2001, our minor team were moved up a division, this considering losing nine of the previous years team was a tall order, a predominately young team acquitted themselves well having victories over Muckalee, being defeated by James Stephans, Carrickshock, Blacks & Whites and champions Tullogher. Panel: Sara L. Murphy, Michelle Murphy, Mairead Bergin, Joanne Coady, Nicola Thornton, Lisa Dowling, Julia Fitzpatrick, Michelle Holland, Carol Gunner, Michelle Skehan, Claire Coonan, Asling Fitzpatrick, Siobhan O'Hara, Siobhan Holland, Aoife Campion, Aine Mackey, Rachael Coady. Carol Gunner was a member of the Co. Minor Panel who were defeated in the Leinster Final by Wexford.

U-18s Did Well

At time of writing our U-18 team has qualified for the Roinn "B" County Final following wins over Emeralds, Dicksboro, Carrickshock and Tullogher in the Co. Semi-Final. Our final opponents are unknown, as we await the winners of Blacks & Whites/Muckalee semi final. Panel: Sara Lee Murphy, Michelle Murphy, Lisa Dunne, Mairead Bergin, Julie Mackey, Mary M. Marum, Daneille Coonan, Aisling Tallis, Louise Hogan (Captain) Marlise Coonan, Lorraine Lyons, Carol Gunner, Michelle Campion, Claire Coonan, Miriam Dillon, Aine Mackey, Lisa Dowling, Siobhan O'Hara, Karen Farrell, Kathleen Dargan, Majella Walsh, Rachel Coady.

Congratulations to Louise Hogan and Mary M. Marum who were panel members on the U-18 Leinster Championship team also to Louise and Fran Shore who were panel members on the Kilkenny Junior team who won the Leinster and All-Ireland Championship.

U-21

The U-21's have qualified for the county Semi-final against Danesfort to be played in December. The team is made up mainly of the U-18 panel, plus senior players Linda Crennan, Ann Marie Shore and Lesley Stapleton.

Senior Season

The Senior team enjoyed mixed fortune this year, with some players unavailable, and others plagued with injuries, the team had to line out with eight senior debutants. In the league series we suffered two early defeats to Tullogher and St. Brigid's, having to wait nine weeks for our next game, we overcame Mullinavat, heavy defeat in the final round by St. Lachtain's set us up for a semi-final final meeting with the same opposition the following week. After an exciting game St. Lachtain's emerged winners. Congratulations and best wishes to Club Treasurer Deirdre Hosey on her marriage during the year.

Condolences

The club was saddened recently by the sudden death of Lar Carroll RIP. (See Obituary elsewhere). To his wife Mary and family we extend our deepest sympathys. "Ni bheidh a leitheid ann arís."

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Camogie News

Mooncoin

Officers 2002

Chairperson: Patrick Conway
Secretary: Mary Grace
Treasurer: Kay Gannon
PRO: Kathleen O'Brien

Reunion

2002 was a very special year for Mooncoin in that the present Camogie club celebrated twenty five years in existence. This was marked by a most enjoyable social evening, held in the Rising Sun, Mullinavat. It was attended by 230 people including present and past members of the club. The three founder members of the club, Mary Aylward (nee Phelan), Breda Kinsella and Margaret Hogan RIP (nee Coady) as well as Pat 'Pilot' Conway, who has served as chairman for the past sixteen years, were honoured with a presentation of Crystal to either themselves or their representatives.

Presentations

Mooncoin Camogie club won its first senior county championship in 1959 and first Junior title in 1969. The members of both these teams who were present on the night received a Commemorative Medal from Pat Conway. Old acquaintances were renewed and many funny stories were told making the night a huge success.

Team Action

On the sporting front we fielded teams in the School League, U-12, U-14, U-16, U-18 and Junior. The School League team reached the semi-final of their Section, whilst the U-12 and U-18 teams reached the quarter-final stages. Our U-10 team won their section of the County U-10 Tournament held in Thomastown in July.



Mooncoin U-10 Camogie Team - County Blitz Winners 2002

Back: Ellen Crowley, Laura Cuddihy, Louise Walsh, Louise Whitely, Kim Kelly, Laura Wall, Mairead Brennan, Sarah Crowley.
Front: Hannah Ryan, Roisin Daly, Margaret Grace, Evelyn Rowe, Siobhán Brennan, Niamh Flynn.

O'Loughlin Gaels Camogie Club

U-14 Action

Our U-14 team was first out this year and started very well winning their first four matches out of five rounds. This qualified them for a semi-final spot against Piltown. The semi-final was played in Thomastown in front of a large crowd with Piltown proving too strong on the day.

U-16s Did Well

After the exam break it was the turn of our u-16 team. Unfortunately two clubs pulled out of this championship leaving the remaining clubs only three games each to play. Having won one, lost one going into our third and final round a win was needed to progress to the semi final. This proved to be a cracker of a match with St. Brigids breaking away into a strong lead in the first half. In the sec-

ond half O'Loughlins steadied themselves and slowly but surely chipped away at St. Brigids lead. Alas time was not on our side and St. Brigids held out to win and progress to the semi-final.

County Blitz

In July our U-10 team travelled to Thomastown for the Kilkenny Camogie Board annual blitz. This proved a very enjoyable day with the team winning the B final of their section.

County Finalists at U-12

Having reached the county final in 2001 there was high hopes for our U-12 team this year. They started out with wins over James Stephens, Dicksboro, St. Brigids and Clara. This qualified them for the knockout stages of the competition. They kept going on their winning path until

they met Thomastown in the semi-final. Thomastown raced into a two-goal lead in the first five minutes, however O'Loughlins pulled them back and went four points up 10 minutes into the second half. A great game of camogie ensued with Thomastown scoring the equaliser with the last strike of the ball. In the replay tiredness caught up on them, playing their third game in six days and Thomastown ran out convincing winners.

An Encouraging Start

Our U-18 team was our last team to compete this year. This is our second year to compete at this level. While we had no wins in this championship it is encouraging to be able to compete and build on it.



Camogie News

Mullinavat

Officers 2002

Chairperson: John Joe Aylward
Secretary: Anna Woods
Treasurer: Mary Aylward

2002 had a lot to live up to after the successful conclusion to the 2001 season with the winning of the U-21 Roinn A title beating St. Annes in the final. It was a successful year for the club which fielded teams in all grades from U-12 to senior.

U-12 and U-14

The U-12s had a good run in the championship but were unlucky to lose out on a quarter-final spot. Our U-14s reached the Feile final but lost to Freshford and also reached the semi-final of the championship but were beaten by Emeralds.

U-16, U-18, U-21

The U-16 team had another good year with wins over Clara, St. Annes and Ballyhale to reach the final but were again beaten by Freshford. The U-18s were beaten by Freshford in the semi-final of the championship. The U-21s beat Tullogher in the first round of the championship but it is as yet unfinished.

Junior and Senior Action

For the first time we fielded both Junior and Senior teams. Our Juniors fulfilled its fixtures with most of our players young and promising. Short a few of our experienced players through injury we didn't

reach our full potential in the senior grade.

County Level

The club was well represented at all county levels.

U-14 - Valerie Law, Carol Phelan, Paula Butler and Lucinda Gahan were part of the panel beaten in the Leinster final.

U-16 - Claire Aylward and Amy Butler helped Kilkenny to the Leinster final

where they were narrowly beaten by a strong Wexford side.

U-18 - Brid Aylward, Elaine Aylward, Catherine Freyne and Emer O'Keeffe all played a prominent role in helping Kilkenny to win a third consecutive Leinster title.

Junior - Elaine Aylward and Nora Sutton represented the club with distinction and helped Kilkenny to their first Junior All Ireland title. They were also part of the senior panel.

Colleges Success

Many of our girls helped their respective Schools and Colleges to win All Ireland titles. Nora Sutton won a Purcell Cup medal with Carlow IT. The club backboned the Mercy Secondary

School Waterford to win their first ever All Ireland Colleges Senior title. Mullinavat had eight representatives on the team. Brid Aylward kept a sound goal all year. Joanne Quinn and Paula Madigan were sound in the full back line, while the all Mullinavat half back line of Catherine Freyne and Elaine and Claire Aylward proved their worth on any team. In attack Emer O'Keeffe and June Grennan kept the club colours flying.



Mullinavat girls celebrate All Ireland Colleges victory with Mercy Secondary School, Waterford

Back: Emer O'Keeffe, June Grennan, Claire Aylward, Catherine Freyne, Paula Madigan.

Front: Elaine Aylward, Bríd Aylward, Joanne Quinn.

Thomastown Camogie Club

Excellent Progress

Although no trophies were won by the club this year, there has been some great progress particularly at under age level where the primary school team reached the Roinn A County Final for the first time in the school's history and the U-12 team also reached the county final.

Intermediate

Our intermediate team started training in early March under the watchful eye of Paul Dempsey. The team missed out on the knock out stages of the championship but played some great games during the year particularly in the league game against Glenmore when they came from 10 points down at half time to win the game by one point. Well done to

everyone for their continued commitment and dedication to the club. The club did not take part in the Kilmacud Crokes competition this year.

Unfortunately both the primary school team and the U-12 team were beaten in their County Finals but they done themselves and the club very proud. Well done to all involved and keep up the good work!

County Success

Congratulations to Liz Dempsey on winning an All Ireland Medal with the Junior Team and to Mag Laherty who represented the club at U-14 County Level. This year saw the first development squads run by the County Board for girls U-13. The club had some girls involved

and well done to the girls for attending and to Mary Fennelly and Brendan Williams for their hard work.

Thanks for All the Help

A special thanks to Thomastown GAA Club for the use of the pitches for matches and training during the season and for the use of the flood lights during the winter months. The pitches were always in good condition.

To everyone who helped the club during the year both financially and in any other way the club says "a big thank you", without the help of so many people the club would not exist.



Camogie News

Piltown

Club Officers 2002:

Chairman.....Jim Malone
Vice Chairman..... Jim Morris
Secretary.....Eileen Malone
Ass. Sec...... Catherine McCarthy
Jt Treasurers.....
 Bernie Duggan/Kate Foley

P.R.O...... Frances Malone
 The year 2002 can only be described as a fantastic year for everyone in our club. Having put down a good base in 2001 the club reaped the rewards of the great effort being put in by all the players and mentors at underage level. We had championship wins at U14, Primary Schools and U12.

U14

This team went unbeaten during the season and had to be at their very best to overcome O'Loughlins in the semi-final. They played their near rivals Carrickshock in the final. Even though it was the 10th June the conditions were bad, but to both teams credit they served up a great game, full of skill, courage and commitment that kept the large crowd in attendance on their feet until the very end. Piltown had to withstand a great fight back by Carrickshock to run out victors.

Primary Schools

Our girls were very strong for this competition and showed great skill and style all during the championship with a good win over O'Loughlins in the final.



PILTOWN - U12 CAMOGIE COUNTY CHAMPIONS 2002

Back: Eimear Walsh, Fiona Malone, Kathleen O'Reilly, Karen Duggan, Katie Power (Capt), Gemma Byrne, Amy McGowan, Sinéad Long, Georgina Culleton, Laura Nugent.
Front: Jessica Norris, Laura Norris, Emma Walsh, Nicole Culleton, Nicole Grace, Ruth Farrell, Aisling O'Brien, Laura Scahill, Emma Dunne, Aisling Coady.

U12

Competing against all in the county, this proved to be a superb achievement. The standard of all the opposition teams was very high with probably the two form teams, Piltown and Thomastown reaching the final. Both teams served up a classic with the play frantic at both ends all through the game. The difference in the end was that Piltown's shots on target hit the net with their opponents being blocked by our brave goalkeeper and defenders. Great credit is due to Jim Malone and Eileen Malone for the work they have put into these teams during

the year Our very young under the guidance of Miriam Reid and Eamonn McGowan also had good outings in tournaments held in Thomastown and Mooncoin and we encourage all girls to come along and join in. We also welcomed George Leahy and Brian Ryan along to share their coaching expertise during the year and hope to put it to good use and benefit from their much-appreciated help. We would like to thank each and everyone who helped out and gave freely of their time during the year both on and of the field.

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Camogie News

Paulstown-Goresbridge

Officers 2002

Chairman: Jim Flavin
Secretary: Ailish Drennan
Asst. Secretary: Margaret Brennan
Treasurer: Breda Purcell
Trainer: Stephen Dormer

for the future.

On the lighter side the club visited Na Fianna Camogie Club in Dublin. The U-14 and U-16 sides were victorious in challenge games played.

U-16

This team provided great entertainment during the year for their enthusiastic followers. They reached the County Final where they came up against a very good Windgap side and came off second best.

U-12

This was a very young side, all of who are under age next year. They put up some creditable performances with little success.

U-14

Reached the County semi-final where they had to give way to an excellent Carrickshock side. This was their only defeat of the season.

U-18

This side, comprising all the U-16 team, put up some creditable performances. They had one win in the Championship. Their displays, however, augur well



Paulstown/Goresbridge U-16 Camogie County Finalists 2002

Back: Stephen Dormer (Coach), Sheila Kelly, Aisling Kealy, Aoife Drennan, Edel Mullins, Clare Whitely, Sarah Brennan, Mary Brennan, Aoife Murphy

Front: Roseanne Brennan, Orla Kealy, Rita Coady, Catriona Bambrick, Collette Dormer, Leoni Staunton, Julia Purcell. Missing from picture: Lisa Brennan.

Gowran Camogie Club

Young Irelands Camogie Club:

Officers:

Chairperson: Joan Treacy
Vice Chairperson: Ellen Horgan
Secretary: Mary Holden
Treasurer: Maria Fenlon

Under 8 Camogie Team who had a great day out at the Under 8 blitz run by the County Board.

Back Row: Anne Drea, Elaine Rudkins, Orlaith Byrne, Sarah Ann Quinlan, Paula Farrell, Kay Drea

Front Row: Ciara Byrne, Niamh Walsh, Sinead Naddy, Sharon Quinlan, Fionnuala Quinlan, Miriam Holden





Camogie News

St. Annes

Club Officers 2002

Chairman:	Sean Warren
Vice Chair:	Mary Phelan
Secretary:	Ann Ryan
Joint Treasurers:	Trisha Orr
	Margaret Norton
PRO:	Ashling Delaney
Trainer:	Michael Glendon
Selectors:	Michael Glendon
	Sean Warren
	Jack Phelan

In 2002 St. Anne's entered teams at every grade possible in the championship. This meant that many girls were training in the hope of winning a championship. Two of the U-16 girls Tara Warren and Trisha Orr coached the U-10, U-12 and primary schools teams all Summer and this was of great benefit to these young players.

Lots of Camogie Activity

The primary schools team qualified for the quarter finals in their second year in the competition. The U-10's played brilliantly in the blitz in Thomastown with all of the girls very proud of their medals on the way home. The U-12 team tried very hard against Emeralds, Ballyragget & Lisdowney but the highlight was beating St. Lachtains for the first time.

The U-14 team came up against very

strong opposition but never gave up and they look forward to a very good 2003. The U-16 team playing in A, had very good wins over Clara and Shamrocks to Qualify for the semi-final against the eventual winners St. Lachtains.

U-18s Reach Final

The U-18 girls showed great improvement after going out in the first round in 2001. This is a very young team with all the players eligible next year. The final was played in dreadful conditions in Urlingford with the girls losing out to a very strong St. Lachtains team but they look forward to having a real crack at this competition in 2003.

Intermediate Team

There were great expectations that the Intermediate team would bring senior status to the club in 2002. They raced through the league having easy wins all through. They had to fight very hard in the semi-final against St. Martins to reach the final against Shamrocks who came down from senior in 2001. The final did not live up to expectations. Both teams played hard but in the end St. Anne's had to give way and will have to start from scratch again next year. Hopefully third time lucky.

County Players

St. Anne's had two girls on the All-Ireland Junior winning team, Catherine Doherty and Edel Maher and Sean Warren managed the team. This was an excellent achievement by the three members of St. Anne's Camogie Club.

Tara Warren, Claire Phelan and Jean Ann Phelan were on the county minor team. Catherine Doherty and Edel Maher were also on the senior team. Roisin Brennan, Niamh Norton and Maria Hughes were on County Development Squads. Trainer Michael Glendon is taking a well-earned break after four years and will be missed.

Sponsors

The club is deeply indebted to all our sponsors and look forward to a very bright year in 2003. We would also like to thank Fenians and Galmoy Hurling Clubs and also Spa Utd. for the use of their grounds. Sponsors include McEvoy Construction, Delaney Hurleys, Pascal Ryan, Ger Henderson, Ryan's of the Cross, Brennan Fencing, Metropole Hotel, AIB Urlingford, Barry's Bar, Emerald Tiles, Murphy Bros., Jerry Fogarty, Brian Ryan, Daly's Service Station, Fenians hurling club, Sean Kelly, Osmond Bennett.



St. Annes Intermediate County Finalists 2002

Back: Michael Glendon, Sinead Delaney, Mary Ryan, Marion Holohan, Mary Lonergan, Ashling Delaney, Jean Ann Phelan, Anne Marie Phelan, Alvara Duggan, Sean Warren, Tara Warren, Sinead Kavanagh, Marie Dowling, Anne Marie Coogan, Eimear Power.

Front: Tara Corrigan, Orla Hughes, Claire Phelan, Edel Maher, Catherine Doherty, Therese Glendon, Clare Delaney, Laura Murphy, Aine Henderson, Mairéad Henderson.



Camogie News

Tullagher

Teams in All Grades

We fielded teams in all grades from U-12 to Senior level. The highlight was the success of our U-16 team in winning the county title and also the success of the Senior team who gave a good account of themselves on their return to the senior grade since '98.

Senior Team

Recording successful wins in the league section by defeating Lisdowney, St. Brigids and Mullinavat, we qualified for the County semi-final. Playing St. Brigids they introduced us to what senior championship is all about, taking an early lead of 1-3 inside ten minutes. Down 1-5 to 0-2 at the break it looked like a clear wipe out when we went eight points in arrears in the new half. However, we came back very well in the final quarter and put it up to Ballycallan before eventually going down by 2 points, 1-10 to 2-5. Hopefully we can build on this progress and learn from the experience gained and be as competitive in the coming year. Thanks must go to our trainer Bridget Ryan and selectors Etty Phelan and Jimmy Mullally.

U-16 B Champions

Our U-16 Panel recorded a great victory over James Stephens in the Co. Final. Having previously shocked a highly rated Urlingford in the semi-final, 2-8 to 3-4, our final opponents had already beaten us well in the league two weeks earlier. Tullagher looked to be in trouble as the city side took control early in the game and dictated play throughout that 1st half. Going in at the break, 3-5 to 1-5 in arrears, the girls kept plugging away and kept in touch thanks to 1-2 by Siobhan Murphy and 0-3 by Marie Ryan. Tullagher took the game to the Village in the 2nd half and opened up brightly with 2 quick points in succession. The defence defended bravely and broke down attack after attack and with our forwards and midfield pressurising their opponents, James Stephens found it difficult to make any headway. This was reflected in their scoreline in that 2nd half when they were held scoreless. Siobhan Murphy scored a great goal with just 8 mins remaining to level the game and roared on by a huge Tullagher following, the side went on to score two

brilliant points. Final Score: 2-10 to 3-5.

U-18 Action

The U-18 panel defeated Glenmore and Mooncoin to reach the Roinn B County semi-final where they were beaten by Lisdowney.

U-21s First Time

The U-21 panel played for the first time in the Roinn A championship where they went down to defending champions Mullinavat in the opening round.

U-12 & U-14

The primary team played in the Roinn B grade bowing out early in the competition, while the U-14 team also played at "B" level. They played with great enthusiasm and both panels show great promise for the future.

Inter-county Success

No less than 4 All-Ireland medals came back to the club when Kilkenny defeated Cork in the All-Ireland Junior Final in Croke Park.

Congratulations to Caitriona Ryan, Dolores Lanigan, Bridget Grennan and Marie Ryan on being part of this great success. Marie Ryan was part of the U-18 team which retained its Leinster title. Kelly Ann Cotterell & Siobhan Murphy were members of the U-16 minor team, while Ann-Marie Greene and Claire Lanigan were part of the development squad.

Thanks

Thanks go to our main sponsor Paddy Ryan and to all those who followed our games throughout the year.



Champions Celebrate

Dolores Lanigan, Bridget Grennan, Caitriona and Marie Ryan celebrate Kilkenny's win in the All Ireland Junior Final.



Tullagher Camogie Club - U-16 B Champions

Back: Joan Ryan, Linda Heffernan, Margaret Walsh, Noreen Murphy, Elizabeth Heffernan, Roisin Walsh, Marie Ryan, Kelly Ann Cotterell, Joanne Cotterell, Claire Cotterell, Ann Marie Greene, Margaret Ryan, Rose Marie Quigley.
Front: Anna Power, Sarah Wallace, Marie Meaney, Maeve Ryan, Siobhan Murphy, Jordanna Wall, Natasha Martin, Marie Conway, Mairead Ryan, Sinead Henry, Claire Lanigan, Christine Purcell, Noreen Lanigan.



Camogie News

Windgap

A Successful Year

Windgap Camogie Club had a very busy year in 2002 with two teams, the U-14 and 16s reaching county finals while the U-12 and U-18 teams were beaten in the quarter finals of their competitions.

County Players

The work and commitment of the players and coaches was rewarded when six club players were picked to represent Kilkenny at various age groups. They were Ann Marie Phelan, Elaine O'Shea, and Lisa Phelan at U-14, Phena Heffernan at U-16 and Terri Mackey and Fiona Kenny at U-18. Club trainer Matt Doran assisted County Chairman Liam Dunne in coaching and training the U-14 County team.

Lots of Juvenile Action

The U-8 players took part in the County Blitz played in Thomastown where they were beaten in the A final. The U-10 team took part in another blitz in the same venue where they won the B final. A large number of the U-14 panel moved up to the U-16 team where they went one better beating Paulstown in the final in Bennettsbridge. The U-18 team won out their group and went forward to meet Muckalee in the quarter final. The first meeting resulted in a draw but Muckalee proved too strong for an injury depleted Windgap and took honours in the replay.



Windgap U-12 Camogie Team 2002

Back: Maria Comerford (Trainer), John Ryan (Trainer), Tanya Carroll, Caroline McCarthy, Katie Kirwan, Rebecca Walker, Shauna Quinn, Claire Moore, Claire Comerford, Clodagh Phelan, Leanne Hennessey.

Front: Julie Walsh, Laura Moore, Alison Walsh, Susie Phelan, Mairead Comerford, Doreen Mackey, Niamh O'Donovan, Eleanor Barry, Nichola Moore.



Windgap U-14 Camogie Team 2002

Back: Maria Comerford, Aine Delaney, Elaine O'Shea, Annette O'Shea, Sarah McCarthy, Claire Moore, Ann Marie Phelan, Mandy Egan, Lisa Phelan, Shauna Fennelly, Katie Kirwan, Bridget Cahill, Joe O'Shea.

Front: Fiona Delaney, Caroline McCarthy, Catriona Downey, Claire Comerford, Suzie Phelan, Julie Walsh, Miriam Moore, Tanya Carroll, Leigh Ann Hennessey, Aimee Doran and Matt Doran.

Windgap U-16 Camogie Team 2002 County B Champions

Back: Pat Moore, Lisa Phelan, Libby Moore, Aoife Ryan, Maria Barry, Anita Meagher, Emer Fitzpatrick, Lisa Cahill, Joe O'Shea, Ann Marie Phelan, Marie Foley, Lorraine Hartery, Brigid Cahill, Lisa McCormack and Matt Doran.

Front: Aine Delaney, Annette O'Shea, Elaine O'Shea, Claire Moore, Phena Heffernan, Sarah McCarthy, Claire Comerford, Katie Burke, Aimee Doran.



PRIMARY SCHOOLS CAMOGIE

By Tony Dalton

Photos - Eoin Hennessy



ROINN D FINAL

Piltown 10-6, St.John's 3-1

This final brought together last year's finalists and St John's from the city. There was a strong wind blowing and the city side played with it in the first half. They had the best of all starts when Sarah Morrissey broke through for a goal in the early minutes. Piltown were taking time to settle but a point from Karen Duggan had the desired effect. Katie Power was coming more into the game for Piltown and following a great run, scored a fine goal for Piltown. The same player pointed minutes later. Piltown were improving all the time and Aisling O'Brien got her name on the scoreboard with a goal. St John's were not about to lie down and from the puckout, Sarah Burke got the ball and scored a fine goal for St John's. Elaine Kenny replied immediately with a point for Piltown. Elizabeth Kavanagh got in on the act when she goaled for St John's. Piltown finished the half strongly with a point from Karen Duggan and another goal from Katie Power.

Half-time: Piltown 3-4, St John's 3-0

Piltown opened the second half in very determined mood and Elaine Kenny scored a goal and a point in the opening minutes. Aisling O'Brien had another goal as did Katie Power and Elaine Kenny. Aisling O'Brien scored again and St John's were then in hard luck when the ball trickled over the line for a Piltown goal. Katie Power completed the Piltown scoring with a goal and a point. St John's had the consolation of getting the final score when Sarah Burke pointed. They had given it their all and were unlucky to come up against a very strong Piltown side on the day.

Piltown: G Byrne, L Fitzgerald, L Long, S Long, F Malone, K Duggan, C Norris, G Culleton, E Kenny, K Power, N Grace, A O'Brien
Subs: K O'Reilly, A Mc Gowen, R Farrell, L Nugent, A Coady, E Dunne, E Walsh.

St John's: T Burke, S Dwyer, E Conroy, A Callinan, A Butler, S Morrissey, E Kavanagh, M Tyrrell, S Burke, L O'Neill, F O'Sullivan, A Dunne.

Subs: J Lahart, R Connolly, E Lyons, R Walsh, Z Cahill, MC Walsh, K McGuinness, M Shortis, E Butler.

ST JOHN OF GOD ROINN C CHAMPIONS 2002

Back: Rebecca Cleere, Fiona Cantwell, Dervla Murphy, Siobhan Magner, Samantha Kearney, Ciara Griffin, Orla Neary, Deirdre O'Neill.

Front: Elanor Lacey, Kate Magner, Mairead Walsh, Christine Campion, Laura Brennan, Lyndsey Owens, Denise Gaule, Tara Mulholland, Sarah Moynihan, Caroline Walton.



URLINGFORD - ROINN A SCHOOLS CAMOGIE CHAMPIONS 2002

Back: Elaine Tobin, Brid Breen, Henry O'Grady (Mentor), Nicola Power, Tracey Neary, Helen Power, Shauna Pollard, Orla Stokes, Eimear Bowden, Eileen Fitzgerald, Claire Bowden, Orla Gleeson, Ms Cowhig (Mentor), Margaret Stapleton.
Middle: Maritta Doheny, Siobhan Fahey, Brid Breen, Annie Doyle, Marian Clohosey, Margaret Norton, Collette Grant, Niamh Bergin.
Front: Jaela Burke, Michelle Neary, Aoife Walsh, Melissa Beehan, Marianne Murphy, Eilish Brennan, Aisling Fitzgerald, Lauren Cleere.



CARRICKSHOCK- PRIMARY SCHOOLS ROINN B CHAMPIONS 2002

Back: Claire Kenneally, Jennifer Dunne, Jimmy O'Dwyer (Mentor), Aoife Fenneally, Amy Price, Leanne Fennelly, Christine O'Dwyer (Captain), Rebecca Phelan, Rhona Murphy, Ciara Neville, Evelyn Murphy, Denise Kenneally, Sinead Gibbons, Ailish Gorey (Mentor), Karina Tennyson (Mentor).
Front: Dawn Holden, Laura Molyneaux, Sarah Brophy, Lisa Raggett, Finola Byrne, Mairead Power, Edel Frisby, Tara Gaule, Denise Kenneally, Laura Fennelly, Christine Power.



ROINN C FINAL
Muckalee 2-1, St John of God 1-4

This game which also went ahead in Palmerstown, was played in a welter of excitement and had the large crowd on their toes from beginning to end. Both teams were very evenly matched and scores were hard to come by. Muckalee played with the wind which was quite strong on the day and they were first to score when Ann Marie Walsh scored a fine goal. Edwina Keane was in terrific form for Muckalee and she put them four points up with a well-struck 30. St John of God captain, Laura Brennan was coming more and more into the game and she opened their scoring by converting a thirty. Shortly before half-time, there was a scramble in the Muckalee goalmouth and the ball ended up in the net. This left both teams on level terms as they went in for half-time.

Half-time: Muckalee 1-1, St John of God 1-1

It was now the turn of the city side to play with the wind and they were first to score when Samantha Kearney had a good point. Denise Gaule was coming more and more into the game for St John of God and they were applying a lot of pressure on the Muckalee goal. It was Muckalee however who got the next important score when they broke upfield and Bobby Stapleton had a fine shot for a goal. St John of God applied more and more pressure and they were rewarded when Laura Brennan converted a thirty. There was now only a point between the sides and both teams gave everything in the quest for victory. St John of God were awarded a free and Laura Brennan shot the equalising point. There were no more scores in the time that remained and a draw was a good result as neither team had deserved to lose.

Muckalee: B Buggy, M Stapleton, C Haughney, S Quirke, E Keane, R Maher, M O'Keefe, E Cantwell, AM Walsh, N Hennessy, M Mulhall, B Stapleton. *Subs:* A Morrissey, L Taylor, F Morrissey, O Butler, C Teehan, J Kelly, B Cantwell, O Dowling, K Dowling, L Butler, S Quirke, L O'Keefe, C Holohan, C Brennan, K Holohan.
St John of God: O Neary, C Griffin, T Mulholland, S Magner, D Murphy, C Campion, S Kearney, D Gaule, L Owens, L Brennan, D O'Neill, M Walsh.
Subs: F Cantwell, C Nyhan, R Cleere, K Magner, S Moynihan, C Walton, E Lacey, L Claffey.

REPLAY
St John of God 6-2, Muckalee 1-2

The replay of the Roinn C Final went ahead in Conahy on the following Wednesday. A large crowd turned up for the game. There was a stiff breeze and Muckalee elected to play with it. St John of God were under pressure in the early stages but the city defence was playing very well. Edwina Keane was the main driving-force for Muckalee and they were rewarded with two well-taken points by Ann Marie Walsh.

Denise Gaule opened the scoring in the second half with a very good point for John of God. She followed this up with an excellent goal. The city girls were now in the driving-seat and Laura Brennan got in on the act with a goal and a point. Denise Gaule then hit a purple patch and scored three goals on the trot. Muckalee were in serious trouble but Edwina Keane gave them hope with a good goal. This was soon cancelled out however when Denise Gaule found the net one more time and this proved to be the last score of the day.

St John of God were victorious and deserving winners but Muckalee had contributed much to two highly-entertaining games.

ROINN B FINAL
Carrickshock 10-0, Castlecomer 0-0

A team from the north and a team from the south contested the B Final. Both had been very impressive all season and Castlecomer had scored a fine win over Paulstown in the semi-final. Carrickshock opened the scoring when Leanne Fennelly



PILTOWN - ROINN D CHAMPIONS 2002

Back: Aisling Coady, Caithlyn O'Reilly, Sinead Long, Gemma Byrne, Leanne Long, Georgina Culleton, Fiona Malone, Lisa Fitzgerald, Laura Nugent
Front: Amy McGowan, Aisling O'Brien, Karen Duggan, Elaine Kenny, Katie Power, Ruth Farrell, Emma Dunne, Nicole Grace.

Missing from photo: Charlene Norris(Capt), Eimear Walsh



THOMASTOWN - ROINN A FINALISTS 2002

Back: Sheila Sheehy, Amy Maher (Captain), Alice Heafey, Tara O'Hanlon, Darine O'Connor, Julie Reddy.
Front: Sarah Walsh, Chloe Conway, Kate McDonald, Sonya Bove, Grace Brennan, Anna Farrell.



CASTLECOMER - ROINN B FINALISTS 2002

Back: Laura Jackman, Noreen Murphy, Pierce Dargan, Aine Molloy, Dervla Coogan, Nolita Cunningham, Sile Carroll, Aoife Dwyer, Maria Coogan, Martha Loughlin, Joanne Healy.
Front: Patrice Delaney, Laura O'Neill, Danielle O'Neill, Joanne Cody, Marie Dargan (Captain), Aisling Farrell, Amy Nolan, Shonagh Doheny, Aine Walsh.



MUCKALEE - ROINN C FINALISTS 2002

Back: Marie Stapleton, Anne-Marie Walsh, Claire Haughney, Brenda Buggy, Bobbie Stapleton, Edwina Keane, Michelle O'Keffe.
Front: Nicola Hennessy, Rosemary Maher, Eilis Cantwell, Michelle Mulhall, Sinead Quirke, Annette Morrissey, Leanne Taylor.
Mascots: Edel Coonan Megan Tynan, Ciara Butler.



ST JOHN'S - ROINN D FINALISTS 2002

Back: Liam Dunne (Mentor), Annie Dunne, Sharon Dwyer, Emer Lyons, Aisling O'Driscoll, Rachel Walsh, Teresa Burke, Emma Butler, Anna Callanan, Laura O'Neill, Sarah Morrissey, Jaqueline Lahart, Claire Dermody (Mentor).
Front: Marina Tyrrell, Roisin Connolly, Zoe Cahill, Emma Conroy, Sarah Burke, Kelly McGuinness, Elizabeth Kavanagh, Megan Shortiss, Francis O'Sullivan, Mary Claire Walsh.

scored a good goal for them. They continued to apply a lot of pressure but found the `Comer defence very difficult to break down. Aine Molloy was in terrific form for `Comer. There was no score for a long time but shortly before half-time, there was a scramble in the Castlecomer goalmouth and the ball ended up in the net. This gave Carrickshock a two-goal cushion going in for the break.

Half-time: Carrickshock 2-0 Castlecomer 0-0

Castlecomer needed a goal but it was Carrickshock who opened the scoring in the second half when Rhona Murphy goaled for them. Jennifer Dunne followed up with a brace of goals before Lisa Raggett got her name on the scoreboard with another. Rhona Murphy got one from a thirty and Jennifer Dunne, Lisa Raggett and Dawn Holden added three more. Leanne Fennelly was in excellent

form for Carrickshock as was Christine O`Dwyer in the defence. Marie Dargan and Aoife Dwyer did all they could to turn things `Comer`s way but it was not to be as they came up against a Carrickshock team that played excellently on the day.

Carrickshock: S Brophy, E Murphy, L Molyneaux, C O`Dwyer, R Murphy, R Phelan, A Fennelly, A Price, E Frisby, L Fennelly, J Dunne, L Raggett. **Subs:** C Kenneally, D Holden, D Kenneally, C Neville, S Gibbons, M Power, T Gaule, K Farrell, L Fennelly, C Power.

Castlecomer: L O`Neill, A Molloy, D O`Neill, A Farrell, A Nolan, S Carroll, A Dwyer, M Coogan, M Dargan, D Coogan, G Brennan, N Coady. **Subs:** N Cunningham, K Coogan, M Murphy, N Healy, L Mansfield, M Kennedy.

ROINN A FINAL
Urlingford 3-3, Thomastown 2-1

Urlingford made it three-in-a-row when they won the Roinn A title following a terrific match against a strong Thomastown side. Both teams went into the game with good credentials and spectators were not disappointed with the fare they served up. The game was played at a very fast pace and Thomastown were first off the mark when Amy Maher converted a 30. Urlingford soon hit back when a dropping ball was sent all the way to the net by Tracey Neary. Siobhan Fahey was becoming more and more prominent and she scored a terrific point for Urlingford. Thomastown hit back when Grace Brennan got a fine goal for them. Siobhan Fahey again pointed for Urlingford and this was followed by another goal for them when Marietta Doheny delivered yet another dropping ball to the net. Thomastown were not to be easily beaten however and Tara O`Hanlon put them right back in the game with a good goal. Siobhan Fahey completed the first half scoring when she converted a 30.

Half-time: Urlingford 2-3, Thomastown 2-1

Driving rain did not help matters but both teams took up where they had left off and produced a fine second half. Defences were on top and scores were very hard to come by. Amy Maher was excellent for Thomastown and did all she could to swing things their way. Marion Clohosey played a captain`s part for Urlingford and Colette Grant was prominent in the forwards.

The next score was going to make a big difference and it fell to Urlingford`s Michelle Neary who scored the goal that put them five points ahead. Thomastown did all they could to get back on level terms but it was not to be. Urlingford, with Siobhan Fahey in terrific form, were deserving winners but Thomastown had contributed much to an excellent final.

Urlingford : O Stokes, H Power, M Clohosey, M Norton, A Doyle, S Fahey, B Leahy, M Doheny, C Grant, E Fitzgerald, T Neary, M Neary. **Subs:** O Gleeson, B Breen, E Bowden, E Tobin, N Bergin, N Power, M Stapleton, C Bowden, M Murphy, S Pollard, A Walsh, S Kavanagh, A Fitzgerald, E Brennan, M Behan, D Tobin, L Cleere, J Burke.

Thomastown : A Heafey, S Sheehy, S Walsh, C Corway, K Mc Donald, S Bove, A Maher, G Brennan, A Farrell, T O`Hanlon, D O`Connor, A Mannina. **Subs:** N Whelan, J Reddy, J Cahill, M Connolly, I Hoyne, T Dunne, K Kelly, S Cody, S Skehan, R Wallace, L Dempsey, C Reid, A Galway, M Ryan, K Ryan.

LEINSTER SH CHAMPIONSHIP 2003

Dublin a bye.

Sun, May 4: Kildare v Westmeath, Newbridge; Meath v Carlow, Navan.

Mon, May 5: Laois v Wicklow, Pordaise.

Sat, May 10 or Sun, May 11: Dublin v Kildare or Westmeath, Parnell Park; Laois or Wicklow v Carlow or Meath, Aughrim or Portlaoise.

May 25: Preliminary Round Final: Dublin, Kildare or Westmeath v Laois, Wicklow, Carlow or Meath, venue TBA.

Semi-finals—

Sat, June 8th: Preliminary round winners v Kilkenny, venue TBA.

Sun, June 9: Offaly v Wexford, Nowlan Park.

Final—July 6: Croke Park.



Le gach dea-mhéin ó Chomhairle Laighin
C. L. G.

Miche l Dubhshl ine Runaí

KILKENNY SUPPORTERS' CLUB



Winners.....John Joe Byrne Cars Sales, Wexford, receive their Waterford Crystal first prize from D.J. Carey and Jim Walsh (Captain, Gowran Golf Club) after they won the Kilkenny GAA Supporters Club Golf Classic in Gowran. On the winning team were John Joe Byrne, Eamonn McCarthy, Rich Stafford and missing was Philip White.



Runners-up.....South Midland Construction Ltd. who came second in the Kilkenny Supporters Club Golf Classic at Gowran receiving their prizes from D.J. Carey and Jim Walsh (Captain, Gowran Golf Club). On the team were Charlie Brennan, Sean McNally, Barney Rock and Ciaran Murphy.



Third place in the Kilkenny Supporters Club Golf Classic.....Kiely Meats receive their prizes from D.J. Carey and Gowran Golf Club Captain Jim Walsh, Joe Hennessy, Stan Kiely, Phil Brennan and Willie O'Connor.

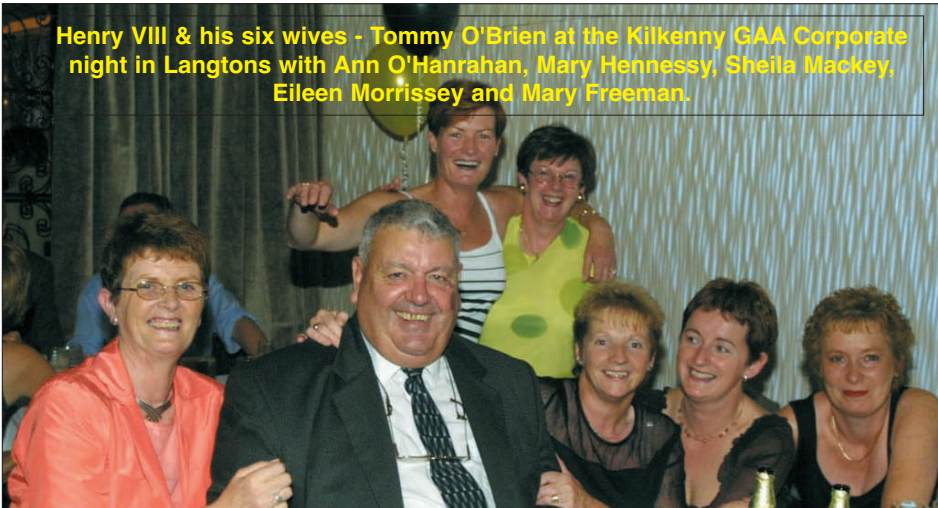


Enjoying the atmosphere.....Liam Nolans table at the Kilkenny GAA Corporate night in Langtons

All photos on this page by Eoin Hennessy

The Corporate Night

Henry VIII & his six wives - Tommy O'Brien at the Kilkenny GAA Corporate night in Langtons with Ann O'Hanrahan, Mary Hennessy, Sheila Mackey, Eileen Morrissey and Mary Freeman.



DUBLIN BRANCH-KILKENNY GAA SUPPORTERS CLUB

The Dublin Branch of the Kilkenny GAA Supporters Club had a very successful year and continued to expand in membership and activities. The total paid-up membership for the year was 224, and members were kept informed of activities, events and news with a regular newsletter, which has proved to be very popular.

The Branch Committee meets regularly on the second Tuesday of each month in the Academy Hotel, Cathal Brugha Street, and members are also welcome to attend. On Friday 24 May, the Dublin Branch held a very successful Golf Classic at Westmanstown Golf Club where over 40 teams competed. Members of the Kilkenny County Board and members of the senior hurling team took part, and Eddie Keher presented the prizes at a very enjoyable function that evening.

On Saturday 17 August (eve of Kilkenny versus Tipperary semi-final) the Branch organised a 'Race Night', which was very well attended and financially successful. With monies raised from activities during the year, the Branch gave a substantial sum to the Kilkenny All Ireland training fund, and also sponsored the set of hurling boots worn by the successful minor team on All Ireland day. The Branch also subscribed to the county camogie team.

Because membership is drawn almost exclusively from Kilkenny people living in Dublin, the Branch organised coach trips to venues outside Dublin where Kilkenny were hurling. These included National Hurling League games, championship games, and the county hurling final at Nowlan Park.

The concluding activity for the year was a most successful and memorable 'victory dinner and celebration' held at Ballyboden-St Enda's GAA Clubhouse on Friday 15 November.

Kilkenny people living in Dublin who wish to contact the Branch may do so at one of the following numbers. 01-8324409. 086-2421924. 087-6392146.

The Poltin Still table at the Kilkenny GAA Corporate night in Langtons.



Liam McCarthy and Michael Phelan lead the Frankie Prendergast table at the Kilkenny GAA Corporate night in Langtons, Langtons.



Helvetica





CLUB NEWS

Ballyhale Shamrocks

Adult Teams

The senior team had yet again a very unfortunate year as they were eliminated by a single score by James Stephens at the quarter final stage after a highly entertaining match. The special junior team won the south league final and are waiting for the county league final to be played, unfortunately they fell at the first hurdle in the championship to Glenmore after a replay. Our junior footballers and U-21 hurlers are awaiting fixtures in their respective championships.

Under Age Competitions

Congratulations must go to the school team this year as they once again captured the country cup title. Our U-14 and 16 teams were very much under strength in their grades and had a tough year. The

minor team is awaiting a league final against Carrickshock the team that put them out of the championship at the semi final stage. Saying all of this our county players did us proud again when they returned to the parish with two senior and four minor All Ireland medals. Congratulations to Henry, Aidan, Pdraig, Keith, Eoin and James (Cha). A wonderful achievement for a small parish.

Development

Fundraising and club development continues on an on going basis. Every week the local lotto runs successfully with tireless work being done by the lotto committee. The annual golf classic was yet again a great success and thanks must go to the committee formed to organise it

and to the women who catered wonderfully for the event. All sponsors must be thanked for their kind donations but special thanks to our new main sponsor Andrew o Keeffe {Andys Bar}. Great appreciation must be paid to the people who trained the various teams over the year. Great credit is also due to the people that maintained the jerseys and to Kevin Kennedy and the field committee for their endless work on our two pitches.

Bereavements

Paddy Holden, Knockmoylan passed away during the Summer. He enjoyed attending all games, up until his passing away. May he rest in peace.

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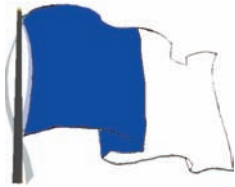
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Well Done, Kilkenny - Minors and Seniors!



Barrow Rangers

CLUB NEWS

Officers 2002

Chairman: Mick Medlar
 Vice Chair: Jimmy Staunton
 Secretary: Bob Shortall
 Asst. Sec: Paul Kelly
 Treasurer: Philip Maher
 Asst. Treasurer: T Dowling, JJ Staunton
 PRO: C. Kenny, D. McEvoy

Adult Grades

The junior team was defeated in the first round of the championship by Conahy Shamrocks and in the losers group by Fenians. They performed better in the Paddy Cahill Cup, reaching the final, where they were defeated by a useful Galmoy outfit.

The Special Juniors failed to make any progress on last years disappointing performances.

The U-21 side put up an impressive enough performance against Danesfort, just failing to reach the final.

Underage Games Development

The underage section of the club failed to build on the successes of the previous year failing to win a championship game. They fared somewhat better in football. The U-16 side has won all three of its games to date. We captured the U16 Roinn C Football title with a great win over Glenmore in the final.

The U-14 football side took part in the Coca-Cola Feile na Peil in Carlow and we hosted a team from Brussels. Special thanks to all who accommodated our visitors for what was a most successful and enjoyable weekend. The President of the GAA Sean McCague honoured the club with a visit during that week.

Juveniles

The U-12 team had a very successful 2002 season. They played in three major competitions, runners-up in the Dublin Hurling Board Tournament, winning the U-12 Bord na nÓg League, and playing very well in the Ann Brennan Memorial Cup. The U-11 side took part in the "Camaint" ground hurling competition where they drew with Dicksboro and beat Tullaroan to win their group outright.

Under 10's, 9's and 8's

The U-8's and U-9's took part in the Roanmore Seven a side tournament. The U-10's were Shield Finalists in the O'Loughlin Gaels U-10 Hurling Blitz.

The U-8's reached the semi-final of the Mount Leinster Rangers Hurling Blitz. A presentation night was held in Goresbridge, at which medals were presented to almost 100 boys and girls by Brian Cody and James McGarry.

Thanks

The club would like to thank the many people who sponsored playing gear for us during the year. Next year the club plans a major fundraising event in May in Gowran Park Golf Club and all support will be appreciated.

A special word of thanks to all who helped with the coaching of teams:

Junior: David Holmes
 Under 21: Stephen Dormer, Ken McEvoy, Dermot Maher, JJ Staunton
 Under Age: Jimmy Morrissey, Ollie O'Neill, Joe English, Peter Breen
 Juveniles: Michael Lonergan, Joe English and Christy Kenny

In the Black and Amber

Shane McEvoy was part of the Kilkenny minor team that won the Leinster minor League while Aidan Brennan was part of the Kilkenny U-16 team and Martin Bambrick played for Kilkenny U-13s.

Development

Development still continues in the parish field. Building still continues on the dressing rooms, boxing hall and indoor court. A big fundraiser was held earlier in the year to raise funds for the centre and many thanks to all who helped with the

sponsorship.

March of Time

Willie Doherty, Lowergrange, Goresbridge who passed away during the year was a dedicated official of the club for a good number of years. He was first secretary of a club formed in Goresbridge in 1932 by Tony Dalton who was a teacher there. This club existed until 1936 when they had a falling out with the County Board and withdrew from Kilkenny for a few years. Willie's work as an Inspector with the Department of Agriculture took him out of the area for a number of years. When the parish rule was reintroduced in 1953 Willie was back as secretary of the Paulstown club, a position he held until 1969. The sympathy of the club is extended to his wife and family. Sympathy is also extended to the Staunton family, Coolacutta and the Brennan family, St. Endas on the death of their mother, Kathleen and father, Jim respectively, and to all players, officials, supporters and friends who suffered bereavements during the year. Ar dheis lámh Dé go raibh said.



Willie Doherty RIP



Barrow Rangers U-12 - Winners Kilkenny League 2002

Back: Thomas Brennan, Richard Doyle, Gerard Walsh, Michael Cass, Christy Kenny (Coach), Kevin Leahy, Michael Lonergan (Coach), Shane O'Neill, Cathal Kenny, Patrick Drennan, Jason Holden, Eddie English, Martin Bambrick, Joe English (Coach).

Front: Emma Staunton, Cathal English, Graham Power, Danny Byrne, Martin Dormer, Michael Lonergan, Damien Barcoe, Kevin Hennessy, Thomas Whitely, Ciaran Doyle.

Missing from photo: William Morrissey and Mark Hennessy.

Club Officers 2002

Chairman: Christy Hayes
 Joint Sec: Barry O'Brien, Dick O'Neill
 Treasurer: PJ Cullen
 PRO: P. Hickey
 Juvenile Committee
 Chairman: John Byrne
 Secretary: Jack Lennon
 Treasurers: Geraldine Deneiffe, Dick O'Neill

Underage Games

The club had a busy year at underage level with coaching of U-12s and U-14s on Sunday mornings. They also took part in a tournament in Ballyboden-St. Endas. No trophy but a very enjoyable day for players and mentors.

The U-14 hurlers were unlucky to lose to Lisdowney in the League semi-final after a good game. Our U-16 and minor teams were both out of contention in the early rounds of the championship. At U-21 level we were unlucky to be beaten by Clara after a very entertaining game.

Adult Hurling

The Junior B team was unlucky to be beaten narrowly by Blacks & Whites in the league semi-final and in the championship by eventual winners James Stephens.

The Intermediate team made a slow start

to the year and injury forced them to be very understrength for much of the season. There were no trophies but it was heartening to see the commitment of the younger players and this suggests a bright future.

Congratulations

Well done to James McGarry on winning his All Ireland senior medal. Congrats to Noel Skehan who was a selector on the victorious team.

Presentation

The club made a presentation to

Geraldine Deneiffe who was secretary of the juvenile section for many years and also to Sean Murphy who looked after the school teams.

Thanks

The club is indebted to the many sponsors who supported the club during the year. Our thanks go the Field Committee who kept the Park in immaculate condition for many games played there this year.

The club would like to offer its sympathies to members and friends who were bereaved during the year.



Bennettsbridge Camaint Team 2002

Back: Jamie Monahan, Jessica Cleere, Vivian Holmes, David Kealy, Joseph Sexton, Shane Brennan, Gavin Hickey, Jonathan Neville, Alan Byrne, Robert Lennon.
Front: Shane Egan, Darren Booth, Kieran Dowling, Jennifer Daly, Hugh O'Neill, Leo Dooley, Aidan Cleere, Caoimhe Shiels, Paul McGrath.

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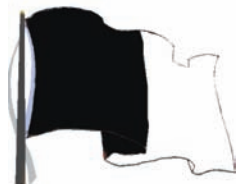




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Blacks & Whites

CLUB NEWS

Junior Glory

After the disappointment of being relegated from Intermediate in 2001 the players, selectors and trainers put their minds down to the serious business of winning the Junior Championship in 2002 and regaining Intermediate status. This they did with wins over Erins Own, Danesfort, St. Patricks, Balyragget, Galmoy and in the County final they beat the best the South could offer, Kilmacow by a single point in a tense, thrilling final on a scoreline of 0-10 to 1-6.

A great team effort saw the same fifteen hurl for the full hour. From a panel of thirty players the selectors did a wonderful job and great credit is due to all, Seamus Murphy, Denis Carroll, Liam Dowling and Pat O'Neill. With optimism we look forward to 2003 and renewing battle with the great teams that are in the intermediate grade.

Our Special Juniors also had a wonderful year winning the Northern Special Junior League and losing narrowly to Tullogher-Rosbercon in the All County Special Junior Hurling League Final.

Bord na nÓg

2002 was also a memorable year for our minor hurlers playing in Roinn A. In the league they defeated Emeralds, James Stephens and Dicksboro, though they went out to St. Lachtains after a replay.

The U-16 hurlers had a reasonable year with wins over Graigue-Ballycallan and Conahy in the League. However having lost Ray Cody with a serious leg injury we were beaten by Erins Own in the



GAA President Sean McCague on a visit to Blacks & Whites Club prior to Feile Peil na nÓg.
L-R: Ned Moran, Eddie Byrne (Chairman, Carlow Co. Board), Sean McCague, Michael O'Dowd, Gerry Murphy.

Championship. Joint Effort

The U-14 hurlers joined with Graignamanagh in a joint team under the name of St. Fiachras. Many thanks must go to the people who gave their time and knowledge in coaching these young hurlers and the fruits of their efforts will be seen in the years ahead.

Football

In the Intermediate Football championship semi-final we were eliminated by Mooncoin and in the League final we lost to O'Loughlins after a replay. Michael O'Dowd, a former chairman of our club was selected as Secretary to the Football Board. He joins fellow club-men on the County Board, Mikey Byrne, Ned Moran and Gerry Murphy.

Handball

Congratulations to Paul Murphy on his All Ireland victory in U-14/15 Team competition at 60 x 30.

Bereavements

James Kelly, Jason Whearty, Bertie Walsh, Mary Murphy (Coolnabrone), Fr. Ned Dowling.

Officers 2002

President:	Jack Kelly
Vice President:	Mikey Brien
Chairman:	Joe Lawlor
Vice Chairman:	Dr. Michael Helly
Secretary:	Gerry Murphy
Treasurer:	Ned Kelly
Registrar:	Michael Lennon
PRO:	Joe Lawlor

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Carrickshock

CLUB NEWS

Club Officials

Chairman: Pat Duggan
 Vice Chairman: Tommy Murphy
 Secretary: Pat Power
 Asst. Secretary: Paraic Crowley
 Treasurer: Deirdre Brennan
 PRO: Mary Carroll
 Co. Board Rep: Dixie Burke
 South Board: Jimmy Sheehan
 Chair B. na nOg: John Barron
 Sec Bord na nOg: Maurice Power
 Treasurer: Stephen Rice

Bord na nOg

What a year it has been for our Bord na Oig committee, their young charges achieving the ultimate at this level, taking four All Ireland medals and the Irish Press Cup back to the parish. This success was consolidated by the retention of the minor A hurling championship. Congrats to selectors Richie Power, Jimmy Sheehan and George Power. Success was also achieved at primary school level, these young hurlers are the building blocks for the future and we applaud them for their efforts. The club wishes to sincerely thank everyone involved with underage teams in the parish.

Adult Teams

The intermediate team reached the county final, on the day the game didn't go our way, but with the mixture of maturity and youth on the panel a win at this level is imminent. The U-21 and special junior teams exited their respective campaigns at an early stage and a more determined campaign is expected in 2003. The club thanks Maurice Aylward, trainer, selectors John, Dixie and the panel of players for their efforts this year and assure them of our support for 2003.

The County Scene

What plaudits can be used to describe the exploits of our county representatives this year? Michael Rice, John Dalton, Richie Power, John Tennyson and Pat Tennyson were all outstanding performers for Kilkenny teams. The Kilkenny Intermediate team was trained by Maurice Power and included Patrick Farrell and Jamie Power. On the football front Carrickshock were represented at minor level by Anthony Holland and Richie Power and at U-21

by Eric and Stephen Lonergan, Paul and Liam Barron. Congrats to Jackie Frisby, captain of the All Ireland winning junior Camogie team and Ailish Kenneally who was a member of the panel.

The Social Scene

The annual dinner dance was a resounding success with large numbers in attendance. The social year progressed with fund raising cabarets and concluded with homecomings, which saw the Irish Press Cup, the Junior Camogie and finally the Joyce Cup been welcomed to the parish. Many thanks to the ladies who provided tea and refreshments on these memorable evenings for the parish. Congratulations to Deirdre Brennan and Pdraig Rohan on their recent marriage and to Patrick Farrell and Valerie Norris on their engagement.

Financial Issues

Thanks to all who contributed to the club so generously throughout the year. A special thanks to Richie Power and committee for the golf classic, Tommy Murphy who organized the Piltown draw and the weekly lotto promoters. The club also wishes to thank our main sponsors, Doyle Concrete and Seamus Roche Construction.

Club Developments

Works continue at improving the grounds at Hugginstown, a major aeration and drainage scheme has been undertaken on the pitch, the benefits of which will be

seen next year. 2003 will see the club celebrate its 75th anniversary, as we look to the future we can only hope that the current batch of players will emulate the achievements of the great men of the forties.

Bereavements

The club wishes to extend sincere sympathy to any family or associates who suffered bereavements during the year especially the Fitzpatrick family, Lismatigue, the Dwyer family, Croan, the Glendon family, Newmarket.

Obituary

Great sadness was experienced at the recent passing of Mr. Neddy Dwyer after a short illness. To his wife Peggy, sons Pat, Willie, Christy, Eddie and daughter Brigid the club wishes to extend its deep-felt sympathies. Neddy was a shrewd hurling fan, a lifelong mentor and supporter of Carrickshock hurling. He took great pride in the hurling exploits of his sons. His presence will be sadly missed from the sideline. Ar dheis Dé go raibh sé.



Neddy Dwyer RIP



Bord na nOg Committee with All Ireland Medallists

Back: Maurice Power, Willie Power, Pat Power, Tom Duggan, Richie Power, Pat Duggan, George Power, Seamus Farrell, Jimmy Sheehan.

Front: Jim Rohan, John Dalton, Richie Power, Michael Rice, John Tennyson, Gary Comerford.

A Busy Year

Another year has closed. Carrigeen Club had their usual busy year on and off the field. The team under the management of Tommy Brown, trained hard and qualified for the League playoffs. During the summer the club hosted a junior hurling league tournament. This gave six teams five games during a period when they had no fixtures. Mooncoin and Carrigeen met in the final with victory going to the Mooncoin men. Next was the championship. The team prepared well but on the night in Mooncoin they were beaten by a better Piltown team in the southern quarter final. The club was also invited to take part in the St Judes, Templeogue, Junior All Ireland seven-a-side competition. This was held on the Saturday of All Ireland weekend and the team qualified from the group but were beaten in the quarter finals. It was a long year on the players and despite not winning a competition the year was enjoyable.

Hard Working Committee

Meanwhile the committee though small in number were working hard. At the end of 2001 a successful variety show was run over 8 weeks. The crowds flocked to see and enjoy the wonderful local entertainment that was provided. The show was won by a Carrick On Suir show, named "The Rising Stars", who received a big cash prize and a wonderful Waterford Crystal trophy. They were managed by Mala Raggett. Second was The Slieverue show, managed by Marie Cummins and third was The Lyre show and they were managed by Mary Murphy. The club received great support from local business people, Willie Foran of WF Installations and Helen Doyle proprietor of the Royal Oak Lounge, Rathkieran, where the show took place. The annual Christmas Raffle saw club members once again trawl their way from parish to parish in most of Waterford and Kilkenny. A huge effort was put into this draw which turned out to be very successful. Throughout the spring and summer club members were busy attending County and Southern Board meetings, helping out at training, running the hurling tournament, umpiring and refereeing and many more activities that arise from week to week.

A Fine Venue

Pride of place was the staging of the Southern Junior hurling final which the South Board fixed for Asper Park, Carrigeen on Saturday 28th Sept along with the Junior "A" final. The junior final was between Kilmacow and Piltown. Kilmacow won by two points before a huge crowd that were well marshalled by a big staff. The Junior "A" final was won by Mooncoin who beat Glenmore. Many thanks to all who helped make this occasion a success. The club also hosted the Minor "C" county final and the Minor "D" League final. Asper Park had at last been awarded fitting recognition.

End of CES Scheme

Carrigeen Club is very disappointed that the FAS community schemes have been practically phased out. This scheme was the success of the 80s and 90s. It is currently full of red tape, rules and regulations and worst of all no places or a vastly reduced amount of places. The club is angry that the authorities have allowed this to happen. The club will be making a strong plea for someone, somewhere, to reverse the state of the scheme back to what it was 10 years ago or more. Carrigeen, along with all the other clubs and organisations badly need this scheme.



Presentation of a Set of Jerseys to Carrigeen by John Hickey, Millenia Windows

L-R: Michael Murphy, Noel Kelly, James Power, John Purcell, John Hickey (sponsor), Tommy Brown.



Carrigeen Junior Hurling Team v. Kilmacow Junior Hurling League 2002

Back: John Hickey (Sponsor), Pa Walsh, Seamus Jacob, Jim Power, Shane Walsh, Kevin Kennedy, Wayne Kelly, Wally Morahan, Geoffrey Dobbyn, Mossy Brown, Noel Kelly.
Front: Brian Walsh, Tom Walsh, Kevin Murphy, Patrick Dalton, Michael Murphy, Tom Brown, Brian Murphy, Garry Moran, Paddy Moran.



CLUB NEWS

After a very successful year at under age level in 2001 Clara were in Roinn A at under 14, 16 and minor for the first year ever.

At under 14 Clara were drawn in the same group as O'Loughlin Gaels and Tullaroan in the Feile Na nGael Tournament and suffered a heavy defeat at the hands of the eventual All Ireland Feile finalists O'Loughlin Gaels. In the Roinn A league championship Clara did fairly well with victories over Mooncoin and GraigueBallycallan and were unfortunate to lose out on a semi final spot when they lost by two points to James Stephens in the final league game.

At under 16 Clara defeated Carrickshock in the league section but failed to qualify for the semi final having suffered defeats against Tullogher Rosbercon and Mooncoin.

In the championship Clara were drawn against Dicksboro in the first round and suffered a heavy defeat despite putting a very determined effort against the eventual finalists.

In the minor Division I league Clara had one victory over Tullaroan while losing out to St. Martins, O'Loughlin Gaels, Ballyhale Shamrocks and Graigueballycallan. In the championship Clara lost out to Graigueballycallan in the first round who were the eventual championship finalists.

Clara won out the under 13 Lisdowney Seven – a - side for the first time ever. Clara defeated Fenians in the first round and followed up with victories over St. Martins and James Stephens to qualify for a final meeting with old rivals O'Loughlins. Clara played some great team hurling to win the final. John Prendergast captained the side and Liam Ryan received the player of the Tournament award.

Panel: Kevin Nolan, David Langton, Tom Langton, James Nolan, Brian O'Shea, John Prendergast, Liam Ryan, Tom Ryan, Declan Rafter, Stephen Quinlan.

Clara took part in the Andy Egan under 12 hurling tournament and qualified for the final with victories over Tullaroan, Graigueballycallan and Dicksboro. The final was played in atrocious conditions and despite this both sides played tremendous hurling and even after extra

time the sides remained level. James Stephens won the replay by 2-4 to 1-4 with the help of some brilliant goalkeeping by the James Stephens goalkeeper.

Clara took part in the Tom Phelan under 11 tournament in Ballyragget and with victories over Dicksboro, O'Loughlins and St. Lachtains qualified for a final meeting with Rower Inistioge. In the final Clara after a slow start ran out easy winners on a scoreline of 8-7 to 2-1. This was Clara's second win in three years, having won in 2000, the first year of the competition. The Tom Phelan shield was presented to the Clara captain Brian Prendergast by Mrs. Phelan. The players were presented with their medals by senior county star Derek Lyng and Patrick Galvin received the award for player of the tournament.

Panel: Peter Nolan, Conor O'Shea, James Dowling, David O'Connell, Nicky Creane, Brian Prendergast (capt.), Matthew Byrne, Killian Phelan, Thomas Byrne, John Murphy, Patrick Galvin, Ciaran Prendergast, Jack Langton, John Costigan, Patrick Walsh, Peter English, Shane Cassin, Darragh Carrigan, Paul Murphy, Noel Kehoe and Ayrton Moran Gleeson
Clara won the O'Loughlin Gaels under 10 hurling blitz. Clara defeated Sixmilebridge Clare in the first round and

then went on to beat Moycarkey Borris Tipperary in the semi final. In the final Clara met the host club O'Loughlins and after a very evenly contested game ran out winners by a single point. The team was captained by Ciaran Prendergast and Jack Langton received the player of the Tournament award.

Clara Panel: Jack Langton, Peter English, David O'Connell, David Carroll, Paul Murphy, Conor O'Shea, Ciaran Prendergast Capt., Darragh Carrigan, Killian Phelan, Shane Cassin, Peter Nolan, Niamh Byrne, Christopher Casey, Brian Delaney, John Murphy, Brian Walsh, Sean Lennon, Orla Quinlan

Clara also retained the Jim Comerford under 10 hurling tournament for the fifth consecutive year and won the Shield in the James Stephens under 10 Tournament by defeating Bennetsbridge.

At under 9 Clara also took part in the annual Ruan Mor (Waterford) seven-a-side ground hurling tournament in Waterford and won out their section beating Mooncoin, Portlaw and Kilmacthomas on the way.
Panel: Shane Cassin capt., Noel Kehoe, Jack Langton, Ciaran Casey, Ciaran Prendergast, John Murphy, Conor O'Shea, Brian Delaney, Paul Murphy, David Carroll.



CLARA UNDER 11 - TOM PHELAN TOURNAMENT WINNERS

Back: David O'Connell, John Costigan, Conor O'Shea, John Murphy, Peter Nolan, Killian Phelan, Patrick Galvin, Nicky Creane, Patrick Walsh, Thomas Byrne.

Front: Ciaran Prendergast, Jack Langton, Noel Kehoe, Brian Prendergast (capt.), Matthew Byrne, Ayrton Moran- Gleeson, James Dowling, Peter English,

Missing from photograph Shane Cassin, Darragh Carrigan, Paul Murphy.



CLUB NEWS

Lord Mayor

When the officers of Cloneen Hurling Club were asked to organise the Annual Parish Dinner, they wondered if it was beyond their remit. The club had embarked on a major fundraising campaign which revolved around the election of a Lord Mayor. There were draws, cabarets, flower and fashion shows, a race night and a supermum competition. Cloneen invited sister club Railyard GFC to join with them to organise the Dinner Dance and present their medals, and there was great interest in the outcome of the Lord Mayor campaign.

The largest crowd ever to attend a parish social event were joined by County Board Chairman Ned Quinn, Tommy Duggan, Chairman of the Football Board and Joe Pyke, Chairman of Bord na nOg.

Fr. Jerry Joyce P.P. opened the envelope to announce that Pat 'Bilko' Lawlor pipped Club Chairman Donal Brennan to become Lord Mayor and Cloneen profited by the sum of £42000 for their development fund.

Because of the success of the event, the GAA clubs have been invited to organise the event again next St. Patrick's weekend.

Championship Victories

Cloneen will have two sets of medals to present having won the U21 'C' championship and the Minor 'C' league. The minors opened their campaign in Gowran where they overcame Young Irelands 2-10 to 3-5.

They lost the second game 2-10 to 0-11 at home to Bennettsbridge and then travelled to Lisdowney and won 2-8 to 0-9. They then beat Graiguenamanagh in a close game 1-13 to 2-9 to reach the final against John Lockes, whom they overcame by 2-8 to 0-8 in St. John's Park. The minors reached the semi final but were pipped 1-7 to 1-6 in Ballyhale by eventual winners Glenmore.

Minor Panel: Eoin McDonald, Paul Donnelly, Daniel Brennan, Ronan Walsh (Capt.), Jim Dowd, Sean Allen, Enda Gannon, Gavin O'Dowd, Steve Mahon, Tom Joe Comerford, Niall Mooney, Graham Lawlor, Sean Maher, Thomas



Cloneen captain **Ronan Walsh** is presented with the Minor League Roinn C trophy by Bord na nOg Chairman **Joe Pyke**.

Campion, Kevin Phillips, Kevin Lawlor. Gavin Dowd and Kevin Lawlor are members of the U-16 Development Squad. After losing four county finals at U-21 Roinn C, Cloneen came good this year with a hard earned win over Danesfort in the final in Bennettsbridge. Cloneen overcame Barrow Rangers 2-9 to 2-5 and Slieverue 1-12 to 1-9 to reach the final.

U-21 panel: Donal Hennessy, Kevin Phillips, Jim Dowd, Enda Gannon, Philip Roche, Paul Donnelly, Andrew Lawlor, Christy Kelly, Pauric Dowd, Sean Maher, Niall Mooney, Damien Byrne, Patrick Brennan, Andrew Hosey, Andrew Brennan (Capt.), Ronan Walsh, Shane Deegan, Daniel Brennan, Steve Mahon, T.J. Comerford, Thomas Campion and Graham Lawlor.

In charge of the team were Tommy Brennan and Shane Coogan.

Superb New Clubhouse

The new clubhouse is now fully functional and the new 40'x 20' ball alley is in full swing. The new state of the art dressing rooms, each with its own shower room have drawn positive comment from all visitors as has the large 1000 sq. ft. function room where the club holds its AGM for the first time.

The complex has been very busy all

year. Besides all the Cloneen teams it has been home to Railyard football teams and the ladies football side. One of the games featured on the pitch was when Comer Community School won the Leinster Colleges quarter final against St. Rynagh's Community School. Five Cloneen players featured in their panel that reached the All-Ireland Final.

Managing the Pitch

The pitch was recently spiked and sanded while vertidrainage was carried out to improve water dispersal. The club will close the pitch for the winter to prepare for an official opening in May. It is hoped that the All-Ireland winning Kilkenny team will play against another county on the day and a number of top officials are expected to attend. With so much activity it is amazing the amount of work that falls on the shoulders of so few.

Help is Required!

Like most clubs, Cloneen are badly in need of new blood to help spread the workload of promoting hurling among the youngsters of the parish. The facilities and structures are second to none, now is the time for more help from parents and hurling fans.



Conahy Shamrocks

CLUB NEWS



CONAHY SHAMROCKS - HENNESSY SPORTS ALL-COUNTY LEAGUE CHAMPIONS 2002.

Back Pdraig Conway, Kenny Dooley, Liam Byrne, Pauric Nolan, Paul Byrne, Conor Brennan, Denis Kelly, Ciaran Muldowney, Brendan Griffith, Paul Brennan, Shane Mulhall, Colm Healy, Daire Connery.

Front: Ger Byrne, Tomas Nolan, John Bergin, Seamus Brennan, Canice Brennan (capt.), Tomas Lawless, Martin Fitzpatrick, Paul Buggy, Tomas Nolan, Declan Buggy.

After a year that had begun so promisingly, it was eventually to conclude in a disappointing fashion for the club. The major success occurred in May when the junior side captured the All-County Junior League following victories over Blacks & Whites in the semi-final and Erin's Own in the final in Ballyragget. The club thus entered the junior championship with high hopes and opened with a comprehensive yet unconvincing win over Barrow Rangers. Conahy's next opponents were Galmoy, who defeated them last year. The same fate befell Conahy as Galmoy proved too strong, winning on a 3-11 to 1-11 scoreline.

The special juniors had a good league campaign and managed to qualify for the league semi-finals, but were defeated by a point by Blacks & Whites. They also suffered a disappointing defeat in the opening round of the championship at the hands of Dicksboro in atrocious conditions in Ballyragget.

The Intermediate footballers performed extremely well in their campaign under

managers Seanie O'Mahony and Geoff O'Shea. After some great displays, they qualified for the championship semi-final against O'Loughlin Gaels. After playing a low-scoring draw, both sides fought out an exciting replay in Bennettsbridge. Two goals in the opening half secured victory for the city side and despite Conahy's best efforts, they could not make up the deficit.

The Under-21 hurlers performed extremely well this year, securing wins over Ballyragget and Galmoy. However, in a highly competitive Northern Roinn B Final against St. Martin's, they suffered defeat on a 3-10 to 1-8 score-line. At the time of writing, the Under-21 footballers were facing into a county final against Carrickshock following a comprehensive victory over Danesfort in the Northern Final. The minor hurlers, who began the year with high aspirations, suffered a narrow defeat in the championship at the hands of Piltown. The major under-age success came from the school's hurling team, who captured the Roinn D title by defeated St. Canice's after a replay. The

Under-12 team also defeated Callan to win the Andy Egan tournament.

Development continued apace this year in the Polo Grounds with further work on the Squash Court that will be completed in the near future. Annual fundraising ventures such as the race night and poker classic again proved successful. The club this year again received generous sponsorship from NN Euroball, Purcellsinch. The Bórd na n-Óg Committee continued to undertake some major fundraising work and had a very successful year. On the playing field also, they also organised a very successful Under-11 tournament and local street leagues.

On the inter-county scene, Alan Healy brought another All-Ireland medal back to the parish as part of the successful Kilkenny minor team. Also, Paul Buggy and Ciaran Muldowney represented the club on the Kilkenny Intermediate Hurling panel.

Well done in Lisdowney Sevens

Danesfort enjoyed a good run in the Lisdowney Seven a side finals in September of this year. A brilliant display of hurling on in 2001 saw them win the tournament outright. This year they were quietly confident that they could do well. A very tough first round draw against the very experienced Graigue-Ballycallan produced no joy for Danesfort. Two goals separated the sides at the end. Graigue-Ballycallan advanced in the tournament while Danesfort could only set their sights on winning the Shield. Great wins against Emeralds and Camross set them up for a final victory against host club Lisdowney.

Stiff Competition

It is interesting to put things in context at this point. A very good Camross side lost by one point to O'Loughlins, who contested the final of the Cup against Clara. Danesfort beat Camross by seven points

in the Shield semi-final. There is very little between teams who contest the Cup and Shield finals because of the open draw.



Aoife Treacy

Member of the Kilkenny All Ireland winning Junior Camogie Panel.

Great Determination

Trailing by seven points at half time Danesfort looked like conceding to the home team Lisdowney. A great show of character and determination allied to some great forward play by Padraig Daly (2-5) and a colossal display at the back by Paul Murphy, Danesfort snatched victory by four points. The team was: Paul Murphy (Captain), Ciaran Treacy, Melvin Phelan, Padraig Daly, James Cunningham, Oisín Daly, Richard Troy, Edward Nugent.

Officers 2002

Chairman: Dick Mahony
Secretary: Maurice Woodcock
Treasurer: Tommy Murphy



DANESFORT U-14 FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS ROINN C

Back: Cathal Keogh, Sean Leahy, Richard Hogan, Michael Cunningham, Paul Murphy, Stephen Maher, Ciaran Treacy, Derek Brennan, Melvin Phelan, Peter Ryan, Richard Troy.

Front: Sarah Drennan, Jim Phelan, James Cunningham, Michael Maher, John Brennan, Robbie Walsh (Capt), Oisín Daly, Stephen Duncan, Eddie Nugent, Padraig Daly.

Junior Hurling

The highlight of the Junior Hurling year was a superb performance against Piltown in the quarter-final of the ACHL attended by a large crowd in Ballyhale. The locals showed a lot of promise and hopes were high for a winning season.

However injuries and emigration deprived them of some key players and they were unable to reach the same heights again. They bowed out of the losers group to a more determined Lisdowney side in the first round of the championship.

Junior Football

The Junior footballers who reached the county final in 2000 never regained that form and went out in the second round. The running of the junior hurling and football at the same time is not very helpful to a small club.



DANESFORT U-8 HURLING TEAM - AUGUST 2002

Back: John Cooney, Patrick Tynan, Tom Brophy, Shane Manning, Alex Stanley, Conor Holligan, Ryan Rhys-Griffith, Woin Cooney, Eugene Stanley, Philip Cooney, Joe Hickey (coach).

Front: Gary Tynan, James Tynan, Daryl Cody, Stephen McKenna, Thomas Rossiter, Ryan Bolger, Dylan Dunphy, Patrick Hickey, Ronan Leahy. *Missing from Photo: Cillian Treacy, Jack Bruton, Cian Mullaly.*

Special Junior Hurling

The Special Junior hurlers had a very disappointing season. This grade has been very successful in recent years but this year things got off to a poor start and never recovered.

A Fine Venue

Pitch development is ongoing with sideline seats provided this year. With further developments in the pipeline it is fast becoming a favourite venue for many clubs.



CLUB NEWS



Dicksboro U-10 with their parents after winning the James Stephens U-10 tournament

A Very Busy Year for Underage

The Boro juveniles have had a very busy year. The U-8 & 9 teams played in a tournament in Roanmore. The U-10s won the James Stephens Tournament. We were beaten in the Co. Bord sponsored U-12 final and won the O'Loughlin Gaels Tournament. The U-14s had two squads and put in a great year, the U-16s were beaten in the Co. final by a point. Our minors were beaten in a great game by eventual county champions Carrickshock. Many thanks must be given to all players and

mentors for their help throughout the year.

Battle Against Relegation

The club seniors put in a huge performance to beat Erins Own in the relegation playoff and are looking forward to next seasons competitions. Although suffering from players on holidays and injuries the Juniors and Junior Bs put in great performances but unfortunately won no trophies. The U-21s had teams in the Roinn A and B competitions.

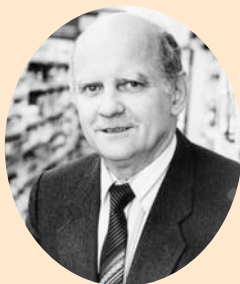


Boro Chairman, **Martin Morrissey** with his wife, **Anne** and grandson **Ruairi** at the U-10 Street League in Nowlan Park.

Major Development Plans

The Development Committee led by chairmam Billy Wise has had a very busy year and has started work on the clubs new dressing rooms and the remodelling of the old ones. The No. 1 pitch will be made wider during the closed season.

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Dunnamaggin

CLUB NEWS

Club Officers 2002

Chairman:	Seamus Martin
Secretary:	Eugene O'Donovan
Treasurer:	Sean Ryan
PRO:	Gavin O'Donovan
Juvenile Chair:	Dick O'Shea
Juvenile Sec:	Niall McCormack
Juvenile Treas:	John O'Dwyer
Juvenile PRO:	Tom Phelan

Club Social

The year started with a social night held in Shirley's in Kells. Noel Lahart followed in the footsteps of his older brother, Denis, and picked up the Monsignor O'Neill Player of the Year Trophy keeping it in the household for another year.

Oliver Herity picked up Shirley's Clubman of the Year Trophy for his work in the club over the years.

Pitch Developments

During the summer, the pitch was sanded and put with the drainage of last year, the club have developed one of the top playing surfaces in the county. Much credit must go to Paddy Moore and John Walsh for their green-keeping duties, Thomas O'Shea for the upkeep of the dressing rooms and to Oliver Herity for his maintenance of the surrounding shrubs and trees. The juvenile pitch was completed with the erection of goals and was used for training by most teams during the year to save the surface of the main pitch.

Juvenile

Underage hurling is starting to grow again in the parish with the interest in hurling at an all time high. Many thanks must go to Irene Browne who trained the U-13's with an average of 40 at training bring them to the semi-final for the third year in a row. Mary O'Dwyer, Mary Moylan and Tom Hickey were involved with the U-8, U-10 and the U11 players who played a host of games during the summer. John O'Dwyer, John Kelly and Gavin O'Donovan took charge of the U-14's. John Reid, Billy Heffernan and

Jimmy Dunne put a huge effort into the U-16's and the Minors only to go down to Slieverue on both fronts. The club would also like to thank Dick O'Shea for being ever-present at all juvenile fixtures.

Senior

Brendan Fennelly trained both the Junior and the Senior teams and was a selector on the Senior team with Seamus Knox and Seamus Martin, but, alas, who could not conquer "Mount Carey". Thomas O'Shea was the kit manager and the character in the dressing room. Paddy Reade and Fr. Nicholas Flavin looked after the first aid.

Junior Hurling

Pat Long, Billy Heffernan and Michael O'Sullivan were the selectors for the Junior team. After a poor start to the year, the team gained confidence and fitness and made it as far as the South Semi-final. In the end they went down to Piltown by a point in a toughly contested match in Mullinavat.

Thanks for the Support

Dunnamaggin would like to thank all those who sponsored them during the year, those who took part in the golf classic, those who continue to support the parish lotto and all those who came to cheer on all the teams throughout the year. Great emphasis is still put on the Juvenile Club and it is the lifeblood of the club. Congratulations to those who represented the county at the various levels during the year. Best wishes to everyone involved in the club in the coming year and may the success continue.

Denis Lahart

With the sudden passing of Denis Lahart, or Dessie, as he was affectionately known by all his friends, Dunnamaggin and Kilkenny hurling lost one of its most ardent and faithful supporters. Born in March 1926 in Goodwingsgarden, Dunnamaggin, Dessie was the third of eleven children, eight

boys and three girls. Life was by no means easy when Dessie was growing up by the banks of the Glory, but there was always time for him and his brothers to hurl in the 'bog' field with the Brownriggs, Kenehans or Vennards or spend a Summer afternoon swimming in the river. Dessie married Nellie Duggan and had four children, two boys and two girls, and was a devoted husband and father.

Farming and hurling were the other passions in his life. He witnessed to his great joy Dunnamaggin's rise in the GAA world and was proud that his two sons Denis and Noel played a major part in that rise.

In the words of Ned Quinn, the chairman of Kilkenny County Board, Dessie was "one of the great supporters of our game", and it was while attending a hurling game that he was called to his eternal reward on 12 May last - the senior hurling game between Dunnamaggin and O'Loughlin Gaels which was being played in Kilmanagh. Dessie was especially happy that day as his son Noel was captain of the Dunnamaggin team. The unexpected passing of Dessie has left his family, the farming community and the whole parish of Dunnamaggin much the poorer. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam dilis.



Denis 'Dessie' Lahart RIP



CLUB NEWS

Emeralds

Great Celebration

The club held its annual dinner in Langtons and the event attracted an attendance in excess of 300 club members and supporters. The County Board Executive were also in attendance. The evening was a fantastic celebration for the Junior Teams achievement of the previous year when they captured the league and championship double for the first time in the club's history and it bridged a gap of 95 years for the parish. Former Kilkenny Captain Willie O'Connor presented the medals and the MC for the evening was Barry Henriques.

Ground Development

The development of our playing facilities over the years was rewarded this year when our club was favored with high profile senior and junior championship games and was the venue for a keenly contested intermediate tournament game between Kilkenny and Tipperary. The club has recently received planning permission for the redevelopment of the club pavilion which when completed will enable us to cater for four or more teams on any given day.

'Club of the Year' Award 2002

Emeralds retained the prestigious title of

AIB Club Of The Year for County Kilkenny and achieved the runner up position in Lenister. Club officials attended a presentation lunch at Croke Park where they were presented with their award.

The club organised its extremely successful club person of the year award and this year's recipient was one of the clubs founding members Paddy Joyce who received his presentation from Jimmy Holohan - Mitchelstown at the annual Dinner Dance.

Fundraising

The club held its annual Golf Classic at Rathdowney on Whit Monday and this year's event attracted an entry of fifty teams. This event remains the main fundraiser for the Club.

Acknowledgements

The club wishes to thank all that have sponsored our events and teams during the year and in particular Bernard Kavanagh & Sons who have been the clubs main sponsors the past four years.

Obituaries

Tom McKeown, Paddy Nolan, Ellen Broderick, Michael Phelan, Patrick Buckley, Mary Hayes, Margaret Tobin,

Edward Kennedy, Tommy Lawlor, Molly Cody. Ar Dheis Dé go raibh siad.

Officers Elected

President: Rev. Canon L. Dunphy
Chairman: Paul Kavanagh
Vice Chairman: Paddy Ryan
Secretary: Brigid Hennessy
Asst. Secretary: Paddy Joyce
Treasurer: Joe Gleeson
Asst. Treasurer: Richard Hayes
PRO: JJ Kavanagh
County Board: John Minogue
Northern Board: Paddy Joyce
Committee: John Holohan, Dan Norton, Pat Peters, Michael Doyle, Willie Grant, Noel Grant, Michael Rafter, Tom Phelan, Sean Norton, Tommy Kavanagh, Michael Burke, Sinead Curran, Brendan Joyce, Colin Grant, Michael Troy.

County Players

Senior: Derek Lyng
Intermediate: Ken Hughes
Austin Cleere
Joe Ryan
Aiden Fogarty
Brendan Joyce
Jer Joyce
Jer Joyce
Aiden Fogarty
Kieran Rafter

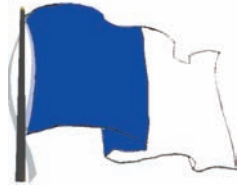
U-21:



AIB GAA COUNTY KILKENNY CLUB OF THE YEAR 2001

John Hickey (Retail Manager, AIB), Philip Leahy (Urlingford Branch Manager, AIB), Brigid Hennessy (Secretary, Emeralds GAA Club), Sean McCague (President, GAA), Paul Kavanagh (Chairman, Emeralds GAA Club), Finola Furlong (Brand Management, AIB), Barry Hickey (Chairman, Kilkenny GAA Development Committee).

Photo Eoin Hennessy



Erins Own

CLUB NEWS

A Hectic Year

Erins Own had a busy year once again promoting our national games in football and hurling with over twenty teams representing the club in different codes from U-9 upwards. Pride of place must go to our senior footballers who made history on 20th October in wet and windy Ballyragget when for the first time in the clubs history we won the senior football title. This was a great result considering the club is only in the senior grade two years and was a special junior club some seven or eight years ago.

Congratulations to one and all involved. Unfortunately our senior hurlers surrendered their senior status for the first time in over forty years. While many judge a year on the form of the senior team it is the work that is being done at juvenile level which is by far the most important in any club.

Juvenile Matters

Much work was again in evidence every day of the week at this level. The young boys and girls got great enjoyment through the dedicated work of John Kelly, Joe Meagher, Martin Fogarty, Willy O'Gorman, Tommy Buggy, Noel Callinan, Dinny Brennan, Michael Daly, Kevin Dunne and Dan Maher who all came on board this year to help the local teachers. Our U-9 team played four games this year and did very well in all their games. The U-10 team played in the annual Jim Comerford Tournament against Clara, St. Martins and Conahy. The U-11s played a total of 16 matches this year to date in the Camaint, Coanhy and Ballyragget tournaments. They got to the final of the Conahy tournament and did very well to get a draw with Ballyhale in their last game of the Camaint in Nowlan Park. Our U-12s have played ten games so far this year and qualified for the Summer League drawing with St. Martins in the final. This team won the Callan Shield during the year beating Carrickshock in the final 3-5 to 0-3.

Well Done to U-14 Team

The U-14s had a marvellous year playing in the Roinn A grade for the first time. This team under the guidance of club chairman Tommy Buggy has played twenty four games this year. These young men qualified for the league and Feile semi-finals. Many of these teams

travelled outside the county for matches and tournaments during the year which proved to be very beneficial and much fun was had by all the teams.

Our U-16s and minors did well, winning some great games along the way and guaranteeing that the future is bright for the club. Our U-21s only just missed out against Dicksboro in the championship. The club had a number of representatives on development squads during the year and look forward to some of these lads wearing the black and amber in the future.

Junior Hurling

The junior hurlers enjoyed a great year under Tommy Brennan getting to the all county league final winning almost all their games on the way. In the final they came up against a very good Conahy team and had to give second best to them. In the championship they were beaten by eventual county champions Blacks & Whites and lost to Dicksboro after a replay in the losers group.

Development

The club is just about ready to commence on the next phase of finishing their magnificent dressing rooms and meeting rooms in Ballycomey. In a little over a year much work has been done and the club is now waiting on the arrival

of a grant of E63000, in order to finish their current building project which is hoped will be completed for the 2003 playing year.

Obituaries

The club lost some former members and loyal followers during the year. One of those who passed on was Paddy Mac who played with Erins Own in the 1958 Junior final. To his family and all those who lost loved ones we send deep sympathy.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Sean Meally and Eilis Morkham and David Buggy and Deirdre Hosey who got married during the year.

Media

The club produced a newsletter in the middle of the year informing the parish and especially all the new members of our parish of the club's activities and ongoing work at coaching and developments within the club.

Socials

The club will once again hold its annual dinner dance in Langtons Hotel on 7 February 2003 which proves to be a great social event each year. It is also hoped to run a race night and American Tea Party as one in the Community Hall.



Erins Own Camaint 2002

Back: Cianán Cunningham, Trevor Rowe, Mikey Dwyer, Pádraig Keating, Michael Carroll, Martin Hawley, Ciarán McDermott, Declan Dunne, Eoin Mealy, Caomhán Dunne, David Brennan.

Middle: Joseph Collins, Robert Moran, Garret Delaney, Stephen Murphy, Brian Deevey, Stephen Daly, Ciarán Brennan, Aidan Holohan.

Front: Stephen Brennan, John Brennan, Eoin Brennan, Jack Brennan, Thomas Ring, Sean McDermott, Noel Callinan.



CLUB NEWS

A lot done, a lot more to do!!!

Another year over and another step closer. That is probably the way the parish would feel after another year's GAA activities. For the first time in five years, the Senior team contested a County Senior Hurling semi-final, only to lose in extra time in a replay, after playing for four weekends on the trot. Heartbreak hotel, perhaps, but considering the club fought relegation the previous two years, this was definitely a step in the right direction.

The juvenile club continues to develop and this year had great success in a major tournament in Dublin. So hopefully the conveyor belt will produce a few more Senior hurlers in the coming years. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who contributed in any way, in assistance with the running of the club during 2003.

Senior

What a year! The club was involved in three matches that went to replays and extra time. The foundation was laid, under the guidance of J. Ryan, for the team with a very good league campaign winning all but one of their games. This set up a League semi-final with Tullaroan. After two hectic games and extra time we lost narrowly. A thrilling quarter final against O'Loughlins ended in a draw and in the replay, a last second goal gave the Fenians their first semi-final berth in five years. The semi-final saw us being defeated in a replay after extra time, perhaps the number of games caught up with the lads, four weekends on the trot, throw in a few injuries, and one realises what kept the club from reaching the Senior Final. The young Fenians relished this side of Kilkenny hurling and will want more. All in all a big improvement, a year which put the Fenians back in the reckoning, but there is a lot of unfinished business. More hard work in the field, and who knows what might happen?
Manager: P. Henderson
Selectors: P. McCormack, J. Carroll
Trainer: J. Ryan

Junior Hurling

The Junior team played some exciting matches in the League, barely failing to qualify for the knockout stages. St. Patrick's defeated us in the first round.

We then defeated Barrow Rangers and were unlucky to lose to Lisdowney in the Northern Quarter final. Again though, many of our Senior players are getting vital experience in playing "adult" hurling for the first time and are being blooded for the Senior team.

A Short U-21 Campaign

Another year and no progress, first round exit to O'Loughlin Gaels. As was stated last year, if these hurlers are to produce their best at Senior level, in the future, a longer stay in the U-21 championship would be desirable.

Bórd na nÓg

Minor: The minors, made an early exit from the Championship when they were drawn against James Stephens in the first round. They then had to wait for months to play a league final against St. Lachtains. The lack of match practice, even though training was organised, told on this team in the end. Great credit must go to Managers Tom Dollard, B. Dermody, and selector P. O'Loughlin who stuck with this team all year. More support at this age level would be of great assistance to the players and mentors alike.

U-16 Hurling

A testing league campaign saw us lose to Danesfort, Piltown and defeat The Rower-Inistioge. St. Lachtain's defeated us in the first round of the championship. Again though, these teams are putting the hours in with their trainer and all the hard work will surely reap benefits for our club in the future.

Juvenile Hurling

The Camaint team had a wonderful year. They lost to Lisdowney in the early rounds and then went on to win all of their matches. This was a great team performance with great displays from Eddie and Orlaith Curran, Conor Tobin, Claire Hughes, John Sweeney, Donal Wilson and Gearoid McCormack. The highlight of their year was the trip to Ballinteer, Dublin where they won the Paddy Lawlor tournament beating Borris-Ileigh, St. Johns of Ballinteer, Ferns and Coolderry. Stars for the future were Daniel Dermody, Enda Purcell, Rory Phelan, Thomas Corcoran and Martin Dermody.

U-14 Hurling

The U-14s were very unlucky not to have progressed further in the championship, as they have been the best side we have had in recent years. Players to watch out for are Kieran Grehan, James Quinlan, Diarmuid Broderick, Tommy Purcell, Daragh Tobin, Kevin Reid, Damien Delaney, Jason Dermody, Sean Warren, Edward Hughes and Eoin Phelan.

Primary Schools

The primary school team had a very successful year with strong performances from John Henderson, John Whyte, James Quinlan, Gerard Dollard, Sean O'Gorman, Breffni Vawser, Maria Hughes, Eoin Shiel, Tommy Costigan, Ciaran Beehan, Daniel Dermody and Rory Phelan. Players who participated in the Development Squads were Daragh Tobin, Sean Warren, Kieran Grehan and James Dermody.

In July, the Juvenile club entertained Lucan Sarsfields coached by Joe Whyte, formerly of Sevensisters. The club would like to thank parents who helped during the year and coaches John and Richard Curran, Tom Dollard and Dan Hughes.

County Players

Congratulations to JJ Delaney, Stephen Grehan, PJ Ryan and PJ Delaney (Minor) on bringing back four more All-Ireland medals to the parish. At the time of going to press, JJ was in line for "Young Player of the Year" and an All-Star. Hopefully when you are reading this, both awards will have come home with JJ.

The Fenian's On line

Check up on our latest news on line by logging on at <http://kilkenny.gaa.ie/fenians.htm>

Obituaries

The community lost some valued members of during the year. We would like to pass on our condolences to the families of John Spencer a great former hurler and lifelong supporter, Mrs. Costigan, Mrs. Garrett, Mrs. Dowling, Neddy Burke, Mrs. Hawkes, Mrs. Orr, Tony McCabe, M. Kelly and Mick Gannon, founder member of the Fenians and a former selector with the great Fenians and Kilkenny teams of the Seventies. Ar dheis Dé go raibh siad.



CLUB NEWS

Pitch Development

The past year has seen great developments carried out on the parish GAA pitch in Galmoy. Two years ago the pitch was widened, re-aligned and re-seeded. This year saw the erection of floodlights and two nets as well as two fine dugouts. To finish off this series of improvements a timber railing has also been erected around the perimeter of the playing area. With our impressive sports pavilion which was built in 1983 and which houses dressing rooms, meeting room, kitchen, squash and handball courts and a tarmac tennis court, there are now sports facilities in Galmoy to rival the best. The completion of all of these renovations has been greatly facilitated by funding from the National Sports grant and more especially by funds raised by the parish as a whole.

Hurling Action

Galmoy club was privileged in 2002 to attain the services of former Kilkenny goalkeeper Michael Walsh (Dicksboro) as club trainer for the year. This brought great excitement to the parish and training attendances were excellent throughout the year. The first fruits of this fresh approach were borne on August 7th when Galmoy, captained by Alan Gray, won the prestigious Cahill Cup for the first time since 1993. This was an excellent boost for the Junior championship campaign where the club had good victories over Clara, Conahy Shamrocks and Tullaroan. Unfortunately, having forced Blacks and Whites to a replay in the Northern Junior final, Galmoy succumbed by three points and for the third year in a row our victors went on to win the County Junior title. Our Special Junior hurlers fell to a strong Emeralds side in the championship but our U-21 team provided some great entertainment. In the first round they

pipped a fancied St. Lachtains side by a point while they had the same margin to spare over Blacks and Whites. In the Northern semi final they were beaten by two points by Conahy Shamrocks but fourteen of this team will be underage again next year.

The club hosted the Mikey Ryan Tournament for the first time this year and are particularly grateful to the Ryan family, Grangefertagh for sponsoring a fine silver cup and a set of crystal clocks for the winners as well as medals for the runners up. It is intended to make this an annual competition.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Donica Gray and James Dunne who won Leinster Senior Vocational School medals with Colaiste Mhuire Johnstown and to James and Georgie Hickey, members of the St. Kierans squad which won the Leinster Colleges senior title. Well done to Seamus Dillon who won an All-Ireland Agricultural Colleges medal with Kildalton. On the Kilkenny Intermediate hurling panel were Noel Doherty, Michael Brennan and Alan Gray.

Development Squads

The three players who attended the U-14 Kilkenny Development squads this year were Stephen Delaney, Stephen Maher and John Phelan while those who attended the U-

16 sessions included Padraig Gray, Michael Harte, Gary Glendon, Brian Kavanagh and Jonathan Stanley. Club member Billy Harte was a coach with the U-16 Development squad.

Camogie

Congratulations to Catherine Doherty and Edel Maher, members of the victorious Kilkenny Junior camogie team. Both girls are playing members of the Kilkenny senior squad. Well done also to Sean Warren, trainer of the junior squad.

Thanks

The club wishes to thank Pat Glendon and Edel Maher for their great work in looking after the juvenile teams during the year.

Sympathies

The club extends sympathy to all those who experienced bereavements during the year including the families of Rody O'Neill, Pad Dunphy, Jim Holohan, Denis Carey, Bertie Sherman and Danny Ryan. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a n-Anamnacha.



Galmoy Camaint 2002

Back: George Basett, Brendan Phelan, Thomas Phelan, Thomas Corcoran, CJ Cullinane, Hughie Lee, John Sweeney, David Fogarty, Thomas Phelan.
Front: Leon Geoghegan, Jessica Barton, Sarah Molloy, April Smith, Niamh Glendon, Lisa Dillon, Aisling Maher, Michéal Phelan.

Well Done, Andy & Co!



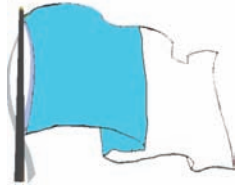
John Joe Cullen

(Trading as William Sullivan)



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Graigue-Ballycallan

CLUB NEWS

Club Officers 2002

Patrons: Fr Phelan, Fr McGree & Fr Buckley
Chairman: Michael Dermody
Vice Chairman: Kieran Hoyne
Secretary: Michael Marnell
Treasurer: Dave O'Neill
PRO: Ann-Marie Ryall
Asst PRO: Milo Hennessy
Co. Board Del: Michael Dermody

The only team to reach a championship final in 2002 were the minor hurlers who lost to Carrickshock. On their way to the final they had wins over Clara (1-11 to 3-8) and James Stephens (2-1 to 3-8).

Senior Hurling

The senior hurlers began their year with a holiday in the Canaries and for those who couldn't retire to the sun for a week, spent a weekend down in Wexford. By all accounts both parties enjoyed themselves immensely. The parish had high hopes for success in this years senior championship but these dreams were dashed when they were defeated by Young Irelands at the quarter final stage (4-9 to 1-15). Despite not qualifying for the semi-finals of the league, they had a good league campaign with wins over Dicksboro, O'Loughlin Gaels and Fenians while they lost to Young Irelands and Dunnamaggin.

Juniors and Special Juniors

Their championship campaigns mirrored each other as both were beaten in the second round after a replay. The Juniors lost out to near neighbours Tullaroan while in the opening round they scored a victory over Dicksboro. The Special Juniors in their opening round had a convincing win over St. Patricks, Ballyragget but they were beaten by O'Loughlin Gaels in the next round. O'Loughlins shot home a goal in the dying moments of the game to claim victory.

Under 21s Bow Out

There was no success at U-21 as they were beaten by Tullaroan in the first round (0-18 to 0-14).

Team: Michael Wall, Pat Robinson, Shane Murphy, Martin Drohan, Brendan Hayes, Niall Millea, Brian Dalton, Paddy Dalton, James Dunphy, Ciaran Hoyne, Edward Delaney, Tim Purcell, PJ Pollard, Kevin Cleere, John Purcell. Subs: Willie

Brennan, Darragh Murphy, James Robinson.

U-16 Hurling

The U-16s bowed out of the Duggan Steel championship after they were defeated by Danesfort in the second round. Team and scorers: Nicholas Harrison, Adrian Bourke, Robert Dunphy, Mark Butler, Noel Brett, Jimmy Murphy, Johnny Dunne, Joey Dillon, Patrick Kennedy, Sean Kenna, Jason Dermody, Emmett Gladney, JP Murphy, Pdraig Neary, Gary Brennan Subs: John Cleere, Robert Murphy, James Smith, Pdraig Murphy, Shane Dunphy, Ciaran Lynch.

Busy Year for U-14 Team

The U-14s had a win over Erins Own but lost to Mooncoin, Clara, James Stephens and Dicksboro in the Duggan Steel League. Team: Philip Heafy, Thomas Purcell, Gearoid Murphy, David Kennedy, Eoin Doheny, John Cleere, PJ Delaney, Johnny Dunne (1-0), Pdraig Murphy (1-0), Paul Harrison (0-1), Robert Murphy (0-1, free), Ciaran Neary (0-6, 5 frees), Justin Dermody (0-1), Ger Hall, Noel Dermody. Subs: Niall Cleere, David O'Dea, Kieran Lynch, Shane Dunphy, Stephen Kenna, Richard Ryan (2-0).

Primary School Team Does Well

The Primary Schools reach the Country Cup final but lost to Ballyhale in a replay. They were beaten by Muckalee in the Roinn A semi-final who went on to win the final.

Team: James Power, Thomas Purcell, Paul Harrison, David Kennedy, Niall Cleere, Eoghan Doheny, David O'Dea, Philip Heafey, PJ Delaney, Stephen Kenna, Justin Dermody, Gerard Hall, Conor Hogan, Ciaran Neary, Dermot Heafey, John Robinson, Stephen Butler, Jamie Hillman, Martin Doheny, Joesph Johnson, Damien Maher, Darren Cleere, Damien Carroll, Darragh Twomey, Darragh Marnell, Liam Doyle.

Declan Byrne Tournament

Eleven teams took part in the Declan Byrne Memorial Tournament. The tournament incorporated the naming of the pitch in Kilmanagh after the late Tom Ryall. Four groups played off for a place



Two little kids at the opening of Páirc Tomás Ó Raghail

in the shield and cup finals. The Shield final was contested by John Lockes and Graigue-Ballycallan with the Callan side claiming victory. The Cup final was a replay of the U-14 county final played earlier this year. This clash was between county champions O'Loughlin Gaels and county finalists James Stephens. A late goal from James Stephens gave them the victory.

Páirc Tomás Ó Raghail

Between the shield and cup finals the pitch was officially named Páirc Tomás Ó Raghail in memory of the late Tom Ryall who gave a lifetime service to the GAA at parish and county and national level. A plaque bearing his name at the entrance to the grounds was unveiled by Ned Quinn, County Board Chariman and blessed by Canon Phelan while a second plaque at the dressing rooms was unveiled by his wife Bridget.

Distinctions

All Ireland final day was a marvellous one for the club as three Senior and one Minor All Ireland medals came to the parish.

Denis Byrne captained the 2000 All-Stars. They played an exhibition match against the 2001 All-Stars in Argentina (Buenos Aires).

Willie Brennan won an All-Ireland Agricultural Colleges Final with Kildalton after their victory over Gurteen Agricultural College.

Ian Hennessy and Adrain Bourke won Rice Cup medals with Callan CBS after they beat CBS Thurles.

Sympathy

The club would like to take this opportunity to offer its deepest sympathy to members and friends of the club who lost a loved one during the year.



Graignamanagh

CLUB NEWS

Ladies Committee

The Ladies Committee was formed this year, running a couple of successful fundraising events. One of these included a Ladies Football tournament. This venture brought the crowds back to the hurling field again. From one of their many worthwhile ventures they donated a washing machine and dryer to the dressing rooms.

James Kelly Memorial Tournament

Graiguenamanagh won this tournament in its first year. Played over a weekend, Graig were victorious in the first semi-final against Mount Leinster Rangers. St. Mullins played Blacks & Whites in the second semi-final which they won. On Sunday Graig beat St Mullins to claim the cup donated by the Kelly Family, Coolatogher.

Ann Walsh RIP

The recent death at age 58 of Mrs. Ann Walsh has shocked the town of Graiguenamanagh. Ann was a woman that displayed a tremendous involvement in the local community and will be sadly missed.

While she was deeply involved in many local organisations, Ann's main love in the town was her huge and dedicated involvement in Graiguenamanagh GAA club. Up to recently Ann had held the position of club treasurer.

St. Fiaccres GAA Club

She was instrumental in the forming of St Fiaccres GAA club which saw juveniles from both Graiguenamanagh and Skeoughvasteen join together. This was a very important union to her as she had a tremendous interest in the underage club and loved the enjoyment of the juvenile section. Ann devoted many hours to the Graiguenamanagh GAA club and all members are extremely thankful for her tireless efforts.



She will be sadly missed by her loving husband Liam, son Ken daughters Karen & Susan, brothers, sisters, relatives, friends and GAA colleagues.

Ann Walsh RIP

Graiguenamanagh GAA Club Ladies Committee 2002

Back: Mary Blanchfield, Evelyn Dunne, Catherine Blanchfield, Lorraine Hayden, Olivia O'Driscoll, Breda O'Shea, Amber Hoare, Bridie Grace, Jackie Grace, Mary Whelan.
Front: Bríd Ryan, Mel Foley, Patricia Blanchfield, Orla Prendergast, Mary Meaney, Rita Whelan.



Football Summer Camp in Graiguenamanagh

Back: Sean Mackey (Rower), Ian Egan (Thomastown), Jamie Kelly (Rower), Nicholas O'Donnell (Graig), Georgie Leahy (Coach), Conor Sheehan and Jake Egan (Thomastown).
Front: Dane Mangan, Mark Grace, John Morgan, Aaron Duggan, Sean O'Brien, Richard Laurence O'Neill (all Graiguenamanagh).



Leinster Playstation GAA Summer Camp in Graignamanagh

Back: Kelly Ann Whelan, Thomas O'Donnell, Niall Bolger, Caitriona Ryan (Coach), Michael Dowling, Sinéad Ryan, Bill O'Brien.
Front: Aine Ryan, Emmet Byrne, Bernard Hennessy, Seamus Kavanagh, Eleanor Nolan.

O'LOUGHLINS ON TOP!

U14 Bord na nÓg Report



O'LOUGHLIN GAELS UNDER-14 ROINN A AND FEILE NA NGAEL COUNTY CHAMPIONS 2002

Back: David Rice, Paul Walsh, Eddie Kearns, Rick Leydon, Stuart Delaney, Johnny Kearney, Eanna Walsh, Brian McPartland, Robbie Dowling, Steven Murphy, Mattie Deegan.

Middle: Niall Phelan, Ciarán O'Reilly, Steven Lynch, Chris Lambert, Darren McGrath, Mark Bergin, Darren Leahy, Steven Shortt, David Carter, Andy Smith.

Front: Conor Bergin, Eoin Wall, Benny Cleere, Andy Kearns, Philip Johnson, Kevin Morrissey, Mark Kelly.

Seated with Trophies: Johnny Monaghan, Alan Dowling.

Photo: Eoin Hennessy

The good times keep rolling on for City Club, O'Loughlin Gaels, as their under-14 players, not only stormed through to represent their County in the Féile na nGael Finals in Belfast, but they also marauded through the Roinn A Championship to record their third victory in the competition - their last one being 1995.

The O'Loughlin's success was not an instantaneous, overnight happening. Rather, it was the result of a long number of hours of development work, by a goodly number of people, when these boys were but spalpeens of six, seven, eight and nine years of age. On Saturday mornings, and Summer evenings, on the roads around the county and further afield, these boys were nurtured, spoiled, coached, transported, and encouraged by the men from the Club, aye, and even some women too. This marvellous win is testament to the hard work of men like Benny Cleere, Gerry and Dinny Tyrrell, James O'Donoghue, and Fr. Richard Marnell. It would have helped too that the Senior Club players took time out to offer encouragement to the boys - their training nights coincided. Little were the boys

to know that their clubman, Andy Comerford, would walk up the steps of the new Hogan Stand to collect the Liam McCarthy Cup, come September. Danesfort have been making tremendous strides over the last few years, under the tutelage of people like Pat Treacy, Jim Fennelly, Derek Dooley, Eoin O'Neill and Fergal Daly. It has paid handsome dividends of late. Last year, the club had a mighty run in the under-16 Roinn C competition, being touched off in the Championship and League Finals. This year, they fought their way, unexpectedly to the Roinn B under-14 Championship final, only to lose out to a much more fancied Tullaroan outfit by a slender three points.

Dicksboro, James Stephens, Graig/Ballycallan, Clara, Mooncoin, Erin's Own and O'Loughlin Gaels went to post for the Roinn A title. There were some massive games in this competition, as one would expect, given the quality of player involved. Dicksboro, defending their title, and many people's fancy as Champions, opened with a four-point winning margin over James Stephens. Clara had a six point winning margin over Mooncoin, while O'Loughlins were awarded a walk-

over by Graig/Ballycallan in their opening match.

Clara came down to earth in the second round when they were nailed by Erins Own, making their debut. In a high scoring game, Mooncoin beat Graig/Ballycallan by 6-8 to 4-9, while O'Loughlins made it four points from two outings by beating city rivals, James Step, 2-12 to 0-9. They were looking good! In round three, O'Loughlins went nap in the city derbies by beating Dicksboro (4-14 to 1-5); James Stephens (5-10) beat Mooncoin (1-11), and Graig Ballycallan collected their first brace of points by beating Erins Own, 3-7 to 3-6. Wins for Clara, James Stephens and Dicksboro in their fourth round games gave them all four points in the table, with O'Loughlins still out in front with a maximum haul from three games. The Hebron Road outfit maintained their 100% record in round 5 when beating Mooncoin by 6-14 to 1-5. Dicksboro and Clara were to falter at this stage, going down to Erin's Own and James Stephens respectively.

O'Loughlins and James Stephens were to storm their way towards the 'semis, where they were joined by Erin's Own



JAMES STEPHENS UNDER 14 ROINN A & FÉILE NA NGAEL FINALISTS 2002

Back: Kieran Brennan- Glen Campion, Shane Brennan, Conor OBrien- Garry Breen, Darren Leahy, John Brennan, JamesHennessey, Conor Crowe, Keith Moris, Paul Grogan, Conor Mc Quillan, Val Malone, Niall Lanigan, Joe Hennessey, KeithRyan, Mick Slattery.
Front: Kenneth Heffernan, Ronan O Driscoll, James Meehen, Chistopher Thompson, Alan Tyrell, Paddy Neary, Niall McQuillan, Ian Ryan, Terry Walsh, Danny Power, David Walton.



LISDOWNEY- UNDER-14 ROINN C HURLING LEAGUE & CHAMPIONSHIP & ROINN D FOOTBALL COUNTY CHAMPIONS 2002 *Photo: Eoin Hennessey*

Back: Paul Murphy, Shane Clyne, Brian Campion, David Buckley, Joe Pyke (Chairman, Board na nOg), Peter Bergin (Capt.), Alan Ruth, Raymond Fitzpatrick, Aran Fogarty, Martin Phelan, Vincent Fitzpatrick, Eddie Hickey. Front: Calvin Skehan, Damien Clyne, James Delaney, Laurence Carroll, Niall Mackey, Keith Rowe, Stephen Ruth, Jamie Burns, Michael Lannon, Ciaran Mackey, Brian Bergin, Paddy Burns.

and Dicksboro. O'Loughlins were to beat Erin's Own in their first semi-final by 2-10 to 3-4. James Stephens posted a big win over the Castlecomer lads, winning by 5-16 to 3-5.

The much-awaited final between the two City clubs, was a well contested one, with the winners collecting the Tom Ryall Cup. It was only fitting indeed, that the great Kilkenny Historian, and Bórd na nÓg Secretary for a long number of years be commemorated by the magnificent Cup, which was presented by the Ryall family earlier in the year.

O'Loughlins set the tone for the game with a snap goal inside 40 seconds, compliments of Mark Bergin. For a while

it looked as if the boys in green and white would walk away with the spoils, leading by 2-3 to no score after fifteen minutes. Some astute sideline moves by the James Stephens mentors got their team moving. A goal by Garry Breen, followed by points from Conor Crowe, Patrick Neary and Shane Brennan had the Village outfit back in business by the 24th minute.

Points by Mark Bergin and Conor McQuillan for O'Loughlins, and a point by Shane Brennan for James Stephens had but two points between the sides at the half time break; O'Loughlins 2-4 James Stephens 1-5.

Shortly after half time, the leaders increased their lead with points from

Mark Bergin and Kevin Morrissey. With just over thirteen minutes remaining, O'Loughlin's full back, Niall Kiely, drove forward with the ball on his hurley. He despatched a pin-point pass to Conor Bergin, whose rising shot beat the best efforts of James Stephens goalie, Keith Morris. The James Stephens lads were not about to quit too easily. Buoyed by a superb goal from Sean Ryan, and another point from Darren Leahy, they fought all the way to the finish, but they had to yield to the superior power and hurling ability of their City rivals in the end.

O'Loughlins 3-8

James Stephens 2-6

O'Loughlins: Brendan Cleere, Stephen Murphy, Niall Kiely, Bryan Mc Partlan,

Chris Lambert, Stephen Shortt, Andy Kearns (Captain), Niall Phelan, Kevin Morrissey, Mark Kelly, Eoin Wall, Stephen Lynch, Conor Bergin, Mark Bergin, Eddie Kearns.

Subs: Philip Johnston, Darren Leahy, Gerry Rowe, David Grincell, Stewart Delaney, Rick Leydon, Darren McGrath, David Rice, Joseph Walsh, David Carter, Ciaran O'Reilly, Matthew Deegan, Robbie Dowling, Alan Dowling, Jonathan Kearney, Andrew Smith, John Monaghan, Gavin Ryan, Ciaran Brennan, Ian Kirwan, Kevin Manning.

James Stephens: Keith Morris, Glen Champion, Paul Grogan (Captain), Keith Ryan, John Brennan, James Hennessy, James Meehan, Niall Lannigan, Conor McQuillan, David Walton, Conor Crowe, Darren Leahy, Shane Brennan, Garry Breen, Patrick Neary. *Subs: Alex Watchorn, Niall McQuillan, Kenneth Heffernan, Sean Ryan, Sean Ruth, Ronan O'Driscoll, Terry Walsh, Ian Ryan, Adam Byrne, Caiman Brennan.*

Roinn B.

The North and South Divisions of the Roinn B Championship shared an even divide of sixteen teams. Down South, Piltown would have been one of the fancied runners, as well as the Rower Inistioge, Carrickshock and probably John Lockes. The North hotshots were St Martins, Tullaroan and the Emeralds. John Lockes from Callan had a phenomenal scoring run in their bid to be one of the South qualifiers. Over six games they scored a whopping 25-57 – an average of 4-10 per game. Mullinavat too had some high scores notched up, scoring 4-12 against the Rower, 3-6 against Thomastown, 4-15 against Carrickshock, and 5-9 against the Shamrocks. After a very exciting seven-series campaign, John Lockes, Piltown, Thomastown and Mullinavat won through to the County quarter finals. John Lockes beat Rower Inistioge (3-19 to 1-4), Shamrocks (3-14 to 1-8), Mullinavat (6-3 to 2-5), Tullogher Rosbercon (6-7 to 2-4), and they got a walk over from Carrickshock. Piltown beat Carrickshock (3-12 to 2-3), Shamrocks (3-8 to 1-4), Tullogher Rosbercon (6-9 to 1-2), Rower Inistioge (5-9 to 1-1), Mullinavat (1-5 to 0-4), Thomastown (2-8 to 3-4) and John Lockes (3-7 to 3-6), while Thomastown earned their right to be in the shake-up with fine wins over John Lockes (4-12 to 4-8), Rower Inistioge (4-3 to 1-0), Tullogher Rosbercon (4-8 to 0-2), Shamrocks (8-9 to 1-4), and Carrickshock (3-10 to 0-1). Mullinavat stormed home with great wins over Rower Inistioge (4-12 to 1-1), Thomastown (3-6 to 1-6), Carrickshock (4-15 to 2-2), Tullogher Rosbercon (2-5 to 1-5), and Shamrocks (5-9 to 3-10).



ST MARTIN'S ROINN U14 A FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS 2002 *Photo: Eoin Hennessy*
Back: Paddy Nolan, Michael Nolan, Rogerick Hogan, Colm McGrath, Darren Holohan, Noel D'arcy, Jamie O'Brien, Ciaran Brennan, Geoffrey Doyle, Paddy Dowling.
Front: Thomas Morrissey, Conor Kelly, Michael Morrissey, Oliver Walsh, Mark Murphy, Fionn Lawlor, Darragh Callaghan, Thomas Coonan, James Dowling, John Mulhall, Conor Mulhall (15 months)



JOHN LOCKES - UNDER-14 FOOTBALL ROINN B LEAGUE & CHAMPIONSHIP WINNERS 2002
Back: Kenny Doheny, Enda Ronan, Keith O'Dwyer, Dwayne Hanrahan, Thomas Melia, Eoghan Fahey, Bill McCormack, Mark Nolan, Brian McCann.
Front: Chris Connolly, Brendan Grace, Simon Burke, Ger Shelley, Owen Wall, Robbie Wall (Capt), Liam Kennedy, Robbie O'Brien, Vincent Power, Mark Laffin.

The quality of the hurling in the Northern half of the competition was no less impressive, with huge score being the order of the day. Indications are that Kilkenny will not lack for a readymade supply of accurate forward power, if the overall quality of the under-fourteen championship is any yardstick. Even in the first round, for instance, there was an aggregate score of 26-48 recorded in four games. What's wrong with that?, I ask. The trend was set early, and thankfully maintained throughout. The quarter-final qualifiers eventually were, Tullaroan, St.Lachtains, St.Martin's, and surprise packet, Danesfort. Tullaroan had great wins over Fenians/Galmoy (3-9 to 3-7), the Graignamanagh Parish team, St. Fiachra's (1-14 to 0-3), St. Martins (4-6 to 1-7), and St.Patrick's Ballyraggett, (9-

10 to 1-6). They had terrific drawn games against Danesfort, and St.Lachtains. Not surprising then that all three were to charge towards the county quarter-final stages of the competition later on. For their part, St.Lachtains had a narrow opening victory over Emeralds (4-5 to 4-2), beat St. Fiachra's (6-14 to 1-4), St.Patrick's Ballyraggett, (2-9 to 2-4), and drew with Tullaroan (2-6 to 2-6). St. Martin's narrowly defeated St. Patrick's Ballyraggett in their opener, (2-12 to 4-2), had six points to spare over St.Lachtains (3-7 to 3-1), beat Emeralds (3-9 to 1-2), Fenians/Galmoy (4-10 to 1-0), and were well beaten by Danesfort in their final group game, (4-5 to 1-7). The real surprise packet of the entire competition was Danesfort. They have been making considerable progress over the last five seasons, where a well-

orchestrated youth policy by a few dedicated

clubmen, has seen the club rise from the ashes of anonymity, to being title contenders in their own "weight". They beat St.Fiachra's (6-9 to 0-2) in their opening game, Fenians/Galmoy (8-5 to 7-4)—what an impressive scoreline—Emeralds (9-11 to 7-4), St.Lachtain's (7-7 to 4-3), and St. Martin's (4-5 to 1-7). If John Lockes set a scoring average of extraordinary proportions in the Southern section of the competition, then surely Danesfort set some standard by averaging 6-8 for their division of the same competition.

The quarter-finals, then, had Tullaroan facing John Lockes, and after a very tight game all through, Tullaroan emerged victorious by 3-10 to 4-5. Piltown took care of St Lachtain's by five points, on a score of 1-10 to 1-5. St Martin's beat Thomastown by 1-9 to 0-6, and an inspirational display by Richard Hogan at centre forward for Danesfort, helped them into their first final, scoring 3-8 of their total of 5-8. Muckalee fired home 3-9.

After a titanic struggle, Tullaroan beat Piltown, the sole South representatives in the semi-finals, by 4-8 to 3-4.

There were many great individual performances in this final between Danesfort and Tullaroan, not least of which was the contribution of Richard Hogan, who singlehandedly scored the entire Danesfort total of eleven points. At half time, the sides were level at 0-7 each. The turning point came after 17 minutes in the second half, when a rasping shot by Mark Simpson was parried by Pádraig Daly in the Danesfort goal, and the inrushing Martin Walsh slammed the ball to the back of the net.

Tullaroan had great performers in Tom Hogan, Stephen Dowling, David Walsh, Paul Glennon, Danny Coonan, Tony Hall, Martin Walsh, Aishling Pollard, and Shane Connolly.

For Danesfort, in addition to the magnificent Richard Hogan, Pádraig Daly, Michael Cunningham, Paul Murphy, Sean Leahy, Robbie Walsh, Elaine Murphy, Ciarán Treacy and Eddie Nugent were best.

Tullaroan 1-11 Danesfort 0-11

Tullaroan: Tomás Hogan, John Maher, Ian Doheny, Pierce Doheny, Stephen Dowling, David Walsh, Paul Glennon, Danny Coonan, Micheál Brennan, Tony Hall, Martin Walsh, Shane Connolly, Mark Simpson, Damien Connolly, Aishling Pollard. *Subs: Paul Buggy, Sam Holmes, Chris Walsh, Josh Moore, Tony Moore, Luke Gleeson.*

Danesfort: Pádraig Daly, Melvin Phelan, Michael Cunningham, Derek Brennan, James Cunningham, Paul Murphy, John Brennan, Sean Leahy,



DANESFORT- UNDER-14 ROINN C FOOTBALL LEAGUE CHAMPIONS 2002

Back: Cathal Keogh, Sean Leahy, Richie Hogan, Michael Cunningham, Paul Murphy, Stephen Maher, Ciaran Treacy, Derek Brennan, Melvin Phelan, Peter Ryan, Richard Troy.

Front: Sarah Drennan, Jim Phelan, James Cunningham, Michael Maher, John Brennan, Robert Walsh (Captain), Oisín Daly, Stephen Duncan, Edward Nugent, Pádraig Daly.

Photo: Eoin Hennessy.



TULLAROAN - U14 HURLING ROINN B CHAMPIONS 2002 *Eoin Hennessy*

Back: Liam Simpson (Selector), John Connolly (Treasurer, Bord na nOg), Pierce Doheny, Ian Doheny, Paul Glennon, Damien Connolly, Derek Holmes (Selector), Michael Brennan, Tony Hall, John Glennon (Chairman, Bord na nOg), Tommy Hogan, Aisling Pollard, David Walsh, Liz Maher (Secretary, Bord na nOg), Declan Dowling (Trainer).

Front: Shane Walsh, Danny Coogan, Mark Simpson, Luke Gleeson, Tony Moore, Paul Buggy, John Maher, Martin Walsh (Captain), Sam Holmes, Steven Dowling, Josh Moore, Chris Walsh, Shane Connolly.

Robbie Walsh, Elaine Murphy, Richie Hogan, Oisín Daly, Richard Troy, Ciarán Treacy, Eddie Nugent. *Subs: Michael Maher, Stephen Maher, Peter Ryan, Sarah Drennan, Edel O'Hara, Cathal Keogh, Stephen Duncan, James Phelan.*

Féile na nGael (Paddy Grace Tournament).

Such was the interest again this year in the Féile tournament, it was deemed necessary to divide the competitors into six groups of four, with all teams playing each other on a league basis. Of course the winners of this prestigious tournament, not only collected the Paddy Grace Memorial Trophy, but they also earned the right to represent Kilkenny in the All-Ireland Féile finals in Belfast in

August.

In Group 1, James Stephens, the reigning Féile Champions, had wins over Carrickshock, Shamrocks, and Piltown to win the Group. Similarly, in Group 2, Mullinavat had wins over John Lockes, Fenians/Galmoy and Rower Inistioge to come through.

The Group 3 winners, Danesfort, never faltered in their games against Mooncoin, St.Patrick's Ballyraggett, and Tullogher Rosbercon.

O'Loughlins, the eventual Championship winners, stormed to the Group 4 winners enclosure with facile wins over Clara, Tullaroan and Conahy, while their city rivals, Dicksboro, beat, Graig Ballycallan, St.Fiachra's, and Thomastown to win Group 5. Erins Own made it into the sec-

ond round with superb wins over St Martin's - very tight game this one - St Lachtain's, and Emeralds.

In the semi-final groupings, James Stephens, Mullinavat, and Danesfort were drawn in Group 1, while O'Loughlins, Erins Own and Dicksboro made up Group 2.

Eventually, the two City clubs, James Stephens and O'Loughlins powered through to the final.

By winning their second Féile, O'Loughlins foiled a second attempt by James Stephens to complete a four-timer in the Competition. In a good Final in Nowlan Park, O'Loughlins seemed to be in big trouble early on in the game, when a combination of poor finishing, allied to the excellence of the James Stephens firepower in front of goal, had them struggling after fifteen minutes. A Conor O'Brien goal, and points by Patrick Neary, Darren Leahy, and Shane Brennan, had given the Village a 1-3 lead before the eventual winners registered a score. By half time, however, a goal by Conor Bergin, augmented by points from Mark Kelly and Mark Bergin, had the deficit down to a manageable two points - James Stephens 1-4 O'Loughlins 1-2.

Within eight minutes of the re-start, O'Loughlins had stretched their lead to four points. By the fifty eighth minute they led by five points. They looked 'done and dusted'. But there was a sting in the Village tail. Gary Breen rifled home a terrific individual goal, which left a mere two points between the sides, but despite the storming finish by the Champions, they just couldn't break down the formidable O'Loughlins resolve in which Brendan Cleere in goal, Steven Shortt at centre back, Kevin Morrissey at centre field, and Mark Bergin at centre forward were unrelenting. It was not the fault of Niall Lanigan, Alan Tyrrell, Patrick Neary, or Shane Brennan that James Stephens didn't do the four-timer on this occasion.

O'Loughlins 2-7

James Stephens 2-5

O'Loughlins: Brendan Cleere, Brian McParland, Niall Kiely, Gerry Roe, Christopher Lambert, Stephen Shortt, Andy Kearns, Niall Phelan, Kevin Morrissey, Ricky Leydon, Mark Bergin, Eoin Wall, Conor Bergin, Mark Kelly, Eddie Kearns.

James Stephens: Keith Morris, Glen Campion, Paul Grogan, Alan Tyrrell, David Walton, James Hennessy, Niall Lanigan, John Brennan, Conor McQuillan, Gary Breen, Conor Crowe, Darren Leahy, Shane Brennan, Patrick Neary, Conor O'Brien. *Sub (used); Sean Ryan.*

Heartbreak For O'Loughlins in Final



KILMACOW - U14 ROINN C HURLING FINALISTS 2002

Back: Gerry Hamey, Eoin Irish, Christopher Hughes, Billy Joe Murray, Michael Heffernan, Thomas McGuire, PJ Ivory, Conor Dowling, David Williams, David Duggan, Simon Reid.
Front: Thomas Flynn, Ivan Power, Cregg Watters, Fergus Walsh, John Kirby, Richard McNamara, Adrian Crowe, Edmund Irish, Shane Deegan, Luke Harney.

Scoring a whopping 17 goals on the way to the Final of Féile na nGael, O'Loughlin Gaels did Kilkenny proud in Casement Park, Belfast, when narrowly going down to the pride of Cork, Glen Rovers at the final hurdle.

On their way to the Final, the Kilkenny representatives defeated Portaferry by 4-11 to 0-5, Ballycrán by 6-7 to 0-3, and the Tipperary representatives, mighty Toomevara by 3-3 to 0-5. They then faced Clonlara, the Champions from County Clare. With a magnificent brand of power-packed hurling from such notables as Eoin Wall, the Bergins—Conor and Mark, Stephen Shortt, Kevin Morrissey and Eddie Kearns, they won quite impressively by 4-6 to 1-6. A big crowd left the Club on the Hebron Road on Sunday morning to be with the lads for the final. Among them, were the Comerfords, Andy and Martin, the Dowlings, Sean and Brian, and Alan Geoghegan. The Kilkenny lads were not overawed by the physical superiority of the Cork Champions.

They were adrift at half time by a mere two points, and even tho' they were visibly jaded after their exertions, nevertheless, they fought the good fight to the very end. It needed the introduction of the towering Glen forward, Richard Whitty to swing the game in his club's direction. A superb goal by Richard Kearns just before that had hauled the O'Loughlins men back to parity, but then enter Mr. Whitty, the goal is secured, added to later by an insurance point from Gary Bracken, and the gallant efforts of the worthy Kilkenny representatives were thwarted.

Every member of the O'Loughlin's panel acquitted himself admirably. They were a credit to their parents, their Club and their County. Their mentors too, must be acclaimed for their dedication, and hard

work over an arduous campaign.

Whilst victory on this occasion was not to come O'Loughlins young, rest assured that many of these youngsters will distinguish themselves later on a bigger platform.

Glen Rovers (Cork) 2-8 O'Loughlins 2-4

ROINN C - CHAMPIONSHIP

Some fourteen teams took part in the Roinn C Championship, which was run on an open-draw knockout basis. The opening game between Young Irelands and Conahy Shamrocks was a nerve-tinging affair with the result in the balance right to the finish. Eventually, the Gowran lads emerged winners on a score of 2-11 to 3-5. Windgap (4-7) were a little too good for neighbours, Dunnamaggin (2-3), while Kilmacow had a huge win over



Patrick Raftice, Mullinavat, Second in the All Ireland Hurling Skills in Casement Park 2002.

Cloneen. Rumour had it that Lisdowney were doing great things with under-age hurling, and their first outing against Barrow Rangers seemed to indicate that the rumours were well founded. They won by 2-18 to 0-1. Bennettsbridge had a walkover from Dicksboro No 2 team, while the O'Loughlin Gaels second string beat Slieverue by 4-6 to 2-1.

In the quarter-finals, there were wins for Young Irelands (4-10) over James Stephens (0-0), Kilmacow (1-9) over Glenmore (1-7), Windgap over O'Loughlins - this had to go to a replay, and Lisdowney (4-9) over Bennettsbridge (1-2).

Kilmacow had it all to do before overcoming Windgap in their semi-final. They eventually won by 3-11 to Windgap's 4-6. The final in Danesfort was a very keenly contested affair between two teams whose game plan appeared to be making score-getting by the opposing forwards a near impossible task. At half time the score was a paltry two points apiece. However, the game livened up quite considerably early in the second half. A long free by Ciarán Mackey went all the way to the Kilmacow net. Another brilliant individual goal by Martin Phelan shortly afterwards nearly flattened the Kilmacow lads. But they are made of stern stuff, and with Fergus Walsh starting at centre back—he was moved out from full back—, they clawed their way back into the game. He shot two rasping goals for his side, which drove the Lisdowney lads back on their heels.

However, a Vinny Fitzpatrick goal, and two late goals from Brian Campion and Paul Murphy sealed the issue for the Lisdowney lads.

Lisdowney had mighty players in Shane Clyne, Ciarán Mackey, Peter Bergin, Ray Fitzpatrick, Martin Phelan, Paul Murphy and Keith Rowe.

The Kilmacow stars were, Fergus Walsh, Michael Heffernan, PJ Ivory, Thomas Flynn, and John Kirby.

Lisdowney 5-4 Kilmacow 2-4

Lisdowney: Alan Ruth, David Buckley, Shane Clyne, Niall Mackey, Paddy Burns, Ciarán Mackey, Brian Bergin, Peter Bergin (Capt.), Vinny Fitzpatrick, Ray Fitzpatrick, Martin Phelan, Paul Murphy, Laurence Carroll, Brian Campion, Eddie Hickey. *Subs: Keith Rowe, James Delaney, Jamie Burns, Aran Fogarty, Michael Lennon, Stephen Ruth, Calvin Skehan, Damien Clyne, Oliver Warren.*

Kilmacow: Richard McNamara, Conor Dowling, Fergus Walsh,



New U14 Cup to O'Loughlins.....**Beanie Ryall** presents the new **Tom Ryall U14 Roinn A Hurling Cup** to **Andy Kearns** (Captain, O'Loughlin Gaels) with **Joe Pyke** (Chairman, Bord na nOg), after their defeat of James Stephens in the Final
Christopher Hughes, Michael Heffernan, David Duggan, Billy Joe Murray, PJ Ivory, Thomas Flynn, Thomas McGuire, Eoin Irish, Adrian Crowe, Shane Deegan, John Kirby, Gerry Harney. Subs: Simon Reid, Cregg Watters, Ivan Power, Luke Harney, Edmund Irish, David Williams.

ROINN C LEAGUE

Fourteen teams, divided in four groups set off in pursuit of the League title. From Group one, Lidsowney qualified at the expense of Conahy Shamrocks, and Cloneen. Bennettsbridge finished the aspirations of the second strings from O'Loughlin Gaels, James Stephens and Dicksboro. Young Irelands did likewise in Group three, with wins at the expense of Dunnamaggin and Barrow Rangers, while in Group four, Glenmore took out Windgap, Slieverue and Kilmacow.

WELL DONE, KILKENNY WHAT A GREAT YEAR!



Branch manager

Jim freeman
Mobile 087 - 2551507



Local representative

Liam O'Connor
Mobile 086 - 2564703
Home 056 - 63898



**Park House, Park Road, Waterford
1850 754 511**

GE Capital Woodchesterr



In the semi-finals, Bennettsbridge (3-5) beat Young Irelands (1-1), while Lisdowney (3-11) beat Glenmore (3-5). In the final, Lisdowney overcame Bennettsbridge thus completing the double of League and Championship.

Lisdowney 3-3, Bennettsbridge 0-5
(The Lisdowney team is listed above.)

Bennettsbridge: Billy Brady, JJ Warren, Niall Power, Adam McCarthy, Nevin Kelly, Peter Conway, Patrick O'Neill, Darragh Wafer, Michael O'Neill, Christopher Fitzpatrick, Sean Holohan, David Galway, Edward Murphy, Nicky Cleere, William Duggan. *Subs: Thomas Barcoe, John Kelly, Caoimhe Shiels, Vivianne Holmes.*

FOOTBALL

The under 14 football competition was played on a league/championship basis, with each team being guaranteed at least five games. The top two teams in the league sections played a final, while the rest were then graded on their league performances, and four groups were drawn up reflecting their capabilities during the league campaign. The three divisions in the league produced three finals.

In Division 1, St Martin's and Thomastown came through to their divisional final, with the former winning by 3-8 to 1-7. From Division 2, John Lockes

stormed through to meet Railyard, whom they comprehensively beat by 5-14 to 0-5. Lisdowney finished at the head of their division, where they were accompanied by the Emeralds. After a fine football match, the Lisdowney lads made it a memorable year indeed by capturing their divisional final, winning by 3-6 to 2-5.

The Championship was divided into four groups, Roinn A, B, C, and D.

Roinn A saw St Martin's (1-13) beat Dicksboro (0-3), Mullinavat (5-4) beat Piltown (3-3), O'Loughlins (2-9) beat St Fiachra's (1-8), and Thomastown (1-13), beat Railyard (1-3). In the semi-finals, Mullinavat and O'Loughlins had good wins over St Martin's and Thomastown respectively, and, in the final, the 'Vat men beat O'Loughlins by 6-6 to 4-7, in a superb game of football.

In **Roinn B**, John Lockes, St Patrick's Ballyraggett, Tullogher Rosbercon and Railyard finished the hopes of James Stephens, Clara, Mooncoin, and Rower Inistioge respectively. In the semi-finals, John Lockes (6-7) were too good for St Patricks (2-3), and Tullogher Rosbercon (3-5) had two points to spare over Railyard (2-6). After an exciting hour of intense football, John Lockes of Callan had too much in the tank for the Tullogher lads. The final score read,

John Lockes 5-9, Tullogher Rosbercon 4-1, a double for the Callan lads. It created a little bit of history for the Callan Club. It was the first time in their History that a football double has ever been won.

Roinn C featured wins for Danesfort, Bennettsbridge, Carrickshock, and Ballyhale Shamrocks in the quarter-finals. Carrickshock (2-5) beat Shamrocks (2-3), and Danesfort (2-13) beat Bennettsbridge (2-5) in the two semi-finals. Danesfort had a rather facile win over Carrickshock in the final, winning by 4-16 to 1-1.

Roinn D produced a win for the form team of the year at Roinn C level, Lisdowney. Having won the hurling double, they had a real go at the football equivalent. Having taken the League section, only the Championship stood between them and a memorable year beyond their wildest expectations. They beat Kilmacow in the quarter-final stage, and travelling the same road with them were Emeralds, St Lactains and Graig/Ballycallan. They beat Emeralds by 1-1, while Graig Ballycallan stormed through with a great win against St Lactain's, winning by 2-3 to 0-3.

In the final, the Lisdowney lads had a marvellous win over the Graig lads, winning by 3-8 to 1-3.

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*Chadwicks of Kilkenny are proud to be associated with **Kilkenny GAA Yearbook** and wish them every success in the future.*

Junior All Ireland for Kilkenny

By Tommy O'Brien
Kilkenny Camogie Board PRO

Kilkenny junior camogie team showed brilliant skill in using the wide expanse of Croke Park to expose Cork in the first 20 minutes of this All Ireland junior camogie final but spent the last 20 minutes with their backs to the wall as they defended a slender lead against a determined Cork onslaught.

Kilkenny had a full squad for this final with goalie Caitriona Ryan the only doubt—she was unsure of her ability to take her place right up to the throw in thanks to a viral infection on the previous week. Máiréad Lawler and Aoife Neary—the two injury doubts—has shaken off their injuries although the selectors must have wondered could they reproduce their usual top class displays after missing training for a couple of weeks.

They need not have worried. Aoife Neary gave a wonderful display of accuracy and enthusiasm while Máiréad Lawler was the mainstay of Kilkenny's defence all through the game.

Kilkenny began brilliantly. Their forwards moved the ball with ease and skill, the midfielders dominated their area and precious little was getting past the dominant half-back line. Aoife Neary had shown her skill from frees in the early stages when elusive Kilkenny forwards forced the Cork backline into conceding frees. Then Catherine Doherty very cleverly turned her opponent and headed along the endline for goal. When the full back advanced, Catherine handpassed to the now unmarked Aoife Neary and she shot to the net.

Kilkenny led by 1-4 to 0-2 at this stage and it was to get worse for the Munster girls. Firstly their corner forward Amanda Murphy had a great effort at goal thwarted by the vigilance of Caitriona Ryan. Then Edel Maher went on a scintillating solorun, which brought her to the edge of the square where she was unceremoniously dumped. The resultant penalty was well hit by Aoife



KILKENNY - ALL IRELAND JUNIOR CAMOGIE CHAMPIONS 2002 Eoin Hennessy
Back: Louise Rafter, Bronagh Neary, Marie Ryan, Aoife Fitzpatrick, Fran Shore, Dolores Lanigan, Fiona Dowling, Ann Marie Young, Ursula Walton, Keira Kinahan, Edel Maher, Liz Dempsey (Thomastown)
Centre: Nora Sutton, Aoife Treacy, Pauline Comerford, Mairead Lawler, Eimear Lyng, Aoife Neary, Catherine Doherty, Jacqui Frisby, Marie O'Connor, Laura Comerford.
Front: Andrea Murphy, Ailish Kenneally, Eileen Fitzpatrick, Louise Hogan, Bridget Grennan, Eimear Connery.

Neary but was saved by the Cork keeper. Vigilant Catherine Doherty was in like a flash, however, to crash the ball to the net and ensure the record of the St Anne's player of scoring in every game.

With all six Kilkenny forwards showing brilliant form, Kilkenny led by 2-9 to 0-4 as half time approached. Marie Ryan and Jacqui Frisby went on some mesmerizing runs, Marie O'Connor and Catherine Doherty were never beaten to a ball, Dolores Lanigan ensured that the ball ran through rapidly to the full forward line and Aoife Neary played just as everyone hoped she would—showing skills way beyond her years. Then some of the players seemed to relax. They were brought out of any sense of superiority however when a high shot from the Cork wing found the net and Cork were back in the game although they trailed by 2-9 to 1-4 at the break.

Cork introduced Breege Corkery at half time and the young minor player had an instant impact. Her speed nonplussed the Kilkenny defence and when she shot to the net the Kilkenny lead was down to 5 points. Cork applied fierce pressure from now on and at one stage had the Kilkenny lead down to two points. Indeed, the Leesiders shot four successive wides from scoring positions which would have put Kilkenny in arrears had they been converted.

Kilkenny had some great chances of scores but the forwards, who were inspired in the first half, found the going very difficult and scored just two points in this half. However, in this half it was the defence which showed inspiration. Cork found Máiréad Lawler very difficult to pass with Pauline Comerford and Aoife Fitzpatrick showing good support in a great half-back line. Ann Marie Young was very strong under high balls and ensured that a rampant forward line got no clear shot at goal with Eimear Lyng

and Keira Kinahan showing similar defiance.

When Keira Kinahan and Aoife Fitzpatrick retired injured, Eimear Connery, Ursula Walton and Nora Sutton showed the great depth of skill on the Kilkenny bench by playing just as well as the people they replaced while goalie Caitriona Ryan brought off some fine saves in both halves.

When things looked really serious for Kilkenny late in the game Aoife Neary turned up in the backs to clear some vital balls and her all round performance allied to accuracy from frees and play won her the Forás na Gaeilge "Person of the Match" award. Little behind her were Ann Marie Young, Pauline Comerford, Mairead Lawler, Edel Maher, Elaine Aylward—whose sideline play was a feature of the game—and Catherine Doherty.



Jacqui Frisby (Kilkenny Captain) lifts the cup after their defeat of Cork in the Final. Photo Eoin Hennessy

Kilkenny: Caitriona Ryan (Tullogher), Keira Kinahan (Ballyhale Shamrocks), Ann Marie Young (St Brigid's), Eimear Lyng (Rower Inistioge); Pauline Comerford (Graigue Ballycallan), Mairead Lawler (St Lachtain's), Aoife Fitzpatrick (St Lachtain's); Edel Maher (St Anne's), Elaine Aylward (Mullinavat); Marie Ryan (Tullogher), Dolores Lanigan (Tullogher), Jacqui Frisby (Capt) (Carrickshock); Catherine Doherty (1-1) (St Anne's), Aoife Neary (1-9) (James Stephens), Marie O'Connor (0-1) (St Lachtain's);
Subs used. Eimear Connery (St Lachtain's), Ursula Walton (St Brigid's), Nora Sutton (Mullinavat)
Subs not used: Fiona Dowling (St Lachtain's) Bridget Grennan (Tullogher) Eileen Fitzpatrick (St Lachtain's) Laura Comerford (Emeralds) Marie Therese Doherty (Glenmore) Bronagh Neary (St Brigid's) Liz Dempsey (Thomastown) Fran Shore (Lisdowney) Aoife Treacy (Danesfort) Louise Rafter (James Stephen's) Louise Hogan (Lisdowney) Andrea Murphy (St Brigid's) Ailish Kenneally (Carrickshock)

Cork: Ellen Clifford; Jennifer Brown, Liz Sweetman, Niamh Bowles;



Caitriona Ryan (Kilkenny) bursts from the goal and into Emer O'Farrell (Cork) during their Junior All-Ireland Camogie Clash. Photo Eoin Hennessy

Caitriona Foley, Nora Ahearn, Máiréad Holland; Val O'Keeffe, Emer O'Farrell; Colette Desmond, Caitriona Kelly, Ger Collins; Amanda Murphy, Elaine McCarthy, Marie Watson *Sub:* Breege Corkery

PATH TO THE FINAL

Kilkenny won 6 games on their way to Sunday's final. In May they had an emphatic 11-19 to 0-2 win over Louth. They followed this in early June with a 5-9 to 2-4 victory over Laois.

With the senior championship approaching, a number of players were rested against Dublin and Kilkenny had a battle before winning by 2-7 to 1-6. This brought them to the Leinster final against Offaly where Kilkenny won a well-contested game 2-12 to 1-6.

This was followed by the farce of the year when Kilkenny travelled to London to win a non-fixture by a massive 10-37 without reply but the semi-final against Galway was a different affair as Kilkenny won a brilliant game by 2-10 to 2-6. Sunday's 2-11 to 2-8 victory meant that Kilkenny scored 34 goals and 105 points while conceding 7-33—some record!

The players who amassed this massive total were Aoife Neary (9-41) Catherine Doherty (5-19) Marie Ryan (5-10) Marie O'Connor (4-7) Jacqui Frisby (3-4) Pauline Comerford (1-9) Dolores Lanigan (2-4) Mairead Lawlor (2-1) Elaine Aylward (1-3) Edel Maher (0-5) Aoife Fitzpatrick (1-1) Linda Cottrell (1-0) and Bronagh Neary (0-1). Catherine Doherty scored in all seven games.

Kilkenny seniors had a good run in the National league before losing out to Cork. They began the championship with a facile win over Antrim in Nowlan Park and then travelled to Down to annihilate the home side. This win qualified them for a semi-final game against Tipperary who were going for their fourth title in a row.

TIPPERARY TOO GOOD FOR KILKENNY GIRLS

TIPPERARY 1-11 KILKENNY 0-6

Tipperary were convincing winners in the end when they faced Kilkenny in this Foras na Gaeilge All Ireland senior semi-final at Limerick on Saturday. However, champions Tipperary—heading for their fourth title on the trot—found Kilkenny a much tougher egg to crack than when the sides met in last year's All Ireland final.

Under the guidance of Ann Downey with her experienced backroom team of Frank Bourke, Tom Doheny and Neilly O'Connor, Kilkenny were a force to be reckoned with and made Tipperary fight very hard for their scores. The champions found it impossible to get their rhythm going as they did in last year's final but in the end were too good for a gallant Kilkenny side.

Kilkenny were first to score when Edel Maher gathered the ball on the half way line, soloed through to the 50 and sent the ball sailing between the posts. Even at this stage—and facing a strong breeze—Tipperary were looking dangerous with Emer McDonnell, Deirdre Hughes and Claire Grogan forming a formidable full forward line.

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Well done, Kilkenny, and good luck to Mullinavat next year*



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KILKENNY ALL IRELAND SENIOR CAMOGIE SEMI-FINALISTS 2002

Back: U Walton, A M Young, D Lannigan, N Sutton, G Dillon, B Mullally, E Maher, B Grannan, K Long, C Ryan, M Lawlor, P Comerford, E Alyward, A Fitzpatrick, T Millea, M Holland.

Front: L Dempsey, M Costello, C Doherty, E Kennedy (Capt) S Millea, L Lyng, J Frizby, E Lyng, A Neary, A M O'Connor, F Dowling, M Downey, E Connerly M Ryan.

Photo Eoin Hennessy



Sinead Millea (Kilkenny) breaks as **Maired Graham** (Antrim) puts in a challenge during their clash in Nowlan Park. *Photo Eoin Hennessy*

When they did score a goal it was somewhat fortuitous. Deirdre Hughes soloed through, found Emer McDonnell with a pass but the Tipp corner forward had her shot brilliantly blocked by agile Miriam Holland. The ball rebounded into the path of Deirdre Hughes and the ace forward lost no time in sending the ball crashing into the net

Still it was Kilkenny who got the best scores of the half—a brace of points each from Aoife Neary and Sinéad Millea had all the hallmarks of class on them but it was Tipperary who led by a single point (1-4 to 0-6) at half time.

The second half was a different affair with Tipperary mounting attack after attack. The Kilkenny defence were unyielding but the forwards found chances hard to come by with such brilliant players as Una O'Dwyer, Paula Bulfin and Ciara Gaynor playing magnificent camogie.

They badly needed a goal and came within a whisker of it when Maired Costello forced her way through the defence. However, he shot at goal was bravely snuffed out by a stout Tipperary defence.

Tipperary also failed to find the net in this half but struck over enough points to ensure that they will face Cork in the senior All Ireland final on September 15th.

Esther Kennedy played a captain's role for Kilkenny and formed a magnificent full back line with Jillian Dillon-Maher and Emer Lyng in front of dependable keeper, Miriam Holland. Mairéad Lalor was in fine fettle on the halfback line with Lizzie Lyng trying all she knew at midfield despite having some atrocious luck.

Aoife Neary and Sinead Millea struck some great points; Pauline Comerford was impressive when she came on while Maired Costello led the forward line with determination

Kilkenny: Miriam Holland (Lisdowney); Esther Kennedy (St Lachtain's), Jillian Dillon-Maher (St Lachtain's), Eimear Lyng (Rower Inistioge); Kelly Long (Lisdowney), Fran Shore (Lisdowney), Maired Lawlor (St Lachtain's); Edel Maher (St Anne's), Lizzie Lyng (Rower Inistioge); Marina Downey (Lisdowney), Maired Costello (St Lachtain's), Sinéad Millea (St Brigid's); Catherine Doherty (St Anne's), Aoife Neary (James Stephens), Bridget Mulally (Glenmore) **Subs:** Jacqui Frisby (Carrickshock), Marie O'Connor (St Lachtain's), and Pauline Comerford (St Brigid's)

Tipperary: J. Delaney; P. Bulfin, U. O'Dwyer, C. Madden; S. Nealon, C. Gaynor, S. Kelly; E. Hayden, A. McDonnell; P. Fogarty, L. Young, J. Ryan; E. McDonald, D. Hughes, C. Grogan

KILKENNY'S UNDER 18S WIN THREE IN A ROW

Kilkenny 2-11 Dublin 0-11

The Kilkenny U-18 Camogie team won the Leinster championship for the third year in a row last Saturday when they defeated Dublin in Jenkinstown.

Although playing against a relatively stiff breeze, Dublin took a two point lead early in the first half with two converted frees from their accurate free-taker & captain Ciara Lucey. Kilkenny's opening score was a goal from their full forward Marie Ryan following a defence-splitting pass from Marie O'Connor. This score settled the home team who controlled the remainder of the half with the two Maries contributing a further 1-5 between them.

Kilkenny led by 2-5 to 0-5 at half-time and extended it early in the half with further points from Marie Ryan & Marie O'Connor. A very committed Dublin side then began a fight-back which saw them edge within three points of Kilkenny but were denied the goal which might have put the issue in doubt by the excellent Kilkenny defence. Even at this time it was obvious that the visitors were too reliant on placed balls for scores, scoring only three points from open play in the whole match and a brace of points by Aoife Neary ended their resurgence leaving Kilkenny were left to celebrate a victory which puts them on top of the roll of honour for this grade for the first time.

Scorers for Kilkenny were Marie Ryan 1-5, Marie O'Connor 1-4, Aoife Neary 0-2 with Ciara Lucey 0-9, Ciara Durkin 0-1, and Dawn Barry 0-1 replying for Dublin.

Kilkenny: Brid Aylward (Mullinavat); Sinéad Corrigan (Freshford) Fiona Dowling (Freshford) Susan Kennedy (Dicksboro); Catherine Freyne (Mullinavat) Mairéad Lawlor (Captain, Freshford) Áine Fahey (Emeralds); Eileen Fitzpatrick (Freshford) Elaine Aylward (Mullinavat); Fiona Kenny (Windgap) Aoife Fitzpatrick (Freshford) Marie O'Connor (Freshford); Emer O'Keeffe (Mullinavat) Marie Ryan (Tullagher) Deirdre Connolly (Mooncoin) **Subs:** Laura Aylward (Glenmore) Keira Kinahan (Shamrocks) Emilie Darmody (Shamrocks) Edel Maher (St Anne's) Jacqui Frisby (Carrickshock) Mary-Margaret Marum (Lisdowney) Kay Gaffney (Dicksboro) Helen Murphy (Glenmore) Karen Hennessy (Glenmore) Aoife Neary (James Stephens) Louise Hogan (Lisdowney) Mairéad O'Donovan (Glenmore) Eileen Hughes (Emeralds) Rebecca Phelan (Carrickshock) Ailish Kenneally (Carrickshock) Louise Rafter (James Stephens)

Dublin Emer Butler; Tara Cooling, Bridget Sweetman, Marie O'Sullivan; Orla Smith, Jean Murphy, Cairíona Power; Dawn Barry, Julie Draper; Emer McFadden, Ciara Lucey, Clare O'Flaherty; Ciara Durkin, Emer Murphy, Áine Fanning

Kilkenny Clinch Tenth Title

Allianz National Hurling League 2002

By Barrie Henriques

Surprise was the order of the day, even before the Allianz National League campaign commenced.

Ger Henderson was replaced on the sideline by Noel Skehan. Derek Lyng, and Kieran Rafter (Emeralds), Richie Mullally (Glenmore), Stephen Byrne (Young Irelands), Aidan Cummins (Ballyhale Shamrocks), Pat Tennyson (Carrickshock), Paul Cahill (Dunnamaggin), Eoin Behan (Fenians), PJ Ryan (Fenians), Paul Sheehan (Rower Inistioge), Alan Geoghegan, Martin Comerford and Brian Dowling (all O'Loughlin Gaels) and Dermot Grogan (James Stephens) were, in the words of Brian Cody, "being given a chance to show their abilities to the selectors". There was no DJ Carey, Charlie Carter, John Power, and as usual, there was plenty of speculation.

There was no Brian McEvoy either. He had been sidelined for a rather innocuous altercation by an over-reactive referee in Páirc Tailteann, in the Walsh Cup game against Meath earlier. The offence became a little more serious when the Games Administration sidelined him for three months. Brian Cody proclaimed his ambitions to win every game, and he further qualified the statement to the media circus with "if that means win-

ning the Allianz National League, so be it".

The League account was opened in Nowlan Park on the 28th February, with an enlightening, but non-inspirational win by 1-12 to 0-12 over Waterford. At half time, Kilkenny led by 1-7 to 0-4, the goal arriving via the stick of John Hoyne in the 22nd minute.

Kilkenny: James McGarry, Paul Cahill, Noel Hickey, Dermot Grogan, Aidan Cummins (0-1 free), JJ Delaney, Peter Barry, Kevin Power (0-1), Richie Mullally (0-1), Eddie Brennan (0-2), Derek Lyng (0-1), Martin Comerford, Brian Dowling (0-1), John Hoyne (1-1), Henry Shefflin (0-4, two frees). *Subs (used): Kieran Rafter.*

It was a major culture shock for the apprentices on the Kilkenny team, as they faced Galway in Ballinasloe in the next round. Lessons were learned as Kilkenny went down to a rampant home side by 0-15 to 0-9. Some of the new lads showed improved form, not least Martin Comerford, and Derek Lyng. John Hoyne was sidelined in the 45th minute. He was to learn. Noel Hickey and Michael Kavanagh starred. Galway led by the odd point in eleven at the break. Henry Shefflin converted seven frees. Denis Byrne was to come on late in the game for



KILKENNY ALLIANZ HURLING LEAGUE CHAMPIONS 2002

Back: Andy Comerford (Capt), Noel Hickey, John Hoyne, Stephen Grehan, Derek Lyng, Martin Comerford, Pater Barry, Philip Larkin.

Front: Richie Mullally, Michael Kavanagh, Henry Shefflin, James McGarry, JJ Delaney, Eddie Brennan, Pat Tennyson.



Peter Barry in action against **Sean O'Connor** (Limerick) Damien Eagers/SPORTSFILE

his first outing after a traumatic few months.

Kilkenny: James McGarry, Michael Kavanagh, Noel Hickey, JJ Delaney, Paul Cahill, Aidan Cummins, Peter Barry, Richie Mullally, Pat Tennyson, Henry Shefflin (0-7, frees), Derek Lyng (0-1), John Hoyne, Eddie Brennan, Martin Comerford (Capt.), Paul Sheehan (0-1). *Subs (used): Brian Dowling, Kevin Power, Denis Byrne.*

Meath were the next visitors to Nowlan Park. On St Patrick's Day, in front of a poor crowd, Kilkenny had little difficulty in beating the Royals comprehensively, on a scoreline of Kilkenny 2-22, Meath 0-9.

Kilkenny: James McGarry, Michael Kavanagh, Noel Hickey, Philly Larkin, JJ Dealney, Aidan Cummins (0-1 free), Peter Barry, Steven Grehan (0-1), Pat Tennyson (0-2), Henry Shefflin (0-5, four frees), Derek Lyng (0-1), Kevin Power (0-1), Eddie Brennan (2-4), Martin Comerford (0-3), Brian Dowling (0-2). *Subs (used): Alan Geoghegan (0-1), Sean Dowling, Eoin Behan (0-1).*

Bad news for Kilkenny: Denis Byrne broke his hand in a training accident. It was to cost the Graig Ballycallan man dearly.

The yardstick by which the new Kilkenny team was to be measured awaited in Cusack Park, Ennis. The date-Sunday, March 24th. Little were we to know that the game was a precursor of a later momentous encounter. The game told Brian Cody and his mentors much

about their charges. His starting fifteen in Ennis with the addition of four other players were to win on the second Sunday in September against the same opposition.

Michael Kavanagh and Philly Larkin were superb. Peter Barry had Ger Loughnane roaring his praises. JJ Delaney was only a millimetre behind his centre back. Derek Lyng nullified the threat of Colin Lynch, and Martin Comerford gave a torrid time to Brian Lohan. Fast forward to September 8th. Were the GAA writing luminaries not writing something similar?

Kilkenny won by 3-14 to Clare's 1-12. The three wise men, Brian, Johnny and Noel left Ennis very happy campers.

Kilkenny: James McGarry, Noel Hickey, Philly Larkin, Paul Cahill, Peter Barry, JJ Dealney, Aidan Cummins, Derek Lyng (0-1), John Hoyne, Stephen Grehan (2-1), Pat Tennyson, Eddie Brennan (1-2), Martin Comerford (0-1), Henry Shefflin (0-7, four frees). *Sub (used): Alan Geoghegan.*

Kilkenny's next outing was against Tipperary in Nowlan Park in the well-organised Lory Meagher Tournament, which Kilkenny won by 2-24 to Tipp's 2-15. Twenty six of the players were to renew acquaintances later in Croke Park, in the month of August.

Kilkenny scored 3-18 against Dublin (0-8) to clinch a semi-final spot in the League campaign. Surprisingly, all of the Kilkenny scores came from play. Dublin Manager, Kevin Fennelly was annoyed—he had good reason to be; his cousin Brian Cody was very pleased—he had better reason to be. "We are in the semi-final", he said, "and we don't care who we meet, or where for that matter". That was a confidence born out of the good habit of winning.

Kilkenny had to travel to the Limerick Gaelic Grounds to face the locals in the League semi-final. They were not happy to do so. In a niggly and at times over robust encounter, Kilkenny won by 2-14 to Limerick's 0-15. The Kilkenny mettle was severely tested by a very physical approach to the game by the locals. It



Brian Dowling scores the winning point in the League Final
Photo Sportsfile



Captain, Andy, shows the League Trophy to the fans.
Eoin Hennessy

didn't help Kilkenny that their followers chose to protest against the fixing of the game for Limerick by staying away. It didn't help the Cats either, when the referee sidelined Philly Larkin and Eddie Brennan for incidents reported by errant umpires, and which he did not see. This team came of age in Limerick, and looked forward to winning the County's tenth League title. It was Andy Comerford's first game back in the big time.



James McGarry brings the sliotar out safely.
Damien Eagers/SPORTSFILE

Kilkenny: James McGarry, Michael Kavanagh, Noel Hickey, Philly Larkin, Richie Mullally, Peter Barry, JJ Delaney(0-1), Derek Lyng (0-1,'65), Pat Tennyson, John Hoyne, Henry Shefflin (1-7, goal pen, five frees), Andy Comerford (Capt.), Eddie Brennan, Martin Comerford (1-4), Stephen Grehan(0-1).

A delicious first Sunday in May brought a major crowd of Cork and Kilkenny support to Thurles for the Allianz League Final. The fortune swings during the game insured that the nerves of the supporters were borne on an elastic carpet of great excitement for the entire seventy minutes.

Cork were hammered into partial submission inside the first sixteen minutes by a Kilkenny storm that left them trailing by 2- 6 to 0- 2. Cork re-assigned some of their defensive wall to telling effect. Diarmuid O'Sullivan came to centre back. That worked the oracle. By half time, the Rebels were back in the ball-game though trailing by five points (2-9 to

1-7). They were to have the advantage of a steadily stiffening breeze in the second moiety.

What a metamorphosis Cork underwent in a blistering second half. The Kilkenny defence were forced to defend from not too far in front of their own end line. In this struggle, James McGarry was superb in goal. Michael Kavanagh had his best game of the entire year at right back. Noel Hickey too, was unbeatable, while Philly Larkin - what a great man for the big occasion - inspired confidence all round. In front of them, Peter Barry was marvellous, while Richie Mullally and JJ Delaney were swashbuckling giants. It didn't help the Cork cause that they drove an unprecedented twelve balls wide of the Kilkenny posts in that second half.

The day belonged too to the Dowling family. The Thurles cauldron was lava hot, and as the final minutes ticked away, Cork had hit the front by a single point. Seanie Dowling was sprung, and no sooner was he on the pitch, than he col-



Eddie Brennan strikes as John Browne (Cork) can only watch in the
 Allianz National Hurling League Final *Eoin Hennessy*

lected a ball some sixty yards from the Cork posts, out under Árdán Ó Rian. His unerring delivery negated the Cork lead. Within seconds they recaptured the lead. Enter "Kid" Dowling. He takes a pass from big brother, and clan Dowling level matters. Well into injury time, a ball breaks some thirty yards from the Cork goal. Brian Dowling snatches faster than a king cobra's tongue. A flick, and the sliothar barely has the energy to get over Donal Óg Cusack's crossbar. Alas for Cork, there was no time left to balance the account. Andy Comerford was on his way to collect Kilkenny's tenth National League cup.

Kilkenny: James McGarry, Michael Kavanagh, Noel Hickey, Philip Larkin, Richie Mullally (0-1), Peter Barry, JJ Delaney, Derek Lyng (0-1), Pat Tennyson, John Hoyne (1-0), Henry Shefflin (0-3, two frees), Andy Comerford (Capt.) (0-2), Eddie Brennan (0-2), Martin Comerford (1-3), Stephen Grehan. *Subs (used): Kevin Power, Sean Dowling (0-1), Brian Dowling (0-2).*

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ONE OF THE ALL TIME GREAT GAMES

The 2002 All Ireland Semi-final seen through the eyes of a Tipp Man - By Ed Donnelly – Tipperary GAA Webmaster

The Tipperary / Kilkenny rivalry dates back to 1895 when a Tipperary selection beat Kilkenny in the All-Ireland Final. The rivalry has intensified over the years to the extent that both counties supporters always keep a keen eye on the other and their progress in the championship each year. In the past 30 years, even though the counties have met only once (in 1991), the rivalry between the supporters in both counties has continued. With both counties bringing home the Liam McCarthy Cup in the previous two seasons, the prospects of the 2002 season resulting in a Tipp v. Kilkenny duel were quite high. Here is the view of the 2002 championship season from over the border in Tipperary.

The 2002 season began with high hopes for Tipperary. Having recorded a clean sweep of titles in 2001, winning National League, Munster and All-Ireland titles in an unbeaten season, thoughts of a two in a row were realistic in the Premier County. A poor start to the National League was soon recovered with some good wins which brought Tipp all the way to the League semi-final where the team and mentors were not too concerned that they were knocked out by Cork, given the number of injuries the team had picked up during the League campaign. Meanwhile, Tipp supporters were keeping an eye on how Kilkenny were getting on in the other side of the draw. It surprised some Tipp fans when they made the League final, a competition that has not generated much interest in recent years for Kilkenny.

With the League final in Thurles, it gave Tipp fans a chance to see how Kilkenny were shaping up against Cork. Before the match even started, a look at the match programme raised some eyebrows with a lot of unfamiliar faces. Where were Carey, Carter, McEvoy, Power, Byrne, Brennan, and Kennedy etc.? And were these new guys any good, i.e. Mullally, Lyng, Tennyson and Martin Comerford? One selection that did not seem to

make sense was Peter Barry at centre-back. A great wing player but surely not a centre-back? Time would tell.

The League final was a good match but strange in many ways. After 20 minutes, we wondered if Tipp should bother entering the championship at all, such was Kilkenny's speed and skill in taking a 10-point lead. Yet, Cork kept hurling and were just 5 points down at half time. The 2nd half was dominated for long spells by Cork who made Kilkenny look quite ordinary and when Cork took the lead with three minutes left, we wondered about Kilkenny's character. However, the



Ref Aodán Mac Suibhne oversees the handshake between captains, Andy Comerford and Tommy Dunne, before the All Ireland semi-final.
Photo John McIlwaine

Dowling brother's from O'Loughlin Gaels were introduced and three points between them saw Kilkenny earn a one point win and the League title.

Analyzing Kilkenny after this performance was difficult. Were they as good as in the first 20 minutes? Such questions would be answered later in the summer but Tipp fans did not lose much sleep that night when looking at Kilkenny's performance over the 70 minutes.



Tipperary players await the start of the semi-final.

Photo John McIlwaine

Three weeks later, Waterford's defeat of Cork lowered their rating so the question was, were Kilkenny that good after all? Kilkenny, meanwhile, started their Leinster championship campaign in Thurles, an unusual setting due to work on the new Croke Park. Offaly were the opponents, trained by former Tipp manager Fr Tom Fogarty to add a bit of

interest for the locals. A poor first half performance by Kilkenny was disguised by two good goals against the run of play. The second half was different as Offaly gave Henry Shefflin the freedom of Semple Stadium to show his undoubted range of skills. An easy win for Kilkenny in the end but for 40 minutes, they had been given a decent test.

Tipp, meanwhile, went in against Clare for the fourth year running. However, due to the number of injuries picked up in the League campaign, the fringe players like Donnacha Fahy, Noel Morris and Conor Gleeson got their chance. All three

played very well as Tipp won narrowly. Limerick was next and John Carroll was back, this time at full forward. Limerick stayed with Tipp for 20 minutes and then collapsed, resulting in an easy win for Tipp who marched into the Munster Final vs. Waterford without much of a test. Some in Tipp thought this was the Munster final. A bad mistake to make as the Justin McCarthy trained Waterford matched Tipp score in the first 50 minutes and then proceeding to give an exhibition of hurling in the last 20 minutes to bridge a 39 year gap and bring back the Munster cup, winning by eight points on the scoreboard but in truth, it could have been even more. No one begrudged Waterford's victory but alarm bells were beginning to go off in Tipp. Were Waterford that good? Were Tipp that bad? Where did we go from here? There were a lot of questions and very few Tipp people had the answers in the week after the Munster final.

Next up was the Leinster final. If Tipp were to progress through the back door system, they would have to come up against the Leinster champions at the semi-final stage. Surely Kilkenny would win easily like in previous Leinster Finals. Happily for us neutrals in Croke Park that day, the first game of hurling on this new stage, Wexford gave as good as they got for long periods. My seat that day was directly behind the Kilkenny selectors, an interesting perspective of a match I can tell you. Kilkenny tried their best to build a lead but Wexford, mainly through a good defense and Paul Codd frees stayed in the hunt up to half time. This was the most competitive Leinster final since the mid-1990's and when Wexford came out for the 2nd half, it looked as if they could pull off an upset. However, a number of wides while they were on top in the first ten minutes of the half seemed to put paid to their chances. A well marked Henry Shefflin popped up with two good points soon after and once Liam Dunne was sent off for Wexford, Kilkenny were always going to win but they were made to fight all the way and it was significant that no goal was recorded by Kilkenny in the game.

This Leinster final performance did not strike any fear in Tipperary. Wexford's demise only six days later at the hands of Clare, coupled with Tipp's big win over Offaly meant that Tipperary and Kilkenny were now level in the betting for the All-Ireland title. If Tipp could regain their 2001 form, surely winning back-to-back titles was possible? The draw for the quarter finals brought further good news for Tipperary as they drew Antrim. A Tipp v Kilkenny semi-final was now assured. Or was it? Antrim produced 60 minutes of inspired hurling against Tipperary in Croke Park and a late flurry of scores saw Tipperary though but they were far from impressive.

The way was now set for the match



Who threw the hurl? - **Martin Comerford** in full flight was called back for a free.
Photo John McLwaine



Brian McEvoy (Kilkenny) gets his shot in ahead of **Eamon Corcoran** (Tipp) .
Photo John McLwaine

we had been waiting for since 1991. Tipperary to play Kilkenny in the new look Croke Park for the right to play Clare in the 2002 All-Ireland final. One interesting aspect of the pre-match discussions surrounded the return of DJ Carey. Carey indicated early in the season that he would play not part in the 2002 championship. However, that decision was reversed after the Leinster final when it was announced that Carey would resume training with the Kilkenny team after an impressive outing with Young Irelands. In Tipp, opinion was divided as to whether this was a good thing or not. Due to the fact that Tipp and Kilkenny have not played too often in recent times, the name of DJ Carey did not strike too much fear in the Premier county. Especially since he was surely not going to be fit after six weeks of training. Anyway, when he was fit, he never inflicted too much damage against Tipp in League matches. In fact, one struggled to remember Carey scoring a goal against Tipperary in a senior competitive match. Also, there were rumours of a rift

in the Kilkenny camp due to the return of Carey. All of these factors meant that not too many Tipp people were worried when Carey was named at corner-forward in the Kilkenny team. Such an analysis looks silly now as the season transpired!

Discussion on the make-up of the Tipperary team was widespread in the Premier County. After the poor performances against Waterford and Antrim, the solid looking team of 2001 was now looking very ordinary. The biggest discussion concerned the position of centre-back. David Kennedy had been beaten in most matches in 2002 and with Kilkenny's Henry Shefflin well on his way to hurler of the year, Tipp had to try and shore up the middle. There were a number of options and eventually, Eamonn Corcoran was given the task of marking Shefflin. Other fears for Tipp concerned the form of Thomas Costello and Noel Morris, down to mark DJ and Brian McEvoy respectively. Tommy Dunne was now back at midfield and it was hoped that he would rediscover his 2001

form when he was hurler of the year.

On to the match. The records will show a four-point win for Kilkenny. Folklore will remember this as one of the all time great games. The speed of the play had the spectators enthralled throughout. The first half especially was a ding-dong affair with both sets of hurlers giving it their all. Both sets of backs were playing well. Yet, there were a lot of scores and very few wides. Three half chances for goals fell to Tipperary and one good chance fell to Kilkenny. All were missed or saved. The sides were level at the break. Tipp fans were happy at half time that their team was showing good form once again but would they rue the missed goal chances. Kilkenny came out a different team in the 2nd half and took a good lead. A John Carroll goal against the run of play for Tipp brought them back in to it but a Jimmy Coogan goal set up by DJ had Kilkenny four points ahead once again. A late Tipp fight-back got them back to within point point and they looked as if they could go on and win but Shefflin scored a crucial point and further scores saw Kilkenny win by a flattering four points.

Looking back on Kilkenny's display, Peter Barry deservedly won man of the match, giving an exhibition of centre-back play one thought not possible from this player earlier in the year. DJ proved his worth yet again and converted a lot



Umpire, **Tomás Ó Reachtabhra** calls referee **Aodán Mac Suibhne's** attention to a Kilkenny point. *Photo John McIlwaine*

of "disbelievers" in Tipperary with his good display, scoring two points from play and setting up the all important goal, while Shefflin was brilliant at centre forward. These three players led the way for an excellent Kilkenny victory.

No Tipp fan leaving the field that day was in any doubt that Kilkenny would win the All-Ireland and so it transpired. While being proud of Tipp's display, their supporters found it hard to take losing such an epic to their old rivals. Nicky



Jimmy Coogan (Kilkenny) celebrates his goal against Tipp. *Photo John McIlwaine*

English would leave as coach soon afterwards and this Tipp team now stands at a crossroads. Whether these two great sides will battle it out again in Croke Park in 2003 is not known. For the sake of the rivalry and hurling in general, I hope they do meet and produce another classic. May the best team win and let it be Tipp this time!

By **Ed Donnelly** – Tipperary GAA Webmaster (<http://tipperary.gaa.ie>)

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Under-17 Development Squad 2002

The Under-17 Development Squad was a very worthwhile exercise this year with a total of 39 players and 18 Clubs attending at various stages. This was a big improvement on last year where the interest was most disappointing. The players had 8 sessions which finished at the end of August with an inter-county blitz between Kilkenny, Dublin, Wexford and Waterford. The fact that Kilkenny won the blitz made it all the more valuable.

The merits of having development squads was clear to be seen as this group progressed. Initially it was an assemblage of players of various abilities from different clubs that scarcely knew each other. Some were confident, some were not. A squad session offered them an opportunity to partake in quality training with more than 20 players of their own age – they were not mixed in with under-14's, under-16's or Juniors etc. as they might be in their Clubs. As they got to know each other and got to terms with fast and challenging training sessions their game improved and confidence grew.

They played challenge games against the U-16 squad and against a selection of the Co. Minor panel, where they acquitted themselves well. The challenge against the minor panel was particularly beneficial as it afforded the players an opportunity they might never get again – to play with good players – against some

of the best players in the country.

The blitz was a tremendous success. While the focus of the Development Squads is to raise the skill level of a few enthusiastic players from each club, not particularly in a competitive atmosphere, the blitz gave the players a focus. It was something to train towards and at the end of the day, 24 of the players pulled on a Kilkenny jersey in an inter-county competition. Several of those players will probably never wear the Kilkenny jersey again –without the squads they would probably never have done so in the first case– but one thing is certain and that is because of that proud experience they will be all the stronger for their clubs in the future and that is what counts.

On the other hand, from a county perspective, following the u-17 development squad there is now a contingent of quality players that are ready to step onto next years County Minor panel. They know each other well at this stage and have played together in the black & amber. The fact that the won the blitz without the services of ten of their age group who were already on the County Minor panel has added significantly to their learning curve. Selectors should not have to sift through scores of players as much now in the mud-fields of January and February as through the various squads much of the ground work is already done and interested players have had ample opportunity to get "spotted".

On a negative note, it is still a mystery why some clubs are not supporting the squads. Some send in no players, others make it hard for players to attend by not willingly releasing them from club training or challenge games. Some players that do attend actually miss too many sessions to reap any great benefit. This year the under – 17 squad made several requests to clubs to send in players. Will many of those that did not respond be seeking to have their players on the County Minor team next year? claiming that "they are better than some of those on it" – it awaits to be seen! Players are well looked after on the squads, all being kitted out with the official development squad tops and with togs, socks and a meal for the blitz.

In charge of this years squad were Tommy Bawle & Martin Fogarty (Coaches) and Tom O' Hanlon (Development Committee)



JJ KAVANAGH SPONSORED UNDER-17 DEVELOPMENT SQUAD 2002

Back: Patrick Butler, Patrick Shortall, Thomas O' Hanlon, Damien Fogarty, Patrick Nolan, Martin Fitzpatrick, Eoin McGrath, Austin Murphy, Peter O' Donovan, Aaron Butler, Donnchadh Cody, Michael Jones, Bill Beckett, Eamon Buggy
Front: Peter Dowling, John Broderick, Mark O' Hara, Keith Kirwan, Martin Purcell, Michael Bergin, Paddy Kennedy, Sean Cummins, Tomás Nolan, Michael Fennelly.



The Homecoming







COACHING CORNER



Another BumperYear!

Well it's the time of year again when we get a chance to look back and reflect on what happened during the past season.

First of all we would like to congratulate all those who togged out, lined fields, washed gear, opened dressing rooms ,drove cars to matches, won All-Ireland medals, represented clubs, schools, or county teams during the past year.

Special thanks to all those who played and also to those who ensured that players got a chance to play our National Games during 2002. Enjoy the "rest" and be ready willing and able to head into action for the coming year.

Brian and Georgie

COACHING NEWS

For the "Honour and Glory of the parish/county"

In the modern era, it is no harm to point out the great work being completed at local and county level for no other reason than "the honour and glory of the parish/ county" . On a recent visit to the Piltown GAA club in South Kilkenny, on an ordinary Wednesday evening, the entire three playing fields were full of GAA activities. One field had a schools match between St.Martin's and Piltown , another had 25 coaches being put through their paces on a coaching course, and the third field had the local Piltown Hurling team training. This scene is replicated throughout the length and breadth of the country, - ordinary GAA people getting on with developing the GAA in their own communities, with no fuss.

We would also like to point out and take this opportunity to thank all the Kilkenny Senior Hurling panel for making themselves available each year to attend the Playstation Leinster/Kilkenny GAA summer camps. The players spend hours answering questioning , giving advice, signing autographs and generally capping off a great GAA week for the children. Again, the players do this with no fuss, even though they often give up their lunch times to attend the camps.

Activities like these will ensure that the GAA will remain to the forefront of each and every community not only in Kilkenny but throughout the country as we face into the new millennium.

Can you match these players with their Club Jerseys?



Martin Phelan Henry Roberts Sean Kealy Liam Dowling Kevin Cleere Donal Carroll Davy Buggy Alan Healy

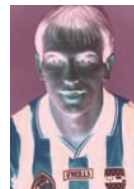
Can you match these players with their County Jerseys?



Ken McGrath Paul Codd Colm Cooper Joe Errity Benny Tierney Anthony Tohill Ciarán Carey Brian Quinn

Another outrage by Georgie!

Can you name these players which he attacked with his negativer?



**BRIAN & GEORGIE'S
WORD SEARCH**

Hidden here are the names of the 18 Kilkenny hurlers who played in the All Ireland SH Final. Can you find them? Then, can you find the three non-Kilkenny players hidden among them?

- James McGarry
- Michael Kavanagh
- Noel Hickey
- Philip Larkin
- Richie Mullally
- Peter Barry
- JJ Delaney
- Andy Comerford
- Derek Lyng
- John Hoyne
- Henry Shefflin
- DJ Carey
- Eddie Brennan
- Martin Comerford
- Jimmy Coogan
- Charlie Carter
- Brian McEvoy
- John Power

Send the names of the three outsiders to Barrie Henriques, Callan, Co Kilkenny. First three out of the hat win a gearbag! Closing date - 31st Jan 2003.

O F S Y P Y R R A B R E T E P D D H J J N
 S G J G R Y O I Y A V W J C J R H D I D A
 D N Z W S R L N C E D V Y H O B T R X N N
 D Y I X D V A L O H R G C F N J D N X A N
 W W Y M N R L G X E I A R I E R B H H G E
 N F C C M Y O Q C P L E C Q Y N C P G O R
 C I Y S K U G F O M M H M J P O A N A O B
 J Z L K T J C P R O S C I U D U L H N C E
 G O V F T E J N C E B E A C L J V V A Y I
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 A O K P Q O H E W N I K R A L Y L L I H P
 J G U C H B X K T C R Y E N A L E D J J I



These five players were playing in their first SH All Ireland. Who are they?



These five men also played a big part on All Ireland day. Can you name them?

I'm afraid Georgie has done it again!
 He took the names of five Kilkenny Minors and twisted them around. Can you help unscramble them?
Charlie Mice, Anyone Chair, Torn Lacing, Hire Crow Pie, An Ocean Nosh, Hit On Ankle.

BRIAN & GEORGIE'S PICTURE GALLERY



Pictured at the parade for the finals of the McDonalds U-10 City Hurling-Street league were the National Hurling league trophy and the Bob O'Keefe cup. Does anyone know the name of this "OLD" All-Ireland trophy?



Pictured above are the coaches from the Piltown GAA Club during the "practical session" with Coaching and Games Promotion Officers Brian Ryan and Georgie Leahy. Included are Catherine Mc Carthy, Jackie Mc Carthy, Eileen Malone, Maria O'Sullivan, Jim Malone, Eamonn Mc Gowan, Donal Norris, Fiona Kenny, Liam Ryan, Maria Foley, Jim Power, Jackie Norris, Bernie Duggan, Seamus Norris, Audey Cuddihy, JohnJoe Long, Jim Norris, Tony Foley, Andrew Mc Carthy, Seamus Dunphy, Siobhan Burchill, Clare Alyward, Clare Cunningham, Mark Connolly and Gerard Norris.



Coaching session in Gathabawn NS during the year. One of the main benefits of the Coaching scheme in Kilkenny has been to develop and foster an interest in Gaelic Games amongst our primary school children.



Great Kilkenny warrior John Power with his twin sons, on the victory bus on All Ireland Monday



Kilkenny star hurlers, JJ Delaney Presents Prizes at this years camps in Urlingford, Co. Kilkenny. Pictured above are prize winners, Sarah Kavanagh, Niamh Tobin, Tommy Costigan, James Leahy, Aife Fahy and Pádraig Phelan.



Pictured above are the Windgap team with mentors, who took part in the "Kilkenny GAA's Indoor Hurling Competition" during December.



Are you here?



Pictured at "Black and Amber" day is the group who attended the Urlingford Summer camp. What's this? - a Tipp's jersey? It goes to show we are willing to help anyone improve their skill levels in Kilkenny's camps!!!!!!



A bit of a attraction, as in other years, was the star players who made guest appearances at the camps throughout the month of July. An added bonus was the appearances of two of the cups which the lads had won at that stage during the year. Here we see Brian McEvoy at the Kilmacow camp, with the The Bob O'Keefe cup and The National Hurling League trophy. A special word of thanks to all the star players who took time out of their busy schedules to attend the camps.



Included above at the Launch of the Leinster /Playstation Kilkenny GAA Summer camps are (Back Row) Georgeie Leahy, Kilkenny Coaching and Games Promotion Officer, Jimmy Dunne, Chairman Leinster Coaching and Games Development committee, Miriam Fitzpatrick from Sony and Brian Ryan, Kilkenny Coaching and Games Promotion Officer along with some of the participants.

Can you find ten inter-county players' surnames hidden in the following sentences?

1. Take care you treat those men right and proper.
2. Bring me home a rare steak and a real egg plant.
3. He drove my poor Mondeo through the rut himself.
4. I made an early exit before the usher locked up.
5. So she actually decided to alert us.

(The counties, in order, are:- Kilkenny, Tipp, Tipp, Limerick, Tipp, Wexford, Cork, Cork, Kerry, Armagh.)



Georgeie working hard on a Coaching Course in Glasgow, Scotland.



Time for a rest now - see you all next year.



MOL AN OIGE

Under 16 - Bord na nÓg Report



JAMES STEPHENS - ROINN A UNDER 16 COUNTY CHAMPIONS 2002

Back: Stephen Hoyne, Keith Morris, Shane Brennan, James Hennessy, Shane O'Neill, Damien Phelan, Mark Coyne, Killian Everard, Patrick O'Keefe, Pat Millea (sel).
Centre: John McCormack (sel), Mark Power (sel), David Byrne, Anthony Lawlor, Niall Lanigan, John Comerford, Aidan O'Brien, Shane Campion, Jamie Quane, Martin Wall, John Taylor, John Sheehy (selector), Matt Ruth (sel).
Front: James Whelan, Adrian Walsh, Sean Tyrell, Tommy Hoyne, Tomas Keogh (captain), Michael Neary, Kieran Brennan, Matthew Ruth, Ross Hennessy, Eoin Everard.

Photo Tom Brett

Molan Óige agus tiocfaidh siad. Never has the seanfhocal manifested itself more than at the underage grades of hurling in Kilkenny. And traditionally some of the best hurling seen within the County has taken place at under-16 level, where prospective stars are maturing into serious performers, many of them with ambitions well mapped. The under-16 grade again in 2002 stood up to the severest scrutiny, with some marvellous games, even down to the lower reaches of the competition.

Wasn't it great to see lowly Slieverue figuring on the winners podium, after so many years in the doldrums?. The well-publicised youth policy of St Martin's continues to pay dividends too, with their team being barely touched off at the winning post by another club who has done trojan work on a youth policy, the Rower Instioge.

But the real fireworks exploded at the top level, where eight teams fought out a truly memorable Roinn A championship. All the big shots were there. James Stephens of course were there. So too were their city rivals, O'Loughlin Gaels,

and Dicksboro. Ballyhale Shamrocks, as always, were conspicuous. Alas no Ballycallan this time. Clara were there this year, as were Carrickshock and Mooncoin, and so too were Tullagher Rosbercon, and that tells you a story about youth development down in that Parish.

In their quarter-final game, James Stephens had a rather easier victory over Carrickshock than they probably expected. They won by 1-16 to 0-4. Ballyhale Shamrocks beat Mooncoin rather comprehensively by 2-9 to 0-7, O'Loughlins had plenty to spare over Tullagher Rosbercon, while Dicksboro carried far too much ammunition for a hapless Clara outfit.

The semi-finals featured three of the City teams plus the Shamrocks from Ballyhale. James Stephens faced the Shamrocks on an evening when you wouldn't put out ducks, such were the torrents of rain falling. At half time, the sides were level at two points apiece. Two points by Tommy Hoyne, plus singles from Matthew Ruth, Ross Hennessy and Patrick Neary—all in the second half—saw James Stephens reach the final on a score of 0-7 to 0-4. The Shamrocks, who had great players in Donnchadh

Fitzpatrick, Eamon Walsh, James Connolly, Mark Aylward, Ger Fennelly and super goalie, TJ Reid, had their scores from Fitzpatrick, Fennelly and Aylward. O'Loughlins, the league champions, faced up to the challenge of Dicksboro in the second semi-final. Maurice Nolan was their shining star, and his determined style produced 1-4 of the O'Loughlin's total of 1-5. Niall McEvoy scored the remaining point. However, with Eddie O'Donoghue in sparkling form, and shooting 1-7 in the process, the Dicksboro lads stormed into the final. The other scorers for the Boro were Niall Morrissey (0-2), Michael Tyrrell, David Broderick and Ger Brennan 0-1 each.

The final was a thrill-a-minute affair with the ultimate result in doubt to the very end. Only a goal separated the sides at half time when the Village led by 1-5 to 0-5. Their goal was a classic, scored by Matthew Ruth in the 19th minute. Dicksboro's star, Eddie O'Donoghue cracked three unanswered points over Kieran Brennan's crossbar within eight minutes of the re-start to level matters, and when David Broderick fired over the lead for his Boro side within seconds of O'Donoghue's efforts, it looked as if the game was tilting Dicksboro's way. A



ROWER/INISTIOGE - U16 ROINN B HURLING CHAMPIONS 2002

Back: John Grace, Michael Cassin, Emmett Power, Paddy Grace, Liam Lyng, John Kenny, Davie Morrissey, Eamon Casin, Pauric Tierney, Rory Galvin, Damien Flood, Eugene Murphy.

Front: Billy Cuddihy, James Doyle, Stevie Murphy, Eoin Kavanagh, Pat Tierney, Liam Tierney (Captain), Seamus Holohan, David Lyng, Walter Kavanagh, George Phelan, Kieran Joyce.

Photo Eoin Hennessy

Craig Cahill point seemed to confirm the impression, with only eleven minutes remaining on the clock. But the Village lads, made of stern stuff, were not about to lay down too easily. Their star player throughout the entire League and Championship campaign, Tommy Hoyne, charged forward from midfield, and slammed an unstoppable shot to the back of the Boro net. There were nine minutes remaining, when Eddie O'Donoghue levelled matters once more with a peach of a point, but within another minute, Seanie Tyrrell scored the championship - winning score for James Stephens. The remaining eight nerve-racking minutes were full-blooded, and frantic. Try as they could, the Boro were not able to eke out another score. The Village defended with great discipline, and bravery.

They had terrific performers in James Whelan, Kieran Brennan, Thomas Keogh, John Taylor, Alan O'Brien, Tommy Hoyne, and Matthew Ruth. The Boro lads were not short of star performers either. They had the brilliant Eddie O'Donoghue in superb form. He was well assisted by Aaron Dunne, Daragh Tynan, Niall Morrissey, Craig Cahill, Michael Tyrrell, and David Broderick.

Final score: **James Stephens 2-6, Dicksboro 0-11**

James Stephens: Kieran Brennan, James Whelan, Thomas Keogh (Capt.), John Taylor, John Comerford, Shane Campion, Alan O'Brien, Damien Kelly, Eoin Everard, Seanie Tyrrell, Matthew Ruth, Adrian Walsh, Ross Hennessy, Tommy Hoyne, Michael Neary. *Subs:*

Jamie Quan, Niall Lanigan.

Dicksboro: Derek Deegan, Peter Higgins, Aaron Dunne, Daragh Tynan, James Roberts, Alan McIntyre, Brian O'Donoghue, Michael Tyrrell, Eddie O'Donoghue, Dean Brennan, David Broderick, Ger Brennan, Michael Rafter, Niall Morrissey, Craig Cahill. *Sub: Killian Starr, Liam Lenihan, Tadhg O'Dwyer, Chris Lanigan,*

ROINN B.

Sixteen teams set out on the road for the Roinn B Championship. Piltown easily finished the interest of neighbours, Mullinavat, at the first hurdle, when winning by 2-14 to no score. Erin's Own had 1-1 to spare over Blacks & Whites in their first round game, winning by 2-8 to 1-7, while the Rower Inistioge (4-13) had a very comprehensive win over the Ballyhale Shamrocks (0-6). St Lachtain's proved a little too tough a proposition for the Fenians/Galmoy combination, winning by 3-12 to 0-5.

Thomastown (1-8) beat St Patrick's Ballyraggett (1-2), Danesfort (2-15) beat John Lockes (2-6), Graig/Ballycallan beat neighbours, Tullaroan by 0-13 to 2-4, and St Martin's beat Bennettsbridge by 3-9 to 2-6. In the quarter finals, Piltown were very impressive in their demolition of Erin's Own. They won by 1-20 to 0-8. In a nail-biting encounter, the Rower Inistioge booked their spot in the semi-finals, but not before they got the fright of their lives from a determined St Lachtain's side who made them earn every score they got. Eventually, the southerners won by 3-10 to 2-9 in a very

exciting game. St Martin's 2-7) had two goals to spare over Thomastown (1-4), and Danesfort fared much better against Graig/Ballycallan in their game, winning by 4-7 to 2-6.

St Martin's powered to the final with some stirring hurling by Ronan Maher, Chris O'Mahony, Diarmuid Brennan, and brilliant goalkeeper, Colin McGrath. They won by 0-14 to Danesfort's 1-9. Despite the finest efforts of the Hogan brothers, Danesfort were not sufficiently equipped to counteract the power play of the Muckalee lads. In the other semi-final, Rower Inistioge had only a couple of points to spare in their game against the hard-trying Piltown. The game was very close all the way through. At half time, the Piltown lads led by a single point- 0-6 to 1-2. The Rower goal was scored by Pat Tierney. Two second half goals by Seamus Holohan were the deciding factor in the Rower Inistioge's 3-5 to 0-12 victory in the toughest game that the winners had during the entire campaign.

The final, in glorious Thomastown, was a superb exhibition of all that is great about under-age hurling in Kilkenny. Both sides strove might and main to gain the upper hand, but in the end a stroke of good fortune, and good substitution swung the game in favour of the Rower Inistioge.

St Martin's opened very smartly but they found the Rower Inistioge defence, in which Damien Flood and Kieran Joyce starred, a difficult nut to crack. After twenty minutes, the northerners fired home a fortuitous goal by Chris O'Mahoney, and this enabled them to go

into the half time break leading by 1-3 to 0-3. The Rower points came from the sticks of John Kenny, Pat Tierney, and Eoghan Kavanagh. Three points by Pat Tierney, in addition to points by Liam Lyng and John Kenny, shot the Rower lads into an early two-point second half lead, but it was a lead that was short lived, as St Martin's outstanding centre back, Ronan Maher, fired over a brace of brilliant points to level the game once more. A great Pádraig Tierney point shot the Rower lads out in front again, but again the Muckalee lads came charging back to level matters once more with a mighty O'Mahoney point. With less than six minutes remaining, the Rower mentors introduced John Grace from the bench. It was both inspirational and match-winning. In the 58th minute, Grace grabbed the sliothar, and his blistering shot left the marvellous Colin McGrath helpless in the Muckalee goal. though both sides swapped points in the remaining pulsating minutes, it was this goal that eventually decided the game.

In a fantastic game, both sides had tremendous performers. For the Rower

Inistioge, none played better than Liam Tierney, Damien Flood, Kieran Joyce, Pat Tierney, Liam Lyng, John Kenny, and D. Lyng. St Martin's, too, had super performers in the unbeatable Ronan Maher at centre back, Colin McGrath, James Maher, Joseph Maher, Chris O'Mahony, and Diarmuid Brennan.

Final score: **Rower Inistioge 1-12, St Martin's 1-8.**

This win was to act as a precursor to a mighty double for the Rower, as their Minor team won their Roinn B minor title later, when beating Mooncoin in the final.

Rower Inistioge: Liam Tierney, David Morrissey, Damien Flood, James Doyle, Bill Cuddihy, Kieran Joyce, Paddy Grace, Liam Lyng, Pádraig Tierney, David Lyng, JJ Kenny, Rory Galavan, Eoghan Kavanagh Pat Tierney, Seamus Holohan. *Subs:* John Grace, Eamonn Cassin, Eugene Murphy, Wally Kavanagh, Chris Diamond, Martin Kennedy, Fergal Power.

St Martins: Colin McGrath, Aidan Murphy, James Maher, Joseph Maher, Mike Keane, Ronan Maher, John Maher, Pádraig Haughney, Diarmuid Brennan, Chris O'Mahoney, Brian Mulhall, James Kelly, James Dowling, Shane Comerford, John Mulhall. *Subs:* Jonathan Walsh, Con Hogan, Robbie Healy, Eoin

Holohan, Mike Morrissey, Gary Brennan, Michael Stapleton, Mark Murphy, Conor Kelly, Paddy Nolan, Fionn Lalor.

ROINN C: Historic day for Slieverue

The Roinn C Championship produced a goodly number of keenly contested games, not least of which was that between Glenmore and Young Irelands, which needed two replays. Another tight encounter was the one between the traditional southern foes, Windgap and

sides were pretty nervous, and by the 15th minute, the match was level with only six points scored.

However the game was gunned into overdrive in the 20th minute, when Slieverue's Paul Walsh fired home an unstoppable shot for a brilliant goal. From there to the end of the first half, the excitement was nerve-wracking. At half time, the sides were still level, with the score reading, Slieverue 1-4, Emeralds 0-7.



SLIEVERUE - DUGGAN STEEL U16 ROINN C CHAMPIONS 2002

Back: Francis Walsh (Selector), Brendan Haberlin, Declan Ryan, Adrian Rockett, Justin Doran, Michael Hoynes, Conor Grant, Gavin Quilty, Ian Summers, Conor O'Toole, Ciaran Burke, Sean Connolly, Andy Hogan, Tommy Doran (Trainer), Pat Cody (Selector).

Front: Rickie Hogan, Niall Walsh, Steven Doherty, Sean Roche, Darragh Cullen (Captain), Kevin Mulligan, John Maher, Sean Lukeman, Paul Walsh, Cian Tyler. *Photo Eoin Hennessy*

Kilmacow, with Windgap winning by 3-9 to 3-3. The Emeralds from Urlingford set off on the road to a hoped-for final spot with a very emphatic opening victory over the Dicksboro second string, winning by 4-10 to 0-5.

In the quarter finals, unfancied Slieverue (4-8) had a marvellous win over Dunnamaggin (1-6). Cloneen, scoring a whopping 5-17 took care of Lisdowney (4-6) rather easily, Emeralds (3-11) had a big win over Windgap (1-5), and Young Irelands beat their neighbours, Barrow Rangers, by double scores, 0-10 to 0-5.

Whilst Slieverue were fortunate enough to draw with Cloneen in their semi-final the first day— 2-6 apiece, there was certainly no doubt as to the better team in the replay, with Slieverue winning by 5-7 to 0-5. In the other semi-final, Young Irelands had little to offer against a rampant Emeralds who rammed home 3-12, to Gowran's 1-4.

It was an historic day in Bennettsbridge for Slieverue, as they won the County Roinn C title for the very first time. Playing against Emeralds, who already had a psychological league victory over their opponents, the Slieverue lads started very nervously indeed. In fact, both

The Slieverue lads opened the second half with a barrage of scores. They had three terrific points from Ian Somers and Paul Walsh (2). They were hurling well, and with increasing confidence. The Emeralds, however, had come the hard road, and were not about to capitulate too readily. A brilliant goal by Jimmy Tobin and a point within a minute, had his side back in front, and it was now time for the Slieverue lads to defend the city walls. The lead changed hands twice inside the last ten minutes, before Cian Tyler sealed the issue with a scrambled goal for the Southern representatives in the 56th minute. The Emeralds stormed forward in search of the equalising scores, but the resilient Slieverue defence were not about to surrender too easily the ground won. Emeralds could only manage to score one point in those last frantic minutes.

In a superb team effort, Slieverue had great players in centrefield player, Paul Walsh who scored 1-6 of his sides total, while his brother Niall, Gavin Quilty in goal, Brendan Haberlin, and captain Darragh Cullen were not too far behind him. For Emeralds, Michael Tobin, Conor Costello, Jimmy Tobin, who scored 1-5, Shane Webster and Stephen Flaherty

were best.
Final score; **Slieverue 2-10**

Emeralds 1-10.

Slieverue: Gavin Quilty, Justin Doran, Sean Connolly, Conor Grant, Niall Walsh, Brendan Haberin, Andy Hogan, Paul Walsh, Steven Doherty, Declan Ryan, Adrian Rockett, Ian Somers, Darragh Cullen (Capt.), Cian Tyler, Kevin Mulligan.
Subs: Ciaran Burke, Conor O'Toole, John Maher, Sean Lukeman, Sean Roche, Michael Hoynes, J. Fitzpatrick, Richie Hogan.

Emeralds: Declan Guilfoyle, Conor Costello, Michael Tobin (Capt.), Joe Doheny, Keith Scully, Pat Doheny, Francis Clohessy, John Scott, Pat Moriarty, Shane Webster, Jimmy Tobin, Stephen Flaherty, Ian Grant, Anthony Byrne, Willie Norton. **Subs:** Noel Cleere, Richard Tobin, Richard Breen, Ciaran Bergin, Shane Neary, Stephen Neary.

LEAGUES

Roinn A.

Way back in April last, the first rounds of the Duggan Steel under-16 League competition got underway. The eight teams were grouped in two, with Dicksboro, Ballyhale Shamrocks, O'Loughlin Gaels, and James Stephens in one group, while Mooncoin, Carrickshock, Tullogher/Rosbercon and Clara made up the other. In Group 1, O'Loughlins careered through to the semi-finals unbeaten, recording good wins over James Stephens (2-10 to 2-3), and Ballyhale Shamrocks (5-7 to 1-8). They also drew with Dicksboro (0-10 to 1-7). The Boro followed them with comprehensive wins over the Shamrocks (1-11 to 0-7), and James Stephens (6-10 to 5-4). In Group 2, Tullogher/Rosbercon steamed through unbeaten with terrific wins over Clara (4-10 to 1-6), Carrickshock (2-18 to 1-6), and Mooncoin (3-13 to 0-5). Mooncoin



O'LOUGHLIN GAELS - U16 ROINN A LEAGUE CHAMPIONS 2002 Photo Eoin Hennessy
Back: Brendan Delaney, Paul McGuinness, Derek Cleere, Matthew Comerford, Michael Lambert, Aaron Rowe, Danny Loughnane, Johnny Corcoran, Paddy Bergin, Michael Murphy, Garry Parsons, Frankie Hayes.
Front: Conor Bergin, Steven Tyrrell, Kevin Morrissey, Darren Hayes, Niall McEvoy, Arthur Griffith, Maurice Nolan, Alan Brennan, Mark Bergin, Steven Wall, Steven Murphy, Sean Kennedy.



PILTOWN - DUGGAN STEEL U16 ROINN B HURLING LEAGUE CHAMPIONS 2002 Photo Eoin Hennessy
Back: Cathal O'Shea, Shane Aherne, Peter Kelly, Kevin Kellt, Gary Quirke, John Brophy, Seamus Norris, Kieran Norris, David Byrne, Aidan Stewart, Conor Walsh.
Front: Liam White, Joe Blackmore, Nicky Kenny, Mark Cullenton, Shane Kinsella (Captain), Richie McCarthy, James Norris, Ger Brennan, Declan Long.

travelled the same route with good wins over Carrickshock (4-9 to 1-3), and Clara (2-13 to 1-4). In the semi-finals, O'Loughlins were too good for Mooncoin, winning by 4-13 to 0-5, but the other semi-final was a far more intense affair, with the Dicksboro lads winning by 4-11 to 3-4. At half time the city side led by 3-6 to 3-4. A feature of this game was the incredible scoring of young Eddie O'Donoghue, who recorded 3-4 of his side's total. O'Loughlins faced city rivals, Dicksboro, in the final. The O'Loughlins lads hit the front very early, thanks to a point by Maurice Nolan, led at half time, and won

by an impressive scoreline of 2-14 to 1-8. The real star of the game for the winners was their excellent full forward, Maurice Nolan. He scored 1-6 of his side's total. He got plenty of help from his corner forward compadré, Mark Bergin, who weighed in with 1-2. Niall McEvoy and Patrick Bergin got a pair of points each, while Stephen Wall and sub, Darren Hayes got a point each. The scorers for Dicksboro were, Eddie O'Donoghue 1-6, Niall Morrissey and Craig Cahill 0-1 each.
Final score: **O'Loughlin Gaels 2-14**
Dicksboro 1-8.
O'Loughlins: Daniel Loughnane, Alan

Brennan, Derek Cleere, Stephen Tyrrell, Matthew Comerford, Michael Lambert, Mark Griffith, Niall McEvoy, Stephen Wall, Patrick Bergin, Aaron Roe, Kevin Morrissey, Mark Bergin, Maurice Nolan, Frankie Hayes.

Subs: Darren Hayes, Garry Parsons, Steven Shortt, Paul McGuinness, Brendan Delaney, Matthew Wong, Sean Hickey, Niall Dunne.

Dicksboro: Paddy Grace, Peter Higgins, Darragh Tynan, Matt Gannon, Brian O'Donoghue, Michael Tyrrell, James Roberts, Alan McIntyre, Niall Morrissey, Dean Brennan, Aaron Dunne, Colin Hogan, Killian Starr, Eddie O'Donoghue, Craig Cahill.

Subs: Robbie Tyrrell, Derek Deegan, Liam Lenihan, David Broderick, Ger Brennan, Tadhg O'Dwyer, Michael Rafter.

Roinn B.

Piltown and Erin's Own qualified for the semi-finals of the Roinn B League from Group 1, but while Piltown experienced little difficulty in getting there, the Comer lads had to arrive there via a play-off game against Blacks & Whites. Erin's Own had good wins over Blacks & Whites (3-5 to 2-6), and Graig Ballycallan (3-8 to 0-7). They fell foul of a resurgent Conahy in the second round, being beaten by 3-8 to 3-6 in a memorable game. They had to face Blacks & Whites in a play-off game to determine who advanced to the semi-finals. They won easier than expected— 2-4 to 0-5. Piltown had a much more successful charge towards the semis. They beat Rower/Inistioge (1-11 to 0-6), Galmoy/Fenians (3-12 to 0-4), and Danesfort (2-14 to 0-4).

In Group 2, St Martin's experienced little opposition, winning all their games with style and composure. They beat Mullinavat by 1-12 to 2-3, Tullaroan by 5-18 to 1-6, and Bennettsbridge by 3-9 to 1-2. St Lactains drew with Thomastown (5-8 to 5-8), beat St Patrick's Ballyraggett (4-5 to 1-4), and followed it up with a huge win over John Lockes (8-13 to 2-4).

In the first semi-final, St Martins just got over the winning line by a single point, 2-7 to 0-12, knocking out St Lachtain's in the process. In the other semi final, Piltown had a far easier passage to the final than even the score of 1-18 to 1-4 would suggest, against Erin's Own. The final in windswept, very wet Bennettsbridge was tensely fought, between two teams whose defences were the dominant feature throughout. Against the breeze in the first half, Piltown found it difficult to make any kind of progress. With the breeze, St Martin's



EMERALDS - U16 ROINN C LEAGUEWINNERS 2002

Back: John Cahill (Trainer), William Norton, Pat Doheny, Francis Clohesey, Pat Moriarty, Anthony Byrne, Ian Guilfoyle, James Tobin, Shane Webster, Ciaran Bergin, John Scott, John Moriarty (Trainer).

Front: Noel Cleere, Michael Burke, Conor Costello, Joe Doheny, Keith Scully, Declan Guilfoyle, Michael Tobin (Capt.) Ian Grant, Stephen Flaherty, Stephen Neary, Richard Tobin, Pat Webster.

Photo: Eoin Hennessy

found it a difficult proposition to get scores against a very tight Piltown defence, in which Seamus Norris in goal, Shane Kinsella at centre back, and John Brophy at wing back were outstanding. Similarly in the second half, the Piltown attack found it difficult to gain ground against a well marshalled St Martin's defence, in which James Maher at corner back, Pádraig Haughney and Ronan Maher on the half back line were absolutely unbeatable.

At half time, St Martin's, who should have been well ahead, were only in front by a meagre two points— 0-4 to 0-2. It was scarcely enough. Piltown went in front by the 40th minute, compliments of points by Niall Kenny, and Richie McCarthy. By the 46th minute they had increased that lead by a further goal, when a long delivery by Mark Culleton from midfield, deceived backs and goalkeeper, and ended up in the back of the Muckalee net. St Martin's did get an opportunity to pull the game out of the fire inside the last six minutes, when they were awarded a twenty-metre free. Ronan Maher's rocket of a shot was saved, and eventually cleared by the Piltown defensive forces, and with it went whatever chance St Martin's had of capturing the title.

In addition to those mentioned, Piltown had mighty players in goalkeeper, Seamus Norris, Joe Blackmore, Peter Kelly, Aidan Stuart, Declan Long, Gerry Quirke, James Norris, and Shane Ahern. St Martin's too had great warriors in Mike Keane, John Maher, Con Hogan, Diarmuid Brennan, Christopher O'Mahony, and Jonathan Walsh, in addition to those already mentioned.

Final score: **Piltown 1-10**

St Martins 0-5.

Piltown: Seamus Norris, Joe Blackmore, Peter Kelly, Aidan Stuart, Kieran Norris, Shane Kinsella, John Brophy, Declan Long, Kevin Kelly, Marc Culleton, Nicky Kenny, Garry Quirke, James Norris,

Shane Ahern, Richie McCarthy. *Subs: David Byrne, Gerard Brennan, Conor O'Shea, Liam White, Paul McNamara, Conor Walsh.*

St Martins: Eoin Holohan, Joseph Maher, Mike Keane, Aidan Murphy, Pádraig Hockney, Ronan Maher, John Maher, James Maher, Con Hogan, Diarmuid Brennan, Brian Mulhall, James Kelly, Chris O'Mahony, Shane Comerford, Jonathan Walsh. *Subs: John Mulhall, Michael Morrissey, Garry Brennan, Michael Stapleton, James Dowling, Robbie Healy, Mark Murphy.*

Roinn C.

Emeralds, Slieverue, Windgap and Glenmore posted early notice that they meant business of a serious nature in the Roinn C League. The Urlingford Emeralds stormed to a very emphatic opening game against Lisdowney, beating them by 6-10 to 1-3. Windgap too scored 6-10 in their opening game against Kilmacow, but their southern neighbours rammed home a very creditable 3-6. Glenmore easily took care of the Dunnamaggin challenge in the first round by winning, by 3-9 to 0-3, while Slieverue got a walk over from Graignamanagh, and Cloneen beat Young Irelands by 2-11 to 2-3. The Dicksboro second string just beat Barrow Rangers by 2-9 to 2-6. Wins for Kilmacow (2-11 to 3-2) against Young Irelands, Barrow Rangers (2-6 to 2-3) against Dunnamaggin, Emeralds (0-14 to 1-8) against Cloneen, Windgap (1-9 to 1-8) against Lisdowney, and Slieverue (4-7 to 1-1) against Dicksboroin round two, insured that the four teams posted at the start of the paragraph were very much online for the semi-finals. The Emeralds stayed online all the way to the semi-finals with great wins over Kilmacow, Young Irelands and Windgap. Slieverue too hammered out great wins against Dicksboro, Glenmore, Barrow Rangers

and Dunnamaggin. It's been a long time before they were able to beat any of those teams. The hard work was paying off.

Glenmore were beaten by Slieverue and Barrow Rangers, in round three and five, but their win over Dicksboro enabled them to qualify for the semi-finals on scoring differences. The story was exactly similar for Windgap. They were beaten by the Emeralds and Young Irelands, but they got a walk over from Cloneen, and that sufficed to procure a semi final spot too.

Slieverue had little problems in dealing with the Windgap challenge in their semi-final. They ran out winners by 5-6 to 0-8. In the other semi-final, Emeralds had even less of a problem addressing the Glenmore challenge, when they ran out easier winners on a score of 5-19 to 0-8. In one of the best under-age finals for many years, the Emeralds from Urlingford fought out a thrilling contest with Slieverue in sunny Clara in mid July. The Emeralds raced into an early lead with points by James Tobin, Shane Webster and Pat Doheny. However the outstanding Paul Walsh got his team out of traps with a point in the 12th minute, and after two goals for the Emeralds were disallowed, the Slieverue men attacked, and a great goal was rammed home by Ian Sommers to give Slieverue an unexpected lead before half time. A James Tobin free on the call of half time though, had the sides level after a

thrilling half hour of hurling. Stephen Doherty shot Slieverue into an early second half lead. His effort was negated by a similar score from John Scott. With the second half barely into the 40th minute, a magnificently engineered goal raised the spirits of all concerned with the Emeralds team. Pat Doheny found Jimmy Tobin with a pin-pointed pass from his own full back line. Tobin, carrying the ball forward, released it at the right moment to Stephen Flaherty. The flying corner forward evaded two attempts to stop his momentum, before slamming the ball to the back of the Slieverue net. A further point by Stephen Webster for Emeralds had the Slieverue lads in dreadful trouble. However they re-grouped, and with a very focussed sense of purpose, they stormed the Urlingford battlements. Their efforts were rewarded when Darragh Cullen fired home a wonder goal midway through the second half. Slieverue went ahead again with two points by Stephen Doherty and Adrian Rockett. Digging deep into their resolve, the Urlingford lads stormed back, and points by William Norton and Stephen Flaherty restored their lead. Again Slieverue levelled matters, and in the dying seconds, Urlingford's Pat Moriarty popped over a point to give his side the slenderest of winning margins. The Emeralds had terrific performers in Michael Tobin, Francis Clohessy, Conor Costello, Pat Doheny, Willie Norton, Stephen Flaherty, John Scott, Shane Webster, and Paul Moriarty.

Slieverue, who lost nothing in defeat, and who would exact meritorious revenge in the Championship later against the same opposition, had marvellous hurlers in Ian Sommers, Darragh Cullen, Paul Walsh, Brendan Haberlin, Niall Walsh and Adrian Rockett.

Final score: **Emeralds 1-10**
Slieverue 2-6.

Emeralds: Declan Guilfoyle, Conor Costello, Michael Tobin (Capt.), Joe Doheny, Keith Scully, Pat Doheny, Francis Clohessy, Willie Norton, Pat Moriarty, John Scott, Jimmy Tobin, Shane Webster, Ian Grant, Anthony Byrne, Stephen Flaherty .

Subs: Noel Cleere, Richard Tobin, Ian Guilfoyle, Shane Neary, Martin Burke.

Slieverue: Gavin Quilty, Justin Doran, Sean Connolly, Conor Grant, Niall Walsh, Brendan Haberlin, Andy Hogan, Paul Walsh, Steven Doherty, Adrian Rockett, Darragh Cullen (Capt.), Ian Sommers, Cian Tyler, Declan Ryan, Kevin Mulligan.

Subs: Ciarán Burke, Conor O'Toole, John Maher, Sean Lukeman, Sean Roche, Michael Hoynes, Jmaes Fitzpatrick, Richie Hogan.



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CLUB NEWS

The Village Stars Always Shine

What a year it has been for our county stars! Peter Barry was 'Man of the Match' in the All Ireland semi-final against Tipperary. Philip Larkin, in addition to being the third generation Larkin to win an All Ireland senior hurling title, was named Irish Independent 'Sports Star of the Week' following his exploits in the final. He was also Vodaphone 'Player of the Month' for September. Brian Cody completed the hat trick of awards, being named Philips Manager of the Month' for September. Well done to Brian McEvoy who won his second All Ireland senior medal and to Eoin Larkin and David McCormack on winning All Ireland minor medals. All three senior hurlers were picked on the Ireland Shinty team, Peter Barry as captain. Unfortunately due to the county senior football final they could not play.

Underage Games

Pride of place among all our teams are our U-16 hurlers who produced a magnificent performance when defeating Dicksboro in one of the best finals played at this level. Our U-14s reached county finals in Feile and Championship but lost on both occasions to a strong O'Loughlin Gaels team. They gained some revenge when defeating them in the Declan Byrne Memorial tournament. Juvenile coaching continued with great work being done by a large teams of coaches.

Social Club

Our very busy social club must be thanked for their work in weekly fund-raising. They organised a very enjoyable weekend away for members and also the competition for best dressed Kilkenny Supporter.

Club Fundraising

The private members draw has proved to be a marvelous success. We continue to be one of the top selling clubs in the Hurlers Co-op Draw and many thanks are due to our sellers. Without their commitment our development plans would be very modest. Thanks must go to our ladies catering group who provide meals for all our visiting teams, and in particular, who cater for huge numbers of visitors during our tournaments.



James Stephens U-10 - Cup winners in Adare, Co. Limerick

Back: Kieran McQuillan, Willie O'Shea (Selectors), Tim Kiely, Michael Drennan, David Hennessy, Hugh O'Brien, Nathan Owens, Paddy Delaney (Capt), Ian O'Brien, Anthony Corr, Tom Phelan, Shane Fitzpatrick, Eamon Tyrrell, Michael Slattery (Selectors).

Front: Brendan Dowling, Cathal O'Neill, Declan McQuillan, Dean Walsh, Kevin Ireland, Conor Gorey, James O'Shea, William Murphy, Aaron McGrath, Robert Hayes, James Tyrrell.



James Stephens Camaint 2002

Back: Michael Slattery, Kevin Ireland, Ronan Holohan, Paddy Delaney, Eoin Holohan, Derek O'Brien, Declan Thompson, Colm Dowling, Peter Leighton, Dermot Kelly.

Front: Tom Brennan, William Murphy, Ronan Driscoll, Michael Drennan, S. Queally, Aidan Owens, Ian O'Brien, Dermot Cody, Conor Gorey.



James Stephens U-12 - Winners - Andy Egan Tournament 2002

Back: Terry Walsh (Snr), Charlie Thompson, Darren Cornally, Mick Hayes, Darragh Walsh, Declan Thompson, David Griffin, Adam Byrne, David Butler, Caimin Brennan, Kilian Murphy, Derek O'Brien, Ian Hayes, Vincent Butler, Billy Walton (Manager).

Front: Dean Walsh, Colm Dowling, Ciaran Snype, Rory O'Brien, Craig Eardly, Terry Walsh (Capt), Danny Power, Christopher Thompson, Ronan Holohan, Conor Barry, Eddie O'Shaughnessy .



CLUB NEWS

John Power Bids Farewell

After fourteen years as a member of the Kilkenny Senior Hurling panel John Lockes hero bid farewell to inter county on a high note winning his fourth Senior All Ireland hurling medal when he came on as a substitute to a resounding reception from the 76000 people in the new Croke Park. It was a fitting tribute to John who has served both his county and his club with great distinction.

A Host of Victories

John was unfortunate not to have won a Minor All Ireland in 1984 when Kilkenny were defeated by Limerick in a replay. He won his first All-Ireland title in 1986 with the Kilkenny junior team but had to wait a further six years before he won the first of his senior medals. He was a recipient of an All Star award and also won honours with Leinster in the Railway Cup. John was a member of the first and only John Lockes team to win Minor 'A' title in 1984. John won a junior county title with the Lockes in 1987 and holds two Intermediate county medals won in 1993 and 1999. His dearest wish is to lead the Lockes to a senior county title and who knows he may do before he hangs up his boots altogether.

Intermediate Matters

Having been relegated from senior grade in 2001 the aim of the club was to consolidate their position. It is always difficult for a team when they are relegated and expectations can be very high starting into a new season. Declan Connolly was only too delighted to continue training the team along with his selectors John Murphy and Kevin 'Butty' Coffey. The Lockes had a very successful League campaign and qualified for semi-final stage where they succumbed to St. Martins Muckalee after a replay. The Lockes automatically qualified for the Championship quarter-final where they were drawn against the men from the Rower- Inistioge. This turned out to be a thriller of a game with the Lockes winning by a single point. The semi-final draw again paired us with St. Martins and expectations were high that The Lockes could avenge their league defeat but it was not to be. Too many players failed to perform and the Lockes bowed out of the championship rather timidly.

Underage

Having played their first round of the U-21 championship at the end of August against Wingap which they were victorious the Lockes had to wait until the 9th November before they played their next game which was the South semi final against Mooncoin. It is hard to keep players motivated for that period of time between games and certainly this situation with the U-21 championship will have to be seriously addressed or else many players will be lost to other codes. For the record Mooncoin were to prove too strong for the Lockes running out easy winners.

The Minor hurlers contested the League final against Cloneen. The Lockes dominated the early part of the game with star hurler Brian Doheny in terrific form scoring five points from play without reply. But fifteen minutes into the game Brian was to pick up a very serious injury which put paid to the remainder of his season and also defeat in the final. At U-16 level it proved a very disappointing year with the hurling team failing to win any game. The U-16 footballers reached the County semi-final against St. Patricks Ballyragget. Again this was to prove disappointing and they bowed out without much of a fight.

Commercial

To maintain proper standards within the club fund raising plays a very big part. Before Christmas the club ran a very successful race night at the Cross Bar. In August the club ran their annual golf classic. The Lockes decided this year to run it for one day instead of the usual two. A lot of work was put into the day and even though there is room for improvement the day raised a lot of funds. The club continues to receive income from the John Locke Park advertising and this year the roadway to the park was realigned so as to extend the outer pitch.

Juvenile Club

Pride of place this year must go to the U-14 team who achieved an historic footballing double, when they won both the Roinn 'B' championship and league. With just a panel of nineteen players they remained undefeated throughout the entire campaign defeating The Railway

in the league decider and accounting for Tullagher-Rosbercon in an excellent county final. Captain Robbie Wall led by example and inspired his teammates to ensure a first footballing double for the club.

The U-14 hurling campaign was a long one this year also with the team qualifying for the championship quarter finals by virtue of five victories and two defeats during the league section. Tullaroan supplied the opposition in this one and left Callan in the starting blocks in the first half to lead 1-09 to 0-02 at the break. To the players credit they fought back and with brilliant displays from Thomas Melia and Keith O'Dwyer led by 4-06 to 2-10 in the final minute only to be beaten by a Martin Walsh goal for Tullaroan who went on to win the title. The Lockes boys later avenged that defeat in the Declan Byrne tournament on their way to winning the shield section where they defeated Graigue-Ballycallan in the final.

Great Season for the U-10 & U-12s

It was a very successful year for the younger hurlers in the club with the emphasis being on plenty of matches and the club took part in all tournaments to which they were invited. The U-12's won the Mullinahone tournament. They also won the Shield in the O'Loughlin Gaels tournament and were runners up in the James Stephens tournament as well as the county Summer league.

Well Done U-10 Team!

The U-10's footballers won the Mullinahone tournament and also the Dunnamaggin tournament. They also had an excellent camaint league. The Under age section of the club is in a healthy state and great credit is due to all the enthusiastic players and mentors like Jimmy Corcoran Bosco Bryan Martin Nolan Trish Leahy and Kevin Coffey.

Colm Nolan Tournament

Once again the August weekend saw the annual festival of hurling for U-12 and U-9's at John Locke Park. The Colm Nolan cup was won by Tullaroan who halted O'Loughlin Gaels in their bid to win three in row in a terrific final. Castlecomer won the John Locke shield while city side O'Loughlin Gaels gained some compensation when they won the Eamon Teehan Cup in the U-9 section.



CLUB NEWS

Underage Teams Competed Well

Yet again our underage teams have done the club proud over the course of the year. Our U-11, U-12, and the U-13 teams all made it to the Waterford City League Finals. Unfortunately they were all defeated in these matches but all credit goes to them and their trainers on the achievement of reaching the final's. Congratulations also to our U-14 team who reached the County final for the second year in a row. In this they faced Lisdowney which was played in Danesfort. But a late comeback proved to be to little as they were narrowly beaten. All teams also competed well in school and club competitions from the U-8's up. Well done to all concerned as it's clear to see that there's a bright future to come.

U-16 & Minor

Our U-16 team had a good year and were beaten in the League Play-Off by Windgap whom they met again in the first round of the championship. They were unlucky to be beaten in this match but well done to players and selectors nevertheless.

After a slow start to the year for the Minors in the league they finished the year earning a place in the County Final. Something which didnt look likely earlier on. They played Slieverue in their first match, winning it after a great team display. Next up, in the semi-finals the played a strong Danesfort team. A great first-half display gave them a good lead which they had to defend very

strongly in the nexy half. They held out to earn a place against Glenmore in the final. Glenmore had beaten them in their first league match of the year so we were looking to reverse that result. Sadly on the day they were beaten by a much stronger Glenmore side. Well done to all of the players and trainers.

Adult Teams

Our U-21 team was drawn against Piltown in their first round match of the championship. After a good display and great comeback they forced a draw from this. Unfortunately in the replay they were well beaten by a much stronger side.

The special juniors failed to regain their Southern League title and in a highly competitive Carrigeen Tournament they failed to reach the final. In the championship they played Tullogher/Rosbercon but were beaten by a stronger team. The junior hurlers had a great year and were unlucky to be stopped at the last stage. A good league campaign saw them make the quarter-finals where they were very unlucky to lose to the Black&Whites with the last puck of the game. In the always beneficial Paddy Cahill Cup they were beaten in the semi-finals by Galmoy. Then came the Championship. Losing only one match in the League part of this brought them to a quarter-final in which they defeated Windgap. This win set up a clash with Tullogher/Rosbercon in the semi. A highly impressive display gave them a comfortable win and a South-Final spot with

old rivals Piltown. A brave display in this earned them their first Southern Title since 1993. In this they met the Blacks & Whites who had previously beaten them in the league. In a low scoring affair Blacks & Whites held off a late comeback from the lads to win the Junior Title. Congratulations to the panel and the selectors Davy Kenneally, Dermot Haberlin and Greg Power.

Coaching and Development

Coaching started in the Primary schools every week with the teaching of skills coming from Noel Dunphy, Sheamus Kennedy and George Leahy. There was great turnouts to this and a blitz was held in the sports complex at the end of the year which was thoroughly enjoyed by all who took part.

Social Affairs

An enjoyable nights dinner and dancing was held in Dooley's Hotel at the start of the year to kick things off. After the clubs previous trip to North-London a trip to Playa del Ingles in Gran Canaria was organised by Paul Long. This proved to be a great idea and over 30 club members headed off on this holiday in November.

Fundraising

As it is vital for any club to survive, fundraising and sponsorship is needed. We would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank all who helped out with sponsorship and other fundraising. It has been greatly appreciated!

Doyle Concrete

Readymix Concrete Products.

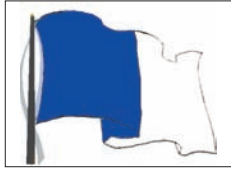


Hugginstown.



Well done lads. We are very proud of you all!

**From David and all the staff at Doyle Concrete
Tel No. 056-68650.**



Lisdowney

CLUB NEWS

The Under 16 team were knocked out of the championship by a strong Cloneen team while the minors and under 21's were defeated Callan and Clara respectively. The special junior team were defeated by eventual winners James Stephens having had a good league run.

Junior:

Following an opening round defeat by Tullaroan the junior team got back on track and qualified for the Northern Semi Final with wins over Cloneen (via a replay), Fenians and Dicksboro.

They were paired with eventual county champions Blacks & Whites and were unlucky to lose what was a very close game.

Panel:

O Blanchfield, N O'Hara, K Fitzpatrick, A O'Hara, PJ Kenny, B Purcell, J White, M Bergin, G Quirke, P Bergin, J Bergin, J Dooley, D Dowling, N Dowling, E Murphy, JP Blanchfield, M Tallis, B Blanchfield, T Bergin, S Downey, Paddy Bowden, E Murphy, L Maher, P Murphy, R Costelloe, Pat Bowden, V Mulally, P Mulally, E Delahaunty, C Dunphy, F Murphy, JJ Grace.

Trainer: J Ruth

Selectors: M Campion & P Tallis

Ground Development:

The club carried out extensive renovations on the Community Centre including a new kitchen and new dressing room. The work was carried out on a voluntary basis by club members and members of the local community and also through sponsorship by local business's. Thanks to everyone involved.

Jack Kelly

The late Jack Kelly, Freshford, formerly of Foyle Bridge, had a long hurling career with Lisdowney from the clubs foundation right up to 1961, when he retired after Lisdowney narrowly lost to 'Comer in Northern Junior Final. Jack missed out the following year when Lisdowney won the Junior Championship and lost the Senior Final a year later. He started his hurling as a forward, playing minor with Galmoy, and finishing up his career in the goal for Lisdowney. He played alongside such greats as, Ted and Mick Carroll, Dick and Mick Blanchfield, Noel and Nicky Murphy, Martin and Jim Ryan, Mick and Billy Gannon, Mart McEvoy, Paddy Grace, Mick Henderson, Ber Drennan, Mick Moylan, Billy Fogarty, Ned Wall, Jim Delaney, Henry Quirke, John Fogarty



LISDOWNEY – KILKENNY SENIOR HURLING CHAMPIONS 2015!

The local camáint team who won seven out of eight games losing only to Graigue-Ballycallan in the final in Nowlan Park.

Back: Jason Quinn, Ciaran Bergin, Sean Phelan, Brian Murphy, Niall Kenny, Conor Stapleton, Aaron Fogarty, Pat O'Carroll, Michael Lennon, Bill Healy, Shane Ruth

Front: Jamie Bergin, Grace Murphy, George Healy, Kieran Delaney, Cormac Glendon, Edward Kenny, Claire Phelan, Aoife Murphy, Laurence O'Carroll. *Not in Photo: Robert Fitzpatrick & Shane O'Sullivan.*



Lisdowney

Sponsorship

The club was sponsored by Glanbia Hardware for new jerseys during the year. Pictured here are the sponsors – Left to Right: P Bergin, L O'Carroll, P Keegan (Glanbia), S Moylan, B Campion.

and Hawlie Bowden to name but a few. He also played Factory League Hurling with Kilkenny Co. Co. for many years, alongside Billy Dwyer of Kilkenny fame.

Lar Carroll

Everyone associated with the G.A.A. in Lisdowney, and indeed the whole community, deeply regret the passing of Lar Carroll. When it came to the club no task was too great for Lar and no task was too small. If Ted Carroll was the epitome of loyalty and service to the club on the field; then Lar represented those qualities off the field. Many tributes have been paid to Lar and many more will be paid. But, perhaps the best tribute that we, the local community, could pay, is to ensure that those things that were so close to

Lar's heart, will flourish in the years ahead. (See obituaries).



Lar O'Carroll pictured here with grandsons, Pat & Laurence following Kilkenny's All Ireland victory 2000.

On the Playing Fields

Pride of place this year goes to our Junior A hurling team winning the county final over St. Martins and the Carrigeen Tournament. The Intermediates reached the quarter finals and were runners-up in the League final. Our Junior B Team competed in the League and championship. The U-21 hurlers won the South final. In football the Intermediates lost the county final to O'Loughlins. The U-21s reached the South final.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Diarmuid Mackey on winning a Senior all Ireland medal and Ray Wall a minor medal. Diarmuid and Eddie Mackey played on the County Intermediate team. Michael Walsh and Jimmy Dunphy played with the Masters.

Social

Our Annual Dinner Dance took place in February. It was well attended. The club Silver Circle Draw, Golf Classic, Piltown Draw and 'Play for the Park' lotto are our main fundraising events. Many thanks to all who organised these and thanks to our generous patrons. A special word of thanks to our sponsors.

Obituaries

Durinn the past year Tom Conway, Walter Walsh, Colm Doyle, Davy Phelan, Pat Murphy, Jimmy Phelan and Pat Delahunty went to their eternal reward. Pat Delahunty played at all levels with the club, winning Junior in '62, Senior in '65 and also played with the county. The club extends sympathies to all who suffered bereavements during the year.

Juvenile Committee

Chairman: Tom O'Hanlon
 Secretary: Josephine Wall
 Treasurer: Seamus Crowley

Minor and U-16 Matters

The highlight for the club this year was our minors reaching the final of the Roinn B Championship. However one point divided Rower-Inistioge from us. We reached the semi-finals of the league only to lose narrowly to Johnstown / Galmoy. Mentors were Joe Wall (manager), Padd Bowe and Liam Sutton. We reached the U-16 semi-finals in both league and championship, losing to O'Loughlins and Shamrocks respectively.

Younger Ones

As in previous years the Parish League catered for children below ten years. We had over sixty participants making up six teams, the winners being Pat O'Neill's side.

Two U-10 teams contested the Waterford City Leagues. Both teams did exceptionally well but were not in the silverware. Our girls team took part in tournaments in Glenmore, Thomastown, Portlaw and Mooncoin and won all. Laura Wall was 'Player of the Tournament' in Portlaw. The U-11s took part in the WCL and Ballyragget tournament, being beaten in the Plate final by Dicksboro. The U-12s had a good win over Rower-Inistioge in the min-league and narrowly lost the WCL semi-final against Ballygunner.

The U-13 team also were unlucky against Ballygunner in the semis of the WCL. They also played in the Lisdowney Sevens. The U-14s failed to make the knockout stages in the championship. The Sean Tyler Tournament was a great success with Colm Walsh's team victorious. We lost the final of the Schools League to Carrickshock.

Players

Minor: Ray Wall
 U-17: Michael Jones, Thomas O'Hanlon, Keith Kirwan.
 U-16: Noel Delahunty
 U-15: Sean Wall, Liam Hennebry, Christopher Hearne.
 U-14: Kevin Law and Shane Walsh.

County Football Representatives

Minor: Thomas O'Hanlon, Ray Wall, Anton Lennon.
 U-16: Derek Phelan, Patrick Kinsella, Noel Delahunty.
 U-14: Kevin Law, Jamie Cody, Shane Walsh, Michael O'Hanlon, Michael Grace.

Club Representatives

Thomas Hennebry - Poc Fada and Michael Grace - Feile Skills.



Mooncoin INTO Sevens Panel 2002

Back: Eamon Hennebry, Paul Delahunty, Liam Walsh, Cormac Daly, Shane Walsh.

Front: John Wall, Mark Fitzgerald, Eoin Crowley, Stephen Crowley, Daniel Purcell.

County Hurling



Mooncoin Camaint 2002

Back: Ciaran Blanchfield, Seamus Kearns, Eric Wall, Aidan Connolly, Thomas Walsh, Niall O'Hanlon, Robert Walsh, Sarah Kearns, Paul Walsh, Mark Halley.

Front: Mark Sullivan, Mark O'Neill, Christopher Walsh, Rory Gallagher, Shane Walsh, Conor O'Sullivan, Brian Gallagher, James O'Brien, David Kearns, Laura Wall, Aidan Walsh, Ellen Crowley.



Muckalee

CLUB NEWS

On the Playing Field

The year began with the senior team involved in the semi-final of the Winter league. This turned out to be a very good game of football with the result in doubt until the final whistle. Indeed it was with practically the last kick of the ball that Railyard scored a goal to win by two points.

In the league championship our seniors had wins over Mullinavat and James Stephens, losing to Erins Own and drawing with Dicksboro. They qualified for the quarter finals on scoring average. They were drawn against James Stephens in this match. However, they were well beaten by James Stephens on a score line of 12 points to 6 thus ending their interest in the championship. They never displayed the hunger which was so evident in last years championship which may have been caused by the dragged out nature of last years Leinster club championship after the local championship and then the Winter league after that. Better luck next year.

Junior and U-21

Our junior team performed very well this year, beating Erins Own, Freshford, Lisdowney, Clara and were beating Ballyragget with minutes to go when the game was called off due to a serious injury. They topped their group and quali-

fied for a northern semi-final spot against Barrow Rangers. They duly disposed of the Paulstown men and are now awaiting other games to be played before they contest the county semi-final.

Our U-21s are also in the A championship semi-final having won the B last year. On their way they got a walk over from Graigue-Ballycallan and defeated Clara to reach this stage. They beat Mooncoin by 2-8 to 0-4 in last years B final to gain promotion to the A championship.

Off the field

The dressing rooms received a new coat of paint all over and the evergreen trees around the pitch were cut back. The new venture of raising funds to finance both the hurling and football club was well received and is very well supported throughout the parish.

We fully appreciate that we have the best supporters in our parish in Kilkenny

Sad Passings

Muckalee football club lost some of their strongest supporters and ex-players during this past year through bereavement. Pat Mulhall, (RIP) was a great supporter of the club. Michael Ryan (RIP), played football for many years for his beloved club and with Muckalee playing

he followed them all over the county in a supporting role.

The untimely passing of ex-players of the calibre of Mikey Morrissey (RIP) and John Ryan (RIP) shocked and stunned Muckalee people everywhere.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a n-anamnacha.



Michael Ryan

Michael Ryan, Clorinka was a great supporter of Muckalee football all his life. He played football for Muckalee and won a junior championship in 1953 but unfortunately a knee injury cut short his career. When his playing days were over, Michael was at practically every game his beloved Muckalee were involved in.

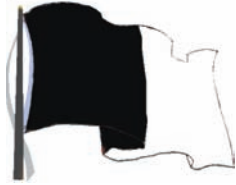
Muckalee



Muckalee U-21 Roinn B Football Champions 2001

Back: John Buggy, Stephen Murphy, Kieran Kelly, Eon McGrath, Shane Coonan, Pat Quirke, Damien Maher, Brendan Maher, Michael Mulhall, Niall Moran, Thomas Nolan, Declan Holohan.

Front: Ronan Maher, Don Callanan, Tom Morrissey (Capt), Robert Shore, Thomas Kinsella, Brian Cadogan, Martin Dowling, Shane Cadogan, Kieran Byrne, John Coonan.



Mullinavat

CLUB NEWS

Club developments

At the start of the year much work was done by a dedicated team of volunteers in putting up wire netting behind the goal in the camogie field.

At a special committee meeting it was decided to seek planning permission and funding for new dressing rooms and toilets. This is a necessary development and one which will require the full backing of everyone in the parish. The first fundraising venture for this came in November when the club ran a greyhound racing night in Kilcohan Park.

On the Playing Field

The club returned to the senior ranks after an absence of seven years and had a roller-coaster ride throughout the season. A heavy defeat in our opening match against Young-Ireland's was a taste of what was to come. However a promising draw against Erin's Own showed that we could compete at this level. Two hard-earned victories against Shamrocks and James Stephens and some favourable results elsewhere ensured that relegation would not be an issue. O'Loughlin's ended our championship hopes abruptly in July and our season was brought to a sudden and unwelcome end. Hopefully the experience gained this year will stand to everyone for the future.

The special junior team put in a great year and reached the Southern Final. However they did not hurl to their potential on the day and were just edged out by our neighbours Tullogher.

Juvenile Games

At juvenile level the club had a quiet year. The best performance in this sector came from the U-14 team who won the Roinn A football title for the first time in the club's history. This squad performed excellently all year and just edged out O'Loughlin's in a thrilling final. The team represented Kilkenny with distinction in the Féile Peile na nÓg in Carlow reaching the semi-final of their group. Well done to all the mentors and players.

County Players

Congratulations to Walter Burke, Willie O'Dwyer and Tomás Frisby on winning All-Ireland medals with Kilkenny. It was great to have three representatives from the club on All-

Ireland Final day. Well done also to Patrick Raftice on his successes in the U-14 skills competitions. Patrick represented Kilkenny in the Féile na nGael hurling and football skills events and finished second in both codes.

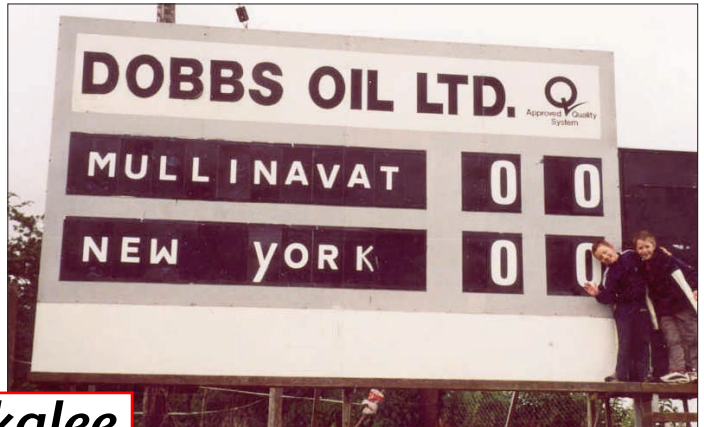
Alan Madigan - 1985-2002

With much sadness we record the passing of Alan Madigan, Ballynooney West, Mullinavat. Alan was a student at the Good Counsel College in New Ross, where he excelled at both hurling and football. In Mullinavat he was much involved in the local GAA club. Everyone in Mullinavat GAA sorely misses Alan's cheery presence both in the games and on the training field. To his family we extend our deepest sympathies.

Ar Dheisín
raibh a



Alan Madigan RIP



Muckalee

Not exactly a local derby!

Peil na nÓg in Carlow in June 2002, Mullinavat York. For the record, New York won by four points.



Mullinavat U-14 - Roinn A Football Champions 2002.

Back - Mentors: Joan Wall, John Haberlin, Pakie Wall, Ned Haberlin, Joe Anthony.

Back - Players: Paul Haberlin, John Dalton, Michéal Farrell, Patrick Raftice, Mark Dempsey (Capt.), Nicholas Anthony, John Thomas Murphy, Stephen Ryan, David Audoire, Joseph Fennelly.

Middle: James Culleton, Joseph Wall, Michael Malone, John Reid, Kevin Laherty, Edward Freyne, Thomas Corcoran.

Front: Ciaran Wall, Robert Jones, Gary Law, Gerard Malone, Kieran Corcoran, Paul Fitzgerald, Paul Culleton, James Murphy, James Walsh.



O'Loughlin Gaels



Executive Committee

Chairman:	John Skehan
Vice-Chair:	Jim O'Hara
Secretary:	Seamus Foster
PRO:	Margaret Hanlon
Finance:	Joe Nolan
Chair. Games:	Mick Nolan
Grounds:	Marty Hanlon
Juvenile:	John Sheridan
Social:	Paddy Greene
Development:	Coleman Loughnane
Pavilion:	Benny Walsh
Membership:	John Direen
Handball:	Con Moore
Co. Board Del:	Marty Brennan

Juvenile Committee

Chairman:	John Sheridan
Vice-Chairman:	Peter Dowling
Secretary:	Brian Roche
PRO:	Gerry Tyrrell

The Club would like to extend deepest sympathies to Club Members who suffered bereavements during the past year.

Senior Hurling

The Senior Team started on a high noted, hoping to follow on the same success as last year, unfortunately luck wasn't on their side as they were knocked out in the replay of the quarter final stage by the Fenians. Their reign as champions was over but what a way to go.

Under 21 Hurling

O'Loughlin Gaels reached the Northern Final where they played James Stephens. On the way to the final they defeated Fenians and Dicksboro.

Intermediate Football

O'Loughlin Gaels won the Intermediate Football County Final beating Mooncoin. This is the first time that O'Loughlin Gaels have been at Senior Level in football.

Special Junior A Hurling

The Special Junior "A" team had a very good run in the league and reached the semi-final. They had two great games before losing narrowly to St. Martin's in a replay.

Special Junior B Hurling

The Special Junior "B" team had a very good year too and played some great games in the league and lost out by one

point to get them through to the semi-final of the league. A lot of new faces appeared on the panel this year. We beat Clara, Graigue Ballycallan and Danesfort to reach the Northern Final where we went down to James Stephens after a good game. Well done to all the players for the effort they put in this year.

Team: M. Delaney, B. Roche, P. Kelly, P. Brett, R. Shortall, L. Hennessy, D. Bergin, M. Dowling N. McEvoy, P. O'Brien, J. Foster, D. Wall, D. Morton, P. Bergin, M. O'Neill. Subs: D. Murphy, A. Rowe, K. Kinchella, N. Kavanagh
Selectors: Gerry Buckley & Brian O'Neill

School of Excellence

The Sunday morning coaching and hurling street leagues continue to be a great success for boys from 6-12 years old. Over 150 boys attends these training sessions on a regular basis, and this year the Andy Comerford School of Excellence was formed with Andy attending and giving careful advice and coaching tips to the players
The u-8 group is look after by coaches Hugh Mahon and Liam Leydon, while at u-10 level, Joe Nolan John Wemyss, Kevin Lenihan, Mike Bourke and Gerry Buckley coach.

Busy Year for U-9s

The u-9 team had 3 teams in 10 city street leagues in Nowlan. The club ran eight teams in a coming out with a brilliant



Under 12 Success

At U-12 level Richie Kearns John Grant, Tony Forristal and Brian Roche have been team coaches, they came within a whisker of retaining the Callan u-12 tournament, and have done well in competitions that they have competed in. The U-12's have played a large number of challenge matches to prepare the players for next years championship.

U-13s Did Well

The u-13's qualified for the Lisdowney sevens final where they came up against Clara who were better on the day.

O'Loughlins beat Camross, Ballingarry and Dicksboro to reach the final.

Pride of the Club

The U-14's were the pride of the club this year, having won the Roinn A hurling final, the Paddy Grace Feile Final, qualifying for the All-Ireland Feile Final as well as the Roinn A Football title. Indeed the only defeat in championship hurling for the team came in the All Ireland Feile Final against Glen Rovers of Cork. It was the first time since 1976 that O'Loughlins won the local Feile beating city rivals James Stephens. Our Feile hosts were Portaferry and over eighty supporters travelled for a memorable weekend.

The B team bowed out of the championship to Kilmacow after a replay, while putting in two great performances to beat both Village and Dicksboro second teams in the league section. Stephen Shortt, Mark Bergin, Kevin Morrissey, Andy Kearns and Mark Kelly all played with the u-14 county team, while Niall Kiely represented the club in the final of the Long Puck. The U-14 player of the year was Stephen Shortt. The selectors with the U-14s were James O'Donoughue, Benny Cleere, Denis Tyrrell, Fr. Dick Marnell and Gerry Tyrrell.

U-16 League Champions

The U-16's also had a good year winning the Roinn A League, beating Dicksboro in the final. However the same opposition put paid to their championship hopes when putting in a fine performance in the county semi-final to gain revenge for the league defeat.

Niall McEvoy, Maurice Nolan and Michael Lambert represented the club at county level. Selectors here were Philly Holohan, Brian Murphy and Peter Dowling.

The minors bowed out in the first round of the championship to Dicksboro. They fared much better in the league and qualified for the semi-finals. The Selectors here were Philly Holohan, Brian Murphy, Peter Dowling and Anthony Bergin.

Thanks for the Support

The Juvenile section would like to thank the parents and sponsors for their great support throughout the year.



Piltown

CLUB NEWS

Coaching

Twenty five people from the Parish attended a Foundation Coaching course with Georgie Leahy, early in the year. This augurs well for continued support and development of underage teams in Hurling, Football & Camoige. Pat Duggan and Jim Norris assisted with the County Development squads at U-14 level, whilst Martin Gordon was involved with the U-15 / 16 squads. The Summer Camp held at the GAA grounds were again a great success, with more than one hundred youngsters from the club & surrounding parishes attending.

Juvenile Games

The year 2002 was yet another very busy year on the Juvenile front. Much time and effort was put into all age levels from U-8 to U-13. Each Sunday morning throughout the year witnessed in excess of sixty youngsters training diligently under guidance of dedicated coaching personnel. The Waterford City Leagues provided much needed competitive action & entertainment, where the U-12 team lost out narrowly in their division B Final. The school teams meanwhile acquitted themselves well in both codes organised by Cumann na mBunscoileanna.

U-14 to Minor

Our U-14 Hurlers, despite having many underage again next year, reached the County semi-final, where they were piped by Tullaroan. At U-16 level, Piltown won the Roinn B Hurling League when they overcame St. Martins in a close fought encounter. However, despite serious injuries to two of their regular forwards, they also reached the county semi-final, where they lost out in a tense battle against Rower-Inistioge. This was their only

defeat in the entire season.

The Minors reached semi-finals in the Hurling League & Championship. This team earned a lot of praise throughout the year for their grit & determination, and none more so than for their "performance of the year" in a great come back against Conahy Shamrocks in the second round of the Championship.

Achievements

Andrew McCarthy was a member of the successful Kilkenny All-Ireland Minor Hurling squad this year.

Adult Competitions

The Junior Team again reached the South Final, after mixed performances throughout the year. They advanced past Dunamaggin in the semi-final by one point, but lost out marginally by two points to Kilmacow in the Final.

After a good run in the All County Junior Hurling League, the team eventually went out at semi-final stage to Tullogher-Rosbercon.

The Senior Footballers lost the 11 a side winter league final by one point to Railyard, and following some close encounters eventually overcame Young Irelands in a relegation battle to retain senior status for 2003. If they can muster all their players this side can look forward to challenge for honours next year.

Fundraising

The Hurlers Co-Op draw run in conjunction with the County Board was again the major source of revenue for running the club this year and many thanks must go to sellers and purchasers alike. The 'Play for the Park' Lotto was also well supported this year as was the Thursday night Progressive 30's in the Complex which provide steady funding towards our underage teams. A Race Night is being

organised for the new year in support of the Juveniles.

Club Development Work

A newly re-surfaced access road was provided to the GAA Complex this year and a footpath was provided parallel to it. Repairs and replacement of netting behind the goals was carried out also. Club personnel have recently been hard at work, putting proposal together for new drainage system for the two full size pitch's & Juvenile pitch. Part of this initiative entails making the second pitch all-weather in the immediate future, suitable for matches during the winter. The Complex building was recently brightened up with a much needed coat of paint.

Social Membership / Developments;

The social activities in the GAA Complex are going from strength to strength each year, with dancing every Saturday night attracting crowds from near and far all year round, and various fund raising functions and parties throughout the year. The club Squash Courts and Handball Alley get considerable use during the Winter months. It is hoped that the younger members of the Club and Parish, would get more involved in playing games that would keep them fit for the whole year round. Club membership currently stands at approximately 450.

Obituaries

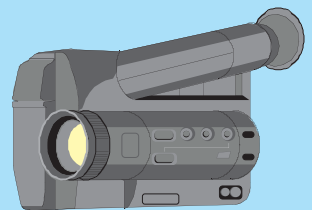
Jack Murphy (Fanningstown), passed away earlier this year in America. Jack won an All Ireland Minor Hurling medal in goal for Kilkenny in 1950, where they defeated a strongly fancied Tipperary side, restricting them to a solitary point in the second half. He later won an All Ireland Junior Medal in 1956, before emigrating to America in the late fifties.

THOMAS BUTLER

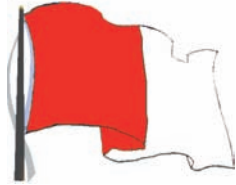
Freshford,
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Railyard

CLUB NEWS

A Good Start

The year started very well for the Railyard, if one was to include December 2001 when the club won the new 11-a-side tournament introduced last year. The club and players found it was worthwhile at that time of year and it was also a chance to introduce younger players to the senior panel. With that on their CV so to speak, they went into their first match of the league with a positive attitude. This they carried right through to the final by defeating Dunnamaggin, Young Irelands, Piltown and Glenmore. Neighbours Erins Own were once again the opposition in the League final in Ballyragget and this time Railyard came away with the Cup defeating them by two points.

Long Delay

At this point the seniors were looking very good for the county championship but for the time delay in the fixtures. The semi-finals were not fixed until September nearly six months after their

league win. In the semi-final they were defeated by James Stephens by two points.

Under Age

The U-21 season was short this year while the minors went on to win their second county final in a row. These lads show great promise for this year also with all but three eligible for this year. The U-16s reached the semi-final of the county championship but were defeated by Tullogher-Rosbercon. The U-14s they

are progressing very well, with League and Country Cup titles within grasp. Most are still eligible in two years time. They also took part in this year's Feile Peil na nÓg in which we were host club to Hertfordshire.

Major Developments

The club itself has just started major fundraising for the development of the pitch and surrounds. This will include levelling and verti-draining and will have the pitch out of action for three years.



**National Community Games
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Rower - Inistioge

CLUB NEWS

A Great Year

2002 has been a great Year for the Rower-Inistioge GAA Club with County titles won at U-16 and Minor Hurling. At adult level, the intermediate hurlers suffered a narrow defeat in the quarter finals while the Junior A and U-21 Hurlers exited their Championships at the first round stage.

Schools Hurling

All the school teams had another good year with the highlight being victory in the New Ross Caulfield's League for the U-10 hurlers. The U-11s participated in the Ballyragget Tom Phelan Tournament performing very well to be runners-up to a very good Clara team. Although the schools hurling team failed to qualify for the knock out stages of the Championship, they can be proud of their achievements in 2002.

U-14 Hurling

The U-14 hurlers finished the year in style by winning the Michael Meaney Tournament Final. In the Championship we narrowly missed out on qualification for the knock out stages, but the display of the team in their final group games and the Meaney Tournament provides great encouragement for the future.

U-16s Great Victory

The U-16 Hurlers enjoyed a great victory in this Year's U-16 Championship. Following victories over Conahy, Freshford, and Piltown in the semi-final the Team we defeated St. Martins in a great final, with victory being secured with a great goal from John Grace.

Minor Winners

The Minor Hurlers qualified for the County final for the third Year in succession. Playing Mooncoin in the final, the team appeared to be in control entering the final minutes with a seven-point advantage. Mooncoin scored 2 goals and a point within a number of minutes, and the game appeared to be heading for a draw. With seconds remaining Michael White proved to be a match winner slotting over a great free from sixty metres.

Intermediate, Junior and U- 21

Following the success of the U-21 Team in 2001 much was expected of the Junior and Intermediate Teams in '02. The

Juniors lost to Mooncoin by the narrowest of margins, while the U- 21s proved no match for the Shamrocks in the Southern semi-final. The Intermediate Hurlers had an impressive first round victory over Thomastown but lost narrowly in the quarter-final to John Lockes. The future looks promising and with the successes enjoyed at U- 21 in 2001 and in Minor and U-16 this Year, we are hoping to have a big impact on the Intermediate Championship in 2003.

Award for Eddie Keher

The Club enjoyed some great activities off the field of play during the Year. The highlight was a special night in the Rower Hall when An Post made a special presentation of a portrait of the stamp issued to honour Eddie Keher's selection on the Team of the Millennium.

Golf Classic

The Club Golf Classic run at New Ross Golf Club was another great success this Year raising much needed funds to fund Club field development projects. The highlight was the presentation ceremony, with Michéal Ó Muircheartaigh entertaining all with his great GAA stories.

Thanks to All

The Club would like to thank all those who supported us during the year, team sponsors Andrew Cullen and Dave Lawlor, Golf classic sponsors and to all members and supporters who assisted us in our various fund raising activities

through out the season. Well done to all who won prizes in the Piltown draw, especially the Fitzpatrick Family who won the Car in July.

Bereavements

The GAA club would like to extend sympathies to all Club members who suffered bereavements during the year. We were all deeply saddened at the passing of Marty Butler (see Obituary Section). In January '02 all the community were deeply saddened at the death of Paddy Lyng. Paddy was Club Secretary in the early seventies was a great supporter of the local club and the Black and Amber. Ar dheis de go raibh a n-anamnacha.

Club Officers 2002

President: Marty Butler
Chairman: Jack Lyng
Secretary: Matt Galavan
Treasurer: Richard Tierney

Bord Na nÓg

Chairman: Richard Delahunty
Secretary: Breda English



Paddy Lyng RIP



Rower-Inistioge U-11 - Tom Phelan Tournament Finalists

Back: Robert Grace, Pauric Ryan, David Tennyson, Shane Brennan, Patrick Walsh, Joe Lyng, Conor Joyce, James Cashin, Sean Lyster, Kevin Minogue.
Front: Sean Mackey, Shane McDonald, Tom Murphy, Kevin O'Neill, James Lyster, Diarmuid Aspell, Eoin Doyle, Richard Ryan, George Allen.



Slieverue

CLUB NEWS

Sweet Success

Most sportspeople will agree that the winning of championships or trophies is not a guarantee of club success or a measure of progress in the advancement of any particular game. However the occasional championship success is most welcome in every club and gives both players and workers reason to celebrate and dream up plans for further honours.

We have not had experience of silverware coming to our club in recent times and hence all club members rejoiced in the success of three of our underage teams in 2002 namely, Minors, U-16s and U-11s.

U-16 Hurling

Having qualified for the final of the county league we had the unpleasant experience of being beaten by a point by Emeralds after a match that the team could have won. When championship time came round we again got to the final having stuttered somewhat on the way. Emeralds were again the opposition and so we could not be overconfident in preparing for the match. Those close to the team however were aware that the league final defeat greatly hurt the boys and it was an experience they did not wish to revisit. On this basis there was every confidence amongst the management team that we would not be easily beaten. So it was on the day. Emeralds were again worthy opponents and at the finish of a close contest Slieverue just held out for what was a memorable victory for the club.

This is the first championship win for the club at this level and it was much appreciated and well celebrated by young and old alike.

Minor Hurling

Having failed to field a team in 2001 it was most heartening to observe a panel of over 20 players participate in 2002. This was due to the progress of the U-16 squad and the much greater activity and enthusiasm of the adult team.

There was a most encouraging start to the championship (D grade) but very disappointedly the wheels came off in the second round. All that was left then was the league later in the season and the team were anxious to salvage something for the year's work particularly since the

U-16s had won their championship. Backboned by some players from the junior team and ably supported by half the U-16 squad the team qualified for the league final.

Windgap provided the opposition and after a match of swaying fortunes Slieverue pulled away in the final minutes to land a notable victory.

The players enjoyed the winning feeling and hopefully they will be encouraged to work harder for further success in the coming years.

U-11 Hurling

This team had a highly successful season. They won the Waterford City League (c) without dropping a point. In the Kilkenny Camaint (ground hurling) competition they were unbeaten in the preliminary groupings and then won their group in the finals in Nowlan Park. In total the team played 17 matches and were unbeaten throughout. Congratulations to them but we must remind them that they have set high standards for themselves and much will be expected of them in the future.

Adult Hurling

Having been through a prolonged valley period our supporters were pleased this year to witness a greatly improved performance from the team in all our match-

es. The present team panel is very young and will surely progress in the next year or two. The team and club owe a debt of gratitude and thanks to Noel Maher of Hugginstown who trained the team. By his exuberance and enthusiasm Noel established a great bond amongst the team members and a continuation of this will surely lead to success down the road.

Thanks

Apart from the above the club fielded teams in all the other age groups where competition was available. However the fielding of teams is only the culmination of the continuous work that must be done in the training field. We are very fortunate to have so many very committed trainers/coaches who work with our teams. To them we say, on behalf of all club members, thank you and be sure your time and patience are appreciated. Joe Pyke, Chairman of Bord na nOg, when presenting trophies thoughtfully makes a point of thanking the team trainers and expresses the hope that parents are appreciative of the time given to their children by these people. It is heartening to see that the present generation continues to cultivate and promote Gaelic games and is aware of their role as custodians of a proud heritage.



Presentation of hurleys to the Slieverue U-12 team by Paddy Buggy as President of Na hIomanaighthe (National Golfing Society for former Inter-County hurlers)

Back: Dylan Haberlin, Adam Murphy, Ciaran Dowling, Eamonn Dowling, Jamie O'Brien, Paddy Buggy, Christopher Butler, Craig Doyle, Martin Dowling, Mark Walsh, William Walsh, James Roche.

Front: Patrick Murphy (Airmount), Eanna Griffin, Niall Hogan, Christopher McDonald, Michelle Quilty, Laura Walsh, Enda Loughman, Patrick Murphy (Ballinlaw), Keith Haberlin, Wayne Culbert.



St. Fiachras

CLUB NEWS

A New Beginning

During the Autumn of 2001 a series of meetings took place between members of the Graiguenamanagh and Blacks and Whites clubs to focus on mutual problems in the juvenile sections of both clubs.

Joint Sub-Committee

Uppermost in our minds was the smaller class sizes in both our National Schools and the likelihood of us being unable to field teams in some Bord na nÓg competitions. It was eventually decided that the juvenile sections of both clubs would merge and be administered by a joint sub-committee.

Benefit for All Players

This it was felt would greatly benefit all the young players in the parish. Many of the players knew each other and played together in Primary School teams. Our teams would be more competitive with all the players closer to the maximum age. The new teams took to the field under the name of St. Fiachras in a new Green and Black hooped jersey.

Officers

Chairman: Gerry Murphy
Secretary: Joseph Haire
Joint Treasurers: Ann Walsh RIP,
Ned Kelly
PRO: Mary O'Donnell

Lots of Games

The U-14 footballers competed in the Roinn A League / Championship and

recorded some very fine performances. The club hosted St. Galls from Antrim in the Feile Peil na nÓg Div. 3.

Tournament Winners

The U-14 hurlers competed in the Roinn B League / Championship and were beaten by more experienced teams. This team improved throughout the summer and went on to win the Michael Dermody Tournament in Leighlinbridge.

U-12, Camaint, U-9, U-8

The U-12 hurlers won the Shield in their section of the Summer League. The

Camaint team won the majority of their games and had a very enjoyable day in Nowlan Park. The U-8 and U-9 teams competed successfully in the Roanmore Tournament in Waterford.

Garda League

During the Summer the Garda League was revived and turned out to be a very successful competition.

Thanks to local Garda Redmond Ryan, Sgt. PJ Whelan and Ms. Agnes Reddy, JLO.



St Fiachras Camaint 2002

Back: Niall Foley, Michael Dowling, Lee Kinsella, Aidan O'Dowd, James Kennedy, Nicholas O'Donnell, Sean O'Brien, Brid Kelly, Thomas Drennan, Mark Grace.

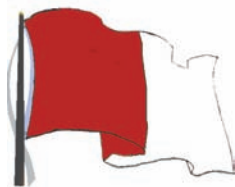
Front: Martin Kelly, James Coakley, Michael Doyle, Joseph Kelly, Thomas O'Donnell, Seamus Kavanagh, John Lennon, Bernard Hennessy, Daniel Drennan, Emmet Foley.

St Fiachras Leighlinbridge U-14 Tournament Winners

Back: Padraig Whelan, Robert Kirwan, Damien O'Dowd, Jim O'Donnell, Conor Sheehy, Paul Murphy, Nathan Sbila, Kevin Cushen, Gary Grace, Eddie Doran, Emma Ryan.

Front: Keith Doherty, Jimmy Lennon, Nicholas O'Donnell, Mikie Whelan, Shane Foley, Ian Kavanagh, CJ Browne, Michael Cushen, Sean Ryan, Padraig Joyce, Jason Foley.





CLUB NEWS

St Patricks, Ballyragget



St. Patricks, Ballyragget U-12 Hurling Team 2002

Back: Henry Mooney (Selector), Brian Mulhall, Joe Brennan, Enda Mooney, Eddie Brophy, John Mooney, Thomas McGrath, Geoffrey Brennan, James Gannon, Bill Staunton, John Lacey (Selector).

Front: Domhnall Brennan, Robert Healy, Paddy McEvoy, Michael Brennan, Stephen Staunton, Martin Glennon, Michael Kenny, Liam Lacey.

On the Playing Fields

A poor year for our adult teams on the field of play. The juniors, special juniors and U-21s failed to make any real impact. The junior team lost out to eventual county champions Blacks & Whites but all our other adult teams had a disappointing season.

At under age level the U-12 hurlers were very successful. They took part in a number of tournaments with varying degrees of success. The U-16 footballers also had a good season while the camaint side won their section of the ground hurling tournament at Nowlan Park.

U-11 Tournament

The Phelan/Stone U-11 tournament once again proved hugely successful. Sixteen teams took part with victory going to Clara in the "Tom Phelan Memorial" tournament while Dicksboro won the "Benny Stone Memorial final". This was the most successful tournament to date.

Feile Peil Na nOg

August saw our U-14 footballers take part in the National Football Feile in Carlow. This was their third venture in this competition having previously competed in the finals in Donegal and Clare. However this was their first time to host another club. Lancashire were our guests and they proved to be hugely popular. The English boys arrived in town on Thursday and stayed until

Sunday. They were looked after by local families and ended their stay with a visit to Croke Park to see Kilkenny win the Leinster final. The locals returned the visit to Lancashire in October.

Development

After a number of delays everything is almost in place for major new development to go ahead at the Park. The National Lottery has granted E80,000 towards the project which should commence by the end of 2002.

Fund Raising

The club lottery was once again the major source of income. The hurlers co-op draw also proved lucrative. Sponsorship also helped with finance. M&A coaches, Q.F.S fencing and 'Landfeeds Environmental' all provided generous sponsorship during the year.

Inter County

Shane Dowling was a member of the Kilkenny minor panel that won the All-Ireland title. Unfortunately an injury sustained before the Leinster final prevented him from playing. However he is eligible for this grade again next year. Patrick Cahill played a prominent part on the Kilkenny side in the Arrabawn co-op tournament while several club members were involved with the various county development squads

Novel Game

Veterans of the past took part in a fund raising game in conjunction with a local festival. The game proved to be the highlight of the festival with some of the former stalwarts showing they had lost none of their artistry. Amongst those who took part were Ted Ruth, Frank Staunton, Morgan Kelly, Declan Delaney, John Lacey, Sean Stapleton, Lar Mc Evoy, Sean Butler, Ger Butler, Anthony Dowling, Donie Brophy, Philip Kenny, Martin Mc Grath, Vincent Waters, Michael Whelan, Seamus Morrissey, Jim Stapleton, Mickey Nealis, Paudie Mulhall, Jim Crosby, Dessie Staunton, Mick McCraith, Dessie Staunton.

Famous Guests

Dublin footballer Jason Sherlock visited the local boys school during the year to promote Feile Peil Na nOg while Andy Comerford and Henry Shefflin visited both schools with the Mc Carthy Cup in September. Brian Mc Evoy was a guest of the club at a medal presentation to the U-16 footballers.

Medals

Castle St. Ballyragget boasts twenty nine All-Ireland inter county medals between five residents in a 50 metre radius Shem Downey (2), Fr. Tommy Murphy (2), Angela Downey (12), Ann Downey (12) and Kevin O Shea (1). This does not include club All Irelands. Some record!



Saint Lachtain's

CLUB NEWS

Club Officers 2002

Chairman : Eamonn Kelly
 Secretary : Mary Fortune
 Treasurer : Brian Kavanagh
 PRO : Claire Dermody

Adult Hurling

The intermediate hurling team had a very disappointing season this year finding themselves out of all major competitions by the end of July. Having captured the Intermediate league cup and having reached the semi-final of the championship a year earlier, expectations were high in the village for a good run. However, a drawn game against the Rower-Inistioge in Bennettsbridge foiled St.Lachtains chances of progressing to the league quarter-finals and forced them to enter the championship at the 1st round stage. Here they came up against near neighbours Emeralds (Urlingford) who were newly promoted from the Junior ranks. The Urlingford lads were the better performers on the day and easily defeated St.Lachtains. The Junior B hurling team were also knocked out of the championship in the early stages against O'Loughlin Gaels.

County Success 2002

The club extends warm congratulations to Michael Kavanagh and Robbie Dowling who brought back two All-Ireland medals to the village in September. Michael, an ever-present member of the senior team captured his 2nd All-Ireland senior medal to add to his first one won in 2000. It must also be noted that this year saw Michael bring home his 8th consecutive Leinster medal

to Freshford (3 minor, 5 senior) - a phenomenal achievement for someone who is still only 23. Congratulations also to Brian Waldron who was a selector on the successful minor team.

Fund Raising

The local lotto, the Hurlers Co-Op draw, the Golf Classic and the B-B-Q are the clubs four main fund-raising events. The Golf Classic was held in Rathdowney Golf Club in late July and proved to be a huge success. The B-B-Q held in conjunction with Freshford Town Soccer Club also proved to be a very successful and enjoyable event. The club wishes to thank all organizers and sponsors of these events throughout the year.

2002 Tour of Scotland

It may have taken nineteen years for St.Lachtain's to make a return hurling/shinty trip to Scotland but in the end everyone agreed it was worth the wait. In May, a group of 42 U-14 hurlers and 20 adults headed for the Scottish Highlands. The first game of hurling/shinty took place in Kincaig followed by three well-contested games against Inverness Shinty Club the next day. After some sight-seeing at Loch Ness, the boys played their final games of the weekend against Glengarry in Invergarry. A great weekend was had by all and a lot of thanks is due to organizer-in-chief Mike Cormack for putting the weekend together.

Underage Hurling

Thanks to the great work being done by the teachers in the local school and the

excellent under-age coaches in the parish, the young boys produced some great results this year. The U-10 team were beaten in the semi-final of a tournament in Naas, but the U-11 team enjoyed better success when they were crowned winners of the Kevin Bergin Memorial Shield at the Conahy Shamrocks' 2002 Hurling Tournament. The U-12 team also revelled in glory when they won the Johnstown tournament defeating Emeralds in the final.

Minor Hurling

The great work carried out with under-age players in recent years finally paid dividends when the minor hurling team brought home much needed silverware to the parish in 2002. After been beaten by the Rower-Inistioge in the championship, the minors and their committed selectors devoted a lot of time and effort into the league. Their efforts proved fruitful when they defeated Fenians/Galmoy by five points to bring the Minor Hurling League Division 2 title to Freshford.

Obituary

The club would like to take the opportunity to extend condolences to the Kelly family, Kilkenny St. on the untimely passing of Jack during the year. Jack, who was originally from Lisdowney was to the forefront of many aspects of life in Freshford for many years. He was an avid supporter of all club activities. Ar dheis Dé go raibh sé. The club would also like to extend sympathy to all families in the parish who suffered bereavements during the year.

**St. Lachtains
 U-12 Hurling Team
 - Winners Johnstown Tournament
 2002**

Back: Brian Kennedy, Seamus Hayes, William Walsh, Edwin Brennan, Patrick Rafter, David Fitzpatrick, Eoin O'Donnell, Tomas Flynn, Stephen Farrell, Paul Guinan, David Buggy, Lachtain Kennedy, Kieran White.

Front: Brendan Quinn, Philip Campion, Michael O'Brien, Ryan Hughes, Liam Hickey, Stephen Buggy, Denis Lennon, Michael Neary, Paul Dermody.



Intermediate News

St. Martins intermediate team had a tremendous year which culminated with victory in the Intermediate Championship thus ensuring a return to senior hurling for our club next year.

Under the expert guidance of Brendan O' Sullivan and Michael Dempsey the team won the treble, championship, league and all county league in the intermediate grade, a unique achievement.

Special Junior and U-21

Our special junior team also had a great year, winning the northern A final before narrowly losing the county final to Mooncoin. They also won the Northern Junior A league and await to play Shamrocks in the county final.

Our U-21 team is hoping to retain the Northern B title against neighbours Conahy and maybe go one step further by winning the county title.

Bord na nÓg

The highlight of the year for the underage section was the Coon-Muckalee national schools team winning the Roinn A hurling championship thus completing the double having won the Roinn A football championship earlier in the season. They are the first team in the parish to capture the highest honours in Kilkenny schools GAA. Great credit must go to Gerry O' Neill, NT. After years of dedication and effort he achieved the highest rewards this year. The St. Martins club is indebted to him for all he has done for our young hurlers and footballers in the past number of years. Tony Maher, John McGrath and their helpers must also be congratulated on this magnificent achievement.

U-9 - Played some challenge matches and great fun was had by all.

U-10 - Played four matches in the annual Jim Comerford tournament.

U-11- Participated in the Camaint tournament and the Phelan tournament in Ballyragget.

U-12 - They drew the final of their summer league having played four games.

U-13 - They reached the q/final of the Lisdowney sevens.

U-14 - They had a very enjoyable year, reaching the semi-final of the Roinn B hurling championship. The footballers won the Roinn A league and narrowly lost the championship semi-final.

U-16 - Also had a hectic year reaching both the Championship and League Roinn B hurling finals but unfortunately lost both. They still have the con-

cluding stages of the football championship to look forward to.

Minor - They gave a good account of themselves in the Roinn A championship against the eventual champions Carrickshock. They still have the football championship to complete.

Development Squads

U-14: James Dowling, John Mulhall, Patrick Nolan, Fionn Lawlor and Mark Murphy.

U-15: John Maher, Joe Maher and Pauric Haughney.

U-16: Ronan Maher, James Maher, Mike Keane and Aidan Murphy.

U-17: Eoin McGrath and Eamonn Buggy. Patsy Murphy was a mentor with the football development squads.

All Ireland Success

St. Martins were certainly well represented with the talented Kilkenny minor hurling team this year. Shane Coonan and Shane Cadogan both played their part in winning both Leinster and All Irl. Titles.

Tony Maher was a selector with the team, a just reward for years of involvement in Kilkenny GAA.

Tom Kinsella Memorial Tournament

Erin's Own won the Tom Kinsella Memorial Tournament for the 2nd year in a row after a great final v St. Martins in Coon.

Development News

The club this year introduced, in conjunction with Muckalee Football Club, a members draw as our main source of revenue. This has been a great success due in part to the hard work of the members who got it off the ground but mainly to the supporters of both clubs and our parishioners whose support and gen-

erosity is second to none.

Development continues in both grounds in Coon and Muckalee. Netting has been erected behind the goal posts in Coon and the dressing rooms in Muckalee have been repainted.

Best Wishes

Congratulations to Nicholas Purcell and Annette Tobin who were married in August and Dick Dooley and Maria Kinsella who were married in September.

Obituaries

The past year the parish saw the passing of four men who down through the years had made great contributions to our parish GAA clubs be it on the playing fields or at committee level.

Pat Mulhall, Mick Ryan, Mickey Morrissey and John Ryan were true Gaels who had a great passion for hurling and football. To their families and to all club members bereaved during the past year we extend deepest sympathy.



Pat Mulhall

On St. Stephen's Day '01, St. Martin's Hurling Club lost one of its most valued and popular officers with the untimely death of Assistant Treasurer, Pat Mulhall. Pat was affectionally known to players and friends as 'Pepsi'.

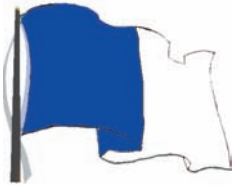
Pat devoted all his spare time to St. Martin's. He made sure that no juvenile player was left without transport or hurley and that each adult player had a hurley made or repaired to his requirements. No matter where St. Martin's played, championship or challenge - primary schools to adult, Pat was there helping and encouraging. No matter what the result Pat's friendly smile and jolly sense of humour came through and helped to get everyone to think of the next challenge ahead. Only at All Ireland time did Pat ever show the signs of worry, particularly if a player or loyal supporter was without a ticket.

Pat has been irreplaceable in the club and it's true to say: Ní bheidh a leithéid ann arís.

The club would like to extend sincere sympathy to his brother Michael and sister Ann.



St Martin's representatives on the victorious Kilkenny Minor team - Shane Cadogan and Shane Coonan with Anthony Maher, Kilkenny Minor selector.



Thomastown

CLUB NEWS

Great Disappointment

The 2002 season will unfortunately be remembered in Thomastown as the year the club were relegated to junior status for the first time in 40 years. Despite the best efforts of players and selectors, the team was on the back foot all season and failed to win even one competitive game. It is hard to believe that the club contested the championship semi-final three years ago but in the past two seasons have been struggling. The retirement of stalwarts John and Mick Donnelly and goalie Tom O'Keeffe made life very difficult and various combinations were tried out throughout the year. With successive defeats the confidence factor came into play and one wonders what might have happened had the team succeeded in defeating Graignamanagh in a tight first round game in Tom Walsh Park. The side was certainly deserving of at least a draw but that one point loss seemed to set doubts in players minds and the games that followed only confirmed that fear.

Young Players

It is disappointing that the club were unable to bridge the gap between retiring greats and up-coming young players. The younger set like Eoin Treacy, Dermot Lanigan, William Hoyne and others all have a great future in the blue and white. This year's minor and U-16 side all made great progress and their performance augurs well for the years ahead. The success of the same set of players in the football championship shows what this panel's capabilities. Maybe a season in the junior ranks will allow the up and coming players the chance to develop. And they should take courage from the exploits of Blacks and Whites who were in the same position last year and quickly rebounded to Intermediate ranks.

Great Venue

Grennan looked its usual pristine condition all summer thanks in no small measure to the trojan work of Chairman Denis Brennan and Ben Walsh. New metal goal posts were erected on the two senior pitches and replacement seating has been obtained for one side of the ground on the main pitch. Dugouts are planned to be in place before the start of next season's play.

The club website continues to be developed and one interesting addition this year was a drawing of Croke Park setting out stand sections. Website accessible at www.thomastowngaa.fanspace.com

Busy Year in the Juvenile Section

2002 proved to be a very busy year for all involved in the juvenile club. Local businesses responded very generously to our appeal for new sets of jerseys, resulting in each of the various age groups having their own set. The minor team under John Donnelly was beaten by Mooncoin in the county semi-final having had good wins over Castlecomer and Barrow Rangers. We can look forward to some of these lads taking part in the junior team in the next few years.

Well Done to the U-16 team

Our U-16 team was unlucky not to qualify for the play-off stages of the league; although unbeaten they failed to qualify on scoring difference. Following a good win over Ballyragget they went out of the championship at the hands of a strong Muckalee side. Most of the team are still under-age for next year's championship.

U-14 Exploits

The U-14 team had a great run in both hurling and football. Early in the year the footballers reached the league final and

lost to O'Loughlins in the county semi-final. In hurling they qualified for a very difficult group for a quarter-final clash with Muckalee and though they tried hard lost out by five points. This team played about fifteen league and championship matches throughout the year. The school hurling team was very unlucky. In losing two matches by a single point the team failed to qualify for the semi-finals. They beat Carrickshock and drew with Mooncoin.

Tom Donnelly and his team are doing great work at U-10 level and his young charges have won tournaments in Danesfort and in Roarmore in Waterford.

O'Hanrahan Tournament

The Peter O'Hanrahan memorial tournament was played in Grennan in August and we hosted two teams from Curragh/Ratoath in County Meath. A special word of thanks to all the people that worked very hard to ensure that this was a memorable occasion.

Thanks to All Who Supported Us

Although success on the field is hard to achieve, it must be said that all the players were excellent to attend training and matches and were always well behaved. A special thanks to the people of the parish who supported us financially and to all the parents for their help and co-operation throughout the year.



A Busy Hurling day in Thomastown!

Lots of planning and preparation during the Peter O'Hanrahan Memorial Tournament in Grennan during the Summer.



Threecastles

CLUB NEWS

Hurling

A decent run in the league and a good performance in the opening round of the championship, losing to Young Irelands by the minimum in an exciting game played on a wonderful Summer evening in Muckalee ended are Championship hopes this year. The benefits of the backdoor have yet to trickle down from the intercounty scene - look at Clare this year.

The knockout of the championship certainly adds the edge to every game but the present system could well be re-examined.

Fundraising

An ever increasing effort seems to be necessary to keep the show on the road, the club is involved with the Nowlan Park lotto and runs its own lotto.

Events such as Race Nights are proving worthwhile and last years will be repeated hopefully with the same financial result.

A new departure this summer was an outdoor concert at Campions which drew a large appreciative audience.

Annual Trip

The annual trip this year is to Manchester, England.

The trip was usually confined to Ireland with the exception of an expedition to Luton England a number of years ago. This year's trip outside the Eurozone to this city has great promise with the many and varied attractions in this multicultural city with its museums, galleries and theatres.

Obituaries

The sympathies of the Club members are extended to the families of:
Fr. Barney Mullen, Fr. Philip Carroll, Sr Kieran Hennessy, Mrs. Peg O'Donnell
Go ndéana Dia trocaire ar a nanam-nacha.

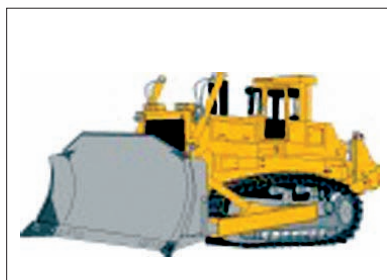
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Congratulations to Kilkenny Minors and Seniors



Tullaroan

CLUB NEWS

Officers 2002

President	- Chris Walsh
Chairman	- Dick Walsh
Vice Chairman	- John Teehan
Secretary	- Simon Walton
Asst Sec.	- Peter Holland
Treasurer	- Tom Cleere
Asst Treasurer	- Edward Holland

On the Playing Field

The seniors went through the Senior Hurling League undefeated and have qualified for the League fund where they will play Young Irelands.

Tullaroan defeated Fenians in the semi-final which went to a replay and extra time. We qualified for the quarter final of the championship but we were defeated by Dunnamaggin in John Locke Park.

This was a most disappointing result for the club. The seniors play Young Irelands in the All-County League Final. The juniors in their first year in junior ranks did quite well in the League. In the Junior Championship they defeated Lisdowney and Graigue-Ballycallan but lost to Galmoy in the Northern semi-final. The U-21's were defeated by James Stephens in the Northern semi-final having beaten Graigue-Ballycallan in the first round.

Bord Na nÓg

This year for the first time a Bord na nÓg was set up in the club and has proved to be very successful.

Chairman - John Glennon
Secretary - Elizabeth Maher
Treasurer - John Connolly

Pride of place this year must go to our U-14 team who won the Roinn B Championship. They showed that there is a bright future for the club.

The U-16's went well in the League but were defeated by Graigue-Ballycallan in the first round of the championship. Our minors gave a good account of themselves in the League but found it very difficult to get a result losing narrowly on several occasions. They were beaten by the Shamrocks in the Championship.

The U-13 school team narrowly missed out on qualifying for the knock out stages. The U-11 team participated with great success in the camaint competitions. In the U-12 summer tournament the Tullaroan team emerged victorious. They also won the Callan tournament

after some great performances. A special word of thanks to all who coached and trained teams through the year and to all parents who provided transport.

Development

The club has recently acquired the use of additional ground adjacent to its current playing field. Plans are in progress to develop this ground in order to provide an extra playing pitch for the club. This will be of great benefit to all players in the parish. We are also hoping to do some drainage work on the pitch.

County Players

Congratulations to Jimmy Coogan and Tommy Walsh on winning All-Ireland senior medals with Kilkenny, Stephen Maher

and Padraig Kennedy on winning All-Ireland Minor medals. Tommy Walsh, Shane Hennessy, Paul Doheny, Ken Coogan and Ned Sweeney were members of the county U-21 panel, while Liam Keoghan was a selector. Martin Walsh, Stephen Dowling and Shane Connolly were on the county U-14 panel.

Fund Raising

The "Play for the Park" lotto and the Hurlers Co-op draw were once again the main sources of income. The Christmas Draw also helps the club funds.

Obituaries

The sympathy of the club is extended to the families of Paddy Kennedy, Michael Dillon, Kitty Byrne and Jack Lahart.



U-11 Tullaroan Team 2002

Back: N. Dowling, E. Sweeney, G. Walsh, T. Looby, R. Dowling, M. Walsh, G. Joyce, P. Butler, R. Maher, P. Buggy, G. Looby, P. Walsh, B. Simpson.

Front: P. Sweeney, C. Kenny, J. Holmes, E. Brennan, P. Walsh, W. Dooley, N. Maher, L. Lanigan, T. Lanigan, S. Walsh.



Tullaroan's first Bord na-Nóg Committee

Back: Podge Kennedy, Breda Holmes, School Principal, John Buggy, Derek Holmes, Bord na nÓg delegate, Liam Simpson PRO, John Connolly, Treasurer, Stephen Maher.

Front: Declan Dowling U-14 coach, Mary Hogan PRO, Elizabeth Maher Secretary, John Glennon Chairman, Joe Pyke Chairman Bord na nÓg.



Tullogher-Rosbercon

CLUB NEWS

Club Officers 2002

President: Matt O'Brien
 Vice-Presidents: Jimmy Phelan, Jimmy Cummins, Fr. Michael Norton PP
 Chairman: John Kennedy
 Vice-Chairman: John Ryan
 Secretary: Shem Cummins
 Asst. Secretary: Eamon Phelan
 Treasurer: Joe Conway
 Asst. Treasurer: Paddy Gaule
 PRO: John Paul Phelan
 Southern Board: Eamon Phelan
 County Board: Jim Ryan
 Juvenile Chair: Jimmy Mullally

Thanks to Sponsors

A special word of thanks to Paddy & Eleanor Ryan of Paddy Ryan's Pub, Listerlin, who continue to be the main club sponsors.

Also thanks to Paddy Breen of New Ross who sponsored the new scoreboard at our club grounds.

Thanks must also go to Seamus Hartley and Luke Doyle who sponsored gear for different club teams during the year.

Redevelopment

The club's redevelopment programme has continued during the year. The new field purchased last year adjacent to the existing pitch has now been almost completely paid for. This was possible through the unprecedented response of the people of the parish to a door to door collection.

The weekly "Play for the Park" lotto is also a key factor in covering redevelopment costs.

The highlight of the redevelopment was

the staging of the senior hurling league match between the Shamrocks and Mullinavat earlier this year at our ground.

On the Playing Fields

The club's junior hurlers were successful in the First Southern Junior League.

They defeated Piltown in the Final. In the championship it was an exit at the Southern semi-final stage as eventual county finalists Kilmacow proved to be too strong.

Special Juniors

The special junior hurlers had a good year. They won the County League Final, defeating Blacks & Whites by one point in the Final in a very tight game. In the championship Mullinavat were beaten in the Southern Final only for James Stephens to take the spoils in the County Final by a two point margin.

Other Grades

The U-21 hurlers are in the Roinn B Southern Final at the time of going to press.

It was an unremarkable year at underage level. The U-14 footballers were defeated in the County Final by John Lockes.

Fund Raising

The hurlers co-op draw continues to be a major source of day to day funding. The Christmas raffle was held again. In November a race night was held.

Played with Kilkenny

Congratulations to Pat Hartley (U-16 H & F) & Declan Brennan (U-16 F),

Shane Ryan, Rd. Dollard & Ed. Cultrane (U-15 H), Gary Heffernan & Patrick Mullally (U-14 football). Seamus Hartley was a selector with the U-14 & U-16 football squads.

Officials

Two clubmen now hold higher office within the organisation. Paddy Gaule is Chairman of the Southern Board and John Healy is now Central Council Delegate as well as Leinster Council Delegate for Kilkenny.

Obituaries

Tom O'Keeffe of Heads Grove passed away during the year. Tom was a great supporter of the club.

During the past year Joe Sullivan originally from Ballyfoyle, but living in Campile, Wexford for many years died. Joe played with the club at all levels.

Jimmy Power of Glynn also passed away during the year. Jimmy was a member of the first hurling team to be fielded by the club in the 1940's.

Toby Cody from Glenpipe also died. Toby was involved in many aspects of parish life and was a keen supporter of the club.

Much sadness was occasioned during the year with the news of the tragic passing of Richard Young of Cooleen.

Richard in recent times had been involved in the club committee as well as coaching under-age teams. He himself had played for the club for many years.

To their families and to all members bereaved during the year we extend our sympathy.

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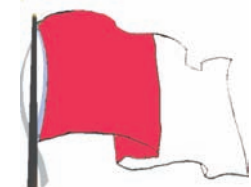
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Windgap

CLUB NEWS

High Hopes

After a relatively successful year in 2001, hopes were high in Windgap at the annual dinner dance at the start of the year that the locals could add to the Southern Junior and Cahill Cup medals being given out at this function. However, it proved to be a disappointing year in most grades for Windgap.

Junior Hurling

At adult level, the loss of Niall Kenny due to a serious knee injury in the opening football match of the year proved to be a bad omen for the year ahead. The junior hurlers failed to qualify for the knockout stages of the All-County League, recording just one victory in the group stages. A series of injuries afterwards meant that the side were never at full strength for the Southern Junior Hurling League, and despite some encouraging performances, the side was then pitted in a knockout quarterfinal tie against eventual champions Kilmacow.

Some Disappointment

This was a close encounter which could have swung either way but Kilmacow displayed greater composure at the key moments of the game and deserved to progress. Despite the disappointment of this defeat, the year did see many young players sample some experience of hurling at Junior level, and it is hoped that the benefits of this may be felt in future seasons.

Junior B

At Junior B level, the side recorded one victory in the league stages against Mooncoin. In the championship, the side recorded a 0-9 to 1-5 victory over Thomastown in the first round before being edged out by Tullogher in the next round. At U-21 level, the side were unfortunate to concede a late goal against Callan which saw them edged out by a point.

Minor and U-16

The minor and U-16 teams, under the guidance of Walter Purcell and Tommy Hearne, fared somewhat better than the adult teams. The minor side qualified for the County League final before losing out to Slieverue, while the U-16 side reached the league semi-final before losing out also to Slieverue.

U-14s Did Well

At U-14 level, the local team beat O'Loughlins in a quarter final replay before being beaten in the semifinal. The School team reached the quarterfinal of the competition while at camaint level, the side won all games which it played in Nowlan Park.

These achievements are all the more notable considering the continuing small numbers enrolled to Windgap National School.

Club Representatives

In terms of achievements outside the club, Bobby Jackman was selected as the County U-21 trainer and was unfortunate to see his side pipped by a very late Wexford goal in the Leinster semi-final. Aidan Mackey played for Junior football for the county, Conor Lonergan played for the U-14 county side, JJ Phelan made the U-15 county panel and Eoin Cody was player of the year for his team in Kilkenny CBS. Also, Derek Hartery, Conor Lonergan, and Brendan Grace played for Callan CBS in the Rice Cup.

Golf Classic

In off field events, 2002 saw the staging of the club's first annual Golf Classic in Mountain View Golf Club. The event proved to be a great success, and many thanks to all who helped to supported the event through either sponsorship or taking part in the event. Given the increasing financial pressure which the club is now facing, it is hoped to make this event an annual one in future years.

Club Grounds

In pitch developments, improvements made to the club grounds this year included the sanding of the pitch, resodding of the goals, installation of wire at one side of the field to prevent ball losses, and the fitting of new goalposts to the juvenile field.

Bereavements

Finally, 2002 also sadly saw the departure of many former club members and friends - this includes Bill Butler, Nicholas O'Shea, Ellen Landy and Mary Daniels.

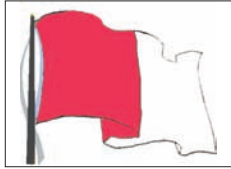


Windgap Camaint 2002

Back; Simon Brophy (Trainer), Eoin Ryan, (Selector) Paul Comerford, Nicola Moore, Sean Foley, Ryan Murray, Kieran Fennelly, Cian Ryan, John Ryan, (Trainer).

Middle; Lauren Cashin, Mairead Comerford, Wesley Smyth, Shane Power, Stephen Purcell, Peter Landy.

Front; Michael Power, Alison Walsh, Katie O'Gorman, Patrick Foley, Ian Murray, Shane Walsh, Gerard Phelan.



Young Irelands

CLUB NEWS

CLUB OFFICERS:

Chairperson: Willie Delaney
 Vice-Chairpersons: Philip Twomey, Ciar-n Phelan
 Secretary: Patrick Farrell
 Assistant Secretary: John Drennan
 Treasurer: Pat Treacy
 Assistant Treasurer: Denis Quinlan
 PRO: Beatrice Treacy
 School Liason Officer: Eddie Power
 Juvenile Chairperson: Liam Walsh
 Juvenile Secretary: Ollie Carter

Young Irelands GAA Club was founded 50 years ago this year in 1952. Reflecting over these years we can look proudly at the achievements of our players and administrators. We have had success on the playing field at various stages over the years and we have had lean years on this front. But most importantly in this period we have made many friends and had many enjoyable occasions through our involvement in the local GAA scene. Two of our founder members are still with us today - Bill Hennessy & Jim Harding. Jim still lives in the parish and never fails to attend the club AGM.

The highlight of the year was the winning of the Senior Championship. This reward was richly deserved by the panel and mentors who gave great commitment all season. It was marvelous to see the village decked out with such colour in the lead up to the final and for the homecoming reception.

The winning of the Roinn C School's Final this year gave a great boost to all involved at underage level. It was marvelous to see many of the children who have been participating in our under age coaching sessions in recent years achieve such success. To John Knox and Dick O'Neill go congratulations and gratitude for their ongoing work with the young hurlers and footballers in the school. From weekly Saturday morning coaching teams were fielded from Under 12 to Under 8. The Under 10 panel reached the final of the Jim Comerford Final for the first time and acquitted themselves very well despite being beaten by Clara on the day. The Under 11 Cam-int team had a very successful and enjoyable season culminating in the final match in Nowlan Park. This group also won a blitz hosted by Bennettsbridge with great games against Johnstown and Thomastown. The Under 12 team competed in the summer league and also in a blitz hosted by Paulstown.

A young under 14 team performed extremely well in league and championship this year in reaching the semi-final of both. The under 16's also did very well this season in qualifying for semi-final of the championship.

In recent years one of the aims of our club has been to acquire a second pitch. Fundraising is ongoing in this



YOUNG IRELANDS UNDER 9 HURLERS 2002

Back: Patrick Drennan, Michael J Comerford, Paul Delahaunty, Michael Lennon, Gearoid Kennedy, Brian Murphy, J P Treacy, Sean Farrell, Seppie Lysaght, Sean O'Neill,
Front: Peter Hutchinson, Michael Dunne, Eoin Murphy, M J Kelly, Keith McEvoy, Bill Brennan, Philip Dreeeling, Brian Rudkins



YOUNG IRELANDS UNDER 11 CAMAINT PANEL

Back: Declan Bennett, Aisling Carey, Laura Fennelly, Patrick Lennon, David Doyle, Patrick Quinaln, Chris Noaln, Vincent Byrne, Sean Kehoe, Anthony McEvoy, Dara Kehoe
Front: Jack Glendon, Emmet Byrne, Michael Lennon, David O'Brien, Eoin Walsh, Paul Holden, Katie Dunne, Aisling Hennessy, Niall Walsh, Emma Comerford

regard but the acquisition of a suitable piece of ground continues to elude us. Hopefully we will see our aim fulfilled sooner rather than later. With the amount of games and the demands for training nights it is very difficult to manage with only one pitch to work on.

Our involvement in the Hurler's Co Op draw is an annual event. Again this year a great effort was put in by committee and players. It was marvelous to have three local winners in the draw this year.

Our annual Golf Classic in Gowran Park Golf Course was again a terrific success. A most enjoyable day was had by all. A special thanks must go to our hard working committee and to all who supported them in this venture.

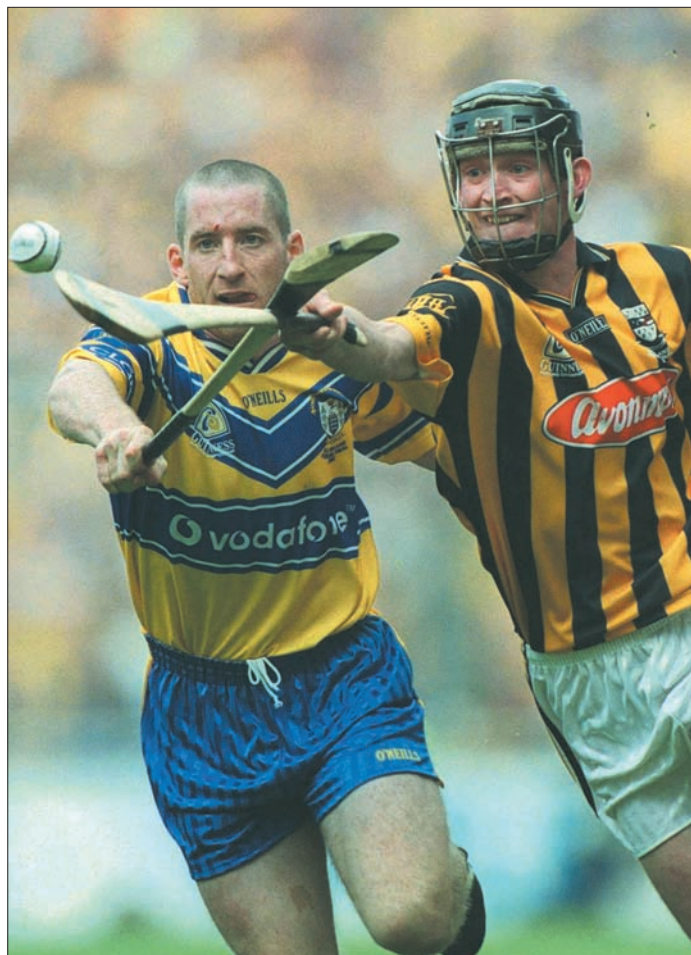
The weekly GAA Lotto is another ongoing feature of the club's fundraising. We have had a number of small prize winners over the years. However this year one of our supporters, Mary McEvoy, was lucky enough to share the jackpot.

D J Carey & Charlie Carter continue to bring honour and distinction to our club and their contribution to the return of the McCarthy Cup to Kilkenny brought further pride to them and the club.

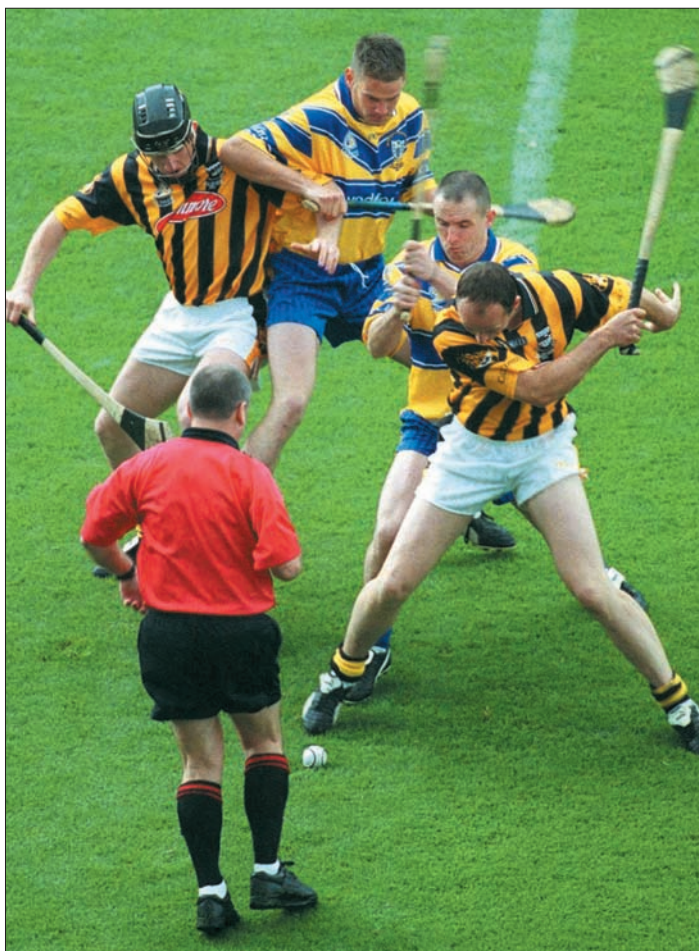
Congratulations to those of our members who had new arrivals to their families during the year. To any club members or parishioners who suffered bereavements during the year we extend our sympathies.



Colin Grant, Kilkenny's Minor Goalie clears again.
 Photo John McIlwaine



Clare's David Hoey, and Kilkenny's Martin Comerford in the All Ireland Hurling Final.
 Photo Damien Eagers / SPORTSFILE



The game is on! Andy Comerford and Derek Lyng, square up to John Reddan and Colin Lynch in the final
 Photo Brian Lawless / SPORTSFILE



Waiting the call... Brian McEvoy and Charlie Carter closely watching the Final.
 Photo John McIlwaine

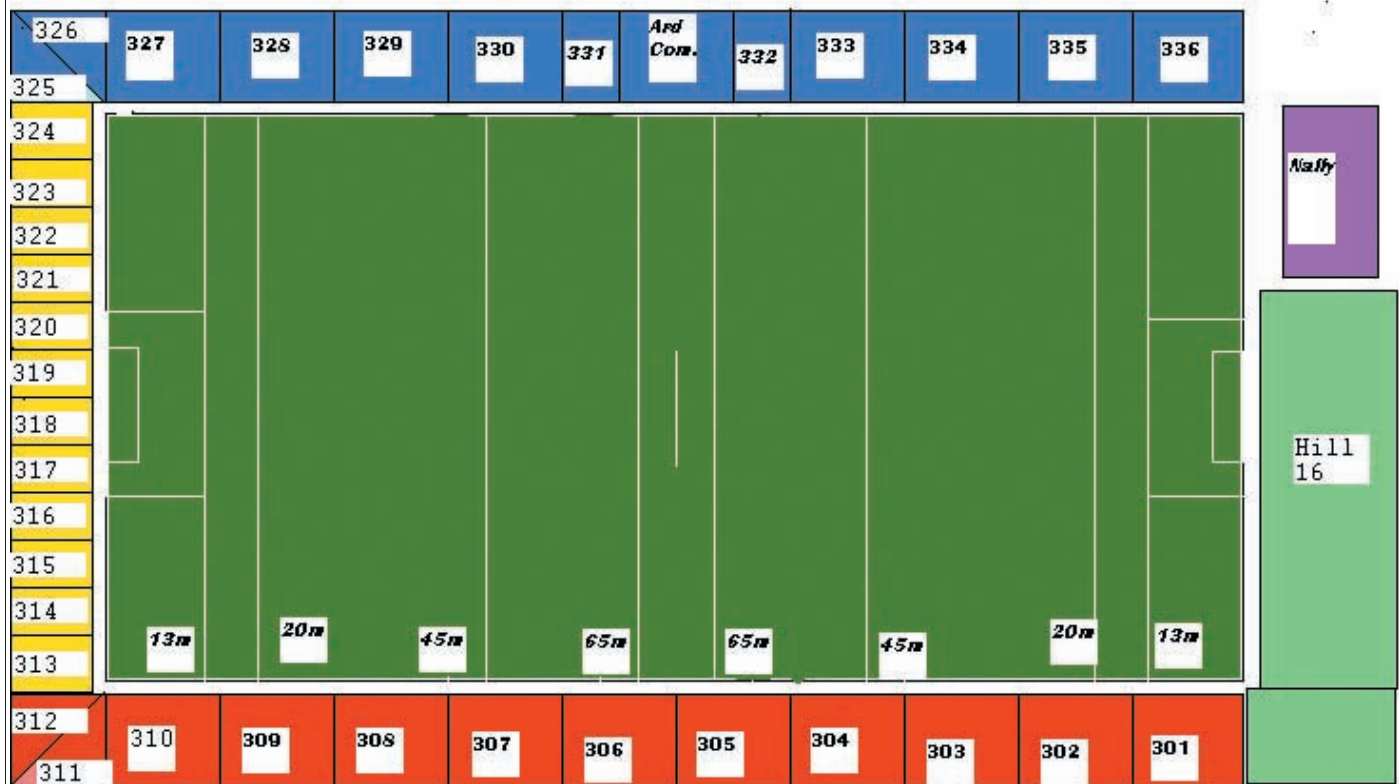


KILKENNY SENIOR HURLERS ON THE LEINSTER TEAM THAT DEFEATED MUNSTER IN THE RAILWAY CUP FINAL.

Back: Henry Shefflin, John Hoyne, Jimmy Coogan, Noel Hickey, Richie Mulally, Peter Barry, Pat Tennyson.

Front: J.J. Delaney, Derek Lyng, Andy Comerford (Captain, Leinster), Eddie Brennan, Mick Kavanagh.

Photo Eoin Hennessy



What's your ticket like?

A Plan of the new Croke Park layout showing the numbered sections - Upper deck follows the same pattern but begins 701 etc.

A good old-fashioned, fire-breathing, iron-eating centre-forward.....



By Diarmuid O'Flynn, The Examiner

Now that ye're finished with him in Kilkenny, is there any chance we can have John Power in Cork? Because God knows, a good old-fashioned fire-breathing, iron-eating centre-forward wouldn't go astray down here (a good strong-minded manager who wouldn't be dictated to by anyone wouldn't be bad either, but I suppose one thing at a time!).

As the world and its grandmother knows by now, we've lost the plot in this neck of the woods. Dissent, disharmony, disgruntled individuals on both sides of the player/management divide, no sign of an end to the stalemate, we could do with a little pick-me-up, a power-boost, if you like. The red-man from Callan would give us that.

John Power, to my admittedly narrow mind, is the best centre-forward of the past decade or more, a guy who could have played in any team, in any era. With so much movement in the modern game, so much inter-changing, it's becoming less of a specialist position than it once was but right through the 90's, and into the 00's, John Power was the specialist's specialist. Ask any club centre-forward through that period who the model was, ask any inter-county number 11 even, and most will tell you - the Kilkenny-man, Power. Jaysus, he had everything.

He could be as spectacular as anyone, crash in the crowd-lifting goal, spear over the long-range point from either wing, but it was in the basics, the nitty-gritty, that John Power excelled.

He was demonic in his work-rate, a dervish, phenomenal energy; he had exceptional strength - more mate on a tinker's stick after a fight, Barry Henriques' colourful description, more mate on a butcher's pencil, but lean meat it all was, not a sliver of fat. He bristled with muscle and bone, you got bruised when he hit you, bruised when you hit him. Some good men put him down but, as the song says, he got back up again, you ain't never going' to keep him down. There simply wasn't a backward step in him. And abrasive? The man was coated in 50-grit sandpaper - brush off him, and bleed.

But, it wasn't all just physical with John Power, in fact that wasn't even half of the equation. The man could hurl,

could really hurl. Silken hands at the ends of those arms of steel, a touch so soft and controlled that the most hard-hit of balls would be deflected left, right or forward as he wished, but killed dead with one delicate touch, the venom removed. You wouldn't see it that often in a game, because the opportunity doesn't often come up, but anyone of the thousands who went to the Kilkenny training sessions over the years saw it. Power had hurling hands.

And he had that hurling brain. Above all in a centre-forward, you need that intelligence. The guy who can bang and bruise, make the space, is fine, curb the excesses of the opposing centre-back, usually the best player on the opposing team. But the guy who offers all of that and then some, he's your centre-forward. Tie up their number six, then create, with the ball. That too was John Power.

It's the little flicks, nicks, kicks, two or three defenders sucked in, the ball shifted out only five or six yards, but enough for the finishers to do their business. He was deadly at that, John Power, would take the hurley across the shin-bone, the ankle, the hand, whatever, just to work that ball out of the ruck, create the scoring opportunity. Over the years, few benefited as much from that unglamorous largely-unseen work as DJ Carey (another who, in this book, would have graced any era). Typically, DJ is more than anxious that people should recognise that fact.

"Myself and John established ourselves around the same time, though he was on the panel a few years before me. A great fella, on and off the field; great player, obviously, but a gentleman to the bone off it. Many players, including myself, have made our careers off John Power; we're there putting the ball over the bar or in the back of the net, but a lot of people never notice the donkey-work John Power is after doing, to get that ball to us - he would go in anywhere to win a ball. He came with a great reputation too, which is always a great help when you're going into games, the opposition know they have a handful, the fella marking him is nervous, looking over his shoulder, wondering what Power was going to do next. He was so hard, but he was a player that very rarely, if ever, pulled a dirty stroke, and certainly I don't ever remem-



John Power renews acquaintance with Brian Lohan in the All Ireland Final.
Photo SPORTSFILE

ber him doing so. He was always in there as hard as could be, as strong as could be, and the pulling at times could get fairly wild, but it was always on the ball, and I've never seen him actually pull a dirty stroke. But he's the kind of fella that if you're in trouble, you'd like to have him by your side".

That hardness is interesting. I was at a Kilkenny club game in Nowlan Park recently and after about quarter of an hour of action, a national journalist (a good guy he is too, knows his hurling, but he shall remain nameless here) remarked to me - "God, Kilkenny hurling is very hard, isn't it?" (not that I'm inferring he was referring to me as God, you understand). He was surprised, I wasn't. Though there are those who would have it otherwise, hurling is still very much a man's game, and especially in Kilkenny. But, even in Kilkenny, John Power was a hard man.

There's a price to be paid for that, especially when you're a middleweight build with a heavy-weight attitude. As DJ explains, Power paid that price, willingly, often. "He suffered a lot of injuries over the years, a fella that goes in as hard as he does, and every time, is bound to. He took a lot of knocks for his bravery, knocks that people didn't always appreciate him for, really, and there was many a day John Power would go home after a championship game with Kilkenny and not be able to get out of bed the next morning, after the belts he'd taken. He'll be badly missed".

Badly missed indeed. Lookit, I'm writing this before the announcement of the All-Star team, and I know Henry Shefflin is an automatic for the centre-forward slot, and for player-of-the-year - I selected him earlier on for both slots, on my own team. But, and I know this might then sound like an awful thick thing to say, I would still rate John Power a better centre-forward (well, I'm in the business of 'thick things to say'). Henry is an outstanding hurler, period, and if he maintains the rate of progress of the last few years, will go on to become one of the all-time greats of the game. I think you could put him anywhere and he'd be outstanding, perhaps even in goal. Like DJ, Henry brings a range of hurling ability to any position that few, even guys as talented as John Power, can match. But, John Power brings a few things to the centre-forward position that, against certain players especially, even Henry doesn't have in his considerable arsenal.

But, Kilkenny have won an All-Ireland without John Power (that cameo appearance at the end of the All-Ireland final - I don't know how to express my feelings on that, so I won't). Without Denis Byrne either, which I find equally amazing, and with Brian McEvoy and Charlie Carter on the bench - 'a good job they didn't start', a disgruntled Clare-man said to me immediately after the All-Ireland final, 'because if they had, we'd have been beaten out the gate!'. Finished then, so, I'll repeat the request at the top of this piece - can we have him? You see, he owes us one anyway. 1992, All-Ireland final, we were the better team. But then the red-head stepped forward (and why is it that DJ's gritty performance that day is so often forgotten?); scrappy goal after the break, then back in defence in the dying minutes, denying his opposite number Tomas Mulcahy (another under-rated centre-forward), getting in the clearance. And by the way, I wonder does he still have the ball from that All-Ireland? When the final whistle sounded, fittingly, it was Power with the ball in his fist. We're not going to get that one back, ball or All-Ireland, but, we could badly do with the man himself. Just a year, one year, that's all. Oh, the things our fellas could learn.

Photo Sportsfile



John Power in action against John Hodgins (Galway) in the 2001 All Ireland semi-final.



Loose the old dog.....

John Power makes his final appearance in Croke Park and causes the biggest cheer of the day.



Photo Sportsfile

First Title for Erin's Own

Senior Football Report by Dick Mullins



ERIN'S OWN - COUNTY SENIOR FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS 2002

Back: Dick Mullins, Anthony Owens, Jonathan Kenny, Tarla Dunne, Richard Mullins, Jason McGuire, David Lynch, Edward Brennan, Michael Owens, Peter Donovan
Middle: Paddy Phelan, Joe Meagher, Patrick Shortall, Frank Byrne, Shay Kennedy, Paul Mullins, Brian O' Neill, Fergal O'Neill, David Dunne, Eoin Rothwell, Mick Brennan.

Front: Danny Byrne, Pat Shore, Niall Murtagh, Micheál Coogan, Damien Mullins, Adam Holden, Donal Dunne, Liam Shore, Ken Brennan, David Buggy, Keith Normyle.
Photo Eoin Hennessy

Ten teams contested the county football championship which commenced on a league basis in early March with two groups of five teams. Group 1 Railyard, Glenmore, Young Irelands, Kilmoganny and Piltown. Group 2 Dicksboro, Muckalee, James Stephens, Mullinavat and Erin's Own (Castlecomer)

Railyard and Erin's Own topped their respective groups and hence a meeting of the Northern neighbours in the League Final on Monday April 1st in Ballyragget. In a game that failed to live up to expectations, scores were in short supply. The teams were level at 3 points each at half time. In the second half, Railyard added four points to Erin's Own's two and emerged as victors and favourites for the championship.

Participation in the League Final entitled Railyard and Erin's Own to qualification for the Championship semi finals. In the quarter finals Kilmoganny edged out Dicksboro by a single point and James Stephens showed good form to defeat reigning champions Muckalee. James Stephens overcame Railyard by two points in a close encounter to gain a place in the final while Erin's Own got a walkover from Kilmoganny to complete the pairing.

The final was played on Sunday 20th. October in Ballyragget on the same day that the hurling finals had to be cancelled in Nowlan Park due to inclement weather. Erin's Own got the better start and went into an early three point lead but the city men had levelled the game with twenty minutes gone. Michael Owens gave Erin's Own a slender half point lead. The second half was keenly contested with both sides trying to get the upper hand. The break came for 'Comer when a 45 by Paul Mullins went all the way to the net. The Village kept in touch with a brace of points by Brian Leahy and Liam O' Connor but 'Comer points from David Buggy, Ken Brennan, Micheál Coogan and Paul Mullins gave Erin's Own sight of the finish



FIRST COMER MAN TO HOLD SF TROPHY

A happy Erin's Own Captain, **Liam Shore**, holds up the Senior County Football trophy after their win over James Stephens.
Photo Eoin Hennessy

line. With the score 1-8 to Erin's Own and James Stephens 0-8, the final minutes were frantic but the 'Comer lads were not going to let go and emerged as County Champions for the first time having won the Junior in '97 the Intermediate in '98 and losing last year's final to Muckalee after a replay.



RAILYARD - SENIOR FOOTBALL LEAGUE CHAMPIONS 2002

Back: Eamonn Mooney, Paul Roche, Jimmy Roche, Colm Phillips, John Dowd, Eoin Boran, Damien Walsh, Eddie Roche.
Front: Philip Roche, John Delaney, Larry Buggy, Seamus Hennessy, Seanie Brennan, Donal Hennessey, Andrew Brennan

Photo Eoin Hennessy



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The Best for the Best....officials and full panel of the victorious 2002 Kilkenny SH team were presented with top quality suits by the Man's Shop. Michael Wall measures from left: Johnny Walsh (Sel), Noel Skehan (Sel), Brian Cody (Team Manager) and Mick O'Flynn (Sel).
(Photo Tom Brett)

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Estd 1974

Blacks & Whites in Clover!

Junior Report by Richie Stone & Jimmy Walsh



BLACKS & WHITES - JJ KAVANAGH COUNTY JUNIOR HURLING CHAMPIONS 2002

Back: Neil Cody, Shane O'Sullivan, Paddy Savage, Peter Farrell, John Murphy, James Doran, Jimmy Whelan, Sean Kealy, Michael Ryan.

Front: James Brennan, Michael Doyle, Pat O'Grady, Michael Doyle, Niall Kennedy, John O'Grady, Peter Cleere, John Byrne, Donie Whelan, Tom Maloney, Paul Whelan (Capt.).

Middle: Cathal Moran, Pat Nolan, Pat Ryan, Pat Hayden, Barry Maloney, James Doyle, Tommy Farrell, David Murphy, Martin Farrell.

Photo : Eoin Hennessy.



KILMACOW - JJ KAVANAGH COUNTY JUNIOR HURLING FINALISTS.

Back : Brian Fleming, Noel Dunphy, Richie O'Neill, John Phelan, Shane Gaule, Ian Power, Ger O'Neill.

Middle : Greg Power (Sel.), David Walsh, Johnny Barron, Robert O'Keeffe, Eamon Reddy, Tomás Reddy, Paddy O'Keeffe, Peter Mullally, Dermot Tierney, Micheál Sweeney, Trevor Sutton, John Walsh.

Front: Nickey Barron, Damien Grant, Declan Gahan, Paul Long, Sean Flynn, Richard Walsh, Willie O'Toole, Shane Power, Dermot Haberlin (Sel.).

Mascot : Steven Haberlin.

Photo : Eoin Hennessy.

A new year brought with it new hope for all the competing teams and new sponsors for the Northern Board in the shape of J.J.Kavanagh and Sons. However when the draw was made it seemed that the old reliables were destined to once again feature in the closing stages. That assumption proved to be accurate enough when all the fancied teams made it through to the second round. Graigue/Ballycallan beat Dicksboro 2-11 to 1-2, Galmoy got the better of Clara 1-15 to 0-8 Conahy Shamrocks proved too strong for Barrow Rangers winning 0-14 to 1-2, Tullaroan made their intentions clear with 3-14 to 2-5 win over Lisdowney, St Patrick's avenged the previous years defeat by Fenians winning 0-16 to 1-9. Danesfort saw off the challenge of Cloneen 2-13 to 2-9 while newly relegated Blacks & Whites had a convincing win over Erins Own 2-17 to 0-4.

Six teams fought it out in the losers group for one place in the semi finals. Dicksboro ended Clara's interest in the competition winning 1-17 to 1-9. Fenians got their challenge back on track with a 2-11 to 1-6 win over Barrow Rangers. Cloneen and Lisdowney fought out an exciting draw. (Lisdowney 2-9 Cloneen 1-12.) Lisdowney won an equally tense replay by a single point 2-13 to 1-15. Erins Own had a bye into the semi finals of the losers group.

In the losers group semi finals Lisdowney began to show some good form beating Fenians 2-17 to 3-9 while Dicksboro were lucky enough to escape with a draw against a much improved Erins Own 1-16 each. The city side made no mistake in the replay winning 3-11 to 1-8. That paved the way for the losers group final. At stake was a place in the last four of the competition proper. The final was a close affair with Lisdowney just getting there on 1-11 to 0-12 scoreline.

Meanwhile the first round winners were also playing out their side of the draw. Blacks & Whites ensured themselves a place in the semi finals when they got the better of St Patricks with a stunning second half display winning 2-15 to 0-9. Neighbours and great rivals Graigue/Ballycallan fought out a draw Tullaroan 0-13 Graigue/Ballycallan 1-10. Tullaroan won the replay 2-13 to 0-12. Meanwhile Galmoy were once again edging towards an annual visit to the closing stages with 3-11 to 1-11 win over a fancied Conahy Shamrocks and Blacks & Whites were moving ominously closer to a quick return to the intermediate grade by seeing off the challenge of Danesfort.

The semi final draw saw Blacks & Whites take on Lisdowney and Galmoy square up to Tullaroan. Blacks & White were installed favourites to make it to the final but were in for a rare fright against a battling Lisdowney in a game played at Nowlan Park. In fact Lisdowney seemed to be on their way to a shock win at half time when they led by five points. However two second half goals settled the issue in Blacks & Whites favour and they went on to win on a 2-6 to 1-5 scoreline.

In the second semi final played at Urlingford Galmoy had to battle all the way to see off a



PILTOWN IVERK SOUTHERN JH LEAGUE & CHAMPIONSHIP FINALISTS 2002
Back: Dessie O'Dea, Vinny Long, Tommy Falconer, Connor O'Shea, Brian Farrell, Michael Galavan, James Farrell, John Malone, Liam Kenny, James Connolly, Michael Brennan, Richie Fitzpatrick, Richard Brophy.
Front: Richie Connolly, John Falconer, Pa Connolly, Andrew McCarthy, Kevin Maher, Jim Power, Paul Maher, Gerry Long, John Lonergan



MOONCOIN - COUNTY JUNIOR A FINALISTS 2002
Back: Michael Frisby, Shane Kinsella, Michael Comerford, Eoin Cooney, Michael Walsh, Vincent Power Stephen Phelan, Willie Fleming, Jamie McGrath, Michael Jones, Alan Hennebrey, Laurence Dunphy, Richard Kinsella Noel Delahunty.
Front: Richard Hogan John O'Hanlon, Ger. Sutton, Brendan Mackey, Jimmy Dunphy, Jamie Dunphy, Kevin Dunphy, Andy Phelan, John Phelan, Billy Ryan, Anton Lennon, Thomas O Hanlon.



BALLYHALE SHAMROCKS - COUNTY JUNIOR A LEAGUE FINALISTS
Back: John Darmody, Michael Fennelly, Anthony Walsh, Robert Aylward, Willie Dempsey, Keith Nolan, Sean O'Keeffe, Michael Darmody, Liam Walsh, Brendan Mason (Capt.) Dick Fitzpatrick.
Front: Jason Nolan, Michael Paul Drennan, Liam Grant, Michael O'Sullivan, Keith Murphy, James Fitzpatrick, Eamon Fitzpatrick, Mark Aylward.

determined Tullaroan challenge . Donnacha Gray proved to be the hero with goals early and late in the game to see Galmoy safely into the Northern final by four points 2-10 to 1-9.

The Northern final turned out to be a cracker. The game was a curtain raiser to the intermediate semi final but ended up being the match of the day. In a fast paced game Galmoy were the early pacesetters . They raced into a 1-4 to 0-1 lead early on the goal coming from Donnacha Gray . A resolute Blacks & Whites did not panic and when a kicked effort from Donie Whelan came back off the crossbar Shane O'Sullivan was in the right place to tap home from close range. Galmoy were unfazed. Points from Noel Doherty (2) and Martin Phelan wiped out the goal . Alan Gray added another from close range . The sides continued to trade scores coming up to the interval but Galmoy were still in control at the break at which they were leading by 1-11 to 1-6.

The pace of the game slackened somewhat in the early stages of the new half . It took ten minutes for the first to come. That was a point from Pat O'Grady. Noel Doherty replied with a similar score. Tommy Farrell pointed again for Blacks & Whites before a great double save from Galmoy goalie Liam Drennan who denied Pat O'Grady and Donie Whelan kept the Galmoy men's lead intact. Three further points from frees by Phil Russell seemed to ensure victory for the Galmoy men . With twelve minutes remaining the Skeough men had another go at getting back into a game that seemed to slowly drifting away from them. Niall Kennedy began the revival with a free. Then Tommy Farrell collected a well placed pass from Pat O'Grady to rifle home a goal from close range . Sean Kealy who had been moved up to the forwards from full back then hit two points inside ninety seconds . Niall Kennedy levelled it all up with a point from a 65 metre free with six minutes remaining. Donie Whelan then pointed from an acute angle to put Blacks & Whites in front for the first time in the game. Then with time running out Galmoy's Brian Doherty was fouled and the resultant free was pointed by Michael Brennan to give the Galmoy side a deserved share of the spoils. Galmoy 1-16 Blacks & Whites 2-13.

In the replay at Nowlan Park the following week both sides went for the kill from the start. Points from Michael Ryan and Niall Kennedy (Free) were quickly replied to by similar scores from Noel Doherty and Phil Russell to level matters . However the Skeough side held the advantage at the end of that first quarter thanks to a goal from Tommy Farrell. It was nip and tuck until Galmoy were caught with a sucker punch .Three Blacks & Whites forwards James Doyle ,Donie Whelan and Michael Ryan were involved in a move that saw the sliothar played in to Pat O'Grady. O'Grady's shot was saved by an alert Liam Drennan but Ryan pounced on the breaking ball and smashed it to the net . Galmoy responded with a point from a Phil Russell free . The Skeough side hit back with two well taken points from Pat O'Grady . Brian Doherty and Phil Russell kept Galmoy very much in the



GALMOY - NORTHERN JUNIOR FINALISTS 2002
Back: Brian Lonergan, Charles Brennan, Gavin Doherty, Michael Brennan, Paul Delaney.
Middle: Michael Harte, Kevin Lonergan, Joe Ryan, Phil Doyle, David Delaney, Liam Drennan Leo Doherty, Brian Doherty, Cathal Doherty, David Doyle, Phillip Maher, Brendan Delaney, Paucic Gray.
Front: Brian Kavanagh, Shane Doherty, Donnacha Gray, Niall Doherty, Martin Phelan, Alan Gray (Capt.) and son Dylan. Phil Russell, Noel Doherty,



GLENMORE - IVERK JUNIOR A LEAGUE & CHAMPIONSHIP FINALISTS 2002
Back: Paschal Phelan, Billy Verreker, Willie Fitzgerald, Kevin Aylward, Mark Mullally, John Dollard, John Murphy, Brian Aylward, Niall Mackey, J.J.Doherty, Anthony Phelan, Hugh Doran, Barry Ryan.
Front: Ramie Ryan, Fintan Walsh, Donie Cody, Seamus Aylward, Paddy Murphy, Eugene Griffin, Raymond Culleton, (Capt.) Richie Aylward, Ray Byrne, Eoin Grennan.



JAMES STEPHENS - JUNIOR B COUNTY CHAMPIONS 2002
Back: Tommy Fogarty, David Ruth, Conor Dunphy, Jonathan Savage, Pat Butler, Wayne Kelly, Bobby Kearney, Pater O'Neill, Liam Meehan, Conor Whelan, Martin Ryan, James Whelan.
Front: Kieran Brennan, Shane O'Grady, John Scott, Michael Eardley, Simon Creane, Kieran Byrne, Mark Hennessy, Brian Tyrrell, David Carroll, Eoin Dunphy, Conor O'Grady.



TULLOGHER/ROSBERCON - COUNTY JUNIOR B FINALISTS & COUNTY JUNIOR B LEAGUE CHAMPIONS

Back: John Mullally, Martin Woods, Ollie Maddock, Colm Phelan, Luke Doyle, Daragh Moore, Shemmy Murphy, Enda Cummins, Thomas Doherty, Seamus Phelan John Cotterel, Eamon Phelan, Robbie Hennessey, Tom McDonald, John Paul, Phelan, Canice Grennan, Richie Murphy, John Murphy, Johnny Barron,
Front: Amby Malone, Thomas Healy, Joseph McCarthy, Moling Cotterel, Martin Bookle, Michael Murphy, Mark alone, Richie Ryan, James Grennan, Eamon Bookle, John Murphy, Canice Grennan, Ger. Murphy.

hunt with points before the break. At that stage Blacks & Whites were three points clear 2-6 to 0-9 but far from safe. The steady stream of scores continued after the interval as both sides went for the jugular. The difference remained the same until the 40th minute when Noel Doherty finished a good Galmoy move to the net. A minute later Galmoy were in front for the first time when Phil Russell pointed a free. Blacks and Whites were stunned at the way they lost the lead but they responded well. They dug deep and were rewarded with a goal. A move that involved Tommy Farrell. Michael Ryan and Donie Whelan ended with the latter slamming an unstoppable shot to the net. From the resultant puck out Paul Whelan sent the ball over the bar to confirm their comeback. Galmoy were not finished. Phil Russell pointed a free in the 48th minute. Both sides played as if their lives depended on the result for the next few minutes but it was a Niall Kennedy point from a free deep into time added on that sealed victory for the Skeough side.

County final day was not exactly an ideal day for hurling but Kilmacow who had come through the Southern championship and Blacks & Whites fought out a hard battle for honours. Of course as well as winning the coveted county title the winners would gain promotion to the intermediate grade for 2003. Blacks & Whites were installed uneasy favourites to get back to the intermediate at the first time of asking.

The game itself was never free flowing but there was no lack of effort from both sides. Kilmacow made life difficult from the start. They had the best of the early exchanges but missed three good chances early on. These misses were to prove costly. Scores were few and far between in the early stages but both sides created plenty of chances.

Pat O'Grady forced a good save from Richie O'Neill. At the other end John O'Grady's clearance was blocked down by Paul Long but full back Sean Kealy saved the day for the Skeough men. Spurred on by that let off Blacks & Whites stormed forward and Tommy Farrell was unlucky after racing on to a Peter Cleere pass. Farrells flicked shot beat goalie O'Neill but shaved the outside of the post. Both sides missed chances coming up to the break at which stage it was all



MULLINAVAT JUNIOR B SOUTHERN FINALISTS 2002

Back: Patrick Jones, Derek Aylward, Shane Frisby, Ollie Aylward, Pat Hoban, Ger Anthony, Dinny Butler, Maurice Holden, Damien Aylward, Alan Wall, Eoin Maher, Pat Holden (Capt.), Tommy Holden, Brendan Conway.
Front: Brian Kenneally, Declan Duggan, John Farrell, Ciarán Aylward, Jason Duggan, Brian Conway, Liam Aylward, Jamie Fennelly, John Geary, Michael Duggan, Jack Duggan.



CARRICKSHOCK IVERK JUNIOR B LEAGUE FINALISTS

Back: Pat Dalton, John O'Dwyer, John Power, Martin Rohan, Stephen Lonergan, William King, Liam Barron, Eric Lonergan, Paucic Rohan, Patrick Mulcahy, Liam Ireland, Shane Power, Jim Rice, Patrick Duggan.
Front: Christy Dwyer, Brian Tenneyson, Matthew Hanrahan, Gerry Mulcahy, Daniel Hoyne Michael Rohan, Tommy Murphy (Capt.) James Dalton, David Millea, Dan O'Brien, James Farrell.

square at 0-4 each. Aided by a stiff breeze for the second half of the Skeough side went in front with two pointed frees from Niall Kennedy. Tommy Farrell was again unlucky when he deflected a shot past Richie O'Neill only to see it come back into play off the cross bar However Farrell was on hand to point the rebound.

Kilmacow had been quite in the early stages of the new half but when Noel Dunphy took on the Blacks & Whites defence they showed how dangerous they could be. Dunphy's shot was smothered by John O'Grady. Scores were still few and far between. Blacks & Whites were getting on top and three points from James Doyle, Pat O'Grady, and Tommy

Farrell gave them a slight advantage on the scoreboard. Kilmacow broke a long barren patch when Dermot Tierney pointed in the 52nd minute. They had a chance to get right back into the game when they were awarded a twenty metre free. Alas for them Peter Mullally's low drive was blocked over the bar by an alert John O'Grady. Then just as it looked like everything was going against them Kilmacow got a huge boost when Ger O'Neill drilled the ball past John O'Grady after pulling on a Dermot Tierney free. That left a point in it with time running out. Both sides gave it everything in the final minute but Balcks & Whites hung on for the narrowest of victories on a 0-10 to 1-6

Scorers - Blacks & Whites: N Kennedy 0-4 (0-3 Frees 1 65') P O'Grady 0-2 T Farrell 0-2 J Byrne 0-1 J Doyle 0-1

Kilmacow: G O'Neill 1-0 D Tierney 0-3 (All frees) N Dunphy 0-1 P Mullally 0-1 J Barron 0-1

Blacks & Whites: John O'Grady, Michael Doyle, Sean Kealy, Martin Farrell, Barry Moloney, Paul Whelan (Capt) Pat Hayden, Niall Kennedy, Peter Cleere James Doyle, Michael Ryan, John Byrne, Donie Whelan Pat O'Grady, Tommy Farrell.

Kilmacow: Richie O'Neill, Willie O'Toole, Declan Gahan, E Reddy, Sean Flynn, Brian Fleming, Tomas Reddy, Richard O'Keefe, R Walsh, Dermot Tierney, Noel Dunphy, Peter Mullally, P O'Keefe, Paul Long, John Barron.
Subs: Ger O'Neill, Trevor Sutton, Ian Power, D Walsh, Michael Sweeney

SOUTHERN REPORT

A new format similar to the senior and intermediate grades with the return of a league final for the top two teams heralded the start of the new junior season. It combined a league and knockout competition for all participants. A major advantage was the rebalancing of the grading anomalies allowing players in junior clubs to participate in the junior A and B competitions until the first championship game as in all other adult grades. Champions of 2001 Windgap, finalists Piltown, Tullougher and Kilmacow appeared to the front runners of the six entrants. When the ball was thrown in for the first round on June 21st. with last minute goals saw Tullougher defeat Windgap and Dunnamaggin pipping Slieverue in close exciting games. Slieverue's first win in the competition for a number of years win over Windgap was widely welcomed and enjoyed by all. After five rounds consistent form saw Tullougher and Piltown qualify for the league final in Mullinavat whilst Dunnamaggin qualified to face Slieverue and Kilmacow were down to play Windgap in the quarter finals. In Piltown, Kilmacow, thanks to an early goal, led Windgap all the way to qualify to play on a 1-11 to 0-12 scoreline in a tight finish with Dunnamaggin ousting Slieverue in the second quarterfinal.

In the semi finals in Mullinavat Piltown had to work all the way to the wire to record a one point 1-12 to 1-11 victory over a Dunnamaggin side who scored first and last and gave everything in a nail biting finish. Surprisingly league Champions Tullougher never raised a gallop in the second game against a hungry Kilmacow side that ran out easy winners by 3-13 to 1-5 with Paddy O'Keefe, Dermot Tierney, Paul Long and Noel Dunphy thriving on a great supply up front. For the Southern Final Asper Park was



MOUNT LEINSTER RANGERS - FENNELLY CUP WINNERS 2002

Back: James Hickey, Tomas Foley, Michael Ralph, T.O. Doyle, Thomas Murphy;
Middle: Edward Coady (Capt.), Gary Doyle, Padraig Nolan, John Coleman, Christy Kealy, David Phelan, Patrick Kealy;
Front: Patrick Galaghue, Willie Hickey, John Coady, Frank Foley, Derek Kehoe, Declan Dundon, Killian Griffith; Missing; Michael Kealy.



ERIN'S OWN BAGENALSTOWN - FENNELLY CUP RUNNERS-UP 2002

Back: Martin O'Brien, Jason Doyle, Rock Pender, David Kelly, Connor Power, Declan "Boxer" Byrne
Middle: John Monaghan, Christy Cody, Trevor Nolan, Martin Kelly, Eoin Drea, Michael Purcell, Fergal Byrne, Simon Nevin, John Mitchell.
Front: Ronan Minchin, Ronan Darcy, Peter Doyle, Mick Lillis, Garry Doyle, Declan Byrne, Ciaran Cummins, Keith Nolan, Brendan Mullins.



BLACKS & WHITES - JUNIOR B LEAGUE COUNTY FINALISTS

Back: Michael Lennon (Selector), Patrick Hayden, Ned Kelly, Cathal Moran, Liam Dowling, Shane Murphy, Barry Moloney, Thomas Phelan, David Murphy, Peter Farrell, Pat Nolan, Niall Kennedy, John Farrell, Patrick Savage, Seamus Murphy (Selector/Coach)
Front: Jason Carroll, James Doran, Patrick Ryan, Tom Moloney, Michael Doyle, John Murphy, Edward Doyle, Myles Doyle, Barry Dalton.

resplendent as Carrigeen Club left no stone unturned as they hosted their first final. On the day, Kilmacow started well with five quick points by Dermot Tierney, Richard Walsh and John Barron. Midway through the half a crucial goal from a free by Paddy O'Keeffe after he was fouled helped them extend their lead to 1-6 to 0-1 at the break. On the resumption Piltown rallied and added nine points to Kilmacows two through their leader James Connolly who was assisted in scoring by John Falconer Michael Galavan and Phillip Kenny. When Liam Kenny landed a superb point 1-9 to 0-10 with three minutes to go it looked as if Piltown's momentum would pull them through, With all their focus going forward Paul Long set David Walsh up for a point to give Kilmacow their first Southern Crown in nine years. Others to perform well were Declan Gahan and Brian Fleming for the winners and Piltowns Andrew McCarthy, Brian Farrell and Jim Power ever reliable in goal. The man in the middle Domo Connolly quietly played his part on the day.

Kilmacow: Richie O'Neill, Padraic Fleming, Sean Flynn, Declan Gahan, Thomas Reddy, Eamon Reddy, William O'Toole, Dermot Tierney, Noel Dunphy, Richard Walsh, Robbie O'Keeffe, Paddy O'Keeffe, Paul Long, Ger. O'Neill, John Barron, Trevor Sutton, Peter Mullally, David Walsh, Brian Fleming, John Phelan, Michael Sweeney, Damien Grant, Shane Power, Ian Power, Fintan Tynan, Shane Gaule, John Daniel's, David Ryan, Nicky Barron.

Piltown: Jim Power, Andrew McCarthy, Brian Farrell, Richie Connolly, Tommy Falconer, Liam Kenny, Connor O'Shea, John Malone, Michael Galavan, Pa. Connolly, Michael Brennan, James Farrell, John Falconer, Vinny Long, Phillip Kenny, David Kirby, Dessie O'Dea, Gerry Long, James Connolly, Kevin Maher, Nicky Kenny, John Lonergan, Richie Brophy, Paul Maher, Shane Kinsella, Ronan Costelloe, Liam Kearns, Brendan Doyle, Andrew Norris, Barry Walsh

IVERK JUNIOR LEAGUE

As the remaining junior clubs competed for semi-final places Piltown and Tullougher were seeking their first silverware of the season. After a close tie for threequarters of an hour on a fine Tuesday evening in Mullinavat, Tullougher pulled away near the end. Good performances by Martin Bookle and John Barron with two late points by John Gaule copperfastened their 1-12 to 0-10 win. The victory saw Board chairman Paddy Gaule, a fellow Tullougher man, present the first of four trophies to his own club during the summer months, the recipient of the league trophy being fullback Shem Cummins

Piltown: Jim Power, Liam Kearns, Brian Farrell, Richie Connolly, Tommy Falconer, Liam Kenny, Michael Galavan, John Malone, James Connolly, Andrew Norris, Michael Brennan, Pa Connolly, Barry Walsh, James Farrell, Phillip Kenny, David Kirby, Andrew McCarthy, Vinny Long, Dessie O'Dea, Richie Brophy, Kevin Maher, John Falconer, John Lonergan, Gerry Long,

Tullougher Rosbercon: Eamon Phelan, Kieran Barron, Shem Cummins, Michael Bookle, Michael Grennan, Richie Walsh, Donal Phelan, Martin Bookle, John Barron, Canice Grennan, Joe Murphy, John Murphy, Mark O'Brien, Tom Murphy, John Gaule, Johnny Barron, Molling Cotterell, John



NORTHERN SELECTION JIM FARRELL CUP WINNERS 2002

Back; Alan Guilfoyle (Emeralds), James Mullins (Danesfort), Brendan Joyce (Emeralds), Niall Cahill (Emeralds), Paul Delaney (Galmoy), Alan Gray (Galmoy), Ciarain Muldowney (Conahy Shamrocks), Michael Brennan (Galmoy), Noel Doherty (Galmoy), Front; Michael Doyle (Emeralds), Niall Doherty (Galmoy), Emmett Kavanagh (Emeralds), Austin Cleere (Emeralds), Joe Ryan (Emeralds), Paul Buggy (Conahy Shamrocks), Ken Hughes (Emeralds), Philip O'Dwyer (Emeralds),
Missing Martin Phelan (Galmoy) Eoin Hennessy

Cotterell, Basil Glennon, Andrew Murphy, Joe McCarthy, Simon Kennedy, Mark Malone, Amby Malone, John Murphy (Castle), Dick Murphy, Richie Ryan, Michael Murphy, Richie Gaule, Eddie Conway.

JUNIOR A CO FINAL

Mooncoin c/o Ned Buggy
St Martins c/o Ned Buggy
Mooncoin, fielding teams in Junior A and B level, won their right to compete at Junior level in 2003 when they defeated Northern Champions St.Martin's in the County final. On the way to the final Martin's were taken to a second game by O'Loughlins before recording a high scoring 3-10 to 1-11 victory. The game played in wet and windy Bennetsbridge resulted in low scoring with the Suirsiders recording a 2-4 to 1-4 victory. A Thomas Kinsella point set the Northern champions away first only to find themselves three points behind after a quarter an hour when Andy Phelan tapped in a rebound from a saved Michael Walsh penalty. Behind 2-1 to 1-3 at the break, St. Martin's dominated long periods of the second half striking eight wides whilst Mooncoin registered the crucial match winning points.

IVERK JUNIOR A CHAMPIONSHIP

Mooncoin snatched this title from the jaws of defeat in the last minute when full forward Michael Walsh netted from a twenty-one yard free on the stroke of full time to give his side a 2-8 to 0-13 victory. Ahead 1-6 to 0-2 at half time following an early Jamie Dunphy goal Mooncoin could only add two second half points as Willie Fitzgerald with seven points hauled his side two points in front by the fifty ninth minute. For Mooncoin it was a sudden and sweet end for Glenmore defeated league finalists it was so close to victory before the shock turnaround in Asper Park. The game was played before the junior final as part of a double bill. In the semis the sides beat Graiguenamanagh and Ballyhale Shamrocks after a replay respectively. (Photo enclosed and on disc)
Glenmore (Photo unnamed enclosed and on disc)

David Aylward, Brian Aylward, Richard

Aylward, Kevin Aylward, Raymond Culletton, William Vereker, Eoghan Grennan, Eugene Griffin, Anthony Phelan, J.J.Doherty, Willie Fitzgerald (Capt.), Laurence Ryan, Paddy Murphy, Johnny Murphy, Ray Byrne, Ramie Ryan, Donie Cody, Hugh Doran, Seamus Aylward, Eamon Dollard, Francis Griffin, John Dollard, Mark Mullally, Emmet Verreker.

IVERK JUNIOR A LEAGUE

Ballyhale Shamrocks overcame Glenmore in the final played in Carrigeen in mid July on a 1-9 to 0-9 scoreline, on the evening Brendan Mason collected the trophy after a close game. The sides beat Mooncoin and The Rower respectively in the semi-finals. At the time of going to press, Ballyhale Shamrocks county finalists for seventeen weeks, await their appearance in the County final where St. Martin's will be their opponents. With progress in both competitions level at the semi-final stage the availability of players on county panels and clashes of fixtures led to inordinate delays.

JUNIOR B CHAMPIONSHIP

Following O'Loughlins qualification for the final after beating Danesfort in a replay their opposition was provided by city rivals James Stephens. The Village side led by high scoring Jonathon Savage recorded a handsome 4-12 to 1-10 victory over their neighbours. For the county final they travelled to Bennetsbridge where they overcame Southern Champions Tullougher Rosbercon. by a single point 2-7 to 1-8. Almost home and dry entering the last quarter the Village had to withstand a great Tullougher comeback that yielded 1-4 to get within a point with just minutes to go. A missed Tullougher chance to equalize saw the ball move back upfield and Connor O Grady snatch a security point for a city victory.

IVERK JUNIOR B CHAMPIONSHIP

Tullougher Rosbercon took the Southern title 0-14 to 1-10 thanks to the accuracy of sixteen-year-old Pat Hartley with nine points many from long range frees. Not named on the starting panel of thirty he was ably assisted by John Barron in goal Tom Doherty, Molling Cotterell and Joseph McCarthy. For

Mullinavat who had defeated Piltown in the semi and were prematch favourites the Holden's Pat and Maurice Jamie Fennelly, Shane Frisby and Alan Wall played well.

IVERK JUNIOR B LEAGUE

In the final Tullougher got the better of Carrickshock in Mullinavat the sides having defeated Mullinavat and Kilmacow respectively in the semi-finals. Five rounds on a league basis preceded the knockout stage that started with quarterfinals, in all ten teams participated. For the captain Tom Doherty and his side it was the first of three final victories.

Tullougher/Rosbercon: Eamon Phelan, Mark Malone, Seamus Phelan, Joseph McCarthy, Robbie Hennessey, Tom Doherty, Amby Malone, Richie Ryan, Eamon Bookle, Canice Grennan, Martin Bookle, John Murphy, Michael Murphy, Shemmy Murphy, Moling Cotterell, Richard Murphy, Enda Cummins, John Cotterell, John Murphy (Ballyfoyle), Martin Malone, Martin Woods, Ger Mullally, Luke Doyle, John Mullally, Tom McDonald, Thomas Healy, James Grennan, Simon Kennedy, Colin Phelan, Ollie Maddock.

JUNIOR B LEAGUE CO. FINAL

A point by veteran Black and Whites full forward Pat Nolan with a minute to go appeared to ensure victory for his the Black and whites in Thomastown. Having led throughout they were piped when two late Martin Bookle points gave Tullougher Rosbercon an 0-13 to 1-9 victory. In a closely contested game the Skough side started best and led throughout. Tullougher were best served by the Murphy's Michael and John along with Moling Cotterell up front Robbie Hennessey, Joseph McCarthy Richie Ryan, and Martin Bookle in the second half. The Black and whites were well served by their Captain Pat Nolan, Peter and John Farrells, Michael Doyle, Larry Moloney and a very young John Murphy in goal

HENNESSEY SPORTS ALL COUNTY JUNIOR HURLING LEAGUE

In an all Northern final Conahy Shamrocks won their first All County Junior title when they defeated neighbours and surprise packets of the tournament Erin's Own of Castlecomer. 2-16 to 1-6. After the twenty four teams played off the league section in four groups Piltown, Tullougher and Black and Whites good early form all gave them all full points. After the quater finals Conahy staked their claim along with Erin's Own Castlecomer for places in the semi-finals. Here Erin's Own's style and commitment surprised all when the defeated Tullougher 1-14 to 1-12 after a replay the result gave them a crack at Conahy who had overcome the Black and Whites in the Bridge. Unable to repeat their form of the semi final exploits Erin's Own had to give way to a stronger Conahy side.

CAHILL CUP ALL COUNTY JUNIOR HURLING LEAGUE

Continuing a game a week policy for junior clubs, the Cahill Cup rolled off at the semi



SOUTHERN SELECTION JIM FARRELL CUP RUNNERS UP 2002

Back; Tommy Falconer (Piltown), Pat Power (Windgap), Aidan Phelan (Windgap), John Murphy (Tullougher Rosbercon), Peter Mullally (Kilmacow), Richard O'Neill (Kilmacow), Richard Walsh (Tullougher Rosbercon), Pat Walsh (Windgap), Noel Power (Windgap), Robbie O'Keefe (Kilmacow), Dermot Haberlain Selector (Kilmacow), Johnny Maher Selector (Piltown). Front; Jimmy Walsh Secretary (Windgap), Simon Brophy Mentor (Windgap), Brian Fleming (Kilmacow), Liam Kenny (Piltown), Philip Kenny (Piltown), John Gaule (Tullougher Rosbercon), Paddy O'Keefe (Kilmacow), Tom Egan (Windgap), Dermot O'Shea (Windgap), P.J.Egan (Windgap), Dermot Tierney (Kilmacow). *Eoin Hennessey*

final stage of the Hennessey sports with the four semi-finalist entering it at the quarter final stage. In the semi-finals Galmoy recorded a big win over Tullougher to qualify to meet the ever improving Barrow Rangers in the final. Played in Palmerstown Galmoy came out on top after a close first half to take the cup for the first time since 1993. Leading by 0-9 to 0-at the break they benefited from the fitness built up owing to a longer championship run to win on a 1-19 to 0-8 scoreline. A feature of the game was the duel between Paulstown's Dermot Maher and Michael Brennan who both done trojan work for their respective sides. Others to shine were Martin Medlar, John Gavin and Ed Drea for the Rangers and Pat Drea, Phil Doyle and Brian Doherty for the winners.

FENNELLY CUP ALL COUNTY JUNIOR HURLING LEAGUE

A unique occasion in the history of hurling in Kilkenny and Leinster saw two Carlow sides Mount Leinster Rangers and Erin's Own Bagenalstown line out in Nowlan Park for the final of the Kevin Fennelly cup. A change in format saw the competition run on a league basis with two groups of five teams. Owing to the progress of teams in the various Carlow and Kilkenny championships the final spilled over into November. The early rounds saw Slieverue take up the running with good victories. At the semi final stage the finalists were joined by Southern semi-finalists Dunnamaggin who went down to the Rangers in Thomastown, with Erin's Own overcome a third Carlow side Naomh Brid the early league leaders in Bagenalstown. In the final the Rangers players benefiting from a longer run in the Carlow hurling and football championship were fitter and sharper and ran out easy winners taking the trophy straight from the Park out to their annual social. Thrilled with their participation in the three all-county competitions only the five current Carlow minors had played in the Park before, with Erin's Own last lining out there against the Fenians over twenty years ago in the Leinster senior club championship.

Fennelly Cup All County Junior Hurling League

JIM FARRELL MEMORIAL INTERDIVISIONAL JUNIOR CUP

The Northern Selection retained the Farrell Cup after a fine game played before the Kilkenny versus Dublin Allianz tie in Nowlan Park. A failure by the south to take a number of goal chances in the early minutes saw the northern selection take a grip on the game before half time with goals by Noel Doherty, Alan Grey and Paul Delaney. A goal by Pat Walsh just after the restart gave his side hope, only to see Ciarian Mulldowney clinch it with a fortieth minute goal for the Emeralds/Galmoy back boned side. Best for the winners were Niall Doherty, Michael Doyle, Ciarian Mulldowney and Emmet Kavanagh. For the southerners Captain Pat Walsh, Dermot Tierney, Robbie O'Keefe and Phillip Kenny were best for a side depleted by injuries and drawing from a smaller club base.

Southern Selection: Paddy O'Keefe (Kilmacow), Dermot O'Shea (Windgap), Noel Power (Windgap), Robbie O'Keefe (Kilmacow), Richard Walsh (Tullougher Rosbercon), Liam Kenny (Piltown) Tom Egan (Windgap), Dermot Tierney (Kilmacow), J. Murphy (Tullougher Rosbercon), Richard O'Neill (Kilmacow), P.J. Egan (Windgap), P. Mullally (Kilmacow), John Gaule (Tullougher Rosbercon), P. Walsh (Windgap), P. Kenny, Tommy Falconer, Brian Fleming (Kilmacow), Aidan Phelan (Windgap), Pat Power (Windgap).

Northern Selection: J. Ryan (Emeralds), K. Hughes (Emeralds), N. Cahill (Emeralds), E. Kavanagh (Emeralds), P. O'Dwyer (Emeralds), M. Brennan (Galmoy), N. Doherty (Galmoy), J. Mullins (Danefort), P. Delaney (Galmoy), P. Buggy (Conahy Shamrocks), M. Doyle (Emeralds), N. Doherty (Galmoy), A. Gray (Galmoy), A. Cleere Ciarain Mulldowney Buggy (Conahy Shamrocks), M Phelan (Galmoy), A Guilfoyle (Emeralds), B Joyce (Emeralds).

Barrie Takes McNamee



Kilkenny GAA Yearbook Committee are very proud of Editor Barrie Henriques' achievement in winning the prestigious McNamee Award for his tribute to the late Tom Ryall in last year's publication. It is a fitting reward for the endless hours of tedious work that Barrie has been putting into the preparation of the Yearbook for the past thirteen years.

Pictured here at the Reception ceremony are:- Front: Marie Murphy, Barrie Henriques, Kitty Henriques, Lucy Quinn.
Back: Ned Quinn (Co Board Chairman), Paddy Murphy, Barry Hickey. (Dev Officer)

Photo Ray Mcmanus/SPORTSFILE

Opening of Páirc Tomás Ó Raghail



Kilmanagh GAA pitch was officially named Páirc Tomas O Raghail in memory of the late Tom Ryall who gave a lifetime of service to the GAA at parish, county and national level. A plaque bearing his name at the entrance to the grounds was unveiled by Ned Quinn, County Board Chariman and blessed by Canon Phelan while a second plaque (above) at the dressing rooms was unveiled by his wife Bridget. Also in picture are Tom's daughters Ann Marie, Catherine, Orla and Mary, grandchildren Rebecca and Tomás and Club Chairman, Michael Dermody.

UNDER-AGE TOURNAMENTS

Richie Stone

TONY FORRISTAL TOURNAMENT

Despite recording a good win over Cork in the opening round of this years Tony Forristal Tournament Kilkenny's under 14 hurlers failed to make any further progress in the competition. In that opening game they had a 7-7 to 5-4 win over the fancied Leesiders. A super performance by corner forward Richie Hogan who scored a personal total of 3-6 paved the way for this victory. Indeed the full forward line was responsible for all Kilkenny's scores in that game. The other scores came from Martin Walsh who scored 2-1 and Patrick Raftice who notched 2-0 .

In their second round game against Galway they lost out to the Westerners by two points on a 3-7 to 2-8 scoreline after a hard fought game. Kilkenny led at half time by four points but the Tribesmen finished strongly to edge home by two points. That loss ended Kilkenny's interest in a competition that has evaded Noreside teams since the year of its inception 1981.

Amongst those who caught the eye for Kilkenny were Richie Hogan, Stephen Shortt, Shane Maher, Naoise Waldron, Shane Lanigan, Kevin Morrissey, Mark Bergin, Martin Walsh and Patrick Raftice.

Panel

Shane Maher (Dicksboro), Michael Lennon (Young Irelands), Seamus Norris (Piltown), Niall Lanigan (James Stephens), Ger Fennelly (Shamrocks), Stephen Shortt (O'Loughlin Gaels), Naoise Waldron (St Lachtain's), Nicholas Anthony (Mullinavat), Kevin Morrissey (O'Loughlin Gaels), Martin Walsh (Tullaroan), JJ Farrell (Thomastown), Jimmy Byrne (Erin's Own), Richie Hogan (Danesfort), Mark Bergin (O Loughlin Gaels), Patrick Raftice (Mullinavat), James Dowling (St Martins), Kevin Law (Mooncoin), Shane Walsh (Mooncoin), Stephen Dowling (Tullaroan), Kieran Grehan (Fenians), Conor Lonergan (Windgap), Robbie Walsh (Danesfort), Lester Ryan (Clara), Shane Connolly (Tullaroan).

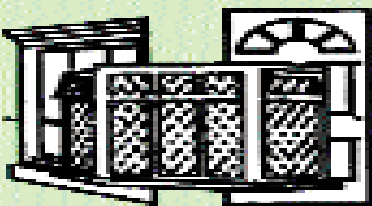
ARRABAWN CO-OP TOURNAMENT

Kilkenny under 16 hurlers qualified for the Plate final of the Arrabawn Co-op Tournament where they lost out to a useful Waterford side.

When the draw was made for the competition the Noresiders were grouped with Offaly and Laois. In their opening game they had an easy win over Offaly on a 2-12 to 1-3 scoreline . Their second match was even more one sided . Kilkenny breezed past Laois winning 4-9 to 0-2. That win put them into the semi final against Tipperary where they lost out to Tipperary after a hard fought game . The final score read Tipperary 4-12 Kilkenny 3-11. Defeat to Tipperary meant that Kilkenny played in the Plate final against Waterford and hopes were high that the title could be brought to Kilkenny. However Waterford had different ideas . Kilkenny conceded two goals in this game and that was to prove vital as the Decies went on to win on a 0-16 to 2-12.

Panel – James Connolly (Shamrocks) James Maher (St Martins) Ronan Maher (St Martins) Noel Delahunty (Mooncoin) Eamon Walsh (Shamrocks) Shane Prendergast (Clara) Shane Kinsella (Piltown) Michael Lambert (O Loughlin Gaels) Maurice Nolan (O Loughlin Gaels) Pat Hartley (Tullagher/Rosbercon) John Kenny (Rower/Inistioge) Eoin Guinan (St Lachtains) Tom Moloney (Blacks & Whites) Daniel Looby (Fenians) Gavin Nolan (Conahy Shamrocks) Gavin Quilty (Slieverue) Alan Mc Intyre (Dicksboro) Jamie Quane (James Stephens) Aidan Brennan (Barrow Rangers) Noel Mc Gree (St Lachtains) David O Gorman (Erins Own) Patrick Cahill (St Patricks) Nickey Kenny (Piltown) Aaron Dunne (Dicksboro) Peter Kelly (Piltown) Eoin Buggy (Conahy Shamrocks) Mark M c Guinness (Kilmacow) Cian Waldron (St Lachtains)

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Encore from Carrickshock!

Minor Hurling - Bord na nÓg Report



CARRICKSHOCK - MINOR "A" COUNTY CHAMPIONS 2002

Back: Shane Power, John O'Dwyer, Martin Rohan, Niall Rohan, Paul Barron, Michael Rohan, Edward Power, Brendan Hoyne.

Middle: Tommy Murphy, Patrick Farrell, Pádraig Rohan, Stephen Lonergan, John Dalton, Pat Dwyer, Pádraig McInerney, John Raggett, William Duggan, Michael Rice, Matty Hanrahan, Brian Tennyson.

Front: Pat Tennyson, Paul Kearney, Eamon Phelan, Pat Cleary, Jamie Power, John Murphy, Richie Power, John Tennyson.

Photo Eoin Hennessy

Whilst the Iarnród Éireann County final was somewhat disappointing, the competition generally was a reflection of the deep reservoir of young talent that abounds in Kilkenny, and was underlined by the success of a terrific panel of minor players who carried the black and amber to All-Ireland glory in September. Locally, of course, the story is garnished by the success of famed Carrickshock, who are reaping the rewards of a very well orchestrated agenda, that was formulated a few years ago, and which has mushroomed into a success-laden fable that is the envy of many another rural club. In truth, their success commenced with their little school team in Newmarket winning the Country Cup in Nowlan Park a few short years ago. That success, initiated by Tom Duggan, the Mullinavat-born múin-tóir, was nurtured and expanded by far-seeing Carrickshock under-age officials, and subsequently developed into a winning outfit, that has won every under-age championship that they have entered.

Even as defending champions, they were not afforded any privileges. Rather, they were humped into a preliminary round game against St Martin's, together with James Stephens, Fenians/Galmoy, Dicksboro, and O'Loughlins. They beat St Martin's (5-11 to 3-9),

Dicksboro took care of city rivals, O'Loughlins (5-12 to 1-13), and James Stephens beat Fenians/Galmoy 1-19 to 1-7.

In the quarter finals, the Shock had a less than impressive victory over Dicksboro, winning eventually by a three point margin. This was one of the many memorable games in this championship. The Shock led at half time by 0-8 to 1-2. Fortunes changed many times in the frantic second half. The Boro pushed all the way with players like the brilliant Eddie O'Donoghue, Paul O'Flynn, Conor Higgins, Brendan McIntyre, and Darragh O'Mahoney giving their all. With six minutes remaining, just a single point separated the sides, but a Carrickshock goal, fired home by Richie Power, eventually earned the southerners a place in the semi-final against near neighbours, Ballyhale Shamrocks. James Stephens earned their semi-final spot with a classy display against the Emeralds, winning by 1-16 to 2-3. Eoin Larkin with 0-8 (seven frees), Liam Meehan 1-1, David McCormack 0-4, Donnacha Cody 0-1 ('65), Ciarán Whelan, and Julian O'Dwyer were the scorers for the city lads, while Michael Webster 1-1, David Doyle 1-0, Tom Neary 0-1, Eamon O'Gorman 0-1 were the Emeralds scorers. Ballyhale Shamrocks (4-13) had a comfortable win over Tullaroan (0-7),

while Graig Ballycallan (1-11) encountered great difficulty in beating Clara (1-8).

The semi-final between Carrickshock and Shamrocks drew an enormous crowd to Thomastown. The Ballyhale lads rattled their opponents with a fortuitous early goal, which set the trend for one of the best games of the year in any grade. This was vintage hurling, with the end result in doubt to the final whistle. Lack of concentration when scoring opportunity presented itself probably cost the Shamrocks dearly, but that is not to say that the honours didn't deservedly rest where they lay. There was a bevy of All-Ireland winning players on view which contributed to the torrents of excitement during the entire hour. At half time, the Shamrocks led by the early Michael Carroll lobbed goal, 1-5 to 0-5. It took a late Anthony Holland goal to seal the Shamrocks' fate.

The final score read, Carrickshock 1-13, Shamrocks 1-9.

Surprisingly - in some quarters at least - Graigue Ballycallan weathered a late James Stephens storm to earn a place at the County final table, winning their semi-final by 2-13 to 3-10. Two goals in the first half by Mark Fitzpatrick and John Purcell saw them lead at the break by 2-9 to 2-6. The Village goals were scored by Conor Whelan and Matt Ruth.



GRAIGUE/BALLYCALLAN - MINOR A COUNTY FINALISTS 2002

Back: Michael Darmody (Chariman, Graigue/Ballycallan), Jim Neary (Trainer), John Purcell, P.J. Pollard, James Robinson, William Brennan, John Paul Murphy, Mark Fitzpatrick, Michael Murphy, Darragh Murphy, Jimmy Murphy, Pauric Darmody, Ciaran Hoyne, Michael Lynch, Maurice Ronan (Selector).
Front: Robert Dunphy, Dermot Ryan, Padraig Neary, John Murphy, Martin Murphy, Brian Hogan, Thomas Ryan, Pat Robinson (Captain), James Dunphy, Emmett Gladney, Declan Brett, Jason Darmody, Patrick Kennedy, Noel Brett, John Paul Dunphy.
Photo Eoin Hennessy



ROWER-INISTIOGE - ROINN "B" COUNTY CHAMPIONS 2002

Back: Nicky Kenny (Trainer), Paddy Cashin, Michael White, Michael Corcoran, Liam Lyng, Gerry Grace, Toby Kavanagh, Michael Dwyer, Seamus Holohan, John James Kenny, Padraig Tierney, Luke Treacy, Eamonn Phelan.
Front: J.J. Fitzpatrick, John George Butler, John Grace, Damien Flood, Kieran Joyce, Padraig Lyng (Captain), Liam Tierney, Conor Lyng, Pat Tierney, Noel Treacy, Sean Cummins.
Photo Eoin Hennessy

Both defences were very strong and tight during the second half, which accounted for the low scoring by both sets of forwards. Late points by Ciarán Hoyne, Jason Dermody, PJ Pollard and Pat Kennedy made the task of winning by the Village a near impossible demand. The final score read, Graigue Ballycallan 2-13, James Stephens 3-8.

As stated at the outset, the County final was a tame affair, with the result never in doubt once Richie Power slammed home his side's first score - a brilliant goal - inside the first minute. Carrickshock took

all the advantages the howling, biting gale afforded them in the opening half. They led at half time by 2-7 to 0-3, and deserved to do so. The Graigue lads were only a pale shadow of the team that wiped out the Village in their semi-final encounter. To their credit they never stopped trying to win the game, but their best efforts were being thwarted by a resolute Carrickshock defence in which John Tennyson was brilliance personified at centre back. Not too far behind him was full back, John Dalton, Ricky Brennan at corner back, captain Paddy Mulcahy at wing back, and James Farrell on the opposite wing. At centre

field, the imperial Michael Rice was excellent, while James Moran, Damien Raggett, Pat Barron, Anthony Holland, and Pat Duggan were superb. And what can you say about Richie Power that has not already been chronicled by a multitude of scribes the length and breath of the Country? He scored 2-5, and probably had a hand in the rest of his side's scores. Truly a remarkable talent. Graigue tried desperately hard all the way through, but in fairness they were well beaten by a far superior team. They might not have done justice to themselves entirely, but they would have to admit that the better team won on the



GLENMORE, ÍARNRÓD ÉIREANN ROINN C COUNTY CHAMPIONS:

Back: Allan Murphy, Seamus Culleton, James Cody, David Kelly, Eamonn Dollard, John Fitzgerald, Michael Cody, Seamus Aylward, Emmet Vereker, David Garvey, Tommy Walsh.

Front: Francis Griffin, Mark Flynn, James Murphy, John Cody, Nicky Walsh, Paul Phelan, Tommy Dollard, Allan Flynn, David Aylward, Ray Aylward, Richard Fitzgerald, Ray Ryan, David Long.

day. It was not the fault of Tom Ryan, Michael Lynch, Ciarán Hoyne, James and Pat Robinson, Darragh Murphy, Brian Hogan or PJ Pollard they were not good enough..

The finals score read–

Carrickshock 2-12, G/Ballycallan 0-6.

Carrickshock: John Butler, Ricky Brennan, John Dalton, David Millea, Patrick Mulcahy (capt.), John Tennyson, James Farrell, Tommy Brophy, Michael Rice, Damien Raggett, Anthony Holland, James Moran, Patrick Duggan, Richie Power, Pauric Barron.

Subs : Niall Tennyson, Colm Mullally, Dinny Murphy, Seanie Gibbons, Garry Foley, Ger Power, Patrick Carr, John Phelan, Tomás O’Leary, Cathal Quigley.

Graigue Ballycallan: Tom Ryan, Michael Lynch, James Robinson, Pauric Dermody, Declan Brett, Ciarán Hoyne, Micheál Murphy, James Dunphy, Patrick Robinson, Brian Hogan, PJ Pollard, Willie Brennan, John Purcell, Darragh Murphy, Mark Fitzpatrick.

Subs: Jimmy Murphy, Jason Dermody, John Murphy, Emmett Gladney, Patrick Kennedy, John Paul Dunphy, Pádraig Neary, Robert Dunphy, Noel Brett, Dermot Ryall, John Paul Murphy, Martin Murphy.

ROINN B

The Roinn B championship was somewhat different this year from last. It was no longer a two divisional, north/ south divide, rather an all-county competition, which generated a huge interest, with a plethora of great games, between sides that had seldom, if ever, met at any level of competition. Lesson to be learned. Thirteen teams affiliated, with five preliminary round matches to bring

the competition to a quarter-final scenario. It took two games for a finite result to come from the meeting of St Lachtain’s and Blacks & Whites, the Freshford lads winning the replay by a narrow 3-12 to 2-8. The scoreline does not reflect the closeness of the game. Conahy Shamrocks (2-10) had an easy enough spin against Tullogher Rosbercon (0-5), and the Rower/Inistioge posted early notice that they would be in the final shake up, when accounting for Mullinavat by 0-18 to 1-3. Thomastown had to call on all their resolve to account for a very impressive Erin’s Own, the ‘Town eventually winning by 2-8 to 2-6. Piltown beat John Lockes, 4-16 to 1-2.

Rower/Inistioge charged on to the semi-finals after beating St Lachtain’s by 1-16 to 1-12, Mooncoin beat St Patricks by 1-10 to 2-3, Thomastown beat Barrow Rangers by 2-17 to 2-8, and to complete the semi-finals line up, Piltown (0-9) had a fast diminishing three points to spare over Conahy Shamrocks (0-6).

It was an all Southern semi-finals scene with Mooncoin taking on Thomastown, and Rower/Inistioge facing Piltown. Coincidentally, both games were won by a three goal margin. Mooncoin proved far too good for Thomastown, and with county minor panelist, Ray Wall outstanding, they won by 3-14 to 2-7. The Rower lads had to withstand considerable Piltown pressure for long periods during their game, but at the end of the day, the Piltown boys had to give way to a better outfit, the Rower winning by 2-9 to 0-6. The Rower were in their third final in successive years.

The final between the two south teams in Mullinavat was a memorable occasion for numerous reasons. It was exciting,

nail-biting, tough, skillful, with huge excitement, and adorned with marvellous scores. It had controversy aplenty. There were nine minutes of injury time played. Its result was in total doubt right to the final whistle.

Within six minutes of the start, the Mooncoin men were in front by 1-2 to 0-1. Their goal was a Wall brothers operation, with Ray, the elder, setting up Sean, the younger, for a super goal. By the twentieth minute, the Rower lads hit the front with a long-range goal by their ace marksman, Michael White. Even though Mooncoin hit back with points by Noel Delahunty, Ray Wall and Keith Kirwan, it couldn’t prevent the winners from retiring at the break leading by 1-7 to 1-6, compliments of two late points by White and JJ Kenny.

The second half was superb entertainment for the neutral, but heart-stopping for the supporters of either team. At the end of forty five minutes, a White point for the Rower had them comfortably in front by 2-11 to 1-7. However, the Mooncoin lads were not about to die too easily. In a storming last ten minutes, a Tomás O’Hanlon goal and a point, followed by another goal inside the first five minutes of injury time had the sides level. However in the 69th minute, a Micheal White free from a difficult angle sealed Mooncoin’s fate.

The neutral opinion will say that the Rower just about deserved to win. Mooncoin might say differently. Anyway, the title went to the Rower at the third time of asking.

The final score read,
Rower/Inistioge 2-12 Mooncoin 3-8.

Rower/Inistioge : Liam Tierney, Kieran Joyce, Luke Treacy, Noel Treacy,



Clonkeen Roinn C Minor League Champions 2002

Back: Gerry Mealy (Selector), Niall Mooney, Danny Brennan, Tom Campion, Tom, Comerford, Sean Maher, Jim Doyle, Paul Donnelly, Kevin Phillips, Damien Purcell, Enda Gannon, Kevin Lawlor, Gavin Dowd, Shane Coogan (Selector).

Front: Ned Lawlor (Selector), Sean Allan, Patrick Maguire, Sean Geoghan, Graham Lawlor, Eoin McDonald, Ronan Walsh (Captain), Steve Mahon, Larry Lyng (Selector), Paucic Dowd, Damien O'Neill.

Photo Eoin Hennessy

Seamus Houlihan, Sean Cummins, Toby Kavanagh, Pádraig Lyng (Capt.), Gerry Grace, JJ Kenny (0-3), Michael Dwyer, Pat Tierney (0-1), Páraic Tierney, Michael White (2-7, 1-4 frees), Paddy Cashin.

Subs: Michael Corcoran, Liam Lyng, Seamus Holohan, John James Kenny, Eamonn Phelan, JJ Fitzpatrick, John George Butler, John Grace, Damien Flood, Conor Lyng.

Mooncoin : Shay Nolan, Paul O'Neill, Paul Norris, Alan Walsh, Michael Jones, Tomás O'Hanlon (1-1, frees), Anton Lennon, Derek Phelan, Noel Delahunty (0-1), Patrick Kinsella, Joe Kearns, Ray Wall (0-4), Nicholas Delahunty, Keith Kirwan (0-1), Sean Wall (1-0).

Subs: Richard Hogan, Dick Howley (1-1), Liam Hennebry, Steven Murphy, Cathal O'Keefe.

ROINN C

Eleven teams figured in the Roinn C Championship which produced plenty of excitement too, in its own way. A preliminary round saw Glenmore taking care of Graignamanagh very easily, and they looked hugely impressive in doing so. Young Irelands from Gowran had to battle all the way to defeat Lisdowney, the Gowran lads winning by 2-6 to 0-9. Slieverue had a facile win over Dunnamaggin, who are starting to feel the effects of a small under-age population at present. Bennettsbridge, Clonkeen, Kilmacow, Danesfort and Windgap came online for the quarter finals. Glenmore again looked the form team, when they took out Bennettsbridge on a scoreline of 2-13 to 1-3. Young Irelands fell to Clonkeen, with the score of 4-14 to 4-6 in favour of the coalminers. Kilmacow registered a score of 1-7 in

their game against Slieverue, which was exactly double the score of their opponents, and Danesfort had three clear goals to spare at the finish of their game against Windgap.

In the semi-finals, Kilmacow had only two points to spare over Danesfort after a titanic battle. The final score was Kilmacow 4-6, Danesfort 2-10. Glenmore were put to the pin of their collar to beat Clonkeen, just getting up on the line to win by the narrowest of margins : Glenmore 1-6, Clonkeen 1-5.

Two southern teams, Glenmore and Kilmacow faced each other in the final. Glenmore set the early pace, but they were unable to establish a dominance against a Kilmacow team that were exceptionally young - five players were under 15. However, a shot by James Cody in the twenty fourth minute was brilliantly stopped by Kilmacow custodian, Fergus Walsh, but Ramie Ryan was on hand to slip the rebound into the Kilmacow net. At half time, Glenmore looked likely winners, as they led by 1-8 to 0-2. But the battling qualities of the young Kilmacow lads manifested themselves early in the new half, when Mark McGuinness slammed home two quick goals in succession. A goal by James Cody in the forty eighth minute sealed the issue for the Glenmore warriors. They sailed on to victory from there.

Glenmore : David Aylward, Raymond Aylward, Michael Cody, David Kelly, Eamonn Dollard, John Fitzgerald, Seamus Aylward, Francis Griffin, Tommy Dollard, Paul Phelan, Emmett Vereker, Tony Walsh, Richie Fitzgerald, Raymond Ryan, James Murphy.

Subs: John Cody, James Cody, David Long, David Garvey, Alan Murphy, Nickey Walsh, Seamus Culleton, Alan

Flynn, Mark Flynn.

Kilmacow : Fergus Walsh, Michael Tobin, Joseph Kearns, Paul Laffan, Niall Irish, Sean McGrath, Damien Walsh, William O'Toole (Capt.), Eoin Dalton, Paul Kelly, David Kelly, Sean Ivory, Trevor Egan, Tommy Kent, Mark McGuinness.

Subs: Declan Tynan, Brian Grant, David Walsh, Richard Kearns, Liam Kearns, Pádraig Brick, Conor Gahan, Thomas McGuire.

ROINN A LEAGUE.

The Roinn A league was divided into two groups of six teams, and as luck would have it, the two hotshots, Ballyhale Shamrocks and Carrickshock were kept apart. In Group one, the Shamrocks careered through the five-round competition, scoring a whopping seventeen goals and fifty six points. They conceded two goals and thirty four points. They had wins over, St Martin's, Tullaroan, Graigue Ballycallan, Clara and O'Loughlin Gaels. The city lads were to accompany the Shamrocks into the semi-finals, with good wins over Clara, Graigue Ballycallan, and Tullaroan - very narrowly. In Group two, Carrickshock had good wins over Emeralds, Rower/Inistioge, James Stephens (7-9 to 5-7), and Blacks & Whites. Surprisingly, they came a cropper in their very first game against Dicksboro, who beat them quite convincingly by 3-9 to 1-5. The same Dicksboro were to accompany the 'Shock into the semis as well, winning games against Rower/Inistioge, Emeralds, and James Stephens. The Boro lads were prolific scorers along the road, registering an impressive 11-58. In the semi-finals, the Shamrocks proved



KILMACOW: IARNRÓD ÉIREANN ROINN C COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP RUNNERS-UP.

Front: Sean Ivory, Niall Irish, Richard Kearns, Fergus Walsh, Trevor Egan, Liam Kearns, Paul Kelly, Mark McGuinness, Tommy McGuire, Michael Tobin, Brian Grant.
Back: Conor Gahan, Paul Laffan, Declan Tynan, Tommy Kent, Joseph Kearns, David Kelly, Eoin Dalton, Damien Walsh, David Walsh, William O'Toole (Capt.), Seam McGrath, Pádraig Brick.

far too good for the Dicksboro lads, who came out the wrong side of a 4-5 to 1-5 scoreline. Carrickshock proved far too good for O'Loughlins, winning comfortably.

FINAL YET TO BE PLAYED

ROINN B LEAGUE

Again the format for Roinn B was similar to Roinn A with two groups of six teams playing each other in a five group league. Unlike the Roinn B Championship, where four teams from the south of the county contested the semi-finals, the League semi-finals were geographically evenly divided, with the combination side, Fenians/Galmoy and St Lachtain's from Group one, coming through with Piltown and Mooncoin from Group two.

The Fenians/Galmoy fired home a very impressive 8-17 in their wins against St Patrick's, Erin's Own, Barrow Rangers, and Conahy Shamrocks. The only glitch on their success run was a narrow defeat by St Lachtain's, who won by 2-12 to 1-13. St. St Lachtain's and Conahy Shamrocks ended all square, so they had to meet in a play-off to decide which team should accompany Fenians/Galmoy into the semi-finals. A hard fought, hard won victory went to the Freshford lads, who scored 5-9, while Conahy, who never relinquished, drilled home a massive 3-8.

Piltown were never beaten in their five-match programme, and the only defeat that Mooncoin suffered was at the hands of the Piltown men, who prevailed by 0-10 to 0-8 in a magnificent game. The Fenians/Galmoy combination stormed into the final with a terrific win over Mooncoin, winning by 1-12 to 2-5. St

Lachtain's made it to an all Northern final, when they took care of the Piltown challenge on a score of 0-12 to 0-6.

The final was a superb affair, with the result in doubt right to the finish. The ability of the Freshford lads to plunder goals at vital stages in the game, probably contributed to their victory. The first half was memorable with barely a puck of a ball between the sides all the way to the half time whistle. Two goals by Tom Dillon, one just as half time beckoned, with Freshford leading by three points, saw the sides retire on level terms: St St Lachtain's 0-10 Fenians/Galmoy 2-4.

Within three minutes of the re-start, Freshford hit the front with a kicked John Dooley goal. They were never headed thereafter. The Fenians/Galmoy lads never gave up the ghost, and even tho' they had two late chances - one a shot from Jimmy Dunne that was excellently saved by Thomas Delaney - to pull the game out of the fire, they couldn't match the firepower of Freshford who had terrific sharpshooters in Eoin Guinan (0-9), John Dooley (1-0), and sub Ken Hughes (1-0). Others who contributed largely to a marvellous victory were, Jim Costelloe, Mark Kavanagh, Robbie Dowling, Cian Waldron, and Bill Beckett.

Fenians/Galmoy had terrific hurlers in Martin Henderson, Tom Dillon, Martin Purcell, Jimmy Dunne, Pauric Gray, Cathal Ryan, and PJ Delaney.

St Lachtain's : Thomas Delaney, Jim Costelloe, Kevin Dalton, David Hughes, Mark Kavanagh, Robbie Dowling, Jamie Marnell, Cian Waldron, Bill Beckett, David Brennan, John Dooley, Emmet Costigan, Danny Ryall, Eoin Guinan, Noel McGree.

Subs: Gerard O'Reilly, Keith Hughes, Barry Hughes, Nicholas Maher, Mark Nolan, Naoise Waldron, Conor Britton,

Trevor Walsh, Michael Walsh, Sam Gibbons.

Fenians/Galmoy : Martin Purcell, Daniel Looby, Martin Henderson, Declan Duggan, John Paul Grehan, PJ Delaney, Georgie Hickey, John Broderick, Philip O' Loughlin, Cathal Ryan, Jimmy Dunne, Eoin O'Mara, Mark Stanley, Tom Dillon, Pauric Gray.

Subs : Michael Harte, Jonathan Stanley, Timmy Purcell, Declan Brennan, Frank Renehan, William Tobin, Brian Kavanagh, PP Maher, Steven McCarthy, Kevin Shiels, Paul Murphy.

ROINN C LEAGUE

Eight teams took part in the Roinn C league. Cloneen, Bennettsbridge, Lisdowney, and Young Irelands were in Group one while Glenmore, Gaignamanagh, Kilmacow and John Lockes constituted Group two. Lisdowney (2-5) beat Young Irelands (1-5), and Bennettsbridge (1-8 to 0-7), but were heavily defeated by Cloneen (2-9 to 0-9). Cloneen on the other hand won their games against Young Irelands (2-10 to 3-5), and Lisdowney (2-9 to 0-9). They were well beaten by Bennettsbridge in their opening game on a score of 2-10 to 0-11. Cloneen made the semi-final, and after an outstanding performance against Gaignamanagh, they sailed into the final on the back of a 1-13 to 2-9 scoreline. The Graig lads had made the semi-finals thanks to a narrow win over Kilmacow (1-11 to 3-3), and a 2-13 to 3-3 win over eventual County Championship winners, Glenmore.

John Lockes also made the semi-finals after good wins over Kilmacow (3-16 to 3-5), and Glenmore. Their semi-final game was a cracker in which both sides tried everything in the book to win, but

victory evaded them at the first attempt. The game ended in a welter of excitement, and a draw. However, in the replay, the Callan outfit made no mistake, and ran out easy winners on a score of 0-17 to 2-4. With Cloneen defeating Graignamamagh by 1-13 to 2-9 in the other semi-final, the stage was set for the much awaited north/south Final.

This tough final between Cloneen and John Lockes in St John's Park was a hard fought affair, that was played on the edge for long periods. It didn't help the Callan cause that they had one of their star players, Brian Doheny sidelined for the entire season with a compound fracture of his right arm.

The deciding score arrived just on the call of half time, when a terrific goal by Gavin Dowd sent the Cloneen lads in with a slender lead, a lead that they were never subsequently to surrender. The game was still in the balance with six minutes remaining, but a cracking second goal for Cloneen, scored by TJ Comerford, finished the Callan interest. The final score read, Cloneen 2-8, John Lockes 0-8.

Cloneen : Eoin McDonald, Eoin Gannon, Jim Dowd, Daniel Brennan, Steve Mahon, Sean Maher, Niall Mooney, Kevin Phillips, Paul Donnelly, Ronan Walsh, Sean Allen, Gavin

O'Dowd, Graham Lawler, Tom Joe Comerford, Thomas Campion.

Subs : Kevin Lawlor.

John Lockes : Ian Burke, Martin O'Connell, William Hartley, James Hartley, Robbie Hennessy, John Madigan, John Power, Pádraig Murphy, Wayne Byrne, Paddy Kennedy, Aaron Butler, Michael Burke, Shane Fitzgerald, Jamie Coffey, Brian Doheny.

Subs: Sean Houlihan, Paul Roche, Nigel Carroll.

ROIINN D LEAGUE

In the Roinn D League, only three teams competed. Dunnamaggin (5-8) barely beat Windgap (2-16), Slieverue (1-15) beat Dunnamaggin (1-11), while Windgap (4-8) beat Slieverue (2-6), in the round robin series of games. In the final, Slieverue took their revenge experiencing little difficulty in beating the Windgap lads by a comprehensive 4-10 to 1-12. It didn't help the Windgap cause that their most influential player, the towering Philip Lonergan had to retire early with a severe leg injury.

Two goals by Mark Haberlin and Kieran Grant contributed largely towards the half time score of Slieverue, who had 2-4. Eoin Cody similarly had a terrific goal and a couple of points for his side who were level with the Slieverue lads at the break: they had 1-7 on the board.

Windgap opened with four successive points in the second half, and it took the Slieverue lads some time to catch and eventually overhaul them. However, a goal by Aidan Sutton, with five minutes remaining, was largely instrumental in Slieverue's capturing the title. They had great performers in Aidan Hogan, Niall Walsh, Mark Haberlin, Paul Walsh, Brendan Coady and Kieran Grant. Windgap too had outstanding players in Conor Lonergan, James Mackey, Jonathan Duggan, Eoin Cody, Leo Power, and of course Philip Lonergan, until injured.

Slieverue: Gavin Quilty, Robert Walsh, Robert Roche, Niall Walsh, Aidan Hogan, Senan Kelly, Mark Haberlin, Danny Murphy, Paul Walsh, Brendan Coady, Darragh Cullen, Ian Somers, Cian Grant. Nickey Coady, Paul Atkins.

Subs :Brendan Haberlin, Adrian Rockett, Conor Grant, Kevin Mulligan, Andy Hogan, Declan Ryan, Cian Tyler, Sean Roche.

Windgap: Sean Hennessy, Ronan Molloy, Seamus Hawe, JJ Phelan, Conor Lonergan, Philip Lonergan, Niall Fennelly, James Mackey, Jonathan Duggan, Eoin Cody, Neil Lanigan, Richard Grace, Niall Phelan, Leo Power, Brian Lanigan.

Subs: Thomas Cronin, Thomas Fleming, Brian Hennessy.

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O'Loughlins Take to the Big Ball!

Intermediate Football Report

O'Loughlin Gaels, not noted for its footballing prowess, certainly not under the O'Loughlin's nom de plume, supplemented the hurling highs of 2001, with success of a different nature. Time was when the club was represented in football matters by its sister club, Clan na Gael, but since the late seventies, Clan has been subsumed by the parent club, who, for the first time in its history has won a famous adult football double competition. They were victorious in both championship and league county football competition.

A very young, energetic team set out in February last to face Conahy Shamrocks in the first round of the JJ Kavanagh league. They won by 2-8 to 1-4, thanks to the scoring abilities of Colin Furlong (1-1), Darragh Murphy (1-0), Jimmy Comerford (0-2), Ollie O'Connor (0-2), Seamus Cummins, James O'Keefe and Tony Doyle who scored a point apiece. Kieran Muldowney, Paul Buggy and Colm Healy were the Conahy scorers. Mooncoin opened their account with a 0-10 to 1-3 win over Rower Inistioge. In Group one, Blacks & Whites beat Tullogher Rosbercon by 1-4 to 0-3. The quality of the football was surprisingly very good, and more importantly, the players responded very well to the big ball game.

The city lads had wins over the Rower Inistioge, 2-8 to 1-7, and Mooncoin, 0-10 to 0-7, to book their place in the league final, but also in the championship semi-finals proper. Blacks & Whites were to accompany them into the same league final. After two rounds of the Championship proper, Conahy and Mooncoin, maintaining their early promise also made it to the Championship semi-finals. The Hebron Road outfit made it to

the Championship after a huge battle against the Conahy lads, while Mooncoin swept away the challenge of the Blacks & Whites, to join them in the County final. In the league final, O'Loughlins had to slug it out over two hours to take the crown against Blacks & Whites. On the first day, the sides ended up all square, O'Loughlins 0-9, Blacks & Whites 1-6, but the hurling champs of 2001, made no mistake second time round, winning by 1-8 to 1-3.

In the Championship proper, Conahy Shamrocks and Mooncoin came storming through to the semi-finals.

O'Loughlins took care of Conahy, while Mooncoin looked very impressive against Blacks & Whites, winning by an impressive 1-13 to 1-5.

O'Loughlins stormed to the front early on. Two goals, one a brilliant effort by Joe Daly, the other a well orchestrated, but poorly executed by Tony Doyle saw the city side retire at the break, leading by 2-3 to 0-2. Mooncoin never showed any of their scintillating semi-final form, much to the chagrin of their supporters and selectors. Despite the considerable second half efforts of Billy Quinn - the best player afield - Eamon Mackey at full back, Eoin Hennebery, Pat Dobbyn, and Bill Ryan at corner forward, Mooncoin could make little impression on the O'Loughlin lead, the city lads recording their first Intermediate football championship win. The final score read, O'Loughlin Gaels 2-6, Mooncoin 0-7.

O'Loughlin Gaels: Tony Lahart, Brian Kelly, Kevin Cleere, Mark Phelan, Brian Murphy, Colin Furlong, Seamus Cummins, Donal O'Dwyer, Ollie O'Connor, James O'Keefe, Niall Bergin, Jimmy Comerford, Joe Daly, Tony Doyle, Sean Dowling.

Subs: Michael Kinsella, Alan Geoghegan, Brian Hogan, Darragh Murphy, Nigel Skehan, Brian Skehan, Barry Hogan, Peter Dowling, Martin Comerford, Mick O'Neill, JP Rowe.

Mooncoin: Michael Frisby, Alan Hennebery, Eamon Mackey, John Phelan, Billy Quinn, Eddie Mackey, Bill Quinn, Eoin Hennebery, Niall Mackey, David Cody, Pat Dobbyn, Michael Comerford, Diarmuid Mackey, Gerry Kirwan, Bill Ryan.

Subs: Shane McGrath, Billy Purcell, John Ryan, Liam Sutton, Ciarán Reid, Richard Mackey, David O'Brien, John O'Hanlon, Vincent Power, Shane Power, Liam Kinsella, Tomás O'Hanlon, Anthony Lennon, Michael Jones, Bernard Keane, Andy Phelan, Tom Murphy, Michael Purcell.



O'LOUGHLIN GAELS - INTERMEDIATE FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS 2002

Eoin Hennessy

Back: Brian Skehan, Joe Malone, Mark Dowling, Brian Hogan, Seamie Cummins, Peter Dowling, John Paul Rice, Colin Furlong, Darragh Murphy, Nigel Skehan, Donal Dwyer, Michael Kinsella.

Front: Mark Phelan, Niall Bergin, Brian Kelly, Ollie O'Connor, Jimmy Comerford (Capt.) Tommy Lahart, James O'Keefe, Brian Murphy, Tony Doyle, Ger O'Brien.



Gaelic stars Honoured at the 2002 Smithwicks Sports Stars Awards
Martin Lalor (Handball), Mick Crotty (Chairman), Aoife Neary (Camogie), Ian Hamilton (Smithwicks) and Henry Shefflin (Hurling)
Photo Tom Brett

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Under 21 County Championships

By David Carroll

FORM-BOOK UPSET!

This year's U-21 Championship followed the trend of recent years in that the teams that were most fancied to do well failed badly and the underdogs once more came to the fore. The minor finalists of three years previous, Tullaroan and Ballyhale Shamrocks, were expected to reach the latter stages once more, with O'Loughlin Gaels and Carrickshock being regarded as the dark horses. However, it was James Stephens and Mullinavat who ultimately slogged it out (literally!) in the final with the city side coming out winners in wet, boggy Nowlan Park in late November.

In contrast to the final, the first round was played off in near perfect mid-summer conditions. James Stephens saw off Emeralds and Tullaroan did enough to come through against Graigue Ballycallan. Dicksboro squeezed past Erin's Own to set up a semi-final against O'Loughlin's. The competition was put on hold for several months while the adult competitions were played off, but on resumption in late October, things really took off. O'Loughlin's pulled away from Dicksboro in the second half of their semi-final, with a scoreline that read O'Loughlin's 0-14, Dicksboro 0-7. With a back bone of established senior players, they looked impressive that day. James Stephens caused the first major surprise of the competition when they defeated reigning champions Tullaroan in the other semi-final. In a tight game, neither set of forwards had it easy, indeed only three scores were got from play, with the rest coming from the impressive free-taking of Eoin Larkin, Donnacha Cody and Shane Hennessy. What proved to be the decisive score was a long speculative ball sent in by Village midfielder Mark Hoban, that went all the way to the net (Score: James Stephens 2-7, Tullaroan 0-12).

It took two games to separate O'Loughlin's and James Stephens in the Northern final but in truth, the Village could have wrapped it up at first attempt. A goal just before half-time by Eoin McCormack gave James Stephens a slight edge which they managed to maintain. With scores hard to come by, making up a three point deficit looked to be beyond O'Loughlin's. However, with time just up, a deflected Brian Dowling free, which found its way to the net, got O'Loughlin's out of jail.

James Stephens 2-7, O'Loughlin's 1-10.

The result of the replay was never in doubt as a first half blitz left them 2-8 to 0-5 ahead. Eoin McCormack and Eoin Larkin were the scorers-in-chief while the backs kept a tight rein on the oppositon. James Stephens were through to the final. O'Loughlin's team: P. Dowling, D. Carroll, B. Murphy, G. O'Brien, J. O'Keefe, B. Hogan, S. Cummins, N. Bergin, A. O'Brien, P. O



JAMES STEPHENS - U 21 ROINN A HURLING CHAMPIONS 2002

Back: Mark Hennessy, Kieran Byrne, Simon Creane, David Carroll, Liam Meehan, Niall Grogan, David McCormack.

Middle: Conor Dunphy, Maurice Harkin, Richie Hayes, Gary Whelan, Donnacha Cody, Joe Mernagh, Jackie Tyrrell, Eoin Larkin.

Front: Brendan Doyle, Niall Tyrrell, Paddy Butler, Peter O'Neill, Derrick Brennan, Brian Tyrrell, Michael Eardley, Eoin McCormack, Michael Morris.

Photo Eoin Hennessy



ST MARTIN'S - U21 ROINN B HURLING CHAMPIONS 2002

Photo Eoin Hennessy

Back: James Maher, Ronan Maher, David Shore, Eamon Buggy, Declan Holohan, John Buggy, Tom Nolan, Pat Quirke, Kieran Byrne, Conor Kinsella.

Front: Shem Kelly, Larry Comerford, Shane Coonan, Kieran Kelly, Damien Maher, Stephen Murphy, Michael Mulhall, Niall Moran, Joeseeph Shore, Don Callanan.

Front: Tom Morrissey, Shane Cadogan, Tom Kinsella, Robert Shore, Brendan Maher (Capt), Brian Cadogan.

Brien, B. Dowling, J. Kelly, M. Lambert, T. Lahart, N. McEvoy, Subs: I. Dowling, D. Bergin.

SOUTH

Mullinavat's fine win against Graignamanagh (2-15 to 1-14) in the first round was an indicator of things to come, while Shamrocks

had an easier than expected win against Carrickshock (1-18 to 2-7). In the semi-finals, Shamrocks lived up to their billing as favourites by dismissing last year's Roinn B champions, Rower/Inistioge (2-14 to 1-10). In the other semi-final, Mullinavat had a very hard-earned victory against Dunnamaggin. Canice Hickey and Sean O'Neill held the

charge for Dunnamaggin and it was due in no small way to Willie O'Dwyer's 1-10 that Mullinavat got through (Mullinavat 1-13, Dunnamaggin 1-10). Ballyhale were expected to repeat their facile victory over the same opposition in the minor of three years ago. However, as so often has been the case at U-21 grade, things did not pan out that way.

Shamrocks settled into an early lead, courtesy of an early Eoin Reid point, but Mullinavat gave as good as they got as the first half wore on. Indeed the 'Vat had crept into a two point lead when Damien Conway stood up to take a line ball just before half time. His shot landed in the goalmouth and managed to find its way to the Ballyhale net to give Mullinavat a 1-6 to 0-4 lead at half time.

James Fitzpatrick's point immediately after the re-start set the tone for what would be a frenetic second half. It was pretty much nip and tuck until Conor Conway gathered a ball on the left wing and set off on a solo as he bore in on goal. The Shamrocks full-back were drawn towards him. A well timed hand-pass found the unmarked Jamie Fennelly who neatly slotted it away for a well-taken goal. This, allied to sending off of Brendan Costello, caused Shamrocks to throw caution to the wind as they laid siege to the Mullinavat goal. A rock solid defence held tight and Mullinavat defeated their neighbours to win the Southern Championship. The Dermody's, John and Michael, and Eoin Reid were the pick of the Ballyhale players on the day. Dinny Butler, Damien Conway, Walter Butler and Willie O'Dwyer were but some of the Mullinavat stars that day (Full Time: Mullinavat 2-11, Ballyhale Shamrocks 0-12).

Shamrocks: M.P. Drennan, M. Fennelly, W. Coogan, P. Holden, G. Holden, M. Dermody, A. Walsh, J. Dermody, B. Costelloe, P. Reid, D. Hoyne, E. Reid, E. Fitzpatrick, R. Aylward, J. Fitzpatrick.

COUNTY FINAL

This match will be remembered more for the atrocious conditions in which it was played rather than the game itself. Continuous rain greatly hampered the players' efforts, yet they gave it their all and in the ensuing mud bath, it was James Stephens who emerged the winners.

Mullinavat began the final half with the wind on their backs and points from Richie Hayes (James Stephens) and Conor Conway (Mullinavat) settled the game down. Scores were hard to come by but the Village managed to get three points via Donnacha Cody and Gary Whelan which gave them a cushion as half time approached. A Michael



CLONEEN U 21 ROINN C CHAMPIONS 2002

Back: Paul Donnelly, Thomas Campion, Enda Gannon, Shane Deegan, Daniel Brennan, Damien Byrne, Andrew Brennan, Andrew Lawlor, Donal Hennessy, Colin Phelan, Sean Maher, Niall Mooney, Pauric Dowd, Jim Dowd, Andrew Hosey, Gavin Dowd.

Front: William Love, Philip Roche, Patrick Brennan, Steve Mahon, Graham Lawlor, Sean Allen, Ronan Walsh, Laurence Ring, Kevin Philips, Tom Joe Comeford.

Photo Eoin Hennessy



MULLINAVAT - ROINN A COUNTY U21 FINALISTS 2002

Back: Patrick Jones, Conor Conway, Dinny Butler, Tommy Holden, Derek Aylward, Damien Aylward, Walter Burke (Capt), Michael Duggan, Seamus Farrell, Ger Anthony, Jim McDonald, John Farrell.

Front: Jason Duggan, Damien Conway, Brian Kenneally, Willie O Dwyer, Shane Frisby, Ciarán Aylward, Jamie Fennelly, Kevin Aylward, Tomás Frisby.

(Missing From Photo: Richie Raftice)

Duggan point drew Mullinavat closer and when Willie O'Dwyer scrambled the ball over the bar after Jamie Fennelly nearly snatched a goal, the Southerners pressure seemed to be telling. A free by Eoin McCormack deep into injury time gave James Stephens the narrowest of leads at the interval (James Stephens 0-6, Mullinavat 0-5). The second half saw Mullinavat enjoy great amounts of possession yet only to be frustrated by a dogged rearguard display from the city side. Indeed, the only score conceded by James Stephens in the second half was a pointed free from Willie O'Dwyer in the 54th minute. At the other end of the field, the indiscretions of the Mullinavat backs were being punished by Eoin McCormack's free taking. James Stephens finished up winners by five points (0-11 to 0-6). It was a pity that such an entertaining competition had its final so badly affected by the weather though that mattered little to James Stephens who had strong performances all round but whose back line proved the rock on which their vic-

tory was based.

James Stephens: D. Brennan, D. Cody, J. Mernagh, M. Eardly, B. Doyle, J. Tyrrell, P. Butler, M. Morris, B. Tyrrell, N. Tyrrell, R. Hayes, P. O'Neill, E. McCormack, G. Whelan, E. Larkin. **Subs:** D. McCormack, N. Grogan.

Mullinavat: S. Frisby, G. Anthony, K. Aylward, C. Aylward, Damien Aylward, W. Burke, Derek Aylward, S. Farrell, M. Duggan, C. Conway, D. Butler, D. Conway, B. Keneally, W. O Dwyer, J. Fennelly. **Sub:** T. Holden.

ROINN B

St Martin's rounded off a great year for their club when they made amends for last year and powered their way to the Roinn "B" title. Having disposed of Dicksboro II and Clara, they faced neighbours Conahy in the Northern final. A fourth minute goal by Kieran Kelly (St Martin's) set the tone when he gathered a long ball and finished to the

net. Conahy clawed their way back and at half time the scores were level (1-13 to 0-6). A stormy second half was expected but St Martin's proved far too strong. Further goals by Seamus Kelly and James Kinsella allied to a fine penalty save from Stephen Murphy proved Conahy's undoing. A feature of the St Martin's team was the ability to get scores from a variety of sources with seven players getting their names on the score-sheet in contrast to Conahy's three.

St Martin's 3-10, Conahy Shamrocks 1-8)

Conahy Shamrocks: B. Healy, J. Bergin, S. Og Brennan, P. Dollard, T. Nolan, D. Kelly, C. Hester, P. Nolan, M. Fitzpatrick, A. Mealy, T. Nolan, E. Byrne, P. Nolan, D. Connery, C. Downey.

In the final, St Martin's faced a Mooncoin team that had notched up a huge score when defeating John Lockes in the Southern final (St Martin's 3-19, John Lockes 3-5). The final was played before the Roinn "A" decider was similarly dogged by the conditions. The game had just begun when Shane Coonan took off on a slalom run through the Mooncoin defence before shooting to the net. Almost immediately after that, Eoin McGrath robbed a defender and kicked St Martin's second goal. Before Mooncoin could catch their breath, Kieran Kelly flashed over two points. After just eight minutes,

Mooncoin were eight points in arrears. The game appeared to be over before it had really begun but Mooncoin managed to pull themselves back into contention. Scores from Peter Ryan, Ray Wall and David O'Brien either side of half time brought them back into the game, but a hat trick of points from Kieran Kelly well and truly finished them off. St Martin's maintained their good performances throughout the competition and proved themselves to be more than worthy champions with a fine well balanced team.

St. Martins: R. Shore, K. Byrne, B. Maher, S. Cadogan, N. Moran, D. Maher, C. Kinsella, M. Mullhall, D. Callanan, S. Kelly, S. Coonan, B. Cadogan, T. Kinsella, E. McGrath, K. Kelly. *Subs: T. Morrissey, L. Comerford, P. Quirke, D. Holohan.*

Mooncoin: M. Jones, J. Nolan, R. Kinsella, L. Kinsella, V. Power, R. Mackey, N. Mackey, J. O Hanlon, J. Phelan, R. Wall, J. McGrath, P. Ryan, D. O'Brien, M. Frisby, R. Cody. *Subs: T O Hanlon, K. Kirwan, G. Sutton, N. Delahunty.*

ROINN C FINAL

Barrow Rangers, Danesfort, Cloneen, Slieverue and Carrigeen took part. Cloneen won the Roinn C final having failed at four

previous attempts, when they beat Danesfort 1-12 to 1-9 in Bennetsbridge. Cloneen overcame Barrow Rangers 2-9 to 2-5 and Slieverue 1-12 to 1-9 to reach the final.

Conditions were good and Cloneen's strength up the middle of the field proved too much for Danesfort, where goalkeeper Sean Hurley and full forward Tim Murphy did most to stem the tide. Danesfort man Tommy Murphy presented the cup to the victorious captain, Andrew Brennan.

Cloneen Panel: Donal Hennessy, Kevin Phillips, Jim Dowd, Enda Gannon, Philip Roche, Paul Donnelly, Andrew Lawlor, Christy Kelly, Pauric Dowd, Sean Maher, Niall Mooney, Damien Byrne, Patrick Brennan, Andrew Hosey, Andrew Brennan (Capt.), Ronan Walsh, Shane Deegan, Daniel Brennan, Steve Mahon, T.J. Comerford, Thomas Campion and Graham Lawlor

Danesfort: S. Hurley, M. Moylan, M. O'Neill, C. Walsh, J. Hickey, J. Mullins, P. Mullhall, R. Devane, P. Pembroke, N. O'Hara, T. Woodcock, L. Forristal, T. Ryan, T. Murphy, B. Minogue.

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Photo John McLwaine



Minor Pile-up - Kilkenny Minors celebrate their All Ireland Victory

Photo John McLwaine



Mischief in mind**Charlie Carter** in the Leinster Final
Photo John McIlwaine



Consistent Minor defender, **Keith Nolan** in action against Dublin's **Michael Griffin** in the Leinster championship. *Photo Eoin Hennessy*



Eddie Brennan, Kilkenny in action against **Paul Ormonde**, Tipperary, in the All Ireland Hurling Semi-final.
Photo Ray McManus/SPORTSFILE

They did us proud...

Kilkenny Clubs in the AIB Club Championship

THE GRAIGUE BALLYCALLAN CAMPAIGN (Contd)

After the excitement of winning their first Leinster Club Championship trophy against UCD, the Graigue Ballycallan hurling bandwagon had to wait until February to resume their intentions of progressing a little more towards the capturing of the Tommy Moore Cup.

Graigue Ballycallan 1-16 Sixmilebridge 2-13.

This exceptionally high class encounter was a personal triumph for the Graig and former Kilkenny County star, Adrian Ronan, whose single contribution to the Graig scoreline was a masterful 1-5, none of which came from free pucks. It took an injury time point from the Bank of Ireland official to keep his side in the competition, and take both sides back to Thurles for a replay. Ronan's last gasp riposte capped an exemplary performance from Ronan. His goal came after eleven minutes, when he fielded a long puck out by his namesake, Johnny, to clatter a beauty into the corner of Davy Fitzgerald's net. At half time, the Kilkenny champs led by 1-10 to 1-8, and were looking mighty impressive.

Fortunes swayed many times during the frantic second half.

Niall Gilligan was inspirational for the Clare champions, firing home his side's second goal in the 42nd minute. It gave his side the slenderest of leads momentarily, as John Hoyne levelled matters with another brilliant point within seconds of Gilligan's score. Gilligan and Tommy Dermody swapped points, and as the full time whistle loomed, and Graigue trailing, Eddie Brennan levelled matters once more. With thirty seconds left, John Reddan had the "Bridge crowd on their feet as he fired over, what seemed the winning score, only for that poacher supreme, Adrian Ronan's last ditch effort, which brought the sides back to Thurles two weeks later.

Graigue Ballycallan 1-13 Sixmilebridge 1-12.

As is often the case, replays of exciting games seldom live up to expectations. And so it proved as Graigue Ballycallan and Sixmilebridge did battle once more in Semple Stadium, Thurles to decide which team would advance to Croke Park on St Patricks Day to contest the AIB Bank Club Championship Final. There is also an old saying that if something is not broken, don't fix it. The 'Bridge made three positional and three changes in personnel for this replay, and one suspects that very little of the reorganisation had the appearance of a winning format.

An Eddie Brennan goal settled the Graigue lads very quickly. They had 1-3 on the scoreboard inside the first eight minutes, and the Clare Champions had still to adorn the same scoreboard with any statistic. The Graigue half back line of Pádraig Mc Cluskey, Tomás Comerford and particularly Alan Hoyne were very impressive, and James Young and his midfield partner, Eddie Dwyer practically owned their own particular patch, irrespective of what Clare personnel were sent to counteract their dominance. While Adrian Ronan was not as impressive as in the first game, nevertheless, his contribution of three points was hugely important. Denis Byrne, Tommy Dermody and Micheál Hoyne were the pick of the forwards.

While the Kilkenny champs should never have allowed the "Bridge to get as close as they did in the last few minutes, they had to endure the very real possibility that victory could have been snatched away from their grasp, when leading by an unsafe two points, they afforded their opponents the chance of winning the game. A foul by Johnny Ronan on Robert Conlon who was clear in on goal -- Ronan had no alternative - led to Dickie Murphy awarding a twenty metre free. Davy Fitzgerald raced from his goal to take the free. The Kilkenny support held their breath. Fitzgerald's effort streaked over the bar. It was to be the last action of a tensely fought game.

For the record, Adrian Ronan, Denis Byrne and Micheál Hoyne



GRAIG BALLYCALLAN - ST.CANICES CREDIT UNION SENIOR HURLING CHAMPIONS 2000.

Back: Aidan Brett, Ger Ronan, Sean Millea, Gearoid Cleere, Philip Butler, Johnny Butler, Dermot Hoyne, Joe Young, Pat Comerford, James Ryall, Jimmy Lynch, Paddy O'Dwyer, Jim Maher, Tomas Comerford, Micheal Hoyne, Damien Cleere.

Front: Pdraig McCluskey, Paul Dermody, Eddie Brennan, Alan Hoyne, Adrian Ronan, Tommy Dermody, Denis Byrne, Johnny Ronan, James Young, Tomas McCluskey, Eddie O'Dwyer, John Hoyne, Kevin Cleere, Paul Hoyne.

Photo Tom Brett

score three points each, Eddie Brennan scored a goal, Tommy Dermody shot a brace of points, while James Young and John Hoyne scored a point each.

St Mary's Athenry 3-24 Graigue Ballycallan 2-19 (aet).

In an extraordinary game of hurling, defending Champions, St Mary's from Athenry duplicated the achievement of their fellow Galwegians, Sarsfields, by putting back to back All-Ireland Club titles together, but not without causing cardiac problems for their adoring followers. It's never easy to win your first title, and so it proved for the bravehearts of Graigue Ballycallan, as they did everything possible to win, only to falter as the winning post was about to be crossed. It was as close as that. They gave an inspirational display of fast, skillful, power-packed hurling, in true Kilkenny tradition, and leading by four points inside the last two minutes, the Kilkenny faithful, were ready to acclaim a massive victory. It was not to be. On the call of full time, a



James Young (GBC)

long, speculative pass was driven towards Johnny Ronan's goal at the Railway end. Confusion momentarily gripped the Graigue full-backs, and as Declan Burns forced the ball towards the Graigue goal, Johnny saved well, only to see the flying Eugene Cloonan arriving to push the ball over the line. The team that had been there before were not dead yet. They knew what was required, and they never gave up the hunt.

Athenry led by 0-8 to 0-6 after a thoroughly poor first half, which certainly did not live up to expectations. The second half was a transformation. That wily scorer of important scores, Adrian Ronan had a superb second half, drilling home 1-9 overall, six of which came from frees. Eddie Brennan too had a terrific second half, as he helped himself to four valuable points.

After sixty minutes, the sides were level at 1-15 apiece. A kicked goal by Joe Rbbitte just before the end of the first period of extra time gave the Champions a six point breathing space. It was the switching of Rabbitte to full forward that proved a master stroke by the Athenry mentors. He got absolutely no change from the most consistent of the Graigue players all year, Tomás Comerford at centre back. Behind Comerford, the two Johnnies, Butler and Ronan were superb. At midfield, Denis Byrne and James Young more than held their own against Brendan Keogh and Brian Hanley. All their forwards, Micheál and John Hoyne, Tommy Dermody, and the injury carrying Eddie Dwyer had their moments, but Adrian Ronan and Eddie Brennan were the men to cause most hardship and worry to the Athenry backs. It was a tough campaign. It was memorable, and it was very nearly a winning one for the Graigue lads. The margin of victory was thoroughly unreflective of the proximity of the sides, however, and the end result was in doubt up to the time of David Donoghue's goal seconds before referee, Johnny Mc Donald called full time. They did themselves, their club, and Kilkenny hurling proud. Make no mistake about that.

The Graigue Ballycallan panel:
Johnny Ronan, Johnny Butler, Paddy Dwyer, James Ryall, Pádraig

Mc Cluskey, Tomás Comerford, Alan Hoyne, James Young, Eddie Dwyer, Micheál Hoyne, John Hoyne, Tommy Dermody, Adrian Ronan, Denis Byrne, Eddie Brennan, Dermot Hoyne, Joe Young, Sean Millea, Damien Cleere, Gearóid Cleere, Paul Dermody, Ger Ronan, Jim Maher, Jim Lynch. Tomás Mc Cluskey suffered a severe injury against Sixmilebridge, and did not take any further part in the competition.

O'LOUGHLINS' LEINSTER CLUB CAMPAIGN.

If ambition was a good ambition paving stone, then the road to the AIB Leinster Club hurling final is well paved by the ambitions of first-time County Champions, with some exception. Kilkenny's representatives, O'Loughlin Gaels, welcomed the chance of emulating the achievements of their County comrades like Ballyhale Shamrocks, the Fenians, James Stephens, St Martins, Glenmore, and Graigue Ballycallan, but like Graigue Ballycallan, Young Irelands, Dicksboro, Tullaroan and Dunnamaggin before them, their expectations fell short of their ambition. In short, it's not easy to win at the first time of asking. O'Loughlins, cock-a-hoop after beating reigning champions, Graigue Ballycallan, in a memorable County Final, set sail for the promised land of Leinster Club Champions. They had a rather easy opener against Dublin champs, Craobh Ciarán played in Parnell Park on a Saturday.

The Dubs opened very impressively, but unfortunately for them, they left their shooting sticks at home. Connie Ring and Shane GMC Donald surprisingly held sway, big time, at midfield for them. They were winning and pumping ball after ball towards their wasteful forward colleagues. On the other hand, the Kilkenny champions made sporadic attacks,



Jimmy Comerford (O'Loughlin Gaels)

and turned every one of them into a score. Instance the fifth minute, by which time the lads from the Heron Park road had but a couple of points on the scoreboard, and the Dubs accreditation read zero on the same board. A short puck out by Paul Cleere to Johnny Houlihan was transferred via Barry Power to Martin Comerford, and Alan Geoghegan to Nigel Skehan, whose shot for a point dipped, deceiving the Ciarán goalie, Ger. Ryan, and

ended up in the back of the net. The game was a non-event by half time, with O'Loughlins leading by 1-11 to 0-3.

The second half was similar to the first with O'Loughlins cruising to an easy victory at the finish, winning by 2-21 to 0-5. O'Loughlin Gaels : Paul Cleere, Barry Power, Michael Holohan, Brian Murphy, Johnny Holohan, Brian Hogan, Sean Dowling, Andy Comerford, Alan Geoghegan (0-4), Nigel Skehan (1-7, 0-3 frees), Colin Furlong, Brian Kelly (1-1), Jimmy Comerford, Martin Comerford (0-4), Brian Dowling (0-4), *Subs (used): Donal O'Dwyer, Michael Phelan, Joe Daly (0-1), S Hogan.*

The Leinster semi-final against Offaly champions, Birr, was a different proposition. The Birr men were going for their fifth provincial title, so their experience of hurling at this level, and at this stage of the competition was considerable, certainly when paraded upsides with the first timers from Kilkenny. During the early part of the game, the O'Loughlin's defence, their most consistent sector throughout the local campaign,

were very nervous, and somewhat ragged. They were showing more respect for their opponents than they should have. Even tho' they had the first two scores -points by Brian Dowling and Andy Comerford - they still found themselves adrift by the end of the first quarter, 0-5 to 0-3. By the 17th minute a blistering shot by Johnny Pilkington was well saved by Paul Cleere, but Simon Whelehan was on hand to slot the rebound home. A bad blow for the boys in green and white. Birr led by 2-6 to 0-6 at the break. O'Loughlins had to indulge in a bit of a damage limitation exercise midway through that first half by moving Andy Comerford to centre back to counteract the considerable threat of Garry Hannify and Johnny Pilkington.

O'Loughlins were a different team in the second half. They chased down the Birr hotshots. They were well in the game as it reached the finale stage. There was only a puck of a ball between the sides with eight minutes remaining. To their credit they never conceded advantage, unless they were forced to under severe Birr pressure. They fought the good fight, but the experience gleaned over the years in this competition proved invaluable to them in the final analysis.

The fact that the winners went on to win the provincial and national titles probably underlines the reasons why the Kilkenny champions failed in their attempt to win at the first time of asking.

O'Loughlin Gaels: *Paul Cleere, Barry Power, Michael Holohan, Brian Murphy, Johnny Holohan, Brian Hogan, Sean Dowling, Andy Comerford, Alan Geoghegan, Nigel Skehan, Colin Furlong, Brian Kelly, Jimmy Comerford, Martin Comerford, Brian Dowling.*

Subs (used): *Michael Phelan, Donal O'Dwyer.*

YOUNG IRELANDS" CAMPAIGN

As in 1996, Young Irelands from Gowran were not afforded the luxury of celebration, following their second County Senior Championship win. Then, they indulged, and celebrated. Boy, how they celebrated, and weren't they entitled to? This time round, they had a better idea of what was expected of Kilkenny's representatives in the Leinster Club championship. Their first round AIB Leinster Club championship outing was against the Meath champions, Kilmessan. It was played in Páirc Tailteann.

The locals had some fine hurlers, but not enough of them. Players like Nicky Horan, Mark Reilly, Steven Clynch and big Jim McGuinness are very good camán wielders, but. They were team was no match for the Kilkenny champs, led superbly by DJ Carey, who scored 2-5, David Carter (1-4), and Charlie Carter (0-5), Young Irelands scored of 3-20. Hard try-

ing, willing, but out of their dept Kilmessan scored 0-7.

On a glorious Sunday afternoon in November, Young Irelands faced their conquerors of six years previously, Rathnure in Wexford Park. A near nine thousand patrons were in the ground in anticipation of a great contest. It was far from the expected. Young Irelands were given a bit of a runaround through most of the first half. In fact, they were well behind after ten minutes, with the Wexford champs. Trailing by 0-6 to 0-1, the Gowran boys slowly crawled back into the ring, albeit under the ropes, but get back into the fight they did. By the 23rd minute, a Gowran attack saw some fierce action around the Rathnure goal. DJ Carey got possession, only to be felled. A penalty, indicated referee, Brian Kelly. The maestro took it himself, and suddenly from being a mile off the pace, Gowran were only a point adrift, 0-7 to 1-3. The levelling point from Carey, this time Jack Carey, was followed by a super point from Charlie Carter, and the Gowran lads, very much against the run of play, went in for the "tae" ahead.

Dick Carroll opened the Gowran account within a minute of the restart with a terrific point. In the 39th minute, the Rathnure indiscipline cost them dearly. A dreadful pull on Dick Carroll's head by full back, Seamus Somers saw him being sidelined, and from there to the finish, the Kilkenny champions showed exactly why they are worthy champions. Rathnure had a second player sidelined late on.

The final score read, Young Irelands 3-11, Rathnure 0-11.

On a dreadful first Sunday in December the Gowran charge towards the Leinster Championship was halted by All-Ireland champions, Birr. They lost by 2-5 to 1-2 on a day when scoring was reduced to an absolute lottery. At half time thereigning led by 1-4 to 1-0. The Birr goal was scored by Rory Hannify, while Dick Carroll drilled home the Gowran goal.. Try as they could, the Kilkenny champs could not come to grips with the holding tactics - I don't mean of the fouling variety.

Gowran only managed to add two points to their first half tally, one from Charlie Carter, the other from a DJ Carey free. It would have to be stated that the best team won, and deserved to do so.

Gowran team in the final, plus the full panel was :

Martin Carey (Capt.), Ciarán Carroll, Eoghan Farrell, Cathal Fitzgerald, Stephen Byrne, Thomas Drennan, Ciarán Phelan, Ollie Carter, James Mc Dermott, James Fitzgerald, Jack Carey, DJ Carey, Dick Carroll, Charlie Carter, David Carter.

Subs: *Dermott Madden, Martin Carter, Pat O'Neill, Darragh Phelan, Peter Carroll, Patrick Farrell, Liam Phelan, Thomas Carroll, Alan Doyle, Shane O'Neill, Colin Madden, Jonathan Dunphy, John Drennan, Patrick O'Neill, Richard Kennedy, Eric Corcoran.*



Jack Carey (Young Irelands) pushes past **Anthony O'Connell** (Rathnure) in Wexford Park during their AIB Senior Hurling Club Leinster Semi-Final.
Eoin Hennessy



Stephen Byrne (Young Irelands) receives the AIB Man of the Match award from **Phillip McDermott** (AIB Manager Wexford) and **Barry Hickey** (AIB Manager Carlow), after the Leinster semi-final.
Eoin Hennessy

Lisdowney Sevens 2002

Lisdowney Coca-Cola Sevens celebrated its "coming of age" with over 30 teams taking part in 3 sections - Sweeney Cup, Kilkenny Supporters Club Shield and the Parish Sevens. This firmly established competition, which promotes hurling for under 13 players, attracted teams from Tipperary, Galway, Laois, Kildare and Kilkenny. After three Saturdays of keenly contested games, Clara captain **John Prendergast** raised the **Sweeney Cup**, having seen off the strong challenge of O'Loughlin Gaels in the final by 6-5 to 3-3.

In the earlier rounds Clara defeated Fenians and St. Lachtains, while O'Loughlins overcame Camross and Ballyhale. In the semi-finals both finalists had to withstand stiff challenges from James Stephens and Dicksboro, respectively. It was only in the second half of the final that Clara surged ahead, thanks mainly to Liam Ryan, who deservedly got the **Coca-Cola Best Player Award** and is surely a star in the making!

The **Sweeney Cup** was presented by **Nicky Brennan (Chairman Leinster Council)** and the **Coca-Cola** trophies were presented by **Eamonn Nolan (Area Manager Coca-Cola)**.

Clara: John Prendergast (Capt.), Kevin Nolan, Tom Langton, David Langton (0-1), James Nolan (1-0), Brian O'Shea (3-1), Liam Ryan (2-3), Declan Rafter, Tom Ryan and Stephen Quinlan.

O'Loughlin Gaels: Philip Johnston, Rick Leydon, Eanna Walsh, Joe Walsh, David Rice, Bryan McPartlan, Mark Bergin, Eddie Kearns, Stephen Murphy and Chris Lambert.

The **Best Player Award** was presented to **Liam Ryan (Clara)** by **Very Rev. Pat O'Farrell P.P.**

The **Kilkenny Supporters Club Shield** was also a closely fought affair, with **Danesfort** emerging victorious over home team **Lisdowney** by 3-8 to 3-5. The Shield competition is designed for first round losers and on their path to the final Danesfort defeated Emeralds, St. Patricks and Camross. Likewise, Lisdowney beat Mullinavat and St. Fiachras.

Danesfort: Ciarán Treacy, Paul Murphy Capt. (1-1), Edward Nugent, Pádraig Daly (2-5), Óisín Daly (0-1), James Cunningham (0-1), Richard Troy, Melvin Phelan, Mike Maher, and Stephen Maher.

Lisdowney: Raymond Fitzpatrick, Martin Phelan, Vincent Fitzpatrick, Niall Mackey, Eddie Hickey, Aaron Fogarty, Sean Phelan, Brian Bergin, Stephen Ruth and Keith Rowe.

Speaking at the presentation of trophies, **Club Chairman, P.J. Kenny** welcomed all the guests, who made the presentations and had a special welcome for **Michael Rice**, captain of the victorious Kilkenny minor team. He thanked "founding fathers" **Larry Hamilton, Eamonn Dunne and Eamonn Nolan** for their continued involvement, all the other Club helpers, the Ladies' Committee and referees **Podge Butler** and **Sean Brennan**. He welcomed and thanked all the teams and their mentors. He also had a special word of thanks for the local media - **Kilkenny People, Radio Kilkenny and the Kilkenny G.A.A. Yearbook** and declared that the Lisdowney Coca-Cola Sevens was now one of the biggest and best in the country.

The **Parish Sevens** is a very important part of the whole competition and taking part were over 60 boys and girls from the 3 schools of the parish - Lisdowney, Clontubrid and Gathabawn. Six teams played each other in a round robin series and were captained by **Martin Phelan, Vincent Fitzpatrick, Raymond Fitzpatrick, Eddie Hickey, Niall Mackey and James Delaney**. In an exciting final **Raymond Fitzpatrick's team** ran out win-



Sweeney Cup Winners - Clara

Front: Declan Rafter, John Prendergast (Capt.), Tom Ryan, Stephen Quinlan, Kevin Nolan.

Middle: Brian O'Shea, James Nolan, Tom Langton, Liam Ryan, David Langton.

Back: Richie Mulrooney (Coach), Johnny Ryan, Eamonn Nolan (Coca-Cola), PJ Kenny (Chairman), Dermot Langton, Joe Pyke (Chairman Bórd na nÓg), Eamonn Dunne (Sevens PRO), Conor Brennan (Organiser), Larry Hamilton (Sevens Sec.).



Parish Sevens Winners - Raymond Fitzpatrick's Team

Back: Eamonn Dunne (Sevens PRO), Shane O'Sullivan, Niall Kenny, Conor Brennan, (Organiser), Raymond Fitzpatrick (Capt), Amy Sweeney, Eamonn Nolan (Coca-Cola).

Front: Laurence O'Carroll, Shane Ruth, George Healy, Pat O'Carroll, Niamh Brennan, Amy Ivory.

ners over **Niall Mackey's team** by 4-3 to 2-2.

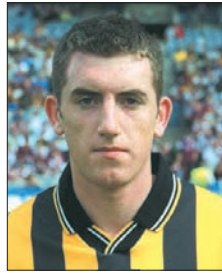
At the presentation of trophies Larry Hamilton paid tribute to **Conor Brennan** and **Jimmy Ruth** for taking charge of the Parish Sevens.

Winning Team: Raymond Fitzpatrick (Capt.), Laurence O'Carroll, Pat O'Carroll, Niall Kenny, Shane Ruth, Shane O'Sullivan, Amy Sweeney, Niamh Brennan, George Healy and Amy Ivory.

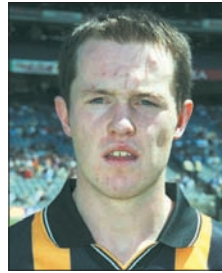
Runners Up: Niall Mackey (Capt.), Keith Rowe, Siobhán Holland, Robert Buckley, Aoife Campion, Stephen Murphy, Grace Murphy, Jason Quinn, Ciara Mackey, Stephen Ivory and Shane Healy.

Before the Parish final a minute's silence was observed as a mark of respect to the late **Lar Carroll**, whose untimely death occurred the previous week. Lar's last visit to the hurling field was to watch the concluding stages of the Cup and Shield competitions. But how he would have loved to be at the Parish final and watch his two grandsons, Laurence and Pat playing on the winning team!

Kilkenny's 2002 All-Stars



Derek Lyng



Michael Kavanagh



Peter Barry



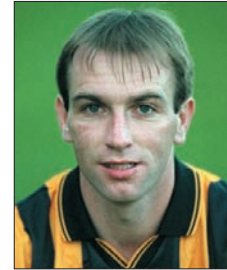
Philip Larkin



Henry Shefflin



Martin Comerford



DJ Carey

Seven Kilkenny players received All Star Awards for Hurling in the year 2002 - Michael Kavanagh, Philip Larkin, Derek Lyng and Martin Comerford for their first time, Henry Shefflin for his second, Peter Barry for his third and DJ Carey for a record ninth. No other hurler has achieved this number of modern All Star awards while Pat Spillane, alone among footballers, has attained nine awards.



Kilkenny Manager, **Brian Cody** does a little dance to celebrate the victory over Tipp, while **Nicky English** looks on a little concernedly
Damien Eagers/SPORTSFILE



J.J. Delaney (Kilkenny) solos up the field during the Leinster Semi-Final clash in Semple Stadium. *Eoin Hennessy*



KILKENNY COUNTY BOARD 2002

Photo Tom Brett



**SOUTHERN BOARD CLG
CILL CHAINNIGH 2002**

Back: Noel McDonald (Dunnamaggin), Denis Brennan, (Thomastown), John Minogue (Thomastown), Simon Brophy, (Windgap), Pat Power, (Carrickshock), Pat Doyle (Graigenamanagh) Sean Norris, (Piltown),
Middle: Tommy Duggan, (Mullinavat), Pat Walsh, (Slieverue), Kevin Kennedy, (Ballyhale Shamrocks), Jim Conway, (Mullinavat), Eamon Phelan, (Tullougher Rosbercon), Paul Ryan (Graigenamanagh), Joe Dunphy, (Mooncoin), Pat Dunphy (Carrigeen), P.R.O. Pat Kinsella (Mooncoin),
Front: John Dunphy, (Kilmacow), Tom Merenagh, (Glenmore), Richie Aylward, (Mullinavat), Stephen O'Brien (Piltown), Paddy Gaule, (Tullougher Rosbercon) Chairman, Jimmy Walsh, (Windgap) Secretary), Nicholas Hennebry, (Mooncoin), Vice Chairman), Andy Aylward (Mullinavat).



Teachers, representatives of the County board and sponsres of Kilkenny GAA who were at the handing over of hurleys and sliotars to the Secondary Schools in County Kilkenny and surrounds. *Photo Eoin Hennessy*



MICK DUNNE

By Tommy O'Brien

deadline he was given. Our Editor, Barry Henriques, can verify that every task he was set by the Kilkenny Yearbook Committee was completed on time.

One of his great legacies will be the All Stars awards. It was his idea that our top hurlers and footballers should be acknowledged each year. He was the main presenter since 1971 and due tribute was paid to him at the recent All Stars Awards.

Much has been written about his accounts of GAA activities abroad but his immense interest in the Compromise Rules led to his huge collection of memorabilia! And who will ever forget his exciting, riveting and indeed amusing interview with John Todd, the Australian team manager during the inaugural series in Australia?

Mick Dunne was a great friend of handball and enjoyed playing the game until a few short years ago. He was a very familiar and friendly face at games throughout the country and travelled to the World Championships on several occasions where he became well known to players and officials from the other handballing countries. He contributed handsomely to the sport in a voluntary capacity and used his very considerable talents and expertise as MC for the annual Waterford Crystal Awards ceremony and also for the All-Ireland finals every year.

He researched and penned numerous articles for the Irish Handball Yearbook. He was a member of the steering committee for that Yearbook and I, as chairman of the committee, was always amazed at the workload he undertook as well as his professionalism when the final touches were applied to the Yearbook every November.

Mick was a delighted recipient of the Waterford Crystal Handball Award for Special Services - an award he richly deserved.

Mick was a man whose personal standards, underpinned as they were by his Christian values, greatly impressed all those who were fortunate enough to have met and known him. He loved handball and its players - and they respected him in generous measure. The attendance of so many players and officials - past and present - at his removal and funeral Mass was an inspiring testimony to the high esteem in which he was held, not only as a GAA journalist and broadcaster, but as a true friend and a highly respected person. His loss to Gaelic Games is immense but he will, of course, be missed most of all by his wife, Lilly, his daughters Eileen, Una and Moira and grandchildren, Cormac and Maeve.

Tá leaba I measc na Naomh tuille go maith aige.

The sad news of Mick Dunne's untimely death on Sunday 11 August came as a great shock to his large circle of friends, to his colleagues and to the GAA public for whom he had written and to whom he had broadcast for half a century on the Gaelic games he loved so dearly. A loyal Laois man, Mick was very proud of his roots and his heritage and, infrequent as they were, he delighted in his county's achievements.

One of nature's finest gentlemen, his death has left a void in Irish sports society and in handball in particular, which will never be filled.

Mick was Ireland's leading sports journalist when he was the principal GAA reporter with the "Irish Press". In the pre-Television days, his Monday reports on the big games were considered as Gospel. He continued to write for the "Irish Press" until RTE appointed them as their Gaelic Games correspondent. His distinctive voice, allied to his extensive knowledge of Gaelic Games made him a popular choice and he reported for radio and television until his retirement.

Even in retirement, he kept meticulous records of all games and even shortly before his death he had his files up to date with the Munster under 21 hurling replay result. These records made him a much sought after person by journalists as he could give them details of virtually every game played in the past 50 years and more.

Mick was the author of a regular feature in HIGHBALL and did a column in The Irish Independent following his retirement from RTE. When he undertook a task he always did so in a most professional manner. He left nothing to chance: he was absolutely meticulous in scripting his notes. His writing style had a great flourish and he was totally committed to every

THE STRAND BAR GOON

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OBITUARIES



Joe Walsh

Thomastown Club and indeed the extended GAA of County Kilkenny lost one of its most dedicated sons with the passing of Seosamh Breatlmach. Joe, originally of Grennan House and more recently of Low Street, Thomastown was one of the County's longest seeing officers. He served his Club, Southern Board, County under-16 Board and the County Board itself with distinction.

Joe became Club Secretary with Thomastown in 1955. He later served as Treasurer and with the amalgamation of Thomastown and Thomastown Rangers he was joint Treasurer with another great Gael, the late Richard Forristal. Serious illness in his college days dictated that Joe could not enjoy a playing career. Such a promising career had seemed certain because prior to his illness Joe had won a Senior title with the famed St. Kierans in such exalted company as Fr Tommy Maher and the great Nicky Rackard. But he had an excellent "hurling head" and was a shrewd tactician. Before the term "Manager" was fashionable he guided Thomastown to its third Minor title in 1956. As a member of his panel of that year I can testify to the regard and great respect we had for that wonderful and genial man.

At U16 Board level, Joe served as Chairman 1956-57 and, from May 1957 until 1969, he was Secretary of that Board. I had the pleasure of working with him in 1963 and knew how especially pleased he was when his beloved Thomastown not only won the U16 hurling and football double that year but also carried off a wonderful prize which Players Cigarettes had presented to Kilkenny U16 Board.

At the Southern Board, Joe Walsh was Vice-Chairman from 1959 to 1971. At that point in July of '71, he took over from another long-serving Thomastown man and, coincidentally, his Low Street neighbour, Seamus McKenna who had been Southern Board Secretary for 47 years - from 1924 until 1971. Joe extended that Thomastown connection by continuing the position until 1994. This gave Thomastown the distinction of an unbroken 70 years of Southern Board Secretaries. During that long period of unselfish effort, Joe served with such well known names as John Lonergan, Michael O'Neill, John Reade, Kevin Fennelly, Jim Walsh, John Healy, Joe Mackey, Barrie Henriques and Ned Quinn.

When you add to all of this that Joe was also a Trustee of the Coisde Contae from

1965 to 1980, then you surely have put together a truly wonderful Curriculum Vitae. Little wonder then that Kilkenny County Board saw fit to present Joe with the "Hall of Fame" Award for "service to Cumann Luthchleas Gael above and beyond the call of duty over a long number of years". Joe Walsh will be long remembered with great affection. He had a word for everyone and was known and well liked the length and breadth of the county and indeed further afield. He loved nothing better than a good chat about last weekend's game or perhaps one from the distant past. His career in Insurance brought him into touch with so many people. His friendly manner and cheerful word helped to brighten many an otherwise dull day. In whatever corner of heaven that hurling is discussed the discourse will be enlivened and enriched by Joe Walsh's arrival.

He is survived by his wife Teresa, his son Ronan, brothers Walter (Watt), Jack, Fr. Percy, Val, Bob & Dick and sister Bridget, to all of whom we extend sincere and heartfelt sympathy.

Go dtuga Dia leaba I measc na naomh duit, a Sheosaimh.

Joe Dunphy

The above obituary, which was intended for publication in the 2001 yearbook, was unfortunately lost in transit. We are proud to include the tribute to this well-loved Kilkennyman in this year's book. Ed.



Marty Butler 1916 - 2002

President, Rower-Inistioge GAA Club

We were all deeply saddened at the passing of Club President, Marty Butler in May 2002. He was a member of the Butler family who were involved in Gaelic Games from the earliest times in our parish. While a boarder in Good Counsel, New Ross, he won two county minor hurling, Junior and Intermediate titles with O'Hanrahans in Wexford. At seventeen he played on the first Rower team to win a Kilkenny championship in 1933 with Green and Whites (Ballavarra). Marty was one of the people who helped in forming the present Club and served as secretary for many years. He was the second person from the parish to wear the Black and Amber when he was selected to play on the 1935 County Junior Team. He was also a member of the Rower football team which won the 1940 Junior Championship and he captained the 1944 Junior Hurling team that brought county honours to the Rower. He did trojan work for the club as an official, being secretary of the

Rower and later of the combined club from 1937 to 1957 and, in latter years, as Club President.

A great lover of the game, Marty was in Croke Park on three occasions in 2001 to see his much beloved Black and Amber, and one of his happiest days was when he watched the local U-21 team win the County Final in Nov '01. The club extends sympathy to his wife Maureen and all members of his extended family. Ar dheis De go raibh a ana



John Ryan

On Sunday September 29th. '02 as St. Martin's prepared to play John Lockes in the Intermediate Hurling Semi-final John became suddenly ill in Nowlan Park and was rushed to hospital. At the final whistle, with St. Martin's victorious, word began to filter through that John had passed to his final reward. A great sense of shock and sadness descended on the entire parish of Muckalee as John was known in almost every house in the parish through his work as a plumber.

John loved sport, particularly hurling and football. He was equally adept at both. From an early age John represented Coon at hurling and Muckalee at football. In 1961 he was a member of the first team from the parish to win a hurling title - the Northern Junior Championship - and this success was achieved again in 1962 only to lose in both County Finals to Mooncoin and Thomastown. Success in the Junior Championship was finally achieved in 1967 with the defeat of Knocktopher. This was preceded in 1966 with the winning of the Junior Football Championship. In 1968 John was a member of the Muckalee team which won the Senior Football Championship. During the period from 1961 - 1969 John represented Kilkenny in Intermediate hurling and Junior football on several occasions. During much of his playing career John played through the pain barrier as he suffered from a troublesome shoulder. He was unusual for his time as John was a hurling full back, who used his skill rather than his physique to make the position his own for many years.

In 1972 John became Chairman of Coon Hurling Club and his leadership qualities soon became evident. Renowned as a good listener, he smoked his pipe silently as he noted all opinions before giving his decision. During his time as Chairman, Coon Hurling Club bought and developed their pitch at Coon and had it officially opened by then G.A.A. President Con Murphy. In 1973 while

Chairman, he reached the pinnacle of his career when he was full back on the Coon team which won the Intermediate Hurling Championship and so gained senior status for the parish for the first time in its history. Also during his time as Chairman he represented the club on both the Northern and County Boards.

Our Club will always remember and cherish John's inspirational qualities as a player and administrator as will those who had the honour of knowing and working with him. Our sincerest sympathy to his wife Anna, Brendan, Lorraine, Claire, his brother Fr. Martin and other family members.
Ar Dheis Dé go raibh a anam.



Joe Galway

On Sunday 27th October this year, Joe Galway, a former member of the famed Bennettsbridge all-conquering team of the fifties was honoured with his former colleagues on County Final Day at Nowlan Park. Later that week the sad news broke of his sudden death. All who knew Joe were shocked at the unexpected demise of a man who loved life and lived it to the full.

Joe Galway, one of four brothers to win numerous Senior County Hurling medals, was a native of Newhouse, Bennettsbridge. He grew up on the family farm and from his earliest days he loved the game of hurling. During his school years in Bennettsbridge N.S. he was a member of the triumphant team which brought the first school title to the parish in 1944. Two of his teammates in that squad, trained by the late Mr. Ned Lyng N.T. were Johnny McGovern and captain Dick Carroll, both of whom later starred in Kilkenny's Black and Amber at the highest level. We recently recalled those days and Joe told us of the great Ollie Walsh's debut in Galway's Field in 1947 - a game in which Joe also participated.

Great days were just around the corner for the Galway brothers and Bennettsbridge. In 1951 the county Junior Hurling title was won and in '52 the 'Bridge were crowned as Senior Champions for the first time since 1890. Guided by Fr. Nugent a golden era had dawned for Bennettsbridge. Joe's brothers Derek and the late Jack and Mick all played in that final. Joe played at Junior and Senior level for Bennettsbridge. He featured on three winning teams in the fifties and also on the team that lost to Tullaroan in 1958. An interesting fact is that in the victorious "double" team of '55 and '56 and also the '58 team the three Galway brothers, Derek, Jack and Joe formed the full back line in front of goalkeeper Liam Cleere. Joe's other brother Mick was corner forward on the 1955 and '56 teams also.

Joe Galway also played with Clover Meats in the Waterford and Munster factory league, in the fifties. The 1955 winning team of which he was a member included the

great John Sutton of Kilkenny and Waterford's Martin "g Morrissey. Joe also travelled with Clover to New Eltham in London in 1957 and helped in the defeat of London Irish, the then reigning All Ireland Junior Champions.

When his playing days were over Joe's interest in hurling continued and he was a regular supporter of his beloved Bennettsbridge and Kilkenny. He was also an avid card player and was known at card tables all over the county.

Having worked at Clover Meats for a number of years Joe became well known as a victualler in the Bennettsbridge area where he carried on a thriving business. He was of course, also a respected member of the farming fraternity and was active up to the time of his untimely death.

Joe married Bríd (nee Holden) of Kells. He is survived by Bríd, by brother Derek (Australia) and by sister Maureen. He was predeceased by his brothers Paddy, Tom, Mick, David and Jack and sister Eileen. To Joe's wife and extended Galway and Holden families we offer our sincere sympathy.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam uasal.



Geoff Butler 1933 - 2001

A true Gael, Geoff Butler was born in Inchagloch in the heart of the Slatequarries. He starting his playing career with Graigue as a footballer, later winning minor medals in 1952/3 with Kilmoganny alongside his brother Tommy and a junior title in 54. Geoff played senior for St. Nicholas wearing the black and amber with the county seniors. In hurling, he played junior with Piltown and senior with the Near South side that were beaten by Freshford in the semi-final in 1961.

On the advent of the parish rule in 1954 he was a co-founder of the Windgap club with Ned Fitzpatrick RIP, Seamus Hourigan and Dan Phelan.

In 1964, Geoff emigrated to Chicago and, on his arrival, he joined the Harry Boland's hurling club where he won four American senior championships, captaining the side in 1972.

On the football fields, Geoff played with the St. Pat's winning a U.S. National title in 1968. He lined out with the club's first hurling side, returning to play senior hurling with St Vincent's and winning another American title in 79.

In Chicago, he met and married Kitty Franks and his son John and daughter Maria were born. As a family, they were hands-on supporters of Geoff and his work for the games. During his playing days, Geoff served for three years as club chairman and vice chairman of the Central (Chicago) division. On his retirement, he turned to the administration side, organising new clubs in the division.

In Chicago, Geoff was part of the driving

force behind Gaelic Park opened in 1986. The achievement of owning their own grounds with stands and dressing rooms was widely acknowledged in the Gaelic World.

Geoff went on to serve as vice chairman of the Northern American Board and later as chairman on a number of occasions. He later became honorary president and held leadership positions in the National body for thirty years.

In 1999, Geoff was awarded the Chicago Hall of Fame award in recognition of his outstanding contribution to Gaelic Games.

Born to a sports orientated family, his father Len was involved in Tullahought sports field, his late brother Jimmy being the force behind the local hurlers in their heydays of the seventies.

On his last visit home, Geoff, Kitty and John travelled on the club bus to see his beloved county in the All Ireland final of 2000.

The attendance at his funeral and later in Gaelic Park and the ceremonies at home testified to his popularity and the high esteem in which he was held.

Since his passing, Geoff's brother Bill and his sister Mary Daniels have been called to join him.

For the Butler clan and their friends their passing will be a great loss. As staunch hurling people as one could meet, their memories will live long, far and wide.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a nanamnacha dílis.



Sean Monahan

The late Sean Monaghan was a very popular figure around Kilkenny and it was with great regret that people learned of his death. A great lover of music and games, he was a brilliant exponent of handball in his youth. A member of Talbot's Inch in the golden era of that club in the 1940s, he teamed up with his friend, the late Joe Doherty and won the All Ireland junior handball doubles title in 1949.

This cup did not come Noreside again until thirty years later when Peadar Hughes and Billy Kennedy from Clogh won the cup and they were warmly congratulated by Sean and Joe.

He loved music—Irish music in particular—and had his own style when he fronted a number of Singing Pub events. He had taken up golf in latter years and enjoyed his newfound pastime.

Above all, Seán Monaghan was a friendly gentleman who ran his newsagent's business in Irishtown the only way he knew—by giving every customer a friendly greeting as they bought their morning paper.

He bore his illness with typical good humour and sympathy is extended to his wife and family.

Solas na bhfalitheas air

KILKENNY GAA RESULTS 2002

Credit Union Senior H Final
(Tom Walsh Memorial Cup)
Young Irelands 3-14, Dunnamaggin 1-15

Senior Relegation Final
Dicksboro 2-10, Erin's Own 1-11

Vale Oil Intermediate H Final
(Hanrahan Cup)
St Martin's 0-14, Carrickshock 0-13

Intermediate Relegation Final
Bennetsbridge 2-14, Thomastown 2-13

JJ Kavanagh & Sons JH Co Final
(Bob Aylward Memorial Cup)
Blacks & Whites 0-10, Kilmacow 1-6

Special Junior H Roinn A Final
(Shem Lawlor Cup)
Mooncoin 2-4, St Martin's 1-4

Special Junior H Roinn B Final
James Stephens 2-7, Tull/Rosbercon 1-8

Michael Lyng Motors U-21 H Roinn A Final
James Stephens 0-11, Mullinavat 0-6

Michael Lyng Motors U-21 H Roinn B Final
St Martin's 2-10, Mooncoin 1-6

Michael Lyng Motors U-21 H Roinn C Final
Cloneen 2-11, Danesfort 1-10

Iarnród Éireann Minor H Roinn A Co Final
(Joyce Memorial Cup)
Carrickshock 2-12, G/Ballycallan 0-6

Iarnród Éireann Minor H Roinn B Co Final
(Ted Carroll Memorial Trophy)
Rowe/Inistioge 2-12, Mooncoin 3-8

Iarnród Éireann Minor H Roinn C Co Final
Glenmore 2-13, Kilmacow 2-4

Iarnród Éireann Minor H League Div I Final
Not finished

Iarnród Éireann Minor H League Div II Final
St Lachtain's 2-12, Fenians/Galmoy 3-4

Iarnród Éireann Minor H League Div III Final
Cloneen 2-8, John Lockes 0-8

Iarnród Éireann Minor H League Div IV Final
Slieverue 4-10, Windgap 1-12

Credit Union Senior H League Final
(Matty Power Cup)
Not finished

Vale Oil Intermediate H League Final
(Pat Tierney Cup)
St Martin's 2-13, Graignamanagh 1-10

St Canice's Credit Union All-Co SH League Final
(Byrne Cup)
Tullaroan 1-15, Young Irelands 1-14

Bus Éireann All-Co IH League Final
(Aylward Cup)
St Martin's 5-11, Mooncoin 2-11

Hennessy Sports All Co JH League Final
Conahy Shamrocks 2-16, Erin's Own 1-6

JJ Kavanagh Northern Junior H Final
Blacks & Whites 2-13, Galmoy 1-16
Blacks & Whites 3-10, Galmoy 1-13

Iverk Produce South Junior H Final
Kilmacow 1-9, Piltown 0-10

Special Junior H League Div 1 Co Final
St Martin's V Shamrocks (to be played)

Special Junior H League Div 2 Co Final
(to be played)

JJ Kavanagh & Sons Special Junior H Roinn A North Final
St Martin's 3-10, O'Loughlin Gaels 2-13
St Martin's 3-10, O'Loughlin Gaels 1-11

Iverk Produce Special Junior H Roinn A South Final
Mooncoin 2-8, Glenmore 0-13

JJ Kavanagh & Sons Special Junior H Roinn B North Final
Jas Stephens 4-12, O'Loughlin Gs 1-10

Iverk Produce Special Junior H Roinn B South Final
Tull/Rosbercon 0-14, Mullinavat 1-10

Iverk Produce Southern Junior H League Roinn A Final
Ballyhale Shamrocks 1-9, Glenmore 0-9

Iverk Produce Special Junior H League Roinn B Final
(to be played)

JJ Kavanagh Junior H League Div. 1 Final
St Martin's 2-12, G/Ballcallan 1-2

JJ Kavanagh & Sons Northern Junior H League Div. II Final
Blacks & Whites 2-9, Emeralds 2-7

JJ Kavanagh & Sons Northern Junior H League Div. III Final
No competition

Iverk Produce Southern Junior H League Final
Tull/Rosbercon 0-12, Piltown 0-7

Paddy Cahill Memorial Cup Final
Galmoy 1-19, Barrow Rangers 0-8

Kevin Fennelly Memorial Cup Final
Mt Leinster R's 3-21, Erin's Own B'town 1-1

Michael Lyng Motors U-21 H Roinn A North Final

James Stephens 1-10, O'Loughlin's 1-10
James Stephens 3-11, O'Loughlins 0-9

Michael Lyng Motors U-21 H Roinn A Mullinavat 2-11, B Shamrocks 0-12

Michael Lyng Motors U-21 H Roinn B North Final

St Martin's 3-10, Conahy 1-8

Michael Lyng Motors U-21 H Roinn B South Final
Mooncoin 0-12, Tullogher/R 0-11

Iarnród Éireann Minor H Roinn B North Final
(Open Draw- No Competition)

Iarnród Éireann Minor H Roinn B South Final
(Open Draw- No Competition)

Iarnród Éireann Minor H Roinn C North Final
(Open Draw- No Competition)

Iarnród Éireann Minor H Roinn C South Final
(Open Draw- No Competition)

Iarnród Éireann Minor H League Div I Final
(John Tobin Memorial Cup)
(to be played)

Iarnród Éireann Minor H League Div. II Final
St Lachtain's 2-12, Fenians/Galmoy 3-4

Iarnród Éireann Minor H League Div. III Final
Cloneen 2-8, John Lockes 1-8

Iarnród Éireann Minor H League Div. IV Final
Slieverue 4-10, Windgap 1-12

Duggan Steel U-16 H Roinn A Co Final
James Stephens 2-6, Dicksboro 0-11

Duggan Steel U-16 H Roinn B Co Final
Rower/Inistioge 1-12, St Martin's 1-8

Duggan Steel U-16 H Roinn C Co Final
Slieverue 2-10, Emeralds 1-10

Duggan Steel U-16 H League Roinn A Final
O'Loughlin Gaels 2-14, Dicksboro 1-8

Duggan Steel U-16 H League Roinn B Final
Piltown 1-10, St Martin's 0-5

Duggan Steel U-16 H League Roinn C Final
Emeralds 1-10, Slieverue 2-6

Duggan Steel U-14 H Roinn A Co Final
O'Loughlin Gaels 3-8, J Stephens 2-7

Duggan Steel U-14 H Roinn B Co Final
Tullaroan 1-11, Danesfort 0-11

Duggan Steel U-14 H Roinn C Co Final
Lisdowney 5-4, Kilmacow 2-4

Under-14 H Féile na nGael Final
(Paddy Grace Memorial)
O'Loughlin Gaels 2-7, J Stephens 2-5

Duggan Steel U-14 H League Roinn C Final
Lisdowney 3-3, Bennetsbridge 0-5



Camogie

Senior

St Brigid's 2-3, St Lachtain's 0-7

Intermediate

Shamrock's 2-4, St Anne's 0-4

Junior

James Stephens 5-8, Clara 3-4

Under 21A

Mullinavat 3-0, St Lachtain's 1-5

Under 21B

Lisdowney 3-4, James Stephens 1-4

Under 18A

St Lachtain's 6-7, St Anne's 1-1

Under 18B

St Martin's 3-7, Lisdowney 1-2

Under 16A

St Lachtain's 5-5, Mullinavat 2-6

Under 16B

Tullagher 2-10, James Stephens 3-5

Under 16C

Windgap 3-7, Paulstown 1-3

Under 14A

St Lachtain's 4-7, Emeralds 3-3

Under 14B

St Brigid's 5-2, Windgap 4-2

Under 14C

Piltown 2-6, Carrickshock 1-0

Under 12

Thomastown 5-4, O'Loughlin's 0-0

Schools A

Urlingford 3-3, Thomastown 2-1

Schools B

Carrickshock 10-0, Castlecomer 0-0

Schools C

St John of God 1-4, Muckalee 2-1

St John of God 6-2, Muckalee 1-2

Schools D

Piltown 10-6, St John's 3-1

Duggan Steel U-16 F Roinn B Final

(to be played)

Duggan Steel U-16 F Roinn C Final

(to be played)

Duggan Steel U-16 F Roinn D Final

Barrow Rangers 5-3, Glenmore 3-8

Duggan Steel U-16 F Roinn A League Final

(to be played)

Duggan Steel U-16 F Roinn A League Final

(to be played)

Duggan Steel U-14 F Roinn A Final

Mullinavat 6-5, O'Loughlin Gaels 4-7

Duggan Steel U-14 F Roinn B Final

John Lockes 5-9, Tull/Rosbercon 4-1

Duggan Steel U-14 F Roinn C Final

Danesfort 4-16, Carrickshock 1-1

Duggan Steel U-14 F Roinn D Final

Lisdowney 3-8, Graigue/Ballycallan 1-3

Duggan Steel U-14 F League Div II Final

John Lockes 5-14, Railyard 0-5

Duggan Steel U-14 F League Div III Final

Lisdowney 3-6, Emeralds 2-5

C na mB Roinn A F Final

(Bertie O'Callaghan Cup/Kilkenny Association, Dublin)

(to be played)

C na mB Roinn B F Final

(Toymaster League)

(to be played)

C na mB Roinn C F Final (Tedcastles Oil)

(to be played)

C na mB Country Cup F Final

(to be played)

Northern U-21 F Roinn A Final

(to be played)

Southern U-21 F Roinn A Final

(to be played)

Northern U-21 F Roinn B Final

(to be played)

Southern U-21 F Roinn B Final

(to be played)

Cumann na mBunscoileanna H

Roinn A Co Final

(Educational Supplies League)

Coon/Muckalee 1-7, Kilkenny CBS 2-1

Cumann na mBunscoileanna H

Roinn B Co Final

(Hennessy Fuels League)

Carrickshock 4-3 Mooncoin 2-3

Cumann na mBunscoileanna H

Roinn C Co Final

(Paddy O'Connell, Dublin League)

Gowran 1-11, Glenmore 3-1

Cumann na mBunscoileanna H

Roinn D Co Final

(Tedcastles Oil)

Conahy 0-3, St Canice's 1-0

Conahy 0-4, St Canice's 0-3

Cumann na mBunscoileanna Country Cup H Final (Tedcastles Oil)

(Corn Na Bhaldraithe)

Ballyhale 2-4, Kilmanagh 2-4

Ballyhale 4-6, Kilmanagh 3-4

Football

Senior Co F Final

Erin's Own 1-8, James Stephens 0-8

Intermediate Co F Final

O'Loughlin Gaels 2-6, Mooncoin 0-7

Junior Co F Final

B Shamrocks 2-4, Clara 1-3

Senior F League Final

Railyard 0-7, Erin's Own 0-5

Intermediate F League Final

O'Loughlin Gaels 0-9, B & W's 1-6

O'Loughlin Gaels 1-8, B & W's 1-3

U-21 F Roinn A Final

(to be played)

U-21 F Roinn B Final

Carrickshock 4-6, Conahy Shamrocks 0-3

Northern Junior F Final

Clara 2-8, Muckalee 1-7

Southern Junior F Final

B Shamrocks 1-13, Graignamanagh 0-5

Iarnród Éireann Minor F Roinn A Co Final

(to be played)

Iarnród Éireann Minor F Roinn B Final

(to be played)

Iarnród Éireann Minor F Roinn B North Final

(to be played)

Iarnród Éireann Minor F Roinn B South Final

(to be played)

Duggan Steel U-16 F Roinn A Final

(to be played)

Outstanding Results - 2001

U-21 F Roinn A Final

Erins 1-5, Mullinavat 0-7

Northern U-21 F Roinn A Final

Erin's Own 7-15, G/Ballycallan 2-6

Southern U-21 F Roinn A Final

Mullinavat 3-5, Carrickshock 2-6

U-21 F Roinn B Final

Muckalee 5-7, Mooncoin 1-5

Northern U-21 F Roinn B Final

Muckalee 1-15, Clara 1-6

Southern U-21 F Roinn B Final

Mooncoin 4-7, Rower/Inistioge 1-5

Iarnród Éireann Minor F Roinn A Co Final

Railyard 0-8, Erin's Own 0-8

Railyard 1-10, Erin's Own 1-2

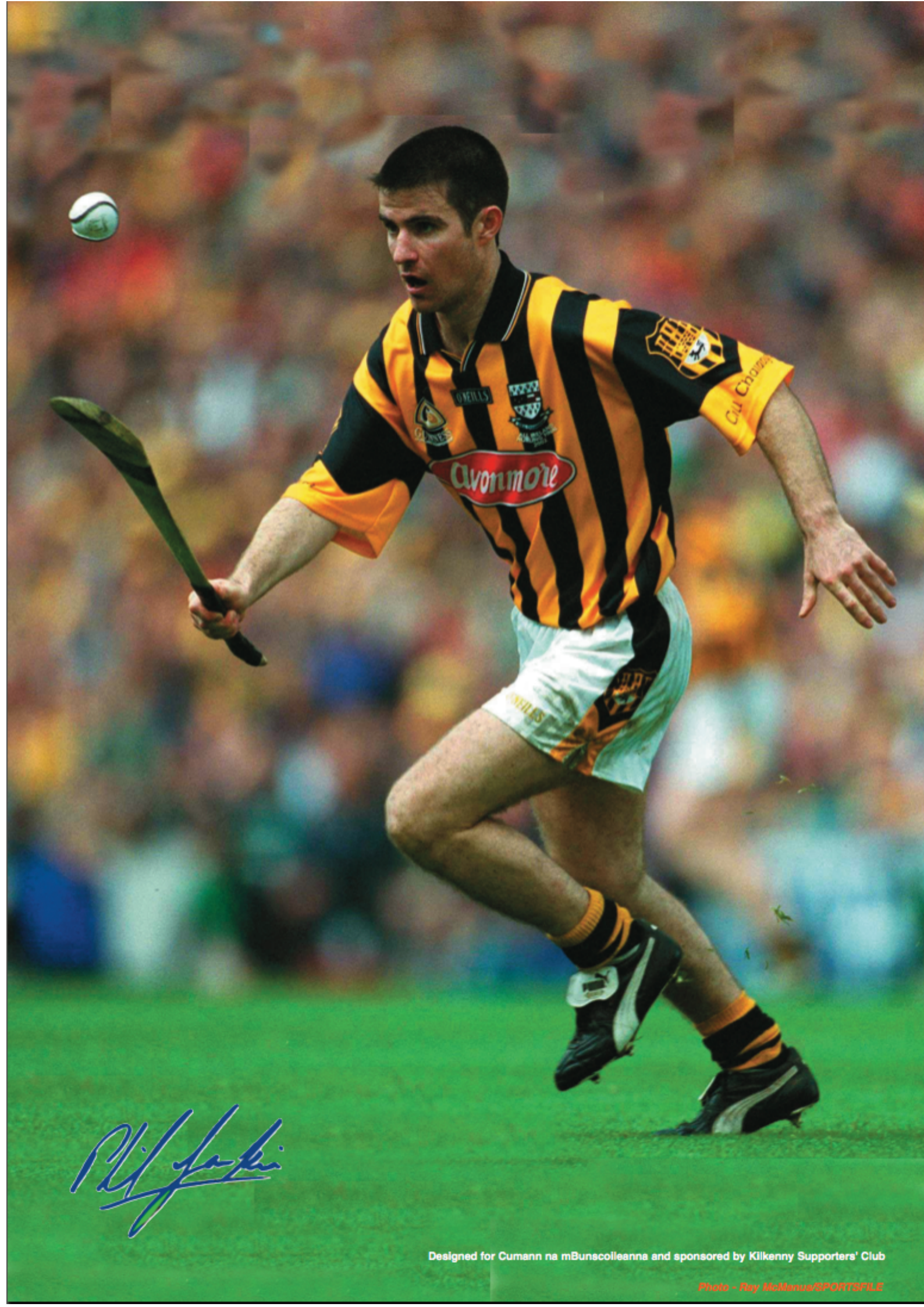
Iarnród Éireann Minor F Roinn A Co Final

Muckalee 3-14, Piltown 2-8

Duggan Steel U-16 F Roinn A Final

Erin's Own 1-6, Muckalee 1-6

Erin's Own 2-9, Muckalee 1-11



Phil Jacklin